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Welcome to the one-day threat hunting course!

We'll be placing longer answers here, short answers in the webcast chat.

Most commonly asked questions

- **Will there be a recording?** Yes, and it will be up in a few weeks at <https://www.activecountermeasures.com/hunt-training/>
- **Will I get a certificate?** Yes, it will be emailed to you in 2-3 days at the email address you used to sign up for the class. Please check your spam folder if you don't see in 3 days.
- **Where do I ask questions?** In the "Threat Hunter Community" discord (<https://discord.gg/threathunter/>), in the "#live-webcast-chat" channel.
- **Where do I get the slides?** In the "Threat Hunter Community" discord (<https://discord.gg/threathunter/>), in the "#acm-webcast-content" channel.
- **Where do I get the labs?** <https://www.activecountermeasures.com/hunt-training/>
- **But my company won't let me run the Discord app.** You can join discord in your web browser: <https://discord.gg/threathunter/> .
- **Do I need to patch/update the virtual machine?** It's a good idea to patch it.

Class

The webcast starts at 11:00AM US eastern time (16:00 UTC, 08:00 US Pacific) on Friday Dec 1st, 2023:

10:30 eastern/15:30 UTC/07:30 US Pacific: Setup questions and Pre-show banter

11:00 eastern/16:00 UTC/08:00 US Pacific: Start of class

17:00 eastern/22:00 UTC/14:00 US Pacific: Approximate end of class.

Links

Course details, lab downloads:

<https://www.activecountermeasures.com/cyber-threat-hunting-training-course/>

Join us in the #live-webcast-chat channel on Discord for chat during the training:

<https://discord.gg/threathunter/>

Questions related to the material: #live-webcast-chat

General chat about the webcast: #live-webcast-chat

Course material and FAQ download: #acm-webcast-content

Problems (audio/video): #discord-feedback

Demo/more information requests: #acm-general

Future classes; see <https://www.activecountermeasures.com/events/>

Labs

The labs are distributed as a virtual machine for vmware. Please download it well in advance of the webcast, install them, and test that you can successfully log in.

Your virtual machine only needs 2 processors, though giving it 4 may help.

To do the labs, make sure you create the machine with at least 16GB (could drop to 12GB for the labs).

Also, make sure you have plenty of free space on the drive that holds the virtual machines - 200G should be fine.

To run more than one command at once, you can switch between consoles with ctrl-alt-f2 , ctrl-alt-f3, etc if you're typing a Windows or Linux system, or fn-option-f2, fn-option-f3 on a Mac.

Don't worry if you don't have network access once you load the VM. All labs will be done within the VM itself. We have some cool pcaps and Zeek files to play with. There is no GUI. We're going commando line on this one!

Option 1: Download

You need one of the following; either download a full virtual machine or the script that will try to install the tools. The details on these virtual machines are at <https://www.activecountermeasures.com/hunt-training/> .

We supply the class VM in three formats: virtualbox virtual machine, VMWare virtual machine, and generic OVA (appropriate for virtualbox, vmware, and other virtualization packages, respectively.) **Please download these in advance - they take a while to download and install.**

For a some more background on how to work with virtual machines, see: <https://carleton.ca/scs/tech-support/virtual-machines/virtual-machine-technical-support/virtual-machine-step-by-step-guide/>

Option 2 - share a cloud server with the labs loaded.

We have 3 cloud instances loaded with the labs. They are:
<https://thunt1.aihhosted.com>
<https://thunt2.aihhosted.com>
<https://thunt3.aihhosted.com>

You're welcome to use any one of these. Please remember these are shared with other students, so we ask you not to create safelist entries or delete databases.

The web login to each is:

Name: threat@activecountermeasures.com

Password: hunting2

Using

If your virtual machine hangs with one or more "uninitialized urandom read" messages on the console and never gives you a login prompt, try pressing lots and lots of keys randomly. Seriously. The kernel is looking for random input to serve different services that need a random number to start correctly; pressing keys over and over should give it that information. (unconfirmed fix)

Login details:

Login: threat

Pass: hunting

This next block needs to be rechecked against the current lab VM:

Data files are in /home/threat/lab* . Verify that you can see the lab files:

```
thunt@thunt-one-day:~$ pwd
```

```
/home/threat
```

```
thunt@thunt-one-day:~$ cd labs
```

```
thunt@thunt-one-day:labs$ ls -Al lab[123]/
```

```
lab1/:
```

