



# CYBER SECURITY MESH ARCHITECTURE (CSMA) — A NEW KID IN TOWN

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# About me

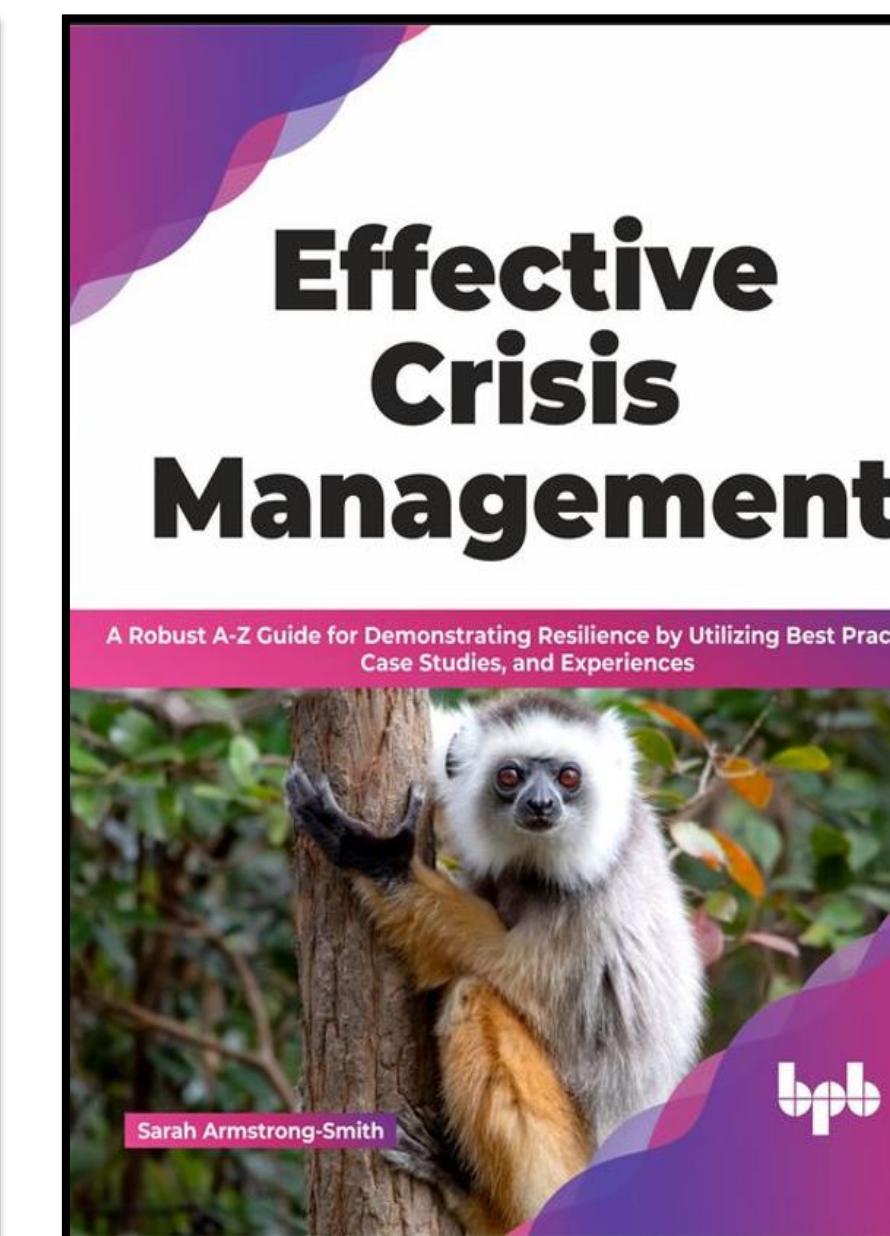
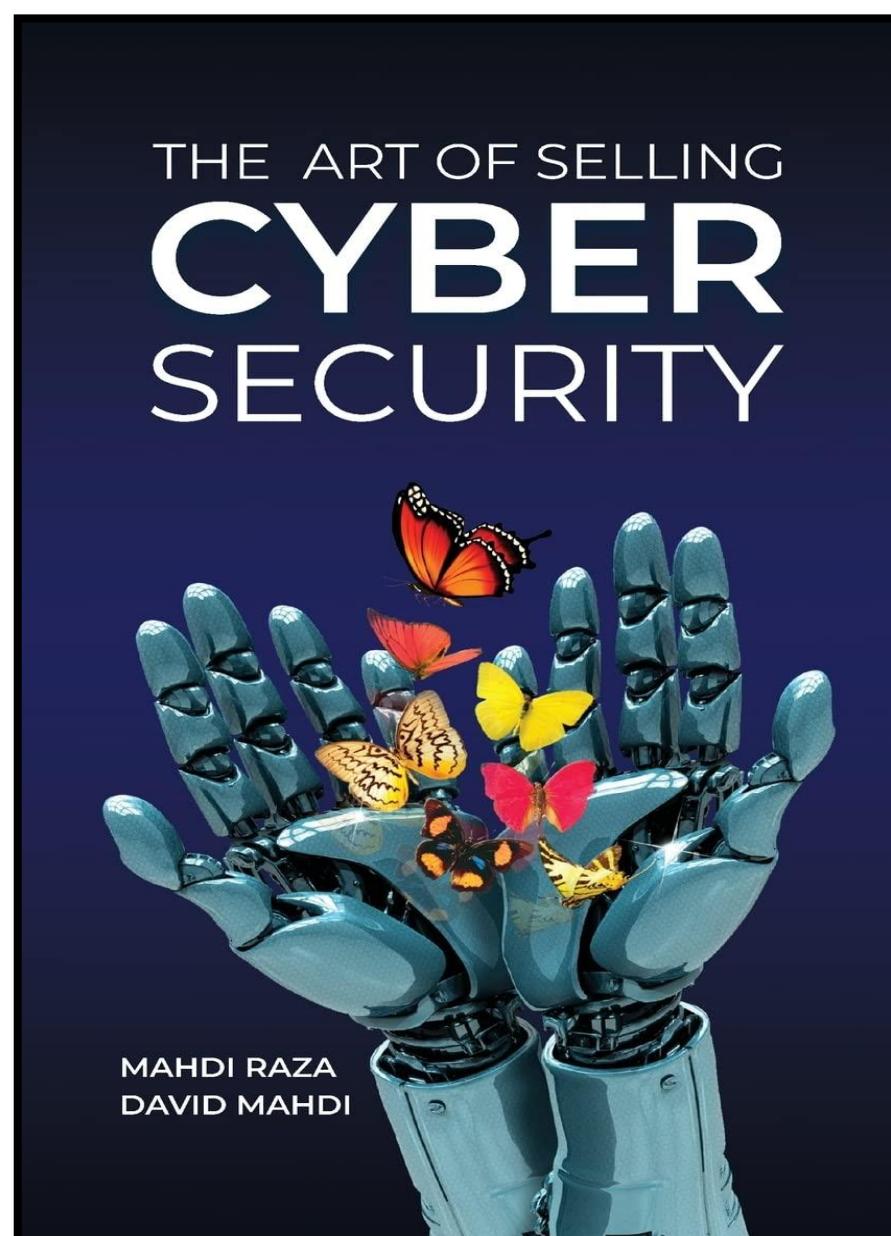
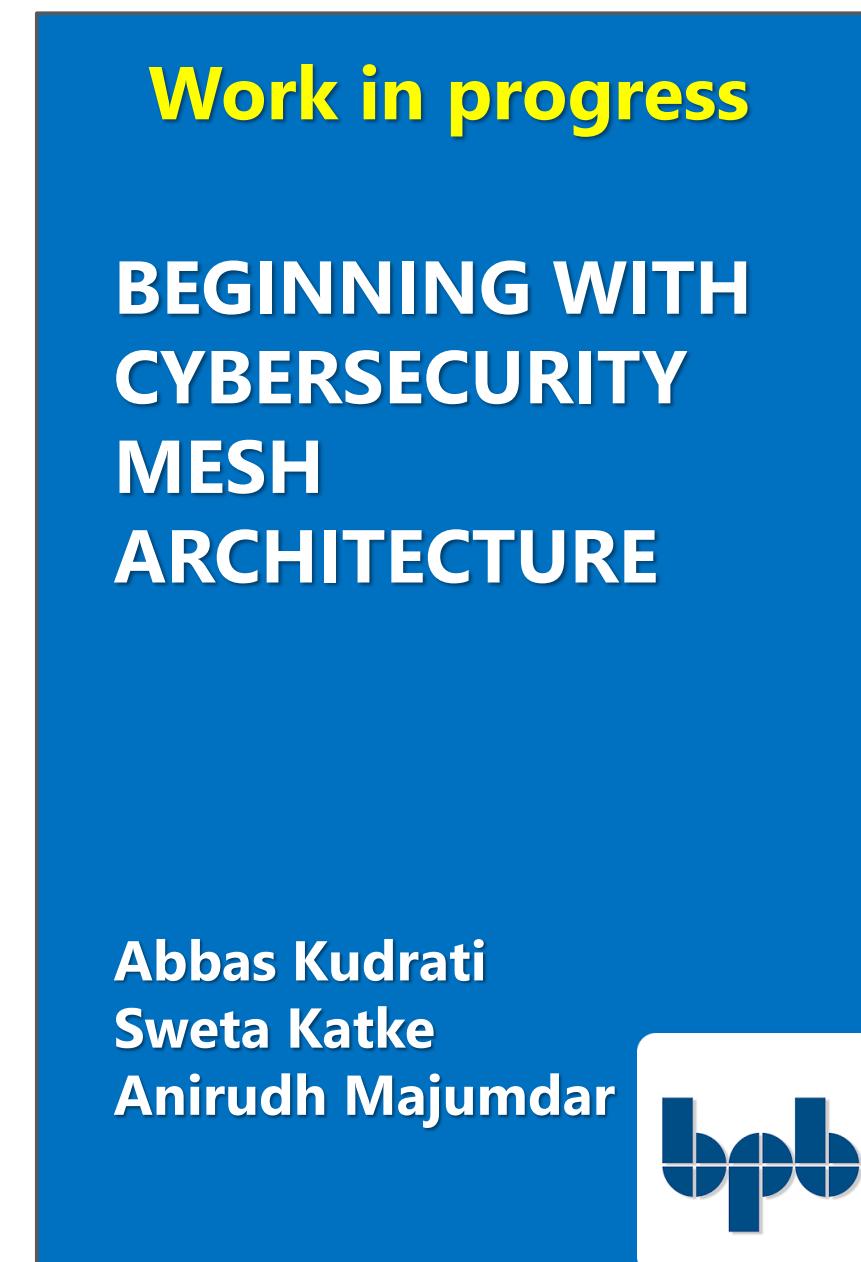
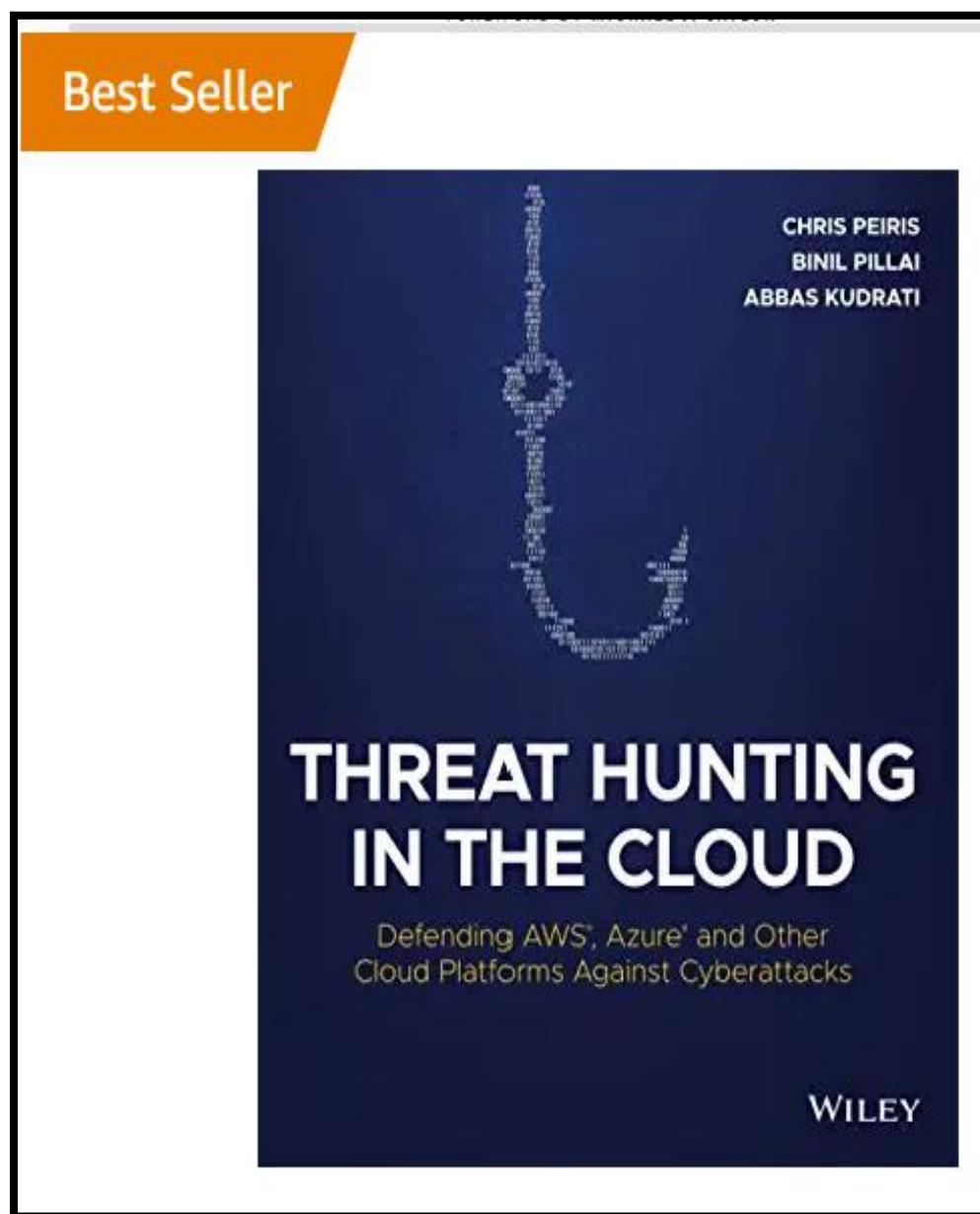
"You join Microsoft, not to be cool  
but to make others cool"

