

Subject: Re: Ars: Cross-Platform Malware Communicates With Sound (fwd)
From: Joscha Bach [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2013 2:14:31 PM
Cc: Epstein Jeffrey <jeevacation@gmail.com>, Martin Nowak <[REDACTED]>, Kevin Slavin <[REDACTED]>
To: Joi Ito <[REDACTED]>

The headline is a little misleading, because the infection itself is not transmitted via audio (unlike the virus of religion).
But fascinating, somewhat sensationalizing read; reminds me of Stross' story of the ultimate information virus infection:
<http://www.antipope.org/charlie/blog-static/fiction/toast/toast.html#antibodies>

When I was a kid, there were computer programs transmitted on radio shows; you could record them and feed the tapes into your home computer. That would have been a possible audio based vector! Now we will have to wait until voice commands give access to system level scripting.

> A good third party analysis: <http://blog.erratasec.com/2013/10/badbios-features-explained.html#.UnN2V2RgZb8>

>
> On Nov 1, 2013, at 04:40 , Joi Ito <[REDACTED]> wrote:

>> Computer viruses are now airborne.

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>> Begin forwarded message:

>>

>>> Date: Thu, 31 Oct 2013 14:00:14 -0700 (PDT)

>>> From: [REDACTED]

>>> To: [REDACTED]

>>> Subject: Ars: Cross-Platform Malware Communicates With Sound

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>>> Link: <http://slashdot.org/story/13/10/31/1955239/ars-cross-platform-malware-communicates-with-sound>

>>> Posted by: timothy, on 2013-10-31 20:42:00

>>> An anonymous reader writes "Do you think an airgap can protect your computer? Maybe not. According to this story at Ars Technica, security consultant Dragos Ruiu is battling [1]malware that communicates with infected computers using computer microphones and speakers." That sounds nuts, but it is a [2]time-tested method of data transfer, after all.

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>>> References

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>>> 1. <http://arstechnica.com/security/2013/10/meet-badbios-the-mysterious-mac-and-pc-malware-that-jumps-airgaps/>

>>> 2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commodore_Datasette

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>> Please use my alternative address [REDACTED] to avoid email auto responder

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> Please use my alternative address, [REDACTED] to avoid email auto responder

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