



The bridge to possible

# 6 Years of Supply Chain Attacks

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# Cisco Webex App

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Webex spaces will be moderated until February 24, 2023.



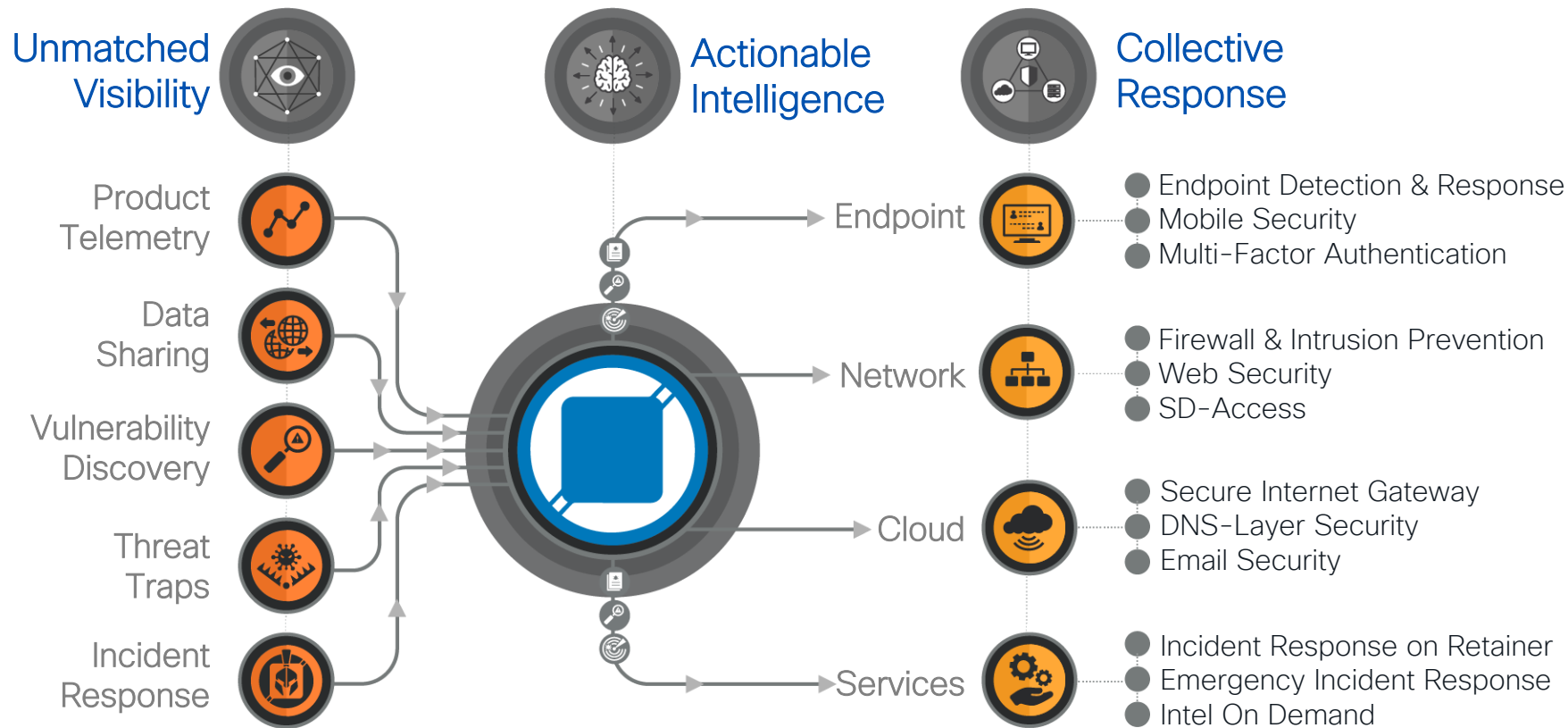
# Who am I?

- Recycled human viral geneticist
- 27 years IT experience
- 20 years cyber security
- Chartered Engineer & CISSP
- Keen (if not very good) runner



How do you know if someone has run a marathon?

# Cisco Talos – From Unknown to Understood



# What is a **Supply Chain Attack**?

“Intentional introduction of malicious functionality via a trusted third-party.”

May be via hardware or software.

(I’m only going to speak about software)

# Why Supply Chain Attacks?

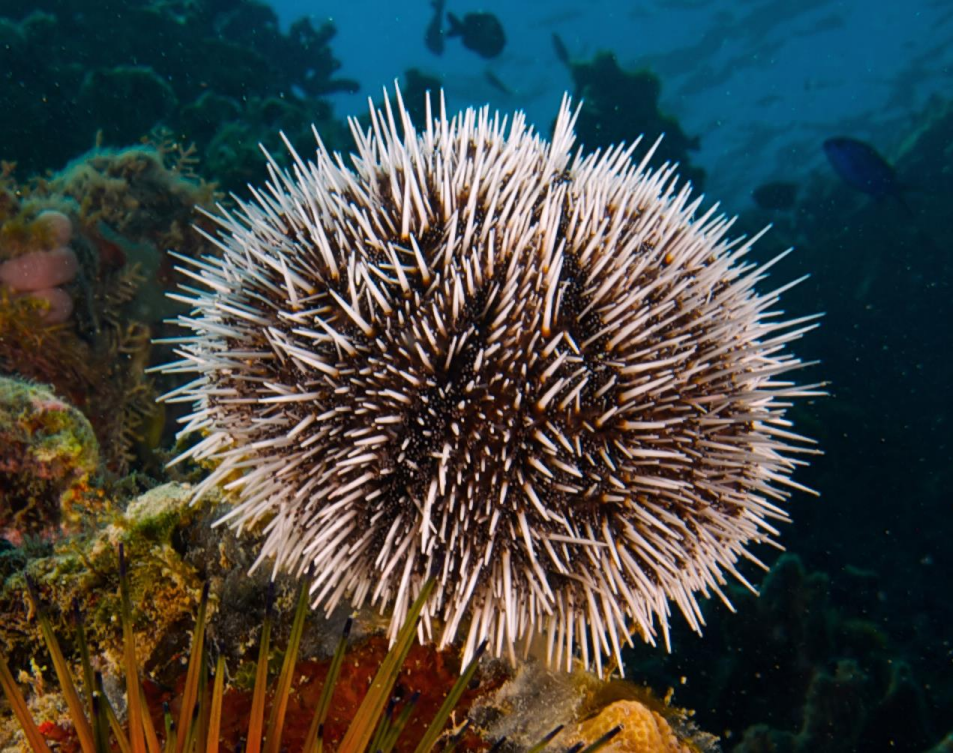


Image source: Nick Hobgood CC3.0 Wikipedia

Your organisation to an attacker.

