

CYBERSECURITY FOR INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

Securing Oil&Gas Installations from Cyberattacks in the Digital Age

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Cyber Security Threats to Society

2018: NSM NorCERT receives 20.000
cybersecurity incident alarms

Some are Major

Digital intrusions or other unwanted activity towards organizations operating critical infrastructure or other functions important to society.

Cyber Threats to Industrial Systems

The **most serious** incidents are **increasing** in scale and complexity.

Trend reported by NSM.

Hydro

- Ransomware attack on IT and OT systems

Facts

March 19th 2019:

- Major cyber-incident impacting Hydro's production and IT systems.
- Control System endpoints at several plants attacked => manual backup operation.
- Reports of significant financial loss.

Takeaways

- Despite comprehensive IT security investments and external services, it is **hard to protect, detect and respond** to major incidents before widespread, significant impact.
- More **digitalization and automation of industry** => more vulnerabilities, less manual backup options.

Triton

- attack on industrial plant Schneider Electric controllers

Key attack characteristics

Damage caused

Caused the plant Safety Instrumented System (SIS) to enter failsafe shutdown of the plant.
Evidence suggest the intent was to cause physical damage.

Vulnerability exploited

Engineering workstation capable of programming SIS controllers accessible from multiple networks.

Main attack vector

Gained remote access to workstation.
Used pre-developed, pre-tested malware to attack controllers.
No reconnaissance period, the malware, including reengineered proprietary protocols were prepared beforehand.

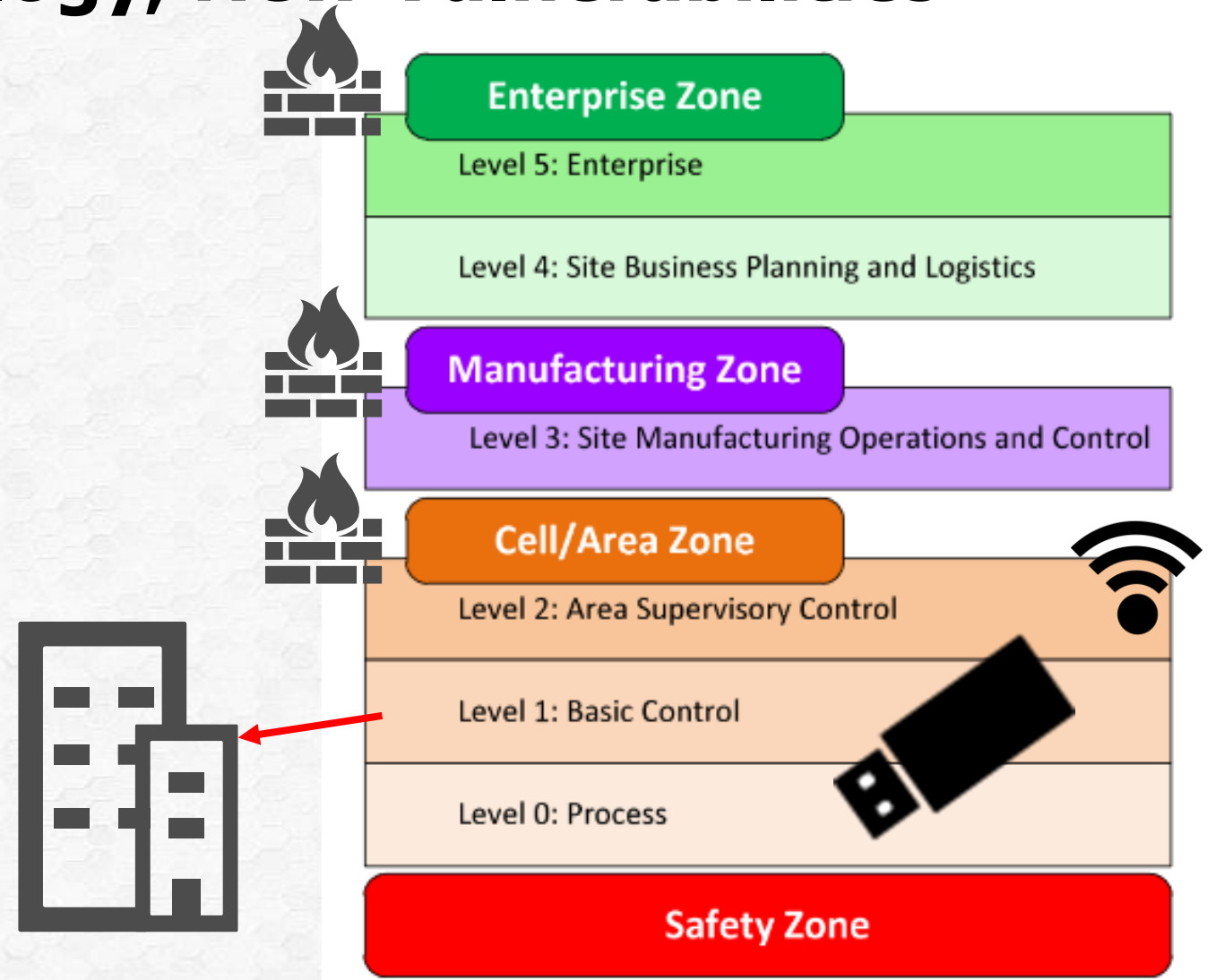
Who are the Threat Actors?



