



# DYODE: Do Your Own Diode

A DIY, low-cost data diode for ICS

BruCon, October 2017  
Arnaud Soullié

## Who are we?



**Arnaud**



- / Pentest & research
- / Interests
  - / Windows Active Directory
  - / ICS security
  - / Wine tasting / Motorbike riding  
(we're not going to talk about it today)
- / Talks & workshops
  - / BlackHat Europe 2014
  - / Hack In Paris 2015
  - / BruCon 0x07
  - / BSides Las Vegas 2015 / 2016
  - / DEFCON 24 / 25 (ICS VILLAGE)

Manager @ **WAVESTONE**



**Ary**

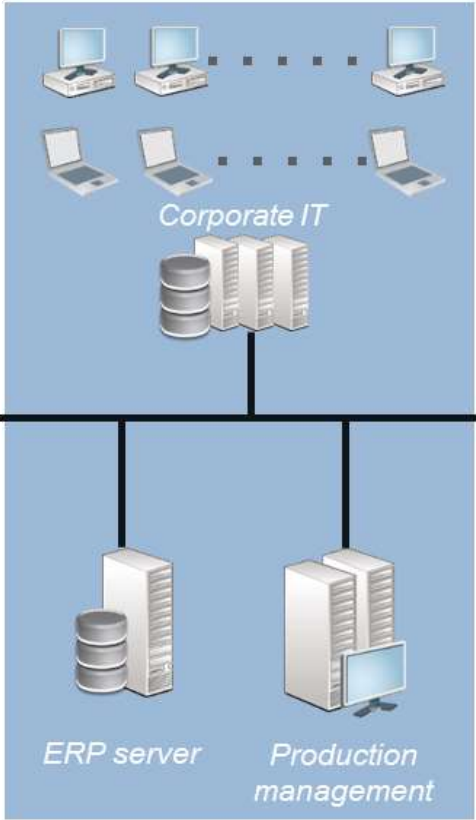
- / Advisory & audit (used to do pentests)
- / Interests
  - / Windows Security
  - / Cryptophony
- / Talks: IEEE ICC 2009, JSSI 2013 and 2014, SSTIC 2016, Bsides Las Vegas 2016
- / Book Information Security, Eyrolles Edition [in French] – written with several authors including Arnaud

Tax exile @ \$Big4 in Switzerland ;)

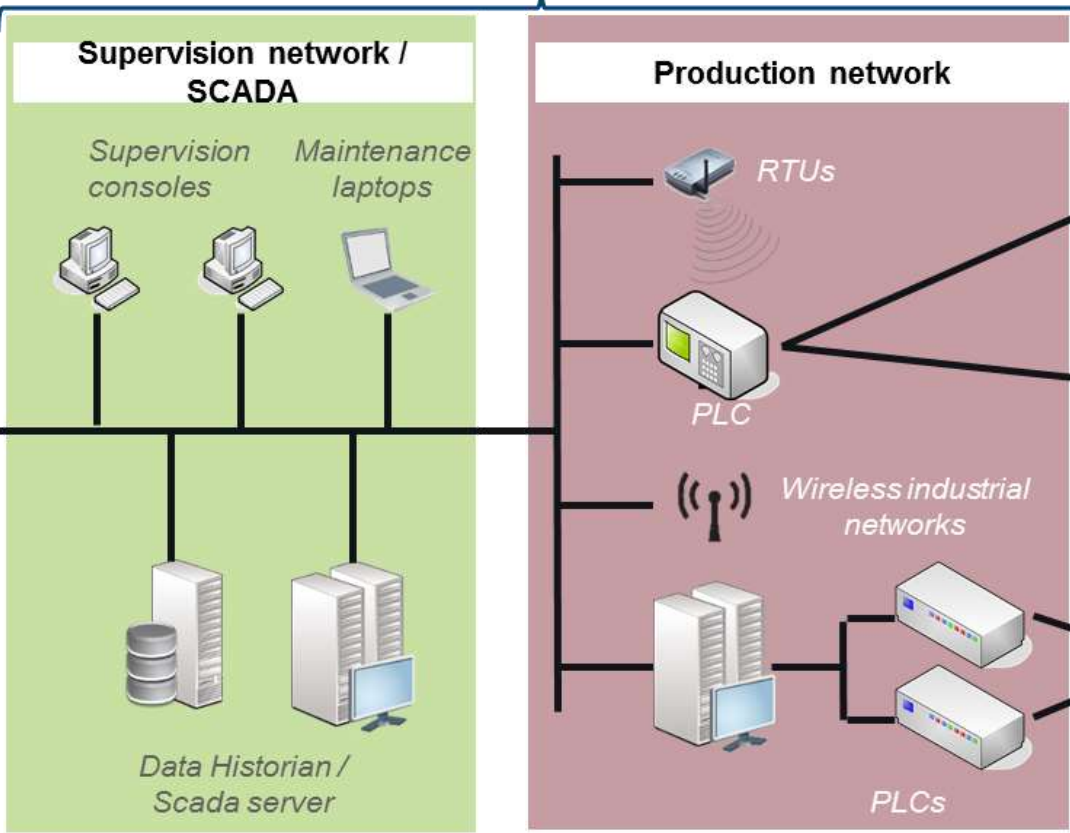
# ICS 101



## Corporate network



## ICS



## DATA DIODES 101

/ AKA “one-way gateway”

/ Use of light as the transport medium

/ PN junction prevents electrons from going backwards

➔ Security property is backed by physics. *Hack that.*



## COMMERCIAL DATA DIODES



## WHY THIS PROJECT ?

- / Feedback from lots of ICS security assignments

- ➔ *There are lots of needs for exchanging information between CORP and ICS*

- / Commercial data diodes exist, but are quite expensive

- ➔ *Security / cost trade-off , not easy to sell*

- / Examples

- Predictive maintenance : send a 100kb file every 6 hours to a 3rd party

- Cooling units : 3rd party needs to access a PLCs output in real-time for efficiency improvement

- ➔ *Data only needs to be exchanged one-way, but in these examples the high cost of a commercial Data Diode combined with business needs to exchange information, resulted in uncontrolled network connection between two networks*



