



Tales from the Trenches

Cybersecurity Incidents & the Imperative for Zero Trust in Healthcare

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- Chief Operations Officer/CISO



Tales from the Trenches:

Cybersecurity Incidents & the Imperative for Zero Trust in Healthcare

Takeaways:

1. Understanding of Cybersecurity Incidents
2. Lessons Learned
3. The Need for Adopting a Zero Trust Mentality



Understanding Adversaries

Type of Threat Actor	Motives
State Sponsored	Espionage, theft, or furthers other national interests
Organized Crime	Financial gain
Hacktivists	Exposing secrets, disrupting service to those with differing morals
Insiders	Bypassing controls, further self-interests
Script Kiddies	Vandalism, Curiosity

Key Terminology

Security Incident

A security event that compromises an asset's integrity, confidentiality, or availability

Security Breach

An incident that results in the confirmed disclosure of data to an unauthorized party

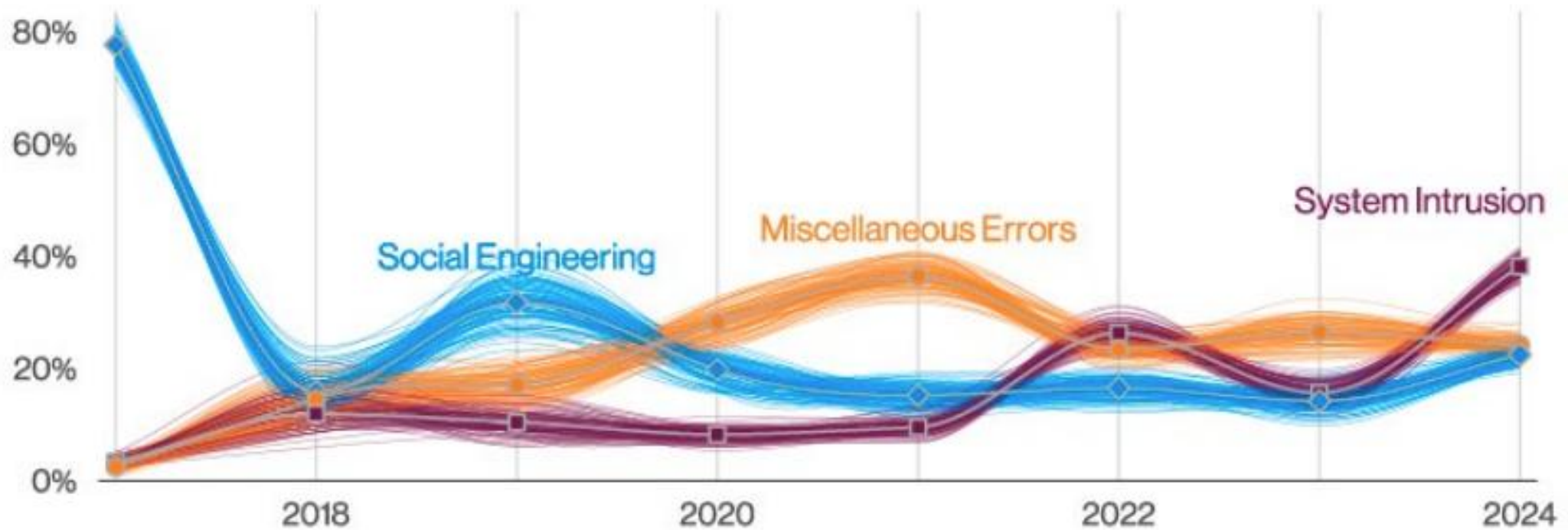


Figure 60. Top patterns in Financial and Insurance industry breaches

Credit: 2024 Verizon DBIR

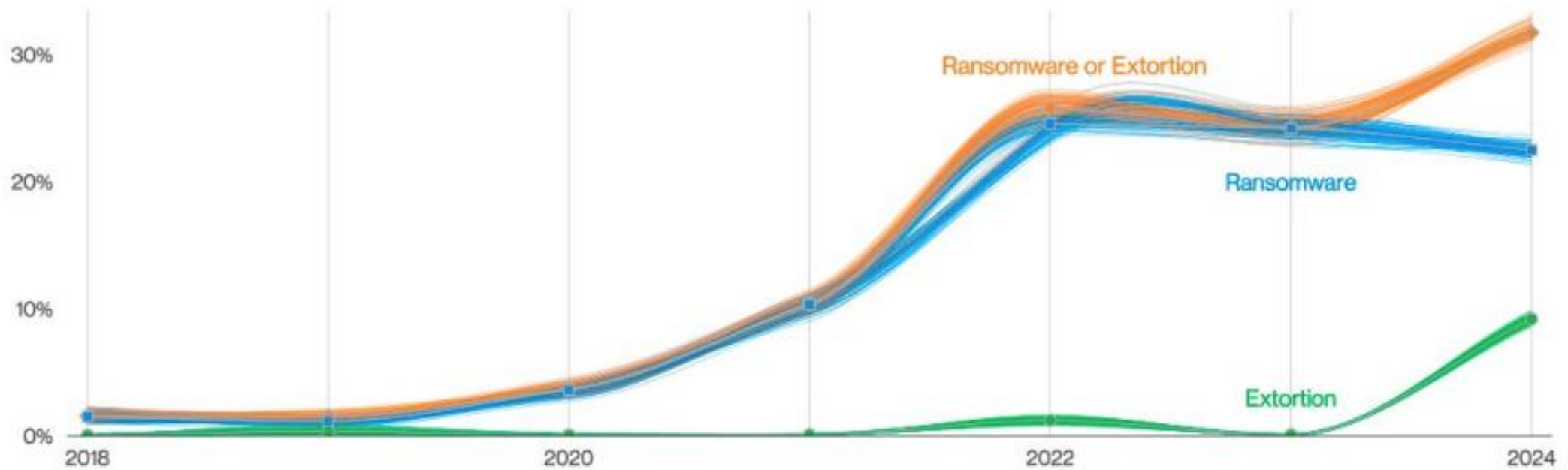


Figure 2. Ransomware and Extortion breaches over time

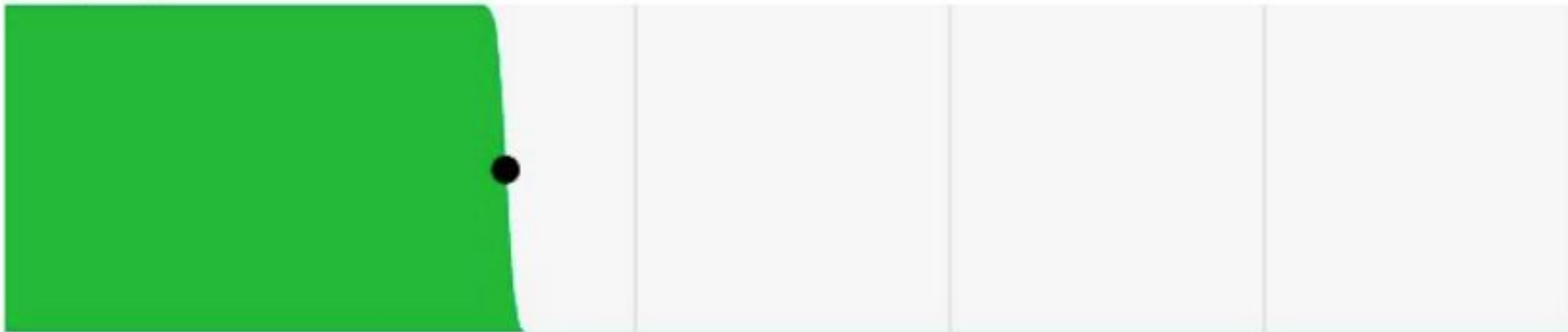
Credit: 2024 Verizon DBIR

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

68% of breaches involved a human element
(n=10,069)



