

Orange  
Cyberdefense

# Virtually Private Networks

Virtually good enough

Wicus Ross

Charl van der Walt



charlvdwalt



wicusross

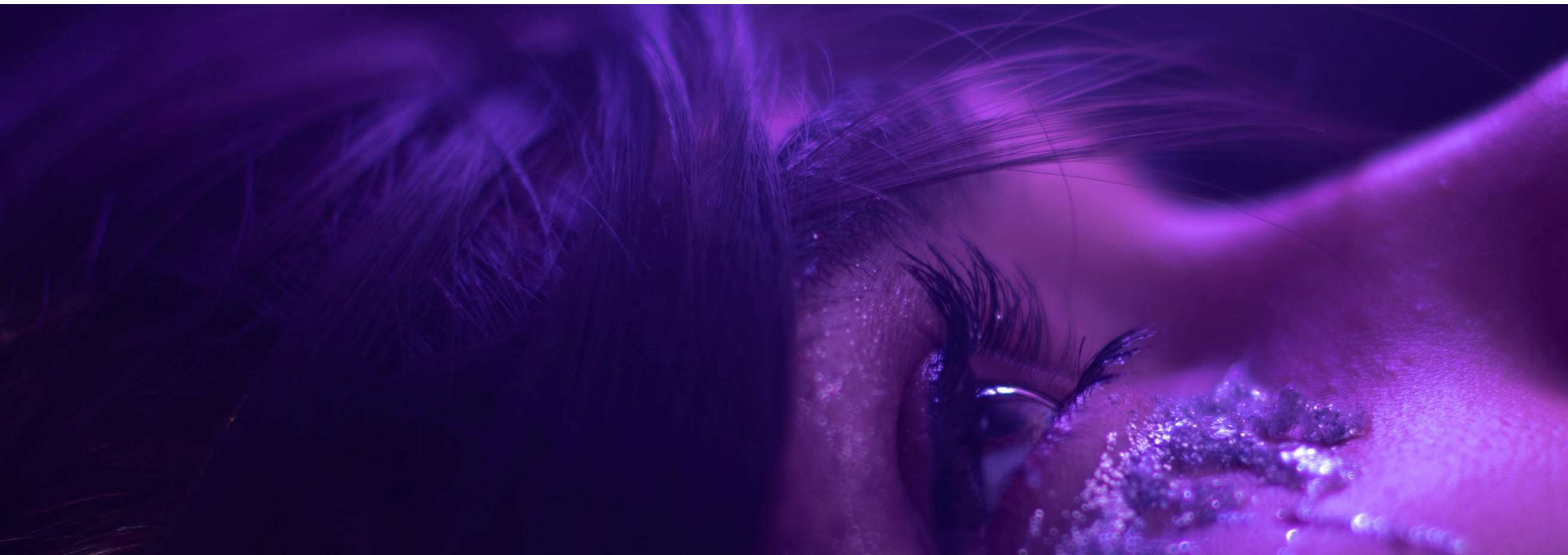


  
**black hat**<sup>®</sup>  
USA 2020

**AUGUST 5-6, 2020**  
BRIEFINGS

#BHUSA @BLACKHATEVENTS

# 1. Introduction





848,850 MILES FLOWN



10

WEEKS IN THE AIR



21

CITIES VISITED



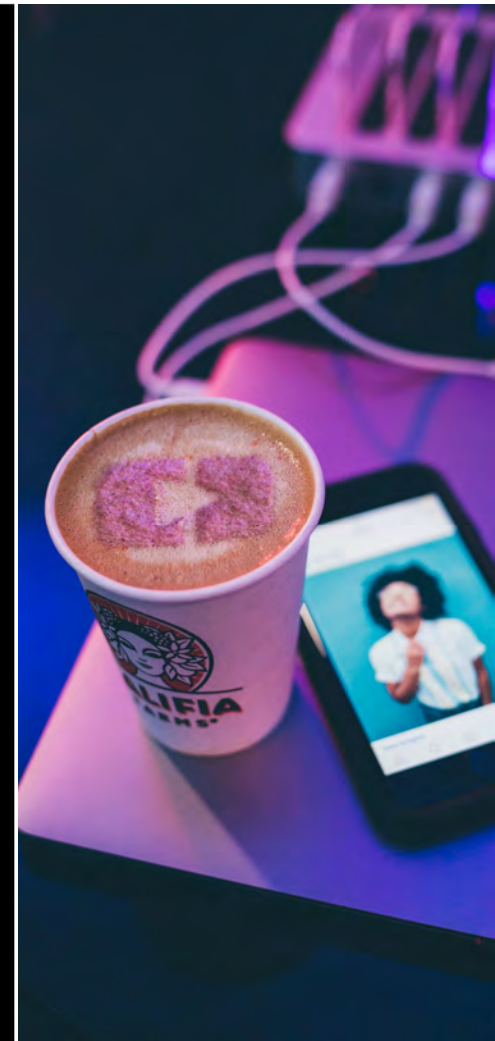
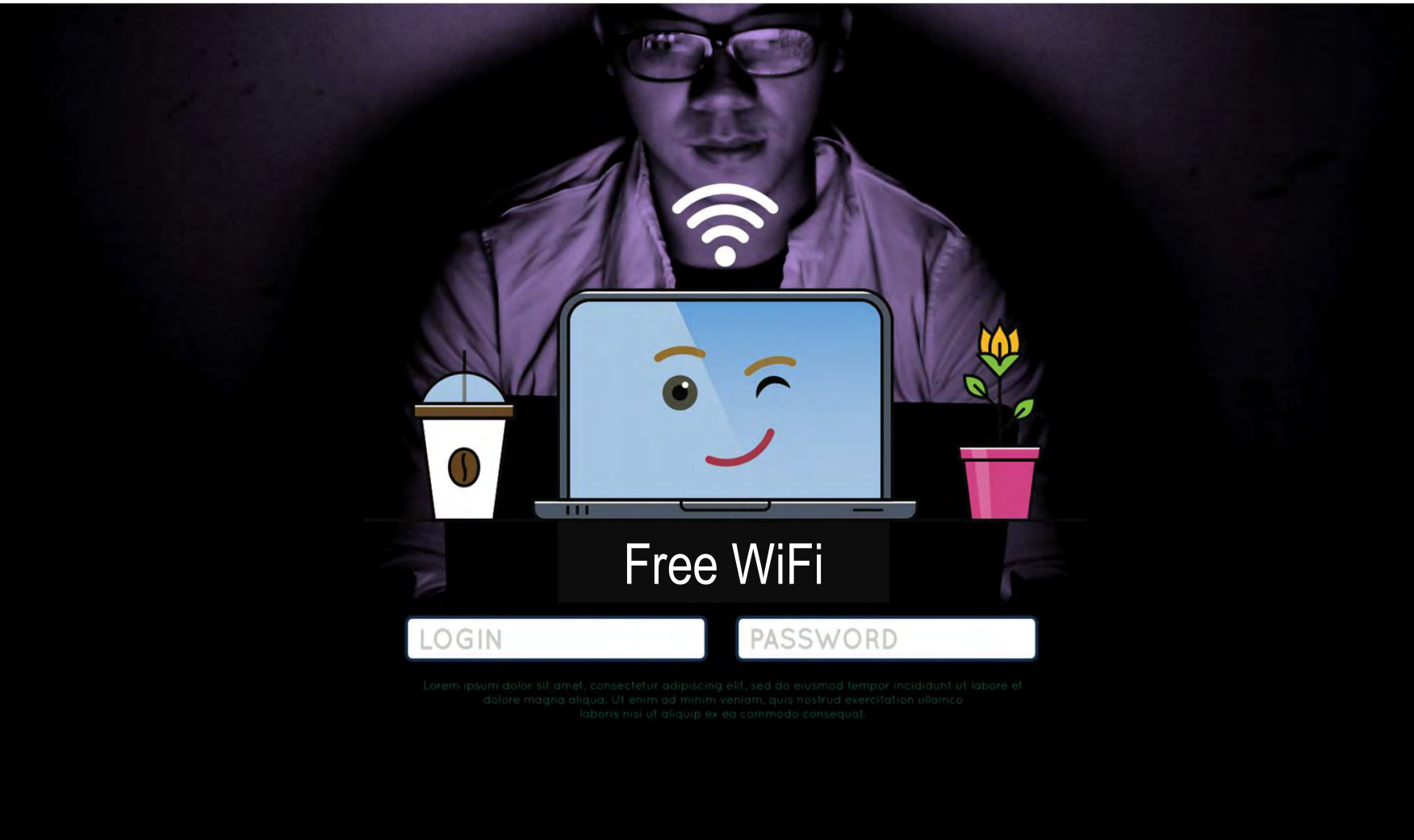
14

COUNTRIES VISITED

31.2%

AROUND THE SUN'S  
EQUATOR





**Security Alert**

outlook.office365.com

Information you exchange with this site cannot be viewed or changed by others. However, there is a problem with the site's security certificate.

