

# Into the Fog - The Return of ICEFOG APT

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June 03, 2019

In 2013, a public report reveals a group of actors conducted targeted attacks leverage a malware dubbed ICEFOG against mainly government organizations and defense industry of South Korea and Japan. Little has been published on the activities of ICEFOG malwares since the report was released more than six years ago. However, despite a pause and a decrease in sample number were observed, the attacks leveraging the ICEFOG malware did not entirely stop after the exposure. In the past few years, we observed different attacks which the malware delivered and exploit with different tactic, techniques and procedure (TTP) compare with the campaign reported in

2013. In the recent attack, a new variant of the ICEFOG samples were also discovered. In this talk, I will introduce our finding among different samples discovered across these years and highlight the evolved TTPs that actor applied to evade detection in the new campaign. In addition, I will also introduce and clarify the potential connections between ICEFOG operator and other APT groups.

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[hikomimo](#)

0

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[ken57](#)

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Survey



takumikato

0

130

note #買ってよかったものレポート2021 / Best to Buy 2021



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1

140k

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170

20211222\_黒部市社協とjinjerの共同研究



koshiba\_noriaki

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120

大学研究者による事業提案制度（大学提案） 募集概要



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Why You Should Never Use an ORM



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47

5.6k

CSS Pre-Processors: Stylus, Less & Sass



bermonpainter

349

27k

The Brand Is Dead. Long Live the Brand.



mthomps

45

2.7k

ピンチをチャンスに：未来をつくるプロダクトロードマップ #pmconf2020



aki\_i

21

15k

Fashionably flexible responsive web design (full day workshop)



malarkey

396

62k

How GitHub Uses GitHub to Build GitHub



holman



465

280k

Pencils Down: Stop Designing & Start Developing



hursman

112

9.8k

The Web Native Designer (August 2011)



paulrobertlloyd

74

1.9k

Building Applications with DynamoDB



mza

83

4.6k

The Power of CSS Pseudo Elements



geoffreycrofte

46

3.9k

Visualization



eitanlees

124

11k

**Transcript**

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1. **\*OUPUIF'PHm 5IF3FUVSOPG \*\$&'0( "15 Chi-en (Ashley) Shen Senior  
Researcher**

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2. **WHOIS • Chi En Shen (Ashley) • Senior Researcher at**

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FireEye Global Intelligence Collection and Research Team. • Co-founder of HITCON GIRLS security community in Taiwan • Review board of Black Hat Asia, Blue Hat Shanghai, Hack in the Box • First time log in to Poland :D

3. **The Story Starts From • Tweetel! (Tweet + Intel) •**

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Thanks for sharing J A Tweet...

4. **What is ICEFOG (aka Fucobha) ? • Kaspersky 2013 Report**

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- The Icefog APT: A Tale of Cloak and Three Daggers. • A malware used in the campaigns targeted US, JP, TW and KR between 2011 – 2013. • Now ICEFOG is referred as a Malware family, a report, sometimes referred as a group. (is it?)

5. **The ICEFOG Campaign Return? • Last public report in 2013**

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and 2014. • No public reporting on the new ICEFOG campaign after 2014. What happened between these 5 years? • The samples discovered recently has changed the target scope. Is this the same group as in 2013? • Goal: find out what happened between these 5 years and find out who are using ICEFOG. Release of ICEFOG report Blog about Java version ICEFOG.  
2013 2014 2019 ???

6. **Why Do We Care?**

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7. **Why Do We Care? Know your Pokemon and know yourself,**

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you will always be victorious. - Ashley Threat Intelligence

8. **Let's start HUNTING! • Tools: • Yara, signature detections on**

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appliance, • Method: • Strings • Malware Functions • PDB & GUID • Exploit document template • Infrastructure pivoting, correlation.

## 9. ICEFOG Variants (<2014) Old ICEFOG ICEFOG Type 1 ICEFOG Type

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2 ICEFOG Type 3 & 4 (No sample) ICEFOG-NG ICEFOG OSX (aka Macfog) ICEFOG Java (aka Javafog) Support platform Windows Windows Windows (shellcode & standalone) Windows Windows Mac OSX Java Support Functions • upload\_ • download\_ • Cmd\_ • code\_ • upload\_ • download\_ • Cmd\_ • code\_ • upload\_ • download\_ • Cmd\_ • Code\_ Unknown • Cmd • Download • Upload • sleep • upload\_ • download\_ • Cmd\_ • code\_ • upload\_ • cmd\_Update Domain • cmd\_ Communication Method Communicate with emails Communicate with C&C server with “.aspx” scripts Script based proxy server C&C server with scripts named “view.aspx”, “update.aspx”, “upfile.aspx” TCP connection to port 5600 Communicate with C&C server with “.aspx” scripts Communicate with C&C server with “.aspx” scripts

