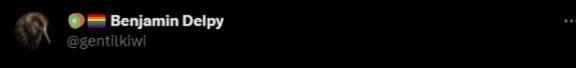


RPC Filter? I Hardly Know Her! BSides Philly 2023



slides https://github.com/SecurityRiskAdvisors/public-assets



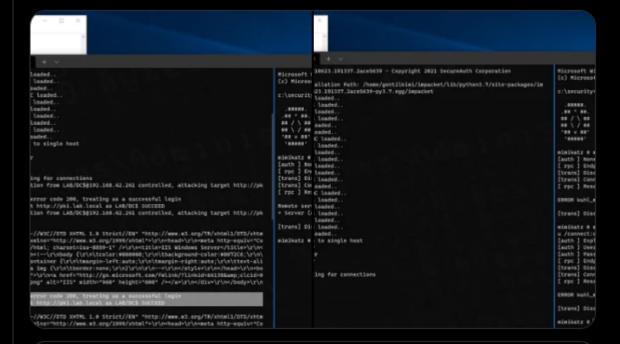
Want to block [MS-EFSR] / #PetitPotam calls?
Use RPC filters!

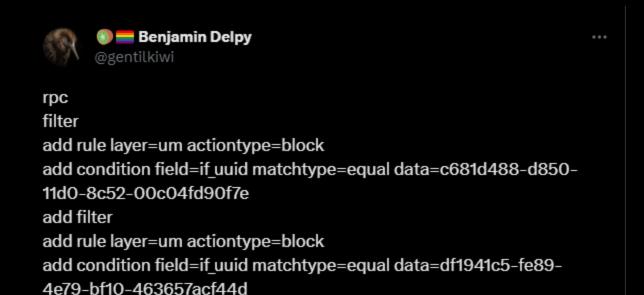
put previous Tweet in a file: 'block_efsr.txt' then:

> netsh -f block_efsr.txt

Just tested: it blocks remote connections & not local EFS usage

Thank you to @CraigKirby to remind us this RPC technology filter!





add filter

quit



C:\Users\Evan Perotti> whoami

```
Work
----

Employer Role
----
SRA Lead Scientist

Links
----

Site Handle
-----

Mark Links
-----

Site Handle
-----

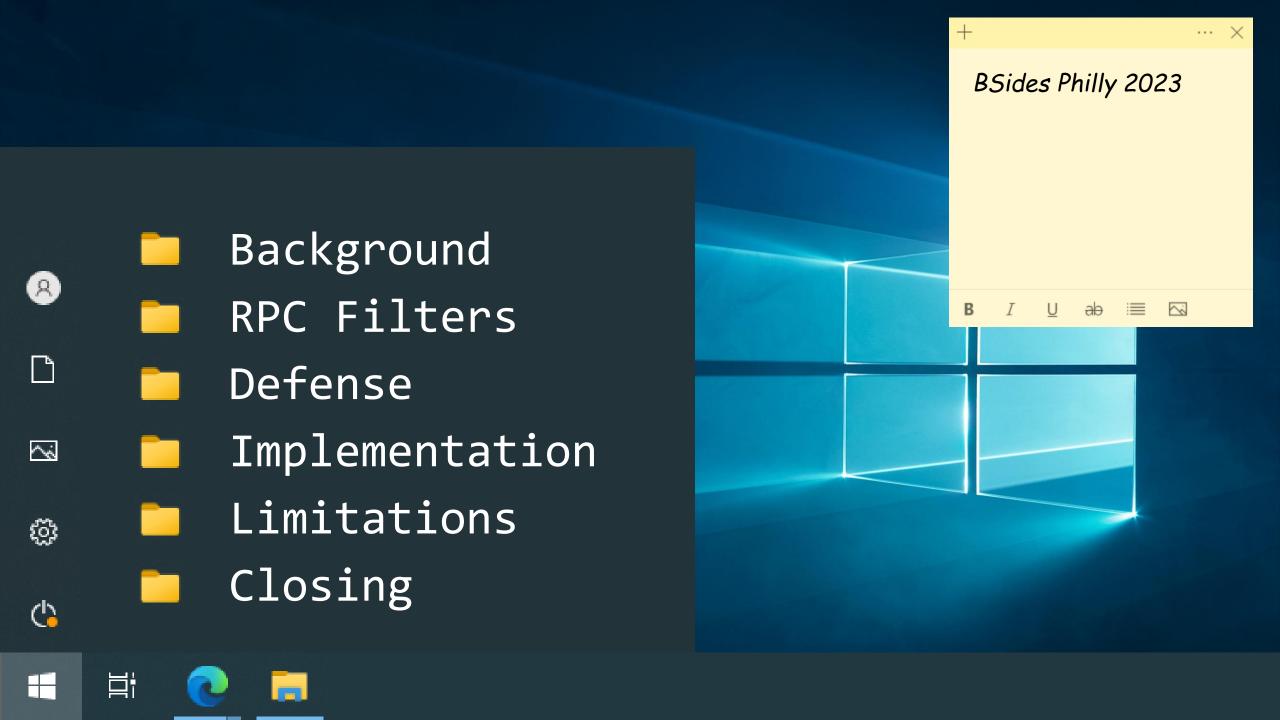
Mark Links
-----

Site Handle
-----

Mark Links
-----

Site Handle
------

Mark Links
-----
```







#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

BACKGROUND

- #> RPC: Remote Procedure Call
- #> Client-server mechanism for IPC
- #> Local (same system) and remote
- #> Remote; commonly via TCP and SMB named
 pipes

