August 2022

Updates released in August of 2022 to Cisco cloud-based machine learning global threat alerts:

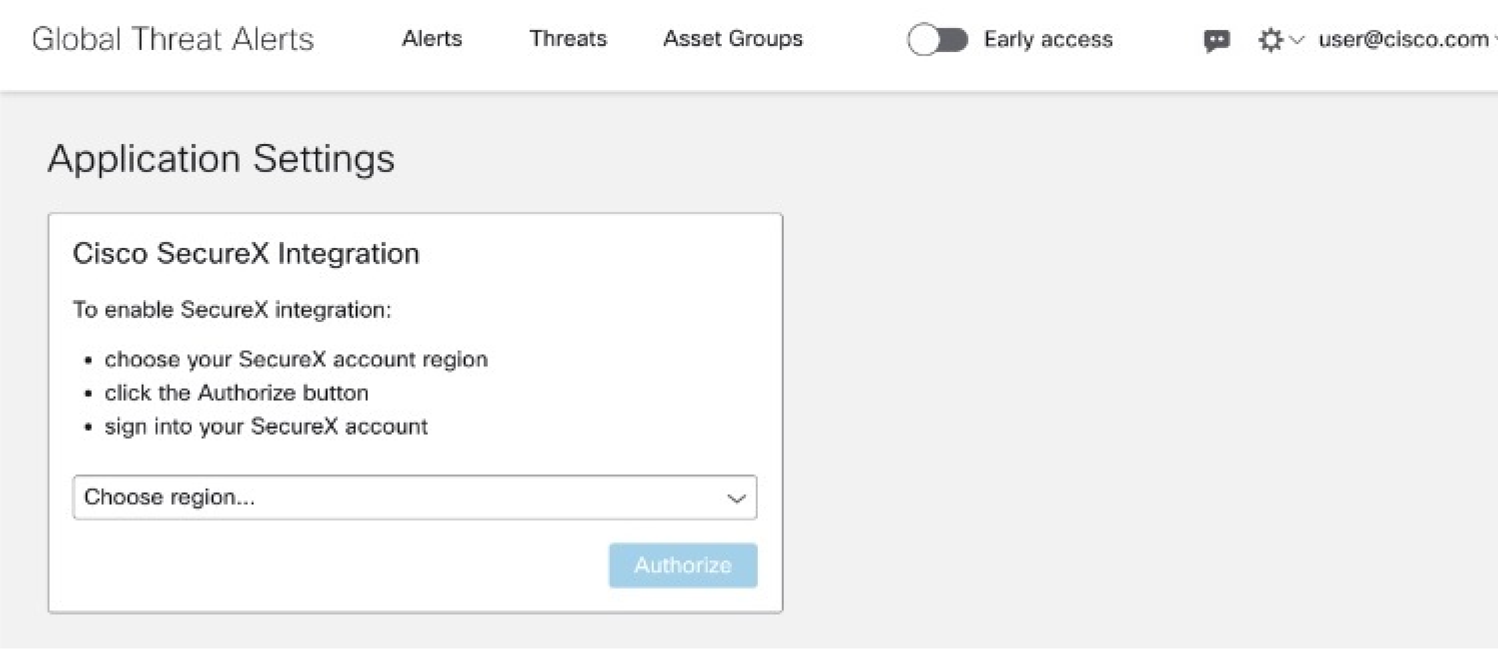
- Improved Alert Workflows, on page 1
- Additional Threat Detections, on page 6

Improved Alert Workflows

We've improved the ways you can work with alerts in **Early access** and promote alerts in global threat alerts to the SecureX incident manager.

