

**Be very very quiet. I'm
hunting threats and
actors.**

/Jesper Mikkelsen



Hunt with confidence

```
2
3
4 rule Find_Jesper_Mikkelsen
5 {
6   strings:
7     $str0="Technical Director Nordics"  ascii wide
8     $str1="Been @ Trend Micro 9 years +"
9     $str2="Former Pen-tester | Ethical Hacker" nocase
10    $str3="Malware reversing"  ascii wide
11    $str4="19 years+"  ascii wide
12    $str5="https://twitter.com/jespermikkelsen"  ascii wide
13
14   condition:
15     all of them and (infosec_geek=100%)
16 }
17
```

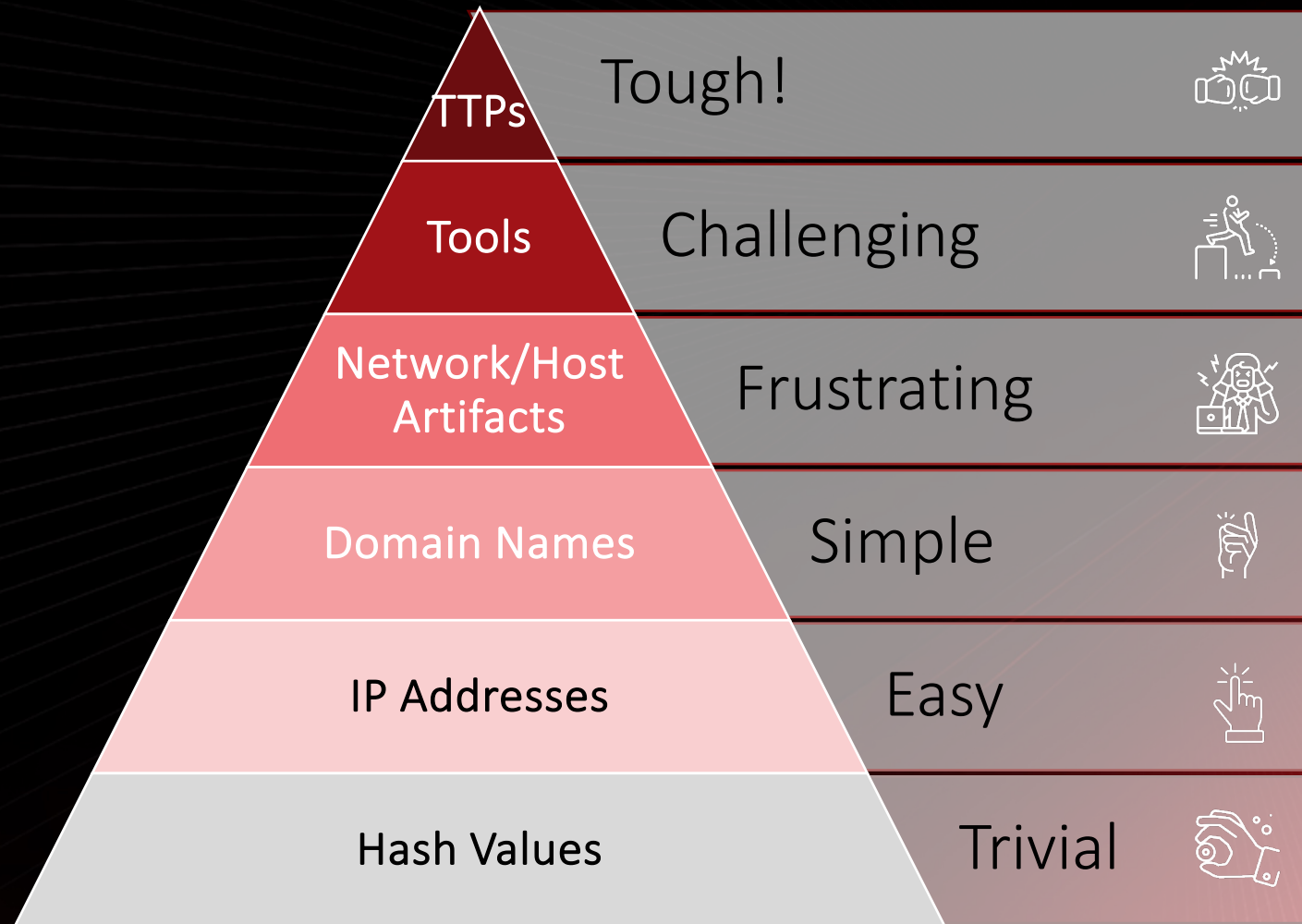
What is Threat Hunting?



Threat hunting is the process of proactively searching through computer networks or data to find adversary activities before the real damage or breach happen



Let's use the Pyramid of Pain for Hunting



David Bianco's Pyramid of Pain

Typical Threat Hunting Hypothesis Creation Process



Threat Intelligence

IoC's, Tools, Actors, Campaign, TTP's
for emerging threats



Context of the Organization Environment

OS, Software, Previous Incidents,
Partners, Vulnerability scans,
penetration testing results, policies



Based on findings, define key elements of your hypothesis:

Potential targets: systems, software,
privileged users...

Adversary techniques: TTPs

Analytics: Toolsets needed to verify
your hypothesis

The BAD news!

Software packing.

Anti-debugging

Evasion techniques



Anti-sandboxing

The BAD news!

Anti-sandboxing

Evasion

Bandit Stealer checks for the following to determine if it's running in a sandbox environment and alters its behavior accordingly to avoid detection or analysis:

- container
- jail
- KVM
- QEMU
- sandbox
- Virtual Machine
- VirtualBox
- VMware
- Xen

```
mov     rbp, [rbp+0]
lea     rcx, aVmware ; "VMware"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_98], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_90], 6
lea     rcx, aVirtualbox ; "VirtualBox"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_88], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_80], 0Ah
lea     rcx, aQemu ; "QEMU"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_78], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_70], 4
lea     rcx, aXen ; "Xen"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_68], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_60], 3
lea     rcx, aKvm ; "KVM"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_58], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_50], 3
lea     rcx, aVirtualMachine ; "Virtual Machine"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_48], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_40], 0Fh
lea     rcx, aSandbox ; "sandbox"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_38], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_30], 7
lea     rcx, aJail ; "jail"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_28], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_20], 4
lea     rcx, aContainer ; "container"
mov     [rsp+110h+var_18], rcx
mov     [rsp+110h+var_10], 9
lea     rax, aProcSelfStatus ; "/proc/self/status"
```

The BAD news!

