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UNC CHARLOTTE

College of Computing and Informatics

ITIS 6330 – MALWARE ANALYSIS

Final Term Project

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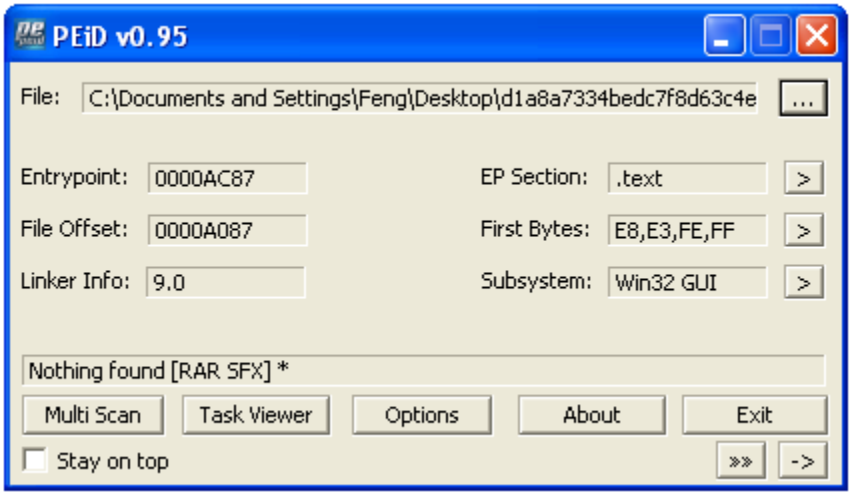
Static Analysis:

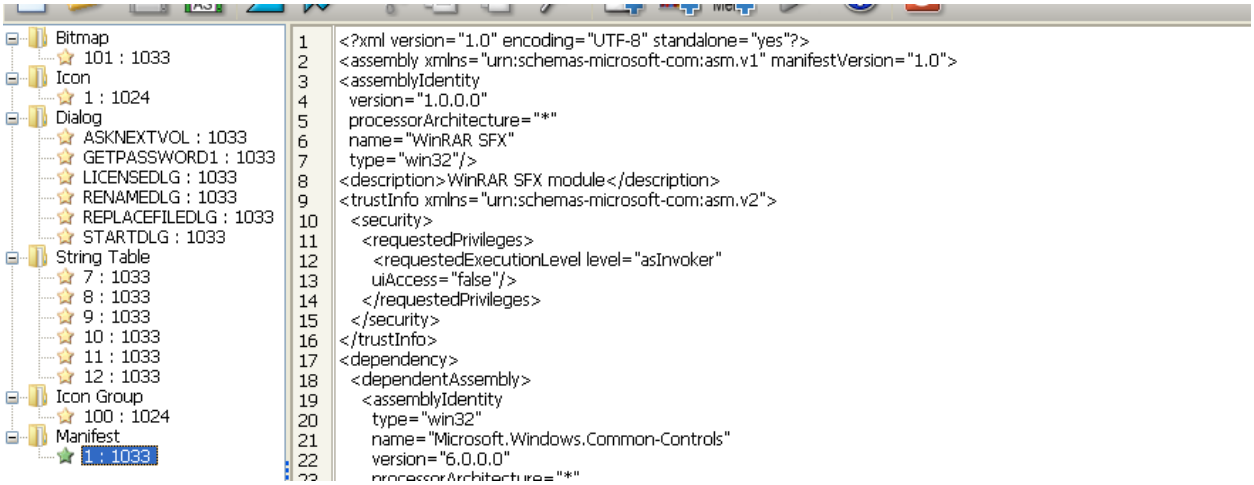
Overview:

- ✓ The Static Analysis showed that malware is RAR SFX executable module. It drops multiple files include mur.exe,.mp3,.dat,.mp4,.bmp,. docs and one file names as eam-wna which is passed as parameter to mur.exe. mur.exe is an AutoIt executable. AutoIt is a programming language for creating automation scripts for windows.

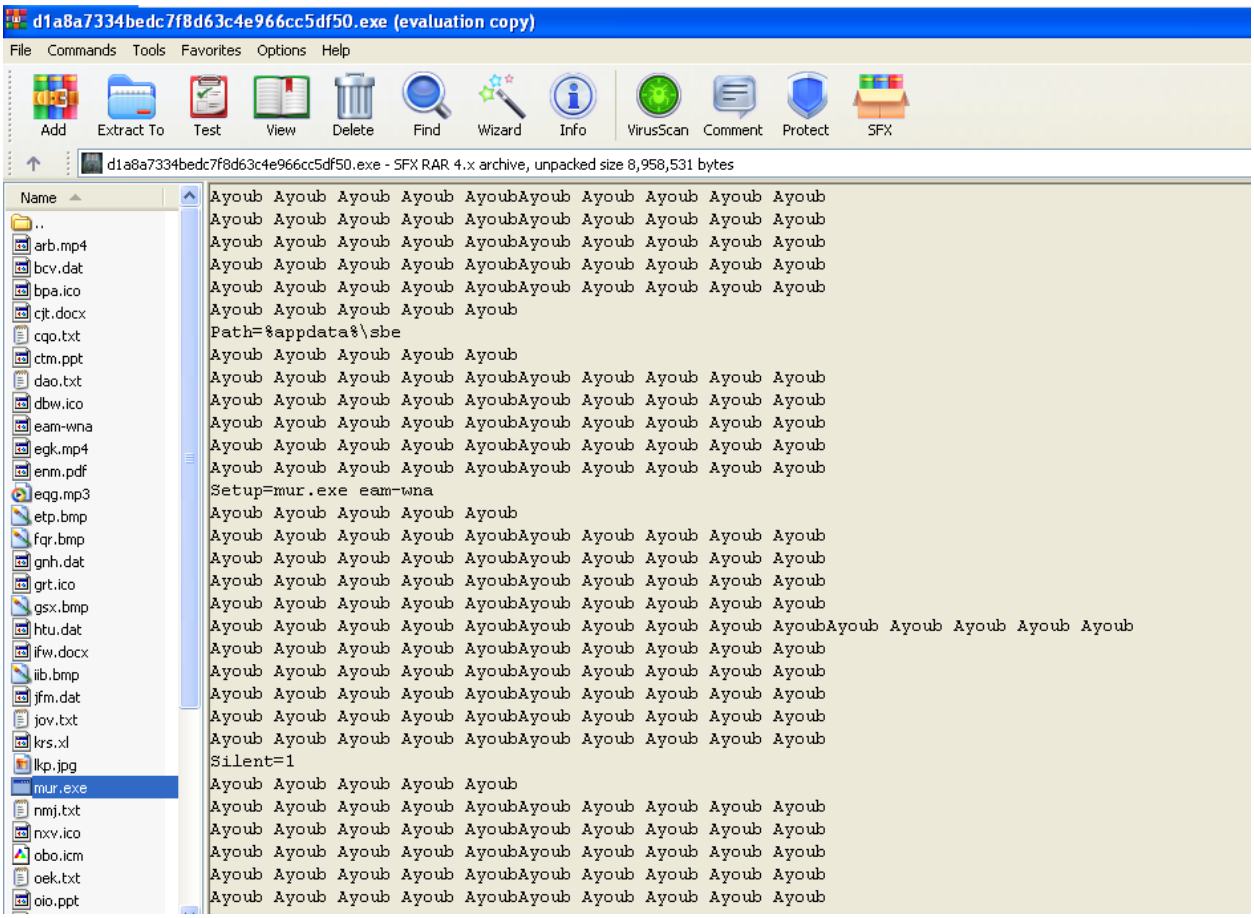
Detailed Analysis:

- ✓ Using PEiD, I observed that Malware is packed with RAR SFX module. As the name defines it, it's a Self-Extracting Archive that will extract the file content and execute it without needing any additional intervention.

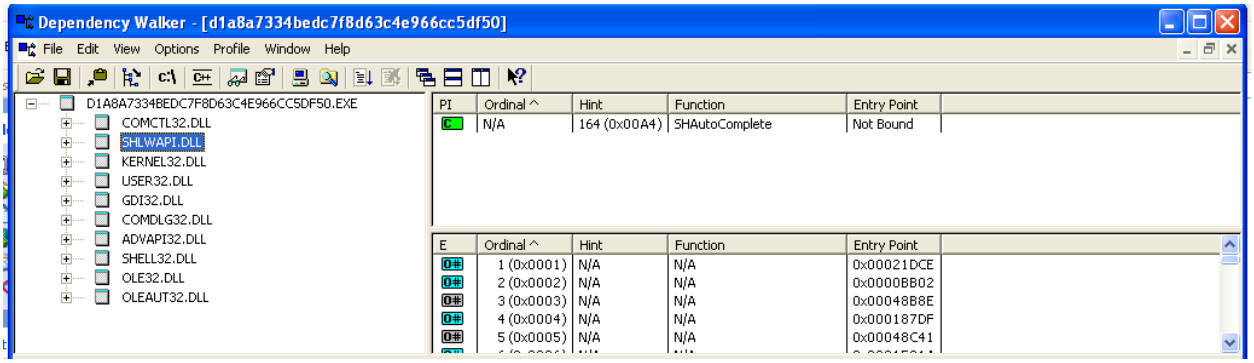




- ✓ Since it's an archive format, it can be extracted using WinRAR. Once the malware is unpacked, it'll extract all these below files.