- ✗ The security certificate was issued by a company you have not chosen to trust. View the certificate to determine whether you want to trust the certifying authority.
- ✓ The security certificate date is valid.
- ✗ The name on the security certificate is invalid or does not match the name of the site.

Do you want to proceed?

Yes No View Certificate...

**Microsoft Outlook**

There is a problem with the proxy server's security certificate. The security certificate is not from a trusted certifying authority.

Outlook is unable to connect to the proxy server owa.secdata.com. (Error Code 18).

OK

**Zoom**

**Security Warning: Untrusted Server Certificate**

Your connection is not private. Attackers might be trying to steal your personal or financial information from Zoom.

This server could not prove that it is Zoom. Its security certificate is from ubnt.

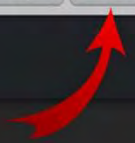
Trust anyway Do not trust

You are about to authenticate to an untrusted server. There are problems with the site's security certificate:

- [The certificate or certificate chain is based on an untrusted root.](#)
- [The certificate name does not match the server you are trying to connect to.](#)

Save settings

View Connect Cancel





domain.com, in the living room, with a candlestick

The screenshot shows the Windows Registry Editor with the following structure:

- Left pane: System > CurrentControlSet > Network > Dhcp > Parameters > Interfaces > {051627B60205C616A7160265963647F6279616}
- Right pane: Registry values for the selected interface.

Name	Type	Data
EnableDHCP	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)
Domain	REG_SZ	(value not set)
NameServer	REG_SZ	(value not set)
DhcpIPAddress	REG_SZ	172.21.1.233
DhcpSubnetMask	REG_SZ	255.255.240.0
DhcpServer	REG_SZ	172.21.0.1
Lease	REG_DWORD	0x00015180 (86400)
LeaseObtainedTime	REG_DWORD	0x000A8D65 (691557)
T1	REG_DWORD	0x000B3625 (734757)
T2	REG_DWORD	0x000BB4B5 (767157)
LeaseTerminatesTime	REG_DWORD	0x000BDEE5 (777957)
AddressType	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
IsServerNapAware	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
DhcpConnForceBroadcastFlag	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
DhcpNetworkHint	REG_SZ	051627B60205C616A7160265963647F6279616
DhcpInterfaceOptions	REG_BINARY	FC 00 25 36 0E
DhcpDefaultGateway	REG_MULTI_SZ	172.21.0.1
DhcpNameServer	REG_SZ	8.8.8.8.8.4.4
<b>DhcpDomain</b>	<b>REG_SZ</b>	<b>domain.com</b>
DhcpSubnetMaskOpt	REG_MULTI_SZ	255.255.240.0
DhcpGatewayHardware	REG_BINARY	AC 15 00 01 06 00 00 00 06 1F D4 05 47 3A
DhcpGatewayHardwareCount	REG_DWORD	0x00000001 (1)

At the bottom of the right pane, a hex dump is visible:

```
00 64 00 6F 00 6D 00 61 00-69 00 6E 00 2E 00 63 00 d o m a i n . c o m . . .  
10 6F 00 6D 00 00 00
```

## The curious case of the outbound 445

Failed to establish a network connection.

Error: {Device Timeout}

The specified I/O operation on %hs was not completed before the time-out period expired.

Server name: PRINTER-HQ

Server address: 66.96.162.92:445

Instance name: \Device\LanmanRedirector

Connection type: Wsk

Guidance:

This indicates a problem with the underlying network or transport, such as with TCP/IP, and

Log Name: Microsoft-Windows-SMBClient/Connectivity





# What should we expect from a VPN?

- **Confidentiality**

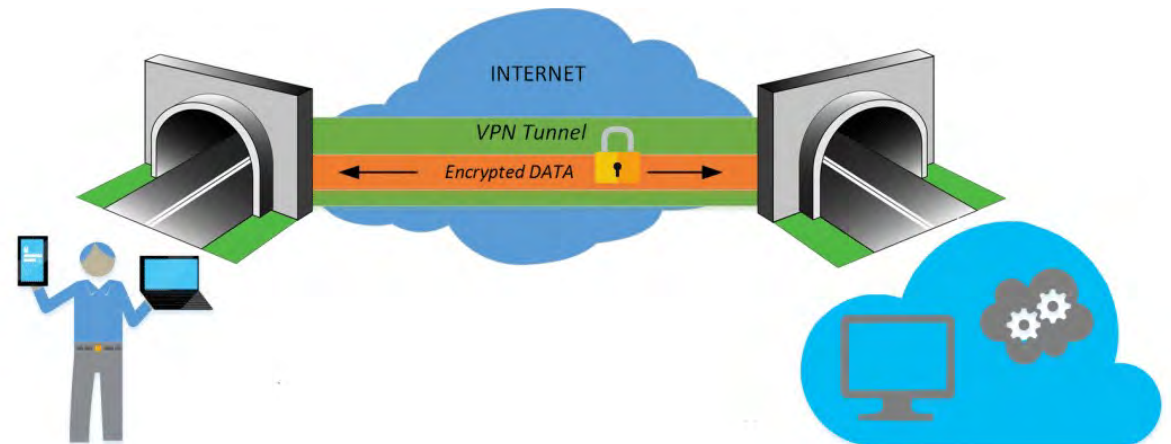
Prevent sensitive or private information from being intercepted or deduced.

- **Integrity**

Ensure that data and messages are not modified or interfered with.

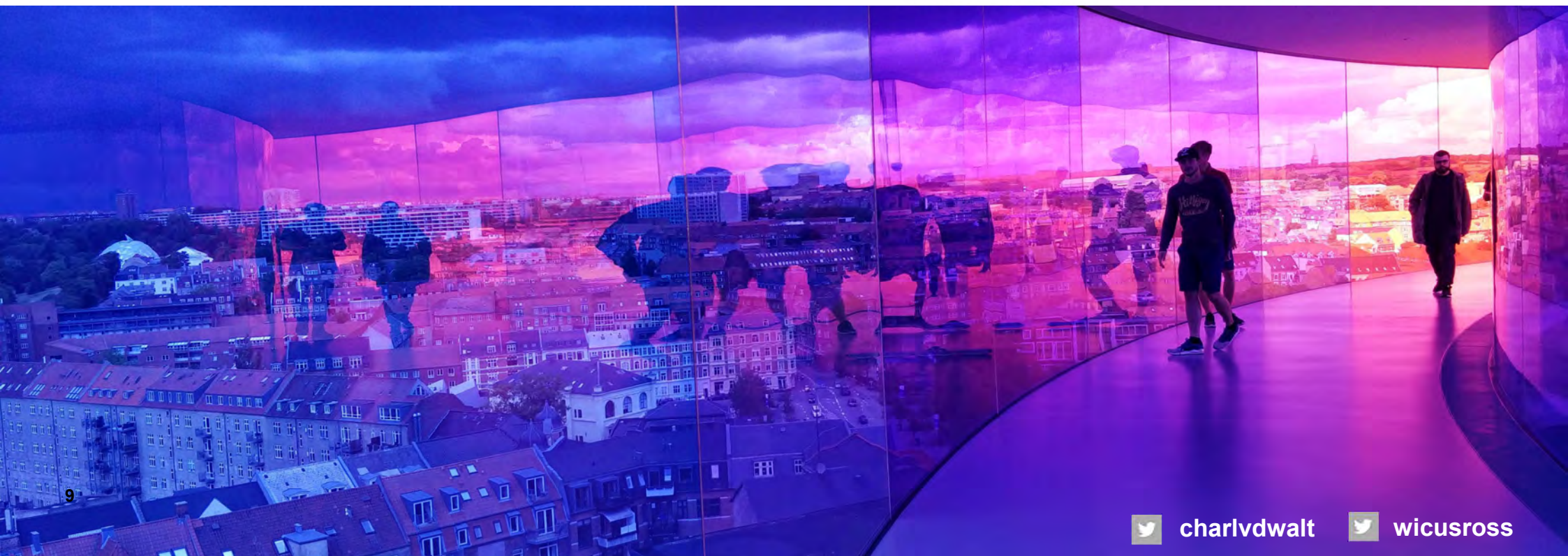
- **Access Control**

Ensure that only authenticated users are permitted to access the systems and resources they are specifically authorized for.





# 2. Research Proposal



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## VPN over Wi-Fi – Specific threat scenarios



Sniffing sensitive data

DNS 'Person in the Middle' (PiTM) or spoofing

Harvesting credentials using spoofed website

Capturing Windows hashes via Responder

Using the Browser as a tunnelling proxy

Using IPv6 to interact with host

# Approach

- General testing to understand the relevant mechanics and validate PoC
- Validate working assumptions
- Define a reasonable 'Target Security Model'
- Create a standardized test plan and Wi-Fi environment with Captive Portal
- Repeat standard tests **of the equivalent capabilities** for 'default' and 'lockdown' configurations
- Engage with vendors for validation and comment



Tested, in no order...