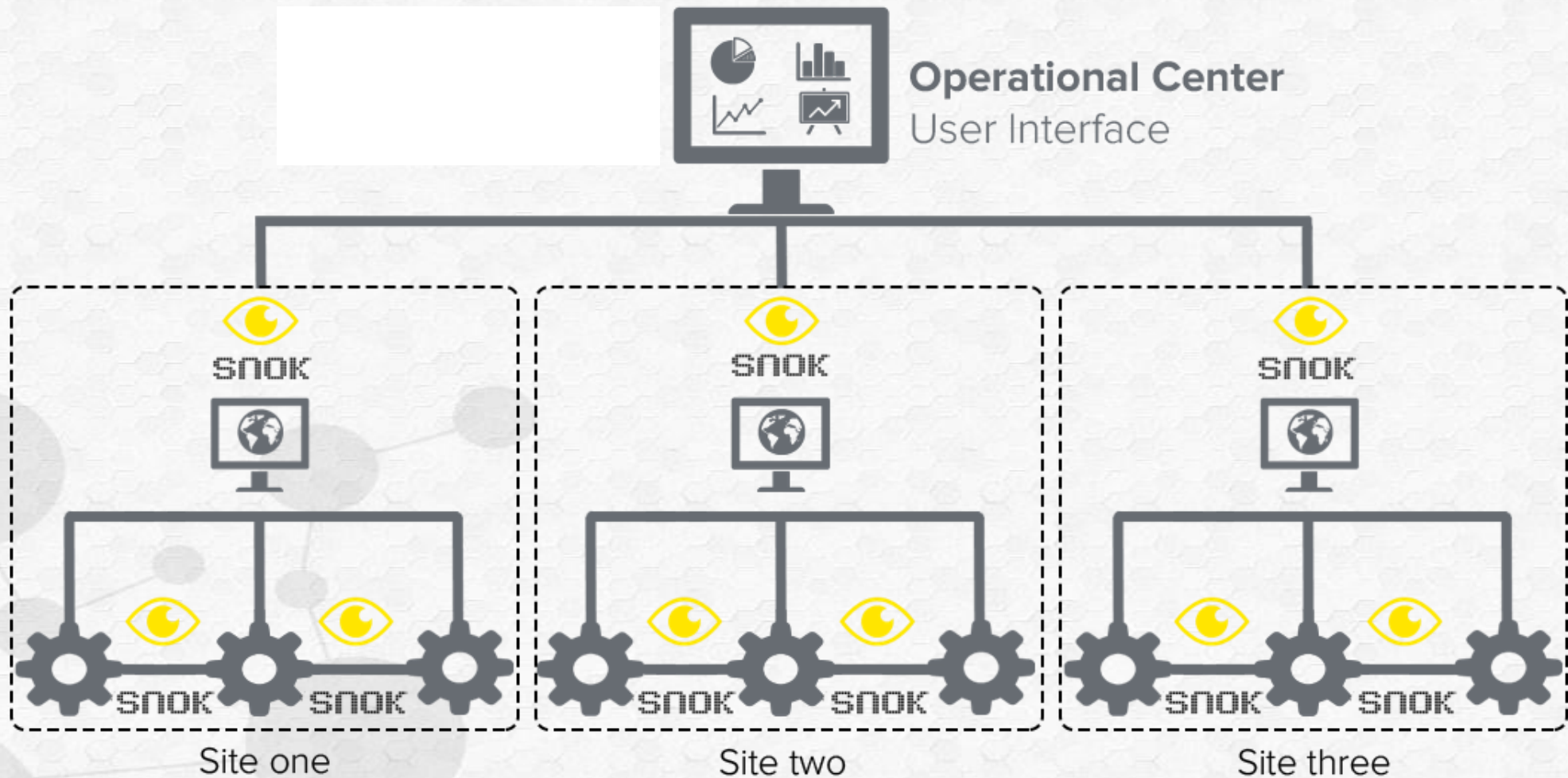
- Malicious or unintentional **insiders** contribute a significant portion of events.
- Trend towards more **professional hackers** employed by nation states or corporations.
- Besides causing harm motive can be preparing **contingency**.

