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**TRANSFORM**

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## **The Missing Supply Chain Link: A Safe Harbor for Risk Information Sharing**

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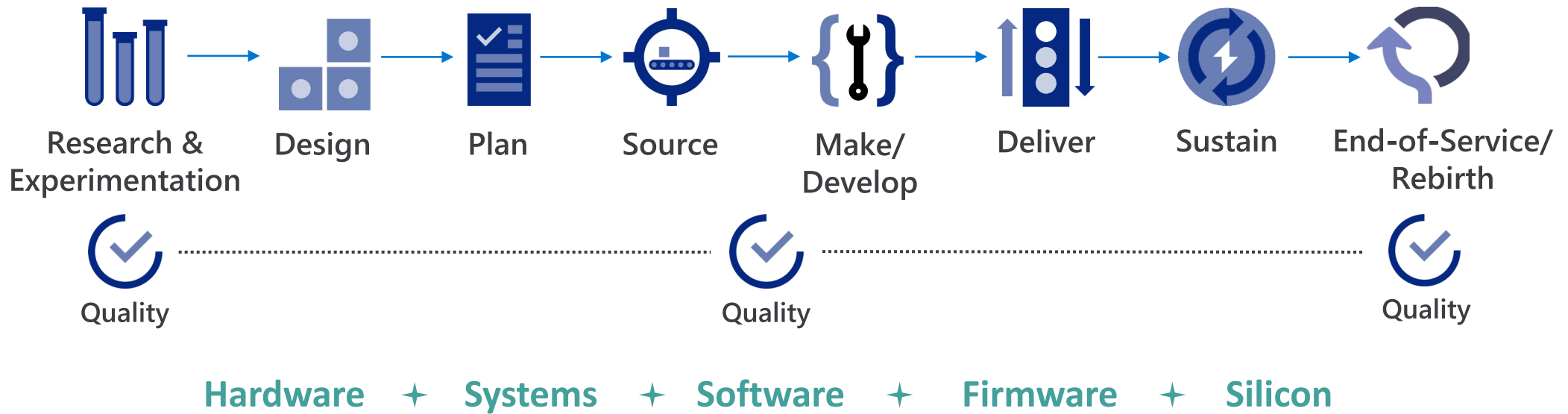
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# Supply Chain Risk: A Lifecycle Challenge



# Supply Chain: A Critical Source of Risk

Over 12 years  
an average of

**74%**

security incidents linked to  
3<sup>rd</sup> parties over the last 13  
years

2010-2022 Verizon Data  
Breach Investigation Report

In 2021

**91%**

had an incident linked to a  
3<sup>rd</sup> party

2022 Cyber Risk Alliance  
3<sup>rd</sup> Party Risk in The Era of Zero Trust

In the prior 12 months

**97%**

suffered negative impact  
from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party's breach

