

# *Dalla Malware Analysis alla Cyber Threat Information Sharing*

# Who I am

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- Independent Consultant in many cyber security realms as digital forensics investigation and incident response management



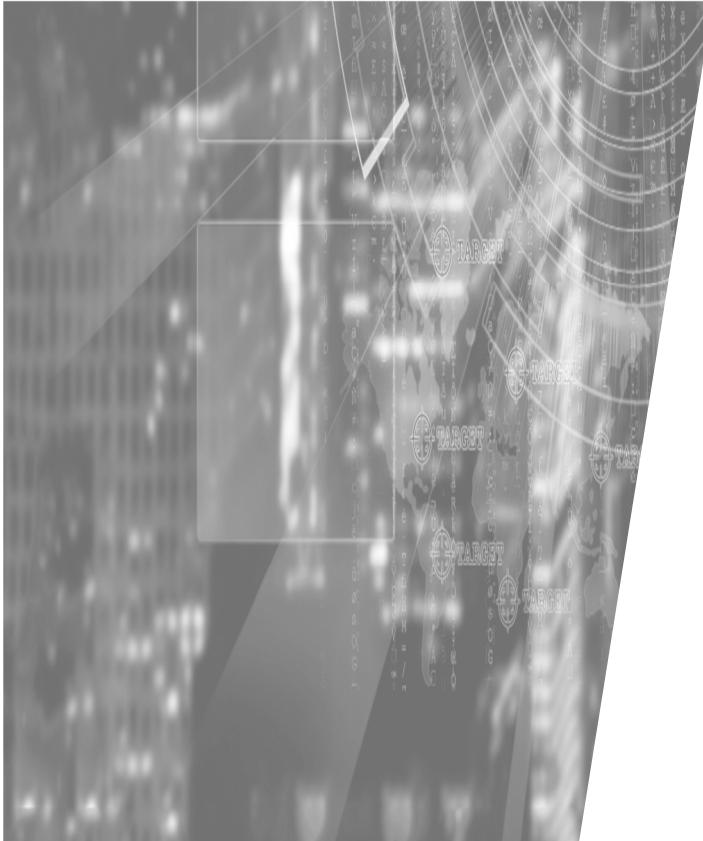
- Partner and Principal Scientist at DeepCyber

Get in touch!

- ▶ **Email:** fschifilliti@gmail.com
- ▶ **Twitter:** @fschifilliti
- ▶ **LinkedIn:**  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fschifilliti>

# Agenda

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**Cyber Threat Information Sharing**

**Evaluation and Classification of Information Sharing**

**Pyramid of Pain**

**Representation of Threat Information Elements**

**Introduction to the STIX Language**

**Cyber Threat Intel to represent Malware Analysis**

# Cyber Threat Information Sharing

**Goal of Cyber Threat Intelligence Sharing** Create an ecosystem where actionable cyber threat intelligence is automatically shared in real-time to enable real-time defense – the detection, prevention and mitigation of cyber threats before or as they occur.



Actual situation

Issues

- ① What to share and When to share
- ② With whom to share
- ③ Why to share
- ④ How to share
- ⑤ What can be done with the shared information

# Cyber Threat Information Sharing - Basic questions

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## ① What to share?

Assuming that a **cyber threat** is "any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact organizational operations [..], organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, or the Nation through an information system via unauthorized access, destruction, disclosure, or modification of information, and/or denial of service."

**(Cyber) Threat information** is any information related to a threat (Indicators, TTPs, Security alerts, etc...) that might help an organization protect itself against a threat or detect the activities of an actor.

## ② With whom to share?

Any Public or Private 'organizations' that collect knowledge/experiences and can sharing them within a community of interest, in order to enhancing the defensive capabilities of multiple organizations.

## ③ Why to share?

- ▶ **Improved Security Posture.** By developing and sharing threat information, organizations gain a better understanding of the threat environment and can use threat information to inform their cybersecurity and risk management practices.
- ▶ **Knowledge Maturation.** When seemingly unrelated observations are shared and analyzed by organizations, those observations can be correlated with data collected by others. This enrichment process increases the value of information by enhancing existing indicators and by developing knowledge of actor TTPs that are associated with a specific incident, threat, or threat campaign. Correlation can also impart valuable insights into the relationships that exist between indicators.
- ▶ **Greater Defensive Agility.** Actors continually adapt their TTPs to try to evade detection, circumvent security controls, and exploit new vulnerabilities. Organizations that share information are often better informed about changing TTPs and the need to rapidly detect and respond to threats.

# Cyber Threat Information Sharing – Minimum conditions

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**Each Sharing Relationships (or *Trusted Circles*), at least, MUST:**

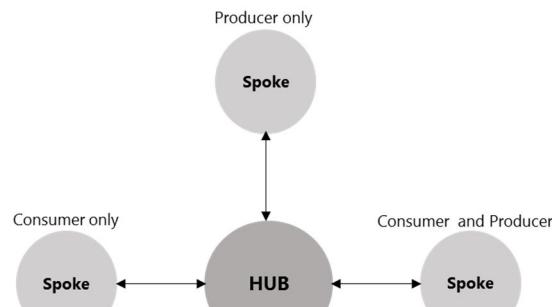
- ⊕ **Specify the scope of information sharing activities:** the scoping activity should identify types of information that an organization's key stakeholders authorize for sharing, the circumstances under which sharing of this information is permitted, and those with whom the information can and should be shared.
- ⊕ **Establish information sharing rules:** sharing rules are intended to control the publication and distribution of threat information, and consequently help to prevent the dissemination of information that, if improperly disclosed, may have adverse consequences for an organization, its customers, or its business partners.



# Cyber Threat Information Sharing - Sharing Models

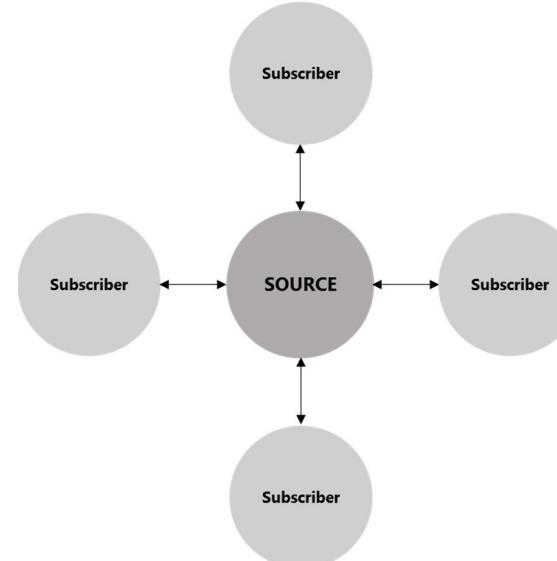
## Hub and Spoke

Hub and Spoke is a sharing model where one organization functions as the central clearinghouse for information, or *hub*, coordinating information exchange between partner organizations, or *spokes*. Spokes can produce and/or consume information from the Hub.



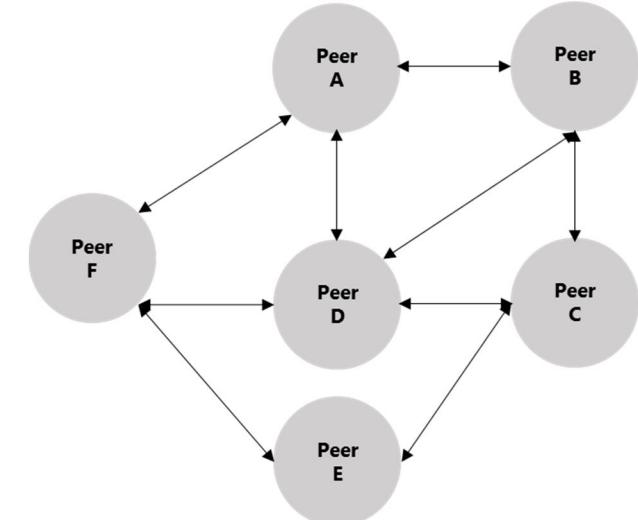
## Source/Subscriber

Source/Subscriber is a sharing model where one organization functions as the single *source* of information and sends that information to *subscribers*.



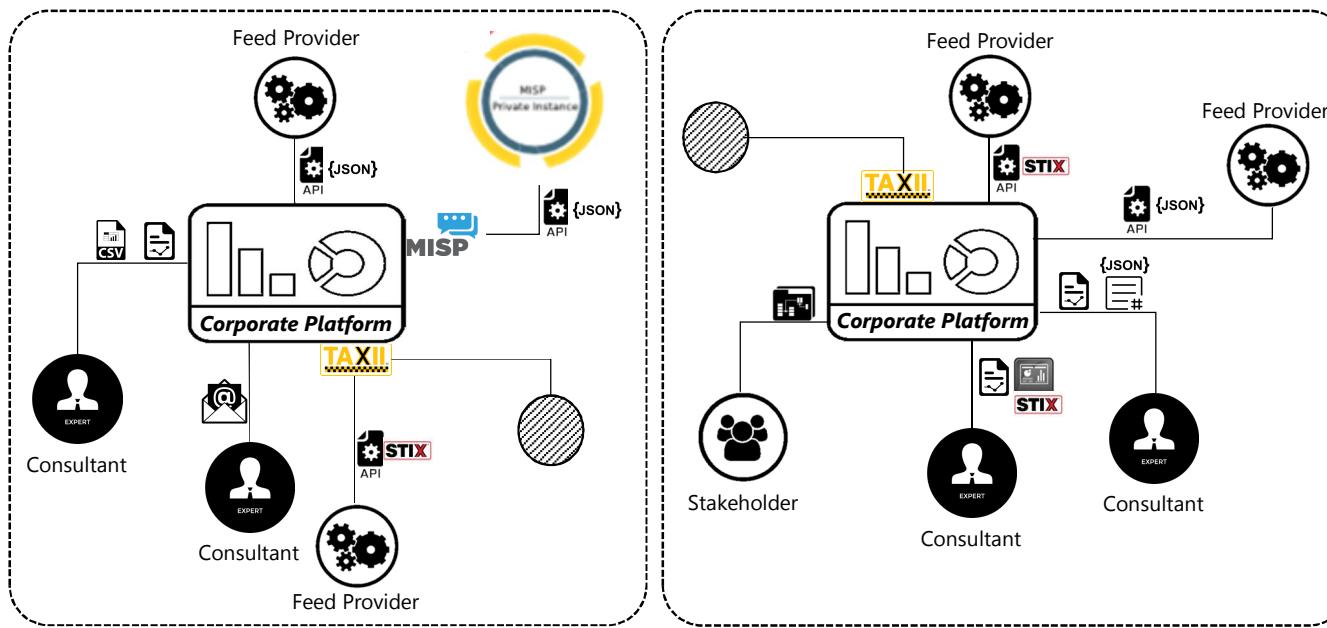
## Peer to Peer

Peer to Peer is a sharing model where two or more organizations share information directly with one another. A *Peer to Peer* sharing model may be ad-hoc, where information exchange is not coordinated ahead of time and is done on an as-needed basis, may be well defined with legal agreements and established procedures, or somewhere in the middle.



