

FalconForce

EDR Internals From a Defenders Perspective

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Olaf Hartong

Defensive Specialist @ FalconForce

Detection Engineer and Security Researcher

Built and/or led Security Operations Centers

Threat hunting, IR and Compromise assessments

Former documentary photographer Father of 2 boys "I like warm hugs"

@olafhartong

™ github.com/olafhartong

✓ olaf@falconforce.nl

olafhartong.nl / falconforce.n

What you can expect from this talk

Microsoft Defender for Endpoint (MDE) capabilities

What kind of telemetry can you work with

Where does it get its telemetry from

Analyzing its configuration

) Wrap up



Capability outline

What can it do for you?



Microsoft Defender for Endpoint

All-in-one solution for protecting Windows, Mac and Linux Endpoints

- Anti-Virus
- Attack Surface Reduction (ASR)
- Exploit Guard
- Application Control (WDAC)
- EDR Telemetry
- Incident Response
- Software Inventory / Vulnerability Management
- Network Sensor
- DLP

Some parts are also available natively on Windows. Defender for Endpoint integrates these parts into a combined product and allows for centralized logging and management.



Anti-Virus Engine

Leverages existing Microsoft Defender Anti-Virus product.

AV events are logged to M365 Defender Portal.

Signature-based detection (behavior + file characteristics).

Cloud-based detections where samples are uploaded to cloud for analysis and can be executed in a sandbox.

Great research on the signature database by Camille Mougey (https://github.com/commial/experiments/tree/master/windows-defender/VDM)

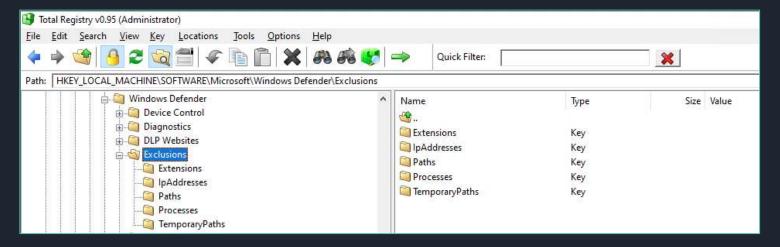


Anti-Virus Engine

Exclusions

- \mathbf{Q} Frequently used by attackers to allow their payload to pass, monitor the registry changes.
- Process exclusions apply to the children of the listed process.

 The listed process will still be scanned. Unless this file is added to the file exclusion list.
- These exclusions apply ONLY for the AV component, features like EDR and ASR still apply.





Anti-Virus Engine

Check what it flags on with DefenderCheck

```
PS C:\Users\olafhartong\Downloads\DefenderCheck> .\DefenderCheck.exe .\DefenderCheck.exe
Target file size: 9216 bytes
Analyzing...
[!] Identified end of bad bytes at offset 0x156C in the original file
File matched signature: "VirTool:MSIL/BytzChk.C!MTB"
          00 74 00 20 00 30 00 78 00 7B 00 30 00 3A 00 58
                                                             ·t· ·0·x·{·0·:·X
                                                             ·}· ·i·n· ·t·h·e
          00 7D 00 20 00 69 00 6E 00 20 00 74 00 68 00 65
                                                             · ·o·r·i·g·i·n·a
          00 20 00 6F 00 72 00 69 00 67 00 69 00 6E 00 61
                                                             ·l· ·f·i·l·e··eE
                                                             ·x·h·a·u·s·t·e·d
          00 78 00 68 00 61 00 75 00 73 00 74 00 65 00 64
          00 20 00 74 00 68 00 65 00 20 00 73 00 65 00 61
                                                             · ·t·h·e· ·s·e·a
00000060
          00 72 00 63 00 68 00 2E 00 20 00 54 00 68 00 65
                                                             ·r·c·h·.· ·T·h·e
                                                             · ·b·i·n·a·r·y·
         00 20 00 62 00 69 00 6E 00 61 00 72 00 79 00 20
          00 6C 00 6F 00 6F 00 6B 00 73 00 20 00 67 00 6F
                                                             ·l·o·o·k·s· ·g·o
          00 6F 00 64 00 20 00 74 00 6F 00 20 00 67 00 6F
                                                             ·o·d· ·t·o· ·q·o
                                                             ·!··]C·:·\·P·r·o
          00 67 00 72 00 61 00 6D 00 20 00 46 00 69 00 6C
                                                             ·g·r·a·m· ·F·i·l
                                                             ·e·s·\·W·i·n·d·o
          00 77 00 73 00 20 00 44 00 65 00 66 00 65 00 6E
                                                             ·w·s· ·D·e·f·e·n
          00 64 00 65 00 72 00 5C 00 4D 00 70 00 43 00 6D
                                                             ·d·e·r·\·M·p·C·m
          00 64 00 52 00 75 00 6E 00 2E 00 65 00 78 00 65
                                                             ·d·R·u·n·.·e·x·e
```

Sometimes needs several changes to the source to not get detected anymore.



Attack Surface Reduction (ASR) rules

- ~16 rules to reduce the attack surface of Windows.
- Rules can be enabled and disabled via Reg keys / Group Policy.
- Can be configured to Block or only Audit.
- Events are logged in M365
 Advanced Hunting tables.

Safe for most Environments

- Block untrusted and unsigned processes that run from USB
- Block Adobe Reader from creating child processes
- Block executable content from email client and webmail
- Block JavaScript or VBScript from launching downloaded executable content
- Block persistence through WMI event subscription
- Block credential stealing from the Windows local security authority subsystem (Isass.exe)
- Block Office applications from creating executable content

Environment Specific

- Block Office applications from injecting code into other processes
- Block Win32 API calls from Office macros
- Block all Office applications from creating child processes
- Block execution of potentially obfuscated scripts

Use Caution

- Block executable files from running unless they meet a prevalence, age, or trusted list criterion
- Use advanced protection against ransomware
- Block process creations originating from PSExec and WMI commands
- Block Office communication applications from creating child processes



Attack Surface Reduction (ASR) rules

The rules (currently) primarily look for file / path names or commandlines, not signer information or other unique attributes. This allows an attacker to bypass them.

```
L@1 = (L@1 == nil and "" or L@1):lower()

if (L@1:sub(-20)):match("(%.[%\%-[+]\$") >= nil or not "" then

local L@3 = nil

local L@4 = ((np.PathToWin32Path) ((np.get_contextdata)(np.CONTEXT_DATA_FILEPATH)) == nil and "" or (np.PathToWin32Path) ((np.get_contextdata)(np.CONTEXT_DATA_FILEPATH)):lower()

local L@5 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\") == nil and "" or (np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()

local L@5 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()

local L@7 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()

local L@8 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()

local L@9 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()

local L@10 = ((np.ContextualExpandEnvironmentVariables)("\appdata\")):lower()
```

```
if l_0_4:find(l_0_5 .. "\\microsoft\\word\\", 1, true) ~= nil then
    return mp.CLEAN
end
if l_0_4:find(l_0_5 .. "\\microsoft\\internet explorer\\quick launch", 1, true) ~= nil then
    return mp.CLEAN
end
if l_0_4:find(l_0_5 .. "\\roaming\\microsoft\\", 1, true) ~= nil then
    return mp.CLEAN
end
end
```

```
end

if \_0_4 == \_0_5 .. "\\microsoft\\windows\\start menu\\programs\\startup" then

return mp.CLEAN
end
```



Windows Defender Application Control (WDAC)

Used to control which drivers and applications are allowed to run, does not require license! Successor to AppLocker, available in Windows 10 and up and Server 2016+

Policies can be layered and built to allow on deny based on:

- The codesigning certificate(s)
 - Attributes in the PE header
 - Reputation in the Microsoft's Intelligent Security Graph
 - The path from which the app or file is launched
- **\rightarrow** The parent process
- The launching identity



EDR Telemetry

Relies on a separate Windows Service, exclusive to MDE called 'Sense' running via MsSense.exe.

Collects relevant data from running system, for example:

- ▶ File Events (File Creation, Deletion).
- Network Connections.
- Suspicious API usage such as Reading memory from another process.

All events are logged and stored in 'Advanced Hunting' tables where they can be queried, and custom detection rules can be created to detect unwanted behavior.



EDR Telemetry

Which events are logged is controlled and configured by Microsoft.

- For example: list of registry keys that are monitored is fixed and cannot be extended.
- Focus on events that change the system.

Some events are (heavily) sampled to avoid excessive logging taking place, most notably:

- Network connections.
- File writes.
- Less events are logged from trusted processes (Microsoft-signed).
- Some events such as reading memory from a remote process are limited to LSASS process.

Main data source is Event Tracing for Windows (ETW).

- Over 65 different providers queried.
- This includes 'private' ETW logs, such as Threat Intelligence.



Data Storage

Pay per device / user.

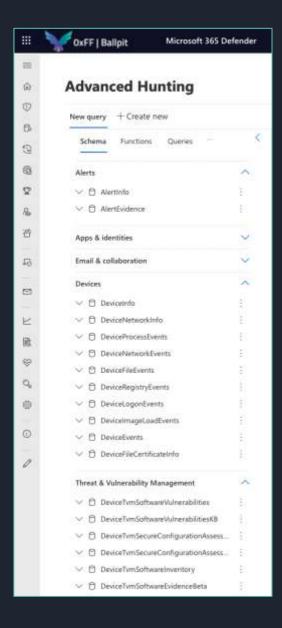
- Includes the storage of generated events.
- Detailed information available for 30 days.
- Timeline/condensed data available for 180 days.

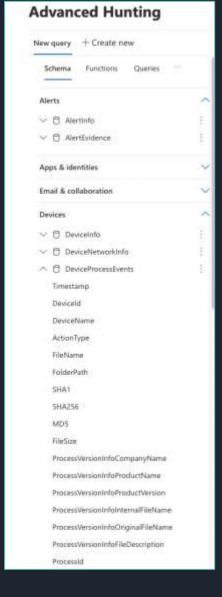
Longer retention possible by copying data to other solutions such as Azure Dataspaces or Azure Sentinel.