To enjoy the benefits of integrating with SecureX incident manager, enable SecureX integration in the **Application Settings** of the global threat alerts console:

Figure 1: Authorize SecureX Integration in Application Settings

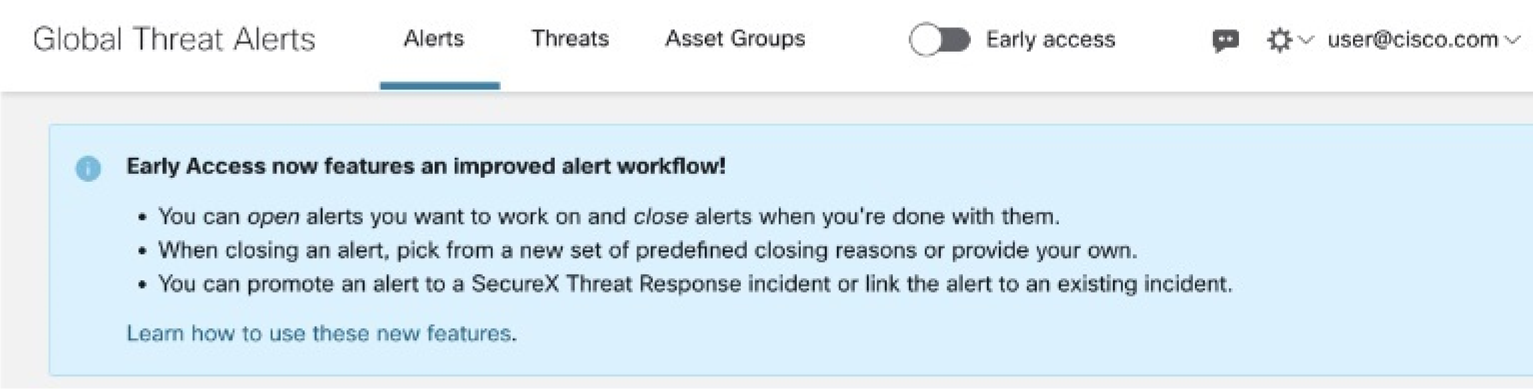


To enable SecureX integration:

- choose your SecureX account region
- click the Authorize button
- sign into your SecureX account

In the header of the global threat alerts console, click **Early access** to enable it:

Figure 2: Switch On Early Access to Activate New Features



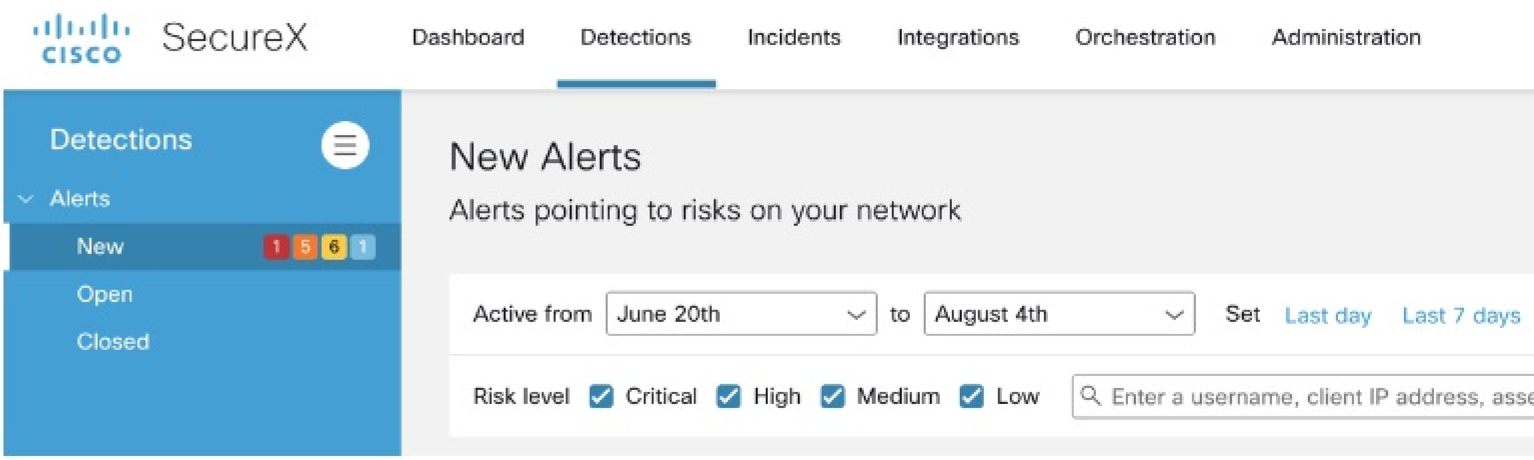
Early Access now features an improved alert workflow!

