

Subject: **Prevention Against Cyber Espionage (Advisory No 44) August 2018**

1. **Introduction.** A malicious email "**GE 2018 final checklist-personal postal ballot assignment**" is being sent to officers and staff of defense/ intelligence organizations. Email contains a malware hidden in **ZIP file**, containing malicious executables. Downloading and running the file, executes malware in background that results in hacking of the computer.

2. **Summary of Malicious Emails**

a. **Subjects.** GE 2018 final checklist-personal postal ballot assignment

b. **Name of Attachments.** ECP 2018 checklist.zip

c. **Antivirus Detection Rate of Extracted Files**

| Ser | Files extracted | Detection Rate | Percentage % |
|-----|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| (1) | ECP emergency and complaint.xls | 20/64 | 31.2 |
| (2) | List ECP Alerts.xls | 20/67 | 29.9 |
| (3) | OFFICIALS SMS SERVICES.xls | 33/67 | 49.2 |
| (4) | ieflash.exe | 20/67 | 29.9 |
| (5) | fileman.exe | 47/66 | 71.2 |

d. **Malware Type.** Trojan based Keylogger

e. **C&C Servers**

| Ser | C&C URL | IP Address | Hosting Country |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| (1) | h88-150-138-77.host.redstation.co.uk | 88.150.138.77 | UK |

3. **Technical Analysis.**

a. **Indicators of Compromise.** The malware makes following files on the infected system:-

- (1) C:\Windows\Temp\fileman.exe. (Original name is services.exe)
- (2) C:\Users\admin\AppData\Roaming\MicrosoftWindows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\ieflash64.exe. Original name is native.exe
- (3) Registry key at Path and having Key: "TSUSERENABLED" "HKLM\SYSTEM\CONTROLSET001\CONTROL\TERMI ALSERVER
- (4) The malware is being spread through Google drive link <https://drive.gbogle.com/file/d/1pNVigMzFM337dP9u41cD6BjnXgmRZmM>

b. **Capabilities of Malware.**

SECRET

- (1) The malware is capable of getting system **IP, user, location, network configuration details**, computer configurations and it can upload these details on its **C&C server** mentioned at **para 2(e)**.
- (2) The malware has the ability to act as a **key logger** and steal the **usernames** and **passwords** of infected systems.
- (3) The malware can Copy itself into registry and it can **automatically execute** itself on windows boot.
- (4) This trojan establishes and maintains continuous communication with its C&C server.

4. Recommendations.

- a. **Install and update licensed and well reputed antiviruses** such as Kaspersky, Avira, Avast etc.
- b. Block C&C Servers at para 2(e) in **firewalls** of own networks.
- c. In case if **indicators of compromise (para 3a)** are found in the system, please disconnect the computer from internet and **reinstall windows**.
- d. **Update** all softwares including **Windows OS**, Microsoft Office.
- e. **Don't download** attachments from **emails unless** you are sure about the source.