



# Extending Your Incident Response Capabilities with Sysmon

Improving Your Threat Hunting Abilities



@petermorin123

# Peter Morin



- Over 20yrs in the field
- Halifax, Nova Scotia
- KPMG Cyber Security practice
- IR, threat hunting, cloud security, insider threat, protection of critical infrastructure and incident response



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# Intro

- Talk about the free Sysinternals tool, **Sysmon**.
  - Sysmon tool and compare its outputs to standard EVT logs
  - Malware – the infection point, whether or not it has spread, and the effects on the infected system
  - Sysmon command line usage, understanding its events and configuration options including the use of configuration file
  - Use cases where Sysmon can improve your detection and IR capabilities



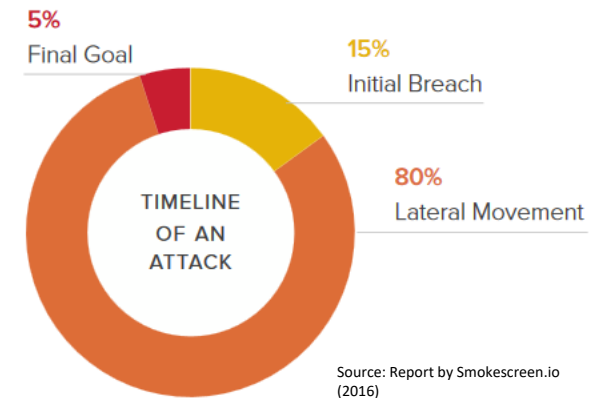
# State of Cyber Defense

- Traditional defensive posture
  - Maintain a strong perimeter
  - Implement layered security controls
  - Block known attacks and malicious IP addresses
  - Policies to discourage misuse or insider threat
  - Basic endpoint security products



# Detecting Lateral Movements

- Initial breach **normally doesn't yield value** to attackers
- Important part of the attack - hands on keyboard (\$\$\$ being spent)
- 80% of the attack is spent during lateral movement
- Your biggest win
- Attacker is moving blindly



# Typical Lateral Movements

- Goal is to stay under the radar
- Attackers use “legitimate” sysadmin tools
- Typical methods
  - Pass-the-hash (theft of NTLM hashes)
  - SMB scanning (i.e. file shares)
  - PowerShell scripts
  - Psexec
  - Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI)
  - RDP and other remote access (i.e. VNC)
  - Password brute-force



# Can we win?

- You have to be really in touch with what your network looks like, its assets and humans.
- Prevent Attackers from achieving their goal
- Reduce Attack Dwell Time
- Change Mindset – focus on behavior
- **Adapt...adapt...adapt!**



# Why Threat Hunting?

- Investigating at **enterprise-scale**
- **Repeatable** analysis tasks for both **proactive** and **reactive** hunting
- Finding evidence of compromise with minimal leads
- **Less on detection** technology and more on key attacker **tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs)** and related **behaviors**

**86%**

IT professionals say that their organization **is involved in some kind of threat hunting.**

Source: 2016 SANS Survey



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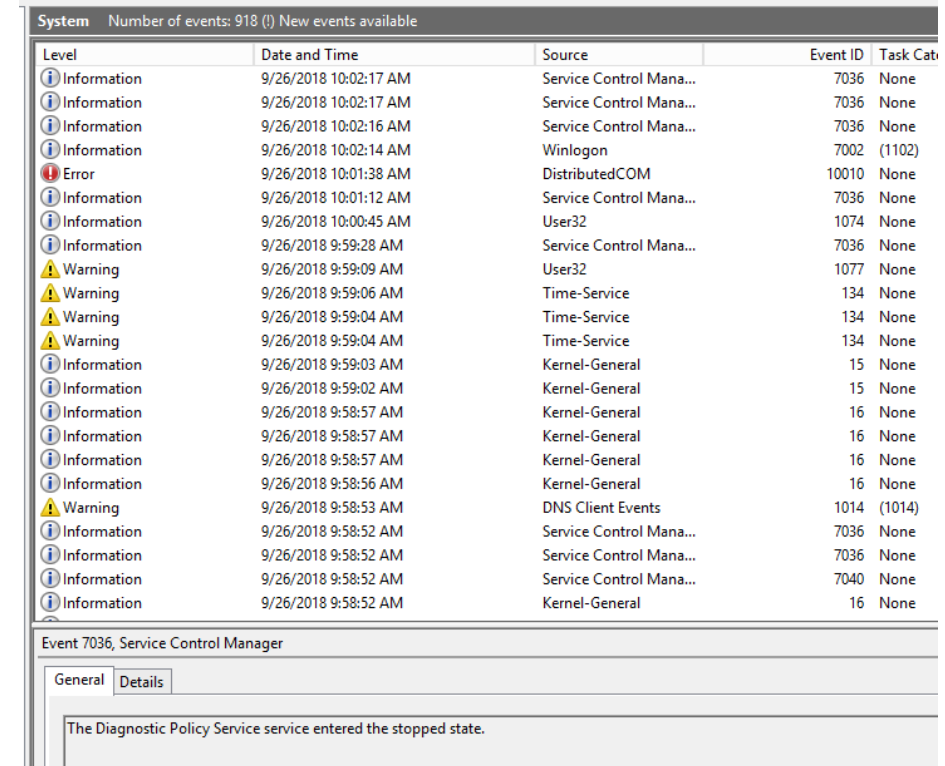
# Threat Hunting - Questions

- Network breach or you get hit with malware
  - What was the entry point?
  - Did they spread between systems?
  - What happened on a particular system?
- Built-in Windows tooling - hard to answer questions
  - process creation and DLL loading info is limited
  - Network connection information can be too limited and also too verbose
  - Common attacker behavior (i.e. thread injection) not captured



# Windows Event logs

- Local log files where events occurring a Windows system are documented
  - **Application** –logged by an application
  - **System** - logged by the O/S
  - **Security** – security of the system
- Events are tracked by **Event ID**
- Security events: User logon/logoff, Privilege use and Object access, etc.
- **Single most import piece of security data** on a Windows host – short of using a third-party endpoint agent or collecting memory



The screenshot shows the Windows Event Viewer interface. The top bar indicates 'System' with 'Number of events: 918 (1) New events available'. Below this is a table of events with columns: Level, Date and Time, Source, Event ID, and Task Category. The events listed include various information, error, and warning messages from sources like Service Control Manager, Winlogon, DistributedCOM, User32, Time-Service, Kernel-General, and DNS Client Events. At the bottom, the 'Details' tab for Event 7036 (Service Control Manager) is selected, showing the message: 'The Diagnostic Policy Service service entered the stopped state.'

Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Cat
Information	9/26/2018 10:02:17 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 10:02:17 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 10:02:16 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 10:02:14 AM	Winlogon	7002 (1102)	
Error	9/26/2018 10:01:38 AM	DistributedCOM	10010	None
Information	9/26/2018 10:01:12 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 10:00:45 AM	User32	1074	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:59:28 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Warning	9/26/2018 9:59:09 AM	User32	1077	None
Warning	9/26/2018 9:59:06 AM	Time-Service	134	None
Warning	9/26/2018 9:59:04 AM	Time-Service	134	None
Warning	9/26/2018 9:59:04 AM	Time-Service	134	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:59:03 AM	Kernel-General	15	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:59:02 AM	Kernel-General	15	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:57 AM	Kernel-General	16	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:57 AM	Kernel-General	16	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:57 AM	Kernel-General	16	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:56 AM	Kernel-General	16	None
Warning	9/26/2018 9:58:53 AM	DNS Client Events	1014 (1014)	
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:52 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:52 AM	Service Control Mana...	7036	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:52 AM	Service Control Mana...	7040	None
Information	9/26/2018 9:58:52 AM	Kernel-General	16	None

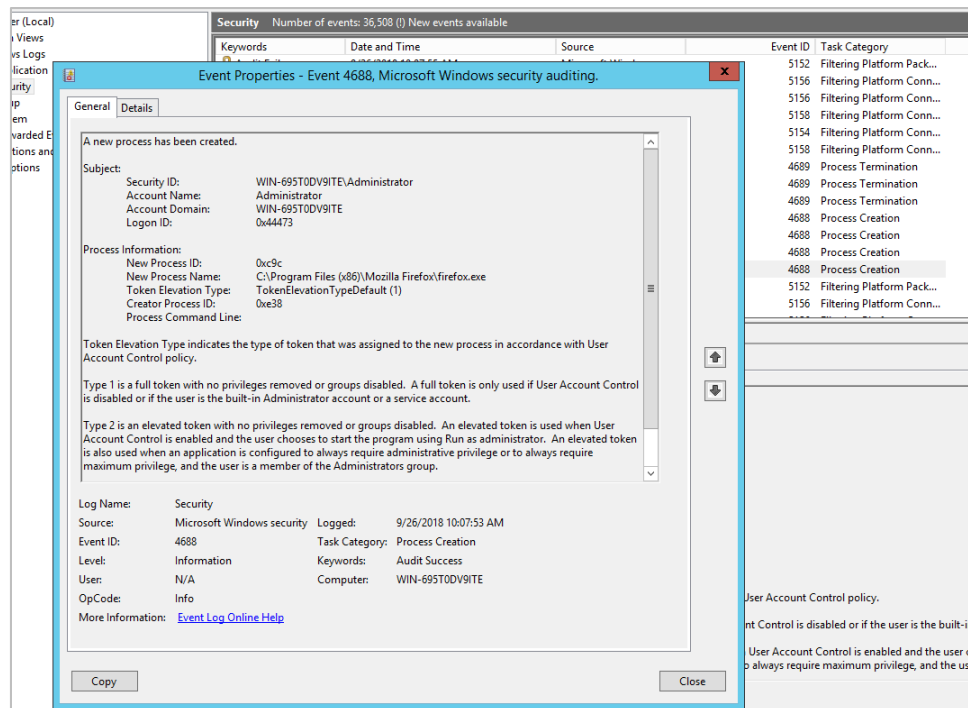
Event 7036, Service Control Manager

General Details

The Diagnostic Policy Service service entered the stopped state.