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1769129 Feb 17 12:25 conn.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 48722 Feb 17 12:25 dhcp.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1529159 Feb 17 12:25 dns.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 169343 Feb 17 12:25 files.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1444115 Feb 17 12:25 http.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 819 Feb 17 12:25 ntp.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 254 Feb 17 12:25 packet_filter.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 109204 Feb 17 12:25 ssl.log
-rwxr-xr-x 1 threat threat 85294077 Jun 10 2020 trace1.pcap
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 15630 Feb 17 12:25 weird.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 235138 Feb 17 12:25 x509.log
```

```
lab2/:
```

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1281 Jan 22 11:01 conn.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 453834 Jan 22 11:01 dns.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 253 Jan 22 11:01 packet_filter.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 470 Jan 22 11:01 weird.log
```

```
lab3/:
```

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1294975 Feb 18 04:09 conn.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 48738 Feb 18 04:09 dhcp.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 1463736 Feb 18 04:09 dns.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 176430 Feb 18 04:09 files.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 26802 Feb 18 04:09 http.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 254 Feb 18 04:09 packet_filter.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 125354 Feb 18 04:09 ssl.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 323949399 Feb 17 12:17 trace3.pcap
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 15621 Feb 18 04:09 weird.log
-rw-r--r-- 1 threat threat 266437 Feb 18 04:09 x509.log
```

Keyboard layout

If you need a keyboard layout other than English/US, run:

```
sudo dpkg-reconfigure keyboard-configuration
```

VMware

If you do not have VMWare installed, see

<https://www.vmware.com/products/workstation-player.html> for details about VMWare Player.

If you are running an older version of VMWare (like 14), you may get a version error such as "The virtual machine is using a hardware version that is not supported by this version of VMware Workstation." when you try to load the VMWare VM. Try this quick hack:

- 1) Open "thunt-1-day-v2-vmware.vmx" with Notepad or a similar text editor
- 2) Search for the line: `virtualHW.version = "16"` (should be towards the top)
- 3) Change this line to read `= virtualHW.version = "14"`
- 4) Save your changes
- 5) Launch the VM

Reference: <https://kb.vmware.com/s/article/1003746>

If you get error messages like:

VMware Workstation and Device/Credential Guard are not compatible.

VMware Workstation can be run after disabling Device/Credential Guard

, take a look at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/security/identity-protection/credential-guard/dg-readiness-tool>

If you've never installed a VMWare virtual machine, we have an instruction video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzkFLcwnZbo> . Note that the video is for installing AC-Hunter CE via VMWare (as opposed to the lab virtual machine for this class) so some of the instructions may differ.

Other virtualization tools

If you cannot use VMWare or virtualbox for some reason, you're welcome to see if your existing virtualization package can import OVA files.

Errors

Datamash

If you get "invalid numeric value in line 1 field #" using datamash it's due to the language specific decimal separator. To fix this, execute "export LC_NUMERIC=en_US.UTF-8" before using datamash. (Thanks Bytewolf!)

Virtualbox

Getting a failed to attach to drive port 0 when trying to start the VM image on VirtualBox. What step am I missing?

Try deleting devices like floppy, usb, cdrom, sound card, and/or printer.

Followup

Within a few weeks we'll have a recording of the class at <https://www.activecountermeasures.com/cyber-threat-hunting-training-course/> . Within a day or two we'll also email you a certificate for the class. Please check the spam folder for the account under which you registered for the class.

Miscellaneous

Is that PCAP or netflow data on the dashboard?

It's a pcap converted into Zeek logs and imported into AC-Hunter.

What data does AC hunter need, how do you "connect it"? Is it full mirror traffic, netflow, or something else?

You plug a Zeek sensor into a span/copy/mirror/tap . You then send the Zeek output (zeek logs) to AC-Hunter.

Do you need to configure port forwarding if you are logging in directly from the machine (not remotely)

It may work; if it doesn't, go back and configure port forwarding.

Are the datasets that come with the community edition the same as the class lab vm datasets?
The class labs include some additional lab datasets.

Windows users

To confirm a checksum on windows, get in to Powershell and run (example)

```
get-filehash -alg SHA256 .\thunt-L1-2023-r1-vbox.zip
```

or

```
get-filehash -alg SHA256 .\thunt-L1-2023-r1.ova
```

or

```
get-filehash -alg SHA256 .\thunt-L1-2023-r1-vmware.zip
```

which should return the right checksum for your downloaded file (see

<https://www.activecountermeasures.com/hunt-training/> for the correct checksums for those files).

Mac users

If you're on Mac OS and cannot unzip a file with unzip, the zip file cannot be opened by unzip supplied with Mac OS. To open, create a lab directory and use "ditto" (included with Mac OS) to open:

```
mkdir thuntclass
```

```
cd thuntclass
```

```
ditto -x -k /path/to/thunt-1-day-v2-vmware.zip ./
```