

Anti-Virus Comparative



CrowdStrike Falcon Endpoint Protection for Mac

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Commissioned by CrowdStrike

CrowdStrike Falcon Endpoint Protection for Mac

This report has been commissioned by CrowdStrike.

Overview

Product version reviewed

CrowdStrike Falcon Sensor for Mac OS 3.5.5603.0

CrowdStrike Falcon cloud console as at November 2017

Operating systems supported

Mac OS 10.10, 10.11, 10.12

CrowdStrike Falcon also supports Windows and Linux operating systems.

About the product

CrowdStrike Falcon uses a cloud-based console to manage protection for client devices. A sensor is installed on all clients; this monitors processes run on the client and blocks any that are deemed to be malicious. Please note that all the prevention features need to be turned on for the product to automatically block threats.

Product information on vendor's website

<https://www.crowdstrike.com/products/>

Online support

<https://supportportal.crowdstrike.com>

Summary

The management console is well designed and easy to navigate, allowing administrators to explore the functionality with ease. A wealth of detailed information on threats etc. is provided. Windows and Linux clients can be managed in just the same way as Mac clients, making the product very suitable for companies that use multiple operating systems.

Functionality Test

To verify the prevention capabilities of CrowdStrike Falcon Endpoint Protection for Mac, we conducted a malware detection test using samples belonging to the ten major Mac malware families currently found in the field, such as FakeCo, GetShell, HackBack, KeRanger, KitM, MacDown, NetWeird, Proton, SpyDok and Turla. 100% of the samples were prevented and reported in the CrowdStrike web console. Please note that the number of Mac malware families currently posing a threat is very small compared to their Windows counterparts.

The screenshot displays the CrowdStrike Falcon web console interface. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation icons. The main area shows a table of detected threats. A tooltip for the first entry, 'codecm_uploader', is visible, stating: 'High Severity Activity Prevented. This file meets the File Attribute ML algorithm's high-confidence threshold for malware. The process was blocked.' The table has columns for 'DETECT TIME', 'HOST', 'USER NAME', 'ASSIGNED TO', and 'STATUS'. The first entry is dated Nov. 17, 2017 03:31, with status 'New' and 'Unassigned'. Below the table, a detailed view for 'codecm_uploader' is shown, including 'Execution Details' such as 'DETECT TIME', 'HOSTNAME', 'USER ACCOUNT', 'ASSOCIATED BEHAVIOR', 'COMMAND LINE', and 'FILE PATH'. The 'ASSOCIATED BEHAVIOR' section repeats the prevention message.

DETECT TIME	HOST	USER NAME	ASSIGNED TO	STATUS
Nov. 17, 2017 03:31	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Unassigned	New
Nov. 16, 2017 03:31	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Unassigned	New
Nov. 16, 2017 03:31	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Unassigned	New
Nov. 16, 2017 03:31	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Unassigned	New
Nov. 16, 2017 03:21	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Unassigned	New

codecm_uploader

Unassigned New Comment

Network Contain

Execution Details

DETECT TIME: Nov. 17, 2017 03:35:31

HOSTNAME: [REDACTED]

USER ACCOUNT: [REDACTED]

ASSOCIATED BEHAVIOR: High Severity Activity Prevented. This file meets the File Attribute ML algorithm's high-confidence threshold for malware. The process was blocked.

COMMAND LINE: [REDACTED]

