

Credential stuffing attack with Sophos Firewall and Sophos Endpoint



ORGANIZATION

Industry Financial services
Size Commercial
Region USA



SOLUTION

Sophos MDR
Sophos Firewall



Adversary activity

The attack begins with the adversary **logging in** via the organization's Sophos Firewall VPN using **credentials stolen** from a different system — they wait two weeks before continuing.

02:50 UTC The attacker pivots to an **endpoint** protected by Sophos MDR, from the VPN.

04:47 UTC The attacker executes a script on the endpoint that **runs discovery commands** and changes multiple passwords.



Threat detection

04:54 UTC A **detection is generated** in Sophos MDR due to WMIC (Windows management instrumentation command-line) remotely calling an executable from a suspicious directory for ransomware staging.

A case is **created and assigned** to a Sophos MDR analyst for investigation.



Investigation

06:26 UTC Following the investigation, the Sophos MDR analyst **confirms** the malicious activity and **communicates** their findings to the customer.

An active incident is initiated, and the Sophos MDR analyst executes **response actions** on the customer's behalf to neutralize the threat.



Response

Case closed
08:39 UTC The MDR analyst uses the Sophos **Active Threat Response** feature, creating 'threat indicators' on the Sophos Firewall to block malicious IP addresses.

The analyst also **removes malicious binaries** from the endpoint and recommends resetting user credentials and upgrading the VPN gateway.

Learn more at sophos.com/MDR