

THREAT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

July 29 - Aug 04, 2025

Report Summary:

- New Threat Detection Added
 - o Kimsuky
- Detection Summary
 - Threat Protections integrated into the Crystal Eye 120
 - Newly Detected Threats 5



The following threats were added to Crystal Eye this week:

1. Kimsuky

Kimsuky is a North Korea-based APT. This group has been active since at least 2012. The group started off targeting South Korea but has expanded its targets to the United States, Japan, Russia and Europe.

These new threats have been found to target Korean users who use either Facebook, email or Telegram. Facebook users were sent friend requests by the threat actor, and then they were sent a specific malicious document. Email addresses were obtained from Facebook as well to try to lure the victim to open the malicious document. The Telegram approach is similar to other techniques except that it requests a mobile number from Facebook users.

The malicious document's end objective is to collect data from the device and transmit it to an actor-controlled domain. This domain also acts as a C2 connector, so the attackers can send custom commands to the infected device.

Threats Protected: 11 Rule Set Type:

Ruleset	IDS: Action	IPS: Action	
Balanced	Reject Drop		
Security	Reject	Drop	
WAF	Disabled	sabled Disabled	
Connectivity	Alert Alert		
OT	Reject	Drop	

Class Type: Command-and-Control/Domain-c2

Kill Chain:

Tactic	Technique ID	Technique Name
Establish Accounts	T1585.001	Establish Accounts – Social Media Accounts
	T1585.002	Establish Accounts – Email Accounts
Command and Scripting Interpreter	T1059	Execution
Collection	T1560	Archive Collected Data
Command-and-Control	T1071.001	Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols



Current Threat Summary

Known exploited vulnerabilities (Week 1 August 2025)

Vulnerability	CVSS	Description
PaperCut NG/MF	8.4 (High)	PaperCut NG/MF contains a cross-site request forgery (CSRF) vulnerability that can enable the configuration of the device upon
		visiting an external resource provided by an attacker. Once specific device configurations have been set, it is possible to achieve
		remote code execution on the printer via a print job sent across the network.
Cisco Identity Services	10 (Critical)	Cisco Identity Services Engine contains a vulnerability that can allow a remote unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary code
Engine		on the device via an API request. Exploitation of this vulnerability can result in the ability to manage operating system commands
		with elevated permissions.

For more information, please visit the **Red Piranha Forum**:

https://forum.redpiranha.net/t/known-exploited-vulnerabilities-catalog-5th-week-of-july-2025/582

Updated Malware Signatures (Week 1 August 2025)

Threat	Description	7
PlanetStealer	PlanetStealer is Golang-based malware designed to steal sensitive information on victim devices. It is designed to steal information such as credentials,	
	browser cookies (commonly used for authentication), cryptowallets and more. This information is exfiltrated using a Telegram webhook.	



Ransomware Report

The Red Piranha Team conducts ongoing surveillance of the dark web and other channels to identify global organisations impacted by ransomware attacks. In the past week, our monitoring revealed multiple ransomware incidents across diverse threat groups, underscoring the persistent and widespread nature of these cyber risks. Presented below is a detailed breakdown of ransomware group activities during this period.

Ransomware Victims – Weekly Overview

Beast takes the top spot this week, responsible for 12.6% of all reported ransomware incidents. This surge signals a potentially new campaign, aggressive affiliate scaling, or updated tooling pushing it into the spotlight.

Inc Ransom follows with 9.45%, maintaining a strong and consistent footprint, typically leveraging data leak extortion strategies against enterprise environments.

Both <u>SafePay</u> and Global posted 8.66%, continuing to exhibit high-volume attacks across various industries and geographies, suggesting active affiliate participation and automation-driven payload delivery.

Qilin and Akira each registered 7.09%, showing their persistent presence on the global ransomware stage, often known for double extortion tactics and wide targeting scopes.

Warlock held 5.51%, while several mid-tier groups, including Lynx, D4rk4rmy, Everest, DragonForce, J Group, BlackByte-Crux, and Sinobi, each reported between 3.15% and 3.94%, indicating active but moderately scaled campaigns.

Arcus Media and DireWolf accounted for 2.36%, and smaller activity clusters emerged from Kairos, WorldLeaks, BQTLock, Play, and Medusa (each at 1.57%).

Finally, Abyss-Data, Brain Cipher, Qilin-Securotrop, Rhysida, and Devman2 each contributed 0.79% of total incidents, representing the "long tail" of ransomware: smaller groups launching opportunistic, precision-based, or regionally confined attacks.