Evasion

▼ Notable Threat Characteristics

▼ Anti-security, self-preservation (8)

Characteristic	Significance	Details
Attempts to evade detection and analysis	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: Delays execution
Attempts to detect active running processes	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: enum processes by WMI
Attempts to detect active running processes	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: enum processes
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: SbieDll.dll
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect VirtualBox using the following string: VirtualBox
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect VirtualBox using the following string: inVirtualBox
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: DetectSandboxie
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: inSandboxie

▼ Autostart or other system reconfiguration (2)

```
mov [rsp+110h+var_38], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_30], 7
lea rcx, aJail ; "jail"
mov [rsp+110h+var_28], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_20], 4
lea rcx, aContainer ; "container"
mov [rsp+110h+var_18], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_10], 9
lea rax, aProcSelfStatus ; "/proc/self/status"
```


The BAD news!

Evasion

EVIL!

▼ Notable Threat Characteristics

▼ Anti-security, self-preservation (8)

Characteristic	Significance	Details
Attempts to evade detection and analysis	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: Delays execution
Attempts to detect active running processes	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: enum processes by WMI
Attempts to detect active running processes	■ ■ ■	Process ID: 3860 Info: enum processes
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: SbieDll.dll
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect VirtualBox using the following string: VirtualBox
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect VirtualBox using the following string: inVirtualBox
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: DetectSandboxie
Attempts to detect sandbox strings	■ ■ ■	Sample attempted to detect Sandboxie using the following string: inSandboxie

▼ Autostart or other system reconfiguration (2)

```
mov [rsp+110h+var_38], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_30], 7
lea rcx, aJail ; "jail"
mov [rsp+110h+var_28], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_20], 4
lea rcx, aContainer ; "container"
mov [rsp+110h+var_18], rcx
mov [rsp+110h+var_10], 9
lea rax, aProcSelfStatus ; "/proc/self/status"
```

The BAD news!

Software packing.

Zingdoor

Zingdoor is a new HTTP backdoor written in Go. While we first encountered Zingdoor in April 2023, some logs indicate that the earliest developments of this backdoor took place in June 2022. However, it had rarely been seen in the wild and had only been observed being used in a limited number of victims, likely as a newly designed backdoor with cross-platform capabilities. Zingdoor is packed using UPX and heavily obfuscated by a custom obfuscator engine.

We noted that Zingdoor adopts **anti-UPX unpacking** techniques. Generally, the magic number of UPX is "UPX!", but in this case it was modified to "MSE!", and the UPX application cannot unpack this modified file. This technique is easy and in internet of things (IoT) types of malware, but it is considered rare in APT activities.

The BAD news!

Evasion

Bandit Stealer check
behavior accordingly

- container
- jail
- KVM
- QEMU
- sandbox
- Virtual Machine
- VirtualBox
- VMware
- Xen

Discovery, reconnaissance, and staging

In April, we found a couple of ransomware activities that appear to be injected in legitimate processes. By tracing these activities back to the source process, we found that the ransomware appeared as an activity loaded into memory from a **Cobalt Strike** beacon. In some instances, the attackers dropped the ransomware in a folder or drive as a `*.log` file:

- `E:\ITS.log`
- `C:\[Redacted]\Aps.log`

The screenshot shows a debugger window titled "Hiew: this.exe" displaying a memory dump. A table of loaded modules is visible, listing details such as Number, Name, VirtSize, RVA, PhysSize, Offset, and Flag.

Number	Name	VirtSize	RVA	PhysSize	Offset	Flag
1		0000A000	00002000	00003800	00000400	60000020
2		00000598	0000C000	00000400	00003C00	40000040
3		0000000C	0000E000	00000200	00004000	42000040
4	.idata	00002000	00010000	00000200	00004200	C0000040
5	.rsrc	00002000	00012000	00000600	00004400	40000040
6	.winlic	00672000	00014000	00000000	00004A00	E0000060
7	.boot	003FB400	00686000	003FB400	00004A00	60000060

The BAD news!

The screenshot shows the dnSpy v6.1.8 (32-bit, .NET, Debugging) interface. The Assembly Explorer on the left shows the loaded assemblies, including dnSpy (6.1.8.0) and FluffyPenguinsShe11 (1.0.0.0). The code editor displays the following C# code:

```
55     ulong num4 = num % 9067703UL;
56     for (int k = 0; k < array4.Length; k++)
57     {
58         byte[] array5 = array4;
59         int num5 = k;
60         array5[num5] ^= (byte)num;
61         if ((k & 255) == 0)
62         {
63             num = num * num % 9067703UL;
64         }
65     }
66     return result;
67 }
68
69 // Token: 0x06000002 RID: 2 RVA: 0x00003424 File Offset: 0x00001624
70 [STAThread]
71 private static int Main(string[] A_0)
72 {
73     uint[] array = new uint[]
74     {
75         1595157935U,
76         841091026U,
77         4104602669U,
```

The memory dump window (Memory 2) shows the following data:

0310BF00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	D0 68 6E 05 00 24 00 00	4D 5A 90 00 03 00 00 00	04 00 00 00 FF FF 00 00hn..\$.MZ.....
0310BF20	BB 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	40 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00@.....
0310BF40	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 80 00 00 00	0E 1F BA 0E 00 B4 09 CD	21 B8 01 4C CD 21 54 68!..L.!Th
0310BF60	69 73 20 70 72 6F 67 72	61 6D 20 63 61 6E 6E 6F	74 20 62 65 20 72 75 6E	20 69 6E 20 44 4F 53 20	is program cannot be run in DOS
0310BF80	6D 6F 64 65 2E 0D 0D 0A	24 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	50 45 00 00 4C 01 03 00	E2 C0 5A 63 00 00 00 00	mode...\$.PE.L...Zc...
0310BFA0	00 00 00 00 E0 00 22 01	0B 01 30 00 00 1A 00 00	00 08 00 00 00 00 00 00	DE 38 00 00 00 20 00 00"0.....8...
0310BFC0	00 40 00 00 00 00 40 00	00 20 00 00 00 02 00 00	04 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	06 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	..@...@.....
0310BFE0	00 80 00 00 00 02 00 00	00 00 00 00 03 00 60 85	00 00 10 00 00 10 00 00	00 00 10 00 00 10 00 00
0310C000	00 00 00 00 10 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	8C 38 00 00 4F 00 00 00	00 40 00 00 F8 05 00 008..O...@.....
0310C020	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 60 00 00 0C 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0310C040	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
0310C060	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	00 20 00 00 08 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	08 20 00 00 48 00 00 00H.....

The BAD news!

The screenshot displays the Immunity Debugger interface with the following components:

- Assembly View:** Shows assembly instructions for the `EnumChildWindows` function. The instruction list includes `mov edi,edi`, `push ebp`, `mov ebp,esp`, `mov edx,dword ptr ss:[ebp+8]`, `xor ecx,ecx`, `push 1`, `push 0`, `push dword ptr ss:[ebp+10]`, `push dword ptr ss:[ebp+C]`, `call user32.76A537E9`, `pop ebp`, `ret c`, `push 90`, `push user32.76A881C8`, `call user32.76A63DA0`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-1C],edx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-24],ecx`, `xor ebx,ebx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-2C],ebx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-34],ebx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-3C],ebx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-38],ebx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-20],ebx`, `mov esi,dword ptr [EBP+18]`, `mov eax,dword ptr ds:[esi+FDC]`, `test eax,edx`, `jns user32.76A51928`, `add esi,edx`, `mov ecx,dword ptr ds:[esi+860]`, `mov eax,ecx`, `or eax,dword ptr ds:[esi+864]`, `je user32.76A51941`, `test byte ptr ds:[ecx],4`, `jne user32.76A70CE3`, `mov edx,ebx`, `xor esi,esi`, `inc esi`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-28],esi`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-40],edx`, `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-A0],24`, and `mov dword ptr ss:[ebp-9C],esi`.
- Registers:** Shows the state of registers including `EAX`, `EBX`, `ECX`, `EDX`, `EBP`, `ESP`, `ESI`, `EDI`, `EIP`, `EFLAGS`, `ZF`, `PF`, `AF`, `OF`, `SF`, `DF`, `CF`, `LastError`, `LastStatus`, `GS`, `ES`, and `CS`.
- Memory Dump:** Shows a hex dump of memory starting at address `00000000`, containing the string `"MZÈè"` and other data.

The BAD news!

The screenshot displays the dnSpy v6.1.8 (32-bit, .NET, Debugging) interface. The main window shows assembly code for the EnumChildWindows function, with instructions and comments visible. The CPU register window on the right shows the EAX register containing 00000000 and the EBX register containing 02280000, which is labeled as "MZERè". The memory dump window at the bottom shows a dump of memory starting at address 02280000, with the first few bytes being 4D 5A 45 52, which correspond to the ASCII string "MZERè...X.e.P.". The dump also shows a call to ucrtbase.761C12F0 and a return to loadIn2mem.00071279 from loadIn2mem.00071000. The dump is displayed in a hex and ASCII view, with a data type window on the left showing the current data type as Data type @02000002.

The good news!

The good news!

```
"score": "6.033966452662256",  
"machine_learning": {  
  "classification": "malicious",  
  "probability": "96.19 %"  
},  
"mitre_attck": [  
  {  
    "id": "T1040",  
    "description": "Network Hop"  
  }  
]
```

```
[ /core > unipacker 602c9b7452e4618580c0c3cd43e3a2c56b438c0a92aada32fe0ff19ad71843c  
Next up: Sample: [PEtite] 602c9b7452e4618580c0c3cd43e3a2c56b438c0a92aada32fe0ff19ad71843c  
Emulation starting at 0x414f19  
Section hopping detected into sect_0! Address: 0x401000  
Totalsize:0x9f000, VirtualMemorySize:0x9f000  
Allocated Chunks:  
Setting unpacked Entry Point  
OEP:0x1000  
Fixing Imports...  
ptr_iat: 0x421bc  
writing dllname WININET.dll#0 to: 0x9116e  
patch_addr: 0x92370, 0x92381, 0x92394, 0x923a7, 0x923ba, 0x923cd, 0x923e3  
ptr_iat: 0x42360  
Fixing sections  
Size of raw data (): 0x14200, fixed: 0x8d000  
Size of raw data (petite): 0x308, fixed: 0x11000  
Set IAT-Directory to 0 (VA and Size)  
RVA to import table: 0x91000  
Totalsize:0x9f000, VirtualMemorySize:0x9f000, Allocated chunks: []  
Fixing SizeOfImage...  
Fixing Memory Protection of Sections  
  
Fixing protections for: with (True, True, True)  
petite  
Fixing protections for: petite with (True, True, True)  
Fixing Checksum  
Dumping state to ./unpacked_602c9b7452e4618580c0c3cd43e3a2c56b438c0a92aada32fe0ff19ad71843c  
  
Emulation of 602c9b7452e4618580c0c3cd43e3a2c56b438c0a92aada32fe0ff19ad71843c finished.  
--- Saved to ./unpacked_602c9b7452e4618580c0c3cd43e3a2c56b438c0a92aada32fe0ff19ad71843c ---
```


