Hive Pro

Threat Level

Red

Hiveforce Labs

THREAT ADVISORY

ACTOR REPORT

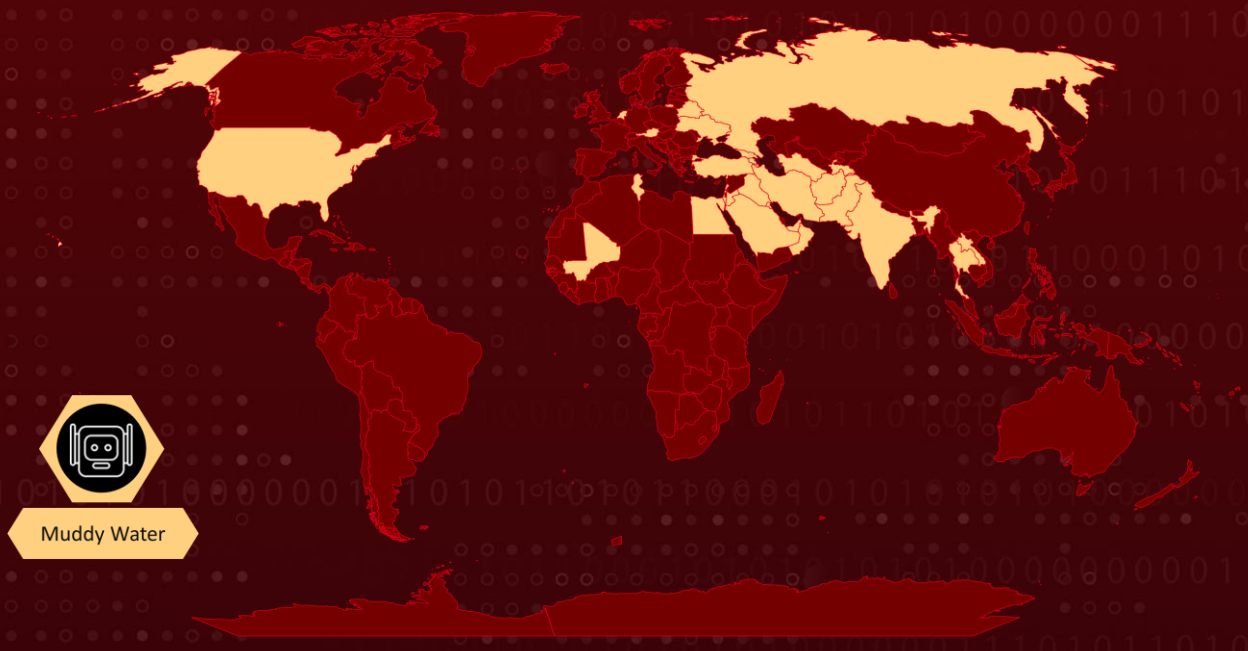
MuddyWater is back with new techniques

Date of Publication	Admiralty code	TA Number
December 13, 2022	A1	TA2022295

Summary

First Appearance: 2017
Threat Actor: MuddyWater
Target Regions: Middle East, Asia, Africa, Europe, and North America
Target Sectors: Defense, Education, Energy, Financial, Food and Agriculture, Gaming, Government, Healthcare, High-Tech, IT, Media, NGOs, Oil and gas, Telecommunications, Transportation, Aerospace

Actor Map



Actor Details

#1

MuddyWater used Dropbox links and document attachments with URLs redirected to ZIP archives as lures in its campaign, which also utilized compromised corporate email accounts. In addition to using Remote Utilities and ScreenConnect installers in their archive files, attackers have also switched to Atera Agent. Recent updates to the campaign have enabled the delivery of the Syncro remote administration tool, which could provide attackers with total machine control, enabling reconnaissance, additional backdoor delivery, and sale of access. With such capabilities, a threat actor has nearly unlimited options for accessing corporate machines

#2

Over time, the group added new attack techniques to its arsenal. The APT group has also targeted North American and European countries in the past. According to US Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM), MuddyWater APT group is affiliated with Iran's Ministry of Intelligence and Security (MOIS).

Actor Group

NAME	ORIGIN	TARGET COUNTRIES	TARGET INDUSTRIES
MuddyWater (Seedworm, TEMP.Zagros, Static Kitten, Mercury, TA450, Cobalt Ulster, ATK 51, T-APT-14, ITG17)	Iran **MOTIVE** Information theft and espionage	Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Malta Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Mali, Netherlands, Oman, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkmenistan Turkey, UAE, Ukraine, USA	Defense, Education, Energy, Financial, Food and Agriculture, Gaming, Government, Healthcare, High-Tech, IT, Media, NGOs, Oil and gas, Telecommunications, Transportation, Aerospace

Recommendations

Security Leaders

Phishing simulations and routine education and awareness training and communications rarely account for MFA fatigue and web browser hygiene. Integrate and communicate all lessons learned.

