



# A New Strategy to Combat Ransomware

Paul Tsang | Senior Regional Solution Architect, CISSP

paul.tsang@sangfor.com

SANGFOR Technologies Inc.

# Agenda

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Threat Landscape



The Stages of  
Ransomware Attack



Tactics to Combat  
Ransomware



Takeaways



# PART 1 Threat Landscape



# Colonial Pipeline Ransomware Attack

- On 2021 May 7<sup>th</sup>, Colonial Pipeline, the largest pipeline system was hit by DarkSide Ransomware.
  - 4.4M USD had been paid to DarkSide group.
  - Fuel rose by \$3 per gallon
  - Compromised VPN accounts

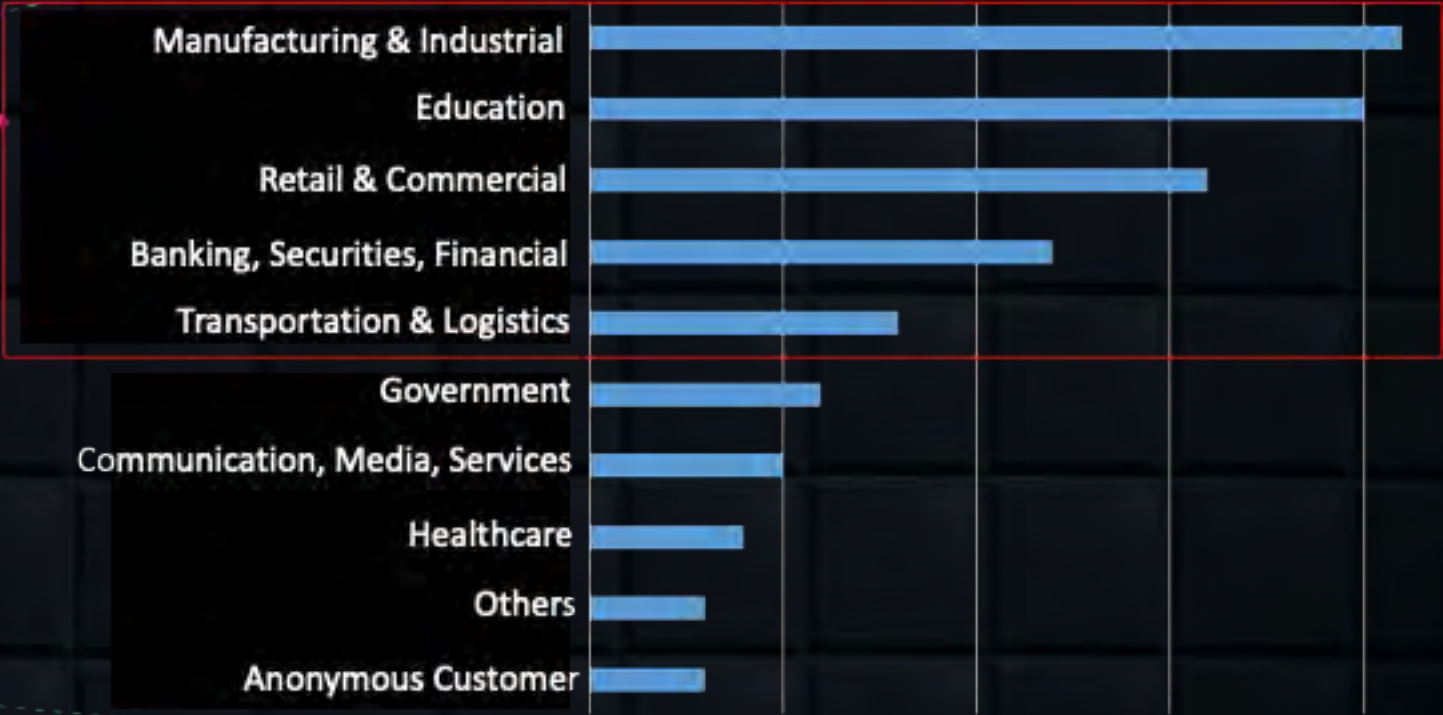
# Ransomware Threat Map

Based on our vast experience from 24 months of Incident Response offerings in APAC, below are the key summary data we have observed.



# Ransomware Threat Map

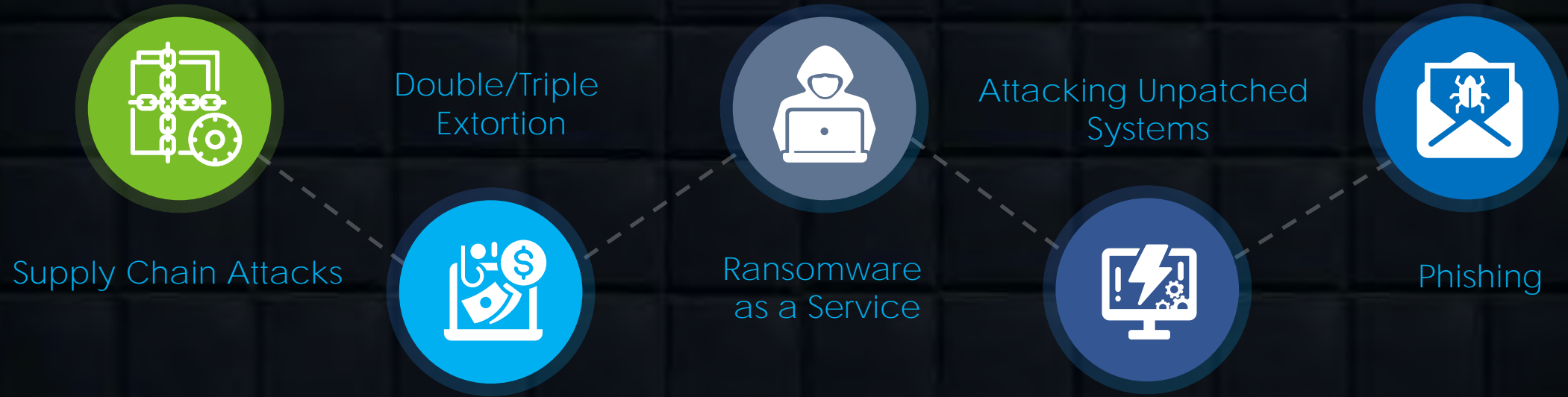
Top Industries on Ransomware Threat Landscape in APAC Region



The ransomware attack is no longer a question of “if”; but “when” !

