

# ICS Cybersecurity: Hype and Reality

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# Who We Are



- CIO and CISO at Trinity River Authority of Texas
- Previously:
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- CEO and Founder of Dragos, Inc
- SANS Institute Course Author (ICS515 & FOR578)
- Non-resident National Cyber Security Fellow at New America
- Previously:
  - US Air Force Cyber Warfare Operations Officer
  - US Intelligence Community



# Agenda

- Media Hype and Reality of SCADA Cyber Threats
  - Sliding Scale of Cyber Security
- Trinity River Authority Experiences
  - Case-Study: Broadcast Storm
- Strategic Intelligence for Guidance
  - Case-Study: CRASHOVERRIDE
- What Executives Should be Asking

# Media Hype and Reality of SCADA Cyber Threats

LITTLE BOBBY



by Robert M. Lee and Jeff Haas



# Illinois Water Hack

Illinois Fusion Center report in 2011:

- Russia hacked a water utility leading to a pump failure!

Fact: Russian IP in logs and pump failure 5 months later

Reality: Contractor was on vacation and learned of the incident via media

# 2008 Turkey Pipeline Explosion

Bloomberg published  
“Mysterious ‘08  
Turkey Pipeline Blast Opened  
New Cyberwar” in December,  
2014



Fact: BTC Pipeline was attacked  
Reality: No “cyber” involved

# 2015 Turkey Blackout

10-hour Power Failure reported by Bloomberg, CNN, and major media outlets as possible Iranian Cyber Attack

Fact: Aging infrastructure caused outage  
Reality: "Cyber" linked through previous reports



