Automating the Compliance Process for Industrial Automation and Control Systems

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About the Presenter

- Uduak Daniels
- 15 years experience in Cybersecurity
- 9 years Cybersecurity experience with asset owner
- CISSP, CISM
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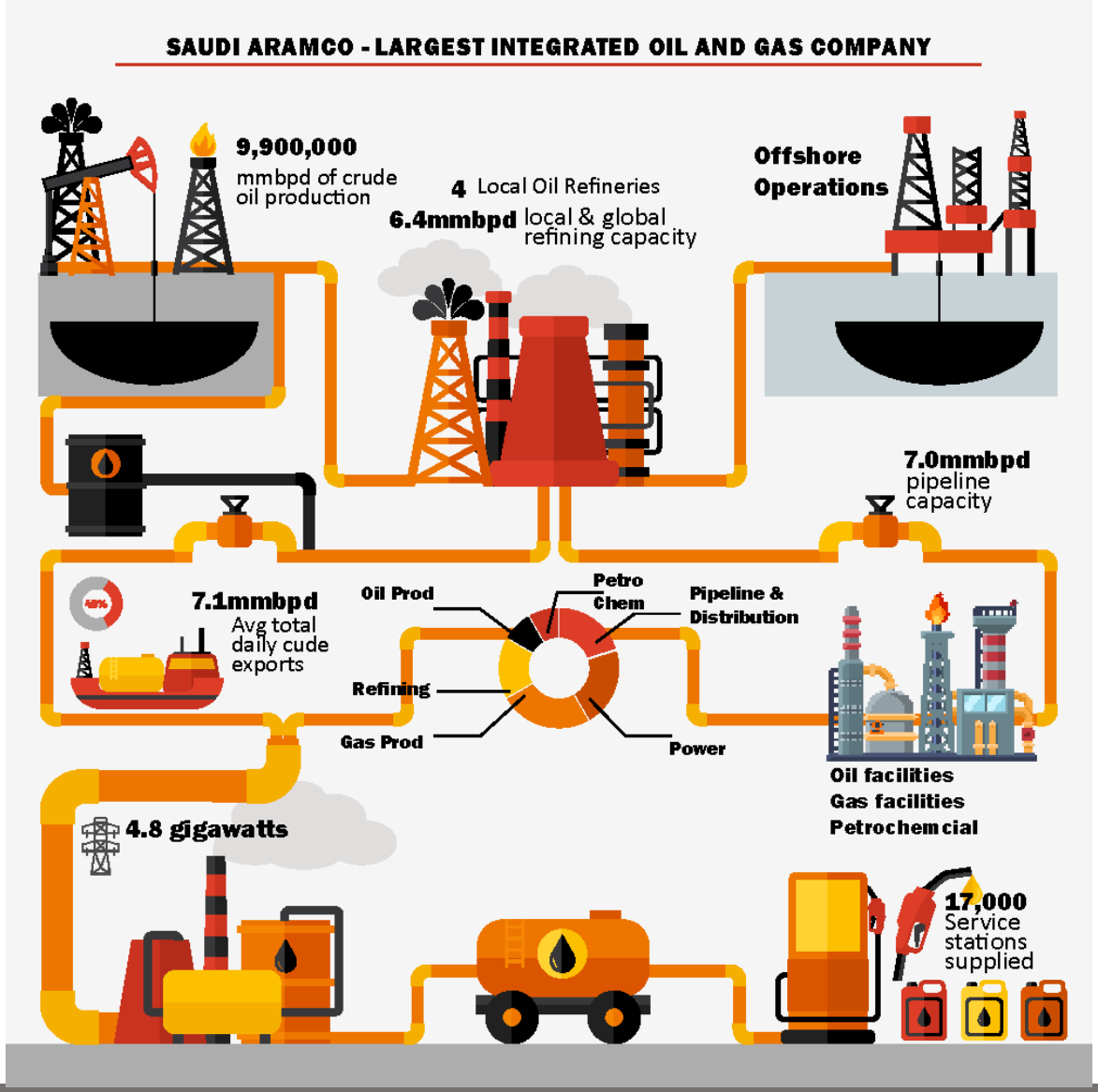
- Technical Steering Committee Member ISASecure

Presentation Overview

- Oil and Gas Operations
- IACS Cybersecurity Compliance
- Compliance Assessment
- Compliance Automation
- Compliance Assessment Tools

