Caelus Engineering Case



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1. Preliminary

- 1.1 I am Yanning Cao whose address is 6845 Forensics Road, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales undertaking the Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (honours) and Bachelor of Science (Computer Science) with a major in Security Engineering.
- 1.2 I have taken Security Engineering courses including: Extended Security Engineering and Cyber Security (COMP6841), and I'm currently enrolled in Extended Digital Forensics and Incident Response (COMP6845).
- 1.3 I have taken numerous computer courses such as Operating Systems (COMP3231), Algorithms and Programming Techniques (COMP3121) and Object-Oriented Design & Programming (COMP2511).

2. Case background and instructions

- 2.1 An Adelaide Company: Caelus engineering which mainly contract to other engineering firms on industrial projects has reported that one of their employee's laptop (Alyx Hamilton) has gone missing.
- 2.2 The missing laptop was found in bin of a commercial building a few blocks away from Caelus engineering which is located at King William St. It is heavily damaged when the staff member discovered it. Most of the asset tags of the computer had been removed.
- 2.3 The staff member in question is Alyx Hamilton as she might be the owner of the laptop and has expressed discontent several times.
- 2.4 The laptop contains sensitivity information on some projects which worth millions of dollars.
- 2.5 I have been instructed by Penelope Legal to perform analysis on the evidence retrieve from the company and prepare a report addressing the following issues:
 - a) Question 1 Was the laptop being used by a Caleus Engineering staff member(s)?
 - b) Question 2 Does the data on the laptop provide any indications regarding the reason for its destruction and disposal? If so, what?
 - c) Question 3 Is there any indication of hidden data i.e. encryption? If so, are you able to make the data usable?
 - d) Question 4 Is there any indication of an attempt to "cover tracks", such as deleting or obscuring data?
 - e) Question 5 Any other matters that are relevant to the use or misuse of the laptop?
 - f) Question 6 Your recommendation regarding any further enquiries and examinations that need to be conducted.
- 2.6 A copy of the engagement letter is attached as Appendix A.

3. Assumptions and Limitations

3.1 Assumptions:

a) Assume the permission to access the data has been granted legally.

- b) Assume all the data were obtained in the legal and formal procedure.
- c) Assume chain of custody of all evidence has been maintained.
- d) Assume evidence integrity has been maintained.

3.2 Limitations:

- a) Limited funding/tools have been provided otherwise can get more precise information.
- b) Can't gain access to physical evidence.
- c) Search warrant has not been granted, may contain more information on their personal devices.

4. Disclaimer

- 4.1 I believe all my Investigation are appropriate for the purpose of this report. There are no matters of significance I considered as relevant to my views which has been withheld.
- 4.2 I have not conducted an audit of the information or other documents provided to me. I assume all the information provided to me is accurate and reliable unless stated.

5. Summary of POI and evidence

Suspects:

Name	Connection	Role
Michael Harris	John Davis's spy inside	Caleus Engineering's
	Caleus Engineering	Systems Engineer
Alyx Hamilton	Michael's colleague	Caleus Engineering's Senior
		Business Analyst
John Davis	Cameron's colleague	
Cameron	John's colleague	

Evidence:

Name	Hash(md5)	Description
Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw	402373d94991b7c303b53ba1da62d10b	Missing laptop's
		image
hamiltona_network_log.pcapng	45330b81a6a3c0b7cc5dfd4428e1e737	Alyx Hamilton's
		Network activity
Harris.zip	7fb60c6dff0640db3fbee8666b5f7d14	Michael Harris's
		work email activity
Hamilton.zip	d9b6d861038977145e219354a215b4c1	Alyx Hamilton's
		work email activity
phone_drops.zip	92d62ae5b2900494079cf2e43c156e56	Spys' phones
		image
Windows-7-x64-Pro-	2afc0bd393be75c9492ff32f51a20c77	Memory dump of
Snapshot7.vmem		lost computer

- 5.1 All the data have been hashed before the investigation and rehashed after the investigation to ensure the data integrity has been maintained.
- 5.2 All the hash was generated by performing the 'md5sum' command. A hash is a function that converts one value to another. A hash of a file maps all the original data to another value. If the content of the file changes, the hash will change as well. It can be use to validate the integrity of the forensics copy.
- 5.3 The md5sum commands provide an algorithm to convert a file into a hash without changing the file's original content.

