



**CISO SINGAPORE 2022**

# Supply Chain – A New Attack Vector

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*SUSS*

22 Sep 2022

v.1.2

# Supply Chain – A New Attack Vector

(Not-so)

## PROLOG

- Supply chain networks are increasingly driven by technology and digital transformation.
- While it makes them faster and more efficient, it also gives rise to new cybersecurity concerns.
- A recent European Union Agency for Cybersecurity study finds attackers have shifted their attention to suppliers, related third parties and ecosystem organisations.
- The latter are usually smaller companies that don't always follow the cybersecurity and compliance requirements of the main organisation.
- Impacts of these attacks include service downtime; manufacturing disruption; supply and logistics challenges; monetary loss; and reputational damage.
- This session will look at mitigation and risk management steps organisations need to take to minimise or protect against supply chain cyberthreats.

### Note –

This is a treatment of “old-school” supply chain & ecosystem cyber attack, not so much about the “Solarwinds” or Log4j software attack type, although we will talk abt about this.

## Toyota shuts down production after ‘cyber-attack’ on supplier

John Leyden 01 March 2022 at 16:02 UTC  
Updated: 02 March 2022 at 09:12 UTC

Cyber-attacks Network Security Japan



JITier in the supply chain



## PROLOG

# Supply Chain Cyber Attacks –Considerations

(“old school”)

- Association of supply chain attacks with OT (operational technology), CII (critical information infrastructure) and IOT (Internet of Things, including IIOT Industrial Internet of Things)
  - fallouts of supply chain attacks include
    - ✓ disruption to key public services
      - water & energy supply, telecoms, healthcare, essential services, defense, transport & logistics
    - ✓ loss, leakage or abuse of data
      - whether personal data, confidential corporate data or intellectual property
  - not just disruption to commercial, retail or industrial services
  - smart nation program increasingly dependent on increasing number of ecosystem partners
- \* Psychological warfare – disruption of morale – of staff, customers, citizenry.**

*At least 5 other speakers at this event speak about or mention Supply Chain issues, which suggests the importance of this matter today.*

3





# Singapore orders recall of two Haagen-Dazs ice cream products due to presence of pesticide



Yasmin Begum  
8 July 2022 Friday



## Russian nation-state hackers targeting US contractors for sensitive defense information, FBI warns

Jessica Haworth 17 February 2022 at 13:48 UTC

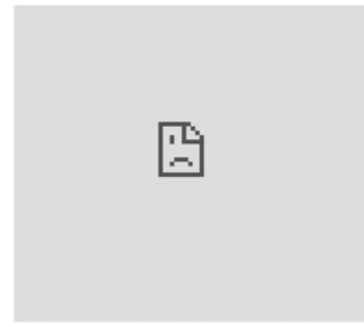
Hacking News Government Cyber Warfare

Cybersecurity and military secrets among documents accessed



# Latest Report Uncovers Supply Chain Attacks by North Korean Hackers

October 27, 2021 Ravie Lakshmanan



## Japanese beauty retailer Acro blames third-party hack for breach of 100k payment cards

Adam Bannister 04 March 2022 at 15:57 UTC  
Updated: 04 March 2022 at 16:21 UTC

Japan E-Commerce Data Breach



Company traces compromise to vulnerability in payment processor's systems



Lazarus Group, the advanced persistent threat group has been observed waging two separate attacks into corporate networks and targeting a

## Critical Axeda vulnerabilities pose takeover risk to hundreds of IoT devices

Adam Bannister 09 March 2022 at 15:35 UTC  
Updated: 10 March 2022 at 10:53 UTC

Vulnerabilities Healthcare IoT

Serious supply chain threat posed to downstream



## Gaming firm Razer sues IT vendor for nearly S\$10 million in losses over leak of customers' data



Singapore 13 July 2022 Wednesday



# Supply Chain Ecosystem - Example

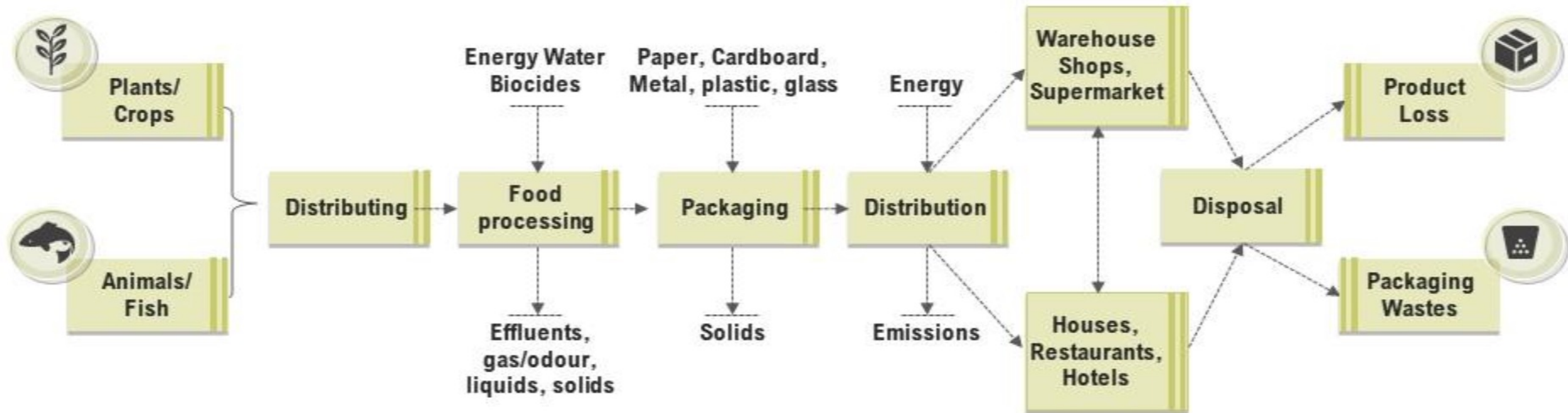
Not exhaustive



To the customer, the dealer is a one-stop shop – you pay, sign some Papers, drive home the car. Behind unseen is a whole plethora of Entities working in tandem to make all this happen and more.