New Technology, New Vulnerabilities

1. Enterprise firewall
2. Manufacturing zone firewall (?)
3. Cell/Area segmentation (?)
4. 4G/Wifi for remote access
5. Data directly to the 'Cloud'
6. Cyber un-aware technicians accessing systems
7. Operators charging smartphones
8. Non-hardened OEM devices
9. Open Source
10. APT



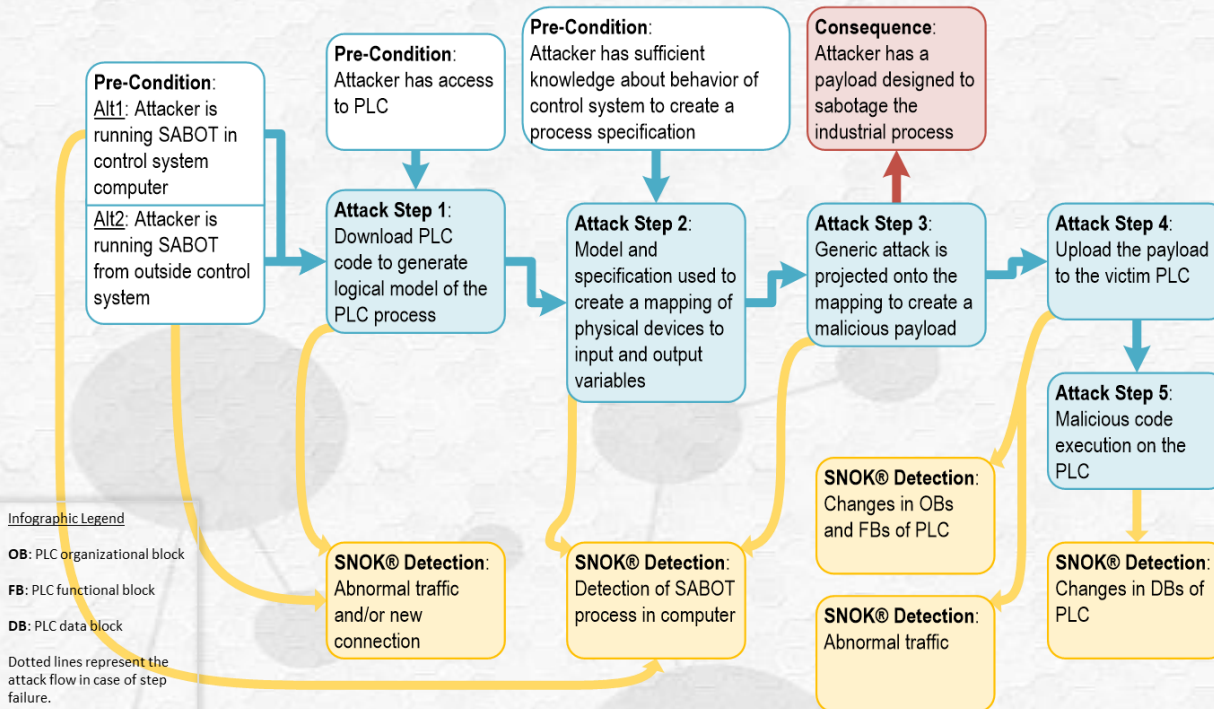
Where do they attack next?