## 10. Common ICEFOG Strings Communication Traffic ICEFOG-Type2 ICEFOG-Type1 XOR Keys Old

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ICEFOG Mail

## 11. Hunting Malware Functions ICEFOG-NG Communication ICEFOG-NG Encrypt Function ICEFOG-Type 1

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Encrypt Function ICEFOG OSX Encrypt Function

## 12. The CVE2017-11882 Exploit Template • Also, great research from Anomali.

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• <https://www.anomali.com/blog/analyzing-digital-quartermasters-in-asia-do-chinese-and-indian-apt-have-a-shared-supply-chain> Shellcode decode routine Open Document Encoded (0xFC) Dropper (8.t) Drops into %temp% Shellcode decode & execute Malware Can be hunted by the RTF Object Dropper

## 13. The Shared Exploit Builder • CVE 2017-11882 exploit template. •

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Actually, shared among at least 3 different groups. (APT40, Conimes team aka Goblin Panda, ICEFOG Operators) Threat Group Hash Malware Create Date Author Targeted Region APT40 d5a7dd7441dc2b05464a21dd0 c0871ff BEACON 2017-12-07 08:17:00 Windows User USA Temp.CONIMES f223e4175649fa2e34271db8c9 68db12 TEMPFUN 2018-01-15 14:47:00 Windows User LAO Temp.CONIMES 07544892999b91ae2c9280d8e e3c663a TEMPFUN 2018-01-17 09:04:00 Windows User VNM Temp.CONIMES 45a94b3b13101c932a72d89ff 5eb715a TEMPFUN 2018-01-31 11:24:00 Windows User VNM ICEFOG Operator 46d91a91ecdf9c0abc7355c4e7 cf08fc ICEFOG 2018-02-22 20:07:00 T TUR ICEFOG Operator 80883df4e89d5632fa72a8505 7773538 ICEFOG 2018-02-22 20:07:00 T KZ, RU

## 14. Two ICEFOG Variants (2014 - 2019) ICEFOG - P ICEFOG

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-M Support platform Windows (x86 & x64) Windows (shellcode) First Seen 2014 2018 Communication Protocol HTTP HTTPS (port 443)

15. **ICEFOG-P (New) Command Description cmd\_ Execute the command received from**

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C&C download\_ Download file from specified URL filelist\_ Obtaining the list of files within specified folder. upload\_ File loading from the server to computer. delete\_ Delete specified file rename\_ Move file to specified location newdir\_ Create specified directory beforecontinuefile\_ Reset connection to the server continuefile\_ Resume the file download from the server. exit\_ Terminate Process. transover\_ Termination of current thread. screen\_ Send screenshot to C&C server. key\_ Send keylogger's log file to C&C disklist\_ Setting monitored folders disklog\_ Upload monitored folder's data code\_ (removed) run code from file to memory New supported commands Gentle reminder for entering the main function 20130505 Check if system date < 20130505 Anti- sandbox?

16. **ICEFOG-P (New) POST /upload.aspx?filepath=info&filename=<hostname>\_<MAC address>.jpg HTTP/1.1 User-Agent: Internet Explorer Host:**

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foo.com Content-Length: 862 Cache-Control: no-cache HOST NAME:WINDOWS7 USER NAME:user OS Version: Microsoft Windows 7 x86 Service Pack 1 (Build 7601) CPU: GenuineIntel Intel64 Family 6 Model 142 Stepping 9 0MHZ Physical memory: Total physical memory:1023MB,Available memory:388MB Windows Directory: C:\\Windows System Directory: C:\\Windows\\system32 Hard Disk: C:\\ (NTFS) CD-ROM Disk: D:\\ Disk space: Total disk space:39G,The remaining disk space:15G POST /news/upload.aspx?filepath=ok&filename=<hostname>\_<host IP>.jpg HTTP/1.1 Host: icefog.8.100911.com Accept: image/gif, image/x-bitmap, image/jpeg, image/pjpeg, \*/\* Accept-Language: en-us Content-Type: multipart/form-data Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate Connection: Keep-Alive Cache-Control: no-cache User-Agent: MyAgent Content-Length: 0 Traffic of ICEFOG-P Traffic of ICEFOG Type 1 Adds physical machine information likely for filtering out sandbox or analysis environment

17. **ICEFOG-P (New) Use the code from fgdump project Harvests Windows**

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and browser credentials Source code seems to download from internet Loading sqlite3 library for collecting Firefox credentials Malware also embedded some of the functions

