

David Groep, Physics Data Processing

Staying reasonably safe in an open research environment

August 2020

Did anyone attend - or watch - the UM symposium?



https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/um-cyber-attack-symposium-%E2%80%93-lessons-learnt



TECHNIQUES

· MACHINES

·WORLDS

KNOPPIX

*SYSTEM ADMINS

Finally it did happen – and now what?



LT. INFRASTRUCTURE

ARCHITECTURE

CONFIGURATION

Protection and controls are a response to risk

hygiene or system administration. This document is intended to cover the other 20% that basic hygiene and administration do not cover well.

5. Bad Things Can Happen to Good Science

There are numerous examples of Open Science projects being affected by attacks over computer networks. Some of these attacks have specifically targeted the science projects, while in other examples,

Open Science Cyber Risk Profile, supported by TRUSTED CI





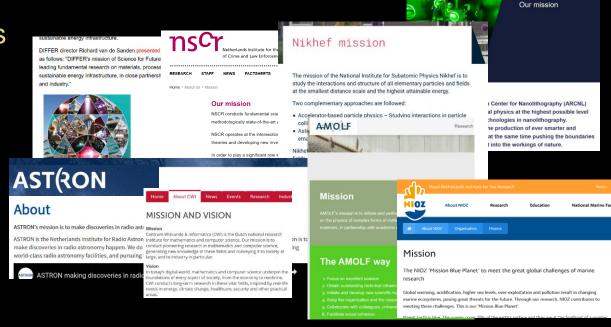


Peisert, Sean, Von Welch et al. Open Science Cyber Risk Profile (OSCRP), March 2017, http://hdl.handle.net/2022/21259



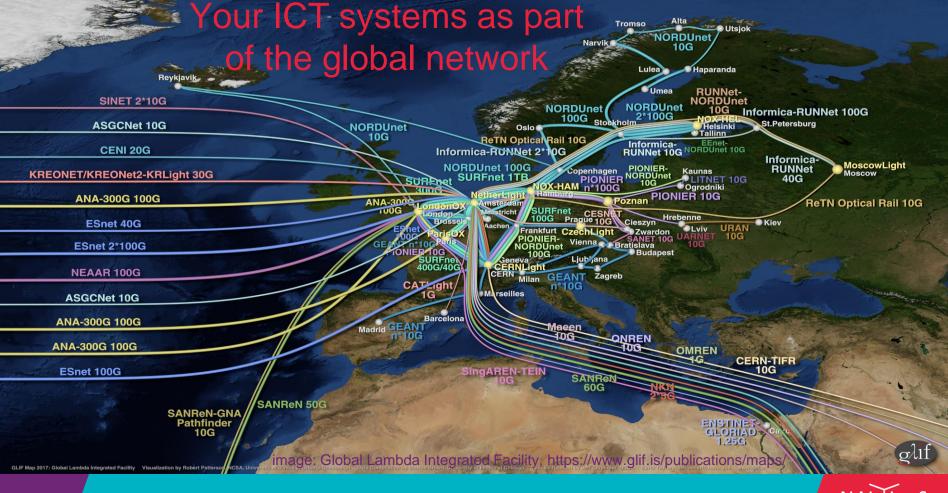
A risk to what, exactly?

- to our research missions
- to our people & material and immaterial assets systems, servers, data, archives, reputation,...
- to science and society









Our IT is just as connected as our researchers



Classifying the Crown Jewels worth protecting

From data-centric viewpoint?

critical infrastructure information for recovery

high risk information
– safety and people

personal data: sensitive, impactful, ... research data
irrecoverable processed

replicated community data

Or from a resource and cost viewpoint?

using networks for personal use, youtube-dl, &c

finding a bitcoin miner in an isolated 'on-prem' cloud? network abuse to call many, expensive phone numbers??

finding a bitcoin miner on HR desktop computers????



We the people ...

- CEO fraud and 'whaling'
- system administrators and IT staff
 - ... have lots of access rights and the need to use it often
- researchers that can (over)write unique data
- for physical access, janitorial staff are almost omhipotent

People are the weakest link in security of systems ... and the 'most powerful person' can ... be anyone



In the end...

it is all about 'risk appetite'

- protection

 and commensurate response
- detection
- response
- recovery



Thanks to the folk at NorthWood LAN party 7 - http://www.linuxno.de/ - for staging this picture



Awareness

"Apparently, hackers really do still party like it's 1999," Verizon said in its 2015 Data

Breach Investigations Report (DBIR) regarding how often really old vulnerabilities a

Oldies are still goodies as the Verizon team added:

Whether it's goofing up, getting infected, behaving badly, or losing stuff, most incidents fall in the PEBKAC and ID-10T über-patterns. At this point, take your index finger, place it on your chest, and repeat "I am the problem," as long as it takes to believe it. Good—the first step to recovery is admitting the problem.

