## **Ingress Tool Transfer**

## What is Ingress Tool Transfer?

Ingress Tool Transfer is a technique where adversaries transfer the tools and files that they need to the compromised endpoint. The files are copied from Command and Control servers, downloaded from the internet or transferred using protocols such as FTP. [1]

## **Ingress Tool Transfer Exploitation**

According to the *Red Canary 2022 Threat Detection Report* [2], the exploitation of *Ingress Tool Transfer* was ranked 5th, as one of the most exploited techniques observed in 2021. Red Canary observed this technique being exploited in **20.4%** of organizations.

# What MITRE ATTACK [3] framework technique ID is applied to Obfuscated Files or Information Exploitation?

• The technique ID assigned to *Ingress Tool Transfer* is **T1105**.

#### What type of Tactic uses this technique?

Provide a name and a brief description of the Tactic that this technique falls under.

· Command and Control

Command and Control consists of techniques that adversaries may use to communicate with systems under their control within a victim network. Adversaries commonly attempt to mimic normal, expected traffic to avoid detection. There are many ways an adversary can establish command and control with various levels of stealth depending on the victim's network structure and defenses.

- MITRE ATTACK Framework: Command and Control [4]

## **Ingress Tool Transfer Techniques**

#### Why do malicious actors use Ingress Tool Transfer?

There are many tools available on an operating system that can be abused in order to further an attacker's goals. However, in an enterprise environment, some tools will be disabled or unavailable for the attacker to use. Certain tools may also trigger an alert if they are used.

It is for these reasons that an adversary move their own sets of tools to a target machine. These tools may be self written programs, or renamed windows tools. The process of moving these tools to the target machine is what gives this technique it's name.

#### What can Malicious Actors use Ingress Tool Transfer for?

*Ingress Tool Transfer* is the technique used to move the adversaries required set of tools to the target machine. [5] The adversary may download:

- Executables
- Scripts
- Binaries

In addition to importing their own tools, an adversary will abuse any tools available in order to achieve their goals and your focus should not only be on suspicious unknown applications, but also on the Operating Systems native tool sets operating in a peculiar manor (*Obfuscation* on the command line).

An attacker may also rename tools in order to avoid signature detection based on the name.

# Can you name any significant Groups or Software that leverage Ingress Tool Transfer for malicious activity?

Groups are sets of related intrusion activity that are tracked by a common name in the security community. Analysts track clusters of activities using various analytic methodologies and terms such as threat groups, activity groups, threat actors, intrusion sets, and campaigns. Some groups have multiple names associated with similar activities due to various organizations tracking similar activities by different names. Organizations' group definitions may partially overlap with groups designated by other organizations and may disagree on specific activity.

- MITRE ATTACK Framework: Groups [6]

This technique has been leveraged by some large cybercrime organizations, state actors and in significant breaches over the past number of years.

Please provide the groups name, a brief description of the group and the exploit used.

Group	Description	Exploit Used
Cobalt Group	Cobalt Group is a financially motivated threat group that has primarily targeted financial institutions since at least 2016.	Cobalt Group has used public sites such as github.com and sendspace.com to upload files and then download them to victim computers. The group's JavaScript backdoor is also capable of downloading files.
Cobalt Strike	Cobalt Strike is a commercial, full-featured, remote access tool that bills itself as "adversary simulation software designed to execute targeted attacks and emulate the post-exploitation actions of advanced threat actors".	Cobalt Strike can deliver additional payloads to victim machines.
Sandworm Team	Sandworm Team is a destructive threat group that has been attributed to Russia's General Staff Main Intelligence Directorate (GRU) Main Center for Special Technologies (GTsST) military unit 74455.	Sandworm Team has pushed additional malicious tools onto an infected system to steal user credentials, move laterally, and destroy data.
TrickBot	TrickBot is a Trojan spyware program written in C++ that first emerged in September 2016.	TrickBot downloads several additional files and saves them to the victim's machine.

## What can you do to mitigate against Ingress Tool Transfer exploitation?

Please research mitigations and provide the type and a short description of the mitigation techniques.

