

Threat Intelligence

A LNK Between Browsers: Hunting Methodologies and Extension Abusing Actors

May 1, 2023

Mandiant

Written by: Jared Wilson

Two pillars in sleight of hand magic are *User Initiated Action*, where the target needs to believe their actions are their own, and *Hidden Action*, the trick needs to be concealed behind something ordinary and nonthreatening. Mandiant became aware of a chain of adversary methodologies that leverage these two pillars to achieve [persistence](#).

1. The user executes an LNK shortcut file that, unbeknownst to them, has been tampered with.
2. The modified LNK shortcut file executes a legitimate browser, hiding the malicious extension.

If the technical sleight of hand is successful, the adversary will achieve persistence by means of malicious Chromium-based browser extensions.

While hunting this methodology Mandiant identified BRAINSTORM, a rust-based dropper, which ultimately led to RILIDE, a chromium-based extension first publicly reported by [SpiderLabs](#). Careful investigation identified that the email and cryptocurrency theft ecosystem of RILIDE is larger than reported. This research will dissect the relevant adversary methodologies, discuss the identified malware families abusing this methodology, and include numerous detection opportunities to expand the defender’s hunting and detection repertoire.

The Connection from LNK to Extension



The LNK File

Files with the extension .lnk are colloquially known as LNK files but are officially known as [Shell Link Binary Files](#) and follow a standardized format. LNK files contain information that points a user’s interaction to another data object on the system. In many instances this is transparent to an end user. A Windows user may click on the Google Chrome icon in the Start Menu and Chrome opens. What is not shown to the user is that they are executing an LNK file with properties that point to the actual Chrome executable.

Mandiant has reported on many adversaries and malware families abusing LNK files including: [FIN7](#), [UNC1151](#), [KEGTAP](#), [FIN13](#), and [APT29 \(twice\)](#).

The CRX File

A CRX file is a collection of files archived together into a single package that can be used as an *extension* in Chromium-based browsers. Extensions enhance the browsing experience by adding features and functionality to the browser. Many browsers have an extension store where a user can review and install them into their browser all through the browser itself; this is generally accepted as a safer practice because the company owning the browser software performs analysis on the extensions themselves attempting to identify malicious extensions.

However, depending on the implemented security settings, browsers will allow for [manual loading](#) of CRX files or unpacked extensions. Packed extensions (CRX files) are a single file with a .crx extension, conversely an unpacked extension is a directory containing the extension files.

Throughout 2022 Mandiant has observed multiple financially motivated threat actors distributing and/or expressing interest in leveraging malicious browser extensions in their operations.

Abusing Both LNK and CRX

While Mandiant has previously reported on the abuse of LNK and CRX files separately, this recently observed adversary methodology has been using both filetypes within a chain of events and the bridging data-point is the `--load-extension` switch in Chromium-based browsers.

The `--load-extension` switch allows the source to specify a target directory to load as an extension. This gives malware the opportunity to start a new browser window with their malicious extension loaded.

```
chrome.exe --load-extension="C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\T
brave.exe --load-extension="C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\Te
msedge.exe --load-extension="C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\T
opera.exe --load-extension="C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\Te
vivaldi.exe --load-extension="C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\T
```

Figure 1: Example Commands to Load an Extension on Multiple Chromium-based Browsers

Mandiant Identification of Methodology Abuse

Mandiant investigated several compromises involving LNK and extension abuse methodology in 2023. The impacted organizations extended across a broad scope of sectors, including the semiconductor, business marketing, financial investment, and telecom industries.

The following three sections dive deep into separate investigations performed on malware families utilizing both LNK abuse and extension installing to achieve persistence with RILIDE.

Investigation 1

TradingView Desktop is a charting platform and a social network for traders and investors. This software allows users to track and view cryptocurrency market changes. As a software that is used in the finance industry with the capability of a cryptocurrency focus, it is a reasonable target to masquerade as for actors with goals of stealing cryptocurrency. Users willing to track cryptocurrency may be more likely to trade, allowing RILIDE a potential vector for cryptocurrency theft.

