Malware Investigation

This report analyses 3 different malware types and plays a role in incident reporting. This report has been created using Sumologic for lab purposes. Previously parsed logs have been used to run the scripts. Considering a role of an SOC analyst, a report has been

prepared for malwares – Silenttrinity, OrangeWorm and BackOff along with business implications.

Malware 1: Silenttrinity

As an SOC analyst, to analyse this kind of malware, I would first filter out all HTTP requests to understand in detail. This

would mean looking at their connection type, their status codes, the headers, file data and payloads. Additionally, I would look if

there were an .xml file containing code to gather data or any kind of illegal characters that can be found in these details. The

analysis tool also provided an HTTP analysis to filter by host, and I would check all requests for the suspicious host. We could also

follow the HTTP stream to check the HTTP details in the PCAP file and then use a ladder diagram to understand the conversation

that has been established. For this alert, I would set a criticality of high for the reason that if the malware convinces the person to

click the phishing link, and gets access to the network, it could be undetected for a long period of time and serve as an APT slowly

stealing all information from the servers. The dashboards that that can be useful to monitor this alert would be endpoint security

dashboard to view endpoint activity incase a user clicks on a phishing link, and maybe a threat intelligence dashboard that can be

used to get an idea about IOC's for this kind of threat.

For the business, a detection of multiple HTTP requests with a value for file data and payloads can mean exfiltration or

infiltration of data. This could mean the business could be impacted with loss of data or loss of trust in customers. Short-term risks

involve complete downtime to resolve the issue, or replacement of hardware systems. The long-term risks involve loss of business

and loss of financial money if the hardware systems must be replaced completely. This could also raise multiple concerns amongst

the users and employees in the long run.

To remediate this incident, first there should be a thorough forensic analysis done on the systems affected, and for any

other things that have been noticed as malicious. After this, the systems affected can be replaced or restored, by removing the

malware, and then improving security controls that exist currently. Apart from these steps, the incident response plan should be

implemented and improvised further by thorough analysis of this malware and other similar versions of the malware, which use

similar methods. Employees should be trained and made aware of the malware and how to look out for it and not fall prey to it.

Malware 2: OrangeWorm

As an SOC analyst investigating the OrangeWorm alert, I would start by analysing the TCP results that have been generated by applying filters around tcp. The packets can be then investigated to check for a specific pattern in their communications that may be depictive of the Orangeworm. A pattern like tcp rst/ack packets sent from random port numbers to known port numbers could be one. Additionally, the payloads length could be viewed in this pattern that may be visible. Another thing that could be done would be to evaluate the DNS requests made, by using the dns filter and checking the resolved DNS names to identify random domain names or weird looking ones with extra characters within them. It should be one goal to identify the C2 server to understand the communications more detailed. For this alert, the criticality I would save would be **high** because it affects mainly health institutions which hold very important health information about patients, and even the fact that once it is in the network it spreads quickly onto other devices. One of the dashboards that can be very useful for this investigation can be a traffic analysis dashboard. The one which filters each request by protocol and methods used, along with payload information and traffic trends obtained from the packet capture.

The business implications for this could be very harsh on the whole organization. Since orangeworm aims at healthcare and high-level institutions, the short-term risks could be associates with identity theft, change and alteration of patient data, or stealing of login credentials. These risks extend onto the short-term risks and then will be higher in case as long-term risks which would be death of patients incase of alterations of data, huge financial losses, complete network reset resulting in operational downtime, as well as reputational damage.

For remediation, all the systems should be completed shut down and resetted with proper formatting to ensure the complete removal of the malware after complete analysis of the threat. All credentials for the organization should be changed ensuring a minimum character requirement. Outsourcing can be done to ensure that all systems are patched properly to their latest version, avoiding any open doors for them.

Malware 3: Backoff

An an SOC analyst, the first thing to do would be to have a quick glimpse of the different kinds of packets and protocols being used in the PCAP and then analyze them according to the traits that the backoff malware followed. We can first filter out ARP requests, which can show us that the either the attacker is trying to gather information about active targets on the network or using lateral movement tactics to move through the network. Another thing to do is to filter out HTTP requests to view if there are any malicious user-agent strings or cache-control. The connection status would also tell us that the attacker is trying to "keep-alive" to avoid sending too many requests. Additionally, UDP packets can be filtered for specify LLMNR or MDNS requests which are used to resolve names further in case the DNS resolver can't do it. The criticality assigned to this even as per the Threat Analysis is high. The malware spreads easily onto other computers into a network and must be prevented from entering the network. The dashboards that can be useful to detect the backoff malware can be a DNS based dashboard to show the correctly resolved DNS and other related things. This would reduce the confusion with other requests that come into the tool.

