



Issued 10/16/18

This Malware Pretends to Be a Flash Update But Is Really Mining Cryptocurrency

Have you ever absent-mindedly clicked "yes" to update Adobe Flash? The next time, take a closer look at that Flash update: It could be a malware installing cryptomining software on your computer. This is according to a new report from Unit 42, the threat research team of Palo Alto Networks, released Thursday. While the malware mines the cryptocurrency Monero, it threatens your computer system's responsiveness and CPU usage. This isn't the first scheme to try to use Adobe Flash as a cover. But in this instance, the malware mimics the appearance of the Flash update box and it updates Flash to avoid suspicion. The researchers have identified 113 cases of this particular scheme since March.