



Defense Against the Dark Arts: Securing hybrid work against known vulnerabilities and attacks in 2021

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Awareness >> Behavior >> Culture

Each organization processing
sensitive data **must aim for a**
responsible security culture.

Awareness comes with experience



Issue No.

Fee

Rem
Type

O/D

S/C

T/P

PRACTICAL DRIVING TEST PASS CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that:

Behavior comes with awareness



**Culture comes
with
understanding**



Culture comes with understanding

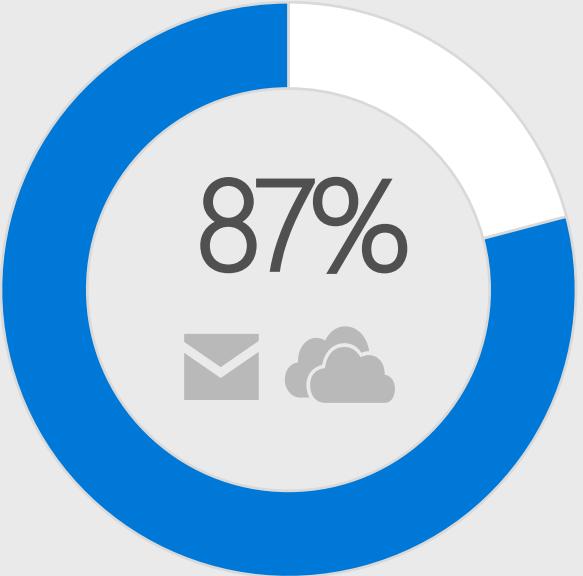
Did you know that one of the main reasons for information loss are...

UNEDUCATED EMPLOYEES

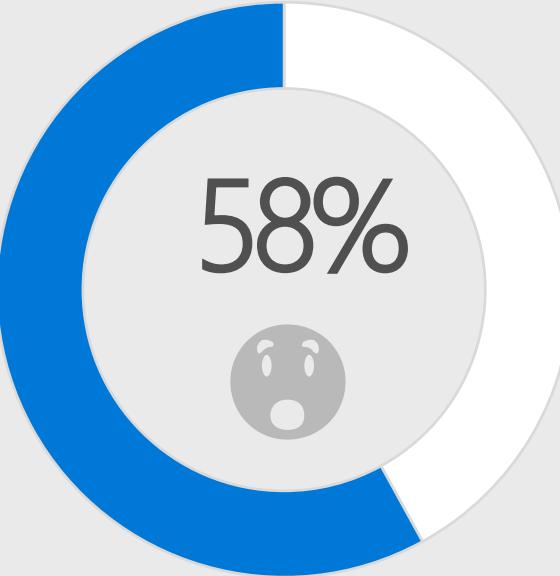
THE TOP CAUSE OF
ORGANIZATIONAL
DATA BREACHES:
"NEGLIGENT INSIDERS"

TODAY'S ORGANIZATIONS
EXPERIENCE AN AVERAGE OF
14.4 INCIDENTS/YEAR
OF UNINTENTIONAL DATA LOSS
THROUGH EMPLOYEE NEGLIGENCE

Data Leakage

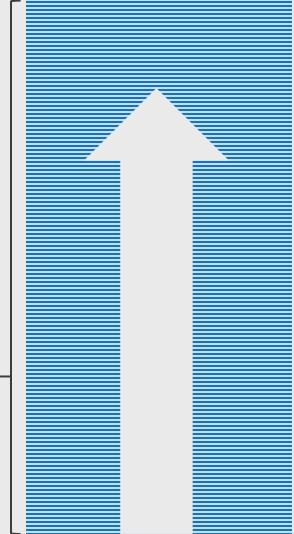


...of senior managers admit to **regularly** uploading work files to a personal email or cloud account¹



Have accidentally sent sensitive information to the **wrong person**¹

\$240
PER RECORD



Average per record **cost of a data breach** across all industries²

¹Stroz Friedberg, "On The Pulse: Information Security In American Business," 2013

²HIPPA Secure Now, "A look at the cost of healthcare data breaches," Art Gross, March 30, 2012

The background image shows a dense urban landscape with numerous skyscrapers, including the Shanghai World Financial Center, illuminated against a blue and orange sky at dusk. A large, stylized text overlay is positioned in the lower-left quadrant.

We have **the best** security solutions...



...but the security landscape has changed.

Cybersecurity Ventures predicts
there will be additional 3.5 million
cybersecurity job openings by 2021

*Source: [Cybersecurity Ventures](#)

Security Operations Center (SOC)

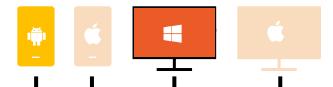
Microsoft Threat Experts | Incident Response, Recovery, & CyberOps Services

Azure Sentinel – Cloud Native SIEM and SOAR (Preview)



Alert & Log Integration

Clients



Intune MDM/MAM

System Center Configuration Manager

Microsoft Defender ATP

Secure Score
Threat Analytics

Windows 10 Enterprise Security

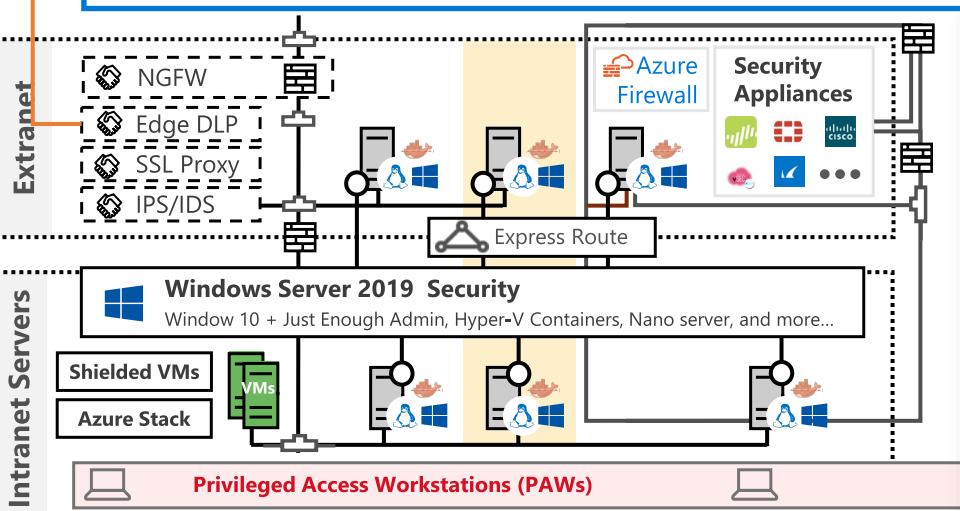
Network protection
Credential protection
Exploit protection
Reputation analysis
Full Disk Encryption
Attack surface reduction

S Mode

Hybrid Cloud Infrastructure

Microsoft Azure

Azure Security Center – Cross Platform Visibility, Protection, and Threat Detection



IoT and Operational Technology

Windows 10 IoT

Azure IoT Security

IoT Security Maturity Model

Azure Sphere

IoT Security Architecture

Included with Azure (VMs/etc.)
Premium Security Feature

Security Development Lifecycle (SDL)

Software as a Service

Office 365

Secure Score

Customer Lockbox

Dynamics 365



Information Protection

Conditional Access – Identity Perimeter Management

Cloud App Security

Azure Information Protection (AIP)

Discover
Classify
Protect
Monitor

Hold Your Own Key (HYOK)

AIP Scanner



Office 365

- Data Loss Protection
- Data Governance
- eDiscovery

Azure SQL Threat Detection

SQL Encryption & Data Masking

Azure SQL Info Protection

Microsoft Defender ATP

Azure AD Identity Protection
Leaked cred protection
Behavioral Analytics
...

