



# Gas What? I can see your GasPots.

Studying the fingerprintability of ICS honeypots in the wild

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I remember when I was young and naive and assumed  
we just wouldn't connect nuclear plants to the Internet.

4:54 PM · Oct 28, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

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# Employees connect nuclear plant to the internet so they can mine cryptocurrency

The Ukrainian Secret Service is investigating the incident as a potential security breach.



By [Catalin Cimpanu](#) for [Zero Day](#) | August 22, 2019 -- 22:21 GMT (15:21 PDT) | Topic: [Security](#)



Image: [Viktor Kiryanov](#)

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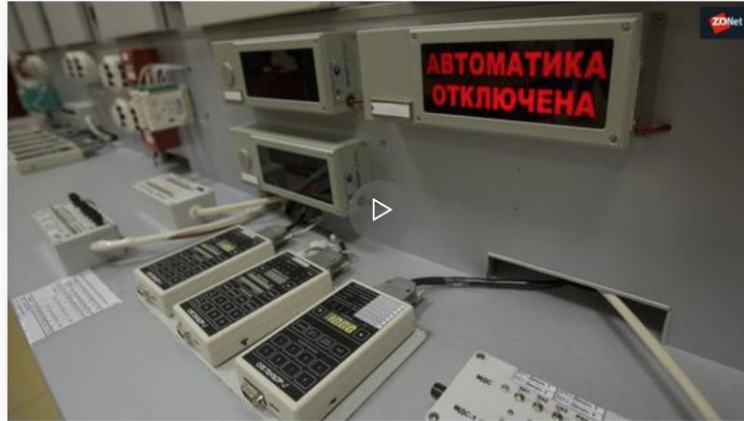


# Russian Nuclear Center engineers arrested for using supercomputers to mine cryptocurrency

The temptation to cash in on cryptocurrency may have been too much to resist.



By Charlie Osborne for Zero Day | February 12, 2018 -- 07:06 GMT (23:06 PST) | Topic: [Security](#)



Employees at the Russian Federation Nuclear Center have been arrested on suspicion of using supercomputers at the facility to mine cryptocurrency.

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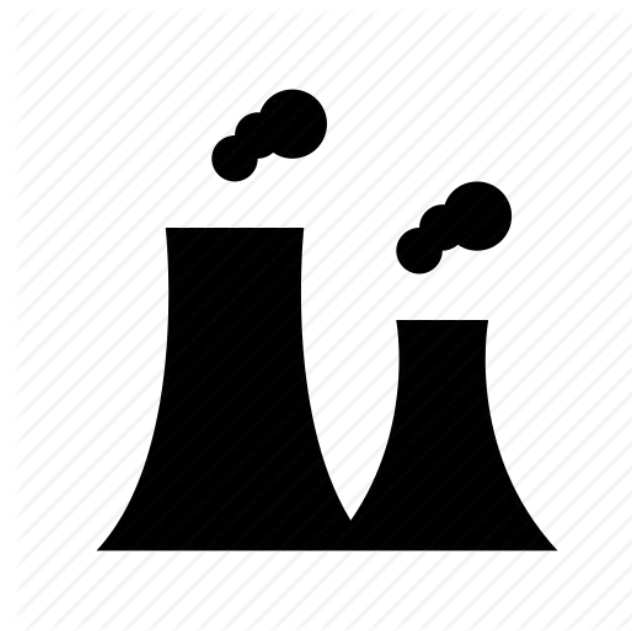
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# ICS Attacks

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- Stuxnet attacking Iran nuclear facilities
- Use of multiple zero day exploits
- Focus on specific PLC device
- ICS devices were not built to be published over internet
- Honeypots could help detect attacks