#> Interfaces and procedures

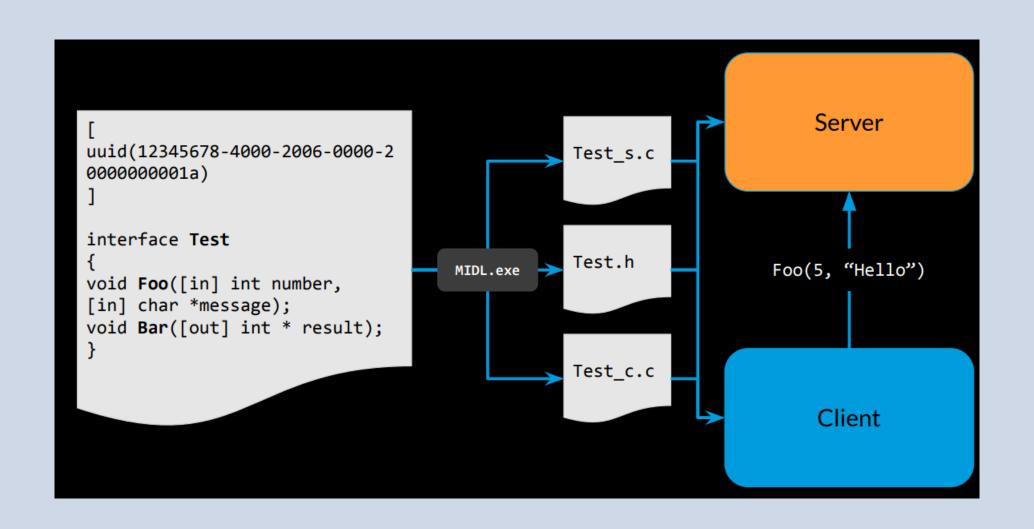
#> Procedures =
 individual methods

#> Interfaces =
 overarching groups of related methods

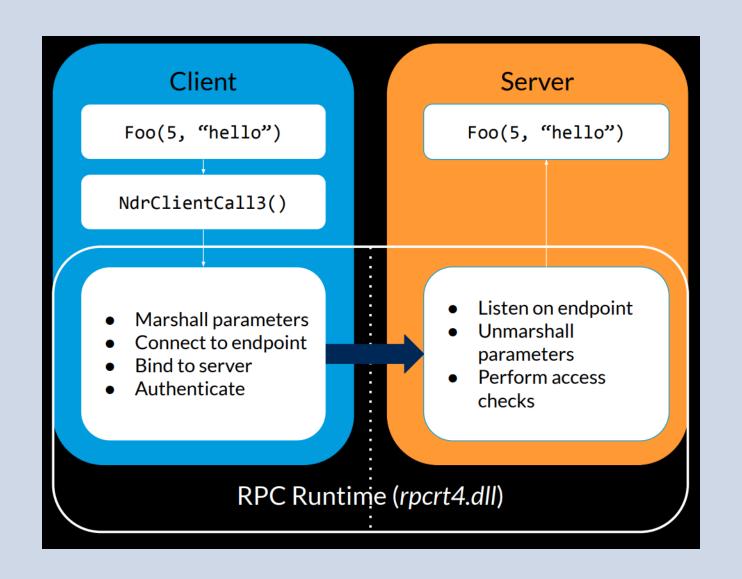


- #> Service Control Manager example
- #> Create a Windows service
 - = RCreateServiceW
 - = opnum 12
- #> Create service + delete service + ...
 = interface

#> note: will continue to user service creation for example



https://i.blackhat.com/BH-US-23/Presentations/US-23-Kupchik-Lifting-the-Fog-of-War.pdf



https://i.blackhat.com/BH-US-23/Presentations/US-23-Kupchik-Lifting-the-Fog-of-War.pdf

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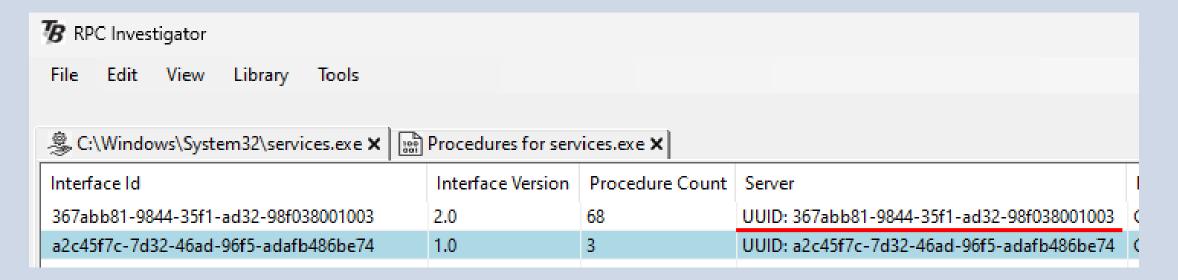
- #> RPC is often documented
- #> Example: Service Control Manager

Methods in RPC Opnum Order			
Method	Description		
RCloseServiceHandle	Closes handles to the SCM and any other associated services. Opnum: 0		
RControlService	Receives a control code for a specific service handle, as specified by the client. Opnum: 1		

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/openspecs/windows_protocols/ms-scmr/0d7a7011-9f41-470d-ad52-8535b47ac282

- #> RPC Investigator by Trail of Bits
- #> Can be used to find interface/procedures
- #> https://github.com/trailofbits/RpcInvestigator
- #> Especially useful for undocumented interfaces

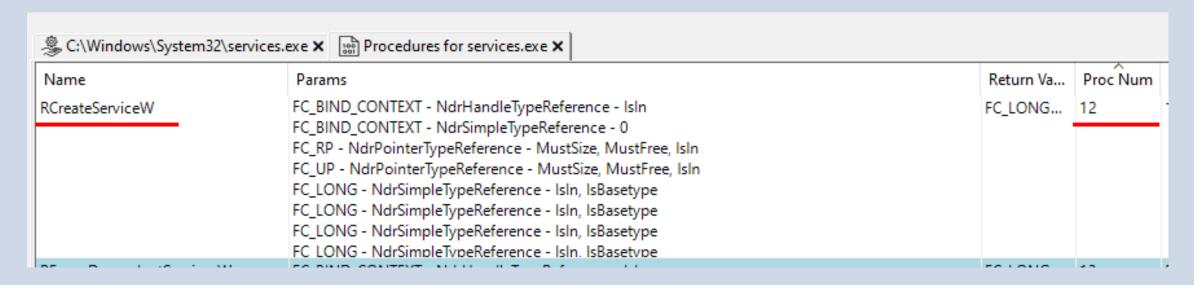
Load service.exe



notice the 367... interface ID

†□ 1152 × 656px

Load procedure for interface



notice the proc num (opnum) of 12



#> cls #> echo %SECTION%

ATTACKS



#> Underpins many common attacks, including

- > DCSync
- > PsExec
- > PetitPotam
- > Printer Bug
- > Zerologon
- > ...



RPC Interface	Interface ID	Example Attack
Distributed File System Namespace Management	4FC742E0-4A10-11CF-8273-00AA004AE673	DFSCoerce - coercion attack
Directory Replication Service	e3514235-4b06-11d1-ab04-00c04fc2dcd2	DCSync - password hash retrieval
Encrypting File System	c681d488-d850-11d0-8c52-00c04fd90f7e df1941c5-fe89-4e79-bf10-463657acf44d	PetitPotam – coercion attack
File Server Remote VSS	a8e0653c-2744-4389-a61d-7373df8b2292	ShadowCoerce - coercion attack
LSA Remote	12345778-1234-ABCD-EF00-0123456789AB	Enumeration
Netlogon	12345678-1234-ABCD-EF00-01234567CFFB	Zerologon
Print System Remote	12345678-1234-ABCD-EF00-0123456789AB 76F03F96-CDFD-44FC-A22C-64950A001209	Printer Bug – coercion attack Print Nightmare – RCE
Registry Remote	338CD001-2244-31F1-AAAA-900038001003	Persistence, etc
SAM Remote	12345778-1234-ABCD-EF00-0123456789AC	Net commands
Service Control Manager	367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003	PsExec
Server Service Remote	4b324fc8-1670-01d3-1278-5a47bf6ee188	Bloodhound Session collection
Tasks Scheduler	1FF70682-0A51-30E8-076D-740BE8CEE98 378E52B0-C0A9-11CF-822D-00AA0051E40F 86D35949-83C9-4044-B424-DB363231FD0C	Scheduled task lateral movement
Workstation Service	6BFFD098-A112-3610-9833-46C3F87E345A	Bloodhound logged on users



#> PsExec

CMD> psexec -i \\target cmd

the Psexesvc service on the remote system.

