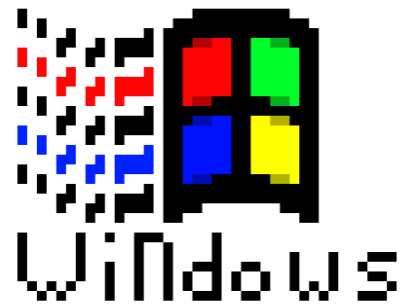


# Cyber Defense Organization

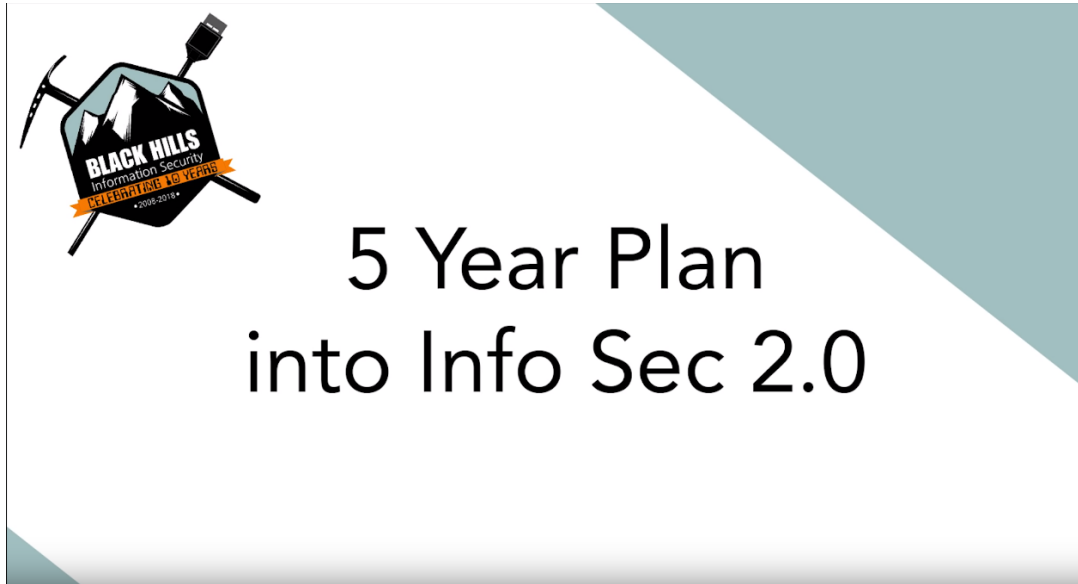
Fall 2019 - Intro to Windows Security



# **Term of the Week**

# Where do I get started?

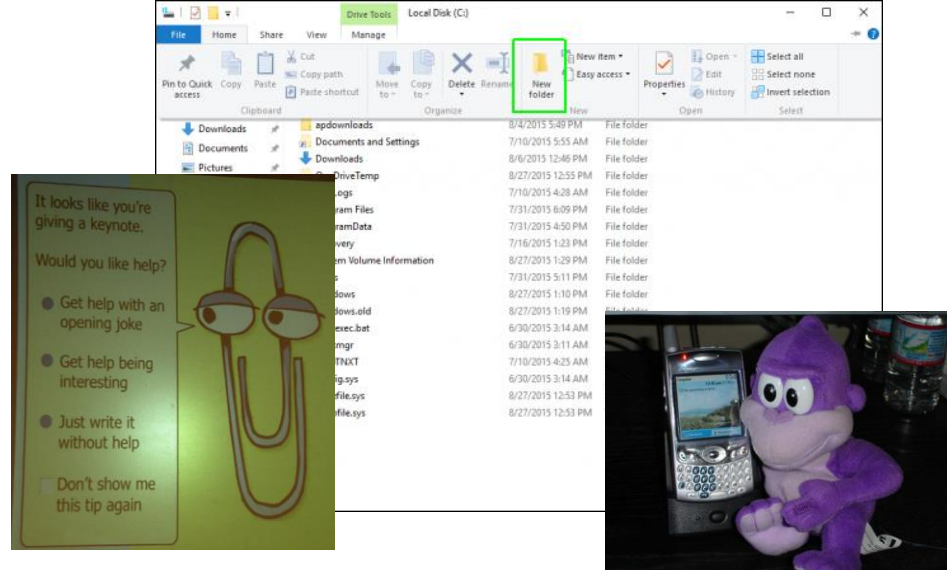
## 5 Year Plan into InfoSec Part 2



**Lets Jump Right  
In**

# What is Windows?

- Windows is a GUI based OS
  - A Graphical based Operating System
- Windows server can host a variety of services...
  - AD, DNS, DHCP, IIS (Webserver), etc.
- Very popular in the enterprise environment



VS

TL;DR Windows is a big subject. You can approach this from Forensics, Operations, Blue Team, Compliance, Development, Redteam etc. perspectives.

```
mark@linux-desktop: /tmp/tutorial
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
mark@linux-desktop:~$ mkdir /tmp/tutorial
mark@linux-desktop:~$ cd /tmp/tutorial
mark@linux-desktop:/tmp/tutorial$ mkdir dir1 dir2 dir3
mark@linux-desktop:/tmp/tutorial$ mkdir
mkdir: missing operand
Try 'mkdir --help' for more information.
mark@linux-desktop:/tmp/tutorial$ cd /etc ~/Desktop
bash: cd: too many arguments
mark@linux-desktop:/tmp/tutorial$ ls
dir1 dir2 dir3
mark@linux-desktop:/tmp/tutorial$
```

# File Structure

Directory	Description
\PerfLogs	Windows performance logs.
\Program Files	Programs are installed in here.
\Program Files (x86)	On a 64-bit machine, 32-bit programs are placed here.
\ProgramData	Contains program data that are expected to be accessed by computer programs regardless of the user account in the context of which they run.
\Users	User Profile folders.
\Windows	Windows itself is installed into this folder.
\Windows\System32	Stores dynamic-link library (DLL) files that implement the core features of Windows and Windows API.

