

Obfuscated Files or Information: Encrypted/Encoded File, Sub-technique T1027.013 - Enterprise

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[C0057 3CX Supply Chain Attack](#)

During the [3CX Supply Chain Attack](#), [AppleJeuS](#) encrypts its dynamic library files (.dll) using RC4, and when loaded only decrypts specific portions of the file using the key `3jB(2bsG#@c7`.^[3]

[G0026 APT18](#)

[APT18](#) obfuscates strings in the payload.^[4]

[G0073 APT19](#)

[APT19](#) used Base64 to obfuscate payloads.^[5]

[G0007 APT28](#)

[APT28](#) encrypted a .dll payload using RTL and a custom encryption algorithm. [APT28](#) has also obfuscated payloads with base64, XOR, and RC4.^{[6][7][8][9][10]}

[G0050 APT32](#)

[APT32](#) has performed code obfuscation, including encoding payloads using Base64 and using a framework called "Dont-Kill-My-Cat (DKMC). [APT32](#) also encrypts the library used for network exfiltration with AES-256 in CBC mode in their macOS backdoor.^{[11][12][13][14][15][16][17]}

[G0064 APT33](#)

[APT33](#) has used base64 to encode payloads.^[18]

[G0087 APT39](#)

[APT39](#) has used malware to drop encrypted CAB files.^[19]

[C0040 APT41 DUST](#)

[APT41 DUST](#) used encrypted payloads decrypted and executed in memory.^[20]

[S0456 Aria-body](#)

[Aria-body](#) has used an encrypted configuration file for its loader.^[21]

[S0373 Astaroth](#)

[Astaroth](#) has used an XOR-based algorithm to encrypt payloads twice with different keys.^[22]

[S0438 Attor](#)

Strings in [Attor](#)'s components are encrypted with a XOR cipher, using a hardcoded key and the configuration data, log files and plugins are encrypted using a hybrid encryption scheme of Blowfish-OFB combined with RSA.^[23]

[S0347 AuditCred](#)

[AuditCred](#) encrypts the configuration.^[24]

[S0473 Avenger](#)

[Avenger](#) has the ability to XOR encrypt files to be sent to C2.^[25]

[S0534 Bazar](#)

[Bazar](#) has used XOR, RSA2, and RC4 encrypted files.^{[26][27][28]}

[S1246 BeaverTail](#)

[BeaverTail](#) has obfuscated strings of code with Base64 encoding within the JavaScript version of the malware.^[29]

^{[30][31]} [BeaverTail](#) has also utilized the open-source tool JavaScript-Obfuscator to obfuscate strings and functions.^{[32][33]}

[S0574 BendyBear](#)

[BendyBear](#) has encrypted payloads using RC4 and XOR.^[34]

[S0268 Bisonal](#)

[Bisonal](#)'s DLL file and non-malicious decoy file are encrypted with RC4 and some function name strings are obfuscated.^{[35][36]}

[S0570 BitPaymer](#)

[BitPaymer](#) has used RC4-encrypted strings and string hashes to avoid identifiable strings within the binary.^[37]

[G1002 BITTER](#)

[BITTER](#) has used a RAR SFX dropper to deliver malware.^[38]

[S1180 BlackByte Ransomware](#)

[BlackByte Ransomware](#) is distributed as an encrypted payload.^[39]

[S0520 BLINDINGCAN](#)

[BLINDINGCAN](#) has obfuscated code using Base64 encoding.^[40]

[G0108 Blue Mockingbird](#)

[Blue Mockingbird](#) has obfuscated the wallet address in the payload binary. [\[41\]](#)

[S0657 BLUELIGHT](#)

[BLUELIGHT](#) has a XOR-encoded payload. [\[42\]](#)

[S1226 BOOKWORM](#)

[BOOKWORM](#) has utilized Base64 encoding to obfuscate its payload. [\[43\]](#)

[S0415 BOOSTWRITE](#)

[BOOSTWRITE](#) has encoded its payloads using a ChaCha stream cipher with a 256-bit key and 64-bit Initialization vector (IV) to evade detection. [\[44\]](#)

[S0484 Carberp](#)

[Carberp](#) has used XOR-based encryption to mask C2 server locations within the trojan. [\[45\]](#)

[S0348 Cardinal RAT](#)

[Cardinal RAT](#) encodes many of its artifacts and is encrypted (AES-128) when downloaded. [\[46\]](#)

