

push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 edx. [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea push edx sub_672B35F0 call edi. off 672CA058 mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb **Rustock**.C not edi, ecx mov When a myth comes true mov lea push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea Frank Boldewin edx. push edx sub_672B35F0 Hack.Lu 2008 call mov edi [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not edi. ecx edi mov



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Agenda short loc_672B5428 [esp+110h+LibFileName] push The family's history mov How the myth started rolling The hunt for answers The loader mov mov The beast itself Protection layers Inside the rootkit call add The botnet user mode code test inz Lessons learned 672B35F0 cal mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] lea edx. repne scasb not edi mov



push mov not sub mov lea pus cal test push ed mov repne scasb not

The family's history

Rustock aka Spambot is able to send spam emails and always used top notch rootkit techniques to hide its tracks

First version (Rustock.A) appeared in Nov 2005, followed by Rustock.B in July 2006

Code maintained probably only by one Russian guy, who is known as "pe386" or "ntldr" in the underground

From a reverse engineers point of view, this malware family was always a challenging task and with every evolution step also the degree of analyzing difficulty increased

jnz short loc_672B5428 lea edx, [esp+110h+LibFileName] push edx call sub_672B35F0 mov edi, off_672CA058 or ecx, 0FFFFFFFh xor eax, eax lea edx, [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb | not ecx sub edi, ecx mov esi, edi mov ebx. ecx



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 edx. [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea edx push sub_672B35F0 call edi, off_672CA058 mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] How the myth started rolling mov ecx mov loc_672B5455 [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea push sub_672B3730 call test lea edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not esi, edi mov mov



not sub mov

mov

pus

mov

not

mov

nov

How the myth started rolling

hort loc_672B5428 dx, [esp+110h+LibFileName

In Oct 2007 some people reported that a new Rustock version was seen in the wild

- Unfortunately nobody was able to prove this assertion, because of lack of a sample
- After some weeks without success in hunting, most people in the AV-industry claimed it to be myth...

At least for 8 months. However in May 2008 the AVcompany Dr. Web released a small article, giving a few details about the inner workings of Rustock.c as well as a snapshot showing a .pdb string

COX															
0010:85D491EB	ŌŌ	ōž ē	āā āi	ā ÖÖ	50	ŌŌ	00-00	ĒĈ	$\overline{3}\overline{1}$	ŌŌ	ŌÒ	ĒĒ	Ø9	ŌŌ	P1
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0010:85D4920B	40	58 2	2C 61	E 7E	03	00	00-00	5A	3A	5C	4E	65	77	50	@X,n~Z:\NewP
0010:85D4921B	72	6F 6	5A 6:	563	74	73	5C-73	70	61	6D	62	6F	74	5C	rojects\spambot\
0010:85D4922B	72	75 7	73 74	16F	63	6 B	2E-63	5C	64	72	69	76	65	72	rustock.c\driver
0010:85D4923B	5C	61 7	73 6)	D 5F	5C	64	72-69	76	65	72	2E	70	64	62	\asm_\driver.pdb'
ecx															
edi, ecx															



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea push edx sub_672B35F0 call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not The hunt for answers mov ecx mov loc_672B5455 [esp+110h+LibFileName] push sub_672B3730 call test [esp+110h+LibFileName] edx. lea edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not edi, ecx esi, edi mov mov



mov

not sub mov

mov

add

mov

mov

mov

test

The hunt for answers short loc 672B5428 After some further days a few samples of Rustock.C made the rounds and everyone in the industry started analyzing it Unfortunately these samples crashed with a BSOD on every box, right after starting the driver (We will see later why) Further an unanswered question was its way of infection as well as... Where is the dropper code? With help of BFK's huge malware DB it was easy to answer the question for the dropper and its infection way

Recorded traffic revealed that Rustock.C spread through the Iframe-Cash network aka Russian Business Network

ecx. x, eax x, [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scas ecx



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 edx, [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not The loader edi mov ecx mov loc_672B5455 lea push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea edx push sub_672B35F0 mov edx. repne scasb not sub edi, ecx esi, edi mov mov



ca.

