

# Unpacking Payload used in Bottle EK

e [pwncode.io/2019/12/unpacking-payload-used-in-bottle-ek.html](https://pwncode.io/2019/12/unpacking-payload-used-in-bottle-ek.html)

The screenshot shows a debugger interface with two main panes. The left pane displays assembly code for Thread 1, starting with:

```
00401929 FF7C 44 PUSH DIWORD PTR DS:[EBP-54] ; GetProcAddress
0040192B FF15 08E04000 CALL DIWORD PTR DS:[Kernel32.GetProcAddress] ; GetProcAddress
0040192D 48 EC 00 XOR EAX,DIWORD PTR DS:[4150F5],ERX
0040192F 50 PUSH EAX
00401932 F7F5 44 PUSH DIWORD PTR SS:[EBP-SC] ; GetProcAddress
00401935 FF15 08E04000 CALL DIWORD PTR DS:[Kernel32.GetProcAddress] ; GetProcAddress
00401937 48 EC 00 XOR EAX,DIWORD PTR DS:[4150F5],ERX
00401940 50 PUSH EAX
00401944 F7F5 FC PUSH DIWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4] ; GetProcAddress
00401947 FF15 08E04000 CALL DIWORD PTR DS:[Kernel32.GetProcAddress] ; GetProcAddress
00401949 48 EC 00 XOR EAX,DIWORD PTR DS:[4150DEB],ERX
00401952 50 PUSH EAX
00401954 6A 00 PUSH 0
00401956 F7F5 44 PUSH DIWORD PTR SS:[EBP-SC] ; GetProcAddress
00401959 68 FC104000 PUSH 1,004019FC ; Thread 1 Started here
00401960 6A 00 PUSH 0
00401962 FF15 F9E04100 CALL DIWORD PTR DS:[4150F9] ; kernel32.CreateThread
00401968 8045 48 MOV DIWORD PTR SS:[EBP-58],ERX
0040196B 48 FF PUSH 0
0040196C 48 8B 00 POP DIWORD PTR DS:[EBP-58]
00401970 FF15 08E04100 CALL DIWORD PTR DS:[4150E8]
00401971 33C0 XOR EAX,EAX
00401979 C9 LEAVE
0040197A 4C 1000 RETN 10
0040197B 48 8BFF MOV EDI,EDI
0040197E 55 PUSH EBP
0040197F 88EC MOV EBP,ESP
00401981 8845 08 MOV EAX,DIWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
00401984 48 EC 00 XOR EAX,DIWORD PTR DS:[EBP+8]
00401986 88F1 MOV ESI,ERX
00401987 C446 9C 00 MOU BYTE PTR DS:[ESI+C1],0
0040198B 85C0 TEST EAX,ERX
0040198D 77 75 JNZ SHORT 1,004019F2
0040198E 48 EC 02100000 CALL 1,00402996
0040198F 8844 08 MOU DIWORD PTR DS:[ESI+8],ERX
```

The right pane shows the register dump for Thread 1:

ECX	7C9170E9	ntdll.RtlDecompressBuffer
EDX	7C9170E9	ntdll.RtlDecompressBuffer
EDR	7FFDF000	
EDS	00000000	
EDP	0012F230	
ESI	00000000	
EDI	7C910200	ntdll.7C910200
EIP	00401962	1,00401962
C 0	ES 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)	
P 1	CS 001B 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)	
A 0	SS 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)	
Z 0	DS 0023 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)	
S 0	FS 003B 32bit 7FFE0000FFF	
T 0	GS 0000 NULL	
D 0		
O 0	LastErr ERROR_PROC_NOT_FOUND (00000007F)	
EFL	00000206 (NO,HB,NE,A,NS,PE,GE,6)	
ST0	empty -UNHRI 000C 00000000000000000000000000000000	
ST1	empty -UNHRI 0009 0002E00067 00020004	
ST2	empty 0,0	
ST3	empty 0,0	
ST4	empty 0,0	
ST5	empty 0,0	
ST6	empty 0,0	
ST7	empty 0,0	

FST 0000 Cond 0 0 0 Err 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 (GT)  
FCM 027F Free NEHR,53 Mask 1 1 1 1 1 1

On December 13th 2019, [@nao\\_sec](#) discovered a new Exploit kit targeting users in Japan and it was given the name, Bottle Exploit Kit.

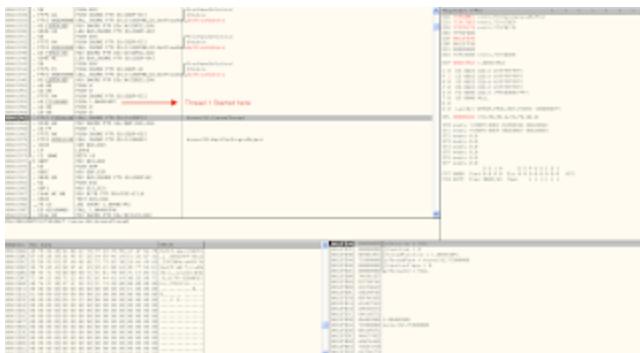
@nao\_sec described in their [blog](#) the details of the Exploit Kit including the two vulnerabilities (CVE-2018-8174 and CVE-2018-15982) which were exploited in this attack.

