

Obfuscated Files or Information: Software Packing, Sub-technique T1027.002 - Enterprise

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[C0025 2016 Ukraine Electric Power Attack](#)

During the [2016 Ukraine Electric Power Attack](#), [Sandworm Team](#) used UPX to pack a copy of [Mimikatz](#).^[3]

[S0504 Anchor](#)

[Anchor](#) has come with a packed payload.^[4]

[G1007 Aqin Dragon](#)

[Aqin Dragon](#) has used the Themida packer to obfuscate malicious payloads.^[5]

[S0622 AppleSeed](#)

[AppleSeed](#) has used UPX packers for its payload DLL.^[6]

[G0016 APT29](#)

[APT29](#) used UPX to pack files.^[7]

[G0022 APT3](#)

[APT3](#) has been known to pack their tools.^{[8][9]}

[G0082 APT38](#)

[APT38](#) has used several code packing methods such as Themida, Enigma, VMProtect, and Obsidium, to pack their implants.^[10]

[G0087 APT39](#)

[APT39](#) has packed tools with UPX, and has repacked a modified version of [Mimikatz](#) to thwart anti-virus detection.^{[11][12]}

[G0096 APT41](#)

[APT41](#) uses packers such as Themida to obfuscate malicious files.^[13]

[S0373 Astaroth](#)

[Astaroth](#) uses a software packer called Pe123\RPolyCryptor.^[14]

[S0638 Babuk](#)

Versions of [Babuk](#) have been packed. [\[15\]](#)[\[16\]](#)[\[17\]](#)

[S0534 Bazar](#)

[Bazar](#) has a variant with a packed payload. [\[18\]](#)[\[19\]](#)

[S0268 Bisonal](#)

[Bisonal](#) has used the MPRESS packer and similar tools for obfuscation. [\[20\]](#)

[S0520 BLINDINGCAN](#)

[BLINDINGCAN](#) has been packed with the UPX packer. [\[21\]](#)

[C0017 C0017](#)

During [C0017](#), [APT41](#) used VMProtect to slow the reverse engineering of malicious binaries. [\[22\]](#)

[S0020 China Chopper](#)

[China Chopper](#)'s client component is packed with UPX. [\[23\]](#)

[S0611 Clop](#)

[Clop](#) has been packed to help avoid detection. [\[24\]](#)[\[25\]](#)

[S1105 COATHANGER](#)

The first stage of [COATHANGER](#) is delivered as a packed file. [\[26\]](#)

[S0614 CostaBricks](#)

[CostaBricks](#) can implement a custom-built virtual machine mechanism to obfuscate its code. [\[27\]](#)

[S0527 CSPY Downloader](#)

[CSPY Downloader](#) has been packed with UPX. [\[28\]](#)

[S0625 Cuba](#)

[Cuba](#) has a packed payload when delivered. [\[29\]](#)

[G0070 Dark Caracal](#)

[Dark Caracal](#) has used UPX to pack [Bandook](#). [\[30\]](#)

[S0334 DarkComet](#)

[DarkComet](#) has the option to compress its payload using UPX or MPRESS. [\[31\]](#)

[S0187 Daserf](#)

A version of [Daserf](#) uses the MPRESS packer. [\[32\]](#)

[S0281 Dok](#)

[Dok](#) is packed with an UPX executable packer. [\[33\]](#)

[S0695 Donut](#)

[Donut](#) can generate packed code modules. [\[34\]](#)

[S0694 DRATzarus](#)

[DRATzarus](#)'s dropper can be packed with UPX. [\[35\]](#)

[S0024 Dyre](#)

[Dyre](#) has been delivered with encrypted resources and must be unpacked for execution. [\[36\]](#)

[S0554 Egregor](#)

[Egregor](#)'s payloads are custom-packed, archived and encrypted to prevent analysis. [\[37\]](#)[\[38\]](#)

[G0066 Elderwood](#)

[Elderwood](#) has packed malware payloads before delivery to victims. [\[39\]](#)

[S0367 Emotet](#)

[Emotet](#) has used custom packers to protect its payloads. [\[40\]](#)

[S0512 FatDuke](#)

[FatDuke](#) has been regularly repacked by its operators to create large binaries and evade detection. [\[41\]](#)

[S0182 FinFisher](#)

A [FinFisher](#) variant uses a custom packer. [\[42\]](#)[\[43\]](#)

[S0628 FYAnti](#)

[FYAnti](#) has used ConfuserEx to pack its .NET module. [\[44\]](#)

[G0093 GALLIUM](#)

[GALLIUM](#) packed some payloads using different types of packers, both known and custom. [\[45\]](#)

