



# The ATT&CK Matrix

Sam Bowne  
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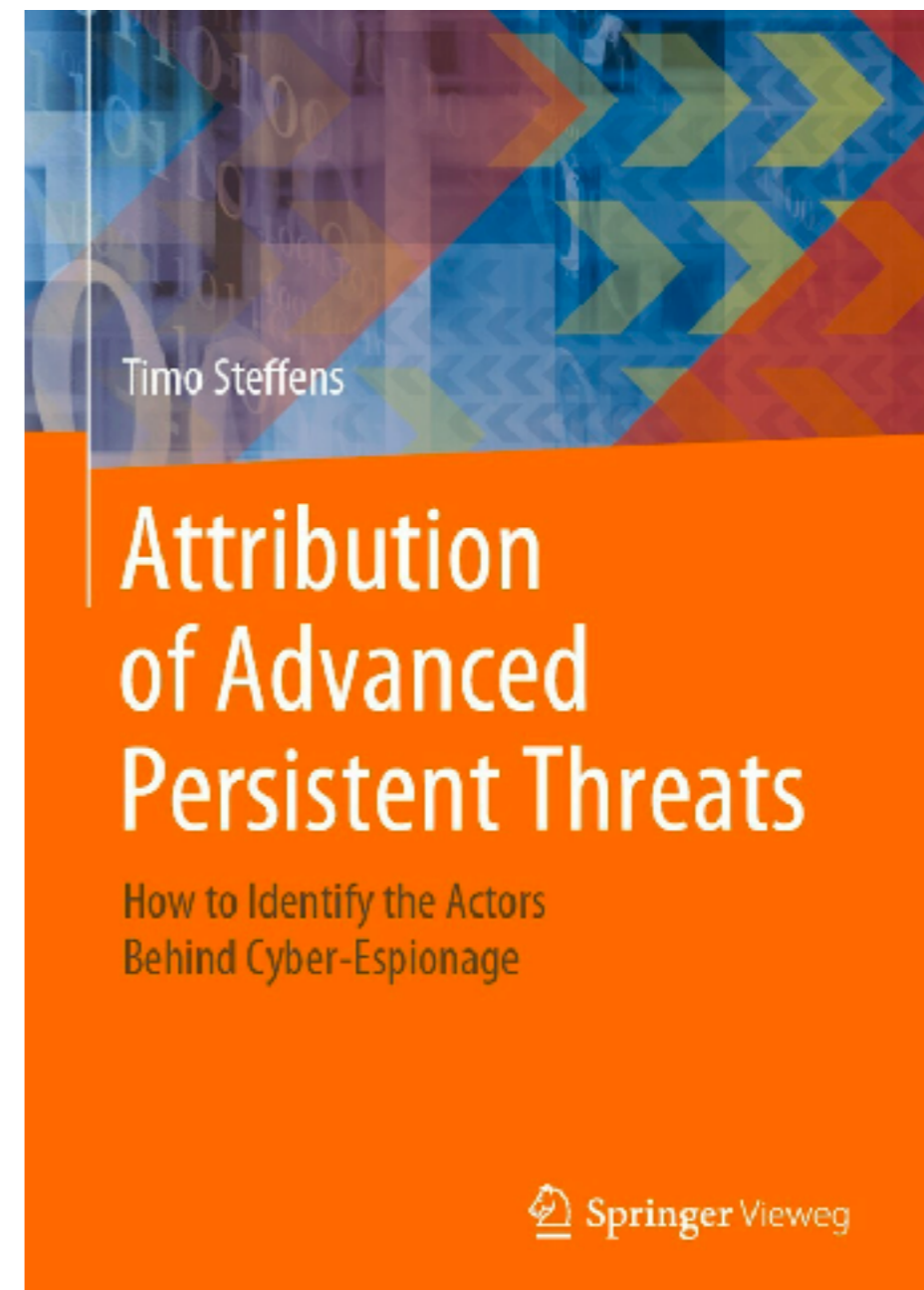