32% of breaches involved Ransomware or Extortion
(n=9,982)



Credit: 2024 Verizon DBIR

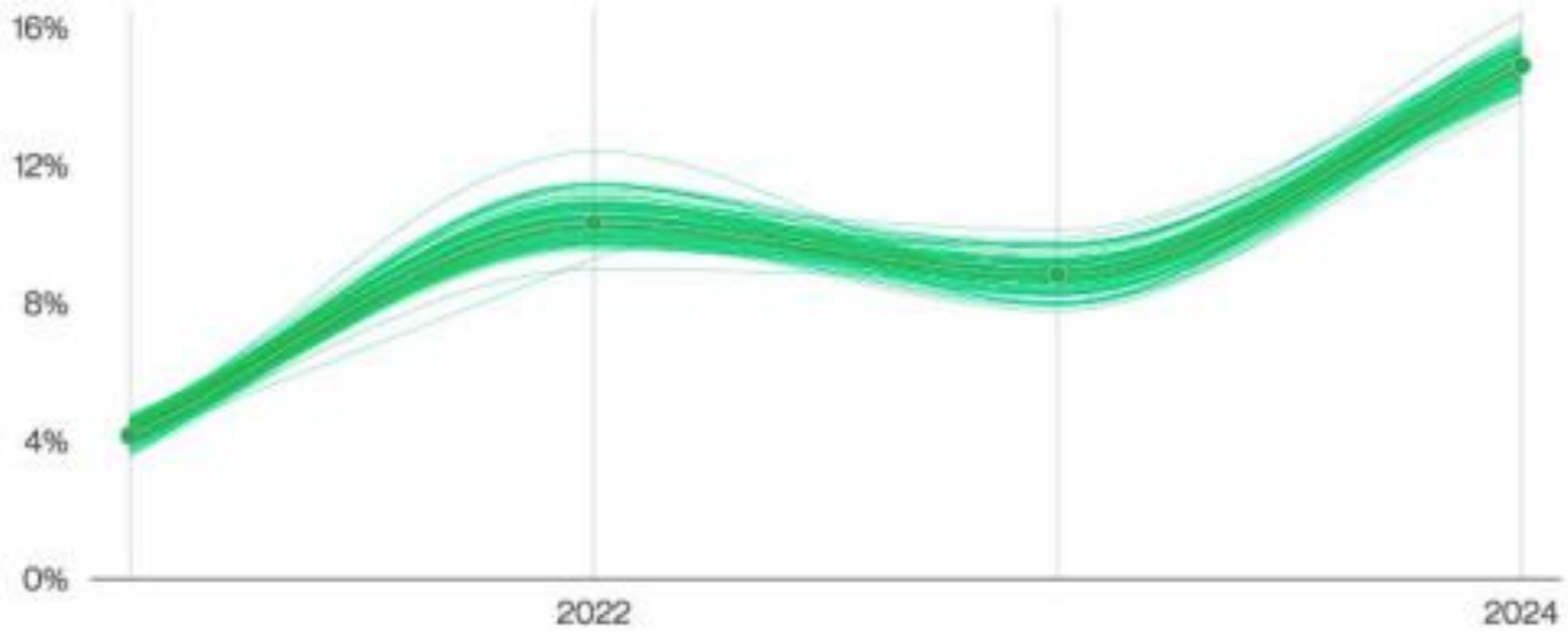
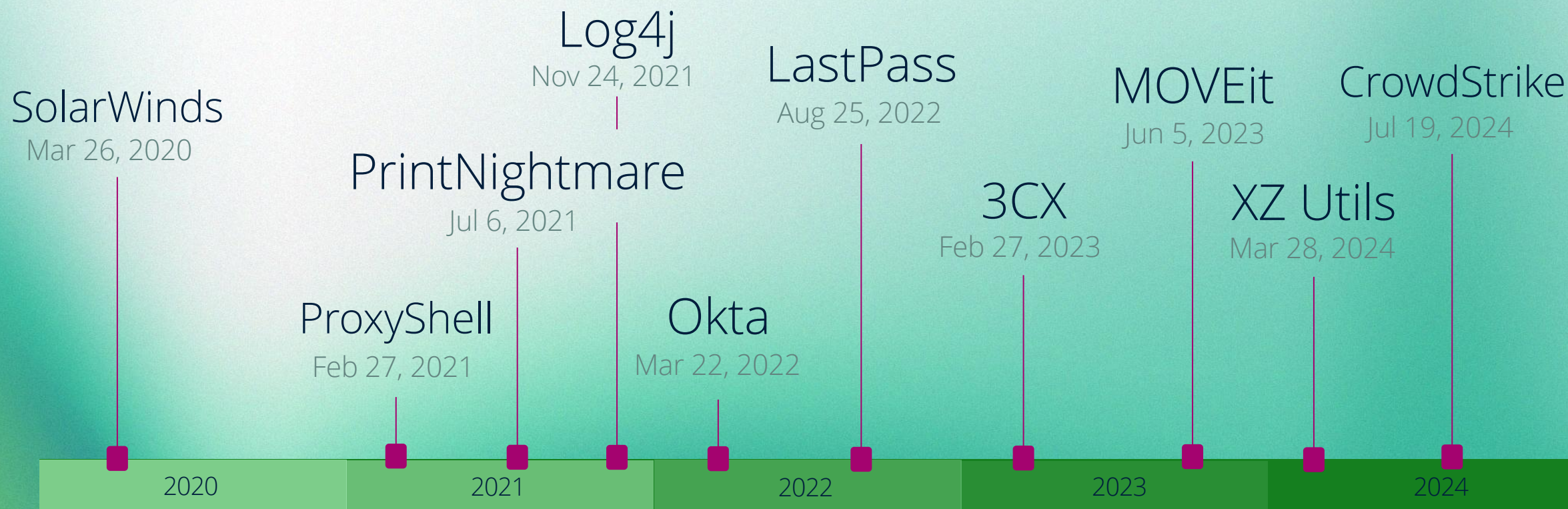


