



| ISS – X-Force Professional Security Services

Malware Forensics: Detecting The Unknown

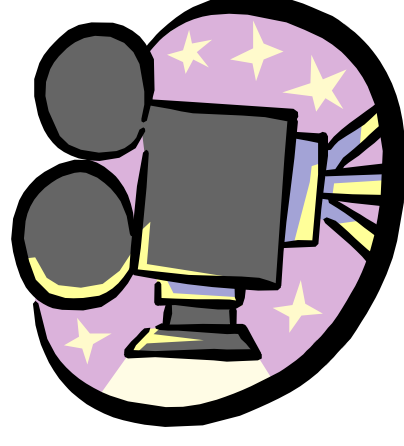


- Martin Overton
- Malware/Anti-Malware SME



Abstract

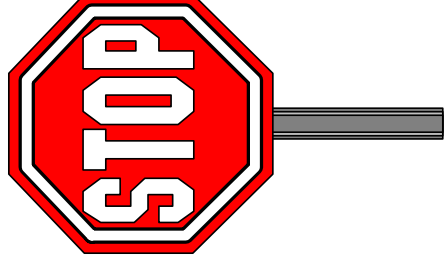
- *The increasing speed of new malware strains being written and released means that security professionals are more likely than ever before to see new malware.*
- *This means new malware which is not detected by the anti-malware solutions they have deployed in their infrastructure, be it workstation, server, PDA or at the gateway.*
- *Imagine this scenario: An end-user calls the helpdesk and reports that their system is running very sluggishly when it wasn't a week ago and that they can't access the Windows 'Task Manager' or open a command prompt any more.*
- *Is this caused by malware or is it a 'user' problem? The virus scanner is right up to date and active, and it says the system is clean; the personal firewall is active too. Where do you go from here? Investigate or rebuild the box?*
- *How can you tell if the machine is clean or infected by a new malware, with a reasonable level of confidence for your conclusion?*
- *The paper looks at what tricks, tools and techniques you can use to help establish the true state of the 'suspect' system. It will focus on a step by step approach of what tools to use, what to look for and what to do with any suspicious files. It will also discuss the use of forensic tools in such a scenario, as a last port of call.*
- *The paper draws on real scenarios where new [undetected] malware has been responsible for 'odd' system or network behaviour.*



Agenda

- Disclaimer
- What is Malware?
 - Steps 1-6
 - Conclusions
- Solutions
- Questions

Disclaimer



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What is Malware?

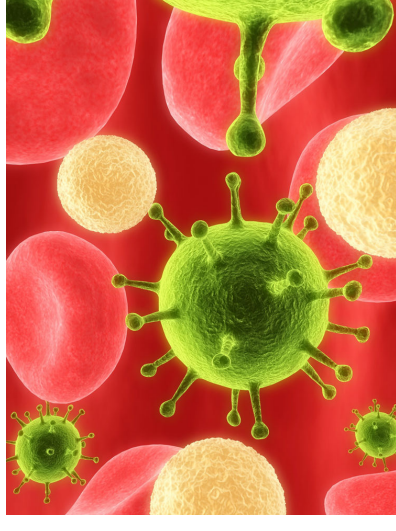


- “Malware is the generic name [or short name] used to describe **Malicious Software**. This includes viruses, worms, Trojans, bots and related threats...”

Source: Bots and Botnets: Risks, Issues and Prevention, VB2005

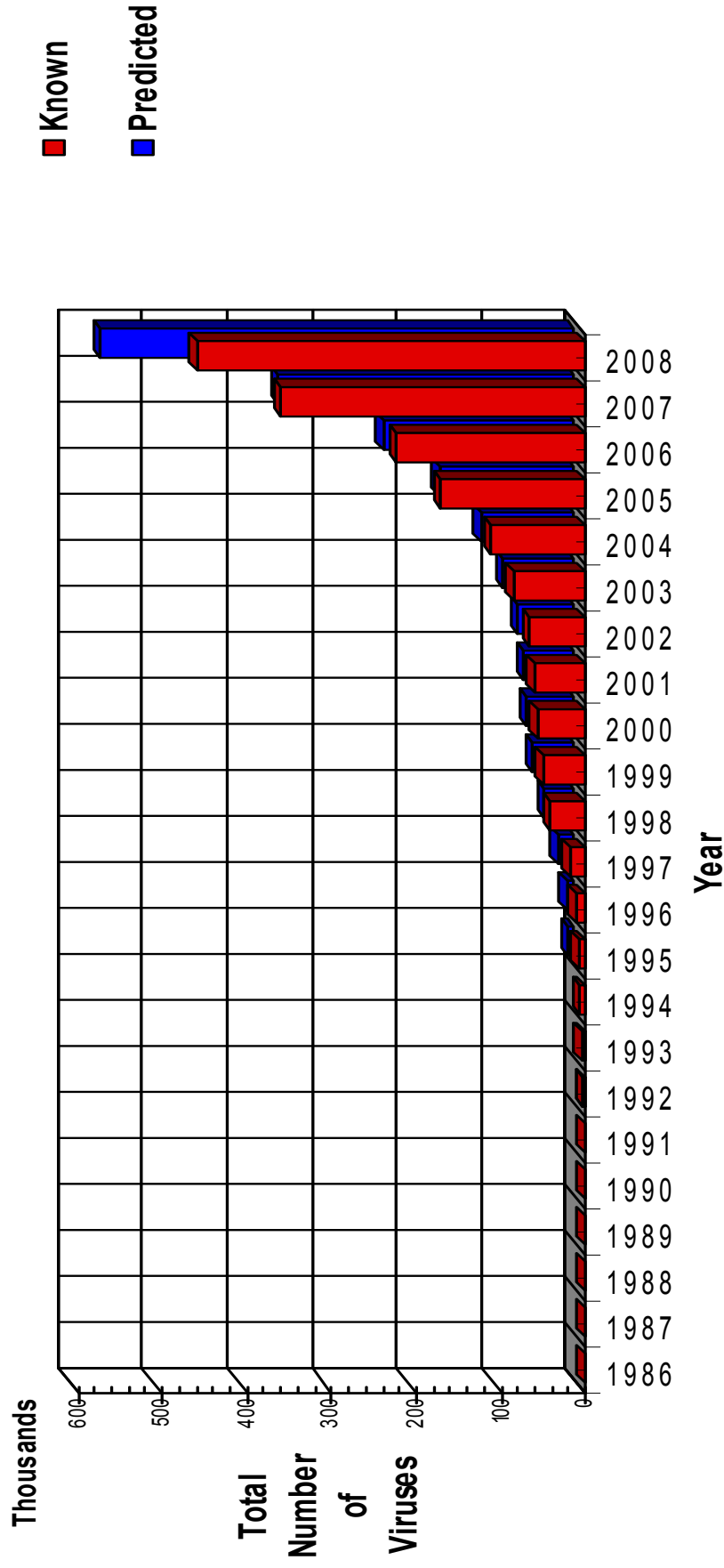
Speed of infection/infestation?

