



McAfee Labs Threat Advisory **TDSS.rootkit**

April 11, 2012

Summary

TDSS rootkit appeared around 2008 and is known for its ability to survive in the machine without being detected and the challenges it presents in terms of cleanup. There have been four versions of TDSS before this latest variant, and there have been improvements with every version in terms of being stealthy.

Detailed information about the rootkit, propagation vector, characteristics and mitigation etc are explained in the following sections.

- [Infection and Propagation Vectors](#)
- [Characteristics and Symptoms](#)
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Infection and Propagation Vectors

TDSS spreads by using affiliate marketing programs. Most affiliate marketing programs spreading malicious code use a Pay Per Install model which means the amount earned by the malware author depends on the number and the location of the machines it infects.

Characteristics and Symptoms

TDSS.e!rootkit

There are multiple variants of TDSS in the wild. All these variants exhibit different behavior. These are some of the behaviors exhibited by this variant *TDSS.e!rootkit*:

Upon execution of the dropper adjusts "SE_LOAD_DRIVER_PRIVILEGE", on success copies itself as a .DLL and calls **AddPrintProcessor**, which requests the system process "SPOOLSV.EXE" to load the specified library. It then creates a random service by executing ZwLoadDriver.

The malware hooks "KiDebugRoutine" which enables the malware to hide its traces in memory from a debugging program. When a debugging program tries to access the malware traces in memory through this hook, the malware intercepts the request and points to clean memory instead of the actual malicious code.

It then infects a windows component (.SYS file) which will enable it to start during system boot. The malware injects a thread in the kernel, so whenever the infected .SYS file is requested it always returns a clean one, instead of the one infected by the malware. In addition to this, the malware redirects searches. It also connects to its command and control server and sends information and receives commands. Connections to the following domains were observed on a infected machine:

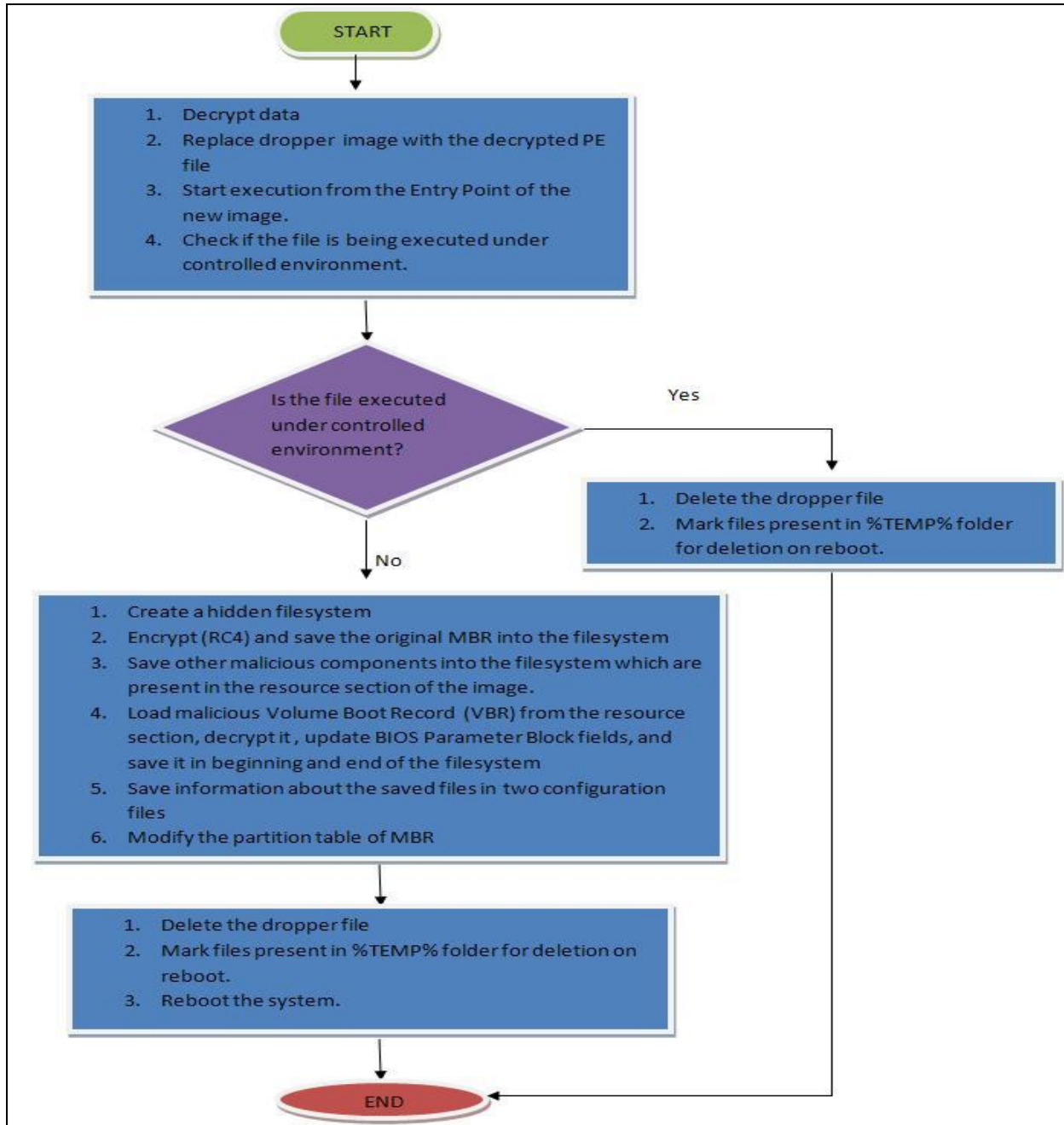
- <https://nichtadden.in/>
- <https://91.212.226.67/>
- <https://li1i16b0.com/>
- <https://zz87jhfa88.com/>
- <https://n16fa53.com/>
- <https://01n02n4cx00.cc/>
- <https://lj1i16b0.com/>
- <http://clickpixelabn.com/>
- <http://thinksnotaeg.com/>
- <http://ijmgwarehouse.com/>

