

# Ke3chang, APT15, Mirage, Vixen Panda, GREF, Playful Dragon, RoyalAPT, NICKEL, Nylon Typhoon, Group G0004

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Enterprise [T1087](#) [.001 Account Discovery: Local Account](#)

[Ke3chang](#) performs account discovery using commands such as `net localgroup administrators` and `net group "REDACTED" /domain` on specific permissions groups.<sup>[1]</sup>

[.002 Account Discovery: Domain Account](#)

[Ke3chang](#) performs account discovery using commands such as `net localgroup administrators` and `net group "REDACTED" /domain` on specific permissions groups.<sup>[1]</sup>

Enterprise [T1583](#) [.003 Acquire Infrastructure: Virtual Private Server](#)

[SPACEHOP Activity](#) has used acquired Virtual Private Servers as control systems for devices within the ORB network.<sup>[6]</sup>

[.005 Acquire Infrastructure: Botnet](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has utilized an ORB (operational relay box) network for reconnaissance and vulnerability exploitation.<sup>[6]</sup>

Enterprise [T1071](#) [.001 Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols](#)

[Ke3chang](#) malware including RoyalCli and BS2005 have communicated over HTTP with the C2 server through Internet Explorer (IE) by using the COM interface IWebBrowser2.<sup>[2][4]</sup>

[.004 Application Layer Protocol: DNS](#)

[Ke3chang](#) malware RoyalDNS has used DNS for C2.<sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1560](#) [Archive Collected Data](#)

The [Ke3chang](#) group has been known to compress data before exfiltration.<sup>[1]</sup>

[.001 Archive via Utility](#)

[Ke3chang](#) is known to use 7Zip and RAR with passwords to encrypt data prior to exfiltration.<sup>[1][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1119](#) [Automated Collection](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has performed frequent and scheduled data collection from victim networks.<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1020 Automated Exfiltration](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has performed frequent and scheduled data exfiltration from compromised networks. <sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1547 .001 Boot or Logon Autostart Execution: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder](#)

Several [Ke3chang](#) backdoors achieved persistence by adding a Run key. <sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1059 Command and Scripting Interpreter](#)

Malware used by [Ke3chang](#) can run commands on the command-line interface. <sup>[1][2]</sup>

[.003 Windows Command Shell](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used batch scripts in its malware to install persistence mechanisms. <sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1543 .003 Create or Modify System Process: Windows Service](#)

[Ke3chang](#) backdoor RoyalDNS established persistence through adding a service called `Nwsapagent`. <sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1213 .002 Data from Information Repositories: Sharepoint](#)

[Ke3chang](#) used a SharePoint enumeration and data dumping tool known as spwebmember. <sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1005 Data from Local System](#)

[Ke3chang](#) gathered information and files from local directories for exfiltration. <sup>[1][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1140 Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has deobfuscated Base64-encoded shellcode strings prior to loading them. <sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1587 .001 Develop Capabilities: Malware](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has developed custom malware that allowed them to maintain persistence on victim networks. <sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1114 .002 Email Collection: Remote Email Collection](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used compromised credentials and a .NET tool to dump data from Microsoft Exchange mailboxes. <sup>[2][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1041 Exfiltration Over C2 Channel](#)

[Ke3chang](#) transferred compressed and encrypted RAR files containing exfiltration through the established backdoor command and control channel during operations. <sup>[1]</sup>

Enterprise [T1190 Exploit Public-Facing Application](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has compromised networks by exploiting Internet-facing applications, including vulnerable Microsoft Exchange and SharePoint servers.<sup>[4]</sup>

[SPACEHOP Activity](#) has enabled the exploitation of CVE-2022-27518 and CVE-2022-27518 for illegitimate access.<sup>[7][6]</sup>