# Cyber Threat Information Sharing – Intel Consuming

Some examples of Intelligence Consuming by an Organization



## Applications/Platforms Layer Protocol

MISP Malware Information Sharing Platform

TAXII Trusted Automated Exchange

## Structured Information

{JSON} Feeds in JSON format got by API request

{JSON} Feeds in STIX format got by API request

{JSON} Feeds in JSON format got by file

## Unstructured Information

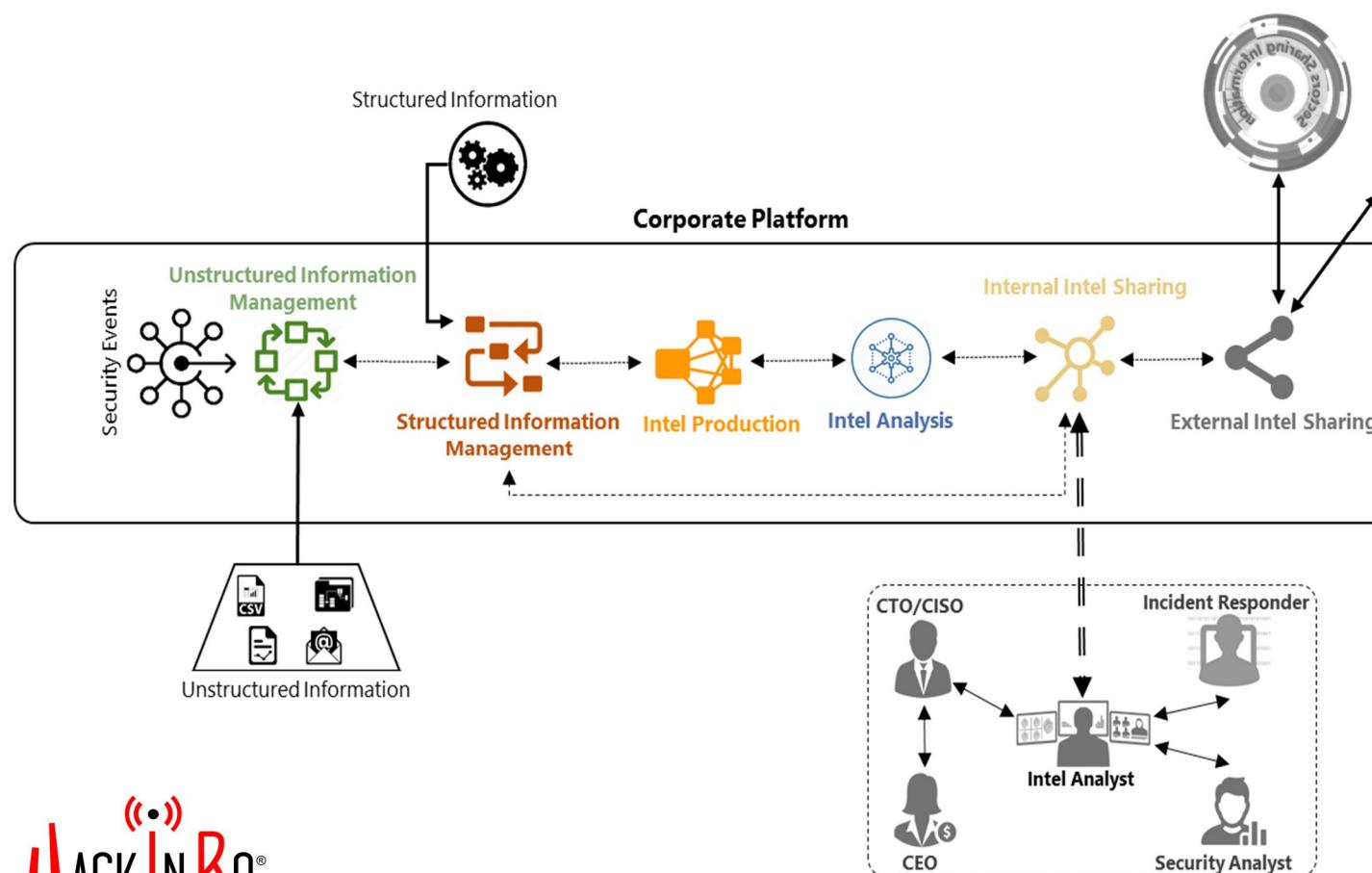
Information Intel (e.g. IoC) in CSV format

Information Intel (e.g. IoC) in PDF format

Information Intel (e.g. IoC) in email messages

Information Intel (e.g. IoC) in shared folders

# Cyber Threat Information Sharing - Intel Producing



## Processes involved in the Intel Production of an Organization



### Unstructured Information Management:

- Collection
- Storaging/Indexing
- IoC Extraction
- De-duplication
- Normalization/Structuring
- ...



### Structured Information Management:

- Feeds Ingestion
- Normalization
- Filtering
- Tagging
- Enrichment
- Evaluation of Information
- Validation of Information
- Classification for sharing
- ...



### Intel Production:

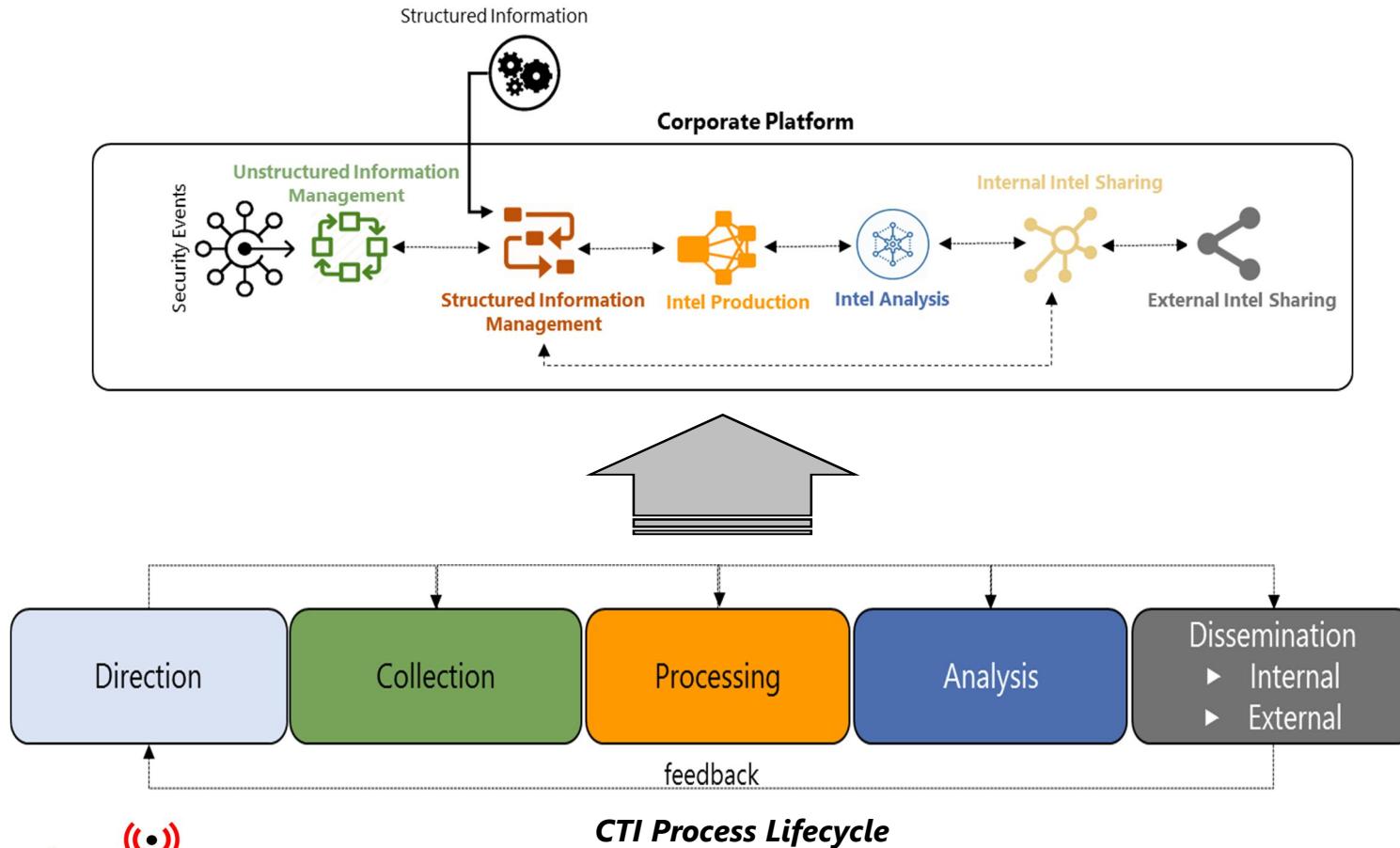
- Creation of new Intel
- Data analytics
- Reporting
- ...



### Intel Analysis:

- Explore threats
- Provide investigation workflows
- Understand the broader context and implications of threats

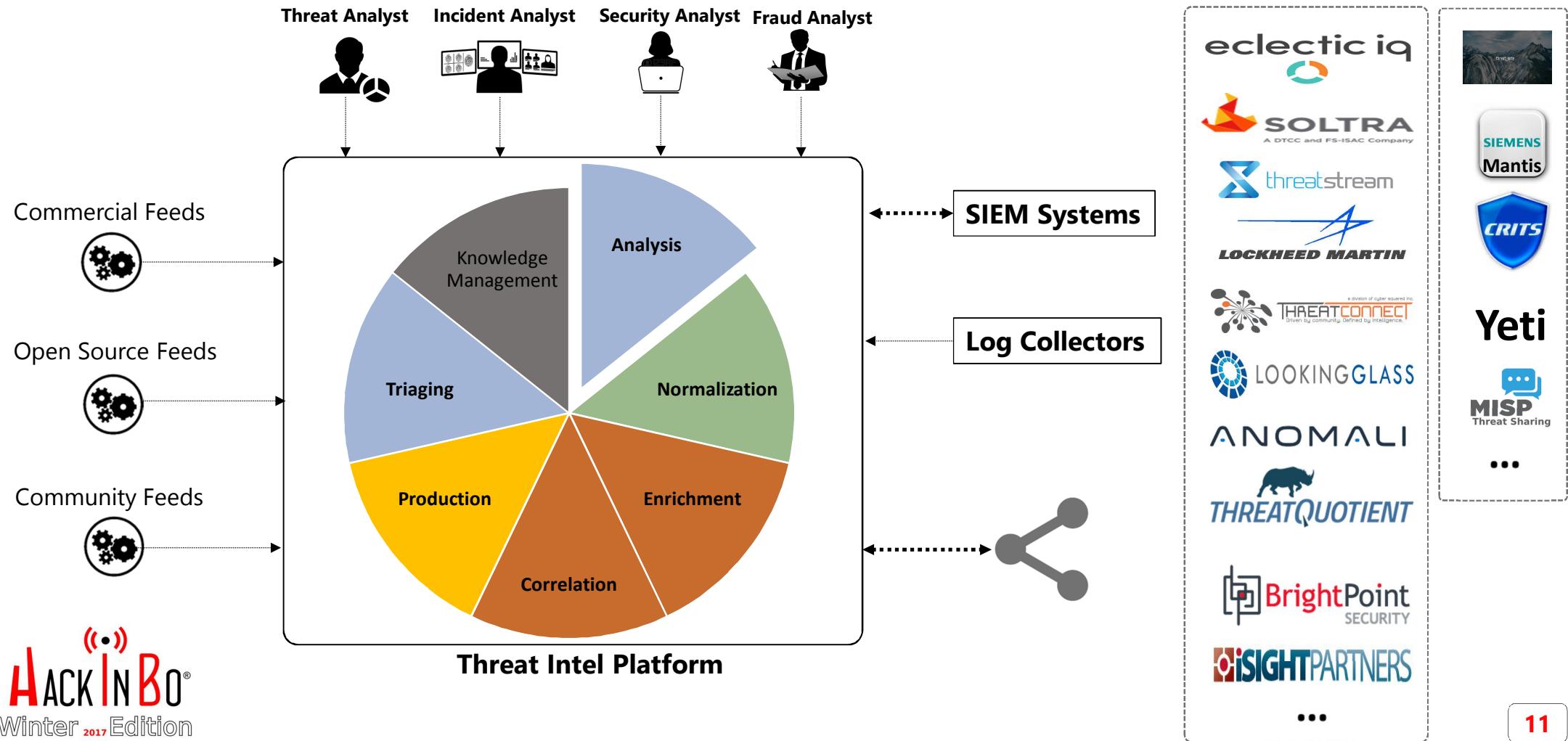
# Implementation of CTI Process Lifecycle



## CTI Process Lifecycle

- ▶ **Direction:** Define a clear CTI mission that speaks to the goals of the program.
- ▶ **Collections & Processing:** Using a data acquisition strategy, determine how, when, why, and what should be collected to fulfill requirements. Normalize, de-dupe and enrich threat data to produce information that's consumable and applicable. To reduce processing time, automated collection systems
- ▶ **Production & Analysis:** Produce finished intelligence products such as briefings and technical reports that are timely, relevant, actionable, and trace back to stakeholder needs. To the finished intelligence is applied the evaluation, analysis and interpretation against your program's requirements to provide the objectives defined in the dissemination phase.
- ▶ **Dissemination & Feedback:** Deliver finished intelligence products to internal or external stakeholders at defined frequencies and methods. Products should outline expected courses of action and provide a means for stakeholders to evaluate the product received.