# Event Logs – Data Limitations

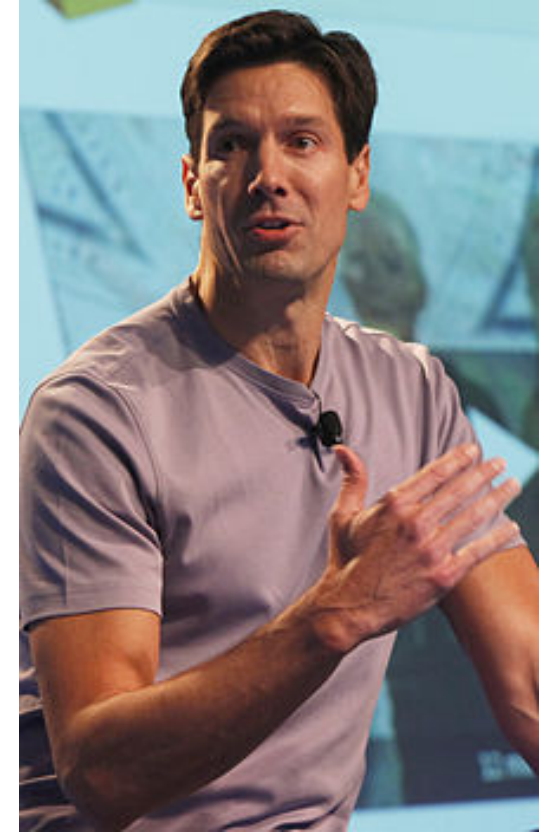


- Some events missing all together
- Other events missing important information
- No way to filter what is logged
- **Event 4688** (new process created)
  - Program name
  - Process path
  - Process ID
  - Info about who executed it



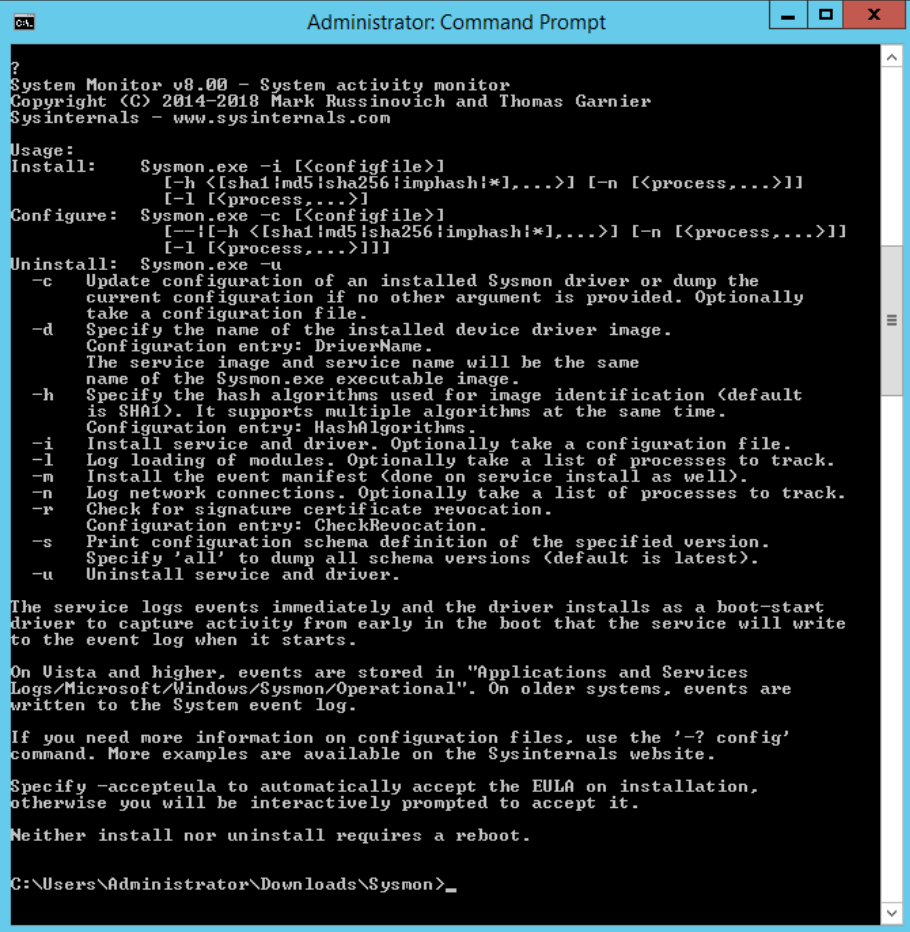
# What is Sysmon?

- Microsoft System Monitor
- Version 8 is available at [sysinternals.com](https://sysinternals.com)
- Windows Sysinternals Suite / Mark Russinovich
- Windows service and device driver (2 MB)
  - Single binary includes 32-bit and 64-bit versions of both
  - Service doubles as command-line frontend
  - Logs system activity to the EventLog



# Installation

- **sysmon -i -accepteula [options]**
  - Extracts binaries into %systemroot%
  - Registers event log manifest
  - Enables default configuration
  - Option such as the hashing method, etc.
- Can be installed from a network location
  - \\ServerName\sysmon -accepteula -i [OPTIONS]
  - Sysmon will copy it's files to the local system



```
Administrator: Command Prompt

?
System Monitor v8.00 - System activity monitor
Copyright (C) 2014-2018 Mark Russinovich and Thomas Garnier
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

Usage:
Install: Sysmon.exe -i [<configfile>]
        [-h <[sha1|md5|sha256|imphash]*>,...>] [-n [<process,...>]]
        [-l [<process,...>]]
Configure: Sysmon.exe -c [<configfile>]
        [--![-h <[sha1|md5|sha256|imphash]*>,...>] [-n [<process,...>]]
        [-l [<process,...>]]]
Uninstall: Sysmon.exe -u
-c Update configuration of an installed Sysmon driver or dump the
  current configuration if no other argument is provided. Optionally
  take a configuration file.
-d Specify the name of the installed device driver image.
  Configuration entry: DriverName.
  The service image and service name will be the same
  name of the Sysmon.exe executable image.
-h Specify the hash algorithms used for image identification (default
  is SHA1). It supports multiple algorithms at the same time.
  Configuration entry: HashAlgorithms.
-i Install service and driver. Optionally take a configuration file.
-l Log loading of modules. Optionally take a list of processes to track.
-m Install the event manifest (done on service install as well).
-n Log network connections. Optionally take a list of processes to track.
-r Check for signature certificate revocation.
  Configuration entry: CheckRevocation.
-s Print configuration schema definition of the specified version.
  Specify 'all' to dump all schema versions (default is latest).
-u Uninstall service and driver.

The service logs events immediately and the driver installs as a boot-start
driver to capture activity from early in the boot that the service will write
to the event log when it starts.

On Vista and higher, events are stored in "Applications and Services
Logs/Microsoft/Windows/Sysmon/Operational". On older systems, events are
written to the System event log.

If you need more information on configuration files, use the '-? config'
command. More examples are available on the Sysinternals website.

Specify -accepteula to automatically accept the EULA on installation,
otherwise you will be interactively prompted to accept it.

Neither install nor uninstall requires a reboot.

C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\Sysmon>
```



# Installation Options

- -h [hash,...] = Specify which hash types to record.
  - Use "\*" for all or -h SHA256 to turn on SHA256 for example
  - Options are MD5, SHA1, SHA256, and IMPHASH.



# Installation Options

- -n [process,...] = Enable logging of network connections (potential performance hit).
  - You can specify a single process by using a process name like  
-n **firefox.exe,cmd.exe,powershell.exe**
  - **You will not see any Event ID: 3 events**



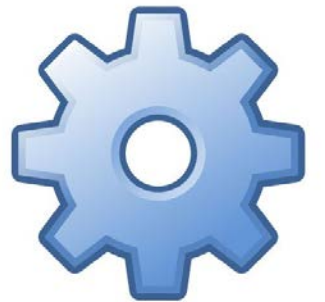
# Installation Options

- -l [process,...] = Enable logging of image loaded events (potential performance hit).
  - You can specify a single process by using a process name like
    - l **iexplore.exe,calc.exe**
  - **You will not see any Event ID: 7 events (image loaded)**



