

APT SECRETS IN ASIA 贝系 亞洲的APT奧義

{Anthony Lai, Benson Wu, Jeremy Chiu}, Founder and Security Researcher, Xecure Lab anthony.lai@xecure-lab.com benson.wu@xecure-lab.com jeremy.chiu@xecure-lab.com



http://blog.xecure-lab.com

Chroot Security Group http://www.chroot.org/

CHROOT成立於西元2004年,是台灣一群專業、優質又玉樹臨風的好孩子組成的。

chrO.ot

News Headlines		Security Advisory		The Wargame
The HIT2011 (Hacks in Taiwan Conference) will hold in Taiwan, Taipel 2011/07/22,23	2011/06	DATE :: DESCRIPTION :: AUTHOR		Warraw
The HIT2010 (Hacks in Taiwan Conference) will hold in Taiwan, Taipei 2010/07/17,18	2010/05	'08-10-05 Yahoo! (wretch.cc) Critical Security Vulnerabilities Unohope '08-07-27 Yahoo! Login Vulnerability Roamer '08-07-18 Mellicious Web Browser Attack Unohope		联合测验系地
The HT2009 (Hacks in Taiwan Conference) will hold in Taiwan, Taipei 2009/07/18,19	2009/05	'08-06-10 Yahool Anti-Phishing Bypass Vulnerability Roamer '06-07-05 Windows Explorer URL File Format Overflow Nanika '06-07-03 Excel 2000/XP/2003 Style 0day POC Nanika		
The HT2008 (Hacks in Talwan Conference) will hold in Talwan, Talpel 2008/07/19,20	2008/05	'05-12-31 MTink Home Env Variable Buffer Overflaw Vulnerability Newbug Exploits		長安白泉東藤 田藤
Thanks for sponsor - Mr.Zhao NT\$10K, that we have free drinks for chr0.ot monthly meeting.	2004/11	CONTRACT CONTRACTOR CONTRACT	AUTHOR	8.15
Thanks for sponsor - Mr.Zhao NT\$10K, that we have free desserts for chr0.ot monthly meeting.	2004/08	108-07-18 Apache (mod_jk) 1.2.19 Remote Stack Overflow Exploit 108-06-24 Nopam + Authentication Bypass Vulnerability 108-06-10 Increasing Simple Blog 0.5 (index) Remote SQL (might be available to the standard by the standa		http://wargame.ora
New chr0.ot project announced - dump2code	2004/08	'08-06-10 yBlog 0.2.2.2 Multiple Remote Vulnerabilities		
Welcome to chr0.ot! If you want to contact us, just Join irc.chroot.org #chroot	2004/06	'08-06-10 DCFM Blog 0.9.4 (comments) Remote SQL Injection Vulnerability I '08-06-10 ErfurtWiki <- R1.02b (css) Local File Inclusion Vulnerability		

(會員招募中,月前團報另有優惠)

Xecure Lab Team

● Yes! We are all the good guys ☺



Birdman



Benson



DarkFloyd



Bio



• Jeremy Chiu (aka Birdman)

He has more than ten years of experience with host-based security, focusing on kernel technologies for both the Win32 and Linux platforms. In early 2001 he was created Taiwan's first widespread trojan BirdSPY. And now, he is also a contract trainer for law enforcements, intelligence organizations, and conferences such as DEFCON 18, SySCAN (09 08), Hacks in Taiwan (07 06 05), HTICA(06 08) and OWASP Asia (08 07). Jeremy specializes in rootkit/backdoor design. Jeremy also specializes in reverse engineering and malware analysis, and has been contracted by law enforcements to assist in forensics operations. Jeremy is a sought-after speaker for topics related to security, kernel programming, and object-oriented design

Benson Wu

 He currently works as Postdoctoral Researcher from Research Center for Information Technology Innovation at Academia Sinica in Taiwan. He focuses research on malware and threat analysis, code review, secure coding and SDLC process implementation. He graduated from National Taiwan University with PhD degree in Electrical Engineering. He had spoken at NIST SATE 2009, DEFCON 18 (with Birdman), OWASP China 2010, and wrote the "Web Application Security Guideline" for the Taiwan government.