[S0588 GoldMax](#)

[GoldMax](#) has been packed for obfuscation. [\[46\]](#)

[S0342 GreyEnergy](#)

[GreyEnergy](#) is packed for obfuscation. [\[47\]](#)

[S0132 H1N1](#)

[H1N1](#) uses a custom packing algorithm. [\[48\]](#)

[S0601 Hildegard](#)

[Hildegard](#) has packed ELF files into other binaries. [\[49\]](#)

[S0431 HotCroissant](#)

[HotCroissant](#) has used the open source UPX executable packer. [\[50\]](#)

[S0398 HyperBro](#)

[HyperBro](#) has the ability to pack its payload. [\[51\]](#)

[S0483 IcedID](#)

[IcedID](#) has packed and encrypted its loader module. [\[52\]](#)

[S0283 jRAT](#)

[jRAT](#) payloads have been packed. [\[53\]](#)

[G0094 Kimsuky](#)

[Kimsuky](#) has packed malware with UPX. [\[6\]](#)

[S0356 KONNI](#)

[KONNI](#) has been packed for obfuscation. [\[54\]](#)

[S1160 Latrodectus](#)

The [Latrodectus](#) payload has been packed for obfuscation. [\[55\]](#)

[S0513 LiteDuke](#)

[LiteDuke](#) has been packed with multiple layers of encryption. [\[41\]](#)

[S1202 LockBit 3.0](#)

[LockBit 3.0](#) can use code packing to hinder analysis. [\[56\]](#)[\[57\]](#)

[S0447 Lokibot](#)

[Lokibot](#) has used several packing methods for obfuscation. [\[58\]](#)

[S0532 Lucifer](#)

[Lucifer](#) has used UPX packed binaries. [\[59\]](#)

[S0409 Machete](#)

[Machete](#) has been packed with NSIS. [\[60\]](#)

[G1051 Medusa Group](#)

[Medusa Group](#) has packed the code of dropped kernel drivers using the packer ASM Guard. [\[61\]](#)

[S0530 Melcoz](#)

[Melcoz](#) has been packed with VMProtect and Themida. [\[62\]](#)

[S0455 Metamorfo](#)

[Metamorfo](#) has used VMProtect to pack and protect files. [\[63\]](#)

[S0083 Misdad](#)

[Misdad](#) was typically packed using UPX. [\[64\]](#)

[S1026 Mongall](#)

[Mongall](#) has been packed with Themida. [\[5\]](#)

[G1019 MoustachedBouncer](#)

[MoustachedBouncer](#) has used malware plugins packed with Themida. [\[65\]](#)

[S0198 NETWIRE](#)

[NETWIRE](#) has used .NET packer tools to evade detection. [\[66\]](#)

[C0002 Night Dragon](#)

During [Night Dragon](#), threat actors used software packing in its tools. [\[67\]](#)

[S0264 OopsIE](#)

[OopsIE](#) uses the SmartAssembly obfuscator to pack an embedded .Net Framework assembly used for C2. [\[68\]](#)

[C0022 Operation Dream Job](#)

During [Operation Dream Job](#), [Lazarus Group](#) packed malicious .db files with Themida to evade detection. [\[35\]](#)[\[69\]](#)
[\[70\]](#)

[C0016 Operation Dust Storm](#)

For [Operation Dust Storm](#), the threat actors used UPX to pack some payloads. [\[64\]](#)

[C0005 Operation Spalax](#)

For [Operation Spalax](#), the threat actors used a variety of packers, including CyaX, to obfuscate malicious executables. [\[71\]](#)

[S0352 OSX_OCEANLOTUS.D](#)

[OSX_OCEANLOTUS.D](#) has a variant that is packed with UPX. [\[72\]](#)

[G0040 Patchwork](#)

A [Patchwork](#) payload was packed with UPX. [\[73\]](#)

[S0650 QakBot](#)

[QakBot](#) can encrypt and pack malicious payloads. [\[74\]](#)

[S0565 Raindrop](#)

[Raindrop](#) used a custom packer for its [Cobalt Strike](#) payload, which was compressed using the LZMA algorithm. [\[75\]](#)[\[76\]](#)

[S1130 Raspberry Robin](#)

[Raspberry Robin](#) contains multiple payloads that are packed for defense evasion purposes and unpacked on runtime. [\[77\]](#)

[S1240 RedLine Stealer](#)

[RedLine Stealer](#) has used obfuscation tools such as DNGuard and Boxed App to pack their code. [\[78\]](#)

[G0106 Rocke](#)

[Rocke](#)'s miner has created UPX-packed files in the Windows Start Menu Folder. [\[79\]](#)[\[80\]](#)[\[81\]](#)

