

The background features a dark blue field populated with numerous 3D rectangular blocks of varying heights and colors, including shades of purple, blue, and green. These blocks represent different terrain elevations. Scattered across these blocks are small, glowing diamond-shaped markers in yellow and cyan. In the top right corner, there is a stylized yellow logo consisting of three downward-pointing chevrons.

The Joy of Threat Landscaping

5 key lessons learned from applying ENISA's CTL methodology

Gert-Jan Bruggink

CTI-EU Summit 2023

13 November 2023

Key takeaways

Threat landscaping = highly effective way to inform stakeholders

Producing according to your methodology takes time

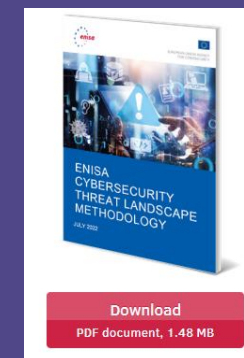
Various dos & don'ts but knowing your audience is crucial

Objective: enabling professionals to build proper threat landscape deliverables by themselves



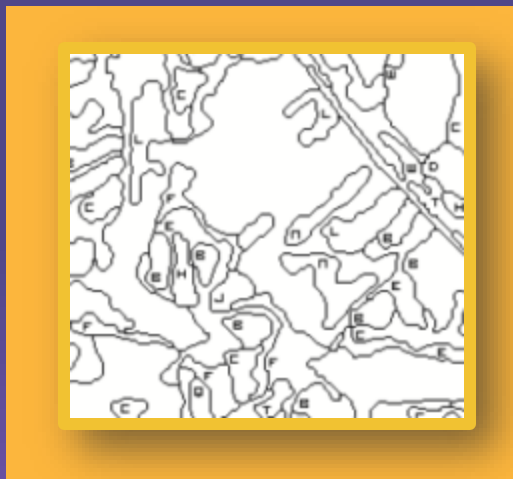
What is a threat landscape

Alternatively, why the threat landscape deliverable remains a crucial deliverable for any CTI team



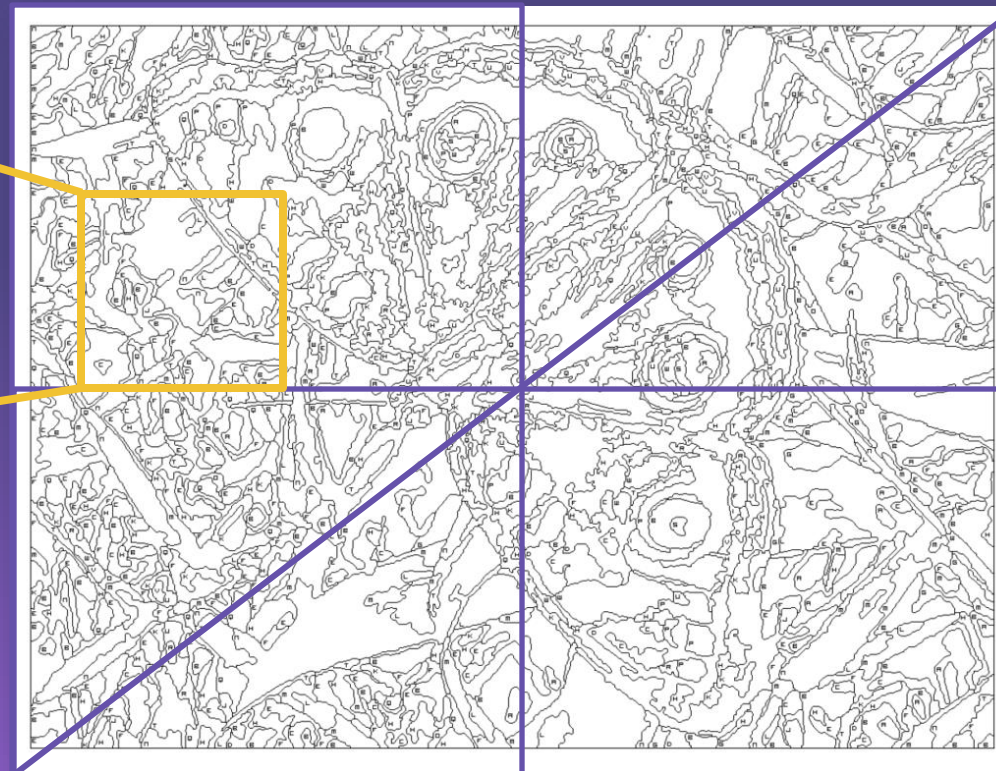
#1, Recognise the difference between types