## Another Example

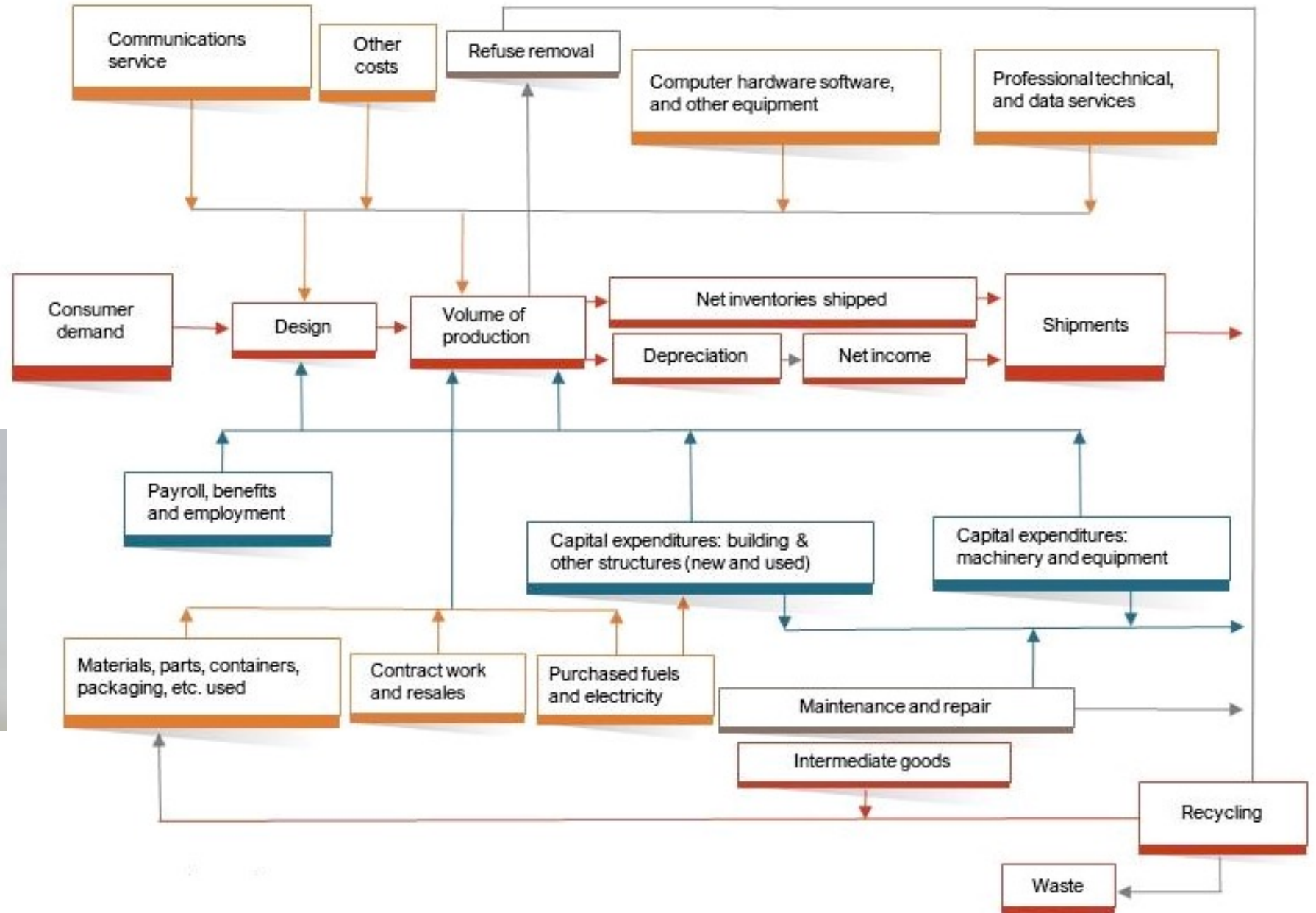
# Food Industry Supply Chain Flow





It can get  
more  
complicated

# Manufacturing Supply Chain Flow Chart



Have we  
ever tried  
to map it  
all?

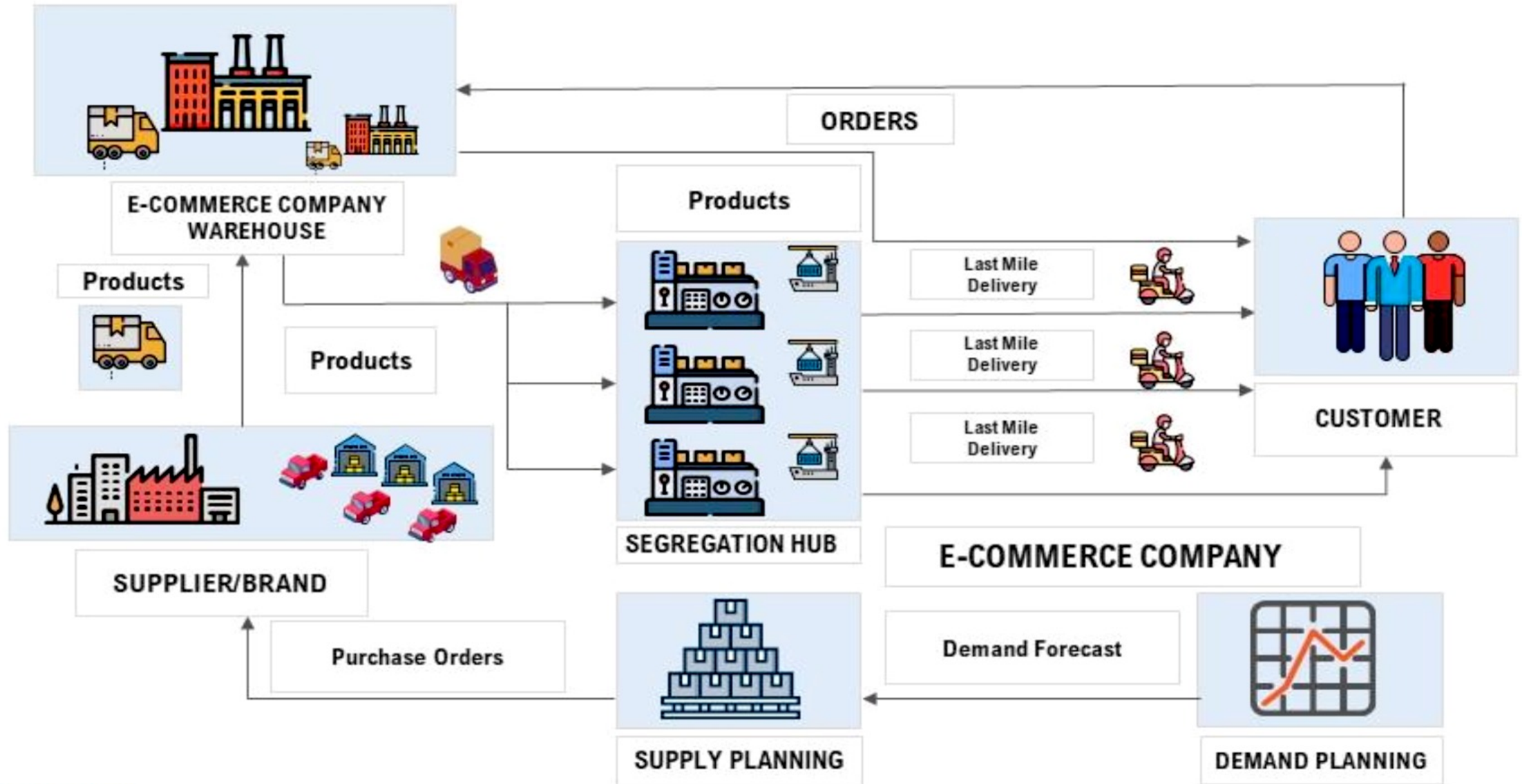
And keep  
It updated?

Do we know  
Which staff  
Owns which  
Supplier partner  
Relationship and  
Who is contact  
Person there?



