

2008 Malware Challenge

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• **Describe your malware lab.**

My lab is a simple setup. It consists of a MacBook with 2GB of memory running MacOSX 10.5.5. I use VMWare Fusion 2.0 since this lets me take multiple snapshots and revert back to any of my previous snapshots. I have two virtual machines setup. The first one is a stock Windows XP Pro machine with minimal extra software installed. OllyDbg is the main application installed along with other utilities like Process Monitor, Regshot, Wireshark and PEiD. The other virtual machine is a stock Ubuntu 8 machine used only when I need a Linux platform for analysis.

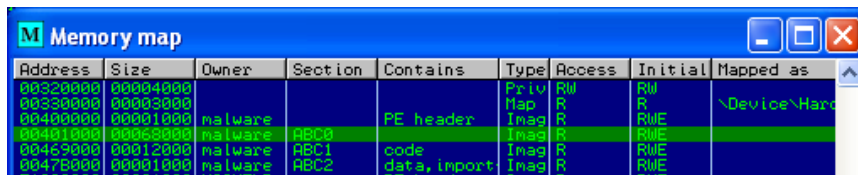
• **Is the malware packed? If so, how did you determine what it was?**

I chose to answer this question second since if an executable is packed then there isn't a lot of static analysis you can do until it is unpacked.

The first thing I did, was open up malware.exe in OllyDbg. OllyDbg immediately displayed the following warning:

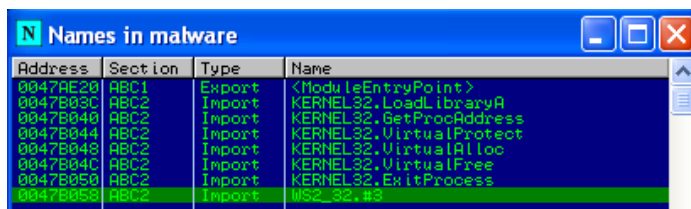
```
Quick statistical test of module 'malware' reports that its code section is either compressed, encrypted, or contains large amount of embedded data. Results of code analysis can be very unreliable or simply wrong. Do you want to continue analysis.
```

This is usually a good first indication that an executable might be packed. The next thing I did, was to look at the different sections in the executable. Usually, in typical applications, you find sections like .text, .data or .rsrc. When I opened up the memory window in OllyDbg the following is what I saw:



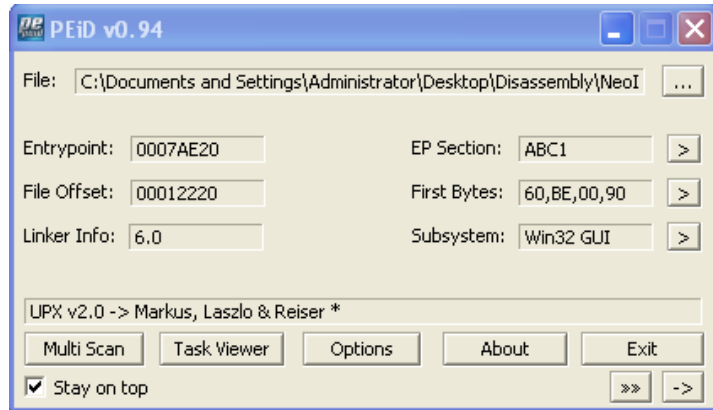
Notice that the only sections that are present are ones called ABC0, ABC1 and ABC2 and the typical ones I listed above are not present. This was another good indication to me that the executable was packed. The way that packers typically work are to take an existing executable and transform it in some way and then include an unpacking stub that is executed first to reverse the previous transformation. A lot of the time what you will see is an extra section added and then the entry point of the executable changed to execute the unpacking stub first and then it jumps to the unpacked code. These ABC sections also stood out to me as being similar to what you see in a UPX packed executable. In a typical UPX packed executable you will see sections like UPX0, UPX1 and UPX2. So It seems like this executable is packed and possibly with some sort of modified UPX packer.

Next I looked at the function imports of the executable. So I opened up the Names window in OllyDbg.



This stands out to me as a pretty short list, with almost all of the imports from KERNEL32.dll. Normally you would find a long list of imports and from many different DLLs. Additionally the functions that are imported are things for loading additionally libraries manually (LoadLibraryA, GetProcAddress) and modifying memory (VirtualProtect, VirtualAlloc, ...).