Figure 9. Supply chain interconnection in breaches over time

Credit: 2024 Verizon DBIR

Notable Supply Chain Events



EO 14028
May 12, 2021

Today

Incident #1: Persistence Pays Off

- Employee received a “remittance” email
- Scanned image was blurry, employee clicked to view
- Entered Office 365 credentials
- Did not report incident to IT
- Began receiving frequent phone calls
- Accepted MFA prompt on phone
- Began sending thousands of emails

Incident #1: Lessons Learned

Implement frequent security and awareness training

Never accept an MFA prompt unless actively logging in

Implement phishing resistant MFA

Consider incorporating device evaluation into access policies

Perform audits on critical controls to identify misconfigurations

Incident #2: The Perfect Storm

- SIEM alerted on unusual VPN activity over the weekend
- IT staff unreachable
- All servers encrypted
- Slow insurance engagement
- Effective backups, poor continuity
- Poor inventory management
- Lack of BCDR planning
- Storing PII in plain text
- Paid ransom, failed decryption
- EOL VPN appliance



Incident #2: Lessons Learned

Inventory all systems on network

Document RTO/RPO of critical business systems

Ensure availability of key personnel or alternatives

Practice your incident response plan

Implement application allowlisting and ZTNA

Incident #3: The Family Business

- Business owner calls into support
- \$800,000 wire transfer
- Contacted IC3
- Started with email compromise
- Communicated with “vendor” to initiate wire transfer
- Shut down the family business