- ✓ Dependency Walker shows the following dependencies. The malware imports OLE32.DLL, which is a COM(Component Object Model) interface functions. So, the malware interacts with different software components.
- ✓ It also depends on SHELL32.DLL which means it can launch any other programs.
- ✓ It imports ADVAPI32.DLL which means the malware can manipulate registry keys.



- ✓ PEview shows the functions used by the malware. FindFirstFileA and FindNextFileA APIs are used by malware which is used to search through files and directories .

	00012864	00000000	End of Imports	GDI32.dll
s	00012868	0001522C	Hint/Name RVA	00D6 DeleteFileW
	0001286C	0001523A	Hint/Name RVA	00D3 DeleteFileA
	00012870	00015248	Hint/Name RVA	007C CreateDirectoryA
V	00012874	0001525C	Hint/Name RVA	0081 CreateDirectoryW
	00012878	00015270	Hint/Name RVA	012E FindClose
	0001287C	0001527C	Hint/Name RVA	0143 FindNextFileA
	00012880	0001528C	Hint/Name RVA	0132 FindFirstFileA
	00012884	0001529E	Hint/Name RVA	0145 FindNextFileW
	00012888	000152AE	Hint/Name RVA	0139 FindFirstFileW
	0001288C	000152C0	Hint/Name RVA	02A4 GetVersionExW
	00012890	000152D0	Hint/Name RVA	01F8 GetFullPathNameA

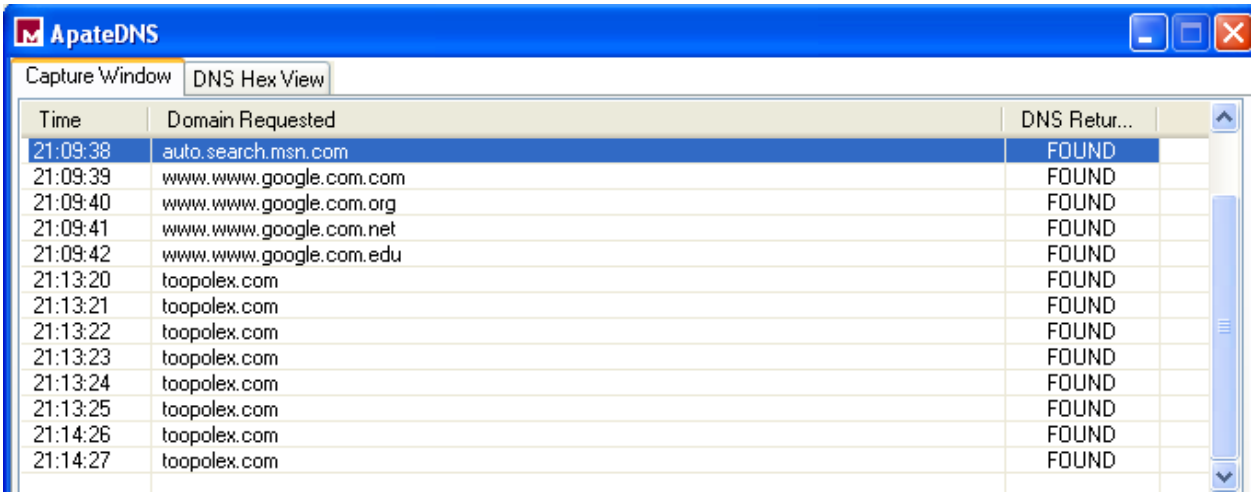
- ✓ Malware uses other software codes or components by using these below function calls.

00012AB0	00015C44	Hint/Name RVA	0008 CLSIDFromString
00012AB4	00015C56	Hint/Name RVA	0086 CreateStreamOnHGlobal
00012AB8	00015C0E	Hint/Name RVA	0149 OleUninitialize
00012ABC	00015C30	Hint/Name RVA	0010 CoCreateInstance
00012AC0	00015C20	Hint/Name RVA	0132 OleInitialize
00012AC4	00000000	End of Imports	ole32.dll

Dynamic Analysis:

Overview:

- ✓ Upon execution, malware unpacks itself into Application Data folder. It further creates new process called mur.exe with eam-wna parameter being passed to it. Both files are part of unpacked files of the malware. It also tries to contact with one domain called toopolex.com.
- ✓ Malware tried to be persistent in the name of windows update by updating the run registry key.
- ✓ Further mur.exe creates either two regsvcs.exe or iexplorer.exe and dies. Malware performs process injection into one of the mentioned legitimate process.
- ✓ It queries and sends the data in ActiveComputerName registry key using POST method to www.toopolex.com/controllers/users/fre.php



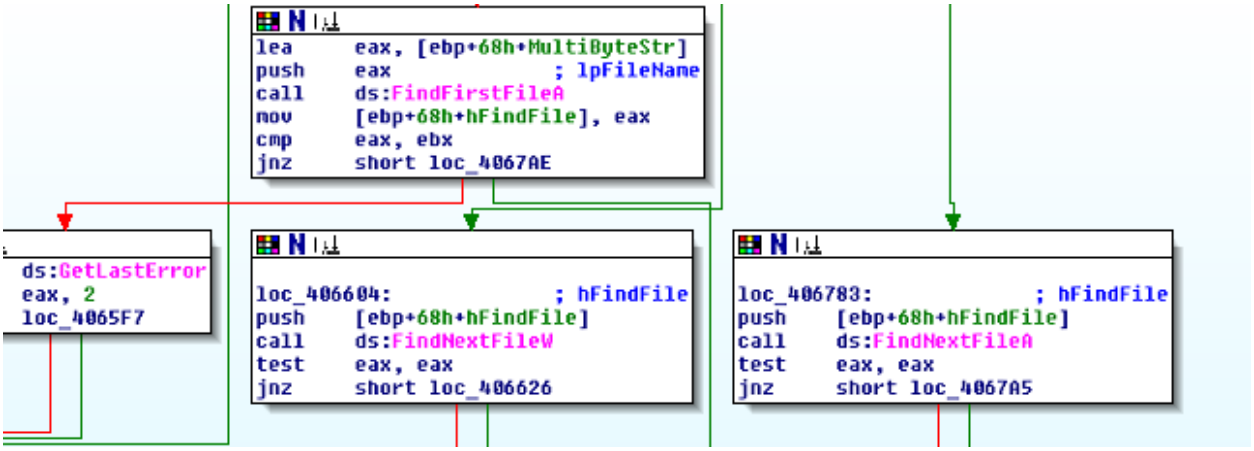
```
Regshot 1.9.0 x86 ANSI
Comments:
Datetime: 2020/4/12 11:53:04   ,   2020/4/12 11:55:14
Computer: FENG-COMPUTER , FENG-COMPUTER
Username: Feng , Feng

----------------------------------
Values added: 4
----------------------------------
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\WindowsUpdate: "C:\Documents and Settings\Feng\Application Data\sbe\mur.exe C:\DOCUME~1\Feng\APPLIC~1\sbe\eam-wna"
HKU\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-006097DEACF9}\Count\HRZR_EHACNGU
HKU\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ShellNoRoam\MUICache\C:\Documents and Settings\Feng\Desktop\d1a8a7334bedc7f8d63c4e966cc5df5C
HKU\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ShellNoRoam\MUICache\C:\Documents and Settings\Feng\Application Data\sbe\mur.exe: "AutoIt v3
```

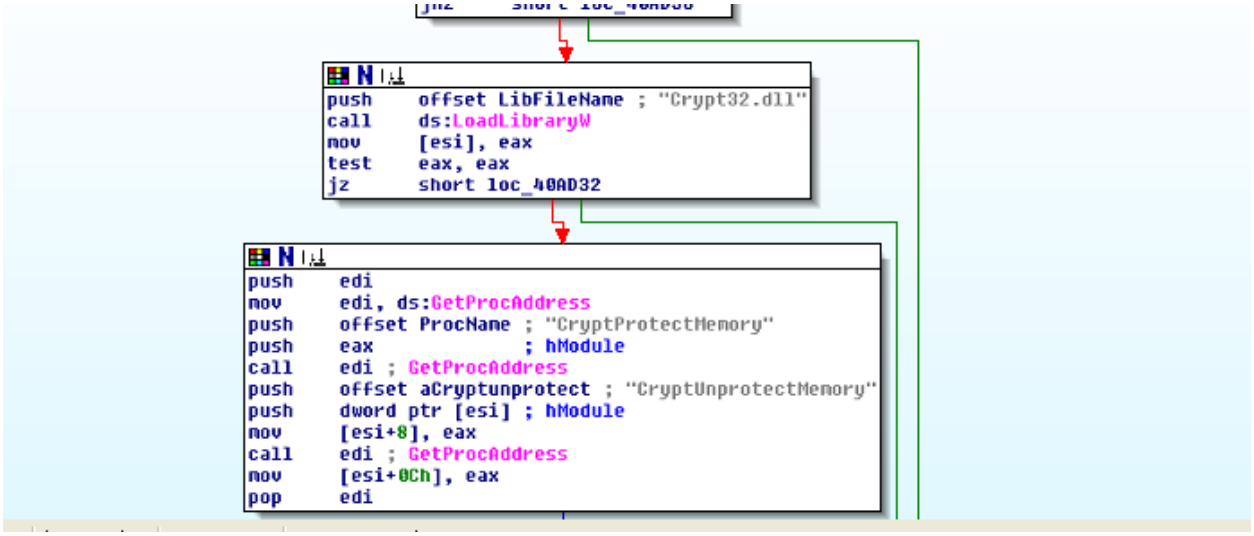
Detailed Description:

IDA analysis:

- ✓ Malware searches for a file through these below APIs.