Individual entity



Source: <https://paintingbynumbersshop.com/blogs/blog/paint-by-numbers-what-is-it>

ENISA



Source: <https://paintbynumberspro.com/printable-painting-by-numbers/>

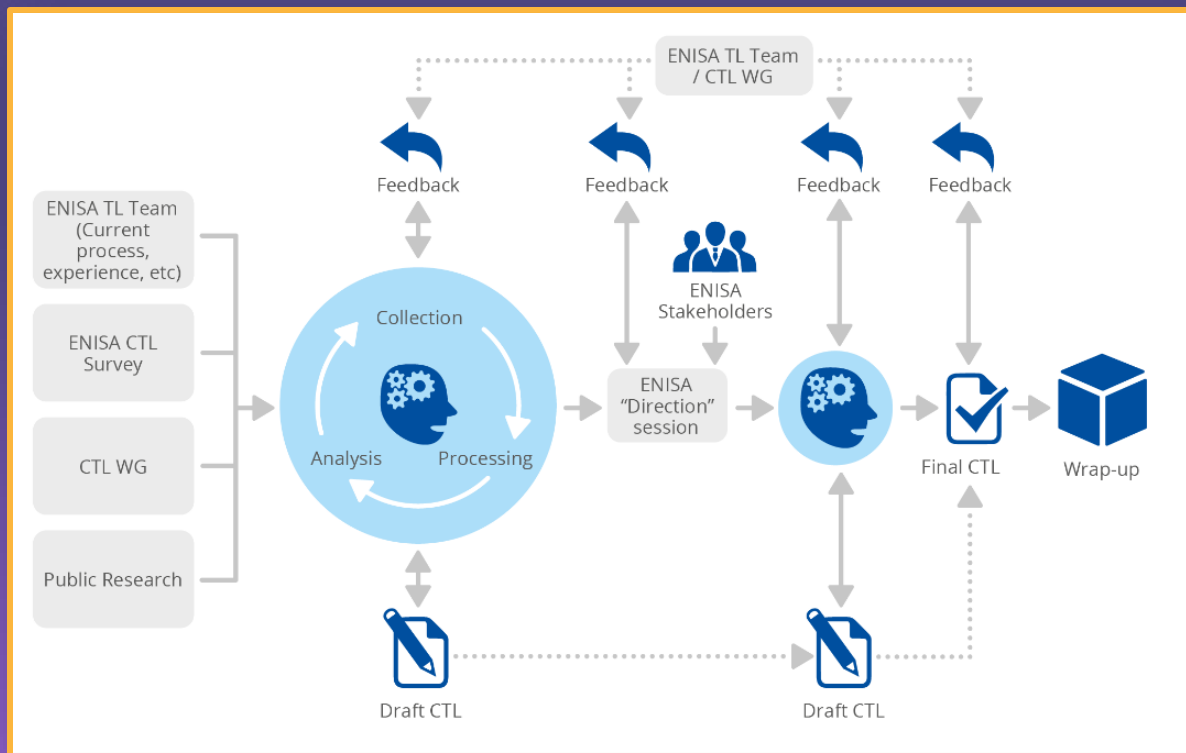
- ☐ **Requirement based** (typically, internal)
- ☐ **Research based** (typically, vendors or public agencies)
- ☐ **Guesstimate** (just doing what you think is right)

- ☐ Horizontal
- ☐ Thematic
- ☐ Sectorial



#2, Applying a process is harder than it seems

ENISA's methodology



<https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/enisa-threat-landscape-methodology>