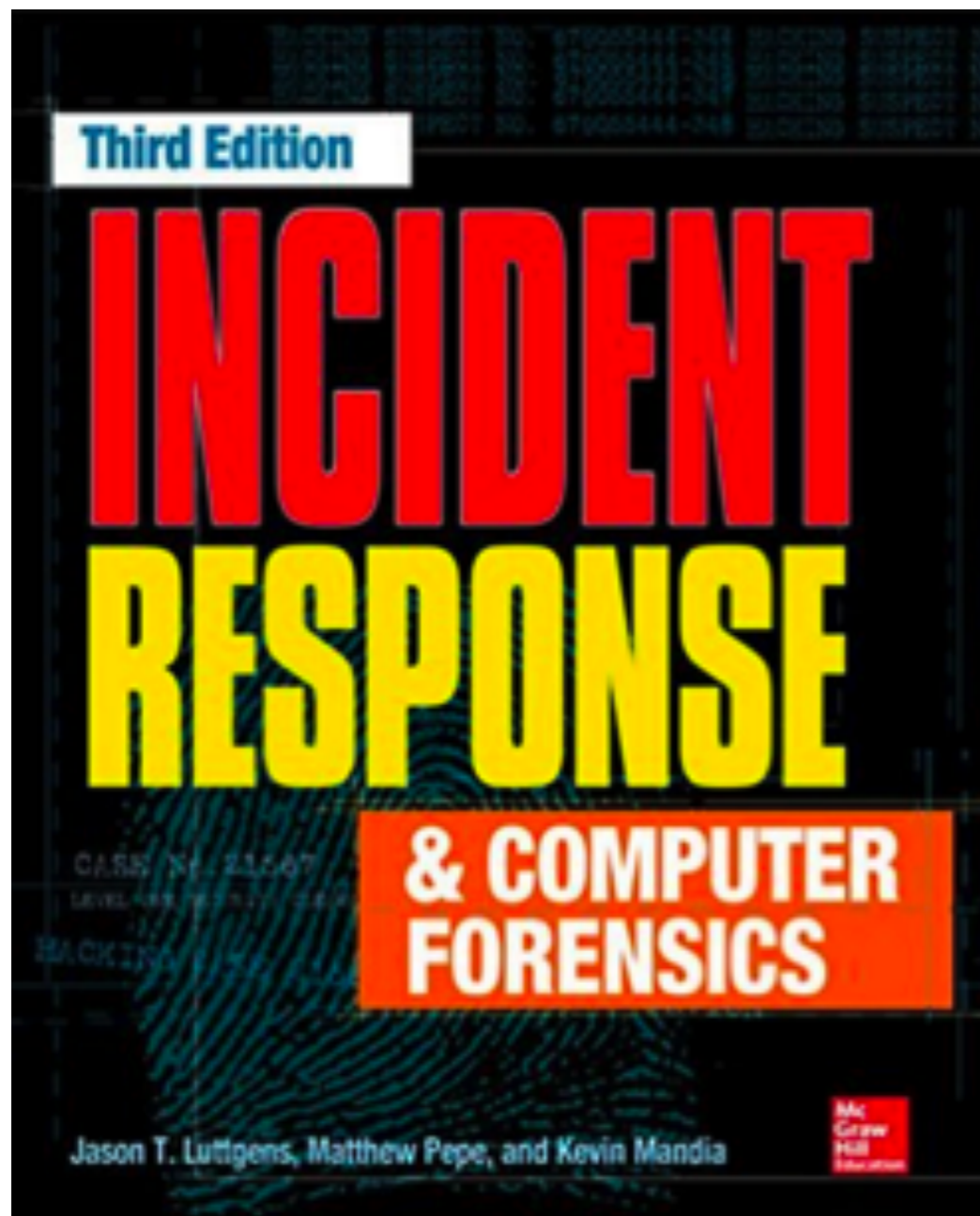
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- All classes free online worldwide