The file [TradeVlewDesktop_v4-94406.zip](#) is a TradingView Desktop masquerading set of files. The sample is a compressed directory that contains 457 different files. The file of interest in the zipped file is [TradeVlewDesktop_x64.exe](#), a NodeJS-based downloader. After execution, [TradeVlewDesktop_x64.exe](#) reaches out to the Telegram masquerading URL

```
hxxp://telegromcn[.]org/soft/analytics/extension[.]exe to
download dropper extension.exe, which Mandiant tracks as BRAINFOG.
```

BRAINFOG is a Node.JS packaged binary dropper which drops RILIDE along with Visual Basic scripts to delete all Chrome LNKs and replace them with LNK files to force the execution of RILIDE. RILIDE is a Chromium-based extension that monitors the URLs visited by victims,

select websites. RILIDE targets the theft of email and cryptocurrency details, falling inline with the targeted audience, the finance sector.

BRAINFOG drops [extension.zip](#) (RILIDE), `wtf.vbs`, [chrome.vbs](#), and a [Google Chrome.lnk](#) file. Upon execution BRAINFOG uses...

- `taskkill.exe` to close all instances of Chrome
- `chrome.vbs` to delete all LNK files with “*Chrome*” in it
- `wtf.vbs` to create a new LNK using the `--load-extension` switch to force the loading of RILIDE browser extension at execution.

After the user loads Chrome via the replaced LNK shortcut file, RILIDE runs in the background as the infected browser loads and manipulates web pages. During initial execution, it fetches a machine identifier and a list of targeted domains from the command and control's (C2) API endpoint `/api/machine/init` ; this list is re-fetched every five minutes.

```
{"machineId":2984,"urls":  
["coinbase.com","binance.com","blockchain.com","mail.google.com"]}
```

Figure 2: The domains this variant of RILIDE is monitoring for from `/api/machine/init`

When any HTML document has been completely parsed the `DOMContentLoaded` event will be delivered to the target function, `loadScript`. The `loadScript` function will download a list of key-values pairs which include a name and a path. The name is the domain related to the traffic of interest. If the browsing domain matches one of the monitored domains, the JavaScript in the path value will be accessed and the resulting file injected into the website for execution.

```
[  
{"name":"coinbase.com","path":"scripts\\coinbase.js?v=3"},  
{"name":"binance.com","path":"scripts\\binance.js"},  
{"name":"blockchain.com","path":"scripts\\blockchain.js"},  
{"name":"mail.google","path":"scripts\\gmail.js"},  
{"name":"outlook.live","path":"scripts\\hotmail.js"},  
{"name":"mail.yahoo","path":"scripts\\yahoo.js"},  
{"name":"bybit.com","path":"scripts\\bybit.js"},  
{"name":"okx.com","path":"scripts\\okx.js"}  
]
```

Figure 3: Domains and URIs listed at the `/api/machine/get-urls` endpoint of the Adversary C2

This enables the adversary to invoke actions on behalf of the victim or steal data from their web sessions.

While hunting the RILIDE malware family Mandiant identified numerous

Figure 4: RILIDE C2 API Endpoints

```
hxxp://extension-app[.]com/api/settings
hxxp://extension-app[.]com/api/machine/
hxxp://extension-app[.]com/api/machine/init
hxxp://extension-app[.]com/api/machine/get-urls
```

Figure 4: RILIDE C2 API Endpoints

Figure 4 explains the contents each endpoint returns.

Endpoint	Function
/api/settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Datetimes for when it was created and updatedMultiple currency amounts defining the minimum amount (80 EUR, 80 USD, etc)Telegram Chat ID and Token
/api/machine	Returns a list of details about victims. This includes... <ul style="list-style-type: none">Victim IP addressVictim countryVariant reference (Google, TradingView, etc)When it was addedWhen it was last observed communicating to the C2
/api/machine/init	Returns a machine ID and the list of domains it monitors for
/api/machine/get-urls	Returns the URI path to the JS script to inject

Figure 4: RILIDE C2 API Endpoint Descriptions

Investigation 2

Previously highlighted in the [SpiderLabs](#) blog, the GitHub user gulantin was identified as having numerous GitHub repositories storing RILIDE samples. Furthermore, Mandiant suspects this may have been a method for delivery.

A file named [Blanks](#), tracked by Mandiant as BRAINLINK, was downloaded from the raw.githubusercontent.com URL on the gulantin github

```
(hxxp://raw.githubusercontent[.]com/gulantin/blanks/main/blanks_online.exe).
```

BRAINLINK is an [Advanced Installer](#) compiled dropper which drops a [CAB file](#) that contains the RILIDE extension files along with [PowerShell scripts](#) to create new shortcuts forcing the execution of RILIDE.

