



# Practical Attacks against Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) Solutions

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Lacoon Mobile Security

- 7 years of security research
  - From PC to Mobile
- Researcher and developer at Lagoon Mobile Security
  - Analysing malware and researching trends to translate to business impact
  - Research around IOS and Android vulnerabilities and security events around the world

## This talk is NOT about:

- Dismiss VDI value as an enterprise mobile solution
- Specific vendor implementation

## This talk is about:

- Quantifying risks that can compromise VDI sessions
- Providing a framework to assess and mitigate the risks

- Mobile VDI 101
- Practical Mobile Threats against VDI
- Augmenting VDI with Defense-in-Depth Mobile Security
- Conclusions

Threat  
1

In the Wild mRAT Key-loggers / Android

Threat  
2

Grabbing credentials locally / Android

Threat  
3

Screen-scraping/ Android

Threat  
4

MitM Session Hijacking / iOS

# Mobile VDI 101

# Enablement

Simplify IT support of BYO devices

It can meet the increasing demand for BYO initiatives by delivering apps and desktops as an on-demand service.



# DLP / Lost Device

On-demand session



No content is saved on the device

# Intrusion

“Virtual desktop security to protect sensitive information

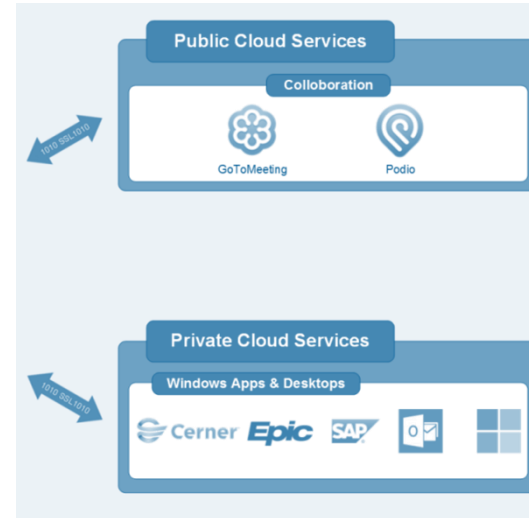
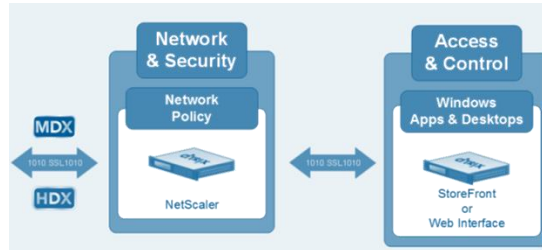
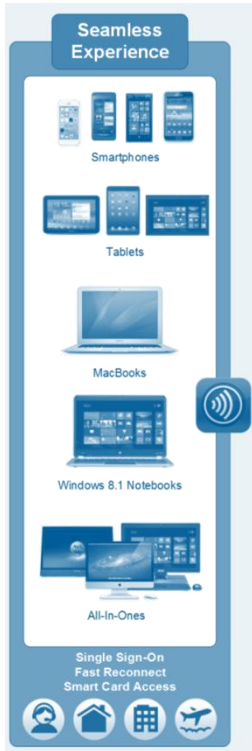
Centrally secured virtual desktops and apps in the datacenter reduce the risk of data loss or intrusion when delivered to any device. Corporate access remains secure while intellectual property and sensitive private information stays safe.”

Good  
Marketing





# VDI Architecture - Example



## VDI Players

2 major mobile VDI enterprise players:

- Citrix
- VMware

# Threats to Mobile VDI Solutions

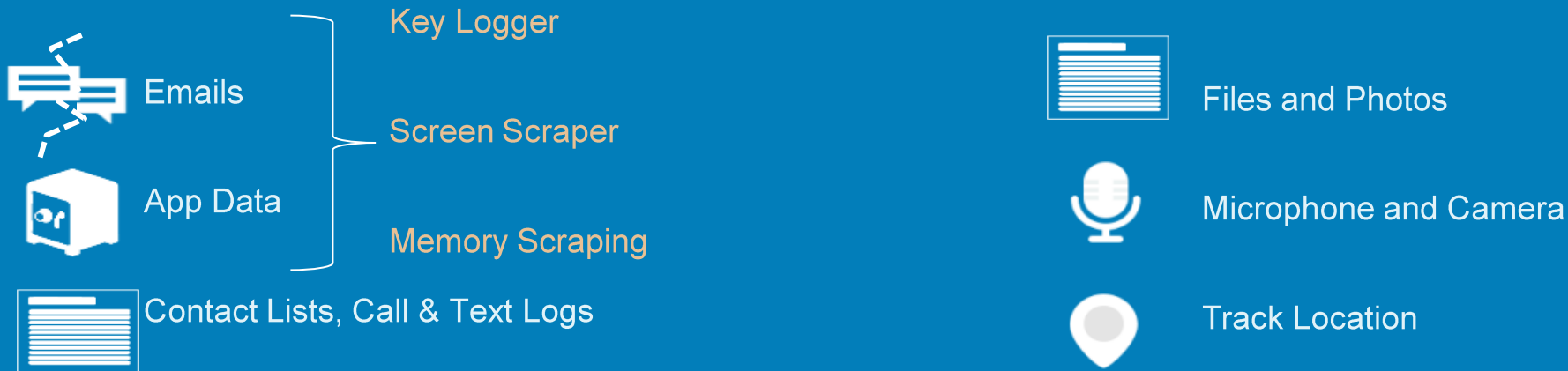


# Using an mRAT for its Keylogging Capabilities

## Threat 1



# What is a Mobile Remote Access Trojan (mRAT)



# Recent High-Profiled Examples

## Eyes on you: Experts reveal police

AP 8:55 a.m. EDT June 25, 2014



(Photo: Raphael Satter/AP)

f 55 | t 35 | in 2 | COMMENT | EMAIL | MORE

LONDON (AP) -- Law enforcement agencies across the globe are taking a page out of the hacker's handbook, using targets' own phones and computers to spy on them with methods traditionally associated with cybercriminals, two computer security groups said Tuesday.

## The Careto/Mask APT: Frequently Asked Questions



GRaT

Kaspersky Lab Expert

Posted February 10, 18:46 GMT


Tags: Rootkits, Targeted Attacks, Keyloggers, Zero-day vulnerabilities, Cyber espionage

## Dissecting the Android KorBanker malware

IN ANDROID, NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS / ON NOVEMBER 28, 2013 AT 4:05 AM /



KorBanker is a malware currently making the rounds on Android devices.

 **Parmy Olson**, Forbes Staff  
I cover agitators and innovators in mobile.  
[+ Follow](#) (561)

TECH | 3/26/2013 @ 8:32PM | 4,646 views

## First-Known Targeted Malware Attack On Android Phones Steals Contacts And Text Messages

FinFisher spyware goes global, mobile and undercover  
Report claims to have found C&C servers in 25 countries

By **Phil Muncaster** • [Get more from this author](#)

Posted in [Security](#), 19th March 2013 06:34 GMT

[Free whitepaper – IT infrastructure monitoring strategies](#)

Security researchers have warned that the controversial FinFisher spyware has been updated to evade detection and has now been discovered in 25 countries across the globe, many of them in APAC.

## Mobile attacks!

0.3



Victor Chebyshev

Kaspersky Lab Expert

Posted February 01, 12:31 GMT

Tags: Mobile Malware, Google Android

Users of inexpensive Android smartphones typically look for ways to accelerate their devices, for example, by freeing up memory. Demand for software that makes smartphones work a little faster creates supply, some of which happens to be malicious. In addition to legitimate applications, apps that only pretend to clean up the system have appeared on Google Play.

- Attacked the Hong Kong protesters
- Targetted both android and iOS
- More details in our blog:
  - [www.lacoon.com/blog](http://www.lacoon.com/blog)

# mRAT Spectrum

FinSpy Mobile

]HackingTeam[

DROPOUTJEEP  
ANT Product Data



Gov / Mil mRATs

\$300K-\$12M

Government -> Terrorists / Activists



Darknet mRATs

Free - \$300

Cybercriminal -> ?



Surveillance /  
Monitoring Tools

Free - \$100

Everyone -> Everyone



]HackingTeam[

“Hacking Team is really a very basic software with a public payload based on CVE bugs PUBLIC. Not different than any commercial spyware on internet. Even with lower features.”

