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Next Generation Cyber Security Operations Centers



Connect to Protect

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Eric Eifert Background



- Over 20+ years experience in Cyber Security
 - Special Agent investigating cyber crime, computer intrusions, cyber espionage, and cyber counterintelligence
 - Program Manager for large U.S. Cyber Security Operations Centers
 - Executive running cyber security line of business (\$125+M)
 - Adjunct professor teaching graduate cyber investigations
 - SVP DarkMatter's Managed Security Services





Robert Meeks Background



- Over 20+ years experience in Cyber Security
 - Base Network Security Officer CAFB
 - Operations Manager supporting MSS customers both Commercial and Federal.
 Also responsible for Cloud based Services.
 - MSSP Director for DarkMatter













Who are the Threat Actors

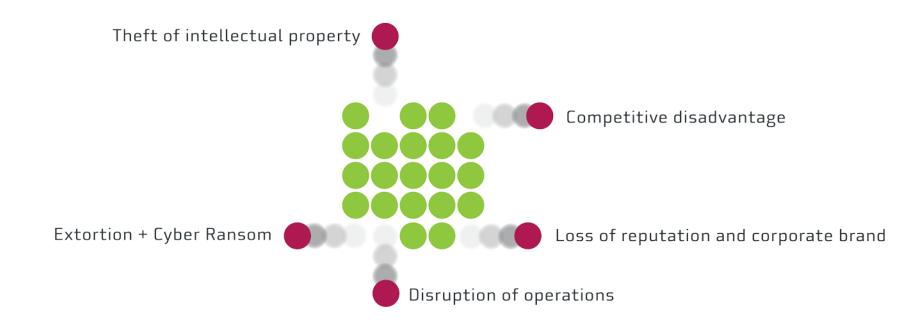






What Are The Risks







Challenges



Customers

- Customer IT/Security Operations teams may not fully understand their Business, Assets and Threats
- Need to optimize capital expenditures and reduce operation cost
- Ability to maintain and fully utilize asset information
- Lack of actionable and meaningful reporting and threat intelligence
- Lack of human resources to meet all the security requirements

MSSP's

- Limit themselves based on the legacy or internally developed SIEM tools
- Utilizing unvalidated threat intelligence as content
- Try to fit an alert into a preconceived conclusion
- Fail to understand their customers Business, Assets and Threats (Enemies)
- Focus on metrics that show the customer they are adhering to SLA's
- Fail at understanding sophisticated campaigns that span months or years



Know Thy Customer



- Strengths
 - Security Perimeters
 - Policy Enforcement
 - Auditing and Compliance
- Weaknesses / Challenges
 - Lack of awareness and tracking of assets
 - Struggle to keep up with outdated hardware/software and vulnerabilities
 - Budget constraints
 - Must adhere to specific boundaries and rules
 - Audit and Compliance is done as a snapshot in time



Know Thy Enemy



- Strengths
 - Underground community support
 - Anonymity
 - No boundaries, limitations or rules
- Weaknesses Challenges
 - Potentially funding (not the case with Nation States)
 - Lack of organization and structure
 - Originality and human error
 - Bragging and or claiming responsibility/credit



How to "Know Thy Customer"



- Understand their business and operational environment
 - What is it you are protecting (Reputation, Intellectual Property, Money, Operations, PII, etc.)
 - What security components do they have or are they missing
 - Understand their assets (Systems, Applications and People)
 - Identify Key assets (DB's, Storage, VIPs etc.)
 - What are their regulatory and governance models
 - Understand their risk exposure and vulnerabilities
 - Understand their IT/Security strategy and roadmap



How to "Know Thy Enemy"



- Proper Threat Intelligence Program
 - Research who the threat actors are that are targeting you
 - What attack methods do they use
 - Focus on Indicators that provide a higher value of reward
 - TTP
 - Tools
 - Network/Host Artifacts
- Collect, store, and add value to the your threat intelligence
 - Use Intel IOC's as context and not content (Unless verified a
 - nd even then its value is time sensitive)
 - Collaborate with Government agencies (CERTS)
 - Collaborate with Industry Peers



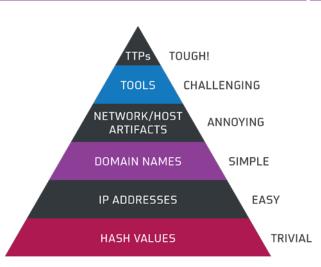
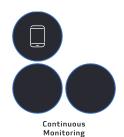