## DYODE PROJECT

/ Based on existing work : Lagadec, Austin Scott, Robert Gabriel

/ Low cost & DIY

*Use of standard hardware (COTS) and open-source software*

*Target cost of 200\$ per unit*

/ Objectives

*Proof of Concept*

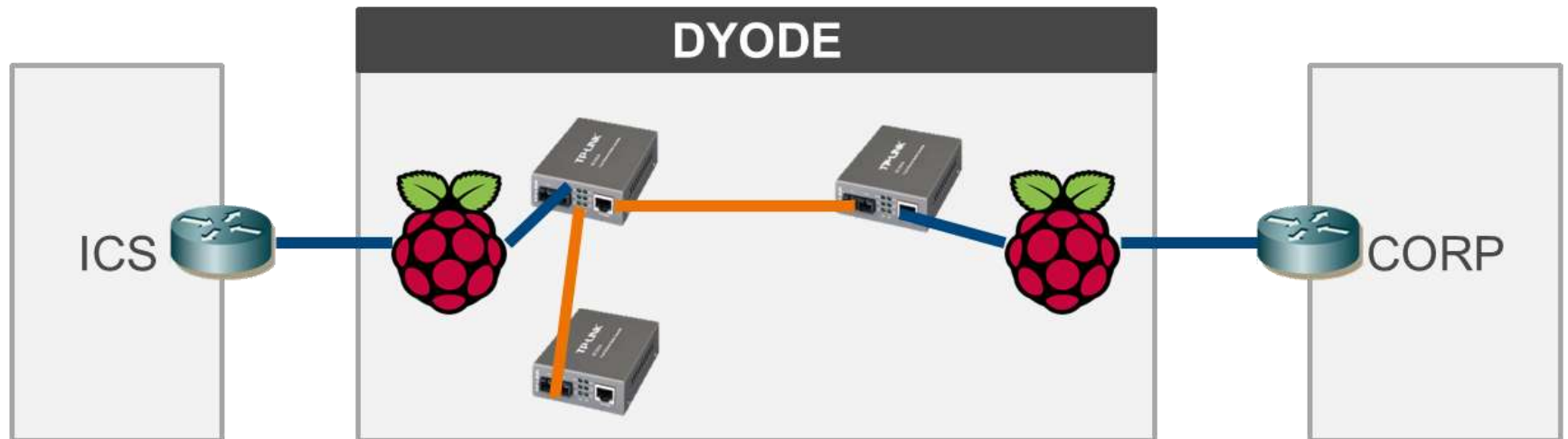
*Transparent, easy to deploy solution*

*Share the results*

**DYODE project has no commercial intent, but an implementation by a vendor is authorized**

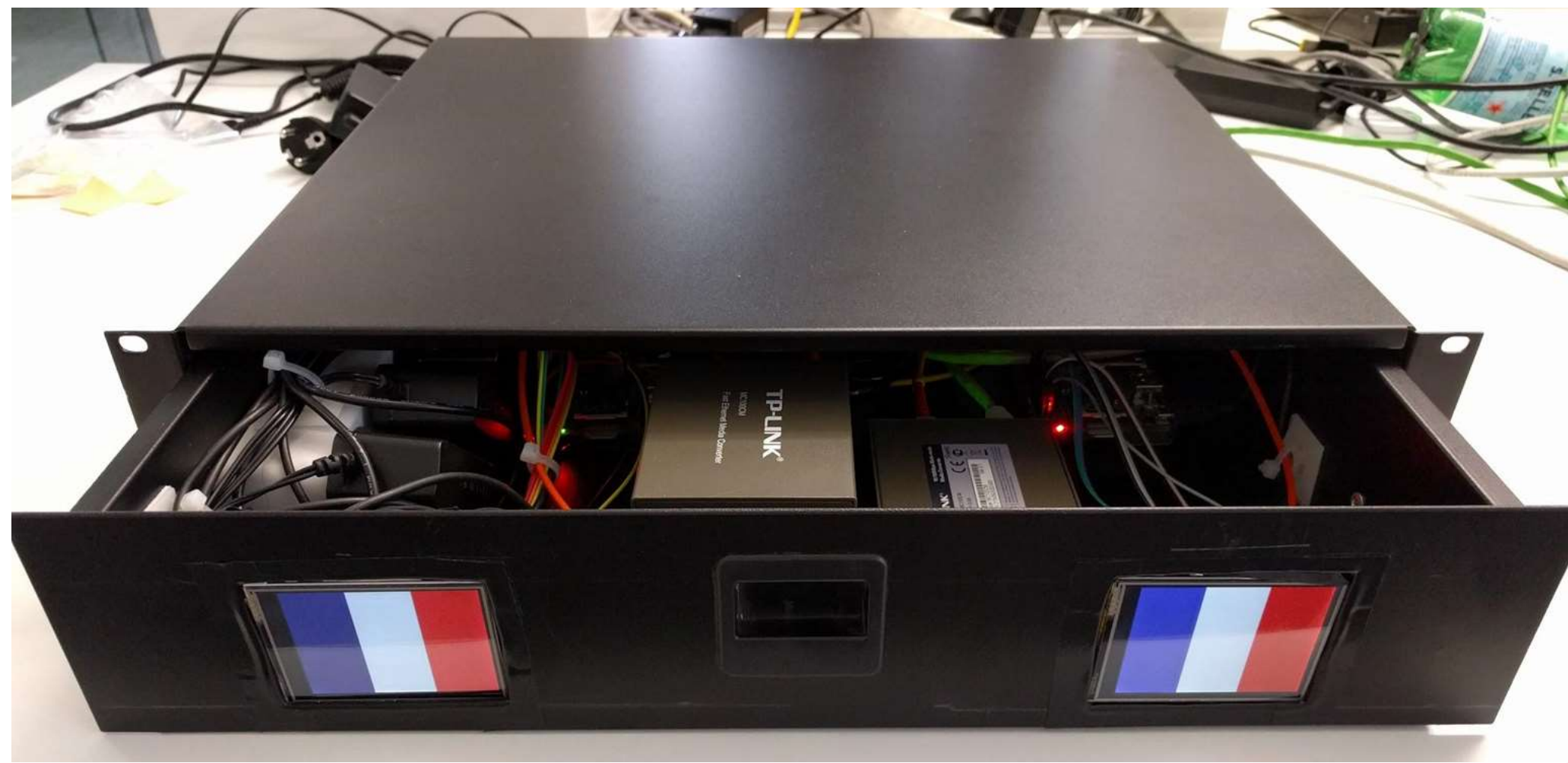
## HARDWARE

- / Use of copper-optical converters
- / Use of a 3rd converter to fake a signal on the second (link failure protection)
- / Raspberry Pis used for the “in” and “out” counters





