

# A Castle Made of Sand

## Adobe Reader X Sandbox



# Adobe Acrobat



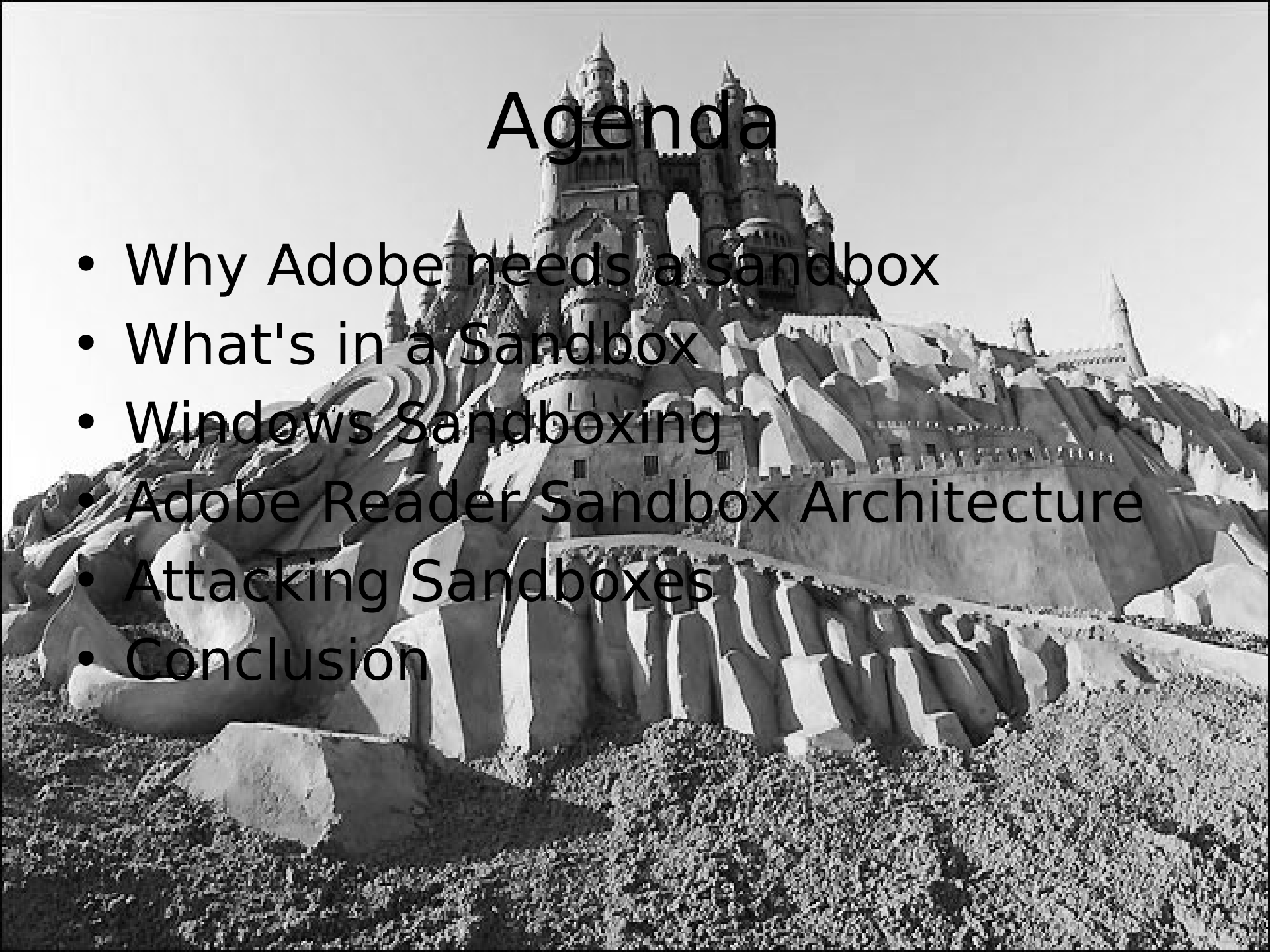
- “Adobe Reader is free software that lets you open, view, search, digitally sign, verify, and print PDF files. To date, more than 600 million copies of Adobe Reader have been distributed worldwide on 23 platforms and in 33

<http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/faq.html>

languages

# Agenda

- Why Adobe needs a sandbox
- What's in a Sandbox
- Windows Sandboxing
- Adobe Reader Sandbox Architecture
- Attacking Sandboxes
- Conclusion



# Internet Usage Statistics

- As of June, 2010 there were 2 billion internet users  
<http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats.htm>
  - 600 million Reader downloads = 30% market
- Chrome market share was 23.8% in January, 2011  
[http://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers\\_stats.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers_stats.asp)
  - Roughly 476 million users

# Adobe Acrobat Security History

- Acrobat Reader CVE Vulnerabilities

Year	# of Vulnerabilities	DoS	Code Execution	Overflow	Memory Corruption	XSS	Http Response Splitting	Bypass something	Gain Privileges	CSRF	# of exploits
<a href="#">1999</a>	1		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>							
<a href="#">2000</a>	1		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>							
<a href="#">2001</a>	1										
<a href="#">2002</a>	1										
<a href="#">2003</a>	3		<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">1</a>							
<a href="#">2004</a>	6		<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">4</a>							
<a href="#">2005</a>	9	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">3</a>							
<a href="#">2006</a>	7	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">3</a>		<a href="#">1</a>				<a href="#">2</a>		
<a href="#">2007</a>	9	<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">3</a>		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">1</a>			<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">2008</a>	11	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">1</a>						<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">2009</a>	39	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">30</a>	<a href="#">17</a>	<a href="#">10</a>			<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">2010</a>	68	<a href="#">35</a>	<a href="#">60</a>	<a href="#">33</a>	<a href="#">29</a>	<a href="#">2</a>		<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">2011</a>	28	<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">2</a>			<a href="#">4</a>		
Total	184	<a href="#">70</a>	<a href="#">140</a>	<a href="#">72</a>	<a href="#">50</a>	<a href="#">6</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">12</a>
% Of All		38.0	76.1	39.1	27.2	3.3	0.5	2.2	4.3	0.5	