# Different Types of Incidents and Actors



**Thrillseeker**



**Criminal**



**Nation-State**



**Hacktivist**

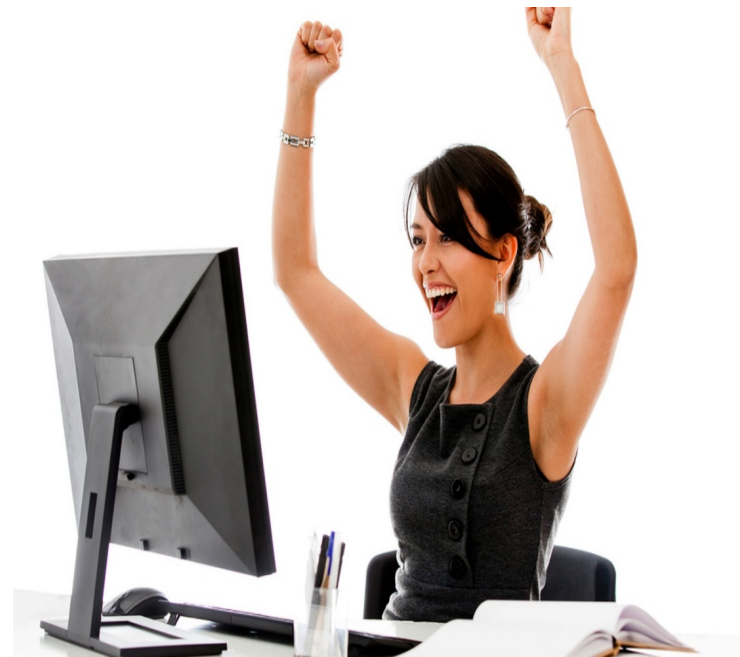


**Terrorist**

# Different Types of Incidents and Actors

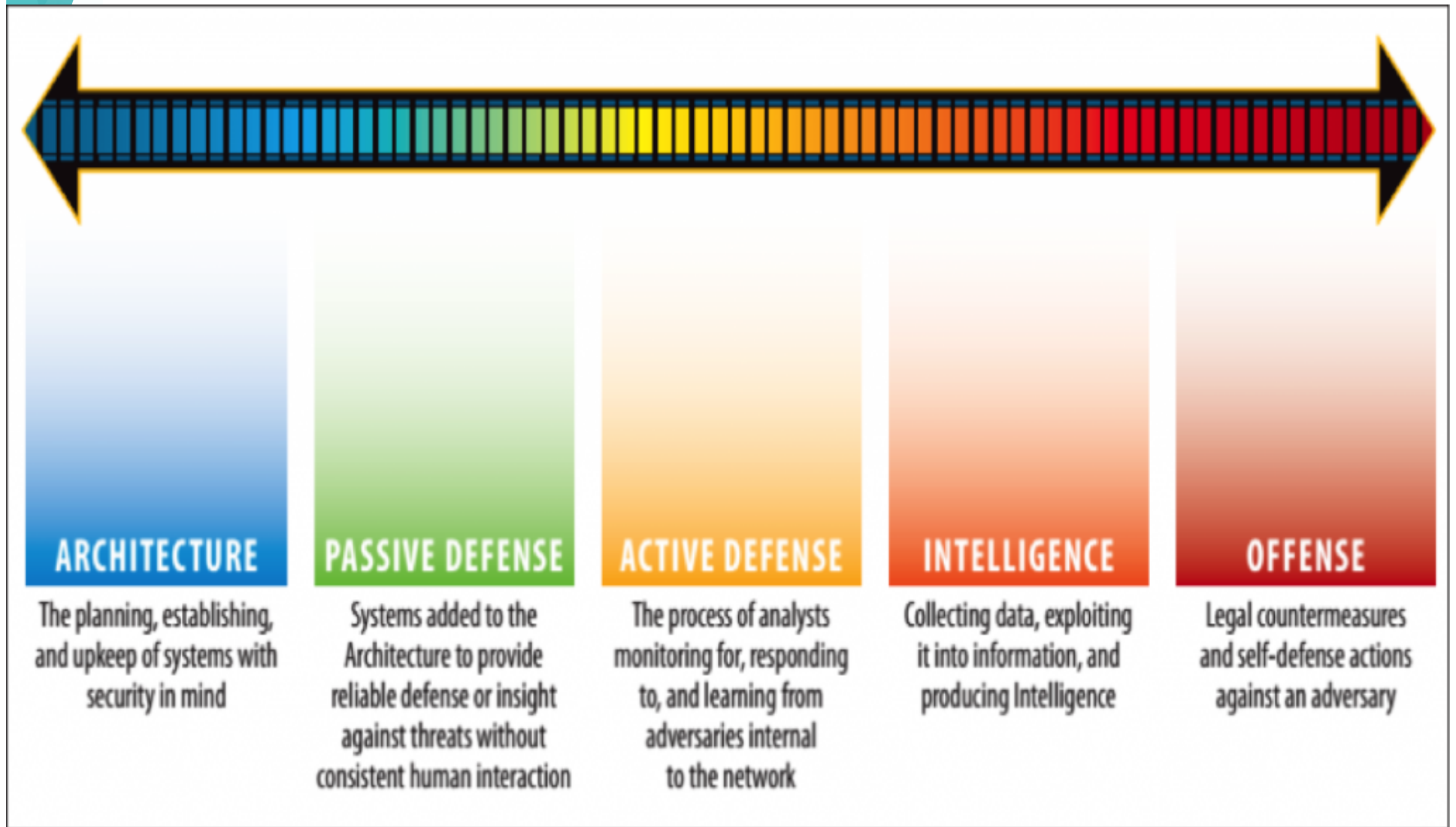


**Disgruntled Employee**



**Well-Meaning Employee**

# The Sliding Scale of Cyber Security



# Trinity River Authority Experiences

## LITTLE BOBBY



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# A Real World Example

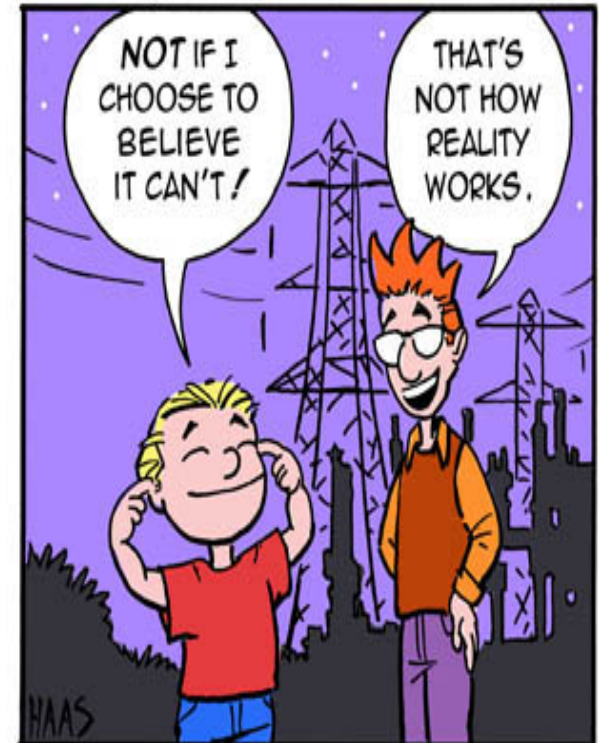
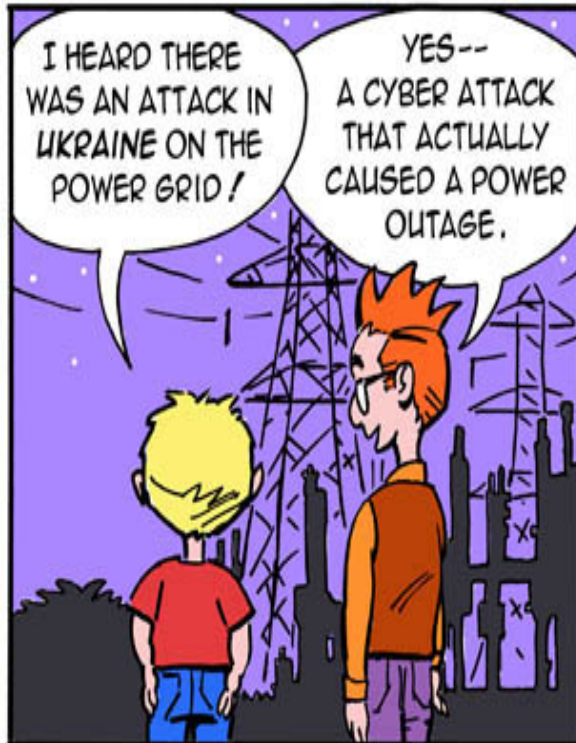
- 0800 – Planned power outage for construction project
