



From the vest


To the  
**FLAK**  
jacket:

How security architecture and architects need to  
support SecOps

**BO SIDES**

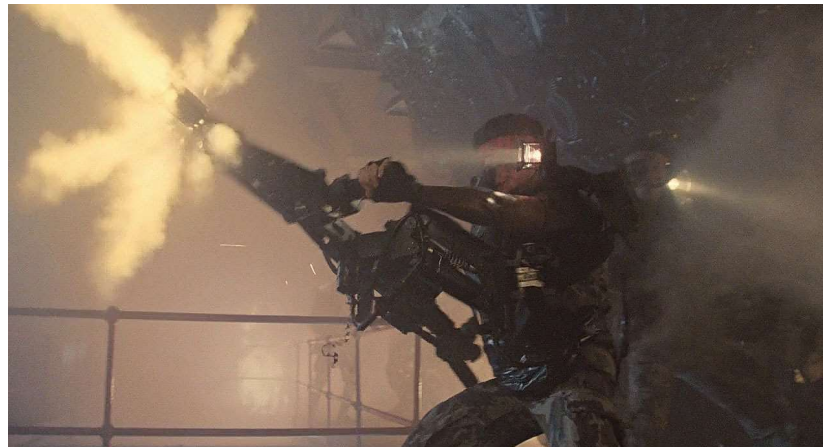
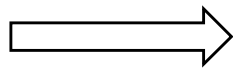


## ⚠️ WARNING ⚠️

- This is general advice and your environment will be **different** and I don't know how it works – so think before making any changes
  - The information presented today has not been obtained from any single one of my previous employers and my views do not represent them
  - Please don't sue me
  - Please don't
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# TODAY'S AGENDA


1. Why do we need architecture
2. Why System Engineering is a good thing
3. An Overview of SABSA
4. A model of how IT should work
5. What architects should do to support SecOps





# /WHOIS

@beLarge

- Cyber Security Specialist who has worked across IT and OT in Network Engineering and Cyber Security roles over the last 10 years
  - A cyber security architecture enthusiast & infrastructure tourist
  - Soon to be the Operational Technology Security Lead at CyberCX
  - Bach Eng (Telecomms) and Master Business (Applied Finance)
  - GRID, SCF, CCNP/CCDP(Lapsed), Cyber Security Foundation+Practitioner (ALC)
- 



The image features a dark gray background with white, stylized circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines consist of vertical and horizontal segments connected by small circles, resembling a network or data flow diagram. The lines are more dense in the bottom-left corner and more sparse in the top-left and bottom-right corners.

WHY DO WE NEED ARCHITECTURE?



## AUDIENCE POLL #1



1. Show of hands – who works in an Internal Security Team (e.g. SOC, Security Engineering, Architect, Security Manager etc)
  2. Show of hands – who here is an Architect (either ESA or SA)
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The image features a minimalist design with decorative circuit-like lines in the corners. These lines, composed of straight segments and small circles, are arranged in a way that suggests a network or data flow. They are positioned in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, framing the central text. The lines are thin and black, contrasting with the white background.

***COMPLEXITY AND INCONSISTENCY IS THE ENEMY  
OF CYBER SECURITY***







***“ALL MODELS ARE WRONG, BUT SOME ARE USEFUL”***

George Box



# ARCHITECTURAL VIEWPOINTS

## Enterprise Security Architecture

- Defines the enterprise wide security artefacts such as:
  - Architectural Principles
  - Attributes Modelling (SABSA)
  - Domain Model
  - Trust Models
  - Pattern Repositories
- Run the Architectural Review Board (ARB)
- Should work with the business to define security strategy and justification

## Solution Architecture (Security)

- Focuses on producing solution designs that address cyber security requirements as per the enterprise methodology
- A key pivot role between the whole of enterprise and delivering projects
- Are probably aligned to projects

Some good material in NIST NICE (<https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/nice-framework-resource-center>)  
Worker Roles Enterprise Architect (SP-ARC-001) and Security Architect (SP-ARC-002)

# ROB M. LEE'S SLIDING SCALE OF CYBER SECURITY

Rob M Lee suggests “Architecture refers to the planning, establishing, and upkeep of systems with security in mind. Ensuring that security is designed into the system provides a foundation upon which all other aspects of cyber security can build.”

(p5)

