



THE REGISTRY RUNDOWN

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OUTFLANK
clear advice with a hacker mindset

ABOUT YOUR SPEAKERS

Cedric van Bockhaven - @c3c

- Red Teamer and Offensive Developer @ Outflank
- Network security background / R&D new attack vectors
- "Challenge the Cyber" CTF in The Netherlands



Max Grim - @max_grim

- Red Teamer and Offensive Developer @ Outflank
- Software engineering background / Cloud & DevOps
- Hardware / embedded hacking



OUTFLANK

- Outflank Security Tooling (OST)
- Red Teaming Services

AGENDA

- History and anatomy
- Remote interfaces
- Registry abuse
 - Reconnaissance
 - RPC information leaks
 - Active Directory Certificate Services
 - Relaying
 - Lateral movement
- Summary

Registry Editor

Registry Edit Tree View Security Options Window

- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE on Local Machine ▾ ▲

- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE
 - HARDWARE
 - SAM
 - SECURITY
 - BDFWABE
 - SYSTEM

HISTORY AND ANATOMY



HKEY_CURRENT_USER
on Local Machine



HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT
on Local Machine

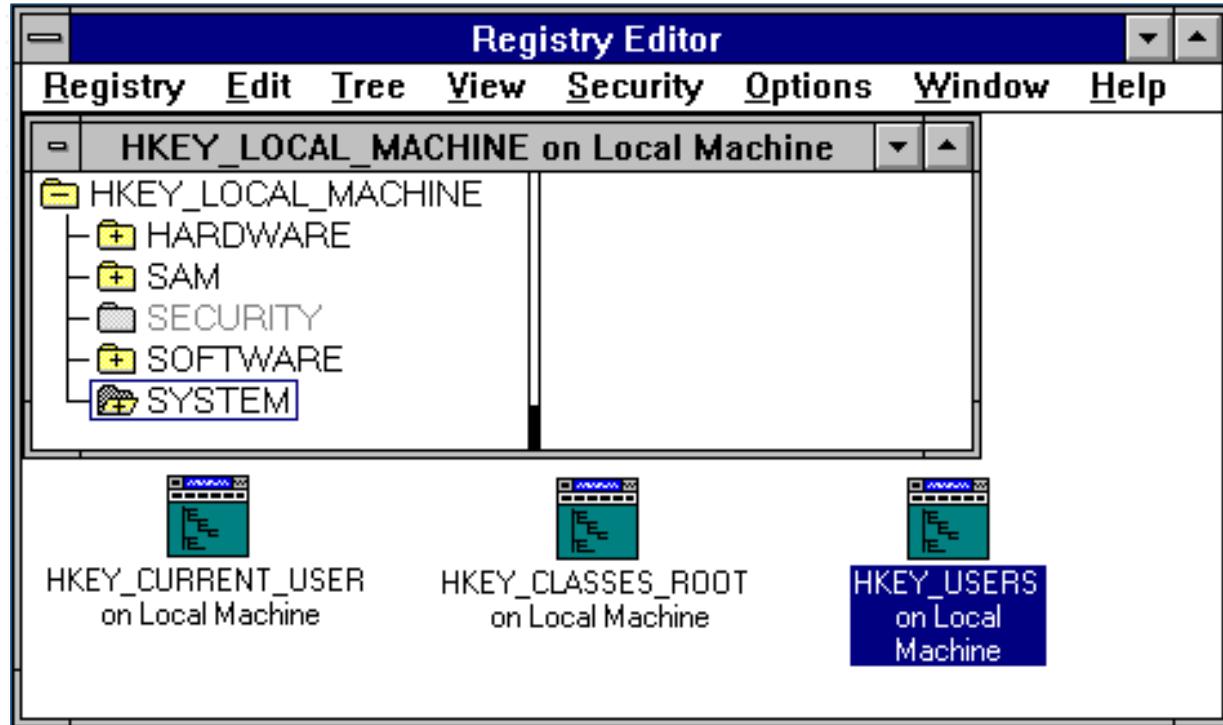


HKEY_USERS
on Local
Machine

HISTORY



- Hierarchical database
- Introduced in **Windows 3.1 (1992)** for COM-based components
- Windows 95 and NT extended its use: **replacing .INI files**

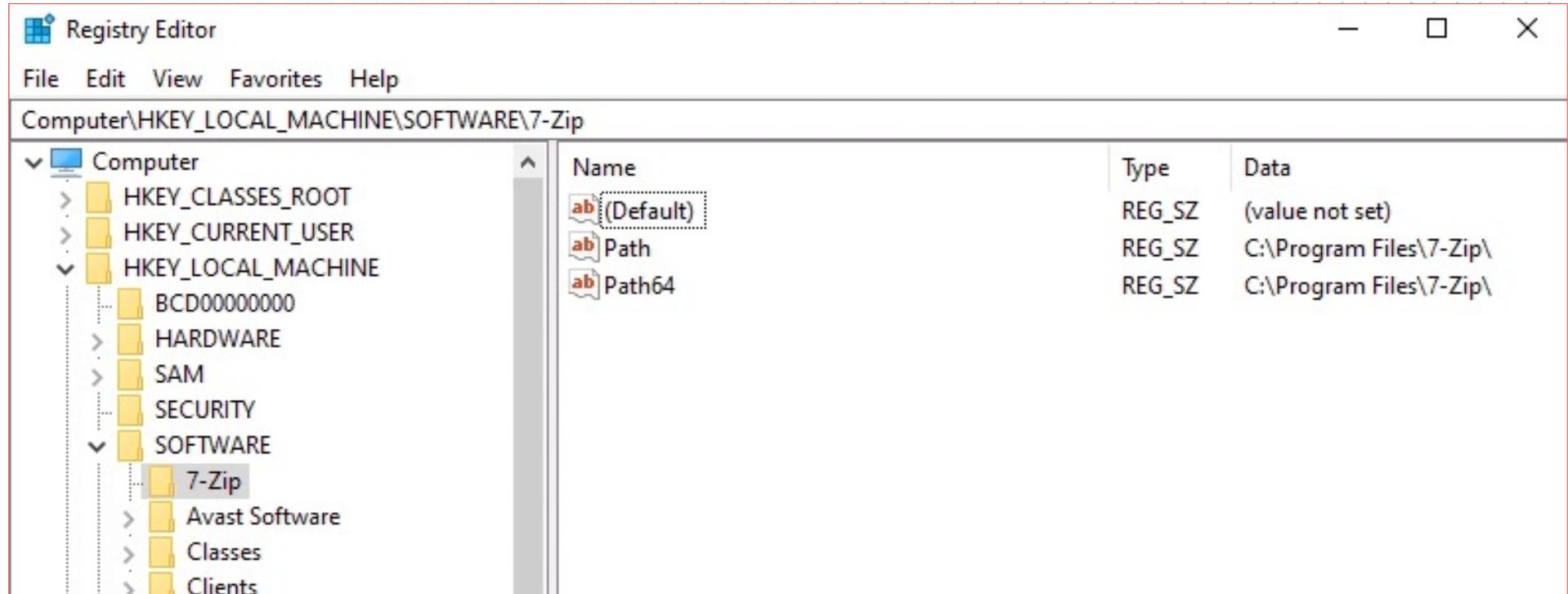


ANATOMY

- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE HKLM
- HKEY_USERS HKU
- HKEY_CURRENT_USER HKCU
- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT HKCR
- HKEY_CURRENT_CONFIG HKCC
- HKEY_CURRENT_USER_LOCAL_SETTINGS HKCULS
- HKEY_PERFORMANCE_DATA HKPD
- HKEY_PERFORMANCE_TEXT HKPT
- HKEY_PERFORMANCE_NLSTEXT HKPN
- HKEY_DYN_DATA HKDD