Mandiant’s research of RILIDE identified that the [background JavaScript file](#) includes a domain variable set to the C2 domain for each malware version. In this investigation the RILIDE sample used the domain `ashgrrwt[.]click`.

```
const domain = "https://ashgrrwt.click"
```

Figure 5: RILIDE C2 domain variable defanged

RILIDE C2 Infrastructure Hunt

This C2 infrastructure provided interesting overlaps between numerous other domains. While the Admin, Billing, and Technical WHOIS details for the `ashgrrwt[.]click` domain were redacted for privacy, the registrant organization was not. The registrant organization, Kruglova LTD, was associated with 11 other websites.

Figure 6: RILIDE C2 domain infrastructure graph

The domains identified follow the overarching theme to these campaigns: Cryptocurrency Exchange Platforms (FinAndy/TradingView) and Finance/Banking.

Investigation 3

Researching the RILIDE ecosystem led to the identification of an open directory at `146.70.79[.]75` which included two BRAINSTORM samples ([0a4f321c903a7fbc59566918c12aca09](#) and [34eea751fcbf4ee8d44977adb4742d93](#)) and numerous other malicious samples. BRAINSTORM is a Rust-based dropper which drops RILIDE and updates Google Chrome, Brave, and Microsoft Edge LNK files to force the execution of RILIDE. Mandiant is tracking the activity related to this open directory as UNC4553.

Figure 7: UNC4553 Open Directory

```
// M_Hunting_FileWrite_ManifestandChromeLNK_1
tag:peexe and ((behaviour_files:"C:\\Users\\Public\\Desktop\\
behaviour_files:"C:\\ProgramData\\Microsoft\\Windows\\Start
Chrome.lnk") or (behaviour_files:"C:\\Users\\Public\\Desktop
and behaviour_files:"C:\\Users\\user\\AppData\\Roaming\\Mic
```

The open directory IP shown in Figure 7 (146.70.79[.]75) has previously resolved to `nch-software[.]info` and `panger-top[.]click`. Further solidifying the connection from the IP to the domains, there is evidence connecting the URI patterns in the open directory to the URI patterns for these domains.

```
hxxps://nch-software[.]info/1/2.exe
hxxps://nch-software[.]info/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe
hxxps://panger-top[.]click/1/2.exe
hxxps://panger-top[.]click/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe
```

Figure 8: Related Open Directory URLs

The open directory contained the two BRAINSTORM samples, two PUFFPASTRY samples, a suspected incomplete PUFFPASTRY sample, and two XLL samples.

PUFFPASTRY is a backdoor written in Visual-basic. PUFFPASTRY can download, upload, delete, and execute files. Additionally, PUFFPASTRY can self-terminate and enumerate system information including Anti-virus details. C2 communications occur over standard HTTP/HTTPS.

An [XLL](#) add-in is an Excel add-in file with the file extension .xll. An XLL file is a type of dynamic link library (DLL) file that can only be opened by Excel. It is not exactly clear what the intention of some of these files are given they appear to be in staging or templates.

URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/2.exe</code>
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/1/2.exe</code>
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe</code>
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.dotm</code>
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.pub</code>
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.xlsm</code>

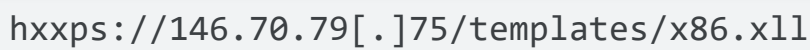


Figure 9: UNC4553 Open Directory Contents

System Hardening

Preventing the malicious extensions (RILIDE and others) to be loaded by the browser is the linchpin to stopping the actor’s methodology. With the inability to install the extension, further damage or exfiltration of sensitive data is prevented.

[Chrome Enterprise](#) provides numerous [extension blocking options](#) within the security settings. The following highlights a list of the settings relevant to this methodology.

- [BlockExternalExtensions](#) – Controls external extensions installation.
- [DeviceLoginScreenExtensionManifestV2Availability](#) – Remove the ability to use version 2 manifests.
- [ExtensionInstallAllowlist](#) and [ExtensionInstallBlocklist](#) – Implement block and allow lists to vastly restrict the extensions available.
- [ExtensionInstallSources](#) – Use strings with wildcards to identify where extensions can be installed from.

