

# IBM QRadar: the Security Operations Center for All seasons

**Technical report**

**Instructor: Ross Millerick**

**Supervisor: Daniel Fortson**

**Student: Sadegh Bamohabbat Chafjiri**

**7/26/2019**

# AGENDA

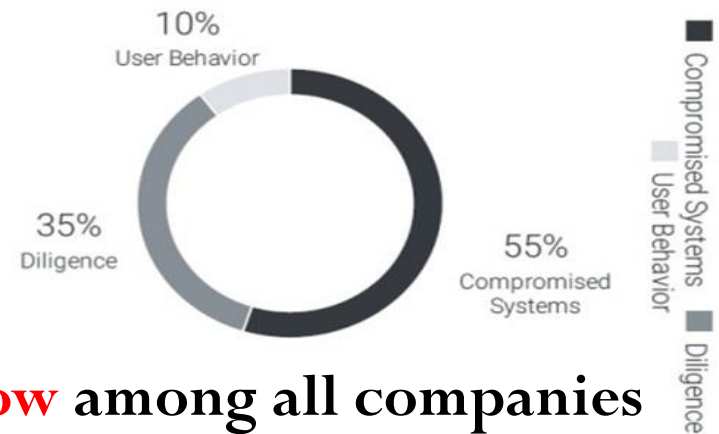
- **SUMMARY**
- **Analysis of the GGU's infrastructure**
- **Alternative solutions**
- **Proposed solution**
- **SWOT Analysis of alternatives**
- **IT Business Values- SWOT of solution**
- **Operating Plans**
- **Financial Analysis**
- **Conclusion**

# SUMMARY

Vulnerability analysis on Golden Gate University  
based on public information

## Bitsight's Analysis:

Ref: Bobby Adam  
Cyber security analyst  
At Bitsight Tech.



GGU's rank in IT security platform is **low** among all companies

The industry average: **640 to 740 out of 900**  
overall IT security performance of GGU:  
**590 to 650 out of 900**

There was a decrease in security rate  
between July 2018 and July 2019

- A** In the top 10% of all companies
- B** In the top 30% of all companies
- C** In the bottom 50% of all companies
- D** In the bottom 40% of all companies
- F** In the bottom 30% of all companies

### Compromised Systems

Botnet Infections	<b>B</b>
Spam Propagation	<b>A</b>
Malware Servers	<b>A</b>
Unsolicited Communication	<b>A</b>
Potentially Exploited	<b>D</b>

### User Behavior

File Sharing	<b>A</b>
Public Disclosures	
Breaches	<b>A</b>

### Diligence

SPF Domains	<b>A</b>
DKIM Records	<b>B</b>
TLS/SSL Certificates	<b>C</b>
TLS/SSL Configurations	<b>D</b>
Open Ports	<b>B</b>
Web Application Headers	<b>F</b>
Patching Cadence	<b>F</b>
Insecure Systems	<b>A</b>
Server Software	<b>A</b>
Desktop Software	<b>F</b>
Mobile Software	<b>A</b>
DNSSEC Records *	<b>C</b>

# Analysis of GGU's infrastructure

- **Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** protects the privacy of student's educational records
- **GGU's contract model of cooperation:** vendors should know that they must accept the penalty if Forensics process at SOC prove that the data breach exploited in their side.
- **Solution:** Golden Gate University should officially negotiate with vendors or third parties to follow and guarantee FERPA privacy requirement and approve GGU's internal or its representative's forensics process.
- **Data storage issue:** despite the obligation made by FERPA to encrypt data at rest or in transit, Golden Gate University does not apply encryption method to store students' information on database which can be considered as the high risk vulnerability.
- **Solution:** deploying encryption method for data at rest



# Analysis of GGU's infrastructure

- **WIFI parameters re-use ISSUE:** 4-way handshake protocol deployed in GGU wireless protocol is vulnerable against **Key Reinstallation Attack (KRACK)**
- **How it works?** This attack works based on initiating an all-zero parameter by injecting repetitive IV as an input of encryption algorithm.
- **Solution:** As a solution IBM QRadar can use signal intelligence to detect the Wifi manipulation in the network access to reduce the risk of KRACK attack.
- **Training issue:** School must engaged at least one associate director in learning the technical requirement of FERPA compliance and regulations.
- **Solution:** Online Training courses are available on:  
<https://www.knowledgecity.com/>



