

## UNIT 4: INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER FORENSICS INVESTIGATIONS & ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE :

**# Digital Forensics :** authentication, comparison & enhancement  
 • acquisition & analysis of digital evidence for its admissibility in the court of law. (motive)  
 • process - identification, preservation, analysis, documentation, presentation.  
 • Locard's principle - whenever 2 bodies come in contact an exchange of materials occurs between them. Expectations - recovery, searching, volatile

• Branches - Computer, Mobile, N/w, Forensic Data Analysis, Database, Email, Malware, memory, wireless n/w, Disks. Objectives - evidence, motive, tampering, acquisition, impact suspect, col.

• Digital Evidence - latent, bordered, altered, time sensitive

• Handling DE - recognize, seize, document, collect, label, pack, transport

• Important Documents and Electronic Evidence - List A (establish identity & employment auth), List B (establish identity), List C (establish employment auth)

Adv - integrity, evidence, info, track, money + time, prove Disadv - tampering, cloning, knowledge, convincing, standards

**# Introduction to Evidence Acquisition :** Identification → Collection → Preservation → Examination → Analysis → Presentation

• EBA - Identification → Collection → Preservation → Examination → Analysis → Presentation

• Identification - seizure, acquiring, analysis (FTK, Autopsy, Sleuthkit)

• Acquisition - photo, live data, n/w traffic, volatile / non-volatile

↳ Challenges - guidelines, tech, big data, anti-forensic tech, tools, damage, volatile, lost, integrity

• Preservation - current state, power, login, install, connect, modify

• Examination - extracting, analysing, copy, (Autopsy, bulkext, FTK, Encase, Magnet, CAINE)

• Analysis - what, how, who, controlled env.

• Presentation - clear, concise, forms/reports/photos/charts

**# Evidence Acquisition Process :**

• Write Blocker - read only access to storage devices, chain of custody, soft/hard → chip

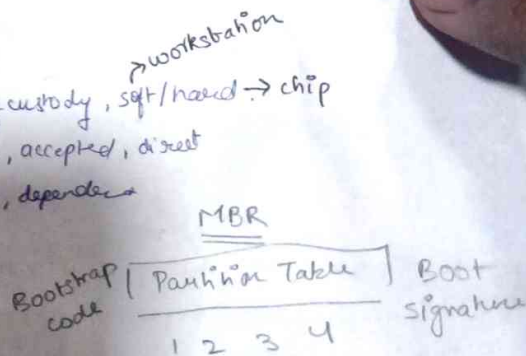
↳ Pros - reliant on single OS/boot, easy, visual, interfaces, accepted, direct

↳ Cons - kit, hardware, restricted, ext adapter, difficult, dependence

• Imaging Techniques - FTK Imager.

• Evidence Integrity - forensic soundness, MD5/SHA-1.

• SOP - acquisition & preservation.



**# Introduction to Data Recovery & Cloning :**

• Data Recovery - lost or deleted data, software & hardware, Disk Drill/Recuva.

• Data Cloning - reassembling files from raw data fragments when no file system metadata is available.

• Comparison - metadata, filesystem contents, memory, tools.

→ SOPs in DF - pre-investigation, decision on law, identification, collection, reporting, final

→ Chain of custody - documenting the handling of evidence, CCF

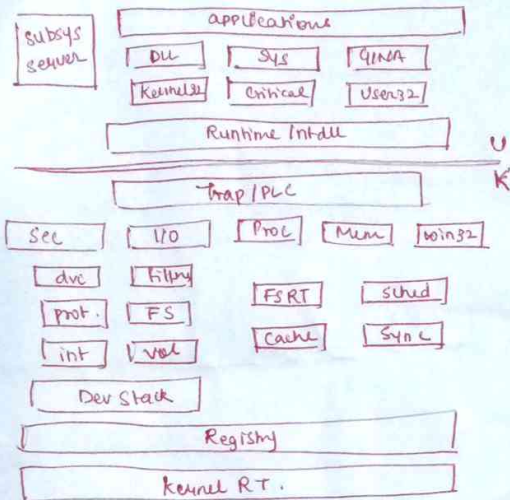
→ Windows OS boot process - POST, boot loader, Hardware, Kernel, login

NTLDR → bootmgr → GRUB



## UNIT V - FORENSIC ANALYSIS

### 1) Windows Architecture - windows os get architecture



- Hardware Abstraction layer
- Kernel
- Executive Services
- Protected Subsystem
- Environment

