

"Kuhook" Point-of-Sale Malware



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Agenda

- Global Payment Card Compromise Landscape
- “Kuhook” Overview
- “Kuhook” Capabilities
- “Kuhook” Detection Strategies
- Questions and Answers

A dark blue background featuring a faint, stylized image of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with its lights glowing against the dark sky.

Global Payment Card Compromise Landscape

Sylvia Auyeung, Director, VISA, NA Merchant Risk



Payment System Risk Landscape



Data Security

- Frequency of data breaches is increasing
- Large merchant breaches account for the majority of 'known' compromised accounts
- Emphasis on cyber intelligence information sharing is growing



Fraud Trends

- Fraud levels and accounts are increasing
- Fraud is concentrated in markets/channels that rely on static authentication data
- CNP fraud is disproportionately high



New Players in the Eco-system

- Proliferation of third party agents and nontraditional players is increasing security risks
- Visa is focusing on its leadership role in payment system security

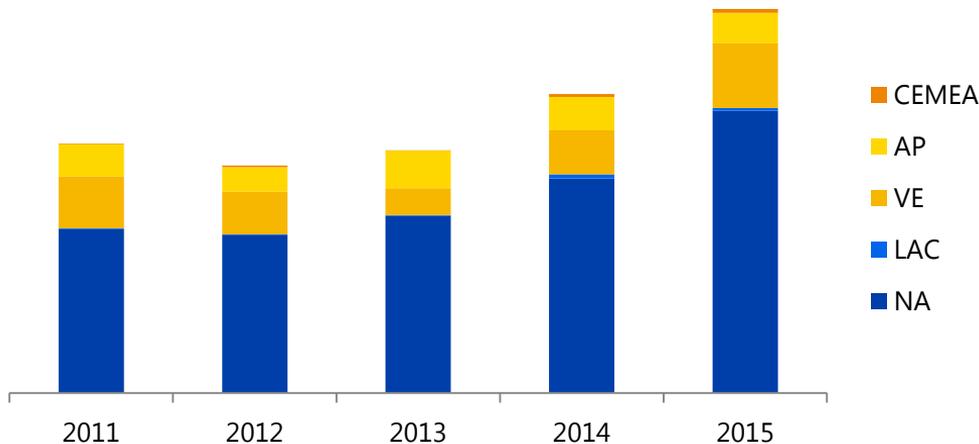


Regulatory Attention

- Governments and regulators are paying more attention to fraud and data security
- Opportunities for public-private collaboration on payment security are expanding

Global Data Compromises

2011-2015
Compromise Cases by Region



- Global data compromise events are slightly higher in 2015 over those managed in 2014
- The U.S. is the largest contributor, mainly due to its large mag stripe infrastructure and an increase in successful attacks on third party service providers
- VE and AP represent the next largest contributors to known breach events, together comprising a quarter of the total
- Breaches in VE and AP are primarily CNP