This convinced me that this is a packed executable but I wasn't a hundred percent sure what it was packed with. My guess was UPX and to double check this I opened up malware.exe in PEiD, and this was the results:



So I was correct. The executable is packed and is packed with UPX.

- **What information can you gather about the malware without executing it?**

Before attempting static analysis I first needed to unpack the executable. I first tried downloading the UPX utility and running the `upx` command to unpack the program. Since malware.exe had non standard section names the UPX utility was not able to do the job. I did a quick google search on manual unpacking of UPX and found this article, <http://vault.reversers.org/UPXUnpackingTut>, that told me how to do it. When the UPX unpacking stubs starts it does a `PUSHAD` instruction to save all the registers, then unpacks, then does a `POPAD` to restore the registers and then jumps to the original entry point of the application. All that I needed to do was to locate the `POPAD` instruction and place a breakpoint on the `jmp` instruction. I found the following code:

```

0047AFBE  61          POPAD
0047AFBF  8D4424 80     LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[ESP-80]
0047AFC3  6A 00     PUSH 0
0047AFC5  39C4     CMP ESP,EAX
0047AFC7  ^75 FA     JNZ SHORT malware.0047AFC3
0047AFC9  83EC 80   SUB ESP,-80
0047AFCC  -E9 FB59F9FF JMP malware.004109CC

```

I then set a breakpoint at `0x0047AFCC`, ran OllyDbg to that line, and then used OllyDump to save the unpacked executable to my hard drive.

Now that the executable was unpacked I started the static analysis. The first thing I did was to run the `strings` command on the unpacked file. This alone revealed a lot about the malware. The following is a list of strings that caught my attention:

1. There were a lot of Echo strings that were creating a `1.reg` file. So at some point I would guess that registry modifications are made
2. I started to see a lot of strings with `Realmbot` in it. A quick google search turned up a handful of pages offering to let me download groups of bot source code, one of them being `Crx-realmbot.VNC+RFI`.
3. I also noticed a list of web page names like PayPal, Gmail, Yahoo!, so possible the malware is looking for these pages
4. Next I saw a long list of what seemed like random words. My guess would be that this is a password list of some sort for trying to brute force passwords for something.
5. Then I started noticing some strings about IRC. Things like NICK, USER, PASS, for example. I would guess that this malware tries to connect to an irc server. Earlier there were some strings of `#challenge` so maybe that is the channel that the bot tries to connect to

6. I noticed some strings about remote shell, so I would guess the program provides some way to spawn a remote shell
7. Some of the strings suggested that the program could start a ftp server
8. I found the string, `Normal key logger active`. This indicates to me that there is some sort of key logging functionality that can be activated.
9. There were also some strings about DDoS flooding
10. There were a handful of strings that seemed to deal with downloading files.
11. There were many strings throughout the program that suggested that there was some sort of httpd functionality.

All of these things are just what I gathered from reading the output from the `strings` command. At first guess I would think based on the name `RealmBoT` throughout the binary and all the different sort of commands found that this is some sort of IRC bot that installs itself on the victim machine, connects to an irc server and then waits for commands.

Next I started to analyze the main function of the program in OllyDbg to try to figure out what it does on start up. The first function, called from the main function that I noticed was at `0x00401CEE`, here's a snippet from the start of it:

```

00401CEE > 53          PUSH EBX
00401CEF 55          PUSH EBP
00401CF0 8B2D A0804100  MOV EBP,DWORD PTR DS:[<&kernel32.GetModuleHandleA>]
00401CF6 56          PUSH ESI
00401CF7 57          PUSH EDI
00401CF8 68 B4C44100  PUSH malware-.0041C4B4 ; ASCII "kernel32.dll"
00401CFD FFD5       CALL EBP
00401CFF 8B35 B0804100  MOV ESI,DWORD PTR DS:[<&kernel32.GetProcAddress>]
00401D05 8BF8       MOV EDI,EAX ; EDI = Kernel32Handle
00401D07 33DB       XOR EBX,EBX
00401D09 3BFB       CMP EDI,EBX ; Make sure we got a handle to kernel32
00401D0B 0F84 FD000000  JE malware-.00401E0E
00401D11 68 A4C44100  PUSH malware-.0041C4A4 ; ASCII "SetErrorMode"
00401D16 57          PUSH EDI
00401D17 FFD6       CALL ESI
00401D19 68 88C44100  PUSH malware-.0041C488 ; ASCII "CreateToolhelp32Snapshot"
00401D1E 57          PUSH EDI
00401D1F A3 C8B64200  MOV DWORD PTR DS:[<lpSetErrorMode>],EAX

```

This function continued on like this for a long time. Basically the author of this malware is loading almost of all the libraries they needed dynamically. This can make the disassembly less obvious because OllyDbg can't always figure out what the function pointer being called really is. I went through this function and labeled the imports so that the rest of the disassembly would make more sense.

