



# Navigating Cyber Threat Intelligence Requirements in the Evolving Threat Landscape

Robert Wortmann



# About the speaker



**Robert Wortmann**  
Principal Security Strategist

*“It's both not as bad and much worse  
than you think”*

Many ransomware attacks are not that sophisticated as people  
want you to believe

Most victims leave the front door open and are not targeted

Ransomware actors want to be seen, others don't

Worry most about the things we don't see

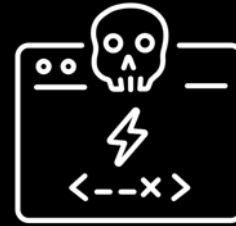
# Living in a changing world



New geopolitical layers



Criminals or state  
attackers?



Attacks on parties, the  
EU, armies and allies



Disinformation, AI and  
hybrid threats

# Living in a changing world




Crime groups getting ideological

Nation-state with financial motivations

Nation-state using cyber crime as proxy

Hacktivists getting sophisticated

# Overlapping interests

 **APT41** [\(Back to overview\)](#)

aka: Amoeba, BARIUM, BRONZE ATLAS, BRONZE EXPORT, Blackfly, Brass Typhoon, Earth Baku, G0044, G0096, Grayfly, HOODOO, LEAD, Red Kelpie, TA415, WICKED PANDA, WICKED SPIDER

APT41 is a prolific cyber threat group that carries out Chinese state-sponsored espionage activity in addition to financially motivated activity potentially outside of state control.

**Associated Families**

apk.dragonegg apk.wyrmspy elf.keyplug elf.messagetap win.acehash win.biopass win.blackcoffee win.chinachopper win.coldlock win.crackshot win.crosswalk win.dboxagent win.derusbi win.easynight win.gearshift win.highnoon win.highnoon\_bin win.jumpall win.lowkey win.moonbounce win.poisonplug win.serialvlogger win.shadowpad win.skip20 win.zxshell win.plugx win.cobalt\_strike

**References**

- 2024-08-04 · Twitter (@embee\_research) · Embee\_research  
Decoding a Cobalt Strike Downloader Script With CyberChef  
Cobalt Strike
- 2024-07-22 · Censys · Censys, Embee\_research  
A Beginner's Guide to Hunting Malicious Open Directories  
Cobalt Strike Lumma Stealer Vidar
- 2024-07-16 · Recorded Future · Insikt Group  
TAG-100 Uses Open-Source Tools in Suspected Global Espionage Campaign, Compromising Two Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Bodies  
Cobalt Strike



*Credits to Analyst1*

# The perks of remote work

PRESS RELEASE

## Justice Department Disrupts North Korean Remote IT Worker Fraud Schemes Through Charges and Arrest of Nashville Facilitator