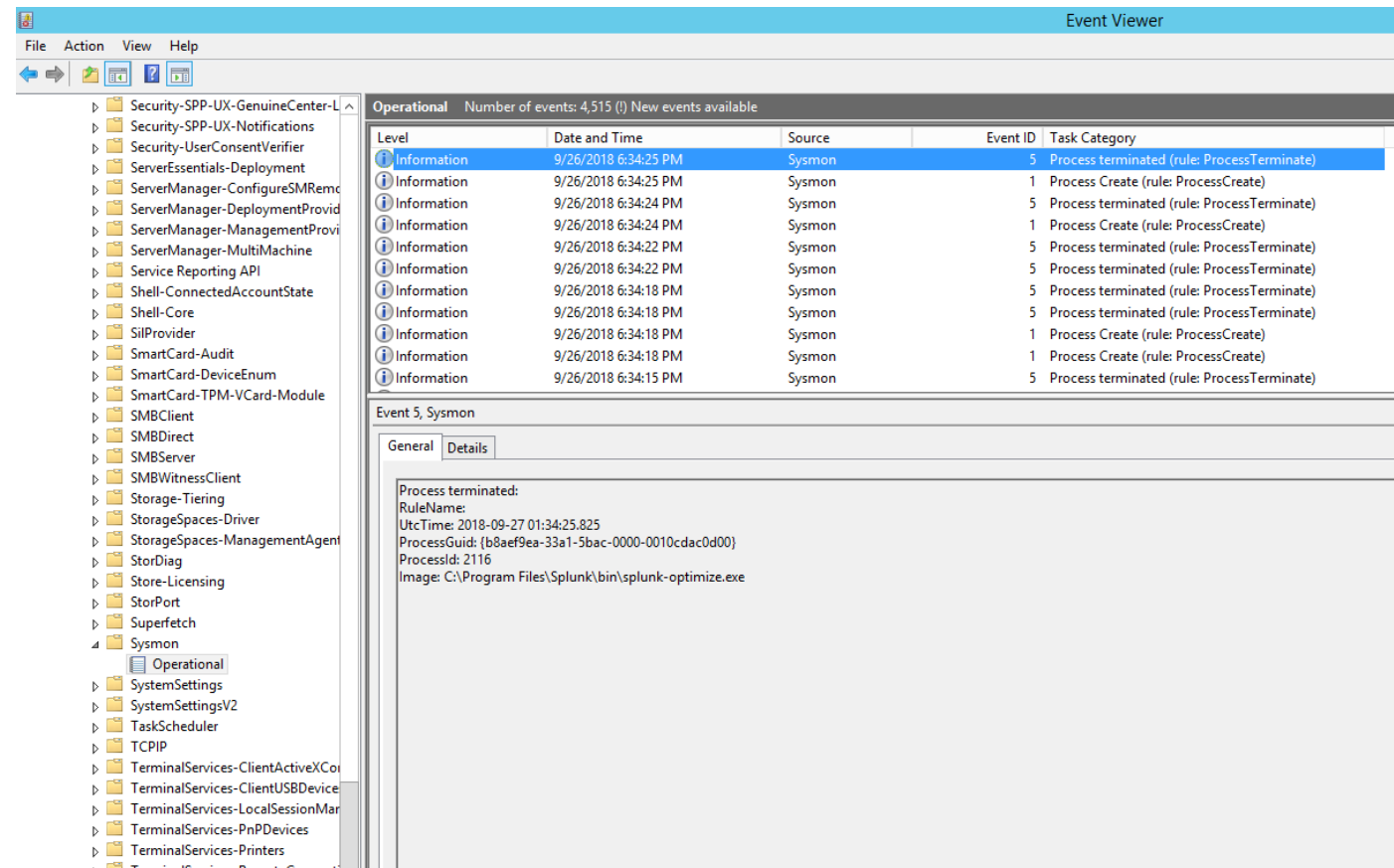
# Sysmon Events

- The service logs events immediately
- Driver installs as a boot-start driver to capture activity from early in the boot process
- Sysmon does not replace your existing event logs



# Sysmon Events

Applications and Services Logs/Microsoft/Windows/Sysmon/Operational



The screenshot shows the Windows Event Viewer application. The left pane displays the tree view with 'Operational' selected under 'Sysmon'. The right pane shows a list of events. The selected event (ID 5) is expanded, showing details for a process termination.

Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Category
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:25 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:25 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:24 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:24 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:22 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:22 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:18 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:18 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:18 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:18 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Information	9/26/2018 6:34:15 PM	Sysmon	5	Process terminated (rule: ProcessTerminate)

Event 5, Sysmon

General Details

Process terminated:  
RuleName:  
UtcTime: 2018-09-27 01:34:25.825  
ProcessGuid: {b8aef9ea-33a1-5bac-0000-0010cda0d000}  
ProcessId: 2116  
Image: C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-optimize.exe



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# Sysmon Events

Event ID	Category	Description
1	Process creation	extended information about a newly created process
2	A process changed a file creation time	registered when a file creation time is explicitly modified by a process
3	Network connection	logs TCP/UDP connections on the machine
4	Sysmon service state changed	reports the state of the Sysmon service (started or stopped)
5	Process terminated	reports when a process terminates
6	Driver loaded	provides information about a driver being loaded on the system
7	Image loaded	when a module is loaded in a specific process
8	CreateRemoteThread	detects when a process creates a thread in another process
9	RawAccessRead	detects when a process conducts reading operations from the drive using the \\.\ denotation
10	ProcessAccess	process opens another process, an operation that's often followed by information queries or reading and writing the address space of the target process.
11	FileCreate	File create operations are logged when a file is created or overwritten
12	RegistryEvent (Object create and delete)	Registry key and value create and delete operations map to this event type



# Sysmon Events

Event ID	Category	Description
13	RegistryEvent (Value Set)	This Registry event type identifies Registry value modifications
14	RegistryEvent (Key and Value Rename)	Registry key and value rename operations map to this event type, recording the new name of the key or value that was renamed
15	FileCreateStreamHash	when a named file stream is created, and it generates events that log the hash of the contents of the file to which the stream is assigned (the unnamed stream), as well as the contents of the named stream
16	Sysmon Configuration Changed	reports any changes to the Sysmon configuration
17	PipeEvent (Pipe Created)	when a named pipe is created
18	PipeEvent (Pipe Connected)	when a named pipe connection is made between a client and a server
19	WmiEvent (WmiEventFilter activity detected)	When a WMI event filter is registered
20	WmiEvent (WmiEventConsumer activity detected)	logs the registration of WMI consumers, recording the consumer name, log, and destination
21	WmiEvent (WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected)	When a consumer binds to a filter, this event logs the consumer name and filter path.
255	Error	This event is generated when an error occurred within Sysmon



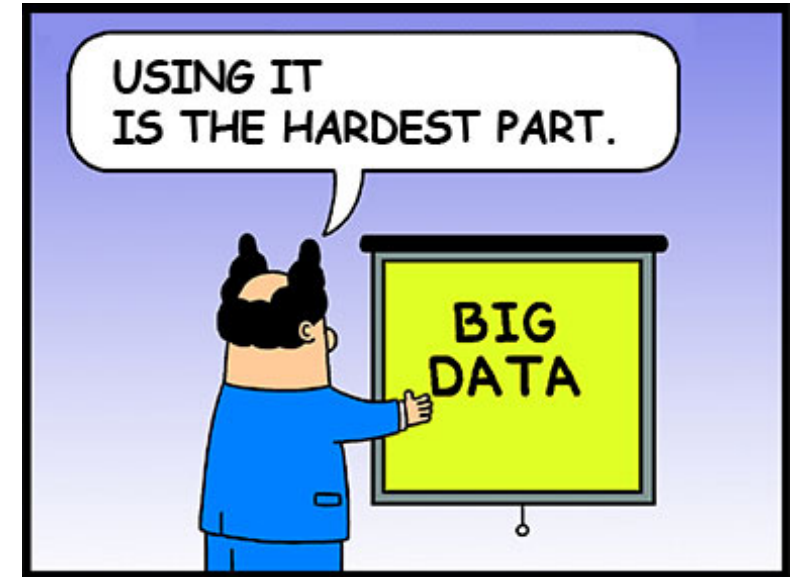
# Why are these important?

- **Event ID 11: FileCreate**
  - Useful for monitoring autostart locations (i.e. temporary and download directories)
  - Common places malware drops during initial infection.
- **Event ID 12: RegistryEvent** (Object create and delete)
  - Useful for monitoring for changes to Registry autostart locations, or specific malware registry modifications.
- **Event ID 17: PipeEvent** (Pipe Created)
  - Malware often uses named pipes for inter-process communication.



# Death by Data

- It can log, a huge amount of data
  - Process launches
  - DLLs loaded by processes, drivers by the system
  - Network connections
  - Etc....
- As you can imagine, **this can quickly add up** if you don't need to see every single thing that happens in Windows...



# Sysmon Config Files

- Sysmon includes the ability to filter events before they are written to the Event Log – **these are key!**
- You can build (or download) configuration files
- They make it easier to deploy a preset configuration and to filter captured events.



# Configuration

- You can do things like: only log network events from processes named “iexplore.exe” or located in C:\Users, drivers not signed by Microsoft, etc.
- It's up to you to determine how much data you want included.
- Sysmon configuration file
  - install: `sysmon -i -accepteula c:\SysmonConfig.xml`
  - update: `sysmon -c c:\SysmonConfig.xml`
  - use Psexec or PowerShell during an IR



# Event Tags

- Each event is specified using its tag
- To see all tags, dump the full configuration schema:
  - **sysmon -s**
- “onmatch” can be “include” or “exclude”
  - Include and exclude refer to filter effect

```
<tag onmatch="exclude">  
    <exclude filter/>  
    ...  
</tag>  
  
<tag onmatch="include">  
    <include filter/>  
    ...  
</tag>
```

Source: Mark Russinovich



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# Filter Examples

- Include only Google Chrome network activity:

```
<NetworkConnect onmatch="include">  
  <Image condition="contains">chrome.exe</Image>  
</NetworkConnect >
```

- Include thread injections into winlogon and lsass:

```
<CreateRemoteThread onmatch="include">  
  <TargetImage condition="image">lsass.exe</TargetImage>  
  <TargetImage condition="image">winlogon.exe</TargetImage>  
</CreateRemoteThread >
```

- Exclude all Microsoft-signed image loads:

```
<ImageLoad onmatch="exclude">  
  <Signature condition="contains">microsoft</Signature>  
</ImageLoad>
```

Source: Mark Russinovich



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# Event Tags With No Filters

- Useful for enabling specific event types
- If no filter, onmatch has opposite effect:
  - Include: won't log any events
  - Exclude: log all events of the tag type
- This configuration enables the following:
  - ProcessCreate: because of onmatch exclude
  - ProcessTerminate: because it is omitted and by default enabled

```
<Sysmon schemaversion="2.01">
  <EventFiltering>
    <ProcessCreate onmatch="exclude"/>
    <DriverLoad onmatch="include"/>
    <ImageLoad onmatch="include"/>
    <FileCreateTime onmatch="include"/>
    <NetworkConnect onmatch="include"/>
    <CreateRemoteThread onmatch="include"/>
    <RawAccessRead onmatch="include"/>
  </EventFiltering>
</Sysmon>
```