Incident #3: Lessons Learned

Implement frequent security and awareness training

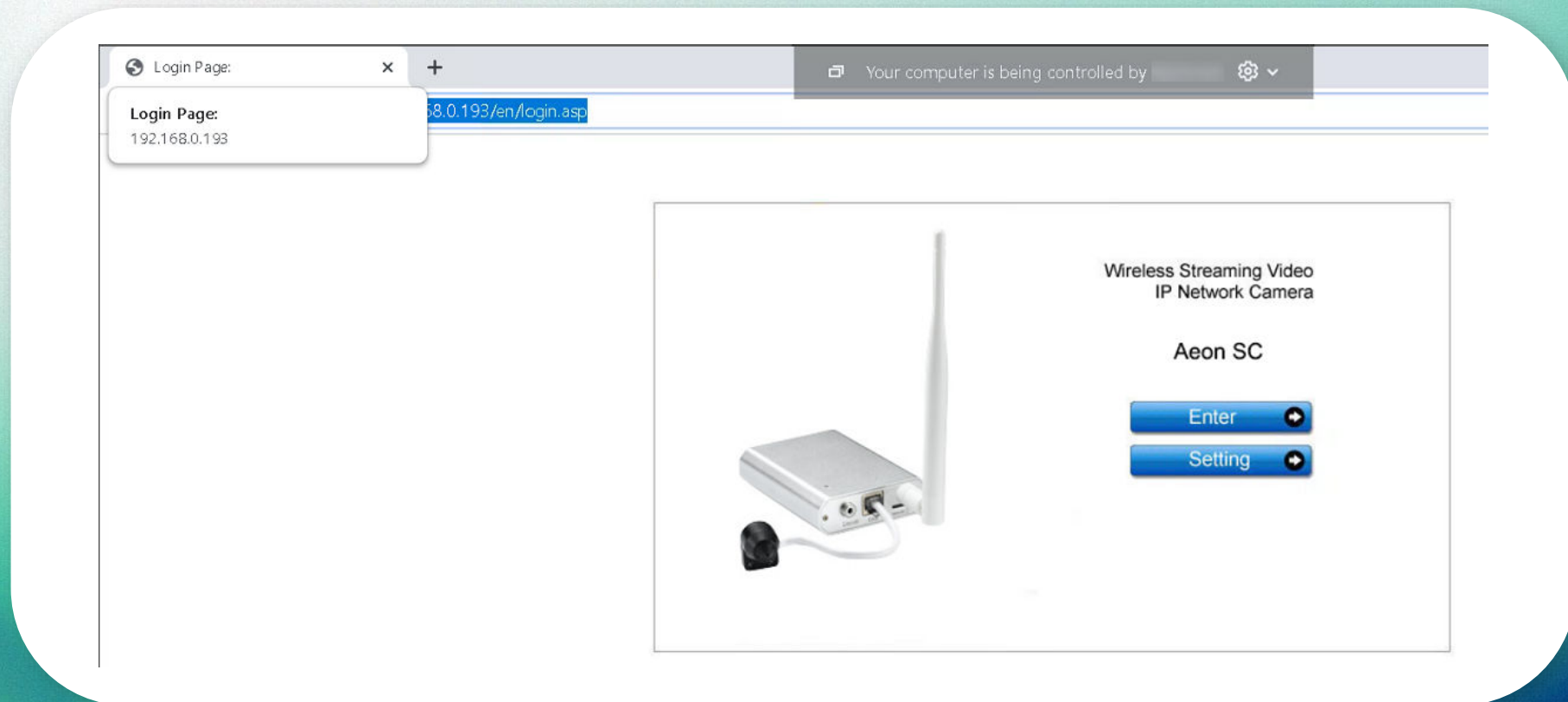
Implement MFA on all critical applications – Phishing resistant preferred

Implement dual approvals for payment transfers

Review cyber insurance policies

Incident #3: Swimming Lessons

- Customer was evaluating new security tool
- Identified a device making unusual network connections