Back in the main function, after the load library function is called, the program calls `CreateMutex` and `waitForSingleObject` so that it makes sure only one instance of itself is running at the same time. After that it initializes the winsock library for network functionality.

```

004038D0 BF 04010000  MOV EDI,104
004038D5 8D85 18FCFFFF  LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-3E8]
004038DB 57          PUSH EDI
004038DC 50          PUSH EAX
004038DD FF15 5C804100  CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&kernel32.GetWindowsDirectoryA>]
004038E3 8D85 1CFDFFFF  LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-2E4]
004038E9 57          PUSH EDI
004038EA 50          PUSH EAX
004038EB 56          PUSH ESI
004038EC FF15 A0804100  CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&kernel32.GetModuleHandleA>]
004038F2 50          PUSH EAX
004038F3 FF15 9C804100  CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&kernel32.GetModuleFileNameA>]

```

This code above is the start of the program trying to figure out if this is the first time it has run or not. It does this by calling `GetWindowsDirectoryA` and `GetModuleFileNameA` and looking to see if the

fully-qualified path returned from `GetModuleFileNameA` contains the windows directory. If it does not contain the windows directory then it considers this the first run. If this is the first run then it will make a copy of itself in the windows directory as a file named `winsec32.exe`. Then the code will call `CreateProcessA` to start the copy running and then `ExitProcess` to stop the first copy from running.

When the `winsec32.exe` instance starts up it will go through the same check again to determine if the running process is running in the Windows directory. This time however the code will determine that this is not the first time the program has run and continue running at `0x00403AF9`.

The next function that is called is at `0x00408E8A`. This function calls 4 other functions: `RegCreateKeyExA`, `RegSetValueExA`, `RegDeleteValueA`, and `RegCloseKey`. This function takes a single argument passed in from the main function. The main function calls it passing in the `winsec32.exe` string. The functions purpose it to call `RegSetValueExA` on a list of key and sub key values if the argument is not NULL. If the argument is NULL, then the function will call `RegDeleteValueA` and remove all of the values that might have been previously set. The following is the list of keys/sub keys at `0x0041E5F4` that get set:

Key	Sub Key
0x80000002 (HKLM)	Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
0x80000002 (HKLM)	Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServices
0x80000001 (HKCU)	Software\Microsoft\OLE

For each of these keys `RegSetValueExA` is called setting `lpValueName` equal to "Microsoft Svchost local services" and the `lpData` to "winsec32.exe".

Next comes some strings that I would assume are related to IRC based on the first one.

```

00403B5B 6A 7F          PUSH 7F
00403B5D 68 00C84100    PUSH malware-.0041C800      ; ASCII "testirc1.shlxy2bg.NET"
00403B62 68 4C554700    PUSH malware-.0047554C
00403B67 E8 D4B90000    CALL malware-.0040F540
00403B6C A1 B8C74100    MOV EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[41C7B8]
00403B71 6A 3F          PUSH 3F
00403B73 68 18C84100    PUSH malware-.0041C818      ; ASCII "#challenge"
00403B78 68 CC554700    PUSH malware-.004755CC
00403B7D A3 9C564700    MOV DWORD PTR DS:[47569C],EAX
00403B82 E8 B9B90000    CALL malware-.0040F540
00403B87 83C4 40        ADD ESP,40
00403B8A 6A 3F          PUSH 3F
00403B8C 68 24C84100    PUSH malware-.0041C824      ; ASCII "happy12"
00403B91 68 0C564700    PUSH malware-.0047560C
00403B96 E8 A5B90000    CALL malware-.0040F540
    
```

It looks like th function at `0x0040F540` is some sort of string copy and these strings deal with IRC. `testirc1.shlxy2bg.NET` looks like a host name, so probably the IRC server to connect to. `#challenge` is a channel and I would guess that `happy12` is either a user name or a password.