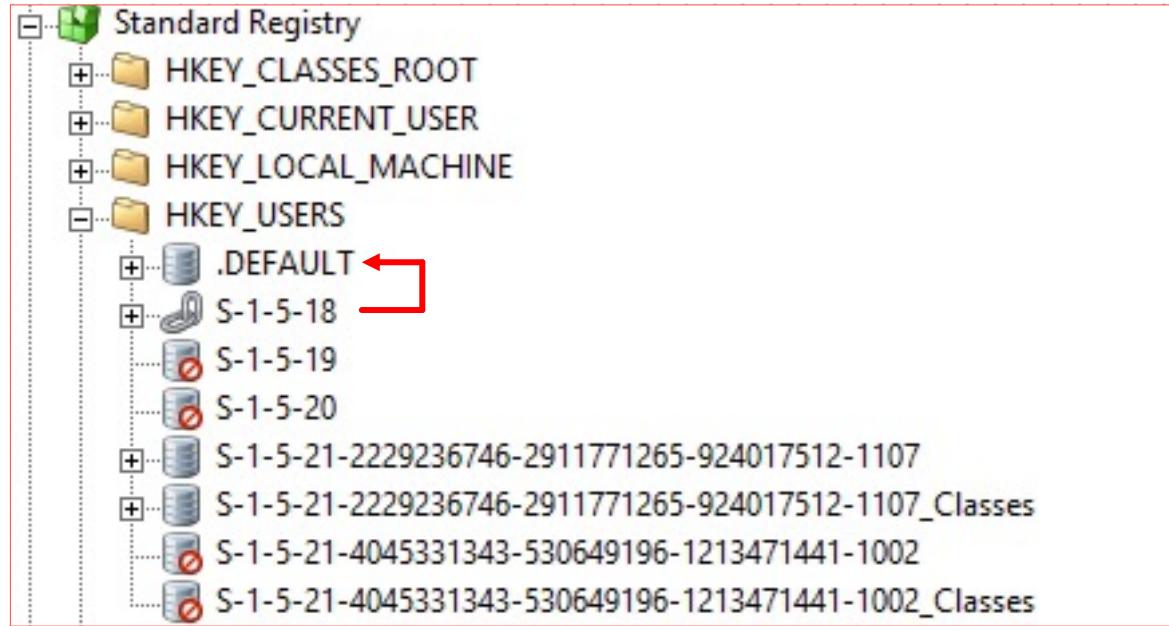
HKLM - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE

- HKLM - HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE
 - Computer-specific data
 - Software configurations / local policies / group policies



HKU – HKEY_USERS

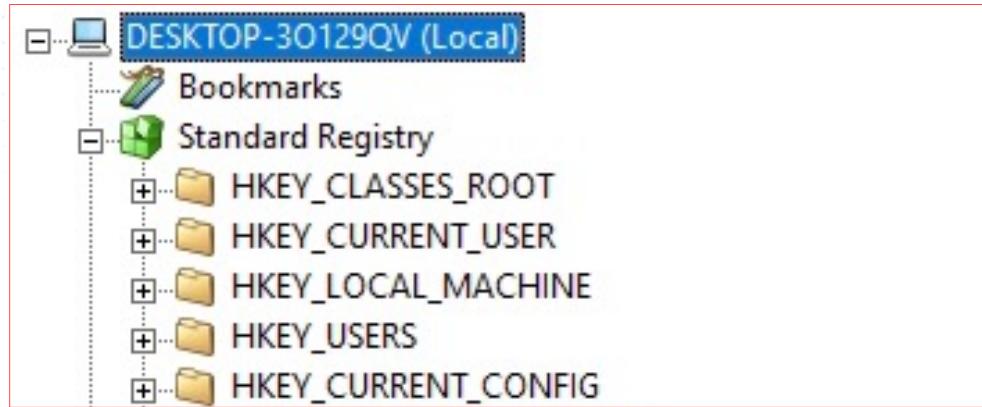
- HKU – HKEY_USERS
 - User-specific settings
 - S-1-5-18: LocalSystem
 - S-1-5-19: LocalService
 - S-1-5-20: NetworkService
 - S-1-5-21-x: User SIDs



- S-1-5-18 is a symbolic link to .DEFAULT
 - e.g. used for winlogon/logonui (e.g. enable numlock, screen saver)
 - Not a template for new accounts

YOU'RE NOT A REAL HIVE

- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE and HKEY_USERS are disk-backed
- HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT?
- HKEY_CURRENT_USER?



HKCU - HKEY_CURRENT_USER

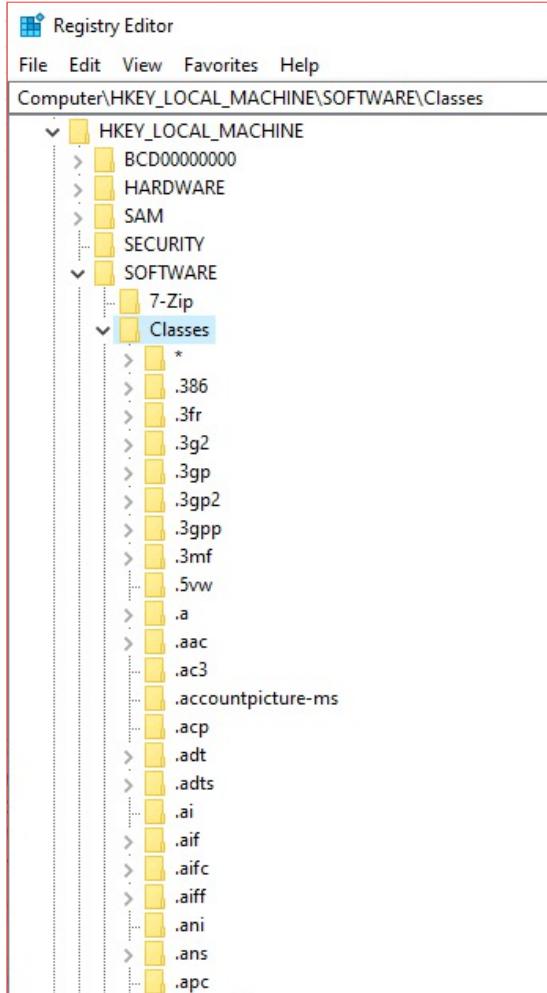
Path: HKEY_USERS\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1107\Software\Classes

The screenshot shows the Windows Registry Editor interface. The left pane displays a tree view of registry keys under the path HKEY_USERS\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1107\Software\Classes. The right pane shows a table with columns: Name, Type, Size, and Value. One entry is visible: 101 SymbolicLinkName, Type REG_LINK, Size 138, Value \Registry\User\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1107_Classes.

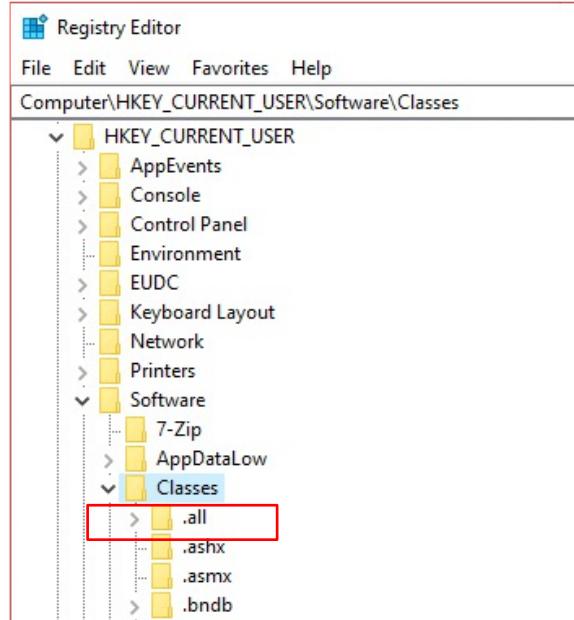
| Name | Type | Size | Value |
|----------------------|----------|------|--|
| 101 SymbolicLinkName | REG_LINK | 138 | \Registry\User\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1107_Classes |

