Red Piranha
unified threat management

THREAT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

June 18 - 24, 2024

Report Summary:

- **New Threat Detection Added** – 2 (Parrot TDS and SquidLoader Malware)
- **New Threat Protections - 119**

The following threats were added to Crystal Eye XDR this week:

1. Parrot TDS

A new cyber threat called Parrot TDS has infected over 16,500 websites, including university and government sites. This system redirects users to malicious campaigns like FakeUpdate, which tricks them into downloading remote access tools. Unlike prior threats, Parrot TDS targets a wider range of poorly secured websites, putting millions at risk. Researchers identified a surge in activity in February 2022 and estimate Parrot TDS has been active since October 2021. They protected over 600,000 users from visiting infected sites in a month, with Brazil, India, and the US being the most impacted.

Rules Created: 03
Rule Set Type:

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

Class Type: Trojan-activity
Kill Chain:

Tactic	Technique ID	Technique Name
Delivery	T1040 T1049	Malicious File Phishing Email
Execution	T1059	Command and Scripting Interpreter
Persistence	T1547.001	Registry Run Key/ Startup Folder
Privilege Escalation	T1055	Process Injection
Defence Evasion	T1055	Process Injection
Discovery	T1057 T1082	Process Discovery System Information Discovery
Command-and-Control	T1071	Application Layer Protocol

2. SquidLoader Malware

Researchers have identified a new, evasive malware loader named SquidLoader, which targets Chinese organisations through phishing campaigns. SquidLoader utilises various techniques to evade detection and deploys a Cobalt Strike payload. LevelBlue Labs suspects this actor has been active for over two years with a focus on Chinese targets. While the current campaign targets a specific region, the techniques used by SquidLoader could be adopted by other malware creators in future attacks, posing a threat to a wider audience.

Rules Created: 01
Rule Set Type:

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

Class Type: Trojan-activity
Kill Chain:

Tactic	Technique ID	Technique Name
Initial Access	T1566 T1589	Phishing Gather Victim Identity Information
Defence Evasion	T1036 T1127 T1140 T1480 T1622	Masquerading Trusted Developer Utilities Proxy Execution Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information Execution Guardrails Debugger Evasion
Command-and-Control	T1573	Encrypted Channel: Symmetric Cryptography

Known exploited vulnerabilities (Week 3 June 2024):

Vulnerability	CVSS	Description
CVE-2024-31982	10.0 (Critical)	XWiki Remote Code Execution Vulnerability
CVE-2024-28999	8.1 (High)	SolarWinds Race Condition Vulnerability
CVE-2024-34470	Ongoing Analysis	HSC Mailinspector Path Traversal Vulnerability

For more information, please visit the **Red Piranha Forum**:
https://forum.redpiranha.net/t/known-exploited-vulnerabilities-catalog-3rd-week-of-june-2024/480

Updated Malware Signatures (Week 3 June 2024)

Threat	Description
Nanocore	The Nanocore trojan, built on the .NET framework, has been the subject of multiple source code leaks, resulting in its widespread accessibility. Similar to other remote access trojans (RATs), Nanocore empowers malicious actors with complete system control, enabling activities such as video and audio recording, password theft, file downloads, and keystroke logging.
Remcos	Remcos functions as a remote access trojan (RAT), granting unauthorised individuals the ability to issue commands on the compromised host, record keystrokes, engage with the host's webcam, and take snapshots. Typically, this malicious software is distributed through Microsoft Office documents containing macros, which are often attached to malicious emails.
Lumma Stealer	A type of malware classified as an information stealer. Its primary purpose is to steal sensitive information from infected systems, including but not limited to credentials, financial information, browser data, and potentially other personal or confidential information.

Ransomware Report

The Red Piranha Team actively collects information on organisations globally affected by ransomware attacks from various sources, including the Dark Web. In the past week alone, our team uncovered new ransomware victims and updates on previous victims across 18 industries spanning 21 countries. This underscores the widespread and indiscriminate impact of ransomware attacks, emphasising their potential to affect organisations of varying sizes and sectors worldwide.

