

# HOW **NOT** TO SUCK AT VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT

**Shellcon.io**

**Plug (@plugxor) and Chris (@ChrisHalbersma)**

CURRENT LANDSCAPE

- APACHE STRUTS
- BACKEND SERVER EXPOSED TO THE INTERNET
- DATABASE EXPOSED
- UNSECURED SERVER
- DATA LEAK
- SOFTWARE BUG



FedEx customer  
information  
exposed in data  
breach



**Ticketfly is Down.**



We apologize for any

Our website is current  
while we conduct esse  
maintenance and site e  
We will be back



SOURCE: <https://blog.barkly.com/biggest-data-breaches-2018-so-far>

## **DUO Labs – Beyond S3: Exposed Resources on AWS**

<https://duo.com/blog/beyond-s3-exposed-resources-on-aws>

### **Summary of Findings**

To help understand the magnitude of this problem, the following summarizes how many of each resource were found exposed to the internet.

- 116,386 public Elastic Block Store (EBS) snapshots from 3,213 accounts
- 373 public Relational Database Service (RDS) snapshots from 227 accounts
- 711,598 public Amazon Machine Images (AMIs) from 20,952 accounts
- 16,000 public IPs of exposed AWS managed ElasticSearch clusters that could have their contents stolen or data possibly deleted - this means 17% of AWS-managed ElasticSearch servers with public IPs were misconfigured

VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT IS

NOT A

**Compliance**



VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT IS

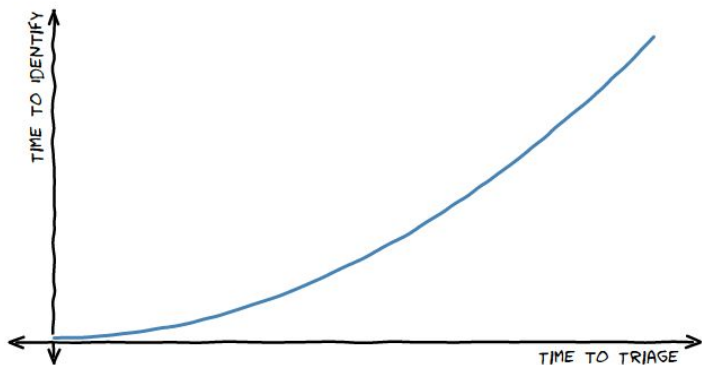
NOT

**Easy**

GOALS

# GOALS: QUICK IDENTIFICATIONS

## DISCOVERY VS. TRIAGE



## Real Time Identification

The sooner you know of a vulnerability the better your chances to mitigate accordingly.

Reduce time of discovery



# GOALS: QUICK TRIAGING OF ISSUES



## Fast Triage

You have to make critical decisions fast.  
Blue teams do it, Vulns teams should too!

# GOALS: STARTING REMEDIATION



## **Mitigation and Remediation**

You want to be able to mitigate, as soon as possible, taking in consideration business needs

# CHALLENGES

## **Multiple sources of Vulnerability Intelligence**

Too many sources of data and “noise”.  
Consume what you need, discard the rest

## **A Patch is not available or Patching is not always possible**

What mitigation measures are at your disposal?  
How about extra visibility and monitoring?



# COMMON VULNERABILITY SCORING SYSTEM (CVSS)

Standardized Rubric that can be useful for determining the impact of various vulnerabilities.

Don't rely on it to make decisions, it's a numerical score, useful, but you need **context!**

Don't Accept Blindly for Triage.



# CVSS CONTEXT: VULN COMPARISON

CVE-2014-0160 (Heartbleed)

SCORE v2: **5.0**

vs.

CVE-2017-0143,44,45,46 (Eternal Blue)

SCOREv3: **8.1**

SCOREv2: **9.3**

Which one affected your production environment more?



# CONTEXT: UNDISCLOSED VULNS

[CVE-2018-6693](#) Example (ENSLTP on Linux Vuln)

Vulns can be partially disclosed. Where the fix may be out but things like details might not be disclosed yet or still under a Security Embargo.

How you handle this issue can be varied.

## CVE-2018-6693 Detail

### AWAITING ANALYSIS

This vulnerability is currently awaiting analysis.

### Description

An unprivileged user can delete arbitrary files on a Linux system running ENSLTP 10.5.1, 10.5.0, and 10.2.3 Hotfix 1246778 and earlier. By exploiting a time of check to time of use (TOCTOU) race condition during a specific scanning sequence, the unprivileged user is able to perform a privilege escalation to delete arbitrary files.

**Source:** MITRE

**Description Last Modified:** 09/18/2018

### QUICK INFO

**CVE Dictionary Entry:**

[CVE-2018-6693](#)

**NVD Published Date:**

09/18/2018

**NVD Last Modified:**

09/18/2018

PREREQUISITES

# KNOW YOUR ASSETS

## Comprehensive list of Assets

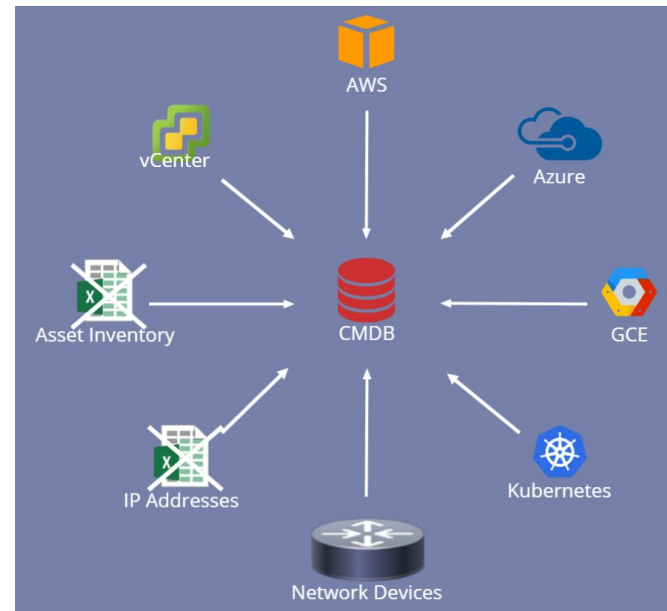
CMDB. Preferably not a spreadsheet.