Source: Mark Russinovich



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# Good Example

- Exclude Splunk binaries on a Universal Forwarder:

```
<ProcessCreate onmatch="exclude">
```

```
  <ParentImage condition="is">
```

```
    C:\Program Files\SplunkUniversalForwarder\bin\splunkd.exe
```

```
  </ParentImage>
```

```
  <ParentImage condition="is">
```

```
    C:\Program Files\SplunkUniversalForwarder\bin\splunk.exe
```

```
  </ParentImage>
```

```
  <ParentImage condition="is">
```

```
    C:\Program Files\SplunkUniversalForwarder\bin\bttool.exe
```

```
  </ParentImage>
```

```
</ProcessCreate>
```



# @SwiftOnSecurity's Configuration

- Very common go-to Sysmon config
- Follows MITRE's Adversarial Tactics, Techniques, and Common Knowledge (ATT&CK) to identify attacker behavior
- Regularly updating the config to include information from the community (i.e. ion-storm)
- <https://github.com/SwiftOnSecurity/sysmon-config>



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# @SwiftOnSecurity's Configuration

```
<!--SYSMON EVENT ID 3 : NETWORK CONNECTION INITIATED [NetworkConnect]-->
<!--COMMENT: By default this configuration takes a very conservative approach to network traffic
<!--COMMENT: [ https://attack.mitre.org/wiki/Command_and_Control ] [ https://attack.r
<!--TECHNICAL: For the DestinationHostname, Sysmon uses the GetNameInfo API, which
filtering.-->
<!--TECHNICAL: For the DestinationPortName, Sysmon uses the GetNameInfo API for the
<!--TECHNICAL: These exe do not initiate their connections, and thus includes do not wor
<!-- https://www.first.org/resources/papers/conf2017/APT-Log-Analysis-Tracking-Attack-
<!--DATA: UtcTime, ProcessGuid, ProcessId, Image, User, Protocol, Initiated, SourceIsIpv
DestinationIp, DestinationHostname, DestinationPort, DestinationPortName-->
<NetworkConnect onmatch="include">
  <!--Suspicious sources for network-connecting binaries-->
  <Image condition="begin with">C:\Users</Image>
    <!--Tools downloaded by users can use other processes for networking, but this is a v
  <Image condition="begin with">C:\ProgramData</Image>
    <!--Normally, network communications should be sourced from "Program Files" not fr
  <Image condition="begin with">C:\Windows\Temp</Image>
    <!--Suspicious anything would communicate from the system-level temp directory-->
    <!--Suspicious Windows tools-->
  <Image condition="image">at.exe</Image>
    <!--Microsoft:Windows: Remote task scheduling, removed in Win10 | Credit @ion-stoi
  <Image condition="image">certutil.exe</Image>
    <!--Microsoft:Windows: Certificate tool can contact outbound | Credit @ion-storm @F
  <Image condition="image">cmd.exe</Image>
    <!--Microsoft:Windows: Remote command prompt-->
  <Image condition="image">cmstp.exe</Image>
    <!--Microsoft:Windows: Connection manager profiles can launch executables from We
    @NickTvrer @Oddvarmoe @KyleHanslovan @subTee -->
```

- Network traffic sourced from C:\ProgramData or c:\Windows\Temp
- Network connections using nc.exe
- Etc....



# Let's Talk Events - 4688

- Sysmon events to detect new EXEs and DLLs
- Could have been used to detect ransomware such as Petya or Wannacry which used SMB to spread
- Work was done by an EXE – if we would have been looking for new (unknown) EXEs and DLLs
- **Event ID 4688** Process Creation for success, is a Security log event produced every time an EXE loads as a new process.



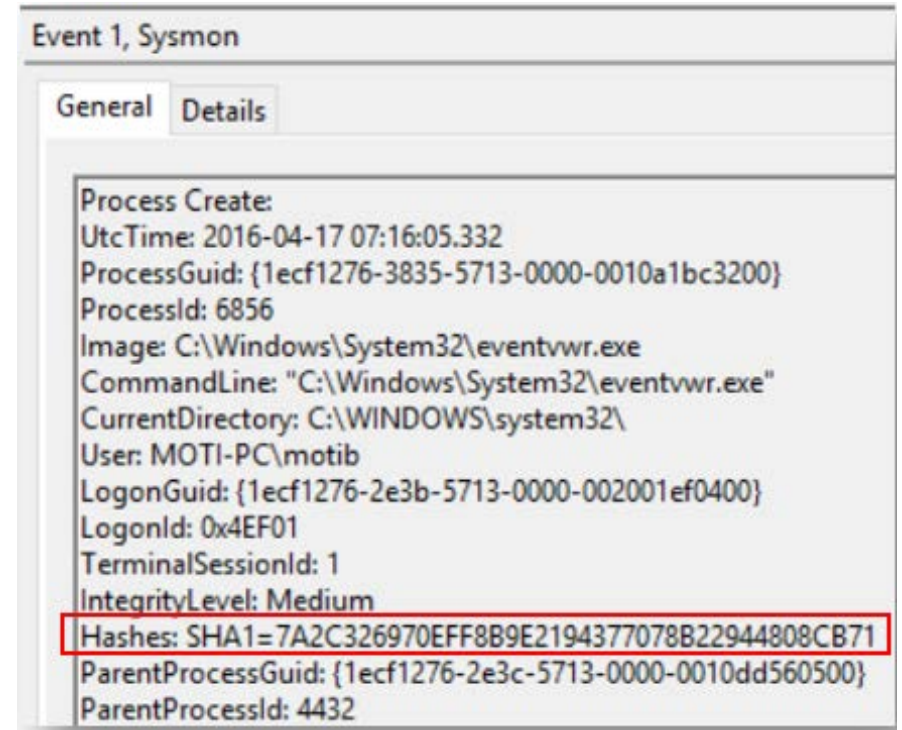
# Event 4688 vs. 1

- If we simply keep a **running baseline of known EXE names** and compare each **4688** against that list, you'll know as soon as something new, like **Petya's EXEs**, run on your network.
- The only problem with using 4688 is it's based on **EXE name** (including path)
- What happens if the attacker uses a name similar to that of a known file (C:\Windows\mssecsvc.exe or overwrites an exe (i.e. notepad.exe)?



# Event 4688 vs. 1

- **Sysmon logs the hash of each EXE.**
- Sysmon event ID 1 is logged the same time as 4688 but it also provides the hash of the EXE.
- Even if the attacker does replace a known EXE, the hash will change
- Your comparison against known hashes will fail – thus detecting a **new EXE executing** for the first time in your environment



# Event 4688 vs. 1

Information 9/13/2014 12:21:04 PM Sysmon

Event 1, Sysmon

General Details

Process Create:  
UtcTime: 9/13/2014 7:21 PM  
ProcessGuid: {00000000-9920-5414-0000-0010ba4b8a02}  
ProcessId: 3928  
Image: C:\Users\test\AppData\Local\Temp\drvinst-2.exe  
CommandLine: "C:\Users\test\AppData\Local\Temp\drvinst-2.exe" /ci 10298 /e  
User: Vera-PC\test  
LogonGuid: {00000000-d33f-5412-0000-0020a7d11701}  
LogonId: 0x117D1A7  
TerminalSessionId: 1  
IntegrityLevel: Medium

HashType: SHA1  
Hash: 7297DFCED5D4686860F5936015EAC1085EFBFD42

ParentProcessGuid: {00000000-9920-5414-0000-0010ba4b8a02}  
ParentProcessId: 1044  
ParentImage: C:\Users\test\AppData\Local\SwxUpdater\Updater.exe  
ParentCommandLine: C:\Users\test\AppData\Local\SwxUpdater\Updater.exe

Antivirus scan for a96b6460cf356fcaec19e7ef65da417d7475b7006780487d4665b64ee09656d

Community Statistics Documentation FAQ About

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**virus**total

SHA256: a96b6460cf356fcaec19e7ef65da417d7475b7006780487d4665b64ee09656d  
File name: lnethnf-setup.exe  
Detection ratio: 22 / 55  
Analysis date: 2014-09-15 04:39:59 UTC ( 1 year, 5 months ago )

Analysis File detail Additional information Comments Votes Behavioural information

Antivirus	Result	Update
AVG	Generic_r.TL	20140915
Agnitum	PUA.Amonetize	20140914
BitDefender	PUA.Amonetize	20140914