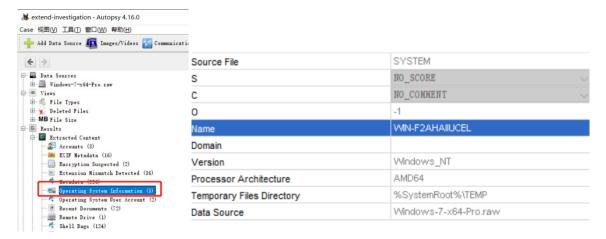
6. Structure of this report

- 7.1 The remaining sections of this report address the following:
 - a) In section 8, I set out information regarding Question 1 above.
 - b) In section 9, I set out information regarding Question 2 above.
 - c) In section 10, I set out information regarding Question 3 above.
 - d) In section 11, I set out information regarding Question 4 above.
 - e) In section 12, I set out information regarding Question 5 above.
 - f) In section 13, I set out information regarding Question 6 above.
 - g) In section 14, reliability of time across evidence have been explained and further explain who use the laptop after the laptop went missing.

7. Question 1

- 8.1 The laptop is used by a Caleus Engineering staff and I think the owner of the laptop is Alyx Hamilton (on the balance of probabilities). I reached this conclusion by analyse the image (an exact replica of the contents of a computer) of the Caleus Engineering's missing computer provided by Penelope Legal and using autopsy (4.16.0) to analysis the image. Autopsy is a free digital forensics platform and graphical interface to forensics tools which helps law enforcement, military, and corporate examiners to investigate what happened on a computer. The detail of the image is provided below.
- 8.2 The system information is obtained through autopsy, under the Extracted content section, Operating System Information part.

Figure 1 operating system information



8.3 First, in autopsy, Extracted Content Section, Accounts part have 3 files, which contains login information of 3 websites. The information of the files were present below.

Table 1 Files and hashed

Name	Hash(MD5)
/img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/Hamil- tonA/AppData/Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/De- fault/Login Data	530418eebd294f4ffb6d7390e8 e79ca2
/img_Windows-7-x64- Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/Local/Google/C hrome/User Data/Default/Login Data	530418eebd294f4ffb6d7390e8 e79ca2
/img_Windows-7-x64- Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/Local/Google/C hrome/User Data/Default/Login Data	530418eebd294f4ffb6d7390e8e7 9ca2

Figure 2 Accounts



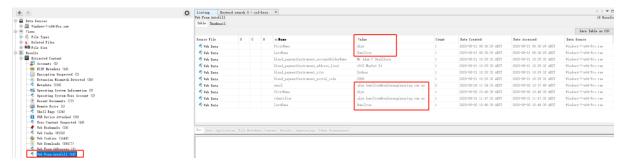
- 8.4 As the screenshot showed above the owner of this laptop use alyx.hamilton @caelusengineering.com.au to log in to both google.com and trimble.com.
- 8.5 Second, under the Extracted content, Web Form Autofill section, several files may indicate that the owner is Alyx. A web form is an HTML form on a web page that lets visitors enter their information the autofill function is a build-in function in browser like google chrome which memorize certain information such as name and addresses

so that the browser can fill the web form automatically. The details of the files were presented below.

Table 2 Web autofill

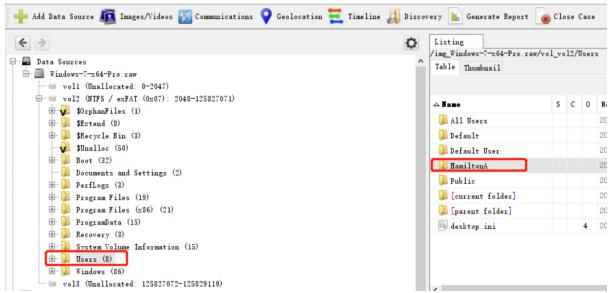
Name	Hash(MD5)	Туре	Value
/img_Windows-7-x64- Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/ Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/Default/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57ea 44483145ff17	FirstN ame	Alyx
/img_Windows-7-x64- Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/ Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/Default/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57ea 44483145ff17	LastN ame	Hamilton
/img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Us- ers/HamiltonA/AppData/Lo- cal/Google/Chrome/User Data/De- fault/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57ea 44483145ff17	email	alyx.hamilton @caelusengineer ing.com.au
/img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Us- ers/HamiltonA/AppData/Lo- cal/Google/Chrome/User Data/De- fault/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57e a44483145ff17	identi fier	alyx.hamilton @caelusengineer ing.com.au
/img_Windows-7-x64- Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/ Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/Default/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57ea 44483145ff17	firstn ame	Alyx
/img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Us- ers/HamiltonA/AppData/Lo- cal/Google/Chrome/User Data/De- fault/Web Data	3b1308a73a00d10a57ea 44483145ff17	Lastn ame	Hamilton