- Traffic inspection.
- Email filtering.
- Fully patched.
- Two factor authentication.

# Almost, but not quite.

- ✓ Intentional act
- ✓ Malicious functionality
- ✗ Supply chain
- ✗ Trusted third party



Wooden Horse of Troy



# Almost, but not quite.

- ✓ Intentional act
- ✗ Malicious functionality
- ✓ Supply chain
- ✗ Trusted third party



Napoleon's retreat from Moscow



# Early Software Supply Chain Attacks

# Linux Kernel Modification 2003

## Attempted Supply Chain Attack

Unauthorised code modification:

```
if ((options == (__WCLONE|__WALL)) && (current->uid = 0))
```

rapidly detected:

- lack of approval audit trail

- discrepancy between BitKeeper and CVS code repositories

# RSA Hack 2011

## Successful Supply Chain Attack

Seeds for 2-FA PIN numbers stolen.

Subsequently used to compromise defence contractors.

No new malicious functionality.

Exploitation of a systemic vulnerability?

# Shamoon 2012

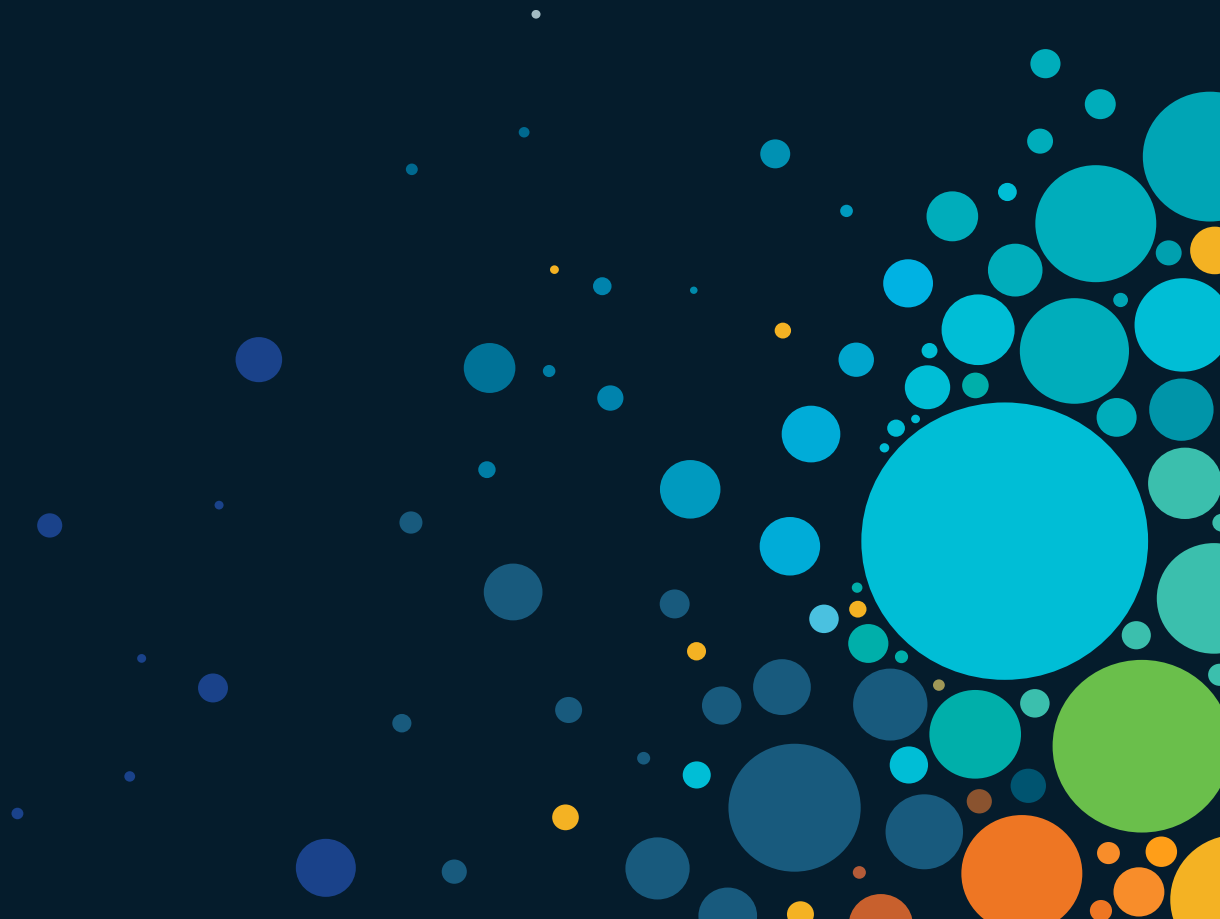
Supply Chain Attack (kind of)

Malicious wiper malware distributed via domain controller compromise.

30 000 computers wiped at major oil company.

Abuse of trust in updates pushed from internal domain controller.