If there is a concern that Chrome LNKs have been manipulated or as a reoccurring security measure, users can run a user-level [Chrome Settings Reset](#). When executed, numerous Chrome profile settings will change to the default on all devices where you're signed in. This will reset all of the default Windows-provided Chrome LNKs (i.e. Quick Launch LNKs) removing the `--load-extension` parameter that the actor is using to force the loading of the malicious extension.

Following a defense in depth strategy, implementing the detections documented in the Detection Opportunities section will help cover any prevention gaps.

Detection Opportunities

The Detection Opportunities section will be broken into two detection directions and will encompass a list of rules that will be expanded on in Appendix A.

1. Detecting Methodologies – Larger chance of detecting legitimate files or tactics that overlap with the methodology.
2. Detecting Malware Families – More targeted approach to detect the specific families themselves.

	Detection Engine	Detection Title	De De
	YARA	M_Hunting_Embedded_Chromium_CRX_1	De CR wit ext eq
	YARA	M_Hunting_Embedded_Chromium_CRXandLNK_1	De CR wit ext and eq
	YARA	M_Hunting_AdvancedInstaller_LNK_1	De Ad Ins tha LN kno loc
	YARA	M_Hunting_LNKEngine_LoadExtension_1	De tha loa ext a c bro
	YARA	M_Hunting_LNKEngine_LoadExtension_Temp_1	De tha loa ext fro Ap dir
	YARA	M_Hunting_ArchiveEngine_CAB_Extension_1	De file inc po ext file
	YARA-L	M_Hunting_FileWrite_Manifest_Temp_1	De eve a

			wri Ter dir
	YARA-L	M_Hunting_Process_Chromium_LoadExtension_1	De eve Ch sta the ext pa wit val ap ter dir
	YARA-L	M_Hunting_FileWrite_Chrome_LNK_1	De eve an wri kno loc fro pro is i dir spa
	YARA-L	M_Hunting_FileWrite_CRXandLNK_1	De eve a p wri or an wit mi ea
	YARA-L	M_Hunting_FileWrite_ManifestandLNK_1	De eve a p wri ma LN wit mi ea
	VT Grep	M_Hunting_FileWrite_ManifestandChromeLNK_1	De

		Ch and ma at
--	--	-----------------------

Detecting Malware Families

Detection Engine	Detection Title	Detection Description
YARA	M_Hunting_RILIDE_InjectJS_1	Detects the JavaScript files that RILIDE inject
YARA	M_Hunting_RILIDE_InjectJS_2	Detects the JavaScript files that RILIDE inject
YARA	M_Hunting_RILIDE_InjectJS_3	Detects the JavaScript files that RILIDE inject
YARA	M_Win_BRAINLINK_AdvancedInstaller_1	Detects BRAINLINK
YARA	M_Utility_RILIDE_Manifest_1	Detects RILIDE Manifest file
YARA	M_Utility_RILIDE_JS_1	Detects RILIDE JavaScript files
YARA	M_Utility_RILIDE_Background_1	Detects the RILIDE background JavaScript files
YARA	M_Hunting_RILIDE_CRX_1	Detects RILIDE CRX files

YARA	M_Win_BRAINSTORM_1	Detects BRAINSTOR
YARA	M_Win_BRAINFOG_1	Detects BRAINFOG
YARA	M_Hunting_BRAINFOG_1	Detects suspected BRAINFOG samples

Conclusion

While hunting for this chain of adversary methodologies, Mandiant uncovered numerous new malware families and investigations. The adversary’s effort to remain undetected by chaining methodologies has come with mixed results, as many of the samples discussed in this post have very low detection ratings. However, with this new research, detecting these methodologies should be more accessible and further expand the defender’s hunting and detection repertoire.

Acknowledgments

This content would not have been possible without the assistance of Connor McLaughlin, Pepe Torrijos, Matthew Dunwoody, Anders Vejlbj, and Nick Simonian.

