Cyber Defense Strategies Detecting Earlier and Responding Faster

ZERO HYPE
ZERO FALSE POSITIVES
ZERO EXCUSES

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WHO WE ARE

- Founded Earthwave in 1999 Gartner leading APAC MSSP
- Was the core security service for Telstra and Cisco MSS in Australia
- 2012 sold to NTT Japan ~\$100m exit No VC Investors
- Helped globalise MSS for Dimension Data / NTT Japan –
 Managed 10 SOC's Globally for Dimension Data / NTT Japan
- Recognised the failure of legacy SOC approach to cyber defense when only relying on logs and SIEM
- We knew there was a better way. Started LMNTRIX in 2015 after considerable research and investment



Issues we had identified

#1 - How are you using your current SOC?
Are you able to detect any new threats?
Most organizations use their SOC for incident response

#2 - Alert Fatigue - Even after adding ML/AI/SOAR/Threat Intelligence

#3 - Whenever a threat bypasses your existing security controls - In most cases it means there is no alert for it



Detect threats that are consistently bypassing existing security controls and provide full IR lifecycle

To do this correctly requires an integrated, multivector platform which combines the tactical acquity of automated systems (ML/AI/Automation) with human analysts





THE SLIDING SCALE OF CYBER SECURITY

PASSIVE DEFENSE

The planning establishing, and upkeep of systems with security in mind

ARCHITECTURE

System added to the Architecture to provide reliable defense or insight against threats without consistent human interaction

ACTIVE DEFENSE

The process of analysts monitoring for, responding to, and learning from adversaries internal to the network

INTELLIGENCE

Collecting data, exploiting it into information, and producing intelligence

OFFENSE

Legal countermeasures and self-defense actions against an adversary



BLOCK THE NOISE & FALSE POSITIVES TERMINATE ALERT FATIGUE

- At minimum use NGFW, Email & Web Security
- Build an outer shell
- Think of it like the layers of an onion



DEVELOP A POST BREACH STRATEGY FOR DETECTING MALWARE

- Automate detections across multiple threat vectors
 - Email(Example) links/attach, Web, IDS, Encrypted attacks, Retrospection
 - Instrumenting Constituent Systems in the Cloud
 - Monitoring Operational Technology
 - Monitoring Mobile
 - Bots, malware, ransomware, Sandboxes, Threat Intelligence
 - EDR, NDR, Adversary behaviours, ML, FIM, DLP
 - Monitoring in Zero Trust Environments



DEVELOP A POST BREACH STRATEGY FOR DETECTING HUMAN ADVERSARIES

- Deceptions
- Moving target defense
- Lateral movement
- Insider threats
- Identity





DEVELOP A POST BREACH FORENSICS CAPABILITY - EVIDENCE PRESERVATION & IR (Replay)

- Network Forensics Meta Data
- EDR
- Logs
- Threat & underground intelligence

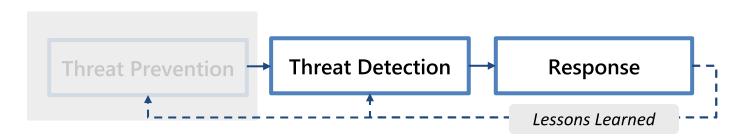


ASSUME BREACH FOR WHEN STRATEGIES 1-3 FAILED

- Automated Active threat hunting (IOC)
- Automated Proactive threat hunting (IOA)



ACTIVE DEFENSE STRATEGY #5



At some point the adversary has to do something anomalous (re-insert)



You have to be able to spot that and quickly take action on it



THREAT VALIDATION AUTOMATE EVERYTHING

- Validating threats
- Incident creation
- Client communication
- Threat intelligence, Vulnerability management,
 Compliance, Automating Reporting:, Automating
 Manual Tasks
- SIEM, SOAR, UEBA



THREAT VALIDATION AUTOMATE EVERYTHING

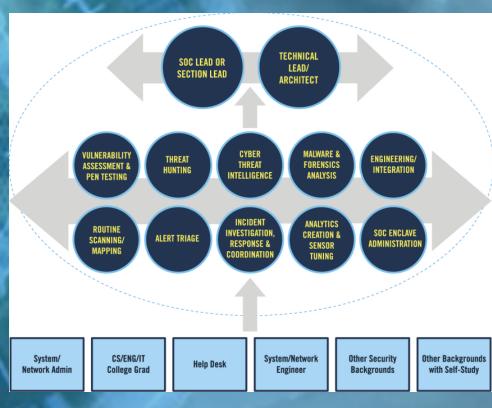
- Use bots Python or Java and security-specific libraries like OpenCV for computer vision, OpenSSL for encryption and libraries such as scikit-learn for machine learning. (ML Engineer vs Context-Business) – Risk Scoring system (Intelligence driven)
- Can your analyst move from endpoints to packets to threat intelligence to deceptions to cloud and create a story in a single click for that IOC? Very difficult with just