## Keeping IP ranges up-to-date

What are my organization IP blocks?

Are they current?

How about IPv6?



## CMDBuild

[A CMDB for IT infrastructures \(slides for AutomateIT<sup>2</sup> event\)](#)



# ASSETS IN THE CLOUD



# NETFLIX

**Security Monkey**  
open source cloud security  
tracking system

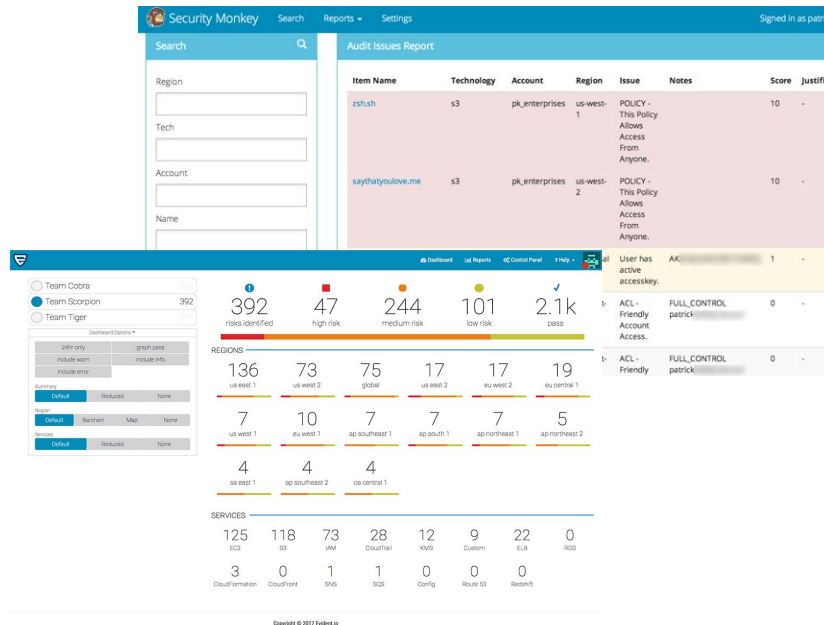
## The Cloud

Is the cloud at play?

Which providers?

Which environments?

What are the accounts?



# ATTRIBUTION

**Very important for triage and remediation**

Who owns asset \$x?

Who do I contact?

**What about other records or accounts?**

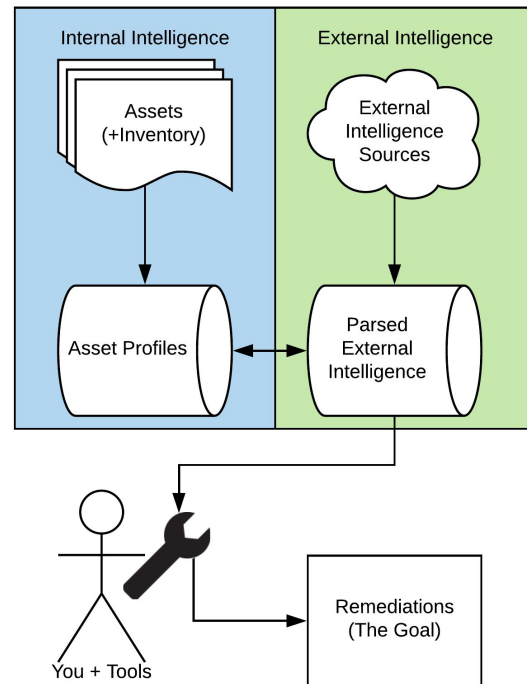
**You'll never be the expert on everything. Lean on your teams.**