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

```
C:\>dir /a
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 4238-FC77

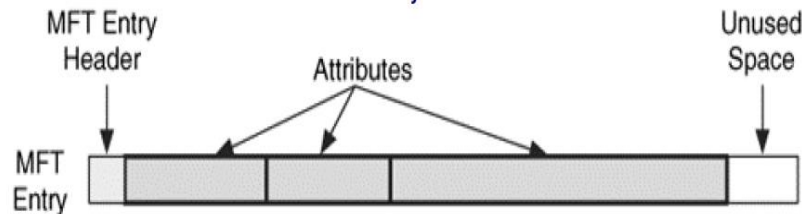
Directory of C:\

06/23/2019  05:34 PM    <DIR>          $Recycle.Bin
07/16/2016  08:18 AM             384,322 bootmgr
07/16/2016  08:18 AM              1 BOOTNXT
06/15/2019  09:43 PM    <JUNCTION>     Documents and Settings [C:\Users]
09/08/2019  07:38 PM    <DIR>          jdk-11.0.4_windows-x64_bin
08/29/2019  05:11 PM    <DIR>          MinGW
09/18/2019  09:44 AM             738,197,504 pagefile.sys
06/27/2019  10:22 PM    <DIR>          PerfLogs
09/22/2019  10:35 PM    <DIR>          Program Files
09/22/2019  10:36 PM    <DIR>          Program Files (x86)
09/08/2019  07:39 PM    <DIR>          ProgramData
09/06/2019  04:25 PM             28 RansomNote.yousuck
06/15/2019  09:43 PM    <DIR>          Recovery
06/27/2019  08:05 PM    <DIR>          System Volume Information
09/02/2019  07:13 PM    <DIR>          Users
09/06/2019  04:25 PM    <DIR>          Windows
               4 File(s)      738,581,855 bytes
               12 Dir(s)    36,018,630,656 bytes free
```

# File System (NTFS) - MFT/\$USNJRNL:\$J

Master File Table (\$MFT) is the heart of NTFS because it contains the information about all files and directories.

Every file and directory has at least one entry in the table, and the entries by themselves are very simple.



The change journal is a file that records when changes are made to files and directories. [Video.](#)

B	C	D	E
USN RcdFile Name	USN ExtraFullName	USN RcdFile Attr	USN RcdReason
voice#5734223.zip	\Users\user1\Downloads\voice#5734223.zip	Archive	File_Create
voice#5734223	\Users\user1\Downloads\voice#5734223	Directory	File_Create
voice.exe	\Users\user1\Downloads\voice#5734223\voice.exe	Archive	File_Create
testmem.exe	\Users\user1\AppData\Local\Temp\testmem.exe	Archive;Content N	File_Create
VOICE.EXE-78467D55.pf	\Windows\Prefetch\VOICE.EXE-78467D55.pf	Archive;Content N	File_Create
TESTMEM.EXE-309E8084.pf	\Windows\Prefetch\TESTMEM.EXE-309E8084.pf	Archive;Content N	File_Create
voice.exe	\Users\user1\Downloads\voice#5734223\voice.exe	Archive	File_Delete,Close

# File System (NTFS) - Time Stamps

This is more into the forensics side. If interested read the book, [File System Forensics](#). 10/10.

Every File has two sets of 4 Time Stamps

**\$STANDARD\_INFO** can be modified by user level processes like timestomp.

**\$FILE\_NAME** can only be modified by the system kernel. (There are no known anti-forensics utilities that can accomplish this.)\*

The MAC(b) times are derived from file system metadata and they stand for:

1. Modified
2. Accessed
3. Changed (\$MFT Modified)
4. Birth (file creation time)

The (b) is in parentheses because not all file systems record a birth time.

\*COUGH\*EXT4\*COUGH\*



# Users & Group

- User groups work much different from a linux based system
  - Based off of SIDs (Security Identifiers)
- SIDs determine what permission groups, users, or even the current session has access too

CA: Select C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

```
C:\Users\William Smith>wmic useraccount get name,sid
Name                SID
Administrator       S-1-5-21-1513272600-1298433948-100957936-500
DefaultAccount       S-1-5-21-1513272600-1298433948-100957936-503
Guest                S-1-5-21-1513272600-1298433948-100957936-501
WDAGUtilityAccount   S-1-5-21-1513272600-1298433948-100957936-504
William Smith        S-1-5-21-1513272600-1298433948-100957936-1000
```

CA: C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.356]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
```

```
C:\Users\William Smith>net localgroup
```

```
Aliases for \\WILLIAMSMITH-PC
```

```
-----
*__vmware__
*Access Control Assistance Operators
*Administrators
*Backup Operators
*Cryptographic Operators
*Distributed COM Users
*Event Log Readers
*Guests
*Hyper-V Administrators
*IIS_IUSRS
*Message Capture Users
*Network Configuration Operators
*Performance Log Users
*Performance Monitor Users
*Power Users
*Remote Desktop Users
*Remote Management Users
*Replicator
*System Managed Accounts Group
*Users
The command completed successfully.
```