HKCR - HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT

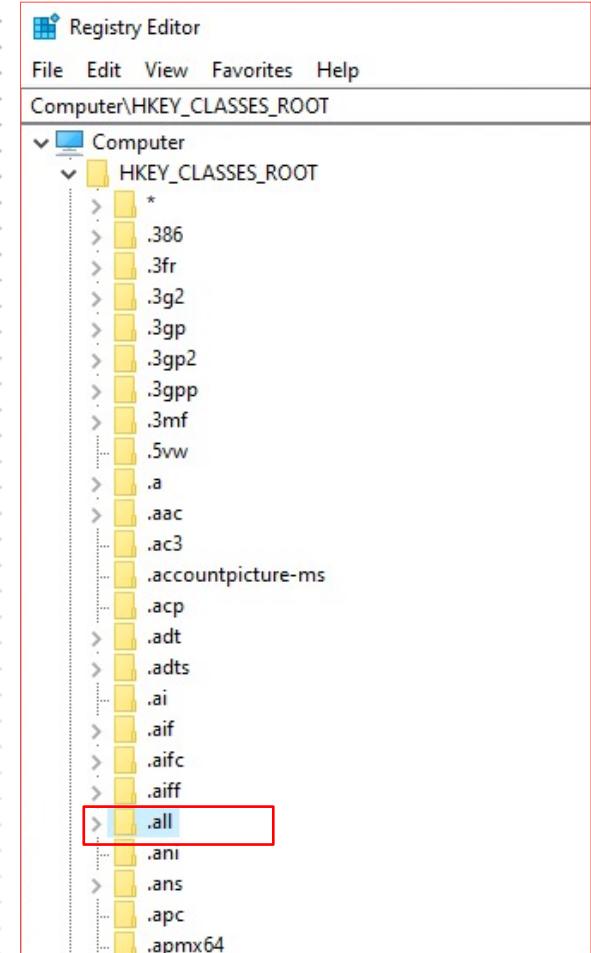
HKLM\Software\Classes



HKCU\Software\Classes



HKCR\



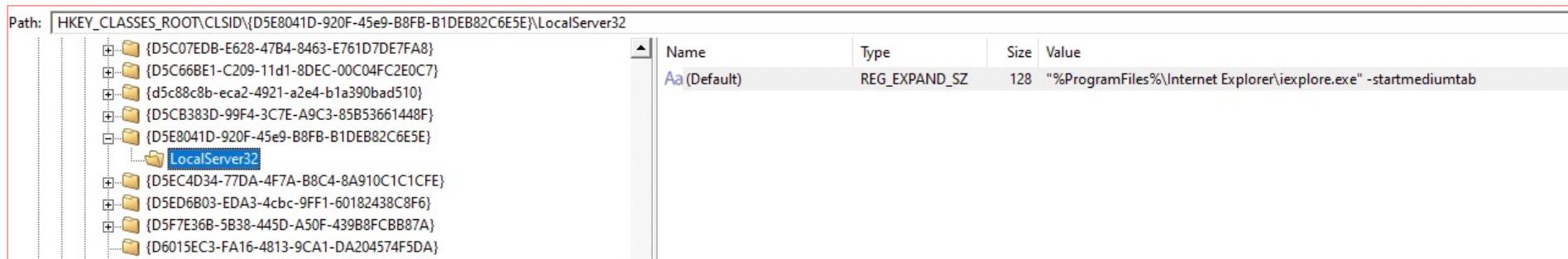
From user perspective: HKCU takes precedence over HKLM!

COM?

- Component Object Model
 - A way of doing inter-process communication
 - VBA example:
 - CreateObject ("InternetExplorer.Application")
 .Navigate2 ("https://outflank.nl")
 - InternetExplorer.Application has an associated CLSID:
 - {D5E8041D-920F-45e9-B8FB-B1DEB82C6E5E}
 - HKCR\CLSID*CLSID*
 - LocalServer32 specifies location of COM server application

Path: HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\CLSID\{D5E8041D-920F-45e9-B8FB-B1DEB82C6E5E}\LocalServer32

| | Name | Type | Size | Value |
|--|--------------|---------------|------|---|
| | Aa (Default) | REG_EXPAND_SZ | 128 | "%ProgramFiles%\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe" -startmediumtab |



HKCR - HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT

| Path: HKEY_USERS\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1107\Software\Classes\CLSID\{CAFEEFAC-0018-0000-0337-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | Name |
|--|--|--------------|
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0000-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | Aa (Default) |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0001-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0001-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0002-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0002-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0003-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0003-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0004-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0004-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0005-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0005-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0006-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0006-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0007-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0007-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0008-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0008-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0009-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0009-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0010-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0010-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0011-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0011-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0012-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0012-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0013-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0013-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0014-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0014-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0015-ABCDEFFEDCBA} | | |
| + \ {CAFEEFAC-0013-0001-0015-ABCDEFEDCBB} | | |

The RPC server is unavailable.

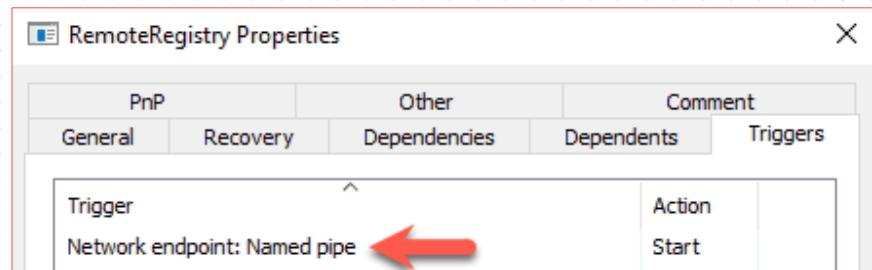
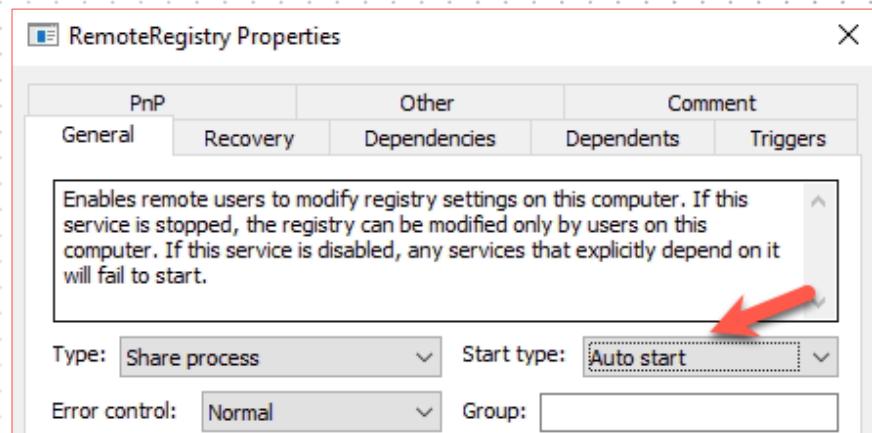
REMOTE INTERFACES

OK

REGISTRY VIA MS-RRP

- **MS-RRP:** Remote Registry Protocol
- Handled by the Remote Registry service

- Start type:
 - Servers: auto start
 - Clients: disabled
- Shuts down after inactivity
- Triggered when accessing named pipe



REGISTRY VIA MS-RRP

- If the service is not started:
 - Retrieve the file \winreg from the IPC\$ share on remote system
 - This triggers service to start
- MS-RRP (RPC) calls within SMB named pipe (\pipe\winreg)

- No local admin needed
- Used by
 - regedit.exe
 - reg.py (impacket)

```
SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
  > SMB2 Transform Header
  < Encrypted SMB3 data
    > SMB2 (Server Message Block Protocol version 2)
    > Distributed Computing Environment / Remote Procedure Call (DCE/RPC) Request
      < Remote Registry Service, OpenHKU
        Operation: OpenHKU (4) ←
        [Response in frame: 28]
        NULL Pointer: Pointer to System Name (uint16)
        < Access Mask: 0x02000000
          < Generic rights: 0x00000000
            0... ..... .... .... .... .... = Generic read: Not set
            .0... ..... .... .... .... .... = Generic write: Not set
            ..0. ..... .... .... .... .... = Generic execute: Not set
            ...0 ..... .... .... .... .... = Generic all: Not set
            .... 1. .... .... .... .... = Maximum allowed: Set
            .... 0... ..... .... .... .... = Access SACL: Not set
          > Standard rights: 0x00000000
          > WINREG specific rights: 0x00000000
```

REGISTRY VIA MS-RRP

[MS-RRP]: Windows Remote Registry Protocol

Article • 06/24/2021 • 4 minutes to read

 Feedback

Specifies the Windows Remote Registry Protocol, a remote procedure call (RPC)-based client/server protocol that is used to remotely manage a hierarchical data store such as the Windows registry.

