



PROGRAM MATERIALS

Program #3133

January 22, 2021

Targeting Law Firms: Inside the Cyber Criminal Economy

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- **Mark Sangster - Author of “No Safe Harbor” and eSentire VP Industry Security Strategies**

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www.celesq.com

5255 North Federal Highway, Suite 100, Boca Raton, FL 33487

Phone 561-241-1919

Targeting Law Firms Inside the Cyber Criminal Economy

Celesq Attorneys Education Center | 22 JAN 2021



Mark Sangster

Principal Evangelist and VP industry Security Strategies

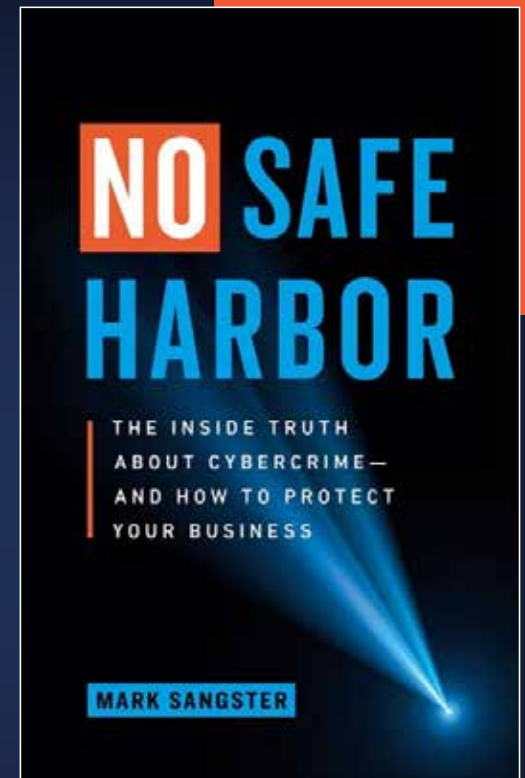
✉ mark.sangster@esentire.com

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eSENTIRE

Security Experts In Legal Services

6

YEARS
ILTA + LS-ISAO

75+

LEADERSHIP
Workshops

1K+

LAW STAFF
Trained

20+

LAW SECURITY
Resources

2021

ILTA
Programs



Phishing + Ransomware + Business Email Compromise



90%
Increase
IN ATTACKS

130%
Increase
IN PAYMENTS

216%
Increase
IN FUNDS DEFRAUDED



Global cybercrime losses well over **\$1 Trillion**

Sarah Coble News Writer



Global losses from cybercrime now total over \$1tn, according to a new report released today by **McAfee** in partnership with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

"**The Hidden Costs of Cybercrime**" concludes that cybercrime costs the world economy more than one percent of global GDP. A 2018 study put global losses more than 50% lower, at around \$600bn.

Independent technology market research specialist **Vanson Bourne** was commissioned by McAfee to undertake the research upon which the report is based. Between April and June 2020, researchers interviewed 1,500 IT and line-of-business decision makers.

Respondents came from Australia (200), Canada (200), France (200), Germany (200), Japan (200), the UK (200), and the US (300).

The report focuses not just on the significant financial cost of cybercrime but also on its wider impact on things like company performance and brand reputation. Nearly all (92%) companies surveyed reported feeling effects from cybercrime that went beyond monetary losses.

Over a third (33%) of survey respondents stated downtime caused by IT security incidents cost them between \$100,000 and \$500,000. The average cost to organizations from their longest amount of downtime in 2019 was \$762,231.



Cybercrime is the world's third largest economy



DARKReading | SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTERS

Cybercrime May Be the World's Third-Largest Economy by 2021

The underground economy is undergoing an industrialization wave and booming like never before.

As organizations go digital, so does crime. Today, cybercrime is a massive business in its own right, and criminals everywhere are clamoring to get a piece of the action as companies and consumers invest trillions to stake their claim in the digital universe.

That's why the World Economic Forum's (WEF) "[Global Risks Report 2020](#)" states that cybercrime will be the second most-concerning risk for global commerce over the next decade until 2030. It's also the seventh most-likely risk to occur, and eighth most impactful. And the stakes have never been higher. Revenue, profits, and the brand reputations of enterprises are on the line; [mission-critical infrastructure](#) is being exposed to threats; and nation-states are engaging in cyber warfare and cyber espionage with each other.