2021 BlueVoyant Managing Cyber  
Risk Across the Extended Vendor  
Ecosystem



# The Depth of Hidden SC Risk

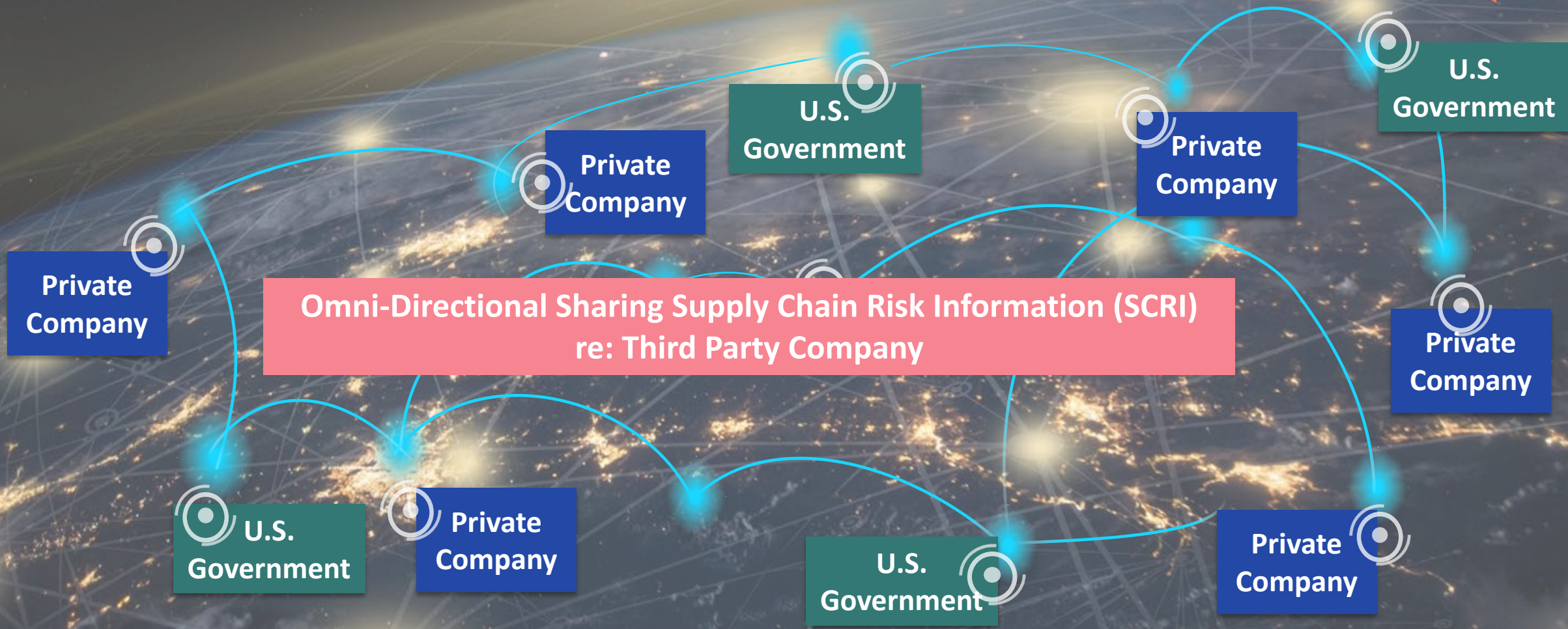
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A large iceberg floats in a deep blue ocean under a clear sky. The visible tip of the iceberg is small and jagged, while the submerged portion is much larger and more complex, illustrating the concept of hidden risks. The water surface is marked by a horizontal line.

77% of enterprises have  
limited third party visibility\*

\*2020 BlueVoyant Global Insights: Supply Chain Cyber Risk

# Information Sharing: Exposing Hidden SC Risk





# Today's SC Risk Information Sharing Models



**Law:** Cybersecurity & Information Sharing Act of 2015 (CISA 2015):

- Some private sector liability protection for sharing certain “cyber threat” information

## Public-Private Forums:

- ISACs, ISAOs, DHS Sector Coordinating Councils, Homeland Security Information Network, FBI Infragard, State Fusion Centers; Federal Acquisition Security Council (“Voluntary Information Submission”)