- ✓ Malware tries to protect some data in memory by encrypting it using CryptProtectMemory.



```
:0040AD14                mov     edi, ds:GetProcAddress
:0040AD1A                push    offset ProcName ; "CryptProtectMemory"
:0040AD1F                push    eax             ; hModule
:0040AD20                call    edi ; GetProcAddress
:0040AD22                push    offset aCryptunprotect ; "CryptUnprotectMemory"
:0040AD27                push    dword ptr [esi] ; hModule
:0040AD29                mov     [esi+8], eax
:0040AD2C                call    edi ; GetProcAddress
:0040AD2E                mov     [esi+0Ch], eax
:0040AD31                pop     edi
```

- ✓ The malware performs some token privilege manipulation.

```
push    esi
mov     esi, ds:LookupPrivilegeValueW
push    edi
lea     eax, [ebp+NewState.Privileges]
push    eax             ; lpLuid
push    offset Name     ; "SeSecurityPrivilege"
push    ebx             ; lpSystemName
mov     [ebp+NewState.PrivilegeCount], 1
mov     [ebp+NewState.Privileges.Attributes], 2
call    esi ; LookupPrivilegeValueW
mov     edi, ds:AdjustTokenPrivileges ; Enable/disable privileges in the specified access token
test    eax, eax
```

- ✓ It spawns additional process using shell_execute API.

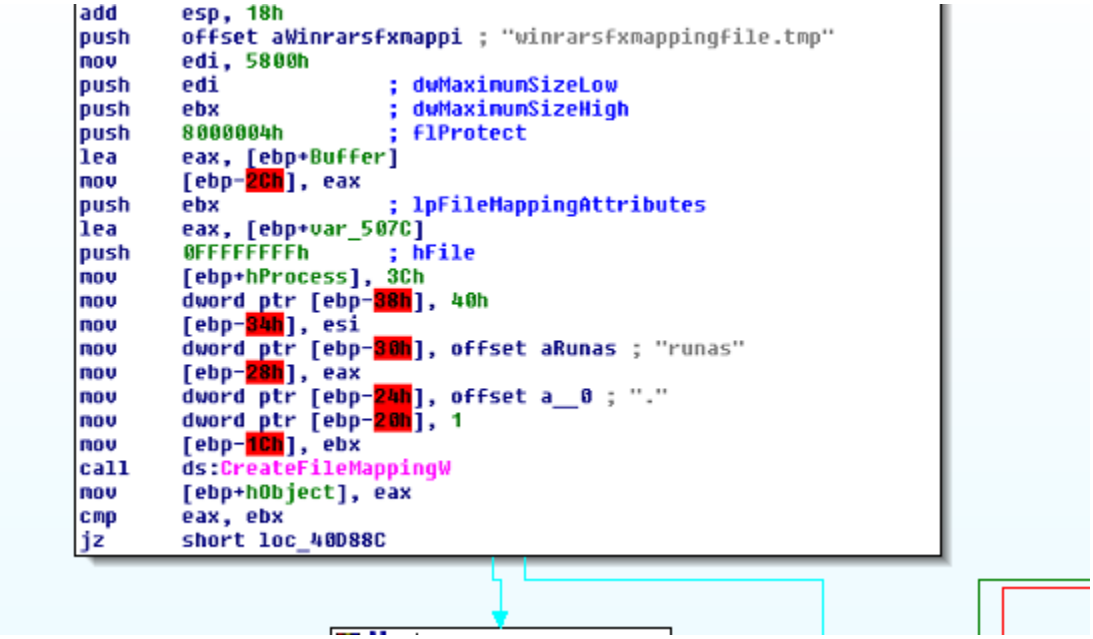
```
mov     dword ptr [ebp-3Ch], offset aInstall ; "Install"
```

```
loc_40C62A:
cmp     [ebp+arg_0], 0
mov     edi, offset a_exe ; ".exe"
jz      short loc_40C669
```

```
loc_40C669:
lea     eax, [ebp+hProcess]
push    eax             ; lpExecInfo
call    ds:ShellExecuteExW
test    eax, eax
jz      loc_40C768
```

```
cmp     byte_424950, 0
mov     ebx, ds:ShowWindow
mov     [ebp+var_1], 0
mov     esi, 3E8h
jnz     short loc_40C6A2
```

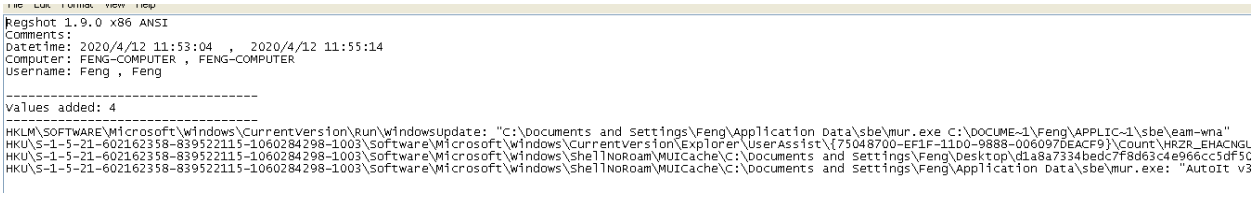
- ✓ CreateFileMapping and MapViewofFile APIs allow to load the file into memory and manipulated easily. These APIs are used to interact with files in file system. In the address 0040D4DE, File Mapping operation is performed by the malware.



- ✓ Malware tries to write data into file using WriteFile operation.

Basic Dynamic Analysis:

- ✓ Malware tries to stay persistent as windows update by setting this below registry key



- ✓ After mur.exe is executed, it further creates two new process then dies. It either creates two new process of iexplorer.exe or regsvcs.exe.

- ✓ The malware performs process injection attack onto iexplore.exe. On analyzing the strings in the newly created process, it shows the domain the malware tries to communicate with.

