

- ❖ **Threat Hunting**: the proactive search for threats on a network. Security professionals use it to uncover malicious activity that was not identified by detection tools and as a way to do further analysis on detection.
- ❖ **Threat Intelligence**: evidence-based threat information that provides context about existing or emerging threats.
- ❖ **Threat Intelligence resources**:
  - **Industry reports**: this often include attacker's tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP).
  - **Government advisories**: similar to industry reports.
  - **Threat data feeds**: provide a stream of threat-related data that can be used to help protect against sophisticated attackers like advanced persistent threats (APTs).
- ❖ **Threat Intelligence Platform (TIP)**: an application that collects, centralizes, and analyzes threat intelligence from different resources.
- ❖ **Cyber deception**: involves techniques that deliberately deceive malicious actors with the goal of increasing detection and improving defensive strategies.
- ❖ **Honeypots**: systems or resources that are created as decoys vulnerable to attacks with purpose of attracting potential intruders.
- ❖ **Indicators of Compromise (IoCs)**: observable evidence that suggests signs of potential security incident.
- ❖ **Indicators of Attack (IoAs)**: the series of observed events that indicate a real-time incident.
- ❖ Essentially, IoCs help to identify the who and what of an attack after it's taken place, while IoAs focus on finding the why and how of an ongoing or unknown attack
- ❖ Indicators of compromise are not always a confirmation that a security incident has happened. IoCs may be the result of human error, system malfunctions, and other reasons not related to security

- ❖ **Pyramid of Pain**: captures the relationship between indicators of compromise and the level of difficulty that malicious actors experience when indicators of compromise are blocked by security teams.

- ❖ **Pyramid of Pain levels:**

- **Hash values (Trivial)**: Hashes that correspond to known malicious files.
- **IP Addresses (Easy)**: An internet protocol address.
- **Domain names (Simple)**: A web address.
- **Network artifacts (Annoying)**: Observable evidence created by malicious actors on a network. For example, information found in network protocols such as User-Agent strings
- **Host artifacts (Annoying)**: Observable evidence created by malicious actors on a host. A host is any device that's connected on a network. For example, the name of a file created by malware.
- **Tools (Challenging)**: Software that's used by a malicious actor to achieve their goal. For example, attackers can use password cracking tools like John the Ripper to perform password attacks to gain access into an account.
- **Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures "TTP" (Tough)**: the behavior of a malicious actor. Tactics refer to the high-level overview of the behavior. Techniques provide detailed descriptions of the behavior relating to the tactic. Procedures are highly detailed descriptions of the technique. TTPs are the hardest to detect.

❖ **Benefits of documentation:**

- Transparency.
- Standardization.
- Clarity.

❖ **Chain of custody:** the process of documenting evidence possession and control during an incident lifecycle.

❖ **Chain of custody establishes:**

- Integrity.
- Reliability.
- Accuracy.

❖ **Broken chain of custody:** inconsistencies in the collection and logging of the evidence in the chain of custody.

❖ **Types of Playbooks:**

- **Non-Automated:** requires step-by-step actions performed by an analyst
- **Automated:** automate tasks in incident response processes.
- **Semi-Automated:** combines a person's action with automation.

❖ **Containment:** the act of limiting and preventing additional damage caused by an incident.

❖ **Eradication:** the complete removal of the incident elements from all affected systems.

❖ **Recovery:** the process of returning affected systems back to normal operations.

❖ **Business Continuity Plan (BCP):** a document that outlines the procedures to sustain business operations during and after a significant disruption. A BCP helps organizations ensure that critical business functions can resume or can be quickly restored when an incident occurs.

❖ **Triage**: the prioritizing of incidents according to their level of importance or urgency.

❖ **Triage process:**

- **Receive and assess**: involves gathering as much information as possible about the alert, including details about the activity that triggered the alert, the systems and assets involved, and more
- **Assign priority**: there are some factors to consider when determining the priority of an incident:
  - **Functional impact**: Security incidents that target information technology systems impact the service that these systems provide to its users
  - **Information impact**: Incidents can affect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of an organization's data and information.
  - **Recoverability**: How an organization recovers from an incident depends on the size and scope of the incident and the amount of resources available
- **Collect and analyze**: involves the security analyst performing a comprehensive analysis of the incident. The goal of this step is to gather enough information to make an informed decision to address it.

- ❖ **Resilience:** the ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disruptions.
- ❖ **Types of site resilience:**
  - **Hot sites:** A fully operational facility that is a duplicate of an organization's primary environment. Hot sites can be activated immediately when an organization's primary site experiences failure or disruption
  - **Warm sites:** A facility that contains a fully updated and configured version of the hot site. Unlike hot sites, warm sites are not fully operational and available for immediate use but can quickly be made operational when a failure or disruption occurs
  - **Cold sites:** A backup facility equipped with some of the necessary infrastructure required to operate an organization's site. When a disruption or failure occurs, cold sites might not be ready for immediate use and might need additional work to be operational.
- ❖ **Post-incident activity phase:** the process of reviewing an incident to identify areas for improvement during incident handling.
- ❖ **Final report:** documentation that provides a comprehensive review of an incident.