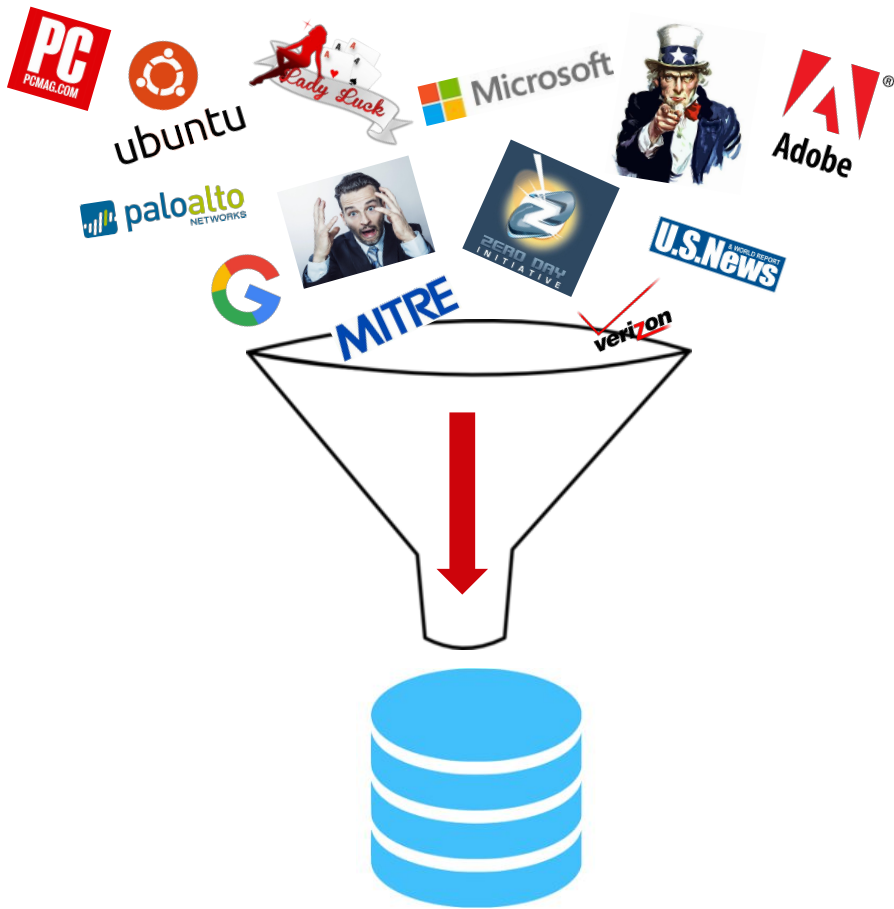


# VULN MGMT THEORY

# THE GENERAL THEORY OF VULN MANAGEMENT

- Use the combination of your internal and external intelligence to make decisions.
- Goal: Drive remediations of the issues you're vulnerable to.
- Largely you're going to say things like "go patch yourself".
- Sometimes you'll be asking more questions.
- Most important Rule: **Don't get Bogged Down!**





# EXTERNAL INTELLIGENCE

## It's a Dope Buzzword

Includes things like public CVEs, Blog Posts, Security Bulletins and other Security Info

## Quality, be Picky

For your environment, focus on high signal to noise indicators, especially when starting.

## Requires Parsing

While tools exist you'll likely need to parse this information to combine it with your Internal Intelligence

# INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE



## **Not a Buzzword, we Made it Up!**

What do you know about your environment? When you ask questions this is what gives answers.

## **Accuracy + Quantity**

You want to be able to see as much as you can with maximum accuracy.

Decisions are made with this data.

## **Integrations**

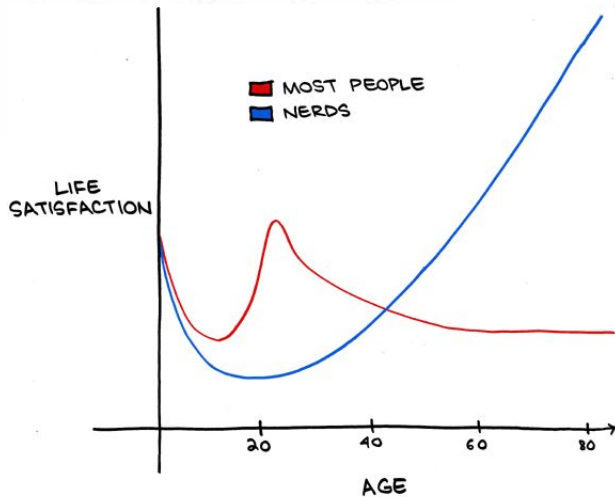
This is where you'll build most of your integrations.

# INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE

## Consider which internal tools can provide intelligence

- Discovery and Broadcast protocols (BOOTP, Windows Browser, etc)
- DHCP, DNS or AD Servers
- Network Devices (Switch, Router, Firewalls, etc)
- <Insert tool name> logs
- **Flow Data**
  - *Plenty of intelligence exploring flow data!*

# I ♥ METRICS



## METRICS & DATA

### Collect Metrics

Metrics will help you figure out how your org is doing.

### Data-Powered Reinforcement

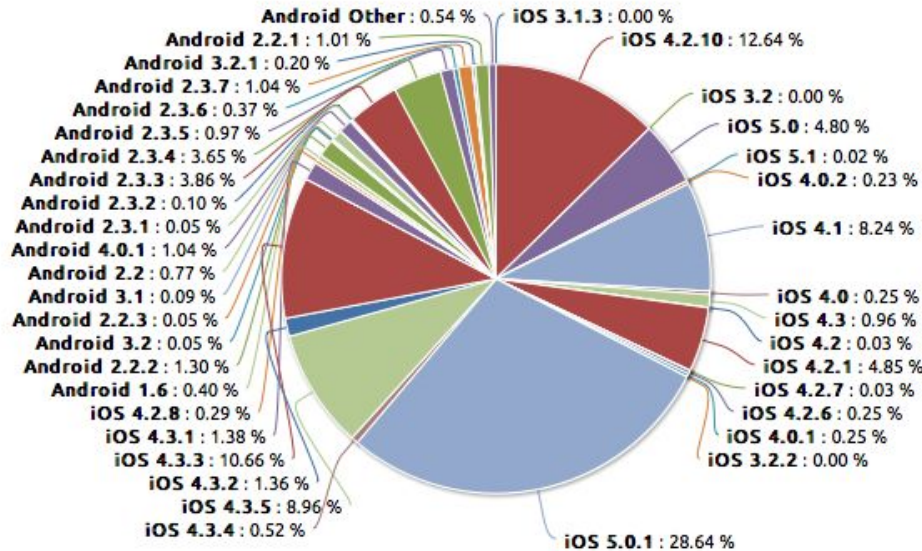
Your actions are easier to justify with the data.

### Graphs are Fun

I'm a Nerd, I'll admit it.