- You can *open* alerts you want to work on and *close* alerts when you're done with them.
- When closing an alert, pick from a new set of predefined closing reasons or provide your own.
- You can promote an alert to a SecureX Threat Response incident or link the alert to an existing incident.

Learn how to use these new features.

Once **Early access** is enabled, alerts are categorized as **New**, **Open**, or **Closed**:

Figure 3: Alerts in New, Open, and Closed Status Categories



New Alerts

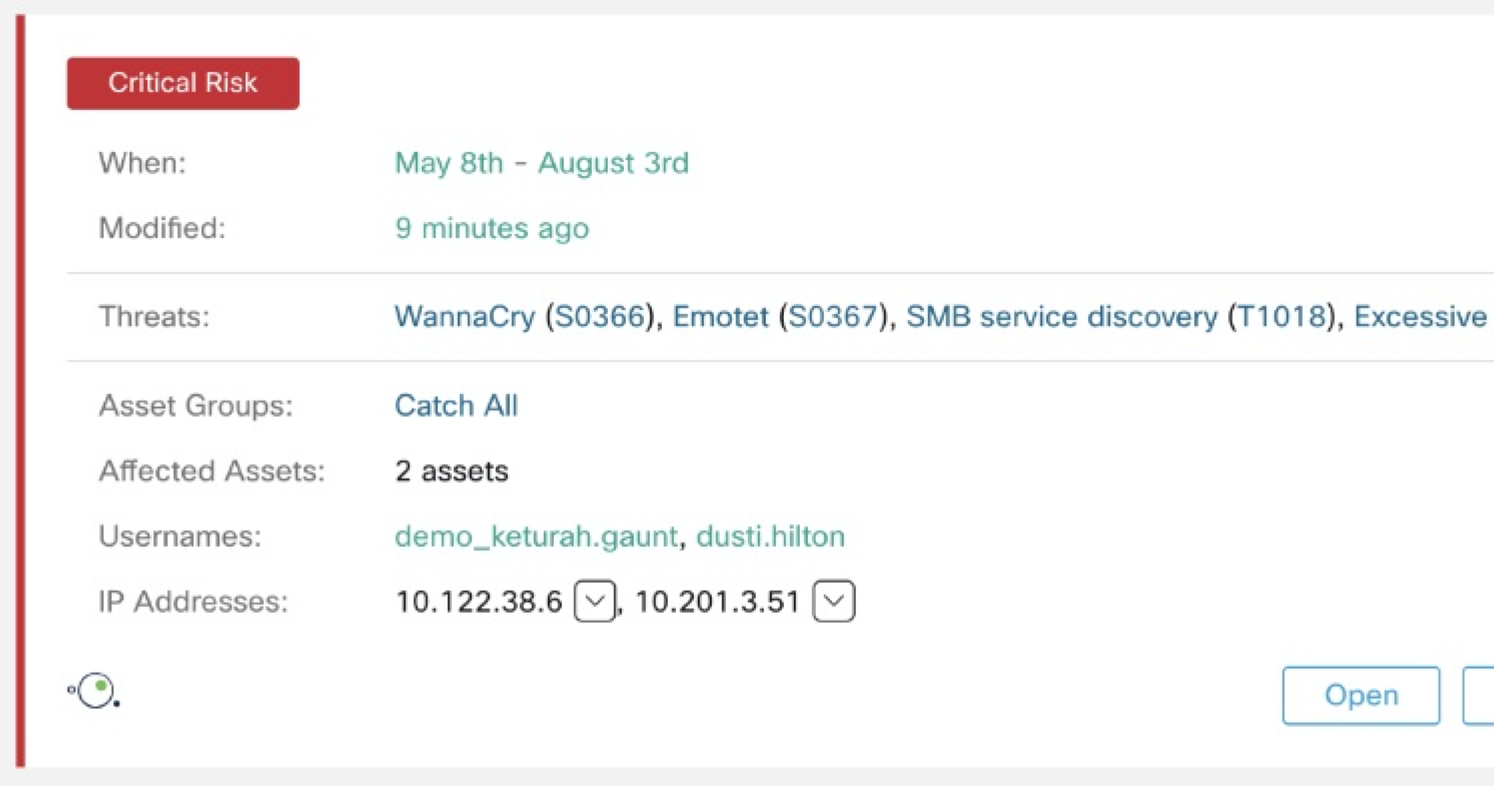
Alerts pointing to risks on your network

