

# Detect XSL Script Abuse via msxsl and wmic, Detection Strategy DET0205

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## AN0581

Execution of XSL scripts via msxsl.exe or wmic.exe using embedded JScript or VBScript for proxy execution. Detection correlates process creation, command-line patterns, and module load behavior of scripting components (e.g., jscript.dll).

### Log Sources

### Mutable Elements

Field	Description
CommandLinePattern	May need to tune based on encoded input or custom extensions (e.g., .jpeg instead of .xsl).
ParentProcess	Legitimate administrative or developer tools may use msxsl; validate the parent process chain.
TimeWindow	Temporal correlation window between script engine DLL load and suspicious process spawn.
RemoteXSLDomainWhitelist	Filter known safe URLs used by enterprise for XSL transformations.

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Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/detectionstrategies/DET0205#AN0581>