Oil and Gas Operations

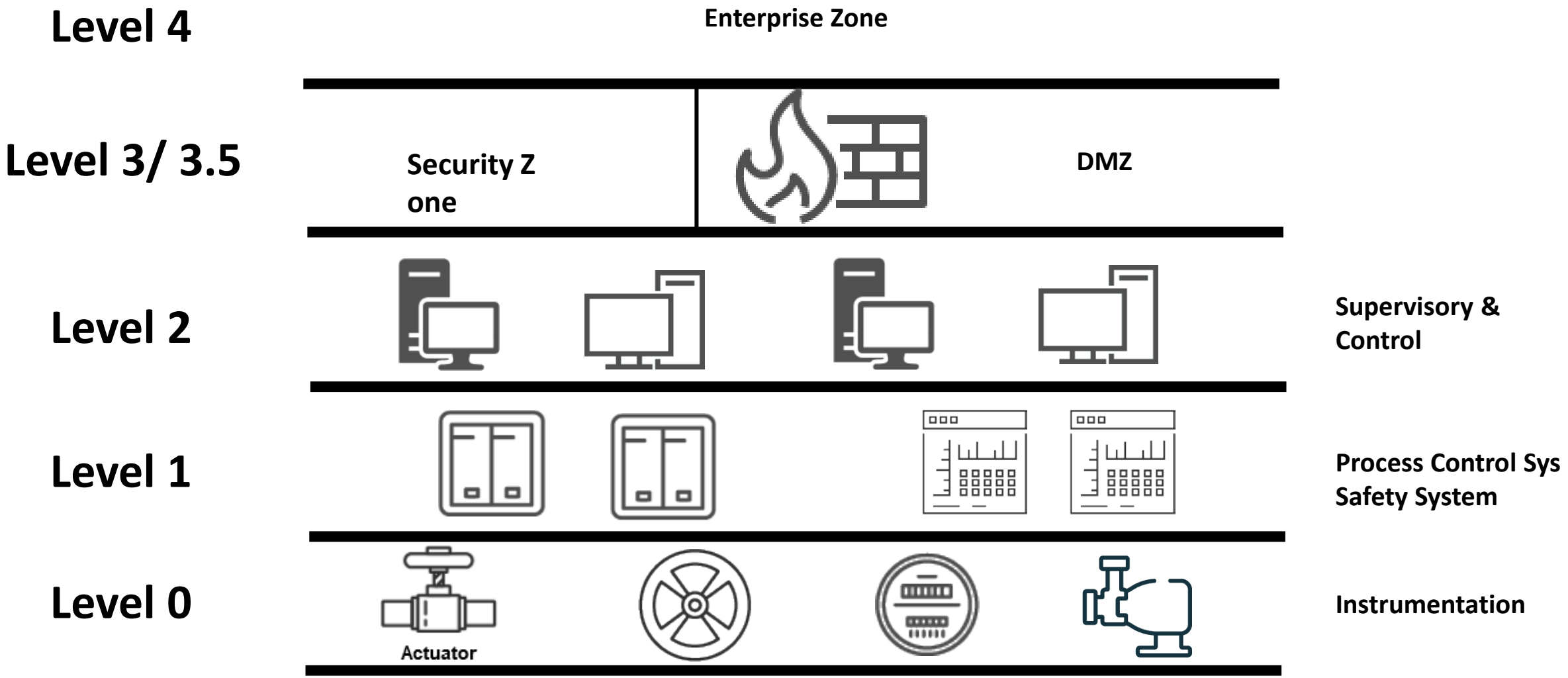
An Overview



- Large asset owner operations can be very complex
- Operations require an extensive supply chain
- Industrial automation and control systems used in production, processing, and distribution of products
- Global and local regulations requiring compliance
- Risk related to IT/OT systems

https://www.aramco.com/-/media/publications/corporate-reports/saudi-aramco-ara-2019-english.pdf

IACS Architecture



The Complexity of Securing IACS

- Legacy IACS systems
- System Diversity
- Adoption of IT systems vs. vendor proprietary systems for industrial process automation
- Operations focused on functionality and stability, rather than security
- Require 99.999% system uptime
- Systems modifications by asset owners, to address vulnerabilities, may nullify ICS vendor warranty
- Broad range of stakeholders required to confront ICS cybersecurity
- Consequences of successful cyber attack may result in loss of life or health, environmental impact, and significant financial loss