Thursday, August 8, 2024

Share



For Immediate Release

Office of Public Affairs

### Defendant Used a "Laptop Farm" to Deceive Companies Into Thinking They Had Hired a U.S.-Located Worker

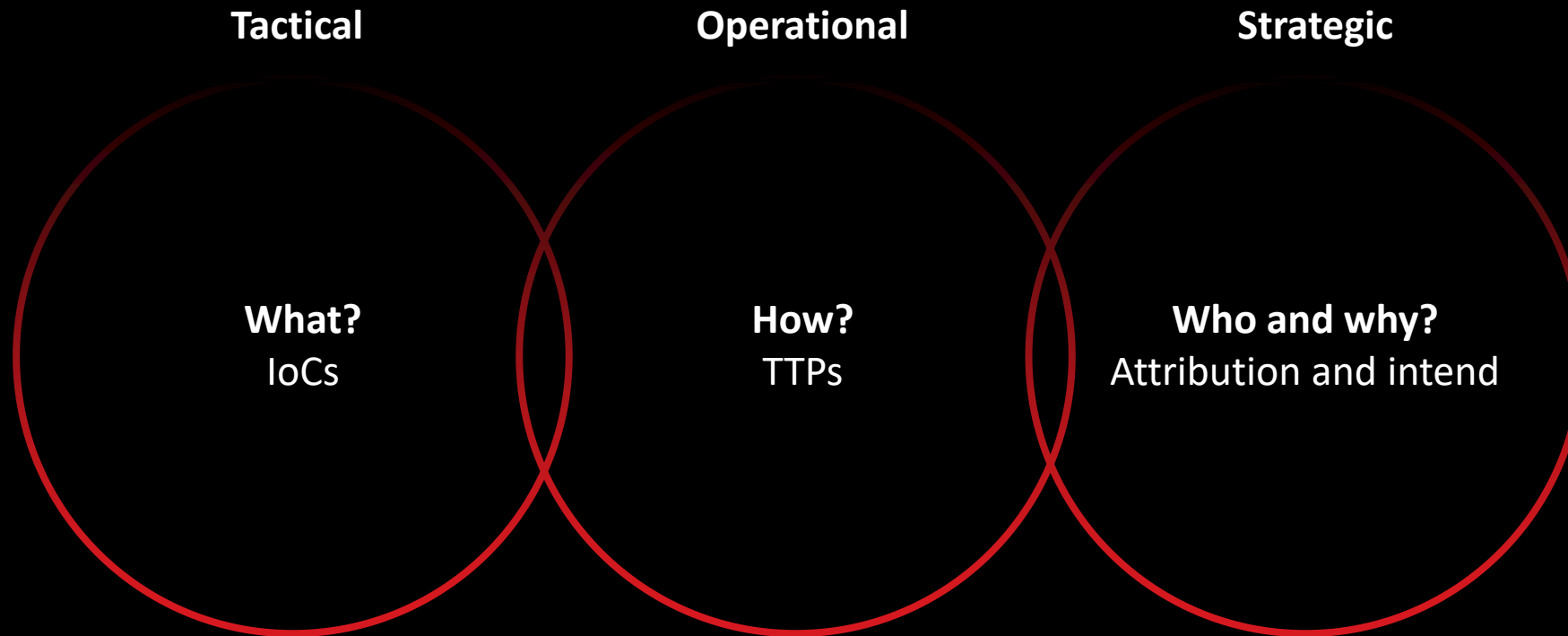
Matthew Isaac Knoot, 38, of Nashville, Tennessee, was arrested today for his efforts to generate revenue for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK or North Korea) illicit weapons program, which includes weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

# Threat intelligence

*“Threat Intelligence is not a feed!”*



# Threat intelligence



# Understanding Risks

Is my organization being targeted right now?

Am I protected against the latest threats and exploits in the news?

What should I do next for this attack?

Is ransomware the only threat to us?

Did I catch everything about this attack?

Who could be interested in us?

# Breach Data

What does it really contain?

What does a breach mean besides the obvious?

Are there additional things to find?