\* Based on Sangfor Internal IR Statistics as of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

# Ransomware Trends of 2021



# What Do You Think About Ransomware



- Ransomware is a malware/virus.
- Ransomware encrypts data, which cannot be recovered.
- Business systems will down if data encrypted
- Mostly, Windows Systems are impacted.



- I have FW, anti-virus, anti-spam
- I have Backups
- I'm safe.



## The Fact

- No single product can provide a 100% detection rate. *And even 0.1% miss may cause a lot impact.*
- *75%* of businesses infected with ransomware were running up-to-date endpoint protection.

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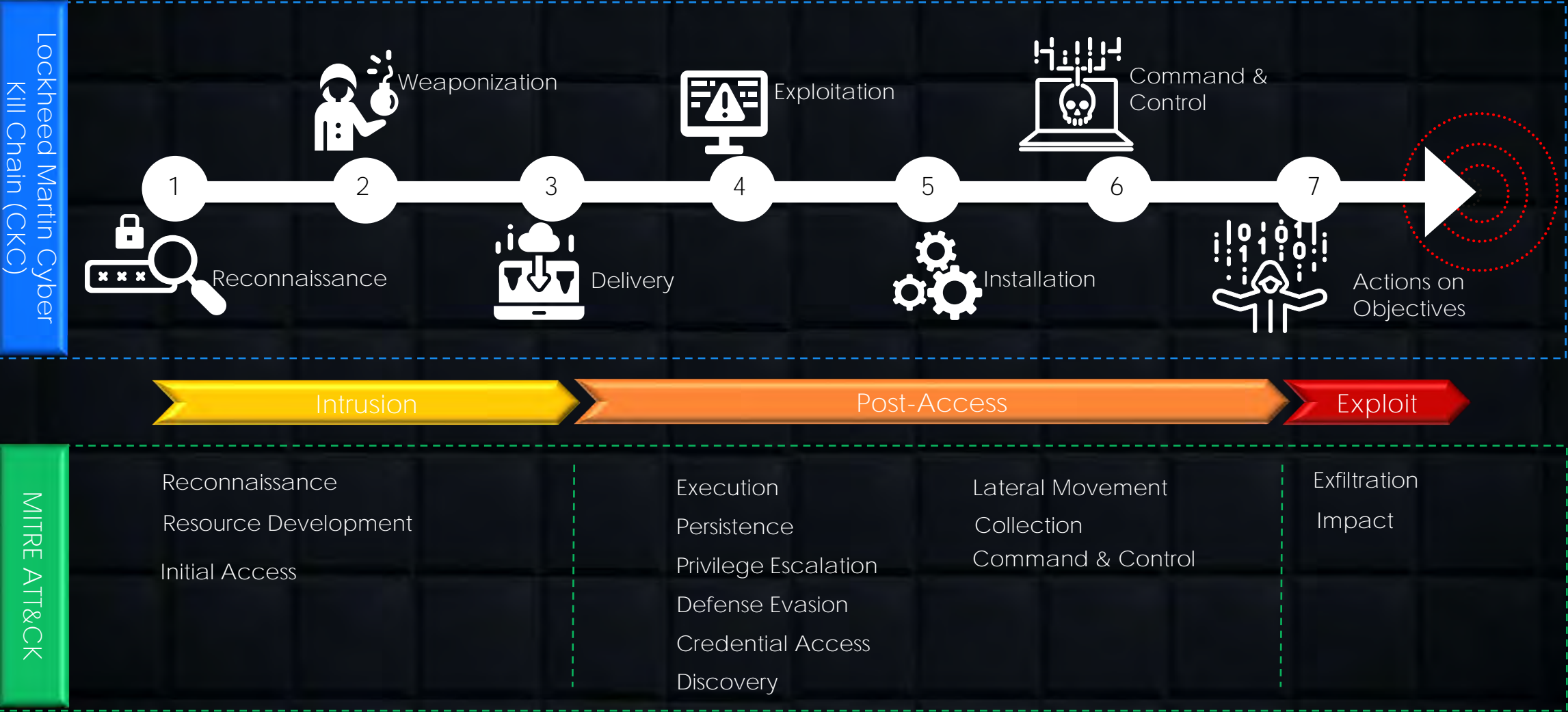
## PART 2

# The Stages of Ransomware Attack

# Overview of a Ransomware Lifecycle



# Stages of Ransomware Attack



# Stage 1: Intrusion

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Objective: to get a foothold in the network