- 1200 – Power restored; soon followed by comm failures; Operations Center down; Plant initiates manual operations
  - Troubleshooting begins with Contractor
- 72 hours and \$15K in unplanned labor cost
  - After Action Report reveals a series of cascading failures
    - D-Link switch
    - PLC battery power
    - Updated documentation
    - No diagnostic capability



The importance lies in the effects generated and timely mitigation... The action and actors are secondary.

# Strategic Intelligence for Guidance

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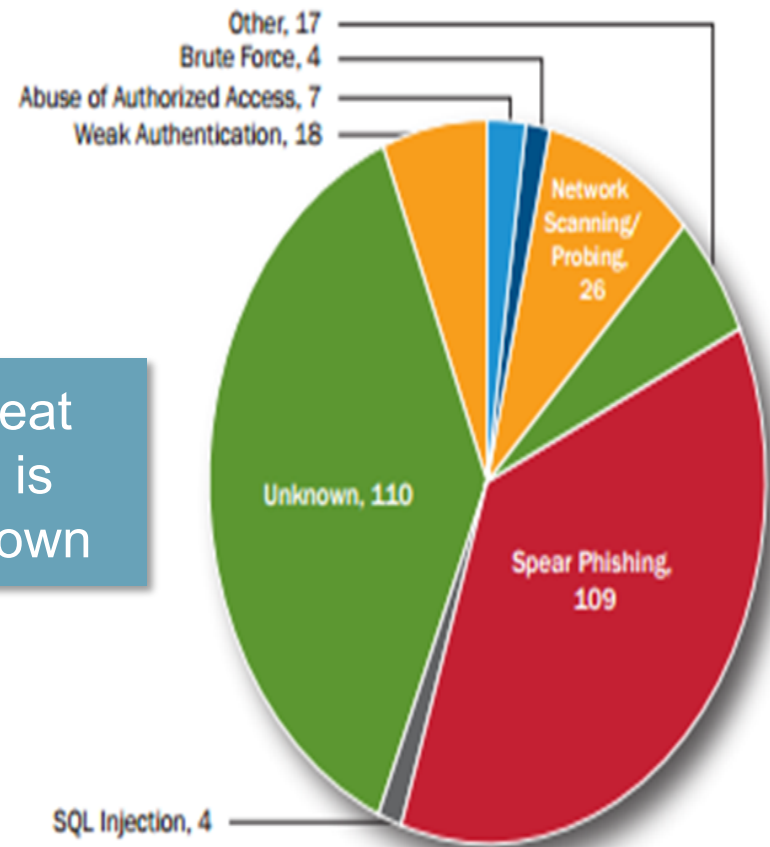
# Overarching Problem