Global Data Compromises

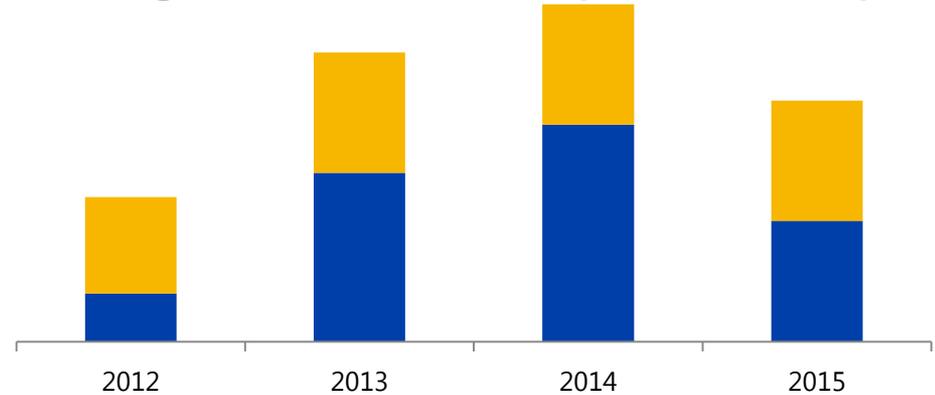
Breach trends by merchant level

Breach events by merchant level

| Entity Type | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | % | % | % | % |
| Level 1 | <1% | 1% | 1% | <1% |
| Level 2 | <1% | 1% | 1% | <1% |
| Level 3 | 1% | 4% | 4% | 5% |
| Level 4 | 95% | 92% | 93% | 92% |
| Agent | <1% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
| Other | 2% | <1% | 0% | 0% |
| Total | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

- As a proportion of the total number of breach events, L4s remain the vast majority of compromise cases (93% in 2014-2015)
- At-risk accounts in 2015 were largely attributed to L4 merchants
- Level 4 merchants outnumber L1s in the US

Large breach events (levels 1 & 2)



- Fewer level 1 and 2 breaches in 2015
- Threat actors are targeting smaller interconnected merchants in large numbers
- Restaurants and “other retail” make up the biggest portion of total known breaches
- Quick service restaurants, supermarkets, and lodging make up the other top MCCs

A dark blue background featuring a faint, semi-transparent image of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with its lights glowing against the dark sky.

“Kuhook” Overview

Erik Rasmussen, Director, VISA, Cyber Intelligence and Investigations



Kuhook Overview: Distinctions

MALWARE

Why is this malware interesting?

1

Output file encryption...with unique keys!

2

Unconventional device driver modules

3

Possible exploitation of symmetric keys vulnerability

4

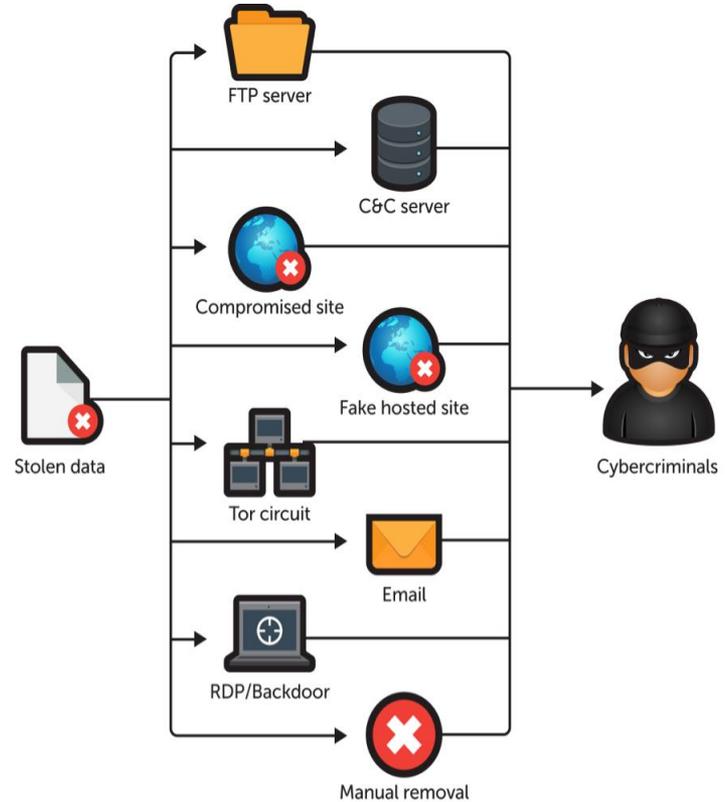
Victim merchant sample dataset is extremely small

PoS Malware Behavior

MALWARE

Malware exfiltration methods:

NOTE: Malware in this presentation communicated via C&C servers



Graphic courtesy of Trend Micro

PoS Malware Types

MALWARE

**Malware will often
fall into one of these
categories:**

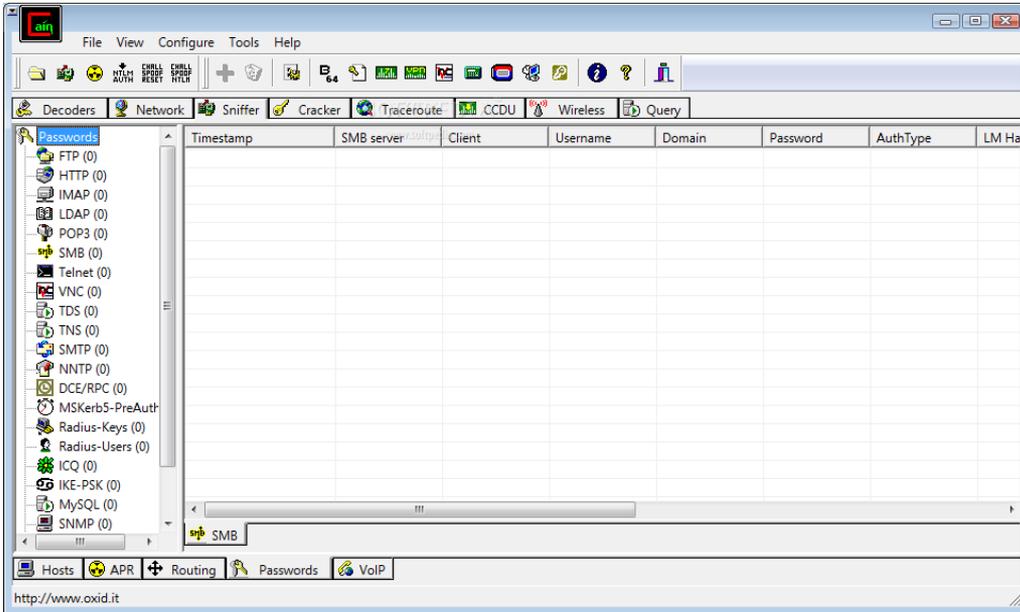
NOTE: This malware exhibits all 4
characteristics.

- 1 File scraper
- 2 Network sniffer
- 3 Keylogger
- 4 Memory Scraper

Kuhook Tools Selection

- “Hacker” Tools
 - cain.exe
 - Network password scanner
 - Password cracking capability
 - “recovery” tool
 - mimikatz.exe
 - Password dumper tool
 - Plaintext passwords
 - Not just hashes
- “Dual Use” Tools
 - psexec
 - Microsoft remote/local administration cmd line utility
 - sdelete.exe (aka SDelete)
 - Microsoft cmd line utility for wiping
 - Replaces each character of the file's name with a successive alphabetic character. For instance, the first rename of "foo.txt" would be to "AAA.AAA".