Satya Nadella

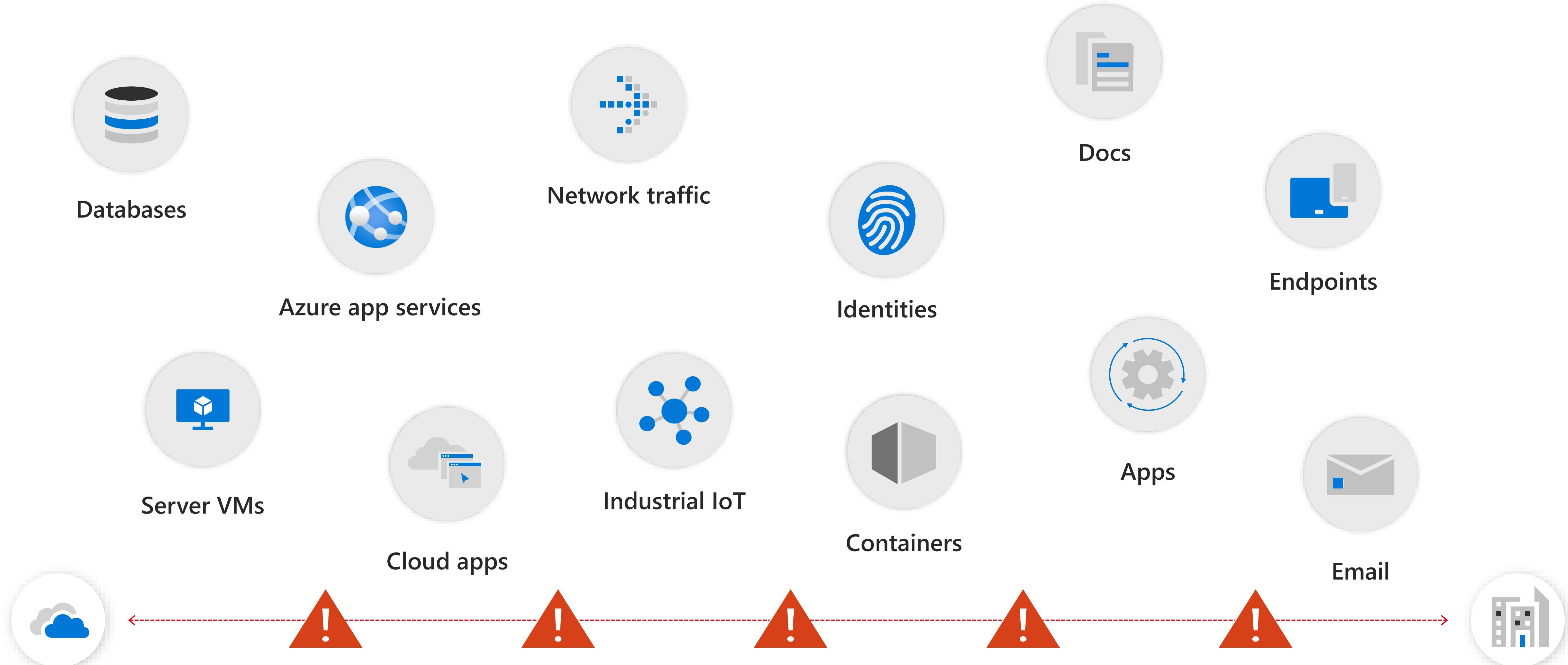
- **Cybersecurity practitioner and CISO with 25 years of experience in Information / Cybersecurity.**
- **Part time Cybersecurity Professor LaTrobe University in Melbourne, Australia.**
- **Expertise in Zero Trust, Cybersecurity Strategy, Security Operations, Risk, Compliance, Cloud Security and Architecture.**

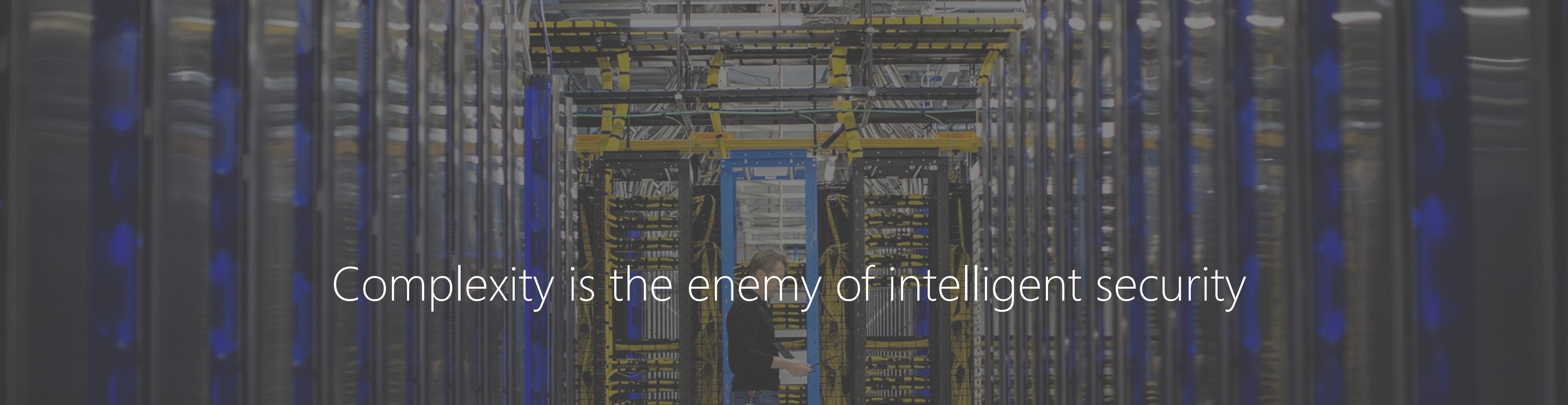


# My Publications (Author, Contributor & Tech Editor)



# Managing complexity





Complexity is the enemy of intelligent security

**\$1.37M**

On average that an organization spends annually in time wasted responding to erroneous malware alerts

"The Cost of Insecure Endpoints" Ponemon Institute© Research Report, June 2017

**1.87M**

Global cybersecurity workforce shortage by 2022

Global Information Security Workforce Study 2017

**70** from  
**Security products**

**35** from  
**Security vendors**

Is the average for companies with over 1,000 employees

Nick McQuire, VP Enterprise Research CCS Insight.

