

Exposing SCCM and MSSQL Attack Paths in Hardened Environments with BloodHound OpenGraph



Slides

Chris Thompson

- X: @_Mayyhem
- Slack: @Mayyhem
- GitHub: Mayyhem



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RED TEAMER @ SPECTEROPS



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SLACK: @_MAYYHEM
[SPECTEROPS.SLACK.COM](https://specterops.slack.com)

AGENDA

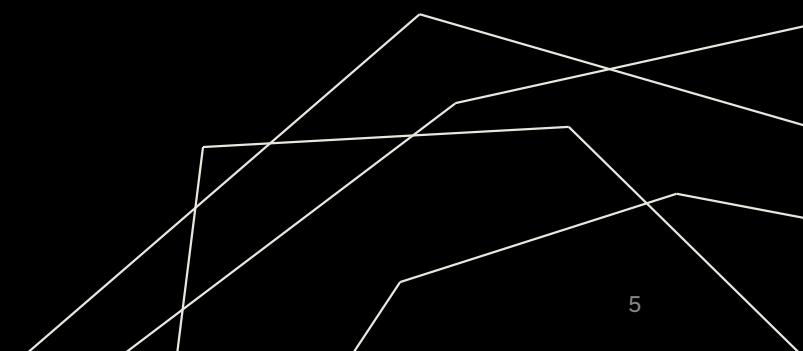
SCCM/MSSQL Attack Paths

- Crash Course
- Attack Demos
- Data Collection
- Exploring the Graph

WHO IS THIS TALK FOR?

- Pentesters
- Red teamers
- Defenders
- IT admins
- IT leadership
- IT curious

WHAT IS SCCM?



WHAT IS SCCM?

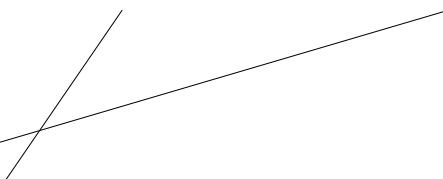
- Allows IT admins to **deploy software** and updates to computers

WHAT IS SCCM?

- Released in **1994**
- Currently Microsoft Configuration Manager
(ConfigMgr, ConfigMan, MCM)
- Formerly (and still sometimes referred to as):
 - Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager (MECM)
 - Microsoft Endpoint Manager Configuration Manager (MEMCM)
 - **System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM)**
 - Systems Management Server (SMS)

WHAT IS SCCM?

- Allows IT admins to **deploy software** and updates to computers
- **Command and control server**



SCCM HIERARCHY

- One installation of SCCM
- Contains one or more sites
- This is the **security boundary**

PRIMARY SITE



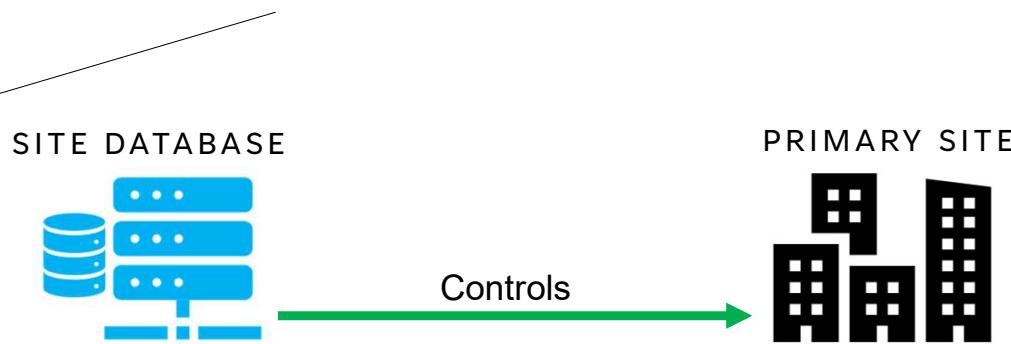
PRIMARY SITES

- Serve software to managed **client devices**
- Manage “**site system roles**”, servers that host various services for SCCM
- ID is 3-character **site code** (e.g., PS1)



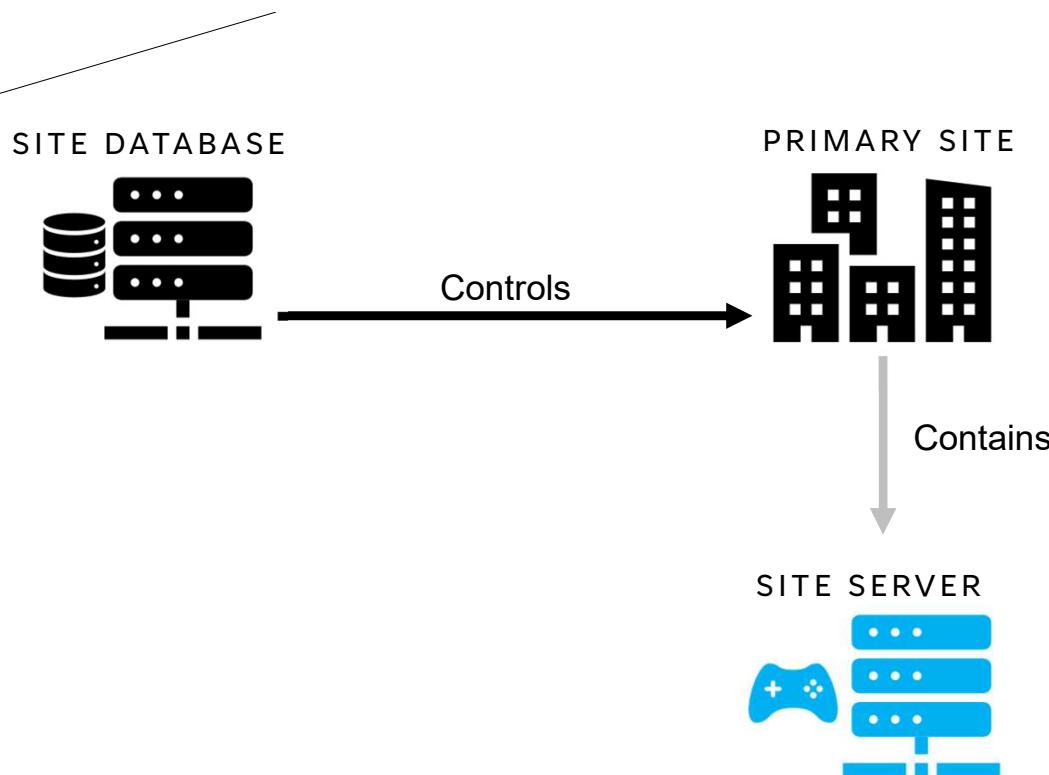
SITE DATABASES

- Each site's system of record
- Global configs are **replicated** to all other sites



SITE DATABASES

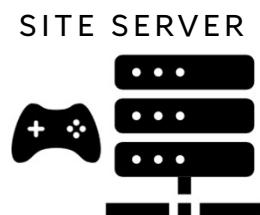
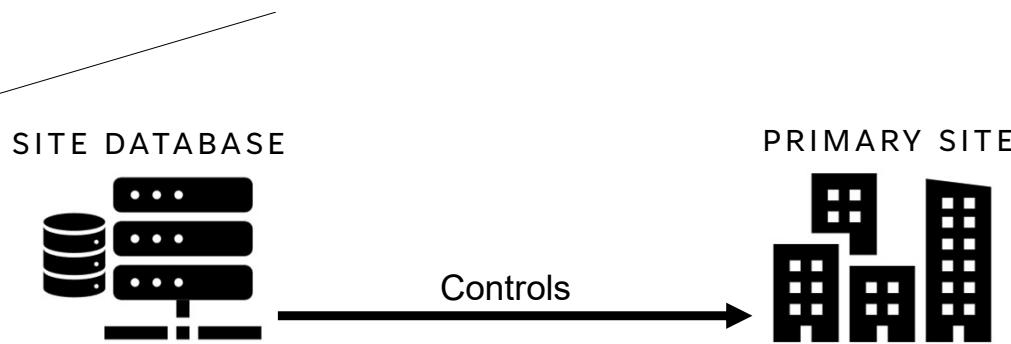
- Each site's system of record
- Global configs are **replicated** to all other sites
- **Define admin users and roles**



SITE SERVERS

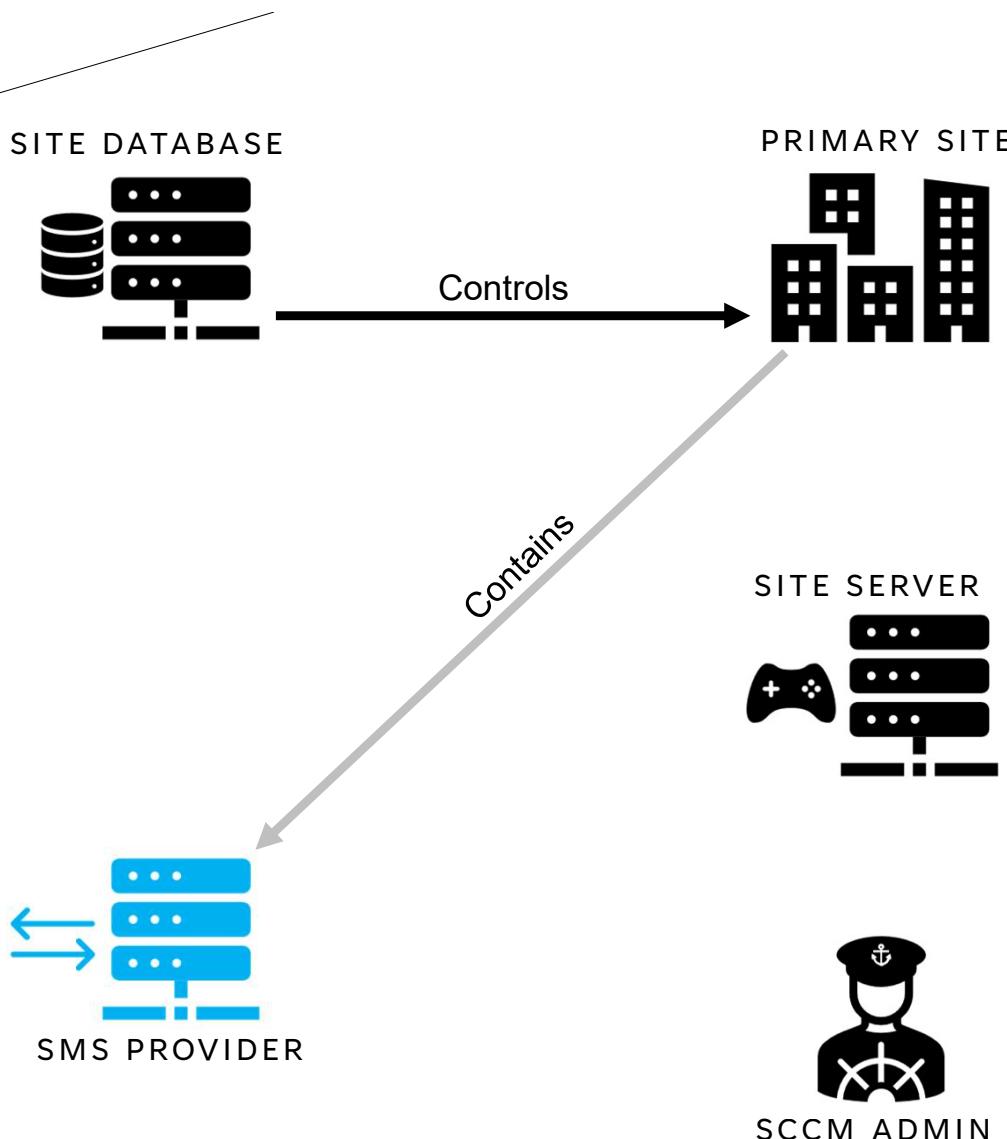
Orchestrate all actions for:

- the site
- client devices
- site system roles



SCCM ADMINS

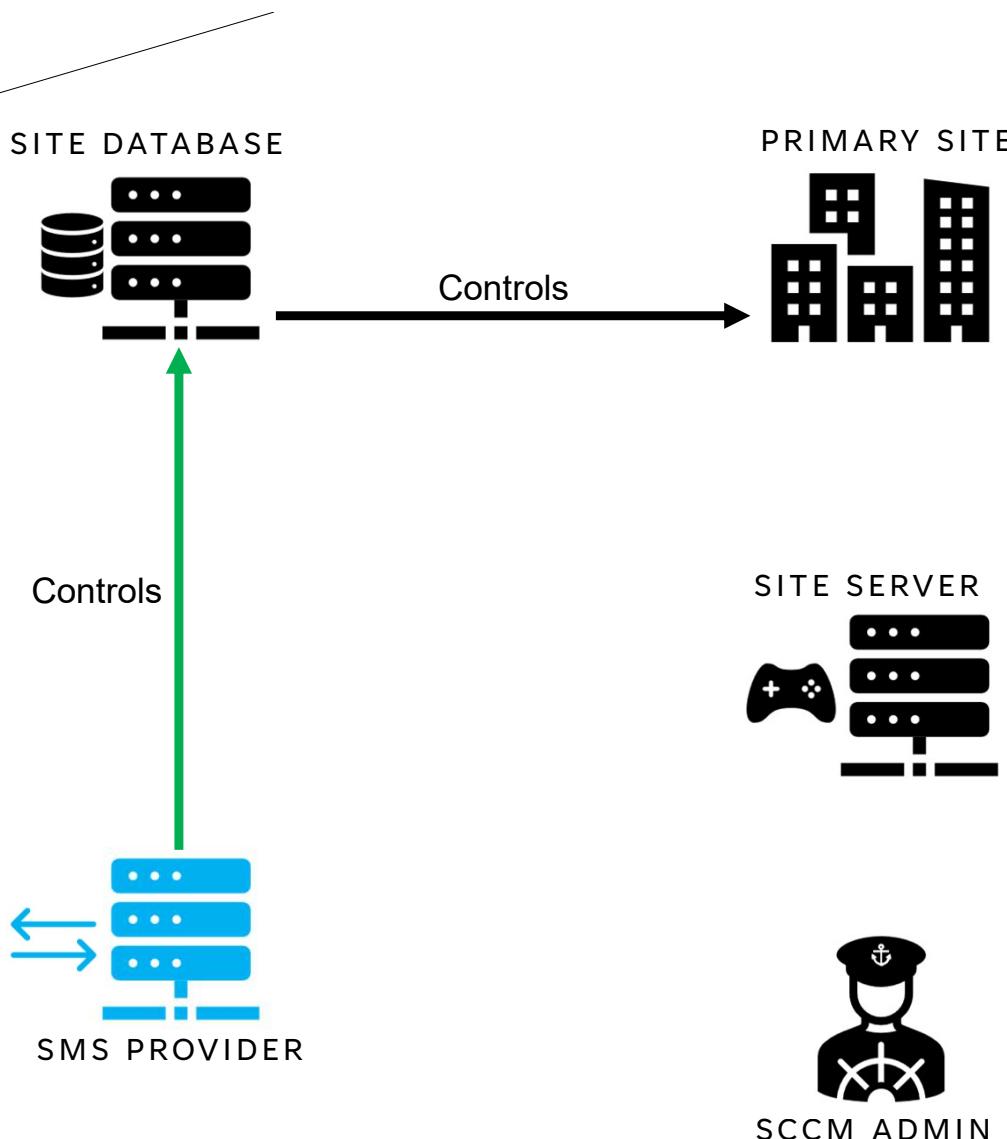
Interact with site database to manage the site... how?



SMS PROVIDERS

Host two APIs for SCCM admins to manage site database:

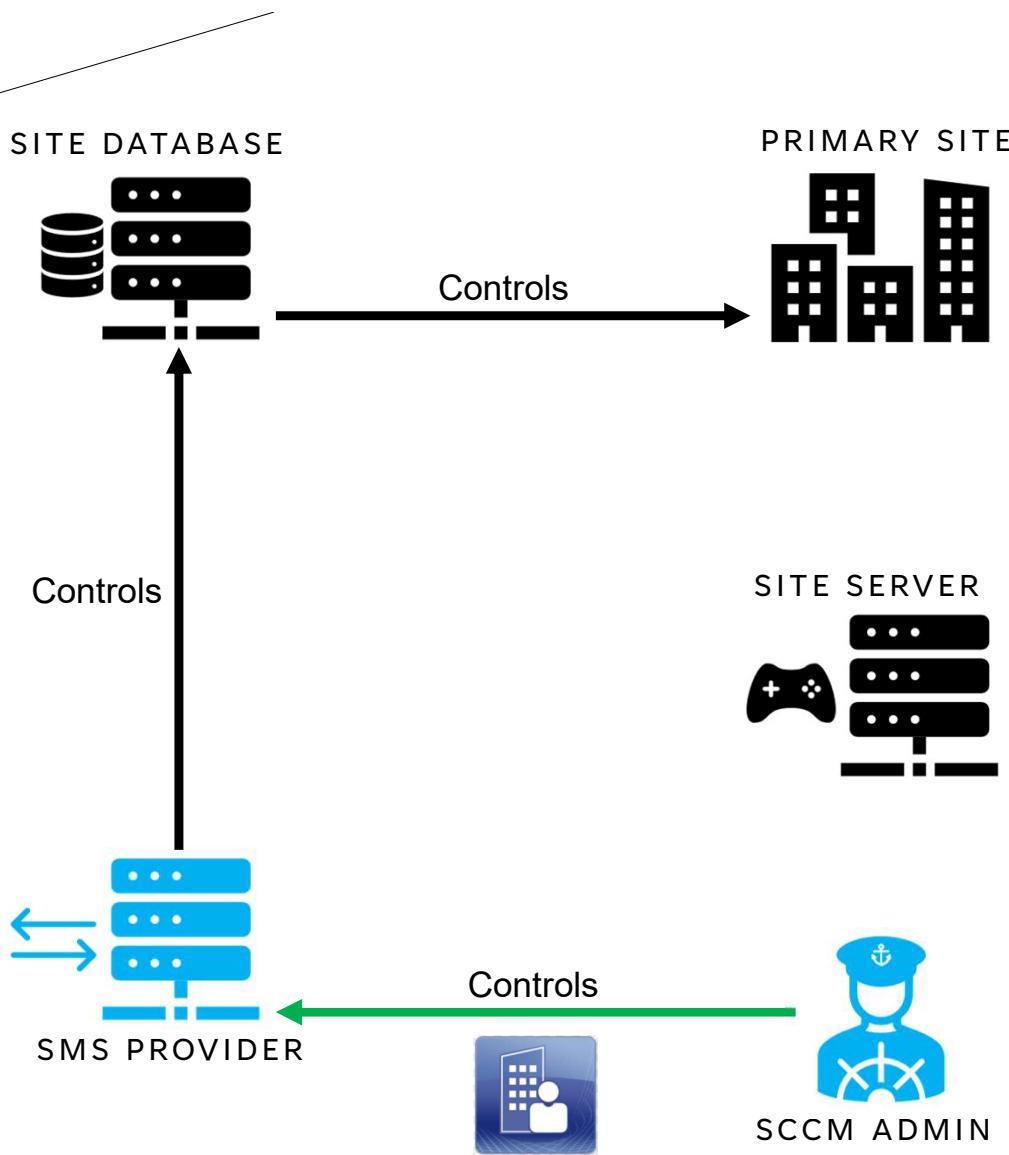
- **AdminService**
 - REST API (HTTPS)
- **WMI**
 - Windows Management Instrumentation



SMS PROVIDERS

Host two APIs for SCCM admins to manage site database:

- **AdminService**
 - REST API (HTTPS)
- **WMI**
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SCCM ADMINS

Use Configuration Manager **Console** software to control SCCM via SMS Provider APIs

SITE DATABASE

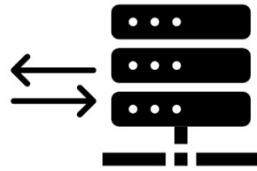
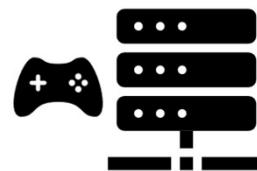


PRIMARY SITE



Contains

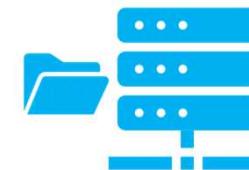
SITE SERVER



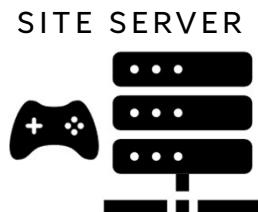
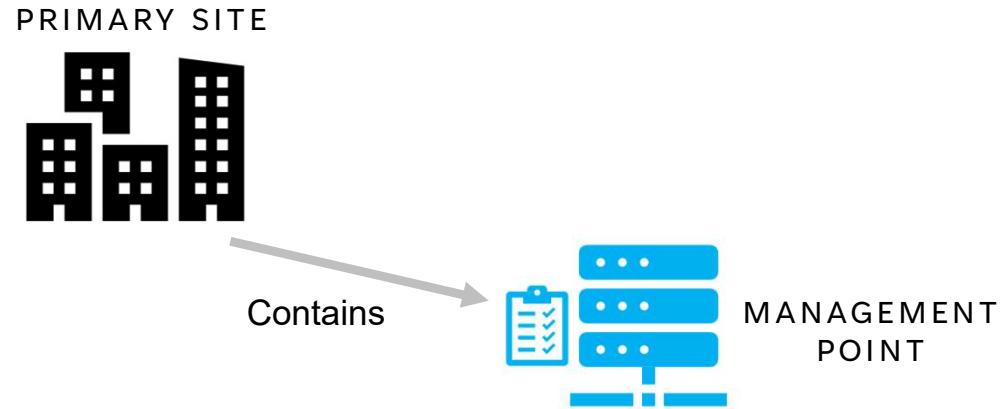
SMS PROVIDER

DISTRIBUTION POINTS

Host software files for client devices to download and install via HTTP(S) and SMB