- **How long can an unprotected PC last on the Internet before it gets infected/infested?**
 - According to SOPHOS, just 720 seconds!
 - **Here's a quote from them which was used in an article on The Register in 2005:**
 - *"More computer viruses and worms mean an unprotected Windows PC (without either firewall or antivirus protection) stands a 50 per cent chance of infection by a worm after just 12 minutes online. Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant at Sophos, conceded"*



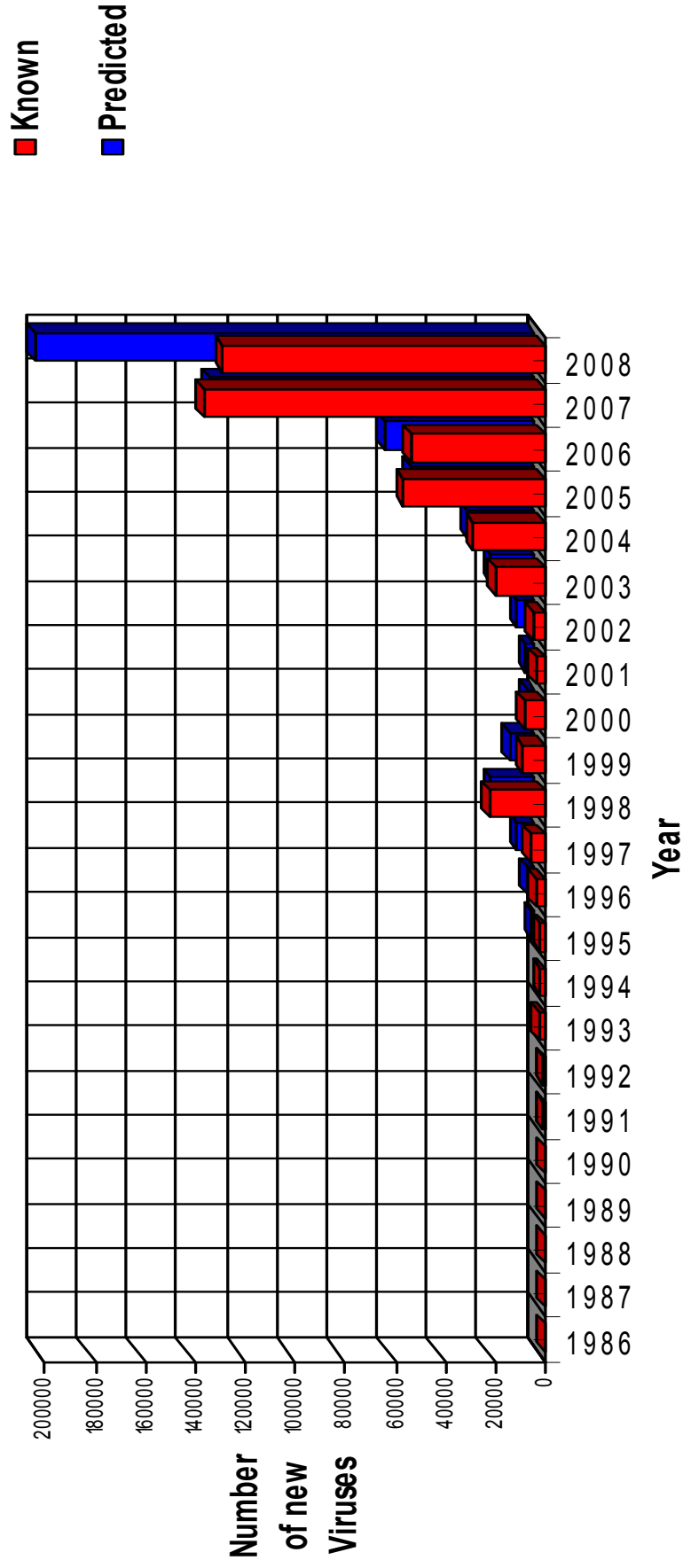


Virus Growth - Running Total (by year: actual and predicted)





Virus Growth (Actual) (by year: actual and predicted)



Solutions.....

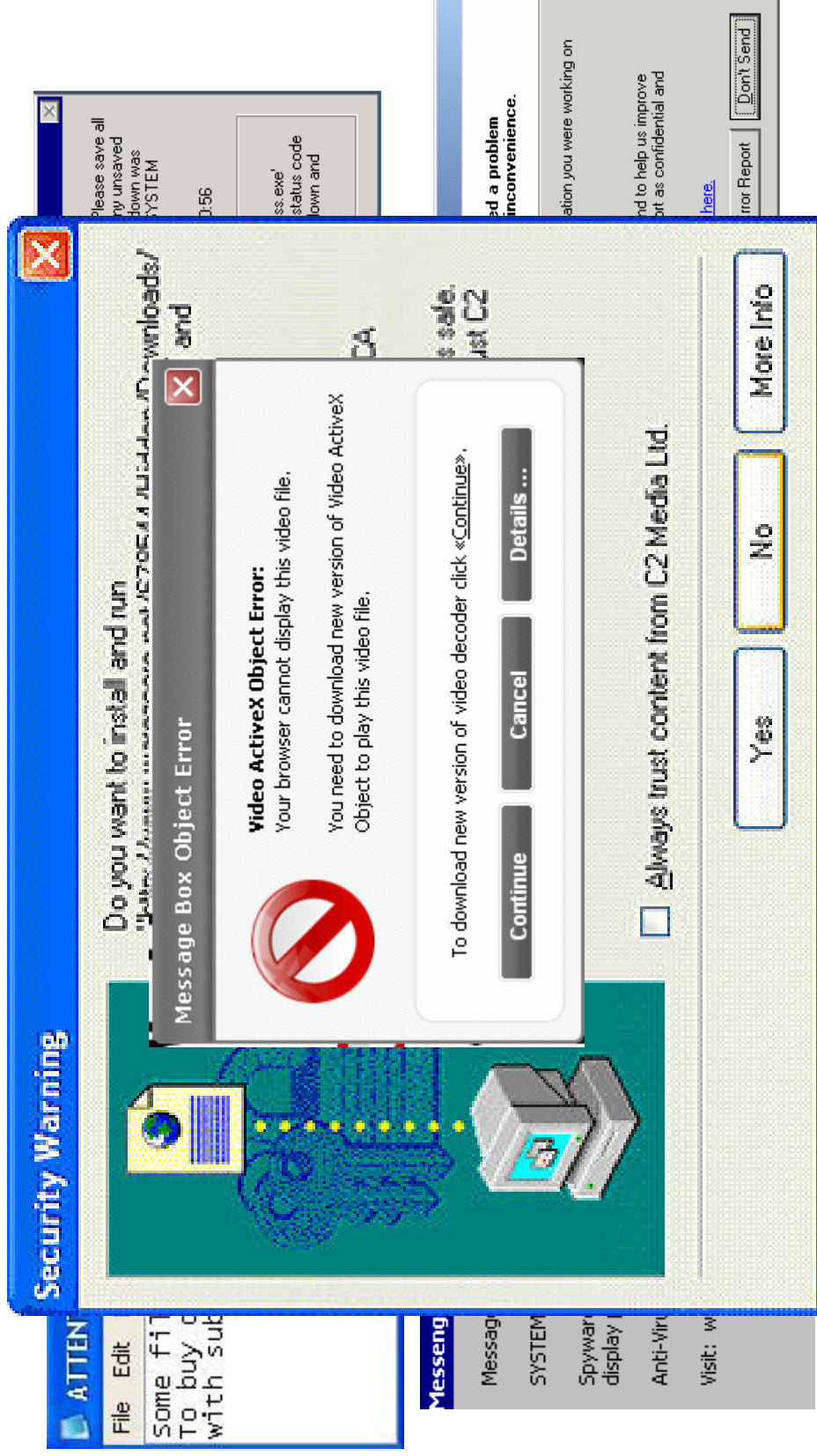




Step 1: Identifying Suspect Systems

- **The first thing to do is to understand that you have a problem**
 - the next thing to do is to try and identify possible systems that may be infected.
- **This information can come from:**
 - help-desk tickets [personal firewall or anti-malware alerts, strange system behaviour, etc], Log files from your routers, proxies, firewalls, IDS/IPS systems, DNS and so on, or maybe even just a passing comment from a colleague or even a customer or other third party [maybe to your abuse@yourdomain.com e-mail address].
- **Once you have a potential suspect, gather all the data you can from it and network traffic to and from it.**
- **Once the machine has been removed from the main network, you can either investigate it in isolation or move it to a test [secure] network used for analysing suspected infected systems.**
- **To analyse suspected traffic on your test network you could use tools such as SNORT, WireShark or WinDump.**
- **You may also decide to carry out some vulnerability assessment of the suspected system; this can be done via tools such as Nmap, Superscan, Nessus or the Microsoft Baseline Security Analyzer.**