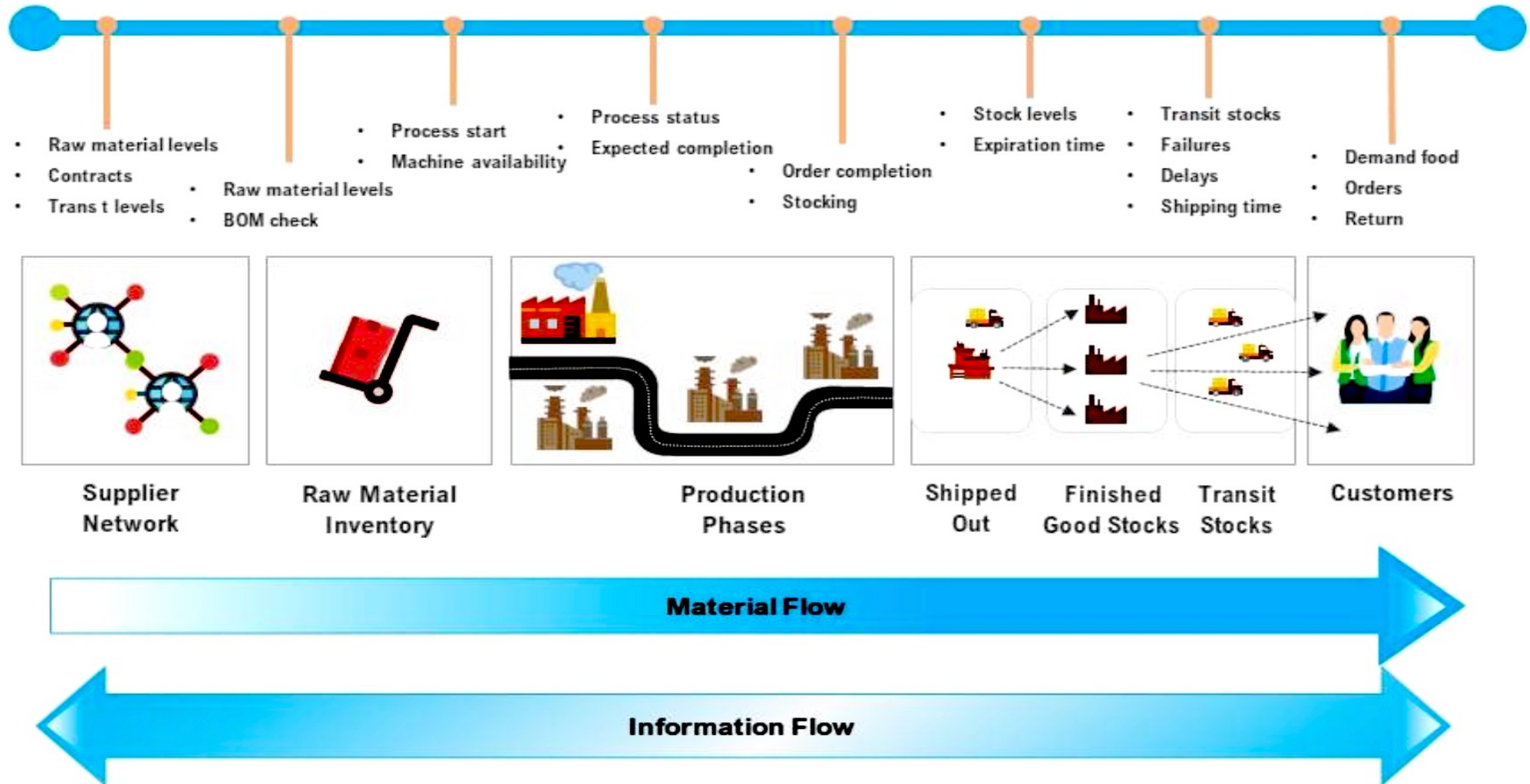


# E-Commerce Supply Chain Flow



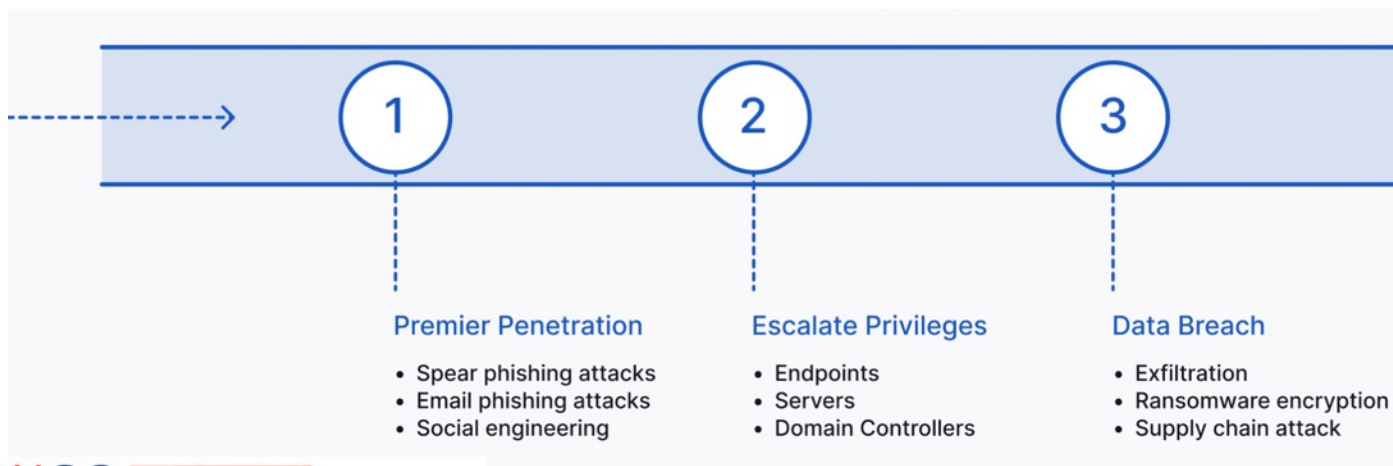
# Emerging Today

## IOT Manufacturing Supply Chain Flow

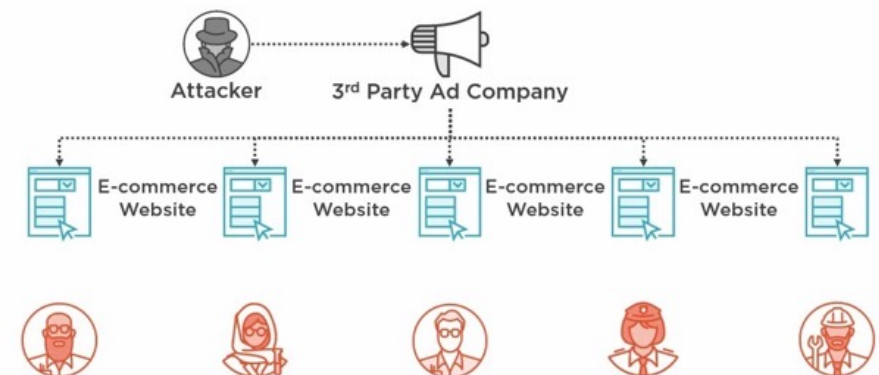


# What is a Supply Chain Attack?

- A supply chain attack is a type of cyberattack where an **organization is breached through vulnerabilities in its supply chain**. These vulnerabilities are usually linked to vendors with poor security postures.
- Vendors require access to private data to integrate with their users, so if a vendor is breached, its users could also be compromised from this shared **network or data pool**.
- Because vendors have a vast user network, a single comprised vendor often results in multiple businesses suffering a data breach. This is what makes supply chain attacks so efficient - instead of laboriously breaching each target individually, **multiple targets can be comprised from just a single vendor**.



## Supply Chain Attack Example





# Some types of supply chain cyber attacks

- **Upstream server attacks**

most common; a malicious actor infects a system that is “upstream” of users, such as through a malicious update, which then infects all the users “downstream” who download it. ( [SolarWinds case](#)).

- **Midstream attacks** - target intermediary elements such as software development tools.

- **Dependency confusion attacks**

exploit private internally created software dependencies by registering a dependency with the same name but with a higher version number on a public repository. The false dependency is then likely to be pulled into the software build instead of the correct dependency.

