

Independent Tests of Anti-Virus Software



Single Product Test Google Scanning Service

Online File Detection Test for VT Integration

TEST PERIOD: MAY 2022

COMMISSIONED BY: GOOGLE

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Tested product

Google asked to perform this test in order to get evaluate Google's Scanning Service for integration into VirusTotal's online scanning service. According to a VirusTotal (VT) policy, any new engine to be integrated into VirusTotal requires an independent test, including an explicit check that the new solution/engine adds value to the ecosystem, and does not rely on VT results (directly or indirectly). The test has to be done with the same candidate (same solution/engine) to join VirusTotal.

In order to evaluate the Google Scanning Service, Google created and provided a simple Python script which processes a directory and uploads the files to the internal Google antimalware services. It uses an internal bucket and service at Google, and the files are removed from the server after scanning. As the script only works online, i.e. it requires cloud access in order to make detections, a few checks have been done by AV-Comparatives to try to identify whether the cloud makes direct use of VT results.

File Detection Test

An online file detection test, using 500 malware and 500 clean samples for Windows, was conducted. This test evaluated how effectively and accurately the Google Scanning Service detects malicious files and its false alarm rate. The command line used was as follows: `scan.py -d <folder>`

Test Results

Google Scanning Service malware detection rate	96.2%
False Alarm rate	18 (3.6%)

The Google Scanning Service detected the majority of the malicious samples used in this test, showing that it adds value to the ecosystem.

It wrongly detected 18 clean files out of 500, including signed files.

We can confirm that the Google Scanning Service does not rely on existing VirusTotal results in reaching its verdicts.

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