Attacks & detection in OT environment

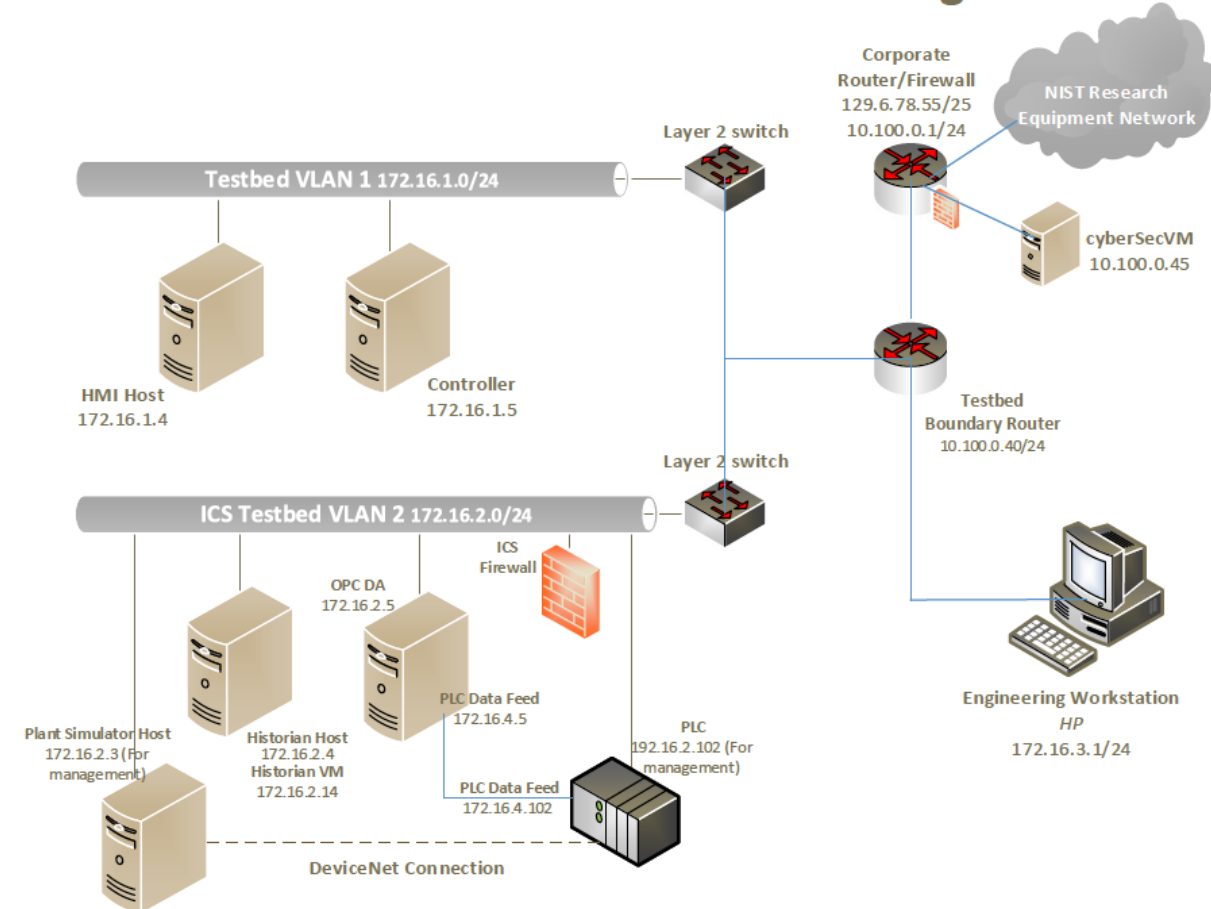
Attack Scenario – Sabotage Payload

Tool that maps the control instructions in a PLC to an adversary-provided specification of the system behaviour to create and upload a malicious payload to the PLC



Source: McLaughlin, P., et al: *SABOT: Specification-based Payload generation for Programmable Logic Controllers*. In Proc. of the 2012 ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security, pp. 439-449.

Process Control Enclave Network Diagram



There are no shortcuts to security

NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) - a simple and intuitive philosophy to help develop and implement critical cybersecurity functions:

Identify: ... manage cybersecurity risk to systems, people, assets, data, and capabilities.

Protect: ... implement appropriate safeguards to ensure delivery of critical services.

Detect: ... identify the occurrence of a cybersecurity event.

Respond: ... take action regarding a detected cybersecurity incident.

