



FIRST  
2015

# Building community playbooks for malware eradication

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Microsoft Malware Protection Center

# Security@Microsoft

## Trustworthy Computing (TwC)

Programs supporting security outreach and engagement

Microsoft Active Protections Program (MAPP), Government Security Program (GSP)  
(was SCP)

## Microsoft Security Response Center (MSRC)

Vulnerabilities in Microsoft software and services ([secure@microsoft.com](mailto:secure@microsoft.com))

## Digital Crimes Unit (DCU)

Botnet takedowns

Engage law enforcement

## Microsoft Malware Protection Center (MMPC)

Malicious Software Removal Tool (MSRT – monthly scan & remove)

RTP - Security Essentials, System Center Endpoint, Windows Defender, Threat Intel

# MMPC by the numbers

Research labs in Redmond, Vancouver, Munich, Melbourne  
Engineering labs in Redmond and Israel



## PROTECTION POINTS

 Windows 8+ Defender **110M**  
System Center EP **11M**  
Microsoft Security Essentials **109M**

Malicious Software  
Removal Tool **1.2B**



Outlook.com  
O365

Skype  
Azure



## DAILY

700K samples  
400M telemetry  
12 sig releases  
—————  
12x/yr engine  
3x/yr Client updates

## RESULTS

6.5% encounters  
3% infected  
(1 Malware; 2 UwS)  
100M unique files  
80% running AV

# What is CME?

A collaboration program sponsored by the Microsoft Malware Protection Center; created in early 2014

Facilitates campaigns targeting specific, *pervasive* malware families

Members of CME use the framework & Microsoft's tools/data/research/capabilities to lead or take part in campaigns against malware families

IMAGINE IF WE COORDINATED...

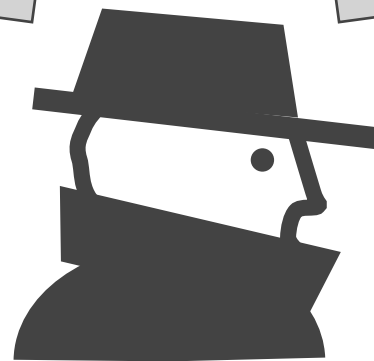
Digital Crimes Unit  
Law enforcement  
*seize, prosecute*

Ad networks  
Banks, finance, commerce  
*starve*

Coordinated Malware  
Eradication

Antimalware and  
security ecosystem  
*identify, block, sinkhole*

OEMs  
Vendors  
*shun*



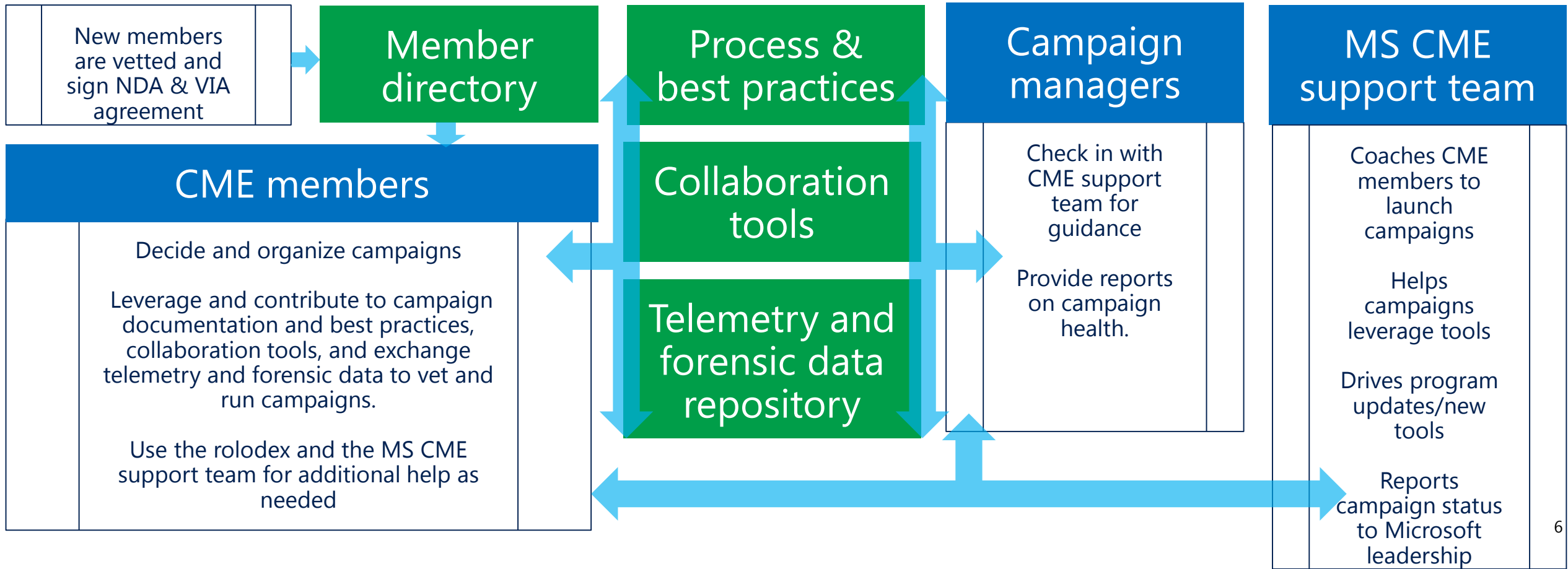
CERTs, ISPs  
*set policies, takedown*

Large-scale public services  
Cloud platform providers  
*identify, block*

# The CME Framework



Members of CME use the framework to take part in or lead campaigns against malware families



# Joining VIA (and CME)

The Virus Information Alliance (VIA) is an antimalware collaboration program for security software providers, security service providers, antimalware testing organizations, and other organizations involved in fighting cybercrime.