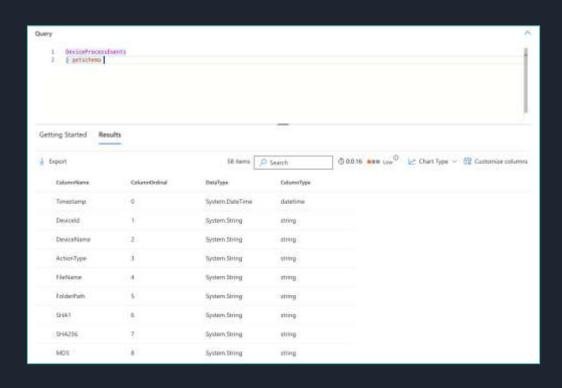
• Should be approximately 15-20MB per device per day.



What kind of data can I build detections on hunt with?

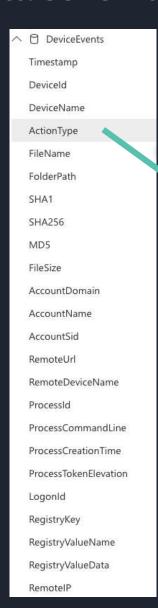


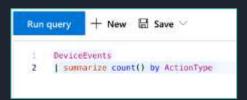






Data schema





ActionType

AntivirusScanCompleted

ShellLinkCreateFileEvent

AsrOfficeMacroWin32ApiCallsAudited

ProcessPrimaryTokenModified

AntivirusReport

.dapSearch

OpenProcessApiCall

AsrLsassCredentialTheftAudited

DriverLoad

PnpDeviceConnected

ReadProcessMemoryApiCall

NtAllocateVirtualMemoryApiCall

PowerShellCommand

FirewallInboundConnectionBlocked

NtMapViewOfSectionRemoteApiCall

NtAllocateVirtualMemoryRemoteApiCall

CreateRemoteThreadApiCall

ExploitGuardWin32SystemCallBlocked

GetClipboardData

GetAsyncKeyStateApiCall

FirewallOutboundConnectionBlocked

ScreenshotTaken

BrowserLaunchedToOpenUrl

ScheduledTaskCreated

AsrOfficeProcessInjectionAudited

DeviceBootAttestationInfo

AsrExecutableOfficeContentAudited

ScheduledTaskDeleted

ExploitGuardNonMicrosoftSignedAudited

ProcessCreatedUsingWmiQuery

ExploitGuardNonMicrosoftSignedBlocked

ExploitGuardAcgEnforced

ExploitGuardNetworkProtectionAudited

FirewallInboundConnectionToAppBlocked

AsrUntrustedExecutableAudited

UsbDriveMount

WriteProcessMemoryApiCall

AsrOfficeChildProcessAudited

UsbDriveUnmount

ExploitGuardChildProcessAudited

ControlledFolderAccessViolationAudited

UserAccountCreated

AntivirusScanCancelled

ControlledFolderAccessViolationBlocked

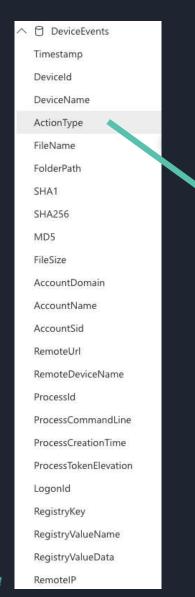
MemoryRemoteProtect

AsrExecutableEmailContentAudited

ExploitGuardChildProcessBlocked

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

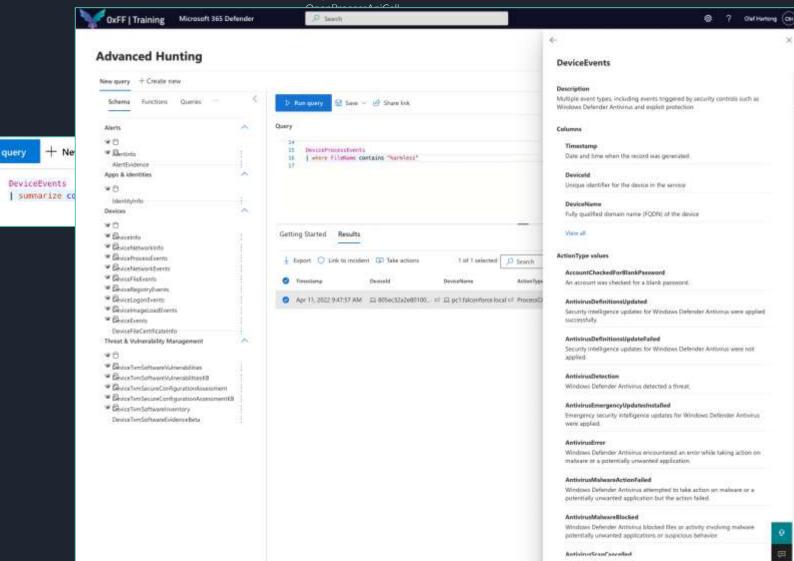
Data schema



Run query

DeviceEvents

AntivirusScanCompleted ShellLinkCreateFileEvent AsrOfficeMacroWin32ApiCallsAudited ProcessPrimaryTokenModified AntivirusReport LdapSearch



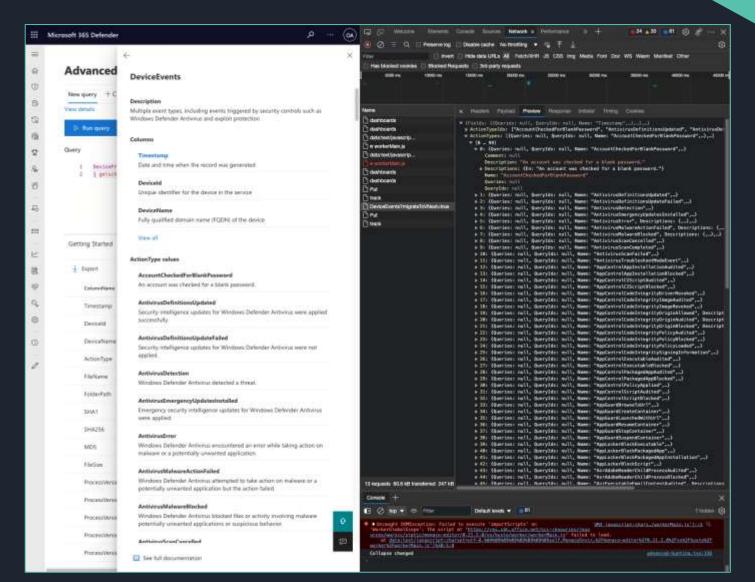


Snatch them from the portal

az login --use-device-code -t [TENANTNAME]

az account get-access-token --resource
https://securitycenter.microsoft.com/mtp

curl -v -H "Authorization: Bearer
\$AZURE_TOKEN" -H 'Content-Type:
application/json' "https://wdatpprdweu.securitycenter.windows.com/api/ine/hun
tingservice/documentation/TableDocumentati
on/DeviceEvents"



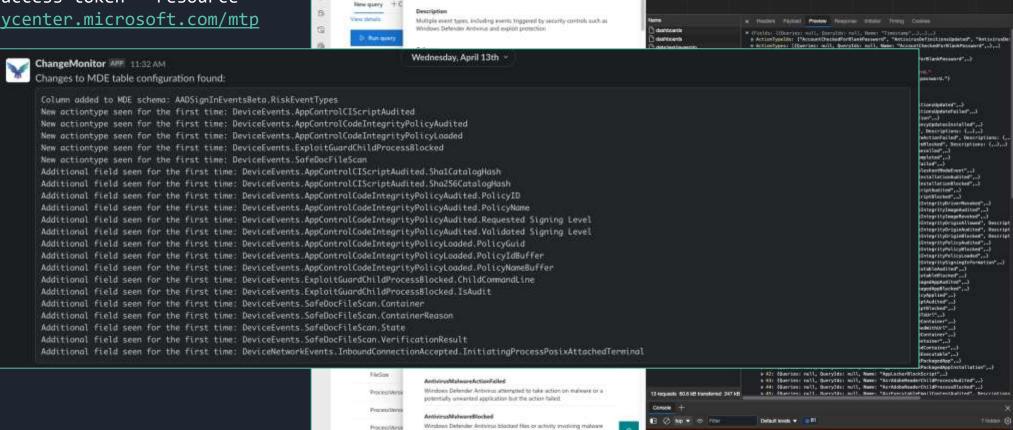


Snatch them from the portal

az login --use-device-code -t [TENANTNAME]

az account get-access-token --resource
https://securitycenter.microsoft.com/mtp

curl -v -H "Aut \$AZURE_TOKEN" application/jsc weu.securitycer tingservice/doc on/DeviceEvents