# METRICS & DATA : GRAPHS



DON'T DO THIS



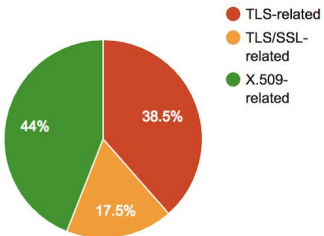
Keep in mind your audience

Does Management need X ?

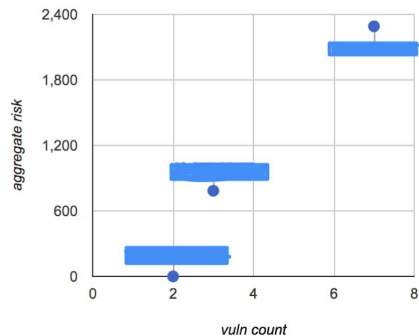
Does it convey the right message?

# METRICS & DATA : BETTER GRAPHS

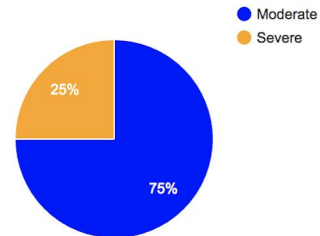
What does [redacted] risk score consist of?



Which [redacted] hosts have the most vulnerabilities / highest risk?



How many of [redacted] vulnerabilities are critical?



**Make it simple**

Less is more. Don't try to put every single item on your charts !



# TRIAGE : PREREQUISITES

## Know your software stack

To be effective during triage, document your software stack. Don't waste time on things that don't impact



## Get to know your environment

Get familiar with your applications and the architecture, it matters!

# TRIAGE : CVE CONSIDERATIONS

## Again, don't rely blindly on CVSS Scores

Does this vulnerability impact your environment?

If so, how, where, what?

CVE-2017-5638  Bad or not?

Priority  
Untriaged



No priority level info

### Description

The Jakarta Multipart parser in Apache Struts 2 2.3.x before 2.3.32 and 2.5.x before 2.5.10.1 has incorrect exception handling and error-message generation during file-upload attempts, which allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary commands via a crafted Content-Type, Content-Disposition, or Content-Length HTTP header, as exploited in the wild in March 2017 with a Content-Type header containing a #cmd= string.

### References

<https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2017-5638>  
<https://wiki.apache.org/confluence/display/WW/S2-045>

### Notes

sarnold> "Affected Software Struts 2.3.5 - Struts 2.3.31,  
Struts 2.5 - Struts 2.5.10"

### Package

Source: [libstruts1.2-java \(LP Ubuntu Debian\)](#)

Upstream:	not-affected
Ubuntu 14.04 LTS (Trusty Tahr):	not-affected
Ubuntu 16.04 LTS (Xenial Xerus):	DNE



Verify in your system

## A remote attacker could possibly...

Is there a public exploit? How complex is the vulnerability?

## Temporal and Environmental Scores Matter.

Know how this vuln affects your environment.  
The Temporal and Environmental Sections of CVSS3 can help objectify that risk.

# TRIAGE : UNDERSTANDING YOUR VULNERABILITY DATA

## **Validate and verify your findings**

Most scan tools use application and port banners to identify vulnerabilities. Validate the findings!

Did you actually connect to X service to confirm?

Does the version impacted match that of the one installed on the system?

*Don't make Big Triage Decisions on Unvalidated Data*

# TRIAGE : WITH FRIENDS



## **Build healthy partnerships with your Org. teams**

Security is everyone's problem, be kind.  
You will need their help and they will need yours!

## **When in doubt, it's not only OK to ask, you should!**

Reach out to your organization teams for answers. They are the subject matter expert!

TOOLS



# TOOLSET : THE BASICS

Your trusty: Spreadsheet

Microsoft Excel - Microsoft Patch Cheat Sheet.xls

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Type a question for help

Tahoma 10

E43 Superceded by SP4

A	B	C	D	E
28	331065 MS03-009	ISA Server	Moderate	
29	331953 MS03-010	Windows 2000 / XP	Important	Superceded by SP4
30	816093 MS03-011	Java VM	Critical	
31	331066 MS03-012	ISA Server	Important	
32	811943 MS03-013	Windows 2000	Critical	Superceded by SP4
33	330994 MS03-014	Outlook Express	Critical	Superceded by MS04-013
34	813489 MS03-015	IE	Critical	Superceded by MS03-020
35	815206 MS03-016	BizTalk Server	Important	
36	817787 MS03-017	WMP v7.1	Critical	Superceded by WMP v9.0
37	811114 MS03-018	IIS	Important	Superceded by SP4
38	817772 MS03-019	Windows Media	Important	Superceded by SP4
39	818529 MS03-020	IE	Critical	Superceded by MS03-032
40	819639 MS03-021	WMP v9.0	Moderate	
41	822343 MS03-022	Windows Media Svcs.	Important	
42	823559 MS03-023	Windows 2000	Critical	
43	817606 MS03-024	Windows 2000	Important	Superceded by SP4
44	822679 MS03-025	Windows 2000	Important	Superceded by SP4
45	822980 MS03-026	Windows (All Vers.)	Critical	Superceded by MS04-012
46	821557 MS03-027	Windows XP	Important	Superceded by MS04-011
47	816456 MS03-028	ISA Server	Important	
48	823813 MS03-029	Windows NT	Important	