## Record-Breaking \$75 Million Ransom Paid To Dark Angels Gang

**Davey Winder** Senior Contributor @

*Davey Winder is a veteran cybersecurity writer, hacker and analyst.*

Follow

# Growing attack surface

# Standards versus Emerging Disruptive Technologies

## Standards in data

Enables Automation

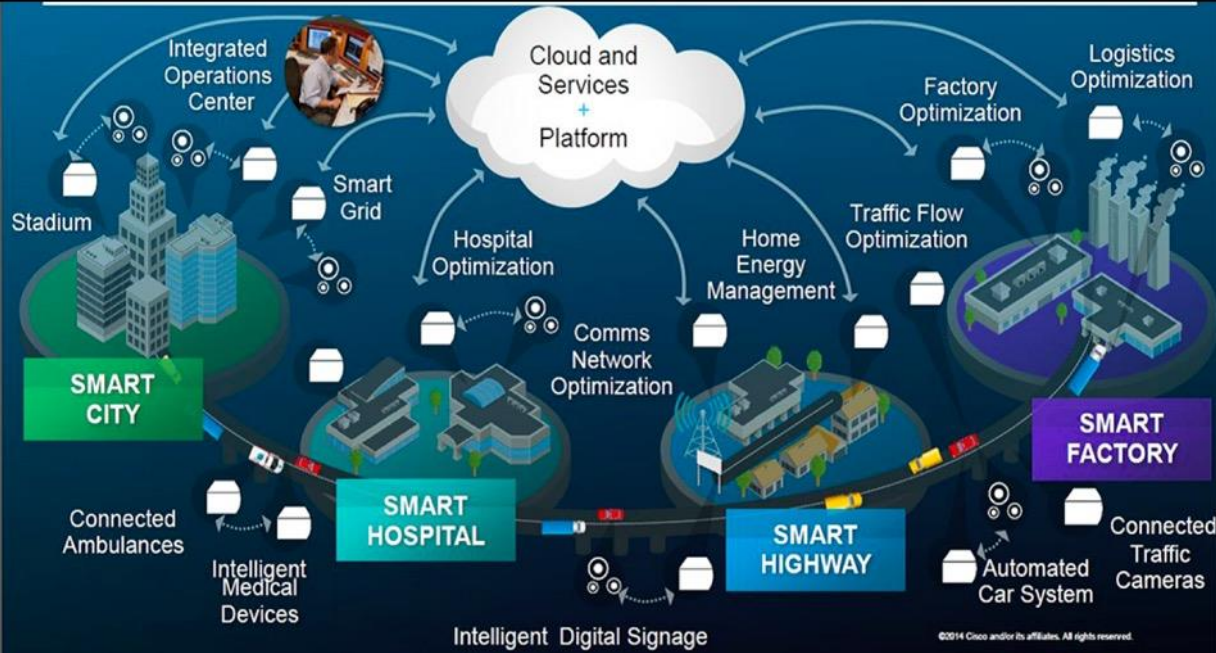
Repeatable Investigative Results

## Emerging & Disruptive Technologies

Title says it all

Too new for standards

Product rush to market



# Smart Automobiles, that seems interesting

## Safety

Apps that alert drivers of impending accident(s)

Uses Geo-Location, velocity, direction, and machine learning

Pedestrian, Cyclists, Automobiles

## Changing the view of Mobility

Autonomous Driving

Manufacturer, Rental Companies, Startups

## Convenience

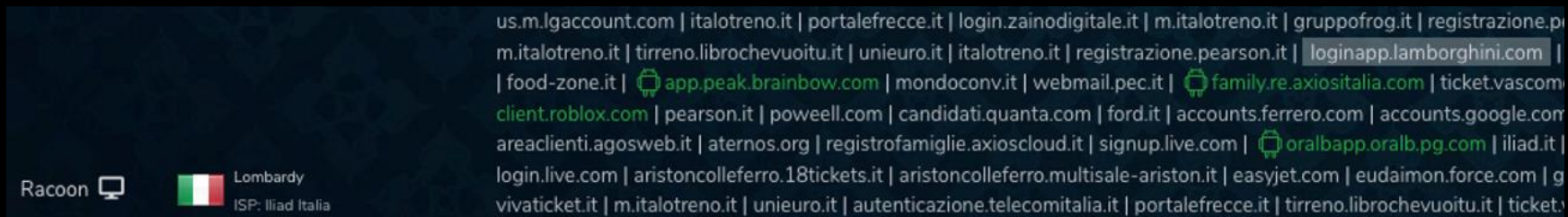
Manageable from a smart watch, phone, or laptop

