

Democratizing Incident Response Tabletop Exercises

FIRST Technical Colloquium 2023

Amsterdam, NL

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R+D+i Manager

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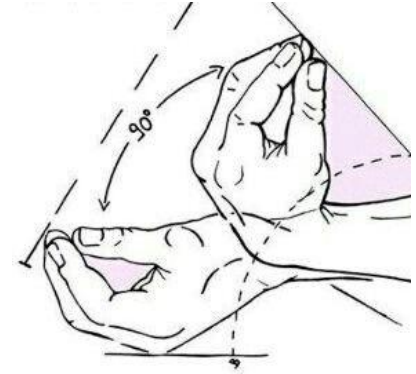
@FedeQuark



Who is this unknown guy?



- Born in Argentina
- Italian passport
- Living in Spain



*Committed to help reducing the gap between
industry and academia in cybersecurity*

Disclaimer

**This presentation may contain
excessive amounts of memes in order
to bypass cultural barriers**



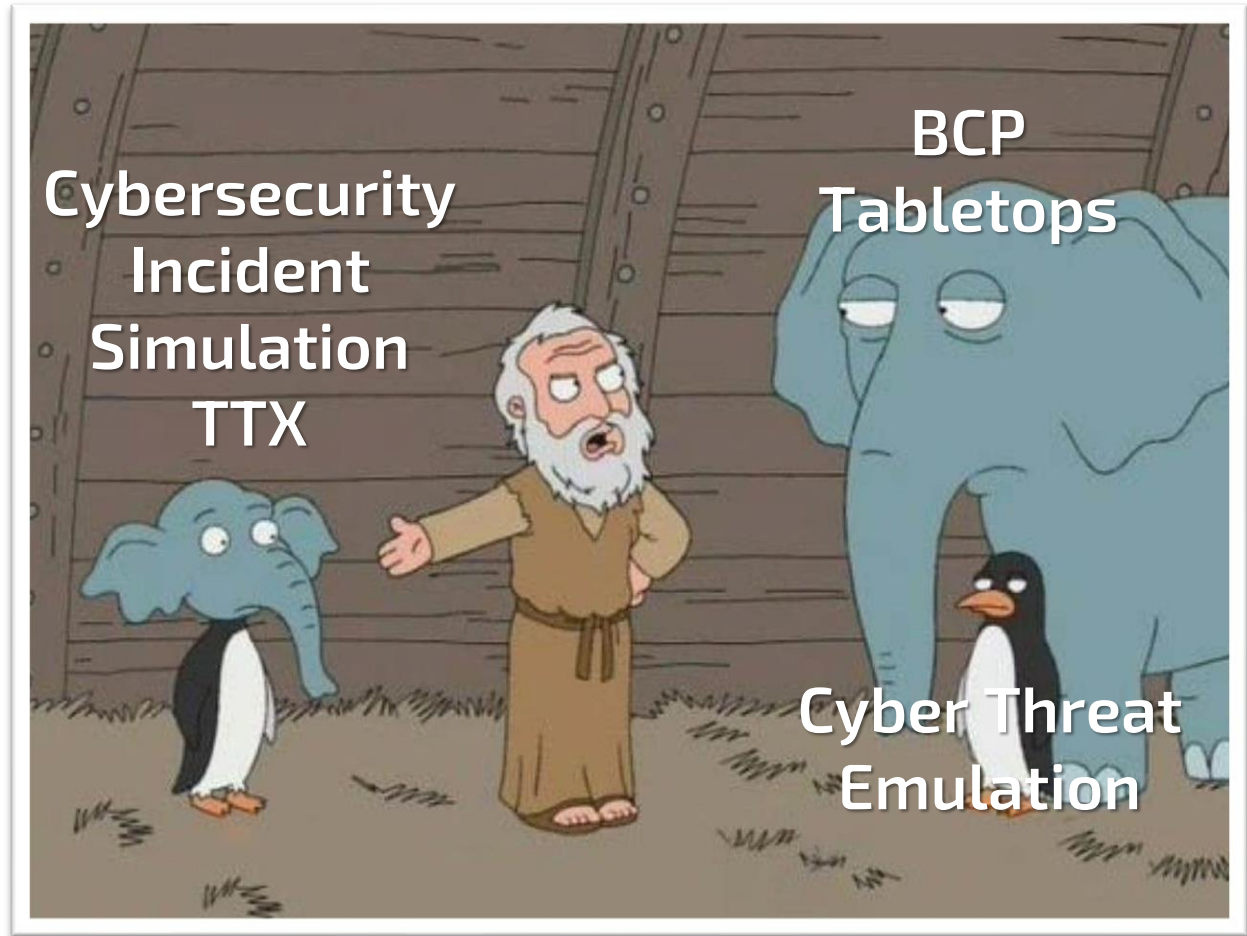
Democratize

**Tabletop
Exercises (TTX)**

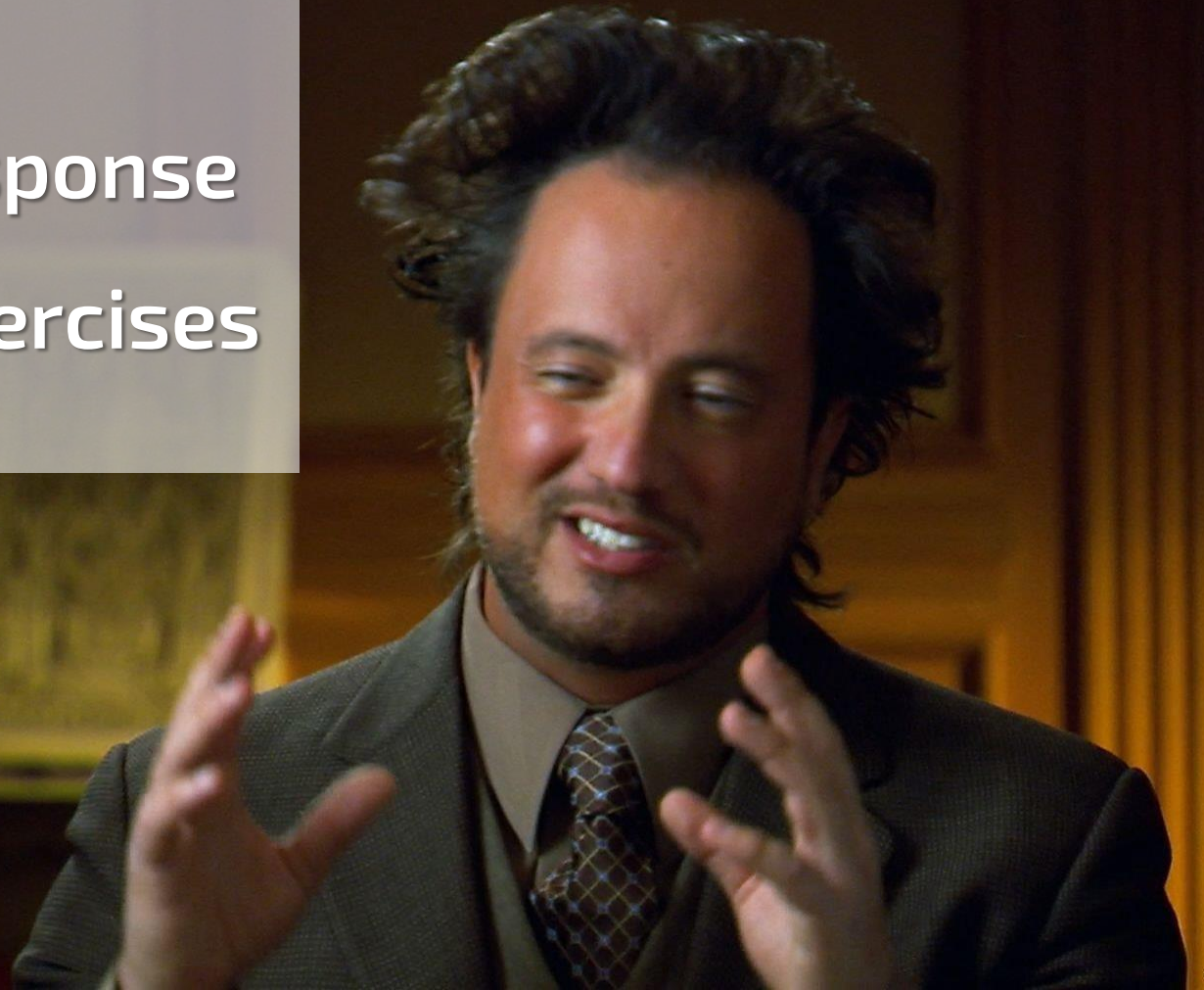
**Incident
Response**



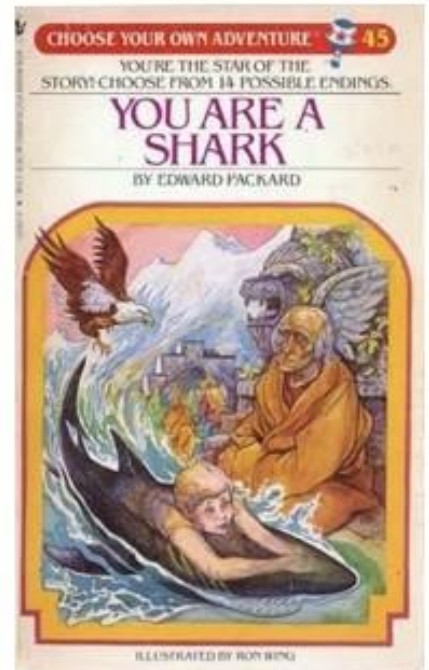
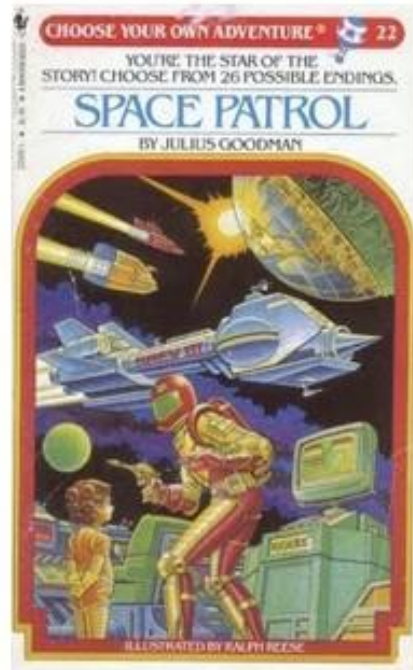
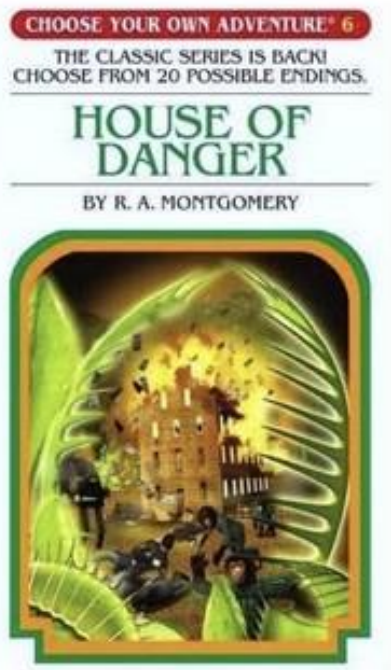
**Let's
face it**



Incident Response Tabletop Exercises



What it seems to be



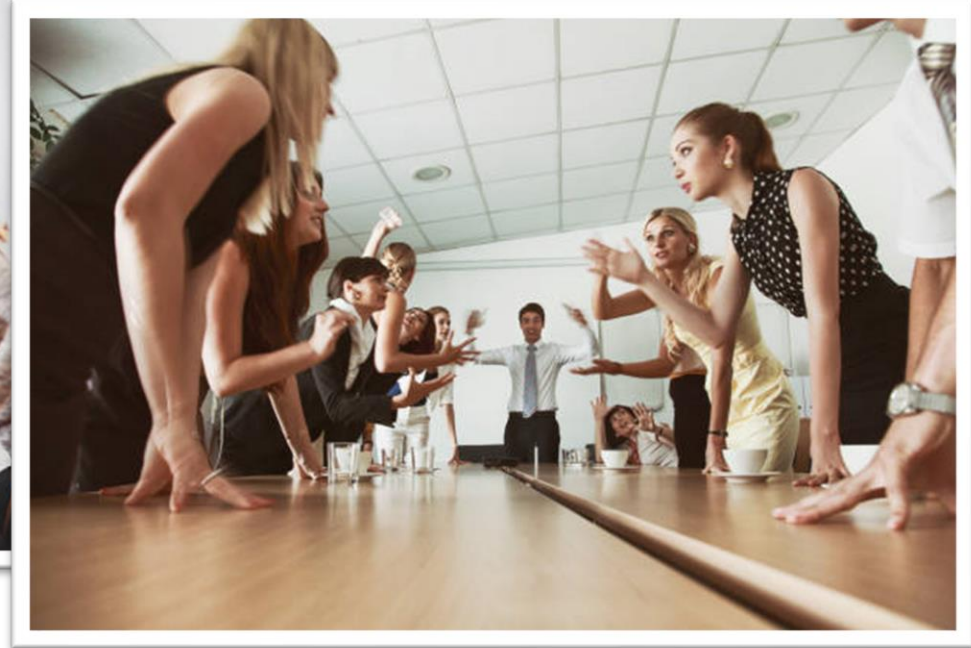
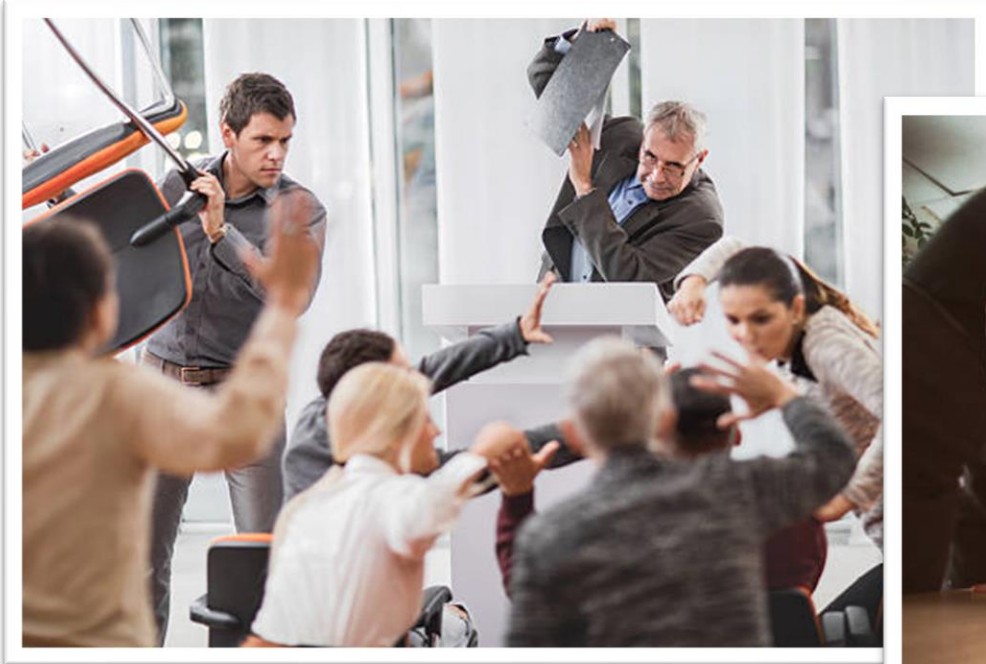
What customers think it is