Inside PsExec

Psexesvc and copying it to the Admin\$ share of the remote system.

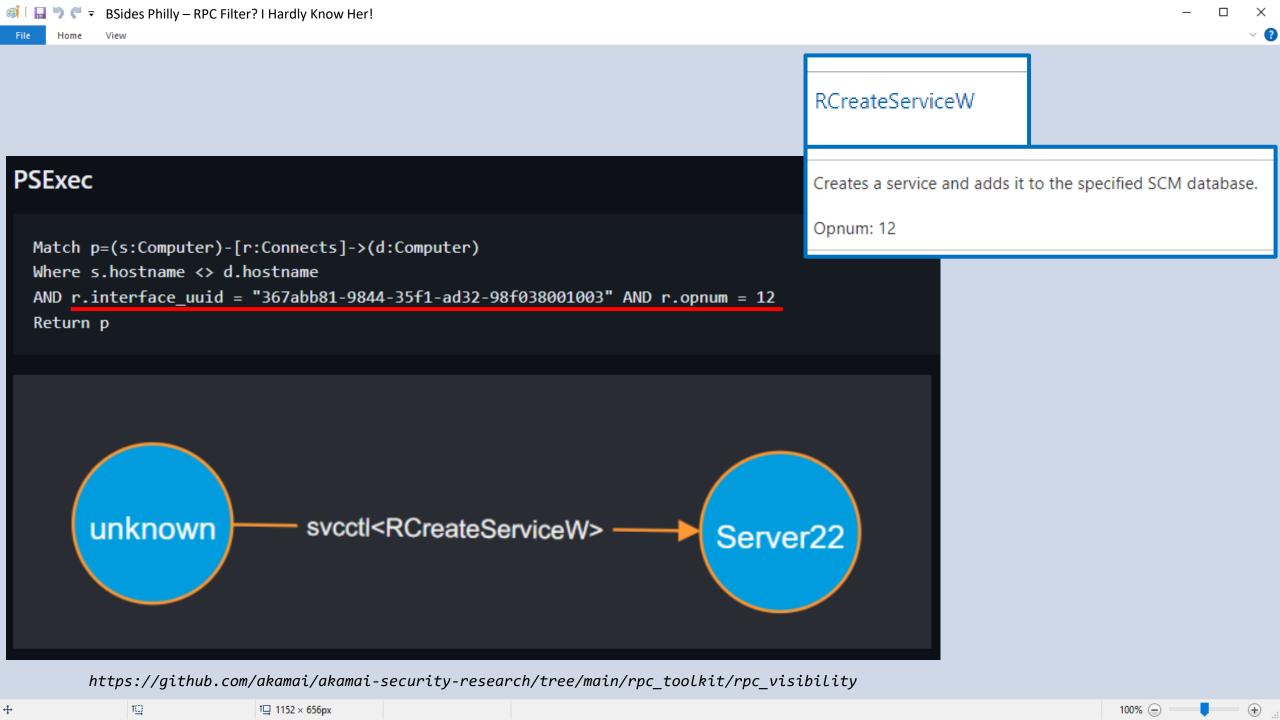
PsExec starts an executable on a remote system and controls the input and output streams

then uses the Windows Service Control Manager API, which has a remote interface, to start

then uses the Windows Service Control Manager API, which has a remote interface, to start the Psexesvc service on the remote system.

sends the exit code back to PsExec for it to print on the local console.

utable; otherwise, the service waits for the executable to terminate, then





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#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

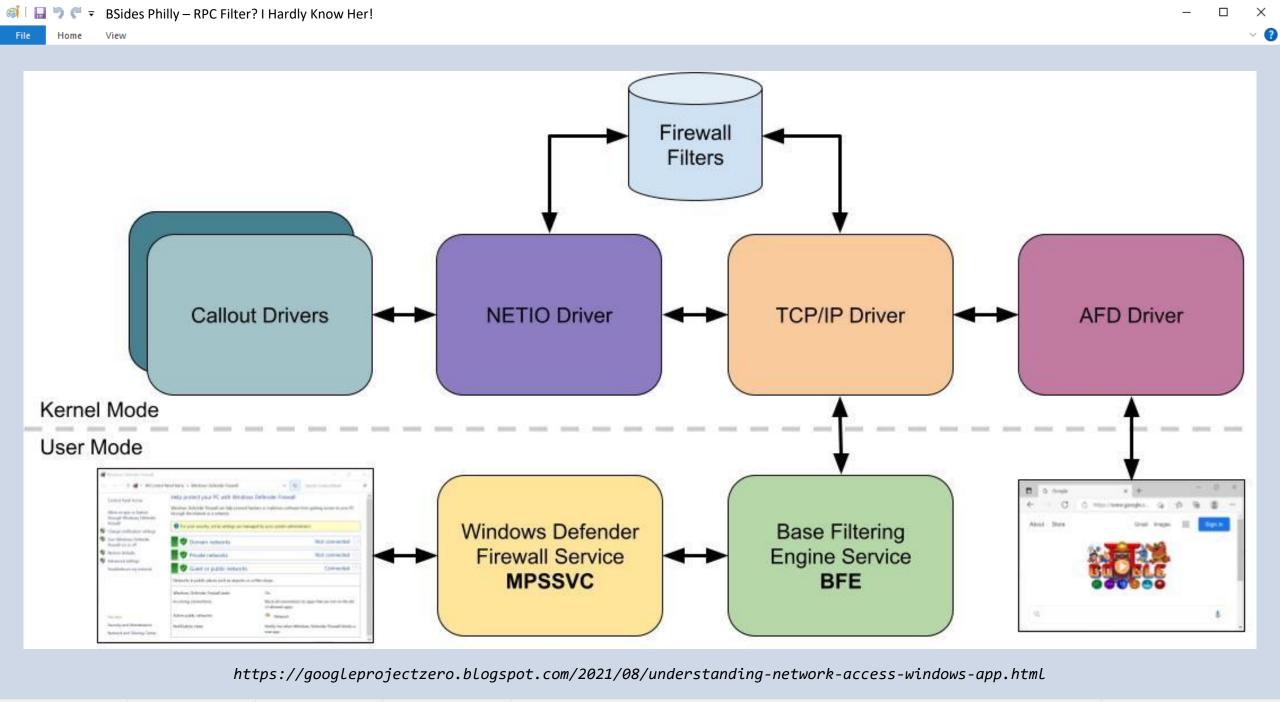
FILTERS

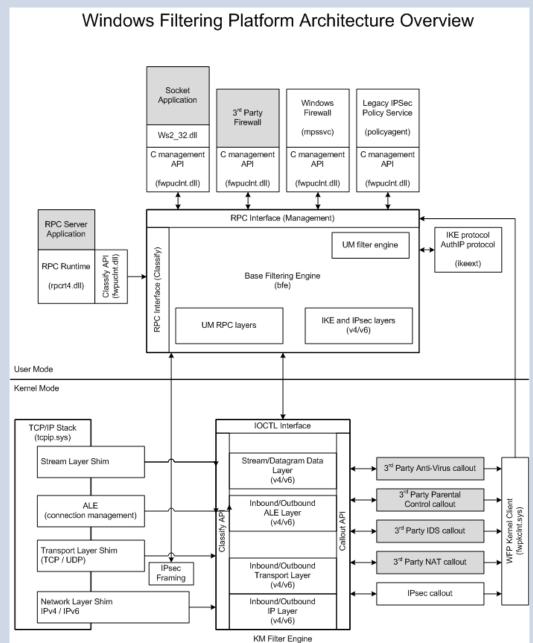
#> Windows Filtering Platform (WFP)