- <http://getbestbanner.com/>
- <http://pixelrotator.com/>
- <http://rf9akjgh716zzl.com/>
- <http://justgomediainc.in>

TDSS.f!rootkit

Like other droppers of TDSS, TDSS.f dropper also carries actual infector in its resource section in an encrypted form. The actual infector is first decrypted and the dropper image is replaced with the decrypted infector.

Workflow Diagram for TDSS:



(1.0 TDSS Workflow)

Remaining malicious components are present in infector's resource section as shown below:

Malicious components (RC4 encrypted) in resource section of the infector

Offset	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	Ascii
00000000	B8	01	00	00	57	1A	83	A5	08	23	07	50	26	E3	CA	77	,. .W # P&ãEw
00000010	A3	15	53	F1	8B	EB	A0	85	AC	72	47	7E	14	EF	F8	F6	î Sñ è ~rG~ ièö
00000020	90	8D	62	7D	47	83	88	A8	A7	64	29	91	F4	23	B1	58	b)G 'Sd)'ó#±X
00000030	5F	A7	C4	5B	C3	15	BC	1B	6F	72	DF	D3	27	25	2D	B4	_SÄ[Ä% orB0'%-'
00000040	CD	FC	0B	37	7C	D5	3E	90	3F	C0	41	69	65	5A	A3	3F	Tü 7 Ö> ?AAieZi?
00000050	9D	65	18	DA	6A	08	CD	F9	77	B3	A1	22	E1	CD	0B	DC	e Üj Iüw' "á I Ü
00000060	81	01	E5	C7	03	20	B8	BE	4F	75	20	E0	10	05	83	CA	äç ,%Ou.à È
00000070	B0	32	21	F4	5A	0C	9B	8C	56	88	72	A6	D4	94	9E	F1	'2 óZ V r Ö ñ
00000080	5A	1D	FE	D3	40	2D	79	B2	05	34	F0	00	51	40	94	35	Z b0@~y'148.Q@ 5
00000090	74	6C	4F	C7	CF	2F	39	7D	C8	26	2A	48	45	37	53	B1	t 0ç /9)E&*HE7St
000000A0	1A	E9	10	D2	F6	A2	90	00	37	9C	66	E2	B1	73	B5	F2	é Ööç 7 fátspö
000000B0	63	A3	A9	EA	42	93	45	9B	00	DF	C9	A1	37	01	F2	F6	ç èB E .BÉ 7 öö
000000C0	74	95	B5	02	29	63	EB	9C	E8	12	DD	6B	E5	B4	76	91	t p)çè è ÿká'v'
000000D0	CB	F7	AD	EE	66	9C	0E	55	FF	59	62	47	7E	7C	CA	A3	È--if I ÜyYbGw Èz
000000E0	A8	18	F1	2C	E5	6C	8D	5D	FC	43	78	32	5E	14	67	6C	ñ,á]üCx2^ gl
000000F0	E5	3F	B2	26	A8	9C	73	56	4F	22	66	2D	03	38	63	22	â?&' sVO"f- 8c"
00000100	E6	94	3E	C8	B8	05	2D	E4	66	2B	C4	7F	CB	81	EE	87	è >È. -áf+Ä Ö
00000110	F2	4E	E7	40	3D	C4	D4	FE	10	E5	BB	B9	BA	31	61	95	òNç=@Öö á»^1a
00000120	B3	39	99	63	77	01	F9	8A	44	CA	0F	44	A6	03	74	6D	°9 çw ü DÉ D !tm
00000130	2A	F9	57	86	96	33	B9	7A	DD	A6	E4	5C	88	25	CC	B9	*üW 3^zÿ ä\ % ì^
00000140	7C	CC	0D	69	DC	E3	AF	B4	FC	52	28	25	2B	9C	40	FF	l.iÜä~'üR(%+ 0ÿ
00000150	AC	73	C2	73	66	C5	23	CF	F9	45	82	40	29	3C	E3	0B	~sÄsfÄ#ÿüE @)<ä
00000160	D0	B2	BD	07	7D	01	EB	39	9B	F3	0D	E6	41	2E	C1	3D	D^k) è9 ó.æA.Á=
00000170	91	02	94	18	83	CA	99	D3	E4	01	3D	1F	8B	64	AE	60	' É Öä = id`
00000180	CE	1B	10	A9	C4	C4	75	65	65	A4	76	27	95	3C	71	B1	Ï @ÄAuee^v' <qt
00000190	B6	47	7D	4A	57	5E	AF	33	AF	76	3D	DE	28	2C	FF	40	!G JW^~3^v=p(.ÿ@
000001A0	C5	74	31	6E	FF	6A	F7	8A	41	BC	09	B1	07	08	90	3C	Ät nyj+ Ä%.± <
000001B0	62	9D	52	04	59	32	15	80	91	3E	66	BE					b R Y2 ' >f¼

(1.1 Resource Section of infector)

These resources are loaded whenever required. Initially, it loads few resources like "BUILD", "NAME" of "PAIR" type and "SUBID", "MAIN" of type "FILE".

Some variants of TDSS.f before infection checks if it is running in controlled environment.

