Scenario

Review the following scenario. Then complete the step-by-step instructions.

You are a level one security operations center (SOC) analyst at a financial services company. You have received an alert about a suspicious file being downloaded on an employee's computer.

You investigate this alert and discover that the employee received an email containing an attachment. The attachment was a password-protected spreadsheet file. The spreadsheet's password was provided in the email. The employee downloaded the file, then entered the password to open the file. When the employee opened the file, a malicious payload was then executed on their computer.

You retrieve the malicious file and create a SHA256 hash of the file. You might recall from a previous course that a **hash function** is an algorithm that produces a code that can't be decrypted. Hashing is a cryptographic method used to uniquely identify malware, acting as the file's unique fingerprint.

Now that you have the file hash, you will use VirusTotal to uncover additional IoCs that are associated with the file.

The following information contains details about the alert that will help you complete this activity. The details include a file hash and a timeline of the event. Keep these details for reference as you proceed to the next steps.

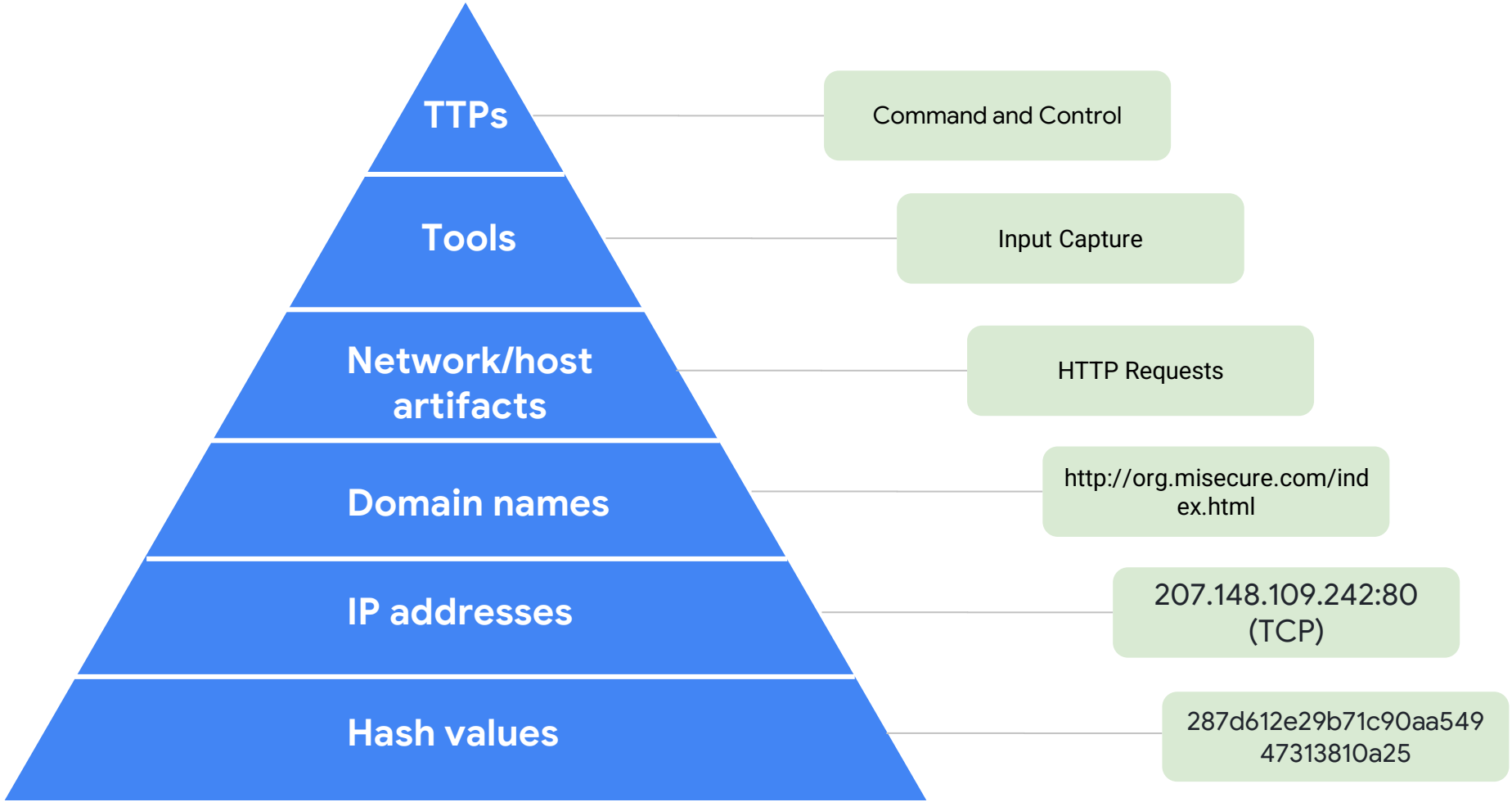
SHA256 file hash: 54e6ea47eb04634d3e87fd7787e2136ccfbcc80ade34f246a12cf93bab527f6b

Here is a timeline of the events leading up to this alert:

- **1:11 p.m.:** An employee receives an email containing a file attachment.
- **1:13 p.m.:** The employee successfully downloads and opens the file.
- **1:15 p.m.:** Multiple unauthorized executable files are created on the employee's computer.
- **1:20 p.m.:** An intrusion detection system detects the executable files and sends out an alert to the SOC.

Has this file been identified as malicious? Explain why or why not.

Based on VirusTotal, this file has been identified as malicious by 55 security vendors and 2 sandboxes. From findings, malware is a trojan known as Flagpro that is likely-linked with BlackTech which is a cyber espionage group.


TTPs
Tools
Network/host artifacts
Domain names
IP addresses
Hash values
Command and Control
Input Capture
HTTP Requests
http://org.misecure.com/index.html
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287d612e29b71c90aa54947313810a25