Putting things into perspective: Walmart, which racks up America's greatest firm earnings, generated a mind-blowing \$514 billion in revenue last year. Yet cybercrime earns 12 times that. Both sell a huge variety of products and services. In fact, in terms of earnings, cybercrime puts even Tesla, Facebook, Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, and Walmart to shame. Their combined annual revenue totals "just" \$1.28 trillion.

#3 Economy

#2 Global Risk

Worth more than the combined revenues of



Walmart



amazon

eSENTIRE

You have unparalleled access to privileged information



Law firms are a stepping stone in the criminal endgame

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
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MARKETS

Hackers Breach Law Firms, Including Cravath and V

Investigators explore whether cybercriminals wanted information for insider trading

By [Nicole Hong](#) and [Robin Sidel](#)
Updated March 29, 2016 9:14 pm ET

PRINT TEXT

Hackers broke into the computer networks at some of the country's most prestigious law firms, and federal investigators are exploring whether they stole confidential information for the purpose of insider trading, according to people familiar with the matter.

BBC Account Home News Sport Reel Worklife

NEWS

Home Coronavirus Video World US & Canada UK Business Tech Science Stories Entertainment

Hackers hit A-list law firm of Lady Gaga, Drake and Madonna

By Joe Tidy
Cyber-security reporter
12 May 2020

A law firm used by A-list stars including Rod Stewart, Lil Nas X and Robert De Niro has been hacked.

The website for Grubman Shire Meiselas & Sacks is down and hackers claim to have 756 gigabytes of data including contracts and personal emails.

A screenshot allegedly of a Madonna contract has been released, and the criminals are demanding payment.

The New York law firm says it has notified its clients and is working with cyber-security experts.

It's not known what sum the hackers are demanding and whether the law firm is negotiating with them.

STATE-SPONSORED actors move down stream
while **ORGANIZED CRIME** grows in ferocity and coordination