[S0462 CARROTBAT](#)

[CARROTBAT](#) has the ability to download a base64 encoded payload. [\[47\]](#)

[S1041 Chinoxy](#)

[Chinoxy](#) has encrypted its configuration file. [\[48\]](#)

[S0667 Chrommme](#)

[Chrommme](#) can encrypt sections of its code to evade detection. [\[49\]](#)

[G1052 Contagious Interview](#)

[Contagious Interview](#) has used hexadecimal string encoding to hide critical JavaScript module names, function names, and C2 URLs, which are decoded dynamically at runtime. [\[50\]](#)

[S1235 CorKLOG](#)

[CorKLOG](#) has encrypted collected contents using RC4. [\[51\]](#) [CorKLOG](#) has also utilized XOR encrypted strings. [\[51\]](#)

[S0046 CozyCar](#)

The payload of [CozyCar](#) is encrypted with simple XOR with a rotating key. The [CozyCar](#) configuration file has been encrypted with RC4 keys. [\[52\]](#)

[S1153 Cuckoo Stealer](#)

[Cuckoo Stealer](#) strings are XOR-encrypted. [\[53\]\[54\]](#)

[C0029 Cutting Edge](#)

During [Cutting Edge](#), threat actors used a Base64-encoded Python script to write a patched version of the Ivanti Connect Secure `dsIs` binary. [\[55\]](#)

[S0497 Dacls](#)

[Dacls](#) can encrypt its configuration file with AES CBC. [\[56\]](#)

[S1014 DanBot](#)

[DanBot](#) can Base64 encode its payload. [\[57\]](#)

[G0070 Dark Caracal](#)

[Dark Caracal](#) has obfuscated strings in [Bandook](#) by base64 encoding, and then encrypting them. [\[58\]](#)

[S1111 DarkGate](#)

[DarkGate](#) drops an encrypted PE file, `pe.bin`, and decrypts it during installation. [\[59\]](#) [DarkGate](#) also uses custom base64 encoding schemas in later variations to obfuscate payloads. [\[60\]](#)

[G0012 Darkhotel](#)

[Darkhotel](#) has obfuscated code using RC4, XOR, and RSA. [\[61\]\[62\]](#)

[S1033 DCSrv](#)

[DCSrv](#)'s configuration is encrypted. [\[63\]](#)

[S1052 DEADEYE](#)

[DEADEYE](#) has encrypted its payload. [\[64\]](#)

[S1134 DEADWOOD](#)

[DEADWOOD](#) contains an embedded, AES-encrypted resource named `METADATA` that contains configuration information for follow-on execution. [\[65\]](#)

[S0213 DOGCALL](#)

[DOGCALL](#) is encrypted using single-byte XOR. [\[66\]](#)

[S0695 Donut](#)

[Donut](#) can generate encrypted, compressed/encoded, or otherwise obfuscated code modules. [\[67\]](#)

[S1158 DUSTPAN](#)

[DUSTPAN](#) decrypts an embedded payload. [\[20\]\[68\]](#)

[S1159 DUSTTRAP](#)

[DUSTTRAP](#) begins with an initial launcher that decrypts an AES-128-CFB encrypted file on disk and executes it in memory. [\[20\]](#)

[G0066 Elderwood](#)

[Elderwood](#) has encrypted documents and malicious executables. [\[69\]](#)

[S0081 Elise](#)

[Elise](#) encrypts several of its files, including configuration files. [\[70\]](#)

[S1247 Embargo](#)

[Embargo](#) has encrypted both MDeployer and MS4 Killer payloads with RC4. [\[71\]](#)

[S0082 Emissary](#)

Variants of [Emissary](#) encrypt payloads using various XOR ciphers, as well as a custom algorithm that uses the "srand" and "rand" functions. [\[72\]\[73\]](#)

[S0367 Emotet](#)

[Emotet](#) uses obfuscated URLs to download a ZIP file. [\[74\]](#)

[S0634 EnvyScout](#)

[EnvyScout](#) can Base64 encode payloads. [\[75\]](#)

[S0401 Exaramel for Linux](#)

[Exaramel for Linux](#) uses RC4 for encrypting the configuration. [\[76\]\[77\]](#)

[S0267 FELIXROOT](#)

[FELIXROOT](#) encrypts strings in the backdoor using a custom XOR algorithm. [\[78\]\[79\]](#)

[S0618 FIVEHANDS](#)