# ICS Honeypots

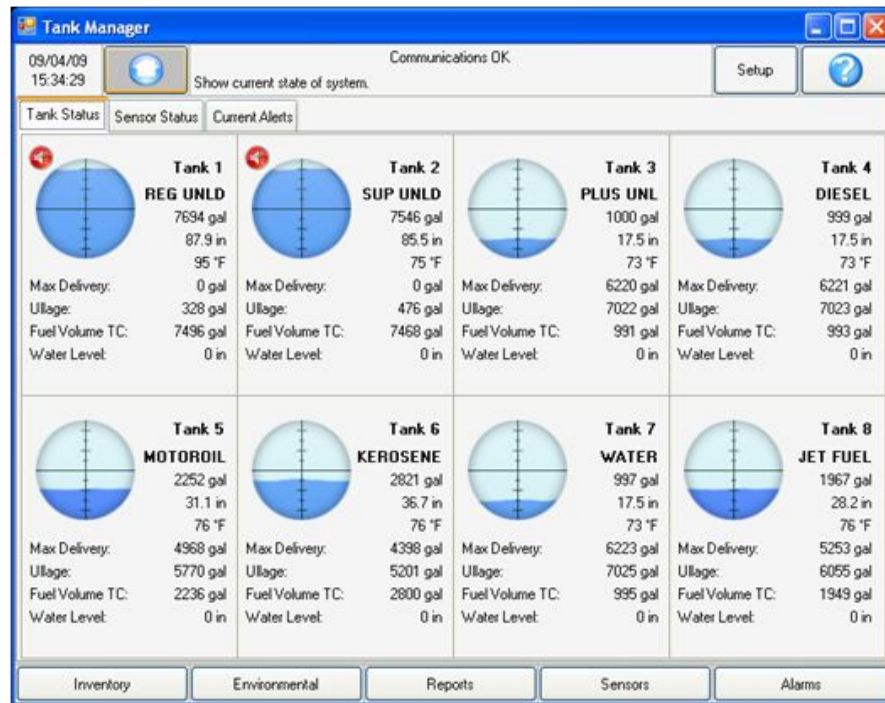
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- **ConPot:** Generic ICS Honeypot supports SFTP, FTP, Guardian AST, S7, Modbus, ...
- **GasPot:** Guardian AST Honeypot (Gas Tank Inventory)
- **Scada-Honeynet:** Simulated PLC TCP/IP Stack, Modbus, Telnet, ...
- **GridPot:** Combines ConPot with power distribution system simulator
- **iHoney:** Waste water treatment plant simulator
- They are all low interaction (obviously)



# Challenges of designing ICS Honeypots

- It is inherently difficult to make a good ICS honeypot
- Proprietary protocols
- Sensors that collect data from real world



# Attacks on Automatic Tank Gauges

- GasPot simulates Veeder Root's ATG devices.
- Historically hackers attacked these devices to:
  - Rename tank information
  - Resize tanks (Cause overflow)
  - Shutdown dispensing
  - Hide leaks by suppressing alerts





# Fingerprinting categories

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1. Default configuration
2. Missing protocol features
3. Unusual behavior
4. Fingerprinting the underlying OS



# Default configuration (ConPot)

---

Protocol	Port	Signature	Shodan	Censys
Siemens S7	102	PLC name: Technodrome	214	185
		Plant identification: Mouser Factory	215	162
		Serial number of module: 88111222	182	92



# Default configuration (ConPot)

---

Protocol	Port	Signature	Shodan	Censys
HTTP	80	Last-Modified: Tue, 19 May 1993 09:00:00 GMT	240	133
Telnet	50100	Connected to [00:13:EA:00:00:00]	31	-
IEC104	2404	Data Received: 680e00000000	13	-
Ethernet IP	4818	Product name: 1756-L61/B LOGIX5561	83	-



# Default configuration (ConPot)

🌐 104.250.108.68 [View Raw Data](#)

Industrial Control System

City Palo Alto

Country United States

Organization DigitalFyre Internet Solutions, LLC.

ISP DigitalFyre Internet Solutions, LLC.