potentially unwanted applications or suspicious behavior

III See full documentation

III Microsoft 365 Defender

Advanced

Procestivers

DeviceEvents



MDE default alert coverage

Slide removed TLP:Amber

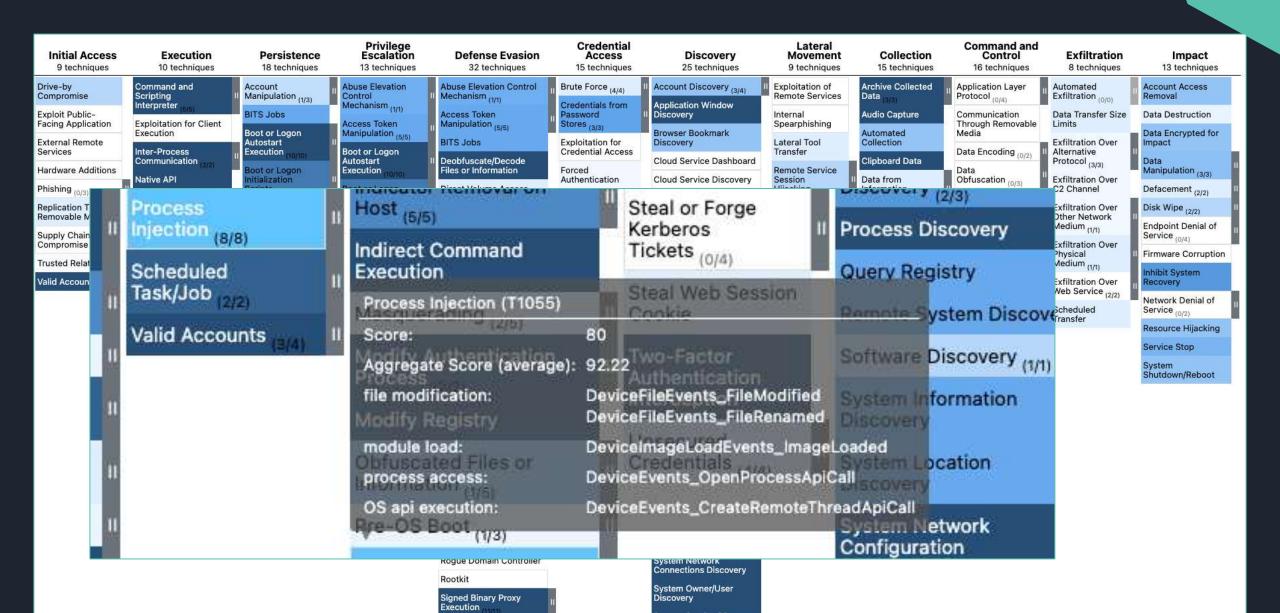


MDE telemetry potential mapping to MITRE ATT&CK

Signed Binary Proxy

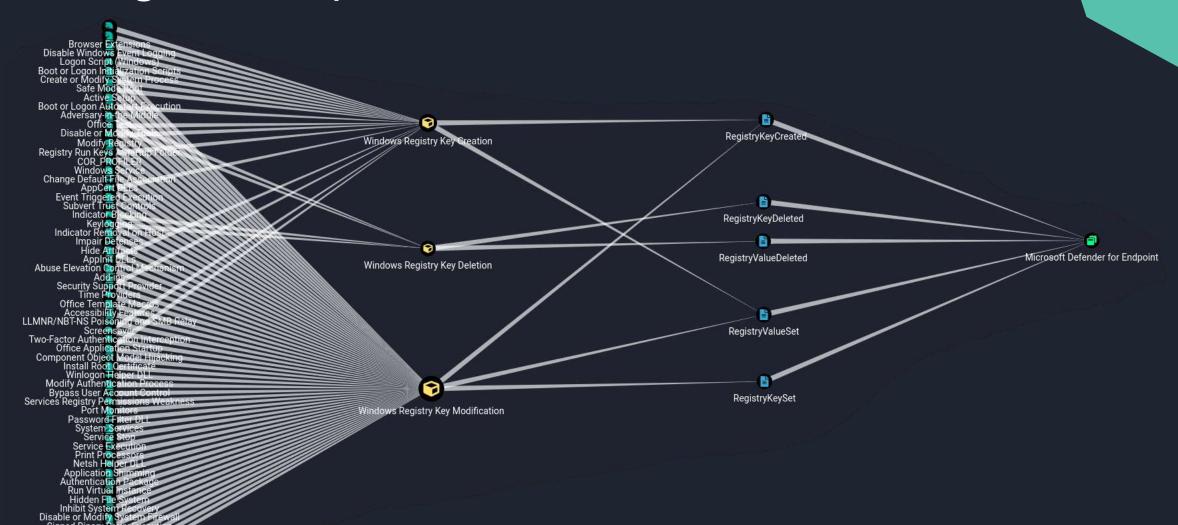
Initial Access 9 techniques	Execution 10 techniques	Persistence 18 techniques	Privilege Escalation 13 techniques	Defense Evasion 32 techniques	Credential Access 15 techniques	Discovery 25 techniques	Lateral Movement 9 techniques	Collection 15 techniques	Command and Control 16 techniques	Exfiltration 8 techniques	Impact 13 techniques
Drive-by Compromise Exploit Public-	Command and Scripting I Interpreter (5/5)	Account Manipulation (1/3)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (1/1)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (1/1) Access Token	Brute Force (4/4) Credentials from Password	Account Discovery (3/4) Application Window	Exploitation of Remote Services	Archive Collected Data (3/3) Audio Capture	Application Layer Protocol (0/4)	Automated Exfiltration (0/0)	Account Access Removal
Facing Application External Remote	Exploitation for Client Execution	Boot or Logon Autostart	Access Token Manipulation (5/5)	Manipulation (5/5) BITS Jobs	Stores (3/3) Exploitation for	Browser Bookmark Discovery	Spearphishing Lateral Tool	Automated Collection	Through Removable Media	Limits Exfiltration Over	Data Encrypted for Impact
Services	Inter-Process Communication (2/2)	Execution (10/10)	Boot or Logon Autostart	Deobfuscate/Decode	Credential Access	Cloud Service Dashboard	Transfer	Clipboard Data	Data Encoding (0/2)	Alternative Protocol (3/3)	Data
Hardware Additions Phishing (0/3)	Native API	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (2/2)	Execution (10/10) Boot or Logon	Files or Information Direct Volume Access	Forced Authentication	Cloud Service Discovery	Remote Service Session Hijacking (1/1)	Data from Information	Data Obfuscation (0/3)	Exfiltration Over C2 Channel	Manipulation (3/3) Defacement (2/2)
Replication Through Removable Media	Scheduled Task/Job _(2/2)	Browser Extensions	Initialization Scripts (2/2)	Domain Policy Modification (2/2)	Forge Web Credentials (2/2)	Domain Trust Discovery File and Directory	Remote Services (5/5)	Repositories (1/1) Data from Local	Dynamic Resolution (2/3)	Exfiltration Over Other Network	Disk Wipe (2/2)
Supply Chain Compromise (0/3)	Shared Modules Software Deployment	Compromise Client Software Binary	Create or Modify System Process (1/1)	Execution Guardrails (1/1)	Input Capture (4/4) Man-in-the-	Discovery Network Service	Replication Through	System Data from Network	Encrypted Channel (0/2)	Medium (1/1) Exfiltration Over	Endpoint Denial of Service (0/4)
Trusted Relationship	Tools System Services	Create Account (2/3) Create or Modify	Domain Policy Modification _(2/2)	Exploitation for Defense Evasion	Middle (1/2) Modify	Scanning Network Share Discovery	Removable Media Software	Shared Drive Data from	Fallback Channels Ingress Tool	Physical Medium _(1/1)	Firmware Corruption Inhibit System
Valid Accounts (3/4)	User Execution (2/2)	System Process (1/1) Event Triggered	Escape to Host Event Triggered	File and Directory Permissions Modification (1/1)	Authentication Process (2/2)	Network Sniffing	Deployment Tools Taint Shared	Removable Media Data Staged (2/2)	Transfer Multi-Stage	Exfiltration Over Web Service (2/2)	Recovery Network Denial of
	Windows Management Instrumentation	Execution (11/11) External Remote	Execution (11/11) Exploitation for	Hide Artifacts (6/6)	Network Sniffing OS Credential	Password Policy Discovery	Content Use Alternate	Email Collection (2/3)	Channels Non-Application	Scheduled Transfer	Service (0/2) Resource Hijacking
		Services Hijack Execution	Privilege Escalation Hijack Execution	Hijack Execution Flow (9/9) Impair Defenses (5/5)	Dumping (5/6) Steal Application	Peripheral Device Discovery	Authentication Material (2/4)	Input Capture (4/4)	Layer Protocol Non-Standard Port		Service Stop
		Flow (9/9) Modify	Flow (9/9) Process	Indicator Removal on Host (5/5)	Access Token Steal or Forge	Permission Groups Discovery (2/3)	.11	Man in the Browser Man-in-the-	Protocol Tunneling		System Shutdown/Reboot
		Authentication Process (2/2)	Injection (8/8) Scheduled	Indirect Command Execution	Kerberos Tickets (0/4)	Process Discovery Query Registry		Middle (1/2) Screen Capture	Proxy (3/4) Remote Access	11	
		Office Application Startup (6/6)	Task/Job (2/2) Valid Accounts	Process Injection (T1055)	Steal Web Session Conkie	Remote System Discovery		Video Capture	Software Traffic Signaling (1/1)		
		Pre-OS Boot (1/3)	Valid Accounts (3/4)	Aggregate Score (average): 92	This Cartes	Software Discovery (1/1) System Information	11		Web Service (2/3)		
		Task/Job (2/2)		Modify Registry D	eviceFileEvents_FileRename eviceImageLoadEvents_Imag	Discovery geLoaded					
		Server Software Component (2/3)		OS api execution: De	viceEvents_OpenProcessAp eviceEvents_CreateRemoteT	hreadApiCall					
		Traffic Signaling (1/1) Valid Accounts (3/4)		Pre-OS Boot (1/3) Process Injection (8/8)		System Network Configuration Discovery	un e				
		See .	7.0	Rogue Domain Controller	□ ./	System Network Connections Discovery					
				1		System Owner/User					

MDE telemetry potential mapping to MITRE ATT&CK



Data potential for 299 techniques Extra Window Ma Two-Factor Authen

Visualizing relationships



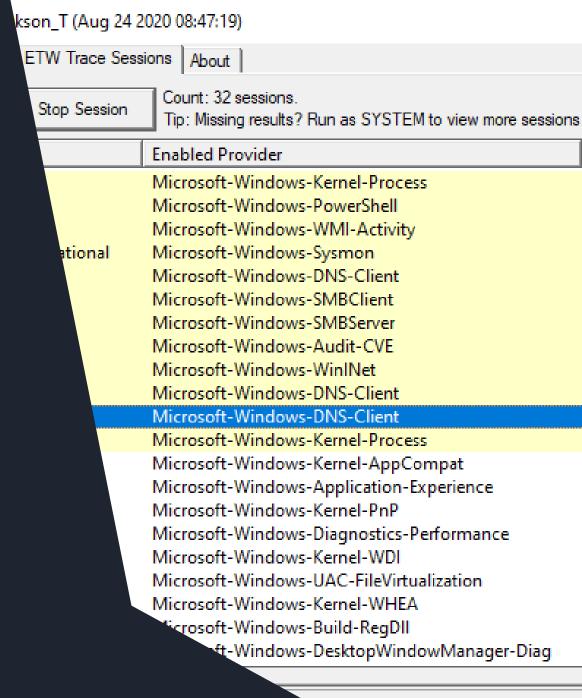


Signed Binary Pr Hijack Execu

Code Signing Policy Modification SIP and Trust Provider Hijacking Input Capture Image File Execution Options Injection

Where does it get its telemetry?