Image Sources: David Bianco's the pyramid of pain

Next Gen Cyber Security Operations Centers







& GRC



- . THREATS
- . ASSETS
- . VULNERABILITIES
- . RISKS
- . COMPLIANCE
- . INCIDENTS



Continuous Monitoring



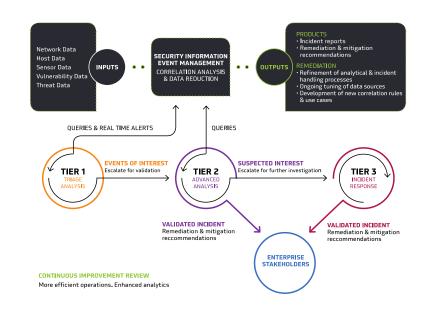
- Continuous Monitoring provides continuous cyber situational awareness and not a snap shot in time
- Monitor your Risk and Governance adherence on an on-going basis
- Identify when changes in hardware, software, and users takes place
- Holistic view necessary to see across the entire business operations
 - Information Technology
 - Operational Technology (Industrial Control Systems/SCADA)
 - Internet of Things/Everything



Advanced Analytics



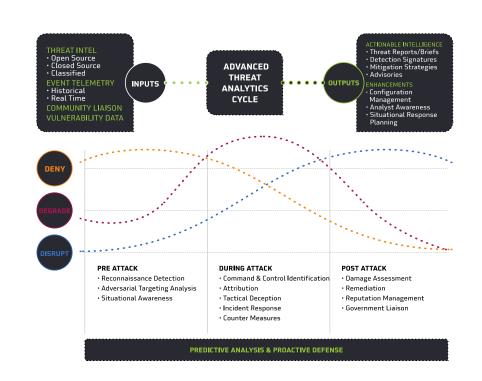
- Use every possible correlation methodologies
 - Behavioral
 - Statistical
 - Heuristical
 - Anomaly
 - Reputational
- Deploy Technology to provide visibility across all assets
 - Remote locations
 - Non-IP based
 - Mobile and wireless
 - Endpoints
- Integrate continuous monitoring and rapid (automated) remediation/mitigation activities



Advanced Threat Analytics



- Develop a threat intelligence program that truly adds value and context
- Enhance by doing validation on all intelligence feeds
- Develop partnerships with government information sharing programs
- Develop partnerships with industry peers to share threat intelligence
- Interface with all stakeholders to understand critical components



Problem of MSS Reporting



- # of Alerts per month
 - Does this really mean anything and it's a snapshot in time?
 - Linking alerts across larger periods of time against assets and kill chain show value!
- Types of Alerts
 - What does this have to do with anything?
 - What matters is we let you know when your assets are being targeted and how the alerts have a relationship!
- Mean time to detect
 - Does it matter if I detect someone has stolen your data in 15min or 1 hour?....It's gone!
 - What matters is that we let you know your server is at risk and we are seeing an attempt at data exfiltration!



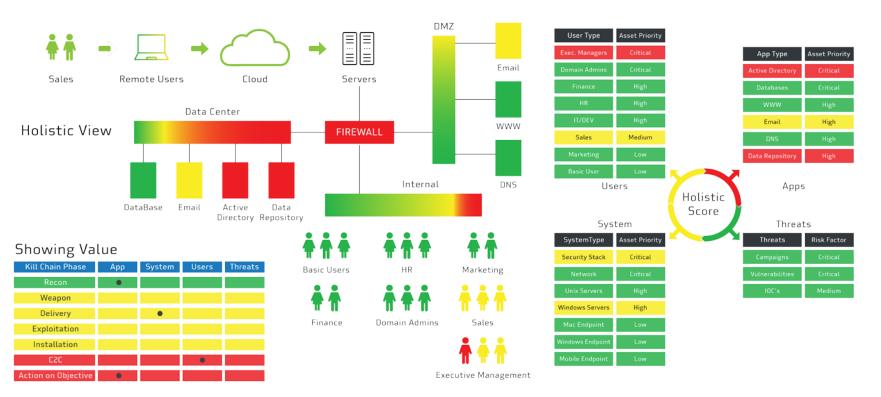
Meaningful and Actionable Reporting



- Holistic approach of reporting
- Change management reporting based on validated risk exposure
- Analytical reporting based on identifying actual risks and incidents and not by hitting SLA
- Demonstrate value added service being provided

Holistic Dashboard View's Showing Value





Conclusion



- The cyber domain has become the new battlefield and no one is immune to the effects of the battles that take place on a daily basis
- The threat landscape is getting more complex and hyper-connected
- The Future of MSS has to:
 - Have a holistic view of the battlefield
 - Know the strengths and weaknesses of their customers and their enemies
 - Understand customers business operations and how the cyber domain impacts their business
 - Understand the tactics of cyber attacks to understand how to protect their customers environment and critical assets



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