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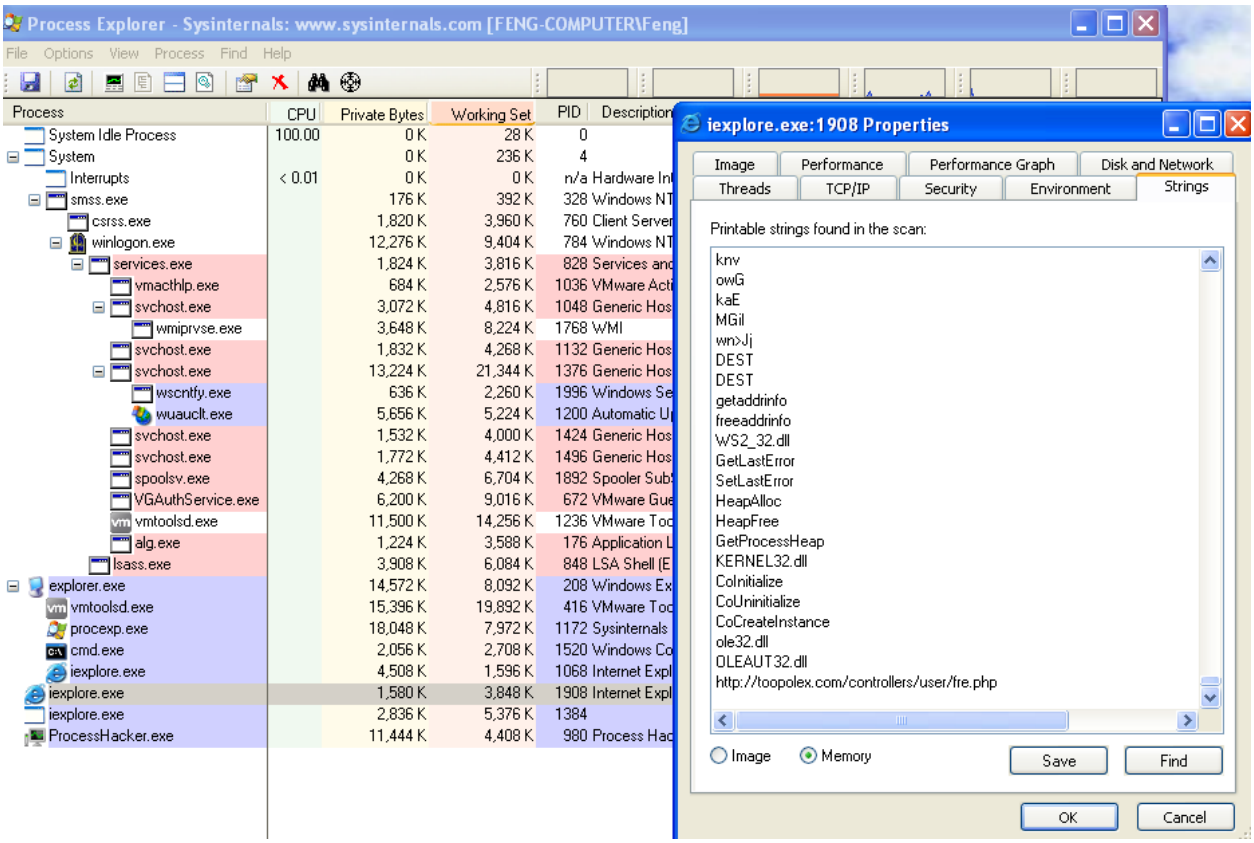
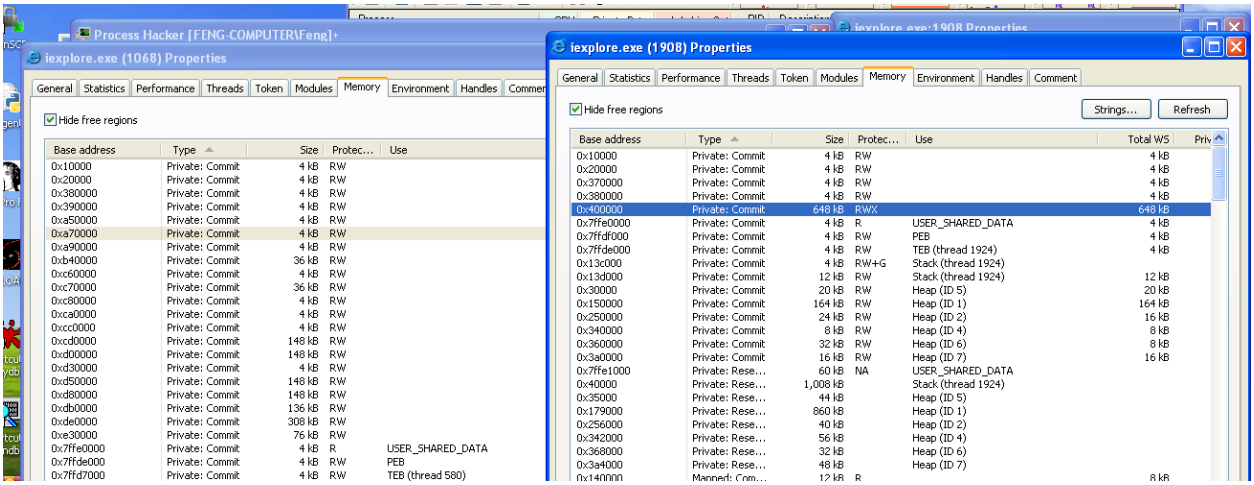
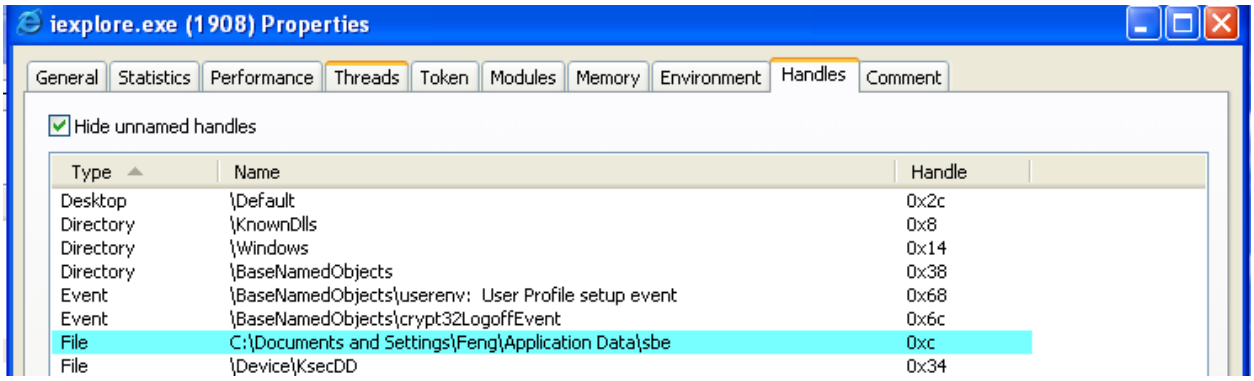


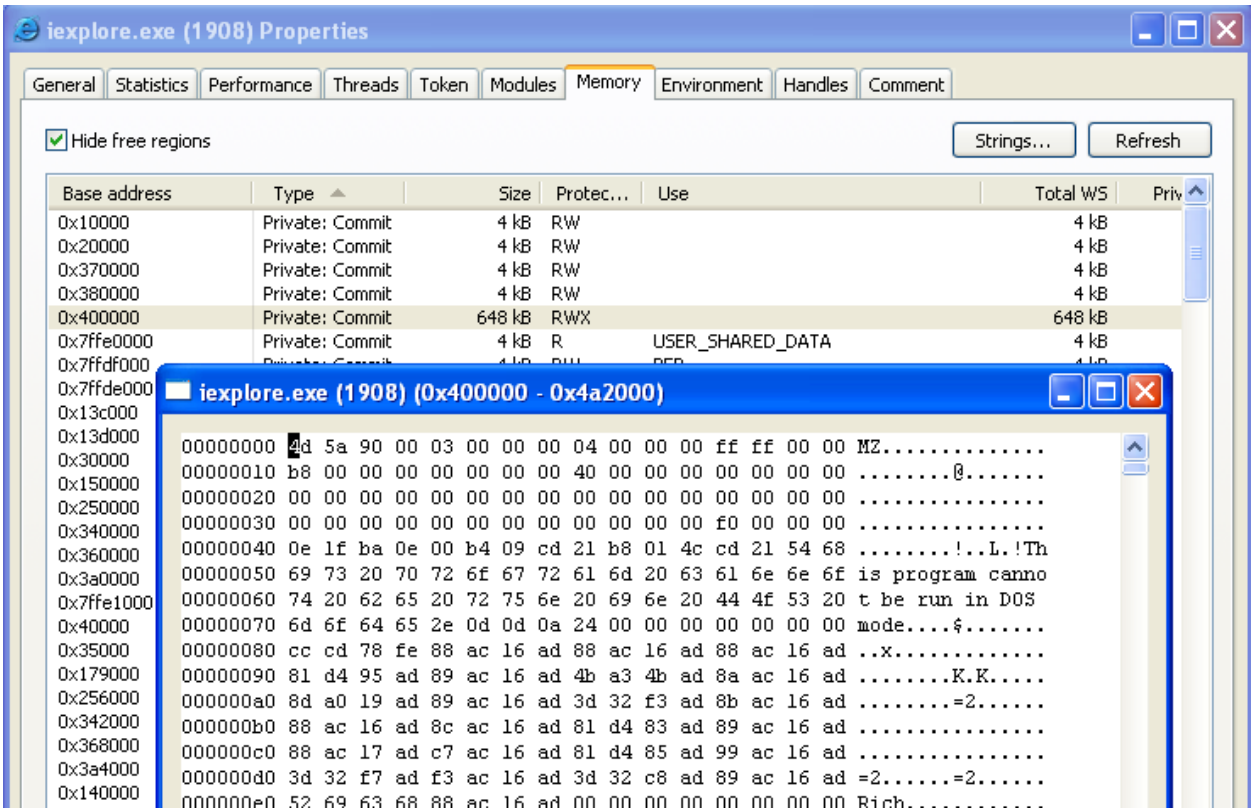
- ✓ The below image shows the difference in memory between legitimate iexplore.exe and injected iexplorer.exe



- ✓ The folder where the malware dropped all its files is shown in handles of the iexplorer.exe



- ✓ When analyzing its memory using Process Hacker, this memory page has permission set to RWX which turns out to be PE file.



- ✓ Upon creation, the malicious iexplore.exe queries ComputerName key value under HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/SYSTEM/CurretnControlSet/Control/ComputerName/ActiveComputerName.
- ✓ It sends that value using POST method to www.toopolex.com/controllers/users/fre.php which was captured using ApateDNS and iNetSim.

