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#### 17 - 22 June 2012



### **A Forensic Review of TDSS**

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### Background

- TDSS first appeared in 2008.
- The authors of TDSS have rolled out four major version changes.
- TDSS Version 4 (TDL-4) first appeared around the end of July 2010.
- TDL-4 compromised nearly 4.5 million systems in its first three months (Kaspersky, TDL-4 Top Bot).
- According to the Shadowserver Foundation, TDL-4 continues to be one of the top four largest botnets currently active.



#### **Characteristics of TDL-4**

- Targets both 32 bit and 64 bit systems
- Survives reboot by modifying the Master Boot Record.
- Command and Control communication is RC4 encrypted and then base64 encoded.
- Intercepts and modifies the victim's communications to the Internet.
- Stores its payload in Unused Disk Space and actively hides the data from the victim.
- Partners with a variety of malicious programs designed for revenue generation.



### **Characteristics of TDL-4**

- The TDL-4 configuration contains modules designed for revenue generation.
- Search Engine Optimization (SEO) intercepts search engine queries and returns modified results linked to additional malware.
- Pay-per-Click function redirects the browser to servers hosting pay-per-click links.
- HTML documents downloaded by the victim may have 'iframe' or 'object' tags modified to link to additional malicious site.



### **Example of SEO**

#### • Connection to SEO Server:

- http://rollangarr0s.com/kam19t5d5E3mQiU7dmVyPTMuOTYmYmlkPWU4ZjE1YTM2MTBjNjE4Y WE5MThiMzk0MmU2YmRjYWRiNDQzN2ZiZTMmYWlkPTMwMDAxJnNpZD0wJnJkPTAmZW5n PXd3dy5nb29nbGUuY29tJnE9aW1nYnVybg==
- Translated from base64:
- ????]?M?B%(ver=3.96&bid=e8f15a3610c618aa918b3942e6bdcadb4437fbe3&aid= 30001&sid=0&rd=0&eng=www.google.com&d=imgbur)
- The request contains the Bot ID number, Affiliate ID number, search engine and the search term.



### **Characteristics of TDL-4**

• To increase distribution of the bot, TDSS will partner with other affiliates.





×

#### **Characteristics of TDL-4**

Perfect Your English Text! 100% Professional & Error-Free Texts Full-Text Translation in 1 Click Ready-to-Use Document Templates

Get it Now 🕞

One indicator of TDSS is the presence of unwanted or persistent software applications. A large number of programs can be introduced in the same manner as TDSS.



#### **Notes on Analysis**

- The victim systems in each analyzed case were running Windows XP with Service Pack 3. Windows XP is currently run on 43% of all personal computers, making it currently the largest distributed operating system in the world.
- Analysis was conducted on multiple systems from production networks as well as several systems in controlled environments.



### Master Boot Record (MBR)

• 3@.P<.|{P.P.|>.|...PW9e.s\$K=>.1.8n.| 6.uR.F...F...V u··E·btM··u·F·lt·8,tv 5·4··p,<·t|;··4·M·kr·N·hF·s\*~F··~··t·

- V-4-M-r#A\$?-^
- Cwc·Q·V1·RnBwb9V
- w#r·9F·s·8··;·|·N··V·M·sQOtN2dV·M·kd
- V・`;\*U4AM·r6·{U\*u0vA·t+a`j·j⊡v
- ⊡·j·h·|j·j·4B·tM·aas Ot·2d
- V·M·kVayCinvalid partition table Error loading operating system Missing operating system DC\*CR+UNCAP
- This is an ASCII representation of a normal Master Boot Record. Note the standard Windows error messages.



### Master Boot Record (MBR)

#### Samples of boot records overwritten with malicious code.

#### • Modified Boot Record [1]:

- Modified Boot Record [2]:
- 1@·P<·|····f`···~F··~·4H>·~M·0P··x··...!··A`·#·~·I··h··e>·}9··f1[hx·⊡6·~··F··^·h··D··fa··Kf`Wf\_6·~f·F·f\_6·~f·F·f-E·f
   @f)F·f·^··E·F·4B···~nM·0R····1@:··>8}··B~~Cux·B~··h~·F~Nu·)V·V~Cuj1@ C·V·Ab ·v·~C·B~h[··i0m
   OB~&0·FJuf\_f·M·f·7V··y□0S··#·f\_u·f1@f E·fwP&g2·fB3·fQhs·f5·8m~KuqbgfwPf[f9X0CupfaC·H
   G-B~·/B~·B~Cf`····N· ~·f X@ E·!<}f E·8</li>
   ·h·□~··U·[`s&·}~\t·c·a·G)Bwm0Ni··AN\_·D··`~·"~YWAs\$ac·iE]YWfaCtk}\boot······#+A····~T?···hlh··



#### Prefetch

TDSS may use the name of a legitimate file.

