

# Security Newsletter

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# DarkGate malware spreads through compromised Skype accounts



Between July and September, DarkGate malware attacks have used compromised Skype accounts to infect targets through messages containing VBA loader script attachments.

According to Trend Micro security researchers who spotted the attacks, this script downloads a second-stage AutoIT script designed to drop and execute the final DarkGate malware payload.

"Access to the victim's Skype account allowed the actor to hijack an existing messaging thread and craft the naming convention of the files to relate to the context of the chat history," Trend Micro said.

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