# Ransomware & Cyberthreat Intelligence Analysis

Mihoko Matsubara

CSO Japan, Palo Alto Networks K.K.



## Today's talk

- Introduction
- When you talk to non-technical people
- The environment in the digital age
- Ransomware problems
- Prevention/Best practices
- Leadership involvement
- Summary











## Introduction

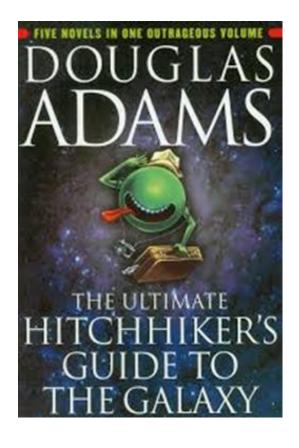


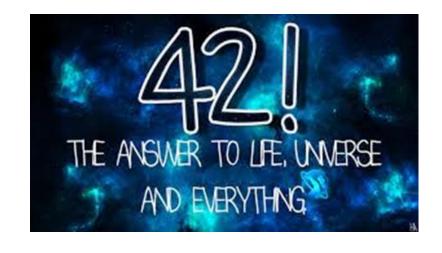
#### CSO Team & Unit 42









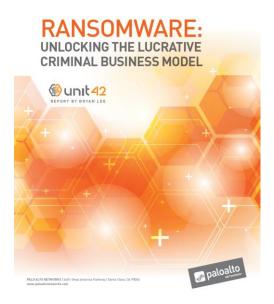


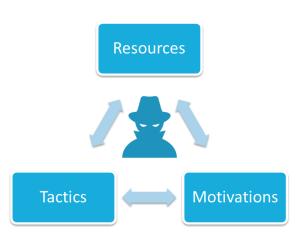


#### Unit 42's research



- Whitepaper: "Ransomware: Unlocking the Lucrative Criminal Business Model" <a href="https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/resources/research/ransomware-report">https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/resources/research/ransomware-report</a>
- Unit 42 blogs: researchcenter.paloaltonetworks.com/unit42







## Unit 42's 10 recent blogs



- The OilRig Campaign: Attacks on Saudi Arabian Organizations Deliver Helminth Backdoor
- New Wekby Attacks Use DNS Requests As Command and Control Mechanism
- Operation Ke3chang Resurfaces With New TidePool Malware
- Ransomware Is Not a "Malware Problem" – It's a Criminal Business Model
- KRBanker Targets South Korea Through Adware and Exploit Kits

- Bucbi Ransomware Is Back With a Ukrainian Makeover
- Prince of Persia: Infy Malware Active In Decade of Targeted Attacks
- Afraidgate: Major Exploit Kit Campaign Swaps Locky Ransomware for CryptXXX
- New Poison Ivy RAT Variant Targets Hong Kong Pro-Democracy Activists
- Python-Based PWOBot Targets European Organizations



# When you talk to non-technical people



## When you talk to non-technical people...

- They are more interested in financial impacts than technical details.
- They want to know what the problem is in non-technical terms.
- They also want to know what action they need to take for what reason.





#### What is ransomware?

## ransom

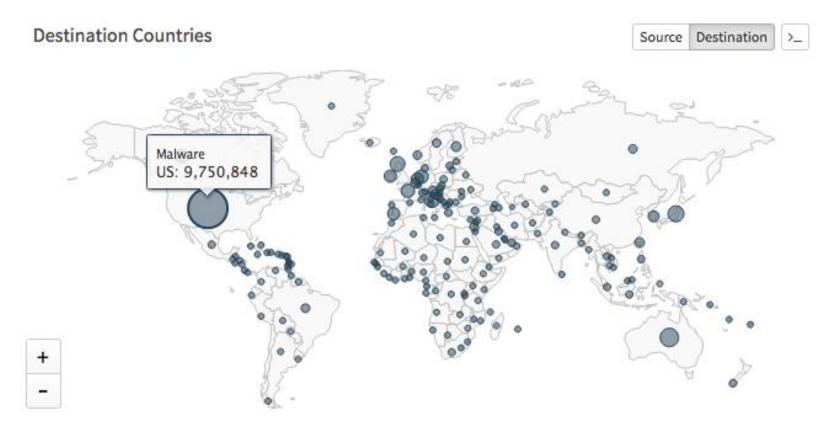
n. ran·som /ræns(ə)m/



A consideration paid or demanded for the release of someone or something from captivity



#### Ransomware





## CryptoWall Threat





839 command and control URLs



second-tier IP addresses used for command and control

**Q49** 

campaign code identifiers



attempted infections of CryptoWall version 3



malware samples



# The environment in the digital age



## We live in the digital age



















## International Data Corporation (IDC) estimates





655.8 billion USD in 2014



1.7 trillion USD in 2020



## Bad guys are also taking advantage of digitization...



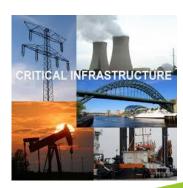














## Trust is the foundation of our digital world







# Ransomware problems



## Ransomware can suspend your biz operations...







BUSINESS / Technology

# Hollywood hospital pays \$17,000 in bitcoin to hackers; FBI investigating



The Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center in 2004. The hospital was recently the target of a ransomware extortion plot in which hackers seized control its computer systems and then demanded that directors pay in bitcoin to regain access. (Ricardo DeAratanha / Los Angeles Times)



## Ransomware used for the hospital case - Locky

!!! 重要な情報 !!!! すべてのファイルは、RSA-2048およびAES-128暗号で暗号化されています。 RSAの詳細については、ここで見つけることができます: http://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA暗号 http://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advanced\_Encryption Standard あなたのファイルの復号化は秘密鍵でのみ可能であり、私たちの秘密のサーバー上にあるプログラムを、復号化します。 あなたの秘密鍵を受信するには、リンクのいずれかに従います: 1. http://i3ezlvkoi7fwyood.tor2web.org/37BBEF28711F7E36 2. http://i3ezlvkoi7fwyood.onion.to/37BBEF28711F7E36 o/37BBEF28711F7E36 次の手順を実行します。 トールします: https://www.torproject.org/download/download-easy.html ウザを実行し、初期化を待ちます。 ood.onion/37BBEF28711F7E36

#### !!! IMPORTANT INFORMATION !!!!

All of your files are encrypted with RSA-2048 and AES-128 ciphers.