2017



# Malicious Insider or Compromise PyPi Repository



Anna Chapman  
(malicious insider)

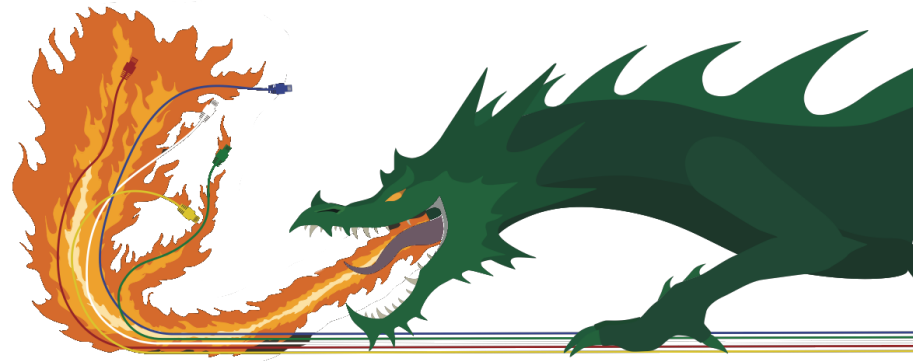
Long infiltration process.  
Escalate privileges.  
Risk of discovery.

`pip install urllib-1.21.1.tar.gz`  
vs.

`pip install urllib3-1.21.1.tar.gz`

Rapid infiltration process.  
Immediate privileges.  
Discovery?

# NotPetya

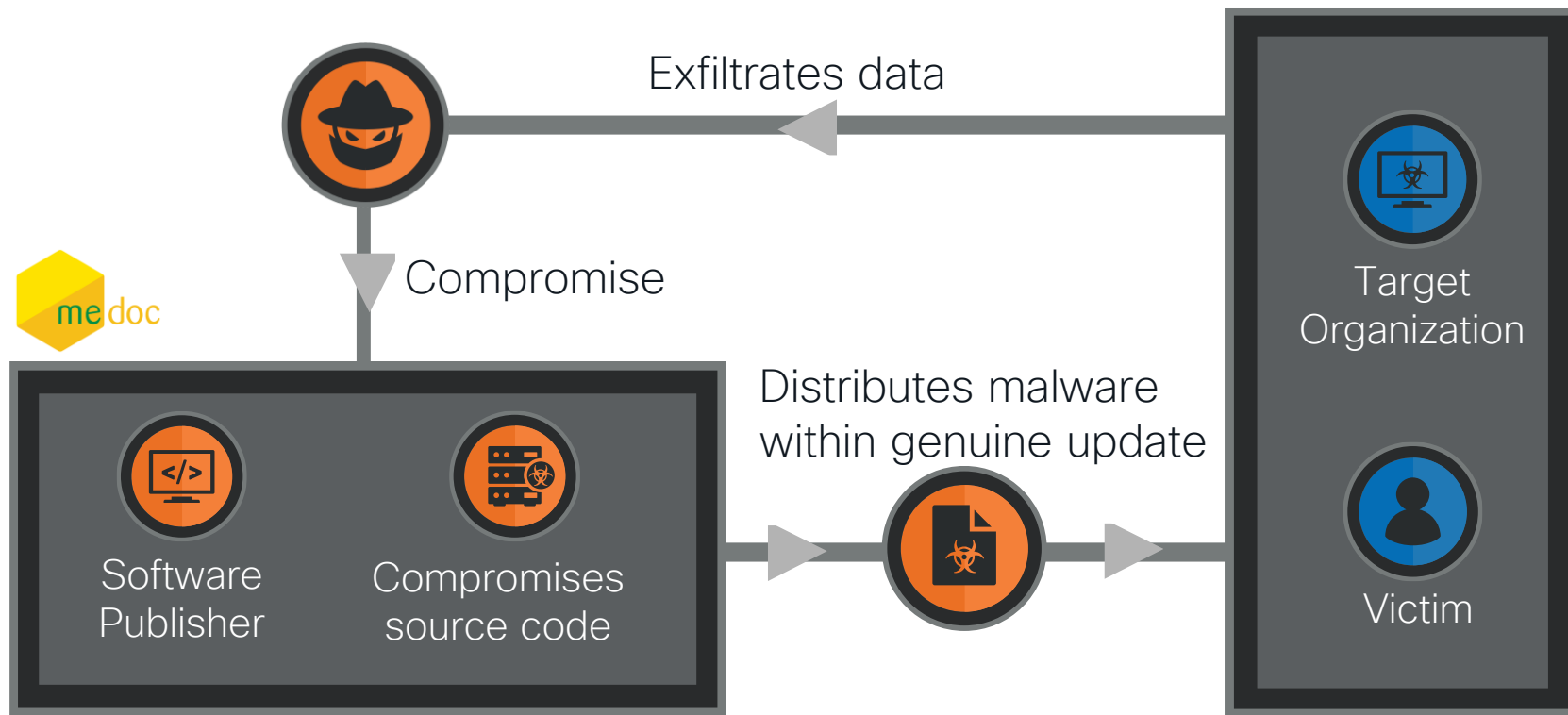


The world's most destructive cyber attack.