After this comes the final part of the main function that looks to be a run loop

```

00403B9B 83C4 0C        ADD ESP,0C
00403B9E 8935 A0564700  MOV DWORD PTR DS:[4756A0],ESI
00403BA4 33FF          XOR EDI,EDI
00403BA6 3935 00B74200  CMP DWORD PTR DS:[42B700],ESI
00403BAC 75 16         JNZ SHORT malware-.00403BC4
00403BAE 8D45 F8       LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-8]
00403BB1 56           PUSH ESI
00403BB2 50           PUSH EAX
00403BB3 FF15 20B54200  CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<lpInternetGetConnectedState>]
00403BB9 85C0         TEST EAX,EAX
00403BBB 75 07         JNZ SHORT malware-.00403BC4
00403BBD 68 30750000    PUSH 7530
00403BC2 EB 26         JMP SHORT malware-.00403BEA
00403BC4 68 48554700    PUSH malware-.00475548
00403BC9 8935 A85D4700  MOV DWORD PTR DS:[475DA8],ESI
00403BCF E8 3C000000    CALL malware-.00403C10
00403BD4 83F8 02       CMP EAX,2
00403BD7 8945 FC       MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],EAX
00403BDA 74 20         JE SHORT malware-.00403BFC
00403BDC 3935 A85D4700  CMP DWORD PTR DS:[475DA8],ESI
    
```

```

00403BE2  74 01          JE SHORT malware-.00403BE5
00403BE4  4F            DEC EDI
00403BE5  68 B80B0000   PUSH 0BB8
00403BEA  FF15 4C804100 CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<&kerne132.Sleep>]
00403BF0  47           INC EDI
00403BF1  83FF 06       CMP EDI,6
00403BF4  ^7C B0       JL SHORT malware-.00403BA6
00403BF6  837D FC 02   CMP DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-4],2
00403BFA  ^75 A8       JNZ SHORT malware-.00403BA4
00403BFC  E8 7EFAFFFF   CALL malware-.0040367F
00403C01  FF15 38B54200 CALL DWORD PTR DS:[<lpWSACleanup>]
00403C07  5F          POP EDI
00403C08  5E          POP ESI
00403C09  33C0       XOR EAX,EAX
00403C0B  5B          POP EBX
00403C0C  C9          LEAVE
00403C0D  C2 1000     RETN 10

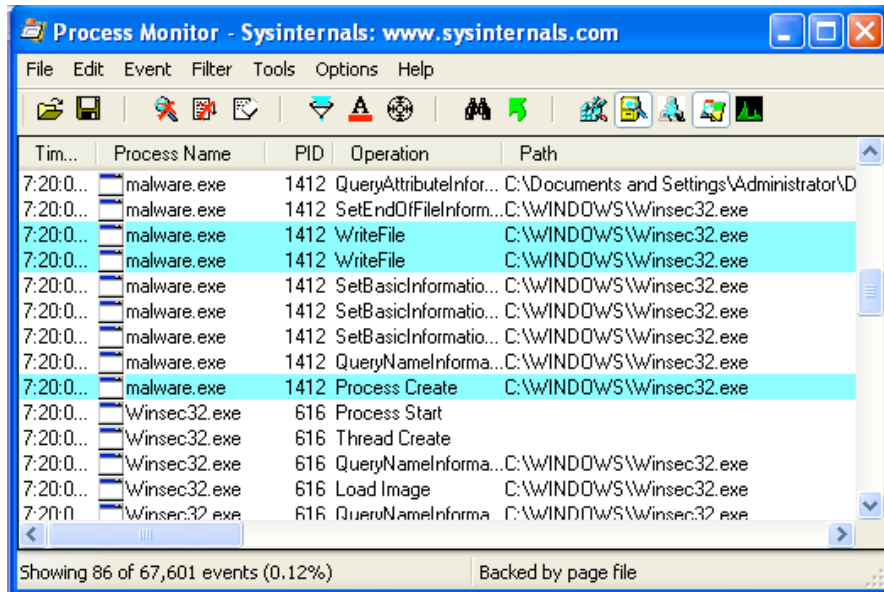
```

What we see here is at 0x00403BA4 the EDI register is initialized to 0. Instructions are executed and then at 0x00403BF0 we increment the EDI register and check to see if it is 6. If it is not 6 then we jump back to the beginning of the loop. If it is 6 then we check another variable to see if it is equal to 2 and if it's not then we loop back to zeroing out the EDI register. Essentially the code in here will run until the variable at [EBP-4] is equal 2. When it is equal to 2 then we call the function at 0x0040367F and then WSACleanup. Inside of the loop the first function call is a call to InternetGetConnectedState. If this machine is not connected to the internet, then we end up at the call to kerne132.Sleep and then we loop. If it is connected to the internet then the next function to be called is at 0x00403C10. Just glancing inside the function at 0x00403C10 I see calls to things like htons, socket, connect and closesocket. My guess base on the fact that the code right before the main loop appeared to be setting a host name and channel is that the function at 0x00403C10 is what tries to do the IRC connection.