[http://www.cvedetails.com/product/497/Adobe-Acrobat-Reader.html?vendor\\_id=53](http://www.cvedetails.com/product/497/Adobe-Acrobat-Reader.html?vendor_id=53)

# Adobe Acrobat Security History

- Acrobat CVE Vulnerabilities

Year	# of Vulnerabilities	DoS	Code Execution	Overflow	Memory Corruption	XSS	Bypass something	Gain Privileges	CSRF	# of exploits
<a href="#">2000</a>	1		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>						
<a href="#">2003</a>	3		<a href="#">2</a>							
<a href="#">2004</a>	3		<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">2</a>						
<a href="#">2005</a>	2	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>						
<a href="#">2006</a>	4		<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>			<a href="#">2</a>		
<a href="#">2007</a>	4	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>			<a href="#">2</a>			<a href="#">1</a>	
<a href="#">2008</a>	15	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">2</a>			<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">2009</a>	49	<a href="#">18</a>	<a href="#">39</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">14</a>		<a href="#">2</a>			<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">2010</a>	65	<a href="#">33</a>	<a href="#">58</a>	<a href="#">33</a>	<a href="#">28</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">2011</a>	28	<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">2</a>		<a href="#">4</a>		
Total	174	<a href="#">64</a>	<a href="#">138</a>	<a href="#">72</a>	<a href="#">53</a>	<a href="#">6</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">10</a>
% Of All		36.8	79.3	41.4	30.5	3.4	2.9	4.6	0.6	

[http://www.cvedetails.com/product/921/Adobe-Acrobat.html?vendor\\_id=53](http://www.cvedetails.com/product/921/Adobe-Acrobat.html?vendor_id=53)

# Adobe Acrobat Security History

- Adobe CVE Vulnerabilities
  - 358 Vulnerabilities
  - 278 Vulnerabilities lead to code execution
  - 22 Exploits in the wild
  - 15 Exploits achieve code execution
- “During the Q1 2010, 48 percent of all exploits involved malicious PDFs, making Adobe Reader the most exploited software.”  
<http://www.esecurityplanet.com/article.php/3925701/RSA-New-Frontiers-in-Threat-Research/>

# Google Chrome Security History

- Chrome CVE Vulnerabilities
  - 244 Vulnerabilities
  - 36 Vulnerabilities lead to code execution
  - 12 Exploits in the wild
  - 3 Exploits achieve code execution





# Adobe Acrobat X



- These statistics prompted a security push to make the next version of Adobe Acrobat significantly more resilient to hacking attempts
- Adobe Acrobat X products have been hardened to utilize operating system provided mitigations on the Windows Platform
- In addition, a new sandbox designed to limit the impact of successful exploitation attempts has been implemented

# Use of Windows Mitigations



- Address Space Layout Randomization
  - Adobe has modified all internal code to take advantage of random image mappings
- Data Execution Prevention
  - Enabled with PERMANENT flag
- "... Q2 of last year, PDF attacks fell to 30 percent..."

<http://www.esecurityplanet.com/article.php/3925701/RSA-New-frontiers-in-Threat-Research>

# Windows Mitigations Fail

- Sadly, 3<sup>rd</sup> party libraries that do not support ASLR can be forced to load

Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [blackhawk\johnson]

File Options View Process Find DLL Users Help

Process	PID	Private Bytes	Working Set	Description	Company Name	Version	DEP	Window Title
AcroRd32.exe	5616	69,604 K	80,940 K	Adobe Reader	Adobe Systems Incorporated	10.0.1.434	DEP (permanent)	
AcroRd32.exe	2636	156,300 K	176,348 K	Adobe Reader	Adobe Systems Incorporated	10.0.1.434	DEP (permanent)	SampleSignedPDFDocument
mspaint.exe								

Name	Description	Company Name	Version	Base	Image Base	Image ...	ASLR	Mapping
locale.nls				0x2C40000	0x0	n/a	n/a	Data
SortDefault.nls				0x76B0000	0x0	n/a	n/a	Data
{AFBF9F1A-8EE8-4...				0x87A0000	0x0	n/a	n/a	Data
ZY____.PFB				0x87E0000	0x0	n/a	n/a	Data
StaticCache.dat				0xC810000	0x0	n/a	n/a	Data
cryptocme2.dll	Master library	RSA - The Security Divisio...	3.0.0.1	0x1B910000	0x10000000	32-bit		Image
ccme_base.dll	Base cryptographic functionality	RSA - The Security Divisio...	3.0.0.1	0x1BCB0000	0x10000000	32-bit		Image
icudt40.dll	ICU Data DLL	IBM Corporation and others	4.0.0.0	0x4AD00000	0x4AD00000	32-bit		Image
AcroRd32.exe	Adobe Reader	Adobe Systems Incorporat...	10.0.1.434	0x12F0000	0x12F0000	32-bit	ASLR	Image

