

Statistics Based on the Attack

- **Total Compromised Packages:** 500+
- **Weekly Downloads Affected:** Billions
- **Attack Duration:** 9 days (before containment)
- **Geographic Impact:** Global
- **Sectors Affected:** All (universal npm usage)
- **Enterprise Vendors Hit:** CrowdStrike, multiple others
- **First AI-Assisted Supply Chain Attack:** Confirmed by Unit42

Detection

Phase 1: Immediate Threat Assessment

A. Repository Scan

Search your GitHub Enterprise for these indicators:

Malicious Repository Names:

- Repository name: "Shai-Hulud"
- Description: "Shai-Hulud Repository"
- Content: data.json (base64-encoded stolen credentials)

Migration Repositories:

- Repository pattern: "*-migration"
- Description: "Shai-Hulud Migration"
- Status: Previously private repos made public

B. Branch Analysis

Search Command: Look for branches named **shai-hulud** across all repositories

C. Workflow Files

Critical Files to Find:

- `.github/workflows/shai-hulud-workflow.yml`
- `.github/workflows/shai-hulud.yaml`
- Any workflows connecting to `webhook.site/bb8ca5f6-4175-45d2-b042-fc9ebb8170b7`

Phase 2: Deep Package Analysis

A. Package.json Audit

Scan all repositories for these compromised packages:

High-Priority Packages:

- `@ctrl/tinycolor@4.1.1, @4.1.2` (2.2M weekly downloads)
- `@crowdstrike/*` packages (any version after Sep 16, 2025)
- `@nativescript-community/*` packages
- Any package with `postinstall: "node bundle.js"`

B. File Hash Verification

Malicious bundle.js Hashes:

- `46faab8ab153fae6e80e7cca38eab363075bb524edd79e42269217a083628f09` (CrowdStrike variant)
- `b74caaaa75e077c99f7d44f46daaf9796a3be43ecf24f2a1fd381844669da777`
- `dc67467a39b70d1cd4c1f7f7a459b35058163592f4a9e8fb4dfcbbba98ef210c`
- `4b2399646573bb737c4969563303d8ee2e9ddbd1b271f1ca9e35ea78062538db`

Phase 3: Behavioral Detection (Ongoing)

A. Network Monitoring

Monitor for connections to:

- webhook.site (any subdomain)
- 5.199.166.1:31337 (reverse shell endpoint)
- Unusual GitHub API activity patterns

B. Process Monitoring

Watch for:

- trufflehog process executions
- Automated npm publish activities
- Unusual CI/CD pipeline triggers

Mitigation

Immediate Actions Required:

1. Rotate ALL developer credentials immediately
2. Scan GitHub organization for malicious repositories
3. Check production applications for compromised packages
4. Implement emergency monitoring for ongoing attacks

Priority 1 :

- GitHub Personal Access Tokens
- npm authentication tokens
- SSH keys used for deployment

Priority 2 :

- AWS/GCP/Azure API keys
- Database connection strings
- Third-party service API keys
- CI/CD pipeline secrets

- GitHub Enterprise:
 - Enforce 2FA for all developer accounts (mandatory)
 - Enable GitHub Advanced Security features
 - Implement branch protection rules
 - Restrict workflow permissions
 - Enable audit logging and monitoring
- Development Workflow:
 - Migrate to Trusted Publishing (removes token dependency)
 - Implement dependency pinning
 - Set up automated security scanning
 - Add SBOM (Software Bill of Materials) generation
 - Enable real-time vulnerability alerts

Priority 3 :

- Delete any "Shai-Hulud" repositories immediately
- Remove any "*-migration" repositories
- Delete "shai-hulud" branches from all repositories
- Remove malicious workflow files
- Review and revert any unauthorized commits since Sep 14, 2025

Priority 4 :

- Identify all applications using npm packages
- Check package-lock.json for compromised packages
- Remove/downgrade affected packages to pre-attack versions
- Clear npm cache: npm cache clean --force
- Rebuild applications from clean sources
- Redeploy with verified clean packages

Risks If Compromised

Data Exfiltration

- **Stolen Credentials:** GitHub tokens, npm tokens, cloud API keys, SSH keys
- **Source Code Exposure:** Private repositories made public
- **Secret Harvesting:** Environment variables, configuration files, CI/CD secrets
- **Cloud Account Compromise:** AWS/GCP/Azure access via stolen keys

Infrastructure Compromise

- **CI/CD Pipeline Takeover:** Malicious workflows continue running
- **Production Deployment Risk:** Compromised packages in live applications
- **Lateral Movement:** SSH keys enable network access
- **Persistent Backdoors:** Self-replicating worm continues spreading

Business Impact Assessment

Financial Risks

- **Regulatory Compliance:** GDPR, SOX, HIPAA violations
- **Data Breach Costs:** Average \$4.45M per breach (IBM 2023)
- **Business Disruption:** Production downtime and recovery costs
- **Legal Liability:** Customer data exposure lawsuits
- **Reputation Damage:** Loss of customer trust and market value

Operational Risks

- **Supply Chain Contamination:** Malicious code in customer deliverables

- **Developer Productivity Loss:** Credential rotation and system rebuilds
- **Customer Impact:** Applications with compromised dependencies
- **Vendor Relationships:** Trust issues with package ecosystem