Qilin and Ransomhub ransomware groups stand out as the most prolific, having updated a significant number of victims (9%) each distributed across multiple countries. In comparison, Medusa and Space Bears ransomware updated 8% victims each, in the past week. The following list provides the victim counts in percentages for these ransomware groups and a selection of others.

Name of Ransomware Group	Percentage of new Victims last week
8Base	7.06%
Abyss-Data	1.18%
Akira	4.71%
Arcus Media	3.53%
Bianlian	1.18%
Black Suit	2.35%
Blackbasta	5.88%
Cactus	4.71%
Cicada3301	3.53%
Cloak	1.18%
Clop	1.18%
Darkvault	2.35%
Dragonforce	1.18%
Eraleign (Apt73)	1.18%
Handala	2.35%
Hunters	4.71%
Inc Ransom	7.06%
Lockbit3	1.18%
Medusa	8.24%
Metaencryptor	1.18%
Money Message	1.18%
Qilin	9.41%
Ransomhouse	1.18%
Ransomhub	9.41%
Rhysida	3.53%
Space Bears	8.24%
Team Underground	1.18%

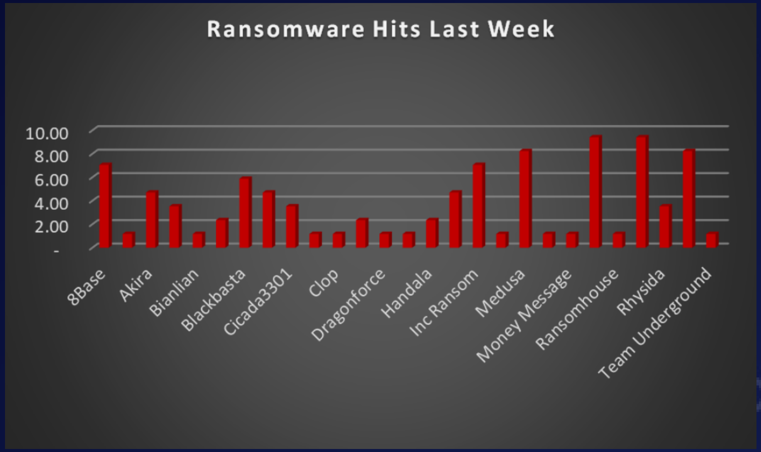


Figure 1: Ransomware Group Hits Last Week

Qilin Ransomware

Emerging in July 2022, Qilin ransomware, also known as Agenda, has established itself as a formidable threat actor in the cybercrime landscape. This ruthless malware operates using a double extortion model, crippling victims by encrypting their data and threatening to leak it on the dark web if ransom demands aren't met. While the exact origins of Qilin remain unclear, security researchers believe it might be linked to a cybercriminal group operating as as-a-service. This group offers its ransomware tools and expertise to affiliates who launch attacks against various targets.

Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs):

Qilin isn't a one-trick pony. It possesses a diverse arsenal of tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) to infiltrate and compromise systems. Here's a glimpse into its malicious toolkit:

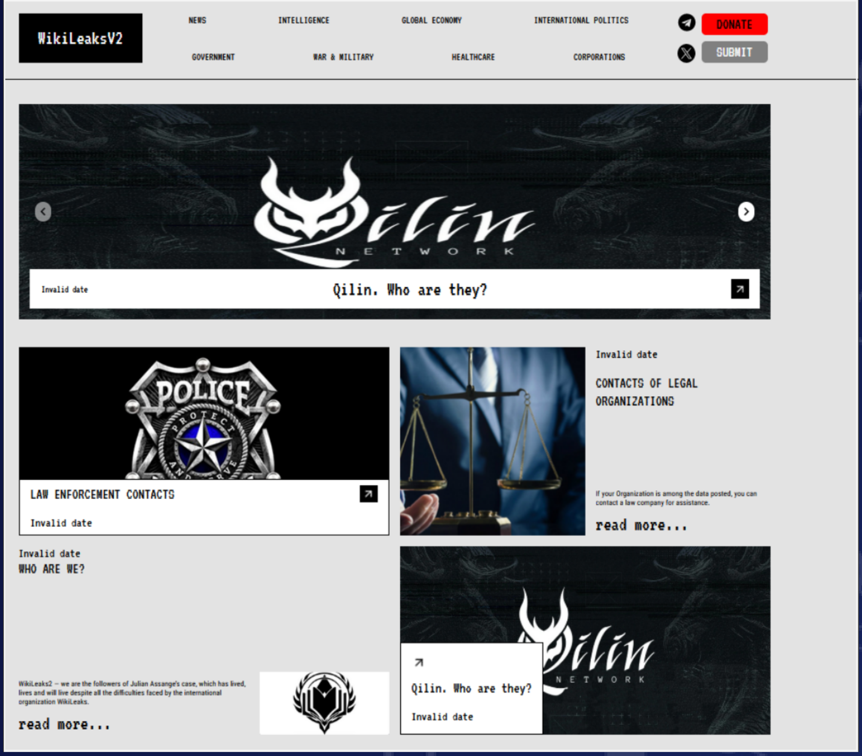
- Phishing Attacks: Deceptive emails designed to trick users into clicking malicious links or downloading infected attachments are a common entry point. These emails may appear to be from trusted sources such as delivery companies, financial institutions, or even colleagues.
- Exploiting Unpatched Vulnerabilities: Qilin actively seeks out unpatched vulnerabilities in software and operating systems to gain unauthorised access to networks. This underscores the importance of keeping all software and systems updated with the latest security patches.
- Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) Exploitation: Like other ransomware strains, Qilin can exploit weaknesses in RDP configurations to gain access to a system. RDP allows remote access to a computer, and misconfigured settings can create a vulnerability for attackers.
- Brute-Force Attacks: In some instances, Qilin may attempt to gain access through brute-force attacks, where it systematically tries different combinations of usernames and passwords until it cracks the login credentials. This highlights the importance of using strong passwords and enabling multi-factor authentication (MFA) where possible.
- Living-off-the-Land Techniques: Like many malware strains, Qilin can utilise legitimate system administration tools for malicious purposes. This makes detection more challenging as these tools may appear as normal system activity.
- Data Exfiltration: Before encryption, Qilin often exfiltrates sensitive data like financial records, personal information, and intellectual property. This stolen data serves as additional leverage in extortion attempts, putting pressure on victims to pay the ransom.
- Strong Encryption: The malware utilises robust encryption algorithms to render files inaccessible. Decrypting them without the attacker's key is extremely difficult, if not impossible. This effectively cripples a victim's operations until a decision is made.

A Global Reach with Focused Targets:

Qilin ransomware demonstrates a lack of geographical bias, targeting victims worldwide. Here are some examples of its reach and the damage it has caused:

- Critical Infrastructure: Security researchers have observed that Qilin targets critical infrastructure sectors like power grids and transportation systems. A successful attack on such infrastructure could have devastating consequences.
- Healthcare Organisations: Hospitals and other healthcare providers have also fallen victim to Qilin attacks. The disruption caused by encrypted medical records and operational systems can severely impact patient care.
- Educational Institutions: Schools and universities haven't been spared either. Data breaches involving student information or disruption of educational services can have serious consequences.

Leak Site: Qilin ransomware maintains a leak site on the dark web where they threaten to publish stolen data if the ransom is not paid.



Invalid date

Qilin. Who are they?

LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTACTS

Invalid date

Invalid date

CONTACTS OF LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS

If your Organization is among the data posted, you can contact a law company for assistance.

read more...

Invalid date

WHO ARE WE?