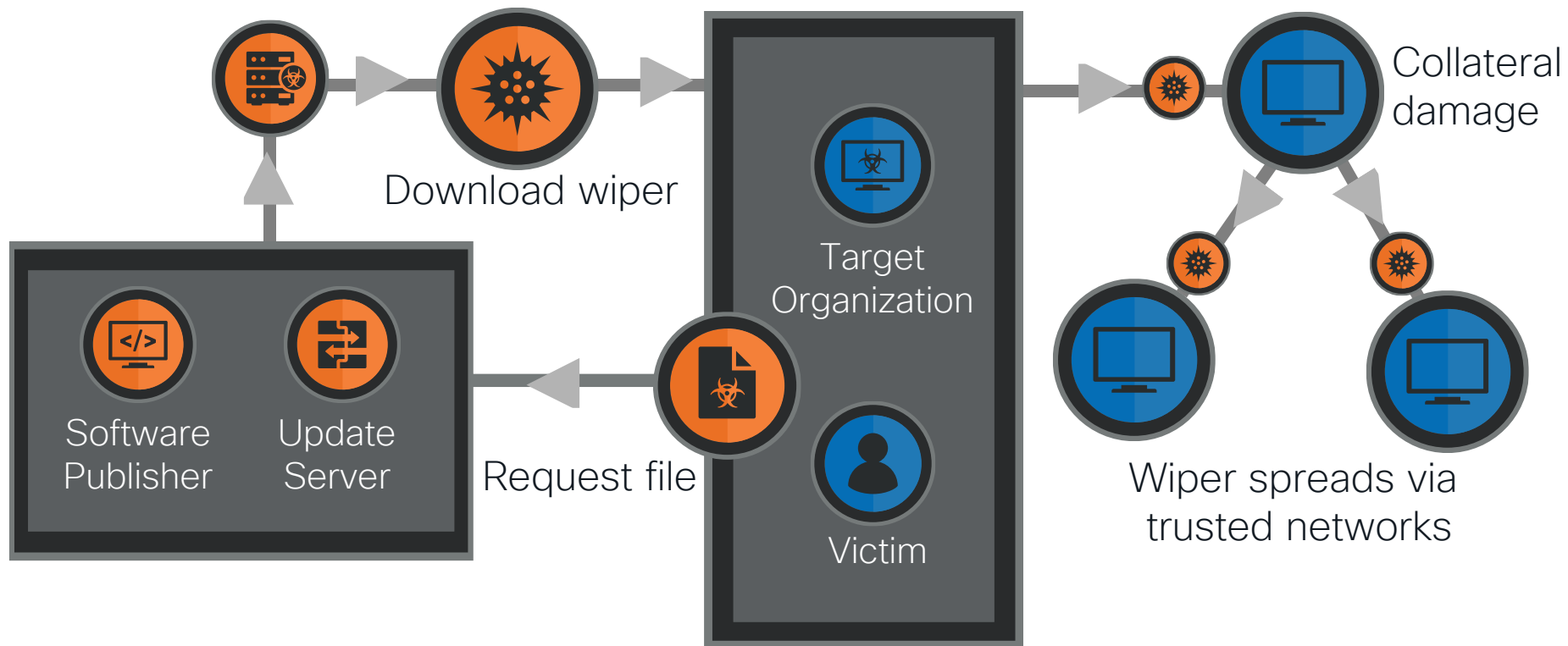
A supply chain attack.