```
C:\Users\William Smith>_
```

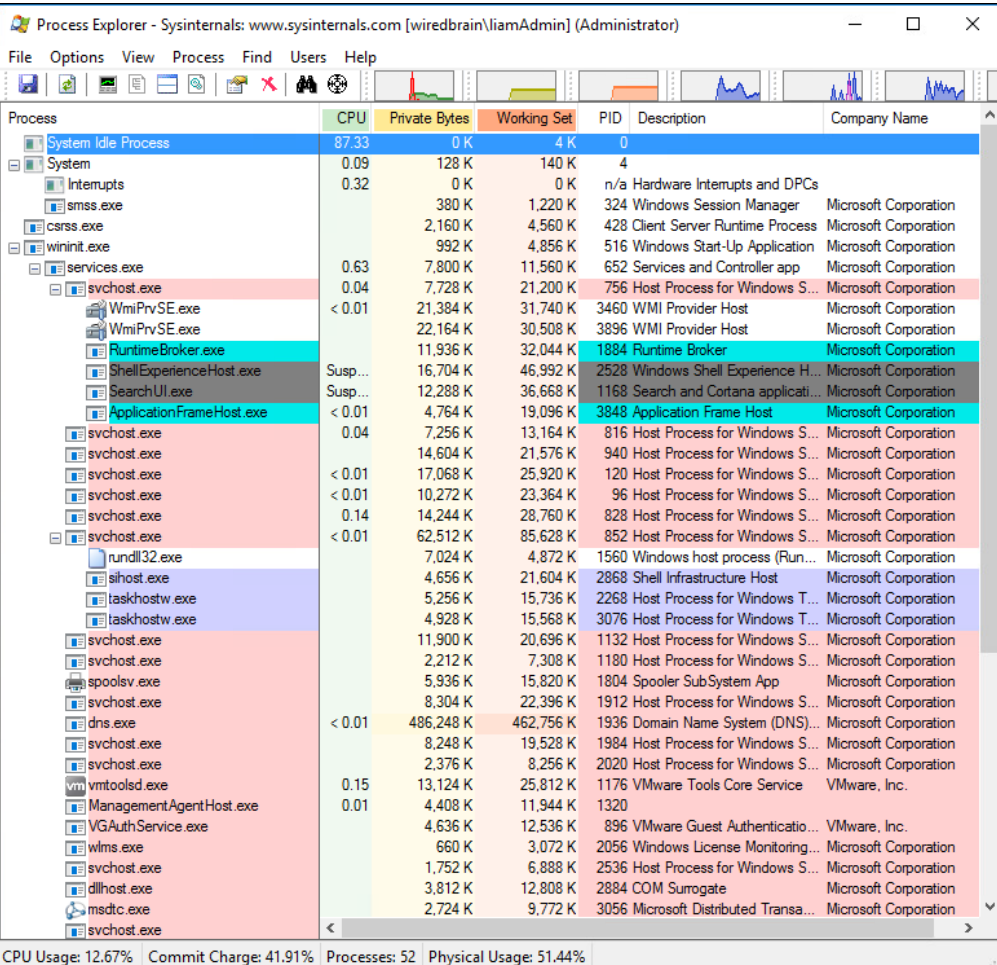
# Processes

An application consists of one or more processes.

A process, in the simplest terms, is an executing program.

One or more threads run in the context of the process.

A thread is something you use to sow a button. (basic unit to which the operating system allocates processor time).



Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [wiredbrain\liamAdmin] (Administrator)

File Options View Process Find Users Help

Process	CPU	Private Bytes	Working Set	PID	Description	Company Name
System Idle Process	87.33	0 K	4 K	0		
System	0.09	128 K	140 K	4		
Interrupts	0.32	0 K	0 K	n/a	Hardware Interrupts and DPCs	
smss.exe		380 K	1,220 K	324	Windows Session Manager	Microsoft Corporation
csrss.exe		2,160 K	4,560 K	428	Client Server Runtime Process	Microsoft Corporation
wininit.exe		992 K	4,856 K	516	Windows Start-Up Application	Microsoft Corporation
services.exe	0.63	7,800 K	11,560 K	652	Services and Controller app	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.04	7,728 K	21,200 K	756	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
WmiPrvSE.exe	< 0.01	21,384 K	31,740 K	3460	WMI Provider Host	Microsoft Corporation
WmiPrvSE.exe		22,164 K	30,508 K	3896	WMI Provider Host	Microsoft Corporation
RuntimeBroker.exe		11,936 K	32,044 K	1884	Runtime Broker	Microsoft Corporation
ShellExperienceHost.exe	Susp...	16,704 K	46,992 K	2528	Windows Shell Experience H...	Microsoft Corporation
SearchUI.exe	Susp...	12,288 K	36,668 K	1168	Search and Cortana applica...	Microsoft Corporation
ApplicationFrameHost.exe	< 0.01	4,764 K	19,096 K	3848	Application Frame Host	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.04	7,256 K	13,164 K	816	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		14,604 K	21,576 K	940	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	17,068 K	25,920 K	120	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	10,272 K	23,364 K	96	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.14	14,244 K	28,760 K	828	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	62,512 K	85,628 K	852	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
rundll32.exe		7,024 K	4,872 K	1560	Windows host process (Run...	Microsoft Corporation
sihost.exe		4,656 K	21,604 K	2868	Shell Infrastructure Host	Microsoft Corporation
taskhostw.exe		5,256 K	15,736 K	2268	Host Process for Windows T...	Microsoft Corporation
taskhostw.exe		4,928 K	15,568 K	3076	Host Process for Windows T...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		11,900 K	20,696 K	1132	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		2,212 K	7,308 K	1180	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
spoolsv.exe		5,936 K	15,820 K	1804	Spooler SubSystem App	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		8,304 K	22,396 K	1912	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