Error Messages Are Your Friends





SNORT

ACID: Alert Listing - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address: http://arachnid.homeip.net:81/acid/acid_stat_alerts.php?caller=&sort_order=occur_d

Home Search AG Maintenance [Back]

Alert Listing

Added 0 alert(s) to the Alert cache

Queried DB on : Wed September 10, 2003 10:36:32

Meta Criteria	any
IP Criteria	any
Layer 4 Criteria	none
Payload Criteria	any

Displaying alerts 1-32 of 32 total

Signature	Classification	Total #	Sensor #	Src. Addr.	Dest. Addr.
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Opaserv.a/b/c/d Worm (Scisrv EXE)	misc-activity	19880 (28%)	4	18146	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Opaserv.ef Worm (Brasil PIF/EXE)	misc-activity	9853 (14%)	4	9217	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Opaserv.k Worm (Instit BAT)	misc-activity	9815 (14%)	3	9161	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Opaserv.i Worm (Marco SCR)	misc-activity	8635 (12%)	4	7948	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Opaserv.g Worm (Alevir SCR)	misc-activity	8315 (12%)	4	6925	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Dupator	misc-activity	7005 (10%)	4	5800	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Funlove	misc-activity	3194 (4%)	3	2101	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Virus - Spaces	misc-activity	2567 (4%)	3	2080	2



Wireshark - Win32/Sality.nar - DNS

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
70	234.159163	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A www.kjwre9tqwte.luoi.info
71	234.564516	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
72	234.820249	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A kukustrustnet777.info
73	235.182315	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
74	235.187219	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A kjwre77638dfqwieuoi.info
75	235.228857	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
81	257.030097	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A pzrk.ru
82	257.206096	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 78.110.50.107
137	261.038559	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 2.0.0.127.bl.spamcop.net
138	261.065218	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 127.0.0.2
139	261.067704	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 95.243.77.80.bl.spamcop.net
140	261.302014	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
141	261.304526	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 2.0.0.127.cbl.abuseat.org
142	262.121206	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 127.0.0.2
143	262.125486	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 95.243.77.80.cbl.abuseat.org
145	262.161344	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
146	262.163908	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 2.0.0.127.list.dsbl.org
154	262.215000	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 127.0.0.2
156	262.222187	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A 95.243.77.80.list.dsbl.org
157	262.234219	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A egyptdm.com
158	262.253901	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A www.yahoo.com
160	262.428410	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response CNAME www.yahoo-ht3.akadns.net A 87.248.113.14
162	262.735509	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 38.113.185.98
168	263.150719	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.31	DNS	Standard query A sosite_averi_sositeeee.haha
169	263.218706	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.37	DNS	Standard query A 95.243.77.80.list.dsbl.org
171	263.554778	80.77.240.37	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
172	263.557364	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.37	DNS	Standard query A 2.0.0.127.sbl-xbl.spamhaus.org
173	263.759509	80.77.240.31	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
175	263.964374	80.77.240.37	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response A 127.0.0.2 A 127.0.0.4
176	263.966885	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.37	DNS	Standard query A 95.243.77.80.sbl-xbl.spamhaus.org
177	264.140534	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.37	DNS	Standard query A sosite_averi_sositeeee.haha
179	264.142547	80.77.240.37	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name
181	264.145182	192.168.11.11	80.77.240.37	DNS	Standard query A 2.0.0.127.zen.spamhaus.org
182	264.164623	80.77.240.37	192.168.11.11	DNS	Standard query response, No such name



Wireshark - Win32/Sality.nar - HTTP

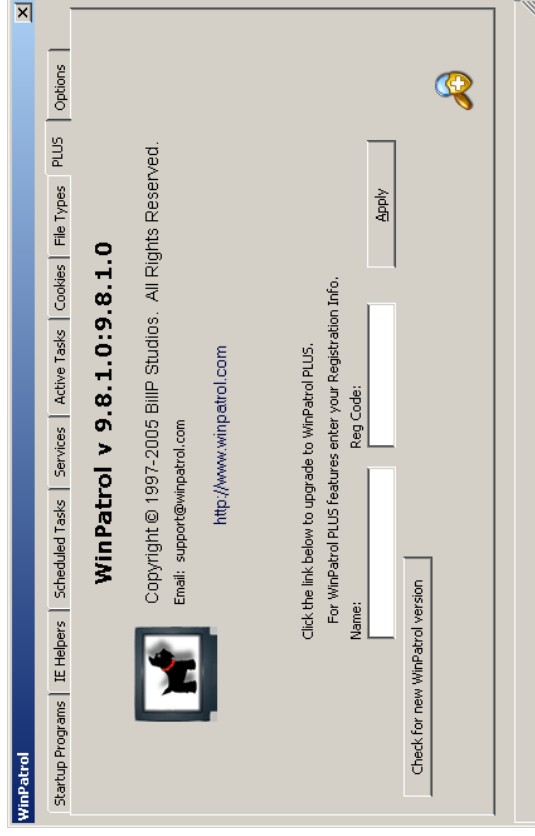
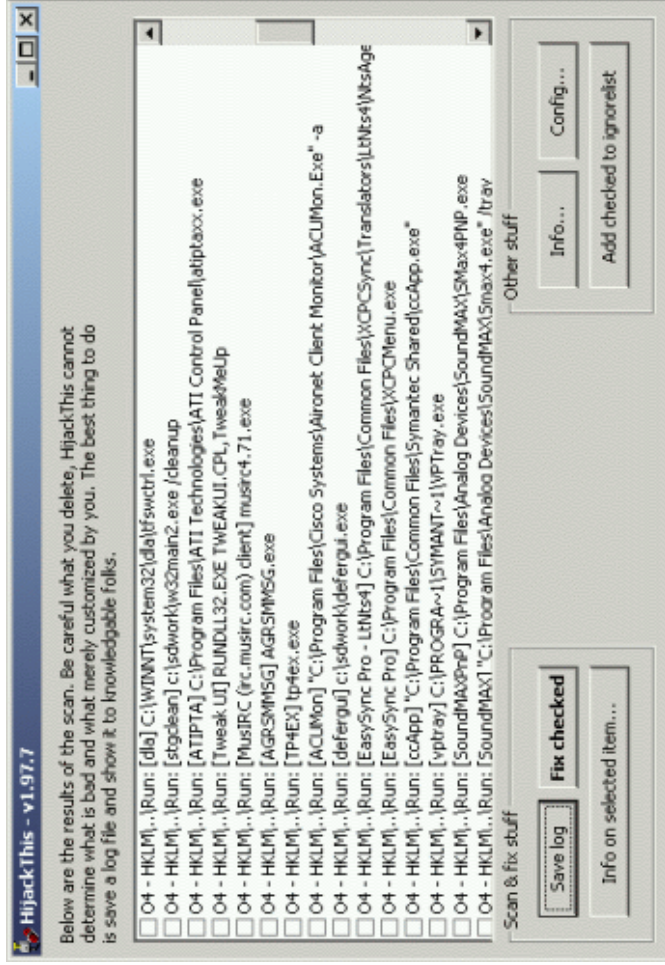
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
86	257.408508	192.168.11.11	78.110.50.107	HTTP	GET /img/logoh.gif?32ae9c=23250500 HTTP/1.1
96	257.596138	78.110.50.107	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.0 200 OK
103	259.787076	192.168.11.11	78.110.50.107	HTTP	GET /img/logos.gif?32b90b=16620855 HTTP/1.1
113	259.972191	78.110.50.107	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.0 200 OK
120	260.758789	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	HTTP	GET /utest/manna.txt?32bafo HTTP/1.1
122	260.806410	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/plain)
130	260.858603	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	HTTP	GET /utest/ip.php HTTP/1.1
132	260.907392	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
149	262.168587	192.168.11.11	89.149.227.194	HTTP	GET /tratata5/?32c281=29939337 HTTP/1.1
151	262.214015	89.149.227.194	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (text/html)
166	262.941670	192.168.11.11	38.113.185.98	HTTP	GET /logod.gif?32c2df=29940183 HTTP/1.1
167	263.145463	38.113.185.98	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found (text/html)
202	265.461658	192.168.11.11	87.248.113.14	HTTP	GET /?326640 HTTP/1.1
214	265.588940	87.248.113.14	192.168.11.11	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 302 Found (text/html)
223	265.694747	192.168.11.11	217.146.186.51	HTTP	GET /?p=us HTTP/1.1
309	265.969402	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	[TCP previous segment lost] Continuation or non-HTTP traffic
311	265.972357	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	Continuation or non-HTTP traffic
313	265.974811	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	Continuation or non-HTTP traffic
315	265.976901	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	Continuation or non-HTTP traffic
317	265.979722	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	Continuation or non-HTTP traffic
319	265.981334	217.146.186.51	192.168.11.11	HTTP	Continuation or non-HTTP traffic