18. **ICEFOG-P (New) Monitor directory changes with ReadDirectoryChangesW API, logs save**

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to fmonitor.dat Change log output format disklist\_ save the directory list to filecfg\_temp.dat \_disklog send changes log to C2 /upload.aspx?filepath=disklog/<hostname>\_<MAC Address>&filename=20131314.jpg

19. **ICEFOG-M (The latest) • Supports same functions as ICEFOG-P. •**

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Communication changed to HTTPS via port 443. • Payload became file-less (stored in registry), applied a customized loader launched by benign loader (DLL hijacking). • Loads an external sqlite3.dll library. Encrypted ICEFOG payload stored in registry

## 20. PDB in ICEFOG PDB Associated ICEFOG Variant

E:\zc\HTTPS\HTTPS\86AuthenticateProxy\ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb  
ICEFOG-P C:\Users\lapper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy)  
\ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb

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ICEFOG-P C:\0426\86AuthenticateProxy\ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb ICEFOG-P  
C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy)  
\ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb ICEFOG-P  
D:\vvvvv\downloadccc0301\chen\_http0301\source\Server\64\ExeLoader\x64\Release\linkinfo.pdb  
ICEFOG-P  
F:\worktmp\2014.11.05\ff\Server\86AuthenticateProxy\ExeLoader\Release\linkinfo.pdb  
ICEFOG-P • e:\jd4\myServer(RegRun)\release\jd4(reg).pdb •  
e:\jd4\myServer(RegRun)\release\jd4(reg).pdb • d:\jd\jd(RegRun)\release\jd3(reg).pdb •  
x:\jd(RegRun)\release\jd3(reg).pdb • d:\jd\jd(RegRun)\release\jd3(reg).pdb •  
e:\6.26\myServer\release\myServer.pdb • d:\jd\jd(RegRun)\release\jd3(reg).pdb •  
C:\Users\yang.zc\Desktop\代码片调用程序 4\Release\UCCodePieceGo.pdb •  
D:\Undercurrent\服务端\代码片服务端过UAC版本\专用代码片调用程序  
\Release\UCCodePieceGo.pdb ICEFOG Type 1 ICEFOG Type 2 < 2013 ICEFOG Samples >  
2013 More developers?

## 21. MacOS X ICEFOG (aka MacFog) • Among all the samples

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we collected, some are the MacOS X MachO executable files. • The MacOS X ICEFOG was first distributed in Chinese forums, forged as image process software. • Newly uploaded old samples, having the same default C&C setting. • Only one new sample with a private IP setting (testing?).

## 22. ICEFOG Variants Compiled Timestamp Timeline 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

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2016 2017 2018 2019 ICEFOG Old ICEFOG Type 1 ICEFOG Type 2 ICEFOG-NG ICEFOG-P  
ICEFOG-M (loader) 2013-06-20 2013-06-26 2014-11-18 2018-02-26 2018-12-10 2018-04-17  
2011-06-19 2013-02-16 2011-03-16 2013-08-05 2011-07-22 2011-08-05

## 23. None

## 24. How to determine the timeframe of the sample? • When

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we found the sample after the campaign finished. • Consider: • PDNS time • Domain create date • Compile timestamp (dropper? Payload? Wrapper?) • Exploit document last saved time (template?) • Decoy document timestamp • Date sample was first seen in the wild • PDB Sample Sample First Seen in the wild Exploit Doc Last saved date Dropped Malware Compile Date C&C Domain Passive DNS First Seen Decoy File Last Modified date c3ed6b34707e92f7aa35859a 9647f044 2017-08-03 10:48:09 2014/04/11 0:00:00 2016-09-27 02:23:30 2017-08-03 2018-02-26 2017-08-02 19:17:00

## 25. None

26. **Infrastructure Clustering • Connecting the dots with passive DNS, registrant**

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email • Tool: Maltego • Problems / difficulty • Incomplete PDNS data • Actor might have changed the infrastructure entirely after the report. • Sinkholes filtering. (not all in db....) • Parking filtering. • Hosting server.

27. *None*

28. *None*

29. **• A lot of sinkhole connected to “sinkhole.yourtrap.com” • Usually**

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153.xxx.xxx.xxx in Japan registered by NTT.

30. **2014 Samples Targets KZ and RU 2015 Attack Target an**

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Agriculture Company in Europe 2016 2017 2019 Campaign Timeline Sample target potentially Russia TOPNEWS Campaign APPER Campaign Sample target Tajikistan Sample targets KZ 2018 WATERFIGHT Campaign WATERFIGHT Campaign

31. **Attack targeted Agriculture Company in Europe (2015) • 64 bit**

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ICEFOG-P found in the compromised environment. • Persistent attack started from 2011. • Actor mainly used SOGU and FUNRUN backdoor to gain initial access. • Also, found VICEROY backdoor, which has been used by APT9. • We also found malware connects to APT10 infrastructure. • The ICEFOG backdoor found at the scene was a customized version.

