# **Threat Intelligence and Information Sharing**

PISAX.org - MISP introduction training

Alexandre Dulaunoy

MISP Project https://www.misp-project.org/

PISAX.org Online Training



#### **AGENDA**

- (14:00 15:00) Introduction to Information Sharing with MISP
- (15:00 15:20) Quick demo of the PISAX.org threat sharing platform
- (15:20 16:00) Interactive session with the IXPs community

### MISP AND STARTING FROM A PRACTICAL USE-CASE

- During a malware analysis workgroup in 2012, we discovered that we worked on the analysis of the same malware.
- We wanted to share information in an easy and automated way to avoid duplication of work.
- Christophe Vandeplas (then working at the CERT for the Belgian MoD) showed us his work on a platform that later became MISP.
- A first version of the MISP Platform was used by the MALWG and the increasing feedback of users helped us to build an improved platform.
- MISP is now a community-driven development.

### **ABOUT CIRCL**

The Computer Incident Response Center Luxembourg (CIRCL) is a government-driven initiative designed to provide a systematic response facility to computer security threats and incidents. CIRCL is the CERT for the private sector, communes and non-governmental entities in Luxembourg and is operated by securitymadein.lu g.i.e.

### MISP AND CIRCL

- CIRCL is mandated by the Ministry of Economy and acting as the Luxembourg National CERT for private sector.
- CIRCL leads the development of the Open Source MISP threat intelligence platform which is used by many military or intelligence communities, private companies, financial sector, National CERTs and LEAs globally.
- CIRCL runs multiple large MISP communities performing active daily threat-intelligence sharing.



**Co-financed by the European Union**Connecting Europe Facility

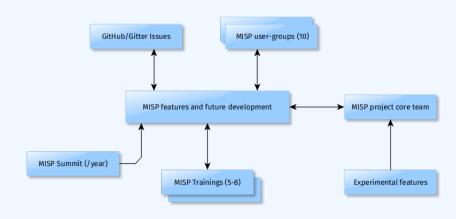
### **PISAX.org**

- PISAX stands for "Pan-European Information Sharing and Analysis for Internet Exchange Point and Global Roaming Exchange". The overall objective of this action is to create a common Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC) to support Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and General Packet Radio Service Roaming eXchange (GRXs) at the national, European and international level.
- PISAX will provide an automated and secure threat intelligence sharing system building on the existing MISP threat intelligence platform hence allowing IXPs and GRXs to improve their current security posture.

### DEVELOPMENT BASED ON PRACTICAL USER FEEDBACK

- There are many different types of users of an information sharing platform like MISP:
  - Malware reversers willing to share indicators of analysis with respective colleagues.
  - Security analysts searching, validating and using indicators in operational security.
  - Intelligence analysts gathering information about specific adversary groups.
  - Law-enforcement relying on indicators to support or bootstrap their DFIR cases.
  - Risk analysis teams willing to know about the new threats, likelyhood and occurences.
  - Fraud analysts willing to share financial indicators to detect financial frauds.
  - ► **Telecom** community sharing information at large.

### MISP MODEL OF GOVERNANCE



### MANY OBJECTIVES FROM DIFFERENT USER-GROUPS

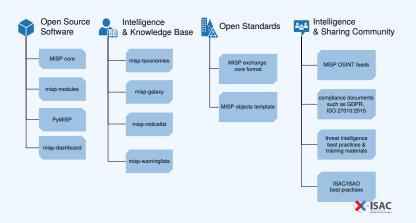
- Sharing indicators for a **detection** matter.
  - 'Do I have infected systems in my infrastructure or the ones I operate?'
- Sharing indicators to **block**.
  - ▶ 'I use these attributes to block, sinkhole or divert traffic.'
- Sharing indicators to perform intelligence.
  - ► 'Gathering information about campaigns and attacks. Are they related? Who is targeting me? Who are the adversaries?'
- → These objectives can be conflicting (e.g. False-positives have different impacts)

### SHARING DIFFICULTIES

- Sharing difficulties are not really technical issues but often it's a matter of social interactions (e.g. trust).
- Legal restriction<sup>1</sup>
  - "Our legal framework doesn't allow us to share information."
  - "Risk of information-leak is too high and it's too risky for our organization or partners."
- Practical restriction
  - "We don't have information to share."
  - "We don't have time to process or contribute indicators."
  - "Our model of classification doesn't fit your model."
  - "Tools for sharing information are tied to a specific format, we use a different one."