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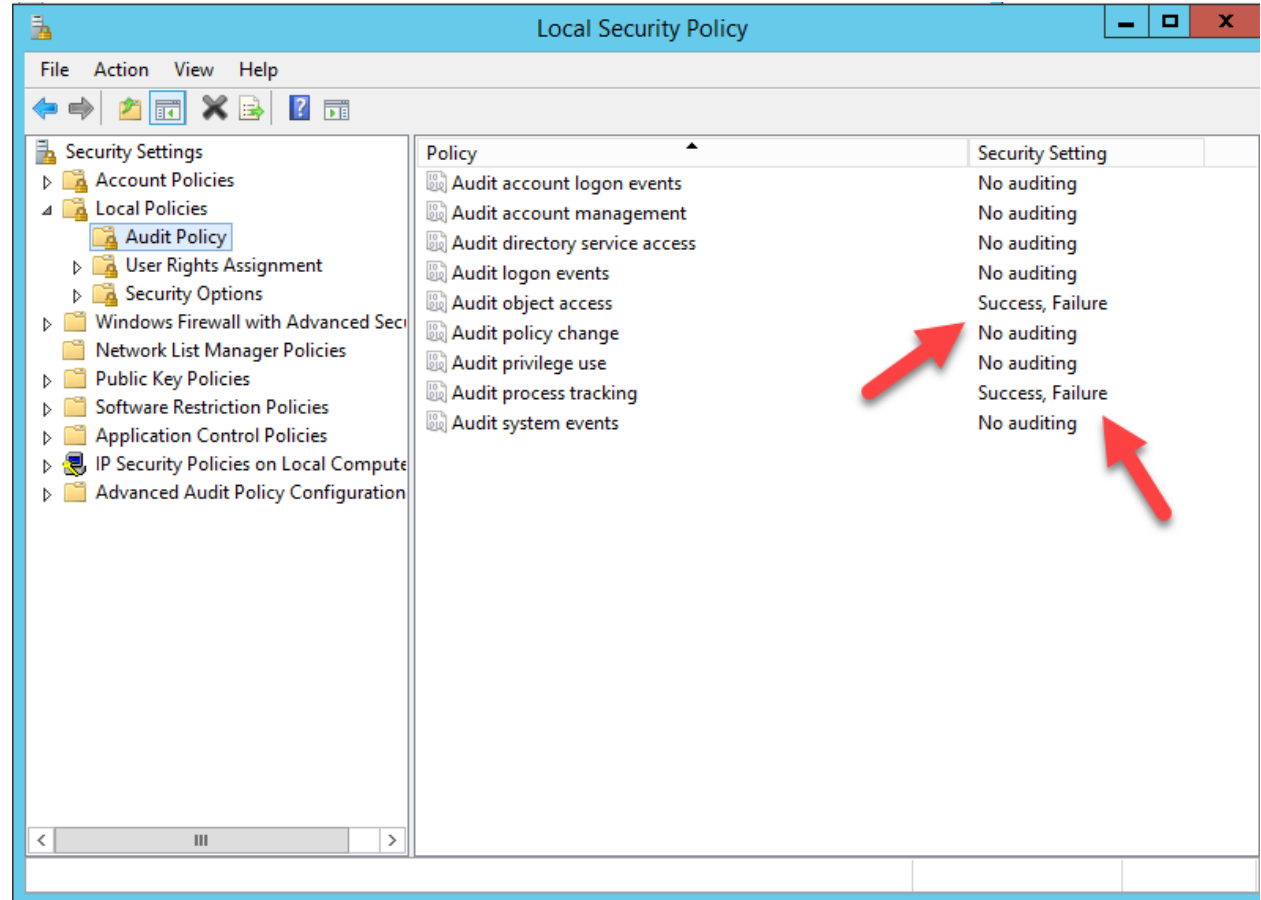
# Event 4688 vs. 1

- Logs **process creation** with **full command line** for both current and parent processes
- Records the hash of process image files using SHA1 (the default), MD5 or SHA256
- Includes a process GUID in process create events to allow for correlation of events even when Windows reuses process IDs
- Optionally **logs network connections**, including each connection's source process, IP addresses, port numbers, hostnames and port names



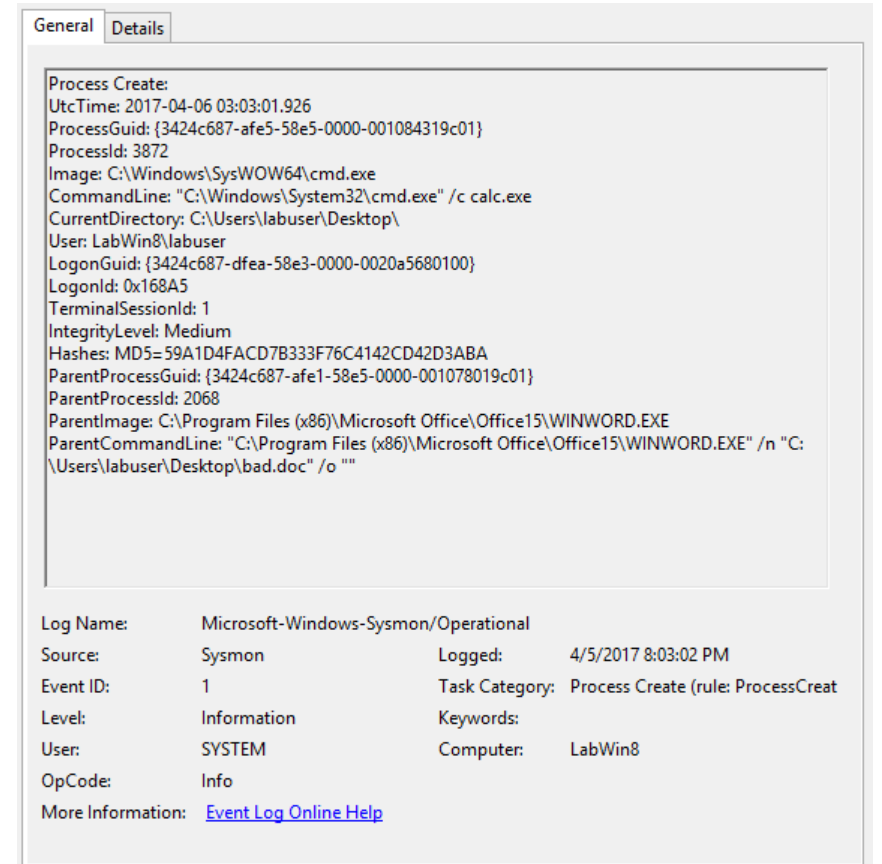
# Object Auditing

- Object Auditing must be enabled for Process Create events to show up



# Use Cases

- **Productivity App** (e.g. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook) **launches cmd.exe or powershell.exe**
  - Productivity applications launching shells may be indicative of a malicious document or email.
  - After eliminating any exceptions, this should be a very high fidelity pattern, indicating something malicious happening.



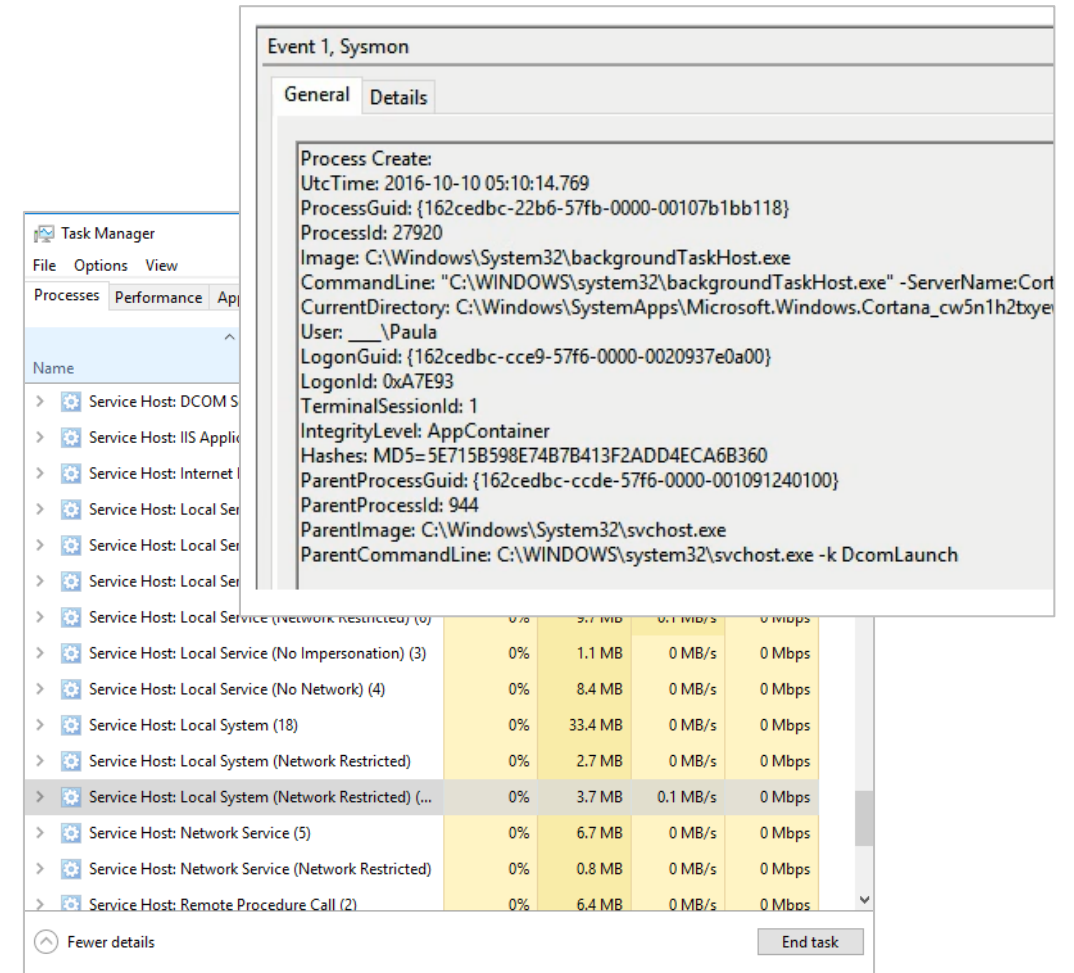
Source: Vector8 Blog



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# Use Cases

- **Abnormal parent of svchost.exe**
  - The parent of **svchost.exe** is normally **services.exe**.
  - Attackers use the name **svchost.exe** to hide their operations - often several **svchosts** running on a typical Windows host.
  - Also, the actual **svchost.exe** may be called by a malicious program in order to achieve the intent of the intrusion.