This page and associated content may be updated frequently. We recommend you subscribe to the [RSS feed](#) to receive update notifications.

| | |
|----------|--|
| 3.1.5.5 | OpenUsers (Opnum 4) |
| 3.1.5.6 | BaseRegCloseKey (Opnum 5) |
| 3.1.5.7 | BaseRegCreateKey (Opnum 6)..... |
| 3.1.5.8 | BaseRegDeleteKey (Opnum 7)..... |
| 3.1.5.9 | BaseRegDeleteValue (Opnum 8) |
| 3.1.5.10 | BaseRegEnumKey (Opnum 9)..... |
| 3.1.5.11 | BaseRegEnumValue (Opnum 10) |
| 3.1.5.12 | BaseRegFlushKey (Opnum 11)..... |
| 3.1.5.13 | BaseRegGetKeySecurity (Opnum 12). |
| 3.1.5.14 | BaseRegLoadKey (Opnum 13) |
| 3.1.5.15 | BaseRegOpenKey (Opnum 15)..... |
| 3.1.5.16 | BaseRegQueryInfoKey (Opnum 16) ... |
| 3.1.5.17 | BaseRegQueryValue (Opnum 17) |
| 3.1.5.18 | BaseRegReplaceKey (Opnum 18) |
| 3.1.5.19 | BaseRegRestoreKey (Opnum 19) |
| 3.1.5.20 | BaseRegSaveKey (Opnum 20) |
| 3.1.5.21 | BaseRegSetKeySecurity (Opnum 21). |
| 3.1.5.22 | BaseRegSetValue (Opnum 22)..... |
| 3.1.5.23 | BaseRegUnLoadKey (Opnum 23)..... |

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/openspecs/windows_protocols/ms-rrp

REGISTRY VIA MS-WMI

- WMI uses DCOM to communicate
- DCOM in turn works via RPC
- RPC uses a dynamic/random high TCP port

- WMI namespace: \ROOT\CIMV2
- WMI class: StdRegProv

- Advantage: available on **both clients and servers**
- Disadvantage: **requires local admin**

- Callable via PowerShell (Get-WMIOBJECT)



REGISTRY VIA MS-WMI

- Extended impacket with `wmireg.py`

```
$ python wmireg.py $regular_user query -keyName
```

REGISTRY ABUSE

A person wearing a horse head mask is shown from the side, facing right. They are wearing a dark grey puffer jacket and a white watch. They are holding a silver laptop open with both hands, looking at the screen. The background is a solid blue color.

COMMON ATTACK VECTORS

- Credential dumping
 - Local user creds: SAM hive (**HKLM\SAM**)
 - Domain cached creds: SECURITY hive (**HKLM\SECURITY**)
 - Both also need a dump of the SYSTEM hive to decrypt
 - Mimikatz / secretsdump.py (impacket)
- Registry persistency
 - HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
 - COM hijacks
 - Many, many more...

REGISTRY ABUSE

Reconnaissance

REMOTE PERMISSIONS

- Reading HKLM requires local admin privileges on the remote system
- As local **admin**, you can access a lot of information
 - AV exclusions
 - EDR software
 - Local policies / group policies
 - Etc.

```
$ python reg.py $admin_user query -keyName HKLM\\\
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra
```

```
HKLM\
HKLM\\BCD00000000
HKLM\\DRIVERS
HKLM\\HARDWARE
HKLM\\SAM
HKLM\\SECURITY
HKLM\\SOFTWARE
HKLM\\SYSTEM
```



```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKLM\\\
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra
```

```
[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
[-] DCERPC Runtime Error: code: 0x5 - rpc_s_access_denied
```



REMOTE PERMISSIONS

- But what can you access as a **regular** (domain-joined) user?
- Reading **HKU** and **HKCR** allowed for regular (domain-joined) user
- In **HKU** the user has access to
 - .DEFAULT (S-1-5-18)
 - The domain user's SID (if logged in)
- **HKCU** links to
 - .DEFAULT (if NOT logged in)
 - The domain user's SID (if logged in)
- .DEFAULT already reveals information of the remote system

USER LOGINS (CURRENT)

- Possible to enumerate SIDs
 - This is how PsLoggedOn (sysinternals) works
 - This is one of the things BloodHound does
- If user IS logged in:
 - Read/write access to subkey under the context of the authenticated user
- If user IS NOT logged in:
 - Hive will not be loaded, and as such not accessible

```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKU\\
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[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
HKU\
HKU\\.DEFAULT
HKU\\S-1-5-19
HKU\\S-1-5-20
HKU\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1105
HKU\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1105_Classes
HKU\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1108
HKU\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1108_Classes
HKU\\S-1-5-18
```

USER LOGINS (HISTORICAL)

- All users that ever logged in interactively
 - One value contains UTC timestamp of first login

```
$ python ./reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production
Impacket v0.12.0.dev1+20240606.111452.d71f4662 - Copyright 2023 Fortra

[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\Logs
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\S-1-5-18
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\S-1-5-19
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\S-1-5-21-2698686055-2414997051-2306920262-1000
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1105
HKU\\.DEFAULT\\Software\\Microsoft\\IdentityCRL\\DeviceIdentities\\production\\S-1-5-21-3657084265-3054822461-4174389439-1108
```

REMOTE HKLM PERMISSION EXCEPTIONS

- Reading HKLM requires local admin privileges on the remote system
- But, there are exceptions:
 - AllowedExactPaths
 - AllowedPaths, where subkeys are allowed too

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\SecurePipeServers\winreg\AllowedExactPaths:  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ProductOptions  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Server Applications  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion
```

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\SecurePipeServers\winreg\AllowedPaths:  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Print\Printers  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog  
    Software\Microsoft\OLAP Server  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Windows  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ContentIndex  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server\UserConfig  
    ...
```

REMOTE HKLM PERMISSION EXCEPTIONS

- CVE-2022-38033 (fixed October 2022)
 - If you kept a handle to the **exact** registry path, you could enumerate descendant subkeys

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\SecurePipeServers\winreg\AllowedExactPaths:  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ProductOptions  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Server Applications  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion
```

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\SecurePipeServers\winreg\AllowedPaths:  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Print\Printers  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog  
    Software\Microsoft\OLAP Server  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print  
    Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Windows  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\ContentIndex  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server  
    System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Terminal Server\UserConfig  
    ...
```

REMOTE HKLM PERMISSION EXCEPTIONS

```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ NT\CurrentVersion  
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra
```

```
[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
```

```
HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion
```

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| SystemRoot | REG_SZ | C:\Windows |
| BuildBranch | REG_SZ | rs1_release |
| BuildGUID | REG_SZ | ffffffff-ffff-ffff-ffff-ffffffffffff |
| BuildLab | REG_SZ | 14393.rs1_release_1.180427-1811 |
| BuildLabEx | REG_SZ | 14393.2273.amd64fre.rs1_release_1.180427-1811 |
| CompositionEditionID | REG_SZ | ServerStandardEval |
| CurrentBuild | REG_SZ | 14393 |
| CurrentBuildNumber | REG_SZ | 14393 |
| CurrentMajorVersionNumber | REG_DWORD | 0xa |
| CurrentMinorVersionNumber | REG_DWORD | 0x0 |
| CurrentType | REG_SZ | Multiprocessor Free |
| CurrentVersion | REG_SZ | 6.3 |
| EditionID | REG_SZ | ServerStandardEval |
| InstallationType | REG_SZ | Server |
| InstallDate | REG_DWORD | 0x6673fa0d |
| ProductName | REG_SZ | Windows Server 2016 Standard Evaluation |
| ReleaseId | REG_SZ | 1607 |
| SoftwareType | REG_SZ | System |
| DigitalProductId | REG_BINARY |  |
| 0000 | A4 00 00 00 03 00 00 00 30 30 33 37 38 2D 30 30 |  |
| 0010 | 30 30 30 2D 30 30 30 30 30 2D 41 41 37 33 39 00 |  |
| 0020 | C4 0E 00 00 5B 52 53 31 5D 58 32 31 2D 30 33 32 |  |
| 0030 | 31 37 00 00 C4 0E 00 00 00 00 70 FC B5 05 1E C9 17.....p.... |  |

