A Technical Look At Dyreza

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In a <u>previous post</u> we presented unpacking 2 payloads delivered in a spam campaign. A malicious duet – **Upatre** (malware downloader) and **Dyreza** (credential stealer). In this post we will take a look at the core of **Dyreza** – and techniques that it uses.

Note, that Dyreza is a complex piece of malware and various samples come with various techniques – however, the main features remain common.

Analyzed samples

<u>ff3d706015b7b142ee0a8f0ad7ea2911</u> – **Dyreza** executable- a persistent botnet agent, carring DLLs with the core malicious activities

- <u>5a0e393031eb2accc914c1c832993d0b</u> Dyreza DLL (32bit)
- <u>91b62d1380b73baea53a50d02c88a5c6</u> Dyreza DLL (64 bit)

Behavioral analysis

When Dyreza starts to infect the computer – it spreads like fire. Observing it in Process Explorer, we can see many new processes appearing and disappearing. As we can notice, it deploys *explorer*, *svchost*, *taskeng*... All this is done in order to obfuscate the flow of execution, in hopes of confusing analyst.

2 copies of the malicious file are dropped – in C:\Windows and %APPDATA% – under pseudo-random names, matching the regex: [a-zA-Z]{15}.exe , i.e vfHNLkMCYaxBGFy.exe

That persistence is achieved by adding a new task in the task scheduler – it deploys the malicious sample after every minute, to ensure that it keeps running.

tive Tasks			
Active tasks are tasks that are o	urrently enabled and have not e	xpired.	
ummary: 33 total			
Task Name	Next Run Time	Triggers	Location
vfHNLkMCYaxBGFy	2015-10-15 18:00:00	At 17:55 on 2015-10-15 - After triggered, repeat every 00:01:00 indefinitely.	Λ
RacTask	2015-10-15 18:12:31	Multiple triggers defined	\Microsoft\Windows\RAC
SR	2015-10-16 00:00:00	Multiple triggers defined	\Microsoft\Windows\Syste
	2015-10-16 00:30:00	At 00:30 every day	\Microsoft\Windows\Appli
ProgramDataUpdater	2013-10-10 00:30:00		

Code injected into other processes (*svchost*, *explorer*) communicates with the C&C:

 Knon-existent> svchost.exe svchost.exe 	3160 600 600		TCP TCP TCP	testmachin testmachin testmachin	e 4918	3	141.8.220 83.241.17 83.241.17	76.230	http 4443 4443	C	LOSE_WAIT LOSE_WAIT LOSE_WAIT
Process	PID	Protocol	Local	Remote Address	Remote Port	State	Se	∇	Sent Bytes	Rovd Pa	Rovd B
System svchost.exe	4 1448	UDP UDP	netbios-ns 52678	×	×			2 070 16	103 932 15 848		96 882
explorer.exe	392 392	TCP TCP	49679 49680	197.231.198.234 197.231.198.234	4443 4443	CLOSE_WAIT		3	579 579	6	1 745 1 729

Checking on <u>VirusTotal</u> we can confirm, that contacted servers have been reported as malicious:

- 141.8.226.14 -> <u>https://www.virustotal.com/en/ip-address/141.8.226.14/information/</u>
- 83.241.176.230 -> <u>https://www.virustotal.com/en/ip-address/83.241.176.230/information/</u>
- 197.231.198.234 -> <u>https://www.virustotal.com/en/ip-address/197.231.198.234/information/</u>

When we deploy any web browser, it directly injects the code into its process and deploys illegitimate connections. It is the way to keep in touch with the C&C, monitor user's activity and steal credentials.

We can also see files created in a TEMP folder that are serving as a small database, where Dyreza stores information, before they are sent to the C&C.

Inside the code

Main executable

Dyreza doesn't start on a machine that has less than 2 processors. This technique is used as a defense, preventing file from running on VM. It is based on the observation that VM usually have only one processor – in contrast to most physical machines used nowadays. It is implemented by checking appropriate field in <u>PEB (Process Environment Block)</u>, that is pointed by <u>FS:[30]</u>. Infection continues only if the condition is satisfied.



At the beginning of execution, malware loads additional import table into a newly allocated memory page. Names of modules and functions are decrypted at runtime.

It checks, if it is deployed under debugger – using function *LookupPrivilegeValue* with argument *SeDebugPrivilege* – if it returns non-zero value, execution is terminated.