Source: Vector8 Blog



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# Use Cases

- **Whoami.exe running**
  - While whoami.exe is a standard Windows executable that you may see running occasionally
  - Provides current user on your computer, including your login name, groups you belong to, privileges, etc.
  - it's not very common for your average user to run it – **usually not by PowerShell**
  - whoami is used by system administrators, attackers, etc.
  - This pattern might serve more as a hunting lead than a stand-alone detection.

```
Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\petermorin>whoami.exe
ca\petermorin

Process Create:
UtcTime: 2016-12-30 20:55:21.119
ProcessGuid: {24140161-c9b9-5866-0000-0010fd781800}
ProcessId: 1092
Image: C:\Windows\System32\whoami.exe
CommandLine: "C:\Windows\system32\whoami.exe" /user
CurrentDirectory: C:\Users\nzalada.HF\Documents\
User: HF\nzalada
LogonGuid: {24140161-c859-5866-0000-002091040c00}
LogonId: 0xc0491
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: High
Hashes: MD5=EC2231C0FEA6B821A5ED097419744205
ParentProcessGuid: {24140161-c9b7-5866-0000-00108b491800}
ParentProcessId: 3080
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" -s -
NoLogo -NoProfile
```

Source: Vector8 Blog



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# Use Cases

- **net.exe use \***
  - Similar to whoami, “net use” is occasionally used by administrators, and very often used by attackers to move laterally across your environment.
  - A more sophisticated use of these two patterns might be to combine them and look for the **occurrence of whoami.exe and net.exe occurring on the same system in a short time window.**

Source: Vector8 Blog

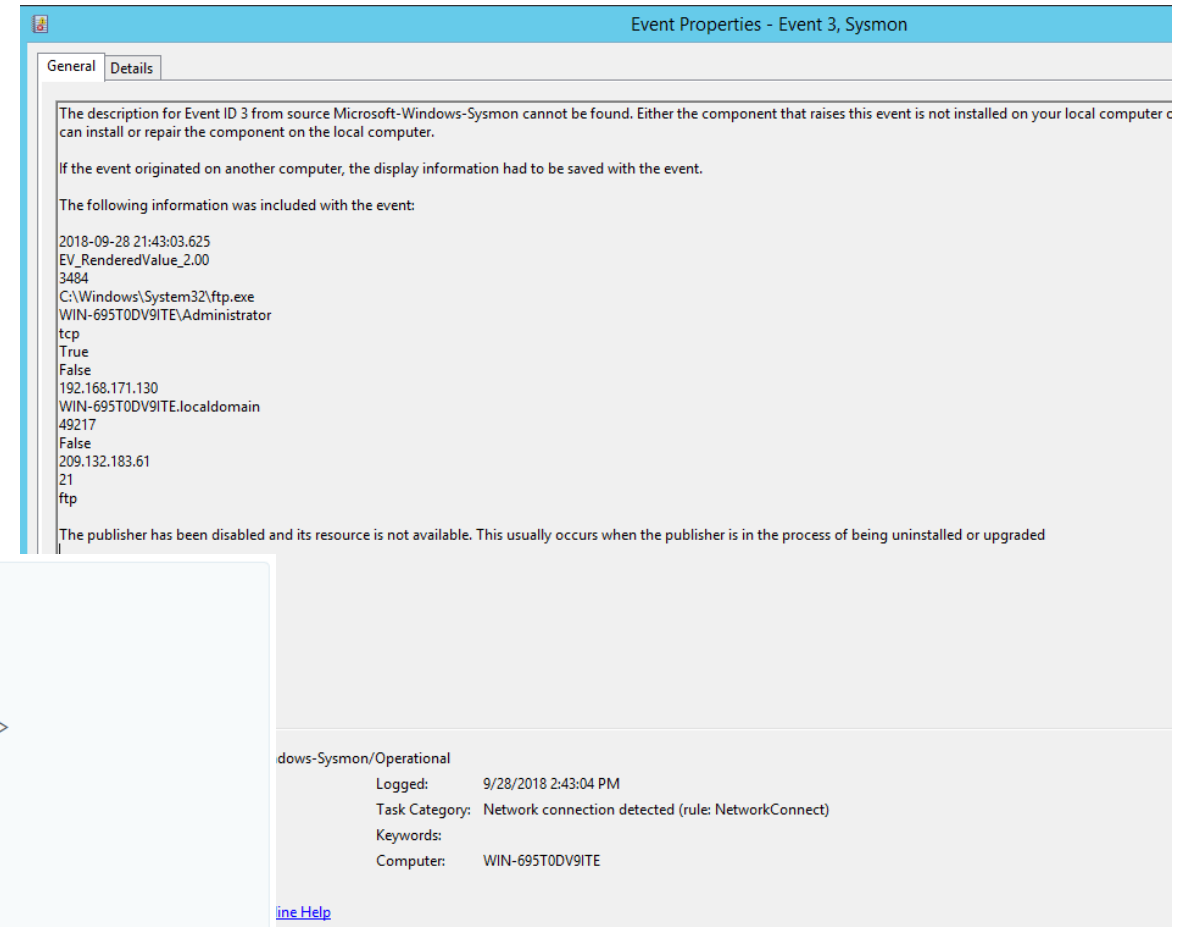


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# Use Cases

- **Exfiltration of data, tracking network connections.**

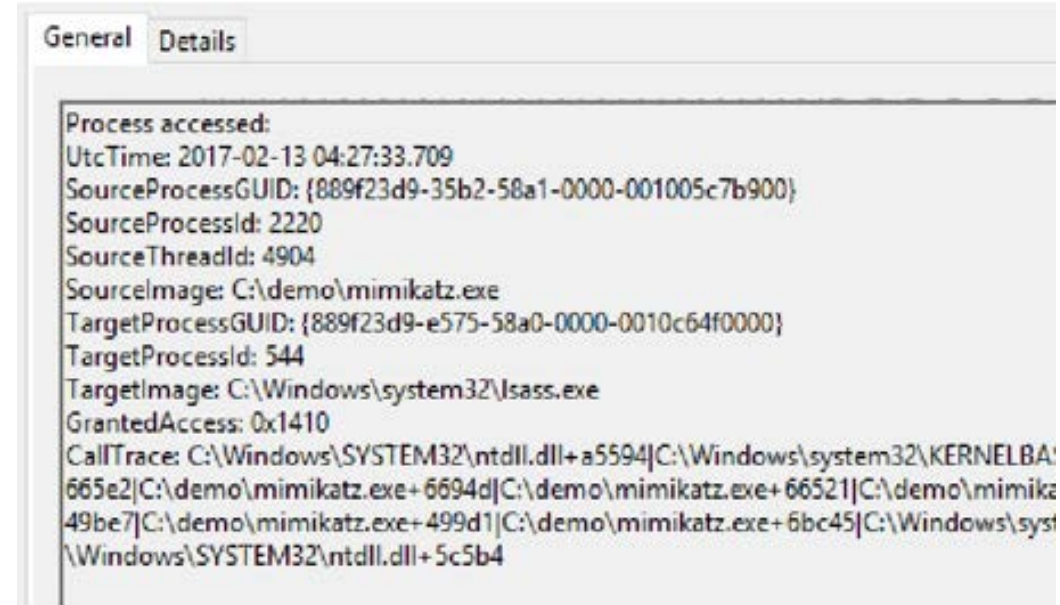
```
<NetworkConnect onmatch="include">  
  <DestinationPort condition="is">80</DestinationPort>  
  <DestinationIp condition="is">1.2.3.4</DestinationIp>  
  <DestinationPortName  
condition="is">kerberos</DestinationPortName>  
</NetworkConnect>
```



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# Use Cases

- **Mimikatz**
- Process injection - Inject a DLL into the lsass process and start up a thread
- Allowing Mimikatz to access and do what lsass can
- Standard EVT does not log this
- Sysmon provides this information



# Use Cases

## Event Code 10: “Process Accessed” – When lsass is accessed

"mimikatz" NOT "EventCode=4658" NOT "EventCode=4689" EventCode=10   stats count by _time, SourceImage, TargetImage, GrantedAccess			
✓ 27 events (04/09/2017 03:00:41.000 to 04/09/2017 03:45:41.001) No Event Sampling			
Events	Patterns	Statistics (13)	Visualization
20 Per Page Format Preview			
_time	SourceImage	TargetImage	GrantedAccess
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1FFFFFF
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\conhost.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1FFFFFF
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\csrss.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1FFFFFF
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\taskmgr.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1000
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\taskmgr.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1400
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Windows\system32\taskmgr.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1410
2017-09-04 03:26:30	C:\Windows\system32\lsass.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1000
2017-09-04 03:26:30	C:\Windows\system32\lsass.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1478
2017-09-04 03:26:39	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\system32\lsass.exe	0x1010
2017-09-04 03:26:40	C:\Windows\system32\wbem\wmiprvse.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	0x1400

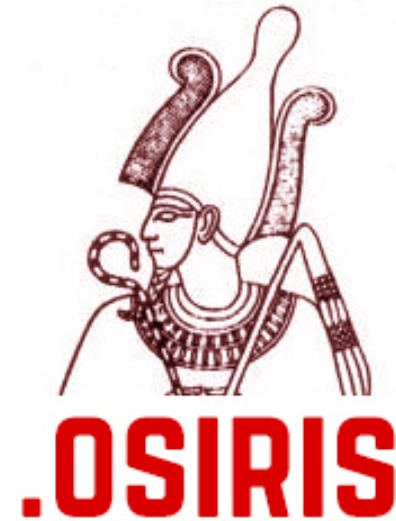
## Event Code 7 – “Image Loaded” – We see Mimikatz importing all kinds of other DLLs that it needs

"mimikatz" NOT "EventCode=4658" NOT "EventCode=4689" EventCode=7   stats count by _time, Image, ImageLoaded		
✓ 53 events (04/09/2017 03:00:41.000 to 04/09/2017 03:45:41.001) No Event Sampling		
Events	Patterns	Statistics (53)
20 Per Page Format Preview		
_time	Image	ImageLoaded
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\System32\KernelBase.dll
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\System32\advapi32.dll
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\System32\bcryptprimitives.dll
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\System32\combase.dll
2017-09-04 03:26:29	C:\Users\Artanis\Documents\mimikatz_trunk\x64\mimikatz.exe	C:\Windows\System32\crypt32.dll