ID	Mitigation	Description
M1031	Network Intrusion Prevention	Network intrusion detection and prevention systems that use network signatures to identify traffic for specific adversary malware or unusual data transfer over known tools and protocols like FTP can be used to mitigate activity at the network level.
		Signatures are often for unique indicators within protocols and may be based on the specific obfuscation technique used by a particular adversary or tool, and will likely be different across various malware families and versions. Adversaries will likely change tool C2 signatures over time or construct protocols in such a way as to avoid detection by common defensive tools.

### How can this type of attack be detected?

There are many ways that we can detect an adversary dropping tools onto an endpoint. Some of those are as follows:

- Monitor for file creation logs.
- Monitor for files transferred onto the network (Downloads, FTP, etc.)
- Monitor for files that request to make an outbound network connection.
- Monitor for high network traffic on a device.
- Monitor for devices that would not normally be active on the network.

ID	Data Source	Data Component
DS0022	File	File Creation
DS0029	Network Traffic	Network Connection Creation
		Network Traffic Content
		Network Traffic Flow

Performing regular compromise assessments within an environment is also very beneficial to the organization and can also help with detecting threats, both past and present.

Compromise assessments are high-level investigations where skilled teams utilize advanced tools to dig more deeply into their environment to identify ongoing or past attacker activity in addition to identifying existing weaknesses in controls and practices.

- CrowdStrike [7]

These tests are usually performed by vulnerability scanners, and will assess the company's infrastructure. The scans will usually incorporate searching for known *Indicators of Compromise* (IOC) from recently investigated attacks.

An Indicator of Compromise (IOC) is a piece of digital forensics that suggests that an endpoint or network may have been breached. Just as with physical evidence, these digital clues help information security professionals identify malicious activity or security threats, such as data breaches, insider threats or malware attacks.

- CrowdStrike [8]

Indicators of Compromise includes:

- Files Hashes
- IP Addresses
- Sign in Activity from unexpected countries.
- Large volumes of sign in requests.

## **Log Collection**

Listed below are log events to track:

- · Sysmon Event ID 1: Process creation
- Sysmon Event ID 3: Network connection
- Sysmon Event ID 11: File create
- Sysmon Event ID 22: DNS event
- Windows Security Event ID 4688: Process Creation

## **Ingress Tool Transfer Demonstration**

In this section, we will demonstrate some of the tactics that can be performed with WMI and then to view the logs to get an idea for what you should look for.

To help with this section, please open the GitHub link for the Atomic Red Team atomics page for WMI.

https://github.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/blob/master/atomics/T1105/T1105.md

### T1105

From the Atomic Red Team GitHub for the technique *T1105: # Ingress Tool Transfer* shows that there are 20 tests built into the Atomic Red Team toolset.

It may not be possible to run all the tests, however we will run a couple so that you can view any relevant log information

## **Step 1: Open Client Machine**

- Open the Windows 10 machine connected to the Detection Lab configuration.
- Open PowerShell.

## Step 2: Confirm that Invoke-AtomicTest is Installed

• Confirm that the <a href="Invoke-AtomicTest">Invoke-AtomicTest</a> cmdlet is installed correctly. This command will install this module.

Install-Module -Name invoke-atomicredteam, powershell-yaml -Scope CurrentUser

- Type A to confirm installing the Module.
- If the module is already installed, you will not be prompted to accept.

Further Reading about the installation process:

• <a href="https://github.com/redcanaryco/invoke-atomicredteam/wiki/Installing-Atomic-Red-Team">https://github.com/redcanaryco/invoke-atomicredteam/wiki/Installing-Atomic-Red-Team</a>

```
Windows PowerShell

PS C:\Users\user> Install-Module -Name invoke-atomicredteam, powershell-yaml -Scope CurrentUser

Untrusted repository
You are installing the modules from an untrusted repository. If you trust this repository, change its
InstallationPolicy value by running the Set-PSRepository cmdlet. Are you sure you want to install the modules from
'PSGallery'?
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "N"): A
```

## **Step 3: Check the Prerequisites for T1027**

• We need to confirm that all the prerequisites for the tests are available and installed correctly.

```
Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -CheckPrereqs
```