# HARDWARE



## HARDWARE



## SOFTWARE

Improve

Develop

Prototype



### Latency improvement

Replace *udpcast* by a custom, naïve Python UDP socket implementation



### Develop features

Development of data diode features on top of *udpcast* using Python

- / File transfer
- / Modbus
- / Screen sharing



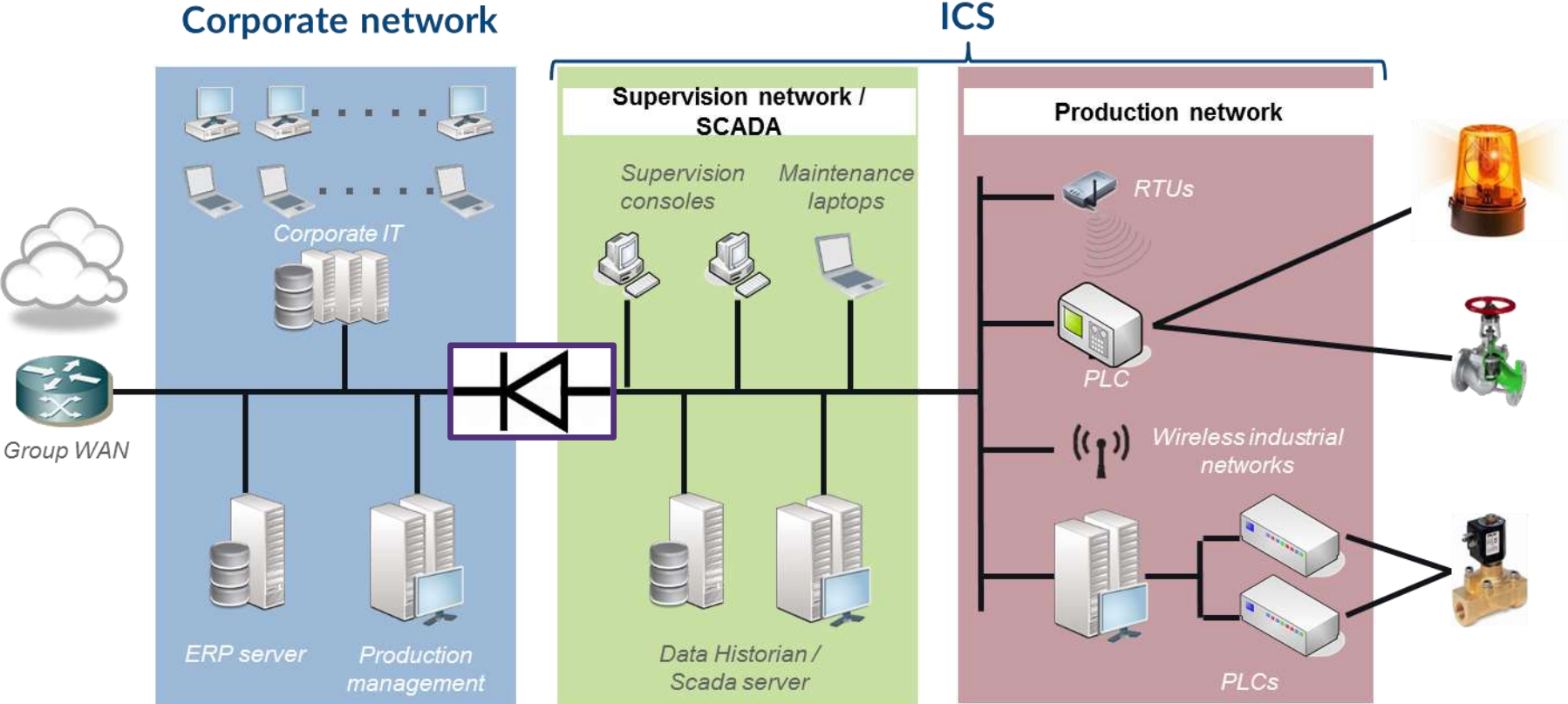
### Quickly prototype

Use of *udpcast*, an open-source software that allows unidirectional file transfer

## **DEMO**

# **[VIDEO] DEMO TIME!**

DEMO





# PC Industriel



Recycle Bin



ModbusPal



screen\_share

Rick Astley -  
Never Gonna  
Give You Up

**Host Name:** IE10WIN7  
**IE Version:** 10.0.9200.17148  
**OS Version:** Windows 7  
**Service Pack:** Service Pack 1  
**User Name:** IEUser  
**Password:** Passw0rd!

## Snapshot/backup:

Create a snapshot (or keep a backup of downloaded archive) of this VM, so that you can reset quickly after the OS t

## Licensing notes and evaluation period:

The modern.ie virtual machines use evaluation versions of M limited. You can find a link to the full license on the

## Activation:

For Windows 7, 8, and 8.1 virtual machines, you need to co trial. In most cases, activation will be done automat enter "**slmgr /ato**" from an administrative comman For Windows Vista, you have 30 days after first boot. For Windows XP, you have 30 days after first boot. You will minutes after boot stating the days left (in the syste

## Re-arm:

In some cases (Windows XP, Vista, and 7), it may be possib there are rearms left. The following commands can prompt (**right-click** on **Command Prompt** and sel



# PC bureautique

out on dyodeout - File Manager

File Edit View Go Help

smb://dyodeout/out/

Warning, you are using the root account, you may harm your system.

DEVICES	Name	Size
File Syst...		