# Example – Osiris Ransomware

- Part of the Locky family
- Acts like a traditional ransomware
- Osiris invades the system using spam technique or by exploiting detected system vulnerabilities.
- Malware is a .js file that drops the Osiris ransomware



# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- Initial running of the malware from the desktop, which is `typical since this is designed to be double clicked by a user after a download.

```
Process Create:
UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:06.435
ProcessGuid: {e29500a3-778e-584d-0000-0010fb549e00}
ProcessId: 2400
Image: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
CommandLine: "C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe" "C:\Users\IEUser\
\Desktop\malware.js"
CurrentDirectory: C:\Users\IEUser\Desktop\
User: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70\IEUser
LogonGuid: {e29500a3-e6ab-5836-0000-00207a590100}
LogonId: 0x1597a
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: Medium
Hashes:
SHA1=860265276B29B42B8C4B077E5C651DEF9C81B6E9,MD5=D1AB72DB2BEDD2F255D3
5DA3DA0D4B16,SHA256=047F3C5A7AB0EA05F35B2CA8037BF62DD4228786D07707064D
BD0D46569305D0,IMPHASH=62EA1D2DA2B1481E969D080A6B29D775
ParentProcessGuid: {e29500a3-e6ab-5836-0000-0010857d0100}
ParentProcessId: 1352
ParentImage: C:\Windows\explorer.exe
ParentCommandLine: C:\Windows\Explorer.EXE
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- We can follow this through the logs by using the ProcessGuid of the process that starts the malware
- Some files are dropped in the Temp folder

```
TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:58:06 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 11
Message : File created:
        UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:06.996
        ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-778E-584D-0000-0010FB549E00}
        ProcessId: 2400
        Image: C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe
        TargetFilename: C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Local
\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\W8N
S2AMB\o48qpgndy[1].txt
        CreationUtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:06.996

TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:58:07 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 11
Message : File created:
        UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:07.605
        ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-778E-584D-0000-0010FB549E00}
        ProcessId: 2400
        Image: C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe
        TargetFilename: C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Local
\Temp\GPt3ly2wE
        CreationUtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:07.605
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- Command and control domain is contacted (vxhcf-31.srv.cat)
- HTTP no via a browser
- We can still track via the processGuid

```
TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:58:07 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 3
Message : Network connection detected:
        UtcTime: 2016-11-25 06:00:48.931
        ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-778E-584D-0000-0010FB549E00}
        ProcessId: 2400
        Image: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
        User: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70\IEUser
        Protocol: tcp
        Initiated: true
        SourceIsIpv6: false
        SourceIp: 192.168.87.141
        SourceHostname: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70.localdomain
        SourcePort: 49562
        SourcePortName:
        DestinationIsIpv6: false
        DestinationIp: 134.0.11.154
        DestinationHostname: vxhcf-31.srv.cat
        DestinationPort: 80
        DestinationPortName: http
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- Command and control was contacted probably for the 2nd stage executable (GPt3ly2wE.zk) since .js files are typically just a dropper

```
TimeCreated   : 12/11/2016 10:58:08 AM
ProviderName  : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id            : 11
Message       : File created:
                UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:08.182
                ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-778E-584D-0000-0010FB549E00}
                ProcessId: 2400
                Image: C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe
                TargetFilename: C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Local
                \Temp\GPt3ly2wE.zk
                CreationUtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:08.182
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- The file GPT3ly2wE.zk is run using rundll32.exe
- The main encryption binary in DLL form.
- We now must follow the new ProcessGuid to make sure we get all the details of the new child process.

```
TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:58:08 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 1
Message : Process Create:
         UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:58:08.213
         ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-7790-584D-0000-001000679E00}
         ProcessId: 3380
         Image: C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe
         CommandLine: "C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe"
C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Local\Temp\GPT3LY~1.ZK,f7
         CurrentDirectory: C:\Users\IEUser\Desktop\
         User: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70\IEUser
         LogonGuid: {E29500A3-E6AB-5836-0000-00207A590100}
         LogonId: 0x1597a
         TerminalSessionId: 1
         IntegrityLevel: Medium
         Hashes:
SHA1=8939CF35447B22DD2C6E6F443446ACC1BF986D58,MD5=51138BEEA3E2C21EC
44D0932C71762A8,SHA256=5AD3C3
7E6F2B9DB3EE8B5AEEDC474645DE90C66E3D95F8620C48102F1EBA4124,IMPHASH=
EF8A44FE2F9AD4AB85E55004AAA024A9
         ParentProcessGuid: {E29500A3-778E-
584D-0000-0010FB549E00}
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- A new command and control domain is contacted (213.ip-51-254-141.eu), for the encryption key transfer

```
TimeCreated   : 12/11/2016 10:58:13 AM
ProviderName  : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id            : 3
Message       : Network connection detected:
                UtcTime: 2016-11-25 06:00:53.506
                ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-7790-584D-0000-001000679E00}
                ProcessId: 3380
                Image: C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe
                User: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70\IEUser
                Protocol: tcp
                Initiated: true
                SourceIsIpv6: false
                SourceIp: 192.168.87.141
                SourceHostname: WIN-4M6JEQRPH70.localdomain
                SourcePort: 49563
                SourcePortName:
                DestinationIsIpv6: false
                DestinationIp: 51.254.141.213
                DestinationHostname: 213.ip-51-254-141.eu
                DestinationPort: 80
                DestinationPortName: http
```

Source: 909research.com



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# Final Example – Osiris Ransomware

- The HTML message file saying "you've been encrypted" is written to various places on disk and the process ends

```
TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:59:11 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 11
Message : File created:
          UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:59:11.050
          ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-7790-584D-0000-001000679E00}
          ProcessId: 3380
          Image: C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe
          TargetFilename: C:\Users\IEUser\Desktop\OSIRIS-79f4.htm
          CreationUtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:59:11.050

