Malware Reverse Engineering, Spring 2022 Practical 3

P0X03

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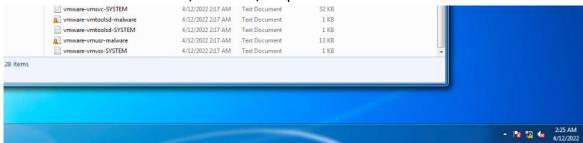
Executive Summary:

The malware with sha256 hash

94A84585432FB2AE6E9F836A92EFF960736416CB6E4E0D34B920E6DBC14F4246 is of Emotet family (a family of banking trojan malwares). When we run the malware we can see in the network activity that the malware is trying to contact C&C servers. This malware is essentially a credential stealer that can attack the host machine as a form of website, downloadable document, link etc.

Some key activities that the malware performs are:

Creates files in the C:\Windows\Temp folder



Makes changes to registry keys



- Imports functions like TerminateProcess, SuspendThread, RegCreateKeyA, SetFileAttributesA etc. This shows that the malware works with processes, registry keys and the file system of the local machine.
- Network calls are made to external domains like sf.symcd.com where potentially the malware can have access to more malicious files.

Static Analysis:

a. Compilation date of the program:

Compilation date of the malware is March 4th, 2022 at 12:51:31

subsystem	GUI
compiler-stamp	0x62220B53 (Fri Mar 04 12:51:31 2022 UTC)
debugger-stamp	n/a

b. Suspicious properties of program's Imports:

TerminateProcess: Terminates a process and all of it's threads. **GetEnvironmentVariable** let's the malware retrieve the environment variable for the current process. **GetTimeZoneInformation** gets the current time zone settings. **SetEnvironmentVariableA** can be used by the malware to some specific environment variable for a process. SetFileAttributesA, FindFirstFileA, UnlockFile, WriteFile, LockFile, DeleteFileA, MoveFileA shows that the malware is working with files. GetVolumeInformationA get's information about the file system and volume associated with the root directory. GetCurrentProcessId,GetCurrentThreadId gets the process/thread ID of a particular process/thread. Malware can use this to get a process, change it's environment variables etc. RegisterClipboardFormatA registers a new clipboard format. SuspendThread suspends a thread. PostThreadMessageA posts a message to a specified thread. This means that the malware is accessing a thread to send some message. WinHelpA launches Windows Help (malware starts winhelp.exe process). GetCapture receives mouse input in a particular windows meaning that the malware tracks mouse events. SystemParametersInfoA retrieves or sets the value of one of the system-wide parameters. This function can also update the user profile while setting a parameter. RegCreateKeyA, RegDeleteValueA, RegSetValueExA, RegSetValueA, RegEnumKeyA, RegDeleteKeyA shows us that the malware is working with registry keys.

c. Suspicious Strings:

Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer,
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Network,
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Comdlg32,
Software\Classes, Software\: These strings show that the malware is working with these registry keys. Command failed.)Insufficient memory...Registry entries have been removed also shows that the malware is working with Registry entries.

Destination disk drive is full.5Unable to read from %1, it is opened by someone else.AUnabl...

Enter a number.#Enter an integer between %1 and %2.!Enter a number between %1 and %2...
%1 contains an incorrect path.8Could not open %1 because there are too many open files.

Access to %1 was denied.0An incorrect file handle was associated with %1.8Could not rem...

Seek failed on %14Encountered a hardware I/O error while accessing %1.3Encountered a sh...

Disk full while accessing %1.\$Attempted to access %1 past its end.

No error occurred.-An unknown error occurred while accessing %1.%Attempted to write to...
%1 has a bad format."%1 contained an unexpected object. %1 contains an incorrect schema.
%1: %2\r\nontinue running script?

+ H+

Here we can see the error messages that the malware might be using while performing it's activity.

USER32.DLL, GDI32.DLL, COMDLG32.DLL, COMCTL32.dll, Custom Message Box.dll are some of the dll's that are being used by the malware. **Recent FileList** shows that the malware is accessing files. **unsigned, long, int short, char**: Maybe the malware is working with different datatypes.