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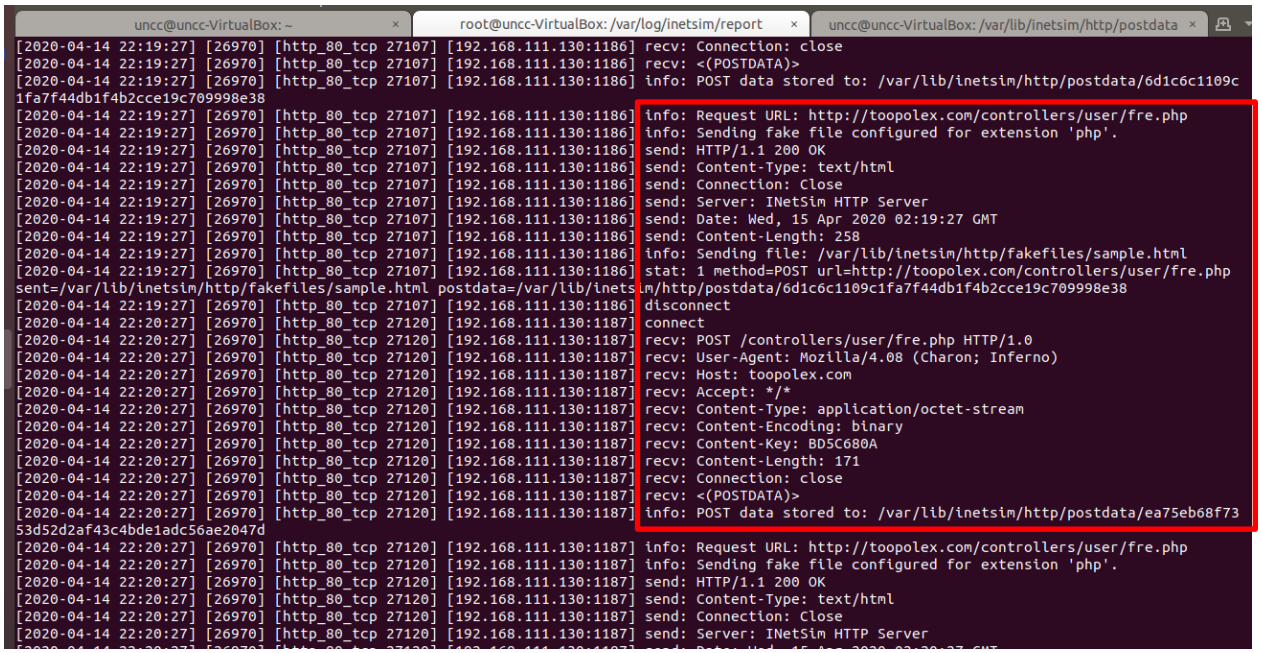

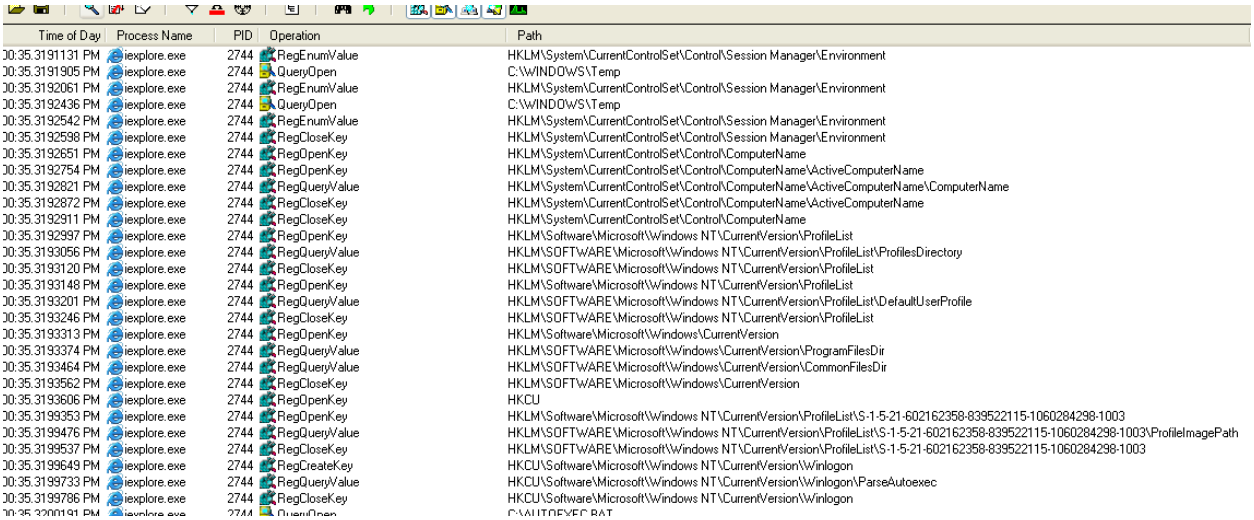

Time of Day	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path
10:35.3191131 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegEnumValue	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Environment
10:35.3191905 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	QueryOpen	C:\WINDOWS\Temp
10:35.3192061 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegEnumValue	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Environment
10:35.3192436 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	QueryOpen	C:\WINDOWS\Temp
10:35.3192542 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegEnumValue	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Environment
10:35.3192598 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\Environment
10:35.3192651 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ComputerName
10:35.3192754 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ComputerName\ActiveComputerName
10:35.3192821 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ComputerName\ActiveComputerName\ComputerName
10:35.3192872 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ComputerName\ActiveComputerName
10:35.3192911 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ComputerName
10:35.3192997 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList
10:35.3193056 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList\ProfilesDirectory
10:35.3193120 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList
10:35.3193148 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList
10:35.3193201 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList\DefaultUserProfile
10:35.3193246 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList
10:35.3193313 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion
10:35.3193374 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\ProgramFilesDir
10:35.3193464 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CommonFilesDir
10:35.3193562 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion
10:35.3193606 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKCU
10:35.3199353 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003
10:35.3199476 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003\ProfileImagePath
10:35.3199537 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\ProfileList\S-1-5-21-602162358-839522115-1060284298-1003
10:35.3199649 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCreateKey	HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon
10:35.3199733 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegQueryValue	HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon\ParseAutoexec
10:35.3199786 PM	iexplore.exe	2744	RegCloseKey	HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon

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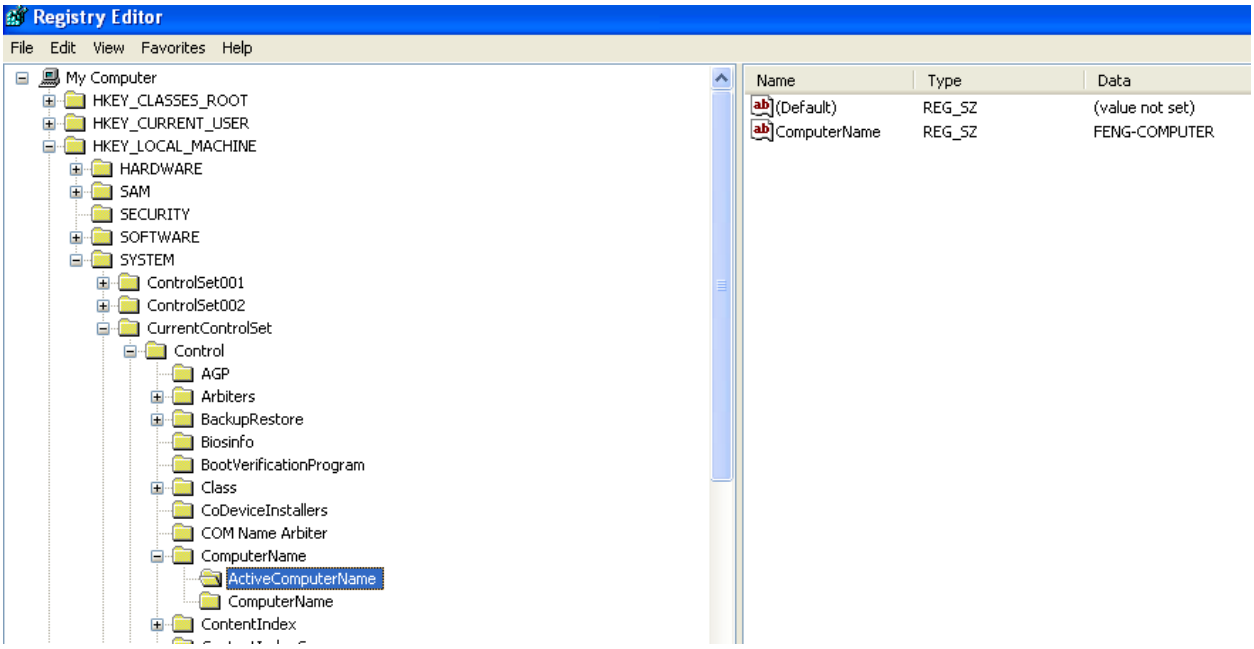
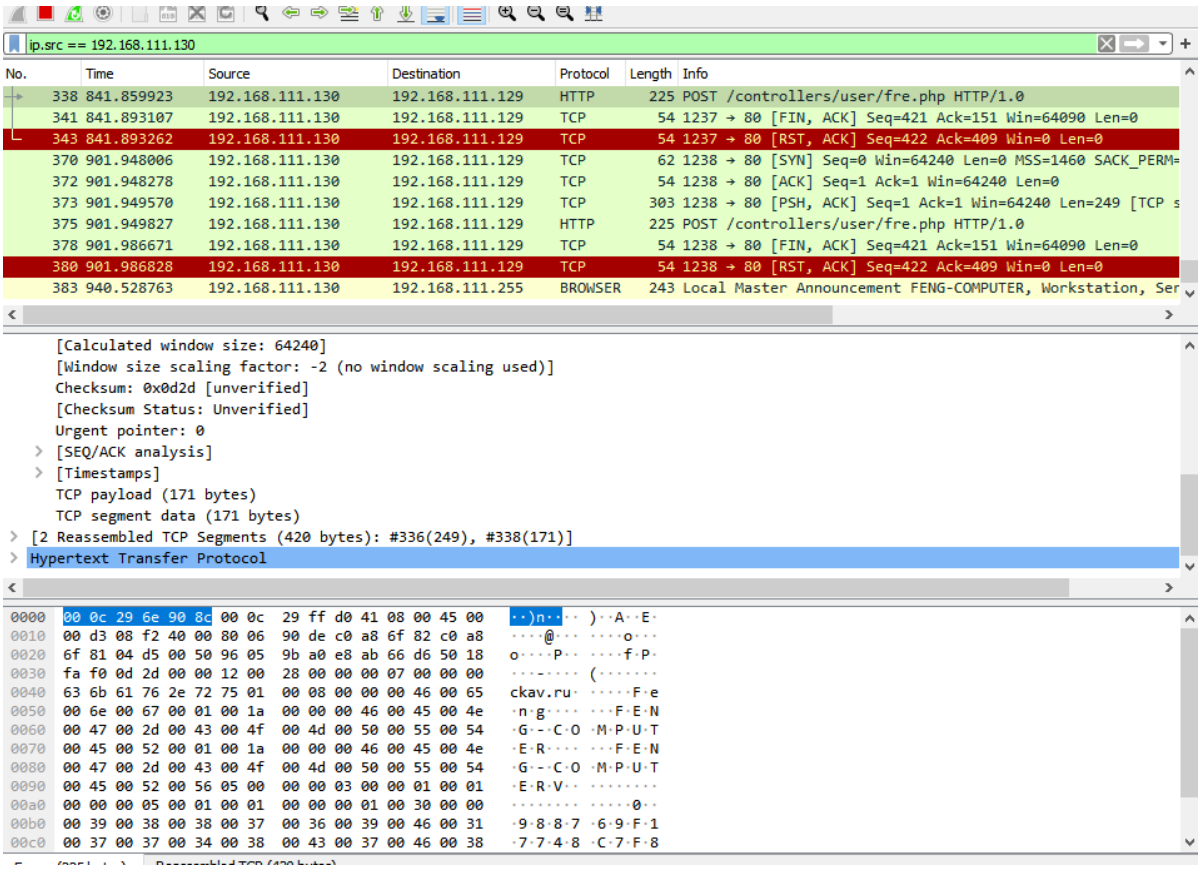
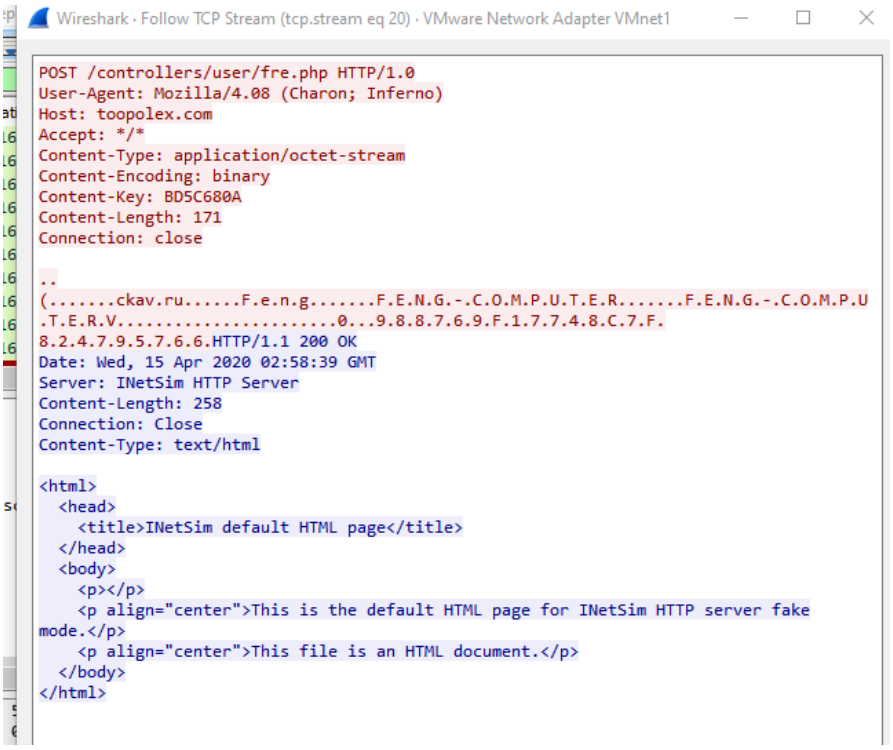
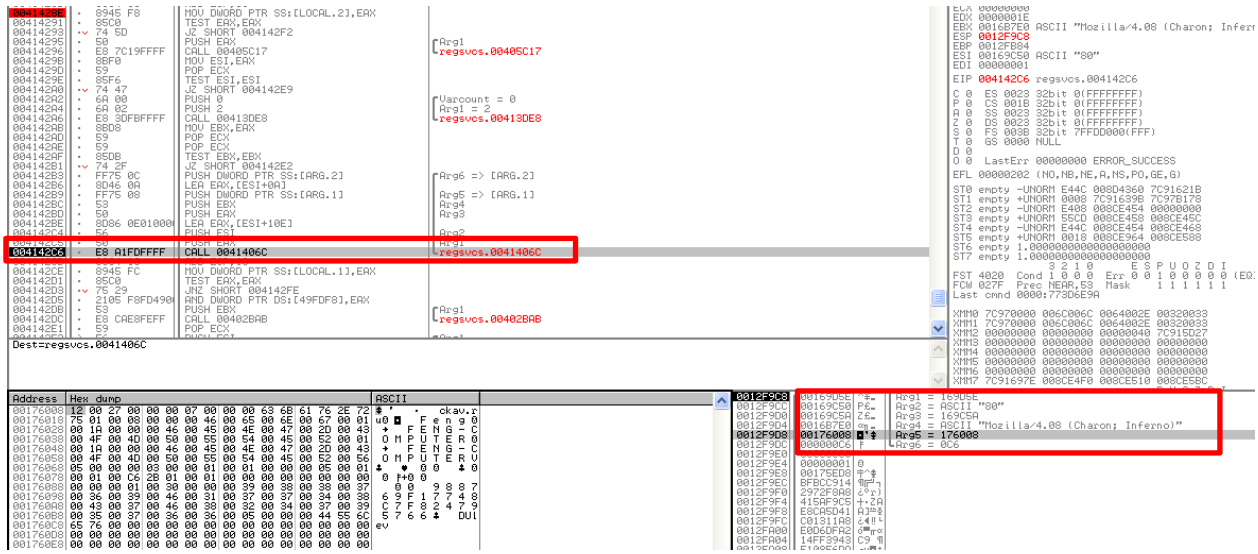






Analysis with OllyDbg:

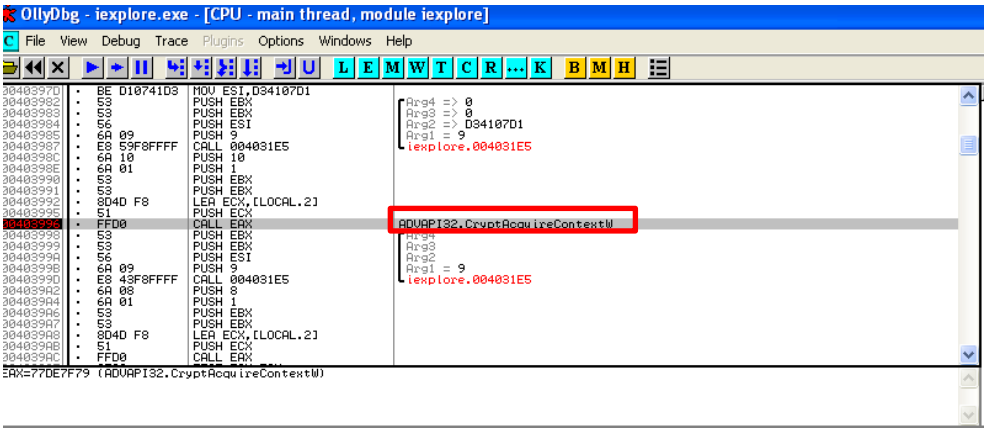
- ✓ The function at 0041406C is responsible for sending the packet. It takes 6 argument.
- ✓ The most interesting argument is Arg5 which has memory address of the location where the **packet content** is stored. This memory location is passed as argument 1 to this function(regsvcs.0041406C)



