# Ransomware & Wiper Attacks: An Evolving Threat

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## A Brief History of Ransomware

### 1989

- PC CYBORG
   Distributed via
   distributing 20,000
   floppy disks to
   AIDS researchers
- Pay \$189 to a PO Box in Panama



## 2006

- Cryzip began spreading via the Bagle Virus
- Demanded \$300 via "e-gold"

## February 2016

- Petya
- Infected email attachments
- Later updated to include EternalBlue propagation

### **June 2017**

- NotPetya
- Targeted Ukraine
- Wiper in disguise
   Eternal Plue
- EternalBlue +
   Mimikatz + PSExec
   +EternalRomance
- \$10 billion global impact
- Attributed to Russian Military

### **March 2018**

- Atlanta crippled by Ransomware
- \$17 million in damages
- SamSam
- FBI Indicted 2 Iranian Hackers







### 2004

- GPCode
- Demanded \$120 via wire transfer

#### 2011

- Windows Product Activation
- Tricked user into dialing rogue long distance phone #



#### **March 2016**

- WannaCry
- Attributed to North Korea
- EternalBlue propagation
- Kill Switch discovered by Marcus Hutchins

#### Feb 2018

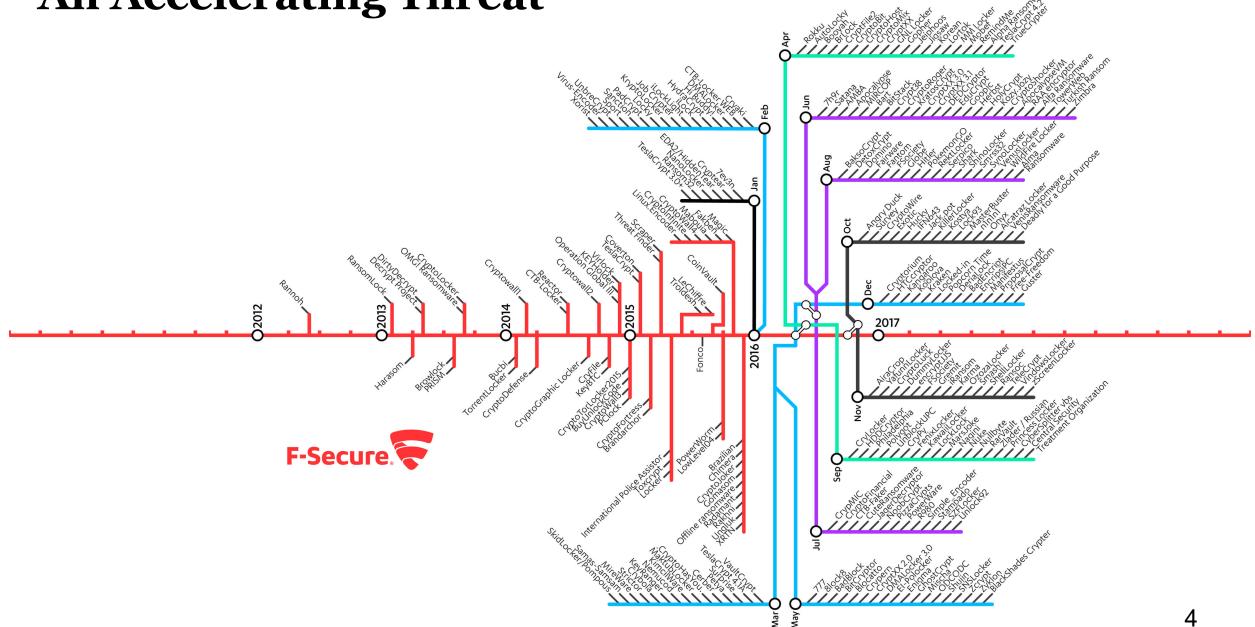
- Colorado DOT crippled by Ransomware
- 150 Servers and 2,000 workstations
- Segmented network prevented more damage