When it comes to phishing attacks, the Verizon team found that 23% of users open phishing emails and 11% take the extra PEBKAC step of actually clicking on the attachment. Even a small phishing campaign of 10 emails has a 90% chance of

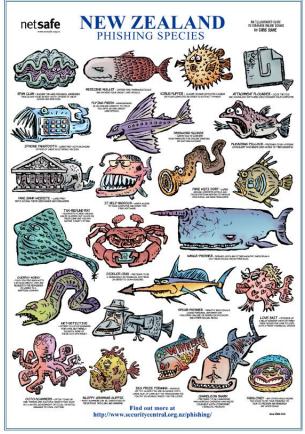
is a mere one minute and 22 seconds.

Don't forget to patch old vulnerabilities

According to the report, "99.9% of the exploited vulnerabilities had been compromised more than a year after the associated CVF was published." It's a

By Darlene Storm, Computerworld | 15 April 2015 16:47 CEST

https://www.computerworld.com/article/2910316/90-of-security-incidents-trace-back-to-pebkac-and-id10t-errors.html



Thanks to NetSAFE NZ https://www.netsafe.org.nz/phishing/





... of gewoon Emotet malware email (van het Epoch3 kartel deze week)

FACTUUR J-192 van [naam] Fact. 0680888 van [naam] Fact. 2020-LIA20087 van [naam] Fact. 613378 van [naam] Factuur 08.2020-006073 van [naam] Factuur 08.2020-MO463 van [naam] Factuur 29754590 van [naam] Factuur 9611-08.2020 van [naam] Factuur HT93446652-2020 van [naam] Factuur MG-43324 van [naam] Factuur SNW007956800 van [naam] Factuur van [naam] Inv 0000209205 van [naam] Inv 08.2020-wjh79734 van [naam] Inv 40845 van [naam] Schatting 13544 van [naam] Schatting 152750-2020 van [naam] Schatting 8135 van [naam] Schatting PZB515-08.2020 van [naam] Schatting h77468972-08.2020 van [naam] Schatting v5588978-08.2020 van [naam]

https://labs.f-secure.com/assets/BlogFiles/f-secureLABS-tlp-white-lazarus-threat-intel-report2.pdf



Engaging users – that is: targets

Phind the phish



"Phishing" is when email purporting to be from a legitimate source attempts to trick you into volunteering your personal or credential-related information. These messages vary in content but all claim to be from an authoritative source such as a bank, service provider or university contact.

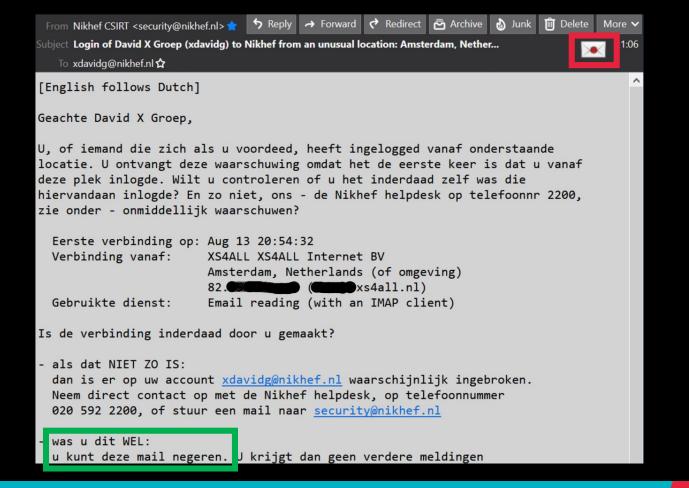
Learn more at security.ucop.edu

Sources CERN (https://security.web.cern.ch/training/fr/posters.shtml)

UC System (https://security.ucop.edu/resources/security-awareness/phishing-2019-campaign.html) and Yale University (Patrick Lynch)