# NotPetya (First Stage)



# NotPetya (Second Stage)

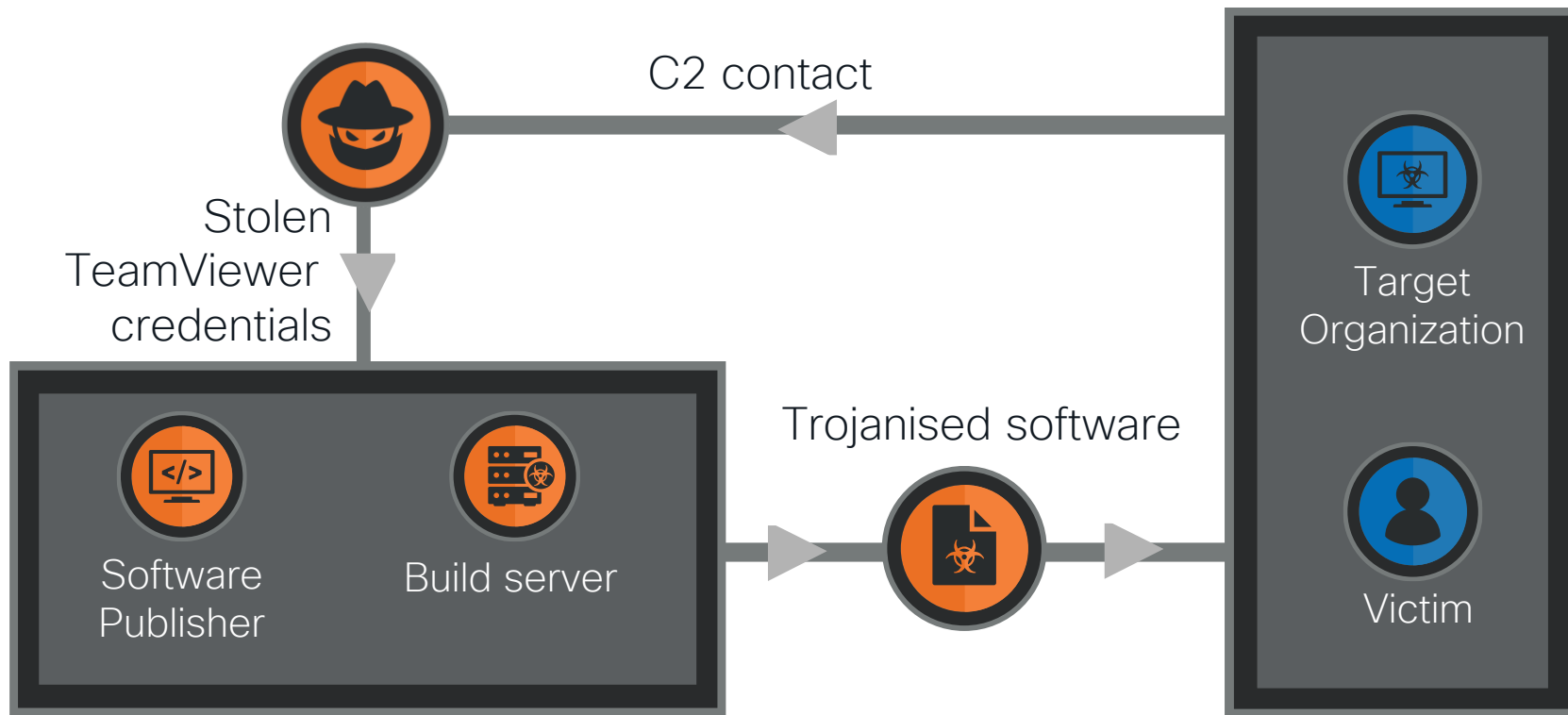


# CCleaner

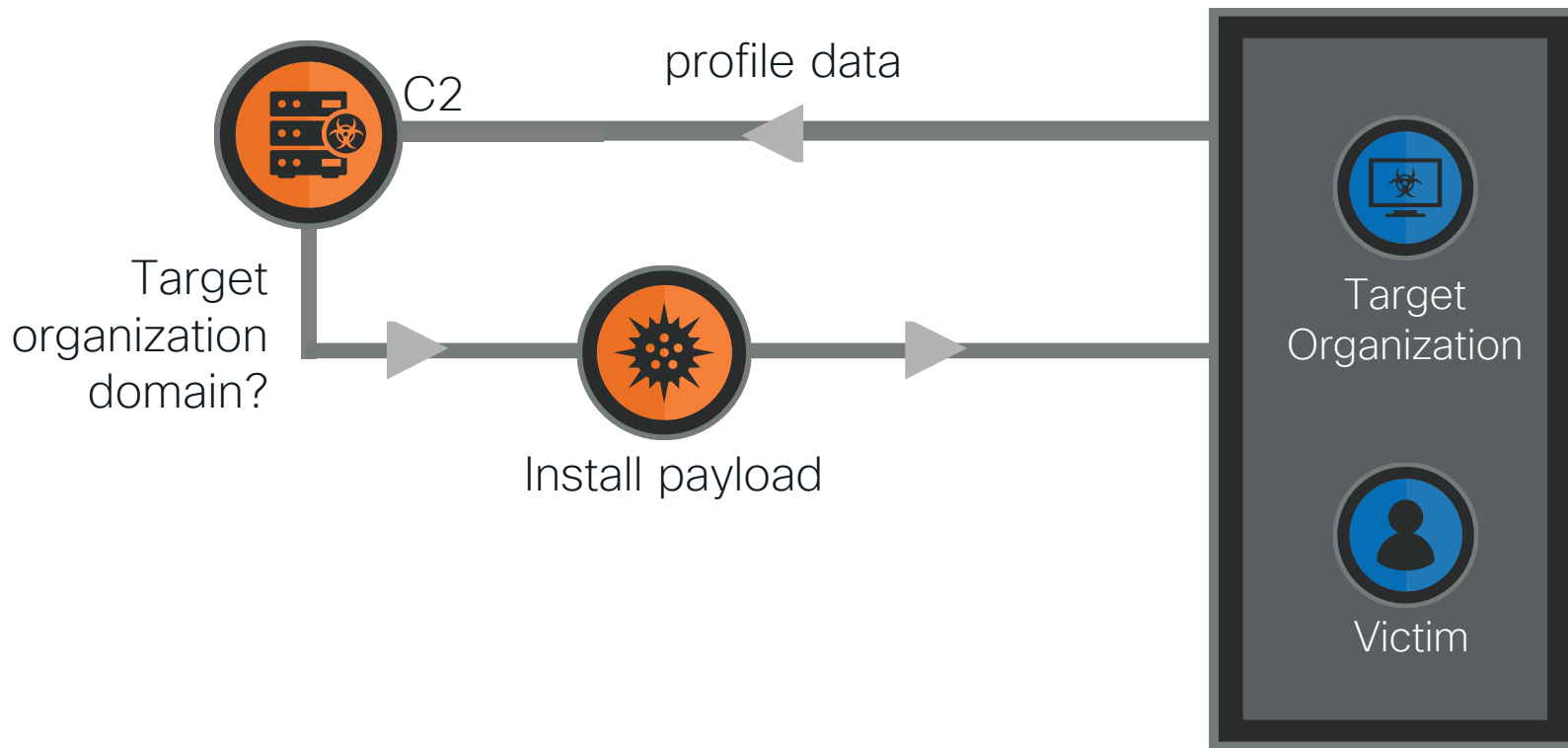


Mass compromise for targeted IP theft.  
A supply chain attack.

# CCleaner (First Stage)



# CCleaner (Second Stage)



# CCleaner Effectiveness

```
mysql> select count(*) from Server;
```

| count(*) |
|----------|
| 862419   |

```
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> select count(*) from Server where DomainName like '%.gov%';
```

| count(*) |
|----------|
| 540      |

```
1 row in set (21.48 sec)
```

```
mysql> select count(*) from Server where DomainName like '%bank%';
```

| count(*) |
|----------|
| 51       |

```
1 row in set (20.68 sec)
```

2019 & 2020



# SolarWinds Orion



What – Back door integrated into SolarWinds Orion network management software

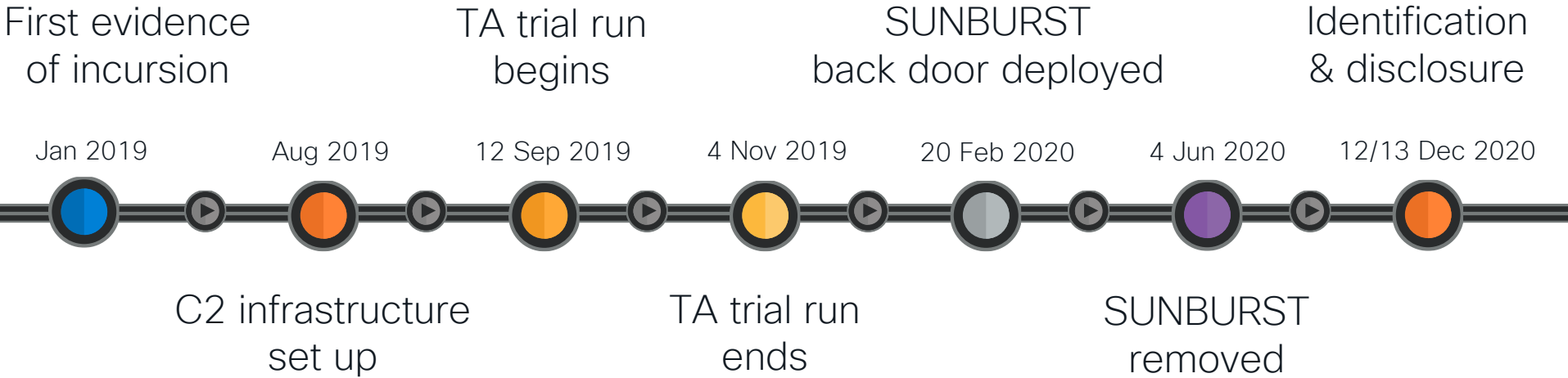


Who – Attributed to Russian state threat actors.



Impact – 18 000 customers potentially affected.