Active from June 20th to August 4th Set Last day Last 7 days

Risk level ☑ Critical ☑ High ☑ Medium ☑ Low Enter a username, client IP address, asse

A **New** alert status can be changed using the **Open** or **Close** button:

Figure 4: Open or Close Alert



Critical Risk

When: May 8th - August 3rd

Modified: 9 minutes ago

Threats: WannaCry (S0366), Emotet (S0367), SMB service discovery (T1018), Excessive

Asset Groups: Catch All

Affected Assets: 2 assets

Usernames: demo_keturah.gaunt, dusti.hilton

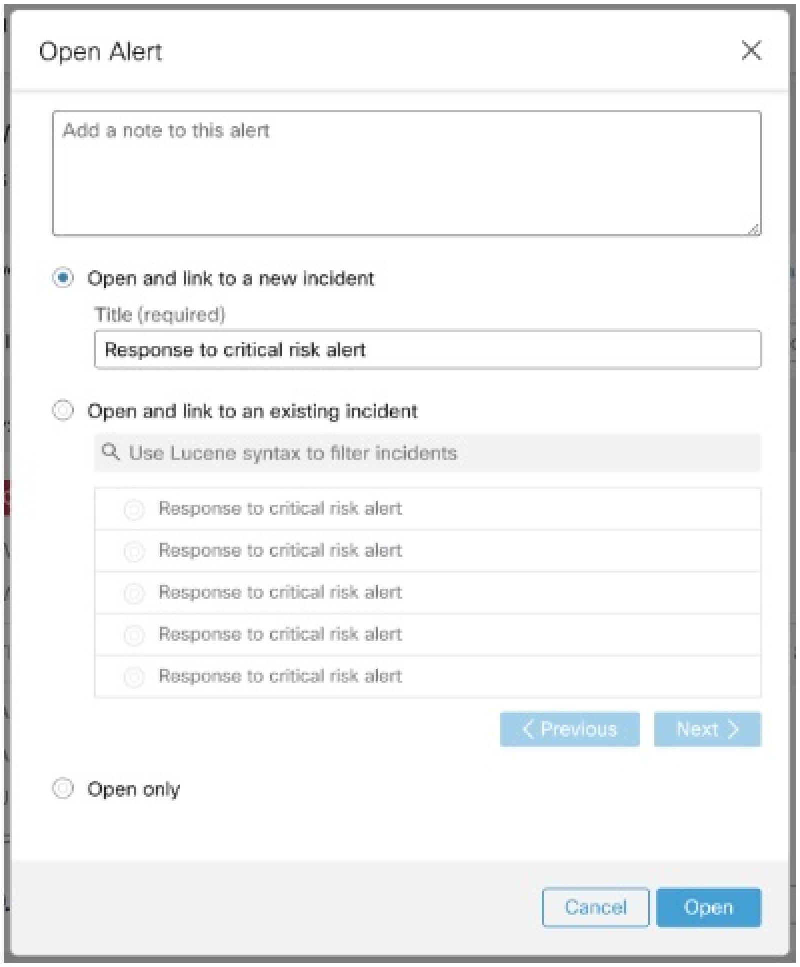
IP Addresses: 10.122.38.6, 10.201.3.51

While global threat alerts continues to focus on its core competencies, such as extended detections and efficient alert triage, it now integrates more tightly with the SecureX ecosystem, using just one click to promote detections to the incident response workflow in SecureX.