## Cisco



Cisco ASA with AnyConnect

## Pulse Secure



Pulse Connect Secure

Pulse Secure 9.1R1 Build 1505 - Server

Pulse Secure VPN version 9.1.1 (607) - Client

## Checkpoint



Check Point VPN

Check Point R80.30 - Server

Check Point VPN E81.40 Build 986101104 - Client

## Fortinet



Fortigate with FortiClient

FortiOS 6.2.4 - Server

FortiClient 6.4.0.1464 - Client

FortiClient EMS 6.2.7 - Advanced features

## Palo Alto Network



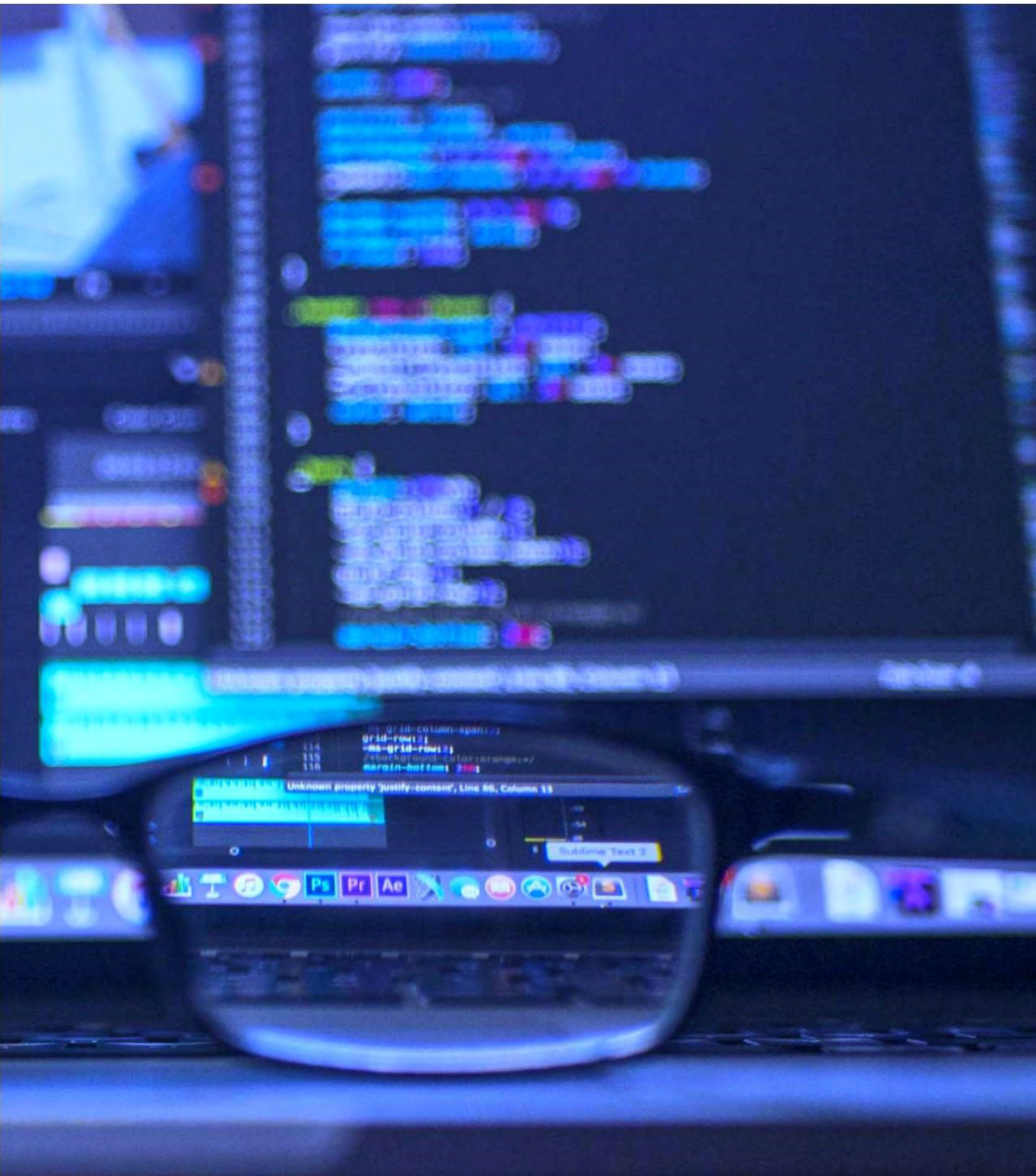
PAN-OS Global Protect

PAN-OS 9.0 (9.0.9) - Server

GlobalProtect 5.1.4 - Client



[bit.ly/orangevpn](https://bit.ly/orangevpn)



If a VPN is the logical extension of a private network to another location, and if we assume that the 'other location' is a Wi-Fi network that is either compromised or malicious, how much protection do enterprise VPN products provide against common threats we could reasonably expect to encounter?

Fundamental research question

# 3. Technical concepts



September 26  
2019



charlvdwalt

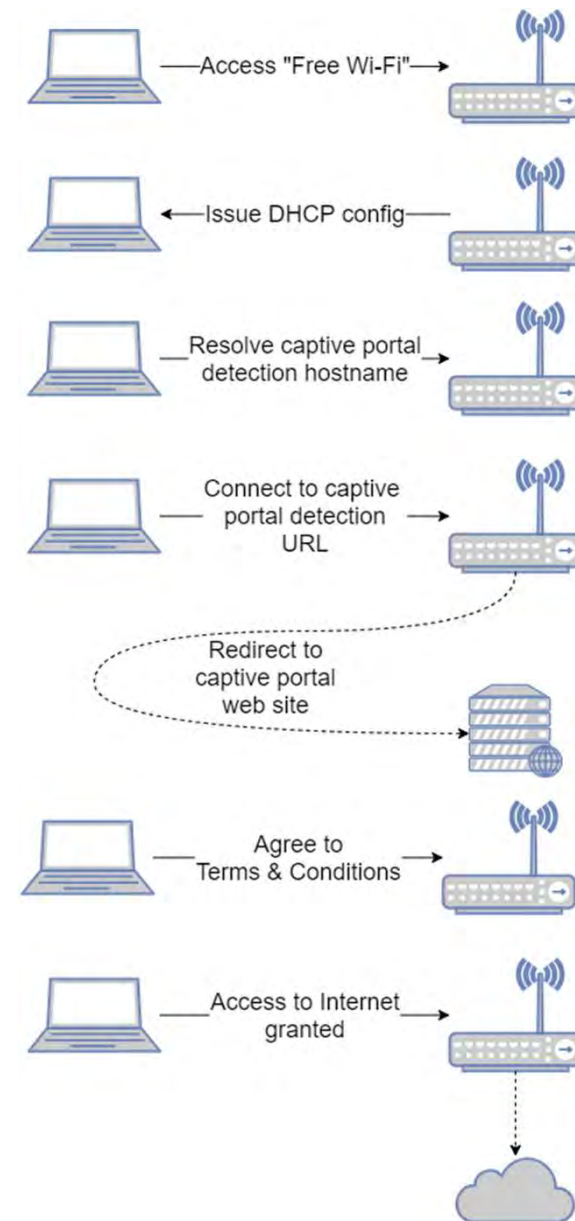


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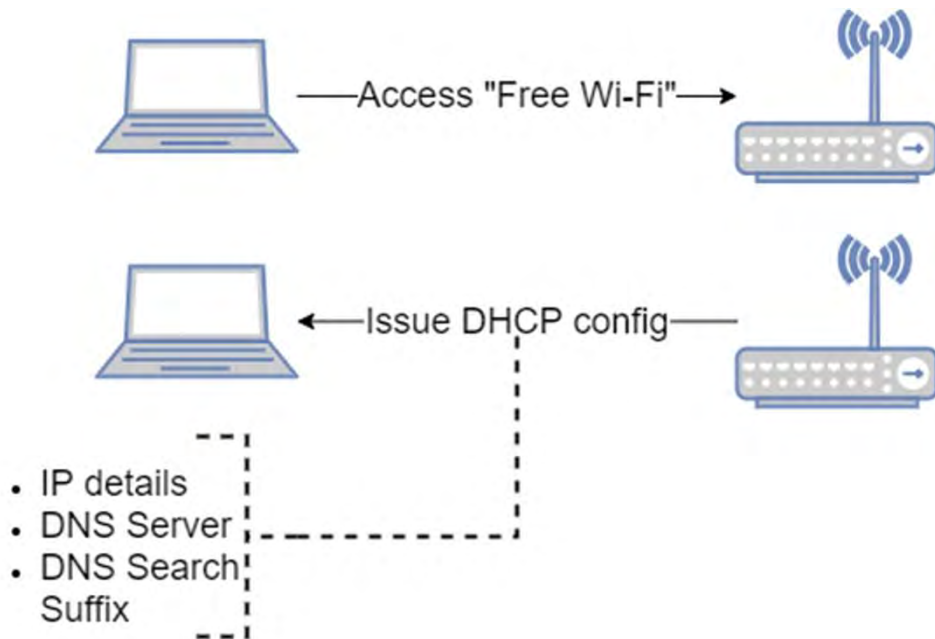