# CNIT 152: Incident Response

Fall 2020 Sam Bowne



## ATT&CK Matrix

Reference: ATT&CK Matrix v7 for Enterprise

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# ATT&CK

- A framework to address four issues
  - **Adversary behaviors:** tactics and techniques
  - **Lifecycle models** better than the Cyber Kill Chain
  - **Applicability to real environments**
  - **Common taxonomy**

# Tactics and Techniques

- Tactics
  - Adversary objective: the "why"
- Techniques
  - The "how"



# Tactics

TA0001	Initial Access	The adversary is trying to get into your network.
TA0002	Execution	The adversary is trying to run malicious code.
TA0003	Persistence	The adversary is trying to maintain their foothold.
TA0004	Privilege Escalation	The adversary is trying to gain higher-level permissions.
TA0005	Defense Evasion	The adversary is trying to avoid being detected.
TA0006	Credential Access	The adversary is trying to steal account names and passwords.



# Tactics

TA0007	Discovery	The adversary is trying to figure out your environment.
TA0008	Lateral Movement	The adversary is trying to move through your environment.
TA0009	Collection	The adversary is trying to gather data of interest to their goal.
TA0011	Command and Control	The adversary is trying to communicate with compromised systems to control them.
TA0010	Exfiltration	The adversary is trying to steal data.
TA0040	Impact	The adversary is trying to manipulate, interrupt, or destroy your systems and data.

# Techniques

Drive-by Compromise	Phishing	Replication Through Removable Media
Exploit Public- Facing Application	Spearphishing Attachment	Supply Chain Compromise
External Remote Services	Spearphishing Link	Compromise Software Dependencies and Development Tools
Hardware Additions	Spearphishing via Service	Compromise Software Supply Chain

# Iran

**مقام مسئول خبری:**  
انتقام سختی در انتظار  
جنايتكاران است كه  
دست پلید خون را به خون  
شهید سلیمانی و دیگر  
شهدای حادثه‌ی دیشب  
آوندند او جبهه‌ی بین  
المللی مقاومت است و  
همه‌ی دلیستان مقاومت  
خونخواه اویند.

*The Leader of the Revolution returned*  
Martyrdom was his (Shahid So'eymani) reward for years of implacable efforts. With his departure and with God's power, his work and path will not cease and severe revenge awaits those criminals who have tainted their filthy hands with his blood and the blood

جمهوری اسلامی ایران  
Islamic Republic of Iran

این پیام از طرف جمهوری اسلامی ایران است و در حمایت از ملت‌های ستمدیده در منطقه است: فلسطین، لبنان، عراق، یمن، سوریه، بحرین، لبنان، و سایر ملت‌های ستمدیده در منطقه. ما همیشه در حمایت از این ملت‌ها هستیم و این حمایت‌ها را ادامه خواهیم داد.

This is message from Islamic Republic Of Iran

We will not stop supporting our friends in the region: the oppressed people of Palestine, the oppressed people of Yemen, the people and the Syrian government, the people and government of Iraq, the oppressed people of Bahrain, the true mujahideen resistance in Lebanon and Palestine; [they] always will be supported by us.

و عَمْرٌ بِنِ سَعْدٍ وَ سَيْمُرَا وَ آلِ أَبِي سَلْمَانَ وَ آلِ زَيْدِ وَ آلِ مَرْوَانَ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ

This is message from Islamic Republic Of Iran

We will not stop supporting our friends in the region: the oppressed people of Palestine, the oppressed people of Yemen, the people and the Syrian government, the people and government of Iraq, the oppressed people of Bahrain, the true mujahideen resistance in Lebanon and Palestine; [they] always will be supported by us.

Fdlp  
<https://www.fdlp.gov>  
in the name of god. >>>>> Hacked By Iran Cyber Security Group HackerS ... <<<<<. This is only small part of Iran's cyber ability ! We're always ready

A website operated by the U.S. government hacked by a group claiming to represent the government of Iran

# Iran's cyber capabilities



Using the [MITRE ATT&CK framework](#) we can identify 11 offensive cyber groups that have links to Iran. In volumes of groups alone this is second only to China. These groups and their targets include:

- [APT33](#) - Elfin - Aviation and energy
- [APT39](#) - Chafer - Telecommunication and travel industries
- [Charming Kitten](#) - Individuals in academia, human rights and media
- [Cleaver](#) - Critical infrastructure
- [CopyKittens](#) - Individuals associated with Government, academia and critical infrastructure