The good news!

```
"score": "6.033966452662256",
"machine_learning": {
  "classification": "malicious",
  "probability": "96.19 %"
},
"mitre_attck": [
  {
    "id": "T1040",
    "description": "Network Hop"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1001",
    "description": "Data Obfuscation"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1204",
    "description": "User Execution"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1129",
    "description": "Execution through Module Load"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1223",
    "description": "Compile After Delivery"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1218",
    "description": "Reflective Loading"
  }
],
"suspicious_strings": [],
"suspicious_strings_decoded": [],
"high_entropy_sections": [
  ""
],
"import_ratio": "0.2631578947368421",
"suspicious_section_names": [
  "",
  "petite"
],
"suspicious_imports": [
  [
    "kernel32.dll",
    "GetProcAddress"
  ]
]
```

```
},
"mitre_attck": [
  {
    "id": "T1023",
    "description": "Command Line Interface"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1005",
    "description": "Data from Local System"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1008",
    "description": "Fallback Channels"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1064",
    "description": "Scripting"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1040",
    "description": "Network Hop"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1053",
    "description": "Scheduled Task"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1001",
    "description": "Data Obfuscation"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1074",
    "description": "Data Staged"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1020",
    "description": "Automated Exfiltration"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1095",
    "description": "Standard Non-Application Layer Protocol"
  },
  {
    "id": "T1119",
    "description": "Automated Collection"
  }
]
```

Now time to hunt threats!

Let's have a look IRL.

The good news.



”The pattern matching swiss knife for malware researchers
(and everyone else)”

in short.. grep on crack...

<http://virustotal.github.io/yara/>

The basics of Yara.

- Uses descriptions a.k.a rules.
- Aid's in finding badness in a binary.
- Scan's files and memory
- Pattern matching
 - Strings
 - Regex
 - Binary patterns {Hex strings}

The basics of Yara.

- Example of a YARA rule to hunt for Cobalt beacons.

```
{ rules.yar
6120 rule WIN64_MAL_BKDR_COBEACON {
6121   meta:
6122     description = "Detects presence of Cobaltstrike beacon."
6123     author = "Jesper Mikkelsen"
6124     reference = "Not provided"
6125     date = "2023-08-07"
6126     sharing = "TLP:WHITE"
6127     // techniques and mitre_att may not be accurate. As they are based on static analysis.
6128     // For higher accuracy, Dynamic analysis is needed.
6129     techniques = "Software Packing:Command Line Interface:Data from Local System:Network Service Scanning:System Time Discovery:Scripting:Account
6130     mitre_att = "T1045:T1023:T1005:T1046:T1124:T1064:T1087:T1033:T1018:T1053:T1021:T1001:T1078:T1049:T1074:T1070:T1035:T1095:T1119:T1204:T1080:T1
6131     score = 75
6132     scan_type = "file"
6133     dname = "Backdoor.Win64.COBEACON.YXDHGZ"
6134     malseq_sequence_length = "45"
6135     malseq_sequence_step = "10"
6136     malseq_sample_similarity = "0.1"
6137     hash0 = "ee0cca0f3aff863531112053a75d27db0624a82c0f3b109a4423e1be7ec9ea7b"
6138     hash1 = "d30cd86cf146eb923b912b378add3d6c96aa4bb6b57283426a7fbd7e5b40b77a"
6139     hash2 = "4c110f8657f1ee577bcd3bcf8317a9d1d548ea7ebb3e5add1a10976deef62e49"
6140     hash3 = "be9736f5f079f0d19526e01a2599f1279916feb52f8ec4f10e339d7bd96593b0"
6141   strings:
6142     $sequence_0 = { 0300 0000 0000 7600 0000 50 8b0a 0001 0008 0303 0000 0000 00840000000000 0000 0100 0803 0200 0000 0000 8f00 0000 800000 0001
6143     // Opcode Sequence 0:
6144     // 0x00001000 0300 add eax, dword ptr [rax]
6145     // 0x00001002 0000 add byte ptr [rax], al
```

Threat Hunting using YARA in VisionOne

Let's have a look IRL.



< Back



YARA-IS-KING ⓘ



Run YARA Rules

Run osquery



Collect Evidence

Isolate Endpoint

Remove Endpoint

× 2 selected



<input type="checkbox"/>	Endpoint name	Agent GUID	IP address
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	> TM-AD01	 0f57e701-4749-3025-0072-db5f9...	192.168.10.110
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	> TM-AD02	 d0e7d2d6-1dea-40be-87ba-97b27...	192.168.10.111

Run YARA Task

This task executes custom YARA rules on the specified endpoints.

Selected Endpoint: 2

Target:

Process

Enter process name



YARA rules:

Select File...

File size must not exceed 1 MB. Supported file types: Text files

```
rule APT_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Indicator {
  meta:
    description = "Detects CobaltStrike beacons"
    author = "JPCERT"
    reference = "https://github.com/JPCERTCC/aa-tools/blob/master/cobaltstrikescan.py"
    date = "2018-11-09"
  strings:
    $v1 = { 73 70 72 6F 67 00 }
```

Validate Rules

Description:

Hunting for Cobalt Strike in memory

Create

Cancel

We have a match!

Trend Vision One™ Forensics and Analysis *Preview* > YARA-IS-KING > Query Results

YARA osquery

Task ID: Selected endpoints: 2 / 2 Target: Process(All) YARA rules: [View Details](#) Description: Hunting for Cobalt Strike in memory Matched results: 10

[Clear all](#)

- TM-AD01
- TM-AD02

Endpoint name ↑	Matched rule name	Process ID	Process name
TM-AD01	HKTL_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Strings	8352	rundll32.exe
TM-AD01	CobaltStrike_Unmodified_Beacon_v2	8352	rundll32.exe
TM-AD01	HKTL_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Strings	1728	qwkejqkwjewqkje.exe
TM-AD01	CobaltStrike_Unmodified_Beacon_v2	1728	qwkejqkwjewqkje.exe
TM-AD01	HKTL_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Strings	2060	coreServiceShell.exe
TM-AD01	CobaltStrike_Unmodified_Beacon_v2	2060	coreServiceShell.exe
TM-AD02	HKTL_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Strings	176	rundll32.exe
TM-AD02	CobaltStrike_Unmodified_Beacon_v2	176	rundll32.exe
TM-AD02	HKTL_CobaltStrike_Beacon_Strings	2032	qwkejqkwjewqkje.exe
TM-AD02	CobaltStrike_Unmodified_Beacon_v2	2032	qwkejqkwjewqkje.exe

Automating Adversary Based Threat Hunting

Let's have a look IRL.