The [FIVEHANDS](#) payload is encrypted with AES-128. [\[80\]\[81\]\[82\]](#)

[S0383 FlawedGrace](#)

[FlawedGrace](#) encrypts its C2 configuration files with AES in CBC mode. [\[83\]](#)

[S0661 FoggyWeb](#)

[FoggyWeb](#) has been XOR-encoded. [\[84\]](#)

[G0117 Fox Kitten](#)

[Fox Kitten](#) has base64 encoded payloads to avoid detection. [\[85\]](#)

[S1044 FunnyDream](#)

[FunnyDream](#) can Base64 encode its C2 address stored in a template binary with the

```
xyz0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz_ - or
```

```
xyz0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz_ = character sets. \[48\]
```

[S0410 Fysbis](#)

[Fysbis](#) has been encrypted using XOR and RC4. [\[86\]](#)

[S0168 Gazer](#)

[Gazer](#) logs its actions into files that are encrypted with 3DES. It also uses RSA to encrypt resources. [\[87\]](#)

[S0493 GoldenSpy](#)

[GoldenSpy](#)'s uninstaller has base64-encoded its variables. [\[88\]](#)

[S0588 GoldMax](#)

[GoldMax](#) has written AES-encrypted and Base64-encoded configuration files to disk. [\[89\]](#)[\[90\]](#)

[S0531 Grandoreiro](#)

The [Grandoreiro](#) payload has been delivered encrypted with a custom XOR-based algorithm and also as a base64-encoded ZIP file. [\[22\]](#)[\[91\]](#)[\[91\]](#)

[S0237 GravityRAT](#)

[GravityRAT](#) supports file encryption (AES with the key "lolomycin2017"). [\[92\]](#)

[S0342 GreyEnergy](#)

[GreyEnergy](#) encrypts its configuration files with AES-256 and also encrypts its strings. [\[79\]](#)

[G0043 Group5](#)

[Group5](#) disguised its malicious binaries with several layers of obfuscation, including encrypting the files. [\[93\]](#)

[S0391 HAWKBALL](#)

[HAWKBALL](#) has encrypted the payload with an XOR-based algorithm. [\[94\]](#)

[S0170 Helminth](#)

The [Helminth](#) config file is encrypted with RC4. [\[95\]](#)

[S0698 HermeticWizard](#)

[HermeticWizard](#) has the ability to encrypt PE files with a reverse XOR loop. [\[96\]](#)

[S1249 HexEval Loader](#)

[HexEval Loader](#) has encoded module names and C2 URLs as hexadecimal strings in attempts to evade analysis. [\[50\]\[97\]](#)

[S1027 Heyoka Backdoor](#)

[Heyoka Backdoor](#) can encrypt its payload. [\[98\]](#)

[S0087 Hi-Zor](#)

[Hi-Zor](#) uses various XOR techniques to obfuscate its components. [\[99\]](#)

[S0394 HiddenWasp](#)

[HiddenWasp](#) encrypts its configuration and payload. [\[100\]](#)

[G0126 Higaisa](#)

[Higaisa](#) used Base64 encoded compressed payloads. [\[101\]\[102\]](#)

[S0601 Hildegard](#)

[Hildegard](#) has encrypted an ELF file. [\[103\]](#)

[S0232 HOMEFRY](#)

Some strings in [HOMEFRY](#) are obfuscated with XOR x56. [\[104\]](#)

[S0431 HotCroissant](#)

[HotCroissant](#) has encrypted strings with single-byte XOR and base64 encoded RC4. [\[105\]](#)

[S0398 HyperBro](#)

[HyperBro](#) can be delivered encrypted to a compromised host. [\[106\]](#)

[S0483 IcedID](#)

[IcedID](#) has utilized encrypted binaries and base64 encoded strings. [\[107\]](#)

[G0100 Inception](#)

[Inception](#) has encrypted malware payloads dropped on victim machines with AES and RC4 encryption. [\[108\]](#)

[S1245 InvisibleFerret](#)

[InvisibleFerret](#) has utilized the XOR and Base64 encoding for each of its modules. [\[29\]](#) [InvisibleFerret](#) has also obfuscated files with a combination of zlib, Base64 and reverse string order. [\[32\]](#) [InvisibleFerret](#) has also utilized the XOR and Base64 encoding some of its Python scripts. [\[30\]](#)

[S1132 IPsec Helper](#)