# CYBER SCAPE

2021

The image is a collage of logos for various cybersecurity companies, organized into five main categories:

- Network & Infrastructure Security**: Advanced Threat Protection, ICS + OT, NAC, SDN, DDoS Protection, DNS Security, Network Firewall, SASE.
- Web Security**: Endpoint Prevention, COPY, CYREN, Forcepoint, iBOSS, McAfee, Menlo Security, imperva.
- Endpoint Security**: Endpoint Detection & Response, Belden, COMODO, CYBERX, endian, FORTINET, McAfee, MENLO, Sophos, Tenable.
- Application Security**: WAF & Application Security, A10, AhnLab, Barracuda, Check Point, CEQUENCE, ContentKeeper, FORTINET, FortiGuard, Imperva, Palo Alto Networks, RAPiDn, Screen, Sh-PE, Trend Micro, Acunetix, BeyondTrust, BROADCOM, CYBERARK, eset, HYSOLATE, McAfee, Microsoft, Panda, RAPiDn, Screen, Sh-PE, Trend Micro, Veracode, Webroot, Zscaler.

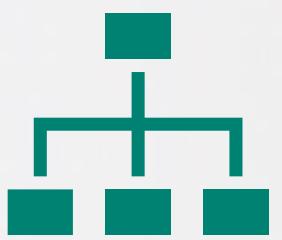
The image is a horizontal collage of logos for various cybersecurity companies, organized into three main sections: MSSP, Data Security, and Mobile Security. The MSSP section includes logos for traditional and advanced MSSPs like AT&T, BT, Cisco, IBM, KPMG, PwC, RAPID7, and Unisys. The Data Security section covers encryption, DLP, data privacy, and data-centric security with logos from companies like Akamai, BAE Systems, Cylance, Darktrace, ESET, Forcepoint, Fortanix, Fortinet, F-Secure, GFI Software, McAfee, Microsoft, NortonLifeLock, Palo Alto Networks, Symantec, ThreatConnect, Trend Micro, TSI, and Vade. The Mobile Security section includes logos for BlackBerry, Check Point, Cybereason, Draven, ESET, Fortinet, Kaspersky, McAfee, Microsoft, NortonLifeLock, Norton, Palo Alto Networks, Symantec, ThreatConnect, Trend Micro, TSI, and Vade.

"In design principles, means that software / architecture / infrastructure is designed from the foundation to be secure"



## Built-in Security

- Built into platform design
- Security management and operation simplified
- No add-on resources



## Bolt-on Security

- Not integrated
- Complex
- Operational burden
- Limited Utilization
- Vendor Contract Lock in



# Best of Breed — Pros and Cons

## Pros

- No vendor lock-in
- Components can be best in class
- No CISO has been fired by best-of-breed purchases
- Vendors focus on their area of expertise

## Cons

- No centralized policy management
- No centralized threat database
- Slower incident response
- Multiple vendors for support and licensing
- No centralized playbooks and automation
- Integrations are spotty or nonexistent
- Different vendors have different types of management, usage and scripting

# Summary: Top Security and Risk Trends

The Top Security & Risk Management Trends for 2021 (Gartner Webinar)

1

Remote Work Is the  
New Normal

2

The “Cybersecurity  
Mesh” Architecture

3

Security Product  
Consolidation

4

Identity  
First Security

5

Machine Identity  
Management

6

Breach and Attack  
Simulation Tools

7

Privacy Enhancing  
Computation

8

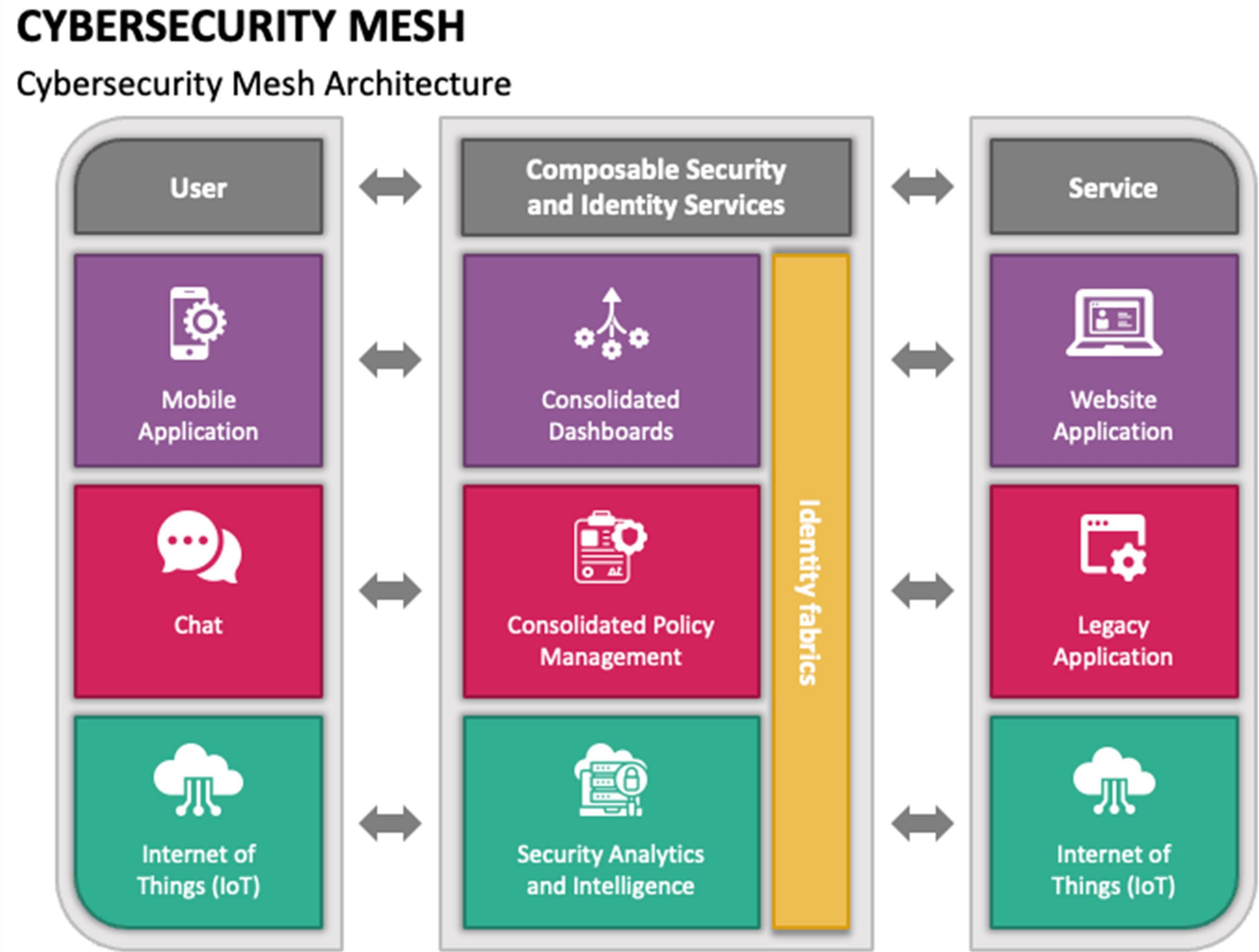
Boards Are  
Adding Cybersecurity

# What is CSMA ? (Gartner's definition)

Cybersecurity mesh, or cybersecurity mesh architecture (CSMA), is a collaborative ecosystem of tools and controls to secure a modern, distributed enterprise.

It builds on a strategy of integrating composable, distributed security tools by centralizing the data and control plane to achieve more effective collaboration between tools.

Outcomes include enhanced capabilities for detection, more efficient responses, consistent policy, posture and playbook management, and more adaptive and granular access control — all of which lead to better security.