<http://blogs.adobe.com/security/SampleSignedPDFDocument.pdf>

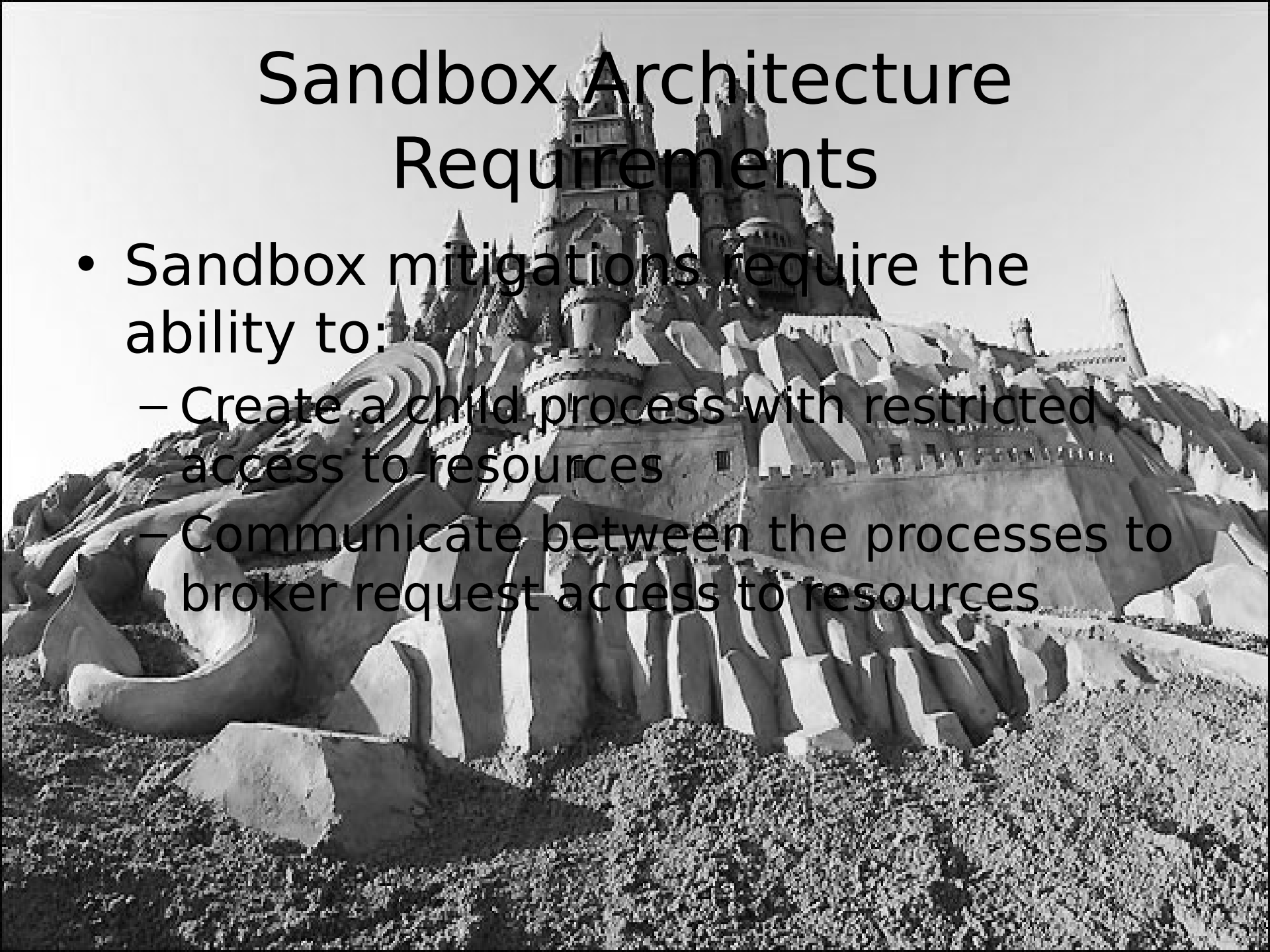
# The Sandbox Concept

A black and white photograph of a large, ornate sandcastle on a beach. The sandcastle is built on a mound of sand, with waves crashing against its base. The castle has multiple towers, turrets, and a central archway. The sky is clear and bright.

- A sandbox is a mitigation strategy centered around the concept of isolating complex code into a lower privileged process which is managed by a higher privileged process
- The higher privileged process is less prone to attack due to reduced attack surface and can restrict resources from a compromised lower privileged process

# Sandbox Architecture Requirements

- Sandbox mitigations require the ability to:
  - Create a child process with restricted access to resources
  - Communicate between the processes to broker request access to resources



# Sandbox Architecture on Windows



- Process Restrictions
  - Restricted process tokens
  - Restricted process job object
- IPC Mechanisms for System Call brokering
  - Sockets, Pipes, Shared Memory, Files, etc

# Sandbox Architecture on Windows

- Restricted process tokens
  - Create processes with restricted privileges

```
BOOL CreateRestrictedToken(  
    HANDLE ExistingTokenHandle,  
    DWORD Flags,  
    DWORD DisableSidCount,  
    PSID_AND_ATTRIBUTES SidsToDisable,  
    DWORD DeletePrivilegeCount,  
    PLUID_AND_ATTRIBUTES PrivilegesToDelete,  
    DWORD RestrictedSidCount,  
    PSID_AND_ATTRIBUTES SidsToRestrict,  
    PHANDLE NewTokenHandle  
);
```

```
BOOL WINAPI CreateProcessAsUser(  
    HANDLE hToken,  
    LPCTSTR lpApplicationName,  
    LPTSTR lpCommandLine,  
    LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES  
    lpProcessAttributes,  
    LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES  
    lpThreadAttributes,  
    BOOL bInheritHandles,  
    DWORD dwCreationFlags,  
    LPVOID lpEnvironment,  
    LPCTSTR lpCurrentDirectory,  
    LPSTARTUPINFO lpStartupInfo,  
    LPPROCESS_INFORMATION  
    lpProcessInformation  
);
```

# Sandbox Architecture on Windows

- Restricted job objects

```
HANDLE WINAPI CreateJobObject(  
    LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES  
    lpJobAttributes,  
    LPCTSTR lpName  
);
```

```
typedef struct _SECURITY_ATTRIBUTES {  
    DWORD nLength;  
    LPVOID lpSecurityDescriptor;  
    BOOL bInheritHandle;  
} SECURITY_ATTRIBUTES,  
*LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES;
```

```
BOOL WINAPI AssignProcessToJobObject(  
    HANDLE hJob,  
    HANDLE hProcess  
);
```

```
BOOL CreateCustomDACL(SECURITY_ATTRIBUTES *  
pSA) {  
    // Built-in guests are denied all access.  
    // Anonymous logon is denied all access.  
    // Administrators are allowed full control.  
    // Modify these values as needed to generate the  
    proper  
    // DACL for your application.  
    TCHAR * szSD = TEXT("D:") // Discretionary  
ACL  
        TEXT("(D;OICI;GA;;;BG)") // Deny access to  
        // built-in guests  
        TEXT("(D;OICI;GA;;;AN)") // Deny access to  
        // anonymous  
logon  
        TEXT("(A;OICI;GA;;;BA)"); // Allow full  
control  
        // to administrators  
  
    if (NULL == pSA)  
        return FALSE;  
  
    return  
ConvertStringSecurityDescriptorToSecurityDescriptor(  
    szSD,  
    SDDL_REVISION_1,  
    &(pSA->lpSecurityDescriptor)
```