DISTRIBUTION
POINT



MANAGEMENT POINTS

Define tasks for client devices to fetch via HTTP(S) and execute

- download/install software from X distribution point

SITE DATABASE



PRIMARY SITE



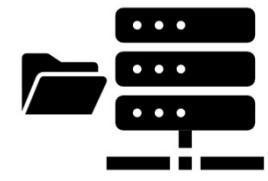
MANAGEMENT POINT



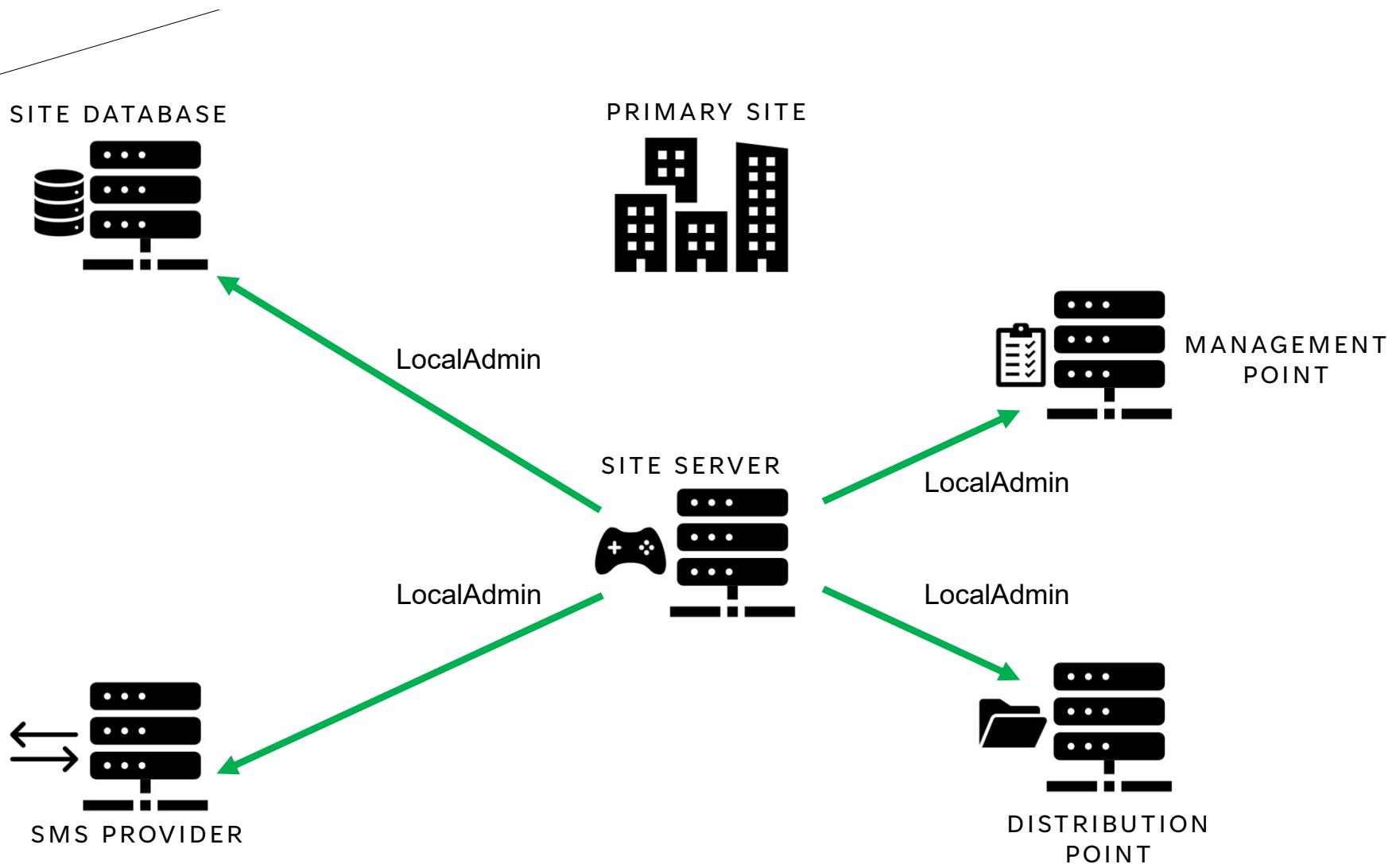
SITE SERVER

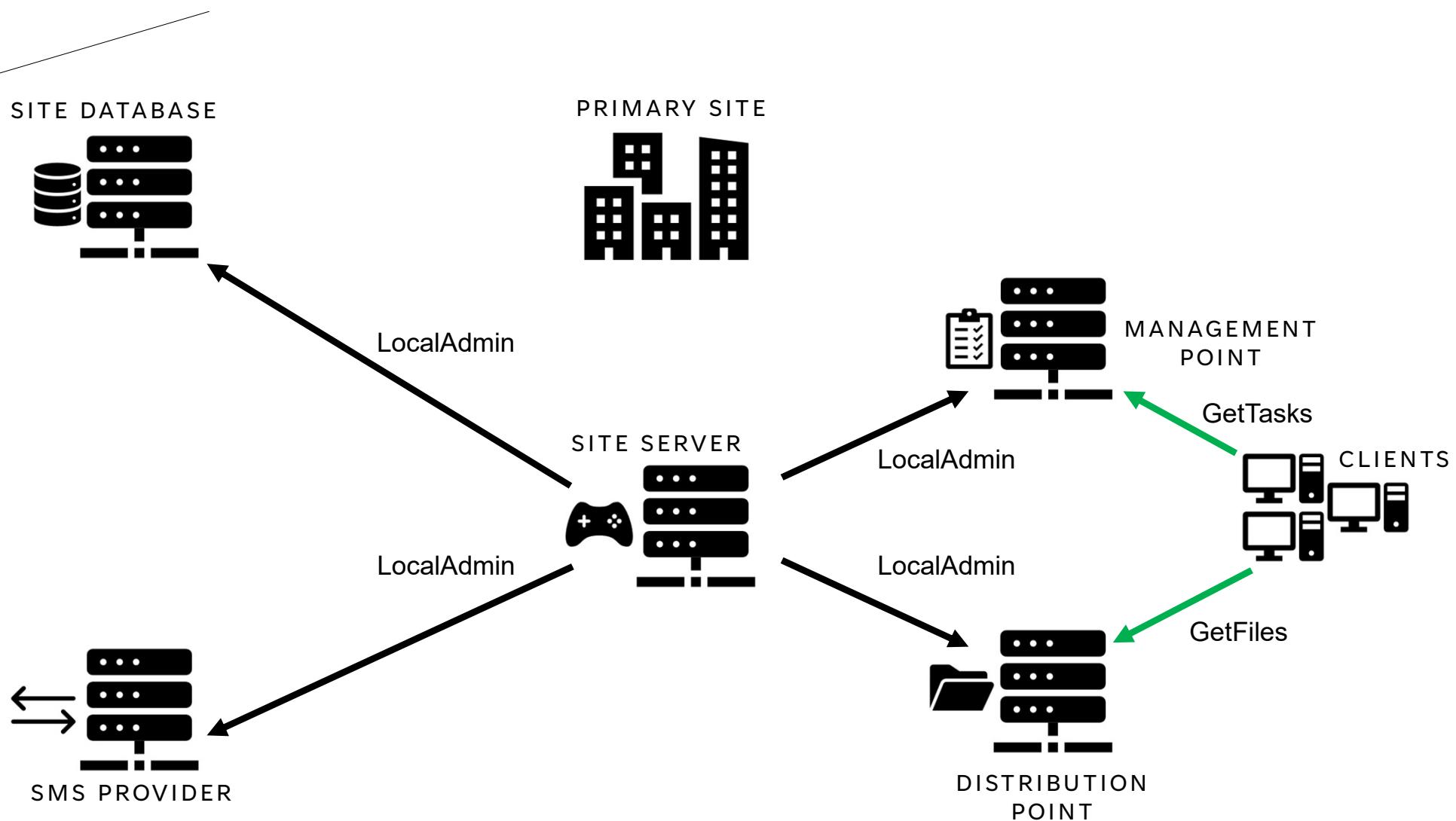


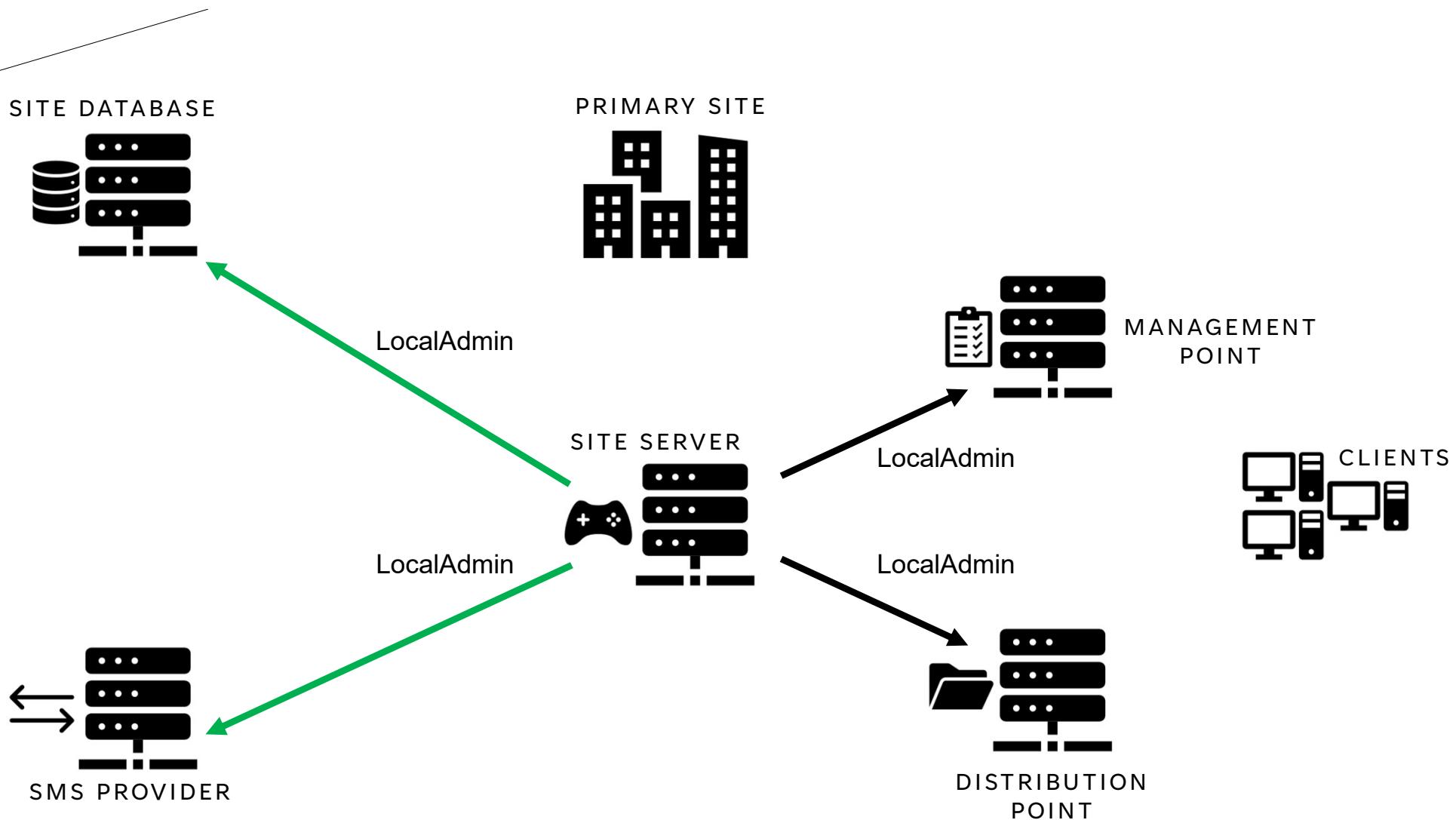
SMS PROVIDER

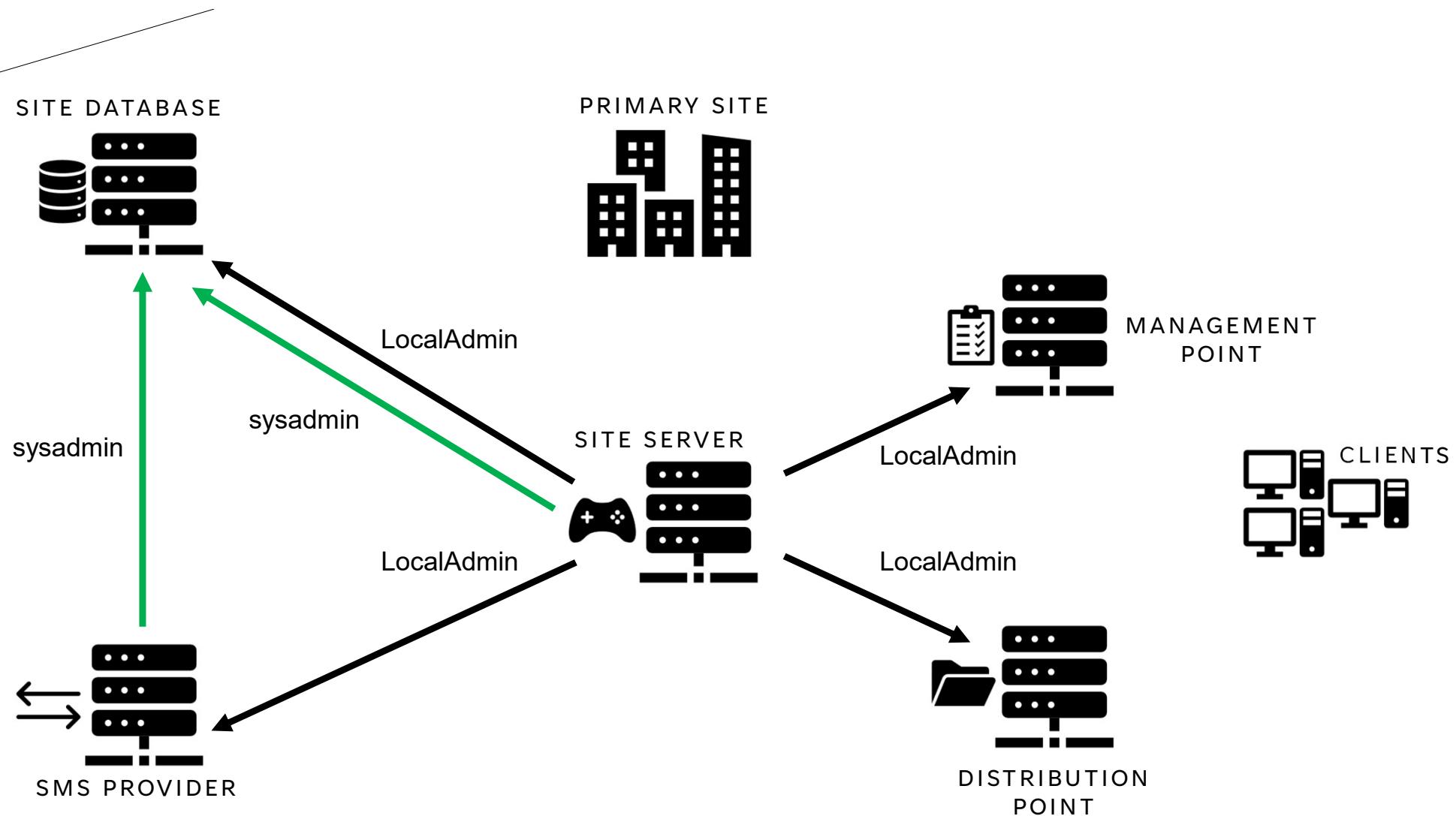


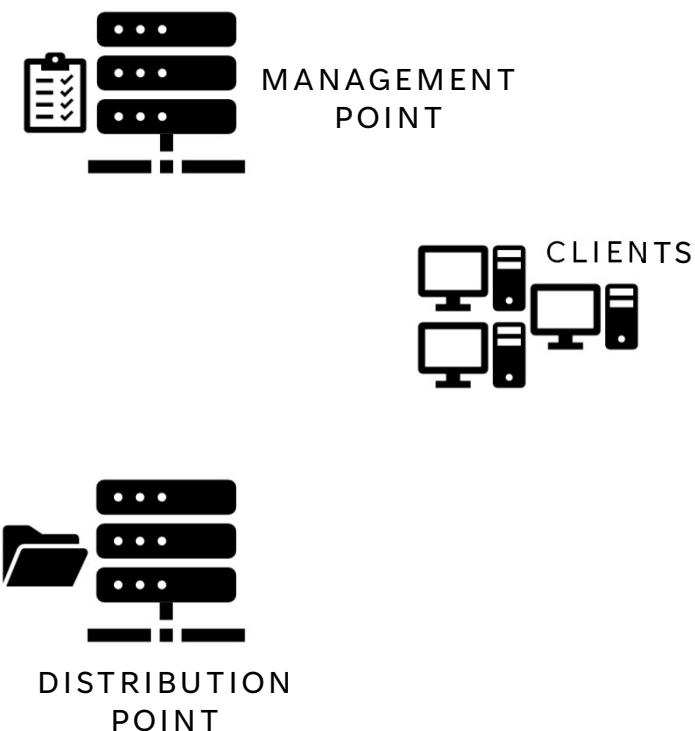
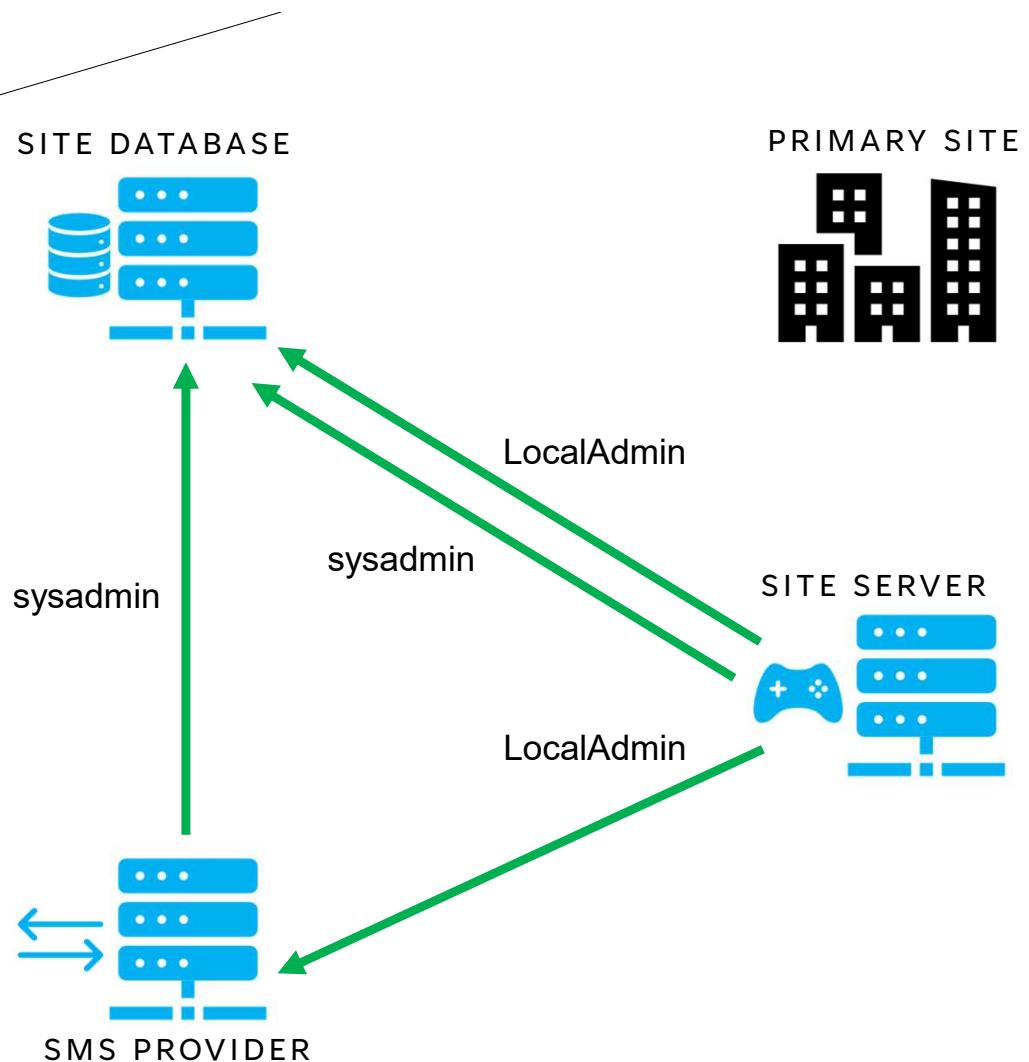
DISTRIBUTION POINT

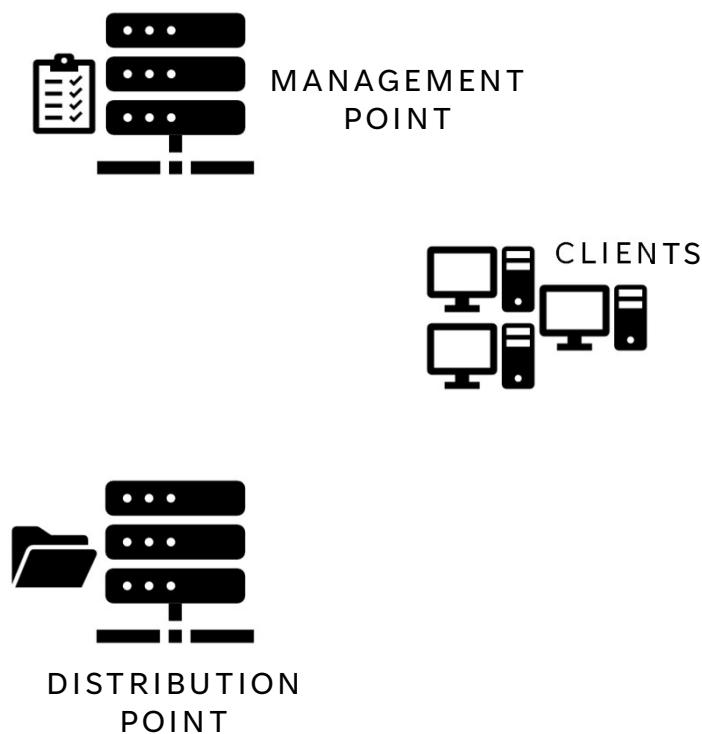
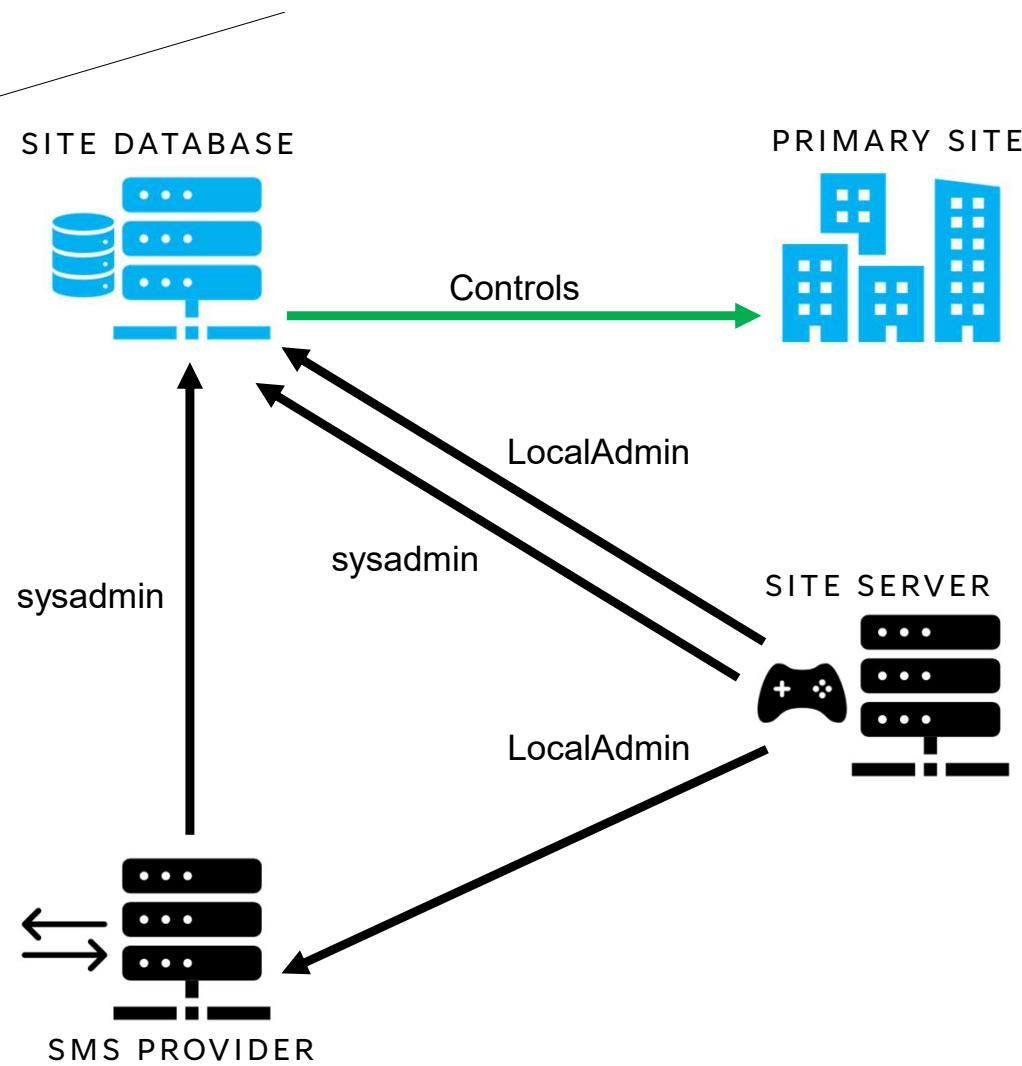


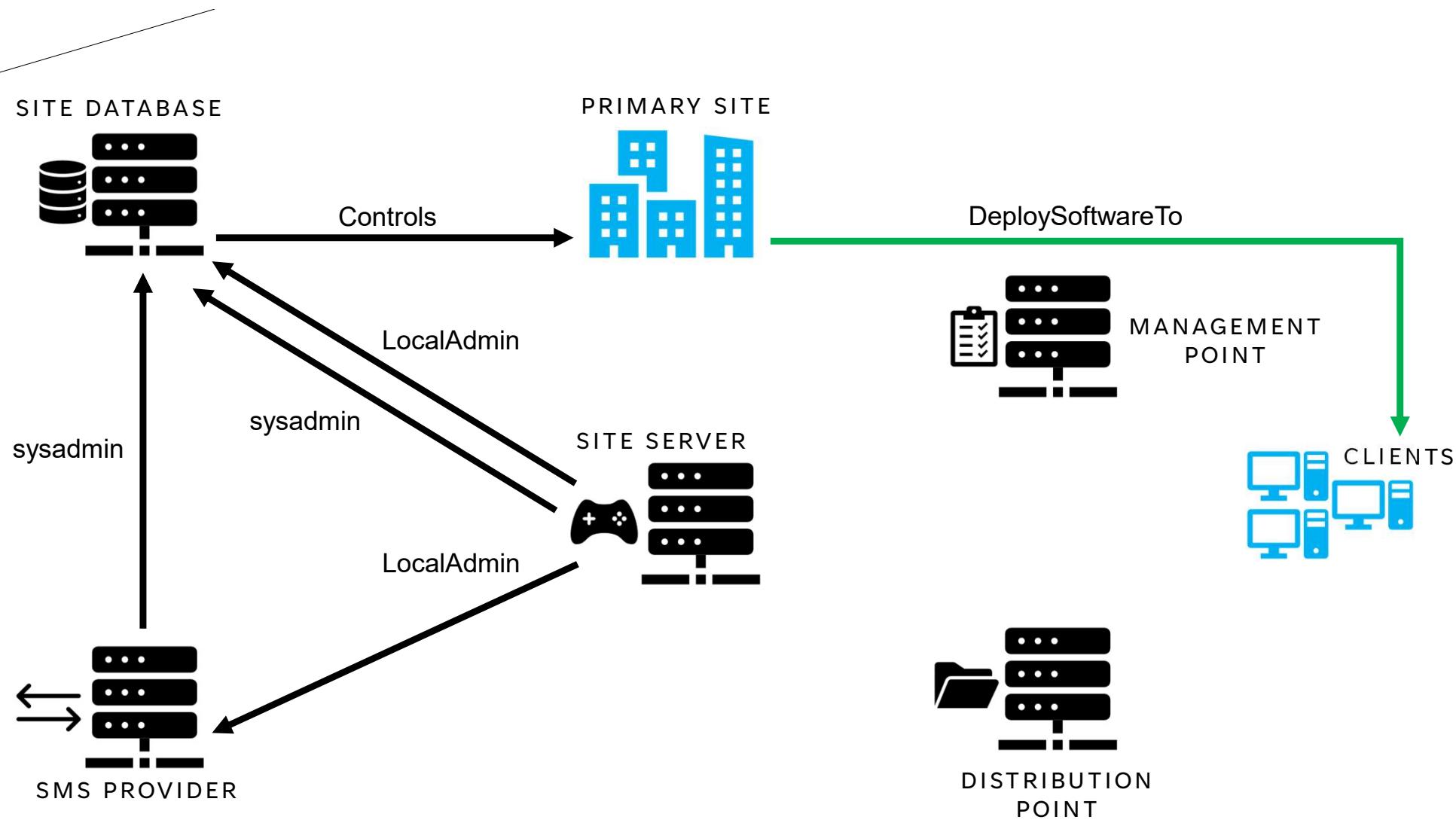








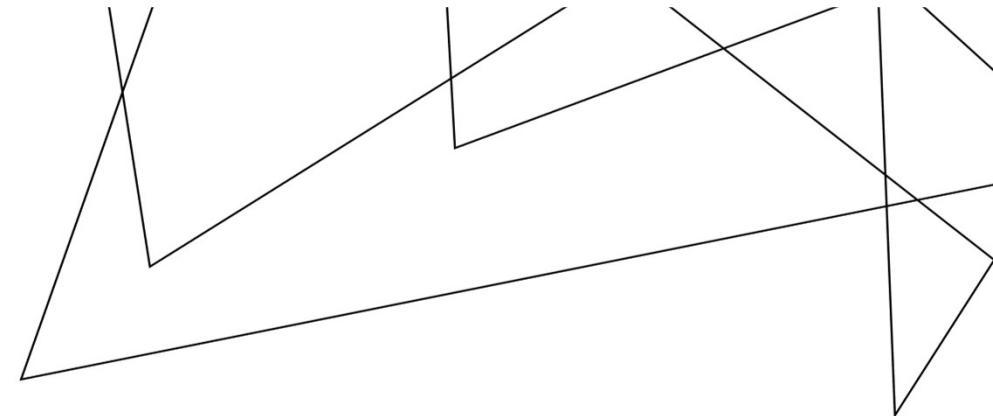






SCCM ATTACK PATHS

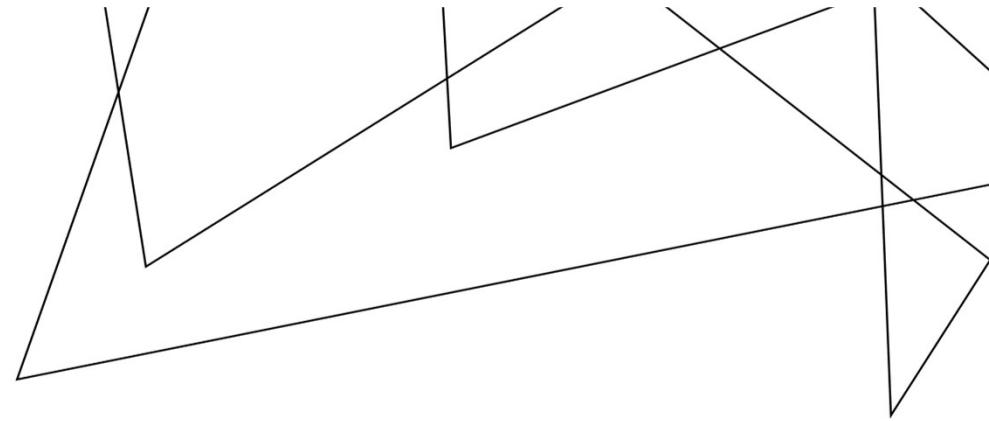
ALLOW CONTROL OF MANAGED DEVICES



33+ ATTACK TECHNIQUES
DISCOVERED SINCE 2022

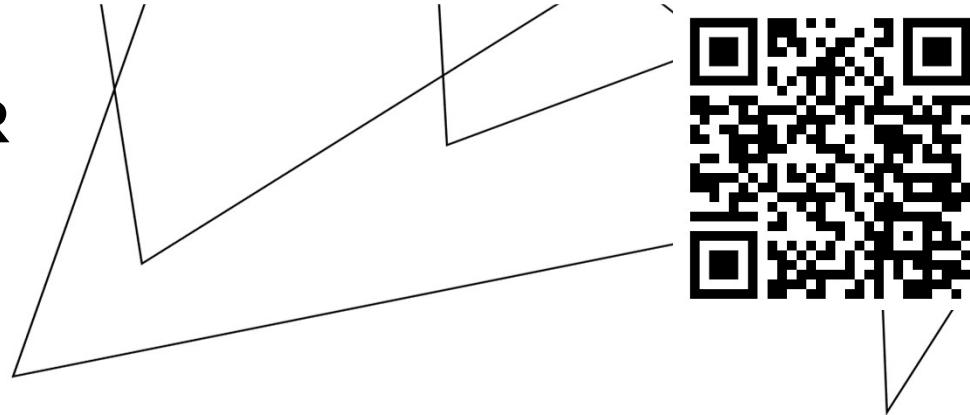
SHOUTOUTS / PRIOR WORK

- Garrett Foster (@unsigned_sh0rt)
- Duane Michael (@subat0mik)
- Andy Robbins (@_wald0)
- Jonas Bülow Knudsen (@Jonas_B_K)
- Elad Shamir (@eladshamir)
- Zach Stein (@synzack21)
- Erik Hunstad (@badsectorlabs)
- Dylan Bradley (@slygoo)
- Nick Powers (@zynergy)
- Matt Creel (@Tw1sm)
- Lee Chagolla-Christensen (@tifkin_)
- Will Schroeder (@harmj0y)
- Adam Chester (@_xpn_)
- Christopher Panayi (@Raiona_ZA)
- Carsten Sandker (@0xcsandker)
- Josh Prager (@Praga_Prag)