This is important to understand bypass and tampering opportunities as well as possible blind spots.



Kernel Callbacks

The kernel's callback mechanism provides a general way for drivers to request and provide notification when certain conditions are satisfied.

```
mimikatz # !notifprocess
[00] 0xFFFFF8030CB5A2C0 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x35a2c0]
[01] 0xFFFFF80310AE6DD0 [cng.svs + 0x6dd0]
    0xFFFFF80314805F90 [WdFilter.sys + 0x45f90]
[03] 0xFFFFF8031093B9A0 [ksecdd.sys + 0x1b9a0]
[04] 0xFFFFF80311D58330 [tcpip.sys + 0x48330]
    0xFFFFF80312308A90 [SysmonDrv.sys + 0x8a90]
    0xFFFFF803123ED930 [iorate.svs + 0xd930]
    0xFFFFF80310D2C5C0 [mssecflt.sys + 0x2c5c0]
[08] 0xFFFFF80310A6A050 [CI.dll + 0x7a050]
[10] 0xFFFFF8031346A420 [vm3dmp.sys + 0xa420]
    0xFFFFF80314543CE0 [peauth.sys + 0x43ce0]
mimikatz # !notifreg
[00] 0xFFFFF80312309EA0 [SvsmonDrv.svs + 0x9ea0]
    0xFFFFF803147F7820 [WdFilter.sys + 0x37820]
[02] 0xFFFFF80310D2F190 [mssecflt.sys + 0x2f190]
[03] 0xFFFFF8030CDCAF50 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x5caf50]
```

```
mimikatz # !notifimage

[00] 0xFFFFF803148068E0 [WdFilter.sys + 0x468e0]

[01] 0xFFFFF8031230E3C0 [SysmonDrv.sys + 0xe3c0]

[02] 0xFFFFF80310D2C8A0 [mssecflt.sys + 0x2c8a0]

[03] 0xFFFFF80313DAEB20 [ahcache.sys + 0x1eb20]

mimikatz # !notifthread

[00] 0xFFFFF80314807680 [WdFilter.sys + 0x47680]

[01] 0xFFFFF803148073E0 [WdFilter.sys + 0x473e0]

[02] 0xFFFFF80312308240 [SysmonDrv.sys + 0x8240]

[03] 0xFFFFF80310D24000 [mssecflt.sys + 0x24000]

[04] 0xFFFFF803144B1060 [mmcss.sys + 0x1060]
```



Kernel Callbacks

```
* Process
       * Callback [type 3] - Handle 0xFFFFB20FABC50910 (@ 0xFFFFB20FABC50930)
               PreOperation : 0xFFFFF80310D19A60 [mssecflt.sys + 0x19a60]
       * Callback [type 3] - Handle 0xFFFFB20FAE0300E0 (@ 0xFFFFB20FAE030100)
              PreOperation : 0xFFFFF80314803D90 [WdFilter.sys + 0x43d90]
       * Callback [type 1] - Handle 0xFFFFB20FABE42290 (@ 0xFFFFB20FABE422B0)
               PreOperation : 0xFFFFF80312305080 [SysmonDrv.sys + 0x5080]
               PostOperation: 0xFFFFF803123092C0 [SysmonDrv.sys + 0x92c0]

    0xFFFFF8030CEB5830 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x6b5830]

       Open
      Close
                   - 0xFFFFF8030CEE48B0 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x6e48b0]
                  - 0xFFFFF8030CE1A210 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x61a210]
      Delete

    - 0xFFFFF8030CE691A0 [ntoskrnl.exe + 0x6691a0]

       Security
```



Event Tracing for Windows

Event Tracing for Windows (ETW) provides a mechanism to trace and log events that are raised by user-mode applications and kernel-mode drivers.

ETW is implemented in the Windows operating system and provides a fast, reliable, and versatile set of event tracing features. Its architecture consists of three layers;

Event providers

Event consumers

Event tracing sessions

Great reference material by Matt Graeber:

https://blog.palantir.com/tampering-with-windows-event-tracing-background-offense-and-defense-4be7ac62ac63 https://posts.specterops.io/data-source-analysis-and-dynamic-windows-re-using-wpp-and-tracelogging-e465f8b653f7



MsSense.exe ETW Providers

MsSense is one of the core components of MDE that routes the telemetry which it gathers in its own set of providers.

Curious about the traces it utilizes I had a look at the trace logging metadata with a script created by Matt Graeber.

PS C:\Users\olafhartong\Downloads> \$Result = Get-TraceLoggingMetadata -Path 'C:\Program Files\Windows Defender Advanced Threat Protection\MsSense.exe' PS C:\Users\olafhartong\Downloads> \$Result.Providers ProviderName ProviderGroupGUID ProviderGUID 65a1b6fc-4c24-59c9-e3f3-ad11ac510b41 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.Client 5ecb0bac-b930-47f5-a8a4-e8253529edb7 d0b1a44b-5ab3-4ff2-bb52-c2bb980ef8f3 c60418cc-7e07-400f-ae3b-d521c5dbd96f Microsoft.Windows.Sense.GeneratedETW 1dc742c2-0e76-5490-e1b5-8ddb4982ff77 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.SensorHub c5a3a379-e5b9-43da-9175-509abfce2cc7 cb2ff72d-d4e4-585d-33f9-f3a395c40be7 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents 541dae91-cc3c-5807-b064-c2561c16d7e8 b3861234-4273-58c5-545b-8b3611343471 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents 001600f9-311e-5cff-2d59-ee6d065ad02b Microsoft.Windows.Sense.Ndr 4f50731a-89cf-4782-b3e0-dce8c90476ba 450bba94-53ce-54e6-d150-9636aceafb86 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.SenseIR f68c769c-cc20-502e-aee3-115c2eda66f7 Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CollectionEtw d0b1a44b-5ab3-4ff2-bb52-c2bb980ef8f3



MsSense.exe ETW data

The traced events are stored into a SQLite database in a protected folder on the file system. The table name used is AsimovEvents.

Asimov was the code name in 2014 for the Unified **Telemetry** Client, which is now deprecated and is replaced by the DiagTrack agent.

On regular intervals the contents of the database gets uploaded and the data gets flushed...



Tracing these providers

Curious to see what these providers contained I fired up Sealighter to trace these file to a file.

Sealighter is highly configurable and can subscribe to multiple providers at once, user and kernel traces.

Outputs to Stdout, JSON file, or Windows Event Log

https://github.com/pathtofile/Sealighter

Primarily built for research, if you want to use custom ETW events for monitoring SilkETW is probably more suited.

```
c:\tools\service>sealighter.exe config.json
Session Name: MDE-traces
Outputs: file
User Provider: {65a1b6fc-4c24-59c9-e3f3-ad11ac510b41}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.Client
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {c60418cc-7e07-400f-ae3b-d521c5dbd96f}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.GeneratedETW
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {1dc742c2-0e76-5490-e1b5-8ddb4982ff77}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.SensorHub
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
Jser Provider: {cb2ff72d-d4e4-585d-33f9-f3a395c40be7}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {b3861234-4273-58c5-545b-8b3611343471}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
Jser Provider: {314159be-26a1-cf39-e3f3-ad11ac510b41}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.SenseNdr
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {001600f9-311e-5cff-2d59-ee6d065ad02b}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.Ndr
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
Jser Provider: {450bba94-53ce-54e6-d150-9636aceafb86}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.SenseIR
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {f0ff433a-b5a0-4899-a81d-0b5088a96d04}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.SenseCm
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {f68c769c-cc20-502e-aee3-115c2eda66f7}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CollectionEtw
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {7af898d7-7e0e-518d-5f96-b1e79239484c}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Defender
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
User Provider: {e2cdbc57-b2a5-570a-969b-ef80adc0b915}
   Trace Name: Microsoft.Windows.Sec.Driver
   Keywords: All
   No event filters
```