## Captured - How Captive Portals work

- Connect to Wi-Fi
- Assign network settings via DHCP
- Test for Internet access
- Captive portal intercepts HTTP request and issues an HTTP response. Typically an HTTP 302 response that redirect to the captive portal's web interface
- OS determines if the user should be prompted to interact with the captive portal and spawns a browser (default or dedicated)
- Captive portal redirects the browser to the URL that the OS initially used for testing
- OS continues to check whether it can access the Internet. Waits for a successful HTTP 200 response.
- OS signals the user visually when Internet access is enabled



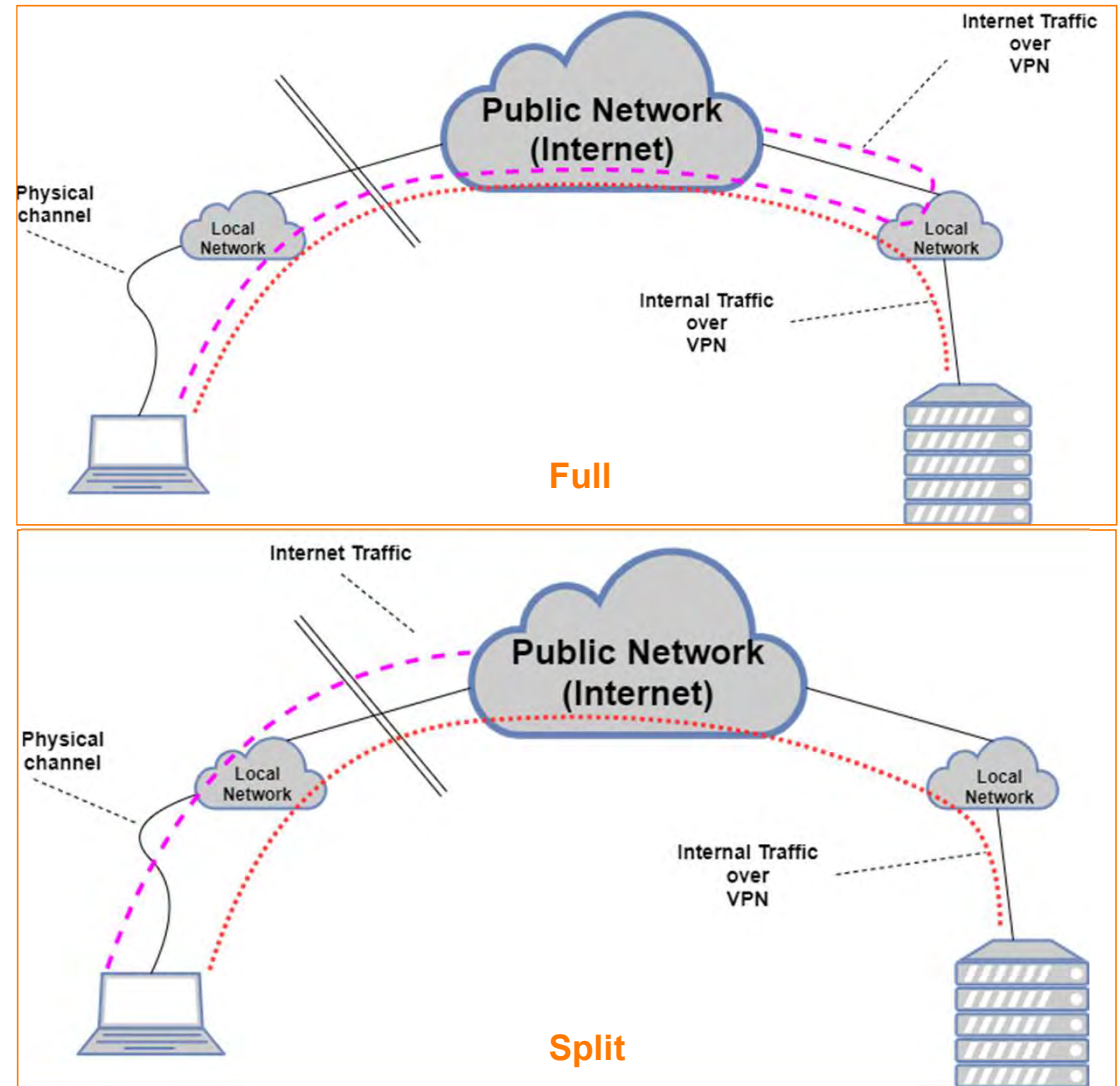
## Captured – DNS & DHCP



- DHCP packets are probably among the first to be broadcast when a guest joins a network
- Guest solicits configuration by a DHCP Discovery packet
- Guest **already discloses its host name and possibly vendor identifier** in subsequent DHCP Request
- DHCP seeds network configuration –
  - IP details
  - DNS
  - **Domain Name** (option 15)
  - **Search Suffix** (option 119)
  - **Routing**
  - **Proxy Auto Discover**
  - **MTU**, etc
- If the client stacks is IPv6 enabled (dual stack) then certain IPv6 network settings can be provided via DHCP also

# VPNs and Split Tunneling

- VPN is configured, once connected, to route specific network requests through the VPN tunnel
- Other traffic follows according to the default network routing rules.
- Done so that only traffic destined for the corporate network is encrypted and subject to access control, while regular local network or internet-bound traffic flowing outside the VPN tunnel.
- To allow access to resources on the local network while retaining performance when accessing the public Internet.
- Lessens the amount of traffic traversing the corporate network





## Wi-Fi and IPv6

- IPv6 enjoys preference in some network stacks
- IPv6 has to broadcast communicate to discover the lay of the land – neighbour solicitation and router solicitation
- There is no ARP in IPv6 replaced by ICMPv6
- Guest OS also broadcast identification information about itself when asking for DHCPv6 details
- DHCPv6 also supports concepts for Domain Search List and FQDN
- IPv6 is often overlooked and results in dual stack deployments by default
- Firewall rules and VPN rules at IPv4 level does not apply to IPv6



# Captive Portal 'mitigation' or 'lock down' mode

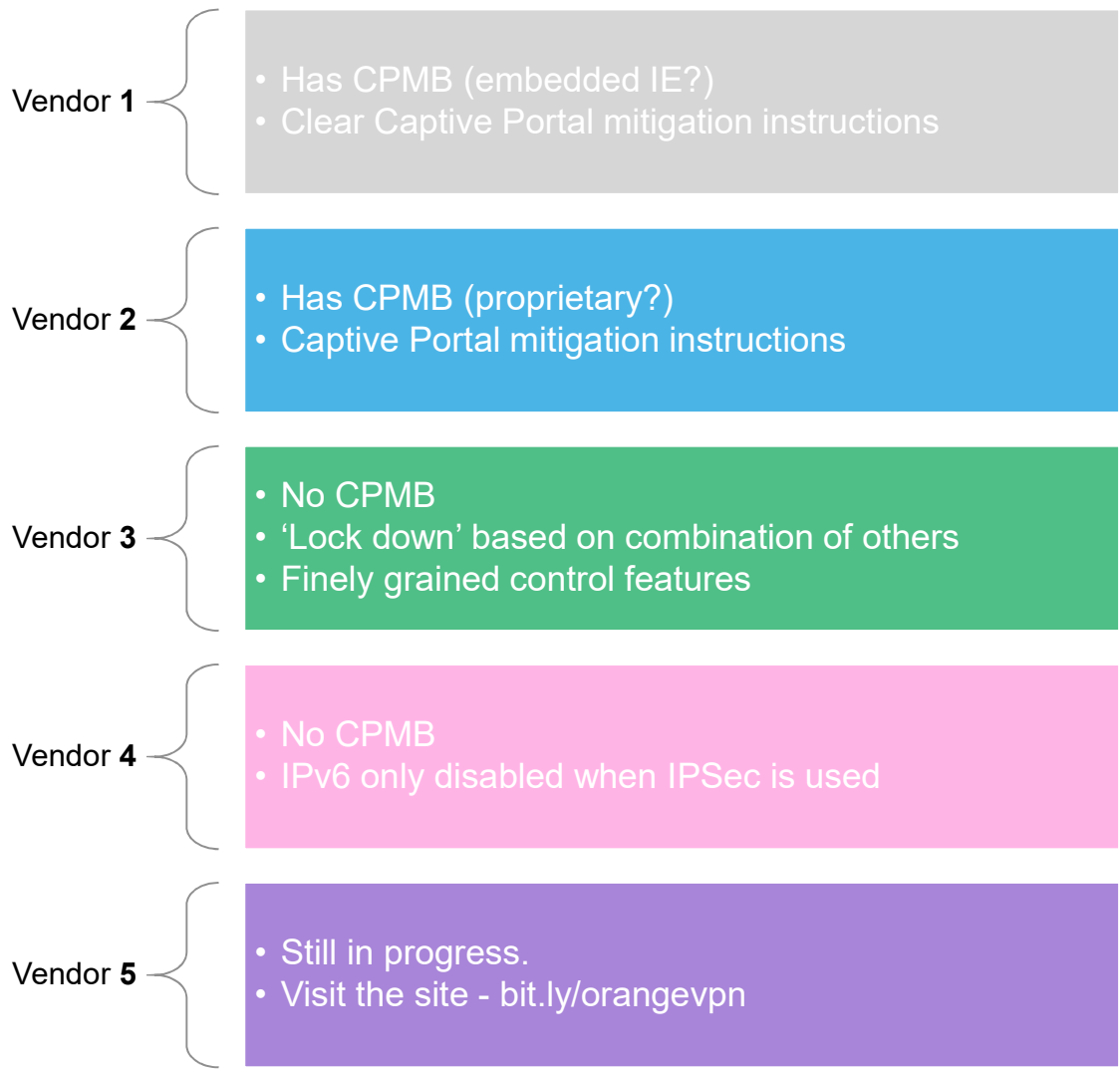
Options:

Name	Value
Allow user to override connection policy <small>Allows user to modify connection state.</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lock down this connection</b> <small>Network access is limited until this connection is established. This option is available only when the Always-on Client option on the connection set is checked.</small>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Support Remote Access (Connect Secure) or LAN Access (Policy Secure) on this connection <small>Uncheck only if the connection is not used for Connect Secure or Policy Secure services (e.g Server is used for Collaboration only).</small>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Enable Collaboration integration on this connection <small>Applicable for Connect Secure type connections only. Leave this unchecked for Policy Secure type</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>

“ Lock down mode is designed to prohibit network communication outside of the VPN Tunnel when the ... client is attempting to create a VPN connection to the ... [server].

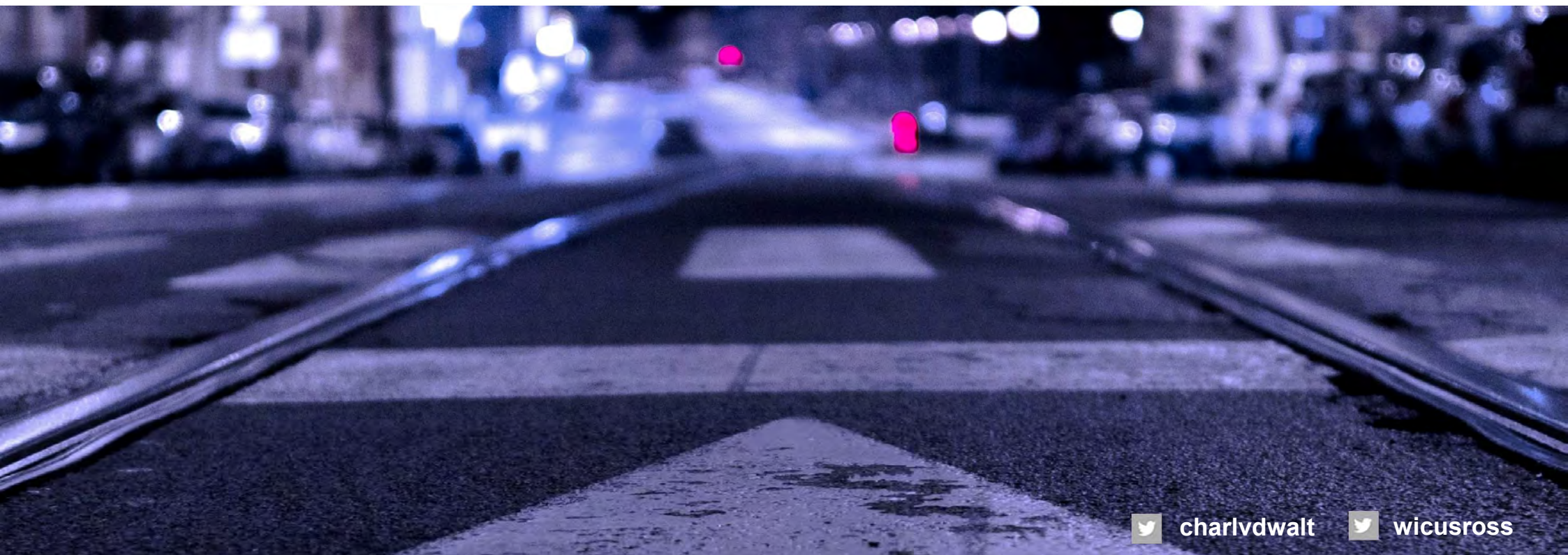


# 'Lock down' mode experiences per product





# 4. Research & Findings



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# 'Lock down' mode features per product

	VPN 1	VPN 2	VPN 3	VPN 4	VPN 5
CPMB	✓	✓	✗	✗	
Vulnerable outbound traffic blocked*	✗	✓	✓	✗	
Outbound allow list configurable	✗	✓	✓	✗	
DNS Cache Flush	✓	✓	✓	✓	
IPv6 Disable	✓	✓	✓	✗	
Captive Portal mitigation window times out	✓	✓	✓	✗	
User can't accept bad certificate	✗	✓	✓	✓	
User cannot disable agent	✓	✓	✓	✓	

\* e.g. SMB, LDAP, NETBIOS

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# Do VPNs do what we expect them to do?

## ▪ Confidentiality

1. How much unsolicited network traffic is broadcast by the guest while associated with the local network of the AP?
2. What role does dynamic network configuration fields such as connection specific DNS suffixes play in leaking network traffic?
3. How much network traffic is leaked to the local network of the AP while connected to the VPN?

## ▪ Integrity

1. Are the client applications on roaming device vulnerable to person-in-the-middle attacks via the LAN?
2. How resilient are roaming devices against credential theft?

## ▪ Access Control

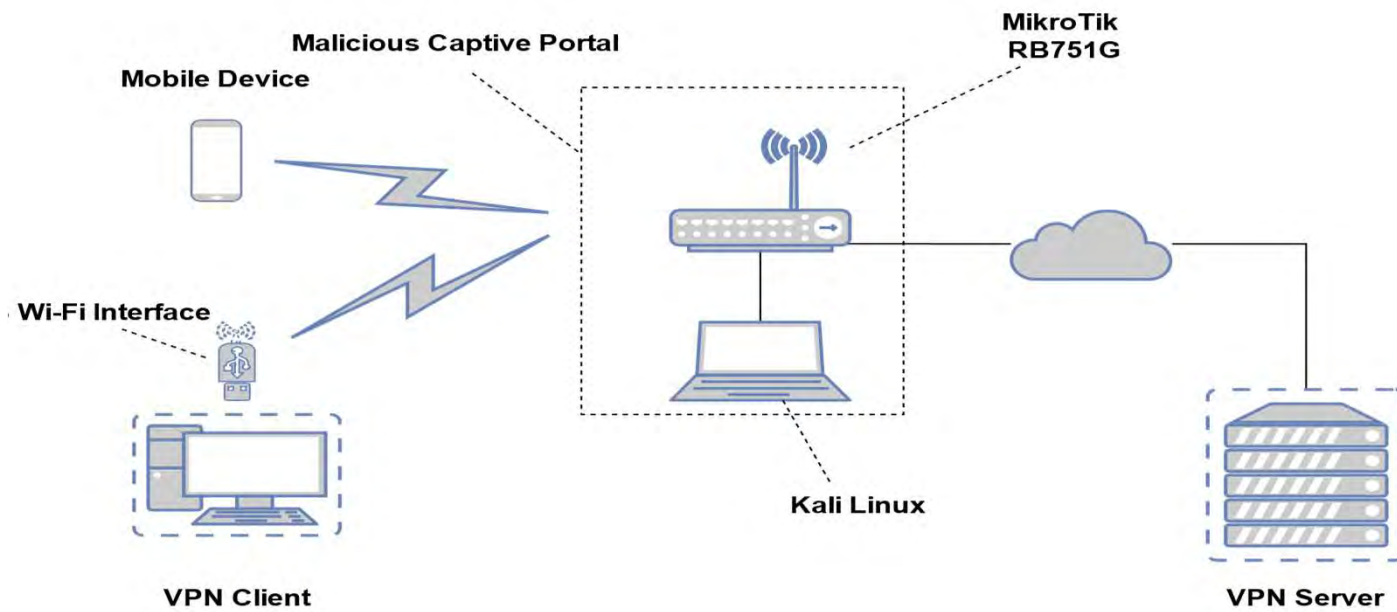
1. Can attackers use guests on the malicious free Wi-Fi to tunnel over the VPN into the corporate network?