PLACES

- root
- Desktop
- Trash

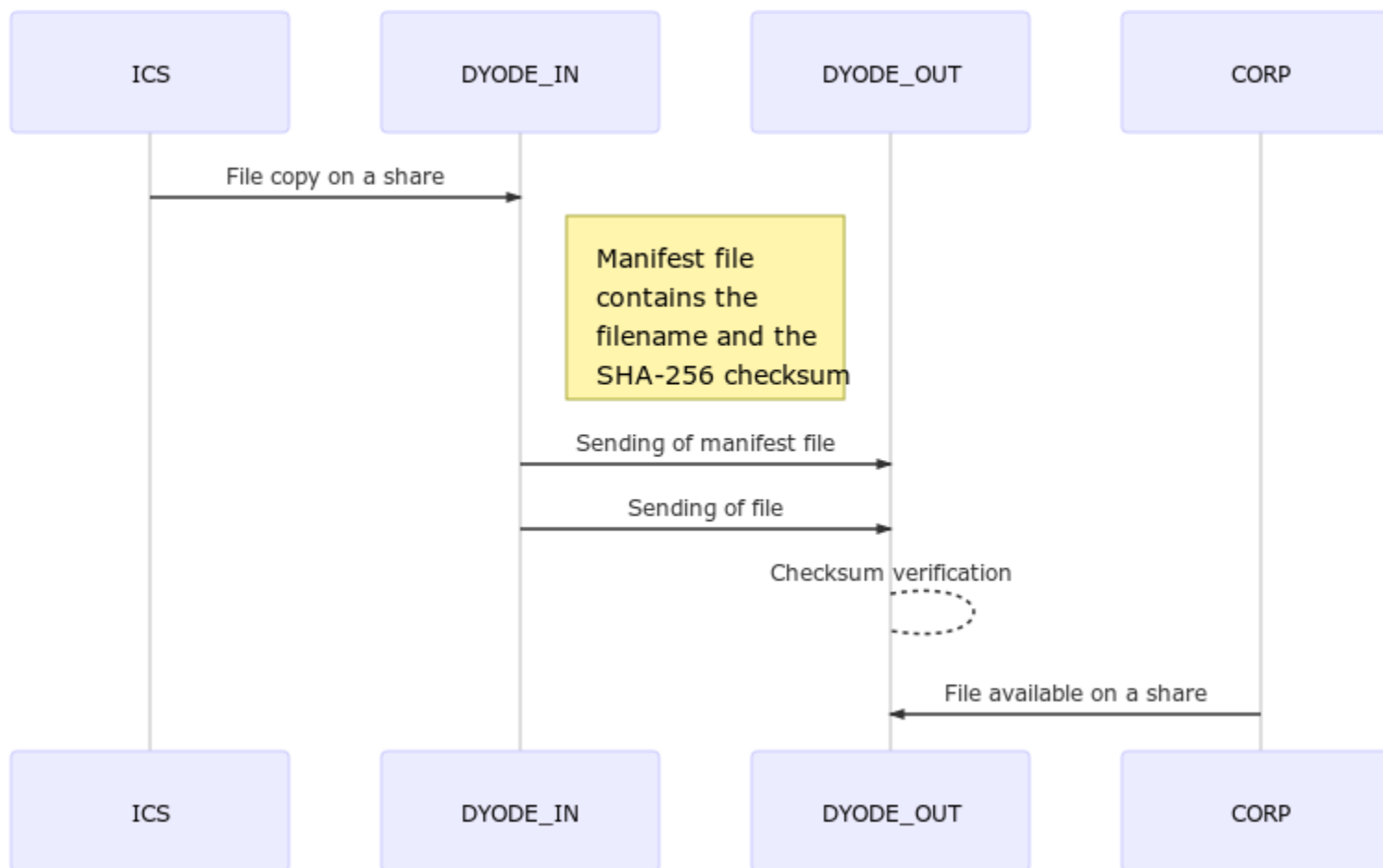
NET

- Trash is empty
- Browse ...
- /out/ ...