It connects to the "Root\Cimv2" WMI interface, retrieve system resource information like instances of Win32_BIOS, Win32_DiskDrive, Win32_SCSIController, Win32_Processor, Win32_Process and check if the malware is being executed in controlled environment.

For data transfer operations, a buffer with alignment matching the adapter device is required.

Therefore it first retrieves AlignmentMask using the **IOCTL_STORAGE_QUERY_PROPERTY** control code and then retrieves the capacity of the device using **IOCTL_SCSI_PASS_THROUGH_DIRECT** control code.

Infection Flow

It first reads MBR into memory, parses the partition table and look for the bootable partition.

After identifying the bootable partition, it computes absolute number of sectors by adding the LBA of the first absolute sector of active partition and number of sectors in the partition.

The summation of the above two is then subtracted from 0x1000000. It then calculates the number of sectors to be used in the filesystem to be created.

Number of sectors = 0x1000000 - (LBA of first absolute sector of the active partition + Number of sectors in the partition) - 0x10

00 01 01 00-07 FE FF FF 3F 00 00 00 14 AC FF 00	Number of sectors in the new partition (0x539D) = 0x1000000 - (0x3F + 0xFFAC1F) - 0x10
80 FE FF FF-17 FE FF FF-53 AC FF 00 9D 53 00 00	
00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00	
00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00	
55 AA	Partition table from modified MBR

(1.4 Modified MBR)

It then loads, and decrypts the resource named "vbr" of type "BIN" in memory. To avoid re-infection, it compares the malicious VBR code with the original VBR code as shown below:

```
lea    edx, [esp+3F4h+var_3BC]
call   FindAndLoadResource_RC4Decryption
add    esp, 4
test   eax, eax
jz     loc_404D00
mov    edx, [esp+3F0h+var_3B8]
test   edx, edx
jz     loc_404D00
mov    ecx, [esp+3F0h+var_3C4]
add    ecx, 0FFFFFFACh
add    edx, 54h
add    esi, 54h
cmp    ecx, 4
jb     short loc_404779

mov    eax, [esi] ; DS:[00B62BC4]=8EC033FA <-- DWORD from the original VBR [+54]
cmp    eax, [edx] ; DS:[00B64484]=8EC031FA <-- DWORD from Decrypted VBR
jnz    short loc_404781
sub    ecx, 4
add    edx, 4
add    esi, 4
cmp    ecx, 4
jnb    short loc_404765
```

(1.5 Code flow 2)

The original MBR which was read previously into memory is encrypted, written into the hidden file system and the storage information is saved in secondary configuration as shown below:

00401123	79 08	JNS SHORT googleup.00401120	
00401125	4A	DEC EDX	RC4 Encryption
00401126	81CA 00FFFFFF	OR EDX,FFFFFF00	
0040112C	42	INC EDX	
0040112D	0FB6F2	MOVZX ESI,DL	DL=03
00401130	0FB61C06	MOVZX EBX, BYTE PTR DS:[ESI+EAX]	Stack DS:[0012FA2F]=09
00401134	8B55 FE	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-2],DL	DL=03, Stack SS:[0012F9EE]=B6
00401137	8A1401	MOV DL, BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+EAX]	Stack DS:[0012FA2D]=03
0040113A	8B1C01	MOV BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+EAX],BL	BL=09, Stack DS:[0012FA2D]=03
0040113D	8B1406	MOV BYTE PTR DS:[ESI+EAX],DL	DL=03, Stack DS:[0012FA2F]=09
00401140	0FB61C01	MOVZX EBX, BYTE PTR DS:[ECX+EAX]	Stack DS:[0012FA2D]=09
00401144	0FB6D2	MOVZX EDX,DL	DL=03
00401147	03D3	ADD EDX,EBX	EBX=00000009, EDX=00000003
00401149	81E2 FF000000	AND EDX,000000FF	EDX=0000000C
0040114F	79 08	JNS SHORT googleup.00401159	
00401151	4A	DEC EDX	
00401152	81CA 00FFFFFF	OR EDX,FFFFFF00	
00401158	42	INC EDX	
00401159	0FB6D2	MOVZX EDX,DL	DL=0C
0040115C	0FB61C08	MOVZX EBX, BYTE PTR DS:[EDX+EAX]	Stack DS:[0012FA38]=44 ('D')
00401160	8B55 08	MOV EDX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]	Stack SS:[0012F9F8]=00B64430
00401163	3B1C17	XOR BYTE PTR DS:[EDI+EDX],BL	
00401166	47	INC EDI	
00401167	3B7D 0C	CMP EDI,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+C]	Stack SS:[0012F9FC]=00000200
0040116A	72 94	JB SHORT <kernel32.SetEndOfFile>	
0040116C	8A4D FF	MOV CL, BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1]	

RC4 Encrypted MBR

BL=2E ('.')
 DS:[00B69678]=33 ('3')