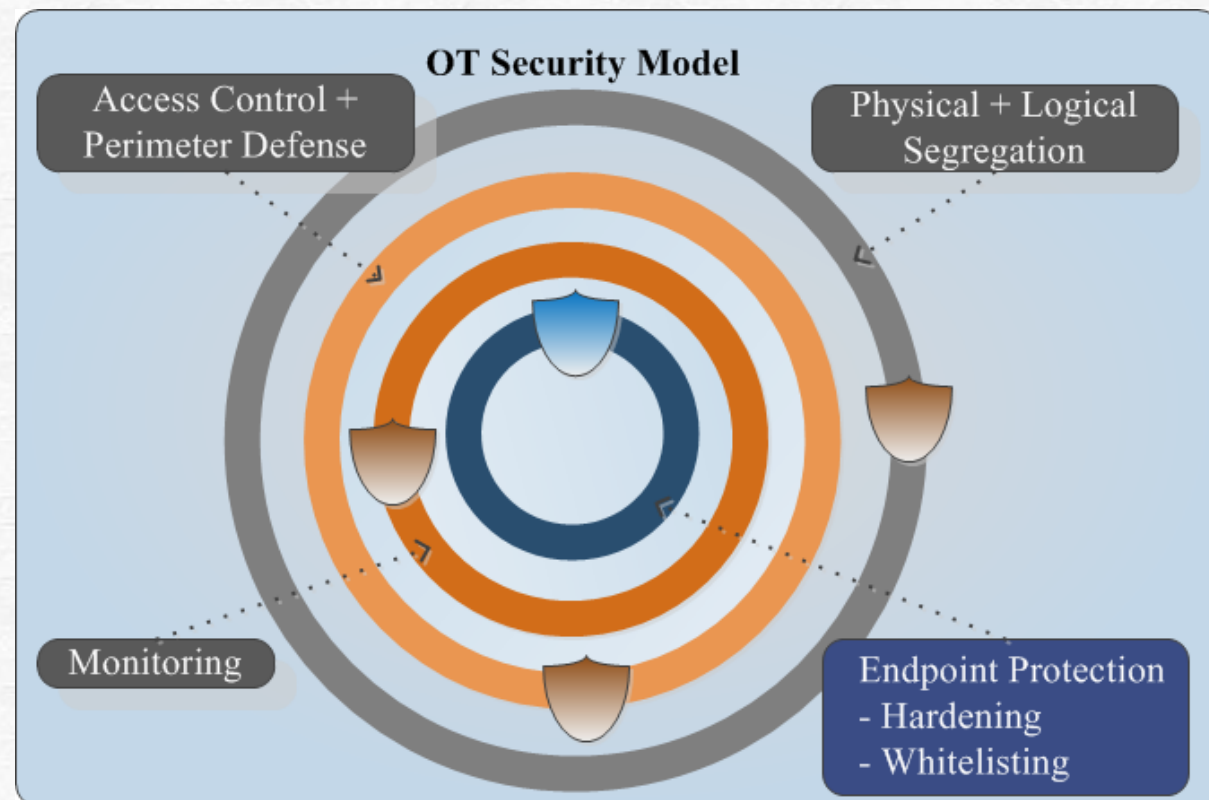
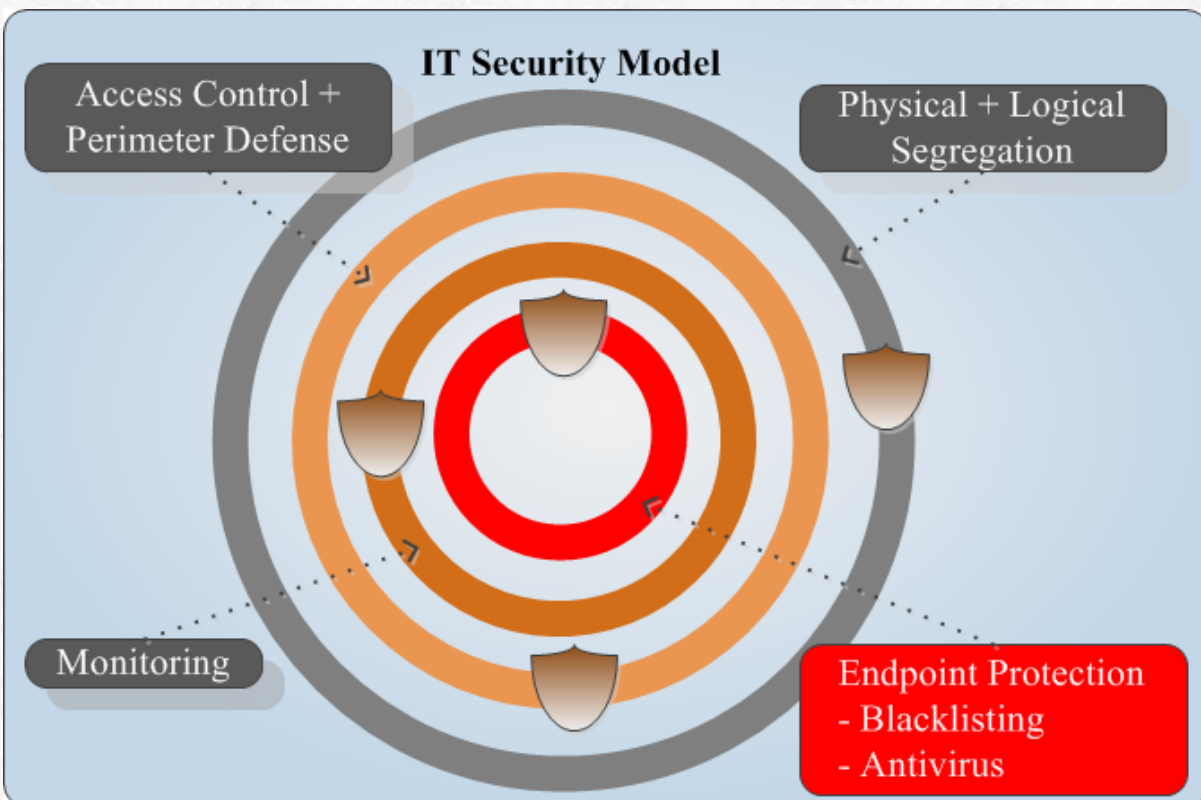
Recover: ... maintain plans for resilience and to restore any capabilities or services that were impaired due to a cybersecurity incident.



Implementation should not be a linear list of tasks. All functions must be in place at any given time.

Defense in depth for IT and OT

Know your assets. Segregate. Harden. Monitor.



Cybersecurity Risk

=

Threat Landscape

x

Vulnerability

x

Consequences



Questions, thoughts, ideas or comments?

Thank you for your attention!

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