- **Stolen SSL and code-signing certificate attacks**

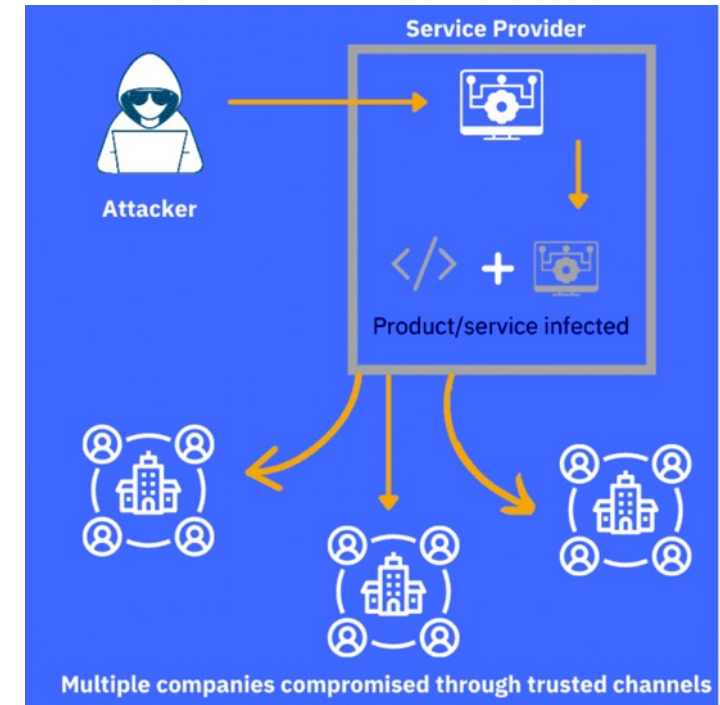
compromise the private keys used to authenticate users of secure websites and cloud services. (Stuxnet)

- **CI/CD infrastructure attacks**

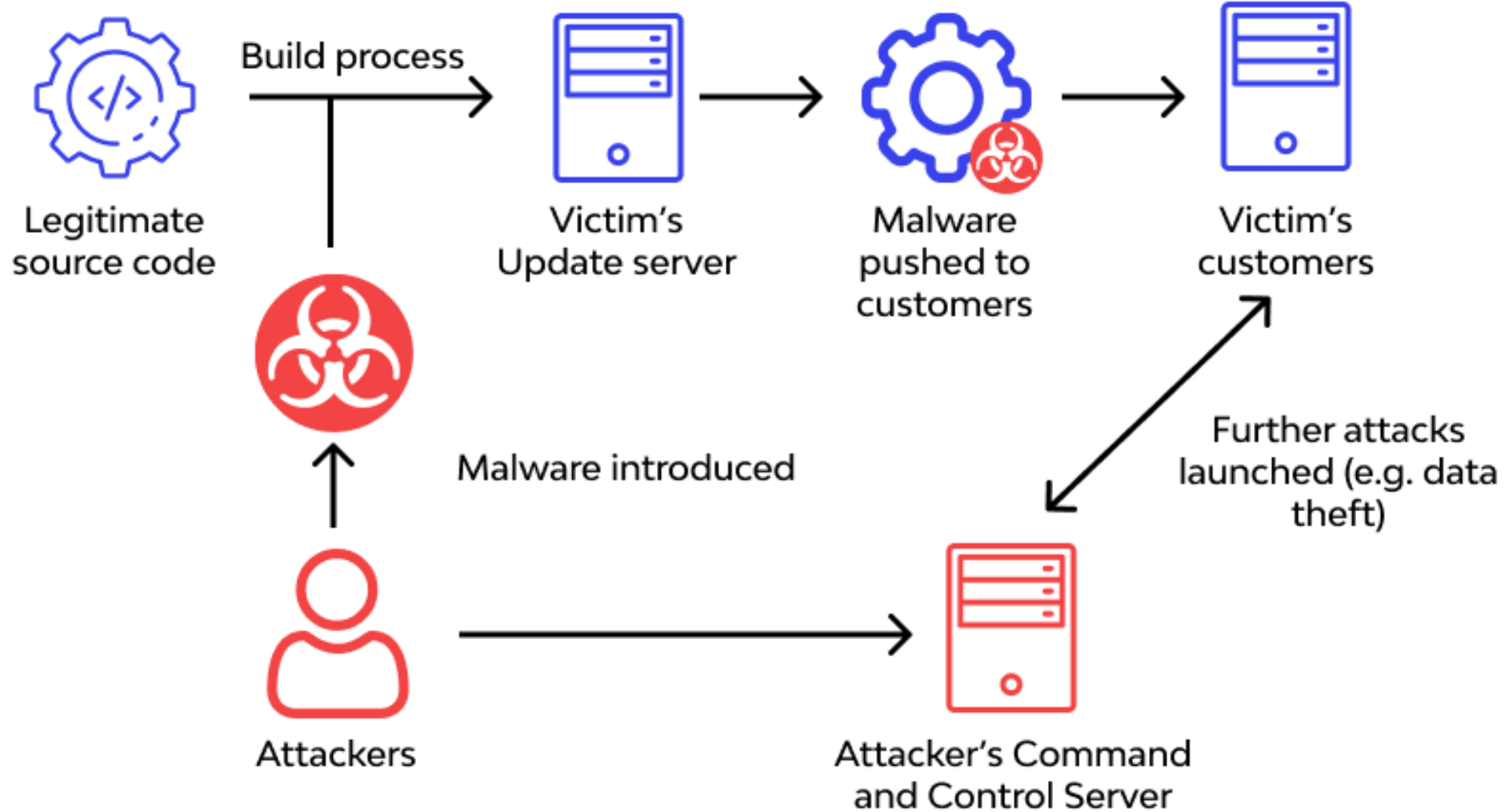
introduce malware into the development automation infrastructure, such as by cloning legitimate GitHub repositories.

- **Open source software attacks**

introduce code into builds that propagate downstream to those who use the build.



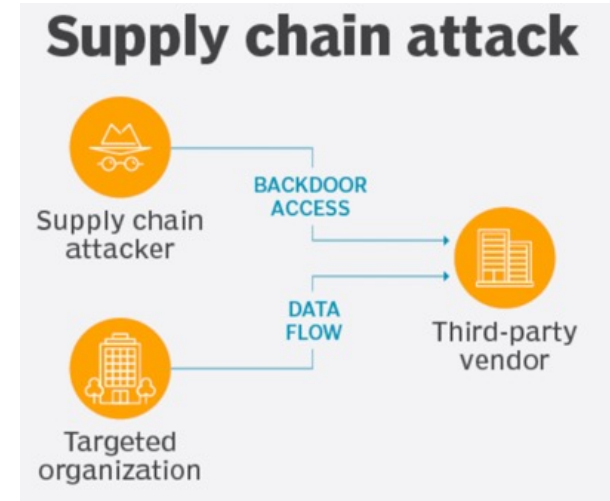
# Software Supply-Chain Cyber-Attack



# Some Supply Chain Attack Statistics

Per CrowdStrike's 2021 [Global Security Attitude Survey](#):

- **84%** believe that **software supply chain attacks could become one of the biggest cyber threats** to organizations like theirs within the next three years
- **Only 36%** have **vetted all new and existing suppliers for security purposes** in the last 12 months
- **45%** of respondents' organizations **experienced at least one software supply chain attack in the last 12 months**, compared to 32% in 2018
- **59%** of organizations that suffered their first software supply chain attack did not have a response strategy



## • Attacks on the Rise

Supply chain attacks are on the rise by **430%** because as enterprises have become better at hardening their environments, malicious attackers have turned to softer targets and have also found more creative ways to make their efforts difficult to detect and most likely to reach desirable targets.



# Per a Recent European Union Report



# Some Common Risks to Supply Chain Businesses

- **Data leaks**

- can happen through external and internal attackers. Employees, hackers, malicious competitors, and managers can all leak sensitive data and personal information outside the business, often inadvertently.

- **Security breaches**

- usually occur when a hacker or malicious user infiltrates an operating system or network without permission. The target is often to cause chaos within the system through data deletion, replication, and corruption.

- **Malware attacks**

- Viruses can infect the system, or trojans can gain access through a back door.
- Also ransomware attack (especially so for OT environments)

- **Phishing attacks**

- One single email phishing for information or that has a link that an employee clicks on can lead to data corruption and loss. If the phishing email is successful, the business could find a username and password used externally to gather information within the system. This could lead to unforeseen competition and serious leaks that can harm the entire corporation.