Contents from MBR

Address	Hex dump	ASCII	Address	Hex dump	ASCII
00B69678	33 C0 0E D0 0C 00 7C FB 50 07 50 1F FC BE 18 7C 3A00%	00B69678	10 C5 DD 75 CF AE A1 9D 54 5D 92 CB 0B 47 40 2C	00B69678	00B69678
00B69688	0F 1B 06 50 57 B9 E5 01 F3 A4 C8 0D BE 07 B1 04	00B69688	E3 6F 99 81 0C A8 B9 E5 CB 8A 23 2C 92 6F B3 DA	00B69688	00B69688
00B69698	38 6E 00 7C 09 75 13 03 C5 10 E2 F4 CD 18 0B F5	00B69698	FA F5 81 76 D5 30 9F 14 00 61 08 76 59 E3 13 9B	00B69698	00B69698
00B696A8	83 C6 10 49 74 19 38 2C 74 F6 A0 05 07 04 07 80	00B696A8	57 9B C8 8A FA 47 8F 4A 5E BE DC 3C DA D8 EB 79	00B696A8	00B696A8
00B696B8	F0 AC 3C 00 74 FC 0B 07 00 04 0E CD 10 E8 F2 88	00B696B8	38 D1 20 6D F0 B4 26 F0 AC DE 1C E2 CC 86 97 74	00B696B8	00B696B8
00B696C8	4E 10 E8 46 00 73 2A FE 46 10 80 7E 04 0B 74 0B	00B696C8	46 B9 33 43 D0 B4 A6 9B CD 8D 8E 9F F3 4B 98 1A	00B696C8	00B696C8
00B696D8	80 7E 04 0C 74 05 00 06 07 75 D2 80 46 02 06 83	00B696D8	CD FB 5A 89 74 0D A1 4E 64 E3 E4 CD CF 08 77 CF	00B696D8	00B696D8
00B696E8	46 08 06 83 56 0A 00 E8 21 00 73 05 A0 86 07 EB	00B696E8	4D 0B 1F 15 D0 5A 28 00 FB 8E D9 72 68 27 FC 60	00B696E8	00B696E8
00B696F8	8C 81 3E FE 7D 55 AA 74 0B 00 7E 10 00 74 C8 A0	00B696F8	B6 B4 E9 90 8F 6D E3 16 C1 CB B1 BF B0 2A C2 37	00B696F8	00B696F8
00B69708	07 07 EB A9 0B FC 1E 57 0B F5 CB 8F 05 00 8A 56	00B69708	47 F7 66 19 AE AD A8 96 EA 4F B5 E0 7B 2A D4 20	00B69708	00B69708
00B69718	00 84 08 CD 13 72 23 8A C1 24 3F 98 8A DE 8A FC	00B69718	69 C7 5B 7E AA 07 32 2E AB 5D B6 01 2A E1 80 1E	00B69718	00B69718
00B69728	43 F7 E3 8D 01 86 D6 B1 06 D2 EE 42 F7 E2 39 56	00B69728	10 C5 3A F4 0E 2C 3B 73 56 6D B3 95 53 53 02 CE	00B69728	00B69728
00B69738	0A 77 23 72 05 39 46 08 73 1C 88 01 02 8B 00 7C	00B69738	FE 0F E1 84 44 9C D5 FF C0 82 90 72 2B F5 9D FE	00B69738	00B69738
00B69748	0B 4E 02 8B 56 00 CD 13 73 51 4F 74 4E 32 E4 8A	00B69748	B9 C2 FB CD D7 9C 12 D4 E2 D1 B8 B7 C1 F4 5E B5	00B69748	00B69748
00B69758	56 00 CD 13 EB E4 8A 56 00 60 8B AA 55 B4 41 CD	00B69758	4F 39 12 B9 F2 15 60 E7 0C 97 79 8F 18 E9 5E FD	00B69758	00B69758
00B69768	13 72 36 81 FB 55 AA 75 30 F6 C1 01 74 2B 61 60	00B69768	71 FD 0B B4 3D 89 3C 36 E5 83 C3 3D F2 13 15 A7	00B69768	00B69768
00B69778	6A 00 6A 00 FF 76 0A FF 76 08 6A 00 68 00 7C 6A	00B69778	10 F3 A1 B2 1E AB 5F 4A 05 BE C6 59 06 62 18 8C	00B69778	00B69778
00B69788	01 6A 10 B4 42 0B F4 CD 13 61 61 73 0E 4F 74 0B	00B69788	56 D7 10 1F B6 E8 1A 4C 70 47 51 C1 05 45 35 47	00B69788	00B69788
00B69798	32 E4 8A 56 00 CD 13 EB D6 61 F9 C3 49 6E 76 61	00B69798	67 31 56 A7 1D CB C6 3A 09 B6 1C 43 5F 51 9E 6F	00B69798	00B69798
00B697A8	6C 69 64 20 70 61 72 74 69 74 69 6F 6E 20 74 61	00B697A8	01 39 C5 9E 86 11 A5 58 46 BE 31 17 BE 43 69 6D	00B697A8	00B697A8
00B697B8	62 6C 65 00 45 72 72 6F 72 20 6C 6F 61 64 69 6E	00B697B8	4C 4E 37 27 6F 69 63 65 89 84 20 E8 B9 8D 2D E1	00B697B8	00B697B8
00B697C8	67 20 6F 70 65 72 61 74 69 6E 67 20 73 79 73 74	00B697C8	F6 90 FD EB 85 FC F5 C8 16 3C CE 86 9C A5 7B BF	00B697C8	00B697C8
00B697D8	65 6D 00 40 69 73 73 69 6E 67 20 6F 70 65 72 61	00B697D8	43 2F 69 B2 D8 04 D0 5E 78 24 40 DF 7F 33 1B 11	00B697D8	00B697D8
00B697E8	74 69 6F 67 20 73 79 73 74 65 6D 00 00 00 00 00	00B697E8	E0 5F 1C 0C A7 5C CC AB 2E 89 82 29 21 34 63 B0	00B697E8	00B697E8