Azure AD PIM

Multi-Factor Authentication

Azure AD B2B

Azure AD B2C

Hello for Business

MIM PAM

Azure ATP

Active Directory

ESAE Admin Forest



Compliance Manager

Trust Center

Intelligent Security Graph

"THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF BIG COMPANIES, THOSE WHO'VE BEEN HACKED, AND THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW THEY'VE BEEN HACKED."

-JAMES COMEY, FBI DIRECTOR

200+

Median number of days attackers are present on a victims network before detection

80

Days after detection to full recovery

\$3 Trillion

Impact of lost productivity and growth

\$3.5 Million

Average cost of a data breach (15% YoY increase)

7 Security Issues that just should not happen

Here comes the 1st issue...



#1: PATHETIC PASSWORDS

15%

IN APPROXIMATELY 15% OF PHYSICAL SECURITY TESTS PERFORMED AT CLIENT SITES WRITTEN PASSWORDS WERE FOUND ON AND AROUND USER WORKSTATIONS

THE MOST COMMON CORPORATE PASSWORD IS **Password1** BECAUSE IT JUST BARELY MEETS THE MINIMUM COMPLEXITY REQUIREMENTS OF ACTIVE DIRECTORY FOR LENGTH, CAPITALIZATION AND NUMERICAL FIGURES



#2: PEEPING ROM

WORKERS SURVEYED SAY THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SNEAK A PEEK AT A CO-WORKER'S OR STRANGER'S WORK STATION IN THE WORKPLACE OR A PUBLIC PLACE



OF MALWARE IS KEY LOGGER OR APPLICATION-SPECIFIC – WHICH OFTEN REQUIRES DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF OR PHYSICAL ACCESS TO A TARGETED SYSTEM

Bootkey:

Class names for keys from HKLM\SYSTEM\CCS\Control\Lsa

Data
GBG
JD
Skew1

\$MACHINE.ACC
(SYSTEM's Clear Text Password)

DPAPI_SYSTEM (Master Keys)
HKLM\SECURITY\Policy\Secrets

More information: <http://cqureacademy.com/blog>

SAM/NTDS.dit
(MD4 Hashes)

C:\windows\system32\config
C:\windows\system32\NTDS

LSA Secrets
(Service Accounts)

HKLM\SECURITY\Policy\Secrets

MSDCC2

(Cached Logon Data)
HKLM\SECURITY\Cache

Classic Data Protection API

⌚ Based on the following components:

Password, data blob, entropy

⌚ Is not prone to password resets!

Protects from outsiders when being in offline access

Effectively protects users data

⌚ Stores the password history

You need to be able to get access to some of your passwords from the past

Conclusion: OS greatly helps us to protect secrets



Classic DPAPI Flow: getting the system's secrets (easy)



Cached Logons: It used to be like this...

⌚ Windows 2003 / XP

The encryption algorithm is RC4.

The hash is used to verify authentication is calculated as follows:

DCC1 = MD4 (MD4 (Unicode (password)) .

LowerUnicode (username))

is

DCC1 = MD4 (hashNTLM . LowerUnicode (username))

⌚ Usage in the attack

Before the attacks facilitated by pass-the-hash, we can only rejoice the "salting" by the username.

There are a number pre-computed tables for users as Administrator facilitating attacks on these hashes.



Cached Logons

Windows Vista / 2008 +

The encryption algorithm is AES128.

The hash is used to verify authentication is calculated as follows:

$MSDCC2 = PBKDF2(HMAC-SHA1, \text{Iterations}, DCC1, \text{LowerUnicode(username)})$

with DCC 1 calculated in the same way as for 2003 / XP.

Usage in the attack

There is actually not much of a difference with XP / 2003!

No additional salting.

PBKDF2 introduced a new variable: the number of iterations SHA1 with the same salt as before (username).

Sysmon stores a hash base



Encrypted Cached Credentials: Legend

Name	Value	Start	Size	Color	Comment
struct Header h		0h	96	Fg: Bg:	
ushort uname_len	16	0h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort domain_len	10	2h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort mail_nick_len	16	4h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort cn_len	28	6h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort u1	0	8h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort logon_script_len	0	Ah	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort profile_path_len	0	Ch	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort home_dir_len	0	Eh	2	Fg: Bg:	
uint user_sid	1163	10h	4	Fg: Bg:	
uint primary_group_id	513	14h	4	Fg: Bg:	
uint u2	2	18h	4	Fg: Bg:	
ushort group_sids_len	10	1Ch	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort domain_netbios_name_len	24	1Eh	2	Fg: Bg:	
FILETIME last_local_logon	04/25/2015 18:47:22	20h	8	Fg: Bg:	
ushort u3	4	28h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort u4	1	2Ah	2	Fg: Bg:	
uint u5	1	2Ch	4	Fg: Bg:	
ushort u6	1	30h	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort u7	10	32h	2	Fg: Bg:	
uint u8	16	34h	4	Fg: Bg:	
uint u9	16	38h	4	Fg: Bg:	
ushort domain_name_len	18	3Ch	2	Fg: Bg:	
ushort email_len	36	3Eh	2	Fg: Bg:	
byte iv[16]	J0& c>Ã"Y—waeºÍRº	40h	16	Fg: Bg:	

Encrypted Cached Credentials

$\text{DK} = \text{PBKDF2}(\text{PRF}, \text{Password}, \text{Salt}, c, \text{dkLen})$