mov

mov

Loader code protector properties Spaghetti-code with polymorphic jumps, e.g. mov MOV EDI, offset_18030 / ADD EDI, 0F2F25958h / JMP EDI MOV ECX, 0E3242A4h / JMP DWORD PTR [ECX-0E30C17Ch] MOV EBX, 0Ch / XCHG EBX, [ESP+EBX] / RETN 10h sub RC4 crypted mov mov aPLib packed Cmp Unpacked code still spaghetti code structure combined with deliberately unoptimized code, e.g. MOV EAX,1234 -> XOR EAX,EAX / OR EAX,1200 / ADD EAX,34 call add Strings like registry paths or IP and port infos are runtime assembled to prevent easy detection push TDI based kernel mode socket implementation is used for mov communication No extra antidebug, antidump, antivm ecx



not

mov

push

pus push

cal. add

tes

- OS infos are queried from registry
- PCI infos like PCI to Host Bridge and PCI to ISA Bridge are queried through low level IO port access (CF8/CFC)
- Gathered infos are encrypted with TEA and then send to a fake HTTPS server at 208.66.194.215

Server crypts the real Rustock.C driver with the victim specific data and sends it back on the same channel

Loader starts the crypted driver and ends

lea edx, [esp+110h+LibFileName]
push edx
call sub_672B35F0
mov edi, off_672CA058
or ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
xor eax, eax
lea edx, [esp+114h+LibFileName]
repne scasb |
not ecx
sub edi, ecx
mov esi, edi
mov ebx. ecx



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add Se test least leash or reash or reash or reash mov or reash mov or reash mov or reash mov or reash mov or reash leash leash or reash or reash o	har had all alle	
test inz lea push cal mov or lepne not rot suov cinz leush mov cjnz add test inz	addSe	
inz lea push cav or lepne rot rot rot suov cinz leush push add tinz lea	test	
lea push cav or rane noub mov push noub mov push leush leush leush leush leush leush leush noub vor rane leush cav or rane noub vor rane noub vor rane leush cav or rane noub vor rane noub vor rane leush cav or rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane noub vor rane rane rane rane rane rane rane ran	jnz	
push cal mov or lepne roub mov push roub mov push push add t jea t jea t	lea	
cal mov or lea repne not sub mov mov jnz hush call add test inz	puşh	
mov or lea repne not sub mov mov jnz hush call add test inz	cal	
or xor lea repne not sub mov mov jnz lea push call test inz lea	mov	
xor lea repne sub mov jea push add test iea lea	or	
lea repne not sub mov cmp jnz lea push call add test inz lea	xor	
repne not sub mov jnz lea push push call add test jnz	lea	
not sub mov mov jnz lea push push call add test jnz	repne	
sub mov mov jnz lea push push call add test jnz lea	not	
mov mov jnz lea push push call add test lea lea	sub	
mov cmp jnz lea push push call add test jnz lea	mov	
cmp jnz lea push push call add test jnz lea	mov	
inz lea push push call add test jnz lea	cmp	
lea push push call add test jnz lea	jnz	
push push call add test jnz lea	lea	
push push add test inz lea	push	
push call add test inz lea	push	
call add test jnz lea	puşh	
add test jnz lea	call	
test jnz lea	add	
jnz lea	test	
lea	jnz	
PALL COM	lea	
Puan	puşh	