Members of the VIA program collaborate by exchanging technical information on malicious software with Microsoft, with the goal of improving protection for Microsoft customers.

<http://aka.ms/mmpcpartner>

Eligibility requirements posted on website

Membership application form available online at <http://aka.ms/viaapply>

# Completed Campaigns

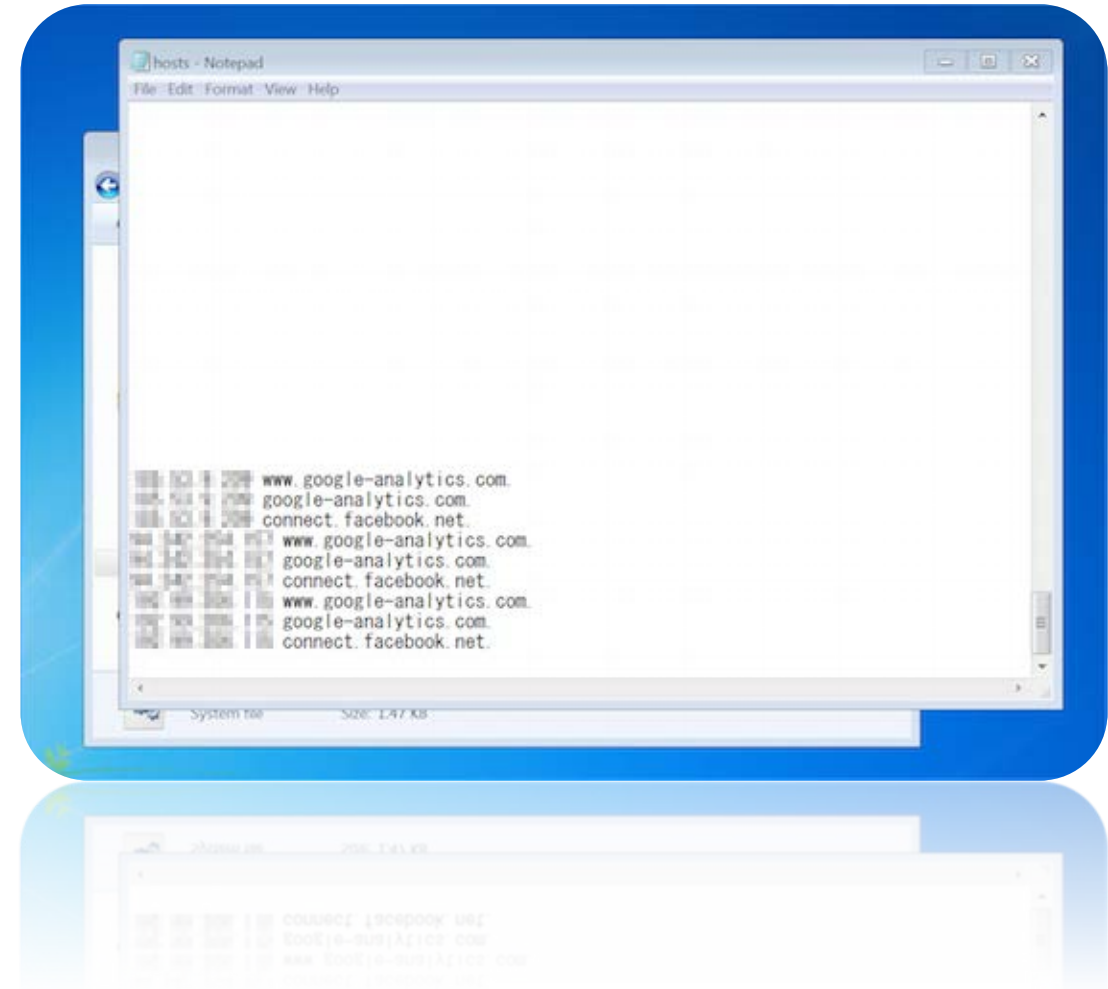
- Ramnit
- SMN
- Hesperbot
- Lecpetex
- Simda



# Operation summary - Simda

# Simda

- Detected since 2009
- Primarily distributed by exploit kits (Blackhole, Styx, Magnitude, Fiesta)
- Behaviors:
  - Internet traffic manipulation – HOSTS File
  - Distribute Other Malware – Miuref / Claretore / Haglacod
  - Anti-emulation
  - Older behaviors:
    - Password stealer
    - Banking trojan
    - Backdoor
- Estimated Reach: 770K last six months



# Simda campaign overview



- Targeting info
- PR Communications
- Run Sinkhole



INTERPOL

INTERPOL (FBI, NCA, Dutch High Tech Crimes Unit)

- Attribution
- Coordinate C&C IP addresses, physical server seizures
- Law Enforcement communications and logistics