## **May 2019**

- City of Baltimore
- \$18 million in damages
- 4-6 weeks to get to 95% recovery

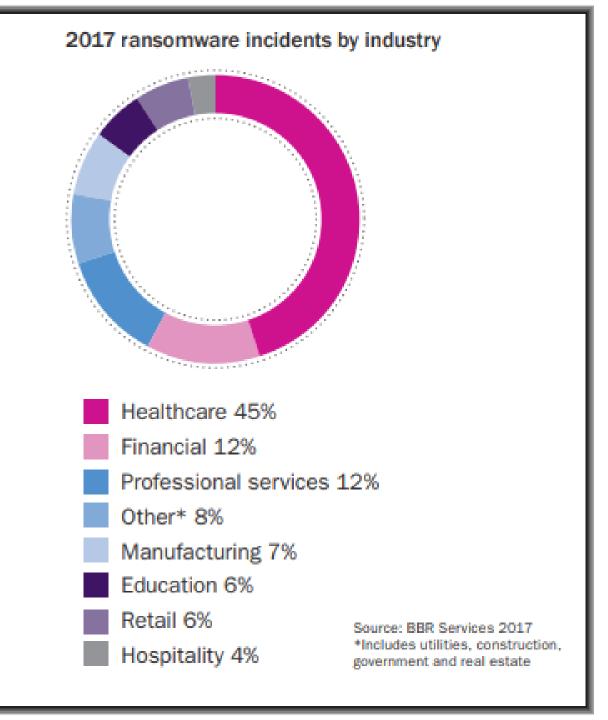


# **An Accelerating Threat**



# **Financial Impact**

- Estimated 184 million ransomware infections in 2018
- Losses predicted at 11.5 billion in 2019
- Cyber Risk Management Project believes we may soon see a single attack with a cost of \$193 billion
- Productivity costs often outweigh repair costs





# Common Attack Vectors







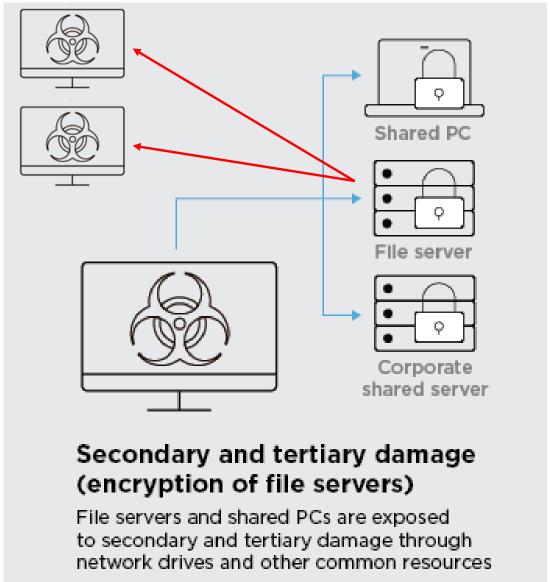
## **RDP Brute Force**

- Simple and Direct
- Targets internet exposed assets
- High risk for public cloud environments
- 2 control failures:
  - Network access restrictions
  - Account lockout policy



**Email-borne with Propagation via Fileservers** 

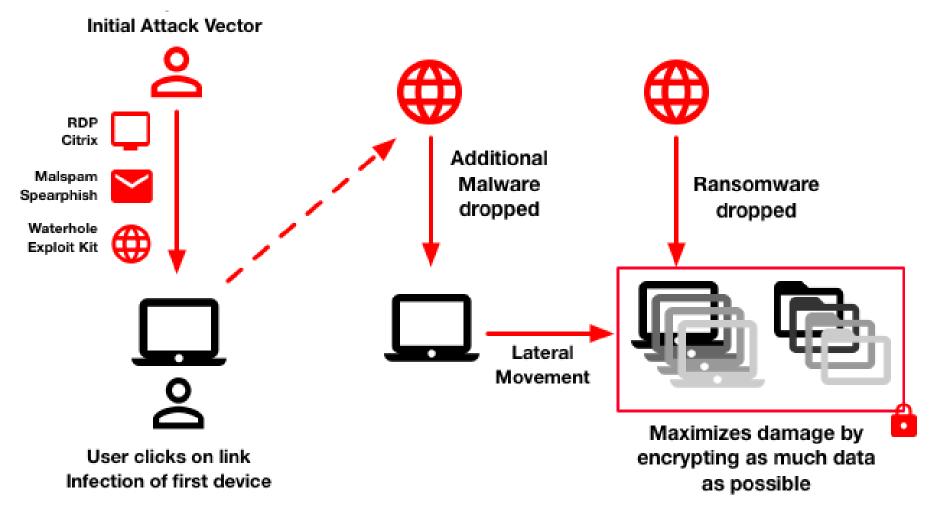
- Initial infection via malicious email or website
- Local data and file share are both encrypted and infected
- Other users impacted via file shares





