

PROJECT SENTINEL THREAT LOGIC SPECIFICATION

Document: Sentinel_Threat_Logic_Specification_v3.4.pdf

Status: Approved | Version 3.4 | Effective Date: November 1, 2023

Owner: Threat Intelligence & Security Research

Audience: Threat Analysts, SOC Analysts, Security Engineers

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document defines all detection logic, correlation rules, scoring algorithms, and response actions for the Sentinel Platform. It is the authoritative source for what we detect and why. All platform behavior must be traceable to rules defined herein.

2.0 THREAT TAXONOMY

2.1 Threat Severity Levels

| Level | Description | Response SLA | Business Impact |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Critical | Active compromise/data exfiltration | 15 minutes | Severe financial/reputational loss |
| High | Likely compromise, lateral movement | 1 hour | Significant operational impact |
| Medium | Suspicious activity, reconnaissance | 4 hours | Potential future impact |
| Low | Anomalous behavior, informational | 24 hours | Minimal immediate impact |
| Informational | Confirmed benign, baseline events | No SLA | For awareness only |

2.2 MITRE ATT&CK Coverage

Tactics Covered (14/14):

Initial Access, Execution, Persistence, Privilege Escalation

Defense Evasion, Credential Access, Discovery, Lateral Movement

Collection, Command & Control, Exfiltration, Impact

Techniques Mapped: 120+ enterprise techniques with detection logic

3.0 CORRELATION RULES LIBRARY

3.1 Rule Format & Structure

Each rule follows this structure:

text

RULE_ID: TLP-001-2023

NAME: "Credential Dumping via LSASS Memory Access"

TACTIC: Credential Access (TA0006)

TECHNIQUE: OS Credential Dumping: LSASS Memory (T1003.001)

SEVERITY: Critical

CONFIDENCE: High

DATA SOURCES:

- EDR: Process creation events
- Windows Security Events: Event ID 4688
- Sysmon: Event ID 10 (ProcessAccess)

TRIGGER LOGIC:

IF process_name IN ("procdump.exe", "mimikatz.exe", "lsass.exe")

AND target_process = "lsass.exe"

AND access_mask INCLUDES "PROCESS_VM_READ"

THEN

CREATE_ALERT with SCORE = 950

EXECUTE_RESPONSE: "Isolate Host"

APPLY_TAGS: ["credential-access", "lsass", "critical"]

3.2 High-Priority Rule Examples

Rule TLP-045-2023: "Cobalt Strike Beacon Detection"

Logic: HTTP beaconing pattern + JA3/S signature + Certificate anomalies

Data Sources: Proxy logs, SSL/TLS inspection, EDR

Confidence Score: 0.92

Auto-response: Block external C2 IP, Quarantine host

Rule TLP-128-2023: "Living-off-the-Land Binary (LOLBin)"

Logic: Sysmon detects rundll32.exe or regsvr32.exe loading DLL from user temp directory

Data Sources: Sysmon, EDR

Confidence Score: 0.78

Auto-response: Alert only, require analyst review

Rule TLP-212-2023: "Data Staging to Cloud Storage"

Logic: Large volume upload to unfamiliar S3/GCP bucket from corporate asset

Data Sources: CloudTrail, DLP, Proxy logs

Confidence Score: 0.85

Auto-response: Block upload, Disable IAM keys, Alert data owner

4.0 INDICATOR SCORING FRAMEWORK

4.1 Composite Threat Score Formula

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Composite_Score =

(Base_Reputation × 0.3) +

(Internal_History × 0.4) +

(Temporal_Freshness × 0.2) +

(Source_Trust × 0.1)

4.2 Scoring Components

Base Reputation (0-100)

Source Score Reason

VirusTotal (>50 engines) 100 Broad community detection

Commercial Intel (Confirmed) 90 Vendor validation

Internal Sandbox (Malicious) 85 Internal confirmation

ISAC Feed 75 Peer organization reporting

Unstructured Intel 60 Requires corroboration

Internal History (0-100)

text

If seen_before = TRUE:

Score = 100 - (days_since_last_seen × 2)

Minimum score = 40

Else:

Score = 20 (unknown entity)

Temporal Freshness (0-100)

text

Score = MAX(0, 100 - (hours_since_first_seen × 5))

Source Trust (0-100)

Trust Tier Sources Score

Tier 1 Internal EDR, Firewall logs 100

Tier 2 Commercial Feeds (Recorded Future) 90

Tier 3 ISAC/Community Feeds 80

Tier 4 Unstructured/OSINT 60

Tier 5 Anonymous/Unverified 30

5.0 ENRICHMENT LOGIC SPECIFICATIONS

5.1 IP Address Enrichment

text

IP → [

Geolocation (Country, City, ASN),
Reputation: (VPN/Proxy/Tor check),
Internal History: (Previous alerts, blocks),
Related Domains: (Reverse DNS, PassiveDNS),
Threat Feeds: (AbuseIPDB, AlienVault OTX)