-- Mobile Malware Google Group



Gov / Mil mRATs

\$300K-\$12M

Government -> Terrorists / Activists

Surveillance /  
Monitoring Tools

Free - \$100

Everyone -> Everyone

# Commercial Surveillance Software

## CELL PHONE SPY SOFTWARE REVIEWS

| RANK                   | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4                           | 5                               | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10   |
|------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                        | <b>MSPY</b>   | <b>MOBI STEALTH</b>                                  | <b>SPYBUBBLE</b>                                     | <b>STEALTH GENIE</b>        | <b>ECLASTER MOBILE</b>          | <b>FLEXSPY</b>                                       | <b>MOBILESPY</b>                                     | <b>HIGHSTER MOBILE</b>   | <b>SPYERA</b>  | <b>SPY PHONETAP</b>                                      |
| Visit WebSite          | <a href="#">GO</a>  | <a href="#">GO</a>                                   | <a href="#">GO</a>                                   | <a href="#">GO</a>          | <a href="#">GO</a>              | <a href="#">GO</a>                                   | <a href="#">GO</a>                                   | <a href="#">GO</a>   | <a href="#">GO</a>   | <a href="#">GO</a>                                       |
| Review                 | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                                       | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                          | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                          | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a> | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>     | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                          | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                          | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                                      | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                                | <a href="#">READ REVIEW</a>                              |
| FEATURES               |   |  |  |                             |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| OS Support ⓘ           | Android, iPhone, iPad, BlackBerry, Symbian, Nokia, Windows Mobile | Android, iPhone, BlackBerry, Symbian, Windows Mobile | iPhone, Android, BlackBerry, Windows Mobile, Symbian | Android, iPhone, BlackBerry | Android, BlackBerry             | Android, iPhone, BlackBerry, Symbian, Windows Mobile | iPhone, Android, BlackBerry, Windows Mobile, Symbian | iPhone, BlackBerry, Android, Symbian, S60, Nokia, Windows Mobile | iPhone, iPad, BlackBerry, Android, Symbian, Windows Mobile | iPhone, Android, BlackBerry, Nokia phone, Windows Mobile |
| SPY on Calls ⓘ         | ✓   | ✗  | ✓  | ✓                           | ✗                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| SPY on SMS and MMS ⓘ   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓  | ✓                           | ✓                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| SPY on Emails ⓘ        | ✓   | ✗  | ✓  | ✓                           | ✓                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✗  |
| Track GPS Location ⓘ   | ✓   | ✓  | ✓  | ✓                           | ✓                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Monitor Internet Use ⓘ | ✓<br>Browsing History, Website Bookmarks, Blocking Websites       | ✓<br>Browsing Website History                        | ✓<br>URL Tracking                                    | ✓<br>Browsing History       | ✓<br>Browsing History           | ✗  | ✓<br>Browsing History                                | ✗  | ✗  | ✗  |
| Access Address Book ⓘ  | ✓   | ✗  | ✓  | ✓                           | ✗                               | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✓  | ✗  |
| Access Calendar ⓘ      | ✓   | ✗  | ✗  | ✓                           | ✗                               | ✗  | ✗  | ✗  | ✗  | ✗  |
| Instant Messages ⓘ     | ✓<br>Skype, WhatsApp, iMessage                                    | ✓<br>Skype   | ✗  | ✓<br>Skype, Gtalk, BBM      | ✓<br>BlackBerry Messenger chats | ✓<br>WhatsApp, BlackBerry Messages                   | ✓  | ✗  | ✓<br>BBM, Facebook chat                                    | ✗  |