Few People Know How to Protect the ICS that Run Our World



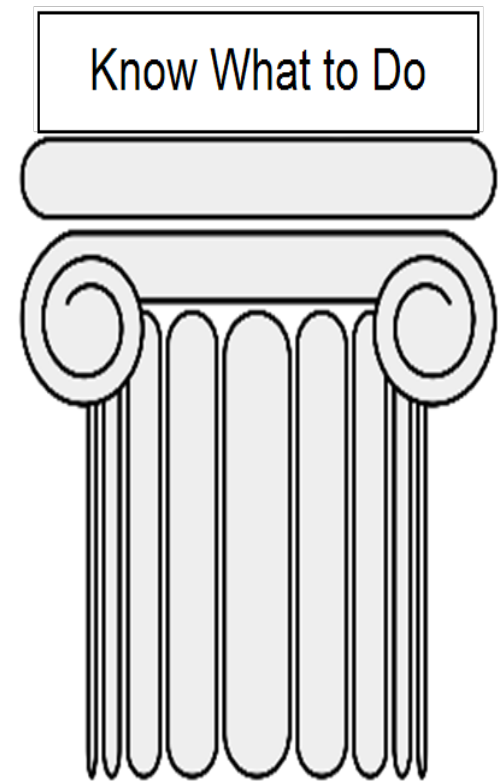
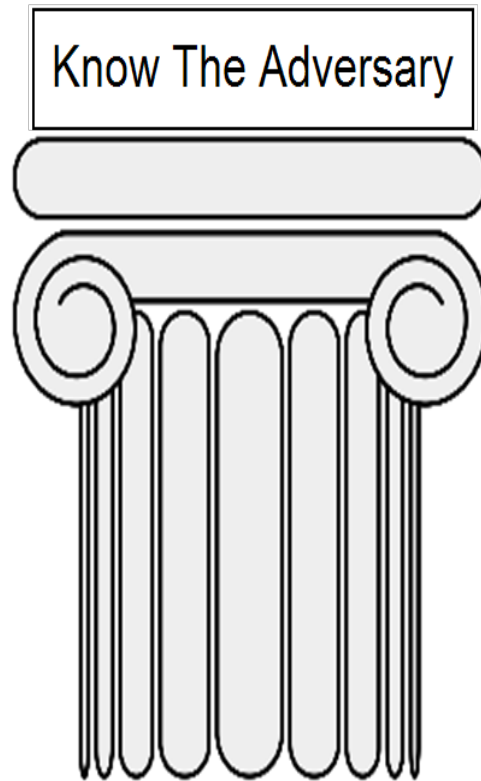
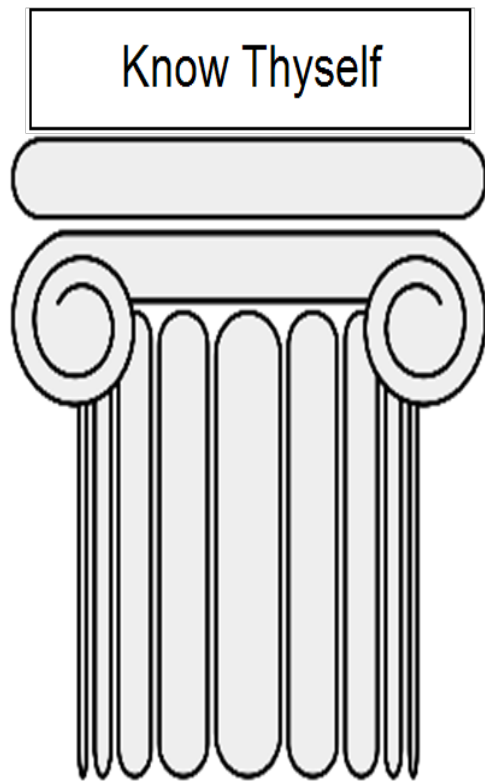
And the Threat Landscape is Mostly Unknown