dns.exe	< 0.01	486,248 K	462,756 K	1936	Domain Name System (DNS)...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		8,248 K	19,528 K	1984	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		2,376 K	8,256 K	2020	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
vmtoolsd.exe	0.15	13,124 K	25,812 K	1176	VMware Tools Core Service	VMware, Inc.
ManagementAgentHost.exe	0.01	4,408 K	11,944 K	1320		
VGAuthService.exe		4,636 K	12,536 K	896	VMware Guest Authenticatio...	VMware, Inc.
wlms.exe		660 K	3,072 K	2056	Windows License Monitoring...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		1,752 K	6,888 K	2536	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
dllhost.exe		3,812 K	12,808 K	2884	COM Surrogate	Microsoft Corporation
msdtc.exe		2,724 K	9,772 K	3056	Microsoft Distributed Transa...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe						

CPU Usage: 12.67% Commit Charge: 41.91% Processes: 52 Physical Usage: 51.44%

# Firewall

- The Windows firewall operates for just that machine
- You can create inbound and outbound rules through the GUI
- Good for blocking network traffic that you don't need

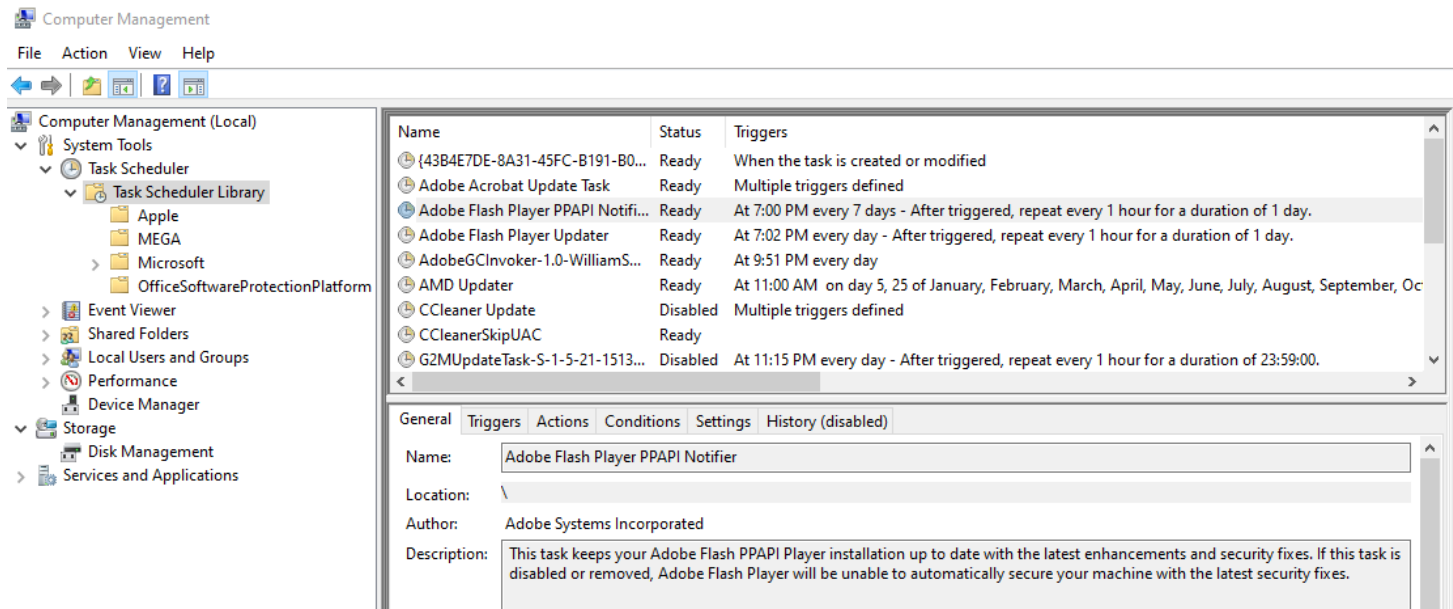
You can block traffic at the program level. Not just ports/protocols. (Kinda important in competitions).



# Task Scheduler

Task Scheduler is a component of Microsoft Windows that provides the ability to schedule the launch of programs or scripts at pre-defined times or after specified time intervals: job scheduling (task scheduling).

You know all those annoying update things you 100% Ignore from Adobe once a week?



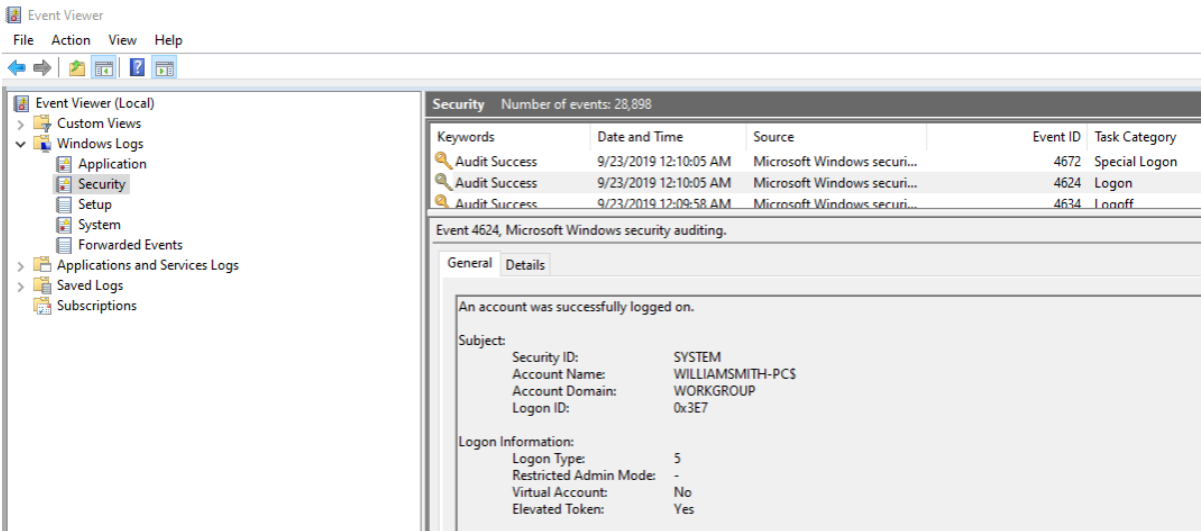
# Event Viewer/Event Logs

Windows has logs.

The Event Viewer is a tool in Windows that displays detailed information about significant events on your computer.

No they are not that pretty. But they are beautiful in their own way. Mastery in understanding them will bring you far!

Logon types (5 = “Unlock” here) are important.



This meme is  
over 10 years  
old...

Event Viewer

File Action View Help

ShellCommon-StartLayoutPopulation  
SmartCard-Audit  
SmartCard-DeviceEnum  
SmartCard-TPM-VCARD-Module  
SmartScreen  
SMBClient  
SMBDirect  
SMBServer  
SMBWitnessClient  
StateRepository  
StickyNotes  
Storage-Tiering  
StorageManagement  
StorageSpaces-Driver  
StorageSpaces-ManagementAgent  
StorageSpaces-SpaceManager  
StorDiag  
Store  
StorPort  
Storsvc  
Sysmon  
Operational  
SystemSettingsThreshold  
TaskScheduler  
TCP/IP  
TerminalServices-ClientActiveXCore  
TerminalServices-ClientUSBDevices  
TerminalServices-LocalSessionManager  
TerminalServices-PnPDevices  
TerminalServices-Printers  
TerminalServices-RemoteConnectionManager  
TerminalServices-ServerUSBDevices  
Time-Service  
Time-Service-PTP-Provider  
Troubleshooting-Recommended  
TZSync  
TZUtil  
UAC  