ICS Cybersecurity Compliance

What is Cybersecurity Compliance

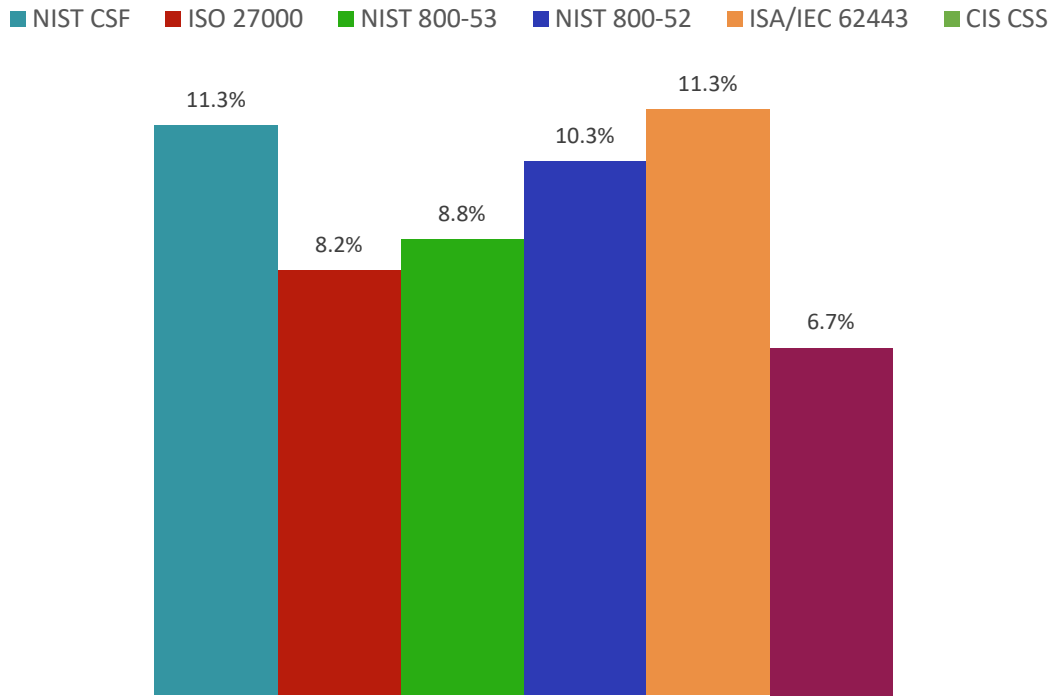
- Conformance to cybersecurity rules
- Rules otherwise known as controls or requirements originate from global standards and frameworks
- Cybersecurity controls are adopted by organizations based on risk management, regulatory mandates, operational licenses, customer requirements
- Controls usually represent minimum cybersecurity requirements
- Compliance can be measured against people, process, and technology controls