1

USING YOUR OWN TOOLS
HAND-ON-KEYBOARD

2

CRIMINAL ECONOMY
MALWARE AS-A-SERVICE

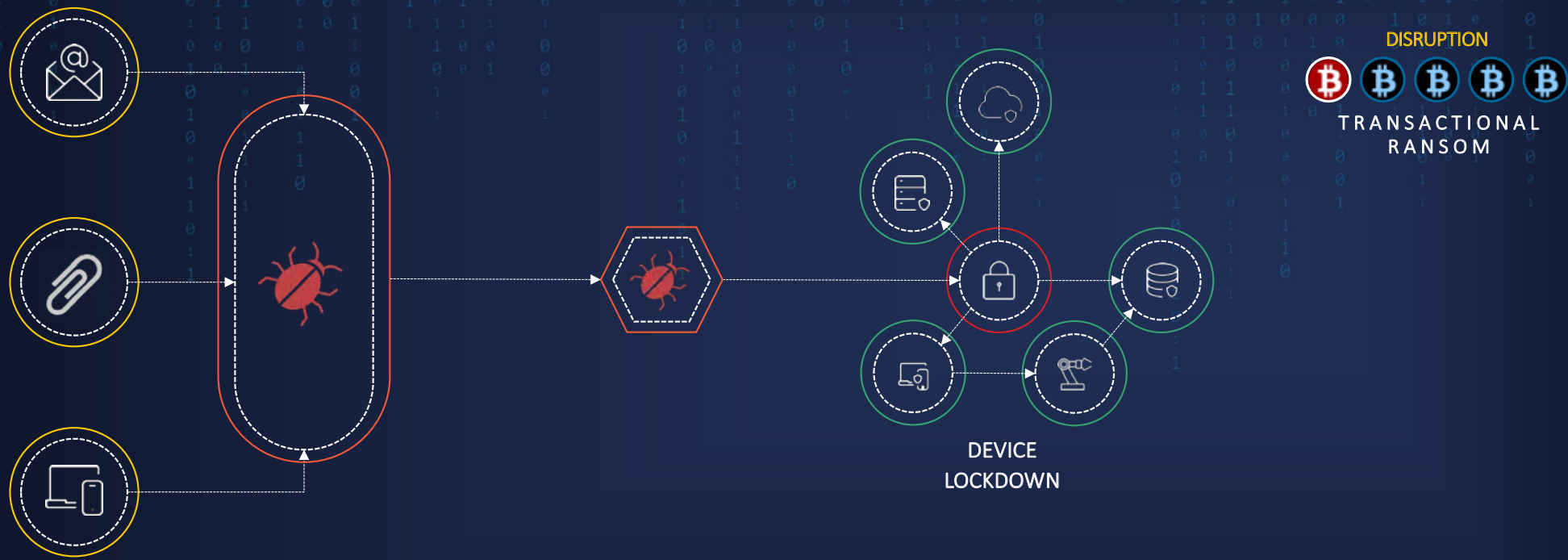
3

THEY UNDERSTAND YOUR BUSINESS
CULTURE-BASED ATTACKS

eSENTIRE

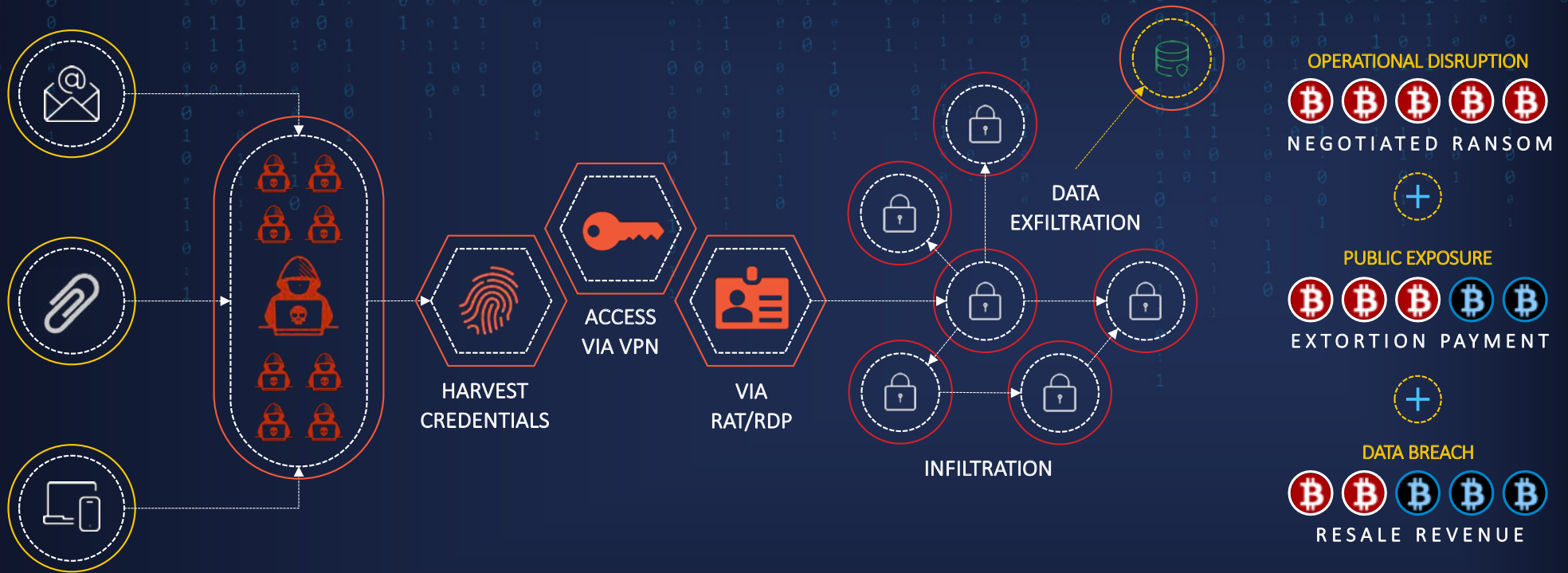
This is how you *think* phishing works

Self-evidently fake emails leading to transactional ransoms

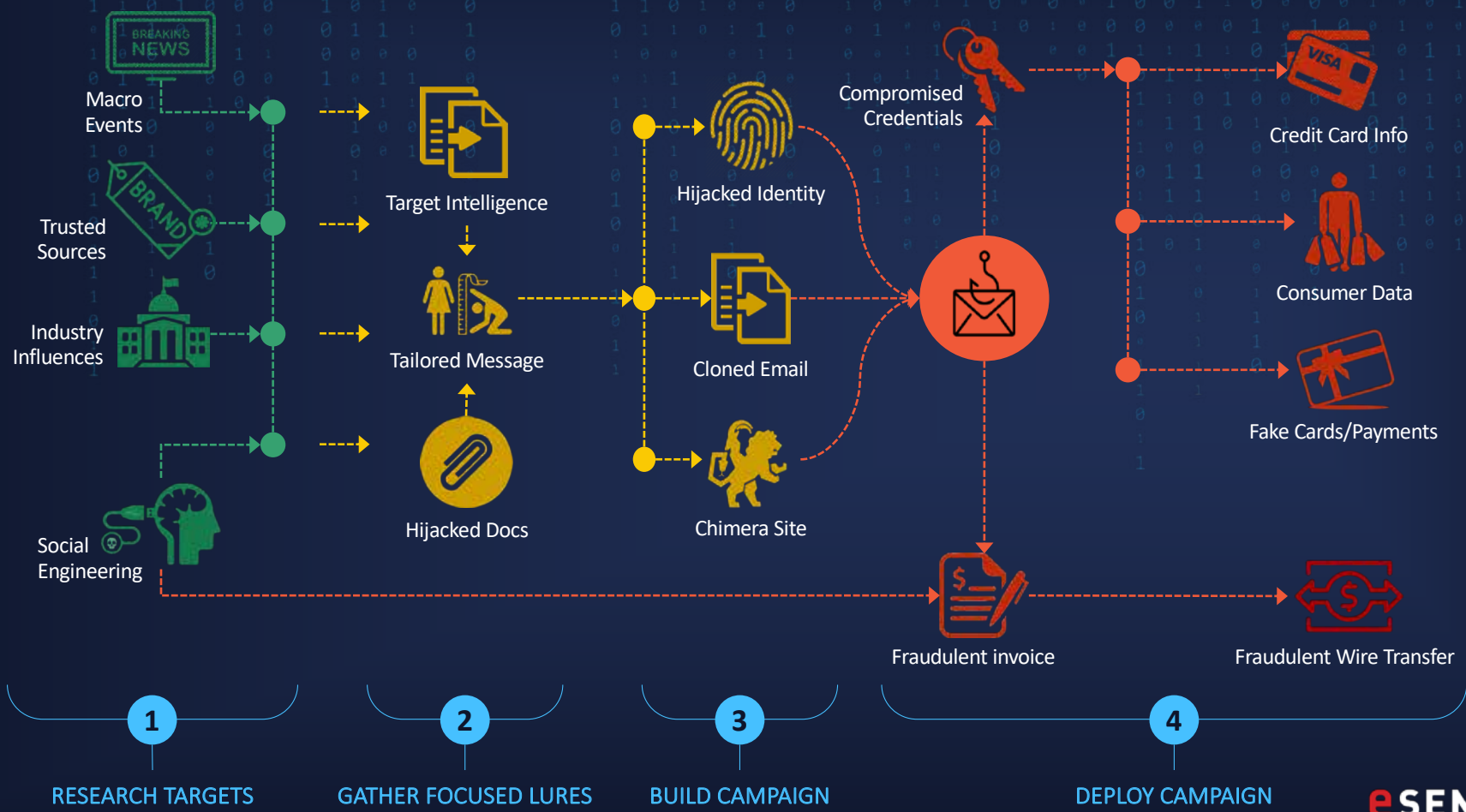


This is how phishing and cyber campaigns *actually* work

Complex and persistent campaigns to create a major security event and six-figure ransoms



Phishing is more dangerous than fake emails



They understand your business

Exploiting industry culture to mimic trusted actors



Enclosed is a copy of the complaint which requires your response. You have 30 days to file a rebuttal if you so desire.

You may view the complaint at the link below:

[complaint88947.pdf](#)

Rebuttals should not exceed 15 pages and may refer to any additional documents or exhibits that are available on request.

The Office of The State Attorney cannot render legal advice nor can The Office of The State Attorney represent individuals or intervene on their behalf in any civil or criminal matter.

Please review the enclosed complaint. If filing a rebuttal please do so during the specified time frame.

Sincerely,

The Office of The State Attorney



CASE STUDY

esENDPOINT Thwarts Advanced Threat Actor Using Machine Learning

Attack Types:
Phishing, Malware, Ransomware

Industry:
Legal

Legal entities and civil systems are sensitive and confidential information. Due to the nature of the data they keep on file, maintaining data security to ensure client confidentiality is critical to protecting brand reputation and continued business operations. However, regardless of thorough Security Awareness Training and phishing exercises, most security-conscious employees fall victim to clever phishing attacks. While prevention measures continue to improve, threat actor engineering using advanced techniques designed to circumvent traditional defenses and Anti-governance solutions remains the technique of choice for many threat actors.