MP4 - 14 66  
 PSD - 38 42 50 53  
 GIF - 47 49  
 ZIP - 50 4B  
 MP4 - 50 49  
 JPG - FF D8  
 EXE/DLL - 4D 5A

### 2) Linux OS Architecture

→ hardware → Kernel → Sys Lib → Sys UTils  
 → Desktop env → Applications

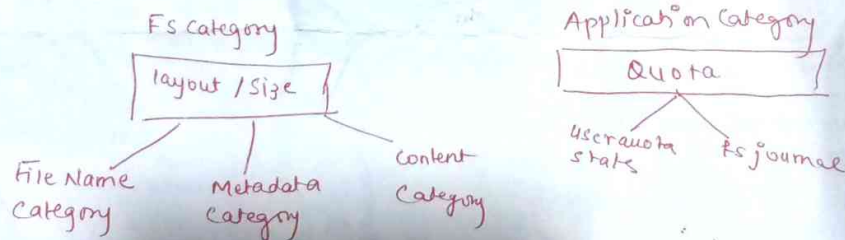
### 3) MAC OS Architecture

→ Kernel & Device Drivers → Core OS → Core Serv →  
 Media → Application  
 → Darwin OS - BSD Unix

### 2) Filesystems - DiskPart, EaseUS, AOMEI, Disk Management

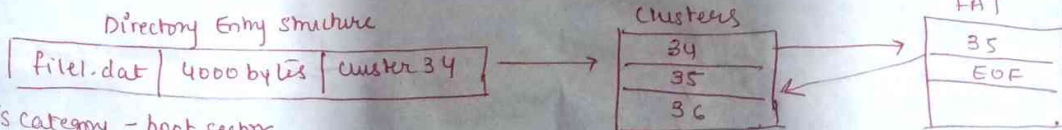
hierarchy of files & directories, structural & where data, how data is stored & retrieved, ISO 9660 fs → optical disks; func - storage mgmt, file naming, dir/folders, metadata, access rules & priv; files → groups (dir); files on a storage device is kept in sectors, groups of sector = block; size, position, sector, attributes, ~~Path~~ File name, dir hierarchy

Reference model:



→ Aspects: Space mgmt, Filenames, Directories, Metadata

→ FAT - FAT12, FAT16, FAT32, FATX, Mic DOS & win9x, flash cards & thumb drives,

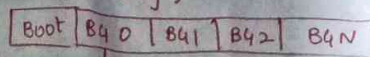


Fs category - boot sector

→ NTFS - win NT, reliability, security, large storage, scalability, MFT (11624 bytes), MFT Entry (1 KB, 42 bytes), \$MFT - on disk location of MFT, "FILE" "BAD" flag, ~~256 bytes~~

→ UNIX - / (root), inode ls -i

→ EXT2/EXT3 - Remmy card, fast



→ Super block, Group desc, Data block bitmap, inode bitmap, inode table, data blocks

→ NFS - allows remote hosts to mount fs over a n/w, TCP, UDP, rpc, nfs d, OS diff

→ HFS - 1985, Apple, 2TB; 24B; 255 char, B-Tree

→ File Type - File format, File extensions, name, content/struct

→ File Signature - verify content, header, Hxd Editor

Registry - sys setting, app settings, device drivers, user profile ; System32/Config/Reg/Back

NTUSER.dat - user specific settings & configs USERCLASS.dat - user account/access config

AMCACHE.hve - recently run programs (Tools - KAPE, Autopsy, Regedit)

SAM Registry - last login, last failed login, logon count, pwd policy, acc creation time

Control Set - sys config settings to control sys boot

001 - last successful boot ①

002 - last known good ②

Client Side Caching (CSC) - offline access to files

SHIMCACHE - app compatibility checking with windows OS

BAM - Background Activity Moderator

DAM - Desktop Activity Moderator

Shellbags - folder access, evidence of activity, traversal patterns, deleted folders (Shellbags Exp)

.LNK files - recent documents shortcut files (IEcmd.exe)

Jumplists - jump to MRU files

auto (JLEcmd.exe)  
custom

Windows Search Database, Thumbnails, Recycle Bin, SRM & Artifacts

Eventlogs - timestamp, event ID, source, description, user (evt & evtx)