Consolidated Patch List

Ready NUM

	A	B	C	D	E
1	#Status	Patch Name	Impact	Patched C	Not Patched
2	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0.2 update	Critical	0	0
3	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0.3 Update	Critical	0	0
4	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0.4 Update	Critical	0	0
5	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0.5 Update	Critical	0	0
6	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 6.0.6 Update	Recommended	0	0
7	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.1 Update	Critical	0	0
8	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.2 Update	Critical	0	0
9	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.5 Update (SEE NOTES)	Critical	0	0
10	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.7 Update (SEE NOTES)	Critical	0	0
11	Active	Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.0.8 Update (Rev 4)	Critical	0	0
12		07 Dreamweaver Server Behavior SQL Injection vulnerability	Critical	0	0
13		12 Flash Player 9.0.r47 for FireFox (Upgrade) (All Languages)	Critical	0	0
14		12 Flash Player 9.0.r47 for IE (Upgrade) (All Languages) (Rev 3)	Critical	0	2
15		12 Flash Player 9.0.r47 for IE (Upgrade) (All Languages) (Rev 3)	Critical	0	0
16		12 Flash Player 9.0.r47 for Netscape (Upgrade) (All Languages) (Rev 2)	Critical	0	0
17		12 Flash Player 9.0.r47 for Netscape (Upgrade) (All Languages) (Rev 2)	Critical	0	0
18		13 Photoshop CS3 Update for Windows	Critical	0	0
19		20 Flash Player 9.0.r115 for IE (Upgrade) (All Languages)	Critical	0	0
20		20 Flash Player 9.0.r115 for IE (Upgrade) (All Languages)	Critical	0	2
21		01 Contribute CS3 update FLVPlayer_Progressive.swf file for Windows	Critical	0	0
22		01 Dreamweaver CS3 update FLVPlayer_Progressive.swf file for Windows	Critical	0	0

Extremely useful when working with new data.

# TOOLING : ABOUT NETWORK SCANNING

## Discovery Scan Strategies

Start small, use a simple port list or the most common, TCP

Use results to *augment* your inventory data, validate, repeat, win!

Do **NOT** engage in vulnerability scans until you have reviewed discovery data

## Firewalls and fragile devices

Remember, you can get data (host, service, OS) from other sources (flow, bro, etc.), use it!



Courtesy of Alejandro Hernández  
@nitr0usmx

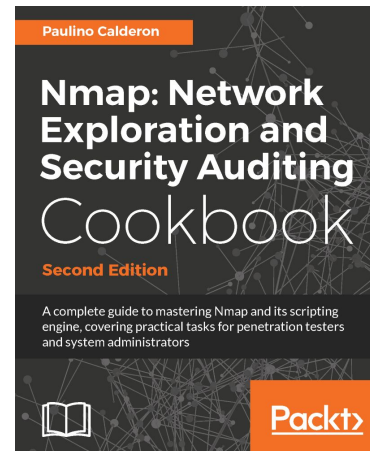
# TOOLSET : MORE ON NETWORK SCANNING

## Authenticated or Unauthenticated Scans

Do you really, **really**, need authenticated scans?  
Have you tuned, reviewed, and validated your scan templates?  
Keep your templates up-to-date!

## Secure your scanning infrastructure!

IPv6 – Network Reconnaissance in IPv6 Networks  
<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7707>



# TOOLSET : ONGOING CONSIDERATIONS

## **Technology is constantly changing**

Are your tools still effective?

## **Find the tools that work for you**

Evaluate the tools your organization has, can any of those tools be reused?  
Can you adapt them accordingly?

## **Before you introduce new tools**

Make sure the basic requirements of your program are covered first, unless these new tools complement it

# TOOLSET : APPROACH

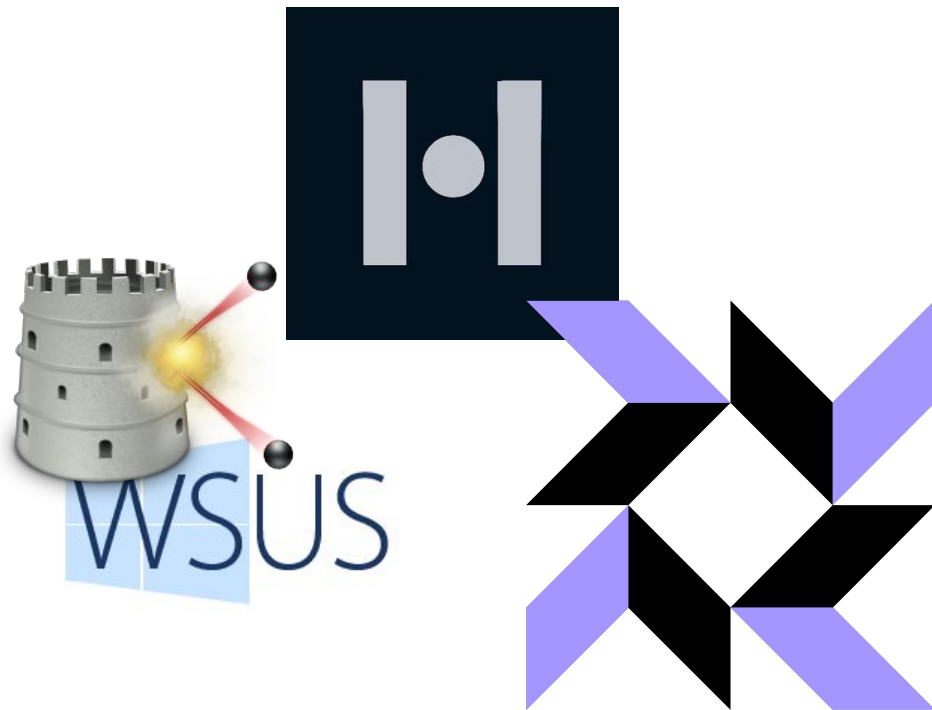


Avoid the “one tool fits all” mentality.