When an alert is opened, you have the option to:

- Open and link the alert to a new incident
- Open and link the alert to an existing incident
- Open only

Figure 5: Open Alert with Option to Link to Incident



Open Alert

Add a note to this alert

● Open and link to a new incident

Title (required)

Response to critical risk alert

○ Open and link to an existing incident

Use Lucene syntax to filter incidents

○ Response to critical risk alert

○ Response to critical risk alert

○ Response to critical risk alert

○ Response to critical risk alert

○ Response to critical risk alert

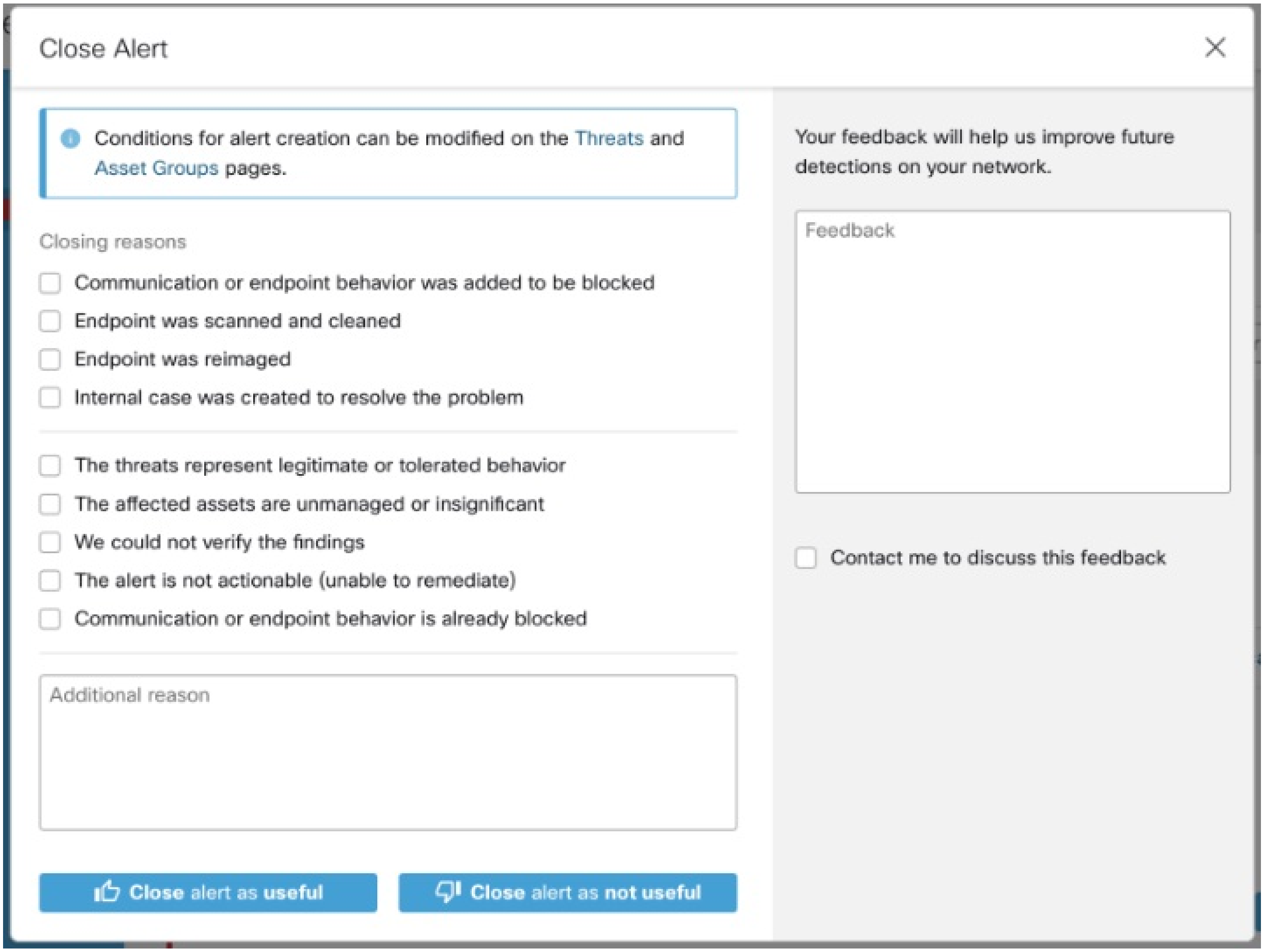
○ Open only

In the SecureX incident manager, the incident contains details such as a **Summary** and all the security **Events** and **Observables** from the original alert. You can then investigate and respond further, using SecureX features such as investigation, enrichment, and orchestration.