Important: This is a "Pre-release" feature and is not considered an official release. Please review the [Pre-release Disclaimer](#) before using the feature.

New Threat 2023-02-18
✕

Hive Ransomw...

Type: Cybercrime
Campaign Overview:

- **Hive** is a ransomware family used in Ransomware-as-a-Service (RaaS) attacks. This ransomware was first found in the wild in **late June** and **early July 2021**....

Learn more
< 1 / 29 >

Last seen: Any time ▾

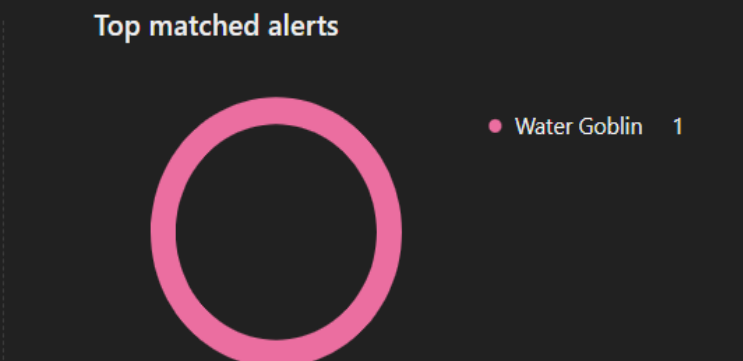
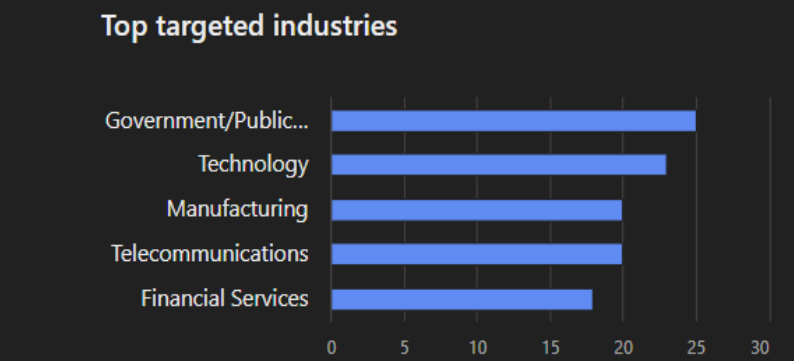
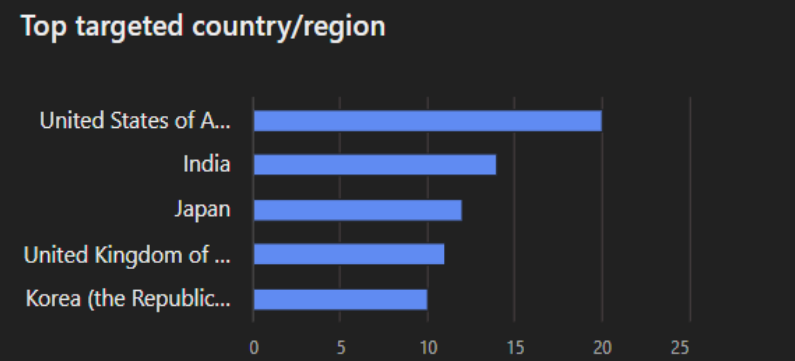
Matched result: All ▾

Type: All ▾

Targeted country/region: All ▾

Targeted industry: All ▾

🔍 Search



Threat	Threat status	AKA	Type	Impact scope	Last seen
🔴 Water Goblin	Active	Conti	Cybercrime	📄 0 🖥️ 1	January 2023
Water Mare	Active	REvil, REvix, Sodinokibi, UNC2628	Cybercrime	📄 0 🖥️ 0	February 2023
Water Selkie	Active	Lockbit	Cybercrime	📄 0 🖥️ 0	February 2023
Water Koromodako	Active	BokBot, IcedID	Cybercrime	📄 0 🖥️ 0	February 2023

Important: This is a “Pre-release” feature and is not considered an official release. Please review the [Pre-release Disclaimer](#) before using the feature.

Water Goblin

Type	Cybercrime
AKA	Conti
Targeted country/region	-
Targeted industries	Financial Services, Insurance
Motivation	personal-gain
First seen	May 2020
Last seen	January 2023
Last update	2023-02-13 07:54:38

First Observed in May 2020, Conti is a Ransomware as a Service operation and the successor to another Ransomware as a Service, 'RYUK'. The same group behind both Conti and RYUK are also believed to be behind the development TrickBot and BazarLoader malware, both of which act as initial access techniques leading to Conti Ransomware attacks. Trend Micro tracks the activities of Conti affiliates and their associates using the Intrusion Set name 'Water Goblin'.

Noteworthy Attributes

- Continues to successfully compromise businesses globally
- Acquires access via Initial Access Brokers

Intelligence Data

[Intelligence Reports \(18\)](#) [Tactic, Technique, and Procedures](#) [Tools \(9\)](#) [Malware \(12\)](#) [CVEs \(4\)](#) [Indicators \(486\)](#)

Tactic ID	Tactic name	Technique ID	Technique name
TA0007	Discovery	T1135	Network Share Discovery
TA0007	Discovery	T1049	System Network Connections Discovery
TA0007	Discovery	T1482	Domain Trust Discovery
TA0007	Discovery	T1082	System Information Discovery
TA0007	Discovery	T1083	File and Directory Discovery

Impact scope

[Workbenches \(1\)](#) [Servers \(0\)](#) [Desktops \(0\)](#)

Workbench ID	Report name	Last sweep ↓
WB-16666-20211210-00007	[Targeted Attack] Top malicious IOC found in company possibly attacked by LockBit - 2023-02-03	2023-02-03 10:55:33

IoC and TTP Based Hunting

Intelligence Reports

Trend Micro Vision One™ Intelligence Reports

Curated Custom

Trend Micro integrates up-to-the-minute intelligence reports from internal and external sources.