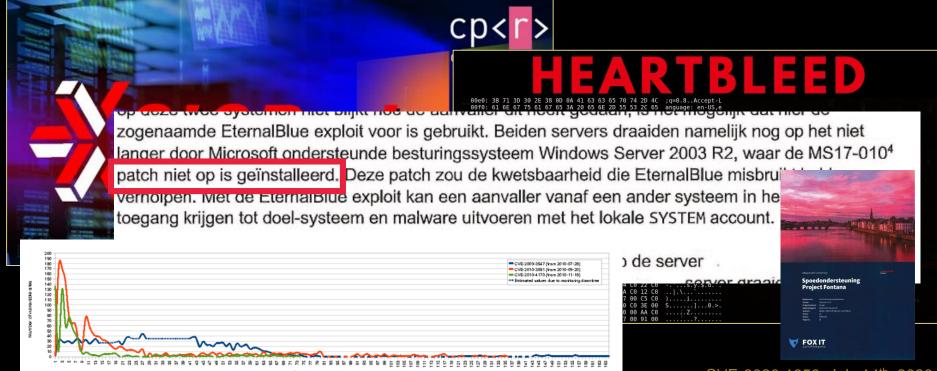








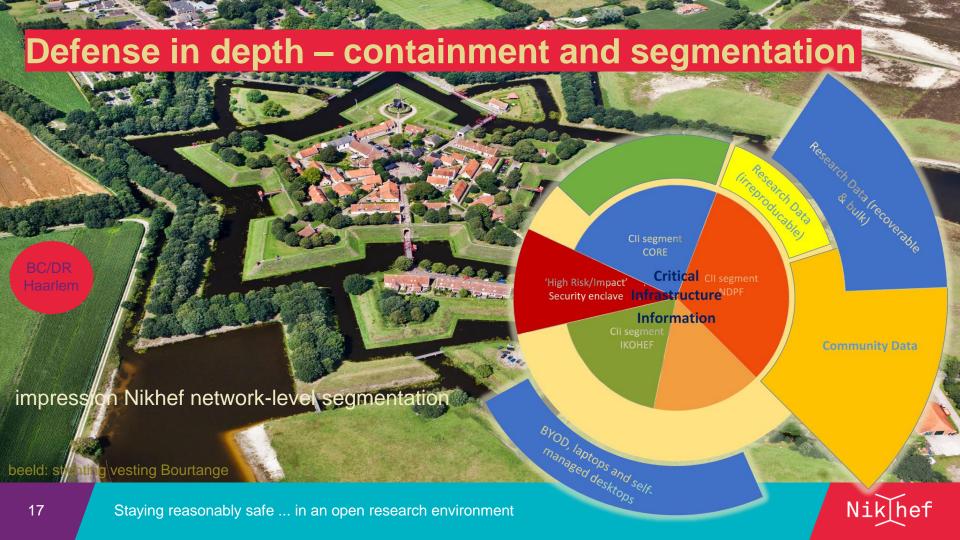
Once the attacker is in – he lies in waiting ...



CVE-2020-1350, July 14th, 2020

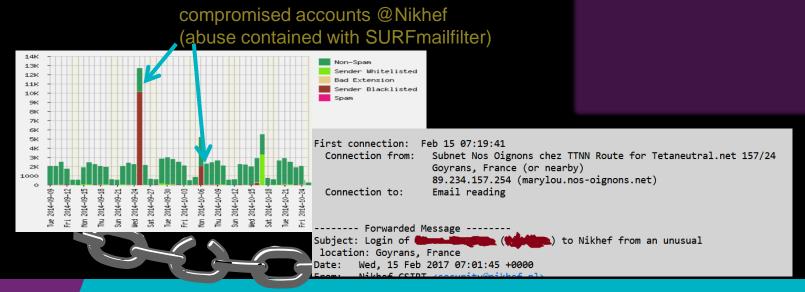
https://research.checkpoint.com/2020/resolving-your-way-into-domain-admin:-exploiting-a-17-year-old-bug-in-windows-dns-servers/





Segmentation of access rights

Through phishing, outsiders and attackers will appear as insiders So limit what an insider can do, to what is needed ... but don't go overboard

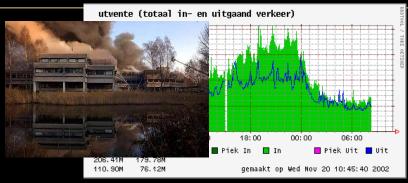


Although sometimes ...

```
LOO.AR5.ENSCHEDE1.SURF.NET 3613:

NOV 20 07:20:50.927 UTC: %ENV_MON-2-TEMP:
+HOTPOINT TEMP SENSOR(SLOT 18) TEMPERATURE HAS
REACHED WARNING LEVEL AT 61(C)

FEW SECONDS LATER ON THE LOCAL SIDE:
LOO.CR2.AMSTERDAM2.SURF.NET 1146:
NOV 20 07:20:56.458 UTC: %CLNS-5-ADJCHANGE: +ISIS:
ADJACENCY TO AR5.ENSCHEDE1 (POS2/0) DOWN, INTERFACE
DELETED (NON-IIH)
```





mage: PS control room at CERN

See also http://www.independent.co.uk/news/marital-row-blows-fuse-on-big-bang-theory-1573588.html



It's always a balance ...





security is a balance of risk, usability, and cost

Response capabilities – team work



'Strategic' level

do you want to react & prevent reoccurrence?

if you suddenly find yourself in the news?

report to LE, or recover services?

trust and delegation for operational response?