Global Standards found in IACS Environments

Top 10 Regulations, Standards, Best Practices Used

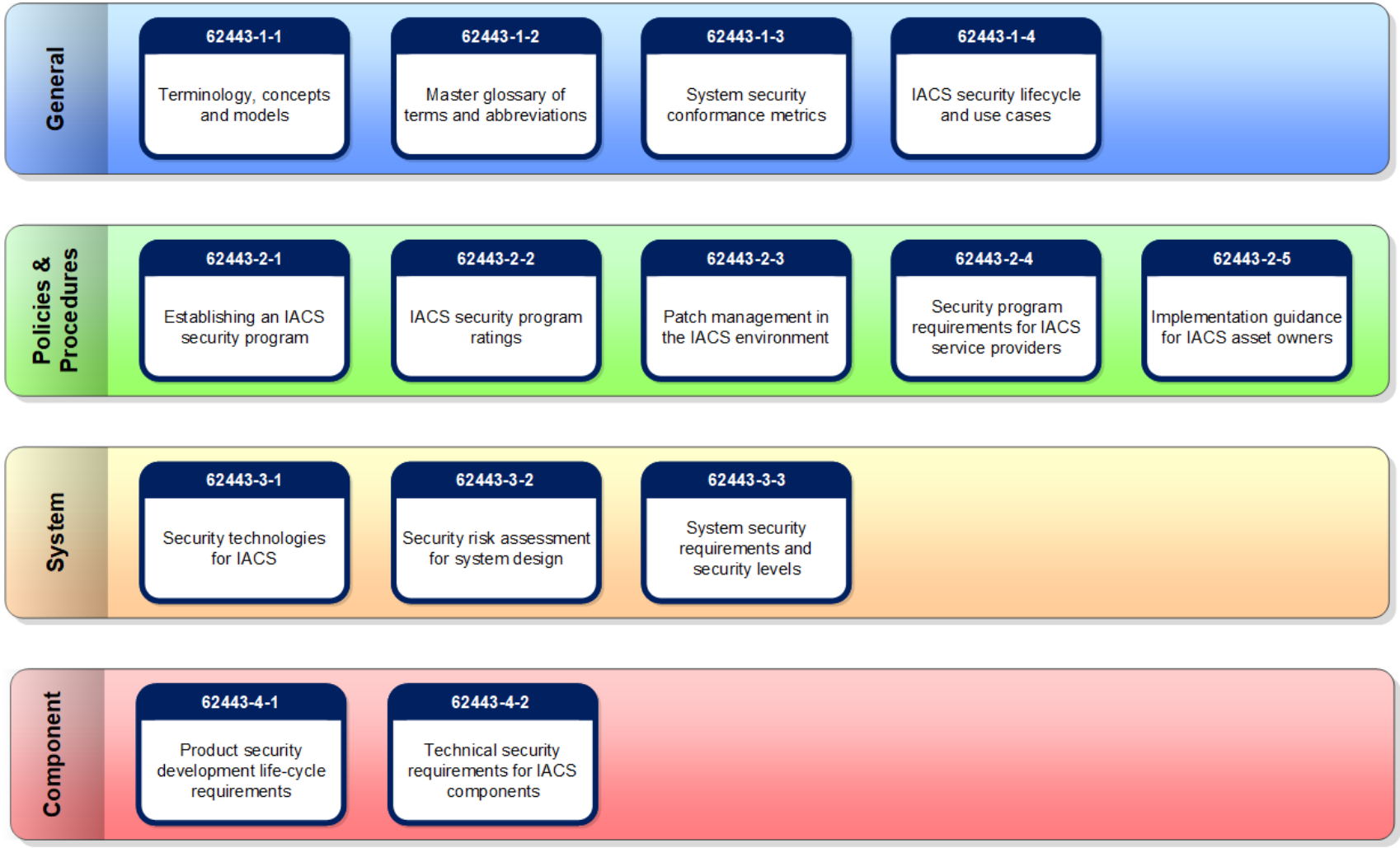
Rank	Regulation	% Response
1	NIST CSF (Cyber Security Framework)	38.1%
2	ISO 27000 series	32.0%
3	NIST 800-53	31.4%
4	NIST 800-82	30.9%
5	ISA/IEC 62443	30.4%
6	CIS Critical Security Controls	29.9%
7	NERC CIP	23.7%
8	GDPR	15.5%
9	C2M2 (Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model)	10.3%
10	NIS Directive (EU)	8.3%

Security Standards & Regulations Mapped to OT/Control Systems



[https://www.forescout.com/company/resources/2019-sans-state-of-ot-ics-cybersecurity-survey/