# Analysis of GGU's infrastructure

What is a general solution: Security Operating system (SOC)

Roles:

- To provide a quick response to the security issues
- To bring insight, statics to the infrastructure
- To automate some repetitive tasks
- To detect suspicious signaling activity out of the bound or with monopolization purpose

## IBM QRadar

Different types of deployment:

- On Prem, as a service, Cloud and Hybrid



IBM QRadar is the centerpiece of IBM security integration



# ALTERNATIVES

## Market and Competitor Analysis

- IBM
- Splunk
- LogRhythm



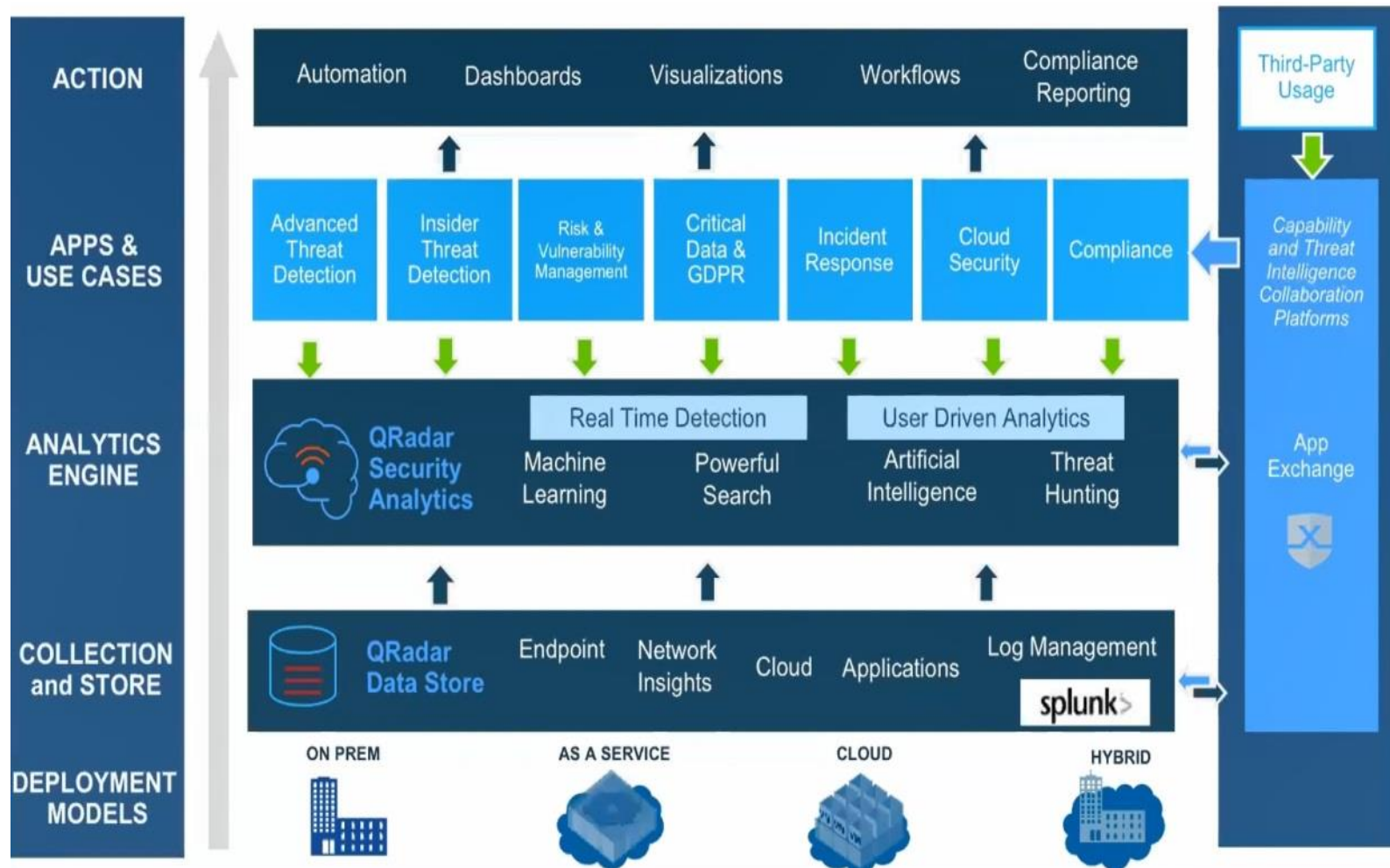
# ALTERNATIVES

SWOT analysis on Splunk and LogRhythm	
Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Natural Language Process (NLP)</li><li>• Enterprise Security</li><li>• User Behavior Analytics</li><li>• Compatibility with other environment like SCADA</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of ML and AI technology</li><li>• Non-integrated solutions and multiple technologies</li></ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coopetition model for marketing</li><li>• Capability of providing a partially service in cooperation with other vendors' platforms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data breach rose by integrity concerns</li><li>• repetitive functioning and time wastage in absence of AI and ML</li></ul>