Security, System, Application, Custom

EventlogView, Eventlog Explorer

Logon/Logoff	RDP	File & Folder Access	Microsoft Alerts	Time Manipulation	WLAN Geoloc
4624	4778	4656	300	1	11000
4625	4779	4660		4616	8001
4634/4647		4663			8002
4672					8003
					6100



## Windows Forensics Cheat Sheet

- Memory Acq & Triage
  - Hibernation (Win 2000) - Hyperfil.sys on hard disk
  - DRIPS (Win 8.1) - low power state of SOC, powercfg /SLEEPSTUDY
- How to acquire memory image - Live: FTKImager, Belkasoft, Magnet Dumpit  
Dead: hyperfil.sys; pagefile.sys; memory.dmp
- Analysis - Volatility3, Memoryze, Volcano.

- How to acquire disk image - encryption (EDB by Magnet), FTK, CyR, Arsenal
- File Types - ADD, E01, S01, AD1, L01
  - Drive mounting is the process by which OS makes files on a device accessible through the comp's file system.

Block device  
Readonly

Block device  
Writable

Filesystem  
Read only.

### Windows File Systems.



Notable NTFS Artifacts - Timestamp, ZoneID, Shadowcopy

MFT - 1024 byte record len, 24 ent. reserved, 12 ent sys files

\$MFT, \$MFTMirr, \$LogFile, \$Volume, \$AttrB, ., \$Boot, \$Bitmap, \$BadClus, \$Secure, \$Upcase, \$Extnd

TimeStamp - Copy, Access, Modify, Create (MAC)  
(AC) (A) (M) (MAC)

Zone ID - NoZone (-1), My comp (0), Intranet (1), Trusted (2), Internet (3), Untrusted (4)

Shadow Copy - VSS, VSCS (snapshots) → Restoring LUN, Restoring files, Data mining  
Service Requests. (IEF, VSC, Shadow Exp)

Solid State Drive (SSD) - semiconductor, non-volatile, proprietary
 

- wear leveling
- trim

Data Carving - Mem/Page file, AU, Unall.  
URL, Email, Chat

File Carving - Mem/Page, Unalloc.  
.jpg, .docx, .exe

Metadata

FT, FAT,  
cluster

Data layer

Header (M2),  
Footer.



Topic .....

Date .....

## UNIT V CONTINUED

→ Windows Artifact Analysis - boot proc (CMOS configuration), tampering (mooose)

→ Internet Artifacts - browsers (cookies, C:\Users\User Name\AppData\Roaming\

Microsoft\Windows\cookies - index.dat 256-byte records) (history (128 byte)

(web cache 128) (emails - .PST, .OST)

→ OS Artifacts - swap file, recent, recyclebin, temp, restore, hibernat<sup>1</sup> -sys, Fav

→ File System Artifacts - FAT, NTFS, Ext2, Ext3, Ext4, NFS, HFS, CDFS

→ Registry artifacts - regedit, hives (HKLM, HKU), key pane, value pane, HKCR

HKCU, HKLM, HKU, HKCC, lastwrite (key \ value x), keytime.exe, autoruns,

MRU Lists, User Assist Key (ROT13), SSIDs (static#), My Network Place,

Computer Description Key, USB

→ Application Artifacts - application event log, log files, dynamic analysis

→ Log Analysis - stream of msgs in time seq, file/nlw stream, debugging, comparability, induce system for full domain

→ Windows logs - event log, Event Viewer<sup>evtx</sup>, C:\Windows\System32\winevt\logs

App events (error, warning, info), Security (audit SIF), schup, System,

Forwarded, log Parser (SQL)

→ Unix logs - syslog, /etc/syslogd, /var/log, System log viewer

→ Nlw log Analysis - packet captures (pcap), libpcap, WinPcap, Microsoft

Nlw monitor, Wireshark, Tcpdump, logman, Registry

→ File System Analysis - essential fs data, non-essential fs data.

User Application configurations &amp; Preferences

Attached devices - Device Manager

Shared location - File Explorer &gt; Network

Installed Apps - HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall

-evt - old -evtx - new

low-level settings



## UNIT 3: INCIDENT HANDLING

# IRP - implement capabilities of IR.

Elements - mission, goal, approval, approach, comm, method, roadmaps  
Req - framework, skill, tools, team, doc, collaboration.