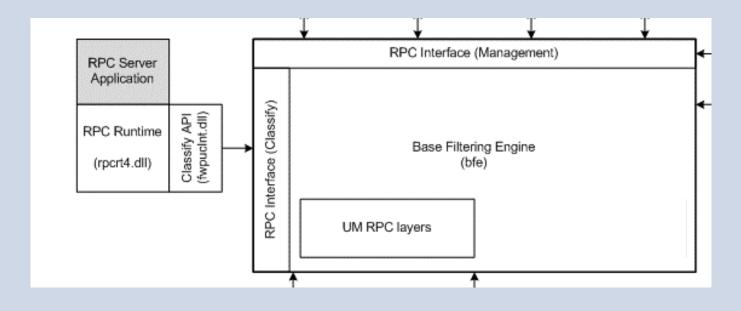
- > OS-level network connection blocking
- > supports firewall-like and similar
 application
- > Windows Firewall uses WFP

#> Base Filtering Engine

> Manages the filter rules for WFP







https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/fwp/windows-filteringplatform-architecture-overview

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†□ 1152 × 656px

100% (=)



>

- #> RPC Filters
- #> Block/audit/allow RPC connections
- #> Multiple filtering characteristics
- #> All-or-nothing for interfaces
- #> More details see: https://www.tiraniddo.dev/2021/08/how-

windows-firewall-rpc-filter-works.html



- #> Notable filtering fields
 - > Interface UUID and version
 - > Protocol (e.g. named pipes, TCP)
 - > Auth info (e.g. Kerberos, NTLM)
 - > User token
 - > Pipe name



#> Example rule creation

```
netsh>
  rpc filter
  add rule layer=um action=block
  add condition
    field=if uuid
    matchtype=equal
    data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
 add filter
```



```
if_uuid
                                                auth_type
                                                auth level
netsh>
                                                remote user token
  add rule layer=um action=block
                                                pipe
  add condition
    field=if uuid
    matchtype=equal
    data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
                  equals
                  less
                  any
```



```
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```

```
#> Example conditions
```

```
netsh> add condition
   field=if_uuid matchtype=equal
   data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
```

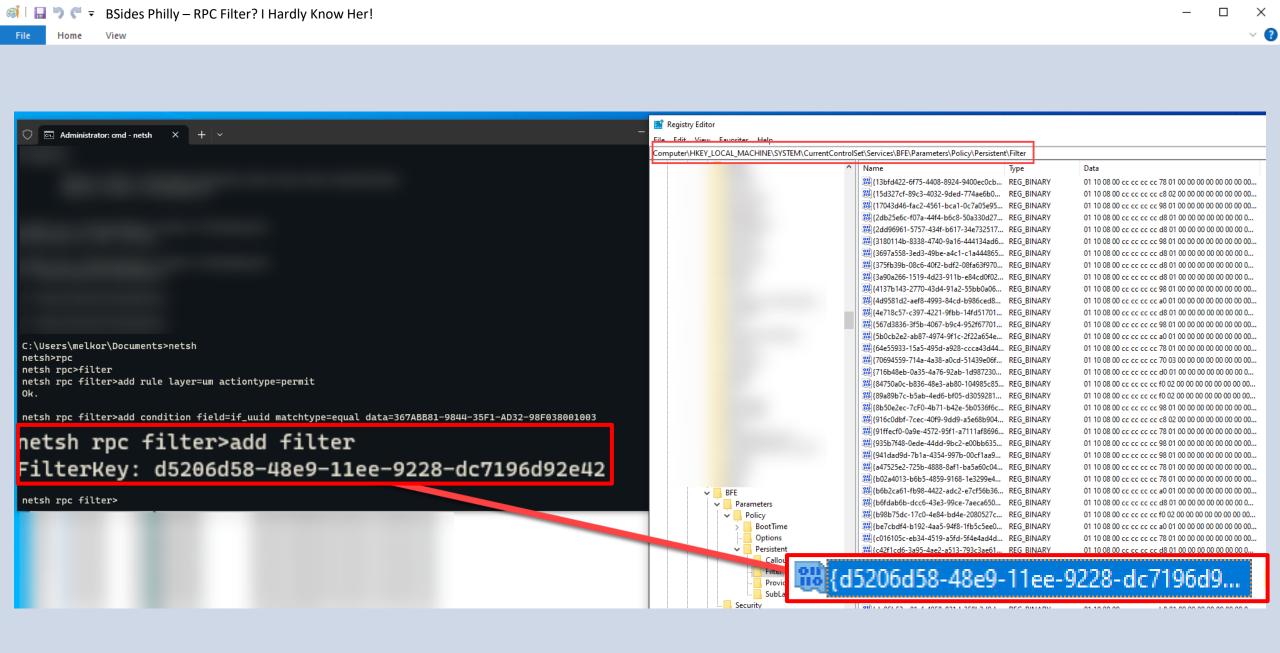
translated: interface == Service Control Manager

```
#> Example conditions (cont'd)
netsh> add condition
       field=auth_type matchtype=equal
       data=16
```

translated: Auth == Kerberos

```
\square 	imes
```

translated: User's Group == domain\group







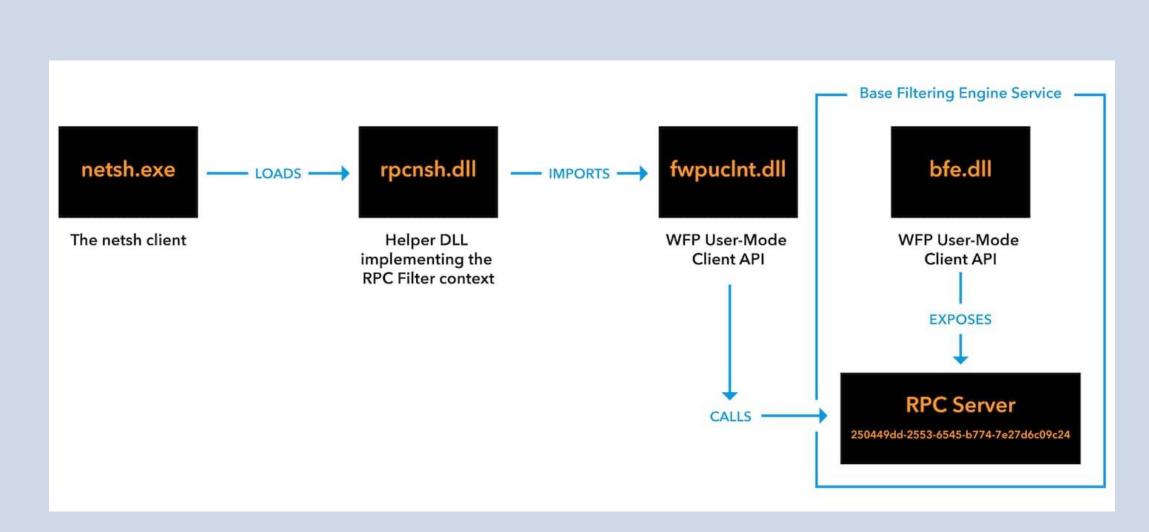






- #> Each filter assigned a UUID "key" on creation
- #> Where are filters stored \rightarrow the Registry!
 - > HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\
 BFE\Parameters\Policy\Persistent\Filter
- #> Stored in binary format:

https://blog.quarkslab.com/windows-filtering-platform-persistent-state-under-thehood.html



https://www.akamai.com/blog/security/guide-rpc-filter







#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

DEMO CREATE RPC FILTER VIA NETSH

Target: 172.20.50.20

