



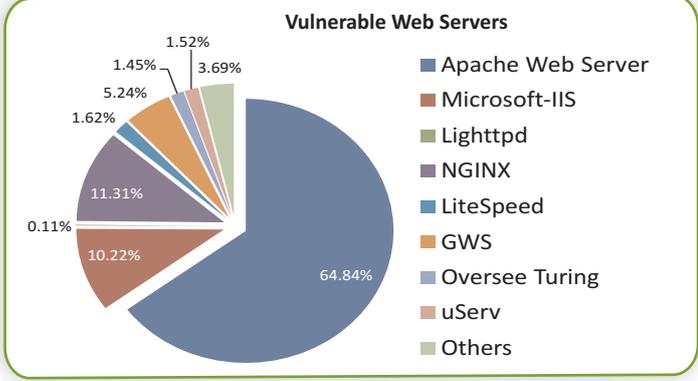
Malware Report

(December 2012)

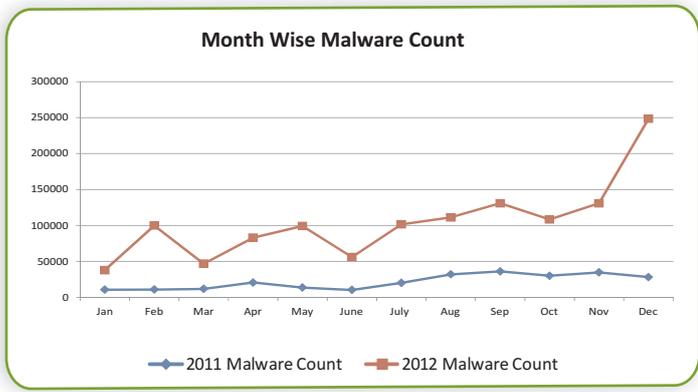
One would ask why? Why would anyone go to such an extent of linking each and every machine with a unique ID? Why wouldn't you, especially

malware and a user who opens every known email is bound to get infected.

We have said this before and we will say it again, APTs or Advanced Persistent Threats are only going to increase with time. These threats are extremely specific in nature and targeted towards a defined set of audience. But who knows, wouldn't this also be the best way to siphon off millions of credit card numbers and personal details over a set period of time? Having said that, Red October is by no means small but at the same time it cannot be concluded as a state sponsored attack, it will probably take us months to come to a final conclusion.



when half the world has been targeted. The scale of this attack is huge, from Governments to Diplomats to Nuclear/Energy Research to oil and gas companies have been targeted. Let's not leave out Military, Aerospace, Research Institutions have also been under the scope of this malware for the last 5 years where terabytes of data have been stolen. With that said, the information stolen is of the highest value and can be sold to the highest bidder in various underground forums.



The discovery of Red October has clearly shown us that malware has in fact progressed to much higher standards and methods of infection. The very fact that it's taken 5 years to detect the distribution of Red October itself shows that we are continuously a step back at detecting APT based threats. However, the success of infecting a user's system thoroughly depends on how vulnerable he or his system is. Both the user and his system go hand in hand as a system without the regular updates act as an open invitation to



Disclaimer

The above report is based on malware URL collected for the month of December, 2012 and is a representation of the growth in malware infected URLs in the span of 1 month. The domains mentioned were found infected at the time of report creation. However, the domain/site/URL might be safe now as the infection may have been removed by the host. MicroWorld Technologies Inc. is not liable to any party for any direct, indirect, special or other consequential damages caused.

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