# Single Credential Dump

20,000+ car fleet credentials collected by stealers

5,000+ credentials for Volkswagen group, BMW

Almost all auto manufactures identified – including super-cars



# Connecting Autos to Emails



Racoon

Metro Manila  
ISP: Advanced Science and  
Technology Institute

login.microsoftonline.com | accounts.google.com | cabanatuancity.gov.ph | 192.168.1.1 | 192.168.1.1 | us05web.zoom.us | signalplay.com | 192.168.1.1 |  
accounts.google.com | 192.168.1.1 | n153.network-auth.com | grandlodge.ph | 192.168.0.1 | rbl1.ph | mytoyota.ph | 192.168.1.1 | web.webex.com | cart.webex.com |  
192.168.1.1 | 192.168.1.1 | n153.network-auth.com | login.yahoo.com | accounts.google.com | developer.microsoft.com | mail.dnd.gov.ph | accounts.google.com |  
armycmoschool.com | signalplay.com | online.bpi.com.ph | accounts.globe.com.ph | 192.168.1.1 | phcorner.net | facebook.com | login.yahoo.com |  
book.cebupacificair.com | accounts.google.com | familysearch.org | ident.familysearch.org | n153.network-auth.com | mail.dnd.gov.ph | web.facebook.com | 192.168.1.7  
| n153.network-auth.com | aia.com.ph | anaconda.cloud | ovp.scheduler.ph | ovp.scheduler.ph | mail3.afp.mil.ph | mail.worthyinds.org



vcd.toyota-europe.com | auth.securitas.net | music.spotify.com | ecas.ec.europa.eu | idm.toyota-europe.com |  
account.engie.be | ecas.ec.europa.eu | vinted.fr | auth.securitas.net | services.buyway.be | mediacient.netf  
accounts.spotify.com | fs.securitas.be | auth.securitas.net | music.spotify.com | idmsa.apple.com | idmsa.apple  
mobile.zalando.de | publieur-un-livre.com | reset.securitas.be | www2.telenet.be | iforgot.apple.com | sodexo4  
waze.com | customerportal.intrum.com | westwingnow.fr | westwing.nl | music.spotify.com | 192.168.0.1  
account.live.com | vcd.toyota-europe.com | auth.securitas.net | music.spotify.com | ecas.ec.europa.eu | idm.toy  
icloud.com | account.engie.be | ecas.ec.europa.eu | vinted.fr | auth.securitas.net | services.buyway.be | mei  
account.live.com | accounts.spotify.com | fs.securitas.be | auth.securitas.net | music.spotify.com | idmsa.apple  
mathematiquesfaciles.com | fmsb.be | mobile.zalando.de | publieur-un-livre.com | reset.securitas.be | www2.te  
vandenborre.be | iforgot.apple.com | waze.com | customerportal.intrum.com | westwingnow.fr | westwing.nl |  
iforgot.apple.com | login3.id.hp.com | account.live.com | vcd.toyota-europe.com | auth.securitas.net | music.sp  
europe.com | securitas24seven.be | icloud.com | account.engie.be | ecas.ec.europa.eu | vinted.fr | auth.securit  
mediacient.netflix.com | idmsa.apple.com | account.live.com | accounts.spotify.com | fs.securitas.be | auth.securit  
| idmsa.apple.com | mathematiquesfaciles.com | fmsb.be | mobile.zalando.de | publieur-un-livre.com | reset.sec  
| sodexo4you.be | vandenborre.be | iforgot.apple.com | waze.com | customerportal.intrum.com | westwingnow  
192.168.0.184 | iforgot.apple.com | login3.id.hp.com | account.live.com | vcd.toyota-europe.com | auth.securitas.  
idm.toyota-europe.com | securitas24seven.be | icloud.com | account.engie.be | ecas.ec.europa.eu | vinted.fr | a