Sample trace

```
▼ {header: {...}, properties: {...}, property_types: {...}}
event flags: 577
    event_id: 0
    event_name: "CyberSecurity"
    event_opcode: 0
    event version: 0
    process_id: 3028
    provider_name: "Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents"
    task_name: "CyberSecurity"
    thread_id: 4596
    timestamp: "2022-04-20 09:15:11Z"
    trace_name: "Microsoft.Windows.Sense.CyberEvents"
 ▼ properties: {EventMetadata: "{\"EventType\":\"GenericEtwEvent\",\"Truncation\":0,\"RuleId\":\"{674630AF-0442-4BC1-9C42-ECBB62CAD5CC}\"}", IsEventCompressed: 0, PartA_iKey: "P-WDATP", SenseEpoch: 1391..., ...}
    EventMetadata: "{\"EventType\":\"GenericEtwEvent\",\"Truncation\":0,\"RuleId\":\"{674630AF-0442-4BC1-9C42-ECBB62CAD5CC}\"}"
    IsEventCompressed: 0
    PartA_iKey: "P-WDATP"
    SenseEpoch: 13914262
    events: "rQkLAQ9HZW5lcmljRXR3RXZlbnQKAakPR2VuZXJpY0V0d0V2ZW50ygrFBgnGCsSVvZfykpXsAcoRBcDb17sCJM+ZAkSzgQFmrL+ktYOH1qlKAADGD6ewjpPykpXsAcIUAMIZAMYj3cegl/KSlewBASrJBg5wb3dlcnNoZWxsLmV4ZckLDnBvd2Vyc2hlbGw...
 ▼ property_types: {EventMetadata: "STRINGA", IsEventCompressed: "UINT8", PartA_iKey: "STRINGW", SenseEpoch: "UINT32", SenseSeqNum: "UINT32", events: "STRINGA", id: "ERROR"}
                                                                                                                                                             Base64?
    EventMetadata: "STRINGA"
    IsEventCompressed: "UINT8"
    PartA_iKey: "STRINGW"
    SenseEpoch: "UINT32"
    SenseSeqNum: "UINT32"
    events: "STRINGA"
```



id: "ERROR"

Base 64 decode

```
PS /Users/olafhartong/Downloads> [Text.Encoding]::Utf8.GetString([Convert]::FromBase64String("rQkLAQ9H2W5lcml];RXR3RX2lbmQKAakFRZVuZXJpY0V0dHV2ZW50ygrFBgm5CsSVvZfykpXsAccRBcDb17sCJM+ZAKSzgQFmrL+ktY0H1g
evjpPykpXsAcIUAMIZAMYj3cegl/K5lewBA5r3Bg5wb3dlcnNb2WxsLmV4ZckLBnBvd2Vyc2hlbGwdZXhlxQ/IRMYUldDu4vG5lewBxhbtqIGAgICADskaEIdpbmRvd3NUZXJtaW5hbC5leGXFHvQ0xlPBnun++5WU7AHPXATCLQHFMbBgyjerDlCfkU1CCG/iFVAQRXzYW]LVi
ĸZMS4wBB4EBCMCDCgCx\ZABBvGMpemt6Te4dbrAcY3uYvK4vGSlewBxjyKprekJuHW6wHQQQTJRxVNeWNyb3NvZnQgQZBycG9YYKRpbZ7JTCZKawNyb3NvZnTCr\BXawSkb3dzwqAgT3B\cmfBuHSnJFNSc3R\bc\AD\BvdZVyUZhlbGwuRVhFyVsK
Vkx/OPmg3Facm0rLMGxW6Vgun2881z0nBvd2Vyc2h1bGwdZXh1yXgqQzpcV21uZG93c1mTeXNBZWBzH1xXaW5kb3dzUG93ZX3TaGVxbFx2M54wxX2ACMmHZgBFyYw5V21uZG93cyBQb3d1c1NbZWksyZEOMTAUMC4x0TAGMS41NDbJ1k5cRGV2aMN1
 ZDGogICAgICAgIEhvc3QgQXBwbGl:YXRpb24gPSBwb3dlcnNoZNxsLnV4ZQBKICAgICAgICAgICBPbmdpbmUgVmVyc2lvbiA9IDUuMS=xDTABMS4xN;QIDQogICAgICAgICAgIFJIbnNwYwNilElEIDBgNNMyVTRkZDMtDGQZO;
 kIGIzIFNBYXJBZWDUDDrKCQAAAMoJBa/hoLoGJMIIRMGXANachDHfoBzy6swBANALAskNDENtZGxldCBzdGFydADKCsslCDELbZxhZmhhcnRubmcAAA---'))
      GenericEtwEvent
*GenericEtwEvent*
e6666666 [50D66f66666 ]6666666666#AA666*6powershell.exe8
                                                                                         ContextInfo0000
                                                                                                                            Severity = Informational
                                          Host Name = ConsoleHost
         6Y61876~66606666Y^66e_666_6fv6_66闭6_6V8^6(66)8_60_6666618_66666 [@e8_f@%system%\WindowsPowerShell
                                                                                                     Host Version = 5.1.19041.1645
rating System@OPowerShell.EXE@[
0\7600n000000spowershell.exe@x*C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.00\%\AWFindows PowerShello10.0.19041.546dN\D
                                                                                                     Host ID = 3e0dfa74-3894-4a14-bf02-f4adbe38b6c6
{815a168b-4ef8-4c78-bfdf-f51e898a7bfd} *6<6
                                olafhartonge
                                                                                                     Host Application = powershell.exe
                                         BXFF-PC-DLAF666c6[$56'666U66Z66666666 66n66y'
                                                                                                     Engine Version = 5.1.19041.1645
                                                                                                     Runspace ID = 5c294dd3-8d69-4078-93e3-2c88fbd70d22
IF6XX6666665 |6666
$660661666666266>6
                                                                                                     Pipeline ID = 16
                 Severity = Informational
ContextInfo@666
                                                                                                     Command Name = Get-Command
      Host Name = ConsoleHost
      Host Version = 5.1.19841.1645
                                                                                                     Command Type = Cmdlet
     Host ID = 3e0dfa74-3894-4a14-bf82-f4adbe38b6c6
      Host Application - powershell.exe
                                                                                                     Script Name =
     Engine Version = 5.1.19841.1645
      Runspace ID = 5c294dd3-8d69-4078-93e3-2c88fbd70d22
                                                                                                     Command Path =
     Pipeline ID = 16
     Command Name = Get-Command
                                                                                                     Sequence Number = 57
     Command Type - Cmdlet
      Script Name =
                                                                                                     User = 0XFF-PC-OLAF\olafhartong
      Command Path =
      Sequence Number = 57
                                                                                                     Connected User =
     User = @XFF-PC-OLAF\olafhartong
      Connected User =
                                                                                                     Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell
      Shell ID = Microsoft.PowerShell
      66Payload@66!Command Get-Command is Started.
                                                                                                     @Payload@@!Command Get-Command is Started.
                                                                                                                  0U$D00f00 60000
Cmdlet starts
      olafhartong
                                                                                         Cmdlet start@
```

What is the binary jibberish?

The data is serialized with Bond.

Bond is a cross-platform framework for working with schematized data. It supports crosslanguage de/serialization and powerful generic mechanisms for efficiently manipulating data. Bond is broadly used at Microsoft in most of their services.

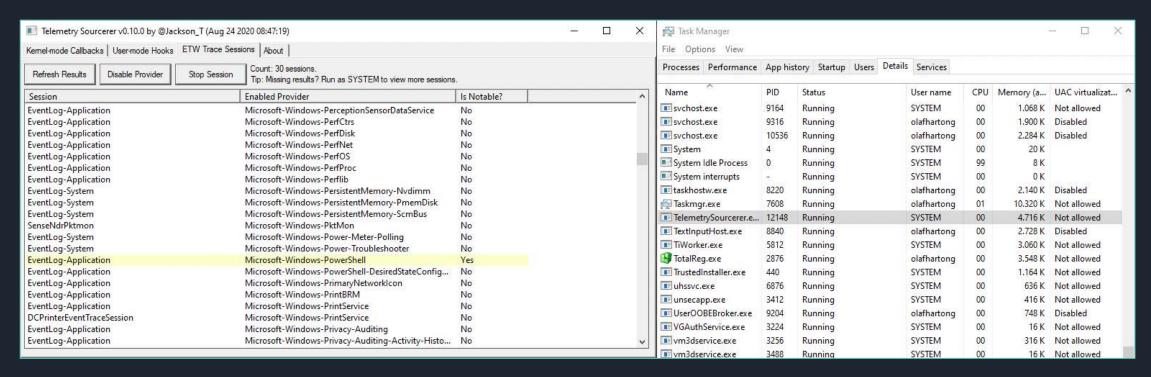
So far I have not found the schema's for these streams.

Next question is where is that data coming from, it clearly looks like PowerShell event logging.



Where is the data coming from?

No direct subscription for anything other than the EventLog service



So is MDE also making use of the regular EventLogs??



DiagTrack

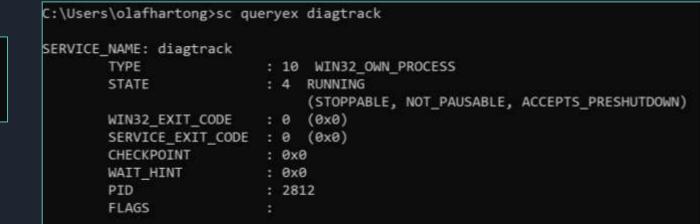
MDE piggybacks of the Diagtrack service to get most of the ETW event telemetry. This service uses the DiagTrack-Listener subscription. MDE is not subscribing to all these providers itself.

By default, only Local Administrators, Performance Log Users, and services running as LocalSystem, LocalService, NetworkService can control trace sessions and consume event data.

Since MDE uses the MsSense service, which runs as System this is fine.

Looking into this service I learnt this service is not protected. When you stop the DiagTrack service, there is no telemetry sent to the cloud anymore.

C:\Users\falconforce>sc qprotection diagtrack
[SC] QueryServiceConfig2 SUCCESS
SERVICE diagtrack PROTECTION LEVEL: NONE.







Configuration

MDE Configuration

Like any product MDE also requires a configuration to know what to log.

This configuration is maintained by Microsoft and is downloaded from the internet on a regular basis.

It is stored on the box, in a non-clear text format.

Additionally it is signed and not easily tampered with.

The exact details are up to you to find out;) (sorry, not sorry)



Configuration item examples

Telemetry sources (ETW providers, Registry Keys etc.)