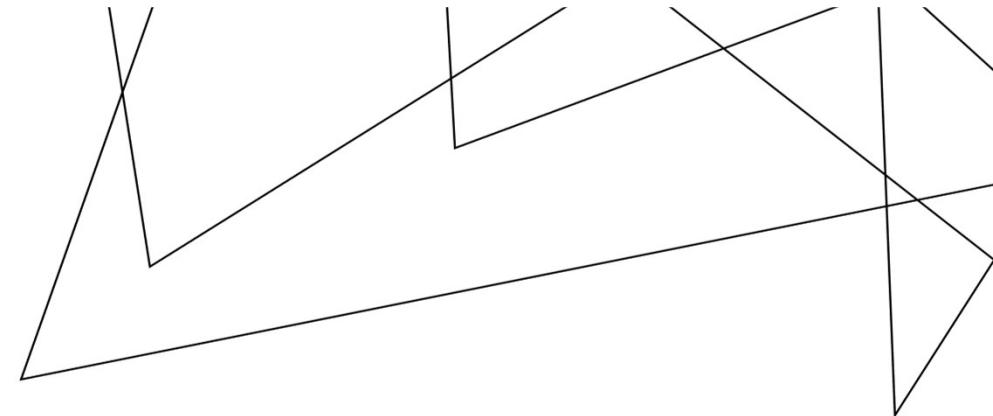


MISCONFIGURATION MANAGER

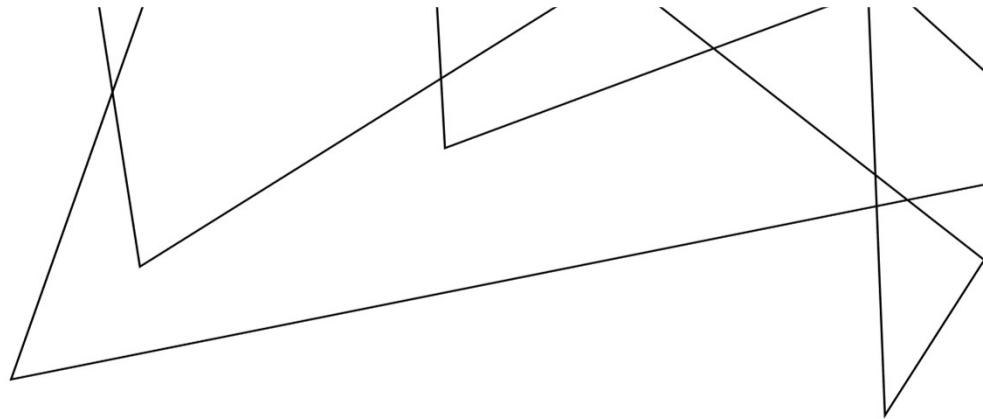
- Step-by-step offensive and defensive **write-ups** for attack techniques
- A **taxonomy** to simplify and demystify concepts
- Based on MITRE ATT&CK
- Co-authored with Duane Michael (@subat0mik) and Garrett Foster (@unsigned_sh0rt)



RECON 



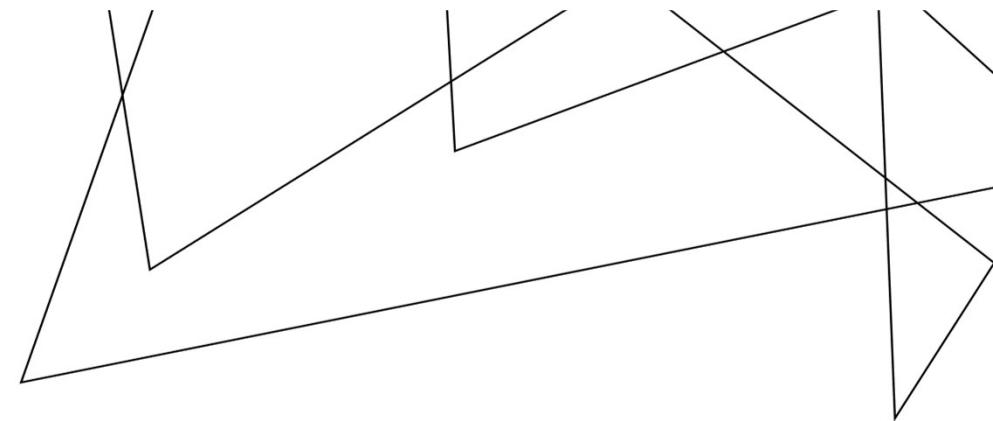
RECON
CRED 



RECON

CRED

COERCE

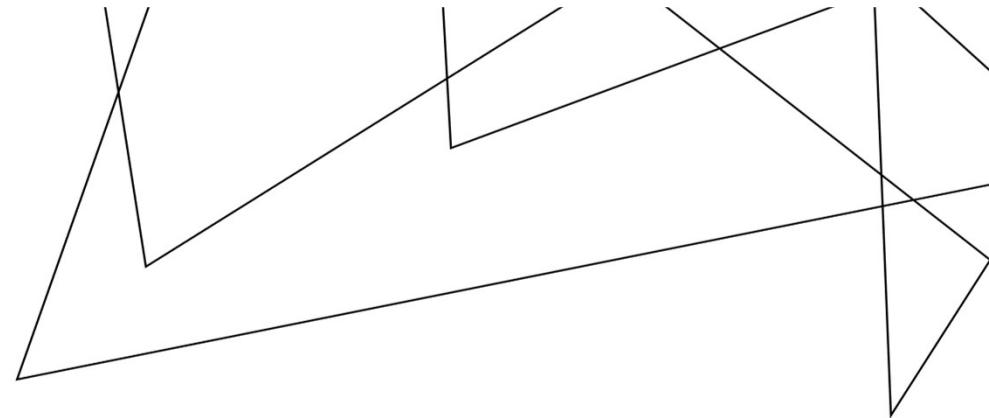


RECON

CRED

COERCE

ELEVATE



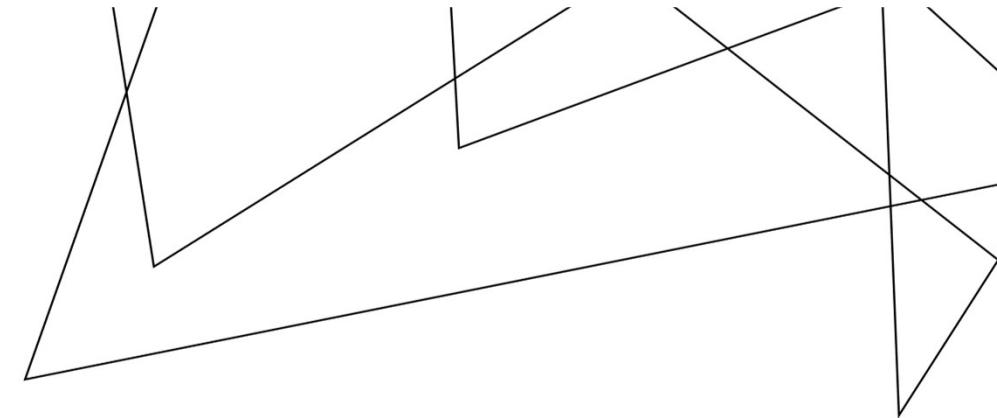
RECON

CRED

COERCE

ELEVATE

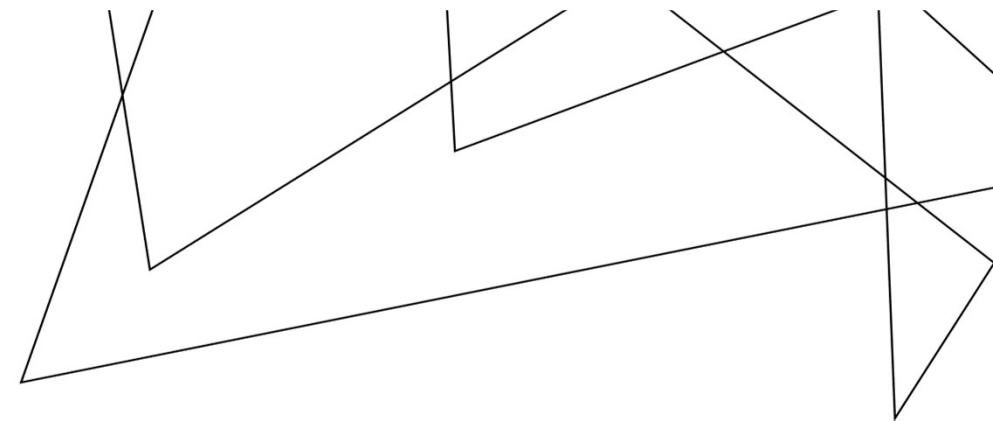
TAKEOVER 



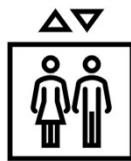
Grant a user the “**Full Administrator**” role by modifying SCCM via access to:

- site database
- SMS Provider APIs

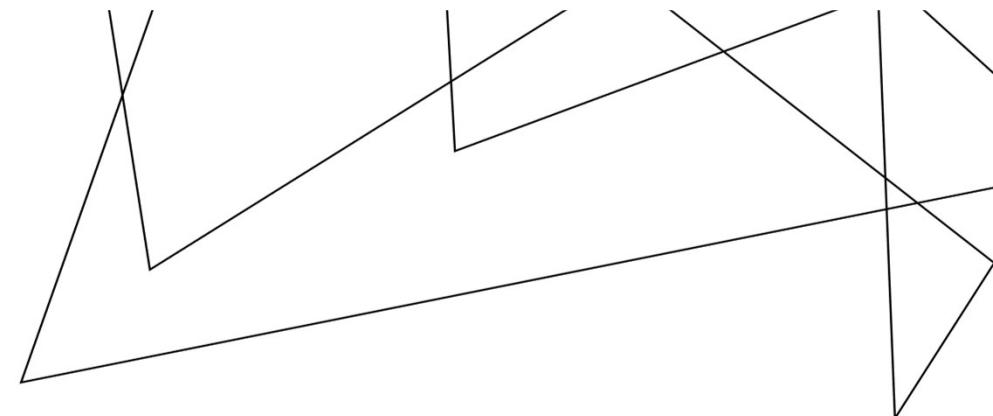
RECON
CRED
COERCE
ELEVATE
TAKEOVER
EXEC 



ELEVATE



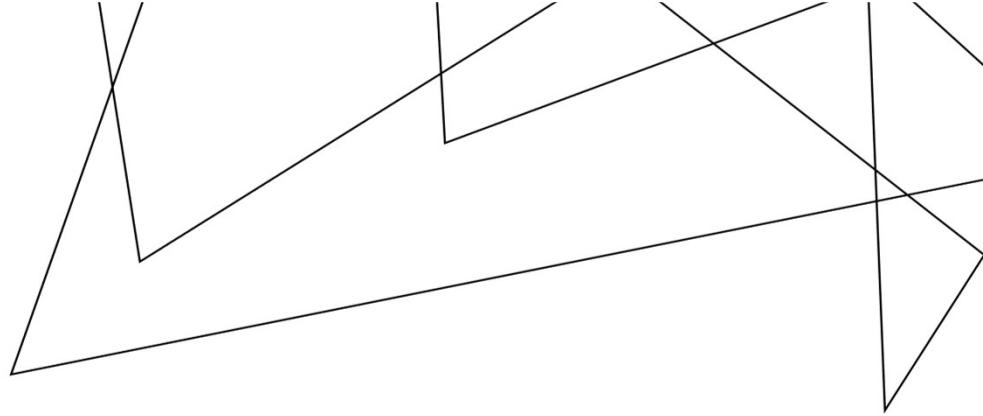
TAKEOVER



The site server's domain computer account **MUST** be:

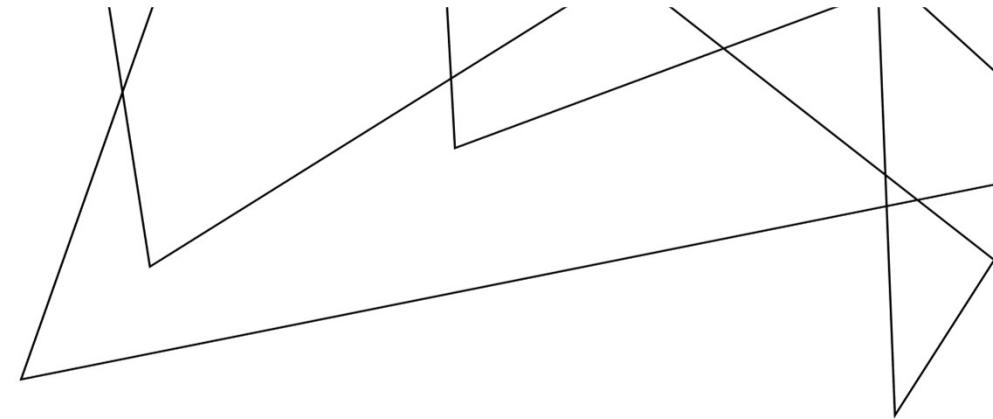
- a **local Administrator** of every other SCCM server
- a **sysadmin** in the site database

NTLM



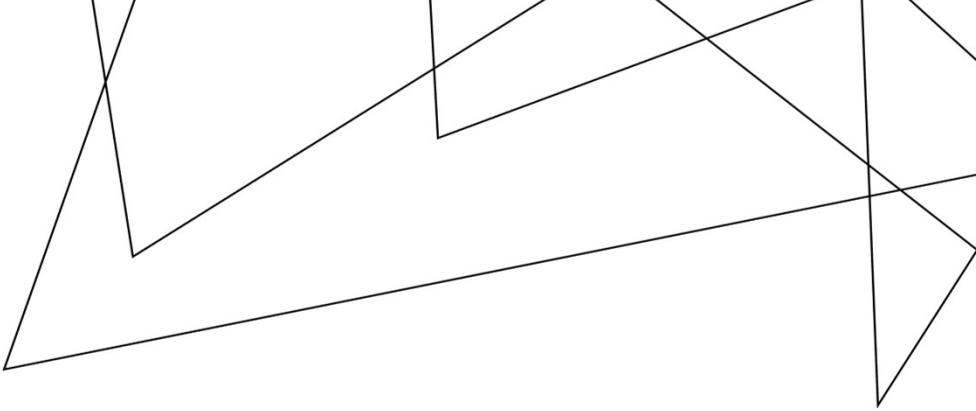
A protocol that Windows users and computers use to
authenticate over the network without a password

NTLM RELAY



Attackers can **coerce** computers into authenticating to their machine and **use** the creds on another machine where that computer has privileges

- e.g., Printerbug, PetitPotam

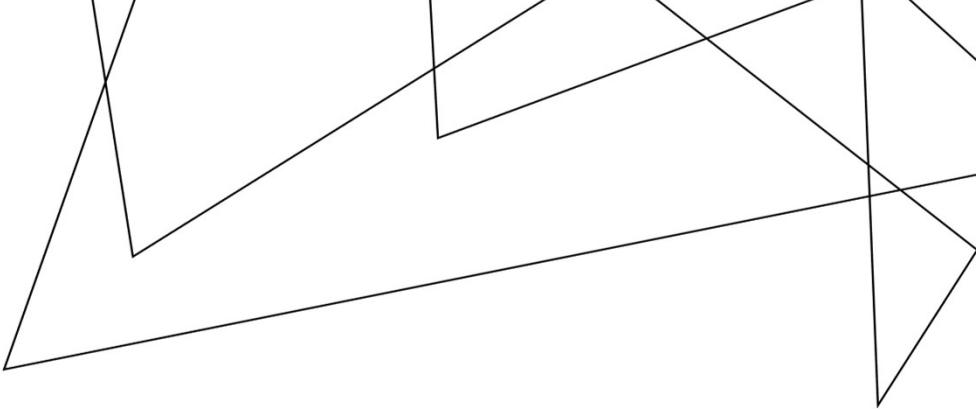


NTLM RELAY

site servers

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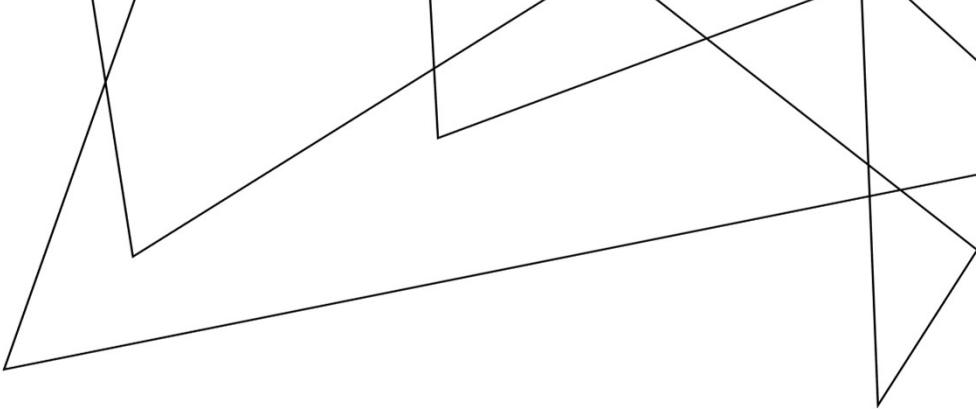


NTLM RELAY

site servers

Attackers can **coerce** computers into authenticating to their machine and **use** the creds on another machine where that computer has privileges **other SCCM servers**

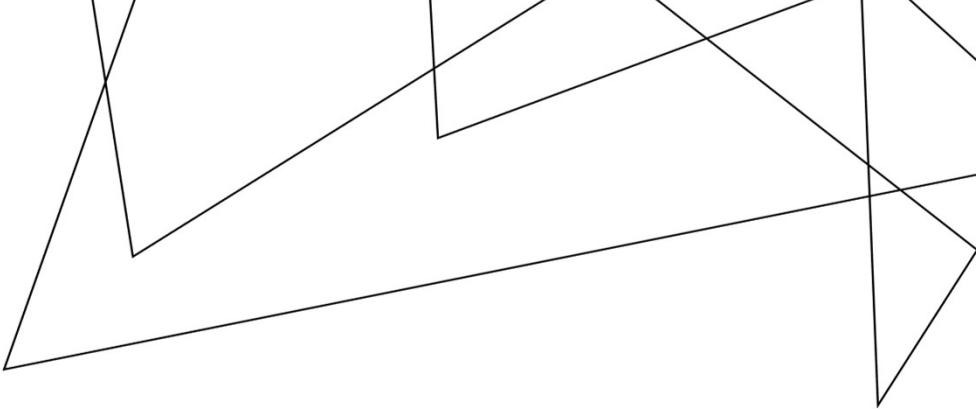
- e.g., Printerbug, PetitPotam



NTLM RELAY

Attackers can **coerce site servers** into authenticating to their machine and **use** the creds on **other SCCM servers** where that computer has privileges

- e.g., Printerbug, PetitPotam



NTLM RELAY

Susceptible when hosted **remotely** from the site server:

- site database
- SMS Provider APIs
- other site system roles

TAKEOVER



SITE DATABASE



PRIMARY SITE

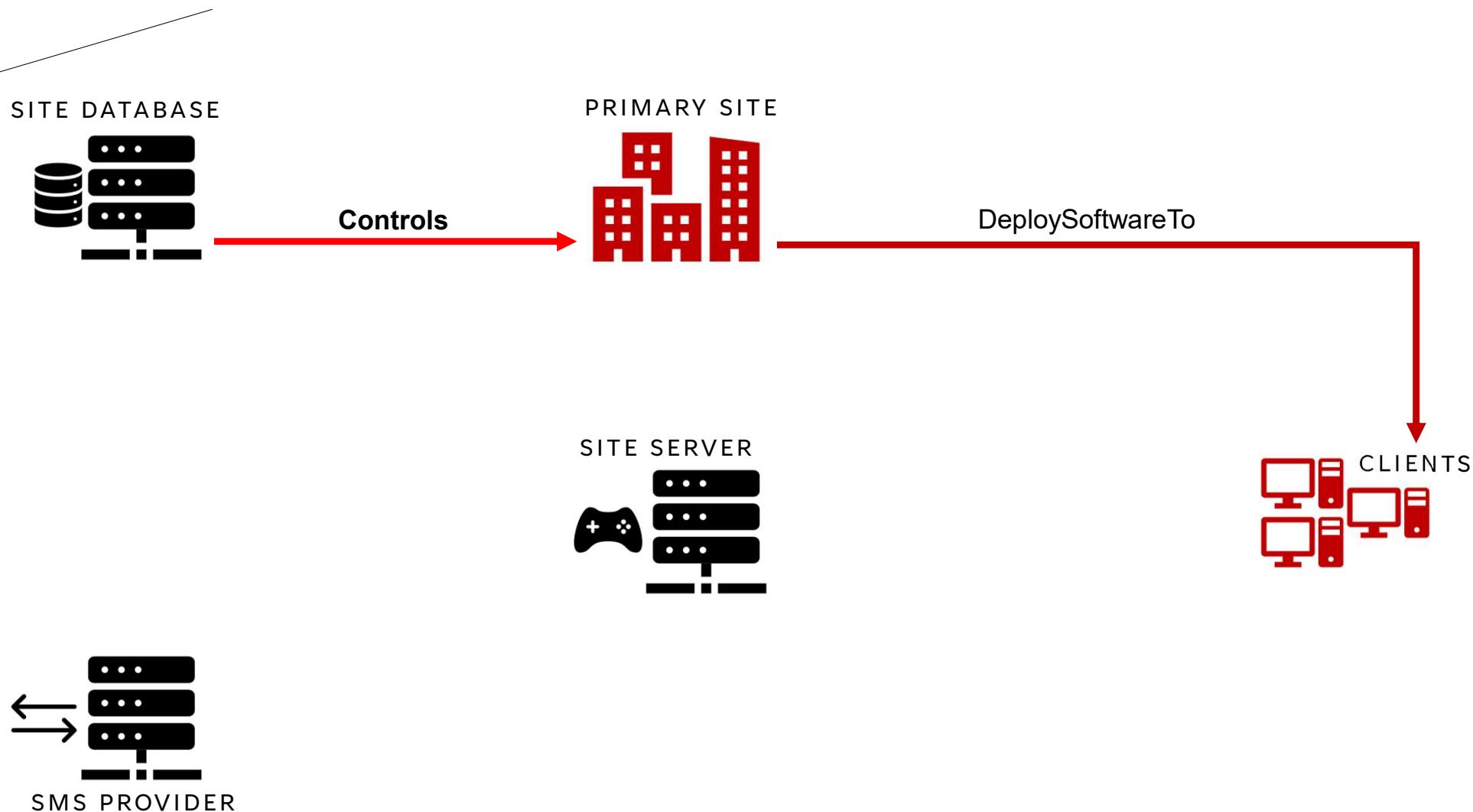


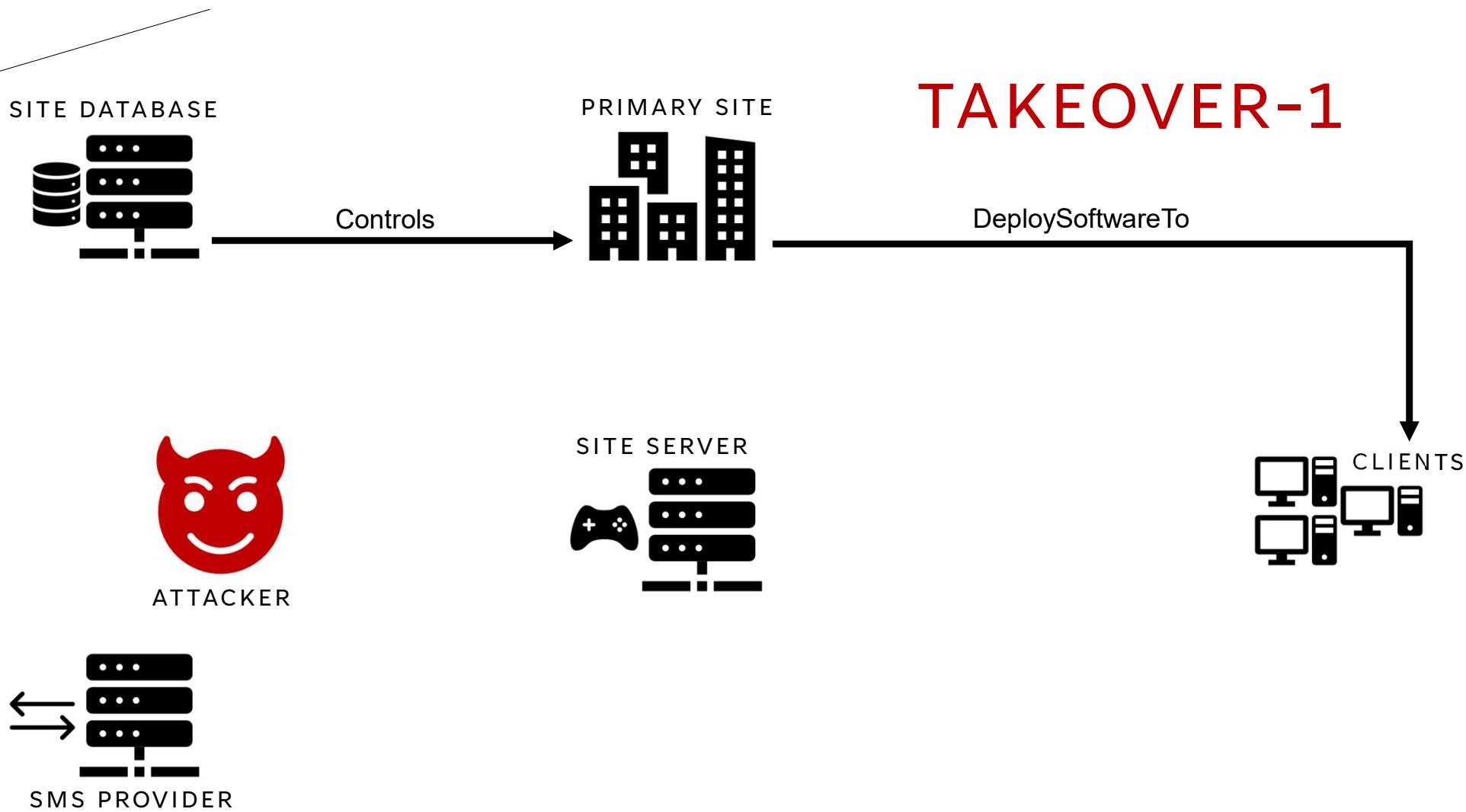
DeploySoftwareTo

SITE SERVER



SMS PROVIDER





SITE DATABASE



PRIMARY SITE



TAKEOVER-1

Controls

DeploySoftwareTo



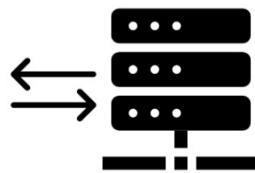
ATTACKER

1. CoerceFrom

SITE SERVER



CLIENTS



SMS PROVIDER

SITE DATABASE



PRIMARY SITE



TAKEOVER-1

Controls

DeploySoftwareTo

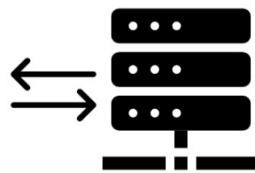


SITE SERVER



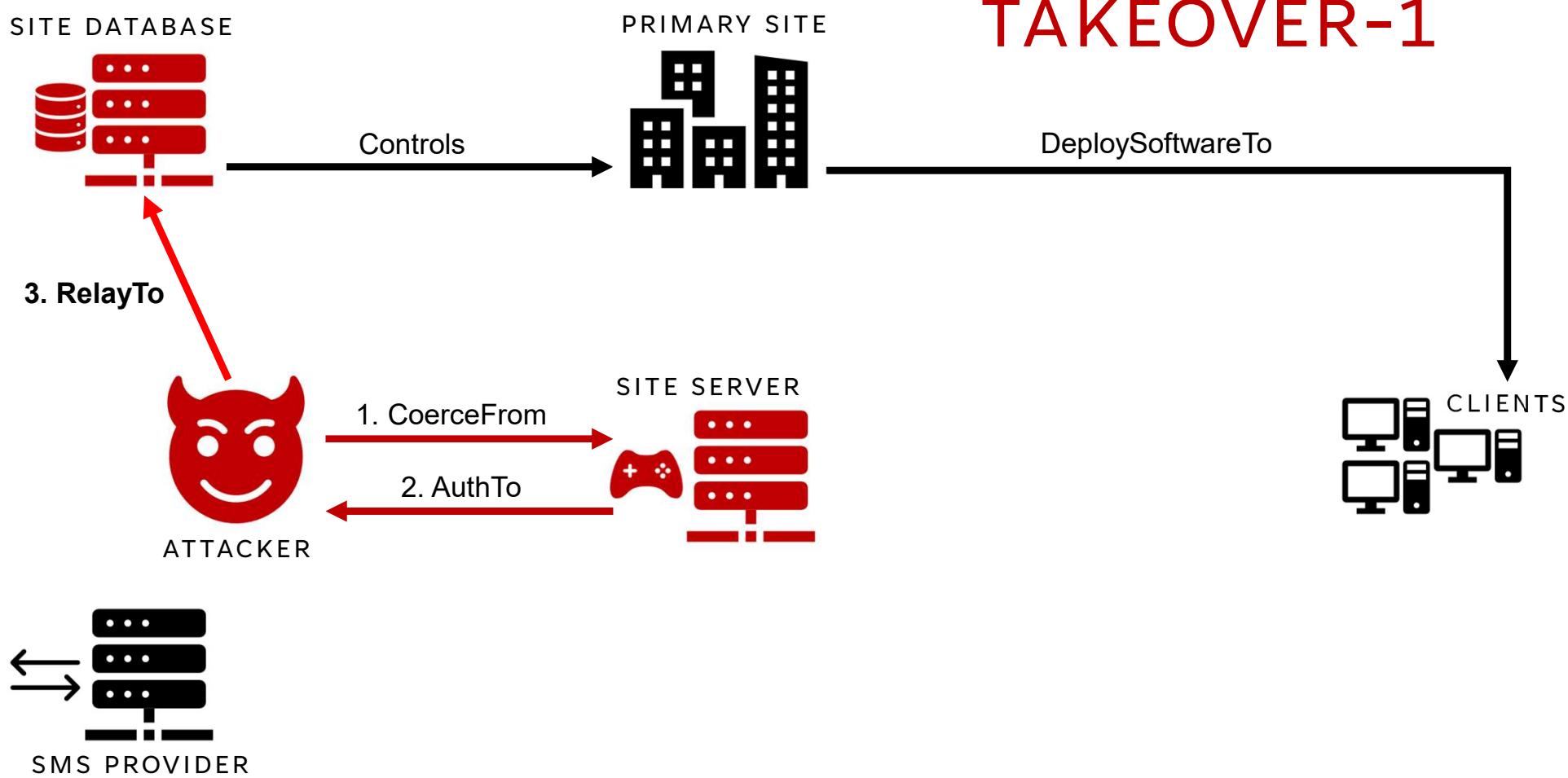
1. CoerceFrom

2. AuthTo

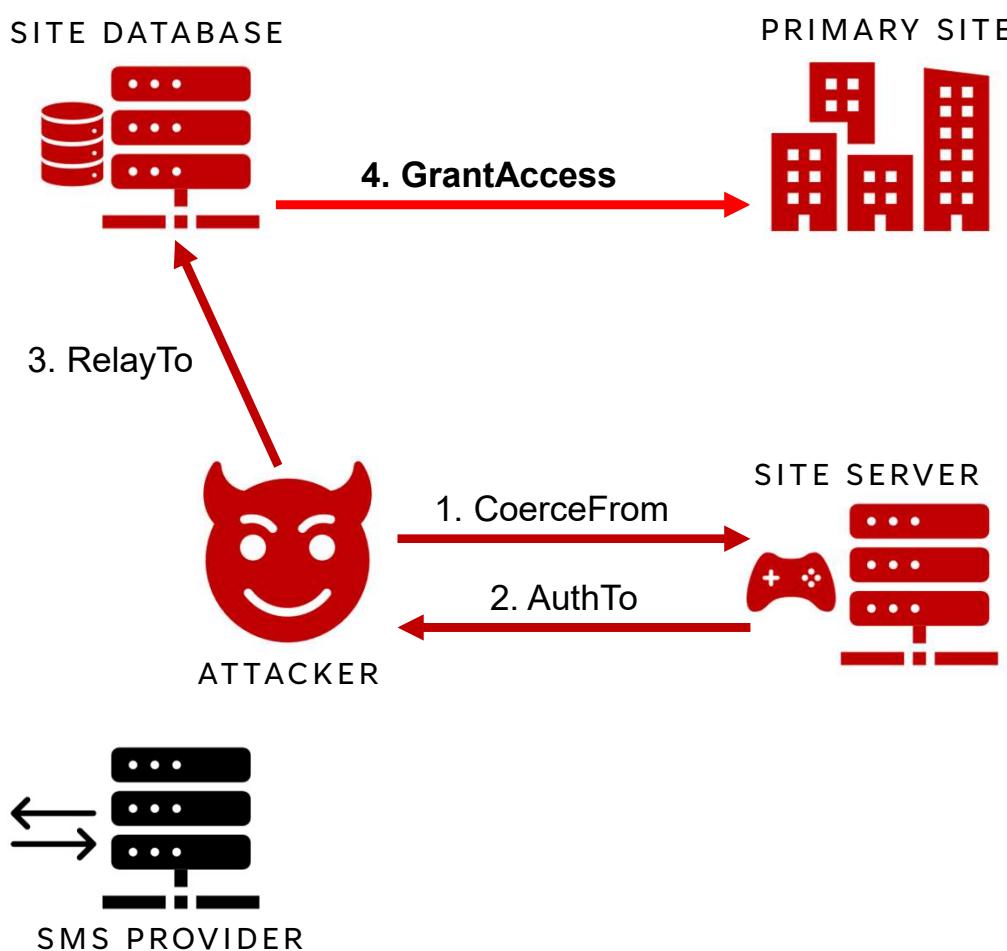


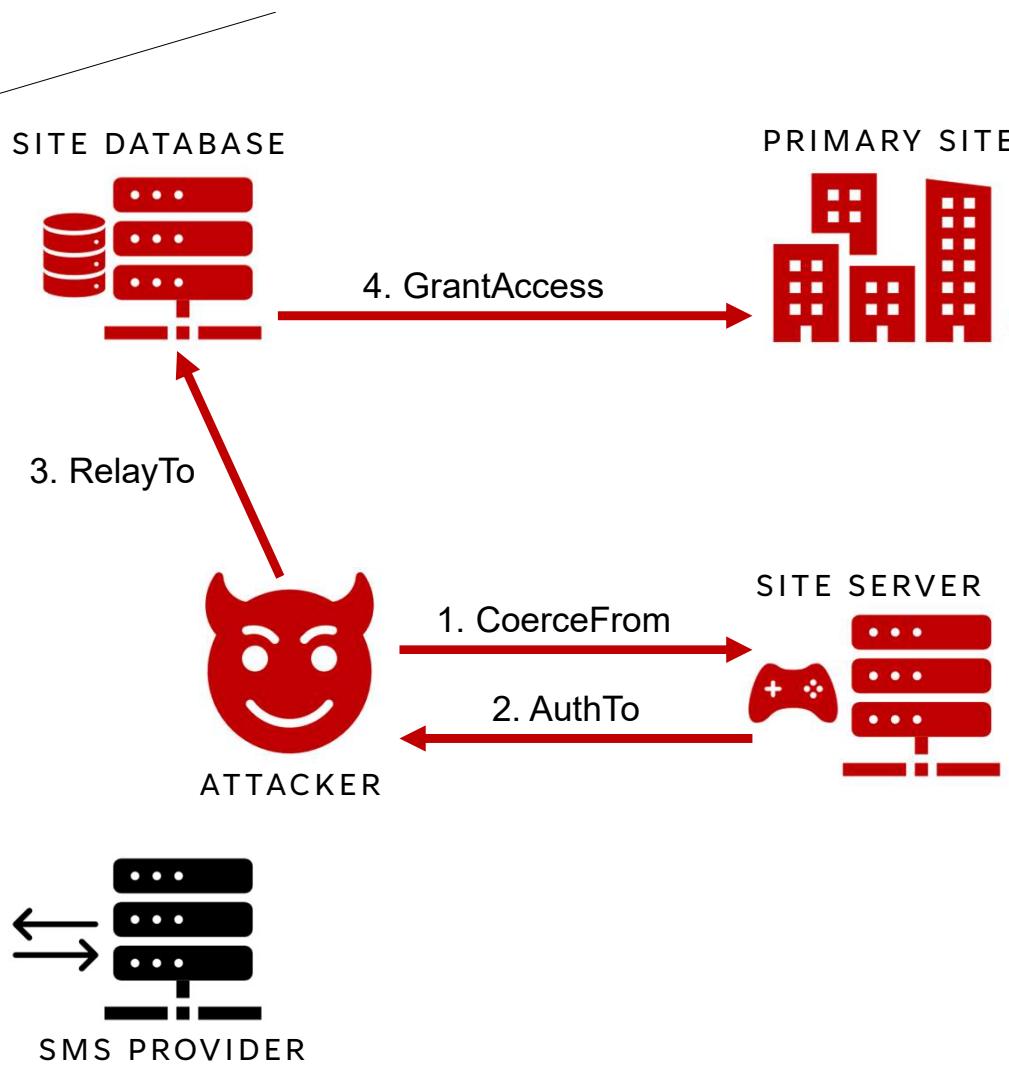
SMS PROVIDER

TAKEOVER-1

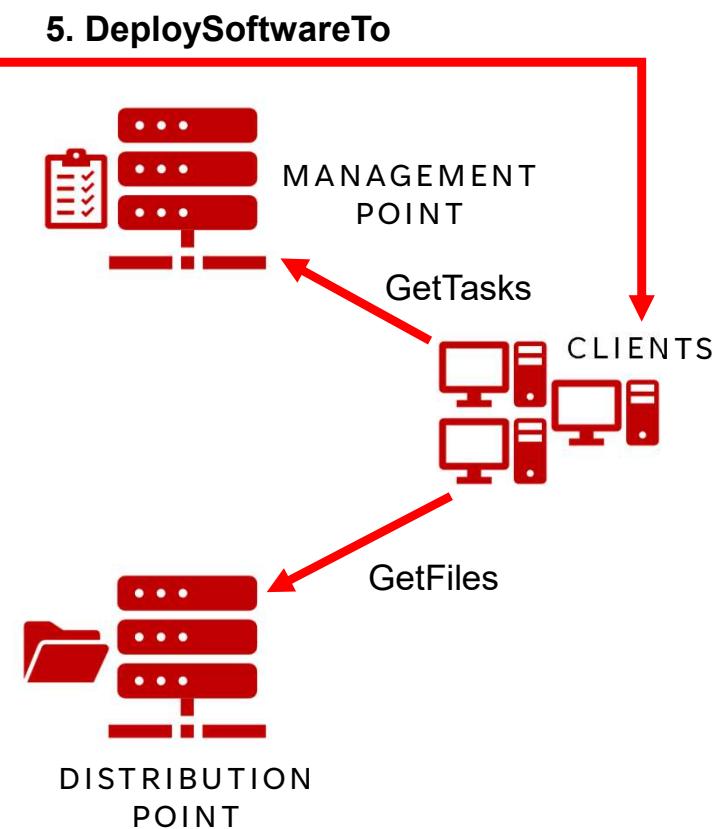


TAKEOVER-1





TAKEOVER-1



TAKEOVER-1



SITE-SERVER - Remote Desktop

Microsoft Configuration Manager (Connected to PS1, Aperture Science - SITE-SERVER.APERTURE.LOCAL)

Home

Add User or Group Create Saved Searches Search

! One or more Azure AD app secrets used by Cloud Services have expired. Renew to avoid service disruptions. [Renew expired secret key](#)

1/1

Administration Overview Updates and Servicing Hierarchy Configuration Cloud Services Site Configuration Client Settings Security Assets and Compliance Software Library Monitoring Administration Community

Administrative Users 1 items

Search current node

Icon	Account Name	Account Display Name	Security Roles
User icon	APTURE\labadmin		"Full Administrator"

Ready

Type here to search

9:30 PM 1/29/2026

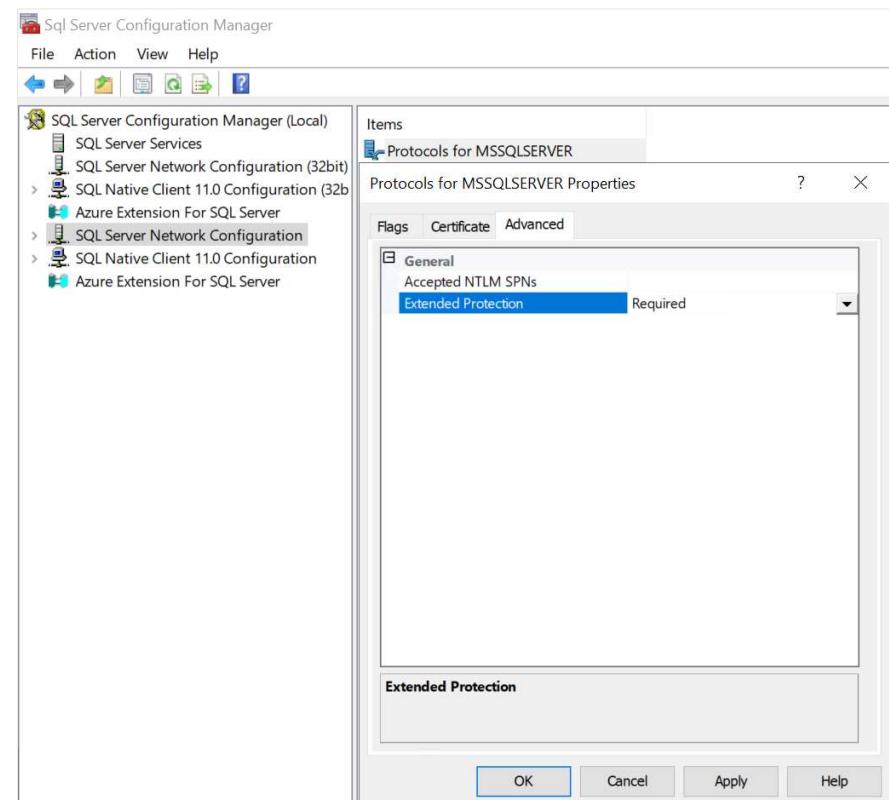
TAKEOVER-1 REMEDIATION

Require Extended Protection On Remote Site Databases

On **remote** site database servers:

1. Open Sql Server Configuration Manager
2. Click “Sql Server Network Configuration”
3. Right click “Protocols for MSSQLSERVER”, then click “Properties”
5. Navigate to the “Advanced” tab
6. Set “Extended Protection” to “Required”
7. Click “Apply”, then “OK”
8. Restart the “SQL Server (MSSQLSERVER)” service

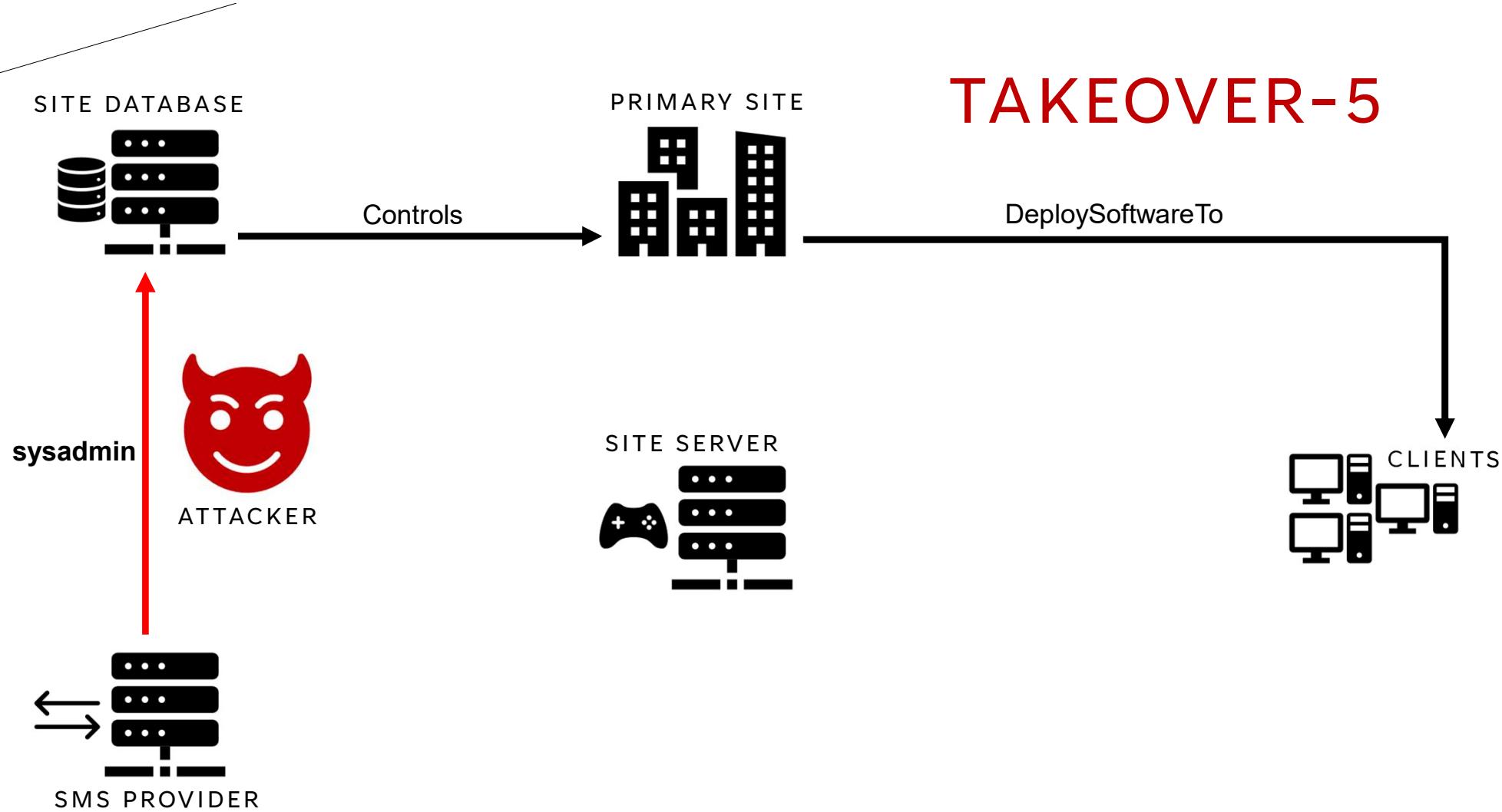
Setting to “Allowed” will not prevent NTLM relay attacks if the coerced client doesn’t support channel binding