Microsoft's implementation: MSDCC2=

PBKDF2(HMAC-SHA1, DCC1, username, 10240,

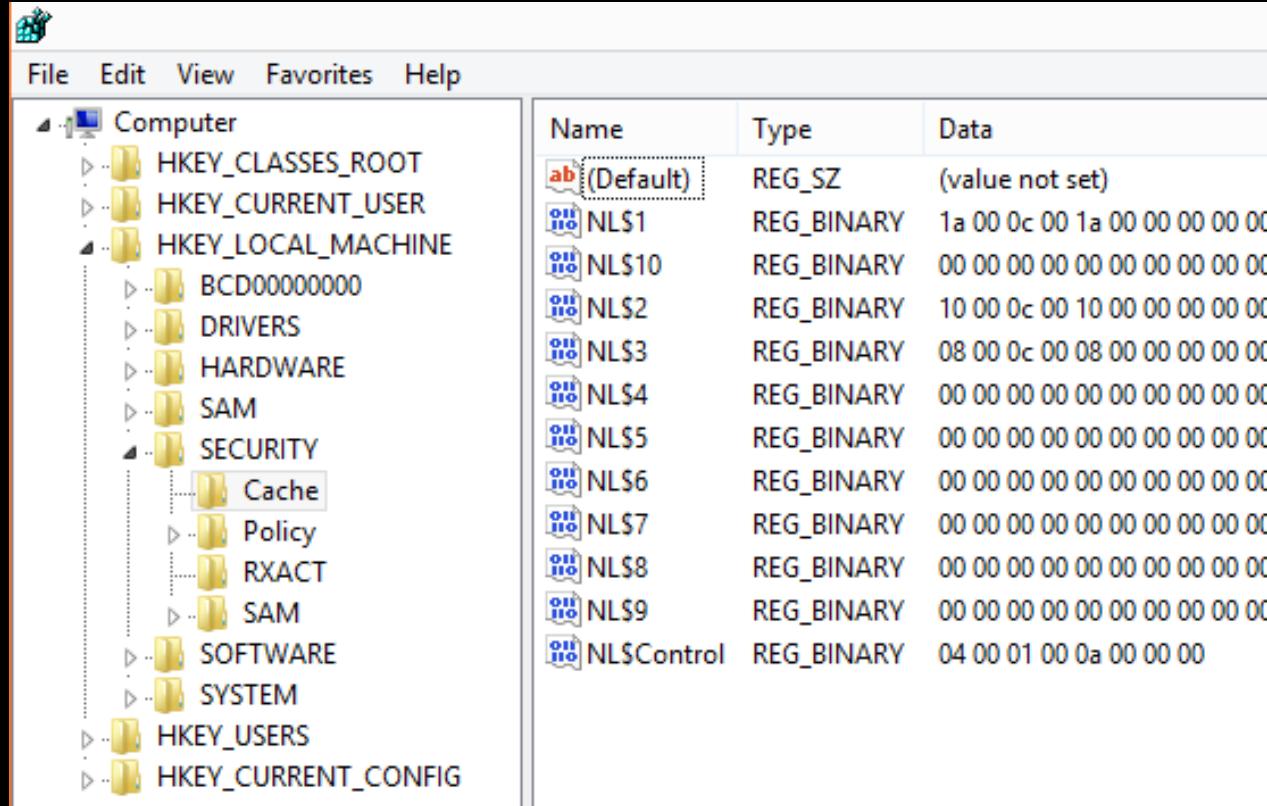
Cached Logons: Iterations

The number of iterations in PBKDF2, it is configurable through the registry:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SECURITY\Cache DWORD
(32) NL\$IterationCount

If the number is less than 10240, it is a multiplier by 1024 (20 therefore gives 20480 iterations)

If the number is greater than 10240, it is the number of iterations (rounded to 1024)



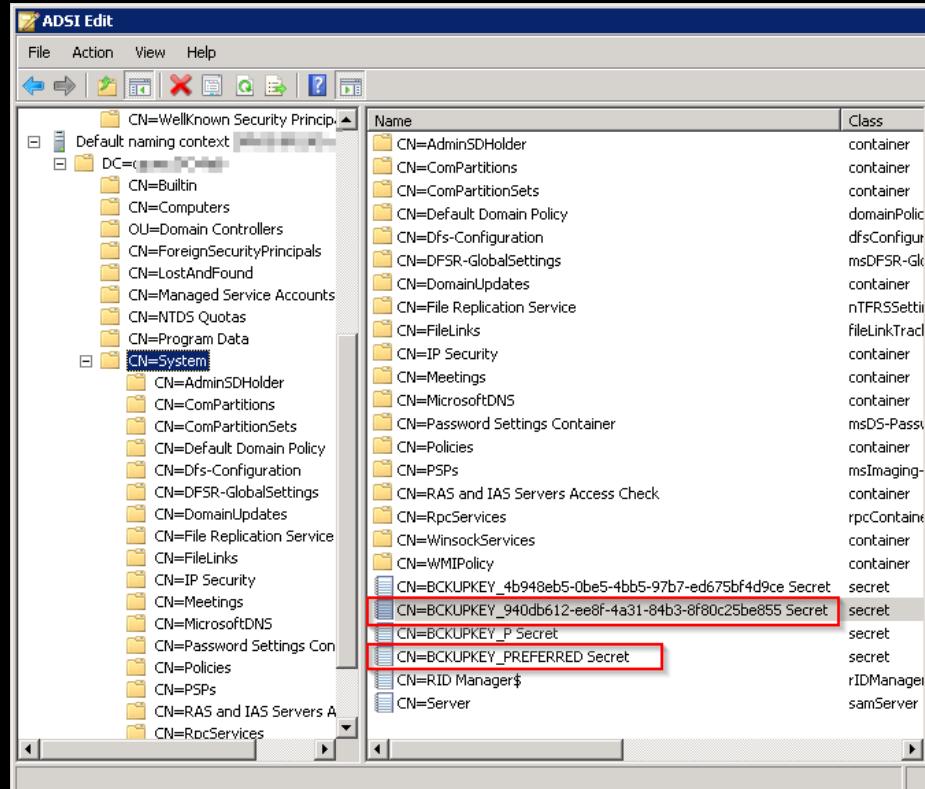
The screenshot shows the Windows Registry Editor interface. The left pane displays a tree view of registry keys under 'Computer'. The 'Cache' key under 'SECURITY' is selected. The right pane is a table showing registry values for the 'Cache' key.

Name	Type	Data
ab (Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
NLS1	REG_BINARY	1a 00 0c 00 1a 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS10	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS2	REG_BINARY	10 00 0c 00 10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS3	REG_BINARY	08 00 0c 00 08 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS4	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS5	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS6	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS7	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS8	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLS9	REG_BINARY	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
NLSControl	REG_BINARY	04 00 01 00 0a 00 00 00

Classic DPAPI Flow: getting the user's secrets



Retrieving Golden Key from LSA – CQURE's way



AD secret? HOW?!

LsaRetrievePrivateData0

CQLsassSecretsDumper

LSASS.EXE MEMORY

LSASRV.DLL

G\$BCKUPKEY_PREFERRED

G\$BCKUPKEY_940db612-ee8f-4a31-
84b3-8f80c25be855

RSA private/public key pair

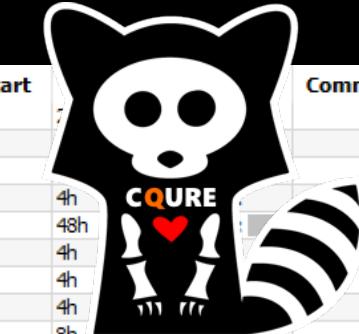
GoldenKey.pfx
CQURE

DPAPI-AD: How did we do it?

DomainKey contains some
GUID and
256-byte len secret – RSA??