FY 2015 Incidents by Infection Vector (295 total)



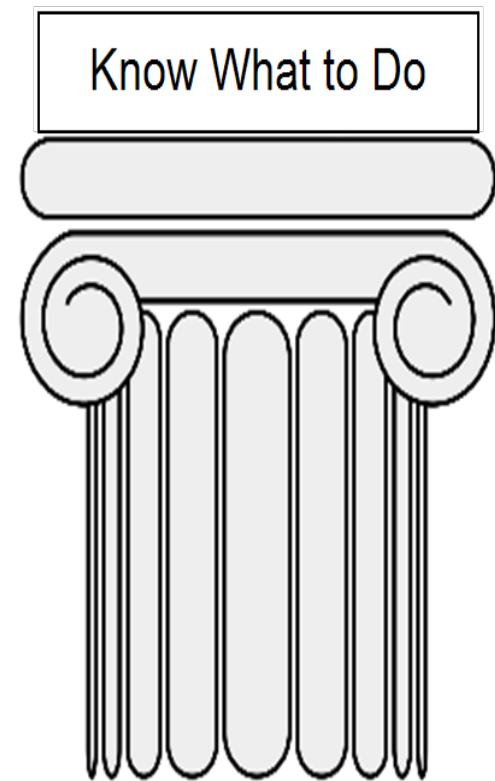
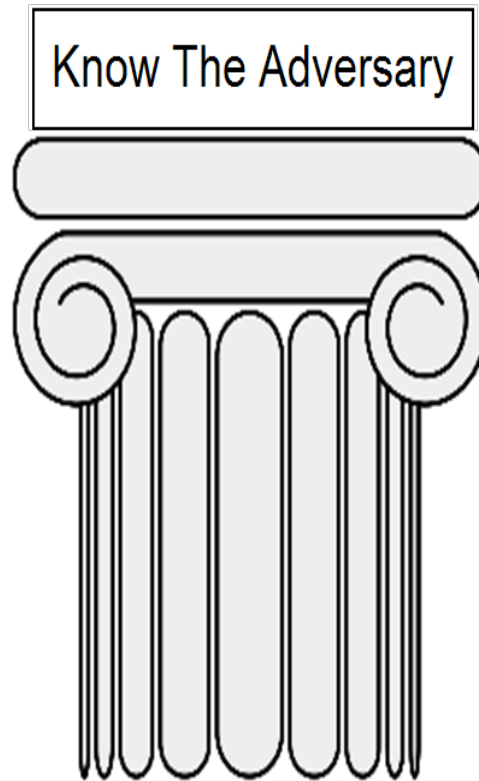
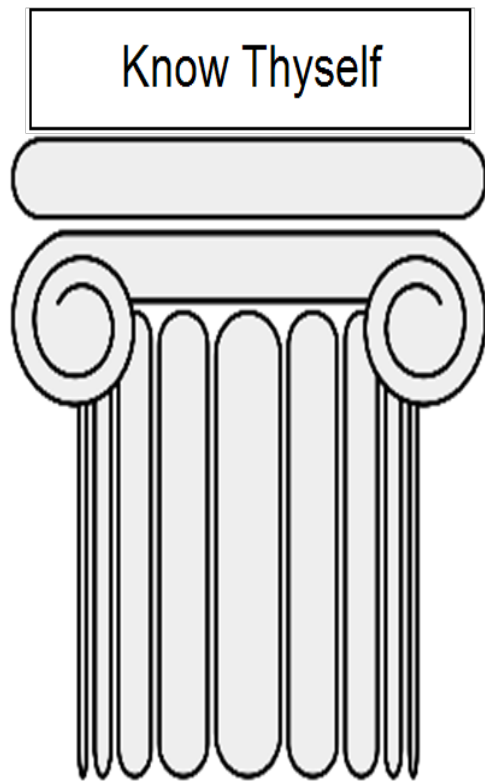
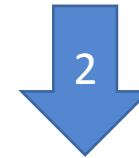
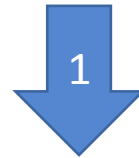


# The Three Pillars of Security





# Intelligence's Purpose





# What Intelligence Should Provide

How do I reduce dwell time of the adversary?  
(Detection/  
Remediation)

What do I need to focus on to reduce risk?  
(Vulnerabilities,  
news, hype,  
adversaries, etc.)