'Operational' level - the Computer Security Incident Response Team: CSIRT

detecting something is weird in the first place An attacker! ... or maybe a PhD student?

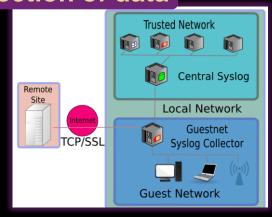
"a pint of sweat will save a gallon of blood"

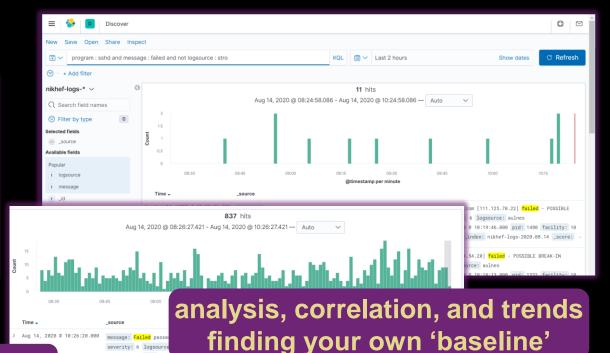


You will be had – but how, and when, do you know?

_index: nikhef-logs-2020.08.14 _score: -

collection of data



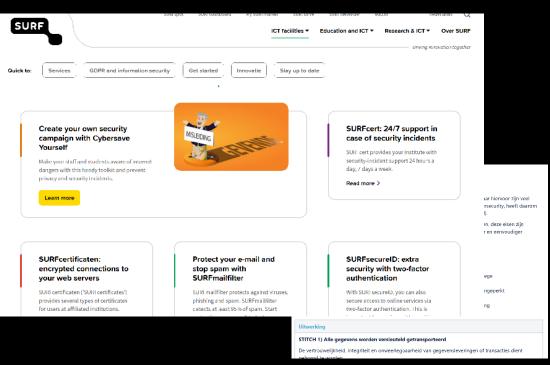


also helps determine specific scope and impact of data breaches for GDPR

Nik hef

Sharing intelligence between organisations

through the Dutch SURF constituency & its trainings



... and beyond















in international security forums and trust groups



Trust, sharing, and sharing back

yet trust does not scale well - without 'process' – beyond Dunbar's Number so for the more relevant and valuable trust groups, there are processes



Trust groups

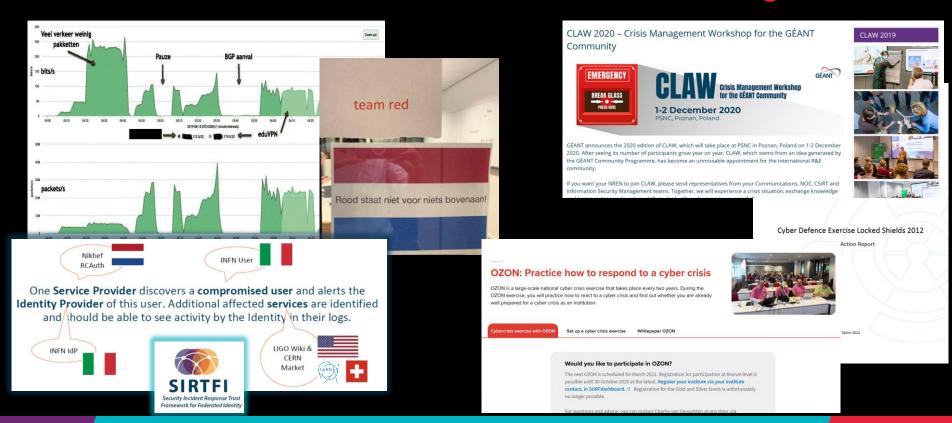
Beyond 'organisational' trust - contribute and participate ...
... and you will reap the benefits in turn



Participation is critical to making this work
You need your OpSec people to 'get around', meet,
and work globally
starting with TRANSITS-I nationally is a good initiation



Exercise! From technical, to federated, to strategic



And what you don't want ... the Uni-Gießen way



Nik hef

You hear that you're compromised ... and now what?