• As we can see from the screenshot below, only one test does not have the required resources to complete.

```
Windows PowerShell
                                                                                                                                                     П
                                                                                                                                                              ×
PS C:\Users\user> Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -CheckPrereqs
PathToAtomicsFolder = C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics
Using Logger: Default-ExecutionLogger
All logging commands found
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-7 certutil download (urlcache)
Prerequisites met: T1105-7 certutil download (urlcache)
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-8 certutil download (verifyctl)
Prerequisites met: T1105-8 certutil download (verifyctl)
Prerequisites met: 1105-9 Windows - BITSAdmin BITS Download
Prerequisites met: T1105-9 Windows - BITSAdmin BITS Download
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-10 Windows - PowerShell Download
Prerequisites met: T1105-10 Windows - PowerShell Download
          [*] Elevation required but not provided
Try installing prereq's with the -GetPrereqs switch
          [*] Elevation required but not provided
Try installing prereq's with the -GetPrereqs switch
          [*] Must have one of these Windows Defender versions installed: 4.18.2007.8-0, 4.18.2007.9, or 4.18.2009.9
Try installing prereq's with the -GetPrereqs switch
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-15 File Download via PowerShell
Prerequisites met: T1105-15 File Download via PowerShell
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-16 File download with finger.exe on Windows
Prerequisites met: T1105-16 File download with finger.exe on Windows
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-17 Download a file with IMEWDBLD.exe
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-19 Curl Upload File
          [*] A file must be created to upload
Try installing prereq's with the -GetPrereqs switch
CheckPrereq's for: T1105-20 Download a file with Microsoft Connection Manager Auto-Download Prerequisites met: T1105-20 Download a file with Microsoft Connection Manager Auto-Download
PS C:\Users\user> 🕳
```

## **Step 4: Get the Prerequisites for T1105**

• Install the resources required to complete the relevant tests.

```
Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -GetPrereqs
```

```
Windows PowerShell
                                                                                                                                Х
PS C:\Users\user> Invoke-AtomicTest T1105
PathToAtomicsFolder = C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics
Using Logger: Default-ExecutionLogger
All logging commands found
No Preqs Defined
GetPrereq's for: T1105-8 certutil download (verifyctl)
No Pregs Defined
GetPrereq's for: T1105-9 Windows - BITSAdmin BITS Download
No Pregs Defined
GetPrereq's for: T1105-10 Windows - PowerShell Download
No Pregs Defined
GetPrereq's for: T1105-11 OSTAP Worming Activity
Elevation required but not provided
No Preqs Defined
Attempting to satisfy prereq: Must have one of these Windows Defender versions installed: 4.18.2007.8-0, 4.18.2007.9, or
Windows Defender verion 4.18.2007.8-0, 4.18.2007.9, or 4.18.2009.9 must be installed manually
GetPrereq's for: T1105-15 File Download via PowerShell
No Preas Defined
SetPrereq's for: T1105-16 File download with finger.exe on Windows
No Preas Defined
GetPrereq's for: T1105-17 Download a file with IMEWDBLD.exe
No Pregs Defined
SetPrereq's for: T1105-18 Curl Download File
Attempting to satisfy prereq: Curl must be installed on system.
Prereq already met: Curl must be installed on system.
GetPrereq's for: T1105-19 Curl Upload File
Attempting to satisfy prereq: Curl must be installed on system.
Prereq already met: Curl must be installed on system.
Attempting to satisfy prereq: A file must be created to upload
out-file : Could not find a part of the path 'C:\temp\atomictestfile.txt'.
At line:1 char:4
+ & {echo "This is an Atomic Test File" > c:\temp\atomictestfile.txt}
                           : OpenError: (:) [Out-File], DirectoryNotFoundException
   + FullyQualifiedErrorId : FileOpenFailure,Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.OutFileCommand
ietPrereq's for: T1105-20 Download a file with Microsoft Connection Manager Auto-Download
No Pregs Defined
PS C:\Users\user> 🕳
```

## **Step 5: Begin Testing**

I will choose a select few tests to demonstrate the commands used to generate the logs. All the tests can be executed at once, however I prefer to do it test-by-test.

Some tests are designed for Linux or Mac. Ensure that you are attempting to demonstrate the Windows Tests.