- **Describe the malware's behavior. What files does it drop? What registry keys does it create and/or modify? What network connections does it create? How does it auto-start, etc?**

Based on the malware's disassembly the behavior seems to be as follows: Create a copy of the malware in the Windows directory named Winsec32.exe, create three registry keys to get the malware to start at system startup, and then try to connect to an IRC server. To verify these findings I set out to actually run and observe the malware. I started by taking a snapshot of my virtual machine so that I could revert back to a clean state after running the malware. I then started up some utilities to help me observe the actions of the malware. I started regshot and took an initial snapshot of the registry. I also started Process Monitor so I could watch what files were being written to. I then started up a network sniffer to see what the malware tried to connect to. Unfortunately the VMWare Fusion network driver on MacOSX doesn't have BPF support so I couldn't use Wireshark directly. Instead I started up the vmnet-sniffer utility that comes with VMWare Fusion which will log virtual machine network traffic in a raw format that can be opened in Wireshark at a later time.

I then started malware.exe and watched what happened in Process Monitor. In the screenshot below, I've highlighted all the writeFile calls and the CreateProcess calls.



This confirms what I found while following the disassembly of the main function. When the malware starts up it will make a copy of itself in the Windows directory called Winsec32.exe and then start Winsec32.exe running and terminate. Now that it seemed like the malware had "installed" itself, I took a second snapshot of the registry with regshot and then compared it to the original. The results below also confirm what I found during static analysis.

```

Regshot 1.8.2
Comments:
Datetime:2008/10/18 11:30:28 , 2008/10/18 11:30:50
Computer:SCOTT-8879C7D10 , SCOTT-8879C7D10
Username:Administrator , Administrator

-----
Keys added:2
-----
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServices
HKU\S-1-5-21-746137067-1409082233-839522115-500\Software\Microsoft\OLE

-----
Values added:3
-----
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\Microsoft Svchost local services: "Winsec32.exe"
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServices\Microsoft Svchost local services: "Winsec32.exe"
HKU\S-1-5-21-746137067-1409082233-839522115-500\Software\Microsoft\OLE\Microsoft Svchost local services: "Winsec32.exe"
    
```

On startup the malware writes these three registry keys. These keys will ensure that when the computer is restarted the Winsec32.exe application will start as well.

The final thing I looked at was the logs from vmnet-sniffer. The logs were full of DNS lookup requests for the host name testirc1.sh1xy2bg.NET. My virtual machine was set up in host only mode so the lookup failed. In order to further check the network traffic. I edited the host file on my virtual Windows machine and set the testirc1.sh1xy2bg.NET host name to point to the IP address of my MacBook's network interface. After I set the host file my network sniffer started showing the following packets:

```

174 152.241528      172.16.99.128    172.16.99.1     TCP      1427 > 6667 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460
175 152.241588      172.16.99.1     172.16.99.128  TCP      6667 > 1427 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
    
```

172.168.99.128 is the IP address of my virtual Windows XP machine and 172.16.99.1 is the IP address of the VMWare network interface on my MacOSX machine. Port 6667 is the default port for IRC, so the malware was now trying to connect to its IRC server.

So to summarize, on startup the malware drops a copy of itself called Winsec32.exe into the Windows directory. It creates three registry keys setting the values to the Winsec32.exe. These registry keys are used to auto-start the malware when the system starts up. After that it tries to connect to an IRC

server at testirc1.sh1xy2bg.NET.