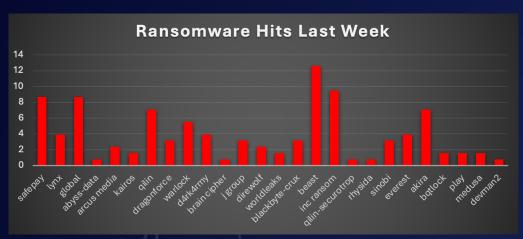


Figure 1: Ransomware Group Hits Last Week



Beast Ransomware

Beast is a Tor-centric, double-extortion ransomware operation that surfaced prominently in early 2025 and has rapidly evolved into a low-noise but high-impact actor. Unlike many traditional ransomware groups, Beast avoids clear-web infrastructure, instead favouring onion-based leak sites and peer-to-peer negotiation channels. This tactic not only complicates attribution but also circumvents typical domain and IP-based detections.

Affiliates deploy the malware manually or semi-automatically, often executing encryption and exfiltration without persistent C2 beaconing. This infrastructure-minimal model suggests a preference for stealth over scale, drawing parallels to emerging "offline" ransomware families.

Detailed TTPs

Below is a refined breakdown of Beast's observed Tactics, Techniques & Procedures (TTPs).

Initial Access

Valid Accounts (T1078)

Beast affiliates gained access via brute-forced or previously leaked RDP/SSH credentials, frequently targeting misconfigured Linux and Windows servers.

Execution

Command and Scripting Interpreter (T1059)

Malware payloads were manually launched or dropped via bash or PowerShell one-liners that initiated encryption and loaded auxiliary tools.

Persistence

Boot or Logon Initialisation Scripts (T1037.004)

On Linux systems, a persistence mechanism was set via

/etc/profile.d/beast.sh, which silently executed on every shell session.

Windows targets employed scheduled tasks and

HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run.

Defence Evasion

Obfuscated Files or Information (T1027)

Beast's ELF payloads were UPX-packed and used filename padding (.log, .conf) to blend with legitimate configuration files.

Credential Access

Credential Dumping (T1003)

Harvesting of /etc/shadow (Linux) and LSASS memory (Windows) was performed using open-source tooling like mimit or nanodump.

Discovery

System Information Discovery (T1082)

The malware probed hostnames, disk space, mounted volumes, and user lists using uname, df -h, and whoami to triage target environments.

Lateral Movement

Remote Services (SSH) (T1021.002)

Using captured credentials, the malware propagated laterally via SSH to additional reachable systems inside the 10.x/192.168.x IP ranges.

Collection & Exfiltration

Archive Collected Data (T1560.001)

Data was compressed via tar and zip, and staged in /tmp/.beast/ before transfer.

Exfiltration Over Alternative Protocol (T1048)

Stolen data was exfiltrated over custom SSH tunnels to attacker the infrastructure or uploaded to Tor-based drop servers.

TTP Mapping to MITRE ATT&CK

Phase	Technique	ATT&CK ID
Initial Access	Valid Accounts	T1078
Execution	Command and Scripting Interpreter	T1059
Persistence	Logon Initialisation Scripts	T1037.004
Defence Evasion	Obfuscated Files/Information	T1027
Credential Access	Credential Dumping	T1003
Discovery	System Information Discovery	T1082
Lateral Movement	Remote Services (SSH)	T1021.002
Collection	Archive Collected Data	T1560.001
Exfiltration	Exfiltration Over Alt. Protocol	T1048
Impact	Data Encrypted for Impact	T1486



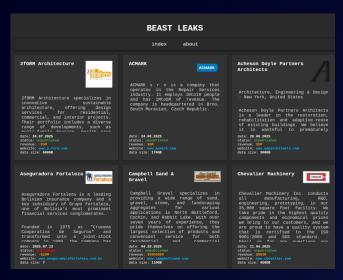
IOCs

IΡ

• 144.91.79.54

Onion URLs

• beast6azu4f7fxjakiayhnssybibsgjnmy77a6duufqw5afjzfjhzuqd.onion



 ooie6tet7ggcmlgvtmyvok4s6vha6ecwczssbchbyxrg2r6v2m6 zkkad.onion (File Server)



Mail IDs.

recovery24.email@onionmail.com blackpool@zohomail.eu ambulafixdata@zohomail.eu ambulafixdata@onionmail.org br.fixdata24@proton.me br.fixdata24@onionmail.com helpdata24@zohomail.eu helpdata24@onionmail.org

TOXID

92E5D1A8ECFC69E7967E7A9DC1C9A735CD8DCE965D12EF01F19966C71 01EAF071B4CDEA310E9

Concise Mitigation with CE 5.0

Email & Sandbox

- Quarantine inbound ZIP/TAR/ISO archives containing ELF or EXE binaries.
- Block DNS/TLS connections to .onion domains and associated Tor proxy gateways.