Figure 3 Web autofill



- 8.6 As the content showed above, most of the web autofill content is related to Alyx Hamilton.
- 8.7 Third, the user directory use the name: "HamiltonA" Path: /img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA

Figure 4 User directory



- 8.8 Which indicates the user of this computer might be Alyx Hamilton.
- 8.9 Finally, under the autopsy E-mail message section, all the receiver of emails in this machine is Alyx Hamilton.

Table 3 Emails

Name	Hash(MD5)
/img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Us- ers/HamiltonA/AppData/Roaming/Thunder- bird/Profiles/9233ypdq.default-release/Imap- Mail/imap.gmail.com/INBOX	8bda598a0d80d1e1ccb3cb132a251c56

Table 4 Emails

MBOX	sarah.jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Meeting Minutes	2020-08-26 08:31:15 AEST	Hey Alyx!Would you mind sending me the
INBOX	sarah jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alym.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Interesting Reading	2020-08-28 08:39:07 AEST	Hey Alyx, FYI, thought this might be is
INBOX	david caelus@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Water Irrigation Project	2020-08-27 11:37:41 AEST	Hi Alyx, Hope you're well, I'm looking
MBOX	sarah.jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Re: Meeting Minutes	2020-08-26 14:55:15 AEST	Yep sure, I'm happy to do that Also le
MBOX	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	alvx.hamilton@caeluzengineering.com.au:	Microsoft Outlook Test Message	2020-08-31 12:14:05 AEST	This is an email message sent automat

8.10 In conclusion, this computer belongs to Alyx Hamilton (on balance of probability) as the facts presented above.

8. Question 2

9.1 From the Phone Examination Preview Report Properties on Cameron's iPhone 4s (A1387) given by Penelope legal. This report is generated by Cellebrite which is a tool to extract information from a mobile device.

Figure 5 Cellebrite report

5	+61431168124	+ J	28/08/2020 02:31:53 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	New job from central command.
6	+61431168124	*J	28/08/2020 02:32:21 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	Caelus engineering
7	+61431168124	• J	28/08/2020 02:32:47 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	B13 sat any comms and control sys designs
8	+61431168124	*J	28/08/2020 02:33:15 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	We need to maintain a minimal digital footprint or this I
9	+61431168124	* J	28/08/2020 02:33:30 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	*for this job
10	+61431168124	* J	28/08/2020 02:34:36 (GMT)	Sent	Sent	Phone	Outgoing	Any preferences? A physical extraction?
11	+61431168124	* J	28/08/2020 02:35:34 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	I'm open, but my preference is to find an insider and do a manual data drop. See if we can find any leverage on someone there.
12	+61431168124	* J	28/08/2020 02:35:55 (GMT)	Sent	Sent	Phone	Outgoing	Agreed. I'll do some research
13	+61431168124	* J	01/09/2020 05:10:28 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	Tive been doing some research. We have a few potential assets.
14	+61431168124	* J	01/09/2020 05:11:18 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	There are a few involved in online dating. 3 looking for work on Linkedin, and one with some bad debts and a low credit score.
15	+61431168124	* J	01/09/2020 05:11:59 (GMT)	Sent	Sent	Phone	Outgoing	Excellent. Which do you recommend?
16	+61431168124	*J	01/09/2020 05:13:31 (GMT)	Read	Inbox	Phone	Incoming	1 like Harris and going the financial route. His credit report has multiple loan applications and defaults so should be open to \$\$. Plus he is open to opportunities on Linkedin.
17	+61431168124	*J	01/09/2020 05:14:33 (GMT)	Sent	Sent	Phone	Outgoing	Okay. We come up with a cover org that can offer him a job, an we can make the offer that way

- 9.2 According to the information in the report, Cameron and John Davis want a 'B13 sat cooms and control sys designs' and they found Michael Harris to help them obtained the information. More specifically, they are probably trying to find a control system design for their project 'A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for Three-axis Stabilized B13 GEO Communication Satellites Google Docs'. This can be found on the laptop image under the Extracted content, Web History section. Path: '/img_Windows-7-x64-
 - Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/AppData/Local/Google/Chrome/User Data/Default/History'. Hash: '3b77c76b999304a1b4b06b593fa2d351'
- 9.3 From the data on the laptop's image. It contains multiple projects information located in Path: '/img_Windows-7-x64Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/Documents/Caelus'. Some of the projects may meet Michael and Cameron's requirement.