*Dude, look in
the AD...*

Name	Value	Start	Comment
struct MasterKeyFile mkf			
uint version	2	0h	
uint unknown1	0	0h	
uint unknown2	0	4h	
> wchar_t guid[36]	36dce03f-6c5e-4e98-83c8-2533a0419b7d	Ch	48h
uint unknown3	0	54h	4h
uint unknown4	0	58h	4h
uint policy	0	5Ch	4h
quad masterkeyLen	136	60h	8h
quad backupkeyLen	104	68h	8h
quad creHistLen	0	70h	8h
quad domainkeyLen	372	78h	8h
struct MasterKey masterkey		80h	88h
uint version	2	80h	4h
> byte iv[16]	5w>2□□□□i□«Ô„ç€¤	84h	10h
uint rounds	24000	94h	4h
uint hashAlgo	32777	98h	4h
uint cipherAlgo	26115	9Ch	4h
> byte cipherText[104]	Ç)•+àã=) <Vi;»□ ñº¤ĐåCEI¶·ÂZ □Ø†<Ä...	A0h	68h
> struct MasterKey backupkey		108h	68h
struct DomainKey domainkey		170h	174h
uint version	2	170h	4h
uint secretLen	256	174h	4h
uint accessCheckLen	88	178h	4h
> struct GUID guidKey	940db612-ee8f-4a31-84b3-8f80c25be855	17Ch	10h
> byte encryptedSecret[256]	Œä/EA½□`EIMiuI#VxåXå@UxJüG²!‰¤ö... 'Ü□gi□šjf@š¤°E9•t³' c□□O-S@6I□...	18Ch	100h
> byte accessCheck[88]		28Ch	58h



DPAPI in pictures Example: KeePass ProtectedUserKey.bin

	Hex Dump																ASCII Dump															
0000h:	01 00 00 00 D0 8C 9D DF	01 15 D1 11 8C 7A 00 C0ĐG..B..Ñ.Gz.À	0h	126h	Fg: Bg: █																										
0010h:	4F C2 97 EB 01 00 00 00 9E 4F 95 AE CF 21 62 46	OÀ-ë...żO•@I!bf	0h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0020h:	AC EA 6B E2 FC FC 23 B3	-êkâù#s.....	4h	10h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0030h:	00 00 10 66 00 00 00 01 00 00 20 00 00 00 5E 67	...f.....^g	14h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0040h:	54 64 F4 D5 D7 E4 CB 14 23 53 B4 8E 4B 44 61 F9	TdôÖxäÈ.#S'ŽKDau	18h	10h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0050h:	CE E3 76 9D F4 25 08 23 44 DC 35 32 C2 70 00 00	Íäv.ô%.#DÜ52Åp..	28h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0060h:	00 00 0E 80 00 00 00 02 00 00 20 00 00 00 D6 BD	...€.....Ö%	2Ch	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0070h:	40 A5 3D 14 B7 6A 84 54 56 6E 6C 03 B8 9D 8D DA	@¥=.j„TVnl...Ú	30h	2h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0080h:	D0 AF C8 1B F2 16 26 E4 1C F3 A3 FA 10 1B 50 00	ĐÈ.ò.&ä.ófú..P.	32h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0090h:	00 00 2F C6 5A 86 0F 66 04 BA 25 D5 C2 A3 89 EB	./ÆZ†.f.%ÖÄf%é	36h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00A0h:	2C 33 E1 38 6E D6 41 0E D3 E9 E7 E3 B7 5D B2 E8	,3á8nÖA.Óéçä.]^è	3Ah	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00B0h:	B4 3F 79 36 0F 6E 1F D1 67 D0 B7 06 D8 C1 20 25	'?y6.n.ÑgĐ..ØA %	3Eh	20h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00C0h:	C1 B5 DF 11 9F DD FF A4 CF BC A6 3E 20 A5 C9 4C	Ápu.ÝýhÍ4;> ¥ÉL	5Eh	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00D0h:	AA D4 C3 16 4F 68 C7 AB B0 66 80 E5 DA 2D 6E A0	*ÖÄ.OhÇ«°f€åÚ-n	62h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00E0h:	CA 35 40 00 00 00 1D 0D 07 C3 22 BD 40 6E EB 58	Ê5@.....Ã™i@nËX	66h	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
00F0h:	54 C7 B8 9D 7E 1E 6A 93 41 59 EB B3 8E 4A 66 72	TÇ..~.j"AYëžJfr	6Ah	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0100h:	5F 43 0A D9 40 CC 37 09 19 AF 6F 7C 91 21 1F 60	_C.Ù@i7..~o '!..	6Eh	20h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0110h:	59 35 2E 20 01 CE 38 F7 E4 5C OD 8A 8B 28 80 11	Y5. .íë-ä\.Š< (€.	8Eh	4h	Fg: Bg: █																											
0120h:	84 84 AB 24 91 52	...<§'R	92h	50h	Fg: Bg: █																											

Name	Value	Start	Size	Color	Comment
struct DPAPIBlob blob		0h	126h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint version	1	0h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
struct GUID provider	df9d8cd0-1501-11d1-8c7a-00c04fc297eb	4h	10h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint mkversion	1	14h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
struct GUID mkguid	ae954f9e-21cf-4662-acea-6be2fcfc23b3	18h	10h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint flags	0	28h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint descriptionLen	2	2Ch	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
wstring description[1]		30h	2h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint cipherAlgo	26128	32h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint keyLen	256	36h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint saltLen	32	3Ah	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
byte salt[32]	^gTđôÖxäÈ□#S'ŽKDauÍäv.ô%□#DÜ5...	3Eh	20h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint strongLen	0	5Eh	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint hashAlgo	32782	62h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint hashLen	512	66h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint hmacLen	32	6Ah	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
byte hmac[32]	Ö½@¥=□'j„TVnl□,♦♦ÚĐ~È□ò□&ä□ó...	6Eh	20h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint cipherTextLen	80	8Eh	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
byte cipherText[80]	/ÆZ†□f□º%ÖÄE‰œ,3á8nÖA□Óéçä.]^è...	92h	50h	Fg: Bg: █	
uint signLen	64	E2h	4h	Fg: Bg: █	
byte sign[64]	□ □Ã"½@nêXTç,♦~□j"AYëžJfr_C Ù...	E6h	40h	Fg: Bg: █	

The master password for KeePass files encrypted & stored as cipherText (80 bytes)

DPAPI blob:
Legend

Solution: Privileged Access Management

⌚ Administrative / power user access

A privileged user is someone who has administrative access to critical systems

Privileged users have sometimes more access than we think (see: SeBackupRead privilege)

Privileged users have possibility to read SYSTEM and SECURITY hives from the registry

Domain Admins should log on only to the Domain Controllers

⌚ Access Monitoring / Effective Access

We need to know about who and where has access to
Access should be role driven





#3: USB STICK UP



60%

OF USERS WHO FIND RANDOM
USB STICKS IN A PARKING LOT WILL
PLUG THEM INTO THEIR COMPUTERS

ADD THE
COMPANY
LOGO,
AND THAT
NUMBER INCREASES TO



90%



35%

OF USERS REPORT HAVING EXPERIENCED A
VIRUS INFECTION THROUGH A USB DEVICE

Solution: Whitelisting

⌚ Code execution prevention

It is an absolute necessity taking into consideration the current security trends

PowerShell is a new hacking tool

⌚ Scripting languages are the biggest threat

Ransomware can be in a form of PowerShell script

Just Enough Administration: PowerShell should be blocked for users and limited for helpdesk to use the necessary commands

⌚ It is necessary to know what executes on your servers

Sysmon is perfect for this

AppLocker / DeviceGuard in the audit mode



Scenario

You receive the email about the new voice mail:

You received a voice mail : VOICE548-457-6638.wav (27 KB)

Caller-Id: 548-457-6638

Message-Id: S5VAAC

Email-Id: paula.j@gmail.com

Download and extract the attachment to listen the message.