What we think our approach is



What usually occurs



Exercise Dynamics

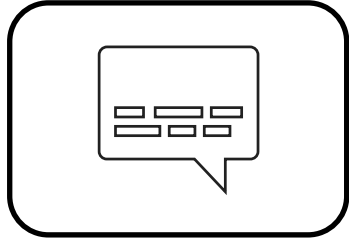
Participants → Areas

Scenario → Events

Information → Decisions

Interaction

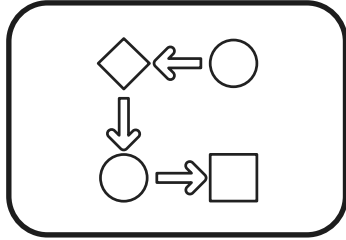
What for?



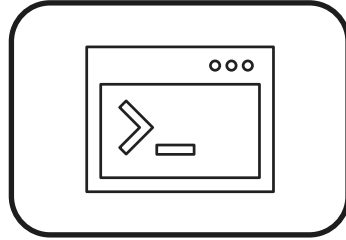
Communication



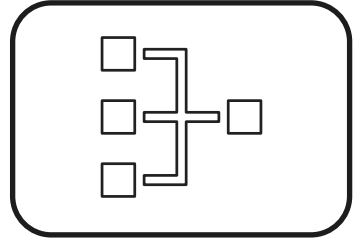
Documentation



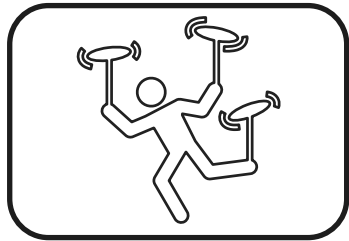
Playbooks



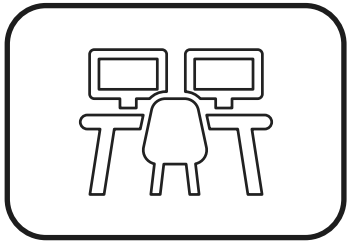
Runbooks



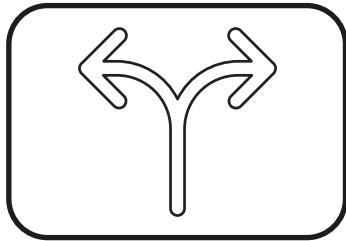
Procedures



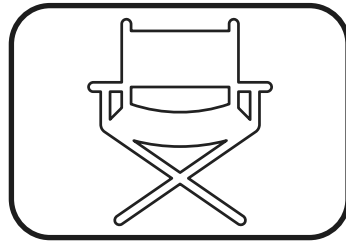
Operations



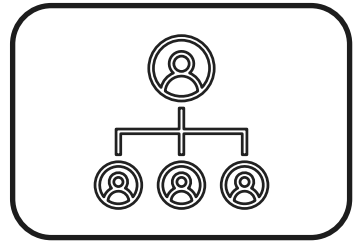
Capabilities



Decisions