[IPsec Helper](#) contains an embedded XML configuration file with an encrypted list of command and control servers. These are written to an external configuration file during execution. [\[65\]](#)

[S0581 IronNetInjector](#)

[IronNetInjector](#) can obfuscate variable names, encrypt strings, as well as base64 encode and Rijndael encrypt payloads. [\[109\]](#)

[S0044 JHUHUGIT](#)

Many strings in [JHUHUGIT](#) are obfuscated with a XOR algorithm. [\[110\]](#)[\[111\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

[S1190 Kapeka](#)

[Kapeka](#) utilizes AES-256 (CBC mode), XOR, and RSA-2048 encryption schemas for various configuration and other objects. [\[112\]](#)

[S0585 Kerrdown](#)

[Kerrdown](#) can encrypt, encode, and compress multiple layers of shellcode. [\[113\]](#)

[S0487 Kessel](#)

[Kessel](#)'s configuration is hardcoded and RC4 encrypted within the binary. [\[114\]](#)

[S1020 Kevin](#)

[Kevin](#) has Base64-encoded its configuration file. [\[115\]](#)

[S0387 KeyBoy](#)

In one version of [KeyBoy](#), string obfuscation routines were used to hide many of the critical values referenced in the malware. [\[116\]](#)

[S1051 KEYPLUG](#)

[KEYPLUG](#) can use a hardcoded one-byte XOR encoded configuration file. [\[64\]](#)

[S0526 KGH_SPY](#)

[KGH_SPY](#) has used encrypted strings in its installer. [\[117\]](#)

[S0356 KONNI](#)

[KONNI](#) is heavily obfuscated and includes encrypted configuration files. [\[118\]](#)

[S0236 Kwampirs](#)

[Kwampirs](#) downloads additional files that are base64-encoded and encrypted with another cipher. [\[119\]](#)

[S1160 Latrodectus](#)

[Latrodectus](#) has used a pseudo random number generator (PRNG) algorithm and a rolling XOR key to obfuscate strings. [\[120\]\[121\]\[122\]](#)

[G0032 Lazarus Group](#)

[Lazarus Group](#) has used multiple types of encryption and encoding for their payloads, including AES, Caracachs, RC4, XOR, Base64, and other tricks such as creating aliases in code for [Native API](#) function names. [\[123\]\[124\]\[125\]\[126\]\[56\]\[127\]\[128\]](#)

[G0065 Leviathan](#)

[Leviathan](#) has obfuscated code using base64. [\[129\]](#)

[S0395 LightNeuron](#)

[LightNeuron](#) encrypts its configuration files with AES-256. [\[130\]](#)

[S1185 LightSpy](#)

[LightSpy](#) encrypts the C2 configuration file using AES with a static key, while the module `.dylib` files use a rolling one-byte encoding for obfuscation. [\[131\]](#)

[S1202 LockBit 3.0](#)

The [LockBit 3.0](#) payload includes an encrypted main component. [\[132\]\[133\]](#)

[S0451 LoudMiner](#)

[LoudMiner](#) has encrypted DMG files. [\[134\]](#)

[S1213 Lumma Stealer](#)

[Lumma Stealer](#) has used AES-encrypted payloads contained within PowerShell scripts. [\[135\]](#)

[S1142 LunarMail](#)

[LunarMail](#) has used RC4 and AES to encrypt strings and its exfiltration configuration respectively. [\[136\]](#)

[S1141 LunarWeb](#)

The [LunarWeb](#) install files have been encrypted with AES-256. [\[136\]](#)

[S1060 Mafalda](#)

[Mafalda](#) has been obfuscated and contains encrypted functions. [\[137\]](#)

[G0059 Magic Hound](#)

[Magic Hound](#) malware has used base64-encoded files and has also encrypted embedded strings with AES. [\[138\]](#)
[\[139\]](#)

[S1182 MagicRAT](#)

[MagicRAT](#) stores base64 encoded command and control URLs in a configuration file, with each URL prefixed with the value `LR02DPt22R`. [\[140\]](#)

[G1026 Malteiro](#)

[Malteiro](#) has used scripts encoded in Base64 certificates to distribute malware to victims. [\[141\]](#)

[S1169 Mango](#)

[Mango](#) contains a series of base64 encoded substrings. [\[142\]](#)

[S1220 MEDUSA](#)

[MEDUSA](#) can XOR encrypt configuration strings. [\[143\]](#)