[S0085 S-Type](#)

Some [S-Type](#) samples have been packed with UPX. [\[64\]](#)

[S1210 Sagerunex](#)

[Sagerunex](#) has used VMProtect to pack and obscure itself. [\[82\]](#)

[G1031 Saint Bear](#)

[Saint Bear](#) clones .NET assemblies from other .NET binaries as well as cloning code signing certificates from other software to obfuscate the initial loader payload. [\[83\]](#)

[S1018 Saint Bot](#)

[Saint Bot](#) has been packed using a dark market crypter. [\[84\]](#)

[S0461 SDBbot](#)

[SDBbot](#) has used a packed installer file. [\[85\]](#)

[S0053 SeaDuke](#)

[SeaDuke](#) has been packed with the UPX packer. [\[86\]](#)

[C0058 SharePoint ToolShell Exploitation](#)

During [SharePoint ToolShell Exploitation](#), threat actors UPX-packed malicious payloads including 4L4MD4R ransomware. [\[87\]](#)

[S0444 ShimRat](#)

[ShimRat](#)'s loader has been packed with the compressed [ShimRat](#) core DLL and the legitimate DLL for it to hijack. [\[88\]](#)

[S0543 Spark](#)

[Spark](#) has been packed with Enigma Protector to obfuscate its contents. [\[89\]](#)

[S1030 Squirrelwaffle](#)

[Squirrelwaffle](#) has been packed with a custom packer to hide payloads. [\[90\]\[91\]](#)

[G1053 Storm-0501](#)

[Storm-0501](#) has used Themida to pack [Cobalt Strike](#) payloads. [\[92\]](#)

[S1183 StrelaStealer](#)

[StrelaStealer](#) variants have used packers to obfuscate payloads and make analysis more difficult. [\[93\]](#)

[S0663 SysUpdate](#)

[SysUpdate](#) has been packed with VMProtect. [\[51\]\[94\]](#)

[G1018 TA2541](#)

[TA2541](#) has used a .NET packer to obfuscate malicious files. [\[95\]](#)

[G0092 TA505](#)

[TA505](#) has used UPX to obscure malicious code. [\[85\]](#)

[G0139 TeamTNT](#)

[TeamTNT](#) has used UPX and Ezuri packer to pack its binaries. [\[96\]](#)

[G0089 The White Company](#)

[The White Company](#) has obfuscated their payloads through packing. [\[97\]](#)

[G0027 Threat Group-3390](#)

[Threat Group-3390](#) has packed malware and tools, including using VMProtect. [\[98\]](#)[\[51\]](#)

[S0671 Tomiris](#)

[Tomiris](#) has been packed with UPX. [\[99\]](#)

[S0678 Torisma](#)

[Torisma](#) has been packed with Iz4 compression. [\[70\]](#)

[S0266 TrickBot](#)

[TrickBot](#) leverages a custom packer to obfuscate its functionality. [\[100\]](#)

[S0094 Trojan.Karagany](#)

[Trojan.Karagany](#) samples sometimes use common binary packers such as UPX and Aspack on top of a custom Delphi binary packer. [\[101\]](#)[\[102\]](#)

[S1196 Troll Stealer](#)

[Troll Stealer](#) has been delivered as a VMProtect-packed binary. [\[103\]](#)[\[104\]](#)

[S0022 Uroburos](#)

[Uroburos](#) uses a custom packer. [\[105\]](#)[\[106\]](#)

[S0476 Valak](#)

[Valak](#) has used packed DLL payloads. [\[107\]](#)

[S0257 VERMIN](#)

[VERMIN](#) is initially packed. [\[108\]](#)

[G1017 Volt Typhoon](#)

[Volt Typhoon](#) has used the Ultimate Packer for Executables (UPX) to obfuscate the FRP client files (BrightmetricAgent.exe and SMSvcService.ex) and the port scanning utility ScanLine. [\[109\]](#)

[S1207 XLoader](#)

[XLoader](#) uses various packers, including CyaX, to obfuscate malicious executables. [\[110\]](#)

[S0248 yty](#)

[yty](#) packs a plugin with UPX. [\[111\]](#)

[S0251 Zebrocy](#)

[Zebrocy](#)'s Delphi variant was packed with UPX. [\[112\]](#)[\[113\]](#)

[S0230 ZeroT](#)

Some [ZeroT](#) DLL files have been packed with UPX. [\[114\]](#)

[G0128 ZIRCONIUM](#)

[ZIRCONIUM](#) has used multi-stage packers for exploit code. [\[115\]](#)

Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1027/002>