Coordination



Escalation

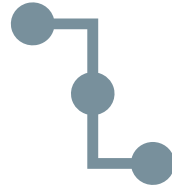
Types of participants



Player



Observer



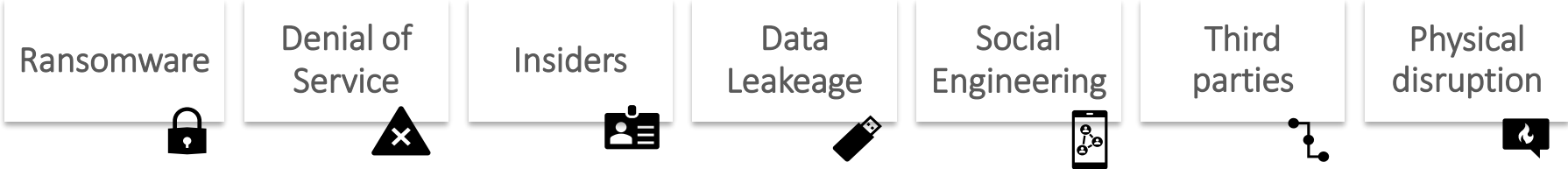
Connector



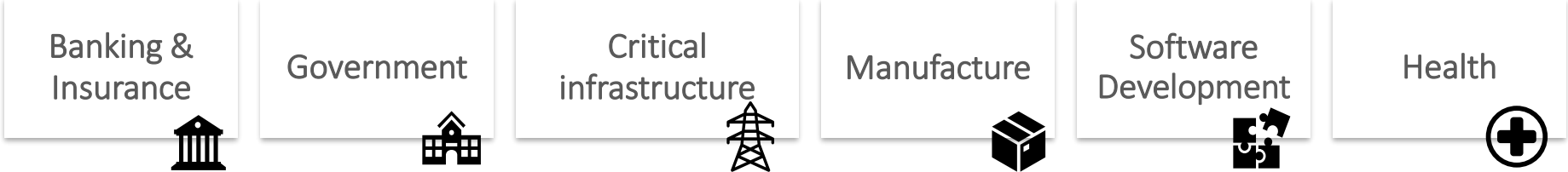
Coordinator

Scenario creation

By threat category



By industry



Design Decisions

Mode

Classic

Platform-based

Hybrid

Profiles

Technical

Executive

Hybrid

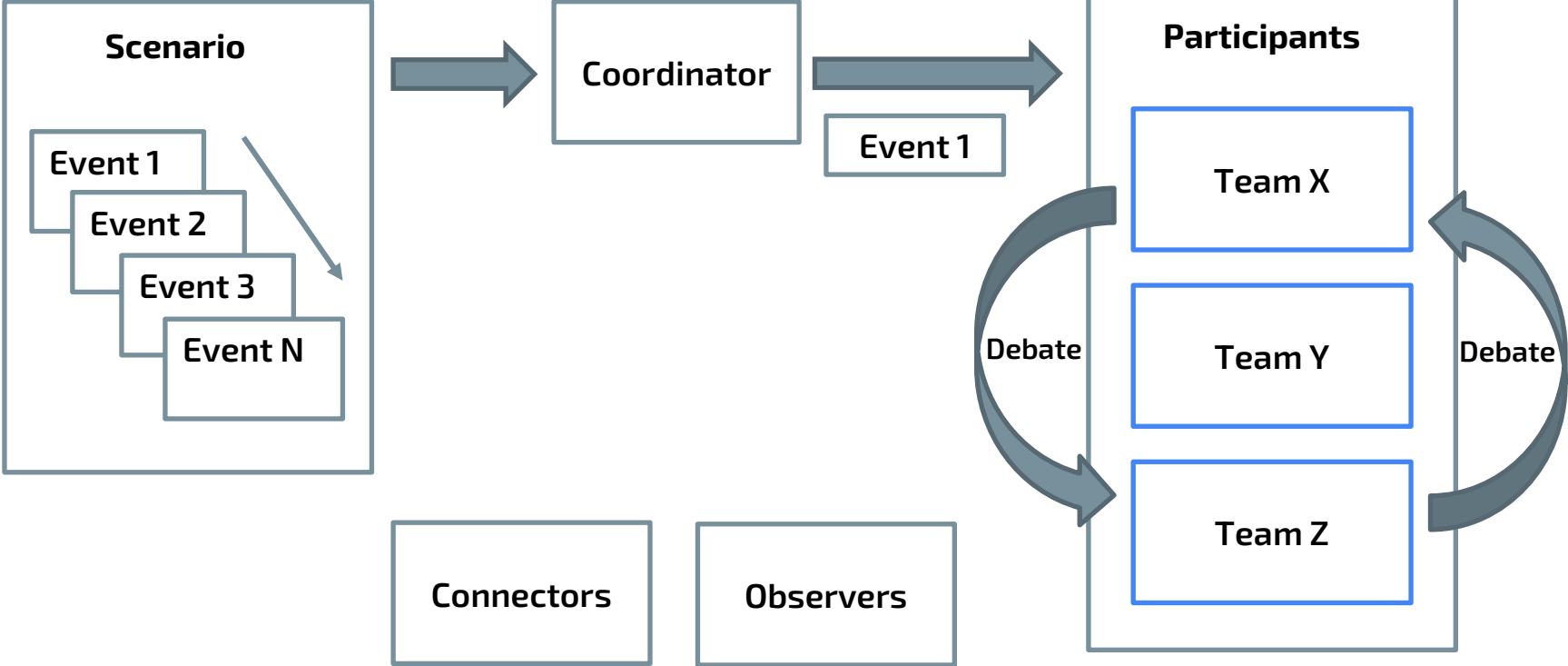
Interaction

Virtual

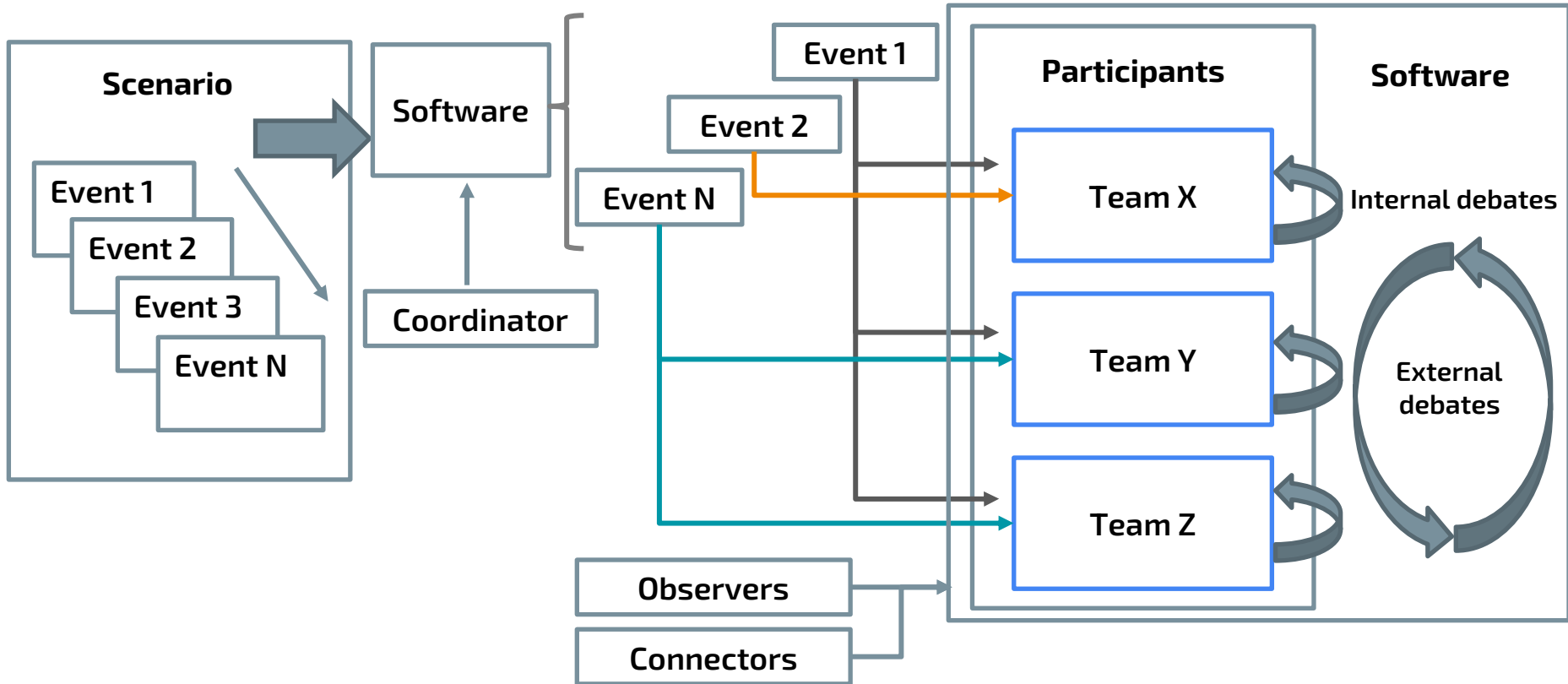
In person

Hybrid

Classic Mode



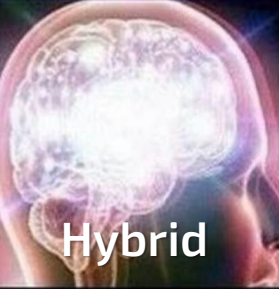


Platform-based mode

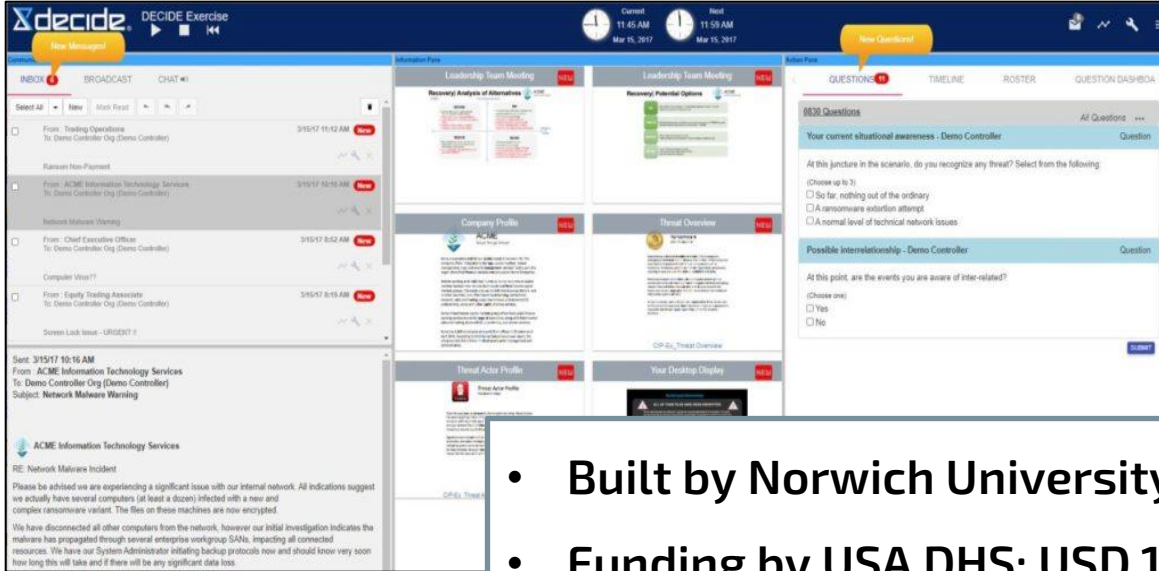


MSEL (Master Scenario Events List)