WikiLeaks2 – we are the followers of Julian Assange's case, which has lived, lives and will live despite all the difficulties faced by the international organization WikiLeaks.

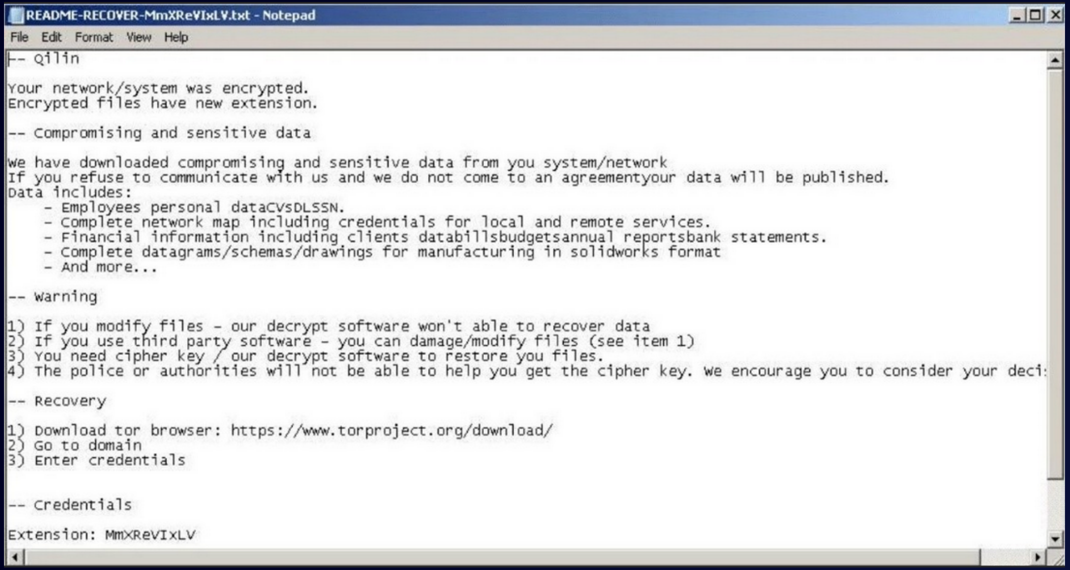
read more...

Qilin. Who are they?

Invalid date

Ransom Note

The Qilin ransomware has many different ransom notes for every victim. One of the ransom notes is given below:



README-RECOVER-MmXReVIxLV.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help

```
-- Qilin

Your network/system was encrypted.
Encrypted files have new extension.

-- Compromising and sensitive data

We have downloaded compromising and sensitive data from you system/network
If you refuse to communicate with us and we do not come to an agreementyour data will be published.
Data includes:
     - Employees personal dataCVsDLSSN.
     - Complete network map including credentials for local and remote services.
     - Financial information including clients databillsbudgetsannual reportsbank statements.
     - Complete datagrams/schemas/drawings for manufacturing in solidworks format
     - And more...

-- Warning

1) If you modify files - our decrypt software won't able to recover data
2) If you use third party software - you can damage/modify files (see item 1)
3) You need cipher key / our decrypt software to restore you files.
4) The police or authorities will not be able to help you get the cipher key. We encourage you to consider your deci

-- Recovery

1) Download tor browser: https://www.torproject.org/download/
2) Go to domain
3) Enter credentials


-- Credentials

Extension: MmXReVIxLV
```

The emergence of Qilin ransomware underscores the ever-evolving threat landscape of cybercrime. Its use of readily available tools combined with its focus on double extortion tactics, highlights the need for organisations to prioritise robust cybersecurity measures. Here are some crucial steps organisations can take to mitigate the risk of Qilin ransomware and similar threats:

- Regular Backups: Maintain secure, offline backups of critical data to facilitate recovery in case of a ransomware attack.
- Patch Management: Implement a rigorous patch management system to ensure all software and operating systems are updated with the latest security patches.
- Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA): Enable MFA for all user accounts wherever possible. MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second verification factor beyond just a username and password.
- Security Awareness Training: Educate employees on identifying phishing attempts and other social engineering tactics used by attackers. Regular training can significantly reduce the risk of human error leading to breaches.
- Endpoint Security Solutions: Deploy endpoint security solutions that can detect and prevent malware infections at the device level. These solutions can act as a first line of defence against Qilin and other malware threats.