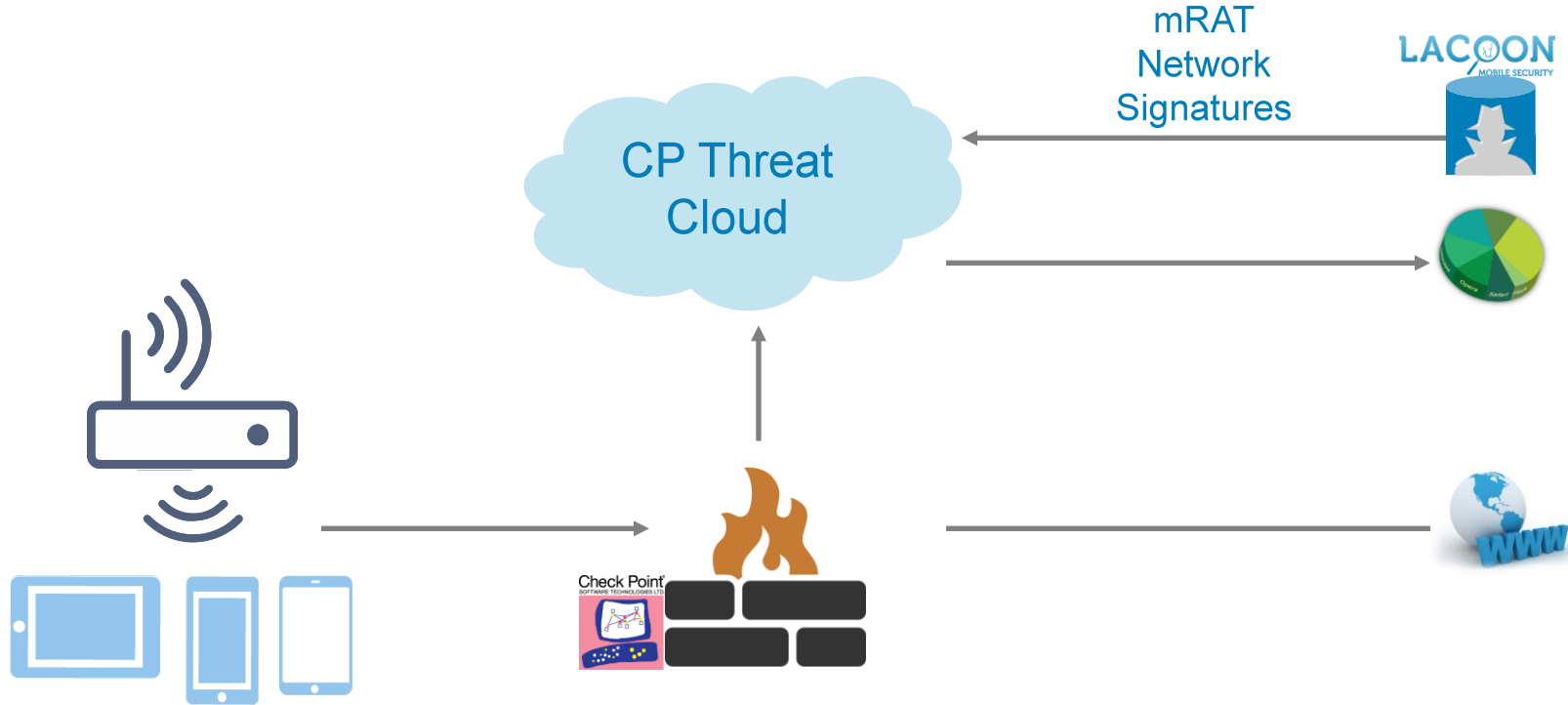
## *Data sample*

Mobile devices communicating through corporate WiFi access points, connected to the Checkpoint firewall