UNREGMP2.EXE-3AE687B3.pf	Apr 5, 2012 2:19 AM	12 KB	ICC Profile
UNREGMP2.EXE-07CACB61.pf	Feb 10, 2012 6:39 PM	29 KB	ICC Profile

Path to the legitimate file:

\DEVICE\HARDDISKVOLUME1\WINDOWS\INF\UNREGMP2.EXE

Path to the malicious file:

\DEVICE\HARDDISKVOLUME1\DOCUME~1\USER01\LOCALS~1\TEMP\UNREGMP2.EXE



### **Firewall Logs**

- DNS Changer a TDSS module.
- DNS Changer activity in the pfirewall.log can be an indicator that the Tcpip registry settings may have been modified.
- 012-03-23 12:30:09 OPEN UDP 192.168.1.20 93.188.162.136 1025 53 - - - -
- 2012-03-23 12:30:14 OPEN UDP 192.168.1.20 93.188.162.136 1029 53 - - - -
- 2012-03-23 12:30:10 OPEN UDP 192.168.1.20 93.188.160.16 1025 53 - - - -
- 2012-03-23 12:30:15 OPEN UDP 192.168.1.20 93.188.160.16 1029 53 - - - -
- 2012-03-23 12:31:20 OPEN TCP 192.168.1.20 192.168.1.100 1036 80 - - - -
- 2012-03-23 12:31:23 CLOSE UDP 192.168.1.20 192.168.1.50 137 137 - - - -



## Registry

#### The DNS Changer module of TDSS modifies HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\Tcpip\ Parameters:

88 DefaultGateway REG\_MULTI... 192.168.1.1 <u>88</u> DefaultGatewayMetric REG\_MULTI... 01 93.188.162.136,93.188.160.16 ab NameServer REG SZ ab Domain REG SZ RegistrationEnabled REG\_DWORD 0x00000001 ab ab RegisterAdapterName REG\_DWORD 0x00000000 **8**8 **TCPAllowedPorts** REG\_MULTI... 011 **8**8 **UDPAllowedPorts** REG\_MULTI... 011 **8**8 **RawIPAllowedProtocols** REG\_MULTI... 011 88 NTEContextList REG\_MULTI... 0x00000002 **21** DhcpClassIdBin REG\_BINARY 00 00 00 00 93.188.162.136,93.188.160.16 ab DhcpNameServer REG\_SZ



## Registry

 Many of the affiliate programs will create processes in the System registry that appear to have legitimate names. Suspicious processes may be identified by simple misspellings and by correlating other events on the system:

```
HKLM\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Services\itlperfImagePathREG_EXPAND_SZ%SystemRoot%\System32\svchost.exe-k itlsvcHKLM\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Services\itlperfDisplayNameREG_SZIntel CPUObjectNameREG_SZLocalSystemDescriptionREG_SZIntel CPU perfermons service.Description
```



#### **Event Correlation**

Event correlation tools like 'log2timeline' (Kristinn Gudjonsson) can help to link processes to other malicious activity on the system.

4/5/2011	14:15:43	MACB	EVT	Event Log	Time generated/written	Service Control Manager/7036;Info;Intel CPU - running
4/5/2011	14:15:43	MACB	REG	SYSTEM key	Last Written	/ControlSet001/Enum/Root/LEGACY_ITLPERF
4/5/2011	14:15:43	MACB	REG	SYSTEM key	Last Written	/ControlSet002/Enum/Root/LEGACY_ITLPERF
4/5/2011	14:15:43	M.C.	FILE	NTFS \$MFT	\$SI [M.C.] time	C:/WINDOWS/Temp/ibni
4/5/2011	14:15:43	MACB	REG	SYSTEM key	Last Written	/ControlSet002/Enum/Root/LEGACY_ITLPERF
4/5/2011	14:15:43	MACB	REG	SYSTEM key	Last Written	/ControlSet001/Enum/Root/LEGACY_ITLPERF



#### **Event Logs**

• This process could easily be overlooked if not correlated with other activity on the system.