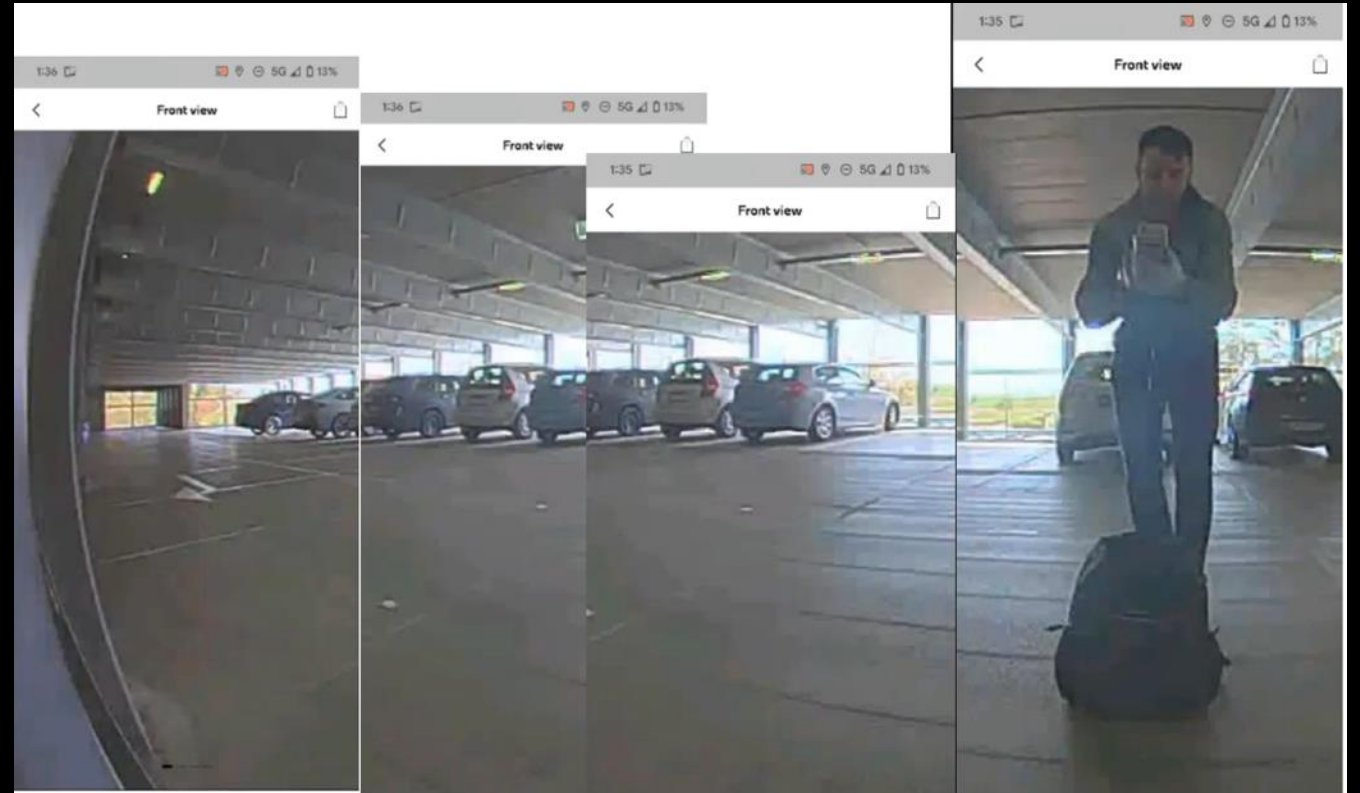
Racoon

Brussels Capital  
ISP: Telenet N.V.



# Smart Car = Mobile 360 Surveillance Platform

- Supports physical crimes
- Assymetrical support during critical events
- State sponsored attacks (espionage)
- Target high profile figures
  - Politicians, C-Level executives, Media Influencers, etc.



*Image of researcher in Munich Germany, captured via the external cameras of a Car – by colleagues located in Taiwan, China, and France*

# Where Does Our Data Come From?



# Local Research Critical to Understanding Global Threats



- Trend Micro Research Centers
- Recent cybercriminal underground investigations

# More is not Better!

88% of respondents strongly agree or agree that

it is hard to sort through noisy information  
to find what's relevant to their organization.

69% of respondents strongly agree or agree that

it is difficult to gauge  
the quality of different feeds/sources.

- "The Good, Bad, and Ugly of Enterprise Cyber-threat Intelligence Programs" by Enterprise Strategy Group, June 2023

# Know what you're up against

Deep insights on Emerging Threats and Threat Actors at your fingertips

Get to know your adversaries; who they are, what they want, and how they plan to get it.