When it's undesirable to promote an alert as an incident, you can still **Open only** and track the work only on the global threat alerts console.

In both cases you can **Close** alerts when you're done with them. When closing an alert, pick from a new set of predefined **Closing reasons** or provide your own:

Figure 6: Close Alert with Reasons for Closing



Close Alert ✕

Conditions for alert creation can be modified on the Threats and Asset Groups pages.

Closing reasons

□ Communication or endpoint behavior was added to be blocked
□ Endpoint was scanned and cleaned
□ Endpoint was reimaged
□ Internal case was created to resolve the problem

□ The threats represent legitimate or tolerated behavior
□ The affected assets are unmanaged or insignificant
□ We could not verify the findings
□ The alert is not actionable (unable to remediate)
□ Communication or endpoint behavior is already blocked

Additional reason

Your feedback will help us improve future detections on your network.

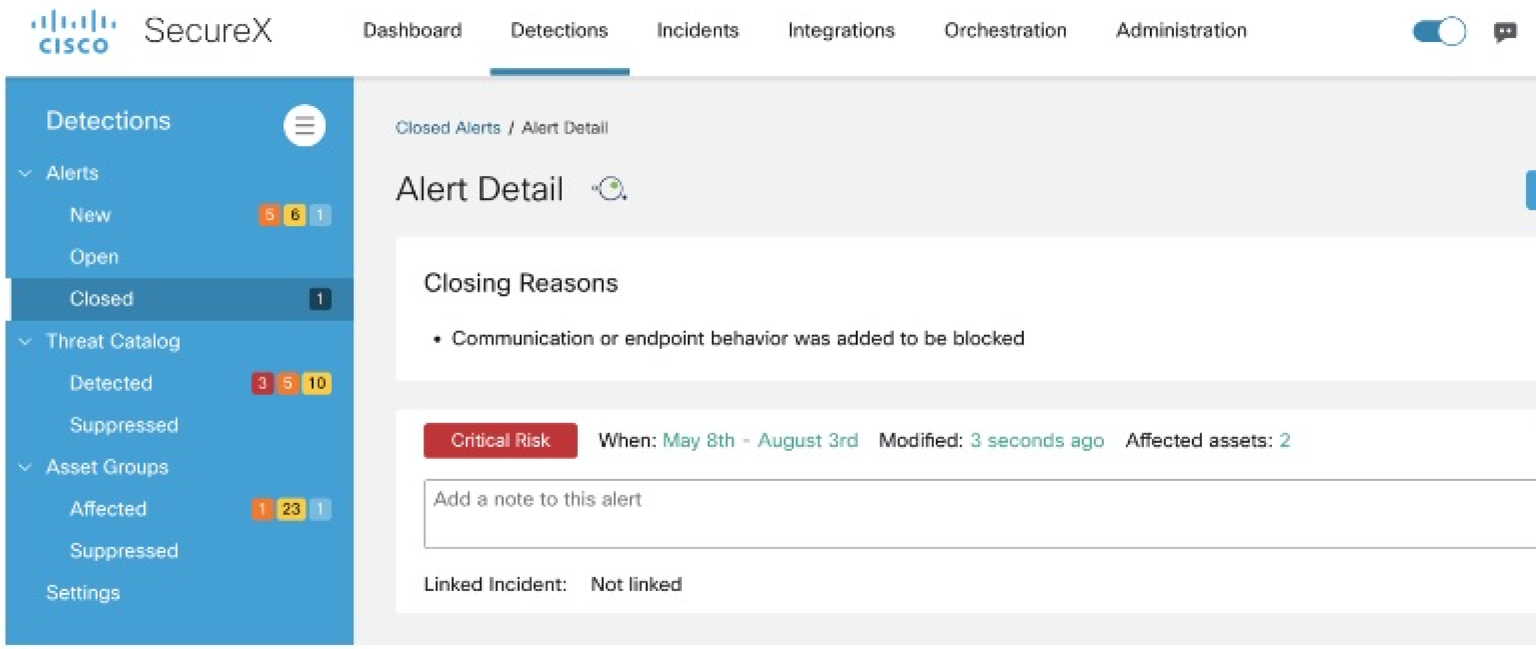
Feedback

□ Contact me to discuss this feedback

When closing an alert, you can close it as **useful** or **not useful**. You can also provide additional feedback about the alert to the team at Cisco; your valuable feedback helps us improve future detections.

Closing reasons will be recorded as part of the alert for future reference:

Figure 7: Closing Reasons Shown on Alert Detail Page



Closing Reasons

- Communication or endpoint behavior was added to be blocked

When: May 8th - August 3rd Modified: 3 seconds ago Affected assets: 2

Add a note to this alert

Linked Incident: Not linked

