



# PSv5 Scriptblock Logging

# Scriptblock Logging - Introduction

- Introduced in PowerShell v5
- Creates a 4104 event in the Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational event log whenever a scriptblock is invoked.
- Effective at evading wrapped obfuscation.
- Can be applied to the system and user context.
- Logs all scriptblock invocation vs. auto-logging which capture scriptblocks of “suspicious” commands.
  - Obfuscation can often circumvent scriptblock auto-logging.
  - Auto-logging might also miss important attack context.

# Scriptblock Logging - Configuration

- Can be enabled via GPO or the registry directly.
- Administrative Templates ->  
    Windows Components ->  
        Windows PowerShell -  
            Turn on PowerShell Script Block Logging
- HKLM:\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\PowerShell\ScriptBlockLogging - EnableScriptBlockLogging

Turn on PowerShell Script Block Logging

Turn on PowerShell Script Block Logging

Previous Setting Next Setting

☐ Not Configured Comment:

☒ Enabled

☐ Disabled

Supported on: At least Microsoft Windows 7 or Windows Server 2008 family

Options:

☒ Log script block invocation start / stop events:

Help:

This policy setting enables logging of all PowerShell script input to the Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational event log. If you enable this policy setting, Windows PowerShell will log the processing of commands, script blocks, functions, and scripts - whether invoked interactively, or through automation.

If you disable this policy setting, logging of PowerShell script input is disabled.

If you enable the Script Block Invocation Logging, PowerShell additionally logs events when invocation of a command, script block, function, or script starts or stops. Enabling Invocation Logging generates a high volume of event logs.

Note: This policy setting exists under both Computer Configuration and User Configuration in the Group Policy Editor.

OK Cancel Apply

# Scriptblock Logging - Auditing

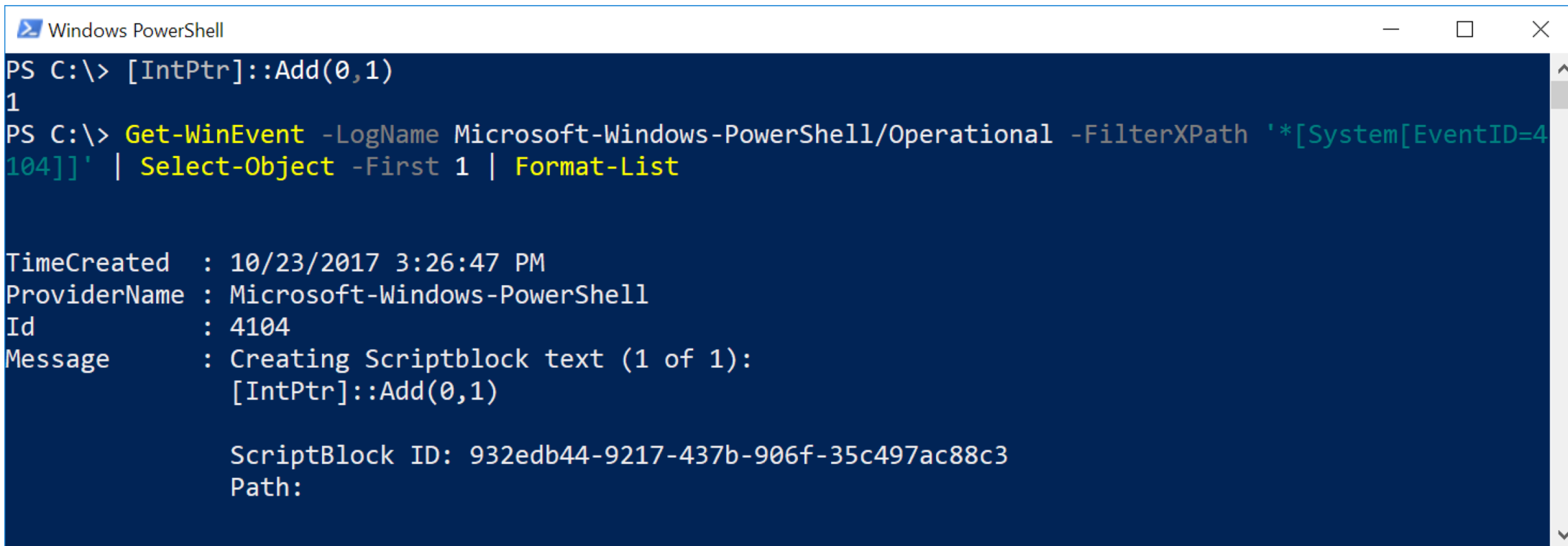
```
Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> Get-Item -Path HKLM:\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\PowerShell\ScriptBlockLogging

Hive: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\PowerShell

Name                Property
----                -
ScriptBlockLogging  EnableScriptBlockLogging      : 1
                   EnableScriptBlockInvocationLogging : 1

PS C:\>
```