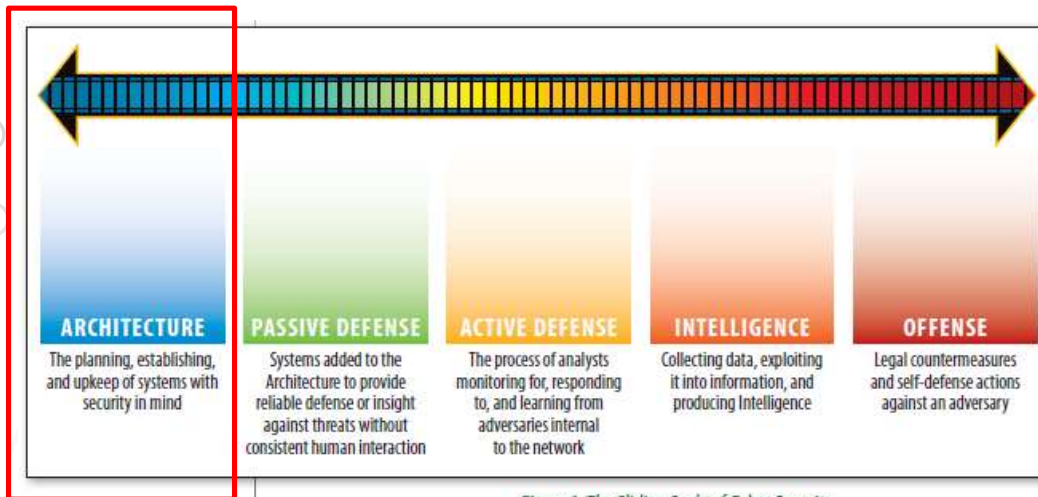


Figure 1. The Sliding Scale of Cyber Security

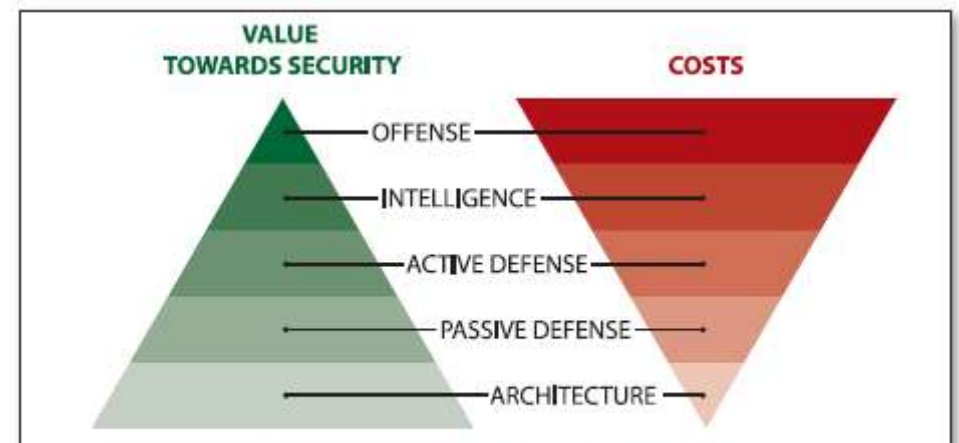


Figure 2. Value Towards Security (Left) vs. Cost (Right)

Source - <https://www.sans.org/reading-room/whitepapers/ActiveDefense/paper/36240>

The background is a solid dark gray. In the corners, there are white line-art illustrations of circuit traces. These traces consist of straight lines of varying lengths and angles, some ending in small open circles, resembling a printed circuit board (PCB) layout. The traces are located in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, framing the central text area.

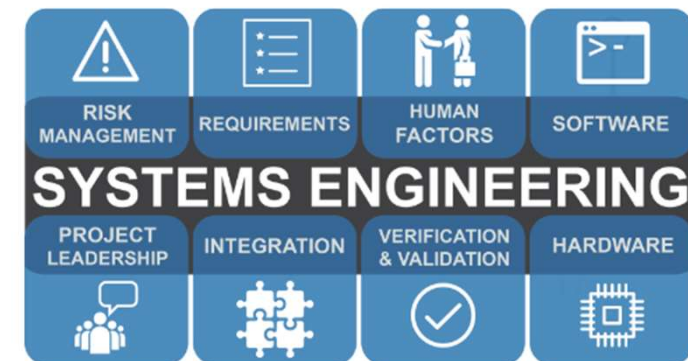
WHY SYSTEM ENGINEERING IS A GOOD THING?

# SYSTEM ENGINEERING DEFINITION

*"Systems Engineering is a **transdisciplinary** and **integrative** approach to enable the successful realization, use, and retirement of **engineered systems**, using **systems principles and concepts**, and scientific, technological, and management methods."*