(1.6 Original MBR is encrypted before it is saved into hidden file system)


```

mov esi, [esp+3F0h+var_308] ; MalDecryptedVBR --> Stack SS:[0012FB70]=00B64430
mov ecx, [esp+3F0h+var_308] ; (LBA + NumSectors) --> Stack SS:[0012FB80]=00FFAC53
mov eax, [esp+3F0h+var_304] ; Stack SS:[0012FBAC]=0000539D <-- Max.Numsectors - (Numsectors + LBA)
mov edi, [esp+3F0h+var_300] ; VBR --> Stack SS:[0012FB70]=00B62B70 <-- Original VBR
mov [esi+1Ch], ecx ; ECX=00FFAC53 <-- (LBA + NumSectors), DS:[00B6444C]=00000000 <-- Number of Hidden Sectors in Partition
xor ecx, ecx
lea edx, [eax-1]
shr eax, 4 ; EAX=0000539D
mov [esi+30h], eax ; EAX=00000539 <-- Starting Cluster Number for the $MFT File in this partition
mov [esi+28h], edx ; EDX= 0000539C --> Total Sectors ( in the Volume )
mov eax, ebx
cdq
mov [esi+2Ch], ecx
mov [esi+34h], ecx ; Starting Cluster Number for the $MFT File in this partition
mov [esi+38h], eax ; EAX=000021AB
mov [esi+3Ch], edx ; Starting Cluster Number for the $MFTMirror File in this partition.
mov eax, dword ptr [esp+3F0h+Uuid.Data4]
mov [esi+48h], eax ; NTFS Volume Serial Number.
mov ecx, dword ptr [esp+3F0h+Uuid.Data4+4]
mov [esi+4Ch], ecx ; NTFS Volume Serial Number.
mov ecx, 15h
rep movsd ; replace the original VBR BPB data in memory with the modified BPB

```

```

loc_404ADD:
mov edx, [esp+3F0h+var_300]
push edx ; int
lea eax, [esp+3F4h+var_300]
push eax ; void *
mov esi, 200h
call EncryptedMBR_Written_Disk_0
add esp, 8
test eax, eax
jz loc_404CE2

```

Original VBR BPB is replaced with the modified BPB.
Modified VBR is RC4 encrypted and written into disk

(1.8 Boot Sector BIOS Parameter Block updated)

00B62B70	EB 52 90 4E	54 46 53 20	20 20 20 00	02 08 00 00	èrNTFS
00B62B80	00 00 00 00	00 F8 00 00	3F 00 FF 00	3F AA AA AA	
00B62B90	00 00 00 00	80 00 00 00	13 AC FF 00	00 00 00 00	Original
00B62BA0	00 00 0C 00	00 00 00 00	C1 FA 0F 00	00 00 00 00	
00B62BB0	F6 00 00 00	01 00 00 00	B1 D7 D3 CC	F3 D3 CC CA	
00B62BC0	00 00 00 00	FA 33 C0 8E	D0 BC 00 7C	FB B8 C0 07	
00B62B70	EB 52 90 4E	54 46 53 20	20 20 20 00	02 08 00 00	èrNTFS
00B62B80	00 00 00 00	00 F8 00 00	3F 00 FF 00	53 AC FF 00	
00B62B90	00 00 00 00	80 00 80 00	9C 53 00 00	00 00 00 00	Modified BPB
00B62BA0	39 05 00 00	00 00 00 00	AB 21 00 00	00 00 00 00	
00B62BB0	F6 00 00 00	01 00 00 00	84 BE EB D5	C7 8D 3E 12	Decryption key
00B62BC0	00 00 00 00	FA 33 C0 8E	D0 BC 00 7C	FB B8 C0 07	

Number of sectors in the partition

Used to identify the sector which contains primary configuration file

(1.9 code flow 3)

Now, all the resources of type "FILE" are searched in the module, transfers control to a callback function which writes them into the hidden filesystem and update information about each file or data which is saved into the hidden file system into the secondary configuration file as shown below:


```

push  0 ; lParam
push  offset EnumFunc ; lpEnumFunc
lea   edx, [esp+3F8h+var_360]
push  edx ; lpType
push  0 ; hModule
call  ds:EnumResourceNamesA

```

Load resources of type "File" and the callback function writes them into the hidden filesystem

(1.10 code flow 4)

The configuration file consists of a set of blocks. Each block is 0x20 bytes long. Primary configuration file has four blocks whereas the secondary file has fifteen blocks. Each block begins with 0x10 bytes long name which indicates type of data which is saved in the disk. It is followed by 4 bytes long element which helps in identifying the sector wherein data has been saved. This is followed by "Number of Sectors" and "Data Size" elements as shown below:

42 4B 46 53	00 02 00 02	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	BKFS.
AB 21 00 00	01 00 00 00	80 00 00 00	FE 7C 34 7E	<<!.. . . . p 4~
24 62 61 64	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	\$bad.
B7 21 00 00	0C 00 00 00	00 18 00 00	97 6B CA AB	?!.. . . . kE<<
24 62 69 74	6D 61 70 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	\$bitmap.
C3 21 00 00	0C 00 00 00	2E 00 00 00	EA BE 73 04	â!.. . . . %s
5C 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	\.
C6 21 00 00	03 00 00 00	E0 01 00 00	84 DF 5D 2E	æ!.. . . . à. . . .]