01301001	1013	
013D1890	PUSH EBP	
013D1891 013D1893	MOV EBP,ESP SUB ESP,0x4C	
013D1893	PUSH ESI	
013D1897	MOV ESI.[ARG.1]	
013D189A .	MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+0x20]	kernel32.GetCurrentProcess
013D189D 013D189E	PUSH EDÌ LEA EAX, <mark>[ARG.1]</mark>	
013D189E	PUSH EAX	
013D18A2	PUSH 0x20	
013D18A4 .	XOR EDI,EDI	
013D18A6 . 013D18A8 .	CALL ECX	advapi32.LookupPrivilegeValueW advapi32.OpenProcessToken
013D18A8 .	MOV EDX,DWORD PTR DS:[ESI] PUSH EAX	advapt52.0penFrocessToken
013D18AB	CALL EDX	
013D18AD .	TEST EAX,EAX	
013D18AF .~ 013D18B1 .	JE SHORT VEHNLKMC.013D18FE	vfHNLkMC.013D3C80
013D18B7	MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+0x174] LEA EAX, [LOCAL.19]	OF HALKAC.013D3C00
013D18BA	PUSH EAX	
013D18BB .	PUSH EDI	
013D18BC .	CALL ECX	advapi32.LookupPrivilegeValueW advapi32.LookupPrivilegeValueW
013D186E	MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+0x50] ADD ESP, 0x8	advaptsz.Lookupertottegevatuew
013D18C4 .	LEA EDX, [LOCAL.3]	
013D18C7 .	PUSH EDX	
013D18C8 .	LEA EAX, <mark>[LOCAL.19]</mark> PUSH EAX	
013D18CB .	PUSH EDI	
013D18CD	MOV [LOCAL.4],0x1	
013D18D4 .	CALL ECX	advapi32.LookupPrivilegeValueW
013D18D6 .~	TEST EAX,EAX JE SHORT vfHNLkMC.013D18F5	
013D18D8 .~ 013D18DA .	MOU EAX. [ARG. 1]	
013D18DD .	MOV EAX, [ARG.1] MOV ECX, DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+0x54]	advapi32.AdjustTokenPrivileges
013D18E0 .	PUSH EDI	
013D18E1	PUSH EDI	
<		
	<pre>]=7620CDCF (kernel32.GetCurrentProcess)</pre>	
ECX=761341B3	(advapi32.LookupPrivilegeValueW)	
001CF8F0	313D18D6 CALL to LookupPrivilegeValueW	from vfHNLkMC.013D18D4
- 001CF8F4 0	30000000 SystemName = NULL	
001CF8F8 0	001CF908 Privilege = "SeDebugPrivilege"	,,
	201СF948 ⊾рLocalId = 001СF948	

Valid execution follows few alternative paths. Decision, by which path of to follow is made based on the initial conditions – like, executable path and arguments with which the program was run. When it is deployed for the first time (from a random location), it make its own copy into *C:\Windows* and **%APPDATA%** and deploy the copy as a new process. As an argument to a deployed copy (from C:\Windows) it passes a path to the other copy.

If it is deployed from the valid path and the initial argument passed validation, it performs another check – verifying if it is deployed for the first time. It is achieved by creating a specific Global mutex (it's name is a hash of Computer name and OS Version – fetched by functions: *GetComputerName*, *RtlGetVersion*).

If this condition is also satisfied and mutex already exist, then it follows the main path, deploying the malicious code. First, the encrypted data and the key are loaded from the executable's resources.

a 📁 RCData	0000453C	42	EE	95	19	03	C5	97	B0	E3	3A	79	02	9A	8D	12	12	
👾 🙀 T1RY615NR : 1033	0000454C	EE	A 8	38	8B	C1	E4	B0	02	E7	85	12	12	42	38	5E	C5	
😭 UZGN53WMY : 1033	0000455C	EE	4C	3D	EE	F1	12	38	83	45	D5	12	12	EE	4C	79	E3	
🖳 🏫 YS43H26GT : 1033	0000456C	83	8C	D5	12	12	EE	4C	6A	02	45	8D	12	12	38	83	65	
🔺 📁 Manifest	0000457C																	
🛄 🙀 1 : 1033	0000458C																	
	0000459C	12	45	CA	7D	Ε4	52	1C	68	C6	71	71	52	CA	DA	DA	12	
	000045AC	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	
	000045BC																	
	000045CC	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	
T1RY615NR – encrypted 32 bit code, UZGN53WMY – the key, YS45H26GT – encrypted 64bit code																		