# What is CSMA ? (Gartner's definition)

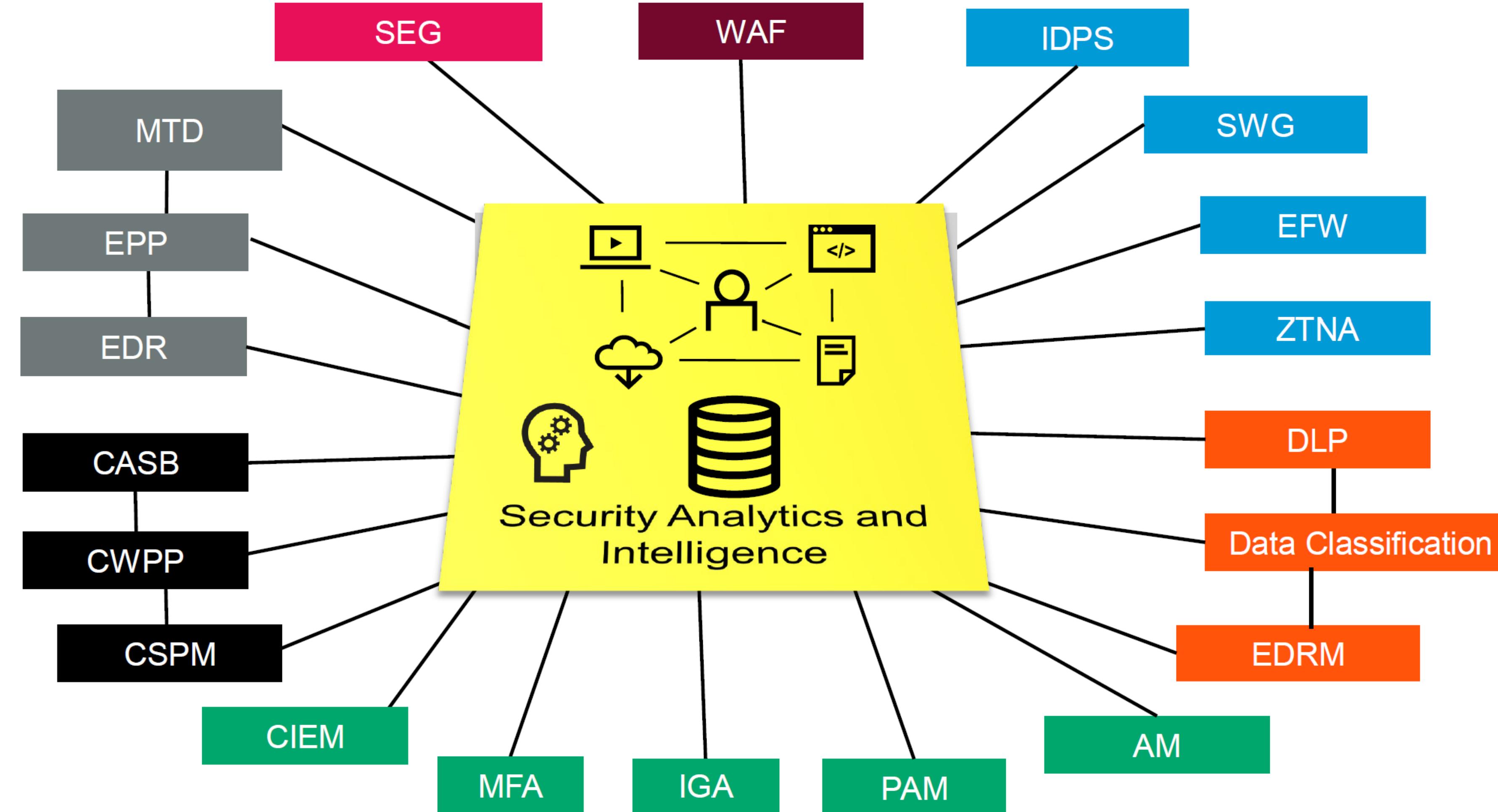
In essence, each tool in the IT infrastructure within the CSMA operates as a cog in a greater machine. The framework proposed by Gartner is based on four layers:

- Security analysis and intelligence: which analyses past cybersecurity attacks, as well as data and lessons from other tools, to inform future trigger responses and actions
- Distributed identity fabric: a decentralization of identity management, identity proofing and entitlement management, creating an environment of adaptive access
- Consolidated policy and posture management: the ability to translate central policy into native configuration of each individual security tool
- Consolidated dashboards: offering a holistic view of the entire security ecosystem
- The CSMA framework appears to offer significant benefits over the traditional IT security model.

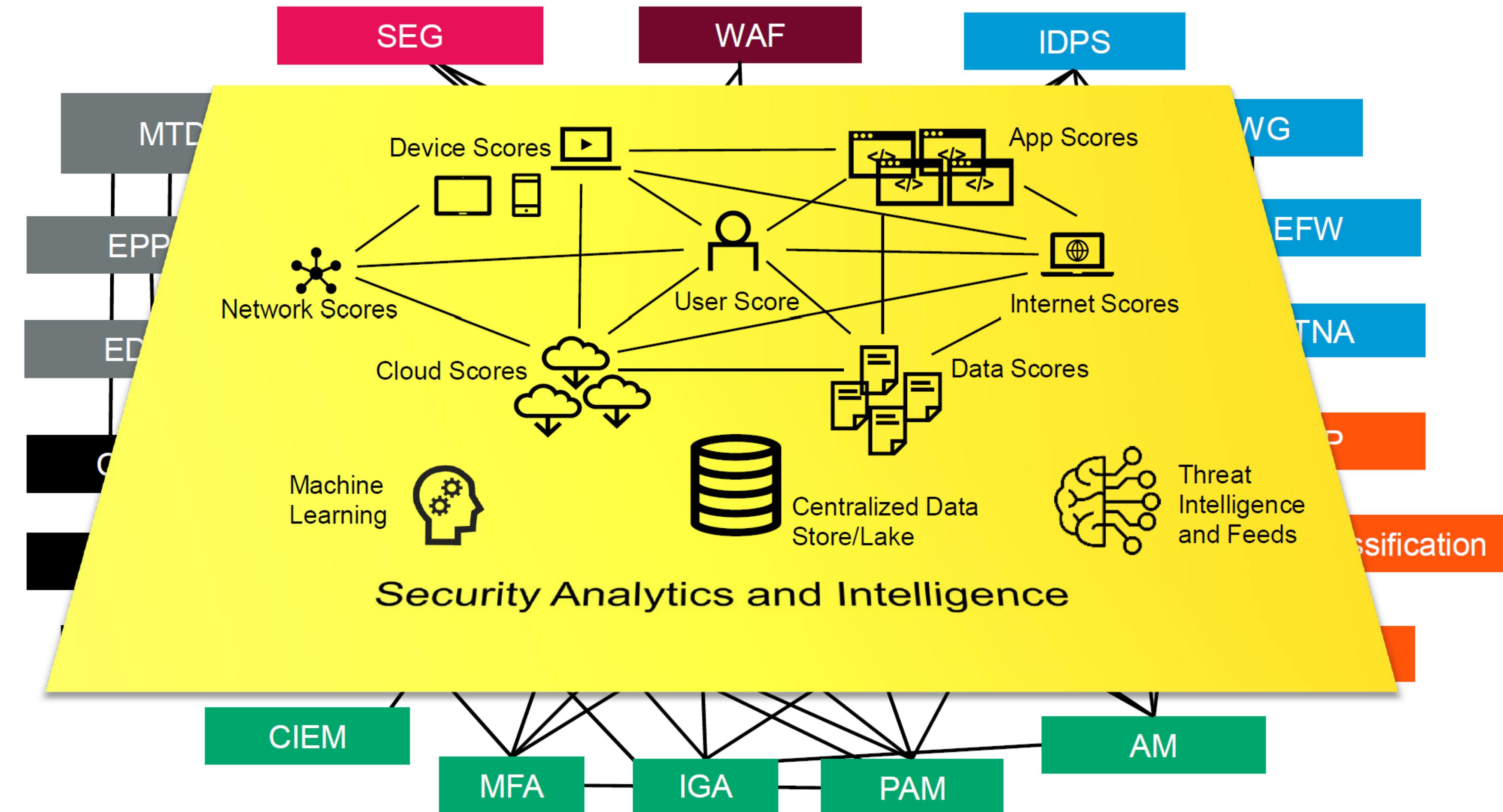
## CYBERSECURITY MESH

By 2024, organisations adopting cybersecurity mesh architecture will reduce the financial impact of individual security incidents by an average of 90%.

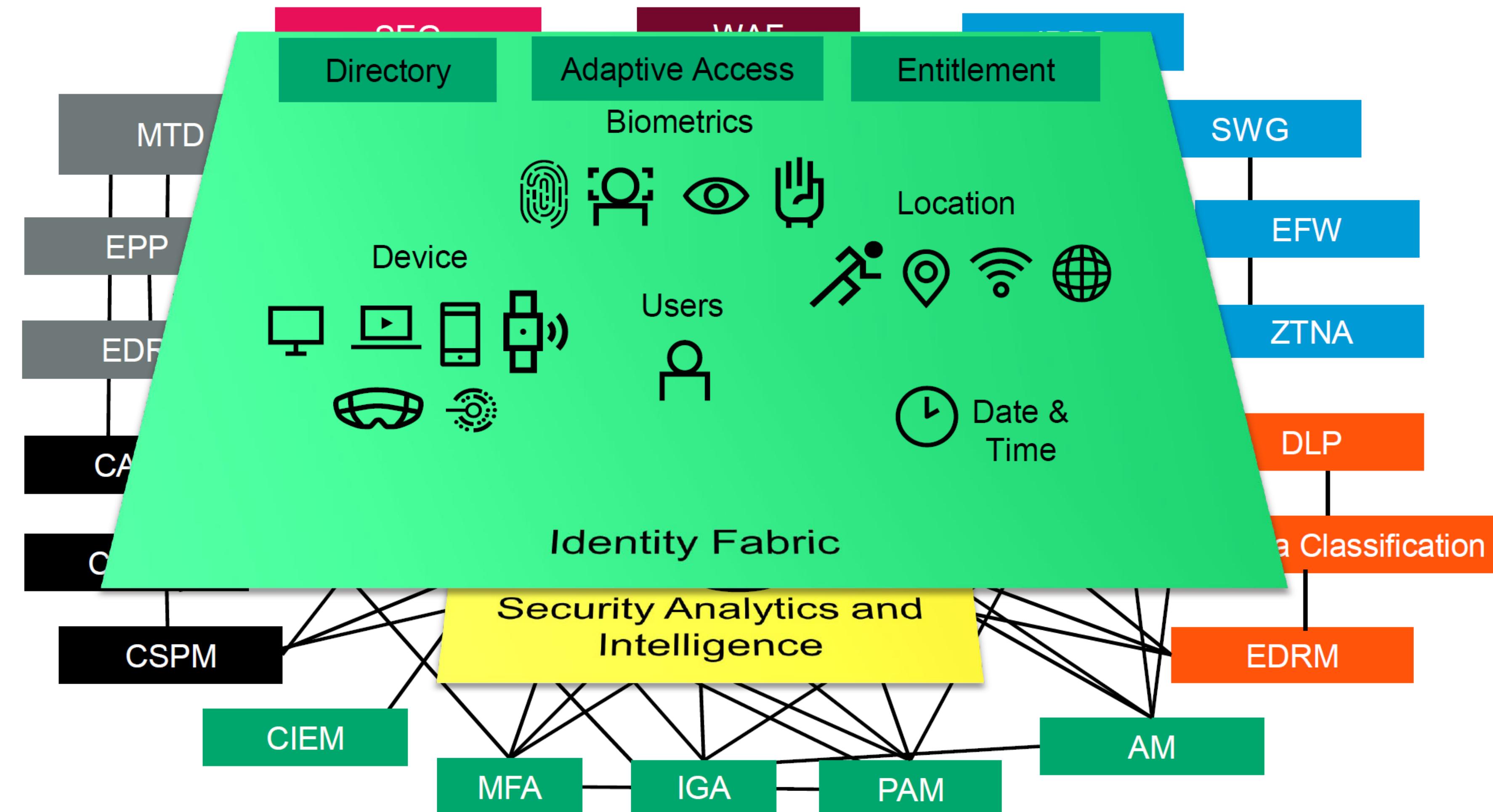
# How to Build a Cybersecurity Mesh Architecture



