Trend Micro Releases Comprehensive Analysis of North American Cybercriminal Underground

Marketplace sells illegal physical and virtual goods, services

DALLAS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Trend Micro Incorporated (TYO: 4704; TSE: 4704), a global leader in security software and solutions, has released its North American cybercriminal underground report, “North American Underground: The Glass Tank,” as part of its ongoing Deep Web/Cybercriminal Underground Economy Series (CUES) Program. Unlike counterparts in other countries, the North American underground encourages cybercriminal activity amongst novices and seasoned pros alike.

“The high level of sophistication of the services and tools we found in the North American underground allows cybercriminals to thrive across the spectrum of expertise,” said Raimund Genes, CTO, Trend Micro. “With illegal goods and services spanning the physical and virtual realm, ranging from advanced malware to narcotics, this marketplace is of particular concern. As such it is no surprise we’ve seen a concentration of law enforcement activity in the underground which can lead to arrests and prosecution of its users.”

Access to this underground is relatively simple with availability through search engines on the mainstream, surface web. Transactions occurring involve several steps to keep both buyers’ and sellers’ anonymity through virtual currency and exchanges.

Key findings of the report include:

- **Crimeware:** Considered to be an essential within any basic underground market, some forums in the North American market exclusively sell hacking tools.
- **Crypting services**: Arguably the most sought-after crimeware in the underground to date, these service providers check how many security products flag the code “malicious,” and then encrypt malware as many times as it takes to avoid detection.
- **Credit card credentials, clones and fakes**: Cybercriminals most commonly sell information such as credit card credentials. But they are not the only credit-card-related goods found. Clones or copies of stolen credit cards also abound.
- **Drugs and weapons**: Individuals involved in drug-related transactions try to retain anonymity, while the weapons marketplace reveals foreign contacts allowing for delivery outside North America.

To read the full Deep Web series including the North America underground report, visit: http://www.trendmicro.com/vinfo/us/security/threat-intelligence-center/deep-web/

About Trend Micro

Trend Micro Incorporated, a global leader in security software, strives to make the world safe for exchanging digital information. Built on 26 years of experience, our solutions for consumers, businesses and governments provide layered data security to protect information on mobile devices, endpoints, gateways, servers and the cloud. Trend Micro enables the smart protection of information, with innovative security technology that is simple to deploy and manage, and fits an evolving ecosystem. All of our solutions are powered by cloud-based global threat intelligence, the Trend Micro™ Smart Protection Network™ infrastructure, and are supported by more than 1,200 threat experts around the globe. For more information, visit TrendMicro.com.

Contact:

Trend Micro
Thomas Moore, 972-499-6648
thomas_moore@trendmicro.com

Public Company Information:

TOKYO:
4704
JP3637300009
NQB:
TMICY

https://newsroom.trendmicro.com/2015-12-07-Trend-Micro-Releases-Comprehensive-Analysis-of-North-American-Cybercriminal-Underground