## General Premise

Hackers know the target, a big company, will usually have good cybersecurity so they attack through the supply-chain partners, which are seen as smaller companies with less cybersecurity.

## Key Statistics of Cyber Security in Small Businesses

### Cyber attack and breaches

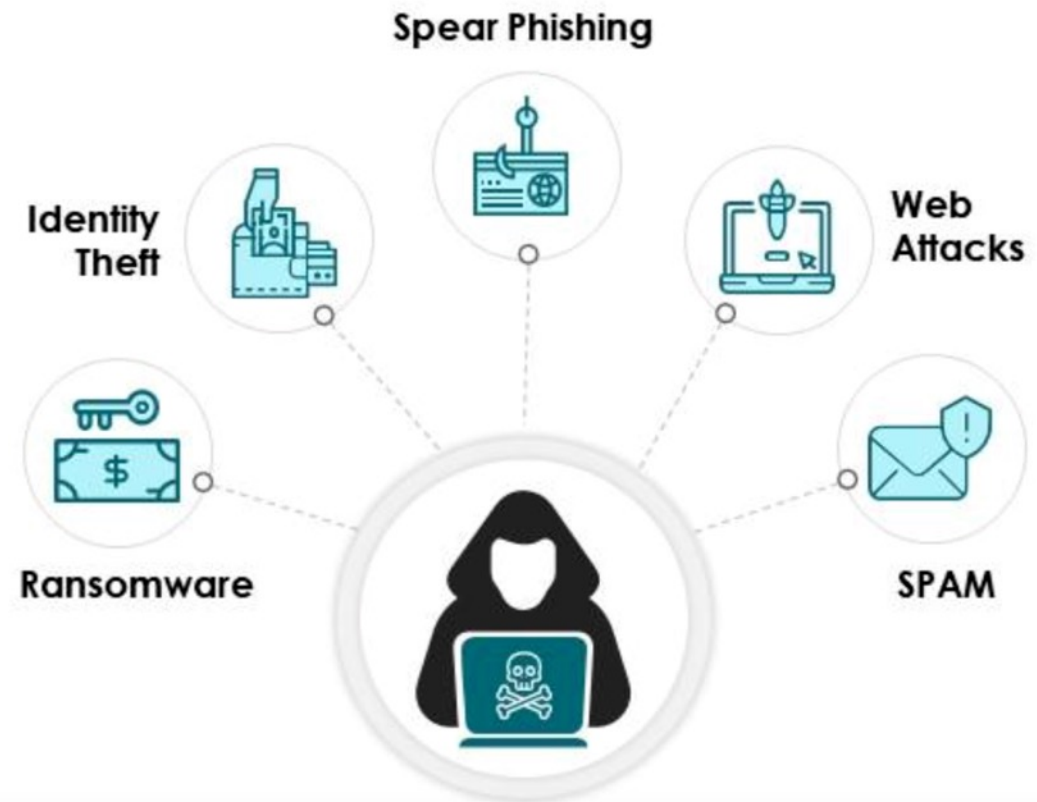
**60%** Cyber attack in small business

**55%** of small businesses recognized as cyber attack victims

**32%** Cyber attacks are on manufacturers

**\$59K** Is approximately the cost of data breach

### Cyber attack and breach type





# Not all suppliers are small companies

In 2019 hackers attacked Rolls Royce to get into Airbus to steal intellectual property



## Hackers target Airbus suppliers in quest for commercial secrets

26 September 2019, by Daphne Benoit, Fabien Zamora, Laurent Barthelemy and Mathieu Rabechault



This picture shows an Airbus A-320 of the Iberia airline during take-off on September 24, 2019 at the airport in Duesseldorf, western Germany.

European aerospace giant Airbus has been hit by a series of attacks by hackers targeting its

year.

AFP's sources said the hackers targeted British engine-maker Rolls-Royce and the French technology consultancy and supplier Expleo, as well as two other French contractors working for Airbus that AFP was unable to identify.

Airbus did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

A spokesperson for Rolls-Royce declined to comment on the specifics of any attack but said: "We have experience of attempts to gain access to our network and we have a team of experts who work closely with the relevant authorities to ensure that we combat these attempts and minimise any potential impact."

Expleo said it would neither "confirm nor deny" that it had been targeted.



# Some Supply Chain Cyber Attack Mitigations

## 1. Properly identify and inventory access points

An important starting point for securing systems and data is by identifying all points of access. To understand which of those represent the highest risk, you need to determine whether a breach of an access point would have expansive consequences, such as a threat to the health and safety of personnel or the public, inability of the business to fulfill its core mission or material loss of revenue.

## 2. Establish zero trust policies

When assigning access rights and privileges to users, embrace the principle of zero trust, which grants users access only to the information and applications required to do their job and nothing more. This applies to both internal and third-party users.

## 3. Restrict access through fine-grained controls

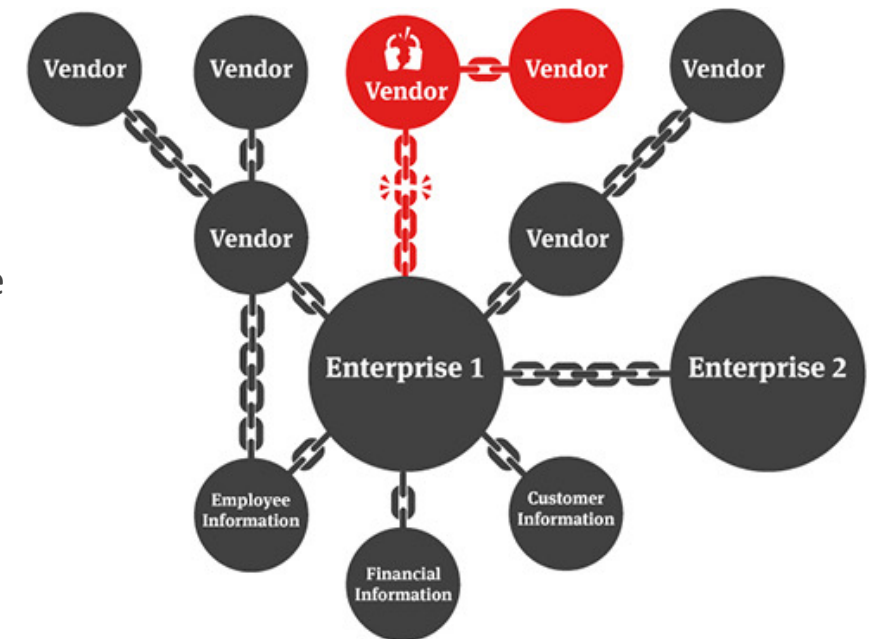
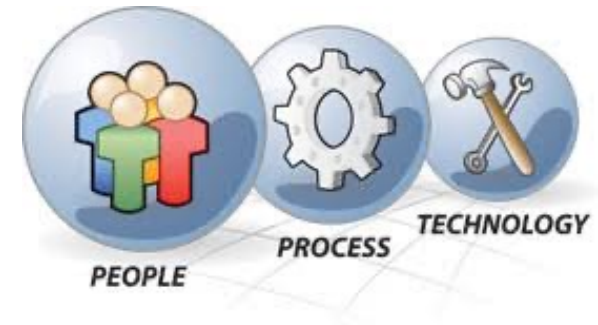
Controlling who can access your critical assets, data and systems is the best way to keep any access point safe. Whether it's through multi-factor authentication, time-based controls or other methods, restricting who can walk through that metaphorical door keeps the assets behind that door safe.