ID	Real Time	Sim Time	Duration	Title	Date	Subject	From	To	Player	Method	Script	Expected Action
1	7:30 PM	9:00 AM	1	Incidente en equipo de usuario	Viernes 9:00 AM	Ticket numero 31878432	Usuario Juan Perez	Equipo A Managers de TI/Cybersecurity	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Windows del usuario no permite acceder a sus archivos de trabajo.	Análisis del incidentes para chequear si hay ransomware
2	7:30 PM	9:00 AM	1	Noticia: Cibercriminales activos	Viernes 9:00 AM	Actividad cibercriminal creciente	Agencia de prensa	Equipo B Managers de Operaciones, negocio, legales y Prensa/Comunicación	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Esta semana se detectó un aumento en la actividad cibercriminal local, y se sospecha que podrían iniciarse ataques dirigidos	Contactar al equipo de IT/Cybersecurity
3	7:32 PM	10:30 AM	1	Intento de Phishing	Viernes 10:00 AM	Ticket numero 31878440	Usuario Humberto Velez	Equipo A Managers de TI/Cybersecurity	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Email sospechoso reportado en el equipo del usuario.	Análisis del caso
4	7:32 PM	10:30 AM	1	Anuncio de auditoria	Viernes 10:00 AM	Agenda de Auditoría Externa	Auditor Externo	Equipo B Managers de Operaciones, negocio, legales y Prensa/Comunicación	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Se comunica que día lunes se dará inicio a la auditoria externa previamente estipulada.	N/A
5	7:35 PM	11:00 AM	1	Cibercriminales publican en RRSS que tienen informacion de varias empresas	Viernes 11:00 AM	Event #AZ893182	Analista de Threat Intelligence	Equipo A Managers de TI/Cybersecurity	Todas las empresas	Inbox	El grupo chino Gnefoab publicó en Twitter que tienen información de varias empresas del sector.	Proponer Worst Case Scenario
6	7:35 PM	11:00 AM	1	Problema en logistica	Viernes 11:00 AM	Reporte de falla en logistica	Coordinador de logistica	Equipo B Managers de Operaciones, negocio, legales y Prensa/Comunicación	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Se detectó un error en los envios de material a clientes. Se esperan costos derivados de la solución del inconveniente.	Análisis de situación por posible impacto en el negocio
7	7:38 PM	12:30 PM	1	Incidente contenido	Viernes 12:00 PM	Resolución de incidente	Equipo de Respuesta a Incidentes	Equipo A Managers de TI/Cybersecurity	Todas las empresas	Inbox	El incidente de acceso a documentos del usuario Juan Perez se trató de un problema con una configuración.	Registrar detalles del caso
8	7:38 PM	12:30 PM	1	Empresa del mismo sector reporta problema parecido	Viernes 12:00 PM	Una empresa reporta el mismo error	Jefe de operaciones	Equipo B Managers de Operaciones, negocio, legales y Prensa/Comunicación	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Un colega de otra empresa avisa que tuvieron un problema semejante al que tuvimos con la logística.	Análisis de situación por posible impacto en el negocio
9	7:41 PM	1:00 PM	1	Cibercriminales publican en RRSS que tienen informacion de LogiStock	Viernes 1:00 PM	Event #BP893182	Analista de Threat Intelligence	Equipo A Managers de TI/Cybersecurity	Todas las empresas	Inbox	El grupo chino Gnefoab publicó en Twitter una muestra de datos reales de varias empresas, entre las cuales mencionan a LogiStock, nuestro proveedor de software de logística.	Proponer Worst Case Scenario
10	7:41 PM	1:00 PM	1	Noticia: Cibercriminales activos	Viernes 1:00 PM	Actividad cibercriminal creciente	Agencia de prensa	Equipo B Managers de Operaciones, negocio, legales y Prensa/Comunicación	Todas las empresas	Inbox	Esta semana se detectó un aumento en la actividad cibercriminal local, y se sospecha que podrían iniciarse ataques dirigidos.	Contactar al equipo de IT/Cybersecurity

Mode	Pros	Cons
 <p>Classic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live continuous debate • Timing according to interaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same info for everyone • Biased towards the most talkative
 <p>Platform-based</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different info by teams • More realistic (chat/calls) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed timing according to design • No continuous interaction
 <p>Hybrid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best of both worlds • Fully realistic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher complexity • Needs maturity

The pioneers: DECIDE



The screenshot displays the DECIDE Exercise interface. At the top, it shows the 'decide' logo and 'DECIDE Exercise' title. Below this, there are navigation tabs for 'INBOX', 'BROADCAST', and 'CHAT'. The main content area is divided into several panels: 'Leadership Team Meeting' (with 'Recovery Analysis of Alternatives' and 'Recovery Potential Options' sub-sections), 'Company Profile' (for 'ACME'), 'Threat Overview', 'Threat Actor Profile', and 'Your Desktop Display'. On the right, there is a 'QUESTIONS' panel with a 'New Question' button and a list of questions, including 'Your current situational awareness - Demo Controller' and 'Possible interrelationship - Demo Controller'. The bottom left of the screenshot shows an email notification from 'ACME Information Technology Services' regarding a 'Network Malware Warning'.

- Built by Norwich University Applied Research Institute
- Funding by USA DHS: USD 18.7 million in 12 years



Homeland Security



ARMY CYBER INSTITUTE
AT WEST POINT



NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM



The Big4 have their own platform →



Deloitte.



What about a low-cost version?



Requirements gathering

Collaborative platform selection

Story and scenario design

Validation & testing

Improvements based on feedback

Idea validation

Education

- Students in university courses

Cybersecurity community

- Colleagues and alumni

Cybersecurity industry

- International companies

Education

- Pandemic → Virtual classes
- First try with students only



**Manual events
delivery**

Cybersecurity Community

The screenshot shows a live stream of a cybersecurity simulation. The main interface is a Microsoft Teams chat window titled 'WLC - Simulacion 18/09/21'. It features a 'CONTROL ROOM' chat and an 'inbox' with several incident response tickets. Two participants are visible in video call windows: Matt Sliafertas and Fede Pacheco. A detailed log of incident response actions is overlaid on the right side of the screen, showing a timeline of events and actions taken by the team.

