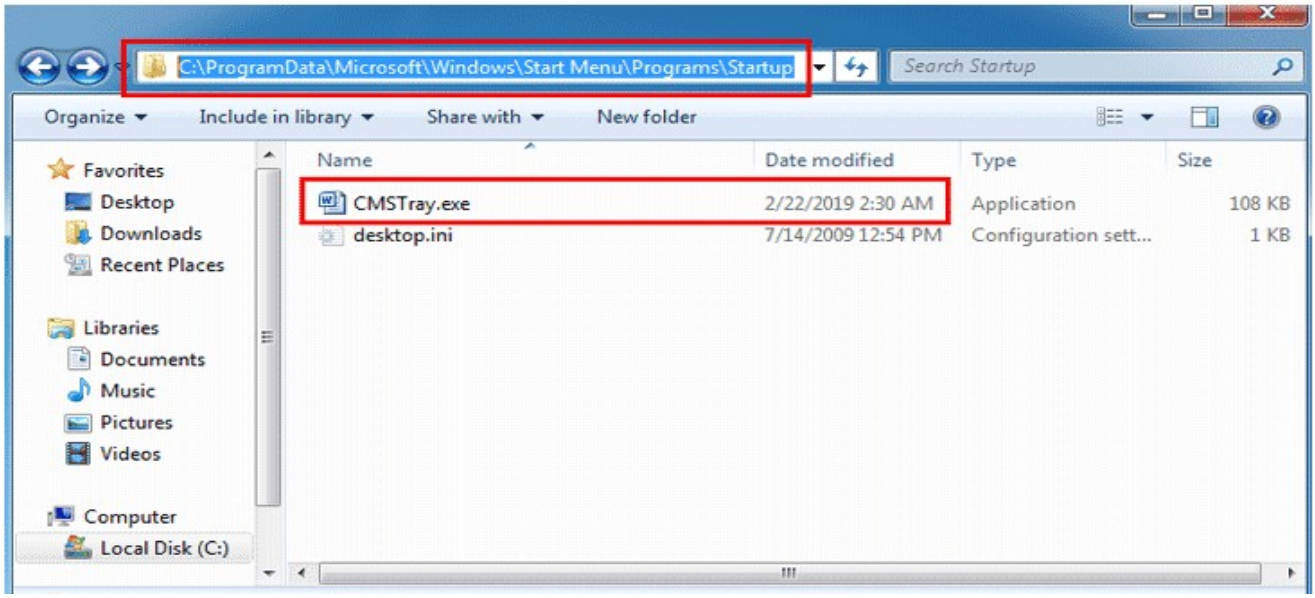
WinRAR Flaw Being Exploited to Hack Windows Computers

Dear Constituents,

The popular windows file archival tool **WinRAR** has been in use for 19 years and it is used to view, create, pack and unpack archives in both ZIP and RAR formats. Beware Windows users of a new dangerous remote code execution vulnerability used by attackers to install malware within a victim's computer and gain complete control.

How it works

- The flaw was a result of an Absolute Path Traversal bug that resides in the library called **UNACEV2.DLL**. (Dynamic Link Library).
- The **UNACEV2.DLL** is a third party library is responsible for extracting archives in the ACE file format so the exploit has put over 500 million users around the world at risk.
- The vulnerability is being exploited by sending malspam(malware riddled emails) that contain CMSTray.exe, which is encapsulated within the malicious archiver instead of being downloaded remotely.
- As the victim opens the archive distributed by attackers, the malicious code is dropped into the startup folder (C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\StartMenu\Programs\Startup\CMSTray.exe).



What to do

- To all windows users are advised to update the application (WinRAR) immediately to the latest version (5.70 beta 2).
- Make sure to keep User Account Control (UAC) active if you are using an older version of WinRAR and avoid opening files received from unknown sources.

Reference

- **Checkpoint:** https://research.checkpoint.com/extracting-code-execution-from-winrar/

Please for more information you can contact us:

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