Wireshark - Win32/Sality.nar - SMTP

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
437	266.729739	192.168.11.11	72.232.11.26	TCP	cognex-insight > http [ACK] seq=1 Ack=1 win=65250 Len=0
439	266.934442	72.232.11.26	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > cognex-insight [ACK] seq=1 Ack=133 win=6432 Len=0
441	266.934881	72.232.11.26	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > cognex-insight [FIN, ACK] seq=205 Ack=133 win=6432 Len=0
442	266.935093	192.168.11.11	72.232.11.26	TCP	cognex-insight > http [ACK] seq=133 Ack=206 win=65046 Len=0
443	266.935393	192.168.11.11	72.232.11.26	TCP	cognex-insight > http [FIN, ACK] seq=133 Ack=206 win=65046 Len=0
444	267.138925	72.232.11.26	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > cognex-insight [ACK] seq=206 Ack=134 win=6432 Len=0
460	281.710469	192.168.11.11	216.39.53.3	TCP	gmupdateserv > smtp [SYN] seq=0 win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460
461	281.884354	216.39.53.3	192.168.11.11	TCP	smtp > gmupdateserv [SYN, ACK] seq=0 Ack=1 win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1450
462	281.884703	192.168.11.11	216.39.53.3	TCP	gmupdateserv > smtp [ACK] seq=1 Ack=1 win=65250 Len=0
463	281.886115	192.168.11.11	216.39.53.3	TCP	gmupdateserv > smtp [FIN, ACK] seq=1 Ack=1 win=65250 Len=0
464	281.888062	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	TCP	bsquare-voip > http [SYN] seq=0 win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460
465	281.934936	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > bsquare-voip [SYN, ACK] seq=0 Ack=1 win=5840 Len=0 MSS=1450
466	281.935147	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	TCP	bsquare-voip > http [ACK] seq=1 Ack=1 win=65250 Len=0
468	281.981802	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > bsquare-voip [ACK] seq=1 Ack=176 win=6432 Len=0
469	282.012776	216.39.53.3	192.168.11.11	TCP	smtp > gmupdateserv [ACK] seq=1 Ack=2 win=65535 Len=0
471	282.025110	216.39.53.3	192.168.11.11	TCP	smtp > gmupdateserv [FIN, ACK] seq=137 Ack=2 win=65535 Len=0
472	282.025214	192.168.11.11	216.39.53.3	TCP	gmupdateserv > smtp [RST, ACK] seq=2 Ack=137 win=0 Len=0
473	282.026569	192.168.11.11	216.39.53.3	TCP	gmupdateserv > smtp [RST] seq=2 win=0 Len=0
475	287.209354	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > bsquare-voip [FIN, ACK] seq=191 Ack=176 win=6432 Len=0
476	287.209774	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	TCP	bsquare-voip > http [ACK] seq=176 Ack=192 win=65060 Len=0
477	287.210184	192.168.11.11	195.24.77.223	TCP	bsquare-voip > http [FIN, ACK] seq=176 Ack=192 win=65060 Len=0
478	287.255717	195.24.77.223	192.168.11.11	TCP	http > bsquare-voip [ACK] seq=192 Ack=177 win=6432 Len=0

HijackThis, WinPatrol





Step 2: Analyse The Data (Part 1)

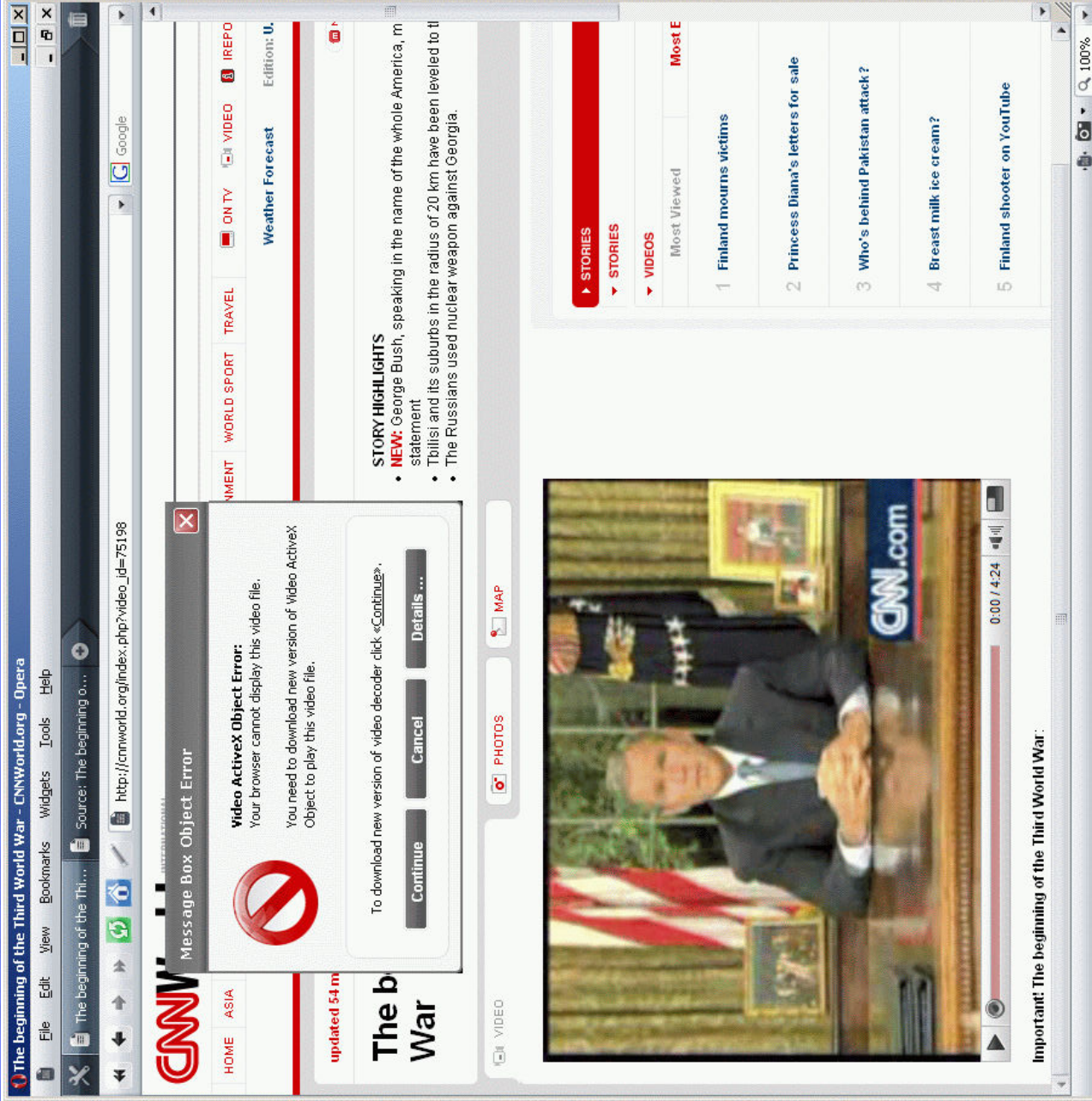
- **At this point you may already be able to state with some level of confidence that the system is infected by a malware which *phones-home*.**
 - Examples of these include bot clients, or a Trojan or multi-component malware [such as a dropper] that has contacted one or more websites to download other malware or adware to install. This act, in many cases effectively starts a chain reaction leading to a heavily infected system with tens or hundreds of malware files [or components] installed.
- **In either case, you could, visit the websites, FTP sites or IRC channels used to gather more information or even a *fresh sample* [or samples, scripts, etc.] of what you are fighting.**
 - This will help in your remediation, as well as allowing you to supply your anti-malware vendor with something to analyse, which in turn could end up making remediation [or at least detection] easier.