Primary configuration file
 Number of sectors
 Points to secondary file
 Size of data

Sector = 0x100000 - 21C6 - 1

6D 62 72 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	mbr.
C7 21 00 00	01 00 00 00	00 02 00 00	10 4F B3 52	Ç!.. . . . 00³R
76 62 72 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	vbr.
C8 21 00 00	01 00 00 00	00 02 00 00	5F C5 B2 17	Ê!.. . . . ã²
62 69 64 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	bid.
C9 21 00 00	01 00 00 00	25 00 00 00	9E 63 F4 A6	É!.. . . . %.. cô!
61 66 66 69	64 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	affid.
CA 21 00 00	01 00 00 00	04 00 00 00	6D D7 BF 7C	Ê!.. . . . m×;
62 6F 6F 74	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	boot.
CD 21 00 00	03 00 00 00	CF 05 00 00	E3 E5 83 CA	í!.. . . . ï. . . . 3ãÊ
63 6D 64 33	32 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	cmd32.
0D 22 00 00	40 00 00 00	00 80 00 00	82 2E 01 63	..@..c
63 6D 64 36	34 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	cmd64.
46 22 00 00	39 00 00 00	00 72 00 00	D2 DC 46 D8	F". r. . . . 0ÜF0
64 62 67 33	32 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	dbg32.
53 22 00 00	0D 00 00 00	00 1A 00 00	22 7F 74 24	S". "t\$
64 62 67 36	34 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	dbg64.
65 22 00 00	12 00 00 00	80 23 00 00	9C 10 E0 06	e". #. . . . à
64 72 76 33	32 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	dru32.
80 22 00 00	48 00 00 00	00 96 00 00	4B 31 47 53	°". K. . . . K1GS
64 72 76 36	34 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	dru64.
FB 22 00 00	48 00 00 00	00 96 00 00	4B 3A 60 05	û". K. . . . K:~
6C 64 72 33	32 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	ldr32.
07 23 00 00	0C 00 00 00	00 18 00 00	4C 6D 39 06	#. Lm9
6C 64 72 36	34 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	ldr64.
12 23 00 00	0B 00 00 00	00 16 00 00	F8 BE D6 B8	#. %0
6D 61 69 6E	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	main.
17 23 00 00	05 00 00 00	AD 09 00 00	35 EB 07 55	#. 5èU
73 75 62 69	64 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	subid.
18 23 00 00	01 00 00 00	08 00 00 00	BB 0F 22 ED	#. >"i

Secondary configuration file

The secondary configuration file is encrypted and saved into the hidden filesystem. Information about the sector where the secondary configuration file is saved with the number of sectors and data size is stored in the primary configuration file as shown in the above picture. Later the primary configuration file is encrypted, written to the disk and storage information is saved in the malicious VBR.

The malicious VBR is written into the first (0xFFAC53) and the last sectors (0xFFFFFE) of the partition.

EB 52 90 4E 54 46 53 20 20 20 20 00 02 00 00 00	dRÉNTFS
00 00 00 00 00 F8 00 00 3F 00 FF 00 53 AC FF 00°.?..S¼
00 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 9C 53 00 00 00 00 00 00Ç.Ç.ÉS.....
39 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 AB 21 00 00 00 00 00 00	9.....½?
F6 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 84 BE EB D5 C7 8D 3E 12	Decryption key

Indicates sector to be read

61 E3 02 EB C9 59 57 66 61 C3 F4 EB FD 5C 62 6F	ap.d+YWFa+(d²\bo
6F 74 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 55 AA	ot.....U-

Indicates which block to search in the loaded configuration file

42 48 46 53 00 02 00 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	BKFS.....
AB 21 00 00 01 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	½?.....Ç.....
24 62 61 64 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	\$bad.....
B7 21 00 00 0C 00 00 00 00 18 00 00 97 6B CA AB	+?...ùk-½
24 62 69 74 6D 61 70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	\$bitmap.....
C3 21 00 00 0C 00 00 00 2E 00 00 00 EA BE 73 04	+?...0+s.
5C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	\.....
C6 21 00 00 03 00 00 00 E0 01 00 00 84 DF 5D 2E	!?...a...ä]

Sector to be read

6D 62 72 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	mbr.....
C7 21 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 10 4F B3 52	!?...0 R
76 62 72 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	vbr.....
C8 21 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 5F C5 B2 17	+?..._+
62 69 64 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	bid.....
C9 21 00 00 01 00 00 00 25 00 00 00 9E 63 F4 A6	+?...%...Pc(è
61 66 66 69 64 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	affid.....
CA 21 00 00 01 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 6D D7 BF 7C	-?...m++
62 6F 6F 74 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	boot.....
CD 21 00 00 03 00 00 00 CF 05 00 00 E3 E5 83 CA	-?...psâ-
63 6D 64 33 32 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	cmd32.....
0D 22 00 00 40 00 00 00 00 80 00 00 82 2E 01 63	..."@...Ç...é...c
63 6D 64 36 34 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	cmd64.....
46 22 00 00 39 00 00 00 00 72 00 00 D2 DC 46 D8	F"...9...r..._F+
64 62 67 33 32 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	dbg32.....
53 22 00 00 0D 00 00 00 00 1A 00 00 22 7F 74 24	S"...t\$
64 62 67 36 34 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	dbg64.....

Primary configuration file

Secondary configuration file

(1.13 Picture shows how VBR decides what to load)

E3 0D 61 01 C7 20 03 77 FF 00 45 EB 10 44 4E 5F	p.a.)-we!Nd.AN
83 C4 0E 60 89 F	A4 61 â-.\è!+...YWFè-~na
E3 02 EB C9 59 57 66 61 C3 F4 EB FD 5C 6D 62 72	p.d+YWFa+(d\mbr
00 5C 64 62 67 33 32 00 5C 64 62 67 36 34 00 00	.\dbq32.\dbq64..