32. **Attack targeted Agriculture Company in Europe (2015) • Leveraged as**

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post exploitation tool. • Getting C&C configuration from two files and decode with 0x99.

33. **• Campaign targets Mongolia and Russia, suspected media, finance and**

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government. • Sample delivered by spear-phishing email. • The ICEFOG samples are all ICEFOG-P variant. • Some samples includes suspected campaign code information. Hash Compile Timestamp Drop by C&C PDB Campaign Code eb2d297d099f3d39874 efa3f89735a01 2015/03/12 10:18:13 f8cc15db9c85da19555a7232 b543c726 dnsservers.itemdb.com russion.dnsedc.com C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\8 6AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb 02-03 c7d2c170482d17e2e76 e6937bd8ab9a5 2015/05/14 5:11:42 B3EFDA0E130373DAF6CB17 801714B66F (rarsfx) bulgaa.sportsnews.net C:\0426\86AuthenticateProxy\Exe Loader\Release\RasTls.pdb 120 7dc1f0e60f11c456aa15 cc3546716c17 2015/05/14 6:11:42 e84b74f07ae803852f2ed194 58a1539d (tsalin.docx.exe) 74583d7355113ad3e58e355 b003083e5 (winword.scr) zaluu.dellnewsup.net C:\0426\86AuthenticateProxy\Exe Loader\Release\RasTls.pdb 100 09d8f865bccfb239afab 4f4f564081ff 2016/09/27 3:23:30 47713144ae08560ba939ea01 620a0a2d (toot.docx .exe) zaluu.dellnewsup.net E:\zc\HTTPS\HTTPS\86Authentic ateProxy\ExeLoader\Release\Ras Tls.pdb b 2015 TOPNEWS Campaign

34. • **Most ICEFOG payloads are dropped by RARAFX dropper.** •

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Decoy uses government related content. ТӨРИЙН ТУСГАЙ АЛБАН ТУШААЛЫН ЦАЛИНГИЙН СҮЛЖЭЭ” (Mongolian translation: SPECIAL OFFICES OF JURISDICTION) 2015 TOPNEWS Campaign

35. **2015 TOPNEWS Campaign Hash Malware Family Compile timestamp C&C Target**

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664318c95c4a48debd3562e a602796b9 TEMPFUN 2014-07-23 12:44:56 win.dellnewsup.net a489f2b4505b8f291804e393 1cf16ed8 TEMPFUN 2014-07-23 12:44:56 win.dellnewsup.net MN 2e74505cc08c0d0d88146d4 6915f37af SOGU 2015-02-06 02:56:28 mn.dellnewsup.net news.dellnewsup.net MN a0389879ea435e647d29f69 66b1d601f FUNRUN 2015-02-07 09:34:05 date.dellnewsup.net 1a93c0257f52e2b1e8e4f52c 033a61b3 SOGU 2011-03-02 07:40:24 dwm.dnsedc.com RU • The domain “dellnewsup.net” has 13 sub-domains. • Pivoting these sub-domains, we found other malwares connected to the infrastructure. • Campaign also leveraged SOGU, TEMPFUN and FUNRUN to attack Mongolian targets from 2014 to 2015.

36. **2015 TOPNEWS Campaign • Domains registrant email linked to the**

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Roaming Tiger group and rotten tomato campaign. dellnewsup.net sportsnewsa.net dnsedc.com dnsqaz.com systemupdate5.dtdns.net transactiona.com googlenewsup.net futuresgolda.com googltrend.com financenewsu.net micronewsup.net dellindustry.com newsupdatea.net..... More yuminga1@126.com [http://2014.zeronights.org/assets/files/slides/roaming\\_tiger\\_zeronights\\_2014.pdf](http://2014.zeronights.org/assets/files/slides/roaming_tiger_zeronights_2014.pdf) Roaming Tiger Campaign

37. **2016 APPER Campaign • In September 2015, KZCERT published a**

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blog about an ICEFOG sample targeting Kazakhstan. • The sample is an XLS embedded malicious macro that drops an RARAFX dropper, which further deploys ICEFOG-P. PE embedded in macro Decoy lure