# Scriptblock Logging - Auditing



A screenshot of a Windows PowerShell window with a dark blue background. The window title bar shows the PowerShell icon and the text 'Windows PowerShell'. The command prompt shows the execution of a scriptblock and the subsequent retrieval of event logs. The output displays event details such as TimeCreated, ProviderName, Id, and Message, along with the ScriptBlock ID and Path.

```
PS C:\> [IntPtr]::Add(0,1)
1
PS C:\> Get-WinEvent -LogName Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell/Operational -FilterXPath '*[System[EventID=4104]]' | Select-Object -First 1 | Format-List

TimeCreated      : 10/23/2017 3:26:47 PM
ProviderName     : Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
Id               : 4104
Message          : Creating Scriptblock text (1 of 1):
                  [IntPtr]::Add(0,1)

                  ScriptBlock ID: 932edb44-9217-437b-906f-35c497ac88c3
                  Path:
```

# Scriptblock Logging - Implementation

```
internal static void LogScriptBlockStart(ScriptBlock scriptBlock, Guid runspaceId)
{
    bool force = false;
    if (scriptBlock._scriptBlockData.HasSuspiciousContent)
    {
        force = true;
    }
    ScriptBlock.LogScriptBlockCreation(scriptBlock, force);
    if (ScriptBlock.ShouldLogScriptBlockActivity("EnableScriptBlockInvocationLogging"))
    {
        PSEtwLog.LogOperationalVerbose(PSEventId.ScriptBlock_Invoke_Start_Detail, PSOpce
        {
            scriptBlock.Id.ToString(),
            runspaceId.ToString()
        });
    }
}
```

# Scriptblock Logging - Implementation

- Scriptblock logging settings are cached in a `cachedGroupPolicySettings` object presumably for performance reasons.
- What if you could somehow overwrite the cached settings to indicate that scriptblock logging is not enabled?
- Ryan Cobb again has you covered...
  - <https://cobbr.io/ScriptBlock-Logging-Bypass.html>



# Scriptblock Logging - Bypass Methodology

- Observe all code paths that check for scriptblock logging being enabled.
- Identify the conditions where logging does occur and where logging might not occur.
- Can an attacker somehow influence the code paths using reflection or some other technique?

# Scriptblock Logging - Bypass Methodology Examples

- At this point, we are going to assess the attack surface together by looking at some bypass weaponization.
- Example bypasses:
  1. `cachedGroupPolicySettings`
  2. `scriptBlock.HasLogged`
  3. `scriptBlock.ScriptBlockData.IsProductCode`

# Scriptblock Logging - Bypass Mitigations

- With scriptblock logging enabled, at a minimum, the bypasses will be logged.
- Most PowerShell-specific bypasses will likely require reflection which is mitigated with constrained language mode enforcement.
  - There is no other PowerShell-specific prevention technique.
- An elevated attack can obviously set the policy registry key/values.
  - Registry SACs can detect these changes.
- None of these bypasses should be fixed as there are no actual logic flaws. An attacker is taking advantage of the fact that PowerShell grants arbitrary code execution when not running constrained language mode.