No need to reinvent the wheel  
Plenty of awesome Open Source tools  
out there

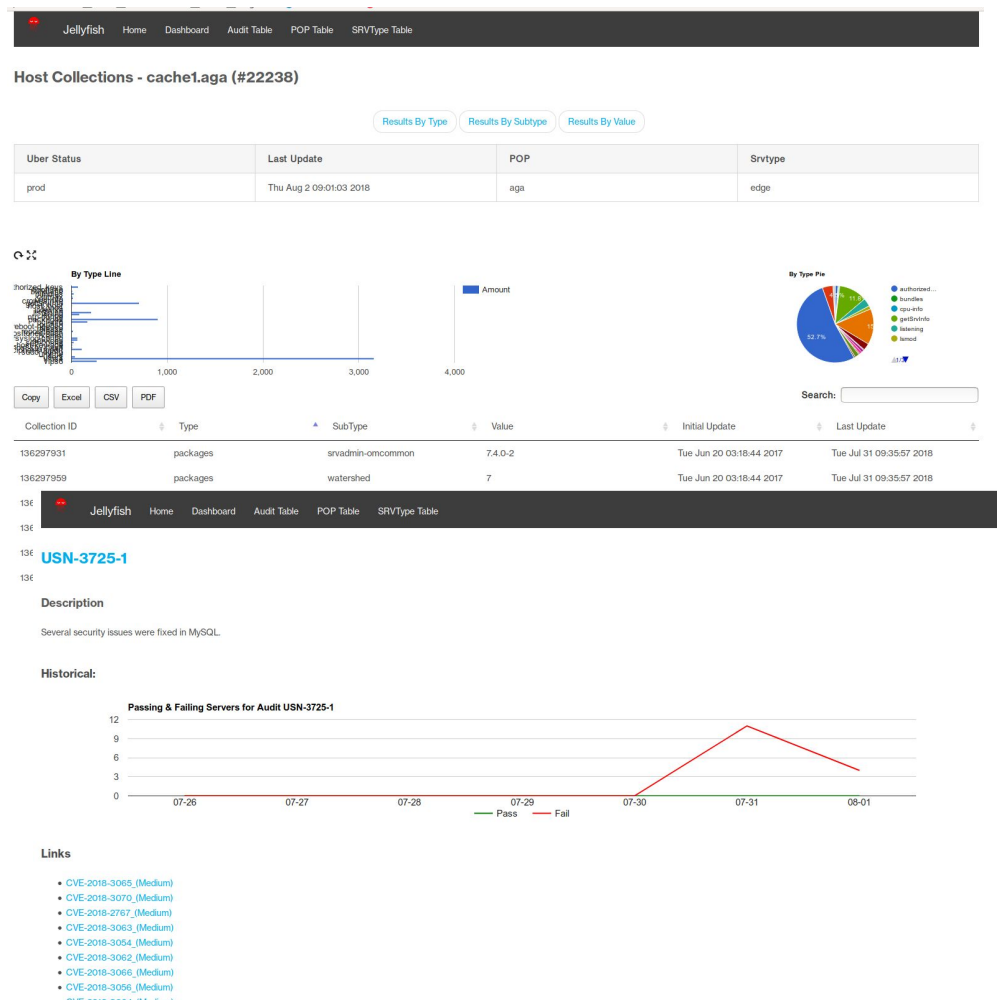
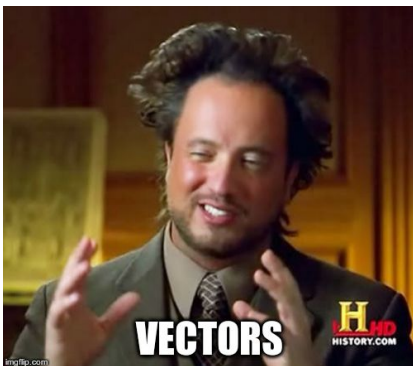
# TOOLING : INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE OPTIONS

- Lots of Potential Tooling:
  - [HubbleStack](#)
  - [Katello](#) and RH Satellite
  - [OSQuery](#)
  - [Lynis](#)
  - [YASAT](#)
  - [Zeus](#)
  - [WSUS](#) (Windows)
- Evaluate your needs and build, buy, combine or modify to suit them.
- There is no Ring of Power.



# MAN O' WAR

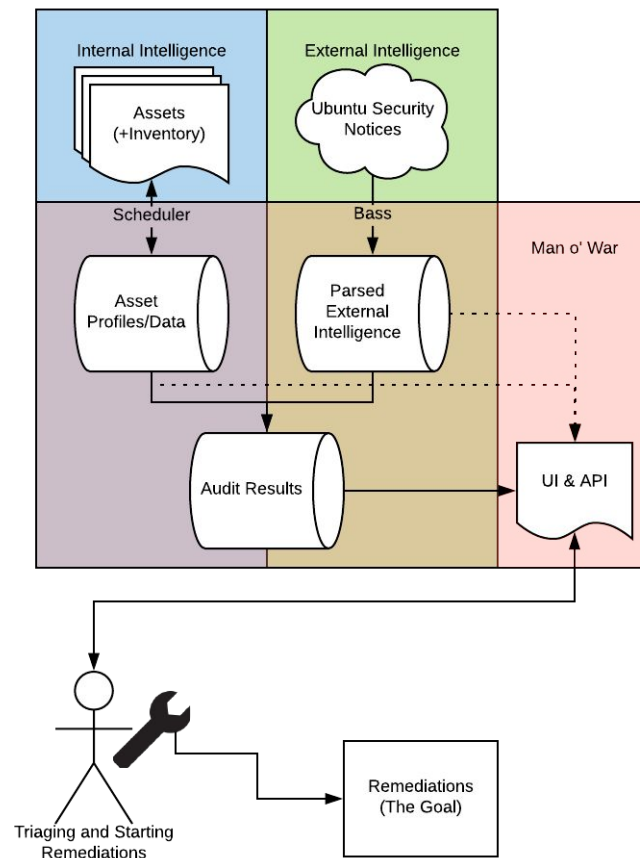
- BSD Licensed Internal Intelligence System we Wrote
- [Link](#)
- One of a Number of tools you could use.
- Missing some helper tools (haven't got them opened yet).