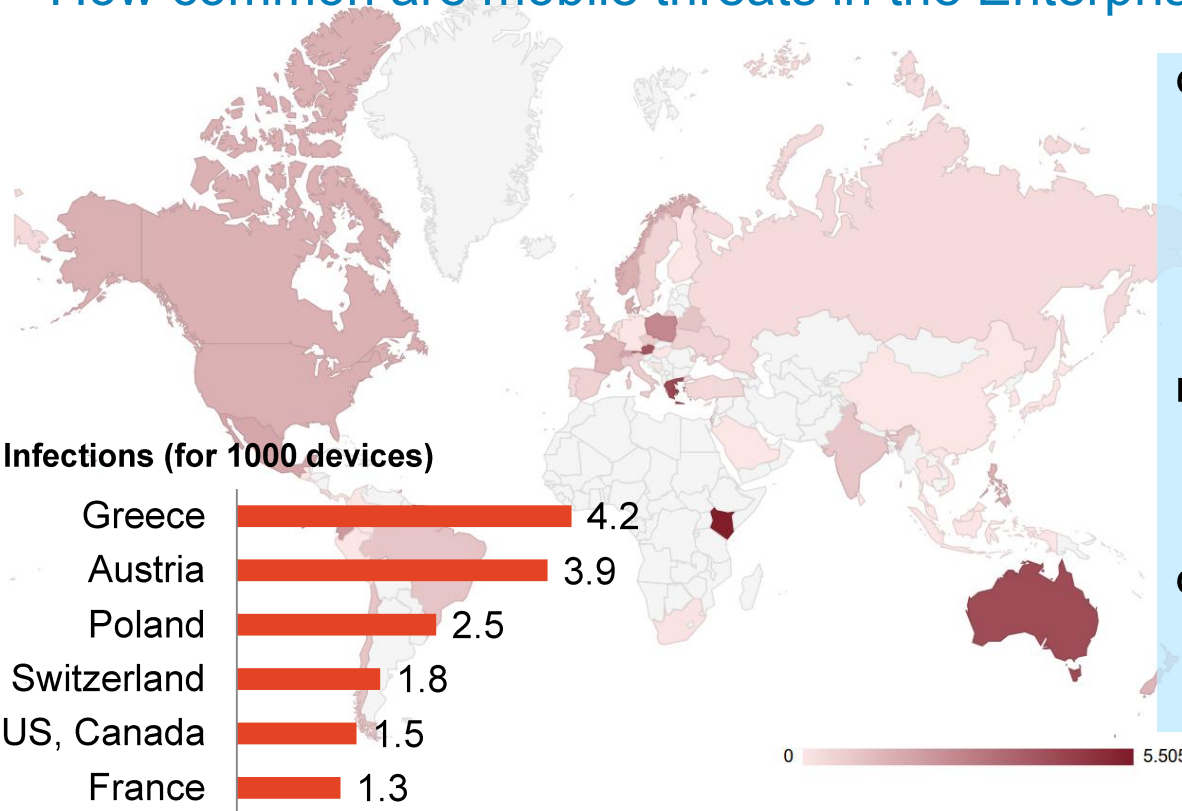
Traffic from 3208 corporate gateways

# Survey: mRATs in the Enterprise

## A Checkpoint-Lacoon Research



# How common are mobile threats in the Enterprise?



## General Research:

- 3208 corporate gateways
- 123 countries (48 with infections)
- 506 gateways with infections
- 570k android devices
- 4500 infected android devices
- 3200 infected iOS devices

## Infection Rate Estimate

- 220 gateways with device estimation
- Infected devices: 644
- 1.2 devices per 1000: (0.12%)

## Gateways with at least 2000 devices

- 50% have infections
- Higher infection rate (2.2 in the US)
- 1 in every 3 devices infected is an iOS

- What's 0.1% infection rate to me?
  - 5000 device enterprise – average 5 infected devices
- Is my enterprise at risk?
  - For a 2000 device enterprise – 50% chance of infection

- Looked at both solutions
  - Test servers (citrixcloud, pivot3's testdrive)
- Vmware is more of a slim VDI while Citrix has additional capabilities
- Very configurable
- Both provide a myriad of clients and login capabilities

# Threat 1

## Using a Widely Popular mRAT on an Android-based Device

- Keylogging for data or authentication info
- mSpy
  - Checkpoint-Lacoon “mRATs in the Enterprise” survey
    - Mostly used in the enterprise
    - Detected in 48 countries, such as USA, Britain, and France

Cost: >\$50





#1 MOBILE TRACKING APP

Q5501

Help

Set up new phone

Add Device

All time



Search



Dashboard

Contacts

Call Logs

Text Messages

Call Recordings

Locations

### Keylogger Panel

● Keyboard Enabled

All Keylogger

APPLICATION NAME

LOGGED TEXT

TIME

|          |                      |          |                     |
|----------|----------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Receiver | MechanicalSheep      | View All | 06/10/2014 01:00 AM |
| Receiver | Rick.Deckard         | View All | 06/10/2014 12:59 AM |
| Receiver | demo.citrixcloud.net | View All | 06/10/2014 12:57 AM |

- Repackage keyboard – done on SwiftKey in 2013
  - Used by mRAT's as a custom keyboard
  - Targetting a country is as easy as repackaging its language pack
- MitM on the active input method – grants the BIND\_INPUT\_METHOD permission
  - Pretty complicated and requires elevated privileges
- Input Manager Service is a native process, hooking it at the InputDispatcher->dispatchOnce gives access to all input events
  - Practically all Android ROMs use default symbol visibility