Reconnaissance



Resource  
Development

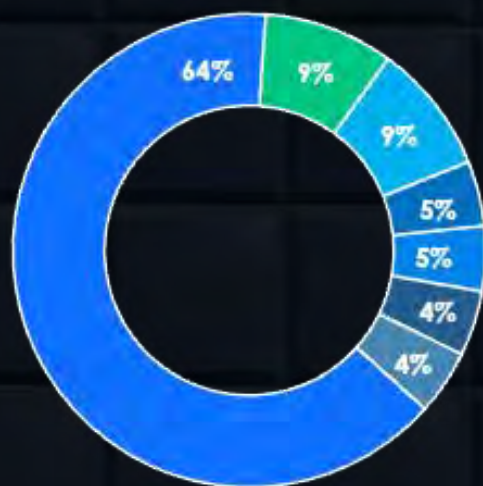


Initial Access

# Stage 1: Intrusion – Brute force Attack

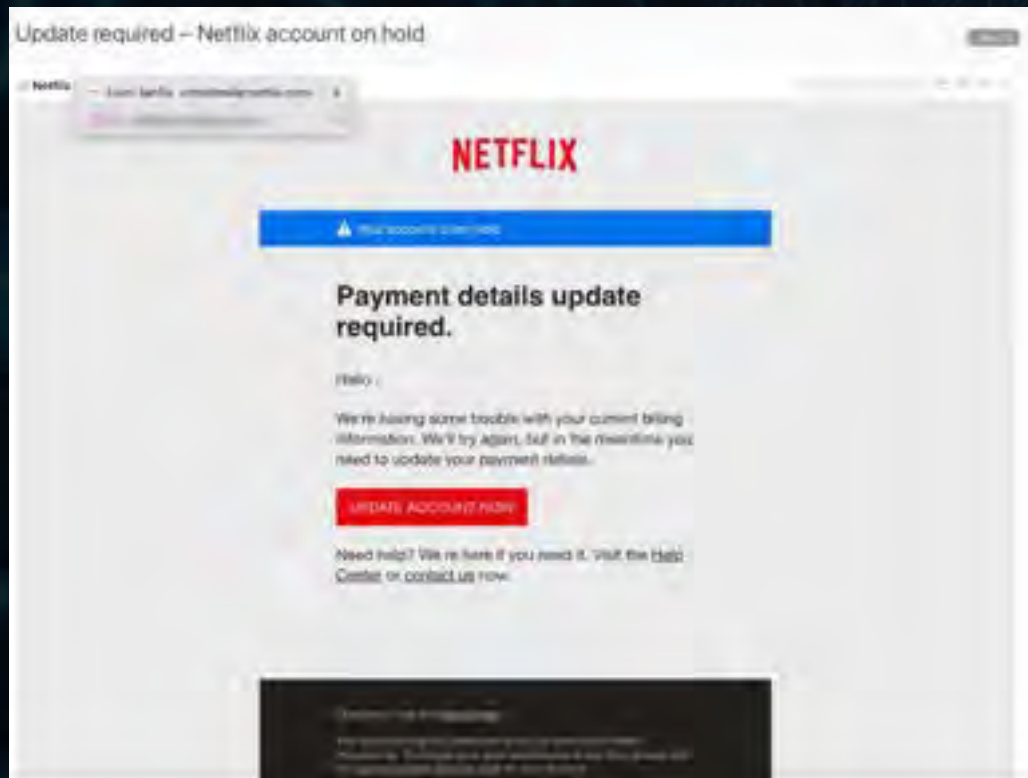
SSL VPN, RDP, SMB, IoT and **more...**

## Compromise Root Causes



- 64% | Bruteforce (e.g. VPN, RDP, SMB)
- 9% | Phishing / Spam
- 9% | Web or application server vulnerabilities
- 5% | SSL VPN
- 5% | No result (Customer self-formatted etc)
- 4% | From Endpoint (USB, user negligence etc)
- 4% | FW configuration change

# Stage 1: Intrusion – Social Engineering



Phishing (Spoofing)



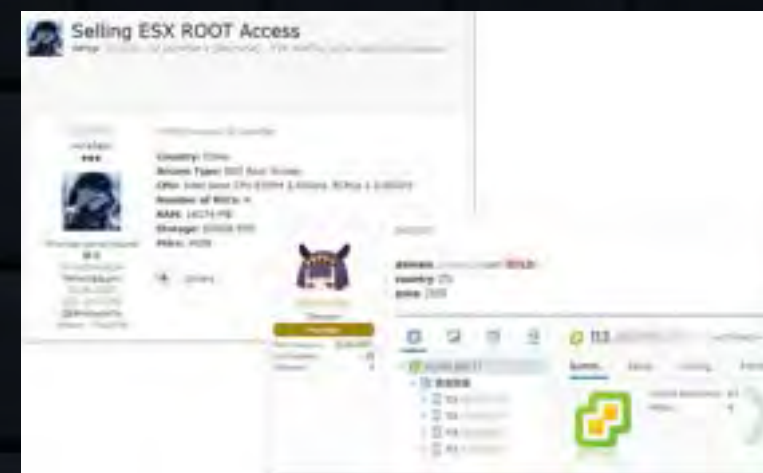
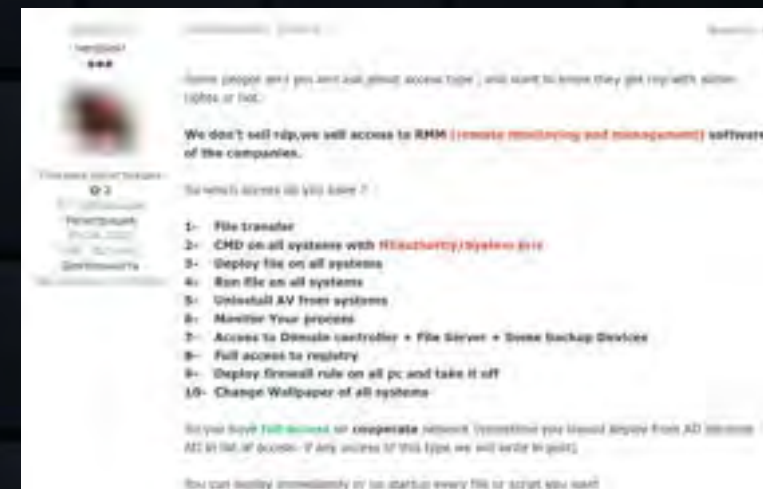
Spear Phishing (Targeted phishing attack)