Fecha	Viernes 9:30 AM
Asunto	Event #5243226
De	SIEM
Texto	El servidor web re mala reputación.
Fecha	Viernes 10:00 AM
Asunto	Event #5243228
De	SIEM
Texto	El SO del servidor
Fecha	Viernes 10:30 AM
Asunto	Análisis del caso:
De	Equipo de Respu
Texto	Tras el análisis de indicadores de riesgo márgenes establecidos y se

Usuario
Dia 1, 9:05 AM, Revisar permisos sobre archivos.
Dia 1, 10:10 AM, verificar las cabeceras y la traza del mail
Dia 1, 11:10 AM, buscar informacion en Twitter y foros de seguridad

Usuario
Dia 1, 1:10 PM, analisis de datos compartidos con la empresa proveedora y analisis de impacto

Usuario
Dia 1, 5:35 PM, inhabilitar y cambio contraseña cuenta del usuario victima de phishing en aplicaciones

Usuario
Dia 1, 10:05 Se comprobó que los ataques no han sido exitosos gracias al cambio de credenciales

Usuario
Dia 1, 11:10 PM, Se contacta a Second list para verificar fuga de informacion
Dia 1, 11:10 PM, Se analiza datos compartidos con Second list para analizar impacto

Usuario
Dia 2, 12:05 PM, Se aísla storage y se restaura backup en storage alternativo. Se analiza impacto

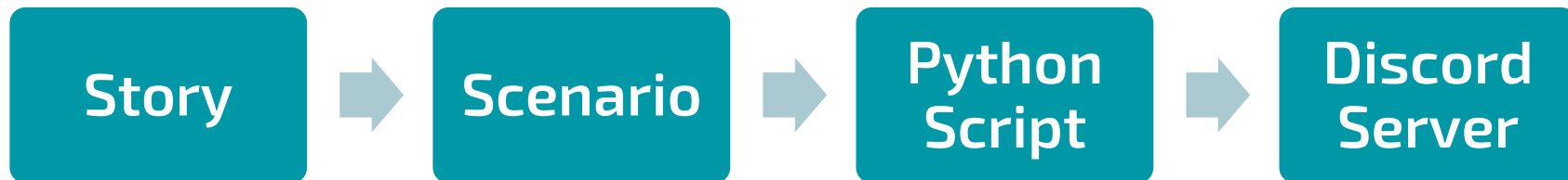
Usuario
Dia 3: 12:10 PM, Se solicita informacion a Second List sobre estimado de restablecimiento

Full session (in Spanish): www.twitch.tv/videos/1152676115

Automated events delivery

BORIS

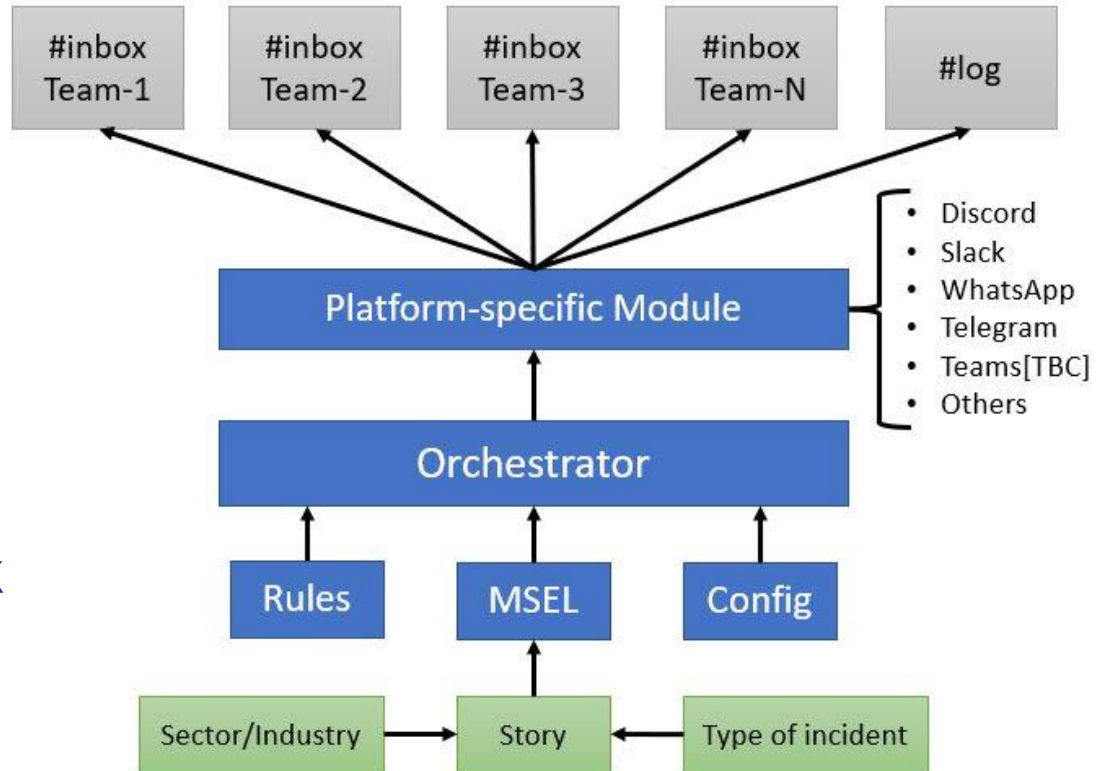
(Bot para Orquestación de Respuesta a Incidentes de Seguridad)



v1.0: multiplatform orchestration

T3SF

Technical
Table
Top
Simulation
Framework



Example: Discord and Slack

Company ▾ #inbox

CONTROL ROOM +

- #gm-chat
- #rules
- #questions
- 🔊 Game Masters
- 🔊 Questions

GROUP - INFOSEC +

- #chat
- #decision-log
- #inbox
- #supplementary-info
- 🔊 Office

GROUP - SRE +

- #chat
- #decision-log
- #inbox
- #supplementary-info
- 🔊 Office

Amazon Web Services

Anomalous Files Detected

Date: Monday 9:30 AM

We detected some anomalous files in your S3 Bucket.

Amazon S3 Discover the new console Quick tips

42 Buckets 3 Public 6 Regions

Bucket name	Access	Region	Date created
jean-public	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Sep 10, 2014 6:01:05 PM
jean-edge	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Nov 23, 2016 6:40:14 AM
awsroadtrip.com	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Apr 30, 2013 7:46:50 AM
www.amsroadtrip.com	Not public *	US East (N. Virginia)	Apr 30, 2013 7:49:34 AM

WLC - IR - Testing Workspace ▾ #inbox-infosec

Threads

Mentions & reactions

Saved items

Slack Connect

More

Channels

- #general
- #gm-chat
- #inbox-data-governance
- #inbox-infosec
- #inbox-legales
- #inbox-people
- #inbox-pr-comm
- #inbox-sre
- #random

Direct messages

Apps

Amazon Web Services | Monday 9:30 AM

We detected some anomalous files in your S3 Bucket.