- Privileged Access Management (PAM)
- Network Segmentation
- Zero Trust
- Identify potential insider threats
- Cyber threat awareness training
- Identify and protect vulnerable resources
- Minimize access to sensitive data
- Implement strict shadow IT rules
- Send regular third-party risk assessments
- Monitor vendor network for vulnerabilities
- Identify all vendor data leak
- Third-part external threat intelligence

# Supply-chain Cybersecurity – more considerations



- **Limit the number of suppliers you use**
  - It is a lot easier to manage a few outside parties instead of many.
- **Develop a minimum cyber standard for suppliers**
  - Put the cyber standard you want your suppliers to adhere to in your contract. Use a recognized third-party standard so everyone is working to a standard set of rules.
- **Check your suppliers are following some standard**
  - Regularly monitor your suppliers' adherence to an agreed standard.
- **Share information on how to improve**
  - Let your suppliers know what you and others in your industry are doing to improve your data security so that they can adopt similar measures.
- **Encourage open reporting**
  - If a problem does arise, you want to know about it as quickly as possible.





# How can supply chain attacks be prevented



## 1 Limit User ability to install software

Limiting your users ability to install software can greatly reduce the opportunity for attacks.



## 2 Review access to sensitive data

Regular reviews of your sensitive data and controlling who has access to it can ensure that software and users that do not have more access than they need.



## 3 Evaluate your supplier network

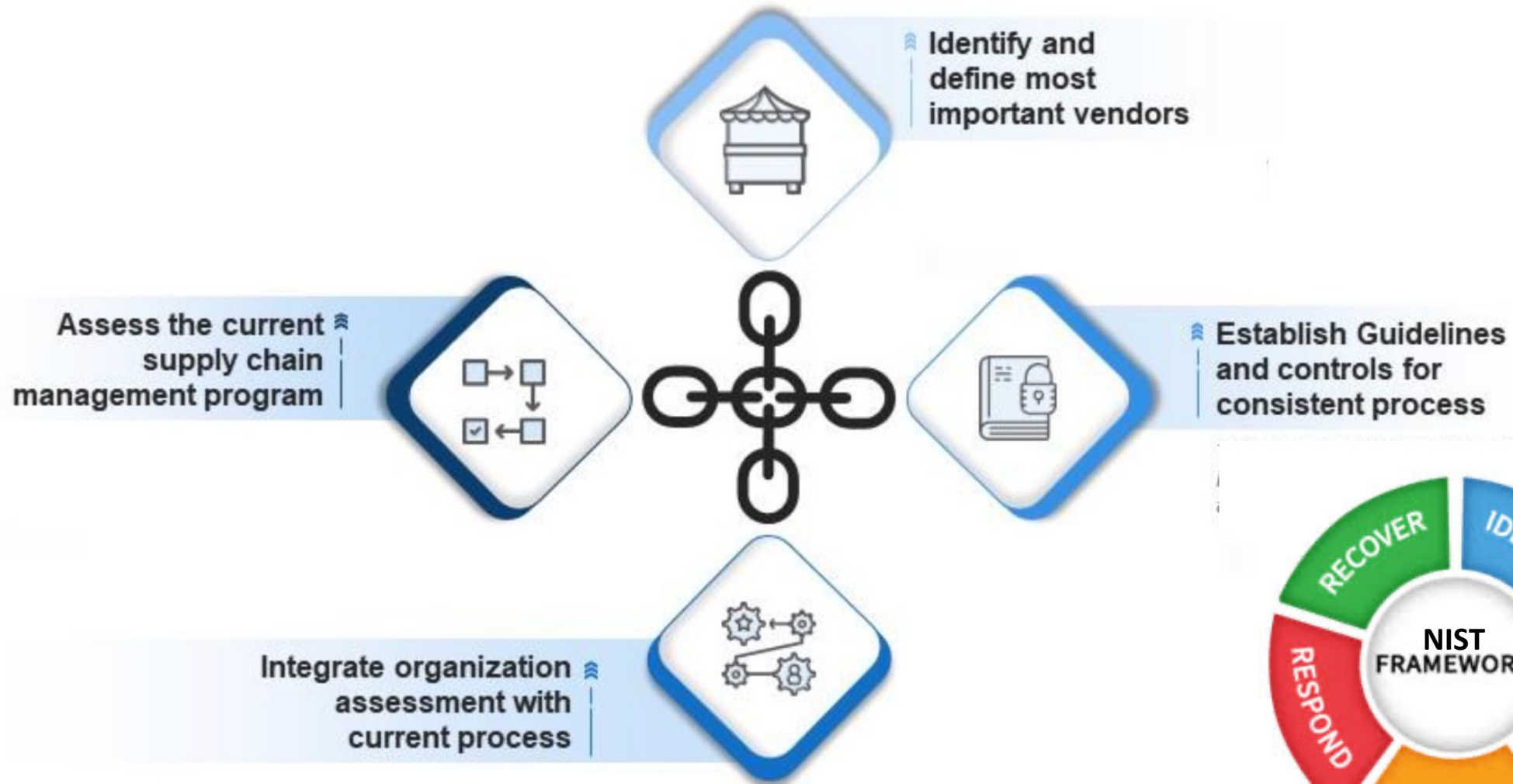
Third-party service providers and software vendors must maintain a certain level of trust and transparency. On average 470 third-parties have access to sensitive information and keeping it safe is imperative.



## 4 Continually monitor and review

The nature of cyber-attacks is continually evolving. New exploits and vulnerabilities are coming out all the time. The true way to combat these threats is to continually assess, design, execute and protect.