# Stage 1: Intrusion – Vulnerabilities Attack

Internet  
Application

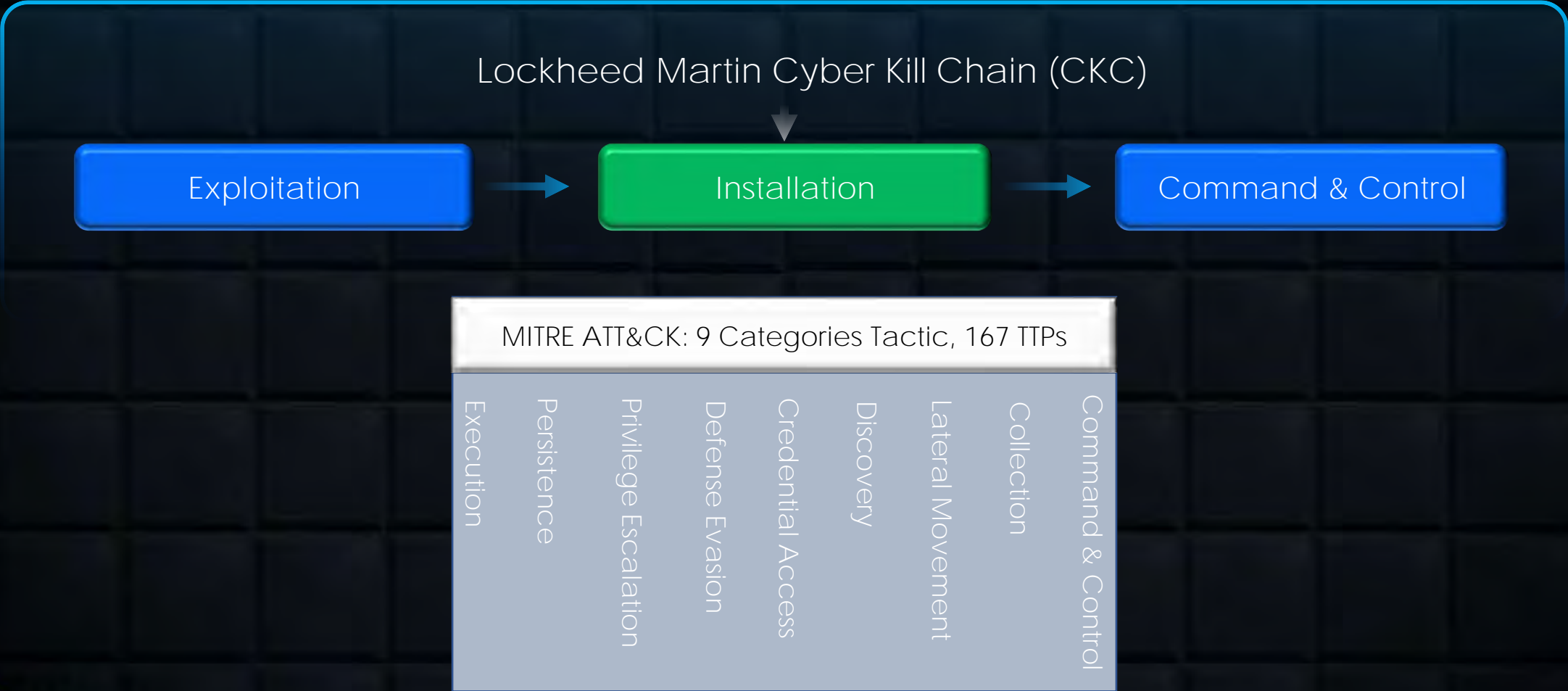


# Stage 1: Intrusion – Initial Access Brokers (IAB)



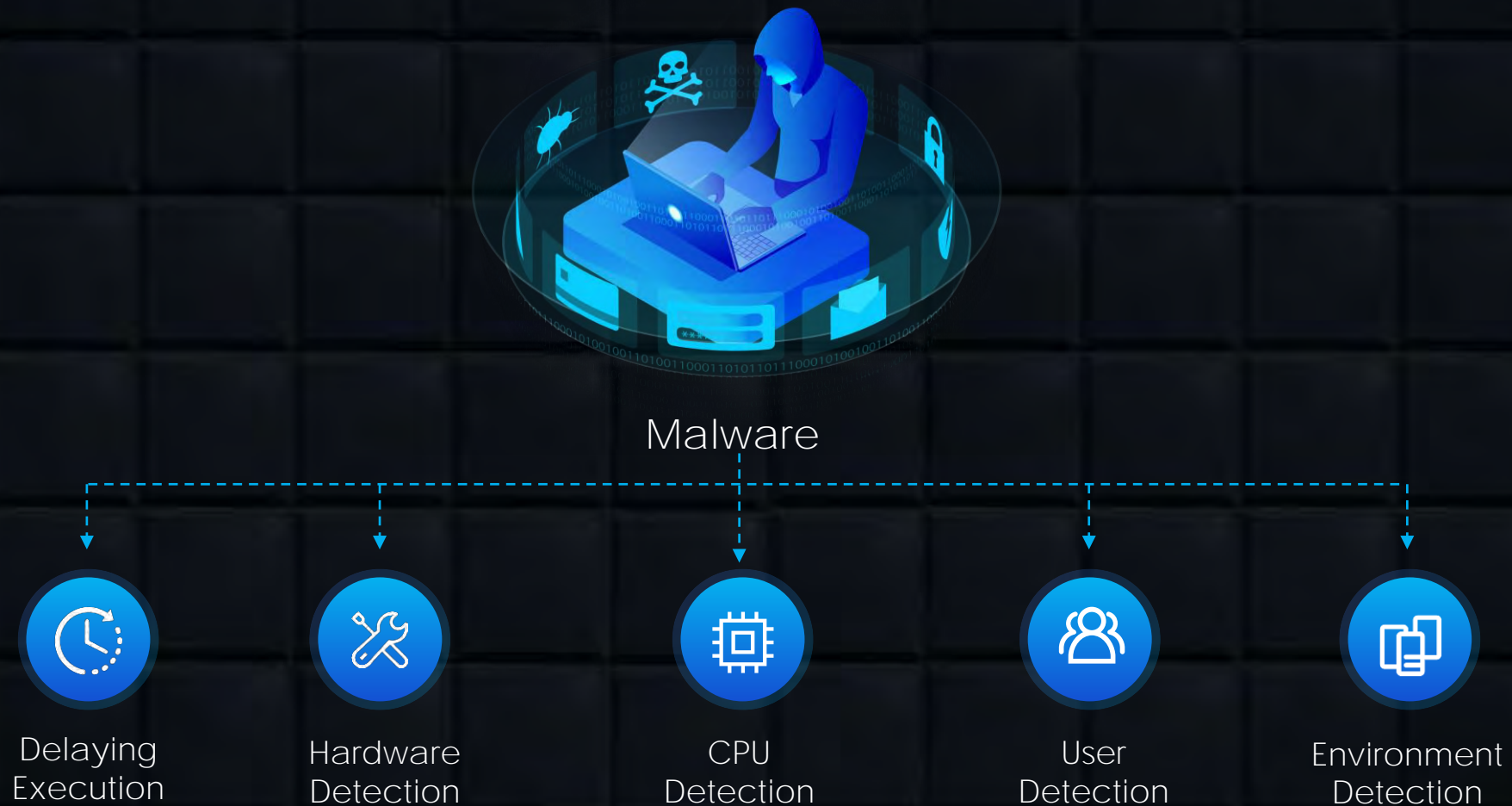
# Stage 2: Post Access

Ransomware is not only encrypting your data, but it is stealing your data too!!!