HH:mm:ss	
dddd, MMMM dd, yyyy	
MM/dd/yy	
December	
/s Nor. 🚨	
o Oct	
e Decini August	
August	
July	
June	
<u>April</u>	
March	
February	
January	
Saturday	
Friday	
Thursday	
Wednesday	
Tuesday	
Monday	
Sunday	
am/pm	
<u>united-states</u>	
<u>united-kingdom</u>	
united-kingdom	

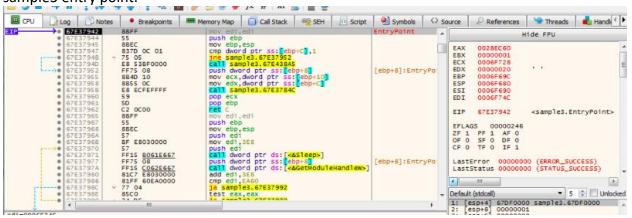
Here we can see the time and date formats along with name of months and countries suggesting that maybe the malware is using different timezones to it's benefit. **GetDateFormat** and **GetTimeFormat** also points to the same. **DllGetVersion** get's the version of cabinet.dll file.

d. Anti-Disassembly techniques

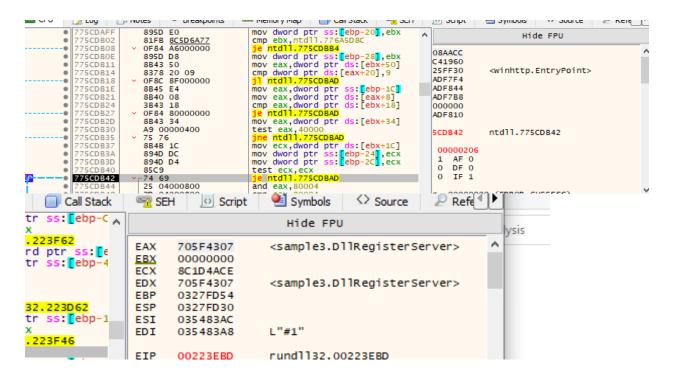
Nothing found as ghidra was able to disassemble the dll file without any errors.

e. Is the program obfuscated?

Yes, the program is obfuscated. After loading the rundll32.dll file into x32dbg and changing the command line arguments to include sample3.dll file with #1 as the ordinal, we can run the debugger and we finally reach a point where we get the sample3 entry point.



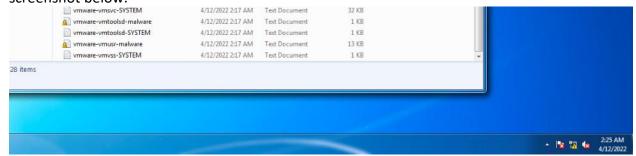
Once we continue running from here we can see that in some of the functions being called some of the DLL's that are being imported by the malware. Here we can see that



Dynamic Analysis

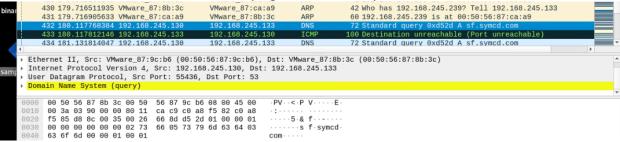
a. Interesting Behavior after malware execution

Once the malware is run, we can see in C:\Windows\Temp directory that some file are created. We can see the file creation time and the time on the local machine in the screenshot below.

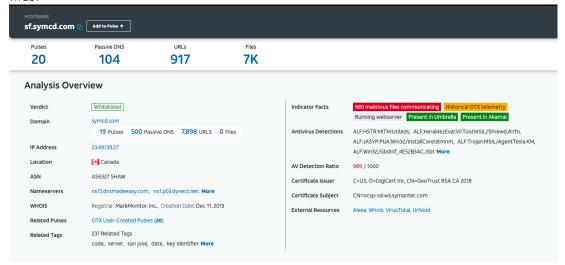


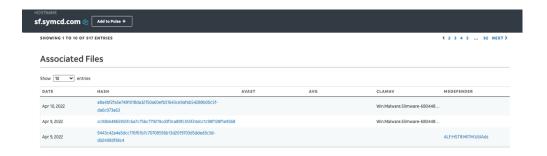
b. Network Calls:

We can see here that the malware is trying to contact sf.symcd.com.