# Key Approaches for assessing Supply Chain Risk Management

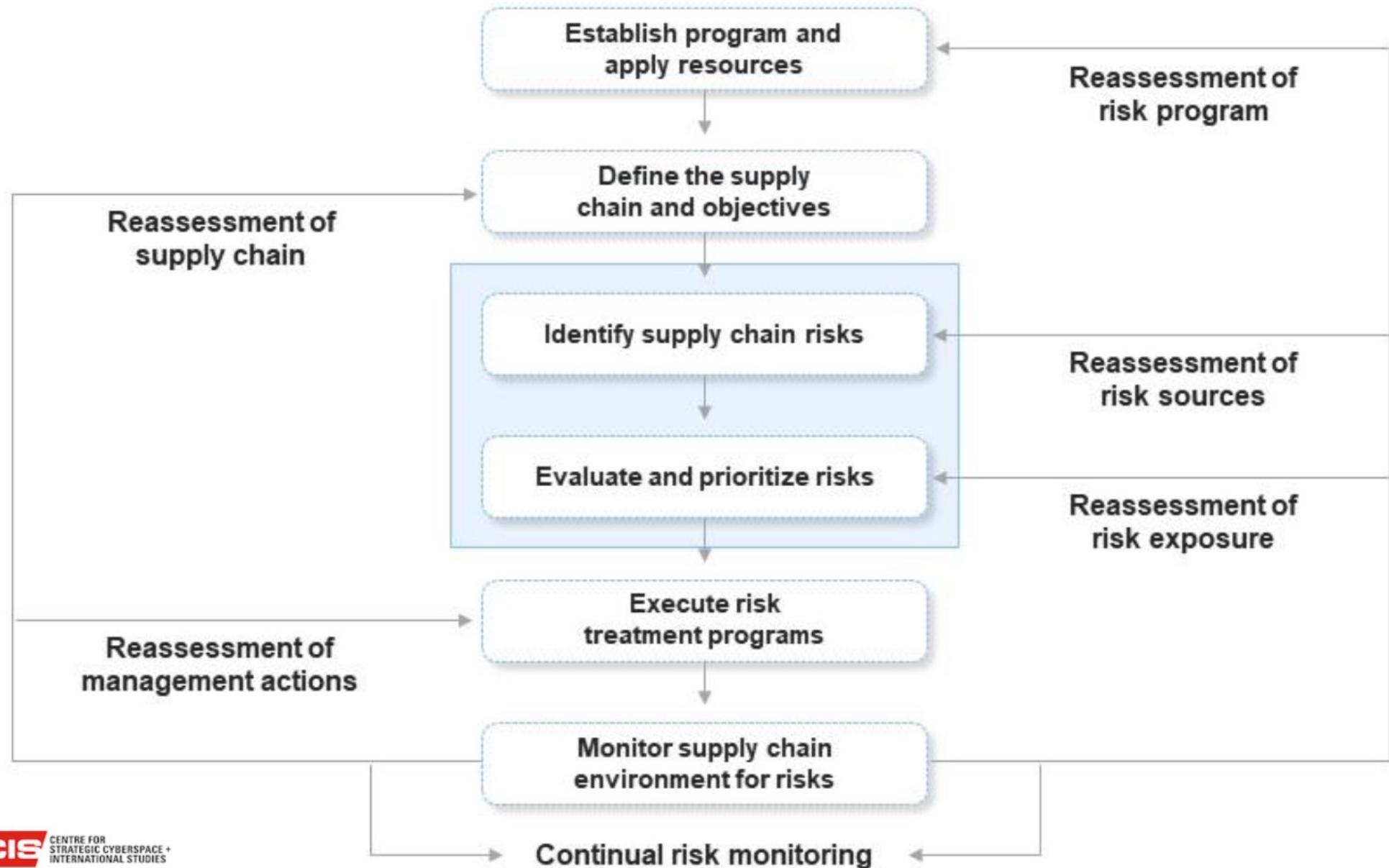


# Key Steps for implementing Supply Chain Risk Management

*(Not something new)*



# Supply Chain Risk Management Model with key Areas





# Supply Chain Cybersecurity – there's hope yet

## Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management C-SCRM



### Publications

The following NIST-authored publications are directly related to this project.

Series & Number	Title	Status	Released
SP 800-161 Rev. 1	<a href="#">Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Systems and Organizations</a>	Final	05/05/2022
NISTIR 8276	<a href="#">Key Practices in Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management: Observations from Industry</a>	Final	02/11/2021
NISTIR 8272	<a href="#">Impact Analysis Tool for Interdependent Cyber Supply Chain Risks</a>	Withdrawn	08/25/2020
NISTIR 8179	<a href="#">Criticality Analysis Process Model: Prioritizing Systems and Components</a>	Final	04/09/2018
ITL Bulletin	<a href="#">Increasing Visibility and Control of Your ICT Supply Chains</a>	Final	06/15/2015
White Paper	<a href="#">Final Report: Leveraging the Cyber Risk Portal as A Teaching &amp; Education Tool</a>	Final	06/10/2015
NISTIR 8041	<a href="#">Proceedings of the Cybersecurity for Direct Digital Manufacturing (DDM) Symposium</a>	Final	04/10/2015
SP 800-161	<a href="#">Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organizations</a>	Withdrawn	04/08/2015
White Paper	<a href="#">Summary of the Workshop on Information and Communication Technologies Supply Chain Risk Management, National Institute of Standards and Technology, October 15-16, 2012</a>	Final	07/10/2013
White Paper	<a href="#">Proof of Concept for an ICT SCRM Enterprise Assessment Package</a>	Final	12/01/2012
ITL Bulletin	<a href="#">Practices for Managing Supply Chain Risks to Protect Federal Information Systems</a>	Final	11/27/2012
NISTIR 7622	<a href="#">Notional Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems</a>	Final	10/16/2012
White Paper	<a href="#">The ICT SCRM Community Framework Development Project: Final Report</a>	Final	12/01/2011
White Paper	<a href="#">Assessing SCRM Capabilities and Perspectives of the IT Vendor Community: Toward a Cyber-Supply Chain Code of Practice</a>	Final	04/01/2011

NIST Special Publication  
NIST SP 800-161r1

## Cybersecurity Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Systems and Organizations

Jon Boyens  
Angela Smith  
*Computer Security Division  
Information Technology Laboratory*

Nadya Bartol  
Kris Winkler  
Alex Holbrook  
Matthew Fallon  
*Boston Consulting Group*

This publication is available free of charge from:  
<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.800-161r1>

May 2022



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Laurie E. Locascio, NIST Director and Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology

# There's hope yet ...

## ISO-27036 : Cybersecurity — Supplier relationships



- Create an information security policy for supplier relationships that outlines policies and procedures and mandates controls for managing risk.
- Establish contractual supplier agreements for any third party that may access, process, store, communicate, or provide IT infrastructure to an organization's data.
- Include contractual requirements to address risks associated with information technology services and product supply chains.
- Monitor, review and audit supplier service delivery.
- Manage changes to supplier services and re-assess risks when necessary.

# There's hope yet (cont'd) – ISO-27036 : Some more examples of attributes

The standards covers risks such as:

- Acquirer's reliance on providers, complicating the acquirer's business continuity arrangements (both resilience and recovery);
  - Physical and logical access to and protection of second and third party information assets;
  - Creating an 'extended trust' environment with shared responsibilities for information security;
  - Creating a shared responsibility for conformity with information security policies, standards, laws, regulations, contracts and other commitments /obligations;
  - Coordination between supplier and acquirer to adapt or respond to new/ changed information security requirements;
- ... and more.

- Preliminary analysis, preparation of a sound business case, Invitation To Tender etc., taking into account the risks, controls, costs and benefits associated with maintaining adequate information security;
- Creation of explicit shared strategic goals to align acquirer and provider on information security and other aspects (e.g. a jointly-owned 'relationship strategy');
- Security management procedures, including those that may be jointly developed and operated such as risk analysis, security design, identity and access management, incident management and business continuity;

# Some Additional Solution Approaches to Supply Chain Cyber Attacks

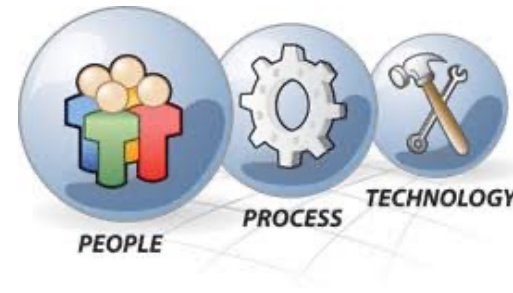
- Firmware security assessment
- Third-party external threat intelligence service
- Requiring suppliers to have application security testing
- Implement Zero Trust across supply chain eco-system.
- (supplier also means eco-system partner, sub-contractor, consultant, intern, temp staff etc.)
- Don't forget your cloud service providers (if any)



**But before you go worry about the supplier ...**

- **Fully understand the threat to the supply chain business.**
- **Assess your own cybersecurity measures.**
- **Improve your current measures.**
- **Treat cybersecurity as an ongoing process.**

*(Matt 7:3-5)*

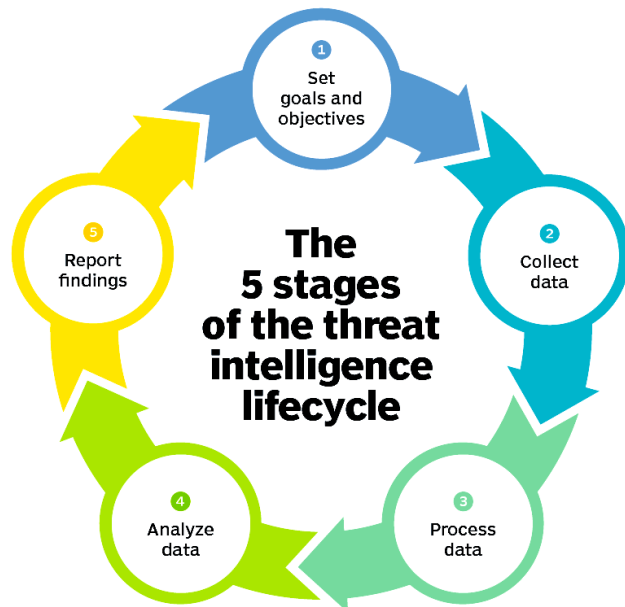




# Third-party External Threat Intelligence

- **Identify Active Threats Impacting Your Third Parties**
  - clear, deep and dark web.
- **Triage Your Third Party Risk**
  - alongside other risk assessment solutions, identify third parties that have a high external threat profile
- **Compare Risks Based on Industry Benchmarks**