# Stage 2: Post Access - Evasion

- Malware Sandbox Evasion Techniques



# Stage 2: Post Access - DGA

- DGA Algorithm Techniques

## DGA Characteristics:

1. Resolve to the same IP
2. >90% can't be resolved
3. Human unreadable
4. Single use

Typical DGA: randomly generated, and uncreadable to humans

rhpmnt.ws ciscqq.ws  
qckjqql.ws wotybgr.ws  
qqjyfit.ws dhlfqaegj.ws  
mcoenfeoy.ws lhtryk.ws

Variant 1: Joining words and random letters

speeh4ab5893940.me  
speeh062e9c0b96.cloud  
speeh062e9c0b96.vip  
speehe34a33001b.cloud

Variant 2: Joining words

fallcity.ru strengthbright.net  
fiftytold.net verygrow.net  
favorleft.ru callwear.net  
wellthirteen.net picturestream.ru

# Stage 3: Exploit

- Exfiltration and Impact

## Data Exfiltration



## Data Encryption



## DDoS Threat



# We Must Change Our Security Mindset

NIST Cybersecurity Framework



Assume attackers already inside

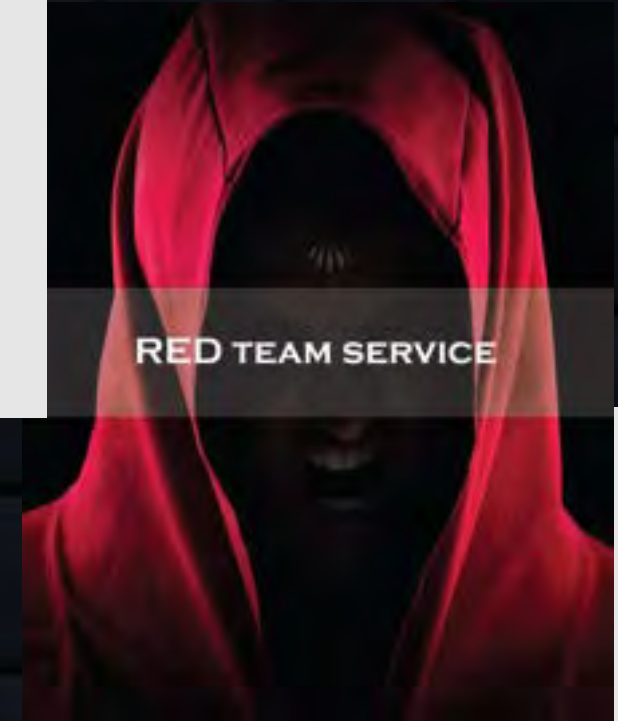


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## PART 3

# Tactics to Combat Ransomware

# #1 | Risk Assessment



Know when you've lost your key

## #2 | Prevent Social Engineering Attack

- Email Security Gateway
- Security Awareness Guideline
- Security Ongoing Awareness Training

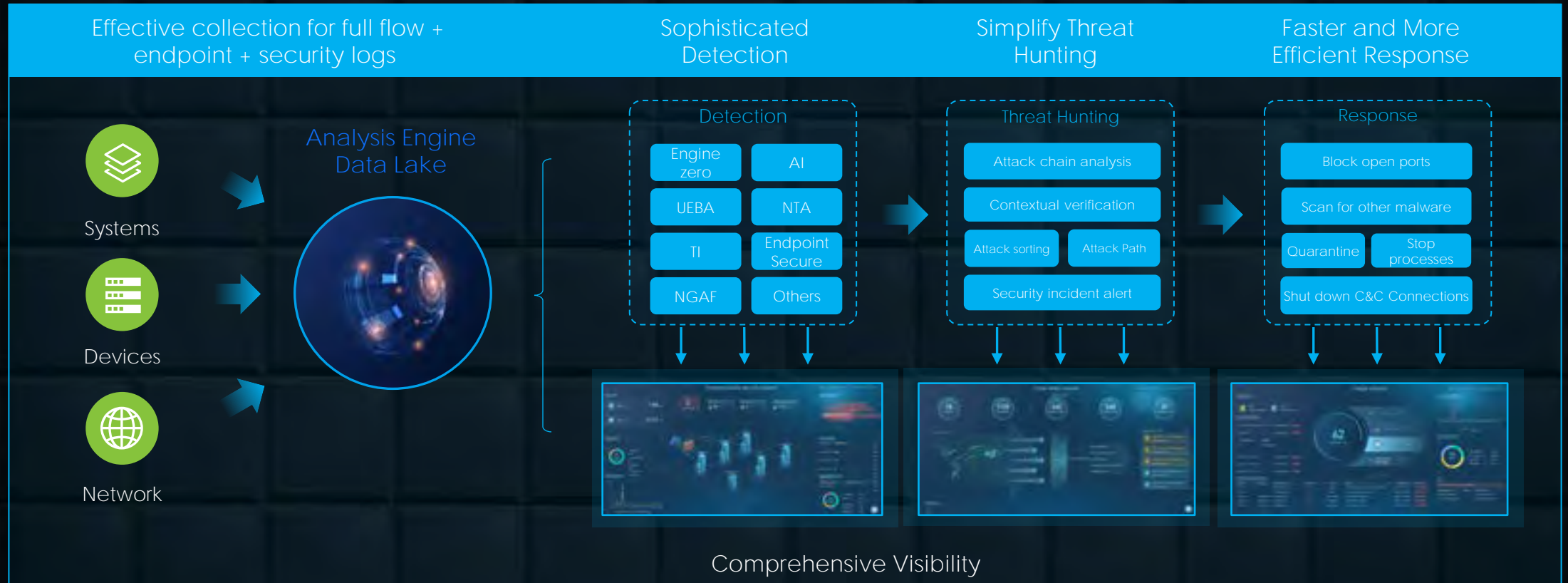
		Phase One Initial Baseline Phishing Security Test Results			Phase Two Phishing Security Test Results Within 90 Days of Training			Phase Three Phishing Security Test Results After One Year-Plus of Ongoing Training		
		BASELINE			90 DAYS			1 YEAR		
Organization Size		1-249	250-999	1000+	1-249	250-999	1000+	1-249	250-999	1000+
REGION	North America	28.7%	30.2%	35.8%	17.4%	17.9%	17.4%	3.5%	4.6%	6%
		TOTAL: 32.4%			TOTAL: 17.5%			TOTAL: 4.7%		
	Africa	30.2%	27.4%	32.4%	24.8%	21%	17.9%	8.1%	12.7%	4%
		TOTAL: 31.4%			TOTAL: 18.8%			TOTAL: 5.4%		
	APAC (Asia, Oceania & Australia)	30.2%	32.6%	36.7%	21.1%	19.2%	15%	4.4%	6.2%	5.2%
		TOTAL: 34.5%			TOTAL: 16.9%			TOTAL: 5.4%		
	Europe	27.8%	28.2%	31.1%	17.9%	18.2%	18.9%	4.2%	6.7%	8%
		TOTAL: 29.9%			TOTAL: 18.5%			TOTAL: 6.3%		
	South America	30.9%	30%	45.6%	24.7%	22.2%	19.3%	1.8%	9.8%	0.8%
		TOTAL: 39.9%			TOTAL: 30.5%			TOTAL: 7.2%		
	United Kingdom & Ireland	26.2%	27.7%	32.7%	16.7%	16.2%	17.5%	3.9%	4.3%	8.3%
		TOTAL: 30%			TOTAL: 17%			TOTAL: 5.5%		