UAC-FileVirtualization  
UAC-Search

Operational Number of events: 45,311

Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Category
Information	9/22/2019 10:13:02 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:13:02 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:13:00 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:13:00 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:11:34 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:10:44 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/22/2019 10:09:53 PM	Sysmon	2	File creation time changed (rule: FileCreateT...

Event 1, Sysmon

General Details

Process Create:  
RuleName:  
UtcTime: 2019-09-23 02:13:02.028  
ProcessGuid: {a381668b-2a2e-5d88-0100-0010e10bde4c}  
ProcessId: 13572  
Image: C:\Windows\System32\eventvwr.exe  
FileVersion: 10.0.18362.1 (WinBuild.160101.0800)  
Description: Event Viewer Snapin Launcher  
Product: Microsoft® Windows® Operating System  
Company: Microsoft Corporation  
OriginalFileName: eventvwr.exe  
CommandLine: "C:\WINDOWS\system32\eventvwr.exe"  
CurrentDirectory: C:\WINDOWS\system32\  
User: WilliamSmith-PC\William Smith  
LogonGuid: {a381668b-f5f0-5d79-0000-00202da81200}  
LogonId: 0x12A82D  
TerminalSessionId: 1

Log Name: Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational  
Source: Sysmon Logged: 9/22/2019 10:13:02 PM  
Event ID: 1 Task Category: Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)  
Level: Information Keywords:  
User: SYSTEM Computer: WilliamSmith-PC  
OpCode: Info  
More Information: [Event Log Online Help](#)

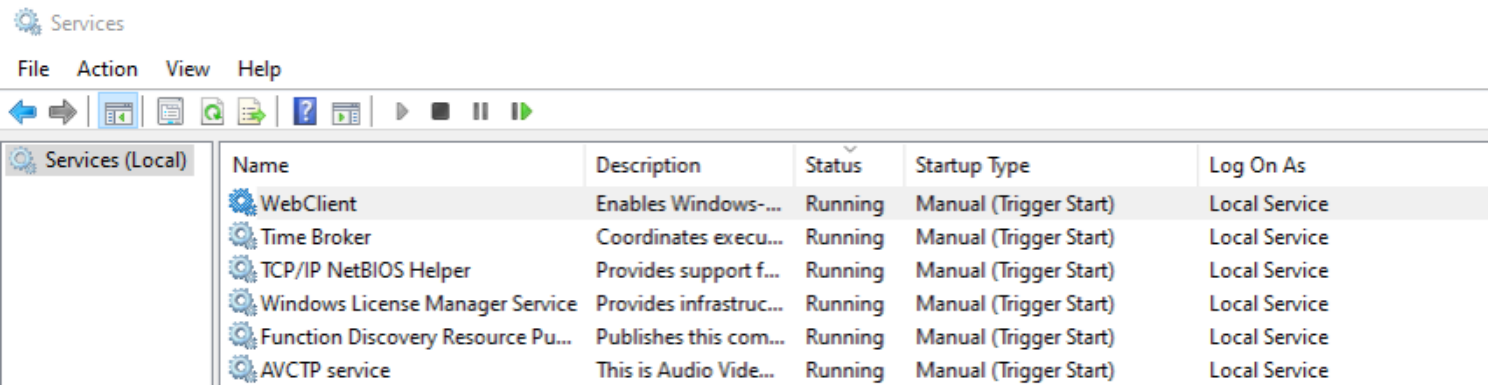
Actions

Operational

Open Saved Log...  
Create Custom View...  
Import Custom View...  
Clear Log...  
Filter Current Log...  
Properties  
Disable Log  
Find...  
Save All Events As...  
Attach a Task To this Log...  
View  
Refresh  
Help  
Event 1, Sysmon  
Event Properties  
Attach Task To This Event...  
Copy  
Save Selected Events...  
Refresh  
Help

# Services

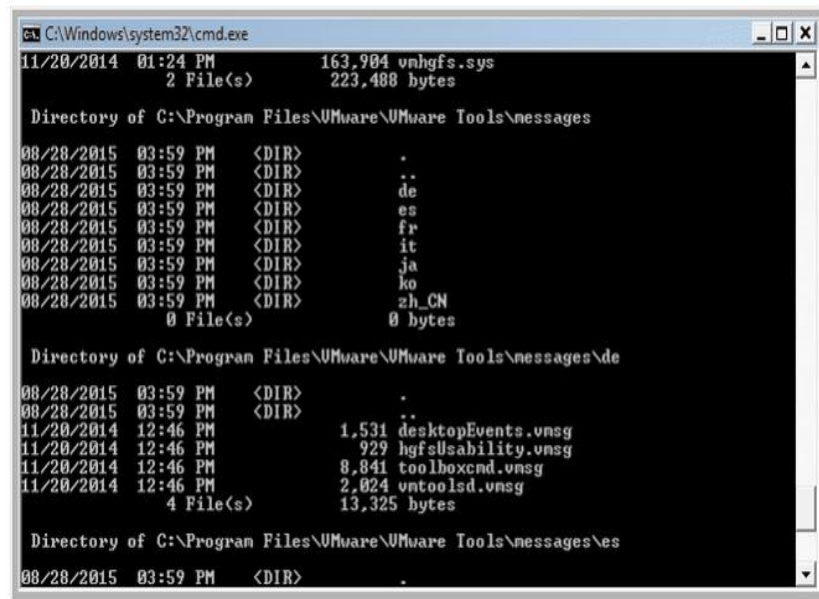
Microsoft Windows services, formerly known as NT services, enable you to create long-running executable applications that run in their own Windows sessions. These services can be automatically started when the computer boots, can be paused and restarted, and do not show any user interface. These features make services ideal for use on a server or whenever you need long-running functionality that does not interfere with other users who are working on the same computer.



# Command Line/Prompt/CMD

Window's own terminal

Command	Function
help	List of commands
systeminfo	High level overview of the system
ipconfig	Network configuration
netstat	Open connections (-ano)
net <>	A powerful suite of commands
ping	Test network communication
tracert	Trace a network communication
tasklist	List processes
taskkill	Kill a process