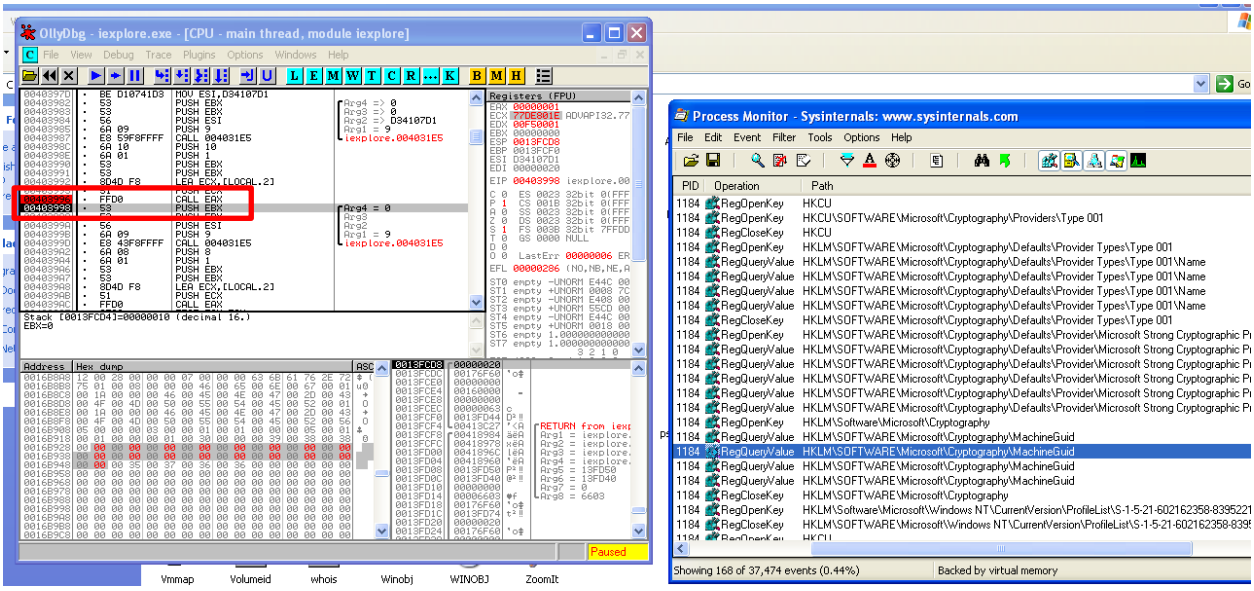
- ✓ Usage of **CryptAcquireContext** API shows that this malware uses **windows encryption**.

- ✓ Even all the API function names are returned value (stored in EAX register) of some function
- ✓ Throughout the execution, the malware performs same kind of operation with 4 no. of arguments before the API calls. It shows that malware does not store these API names explicitly.

Before function call ADVAPI32.CryptAcquireContextw:



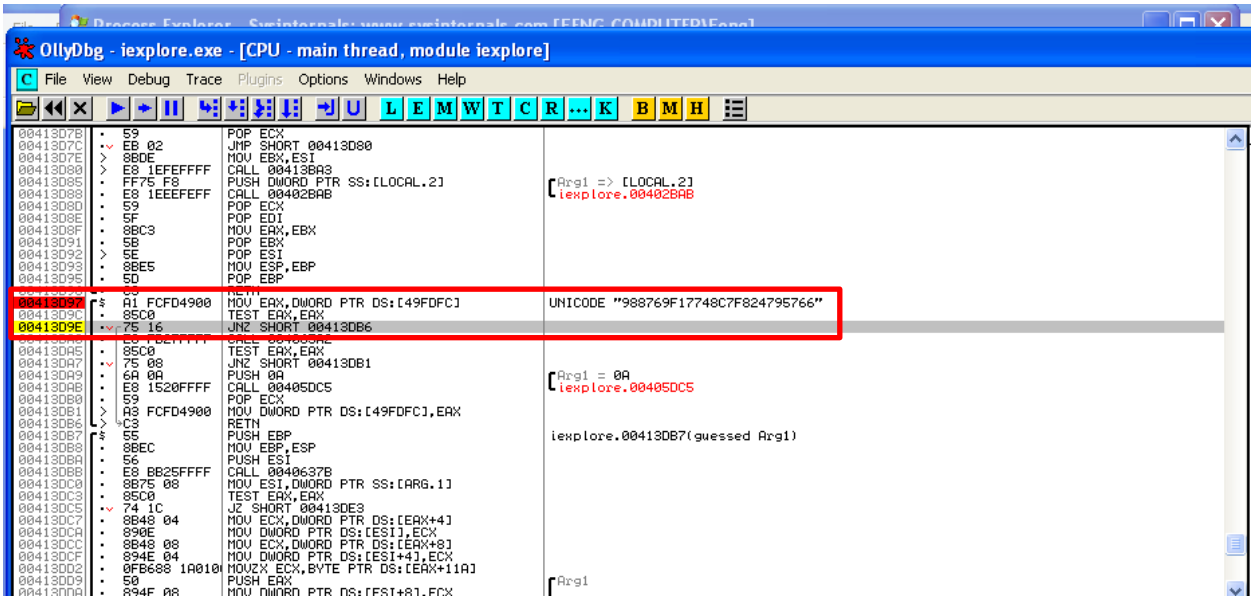
After Function call:



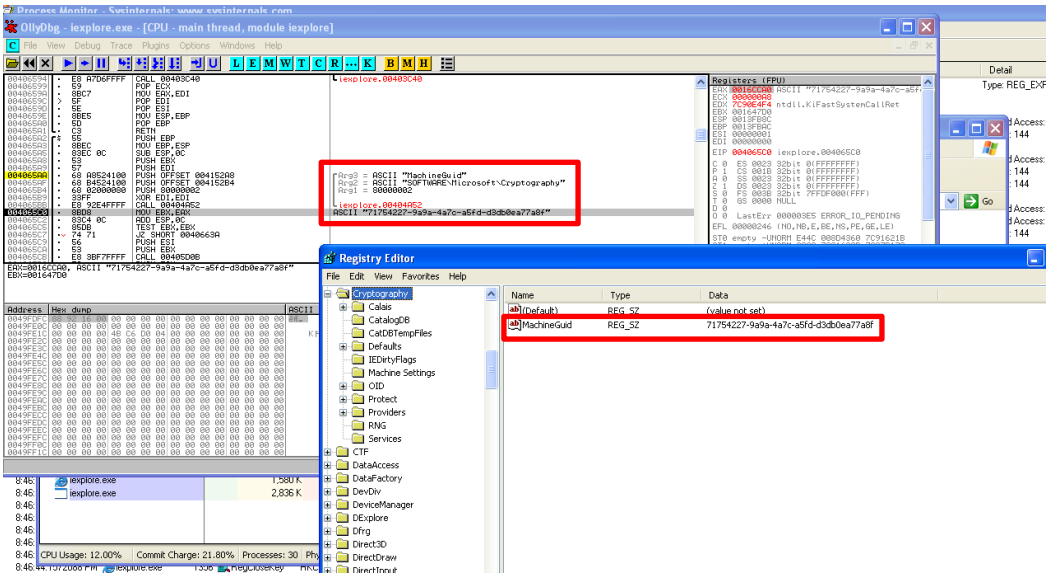
Retrieving Machine GUID & Calculating Hash:

- ✓ The JUMP instruction at 00413D9E checks if the GUID value is retrieved and Hash is calculated. If its already done, it jumps out of the function. If not, malware goes on to get machineGUID value and calculate the hash from it.

- ✓ The instruction MOV EAX, DWORD PTR DS: [49FDFC] moves the value which is the hash of the machine GUID, at location DS:[49FDFC] to EAX.
- ✓ The next instruction checks if EAX! = 0



- ✓ Setting the EAX to 0 manually changes the flow of execution to machineGUID registry key retrieval & hashing of that key.
- ✓ The function CALL 004065A2 at the address 00413DA0 points to the function that performs registry query operation to obtain MachineGUID value.
- ✓ This function takes the registry path as input (SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Cryptography) and Key name as MachineGUID.
- ✓ The return value is the key value which is the GUID of the machine and stored in EAX register.
- ✓ The retrieved value will further be passed to the hash function to create a MD5 hash.