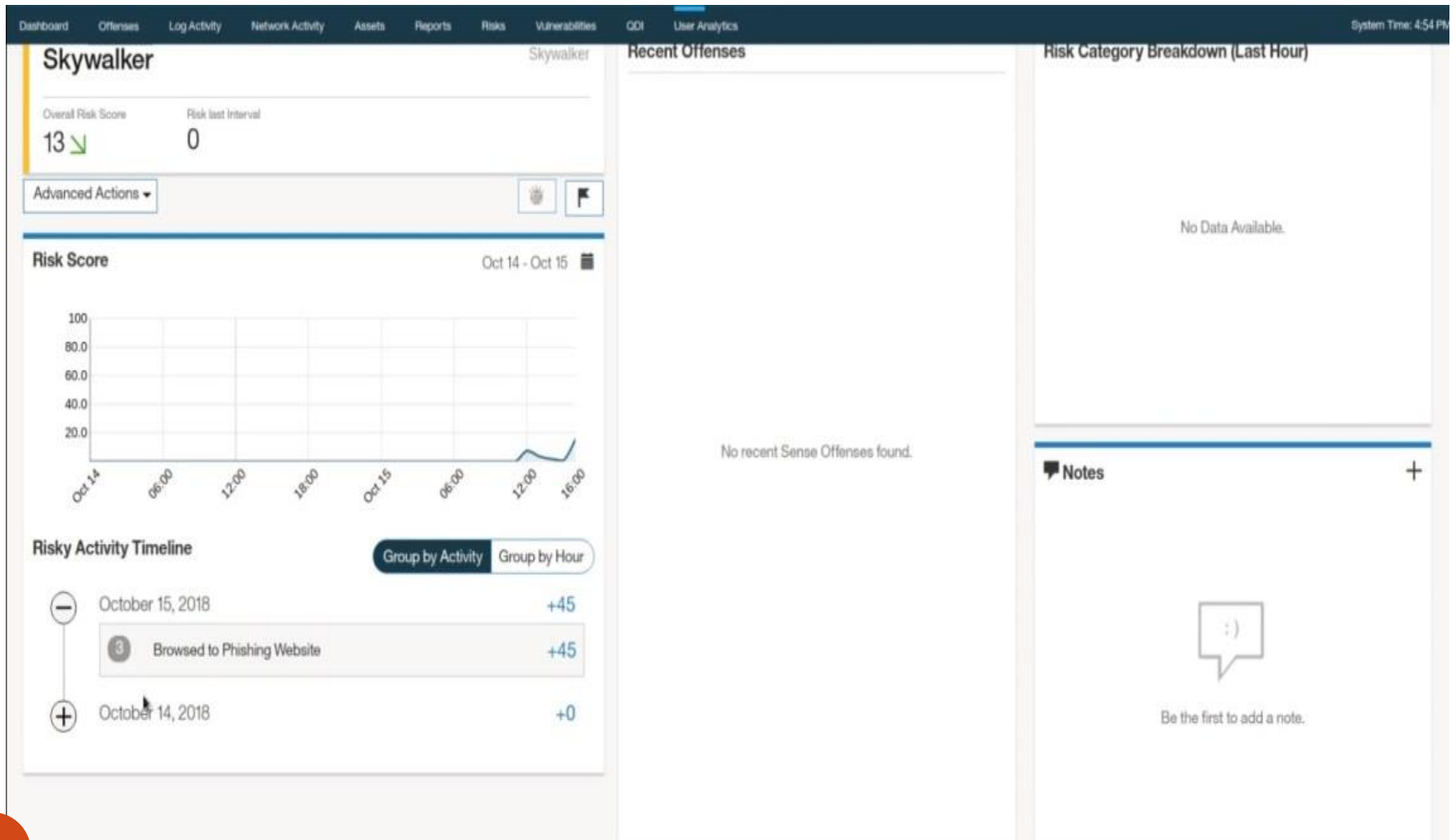


# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

## IBM Qradar Organizational Chart and architecture



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

All Offenses > Offense 185 (Summary)

Offense 185

Summary

Display ▼

Events

Connections

Flows

View Attack Path

Actions ▼

Print

?

Magnitude	<div><div></div></div>	Status		Relevance	5	Severity	9	Credibility	3
Domain	Default Domain								
Description	Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets preceded by Powershell Has Been Launched in a Compromised Host preceded by Local Database Scanner Detected preceded by Detected a Possible Credential Dumping Tool preceded by Detected a Malicious Access to Isass Process containing Misc.domain			Offense Type	Source IP				
				Event/Flow count	59 events and 21 flows in 8 categories				
Source IP(s)	192.168.10.5 (WIN7.ACME.com)			Start	Oct 15, 2018, 3:35:17 PM				
Destination IP(s)	Local (0.0.0.0)			Duration	26m				
Network(s)	Multiple (192.168.10.0/24)			Assigned to	Unassigned				
Offense Source Summary									
IP	192.168.10.5	Location	Net-10-172-192.Net_192_168_0_0						
Magnitude	<div><div></div></div>	Vulnerabilities	0						
Username	skywalker	MAC Address	00:1D:70:5E:A1:2E						
Host Name	WIN7.ACME.com								
Asset Name	WIN7.ACME.com		Weight	0					
Offenses	52		Events/Flows	14,427					

