Unmasking CamoFei

An In-depth Analysis of an Emerging APT Group Focused on Healthcare Sectors in East Asia

Still Hsu, DuckLL



Persistent Cyber Threat Hunters

About us





Still Hsu (Azaka)

- Threat Intelligence Researcher @ TeamT5
- Non-binary (they/them)
- Part-time streamer



Zih-Cing Liao (aka DuckLL)

- Sr.Threat Intelligence Researcher @ TeamT5
- Speaker of Conferences: Black Hat Asia, HITB, HITCON, CODE BLUE
- UCCU Hacker Core Member

AGENDA





Introduction



CamoFei





- China-nexus APT threat group
- First seen: End of 2019
- Footprint Concealing
- Malware:
 - Cobalt Strike
 - DoorMe
 - IISBeacon
 - Timinp
 - MGDrive
 - AukDoor
 - CatB Ransomware

Related Work



Positive Technologies in 2021
ChamelGang
ProxyShell Exploit

Malware

- BeaconLoader & Cobalt Strike
- ProxyT
- DoorMe

Masters of Mimicry: new APT group ChamelGang and its arsenal

Published on 30 September 2021

https://www.ptsecurity.com/ww-en/analytics/pt-esc-threat-intelligence/new-apt-group-chamelgang/

Target Country



Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines, Thailand, India, Turkey, Brazil, Hong Kong Russia, US, Japan, Afghanistan Lithuania, Nepal



Target Industry





Target Industry





Critical Infrastructure





Energy



Finance



Water



Healthcare





Communication



Government

Transportation



High-Tech

Covid-19





https://ourworldindata.org/explorers/coronavirus-data-explorer



Motivation





Common Issues











Lack of Security Staff

Complex System and Network Outdated Hardware and Software

News



Cyberattack is a factor in Illinois hospital's closure

By <u>Sean Lyngaas</u>, CNN Published 6:26 PM EDT, Mon June 12, 2023

F y 🖬 👁



https://edition.cnn.com/2023/06/12/politics/cyberattack-hospital-closure/index.html

TECH

HCA Healthcare patient data stolen and for sale by hackers

PUBLISHED MON, JUL 10 2023-6:20 PM EDT | UPDATED TUE, JUL 11 2023-5:46 PM EDT



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https://www.cnbc.com/2023/07/10/hca-healthcare-patient-data-stolen-and-for-sale-by-hackers.html

North Korean ransomware attacks on healthcare fund govt operations

By Bill Toulas

🛅 February 10, 2023 🛛 09:35 AM 🛛 🔲 0

A new cybersecurity advisory from the U.S. Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) describes recently observed tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) observed with North Korean ransomware operations against public health and other critical infrastructure sectors.

The document is a joint report from the NSA, FBI, CISA, U.S. HHS, and the Republic of Korea National Intelligence Service and Defense Security Agency, and notes that the funds extorted this way went to support North Korean government's national-level priorities and objectives.

https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/north-korean-ransomware-attacks-onhealthcare-fund-govt-operations/

HITCON Zero-day





TTPs: Initial Access





		霑	FF	ŧ			
		腹	ΠĒ	A X			
-、個人資料							
姓名NAME							
聯絡電話 PHONE N	UMBER						
電子郵件 EMAIL AD	DRESS	-					-
現在地址 PRESENT A	ADDRESS	-					
二、教育程度 EDUCATION							
等別 GRADE	學校名	稱 NAME OF SCH	OOL	科系 MAJOF	SUBJECT	備註	
初中 SECONDARY							
高中 HIGH							
大學 COLLEGE							

工作地野」への私口へい		却沒時間тык
工1F地和 LOCATION	邮份 JOB DESCRIBIION	超起时间 TIME



Exploitation



What is ProxyLogon?

ProxyLogon is the formally generic name for **CVE-2021-26855**, a vulnerability on Microsoft Exchange Server that allows an attacker bypassing the authentication and impersonating as the admin. We have also chained this bug with another post-auth arbitraryfile-write vulnerability, **CVE-2021-27065**, to get code execution. All affected components are **vulnerable by default**!