# Timeline



# Further Details



Privileges used to access the victim's global admin account and/or trusted SAML token signing certificate.



Forged SAML tokens used to bypass 2FA for services such as Office365 suite.



C2 server identified using a DGA, uses DNS for C2 traffic. Downloads second-stage payloads and exfiltrates data via C2.

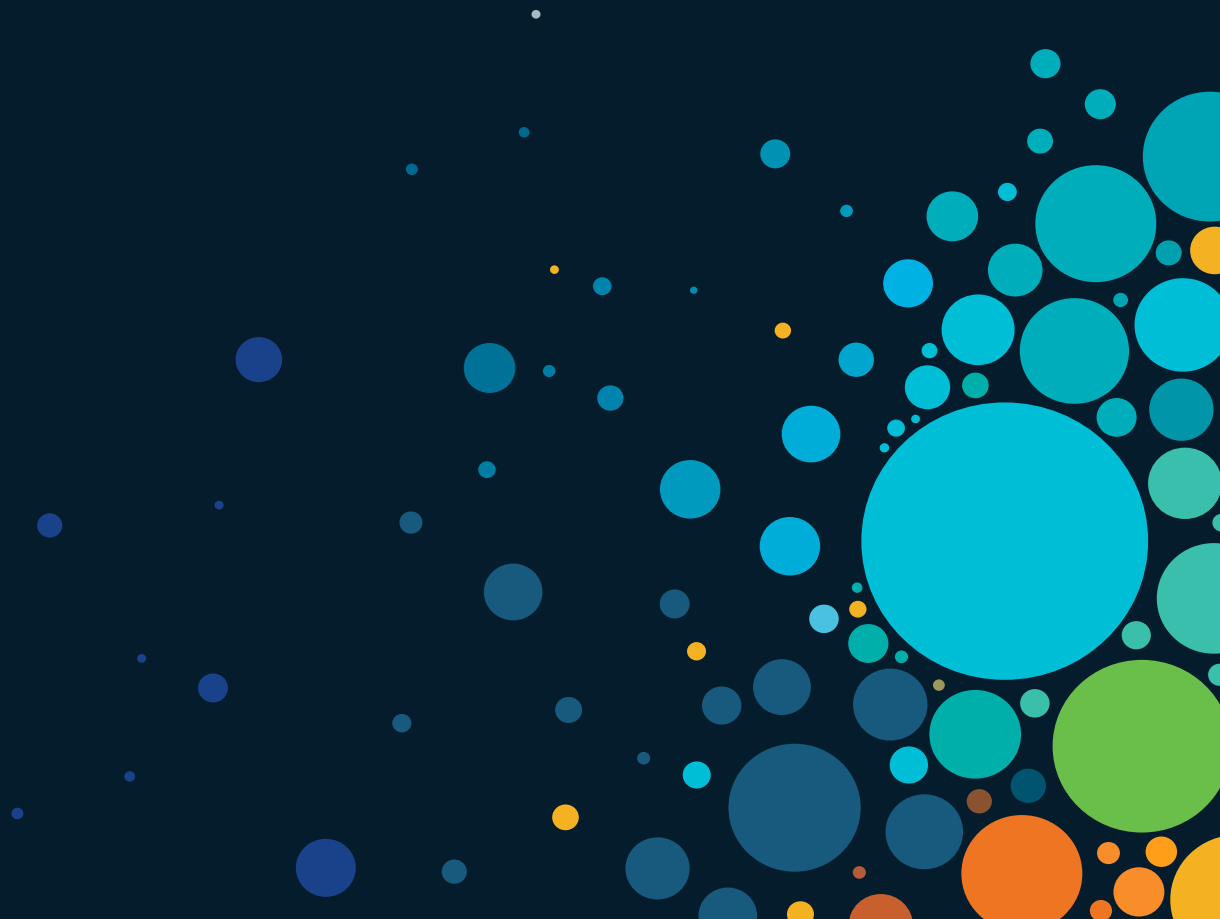


Malicious network traffic appears as legitimate Orion protocols and the actors store information in legitimate plugin configuration files.



C2 IP addresses located in the same country as the victim.

2021



# Kaseya VSA



Authentication bypass vulnerability in sys admin tool. Abused to distribute malware.



Who – Attributed to Revil criminal group.



Impact – 800 to 1 500 customers of MSPs affected.

# Kaseya VSA Breach Impact

Swedish supermarket chain Coop is the first company to disclose the impact of the recent supply chain ransomware attack that hit Kaseya.

The supermarket chain Coop shut down approximately 500 stores as a result of the [supply chain ransomware attack that hit the provider Kaseya](#).

## Kaseya ransomware attack hits New Zealand kindergartens

7:09 pm on 5 July 2021

Share this



Katie Todd, Reporter

[@Katietodd\\_NZ](#)

[katie.todd@rnz.co.nz](mailto:katie.todd@rnz.co.nz)

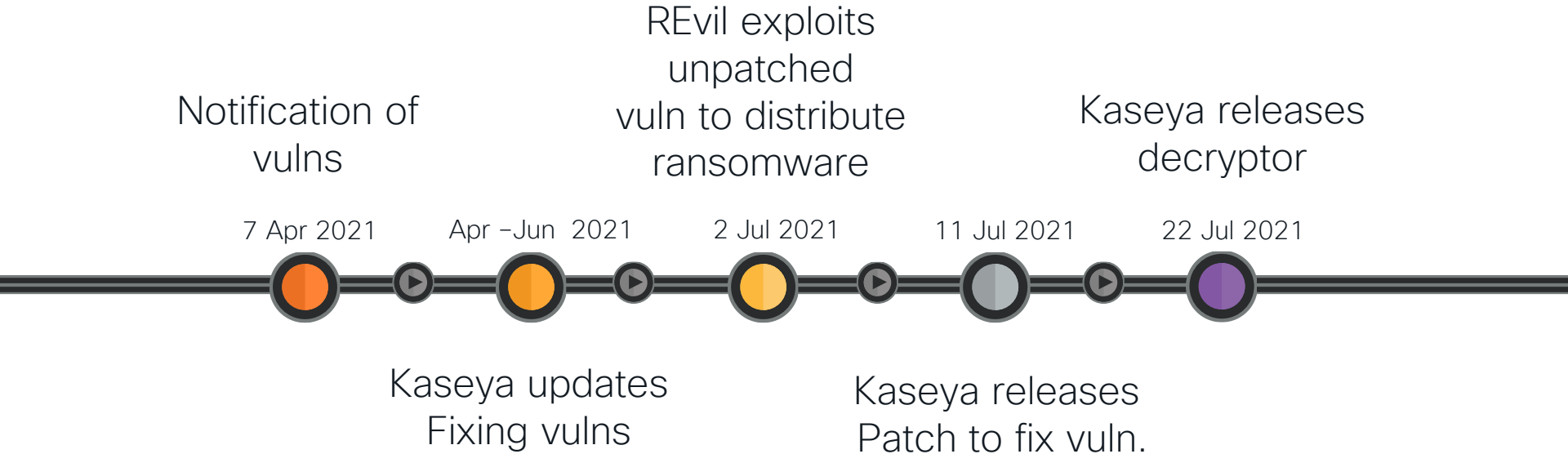
Schools are offline and more than 100 North Island kindergartens have reverted to pen and paper due to a major international ransomware hit.