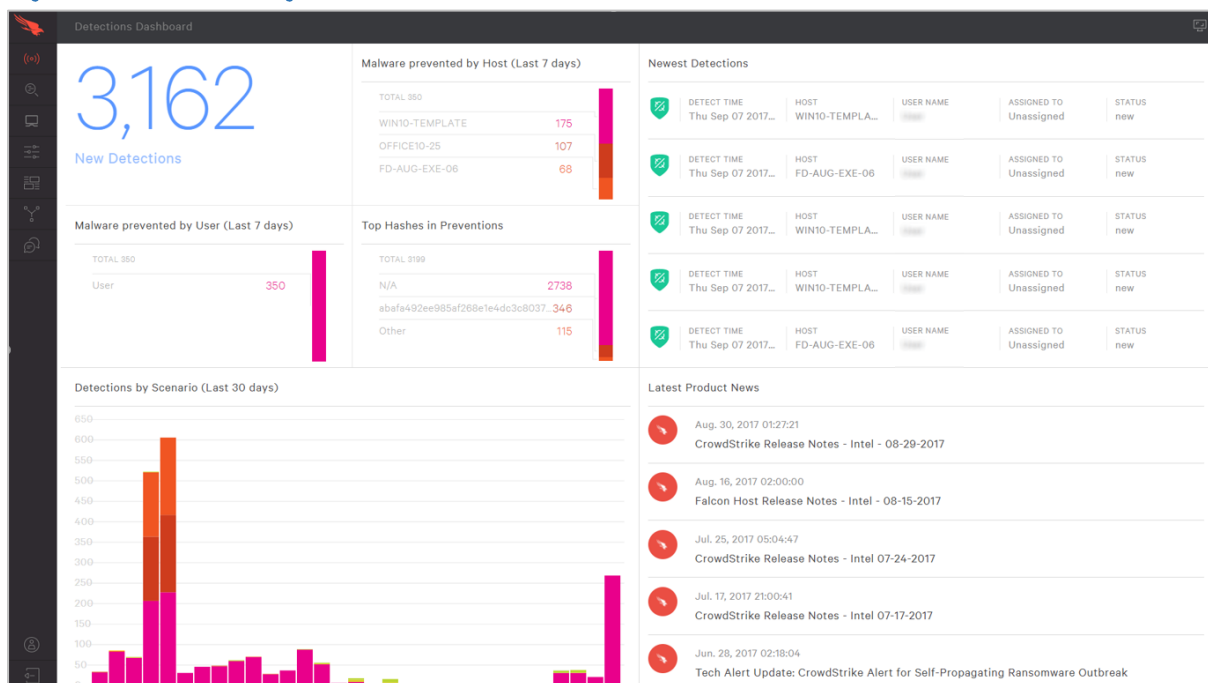
FILE PATH: [REDACTED]

Management Console

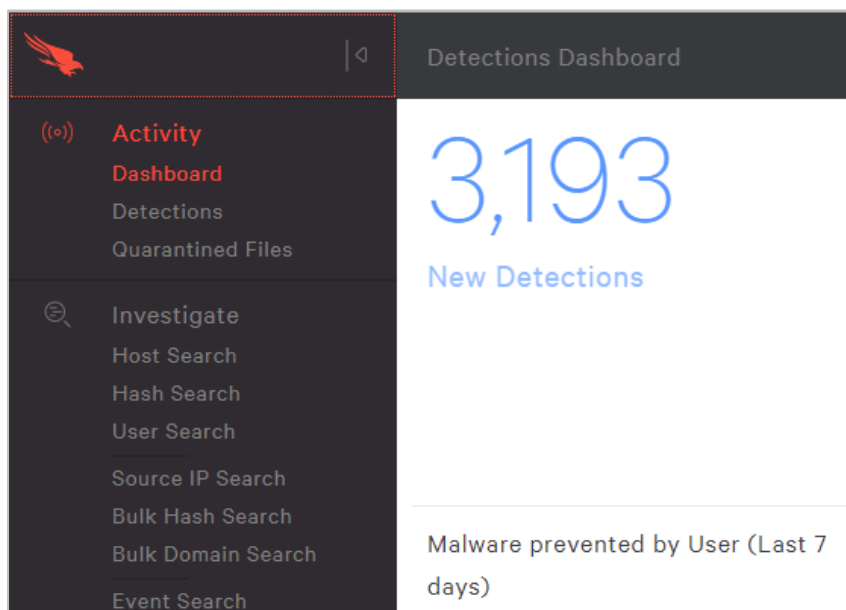
Installation and configuration

The console is cloud-based and so no installation is necessary.