### # Incident Handling Process: SANS (6)

- 1) Preparation - risk assessment, host security, n/w security, malware prevention, training
- 2) Identification - attack vectors, precursors, indicators
- 3) Analysis - First Hand/Initial & its recommendations
- 4) Documentation - logbook, less error-prone, chain of custody
- 5) Containment - decrease damage, remediation strategy, decision-making
- 6) Eradication - eliminate, identify all affected hosts
- 7) Recovery - restore to normal operation
- 8) Post-Incident activity - learning, improving, incident data collection, objective + subjective, retention

### # Real Time log Capture & Analysis:

- monitor & analyze system, network & application logs in real-time to detect & respond to security threats, system errors & other issues.
- Tools - Graylog, ELK stack, Octopussy, Checkmk, loggly

### # Botnet Identification & Counteraction:

- n/w of infected computers controlled by a remote attacker.
- Identification - pattern of speech, identical posts, handle patterns, date/time, location, traffic mon, mon failed login, baseline
- Tools - NIDS, Rootkit detection pkg, N/w sniffers, DNS traffic analysis, Malware detection
- Prevention - training, new devices, software updates, credentials, limit access

### # Enterprise Solutions for Incident Response & Recovery:

Cynet, Security HQ, SecurityJoel, FireEye Mandiant, SecureWorks  
Symantec, Harsjane Group, BAE systems.

### # Timeline Analysis:

- collecting and analyzing data to determine when & what happened
- Types - horizontal, vertical, roadmap, biographical, historical, Gantt chart, interactive, biological, company background, project, event

### # Malware Handling:

- 1) Safety - AV/AM, update os, phishing, downloadable, strong pwd, firewall/VPN
  - 2) Documentation - technical information
  - 3) Distribution - install, original, security warnings, phishing, pop ups, USB scans
- Tools - Kaspersky, Malware Bytes, Avast, Avira.

## # Report Writing:

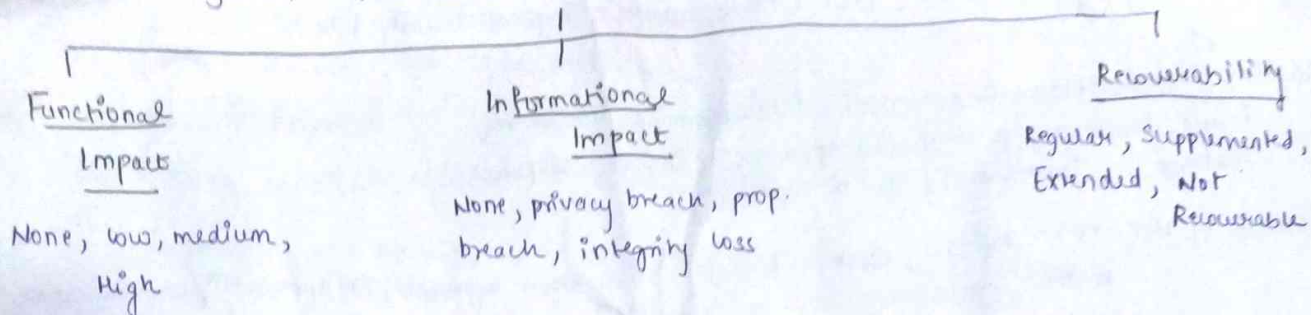
- 1) Format - title, contents, summary, intro, body, conclusion, recommendation, appendices
- 2) Types - academic, research, sales/marketing, project, weekly, annual

## # Quality Assurance:

- products meet quality standards set by company/industry.
- QA - proactive, broad, prevent quality failure, throughout
- QC - reactive, narrow, detect errors, after development
- QA Engg responsibilities - usability, feature, system, integration, test plan, standards
- Importance - customer satisfaction, high quality, standards
- E • Process - Develop → Audit → Analyze → Review
- l • Methods - Functional (unit, integration, system, acceptance)
- E Non Functional (Vulnerability, compatibility, Usability, Performance)
- • Advantages - saves money, emergencies, productivity & efficiency, customer satisfaction, confidence
- Disadvantages - time consuming, high cost, challenging



Incident Prioritization - never be handled on first come first serve basis

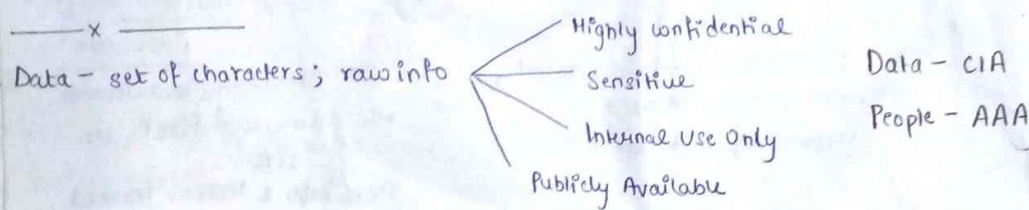


Incident Notification - policies; what/when; communication channels (email, web, phone, voip, paper, in person).