Anothny Lai (aka DarkFlyod)

- He works on code audit, penetration test, crime investigation and threat analysis and acted as security consultant in various MNCs. His interest falls on studying exploit, reverse engineering, analyse threat and join CTFs, it would be nice to keep going and boost this China-made security wind in malware analysis and advanced persistent threat areas.
- He found security research group called VXRL in Hong Kong and has been working as visiting lecturer in HK Polytechnic University on hacking course :) Spoken at Blackhat USA 2010, DEFCON 18 and Hack In Taiwan 2010/2011

Abstract

- APT (Advanced Persistent Threat) means any targeted attacks against any specific company/organization from an or/and a group of organized attack party(ies).
- Other than providing the case studies, we would like to present and analyze APT from the malicious email document, throughout our automated analysis, we could identify and cluster the correlation among the samples featured with various exploit, malware and Botnet.





• What is not APT !

APT Events

APT: Multi-vectors Attacking

Important APT Events In This Year

сомодо

Mar 26, 2011

Creating Trust Online™

Comodo admits 2 more resellers pwned in SSL cert hack How deep does the rabbit hole go?

By John Leyden • Get more from this author

Posted in Enterprise Security, 30th March 2011 14:27 GMT

Comodo has admitted a further two registration authorities tied to the digital certificates firm were hit by a high-profile forged digital certificate attack earlier this month.

No forged certificates were issued as a result of the assault on victims two and three of the attack, but confirmation that multiple resellers in the Comodo community were compromised is bound to renew questions about the trust model applied by the firm.

Mar 18, 2011

SECURITY RSA SecurID Hack Shows Danger of APTs The RSA hack compromising SecurID tokens illustrates why advanced persistent threats (APTs) are a growing security concern. By Tony Bradley Mar 18, 2011 10:10 AM RSA revealed in an open letter posted to its website that it has been the target of an attack, and that data was stolen which could potentially compromise its SecurID tokens. The attack against the RSA network is an example of a new breed of security threat aimed at flying under the radar longer and going after bigger payoffs. RSA describes the attack as an advanced persistent threat (APT). Tim 'TK' Keanini, CTO of nCircle, commented that APTs represent a significant change in the security landscape. An APT attack involves patient, skilled, well-funded attackers going after the really big prize.

Lockheed Martin !



May 30, 2011

US defence firm Lockheed Martin hit by cyber-attack

US defence firm Lockheed Martin says it has come under a significant cyberattack, which took place last week.

Few details were available, but Lockheed said its security team had detected the threat quickly and ensured that none of its programmes had been compromised.

The Pentagon said it is working to establish the extent of the breach.

Lockheed makes fighter jets, warships and multi-billion dollar weapons systems sold worldwide.

Lt Col April Cunningham, speaking for the US defence department, said the impact on the Pentagon was "minimal and we don't expect any adverse effect".



Act of WAR !



WSJ.com

Cyber Combat: Act of War

Pentagon Sets Stage for U.S. to Respond to Computer Sabotage With Military Force

By SIOBHAN GORMAN And JULIAN E. BARNES

WASHINGTON—The Pentagon has concluded that computer sabotage coming from another country can constitute an act of war, a finding that for the first time opens the door for the U.S. to respond using traditional military force.



WSJ's Siobhan Gorman has the exclusive story of the Pentagon classifying cyber attacks by foreign nations as acts of war. Photo: THOMAS KIENZLE/AFP/Getty

The Pentagon's first formal cyber strategy, unclassified portions of which are expected to become public next month, represents an early attempt to grapple with a changing world in which a hacker could pose as significant a threat to U.S. nuclear reactors, subways or pipelines as a hostile country's military.

In part, the Pentagon intends its plan as a warning to potential adversaries of the consequences of attacking the U.S. in this way. "If you shut down our power grid, maybe we will put a missile down one of your smokestacks," said a military official.

DoD: APT 偵測與防護是資訊戰基石



It is not APT !



へ~這個...不是那個...!



APT is not Virus problem !

許添財收到行政院秘書室病毒信



王鼎鈞 2011年7月6日 14:17

呼籲徹查資訊國安



記者王鼎鈞/台北報導

民進黨立委許添財於7月4日接獲行政院秘 書室傳來的病毒信件,質疑這是一起「資 訊國安」事件。許添財今(6)日要求,政 院應立即徹查,並採取有效的救濟預防措 施。

許添財指出,日前由手機接獲政院秘書室 傳來的電子郵件,但無法開啟,他只好用 透過電腦開啟,但他兒子卻發現,該信件 夾帶WORD檔是假的,連附件圖檔也是假 的,而且檔案還被壓縮過,保護病毒檔被防毒軟體攔截。



許添財收到政院秘書室發出的病毒信,要 求政院應立即徹查,並採取有效的救濟預 防措施。(圖/記者王鼎鈞攝)