# Iran's Attack Groups

- [Group5](#) - Individuals and groups in Syria
- [Leafminer](#) - Governments and businesses in the Middle East
- [Magic Hound](#) - Energy, Government and Technology
- [MuddyWater](#) - Telecommunications, IT Services, Oil & Gas
- [OilRig](#) - Financial services, government, energy, chemical, and telecommunications
- [Strider](#) - Government, military, scientific research, telecoms and financial services

# Iran and Russia obtained U.S. voter registration data in effort to influence election, national security officials say

PUBLISHED WED, OCT 21 2020•7:20 PM EDT | UPDATED THU, OCT 22 2020•7:53 AM EDT



# Offensive Actions

- Iran and Russia obtained information about American voter registrations
- Trying to influence the public about the upcoming U.S. presidential election
- Iran has been sending “spoofed emails designed to intimidate voters, incite social unrest and damage President” Donald Trump
- Iran is distributing other content to include a video that implies that individuals could cast fraudulent ballots even from overseas,

Vote for Trump or else! - Mozilla Thunderbird

File Edit View Go Message Tools Help

Get Messages Write Chat Address Book Tag

From Proud Boys <info@officialproudboys.com>

Reply Reply All Forward More

Subject **Vote for Trump or else!**

7:42 AM

To [REDACTED]

Date Tue, 20 Oct 2020 17:42:38 +0300

Message ID <E1kUsqU-00013K-16@cpanel.execloud.net>

Authentication-Results ppop.net; spf=none smtp.mailfrom=[REDACTED]@cpanel.execloud.net; dkim=pass header.s=default header.d=[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]; dmarc=temperror reason="DNS DMARC lookup domain=officialproudboys.com"

[REDACTED] We are in possession of all your information (email, address, telephone... everything). You are currently registered as a Democrat and we know this because we have gained access into the entire voting infrastructure. You will vote for Trump on Election Day or we will come after you. Change your party affiliation to Republican to let us know you received our message and will comply. We will know which candidate you voted for. I would take this seriously if I were you.



# Mandiant

- John Hultquist, Senior Director of Analysis, Mandiant Threat Intelligence:
  - "Iranian information operations date back at least eight years and they have grown beyond **fake news sites** and social network activity to elaborate tactics, such as **impersonating journalists** to solicit video interviews and placing op-eds. They have even **impersonated American politicians**"
  - "The information operations we have seen from Iran to date have been about **amplifying pro-Iranian messages** and pushing a desired narrative out into the world that's anti-Saudi or ant-Israeli or pro-JCPOA"
  - "This is different. This is **deliberate interference in our democracy** and it crosses a major red line. I think the Intel community scored a win here against Iran today"

# Attempts to Blur

- Despite attempts to blur aspects of the video to hide their identity, the hackers were unable to obfuscate all of the incriminating information, the sources said.
- The video showed the hackers' computer screen as they typed in commands and pretended to hack a voter registration system. Investigators noticed snippets of revealing computer code, including file paths, file names and an internet protocol (IP) address.
- Security analysts found that the IP address, hosted through an online service called Worldstream, traced back to previous Iranian hacking activity, the sources said.

# CopyKittens

CopyKittens is an Iranian cyber espionage group that has been operating since at least 2013. It has targeted countries including Israel, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the U.S., Jordan, and Germany. The group is responsible for the campaign known as Operation Wilted Tulip. [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#) [\[3\]](#)

## Techniques Used

ATT&CK® Navigator Layers ▾

Domain	ID		Name	Use
Enterprise	T1560	.001	Archive Collected Data: Archive via Utility	CopyKittens uses ZPP, a .NET console program, to compress files with ZIP. <sup>[2]</sup>
		.003	Archive Collected Data: Archive via Custom Method	CopyKittens encrypts data with a substitute cipher prior to exfiltration. <sup>[3]</sup>
Enterprise	T1059	.001	Command and Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell	CopyKittens has used PowerShell Empire. <sup>[2]</sup>
Enterprise	T1564	.003	Hide Artifacts: Hidden Window	CopyKittens has used <code>-w hidden</code> and <code>-windowstyle hidden</code> to conceal PowerShell windows. <sup>[2]</sup>
Enterprise	T1218	.011	Signed Binary Proxy Execution: Rundll32	CopyKittens uses rundll32 to load various tools on victims, including a lateral movement tool named Vminst, Cobalt Strike, and shellcode. <sup>[2]</sup>
Enterprise	T1553	.002	Subvert Trust Controls: Code Signing	CopyKittens digitally signed an executable with a stolen certificate from legitimate company AI Squared. <sup>[2]</sup>