**We expect exposure to be the same as on the corporate LAN**

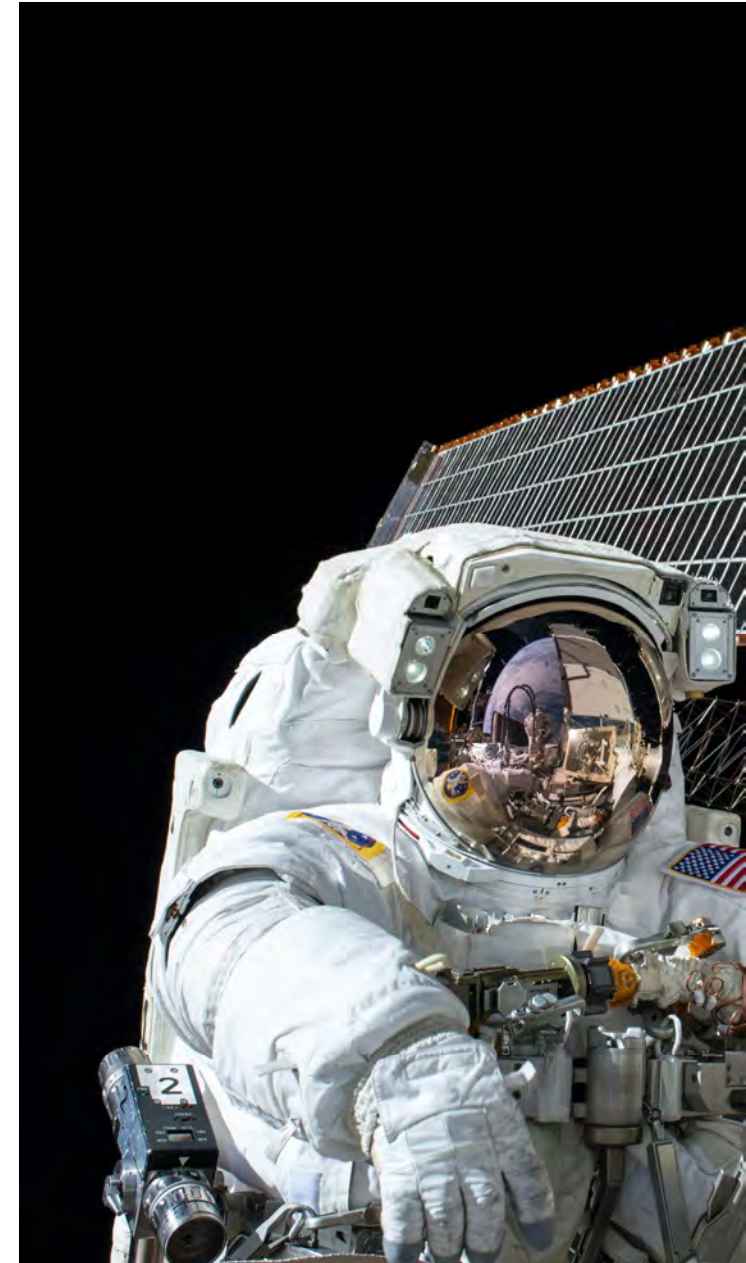


# Test configuration



# Test Approach

	Standard Mode	'Lock down' mode
Captured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>No Internet</b> access</li><li>• Most like <b>off the shelf</b> VPN config</li><li>• Split <b>tunnelling inactive</b> since there's no Internet</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>No Internet</b> access</li><li>• <b>Best possible</b> working VPN config</li><li>• Full <b>tunnelling inactive</b> since there's no Internet</li></ul>
Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Internet access</b> – VPN established</li><li>• Most like <b>off the shelf</b> VPN config</li><li>• Split <b>tunnelling enabled</b> unless specifically discouraged</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Internet access</b> – VPN established</li><li>• <b>Best possible</b> working VPN config</li><li>• Full <b>tunnelling</b></li></ul>



## TL;DR

	Standard Mode				'Lock down' mode					
Captured	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green
Online	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green

- Our **initial concerns** about the failure of VPNs to protect machines in captive portals **all hold true**.
- Even once **fully established**, a **carelessly configured VPN barely does better** at mitigating the identified threats.
- 'Lock down' features** that are intended to 'mitigate' the captive portal problems do indeed address some issues, but are not universally effective in **mitigating the full set of threats** we considered.
- The findings are **not consistent across all vendors**, so vendor selection does matter.



## Demo – Responder attack from Captive Portal in lock down mode



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Windows desktop environment with taskbar and Start menu. Visible icons include Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winlogbeat..., custom\_VPN, winbox64, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool, and a system tray showing ENG, 21:05 Sunday, 05/07/2020.

Wi-Fi network analyzer window showing a packet capture filter: `dns.qry.name == blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net`. The main pane displays a list of captured packets:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
658	65.813903	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0x9a9f A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
660	65.821176	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0x9a9f A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252
698	67.930898	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0xb8fe A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
699	67.940759	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0xb8fe A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252
721	68.975565	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0x5974 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
722	68.983426	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0x5974 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252

An orange box highlights a 'Hotspot Authentication' dialog box overlaid on the packet list. The dialog contains the following text and fields:

Hotspot Authentication

Please log on to use the internet hotspot service

login

password

Connections window showing a connection named 'browser\_connection' with the description 'Hotspot restricting network a...'. A 'Cancel' button is visible next to the connection name.

Partial view of a black window with a white title bar and standard window controls.

Windows 10 desktop environment with various icons and taskbar elements.

Taskbar: Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winbox64, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool.

System tray: ENG, 21:04 Sunday, 05/07/2020.

Connections window: browser\_connection, Hotspot restricting network a...

Capturing from Wi-Fi

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
467	18.774874	fe80::383a:ea5:6b2...	ff02::fb	MDNS	94	Standard query 0x0000 AAAA ProxySrv.local, "QM" quest...
468	18.856683	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	TCP	54	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 58738 [FIN, ACK] Seq=3073 A...
469	19.157493	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	107	Standard query response 0x9890 A settings-win.data.mi...
470	19.682768	192.168.87.250	224.0.0.251	MDNS	74	Standard query 0x0000 A ProxySrv.local, "QM" question
471	19.683101	fe80::383a:ea5:6b2...	ff02::fb	MDNS	94	Standard query 0x0000 A ProxySrv.local, "QM" question
472	19.684066	192.168.87.250	224.0.0.251	MDNS	74	Standard query 0x0000 AAAA ProxySrv.local, "QM" quest...
473	19.6...					
474	19.6...					
475	19.6...					
476	19.6...					
477	19.6...					

### Hotspot Authentication

Please log on to use the internet hotspot service

login

password

```

C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /displaydns

Windows IP Configuration

www.gstatic.com
-----
Record Name . . . . . : www.gstatic.com
Record Type . . . . . : 1
Time To Live . . . . . : 65
Data Length . . . . . : 4
Section . . . . . : Answer
A (Host) Record . . . . : 172.217.170.35

iecvlist.microsoft.com
-----
Record Name . . . . . : iecvlist.microsoft.com
Record Type . . . . . : 5
Time To Live . . . . . : 1438
Data Length . . . . . : 8
Section . . . . . : Answer
CNAME Record . . . . . : ie9comview.vo.msecnd.net

Record Name . . . . . : ie9comview.vo.msecnd.net
Record Type . . . . . : 5
Time To Live . . . . . : 1438
Data Length . . . . . : 8
Section . . . . . :
  
```



Windows desktop environment showing various icons and taskbar elements. The taskbar includes the Start button, search icon, task view, and system tray with the date and time: 21:05 Sunday 05/07/2020.

Desktop icons include: Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winlogbeat..., custom\_VPN, winbox64, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool, and a folder named CP.

A "Connections" dialog box is open, showing a "browser\_connection" entry with a "Cancel" button.

Wireshark network traffic capture window titled "Wi-Fi". The filter bar shows "dns.qry.name == blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net". The packet list pane shows several DNS packets:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
658	65.813903	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0x9a9f A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
660	65.821176	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0x9a9f A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252
698	67.930898	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0xb0fe A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
699	67.940759	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0xb0fe A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252
721	68.975565	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	87	Standard query 0x5974 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
722	68.981327	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0x5974 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252

The packet details pane for packet 658 shows:

- Frame 658: 87 bytes on wire (696 bits), 87 bytes captured (696 bits) on interface \Device\NPF\_{834D3664-A969-48F1-B294-E5C6B1E38D7F}, id 0
- Ethernet II, Src: Tp-LinkT\_18:da:da (e8:de:27:18:da:da), Dst: Routerbo\_20:de:a1 (d4:ca:6d:20:de:a1)
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.87.250, Dst: 192.168.87.1
- User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 51039, Dst Port: 53
- Domain Name System (query)

Hex dump of network traffic data:

```

0000 d4 ca 6d 20 de a1 e8 de 27 18 da da 08 00 45 00  .m . . . . .
0010 00 49 65 e3 00 00 00 11 a4 74 c0 a8 57 fa c0 a8  .Ie . . . . .
0020 57 01 c7 5f 00 35 00 35 48 9c 9a 9f 01 00 00 01  W_ .5 H_ . . .
0030 00 00 00 00 00 0e 62 6c 61 63 6b 73 64 66 73  . . . . .b lac
0040 64 66 68 61 74 08 74 6f 6b 65 6c 6f 73 68 03 6e  dfhat to kelo
0050 65 74 00 00 01 00 01  .et . . . . .
  