APT是多種面向的攻擊路徑

- 外網主機如Web伺服器遭突破成功,多半是被SQL注入攻擊
- 受駭Web伺服器被作為跳板,對內網的其他伺服器或桌機進行偵蒐
- 內網機器如AD伺服器或開發人員電腦遭突破成功,多半是被密碼暴力破解
- 受害者的工作與私人信箱被設定自動被份給駭客
- 受駭機器遭植入惡意程式,多半被安裝遠端控制工具(RAT),傳回 大量機敏文件(WORD、PPT、PDF等等),包括所有會議記錄與組 織人事架構圖
- 更多內網機器被"設計"遭入侵成功,多半為高階主管點擊了看似正常的郵件附檔,卻不知其中含有惡意程式

APT Attack Vs Traditional Botnet Activities

	APT Activities	Crime-Group Activities	
	With organized planning	Mass distribution over regions	
Cause damage?	No	No	
Target or Not	Targeted (only a few groups/organizations)	Not targeted (large area spread-out)	
Target Audience	Particular organization/company	Individual credentials including online banking account information	
Frequency of attacks	Many times	Once	
Weapon	Zero-Day ExploitDrop Embedded RATDropper or Backdoor	 Multiple-Exploits, All in one! URL Download Botnet Full function RAT 	
Detection Rate	Detection rate is lower than 10% if the sample comes out within one month	Detection rate is around 95% if the sample comes out within one month	

Remarks: IPS, IDS and Firewall cannot help and detect in this area



Continued APT Mail EVERYDAY!

• 20,000 Malicious Mails !?

最新 發燒 哇新聞 字級: A A A A	請選擇<即時新聞>相關新聞
即時新聞》 駭客惡意攻擊政府強化資子 Breaking news	È
【中央社/台北2日電】	2011.06.02 08:12 pm
駭客猖獗,政府部門也曾遭受攻擊。行政院:	資訊室統計,行政院院本部平均每天接
到2萬餘封疑似惡意電子郵件,但經過濾,確	定有問題的郵件,平均1個月約4000封
至5000封。	



Major APT Activity: Targeted-Attack Email

- In APT activities, we have observed there are three major types of Targeted-Attack Email :
 - Phishing mail: Steal user ID and password
 - Malicious script: Detect end-use computing environment
 - Install and deploy Malware (Botnet) !





APT Mail = Document Exploit + Malware



Research Direction (1/2)

- We are not just focusing on a single oneoff attack, we tend to observe the entire APT attack plan and trend
 - Traditionally, we just focus on malware forensics or analyze a single victim' s machine. We cannot understand the APT attack plan and its trend indeed.



Research Direction (2/2)

- Analyze and extract features and characteristics of APT taskforce via:
 - Malware features
 - Exploit
 - C&C Network
 - Speared Email
 - Victim' s background
 - Time of attack



APT File Analysis and Grouping

- Theoretically, in an information system (i.e. malware analysis system), if we could collect all the attributes/properties of our malicious sample sets, we could identify whether the executable/document/sample is malicious.
- However, the research issues are insufficient collection in attributes/characteristics (for example, the malware has been packed and engage various anti-debugging capabilities), so that we get the indiscernibility relation.



Research





Standard Analysis Method

- Static Approach
 - Extract signature/features from file format
 - Reversing
- Dynamic Approach
 - Execute it under controlled environment and capture/log all the behaviors
 - Analyze networking traffic

• Challenge of Malware/Exploit Analysis



Ø

What APT Attributes we focused?

• We work on the analysis on multi-concepts basis.

- Throughout static analysis:
 - Extract and review executable, Shellcode and PE header
 - Objects and abnormal structure in file
- Throughout dynamic analysis:
 - Install the system into Windows
 - Scan Process Memory to detect abnormal structure
 - Code-Injection, API Hooking ...
 - Detect any known Code Snippet
 - Rootkit, KeyLogger, Password Collector, Anti-AV...
 - Suspicious strings: email address, domain, IP, URL

Extract Attributes from APT File





Clustering !

Xecure Engine



APT Attributes

SC.5D5819EE SC.D810C601 PE.EBD5880B PE.5A05A491 CD.FC7939E2 CD.102C752B CD.2AFB773A ML.47E1B4C6 NT.549535DD CC.656C20E1 CC.77DEB444

.