```
PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> Get-NetFirewallProfile -CimSession (New-CimSession -ComputerName 172.20.50.20 -SessionOption (New-CimSessionOption Dcom))
                                : Domain
Name
Enabled
                                : False
                                : Private
Name
Enabled
                                : False
                                : Public
Enabled
                                : False
```

All firewall profiles disabled

Set rule to block Service Control Manager

```
netsh rpc filter>
netsh rpc filter>add rule layer=um actiontype=block
netsh rpc filter>add condition field=if_uuid matchtype=equal data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
Ok.
netsh rpc filter>add filter
FilterKey: 80091965-4bfa-11ee-a1be-00155d000735
netsh rpc filter>_
C:\Users\Administrator>ipconfig
Windows IP Configuration
Ethernet adapter Ethernet:
  Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : sauron.local
  Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . : fe80::3134:5942:f1e:d136%4
  IPv4 Address. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 172.20.50.20
  Default Gateway . . . . . . . : 172.20.50.1
```

sc.exe against target → blocked

C:\WINDOWS\system32>sc \\172.20.50.20 query
[SC] OpenSCManager FAILED 5:
Access is denied.

#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

PAST DEFENSIVE USES

- #> Microsoft MS08-067 "workaround"
 - > add condition
 field=if_uuid
 matchtype=equal
 data=4b324fc8-1670-01d3-1278-5a47bf6ee188
- #> Blocks the Server Service RPC interface
- #> https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/security-updates/SecurityBulletins/2008/ms08-067

^

#> Previous Works

MSRPC to ATT&CK

https://github.com/jsecurity101/MSRPC-to-ATTACK

Akamai Research

https://www.akamai.com/blog/security-research https://github.com/akamai/akamai-security-research

RPC Firewall

https://github.com/zeronetworks/rpcfirewall

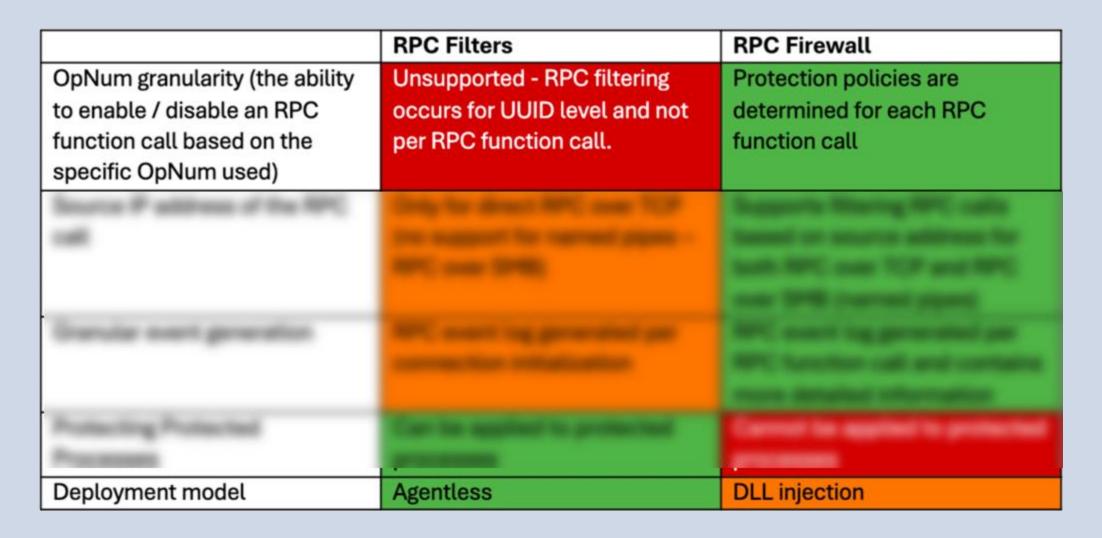
- #> RPC Firewall by Zero Networks
- #> OSS security tool
- #> Better than RPC Filters if agent-based is okay
- #> Solves the all-or-nothing issue

†⊒ 1152 × 656px

	RPC Filters	RPC Firewall
OpNum granularity (the ability to enable / disable an RPC function call based on the specific OpNum used)	Unsupported - RPC filtering occurs for UUID level and not per RPC function call.	Protection policies are determined for each RPC function call
Source IP address of the RPC call	Only for direct RPC over TCP (no support for named pipes – RPC over SMB)	Supports filtering RPC calls based on source address for both RPC over TCP and RPC over SMB (named pipes)
Granular event generation	RPC event log generated per connection initialization	RPC event log generated per RPC function call and contains more detailed information
Protecting Protected Processes	Can be applied to protected processes	Cannot be applied to protected processes
Deployment model	Agentless	DLL injection

https://zeronetworks.com/blog/the-ransomware-kill-switch-becomes-even-more-deadly-the-rpc-firewall-2-0-released/

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https://zeronetworks.com/blog/the-ransomware-kill-switch-becomes-even-more-deadly-the-rpc-firewall-2-0-released/





#> echo %SECTION%

IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS



Goal: prevent lateral movement attacks

by

using RPC Filters across estate

- #> Hurdle 1: If applied, how to track?
- #> Solution: Use block + permit/audit trick