- **What type of command and control server does the malware use? Describe the server and interface this malware uses as well as the domains and URLs accessed by the malware.**

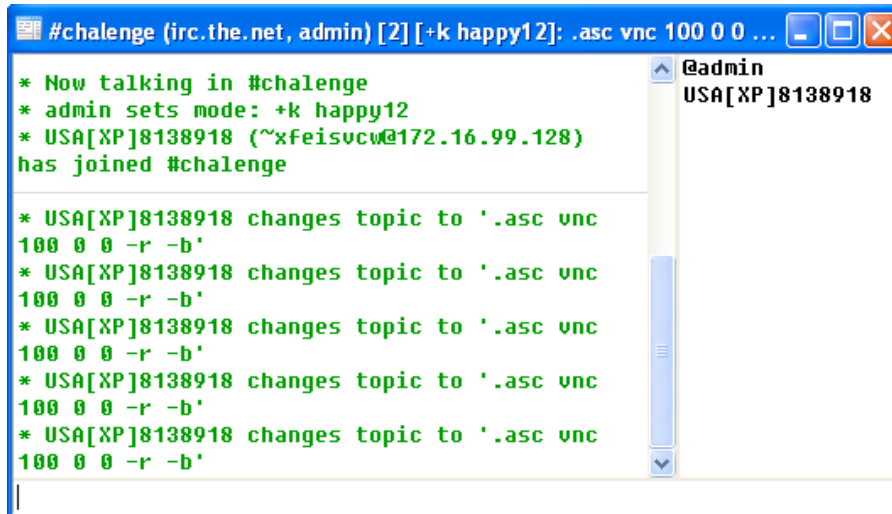
Based on everything that was discovered during the previous two questions, I think it's safe to say that this malware uses IRC as it's command and control server. The interface it uses is to connect to a specific server, join the #challenge channel and then wait for commands. The only domain accessed is that of the IRC server that it connects to which is testirc1.sh1xy2bg.NET.

- **What commands are present within the malware and what do they do? If possible, take control of the malware and run some of these commands, documenting how you did it.**

The first thing I did in order to answer this question was to set up an IRC server on my MacBook. I download ngircd from <http://ngircd.barton.de/>. I chose ngircd because it was small, easy to compile and has MacOSX support. Next I reverted my VMWare machine back to a clean state. I then used mIRC to connect to my MacBook's IRC server and joined the #challenge channel so I could watch what happened. Then I ran malware.exe. As malware.exe ran I saw the following entries show up in the ngircd logs:

```
[1106:6] Accepted connection 7 from 172.16.99.128:2744 on socket 4.
[1106:5] User "USA[XP]8138918!~xfeisvcw@172.16.99.128" registered (connection 7)
```

In mIRC, I saw the following:



The screenshot shows an IRC chat window titled "#challenge (irc.the.net, admin) [2] [+k happy12]: .asc vnc 100 0 0 ...". The chat log displays the following messages:

```
* Now talking in #challenge
* admin sets mode: +k happy12
* USA[XP]8138918 (~xfeisvcw@172.16.99.128)
has joined #challenge

* USA[XP]8138918 changes topic to '.asc vnc
100 0 0 -r -b'
* USA[XP]8138918 changes topic to '.asc vnc
100 0 0 -r -b'
* USA[XP]8138918 changes topic to '.asc vnc
100 0 0 -r -b'
* USA[XP]8138918 changes topic to '.asc vnc
100 0 0 -r -b'
* USA[XP]8138918 changes topic to '.asc vnc
100 0 0 -r -b'
```

I tried sending a couple private messages to the bot but there was no response. I started to look through the disassembly to try to figure out what commands the bot understood. I went back to the output from my strings command and started looking through it for things that looked like possible commands and where they were referenced from. I started to come across strings like httpd.on, ftpd.on and proc.on. All of these strings were referenced from the same procedure located at 0x00403EF2. I then went through and made a list of all referenced strings in this function. There seemed to be quite a bit of logging messages containing either the string "REALMBOT" or "RealmBoT" so I then dropped all strings with either of those two words in it. Next I went through the list by hand removing items that didn't look like commands and came up with the following list:

```
00423050: login
00425988: rndnick
00425984: rn
00425980: die
00425978: irc.di
00421400: logout
00425974: lo
00425968: versionship
00425964: ver
0042595c: chghttp
00425934: secure
```