- 1. Have a coffee! .. and then think first ... the intruder has typically been there for 3-6 months already ...
- Who do you call? Who can you call?
- 3. Priorities: limit damage, but do not destroy evidence
- 3. Be glad to have your operational security team in place & engaged ... and if you, or they, get stuck, there is a community that can help you, including SURFcert and peers ...



Any specific recommendations?

- Do get all people engaged in the institute and create awareness, and allow for effort in IT service management – but IT security is more than just the IT team
- Do maintain an operational response capability, or develop it if you don't have one already and integrate it with the national and global community they have to 'get around' to be effective and engender trust in the community
- Don't be afraid of bad things they will happen anyway.
 Challenge is to know your risks, reduce unnecessary risks, and be able to absorb the rest –containment, resilience, and recovery capabilities are the key (and they will help determine and limit the impact of data breaches as well)
- Don't loose sight of the mission and goals of the institute our high-level aim





Thanks to, with contributions of, material & ideas from, or discussion with ...

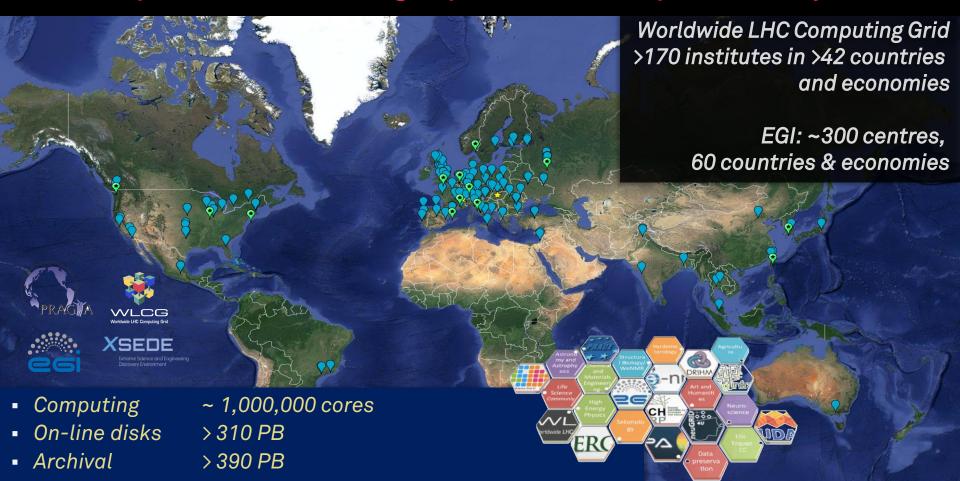
Universiteit Maastricht, EGI CSIRT, GEANT TRANSITS, TF-CSIRT, AARC Community, Andrew Cormack, SIM3, KPK, Dave Kelsey, Hannah Short, Sven Gabriel, Luca dell'Angelo & INFN CNAF, Romain Wartel, CERN, Jouke Roorda, SURF & SURFcert, Alf Moens, Charlie van Genuchten, OZON & CLAW, Urpo Kaila, NetSAFE NZ, FoxIT, F-secure, NCSC-NL, FBI, Tristan Suerink, SURF SCIRT, Vienna TIIME meetings and unconference, KPMG (AT, NL), ISGC SecWS Taipei, Interoperable Global Trust Federation IGTF, David Crooks & Liviu Valsan & WLCG SOC WG, STFC RAL, TrustedCI & CTCS, WISE Community, CESNET, Daniel Kouřil and lots of good stuff from groups and people preferring not to be named

but all views are of course my own and not necessarily shared by any of them ...

background images from Unsplash: TCD library: @jzamora, cleaner: @verneho, sitting on a balcony: @nate_Dumlao, flood: @kellysikkema Cyberdefense exercise room: Red Flag 17 (US DoD) Edvard Munch "The Scream": painting now in Nasjonalgalleriet Oslo



The Importance of Being Open – in Europe and beyond



Beyond a single organisation

'Enterprise standards' and classifications can only be inspirational, not used as-is!



e.g. ISO27001 can help structure or identify gaps in your knowledge, but ISO27002 should not be blindly applied without *your own* risk assessment and intelligence