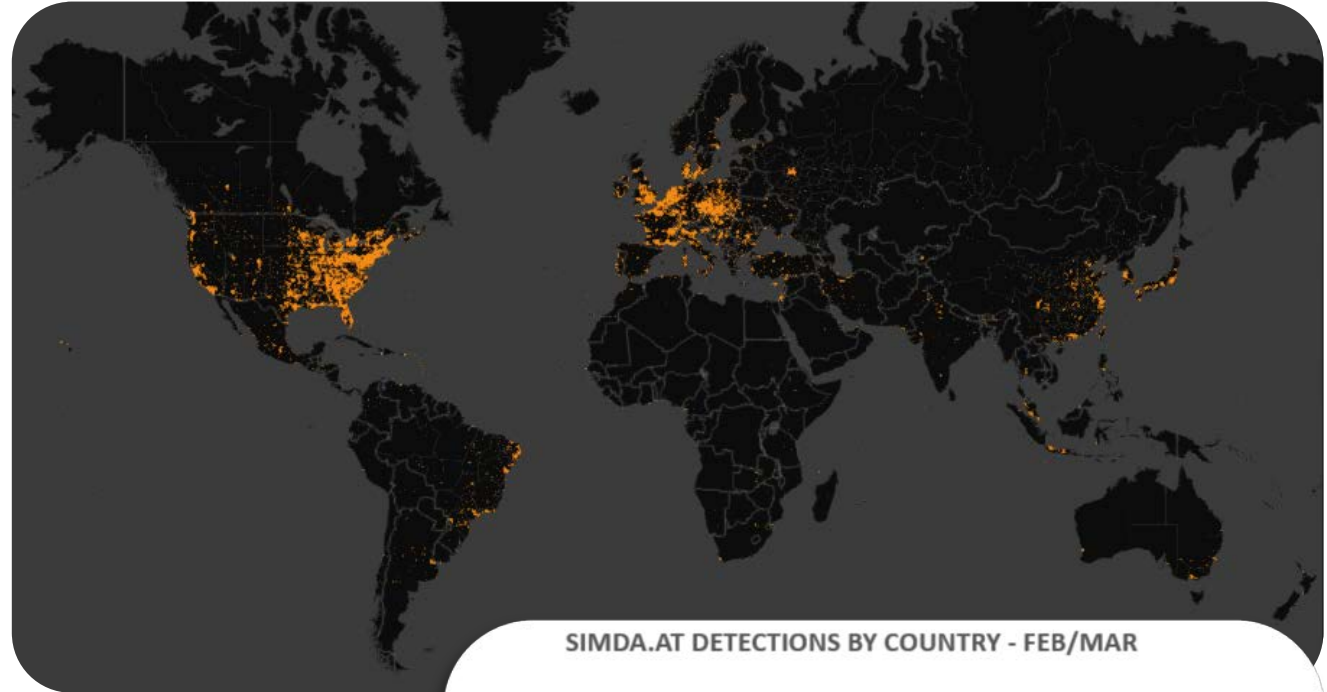
- Execute and Analyze Simda Samples
- Long Term Analysis
- AV Cleaning Solution



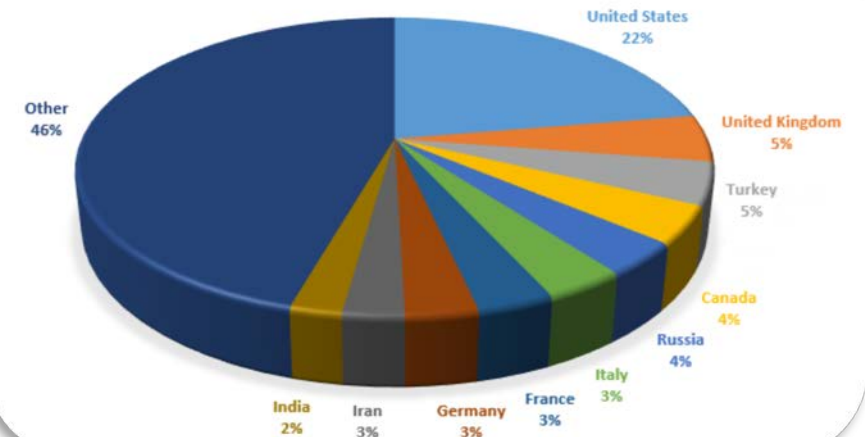
- Execute and Analyze Simda Samples
- Long Term Analysis
- AV Cleaning Solution



- Execute and Analyze Simda Samples
- Long Term Analysis



SIMDA.AT DETECTIONS BY COUNTRY - FEB/MAR



# Simda.AT Takedown: IP's Status

[MMPC Blog](#)