In this article, I will go into the details of the multiple stages of unpacking the payload used in Bottle Exploit Kit.

**tl;dr:** Multiple stages of packing are used in the payload. The XOR decryption routine used is common for all the payloads related to Bottle Exploit Kit and can be used to discover more instances.

**MD5 hash of the sample discussed:** ee98ef74c496447847f1876741596271

The WinMain() subroutine creates a new Thread as shown below:



The newly created Thread creates another Thread in turn as shown below:



The first stage of unpacking is performed by Thread 2 (function start address: 0x40105b). The figure highlights the important stages of unpacking:



The main stages of unpacking of the first stage are:

1. VirtualAlloc() to allocate memory to decrypt stage 1.
2. RtlMoveMemory() to copy 0x1ed8 bytes of encrypted data from 0x412db8 to memory allocated in step 1.
3. XOR decryption routine at address: 0x401000 is invoked. The XOR decryption key is 0x3c bytes in length and is passed as an argument to the XOR decryption routine.
4. VirtualAlloc() is called again to decompress the XOR decrypted output of step 3.
5. Decompression is performed using RtlDecompressBuffer()
6. A new Thread with function start address set to decompressed code in step 5 is started.

The XOR decryption routine mentioned in step 3 above is as shown below:

The next decrypted stage looks as shown below:

Another layer of XOR decryption is done by stage 2 which gives us the following decrypted data:

In the next stage of execution, it performs the System Language Check using the API, GetUserDefaultUILanguage() as shown below:

The system language code is compared with 0x411 which corresponds to Japanese System Language. The payload will execute completely only if the system language code is: 0x411.

Here is the list of decrypted strings:

0000000028DF	0000000028DF	0	shlwapi.dll
0000000028EB	0000000028EB	0	User32.dll
0000000028F6	0000000028F6	0	Advapi32.dll
000000002903	000000002903	0	ntdll.dll
00000000290D	00000000290D	0	Ws2_32.dll
000000002918	000000002918	0	Wininet.dll
000000002924	000000002924	0	Urlmon.dll
00000000292F	00000000292F	0	bcdfgijklmnpqrstuvwxyzaeiouyT
000000002A56	000000002A56	0	DataDirectory %s
000000002A77	000000002A77	0	POST %s HTTP/1.1
000000002A89	000000002A89	0	Host: %s
000000002A93	000000002A93	0	Connection: close
000000002AA6	000000002AA6	0	Accept: */*
000000002AB3	000000002AB3	0	User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64)
000000002AE4	000000002AE4	0	Accept-Encoding: identity
000000002AFF	000000002AFF	0	Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
000000002B30	000000002B30	0	Content-Length: %d
000000002B4C	000000002B4C	0	WSAStartup
000000002B57	000000002B57	0	socket
000000002B5E	000000002B5E	0	setsockopt
000000002B69	000000002B69	0	connect
000000002B7B	000000002B7B	0	closesocket
000000002952	000000002952	0	AppData\LocalLow
000000002974	000000002974	0	\Data\Tor
000000002988	000000002988	0	\Data\Tor\geoip
0000000029A8	0000000029A8	0	\Data\Tor\geoip6
0000000029CA	0000000029CA	0	\Tor\taskhost.exe
0000000029EE	0000000029EE	0	\Tor\tor.exe
000000002A08	000000002A08	0	\torrc
000000002A16	000000002A16	0	1.zip
000000002A22	000000002A22	0	1.exe
000000002A2E	000000002A2E	0	-o -qq "%s" -d "%s"
000000002A66	000000002A66	0	s-f "%s"
000000002B86	000000002B86	0	t.jpg
000000002B9B	000000002B9B	0	ALLUSERSPROFILE
000000002BBB	000000002BBB	0	rundll32.exe

From the Decrypted Strings above, we can see that it will make a Network Request to download TOR browser.

The XOR decryption routine used in the payload is the same among all the samples (DLL and EXE files) related to Bottle Exploit Kit instances.

Here are more MD5 hashes of payloads used in Bottle Exploit Kit:

```
5c9522927945f7fde17724360e9fec64  
d408c3f58c3407e5d37ec524db03deb9  
d6ae17d1d8ba79de1f936092297e44f9  
d1bdc7c37f66702bf72d41a9276777dc  
894794945683db1e708d2e9304821b19  
6c71ca4978095b24a10487a84215d5bd  
ee98ef74c496447847f1876741596271  
e65322b4add2e5183616ce283e99614f  
c67c6f2f212ffe7d99c7238c959c95e6  
972d77bd40b0acf9c0ffaf12b7cbba4  
8fdd5e90c33b4feb83b74b3922c09c6d  
e753d7a35a9144dd820d4d6e9be970ee
```

The only change is the XOR decryption key.

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