Figure 6 Project Folder

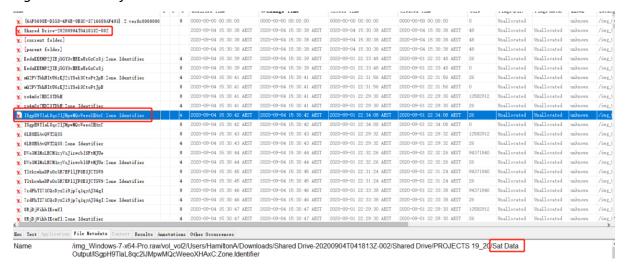
9. Question 3

- 10.1 There is not much indication of data encryption. I investigate the prefetch folder which is a folder that contains name of the executable files (Path:' /img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Windows/Prefetch') and found no evidence of software that is able to perform encryption on the data.
- 10.2 Through entropy (level of randomness, a higher entropy indicates occurrence of encryption) analysis module in autopsy, no high entropy artefact related to the case has been found.
- 10.3 Analysis regarding on extension mismatched has also been performed on Autopsy. No particular artefact related to this case have been found.
- 10.4 I only discovered the ssl-keys.log in path: '/img_Windows-7-x64Pro.raw/vol_vol2/Users/HamiltonA/Documents/logs/ssl-keys.log' with hash:"
 6ab3c33164a2eeffbb3c1b850e80213d" which can be used to decrypt network traffic on this laptop's network image. Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) is a protocol developed by Netscape for providing a secure connection between two or more devices via the Internet.

10. Question 4

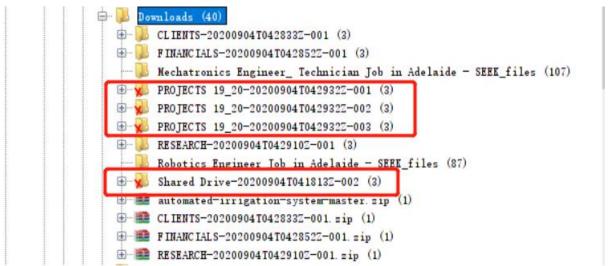
11.1 Yes, especially on 04/09/2020 AEST, lots of files have been downloaded and deleted which can be found in Autopsy under Deleted Files section. Some notable files are presented below:

Figure 7 deleted files 1



11.2 Also in the path : /img_Windows-7-x64-Pro.raw/vol vol2/Users/HamiltonA/Downloads

Figure 8 deleted files2

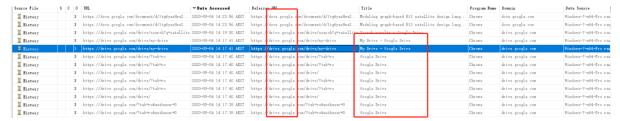


- 11.3 These folders have been downloaded from the share drive and then deleted to cover tracks.
- 11.4 Michael, Cameron and John's phone is quite clean, they might have other phone for personal use or they might wipe some of the data from their phone.

11. Question 5

12.1 Indications of Data exfiltration have been found on the missing laptop's image.

Figure 9 Data exfiltration 1



12.2 Since 2020-09-04 AEST, the laptop have been accessing google drive and google doc, until the user of the laptop send an email said "it's done".