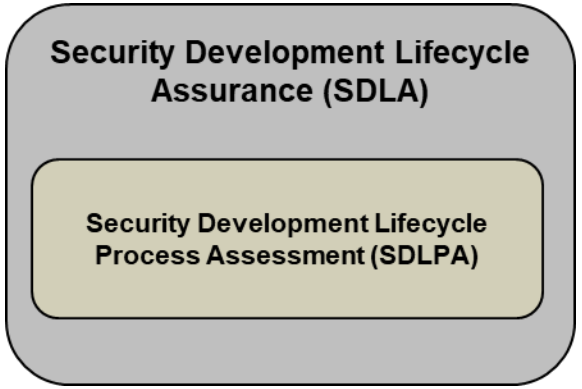
ISA/IEC 62443 IACS Standard

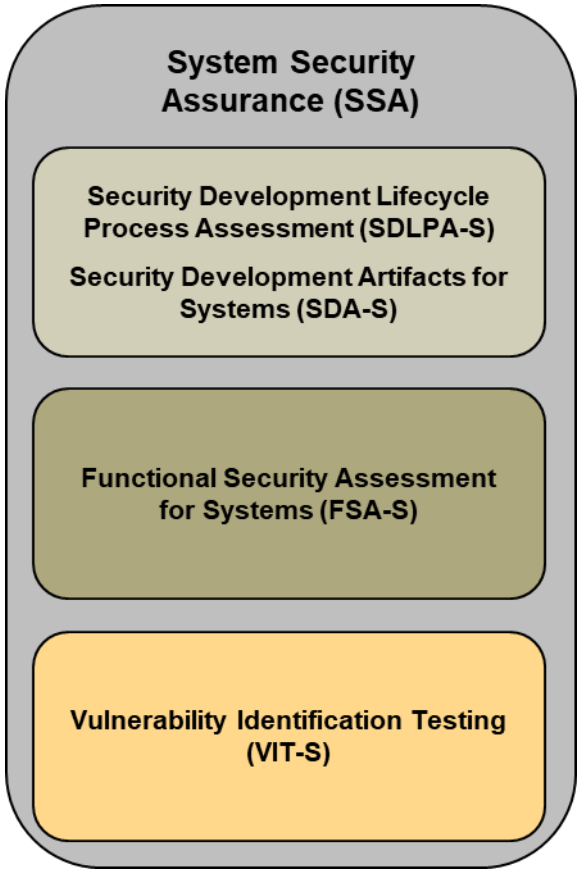


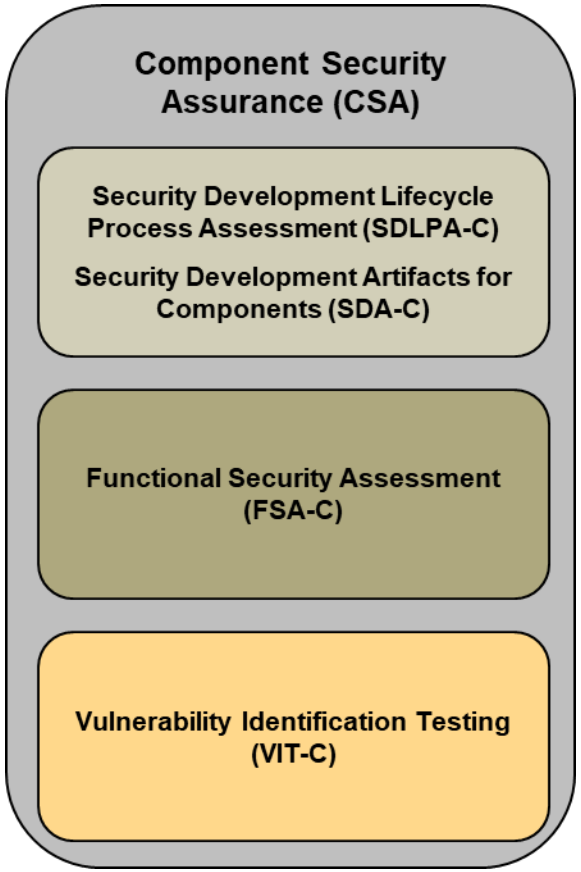
- ❑ IACS Cybersecurity requirements
- ❑ Requirements for people, process, and technology
- ❑ Expanded from just the industrial process sector and applied to building automation, medical devices, and transportation sectors
- ❑ Considered the de facto standard for IACS
- ❑ Very wide global adoption
- ❑ Introduces concepts like security levels, and zone and conduits

ISASecure® Certification Scheme

- Third-party conformance assessment scheme
- Based on the ISA/IEC 62443 series of standards
- ISASecure® develops and maintains the certification scheme
- ISASecure® certificate demonstrate compliance to applicable ISA/IEC 62443 requirements
- Certification establishes trust between IACS stakeholders







Compliance Control vs. Security Controls

- ❑ Requirements are usually the minimum
- ❑ Controls are based on standards and frameworks
- ❑ Regulators care about your compliance
- ❑ One-size fits all organizations
- ❑ Easy to measure and test controls
- ❑ Controls change gradually based on predefined review cycles

- ❑ Requirements are based on risk
- ❑ Controls are based on threat
- ❑ Hackers care about your security
- ❑ Unique to an organization
- ❑ More rigorous to measure and test controls
- ❑ Controls change rapidly due to threat