Kill Chain:

Tactic	Technique ID	Technique Name
Initial Access	T1078	Valid Accounts
	T1566	Phishing
	T1190	Exploit Public-Facing Application
Execution	T1059	Command and Scripting Interpreter
	T1053	Scheduled Task/Job
Persistence	T1136	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts
Privilege Escalation	T1068	Exploitation of Vulnerabilities
	T1548	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism
Defence Evasion	T1562	Impair Defences
	T1027	Obfuscated Files or Information
	T1070	Indicator Removal
Credential Access	T1555	Credentials from Password Stores
	T1003	OS Credential Dumping
Discovery	T1049	System Network Connections Discovery
	T1083	File and Directory Discovery
Lateral Movement	T1072	Software Deployment Tools
	T1570	Lateral Tool Transfer
Collection	T1119	Automated Collection
Exfiltration	T1567	Exfiltration Over Web Service
Command-and-Control	T1219	Remote Access Software
	T1090	Proxy
Impact	T1486	Data Encrypted for Impact
	T1485	Data Destruction
	T1490	Inhibit System Recovery
	T1561.001	Data Wipe

Indicators of Compromise (IOCs)

Indicators	Indicator Type	Description
http://ozsxj4hwxub7gio347ac7tyqqozvfioty37skqilzo2oqfs4cw2mgtyd.onion/ http://24kckepr3tdbcomkimbov5nqv2alos6vmrmlxdr76lfmkgegukubctyd.onion http://wlh3dpptx2gt7nsxcor37a3kiyaiy6qwhdv7o6nl6iuniu5ycze5ydid.onion/blog http://kbsqoivihgdmwczmxkbovk7ss2dcynitwhhfu5yw725dboqo5kthfaad.onion/ https://wikileaksv2.com	URLs (Onion)	Leak Site
e90bdaaf5f9ca900133b699f18e4062562148169b29cb4eb37a0577388c22527 55e070a86b3ef2488d0e58f945f432aca494bfe65c9c4363d739649225efbbd1 37546b811e369547c8bd631fa4399730d3bdaff635e744d83632b74f44f56cf6 555964b2fed3cced4c75a383dd4b3cf02776dae224f4848dcc03510b1de4dbf4 fd7cbadcfca84b38380cf57898d0de2adcdfb9c3d64d17f886e8c5903e416039 76f860a0e238231c2ac262901ce447e83d840e16fca52018293c6cf611a6807e	Hash	File

In a comprehensive analysis of ransomware victims across 21 countries, the United States emerges as the most heavily impacted nation, reporting a staggering 52% victim updates in the past week. The following list provides a breakdown of the number and percentage of new ransomware victims per country, underscoring the persistent and concerning prevalence of ransomware attacks, with the USA particularly susceptible to these cybersecurity threats.

Industry	Victims Count (%)
Australia	3.53%
Bolivia	1.18%
Canada	5.88%
Denmark	1.18%
Fiji	1.18%
Germany	1.18%
Indiana	1.18%
Israel	1.18%
Italy	4.71%
Philippines	1.18%
Poland	1.18%
Portugal	1.18%
Singapore	1.18%
South Korea	1.18%
Spain	4.71%
Sweden	1.18%
Taiwan	2.35%
Thailand	1.18%
UAE	1.18%
UK	9.41%
USA	52.94%