# Adobe Reader X Sandbox Design

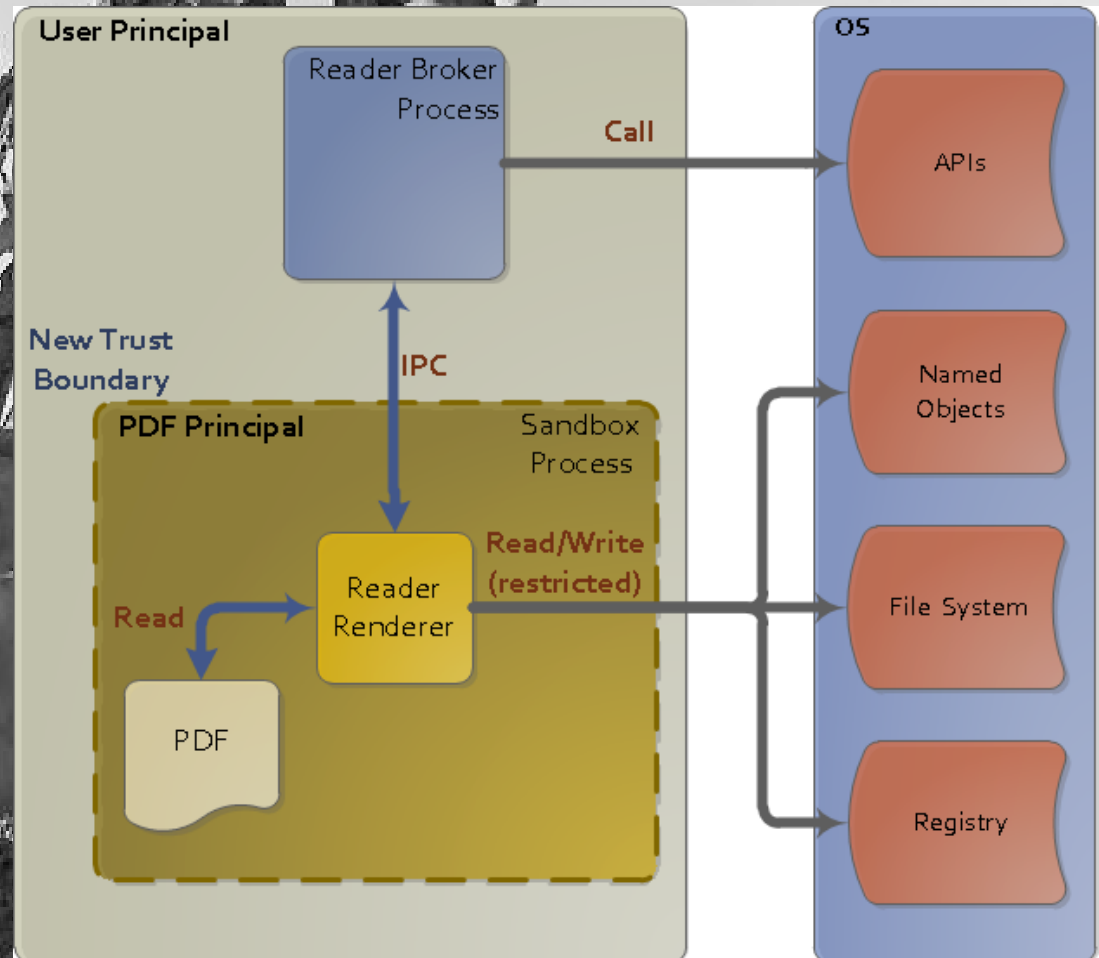
- Adobe enables the sandbox through a configuration option called 'Protected Mode'
- Separation of rendering code from basic process initialization and management code
  - 25mb broker process
  - 200mb rendering process

# Adobe Reader X Sandbox Design

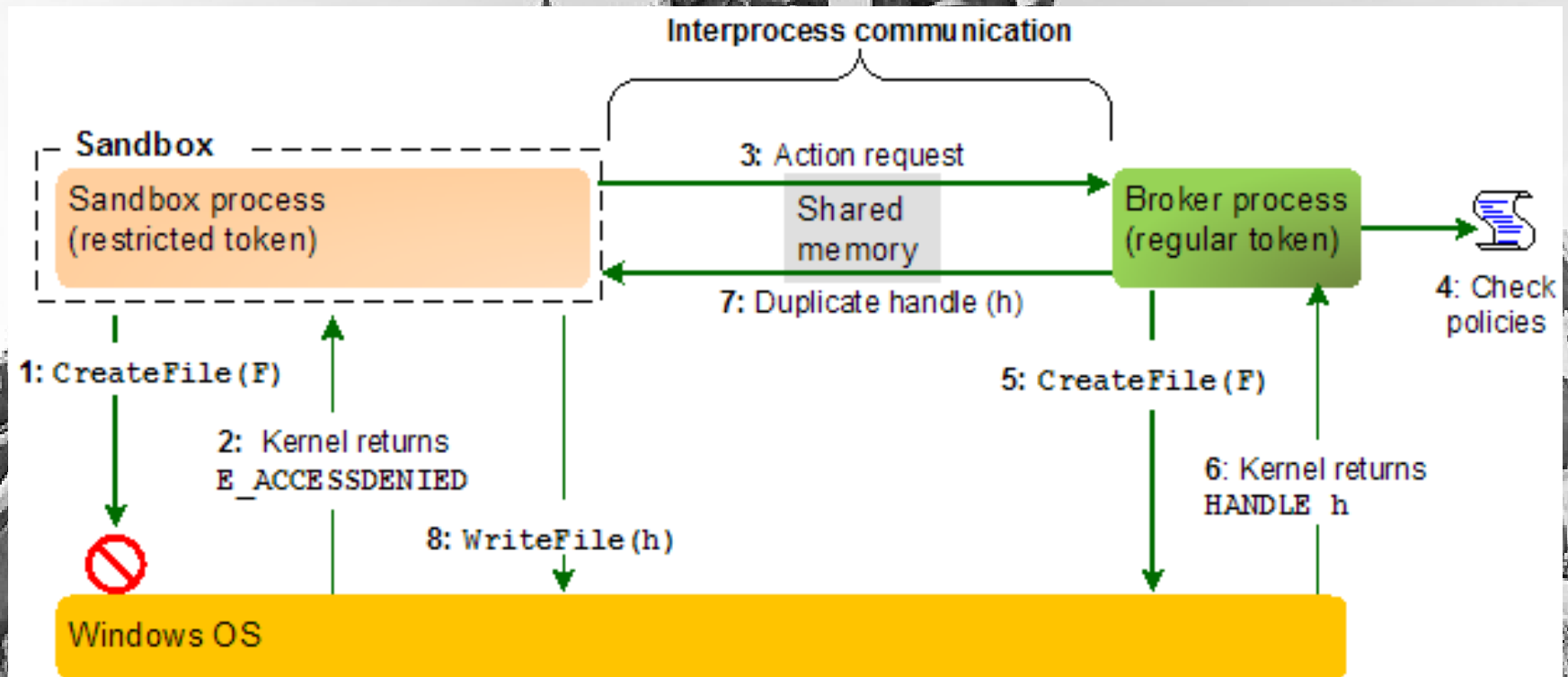
- Rendering process has restricted tokens which disallow writing to the file system or executing new processes
- Requests for system resources are denied and then requested from the broker process via a shared memory protocol
- Requests are validated against internal policy