Evidence Gathering & Handling - system of interest; chain of events; snapshots

Identifying attacking hosts - IP, OSINT, databases, comm channels

Evidence Retention - Prosecution; Data Retention; lost

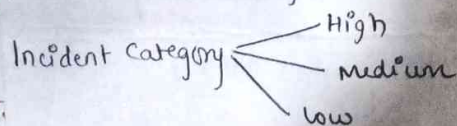


Access Control - selective restriction of access to some kind of resource.

- 1) DAC - user; permissions; CRUD
- 2) MAC - admin; security policy; compliance; central authority
- 3) RBAC - permissions → roles; roles → users; edit/modify/delete users
- 4) MLS - user → trust level; item → confidentiality level

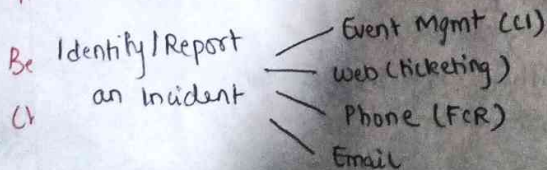
Signs of an incident -

- 1) Precursors - abt to happen; rare; web server log entries, new exploit, threat
- 2) Indicators - already happened; common; IDS alerts, filename unusual



Defn: Events, Adverse Events, CompSec Incidents, Security Incidents; Information Security Incidents

Malware - virus, backdoor, downloader, launcher, rootkit, spyware, adware, scareware, spamware, ransomware, key-logger, botnet.



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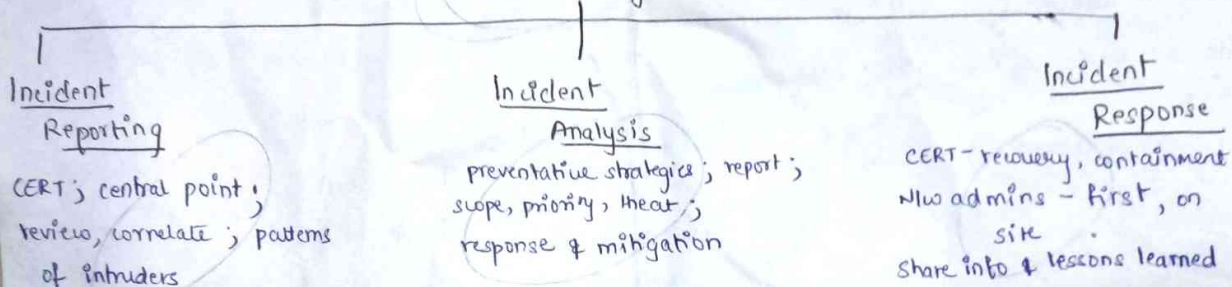
Goals of Incident Response (x8) - Confirm; reduce impact; what; business continuity; prosecute  
Keep mgmt informed; prevent future attacks; improve security & IR.

Incident Response Plan (IRP) - need - data compromise, unique req.  
formal, focused & co-ordinated approach to incident response.  
roadmap for implementing the IR capability.

Elements of IRP (x8) - Mission; strategies & goals; senior mgmt approval; org approach; communication;  
metrics; roadmap; how the prog. fits?

Requirements of IRP (x6) - framework; skilled resource; team; tools; documentation; collaboration

### Functions of Incident Handling



SANS Institute - SysAdmin Audit N/w Security; for-profit; US; 1989; cybersec training & certification; 6 steps to handle incidents.