Event						
Date: Time: Type: User:	<mark>4/6/2011</mark> 9:35:39 AM Information N/A	Source: Category: Event ID:		<ul> <li>↑</li> <li>↓</li> <li>□</li> </ul>		
Compute	r:					
Description.						
The Windows License Provider service entered the running state.						
For more information, see Help and Support Center at http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/events.asp.						



# Registry

This process appears to have a benign name however it is linked to an affiliated program of TDSS that sets up a proxy service on the victim's system:

- \$\$\$PROTO.HIV\ControlSet001\Services\6to4 ImagePath REG\_EXPAND\_SZ %SystemRoot%\System32\svchost.exe -k netsvcs
- \$\$\$PROTO.HIV\ControlSet001\Services\6to4 REG SZ Windows License Provider
- \$\$\$PROTO.HIV\ControlSet001\Services\6to4 REG\_SZ LocalSystem
- \$\$\$PROTO.HIV\ControlSet001\Services\6to4 REG\_SZ
   Windows License Provider

DisplayName

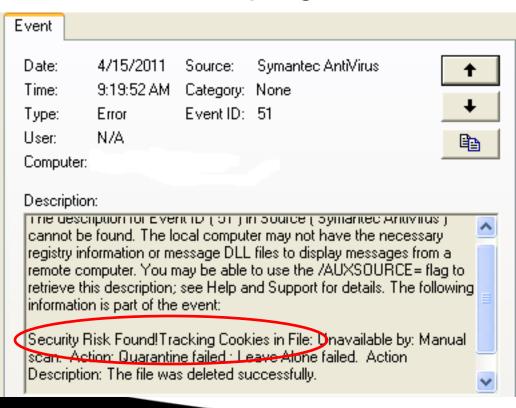
ObjectName

Description



#### **Event Logs**

• Event Logs may often report Internet activity from TDSS affiliate programs:





#### **Event Logs**

#### Antivirus may identify downloaders associated with TDSS.

Event				
	: 4:50:39 PN : Error	Source: 1 Category: Event ID:		<ul> <li>↑</li> <li>↓</li> <li>□</li> </ul>
remo retrie infor Setti Man	ote computer. You eve this description mation is part of th unity Risk Found! T ngs\Administrator	n; see Help a ne event: Trojan.Zefarch \Local Settin Cleaned by D	to use the 'AÚXSOUŔ nd Support for details. 1 n!gen5 in File: c:\Docur gs\Temp\csxanewomr. Deletion - Action Descri	The following



#### **Antivirus Logs**

Alerts on downloaders and malware from affiliate programs can be indicators of a more serious infection on the system:

Begin Resource Scan				
Scan ID:{F4E5BE9D-B5F4-40EE-AD70-9B759EFF407B}				
Scan Source:8				
Start Time:Tue Apr 05 2011 10:44:35				
End Time:Tue Apr 05 2011 10:44:39				
Explicit resource to scan				
Resource Schema:file				
Resource Path:C:\DOCUME~1\ \LOCALS~1\Temp\onwrsamcex.tmp->(UPX)				
Result Count:1				
Threat Name:TrojanDownloader:Win32/Harnig.S				
ID:2147638405				
Severity:5				
Number of Resources:2				
Resource Schema:file				
Resource Path:C:\Documents and Settings\ \ Local Settings\Temp\onwrsamcex.tmp->(UPX)				
Extended Info:141256735666330				
Resource Schema:containerfile				
Resource Path:C:\Documents and Settings\ \Local Settings\Temp\onwrsamcex.tmp				
Extended Info:0				
End Scan				



#### **Internet History**

• This activity was associated with a pay-per-click ad fraud program affiliated with TDSS.

system	10	http://www.inmotionhosting.com/?id=devilboy77
system	10	http://www.webhostingpad.com/
system	10	http://www.hostgator.com/
system	10	http://www.hostrocket.com/
system	10	http://adultfriendfinder.com/go/g1243200
system	10	http://adultfriendfinder.com/go/g1243200-pct
system	10	http://www.mobilemonopoly.com/?hop=devilboy77
system	10	http://www.dnforum.com/plans.php
system	10	http://www.hostmonster.com/
system	10	http://www.bloggingtothebank.com/
system	10	http://adultfriendfinder.com/go/g1243200-pmo
system	10	http://indianfriendfinder.com/go/g1243200.