[S1244 Medusa Ransomware](#)

[Medusa Ransomware](#) has utilized XOR encrypted strings. [\[144\]](#)[\[145\]](#)

[G0045 menuPass](#)

[menuPass](#) has encoded strings in its malware with base64 as well as with a simple, single-byte XOR obfuscation using key 0x40. [\[146\]](#)[\[147\]](#)[\[148\]](#)

[G1013 Metador](#)

[Metador](#) has encrypted their payloads. [\[137\]](#)

[S1059 metaMain](#)

[metaMain](#)'s module file has been encrypted via XOR. [\[149\]](#)

[S0455 Metamorfo](#)

[Metamorfo](#) has encrypted payloads and strings. [\[150\]\[151\]](#)

[S0339 Micropsia](#)

[Micropsia](#) obfuscates the configuration with a custom Base64 and XOR. [\[152\]\[153\]](#)

[S1015 Milan](#)

[Milan](#) can encode files containing information about the targeted system. [\[154\]\[115\]](#)

[S1122 Mispadu](#)

[Mispadu](#) uses a custom algorithm to obfuscate its internal strings and uses hardcoded keys. [\[155\]](#)

[Mispadu](#) also uses encoded configuration files and has encoded payloads using Base64. [\[155\]\[156\]\[141\]](#)

[G0103 Mofang](#)

[Mofang](#) has encrypted payloads before they are downloaded to victims. [\[157\]](#)

[G1036 Moonstone Sleet](#)

[Moonstone Sleet](#) has used encrypted payloads within files for follow-on execution and defense evasion. [\[158\]](#)

[S1221 MOPSLED](#)

[MOPSLED](#) can encrypt configuration files with a custom ChaCha20 algorithm. [\[143\]](#)

[S0284 More_eggs](#)

[More_eggs](#)'s payload has been encrypted with a key that has the hostname and processor family information appended to the end. [\[159\]](#)

[G1009 Moses Staff](#)

[Moses Staff](#) has used obfuscated web shells in their operations. [\[63\]](#)

[S0256 Mosquito](#)

[Mosquito](#)'s installer is obfuscated with a custom crypter to obfuscate the installer. [\[160\]](#)

[S0228 NanHaiShu](#)

[NanHaiShu](#) encodes files in Base64. [\[161\]](#)

[C0002 Night Dragon](#)

During [Night Dragon](#), threat actors used a DLL that included an XOR-encoded section. [\[162\]](#)

[S1100 Ninja](#)

The [Ninja](#) payload is XOR encrypted and compressed. [\[163\]](#) [Ninja](#) has also XORed its configuration data with a constant value of `0xAA`. [\[164\]](#)[\[163\]](#)

[S0385 njRAT](#)

[njRAT](#) has included a base64 encoded executable. [\[165\]](#)

[G0049 OilRig](#)

[OilRig](#) has encrypted and encoded data in its malware, including by using base64. [\[166\]](#)[\[167\]](#)[\[168\]](#)[\[169\]](#)[\[170\]](#)

[C0022 Operation Dream Job](#)

During [Operation Dream Job](#), [Lazarus Group](#) encrypted malware such as [DRATzarus](#) with XOR and DLL files with base64. [\[171\]](#)[\[172\]](#)[\[173\]](#)[\[174\]](#)

[C0016 Operation Dust Storm](#)

During [Operation Dust Storm](#), the threat actors encoded some payloads with a single-byte XOR, both skipping the key itself and zeroing in an attempt to avoid exposing the key; other payloads were Base64-encoded. [\[175\]](#)

[C0006 Operation Honeybee](#)

During [Operation Honeybee](#), the threat actors used Base64 to encode files with a custom key. [\[176\]](#)

[C0005 Operation Spalax](#)

For [Operation Spalax](#), the threat actors used XOR-encrypted payloads. [\[177\]](#)

[S0352 OSX_OCEANLOTUS.D](#)

[OSX_OCEANLOTUS.D](#) encrypts its strings in RSA256 and encodes them in a custom base64 scheme and XOR. [\[178\]](#)

[C0042 Outer Space](#)

During [Outer Space](#), [OilRig](#) deployed VBS droppers with obfuscated strings. [\[142\]](#)

[S1233 PAKLOG](#)

[PAKLOG](#) has utilized a simple encoding mechanism to encode characters in the buffer. [\[51\]](#)

[S1050 PcShare](#)