Individual entity



Dissemination

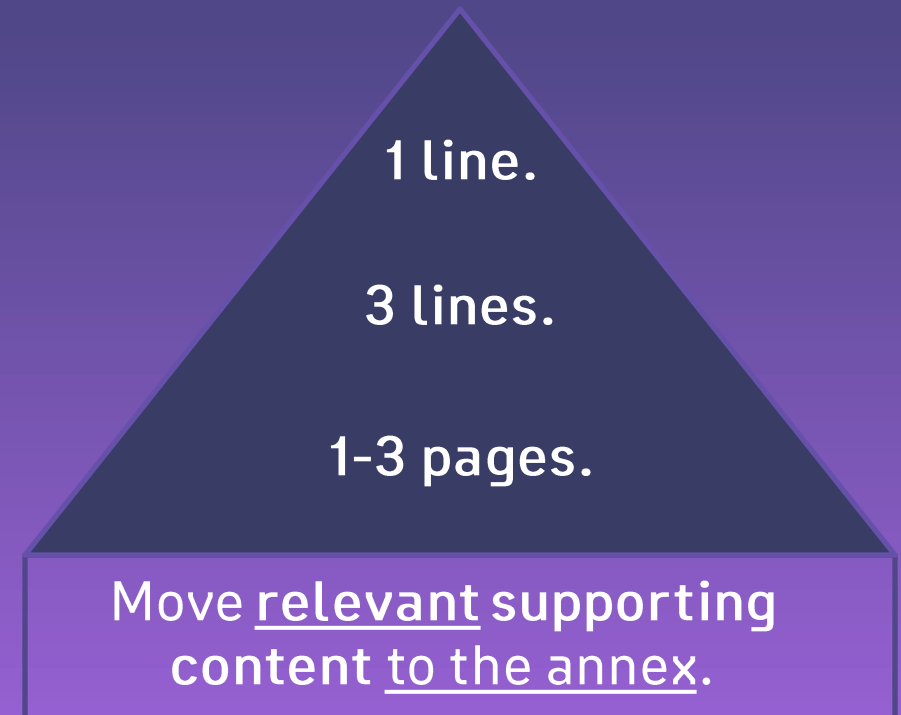


#3, Considering audiences is crucial for success

- **Decision makers** 🧑
What information is relevant for them to make decisions on?
- **Analysts** 🧑
What is relevant for other analysts?

Pro tip 💡

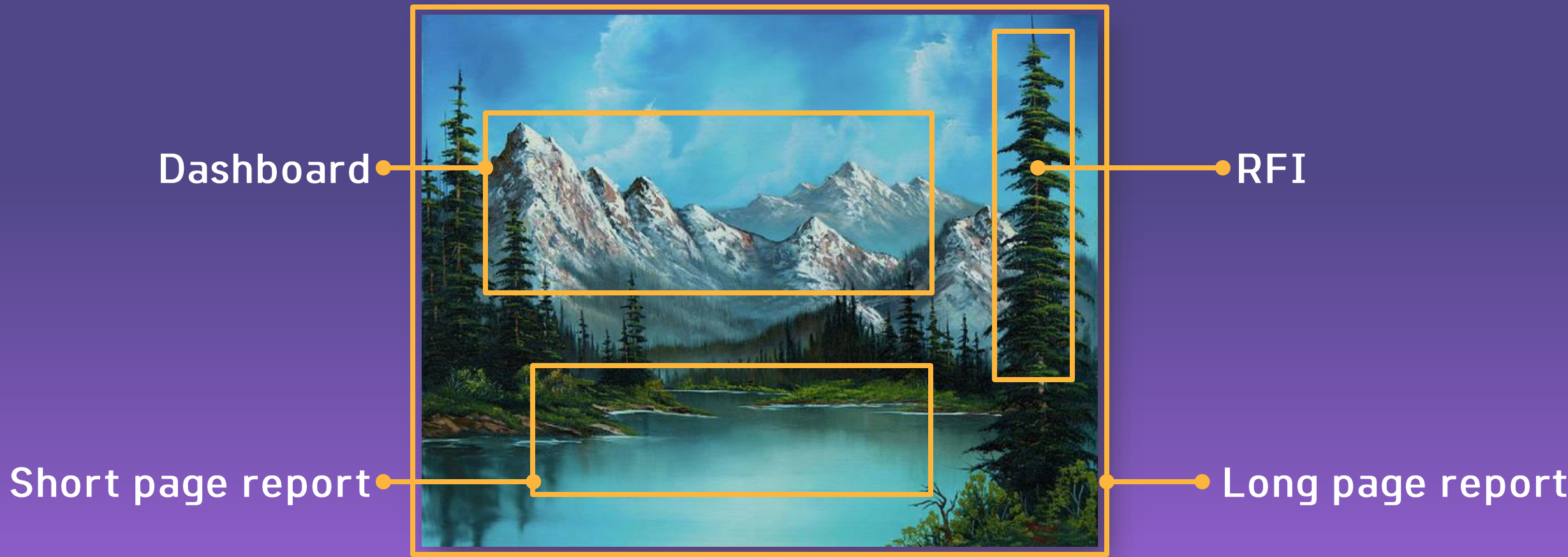
Consider making specific chapters for each audience, to add the right levels of granularity.