Layout and functionality



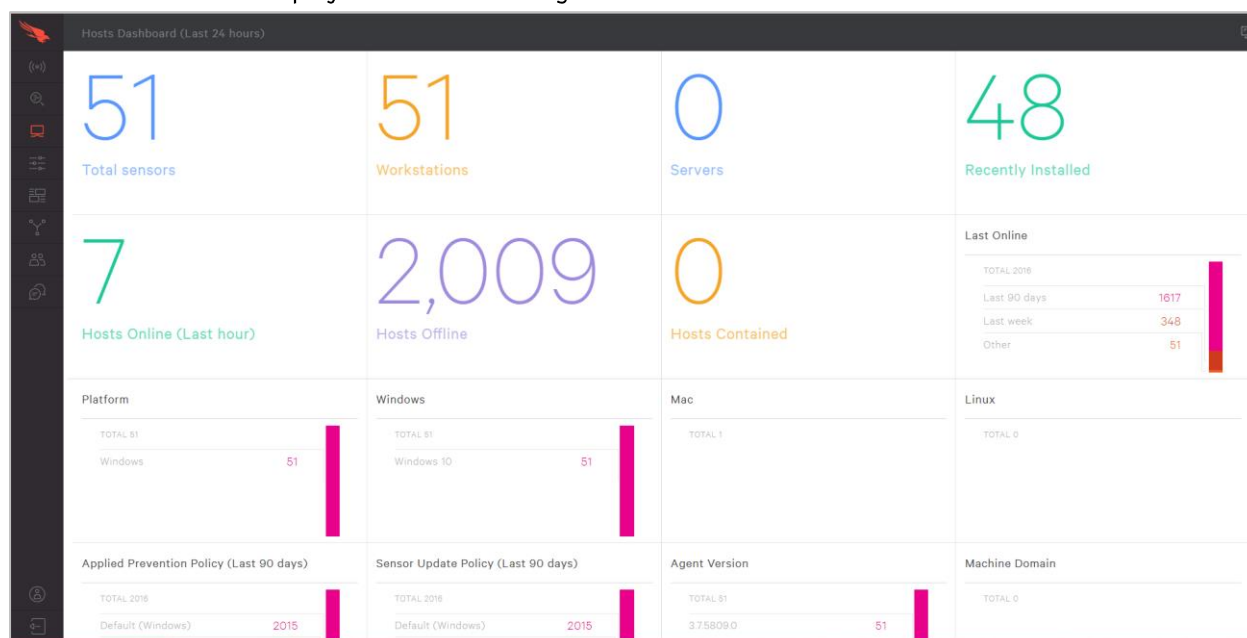
The console is navigated by means of a left-hand menu bar, with the main items *Activity*, *Investigate*, *Hosts*, *Configuration*, *Dashboards*, *Intelligence* and *Support*. This can be expanded by clicking the red Falcon graphic in the top left-hand corner, thus displaying the names and sub-pages for each of the items:



The *Activity Dashboard* (home) page of the console shows a variety of detection statistics, including *New Detections*, *Malware prevented by Host*, *Newest Detections* and *Detections by Scenario*.

The *Investigations* page allows the admin to search for any item collected by the Falcon agent, including hosts, hashes, users and source IP.

The *Hosts Dashboard* displays statistics relating to clients:



Hosts Management lists clients on the network:

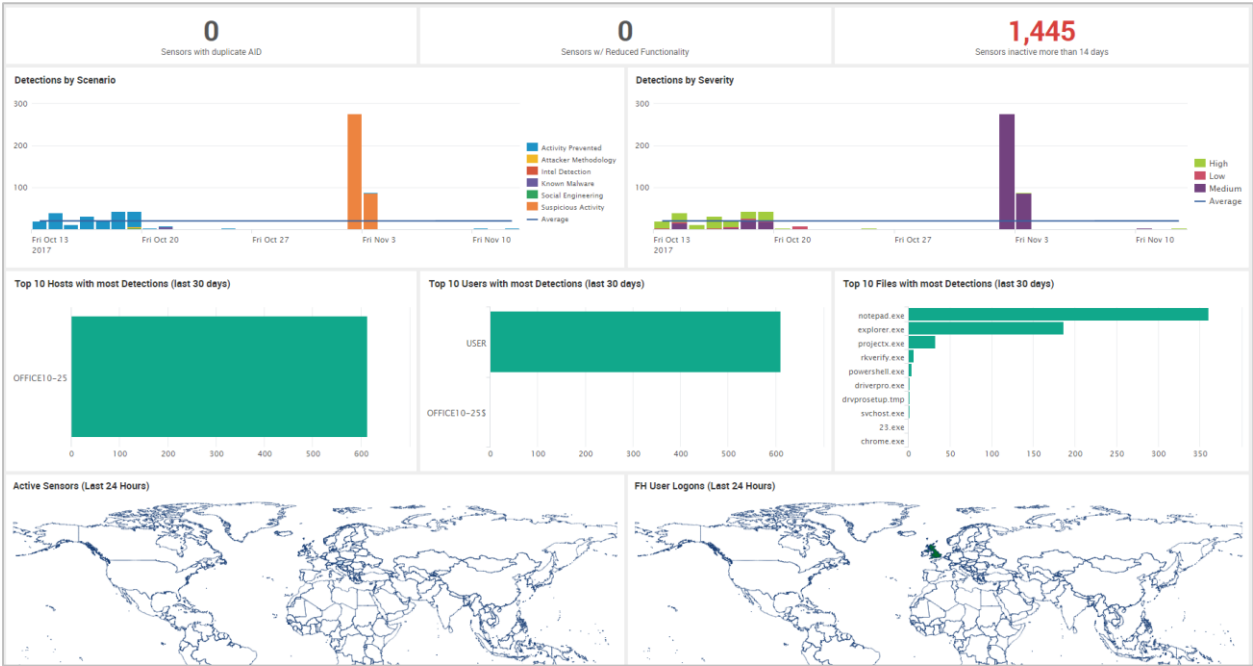
Q Type to filter										2,017 Hosts found
Platform	OS Version	OU	Site Name	Type	Status					
Windows	2,016	Windows 10	2,014	N/A	2,017	Workstation	2,014	Normal	2,017	
Mac	1	N/A	2			N/A	3			
	Yosemite (10.10)	1								
+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q	+Q