```

Command Prompt window showing the execution of a net use command:

```

C:\Users\user1>net use \\blacksdfsdfhat\testtest
Data Length . . . . . : 8
Section . . . . . : Answer
CNAME Record . . . . . : db5eap.licensing.md.mp.microsoft.com.akadns.net

Record Name . . . . . : db5eap.licensing.md.mp.microsoft.com.akadns.net
Record Type . . . . . : 1
Time To Live . . . . . : 66
Data Length . . . . . : 4
Section . . . . . : Answer
A (Host) Record . . . . . : 52.158.24.209

C:\Users\user1>net use \\blacksdfsdfhat\testtest
Enter the user name for 'blacksdfsdfhat':
  
```

Windows desktop environment showing icons for Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winlogbeat..., custom\_VPN, winbox04, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool, and a taskbar with system tray icons (ENG, 21:12 Sunday 05/07/2020).

Wireshark packet capture window showing a DNS query for 'blaksdfsdhfat.tokenlosh.net'. The packet list table is as follows:

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol
658	65.813903	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS
660	65.821176	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS
698	67.930898	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS
699	67.940759	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS
721	68.975565	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS
722	68.981327	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS

Packet details for frame 658:

- Frame 658: 87 bytes on wire (696 bits), 87 bytes captured (696 bits) on interface 0
- Ethernet II, Src: Tp-LinkT\_18:da:da (e8:de:27:18:da:da), Dst: Router
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.87.250, Dst: 192.168.87.1
- User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 51039, Dst Port: 53
- Domain Name System (query)

Packet bytes hex dump:

```

0000  d4 ca 6d 20 de a1 e8 de 27 18 da da 08 00 45 00  ..m.....
0010  00 49 65 e3 00 00 11 a4 74 c0 a8 57 fa c0 a8  ..I.....
0020  57 01 c7 5f 00 35 00 35 48 9c 9a 9f 01 00 00 01  W...5...H...
0030  00 00 00 00 00 00 0e 62 6c 61 63 6b 73 64 66 73  ....b.lack...
0040  64 66 68 61 74 08 74 6f 6b 65 6c 6f 73 68 03 6e  d.fhat.to.kelo...
0050  65 74 00 00 01 00 01  ..et.....

```

Command Prompt window showing the output of the following commands:

```

C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /displaydns
Windows IP Configuration

C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /all
Windows IP Configuration

Host Name . . . . . : DESKTOP-00KT15B
Primary Dns Suffix . . . . . :
Node Type . . . . . : Hybrid
IP Routing Enabled. . . . . : No
WINS Proxy Enabled. . . . . : No
DNS Suffix Search List. . . . . : srctestlab.com
                                   tokenlosh.net

Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection* 10:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . : srctestlab.com
Description . . . . . :
Physical Address. . . . . : 02-05-85-7F-EB-80
DHCP Enabled. . . . . : No
Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . : Yes
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::8c0f:492a:abb9:96e8%17(Preferred)
IPv4 Address. . . . . : 192.168.38.100(Preferred)
Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
Default Gateway . . . . . : 0.0.0.0
DHCPv6 IAID . . . . . : 687998341
DHCPv6 Client DUID. . . . . : 00-01-00-01-24-8A-A3-A2-00-0C-29-C8-03-23
DNS Servers . . . . . : 192.168.38.2
NetBIOS over Tcpi. . . . . : Enabled

Ethernet adapter Ethernet 3:

Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . :
Description . . . . . :
Physical Address. . . . . : 00-09-0F-AA-00-01
DHCP Enabled. . . . . : Yes
Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . : Yes

Ethernet adapter Ethernet0:

Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . : localdomain
Description . . . . . : Intel(R) 82574L Gigabit Network Connection
Physical Address. . . . . : 00-0C-29-C8-03-23
DHCP Enabled. . . . . : Yes
Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . : Yes

Ethernet adapter Ethernet:

Media State . . . . . : Media disconnected
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . . :
Description . . . . . :
Physical Address. . . . . : 54-BC-B4-48-B4-0E

```



Windows desktop environment with the following elements:

- Taskbar:** Shows Start button, search, task view, and system tray with date/time (21:05 Sunday 05/07/2020).
- Desktop Icons:** Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winlogbeat..., custom\_VPN, winbox64, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool.
- Connections Panel:** Shows a connection named 'browser\_connection' with a 'Cancel' button.

Capturing from Wi-Fi

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Details
729	69.996780	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.252	TCP	54 58869 → 445 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=131328 Len=0
730	69.997846	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.252	SMB2	294 Negotiate Protocol Request
731	70.053749	192.168.87.252	192.168.87.250	TCP	54 445 → 58869 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=241 Win=64000 Len=0
732	70.055080	192.168.87.252	192.168.87.250	SMB2	291 Negotiate Protocol Response

Hotspot Authentication dialog box:

Please log on to use the internet hotspot service.

login

password

OK

Background traffic details:

```

Frame 1: 11...
Ethernet II
Internet Protocol
User Datagram
DHCPv6
0000 33 33 00 00 00
0010 3c 4b 00 00 00
0020 ea e5 00 00 00
0030 00 00 00 00 00
0040 68 10 00 00 00
0050 24 8a 00 00 00
0060 de 27 00 00 00
0070 44 45 00 00 00
0080 10 00 00 00 00
0090 30 00 00 00 00
  
```

Command Prompt - net use \\blacksdfsdfhat\testtest

```

Data Length . . . . . : 8
Section . . . . . : Answer
CNAME Record . . . . . : db5eap.licensing.md.mp.microsoft.com.akadns.net

Record Name . . . . . : db5eap.licensing.md.mp.microsoft.com.akadns.net
Record Type . . . . . : 1
Time To Live . . . . . : 66
Data Length . . . . . : 4
Section . . . . . : Answer
A (Host) Record . . . . . : 52.158.24.209

C:\Users\user1>net use \\blacksdfsdfhat\testtest
Enter the user name for 'blacksdfsdfhat':
  
```





## Demo – Responder attack fully connected in lock down mode



[bit.ly/orangevpn](https://bit.ly/orangevpn)



charlvdwalt



wicusross



Windows desktop environment with various icons and taskbar elements.

Taskbar: Recycle Bin, trac, nmap-7.70, Google Chrome, cert, test.js, PuTTY, Microsoft Edge, winlogbeat..., custom\_VPN, winbox64, trac.defaults, cpmsi\_tool, Connections (browser\_connection Connected), Close.

Wireshark network traffic capture window titled "Capturing from Wi-Fi".

Filter: dns.qry.name == blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net | smb2

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
249	52.879882	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.1	DNS	103	Standard query 0xc736 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
250	52.879879	192.168.87.1	192.168.87.250	DNS	103	Standard query response 0xc736 A blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net A 192.168.87.252
298	54.352270	192.168.87.252	192.168.87.250	SMB2	291	Negotiate Protocol Response
299	54.352645	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.252	SMB2	294	Negotiate Protocol Request
301	54.376216	192.168.87.252	192.168.87.250	SMB2	291	Negotiate Protocol Response
302	54.378353	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.252	SMB2	220	Session Setup Request, NTLMSSP_NEGOTIATE
304	54.381487	192.168.87.252	192.168.87.250	SMB2	392	Session Setup Response, Error: STATUS_MORE_PROCESSING_REQUIRED, NTLMSSP_CHALLENGE
305	54.382331	192.168.87.250	192.168.87.252	SMB2	721	Session Setup Request, NTLMSSP_AUTH, User: DESKTOP-00KT15B\user1

Packet 250 details:

- Ethernet II, Src: Tp-LinkT\_18:da:da (e8:de:27:18:da:da), Dst: Routerbo...
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.87.250, Dst: 192.168.87.1
- User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 54885, Dst Port: 53
- Domain Name System (query)
  - Transaction ID: 0xc736
  - Flags: 0x0100 Standard query
  - Questions: 1
  - Answer RRs: 0
  - Authority RRs: 0
  - Additional RRs: 0
  - Queries
    - blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net: type A, class IN
      - Name: blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net

