



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

OFFICE OF
**CYBERSECURITY, ENERGY SECURITY,
AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**



Validation and Measuring Automated Response (VMAR)

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Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems Peer Review

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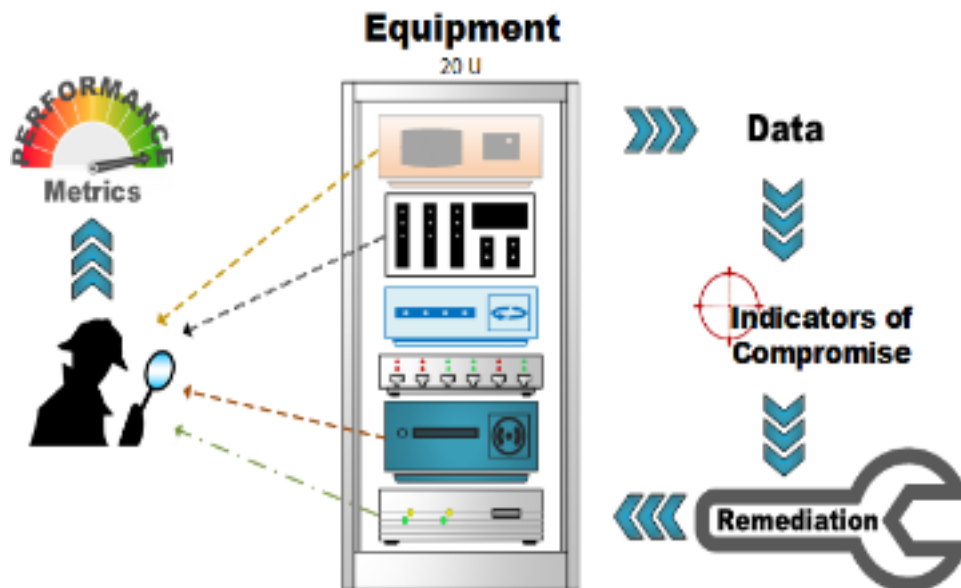
Summary: Validation and Measuring Automated Response

Objective

- Promote Automated Response Capabilities in nontraditional configurations

Schedule

- May 2016 – December 2019
- Milestones
 - September 2016 Partners/Models
 - November 2016 Evaluation Environment
 - February & September 2017 Capabilities Analysis
 - May 2018 Performance Scoring
- Response Capability where none existed prior



Performer: Idaho National Laboratory

Partners: San Diego Gas & Electric

Federal Cost: \$1.4M

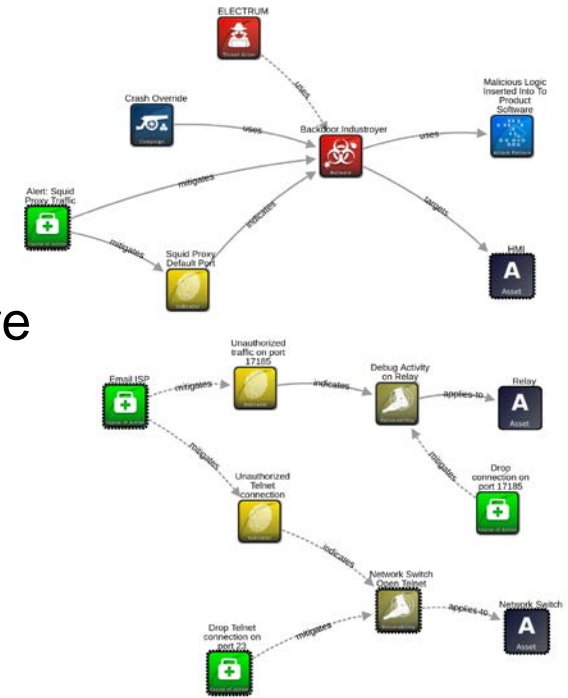
Cost Share: \$150K

Total Value of Award: \$ 1.6M

Funds Expended to Date: 85%

Advancing the State of the Art (SOA)