Netherlands

Check In C2's: 8  
Module C2's: 3



Luxembourg

Check In C2's: 1



Russia

Check In C2's: 1



Poland

Module C2's: 1



United States

Check In C2's: 1  
Module C2's: 1

*Total IP's Taken Down: 16*

*Total ISP's: 9*

*Total Countries: 5*

*New Samples: 1 – Truncated Copy of an Old Sample*



# Simda.AT post-takedown



## Microsoft, Kaspersky Take Down Fast-Spreading Simda Botnet

By Robert Lemos | Posted 2015-04-13 Print

Twitter 56 LinkedIn 28 Like 10 Share 0 Share 94 Email



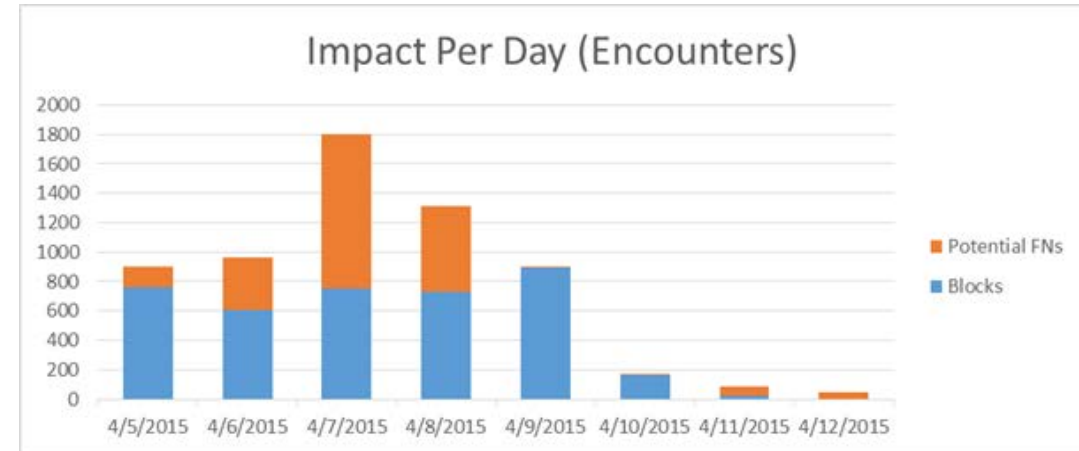
**Interpol and European authorities take down a second botnet, cooperating this time with Microsoft, Kaspersky Lab and Trend Micro.**

International law-enforcement authorities at Interpol teamed up with Microsoft, the Cyber Defense Institute in Japan, and security firms Kaspersky Lab and Trend Micro to take down a second major botnet last week, in a coordinated effort to disrupt the criminal operation, the Interpol Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) said [in a statement on April 13](#).

The botnet, known as Simda.AT, has infected more than 770,000 systems in the past six months, attempting to redirect Internet traffic and download additional malware to compromised computers. Microsoft's Digital Crime Unit (DCU) alerted law enforcement to the botnet following a dramatic increase in activity, IGCI stated. The groups detected approximately 90,000 newly infected systems in the United States in the first two months of this year, according to the IGCI.

The botnet's operators would steal information from compromised systems, re-route network traffic, and use their access to install other malware and software, Jon Clay, senior manager for global threat communications for Trend Micro, told *eWEEK*.

"With this botnet, their intention was to infect as many people as possible," he said. "And once they infected them, they could do pretty much anything they wanted to with these victims, whether it was steal financial information, use their systems to launch denial-of-service attacks or spam, or sell (access to) their computers off to other criminals."



We believe the bot is dismantled...

No new Simda.AT files have been observed. Infected computers still need cleaning for the host file.

Families	Encounters	Actives	Errors
simda	78,359	57.0%	47.1%

# Operation summary - Ramnit

# Ramnit

- Detected since 2011
- Distribution Methods:
  - Viral spread in HTML and PE
  - Infected USB
  - Email attachments / SPAM / URL
  - Social networks
  - Exploits
- Modules / behaviors:
  - Banking credential stealer
  - FTP application credential stealer
  - Hook and spy / web inject
  - Cookie stealer
  - Anti-AV / tampering
  - VNC backdoor
  - Drive Scan
- Estimated reach: 3.2 million

## Infected system

Verify Identity Provide Security Details Check SiteKey Reset Login Details

### We'll have you back into Online Card Services fast.

Recovering access to Online Card Services is a simple process of verifying your identity and resetting your log in details. It'll take just a few minutes to complete. When you're done, you can start managing your credit card account straightaway.

Before you start, make sure you have your credit card to hand.

Fields marked with an asterisk [\*] are mandatory

Please enter the following details:

\* Credit Card number:

\* Credit Card expiry date:

\* Credit limit on your account:  [?](#)

\* Date of birth:

If we have your mobile number on record, text LIMIT to 83838 for a credit limit reminder by text message. If you need further support, please contact us.

Cancel

# Ramnit campaign overview



- Seize 7, register 289 domains
- Coordinate existing sinkholes
- Operate DNS, sinkhole traffic, reporting

EC3-European Computer Crime Center



- Physical server criminal seizure
- Lead attribution work, assist Europol on forensic analysis
- Coordinate PR communications