# Magic Hound

**Magic Hound** is an Iranian-sponsored threat group that conducts long term, resource-intensive operations to collect intelligence, dating back as early as 2014. The group typically targets U.S. and the Middle Eastern military, as well as other organizations with government personnel, via complex social engineering campaigns.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Techniques Used

ATT&CK® Navigator Layers ▾

Domain	ID		Name	Use
Enterprise	T1098	.002	Account Manipulation: Exchange Email Delegate Permissions	<b>Magic Hound</b> granted compromised email accounts read access to the email boxes of additional targeted accounts. The group then was able to authenticate to the intended victim's OWA (Outlook Web Access) portal and read hundreds of email communications for information on Middle East organizations. <sup>[1]</sup>
Enterprise	T1071		Application Layer Protocol	<b>Magic Hound</b> malware has used IRC for C2. <sup>[2]</sup>
		.001	Web Protocols	<b>Magic Hound</b> malware has used HTTP for C2. <sup>[2]</sup>

# ***Russians Who Pose Election Threat Have Hacked Nuclear Plants and Power Grid***

The hacking group, Energetic Bear, is among Russia's stealthiest. It appears to be casting a wide net to find useful targets ahead of the election, experts said.



Russian hackers targeted the Wolf Creek power plant in Kansas in 2017. Mark Reinstein/Corbis, via Getty Images

- But it has in the past five years breached the power grid, water treatment facilities and even nuclear power plants, including one in Kansas.
- It also hacked into Wi-Fi systems at San Francisco International Airport and at least two other West Coast airports in March in an apparent bid to find one unidentified traveler
- The group has thus far stopped short of sabotage, but appears to be preparing for some future attack. The hackings so unnerved officials that starting in 2018, the United States Cyber Command, the arm of the Pentagon that conducts offensive cyberattacks, hit back with retaliatory strikes on the Russian grid.

- Officials at San Francisco International Airport discovered Russia's state hackers had breached the online system that airport employees and travelers used to gain access to the airport's Wi-Fi. The hackers injected code into two Wi-Fi portals that stole visitors' user names, cracked their passwords and infected their laptops.
- The attack began on March 17 and continued for nearly two weeks until it was shut down. By then, officials at two other airports discovered their Wi-Fi portals had also been compromised. Researchers would not name the other victims, citing nondisclosure agreements, but said they were on the West Coast.
-

# Dragonfly

Dragonfly is a cyber espionage group that has been active since at least 2011. They initially targeted defense and aviation companies but shifted to focus on the energy sector in early 2013. They have also targeted companies related to industrial control systems. <sup>[1]</sup>

## Software

ID	Name	References	Techniques
S0093	Backdoor.Oldrea	<sup>[1]</sup>	Account Discovery: Email Account, Archive Collected Data, Boot or Logon Autostart Execution: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder, Credentials from Password Stores: Credentials from Web Browsers, Data Encoding: Standard Encoding, File and Directory Discovery, Indicator Removal on Host: File Deletion, Process Discovery, Process Injection, System Information Discovery, System Network Configuration Discovery, System Owner/User Discovery
S0094	Trojan.Karagany	<sup>[1]</sup>	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder, Data Staged: Local Data Staging, Ingress Tool Transfer, Obfuscated Files or Information: Software Packing, OS Credential Dumping, Process Discovery, Screen Capture



# ATT&CK Navigator

- Compares Groups
- <https://mitre-attack.github.io/attack-navigator/enterprise/>

