Research: The golden time to prevent malicious code after the system is compromised

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According to a statistic conducted by international cybersecurity company FireEye regarding major ransomware attacks taking place between 2017 and 2019, most ransomware is often deployed. days after a hacker successfully enters an organization's network. In addition, in 75% of ransomware incidents reported by FireEye, the attackers strategically delayed the encryption of the victim's system and took advantage of this time to steal Domain Admin login credentials - data whether they can later be used to distribute ransomware payloads on a larger scale of compromised environments.

Recently, ransomware-spreading malicious agents have also started deploying tactics to collect and exploit victims' data, then use them as leverage to force them to pay ransom with the threat of information leakage. The information is stolen, making the recovery much more difficult. However, this strategy also exists loopholes.

There was enough time to establish a defense

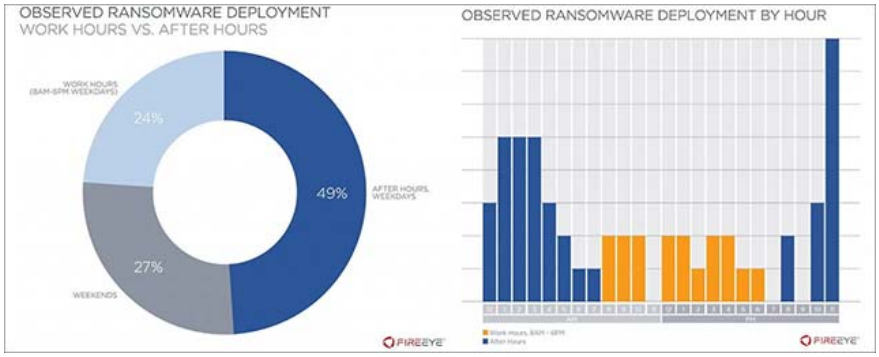
As mentioned, ransomware miners usually deploy malicious payloads after at least 3 days, in 75% of all ransomware incidents that FireEye investigates, so this is also considered a golden time for organizations. deploying preventive measures, helping minimize the possible damage. It is even possible to prevent ransomware deployment if the organization's cybersecurity team has sufficient knowledge and level of security to deal with the same security.

In some successful containment cases, it was discovered that ransomware payloads were pushed into the victim's system, but could not be deployed as usual.

Basically to hack into a victim's network, ransomware exploiters often use some methods like RDP (in the case of LockerGoga malware), phishing emails with malicious links or attachments. (Ryuk) and download malware (Bitpaymer and DoppelPaymer) as original vectors of infection.

The moment the malware was deployed

According to information that the FireEye team pointed out, in most cases (76%) ransomware started encrypting data on victims' systems outside office hours, specifically "on weekends or before 8:00 am / 6:00 pm every weekday, "and may change flexibly according to the victim's schedule.



This tactic allows an attacker to avoid the scanning operations of the system security team, ensuring that incident response measures will not be implemented in time to prevent the attack.

In order to protect the system against ransomware attacks according to the above motif, FireEye recommends that organizations block the infection vector by implementing multi-factor authentication measures, planning a test. regular systems, and using security solutions and email systems capable of detecting common malware strains like Trickbot, Emotet and Dridex.

In addition, organizations should implement network segmentation techniques, regular backups, restrict local administrators, use unique passwords, and especially improve security knowledge. Secret of system personnel.