CABINET SECRETRIAT, CABINET DIVISION NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD (NTISB-II)

No. 1-5/2003 (NTISB-II)

Islamabad 15 November, 2018

Subject:

Advisory - Prevention Against Cyber Espionage (Advisory No 162)

Introduction. A malicious email titled as "Visit AF&AD Officers-11/10/2018" is being sent to officers and staff of government department. The Email contains a malicious Winrar Compressed File. Downloading, extracting and executing the compressed file executes malware in background that results in hacking of the computer.

Summary of Malicious Email

2018^a.

Subject.

Visit AF&AD officers - 11/10/2018

3 140 A SO18

Name of Attachments.

11-10-2018 Flight Details, zip

MITTI

Name of Compressed File.

Depflight (details).doc (An Executable File

masqueraded as word documents file).

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Malware Type.

C&C Servers.

Autoit Complied Info Stealing Trojan

Originator of Email.

aviation_navi@yahoo.com

Antivirus Detection Rate.

09/55 (16.36%)

As per procedu

cfafin

Ser	IP Address	Country	
(1)	185.203.118.198	Bulgaria	
(2)	138.204.170.189	Mexico	

3. <u>Indication of Compromise.</u>

The system is infected if following files are found in the

system.

a. C:\Users\<admin>Local\Microsoft\Direct Input\Compatibility \mcrthost.exe

b. C:\Users\<admin>\AppData\Local\Temp\<rand. no>jpeg

c. HKCU\Software\Microsoft \ Windows \ Current Version\Run\Microsoft Compatibility (Registry Key)

Capabilities of Malware

- The malware reads user information like IP address, MAC address, operating system details and Computer Name from the victim's computer.
- It uploads stored usernames and passwords present on victim's computer.
- The malware is also a key logger that records and steals usernames / `passwords of any account that victim logs in.
- d. The malware has the capability to gain persistence in victim's computer by setting the windows registry key on startup.

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5. Recommendations.

- a. Install and update well reputed antiviruses such as Kaspersky, Avira, Avast etc.
- b. Block C&C Servers at para 2g in firewalls of own networks.
- c. In case if indicators of compromise (para 3) are found in the system, please disconnect the computer from Internet and reinstall Windows.
- d. Update all software including Windows OS, Microsoft Office and all other software.
- e. Always make sure that you have enabled for factor authentication on all email accounts.
- f. Don't download attachments from emails unless you are sure about the source.
- 6. Forwarded for perusal and dissemination of information to all concerned, please.

Lieutenant Colonel (Ishtiaq Mahmood Kian) Deputy Secretary (NTISB) Ph# 951-9208854

All Secretaries of Ministries / Divisions of Federal Government and Chief Secretaries of Provincial Governments

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SPS to Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Division, Islamabad

PS to AS-III, Cabinet Division, Islamabad

APS to Secretary, NTISB