As a result, an **unauthenticated** attacker can **execute arbitrary commands** on Microsoft Exchange Server through an **only opened 443 port**!

Change Log

August 06, 2021 publish the technique details and the story afterwardMarch 12, 2021 update the timeline

https://proxylogon.com/



Exploitation

Vulnerability Details

CVE-2022-40139: Improper Validation of Rollback Mechanism Components RCE Vulnerability

CVSSv3: 7.2: AV:N/AC:L/PR:H/UI:N/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H

Improper validation of some components used by the rollback mechanism in Trend Micro Apex One and Trend Micro Apex One as a Service clients could allow a Apex One server administrator to instruct affected clients to download an unverified rollback package, which could lead to remote code execution.

Please note: an attacker must first obtain Apex One server administration console access in order to exploit this vulnerability.



ITW Alert: Trend Micro has observed at least one active attempt of potential exploitation of this vulnerability in the wild.

https://success.trendmicro.com/dcx/s/solution/000291528





TTPs: Malware



Primary Arsenal





- Cobalt Strike
 Special loader
- MGDrive
 - Google Drive tool
- AukDoor
 - Linux backdoor
- DoorMe
 - IIS-based backdoor
- Timinp
- CatB Ransomware

Cobalt Strike (Custom Loaders)





Cobalt Strike (Watermark)



-

Cobalt Strike

Date	MD5	Watermark
2020-05-20	0 9a221336204d671fafd830c84d9bdc26	985457035
2021-02-20	6 897bfb316d2e8ff72031a3332842be0f	1421888813
2021-09-17	7 90cc1835823d5f86cd1947b03e6111a9	1028153346
2021-09-18	8 6a3c69384237078b6ab03ab7c38970ca	1028153346
2021-10-20	6 76449d55107fcc7cd666514892879aae	1570652404
2022-03-24	4 426ee09eaa0d8940ac5f730d1c48be7c	164069343
2022-04-23	1 634c08a0dac337f3c2cde4dfdd03ca5f	1028153346
2022-04-22	1 9755ee49da758de56286ee9fc512ed5d	363348564
2023-02-08	8 9c5658ba8a8ab9e92c96f13247d3b17e	373441684
2023-02-15	5 6171eaf5a3ac9500c8043d2fecc589cd	1444764933
2023-03-10	0 0d76b20ab79afaf650aa12ea7e448d2f	1578452238
2023-04-23	1 900ead32a061c7047a4e438589102d25	0
2023-06-28	8 f8c137c83b6dfdeb9f0403ea7e2c51c7	1299761752

MGDrive



TEAM**T5**

DoorMe





POSTs command including the HTTP IISSessions header md5(fuckme)



Infected IIS server

v7 = SLOBYTE(v28[0]);
LOBYTE(v37) = v28[0];
LOBYTE(v38) = ~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x65 v37 & 0x9A;// Registry\\M
v34[1] = (char)v38;
LOBYTE(v37) = v7;
LOBYTE(v38) = (~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x5A v37 & 0xA5) ^ 0x3D;
v6[2] = (char)v38;
LOBYTE(v37) = v7;
LOBYTE(v38) = (~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x9E v37 & 0x61) ^ 0xF7;
v6[3] = (char)v38;
LOBYTE(v37) = v7;
LOBYTE(v38) = ~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x73 v37 & 0x8C;
v6[4] = (char)v38;
LOBYTE(v37) = v7;
LOBYTE(v38) = (~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x84 v37 & 0x7B) ^ 0xF0;
v6[5] = (char)v38;
LOBYTE(v37) = v7;
LOBYTE(v38) = ~(_BYTE)v37 & 0x72 v37 & 0x8D;
v6[6] = (char)v38;