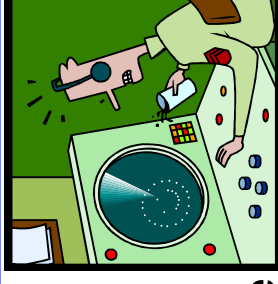


IRC Channels – as used by Bots

```

# [+mnst]: We'll done. We reached the 200 infected...
< sigh > hm
***** XS-[90512] (MissDana@irc. .com-22674.arcom.co
m.au) quit [04:00] Ping timeout
***** XS-[47612] (kaivin@irc. com-23761.ipt.adl.com)
join [04:03]
***** XS-[20929] (bethany@irc. .com-36513.mgm.bellsou
th.net) quit [04:03] Ping timeout
***** XS-[5751] (~moswen@irc. .com-21927.dnvr.uswest
.net) join [04:03]
<Electron> !login MS.O*GN6<J07TT^+HX>#?_+QY./BT^+HM+.R
X>#?Y^;ER<C"J07TT^+H_+QMGN6<Y./BT^+HM[UI:2CKJVLKJ
VLL;"OT.*QS.D*GN6<J07TT^+H_/OZ>#?MX>#?M+.RP+^4V"
P:2SLI7.D_#0[DC3XNCV]?3#PL"VMG+T-DX^+;VMG,=R\KM[M!
?N3CXIEG,/"P?/R\?;U]+2SLN'@wT4'
<X1-[13460]> Electron You are now authorized to use me...
<Electron> !udppacket 15000 66.68.188.47 random
<X1-[13460]> Sending ( 15000 ) packets to ( 66.68.188.47 ) on
port: ( 1565 )
< sigh > !!!
***** XS-[4576] (~eandreax@irc. .com-57885.cambr1.on.
wave.home.com) quit [04:05] Connection reset by peer
  
```





Step 3a: Scan The System

- Scan with up-to-date anti-malware tools and see if anything is identified, ensure that heuristics and generic detection features are enabled. Preferably you should use at least two different products from each category, after all the anti-malware solution you have deployed didn't detect it, did it?
- Try clean-booting if performing a *live* system scan fails [or if a Windows system try booting into *Safe Mode* first] to find anything. Clean booting will ensure that any active malware or related processes are not active.
- Any files identified as malware or flagged as suspicious should be copied to a USB flash drive or other removable media and labelled as potential malware.
- As with *Step 2*, if you now have some suspected files, send them to your anti-malware vendor for analysis, however, this does not stop you analysing the files yourself.
- Place suspect files into a password protected zip file [use the password of *infected*] and send them to your preferred anti-malware company.
- You could also send any samples to scanning services, such as VirusTotal and Jotti, and also to sandboxes such as the one run by Norman, or the CWSandbox [also available via Sunbelt].
- Some of these services will analyse the files in great depth and supply you with copious amounts of useful data. This can help you to understand what the files are doing, and therefore how to remediate any affected systems, even before your anti-malware vendor has detection.

Online Scanners

VirusTotal - Free Online Virus and Malware Scan - Statistics - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
<http://www.virustotal.com/es/submit.html>
 Since: Dec 2003 Rank: 3005 Site Report [US] ThePirate.com Internet Services, Inc.

VIRUS TOTAL

VirusTotal is a service that analyzes suspicious files and facilitates the quick detection of viruses, worms, trojans, and all kinds of malware detected by antivirus engines. [More information...](#)

Analysis **Statistics** Email/Uploader About VirusTotal

Received Files / Infected Files (Last 24 Hours)

This image shows the number of files that have been detected as infected (red) among the total number of files received within the last 24 hours (clean ones marked in blue).

Top 10 of Infected Files (Last 24 Hours)

This image shows the list of the most-updated infected files received within the last 24 hours.

File Name	Count
W32/Virtuondo.G.gen/Eldorado	1200
Generic Dropper.au	1092
W32/Pala.a	800
Generic Spy.j	751
Heuristic: Susp... Modifying File	662
not-a-virus:AdT...2.FenomenGame.b	440
suspicious Trojan/Worm	342
Trojan.Vundo	335
W32/Heuristic-162/Eldorado	267
W32/Nuwar@MM	140

Online malware scan - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
<http://viruscan.jobti.org/>

Online malware scan

Jon's malware scan 2.99: TRANSITION_TO_300-R1

File to upload & scan: Browse... Submit

Service load: 0% 100%
 Status: Ready for scan

Powered by:

Disclaimer

This service is by no means 100% safe. If this scanner says "OK", it does not necessarily mean the file is clean. There could be a whole new virus on the loose. NEVER EVER rely on any scanner, even though it utilizes several products. Therefore, we cannot and will not be held responsible for any damage caused by results presented by this non-profit online service.

Also, we are aware of the implications of a setup like this. We are sure this whole thing is by no means scientifically correct, since this is a fully automated service (although manual correction is possible). We are aware, in spite of efforts to proactively counter these, false positives might occur, for example. We do not consider this a very big issue, so please do not e-mail us about it. This is a simple online scan service, not the university of Wichita.

Scanning can take a while, since several scanners are being used, plus the fact some scanners use very high levels of time-consuming heuristics. Scanners used are: Linux versions, differences with Windows scanners may or may not occur. Another note: some scanners will only report one virus when scanning archives with multiple pieces of malware.

Virus definitions are updated every hour. There is a 10Mb limit per file. Please refrain from uploading tons of hex-edited or repacked variants of the same sample. Please do not ask for viruses uploaded here, unless you work for an anti-virus vendor. They are not for trade. This is a legitimate service, not a VY site. Viruses uploaded here will be distributed to antivirus vendors without exception. Read more about this in our [privacy policy](#). If you do not want your files to be distributed, please do not send them at all.

Sponsored by filescrypt.com

Statistics

Last file scanned at least one scanner reported something about: keylogger.vbs (MD5: 4f88a576e7506251507c1734dc50193, size: 13993 bytes), detected by:

Scanner	Malware name
A-Squared	X
Antivir	HTML/Crypted.Gen
Avast	Trojan.VBS.Etc.Dropper
AVG Antivirus	VBS:EtcDropper-gen4
BitDefender	I-Worm@Bagle X

Open Notebook McAfee ShieldsUp! Now: Mostly Sunny, 63° F Fri: 63° F Sat: 66° F Sun: 65° F Mon: 63° F Tue: 62° F

Sandboxes

Norman SandBox Information Center - Mozilla Firefox

Home | Concept and Technology | Statistics | Search | Submit file | About Norman

Microsites > Norman SandBox Information Center > Statistics > Latest submitted

Latest submitted

Sandbox Name	Signature Name	Executable type	Structure
View NO_MALWARE	Malware.AATC	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Virut.H	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Suspicious_N.gen	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Virtumonde.NLZ	Library(DLL)	OK
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Dloader.dam	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	Agent.DR2W.dropper	Application	OK
View W32/Malware	NO_VIRUS	Application	OK
View W32/Malware	NO_VIRUS	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	Agent.CKIK.dropper	Application	OK
View W32/Downloader	Dloader.ATCD.dropper	Application	OK
View W32/Malware	W32/Suspicious_C.gen	Application	OK
View W32/Malware	NO_VIRUS	Application	OK
View W32/Malware	NO_VIRUS	Application	OK
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Winfixer.AYK	Application	DAMAGED
View NO_MALWARE	W32/Virtumonde.NLZ	Library(DLL)	OK