Symantec

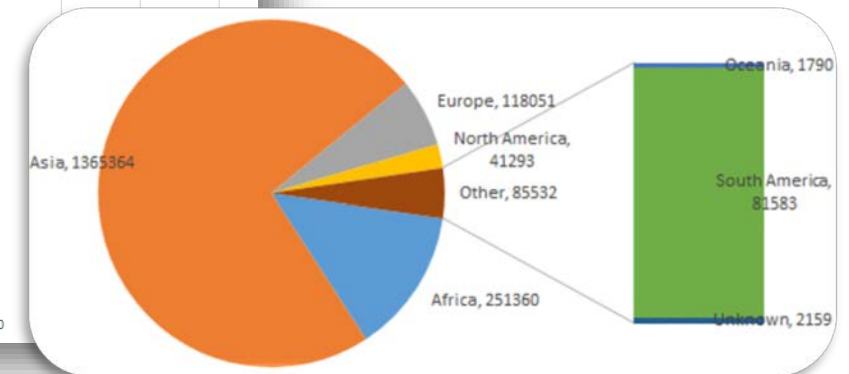
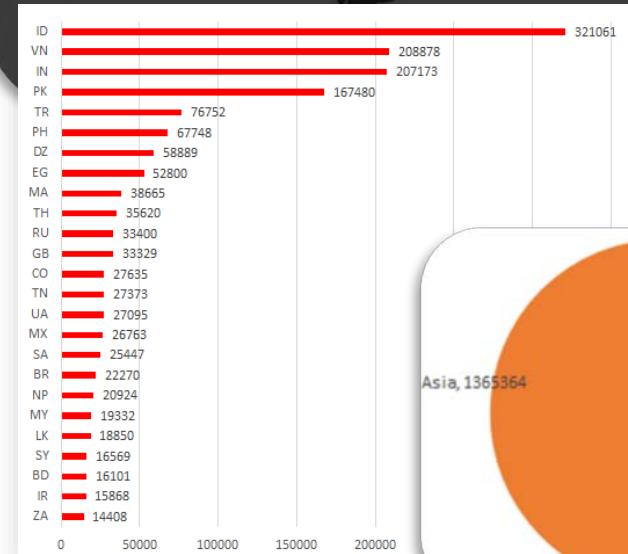
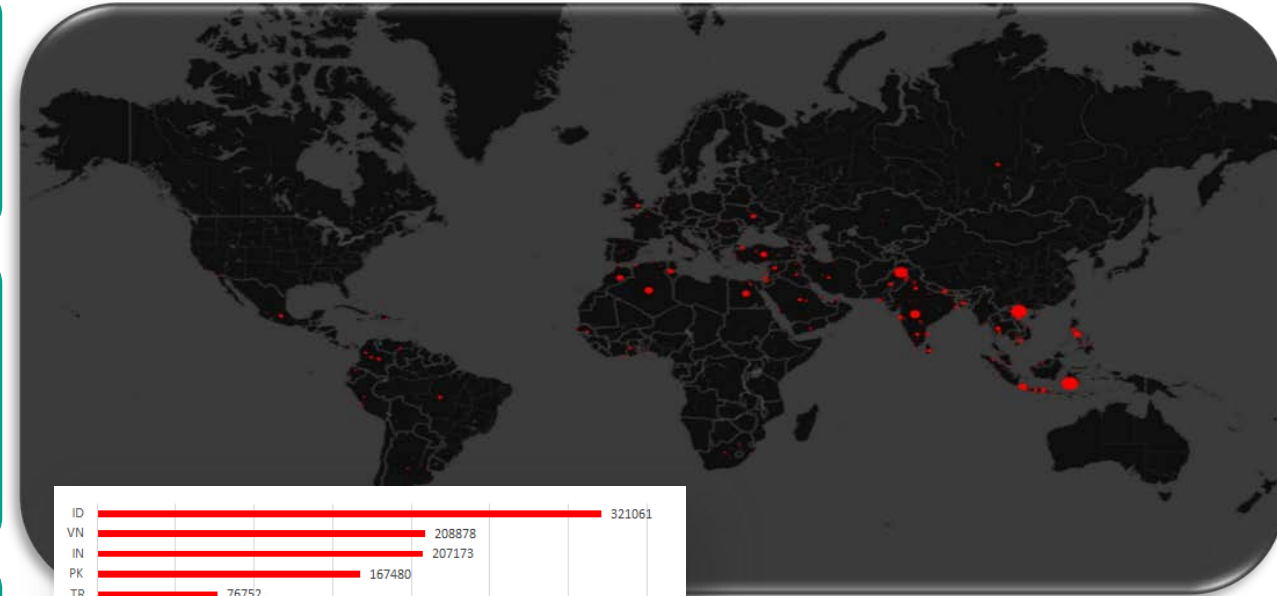


- Technical review, telemetry.
- Industry outreach
- Technical legal declaration.
- Coordinate PR communications