00425930: sec
00425920: lockdown.off
00425918: ld.off
00425910: visit
00425908: irc.v
00425900: web.off
004258e0: ftpd.off
004258c8: log.off
0042589c: proxy.redirect.off
00425870: ddos.off
00425850: syn.off
00425830: udp.off
0042580c: ping.off
004257e8: proc.off
004257dc: com.ps.off
004257d0: clone.off
004257ac: secure.stop
00425788: scanstop
00425768: stats
00425764: st
00425758: reconnect
00425750: irc.r
00425744: disconnect
0042573c: irc.d
00425734: quit
0042572c: irc.q
00425724: status
0042571c: irc.s
00425718: id
00425710: irc.i
00425708: reboot
0042569c: threads
00425690: threads.l
00422df4: aliases
00425688: irc.al
00425684: log
0042567c: irc.lg
00425670: clearlog
0042566c: clg
00425664: netinfo
00425660: ni
00425654: supersyn
004255b4: sysinfo
0041f718: sys
004255ac: remove
004255a8: rm
004255a0: proc.on
00425598: com.ps
00425590: uptime
00425588: com.up
0042557c: driveinfo
00425574: com.drv
00425568: testdlls
00425560: com.dll
00425558: opencmd
00425550: cmdl
00425544: closecmd
00425524: irc.who
004254d4: getclip
004254cc: com.gc
004254c0: flusharp
004254b8: farp
004254ac: flushdns
004254a0: util.fdns
00425494: currentip
00425490: cip
00425484: httpd.on
0042547c: web.on
00425474: ftpd.on
00425468: d.ftpd.on
0042545c: irc.nick
00425454: irc.n
0042544c: join
00425444: irc.j
0042543c: part
00425434: irc.pt
00425430: raw
00425428: irc.ra
0042541c: killthreads
00425414: killt
00425408: clone.quit
00425400: clone.q
004253f0: clone.rndnick

004253e4: clone.rn
004253dc: prefix
004253d4: irc.pr
00420e48: open
004253cc: com.o
004253c0: setserver
004253b8: irc.se
004253b4: dns
004253ac: irc.dn
004253a0: killprocess
0042539c: kpc
00425390: prockillid
00425388: pkid
00425380: delete
0042537c: del
00425374: list
0042536c: com.fl
00425360: mirc.cmd
00425360: mirc.cmd
0042535c: cmd
00425550: cmdl
00425350: readfile
00425348: com.rf
0042533c: keylog.on
00425330: cmd.kl.on
00425328: stop
00425328: stop
0041f818: net
004203b4: start
00425328: stop
00425270: pause
00422584: continue
00425380: delete
00425268: share
004251fc: user
0041c040: send
00425134: gethost
0042512c: irc.gh
00425120: addalias
00425118: irc.aa
00425110: privmsg
00425108: irc.pm
00422e90: action
00425100: irc.ac
004250f8: cycle
004250f0: irc.cy
004210fc: mode
004250e8: irc.m
004250dc: rawclone
004250d0: clone.ra
004250c4: clone.mode
004250bc: clone.m
004250b0: clone.nick
004250a4: clone.ni
00425098: clone.join
00425090: clone.j
00425084: clone.part
0042507c: clone.p
00425070: irc.repeat
00425068: irc.rp
00425060: delay
00425058: irc.de
00425050: update
00425048: execute
00425040: com.e
00425038: rename
00425030: com.mv
00425024: clone.make
00425018: clone.start
0042500c: synflood
00425000: ddos.ack
00424ff4: ddos.random
004221e4: download
00424ff0: dl
00424fe4: redirect
00424fd8: daemon.rd
00424fc8: clone.privmsg
00424fbc: clone.pm
00424fac: clone.action
00424fa0: clone.ac
00424f98: advscan
00424f94: asc
00424f88: udpflood

```

00424f7c: ddos.udpf
00424f78: u
00424f6c: pingflood
00424f60: ddos.pingf
00424f5c: p
00424f54: httpcon
00424f48: util.hcon
00424f3c: ftp.upload

```

Next I started going through the list of possible commands, sending them to the bot and looking to see if I got any response. I went through the whole list and there was no response, so I started debugging the procedure so I could watch what happened when I sent a message. Eventually I stumbled upon this line:

```

004045A6  3A05 D0C74100  CMP AL, BYTE PTR DS:[41C7D0]
004045AC  897D 28        MOV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+28], EDI
004045AF  ^0F85 B4FDFFFF JNZ Winsec32.00404369

```

The data at 0x0041C7D0 is the '!' character. If the first character in the command wasn't a period then the procedure didn't do anything. So then I went through trying the commands with a period in front of the command. Still no response. Next I started debugging/looking at the login command in more detail. It looked like it wanted a password sent to it so I tried the .login command with a password and got this response:

```

-USA[XP]8929677- Are you a Fucker?. (admin!admin@172.16.99.128).
-USA[XP]8929677- No pass for you.