C d L

not sub

mov

nd data illustrated

Unencrypted

ſ	31	DC	: 84	9B	25	05	00	00-	86	80	90	71	86	80	10	71	1
C	64bit	Tim	eSta	mpC	oun	ter (RDT	SC)	71 80	90 = 86 =	: Dev : Ver	vice ndor	711 808	10 = 36 =	Dev Ven	ice dor	
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	28.01	.08 ⁻	Date 18:15	- 5:35			2	:1 = 600 =	= Ci = Ci	urrei	ntBu	ildN	n lumk	ber			
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	ProductId																
Ξr	short loc_6/285428 nCrvpted+110h+LibFileName]																

edx																			
sub 6	0000000		-0	£0.	40	- 0	44	01	-11		60	FF	4 -	60	10	-0	£r		No. 1112b
odi	00000000	120	e9 -	18	bu	<u>a9</u>	41	0T	aT.	- 58	09	20	40	02	18	ea	тэ	;0	х. окр
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eax.	00000030	da	04	4f	0f	18	6f	ec	58	42	ab	3f	<3	22	9e	b6	9c	0X	в.?."
edx.	00000040	43	ce	79	73	2a	b3	e1	27	75	81	11	34	b1	df	f8	af	C.ys*'	u4
h	00000050	bd	a1 -	38	ac	c1	b3	9e	79	- 56	Sf.	e2	35	e7	12	87	a1	8y	V5
SCASD	00000060	9d	cf	За.	3c	47	f9	04	b8	a7	84	46	34	22	68	52	99	: <g< th=""><th>F4"hR.</th></g<>	F4"hR.
ecx																			
edi,	ecx																		



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea push edx sub_672B35F0 call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not The beast itself edi, ecx edi mov ecx mov loc_672B5455 lea push sub_672B3730 call test edx. lea edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not edi, ecx esi, edi mov mov







Protection layer 1

Easy polymorphic decrypter (Anti AV-signature measure)

or	ecx,	00010200	4	pusha		
xor	eax,	00010201	-	mov	ecx,	287h
lea	edx, I	00010206		xor	ebx,	ebx
repne	scasb	00010208		xor	edx,	edx
not	ecx	0001020A				
sub	edi, e	0001020A	loc 1020A:			: cob
mov	es1, (0001020A		add	ebx.	39F96BFDb
mov	ebx, (00010200		add	edy.	0
CMP	eax,	00010210		dec	ecv.	
jnz	loc_6	00010213		ing	char	t log 1020a
lea	ecx, I	00010214		_11Z	ani	offect log 10232
push	104h	00010210		mov	est,	0115ec 100_10233
pusn	ecx	00010218		mov	ear,	esi op/aph
puşņ	Z A	00010210		mov	ecx,	ODOEBU
call	SUD_6	00010222	1 10000			
add	esp, (00010222	10C_10222:			; COD
test	eax, (00010222		mov	eax,	ebx
1nz	SHOPL	00010224		shr	eax,	3
lea	edx, I	00010227		add	edx,	eax
pusn	eux 6	00010229		xchg	ebx,	edx
COLL	adi (0001022B		lodsd		
mo v	ecy (0001022C		sub	eax,	ebx
Yor	eav (0001022E		stosd		
lea	edy 1	0001022F		dec	ecx	
renne	scash	00010230		jnz	shor	t loc_10222
not	ecx	00010232		popa		
sub	edi .	00010233				
mov	esi.	00010233	loc 10233:			; DAT.
mov	ebx, d	00010233	_	jmp	Jump	ToSecondLayer



mov

mov

mov

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Protection layer 2

hort loc_672B5428 dx, [esp+110h+LibFileName]

- Searches the NTOSKRNL base and stores it
- Builds a checksum over its own buffer and encrypts NTOSKRNL image base value with this DWORD
- When trying to find NtQuerySystemInformation the checksum gets recalculated and decrypts the stored NTOSKRNL image base value. If someone changed the code in the meantime, a wrong image base value leads to BSOD Imports are found by using 32-bit hash values, instead of
- function names

Allocates memory with ExAllocateMemoryPoolWithQuotaTag and copies the majority of its code into this area and directly jumps to layer 3

XOF	eax,	eax
lea	edx,	[esp+114h+LibFileName]
repne	scasb	
not	ecx	
sub	edi,	ecx
mov	esi,	edi
mov	ebx,	ecx



