

Cuba Ransomware: Incited by Hanictor



Cuba ransomware (a.k.a UNC2596) has targeted more than 49 institutions spread across critical sectors such as the manufacturing, information technology, government, and banking. Active since 2019, it has primarily targeted organizations in North and South Americas. However, it has been observed to spare the entities that provide urgent care. The threat actor is using custom packer which allows it to evade the detection even though it has been in market for a while now. Having picked up the pace in 2021 the threat actor have earned at least \$ 43.9 Million heretofore.

The Russian aligned ransomware group primarily uses the Windowsbased virus, Hanictor, which has been in use since 2013. It has shown a preference for exploiting vulnerabilities in Microsoft Exchange, with ProxyShell and ProxyLogon being the first targets. One method of delivering malware to an endpoint is through social engineering, it also secures initial access to the victim's endpoint by exploiting Microsoft Exchange Vulnerabilities, compromised credentials, or legitimate Remote Desktop access. After gaining the access, the next step is to manipulate legitimate Windows executables such as PowerShell and PSExec. The ransomware will then encrypt all files with the suffix ".cuba". In addition, the organization takes files and threatens to dump the information on the Dark Web unless a ransom is paid in crypto.

The simplest way to protect oneself from this ransomware is to keep up with the latest Microsoft security patches, using multi factor authentication and using strong unique passwords. With increase in number of publicly available vulnerabilities the threat actor are seen using them in their operations.

What should you do?

- Monitor Indicators of Compromise (IoCs) in your environment to identify anomalies.
- Ensure your Windows environment is patched to the brim and is protected with multi-factor authentication.
- Conduct a comprehensive, full spectrum, threat assessment exercise to uncover blind spots and improvement areas.

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KPMG in India Cyber Response Hotline: +91 9176 471 471

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Indicators of Compromise: IP Addresses	
31.44.184[.]82	37.120.193[.]123
45.32.229[.]66	157.245.70[.]127
108.62.12[.]122	185.153.199[.]176
40.115.162[.]72	

Indicators of Compromise: Domains	
accomead[.]ru	windetheta[.]com
kabimmo[.]com	sweyblidian[.]com
jollygul[.]com	mettlybothe[.]com
Pospvisis[.]com	aklatdelmundo[.]com
dialencelu[.]ru	makemoneywith[.]website
undereasus[.]ru	cuba4mp6ximo2zlo[.]onion
frougelylo[.]ru	quickcompanyreg[.]co[.]za
kurvalarva[.]com	medicinainterna-critica[.]com
<pre>gatiallyde[.]com</pre>	

Indicators of Compromise: Hashes
3fe1a3aaca999a5db936843c9bdfea14
ba83831700a73661f99d38d7505b5646
7b6f996cc1ad4b5e131e7bf9b1c33253
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4bbb69bb35f95223e82a573ce0794a78
4c32ef0836a0af7025e97c6253054bca
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Indicators of Compromise: Hashes
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209ffbc8ba1e93167bca9b67e0ad3561c065595d
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