0 items, Free space: 11.6 GB

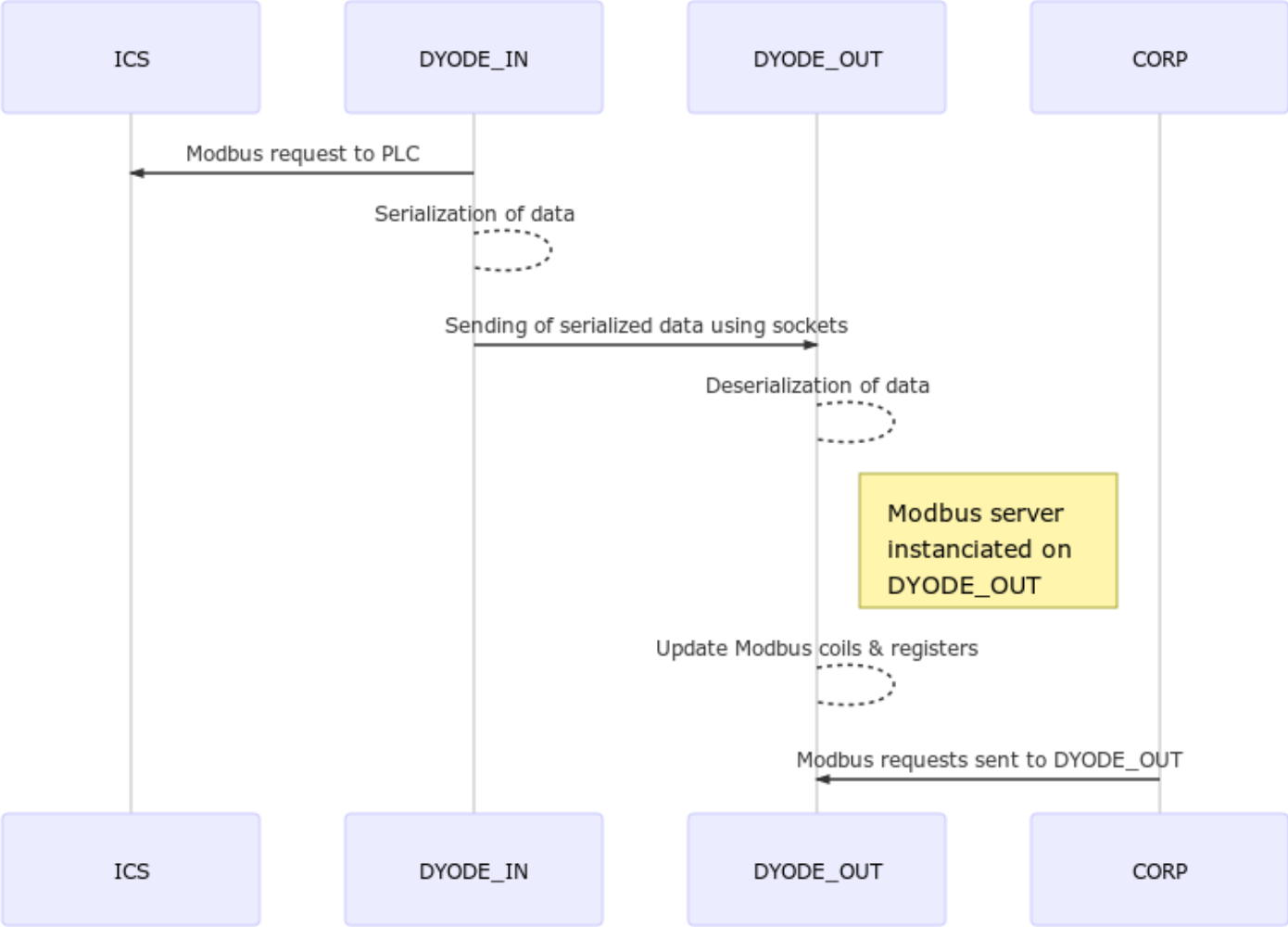


## FILE TRANSFER WORKFLOW

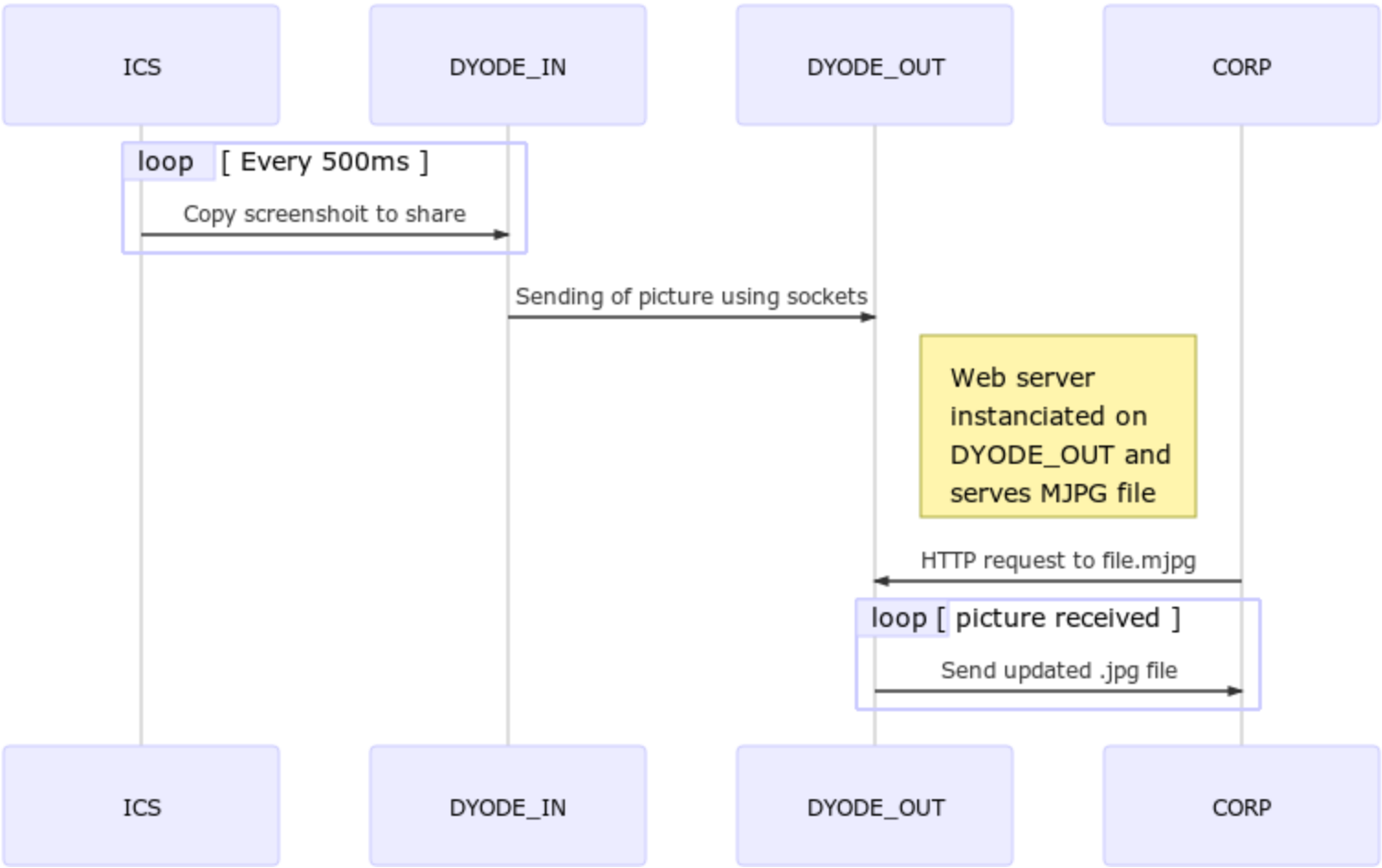




# MODBUS TRANSFER WORKFLOW



# SCREEN SHARING WORKFLOW



## CONFIGURATION FILE

```
config_name: "Dyode test"
config_version : 1.0
config_date: 2016-05-04

dyode_in:
  ip: 10.0.1.1
  mac: b8:27:eb:89:1e:f3
dyode_out:
  ip: 10.0.1.2
  mac: b8:27:eb:b1:ff:ab

modules:
  "File share 1":
    type: folder
    port: 9600
    in: /home/pi/in
    out: /home/pi/out
```

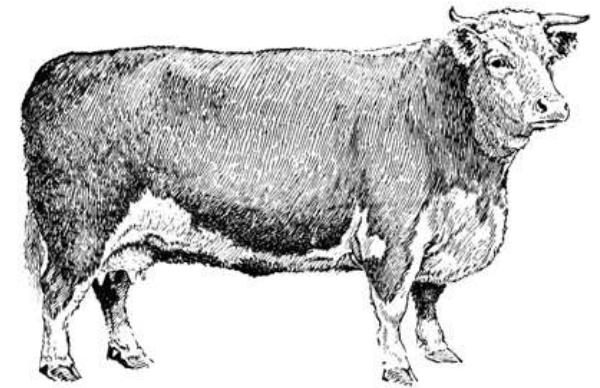
```
"Modbus PLC":
  type: Modbus
  port: 9400
  ip: 192.168.1.150
  port_out: 502
  registers:
    - 0-100
    - 400-450
  coils:
    - 0-10
    - 100-110

"Screen_share_1":
  type: screen
  port: 9900
  in: /home/pi/screenz
  out: /home/pi/screenz
```

## REAL COST

Component	Quantity	Cost
Raspberry Pi + power supply	2	92€
Copper-Optical converter	3	117€
Optical cable	2	15€
USB-Ethernet adapter	4	16€
Rack 19" 2U	1	59€
Screens	2	70€
Buzzer	1	5€
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>374€</b>

*The more the better*



Properly stacking  
security appliances

*Just like LEGO blocks*

O RLY?

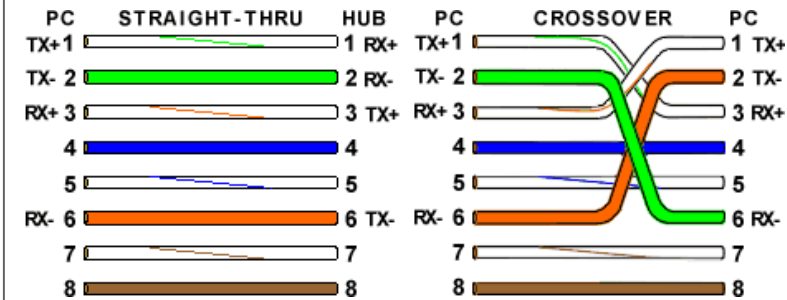
*A Rich CISO*



## WHY NOT JUST CUT THE CABLE?

### Cutting the cable?

- / Yes, it is possible to have a one-way gateway by using half-duplex mode on network interfaces and cutting the 2 RX of the Ethernet cable
- / Seems simpler than the DYODE implementation

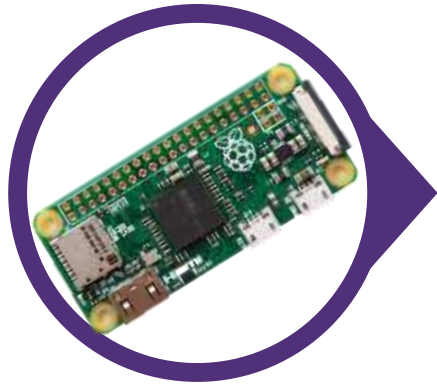


### However

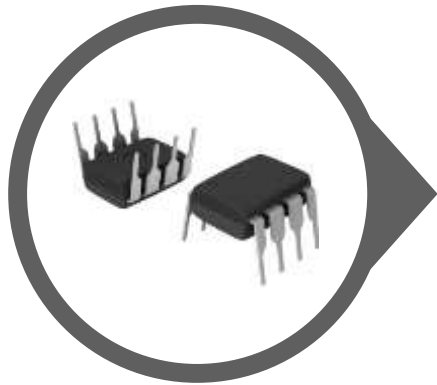
- / You'll still need the "in" and "out" counters (Raspi) to use a one-way connection for TCP protocols
- / In theory, advanced attacks may allow to send information the other way around, for example by switching ports "up" and "down"

## IMPROVEMENTS > Reducing the cost

Most expensive components : in/out counters & optical converters  
→ *Let's change that !*



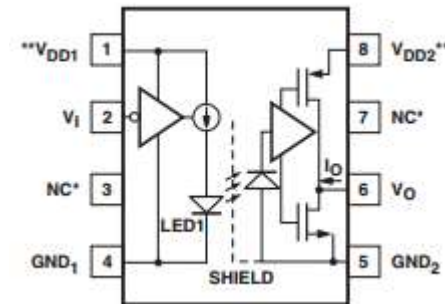
Replace classical RSPi by RSPi 0 (5\$)  
(When you can find one...)