[PcShare](#) has been encrypted with XOR using different 32-long Base16 strings. [\[48\]](#)

[S0587 Penguin](#)

[Penguin](#) has encrypted strings in the binary for obfuscation. [\[179\]](#)

[S0501 PipeMon](#)

[PipeMon](#) modules are stored encrypted on disk. [\[180\]](#)

[S0013 PlugX](#)

[PlugX](#) has leveraged XOR encryption with the key of 123456789. [\[181\]](#)

[S0113 Prikormka](#)

Some resources in [Prikormka](#) are encrypted with a simple XOR operation or encoded with Base64. [\[182\]](#)

[S0613 PS1](#)

[PS1](#) is distributed as a set of encrypted files and scripts. [\[183\]](#)

[G0024 Putter Panda](#)

Droppers used by [Putter Panda](#) use RC4 or a 16-byte XOR key consisting of the bytes 0xA0 – 0xAF to obfuscate payloads. [\[184\]](#)

[S1032 PyDCrypt](#)

[PyDCrypt](#) has been compiled and encrypted with PyInstaller, specifically using the --key flag during the build phase. [\[63\]](#)

[S1242 Qilin](#)

[Qilin](#) can employ several code obfuscation methods, including renaming functions, altering control flows, and encrypting strings. [\[185\]](#)

[S1148 Raccoon Stealer](#)

[Raccoon Stealer](#) uses RC4 encryption for strings and command and control addresses to evade static detection. [\[186\]](#)[\[187\]](#)[\[188\]](#)

[S0565 Raindrop](#)

[Raindrop](#) encrypted its payload using a simple XOR algorithm with a single-byte key. [\[189\]](#)[\[190\]](#)

[S0629 RainyDay](#)

[RainyDay](#) has downloaded as a XOR-encrypted payload. [\[191\]](#)

[S1212 RansomHub](#)

[RansomHub](#) has an encrypted configuration file. [\[192\]](#)

[S1113 RAPIDPULSE](#)

[RAPIDPULSE](#) has the ability to RC4 encrypt and base64 encode decrypted files on compromised servers prior to writing them to stdout. [\[193\]](#)

[S0172 Reaver](#)

[Reaver](#) encrypts some of its files with XOR. [\[194\]](#)

[C0047 RedDelta Modified PlugX Infection Chain Operations](#)

[Mustang Panda](#) stored installation payloads as encrypted files in hidden folders during [RedDelta Modified PlugX Infection Chain Operations](#). [\[195\]](#)

[S0153 RedLeaves](#)

A [RedLeaves](#) configuration file is encrypted with a simple XOR key, 0x53. [\[196\]](#)

[S1240 RedLine Stealer](#)

[RedLine Stealer](#) has encrypted and encoded configuration data with Base64 and XOR functions. [\[197\]](#)

[C0056 RedPenguin](#)

During [RedPenguin](#), [UNC3886](#) generated Base64-encoded files in the FreeBSD shell environment of targeted Juniper devices. [\[198\]](#)[\[199\]](#)

[S0375 Remexi](#)

[Remexi](#) obfuscates its configuration data with XOR. [\[200\]](#)

[S0125 Remsec](#)

Some data in [Remsec](#) is encrypted using RC5 in CBC mode, AES-CBC with a hardcoded key, RC4, or Salsa20. Some data is also base64-encoded. [\[201\]](#)[\[202\]](#)

[S0496 REvil](#)

[REvil](#) has used encrypted strings and configuration files. [\[203\]](#)[\[204\]](#)[\[205\]](#)[\[206\]](#)[\[207\]](#)[\[208\]](#)[\[209\]](#)

[S0433 Rifdoor](#)

[Rifdoor](#) has encrypted strings with a single byte XOR algorithm. [\[105\]](#)

[S0448 Rising Sun](#)

Configuration data used by [Rising Sun](#) has been encrypted using an RC4 stream algorithm. [\[210\]](#)

[S1150 ROADSWEEP](#)

The [ROADSWEEP](#) binary contains RC4 encrypted embedded scripts. [\[211\]\[212\]\[213\]](#)

[S1210 Sagerunex](#)

[Sagerunex](#) can be passed a reference to an XOR-encrypted configuration file at runtime. [\[214\]](#)

[G1031 Saint Bear](#)

[Saint Bear](#) initial payloads included encoded follow-on payloads located in the resources file of the first-stage loader. [\[215\]](#)