Blocks to be loaded:

- "\ " <=> Secondary configuration file
- "mbr" <=> Original MBR
- "dbg32" or "dbg64" (OS dependent) <=> Fake dcom.dll

(1.14 Picture shows how boot code decides what to load)

Interrupt Vector Table (IVT) Hook

Pointer to the Interrupt Service Routine (ISR) INT13h is replaced with an address which points to the malware's code.

```

mov     eax, ss:dword_4c      ; Real Mode IOT (Interrupt Vector Table) --> 0F000E3FEh
mov     dword_9ACC2, eax
mov     ax, cs                ; CS = 9AC0
shl     eax, 10h             ; EAX=F0009AC0
mov     ax, 005h ; ''
mov     ss:dword_4c, eax     ; EAX=9AC00005, SS:dword_4c=[IOTABLE:dword_4c] = 0F000E3FEh

```

Interrupt Vector Table hooked => INT13h ISR replaced

```

000 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 S .S .S .S .S =
010 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 S .S .S .S .S =
020 A5 FE 00 F0 87 E9 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 N! .çT. S .S .S .S =
030 53 FF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 57 EF 00 F0 53 FF 00 F0 S .S .S .Wn. S .S .S =
040 2C 01 00 C0 4D F8 00 F0 41 F8 00 F0 B5 00 C0 9A INT 13h Hooked
050 39 E7 00 F0 59 F8 00 F0 2E E8 00 F0 D2 EF 00 F0

9AC0:0000 FA 31 C0 8E D0 BC 00 7C FB 0E 1F 0E 07 66 60 88 -1+Ä--+|v....F`ê
9AC0:0010 16 FA 05 36 81 3E 00 7C EB 52 75 12 36 A1 38 7C .-.6ü>.|dRu.6í8|
9AC0:0020 A3 F8 05 36 66 A1 4C 7C 66 A3 F4 05 EB 19 36 A1 ú°.6fÍL|fú(.d.6í
9AC0:0030 B2 7D A3 F8 05 36 66 A1 B4 7D 66 A3 F4 05 66 31 !"Boot" block
9AC0:0040 DB 66 89 1E F0 05 B4 08 CD 13 B0 56 0F 82 69 05 |code loaded in
9AC0:0050 FE C6 88 36 D0 05 80 E1 3F 88 0E 01 05 C6 06 FC |memory which
9AC0:0060 05 1E B4 48 8A 16 FA 05 BE FC 05 CD 13 B0 50 0F |Hooks IVT
9AC0:0070 82 46 05 36 66 A1 4C 00 66 A3 C2 00 8C C8 66 C1 e|
9AC0:0080 E0 0 B8 B5 00 36 66 A3 4C 00 83 EC 0E 6A 10 89 a|(INT 13h)
9AC0:0090 E5 BE BC 05 B9 04 00 F0 C4 04 8B 4D 18 E8 D5 03 s
9AC0:00A0 53 07 BF 00 7C BE 3A 0B FC F3 A4 83 C4 10 66 61 S...|...n...a...
9AC0:00B0 06 68 00 7C CB 9C 80 FC 02 74 0B 80 FC 42 74 06 .h.|-Çñ.t.ÇñBt.
9AC0:00C0 9D EA FE E3 00 F0 2E 88 26 D2 05 2E A2 D3 05 2E INT 13h ISR addr
9AC0:00D0 89 0E D6 05 2E 88 36 D5 05 9D 9C 2E FF 1E C2 00 t

```

(1.15 Interrupt vector table hook installed)

INT13h hook checks which service is being requested. If the service doesn't involve sector read operation (function code: 02h and 42h), it calls the original INT13h handler and transfers the control back to the caller as shown below:

```

cmp     ah, 2                ; Function:02h --> Read Sectors From Drive
jz      short loc_9ACC6
cmp     ah, 42h ; 'B'       ; Function:42h --> Extended Read Sectors From Drive
jz      short loc_9ACC6
popf
; If the requested service is doesn't involve reading from
; sectors then call the INT13h Handler
; Otherwise, save register information first.
loc_9ACC1:
jmp     far ptr loc_0        ; INT13h Interrupt service Routine called

loc_9ACC6:
mov     cs:byte_9B1D2, ah    ; Function
mov     cs:byte_9B1D3, al    ; Sectors to read count
mov     cs:word_9B1D6, cx    ; Track & Sector
mov     cs:byte_9B1D5, dh    ; Head
popf
pushf
call    dword ptr cs:loc_9ACC1+1 | ; INT13h Interrupt Service Routine

```

(1.16 INT13h Services to monitor)

If the requested service involves sector read operation, it saves information like the number of sectors to read; sector number etc before calling the original INT13h handler. After reading the sector into memory, it checks if it matches either of the following conditions:

- PE Image with IMAGE_DIRECTORY_ENTRY_EXPORT.Size == 0xFA or 0x110
 - If it finds any module matching the above condition, it loads dbg32 or dbg64 (fake kdcom.dll) depending on the OS environment

- Check Boot Configuration Data (BCD) store for BcdLibraryBoolean_EmsEnabled [16000020]. If it is found, replace it with BcdOsLoaderBoolean_WinPEMode [26000022].

```

cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 4957534Dh ; "MSWI"
jz      short loc_9AE2D
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 4643534Dh ; "MSCF"
jnz     short PEFile
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+3Ch], 6F63646Bh ; "kdco"
jz      short loc_9AE2D

public PEFile
PEFile:
cmp     word ptr es:[bx], 5A4Dh ; DOS MZ Header
jnz     short loc_9AEAC
mov     di, es:[bx+3Ch]
cmp     word ptr es:[bx+di], 4550h ; PE Signature
jnz     short loc_9AEAC
cmp     word ptr es:[bx+di+18h], 100h ; Magic
jnz     short Check_Export_DataDirectory_Size
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+di+7Ch], 0FAh ; '-' ; EXPORT_DATA_DIRECTORY.Size
jnz     short loc_9AEAC
mov     byte 9B1D4, cl
mov     si, 5C1h
mov     cx, 6
jmp     short loc_9AEB5

Loaded module with
Export_DATA_DIRECTORY size =
0xFA or 0x110 is checked.

public Check_Export_DataDirectory_Size
Check_Export_DataDirectory_Size:
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+di+8Ch], 0FAh ; '-' ; EXPORT_DATA_DIRECTORY.Size
jz      short loc_9AEA0
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+di+8Ch], 110h ; EXPORT_DATA_DIRECTORY.Size
jnz     short loc_9AEAC