Replace the Ethernet-FO converters by a serial connection with an optocoupler also called photocoupler

- / Diode opto-isolator = LED + photodiode
- / Very low cost solution (2€)
- / Acceptable bandwidth for some usages (20ko/s)
- / For very sensitive environments, do your own

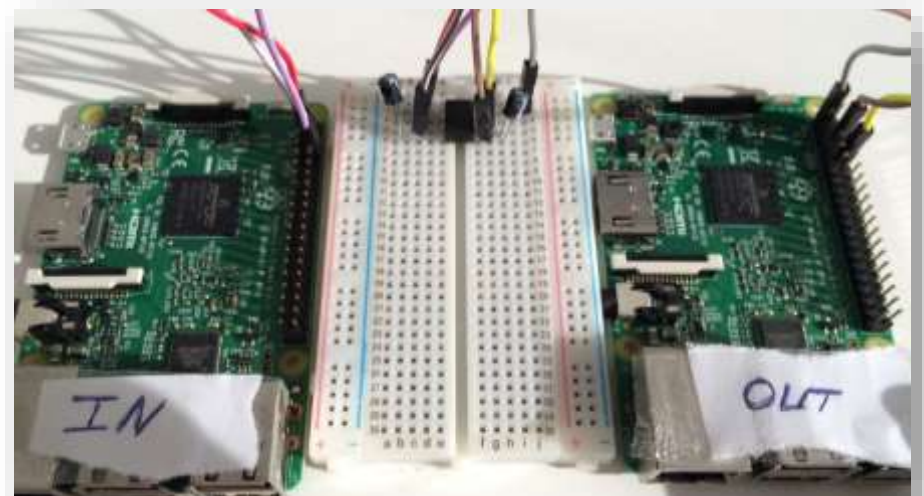
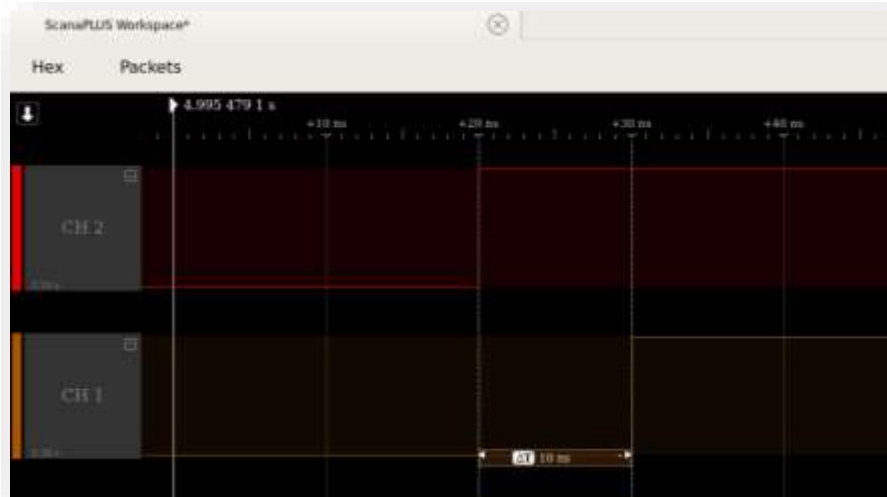
(it is harder to backdoor a LED than a black box circuit in epoxy)