Incident #4: Lessons Learned

Implement solutions that inventory devices on the network

Isolate unauthorized devices on the network

Incident #5: Verkada's Response

- <https://www.verkada.com/security-update/report/>



Incident #5: Lessons Learned

Develop solid communication plan

Honest communications

Address concerns promptly

Continue providing updates until resolution

Introduction to Zero Trust

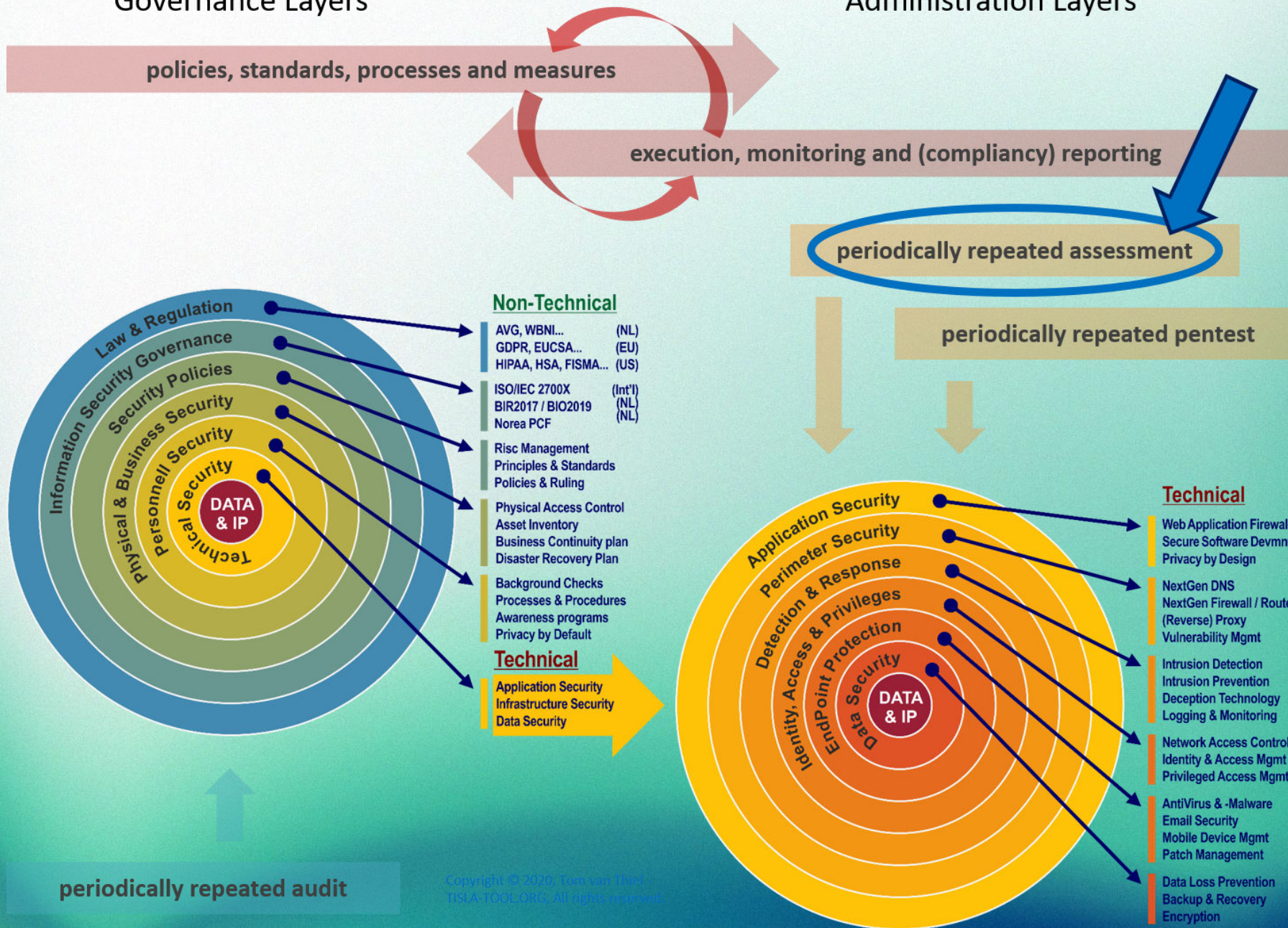
IS	IS NOT
A mentality/framework	A single product or technology
Data-focused	Perimeter-based security
Proactive	One-size-fits-all
Identity-centric	Easy to implement
Dynamic	A silver bullet to eliminate risk