]

5.2 File Hash Enrichment

text

Hash → [

AV Detection: (VirusTotal count, engines),
Sandbox Analysis: (Behavior, network, drops),
Prevalence: (VT first_seen, last_seen),
Signatures: (YARA, ClamAV),
Internal Sightings: (Other hosts, count)

]

5.3 Domain Enrichment

text

Domain → [

WHOIS: (Creation date, registrar),
Reputation: (Web of Trust, Google Safe Browsing),
Certificates: (Issuer, expiration, anomalies),
Related Infrastructure: (IPs, subdomains),
Historical Changes: (PassiveDNS history)

]

6.0 CORRELATION SCENARIOS

6.1 Multi-Stage Attack Detection

Scenario: "Phishing → C2 Beacon → Lateral Movement"

text

PHASE 1: Initial Access

- Rule: TLP-301 (Suspicious Email Attachment)
- Indicators: Malicious macro document
- Score: 650

PHASE 2: Execution & C2

- Rule: TLP-045 (Cobalt Strike Beacon)
- Correlation: Same host as Phase 1

- Score Increase: +300 (now 950)

PHASE 3: Lateral Movement

- Rule: TLP-189 (PsExec to Multiple Hosts)
- Correlation: Same user, time proximity
- Final Score: 990 → CRITICAL ALERT

6.2 Insider Threat Detection

Scenario: "Data Exfiltration by Departing Employee"

text

INDICATOR 1: Unusual access patterns (after hours, weekends)

INDICATOR 2: Large volume downloads to personal cloud

INDICATOR 3: Access to unrelated business units

INDICATOR 4: HR flag (resignation submitted)

CORRELATION: All within 30-day window

SEVERITY: High (880)

RESPONSE: Manager notification, temporary access restriction

7.0 RESPONSE ACTION MATRIX

7.1 Automated Actions by Severity

| Severity | Automated Actions | Required Approvals |
|---------------|---|---------------------------|
| Critical | Block IP, Quarantine Host, Kill Session | None (Post-action report) |
| High | Block IP, Alert SOC, Create Ticket | SOC Lead (1-click) |
| Medium | Alert SOC, Create Ticket | None |
| Low | Log only, Add to watchlist | None |
| Informational | Store in intelligence database | None |

7.2 Action Specifications

Auto-Block IP (CRITICAL)

text

ACTION_ID: ACT-001

CONDITIONS:

- Composite_Score >= 900
- Severity = Critical
- Indicator_Type = IP
- NOT in whitelist (Business justification required)

IMPLEMENTATION:

- API Call: Palo Alto Panorama
- Duration: 24 hours (auto-expire)

- Notification: SOC, Network Team
- Rollback: Manual only (via ticket)

Host Quarantine (HIGH+)

text

ACTION_ID: ACT-002

CONDITIONS:

- Host involved in Critical/High alert
- Evidence of compromise
- No critical business service impact

IMPLEMENTATION:

- EDR API: Isolate from network
- Duration: Until investigated
- Notification: System Owner, SOC

8.0 MAINTENANCE & TUNING

8.1 Rule Lifecycle Management

Draft: Researcher creates rule (testing phase)

Staging: Rule deployed in monitor-only mode (7 days)

Production: After validation, rule active (alerting)

Tuning: Adjust based on false positive rate

Deprecation: Replace with improved rule or retire

8.2 Performance Metrics per Rule

| Metric | Target | Review Threshold |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Precision | > 85% | < 70% |
| Recall | > 80% | < 60% |
| False Positive Rate | < 5% | > 15% |
| Alert Volume | < 50/day | > 100/day |
| Mean Time to Triage | < 10 minutes | > 30 minutes |

8.3 Quarterly Review Process

Metrics Review: All rules evaluated against targets

Threat Landscape Update: New techniques added

Rule Optimization: Tune thresholds, logic

Documentation Update: This specification revised

Stakeholder Sign-off: SOC, Engineering, Compliance

9.0 APPENDICES

Appendix A: Rule ID Nomenclature

TLP-XXX-YYYY where:

TLP: Threat Logic Project

XXX: Sequential rule number

YYYY: Creation year

Appendix B: Data Source Mappings

Detailed mapping of log sources to MITRE techniques

Appendix C: External Feed Specifications

Configuration for each commercial/open source feed

Appendix D: Change History

Version history of detection logic and scoring changes

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

Head of Threat Intelligence: _____ Date: _____

SOC Manager: _____ Date: _____

Chief Information Security Officer: _____ Date: _____