Network: Net-10-172-192.Net\_192\_168\_0\_0

Source Magnitude:  (0/10)

Destination Magnitude:  (0/10)

Offenses: 52

Asset Name: WIN7.ACME.com

Domain: Default Domain

Detected IP(s): [192.168.10.5]

Detected MAC(s): [00:1D:70:5E:A1:2E]

Operating System: N/A

User Name: Skywalker

Right click for more information on 192.168.10.5

**Network:** Net-10-172-192.Net\_192\_168\_0\_0  
**Source Magnitude:** (0/10)  
**Destination Magnitude:** (0/10)  
**Offenses:** 52  
**Asset Name:** WIN7.ACME.com  
**Domain:** Default Domain  
**Detected IP(s):** [192.168.10.5]  
**Detected MAC(s):** [00:1D:70:5E:A1:2E]  
**Operating System:** N/A  
**User Name:** Skywalker

Right click for more information on 192.168.10.5

Last 5 Notes

Notes Add Note

# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

Advanced Search

Advanced Search

Quick Filter

Search

Start Time

2018-10-15

15:34

End Time

2018-10-15

16:03

Update

View:

Select An Option:

Results Limit

Display:

Completed

Current Filters:

Offense is Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets preceded by Powershell Has Been Launched in a Compromised Host preceded by Local Database Scanner Detected preceded by Detected a Possible Credential Dumping Tool preceded by Detected a Malicious Access to Isass Process containing Misc.domain

(Clear Filter)

► Current Statistics

(Show Charts)

