New ZingoStealer infostealer drops more malware, cryptominers

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A new information-stealing malware called ZingoStealer has been discovered with powerful data-stealing features and the ability to load additional payloads or mine Monero.

The new malware was created and released for free by a group of threat actors named the "Haskers Gang," who recently attempted to sell its source code for \$500.

Soon after researchers at <u>Cisco Talos</u> spotted that offering, ZingoStealer changed hands and was transferred to a new threat actor who will undertake the development effort.

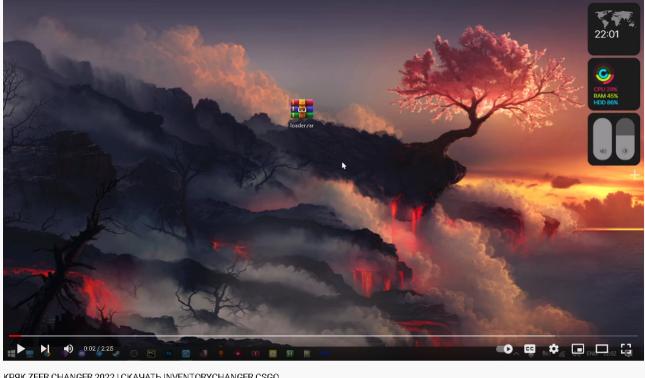
Considering that the adversaries offer the info-stealer for free on both their Telegram and Discord channels, and given the growing demand for this type of malware, its deployment could rise to new levels.

An aggressive malware

The ZingoStealer first appeared in the cybercrime community in March 2022, promoted in Russian-speaking channels as a "ready-to-use," powerful info-stealer in the form of a .NET executable.

For only 300 rubles, worth approximately \$3.64 at today's prices, users could also buy the pre-built option that featured crypter obfuscation (via ExoCrypt) for upgraded resistance to AV detection.

So far, ZingoStealer has been seen infecting computers via software cracks, and video game cheats promoted <u>on YouTube</u>, but the infection vector could diversify at any moment.



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CSGO cheat delivering ZingoStealer promoted on YouTube (Cisco)

From a data-stealing perspective, this is a potent malware targeting the following apps and data points:

- Web browsers: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Opera, Opera GSX
- **Cryptocurrency wallet extensions:** TronLink, Nifty Wallet, MetaMask, MathWallet, Coinbase Wallet, Binance Wallet, Brave Wallet, Guarda, EQUAL Wallet, BitApp Wallet, iWallet, Wombat – Gaming Wallet

- **Cryptocurrency wallet data:** Zcash, Armory, Bytecoin, Jaxx Liberty, Exodus, Ethereum, Electrum, Atomic, Guarda, Coinomi
- Cryptocurrency wallets: Bitcoin, Dash, Litecoin
- **Computer information:** IP address, Computer name, Username, OS version, Localization information, Processor information, System memory, Screen resolution, Start time

All stolen info is saved in the "C:\Users\AppData\Local\GinzoFolder" folder, zipped, and exfiltrated to the operator's server.



While the targeting list may appear extensive, it pales compared to the programs targeted by other, more established info-stealers, most notably, the RedLine Stealer.

RedLine Stealer ZingoStealer Application Data • NordVPN • Open/VPN • ProtonVPN • Chodt Browser • Google Chrome • Opera • Opera • Opera (X) • Telegram • Telegram • Telegram • Telegram • Vorol • Iridium Browser • OiP Surf • Nifty Wallet • Math Wallet • Brave Wallet • Cuarda • Cuarda	Stealer F
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two info-stealers (Cisco)

The simple solution to cover this gap in features is to have ZingoStealer deploy RedLine Stealer, which in fact, is its most frequently deployed second-stage payload.

ZingoStealer performs a geolocation check to ensure the victim isn't located in a CIS country, as it's predominately used by Russian-speaking actors, and then requests a list of URLs for the retrieval and execution of more payloads.

Original request ∨	Response
Pretty Raw Hex \n =	Pretty Raw Hex Render \n ≡
1 GET /ginzolist.txt HTTP/1.1 2 Host: nominally.ru 3	<pre>1 HTTP/2 200 0K 2 Date: Wed, 30 Mar 2022 14:16:48 GMT 3 Content-Type: text/plain 4 Last-Modified: Tue, 29 Mar 2022 15:57:49 GMT 5 Etag: W/*ae-56bd7d965940-gzip" 6 Vary: Accept-Encoding 7 Cf-Cache-Status: DYNAMIC 8 Expect-Ct: max-age=604800, report-uri="https://report-uri.cloudflare.com/cdn-cgi/beacon/expect-ct" 9 Report-To: {"endpoints":[{"url":"https:\//a.nel.cloudflare.com\/report\/v3?s=Mgqcyqv49YX9PAnwtGlQ0ULI1buy4pi0FB 2V9ywlNQX2nSNAezFtrIYKCipapj5JWr0%2B*82FfFR%2B582FFFR%2B5ez9fK6mHxxc4FM9nMtQ7%2FMJvIyDmCiEwogteI02Mf8% 2Bs8%3D"}], "group":"cf-nel", "max_age":604800} 10 NeL: {"success_fraction":0, "report_to":"cf-nel", "max_age":604800} 11 Server: cloudflare 12 Cf-Ray: 6f4177150d15679e-DFW 13 Alt-Svc: h3=":443"; ma=86400, h3-29=":443"; ma=86400</pre>
	15 https://nominally.ru/library/antiwm.exe 16 https://nominally.ru/library/sweet.exe

Second-stage payload list retrieval (Cisco)

In addition to the above, ZingoStealer also features the XMRig cryptocurrency mining malware to use the victim's computer for direct financial profit.

This feature was added in a recent release, and uses PowerShell to add the necessary exclusions on Windows Defender and execute the miner.

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Mining pool growing as ZingoStealer infections increase (Cisco)

ZingoStealer's future

ZingoStealer is new, and its future is uncertain and volatile, but the fact that hackers can grab it for free and deploy it without limitations makes it a candidate for becoming a prevalent threat.

The competition in the field is now fierce as the information-stealer malware space has become quite crowded lately, but if the new owners prove themselves capable, ZingoStealer will continue to grow.

Given its malware loading capabilities and the custom crypter that gives it stealthiness, it wouldn't be surprising to see it abandon its info-stealing aspirations and evolve into a specialized loader.

As for how to protect against it, avoiding infections by not downloading software cracks and gaming cheats from shady websites would be the best approach.

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- Information Stealer
- <u>Malware</u>
- Password Stealing Trojan
- RedLine
- <u>ZingoStealer</u>

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Bill Toulas is a technology writer and infosec news reporter with over a decade of experience working on various online publications. An open source advocate and Linux enthusiast, is currently finding pleasure in following hacks, malware campaigns, and data breach incidents, as well as by exploring the intricate ways through which tech is swiftly transforming our lives.

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