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As Virus Bulletin reports, Regin is a multi-staged threat (like Stuxnet) which uses a modular approach (like Flame). This combination makes the trojan one of the most advanced threats ever uncovered. According to investigations, Regin has been used repeatedly for espionage purposes for at least the past six years. The advanced backdoor trojan attacks Microsoft Windows NT, 2000, XP, Vista, and 7, and can take control of input devices, record login details, monitor network traffic, and gather process and memory use information. It can also infect additional systems on the same network and cream off sensitive data.

Who does Regin affect?

Regin mainly affects companies, research institutes, governmental organizations, and individuals who have access to networks of special interest.

How can Avira PC Cleaner help?

The tool detects identifiable elements of Regin and can remove them from the infected system. "PC Cleaner came about as a result of the anti-botnet "botfrei.de" initiative which is backed by the BSI (German Federal Office for Information Security). The software was also further developed with the support and know-how of the BSI. Users now have an easy-to-use tool available to them which can track down Regin malware", explains Dr. Dirk Häger, head of operational network defense at the BSI.

What happens if Regin is detected?

If PC Cleaner detects Regin, the affected system can be cleansed and the relevant files quarantined. Even after a successful system cleanup, it is worthwhile running further scans to make absolutely sure that Regin has not infiltrated other areas of the network. This also makes PC Cleaner an early warning tool. If Regin is detected, affected organizations should definitely think about taking further steps to protect their IT infrastructure.

What is special about Avira PC Cleaner?

The really unique feature about Avira PC Cleaner is that it can be used straight away without needing to be installed. This means there are no conflicts with other vendors' antivirus solutions installed on the computer. As such, PC Cleaner gives users the chance to get a second opinion. This is why it is also called a 2nd opinion scanner, although it isn't a replacement for a fully-fledged antivirus solution. This makes PC Cleaner ideal for detecting Regin and for checking the computer for any other malicious software.