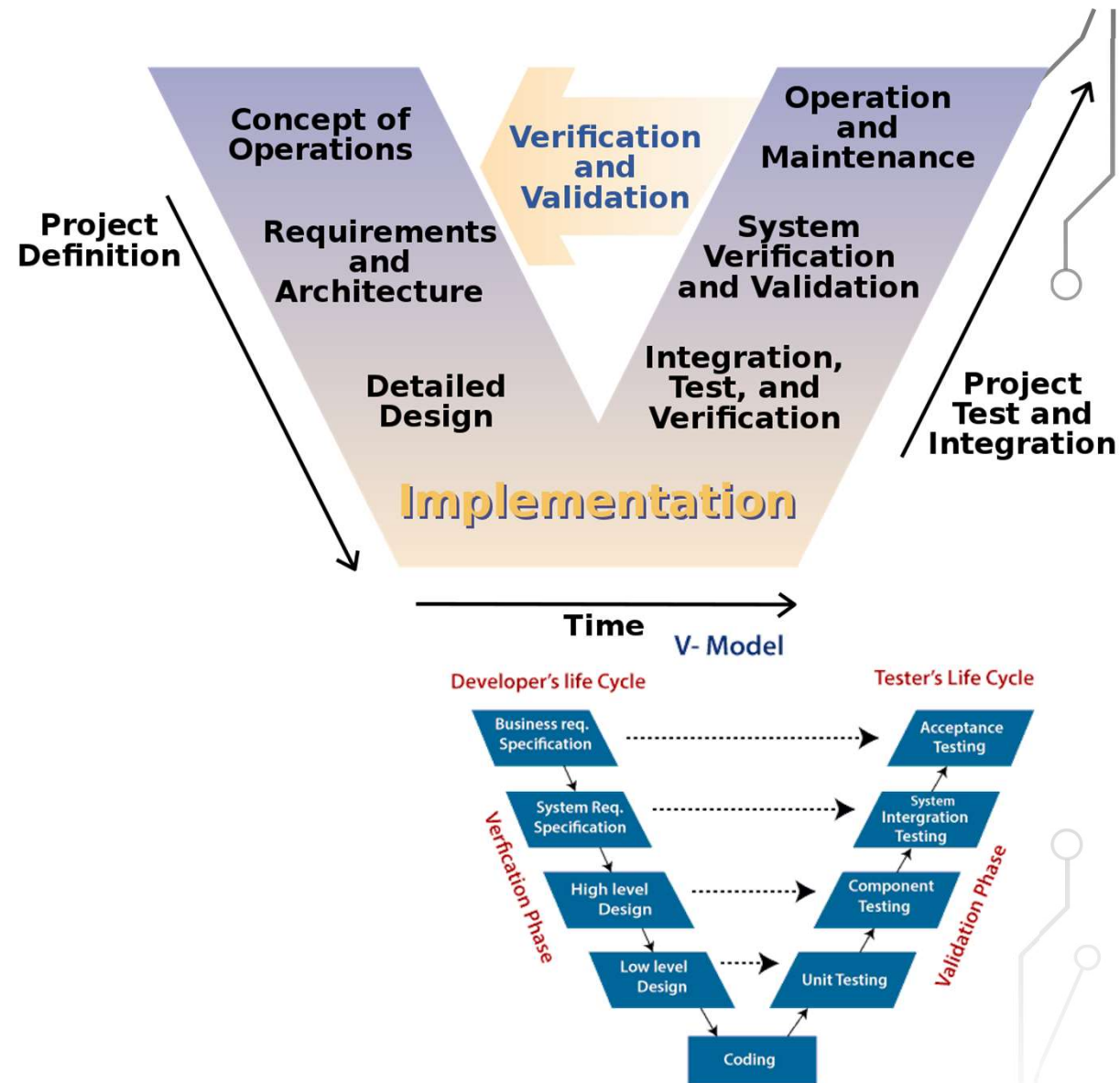
*We use the terms "engineering" and "engineered" in their **widest sense**: "the action of working artfully to bring something about".*

*"**Engineered systems**" may be composed of any or all of people, products, services, information, processes, and natural elements."*



# THE “V” MODEL

- A graphical representation of the Systems Development Life Cycle
- Also introduces the two important concepts of:
  - Verification – “Are you building it right?”
  - Validation – “are you building the right thing”
- As architects, what are we doing to ensure V&V?



Source - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V-Model> & <https://www.javatpoint.com/software-engineering-v-model>



The background is a solid dark gray. In the corners, there are decorative white line art elements resembling circuit traces or a stylized city skyline. These elements consist of thin lines of varying lengths and angles, some ending in small open circles. They are located in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners.

# AN OVERVIEW OF SABSA



## AUDIENCE POLL #2

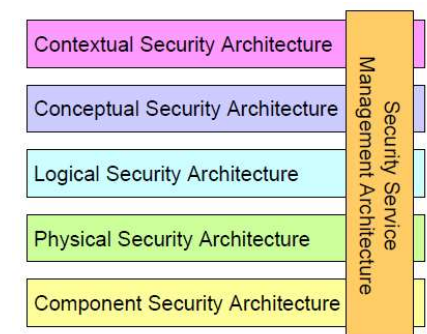
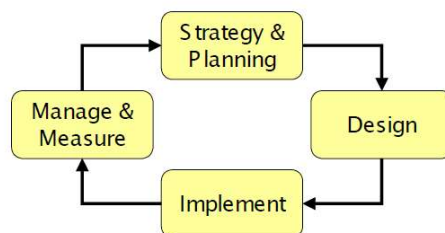


1. Show of hands – who has heard of SABSA before?
  2. Show of hands – who here is a (SCF | SCP | SCM)?
  3. Show of hands – who has attended COSAC or COSAC Connect this year?
- 
- 