Technology

### ‘Shut down everything’: Global ransomware attack takes a small Maryland town offline

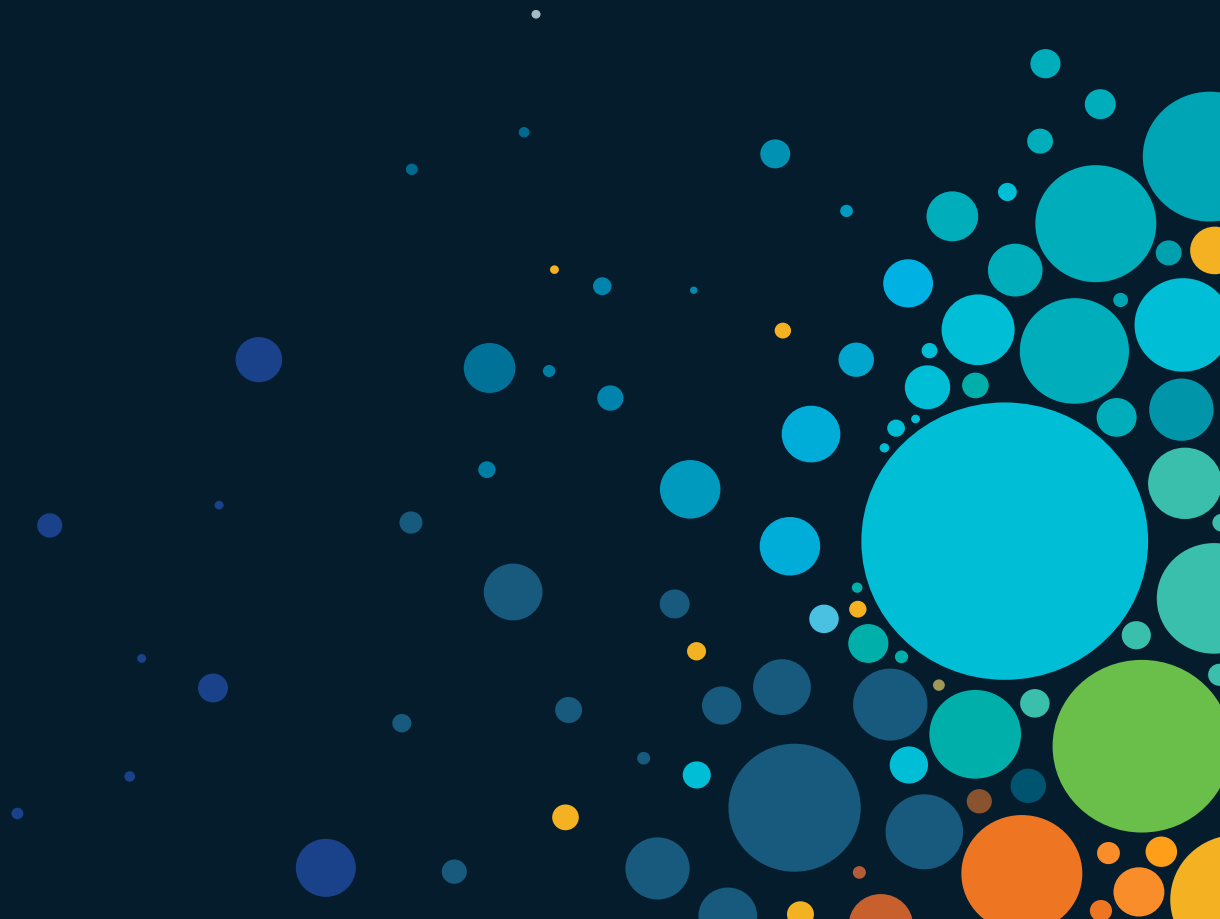
Leonardtown, Md., lost access to its computer systems Friday, falling victim to a massive ransomware attack that has hit organizations around the world

# Timeline





2022



# GoMet & unnamed software development company



What – Ukrainian software development company affected by GoMet backdoor.



Who – Likely Russian state-sponsored threat actors.



Impact – None. Attack detected and remediated.

# Log4j



What – Easily exploitable vulnerability in widespread software package.



Who – Everyone!



Impact – Widely used to distribute ransomware.

# Protection

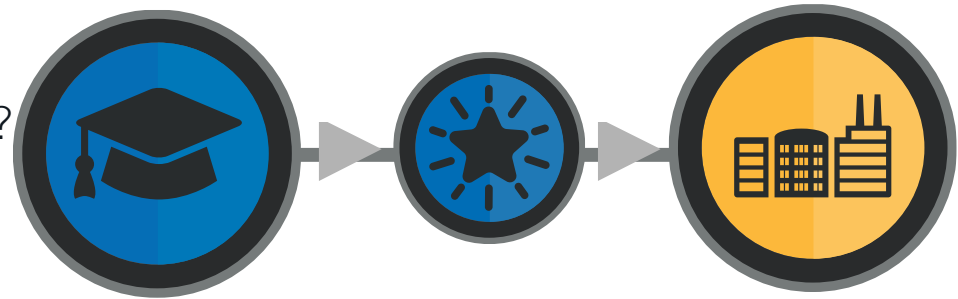


# Provenance & Compliance

Is this the code expected?  
Is there proof of provenance?