REMOTE HKLM PERMISSION EXCEPTIONS

- Reading which event log providers are configured

```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKLM\\System\\CurrentControlSet\\Services\\Eventlog Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra
```

```
[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Eventlog\System\CrowdStrikeSetup
    EventMessageFile      REG_SZ    %SystemRoot%\System32\ntdll.dll
    TypesSupported   REG_DWORD     0x7
```

REMOTE HKLM PERMISSION EXCEPTIONS

- Enumerating installed drivers for printers (PrintNightmare)

```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -s -keyName HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows\x64\DriverPackages
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra

[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\ntprint.inf_amd64_3d8f0626c408afea\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\ntprint.inf_amd64_3d8f0626c408afea\ntprint.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\ntprint.inf_amd64_3d8f0626c408afea.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\prnbrcl1.inf_amd64_27262c292cd27de8\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\prnbrcl1.inf_amd64_27262c292cd27de8\prnbrcl1.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\prnbrcl1.inf_amd64_27262c292cd27de8.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\prnms001.inf_amd64_10bd6dee10a7dfd0\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\prnms001.inf_amd64_10bd6dee10a7dfd0\prnms001.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\prnms001.inf_amd64_10bd6dee10a7dfd0.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\prnms002.inf_amd64_5a5ddb7716a8d14a\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\prnms002.inf_amd64_5a5ddb7716a8d14a\prnms002.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\prnms002.inf_amd64_5a5ddb7716a8d14a.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\prnms003.inf_amd64_53d78f68bc1697cc\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\prnms003.inf_amd64_53d78f68bc1697cc\prnms003.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\prnms003.inf_amd64_53d78f68bc1697cc.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\prnms009.inf_amd64_bd3f6a64dee1535d\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\prnms009.inf_amd64_bd3f6a64dee1535d\prnms009.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\prnms009.inf_amd64_bd3f6a64dee1535d.cab
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Print\PackageInstallation\Windows x64\DriverPackages\tsprint.inf_amd64_c43b1ad96a2e4db6\
    DriverStorePath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\System32\DriverStore\FileRepository\tsprint.inf_amd64_c43b1ad96a2e4db6\tsprint.inf
    CabPath REG_SZ    C:\Windows\system32\spool\DRIVERS\x64\PCC\tsprint.inf_amd64_c43b1ad96a2e4db6.cab
```

READING HKCR REMOTELY

- As a regular domain-joined user
 - Possible to fully enumerate HKCR
 - Get COM objects (i.e. software/services/applications) on target

```
$ python reg.py $regular_user query -keyName HKCR\\ -s
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[!] Cannot check RemoteRegistry status. Hoping it is started...
\*\OpenWithList\
\*\OpenWithList\Excel.exe\
\*\OpenWithList\IExplore.exe\
\*\OpenWithList\MSPaint.exe\
    (Default)      REG_SZ
\*\OpenWithList\notepad.exe\
    (Default)      REG_SZ
\*\OpenWithList\Winword.exe\
\*\OpenWithList\WordPad.exe\
```

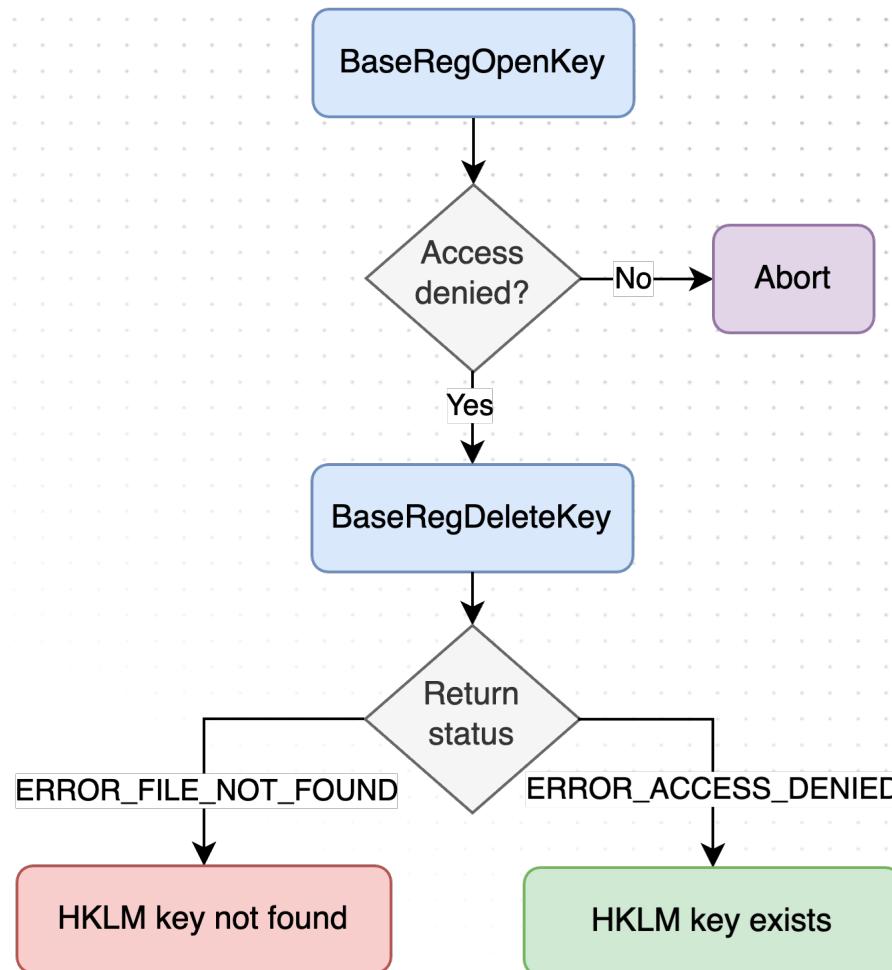
REGISTRY ABUSE

RPC information leaks

INFO LEAK #1: REMOTE HKLM KEY EXISTENCE

- As a regular domain-joined user it is NOT possible to read **HKLM** keys (with exceptions)
- We discovered that a specific MS-RRP RPC call leaks information on the **existence of HKLM keys**
 - Step 1: **BaseRegOpenKey** with samDesired = KEY_SET_VALUE and a specific **HKLM** subkey.
 - This should result in `rpc_s_access_denied`
 - Step 2: **BaseRegDeleteKey**
 - The response code leaks information, revealing if a specific remote HKLM key exists or not

INFO LEAK #1: REMOTE HKLM KEY EXISTENCE



INFO LEAK #1: REMOTE HKLM KEY EXISTENCE

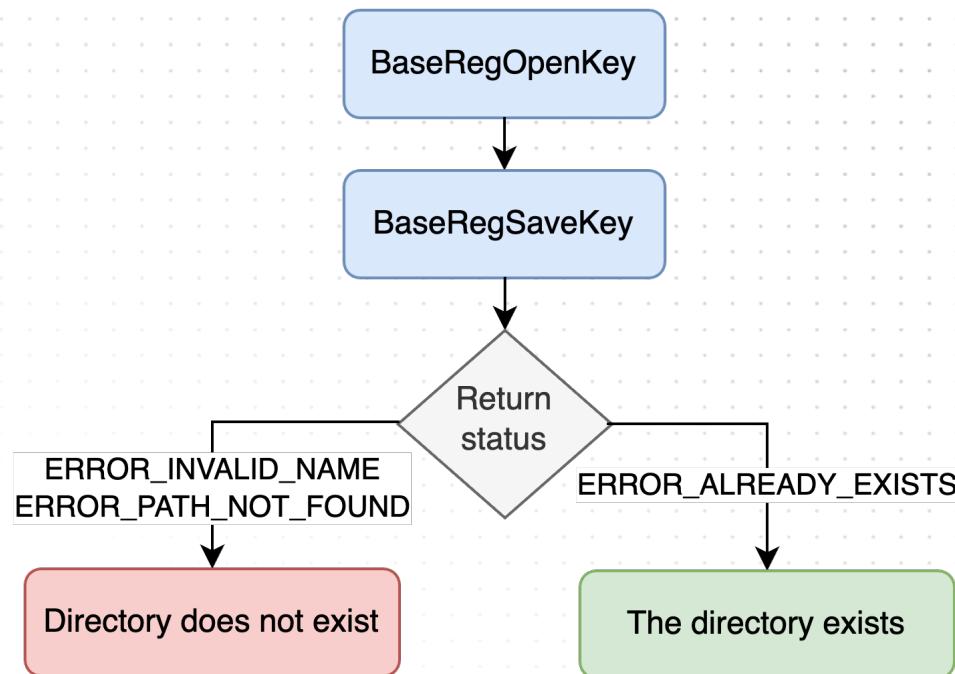
Created `hklm_exist.py`, which is based on impacket

```
$ python hklm_exist.py
```