TO FIND A HUMAN - YOU NEED A HUMAN HIRE AND GROW QUALITY STAFF

- Whom Should I Hire?
- Grow Your Own SOC Staff
- Create an Environment that Encourages Staff to Stay
- Pre-Plan for Staff Turn-Over
- How Many Analysts Do I Need?





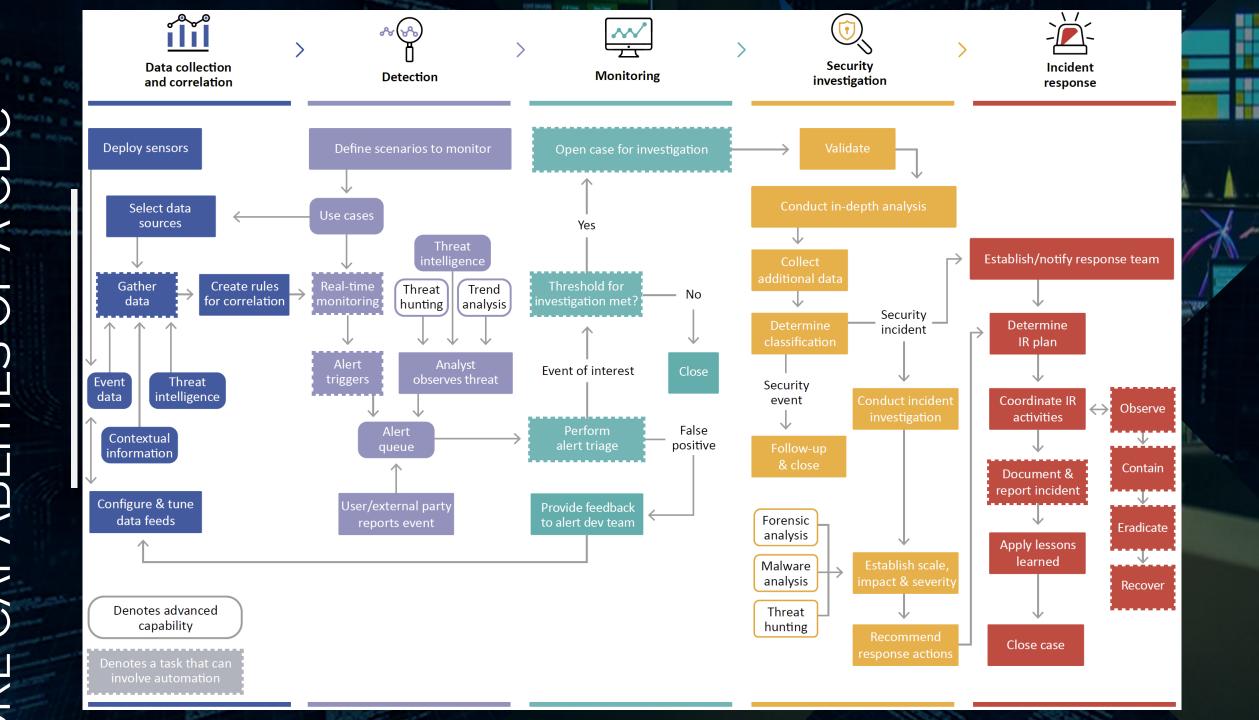
ACTIVE DEFENSE STRATEGY #7

YOU NEED EXPERTS

CYBER DEFENSE CENTRE MANAGER

Metrics & Threat Response Threat Intel Engineering Threat Detection Threat Hunting Communications Incident Responder Dashboards & **Event Analyst** (Tier 3) **APT Hunting Intel Analysts** Integration (Tier 1) Reporting **Incident Analyst** Forensic/ Malware Operations & Maintenance (Tier 2) Analysts