Enterprise [T1133 External Remote Services](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has gained access through VPNs including with compromised accounts and stolen VPN certificates.<sup>[2]</sup>  
<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1083 File and Directory Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) uses command-line interaction to search files and directories.<sup>[1][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1105 Ingress Tool Transfer](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used tools to download files to compromised machines.<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1056 .001 Input Capture: Keylogging](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used keyloggers.<sup>[2][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1036 .002 Masquerading: Right-to-Left Override](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used the right-to-left override character in spearphishing attachment names to trick targets into executing .scr and .exe files.<sup>[1]</sup>

[.005 Masquerading: Match Legitimate Resource Name or Location](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has dropped their malware into legitimate installed software paths including:

C:\ProgramFiles\Realtek\Audio\HDA\AERTSr.exe , C:\Program Files (x86)\Foxit Software\Foxit Reader\FoxitRdr64.exe , C:\Program Files (x86)\Adobe\Flash Player\AddIns\airappinstaller\airappinstall.exe , and C:\Program Files (x86)\Adobe\Acrobat Reader DC\Reader\AcroRd64.exe .<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1027 Obfuscated Files or Information](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used Base64-encoded shellcode strings.<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1588 .002 Obtain Capabilities: Tool](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has obtained and used tools such as [Mimikatz](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

[SPACEHOP Activity](#) leverages a C2 framework sourced from a publicly-available Github repository for administration of relay nodes.<sup>[6]</sup>

Enterprise [T1003 .001 OS Credential Dumping: LSASS Memory](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has dumped credentials, including by using [Mimikatz](#).<sup>[1][2][4]</sup>

[.002 OS Credential Dumping: Security Account Manager](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has dumped credentials, including by using gsecdump.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

[.003 OS Credential Dumping: NTDS](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used NTDSDump and other password dumping tools to gather credentials.<sup>[4]</sup>

[.004 OS Credential Dumping: LSA Secrets](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has dumped credentials, including by using gsecdump.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1069 .002 Permission Groups Discovery: Domain Groups](#)

[Ke3chang](#) performs discovery of permission groups `net group /domain`.<sup>[1]</sup>

Enterprise [T1057 Process Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) performs process discovery using `tasklist` commands.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1090 .003 Proxy: Multi-hop Proxy](#)

[SPACEHOP Activity](#) has routed traffic through chains of compromised network devices to proxy C2 communications.<sup>[6]</sup>

Enterprise [T1021 .002 Remote Services: SMB/Windows Admin Shares](#)

[Ke3chang](#) actors have been known to copy files to the network shares of other computers to move laterally.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1018 Remote System Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used network scanning and enumeration tools, including [Ping](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1558 .001 Steal or Forge Kerberos Tickets: Golden Ticket](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used [Mimikatz](#) to generate Kerberos golden tickets.<sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1082 System Information Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) performs operating system information discovery using `systeminfo` and has used implants to identify the system language and computer name.<sup>[1][2][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1614 .001 System Location Discovery: System Language Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used implants to collect the system language ID of a compromised machine.<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1016 System Network Configuration Discovery](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has performed local network configuration discovery using `ipconfig`.<sup>[1][2][4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1049 System Network Connections Discovery](#).

[Ke3chang](#) performs local network connection discovery using `netstat`.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1033 System Owner/User Discovery](#).

[Ke3chang](#) has used implants capable of collecting the signed-in username.<sup>[4]</sup>

Enterprise [T1007 System Service Discovery](#).

[Ke3chang](#) performs service discovery using `net start` commands.<sup>[1]</sup>

Enterprise [T1569 .002 System Services: Service Execution](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used a tool known as RemoteExec (similar to [PsExec](#)) to remotely execute batch scripts and binaries.<sup>[2]</sup>

Enterprise [T1078 Valid Accounts](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used credential dumpers or stealers to obtain legitimate credentials, which they used to gain access to victim accounts.<sup>[4]</sup>

[.004 Cloud Accounts](#)

[Ke3chang](#) has used compromised credentials to sign into victims' Microsoft 365 accounts.<sup>[4]</sup>

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Source: <https://attack.mitre.org/groups/G0004/>