APT Groups



Experiment

- Mila's provided APT sample archives are confirmed to malicious
- Those archives are open to public for downloading and analysis (Collection1, 242 APT files)
- The sample archives are used by many researchers
- http://contagiodump.blogspot.com/





Detection Rate

Xecure Inspector
 94.62 % (229 / 242)

Definition updated to 2011/6/11
 Microsoft Security Essentials

 21.4 % (52 / 242)

 Sophos

 35.9 % (87/242)

 AntiVir

 56.6 % (137/242)

There are 8 major APT-Taskforce Groups



2011

2010

2009

2008

other



Groups of Mila Sample Set Collection1

Top 3 APT Taskforce Groups





Bot Command

Malware of APT Group A

Malware Attack Graph



/get Remote Local /rsh [SHELL FILE] Malware Fix Suggestion /shr [wins.exe] /put Local Remote Malware Analysis Report **/run Program** Time 2011-06-08 09:49:41 84 Seconds Duration **/sleep MINIUTES** 2.9.1 Engine Default-FileName (6DE7186AAD5C3AA496B5BE8EAA2BC838) Malware Family Build Time 2010-07 Malware Type Severity This Malware has been identified the following behavior: Password Collection Behavior functions. Base=00400000 Size=0000C000 Default-FileName Modules EXE] Default-FileName 6DE7186AAD5C3AA496B5BE8EAA2BC838 Files HKEY_CURRENT_USER\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\WINDOWS\CURRENTVERSION\RUN\SP Autoruns • 140.117.68.35 • 218.32.37.248 Network www.google.com

C&C Location of APT Group A





Malware of APT Group B

Malware Attack Graph



Malware Fix Suggestion

Malware	Analysis Report		
Time		2011-06-08 09:41:35	
Duration		74 Seconds	
Engine		2.9.1	
%UserP	rofile%\Local Settings	RDSessMgr.exe (F23	A421D1DD02D060F35D25341BAB003)
Malware	Family		
Build Tim	e	2	010-03
Malware	Туре	c	hina Spyware
Severity			
Behavior	 This Malware has be functions. 	en identified the follo	wing behavior: Code-Injection (Target: svchost.exe)
Modules	• Base=00400000 Size=0	0005000 svchost.exe	
Files	[EXE] %UserProfile%	\Local Settings\RD	SessMgr.exe F23A421D1DD02D060F35D25341BA8003
Autoruns	HKEY_CURRENT_USER	SOFTWARE\MICROSOF	T\WINDOWS\CURRENTVERSION\RUN\RDSessMgr
	• 68.82.45	17 Beers also Tel-020	(Anno)
Network	www.gov.toh.info	is/reaxy.pop?id=029	1462

C&C Location of APT Group B



Malware of Group E



Virustotal is a service that analyzes suspicious files and URLs and facilitates the quick detection of viruses, worms, trojans, and all kinds of malware detected by antivirus engines. More information...





Findings from Mila Sample Set (1/2)

- Our analysis against Mila Sample set could identify 8 major APT taskforces.
- There are around 12 different CVEs and exploits are identified.
- We have found that even APT taskforce uses 8-9 different exploits, however, the type of malware used is limited to a few one. There is no surprise at all
- We identify APT Taskforce based on CnC server location and malware they have used. The exploit the taskforce used is not very related to our analysis.



and France

Findings from Mila Sample Set (2/2)

- Language used in APT sample : 24% of the samples is from China
- 3.9% of the samples is from Korean [
- We also found some are from Russia
- APT CnC server location Top 3 Ranking:
 - Taiwan (28%) 💌
 - US
 - Hong Kong (HK is readily another CnC heaven)





- APT-Deezer provides a free online service to check whether your submitted sample whether it is an APT sample
 - We took Mila sample set as the base training set
 - Identify Exploit CVE and Malware family
 - Zero-Day Exploit detection and analysis
 - APT Malware sample DNA analysis and comparison
 - APT sample clustering and grouping
 - Support file formats including DOC, PPT, XLS, PDF, RTF
- http://aptdeezer.xecure-lab.com

Xecure-Lab		٨	PT當直檔案總上快降量符	
0	PT-DEEZ	ER	EHRE CVE-2009-1106_BMW.ppt= Upload	By NDS:
Date	Result	Group	File Name	MD5
2011/07/18	CVE-2009-1129		CVE-2009-1129_PPT_2010-05-06_BMW ppt=	722efe2500d973tbb684cc32d
2011/07/18	CVE-2006-2492		20110315.日本地震要混食能 dtx:	117ta397305t58t7ceb5t8t479
2011/07/18	Makcious		④ 28種預防核輻射的神奇食物 xbp	a95cbelca2715452825be2bl5
2011/07/18	CVE-2010-2883	-	1 新今年30歳決定要由級了pdf	5040607c9658171499c45513
2011/07/18	CVE-2009-4324	APT000A0	200904美留CDC之H1N1新空流感用的加引pdf	1881792100d82cb7c5c2f8t2b
Page	Supprintiente 1 al 1	e.	• indation off	7/08/08/06/631/77068/3//6
Report				

Description:

You have uploaded a sample which is highlighted with yellow circle, the map showing you the sample is correlated with our APT database. If your sample in the group or the group is connected with lines which indicates that the sample and our APT database have correlation and relevance. On the contrary, i find your sample is independent without connecting to other samples are used with our without and our database.