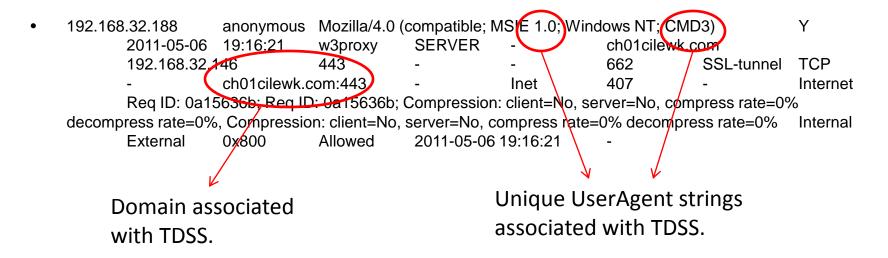
## Network Analysis – Proxy Log

 Activity associated with TDSS is often identifiable by reviewing network traffic:

http://crj711ki813ck.com/HCPy101ychsDQUBpLuYqlKwsUJCv3FdmUzbpj+6WczL0ayFN OotfQR8hYR3QXjM012vJAnO4Nzspq1O70Fe/Hx/D46imInETbtzLK55F4UN3IiDFMqzTku Z3oge1GCM22zxErEHa/zzb+jyvYyjHqA7h5+Oz8TU5kR8AwC6wYwAZaUCx3AG26SyeWT XR2WLBQjuc4+VLNH4FfuYITBxHCtdJcIN8CVyKhx6ki31Ph0YJIpj9PI4Ms4+n0afctgPt5IM 11gPniptDeibGE/iGchd+weKBVGTWJsYMmCnBeZVciTiHvQGnQFrnRdlImLnIbzhF2FLS/L ey9Da6VMePIyu2grwp2eoag3oDQv3EWTfRIz1M4CEbbtC1AsvdTrjy0xZyIHt+BvuBFyrx wUUKsuDDZTkLo3J4SX+tG2XfZiKmk8IaFijM0vWv7PVIYAv7xWPoBSSSEja6+waf0DAzua NKg36NAowgDOPINe9mVr7F9Mo/YTGNZ3T9CkquUe8DqOdj1bS7zeUjRZ6PUfW3R0Lv HJylxTccHO/D8coMSfrEL8TbmwkF3MRCcf1XHzbzdkFaoQtR6HdQDP8eToHTaK8ph7kiqg w/q15BjTCwcoZ2v3iZiGej4pwM6tzHpiCFLwskc+mxJZM5IITsact/OzvD1NhSF+Jux5DGS8 LFYESI/cV0CcvDyLRTaZgf3bcN9kI/G3NBTmQA0yTZtHyL+rzO0dphGkQ+ekXhPFfxaj20X3 9GqPJ4RHhF2CwRjCp2x101gNFtDU6kek6ETW9VzuXQIjUAKaMBktx



#### Network Analysis – Proxy Log



Unique strings and domain names can be used to create detection rules addressed later.



#### **Restore Point Forensics**

Analysis of the Restore Point uncovers a malicious DLL previously stored in the Print Processor Provider directory. The file is indexed in a change.log file as 'A0005311.dll' and a copy is placed in the RP## folder.

- \.D.e.v.i.c.e.\.H.a.r.d.d.i.s.k.V.o.l.u.m.e.1.\.S.y.s.t.e.m..V.o.l.u.m.e.
   .l.n.f.o.r.m.a.t.i.o.n.\.\_.r.e.s.t.o.r.e.{.3.

- o.c.s.\.w.3.2.x.8.6...O.C.1.7.u.O.C.E.I...d.I.I......A.0.0.0.5.3.1.1...d.I.I



#### CollectedData\_##.xml

This malicious DLL is linked to the 'root' Namespace indicating it runs with system level privileges. The 'Win32\_StartupCommand' class indicates a command that runs automatically when a user logs on to a system.

- <NAMESPACE NAME="root" />
- <NAMESPACE NAME="cimv2" />
- </LOCALNAMESPACEPATH>
- </NAMESPACEPATH>
- <INSTANCENAME CLASSNAME="Win32\_StartupCommand">
- <keybinding name="Command">
- <KEYVALUE VALUETYPE="string">rundll32.exe
   "C:\WINDOWS\anitahefozujecaz.dll",Startup</KEYVALUE>



#### **Task Scheduler**

This task was scheduled each time a reboot occurred. The job executed a file in the victim's %Application Data% folder which called back to the C2 domain.