Figure 10 Data exfiltration 2

Source File	S (0	URL	▽Date Accessed	Referrer URL	Title	Program Name	Domain	Data Source
Eistory		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#sent	2020-09-04 16:27:46 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#sent	Sent Mail - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.co	throne	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/U/?tab=rm#sent	2020-09-04 16:27:46 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#sent	Sent Mail - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.co	throne	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ram
X History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/D/?tab=rm#sent/	2020-09-04 16:27:34 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#sent/	It's done - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.co	l har om e	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ras
Eistory		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/D/?tab=rm#inbox	2020-09-04 16:27:18 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#inbox	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
X History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/U/?tab=rm#inbox	2020-09-04 16:27:18 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/O/?tab=rm#inbox	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au	Chrome	nail google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
E History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/U/?tab=rm#inbox	2020-09-04 16:27:18 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/O/?tab=rm#inbox	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caeluxengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
E History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/U/?tab=rm#inbox	2020-09-04 16:23:19 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm#inbox	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
E History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/U/?tab=rm#inbox	2020-09-04 16:23:04 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/O/?tab=rm#inbox	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caeluxengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
Elistory		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/?tab=rm	2020-09-04 16:22:54 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/?tab=rm	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
∃ History		3	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm	2020-09-04 16:22:54 AEST	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm	Inbox - alyx.hamilton@caeluxengineering.com.au	Chrome	mail.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
X History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1S7ETsR	2020-09-04 14:31:21 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/IS7ETsR	PROJECTS 19:20 - Google Drive	Chrome	drive.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
∃ History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sinCWR	2020-09-04 14:27:57 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sinCWR	. Shared Drive - Google Drive	Chrome	drive.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ras
X History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sinCWR	2020-09-04 14:27:57 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sinCWR	. Shared Drive - Google Drive	Chrome	drive. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Fro.ram
X History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	2020-09-04 14:27:55 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	Shared with me - Google Drive	Chrome	drive.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ras
E History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	2020-09-04 14:27:55 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	Shared with me - Google Drive	Chrome	drive.google.com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ras
X History		3	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	2020-09-04 14:27:55 AEST	https://drive.google.com/drive/shared-with-me	Shared with me - Google Drive	Chrome	drive. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
∃ History		3	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SEXnISHnay	2020-09-04 14:24:53 AEST	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEInISHnay	. A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for	Chrome	docs. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
E History		3	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEXnISHnay	2020-09-04 14:24:53 AEST	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEInISHnay	. A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for	Chrome	docs. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Fro.ram
∃ History		3	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEXnI89inay	2020-09-04 14:24:53 AEST	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEInISHnay	A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for	Chrome	docs. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.ras
X History		3	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SEInI89nay	2020-09-04 14:24:53 AEST	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SEXnI8Hnay	A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for	Chrome	docs. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res
X History		3	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEInISMnay	2020-09-04 14:24:53 AEST	https://docs.google.com/document/d/ISEXnISHnav	A Practical Launcher Thermal Analysis Tool for	Chrone	doos. google. com	Windows-7-x64-Pro.res.

Subject: It's done

Date: 04/09/2020 16:27 From: Alyx Hamilton <alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au> To: johndavis5891@gmail.com

The files are copying over as we speak. What should I do now? Where do I meet you?

12.3 This email can also be found form 'Hamilton.zip'

12. Question 6

- 13.1 Examination should be conducted on the missing laptop's serial number to check if it match with Alyx's computer.
- 13.2 Investigate on Michael, John, Cameron's personal device to search for direct proof.
- 13.3 Investigate Alyx's personal device to check whether she is truly innocent and has no connection with Michael on this matter.

13. Reliability of time across evidence

14.1 Summary of time format the tools provide.

Table 5 List of time used in tools

Tool Name	Time Zone
-----------	-----------

Autopsy (4.16.0)	AEST
Wireshark (3.2.7)	AEST
Cellebrite	GMT

- 14.2 To prove the reliability of the time, I use multiple tools to inspect the same email sent by Alyx Hamilton.
- 14.3 First, in 'Hamilton.zip':

Table 6 'Hamilton.zip'

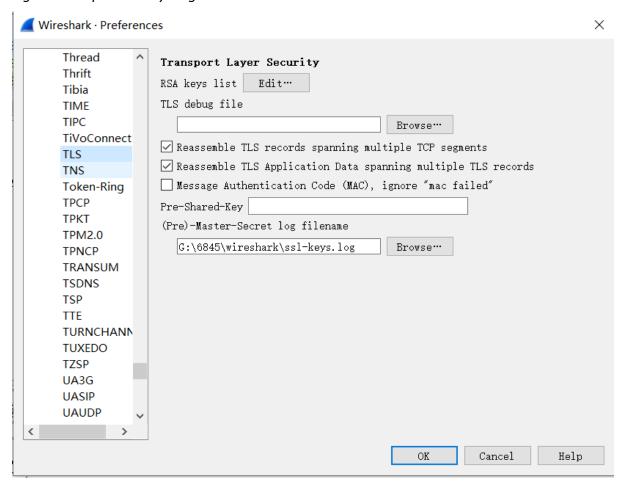
Subject: It's done

Date: 04/09/2020 16:27 From: Alyx Hamilton <alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au> To: johndavis5891@gmail.com

The files are copying over as we speak. What should I do now? Where do I meet you?