Appendix A: Detections

```
rule M_Hunting_Embedded_Chromium_CRX_1
{
  meta:
    author = "Mandiant"
    md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
    description = "Hunting for non-CRX files with exte

  strings:
    $a1 = "_metadata" ascii
    $a2 = "manifest.json" ascii
    $a3 = "verified_contents.json" ascii
    $s1 = "_locales" ascii
    $s2 = "messages.json" ascii
    $f = /[a-z0-9A-Z_-]+\.(html|htm|css|js)/ ascii
```

```
condition:
    (((uint16(0) == 0x5A4D) and uint32(uint32(0x3C)) =
    (((2 of ($a*)) and $f) or ((1 of ($a*)) and ($f or
    $pk and
    (#pk >1) and
    (for any i in (1..#pk) : ($a2 at @pk[i]+30)) and
    (for any j in (1..#pk) : ($f at @pk[j]+30))
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_Embedded_Chromium_CRXandLNK_1
{
    meta:
        author = "jared.wilson"
        md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
        description = "Hunting for non-CRX files with exte

    strings:
        $a1 = "_metadata" ascii
        $a2 = "manifest.json" ascii
        $a3 = "verified_contents.json" ascii
        $s1 = "_locales" ascii
        $s2 = "messages.json" ascii
        $f = /[a-z0-9A-Z_-]+\.(html|htm|css|js)/ ascii
        $pk = {50 4B 03 04}
        $load = "--load-extension" ascii wide
        $lnk1 = "Google Chrome.lnk" ascii wide

    condition:
        (((uint16(0) == 0x5A4D) and uint32(uint32(0x3C)) =
        (((2 of ($a*)) and $f) or ((1 of ($a*)) and ($f or
        $pk and
        (#pk >1) and
        (for any i in (1..#pk) : ($a2 at @pk[i]+30)) and
        (for any j in (1..#pk) : ($f at @pk[j]+30)) and
        ($load or $lnk1)
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_AdvancedInstaller_LNK_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        md5 = "2782af385665c765807ed887d4bacf36"
        description = "Hunting for Advanced Installer file

    strings:
        $a1 = "Advanced Installer" wide
        $a2 = "Advanced Installer" ascii
        $a3 = "https://www.advancedinstaller.com" ascii
        $l1 = "Google Chrome.lnk"
        $l2 = "Brave.lnk"
        $p1 = "\\Microsoft\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\
```

```

        $p4 = "\\Microsoft\\Internet Explorer\\Quick Launch\\Internet Explorer.lnk"
        $p5 = "\\Microsoft\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Internet Explorer.lnk"
        $p6 = "\\Microsoft\\Internet Explorer\\Quick Launch\\Internet Explorer.lnk"
        $r = /\$[^\.]+\\.CreateShortcut\[([^\)]+\)\]/

    condition:
        ((uint16(0) == 0x5A4D) and uint32(uint32(0x3C)) == 0x00000000)

}
```

```

rule M_Hunting_LNKEngine_LoadExtension_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        description = "Hunting rule that looks for files containing the string 'chrome' and 'load-extension'"
        md5 = "30abf9ca1bb792eb5edd8b033c010979"

    strings:
        $r1 = /(chrome|msedge|opera|brave)[^\r\n]+--load-extension=/
        $s1 = "chrome" ascii wide
        $s2 = "--load-extension=" ascii wide

    condition:
        (uint32(0) == 0x0000004c) and filesize < 50KB and $r1 and $s1 and $s2
}
```

```

rule M_Hunting_LNKEngine_LoadExtension_Temp_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        description = "Hunting rule that looks for files containing the string 'chrome' and 'load-extension'"
        md5 = "30abf9ca1bb792eb5edd8b033c010979"

    strings:
        $r1 = /(chrome|msedge|opera|brave)[^\r\n]+--load-extension=/
        $s2 = "--load-extension=" ascii wide

    condition:
        (uint32(0) == 0x0000004c) and filesize < 50KB and $r1 and $s2
}
```

```

rule M_Hunting_ArchiveEngine_CAB_Extension_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        description = "Looking for CAB containing what is in the manifest.json file"
        md5 = "de283dfb9c88dbb6d455ca4b31c57240"

    strings:
        $f1 = "manifest.json" nocase
        $f2 = ".js" nocase
        $f3 = ".htm" nocase
}
```

```
        condition:
            filesize < 1MB and uint32be(0) == 0x4D534346 and (
    }
```

```
rule M_Hunting_FileWrite_Manifest_Temp_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
        description = "Hunting for cases where a process v
        severity = "Medium"

    events:
        $e.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
        ($e.target.file.names = "manifest.json" OR $e.targ
        $e.target.file.full_path = /[a-zA-Z]{1}:\\Users\\[^\\]+\\Ap

    condition:
        $e
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_Process_Chromium_LoadExtension_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
        description = "Hunting for cases where Chrome proc
        severity = "Medium"

    events:
        $e.metadata.event_type = "PROCESS_OPEN"
        $e.target.process.command_line = /(chrome|brave|msedge|oper
        $e.target.process.file.full_path = /(chrome|brave|msedge|op

    condition:
        $e
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_FileWrite_Chrome_LNK_1
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