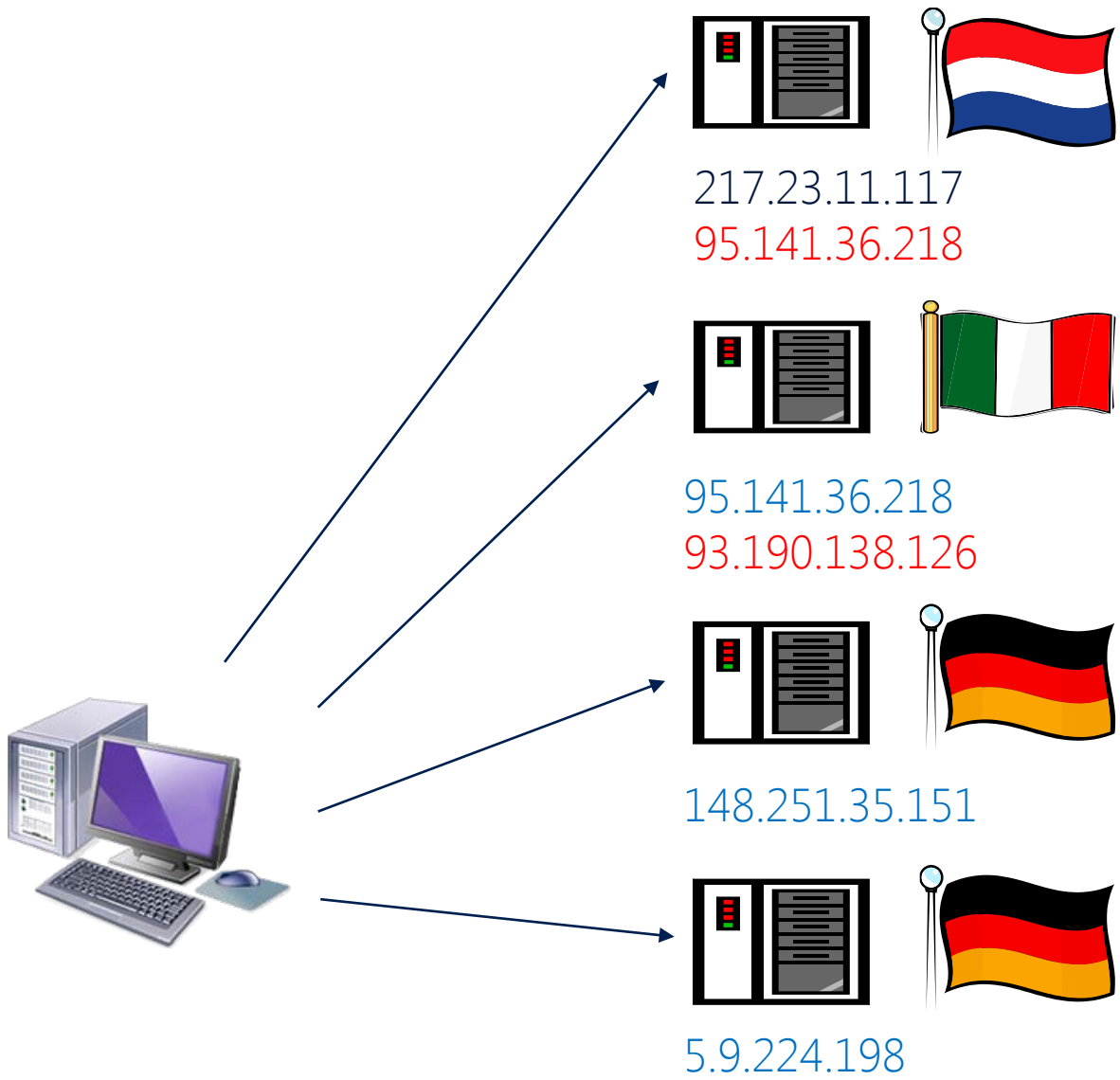


FS-ISAC

- Co-plaintiff
- Coordinate communications with financial sector.
- Coordinate PR communications







Current C2 Server=bot registration, configuration, and modules.

Backup C2 server

EXPIRED 14 Feb 2015

Web inject server

Online 15 Feb 2015

Web inject server

Blue=Current IP  
Red=Old IP

# Ramnit post-takedown



## Europol Takes Down RAMNIT Botnet that Infected 3.2 Million Computers

Wednesday, February 25, 2015 Mohit Kumar

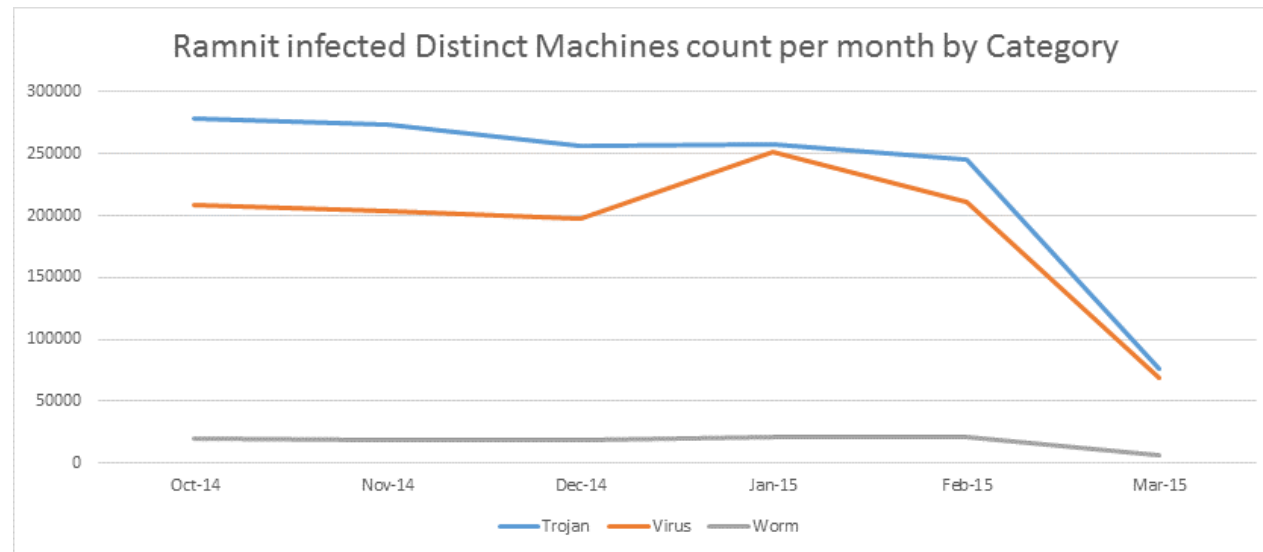
### RAMNIT SHUT-DOWN IN AN OPERATION

In a [statement](#) on Tuesday, Europol revealed that the successful take-down of Ramnit botnet involved the help of Microsoft, Symantec and AnubisNetworks. The groups shut down the botnet's command and control infrastructure and redirected traffic from a total of 300 domain addresses used by Ramnit criminal operators.