INFO LEAK #2: REMOTE FILE EXISTENCE

- As a regular domain-joined user you cannot remotely check if a random file exists
- We discovered that a specific MS-RRP RPC call leaks information on the existence of remote files
 - Step 1: **BaseRegOpenKey**, opening the root **HKU** key
 - Should be allowed for every domain user
 - Step 2: **BaseRegSaveKey**, saving the key on a path on the remote machine
 - The response code leaks information, revealing if a remote file or folder exists or not

INFO LEAK #2: REMOTE FILE EXISTENCE



INFO LEAK #2: REMOTE FILE EXISTENCE

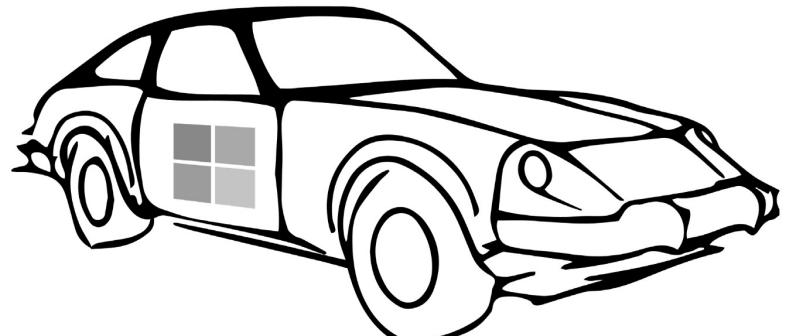
```
$ python enum_edr.py
```

REGISTRY ABUSE

Active Directory Certificate Services

AD CS 101

- Microsoft PKI implementation
- Request (authentication) certificates based on templates
- Existing tools (Certify/CertiPy) enumerate AD CS via COM / RPC / LDAP
- Detections based on this



Certified Pre-Owned

Abusing Active Directory Certificate Services

Will Schroeder

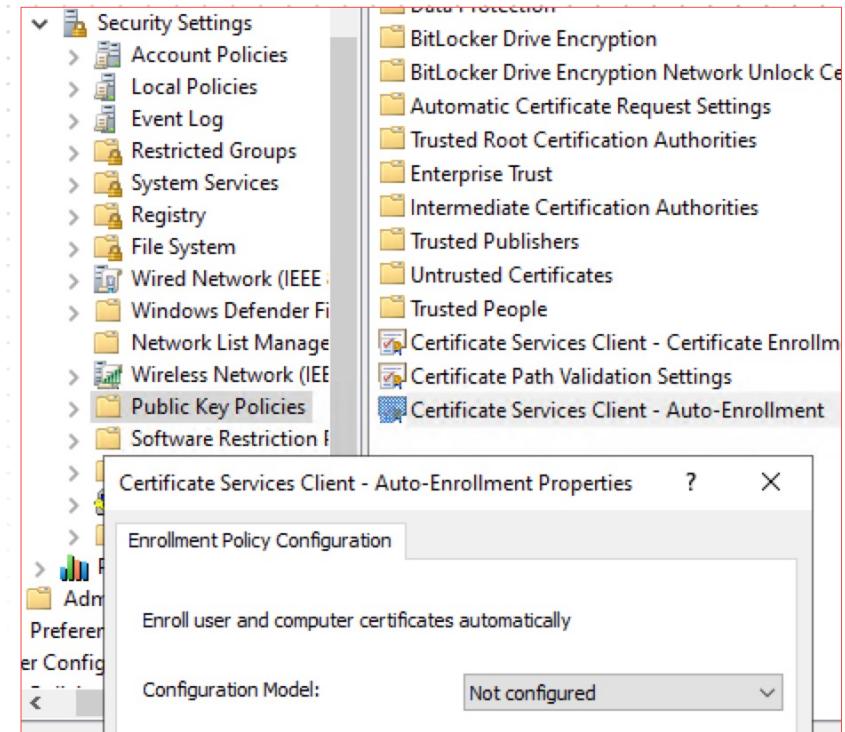
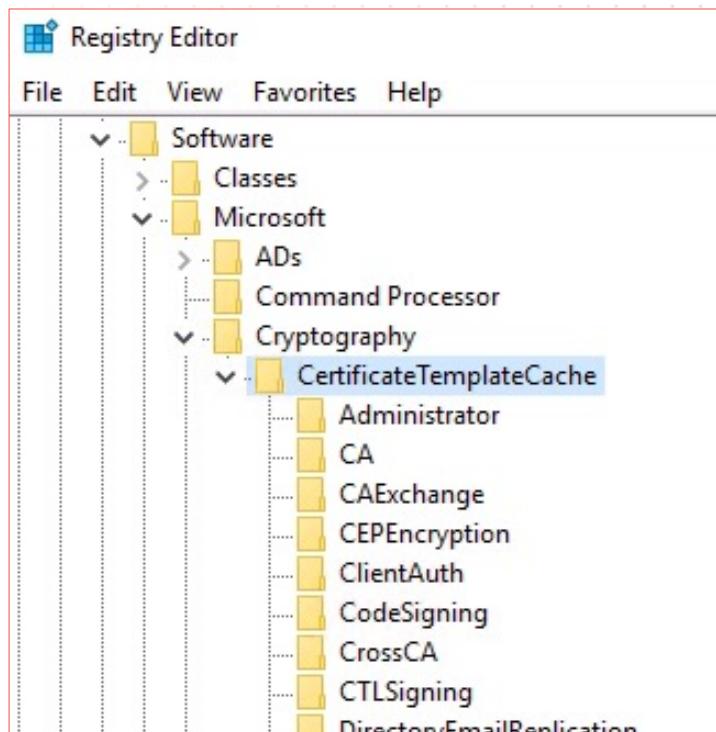
Lee Christensen

<https://posts.specterops.io/certified-pre-owned-d95910965cd2>

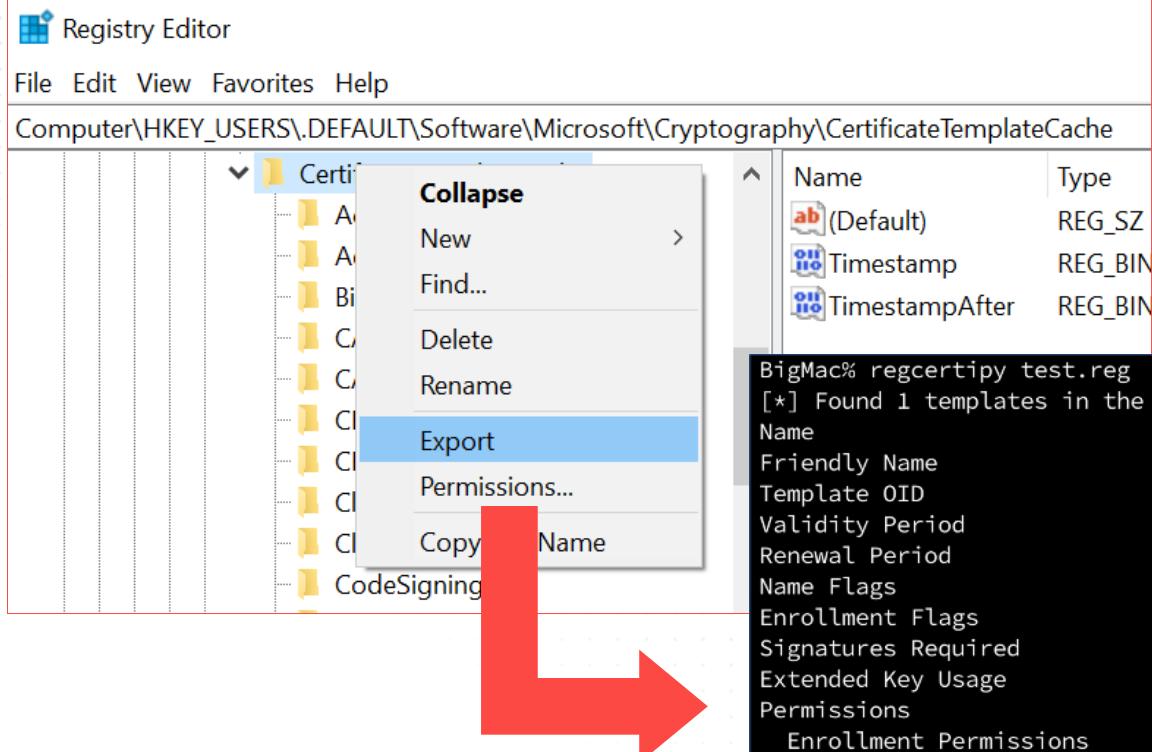
REGISTRY CERTIFICATE TEMPLATE CACHE

HKU\.\DEFAULT\Software\Microsoft\Cryptography\CertificateTemplateCache

- Readable by regular (domain-joined) users
- Configured by default in the Default Domain Policy
- Used for Auto-Enrollment