Last Update 2018-06-23T05:34:52.040019

## Ports

80

44818

## Services

80

tcp

http

↻

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Date: Tue, 12 Jun 2018 16:35:29 GMT

Last-Modified: Tue, 19 May 1993 09:00:00 GMT

Content-Type: text/html

Set-cookie: path=/

Content-Length: 620

80

tcp

http

↻

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Date: Tue, 12 Jun 2018 16:35:29 GMT

Last-Modified: Tue, 19 May 1993 09:00:00 GMT

Content-Type: text/html

Set-cookie: path=/

Content-Length: 620



# Default configuration (GasPot)

---

## GasPot default station names

```
# The 'stations' section defines the names for gas stations. These
# should be localized for decreased suspicion of being a honeypot.
[stations]
list = [
    'EXXON STATION\n    12 Fake St\n    Anytown, MO 12346',
    'FUEL COOP',
    'SHELL STATION',
    'AMOCO FUELS',
    'MOBIL STATION',
```



# Missing protocol features (ConPot and Scada Honeynet)

- Plcscan shows unknown protocol for Modbus on ConPot
- Similar results on Scada Honeynet

```
Command Prompt
C:\Users\d3coder\Desktop\plcscan-master>plcscan.py 175.96.80.237
Scan start...
175.96.80.237:102 S7comm (src_tsap=0x100, dst_tsap=0x102)
Module : v.0.0 (0000000000000000)
Name of the PLC : outlet (6f75746c65740000)
Name of the module : Siemens, SIMATIC, S7-300 (5369656d656e7320)
Plant identification : Power Corporation (506f77657220436e)
Copyright : Original Siemens Equipment (4f726967696e6164)
Serial number of module : 16111663 (3136313131363633)
Module type name : IH151-8 PN/DP CPU (494d3135312d3820)
OEM ID of a module : (0000000000000000)
Location designation of a module: (00000000)
175.96.80.237:502 unknown protocol
Scan complete
```

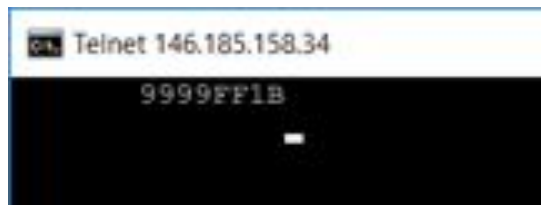
```
sjhilt@db-assessment:~/Desktop/plcscan-read-only$ python plcscan.py
Scan start...
:502 [Errno 104] Connection reset by peer
:502 unknown protocol
Scan complete
```



# Missing protocol features (GasPot)

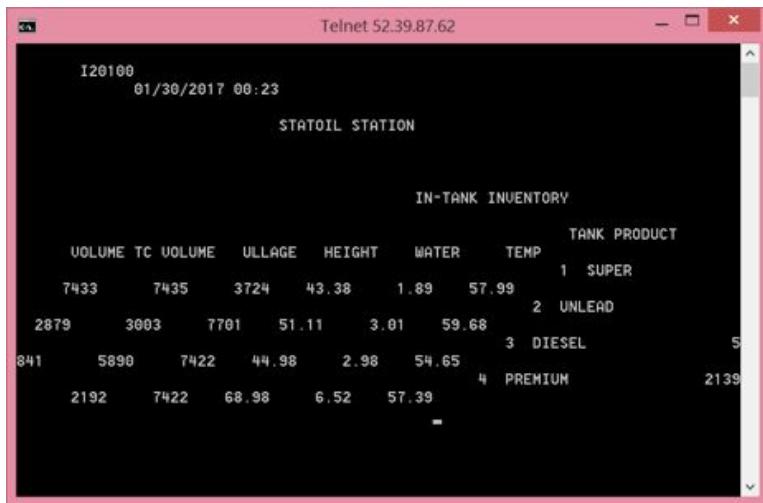
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- Guardian AST, Automatic Tank Gauges support a variety of commands.
- I20100 query returns in tank inventory information. (Supported by GasPot)
- I30100 returns sensor status report. (Not supported, returns 9999FF1B)



# Unusual behavior

On a normal ATG device, the temperature, oil level and other features are going to change over time.