*"This successful operation shows the importance of international law enforcement working together with private industry in the fight against the global threat of cybercrime," said Wil van Gemert, Europol's deputy director of operations. "We will continue our efforts in taking down botnets and disrupting the core infrastructures used by criminals to conduct a variety of cybercrimes."*

### NASTY FEATURES OF RAMNIT BOTNET

Symantec [says](#) that Ramnit has been around for over four years, first originating as a computer worm. According to the anti-virus firm, Ramnit is a "fully-featured cybercrime tool, featuring six standard

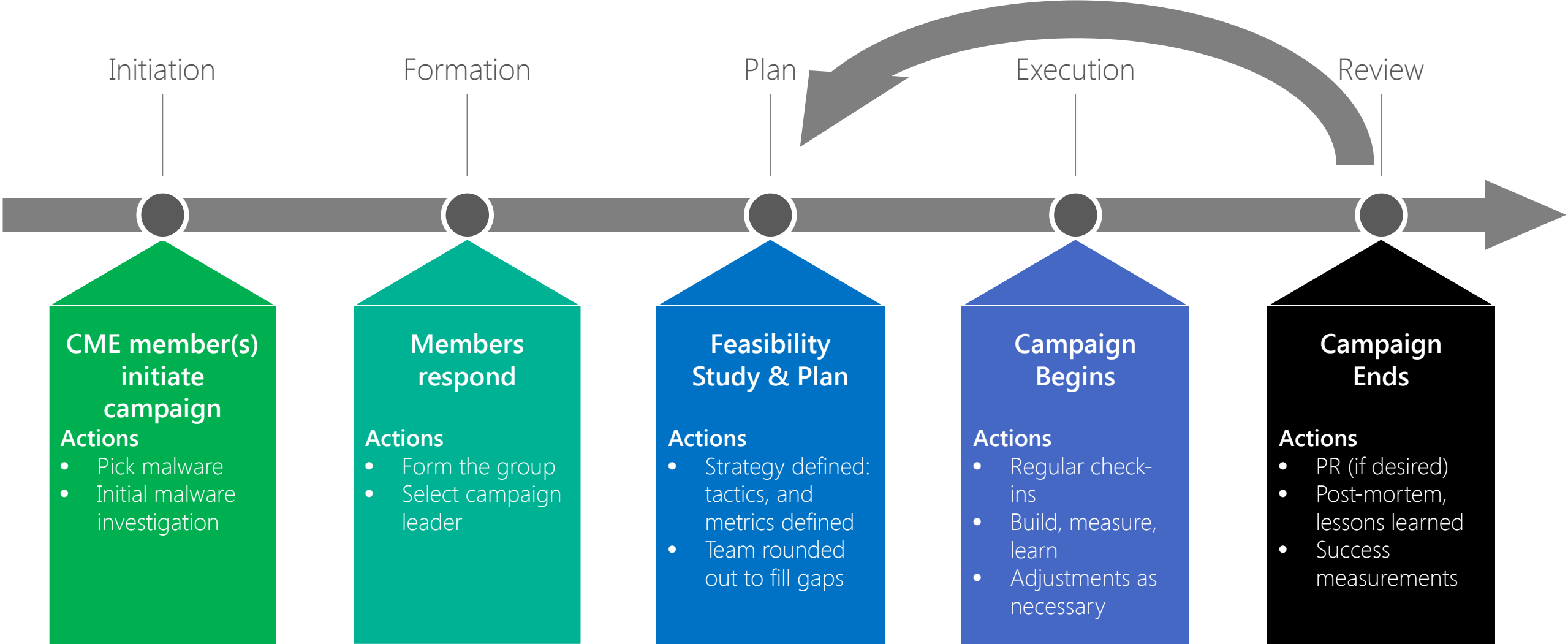


We believe the bot is dismantled...  
No new Ramnit flies have been observed.  
Infected computers still need cleaning.

Families	Encounters	Actives	Errors
ramnit	568,280	18.5%	1.5%

# Campaign playbook

# Campaign process



# Initiation

“Let’s eradicate this malware!”

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon on the left and a blue button with a white icon on the right. Below the search bar is a horizontal menu with several items, the first of which is highlighted in orange. The main content area contains a list of items, each with a blue title, a green status indicator, and a small image. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a list of items and a section with a red circular icon. At the bottom, there is a black banner with white and yellow text, a small image of a smartphone, and a yellow Sprint logo.