- "Task Scheduler Service"
- Started at 3/23/2012 10:57:02 AM
- "a4e50120.job" (a4e50120.exe)
- Started 3/23/2012 12:26:11 PM
- "a4e50120.job" (a4e50120.exe)
- Finished 3/23/2012 12:26:12 PM
- Result: The task completed with an exit code of (0).



#### hosts file

This excerpt from the hosts file will redirect all searches in Google to the malicious host at 93.186.119.129:

- 93.186.119.129 www.google.com
- 93.186.119.129 google.com
- 93.186.119.129 google.com.au
- 93.186.119.129 www.google.com.au
- 93.186.119.129 google.be
- 93.186.119.129 www.google.be
- 93.186.119.129 google.com.br
- 93.186.119.129 www.google.com.br
- 93.186.119.129 google.ca
- 93.186.119.129 www.google.ca



#### **Unused Disk Area**

 TDSS often places its configuration data in the Unused Disk Area outside of partitioned space.

- 00062A95 0 <BtB.f 00062A95 •
- 00062C06 00062C06 [PurpleHaze] • 0
- 00062C14 00062C14 0 pn=161 ٠
- 00062C1C 00062C1C 0 all=ph.dll ٠
- 00062C28 00062C28 allx=phx.dll 0 ٠
- 00062C36 00062C36 wait=3600 • 0
- <snip> •
- 000640C8 000640C8 0 •
- 00064332 00064332 • 0
- 0006434A 0006434A 0 •
- 0006438A 0006438A 0 ٠
- 0006439A 0006439A .
- 000643AA 000643AA .
- 00064883 00064883 0 A]A\] .

- {%08x-%04x-%04x-%04x-%04x%08x}
- \*\\.\globalroot%S
- PurpleHaze
- LoadLibraryExA
  - GetProcAddress  $\mathbf{0}$ 
    - 0 VirtualFree



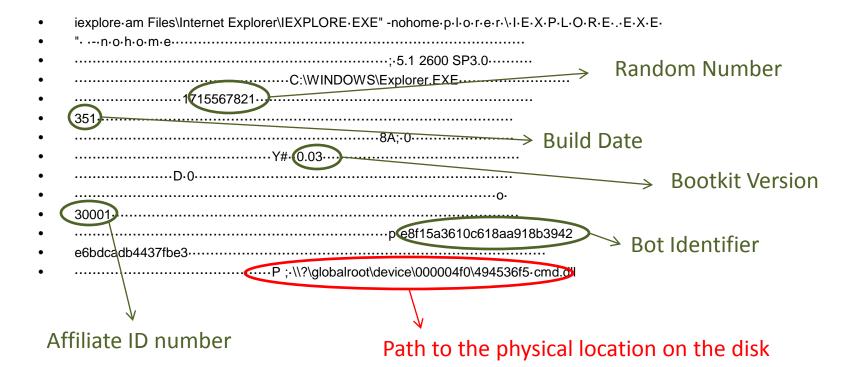
### **Unallocated Space**

Internet History carved from Unallocated Space.
The server at clckil.com hosted multiple pay-per-click ad fraud links.

h.t.t.p.:././.c.l.c.k.i.l...c.o.m./.?.x.u.r.l.=.h.t.t.p.:././.c.l.c.k.i.l...c.o.m./.y.Z.L.O.W.F.R
 e.7.u.7.Q.y.R.U.1.5.6.7.1.d.8.2.c.3.8.6.6.2.d.9.6.5
 e.8.6.5.4.6.3.9.4.c.0.f.9.3.6.1.7.A.&.x.r.e.f.=.h.t.t.p.:././.c.o.r.n.i.s.h.r.e.x..o.r.g./.
 k.e.y./.?.q.s.=.5.7.d.2.7.7.6.c.5.6.a.7.1.4.6.b.b.6.4.3.
 e.e.f.c.2.0.8.6.9.1.0.2.d.f.b.5.2.4.d.b.6.e.6.d.9.8.7.8.f.f.0.e.9.4.7.1.d.f.0.b.8.1.0.e.
 0.0.a.c.0.e.b.a.2.d.f.5.0.a.8.6.d.6.0.8.3.c.3.b.3.8.c.3.d.f.4
 .3.&.t.=.t.o.+.conn.s.o.l.i.d.a.t.e.+.d.e.b.t.
 w.a.r.e.\.M.i.c.r.o.s.o.f.t.\.W.i.n.d.o.w.s.\.C. u.r.r.e.n.t.V.e.r.s.i.o.n.\.l.n.t.e.r.n.e.t.



