

CryptoFortress mimics TorrentLocker but is a different ransomware

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Ransomware

ESET assess the differences between CryptoFortress and TorrentLocker: two very different strains of ransomware.

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Last week, [Kafeine](#) published a blog post about a [ransomware being distributed by the Nuclear Pack exploit kit](#). This ransomware identify itself as “CryptoFortress”, but the ransom message and payment page both looks like an already known ransomware: [TorrentLocker](#).

After further analysis, ESET researchers found out is the two threats are in fact very different. **It appears the group behind CryptoFortress has stolen the HTML templates with its CSS.** The malware code and the scheme are actually very different. Here is a table summering the similarities and differences:

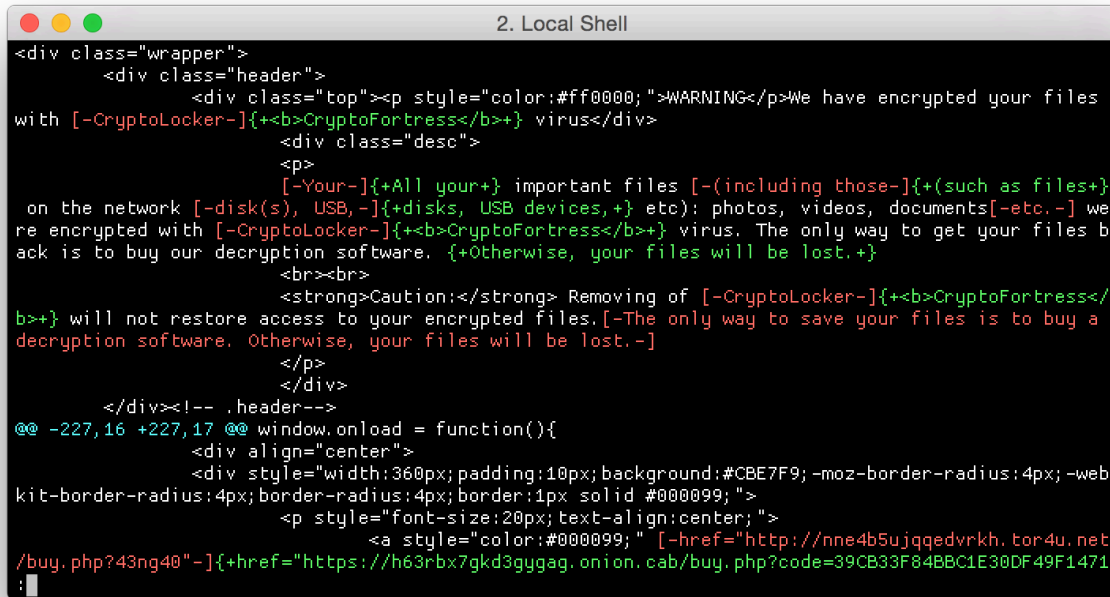
	TorrentLocker	CryptoFortress
Propagation	Spam	Exploit kit
File encryption	AES-256 CBC	AES-256 ECB
Hardcoded C&C server	Yes	No
Ransom page location	Fetched from C&C server	Included in malware
Payment page location	Onion-routed (but same server as the hardcoded C&C)	Onion-routed
AES key encryption	RSA-1024	RSA-1024
Cryptographic library	LibTomCrypt	Microsoft CryptoAPI
Encrypted portion of files	2 Mb at beginning of file	First 50% of the file, up to 5 Mb
Payment	Bitcoin (variable amount)	1.0 Bitcoin



CryptoFortress ransom page



TorrentLocker ransom page



```
2. Local Shell
<div class="wrapper">
  <div class="header">
    <div class="top"><p style="color:#ff0000;">WARNING</p>We have encrypted your files
with [-CryptoLocker-]{+<b>CryptoFortress</b>} virus</div>
    <div class="desc">
      <p>
        [-Your-]{+All your+} important files [-(including those-){+(such as files+}
on the network [-disk(s), USB,-]{+disks, USB devices,+} etc): photos, videos, documents[-etc.-] we
re encrypted with [-CryptoLocker-]{+<b>CryptoFortress</b>} virus. The only way to get your files b
ack is to buy our decryption software. {+otherwise, your files will be lost.+}
      <br><br>
      <strong>Caution:</strong> Removing of [-CryptoLocker-]{+<b>CryptoFortress</
b>} will not restore access to your encrypted files.[-The only way to save your files is to buy a
decryption software. Otherwise, your files will be lost.-]
      </p>
    </div>
  </div><!-- .header-->
@@ -227,16 +227,17 @@ window.onload = function(){
  <div align="center">
    <div style="width:360px;padding:10px;background:#CBE7F9;-moz-border-radius:4px;-web
kit-border-radius:4px;border-radius:4px;border:1px solid #000099;">
      <p style="font-size:20px;text-align:center;">
        <a style="color:#000099;" [-href="http://nne4b5ujqqedvrkh.tor4u.net
/buy.php?43ng40"-]{+href="https://h63rbx7gkd3gygag.onion.cab/buy.php?code=39CB33F84BBC1E30DF49F1471
:
```

Differences in the HTML pages

Last Friday, Renaud Tabary from Lexsi [published a complete analysis of the new ransomware](#). ESET researchers have independently analyzed the CryptoFortress samples before Lexsi released the details. The technical details described in the article matches our findings.

ESET Telemetry also shows TorrentLocker campaign is still propagating via spam messages. Both campaign are now running in parallel.

References

- CryptoFortress: Teerac.A (aka TorrentLocker) got a new identity, <http://malware.dontneedcoffee.com/2015/03/cryptofortress-teeraca-aka.html>
- CryptoFortress, <http://www.lexsi-leblog.com/cert-en/cryptofortress.html>

Sample analyzed

CryptoFortress public key

```
-----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY-----
MIGfMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBAQUAA4GNADCBiQKBgQDmeXV1PGxKo0yvZgLUoyDdzPEH
8D6gK1AdZVKmbv2RTjjTAcY0Y/40z1oPX+iJupuvv01B/yX1sHZD8y0x/jv7v6ML
jHxetmZxUjqv9gLQJE8mJBbU/h0qwc9R7LQwcMapLxvv906aMa3Bimjp7bP7WY/9
```

```
fXgr1m/wA6Tz/kxF+wIDAQAB  
-----END PUBLIC KEY-----
```

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Source: <https://www.welivesecurity.com/2015/03/09/cryptofortress-mimics-torrentlocker-different-ransomware/>