Kuhook Tools Selection



cain.exe screenshot

```
mimikatz # lsadump::lsa /inject
Domain : RD / S-1-5-21-2578996962-4185879466-3696909401
RID    : 000001f4 (500)
User   : RDAAdministrator

* Primary
  LM    :
  NTLM  : 7c08d63a2f48f045971bc2236ed3f3ac

* WDigest
01 f679b3e6845b3530d23b6fd583d85fc4
02 7594f44ba1add22ec59422ee0bcc7d3d
03 4edf9050b5708a95c5339ff4d45f9d9
04 f679b3e6845b3530d23b6fd583d85fc4
05 dca06390fd68b184d077ea114d71bc65
06 968edd04b2c8522c75a8b380777411a6
07 b41d280f6b5e4b29be875574e8153576
08 83d18fb18d91dbe5c48c0993015bb8fd
09 560ff912f8d8387a3d8d16e6b8a6fa1b
10 42fc8aa69c1bdcedc14426f6860006e9
11 93877de46315d5a9488a04b70adfdd9b
12 83d18fb18d91dbe5c48c0993015bb8fd
13 e8d56e7d1c98fd73c3bbd9d433b52e
14 3de7cf58a243cb9c7d2da48e0d26f2e0
15 c9cd4c6d0e58ca94f7f8deb0b771de9c
16 8e0e4d08026ca65a1dac39b3f91ad450
17 04019d0035b037c2340721bce9ffad5
18 ed6557be36a02e560432c14b0c907071
19 006b6ddf87a13ee7dd8690826ff0185
20 44d1a858df09d82a9c3aa1504ba0cf4b
21 05324ef16d0c8ea133bd6c0e857d0ab
22 bd7a7ccf1ec21d4d3c0a08141db9958e
23 bb827d55dba8783d26ddc540187e7d7
24 45b27af413b6cf9a9e2de6007dd21e909
25 475144eb50d71a4eccd59aac3edaa95d0
26 e810c132e213ae83712e6e1e9688b06f
27 0e83d15538ee64b201e1Fed1224ad7c7
28 14cac5ae547459d5c9daac86f499b7d7
29 d14452ddf60a9e2675fd5e37c14f12b7

* Kerberos
Default Salt : RD.ADSECURITY.ORGAdministrator
Credentials
  des_cbc_md5      : 0143809219947ff4
  rc4_plain        : 7c08d63a2f48f045971bc2236ed3f3ac
01dCredentials
  des_cbc_md5      : 58dc9e464ad4acd
  rc4_plain        : 96ae239ae1f8f186a205b6863a3c955f
```

mimikatz.exe screenshot

Note: These screenshots are demonstrative only and not from actual Visa or Mandiant investigations.

“Kuhook” Capabilities

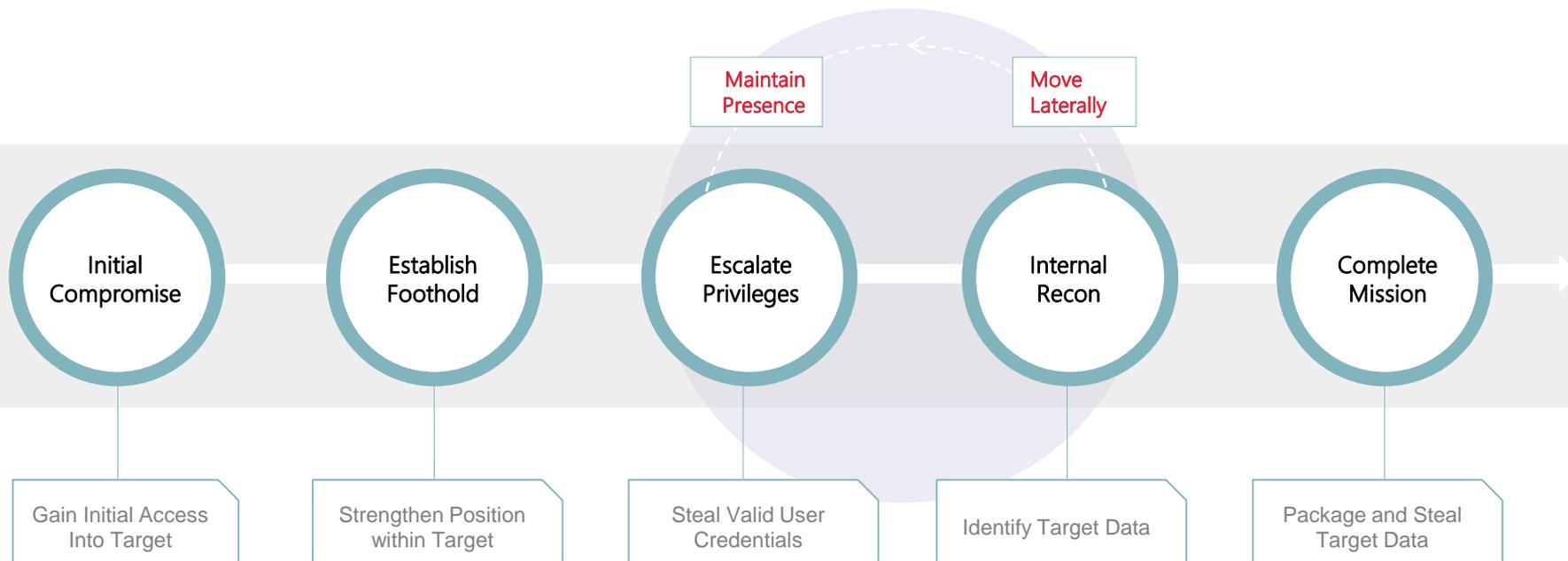
Jason Rebholz, Manager, MANDIANT, a FireEye Company