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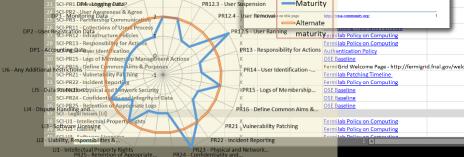
The WISE SCIv2 Working Group - e-mail: david.kelsey@stfc.ac.uk, sci@lists.wise-community.org

'GEANT Association, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: "Natherl. Amsterdam, The Netherlands: "CEANT LC, Caractricg, United Kingdons," SIEFAREA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: "CEA," I Greater for Science LLd, Espoot, Finland: "STFC, Rutherford Application, Loboratory, Didoct, United Kingdons, SIEFARE, Ultred. The Netherlands: "Special-supportunitural Lider Greater for Science Caracteristics, University, "Indiana Ultraversity, Uniterspecial, USA," "National Center for Scienceroparding Applications, University of Initias, University, Uniterspecial, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, University, Uniterspecial, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, University, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, University, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, University, USA, "Initias, University, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias, University, USA, "National Center for Science of Initias, University, USA, "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, University, USA," "National Center for Science of the Initias of Initias, USA, "National Center for Science of Initias, USA," "National Center for Science of Initias, USA, "National Center for Science of Initias, University, USA, "National Center for Science of Initias, USA, "National Center for Science of Initias, USA," "National Center for Science of Initias, USA, "National Center for Initias, USA, "National Center for

Abstract: The Security for Colaborating Infrastructures working group (SCIc2-WG) is a colaborative activity within the Wise Information Security for e-Infrastructures (WISE) trust community. SCIc2-WG members include information security officers of the several taleptace and estimated Research infrastructures and e-Infrastructures, and expension of the security officers and extend the security infrastructures and expension of colaborating infrastructures and to manage cross-infrastructure operational security risks. It also aims to build trust between infrastructures by defining standards for colaboration, especially in cases where specific internal security pricity documents cannot be shared.

Target audience: This document is intended for use by the personnel responsible for the management, operations and security of a Research Infrastructure or an e-Infrastructure.

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Other Sources / Attribution / Actoroxidativements: The "SCII varieties 2" document "A Trust Enterweight for Societies."



Fermilab, including

Keith Chadwick, Fe

LOA-1

1 Infrastructure Name:

SCI - Operational Security [OS]

SCI-OS3 - Vulnerability Mgmt

SCI-OS4 - Intrusion Detection

SCI-OS6 - Contact Information

SCI-OS7 - Policy Enforcement

SCI - Incident Response [IR]

SCI-IR1 - Contact Information

SCI-IR2 - Response Procedure

SCI-IR4 - Assurance of Compliance

SCI - PartiDPSnt BsepPersibitial @aftaR]__3_

SCI-TR3 - Document Controls PR12.1 - User Registration

SCI-IR3 - Collaboration

SCI-TR2 - Data Retention

18 SCI - Traceability [TR]

19 SCI-TR1 - Traceability

SCI-OS5 - Regulate Access

SCI-OS1 - Security Model SCI-OS2 - Security Patches

Prepared By:

B Reviewed By:



User awareness and engagement

Consistent messaging to users – from the IT dept, but *also* from comms & PR – and *no* links that require credential entry to be sent by email

engage users in jointly working on security (CERN campaign "Sec_rity is not complete without U")

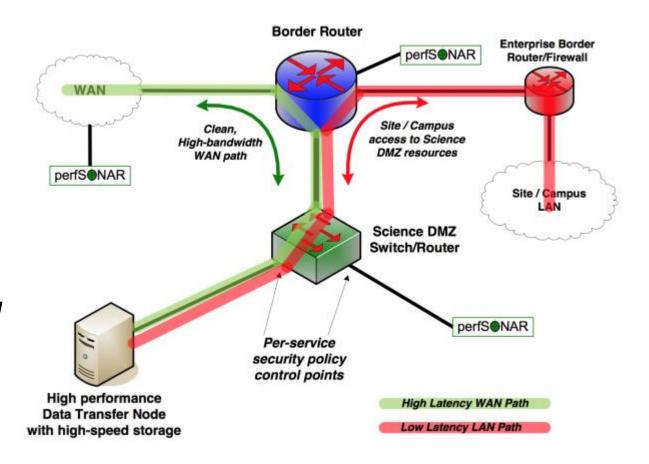
also means consistent SSO login as far as possible – one page only (also helps in case you need MFA for additional assurance) although we realise that in some cases you need direct entry of the same credential – then at least use consistent branding, and maybe training for EV checking

Use STITCH guidelines for evaluation/setting requirements for procurement

'ScienceDMZ'