We have uploaded fax report on dropbox, please use the following link to download your file:

https://www.dropbox.com/meta_dl/eyJzdWJfcGF0aCI6IClLCAidGVzdF9saW5rljogZmFsc2UsICJzZXJ2ZXliOiAiZGwuZHJvcGJveHVzZXJjb250ZW50LmNvbSIsICJpdGVtX2lkIjogbnVsbCwgImlzX2Rpcil6IGZhHNlLCAidGtleSI6ICJueGxzcWh0MDF5ZnloOHMifQ/AAPQJWOgwKVSlAJCmizztc3dqjAlfdIgyD87Cw0mgJOlxw?dl=1

Sent by Microsoft Exchange Server

What do you do?



#4: PHISH BITING



69%

OF IT SECURITY PROS SAY THEY COME ACROSS PHISHING MESSAGES THAT GET PAST SPAM FILTERS



27%

OF IT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE TOP EXECUTIVES OR PRIVILEGED USERS WHO HAVE FALLEN FOR MALICIOUS EMAIL ATTACKS

USERS TRAINED IN AVOIDING PHISHING AND SCAM EMAILS FELL FOR THESE MALICIOUS EMAILS **42% LESS** THAN THOSE WITHOUT TRAINING

Question: Is this a phishing email?

Sun 8/3/2014 3:47 PM

Jointres <jointres@avisbudget.com>

Avis Car Rental Cases R 13819726

To Paula Januszkiewicz

 Message  13819726-2.pdf (7 KB)

[Bing Maps](#)  Get more apps

Please find attached the requested rental receipt.

Thank you for choosing Avis. We appreciate your business and look forward to serving your future car rental needs.

Sincerely,

Roi Morrison| Joint Resolution Specialist | Avis Customer Care

Avis Budget Group, Inc.

W: 800-352.7900|F:303.824.3050

4500 South 129th East Ave | Tulsa, OK | 74169

avis budget group

CUSTOMER LED | SERVICE DRIVEN™

Attachment: Rental Receipt

Attacks happen **FAST** and are **HARD** to stop

If an attacker sends an email to
100 people in your company...



...**23 people** will open it...



...**11 people** will open the
attachment...



...and **six** will do it in the
first hour.

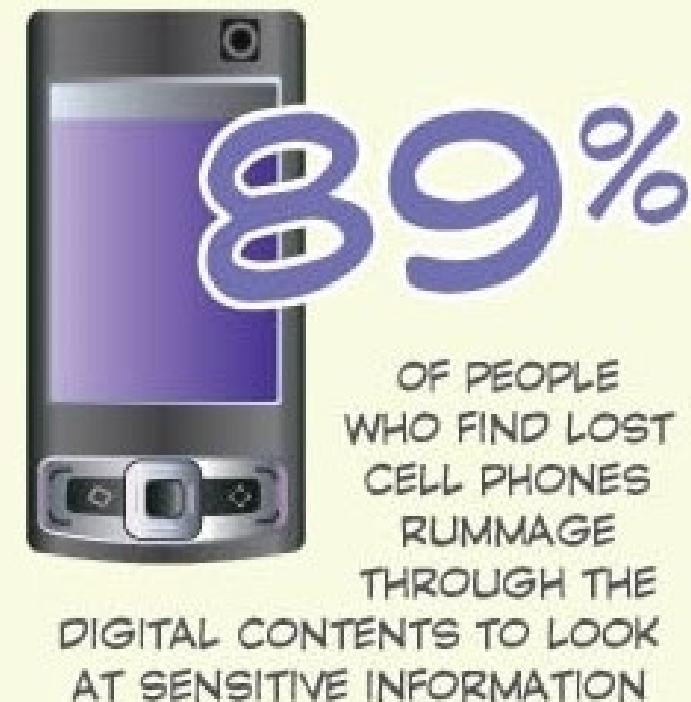
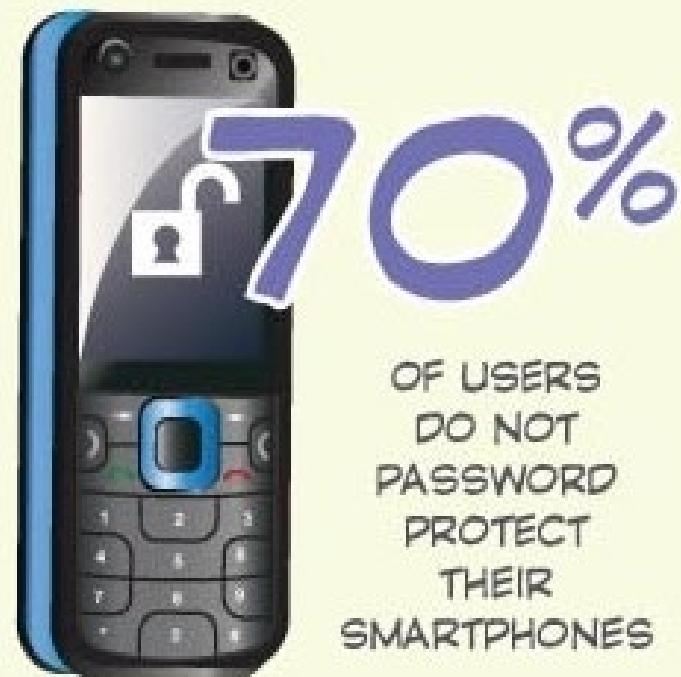


Source: VerizoData Breach Investigations Report

CQURE



#5: RECKLESS ABANDON



Classic Data Protection API

- ⌚ Based on the following components:

Password, data blob, entropy

- ⌚ Is not prone to password resets!