Exclusions and Filters (for example; extensions, process names, certificate signatures)

Capping (global and per event distinct field combination)

Dynamic data collection

Agent configuration

Quotas (volumetric per time period)



Configuration stats

- ~ 70k lines of JSON
- ~ 65 ETW Providers utilized
- ~ 500 registry paths monitored
- ~ 60 data collection commands that fire frequently
- Different settings for high latency environments
- Elevated child process recording quotas for scripting tools and browsers



Configuration - ETW Providers (a selection)

Generic ETW CreateFile Pattern

Microsoft-Windows-ThreatIntelligence

Microsoft-Windows-DNS-Client

Microsoft.Web.Platform

Microsoft-Windows-Win32k

Microsoft-Antimalware-Scan-Interface

Microsoft-Antimalware-UacScan

Microsoft-Windows-TCPIP

Microsoft-Windows-WMI-Activity

Powershell cmdlets

Microsoft-Windows-AppLocker

Microsoft-Windows-CodeIntegrity

Microsoft.Windows.OLE.Clipboard

Microsoft-Windows-RemoteDesktopServices-RdpCoreTS

Microsoft-Windows-RPC

Microsoft-Windows-SEC

SecureETW

< Very intresting provider, only for AV/EDRs

< We've just seen these events

< What would this be?



SecureETW

Listed in the configuration with the following ProviderGuid: {54849625-5478-4994-A5BA-3E3B0328C30D}

Also known as Microsoft-Windows-Security-Auditing



What does that config look like?

```
"capping": {
 "globalCapping": {
   "capping": 1000
 "localCapping": [
     "id": "LogonLocalCapping",
     "expirationPeriodInHours": 1,
     "fields": [
         "fieldName": "TargetUserName"
         "fieldName": "TargetDomainName"
         "fieldName": "TargetUserSid"
         "fieldName": "LogonType"
         "fieldName": "IpAddress"
         "fieldName": "TargetLogonId"
     "capping": 1
```



```
"properties": [
   "source": "SubjectUserSid",
    "type": "SID"
   "source": "SubjectUserName",
    "type": "UNICODESTRING",
    "scrubType": "User",
    "scrubMethod": "Simple",
    "scrubProfile": 514
    "source": "SubjectDomainName",
    "type": "UNICODESTRING",
    "scrubType": "Domain",
    "scrubMethod": "Simple",
    "scrubProfile": 516
    "source": "SubjectLogonId",
    "type": "HEXINT64"
   "source": "TargetUserSid",
    "type": "SID".
    "transformer": "ExtractUser",
   "targetFieldName": "TargetAccountEntity",
    "transformerValues": [
     "SID"
    "source": "TargetUserName",
    "type": "UNICODESTRING",
    "scrubType": "User",
    "scrubMethod": "Simple",
    "scrubProfile": 514
    "source": "TargetDomainName",
    "type": "UNICODESTRING",
    "scrubType": "Domain",
    "scrubMethod": "Simple",
    "scrubProfile": 516
                               < and much more
```

So, which other EventIDs is it looking for

Currently, the following Events are traced from the Security log:

```
olafhartong | mde_config | ▼ 19:22 | $config.configTypes.SensorHubConfig.GenericEtwConfiguration.GenericEtwConfig | Where-Object Name -Match "SecureETW" | select -ExpandProperty Rules
                                                                id
eventId name
                                                                {0051E74D-9FD8-46D3-9DEB-87D89A6AD527}
  5058 Persistent cryptographic key operation.
  5059 Persistent cryptographic key export.
                                                                {008D33DB-2237-4325-BE48-24F236509208}
   4670 Taking Ownership on File from TrustedInstaller
                                                                {56EC7AA1-767F-41AD-89C0-B729EFEBE111}
   4670 Taking Ownership on MDE Key
                                                                {34588649-FDD3-411A-8DEC-6DBBD9131609}
   4664 Hardlink Create Audit Event
                                                                {63EC7AA1-767F-41AD-89C0-B729EFEBE199}
   4907 Sense tampering through object sacl change
                                                                {8A3FC3B0-489B-4E30-AE8C-6239E1AEAE4C}
   4697 A service was installed
                                                                {18AE52D8-3DE2-41EA-A8e1-AE68D6254ADE}
   4624 Logon event
                                                                {25FC59D8-3DE9-41EA-A4D6-AE68D5131ECC}
                                                                {69EA1768-2BAE-45C7-92B7-3F1CE3227148}
   4625 An account failed to log on
   4698 A scheduled task was created
                                                                {98AE59D8-3DE9-41EA-A8e1-AE68D5254ADE}
   4699 A scheduled task was deleted
                                                                {03D77EE2-A9FC-4095-811A-586D7D7D1183}
  4702 A scheduled task was updated
                                                                {2256CB9A-3117-436B-AC84-AD9D36C945B3}
  4720 A user account was created
                                                                {820D9CBE-975D-42F7-925D-F1314A714572}
  6416 Plug and Play event
                                                                {8FC5FF9B-B703-4E18-9973-4EE7E9381B00}
  5024 Firewall service started
                                                                {D5805090-E42C-47B9-9C67-5AF43976331B}
  5025 Firewall service stopped
                                                                {42ccc346-ee75-4ad6-a834-102e4f74a42b}
  5031 Firewall app blocked from listening
                                                                {f6c36f47-f999-4162-b373-3011e29a3d7a}
  5157 Firewall has blocked a connection outbound
                                                                {E818DB90-F7E5-4361-BD88-22D782316AD4}
  5157 Firewall has blocked a connection inbound
                                                                {7BA4CED0-A91D-491B-B1D0-C3E0ABA1D6BB}
  5376 Credman - Credentials Backup
                                                                {C7AA73A5-5526-4391-9E18-D42442E4F085}
  5379 Credman - Read Credentials
                                                                {32D127B2-BEB3-407A-B44C-626AABE16926}
  5380 Vault Credential - Find Credential
                                                                {34BBE356-46FC-4201-B7D1-B0B61007EE84}
  5381 Vault Credential - Enumerate Credentials
                                                                {028E9574-5F5F-4A85-9598-ACF5E594C351}
  5382 Vault Credential - Get Unique Credential
                                                                {EF70EE34-531A-4CAF-A27D-420A33CE9DE5}
   4648 Logon using explicit credentials
                                                                {C0A6D471-F8B4-4F85-B30F-E05147AE5BA5}
   4719 System Audit Policy was changed
                                                                {7D29E5C5-8E9C-4386-9DEB-0782E635D0C2}
   4724 An Attempt was made to reset an account password
                                                                {C51A1874-FF0F-4EA5-BC1E-217BA4F10778}
  4726 A user account was deleted
                                                                {9C88B3E6-D1D3-4A4C-93AC-F8102CC170C1}
                                                                {70D2074F-B7B2-4D47-852C-B5E0A332C92D}
   4732 A member was added to a security-enabled local group
   4731 Local group created
                                                                {cbfc31ce-24be-483f-be0d-99fee5133951}
   4726 A user account was deleted
                                                                {BE56A97E-E1D7-4E23-9DE7-8D2E0D6F2467}
   4733 Local group removed
                                                                {2f0f972d-7117-41aa-a432-1469b4eb30c0}
   4734 Local group deleted
                                                                {41fd378a-d621-4eac-acfd-9d4a2e4a0a3f}
   4738 A user account was changed
                                                                {F7CE3108-BDCB-4C0B-9E77-F1F2AAFEA80E}
  4732 A member was added to a security-enabled local group
                                                                {E0FE2E6D-D983-4D80-8D06-80E7D2B7AC89}
  6423 Forbidden installation (PNP Audit)
                                                                {10FE2E6D-D983-4D80-8D06-80E7D2B7AC89}
   4798 User's local group membership was enumerated
                                                                {6ef3cfd1-a874-4a15-9dc5-43f8c19537bc}
   4799 Security-enabled local group membership was enumerated {9b9ca1b2-ab46-46f6-848f-30f37f057c28}
```



Mapping EventIDs to name and Audit Category

eventId	MDE-Name	AuditCategory	AuditSubCategory
5058	Persistent cryptographic key operation.	System	Other System Events
5059	Persistent cryptographic key export.	System	Other System Events
4670	Taking Ownership on File from TrustedInstaller	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change
4670	Taking Ownership on MDE Key	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change
4664	Hardlink Create Audit Event	Object Access	File System
4907	Sense tampering through object sacl change	Policy Change	Audit Policy Change
4697	A service was installed	System	Security System Extension
4624	Logon event	Logon/Logoff	Logon
4625	An account failed to log on	Logon/Logoff	Logon
4698	A scheduled task was created	Object Access	Other Object Access Events
4699	A scheduled task was deleted	Object Access	Other Object Access Events
4702	A scheduled task was updated	Object Access	Other Object Access Events
4720	A user account was created	Account Management	User Account Management
6416	Plug and Play event	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events
5024	Firewall service started	System	Other System Events
5025	Firewall service stopped	System	Other System Events
5031	Firewall app blocked from listening	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection outbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection inbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection
5376	Credman - Credentials Backup	Account Management	User Account Management
5379	Credman - Read Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events
5380	Vault Credential - Find Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events
5381	Vault Credential - Enumerate Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events
5382	Vault Credential - Get Unique Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events
4648	Logon using explicit credentials	Logon/Logoff	Logon
4719	System Audit Policy was changed	Policy Change	Audit Policy Change
4724	An Attempt was made to reset an account password	Account Management	User Account Management
4726	A user account was deleted	Account Management	User Account Management
4732	A member was added to a security-enabled local group	Account Management	Security Group Management
4731	Local group created	Account Management	Security Group Management
4726	A user account was deleted	Account Management	User Account Management
4733	Local group removed	Account Management	Security Group Management
4734	Local group deleted	Account Management	Security Group Management
4738	A user account was changed	Account Management	User Account Management
4732	A member was added to a security-enabled local group	Account Management	Security Group Management
6423	Forbidden installation (PNP Audit)	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events
4798	User's local group membership was enumerated	Account Management	User Account Management
4799	Security-enabled local group membership was enumerated	Account Management	Security Group Management



Microsoft Audit Policy settings

Audit policy settings determine whether the operating system generates audit events when certain tasks are performed.