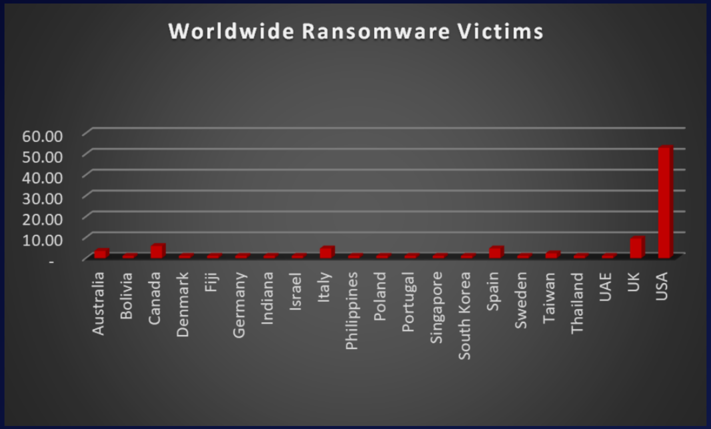


Figure 4: Ransomware Victims Worldwide

Upon further investigation, it has been identified that ransomware has left its mark on 18 different industries worldwide. Notably, Manufacturing bore the brunt of the attacks in the past week, accounting for 16% of victims. There are a few key reasons why the manufacturing sector is a prime target for ransomware groups:

- High Disruption Potential: Manufacturing relies heavily on interconnected systems and just-in-time production. A ransomware attack can grind operations to a halt, causing significant financial losses due to production delays and lost revenue. This pressure to get back online quickly can make manufacturers more willing to pay the ransom.

- Vulnerable Legacy Systems: Many manufacturers use legacy control systems (OT) that haven't been updated for security. These older systems often lack robust security features, making them easier targets for attackers to exploit.

- Limited Cybersecurity Investment: Traditionally, cybersecurity might not have been a top priority for some manufacturers compared to production efficiency. This lack of investment in security awareness training and robust security protocols leaves them exposed.

- Valuable Data: Manufacturing facilities often hold valuable intellectual property (IP) and trade secrets. Ransomware groups may not only disrupt operations but also threaten to leak this sensitive data if the ransom isn't paid.

- Success Breeds Success: The high payout potential from past attacks on manufacturers incentivises ransomware groups to continue targeting them.

The table below delineates the most recent ransomware victims, organised by industry, shedding light on the sectors grappling with the significant impact of these cyber threats.

Industry	Victims Count (%)
Agriculture	1.18%
Business Services	17.65%
Construction	9.41%
Consumer Services	1.18%
Education	3.53%
Energy, Utilities & Waste Treatment	2.35%
Finance	2.35%
Government	1.18%
Healthcare	9.41%
Hospitality	1.18%
IT	5.88%
Legal Services	4.71%
Manufacturing	16.47%
Organisations	2.35%
Real Estate	1.18%
Retail	11.76%
Telecom	2.35%
Transportation	5.88%

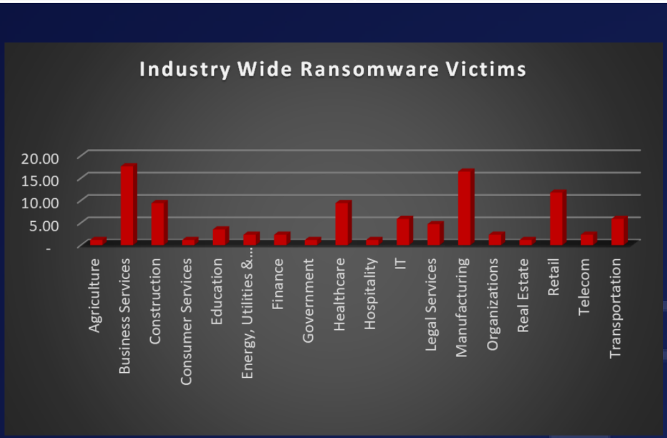


Figure 5: Industry-wise Ransomware Victims