```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
11/20/2014 01:24 PM 163,904 vnhgfs.sys
2 File(s) 223,408 bytes

Directory of C:\Program Files\UMware\UMware Tools\messages

08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> .
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> ..
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> de
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> es
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> fr
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> it
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> ja
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> ko
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> zh_CN
0 File(s) 0 bytes

Directory of C:\Program Files\UMware\UMware Tools\messages\de

08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> .
08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> ..
11/20/2014 12:46 PM 1,531 desktopEvents.vmsg
11/20/2014 12:46 PM 929 hgfsUsability.vmsg
11/20/2014 12:46 PM 8,841 toolboxcmd.vmsg
11/20/2014 12:46 PM 2,024 vntoolsd.vmsg
4 File(s) 13,325 bytes

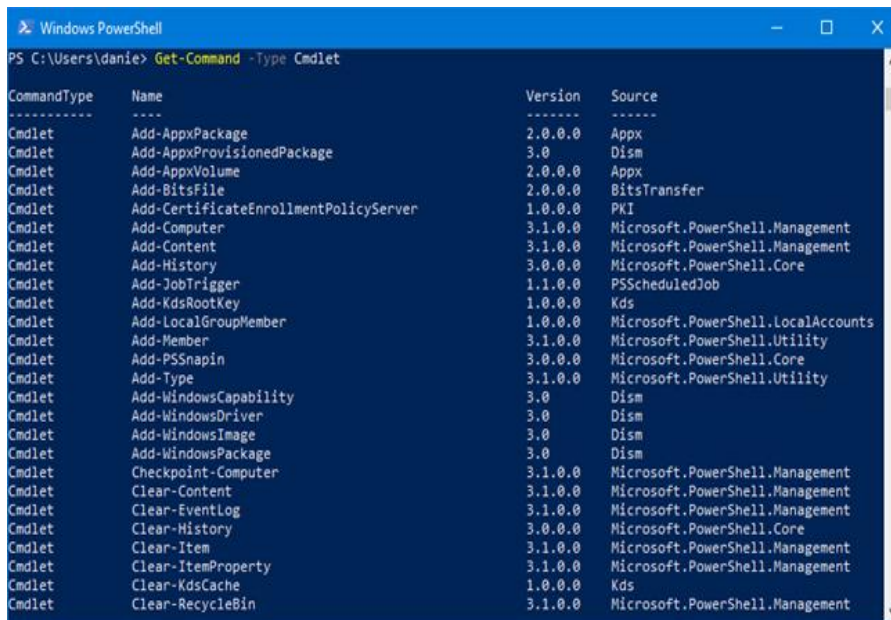
Directory of C:\Program Files\UMware\UMware Tools\messages\es