https://www.misp-project.org/compliance/

## MISP PROJECT OVERVIEW



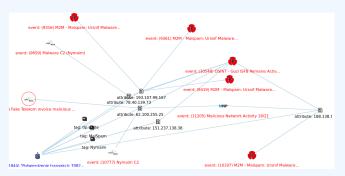
### MISP FEATURES

- MISP<sup>2</sup> is a threat information sharing free & open source software.
- MISP has a host of functionalities that assist users in creating, collaborating & sharing threat information - e.g. flexible sharing groups, automatic correlation, free-text import helper, event distribution & proposals.
- Many export formats which support IDSes / IPSes (e.g. Suricata, Bro, Snort), SIEMs (eg CEF), Host scanners (e.g. OpenIOC, STIX, CSV, yara), analysis tools (e.g. Maltego), DNS policies (e.g. RPZ).
- A rich set of MISP modules³ to add expansion, import and export functionalities.

<sup>2</sup>https://github.com/MISP/MISP

<sup>3</sup>https://www.github.com/MISP/misp-modules

### **CORRELATION FEATURES: A TOOL FOR ANALYSTS**



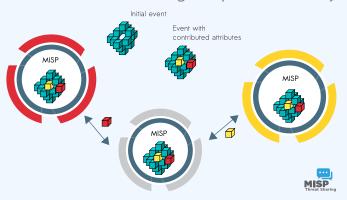
■ To corroborate a finding (e.g. is this the same campaign?), reinforce an analysis (e.g. do other analysts have the same hypothesis?), confirm a specific aspect (e.g. are the sinkhole IP addresses used for one campaign?) or just find if this threat is new or unknown in your community.

### COMMUNITIES USING MISP

- Communities are groups of users sharing within a set of common objectives/values.
- CIRCL operates multiple MISP instances with a significant user base (more than 950 organizations with more than 2400 users).
- **Trusted groups** running MISP communities in island mode (air gapped system) or partially connected mode.
- **Financial sector** (banks, ISACs, payment processing organizations) use MISP as a sharing mechanism.
- **Military and international organizations** (NATO, military CSIRTs, n/g CERTs,...).
- **Security vendors** running their own communities (e.g. Fidelis) or interfacing with MISP communities (e.g. OTX).

### MISP core distributed sharing functionality

- MISPs' core functionality is sharing where everyone can be a consumer and/or a contributor/producer."
- Quick benefit without the obligation to contribute.
- Low barrier access to get acquainted to the system.



### **EVENTS, OBJECTS AND ATTRIBUTES IN MISP**

- MISP events are encapsulations for contextually linked information
- MISP attributes<sup>4</sup> initially started with a standard set of "cyber security" indicators.
- MISP attributes are purely based on usage (what people and organizations use daily).
- Evolution of MISP attributes is based on practical usage & users (e.g. the addition of financial indicators in 2.4).
- MISP objects are attribute compositions describing points of data using many facets, constructed along the lines of community and user defined templates.
- Galaxies granularly contextualise, classify & categorise data based on threat actors, preventive measures, tools used by adversaries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>attributes can be anything that helps describe the intent of the event package from indicators, vulnerabilities or any relevant information

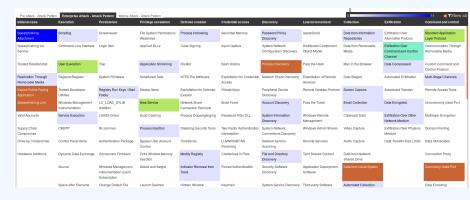
### **TERMINOLOGY ABOUT INDICATORS**

- Indicators<sup>5</sup>
  - Indicators contain a pattern that can be used to detect suspicious or malicious cyber activity.
- Attributes in MISP can be network indicators (e.g. IP address), system indicators (e.g. a string in memory) or even bank account details.
  - ► A type (e.g. MD5, url) is how an attribute is described.
  - An attribute is always in a category (e.g. Payload delivery) which puts it in a context.
    - A category is what describes an attribute.
  - An IDS flag on an attribute allows to determine if an attribute can be automatically used for detection.

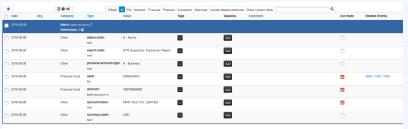
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>loC (Indicator of Compromise) is a subset of indicators

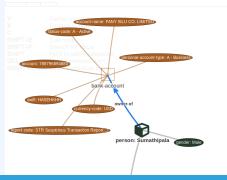
# SHARING ATTACKERS TECHNIQUES

 MISP integrates at event or attribute level MITRE's Adversarial Tactics, Techniques, and Common Knowledge (ATT&CK).