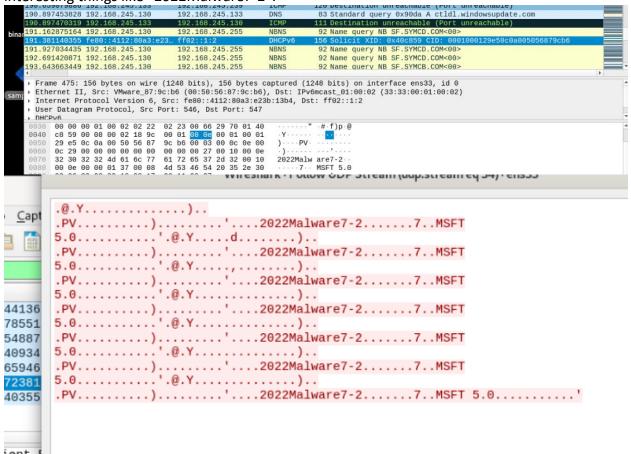


A quick google search about sf.symcd.com shows us a domain with many malicious files hosted in it. Maybe the malware is trying to contact the domain to get access to these files.





Here we can see that the malware is making some DHCPv6 calls and we can see interesting things like "2022Malware7-2".



We can also se NBNS calls to 2022MALWARE7-2<1c>. Perhaps a device or network that malware is trying to contact.

c. Registry Keys created/modified:

Kevs added:

```
Keys added: 28

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppModel\Deployment\Package\*\S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\{13CEFC}
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\1944
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\2748
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\3948
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\3948
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\5200
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\5766
HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error Reporting\TermReason\5766
HKLM\SYSTEM\ControlSet0l\ControlSet0\Somty\ControlSet0\Somty\TermReason\5766
HKLM\SYSTEM\ControlSet0l\Somty\ControlSet0\Somty\Term\Somty\TermReason\5766
HKLM\SYSTEM\ControlSet0\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\Somty\Term\S
```

Keys Deleted:

```
Keys deleted: 10

HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Wbem\Transports\Decoupled\Client\{7C0C823A-9A56-4BA3-9492-AE2F1BF8D7BC\}
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Wbem\Transports\Decoupled\Client\{9484C0BB-1604-4BF9-8B15-48A99E832CF\}
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Wbem\Transports\Decoupled\Client\{959F888-A35E-83D8-E4989D9FF788\}
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Wbem\Transports\Decoupled\Client\{959F888-A35E-83D8-E49889D9FF788\}
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Wbem\Transports\Decoupled\Client\{DE3F04D3-91C6-4382-B698-9E453E7D4D76\}
HKU\S-1-5-21-397333034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Earch\ImplistData
HKU\S-1-5-21-397333034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Search\JumplistData
HKU\S-1-5-21-397333034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft
HKU\S-1-5-21-397333034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft
HKU\S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\
HKU\S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\
HKU\S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\
HKU\S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000\Classes\Local Settings\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.windows\CurrentVersion\AppContainer\Storage\microsoft.window
```

Keys modified:

```
Values modified: 80

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\ConnectivityRestrictedNetworkTime: 0x00000001

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\ConnectivityRestrictedNetworkTime: 0x000000709

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\ConnectivityRestrictedNetworkTime: 0x000000709

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\ConnectivityRestrictedNetworkTime: 0x000000709

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\PieartBeats\Default\LastHeartBeatSime: 09 F8 02 5E FF 4D D8 01

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\PieartBeats\Default\LastHeartBeatSquenceNumber: 0x000000013

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\PieartBeats\Default\LastDownloadTime: 0x000000013

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\PieartBeats\Default\LastDownloadTime: 0x000000013

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Diagnostics\DiagTrack\PieartBeats\Default\LastDownloadTime: 0x0000000013

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\GlobalAssocChangedCounter: 0x000000003

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\FipProvider\StartTime: 72 0F 09 4C FE 4D D8 01

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\FipProvider\StartTime: 37 0F 09 4C FE 4D D8 01

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\FipProvider\StartTime: 37 0F 09 4C FE 4D D8 01

HKLM\SOFTMARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Microsoft\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windows\Current\Windo
```