[S0074 Sakula](#)

[Sakula](#) uses single-byte XOR obfuscation to obfuscate many of its files. [\[216\]](#)

[S0370 SamSam](#)

[SamSam](#) has been seen using AES or DES to encrypt payloads and payload components. [\[217\]\[218\]](#)

[S0345 Seasalt](#)

[Seasalt](#) obfuscates configuration data. [\[219\]](#)

[C0045 ShadowRay](#)

During [ShadowRay](#), threat actors used Base64-encrypted Python code to evade detection. [\[220\]](#)

[S1019 Shark](#)

[Shark](#) can use encrypted and encoded files for C2 configuration. [\[154\]\[221\]](#)

[G0121 Sidewinder](#)

[Sidewinder](#) has used base64 encoding and ECDH-P256 encryption for payloads. [\[222\]\[223\]\[224\]](#)

[S0468 Skidmap](#)

[Skidmap](#) has encrypted its main payload using 3DES. [\[225\]](#)

[S0633 Sliver](#)

[Sliver](#) can encrypt strings at compile time. [\[226\]\[227\]](#)

[S0226 Smoke Loader](#)

[Smoke Loader](#) uses a simple one-byte XOR method to obfuscate values in the malware. [\[228\]\[229\]](#)

[S1124 SocGholish](#)

[SocGholish](#) has single or double Base-64 encoded references to its second-stage server URLs. [\[230\]](#)

[S0374 SpeakUp](#)

[SpeakUp](#) encodes its second-stage payload with Base64. [\[231\]](#)

[S1232 SplatDropper](#)

[SplatDropper](#) has also utilized XOR encrypted payload. [\[51\]](#)

[S1030 Squirrelwaffle](#)

[Squirrelwaffle](#) has been obfuscated with a XOR-based algorithm. [\[232\]\[233\]](#)

[S1037 STARWHALE](#)

[STARWHALE](#) has been obfuscated with hex-encoded strings. [\[234\]](#)

[S1200 StealBit](#)

[StealBit](#) stores obfuscated DLL file names in its executable. [\[235\]](#)

[S0380 StoneDrill](#)

[StoneDrill](#) has obfuscated its module with an alphabet-based table or XOR encryption. [\[236\]](#)

[G1046 Storm-1811](#)

[Storm-1811](#) XOR encodes a [Cobalt Strike](#) installation payload in a DLL file that is decoded with a hardcoded key when called by a legitimate 7zip installation process. [\[237\]](#)

[S1183 StrelaStealer](#)

[StrelaStealer](#) uses XOR-encoded strings to obfuscate items. [\[238\]](#)

[S0491 StrongPity](#)

[StrongPity](#) has used encrypted strings in its dropper component. [\[239\]\[240\]](#)

[S0603 Stuxnet](#)

[Stuxnet](#) uses encrypted configuration blocks and writes encrypted files to disk. [\[241\]](#)

[S0578 SUPERNOVA](#)

[SUPERNOVA](#) contained Base64-encoded strings. [\[242\]](#)

[S0663 SysUpdate](#)

[SysUpdate](#) can encrypt and encode its configuration file. [\[243\]](#)

[G1018 TA2541](#)

[TA2541](#) has used compressed and char-encoded scripts in operations. [\[244\]](#)

[G0092 TA505](#)

[TA505](#) has password-protected malicious Word documents. [\[245\]](#)

[S0011 Taidoor](#)

[Taidoor](#) can use encrypted string blocks for obfuscation. [\[246\]](#)

[G0139 TeamTNT](#)

[TeamTNT](#) has encrypted its binaries via AES and encoded files using Base64. [\[247\]](#)[\[248\]](#)

[G0027 Threat Group-3390](#)

A [Threat Group-3390](#) tool can encrypt payloads using XOR. [Threat Group-3390](#) malware is also obfuscated using Metasploit's shikata_ga_nai encoder. [\[249\]](#)[\[250\]](#)[\[251\]](#)

[S0665 ThreatNeedle](#)

[ThreatNeedle](#) has been compressed and obfuscated using RC4, AES, or XOR. [\[252\]](#)

[S0131 TINYTYPHON](#)

[TINYTYPHON](#) has used XOR with 0x90 to obfuscate its configuration file. [\[253\]](#)

[S0678 Torisma](#)

[Torisma](#) has been Base64 encoded and AES encrypted. [\[174\]](#)