# Threat Intelligence Platform (TIP)



# Cyber Threat Information Ingestion – A sample of Unstructured T.I.

The screenshot shows the IOExtractor interface with a demonstration case report. It includes sections for 'Victim System Memory MD5 Hashes' and 'Attacker IP Addresses', along with a note about malware used and a list of kill switch viruses.

```
74 Cy\Users\fischillit\Desktop\IOExtractor-master\DemonstrationCaseReport.txt - IOExtractor 1.1
[Open File] [Clear] [MD5] [IPV4] [URI] [Domain] [Email] [Export Console] [Export CSV] [Export CyBOX] [Export OpenIOC 1.1]
victim_w32.virus

10.0.0.3 Web Server: www.victimcompany.com
10.0.0.4 Database Server
10.0.0.5 Active Directory Server

Victim System Memory MD5 Hashes

10.0.0.3 83a4a96ad96436c621b9809e258b309
10.0.0.4 bff555ea6a71a67be587afef9904191ab
10.0.0.5 2429e924dc973313828ab0ce427fe774

Nulla viverra gravida adipiscin. Nullam vel sem dolor, et tincidunt orci. Nunc sollicitudin condimentum eros. Aliquam et felis quis metus feugiat dignissim sed ut justo. Suspendisse auctor ut lacus sodales pulchra nec at libero. Mauris eu auctor mauris. Integer ultricies cursus dui a dignissim. Sed eu ullamcorper metus. Phasellus id tempus lectus.

Attacker IP Addresses

129.123.123.123 Iran
234.239.234.234 North Korea
231.231.231.231 United States

The attackers used the following malware.

Killer virus 8b3a213efc74e56b297439f9fffe8c0d
Fake virus 92a99500000000000000000000000000
```

[https://github.com/armbues/ioc\\_parser](https://github.com/armbues/ioc_parser)



<https://github.com/sroberts/jager>

...

The screenshot shows the 'OBSERVABLES' tab of a threat intelligence platform. It lists various observable items, each with a checkbox and a preview icon. A red box highlights the first item, 'Unveiling\_Patchwork.pdf'. Another red box highlights the 'OBSERVABLES' tab itself. A third red box highlights the date filter '1 - 10 of 265' at the bottom right.

OVERVIEW OBSERVABLES NEIGHBORHOOD JSON VERSIONS HISTORY

Type	Value	Description
uri	http://.../http/down.php	Description
uri	http://7zip.exe/netmon.exe	Description
uri	http://tymlp50.com/jm耶faejshbefahsh...	Description
uri	http://dev.to/rly	Description
uri	http://www.indetectables.net/viewtopic...	Description
uri	https://github.com/PowerShellMafia/Po...	Description
uri	http://cnmilit.com/	Description
uri	http://Dentropy.blogspot.com/2012/04/p...	Description
uri	https://www.360totalsecurity.com/	Description
uri	https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/35...	Description

TYPE

- Type to filter...
- domain
- uri
- hash-sha256
- ipv4
- cve
- hash-md5
- asn

RELATION

MALICIOUSNESS

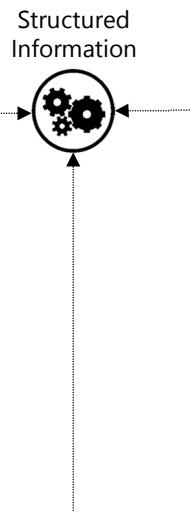
DATE

1 - 10 of 265

# Cyber Threat Information Ingestion – Some sample of Structured T.I.

```
{
    "attributes": [
        {
            "COMMENT": "QUASARRAT (uvng1oz9d0.exe)",
            "CREATION_DATE": "19700817",
            "SOURCE": "RSA",
            "TLP": "white",
            "YARA_RULE": null,
            "indicator_CATEGORY": "HASH_SHA256",
            "indicator_FIRSTSEEN": 0,
            "indicator_LASTSEEN": 0,
            "indicator_VALUE": "f64b69f85b512172a58891fc243e12d002073ec189f98e54641c4b3ce01f4b3b"
        },
        {
            "name": "6ea497ba-d34f-4ad8-a188-48e3acdbe8ba"
        },
        {
            "attributes": [
                {
                    "COMMENT": "Payload's C&C",
                    "CREATION_DATE": "19700817",
                    "SOURCE": "RSA",
                    "TLP": "white",
                    "YARA_RULE": null,
                    "indicator_CATEGORY": "URL",
                    "indicator_FIRSTSEEN": 0,
                    "indicator_LASTSEEN": 0,
                    "indicator_VALUE": "http://96.44.188.28/checker/stage1.jsp?J=K"
                },
                ...
            ],
            "campaign_COMPLEXITY": "Medium",
            "campaign_NAME": "MalSpam Delivers RAT SpyWare Quasar 9-27-2017",
            "campaign_STYLE": null,
            "threatactor_NAME": null,
            "tgt_TARGETSECTOR": null
        }
    ]
}
```

Fragment of JSON Exported from a MISP



```

<stix:STIX_Package
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xmlns:stix="http://stix.mitre.org/stix-1"
    xmlns:indicator="http://stix.mitre.org/Indicator-2"
    xmlns:cybox="http://cybox.mitre.org/cybox-2"
    xmlns:AddressObject="http://cybox.mitre.org/objects#AddressObject-2"
    xmlns:cyboxVocabs="http://cybox.mitre.org/default_vocabularies-2"
    xmlns:stixVocabs="http://stix.mitre.org/default_vocabularies-1"
    xmlns:example="http://example.com/"
    xsi:schemaLocation="
        http://stix.mitre.org/stix-1./stix_core.xsd
        http://stix.mitre.org/Indicator-2./indicator.xsd
        http://cybox.mitre.org/default_vocabularies-2./cybox/cybox_default_vocabularies.xsd
        http://stix.mitre.org/default_vocabularies-1./stix_default_vocabularies.xsd
        http://cybox.mitre.org/objects#AddressObject-2./cybox/objects/Address_Object.xsd"
    id="example:STIXPackage-33fe3b22-0201-47cf-85d0-97c02164528d"
    version="1.0.1"
    >
    <stix:STIX_Header>
        <stix:Title> Example watchlist that contains IP information. </stix:Title>
        <stix:Package_Intent xsi:type="stixVocabs:PackageIntentVocab-1.0">Indicators - Watchlist </stix:Package_Intent>
    </stix:STIX_Header>
    <stix:Indicators>
        <stix:Indicator xsi:type="indicator:IndicatorType" id="example:Indicator-33fe3b22-0201-47cf-85d0-97c02164528d">
            <indicator:Type xsi:type="stixVocabs:IndicatorTypeVocab-1.0">IP Watchlist </indicator:Type>
            <indicator:Description> Sample IP Address Indicator for this watchlist. This contains one indicator with a set of three IP addresses in the watchlist. </indicator:Description>
            <indicator:Observable id="example:Observable-1c798262-a4cd-434d-a958-884d6980c459">
                <cybox:Object id="example:Object-1980ce43-8e03-490b-863a-ea404d12242">
                    <cybox:Properties xsi:type="AddressObject:AddressObjectType" category="ipv4-addr">
                        <AddressObject:Address_Value condition="Equals" apply_condition="ANY">> 10.0.0.0##comma##10.0.0.1##comma##10.0.0.2 </AddressObject:Address_Value>
                    </cybox:Properties>
                </cybox:Object>
            </indicator:Observable>
        </stix:Indicator>
    </stix:Indicators>
</stix:STIX_Package>

```

Fragment of STIX 1.1

```
{"sector": "", "url": "http://castlerealty.net/documents/com/input/input/google/oods/oods/oods/gdoc/filewords/index.php", "ip": "69.16.194.164", "brand": "Generic/Spear Phishing", "isotime": "2017-07-03T14:50:07Z", "asn_name": "Liquid Web, Inc.", "discover_time": "03-07-2017 14:50:07 UTC", "asn": "AS32244", "family_id": "a8f9e45860f6683b4c3be5777d574ae9", "host": "castlerealty.net", "country_code": "US", "tld": "net", "country_name": "United States", "phishing_kit": null, "emails": []}

{"sector": "", "url": "http://www.svmschools.org/officelol/office/index.html", "ip": "192.185.115.64", "brand": "Generic/Spear Phishing", "isotime": "2017-07-03T14:45:39Z", "asn_name": "CyrusOne LLC", "discover_time": "03-07-2017 14:45:39 UTC", "asn": "AS20013", "family_id": "34473f2f52815baab58711fb1b2b68e", "host": "www.svmschools.org", "country_code": "US", "tld": "org", "country_name": "United States", "phishing_kit": "https://openphish.com/prvt-intell/pkit/eca3dd10554195a24fb2130fe7e98937", "emails": ["spamlord007@yandex.com"]}
```

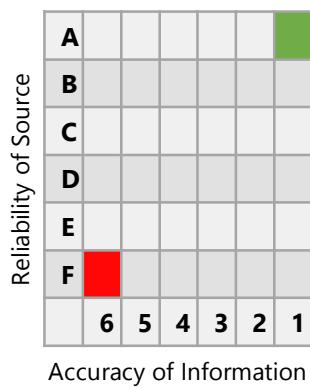
Fragment of JSON Exported from a Feed's Provider related to phishing

# Evaluation of Information

**Evaluation of Information** occurs in the processing stage of the intelligence cycle recognizing that collected information cannot be accepted at face value. Each item of information used in the creation of an assessment is given an indication of source reliability and assessed accuracy, based on corroboration or other assessment. The method used to such as this evaluation is dubbed **Admiralty System** (or NATO System).

**Reliability of Source.** A source is assessed for reliability based on a technical assessment of its capability

- A - Completely reliable: No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency; has a history of complete reliability
- B - Usually reliable: Minor doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency; has a history of valid information most of the time
- C - Fairly reliable: Doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency but has provided valid information in the past
- D - Not usually reliable: Significant doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency but has provided valid information in the past
- E - Unreliable: Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, and competency; history of invalid information
- F - Reliability cannot be judged: No basis exists for evaluating the reliability of the source



**Accuracy of data.** An item is assessed for credibility based on likelihood and levels of corroboration by other sources.

- 1 - Confirmed by other sources: Confirmed by other independent sources; logical in itself; Consistent with other information on the subject
- 2 - Probably True: Not confirmed; logical in itself; consistent with other information on the subject
- 3 - Possibly True: Not confirmed; reasonably logical in itself; agrees with some other information on the subject
- 4 - Doubtful: Not confirmed; possible but not logical; no other information on the subject
- 5 - Improbable: Not confirmed; not logical in itself; contradicted by other information on the subject
- 6 - Truth cannot be judged: No basis exists for evaluating the validity of the information

# Classification of Information Sharing

**Classification of Information for sharing** it is designed to improve the flow of information between individuals, organizations or communities in a controlled and trusted way. The **Traffic Light Protocol** (TLP) is based on the concept of the originator labeling information with one of four colors to indicate what further dissemination, if any, can be undertaken by the recipient. The recipient must consult the originator if wider dissemination is required.

**TLP:RED** = Not for disclosure, restricted to participants only. Sources may use TLP:RED when information cannot be effectively acted upon by additional parties, and could lead to impacts on a party's privacy, reputation, or operations if misused. Recipients may not share TLP:RED information with any parties outside of the specific exchange, meeting, or conversation in which it was originally disclosed. In most circumstances, TLP:RED should be exchanged verbally or in person.

**TLP:AMBER** = Limited disclosure, restricted to participants' organizations. Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon, yet carries risks to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved. Recipients may only share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization, and with clients or customers who need to know the information to protect themselves or prevent further harm. Sources are at liberty to specify additional intended limits of the sharing: these must be adhered to.

**TLP:GREEN** = Limited disclosure, restricted to the community. Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful for the awareness of all participating organizations as well as with peers within the broader community or sector. Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their sector or community, but not via publicly accessible channels. Information in this category can be circulated widely within a particular community. TLP:GREEN information may not be released outside of the community.

**TLP:WHITE** = Disclosure is not limited. Sources may use TLP:WHITE when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release. Subject to standard copyright rules, TLP:WHITE information may be distributed without restriction.