Zero Trust Tenets

1. All resources must be considered
2. Location should be considered irrelevant
3. Access is granted on a per-session basis
4. Access is determined by dynamic evaluation
5. Authentication and authorization is evaluated BEFORE access is allowed
6. Monitor integrity and security posture of all devices
7. Develop baseline of network to further improvements

Governance Layers

Administration Layers



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Implementation Plan

1. Define Strategy
2. Inventory Resources
3. Define Scope

4. Enhance Device Security
5. Network Segmentation
6. Implement IAM

7. Implement SIEM
8. Deploy DLP
9. Automate Processes

10. Monitor & Adapt

Foundation &
Strategy

Core Security
Infrastructure

Advanced
Capabilities

Continuous
Improvement

Core Recommendations

Phishing Resistant
MFA

Endpoint Detection &
Response (EDR)

Application
Allowlisting

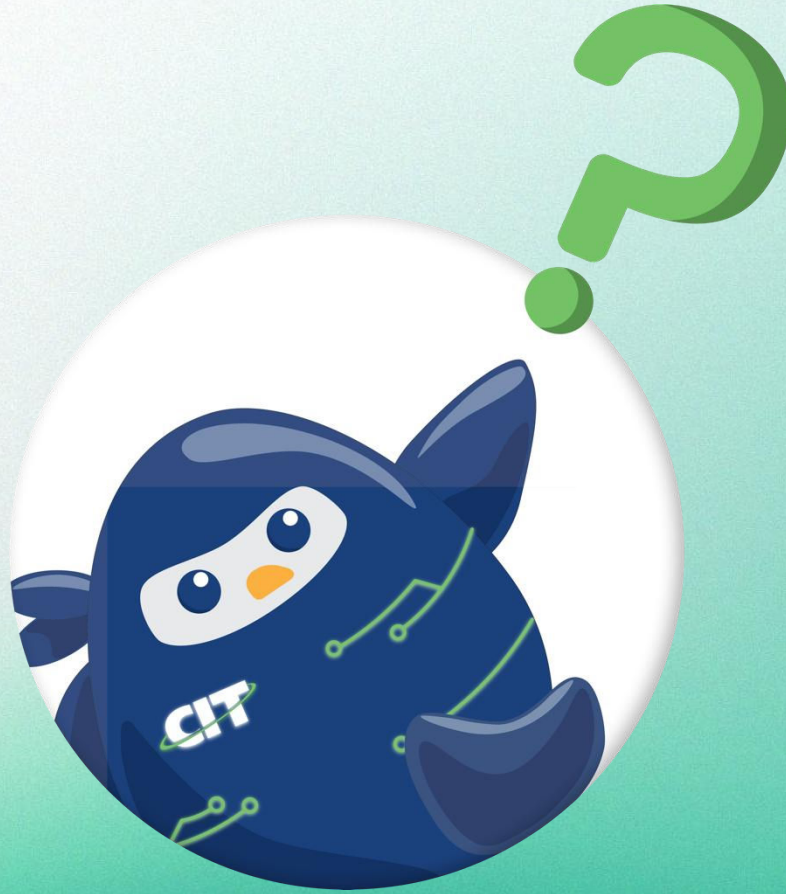
Privileged Access
Management

Zero Trust Network
Access (ZTNA)

Network Access
Control (NAC)

Security Awareness
Training

BCDR Review





**MAKING TECHNOLOGY
WORK FOR BUSINESS**