[G0134 Transparent Tribe](#)

[Transparent Tribe](#) has dropped encoded executables on compromised hosts. [\[254\]](#)

[S0266 TrickBot](#)

[TrickBot](#) uses an AES CBC (256 bits) encryption algorithm for its loader and configuration files. [\[255\]](#)

[G0081 Tropic Trooper](#)

[Tropic Trooper](#) has encrypted configuration files. [\[256\]](#)[\[257\]](#)

[S0263 TYPEFRAME](#)

APIs and strings in some [TYPEFRAME](#) variants are RC4 encrypted. Another variant is encoded with XOR. [\[258\]](#)

[S1164 UPSTYLE](#)

[UPSTYLE](#) stores primary content as base64-encoded objects. [\[259\]](#)[\[260\]](#)

[S0022 Uroburos](#)

[Uroburos](#) can use AES and CAST-128 encryption to obfuscate resources. [\[261\]](#)

[S0386 Ursnif](#)

[Ursnif](#) has used an XOR-based algorithm to encrypt Tor clients dropped to disk. [\[262\]](#) [Ursnif](#) droppers have also been delivered as password-protected zip files that execute base64 encoded [PowerShell](#) commands. [\[263\]](#)

[S0136 USBStealer](#)

Most strings in [USBStealer](#) are encrypted using 3DES and XOR and reversed. [\[264\]](#)

[S0257 VERMIN](#)

[VERMIN](#) is obfuscated using the obfuscation tool called ConfuserEx. [\[265\]](#)

[S1154 VersaMem](#)

[VersaMem](#) encrypted captured credentials with AES then Base64 encoded them before writing to local storage. [\[266\]](#)

[S0180 Volgmer](#)

A [Volgmer](#) variant is encoded using a simple XOR cipher. [\[267\]](#)

[S0612 WastedLocker](#)

The [WastedLocker](#) payload includes encrypted strings stored within the .bss section of the binary file. [\[268\]](#)

[S0579 Waterbear](#)

[Waterbear](#) has used RC4 encrypted shellcode and encrypted functions. [\[269\]](#)

[S0689 WhisperGate](#)

[WhisperGate](#) can Base64 encode strings, store downloaded files in reverse byte order, and use the Eazfuscator tool to obfuscate its third stage. [\[270\]](#)[\[271\]](#)[\[272\]](#)

[G0107 Whitefly](#)

[Whitefly](#) has encrypted the payload used for C2. [\[273\]](#)

[S0466 WindTail](#)

[WindTail](#) can be delivered as a compressed, encrypted, and encoded payload. [\[274\]](#)

[S0430 Winnti for Linux](#)

[Winnti for Linux](#) can encode its configuration file with single-byte XOR encoding. [\[275\]](#)

[S0141 Winnti for Windows](#)

[Winnti for Windows](#) has the ability to encrypt and compress its payload. [\[276\]](#)

[S1065 Woody RAT](#)

[Woody RAT](#) has used Base64 encoded strings and scripts. [\[277\]](#)

[S0658 XCSSET](#)

Older [XCSSET](#) variants use `xxd` to encode modules. Later versions pass an `xxd` or `base64` encoded blob through multiple decoding stages to reconstruct the module name, AppleScript, or shell command. For example, the initial network request uses three layers of hex decoding before executing a curl command in a shell. [\[278\]](#)

[S1207 XLoader](#)

[XLoader](#) features encrypted functions using the RC4 algorithm and bytecode operations. [\[279\]\[280\]](#)

[S1248 XORIndex Loader](#)

[XORIndex Loader](#) has encoded module names and C2 URLs as hexadecimal strings in attempts to evade analysis. [\[281\]](#)

[S0388 YAHOOYAH](#)

[YAHOOYAH](#) encrypts its configuration file using a simple algorithm. [\[282\]](#)

[S0230 ZeroT](#)

[ZeroT](#) has encrypted its payload with RC4. [\[283\]](#)

[S0330 Zeus Panda](#)

[Zeus Panda](#) encrypts strings with XOR. [Zeus Panda](#) also encrypts all configuration and settings in AES and RC4. [\[284\]\[285\]](#)

[S0672 Zox](#)

[Zox](#) has been encoded with Base64. [\[286\]](#)

[S1013 ZxxZ](#)

[ZxxZ](#) has been encoded to avoid detection from static analysis tools. [\[287\]](#)

Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1027/013>