### SUPPORTING SPECIFIC DATAMODEL





### HELPING CONTRIBUTORS IN MISP

- Contributors can use the UI, API or using the freetext import to add events and attributes.
  - Modules existing in Viper (a binary framework for malware reverser) to populate and use MISP from the vty or via your IDA.
- Contribution can be direct by creating an event but users can propose attributes updates to the event owner.
- Users should not be forced to use a single interface to contribute.

### **EXAMPLE: FREETEXT IMPORT IN MISP**

Type

ip-dst

md5

hostname

host.microsoft.com

https://www.github.com/MISP/MISP

23.100.122.175

Category Network activity

Network activity

Network activity

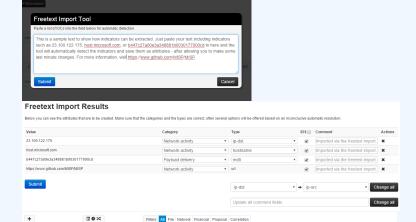
Payload delivery

m 2016-02-24

2016-02-24

2016-02-24

2016-02-24



b447c27a00e3a348881b0030177000cd Imported via the freetext import

20

Actions

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Related Events IDS Distribution

298

Yes

Yes Inherit

Yes

Yes Inherit

#### SUPPORTING CLASSIFICATION

- Tagging is a simple way to attach a classification to an event or an attribute.
- Classification must be globally used to be efficient.
- MISP includes a flexible tagging scheme where users can select from more than 42 existing taxonomies or create their own taxonomy.



### SUPPORTING SHARING IN MISP

- Delegate events publication to another organization (introduced in MISP 2.4.18).
  - The other organization can take over the ownership of an event and provide pseudo-anonymity to initial organization.
- Sharing groups allow custom sharing (introduced in MISP 2.4) per event or even at attribute level.
  - Sharing communities can be used locally or even cross MISP instances.
  - Sharing groups can be done at event level or attributes level (e.g. financial indicators shared to a financial sharing groups and cyber security indicators to CSIRT community).

### **SIGHTINGS SUPPORT**



- Sightings allow users to notify the community about the activities related to an indicator.
- In recent MISP versions, the sighting system supports negative sigthings (FP) and expiration sightings.
- Sightings can be performed via the API, and the UI, even including the import of STIX sighting documents.
- Many use-cases for scoring indicators based on users sighting.

### IMPROVING INFORMATION SHARING IN MISP

- False-positives are a recurring challenge in information sharing.
- In MISP 2.4.39, we introduced the misp-warninglists<sup>6</sup> to help analysts in their day-to-day job.
- Predefined lists of well-known indicators which are often false-positives like RFC1918 networks, public DNS resolver are included by default.

<sup>6</sup>https://github.com/MISP/misp-warninglists

# IMPROVING SUPPORT OF SHARING WITHIN AND OUT-SIDE AN ORGANIZATION

- Even in a single organization, multiple use-cases of MISP can appear (groups using it for dynamic malware analysis correlations, dispatching notification).
- In MISP 2.4.51, we introduced the ability to have local MISP servers connectivity to avoid changes in distribution level. This allows to have mixed synchronization setup within and outside an organization.
- Feed support was also introduced to support synchronization between untrusted and trusted networks.

### BOOTSTRAPPING MISP WITH INDICATORS

- We maintain the default CIRCL OSINT feeds (TLP:WHITE selected from our communities) in MISP to allow users to ease their bootstrapping.
- The format of the OSINT feed is based on standard MISP JSON output pulled from a remote TLS/HTTP server.
- Additional content providers can provide their own MISP feeds.(https://botvrij.eu/)
- Allows users to test their MISP installations and synchronisation with a real dataset.
- Opening contribution to other threat intel feeds but also allowing the analysis of overlapping data<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>A recurring challenge in information sharing

#### CONCLUSION

- Information sharing practices come from usage and by example (e.g. learning by imitation from the shared information).
- MISP is just a tool. What matters is your sharing practices. The tool should be as transparent as possible to support you.
- Enable users to customize MISP to meet their community's use-cases (e.g. gathering ideas and feedback within PISAX.org community).
- MISP project combines open source software, open standards, best practices and communities to make information sharing a reality.