

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Former HF member Shockwave arrested for creation of Imminent Monitor RAT](#)

debug - July 30, 2022, 10:39 pm

Quote:An Australian man who sparked a worldwide investigation into spyware he allegedly created and sold to domestic violence perpetrators and other criminals, has been charged by the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

Police allege the man sold the spyware, named Imminent Monitor (IM), to more than 14,500 people in 128 countries.

"It could be installed on a victim's device without their knowledge and allow an offender to monitor their device, gain access to their files, access to their webcam, without the victim's knowledge," he said.

"Cybercrime isn't just a crime against computers or computer networks.

The man's then home in Brisbane was raided at the time, but he was not summonsed to court until earlier this month.

Sources:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-07-30/afp-charge-australian-man-over-alleged-spyware-operation/100996670>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jul/30/brisbane-teenager-built-spyware-used-by-domestic-violence-perpetrators-across-world-police-allege>

Riggs - July 30, 2022, 10:49 pm

"Keen allegedly sold the tool for \$35 on a hacking forum, making between \$300,000 and \$400,000 by selling it to more than 14,500 people in 128 countries."

"...and then used the proceeds to buy takeaway food."

Lilith - July 30, 2022, 11:24 pm

(Jul 30, 2022 10:49 PM)Agent Smith Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) "Keen allegedly sold the tool for \$35 on a hacking forum, making between \$300,000 and \$400,000 by selling it to more than 14,500 people in 128 countries."

"...and then used the proceeds to buy takeaway food."

Pretty much how it goes. It's the same with simmers. Money in, money out, no long term plan laid out.

Upgrader - July 30, 2022, 11:31 pm

(Jul 30, 2022 10:49 PM)Agent Smith Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) "Keen allegedly sold the tool for \$35 on a hacking forum, making between \$300,000 and \$400,000 by selling it to more than 14,500 people in 128 countries."

"...and then used the proceeds to buy takeaway food."

It was over the course of 9 years, honestly not that bad considering the amount of fees and taxes you gotta pay on UberEats here ?

Gary - July 31, 2022, 5:37 am

Interesting, I was just wondering what happened to the RAT creators. Not many tools out there anymore.

SIM-3970461 - July 31, 2022, 6:38 am

That's tough I remember speaking to him on skype a few times.

Riggs - July 31, 2022, 6:51 am

"Among them were domestic violence perpetrators and other criminals, according to a statement issued by the Australian federal police. The AFP said on Saturday it had confirmed 201 Australians had bought the spyware.

Of those, the agency said, a "statistically high" proportion were named as respondents on domestic violence orders."

I mean to be honest this isn't a surprise, given the nature of what a RAT is. Although I do think the media and the authorities are unnecessarily (and perhaps unfairly) conflating the character of the individual that sold the RAT with potential harms the RAT could cause arising from nefarious usage.

OBAMASELF - July 31, 2022, 10:33 am

Looks like someone forgot to hide their IP. I wonder what flaw he did for the popo to catch him.

Fallout 3 - July 31, 2022, 1:41 pm

(Jul 31, 2022 10:33 AM)OBAMASELF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Looks like someone forgot to hide their IP. I wonder what flaw he did for the popo to catch him.

imho a simple VPN / Proxy is not a fool proof tool to hide your identity , LE can easily get around them without too much hustle

Ph4n70M Phr34K - July 31, 2022, 1:43 pm

(Jul 31, 2022 10:33 AM)OBAMASELF Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Looks like someone forgot to hide their IP. I wonder what flaw he did for the popo to catch him.

He was selling malware with paypal.

bot_o_mated - August 1, 2022, 6:44 am

(Jul 30, 2022 10:39 PM)debug Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Sources:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-07-30/afp-charge-australian-man-over-alleged-spyware-operation/100996670>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jul/30/brisbane-teenager-built-spyware-used-by-domestic-violence-perpetrators-across-world-police-allege>

I have always been interested in RATs but kind of scared that I will get caught so never started learning. What are the chances that a person will get caught? Like if I use a vpn to buy vps to buy another vps and then using it create accounts on forums use only crypto for transaction is it impossible to get caught?

Malthemar - August 1, 2022, 6:48 am

(Jul 31, 2022 01:43 PM)Ph4n70M Phr34K Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He was selling malware with paypal.

You are joking, right?

Happeh - August 1, 2022, 12:40 pm

Quote: A global investigation involving more than a dozen law enforcement agencies across Europe led to 85 search warrants being executed around the world, with 434 devices seized and 13 people arrested for using the malware for "alleged criminality".

Wonder who else was arrested? Spooky stuff and massive from all enforcements.

BillySpews - August 1, 2022, 12:56 pm

gg 3Shockwave man RAT tool goat

SurHomme - August 3, 2022, 5:58 am

(Aug 1, 2022 07:05 PM)phantomman55 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Man you sound like a skid. He did hid his ip using vpn's and proxies. That doesn't protect you at all from LE.

If they want to get your ass they will get your ass. vpn's and proxies are just bumps in a road.

They're all pretty much in prison by now.

From what I heard he was using paypal, not verry smart IMO

Sholi - August 4, 2022, 5:37 am

Oh I remember this one. It was advertised very neatly, as if it was a completely legal tool. I guess you can't play the "Educational purposes" card forever.

GenericSkid - August 5, 2022, 9:23 pm

(Aug 1, 2022 06:48 AM)Malthemar Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You are joking, right?

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=4825866>

Nope, PayPal and BTC. Changed the TOS and supposedly started enforcing it more strictly around 2017. Though by that point he was already on the fed's radar.

(Aug 4, 2022 05:37 AM)Sholi Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Oh I remember this one. It was advertised very neatly, as if it was a completely legal tool. I guess you can't play the "Educational purposes" card forever. "But my TOS says..." falls flat when you have evidence showing the lack of, or inability to, enforce said ToS. If you're selling a tool like this on a place that has "hack" in the name (with an already poor international reputation) and have features beyond that of TeamViewer, courts are going to have a very easy time convincing the jury the intent was malicious.

Regulus - August 6, 2022, 2:51 am

(Aug 6, 2022 02:35 AM)ZELOS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Accepting paypal as payment method and using skype to communicate with customers.

What else is there to say? Insane.

I second this. ???

Friendz - August 6, 2022, 5:51 am

(Jul 31, 2022 01:43 PM)Ph4n70M Phr34K Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He was selling malware with paypal.

??

Well he might have though that was the best method at the time.

I mean, he would have known the consequences of what he was doing while doing it.

I hear crypto is traceable these days.

Who knows

(Aug 6, 2022 02:35 AM)ZELOS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Accepting paypal as payment method and using skype to communicate with customers.
What else is there to say? Insane.
Imao.

For such a brilliant coder, I'm unsure why he choose these methods.

Or maybe he got so comfortable

I just saw he was 15 when he started developing, makes more sense how he spent the bulk of 300k on consumables. Imao