Protection layer 3
Overwrites DRx registers
DR0-3 (hardware breakpoint detection)
DR7 (kernel debugger detection)
2nd code checksum trick (modified code leads to BSOD)
Overwrites whole IDT table with fake handler, for the time of unpacking,

to disturb kernel debuggers, which hook INT1 (single stepping + hardware breakpoints) and INT3 (software breakpoints))

ecx, [esp+110h FakeI:	nteruptHandler:		
104h	push	ebp	
ecx 2	mov	ebp,	esp
Sub 67283730	sub	esp,	4
esp. 0Ch	iret		

Software BP checks (0xCC)

Query 8 bytes of PCI information from system (like the loader did)

Adds 1 dword pre-stored in the buffer and uses these 12 bytes as RC4 decryption key over all 5 PE-sections

After every PE-section decryption the buffer gets aPLib decompressed

repne	scasb	
not	ecx	
sub	edi,	ecx
mov	esi,	edi
mov	ebx.	ecx

mov

mov

XOF



inz

mov

not

mov

add

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Protection layer 3

If the 8 bytes of PCI information are different from original ones, decryption fails and system crashes

Brute forcing the key depends on the machine power and some luck while enumerating through the PCI vendor/device table

To generate a more random key, 111 empty rounds after RC4init is used

Imports rebuilding and auto section relocation are also handled in this stage

Before jumping to the unpacked rootkit code the IDT gets restored to its original state

mov edi, off 672CA058 or ecx, 0FFFFFFFh xor eax, eax lea edx, [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb | not ecx sub edi, ecx mov esi, edi mov ebx. ecx



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea push edx sub_672B35F0 call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not Inside the rootkit edi. ecx mov ecx mov loc_672B5455 [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea push sub_672B3730 call test lea edx. edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not edi, ecx edi mov mov



mov

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Inside the rootkit short loc 672B5428 Unpacked code still spaghetti code structure combined with mov deliberately unoptimized code or Checks the presents of kernel debuggers not WinDbg (KdDebuggerEnabled) mov mov String-scans in memory for NTICE + Syser traces Registers a callback routine with KeRegisterBugCheckCallback, which cleans its memory when KeBugCheck happens cal add Code checksum routine Software breakpoint checks (0xCC) mov x, [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scas ecx mov



push

mov

mov

mov

Infects a random Microsoft driver listed in HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Safeboot\Minimal registry path 285455 Rustock looks for version information strings inside the binaries before infection (scans for "Microsoft Windows") Disinfection is time based, before it infects another MS driver, but can be forced when trying to change an infected binary [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scas ecx



mov



- _NtfsFsdSetInformation
- _NtfsFastQueryFSDInfo
- _NtfsFsdClose

DUS

add

push call

mov

sub mov

nov

- _NtfsFsdCreate
- _NtfsFsdDispatchWait
- NtfsFsdDirectoryControl
- In case of FAT32 the hooks are placed on FASTFAT.SYS