# Grabbing Credentials Locally on Android

## Threat 2



## Threat 2

### Grabbing Credentials Locally on Android

- Keylogging has its own problems
- Target the client itself to grab credentials

# Threat 2

## Grabbing Credentials Locally on Android

1. Run a Privilege Elevation vulnerability
  1. TowelRoot (CVE-2014-315), VROOT (CVE-2013-6282),...
  2. Exploit does not leave identifiable root marks unless programmed to
2. Enable jdwp debugging on all the apps installed on the device
3. Connect as a debugger to the VDI client
4. Set a breakpoint on a function that handles the credentials

```
Initializing jdb ...  
> stop in com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncntasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchApp  
Set breakpoint com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncntasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchApp  
>  
Breakpoint hit: "thread=<15> AsyncTask #2",  
com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncntasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchApp  
15: AsyncTask #2 [1] [ready]
```

```
Breakpoint hit: "thread=<15> AsyncTask #2",  
com.citrix.client.pnagent.asynctasks.DownloadIcaFileAnd  
<15> AsyncTask #2[1] locals  
Method arguments:  
inName = "citrixcloud:WWCo Company Overview"  
launchUrl = instance of java.net.URL(id=830045825864)  
Local variables:  
...
```

Initializing jdb ...

```
> stop in com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncTasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchEngineTask.getIcaFileStream  
Set breakpoint com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncTasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchEngineTask.getIcaFileStream  
>
```

Breakpoint hit: "thread=<15> AsyncTask #2",

com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncTasks.DownloadIcaFileAndLaunchEngineTask.getIcaFileStream(), line=138 bci=0

<15> AsyncTask #2[1] locals

Method arguments:

inName = "citrixcloud:WWCo Company Overview"

launchUrl = instance of java.net.URL(id=830045825864)

Local variables:

...

userName = "Rick.Deckard"

password = instance of char[4] (id=830041554744)

domain = "citrixcloud"

taskResult = instance of com.citrix.client.pnagent.asyncTasks.results.AsyncTaskResult(id=830046472704)

<15> AsyncTask #2[1]

<15> AsyncTask #2[1] dump password

```
password = {  
d, e, m, o  
}
```



```
Local variables:
```

```
...  
userName = "Rick.Deckard"
```

```
password = instance of char[4] (id=830041554744)
```

```
domain = "citrixcloud"
```

```
taskResult = instance of com.citrix.client.pnagent.as
```

```
<15> AsyncTask #2[1]
```

```
<15> AsyncTask #2[1] dump password
```

```
password = {  
d, e, m, o  
}
```

- By ptrace-ing the init process to dynamically change the ro.debuggable property
  - Similar to what setpropx does
- By starting the jdwp thread in the relevant process
  - Easily done by calling the dvmJdwpStartup with ptrace

## JDWP

easy way to simply sit on a specific java function after enabling debugging

## XPosed / Cydia Substrate

Also great way to dynamically hook a function without needing to resort to debugging

- Uses a small jar injected into every process by zygote to initiate hooking, dalvik changes not necessary
- Can be hidden with root privileges

# Screen Scraping against Android

## Threat 3



# Threat 3

## Screen Scraping against Android

### Two possible methods

- Leverage the clipboard access support
- Record the screen automatically when the mRAT detects that the VDI client is connected

## Run a Privilege Escalation vulnerability


- TowelRoot (CVE-2014-315), VROOT (CVE-2013-6282),...
- Exploit does not leave identifiable root marks

Monitor the current foreground activity using standard Android APIs  
getRunningTasks/getForegroundApp

Inject keyboard events to cause content to be copied from the file to the clipboard

- Using InputManager's injectInputEvent (as root/system) we can inject input events
- Specifically Ctrl+A, Ctrl+C will work for most interesting applications

## Inside the VDI client



**Pivot**  **Field Procedure**

**Subject:** How to Install a Teradici Apex 2800 card into vSTAC VDI

**Release Date:** 06/06/2012

**Version:** 0.01

**Procedure Summary**  
This procedure augments Teradici's Quick Start Guide for the Teradici APEX 2800 Server Offload Card by including additional instructions for installing into Pivot's vSTAC VDI appliance.

**Products Affected**  
vSTAC VDI, P Cubed for vSTAC OS 5.2.0 and newer

**Procedure Steps**  
**Important First Step**

Activate  
Go to PC s

## Data extracted from VDI client

### Field Procedure

**Subject:** How to Install a Teradici Apex 2800 card into vSTAC VDI  
**Release Date:** 06/06/2012  
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This procedure augments Teradici's Quick Start Guide for the Teradici APEX 2800 Server Offload Card by including additional instructions for installing into Pivot's vSTAC VDI appliance.