Hostname	Last Seen	First Seen	OS Version	OU	Prevention Policy	Sensor Update Policy	Status	Agent Version
macbook-pro-MacBook...	Nov. 10, 2017 14:51:24	Nov. 10, 2017 14:51:25	Yosemite (10.10)		platform_default Nov. 10, 2017 14:51:41	platform_default Changes pending	Normal	3.5.5603.0
BIZCLIENT4	Nov. 12, 2017 13:56:12	Aug. 26, 2017 18:56:37	Windows 10		platform_default Nov. 10, 2017 09:41:08	platform_default Oct. 26, 2017 23:09:37	Normal	3.7.5809.0

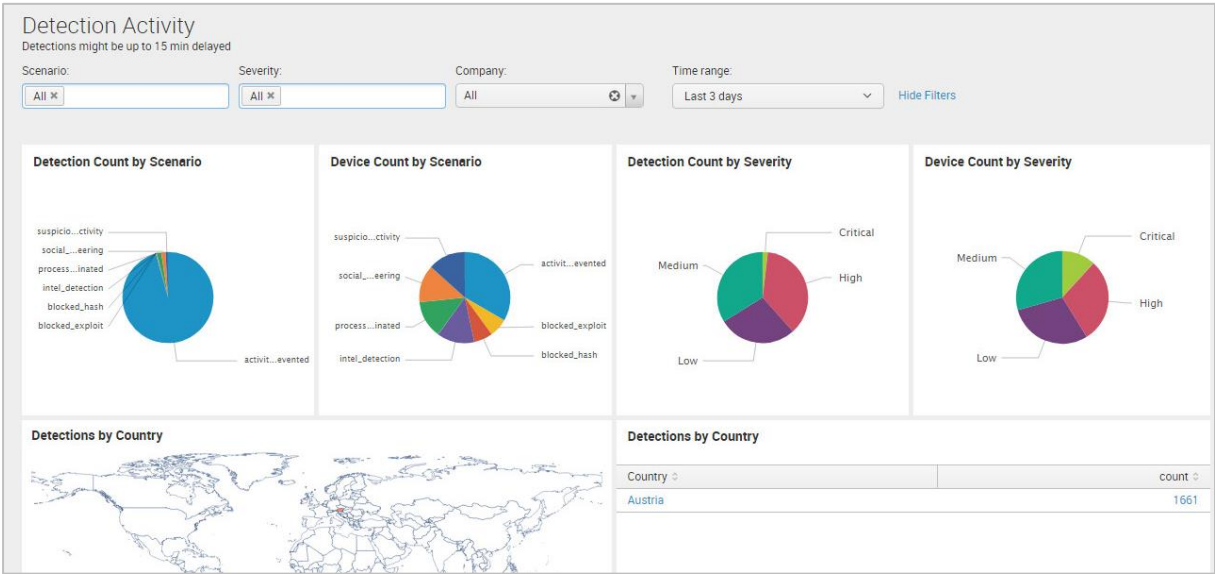
Configuration, Prevention Policies lists configuration policies to be applied to clients:

Prevention Policies							
WINDOWS POLICIES				MAC POLICIES			
1 policy							
				Add New Policy		Edit Precedence	
DEFAULT POLICY	STATUS	POLICY NAME	CREATED	LAST MODIFIED	APPLIED	PENDING	
platform_default	Enabled	platform_default	Dec. 7, 2016 01:43:45	Feb. 22, 2017 18:57:22	1	0	