```

After more debugging through the login handling code around 0x004045AF I figured out that the password it wanted was gemp123 and my hostname on IRC needed to be legalize.it. I eventually just ended up patching Winsec32.exe in memory so that it would accept my login. After I was logged in then the commands above started working. See the example session below.

```

<USA[XP]8929677> [REALMBOT] : Thank for trying.
<admin> .httpd.on
<USA[XP]8929677> [REALMBOT] << Server listening on IP: 172.16.99.128:80, Directory: \. >>
<admin> .ftpd.on
<USA[XP]8929677> [REALMBOT-FTP] : Server started on Port: 0, File: C:\WINDOWS\Winsec32.exe, Request: Winsec32.exe.
<admin> .proc.on
<USA[XP]8929677> RealmBoT (processes.p.l.g) .Ã»Ã». Listing processes:
<USA[XP]8929677> System (4)
<USA[XP]8929677> smss.exe (428)
<USA[XP]8929677> csrss.exe (660)
<USA[XP]8929677> winlogon.exe (692)
<USA[XP]8929677> services.exe (736)
<USA[XP]8929677> lsass.exe (748)
<USA[XP]8929677> vmacthlp.exe (908)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (924)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (1004)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (1116)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (1168)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (1328)
<USA[XP]8929677> spoolsv.exe (1572)
<USA[XP]8929677> explorer.exe (1708)
<USA[XP]8929677> VMwareTray.exe (1844)
<USA[XP]8929677> VMwareUser.exe (1860)
<USA[XP]8929677> ctfmon.exe (1868)
<USA[XP]8929677> VMwareService.exe (260)
<USA[XP]8929677> alg.exe (1220)
<USA[XP]8929677> svchost.exe (456)
<USA[XP]8929677> mirc.exe (144)
<USA[XP]8929677> Winsec32.exe (512)
<USA[XP]8929677> OLLYDBG.EXE (1944)
<USA[XP]8929677> idag.exe (1652)
<USA[XP]8929677> notepad.exe (3908)
<USA[XP]8929677> RealmBoT (processes.p.l.g) .Ã»Ã». Process list completed.
<admin> .prockillid 3908
<USA[XP]8929677> [REALMBOT] << Process killed ID: 3908 >>

```

- **How would you classify this malware? Why?**

I would classify this malware as a Bot. I would classify it as such since the sole purpose of this program seems to be to connect to an IRC server and await commands.

- **What do you think the purpose of this malware is?**

See the question above. The purpose seems to be to connect to an IRC server and await commands from someone. The malware also seems to be able to attempt to infect new machines via a VNC exploit.

Bonus questions:

- **Is it possible to find the malware's source code? If so, how did you do it?**

I was able to find the malware's source code. The first thing I did was search for "RealmBot" on Google which turned up a lot of hits for a World Of Warcraft bot. So next I searched on google for "RealmBot Malware" (note my use of quotes are just to detail what I searched for on google but I didn't actually quote my search). The second hit on google had a title of bot source code and mentioned something called crx-realmbot.VNC+RFI. The link however didn't have the source. I then searched for this more detailed name "crx realmbot vnc download" After looking through lots of results to different RAR files of multiple bots, I came across a link, <http://darksun.ws/download/Bots/>, that let me download just the individual crx realmbot files. After comparing the strings in the downloaded source code to the strings in the malware.exe and comparing the entry point in my disassembly to the WinMain function in the source, I concluded that this was in fact the source to this bot.

- **How would you write a custom detection and removal tool to determine if the malware is present on the system and remove it?**

In order to write a custom detection and removal tool there is only a few things that would need to be done. First, you would want to look at the running processes and see if there are any processes running called `winsec32.exe`. If you find this process running then immediately stop it. Even if you don't see it running the detection program should still go on to the next step. Next look in the Windows directory for a file named `winsec32.exe`, if this file is found then it should be deleted. Next the detection tool should look in the registry for the following three keys:

- HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run\Microsoft Svchost local services
- HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\RunServices\Microsoft Svchost local services
- HKCU\Software\Microsoft\OLE\Microsoft Svchost local services

If any of these keys are found then they should also be removed. Stopping the malware from running, removing the executable, and cleaning the registry keys should be enough to remove the malware from the system.