

Process Injection: Process Hollowing, Sub-technique T1055.012 - Enterprise

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[S0331 Agent Tesla](#)

[Agent Tesla](#) has used process hollowing to create and manipulate processes through sections of unmapped memory by reallocating that space with its malicious code. [\[3\]](#)

[S0373 Astaroth](#)

[Astaroth](#) can create a new process in a suspended state from a targeted legitimate process in order to unmap its memory and replace it with malicious code. [\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)

[S0344 Azorult](#)

[Azorult](#) can decrypt the payload into memory, create a new suspended process of itself, then inject a decrypted payload to the new process and resume new process execution. [\[6\]](#)

[S0128 BADNEWS](#)

[BADNEWS](#) has a command to download an .exe and use process hollowing to inject it into a new process. [\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)

[S0234 Bandook](#)

[Bandook](#) has been launched by starting iexplore.exe and replacing it with [Bandook](#)'s payload. [\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)

[S0534 Bazar](#)

[Bazar](#) can inject into a target process including Svchost, Explorer, and cmd using process hollowing. [\[12\]](#)[\[13\]](#)

[S0127 BBSRAT](#)

[BBSRAT](#) has been seen loaded into msixexec.exe through process hollowing to hide its execution. [\[14\]](#)

[G1043 BlackByte](#)

[BlackByte](#) used process hollowing for defense evasion purposes. [\[15\]](#)

[S0660 Clambling](#)

[Clambling](#) can execute binaries through process hollowing. [\[16\]](#)

[S0154 Cobalt Strike](#)

[Cobalt Strike](#) can use process hollowing for execution. [\[17\]](#)[\[18\]](#)

[S1111 DarkGate](#)

[DarkGate](#) leverages process hollowing techniques to evade detection, such as decrypting the content of an encrypted PE file and injecting it into the process vbc.exe. [\[19\]](#)[\[20\]](#)

[S0354 Denis](#)

[Denis](#) performed process hollowing through the API calls CreateRemoteThread, ResumeThread, and Wow64SetThreadContext. [\[21\]](#)

[S0567 Dtrack](#)

[Dtrack](#) has used process hollowing shellcode to target a predefined list of processes from `%SYSTEM32%`. [\[22\]](#)

[S0038 Duqu](#)

[Duqu](#) is capable of loading executable code via process hollowing. [\[23\]](#)

[S0367 Emotet](#)

[Emotet](#) uses a copy of `certutil.exe` stored in a temporary directory for process hollowing, starting the program in a suspended state before loading malicious code. [\[24\]](#)

[S1138 Gootloader](#)

[Gootloader](#) can inject its Delphi executable into ImagingDevices.exe using a process hollowing technique. [\[25\]](#)[\[26\]](#)

[G0078 Gorgon Group](#)

[Gorgon Group](#) malware can use process hollowing to inject one of its trojans into another process. [\[27\]](#)

[S0483 IcedID](#)

[IcedID](#) can inject a [Cobalt Strike](#) beacon into cmd.exe via process hollowing. [\[28\]](#)

[S0189 ISMInjector](#)

[ISMInjector](#) hollows out a newly created process RegASM.exe and injects its payload into the hollowed process. [\[29\]](#)

[G0094 Kimsuky](#)

[Kimsuky](#) has used a file injector DLL to spawn a benign process on the victim's system and inject the malicious payload into it via process hollowing. [\[30\]](#)

[S0447 Lokibot](#)

[Lokibot](#) has used process hollowing to inject itself into legitimate Windows process. [\[31\]](#)[\[32\]](#)

[S1213 Lumma Stealer](#)

[Lumma Stealer](#) has used process hollowing leveraging a legitimate program such as "BitLockerToGo.exe" to inject a malicious payload. [\[33\]](#)

[G0045 menuPass](#)

[menuPass](#) has used process hollowing in iexplore.exe to load the [RedLeaves](#) implant. [\[34\]](#)

[S0198 NETWIRE](#)

The [NETWIRE](#) payload has been injected into benign Microsoft executables via process hollowing. [\[35\]](#)[\[36\]](#)

[S0229 Orz](#)

Some [Orz](#) versions have an embedded DLL known as MockDll that uses process hollowing and [Regsvr32](#) to execute another payload. [\[37\]](#)

[G0040 Patchwork](#)

A [Patchwork](#) payload uses process hollowing to hide the UAC bypass vulnerability exploitation inside svchost.exe. [\[38\]](#)

[S0650 QakBot](#)

[QakBot](#) can use process hollowing to execute its main payload. [\[39\]](#)

[S1130 Raspberry Robin](#)

[Raspberry Robin](#) will execute a legitimate process, then suspend it to inject code for a [Tor](#) client into the process, followed by resumption of the process to enable [Tor](#) client execution. [\[40\]](#)

[S0662 RCSession](#)

[RCSession](#) can launch itself from a hollowed svchost.exe process. [\[41\]](#)[\[16\]](#)[\[42\]](#)

[S1018 Saint Bot](#)

The [Saint Bot](#) loader has used API calls to spawn `MSBuild.exe` in a suspended state before injecting the decrypted [Saint Bot](#) binary into it. [\[43\]](#)

[S0226 Smoke Loader](#)

[Smoke Loader](#) spawns a new copy of `c:\windows\syswow64\explorer.exe` and then replaces the executable code in memory with malware. [\[44\]](#)[\[45\]](#)

[S1086 Snip3](#)

[Snip3](#) can use RunPE to execute malicious payloads within a hollowed Windows process. [\[46\]](#)[\[47\]](#)

[G1018 TA2541](#)

[TA2541](#) has used process hollowing to execute CyberGate malware. [\[48\]](#)

[G0027 Threat Group-3390](#)

A [Threat Group-3390](#) tool can spawn `svchost.exe` and inject the payload into that process. [\[49\]](#)[\[50\]](#)

[S0266 TrickBot](#)

[TrickBot](#) injects into the `svchost.exe` process. [\[51\]](#)[\[52\]](#)[\[53\]](#)[\[54\]](#)

[S0386 Ursnif](#)

[Ursnif](#) has used process hollowing to inject into child processes. [\[55\]](#)

[S0689 WhisperGate](#)

[WhisperGate](#) has the ability to inject its fourth stage into a suspended process created by the legitimate Windows utility `InstallUtil.exe`. [\[56\]](#)[\[57\]](#)

[S1065 Woody_RAT](#)

[Woody_RAT](#) can create a suspended notepad process and write shellcode to delete a file into the suspended process using `NtWriteVirtualMemory`. [\[58\]](#)

[S1207 XLoader](#)

[XLoader](#) uses process hollowing by injecting itself into the `explorer.exe` process and other files within the Windows `SysWOW64` directory. [\[59\]](#)[\[60\]](#)[\[61\]](#)

Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1055/012>