# Let there be IoC

The collage includes the following components:

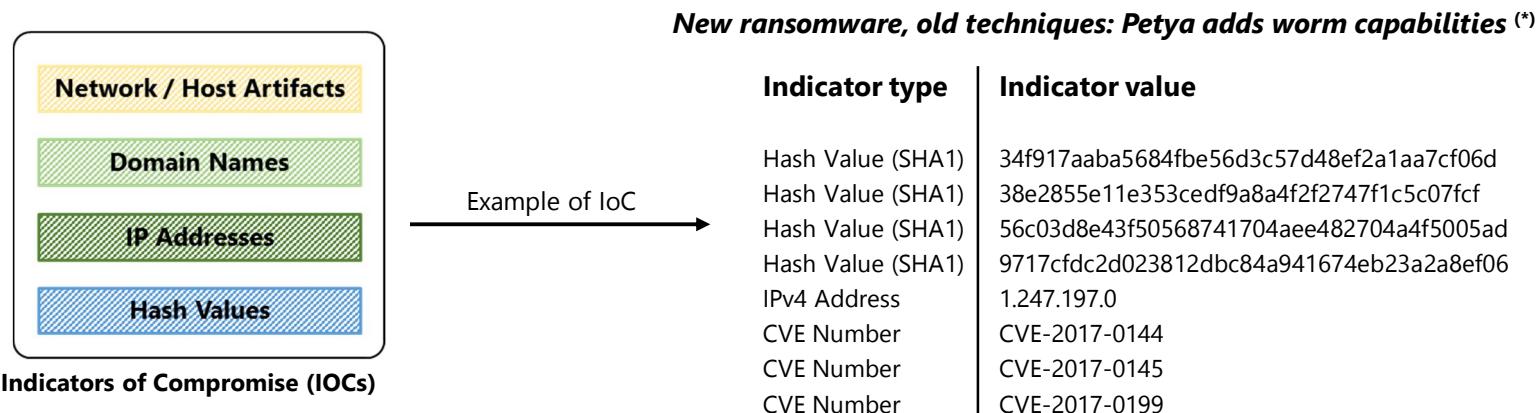
- Kaspersky Report:** A report titled "NetFile-801.exe" from "THE NETTRAVELER" dated February 2004.
- Mandiant Report:** A report titled "APT1: Exposing One of China's Cyber Espionage Units" dated November 2014.
- NCSC Report:** A technical note titled "Derusbi Server variant (November 2014)" dated November 2014.
- Symantec Report:** A report titled "W32.Stuxnet Dossier" dated February 2012.
- THE DUKES Report:** A report titled "7 years of Russian cyberespionage" dated February 2013.
- BSI Report:** A report titled "Mandiant APT1" dated February 2013.
- HACKINBO Logo:** The logo for "HACKINBO Winter 2017 Edition".

Released on 2013, Feb

# Indicators of Compromise (IoC)

**Indicators of Compromise** (IOCs) are **forensic artifacts of an intrusion that can be identified on a host or network.**

Using Indicators of Compromise, insights from incidents become **shareable** with other organizations. An incident at one organization can be part of multiple, similar incidents at other organizations. Information regarding an incident at one organization can lead to detection and possibly prevention within other organizations.



## Indicators of Compromise (IoC) - Limitations

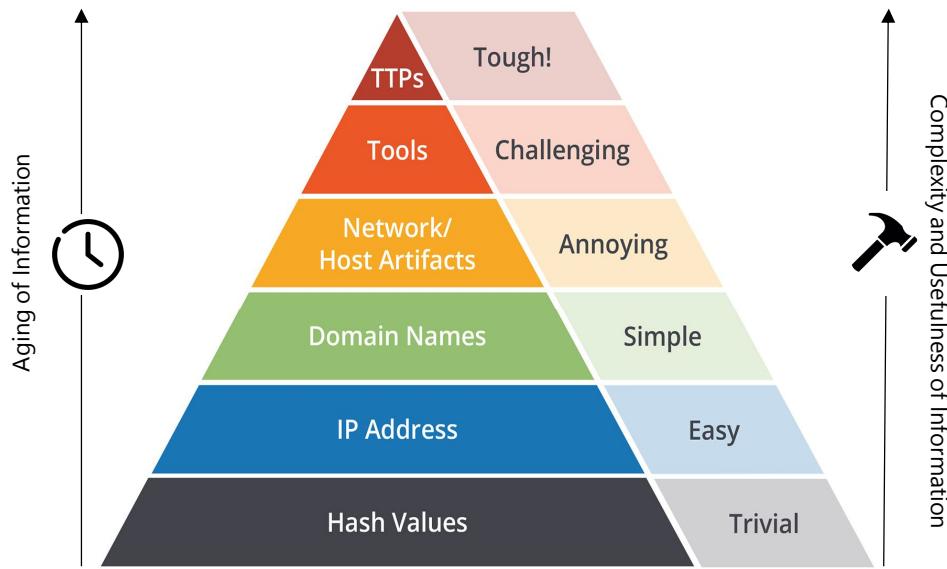
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**Limitation of IoC:** Indicators of Compromise don't provide any information in support of such *contextualization* of an incident as the following:

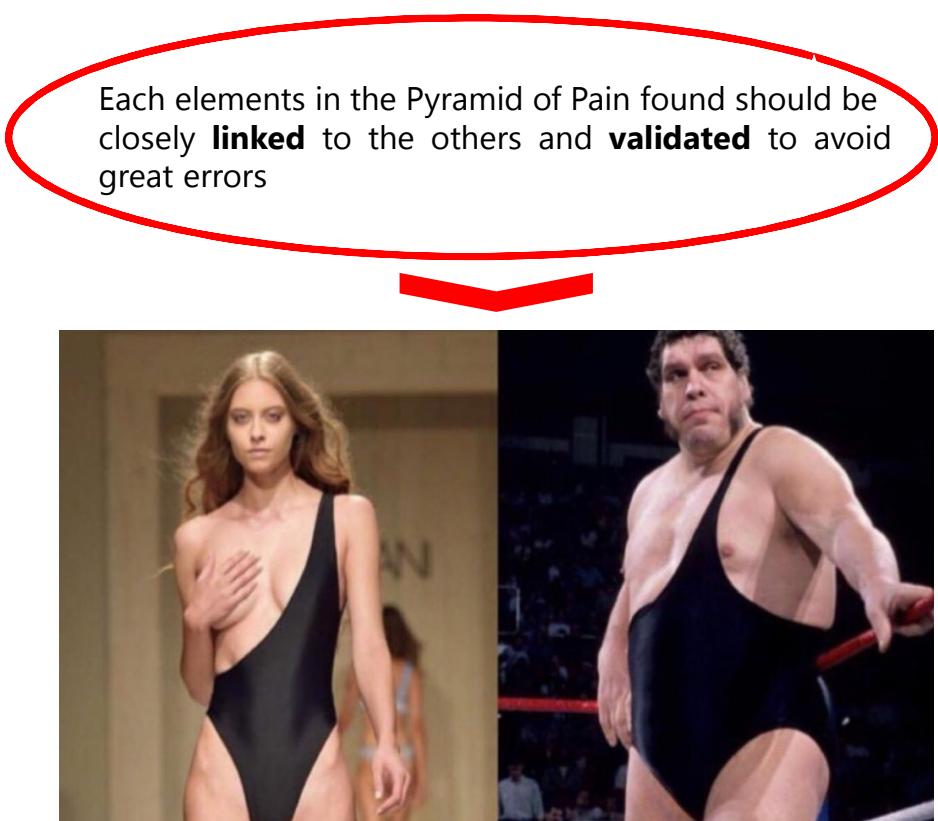
1. Who was hit by this attack?
2. Who is behind this attack, and what is the sophistication level of this attacker?
3. What happened and what is the damage done?
4. Where in the network did the attack take place?
5. When did the attack take place?
6. Why did this attack take place?

# Pyramid of Pain

The *Pyramid of Pain* shows the **relationships** between the types of indicators you might use to detect an adversary's activities and how much pain it will cause them when you are able to deny those indicators to them. **The Pyramid measures potential usefulness of your intel and the difficulty of obtaining that intel.**



Source: David J. Bianco, personal blog



# **Pyramid of Pain and never a some of joy**

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**EACH INDICATOR OF A PYRAMID OF PAIN IS NEEDED TO ANALYZE AN INCIDENT!**

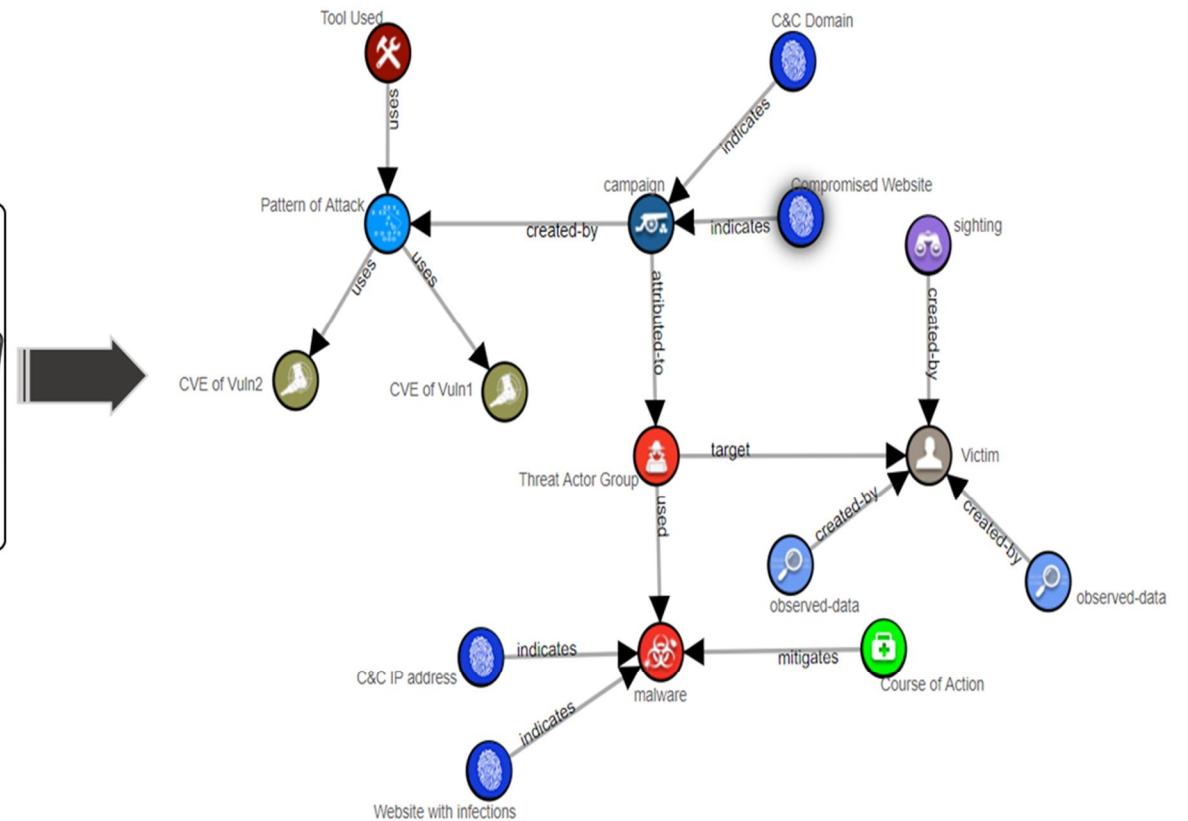
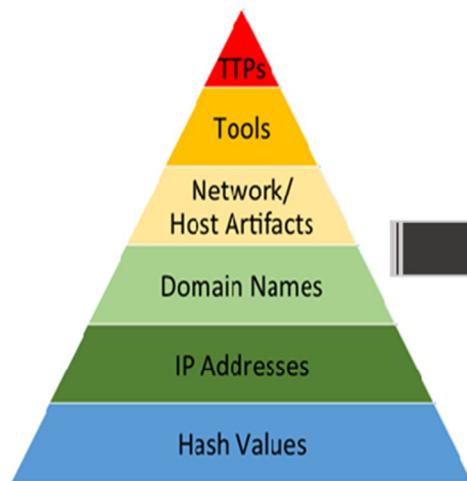
**Okay, but:**