	Event Name	Log Source	Event Count	
	Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets	Custom Rule Engine-8 :: aio-dev	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:5
	Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets	Custom Rule Engine-8 :: aio-dev	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:5
	Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets	Custom Rule Engine-8 :: aio-dev	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:4
	Potential data exfiltration using large DNS packets	Custom Rule Engine-8 :: aio-dev	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:4
	Excessive Firewall Denies Across Multiple Hosts From A Local Host	Custom Rule Engine-8 :: aio-dev	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3
	Firewall Deny	Juniper Firewall and VPN @ 172.16.60.22	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3
	Firewall Deny	Juniper Firewall and VPN @ 172.16.60.22	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3
	Firewall Deny	Juniper Firewall and VPN @ 172.16.60.22	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3
	Firewall Deny	Juniper Firewall and VPN @ 172.16.60.22	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3
	Waiting for 172.16.60.80...	Juniper Firewall and VPN @ 172.16.60.22	1	Oct 15, 2018, 3:3

# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- Marketing and Manufacturing Plans



## IBM Security by the Numbers

130<sup>+</sup> monitored countries  
(MSS)  
3300<sup>+</sup> service delivery experts

2700000000<sup>+</sup> endpoints protected  
35000000000<sup>+</sup> events managed per day



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

## IBM QRadar

### History of CPA involvement in auditing IT controls



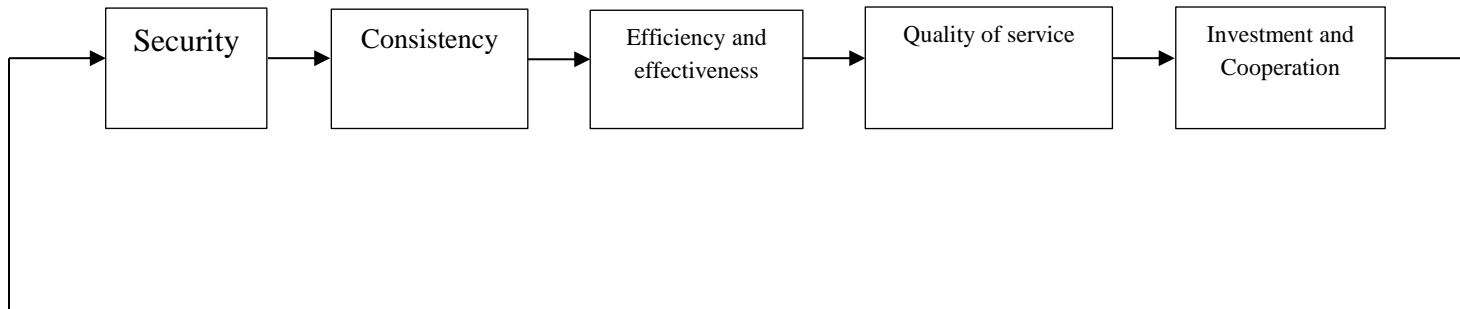
# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- Leadership and Management Styles



