III LOGPOINT



Warning about Russian threat actor Gamaredon: How to stay protected ahead of invasion anniversary cyber threat

Warning about Russian threat actor Gamaredon

Feb 23, 2023 13:00 CET

Warning about Russian threat actor Gamaredon: How to stay protected ahead of invasion anniversary cyber threat

- Ukrainian authorities have issued a warning that Russia could conduct large-scale cyberattacks on the anniversary of the invasion
- Logpoint has conducted research into the hacktivist group Gamaredon, which according to Ukrainian CERT, is actively renewing attack efforts shifting focus from destruction to espionage and information stealing

cyberattacks against Ukraine have nearly tripled during the last year, and now the Ukrainian Defense Minister, Oleksii Reznikov, expresses concern that Russia will renew its offensive to coincide with the anniversary of the all-out war. Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council has issued a <u>warning</u> that Russia could conduct a large-scale cyberattack as part of its renewed aggression.

Ukranian CERT has released reports stating that the <u>Russian threat actor</u> <u>Gamaredon</u>, also known as UAC-0010, Primitive Bear, BlueAlpha, ACTINIUM, and Trident Ursa, is actively renewing its attack efforts. Reportedly, the group operates from Sevastopol in Crimea and follows instructions from the FSB Center for Information Security in Moscow.

"Gamaredon has carried out several cyberattacks against Ukraine since it originated in June 2013, a few months before Russia forcibly annexed the Crimean Peninsula. We've recently seen significant spikes in their activities and the group remains the most active, intrusive, and pervasive APT," says Doron Davidson, Logpoint VP Global Services. "We're monitoring the situation closely to keep up with threat intelligence and defense techniques that can mitigate the risk of Gamaredon."

Ukraine's State Service of Special Communication and Information Protection states that <u>Gamaredon focuses more on information stealing and espionage</u> than destruction and increasingly uses GammaLoad and GammaSteal spyware. These malware variants are custom-made information-stealing implants that can exfiltrate files of specific extensions, steal user credentials, and take screenshots of the victim's computer.

Logpoint's investigation into GammaLoad and GammaSteal shows that the malware variants get delivered via spear-phishing emails from compromised government employees, including malicious HTML files, Office documents, and phishing websites to target devices. The malware is designed to attack all Windows, Linux, and Android operating systems.

"It's always crucial to detect an attack before it takes root in the systems," says Doron Davidson. "With Gamaredon and other APTs, it's not enough to follow best practices. You need to have capabilities to efficiently detect threats based on known indicators of compromise, using active monitoring and incident response plans." Read Logpoint's report about Gamaredon <u>here</u> and get an in-depth analysis of the threat actor's techniques, indicators of compromise, and insights about incident investigation and response.

About Logpoint

Logpoint safeguards society in a digital world by helping customers and Managed Security Service Providers (MSSPs) detect cyberattacks. Combining reliable technology with a deep understanding of cybersecurity challenges, Logpoint makes security operations easier, giving organizations the freedom to progress. Logpoint's <u>SIEM</u>and <u>NDR</u>technologies improve visibility and give a multi-layered approach to cybersecurity that helps customers and MSSPs in Europe navigate the complex threat landscape. Headquartered in Copenhagen, Denmark, Logpoint has a European foundation and is the only European SIEM vendor with a Common Criteria EAL3+ certification. This demonstrates Logpoint's strong focus on data protection and cybersecurity regulations. For more information, visit <u>http://logpoint.com</u>.

Contacts



Maimouna Corr Fonsbøl

Press Contact Head of PR PR & Communications mcf@logpoint.com +45 25 66 82 98