### TargetCompany's new variant with Mallox and Fargo ransomware extensions

Type	Emerging Threat
AKA	AVAST, FARGO, MALLOX, Malla... <input type="checkbox"/>
Targeted countries	Bolivia, Brazil, China, France, German... <input type="checkbox"/>
Targeted industries	Education, Energy, Entertainment, ... <input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation	Financial Gain
First seen	June 2022
Last seen	May 2024
Last updated	2024-05-06 18:28:13

**Overview** Risk Management Guidance Threat Hunting Queries (2)

#### Overview

**TargetCompany** Ransomware was initially spotted in June 2021, using the affected company as its appended extension name and mostly targets vulnerable Database servers. But earlier this year, Avast Cybersecurity firm was able to develop a free decryptor for the encrypted files to help victims recover their important files. But that did not stop the Threat Actors in their bad acts and was able to improve their malware and later on changed their encryption. They started to employ Reflective Loading technique for its defense evasion where it connects to an IP address to load the encrypted ransomware. The contents of the IP address change periodically, giving a hard time for Threat Analysts to replicate the infection.

Recently, Threat Hunting Team found a TargetCompany Ransomware infection case with a much different

#### Intelligence Data

[Intelligence Reports \(25\)](#) [Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures](#) [Tools \(7\)](#) [Malware \(5\)](#) [CVEs \(2\)](#) [Indicators \(341\)](#) [Associated Threat Actors \(1\)](#)

Note: You can view sweeping results for these reports in [Intelligence Report](#).

Report name	Source	Last updated ↓
[Ransomware New Infections] TargetCompany Ransomware Recurring Infection in JP due to vulnerable SQL	Trend Micro	2024-05-18 12:26:04
Mallox ranomware affiliate leverages PureCrypter in MS-SQL exploitation campaigns	Security vendors	2024-05-15 22:25:31
[Ransomware New Infections] TargetCompany Ransomware New Variant (.rmallox) Ransomware Incident	Trend Micro	2024-05-11 11:26:23

# Enrich XDR Alert Investigation

Enhance XDR workbench alerts with detailed threat intelligence

Know the "who, why and how" behind the attack

**New Threat** 2024-06-12  
**BlackCat Rans...**  
Type: Cybercrime AKA: AlphaV, AlphaVM, ALPHV  
Campaign Overview:  
• **BlackCat Ransomware** (aka AlphaVM, AlphaV, or ALPHV) was first observed in **mid-November 2021** by researchers from the **MalwareHunterTeam**....

Emerging Threats **Threat Actors**

Last updated: Any ti... | Matched result: All | Type: All | Targeted countries: All | Targeted industries: All | Search

Threat actor	Status	AKA	Type
<b>BlackCat Ransomware</b>	Active	AlphaV, AlphaVM, ALPHV	Cybercrime
Arid Viper	Active	APT-C-23, Desert Falcon	APT
Karakurt	Active	-	Cybercrime

**BlackCat Ransomware**

Type: Cybercrime  
AKA: ALPHV, AlphaV, AlphaVM  
Targeted countries: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Philippines, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Bri...  
Targeted industries: Education, Energy, Financial Services, Government/Public Services, Hospitality/Leisure, Insurance, Manufacturing, Retail, Service, Technology, Transportation, Utilities  
Motivation: Financial Gain  
First seen: November 2021  
Last seen: June 2024  
Last updated: 2023-02-17 13:53:33

**Overview**

Campaign Overview:  
• **BlackCat Ransomware** (aka AlphaVM, AlphaV, or ALPHV) was first observed in **mid-November 2021** by researchers from the **MalwareHunterTeam**.  
• **BlackCat** swiftly gained notoriety for being the first major professional ransomware family to be **written in Rust** language.  
• Since it first came out in **2021**, **BlackCat** has victimized organizations from a variety of industries that include **construction, retail, manufacturing, technology, and energy**.  
• **BlackCat's** attacks have been detected in multiple locations globally, but organizations based in the **US** lead the victim count, followed by some in **Europe** and **Asia-Pacific**.