### #3 | 3-2-1 Backup Rule

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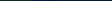
# #4 | AI-based Continuous Threat Detection and Response



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## Purpose-built AI Detection Engines

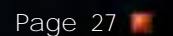
Scenarios	Data	Main Characteristic	Algorithm	Types	Sangfor Products
DNS hidden tunnel	DNS log	The entropy of valid information in a domain name、 access behavior	Random forests	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
DGA domain name	DNS log	The entropy of valid information in a domain name、 access behavior	NLP、 graph analysis	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
New malicious domain name	DNS log	The entropy of valid information in a domain name、 access behavior	NLP、 Anomalies detection	supervised + unsupervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
Botnet family variant tracking	DNS log	Host-domain name - resolve IP graph structure information	graph analysis	semi-supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
HTTPS C&C	HTTPS log	TLS Handshake/certificate /background flow characteristics	Random forests	supervised + unsupervised	Cyber Command, NGAF
Encrypt RDP and SSH slow brute force	RDP log、 SSH log	Access frequency, login status characteristics	Random forests	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
Website defacement	web access log	Syntactic features of web content	NLP	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF
Engine-Zero files anti-virus	files	Static file characteristics	XGBOOST	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF, Endpoint Secure
webshell	HTTP log	URL grammar characteristics, traffic behavior characteristics	NLP	supervised	Cyber Command, NGAF
Abnormal outbound behavior	session	traffic behavior characteristics	Anomalies detection	unsupervised	Cyber Command
Abnormal login behavior	login log	Login behavior characteristics	Anomalies detection	unsupervised	Cyber Command
Attack path recovery	multiple log	multiple logs correlation characteristics	Knowledge mapping	unsupervised	Cyber Command



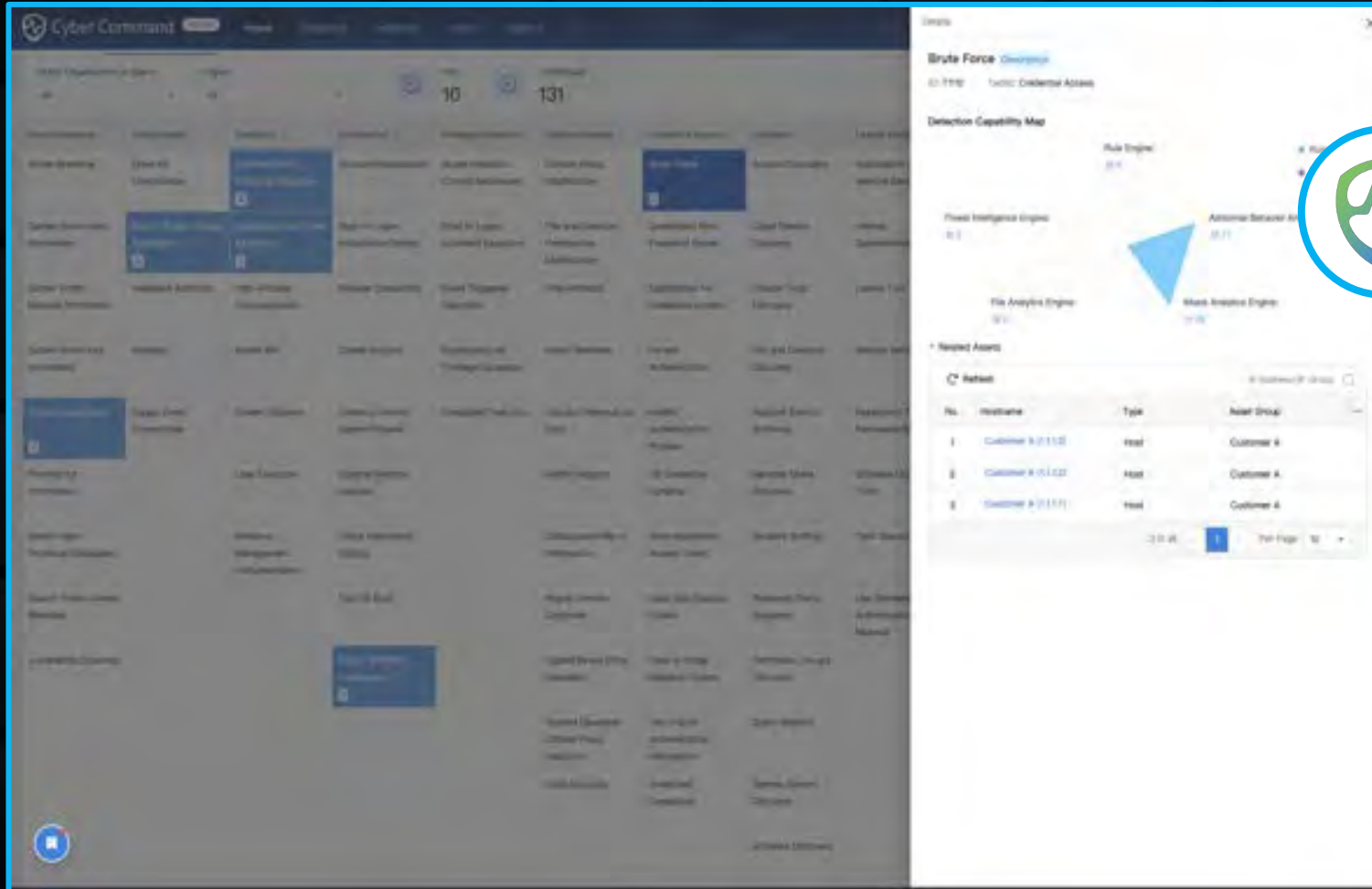
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- 100% coverage for network techniques
- APT organizations intrusion methods insight
- Security awareness for your own environment