GJ's 'Bottom-Line-Up-Front' Pyramid



#4, Constantly improve your format on feedback

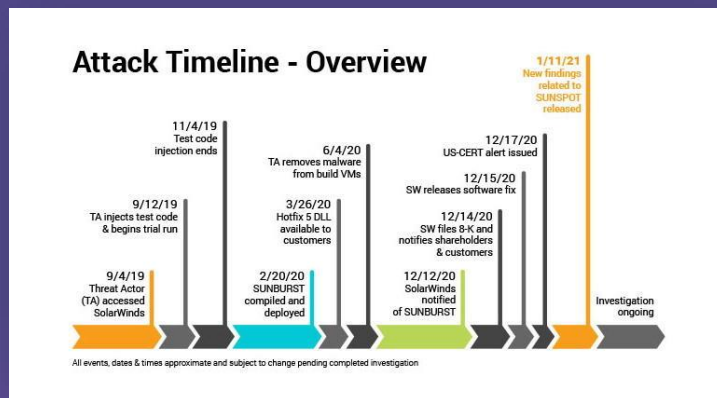


Source: <https://fineartamerica.com/featured/natures-grandeur-chris-steele.html?product=art-print>



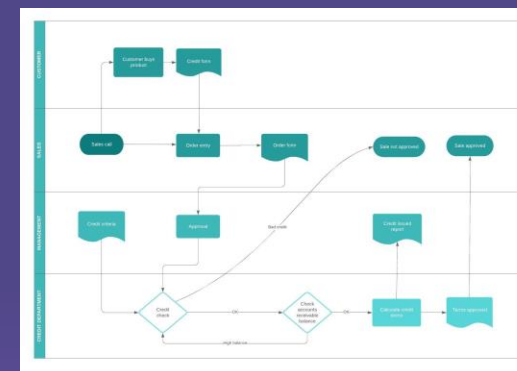
#5, Visualizations make your life easier

Timelines



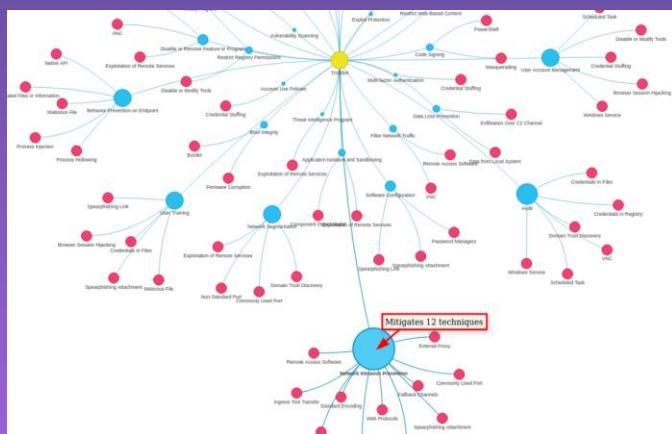
Source: <https://www.channele2e.com/technology/security/solarwinds-orion-breach-hacking-incident-timeline-and-updated-details/>

Flows



Source: <https://d2slcw3kip6qmk.cloudfront.net/marketing/pages/consideration-page/Business-Process-FlowTemplate.jpeg>

Relationship graphs



Source: https://media-exp1.licdn.com/dms/image/C4E12AQEX2yn12CXGsQ/article-cover_image-shrink_720_1280/0/1642458681370?e=1668643200&v=beta&t=7sq5Gs82H6Qfaz590BNYVR2gNiCNOcBSr9a2CkC5Gkc

Tables

Heatmap table showing the percentage of sub-controls mapped to patterns by control. The color scale ranges from 0% (light yellow) to 100% (dark orange).

Control	Control	Control	Control	Control	Control	Control	Control	Control	Control
75	100			75	75	100	38	1	
89	100			89	100			2	
36				29	29		100	3	
11	89			89	44	33		4	
	80			100	100	20	40	5	
38	35			52	12			6	
100	100	11		44	44	80		7	
62	100			62	12	80		8	
100	80			100	100	100		9	
				100	100			10	
14	57			43	29		57	11	
98	81			27	82	10	18	12	
11	84			44	100	11	100	13	
	78			33	38	38		14	
								15	
76	54			85	56	25		16	
78	100	100	54	100	44	56	11	17	
80				100	20		100	18	
100				38	38		100	19	