Protects from outsiders when being in offline access

Effectively protects users data

- ⌚ Stores the password history

You need to be able to get access to some of your passwords from the past

Conclusion: OS greatly helps us to protect secrets



Solution: Incident Response Plan

Action list

In case of emergency situation: allows to act reasonably and according to the plan

Increases chances that evidence is gathered properly

Allows to define responsibilities for recovery

Discussions provide management with understanding of security

Recovery plan

Centralization of the event logs

BYOD management strategy

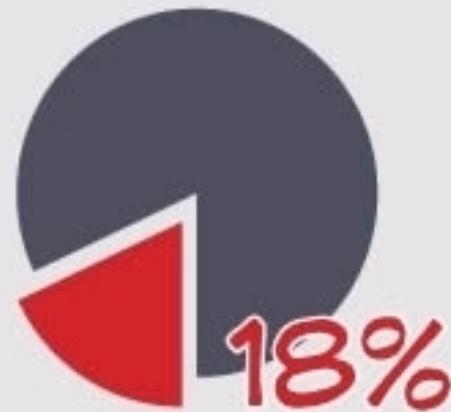
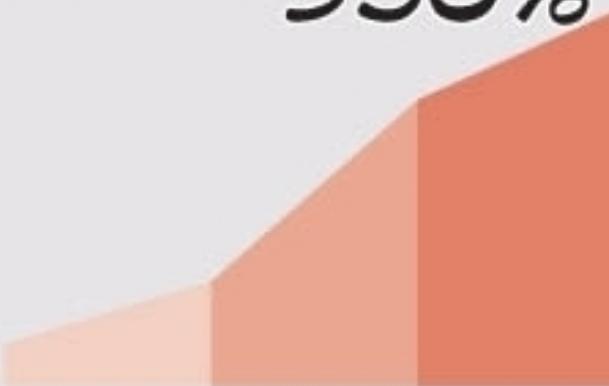
'Connect and go' approach for better efficiency



#6: HOOKING UP WITH ANOTHER MAN'S WI-FI



BY 2015, THE NUMBER OF WIFI HOTSPOT DEPLOYMENTS WILL INCREASE BY **350%**



ONLY 18 PERCENT OF USERS USE A VPN TOOL WHEN ACCESSING PUBLIC WI-FI

FBI

THE FBI RECENTLY RELEASED AN ALERT TO TRAVELERS WARNING AGAINST AN UPTICK IN MALWARE PASSED OFF AS SOFTWARE UPDATES ON HOTEL INTERNET CONNECTIONS

Lack of SMB Signing (or alternative)

Key learning points:

- ✓ Set SPNs for services to avoid NTLM:

*SetSPN -L <your service account for
AGPM/SQL/Exch/Custom>*

*SetSPN -A Servicename/FQDN of hostname/FQDN of
domain domain\serviceaccount*

- ✓ Reconsider using Kerberos authentication all over
<https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/jj865668.aspx>

- ✓ Require SPN target name validation

*Microsoft network server: Server SPN target name
validation level*

- ✓ Reconsider turning on SMB Signing
- ✓ Reconsider port filtering
- ✓ Reconsider code execution prevention but do not
forget that this attack leverages administrative accounts



SMB2/3 client and SMB2/3 server signing settings

Setting	Group Policy Setting	Registry Key
Required *	Digitally sign communications (always) – Enabled	RequireSecuritySignature = 1
Not Required **	Digitally sign communications (always) – Disabled	RequireSecuritySignature = 0

* The default setting for signing on a Domain Controller (defined via Group Policy) is "Required".

** The default setting for signing on SMB2 Servers and SMB Clients is "Not Required".

Effective behavior for SMB2/3:

	Server – Required	Server – Not Required
Client – Required	Signed	Signed
Client – Not Required	Signed*	Not Signed**

* Default for Domain Controller SMB traffic.

** Default for all other SMB traffic.

Allowing unusual code execution

Key learning points:

Common file formats containing malware are:

- ✓ .exe (Executables, GUI, CUI, and all variants like SCR, CPL etc)
- ✓ .dll (Dynamic Link Libraries)
- ✓ .vbs (Script files like JS, JSE, VBS, VBE, PS1, PS2, CHM, BAT, COM, CMD etc)
- ✓ .docm, .xlsm etc. (Office Macro files)
- ✓ .other (LNK, PDF, PIF, etc.)

If SafeDllSearchMode is enabled, the search order is as follows:

1. The directory from which the application loaded
2. The system directory
3. The 16-bit system directory
4. The Windows directory
5. The current directory
6. The directories that are listed in the PATH environment variable



Old protocols or their default settings

Key learning points:

- ✓ SNMPv3 addresses: user-based system for access control, a means to properly authenticate users, and a method for encrypting SNMP traffic between agent and host
- ✓ SQL issues – TDS provides by default lack of encryption
- ✓ ODBC Driver – check if it has a secure networking layer built into it

NTLMv1 / NTLMv2

- ✓ Security Options in GPO allow to monitor where NTLM is used
- ✓ General direction is to get rid of NTLM

SSL / TLS

- ✓ TLS v1.3 is still an Internet Draft
- ✓ SSL 2.0 and 3.0 have been deprecated by the IETF (in 2011 and 2015)
- ✓ Disable SSL 2.0 and 3.0, leaving only TLS protocols enabled



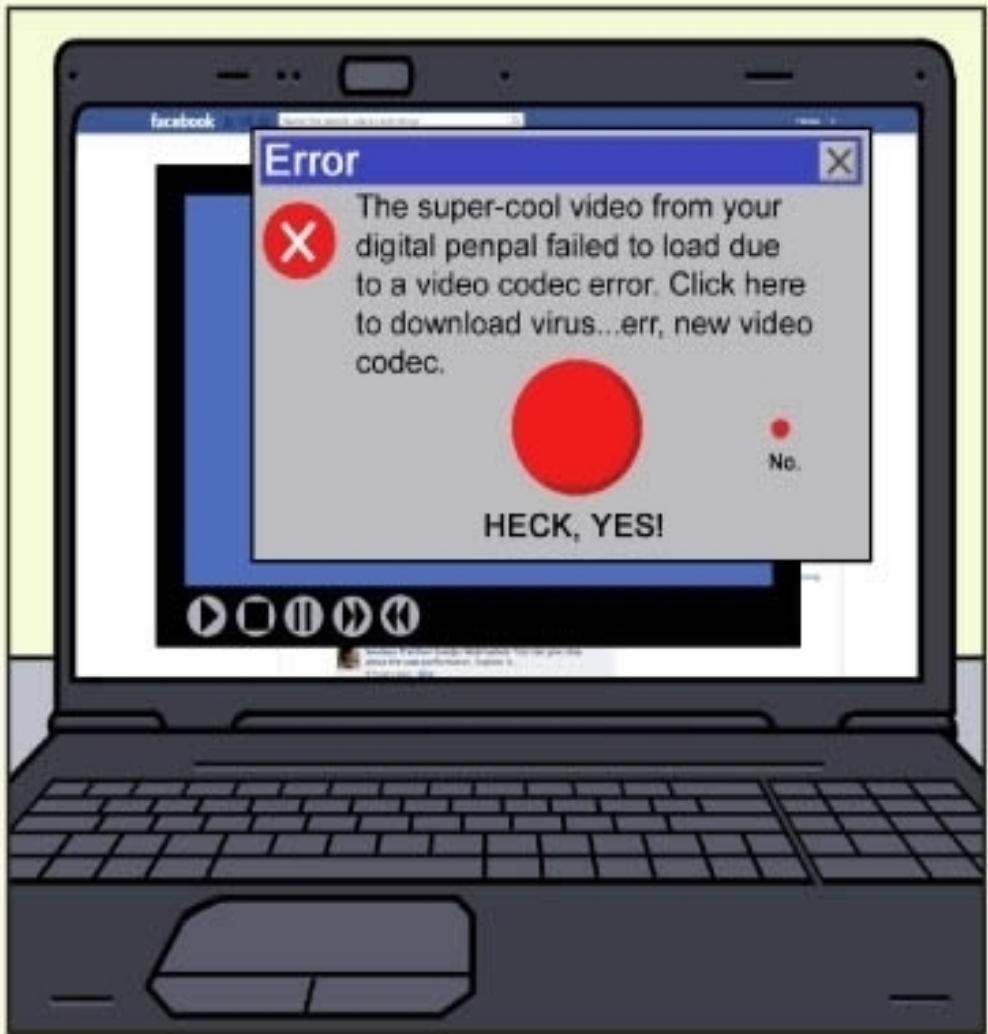
Solution: Machine Learning for Threat Protection