### 38. 2016 APPER Campaign • Pivoting the C&C infrastructure, we found

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8 related ICEFOG-P samples suspected of being used in the same campaign. • Same PDB strings in the samples suggest a possible developer “apper”. Hash Compile Timestamp C&C Campaign code pdb aae3e322 dbe5bb18 94a412ca 08afdf03 2016/05/22 10:35:41 ddns.epac.to cyexy C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb e28c2d68 a6f13e81d 32171288 8c89e52 2016/05/19 8:26:23 ddns.epac.to (45.125.13.1 99) cyexy C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb 0e25aa79 1c911910 8af073bc9 e9d0fa2 2016/05/10 9:24:38 45.125.13.1 99 dxx C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb a4dc9763 d296c45a 846156f0 2479ecde 2016/05/10 8:49:45 45.125.13.1 99 ghj C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb a9ecf6d26 74443cda c067b136 b04c7d0 2016/03/21 4:20:25 poff.wha.la soums C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb 404b1b78 b4f34612e 61d4af3bf 5083f1 2016/03/21 4:20:25 poff.wha.la soums C:\Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb a78212faa 38ef1078b 300a4929 97fc02 2016/03/21 4:20:25 poff.wha.la soums \Users\apper\Desktop\86AuthenticateProxy (copy) \ExeLoader\Release\RasTls.pdb 118.193.228.32 zorsoft.ns1.name tajikstantravel.dynamic-dns.net cospation.net poff.wha.la mitian123.com mocus.cospation.net cospation.net

### 39. 2018 The WATERFIGHT CAMPAIGN Hash File name Exploit Default codepage

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Creation Date Last Modified Author Last modify by 9ca6d45643f89bf233f0 8b7d74910346 Address Book 2018.doc CVE-2017-11882 Western European 2018/02/22 20:07:00 2018/02/22 20:08:00 T T d00a34baad19d40dcefb adb0942a2e4d WorkPlan.doc CVE-2017-11882 Western European 2018/02/22 20:07:00 2018/02/22 20:08:00 T T 88d667cc01c4d8ee32e 9de116f3bfdeb AMU\_SLA\_Agreement\_Final\_Dt\_20-Spr\_14.doc CVE-2017-11882 Simplified Chinese 2018/02/22 20:07:00 2018/03/14 17:34:00 T Administrator 46d91a91ecdf9c0abc73 55c4e7cf08fc katılımcılar listesi.doc CVE-2017-11882 Western European 2018/02/22 20:07:00 2018/02/22 20:08:00 T T 80883df4e89d5632fa72 a85057773538 Внутренняя опись документов AGAT.doc CVE-2017-11882 Western European 2018/02/22 20:07:00 2018/02/22 20:08:00 T T 7fa8c07634f937a1fcef9 180531dc2e4 счет.doc CVE-2017-11882 Simplified Chinese 2017/05/22 11:52:00 2017/05:22 11:52:00 Windows Windows e7c5307691772a058fa 7d9e8ea426a59 Задание.doc CVE-2017-11882 Simplified Chinese 2017/05/22 11:52:00 2017/05:22 11:52:00 Windows Windows 63f9eaf7a80231480687 b134b1915bd0 Российский фигурист выиграл зимние Олимпийские игры PyeongChang в Южной Корее.doc CVE-2017-11882 Simplified Chinese 2017/05/22 11:52:00 2017/05:22 11:52:00 Windows Windows • Campaign targeted suspected water source provider, banks and government. • Targeted countries include Turkey, India, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

### 40. 2018 The WATERFIGHT CAMPAIGN Leveraged the shared exploit template

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41. **2018 The WATERFIGHT CAMPAIGN • Exploit document ICEFOG-P samples. •**

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C&C domain and file name shows interest in a water source company in Uzbekistan. •  
Compiled a lot samples in 2 days Hash Compile date Drop by C&C Campaign code  
4178d9b22efe7044540043b5c770b6a a 2018/02/24 5:20:16  
9ca6d45643f89bf233f08b7d74910346 tele.zyns.com umde  
1c2d4c95c1b4e9d5193423719a7bb07 5 2018/02/23 8:13:20  
d00a34baad19d40dcefbadb0942a2e4d uzwatersource.dynamic-dns.net osbc  
71e5b89d5a804ddbe84fa4950bf97ac7 2018/02/26 11:58:57  
88d667cc01c4d8ee32e9de116f3bfdeb trendiis.sixth.biz hgmpy  
6fffdb88292eed0483b4030e58f401e 2018/02/23 8:13:20  
46d91a91ecdf9c0abc7355c4e7cf08fc uzwatersource.dynamic-dns.net osbc  
6850e553445c0c9eac3206331eb0429 b 2018/02/23 9:44:25  
80883df4e89d5632fa72a85057773538 laugh.toh.info jkmsy  
d5c67718e35bd1083dd50335ba9e89d a 2018/02/23 8:44:25  
7fa8c07634f937a1fcef9180531dc2e4 laugh.toh.info jkmsy  
9344e542cc1916b9ddb587daa70f065 2 2018/02/23 9:35:38  
e7c5307691772a058fa7d9e8ea426a59 aries.epac.to gskv  
c2893fefcadbc7fed4fe74ea56133901 2018/02/23 14:49:58  
63f9eaf7a80231480687b134b1915bd0 kastygost.compress.to msxdg