# Adobe Reader X Sandbox Design

- OS denies requests to resources
- Broker gets request and checks ACLs
- Broker gets resource and duplicates the handle



# Adobe Reader X Sandbox Design



<http://blogs.adobe.com/asset/2010/11/inside-adobe-reader-protected-mode-part-3-broker-process-policies-and-inter-process-communication.html>

# Adobe Reader X Sandbox Config

- Configuration settings
  - JavaScript enabled by default
  - JavaScript global object security policy
  - JavaScript blacklist
  - ACLs for file, registry, process access
  - Log file disabled by default

# JavaScript Blacklist



- Blacklist is stored in the registry
- Blacklist is capable of blocking API names
  - Withstands obfuscation methods
  - Does not come with any blocked by default
- Blacklist cannot pattern match or prevent generic algorithms for spraying
- More: <http://vrt-blog.snort.org/2010/01/acrobat-javascript-blacklist-framework.html>

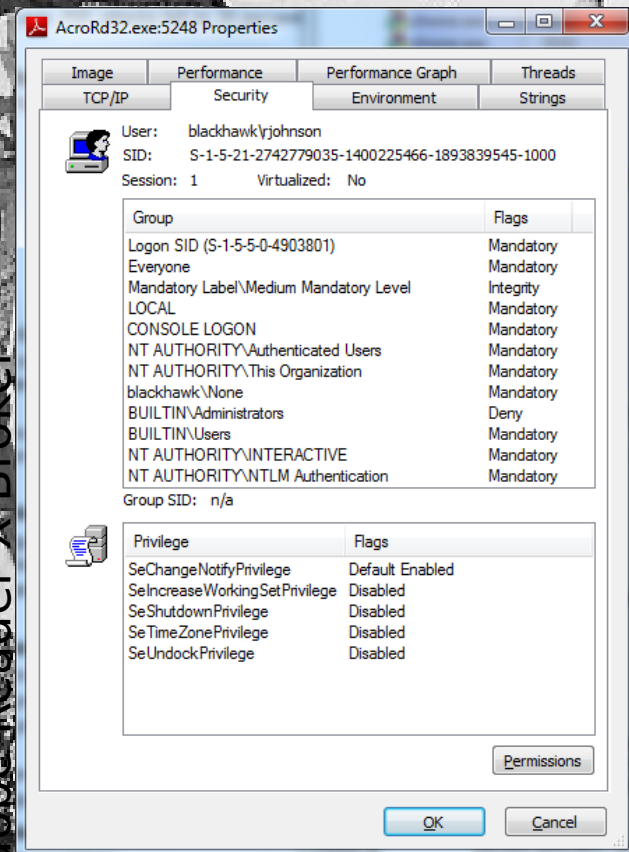
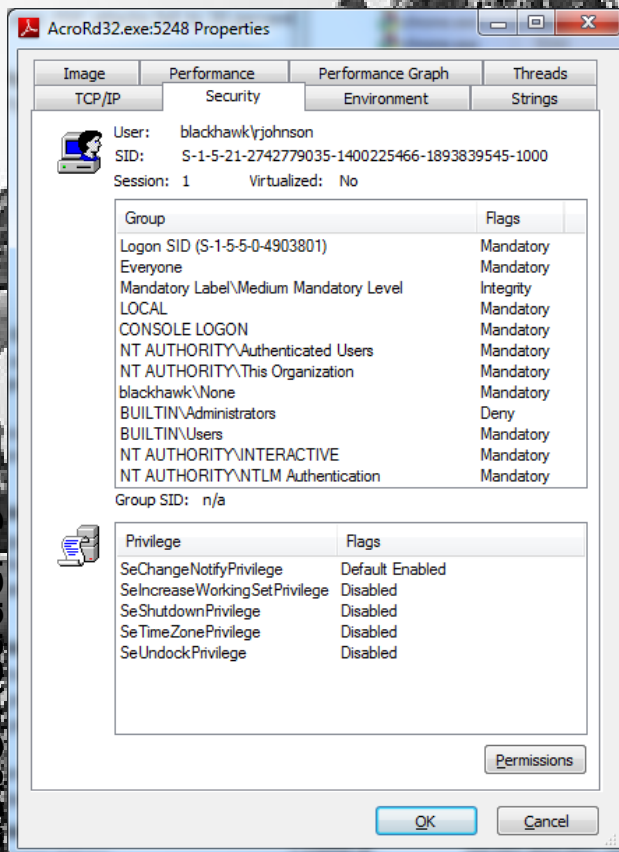
# Sandbox Analysis

A black and white photograph of a large, intricate sandcastle. The castle features multiple towers with conical roofs, crenellated battlements, and a central arched gateway. It is built on a sandy beach, with the sand forming a wide, flat base. The background shows a clear sky and the ocean waves breaking on the shore.