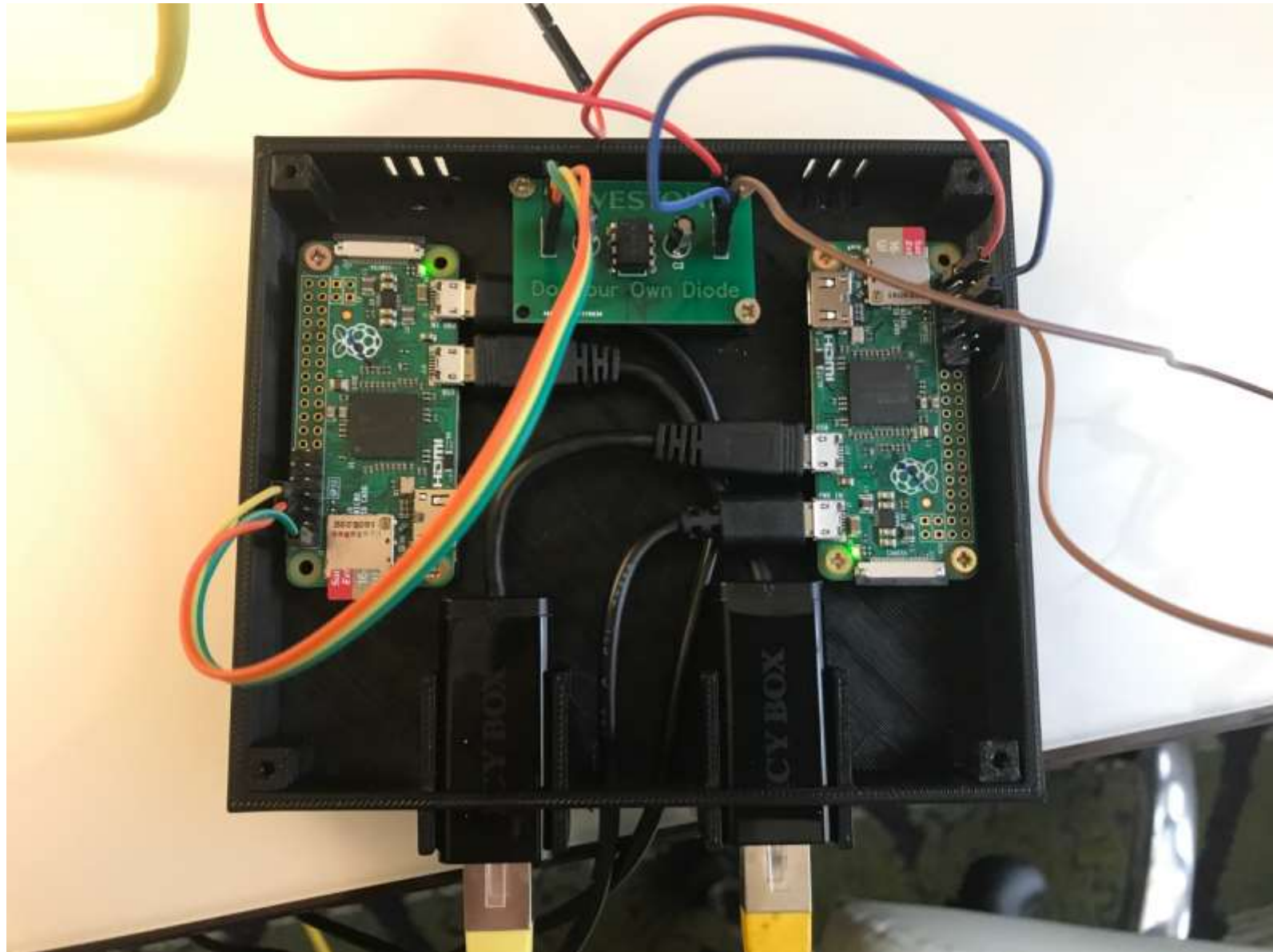


## DYODE Ultra-low cost version

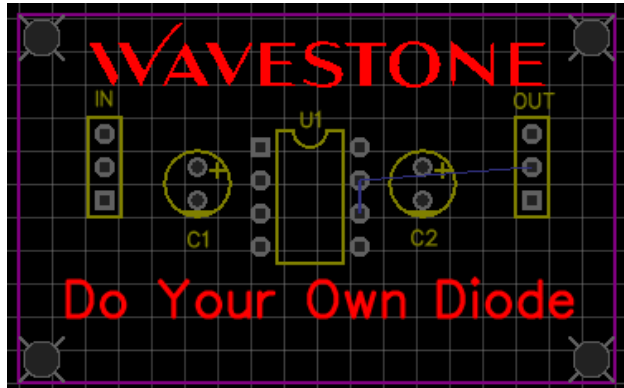
Component	Quantity	Cost
Raspberry Pi 0 + power supply + SD Card	2	32€
Optocoupler+capacitor+misc.	1	5€
MicroUSB-Ethernet adapter	2	30€
DIN Rail compatible box	1	12€
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>80€</b>



## DYODE v2 final prototype



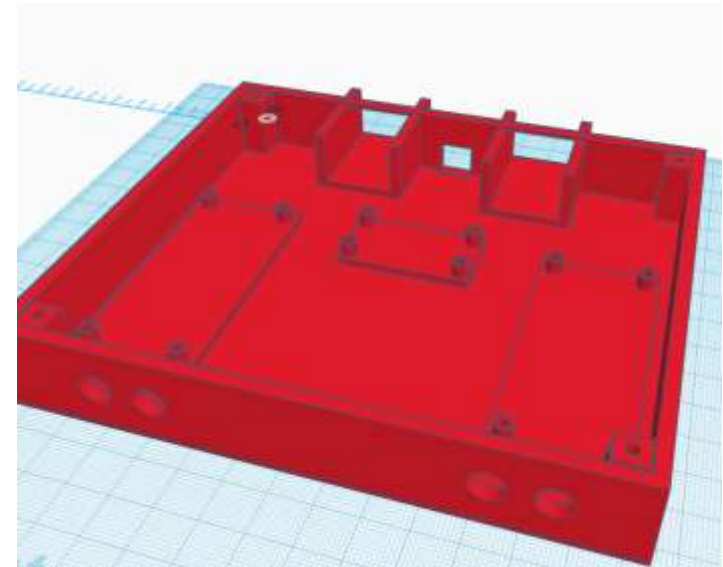
## Hardware is open source as well !



```
*PADS-PCB*
*PART*
U1 DIP--8
IN HDR-3X1/2.54
[...]
C2 CAP-D5.0XF2.0

*NET*
*SIGNAL* U1_2
IN.2 U1.2
[...]
*END*
```

Netlist



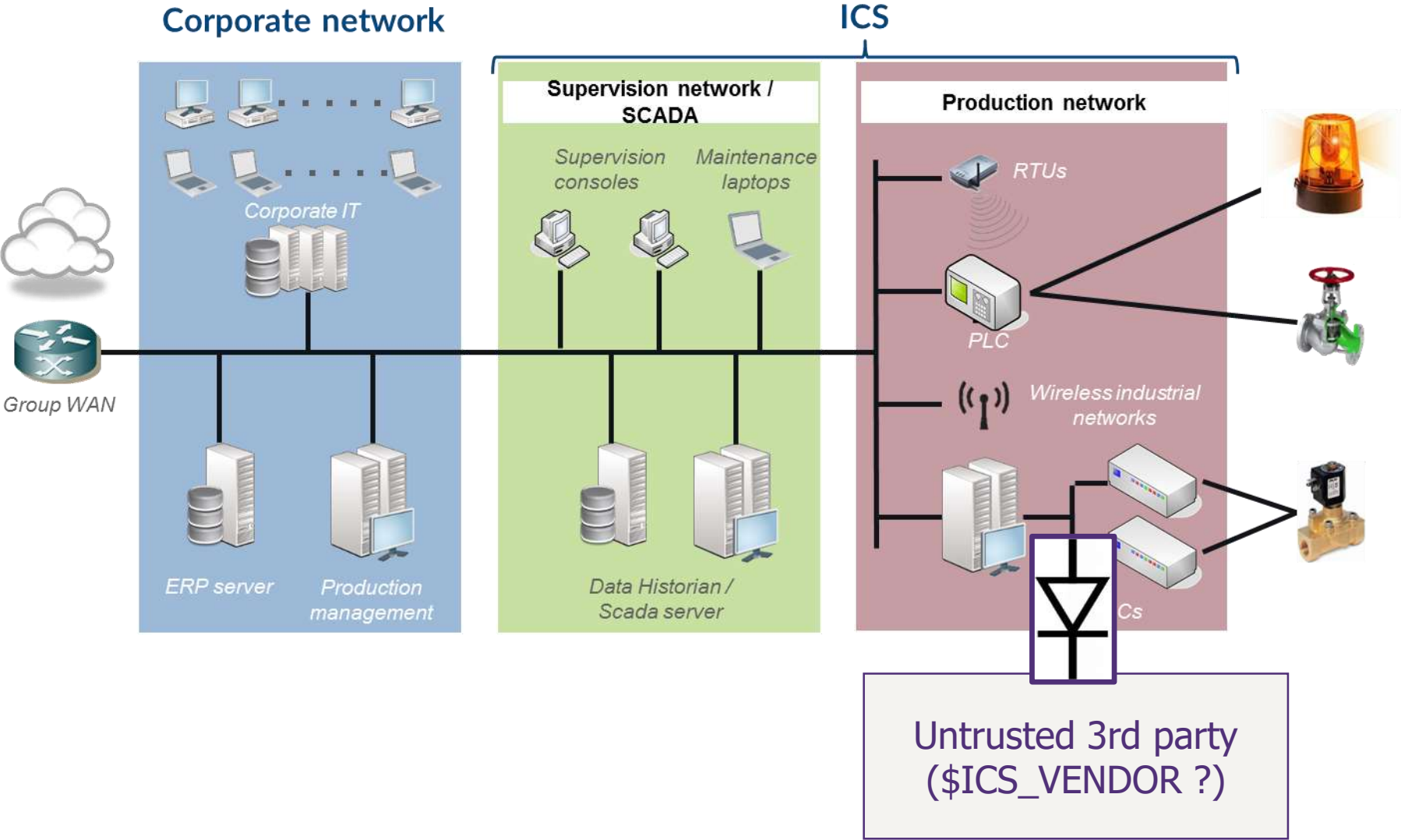
```
solid stl_item0 facet
normal 0 0 1 outer loop
vertex -56.25 23.799 9
vertex -56.5 24.232 9
vertex -56.561 23.561 9
endloop endfacet facet
normal 0 0 1 outer loop
vertex -55.112 21.051 9
vertex -54.982 20.568 9
[...]
```