```

(1.17 Check module with IMAGE_DIRECTORY_ENTRY_EXPORT size = 0xFA or 0x110)

```

cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 30303631h ; 1600
jnz     short loc_9AFB9
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+4], 30323030h ; 0020 => BcdLibraryBoolean_EmsEnabled = 0x16000020
jnz     short loc_9AFB9
mov     dword ptr es:[bx], 30303632h ; 2600
mov     dword ptr es:[bx+4], 32323030h ; 0022 => BcdOsLoaderBoolean_WinPEMode = 0x26000022

loc_9AFB9:
Windows Preinstallation Environment

cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 1666Ch
jnz     short loc_9AFD7
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+8], 30303631h ; 1600
jnz     short loc_9AFD7
mov     dword ptr es:[bx+8], 30303632h ; 2600

loc_9AFD7:
|
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 4E494D2Fh ; "/MIN"
jnz     short loc_9AFE9
mov     dword ptr es:[bx], 4D2F4E49h ; "IN/M"

loc_9AFE9:
cmp     dword_9B1F0, 0
jnz     short loc_9B00B
cmp     byte ptr es:[bx], 0BFh
jnz     short loc_9B00B
cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+1], 0C0000428h
jnz     short loc_9B00B
mov     dword ptr es:[bx+1], 0C428h

```

(1.18 Windows Pre-installation Environment)

After installing Interrupt Vector Table hook, it again reads sectors containing primary and secondary configuration file. Then it looks for a block named "mbr" in the secondary configuration file which contains original MBR.

Now the original MBR gets control, it loads the VBR and transfers control to it. VBR boot code loads the bootstrap code (0xF Sectors following the VBR). It first loads itself at address 0D00:0000, then following 0xF sectors are loaded in the successive memory addresses. Once all the sectors have been loaded, it transfers control to the bootstrap code as shown below:

```
BOOT_SECTOR:7C74 ; -----  
BOOT_SECTOR:7C74 push    0000h  
BOOT_SECTOR:7C77 push    26Ah  
BOOT_SECTOR:7C7A retf
```

(1.19 Control transferred to bootstrap code)

Bootstrap code read contents from the root drive, loads NTLDR at address 2000:0000h and transfers control to the NTLDR.

```
debug004:0485 push    2000h  
debug004:0488 push    ax  
debug004:0489 retf
```

(1.20 Control transferred to NTLDR)

NTLDR contains an embedded PE file (osloader.exe) which loads the Windows system files (starting with the ntoskrnl.exe, its dependencies (HAL.dll, bootvid.dll, and kdcom.dll), SYSTEM hive, and the boot drivers) into memory.

osloader.exe mostly executes in protected mode, but for input/output operation it depends on the BIOS services. So it keeps switching between real and protected mode.

Since the size of kdcom.dll's EXPORT_DATA_DIRECTORY is 0xFA. As soon as kdcom.dll is loaded, INT13h hook loads fake kdcom.dll (dbg32 or dbg64) into memory, updates checksum and replaces the original kdcom.dll with the fake kdcom.dll as shown below. Control is then transferred back to the osloader.exe

kdcom.dll				
Member	Offset	Size	Value	Section
Export Directory RVA	00000150	Dword	00001300	.edata
Export Directory Size	00000154	Dword	000000FA	

(1.21 kdcom.dll IMAGE_DIRECTORY_ENTRY_EXPORT.Size = 0xFA)

- Reboot the system in safe mode and log in as the Administrator user.

Execute the CSSCAN command line tool using the Beta DATs to remove any Trojan or infected file from the system:

- **VSE 8.7**
"C:\Program Files\McAfee\VirusScan Enterprise\csscan.exe" -All -Unzip -Program -Analyze -Sub -Clean -Log c:\scan-rpt.txt C:\
- **VSE 8.8**
"C:\Program Files\Common Files\McAfee\SystemCore\csscan.exe" -All -Unzip -Program -Analyze -Sub -Clean -Log c:\scan-rpt.txt C:\
- **Other McAfee product users**
Please use the following [Stinger](#) standalone tool.

To use the Stinger tool, please make sure the targets "Processes" and "Registry" are disabled and the interface "List of all files scanned" is enabled in the stinger before scanning the infected machine.

- Read more about using the Stinger tool [here](#).
- Reboot the system normally.
- Run GMER again to confirm that no malicious threads of patched files exist anymore.

Restart Mechanism

The malware restarts by randomly infecting a system driver (usually located in %windir%/system32/drivers). This particular variant mostly infects the file VOLSnap.SYS

Getting Help from the McAfee Foundstone Services team

This document is intended to provide a summary of current intelligence and best practices to ensure the highest level of protection from your McAfee security solution. The McAfee Foundstone Services team offers a full range of strategic and technical consulting services that can further help to ensure you identify security risk and build effective solutions to remediate security vulnerabilities.

You can reach them here: <https://secure.mcafee.com/apps/services/services-contact.aspx>