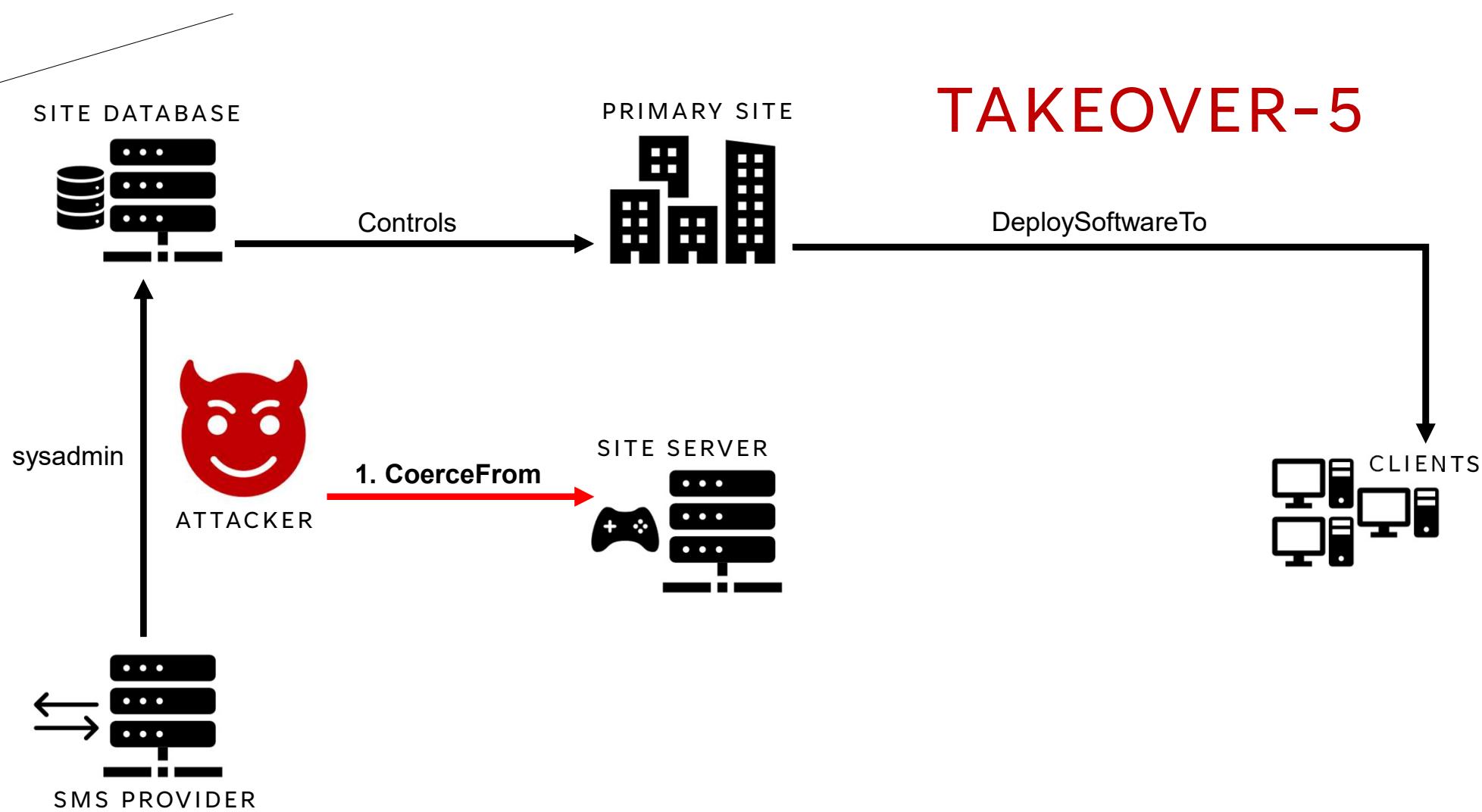
TAKEOVER-5



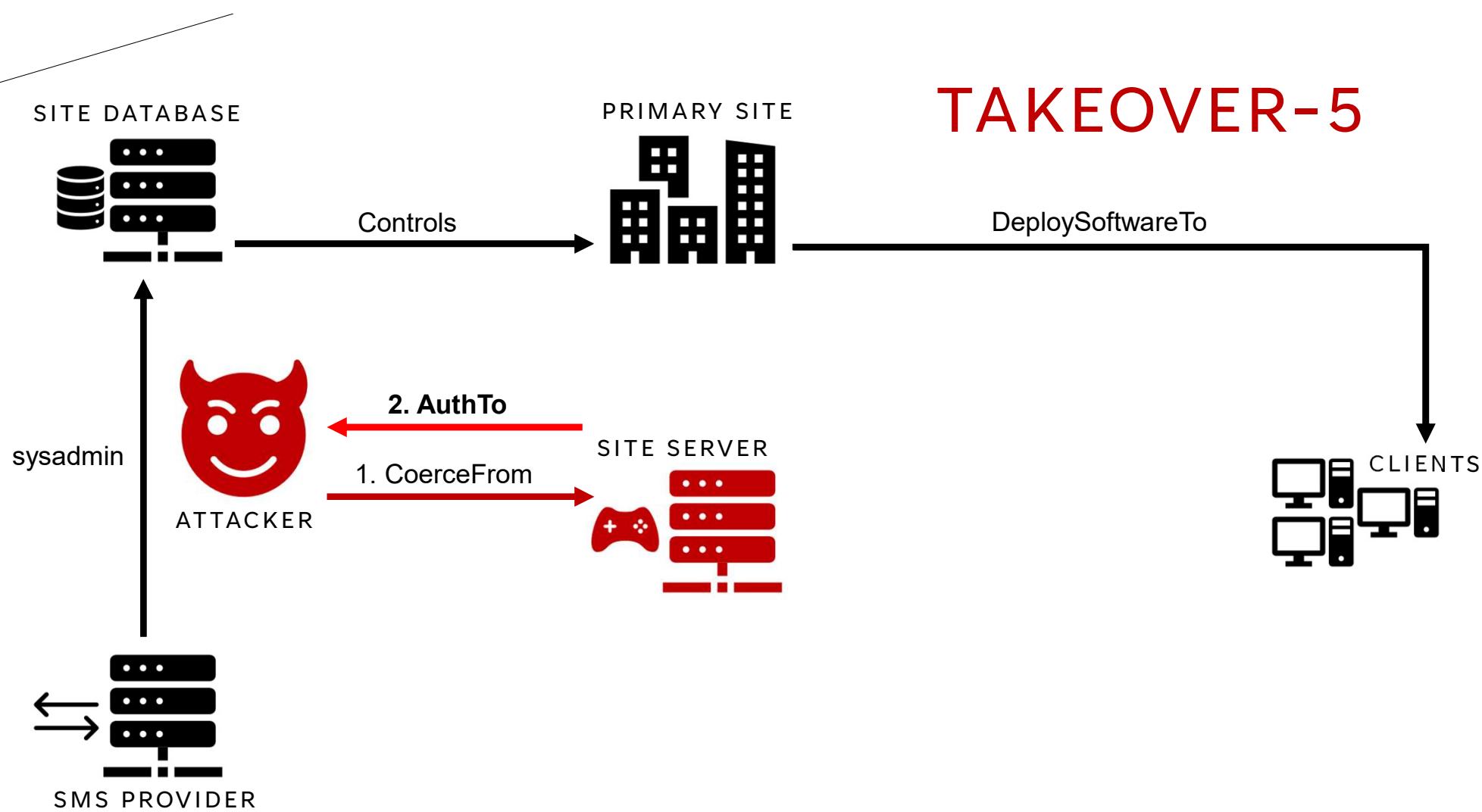
TAKEOVER-5



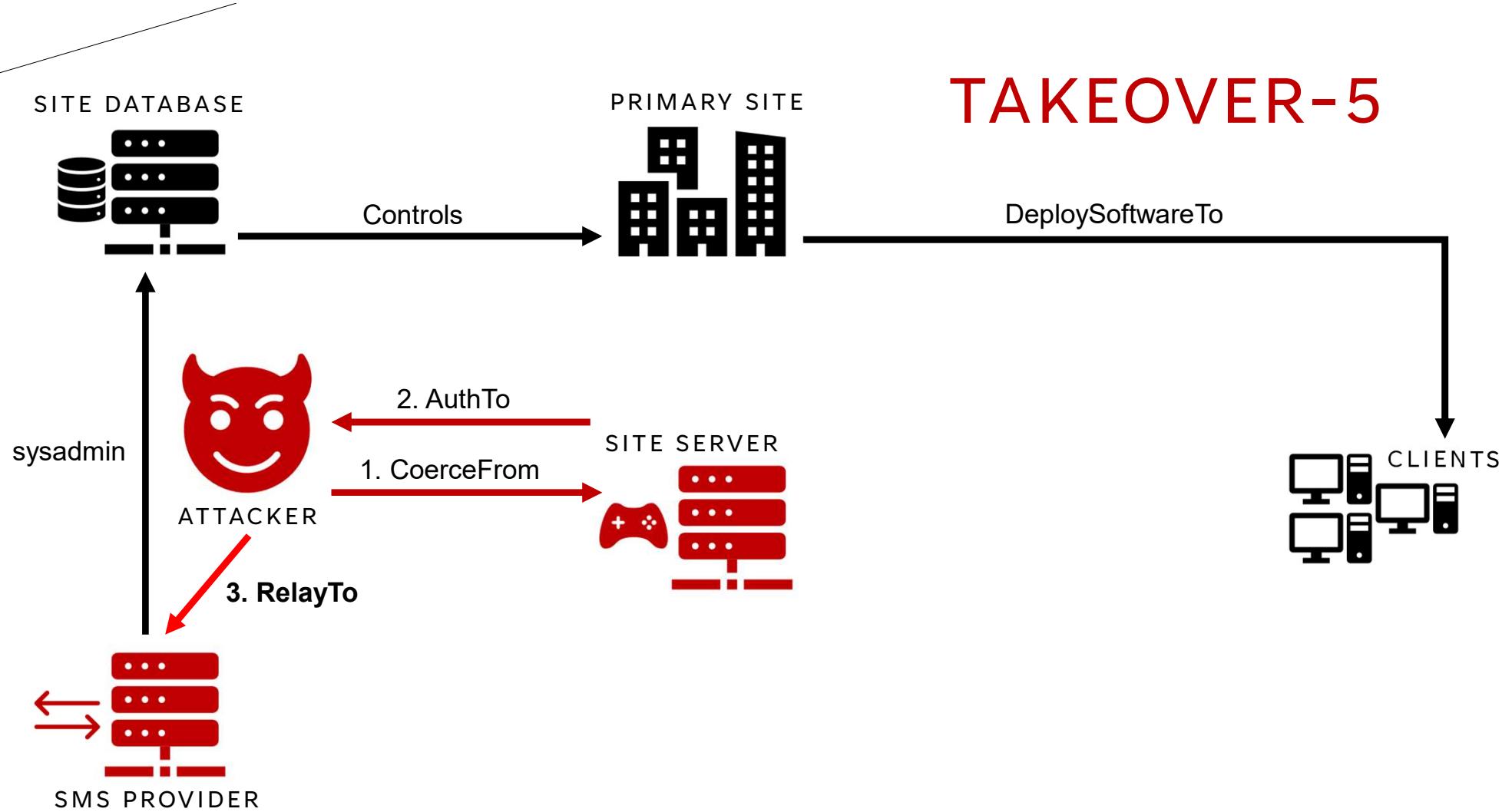
TAKEOVER-5



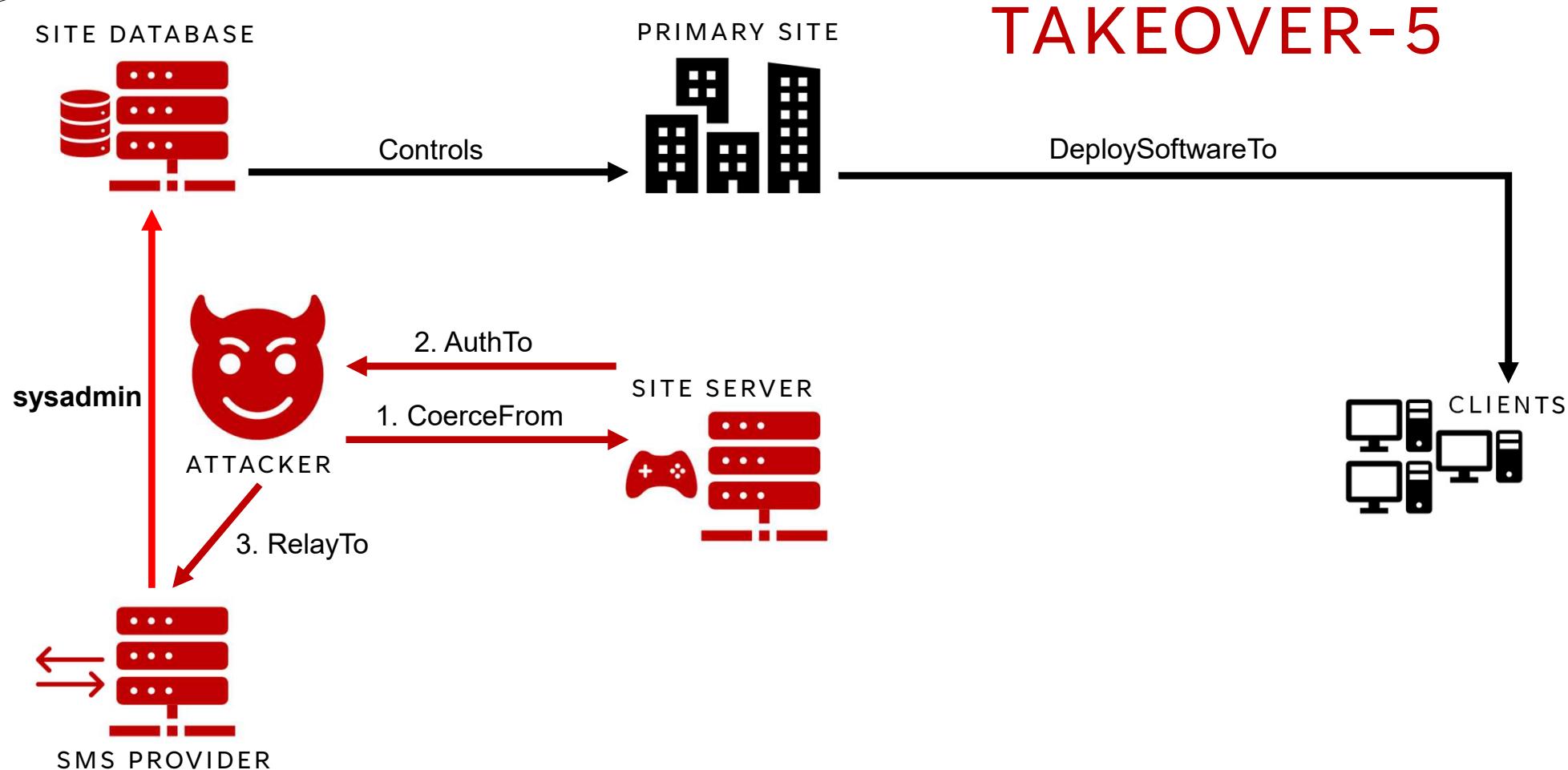
TAKEOVER-5



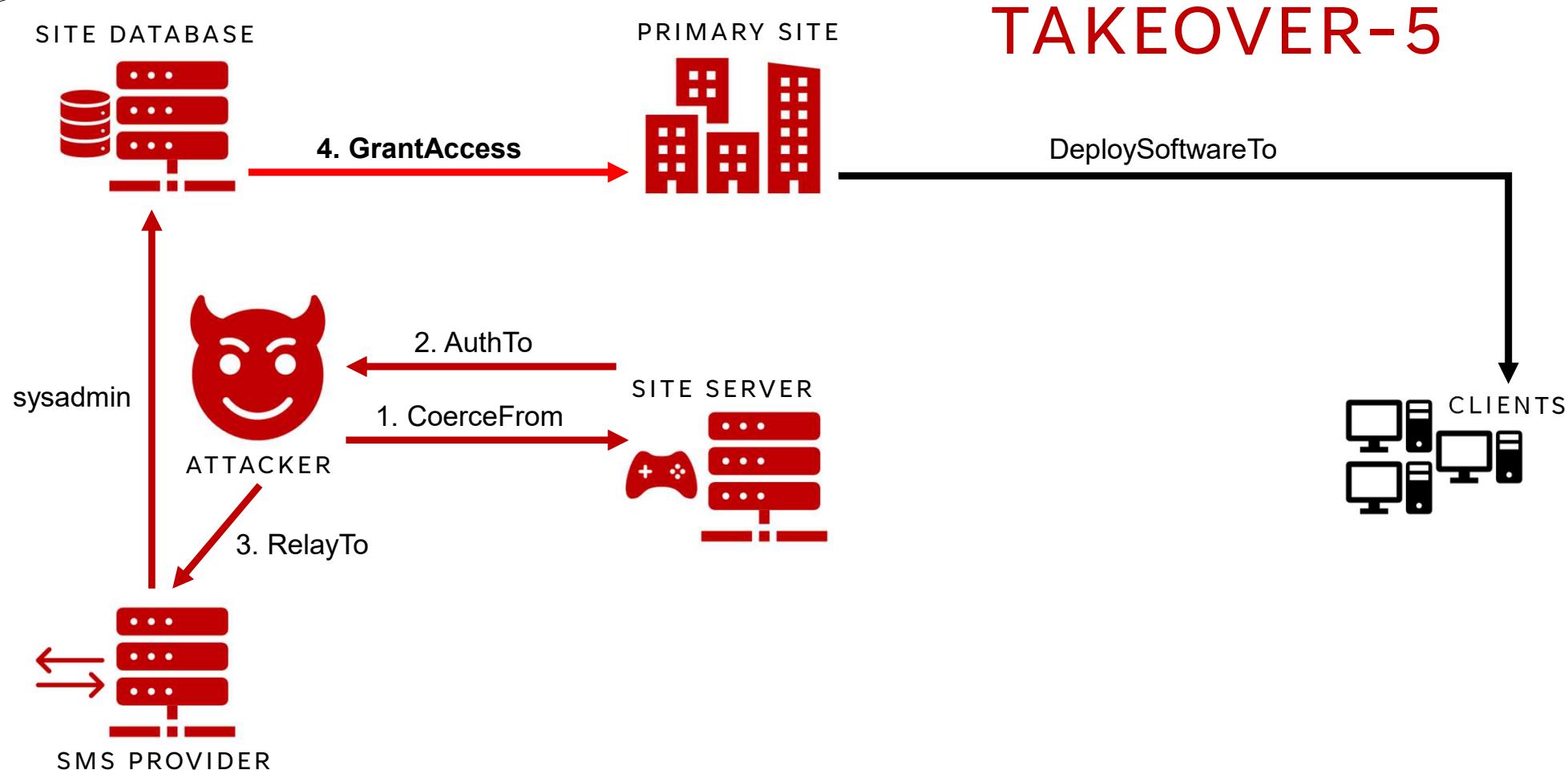
TAKEOVER-5



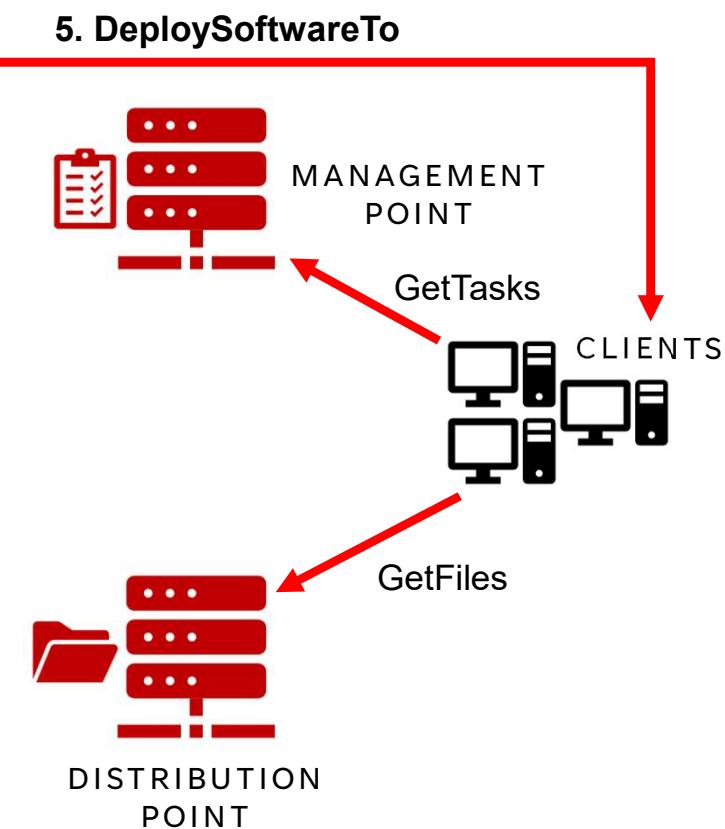
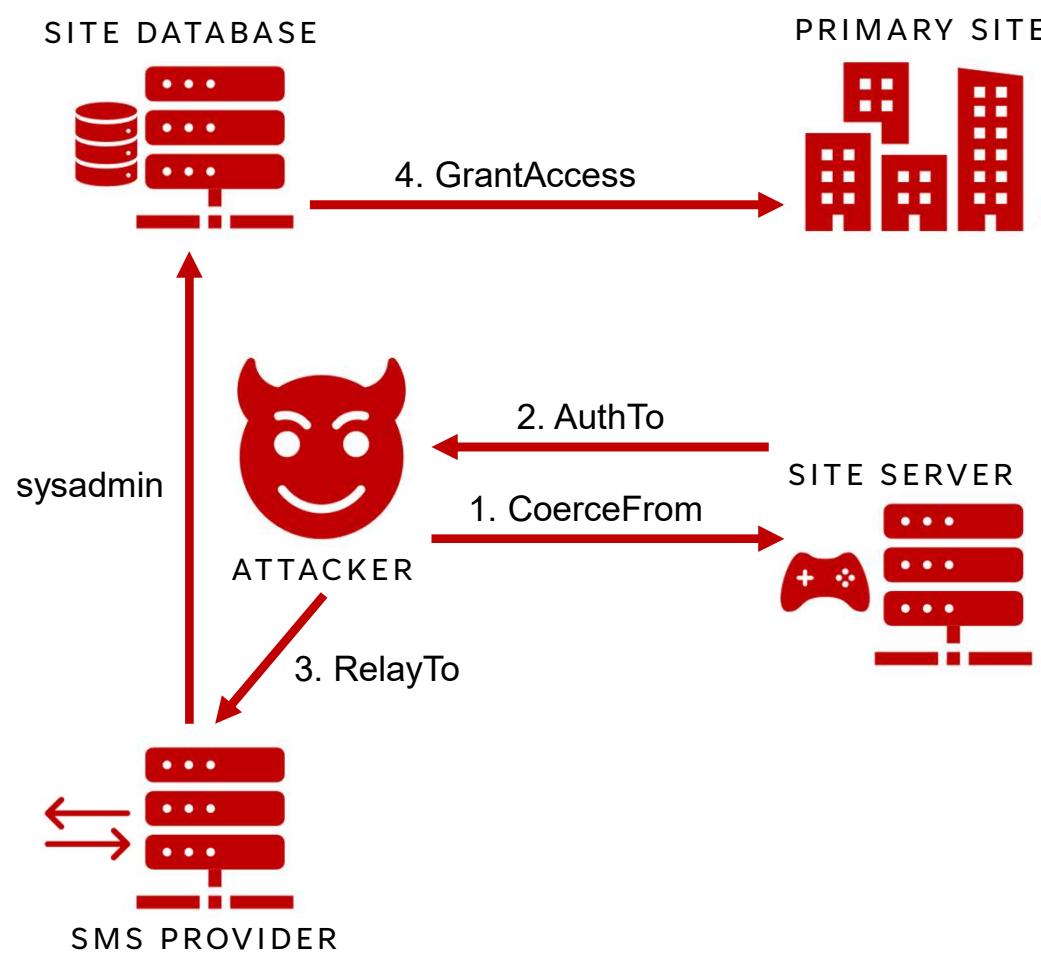
TAKEOVER-5



TAKEOVER-5



TAKEOVER-5



TAKEOVER-5



SITE-SERVER - Remote Desktop

Microsoft Configuration Manager (Connected to PS1, Aperture Science - SITE-SERVER.APERTURE.LOCAL)

Home

Add User or Group Saved Searches

Create Search

! One or more Azure AD app secrets used by Cloud Services have expired. Renew to avoid service disruptions. [Renew expired secret key](#)

1/1

Administration \ Administration > Overview > Security > Administrative Users

Administrative Users 0 items

Search current node

Icon	Account Name	Account Display Name	Security Roles
User icon	APTURE\labadmin		"Full Administrator"

Icon Account Name Account Display Name Security Roles

APTURE\labadmin "Full Administrator"

Administration

- Overview
- Updates and Servicing
- Hierarchy Configuration
- Cloud Services
- Site Configuration
- Client Settings
- Security

Assets and Compliance

Software Library

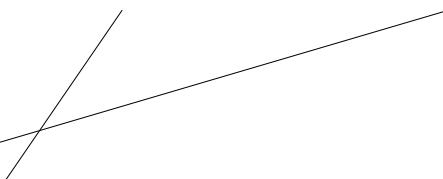
Monitoring

Community

Ready

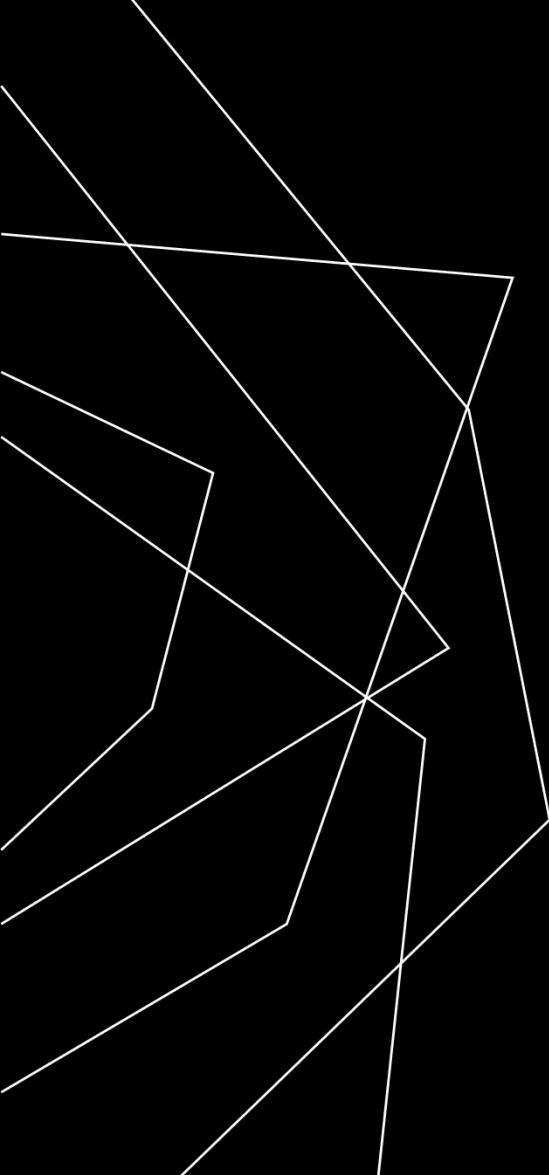
Type here to search

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1/29/2026



TAKEOVER-5 REMEDIATION

- Only host the SMS Provider role on the site server
OR
- **Upgrade** to Configuration Manager **v2509**, which denies NTLM authentication by default



BLOODHOUND

Attack path management for:

- Active Directory
- Azure AD / Entra ID

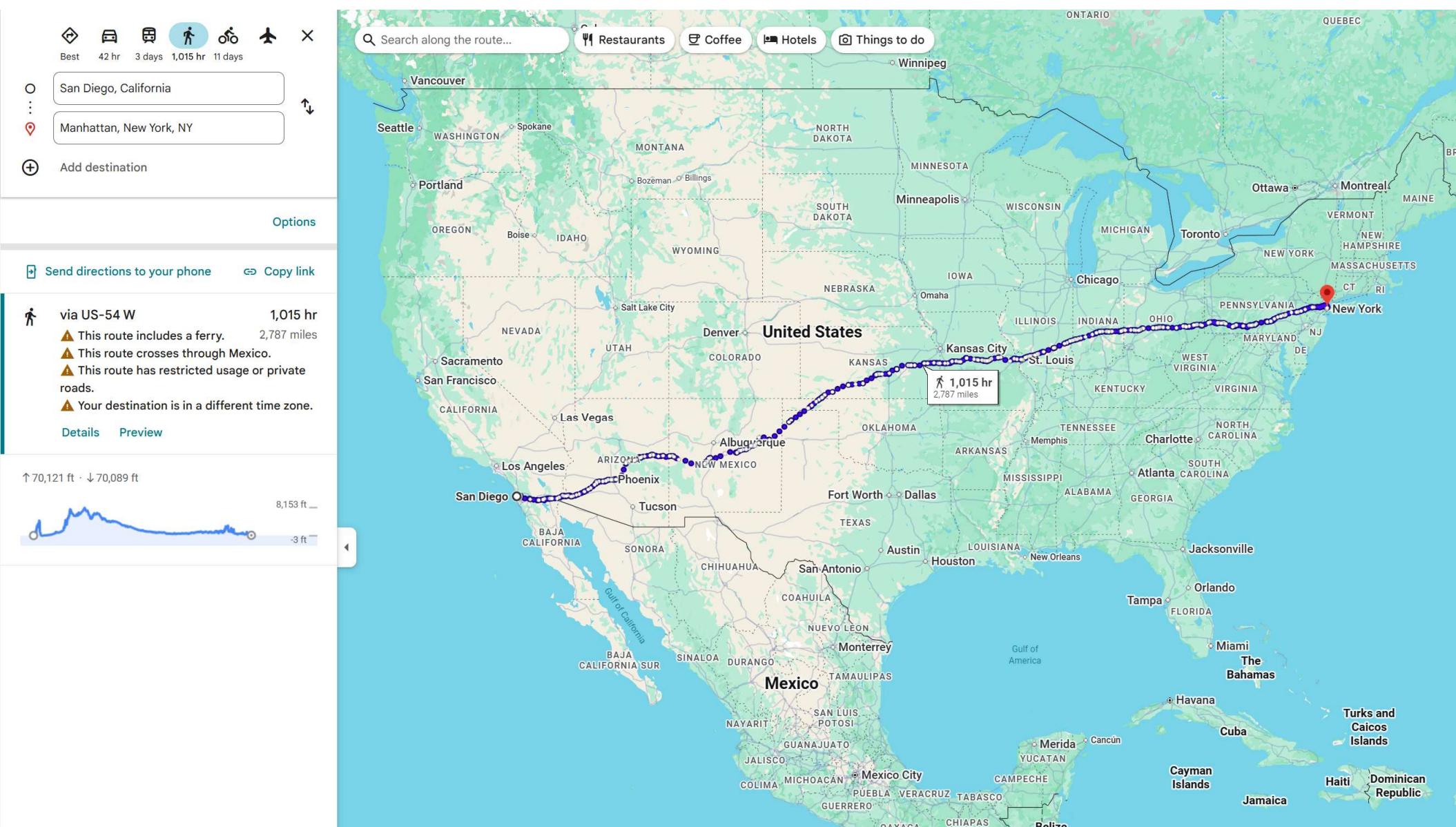
<https://bloodhound.specterops.io/>

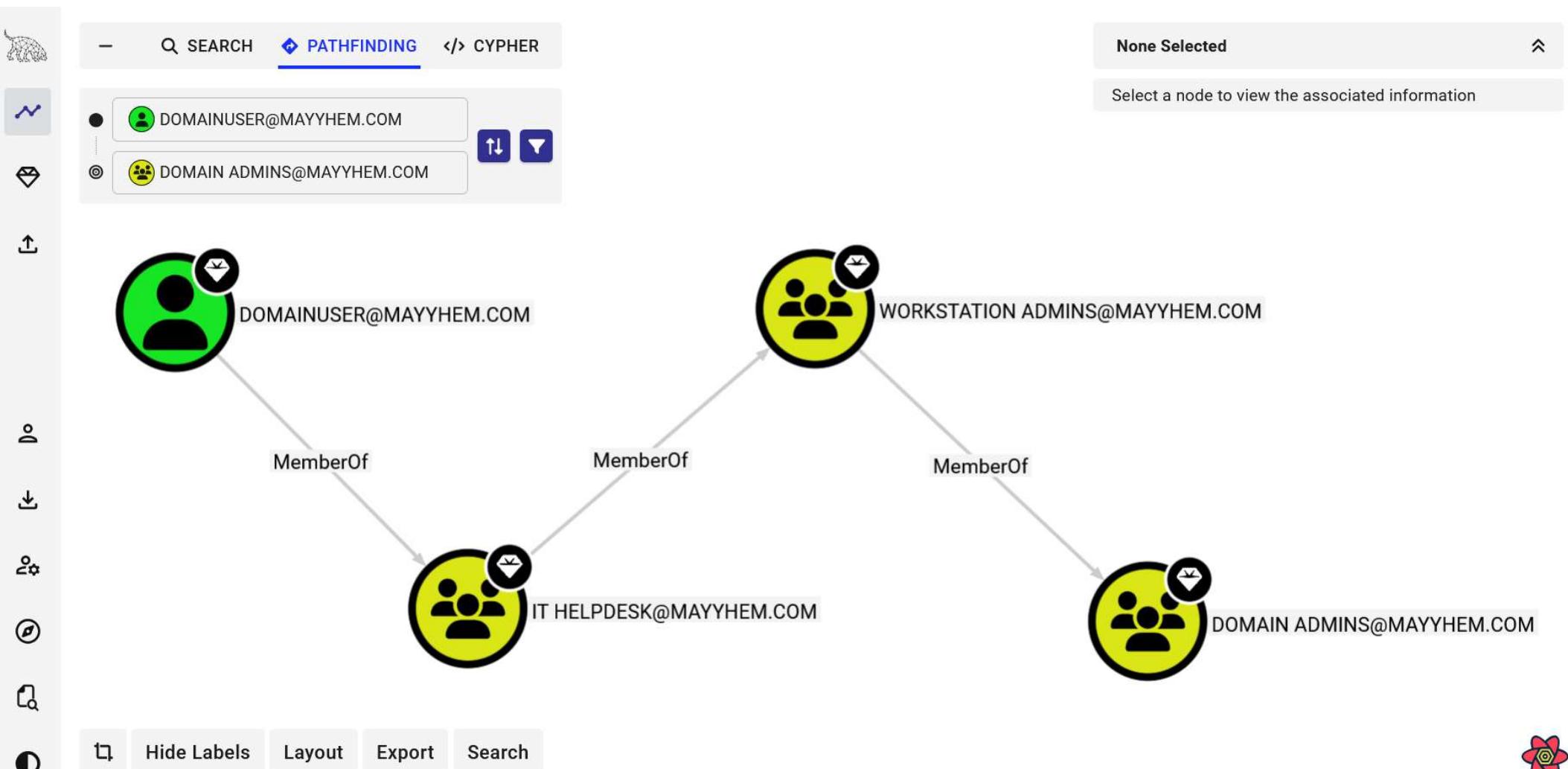


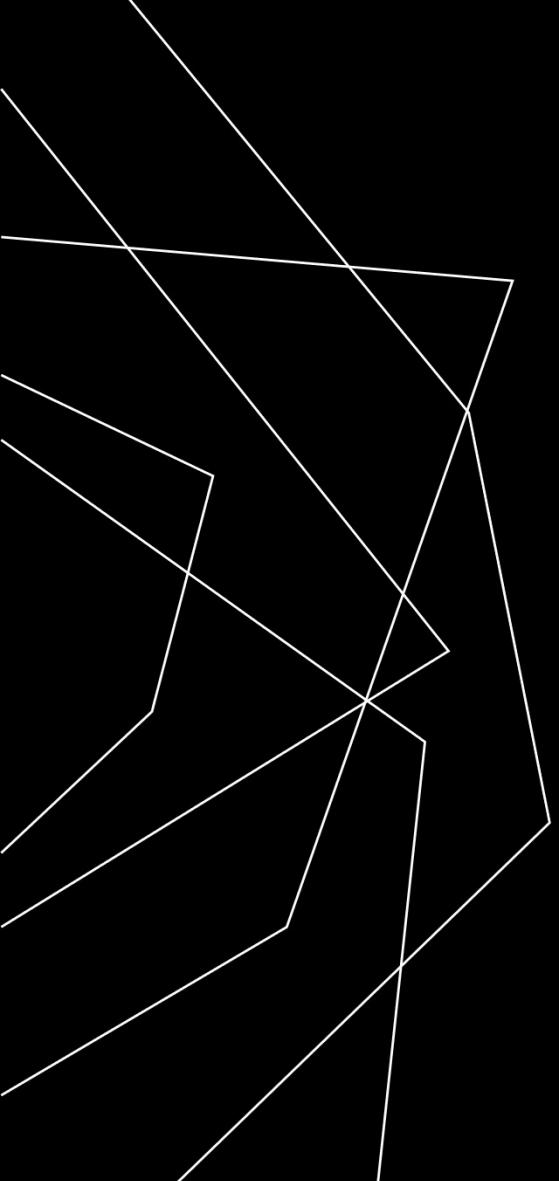
BLOODHOUND

- Depicts control relationships (**edges**) between identities (**nodes**)
- Identifies long-forgotten, unintended chains of **permissions** and **abuses** that allow control of critical infrastructure

<https://bloodhound.specterops.io/>







OPENGRAPH

<https://bloodhound.specterops.io/opengraph/library>



BLOODHOUND

Attack path management for:

- Active Directory
- Azure AD / Entra ID
- All the things!

<https://bloodhound.specterops.io/>

OpenGraph Library

▼  1Password

 **1PassHound**

▼  Ansible

 **AnsibleHound**

▼  Active Directory (AD)

 **ADAttributeHound**



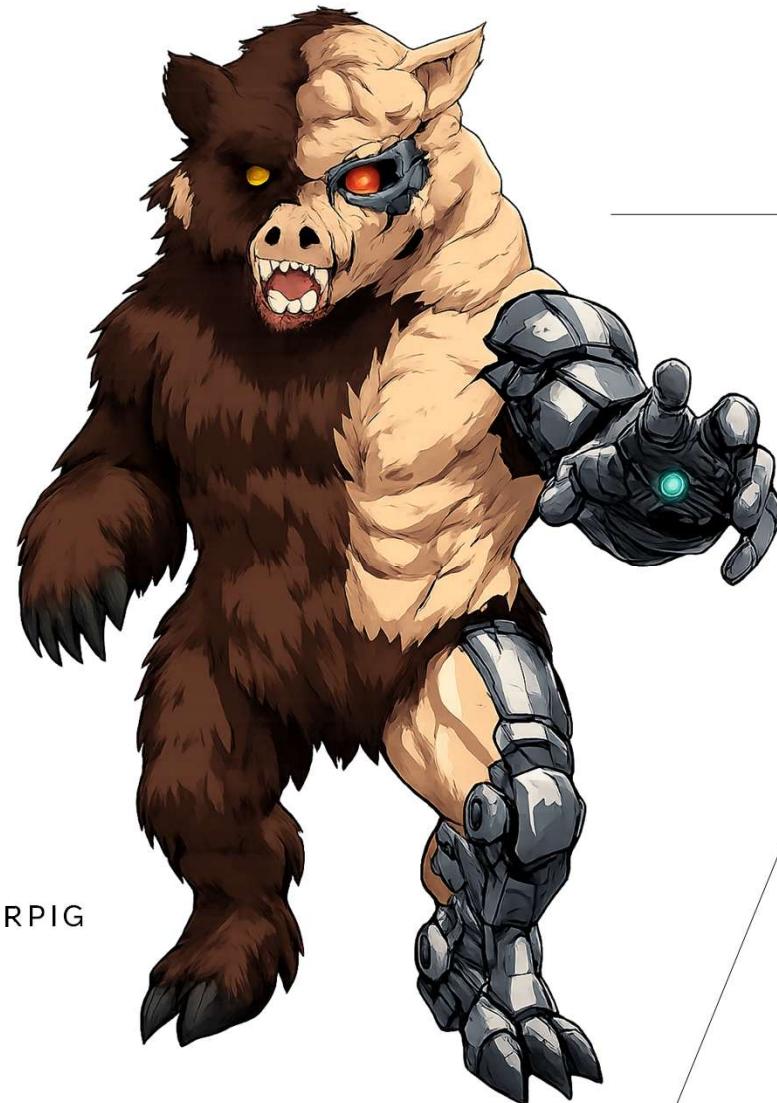
Unfortunately...

The name
SCCMHOUND was
already taken

ConfigManBearPig

- A PowerShell OpenGraph collector for SCCM
- 5 new nodes,
- 20 new edges
- 13 existing edges
- Does NOT require privileged access, just a domain user

[HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/MAYYHEM/CONFIGMANBEARPIG](https://github.com/mayyhem/ConfigManBearPig)



RECON: 6/7

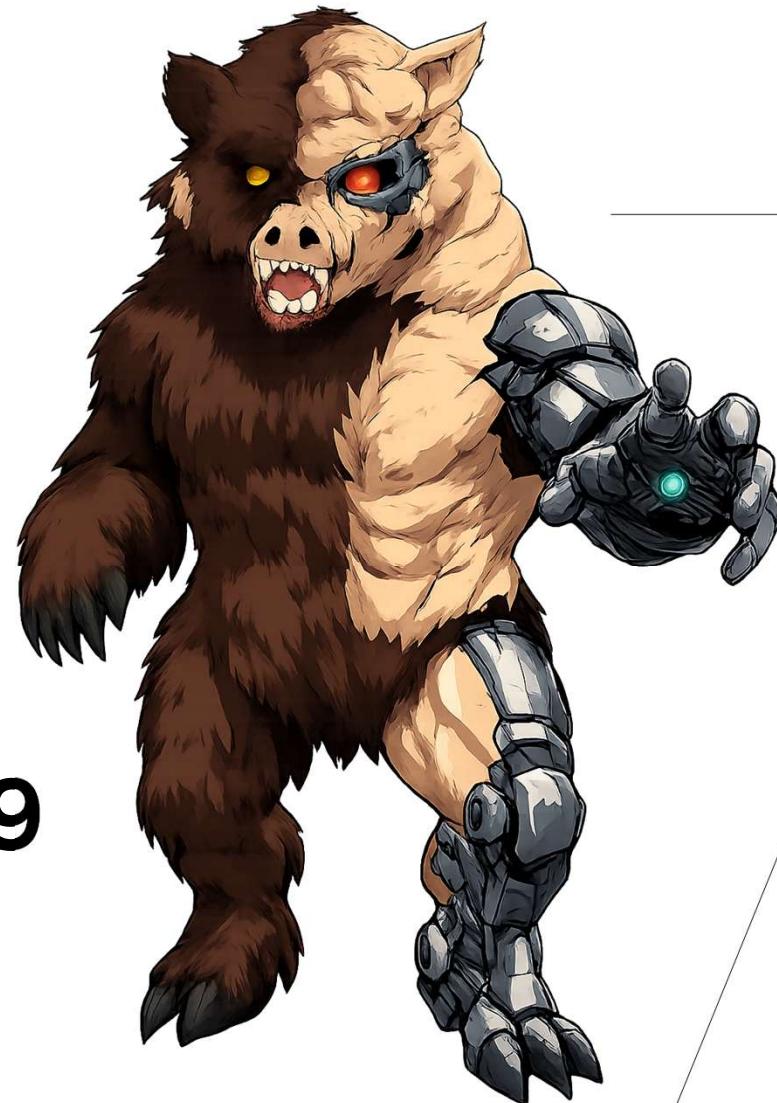
CRED: 3/8

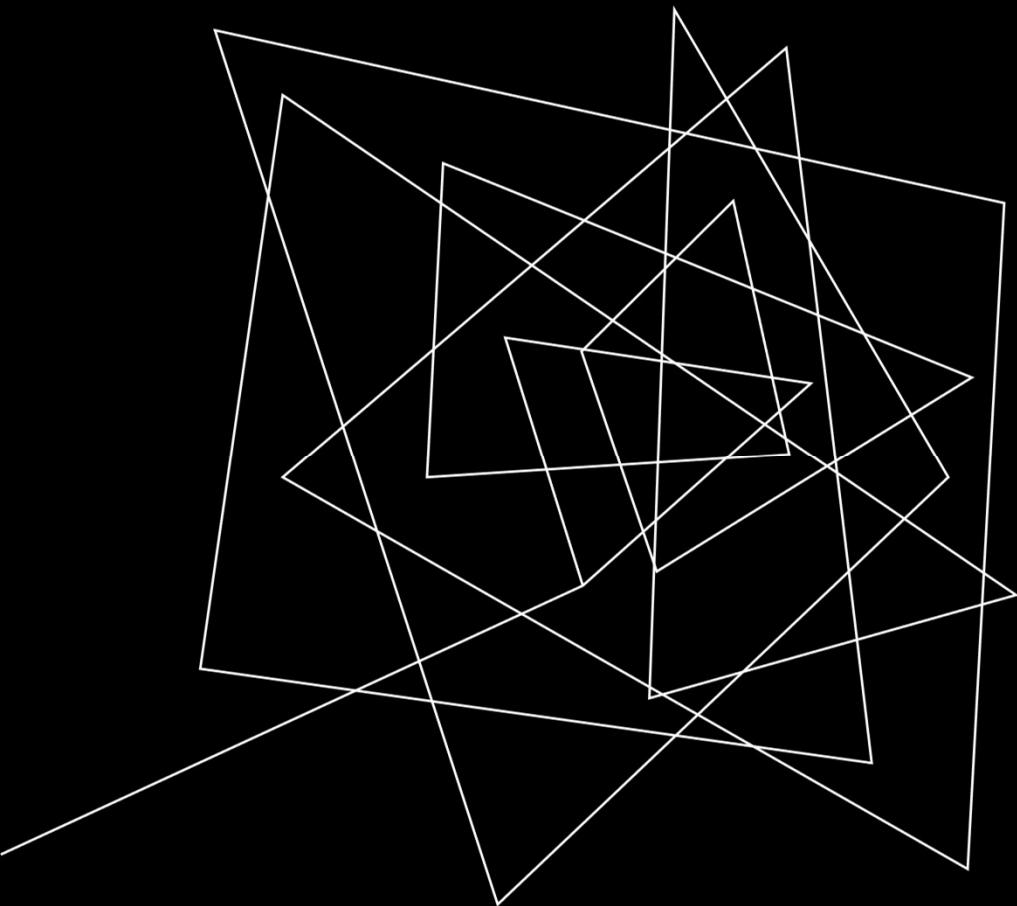
COERCE: 0/2

ELEVATE: 1/5

TAKEOVER: 9/9

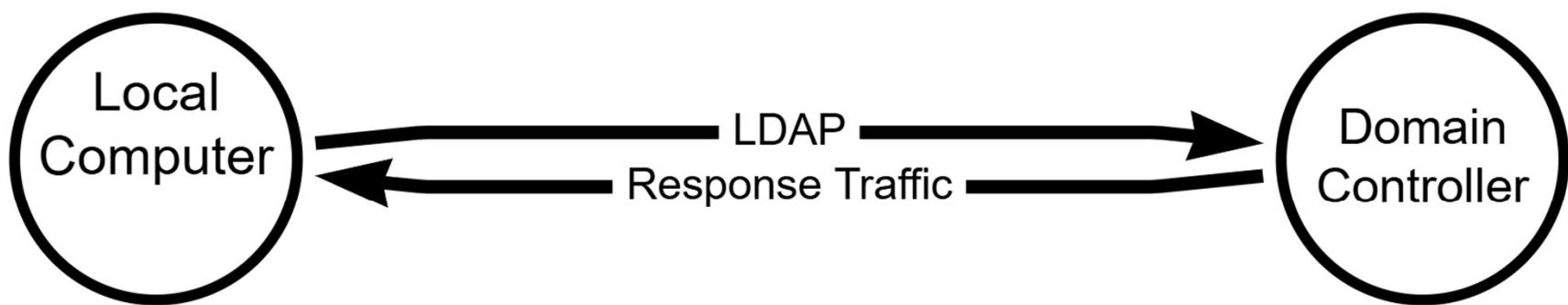
EXEC: 2/2





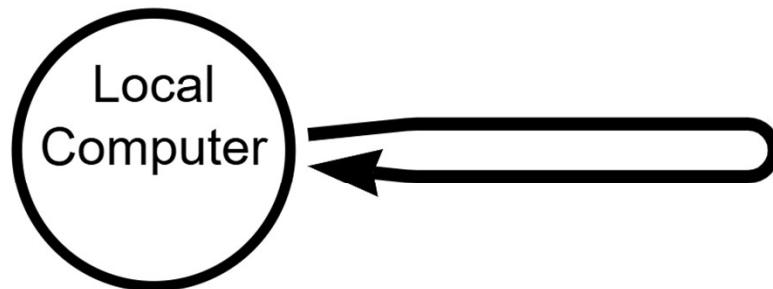
COLLECTION RUN ONCE PHASES

LDAP



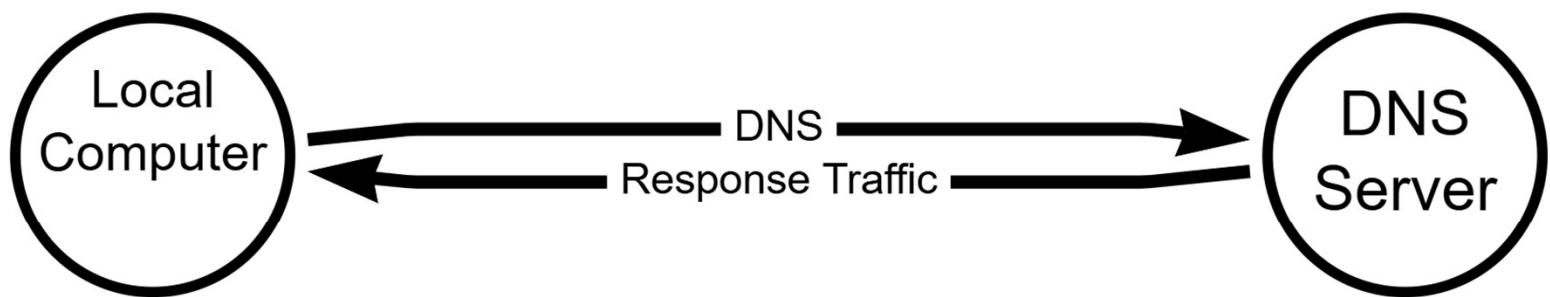
- Reads from **System Management** container in Active Directory
- Discovers:
 - sites, site servers, management points

LOCAL

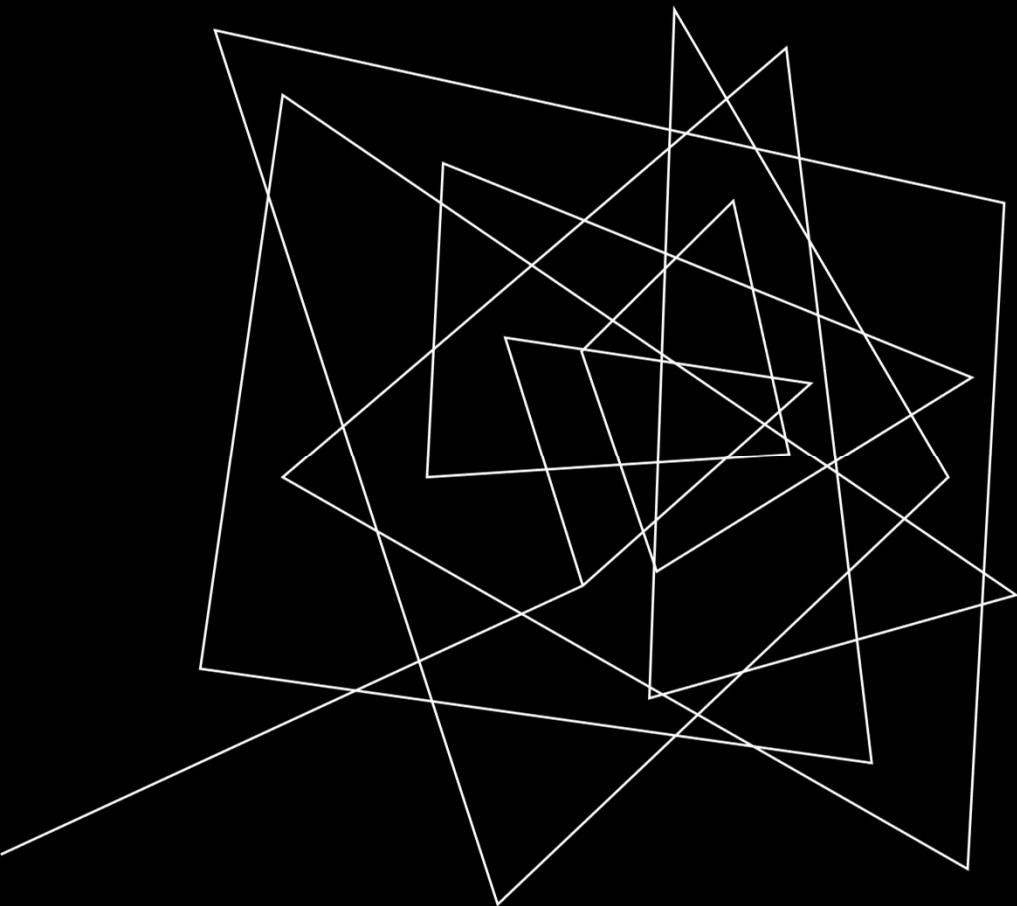


- Reads **client device logs** on disk
- Discovers:
 - management points, distribution points

DNS



- Uses known site codes to query **SRV records**
- Discovers:
 - management points



COLLECTION PER HOST PHASES

REMOTE REGISTRY



- Queries **subkeys accessible to authenticated users**
- Discovers:
 - site servers, site database servers, current user

MSSQL



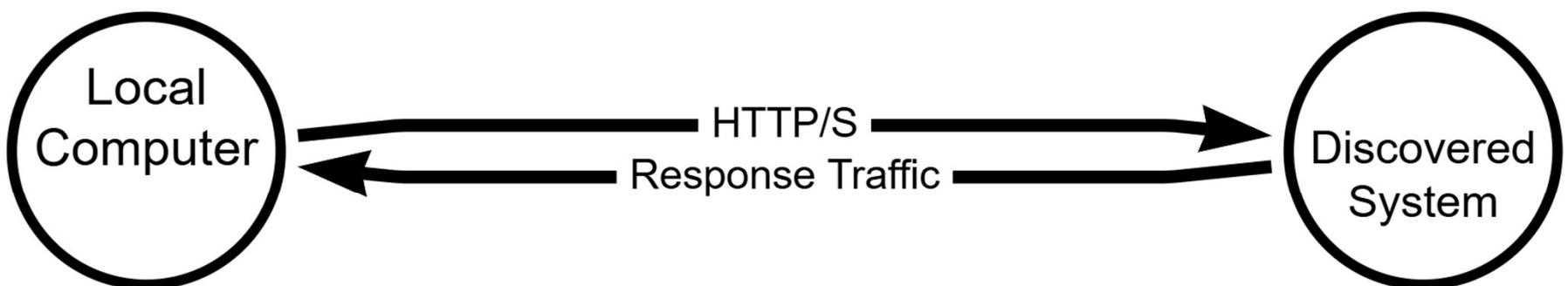
- Identifies **extended protection for authentication settings**
- Discovers:
 - site database servers, server and database principals

ADMINSERVICE



- Requires SCCM admin account
- Queries **AdminService** REST API on SMS Providers
- Discovers:
 - site systems, admin users/roles, client devices, logged in users

HTTP

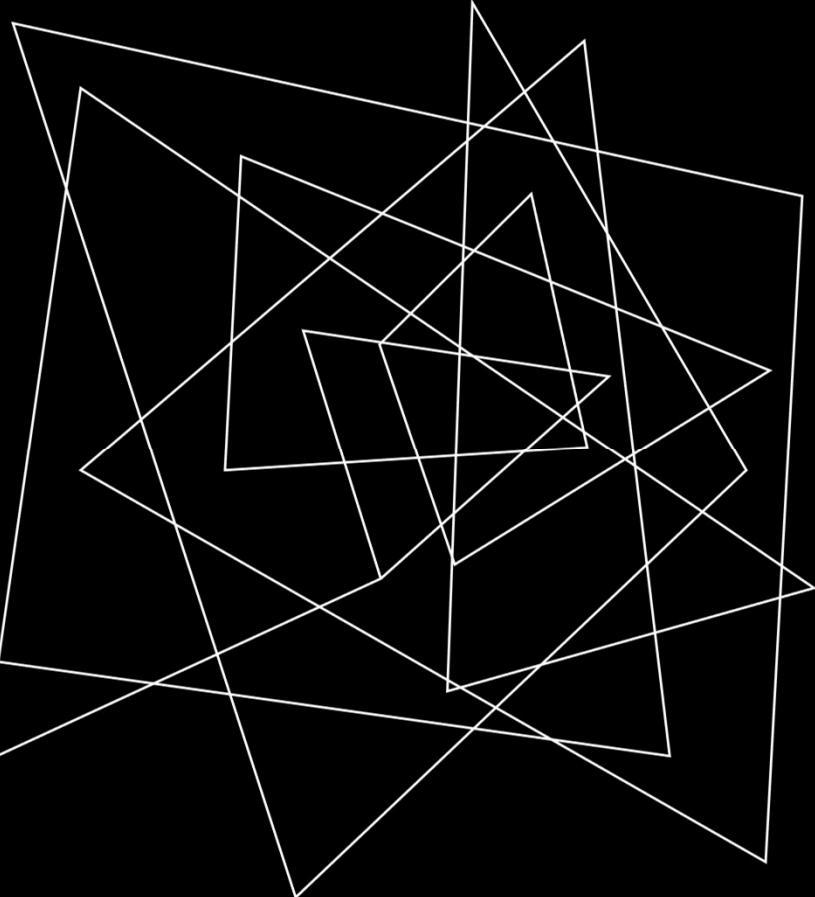


- Requests **known HTTP endpoints** and evaluates response codes
- Discovers:
 - management points, distribution points, SMS Providers

SMB

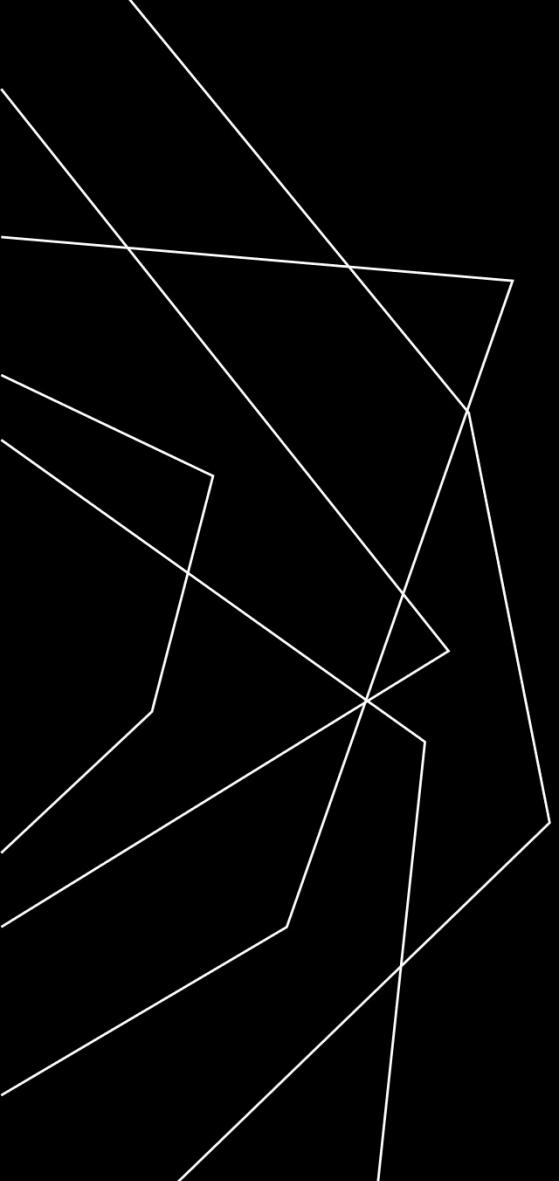


- Identifies **SMB signing** requirements
- Reads **SMB share names and descriptions**
- Discovers:
 - site servers, distribution points



POST-PROCESSING

- Sites
- Admin users and roles
- Site system roles
- Relay to MSSQL
- Relay to AdminService
- Relay to SMB



WHAT IS MSSQL?