### Steps of Incident Handling:

- ① Preparation - prevention; risk assessment; host sec; n/w sec; malware prev; training
- ② Identification - attack vectors; prec & ind - alerts, logs, public info, people
- ③ Containment - decrease damage; time; decision-making
- ④ Eradication - eliminate; identify infected hosts
- ⑤ Recovery - restore to normal; confirm; backup, clean files, patches, pwd, perimeter security
- ⑥ Lessons learned - learning & improving; meeting; objective & subjective; incident data

Incident Analysis - accurate precursors?; false positives; legitimacy

First Hand / Initial - profile; normalcy; log retention; even corr; clock syn.

knowledge base & info, search engines, packet sniffers, data filtering, help

Incident Documentation - logbook; start to end; error prone; time stamped

status; summary; indicators; other incidents; actions; chain of custody

impact assessment; contact info; evidence; comments; next steps

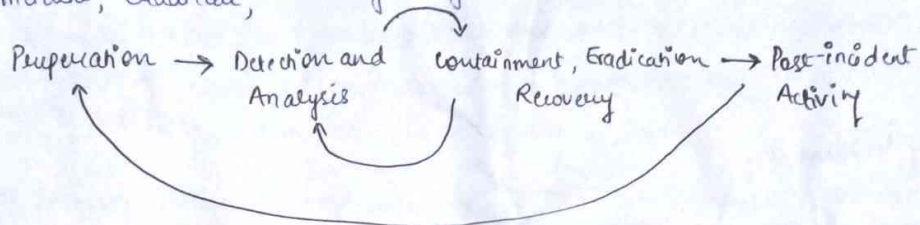


## # How to Identify an Incident -

- Logging → Categorization → Prioritization → Assignment → Task Creation → SLA Management → Resolution → Closure. [Event Mgmt, Web Interface, Phone, Email].

## # Need for Incident Response -

- Detect incident, eradicate, technically analyze, recover.



## # Goals & Purpose of Incident Response -

- Goals - confirmation, restore BC, causes, min impact, improve security, prosecute illegal activity, keep mgmt informed, apply lessons learned.
- Purpose - restore operation, min impact → commitments & requirements.

## # Signs of an Incident -

- Precursors - web server log, new exploit, threat
- Indicators - IDS alerts, AV alerts, unusual filename

## # Incident Categories -

- High - entire unit, large risk, confidential data, critical service, human safety, propagation, CISO.
- Medium - moderate, department, non-critical service, mod. propagation, quick response.
- Low - small no. of systems, no propagation, quick response.

## # SOC:

high quality IT infrastructure, security posture

Setting up the SOC - logging, analyzing logs

CSIRT - minimize damage, comm w board

SOC Team - Security Analyst, Security Engineer, SOC Manager, CISO, director

How? - awareness of assets, proactive monitoring, logs & responses, ranking alerts, adjusting defences, checking compliance

Tier 1 - Threat analyst    Tier 2 - Incident Responder  
Tier 3 - Senior analyst    Tier 4 - SOC Manager

Benefits - IR, TI, costs, complexity

Challenges - volumes, tools, resource allocation.



# INCIDENT RESPONSE AND DIGITAL FORENSICS

## UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO INCIDENT RESPONSE -

#

### # Cyber Incident Statistics -

- Desktop/Laptop (70%), Smartphone (61%), Tablets (53%), WAP (50%), Server (50%), router (47%)
- Leading malware carriers - email (92.3%), web (6.3%)
- Most popular malware - Trojan (92.33%)

• 1

### # Computer Security Incident -

- Events are any observable occurrence in a system or network.
- # Adverse events are events with a negative consequence.
- Incident is an occurrence of an action or situation that is a separate unit of experience.
- A computer security incident is a violation of or imminent threat of violation of computer security policies, acceptable use policies or standard security practices. An event that disrupts operational processes. Indicate that an organization's systems/data may have been compromised.
- Major & Minor disruptions.

#

### # Information Warfare -

- battle fought in cyberspace, online & over computer networks; combination of lies, manipulated truths, manufactured media, exploiting human nature to sow confusion.
- # Weapons - information, volume of information.
- Example - Hardenburg Report.

### # Key Concepts of Information Security -

- InfoSec covers the tools and processes that organizations use to protect info; CIA & AAA.
- Confidentiality - encryption, MFA, biometric, DLP.
- Integrity - File permissions, Access Control (DAC, MAC, RBAC, MLC), checksums
- Availability - load balancing, Back-up servers.
- Authentication - OTP, biometric, RSA Token
- Authorization - permission & access control.
- Accountability / Non-Repudiation - Digital certificates

(Examples → Case Study)

### # Types of Computer Security Incidents -

- Attacks - MITM, DoS/DDoS, Phishing/Spear phishing, Password attack, XSS attack, Pharming attack, drive-by attack, SQLi, Eavesdropping attack, vuln scanning.
- Malware - Virus (polymorphic, boot-record, file, macro, stealth), Worms, Trojans, Ransomware, Spyware, Adware, Keylogger, Botnet, Backdoor, Downloader, launcher, Rootkit, Scareware, Spamware.