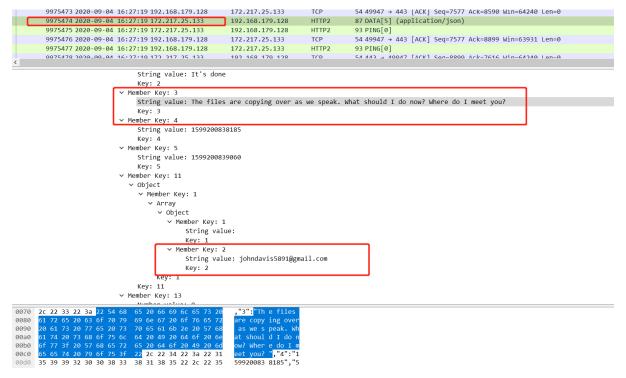
- 14.4 We can extract this message. Which is sent by Alyx Hamilton to 'johndavis5891@gmail.com'. The time is 04/09/2020 16:27 AEST.
- 14.5 Next, in 'hamiltona_network_log.pcapng'. Using wireshark (3.2.7) an Network Forensic Analysis Tool which can capture and analyse network traffic on the wire as well as in pcapng files. pcapng files contains the information of a network, which is obtained by the sniffer to analyse the packet and import the ssl-keys we found in laptop's image in order to decode the network traffic.

Figure 11 import ssl-keys.log



14.6 We can see that in packet No:9975096 on 2020-09-04 16:27:19. The email's content is the same as the one we found in 'Hamilton.zip' and the time match.

Figure 12 wireshark pakcet



14.7 Next, let's examine the emails in autopsy. Take these 3 emails as examples.

Figure 13 emails in autopsy

ZOBIII 🐸	sarah jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Meeting Minutes	2020-08-26 08:31:15 AEST	Hey Alyx! Would you mind sending me the minutes	Not available	/inap.gmail
MBOX	sarah.jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Interesting Reading	2020-08-28 08:39:07 AEST	Hey Alyx, FYI, thought this might be interestin	Not available	/insp. gmail
MB0X	sarah jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au;	alyx.hamilton@caelusengineering.com.au;	Re: Heeting Hinutes	2020-08-26 14:55:15 AEST	Tep sure, I'm happy to do that Also lunch woul	Not available	/insp. gmail

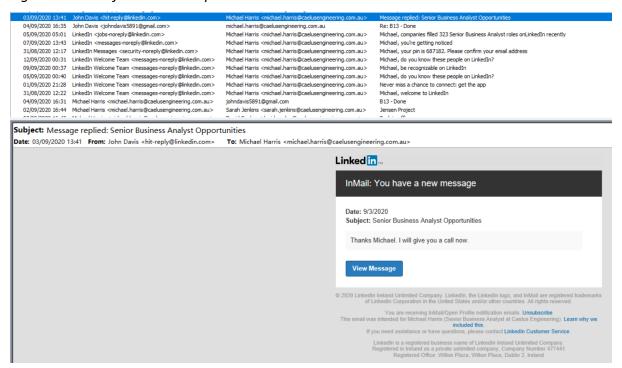
14.8 The content and the time match the artefact in 'Hamilton.zip'

Figure 14 emails in 'Hamilton.zip'

```
28/08/2020 08:39 Sarah Jenkins <sarah.jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au> Alyx Hamilton (@caelusengineering.com.au> Interesting Reading 26/08/2020 14:55 Sarah Jenkins <sarah.jenkins@caelusengineering.com.au> Alyx Hamilton (@caelusengineering.com.au> Alyx Hamilton (@caelusengineering.
```

- 14.9 In all, verify the time in these 3 tools, I can conclude that the time in this report is quite reliable.
- 14.10 To verify whether cellebrite report has reliable time we can compare these 2 artefacts. One is from 'Harris.zip':

Figure 15 email from 'Harris.zip'



14.11 In this email, John Davis is about to call Michael on (03/09/2020 13:41 AEST). From the cellebrite report on John's phone:

Figure 16 cellebrite report on John's phone



- 14.12 It shows that on 03/09/2020 03:42 :44 GMT which is 03/09/2020 13:42 :44 AEST, John called Michael which means the time in cellebrite report is quite reliable.
- 14.13 Time stomping is an Anti-Forensics technique which changed the timestamps of the file. However, such activity is unlikely to happen in these evidence. From Penelope legal's email (full email in appendix B):

Figure 17 Alyx's statement

The staff member in question is Alyx Hamilton. On Friday the 4th of September, after the whole office was relaxing due to the completion of a large project, Alyx reported coming back to her desk after a late lunch to find her laptop missing. At the time, I didn't think anything of it because our offices are relatively quiet and safe.