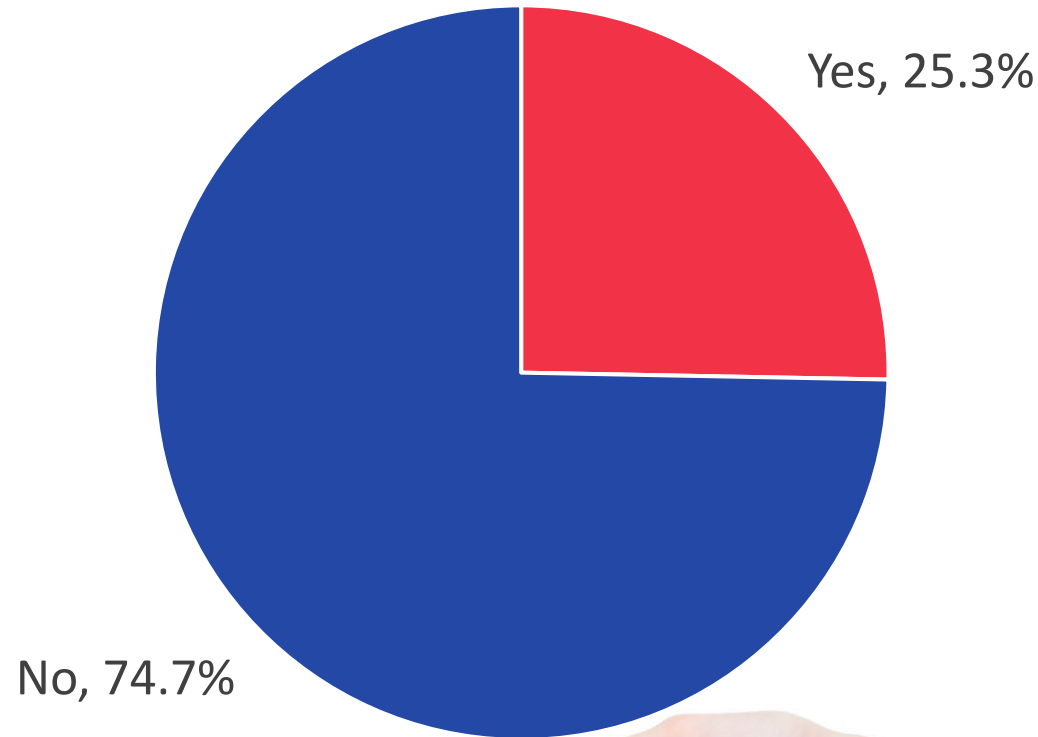
## US DHS Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency

- Threat Information Sharing Framework
- National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC)
- Automated Indicator Sharing (AIS)
- Cyber Information Sharing and Collaboration Program (CISCP)



# Information Sharing: Kind of...But Not Really

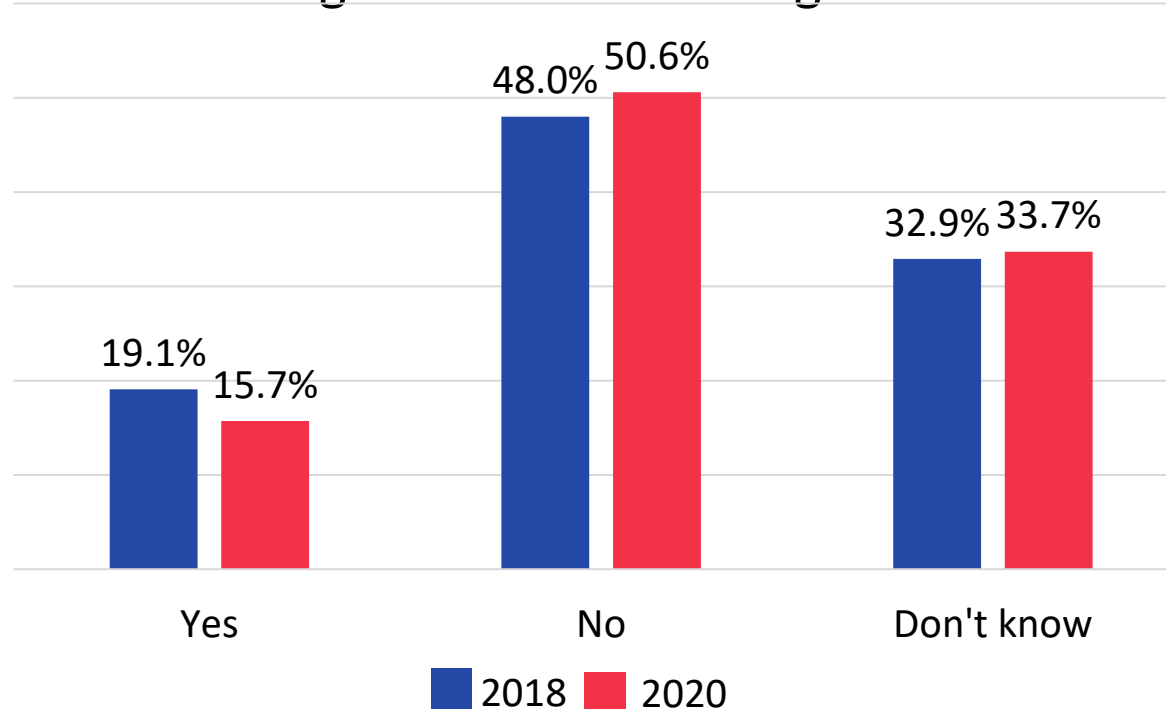
Does your organization have internal processes to utilize existing information sharing statutes and programs, such as the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (CISA 2015)?