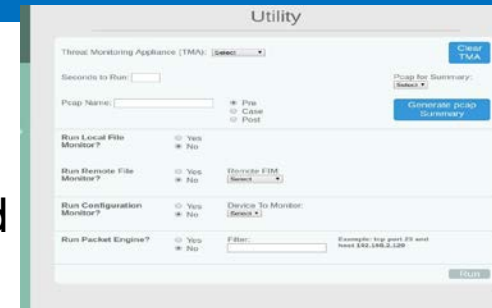
- In the Information Technology (IT), all in one Orchestrator command and control functionality
- More commonly in IT space, address blocking (blacklisting), adding new malware detection, and URL blocking can be automated. These features are emerging in some sectors, but not in the control system Operational Technology (OT) space.
- With a well defined OT configuration, tailored responses can be provided for automation
- To match the more state-like nature of control systems, provide reassurances to the latency concerns of operations and measure performance, security and resilience to trend over time
- Move beyond existing patch capability to create a novel response capability where none existed prior



Challenges to Success

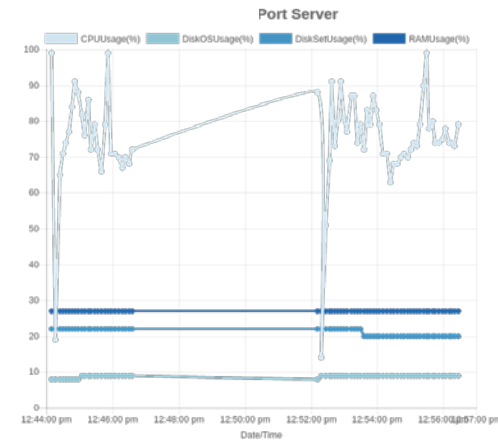
Challenge 1 – Moving Left in Kill Chain - done

- Huge shift in timing from respond (identify, create patch, test, and patch) to response (action taken: find, remove, block and log)



Challenge 2 – Latency Issues in Control for OT - done

- Provide performance views – Test Utility with performance metrics



Challenge 3 – Time to Test, Validate and Revert

- Design test concepts, measures and rollback

Challenge 4 – Standardization for unique configs - done

- STIX, CybOX, OpenC2, Performance scripts, open source tools

Challenge 5 – Dependencies - done

- Equipment availability, timing of partner involvement, leveraged coordination with other related projects

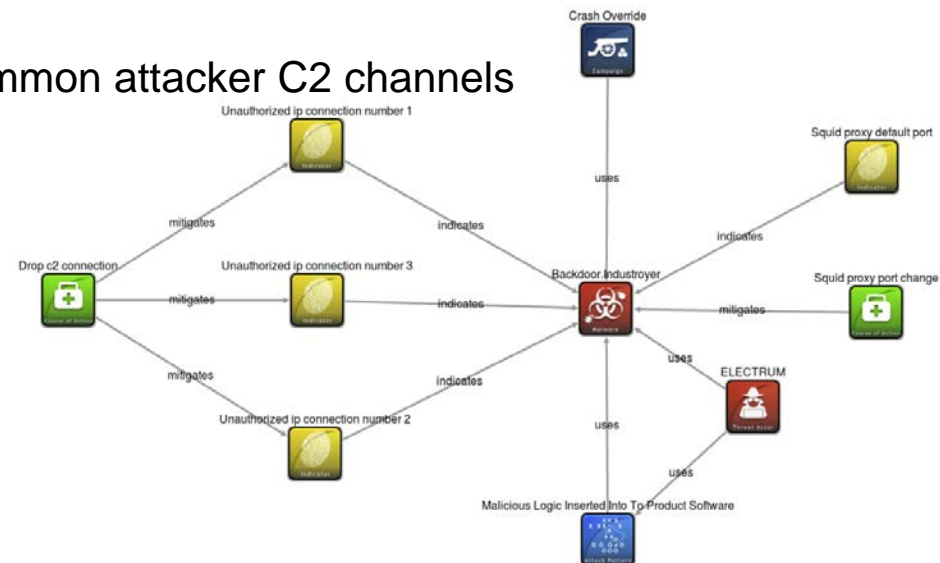


Progress to Date

Major Accomplishments

- Indicate and Remediate Beyond IT Basics
 - COTS Based Automated Response
 - Prototyped Machine to Machine Automated Threat Response
- Heartbleed – Detection and Alert
- Full Indicator and Remediation Actions
 - Unknown Telnet – Kill session/block port – COTS and Threat Monitoring Appliance (TMA)
 - WannaCry and Industroyer- use of common attacker C2 channels
 - BlackEnergy – Wiper/Kill Disk
 - Industroyer – Breaker Open
 - SIEM – Failed Logins

```
"type": "indicator",  
"id": "indicator--d81f86b9-975b-bc0b-775e-810c5ad45a4f",  
"created": "2014-06-29T13:49:37.079Z",  
"modified": "2014-06-29T13:49:37.079Z",  
"labels": [  
  "malicious-activity"  
],  
"name": "Malicious site hosting downloader",  
"pattern": "[url:value = 'http://x4z9arb.cn/4712/']",  
"valid_from": "2014-06-29T13:49:37.079000Z"
```