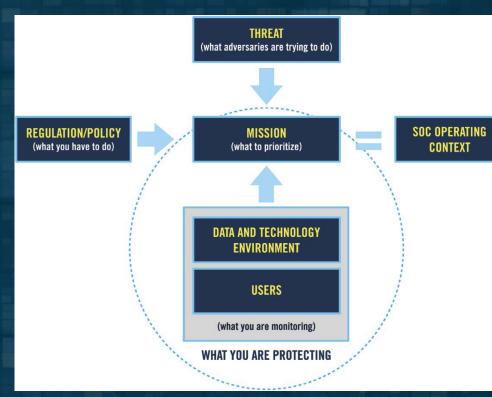




KNOW WHAT YOU ARE PROTECTING AND WHY

- Situational Awareness
- SOC Operating Context
- Understand the Organization's Mission
- Understand the Legal, Regulatory, and Compliance Environment
- Understand the Technical Environment, Especially Critical Systems and Data
- Understand the Users, User Behaviors, and Service Interactions
- Understand you Threat Model
- Building Awareness over Time





ACTIVE DEFENSE STRATEGY #8

FOCUS ON MEAN TIME TO REMEDIATION (MTTR)

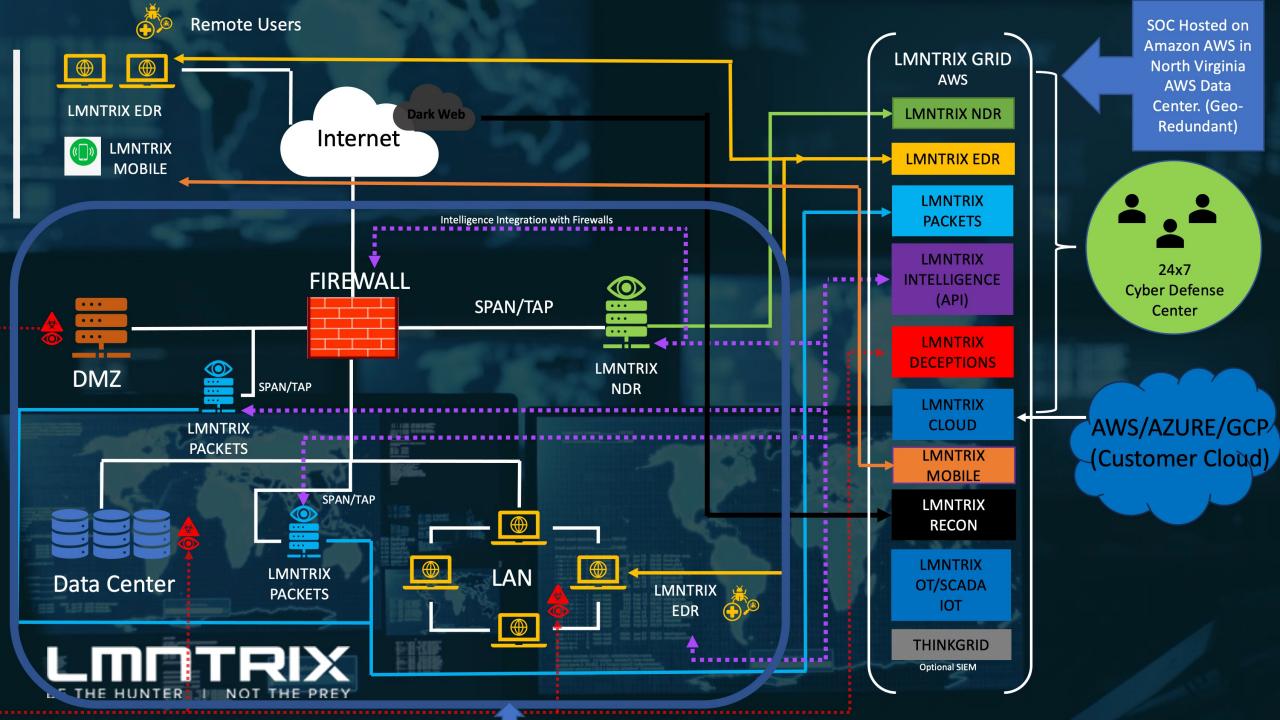
Drives up attacker cost by limiting dwell time Time to Acknowledge (TTA), Time to remediate (TTR), manual vs automation, escalations

1. Monitor all assets
Emphasis on attack paths to critical assets

IDENTIFY PROTECT DETECT RESPOND RECOVER

2. Rapid investigation and remediation *Focused on resuming secure business operations*





CYBER SCAPE

