

APT 18, Dynamite Panda, Wekby

Archived: 2026-04-05 16:06:38 UTC

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↪ APT group: APT 18, Dynamite Panda, Wekby

Names	<p>APT 18 (<i>Mandiant</i>) Dynamite Panda (<i>CrowdStrike</i>) TG-0416 (<i>SecureWorks</i>) Wekby (<i>Palo Alto</i>) Scandium (<i>Microsoft</i>) Satin Typhoon (<i>Microsoft</i>) Red Wraith (<i>PWC</i>) SILVERVIPER (?) G0026 (<i>MITRE</i>)</p>
Country	 China
Sponsor	State-sponsored, PLA Navy
Motivation	Information theft and espionage
First seen	2009
Description	<p>Wekby was described by Palo Alto Networks in a 2016 report as: ‘Wekby is a group that has been active for a number of years, targeting various industries such as healthcare, telecommunications, aerospace, defense, and high tech. The group is known to leverage recently released exploits very shortly after those exploits are available, such as in the case of Hacking Team’s Flash zero-day exploit.’</p> <p>This threat group has been seen since 2009.</p> <p>APT 18 may be related to Night Dragon and/or Nitro, Covert Grove.</p>
Observed	<p>Sectors: Aerospace, Construction, Defense, Education, Engineering, Healthcare, High-Tech, Telecommunications, Transportation and Biotechnology.</p> <p>Countries: USA.</p>
Tools used	AtNow , Gh0st RAT , hcdLoader , HTTPBrowser , Pisloader , StickyFingers and 0-day exploits for Flash.

Operations performed	Apr 2014	<p>Community Health Systems data breach</p> <p><https://threatpost.com/apt-gang-branches-out-to-medical-espionage-in-community-health-breach/107828/></p> <p><https://www.venafi.com/blog/infographic-how-an-attack-by-a-cyber-espionage-operator-bypassed-security-controls></p>
	Jun 2015	<p>Attacks using DNS Requests as Command and Control Mechanism</p> <p>Method: Phishing with obfuscated variants of the HTTPBrowser tool.</p> <p><https://www.anomali.com/blog/evasive-maneuvers-the-wekby-group-attempts-to-evade-analysis-via-custom-rop></p> <p><https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2015/07/demonstrating_hustle.html></p>
	May 2016	<p>Attacks using DNS Requests as Command and Control Mechanism</p> <p>Target: Organizations in the USA.</p> <p>Method: Phishing with Pisloader dropper.</p> <p><https://unit42.paloaltonetworks.com/unit42-new-wekby-attacks-use-dns-requests-as-command-and-control-mechanism/></p>
MITRE ATT&CK	< https://attack.mitre.org/groups/G0026/ >	

Last change to this card: 16 August 2025

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Source: <https://apt.etda.or.th/cgi-bin/showcard.cgi?u=aa2f3420-e239-4b0c-9066-c6f5804de6a8>