Telnet 52.39.87.62

120100  
01/30/2017 00:23

STATOIL STATION

IN-TANK INVENTORY

VOLUME TC	VOLUME	ULLAGE	HEIGHT	WATER	TEMP	TANK PRODUCT
7433	7435	3724	43.38	1.89	57.99	1 SUPER
2879	3003	7701	51.11	3.01	59.68	2 UNLEAD
841	5890	7422	44.98	2.98	54.65	3 DIESEL
2192	7422	68.98	6.52	57.39		4 PREMIUM



Telnet 52.39.87.62

120100  
01/30/2017 13:34

STATOIL STATION

IN-TANK INVENTORY

VOLUME TC	VOLUME	ULLAGE	HEIGHT	WATER	TEMP	TANK PRODUCT
7433	7610	3724	43.38	1.89	57.99	1 SUPER
2879	3009	7701	51.11	3.01	59.68	2 UNLEAD
841	5951	7422	44.98	2.98	54.65	3 DIESEL
2254	7422	68.98	6.52	57.39		4 PREMIUM






# Platform fingerprinting

- The operating system
- List of open ports

Command: `nmap -p 1-65535 -T4 -A -v 107.181.166.76`

Hosts		Services		Nmap Output		Ports / Hosts	Topology	Host Details	Scans
OS	Host	Port	Protocol	State	Service	Version			
	107.181.166.76	53	tcp	open	domain	ISC BIND 9.8.1-P1			
		80	tcp	open	http	Apache httpd 2.2.22 ((Ubuntu))			
		102	tcp	open	iso-tsap				
		502	tcp	open	asa-appl-prot				
		554	tcp	open	rtsp				
		1723	tcp	open	tcpwrapped				
		2222	tcp	open	ssh	OpenSSH 5.1p1 Debian 5 (protocol 2.0)			
		2323	tcp	open	3d-nfsd				
		4475	tcp	filtered					
		5060	tcp	open	sip				
		5555	tcp	filtered	freeciv				
		7547	tcp	filtered					
		22222	tcp	open	ssh	OpenSSH 5.9p1 Debian Subuntu1.9 (Ubuntu Lin			
		Filter Hosts							



# Specific fingerprints for GasPot

- These features are not inherently different
- Use these for validation

## Extra features

- Response time (GasPot returns instantly, Real ATGs take longer to respond)
- Output text formatting (Only \n instead of \r\n)



The screenshot shows a Telnet window titled 'Telnet 52.39.87.62'. The output is as follows:

```
120100
01/30/2017 00:23

STATOIL STATION

IN-TANK INVENTORY

VOLUME TC VOLUME ULLAGE HEIGHT WATER TEMP TANK PRODUCT
7433 7435 3724 43.38 1.89 57.99 1 SUPER
2879 3003 7701 51.11 3.01 59.68 2 UNLEAD
841 5890 7422 44.98 2.98 54.65 3 DIESEL 5
2192 7422 68.98 6.52 57.39 4 PREMIUM 2139
```



## Results: Example hosts in our dataset

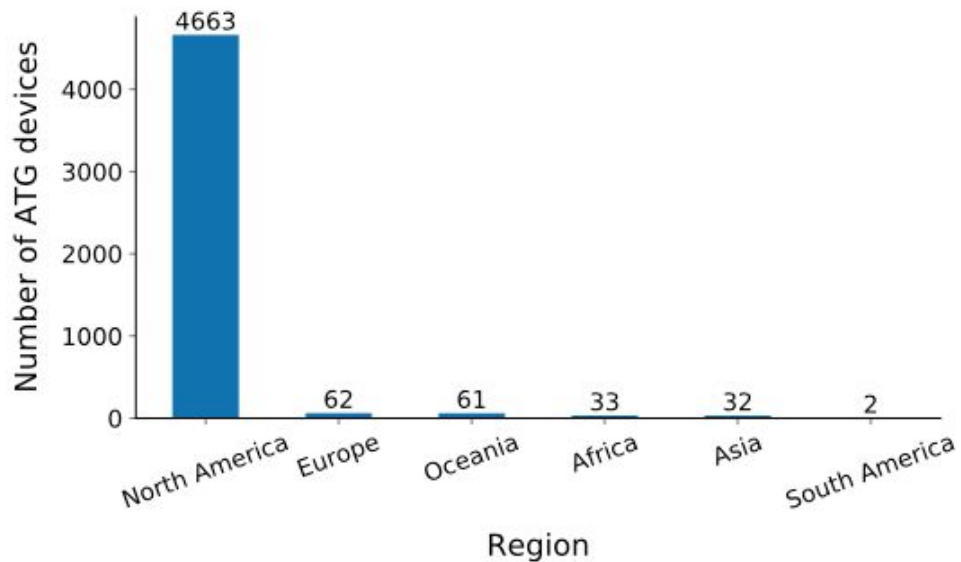
---

Host	% Change	Default Config	Missing I30100 Trap	nmap OS
A	10.41 %	True	True	Linux 3.X 4.X
B	10.41 %	True	True	Linux 3.X 4.X
C	15.9 %	False	False	Larus 54580 NTP server
D	18.4 %	False	False	dell embedded
E	24.4 %	False	False	Lantronix embedded