STL file for 3D-printing the case

## **DEMO**

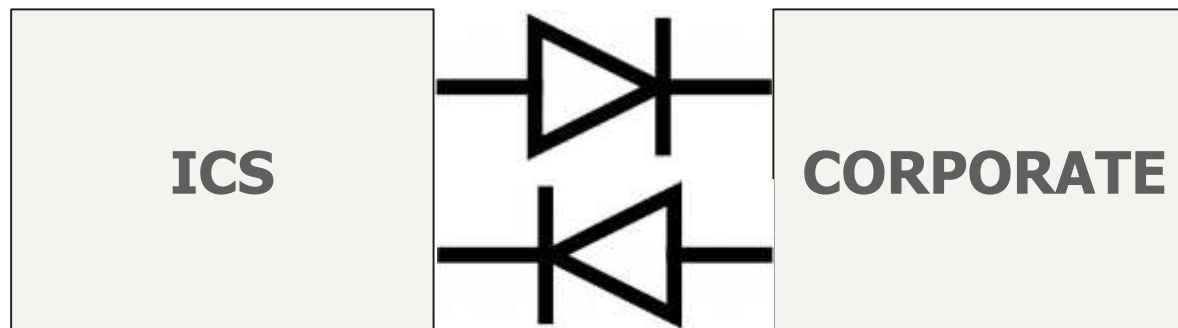
# **[LIVE] DEMO TIME!**

DEMO



## SO, IS IT MAGICAL ?

- / Nope.
- / Most of the time, need to exchange data two ways:
  - / CORP -> ICS for updates, docs
  - / ICS -> CORP to export production data
- / So you'll end up with two data diodes, one in each direction, which goes a bit against the principle...



## THREAT MODELING (SIMPLIFIED)

### What does DYODE guarantees?

No data will go from OUT to IN. That's all. Period.



### What attacks are still possible?

The overall security of the solution still relies on logical hardening.

If the “out” corner is not secured, it might be possible for an attacker to

- / Perform a Denial of Service
- / Compromise the Raspi and modify the data



## LIMITS



### Performances

- / Low speed, a few mbs
- / High latency caused by flat file transfer
- *Replaced by a naive, native Python sockets implementation*



### Side channels

- / Side channels, especially based on electromagnetic leaks (TEMPEST) were not taken in consideration in the threat model
- / However, EM leaks can be reduced with faraday cages
- *Re-use of forensics (relatively low cost) portable faraday cages used when handling phones?*



### Gateway hardening

- / In and out gateways are not especially hardened and can be compromised
- / The target is only to prevent information flowing from ICS to CORP

**Not compatible with safety-critical environments (yet)**

## Roadmap

### Modbus/S7 integrity control

- Acting as an application firewall in whitelist mode to check the correctness of the parameters

### Link status monitoring - Heartbeat

- Ex: Using a cronjob + a SNMP trap on the receiver side

### File integrity checking (1/2)

- Level1: perform a file validation by the receiving gateway, either with an AV (basic) or a specific parser/converter such as Lagadec's Exefilter or CIRCLean or against specific hashes for binaries
- Level2: use a dedicated device for file parsing which can be further hardened (the exposition can be limited to the parsing component, the TCP/IP stack and a limited number of entry points)
- Level3: Use Qubes OS throwable VM

### Other protocols

- Add support for SNMP, Syslog, CIFS, SMTP, FTP, SFTP, etc

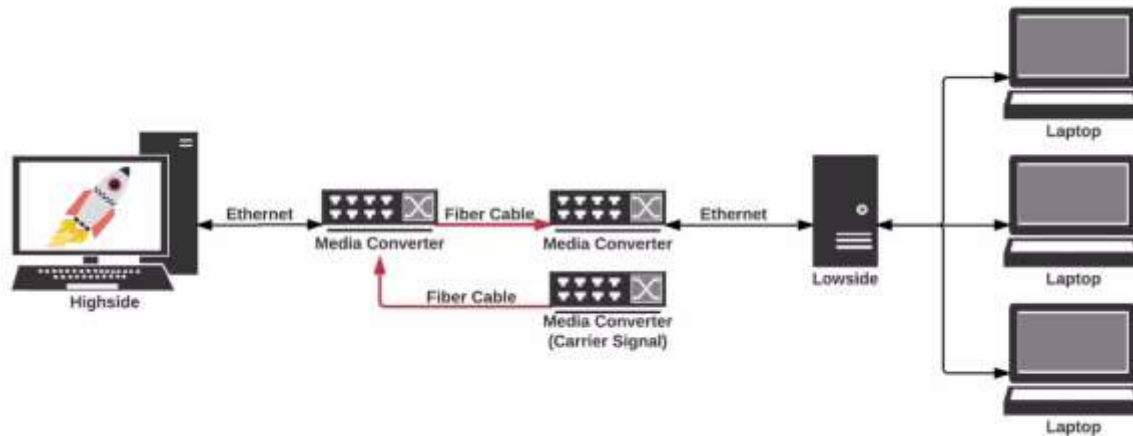
### Traceability of the transfers

- Level1: generate hash of the files/values transferred
- Level2: use 2 DYODE and 3 RSPi (in, out and crypto-signer); the RSPi in the middle combined with an OpenPGP card can generate the hashes and add a signature

## Current deployments

- / Similar setup, different implementation (.NET) made by one of our clients
- / Used in a summer internship for Virginia Space  
#ohmygawdddyodeintospace

<https://github.com/EBUJOLD/data-diode>



- / Tests in progress at another client to isolate safety PLCs from the DCS

## Conclusion



As demonstrated  
*[if the demo did not fail]*  
DYODE answers to safe  
data exchange needs

300€ for the v1  
80€ for the v2

We need contributions to  
make the product more  
reliable and add features



<https://github.com/wavestone-cdt/dyode>

**YOU GET A DIODE**

**AND YOU GET A DIODE**

**EVERYONE GETS A DIODE!**

imgflip.com



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