CWSandbox Webinterface v2 - Mozilla Firefox

Home | Technical Details | Resources | Sample Report | Licensing | Links | Submit

Sample Analysis Details

XML (Popup) - TXT (Popup) - HTML - (Popup)

CWSandbox MALWARE ANALYSIS REPORT

Submission Details

Date	04.12.2006 20:51:24
Sandbox Version	1.85
File Name	0781008c00819ac586075d27c0b0d5.exe

Summary Findings

Total Number of Processes	4
Termination Reason	Normal Termination
Start Time	00:00:063
Stop Time	00:09:016
Start Reason	AnalysisTarget

Scanner Results

Scan Engine	Version	Signature Version	Result	More Info
ClamAV	0.89.2	2285	OK	
BitDefender	7.0.2492	324801	GenPack.Generic.Sabot.ACSZFB	
AviVir Workstation	2.1.8-64	6.36.1.130	Worm.Sabot.94208.72	

Analysis Highlights

Open Notebook | Now: Partly Sunny, 50° F | Fri: 53° F | Sat: 54° F | Sun: 48° F | Mon: 46° F | Tue: 44° F

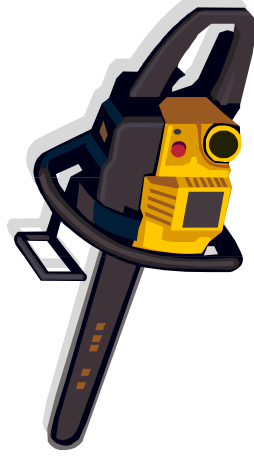


Sample CWSandbox Output – Real Malware

```

Filesystem
New Files
C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe
Opened Files
\SystemRoot\AppPatch\sysmain.sdb
\SystemRoot\AppPatch\sysprep.sdb
\Device\NamedPipe\ShimViewer
C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe
Chronological order
Copy File: c:\temp\ff37e574c7694879ff7377886a82dee.exe to C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe
Open File: \SystemRoot\AppPatch\sysmain.sdb (OPEN_EXISTING)
Open File: \SystemRoot\AppPatch\sysprep.sdb (OPEN_EXISTING)
Open File: \Device\NamedPipe\ShimViewer (OPEN_EXISTING)
Open File: C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe ()
Find File: crsss.exe
Registry
Process Management      Creates Process - Filename () CommandLine: (C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe --install
c:\temp\ff37e574c7694879ff7377886a82dee.exe) As User: () Creation Flags: (DETACHED_PROCESS)
Kill Process - Filename () CommandLine: () Target PID: (588) As User: () Creation Flags: ()
System Info      Get System Directory
The following process was started by process: 1
Analysis Number  2
Parent ID        1
Process ID       1020
Filename         C:\WINDOWS\System32\crsss.exe --install c:\temp\ff37e574c7694879ff7377886a82dee.exe
FileSize         215040 bytes
MD5              ff37e574c7694879ff7377886a82dee
Start Reason     CreateProcess
Termination Reason      NormalTermination
Start Time       00:03.750
Stop Time        01:00.531

```



Step 3b: D-I-Y Sample Analysis

- Assuming you have the relevant skills and tools and have been given permission from your security manager/director to do so, you could analyse the files yourself.
- I would recommend that this is done on a system that is not connected to the network, and ideally this is a system that you will either use VMWare [or some other Virtual Machine software] on, so that it can be re-imaged, or reset back to a clean image [snapshot] after running the suspected files on the test system.
- Once this has been setup, you can use whatever tools you prefer to carry out the analysis, such as, using static analysis tools, like PEiD, Strings, File Alyzer and so on, you could also examine the file in a hex editor and/or a debugger. This is only advised if you are able to understand assembler code and you are sure that the file to be debugged does not contain anti-debugging code which may be triggered during examination.
- You could then move onto running the file and seeing what it does using tools such as InCtrl5, Windiff, PSTools or you may prefer to disassemble it using tools such as IDAPro, WinDbg or OlIDbg. This is only advised if you are able to understand assembler code and you are sure that the file to be debugged does not contain anti-debugging code which may be triggered during examination.
- This is also a good time to try out any remediation scripts or tools you have created as a quick-n-dirty solution to the problem [obviously only on a test system].

Stud_Pe, PEiD, FileAlyzer

File: V:\samples\200803\IRC.Flood.gen.bye-greetings.exe.1-M63

Endpoint: 00021BE0 EP Section: UPX1

File Offset: 0000AFED First Bytes: 60,BE,00,70

Linker Info: 5.0 Subsystem: Win32 GUI

UPX 0.89.6 - 1.02 / 1.05 - 1.24 -> Markus & Laszlo [RAR SFX]

Database contains : 400 file type signatures

- .BJFNT 1.1b -> :MARQUIS:
- .BJFNT 1.2rc -> :MARQUIS:
- .BJFNT 1.3 -> :MARQUIS:
- 32Lite 0.03a -> Oleg Prokhorov
- AcidCrypt -> AcidLeo
- Alloy 1.x.2000 -> Prakash Gautam
- APatch GUI 1.x -> Joergen Ibsen
- Armadillo 1.60a -> Silicon Realms Toolworks
- Armadillo 1.71 -> Silicon Realms Toolworks

Detected UPX 0.89.6 - 1.02 / 1.05 - 1.24 -> Markus_Laszlo

Detection mode: Standard Hard searching time : 10 ms

File Report Settings Language Help

PE Sections Import/Export table Hex dump Streams Info

General Version Security Resources PE Header

e-greetings.exe.1-M63

Location: c:\samples\200803\IRC.Flood.gen.b\

Size: 974708

Version: 77669F08

CRC-32: 361FFC62BC58BB486690088C68371B79

MD5: 14F96C8D678B724F8404A333DE8DC521DC73E520

SHA1:

Read only Directory

Hidden Archive

System file Symbolic link

PE Pack v1.0

UPX v0.89.6 - v1.02 / v1.05 - v1.22

Neolite v2.00

Time stamp: 11 March 2008 09:28:04

Creation: 11 March 2008 09:28:04

Last access: 13 March 2008 16:39:02

Last write: 11 March 2008 09:28:04

Jump Close

OillyDbg, IDAPro

The image shows a screenshot of the OillyDbg application interface. The main window displays assembly code for the module 'e-greets.exe.1-163 - [CPU - main thread, module e-greets]'. The assembly code is organized into sections: PUSHAD, MOV ESI, e-greets.L.00417000, PUSH EDI, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+FFFFFF0001], OR EBX, FFFFFFFF, JMP SHORT e-greets.L.00421C02, and various NOP instructions. The registers window shows the state of CPU registers, including EAX, ECX, EDI, EIP, ESP, and various segment registers. The disassembly window shows the corresponding assembly instructions for the selected memory addresses, such as MOV EBX, PTR DS:[ESI], MOV BYTE PTR DS:[EDI], INC EDI, ADD EBX, EBX, JNZ SHORT e-greets.L.00421C09, and others. The hex dump window shows the raw memory bytes for the selected addresses. The OillyDbg interface includes a menu bar (File, View, Debug, Plugins, Options, Window, Help) and a toolbar with various debugging tools.