# Land and Expand

## Pivoting after initial entry





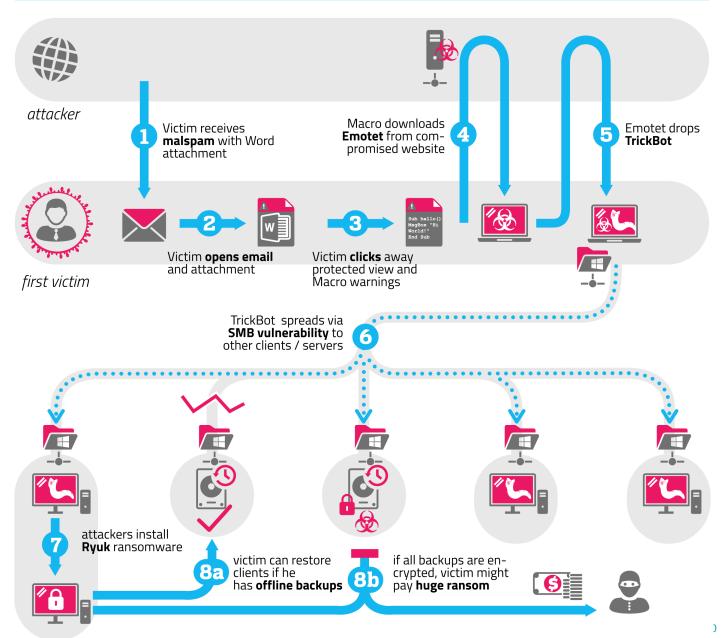
## **Layers on Layers**

- Victim opens "malspam" email
- Word macro installs Emotet as a dropper
- Emotet drops TrickBot
- TrickBot spread internally via various modules
  - Eternal Blue (SMB)
  - Internal Email
- TrickBot installs Ryuk Ransomware





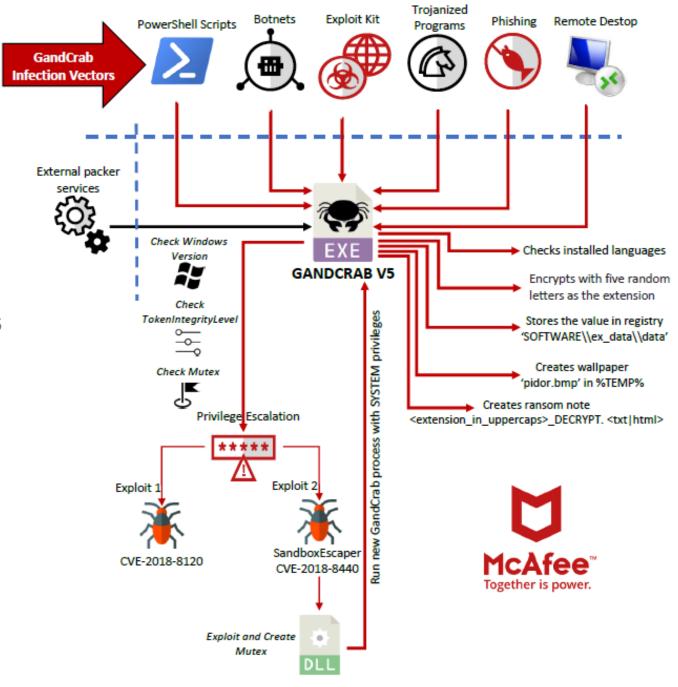




# **GandCrab**

"Ransomware-as-a-Service"