Closed alerts can be opened. Re-opening an alert will remove all its closing reasons. It will also remove any references to previously linked SecureX incidents. However, you can choose to link the alert again, even to the same SecureX incident as before.

Additional Threat Detections

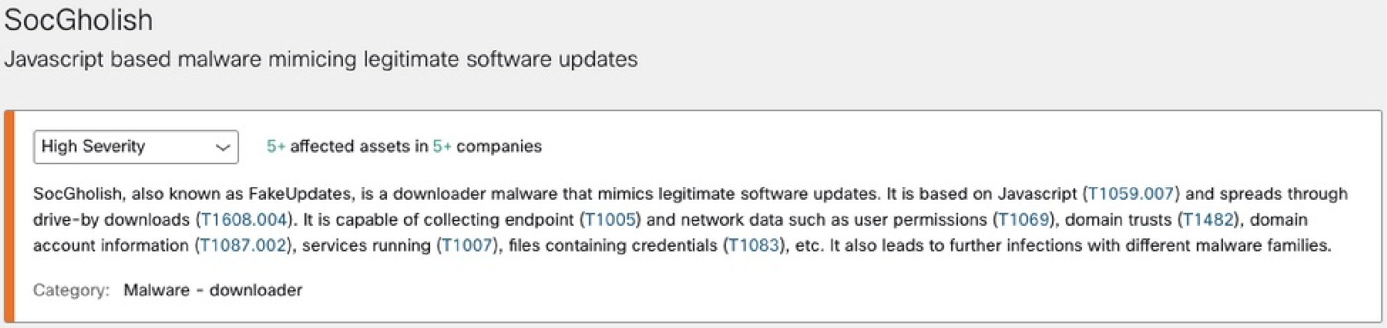
We've added a new threat detection, SocGholish, to our portfolio. And we’ve updated indicators for our existing threat detections.

SocGholish

SocGholish, also known as FakeUpdates, is a downloader malware that mimics legitimate software updates. It is based on Javascript (T1059.007) and spreads through drive-by downloads (T1608.004). It is capable of collecting endpoint (T1005) and network data such as user permissions (T1069), domain trusts (T1482), domain account information (T1087.002), services running (T1007), files containing credentials (T1083), and so on. It also leads to further infections by different malware families.

To see if SocGholish has been detected in your environment, click SocGholish Threat Detail to view its details in global threat alerts.

Figure 8:



SocGholish

Javascript based malware mimicing legitimate software updates

5+ affected assets in 5+ companies

SocGholish, also known as FakeUpdates, is a downloader malware that mimics legitimate software updates. It is based on Javascript (T1059.007) and spreads through drive-by downloads (T1608.004). It is capable of collecting endpoint (T1005) and network data such as user permissions (T1069), domain trusts (T1482), domain account information (T1087.002), services running (T1007), files containing credentials (T1083), etc. It also leads to further infections with different malware families.

Category: Malware - downloader