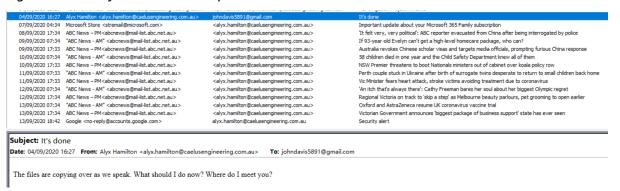
14.14 According to Alyx, she reported that her laptop was missing after a late lunch. I look into the entrance record of Caelus Engineering (full record in Appendix C):

Figure 18 entrance record of Caelus Engineering

28	14:04	Jenskins S	Exit
29	14:05	Hamilton_A	Exit
30	15:20	Jenskins S	Entry
31	15:20	Hamilton_A	Entry
32	14:49	Frankelton_P	Exit
33	16:44	Corrigan_B	Exit

- 14.15 It shows that Alyx leave the building (probably for late lunch) at 14:05 AEST and come back at 15:20 AEST, the laptop should be missing during this time period.
- 14.16 In this email found in 'Hamilton.zip':

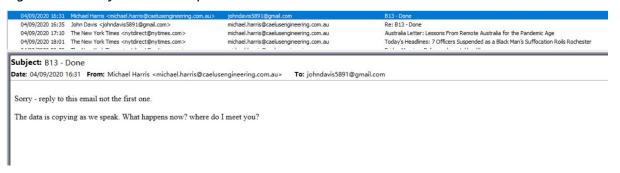
Figure 19 email from Hamilton.zip



14.17 The user of Alyx's laptop sent an email to John Davis on 04/09/2020 16:27 AEST.

14.18 In "Harris.zip":

Figure 20 email from Harris.zip



14.19 In this email on 04/09/2020 16:31 AEST, Michael said: 'reply to this email not the first one. 'The first email he mentioned is probably the one sending using Alyx's computer. So the user of Alyx's laptop after should be Michael (on the balance of probability) and the time he sent the email matches the laptop missing time frame which is after 04/09/2020 15:20 AEST.

1/1/20	Since the time of the artefacts match the critical time frame and no strange time				
14.20	stamps have been found across evidence. Time stomping is unlikely to occur in the evidence.				

Penelope Legal

23 The Arcade Adelaide SA 5000 DX 123456789

Re: Caleus Engineering (Ref: 2020/123)

Dear Jim,

I refer to my email of 14 September 2020 in relation to this matter. We have been retained in this matter to act on behalf of Caleus Engineering. The background to this matter has been provided to you by David Caleus, CEO of Caleus Engineering. Penelope Legal would like to retain your firm to provide an expert opinion on the following matters:

- Was the laptop being used by a Caleus Engineering staff member(s)?
- Does the data on the laptop provide any indications regarding the reason for its destruction and disposal? If so, what?
- Is there any indication of hidden data i.e. encryption? If so, are you able to make the data usable?
- 4. Is there any indication of an attempt to "cover tracks", such as deleting or obscuring
- 5. Any other matters that are relevant to the use or misuse of the laptop?
- Your recommendation regarding any further enquiries and examinations that need to be conducted.

We may provide further instructions as other matters become apparent over the course of your examinations.

You are to base your examinations on the following materials provided to you:

- 1. Laptop recovered from bin
 - a. Copy of hard disk drive;
 - b. Copy of memory
- 2. Phot of collection site;
- 3. Staff profiles;
- 4. Logs from EACS;
- 5. Picture of office entry.

I confirm that the laptop is owned by Caleus Engineering and you are authorised to access any data stored on it. The copies of the laptop were made by Caleus Engineering and you can assume that they are reliable.

Please note that we have yet to commence litigation. The decision on whether or not to litigate will depend in part on your findings. You can assume that such litigation will be a civil matter.

Given Caleus Engineering is a Defence contractor, you should also expect that there will be some scrutiny of your report.