Microsoft SQL Server

MSSQL ATTACK PATHS

ALLOW ACCESS TO DATABASES... AND MORE

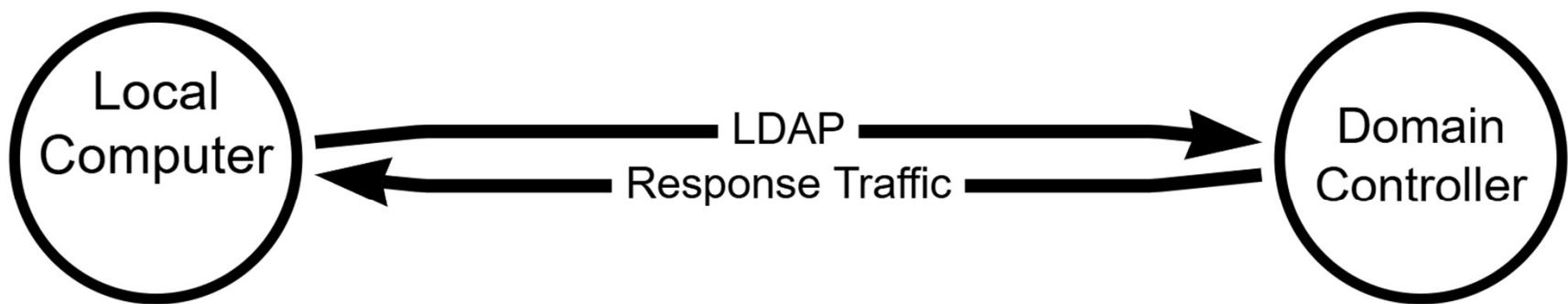
MSSQLHound

- A PowerShell OpenGraph collector for MSSQL
- 7 new nodes
- 37 new edges
- Requires an MSSQL server login

[HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/SPECTEROPS/MSSQLHOUND](https://github.com/SPECTEROPS/MSSQLHOUND)



LDAP

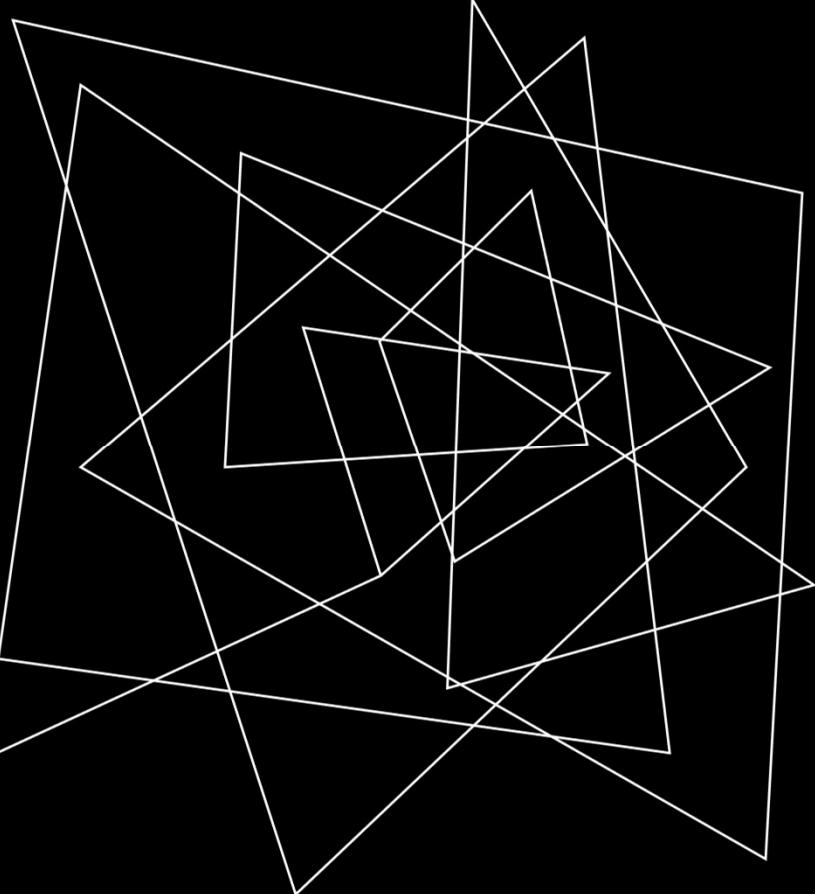


- Searches for computers with MSSQLSvc **service principal names**
- Discovers:
 - MSSQL hostnames, ports, and instance names

MSSQL



- Identifies extended protection for authentication settings
- Discovers:
 - server and database principals, role members, linked servers, stored credentials, and much more



POST-PROCESSING

- Server logins and roles
- Database users and roles
- Members
- Permissions
- Ownership
- Trustworthiness
- Linked servers
- Stored credentials



GRAPHING ATTACK PATHS DEMO



THANK YOU!

Chris Thompson

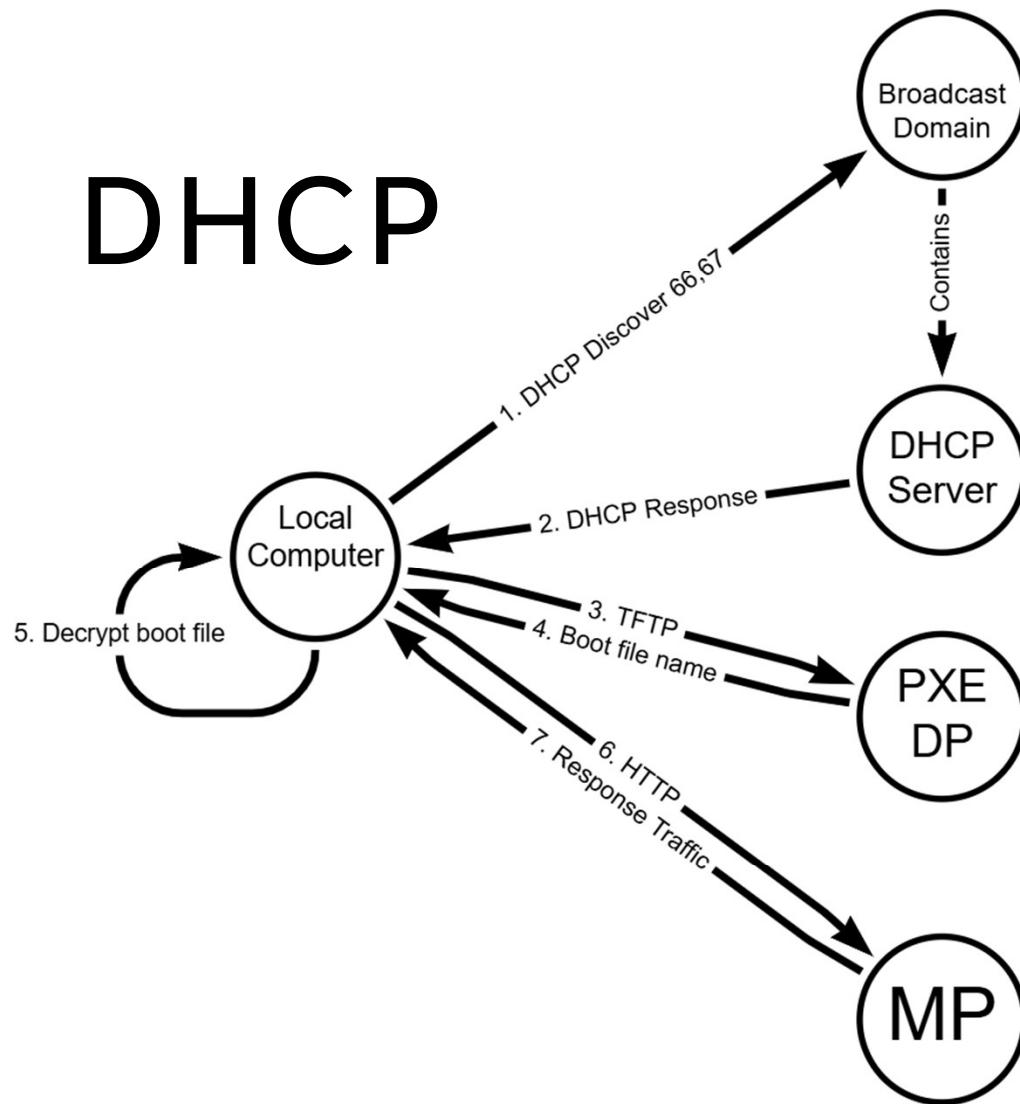
X: @_Mayyhem

Slack: @Mayyhem

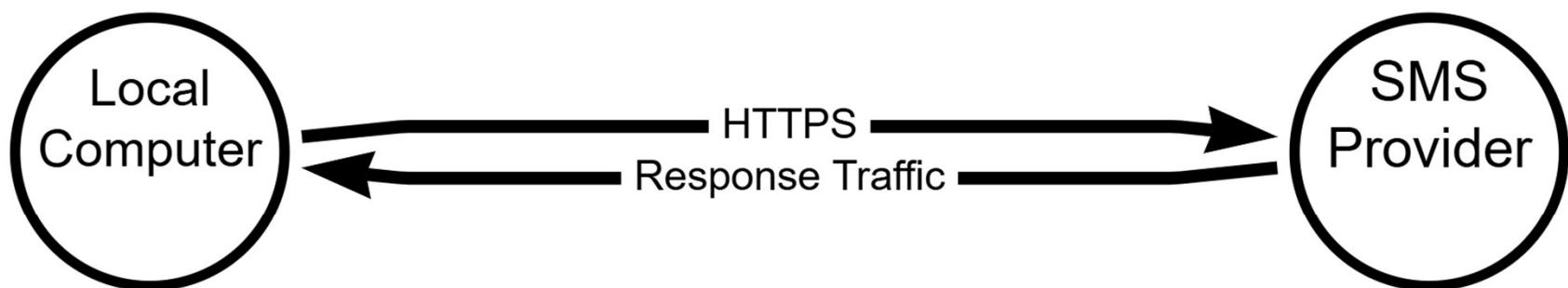
GitHub: Mayyhem

DHCP

- Broadcast DHCP requests for TFTP server and PXE boot file name
- Downloads and decrypts media with blank passwords
- Discovers:
 - distribution points, management points



CMPIVOT

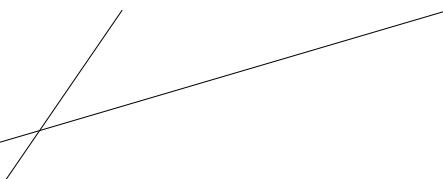


- Queries information from remote SCCM client devices
- Discovers:
 - user logon events, local Administrators group members

WMI



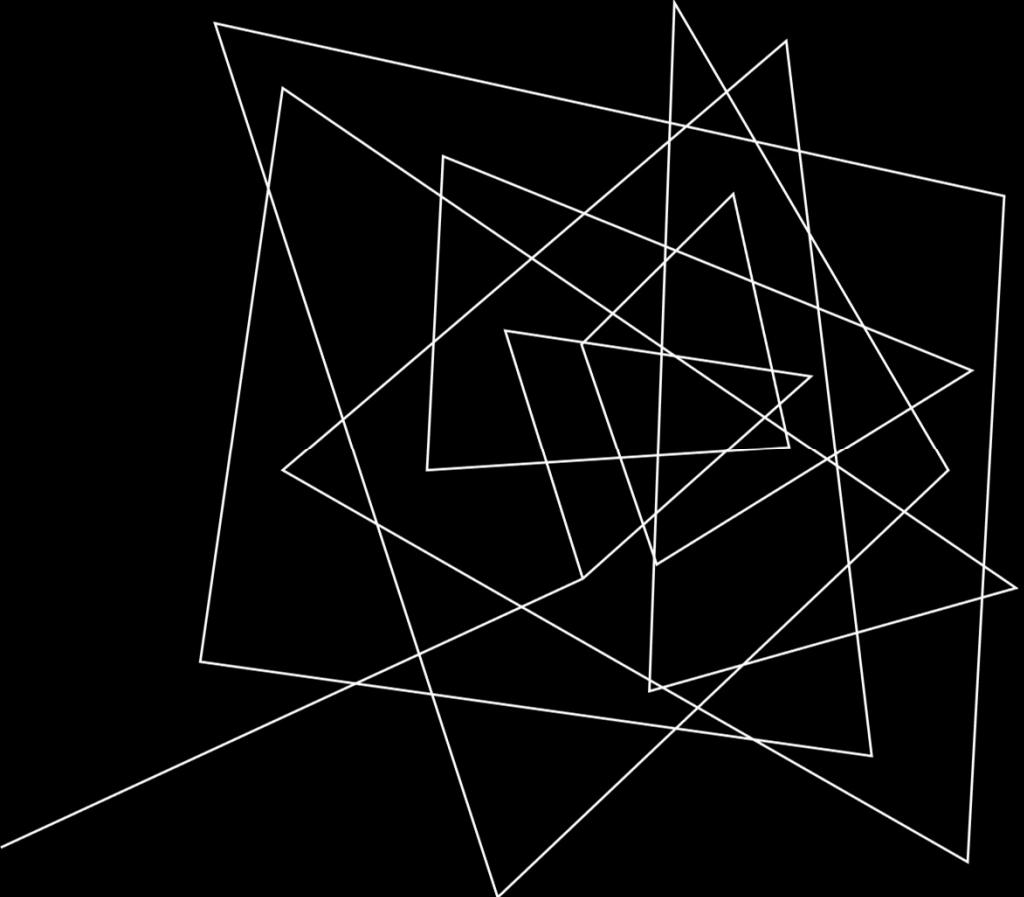
- Requires SCCM admin account
- Queries WMI classes on SMS Providers
- Discovers:
 - site systems, admin users/roles, client devices, logged in users



USEFUL ARGUMENTS

- **EnableBadOpsec**
 - Produces SCCM_HasNetworkAccessAccount
(executes CRED-3)

- **ShowCleartextCredentials**

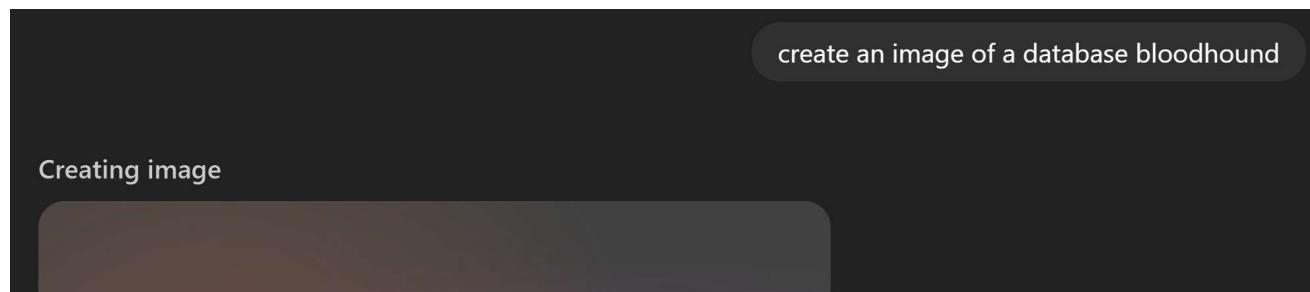


FUTURE DEV

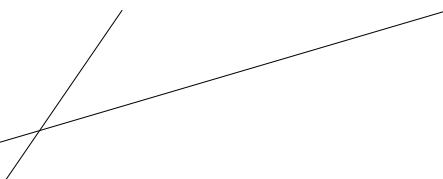
- Abuse info
- System management takeover
- Task sequences and collection variables
- Automatic client push
- MP relays
- DHCP/WMI/CMPivot

MSSQLHound

- A PowerShell OpenGraph collector
for MSSQL nodes and edges



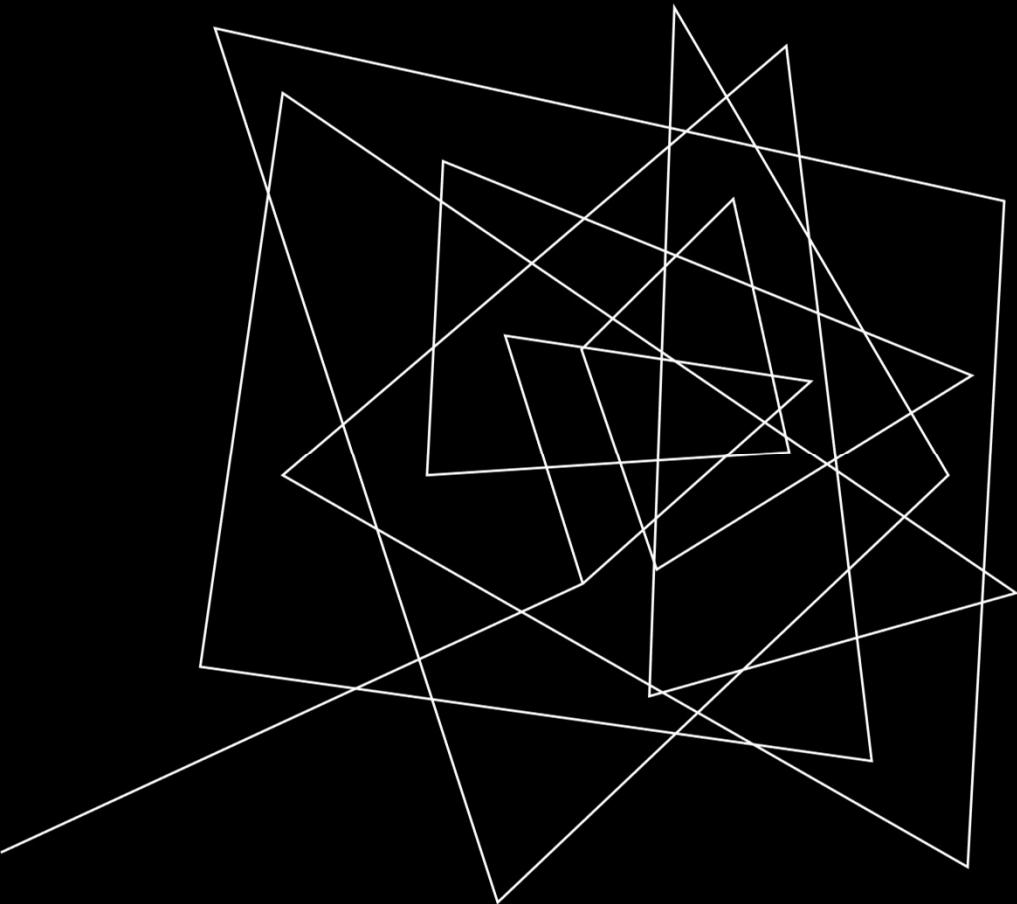
[HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/SPECTEROPS/MSSQLHOUND](https://github.com/SPECTEROPS/MSSQLHOUND)



USEFUL ARGUMENTS

- MakeInterestingEdgesTraversable

- MSSQL_HasDBScopedCred
- MSSQL_HasMappedCred
- MSSQL_HasProxyCred
- MSSQL_IsTrustedBy
- MSSQL_LinkedTo
- MSSQL_ServiceAccountFor



FUTURE DEV

- Stored procedures
- Tables
- Collection over links
(recursive)

- SEARCH ◆ PATHFINDING </> CYpher

DOMAINUSER



Hide Labels Layout Export Search

X DOMAINUSER

- Object Information

Node Type: User

Object ID:
S-1-5-21-3242052782-1287495003-4091326449-1104

ACL Inheritance Denied: FALSE

Admin Count: FALSE

AdminSDHolder Protected: FALSE

Allows Unconstrained Delegation: FALSE

Collection Source: RemoteRegistry-CurrentUser

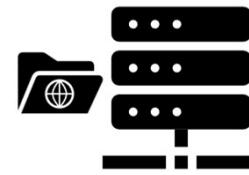
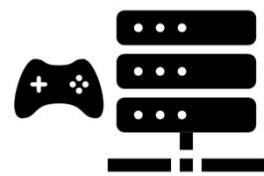
Created: 2025-11-25 14:43 EST (GMT-0500)

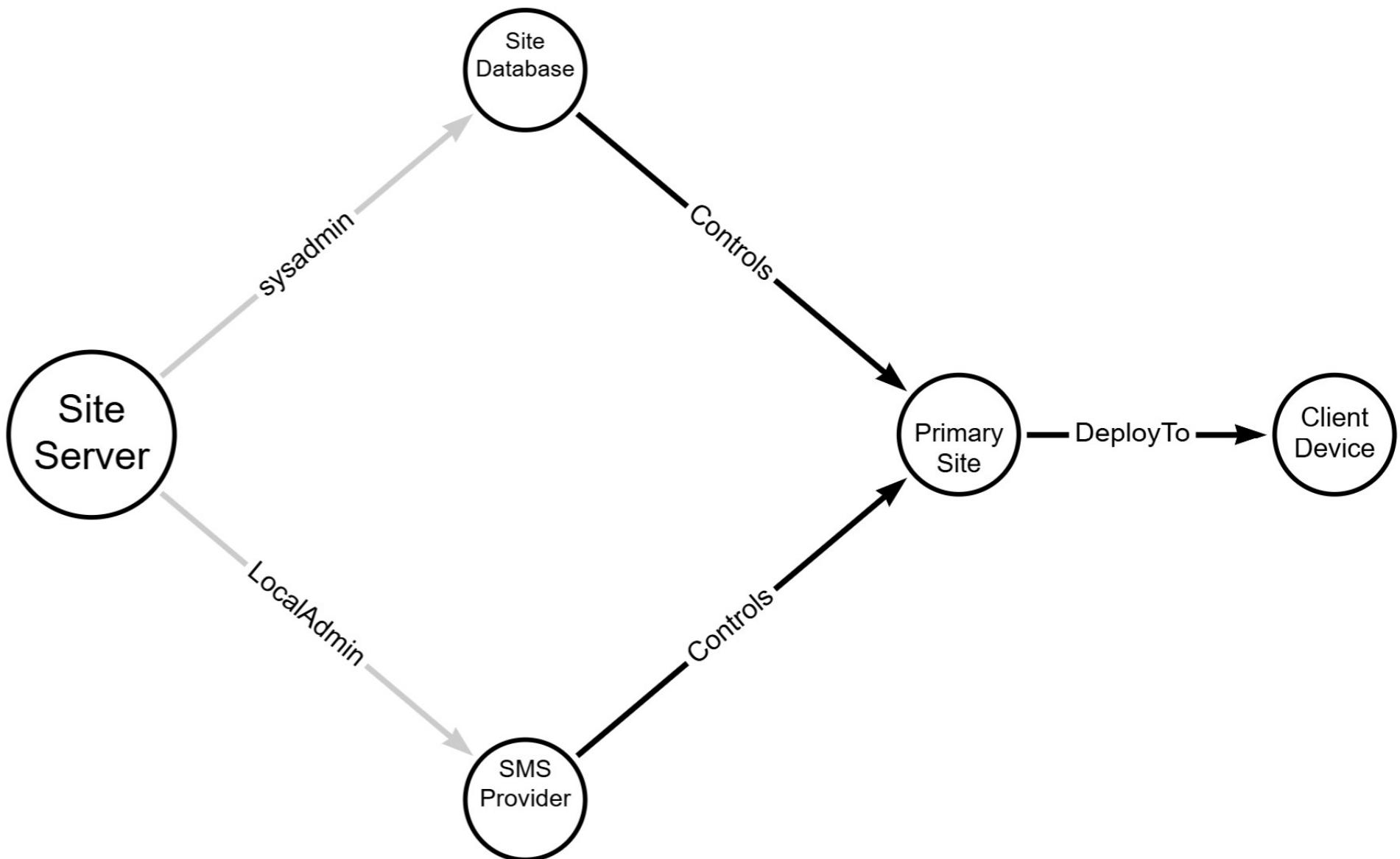
Distinguished Name:
CN=domainuser,CN=Users,DC=mayhem,DC=com

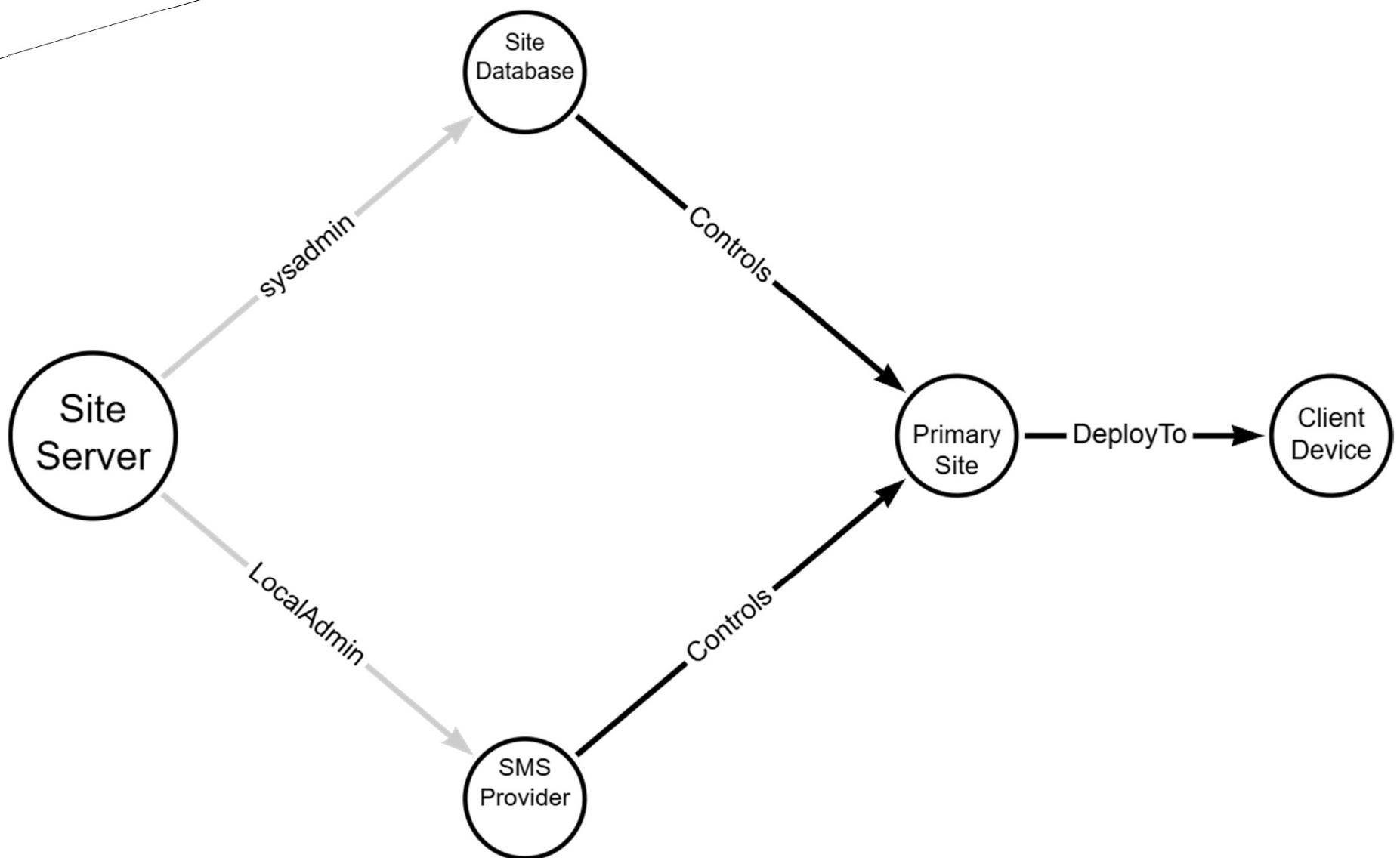
Distinguished Name:
CN=DOMAINUSER,CN=USERS,DC=MAYYHEM,DC=COM