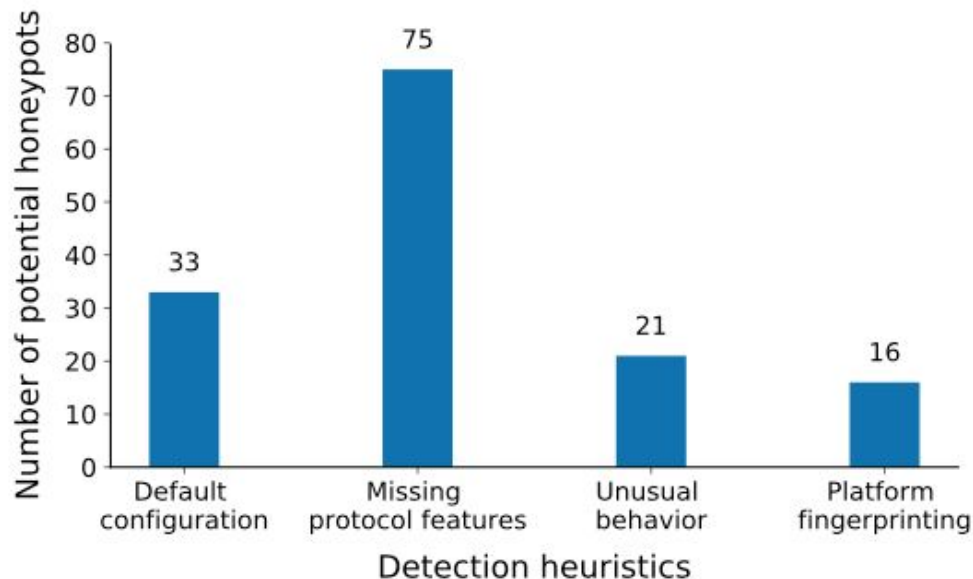
# Results: ATG device locations

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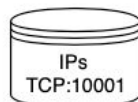
# Results: ATG device detected by detection heuristics

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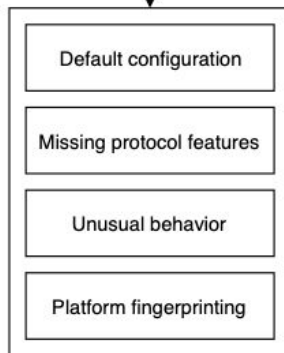


# Deciding if a host is a honeypot

1. Scan the internet for ATG devices



2. Detection heuristics



3. Majority vote



# Result: Geolocation of detected GasPots

Honeypot hosting location	Number of IPs
Digital Ocean	11
AWS	1
Other ISPs	5



# Source code is publicly available

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- ICS scanner module:  
OWASP Nettacker project (Automated penetration testing tool)  
[https://github.com/zdresearch/OWASP-Nettacker/blob/master/lib/payload/scanner/ics\\_honeypot/ics.py](https://github.com/zdresearch/OWASP-Nettacker/blob/master/lib/payload/scanner/ics_honeypot/ics.py)
- Guardian AST Honeypot module:  
OWASP Honeypot project  
<https://github.com/zdresearch/OWASP-Honeypot/tree/master/lib/modules/ics>
  - Dynamic response to queries
  - Added support for missing commands
  - Added delay to responses to simulate behavior of real devices
  - Fixed line breaks





# Conclusion

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- Honeypots provide an invaluable tool for detecting ICS attacks
- Creating ICS honeypots is challenging by its nature
- Existing ICS honeypots can easily be fingerprinted
- Case study on fingerprinting GasPots on the internet
- Providing the ICS scanner module & the Guardian AST honeypot that is more resilient to fingerprinting