08/28/2015 03:59 PM <DIR> .
```



# Powershell

- Powershell is a very powerful tool
- Amped up version of the CMD
- It can be used for...
  - Task automation
  - Scripting
- Has a simple command structure
  - Verb-noun



CommandType	Name	Version	Source
-----	----	-----	-----
Cmdlet	Add-AppxPackage	2.0.0.0	Appx
Cmdlet	Add-AppxProvisionedPackage	3.0	Dism
Cmdlet	Add-AppxVolume	2.0.0.0	Appx
Cmdlet	Add-BitsFile	2.0.0.0	BitsTransfer
Cmdlet	Add-CertificateEnrollmentPolicyServer	1.0.0.0	PKI
Cmdlet	Add-Computer	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Add-Content	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Add-History	3.0.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Core
Cmdlet	Add-JobTrigger	1.1.0.0	PSScheduledJob
Cmdlet	Add-KdsRootKey	1.0.0.0	Kds
Cmdlet	Add-LocalGroupMember	1.0.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.LocalAccounts
Cmdlet	Add-Member	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Utility
Cmdlet	Add-PSSnapin	3.0.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Core
Cmdlet	Add-Type	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Utility
Cmdlet	Add-WindowsCapability	3.0	Dism
Cmdlet	Add-WindowsDriver	3.0	Dism
Cmdlet	Add-WindowsImage	3.0	Dism
Cmdlet	Add-WindowsPackage	3.0	Dism
Cmdlet	Checkpoint-Computer	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Clear-Content	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Clear-EventLog	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Clear-History	3.0.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Core
Cmdlet	Clear-Item	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Clear-ItemProperty	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management
Cmdlet	Clear-KdsCache	1.0.0.0	Kds
Cmdlet	Clear-RecycleBin	3.1.0.0	Microsoft.PowerShell.Management



Its a shell...  
and its blue.  
Please laugh.

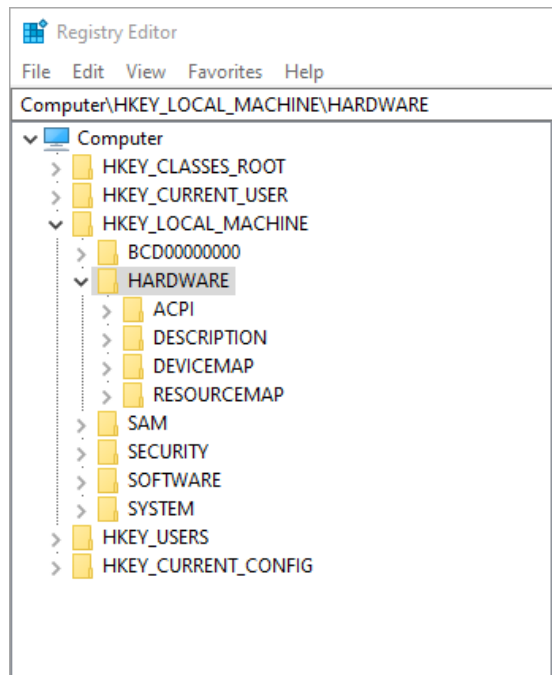
# Registry



The Windows Registry is a hierarchical database that stores low-level settings for the Microsoft Windows operating system and for applications that opt to use the registry.

- HKEY\_CLASSES\_ROOT (HKCR)
- HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER (HKCU)
- HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE (HKLM)
- HKEY\_USER (HKU)
- HKEY\_CURRENT\_CONFIG (HKCC)

Look at it With RegEdit, or Registry Explorer.



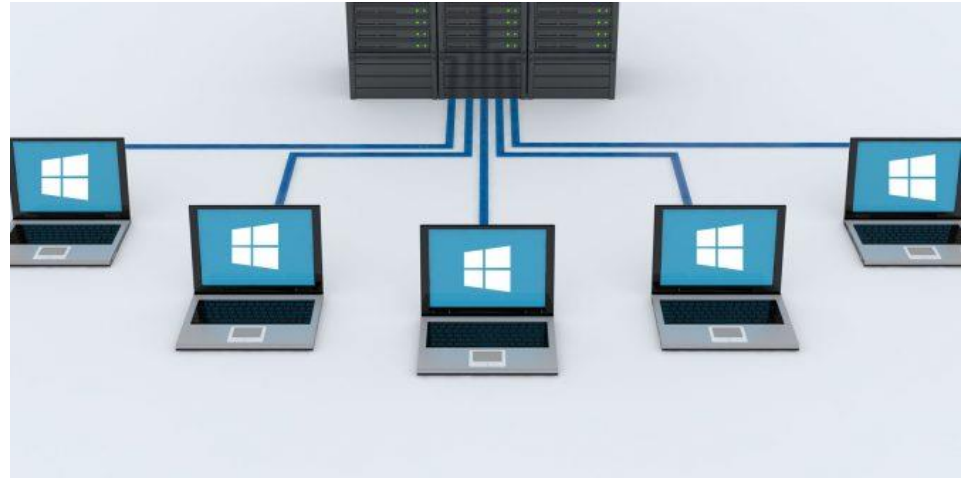