Linked Groups:  
• According to the **FBI's** advisory published on **April 19, 2022**, several developers and money launderers for **BlackCat** have links to two defunct **ransomware-as-a-service (RaaS)** groups – **DarkSide** and **BlackCat**...

**Intelligence Data**

Intelligence Reports (57) | Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures | Tools (13) | Malware (4) | CVEs (4) | Indicators (194)

Report name	Source	Last updated
IcedID Brings ScreenConnect and CSharp Streamer to ALPHV Ransomware Deployment	Security vendors	2024-06-12 02:26:38
[Targeted Attack] Top malicious IOC found in company possibly attacked by BlackCat - 2024-05-23	Trend Micro	2024-05-22 17:26:12
[Targeted Attack] Top malicious IOC found in company possibly attacked by BlackCat - 2024-05-09	Trend Micro	2024-05-10 15:41:05
[Targeted Attack] Top malicious IOC found in company possibly attacked by BlackCat - 2024-03-28	Trend Micro	2024-03-27 18:31:13
[Targeted Attack] Top malicious IOC found in company possibly attacked by BlackCat - 2024-03-14	Trend Micro	2024-03-18 15:40:19

**Impact Scope**

Workbench Alerts (1) | Servers (0) | **Endpoints (2)** | Email addresses (0)

Endpoint name	Matched indicators
35fa11da-a24e-40cf-8b56-baf8828cc15e	1
df0a370d-89f8-06cb-cb8e-46887e62ae56	1

# Elevate ASRM vulnerability management

Get emerging threats, threat actors and hunting queries associated with the specific CVEs in your environment

Enables faster, better risk management decision

The screenshot displays the 'Threat Intelligence' tab for CVE-2021-44228. It features two main sections: 'ASSOCIATED EMERGING THREATS' and 'ASSOCIATED THREAT ACTORS'. The 'ASSOCIATED EMERGING THREATS' section contains a table with one entry: 'Karakurt', which has an impact scope of 0 vulnerabilities, 0 devices, and 0 alerts, and was last updated on 2024-06-03 18:28:18. The 'ASSOCIATED THREAT ACTORS' section contains a table with three entries: 'Kimsuky' (Active, AKA: Black Banshee, Earth Kumiho, Kims...), 'Earth Smilodon' (Active, AKA: APT 27, BRONZE UNION, Budworm, ...), and 'Water Goblin' (Active, AKA: Conti). Each threat actor entry includes an impact scope of 0 vulnerabilities, 0 devices, and 0 alerts.

Report name	Impact scope	Last updated
Karakurt	0 0 0	2024-06-03 18:28:18

Threat actor	Status	AKA	Type	Impact scope
Kimsuky	Active	Black Banshee, Earth Kumiho, Kims...	APT	0 0 0
Earth Smilodon	Active	APT 27, BRONZE UNION, Budworm, ...	APT	0 0 0
Water Goblin	Active	Conti	Cybercrime	0 0 0

# Take proactive action

Plan your defenses

Understand where you're most vulnerable and take action based on risk mitigation recommendations

**Impact Scope**

Workbench Alerts (1) Servers (0) Endpoints (2) Email addresses (0)

Endpoint name	Matched indicators
35fa11da-a24e-40cf-8b56-baf8828cc15e	1
df0a370d-89f8-06cb-cb8e-46887e62ae56	1