42. **2018 PHKIGHT Campaign • On April 26, 2018, our appliance**

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detected ICEFOG traffic from out of the Philippines. • We also found the traffic of ICEFOG from the scanned URL on a public scanning service. The timestamp indicates that this campaign was likely still ongoing in July and October 2018: POST /Home/upload.aspx?filepath=\* & filename=\* HTTP/1.1 User-Agent: Internet Explorer Host: yahzee.eyellowarm.com:443 Content-Length: 908 Connection: Keep-Alive Cache-Control: no-cache

43. **2018 PHKIGHT Campaign • Investigating the C&C domain “eyellowarm.com”, we**

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found two other sub- domains: • news.eyellowarm.com • meal.eyellowarm.com • The domain “news.eyellowarm.com” is connected by an ENDCMD (aka (Hussarini, Sarhust) malware, which we have observed in APT15’s (aka Social Network Team) campaign. Hash filename Malware Compile Timestamp C&C e5bdc78c686e15dfeed6696b cd5989c3 NvSmartMax.dll ENDCMD 2010-12-19 04:51:39 news.eyellowarm.com Note that although the sample has the compile timestamp in 2010, it is observed in the wild in 2018 and the C&C remains active during our analysis in 2018.

44. **2018 PHKIGHT Campaign • Correlated (through passive DNS) infrastructure show**

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strong interest in the Philippines. - www.benzerold.com - ph4.01transport.com - news.eyellowarm.com - durian.appleleveno.com - adove.benzerold.com - benzerold.com - mailback.benzerold.com - ph2.01transport.com - phldt.appleleveno.com - yahzee.eyellowarm.com - mecaf.benzerold.com - ipad.appleleveno.com - course.appleleveno.com - well.suverycool.com - pldt.benzerold.com - www.knightpal.com - banana.appleleveno.com - appleleveno.com - node-ph-mnl2.kysrsrcd.pw - isaftp.numnote.com - ph1vip.blue-vpn.net - news.numnote.com - news.kaboolyn.com - topic.numnote.com - dns01.comesafe.com - is01.knightpal.com - eyellowarm.com - news.yahzee.eyellowarm.com - kaboolyn.com - dns1.kaboolyn.com - yahzee.yahzee.eyellowarm.com - ds03.numnote.com - meal.eyellowarm.com - message.benzerold.com - pop3.numnote.com - afp1.kaboolyn.com - trans.numnote.com - usiszero.benzerold.com - numnote.com - pldt.knightpal.com - ph1.numnote.com - ns1.01transport.com - pldtcon.knightpal.com - afp1.knightpal.com - appdata.appleleveno.com - ns2.01transport.com - ns01.knightpal.com - ph.01transport.com - support.numnote.com - ph1.01transport.com - knightpal.com - pnoc1.numnote.com - 01transport.com

45. **2018 PHKIGHT Campaign Hash Malware family filename Compile Timestamp C&C**

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PDB string 4f11e00b015047642d8 ddc306fc90da0 ENDCMD NvSmartMax.dll | 2010-12-19 04:51:39 news.eyellowarm.com C:\Users\Sun\Desktop \new\_test\NvSmart\Release\NvSmart.pdb 1554900f889c9498c43c 9f875ecee38 MIRAGE netsh.exe 2013-06-28 09:27:57 pldtcon.knightpal.com 7b8c955a0f1d6d37833 277849a070e37 ENDCMD Outllib.dll 2016-07-06 02:50:18 well.suverycool.com 92853e0506ea16c6f17a c32f5ef8f3b3 ENDCMD Outllib.dll 2015-08-27 07:52:36 ipad.appleleveno.com 4f11e00b015047642d8 ddc306fc90da0 ENDCMD Outllib.dll 2015-08-27 07:52:36 durian.appleleveno.com 86409708eb0c716858ea30ae15eb7d47 ENDCMD N/A 2010-12-19 04:53:10 news.kaboolyn.com C:\Users\Sun\Desktop \new\_test\NvSmart\Release\NvSmart.pdb Malware Connected to the Correlated Domains • ENDCMD and MIRAGE malware were exclusively observed used by APT15 (aka Social Network team). The targets, malware and TTP all align with the profile of APT15.