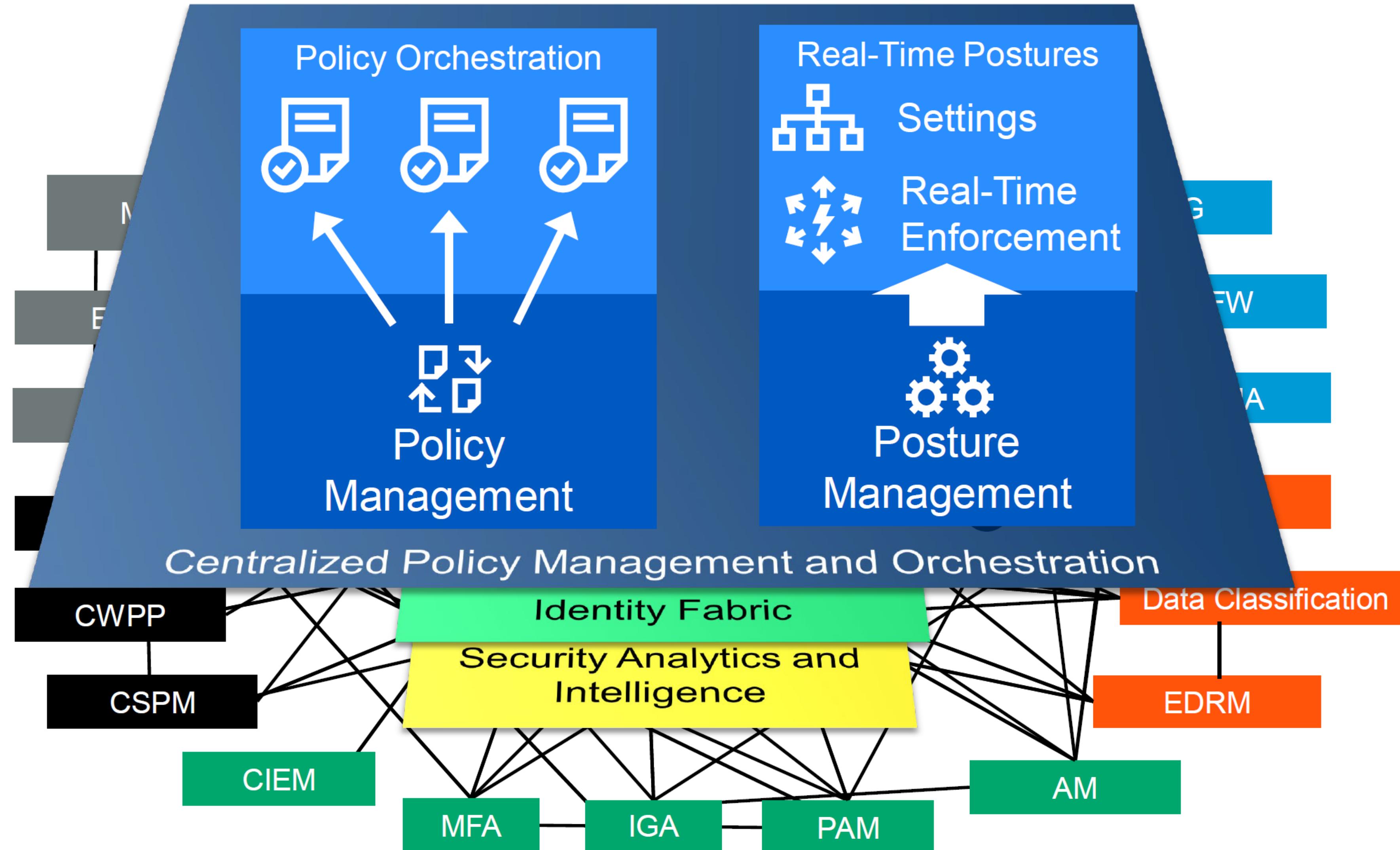
# Security Analytics and Intelligence Layer