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push Inside the rootkit es 1 short loc_672B5428 edx. [esp+110h+LibFileName] push Two different types of hooks are used (indirect call + push/ret) cal mov EAX,HAL®KfReleaseSpinLock DWORD PTR [EBP+08] EAX,[EBP-04] EAX [8659BEDC] DWOID PTR [EBP-04],00000103 F6A3F529 15607FA6F6 FF7508 8D45FC 50 FF15DCBE5986 817DFC03010000 7506 57 E8DE860000 83661000 EB06 FF15607FA6F6 5F 5E 5E 0008: F6A5F508 0008: F6A5F50D F513 F514 F514 repne scasb +r6A67C07 DWORD FTR [ESI+10],00 +F6A5F535 [HAL!KfReleaseSpinLock] ESI EBX 4 bytes not AND JMP CALL edi. mov 4 bytes mov 5 5 C 2 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 0 ₽Ŏ₽ LEAVE 0004 indirect call hook loc 0008:F6A5F53D 0008:F6A5F53E NOP lea SPATCH)-KTEB(80551920)-TID(0000)-tcpip!.text+00036188 10008:8053C78D 0008:8053C72B7 0008:8053C7C0 0008:8053C7C0 0008:8053C7C2 0008:8053C7C2 0008:8053C7C2 0008:8053C7CA 0008:8053C7D2 0008:8053C7D2 ŎĔŧŝġĂŠFDFFFF 83F910 751A 8B0D18F0DFFF 33DB18F0DFFF 9B99700F0000 740A 520 push 18053C502 ECX,10 ↓8053C7DC ECX, [FFDFF018] JAE CMP JNU JNOR push ÔŘ JZ PUSH PUSH EBX, EECX+00000F701 +8053C7DC sub call 13 bytes add 50 FF15C4215580 58 FF0538F6DFFF 88F2 88F2 885F0C 33C9 200C18 LAP POP INCU MOUR XOU 805521C41 push/ret hook test DX WORD PTR [FFDFF638] SI,EDX BX,[EDI+0C] CX,ECX L_FFRX+FAX1 ed: push ØE 90 83EC04 C70424FEA7D585 C8 53C7EC PUSH NOP SUB CS call sub ESP,04 DWORD PTR [ESP],85D5A7FE mov edi JAE 18053C9AC GALL FBY 3554755589 9F83A8010000 F3A5 FFD3 8BE5 8B0524F1DFFF 8B953C 899134010000 FA F74570000000200 F6456C01 F457 8:8053C7FE 8:8053C7FE 8:8053C804 8:8053C804 8:8053C808 8:8053C808 8:8053C808 8:8053C810 8:8053C810 8:80553C810 8:80553C810 EBX ESP,EBP ECX,[FFDFF124] EDX,[EBP+3C] [ECX+00000134],EDX eds repne scasb not DWORD PTR [EBP+70],00020000 ; "???? 8053C829 BYTE PTR [EBP+6C],01 8053C880 EBX,[FFDFF124] ◀ ► ▼ edi mov 0008:8053C827 0008:8053C829 7457 8B1D24F1DFFF мбυ mov



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea push edx sub_672B35F0 call edi. off 672CA058 mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not The botnet user mode code edi. mov mov ecx loc_672B5455 [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea push sub_672B3730 call test [esp+110h+LibFileName] lea edx. edx push sub_672B35F0 call mov [esp+114h+LibFileName] edx. repne scasb not edi, ecx esi, edi mov mov



not

mov

mov

le

mo

The botnet user mode code

short loc_672B5428
edx. [esp+110h+LibFileName

The first variants had the name botdll.dll and send spam the classic way using port 25 (SMTP)

But as more and more SMTP gateways successfully detect such spam bots, a new user mode payload was distributed in march 2008 and changed to HTTP-mode spamming over hotmail with stolen accounts (hotsend.dll)

Spam templates are downloaded from the C&C server, which are temporarily stored as tmpcode.bin

Currently it is unknown what malware steals the hotmail accounts involved in spamming

To communicate with the kernel INT 2Eh is used, to inform about new tasks, e.g. self-disinfection or a new C&C

	eax, edx,	eax [esp+114h+LibFileName]
ne	scasb	
	ecx	
	edi,	ecx
	esi,	edi
	ahy	DDY



- Brute forcing would have been impossible, if a stronger encryption had been applied
- Disinfection wouldn't be that easy, if the original driver in the last PE-section would have been better crypted

add	esp,	ØCh
test	eax,	eax
inz	short	: loc_672B5428
lea	edx.	[esp+110h+LibFileName]
push	edx	
call	sub 6	572B35F0
mov	edi.	off 672CA058
or	ecx.	ØFFFFFFFF
XOF	eax.	eax
lea	edx.	[esp+114h+LibFileName]
repne	scash	
not	ecx	
sub	edi	ecx
MOV	eci,	edi
MOV	ehy	ecy
111		San San San



push sub_672B3730 call test short loc_672B5428 lea push edx Questions? call mov edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] not Thanks for good discussions and review fly to: mov mov lea **UG North** push Elia Florio sub_672B3730 call Sergei Shevchenko test lea edx. Lukasz Kwiatek push call sub_672B35F0 mov ed edx. [esp+114h+LibFileName] repne scasb not mov edi mov