        description = "Hunting for cases where the LNK is
        severity = "Medium"

    events:
        $e.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
        $e.target.file.full_path = /Google Chrome\.lnk$/
        ($e.target.file.full_path = `C:\ProgramData\Microso
        ($e.principal.process.file.full_path = /[a-zA-Z]{1

    condition:
        $e
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_FileWrite_CRXandLNK_1
{
  meta:
    author = "Mandiant"
    md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
    description = "Hunting for cases where a process v
    severity = "Medium"

  events:
    $e1.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
    $e2.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
    $md5 = $e1.principal.process.file.md5
    $e1.principal.process.file.md5 = $e2.principal.pro
    $e1.principal.process.file.md5 != ""
    $e1.principal.hostname = $e2.principal.hostname
    $e1.principal.hostname != ""
    $e1.principal.process.pid = $e2.principal.process.
    $e1.principal.process.pid != ""
    (((($e1.principal.file.file_type = "FILE_TYPE_CRX"
  match:
    $md5 over 1m
  condition:
    $e1 and $e2
}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_FileWrite_ManifestandLNK_1 {
  meta:
    author = "Mandiant"
    md5 = "f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1"
    description = "Hunting for cases where a process v
    severity = "Medium"

  events:
    $e1.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
    $e2.metadata.event_type = "FILE_CREATION"
    $md5 = $e1.principal.process.file.md5
    $e1.principal.process.file.md5 = $e2.principal.pro
    $e1.principal.process.file.md5 != ""
    $e1.principal.hostname = $e2.principal.hostname
    $e1.principal.hostname != ""
    $e1.principal.process.pid = $e2.principal.process.
    $e1.principal.process.pid != ""
    (((($e1.target.file.full_path = /\manifest\.json$,
  match:
    $md5 over 1m
  condition:
    $e1 and $e2
}
```

```
// M_Hunting_FileWrite_ManifestandChromeLNK_1
tag:peexe and ((behaviour_files:"C:\\Users\\Public\\Desktop
```

```
rule M_Hunting_RILIDE_InjectJS_1
```



```
author = "Mandiant"
md5 = "9fe5b99b20bc91995b81eddd917bff50"
description = "Hunting for the code that RILIDE injects into the browser extension

strings:
    $banner = "https://public.bnbstatic.com/image/emoji/20230920/01.png"
    $s1 = "[Bybit]Withdrawal Request" ascii
    $s2 = "[Bybit] Authorize New Device" ascii
    $a1 = "created a withdrawal request"
    $a2 = "Authorize New Device You recently attempted to withdraw"
    $a3 = "Please check your withdrawal address carefully"
    $a4 = "Verification Code Of Withdrawal"
    $a6 = "Withdrawal Verification Code"
    $a7 = "Verification Code Of Authorization"
    $a8 = "initiate this withdrawal or the address is not supported"
    $a9 = "Authorize New Device You recently attempted to withdraw"
    $a10 = "Confirm your new withdrawal address"
    $a11 = "A new withdrawal address was just added to your account"
    $f1 = "div:contains(\"Binance\"), div:contains(\"binance\")"
    $f2 = "binance()" fullword
    $f3 = "div:contains(\"Bybit\"), div:contains(\"bybit\")"
    $f4 = "bybit()" fullword
    $f5 = "div:contains(\"Huobi\"), div:contains(\"huobi\")"
    $f6 = "huobi()" fullword
    $f7 = "div:contains(\"Okx\"), div:contains(\"okx\")"
    $f8 = "okx()" fullword
    $f9 = "div:contains(\"Kraken\"), div:contains(\"kraken\")"
    $f10 = "kraken()" fullword

condition:
    filesize < 1MB and $banner and (1 of ($s*)) and ($f1 or $f2 or $f3 or $f4 or $f5 or $f6 or $f7 or $f8 or $f9 or $f10)

}
```

```
rule M_Hunting_RILIDE_InjectJS_2
{
    meta:
        author = "Mandiant"
        md5 = "6e426758f184b5a942428731b749b000"
        description = "Hunting for the code that RILIDE injects into the browser extension

    strings:
        $anchor = "const DOMAIN = 'https://extension-app.bnbstatic.com'"
        $v1 = "exchangeRates" ascii fullword
        $v2 = "supportedAssets" ascii fullword
        $v3 = "supportedAccounts" ascii fullword
        $v4 = "currencySymbol" ascii fullword
        $v5 = "userId" ascii fullword
        $v6 = "settings" ascii fullword
        $v7 = "extensions" ascii fullword
        $s1 = "Confirm settings change"
        $s2 = "2-step verification"
```

```

    $s5 = "Enter the 2-step verification code from you
    $s6 = "Didn't receive the SMS?"
    $s7 = "Re-send SMS"
    $u1 = "${DOMAIN}/settings"
    $u2 = "${DOMAIN}/exchange/get-address?type=${type}
    $u3 = "${DOMAIN}/exchange/create-account"
    $u4 = "${DOMAIN}/exchange/set-balance"
    $u5 = "${DOMAIN}/exchange/set-all-balances"
    $u6 = "${DOMAIN}/exchange/set-withdraw"
    $p1 = "password = localStorage.getItem('coinbase_p
    $p2 = "email = localStorage.getItem('coinbase_user
    $f1 = "getExchangeRates" fullword
    $f2 = "getSupportedAssets" fullword
    $f3 = "getAccounts" fullword
    $f4 = "currentWithdraw"

    condition:
        filesize < 1MB and (($anchor and (8 of them)) or (
}