These settings can be configured on 4 levels:

No Auditing (0)
Success (1)
Failure (2)
Success and Failure (3)



Are all these events available on all machines?

eventId	MDE-Name	AuditCategory	AuditSubCategory	Required setting	Win10 default	Default Ok?
5058	Persistent cryptographic key operation.	System	Other System Events	3	3	TRUE
5059	Persistent cryptographic key export.	System	Other System Events	3	3	TRUE
4670	Taking Ownership on File from TrustedInstaller	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change	1	0	FALSE
4670	Taking Ownership on MDE Key	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change	1	0	FALSE
4664	Hardlink Create Audit Event	Object Access	File System	1	0	FALSE
4907	Sense tampering through object sacl change	Policy Change	Audit Policy Change	1	1	TRUE
4697	A service was installed	System	Security System Extension	1	0	FALSE
4624	Logon event	Logon/Logoff	Logon	1	3	TRUE
4625	An account failed to log on	Logon/Logoff	Logon	2	3	TRUE
4698	A scheduled task was created	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	FALSE
4699	A scheduled task was deleted	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	FALSE
4702	A scheduled task was updated	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	FALSE
4720	A user account was created	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
6416	Plug and Play event	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events	1	0	FALSE
5024	Firewall service started	System	Other System Events	1	3	
5025	Firewall service stopped	System	Other System Events	1	3	
5031	Firewall app blocked from listening	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	FALSE
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection outbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	FALSE
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection inbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	FALSE
5376	Credman - Credentials Backup	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
5379	Credman - Read Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	FALSE
5380	Vault Credential - Find Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	FALSE
5381	Vault Credential - Enumerate Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	FALSE
5382	Vault Credential - Get Unique Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	FALSE
4648	Logon using explicit credentials	Logon/Logoff	Logon	1	3	
4719	System Audit Policy was changed	Policy Change	Audit Policy Change	1	1	TRUE
4724	An Attempt was made to reset an account password	Account Management	User Account Management	3	1	FALSE
4726	A user account was deleted	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
4732	A member was added to a security-enabled local group	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	TRUE
4731	Local group created	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	TRUE
4726	A user account was deleted	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
4733	Local group removed	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	TRUE
4734	Local group deleted	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	TRUE
4738	A user account was changed	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
4732	A member was added to a security-enabled local group	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	TRUE
6423	Forbidden installation (PNP Audit)	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events	1	0	FALSE
4798	User's local group membership was enumerated	Account Management	User Account Management	1	1	TRUE
4799	Security-enabled local group membership was enumerated	Account Management	Security Group Management	1	1	



So, we seem to be having some blind spots

Fortunately, the MDE team tries to help you a bit here.

They'll enable some of the settings when you install the agent.

eventId	MDE-Name	AuditCategory	AuditSubCategory	Required Setting	Win10 Default	Win10 + Defender	DefaultOk?	PostDefenderInstall
4670	Taking Ownership on File from TrustedInstaller	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change	1	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
4670	Taking Ownership on MDE Key	Policy Change	Authorization Policy Change	1	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
4664	Hardlink Create Audit Event	Object Access	File System	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
4697	A service was installed	System	Security System Extension	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
4698	A scheduled task was created	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
4699	A scheduled task was deleted	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
4702	A scheduled task was updated	Object Access	Other Object Access Events	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
6416	Plug and Play event	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE
5031	Firewall app blocked from listening	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection outbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5157	Firewall has blocked a connection inbound	Object Access	Filtering Platform Connection	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5379	Credman - Read Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5380	Vault Credential - Find Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5381	Vault Credential - Enumerate Credentials	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
5382	Vault Credential - Get Unique Credential	Logon/Logoff	Other Logon/Logoff Events	2	0	0	FALSE	FALSE
4724	An Attempt was made to reset an account password	Account Management	User Account Management	3	1	3	FALSE	TRUE
6423	Forbidden installation (PNP Audit)	Detailed Tracking	Plug and Play Events	1	0	3	FALSE	TRUE



So, we seem to be having some possible blind spots

- However, the categories that are producing a larger volume of telemetry are untouched to not interfere with the log ingestion volume on your SIEM.
- These settings are not documented in the MDE documentation and might be overwritten by Group Policy settings.
- Make sure to <u>check your GPOs</u> and enable the events you care about. Otherwise there will be no telemetry AND no alerts on these events.



PowerShell script to check your environment

I've created an ugly script to check all your GPOs are set properly.

Obviously some are layered so make sure to check that too.

The script relies on the Remote Server Administration Tools (RSAT).

It's available on my GitHub:

https://github.com/olafhartong/MDE-AuditCheck

```
PS C:\Users\olafhartong.HATCHERY\Desktop> .\MDE-AuditCheck.ps1
This script checks the Group Policies for Audit settings
Next it makes sure all categories that can impact MDE functionality are set properly
There is a total of 10 GPOs.
The following GPOs contain Audit settings:
Audit Settings: Workstations Enhanced Auditing Policy
Audit Settings: Default Domain Controllers Policy
Audit Settings: Servers Enhanced Auditing Policy
Audit Settings: Terrible Idea
Out of those, the following GPOs have potential blind spots due to lacking audit settings
GPO: Workstations Enhanced Auditing Policy
Authorization Policy Change - Not Set
GPO: Default Domain Controllers Policy
 Audit Logon - Not Set
 Authorization Policy Change - Not Set
 Audit Security Group Management - Not Set
 Audit User Account Management - Not Set
 Audit PNP Activity - Not Set
 Audit Other Logon/Logoff Events - Not Set
 Audit File System - Not Set
 Audit Filtering Platform Connection - Not Set
 Audit Other Object Access Events - Not Set
 Audit Audit Policy Change - Not Set
 Audit Other System Events - Not Set
 Audit Security System Extension - Not Set
GPO: Servers Enhanced Auditing Policy
 Authorization Policy Change - Not Set
GPO: Terrible Idea
 Audit Logon - Expected setting is 3, current setting is: 0
 Authorization Policy Change - Not Set
 Audit Security Group Management - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit User Account Management - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit PNP Activity - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit Other Logon/Logoff Events - Expected setting is 2 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit File System - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: \theta
 Audit Filtering Platform Connection - Expected setting is 2 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit Other Object Access Events - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: 0
 Audit Audit Policy Change - Not Set
 Audit Other System Events - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: \theta
 Audit Security System Extension - Expected setting is 1 or 3, current setting is: 0
```



Wrapping up



Know your tools, understand their strengths and weaknesses

Understand what your tools are detecting and HOW they are detecting it

Continuously reassess this to see what is new or improved

Augment the weak or blind spots with additional tools





Thank you! Questions?





https://falconforce.nl



@olafhartong@falconforceteam



https://linkedin.com/in/olafhartong



Wait, there is more...

Bonus content....

Sysmon vs MDE



Pros and cons per solution

Sysmon

- + Full control over the config and the data you'll get
- + Best applied to augment MDE or in full parallel
- + Rich and unsampled telemetry
- You must maintain it yourself (config, ingestion and detections)
- Only detection, no response

MDE

- + Fully maintained by Microsoft (config and ingestion)
- + Detection and Response capability, custom detections possible in addition
- + Rich set of telemetry, way more than Sysmon
- The configuration is non-configurable
- Telemetry is sampled for most events



Sysmon vs MDE telemetry

Sysmon ID	Sysmon Event Name	MDE Table	ActionType	Notes on MDE
1	Process Creation	DeviceProcessEvents	ProcessCreated	
2	Process Changed a file creation time	n/a	n/a	
3	Network Connection	DeviceNetworkEvents	ConnectionFound, ConnectionSuccess, ConnectionFailed, InboundConnectionAccepted, ListeningConnectionCreated, ConnectionAttempt, ConnectionAcknowledged, ConnectionRequest	Heavily sampled, only 1 st seen event
	Sysmon Service State Change			
5	Process Terminated	n/a	n/a	
6	Driver Loaded	DeviceEvents	DriverLoad	No signer information only hashes
7	Image Loaded	DeviceImageLoadEvents	ImageLoaded	Heavily sampled
8	Create Remote Thread	DeviceEvents	CreateRemoteThreadApiCall	Missing info compared to Sysmon: NewThreadld, StartAddress, StartModule, StartFunction
	Raw File Access Read	n/a	n/a	
10	Process Access	DeviceEvents	ReadProcessMemoryApiCall, WriteToLsassProcessMemory, OpenProcessApiCall	ONLY logged for the Isass.exe process. It does provide TotalBytesCopied on ReadProcessMemoryApiCall. On OpenProcessApiCall is supplies the DesiredAccess in decimalvalues
11	File Create	DeviceFileEvents	FileCreated	
12	Registry Create and Delete	DeviceRegistryEvents	RegistryKeyCreated, RegistryKeyDeleted, RegistryValueDeleted	Filters are applied
13	Registry Value Set	DeviceRegistryEvents	RegistryValueSet	Filters are applied
14	Registry Key and Value Rename			
15	File Create Stream Hash			Seems to be there in MDE but often unpopulated
17	Pipe Event Created	DeviceEvents	NamedPipeEvent	Only first seen event, connect or create
18	Pipe Event Connected			
19	WMI EventFilter activity			
20	WMI EventConsumer activity	DeviceEvents	ProcessCreatedUsingWmiQuery	
21	WMI EventConsumerToFilter activity	DeviceEvents	WmiBindEventFilterToConsumer	
22	DNS Query	DeviceEvents	DnsQueryResponse	Response to successful queries
23	FileDelete	DeviceFileEvents	FileDeleted	
24				
25	Process Tampering			No exposed telemetry, it does have alerts for it
26	FileDeleteDetected	DeviceFileEvents	FileDeleted	No file retention option