```
#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%
```

AUDITING

- #> The issue with blocking: auditing
- #> Can you even audit RPC filtering activity?

#> type <u>5712.evtx</u>

A Remote Procedure Call (RPC) was attempted

"It appears that this event never occurs"
-- Microsoft, creator of Windows (TechNet)

but...

Layer tag Required Default Description Allowed Tag values Audit Disabled Allows auditing of the process or Enabled, No does not audit the process. In Disabled Audit mode, rules are not applied and traffic is not filtered. Instead, the RPC filtering engine logs events where a rule would have been applied.

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/previous-versions/windows/it-pro/windowsserver-2008-R2-and-2008/cc730626(v=ws.10)

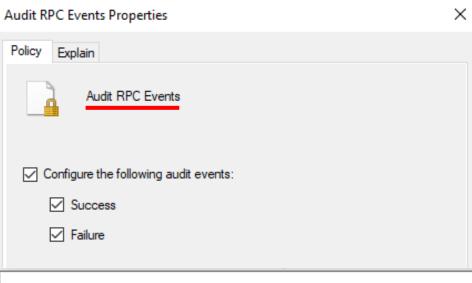
†☐ 1152 × 656px

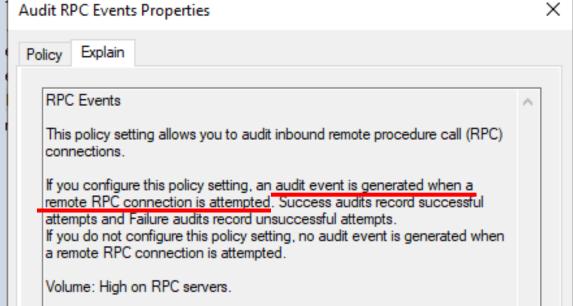
netsh documentation

- filters can be audited
- auditing is apparently logged
- probably in Event log or ETW









Advanced Audit GPO

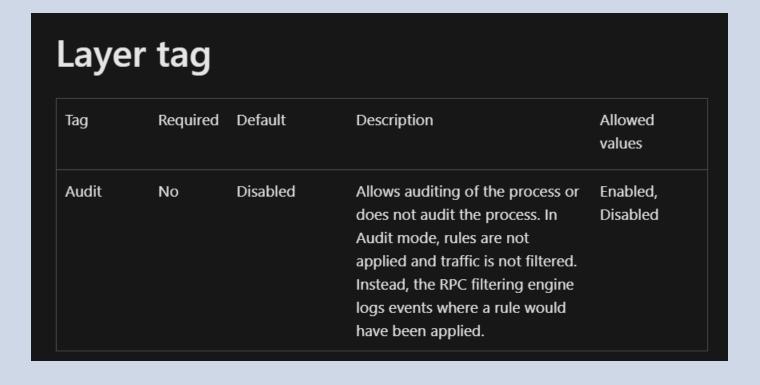
- RPC connections can be audited
- likely in Event log, like most Adv. Audit

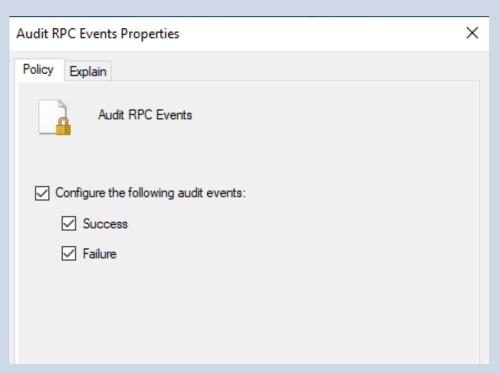






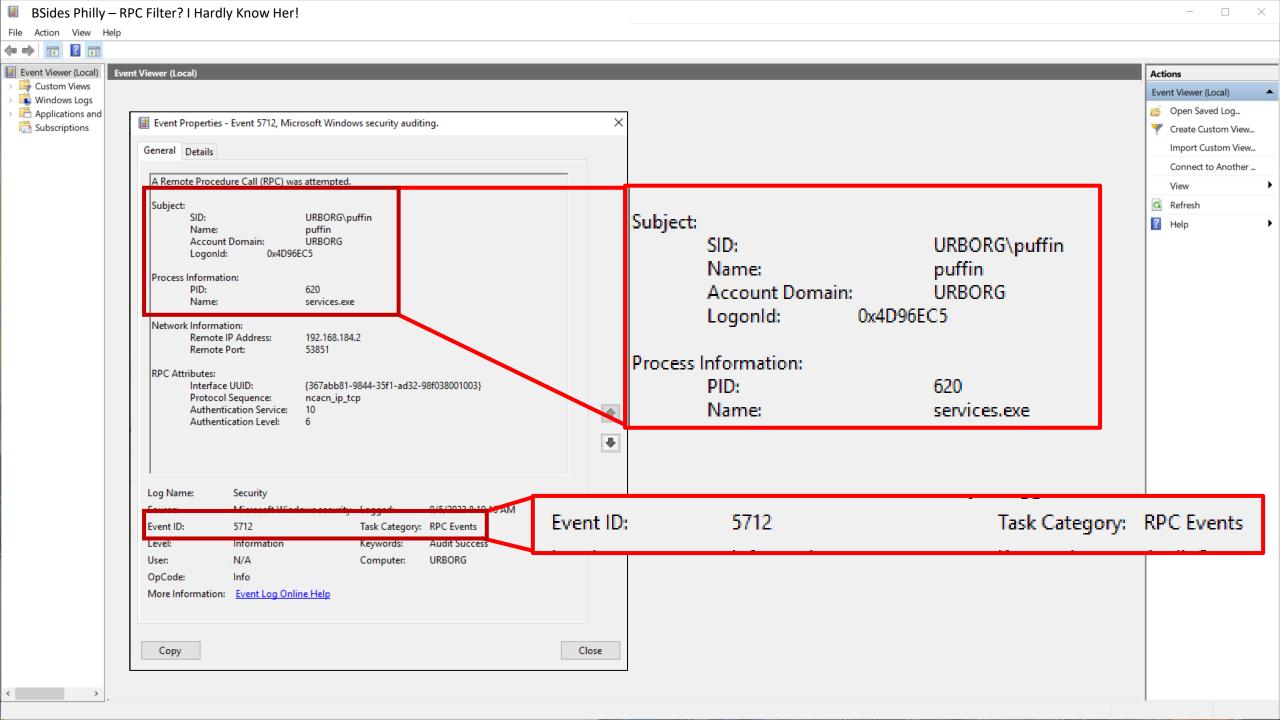
Adv. Audit + Audited Filter

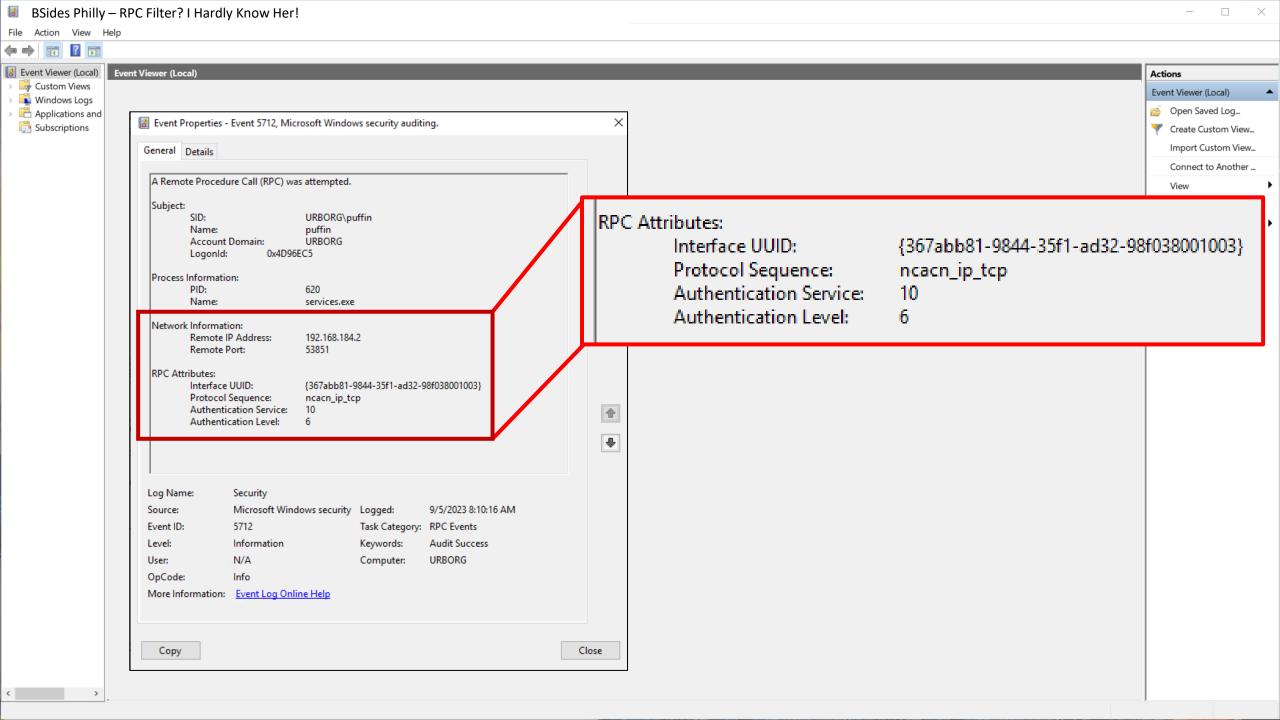