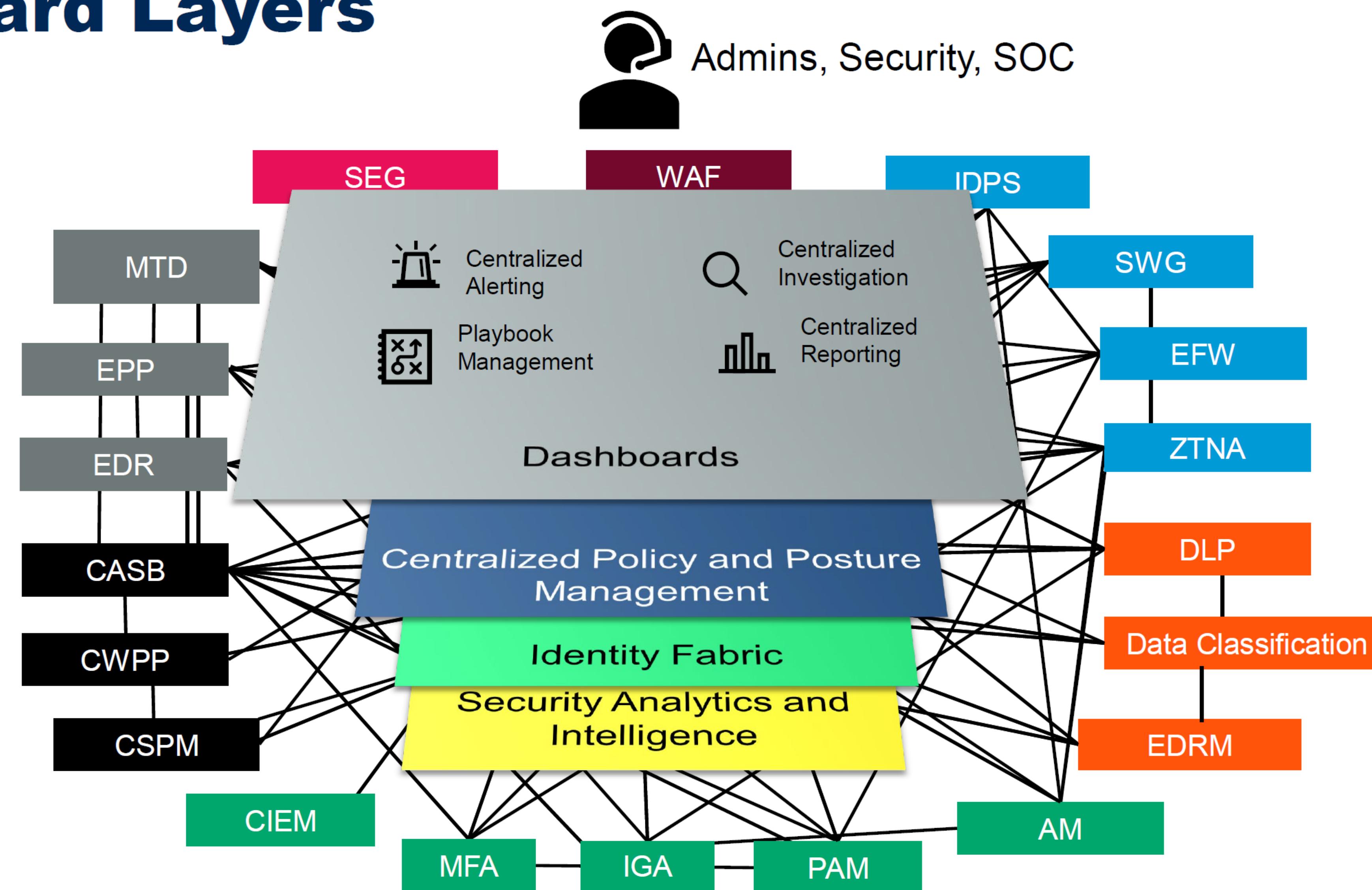
# Identity Layer



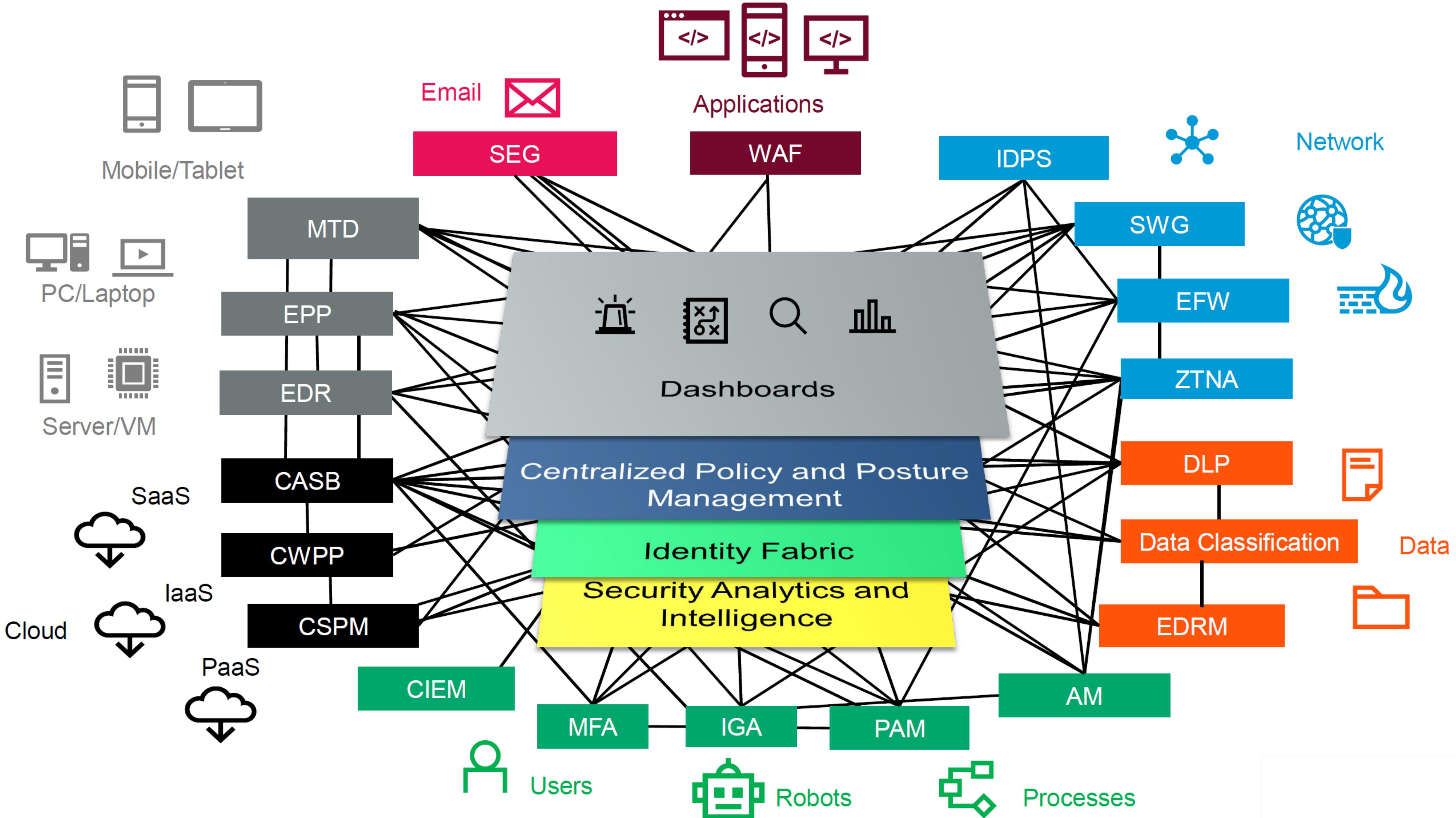
# Policy and Posture Management Layer



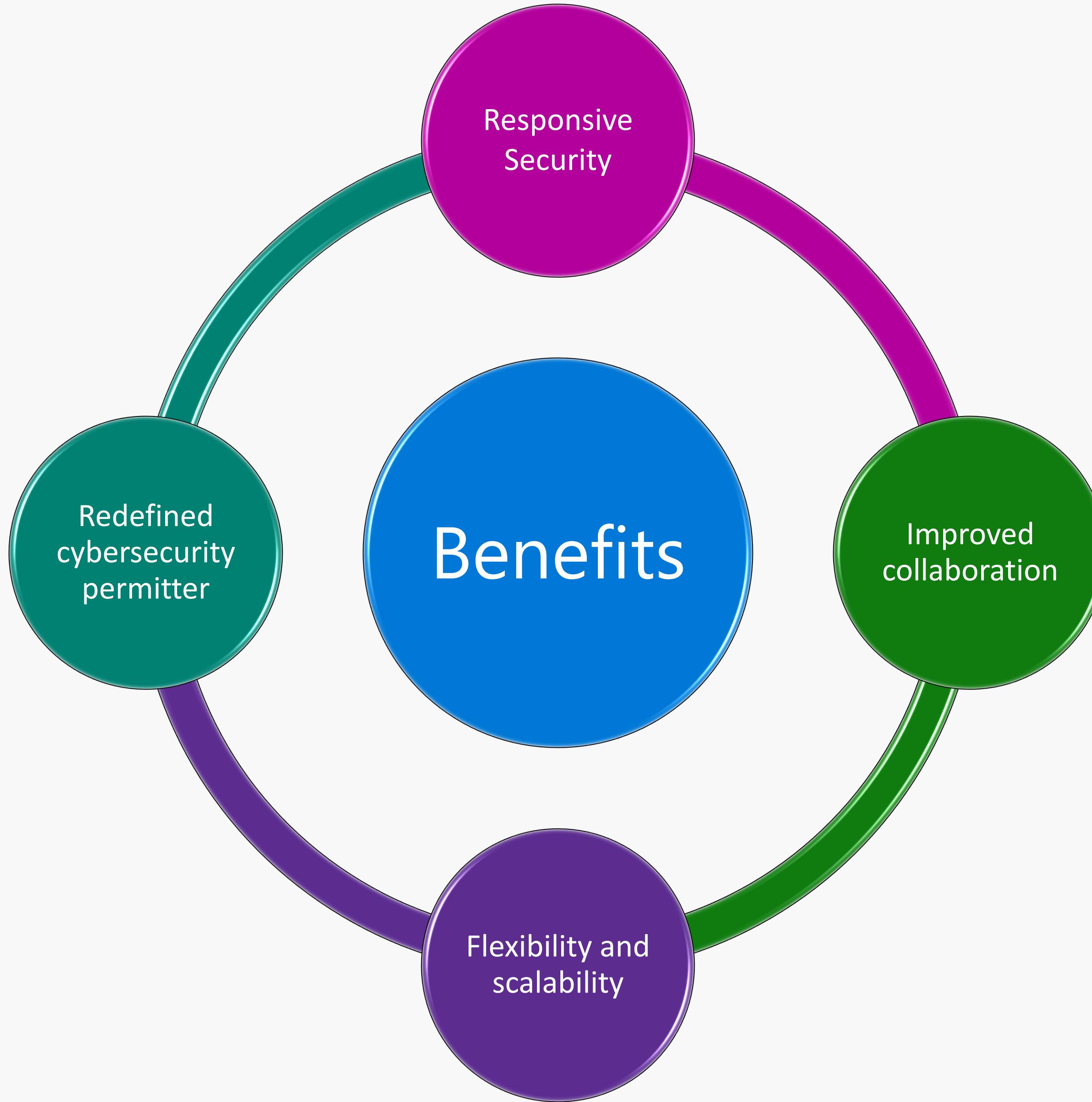
# Dashboard Layers



# Cybersecurity Mesh Architecture Complete



# Benefits of CSMA



- Cybersecurity mesh architecture (CSMA) provides a foundational support layer that enables distinct security services to work together to create a dynamic security environment.
- CSMA provides a more consistent security posture to support increased agility for the composable enterprise. As organizations invest in new technology to enable digitalization, CSMA provides a flexible and scalable security foundation that provides bolt-on security for assets in hybrid and multi-cloud environments.
- CSMA creates a better defensive posture through a collaborative approach between integrated security tools and detective and predictive analytics. The outcome is enhanced responsiveness to breaches and attacks.
- Cybersecurity technology delivered through this model takes less time to deploy and maintain, while minimizing the potential for security dead ends that cannot support future needs. This frees cybersecurity teams for more value-added activities.

# Challenges of CSMA



# Recommendations

- ✓ Build supportive layers for a long-term CSMA strategy — security analytics, identity fabric, policy management, dashboards.
- ✓ Evaluate security controls with interoperability in mind: inversion of control APIs, standards support, extensible analytics.
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with current and emerging standards, and open-source code projects as a potential alternative to supplement vendor interoperability gaps.