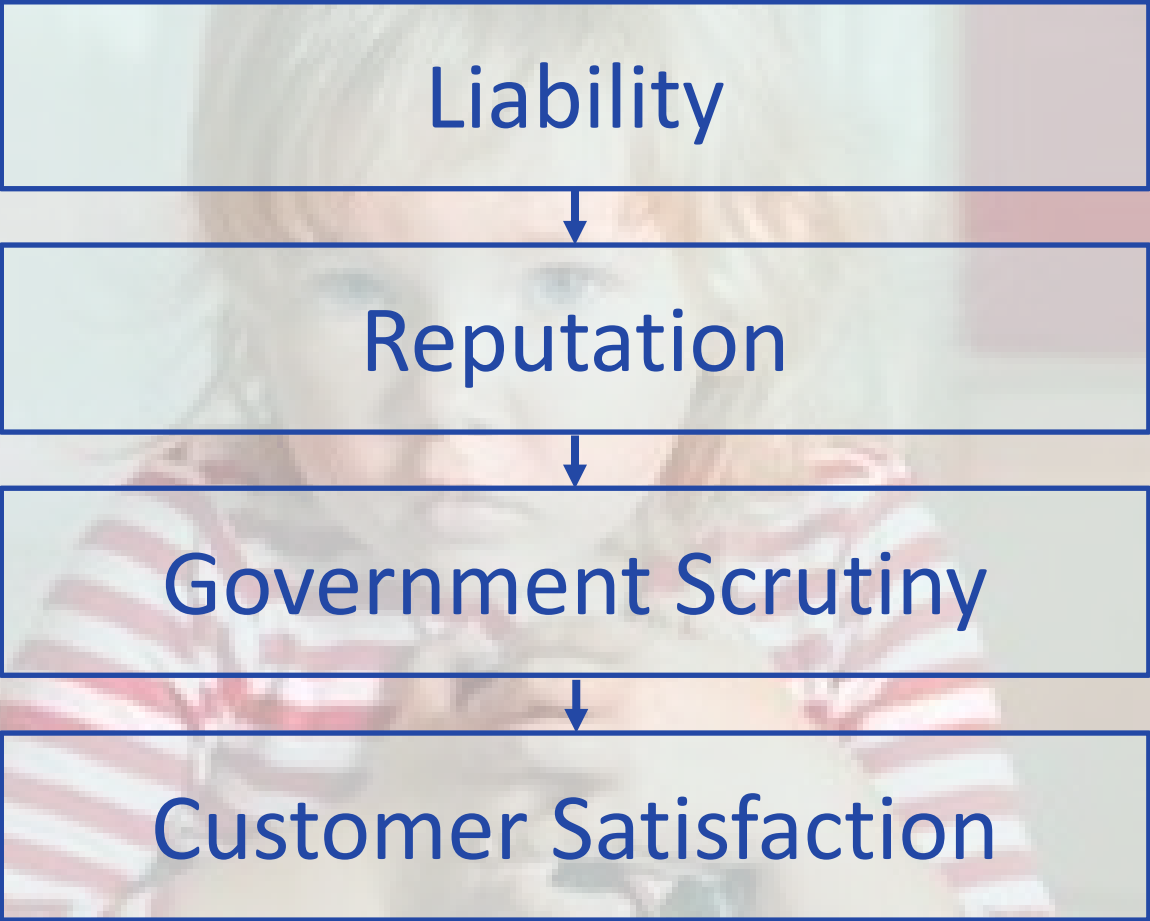


# Information Sharing: Kind of...But Not Really

Does your organization participate in an information sharing and analysis organization to share cybersecurity threat information with other organizations and the government?



# Why Are Companies Reluctant to Share?





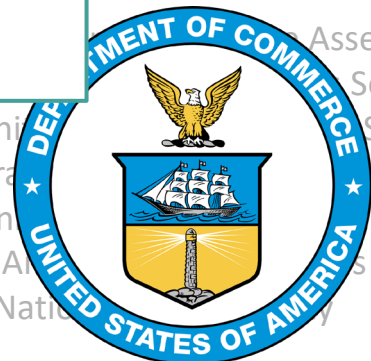
# Growing Supply Chain Risk Efforts in U.S. Government

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Executive Office of the President of the U.S.

DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) - Information Communications Technology Supply Chain Risk Management Task Force

- Protecting the U.S. Supply Chain from Foreign Influence
- Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) Ruler
- Final Designation Proceeding for ZTE Corporation (PS Docket No. 19-351)
- Final Designation Proceeding for ZTE Corporation (PS Docket No. 19-352)
- Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council (CSRIC)



U.S. Department of Defense

- NSA – Out of the Box (OTB) Services
- now available for use by the Department of Defense
- (formerly the NSA's Out of the Box (OTB) Services)
- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)
- National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Implementation
- Regulation (FAIR) Implementation
- Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS)/DOD 5G SCRM



Department of Energy

- Supply Chain Risk Management Plan
- Cyber Testing for Resilient Industrial Control Systems (CyTRICS) Program

- NISTIR 8276
- NISTIR 8286
- 10-161 Re...
- 53A R...
- Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) – Entities List, De Minimis Regulation
- Amendments to General Prohibition Three (Foreign-Produced Direct Product Rule) and the Entity List
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Software Bill of Materials (SBOM)