*Rapid7 Insights*



## Assessing Third-Party External Digital Risk -

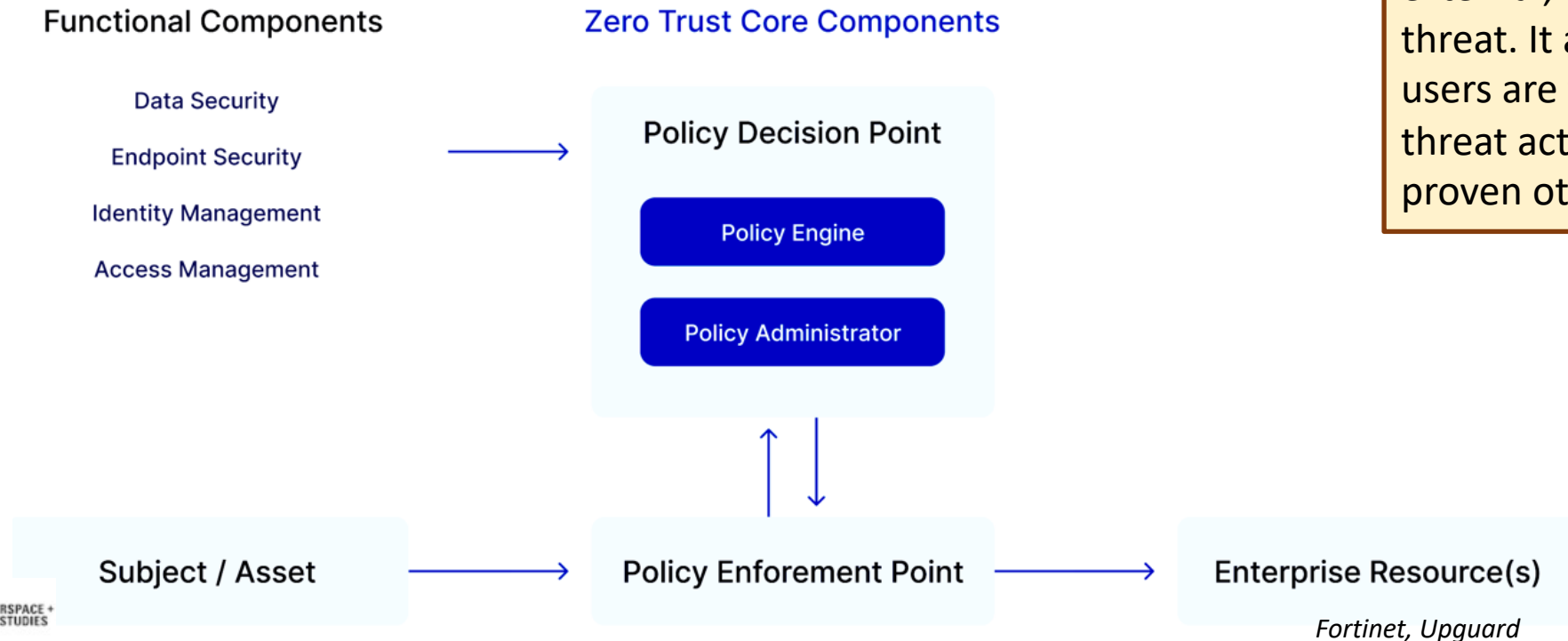
1. Leverage Your Digital Footprint for Context and Relevancy
2. Focus on Action, Not Searching
3. Leverage Automation & Integrations
4. Expanding Protection to Your Customers and Brand
5. Take Down Fraud Campaigns & Cyber Scams

# Zero-Trust for Supply IT Chain Network Security

## 1. Knowledge and Awareness

- Who is on the network
- What is on the network
- What happens to managed devices when leaving the network.
- Intelligence and monitoring (when / what you can)

## 2. Least Privilege Principle (“need to know” access)



Zero Trust, a Cybersecurity architecture developed by US NIST, assumes all network activity, whether internal or external, is a security threat. It assumes all users are threats or threat actors until proven otherwise.

# Operational Technology (OT) Cybersecurity

## The 10 Operational Technology Security Controls



**Require of at least some of these practices of your Key eco-system partner**

Also consider **IEC-62443** Framework for Securing industrial Automation and Control systems (IACS). Helps provide an effective solution for industrial supply chains.

Source: Gartner

743174\_C

# Don't Forget About Business Continuity 😊

Remember classic issue in cyber-security : **Single Point Of Failure**

*(would Haagen Dazs have a second concurrent vanilla bean supplier to cut over to in the situation?)*

A SCM BCP considers the following, for a start –

- What are the possible threats?
  - What is the impact of each threat?
  - Is it possible to mitigate a disruption?
  - How will full operations be restored?
- Which suppliers have a network access with your organization – VPN, intranet, extranet, cloud services
  - Which suppliers relationships involve software application, software development or firmware?

### Inventory Status List of Supply Chain

- Have an updated, current list of all your suppliers, sub-contractors and ecosystem partners.
- Attempt to map out which ones in turn have sub-contractor suppliers that affect or roll up to you.
  - Ask them in turn how they ensure if any issue is mitigated so as to not or minimize disruption
- Decide which supply chain needs a 2<sup>nd</sup>-line or back-up or concurrent 2<sup>nd</sup> supplier, ready to activate.
- Decide which supply chain has too many suppliers of the same items and if 'right-sizing' is to be done.
- Ensure a clear and open incident response process between you and each supplier.



# Proposed Framework : BCM for Supply Chain Resilience

Business Continuity Management

## 1. Examine Organizational Context of Supply Chain

- Creation of a supply chain map and formulating joint strategies for the supplychain.

## 2. Executive Leadership Commitment

- assigned executive owner

## 3. Prevention (Mitigation Tactics)

- Examination of supply chain map for vulnerable elements and sources of risk in all stages of the chain: procurement, internal operations, and distribution-side risks.

## 4. Recovery (Response Tactics)

- Planning for disruptions: Development of contingency plans (alternate suppliers, re-routing capabilities, including alternative communications lines, etc.) to address disruptions in supply, internal operations and distribution

## 5. Assessment of Plans

- Testing the procedures developed, with vendors, customers and key service providers through simulated disruptions

## 6. Continuous Improvement



# Supply Chain Cybersecurity – A Closing Thought

- “Supply chain cyber-attacks will continue to proliferate in the digital space, and in time to come, companies could be required to demonstrate their cybersecurity posture when they conduct business as a way of providing greater assurance to their customers.” – David Koh, Chief Executive, CSA

We need to push for international policy and behavior standards in cyberspace, with clear consequences around critical infrastructure attacks and commercial IP theft. This will help establish clear policy on malicious cyber activity, prevent cyber adversaries from using international borders to escape prosecution, and will spell out repercussions for attacks on critical assets.



... input mandatory expectations into contracts regarding security levels and assurance checks. Australia’s mandatory breach reporting legislation is on the cusp of assent and affected business will need to comply. Where does the responsibility lie – with the business or the supplier?



# Thank you!

Supply Chain – A New Attack Vector

Anthony Lim

22 Sep 2022