- Dark web/Criminal "affiliate enterprise"
- Affiliates help spread infections and share profits
- \$2 billion in shared profits in 18 months
- \$150 million netted by GandCrab crew
- Creators "retired" May 31<sup>st</sup> 2019
- Evidence is that they regrouped into a smaller, more advanced and exclusive group

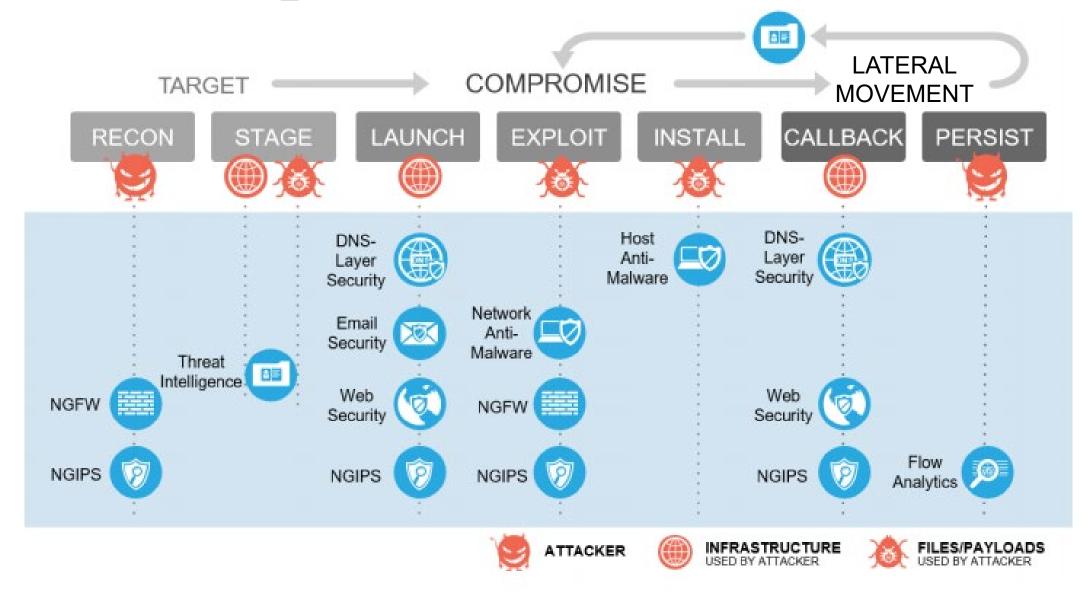




# Protecting Against Ransomware



# **Harden Endpoints and Networks**





## **Harden The Humans**

- Stay patched
- Always think twice before clicking on links or opening attachments
- Backup personal data on a regular basis to a protected location
- Remove infected endpoints ASAP
- If it's suspicious, report it!





## SECURITY TIPS

(PRINT OUTTHIS LIST AND KEEP IT IN YOUR BANK SAFE DEPOSIT BOX.)

- DON'T CLICK LINKS TO WEBSITES
- USE PRIME NUMBERS IN YOUR PASSWORD
- CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD MANAGER MONTHLY
- HOLD YOUR BREATH WHILE CROSSING THE BORDER
- INSTALL A SECURE FONT
- USE A 2-FACTOR SMOKE DETECTOR
- CHANGE YOUR MAIDEN NAME REGULARLY
- PUT STRANGE USB DRIVES IN A BAG OF RICE OVERNIGHT
- USE SPECIAL CHARACTERS LIKE & AND %
- ONLY READ CONTENT PUBLISHED THROUGH TOR.COM
- USE A BURNER'S PHONE
- GET AN SSL CERTIFICATE AND STORE IT IN A SAFE PLACE
- IF A BORDER GUARD ASKS TO EXAMINE YOUR LAPTOP, YOU HAVE A LEGAL RIGHT TO CHALLENGE THEM TO A CHESS GAME FOR YOUR SOUL.



# DRP, BCP and Data Protection

- Offline backups
- Laptop and workstation reimaging
- SAN/NAS Data Protection





# Recovering From Ransomware

# Discussion