# Cybersecurity Mesh Architecture (CSMA)

## Dashboards

 Centralized Dashboard

 Centralized Alerting

 Centralized Investigation

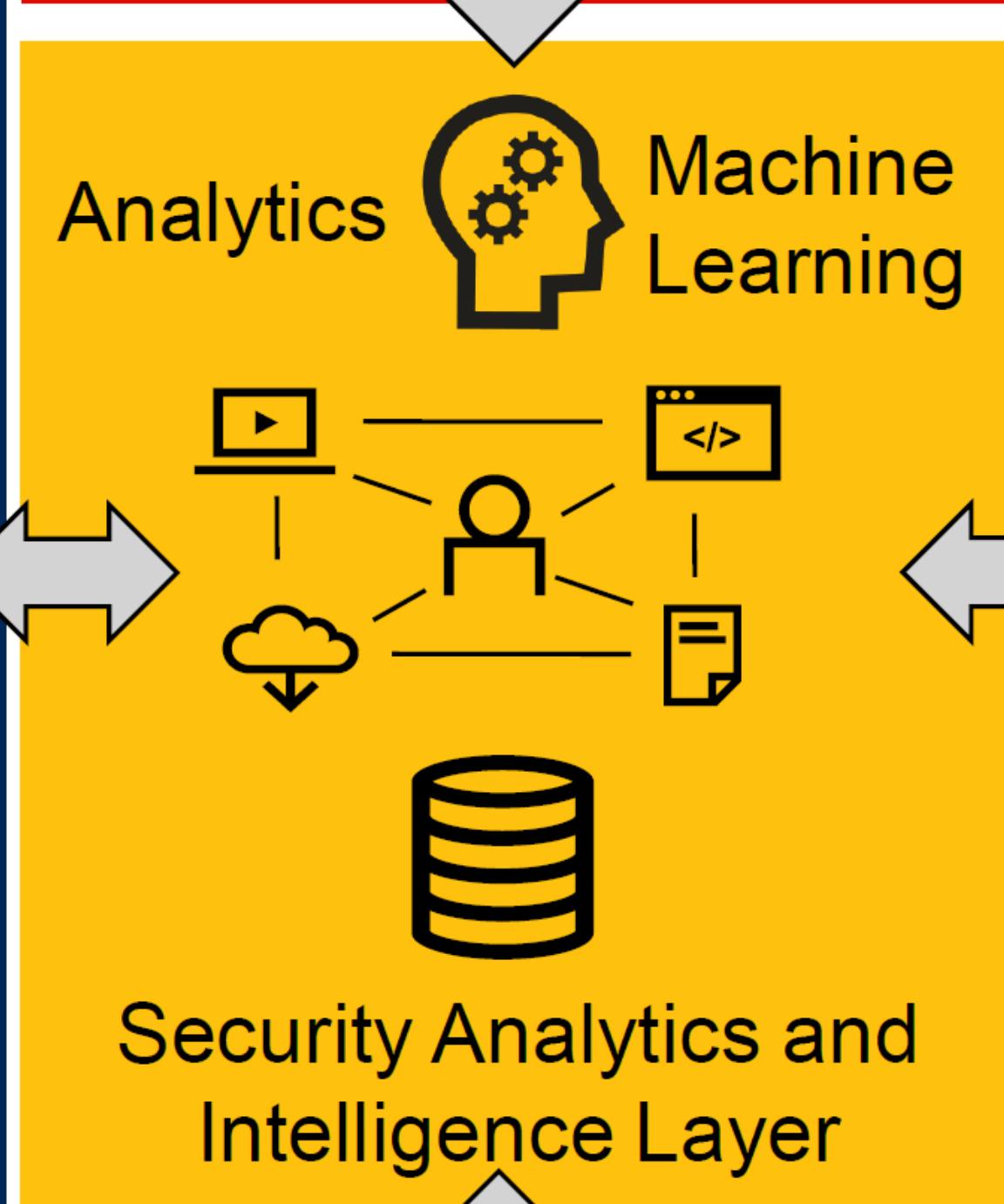
 Playbook Management

 Centralized Reporting

## Centralized Policy Management

## Policy Orchestration

## Posture Management



## Protection

WAF

ZTNA

IDPS

SWG

EFW

DLP

Data Classification

EDRM

SEG

Email Security

EPP

EDR/XDR

MTD

UEM/UES

PAM

IGA

AM

MFA

CASB

CWPP

CSPM

## Assets



Applications



Network



Data



Email



Server/VM/Container



PC/Laptop



Mobile/Tablet



Entities



Cloud

## Identity Fabric Dynamic Context

### Users



Biometrics



Device



Location



Date & Time



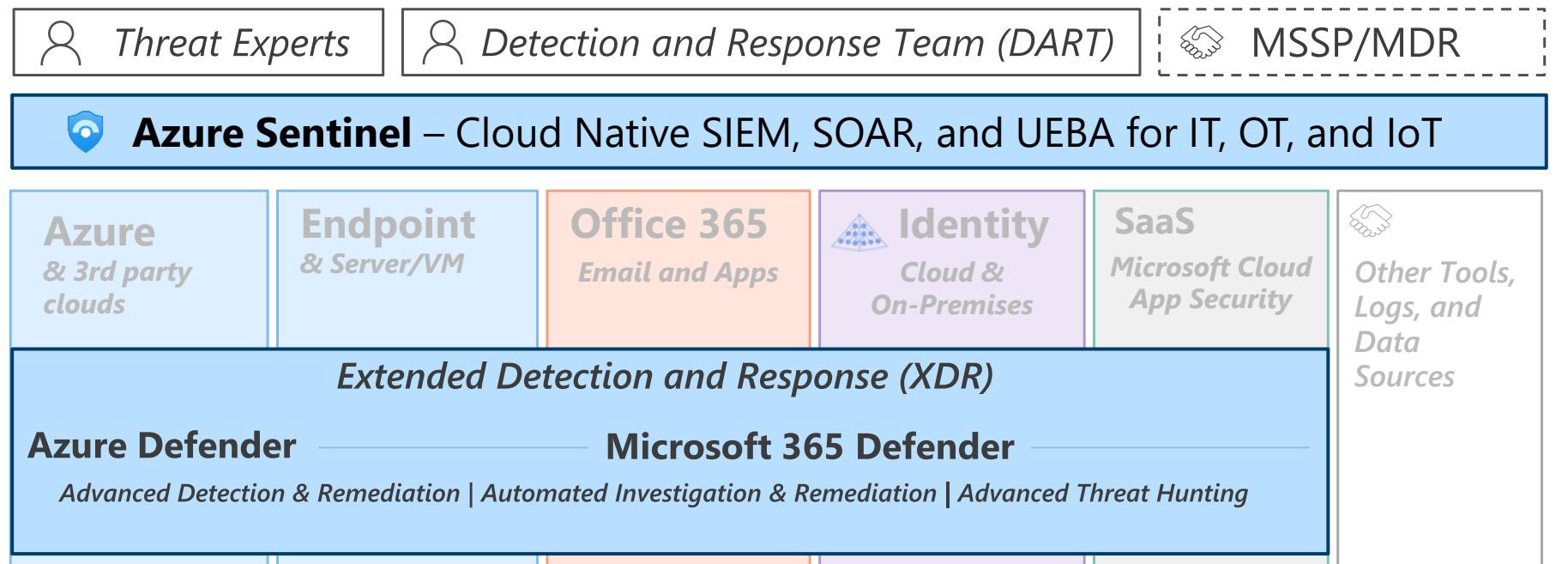
Other Contextual Attributes and Signals

Directory Services

Adaptive Access

Entitlements Management

## Security Operations / SOC



# Cybersecurity Reference Architecture

Security modernization with Zero Trust Principles

May 2021 – <https://aka.ms/MCRA>

This is interactive!

## Security Guidance

1. Present Slide
  2. Hover for Description
  3. Click for more information
1. [Security Documentation](#)
  2. [Microsoft Best Practices](#)
  3. Azure Security [Top 10 | Benchmarks | CAF | WAF](#)

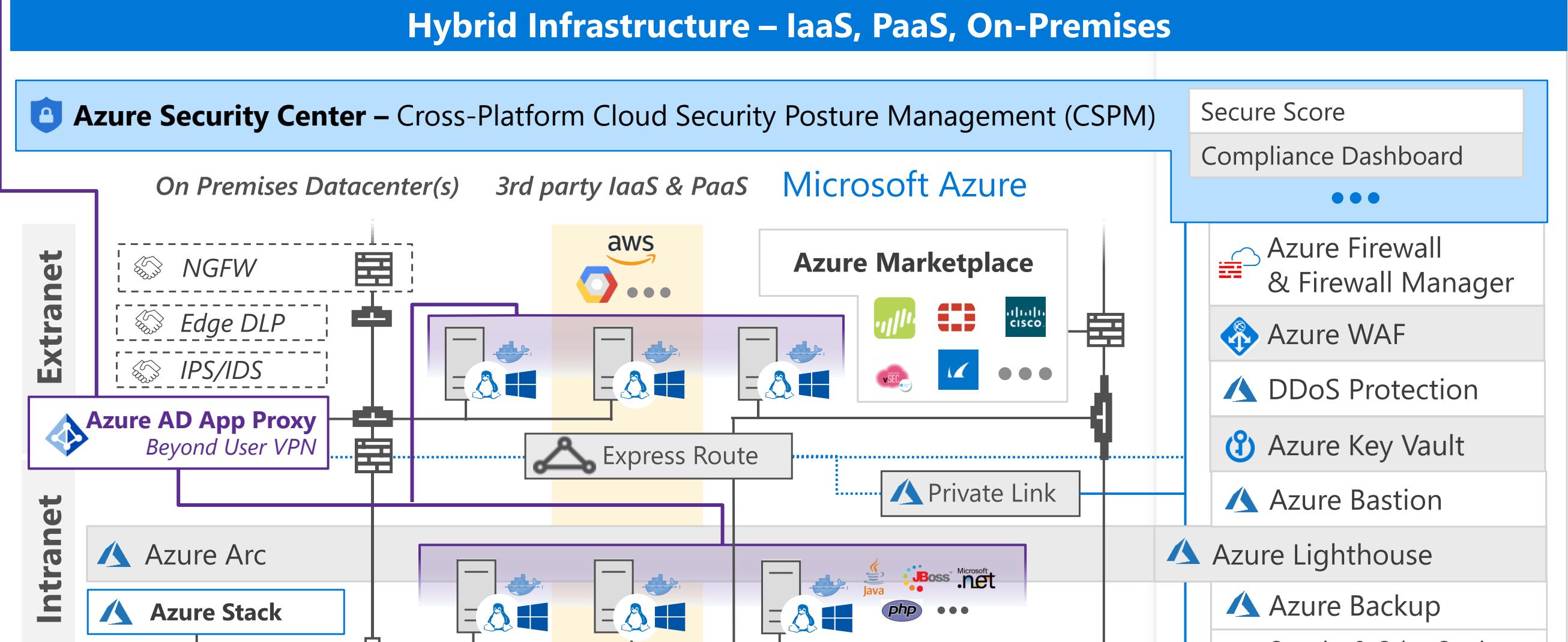
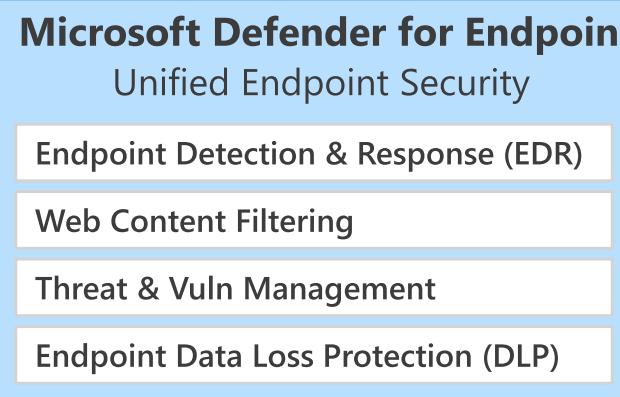
## Software as a Service (SaaS)