46. **2019 SKYLINE Campaign • Observed the ongoing campaign that likely**

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targeted Turkey and Kazakhstan in 2019. • The timestamp suggests the campaign might have started from 2018. • Leveraged CVE 2017-11882 shared exploit template with ICEFOG-M, no payload timestamp. Hash filename Exploit Code Page Create Date Last modify date Author Last modify by 30528dc0c1e123dff51f 40301cc03204 Unknown CVE-2018- 0802 Western European 2018/04/23 1:01:00 2018/04/2 3 1:01:00 T T 4642e8712c8ada8d56bd36416abb4808 doc.rtf CVE-2017- 11882 N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A c65b73dde66184bae6ead97afd1b4c4b doc20190301018.doc CVE 2017- 11882 Western European 2018/04/23 1:01:00 2018/04/2 3 1:01:00 T T

47. **2019 SKYLINE Campaign • New ICEFOG attack vector – file-less**

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payload (ICEFOG-M) Open Document Encoded (0xFC) Dropper (8.t) Drops into %temp% Shellcode in doc decode and execute 8.T dropper Shellcode write encrypted ICEFOG-M payload to registry DLL hijacking loader Drops Read, decrypt and execute

48. **2019 SKYLINE Campaign The Dropper's workflow Loop to encrypt the**

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payload Customized loader read register key

49. **2019 SKYLINE Campaign • Two observed loaders Hash Compile Timestamp**

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Drop by Observed Connected C&C 0b86cc8e56a400f1adeb1e 7b6ebe6abe 2018/12/10 14:31:47 4642e8712c8ada8d56bd36416abb480 8 nicodonald.accesscam.org c6a73e29c770065b4911ef 46285d6557 2018/04/27 3:49:31 30528dc0c1e123dff51f40301cc03204 c65b73dde66184bae6ead97afd1b4c4b skylineqaz.crabdance.com xn—ylineqaz-y25ja.crabdance.com youareexcellent.kozow.com xn--uareexcellent-or3qa.kozow.com

50. **ICEFOG-M (The latest) POST /upload.aspx?filepath=info&filename==<hostname>\_<MAC address> HTTP/1.1 User-Agent: Internet Explorer**

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Host: foo.com Content-Length: 862 Cache-Control: no-cache HOST NAME:WINDOWS7 USER NAME:user OS Version: Microsoft Windows 7 x86 Service Pack 1 (Build 7601) CPU: GenuineIntel Intel64 Family 6 Model 142 Stepping 9 0MHZ Physical memory: Total physical memory:1023MB,Available memory:388MB Windows Directory: C:\\Windows System Directory: C:\\Windows\\system32 Hard Disk: C:\\ (NTFS) CD-ROM Disk: D:\\ Disk space: Total disk space:39G,The remaining disk space:15G Group : tttt1 Added Group ID in traffic 20130505 20130601 Updated the compared Date

51. **Who Are The Actor Behind These Campaigns?**

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52. **2015 TOPNEWS Campaign Roaming Tiger Campaign 2015 Target Agriculture in**

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EU 2015 Target KZ 2018 PHKNIGHT Campaign APT15 Malware C&C Overlap Target C&C Infra Connected Registrant Email Target TTP APT9 Malware Sample Found in victim's environment Weak Medium Strong

53. **Targeting Country: UZ, MN, MY, RU, BY, KZ, US, Tibet,**

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UA Targeting Industry: Gov, Oil and Gas, Aerospace, Defense Malware: SOGU, GHOST, TEMPFUN, FIRSTBLOOD, PI. Roaming Tiger Targeting Country: PH, VN, TW, US, UK, IT, PL, UN, SG, NATO Targeting Industry: Gov, Political party Malware: ENFAL, ENDCMD, QUICKHEAL, SOGU, CYFREE, MIRAGE, NOISEMAKER, QUICKHEAL, SWALLOWFLY APT15 Targeting Country: HK, US, SG, MY, JP, IN, KR, TH, TW Targeting Industry: Aerospace, Agriculture, Construction, Energy, Healthcare, ,High Tech, Media, Transportation Malware: BIGJOLT,FUNRUN,GHOST,HOMEUNIX,JIM A,PHOTO,POISON IVY,SKINNYGENE,SOGU,VICEROY,VIPSH ELL,WETHEAD,XDOOR,ZXSHELL APT9

54. **What About Other Campaigns?**

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55. **45.77.134.195 youareexcellent.kozow.com ICEFOG-P (0b86cc8e56a400f1adeb1e7b 6ebe6abe) trendiis.sixth.biz ICEFOG-P (71e5b89d5a804ddb84fa49**