Endpoint Protection

- HIPS: Alert on new files in /etc/profile.d/, .bashrc, or HKCU\Run.
- Monitor for tools like rclone, scp, mimit, and abnormal Isass.exe access.

Network Controls

- IPS/IDS: Block outbound SSH traffic on non-standard ports (e.g., 2222).
- · Sinkhole known Beast onion URLs; monitor Tor process invocation.

Access Management

- Enforce MFA on all exposed SSH/RDP services.
- Alert on first-time access from foreign ASN/IPs or impossible logins.

Backup & Recovery

- · Implement immutable, offline backups rotated daily.
- Simulate restore events every 30 days for incident readiness.



Worldwide Ransomware Victims

The United States continues to be the most heavily impacted country by ransomware, accounting for a dominant 59.06% of all reported incidents this week. Its vast digital infrastructure and concentration of high-value industries make it the most consistent target for both well-known and emerging threat actors.

The United Kingdom follows at 6.3%, remaining one of the top European targets due to its advanced economy, reliance on digital services, and global business ties.

Spain and Germany both registered 3.94%, reflecting a persistent threat landscape in Western Europe where professional services, manufacturing, and public sectors are frequently affected.

Italy came in at 3.15%, with Australia and Canada following at 2.36% each—highlighting ransomware's expanding reach into both Asia-Pacific and North American regions beyond the U.S.

A mid-tier of countries—including Thailand, Netherlands, Turkey, Brazil, and Belgium—each experienced 1.57% of incidents, suggesting continued threat actor interest across diverse geographies.

The long tail includes multiple nations that each reported 0.79% of attacks:

Mexico, Greece, Jordan, Ireland, Argentina, Poland, Lebanon, Singapore, Malaysia, Denmark, France, Bolivia, Colombia, and Guyana. This reflects the increasingly global distribution of ransomware activity, where threat actors cast a wide net, often exploiting opportunistic or low-barrier entry points across industries and regions.

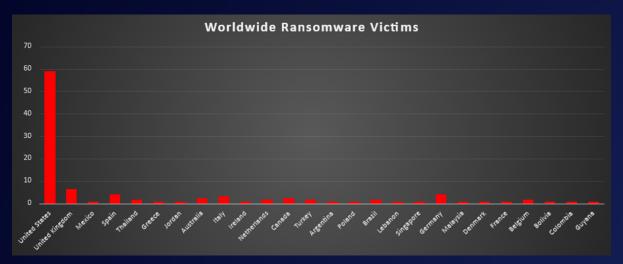


Figure 4: Ransomware Victims Worldwide



Industry-wide Ransomware Victims

Manufacturing remains the most targeted industry this week, accounting for 18.11% of reported ransomware incidents. Its operational criticality, legacy systems, and limited downtime tolerance make it an ongoing priority for attackers.

Business Services follow closely at 11.81%, reflecting persistent targeting of firms that provide IT, consulting, and operational support to multiple sectors, often acting as indirect gateways into larger networks.

Construction and Retail each reported 11.02%, both sectors being attractive to ransomware operators due to their broad vendor ecosystems, financial transactions, and often underdeveloped cybersecurity practices.

Hospitality and Education both logged 7.87%, indicating that threat actors focus on sectors with significant customer data and digital dependencies but typically lacking mature security controls.

Law Firms came in at 6.3%, reaffirming their status as frequent targets due to sensitive legal data, contracts, and time-sensitive operations.

Mid-tier victims include Real Estate and Finance (3.15% each), and Consumer Services, IT, Transportation, and Organisations (each at 2.36%)—representing sectors with varied digital maturity but high extortion leverage.

Smaller but still significant incidents affected Healthcare, Federal, Energy, Agriculture, and Media & Internet (each at 1.57%), showing a widespread impact across both public and private sector verticals.

Finally, Telecommunications, Minerals & Mining, and Insurance each registered 0.79%, underscoring ransomware's wide net across both high-profile and niche sectors.

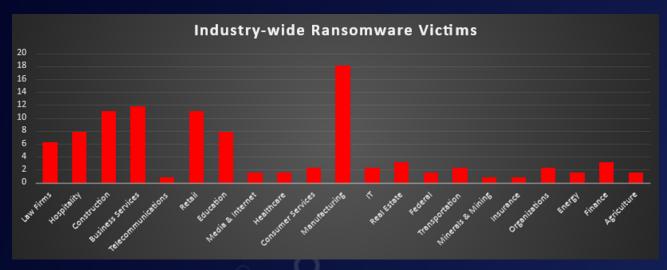


Figure 5: Industry-wide Ransomware Victims