# SHERWOOD APPLIED BUSINESS SECURITY ARCHITECTURE (SABSA)

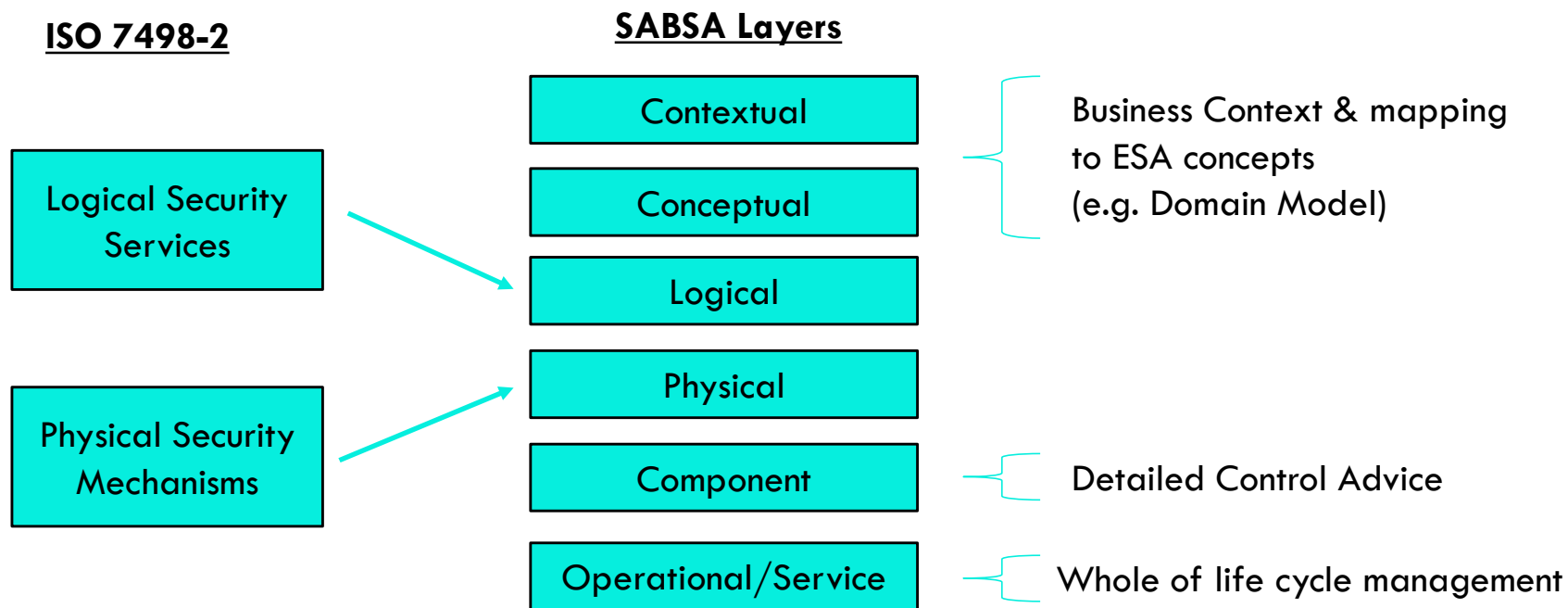
- Developed by Sherwood, Clark and Lynas; SABSA has its origins in the development of the SWIFT payments system
- It is the application of System Engineering Concepts to address Cyber Security Problems through the use of Enterprise Security Architecture
- Links Business Objectives to Cyber Security activities through Attributes
- Great starting point of the SABSA White Paper – W100



From W100 SABSA White Paper (2009) - <https://sabsa.org/white-paper-requests/>

# HOW DID THEY GET TO THE 6 LAYERS

- Began with ISO 7498-2 which defined Logical Security Services and Physical Security Mechanisms and added layers above for context, layers before for detailed specification and a Service Operations Layer



Reference from SABSA F1 & F2 Material

# THE WHAT, WHY, HOW, WHO, WHERE AND WHEN OF SABSA

Table 3: SABSA MATRIX

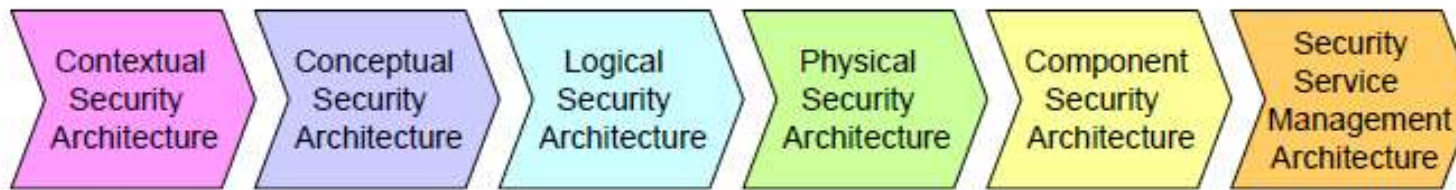
	ASSETS (What)	MOTIVATION (Why)	PROCESS (How)	PEOPLE (Who)	LOCATION (Where)	TIME (When)
<b>CONTEXTUAL ARCHITECTURE</b>	Business Decisions Taxonomy of Business Assets, including Goals & Objectives	Business Risk Opportunities & Threats Inventory	Business Processes Inventory of Operational Processes	Business Governance Organisational Structure & the Extended Enterprise	Business Geography Inventory of Buildings, Sites, Territories, Jurisdictions, etc.	Business Time Dependence Time dependencies of business objectives
<b>CONCEPTUAL ARCHITECTURE</b>	Business Knowledge & Risk Strategy Business Attributes Profile	Risk Management Objectives Enablement & Control Objectives; Policy Architecture	Strategies for Process Assurance Process Mapping Framework; Architectural Strategies for ICT	Roles & Responsibilities Owners, Custodians and Users; Service Providers & Customers	Domain Framework Security Domain Concepts & Framework	Time Management Framework Through-Life Risk Management Framework
<b>LOGICAL ARCHITECTURE</b>	Information Assets Inventory of Information Assets	Risk Management Policies Domain Policies	Process Maps & Services Information Flows; Functional Transformations; Service Oriented Architecture	Entity & Trust Framework Entity Schema; Trust Models; Privilege Profiles	Domain Maps Domain Definitions; Inter-domain associations & interactions	Calendar & Timetable Start Times, Lifetimes & Deadlines
<b>PHYSICAL ARCHITECTURE</b>	Data Assets Data Dictionary & Data Inventory	Risk Management Practices Risk Management Rules & Procedures	Process Mechanisms Applications; Middleware; Systems; Security Mechanisms	Human Interface User Interface to ICT Systems; Access Control Systems	ICT Infrastructure Host Platforms, Layout & Networks	Processing Schedule Timing & Sequencing of Processes and Sessions
<b>COMPONENT ARCHITECTURE</b>	ICT Components ICT Products, including Data Repositories and Processors	Risk Management Tools & Standards Risk Analysis Tools; Risk Registers; Risk Monitoring and Reporting Tools	Process Tools & Standards Tools and Protocols for Process Delivery	Personnel Man'ment Tools & Standards Identities; Job Descriptions; Roles; Functions; Actions & Access Control Lists	Locator Tools & Standards Nodes, Addresses and other Locators	Step Timing & Sequencing Tools Time Schedules; Clocks, Timers & Interrupts
<b>SERVICE MANAGEMENT ARCHITECTURE</b>	Service Delivery Management Assurance of Operational Continuity & Excellence	Operational Risk Management Risk Assessment; Risk Monitoring & Reporting; Risk Treatment	Process Delivery Management Management & Support of Systems, Applications & Services	Personnel Management Account Provisioning; User Support Management	Management of Environment Management of Buildings, Sites, Platforms & Networks	Time & Performance Management Management of Calendar and Timetable