Sysmon vs MDE – features / telemetry

ControlledFolderAccessViolationBlocked

CreateRemoteThreadApiCall

Sysmon - Unique

Clipboard events saving
Deleted files saving
Preserve deleted PE files
Preserve files for configured processes
Preserve files with configured extensions
Preserve files for configured SIDs

MDE - Unique

DeviceFileEvents	FileRenamed
DeviceFileEvents	FileModified
DeviceLogonEvents	LogonAttempted
DeviceLogonEvents	LogonFailed
DeviceLogonEvents	LogonSuccess
DeviceFileCertificateInfo	
DeviceInfo	-
DeviceNetworkInfo	-

	C I L'ID I	D D: T M :C
AntivirusDetection	CredentialsBackup	ProcessPrimaryTokenModified
AntivirusDetectionActionType	DeviceBootAttestationInfo	QueueUserApcRemoteApiCall
AntivirusReport	DnsQueryResponse	ReadProcessMemoryApiCall
AntivirusScanCancelled	DriverLoad	RemoteDesktopConnection
AntivirusScanCompleted	ExploitGuardAcgAudited	RemoteWmiOperation
AntivirusScanFailed	ExploitGuardAcgEnforced	SafeDocFileScan
AppControlCodeIntegritySigningInformation	ExploitGuardChildProcessAudited	ScheduledTaskCreated
AppControlExecutableBlocked	ExploitGuardChildProcessBlocked	ScheduledTaskDeleted
AppControlScriptBlocked	ExploitGuardEafViolationBlocked	ScheduledTaskUpdated
AsrAdobeReaderChildProcessBlocked	ExploitGuardLowIntegrityImageAudited	ScreenshotTaken
AsrExecutableEmailContentBlocked	ExploitGuardLowIntegrityImageBlocked	ScriptContent
AsrExecutableOfficeContentAudited	ExploitGuardNetworkProtectionAudited	SecurityGroupCreated
AsrExecutableOfficeContentBlocked	ExploitGuardNonMicrosoftSignedAudited	SecurityGroupDeleted
AsrLsassCredentialTheftAudited	ExploitGuardNonMicrosoftSignedBlocked	SecurityLogCleared
AsrLsassCredentialTheftBlocked	ExploitGuardSharedBinaryAudited	SensitiveFileRead
AsrObfuscatedScriptAudited	ExploitGuardSharedBinaryBlocked	ServiceInstalled
AsrOfficeChildProcessAudited	ExploitGuardWin32SystemCallBlocked	SetThreadContextRemoteApiCall
AsrOfficeChildProcessBlocked	FirewallInboundConnectionBlocked	ShellLinkCreateFileEvent
AsrOfficeCommAppChildProcessAudited	FirewallInboundConnectionToAppBlocked	SmartScreenAppWarning
AsrOfficeCommAppChildProcessBlocked	FirewallOutboundConnectionBlocked	SmartScreenExploitWarning
AsrOfficeMacroWin32ApiCallsAudited	GetAsyncKeyStateApiCall	SmartScreenUrlWarning
	- GetClipboardData	SmartScreenUserOverride
AsrOfficeMacroWin32ApiCallsBlocked	LdapSearch	UntrustedWifiConnection
AsrOfficeProcessInjectionAudited	MemoryRemoteProtect	UsbDriveDriveLetterChanged
AsrOfficeProcessInjectionBlocked	NamedPipeEvent	UsbDriveMounted
AsrPsexecWmiChildProcessAudited	NtAllocateVirtualMemoryApiCall	UsbDriveUnmounted
AsrRansomwareBlocked	NtAllocateVirtualMemoryRemoteApiCall	UserAccountAddedToLocalGroup
AsrUntrustedExecutableAudited	NtMapViewOfSectionRemoteApiCall	UserAccountCreated
AsrUntrustedUsbProcessAudited	NtProtectVirtualMemoryApiCall	UserAccountDeleted
AsrUntrustedUsbProcessBlocked	OpenProcessApiCall	UserAccountModified
AuditPolicyModification	OtherAlertRelatedActivity	UserAccountRemovedFromLocalGroup
BluetoothPolicyTriggered	PnpDeviceAllowed	WmiBindEventFilterToConsumer
BrowserLaunchedToOpenUrl	PnpDeviceBlocked	WriteToLsassProcessMemory
ControlFlowGuardViolation	PnpDeviceConnected	
ControlledFolderAccessViolationAudited	PowerShellCommand	

ProcessCreatedUsingWmiQuery

.... 181 in total



MDE telemetry potential mapping to MITRE ATT&CK

Signed Binary Proxy

Initial Access 9 techniques	Execution 10 techniques	Persistence 18 techniques	Privilege Escalation 13 techniques	Defense Evasion 32 techniques	Credential Access 15 techniques	Discovery 25 techniques	Lateral Movement 9 techniques	Collection 15 techniques	Command and Control 16 techniques	Exfiltration 8 techniques	Impact 13 techniques
Drive-by Compromise Exploit Public-	Command and Scripting I Interpreter (5/5)	Account Manipulation (1/3)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (1/1)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (1/1) Access Token	Brute Force (4/4) Credentials from Password	Application Window	Exploitation of Remote Services	Archive Collected Data (3/3) Audio Capture	Application Layer Protocol (0/4)	Automated Exfiltration (0/0)	Account Access Removal
Facing Application External Remote	Exploitation for Client Execution	Boot or Logon Autostart	Access Token Manipulation (5/5)	Manipulation (5/5) BITS Jobs	Stores (3/3) Exploitation for	Browser Bookmark Discovery	Spearphishing Lateral Tool	Automated Collection	Through Removable Media	Limits Exfiltration Over	Data Encrypted for Impact
Services	Inter-Process Communication (2/2)	Execution (10/10)	Boot or Logon Autostart	Deobfuscate/Decode	Credential Access	Cloud Service Dashboard	Transfer	Clipboard Data	Data Encoding (0/2)	Alternative Protocol (3/3)	Data
Hardware Additions Phishing (0/3)	Native API	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (2/2)	Execution (10/10) Boot or Logon	Files or Information Direct Volume Access	Forced Authentication	Cloud Service Discovery	Remote Service Session Hijacking (1/1)	Data from Information	Data Obfuscation (0/3)	Exfiltration Over C2 Channel	Manipulation (3/3) Defacement (2/2)
Replication Through Removable Media	Scheduled Task/Job _(2/2)	Browser Extensions	Initialization Scripts (2/2)	Domain Policy Modification (2/2)	Forge Web Credentials (2/2)	Domain Trust Discovery File and Directory	Remote Services (5/5)	Repositories (1/1) Data from Local	Dynamic Resolution (2/3)	Exfiltration Over Other Network	Disk Wipe (2/2)
Supply Chain Compromise (0/3)	Shared Modules Software Deployment	Compromise Client Software Binary	Create or Modify System Process (1/1)	Execution Guardrails (1/1)	Input Capture (4/4) Man-in-the-	Discovery Network Service	Replication Through	System Data from Network	Encrypted Channel (0/2)	Medium (1/1) Exfiltration Over	Endpoint Denial of Service (0/4)
Trusted Relationship	Tools System Services	Create Account (2/3) Create or Modify	Domain Policy Modification _(2/2)	Exploitation for Defense Evasion	Middle (1/2) Modify	Scanning Network Share Discovery	Removable Media Software	Shared Drive Data from	Fallback Channels Ingress Tool	Physical Medium _(1/1)	Firmware Corruption Inhibit System
Valid Accounts (3/4)	User Execution (2/2)	System Process (1/1) Event Triggered	Escape to Host Event Triggered	File and Directory Permissions Modification (1/1)	Authentication II Process (2/2)	II Network Sniffing	Deployment Tools Taint Shared	Removable Media Data Staged (2/2)	Transfer Multi-Stage	Exfiltration Over Web Service (2/2)	Recovery Network Denial of
	Windows Management Instrumentation	Execution (11/11) External Remote	Execution (11/11) Exploitation for	Hide Artifacts (6/6)	Network Sniffing OS Credential	Password Policy Discovery	Content Use Alternate	Email Collection (2/3)	Channels Non-Application	Scheduled Transfer	Service (0/2) Resource Hijacking
		Services Hijack Execution	Privilege Escalation Hijack Execution	Hijack Execution Flow (9/9) Impair Defenses (5/5)	Dumping (5/6) Steal Application	Peripheral Device Discovery	Authentication Material (2/4)	Input Capture (4/4)	Layer Protocol Non-Standard Port		Service Stop
		Flow (9/9) Modify	Flow (9/9) Process	Indicator Removal on Host (5/5)	Access Token Steal or Forge	Permission Groups Discovery (2/3)	.11	Man in the Browser Man-in-the-	Protocol Tunneling		System Shutdown/Reboot
		Authentication Process (2/2)	Injection (8/8) Scheduled	Indirect Command Execution	Kerberos Tickets (0/4)	Process Discovery Query Registry		Middle (1/2) Screen Capture	Proxy (3/4) Remote Access	11	
		Office Application Startup (6/6)	Task/Job (2/2) Valid Accounts	Process Injection (T1055)	Steal Web Session Cookle	Remote System Discovery		Video Capture	Software Traffic Signaling (1/1)		
		Pre-OS Boot (1/3)	Valid Accounts (3/4)	Aggregate Score (average): 92	This Cartes	Software Discovery (1/1) System Information	11		Web Service (2/3)		
		Task/Job (2/2)		Modify Registry D	viceFileEvents_FileRename viceImageLoadEvents_Imag	d Discovery					
		Server Software Component (2/3)		OS api execution: De	viceEvents_OpenProcessAp viceEvents_CreateRemoteT	hreadApiCall					
		Traffic Signaling (1/1) Valid Accounts (3/4)		Process Injection (8/8)	п	System Network Configuration Discovery	n e				
		Sec.	7.0	Rogue Domain Controller	□ ,;;	System Network Connections Discovery					
				Propriet 4200000		System Owner/User					

Sysmon telemetry potential mapping to MITRE ATT&CK