Case Study A(1/4), Hong Kong APT!

謹此附上專責採訪立法會新聞的記者名單,以供參考。此名單在有需要時將予修訂。

公共資訊總主任





Case Study A(2/4), Hong Kong APT!

• Characteristics:

- 1. A democratic party in HK2.
- 2. Fake as a staff in LEGCO council
- 3. Google cannot detect it
- 4. The email is sent before 1 July

Case Study A(3/4), It is from Group-C

File:專責採訪立法會新聞的記 者名單2011-6-12.xls Group: C Exploit: CVE-2009-3129 BuildTime: 2011-02-14



Case Study A(4/4), Malware of APT Group C

Malware Attack Graph



Malware Fix Suggestion

Malware Analysis Report Time 2011-06-08 10:28:23 51 Seconds Duration Engine 2.9.1 SystemRoot%\system32\cvw32.exe (8F80831DBF03CC6DECD06D82CE5E4E31) Małware Family Build Time Malware Type Severity This Malware has been identified the following behavior: Code-Injection (Target: IEXPLORE.EXE) Behavior functions. Base=00140000 Size=00001000 IEXPLORE.EXE Base=00150000 Size=00001000 IEXPLORE.EXE Modules Base=00E60000 Size=00001000 explorer.exe Base=03060000 Size=00001000 explorer.exe [EXE] %SystemRoot%\system32\cvw32.exe 8F80831D8F03CC6DECD06D82CE5E4E31 Files HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\ACTIVE SETUP\INSTALLED COMPONENTS\{3B4AD9DD-Autoruns 7FBC-50F8-293C-3DE70A94BB19}\STUBPATH 202 Network . spo



C&C Location of APT Group C



Case Study (1/4) Target Attack Mail has been signed !?



(2/4) Identify the APT Taskforce Group

000

'100620.pdf' belongs to a known, newly discovered APT Taskforce in 2011.

(3/4)



Sut Malware is a known family, it is same as APT-Group-B !





新一代的資安策略 - 情資導向的防護思維

- 正視威脅,謀定而後動
 - 先進國家已將 APT 防護議題拉高至國家層級,而非視為個資外洩等民生議題。
- 工欲善其事,必先利其器
 - 資安防護產業也正面臨挑戰,APT時代的來臨可能意味著,將會越來越多針 對性的 Malware,難以利用蜜罐(honeypot)和蜜網(honeynet)誘捕到 APT樣本,因為僅有特定人士會收到這些天上掉下來的禮物。
- 正兵當敵,奇兵致勝
 - 如果是以不變應萬變,那遲早有被攻破的一天!防守方務必也要持續收集與
 分析戰情,才能知彼知己,百戰百勝。
 - 分析一系列的攻擊活動並歸納奧義,才有辦法歸納出攻擊行動的組織、活動 甚至計劃。
- 安全基準,最佳實務
 - 落實執行資安政策,實體隔離,公務公辦,嚴禁USB隨身碟任意插拔等基本 要求都已推行多年。



總結

- APT有組織有計劃的網路間諜活動,特別針對高價值目標如政治,經濟,高科技與軍事。雖然是個新的熱門名詞,但是卻存在已久。
- APT以目標式攻擊的惡意郵件為主要活動,其中使用各種 Zero-Day Exploit,與專門開發的 RAT,傳統資安設備無法自動偵測與防禦 APT惡意郵件攻擊。
- 要有正確的資安關念,才不會有錯誤的政策。APT惡意郵件不能只是 作一般病毒信件處理而敷衍過去,攻擊事件將一再發生。
- 唯有透過大量且跨區域的APT樣本分析才能觀察到攻擊全貌。目前觀察到香港,台灣與美國的APT樣本有很高的相關性。
- 分析各國APT樣本來看 APT活動前三大地區就占了超過一半比例,台灣、美國與香港,其中台灣最高約 28%。綜觀來看,亞洲是APT最主要活動的地區。

Any Feedbacks? Let us know! ;-)

- Xecure Lab (<u>http://www.xecure-lab.com</u>)
- We keep collecting samples for analysis
- Enhance the capability to analyze APT DNA family in more accurate manner.
- Together, we make homeland secured.