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

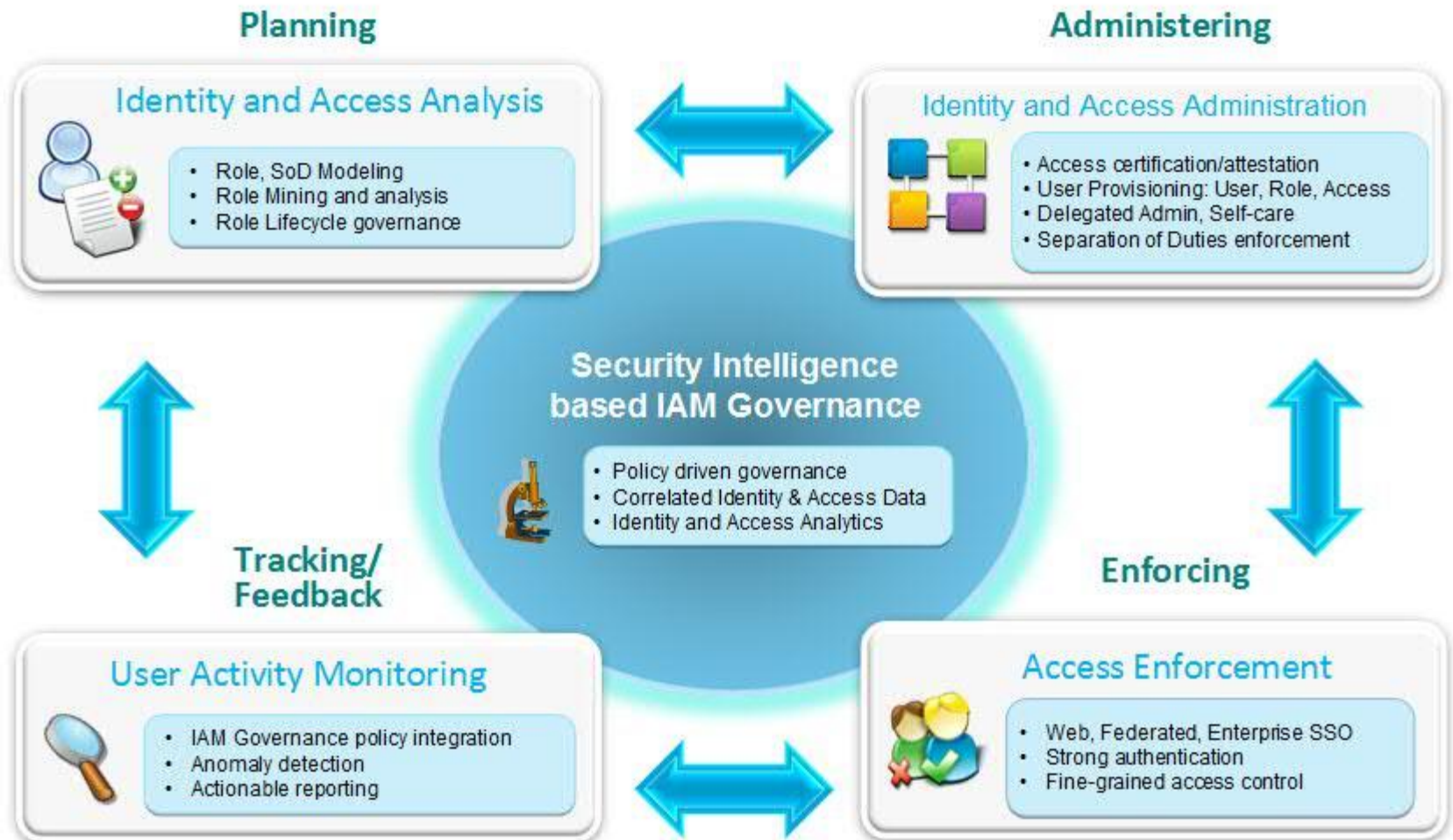
## Value Analysis of the Plan



Strength	Weakness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• log management</li><li>• well-designed governance plan</li><li>• Measurable risk posture</li><li>• Machine learning and Artificial Intelligence technology to automate course of action</li><li>• real-time threat scanning and detection</li><li>• user driven analytics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• multiple technologies in log management (deployed SPLUNK)</li></ul>
Opportunity	Threat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• having an integrated platform</li><li>• stronger metrics for risk posture</li><li>• Prediction of a wider range of incidents</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple technologies allow anomalies to exploit vulnerabilities</li><li>• Complex scenarios of data breach</li></ul>



# PROPOSED SOLUTIONS



# Financial analysis

## Competitor's pricing model

### **SPLUNK**

**Splunk Light:** \$75 per month

**Splunk Enterprise:** \$150 per month **Splunk Enterprise:** \$83 per GB

# Financial analysis

List of Equipment	Start date of configuration/employment	cost per month	Months	Cost per year
IBM QRadar	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$ 800	12	9600
Splunk log management	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$ 300	12	3600
CISO	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$11,200.00	12	134,000.00
Total				147,200.00

List of Equipment	Start date of configuration/employment	cost per month	Months	Cost per year
IBM QRadar	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$ 800	12	9600
Splunk log management	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$ 300	12	3600
Training current staff for CISO position and FERPA compliance	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	\$2,500.00	4	10,000.00
Total				23,200.00

# CONCLUSION

## **Role of the IBM Qradar as a well-designed SOC platform**

- to identify and manage assets
- to bring insight to the infrastructure and network
- to integrate IT security solutions
- to deploy AI and ML technology for task automation

## **Different types of deployment:**

- ON PREM, as a service, Cloud and Hybrid

## **Market competitors Analysis**

- I compare IBM QRadar with other competitors leading SOC market such as SPLUNK and LogRhythm.
- I performed the SWOT analysis