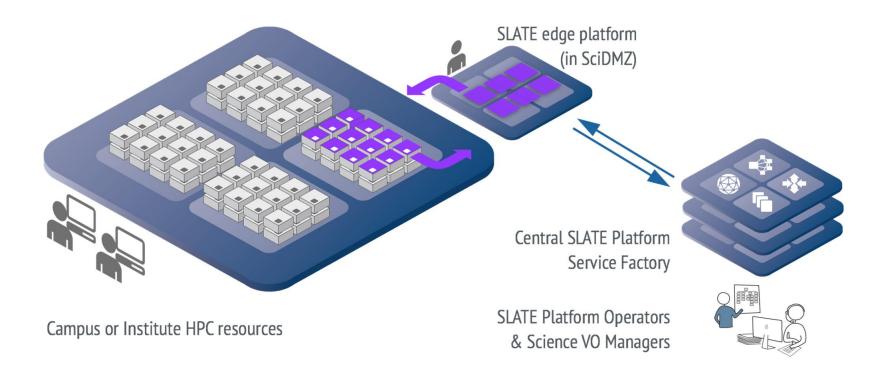
Network protection does mean cutting it off from the outside

remember that first presentation in the UM symposium ...





SLATE CI



Segmentation: a research network with office enclaves

Example: Nikhef high-level network

network is just one of a series of controls, alongside host-based controls, service-level controls, and object-identity-level controls

open-core implements the enclave structure, and allows open research federation



Segmentation of roles

The trivial basic: do not run with admin rights unless needed

but it's easy to go overboard with too many roles — IGA should match the business needs

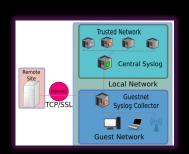
Example from a bank expanding into CEE, with ~700 employees and ~1400 roles – again: decide what actually needs protection, and where soft controls (awareness) are sufficient. Reduction to 200 roles made things significantly better, since now roles were actually manageable



Assets – you will know of some, you may never know all!

Open collaboration and research: users are everywhere, and almost all are 'BYOD' ... and creative enough to find any loophole (which is actually a Good Thing™ ...)

Asset modelling should support flexibility without loosing containment and response, using monitoring





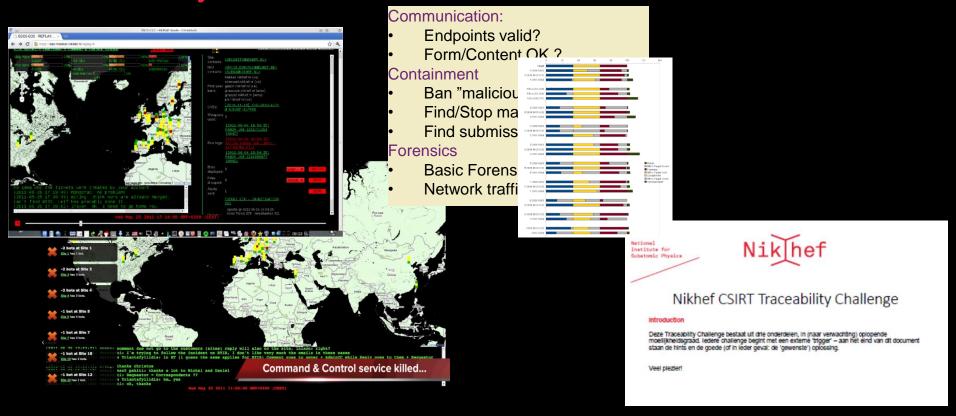
^	ge-3/0/22	ge-3/0/22	Patch H2.084 (H233)	cc:e1:71
^	ge-3/0/22.0	ge-3/0/22.0	ge-3/0/22.0	cc:e1:71
^	ge-3/0/23	ge-3/0/23	Patch H2.108 (H205)	cc:e1:71
^	ge-3/0/23.0	ge-3/0/23.0	ge-3/0/23.0	cc:e1:7f:

Know your users and what you can expect as 'typical behaviour' – this means local, personal knowledge

dhcp-132-118.nikhef.nl (145.102.132.118) fe80::a21e:bff:fe03:27dd 2001:610:120:3001:a21e:bff:fe03:27dd



... the rest you test ...