### Products Affected

vSTAC VDI, P Cubed for vSTAC OS 5.2.0 and newer

### Procedure Steps

#### Important First Step

Verify that the vSTAC is running vSTAC OS 5.2.0 or newer. Upgrade if necessary.

### Hardware Installation

- Shut down the vSTAC Storage Array utilizing vSTAC Manager.
- Place the vSTAC into Maintenance Mode, power down, and remove cables.
- Slide off the top cover.
- Remove the 10 GbE card from the middle PCI-X slot.
- Plug the APEX 2800 card into the lowest PCI-X slot.
- Plug the 10 GbE card back into the middle PCI-X slot.
- Slide the top cover on.
- Plug in power cables, and power up the appliance.

### ESXi Driver Package Installation

Follow Teradici's instructions for installing the VIB with the exception that the esxcli command must include the --force option. That is,

1. Run a Privilege Escalation vulnerability
  - TowelRoot (CVE-2014-315), VROOT (CVE-2013-6282),...
  - Exploit does not leave identifiable root marks
2. Monitor the current foreground activity using standard Android APIs
  - `getRunningTasks/getForegroundApp`
3. Start recording the screen using one of the recording apis (go into depth)
  - 4.4 has a nice new screenrecorder – but possible even earlier by accessing framebuffer
  - `SurfaceView.setSecure` would need to be patched on 4.2 and up