For one client, client files were targeted using advanced methods including the use of PowerShell, a technique specifically intended to circumvent traditional endpoint data loss methods. For this particular client, esSENTIRE's Security Operations Center leveraging esENDPOINT's proprietary machine learning capabilities detected the threat actor presence early in the process and mitigated the threat before business disruption.

PATIENT ZERO

esSENTIRE Security Operations Center (SOC) received an alert from esENDPOINT that a computer on a client's network was introducing suspicious activity. esSENTIRE was able to stop them in their tracks before they could exfiltrate confidential data. Patient Zero was a legal associate at the state court system. Patient Zero received an email from an attacker posing as a student from a local university asking if Patient Zero would be interested in participating in an interview for an assignment the student (attacker) was writing for about the legal profession. Patient Zero agreed and the student (attacker) sent her a link to a document with the interview questions.

CIRCUMVENTING DETECTION

The actor downloaded the malicious document from Amazon storage via an encrypted HTTPS connection, providing no opportunity to capture it before Patient Zero triggered the ransom in her machine. The adversary didn't catch a so malicious, and it didn't span any suspicious host processes. The sophisticated attacker knew how to bypass all the usual prevention and detection mechanisms. This is usually the case with advanced attacks, and relying on prevention of the host attack vector is a very high strategy.

In this case, the attacker knew that covering the malware via a Command file in Microsoft Word would have triggered an alert by most endpoint defense products, so the malware was designed to inject itself into a legitimate Windows process to avoid detection. Use time from the victim's SOC on the malicious signature at the end of the initial infection activity was better minutes.



BGH: Big Game Hunting

Customized tools and services to identify and exploit target firms

CrowdStrike Intelligence attributed the operation of Ryuk ransomware to WIZARD SPIDER, the well-established criminal adversary behind the TrickBot banking trojan. WIZARD SPIDER continues to develop TrickBot, offering customized modules with government or business themes to identify victims of interest, steal SMS messages containing two-factor authentication (2FA) tokens, and other exploitation tools.



USD (\$M)	Bitcoin	Malware
27.7	3,530	Ryuk
18.5	2,349	REvil
18.5	1,278	Maze
18.2	1,440	DopplePalmer
1.6	216	BitPalmer

CrowdStrike: Ransomware developers sell access to distributors (customers) through a partnership program. The program is operated under a financial model that splits profit per infection between the developers and distributors.

The industrialization of cybercrime

Best-in-class expertise and as-a-service tools and trade

Ransomware-as-a-Service (RaaS): \$140M Business

Because ransomware-as-a-service lowers the entry barriers for prospective cybercrime entrepreneurs, it has the very real potential to increase the “supply” of ransomware operators. Naturally, such an increase will create a larger number of threats for legitimate organizations.



VMware Carbon Black: Custom malware is now being used in 50 percent of the attacks reported by respondents demonstrating the scale of the dark web, where such malware and malware services can be purchased to empower traditional criminals, spies and terrorists, many of whom do not have the sophisticated resources to execute these attacks.



CrowdStrike: PINCHY SPIDER pioneered the RaaS model of operations, in which the developer receives a share of the profits that affiliates collect from successful ransomware infections. Beginning in February 2019, this adversary advertised its intention to partner with individuals skilled in RDP/VNC networks and with spammers who have experience in corporate networking.

The industrialization of cybercrime

Customized tools and services to identify and exploit target firms

MITRE ATT&CK FRAMEWORK

Initial Access Execution Persistence Discovery Lateral Movement Collection

EXPLORATION

INITIAL ACCESS

PERSISTENCE

EXPLOITATION

EXTORTION

MONETIZATION

Privilege Escalation

Defense Evasion

Credential Access

Command Control

Exfiltration

Impact



Phishing Kit Author



Initial Access Broker



Exploit Author



Malware Author



Bulletproof Hosting



Ransomware As-a-Service



Extortion Websites



Marketplaces



Launderers

eSENTIRE

Example criminal marketplaces

Posted 22 hours ago (edited)

Продам Government Center USA.
Городской центр со всеми делами и учреждениями.
Население города 80 000 человек.
Права доменный администратор!

ЦЕНА:
3 BTC.