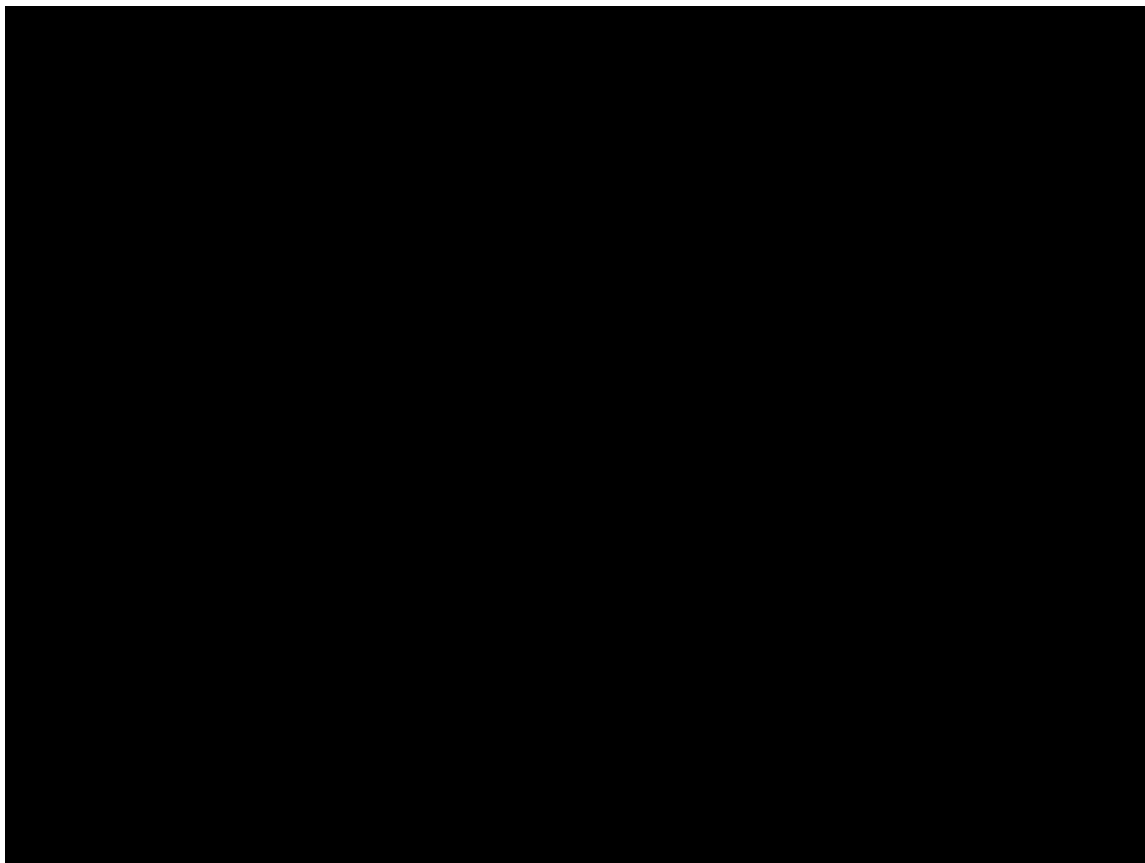
# MAN O' WAR - THEORY TIE IN

- Helps you manage internal and external intelligence sources.
- Parses and checks your external intel into valid comparisons.
- Provides a friendly(ish) way to access the data in question.



# MAN O' WAR - DEMO AGENDA

- Going to take you through an example of triaging.
- Start with the Upstream vulns.
- Show how it profiles.
- Show Auditing
  - Using Example [USN-3765-1](#) a recent Curl Vuln
- Show some “unstructured” Investigation Data Available
- Conclusions



BACKUP DEMO VIDEO



# INTERACTING WITH THE ORG - TWO PATHS

## Work Assignment

- Sometimes you gotta “Cut Tickets” to the asset owners to fix things.
- You get/have to be the bad guy sometimes here.
- **Try to Avoid a “Shame Culture”.**

## Self-Service

- Present your findings as accurately as you can to your org. Think Dashboards.
- If the culture works, teams will “self-resolve” issue you find.
- Data **Accuracy is important here.** False positives lower trust in your team.