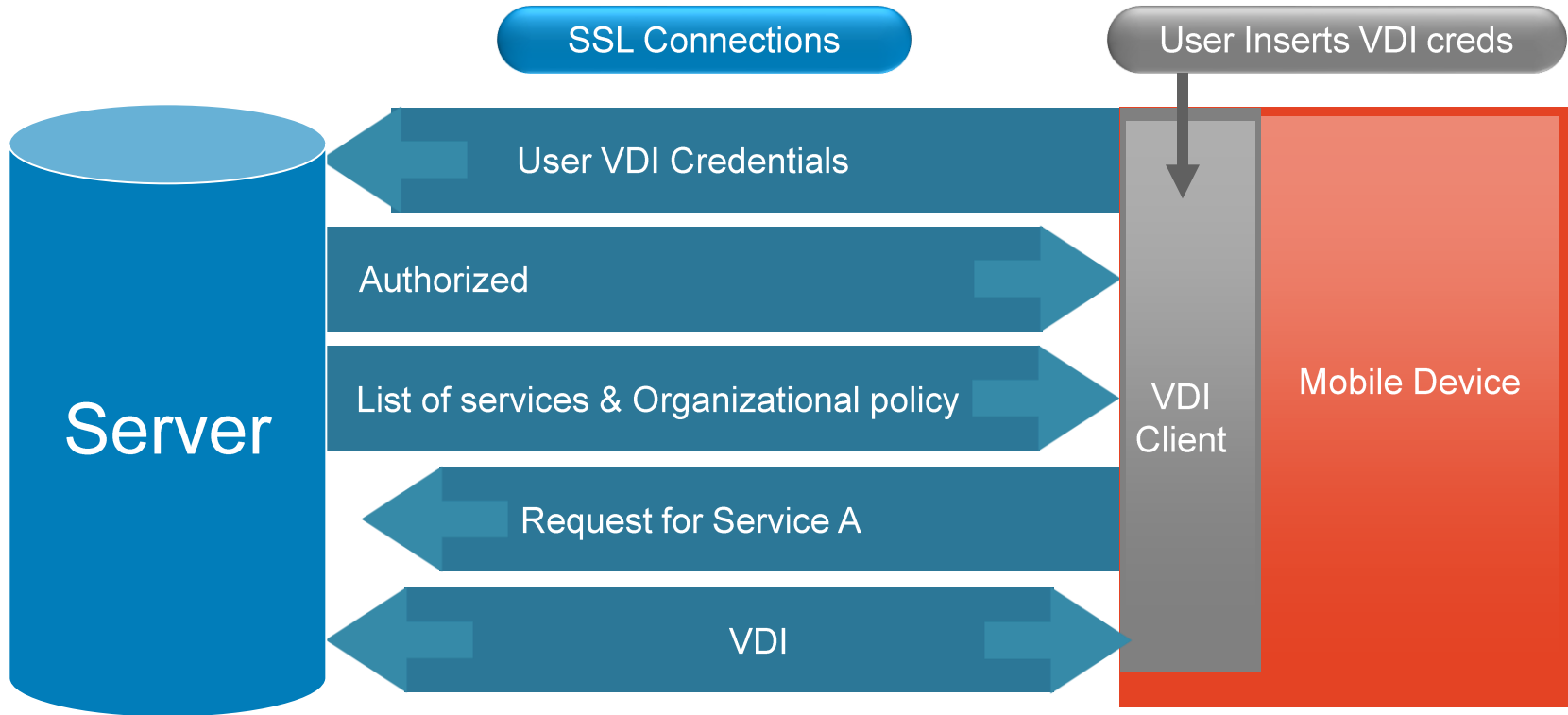


# Man-in-the-middle (MITM)

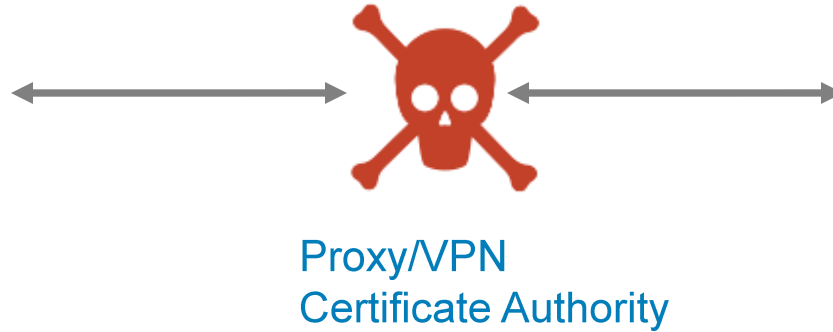
Threat 4



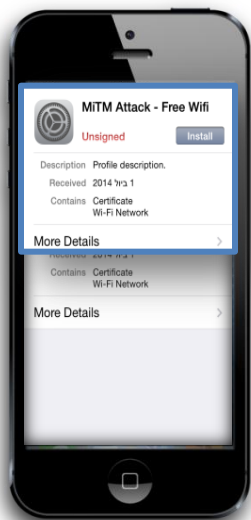
# VDI Protocol Flow



# Malicious Configuration Profiles



# Threat #4: MitM against iOS



This is an email with a phishing link to a configuration profile. It will be replaced with a screenshot.

```
INFO:mitm.MITMServer:Found user/pass in url http://demo.citrixcloud.net/citrix/pnagent/launch.aspx  
INFO:mitm.MITMServer:Got username=Rick.Deckard password=demo
```



VDI Server

- Duplicating the actual screen/input stream to a separate machine
  - VmWare Horizon Viewer uses either a proprietary protocol or RDP
  - Citrix Receiver uses a proprietary protocol called ICA – not widely analyzed yet
- Simulate commands to the client and/or server
  - Can be used to do implementation specific actions, including gaining VPN credentials, etc...

# Conclusions

VDI depends on the integrity of the host system

- Protects the data as long as the device is uncompromised
- If the underlying device is compromised, so is the VDI solution

# Mobile VDI Motivation

Key Requirements for BYOD / CYOD

- Enablement
- DLP / Lost Device
- Intrusion



# Mobile VDI Motivation

Key Requirements for BYOD / CYOD

- Enablement
- DLP / Lost Device
- Intrusion





# Building the necessary mobile security strategy

# A Layered Mobile Security Approach

A multi-layer approach to mobile security.

Detect. Assess. Respond to Mobile Threats.

# A Layered Mobile Security Approach

Advanced  
Mobile  
Threat  
Detection

- Anomaly detection in: Device, Application, Network and configuration data

Mobile Vulnerability  
Assessment

- Reduce attack surface

Mobile  
Risk  
Mitigation

- Integration to VDI and SIEM
- on-demand network/device mitigation

# Thanks to those that helped on the Checkpoint-Lacoon mRATs in the Enterprise Survey!

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- Pavel Berengoltz
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- Inbar Raz
- Alon Kantor
- Irena Damsky
- Hadass Rozenal
- Maya Horowitz



Thank You!

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[www.lagoon.com/blog](http://www.lagoon.com/blog)