Работа строго через гаранта.
Ссылку и скриншоты АД предоставляю только для
Первый контакт - PM!

Edited 21 hour

Quote selection

Google Translate

Selling Government Center USA. The city center with all affairs and institutions (police, fire, honey, etc. - all areas of the city). The city has a population of 80,000. Rights domain administrator! PRICE: 3 BTC. Work strictly through the guarantor. I will provide a link and screenshots of AD only for members with a reputation, for novoregs - only after a deposit to the exp account. The first contact is PM!

June 24

rabia hospital - domain admin - 10000\$

icut, USA gov network - domain admin - 8000\$

UK Insurance group - domain admin - 2000\$ (new price)

UK Locksmith/security company - domain admin - 1000\$ (new price)

Paid registration
2
14 posts
Joined
08/15/20 (ID: 105354)
Activity
hacking / hacking

For the people who did not see my first warning, if you try to add my jabber before you send PM you will be blacklisted

Quote

Posted June 30

London Investment management company - domain admin - 1500\$

Manages €8 billion in assets, revenue €20 million

note: 2FA is used, buyer will receive instructions for bypass

COMMERCE

Auctions
Sale of goods and services in an auction format: with a starting price, rates, bidding for a lot. Read the rules!
Do not participate in auctions if you are not sure of your capabilities.

17325 posts

Buying/Selling

RULES, VERIFICATION and ESCROW

- [Software] - malware, exploits, bundles, crypts
- [Access] - FTP, shells, root, sql-inj, DB, Servers
- [Servers] - VPN, socks, proxy & VPS, hosting, domains
- [Social networks] - accounts, groups, hacking, mailing
- [Spam] - mailings, databases, responses, mail-dumps, software
- [Traffic] - traffic, loads, installations, iframe
- [Mobile communication] - receiving calls, sms, breaking through, detailing
- [Payment systems] - exchange, sale, identification, distribution
- [Finance] - billing, banks, accounts, logs
- [Job] - search, execution of work
- [Other] - everything else

Commercial section. Purchase, sale of various information products and services.

377284 posts

Black List

- Arbitration
- Black List

Commercial disputes, positive and negative reviews about users, suspicious individuals, the list three.

46718 posts

ПОЛНОМАСШТАБ - Google trouble ...
By origin
4 hours ago

Sunwalker: pervasive and persistent attacks

INFECTION

Step 0
Unknown IP Connects via VPN to Endpoint-0

Step 1
Compromised Account-A access Endpoint-0 via RDP

Step 2
Creates Account-B and connects to System-0 via RDP

Step 3
Account-B deploys Mimikatz via PowerShell on Endpoint-0

DETECTION

Step 4
Detection rule triggered in Carbon Black Endpoint agent

CONTAINMENT

Step 9
Attacker downloads Revo Uninstaller to remove Carbon Black

COUNTER ATTACK

Step 8
Lateral spread attempt is automatically blocked by Carbon Black Endpoint

CONTAINMENT

Step 7
Attacker uses Endpoint -2 To deploy SunCrypt ransomware using PSEXec

LATERAL ATTACK

Step 6
eSentire Threat Response Unit initiates broader investigation and worked with client