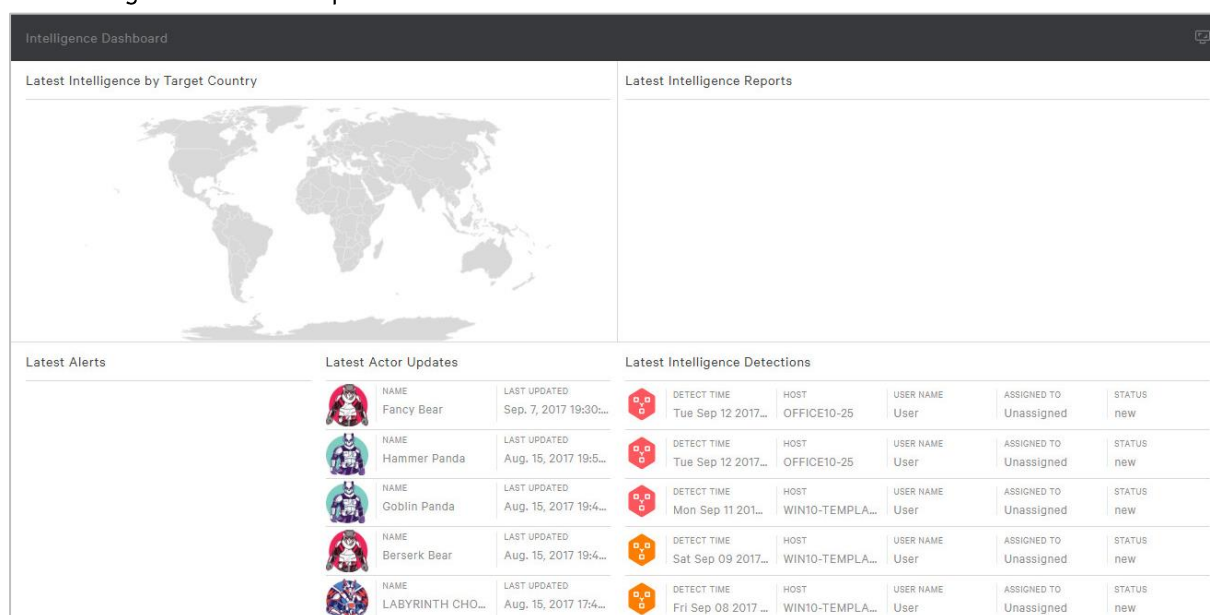
Under *Dashboards, Executive Summary* the admin can display a detailed breakdown of detections by scenario, severity, host or user:



Other *Dashboards* pages include *Detection Resolutions* and *Detection Activity* (shown below):



The *Intelligence Dashboard* provides information on the latest threats:



Deployment of endpoint protection software

Installing the sensor on a Mac client involves downloading the installer file from the console, and running it using the terminal. Full instructions are provided for this in the console's documentation section:

Installing the Falcon Sensor for Mac

After completing the steps in Before You Begin, go to the Falcon web interface > Support App > Downloads page and download the appropriate installer. You can install the sensor manually or deploy it through your systems management tool. The sensor can also be deployed to reusable Virtual Machine images (see [Installing the Falcon Sensor for Mac Using Virtual Machine Templates](#)).

Note: You will need your Checksummed Customer ID to install the sensor. You can obtain this value at the top of the Downloads page in the Falcon UI.

1. Open the .pkg file to run the installer. Alternatively, open a terminal and run:

```
$ installer -verboseR -package ~/Desktop/FalconSensorMacOS*.pkg -target /
```


When prompted, enter credentials with software installation permissions.
2. Use the `falconctl` tool (built in to the installer) to license and launch the sensor after installation, passing in your Checksummed Customer ID (CCID):

```
$ sudo /Library/CS/falconctl license CCID
```


For example, the command with the CCID will look something like this:

```
$ sudo /Library/CS/falconctl license 1234567890123456789-12
```

After installation, the sensor will run silently with nothing further displayed to the user. To confirm that the sensor is running, run:

```
$ sysctl cs
```

This should output a list of details about the sensor including the sensor's agent id (or "aid," for short), the version, the customer ID, and the config file name. If you do not see this output, there is likely a problem with the installation. See [Troubleshooting an Installation](#).

Mac client endpoint protection software

The Mac client sensor has no user interface and is effectively invisible to the user.

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