BC/DR planning

BC/DR can be at several levels – and doing it really well is very, very expensive esp. the testing part, since if you do cover all aspects and you're not Tier-4 for both infra and services, it will be 'invasive and 'visible' to end-users

But BC/DR planning is important, and some things around esp. communications can be prepared well

- make sure there are alternative luke-warm web communications ready to go
- make sure these are actually fully independent: no shared single upstream network, different geographical location, different power (sub)stations, distinct user/admin credentials, independent systems management ... but still keep patching it of course ©
- backup for local access: different out-of-band uplink, either over 4G or a different upstream
 ISP ... and over a different router!
- make sure that key personnel knows how to use it



Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery

e.g. in our (redundant) LHC Tier-1 global network





CHEP2018 [EPJ Web of Conferences 214, 09008 (2019) https://doi.org/10.1051/epjconf/201921409008]

But if your payroll processing data centre looks like this ...



you may need slightly more investment in BC/DR – and Northgate Plc. indeed did & managed to pay on time



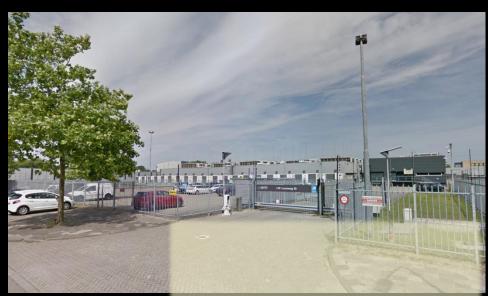
imagery: HSE, https://www.hse.gov.uk/comah/buncefield/

Evoswitch (IronMountain) mini-BC/DR location Nikhef

- communications infra
- recovery information
- stand-by for global services, like
 e-Infra authn websites, trust anchors
- ability to host red-team services (duringexercises ©)

At least you get

- independent geography (not same watersystem, even if HHNK), separate power plant and substations, different fibre routes, independent AS and IP space, separate security and guard systems
- and still full access for designated staff



WLCG SOC WG

A SOC concept targeted at data intensive research

combine those elements of monitoring and capabilities that match the usage pattern, and scale to desired flows (COTS/commercial SOCs will be all of our traffic as a DoS ©)

Leverage our community — our unique feature: MISP sharing of loCs, trusted sources, contribute back

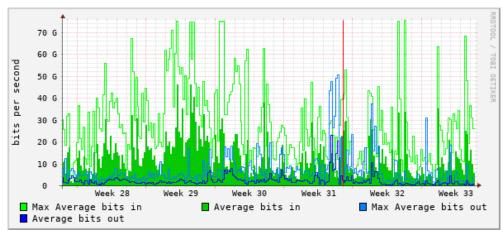
Zeek (f/k/a Bro) mirrored-monitoring of known IoCs 'all we do must be stateless'



On COTS 'commercial' IDS firewalls and SOC offerings

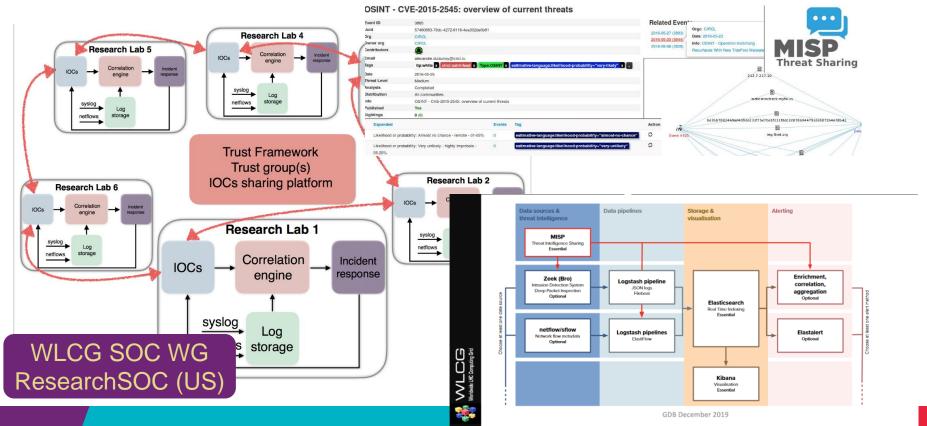
Commercial providers take care of some of the intel gathering for you but they do that for their 'average' customer, and will not see community, or research, specific threats or patterns

- false positives likely:
 much of our standard research traffic
 to 'the enterprise world' looks like an
 attack: DoS, DDoS, unusual traffic,
 connections from all over the world
- As such, they are of limited value for a research IT infrastructure (but may be perfectly good match for student dorms and within specific 'enterprise enclaves')



typical research network flow - Nikhef-SURFsara IC July-August 2020

Sharing threat intel – working with our community



The marketing spiel: 'we block 3000 attacks per hour!'