### Pagefile.sys



This data was recovered from the pagefile by searching for the physical path.



### Pagefile.sys

References to the domain, 'esbigholtem.com' are only found in memory or the pagefile.



#### **Live Memory Forensics**

• Malicious code injected into svchost.exe

wininet.dll
wininet_dll
InternetCloseHandle
InternetConnectA
InternetOpenA
HttpOpenRequestA
InternetCrackUrlA
HttpSendRequestA
InternetReadFile
InternetCheckConnectionA
Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 6.0; en-US; rv:1.9.1(1) GeckaSeka/20090911 Firefox/3.5.1
GET %s HTTP/1.0
Host: %s
User-Agent: %s
HTTP/1.0 200 OK
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
info
info
drv32
cmd32
drv32
drv32



#### **Live Memory Forensics**

F

Name Pid Start End Tag Hits Protect	
csrss.exe 680 0x00270000 0x0027AFFF VadS 0 6 (MM_EXECUTE_READWRITE)	
Dumped to: /tmp/csrss.exe.a5db1f8.00270000-0027afff.dmp	
0x00270000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00 04 00 00 06 ff ff 00 00 MZ	
0x00270010	
0x00270020 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	
0x00270030 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	
0x00270040   0e 1f ba 0e 00 b4 09 cd 21 b8 01 4c cd 21 54 68  !!	
0x00270050 69 73 20 70 72 6f 67 72 61 6d 20 63 61 6e 6e 6f 🛛 is program canno	
0x00270060 74 20 62 65 20 72 75 6e 20 69 6e 20 44 4f 53 20 t be run in DOS	
0x00270070 6d 6f 64 65 2e 0d 0d 0a 24 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 mode\$	
csrss.exe 680 0x00280000 0x00280FFF VadS 0 6 (MM_EXECUTE_READWRITE)	
Dumped to: /tmp/csrss.exe.a5db1f8.00280000-00280fff.dmp	
0x00280000 53 1d 80 7c 30 ae 80 7c 74 9b 80 7c 00 00 27 00 S. 10. 1t. 1.	
0x00280010   2a 5c 5c 2e 5c 67 6c 6f 62 61 6c 72 6f 6f 74 5c 🛛 🧨 🚛 globalroot.	
0x00280020   64 65 76 69 63 65 5c 30 30 30 30 30 61 30 5c / device.000000a0.	
0x00280030 7b 35 65 33 33 38 63 62 62 2d 32 34 33 62 2d 39 {5e338cbb-243b-9	
0x00280040   66 66 38 2d 37 33 37 39 2d 33 36 66 35 36 34 34       ff8-7379-36f564🖋	
0x00280050 39 35 31 31 38 7d 5c 70 68 2e 64 6c 6c 00 00 00 35118}.ph.dl]	
0x00280060 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	
0x00280070 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	



#### **Snort Rules**

This rule looks for unique items in the UserAgent string, such as 'MSIE 1.0' and 'CMD3'

- alert tcp \$HOME\_NET any -> \$EXTERNAL\_NET \$HTTP\_PORTS (msg:"ET TROJAN
- Possible TDSS User-Agent seen with HTTP CONNECT Traffic";
- flow:established,to\_server; content:"CONNECT"; http\_method;
- content:"User-Agent|3a| Mozilla/4.0 (compatible|3b| MSIE 1.0|3b| Windows
- NT|3b| CMD3)"; http\_header; classtype:trojan-activity;)



#### **Snort Rules**

This rule will detect one of the base64 encoded string associated with TDSS 'GET' requests

alert tcp \$HOME\_NET any -> \$EXTERNAL\_NET \$HTTP\_PORTS (msg:"ET TROJAN TDSS/TDL/Alureon MBR rootkit Checkin"; flow:established,to\_server; content:"GET"; nocase; http\_method; content:" HTTP/1."; content:"|0d 0a|Accept-Language|3a| "; distance:1; within:19; content:"User-Agent|3a| Mozilla/4.0 |28|compatible|3b| MSIE"; fast\_pattern:23,18; http\_header; content:"Host|3a| "; distance:0; http\_header; content:"|3a| no-cache"; distance:0; http\_header; content:!"Accept|3a| "; http\_header; pcre:"/^V[a-z0-9+V=]{16,400}\$/Ui"; classtype:trojan-activity; sid:2011894; rev:15;)



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#### **Questions/Comments?**