- ⌚ Antivirus solution is not enough
 - ⌚ Signature and behavioral recognition is not enough too
 - ⌚ In most cases it is possible to run an unknown code
 - ⌚ ... if not then it is possible to run PowerShell
 - ⌚ Windows Defender ATP – have a look!

- ⌚ Modern solutions
 - ⌚ Are capable of machine learning but it takes time
 - ⌚ Are quite easy to implement but require a lot of understanding of what do they actually do



For example: What if we use a custom reflective PE Loader to create and run custom code?



#7: A LITTLE TOO SOCIAL



52% OF ENTERPRISES HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE OF MALWARE INFECTIONS DUE TO EMPLOYEES' USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Solution: Talk *Security* to Employees

Sad facts

Most of the companies we deal with did not have security policies in place that included security awareness education programs.

Management understands risk. IT also understands it. This can be nicely combined together when we use appropriate language.

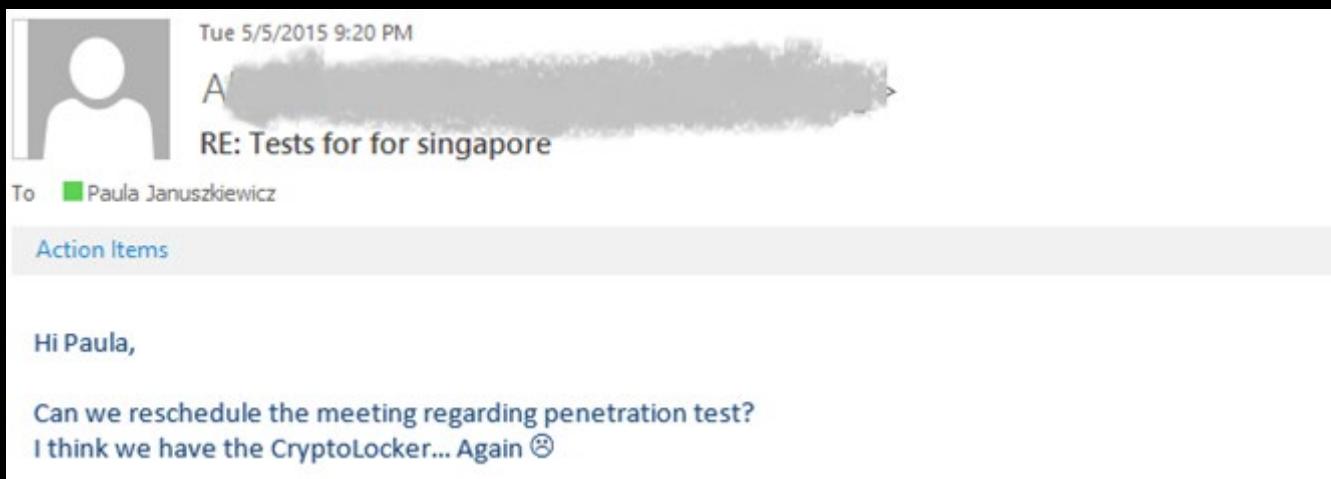


Photo: the New York Times Magazine

Agenda

Security Awareness Idea

Summary

1

2

3

Things to avoid in 2021

Why human factor is so important?