From W100 SABSA White Paper (2009) - <https://sabsa.org/white-paper-requests/>

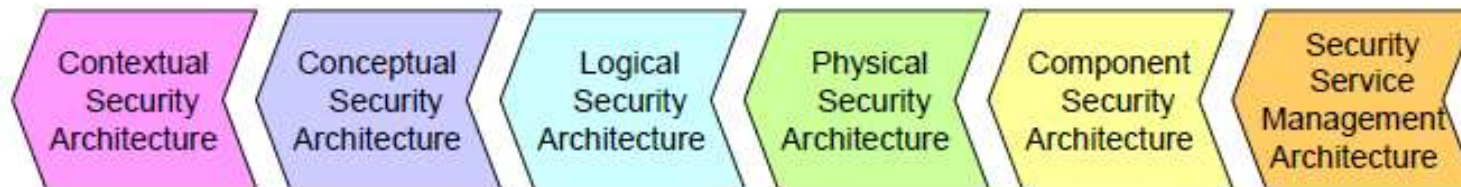
# TRACEABILITY

The SABSA Matrix also provides two-way traceability:

- **Completeness:** has every business requirement been met? The layers and matrix allow you to trace every requirement through to the components that provide a solution.

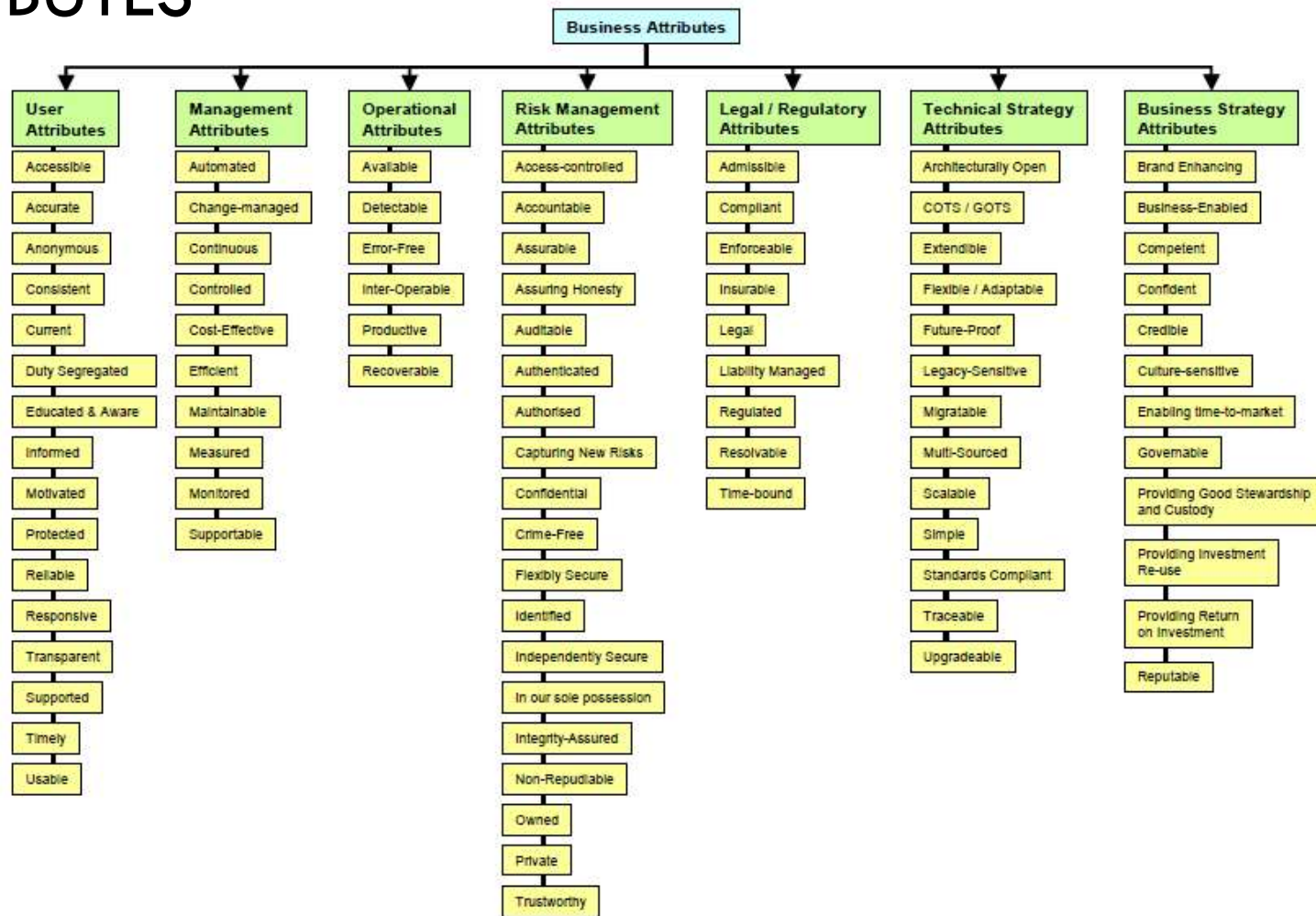


- **Business Justification:** is every component of the architecture needed? When someone questions 'Why are we doing it this way?' the rationale is plain by tracing back to the business requirements that drive the specific solution.



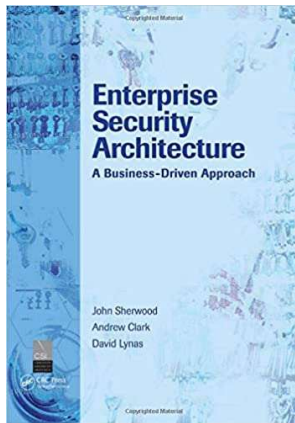


# ATTRIBUTES



From W100 SABSA White Paper (2009) - <https://sabsa.org/white-paper-requests/>

# DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?



<https://www.amazon.com.au/Enterprise-Security-Architecture-Business-Driven-Approach/dp/157820318X>



<https://www.alctraining.com.au/course/sabsa-foundation/>



The SABSA Institute  
[@SABSA\\_Institute](https://sabsa.org)



<https://www.cosac.net/>