**Issues #1:** How representing all indicators in a Pyramid of Pain?

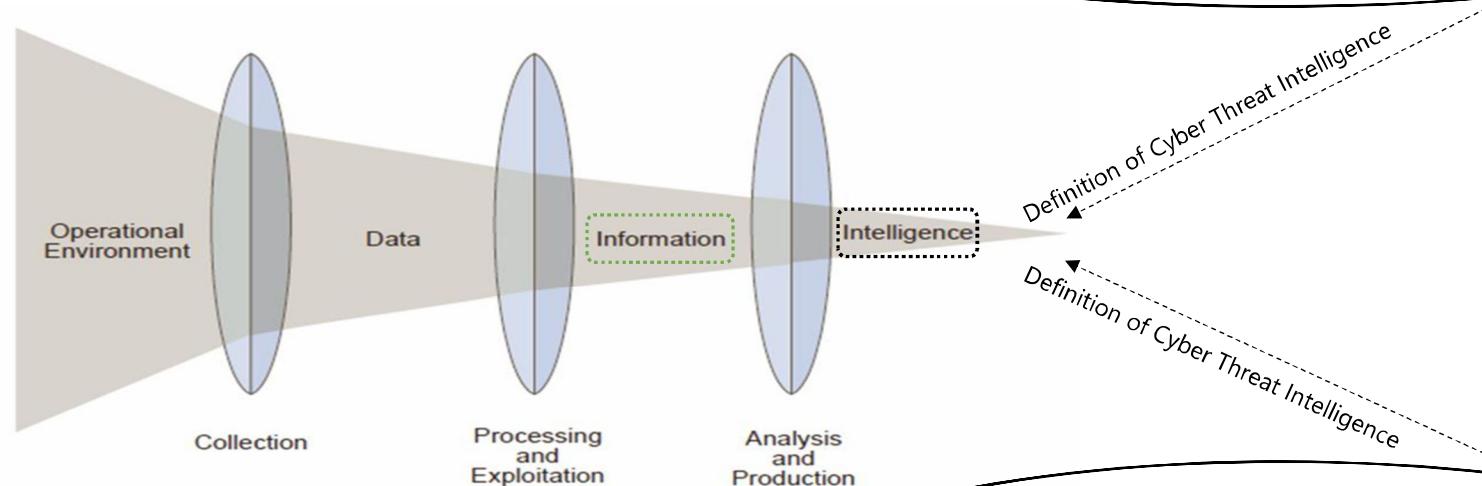
**Issues #2:** Our work is completed after being given all indicators?

# Representation of threat information elements

**Issues #1:** How representing all indicators in a Pyramid of Pain?



# What is threat intelligence?



Source: Joint Intelligence / Joint Publication 2-0 (Joint Chiefs of Staff)

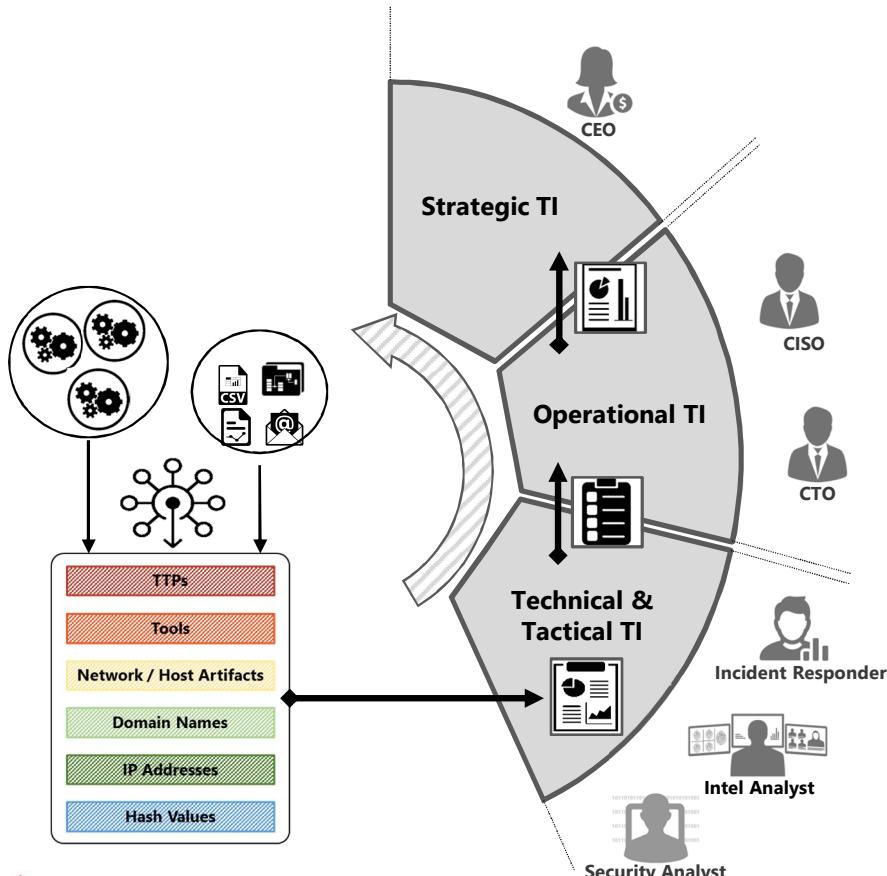
"Evidence-based knowledge, including context, mechanisms, indicators, implications and actionable advice about an existing or emerging menace or hazard **to assets that can be used to inform decisions** regarding the subject's response to that menace or hazard."

Gartner®

"The details of the motivations, intent, and capabilities of internal and external threat actors. Threat intelligence includes specifics on the tactics, techniques, and procedures of these adversaries. **Threat intelligence's primary purpose is to inform business decisions** regarding the risks and implications associated with threats."

FORRESTER®

# Type of Threat Intelligence



## Different type of Threat Intelligence

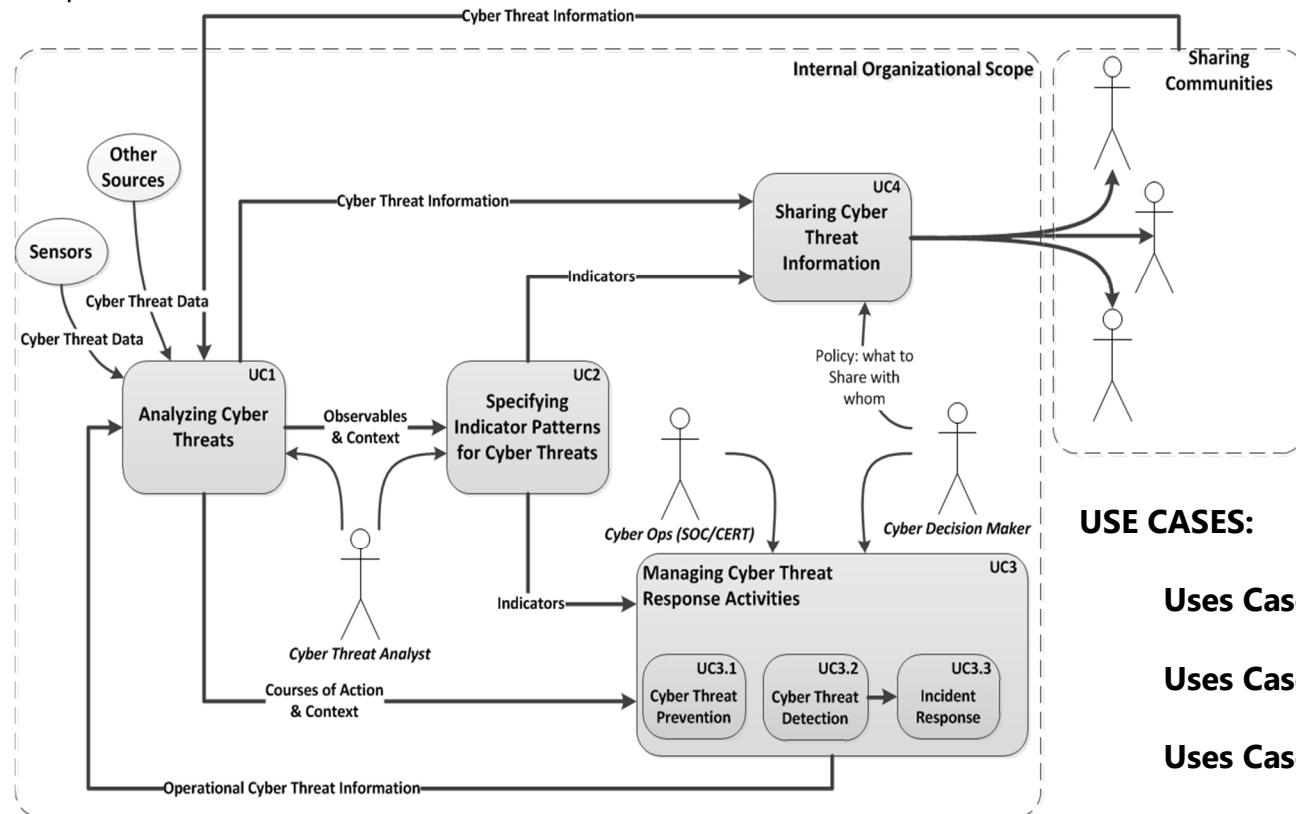
**Technical & Tactical TI:** Tech&Tactical threat intelligence can be one of the most useful forms of intelligence in terms of protecting the organization. It is defined as information that concerns the tactics used by threat groups – including their tools and methodologies – and is often referred to as Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs)

**Operational TI:** Operational threat intelligence is actionable information on specific incoming attacks. Ideally, it informs on the nature of the attack, the identity and capability of the attacker – and gives an indication of when the attack will take place. It is used to mitigate the attack: for example, by removing attack paths or hardening services.

**Strategic TI:** Strategic threat intelligence is consumed by high-level strategists within an organization, typically the board or those who report to the board. Its purpose is to help strategists understand current risks, and to identify further risks of which they are as yet unaware. It deals in such high-level concepts as risk and likelihoods, rather than technical aspects; and it is used by the board to guide strategic business decisions and to understand the impact of the decisions that are made.

# STIX - Use Cases

STIX is targeted to support a range of core use cases involved in cyber threat management. Very simple overviews of these *use cases* are provided below:



## USE CASES:

**Uses Case 1:** Analyzing Cyber Threats

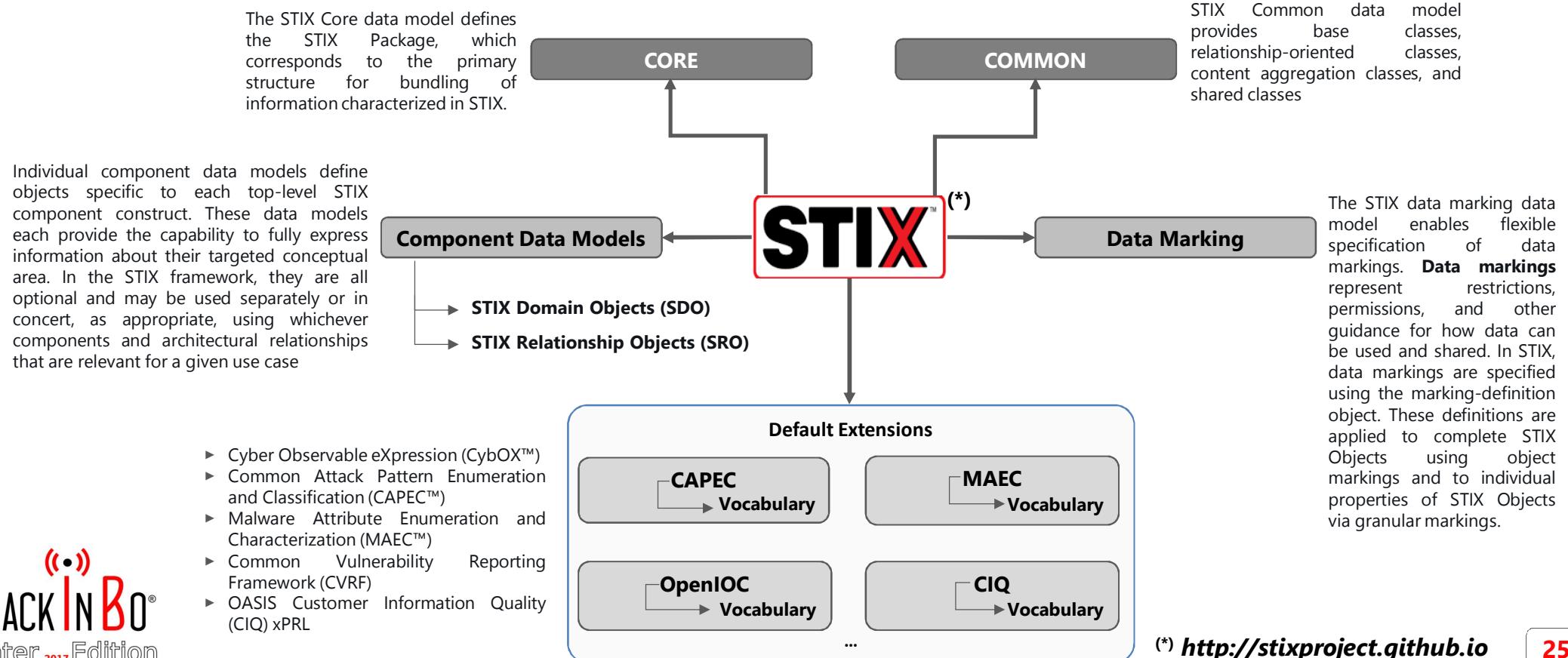
**Uses Case 2:** Specifying Indicator Patterns for Cyber Threats