# REMEDIATION OR MITIGATION

## Patching Capabilities

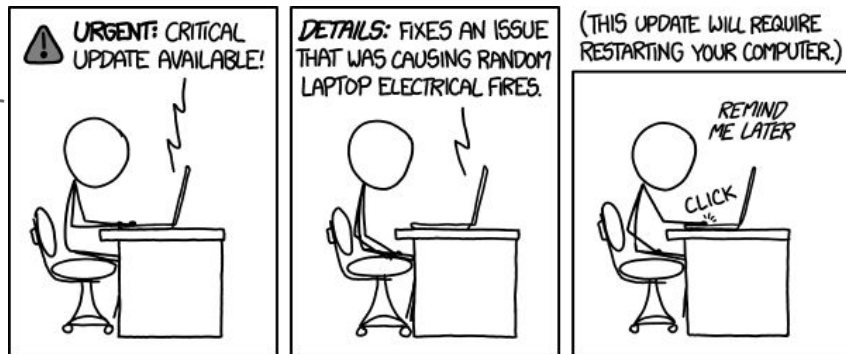
What are your current capabilities?

How fast can you deploy x patch?

How accurately can you validate proper patch installation?

## You may not be able to patch

What mitigation controls are available?



# DECISION DOCUMENTATION

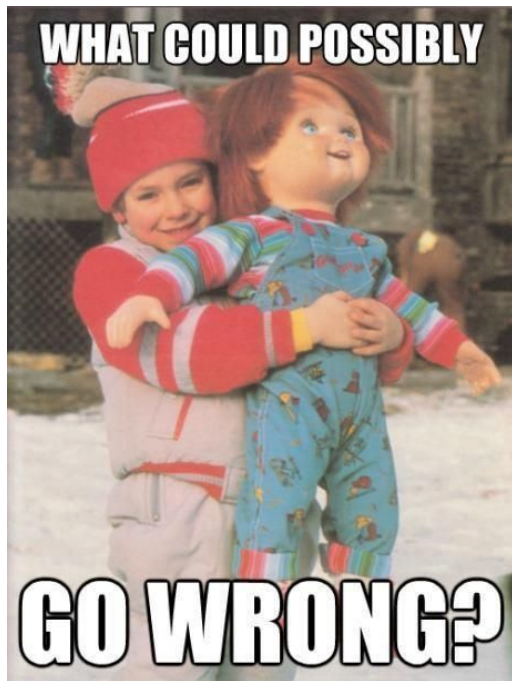
## **Document decisions**

The organization may need to take drastic decisions, make sure they are documented!

PITFALLS



# WHEN THINGS GO WRONG



One day, things will go (very) bad

- Don't panic!
- Don't blame or shame
- Conduct lessons learned.  
Apply, improve, repeat. Iterations!

NEXT LEVEL IDEAS

# GAMIFY REMEDIATION EFFORTS

## Vulnerability and remediation score board

Consider it if you are already providing self service vulnerability data, make it fun.

May not work in your organization!

**Everyone loves Swag!**



Courtesy of [www.customink.com](http://www.customink.com)

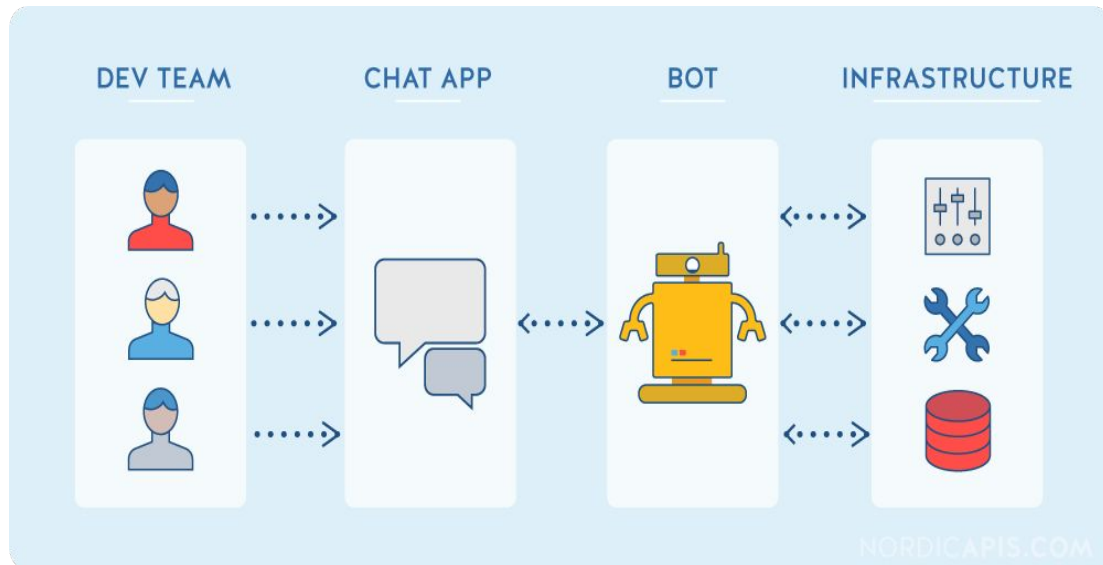
# AUTOMATION

## Automate your goals

Orchestration and ChatOps opportunities

## Be cautious

Secure your pipeline!



Courtesy of [www.addteq.com](http://www.addteq.com)

# BUG BOUNTY

## Be ready for some serious work

If you don't have the proper prerequisites (as discussed earlier)  
Don't do it!

# hackerone

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The logo for Bugcrowd, featuring the word "bugcrowd" in white lowercase letters inside an orange square.

bugcrowd

# HOW **NOT** TO MEASURE YOUR PROGRAM SUCCESS

# FINAL NOTES & TAKEAWAYS

Don't Shame

When In Doubt, Ask

Don't Blindly Trust Upstream Scoring

Validate Your Data

Improve Incrementally (OODA)

**Don't Get Bogged Down**



QUESTIONS ?





# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

## Resources Links:

- Toolset 2.0 Additional Tools!
  - <https://goo.gl/Vut2pm>
- Link to Slides
  - To Be Posted