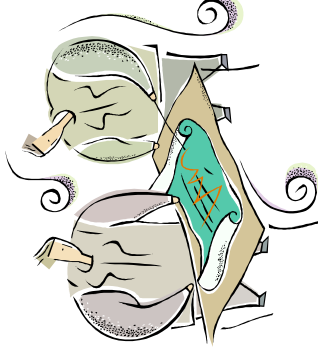
VMware, etc.



```

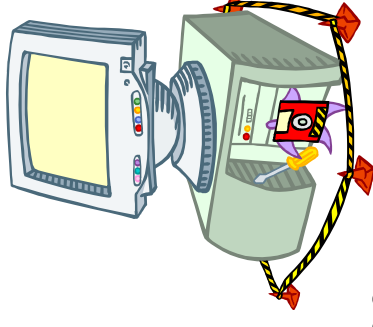
004031BC  VMware_ComChannel_UMXh_Magic_Detection proc near ; CODE XIP
004031BC  var_19      = byte ptr -19h
004031BC  ms_exc     = CPPEH_RECORD ptr -18h
004031BC
004031BC  push      0Ch
004031BE  push     offset stru_420368
004031C3  call     ___SEH_prolog
004031C8  mov      [ebp+var_19], 1
004031CC  and     [ebp+ms_exc.disabled], 0
004031D0  push     ecx
004031D1  push     ecx
004031D2  push     ebx
004031D3  mov     eax, 'UMXh'
004031D8  mov     ebx, 0
004031DD  mov     ecx, 0Ah
004031E2  mov     edx, 'UX'
004031E7  in     eax, dx
004031E8  cmp     ebx, 'UMXh'
004031EE  setz    [ebp+var_19]
004031F2  pop     ebx
004031F3  pop     ecx
004031F4  pop     edx
004031F5  jmp     short loc_403202
004031F7
004031F7  loc_4031F7:
004031F7  xor     eax, eax
004031F9  inc     eax
004031FA  retn
004031FB
004031FB  loc_4031FB:
004031FB  mov     esp, [ebp+ms_exc.old_esp]
004031FB  mov     [ebp+var_19], 0
00403202
00403202  loc_403202:
00403202  or     [ebp+ms_exc.disabled], 0FFFFFFFh
00403206  mov     al, [ebp+var_19]
00403209  call   ___SEH_epilog
0040320E  retn
0040320E  VMware_ComChannel_UMXh_Magic_Detection endp

```



Step 4: Analyse The Data (Part 2)

- By now you should have a good idea what is going on, and what any malware is doing to the affected systems and what network traffic is being generated by it [or them].
- If you haven't then you should now take time to go over all the data you have acquired during the first three steps. You could use a flow diagram to plot the malware's features and activities, or you may prefer to brainstorm on a whiteboard with suitable colleagues. From here you should emerge with a clear [or fairly clear] understanding of what needs to be done to protect the rest of the network [it could be as simple as putting in a new, or changing an existing router ACL, firewall rule, or IDS/IPS signature/rule in place] which may also allow you to identify other infected systems that need to be removed from the network and remediated.



Step 5: Remediation

- Hopefully by now, you can either create or at least plan out the steps that you need to take to remediate all the infected systems identified. You may decide that you can create your own clean-up scripts [paper and/or code] rather than wait for your anti-malware vendors to get detection and cleanup definitions [signatures] to you. Otherwise you will have to be patient until your anti-malware vendor delivers the goods.
- The other alternative, especially if a system is heavily infected, or you can't find any sign of malware [even when using all the tools/tricks and techniques listed in the paper], is to restore the system from the last known clean backup, or re-image it to your organisations standard desktop/server build image.

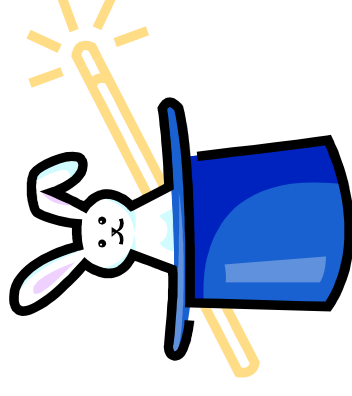
Tricks

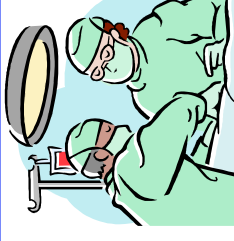
- **VB Scripting for quick and dirty cleanup, example:**

- 'RemSdbot2.vbs - SDbot remover for specific variant.
- '© Martin Overton, 2007 (martin@arachnophiliac.com)
- 'Version 0.99.2'
- 'Created to detect and remove an infection of the following Sdbot variant
- '
- 'FileName: rundll.exe
- 'FileDateTime: 19/01/2007 14:05:00
- 'FileSize: 1364992
- 'MD5: 71fd1205f6d7550967bda6bf4491a50a
- 'CRC32: 36E8176E
- 'File Type: PE Executable
- ... [For the rest see the paper]

- **Clean Boot Disks**

- Using live Linux or a PE boot disk, such as Bart_PE can be very handy, not only in clean booting a suspected system but also in scanning the same system with little or no risk that any malware will still be active on it. It needs not be a CD or DVD [from an ISO image], it could also be an external USB hard disk or a USB flash drive instead.