I can't stress enough how important it is for Windows Forensics. Check out [this link](#) for Liam's Windows Forensics Intro.



# Active Directory (AD)

- Very important... but it does a lot
  - Too much to cover right now!
- TL;DR A domain controller and it enforces security policies, authenticates, and authorized users across a domain

This is the best video I have ever seen on Active Directory: [A Cat Explains Active Directory.](#)



# Sysinternals

The Sysinternals tool set was created in 1996 by Mark Russinovich. It was so good that Microsoft bought it and said “yo” just keep working on this this is great. The Windows system internals suite is used just about everywhere.

Tool Name	Function
procexp.exe	Process explorer; basically a better task manager.
autoruns.exe	See all of the activities that run automatically.
Tcpview.exe	See all connections. A better netstat.
sysmon.exe	A program to monitor and log additional events. Highly customizable.
Procmon.exe	Process Monitor, very advanced tool, can see <i>nearly</i> everything the machine is doing.



# Zimmerman's Tools

When Eric Zimmerman was a Special Agent with the FBI, one of his responsibilities was managing on-scene triage. He started to make tools to parse common forensic artifacts.

They are good. Play with them.

Tool Name	Function
get-zimmermantools	Powershell Script to grab them all
EvtxECmd	Event Log to CSV
MFTECmd	\$MFT, \$Boot, \$J, \$SDS To CSV
Registry Explorer	Registry Viewer with bookmarks.
ShellBags Explorer	View ShellBags.

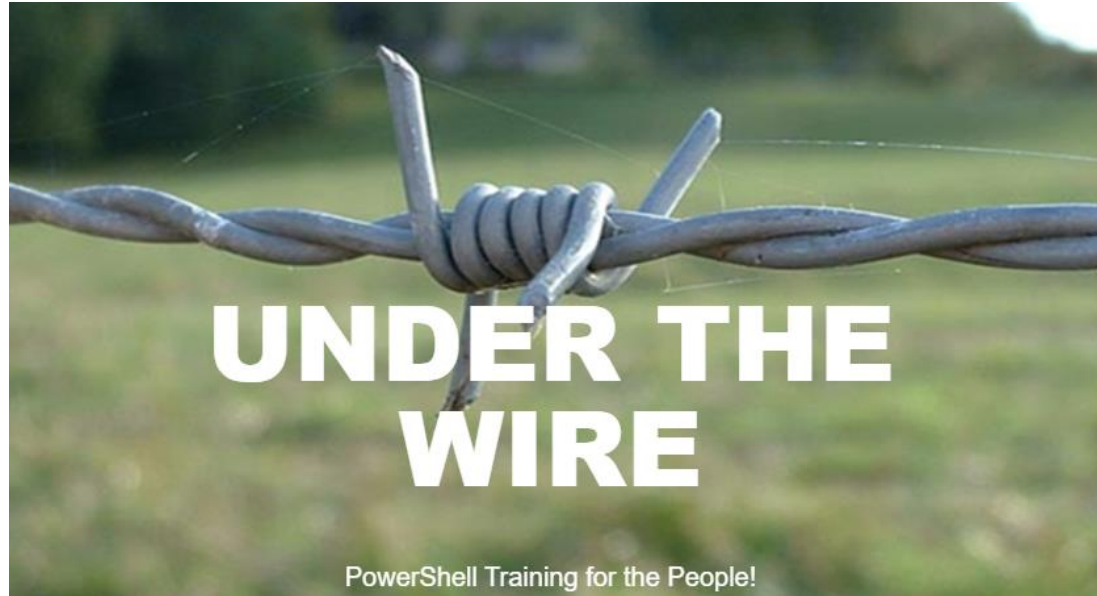




# Activity Time!

Here you go! =D

[tinyurl.com/CDOFall19WindowsPrimer](https://tinyurl.com/CDOFall19WindowsPrimer)



# Additional Resources

[13 Cubed - Intro To Windows Forensics.](#)

Troubleshooting with the Windows Sysinternals Tools - Book for Nerds

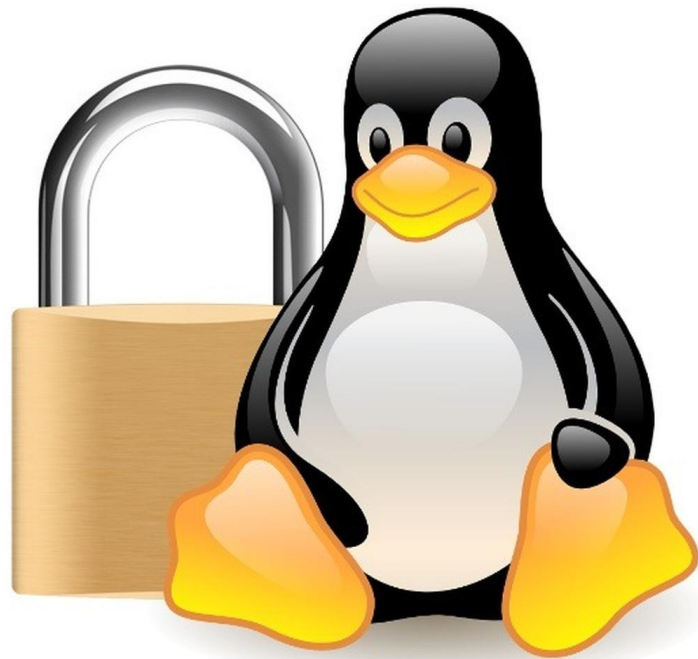
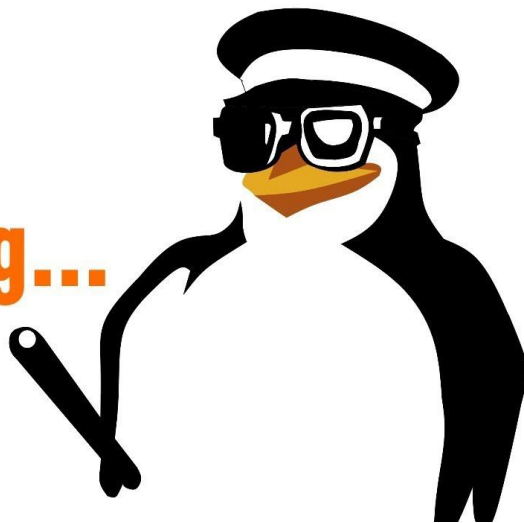
[lppSec.](#)



# Cya Next Time!

Next Week's Workshop will be an Intro to **Linux Security** taught by **Tyler Ritchie**!

Introducing...



# Other Student Groups

BB125; 7:15pm.

## Certifications Open Forum

Security+

CISA

CRISC

CISSP

Security+

AWS Cloud Security

The logo for ISACA, featuring the letters "ISACA" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the "A".

## Student Group

# Add us on Social Media!

Twitter: @ualbanyCDO 

Instagram: ualbany\_cdo 

Website: uacyber.org 

Myinvolvement: **Cyber Defense Org**

**We have a discord!**