Compiler-level obfuscation

DoorMe





```
Timinp
```

Tor $(1 = 0; 1 < V_5; ++1)$ *(*(v4 + 0x81C) + i) ^= 0x95u; // overwrite shellcode VirtualProtect(*(v4 + 0x81C), v5, PAGE_READWRITE, floldProtect); v7 = dword 1008FA44;for (j = 0; j < *(v7 + 4); ++j) $(*v7 + i) ^{=} 0x95u;$ // overwrite mz header VirtualProtect(*v7, *(v7 + 4), PAGE_READWRITE, floldProtect); FileW = CreateFileW((dword_1008FA44 + 0x14), 0x80000000, 1u, 0, 3u, 0x80u, 0); $v4 = dword_{1008FA44};$









- Discovered in a TW telecommunication agency
 - Uses the same MSDTC chain they've been using for 3+ years
 - Uses similar decoding mechanism
 - Signed with valid certificate from "coolschool"

Name coolschool	
Status Valid	
Issuer Sectigo Public Code Signing CA R36	
Valid From 12:00 AM 10/05/2022	
Valid To 11:59 PM 10/04/2024	
Valid Usage Code Signing	
Algorithm sha384RSA	
Thumbprint B8818B7BB5F4E617E451F43196BFEAB	E6A8B9
Serial Number 4D EB 26 44 A5 AD 14 88 F9 8F 6A 8D 6	B CA 1F

792 AB



- Signed with valid certificate from "coolschool"
 - Several samples linked to the certificate contains icon hash linked to Case Study #1



Sigr	iers	
— c	oolschool	
	Name	coolschool
	Status	Valid
	Issuer	Sectigo Public Code Sigr
	Valid From	12:00 AM 10/05/2022
	Valid To	11:59 PM 10/04/2024
	Valid Usage	Code Signing
	Algorithm	sha384RSA
	Thumbprint	B8818B7BB5F4E617E45
	Serial Number	4D EB 26 44 A5 AD 14 8







- Matches pattern used by same actor discovered in other cases
 - <noun>[A-Z][\d]{3,4}@protonmail.com
- BTC wallet only had tiny bit of traffic on April 29, 2023

Summary

\$7.90

4/29/2023, 23:45:06

This address has transacted 4 times on the Bitcoin Total Received 0 Total Sent 0 Total Volume blockchain. It has received a total of 0.00027204 BTC 0.00027204 BTC 0.00000000 BTC 0.00027204 BTC \$7.90 and has sent a total of 0.00000000 BTC \$0.00 \$7.90 \$0.00 The current value of this address is 0.00027204 BTC Transactions 4 Transactions From bc1q-5wm3 @ ID: 3c93-dae6 🖻 0.00006801 BTC • \$1.97 \sim 4/29/2023. 23:45:39 Fee 1.6K Sats • \$0.46 To 2 Outputs ID: 45a7-7f6e 🔁 From bc1q-5vus 🗈 0.00006801 BTC • \$1.97 \sim 4/29/2023, 23:44:46 To 2 Outputs Fee 1.6K Sats • \$0.46 0.00006801 BTC • \$1.97 ID: d903-4eba 🕒 From bc1q-c89z Fee 1.6K Sats • \$0.46 4/29/2023. 23:45:45 To 2 Outputs ID: 0add-4d98 🕤 From bc1q-9pyr 🗅

To 2 Outputs

0.00006801 BTC • \$1.97 Fee 1.6K Sats • \$0.46

35



• Similar samples use identical email pattern & provider

- Uses .bak9 extension
 - Matches another ransomware incident against Indian medical university
 - Also linked to a Chinese-nexus group based on INCERT investigation





• Similar samples use identical email pattern & provider

Uses .bak9 extension

- Matches another ransomware incident against Indian medical university
- Also linked to a Chinese-nexus group based on INCERT investigation



The AIIMS cyberattack and its China links: What we know so far

As the probe into the AIIMS cyberattack reveals China links, we explain what the investigation has uncovered so far, the authorities' response and some lessons that this case leaves us with.