#### Test #7 - certutil download (urlcache)

This test will use certutil -urlcache to download a certificate from the internet.

certutil.exe is a program that can be used to display certificate authority (CA) configuration information, configure certificate services, backup and restore CA components, and verify certificates, key pairs, and certificate chains.

#### **Show Test Details**

Firstly, use the -ShowDetails switch to print the details of the specific test to the screen.

```
Windows PowerShell
                                                                                                                                         X
PS C:\Users\user> Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -TestNumbers 7
PathToAtomicsFolder = C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics
Using Logger: Default-ExecutionLogger
All logging commands found
[*******BEGIN TEST*******]
Technique: Ingress Tool Transfer T1105
Atomic Test Name: certutil download (urlcache)
Atomic Test Number:
Atomic Test GUID: dd3b61dd-7bbc-48cd-ab51-49ad1a776df0
Attack Commands:
Executor: command_prompt
Command (with inputs):
Cleanup Commands:
Command:
del #{local_path} >nul 2>&1
Command (with inputs):
```

#### **Execute Test**

• Next, we will run the test.

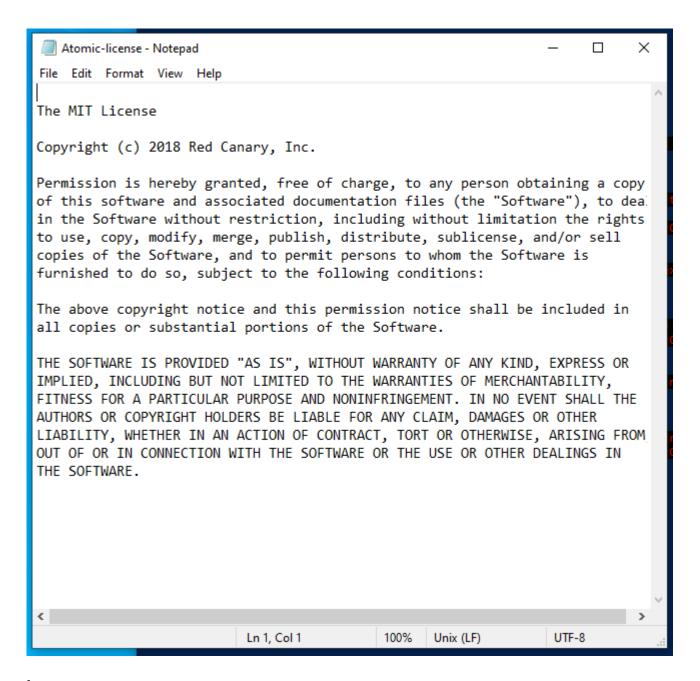
Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -TestNumbers 7

Windows PowerShell

PS C:\Users\user> Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -TestNumbers 7
PathToAtomicsFolder = C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics

Using Logger: Default-ExecutionLogger
All logging commands found
Executing test: T1105-7 certutil download (urlcache)
\*\*\*\*\* Online \*\*\*\*\*
CertUtil: -URLCache command completed successfully.
Done executing test: T1105-7 certutil download (urlcache)
PS C:\Users\user>

We can see from the testing, and the screenshot above, that testing was completed successfully. - The Atomic-license.txt file was successfully downloaded.



#### Logs

Next, open up the *Splunk - Search & Reporting* instance and begin searching for the log data surrounding the inputted commands.

Windows Event Process Creation Event (4688): index="wineventlog"
 ComputerName="win10.windomain.local" EventCode=4688
 process\_parent\_path="C:\\Windows\\System32\\cmd.exe" process\_command\_line="\"cmd /c
 certutil -urlcache -split -f https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/LICENSE.txt Atomic-license.txt\""