**Uses Case 3:** Managing Cyber Threat Response Activities

**Uses Case 4:** Sharing Cyber Threat Information

# STIX – Language components

**STIX is a language for the specification, capture, characterization and communication of standardized cyber threat information. It does so in a structured fashion to support more effective cyber threat management processes and application of automation.**



# STIX – Component data models (STIX v1.x)

## STIX Domain Objects (SDO)



**Observable.** Represents information about stateful properties or measurable events pertinent to the operation of computers and networks. Information about a file (name, hash, size, etc.), a registry key value, a service being started, or an HTTP request being sent are all simple examples of observables



**Indicator.** Contains information on observable patterns of entities, events, behaviors of interest, etc. within a cyber security context. It relates these observable patterns to particular TTPs that threat actors employ and provide additional information such as confidence in the indicator's assertion, handling restrictions, valid time windows, likely impact, sightings of the indicator, structured test mechanisms for detection, related campaigns, suggested courses of action, related indicators, the source of the Indicator, etc.



**TTP.** Borrowed from a military term "Tactics, Techniques, Procedures" to represent the adversary's behavior (or *modus operandi*) when executing the attack. A TTP may contain information such as what victims the threat actor targets, what attack patterns and malware they use, and what resources (infrastructure, tools, personas) they leverage



**Incident.** Describes a cyber security incident, e.g. what occurred, the impact of the incident on systems and information, the incident timeline, points of contact, and other descriptive information



**Threat Actor.** Characterizes or identifies the attacker or adversary. Provides information such as identifying characteristics, sophistication of the threat actor, its motivations and desired effects, and historically observed behavior.



**Exploit Target.** Contains information about a technical vulnerability, weakness, or misconfiguration in software, systems, or networks that may be targeted for exploitation by a threat actor

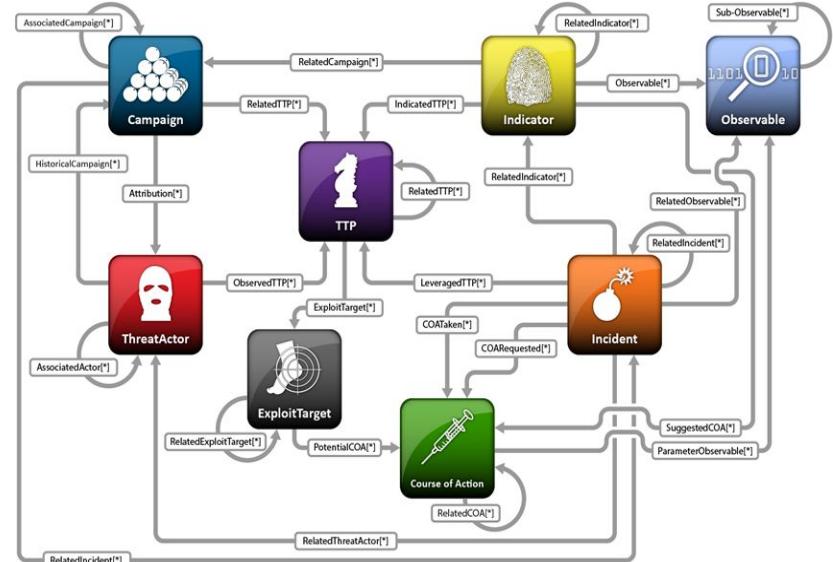


**Course of Action.** Represents a set of activities that may be taken either in response to an attack or as a preventative measure prior to an attack



**Campaign.** Represents a set of activities or mission that a threat actor(s) carries out to achieve a desired effect

## STIX Relationship Objects (SRO)



# STIX – Component data models (STIX v2.x)

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## STIX v2 Domain Objects (SDOs):



**Attack Pattern.** A type of Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTP) that describes ways threat actors attempt to compromise targets



**Campaign.** A grouping of adversarial behaviors that describes a set of malicious activities or attacks that occur over a period of time against a specific set of targets



**Course of Action.** An action taken to either prevent an attack or respond to an attack.



**Identity.** Individuals, organizations, or groups, as well as classes of individuals, organizations, or groups.



**Indicator.** Contains a pattern that can be used to detect suspicious or malicious cyber activity.



**Intrusion Set.** A grouped set of adversarial behaviors and resources with common properties believed to be orchestrated by a single threat actor.



**Malware.** A type of TTP, also known as malicious code and malicious software, used to compromise the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of a victim's data or system



**Observed Data.** Conveys information observed on a system or network (e.g., an IP address).



**Tool.** Legitimate software that can be used by threat actors to perform attacks.



**Vulnerability.** A mistake in software that can be directly used by a hacker to gain access to a system or network



**Report.** Collections of threat intelligence focused on one or more topics, such as a description of a threat actor, malware, or attack technique, including contextual details.



**Threat Actor.** Individuals, groups, or organizations believed to be operating with malicious intent

## STIX Relationship Objects (SROs):



**Relationship.** Used to link two SDOs and to describe how they are related to each other.



**Sighting.** Denotes the belief that an element of CTI was seen (e.g., indicator, malware).

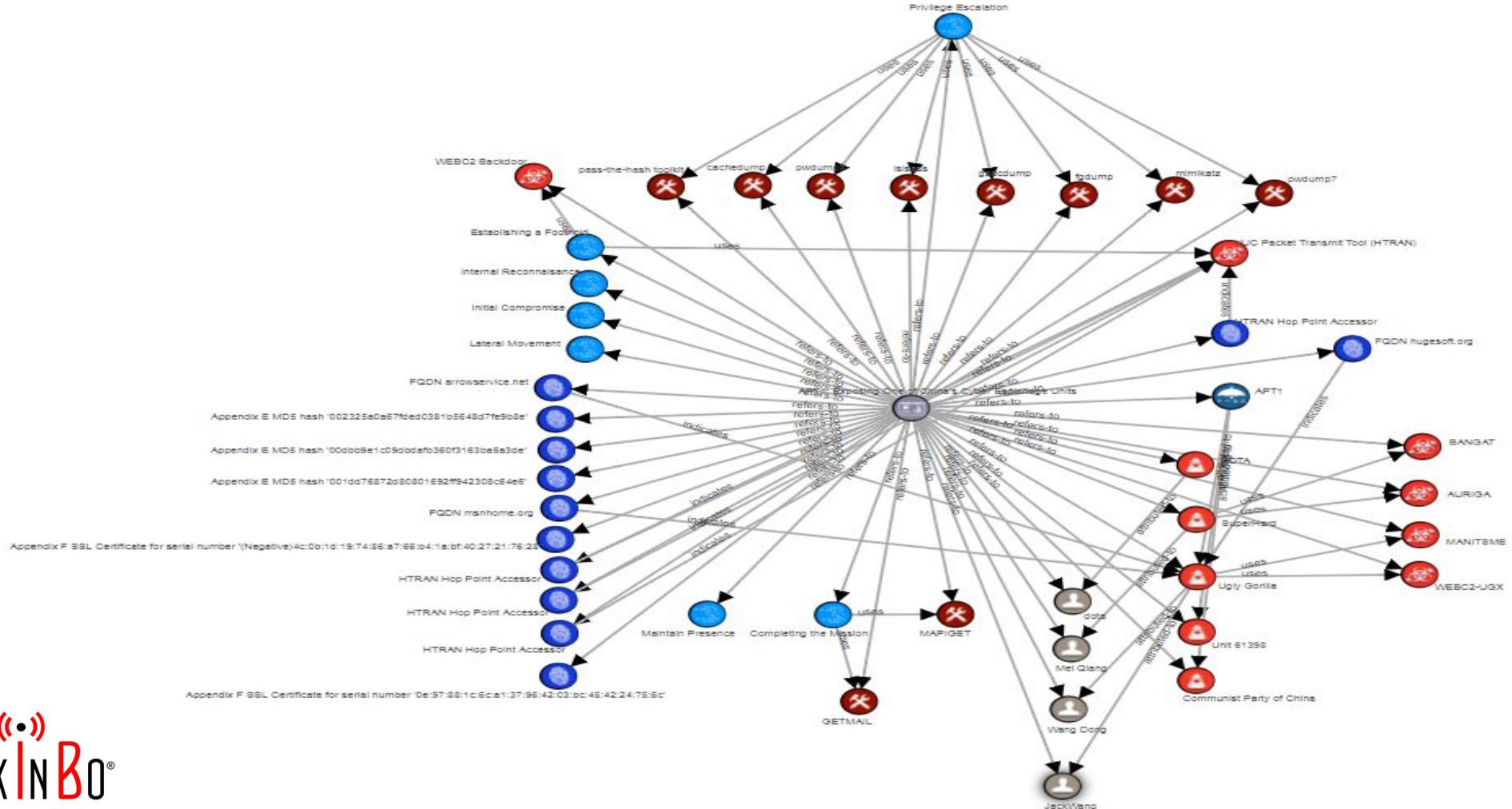
## Some difference between STIX 1.X/CybOX 2.X and STIX 2

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In the following, are reported just a few difference between STIX v1 and STIX v2:

- ▶ OASIS Cyber Threat Intelligence decided to merge the CybOX into STIX v2. Cyber Observable eXpression (CybOX™) objects are now called STIX Cyber Observables.
- ▶ JSON vs. XML: STIX 2.0 requires implementations to support JSON serialization, while STIX 1.x was defined using XML.
- ▶ STIX Domain Objects: All objects in STIX 2 are at the top-level, rather than being embedded in other objects. The generic TTP (tactics, techniques, procedures) and Exploit Target types from STIX 1.X have been split into separate top-level objects (Attack Pattern, Malware, Tool and Vulnerability) with specific purposes in STIX 2.
- ▶ Relationships as Top-Level Objects: STIX 2.0 introduces a top-level Relationship object, which links two other top-level objects via a named relationship type. **STIX 2 content can be thought of as a connected graph, where nodes are SDOs and edges are Relationship Objects.**
- ▶ Data Markings: Data markings no longer use a serialization specific language, e.g., XPath. In STIX 2, there are two types of data markings: object marking – applicable to a whole object, and granular markings – applicable to a property or properties of an object. Data markings scope is only within the object where they are defined.