- Determine rights of separate processes
- Determine IPC mechanisms in use
- Validate resource requests are denied
- Fuzz or audit broker resource request parser

# Sandbox Analysis

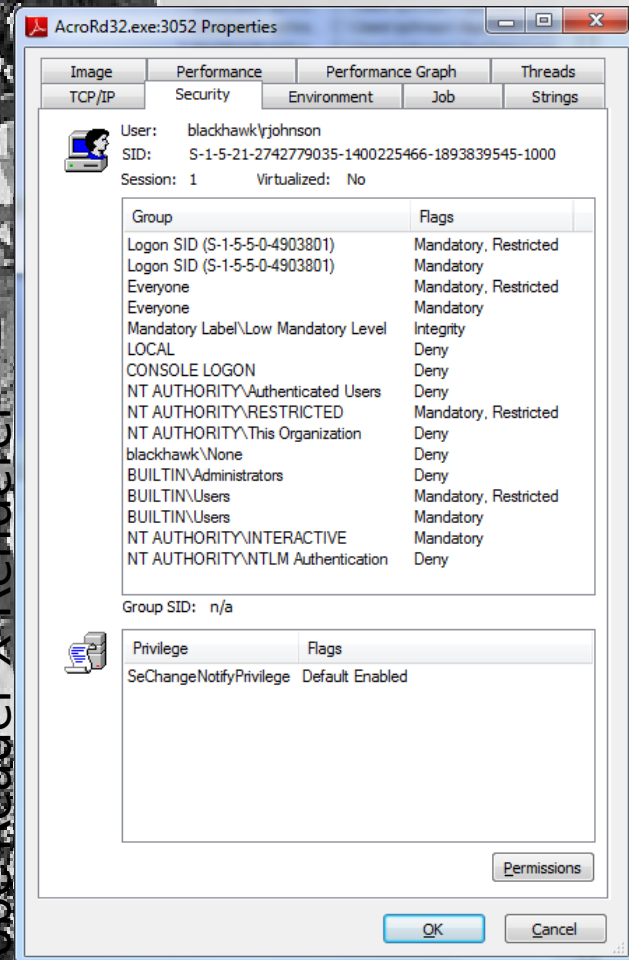
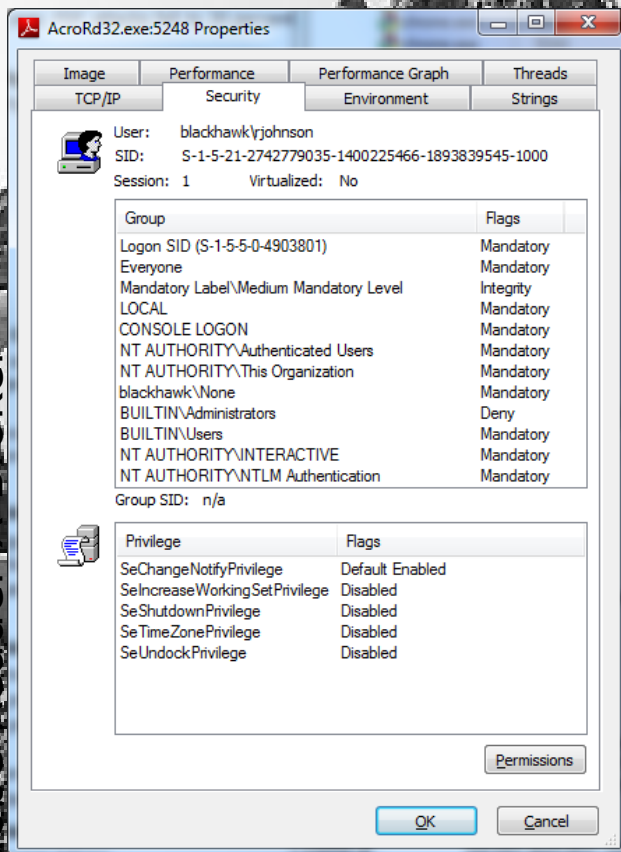
- Token restriction





# Sandbox Analysis

- Token restriction



# Sandbox Analysis



- Job limits
  - Limit of one `ActiveProcess`
  - No changing or creating desktops
  - Cannot use handles associated with another job
  - Denied access to `ChangeDisplaySettings`
  - Denied access to `ExitWindows`
  - Denied access to `SystemParametersInfo`

# Sandbox Analysis



- Determine IPC mechanisms in use
  - Trace APIs related to various IPC mechanisms
  - Catching creation of IPC endpoints can be as simple as using Windbg

# Sandbox Analysis



- Determine IPC mechanisms in use
  - Clipboard
  - COM
  - Data Copy
  - DDE
  - File Mapping
  - Mailslots
  - Pipes
  - RPC
  - Windows Sockets

# Sandbox Analysis



- Memory mappings are backed to pagefile and may be named or unnamed
- If unnamed, the handle must be passed to the child process via DuplicateHandle