### # Data Classification -

- Set of characters, facts, figure that has been gathered & translated for analysis.
- Highly confidential, Sensitive, Internal use only, Public.



## UNIT 2: INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

### # Incident Prioritization -

- critical point in incident handling; never handle on first come first serve; impact & urgency  $\rightarrow \text{matrix}(H, M, U)$
- Need - focus resources on high-priority; improve response time; align with business objectives; optimize resource allocation; ensure consistency.
- Functional Impact - None, low, Medium, High
- Information Impact - None, Privacy breach, Proprietary breach, Integrity loss.
- Recoverability - Regular, Supplemented, Extended, Not Recoverable.

### # Disaster Recovery Technologies -

- tools designed to help organizations recover critical IT systems & data after a disruptive event.
- Data backup & recovery, replication, virtualization, cloud-based data recovery, high availability, Disaster recovery testing, rebuilding, replacing, patches, also perimeter security.

### # Impact of Virtualization on IR & Incident Handling -

- Creating virtualized copies of critical systems & data to deploy during disaster.
- Rapid provisioning, Isolation, Snapshots, Centralized Mgmt, Agility.

### # Estimating Cost of an Incident -

- Steps - Scope  $\rightarrow$  direct cost  $\rightarrow$  indirect cost  $\rightarrow$  total cost  $\rightarrow$  future cost  $\rightarrow$  IR Plan update
- Cost to Business - cost code, direct & indirect cost
- Cost of Incident Mgmt - Throughput (T), Team Composition, Time Spent (P), Capital Exp. (C), Salary (Y), Overhead cost (H), Sum of all staff's cost (S)

$$\text{Staff Cost Calculation} = B = (Y/100) * P \quad S = B_1 + B_2 + \dots + B_n$$

$$\text{Cost Per Incident (CPI)} = \frac{(S + (S * H/100) + C)}{T}$$

### # Incident Reporting -

- take appropriate measures to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.
- steps - Incident reporting procedure; train employees; std reporting form; ensure confidentiality; evaluate incidents; lessons learned; keep records.

### # Incident Reporting Organizations -

- CERT, SANS, CISA
- NHTSA, CPSC, FDA, OSHA, FAA, NTSB, EPA, FEMA, USCY

### # Vulnerability Resources -

- NVD, CVE, OVASP, NIST, Security Focus, Vulnerability lab
- Secunia Research, ZDI, Microsoft Security Updates.



## # Incident Management -

- Identifying, analyzing & resolving incidents that disrupt normal business operations
- Process - preparation, identification, categorization, prioritization, investigation, resolution, reporting, review & improvement

## # Incident Response Team Roles -

IR Manager, IT security analyst, Forensic Analyst, N/w Security Engineer  
System Administrator, Communications Coordinator, Legal counsel, PR Specialist

## # Incident Response Team Responsibilities -

Preparation, Identification, Analysis, Containment  
Mitigation, Reporting, Coordination, Training

## # Dependencies -

Hardware/Software - systems & programs

Network - network connectivity & network equipment

Communication - channels: email, phone, chat etc.

Personnel - availability of skills of IR Team & other employees

3rd Party - cloud providers, security providers etc.

ITIL - ITSM, ITAM, IBM.

## # Overview of log analysis & tools used.

Uses - troubleshooting, performance, recording, investigating

Need - deployment, threats, volume, detail, analysis

Standards - FISMA 2002, 4LBA, SOX 2002, PCI DSS, HIPAA 1996

Sources of logs - OS, Application, N/w, Physical devices

System Audit      COTS

Event type, Source, category, ID, Date, Time, User, Computer, Desc, Primary User,

Primary login ID, Client Domain.

Challenges - volume, content, timestamp, format

Infrastructure - generation, analysis & storage, monitoring, parsing, filtering, aggregation, rotation, archival, compression, deduplication, conversion, normalization

SIEM - agentless, agent based.