Step 5
eSentire SOC isolates Endpoint-0 and generate alert

Step 10
Attacker uses Account-D to access Domain Controller

Step 11
Attacker attempts to execute Netwalker ransomware on Endpoint-2

CONTAINMENT

Step 12
Carbon Black Endpoint attempts at lateral infection via PSEXec

Step 13
Carbon Black Endpoint blocks attempt to detonate Netwalker

Step 14
eSentire SOC Isolates Endpoint-2

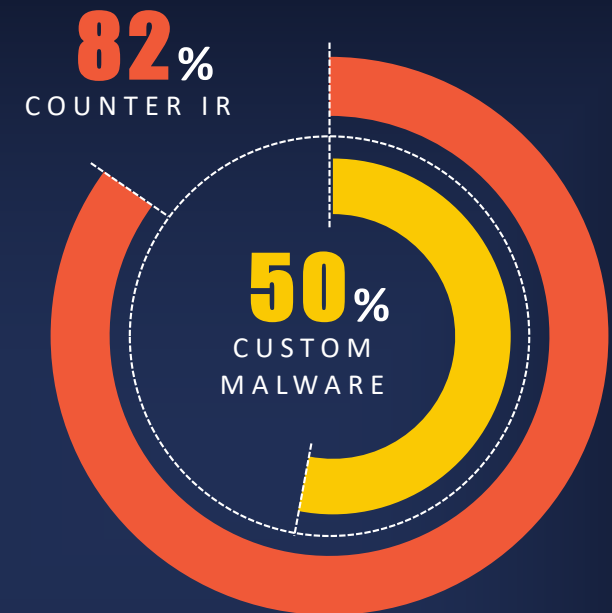
CO-REMIEDIATION

Step 15
eSentire SOC Alerts and makes recommendations

Standing your ground against cyberattacks

When you turn the lights on an adversary, assume an escalation

- 1** ESTABLISH SECURE COMMUNICATIONS
Out-of-band communications to coordinate your response following your IR plan
- 2** ASSUME MULTIPLE INTRUSIONS
Adversaries will “island hop” when one intrusion avenue is detected and contained
- 3** NEVER ASSUME A CYBER SINGULARITY
Build a program to detect and respond to protracted events. Never assume a singularity
- 4** AIRGAP PERSONAL AND BUSINESS
Segment personal and business systems, and assume attackers can island hop



We all play a role in protecting the firm

Cybersecurity is not an IT problem to solve—it's a business risk to manage

1 Understand the CYBER RISKS

- + Read your cybersecurity bulletins
- + Do not use personal email/shares for business transactions
- + Do not share credentials
- + Avoid clicking links (log in instead)
- + Follow security/finance controls
- + Report suspicious activity

2 Secure your HOME OFFICE

- + Keep your kids off your business devices
- + Keep your devices up to date
- + Censure your social media posts
- + Securely manage sensitive data
- + Protect virtual meetings
- + Consider what's on display during virtual meetings

3 Secure your HOME NETWORK

- + Change the default Admin credentials on your ISP router
- + Change the default name of your WIFI network (SSID)
- + Enable WIFI encryption (WPA2 or WPA2 AES)
- + Set a strong password need to join your WIFI network
- + Create a guest account to share with non-family members
- + Always keep your ISP router software up to date

Public references

eSENTIRE

Threat Intelligence Spotlight:

Defending Against Modern Ransomware

Lesson from the SunWalker Incident

This report cover features the eSENTIRE logo at the top right. The title is prominently displayed in the center, with a subtitle below it. The background is a clean white with a subtle blue dot pattern on the left side.

Global Incident Response Threat Report

The Cybersecurity Tipping Point: Election, COVID-19 create perfect storm for increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks

As eCrime groups grow more powerful, counter incident response now seen in 82 percent of attacks—with island hopping occurring 55 percent of the time

John Halsey, Head of Cybersecurity Strategy
Greg Foss, Senior Cybersecurity Strategist

October 2020

GET STARTED

vmware Carbon Black

This report cover has a blue and purple geometric design on the left side. It includes the title, a key finding, author names, and a date. A 'GET STARTED' button is at the bottom left, and the VMware Carbon Black logo is at the bottom right.

2020 GLOBAL THREAT REPORT

CROWDSTRIKE

This report cover features a large, stylized red and black graphic of a face or mask with circuit-like patterns. The title '2020 GLOBAL THREAT REPORT' is in large, bold letters, and the CrowdStrike logo is at the bottom.

eSENTIRE | **i/A** International Legal Technology Association

2020 Threat Intelligence Spotlight:

Legal Industry

This report cover includes the eSENTIRE logo and the International Legal Technology Association logo. The title is centered, and the background has a light blue dot pattern on the left.

eSENTIRE

Legal: Probability of a breach

The Verdict Is... A Breach is Only A Matter Of Time

ADVERSARIES EXECUTE ATTACKS AGAINST LEGAL FIRMS FASTER THAN EVER USING TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES DESIGNED TO BYPASS YOUR CYBERSECURITY MEASURES!