Written by <u>Mahender Singh Manral</u>, <u>Kaunain Sheriff M</u>, Edited by Explained Desk New Delhi | Updated: December 16, 2022 06:58 IST

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https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/aiims-cyber-attackat-least-five-servers-infected-have-data-of-3-4-crore-patients-8297028/



Use of Various Hacktools



Greaktive / tsh Public				
Tiny SHell - An open-source UN	IIX backdoor (I'm not the author!)			
packetstormsecurity.org/files/3	1650/tsh-0.6.tgz.html			
☆ 496 stars 양 131 forks -∿-	L-codes / Neo-reGeorg	ublic		
☆ Star	Neo-reGeorg is a project that see	eks to aggressively refactor reGeorg		
<> Code 🕢 Issues 👬 Pul	화 GPL-3.0 license	G rootkiter / EarthWorm Public		
ှို master 🗕	값 2.5k stars 및 399 forks -~ / 값 Star	Tool for tunnel		
	<> Code 💿 Issues 6 🟦	 ♂ rootkiter.com/earthworm ☆ 256 stars ♀ 129 forks 小 Activities 	ity	
		ර් Star		Q Notifications
	우 master ←	<> Code 💿 Issues 👫 Pull requ	ests 🕑 Actions 🖽 Projects	🖽 Wiki 🕕 Security 🛛 😶
		💡 master 👻		Go to file

TTPs: Infrastructures



Use of Cloud Services





GitHub (C2 download)





C2 Stations TEAM**T5** Austria 4 South Korea Hong Kong Romania USA 4 Legend 1 - 1.75 1.75 - 2.5 2.5 - 3.25 3.25 - 4 4 - 4.75 4.75 - 5.5 5.5 - 6.25 6.25 - 7

Case Study #1 Spear phishing -> Healthcare



- Email was sent via a legitimate email server from a tertiary school
 - Compromised and abused
- Fake resume as lure
- Self-extracted RAR
 - Contains a resume, encoded Cobalt Strike Beacon and its loader

履	歷	表
---	---	---

一、 個人資料		
PERSONAL INFO		
姓名 NAME		
聯絡電話 PHONE NUMBER	-	
電子郵件 EMAIL ADDRESS		
現在地址 PRESENT ADDRESS		

二、教育程度 EDUCATION			
等別 GRADE	學校名稱 NAME OF SCHOOL	科系 MAJOR SUBJECT	備註
初中 SECONDARY			
高中 HIGH		1	
大學 COLLEGE			

工作地點 LOCATION	職務 JOB DESCRIBTION	起迄時間 TIME
	•	





File type	File size					
PE32 -	444.60 KiB					
Scan	E	ndianness	Mode	Architecture	Туре	
Automatic	•	LE	32-bit	1386	GUI	
 PE32 Operation syste sfc: WinRAR(-)[- Compiler: EP:Mi Compiler: Microsof Tool: Visual Stuc Archive: RAR(5)] Overlay: Binary Archive: RAR 	em: Windows(XP)[13] icrosoft Visual C/C+ osoft Visual C/C++(* ft Linker(14.00.2421) dio(2015) [-] R(5)	36, 32-bit, GU + (2013-2017 9.00.24215)[(5)	li])[EXE32] C++]		S S S S S S S S	

	🖻 sample.exe Properties		X		
	Details	Name	Size	Packed Si	Modified
	General	😿 resume.doc	44 544	9 257	2020-05-27 00:17
Sigr		📻 📄 temp.tmp	260 617	122 840	2020-05-31 20:24
Dir	Dir	test.exe	93 184	40 573	2020-06-02 18:08



- Fake resume for volunteering at a certain healthcare organization as lure
- Self-extracted RAR
 - Contains a resume, encoded Cobalt Strike Beacon and its loader