REGCERTIPY



```
BigMac% regcertipy test.reg  
[*] Found 1 templates in the registry
```

Name
Friendly Name
Template OID
Validity Period
Renewal Period
Name Flags
Enrollment Flags
Signatures Required
Extended Key Usage
Permissions
 Enrollment Permissions
 Enrollment Rights

Object Control Permissions
 Owner
 Write Owner Principals

 Write Dacl Principals

 Write Property Principals

: GreatIdea
: GreatIdea
: 1.3.6.1.4.1.311.21.8.11375254.7675713.4736
: 1 year
: 6 weeks
(1) : EnrolleeSuppliesSubject
: PublishToDs, IncludeSymmetricAlgorithms
: 0
(2) : Client Authentication

(3) : Domain Admins
Domain Users
Enterprise Admins

: S-1-5-21-793200-987394971-2708343755-500
: Domain Admins
Enterprise Admins
: Domain Admins
Enterprise Admins
: Domain Admins
Enterprise Admins

ESC1

REGISTRY ABUSE

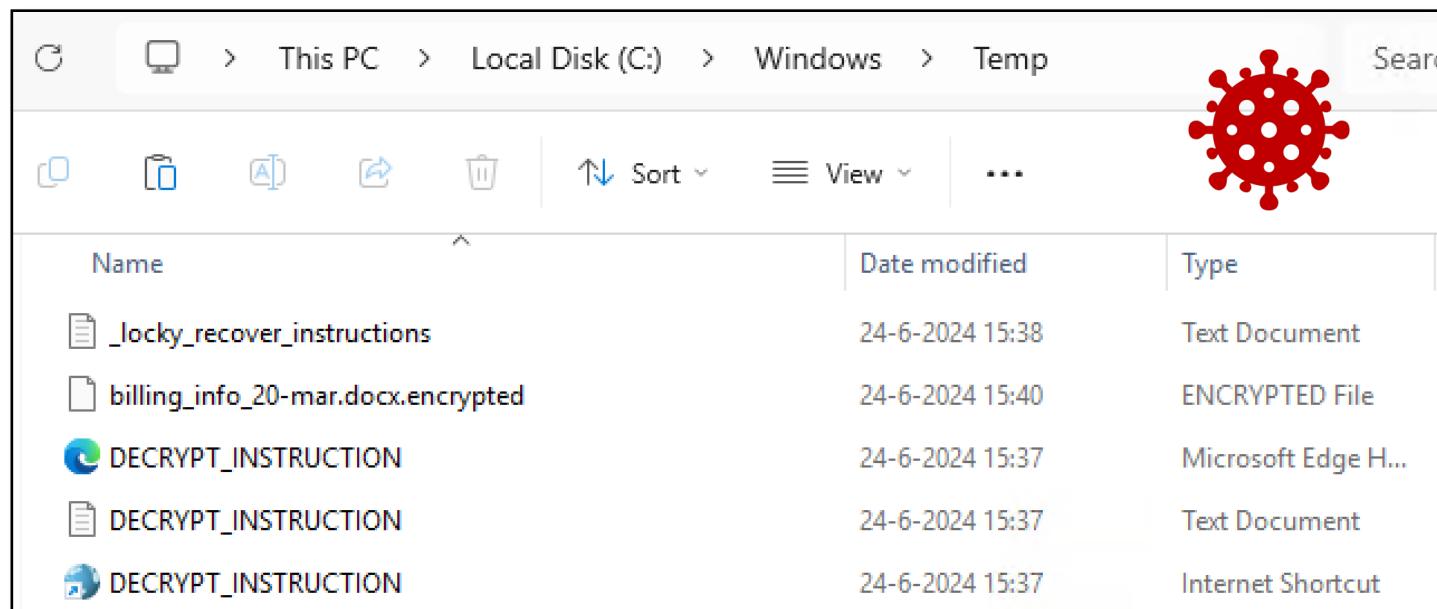
Relying

COERCED AUTH / NTLM RELAYING

- Coerced authentication possible against some MS-RRP calls
 - **BaseRegSaveKey** with magic flavoring
 - 'ERROR_PRIVILEGE_NOT_HELD' ... ☺

COERCED AUTH / NTLM RELAYING

- Coerced authentication possible against some MS-RRP calls
 - BaseRegSaveKey with magic flavoring
 - 'ERROR_PRIVILEGE_NOT_HELD' ... 😊
 - Also allows to create empty files on a domain controller
 - Files won't have content

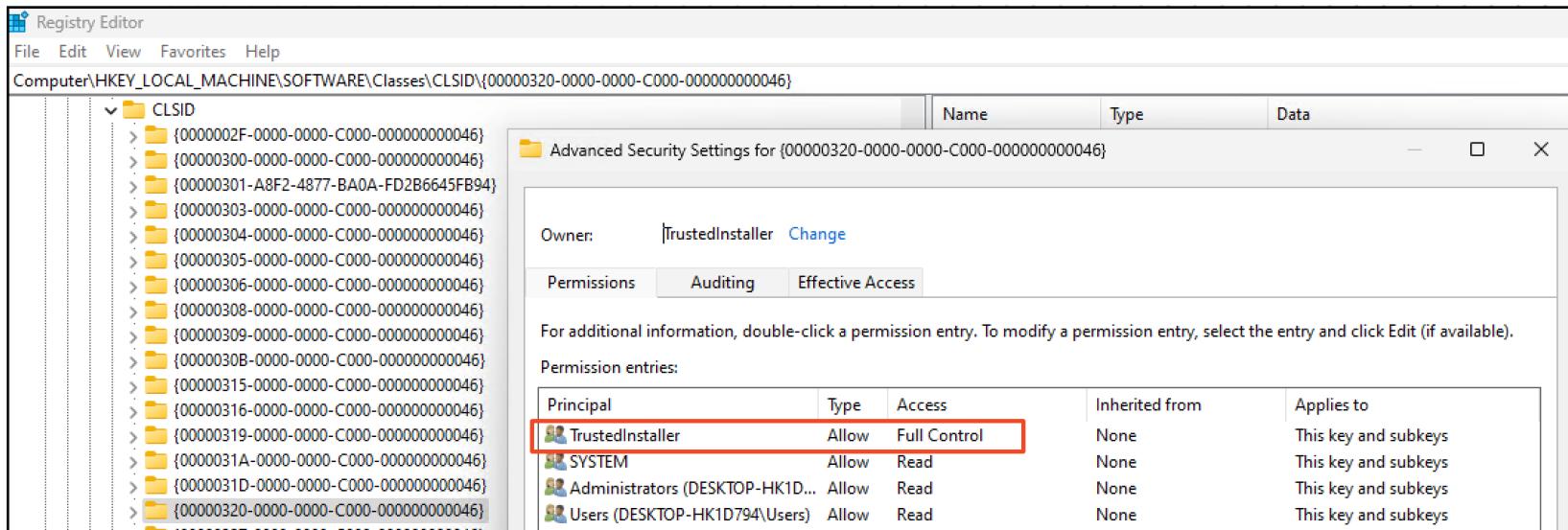


REGISTRY ABUSE

Lateral Movement

LATERAL MOVEMENT VIA REGISTRY (ADMIN)

- How to execute code via the registry?
 - Modify COM object key
- (1) Modify CLSID under HKLM
- (2) Find a way for the COM object to be loaded