# DHS ICT Supply Chain Risk Management Task Force

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## Key Work Groups

- Small and Medium-sized Businesses (SMB)
- Criteria for Qualified Bidder List Inclusion
- Framework of Threats Across the ICT SC
- Evaluation Criteria for Vendor SCRM Posture
- Lessons From Recent Software SC Attacks
- Covid-19 Risk Study

### Information Sharing Framework:

Create common framework for omni-directional sharing of SCRM threat information



# Information Sharing Work Group - Year 1



**Mapping Exercise:** Mapped Information available to SC Threats

**Conclusion:** Highest value information = exchange of supplier-specific risk creating information

## Information Source Analysis

**Conclusion:** Suspect supplier information discovery—Earlier by industry, later by government

## Impediment Analysis

**Conclusion:** Sharing is hampered by legal concerns, namely the prospect of facing a private cause of action, most likely brought by the supplier about whom the concerns were raised

# Information Sharing Work Group - Year 2

## Identify the Legal Impediments to Increased Information Sharing of SC Risk

- **Categories of Claims**

- Tortious Interference with Existing Contract
- Tortious Interference with Prospective Contract, Business Relationship or Business Advantage
- Defamation
- Business or Commercial Disparagement
- Fraudulent Misrepresentation
- Breach of Contract
- Misappropriation of Trade Secrets

- **Mapping of key considerations** for litigation risk for each Category of Claim
- **Potential approaches to ↑ beneficial sharing while ↓ litigation risk:**
  - Education/outreach promoting > sharing of SCR information + liability risk reducing precautions
  - Ask for the relevant information through an existing government body
  - Longer-term changes in law