d. Files created/modified

Files added:

```
Files added: 18
  C:\Windows\Logs\waasmedic\waasmedic.20220411_154418_082.etl
  C:\Windows\Logs\waasmedic\waasmedic.20220411_164418_104.etl
  C:\Windows\Logs\waasmedic\waasmedic.20220411_171858_968.etl
  C:\Windows\Logs\waasmedic\waasmedic.20220411_173941_363.etl
  C:\Windows\Logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20220411.111349.340.3.etl
  C:\Windows\Performance\WinSAT\DataStore\2022-04-11 11.59.32.834.winsat.etl
  C:\Windows\Performance\WinSAT\DataStore\2022-04-11 11.59.33.569 Cpu.Assessment (Recent).WinSAT.xml
   \hbox{C:\Windows\Performance\WinSAT\DataStore\2022-04-11 11.59.33.569 Graphics 3D.Assessment (Recent). WinSAT.xml } \\
  C:\Windows\Performance\WinSAT\DataStore\2022-04-11 12.00.40.562 Formal.Assessment (Recent).WinSAT.xml
  C:\Windows\Prefetch\AgG1UAD_P_S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000.db
  C:\Windows\Prefetch\AgG1UAD_S-1-5-21-39733034-3216902470-2998706464-1000.db
  C:\Windows\Prefetch\RUNDLL32.EXE-F4F26DED.pf
  C:\Windows\Prefetch\SVCHOST.EXE-473F5CDC.pf
  C:\Windows\System32\SleepStudy\ScreenOn\ScreenOnPowerStudyTraceSession-2022-04-11-11-55-18.etl
  C:\Windows\System32\SleepStudy\user-not-present-trace-2022-04-11-13-39-41.etl
  C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU000BC.log
  C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU000BD.log
  C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU000BE.log
Folders added:
```

```
Folders added: 1
C:\Windows\Logs\SystemRestore
```

Files deleted:

```
Files deleted: 12

Pr C:\Windows\System32\SleepStudy\ScreenOn\ScreenOnPowerStudyTraceSession-2022-02-17-14-29-24.etl
C:\Windows\System32\SleepStudy\ScreenOn\ScreenOnPowerStudyTraceSession-2022-02-17-14-36-14.etl
C:\Windows\System32\SleepStudy\ScreenOn\ScreenOnPowerStudyTraceSession-2022-02-17-14-39-17.etl
C:\Windows\System32\Sru\SRU0006C.log
C:\Windows\System32\Sru\SRU0006D.log
C:\Windows\System32\Sru\SRU0006E.log
C:\Windows\System32\Sru\SRU0006F.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU0006F.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
C:\Windows\System32\sru\SRU00073.log
```

e. Processes started by the malware:

The malware starts the rundll32.exe and slui.exe process. The slui process checks if the Windows OS on the system is genuine or not. This is a very important process for Windows as if this process is deleted or tampered with in a way that it does not work, the system will stop working altogether.



f. Persistence mechanism employed by Malware

No persistence mechanism was found.

g. Deobfuscation:

The obfuscation method is the same as described in static analysis.

Indicators of Compromise

When the malware runs, it tries to contact sf.symcd.com which is a domain which contains other malicious files (potentially malwares) that can affect the local system. On the local system we can see that about 4 files are created in the C:\Windows\Temp directory (for Win 7 machines).

```
$b="Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Network"
$c="Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Comdlg32"
$d="GetTimeZoneInformation"
$d="VirtualProtect"
$e="GetModuleFileName"

condition:
    ($a or $b or $c or $d or $e)
}
```

Note: We are not checking for file extension as this family of malware essentially attacks by making the user download some content. That content could be pdf, image, doc or any other file.