# Sandbox Analysis

- Windbg can trace mappings for you

```
r $t0 = 0;
r $t1 = 0;

bp KERNELBASE!CreateFileMappingW ".if (poi(@esp + 4)) = -1 { .echo ; kn 5 ;
.printf "\\nCreateFileMappingW\\nHandle: %x\\n\\n", poi(@esp + 4) ; ddu esp + 24 l1 ; gu ;
.printf "Mapped Memory Handle: %x\\n\\n\\n", @eax ; r $t0 = @eax ; g } .else { g } "

bp KERNELBASE!MapViewOfFile ".if (poi(@esp + 4)) = $t0 { r $t1 = poi(@esp + 24) ; .echo ;
kn 5 ; gu ; .printf "\\nMapViewOfFile\\nMapped Address: %x Size: %d\\nSetting memory
breakpoint\\n\\n\\n", @eax, @$t1 ; ba r 4 @eax \".echo Mapped Memory Access ; kn 4 ; ub ;
g\" ; g } .else { g } "

bp KERNELBASE!OpenFileMappingW "kn 5 ; .echo ; .printf \"OpenFileMappingW\\nPath: [%mu]\\n\",
poi(@esp + c) ; .if(poi(@esp + 4)) & 2 { .printf \" FILE_MAP_WRITE\" } ; .if(poi(@esp + 4))
& 4 { .printf \" FILE_MAP_READ\" } ; .echo ; .echo ; g"

bp DuplicateHandle ".echo ; .printf \"DuplicateHandle: %x\\n\", poi(@esp + 8) ; .echo ; .echo ;
g"

bp ConnectNamedPipe
bp CreateNamedPipeW

bp AcroRd32Exe+0xc08f ".echo Attach to client"
```

# Sandbox Analysis

- Windbg can trace mappings for you

```
# ChildEBP RetAddr
00 0041ec44 7700ac7e KERNELBASE!OpenFileMappingW
01 0041ec60 7700ac11 SHLWAPI!SHCreateSharedSection+0x16
02 0041ec90 7700acf6 SHLWAPI!OpenGlobalCounterFileMappingAndMapMemory+0x3d
03 0041eca8 7700e9de SHLWAPI!GetGlobalCounterMemoryAddress+0x3d
04 0041ecb4 75dac572 SHLWAPI!SHGlobalCounterGetValue+0xd
OpenFileMappingW Path: [windows_shell_global_counters] FILE_MAP_WRITE FILE_MAP_READ
-----
DuplicateHandle: 1e4
-----
# ChildEBP RetAddr
00 0041f0f0 00f2f824 KERNELBASE!CreateFileMappingW
01 0041f118 00f3023b AcroRd32Exe+0x1f824
02 0041f138 00f2e438 AcroRd32Exe+0x2023b
03 0041f230 00f4bf6b AcroRd32Exe+0x1e438
04 0041f360 00f1bdfa AcroRd32Exe+0x3bf6b
CreateFileMappingW
Handle: ffffffff
0041f118 0041f138 ".A.ò .A . . ø"
Mapped Memory Handle: 220
-----
DuplicateHandle: 220
```

# Sandbox Analysis

- Windbg can trace mappings for you

```
# ChildEBP RetAddr
00 0041f0f0 00f2f870 KERNELBASE!MapViewOfFile
01 0041f118 00f3023b AcroRd32Exe+0x1f870
02 0041f138 00f2e438 AcroRd32Exe+0x2023b
03 0041f230 00f4bf6b AcroRd32Exe+0x1e438
04 0041f360 00f1bdfa AcroRd32Exe+0x3bf6b
-----
MapViewOfFile
Mapped Address: a4a0000 Size: 4321592 Setting memory breakpoint
-----
Mapped Memory Access
# ChildEBP RetAddr
00 0041f0f8 00f2f963 AcroRd32Exe+0x237ac
01 0041f118 00f3023b AcroRd32Exe+0x1f963
02 0041f138 00f2e438 AcroRd32Exe+0x2023b
03 0041f230 00f4bf6b AcroRd32Exe+0x1e438
AcroRd32Exe+0x23795:
00f33797 8d0480 lea     eax,[eax+eax*4]
00f3379a 8d148508000000 lea     edx,[eax*4+8]
00f337a1 8b4508 mov     eax,dword ptr [ebp+8]
00f337a4 53 push    ebx
00f337a5 8907 mov     dword ptr [edi],eax
00f337a7 8955fc mov     dword ptr [ebp-4],edx
00f337aa 8908 mov     dword ptr [eax],ecx
```



# Attacking IPC Message Format

- Adobe uses a shared memory structure to request resources from the broker process
- This additional attack surface deserves a critical look from a code quality perspective
- We can inject a DLL to request resources in a loop with corrupt

# Attacking IPC Message Format

- Inject a DLL for fuzzing

```
int InjectDLL(HANDLE hProcess, char *moduleName)
{
    unsigned char *remoteBuffer;
    LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE loadLibraryAddr;
    HANDLE hThread;
    DWORD moduleNameLen, ret;

    moduleNameLen = strlen(moduleName) + 1;

    remoteBuffer = (unsigned char *)VirtualAllocEx(
        hProcess, NULL, moduleNameLen, MEM_COMMIT, PAGE_READWRITE);

    WriteProcessMemory(hProcess, remoteBuffer, moduleName, moduleNameLen, NULL);

    loadLibraryAddr = (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)GetProcAddress(
        GetModuleHandleA("kernel32.dll"), "LoadLibraryA");

    hThread = CreateRemoteThread(
        hProcess, NULL, 0, loadLibraryAddr, (void *)remoteBuffer, 0, NULL);

    ret = WaitForSingleObject(hThread, 5 * 1000);

    ...
}
```

# Attacking IPC Message Format

- Fuzz from within the DLL

```
BOOL APIENTRY DllMain(HANDLE hModule, DWORD dwReason, LPVOID lpReserved)
{
    if(dwReason == DLL_PROCESS_ATTACH )
    {
        MessageBoxA(NULL, "Dll injected!", "Fuzzer Dll", MB_OK);
        if((hFuzzThread = CreateThread(
            NULL,                // default security attributes
            0,                   // use default stack size
            FuzzerFunction,       // thread function name
            NULL,                // argument to thread function
            0,                   // use default creation flags
            &dwFuzzThreadId)) == NULL) // returns the thread identifier
        {
            MessageBoxA(NULL, "Failed to create fuzzing thread", "Fuzzer Dll", MB_OK);
        }

        ...
    }
    return TRUE;
}
```