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50bf97ac7) 118.193.158.53 tele.zyns.com ICEFOG-P (4178d9b22efe 7044540043b5c770b6aa) SKYLINE Campaign 103.242.134.146 tajikstantravel.dynamic-dns.net uzwatersource.dynamic-dns.net eagleoftajik.dynamic-dns.net tajikmusic.dynamic-dns.net https.ikwb.com Target Tajikistan WATERFIGHT campaign SOGU (defe397b41aa5219d212630 4a42212d3) Let's Start Connecting the Dots! Hint: links are either pdns or observed resolve

56. **eagleoftajik.dynamic-dns.net ICEFOG-P (0c410d22265 dece807193bf8a47fd91f ) ICEFOG-P (e28c2d68a6f1 3e81d3217128 88c89e52)**

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WATERFIGHT Campaign Target Tajikistan 45.125.13.199 APPER Campaign 118.193.228.32 zorsoft.ns1.name tajikstantravel.dynamic-dns.net poff.wha.la SOGU (ee649cf2b4e40288cd1194c3 da03edef ) 27.255.80.226 nitec.ns1.name SOGU (d5e8b1f836a9199a9a176aee 007efc65 ) 103.243.24.149 bluesky.zyns.com moonlight.compress.to 103.242.134.140 QUICKHEAL (5378d13965a 3499ea83d6d0 371b03794 ) niteast.strangled.net whitebirds.mefound.com game.sexidude.com SOGU (d5e8b1f836a9199a9a176a ee007efc65 ) ICEFOG-P (be7ee5ae37dbf03df52 c6bfda41c6194) QUICKHEAL (E34874c27161eb563cfbdc0 0ee1334a2) WHITEBIRD (fdfcd9347c1f6f6a4daaf3f5 0bc410c6) 45.252.63.244 honoroftajik.dynamic-dns.net uzwatersource.dynamic-dns.net ICEFOG-P (6fffdb88292eed04 83b4030e58f401e) WATERFIGHT Campaign www.ddns.epac.to ICEFOG-P (a9ecf6d2674443cda c067b136b04c7d0)

57. **2016 – 2017 APPER Campaign 2018 WATERFIGHT Campaign 2019 SKYLINE**

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Campaign 2017 SOGU & QUICKHEAL targets KZ C&C Infra Connected (118.193.228.32) Target TTP C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) Target TTP C&C Infra Connected (154.223.167.20, 45.77.134.195) 2015 Targets Tajikistan C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) 2014 Target KZ Target C&C Infra Connected C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) Weak Medium Strong

58. **2016 – 2017 APPER Campaign 2018 WATERFIGHT Campaign 2019 SKYLINE**

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Campaign 2015 TOPNEWS Campaign 2017 SOGU & QUICKHEAL targets KZ C&C Infra Connected (118.193.228.32) Target TTP C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) Target TTP C&C Infra Connected (154.223.167.20, 45.77.134.195) 2015 Targets Tajikistan C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) Roaming Tiger Campaign 2015 Target Agriculture in EU Same PDB string 2015 Target KZ 2018 PHKNIGHT Campaign APT15 Malware C&C Overlap Target C&C Infra Connected Registrant Email Target TTP APT9 Malware Sample Found in victim's environment 2014 Target KZ Target C&C Infra Connected C&C Infra Connected (103.242.132.197) Weak Medium Strong

59. **Temp Group A • Active since (at least): 2014 •**

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Delivery method: Spear-phishing email • Exploitation method: Malicious macro, RARAFX, CVE 2017-11882, CVE 2012- 0158 • Target region: Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey • Malware: ICEFOG-P, ICEFOG-M, SOGU, QUICKHEAL • Connection to other group: Uses ICEFOG-P with the same PDB as Roaming Tiger. Targeting Country: Rum KZ, Tajikistan, UZ, TR Targeting Industry: Gov, Natural resource Malware: ICEFOG-P, ICEFOG-M, SOGU, QUICKHEAL ???????

60. **Conclusion • ICEFOG is malware shared among Roaming Tiger, APT15,**

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Temp Group A and suspected APT9. • Shared malware is a pitfall for attribution, we should not do attribution only based on malware. • Temp Group A is aggressively using ICEFOG-P and ICEFOG-M to target Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey. • With the file-less ICEFOG-M, host-based detection for payloads are more difficult. • Continued development indicates there could be more attacks leveraging ICEFOG in future campaigns, and possibly leveraged by more attackers.

61. **2" Chi-en (Ashley) Shen Senior Researcher @ashley\_shen\_920**

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