The image features a dark gray background with white, stylized circuit or network lines in the corners. These lines consist of small circles connected by straight lines, resembling a technical diagram or a network map. The lines are more prominent in the bottom-left and bottom-right corners, with some extending into the top corners.

A MODEL OF HOW IT SHOULD WORK

# PLAN, BUILD, RUN ... & SHADOW IT

## Plan

What direction is the business going and how does IT need to plan to deliver?  
How do we engage with the business?  
How does the IT Team integrate new technologies?  
How do we do IT differently?  
Why is everything so expensive?

## Build

Alright, let's build it!!  
Project Managers and Engineers  
What are these EAs thinking?  
"Ops can figure it out"  
"its OK we will do the doco at the end"  
"its OK we can fix in production"

## Run

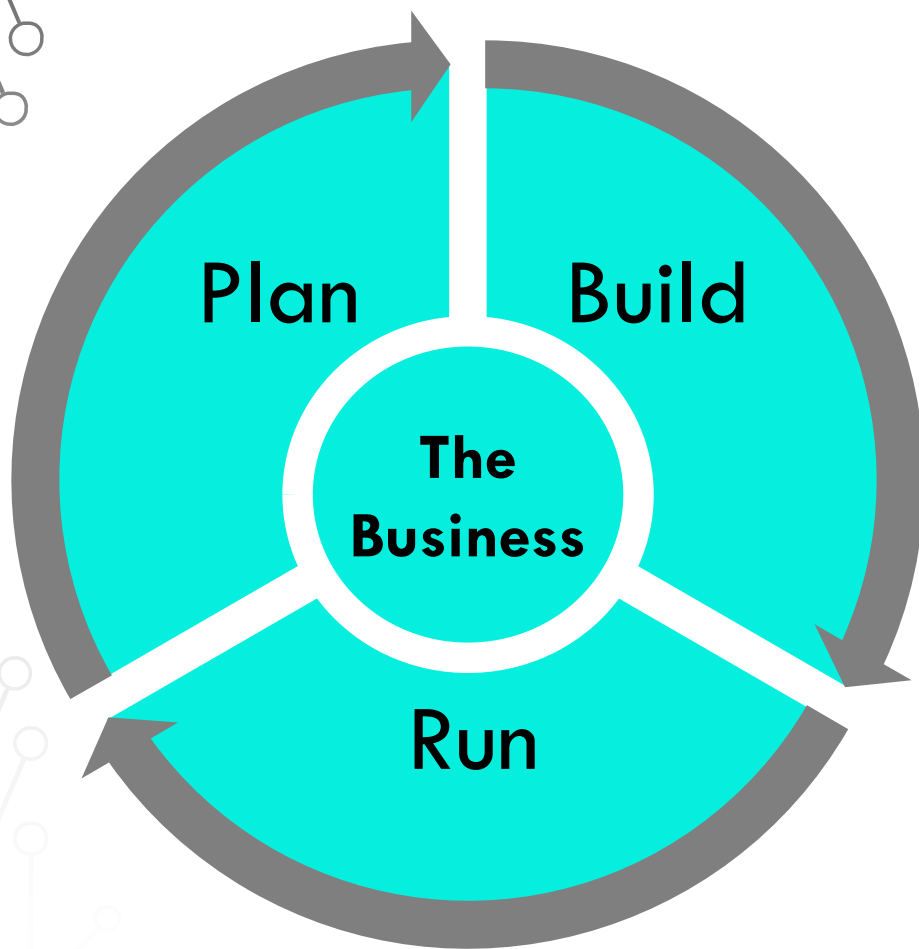
What is this?  
Why is everything on fire?  
What do you mean everything is End of Life?  
Is this another point solution?  
Why are none of our systems integrated?  
Why does no one talk to me?