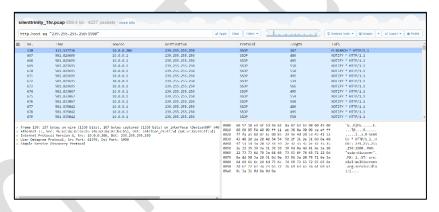
The short-term risks associated with the backoff malware can be a huge data breach which includes financial number or personal identification numbers or sensitive data like age, race, sex of people and then result in financial or customer confidential information. The long-term risk would be legal consequences of not implementing the correct required tools to avoid this and chances of the malware going undetected for long periods of time, thereby turning to almost an APT, coming with financial losses and increased security costs to the organization.

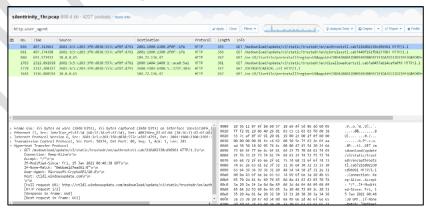
To remediate this, a honeypot can be set up, which completely allows an attacker to believe it is the correct website they have reached and then use it to learn about the techniques and amount of hackers trying to attack the system. Network segmentation can be implemented, and a DMZ can be used to separate communications as per the organizational structure. Backup and recovery servers should be set up and kept off any kind of internet communications except the time of backing up the important data.

Appendix

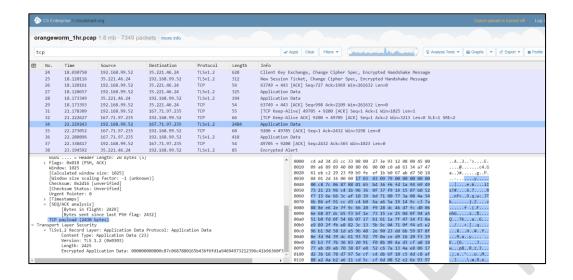
Malware 1: Silenttrinity

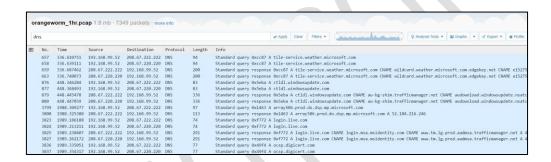


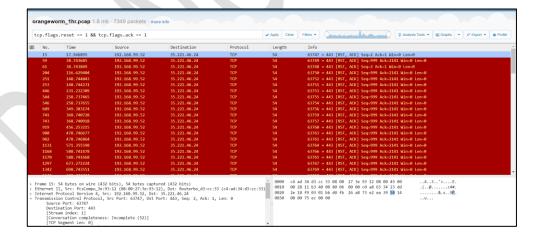


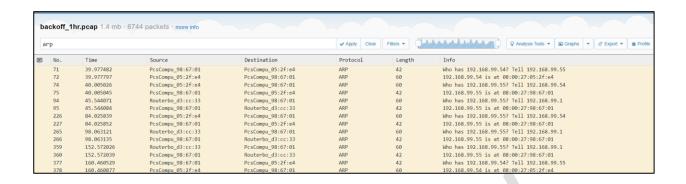


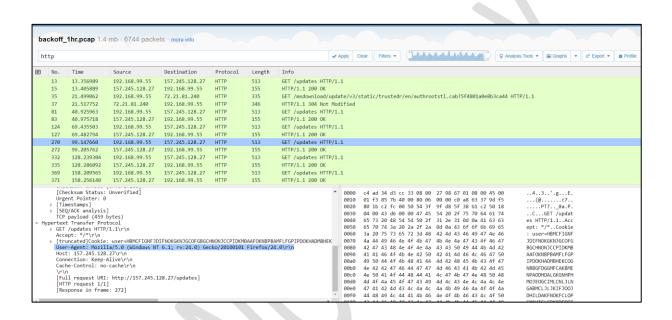
Malware: OrangeWorm













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