Get the LG Optimus G FREE  
4.7" TOUCHSCREEN

Sprint  
SWITCH TO SPRINT  
Or call 844.266.1037

# Formation

## Call for Participation

- Creates visibility
- Great source of information

## Selectively build a group

- Expedites the decision making process
- Add group members as needed

Law enforcement as a partner

# Communication

Document sharing

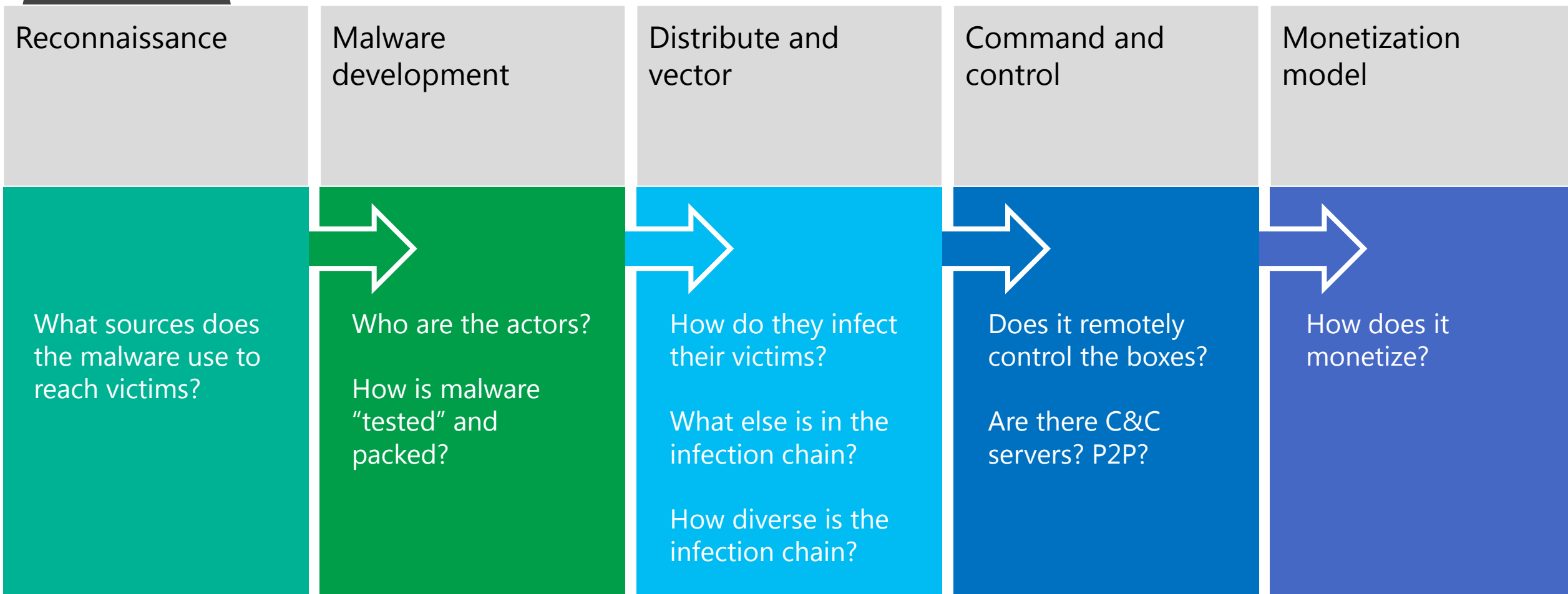
Sample sharing

Conference software

Secure email  
communication



# Building the plan: Identifying malware's attack points





# Defining goals

## Set an end goal

- Disrupt & remediate
- Put attackers behind bars
- Build intel to stay ahead of the curve

## Build a timeline

- Campaigns can go on forever
- May deal with a moving target
- Iterate

# Campaign state

In progress

Stalled

Failed

# Build the plan

Ethical considerations

Stakeholders

How do you do X?

# Building the plan: Develop a joint PR plan

- Does your org want to be publicly tied to this effort/operation? When will this happen?
- Do you plan on pushing out any form of outward communications around this operation?
- Do you have a dedicated person or team to handle PR/Outward coms? Who are they?
- Do you plan on attributing these threats to any organization or part of the world?
- Do you plan on doing any media interviews, or responding to media inquiries about this op?

# Abuse notification

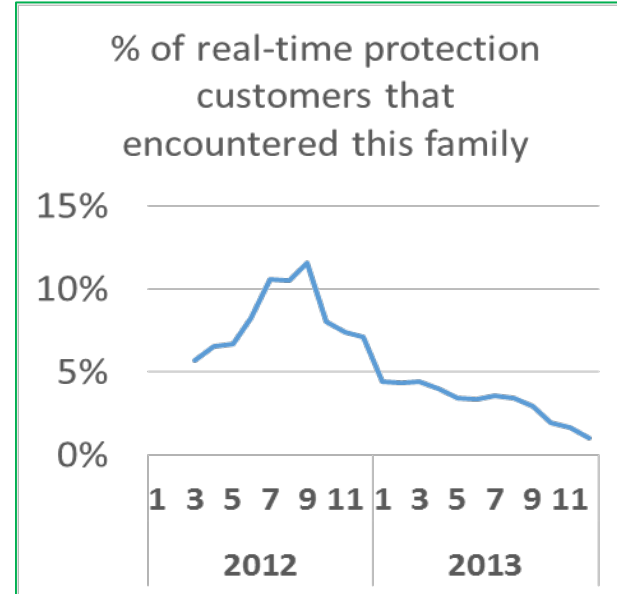
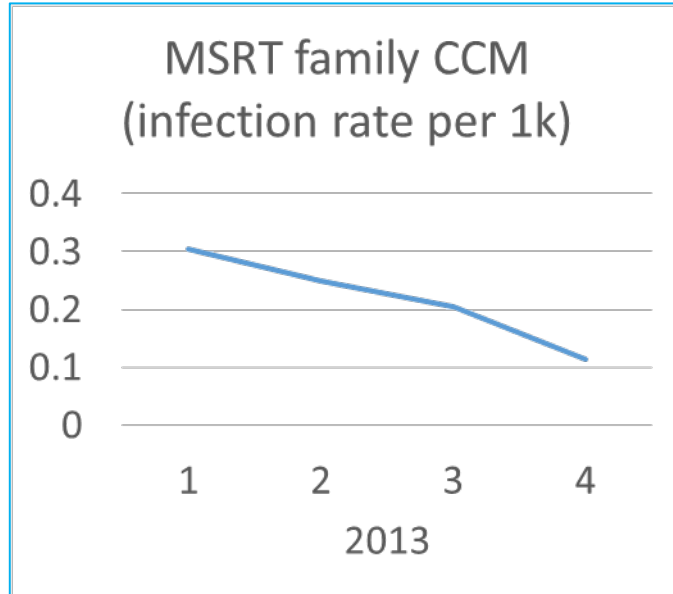
Build templates and process around  
abuse notification

Incorporate explicitly what  
should/shouldn't happen

# Measure success

## Success

- Impact to the family
- Impact to the ecosystem
- Impact to my ecosystem



# Post mortem

## Assess each phase

- Planning
- PR
- Etc.

Focus on the good and  
bad

Involve all campaign  
members

Communicate  
learnings to VIA  
membership