## Shadow IT

Haha get in losers I have a credit card



## WHAT IT SHOULD BE



- A cyclical system where there is one team that aims to support the business
- Reduce hand offs and someone else's problem
- Pull the right stakeholders into projects as soon as possible in the engagement
- Encourage secondments and ride-alongs
- Not waiting to deliver perfection – incremental delivery!
- No need for shadow IT because you are delivering!

The image features a dark gray background with white, stylized circuit board traces in the corners. These traces consist of thin lines that branch out and terminate in small circles, resembling electronic components or nodes in a network. The traces are located in the top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right corners, framing the central text.

# WHAT SHOULD ARCHITECTS DO TO SUPPORT SECOPS



## LISTEN TO AND WORK WITH YOUR SECOPS TEAM

- Listen to your SecOps Team!
  - Help get what's in your SecOps team's heads onto paper – develop a cyber security tools landscape drawing
  - Work through the Cyber Security Risk Register with the SecOps team (you do have a cyber security risk register?)
  - Facilitate table tops and exercises
- 

# BUILD A SECURITY TOOLS LANDSCAPE

- I like the CAESARS and NIST 800-137 as references
- Use the categories from Security Automation Domains and then consider the integration of tools – also can use this as a view for determining your SecOps team capabilities



Figure D-1. Security Automation Domains

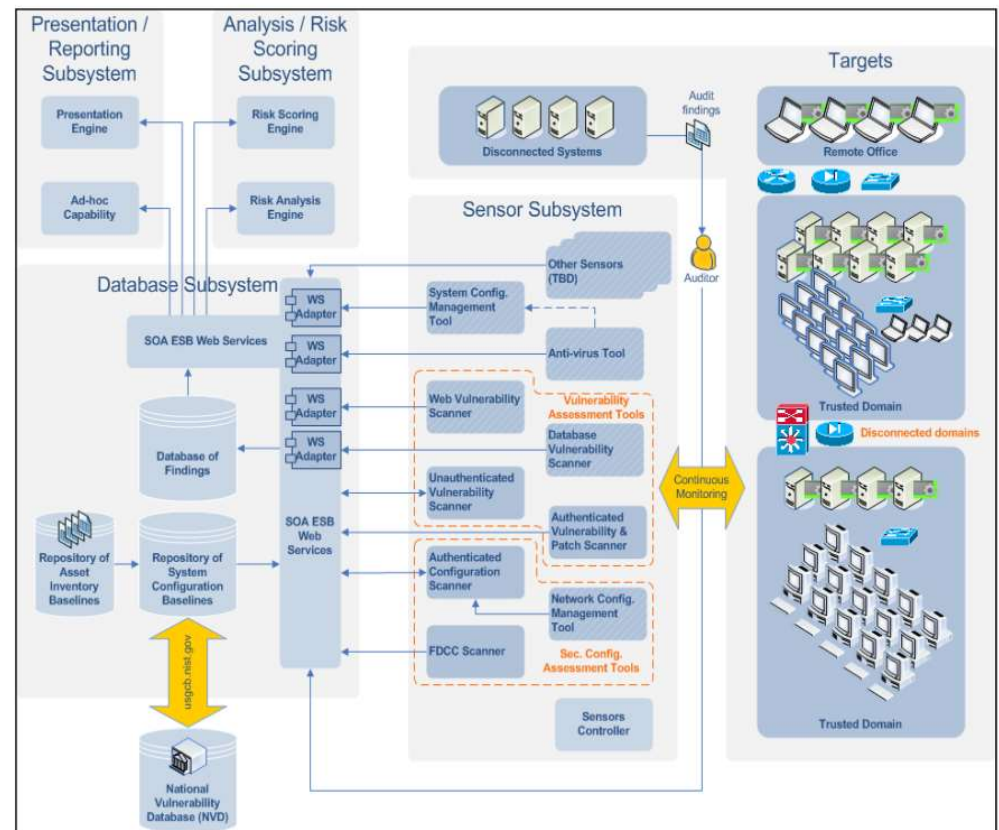


Figure 3. Contextual Description of the CAESARS System

Source - [https://csrc.nist.gov/csrc/media/publications/nistir/7756/draft/documents/draft-nistir-7756\\_second-public-draft.pdf](https://csrc.nist.gov/csrc/media/publications/nistir/7756/draft/documents/draft-nistir-7756_second-public-draft.pdf)  
 & <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-137.pdf>

# THE RISK REGISTER

- The AESCSF has practices that involve the risk register which are a good starting point to consider

## Risk Register (RM-2j)



- TVM-1j – *Threat information is added to the risk register*
- TVM-2m – *Cyber Security Vulnerability information is added to the risk register*
- SA-2j\* – *Risk Register content is used to identify indicators of anomalous activity*
- IR-1g – *Cyber Security event detection activities are adjusted based on information from the organisation's risk register (RM-2j) and threat profile (TVM-1d) to help detect known threats and monitor for identified risks*
- IR-2g – *Criteria for Cyber Security event escalation, including Cyber Security incident declaration criteria, are adjusted according to information from the organisation's risk register (RM-2j) and threat profile (TVM-1d)*
- EDM-2c – *Identified Cyber Security dependency risks are entered into the risk register (RM-2j)*

