Securing S3 Backups Against Ransomware

Introductions



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The Need for immutable backups



Accidental Deletion



Policy Gaps



Internal Security Threats



External Security Threats



Legal & Compliance

People make mistakes

Confusion, misconfiguration

Malicious Insiders

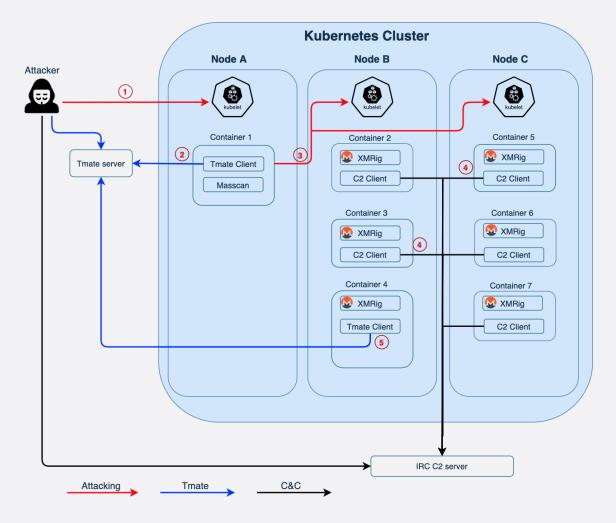
Ransomware

Regulatory requirements



Malware Targets Kubernetes Clusters "Hildegard"

- Targets cloud and container infrastructure to mine for cryptocurrency
- Deploys malicious code that targets exposed Docker daemon APIs
- Has been active since early 2021
- Potential exfiltrate sensitive data from tens to thousands of applications





Insider threat & vulnerabilities

Outsourcing network access

- Ransomware is hard!
 - Find an entry point
 - Compromise user accounts
 - Find Misconfigurations
 - Find vulnerabilities endpoints

- "Network Access Sellers"
 - Anywhere between \$300 and \$10,000
 - Target by industry
 - Type of access (RDP, Citrix, SSH)

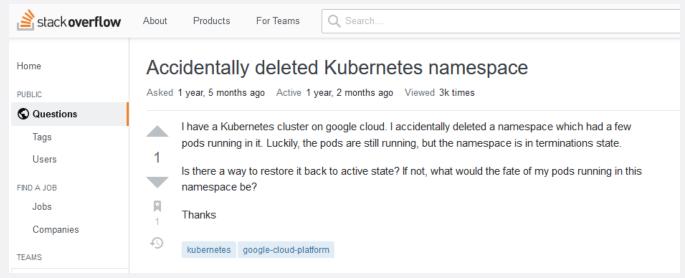


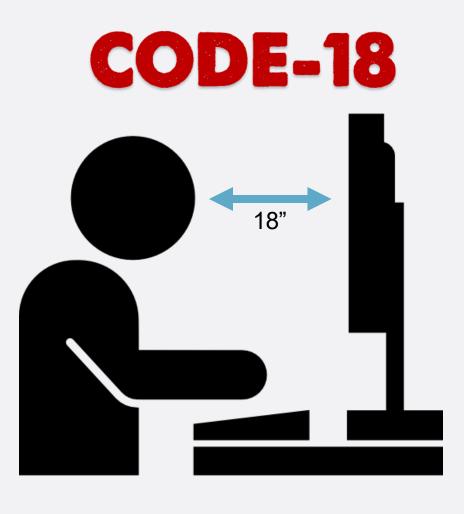


Accidental Deletion

People make mistakes

- Human errors are bound to happen.
 - Be prepared when they do.
- Someone accidently deleted a namespace







Ransomware Preparedness Better safe, than sorry

Updates

Routine Audit & Security

Education

Backup, Backup, Backup!





The Need for Immutability

Immutable Backups provide an additional layer of protection

Ransomware and Other Attacks

Malicious Actors



Accidental Data Loss

Mistakes happen. Hardware fails



Backups in Object Storage

- Direct database integrations
- Data protection vendors
- File system support
 - Example FOSS projects: Restic, S3FS, Kopia

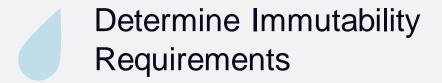


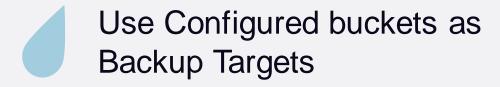
Write Once Read Many

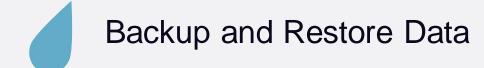


Backups with S3 Object Locks











S3 Versioned Buckets

- Configured at the bucket level
- Required for Object Locks
- Locks apply to versions of an object



aws s3api put-bucket-versioning --bucket my-bucket --versioning-configuration Status=Enabled



Retention Modes

Governance



Override with

x-amz-bypass-governance-retention:true
Requires

S3:BypassGovernanceRetention

Compliance



Cannot be overridden



Object Retention

Legal Hold



Update w/
S3:PutObjectLegalHold

Retention Period



Cannot be modified for a set duration



Taking a Backup

```
response = client.put_object(
    Body=b'bytes'|file,
    Bucket='string',
...
    ObjectLockMode='GOVERNANCE'|'COMPLIANCE',
    ObjectLockRetainUntilDate=datetime(2015, 1, 1),
    ObjectLockLegalHoldStatus='ON'|'OFF',
)
```



- Use same API to perform PUTs
- Set ObjectLock
 Parameters
- Save the returned Version ID



Restore a Backup

```
response = client.get_object(
    Bucket='string',
    Key='string',
    VersionId='string',
...
)
```



- Use same API to perform GETs
- Set VersionID Parameter
- Save the returned Version ID



DeleteBackups

```
response = client.delete_object(
    Bucket='string',
    Key='string',
    VersionId='string',
    BypassGovernanceRetention=True|False,
...
)
```



- Version ID is optional
- No Version ID => Latest
 Version is a Delete Marker
- Version ID => Version is Deleted



Refresh Retention

```
response = client.put object retention(
    Bucket='string',
    Key='string',
    Retention={
        'Mode': 'GOVERNANCE'|'COMPLIANCE',
        'RetainUntilDate': datetime(2015, 1, 1)
   VersionId='string',
    BypassGovernanceRetention=True|False,
```

- Call PUT

 On PutObjectRetention
- Set future value for RetainUntilDate
- Save the new returned Version ID