Security Engineers

- **Uni5 Users:** This is an actionable threat advisory in HivePro Uni5. Prioritize and block all indicators attributed to the threat actor through your Command Center. Test your controls with Uni5's Breach & Attack Simulation.
- **All Engineers:** Refer to and action upon the 'Potential MITRE ATT&CK TTPs' & 'Indicators of Compromise (IoC)' on the following pages.

Potential MITRE ATT&CK TTPs

TA0042 Resource Development	TA0001 Initial Access	TA0011 Command and Control	T1566 Phishing
T1566.001 Spearphishing Attachment	T1566.002 Spearphishing Link	T1219 Remote Access Software	T1588 Obtain Capabilities
T1588.002 Tool	T1583 Acquire Infrastructure	T1583.006 Web Services	

Indicator of Compromise (IOC)

TYPE	VALUE
SHA256	f511bdd471096fc81dc8dad6806624a73837710f99b76b69c6501cb90e37c311 efd5271bdb57f52b4852bfda05122b9ff85991c0600befcbd045f81d7a78eac5 d65d80ab0ccdc7ff0a72e71104de2b4c289c02348816dce9996ba3e2a4c1dd62 1670a59f573037142f417fb8c448a9022c8d31a6b2bf93ad77a9db2924b502af dedc593acc72c352feef4cc2b051001bfe22a79a3a7852f0daf95e2d10e58b84 eae0acba9c9e6a93ce2d5b30a5f21515e8ccca0975fbd0e7d8862964fdfa1468 7e7292b5029882602fe31f15e25b5c59e01277abaab86b29843ded4aa0dcbdd1 c7a2a9e020b4bcbfa53b37dea7ebf6943af203b94c24a35c098b774f79d532ac 887c09e24923258e2e2c28f369fba3e44e52ce8a603fa3aee8c3fb0f1ca660e1 01dfa94e11b60f92449445a9660843f7bea0d6aad62f1c339e88252008e3b494 d550f0f9c4554e63b6e6d0a95a20a16abe44fa6f0de62b6615b5fdcdb82fe8e1 61dcf1eeb616104742dd892b89365751df9bb8c5b6a2b4080ac7cf34294d7675 653046fa62d3c9325dbff5cb7961965a8bf5f96fa4e815b494c8d3e165b9c94a 76ab046de18e20fd5cddbb90678389001361a430a0dc6297363ff10efbcb0fa8 c6cfd23282c9ff9d0d4c72ee13797a898b01cd5fd256d347e399e7528dad3bfd

TYPE	VALUE
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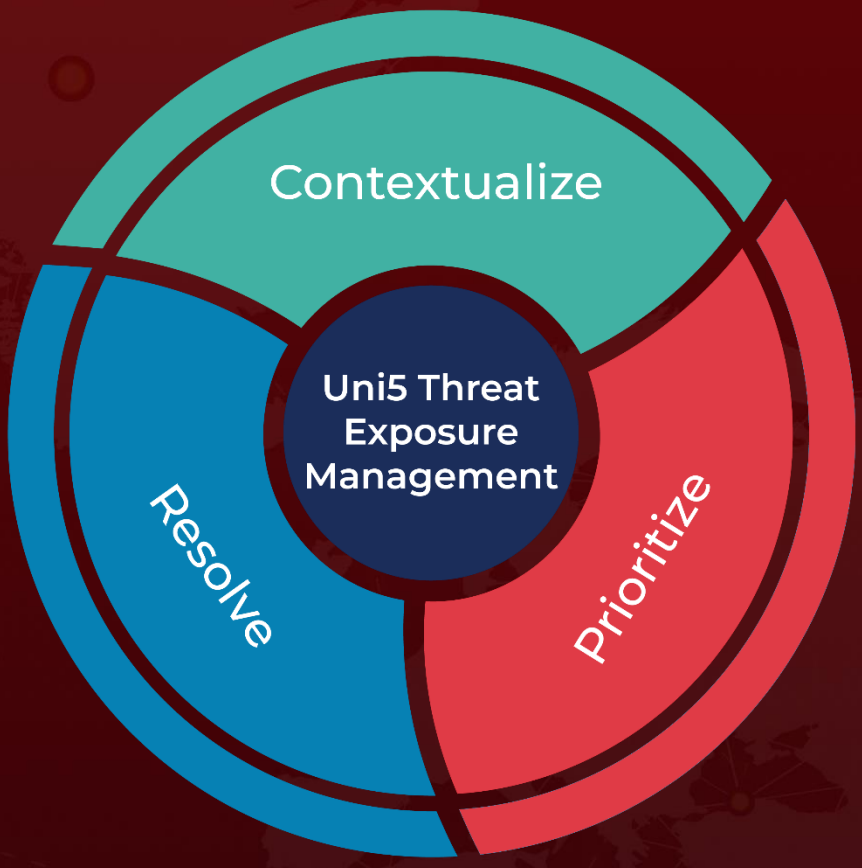
References

https://www.deepinstinct.com/blog/new-muddywater-threat-old-kitten-new-tricks

What Next?

At **Hive Pro**, it is our mission to detect the most likely threats to your organization and to help you prevent them from happening.

Book a free demo with **HivePro Uni5**: Threat Exposure Management Platform.



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