Unpacking:

8.0	
🗶 Kerne	IMode - vfHNLkMCYaxBGFy.exe - [*G.P.U* - main thread, module vfHNLk
C File	View Debug Plugins Options Window Help
Paused	
01152282 01152284 01152289 01152299 01152299 01152299 01152290 01152290 01152290 01152240 01152240 01152247 01152247	. 85F6 JLE SHORT y+HNLkMC.011522A2 . 8845 08 JLE SHORT y+HNLkMC.011522A2 . 8845 08 JLE SHORT y+HNLkMC.011522A2 . 80A424 00000000 JLEA ESP, DWORD PTR SS:[ESP] > 06FB610 MOV EAX, EXX, EVTE PTR DS:[EAX] . 8810 MOV DL, BYTE PTR DS:[EBP+EDX=0x100] . 49 MOV BYTE PTR DS:[EAX] . 40 INC EAX TEST ECX, ECX . 35C9 JE SHORT vfHNLkMC.01152290 . A8 MOV EAX, 0x1 POP ESI . SE MOV ESP, EBP POP ESI . SD POP EBP RETN
•	
EBP=0013 ESP=0013	
Address	Hex dump ASCII

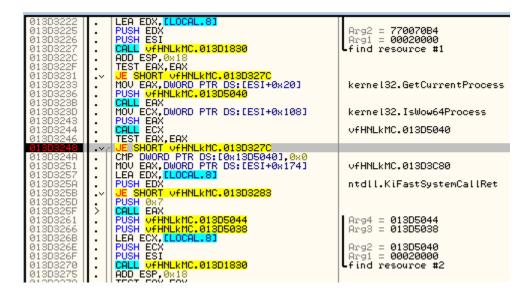
The unpacking algorithm is pretty simple – *key_data* contains values and *data* – list of indexes of the values in *key_data*. We process the list of indexes and read the corresponding values:

```
def decode(data, key_data):
    decoded = bytearray()
    for i in range(0, len(data)):
        val_index = data[i]
        decoded.append(key_data[val_index])
    return decoded
```

This script decrypts dumped resources:

```
https://github.com/hasherezade/malware_analysis/blob/master/dyreza/dyreza_decoder.py
```

The revealed content contains a shellcode to be injected and a a DLL with malicious functions (32 or 64 bit appropriately). The main sample chooses which one to unpack and deploy, by checking if it is running via WOW64 (emulation for 32 bit on 64 bit machine) – calling function *IsWow64Process*.



Malicious DLL (core)

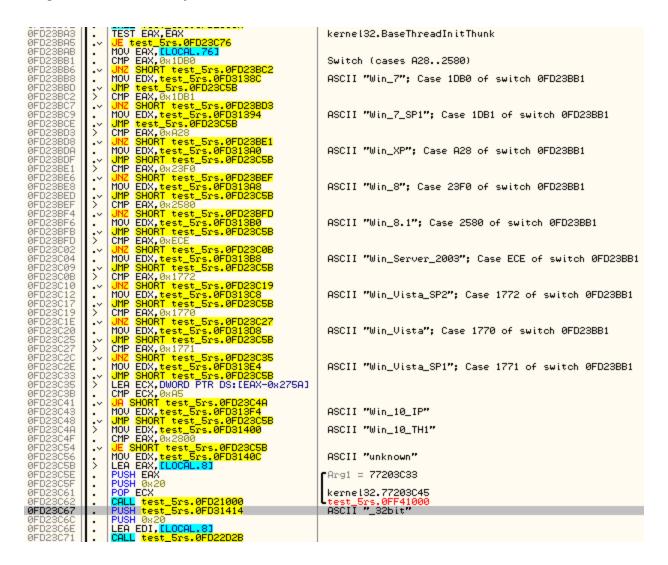
At this stage, functionality of the malware becomes pretty clear. The DLL does not contain much obfuscation – it has clear strings and a typical import table.