## #4 | MITRE ATT&CK Capabilities

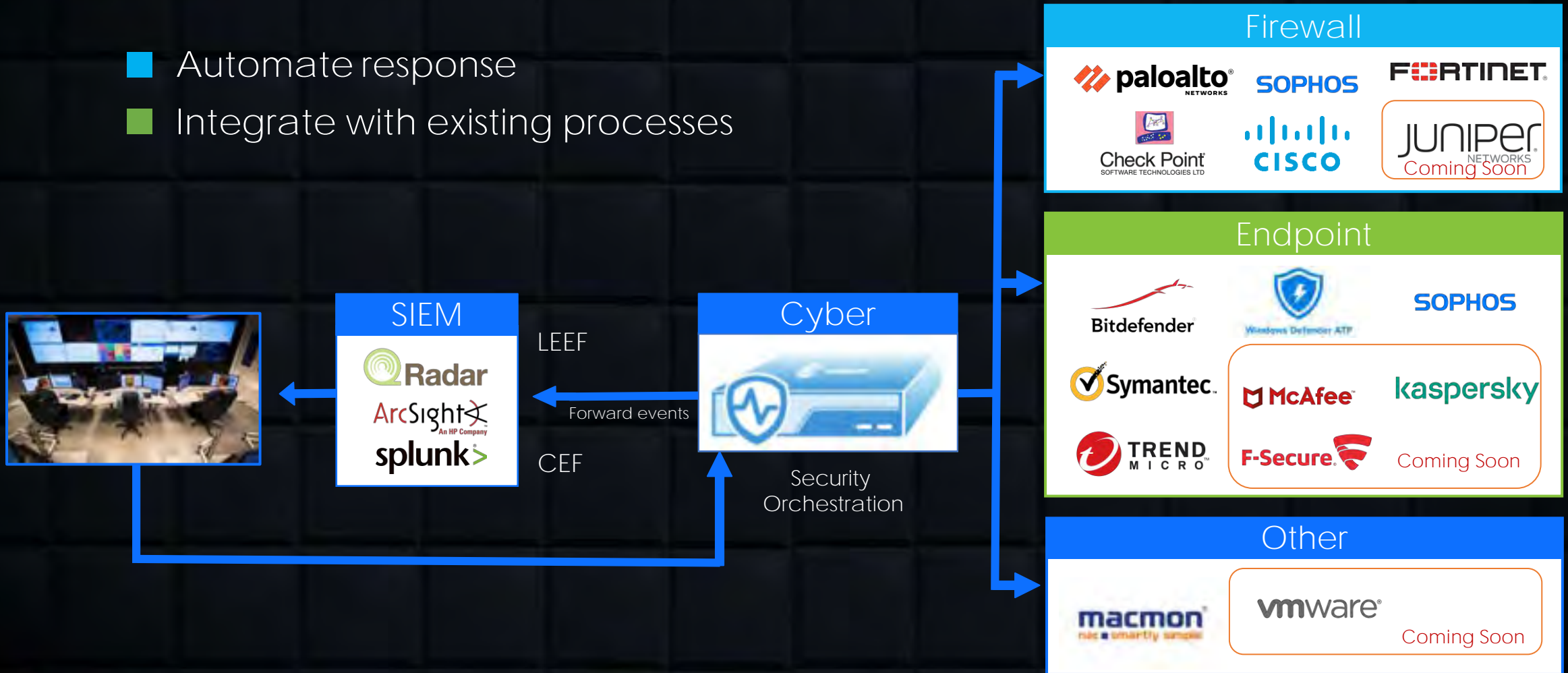


**Comprehensive insight for the specific technique**

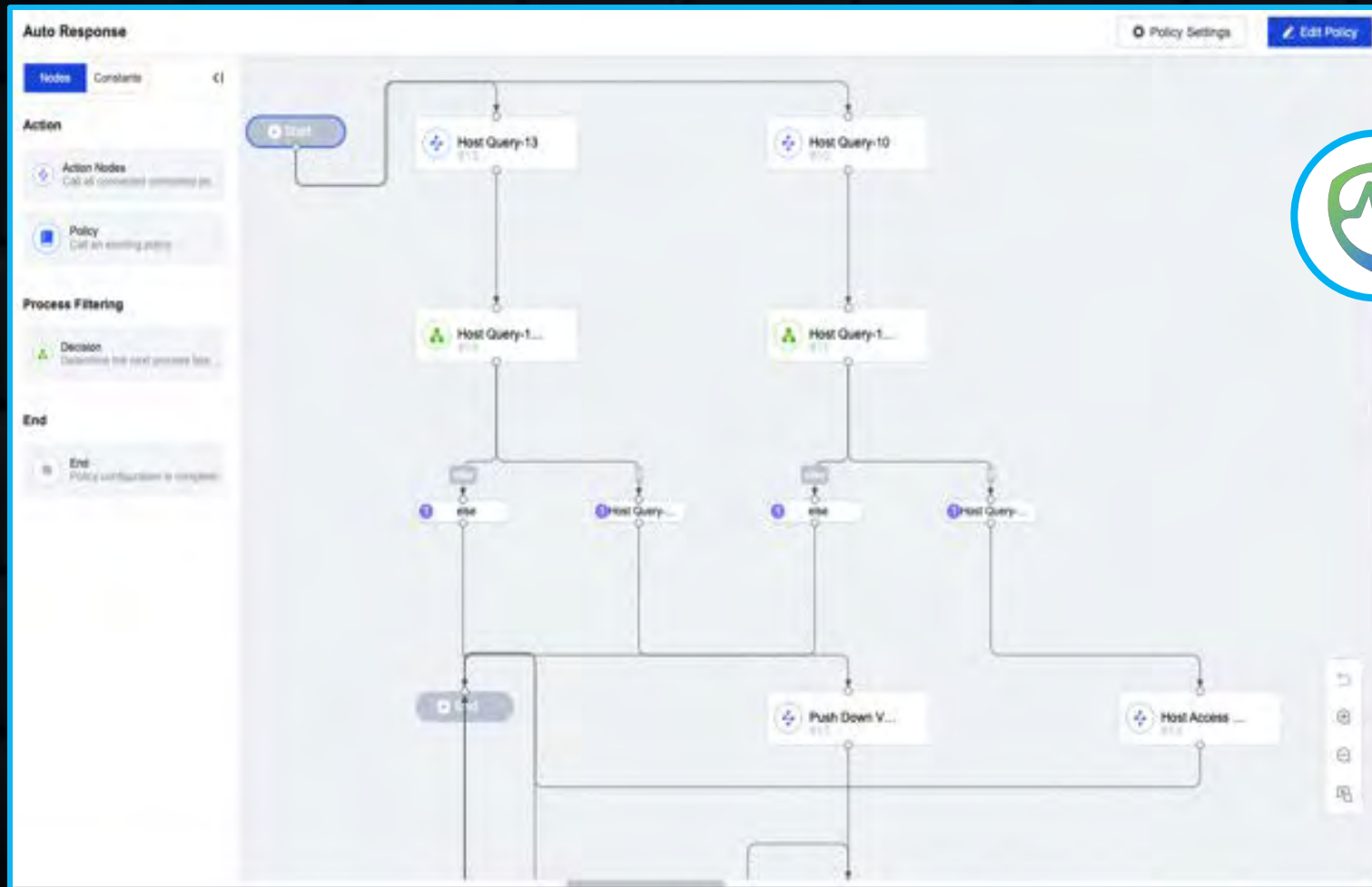
- 5 detection engines mapping for each technique
- Correlate risk assets for the specific technique
- Support drill down to further investigate