TimeCreated : 12/11/2016 10:59:11 AM
ProviderName : Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
Id : 11
Message : File created:
          UtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:59:11.050
          ProcessGuid: {E29500A3-7790-584D-0000-001000679E00}
          ProcessId: 3380
          Image: C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe
          TargetFilename: C:\ProgramData\Adobe\Updater6\4CR5T38P--GUA7--EEHF--5050A725--CABDC0DA17C9.osiris
          CreationUtcTime: 2016-12-11 15:59:11.050
```

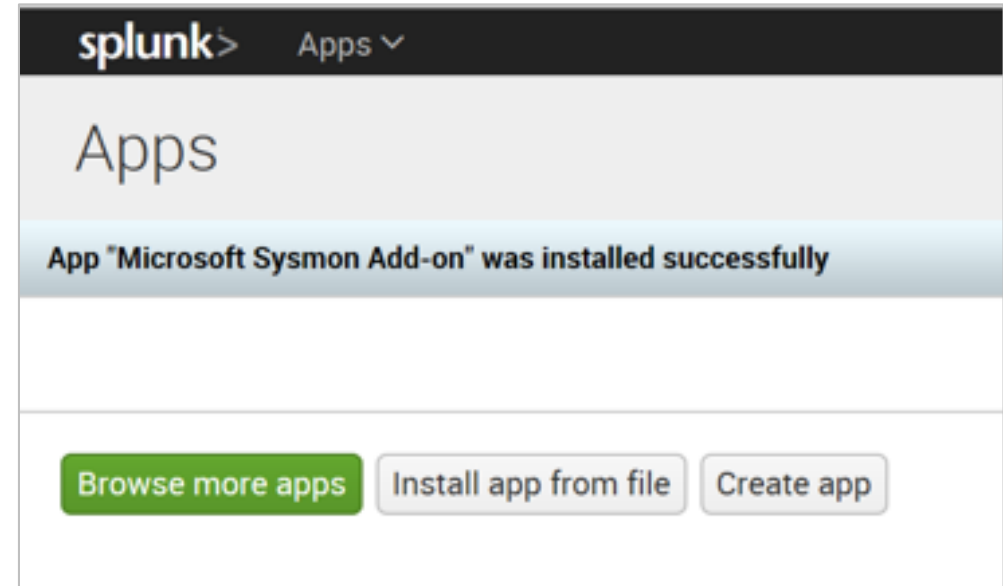
Source: 909research.com



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# SIEM Support

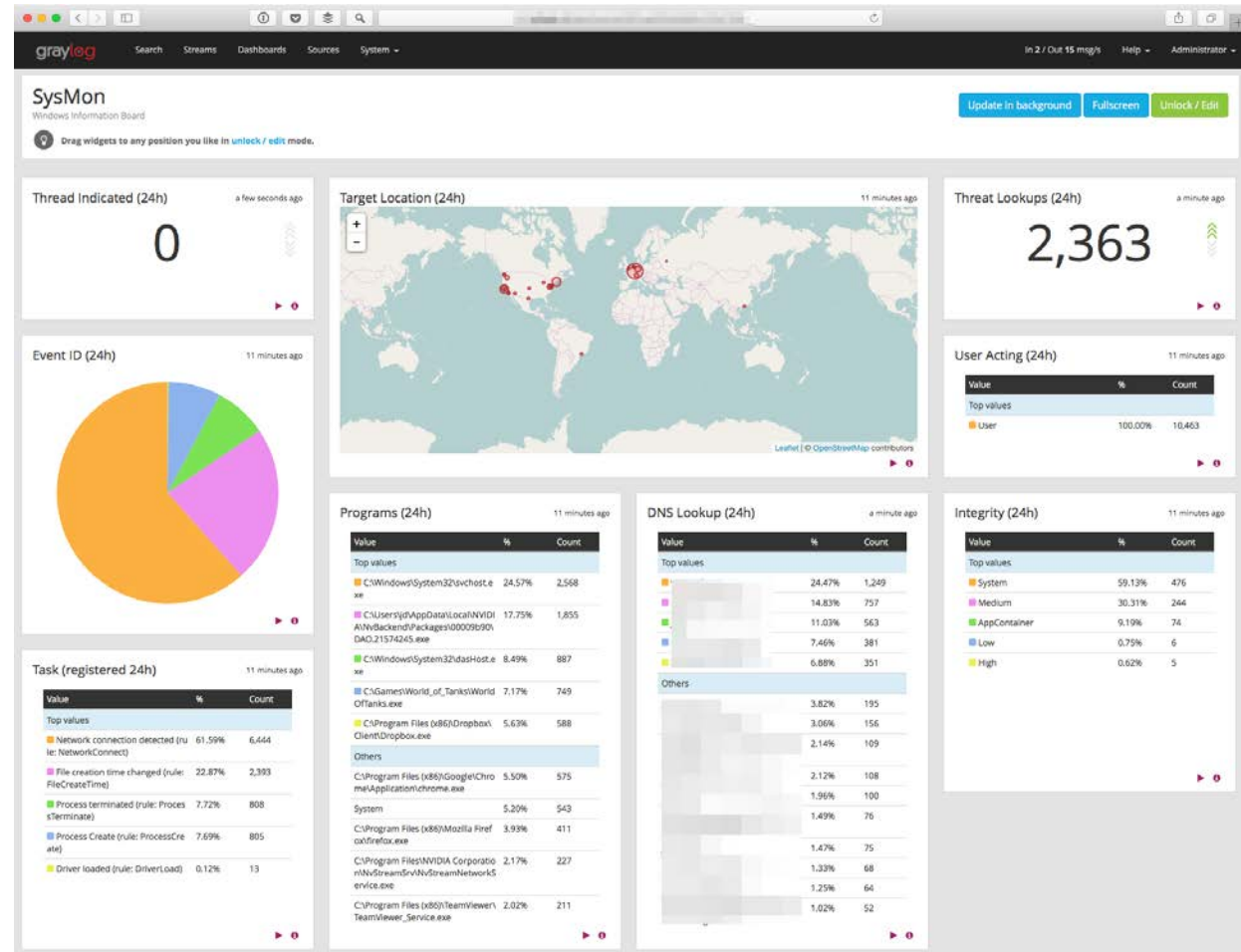
- ArcSight FlexConnector
- Alienvault NSM Plugin (via NXLog)
- IBM QRadar Content Extension
- Logrhythm
- Elk Stack
- Splunk universal forwarder



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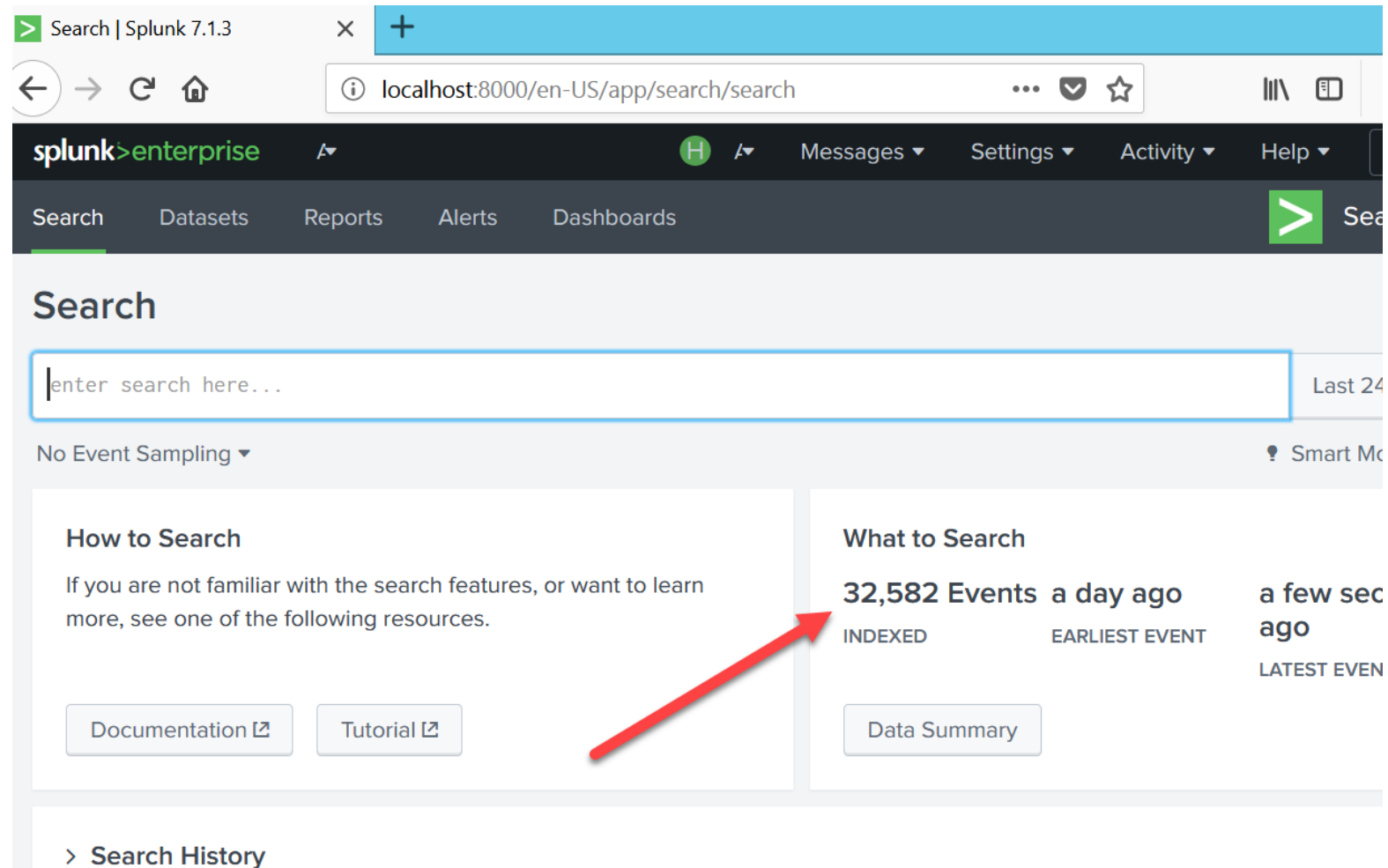
# SIEM Support

- Integrating with Gray Log
- Data enrichment with threat intelligence prior to sending to SIEM



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# Ingestion Overload – my local VM



The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface in a web browser. The browser tab is labeled "Search | Splunk 7.1.3" and the address bar shows "localhost:8000/en-US/app/search/search". The Splunk navigation bar includes links for Search, Datasets, Reports, Alerts, and Dashboards. The main content area is titled "Search" and features a search input field with the placeholder text "enter search here...". Below the input field, there is a dropdown menu for "No Event Sampling" and a "Smart Mode" indicator. The interface is divided into two main sections: "How to Search" and "What to Search". The "How to Search" section provides links to "Documentation" and "Tutorial". The "What to Search" section displays a summary of search results: "32,582 Events" indexed "a day ago", with the "EARLIEST EVENT" occurring "a few seconds ago" and the "LATEST EVENT" occurring "a few seconds ago". A red arrow points to the "32,582 Events" text. At the bottom of the page, there is a link to "Search History".

Search | Splunk 7.1.3

localhost:8000/en-US/app/search/search

splunk>enterprise

Search Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards

## Search

enter search here...

Last 24

No Event Sampling

Smart Mode

### How to Search

If you are not familiar with the search features, or want to learn more, see one of the following resources.

[Documentation](#) [Tutorial](#)

### What to Search

**32,582 Events** a day ago  
INDEXED EARLIEST EVENT

a few seconds ago  
LATEST EVENT

[Data Summary](#)

> Search History



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Search | Splunk 7.1.3

localhost:8000/en-US/app/search/search?q=search sourcetype%3D"XmlWinEventLog%3AMicrosoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" EventCode=1 | dedup Hashes | table Hashes Image ParentImage

splunk>enterprise App: Search & Reporting Administrator Messages Settings Activity Help Find

Search Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards Search & Reporting

### New Search

Save As Close

sourcetype="XmlWinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" EventCode=1 | dedup Hashes | table Hashes Image ParentImage Last 24 hours

✓ 26 events (9/11/18 7:00:00.000 AM to 9/12/18 7:40:26.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

Events Patterns **Statistics (26)** Visualization

20 Per Page Format Preview < Prev 1 2 Next >

Hashes	Image	ParentImage
SHA1=B014C7659B5A1DCBC92982D7061AFB011CA006F7	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-optimize.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=F2F236E9DC19B62BFF539CA9D1DDEA155B6276C4	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-powershell.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=57F1504F5DCEDDAD1C8BAA7B80A48CC3DDB849FA	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-admon.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=C30752C185CDE3CD9858411AEE14A82613BE9EC6	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-regmon.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=DB11513B7DE73034F4C9BB5D4B3EFD7199002D9D	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-winprintmon.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=155518DB285BDF2EF95F4AFD972FC1E23030312B	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-netmon.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=2EBACC2EF0A6AAC7F3C31B230A7124E60B8A731C	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunk-MonitorNoHandle.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe
SHA1=718FB64DAC1E54D6EEAD4D36296AD8F228C89CE2	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe	C:\Program Files\Splunk\bin\splunkd.exe

sourcetype="XmlWinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"  
EventCode=1 | dedup Hashes | table Hashes Image ParentImage



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# SIEM

- So essentially, now you can search across your logs for common hashes
- So if you now have a hash of a known bad app, you can find out where it is being executed
- Detect the lateral movement path of the attacker



# Conclusion

- Shocked that it isn't part of Windows already
- Experiment with different configurations
- You can also deploy custom configurations during IR situations
- **Remember either you have some kind of voodoo magic security or you aren't detecting it...**



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Questions? Comments?

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