## Identity & Access

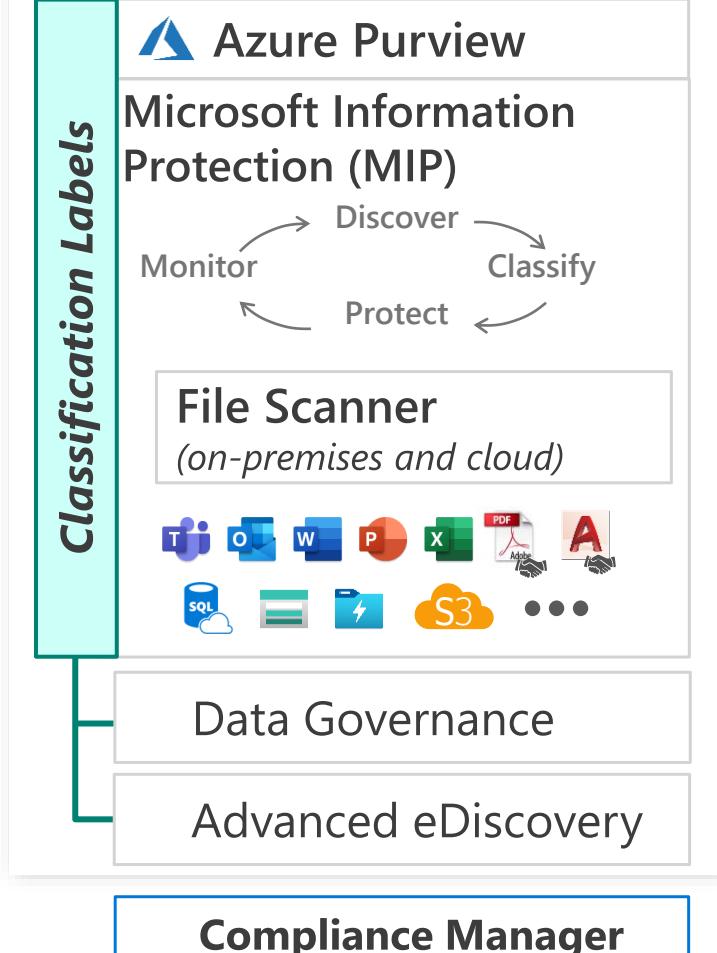
**Conditional Access** – Zero Trust Access Control decisions based on explicit validation of user trust and endpoint integrity

## Endpoints & Devices

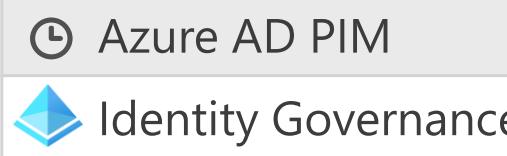
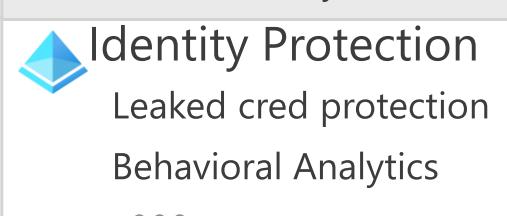
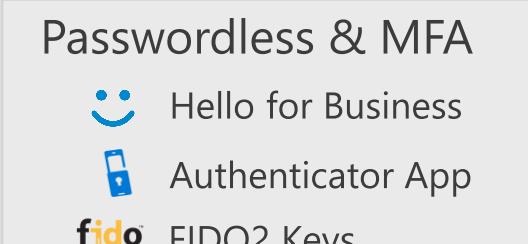


**Securing Privileged Access** – Secure Accounts, Devices, Intermediaries, and interfaces to enable and protect privileged users

## Information Protection

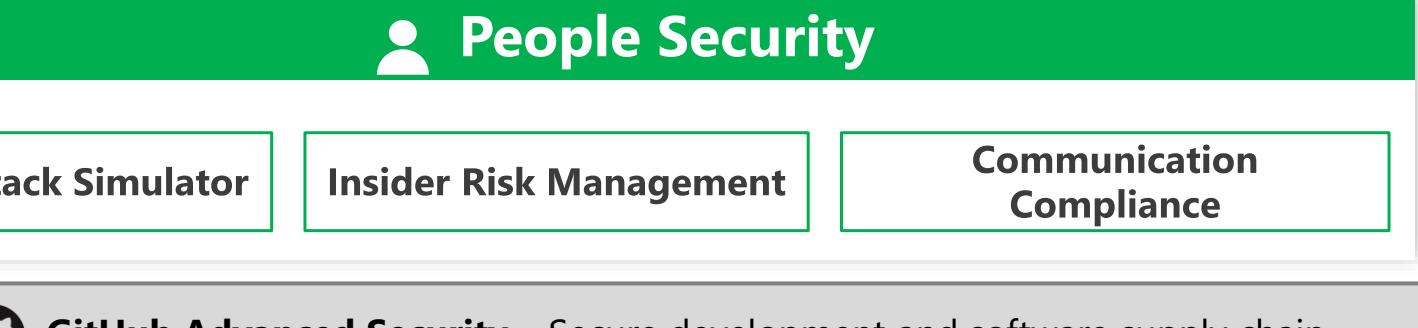
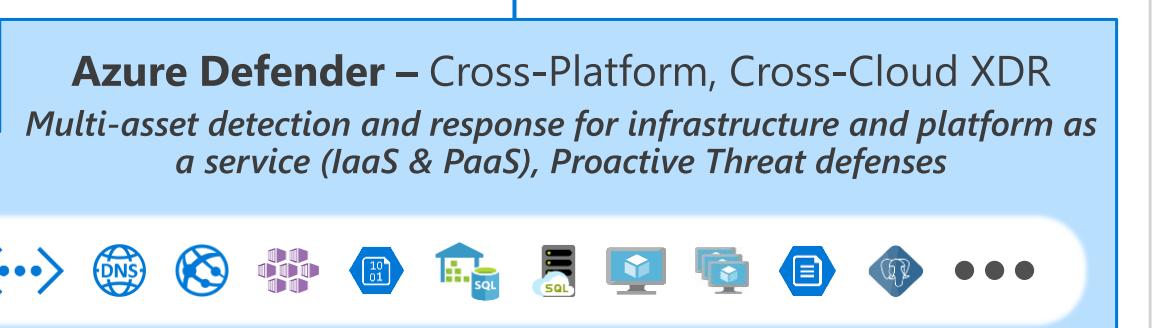
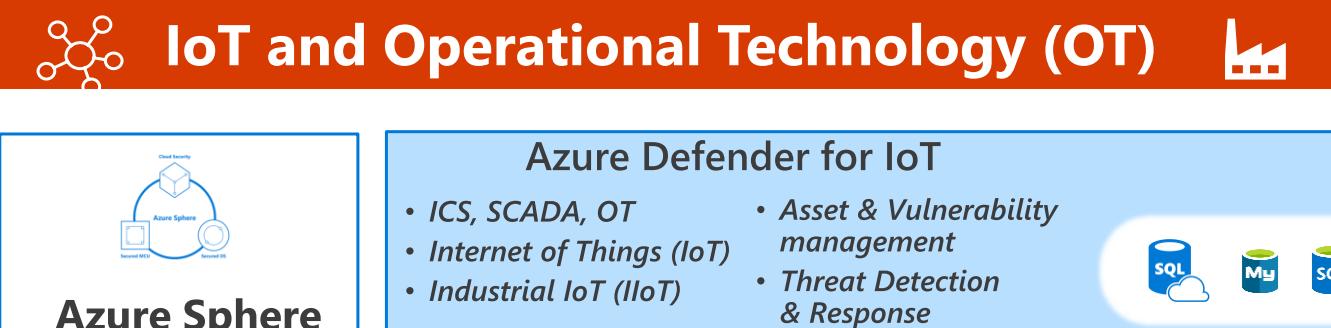


## Azure Active Directory



**Microsoft Secure Score** – Measure your security posture, and plan/prioritize rapid improvement with included guidance

**Microsoft Compliance Score** – Prioritize, measure, and plan improvement actions against controls



## Conclusion

- Cybersecurity mesh architecture is a distributed security architecture that decentralizes security controls across the network, application, and data layers.
- Cybersecurity mesh architecture provides enhanced security, scalability, and resilience, making it ideal for managing modern distributed systems such as microservices, cloud-native applications, and IoT.
- Implementation of cybersecurity mesh architecture requires careful planning, integration, training, and maintenance to ensure its effectiveness and address new security threats.

# Thank You !

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