Last updated: All View: Matched sweeps only

Matched sweeps	Report name
▶ 1 out of 6	Kinsing & DarkIoT botnet among 34
▶ 3 out of 3	Mixed IOCs, Week 39
▶ 3 out of 3	Mixed IOCs, Week 39
▶ 3 out of 3	Mixed IOCs, Week 39
▶ 1 out of 1	LazarusGroup IOCs, Week 40
▼ 3 out of 7	LazarusGroup IOCs, Week 39

Matched: 3 Total: 7

Created ↓	Type
2022-10-07 13:11:00	Auto Sweeping
2022-10-06 13:45:00	Auto Sweeping

Auto Sweeping Settings

If you turn on **Auto Sweeping** for a source type, Trend Micro Vision One generates a scheduled sweep and runs once every day for 7 consecutive days based on each new report from the source. Auto Sweeping supports a limited number of indicators per day. For details, check the [Online Help](#).

Source

Source ↓ Auto Sweeping

Trend Micro

EXTERNAL SOURCES

- Corporate security teams
- Government agencies - Europe
- Government agencies - North America
- Information sharing organizations
- Security researchers
- Security vendors

2023-02-08 23:28 (UTC-05:00) 99+ Trend Micro Canada Demo

Last updated ↓

organizations	2022-10-24 08:00:04	⋮
organizations	2022-10-07 14:00:03	⋮
organizations	2022-10-07 14:00:03	⋮
organizations	2022-10-07 14:00:03	⋮
organizations	2022-10-07 10:00:03	⋮
organizations	2022-09-30 14:00:03	⋮

Start Sweeping

External Threat Intelligence



Via TAXII and MISP Integrations

Trend Micro Vision One™ | Third-Party Integration > TAXII Feeds 2023-02-08 11:42 (UTC-05:00) 99+ Trend Micro Canada Demo

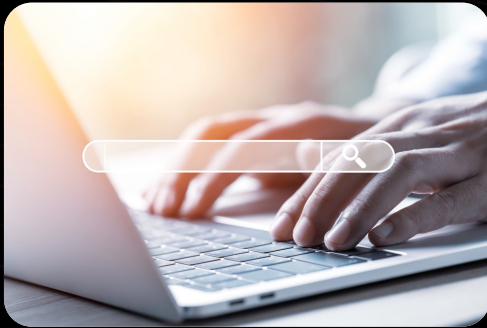
< Third-Party Integration

Note: After successful subscription, TAXII feeds are processed to produce custom intelligence reports. For details on generated reports, go to [Intelligence Reports > Custom](#).

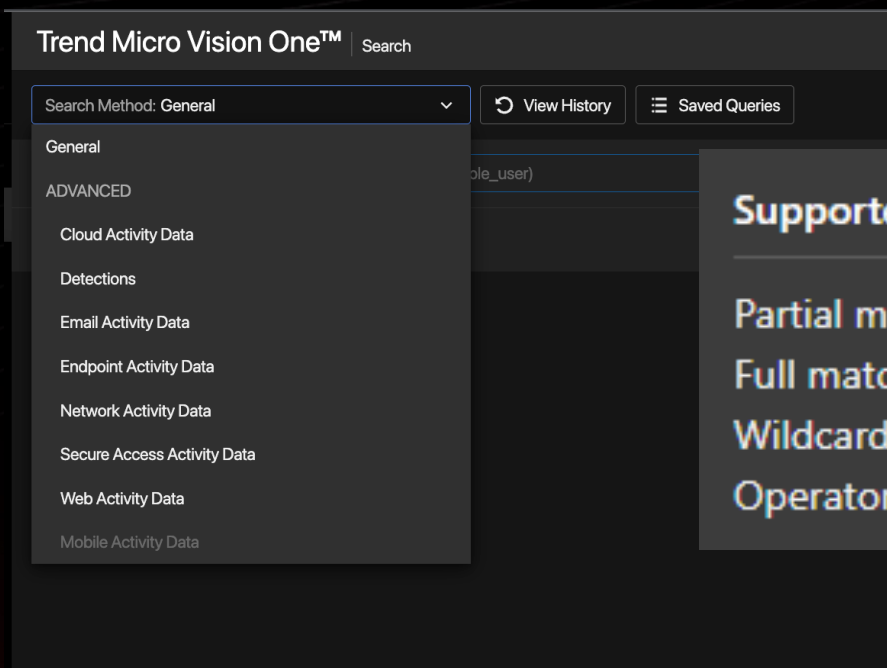
[+ Add](#) TAXII version: All

<input type="checkbox"/>	Feed ↑	TAXII version	Description	Polling interval	Last polled	Feed status
<input type="checkbox"/>	▶ 9 https://limo.anomali.com/api/v1/taxii2/...	2.0	N/A	Once every 1 hour	2023-02-08 11:52:25 ↻	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	▼ 1 https://otx.alienvault.com/taxii/	2.1	N/A	Once every 1 hour	2023-02-08 11:00:03 ↻	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Collection	Collection ID	API root	Last synced	Collection status	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Data feed for user: Stevens007	e27b3e3e-13d8-409d-b58d-e5067547a280	Open Threat Exchange TAXII Server	2023-02-08 11:33:08	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

IoC based Hunting



In the Search App, you can search for many different objects like IP's, URL, Domains, hashes, registry keys, file names, process names and command lines. But you can also search for partial matches or wildcard, not just Full match which may give you less hits.