```

Appendix B: Indicators

Indicator	Reference
9984af7a440c39b7ac11a68f2da48137	BRAINFOG
1af84663df057aee4934abe717938b33	BRAINFOG WScript
f2f85d38b91f582a83388690fdc45284	BRAINFOG WScript
2782af385665c765807ed887d4bacf36	BRAINLIN
de283dfb9c88dbb6d455ca4b31c57240	BRAINLIN CAB
6b2e6d6650116d372ca8c47af08ca8fa	BRAINLIN PowerShell Script
0a4f321c903a7fbc59566918c12aca09	BRAINSTO
34eea751fcbf4ee8d44977adb4742d93	BRAINSTO
69a1c37a796dd3ed81785c1995f0973f	BRAINSTO
57b520c0d10cf70c0872b8fc5f482221b	BRAINSTO

ea7496d6fb96e3c1e00a1d5f501f6724	BRAINSTO
f1c21a69ed9f85e12d58ef0f5ac5c9b1	BRAINSTO
3e181d794e62af5c54d4df5517766af8	PUFFPAST
70700ae977a0f3ca6a331842d8c103c9	PUFFPAST
770dd49f7340003d9c66b58cd793dada	PUFFPAST
f483821b0650653e4da643b212025709	PUFFPAST
0fc2bd7320c2edfd7985b87fc8cb1f96	RILIDE
223e499f6ba6ebdacf1dcff96008635b	RILIDE
395bef4512a3743299a45d4f9b74a2ee	RILIDE
4f506058ab8bfc5746308a95e34dce85	RILIDE
5133177ac4950cf772d2f729bb0622ec	RILIDE
b7ad9777e3166628abe11dd043ddfb7e	RILIDE
bb8323247baad2d592e7ad1896935dd1	RILIDE
d56d195ebfaea6d97cccddcf3823be24	RILIDE
4724261ef04e2301ecc9ac994b4b346e	RILIDE HTML
020a8ed8a2b123f6c58fed791c6ef636	RILIDE Injection Script
219070a2502a47a50dd3df5c804074b4	RILIDE Injection Script
3235e27576dd4e81f1c5986212ec2b78	RILIDE Injection Script
41a5f1c5d032bcac16c903681674872c	RILIDE Injection Script