I draw your attention to the Expert Witness Code of Conduct that is Schedule 7 of the Uniform Civil Procedure Regulation. Please let me know if you require a copy of the Code of Conduct.

Yours Sincerely,

Penelope DePlamp

Penelope DePlomp, Solicitor LPC:56789

Appendix B

To: info@jimsforensics.net

From: admin@penelopelegal.com.au

Date: 14 September 2020 Subject: FW: Assistance request Attachment: Letter of instruction.pdf

CONFIDENTIAL - For Jim's eyes only

Hi Jim,

We've had this enquiry come in from Caelus Engineering. Can we ask Jim's Forensics to perform the analysis for this case? I have attached a formal letter of Instruction to this email.

We will direct Caelus engineering to provide you (via open learning) with the data and assets you require. You can assume that all assets obtained via openlearning were collected reliably, though you still need to confirm the reliability of the download evidence packages.

We suspect this will be a civil matter, but high profile and could attract a lot of scrutiny. If so, we will require you to give evidence during the trial.

Regards,

Ρ

On Tuesday 15 September 2020 Penelope forwarded this email from admin@penelopelegal.com.au:

Hi Penelope,

Thank you for taking my call earlier. This matter is quite urgent.

As I mentioned on the phone, I'm writing because of a strange event which occurred a few weeks back. Last week one of my staff reported her laptop stolen, despite it being only a few weeks old.

I am the director of an engineering firm known as Caelus engineering - we're based in Adelaide and mainly contract to other engineering firms on industrial projects.

The staff member in question is Alyx Hamilton. On Friday the 4th of September, after the whole office was relaxing due to the completion of a large project, Alyx reported coming back to her desk after a late lunch to find her laptop missing. At the time, I didn't think anything of it because our offices are relatively quiet and safe. First thing the next week, I receive a phone call from one of my friends who works in one of the commercial building a few blocks away from our offices in King William St. Apparently, when taking out the garbage on monday morning one of his staff members found a laptop in the bottom of their bin. When they pulled it out, they discovered it had been pretty badly damaged, and most of the asset tags had been removed. Fortunately they didn't remove all of them, so were able to trace it back to us pretty quickly on monday.

I should mention that I have had some suspicions about Alyx Hamilton for several months now - she has expressed discontent a few times, so I fear something suspicious is going on.

Given the sensitive and commercial nature of our projects which are often multi-year contracts from government and industry worth millions of dollars to us, this would be incredibly damaging.

Can you find out who stole the laptop?

Should you have any questions please contact me via the comment box below.

Yours sincerely,

David Caelus.

Founder, Caelus Engineering

Appendix C

4	A	В	С
1	Time	ID	Type
2	07:59	Caelus_D	Entry
3	08:12	Corrigan_B	Entry
4	08:22	Frankelton P	Entry
5	08:44	Hamilton A	Entry
6	08:50	Harris M	Entry
7	08:59	Frankelton P	Exit
8	09:01	Jenskins S	Entry
9	09:04	Smithfield_A	Entry
10	09:18	Frankelton_P	Entry
11	09:45	Conway_J	Entry
12	10:01	Caelus_D	Exit
13	10:16	Caelus_D	Entry
14	11:00	Harris_M	Exit
15	11:08	Conway_J	Exit
16	11:22	Conway_J	Entry
17	11:48	Frankelton_P	Exit
18	11:50	Harris_M	Entry
19	12:07	Smithfield_A	Exit
20	12:34	Corrigan_B	Exit
21	12:35	Smithfield_A	Entry
22	12:40	Caelus_D	Exit
23	12:45	Conway_J	Exit
24	13:05	Frankelton_P	Entry
25	13:09	Caelus_D	Entry
26	13:29	Corrigan_B	Entry
27	13:33	Conway_J	Entry
28	14:04	Jenskins_S	Exit
29	14:05	Hamilton_A	Exit
30	15:20	Jenskins_S	Entry
31	15:20	Hamilton_A	Entry
32	14:49	Frankelton_P	Exit
	16:44	Corrigan_B	Exit
34	16:48	Caelus_D	Exit
35	16:55	Conway_J	Exit
36	16:58	Hamilton_A	Exit
37	16:58	Jenskins_S	Exit
38	17:03	Caelus_D	Entry
39	17:15	Smithfield_A	Exit
40	17:33	Harris_M	Exit
41	17:44	Caelus_D	Exit