# Caldera

## Adversary Emulator

The screenshot displays the Caldera Adversary Emulator web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home' and 'Campaigns' on the left, and 'Plugins', 'Advanced', 'Docs', and 'Logout' on the right. The main content area is dark-themed and features a profile named 'Super Spy' with a description: 'Monitor the active user and navigate through their digital belongings'. Below the profile name, there are two buttons: 'VMA' and 'Add phase'. A text box explains: 'Profiles are collections of ATT&CK TTPs, designed to create specific effects on a host or network. Profiles can be used for offensive or defensive use cases.' A dropdown menu shows 'Super Spy' and a 'Show' button is visible. Below this, there is a 'Delete profile' button. The interface is divided into two phases: 'Phase 1' and 'Phase 2'. 'Phase 1' includes abilities like 'Screen Capture', 'Copy Clipboard', 'Get Chrome Bookmarks', 'Record microphone', 'Find files', and 'Create staging directory'. 'Phase 2' includes 'Discover antivirus programs' and 'Stage sensitive files'. Each ability card shows platform icons (Apple, Windows) and a trash icon for deletion. The interface also includes '+ add pack' and '+ add ability' buttons for each phase.



### Operations

VIEW

Start a new operation or review previous ones here.

SPY1 - 2020-05-16 17:10:50

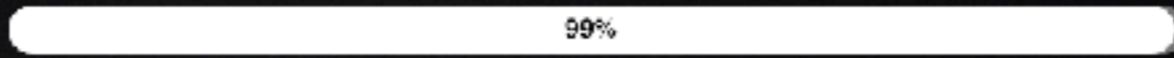
include agent output

Download report

Delete

Autonomous

RUNNING | 2020-05-16 17:10:50 | 8 DECISIONS



- queued
- collected
- executed
- failed
- timed out
- disconnected
- uninstalled
- update

+ potential links

2020-05-16 17:11:41	agent#mqnwmq... Preferred WiFi	★
2020-05-16 17:11:41	agent#mqnwmq... Scan WiFi networks	★
2020-05-16 17:11:41	agent#mqnwmq... Sniff network traffic	★
2020-05-16 17:11:41	agent#mqnwmq... Compress staged directory	★
2020-05-16 17:11:17	agent#mqnwmq... Discover antivirus programs	★
2020-05-16 17:10:50	agent#mqnwmq... Screen Capture	★
2020-05-16 17:10:50	agent#mqnwmq... Copy Clipboard	★
2020-05-16 17:10:50	agent#mqnwmq... Create staging directory	★





**RUNNING** | 2020-05-16 17:10:50 | 8 DECISIONS

99%



- agent#mqnwmq... Preferred WIFI
- agent#mqnwmq... Scan WIFI networks
- agent#mqnwmq... Sniff network traffic
- agent#mqnwmq... Compress staged directory
- agent#mqnwmq... Discover antivirus programs
- agent#mqnwmq... Screen Capture
- agent#mqnwmq... Copy Clipboard
- agent#mqnwmq... Create staging directory

# ***Hack of Saudi Petrochemical Plant Was Coordinated From Russian Institute***



The cyberattack on a Saudi petrochemical plant was the first known attempt to manipulate an emergency-shutdown system, which is designed to avoid disaster and protect human lives. Christophe Viseux for The New York Times

# TEMP.Veles

[TEMP.Veles](#) is a Russia-based threat group that has targeted critical infrastructure. The group has been observed utilizing TRITON, a malware framework designed to manipulate industrial safety systems.<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

## Associated Group Descriptions

Name	Description
XENOTIME	The activity group XENOTIME, as defined by Dragos, has overlaps with activity reported upon by FireEye about TEMP.Veles as well as the actors behind TRITON. <sup>[4][5][1][6]</sup>

# Techniques Used

ATT&CK® Navigator Layers ▾

Domain	ID	Name	Use
PRE-ATT&CK	T1329	Acquire and/or use 3rd party infrastructure services	TEMP.Veles has used Virtual Private Server (VPS) infrastructure. <sup>[1]</sup>
PRE-ATT&CK	T1311	Dynamic DNS	TEMP.Veles has used dynamic DNS. <sup>[1]</sup>
Enterprise	T1059 .001	Command and Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell	TEMP.Veles has used a publicly-available PowerShell-based tool, WMIimplant. <sup>[2]</sup> The group has also used PowerShell to perform Timestomping. <sup>[1]</sup>
Enterprise	T1074 .001	Data Staged: Local Data Staging	TEMP.Veles has created staging folders in directories that were infrequently used by legitimate users or processes. <sup>[1]</sup>







# References

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