

A form of cybercrime, high-tech crime refers to crimes that use electronic and digitally based technology to attack computers or a computer network.

Such crimes include the hacking of computers or any unauthorised use or distribution of data, denial of service attacks and distribution of computer viruses.

High-tech criminals use a suite of malware tools, ranging from banking trojans to ransomware and phishing, to stage their attacks.

Malware, or malicious software, infiltrates and gains control over a computer system or a mobile device to steal valuable information or damage data. There are many types of malware, and they can complement each other when performing an attack.

- **Adware** displays advertising banners or pop-ups that include code to track the user's behaviour on the internet.
- A **backdoor/remote-access trojan (RAT)** accesses a computer system or mobile device remotely. It can be installed by another piece of malware. It gives almost total control to the attacker, who can perform a wide range of actions, including:
 - monitoring actions
 - executing commands
 - sending files and documents back to the attacker
 - logging keystrokes
 - taking screen shots
- A **botnet** (short for robot network) is made up of computers communicating with each other over the internet. A command and control centre uses them to send spam, mount distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks and commit other crimes.
- A **file infector** infects executable files (such as .exe) by overwriting them or inserting infected code that disables them.
- **Ransomware** stops users from accessing their devices and demands that they pay a ransom through certain online payment methods to regain access. A variant, police ransomware, uses law enforcement symbols to lend authority to the ransom message.
- **Scareware** is fake anti-virus software that pretends to scan and find malware/security threats on a user's device so that they will pay to have it removed.
- **Spyware** is installed on a computer without its owner's knowledge to monitor their activity and transmit the information to a third party.
- A **rootkit** is a collection of programmes that enable administrator-level access to a computer or computer network, thus allowing the attacker to gain root or privileged access to the computer and possibly other machines on the same network.
- A **trojan** poses as, or is embedded within, a legitimate programme, but it is designed for malicious purposes, such as spying, stealing data, deleting files, expanding a botnet, and performing DDoS attacks.
- A **worm** replicates itself over a computer network and performs malicious actions without guidance.

The flourishing cybercrime-as-a-service business model is continuously providing criminals with access to a large number of cybercrime techniques.

NUMBER OF ITEMS FOUND: 64

SEARCH



TYPE

Article/Story, Event, How-To Guide, Landing Page, Multimedia, News/Press Release, Operation, Page, Publication/Document



TARGET GROUP



Q SEARCH

⊗ CLEAR ALL

15
Jun
2012



6 SUSPECTED EURO COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED

08
Jun
2012



EUROPOL SUPPORTS FRENCH AUTHORITIES TO BRING DOWN PEOPLE TRAFFICKING NETWORK

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

07
May
2012



EUROPOL HOSTS EXPERT MEETING TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF "POLICE RANSOMWARE"

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

03
Jan
2011



CYBERCRIME PRESENTS A MAJOR CHALLENGE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

← FIRST

← PREVIOUS

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