S3_Bucket.png (144 kB)

Amazon S3 Discover the new console Quick tips

42 Buckets 3 Public 6 Regions

Bucket name	Access	Region	Date created
jean-public	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Sep 10, 2014 6:01:05 PM
jean-edge	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Nov 23, 2016 6:40:14 AM
awsroadtrip.com	Public	US East (N. Virginia)	Apr 30, 2013 7:46:50 AM
www.amsroadtrip.com	Not public *	US East (N. Virginia)	Apr 30, 2013 7:49:34 AM

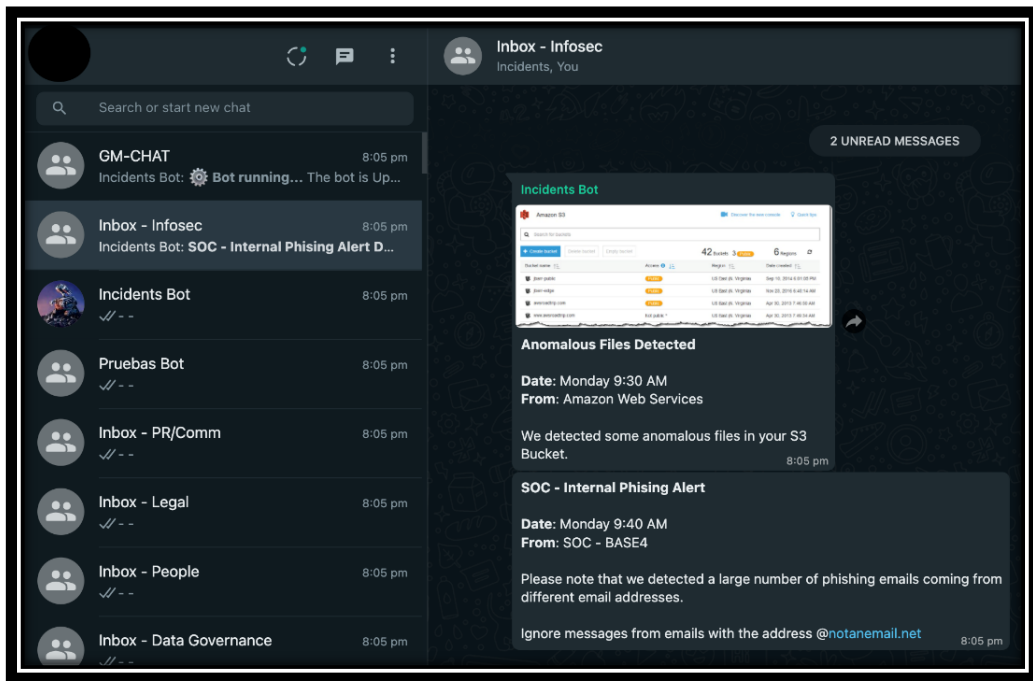
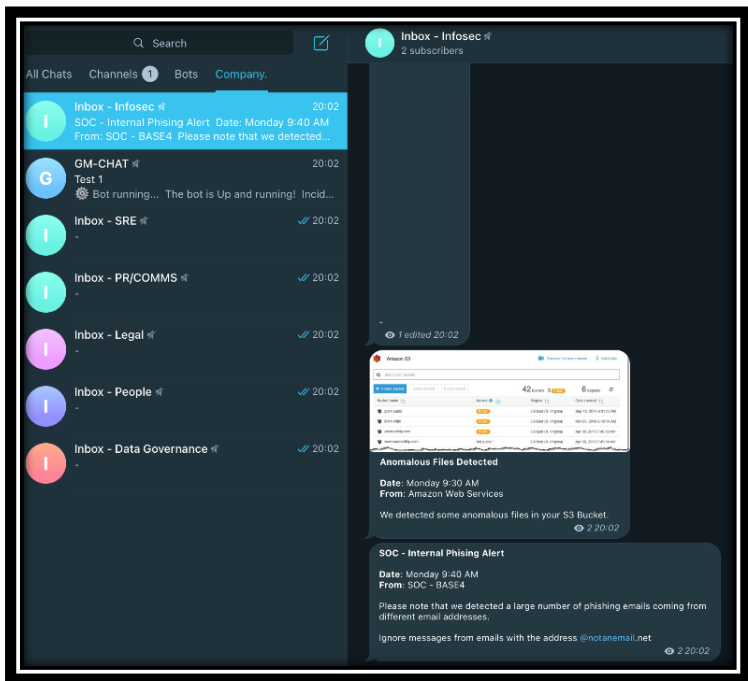
SOC - Internal Phishing Alert

SOC - BASE4 | Monday 9:40 AM

Please note that we detected a large number of phishing emails coming from different email addresses.


Ignore messages from emails with the address @notanemail.net

Example: Telegram and WhatsApp




#inbox-Cybersecurity

Ticket numero 31878432

 Usuario Juan Perez | Viernes 9:00 AM


Windows del usuario no permite acceder a sus archivos de trabajo.

Event #BP893182

 Analista de Threat Intelligence | Viernes 1:00 PM


El grupo chino Gnefoab publicó en Twitter una muestra de datos reales de varias empresas, entre las cuales mencionan a LogiStock, nuestro proveedor de software de logística.

Resolución de incidente

 Equipo de Respuesta a Incidentes | Viernes 3:00 PM

El caso de acceso a documentos del usuario Tomas Lopez se trató de un Ransomware. El software de seguridad logró detener el cifrado de los datos y contuvo el incidente.

Análisis del caso de phishing

 Analista de Threat Intelligence | Viernes 5:30 PM

Se encontró que un usuario colocó información de login en un sitio derivado del ataque de phishing, lo que derivó en el robo de datos sensibles de la cuenta corporativa del usuario.

#chat-Cybersecurity

Ernesto: this does not seem like a normal incident. I suggest we investigate further

Federico: I agree, let's see what the infrastructure people tell us

.

.

Ernesto: ok, who can ask?

Ana: I'm on it

.

.


.

Joaquin: I think we have a problem

Ana: we must talk to Legal


#inbox-Legal&Compliance

Reporte de falla en logistica

 Coordinador de logistica | Viernes 11:00 AM


Se detectó un error en los envíos de material a clientes. Se esperan costos derivados de la solución del inconveniente.

Ransomware detectado en la red

 Manager de Cybersecurity | Sabado 12:00 PM

Se detectó que una parte del storage quedó cifrado por un ransomware, no tenemos certeza de que los datos hayan sido filtrados realmente. Estamos evaluando planes de acción.

Reunion de status

 Comité de Crisis | Sabado 9:00 AM

Se convoca una reunión de status con todos los managers para definir acciones posibles

#chat-Legal&Compliance

Vanesa: Can this cause a bigger issue?

Carlos: We will be exposed to regulatory risk if we don't act quickly

Cristina: Let's ask about the technical scope to cybersecurity

Carlos: let's see if PR can make a formal communication

Vanesa: yes, that's the right choice

Cristina: we can't waste more time

Vanesa: let's take this to the committee

Open TTX in Hybrid mode



Ekoparty Security Conference 2022



v1.2: GUI + more features

T3SF - Management GUI

View and control the status of the exercise.