How Compromises Are Being Detected



Anatomy of a Targeted Attack



SOUMAT, MODPOS, Kuhook Malware

- Packed device driver that targets the Windows XP operating system
- Identified five variants
 - All packed with the same packer and contained nearly identical driver payloads
 - Primary difference was the functionality of the shell code
 - Variants identified by file size
- Persistence is maintained through a Windows service
 - Randomly generated service name
 - Easy to find if you know what you're looking for!



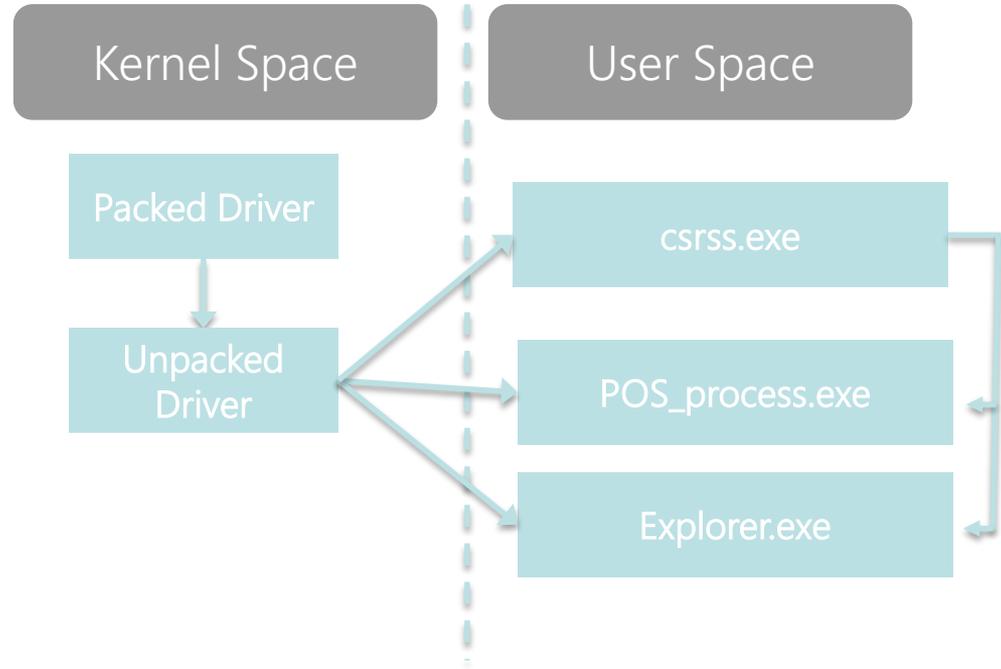
Malware Variants

- Card data harvester
 - Injects malicious code into the POS process that handles card holder data
 - Searches process memory for track 2 data
 - Writes stolen card data out to files that were encrypted with a unique key per host!
- Keystroke logger
 - Injects shell code into “explorer.exe” that enumerates all input devices
 - Intercepts data from devices (keyboard, mouse, etc.)
 - Data is output to a file that is encrypted with unique AES key per host
- Backdoor
 - Downloads and executes shellcode
 - Communicates to hard-coded IP address using HTTP POST requests



What happens when it loads?