Reason 1: Security is both a Reality and Feeling

⌚ For Security Practitioners

Security is a reality based on the mathematical probability of risks

⌚ For End User

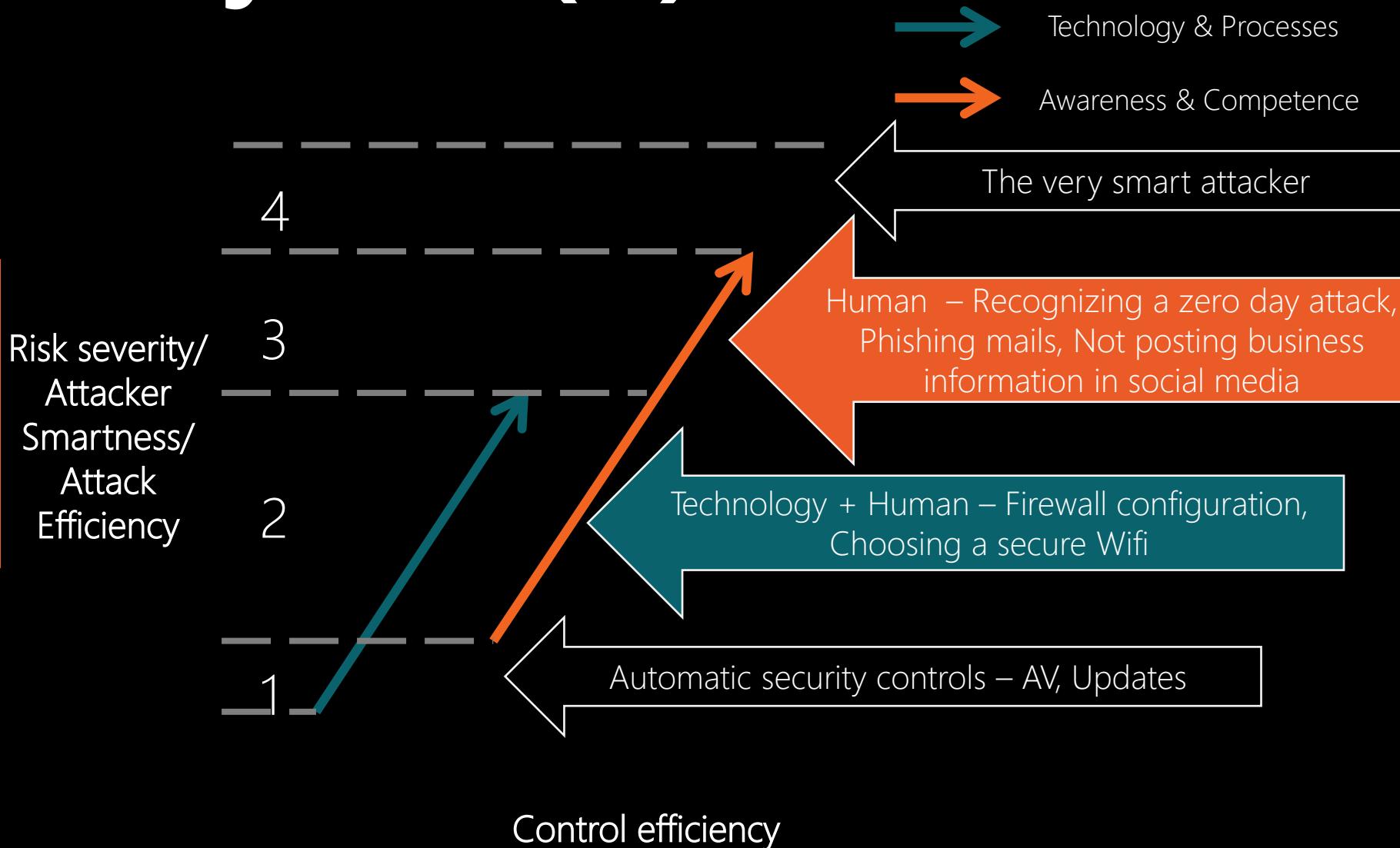
Security is a feeling

Success lies in influencing the “feeling” of security



Reason 2: Not every attack(er) is that smart

People exaggerate risks
that are spectacular or
uncommon



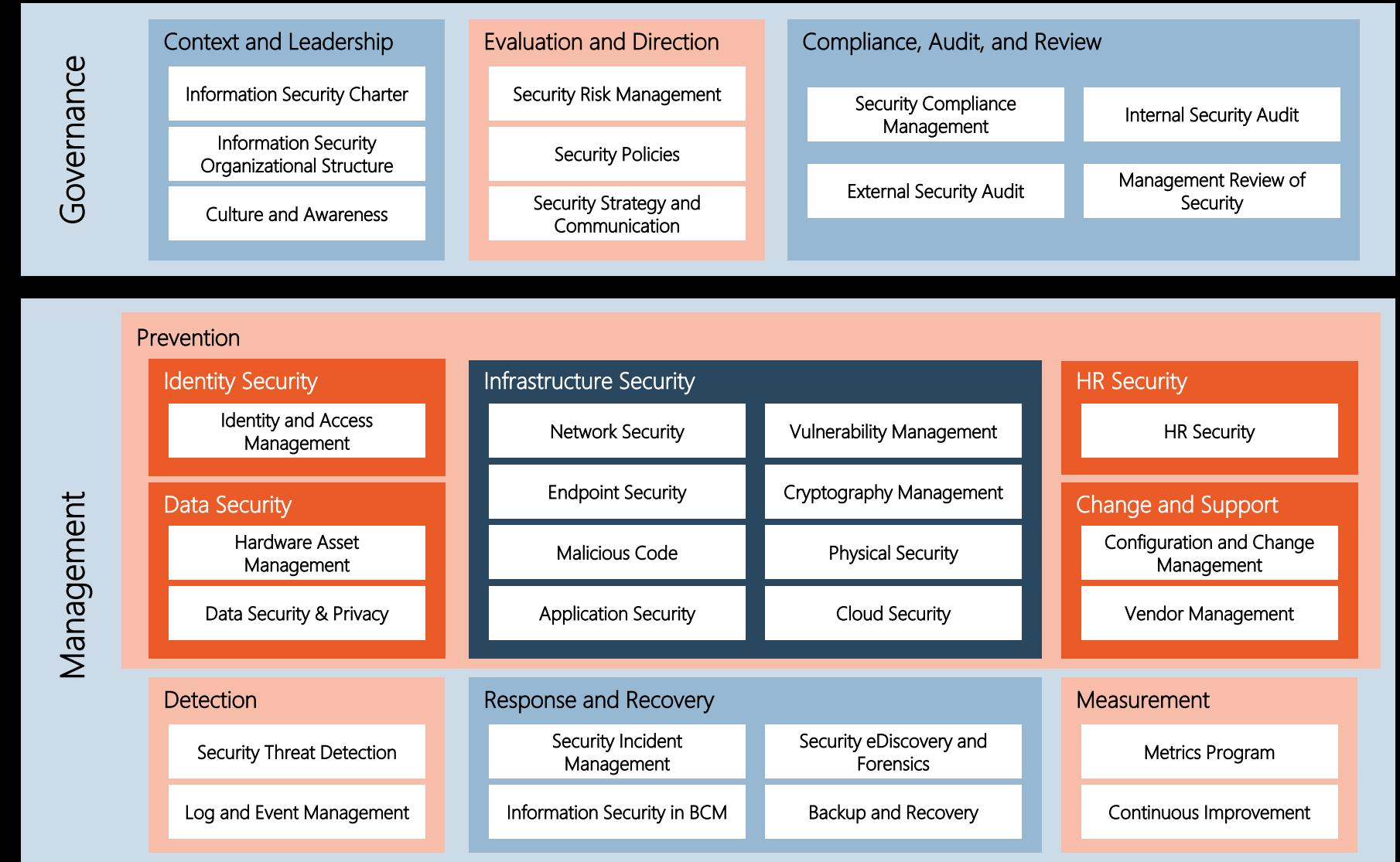
Reason 3: Technology...yes, but humans... of course!

Aircrafts have become more advanced, but does it mean that pilot training requirements have reduced?

Medical technology has become more advanced, but will you choose a hospital for its machines or the doctors?



A best-of-breed security framework



The 11 key cyber security questions

1. Do we treat cyber security as a business or IT responsibility?
2. Do our security goals align with business priorities?
3. Have we identified and protected our most valuable processes and information?
4. Does our business culture support a secure cyber environment?
5. Do we have the basics right? (For example, access rights, software patching, vulnerability management and data leakage prevention.)
6. Do we focus on security compliance or security capability?
7. Are we certain our third-party partners are securing our most valuable information?
8. Do we regularly evaluate the effectiveness of our security?
9. Are we vigilant and do we monitor our systems and can we prevent breaches?
10. Do we have an organized plan for responding to a security breach?
11. Are we adequately resourced and insured?

Summary: Best Practices

Understanding is the key to security

Continuous vulnerability discovery

Context-Aware Analysis

Prioritization

Remediation and Tracking

Configuration reviews

Put on the Hacker's Shoes

Prevention is the key to success

How can we know what to prevent if we do not know what is the threat?



Additional Resources

Websites

Ars Technica
The Register
The Hacker News
Dark Reading
Krebs on Security
Computer World
Threat Post
Beta News
Tech News World
Tech Crunch
ZDNetSecurity Affairs
Computer Weekly
Network World

SC Magazine
Wired
Schneier on Security



Q&A



**Visit our BLOG and discover more about
cybersecurity solutions & tools:**

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Defense Against the Dark Arts: Securing hybrid work against known vulnerabilities and attacks in 2021

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Thank You