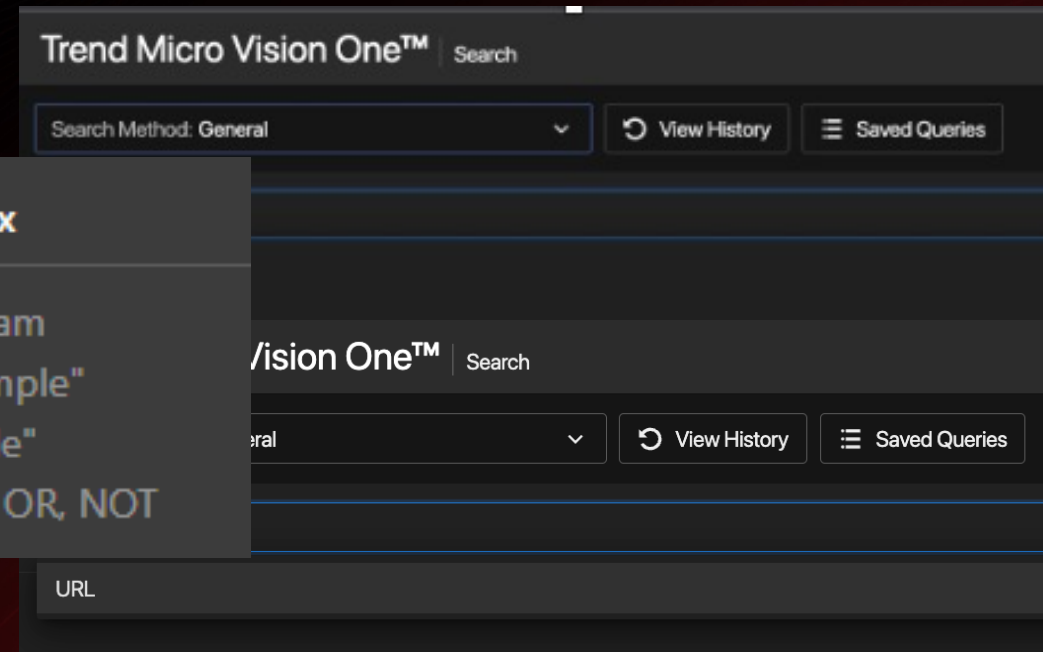
Supported Syntax

Partial match: Exam

Full match: "Example"

Wildcard: "*ample"

Operators: AND, OR, NOT



Query Language Samples

eventSubId	Data Field Mapping
1	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_OPEN
2	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_CREATE
3	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_TERMINATE
4	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_LOAD_IMAGE
5	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_EXECUTE
6	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_CONNECT
7	TELEMETRY_PROCESS_TRACME
101	TELEMETRY_FILE_CREATE
102	TELEMETRY_FILE_OPEN
103	TELEMETRY_FILE_DELETE
104	TELEMETRY_FILE_SET_SECURITY
105	TELEMETRY_FILE_COPY
106	TELEMETRY_FILE_MOVE

Tip 1 - Partial search

For partial searches, only full words are supported.

Query	Result for "eddie_chen"
endpointHostName: edd	No
endpointHostName: eddie	Yes

Tip 2 - Asterisk wildcards

Use asterisk (*) wildcards to represent single characters.


Query	Result for "eddie_chen"
endpointHostName: edd*	No
endpointHostName: "edd**"	Yes

Tip 3 - Trigger REGEX search


Type an asterisk (*) in the middle of the search string to search for all results containing the search string.

Query	Result for "eddie" and "edison"
endpointHostName: "e*d"	Yes
endpointHostName: "ed**"	Yes
endpointHostName: "**ed"	Yes

TTP Based Hunting



Detection of malicious activity through signature or indicators can easily be defeated by changing attributes like IP's, domains, URL's, hashes.



TTP's on the other end don't change as fast as indicators. Threat Actors, Campaign & malware variants share the same TTP's & therefore can be fingerprinted & hunted.