- Driver unpacks itself and starts a new system thread
 - Reports back to the system that the original driver failed to load
 - Does not appear to be loaded but is actually running separate from the original driver
- Unpacked driver decodes and injects shell code into user space
 - Initially targets “csrss.exe”
 - Becomes main broker of future user-space processes
 - Additional shell code deployed that is specific to the variant
 - Variants are able to communicate with each other



A dark blue background featuring a faint, stylized image of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with its towers and suspension cables visible against a dark sky.

“Kuhook” Detection Strategies

Erik Rasmussen, Director, VISA, Cyber Intelligence and Investigations



Breach prevention and detection strategy

Defense-in-depth, preparation, vigilance

Adopt data devaluation technology

PCI DSS as baseline controls

Have a breach preparedness plan

Monitor for known POS and other malware

Know your environment

Know the warning signs



Mitigation

Best Practices**



- Control the Windows Administrator account
 - Make privilege escalation difficult
- Install application whitelisting on Point of Sale systems
- Closely monitor activity on Point of Sale systems
 - Be aware of anomalous behavior and investigate all suspicious activity on the POS
- Ensure the POS system functions as a single purpose machine.
- Keep operating system patch levels up to date
- Restrict permissions on Windows file sharing or disable file sharing altogether
- Restrict remote access services use
- Promote security awareness

**Source: Visa Publication: New Year's Resolution: Resolve to Fight Malware

Indicators of Compromise (IOCs)

| IOC | Type | Notes |
|--|------------------------|---|
| 91.207.61.208 | Destination IP address | Command and control server |
| 109.72.149.42 | Destination IP address | Command and control server |
| 130.0.237.22 | Destination IP address | Command and control server |
| 5.187.1.198 | Destination IP address | Command and control server |
| ABA833D11679DFEBC95060BD3C557853 | File MD5 hash | Malicious driver file |
| 215BDF185C3B35503923FCF8872C75FC | File MD5 hash | Malicious driver file |
| F9C4E2D38DF8A87F545B6F5BA1F8691B | File MD5 hash | Malicious driver file |
| F21403B6CF7516B37EFFC17F410CED6F | File MD5 hash | Malicious driver file |
| 6FBD31E7B5A31F5F75BD0D858D3327B5 | File MD5 hash | Malicious driver file |
| 68F40544ACD5568BD782434CA0F5AEE5 | File MD5 hash | Malicious backdoor file |
| 540DF6480B393BFA39D2E7CEC608EA12 | File MD5 hash | Password harvesting file |
| %SystemRoot%\system32\drivers | Install path | Malware install path |
| C:\windows\Installer\[random characters].bin | Path to log files | Keystroke logger, track 2 data logs |
| C:\windows\TEMP\[random characters].bin | Path to log files | Keystroke logger, track 2 data logs |
| C:\windows\TEMP\[random characters].temp | Path to log files | Encrypted status logs |
| HTTP POST /robots.txt | Network indicator | <p>Network traffic to the /robots.txt POST request shows patterns in the request headers and server response that are consistent across all samples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The request is to a hard-coded IP address over HTTP The user-agent string is consistent throughout the samples previously listed The server returns a 405 "Method Not Allowed" response <p>Following the HTML closing tag is a series of spaces (hexadecimal value, "20") followed by &#60!-- which serves as a marker for where the encrypted data stream begins.</p> |

Upcoming Events and Resources

- Visa Data Security Website – www.visa.com/cisp
 - Alerts, Bulletins
 - Best Practices, White Papers
 - Past Webinar Presentations
-
- PCI Security Standards Council Website – www.pcissc.org
 - Data Security Standards – PCI DSS, PA-DSS, PTS
 - Programs – ASV, ISA, PA-QSA, PFI, PTS, QSA, QIR, PCIP, and P2PE
 - Fact Sheets – ATM Security, Mobile Payments Acceptance, Tokenization, Cloud Computing, and many more...

A dark blue-tinted photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge at night, with its towers and suspension cables visible against a dark sky. The bridge's lights are faintly visible.

Questions?

The VISA logo in its characteristic bold, italicized, blue font.

VISA