# Graphical Representation of some elements of APT1 Report



# Some benefits of using STIX Representation of CTI

- ▶ STIX and TAXII have reached a good level of maturity it is growing its adoption at many organizations
- ▶ STIX can be used to characterize indicators, TTPs, exploit targets, and other aspects of a cyber threat. STIX takes advantage of another MITRE schema, CybOX and can be extended to utilize existing schemas, such as CAPEC or OpenIOC.

```
<stix:Indicator id="example:indicator-01"
    timestamp="2017-02-09T12:11:11.415000+00:00"
    xsi:type='indicator:IndicatorType'>
    <indicator:Title>HTRAN Hop Point Accessor</indicator:Title>
</stix:Indicator>
<stix:TTPs>
    <stix:Kill_Chains>
        <stixCommon:Kill_Chain id="stix:TPP-02"
            name="mandiant-attack-lifecycle-model">
            <stixCommon:Kill_Chain_Phase name="establish-foothold"
                phase_id="stix:TPP-03"/>
        </stix:Kill_Chains>
    </stix:TTPs>
    <indicator:Observable id="example:Observable-04">
        <cybox:Object id="example:Object-05">
            <cybox:Properties xsi:type="AddressObj:AddressObjectType"
                category="ipv4-addr">
                <AddressObj:Address_Value condition="Equals">10.1.0.0/15
                </AddressObj:Address_Value>
            </cybox:Object>
        </indicator:Observable>
    </stix:Kill_Chains>
</stix:Indicator>
```

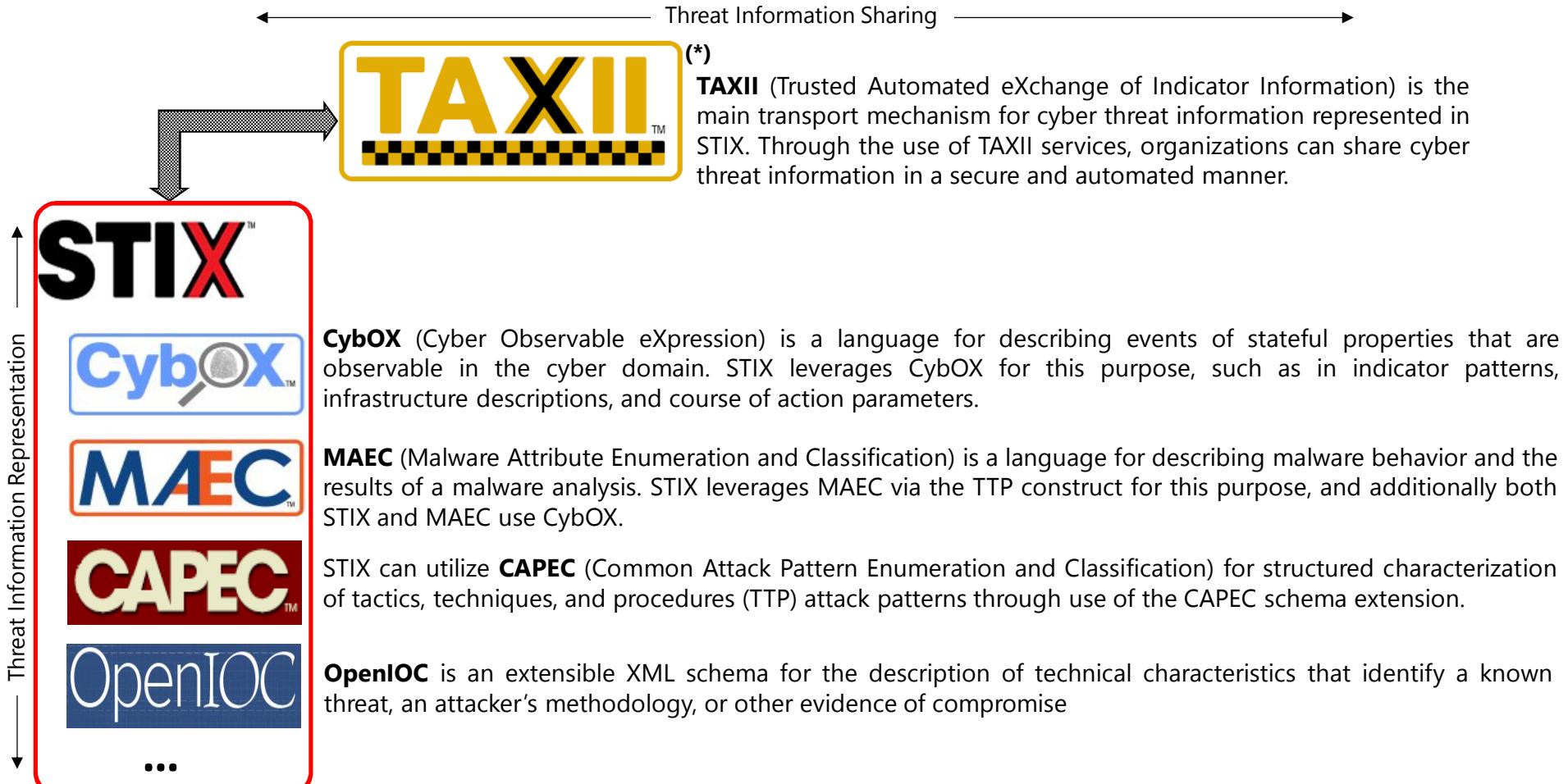
STIX 1 Indicator Example

```
{
    "type": "indicator",
    "id": "indicator--01",
    "created": "2017-02-09T12:11:11.415000Z",
    "modified": "2017-02-09T12:11:11.415000Z",
    "name": "HTRAN Hop Point Accessor",
    "pattern": "[ipv4-addr:value = '10.1.0.0/15']",
    "labels": [ "malicious-activity" ],
    "valid_from": "2015-05-15T09:00:00.000000Z",
    "kill_chain_phases": [
        {
            "kill_chain_name":
                "mandiant-attack-lifecycle-model",
            "phase_name": "establish-foothold"
        }
    ]
}
```

STIX 2 Indicator Example with Pattern

- ▶ STIX can be used to describe cyber threat intelligence manually or the process can be automated. For those looking to automate the production of STIX XML documents, MITRE has created Python and Java tools to do that.
- ▶ On the basis of the timestamp associated to the IoCs ingested, analysts can easily create and maintain updated the timelines related to the incidents analyzed/monitored
- ▶ It is possible associate by labeling an entity into a threat intel model (e.g. Diamond Model, Cyber Kill Chain Model, ATT&CK Model, etc)
- ▶ It is possible give to any information intel a value on trustness and reliability
- ▶ The Relation-based of the information intel entities represented in STIX format allows to extend the set of information associated to an analysis

# STIX/TAXII Paradigm



# MAEC + STIX for a ever richest representation



(\*)



## Captures **structured**, detailed malware information:

- Capabilities
- Behaviors
- Actions
- AV Classifications
- Extracted Objects
- Relationships
- Associated Metadata

## Provides analytical context

- "What" does the malware do?
- "How" does the malware operate?

## Target audience:

- Malware Analysts/Reverse Engineers



## Captures **unstructured**, basic malware information:

- Type
- Name
- Description

## Provides surrounding context

- "Who" used the malware?
- "Where" was the malware used?

## Target audience:

- CTI Analysts
- SOC/CERT Operators
- Incident Responders

## Captures broad spectrum of malware information:

- Basic, descriptive information via STIX and provides Identification
- Detailed, structured information via MAEC and provides broader understanding
- Brief description of a malware family and detailed descriptions of several of its Members

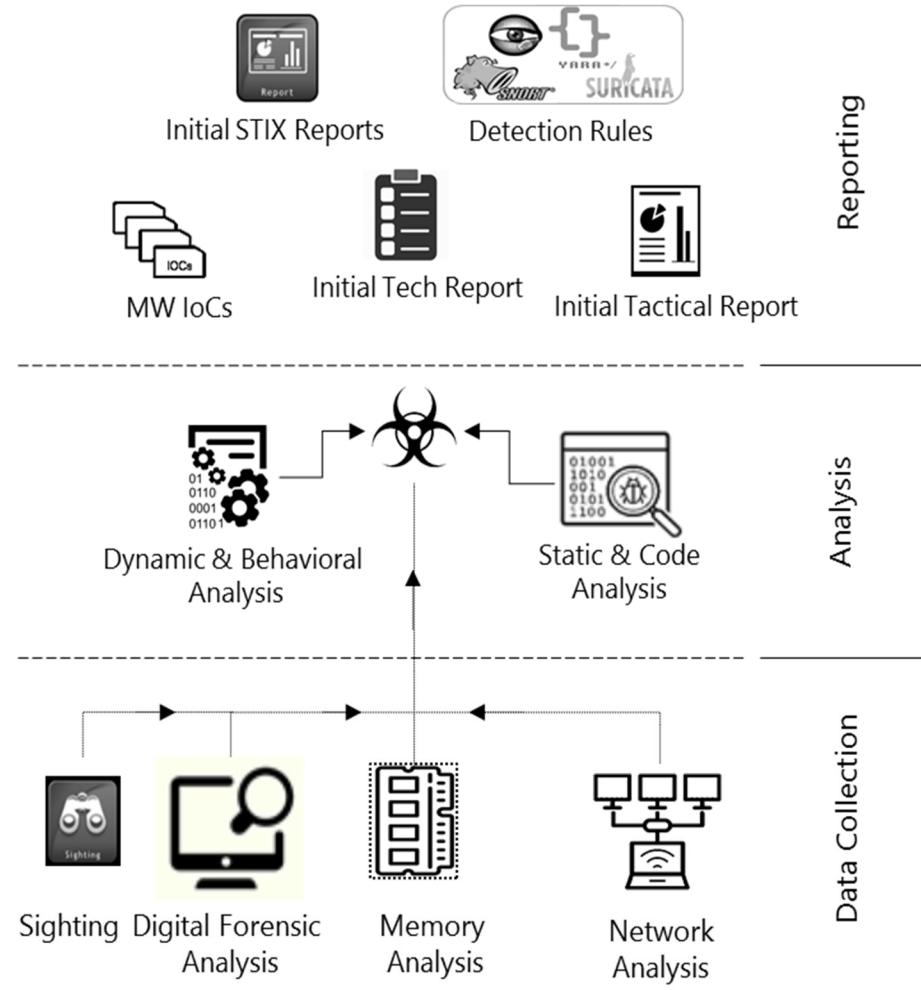
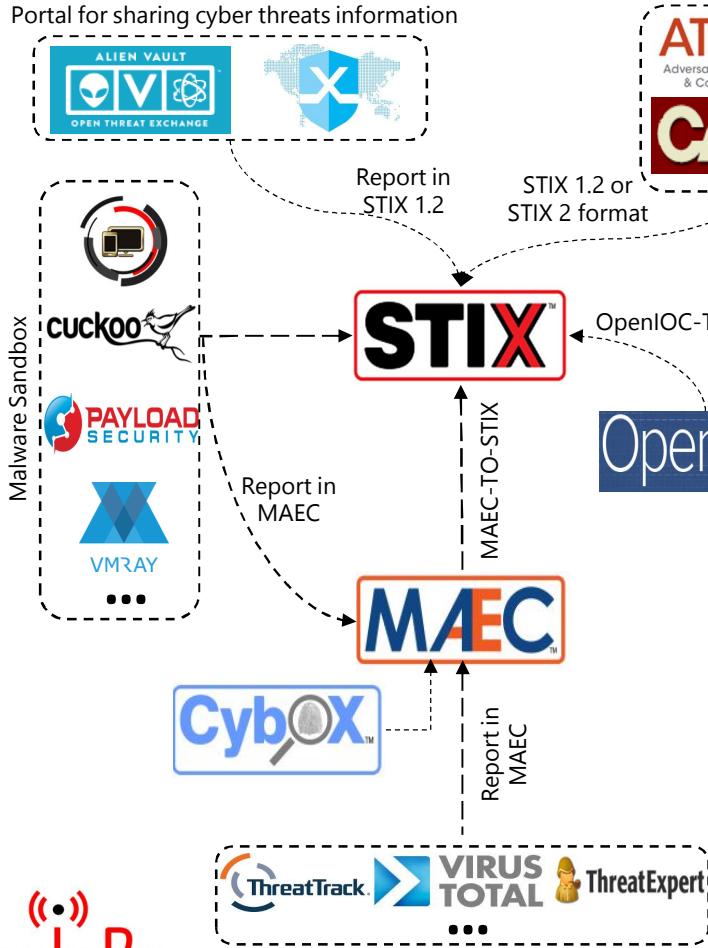
## Provides surrounding and analytical context

- Connects detailed malware information to broader threat context
- "what" specific features of a malware instance are associated with a particular threat actor?