Compliance Myths

We are compliant, Hurray! We are finally secure … not so fast

Once compliant, always compliant

Compliance is a business inhibitor

Compliance absolves me from accountability

My automation vendor says don't do it, now I am compliant

Compliance Assessment

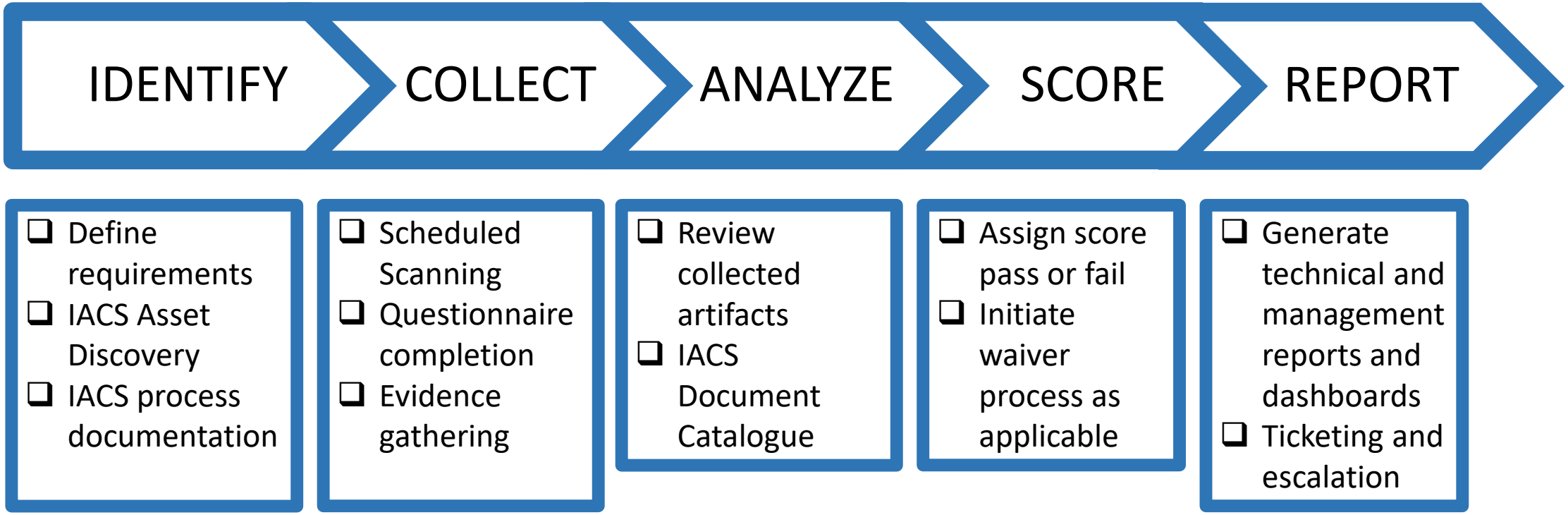
Compliance Assessment Approaches

Approach	Description	Pros	Cons
Sample Set Controls Validation by an Assurance Entity	Conduct Compliance assessment by and for a subset of systems and processes	▪ Medium level of assurance ▪ Frequent assessments possible ▪ Most affordable ▪ Assurance entity personnel required is limited	▪ Pushback from entities ▪ Low level of assurance
Full Compliance Self-Validation, Sample Set Controls Validation by an Assurance Entity	Assessed entity conducts full assessments, assurance entity samples subset of systems with a full assessment	▪ Assurance entity personnel required is limited	▪ Low level of assurance ▪ Likely biased results ▪ Significant knowledge transfer required ▪ Expensive
Full Compliance Validation by an Assurance Entity	Conduct Compliance assessment for all inscope systems and processes	▪ High level of assurance ▪ High independence	▪ Resource intensive ▪ Pushback from entities ▪ Expensive
Full Compliance Self-Validation, Full Compliance Validation by an Assurance Entity	Assessed entity conducts full assessments, assurance entity conducts full review of all assessed entity assessment reports	▪ Highest level of assurance ▪ Assurance entity personnel required is limited ▪ High independence	▪ Significant knowledge transfer required ▪ Most expensive

Compliance Assessment Challenges in IACS

- Subjectivity
- Remote facilities
- High-level vs. Specific
- A point in-time assurance
- Determining inscope assets
- IACS Cybersecurity knowledge gap

Compliance Assessment Process Phases



Compliance Automation

Compliance Automation

DEFINITION

- ❑Consolidates asset meta data, controls, findings, workflows, scoring, reporting, and dashboards in one location
- ❑Visualize and action all compliance assessment information in one location

BENEFITS

- ❑Sampling not required
- ❑Assessment frequency can increase providing greater assurance
- ❑Less manpower required
- ❑Significant reduction in assessment time
- ❑Reduces potential for human error
- ❑Keep up with new regulations
- ❑Quick ability to test new controls
- ❑More cost-effective, cheaper