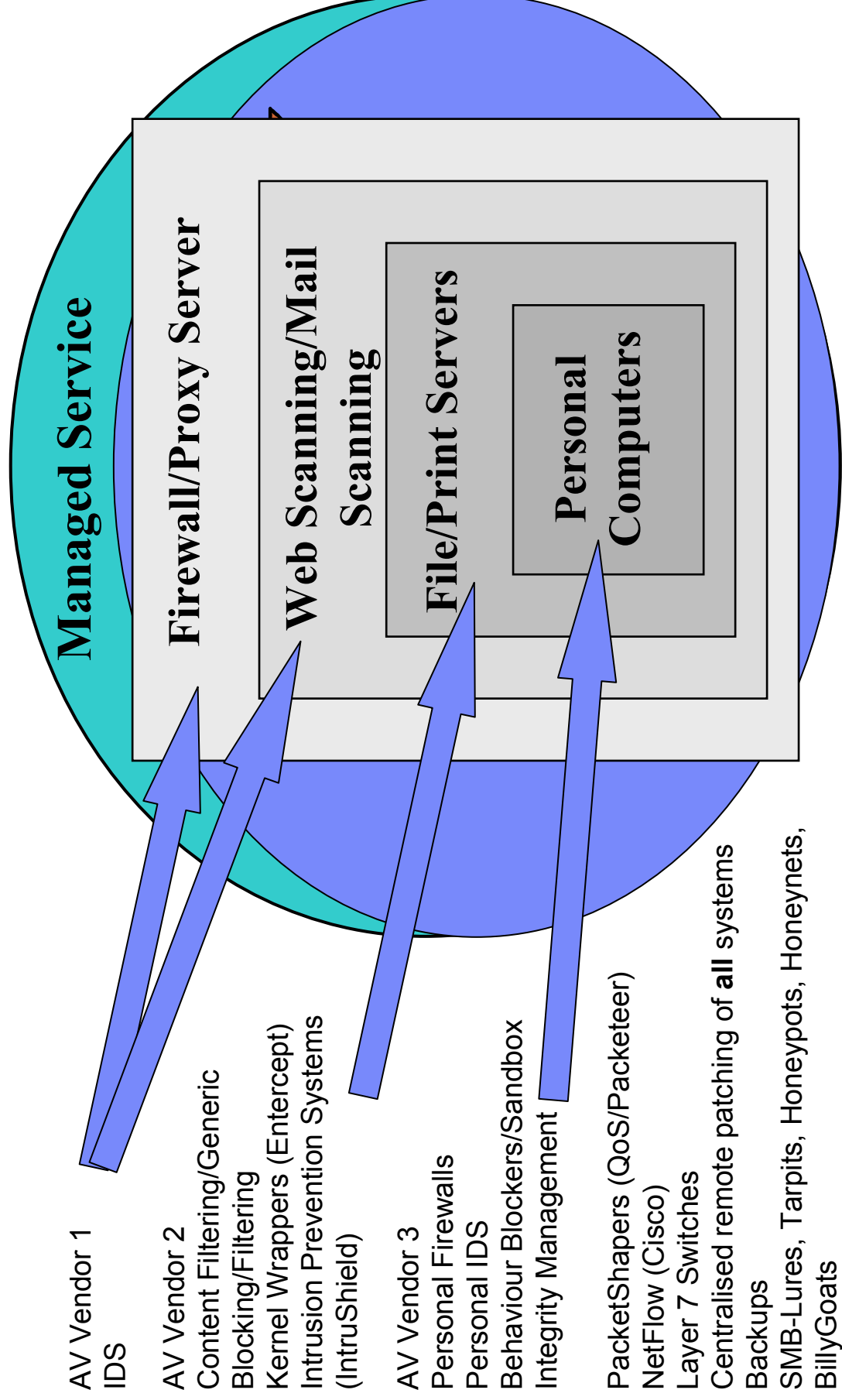




Step 6: Post Mortem

- This is where you take stock of what has happened and decide what [if any] changes are required to improve protection of your infrastructure, your security policy and procedures and, last but not least, user education.
- The whole point of this is to help minimise the risk of another similar outbreak. The ideas that come out from this session should be wide-ranging and generic as these will generally offer the best improvements in your organisations security posture; both from the aspects of prevention and incident management.
- This is not the time for a witch-hunt to take place so that blame can be attributed to individuals and/or teams, you should focus on what went wrong [or failed] and put together solutions to minimise the chances of a similar attack being successful next time. It may also be useful to revisit your overall approach to threats and infection vectors, as they may have changed since the last time you looked.
- *A final note: If it is a criminal case then you need to follow computer forensic principals, such as the chain of custody, and follow the prevailing laws [including all guidance from law enforcement agencies that might get involved] for your country, state, or other geographical divide. Failure to do so may mean that a successful prosecution is unlikely; the case may not even get to court. If in doubt seek legal guidance first, before proceeding.*

Applying a Multi-layered Anti-Malware



Policies and Procedures

Putting it all together.....

Multiple Antivirus Vendors

- Workstation
- Servers
- Perimeter (Web, FTP and SMTP)

Malware Sensors

- SMB-Lures, Tarpits, Honey pots,
- Honeynets, BillyGoats

IDS

- Using custom malware rules/signatures

Management

- Centralised, Geo-centric, or at least country-centric
- Policies (What we want to achieve)
- Procedures (How we are going to achieve it)
- People (Who's going to do it)
- Products (The technology bit)

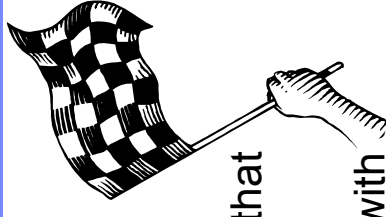
Automated Patching

- Centralised remote patching of all systems via Tivoli, SMS, etc.



Others

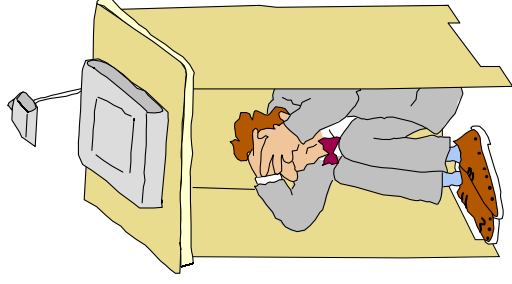
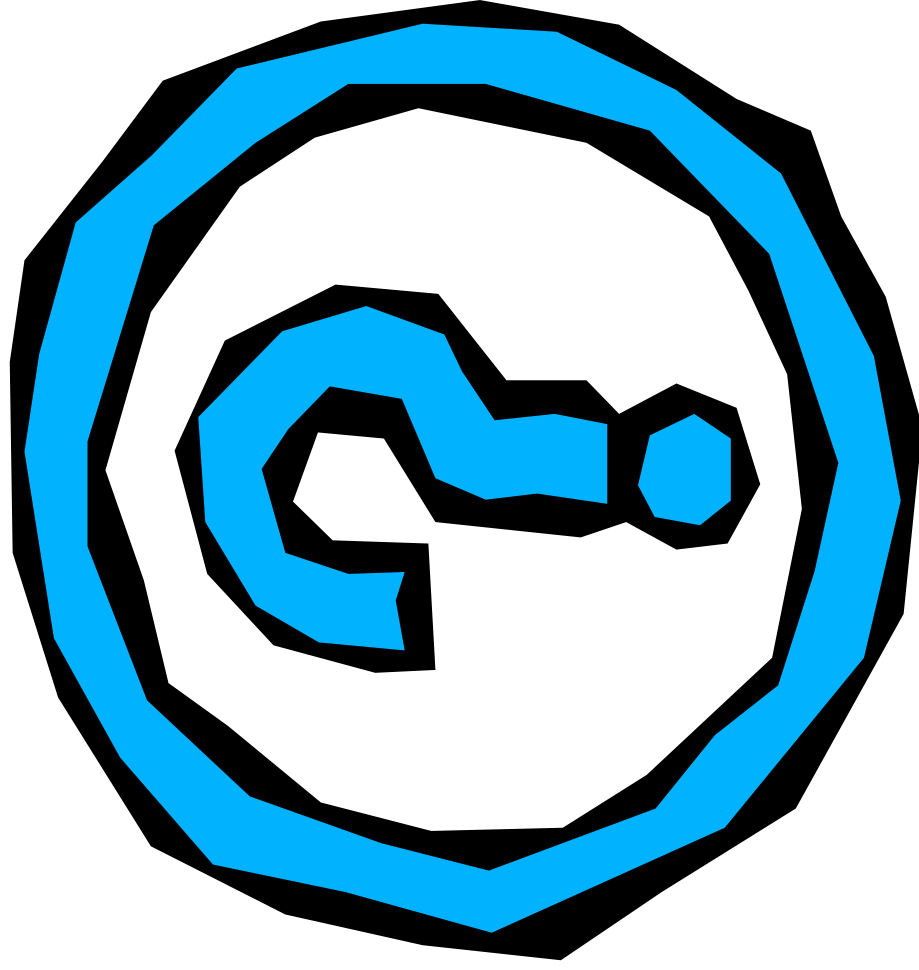
- Kernel Wrappers (Entercept)
- Personal Firewalls (McAfee/ZoneLabs)
- Personal IDS (Blackice)
- Generic Blocking/Filtering
- Heuristics
- Backups
- Intrusion Prevention Systems (IntruShield)
- Behaviour Blockers/SandBox Technology (FinJan SurfinShield)
- Firewalls/Proxies
- PacketShapers (QoS/Packeteer)
- NetFlow (Cisco)
- Layer 7 Switches
- Managed e-mail virus scanning, anti-spam service



Conclusions

- Hopefully I have shown you that even if you are faced with a new malware threat that isn't detected by your anti-malware defences you can still, in most cases, find the infection, how it got in, how it communicates and with the right tools and methodologies even remove it safely before your anti-malware vendor comes up with solution.
- I must make clear that this is not a solution to be used by those not already used to handling and combating malware and other related security threats; home users need not apply, however most academic campuses, large businesses and other organisations should already have at least one person [hopefully more than one] who has the required skills and experience to be able to do this. They almost certainly already work in the security team [or a related function] and have a network of colleagues outside of the main security team that they can call on; such as programmers, network specialists, server and desktop support staff.
- As with other security threat, especially malware related ones, you need to deploy a multi-layered approach to minimise the chance of malware getting onto your computers. This means not only do you need good technological solutions, and overlapping technologies at that, but these need to be backed up with good security policies, procedures, education and constant vigilance.
- Please do not see this paper as an exhaustive or complete look at detecting and combating new malware and malware forensics, to do this real justice would require enough material to fill a large book.

Questions?



Contact details.....

Martin Overton

EMEA Malware/Anti-Malware SME

IBM ISS X-Force – PSS

- **E-Mail:** overtonm@uk.ibm.com
- **Telephone:** +44 (0)239 2563442



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