Sysmon Process Creation Event (1): index="sysmon" ComputerName="win10.windomain.local"
 CommandLine="\"cmd /c certutil -urlcache -split -f
 https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/LICENSE.txt Atomic-license.txt\""

```
i Time
                                                                                               Event
                                                                                                 04/23/2022 08:50:19 PM
LogName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational
EventCode=1
EventType=4
                            4/23/22
                             8:50:19.000 PM
                                                                                                    ComputerName=win10.windomain.local
                                                                                                    User=NOT_TRANSLATED
                                                                                                    Sid=S-1-5-18
SidType=0
                                                                                                    Sidlype=8
SourceName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysm
Type=Information
RecordNumber=56575
                                                                                                    TaskCategory=Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
                                                                                                     upcour=nn
Wessage=Process Create:
RuleName: technique_id=T1059,technique_name=Command-Line Interface
UtcTime: 2022-04-23 20:50:19,255
ProcessGuid: (2913fec3-668b-6264-320e-00000000700)
                                                                                                     ProcessId: 5092
                                                                                                     Image: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
                                                                                                    FileVersion: 10.0.18362.1 (WinBuild.160101.0800)
Description: Windows Command Processor
                                                                                                  Description: Windows Command Processor
Product: Microsoft Oindows@ Operating System
Company: Microsoft Corporation
OriginalFileName: Cand.Exe
Commandline: "cand /Exe
Commandl
                                                                                                    User: WIN10\vagrant
                                                                                                    LogonGuid: {2913fec3-c1b5-6262-ea8c-66000000000000}
                                                                                                       LogonId: 0x668CEA
                                                                                                    Lognill: oxesecx
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: High
Hashes: SHAT-ALBB04409PE892E52201866A2024A450828305, MS=905944231356SC2E0860888F3282277, SHA256=D0CEB18272966A86288E0F100E984A6A3CB50C0F2A3282818721FEA209C09A5, IMPHASH=272245E2988E1E4305008852C4FB5E18
ParentProcessiolid: (2913Fec3-6680-6264-300e-00000000700)
                                                                                                    ParentProcessId: 2876
                                                                                                    ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
                                                                                                    ParentCommanoLine: "cmd.exe" /c "cmd /c certutil -urlcache -split -f https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/LICENSE.txt Atomic-license.txt"
ParentUser: WINIOVagrant
                                                                                                 Parentlizer: xIII101vagrant

CommandLine* co
```

#### Test #9 - Windows - BITSAdmin BITS Download

This test used BITSAdmin.exe to schedule a job to download a file. - BITSAdmin.exe is a tool that can be used to create, download or upload jobs and to monitor their progress. [10]

#### **Show Test Details**

• Firstly, use the -ShowDetails switch to print the details of the specific test to the screen.

Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -TestNumbers 9 -ShowDetails

```
PS C:\Users\user> Invoke-AtomicTest T1105 -TestNumbers 9 -ShowDetails
PathToAtomicsFoIder = C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics

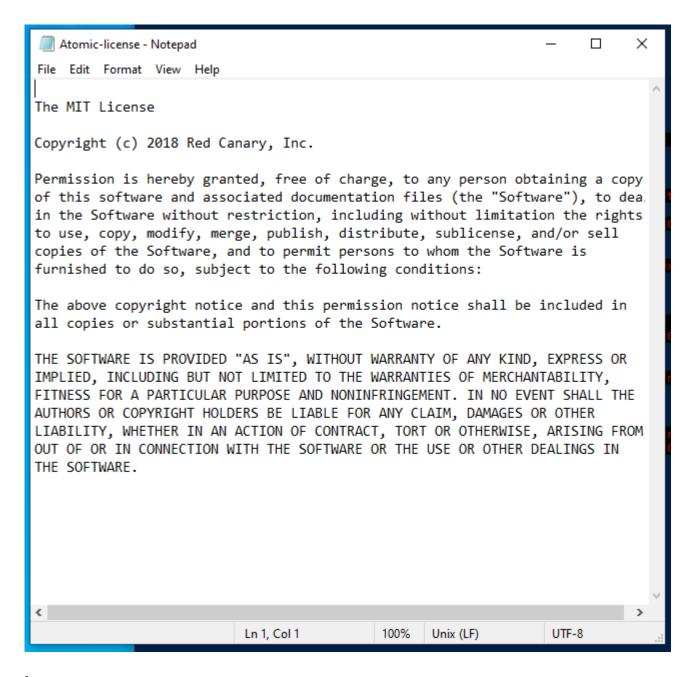
Using Logger: Default-ExecutionLogger
All logging commands found
[*******BEGIN TEST*******]
Technique: Ingress Tool Transfer T1105
Atomic Test Name: Windows - BITSAdmin BITS Download
Atomic Test Number: 9
Atomic Test GID: a1921cd3-9a2d-47d5-a891-fld0f2a7a31b
Description: This test uses BITSAdmin.exe to schedule a BITS job for the download of a file. This technique is used by Qb ot malware to download payloads.

Attack Commands:
Executor: command_prompt
ElevationRequired: False
Command:
C:\Windows\System32\bitsadmin.exe /transfer #(bits_job_name) /Priority HIGH #(remote_file) #(local_path)
Command (with inputs):
C:\Windows\System32\bitsadmin.exe /transfer qcxjb7 /Priority HIGH https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/LICENSE.txt %temp%\Atomic-license.txt
[!!!!!!END TEST!!!!!]
```