LATERAL MOVEMENT VIA REGISTRY (ADMIN)

- Modify CLSID under HKLM
 - TrustedInstaller only? ☹
 - Software\Microsoft\AppModel\Lookaside\Machine ☺
 - Create the key if it doesn't exist

| | | |
|-------|--|---|
| 10220 |  RegOpenKey | HKCR\CLSID\{4590F811-1D3A-11D0-891F-00AA004B2E24\}\TreatAs |
| 10220 |  RegOpenKey | HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\AppModel\Lookaside\machine\SOFTWARE\Classes\CLSID\{4590F811-1D3A-11D0-891F-00AA004B2E24\}\TreatAs |

- Now trigger or wait for the COM object to load

LATERAL MOVEMENT VIA REGISTRY (ADMIN)

- Trigger a service start
 - Around 50(!) services can be triggered to start on a remote server (via an RPC trigger). Some of those will:
 - Execute with NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM rights (or equivalent)
 - Gracefully shutdown after a few seconds
 - ... and load COM objects 😊
 - ... without any authentication o.0
 - Demo RPCping

System Informer [BOMEN\domuser]



System View Tools Users Help

Refresh Options

Find handles or DLLs

System information

>> devquery



Processes

Services

Network

Disk

Firewall

Devices

Name

Display name

Type

Status

Start type

DevQueryBroker

DevQuery Background Discovery Bro...

Share process

Stopped

Demand start (trigger)

LATERAL MOVEMENT (NON-ADMIN)

- No local admin rights required for accessing remote registry
 - Regular (domain user) can modify their HKCU remotely
- Code execution via same trick:
 - Modify COM object keys under HKCU
 - Remember, for HKCR: HKCU has precedence over HKLM
- Which COM object to target?
 - COM object is loaded when you perform specific actions (clipboard, start menu, load Edge, etc...)

LATERAL MOVEMENT (NON-ADMIN)

- Find handles to keys with 'Notify' access

| Find Handles or DLLs (390 results) | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|--|--------|----------------|---|
| Key | Type | Name | Handle | Granted access | |
| Process | | | | | ^ |
| conhost.exe (6392) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x1d0 | Notify (0x10) | |
| OpenConsole.exe (7176) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x288 | Notify (0x10) | |
| WindowsTerminal.exe (7196) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x1ec | Notify (0x10) | |
| WindowsTerminal.exe (7196) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Themes\Personalize | 0x534 | Notify (0x10) | |
| WindowsTerminal.exe (7196) | Key | HKCU\Control Panel\Colors | 0x540 | Notify (0x10) | |
| WindowsTerminal.exe (7196) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Accent | 0x54c | Notify (0x10) | |
| svchost.exe (3568) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x224 | Notify (0x10) | |
| svchost.exe (3568) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SmartActionPlatform\SmartClipboard | 0x34c | Notify (0x10) | |
| dllhost.exe (3380) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x148 | Notify (0x10) | |
| TotalReg.exe (6476) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x2bc | Notify (0x10) | |
| svchost.exe (6108) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x24c | Notify (0x10) | |
| MoNotificationUx.exe (7928) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x21c | Notify (0x10) | |
| ApplicationFrameHost.exe (5664) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x194 | Notify (0x10) | |
| powershell.exe (5692) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x1a8 | Notify (0x10) | |
| conhost.exe (7632) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x1c0 | Notify (0x10) | |
| OpenConsole.exe (7828) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x28c | Notify (0x10) | |
| powershell.exe (5212) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x2f8 | Notify (0x10) | |
| regedit.exe (2844) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x2c0 | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Themes\Personalize | 0x3ec | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Accent | 0x404 | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current | 0x914 | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0x9fc | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa44 | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa70 | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa7c | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Start\Migrations | 0xa9c | Notify (0x10) | |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xac4 | Notify (0x10) | |
| ShellExperienceHost.exe (2528) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Themes\Personalize | 0x5c4 | Notify (0x10) | |
| ShellExperienceHost.exe (2528) | Key | HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Accent | 0x5d0 | Notify (0x10) | |
| smartscreen.exe (7328) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x27c | Notify (0x10) | |

LATERAL MOVEMENT (NON-ADMIN)

- Find handles to keys with 'Notify' access

Editor

View Favorites Help

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current

| Name | Type | Data |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| ab (Default) | REG_SZ | (value not set) |
| ab current | REG_EXPAND_SZ | {0123abc0-0000-0000-0000-000000000003} |
| ab fallback | REG_EXPAND_SZ | {00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000} |

RADAR

RulesEngine

Run

RunNotification

Screensavers

Search

SearchSettings

Dynamic

{0123abc0-0000-0000-0000-000000000003}

Current

Security and Maintenance

Shell Extensions

| Process | Type | Key | Access | Notify (0x10) |
|--------------------------------|------|--|--------|---------------|
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current | 0x914 | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0x9fc | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa44 | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa70 | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xa7c | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Start\Migrations | 0xa9c | Notify (0x10) |
| SearchHost.exe (5368) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\CloudStore\Store\Cache\DefaultAccount\... | 0xac4 | Notify (0x10) |
| ShellExperienceHost.exe (2528) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Themes\Personalize | 0x5c4 | Notify (0x10) |
| ShellExperienceHost.exe (2528) | Key | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\Accent | 0x5d0 | Notify (0x10) |
| smartscreen.exe (7328) | Key | HKCU\Software\Classes | 0x27c | Notify (0x10) |

LATERAL MOVEMENT (NON-ADMIN)

- Find handles to keys with 'Notify' access

The screenshot shows two windows: a registry editor window and a Process Monitor window.

Registry Editor Window: The path is `HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current`. The right pane shows three registry values:

| Name | Type | Data |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| ab (Default) | REG_SZ | (value not set) |
| ab current | REG_EXPAND_SZ | {0123abc0-0000-0000-0000-000000000003} |
| ab fallback | REG_EXPAND_SZ | {00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000} |

Process Monitor Window: The title bar says "Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com". The main table lists registry operations:

| Time ... | Process Name | PID | Operation | Path |
|----------|--------------|------|---------------|---|
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegQueryValue | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current\cu... |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegQueryValue | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current\cu... |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegCloseKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegOpenKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegQueryValue | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current\cu... |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegCloseKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\Current |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegOpenKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\{0123abc0-000... |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegQueryValue | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\{0123abc0-000... |
| 05:53... | explorer.exe | 8232 | RegCloseKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\SearchSettings\Dynamic\{0123abc0-000... |
| 05:53... | svchost.exe | 1868 | RegQueryValue | HKLM\SOFT\ABF\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\svchost\UnvSvcGroup\DynamicCodePolicy |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegOpenKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198_Classes\CLSID\{3185A766-B338-11e4-A71E-12E3F512A338} |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegOpenKey | HKCR\CLSID\{3185A766-B338-11e4-A71E-12E3F512A338} |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegQueryKey | HKCR\CLSID\{3185a766-b338-11e4-a71e-12e3f512a338} |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegQueryKey | HKCR\CLSID\{3185a766-b338-11e4-a71e-12e3f512a338} |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegOpenKey | HKU\S-1-5-21-2229236746-2911771265-924017512-1198_Classes\CLSID\{3185a766-b338-11e4-a71e-12e3f512a338}\TreatAs |
| 05:53... | WerFault.exe | 5684 | RegQueryKey | HKCR\CLSID\{3185a766-b338-11e4-a71e-12e3f512a338} |

DEMO\$

I

IN SUMMARY

- Remote reconnaissance
 - Valuable information for attackers
- RPC information leaks
 - Unintended information disclosure
- Active Directory Certificate Services
 - Obtaining certificate template details locally
- Relaying
 - Coerced authentication
- Lateral movement
 - New techniques

MORE REGISTRY?

- Mysteries of the registry
 - Pavel Yosifovich
<https://scorpiosoftware.net/2022/04/15/mysteries-of-the-registry/>
- Practical Exploitation of Registry Vulnerabilities in the Windows Kernel
 - Mateusz 'j00ru' Jurczyk
<https://j00ru.vexillium.org/talks/offensivecon-practical-exploitation-of-windows-registry-vulnerabilities>

THANKS!

OUTFLANK

clear advice with a hacker mindset

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