Do my investments match my threat landscape and requirements?

# Ukrainian Power Outage



17 Dec 2016, 23:53

Local Time:

- Ukrenergo substation de-energizes
- Resulted in outage for service area
- Utility transferred into manual mode
- Began restoring power in 30 minutes

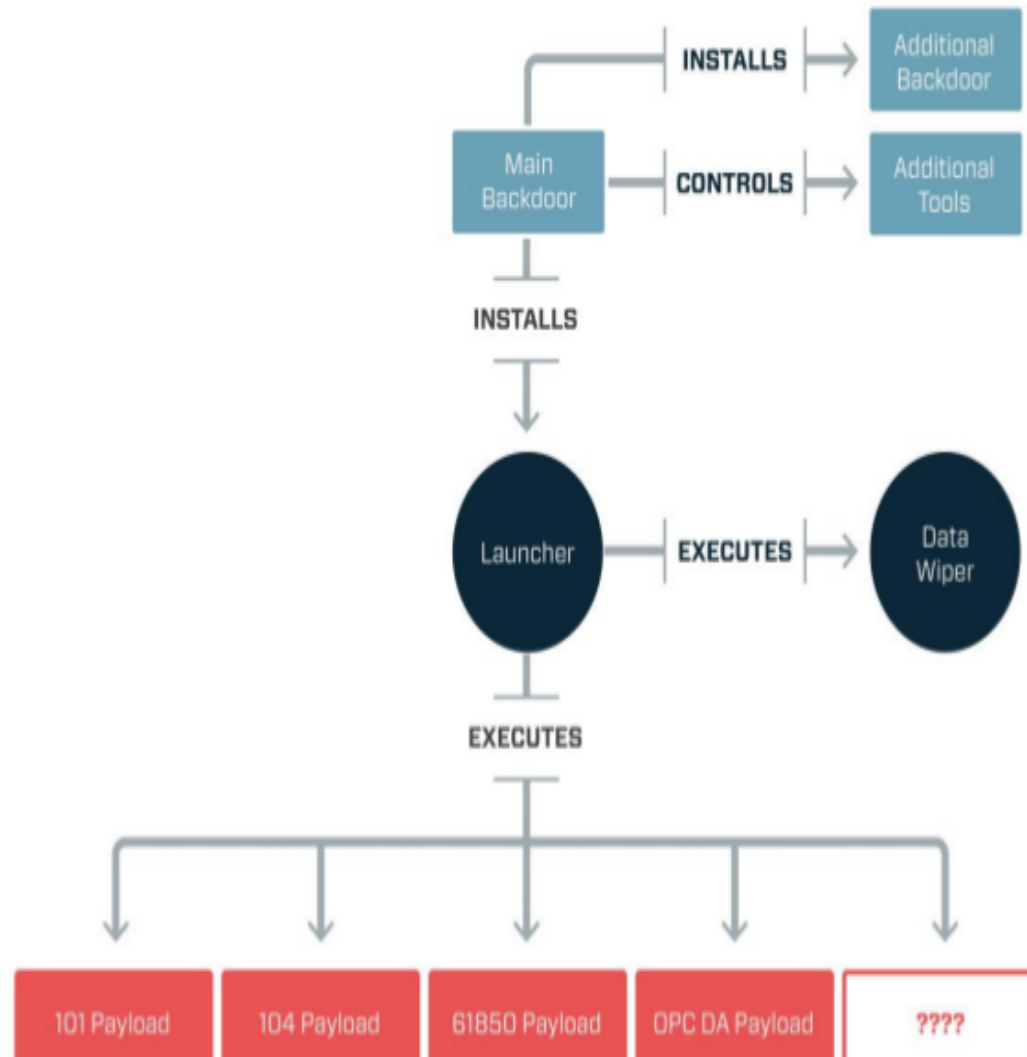


# Dragos Timeline





# CRASHOVERRIDE Framework



# The Executive Perspective



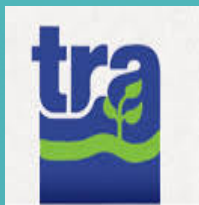


# It's Always a Management Problem!



# Questions?

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