```
CMD>
```

netsh> add rule layer=um actiontype=block audit=enable

--> ERROR!

#> audit=enable MUST have actiontype=permit

#> can't audit blocks

(order doesn't seem to matter)

```
#> what if you duplicate rules?
CMD>
  netsh> add rule actiontype=block
  netsh> add rule actiontype=permit audit=enable
#> blocked connections are now logged!
```



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- #> Hurdle 2: How to deploy?
- #> Solutions:
 - > Registry only via GPP
 - > netsh.exe via GPO Startup Script
 - > One of the above w/ another tool (e.g. SCCM)
 - > Pre-deployed in golden image



- #> netsh.exe method
 - > Rules can be stored in a file (-f option)
 - > Can store on write-restricted share

- #> Registry method
 - > Requires restart after applying

- #> Filter keys can be set on creation
- #> Allows consistent management for transitioning from audit → blocking







#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

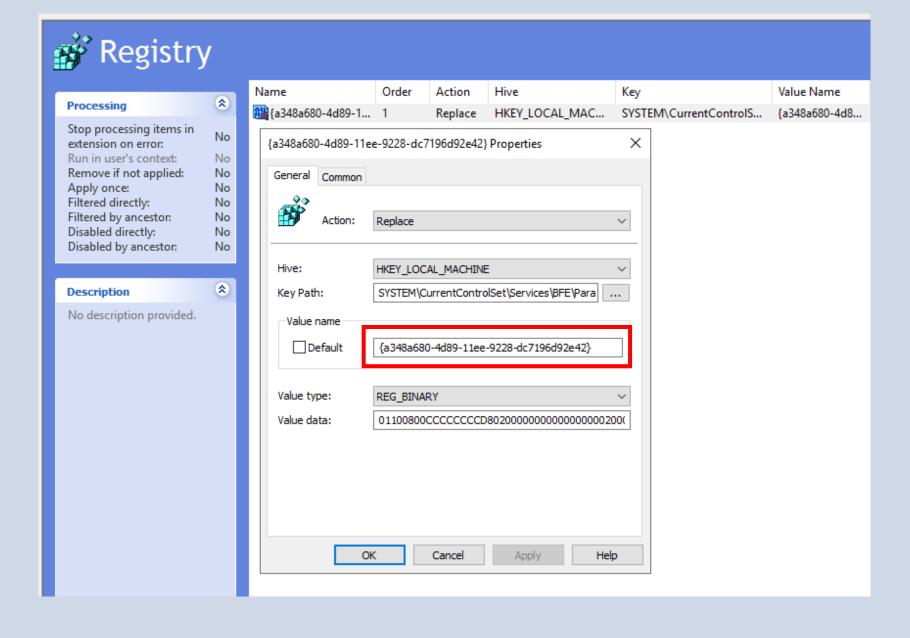
DEMO SET FILTER VIA REGISTRY GPP



Create filter on local system

C:\Users\melkor>hostname DESKTOP-947L4SH C:\Users\melkor>echo %USERDOMAIN% DESKTOP-947L4SH C:\Users\melkor>netsh rpc filter show filter Listing all RPC Filters. filterKey: a348a680-4d89-11ee-9228-dc7196d92e42 displayData.name: RPCFilter displayData.description: RPC Filter filterId: 0x29bd5 layerKey: um weight: Type: FWP_EMPTY Value: Empty action.type: block numFilterConditions: 1 filterCondition[0] fieldKey: if_uuid matchType: FWP_MATCH_EQUAL conditionValue: Type: FWP_BYTE_ARRAY16_TYPE Value: 367abb81 35f19844 f09832ad 03100038





Deploy via Registry GPP









†□ 1152 × 656px

Check filter on domain system (post-reboot)

C:\Windows\system32>hostname ARDENVALE C:\Windows\system32>echo %USERDOMAIN% SAURON C:\Windows\system32>netsh rpc filter show filter Listing all RPC Filters. filterKey: a348a680-4d89-11ee-9228-dc7196d92e42 displayData.name: RPCFilter displayData.description: RPC Filter filterId: 0x29bd5 layerKey: um weight: Type: FWP_EMPTY Value: Empty action.type: block numFilterConditions: 1 filterCondition[0] fieldKey: if uuid matchType: FWP MATCH EQUAL conditionValue: Type: FWP BYTE ARRAY16 TYPE Value: 367abb81 35f19844 f09832ad 03100038







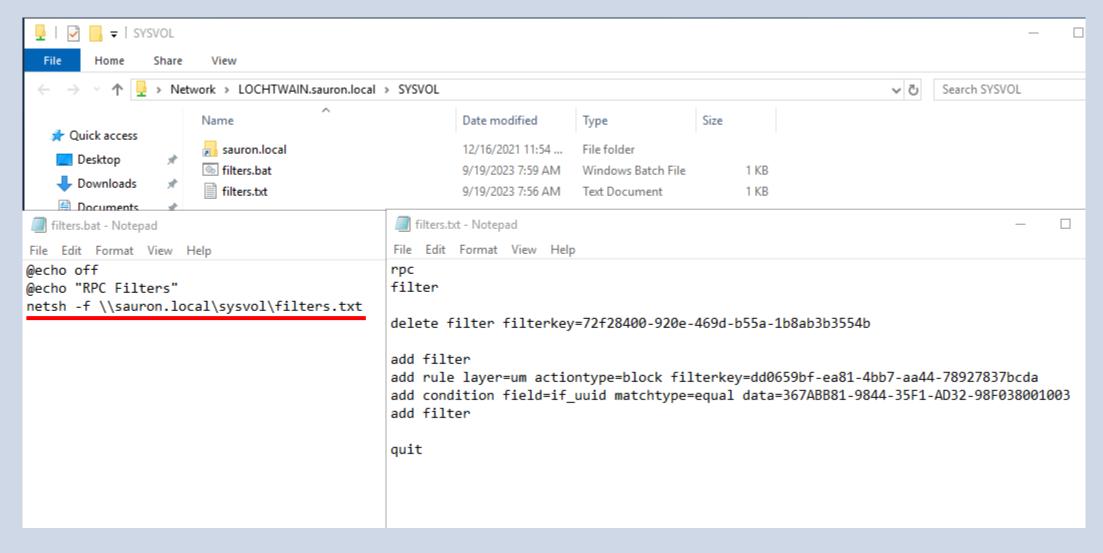