#### **Execute Test**

Next, we will run the test.

We can see from the testing, and the screenshot above, that testing was completed successfully. - The Atomic-license.txt file was successfully downloaded.



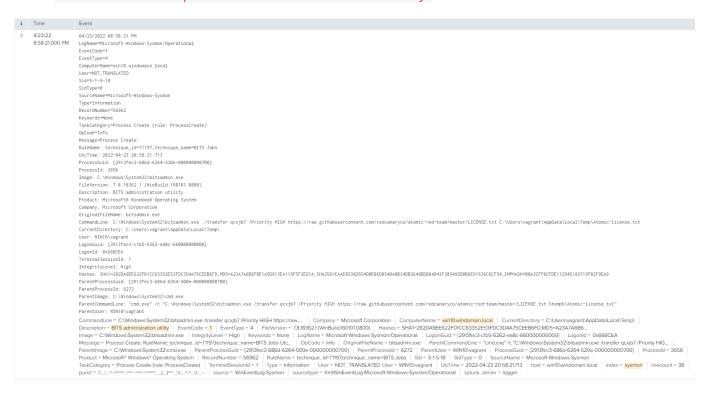
#### Logs

Next, open up the *Splunk - Search & Reporting* instance and begin searching for the log data surrounding the inputted commands.

Windows Event Process Creation Event (4688): index="wineventlog"
 ComputerName="win10.windomain.local" EventCode=4688 Process\_Command\_Line="\"cmd.exe\" /c \"C:\\Windows\\System32\\bitsadmin.exe /transfer qcxjb7 /Priority HIGH
 https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/LICENSE.txt
 %temp%\\Atomic-license.txt\""

```
### CHAPTION OF THE PROPERTY O
```

• Sysmon Process Creation Event (1): index="sysmon" ComputerName="win10.windomain.local" EventCode=1 Description="BITS administration utility"



## Step 6: Clean Up

- Some tests may change items within your environment.
- Run command the following command to clean up any changes made to the system while performing tests.

## References

- 1. <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1105/">https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1105/</a> ←
- 2. <a href="https://resource.redcanary.com/rs/003-YRU-314/images/2022\_ThreatDetectionReport\_RedCanary.pdf">https://resource.redcanary.com/rs/003-YRU-314/images/2022\_ThreatDetectionReport\_RedCanary.pdf</a> ←
- 3. <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/">https://attack.mitre.org/</a>
- 4. <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/</a> <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/</a> <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/</a> <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/</a> <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0011/</a> <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/">https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/</a> <a h
- 5.  $\underline{\text{https://redcanary.com/threat-detection-report/techniques/ingress-tool-transfer/} \leftarrow$
- 6. <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/groups/">https://attack.mitre.org/groups/</a></a>
- 7. <a href="https://www.crowdstrike.com/cybersecurity-101/compromise-assessments/">https://www.crowdstrike.com/cybersecurity-101/compromise-assessments/</a> ←
- 8. <a href="https://www.crowdstrike.com/cybersecurity-101/indicators-of-compromise/">https://www.crowdstrike.com/cybersecurity-101/indicators-of-compromise/</a> ←
- 9. <a href="https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/administration/windows-commands/certutil">https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/administration/windows-commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil">commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil">Commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil">commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://commands/certutil</a> <a href="https://crtutil.com">https://crtutil</a> <a href="https://crtutil.com">https://crtutil.com</a> <a
- 10. <a href="https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/administration/windows-commands/bitsadmin">https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/administration/windows-commands/bitsadmin</a> ←