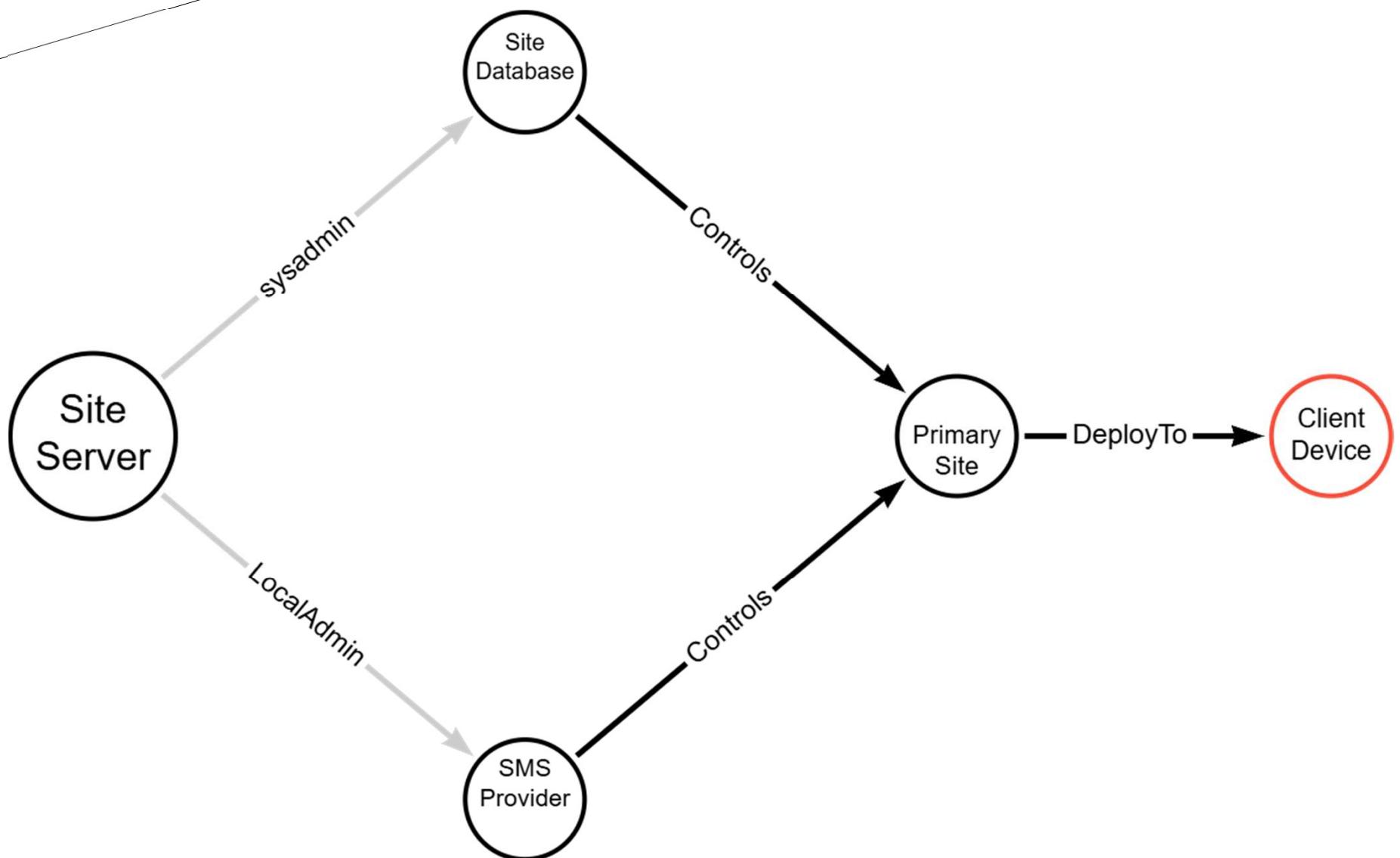
Do Not Require Pre-Authentication: FALSE

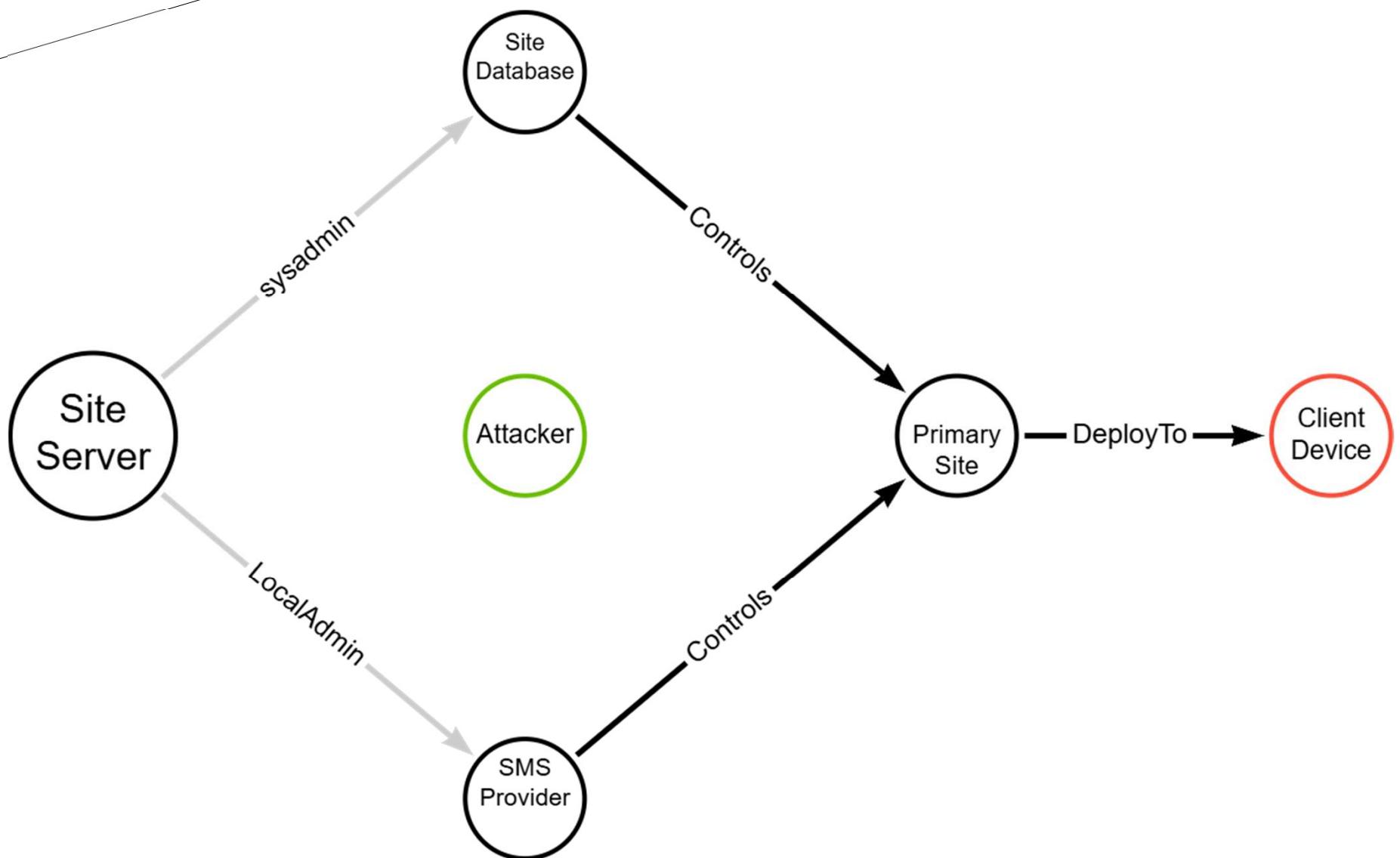


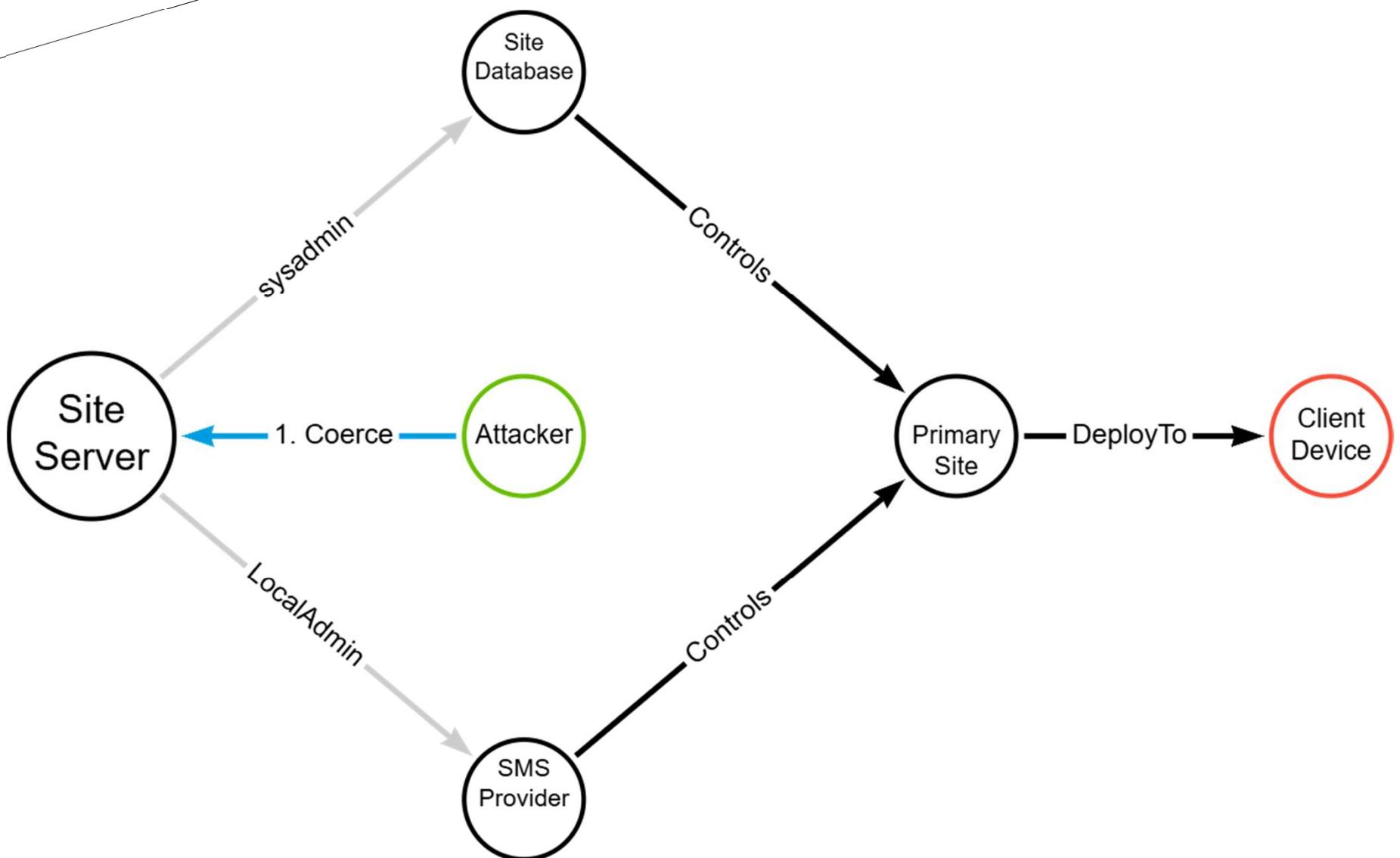


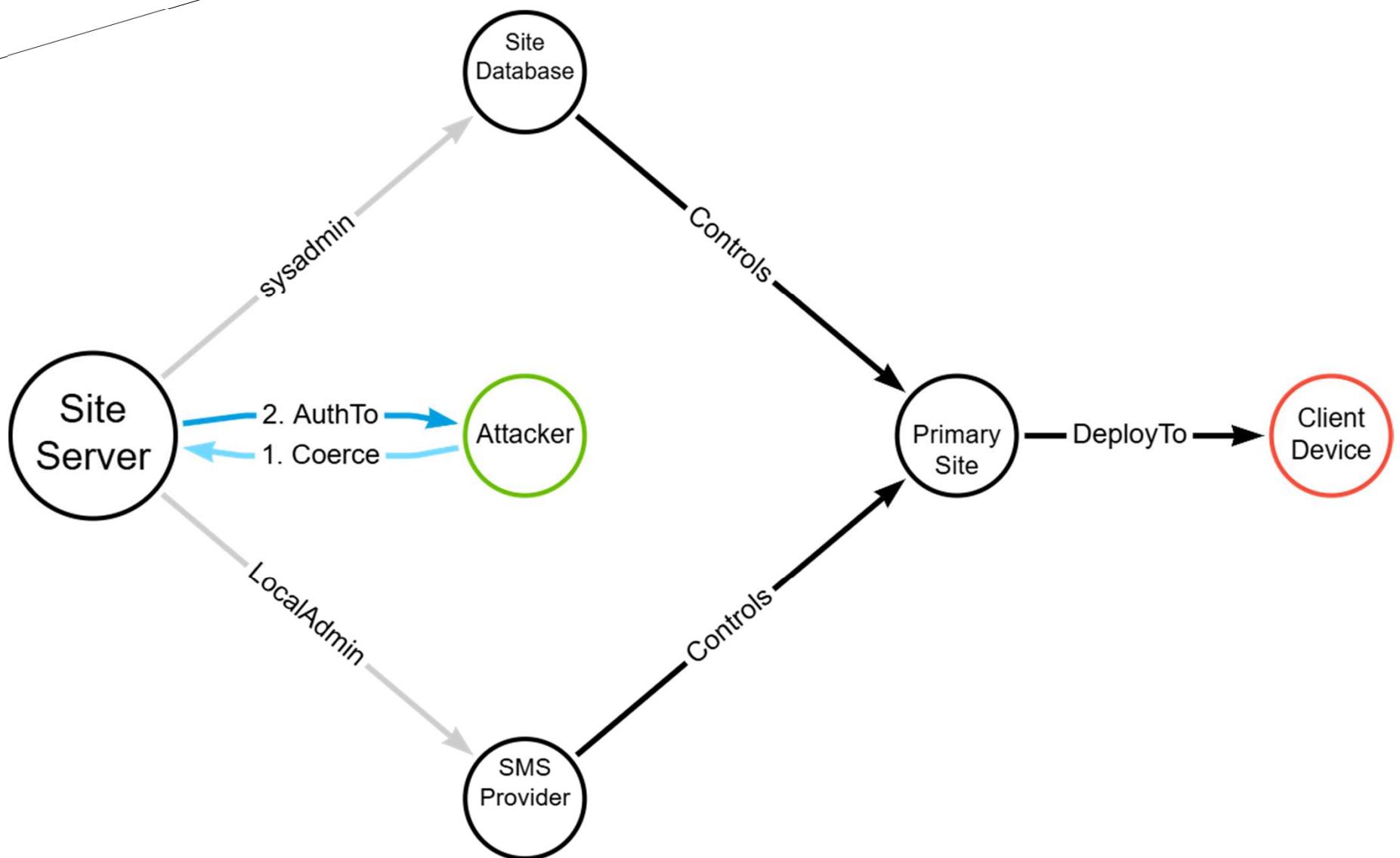


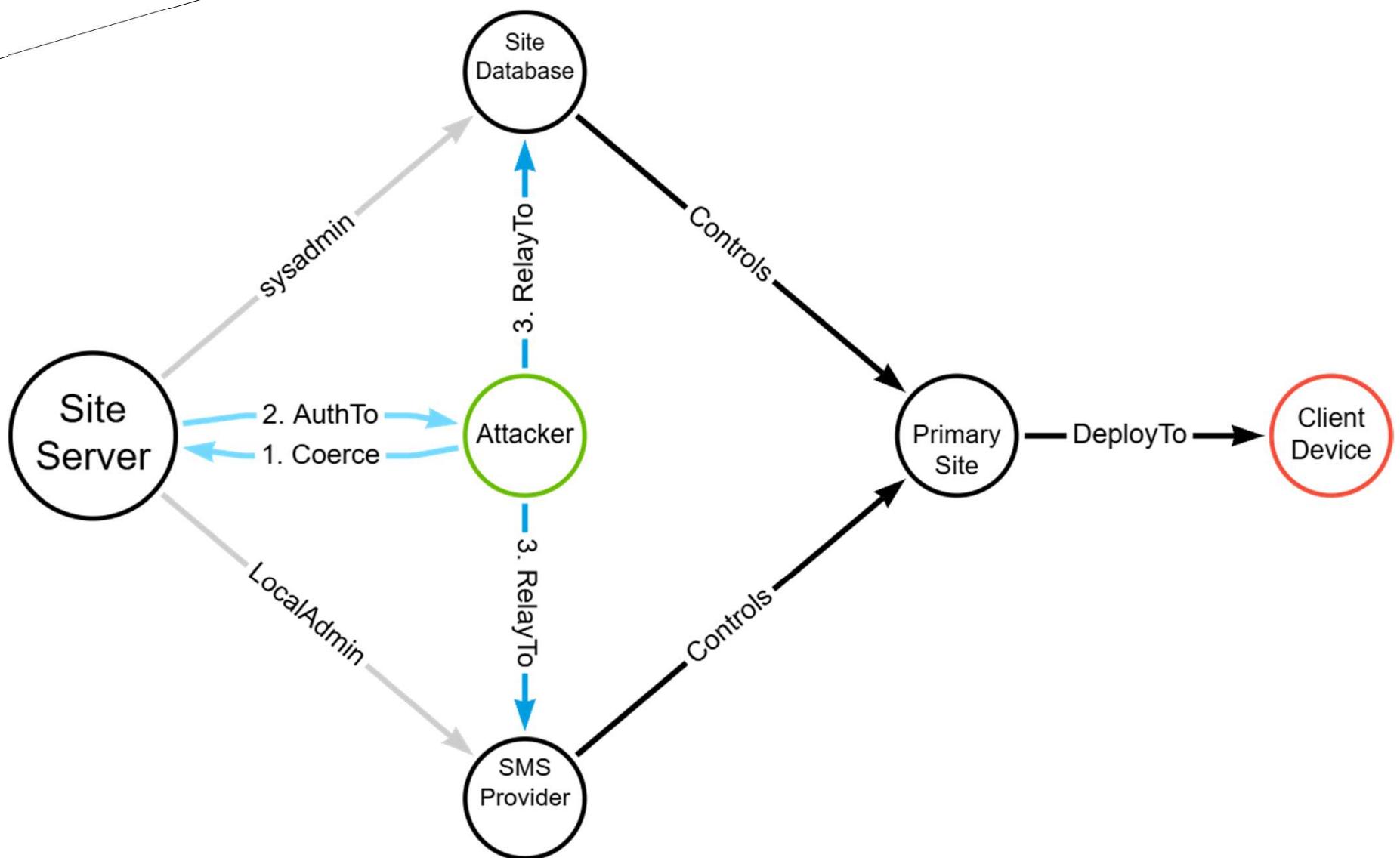


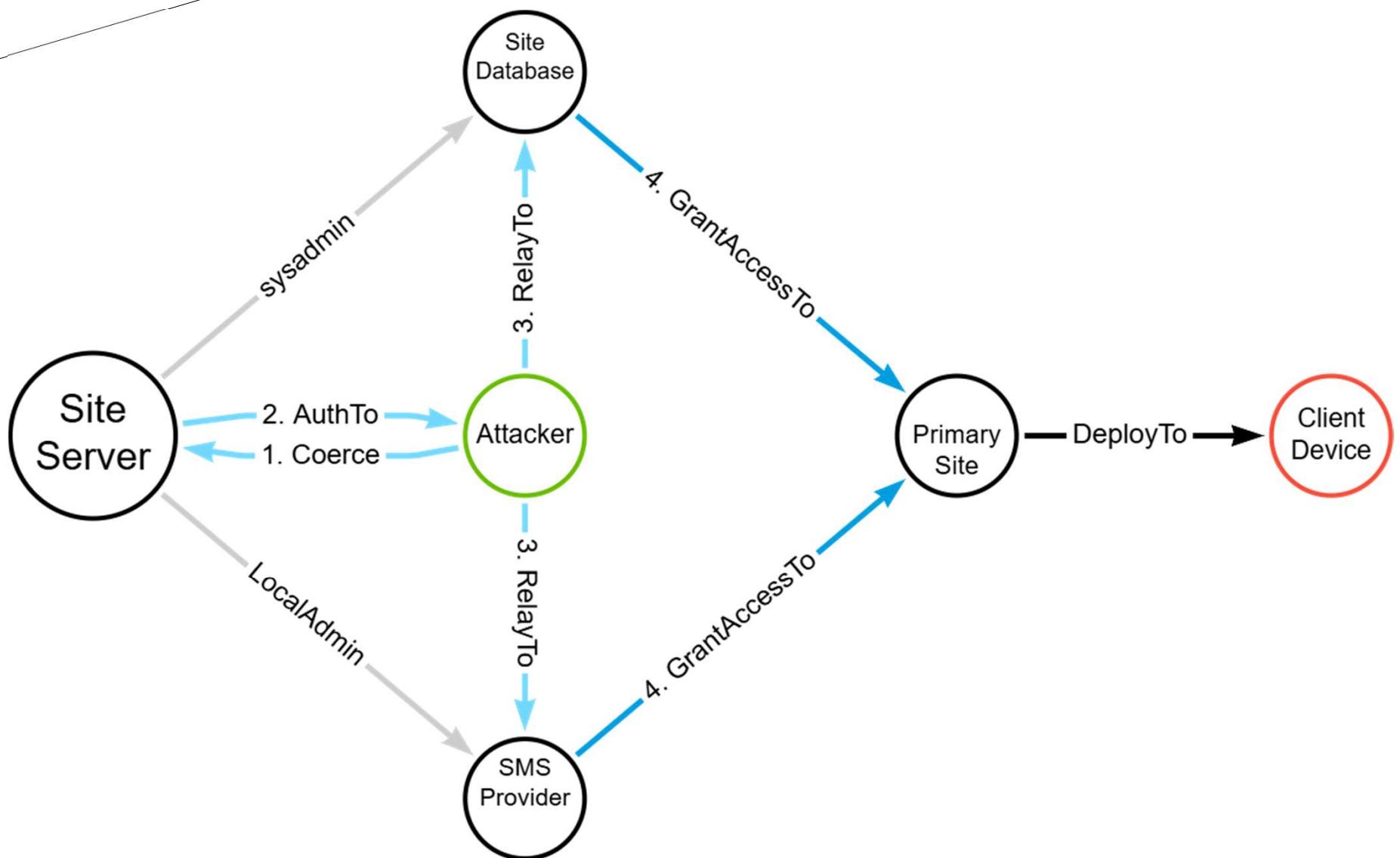


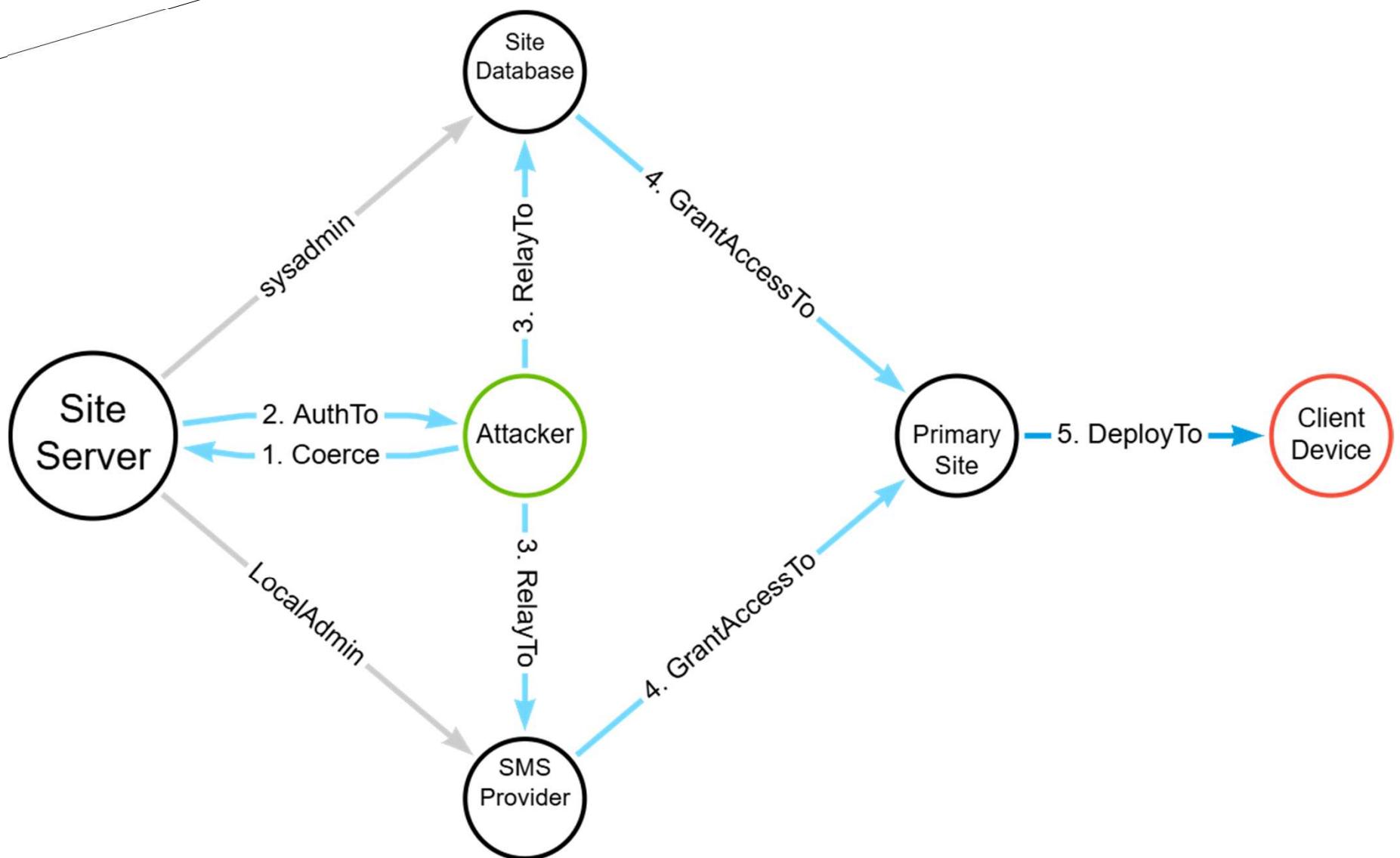












TAKEOVER-1