COTS Automated Response

The screenshot displays the Phantom Playbook Editor interface. On the left, a sidebar shows the configuration for 'Decision 1' with a 'CONNECTED OBJECT' of 'start'. Below this, 'Filter 1' is configured with a list of IP addresses: 192.168.3.1 through 192.168.3.12. Each address is preceded by '!' and 'and', indicating a 'not equal to' condition for each. The main workspace shows a flowchart with a 'START' node, a decision diamond labeled '1', a 'Contain' node with the text 'block ip', and an 'END' node. A red circle with the number '1' is placed over the decision diamond, with a text box below it stating 'Filter to return non-whitelisted IP address'. The interface also shows various toolbars and a 'SAVE CHANGES' button.

Structured Threat Intelligence Graph

The screenshot displays the STIG interface, which is used for managing threat intelligence. The main area shows a graph of indicators and their relationships. The graph includes nodes such as 'Port Scanner - Crash Override', 'Malicious Logic Inserted into Product Software', 'ELECTRUM', 'Backdoor Industroyer', 'Data Wiper download', 'Port Scan - 172.16.0.0/12', 'Port Scan - 10.0.0.0/8', 'Port Scan - 192.168.0.0/16', 'Custom Port Scanner - Crash Override', 'Crash Override', 'Unauthorized ip connection number 4', 'Unauthorized ip connection number 3', 'Unauthorized ip connection number 1', 'Unauthorized ip connection number 5', 'Unauthorized ip connection number 2', and 'Drop c2 connection'. Relationships are labeled with terms like 'uses', 'indicates', and 'mitigates'.

On the right side, there is a detailed view of an indicator. The fields are as follows:

- indicator** (checkbox):
- JSON** (checkbox):
- Properties** (checkbox):
- type**: indicator
- id**: indicator--76e940fc-5f1c-4606-8e9d-d7c15bb15516
- labels** (checkbox):
- name**: Squid proxy default Port
- pattern**: [network-traffic:dst_port = 3128]
- valid_from**: 2018-10-25T20:49:40.337Z
- created**: 2018-10-25T20:49:40.337Z
- modified**: 2018-10-25T20:49:40.337Z

At the bottom of the interface, there are search and query fields:

- Search Graph:** Search Graph No results
- Query Database:** Query Database Query History No results

Buttons at the bottom right include: Commit to DB, Save as JSON..., Clear Graph, Diff, JSON Bundle, and Added 1 elements to graph.

Collaboration/Technology Transfer

Plans to transfer technology/knowledge to end user

- Multiple pathways for technology transfer
 - Open source code for multiple asset owners
 - Technology Provider partnership
 - Asset Owner partnership
- What are your plans to gain industry acceptance?
 - Heavy focus on measures and validation to prove out concepts for response and ensure no impact to operational system
 - Performance measures – bottleneck is traditionally latency of commands, but process, storage and networks will also be measured
 - Change in protection profile – adding response capability will change the security protection profile
 - Resilience of system – adding response capability increases agility which is a key aspect of resilience

Collaboration/Technology Transfer

Knowledge to end user

- April 2017 – Presentation: Performance Measures Design – ICSJWG
- September 2017 – Preliminary Performance Metrics Test Results to Utility Partners
- May 2018 – Paper and Presentation: Efficacy and Effectiveness of Measures for AR at ISA PowID
- June 2018 – Presentation to the Electric Sector Coordinating Council
- August 2018 – Demo of AR and measures to EnergySec
- September 2018 – Presentation/Demo to California Public Utilities Commission
- September 2018 – Paper Referenced: Sharable and Implementable Threat Intelligence
- January 2019 DistribuTech as part of California Energy System for the 21st Century

Path Forward

- Creation and Test of Novel Launch AR
- Final Performance Metrics Collection and Analysis
- Open Source Launch AR – host on repository
- Provide final publication - Metrics