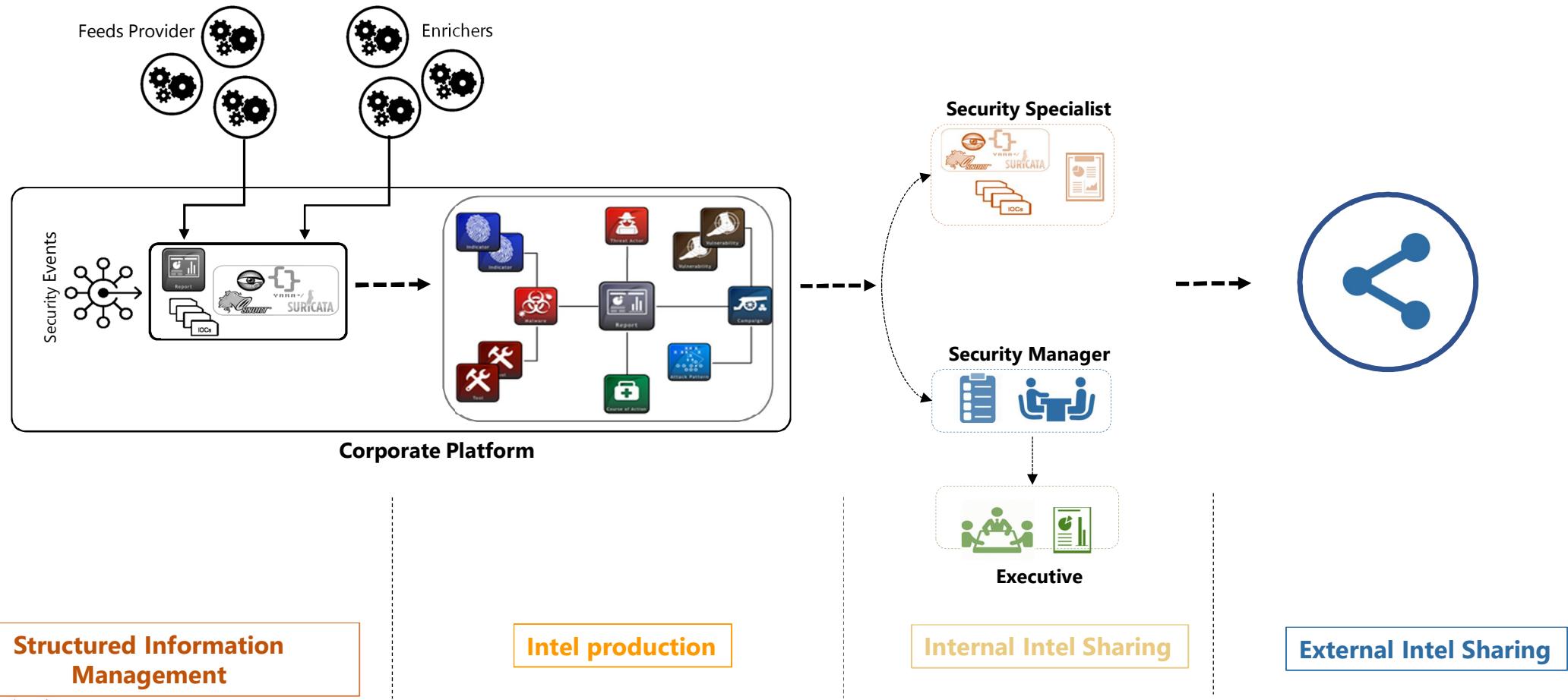
## Target audience:

- Malware Analysts/Reverse Engineers
- Cyber Threat/Intelligence Analysts
- SOC/CERT Operators
- Incident Responders

# From Malware Analysis to Cyber Threat Intelligence

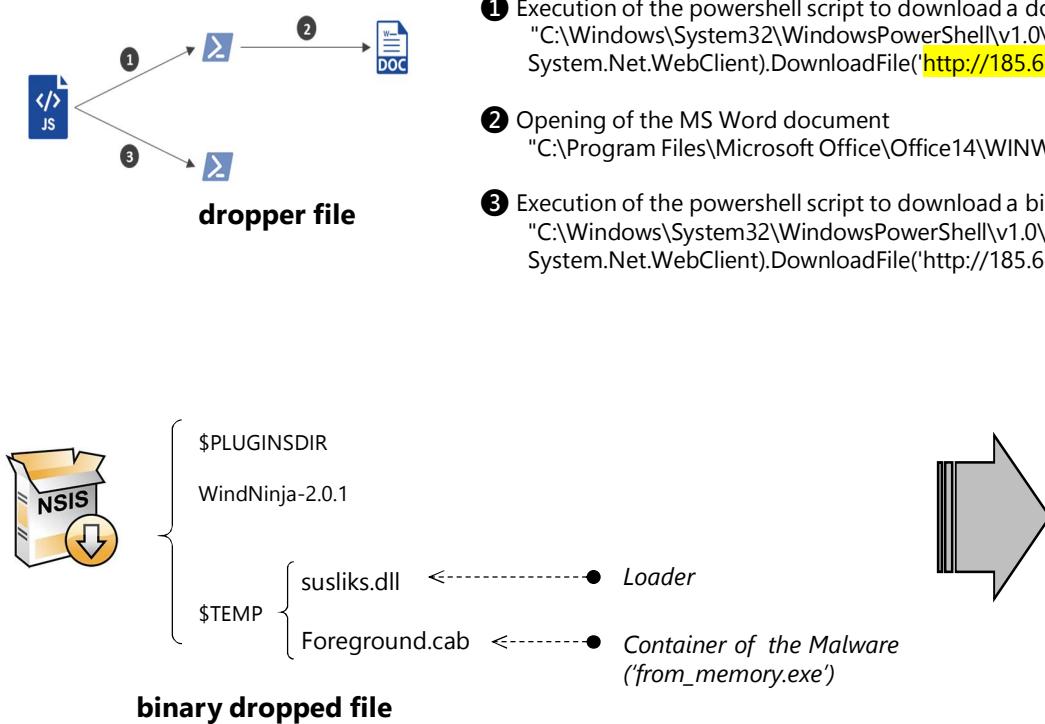


# From Malware Analysis to Cyber Threat Intelligence, cont'd



# Practical example – Main components of infection

**OBJECT OF ANALYSIS** (brief description): Since August 2017 was observed a campaign tied to the spread of the RAT (Remote Access Trojan) **Netwire**. The campaign impacted also Italy country and target the Bank & Finance sector.



```
rule NetWire
{
    meta:
        author = "Francesco Schifilliti (fschifilliti@gmail.com)"
        date = "2017/09"
        maltype = "Netwire Remote Access Trojan"

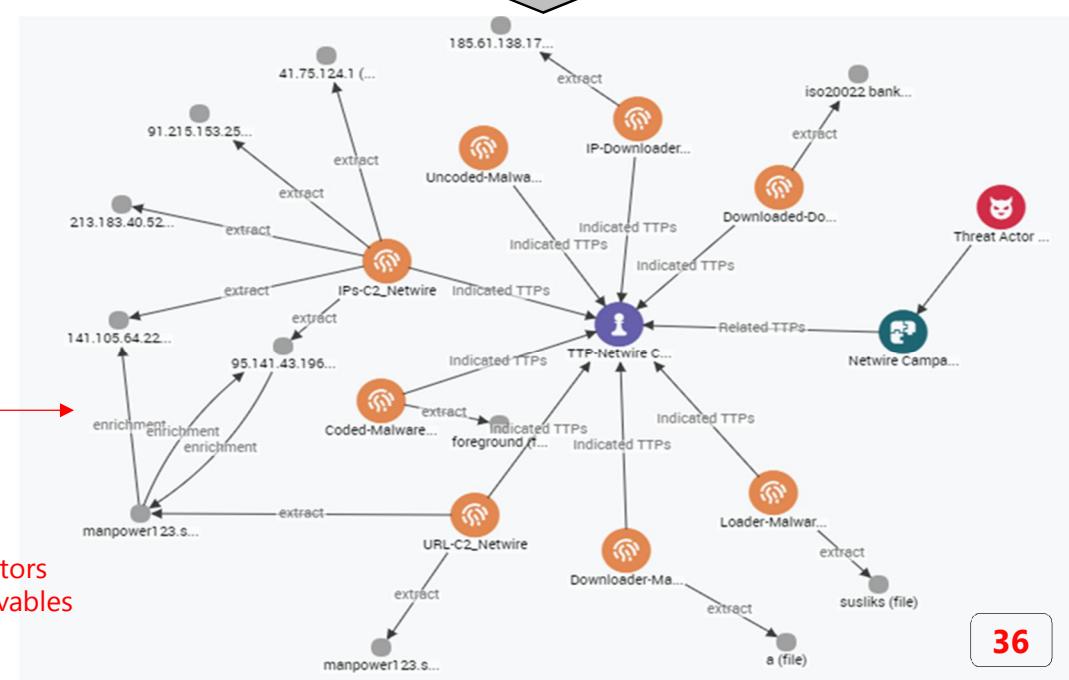
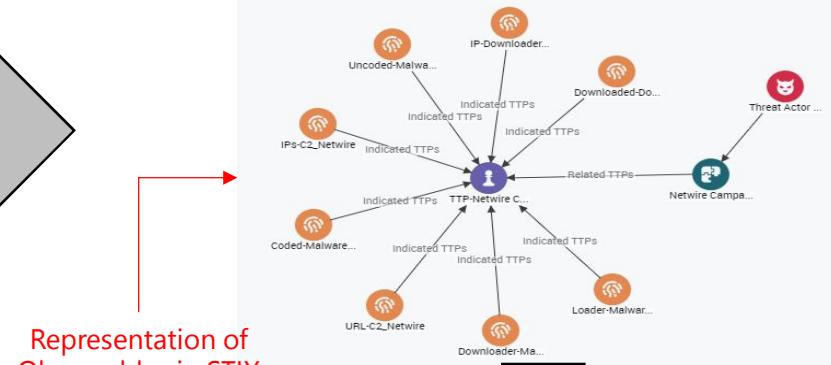
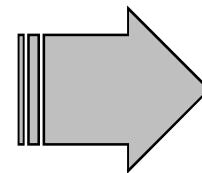
    strings:
        $1 = "susliks.dll" fullword ascii
        $2 = "Foreground.cab" fullword ascii
        $3 = "\\Users\\%s\\AppData\\roaming\\install\\1day" fullword wide

    condition:
        uint16(0) == 0x5A4D and
        filesize < 1MB and
        hash.md5(0, filesize) == "6D3A33E26343F545060F2E209ECDEE9E" or
        hash.md5(0, filesize) == "E960ED10902D903DCF2A98233181A8CA" or
        hash.md5(0, filesize) == "D8FA17F5F121D5D5566AE6C678F337B8" or
        1 of ($1,$2,$3)
}
```

Yara rule

# Practical example – IoC representation in STIX

Type	Value
filename	a.js
MD5	d1b423eef49097d7443535638cebeff
IPv4	185.61.138.175
MD5	6e5a490ebeefad8690b7ecfb9d2acfb
MD5	6d3a33e26343f545060f2e209ecdee9e
Domain	stabber.net
Domain	amante2.carvalhoassessoria.com
MD5	f01e60b97574b919067bcee155496d87f9a594e3fc10999dec998e0a114349f5
MD5	fbdb224d7a654a48da17e2999532f1d0c8f3d114e3bca4a41a1bdf9f684499901
MD5	3406cf0450ee28bf09ba837f16b20a39bbf5ccce94f63101ac3eb1f6fe4bdbd
MD5	a4c40ae7709bbd4f2bf9d100981e20fe6210117e89a816e3fde65d88e27df1eb
MD5	6003a334a639b9515c2aad18357994cb836908222494f3aea7e4c2326c90f881
MD5	2bd5ea2cfdd822a7654c9b58475b1db655f7c4c77d1ff60b0db5596a4fb5cbe5
MD5	e03134bfff2db681f32d9129d1c8ee9393a98ad3093a43740d730975ae87c161
MD5	665e56f7de896d691701defce31889534c9e98b9b66f20019eee3a8df9771600
MD5	f1fc9aaff61cc7415661e9927cea51664771fe031d4f52ef124ee55d64ad297
MD5	dcc20632135c4c6be55389bee231f39e82454458ac4b76b9cb88e49894ff2eb
URL	http://185.61.138.175/temp/borah/unknown/1.exe
filename	1.doc
filename	1.xls
URL	http://185.61.138.175/temp/borah/unknown/1.xls
URL	http://185.61.138.175/1.exe
MD5	6d3a33e26343f545060f2e209ecdee9e
IPv4	141.105.64.228
document name	ISO20022 Bank Transaction Codes - Structure Report
Filename	susliks.dll
Filename	Foreground.cab
...	



Loading of the Indicators  
contained in the Observables

## **Practical example – First Enrichment & Correlation phase**