More information about the RSA and AES can be found here:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSA\_(cryptosystem)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advanced Encryption Standard

Decrypting of your files is only possible with the private key and decrypt program, which is on our secret server. To receive your private key follow one of the links:

- http://6dbxggam4crv6rr6.tor2web.org/DF709D1E553E7BEF
- 2. http://6dtxggam4crv6rr6.onion.to/DF709D1E553E7BEF
- 3. http://6dbxggam4crv6rr6.onion.cab/DF709D1E553E7BEF
- 4. http://6dtxggam4crv6rr6.onion.link/DF709D1E553E7BEF

If all of this addresses are not available, follow these steps:

- 1. Download and install Tor Browser: https://www.torproject.org/download/download-easy.html
- 2. After a successful installation, run the browser and wait for initialization.
- 3. Type in the address bar: 6dbxggam4crv6rr6.onion/DF709D1E553E7BEF
- 4. Follow the instructions on the site.

!!! Your personal identification ID:



## Ransomware used for the hospital case - Locky

- First discovered in February 2016
- Covers multiple languages, including Chinese and Japanese



Source: AutoFocus

http://researchcenter.paloaltonetworks.com/2016/02/locky-new-ransomware-mimics-dridex-style-distribution/



1. Take control of a system or device







2. Prevent the owner from accessing it





3. Alert the owner that the device has been held for ransom, indicating the method and amount to be paid





4. Accept payment from the device owner





5. Return full access to the device owner after payment has been received

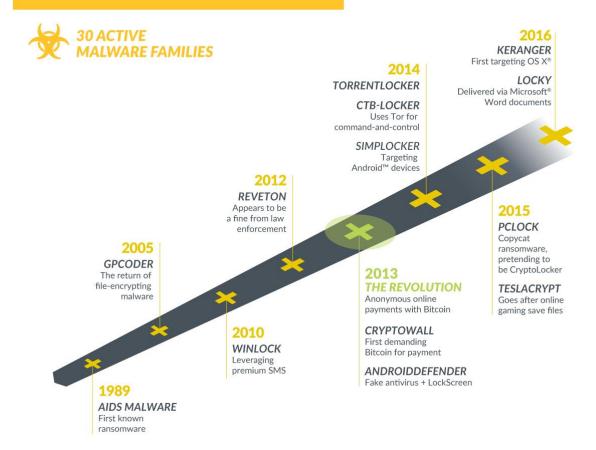






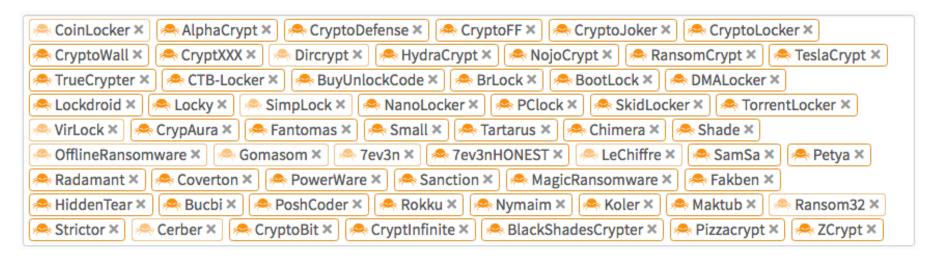
## **History**

#### THE RISE OF RANSOMWARE





## More than 60 ransomware families (types) exist as of 2016



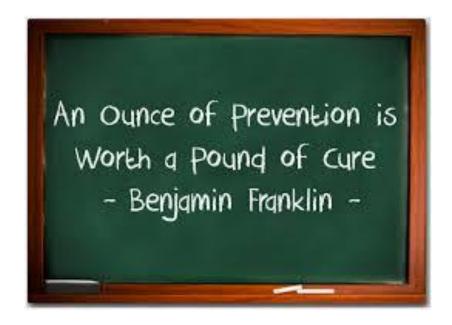
By Palo Alto Networks research



# Prevention/Best practices



#### **Prevention**



SingCERT: "The best solution for ransomware is to prevent it from happening."



## Best practices

- Best practices Reduce the attack surface
  - File blocking policy
  - URL filtering
  - Uncategorized domain downloads
- Regular backups of important data
- Stay aware of new malware and their indicators







# Involvement of Leadership



## Business leadership needs to be involved



New York Stock Exchange/Veracode found:

- 80% of board of directors say cybersecurity is discussed in most meetings.
- Top concern: brand damage due to customer loss



# **Summary**



## Summary

- Cybersecurity work is awesome.
- You talk to different types of people technical, non-technical, government, company, academia, etc.
- Know your audience and tailor your presentation.
- Both technical and non-technical expertise is required.





## Cybersecurity Jobs are hot



- Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing, Houston, Texas, in October 2016
- Launched in 1994.
- This year, 15,000 women and 1,000 men participated.

Joy Osborne, "Palo Alto Networks Celebrates Women in Computing at Grace Hopper Celebration 2016," Palo Alto Networks Blog, October 31, 2016, http://researchcenter.paloaltonetworks.com/2016/10/palo-alto-networks-celebrates-women-computing-grace-hopper-celebration-2016/.