# #4 | Integrated SOAR with Existing Security Ecosystem

- Automate response
- Integrate with existing processes



## #4 | WYDIWYG SOAR Module



Cyber Command SOAR  
is a workflow  
Automation engine

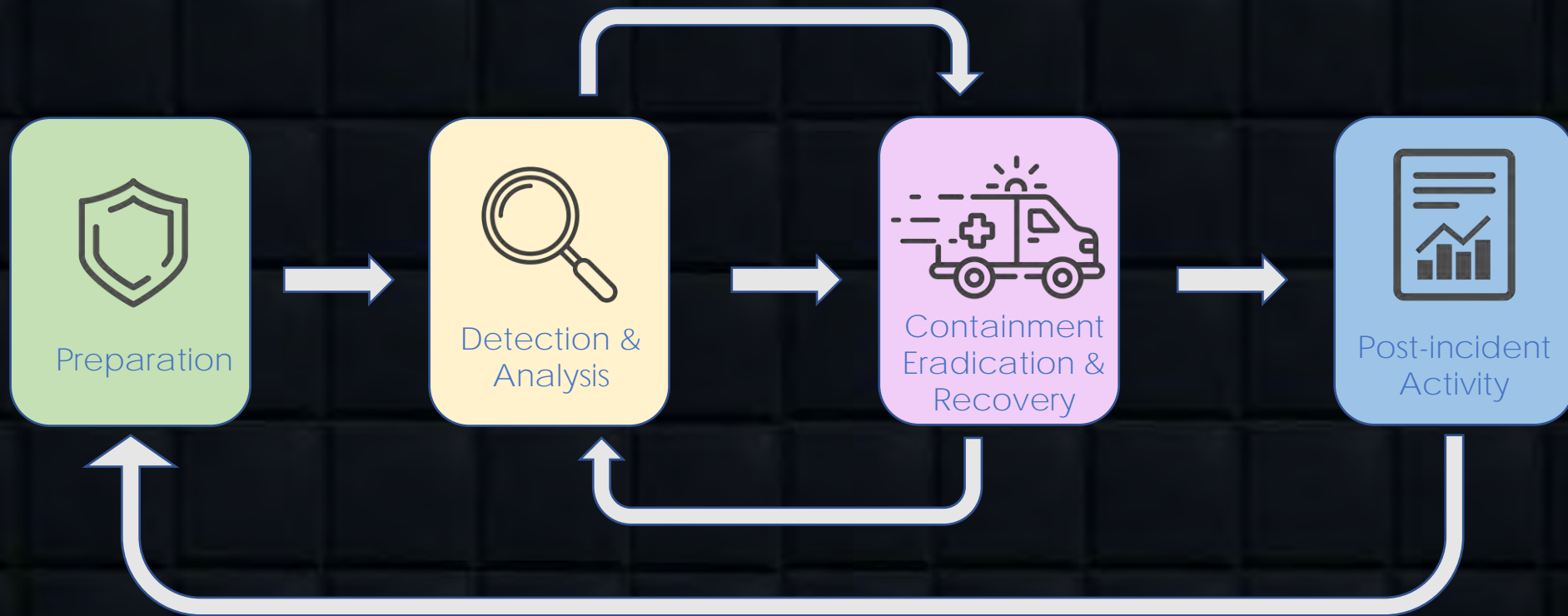
- Flexible integrate with 3rd party security devices
- Built-in playbook template to support common scenarios
- Intuitive, visual playbook editor

**“Nothing is 100 % Secured”**

**What if I'm still being attacked  
by Ransomware?**



# Incident Response



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## PART 4 Takeaways

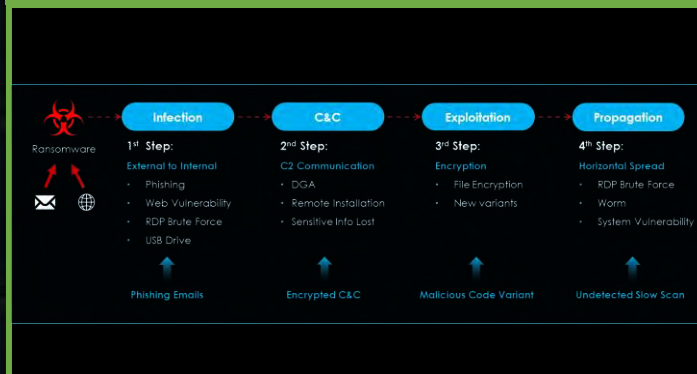
# Takeaways

## We Must Change our Security Mindset



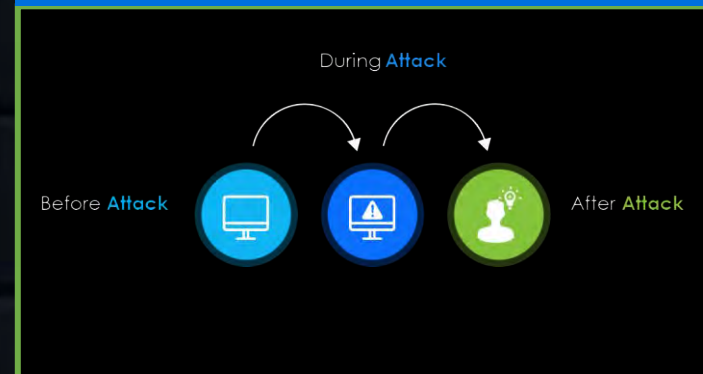
- Assume attackers are already inside
- Start threat hunting looking for signs of breach
- Assessment, Assessment, Assessment!!!

## Continuous Threat Detection



- Use purpose-built AI to combat AI
- Block every step in the kill chain and leverage NDR solution

## Leverage IR and post attack assessment services



- IR services contain ransomware impact
- Threat hunting services find root-cause and provide customized remediation solutions



# THANK YOU!

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paul.tsang@sangfor.com  
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