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Abstract

The purpose of this report is to present the analysis of the Lazarus Group's Cyber Attacks using the Soltra Edge TAXII service. The Soltra Edge and STIX objects will be used in this report to model the aspects of this lazarus Groups cyber attacks.

Scenario Introduction

The lazarus group is a famous NorthKorean based cybercriminal organisation, and they have been know to target financial institutions worldwide. This report analysis their attack targetted towards the Central Bank of Bangladesh dated in February 2016

Threat Actor

The lazarus group was run by North Korean government, however they have masked themselves as Russian hackers which allowed them to get away from researchers. To proxy network traffic, hackers used strings and specific debugging tools containing russian words to Client_TrafficForwarder new version, along with using the Russian commercial product the Enigma Protector for their executables protection.

Target

The target was the central bank in bangladesh which does financial transactions and keeps customer data that are sensitive.

Campaign

The opportunity for the attackers to hack into the banking system of Bangladesh is through the swift system. SWIFT verifies and does financial transactions across an international broad and is one of the most authentic ways in doing so.

The exploit

The hackers would try to send emails to the employers that disguise themselves as potential employees and will persuade them to click on the emails where malicious code will be installed.

Stages of the Attack

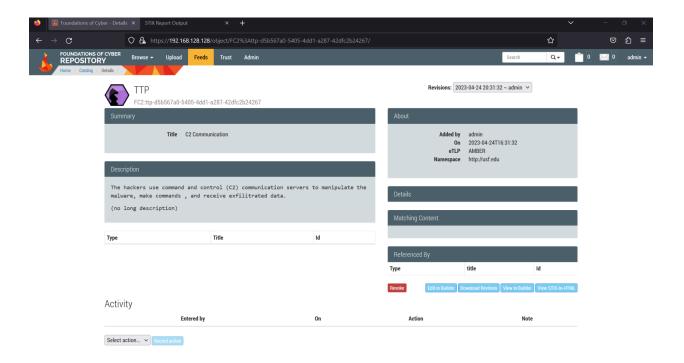
Reconnaissance: The Lazarus Group collected information on the financial institution, identifying key employees and systems to target

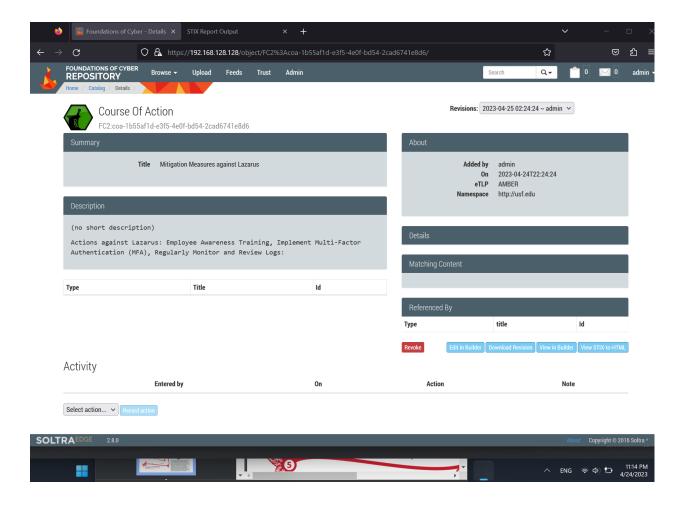
Weaponization: The malicious code was installed on the emails sent to employers in financial institutions. Client_TrafficForwarder was used alongside a dropper to download gpsvc.exe and MBLCTR.exe with byte size 75364

C & C: The Lazarus group used C2 methods to execute those malicious code

Actions on Objectives: The attackers initiated financial transactions that was unauthorized, by taking over the SWIFT system.

Soltra edge representation





References

Lazarus Arisen: Architecture, Tools and Attribution - Group-IB.

https://www.group-ib.com/resources/research-hub/lazarus/.