Automation Scope

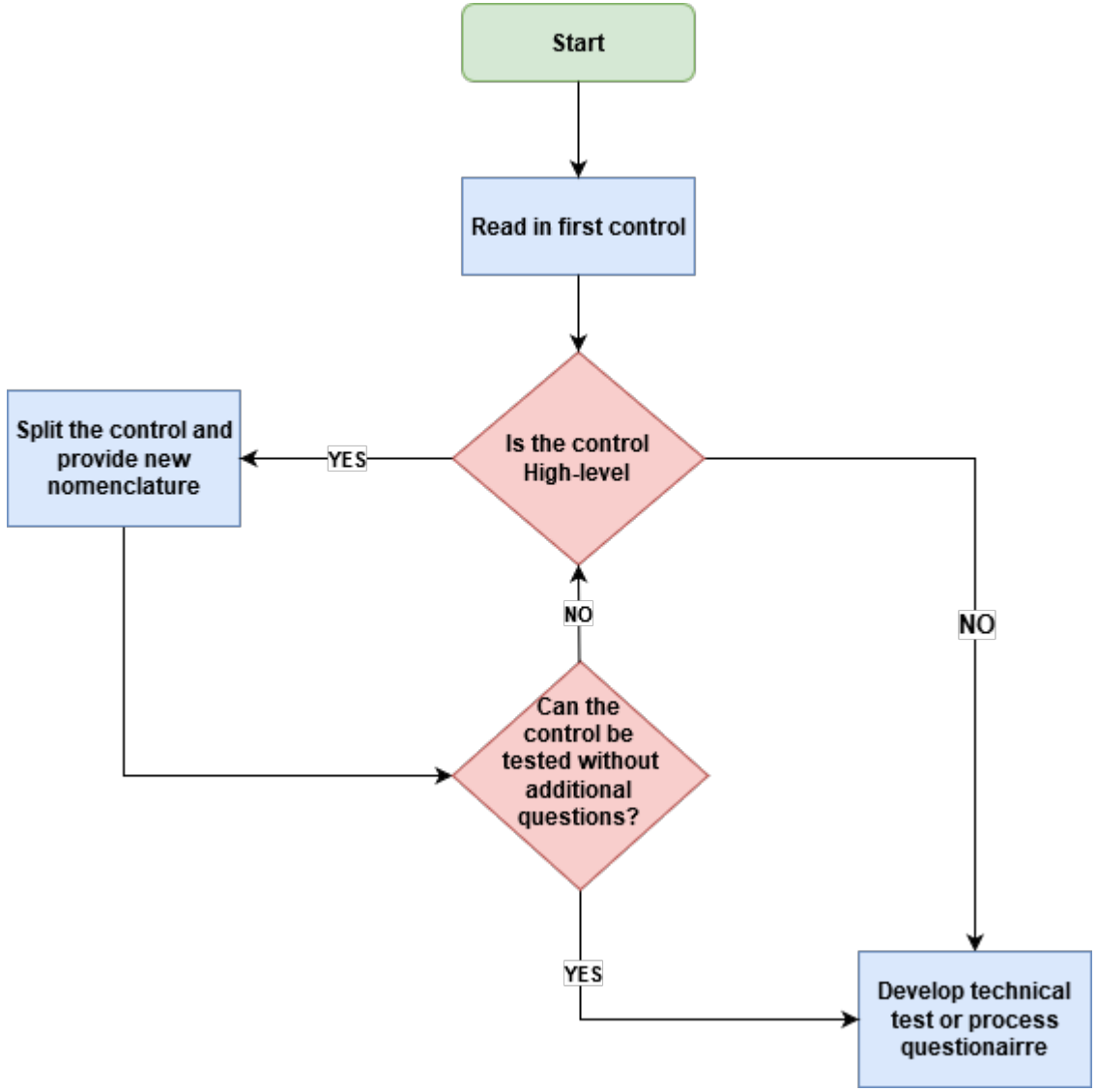
- Automation occurs in some of the compliance assessment process phases
- Full automation can only be truly obtained using predictive approaches

Compliance Process: Automated Phases

- Identify
  - Assets can be discovered automatically
  - Process documentation and questionnaire completed centrally
- Collect
  - Scheduled systems scans for automated evidence collection
- Analyze
  - Automated comparison of findings
- Scoring
  - Automated scoring computation
- Reporting
  - Automated report and dashboard generation
- Ticketing and Escalation
  - Integration with ticketing systems for escalation

Subcontrol Development

- Compliance automation cannot occur if controls are high-level
- Simple subcontrol development process flow
- Objective is to subdivide high-level controls into binary tests
- New nomenclature is introduced and mapped to the original standard control nomenclature
- Reports will exclude newly introduced subcontrol or nomenclature
- New subcontrol and nomenclature for internal assessment process only