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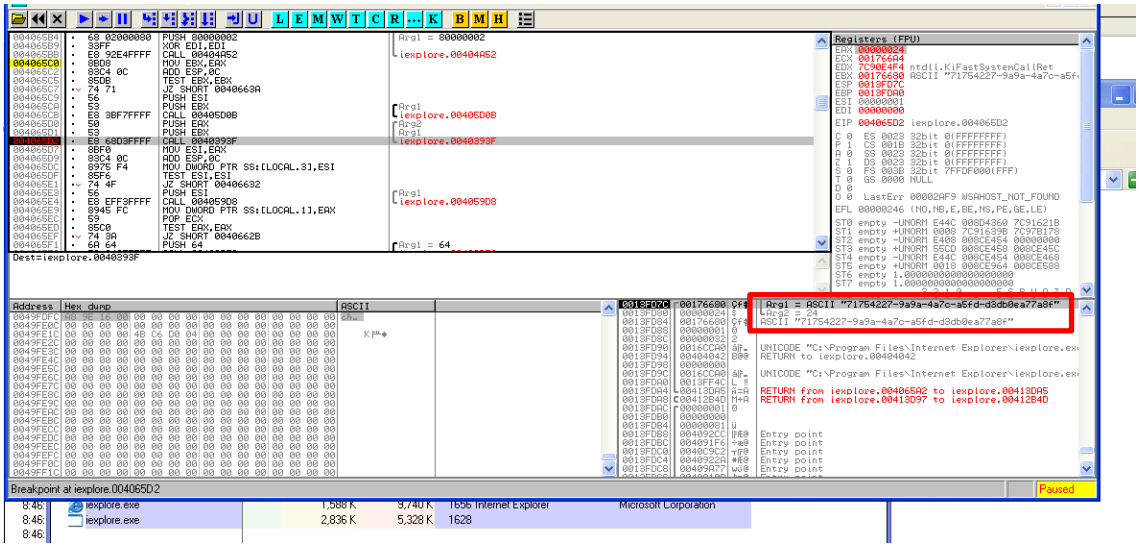
- ✓ The function(iexplore.0040393F) performs the hashing of the machine GUID value. It takes 2 argument.

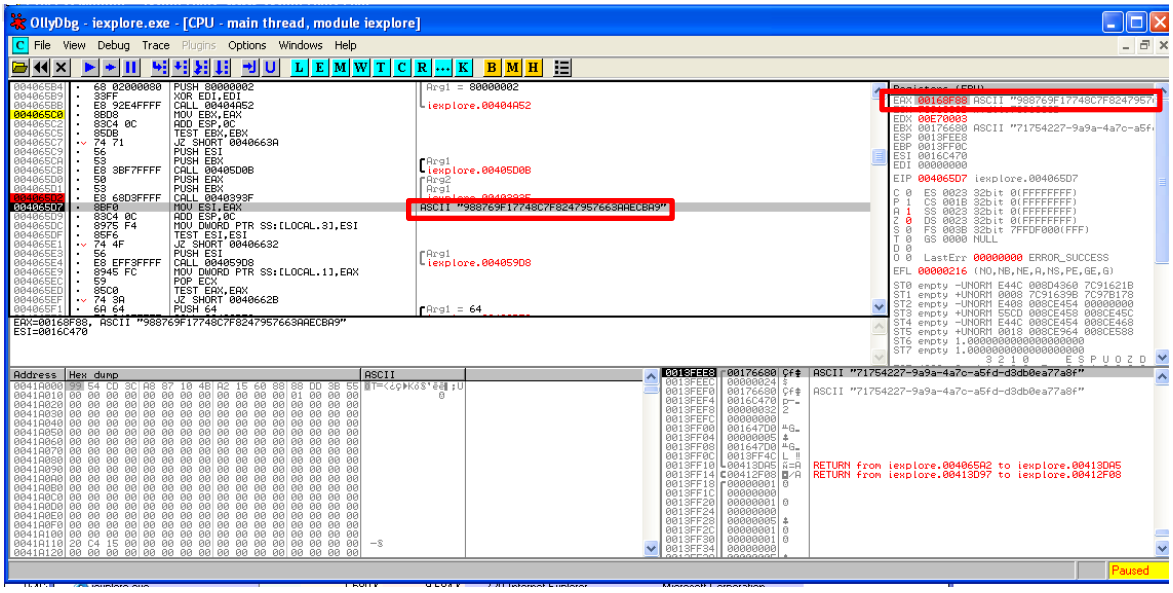
Arg 1: Machine GUID value

Arg 2: No. of characters to be used from the Hash

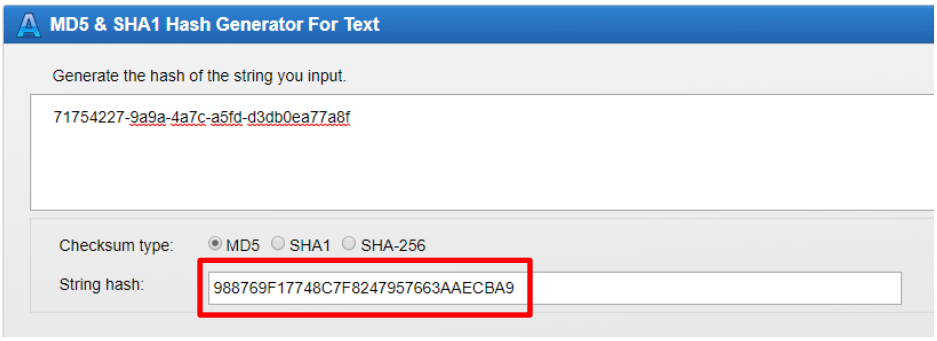
Before function call:



After function call:



- ✓ This function calculates the MD5 hash value of the MachineGUID.

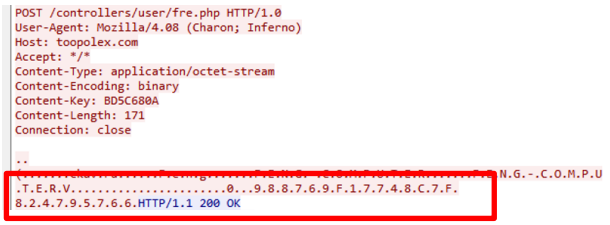


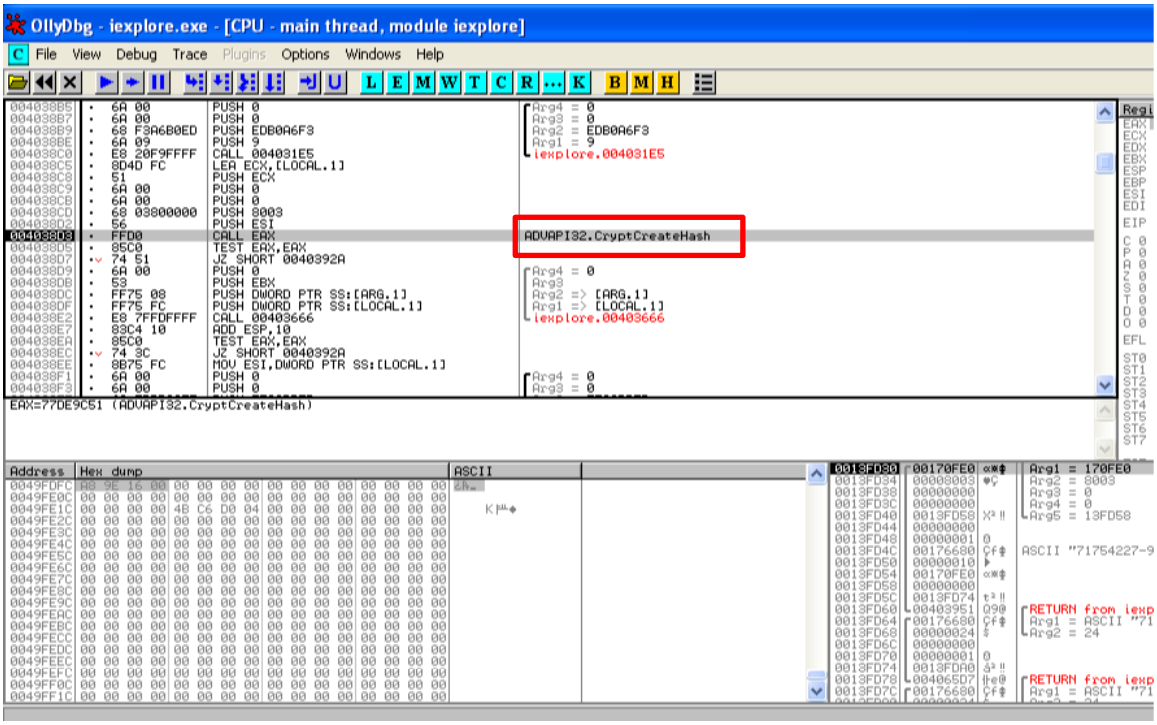
- ✓ Even though the full length of the hash value is obtained, the second argument specifies how many characters should be sent. In this case, its 24.

Total length of the Hash – **32** (**9988769F17748C7F8247957663AAECBA9**)

Used length of the Hash – **24** (**988769F17748C7F824795766**)

- ✓ This 24-character hash value will be sent along with the computer name to toopolex.com via HTTP POST method.





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Summary:

This malware creates mur.exe with parameter eam-wna which further spawns another mur.exe. Then, it creates two of either regsvcs.exe or iexplore.exe. One of the two process is the legitimate one, but malicious code injected one. This malicious injected windows process has different data in memory than in disk. It queries registry value such as MachineGUID, ActiveComputerName, etc. Finally, it sends Computer Name & 24-character of MD5 hash of machine GUID to toopolex.com via HTTP POST method.