We can see the strings that are used for communication with the C&C:

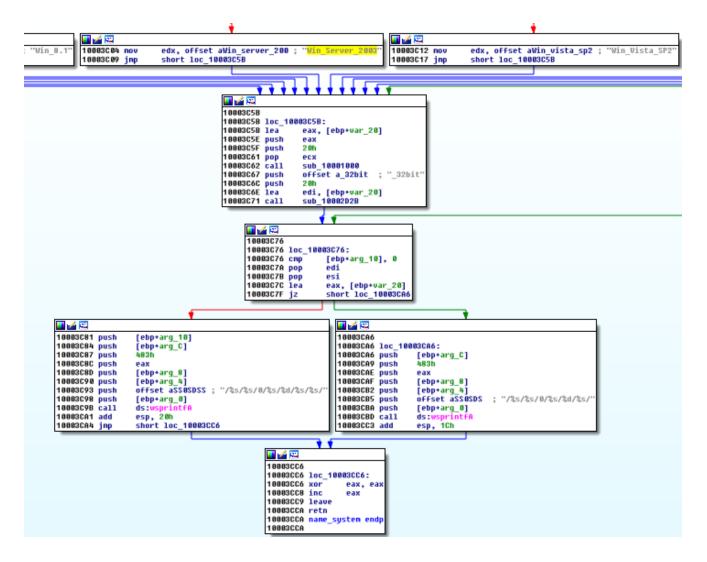
Address	Length	Туре	String
's' .rdata:10011804	0000034	С	\r\n%s\r\nContent-Disposition: form-data; name=\"%s\"\r\n
's' .rdata:10011838	000000F	С	Content-Type:
's' .rdata:10011848	0000005	С	\r\n\r\n
's' .rdata:10011850	0000009	С	\r\n%s
s .rdata:1001185C	0000002D	С	Content-Type: multipart/form-data; boundary=
's' .rdata:1001188C	00000011	С	Content-Length:
s .rdata:100118A0	0000030	С	\r\nAccept: text/html\r\nConnection: Keep-Alive\r\n\r\n
s .rdata:100118D0	0000065	С	Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/41.0.2228.0 Sa
's' .rdata:10011938	0000005	С	POST
s'.rdata:10012220	00000041	С	%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X%02X
's' .rdata:10012264	000000E	С	%s_W%d%d%d.%s
's' .rdata:10012274	0000006	С	botid
s .rdata:1001227C	0000005	С	btid
's' .rdata:10012284	0000005	С	ccsr
's' .rdata:1001228C	0000005	С	dpsr
's' .rdata:10012294	0000005	С	btnt
s .rdata:1001229C	0000005	С	slip
's' .rdata:100122A4	000000C	С	***EMPTY***
s .rdata:100122B0	80000008	С	success
s .rdata:100122B8	000000D	С	browsnapshot
's' .rdata:100122C8	0000009	С	ponydata
's' .rdata:100122D4	A000000	С	ntImhashs
's' .rdata:100122E0	000000B	С	Code60Stat
's' .rdata:100122EC	A000000	С	sourceexe
's' .rdata:100122F8	80000008	С	httprdc
's' .rdata:10012300	A000000A	С	0.0.0.0:0
's' .rdata:1001230C	000000B	С	respparser
's' .rdata:10012318	80000008	С	httprex
's' .rdata:10012344	0000006	С	dpsrv
's' .rdata:1001234C	0000009	С	datapost

Both – 32 and 64 bit DLLs have analogical functionality. Only architecture-related elements and strings are different.

The agent identifies the system:



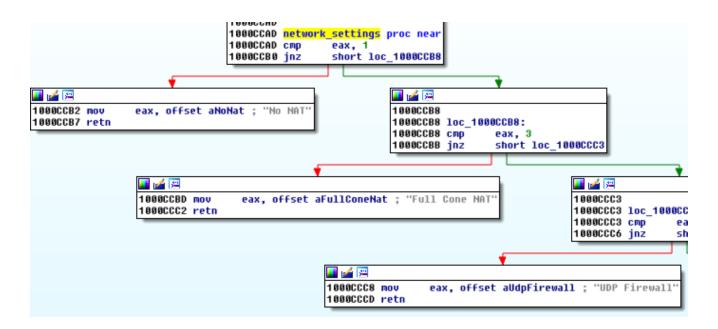
and then – include this data in information sent to the C&C:



Similar procedure is present in the 64 bit version of the DLL, only the hardcoded string "_32bit" is substituted by "_64bit":