## **financial analysis**

- I provide financial analysis for ON PREM and Cloud-based service.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Tips for Creating a Strong Cybersecurity Assessment Report. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://zeltser.com/security-assessment-report-cheat-sheet/>
- IBM QRadar vs Splunk: Top SIEM Solutions Compared. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.esecurityplanet.com/network-security/ibm-qradar-splunk-siem-solutions-compared.html>
- Jose Bravo (2014). QRadar Risk Manager Capability Overview. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzc-9-DaHqE>
- Course: How to configure QRadar to ingest Splunk event logs. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.securitylearningacademy.com/course/view.php?id=3705>
- Developer, I. (2014, July 08). Introduction To QRadar Forensics. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lifzJZs45s>
- System management (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/en/SSKMKU/com.ibm.qradar.doc/cloud/c\\_qradar\\_adm\\_system\\_mgmt.html](https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/en/SSKMKU/com.ibm.qradar.doc/cloud/c_qradar_adm_system_mgmt.html)
- IBM QRadar Security Intelligence. (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://www.ibm.com/security/security-intelligence/qradar?cm\\_mmc=Search\\_Google\\_-Security\\_Detect%20threats%20-%20QRadar\\_-WW\\_NA\\_--%20qradar\\_b&cm\\_mmca1=000000MI&cm\\_mmca2=10000099&cm\\_mmca7=1014221&cm\\_mmca8=aud-334316643045:kwd-295901328379&cm\\_mmca9=k\\_EAAlaIQobChMI84K6yPv44gIVAspkCh2ZiA\\_bEAAYASAAEgKiSPD\\_BwE\\_k&cm\\_mmca10=345024606176&cm\\_mmca11=b&gclid=EAAlaIQobChMI84K6yPv44gIVAspkCh2ZiA\\_bEAAYASAAEgKiSPD\\_BwE](https://www.ibm.com/security/security-intelligence/qradar?cm_mmc=Search_Google_-Security_Detect%20threats%20-%20QRadar_-WW_NA_--%20qradar_b&cm_mmca1=000000MI&cm_mmca2=10000099&cm_mmca7=1014221&cm_mmca8=aud-334316643045:kwd-295901328379&cm_mmca9=k_EAAlaIQobChMI84K6yPv44gIVAspkCh2ZiA_bEAAYASAAEgKiSPD_BwE_k&cm_mmca10=345024606176&cm_mmca11=b&gclid=EAAlaIQobChMI84K6yPv44gIVAspkCh2ZiA_bEAAYASAAEgKiSPD_BwE)

- IBM. (2019). Retrieved from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IBM>
- COST OF CYBER CRIME STUDY (2017). Retrieved from [https://www.accenture.com/t20170926T072837Z\\_w\\_us-en/\\_acnmedia/PDF-61/Accenture-2017-CostCyberCrimeStudy.pdf](https://www.accenture.com/t20170926T072837Z_w_us-en/_acnmedia/PDF-61/Accenture-2017-CostCyberCrimeStudy.pdf)
- CPAs: Helping service organizations build trust and transparency. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.aicpa.org/content/dam/aicpa/interestareas/frc/assuranceadvisoryservices/downloadabledocuments/soc-for-service-organizations-brochure.pdf>
- Gartner Chart. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.gartner.com/doc/reprints?id=1-5WGR9UB&ct=181205&st=sb>
- LogRhythm vs Splunk: Top SIEM Solutions Compared. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.esecurityplanet.com/products/logrhythm-vs-splunk-siem-solutions-compared.html>
- FERPA Compliance Training Protects the Privacy of Your Students. (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://www.knowledgecity.com/Employee-Training/FERPA-Compliance?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIjtG0zfHQ4wIVCb3sCh0BsgSyEAAYASAAEgIrlfD\\_BwE/ferpa-thankyou.html](https://www.knowledgecity.com/Employee-Training/FERPA-Compliance?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIjtG0zfHQ4wIVCb3sCh0BsgSyEAAYASAAEgIrlfD_BwE/ferpa-thankyou.html)
- Key Reinstallation Attack (2017) Retrieved from <https://papers.mathyvanhoef.com/ccs2017.pdf>