# The Elephant in the Room: Naming Risk Actors

- ↑ Sharing the Most Valuable Information - Risky SC Actors/Activity
- ↓ Liability for Identifying Risky SC Actors/Activity

## High-level factors that move the reporting company along the spectrum of litigation risk:

Intent to serve the public interest	VS.	intent to harm the reported supplier or gain private benefit
Good faith belief in the veracity of the concern reported	VS.	spurious maligning of reported supplier
Degree of care in vetting the credibility of facts reported	VS.	careless innuendo and sharing rumors

Conclusion:

## Private Litigation Risk Spectrum

	Low: Suit would be dismissed.	Medium: Suit could survive motion to dismiss, reach discovery.	High: Suit could prevail.		
High-level factors that move the reporting company along the spectrum of litigation risk*:					
	• Intent to serve the public interest...	vs...	intent to harm the reported supplier or gain private benefit.		
	• Good faith belief in the veracity of the concern reported...	vs...	spurious maligning of reported supplier		
	• Degree of care in vetting the credibility of facts reported...	vs...	careless innuendo and sharing rumors.		
Type of concern	Criminal activity (e.g., espionage, sabotage)	Suspected criminal activity	Unethical business practices	Insecure hardware, software	Poor quality hardware, software
Level of certainty	Facts confirmed with documentary evidence**	Facts, sources heavily vetted, credible**	Facts credible, prelim. investigated**	Facts credible but not investigated	Unconfirmed rumor
Formality of reporting	Filing under a statutory regime or similar model	Signed statement also filed with LE govt	Signed statement to one or more private parties	Oral report to one or more private parties	"Whisper campaign"
Audience of the reported concern, relationships between parties	Contractual relationship, required reporting	Group for sharing criminal or safety supply chain concerns (inc. with LE govt)	Minimal commercial interest between reporting party and recipient	Reporting party seeks business with recipient, is competitor with reported supplier	Reporting company has contractual relationship with reported supplier
Government's role	Formal proceeding or government contract, required reporting	Formal program with procedural steps for reporting	Express interest in private reporting	Implied interest in private reporting	No interest in private reporting
Message reported	Anonymized	Only name the country of concern	Use euphemisms for the supplier	Identify a class of companies	"Do not buy from this company!"

# Private Litigation Risk Spectrum

<b>Type of concern</b>	Criminal activity (e.g., espionage, sabotage)	Suspected criminal activity	Unethical business practices	Insecure hardware, software	Poor quality hardware, software
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## Low:

Suit would be dismissed

## Medium:

Suit could survive motion to dismiss, reach discovery

## High:

Suit could prevail



# Information Sharing Work Group - Year 2.5

## Final Goal

### Identify Paths to:

- Ensure omni-directional information sharing re: risky SC actors
- Protect sharing enterprises from liability for doing so

# Information Sharing: How to Do It Right!

## **Amend CISA 2015 to include:**

- supply chain risk as a Cyber Threat Indicator
- a definition of supply chain risk that includes data & information
- preemption over conflicting state/federal laws
- exemption from possible antitrust violation
- segregation + exclusion of information extraneous to Supply Chain Risk

# Apply

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## Public-Private Engagement

- ✓ Influence to enhance information sharing legislation
- ✓ Participate in industry associations or coalitions e.g.:
  - U.S. Chamber of Commerce
  - Information Technology Industry Council
  - USTelecom
- ✓ Take advantage of NGO Information Sharing Forums (ISACs, ISAOs etc.)

## Enterprise Action

- ✓ Share your SC Security controls with your supplier ecosystem
- ✓ Adapt your controls to meet new demands and communicate changes with your supplier ecosystem
- ✓ Follow Information Sharing guidance in NIST 800-161 Rev. 1 (2nd draft) §3.2
- ✓ Meet CIS Critical Security Controls V8 IG1-3 Control 17.2



# Thank you!