	•
💶 🚄 🖭	
0000000180005568 lea	r8, a 64bit ; " 64bit"
000000018000556F lea	<pre>rcx, [r9+rdx+7FFFFFFFF]</pre>
0000000180005577 sub	r8, rax
000000018000557A nop	word ptr [rax+rax+00h]

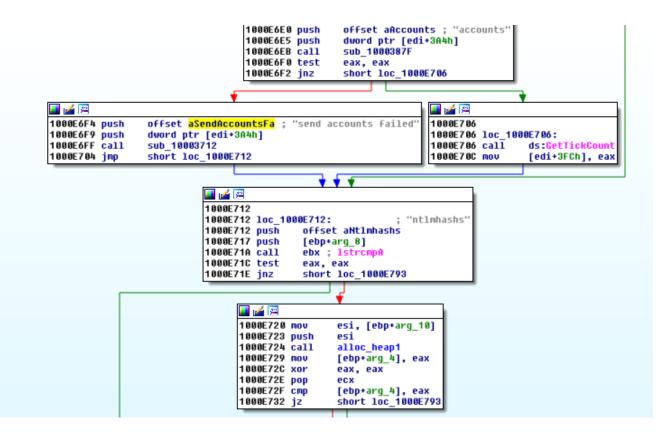
Also, network settings are examined (to verify and inform the C&C whether the client can establish back connection – command : AUTOBACKCONN)



It targets following browsers:

			.
)F9C024F	. 8B35 04129C0F	MOV ESI,DWORD PTR DS:E<&SHLWAPI.StrStrIW] shlwapi.StrStrIW
)F9C0255	68 442D9C0E	PUSH test_5rs.0F9C2D44	Pattern = "chrome.exe"
3F9C025A	. 68 <u>442D9C0F</u> . 57		String = NULL
		PUSH EDI	String = MULL
)F9C025B	Ⅰ. C745 FC 01000000	MOV ELOCAL.13.0x1	
)F9C0262	. FFD6	CALL ESI	StrStrIW
)F9C0264	. 8500	TEST EAX.EAX	
)F9C0266	.~ 75 24	UNZ SHORT test_5rs.0F9C028C	
)F9C0268	. 68 <u>5C2D9C0F</u>	PUSH test_5rs.0F9C2D5C	<pre>Pattern = "firefox.exe"</pre>
)F9C026D	. 68 <u>5C2D9C0F</u> . 57	PUSH EDI	String = NULL
F9C026E	FFD6	CALL ESI	StrStrIW
			-30130110
)F9C0270	. 8500	TEST EAX,EAX	
)F9C0272	.~ 75 18	JNZ SHORT test_5rs.0F9C028C	
)F9C0274	. 68 <u>742D9C0F</u> . 57	PUSH test_5rs.0F9C2D74	Pattern = "iexplore.exe" String = NULL
)F9C0279	. 57	PUSH EDI	String = NULL
F9C027A	FFD6	CALL ESI	StrStrIM
)F9C027C	. 8500	TEST EAX.EAX	
)F9C027E	.∨ 75 0C	UNZ SHORT test_5rs.0F9C028C	
)F9C0280	. 68 <u>902D9C0F</u>	PUSH test_5rs.0F9C2D90	Pattern = "microsoftedge" String = NULL
F9C0285	. 57	PUSH EDI	String - NULL
			Chu Chu Th
)F9C0286	• FFD6	CALL ESI	StrStrIW
SECURATOR	0500	TECT ENV ENV	1

Below – attempt to send stolen account credentials:



In addition to monitoring browsers, it also collects general information about the computer (it's hardware, users, programs and services) – in form of a report:



The malware not only steal information and sniff user's browsing, but also tries to take a full control over the system – executes various shell commands – system shutdown,etc. Some examples below:

100083A1 push offset a1qazxsw2 ; "1qazxsw2" 100083A6 push [ebp+arg_0] 100083A9 lea eax, [ebp+var_234] offset aUserSSAdd ; "user %s %s /add" 100083AF push 100083B4 xor edi, edi 100083B6 push eax 100083B7 mov [ebp+var_C], edi 100083BA call esi ; wsprintfW 100083BC add esp, 10h 100083BF push edi 100083C0 push edi 100083C1 lea eax, [ebp+var_234] 100083C7 push eax 100083C8 push offset aNet ; "net" 100083CD mov ebx, offset a0pen ; "open" 100083D2 push ebx 100083D3 push edi 100083D4 mov edi, ds:ShellExecuteW 100083DA call edi ; ShellExecuteV 100083DC push 3A98h 100083E1 call ds:Sleep 100083E7 lea eax, [ebp+var_10] 100083EA push eax 100083EB lea eax, [ebp+var_434] 100083F1 push eax 100083F2 nov [ebp+var_10], 100h 100083F9 call sub_10008386 100083FE pop ecx 100083FF pop ecx 10008400 test eax, eax 10008402 jnz short loc_1000841A 🗾 🚄 🔛 10008404 lea eax, [ebp+var_434] 1000840A push eax edx, offset aAdministrators ; "Administrators" 10008408 nov eax, 200h sub_10004F23 10008410 nov 10008415 call 🚺 🚄 🔛 1000841A 1000841A loc 1000841A: 1000841A push [ebp+arg_0] 1000841D lea eax, [ebp+var_434] 10008423 push eax 10008424 lea eax, [ebp+var_234] offset aLocalgroupSSAd ; "localgroup %s %s /add" 1000842A push ARAPHOE Duch Trying to add a user with administrative privileges 10005856 call adjust_shutdown_priviledges 1000585B xor eax, eax 1000585D push eax 1000585E push eax 1000585F push offset aRFT5 ; "/r /f /t 5" offset aCWindowsSystem ; "C:\\windows\\system32\\shutdown.exe"
offset aOpen ; "open" 10005864 push 10005869 push 1000586E push eax 1000586F call ds:ShellExecuteW 10005875 xor eax, eax 10005877 retn Shutdown system on command (AUTOKILLOS)

This botnet is prepared with great care. Not only communication is encrypted, but also many countermeasures have been taken in order to prevent detection.

First of all, the address of the C&C is randomly picked from a hard-coded pool. This pool is stored in one of the resources of Dyreza DLL (AES encrypted). Below, we can see how it gets decrypted, during execution of the payload:

0F7783D4 0F7783DR 0F7783DE 0F7783DE 0F7783DE 0F7783E2 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783E5 0F7783D4 0F77783D4 0F777783D4 0F777783D4 0F77783D4 0F77783D4 0F77783D4 0F77783D4 0F777783D4 0F777850 0F77783D4 0F777850 0F777850 0F777850 0F777850 0F777850 0F777850 0F77780	FF15 2013780F S5C0 TEST EAX,EAX 75 4B S6 FF75 14 FF75 14 FF75 14 FF75 10 FF75 18 FF75 8 FF15 0813780F CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&boryp test test	9	borypt.BCryptCreateHash borypt.BCryptHashData
Address	Hex_dump	ASCII	
0183A8CC 0183A8EC 0183A8EC 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A94C 0183A4C 0183A4C 0183A4C 0183A4C 0183A4C 0183A4C	2A FF 85 9E 08 90 31 31 30 75 73 31 32 CB 03 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 33 90 131 35 36 2E 31 35 36 31 32 35 34 34 34 34 34 34 34 33 90 0A 31 35 36 2E 31 35 30 0D 0A 31 35 31 31 37 32 22 31 34 33	206.116.171.216: 443206.123.60. 93:4443212.109 .179.197:44321 6.57.165.182:443 .69.27.57.164:4 44383.241.176. 230:4443109.86 .226.85:443150 .129.49.139:443. .173.185.166.94: 4443176.120.20	

(A script for decrypting list of C&Cs from dumped resources is available here: <u>https://github.com/hasherezade/malware_analysis/blob/master/dyreza/dyrezadll_decoder.py</u>)

Also, the certificate served by a particular C&C changes on each connection. The infrastructure is built on the network of compromised WiFi routers (most often: *AirOS*, *MicroTik*).

The server receives encrypted connection on port 443 (standard HTTPS) or 4443 (in case if standard HTTPS port of a particular router is occupied by a legitimate service).

Conclusion

Dyreza is an eclectic malware, developed by professionals. It is clear that they are constantly working on a quality – each new version carries some new ideas and improvements, making analysis harder.

Appendix

- Very good Dyreza/Upatre tracker: <u>https://techhelplist.com/maltlqr/</u> by <u>@Techhelplistcom</u> (list of C&Cs from the current sample: <u>https://techhelplist.com/maltlqr/reports/01oct-20oct-status.txt</u>)
- Scripts used in this post: <u>https://github.com/hasherezade/malware_analysis/tree/master/dyreza</u>