49% of adversarial operations bypass a basic monitoring and logging security system

Measure	Percentage
Breach the Firewall	76%
Identify Critical Data	89%
Exploit Data	94%

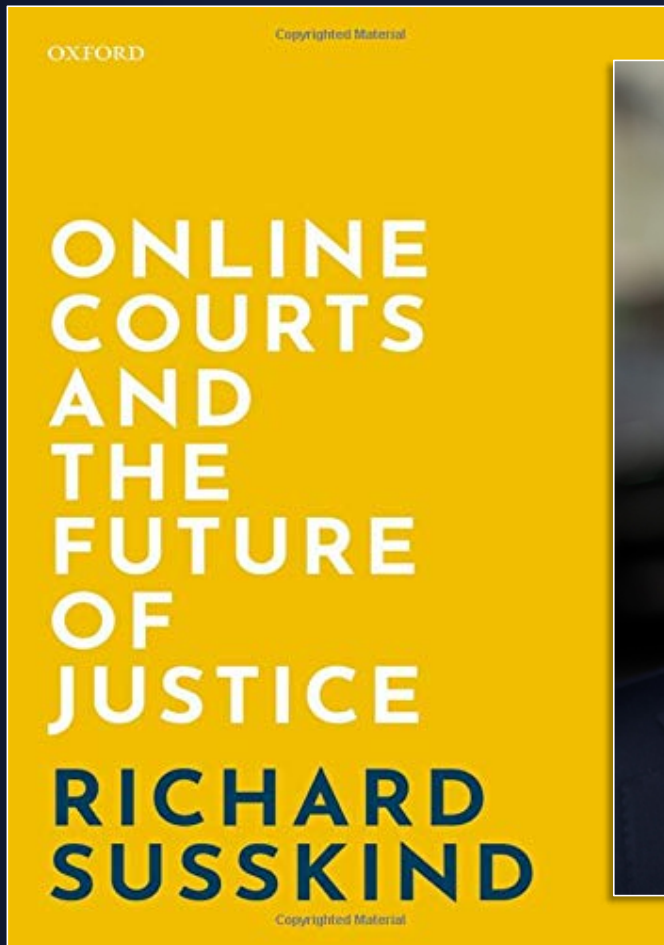
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME TO FIND A BLIND SPOT

For Lawyers' Perception, Security of a Security-related technology is a "Blind Spot" of Legal Firm Security Controls (per a "Global Legal")

Measure	Percentage
Blindspot	22%
Planning	25%
Expert	24%
Compliance	46%

THE GREATER YOUR EXPOSURE, THE GREATER THE PROBABILITY BECOMES REALITY!

This infographic features a bar chart showing the probability of a breach across different measures. It also includes a line graph showing the probability of a breach over time for different measures.



Professor Richard Susskind OBE

Professor Richard Susskind OBE is an author, speaker, and independent adviser to major professional firms and to national governments. His main area of expertise is the future of professional service and, in particular, the way in which the IT and the Internet are changing the work of lawyers. He has worked on legal technology for over 30 years. He lectures internationally, has written many books, and advised on numerous government inquiries.

Richard lectures internationally and has been invited to speak in over 40 countries and has addressed audiences (in person and electronically), numbering more than 250,000. He has written and edited numerous books, including *Expert Systems in Law* (OUP, 1987), *The Future of Law* (OUP, 1996), *Transforming the Law* (OUP, 2000), *The Susskind Interviews: Legal Experts in Changing Times* (Sweet & Maxwell, 2005), *The End of Lawyers? Rethinking the Nature of Legal Services* (OUP, 2008), *Tomorrow's Lawyers* (2013), and has written around 150 columns for *The Times*. His work has been translated into 10 languages.



Mark Sangster

Principal Evangelist and VP
Industry Security Strategies

✉ mark.sangster@esentire.com

🐦 [@mbsangster](https://twitter.com/mbsangster)

🌐 [Linkedin.com/in/mbsangster](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mbsangster)

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📖 mbsangster.com/book

NO SAFE HARBOR

THE INSIDE TRUTH
ABOUT CYBERCRIME—
AND HOW TO PROTECT
YOUR BUSINESS

MARK SANGSTER

I can't think of anyone better qualified to tell cybersecurity war stories than Mark. This book is a riveting read, filled with details that people don't normally get to hear about.

Danny Bradbury,
Dark Reading

Mark's book gets to the root causes of why there is no safe harbor for any of us. Each chapter lists practical cyber security steps we should all take – starting today!

Mike StJohn-Green,
Independent Cybersecurity Consultant

Mark's advice could not have arrived at a more propitious moment. The book reads like a collection of short stories, all revolving around a central theme: Cybersecurity is a business risk. This book should be essential reading for senior management and corporate directors.

Kenneth Rashbaum,
Partner, Barton LLP

eSENTIRE