Figure 135. Percentage of Sub-Controls mapped to Patterns by Control

Source: <https://www.cisecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/The-2020-Verizon-Data-Breach-Investigations-Report-DBIR.pdf>

Do's and don'ts



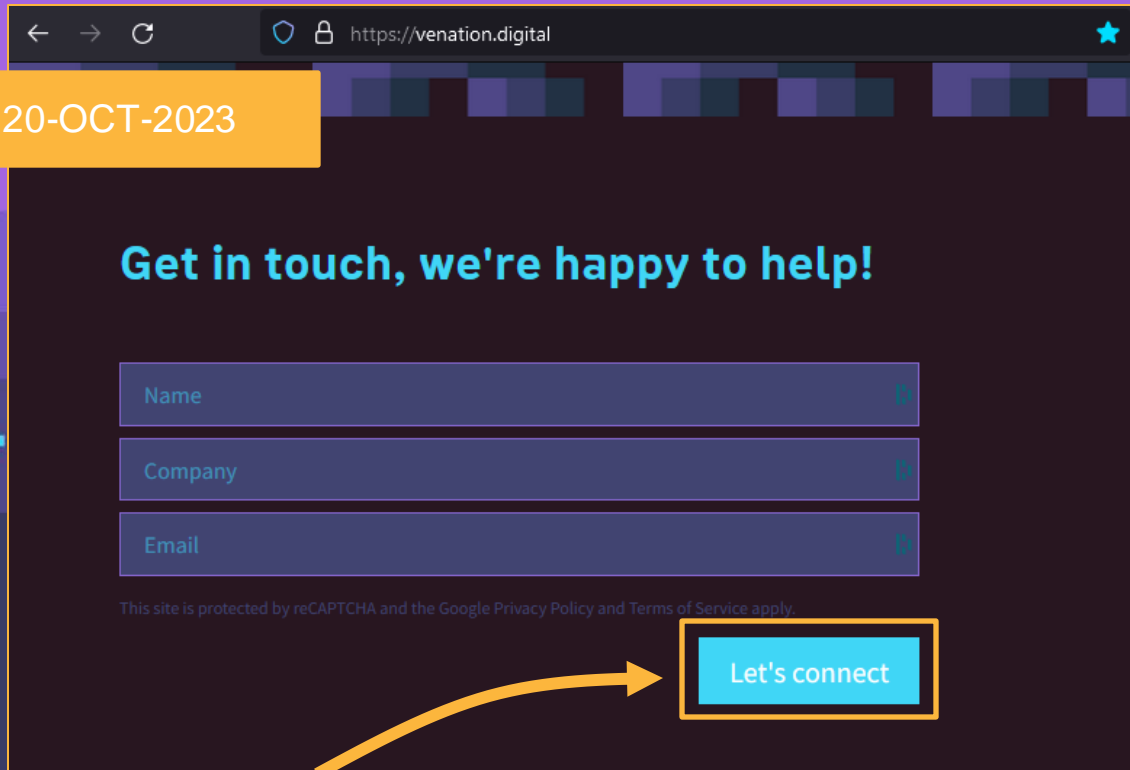
- FUD doesn't work. Especially in threat landscapes.
- Never exaggerate the role of APTs versus commodity cybercrime.
- Indicators of Compromise are dead. Long live Tactics, Techniques & Procedures - oh wait.



- ✓ Need to include details (e.g. threat actors)? Use visuals (e.g. scorecards) over long page details.
- ✓ Expect follow-up questions to your threat landscape and prepare accordingly.
- ✓ Less is more for decision makers. More is more for analysts.

Let's continue the discussion!


20-OCT-2023



A screenshot of a web browser showing the contact page of venation.digital. The browser's address bar displays 'https://venation.digital'. The page has a dark background with a teal header. The main heading is 'Get in touch, we're happy to help!'. Below it are three input fields labeled 'Name', 'Company', and 'Email'. At the bottom of the form is a teal button labeled 'Let's connect'. A yellow box highlights the date '20-OCT-2023' on the left, and another yellow box highlights the 'Let's connect' button at the bottom right, with a yellow arrow pointing from the date box to the button. Small text at the bottom of the form states: 'This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply.'

Gert-Jan Bruggink

 @gertjanbruggink

 /gertjanbruggink

gertjanbruggink@venation.digital

www.venation.digital

Sign up for our free
'Build Your Own Threat Landscape'
workshop materials via
www.venation.digital

Next available workshop:
6-NOV-2023 @ FIRST CTI 2023