Does origin meet security requirements?  
Clear manifest of bundled code?  
(including external libraries)



# Secure Configuration

What are the minimum privileges necessary?  
Does the code really need administrator privileges?

Restrict network access?  
Segment networks to minimize risk exposure?



# Verification – Code Analysis

## ⚠ Behavioral Indicators

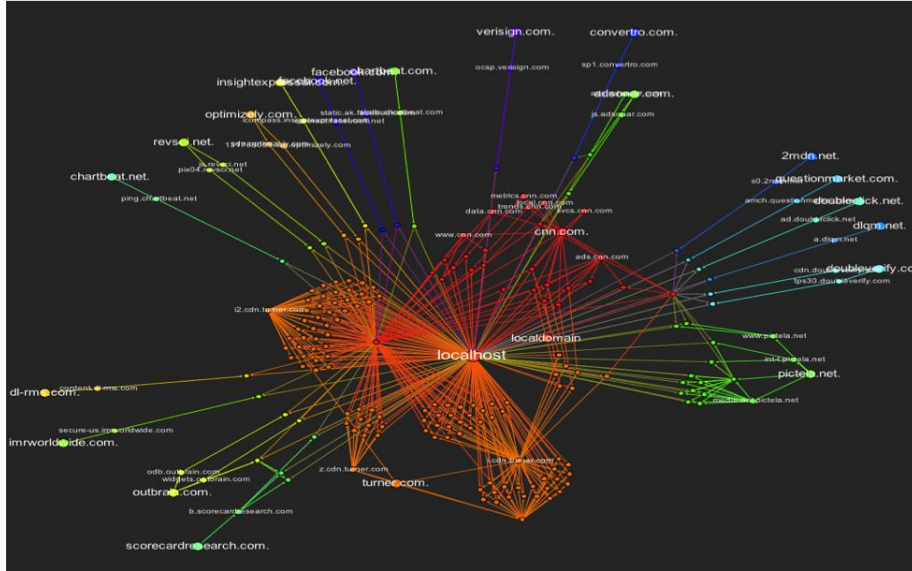
|  |    |           |
|--|----|-----------|
| 🔍 Artifact Flagged Malicious by Antivirus Service        | 95 |           |
| 🔍 Signed Artifact Flagged as Known Trojan by Antivirus   | 85 |           |
| 🔍 Artifact Flagged by Antivirus                          | 72 |           |
| 🔍 Artifact With Antivirus Enumeration Detected           | 72 | Indicator |
| 🔍 Artifact With Virtual Environment Enumeration Detected | 72 |           |
| 🔍 Static Analysis Flagged Artifact As Anti-Analysis      | 64 | Indicator |
| 🔍 Static Analysis Flagged Artifact As Sandbox Aware      | 64 |           |
| 🔍 Process Sends ICMP Traffic                             | 63 |           |
| 🔍 Outbound HTTP GET Request                              | 56 |           |
| 🔍 File Downloaded to Disk                                | 27 |           |
| 🔍 Potential Code Injection Detected                      | 25 | Indicator |
| 🔍 PE Contains TLS Callback Entries                       | 24 |           |
| 🔍 Process Read INI File                                  | 15 |           |
| 🔍 Hook Procedure Detected in Executable                  | 14 |           |
| 🔍 Executable Signed With Digital Certificate             | 10 |           |
| 🔍 DNS Response Contains Low Time to Live (TTL) Value     | 7  |           |
| 🔍 Sample flagged by antivirus service contacted domain   | 6  |           |
| 🔍 Executable Imported the IsDebuggerPresent Symbol       | 4  |           |

We can detect malicious code!

Needs investigation & response.  
There will be false positives.



# Verification – Network Traffic Analysis



We can detect malicious connections!

Needs investigation & response.  
There will be false positives.

# Conclusion

We are all reliant on the integrity of the supply chain.

- Identify your biggest exposure to 3<sup>rd</sup> party software.

(bad guys only need one install)

- Make security & compliance part of procurement.

(be realistic, vendors will wheedle out)

- Aggressively harden systems.
- Proactively hunt for incursion.
- Prepare & rehearse response.

# Security Technologies

## General Security Technologies

Learn about the different shades of cyber security in our daily lives and join us for a journey through various topics, from the depths of the darknet to the peak of crypto-analysis.

### START

Feb 7 | 08:30

#### **BRKSEC-2487**

Cat and Mouse – Defender's need better Mousetraps!

Feb 7 | 10:00

#### **BRKSEC-2727**

6 Years of Supply Chain Attacks

Feb 7 | 11:30

#### **BRKSEC-1240**

If you don't have a Security Reference Architecture, you must get one!

Feb 7 | 11:30

#### **BRKSEC-2037**

Securing Starlink Internet Services

Feb 7 | 12:20

#### **PSOSEC-1213**

The Evolution of Ransomware

Feb 7 | 13:30

#### **BRKSEC-2354**

Automating Security: Just Because You Can, Doesn't Mean You Should

Feb 7 | 14:00

#### **IBOSEC-3000**

Critical Requirements for Securing Government Networks

Feb 7 | 15:00

#### **BRKSEC-2051**

The Evolution of DNS Security

Feb 7 | 17:15

#### **IBOSEC-2012**

Ransomware Role-Playing: A Guided Tabletop Exercise with Talos Incident Response

Feb 8 | 08:45

#### **BRKSEC-2227**

Evaluating and Improving Defenses With MITRE ATT&CK



Feb 8 | 10:45

#### **BRKSEC-2172**

Peeling an Onion: A Short Travel into the Darknet

If you are unable to attend a live session, you can watch it [On Demand](#) after the event

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The bridge to possible

# Thank you

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ALL IN