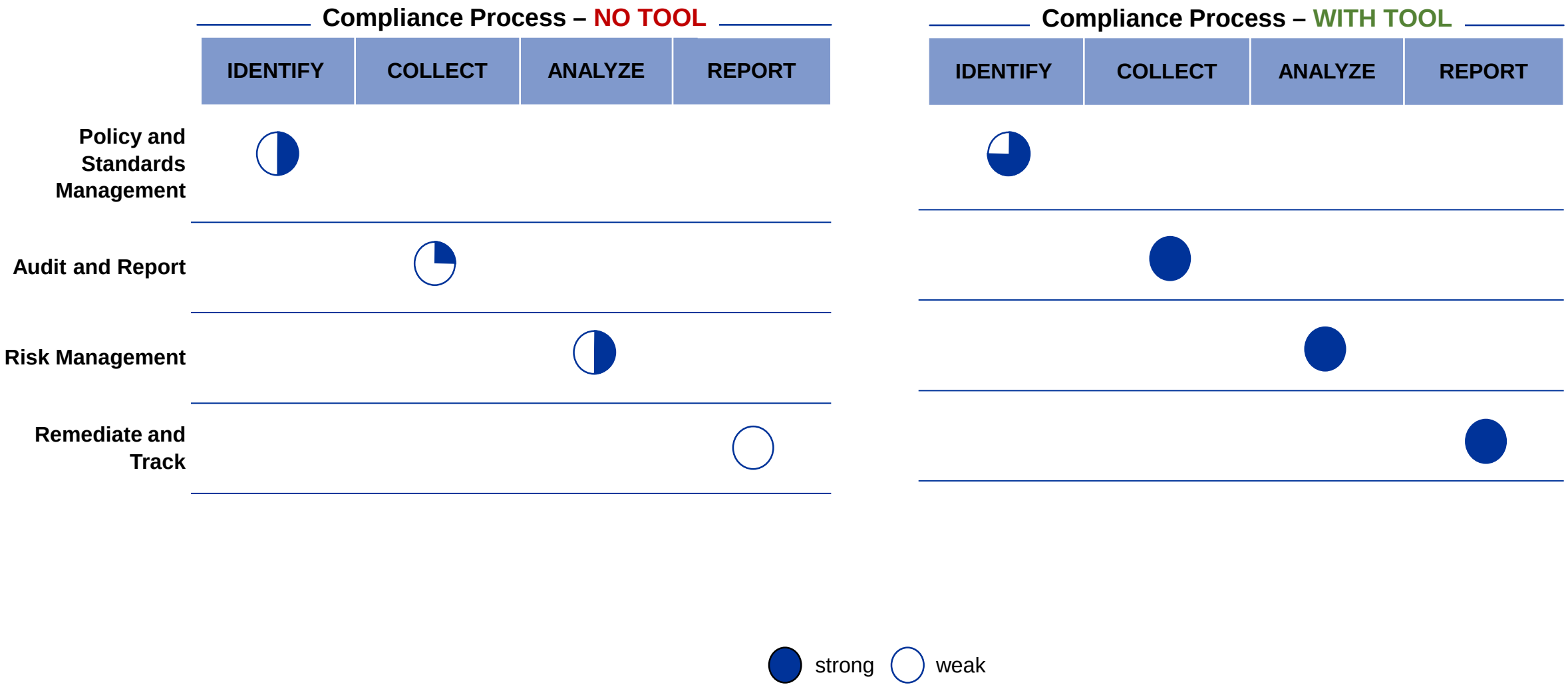


Controls & Sub-Controls Mapping

- The process of accurately matching two requirements in separate standards to ensure the testing of one satisfies the other
- Controls are usually done at the unit or binary level
- Controls that are candidates for mapping should not be subjective
- When subjective controls should be interpreted into subcontrols
- The Center for Internet Security provides a methodology and actual control mapping of their control framework to a few cybersecurity standards

Compliance Assessment Tools

Tool Advantages: Technical Assessments



Scope of Automation using a Tool

- Unified control repository
- Technical Information Collection
  - Agent Based collection
  - Agentless based collection
  - Non-interactive collection
- Analysis of Expected vs. Actual
  - Verifying expected test value against received test value
  - Addressing inconclusive tests
- Consolidating and scoring
  - Grouping of tests
  - Scoring
- Reporting
  - Technical reports
  - Management KPIs
  - Ticketing and escalation