Source - <https://aemo.com.au/en/initiatives/major-programs/cyber-security/aescsf-framework-and-resources>



## WORK WITH THE BUILD TEAM





- Encourage the build team to produce useful\* documentation for the ops team
  - How do project risks get transferred to the risk register (!!!)
  - How does the project test and commission their systems
  - How do the SecOps team accept systems?
  - How do projects deliver training and knowledge transfer
  - How does the project team champion the SecOps team
  - Get good at running workshops and identifying requirements – absolutely critical to how you then build test plans
- 
- 



# HOW TO SUPPORT SECOPS IN THE PLAN TEAM



- As architects – we must be excellent communicators
  - Understand the business, understand the business drivers and understand the business strategy
  - Talk in the language of business – finance and risk
  - Enable the traceability between security and the business
  - Don't try and make artifacts that are everything to everyone – you need to choose the correct viewpoint for your audience
  - Understand existing cyber security frameworks and how to use them to improve your security program
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The background is a solid dark gray. In the corners, there are white line art illustrations of circuit boards or neural networks. These consist of thin white lines that branch out and terminate in small white circles, resembling nodes or components on a circuit.



## MISC. TOOLS AND TIPS





# VISIO & POWERPOINT ARE YOUR FRIENDS



- We are going to spend a lot of time in Visio and Powerpoint – I suggest you have a look at the below resources I have found useful
    - <https://networkdiagram101.com/>
    - <https://breakingintowallstreet.com/biws/powerpoint-pro/>  
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWdwicGLWGE&list=PL5hdd9oiuWS8LWdrxu5k4P0K2AJ2IremU> )
- 
- 

## ... BUT FORMAL MODELLING IS WHERE IT'S AT

- Early days for me but I was impressed by the below video discussing modelling SABSA with Archimate
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt1xRZQ5T58> But I recommend you look at the SABSA institute resources - <https://sabsa.org/modelling-sabsa-with-archimate/>

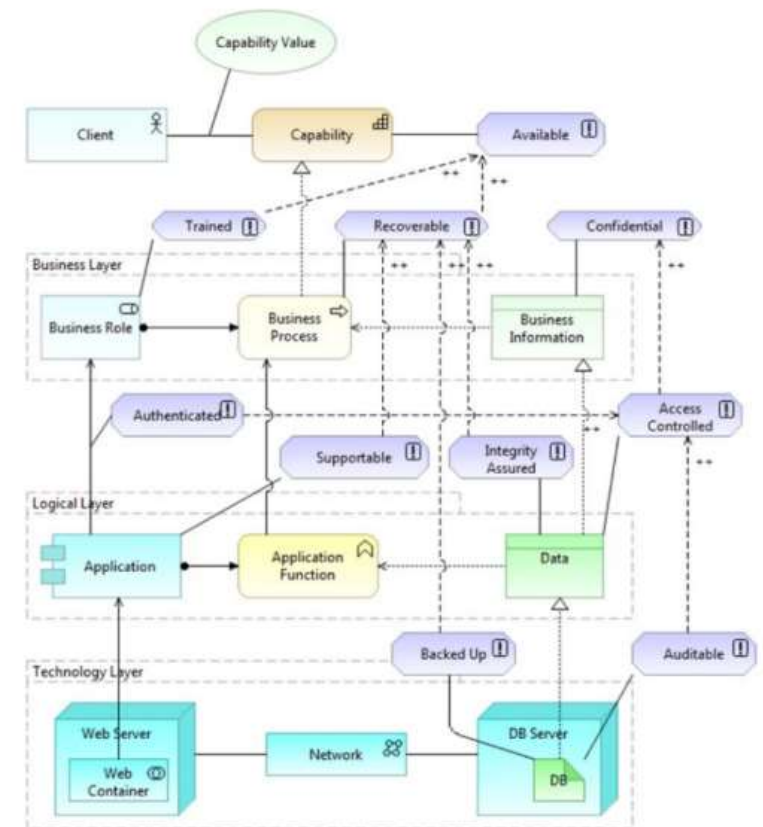


Figure 19: Attribute Traceability across Layers

The image features a dark gray background with white, stylized circuit board traces in the corners. These traces include small circles at various points, resembling solder joints or vias. The traces are more prominent in the bottom-left and bottom-right corners, while the top corners have fewer and fainter lines.

## NEXT STEPS

# NEXT STEPS FOR YOU AS AN ARCHITECT

## Next Week

1. Organise time to ride along in the SOC
2. Review Existing System Landscape documents
3. Organise a whiteboard brain dump session with the SecOps team

## Next Month\*

1. Get familiar with your corporate strategy
2. Review the Cyber Security Risk Register and work with the SecOps team on what is missing
3. Build an architectural repository and share with them your draft landscape view

## Next 6 Months

1. Make sure you can align your key cyber security initiatives with your corporate strategy (two way traceability)
2. Update the Cyber Security Risk Register
3. Find ways to update the process to engage the SecOps team earlier in the project life cycle



# THANK YOU AND Q&A



- Thank you for your time today – this deck will be uploaded to my GitHub – <https://github.com/beLarge/>
  - Follow me on Twitter [@beLarge](https://twitter.com/beLarge)
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