### INC Ransomware Group Expands its Arsenal, New Tools Used in Recent Attack

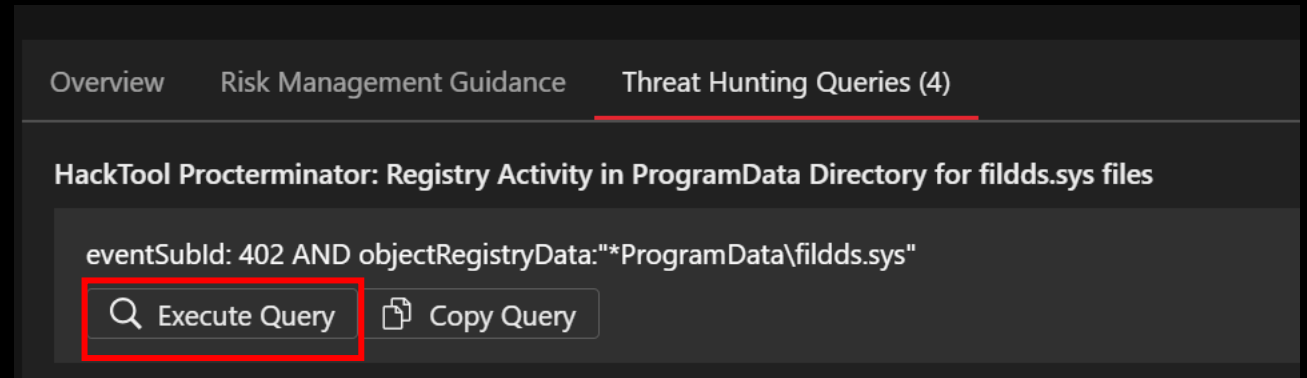
Type	Emerging Threat	Overview	<b>Risk Management Guidance</b>	Threat Hunting Queries (4)
Targeted countries	United States of America	<b>Risk Management Guidance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Regularly scan your systems and devices for vulnerabilities in drivers. Utilize vulnerability scanning tools to identify weaknesses and outdated drivers.</li><li>Enable multifactor authentication (MFA) to prevent attackers from performing lateral movement inside a network.</li><li>Adhere to the 3-2-1 rule when backing up important files. This involves creating three backup copies on two different file formats, with one of the copies stored in a separate location.</li></ul>		
Last seen	June 2024			
Last updated	2024-06-11 16:28:23			



# Hunt them down

Get threat hunting queries and results instantly

Leave no stone unturned with threat hunting queries to track down specific indicators



# See Threats Coming

Filter emerging threats and actors in your region and industry

Take actions ahead of upcoming threats

The screenshot displays a threat intelligence dashboard with the following components:

- Navigation:** "Emerging Threats" (active) and "Threat Actors".
- Filters:** "Last updated: Any time", "Matched result: All", "Targeted countries: United Sta... (2)", "Targeted industries: Insur... (1)".
- Search:** Input fields for "Country" and "Industry".
- Threat Title:** "TargetCompany's new variant with Mallox and Fargo ransomware extensions".
- Metadata:** Type: Emerging Threat; AKA: AVAST, FARGO, MALLOX, Malla...; Targeted countries: Bolivia, Brazil, China, France, German...; Targeted industries: Education, Energy, Entertainment, ...; Motivation: Financial Gain; First seen: June 2022; Last seen: May 2024; Last updated: 2024-05-06 18:28:13.
- Overview:** "TargetCompany Ransomware was initially spotted in June 2021, using the affected company as its appended extension name and mostly targets vulnerable Database servers. But earlier this year, Avast Cybersecurity firm was able to develop a free decryptor for the encrypted files to help victims recover their important files. But that did not stop the Threat Actors in their bad acts and was able to improve their malware and later on changed their encryption. They started to employ Reflective Loading technique for its defense evasion where it connects to an IP address to load the encrypted ransomware. The contents of the IP address change periodically, giving a hard time for Threat Analysts to replicate the infection. Recently, Threat Hunting Team found a TargetCompany Ransomware infection case with a much different..."
- Intelligence Data:** "Intelligence Reports (25)", "Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures", "Tools (7)", "Malware (5)", "CVEs (2)", "Indicators (341)", "Associated Threat Actors (1)".
- Note:** "You can view sweeping results for these reports in [Intelligence Report](#)."
- Table:**

Report name	Source	Last updated ↓
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