加入志工隊申請表						
※志工請填寫雙線區內資料欄 填寫日期:						
姓 名			主要專長*表	代碼:		
性 別			次要專長(1)*表-	代碼:		
身分證字號			次要專長(2)*表	代碼:□ □		
出生別	□民國前	✔民國	服務項目*表二	代碼:□ □		
出生日期			電話(0):			
			電話(#):			
職 業						
學 歷						
地址						





File type	File size						
PE32 -	448.57 Kil	3					
Scan		Endiannes	ss	Mode			
Automatic	LE		32-bit				
 PE32 Operation system: Windows(XP)[I386, 32-bit, GUI] sfx: WinRAR(-)[-] Compiler: EP:Microsoft Visual C/C++(2013-2017)[EXE32] Compiler: Microsoft Visual C/C++(19.00.24215)[C++] Linker: Microsoft Linker(14.00.24215) Tool: Visual Studio(2015) Archive: RAR(5)[-] Overlay: Binary Archive: Name Size Packed Size Modified Tz.exe 91 648 40 105 2020-05-20 18:38 temp.tmp 267 273 124 721 2020-05-21 00:04 13 185 13 185 13 185 13 185 14 2020-05-21 00:04 14 18 5 15 18 5 2020-05-20 18:38 Emp.tmp 267 273 124 721 2020-05-20 18:38 267 273 124 72							



Generic dental advice as lure

- Self-extracted RAR
 - Contains a document, custom loader, and encoded Cobalt Strike beacon inside an encrypted ZIP file
 - Encrypted ZIP embedded
 - Contains "CFG1D19"
 - Decimal-encoded payload
 - Still used by the same group till this day

Q: 飯後應該立刻刷牙?

A: 傳統觀念認為:「飯後應該立刻刷牙」。但是, 腔環境偏向酸性,牙齒的琺瑯質容易軟化,如果馬 瑯質出現微小磨損,因此,建議飯後不可立刻刷充 如果會擔心飯後沒有馬上刷牙,反而增加蛀牙的機 傷害牙齒,其實還有一個折衷的方法,建議飯後5 尤其是吃過特別酸或甜的食物,例如檸檬、含糖會 讓水流急速沖刷牙齒、牙縫,就可以降低口腔酸性 齒保健觀念而言,不建議直接吃檸檬,檸檬汁最好 細菌滋生的養分,對全身健康也不好,因此,建調









Summary





- All the spear phishing files were prepped almost simultaneously with the launch of the attack
 - May 2020
- Heavily abused Cobalt Strike
 - Uses decimal-encoded payload
 - Part of their arsenal even till present day

Case Study #2 ProxyLogon Post-exp









9/15/2021 03:01pm



a.aspx .NET assembly loader





9/17/2021 04:30 PM ~ 05:16 PM





System.Data.DataSet ds = new System.Data.DataSet(); System.Data.SqlClient.SqlCommand cmd = new System.Data.SqlClient.SqlCommand(sqlStr, connection); System.Data.SqlClient.SqlDataAdapter da = new System.Data.SqlClient.SqlDataAdapter(cmd); da.Fill(ds); System.Data.DataTable dataTable = ds.Tables[0];

if (dataTable.Rows.Count==0)

}

lblInfo.Text = "没有需要导出的数据!";
lblInfo.ForeColor = System.Drawing.Color.Blue;
return;





Summary





- Attack occurred around mid-September 2021
- Leverages unpatched exploits and numerous open-source projects as part of the post-exploitation actions
- Deploys various webshells and .NET backdoors
- Relies heavily upon the MSDTC DLL hijacking technique

Conclusion



Key Takeaways



CamoFei has launched massive attacks all over the world
 APT attacks targeting healthcare is increasing and expanding
 CamoFei TTP

- Abuse legitimate Windows service as a launcher
- Abuse cloud service for anti-tracking
- Use ransomware to erase the traces





Healthcare should strengthen its security capabilities
Double-check emails
Update and patch software vulnerabilities
Limit the usage of cloud services

THANK YOU!

Zih-Cing Liao





duckll@teamt5.org



still@teamt5.org



Persistent Cyber Threat Hunters