Command Prompt window showing network configuration commands and output.

```

Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.592]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /displaydns

Windows IP Configuration

C:\Users\user1>net use \\blacksdfsdfhat\testtest
Enter the user name for 'blacksdfsdfhat': ^C
C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /displaydns

Windows IP Configuration

blacksdfsdfhat
-----
Record Name . . . . . : blacksdfsdfhat.tokelosh.net
Record Type . . . . . : 1
Time To Live . . . . . : 86389
Data Length . . . . . : 4
Section . . . . . : Answer
A (Host) Record . . . . : 192.168.87.252

C:\Users\user1>ipconfig /all

Windows IP Configuration

Host Name . . . . . : DESKTOP-00KT15B
Primary Dns Suffix . . . . . :
Node Type . . . . . : Hybrid
IP Routing Enabled. . . . . : No
WINS Proxy Enabled. . . . . : No
DNS Suffix Search List. . . . . : srctestlab.com
tokelosh.net

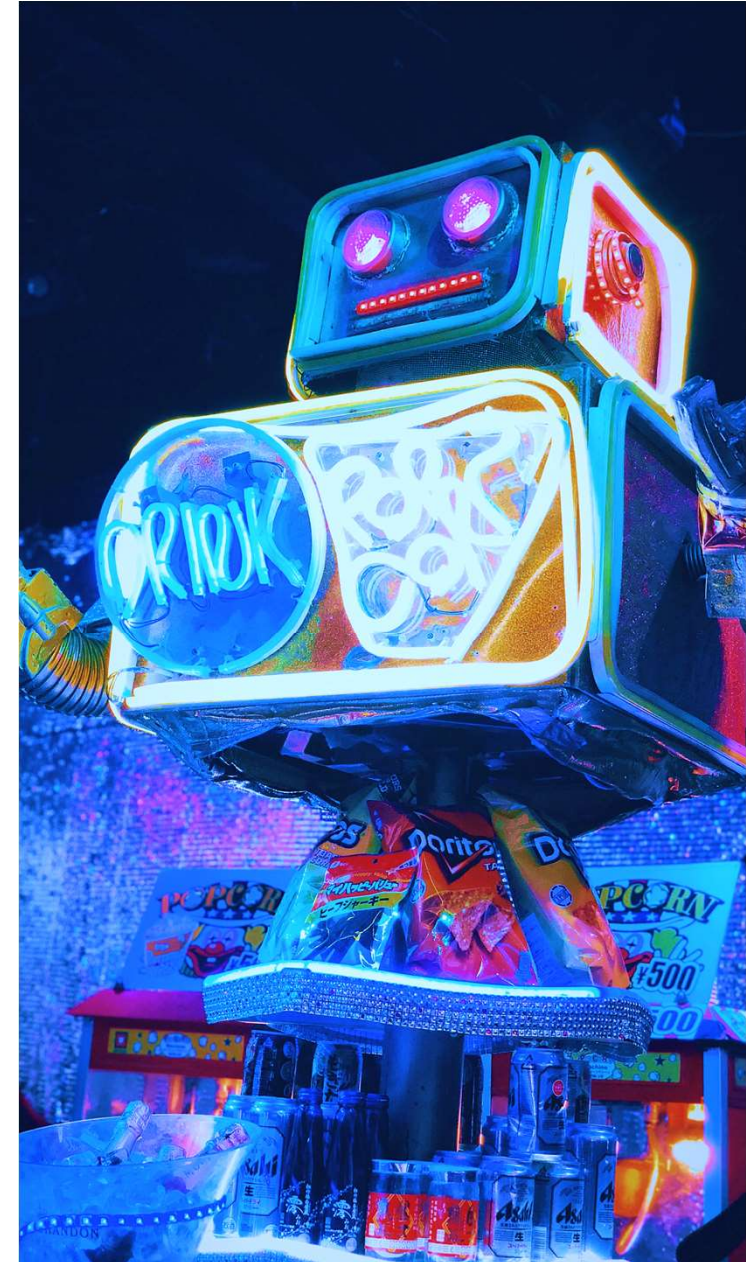
Ethernet adapter Local Area Connection* 10:

Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : srctestlab.com
Description . . . . . :
Physical Address. . . . . : 02-05-85-7F-EB-80
DHCP Enabled. . . . . : No
Autoconfiguration Enabled . . . . : Yes
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::8c0f:492a:abb9:96e8%17(Preferred)
  
```

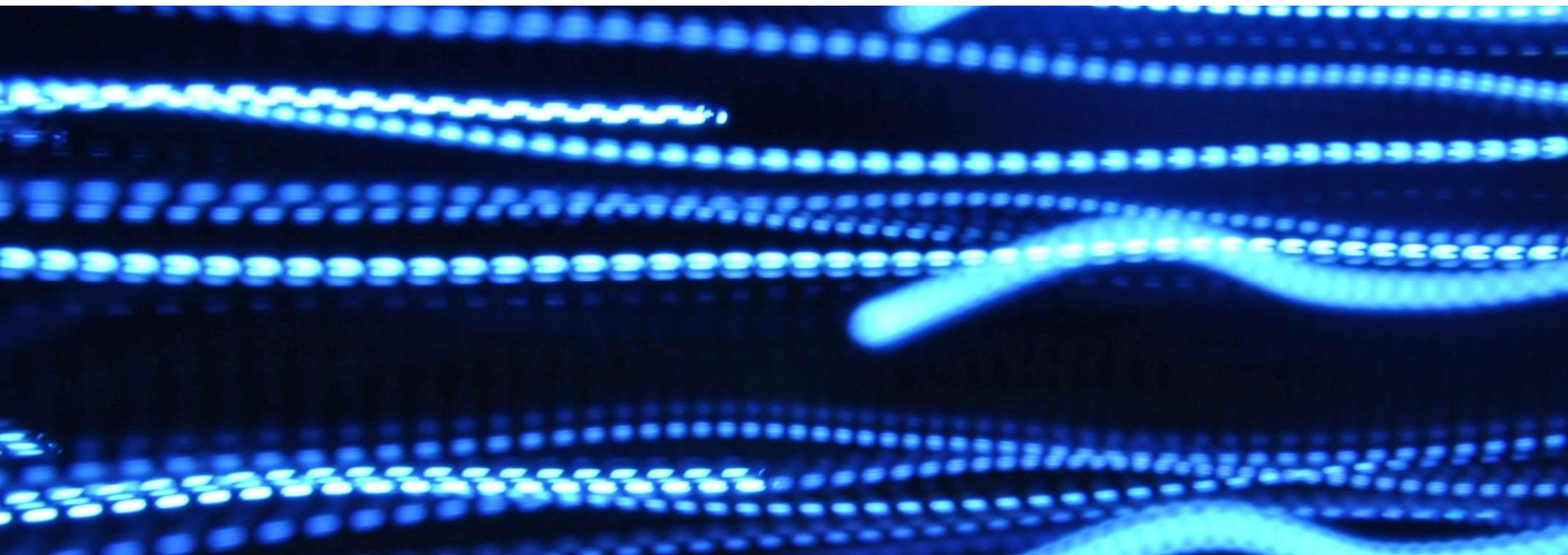


## Observations

- The number of configuration options when setting up a VPN and supporting infrastructure is overwhelming.
- Product packaging, licensing and offerings vary dramatically.
- **Training, experience and support matters**
- Configuration nuances and overloaded functionality can create all sorts of **technical side effects**
- Captive portal detection with 'Captive Portal Mini Browser' is **not always consistent**
- Some vendors have **no specific 'lock down' mode**, but rather a disparate set of features that need to be combined
- **Mobile devices generally present viewer risks** than desktops, provided that the VPN is established via mobile data *before* connecting to Wi-Fi
- Other OS present **fewer risks than Windows** because they strictly control the process and are simply less talkative.



# 5. Conclusions





## Overview of findings

- We believe that the scenario where users are connecting via **compromised home Wi-Fi or malicious public Wi-Fi is real** and deserves a place on the enterprise Threat Model.
- **Captive Portal is a common scenario**, but not is not an essential attribute for the threats to be real. Compromised AP or home router is just as significant.
- We believe there is a **reasonable expectation that the 'tunnel' a VPN creates should protect users** against the threats we tested.
- Out-of-the box and **common configurations generally do not address the threats** identified when the AP is considered malicious.
- All the **vendors assessed offer features** to address malicious Wi-Fi and Captive Portal scenario.
- However the **effectiveness of these offerings varies substantially and erratically** across the vendors.

**Out of the box and common configurations generally do not address the threats identified**

	Standard Mode					'Lock down' mode					
Captured	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green
Online	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green



## Recommendations

### ■ Technical

- Ensure you control and centralise all DNS settings.
- Fully qualify internal host names.
- Avoid split tunnelling if possible.
- Be careful of session time-outs.
- Use a firewall or EDP to block outgoing connections.

### ■ Tactical

- Carefully consider your use cases and threat model. Understand what security threats the security technology is supposed to address.
- Engage with your vendors.
- Examine your vendor choices carefully. Not all products address these risks equally.
- Consider some fresh paradigms, e.g. mobile data, or simple SSL with certificate pinning.
- ‘Zero Trust’



~~Free-WiFi  
becomes a  
business  
model~~

~~We add EDR  
to our  
supplementary  
protection~~

Legal and  
liability  
concerns  
emerge

## A battle of two business models

~~Those features  
face unfair  
competition~~

Captive portals  
offer legal risk  
mitigation

~~VPNs res and  
with new  
features~~

Options for  
monetisation  
emerge



# Thanks to the vendors of all kinds

Vendor	Firmware examined
360	4
Belkin	2
D-link	13
Foscam	1
Huawei	64
LG	25
NETGEAR	1
Polycom	11
Synology	1
TP-link	12
Ubiquiti Networks	680
Vivotek	1
Western Digital	3
Xerox	4
Zyxel	3

Over 51,677 firmwares for 8,516 products across 191 vendors



Orange  
Cyberdefense

dankie

Orange  
Cyberdefense



charlvdwalt



wicusross

[bit.ly/orangevpn](https://bit.ly/orangevpn)



# Orange Cyberdefense