

Minecraft Link To Net's Biggest Botnet

Minecraft link to the world's largest botnet

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Malware that led to the internet's biggest ever cyber-attack in the year 2000 was linked to Minecraft servers as per the experts who were investigating it.

Security blogger Brian Krebs has spent months studying the attack that knocked his blog down.

He claims that the origins of the Mirai botnet can be traced back to rivalries in the Minecraft community.

He is supported by an expert in security, who has provided net security for Minecraft servers.

Robert Coelho (Vice President of Security ProxyPipe) Robert Coelho (Vice President of Security ProxyPipe) told the BBC that his suspicions about the Mirai code were relayed to the FBI who is "actively investigating" them.

Mirai was a botnet with more than 500,000 connected devices such as routers and webcams, was created.

It launched attacks referred to as denial-of-service (DDoS) which hit web pages with so much data they fell apart, and were the largest ever.

Reddit, Spotify, and Twitter were among the victims.

"Hundreds of hours"

After the attacks, the person responsible - who went by the codename Anna Senpai - released the source code online, paving the way for copies of the attacks.

Later the malware was modified and the malware was used to attack UK internet service providers TalkTalk or the Post Office.

Krebs spent "hundreds of hours" investigating the Mirai botnet attack in September of 2016.
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"If you've ever wondered why it seems that so few cyber criminals are prosecuted, I can tell you that the amount of determination and resources needed to piece together who's been responsible for what (and the reasons behind it) in the online era is tremendous," he wrote.

His research led him to the community around Minecraft the computer game that is now owned by Microsoft where players create their own things using cubic blocks.

It has a huge fan base particularly among children, and it is estimated that at any time a million people are playing it.

Mr Krebs claims that a Minecraft server with more than 1,000 players can make \$50,000 per month (PS40,600). This is mainly due to users renting space to build their Minecraft worlds.

He writes that Anna Senpai's name was not revealed until he was able to understand Mirai the newest member of an IoT botnet family that was in development for almost three years.

The code for these earlier versions was often used to hack into web servers used to host Minecraft the game, according to him.

ProxyPipe is owned by Mr. Coelho - had plenty of Minecraft servers as clients. The server in mid-2015 was struck by a massive cyberattack, launched from an unidentified botnet that was made up of IoT devices, such as web cameras.

BBC interviewer Mr Coelho stated that he was skeptical about the attacker and that "Minecraft is a close-knit community." We know who's talking.

He claimed that the attack was orchestrated by a rival security firm which also provided DDoS protection to Minecraft users.

He claimed that the founder of the security firm had run the Minecraft web server and was among his clients.

He claims that the Mirai author - Anna Senpai - contacted him via Skype at the end of

September, partially to explain that the attack on his company was "not personal" but also to brag that he was paid by the owners of a massive Minecraft server to launch an attack against a rival server.

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