```
#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%
```

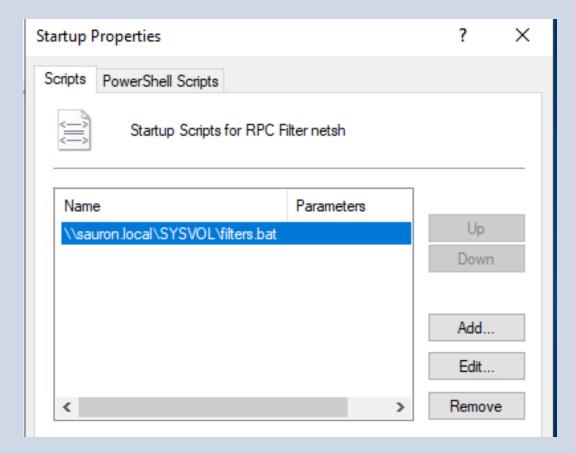
DEMO SET FILTER VIA GPO SCRIPT

Create filters on SYSVOL

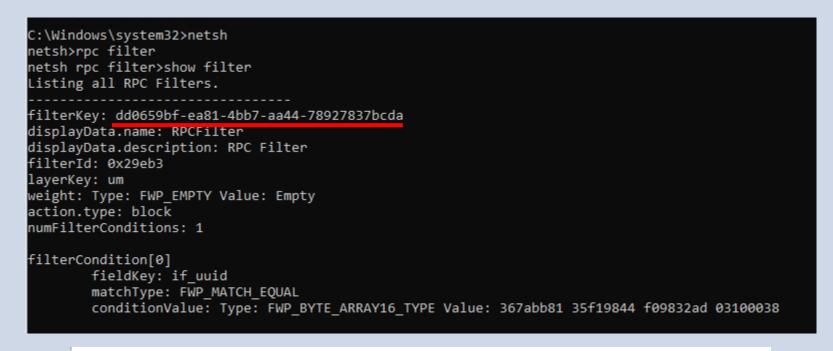


†□ 1152 × 656px

Create startup script (or scheduled task, etc)



†⊒ 1152 × 656px



Filters applied to system



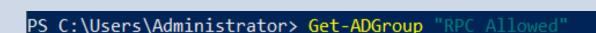


- #> Hurdle 3: What about legitimate use?
- #> Solution: Create domain group then allow via filter



#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

DEMO FILTER BY DOMAIN GROUP



DistinguishedName : CN=RPC Allowed,CN=Users,DC=sauron,DC=local

GroupCategory : Security GroupScope : Global

: RPC Allowed Name

ObjectClass : group

ObjectGUID : 868fdfb3-b94f-4709-ad5c-1c8816618de5

SamAccountName : RPC Allowed

: S-1-5-21-3564508084-3432644214-2145392011-1140 SID

PS C:\Users\Administrator> Get-ADGroupMember "RPC Allowed"

distinguishedName : CN=Tou Can,CN=Users,DC=sauron,DC=local

: Tou Can name objectClass : user

objectGUID : e16d964d-ce2e-4c53-9d7a-a5a562c3fbde

SamAccountName : toucan

: S-1-5-21-3564508084-3432644214-2145392011-1136 SID

AD Group: RPC Allowed

Member: toucan



Block Service Control Manager except for members of RPC Allowed

```
add rule layer=um actiontype=permit
add condition field=if_uuid matchtype=equal data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
add condition field=remote_user_token matchtype=equal data=D:(A;;KA;;;S-1-5-21-3564508084-3432644214-2145392011-1140)
add rule layer=um actiontype=block
add condition field=if_uuid matchtype=equal data=367ABB81-9844-35F1-AD32-98F038001003
add filter
```



†□ 1152 × 656px

sc.exe blocked for user vulture

```
Administrator: cmd (running as sauron\vulture)
C:\Windows\system32>dir \\sauron.local\sysvol
 Volume in drive \\sauron.local\sysvol has no label.
 Volume Serial Number is AC7F-FBB7
 Directory of \\sauron.local\sysvol
09/19/2023 06:58 AM
                        <DIR>
09/19/2023 06:58 AM
                        <DIR>
09/19/2023 06:59 AM
                                    76 filters.bat
                                   279 filters.txt
09/19/2023 06:56 AM
12/16/2021 11:54 AM
                                       sauron.local [C:\Windows\SYSVOL\domain]
                        <JUNCTION>
               2 File(s)
                                    355 bytes
               3 Dir(s) 38,547,255,296 bytes free
C:\Windows\system32>sc \\172.20.50.8 query
[SC] OpenSCManager FAILED 5:
Access is denied.
```

sc.exe allowed for user toucan

```
Administrator: cmd (running as sauron\toucan)
C:\Windows\system32>dir \\sauron.local\sysvol
 Volume in drive \\sauron.local\sysvol has no label.
 Volume Serial Number is AC7F-FBB7
 Directory of \\sauron.local\sysvol
09/19/2023 06:58 AM
                        <DIR>
09/19/2023 06:58 AM
                        <DIR>
                                    76 filters.bat
09/19/2023 06:59 AM
09/19/2023 06:56 AM
                                   279 filters.txt
12/16/2021 11:54 AM
                                       sauron.local [C:\Windows\SYSVOL\domain]
                        <JUNCTION>
               2 File(s)
                                    355 bytes
               3 Dir(s) 38,547,255,296 bytes free
C:\Windows\system32>sc \\172.20.50.8 query
SERVICE NAME: Appinfo
DISPLAY_NAME: Application Information
        TYPE
                           : 30 WIN32
        STATE
                           : 4 RUNNING
                                (STOPPABLE, NOT_PAUSABLE, IGNORES_SHUTDOWN)
       WIN32 EXIT CODE
                           : 0 (0x0)
       SERVICE_EXIT_CODE : 0 (0x0)
       CHECKPOINT
                           : 0x0
       WAIT_HINT
                           : 0x0
```

†Q

†

□ 1152 × 656px





#> cls
#> echo %SECTION%

LIMITATIONS

- #> Registry-method is a non-starter sometimes
- #> Hard to know entire impact of blocking
- #> Only for remote connections, not local
- #> BFE API is local only
- #> Local Windows log collection is hard/uncommon

Questions?



X @2xxeformyshirt slides https://github.com/SecurityRiskAdvisors/public-assets