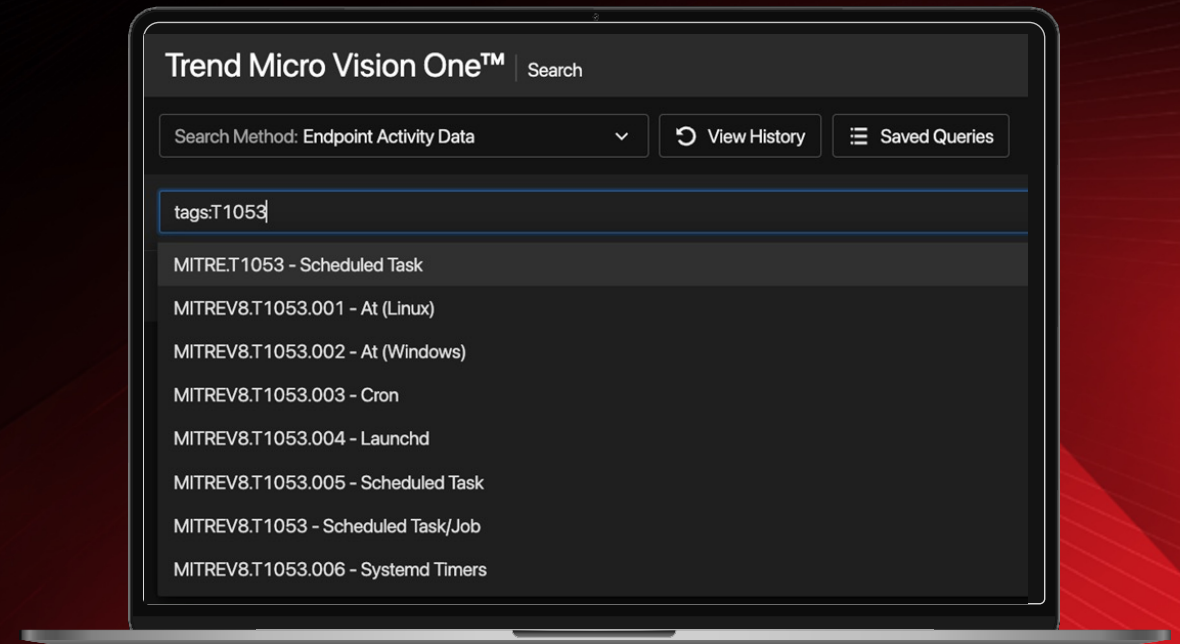
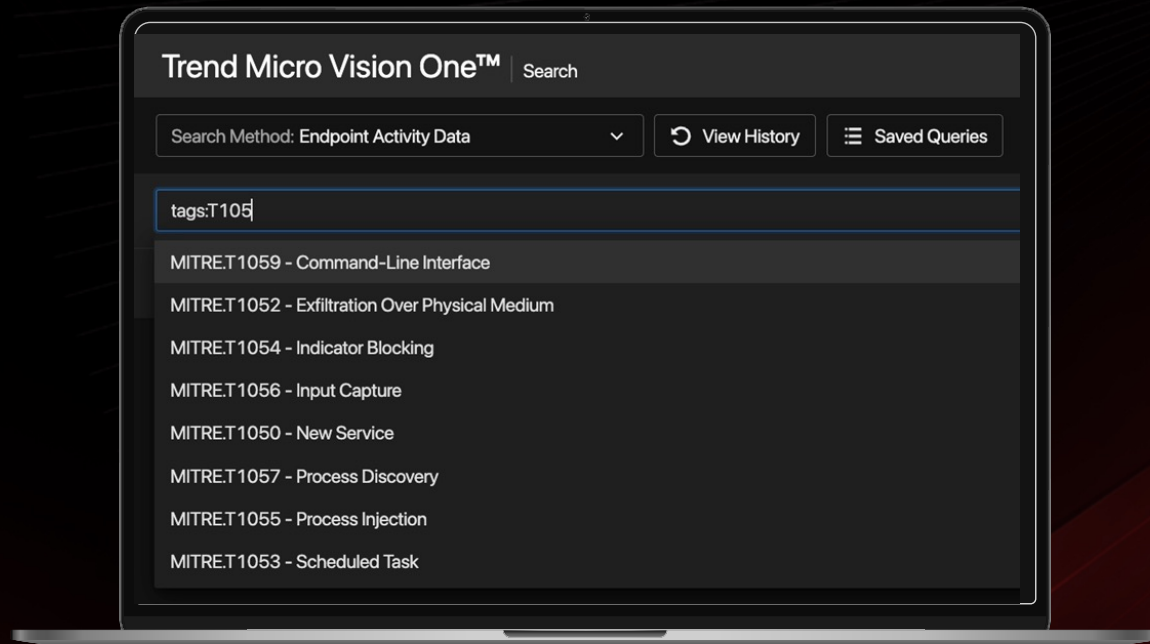
How to get TTPs (MITRE ATT&CK Techniques)

Search App query based on tags : Txxx



Techniques

Sub Techniques



What other automations for Threat Hunting are available?

Search App - Watchlist

Saved Queries

Search name

<input type="checkbox"/>	Watchlist ⓘ	Saved query
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enable the Watchlist to automate the search process and receive notifications when matching data is found. Enabled/Maximum: 8/20
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Important: Only applicable for "publicly available" queries that can match data found in Detections, Email, Endpoint, Secure Access, and Mobile activity data. BM
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EMOTET IPs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	T1036

Open Guide 1

Trend Micro Vision One™

portal.xdr.trendmicro.com/index.html#/app/search?guide=true

USE CASES

- Search for suspicious connections
- Search for possible web shells
- Search for file creation for common remote access tools
- Search for suspicious command arguments

TIPS

- Using the query language
- Dynamic and string field limitations

Search for suspicious connections

Search method: Endpoint Activity Data

Query: eventSubId: (203 OR 204) AND endpointHostName:sample.host AND (spt:445 OR dpt:445)

Copy Query

Customization: Adjust port numbers based on your investigation

Field information: eventSubId: Access event type endpointHostName: Endpoint Hostname

Automate the Hunt with APIs and XDR Detection Models



XDR Automation Center (API)

– <https://automation.trendmicro.com/xdr/home>



Locate v3.0 Public API under API Reference

mode Home Guides **API Reference** API Cookbook Change Log

As of May 2022, the Trend Micro Vision One public APIs v1.0 are deprecated. All v1.0 APIs will be removed permanently in April 2023. Trend Micro recommends migrating to the latest version of the APIs.

RESPONSE ACTIONS

- Common
- Custom Script
- Domain Account
- Email
- Endpoint

Parameter that allows you to select the type of data the query displays. Supported values:

- 'default' - Displays the data returned by the query
- 'countOnly' - Displays the number of records returned by the query

HEADER PARAMETERS

TMV1-Query **required**

string

Example: `dpt:443 or src:'192.169.1.1'`

Statement that allows you to retrieve a subset of the collected endpoint activity data. Supported fields:

- 'dpt' - Match type support: Full match
- 'dst' - Match type support: Partial match

Example

ase-endpointActivityDataV3

Copy Expand all Collapse all

```
{
  "nextLink": "https://api.xdr.trendmicro.com/v3.0/endpointAct
  "progressRate": 30,
  "items": [
    + { ... }
  ]
}
```

Trend Micro Vision One™ Detection Model Management

2023-02-08 23:28 (UTC-05:00) 99+ Trend Micro Canada Demo

Detection Models Exceptions

Severity: All Applicable products: All products Status: All Last updated: All Hunt Reset

Severity	Model	Description	Applicable products	Last updated ↓	Status
Medium	[Threat Hunting] Suspicious script in scheduled task	Persistence of script as scheduled task	Trend Micro Apex One as a Service, Trend Micro Cloud One - Endpoint & Workload Security, Endpoint Sensor, Trend Micro Deep Security Software	2022-10-16 23:14:13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Low	[Threat Hunting] BITSAdmin Job Execution	Detect suspicious BITS Job execution	Trend Micro Apex One as a Service, Trend Micro Cloud One - Endpoint & Workload Security, Endpoint Sensor, Trend Micro Deep Security Software	2022-09-06 04:17:44	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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