# Attacking IPC Message Format

- Fuzz from within the DLL

```
DWORD WINAPI FuzzerFunction(LPVOID lpParam)
{
    DWORD iteration = 0;
    FILE *file;

    do
    {
        char *path = GenFuzzedString();
        file = fopen(path, "r");
        if(file != NULL)
            fclose(file);

        file = fopen(path, "w");
        if(file != NULL)
            fclose(file);

        ...
    } while (iteration++ < ITERATIONS);

    return 0;
}
```

# If All Else Fails

- Kernel exploitation will bypass ALL usermode sandbox architectures
- Download the slides and whitepaper from yesterday's talk on Windows Kernel Exploitation



# Unrestricted Access



- Socket and Handle use is not restricted
  - Could use PDF exploit as a pivot point into a sensitive network using less sophisticated attacks to achieve persistence
- Reading of the file system is not restricted
  - Combined with above flaw, file system may be dumped over a socket

# Unrestricted Access



- Reading from Clipboard is not restricted
- Log file is disabled by default
  - When it is enabled, it is stored in one of the few writable directories by default

# Future Potential

- Network Sandboxing (LeBlanc)
  - A solution is outlined in [http://blogs.msdn.com/b/david\\_leblanc/archive/2007/11/02/more-on-sandboxing-network-implications.aspx](http://blogs.msdn.com/b/david_leblanc/archive/2007/11/02/more-on-sandboxing-network-implications.aspx)
  - tl;dr – Use Windows Firewall to limit connections to and from the `acrord32.exe` process



# Future Potential



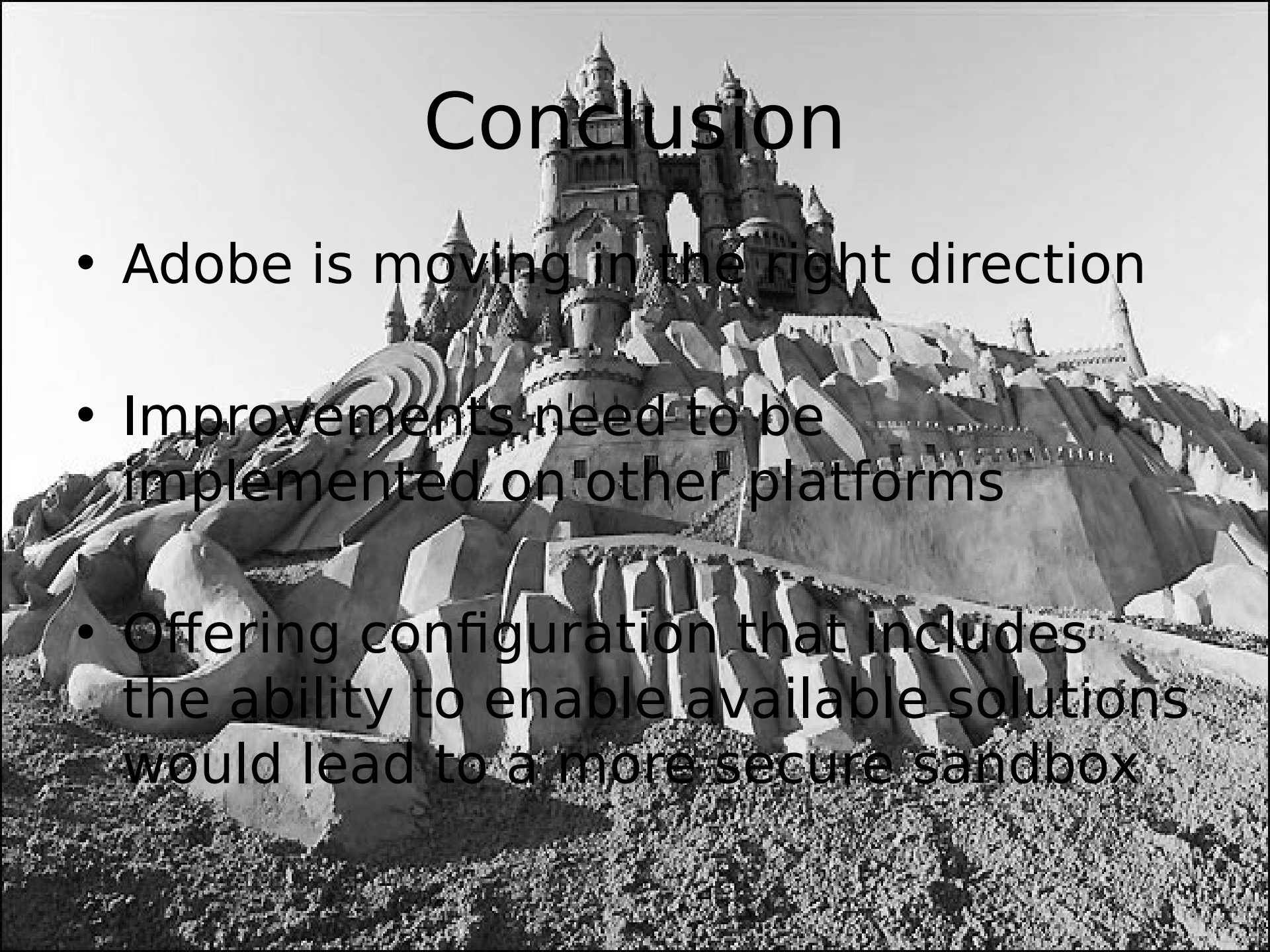
- File I/O Sandboxing (rjohnson)
  - On launch copy required resources to a temp directory
  - Limit all reads to the temp directory rather than allowing global read access

# Future Potential

- Utilize 64-bit process advantages (anti-spray)
- Javascript blacklist could be utilized to prevent loading of generic spray code
  - Currently only blacklist APIs rather than allow a fingerprinting mechanism
- Embedded Flash interpreter should gain same sandbox as in the browser

# Conclusion

- Adobe is moving in the right direction
- Improvements need to be implemented on other platforms
- Offering configuration that includes the ability to enable available solutions would lead to a more secure sandbox





Questions?

Thank you!

[rjohnson@sourcefire.com](mailto:rjohnson@sourcefire.com)

<http://vrt-blog.snort.org/>

@richinseattle