		Script
	94c16b8f9236ab88bb0bca60c4399665	RILIDE Injection Script
	9e5f43b2dc1606e27fa0cfdfb4e363d2	RILIDE Injection Script
	9fe5b99b20bc91995b81eddd917bff50	RILIDE Injection Script
	d41b7138ad25d0401acf3298d0110342	RILIDE Injection Script
	5b7a2e7195bceb8e125758ae27c1e791	RILIDE JavaScript
	d54fa225b07298ec34be872cd4ebf4ae	RILIDE JavaScript
	19c859513f67400f3563e656f27df1c0	RILIDE L
	30abf9ca1bb792eb5edd8b033c010979	RILIDE L
	baee9ba0b94ea1e2b2e566fc8a615554	RILIDE Manifest
	f31e9238593b34b390ab8faf755e6ede	RILIDE Manifest
	3bf971fcaa2a3bd321f4e0b6864cb86a	Template XLL
	ac00b947ca51d0e71b4c792f1646e4e0	Template XLL
	028b2f15560b0f80514cf0a23ae77a43	VB Macro
	0a4834d3da05a1d0b2f3a0c13f352a0a	VB Macro
	89c34309aca3214c3ce7c72b407570e8	VB Macro
	172.67.192[.]61	C2 A Record

	89.185.85[.]144	C2 A Record
	45.159.188[.]125	C2 A Record
	146.70.79[.]75	Open Directory
	104.168.167[.]25	Open Directory
	telegromcn[.]org	BRAINFOG In The Wild Domain
	nch-software[.]info	Open Directory Domain
	vceilinichego[.]ru	Open Directory Domain and C2
	2022-blanks[.]site	Registrar Org Pivot Domain
	finandy[.]info	Registrar Org Pivot Domain
	finandy[.]online	Registrar Org Pivot Domain
	flnand[.]online	Registrar Org Pivot Domain
	kz-smartbank[.]com	Registrar Org Pivot Domain
	mareux[.]online	Registrar Org Pivot Domain

mmarx[.]quest	Registra Org Pivot Domain
okxsat[.]xyz	Registra Org Pivot Domain
pr-tracker[.]online	Registra Org Pivot Domain
qivvi-3[.]click	Registra Org Pivot Domain
serienjunkies[.]us	Registra Org Pivot Domain
vse-blanki[.]online	Registra Org Pivot Domain
ashgrrwt[.]click	RILIDE C
extenision-app[.]com	RILIDE C
hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/1/2.exe	Open Directory BRAINSTOF Download
hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe	Open Directory BRAINSTOF Download
hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/2.exe	Open Directory BRAINSTOF Download
hxxps://nch-software[.]info/1/2.exe	Open Directory BRAINSTOF Download

	<code>hxxps://nch-software[.]info/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe</code>	Open Directory BRAINSTORM Download
	<code>hxxps://panger-top[.]click/1/2.exe</code>	Open Directory BRAINSTORM Download
	<code>hxxps://panger-top[.]click/1/install-win64-11.5.8_en-US.exe</code>	Open Directory BRAINSTORM Download
	<code>hxxp://nch-software[.]info/1/2.exe</code>	Open Directory URL
	<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/</code>	Open Directory URL
	<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/admin_cp/</code>	Open Directory URL
	<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/</code>	Open Directory URL
	<code>hxxp://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/</code>	RILIDE C URL
	<code>hxxp://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/get-urls</code>	RILIDE C URL
	<code>hxxp://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/init</code>	RILIDE C URL
	<code>hxxp://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/set-urls</code>	RILIDE C URL
	<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru</code>	RILIDE C URL
	<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine</code>	RILIDE C URL

<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/check-tasks</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/get-urls</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/init</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/set-tasks</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://vceilinichego[.]ru/api/machine/set-urls</code>	RILIDE C URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.dotm</code>	Template Open Directory URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.pub</code>	Template Open Directory URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/light.xlsm</code>	Template Open Directory URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/x64.xll</code>	Template Open Directory URL
<code>hxxps://146.70.79[.]75/templates/x86.xll</code>	Template Open Directory URL

Posted in [Threat Intelligence](#)—[Security & Identity](#)

Related articles



Threat Intelligence

Hybrid Russian Espionage and Influence Campaign Aims to Compromise Ukrainian Military Recruits and Deliver Anti-Mobilization Narratives

By Google Threat Intelligence Group • 10-minute read



Threat Intelligence

Investigating FortiManager Zero-Day Exploitation (CVE-2024-47575)

By Mandiant • 19-minute read



Threat Intelligence

How Low Can You Go? An Analysis of 2023 Time-to-Exploit Trends

By Mandiant • 10-minute read



Threat Intelligence

capa Explorer Web: A Web-Based Tool for Program Capability Analysis

By Mandiant • 6-minute read

Follow us



Google Cloud

Google Cloud Products

Privacy

Terms

 Help

English