Logs:

Set Log Level:

Debug

Start

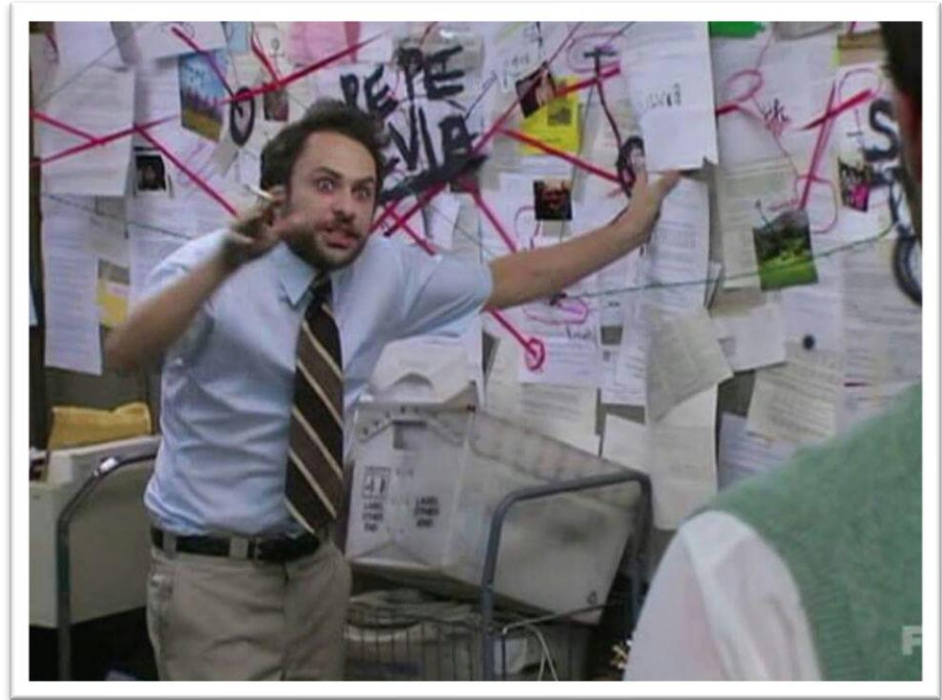
Stop

Clear Logs

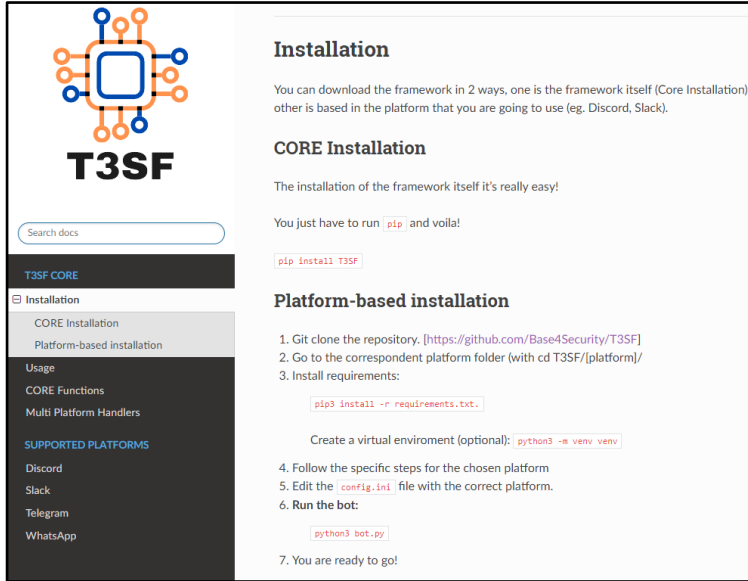
[DEBUG] Starting GUI	16:15:00
[DEBUG] Starting BOT	16:15:00
[DEBUG] Slack Bot is ready!	16:15:00
[DEBUG] Reading MSEL	16:15:12
[DEBUG] We have the inboxes right now	16:15:12
[INFO] The bot it's heating up! Give us just a second!!	16:15:20
[DEBUG] Previous 30 - Actual 30	16:15:20
[INFO] Inject 1/6	16:15:20
[INFO] The bot is Up and running! Lets the game begin!!	16:15:21
[DEBUG] Previous 30 - Actual 31	16:15:21
[INFO] We have a difference of 1 minute(s) - 60 seconds	16:15:21
[INFO] Inject 2/6	16:16:21
[DEBUG] Previous 31 - Actual 32	16:16:21
[INFO] We have a difference of 1 minute(s) - 60 seconds	16:16:21
[INFO] Inject 3/6	16:17:21
[DEBUG] Previous 32 - Actual 32	16:17:22
[INFO] Inject 4/6	16:17:22
[DEBUG] Previous 32 - Actual 33	16:17:22
[INFO] We have a difference of 1 minute(s) - 60 seconds	16:17:22
[INFO] Poll Question: 🗣️ Hey guys, do you think that this one is a good movie? Selected Answer: Yes, awesome By: @lanfran02	16:17:31

Not so fast...

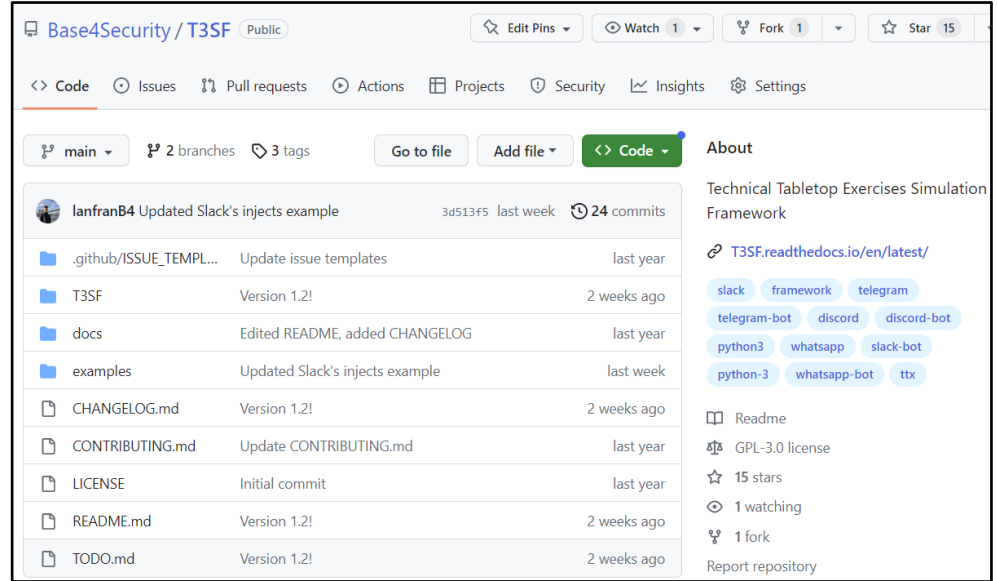
How to
convince the
CEO to make it
Open Source



Documentation and Source Code



The screenshot shows the T3SF documentation website. At the top left is the T3SF logo, which consists of a blue square with a white circuit-like pattern inside, surrounded by orange and blue nodes connected by lines. Below the logo is the text 'T3SF'. To the right of the logo is a search bar labeled 'Search docs'. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with the following items: 'T3SF CORE', 'Installation', 'CORE Installation', 'Platform-based installation', 'Usage', 'CORE Functions', 'Multi Platform Handlers', 'SUPPORTED PLATFORMS', 'Discord', 'Slack', 'Telegram', and 'WhatsApp'. The main content area is titled 'Installation' and contains the following text: 'You can download the framework in 2 ways, one is the framework itself (Core Installation), other is based in the platform that you are going to use (eg. Discord, Slack)'. Below this is the 'CORE Installation' section, which says 'The installation of the framework itself it's really easy! You just have to run `pip` and voila!'. A code block shows `pip install T3SF`. Below that is the 'Platform-based installation' section, which lists three steps: 1. Git clone the repository, [https://github.com/Base4Security/T3SF], 2. Go to the correspondent platform folder (with `cd T3SF/[platform]/`), 3. Install requirements: `pip3 install -r requirements.txt.`. A code block shows `python3 -m venv venv`. Below that is a list of steps: 4. Follow the specific steps for the chosen platform, 5. Edit the `config.ini` file with the correct platform, 6. Run the bot: `python3 bot.py`, 7. You are ready to go!



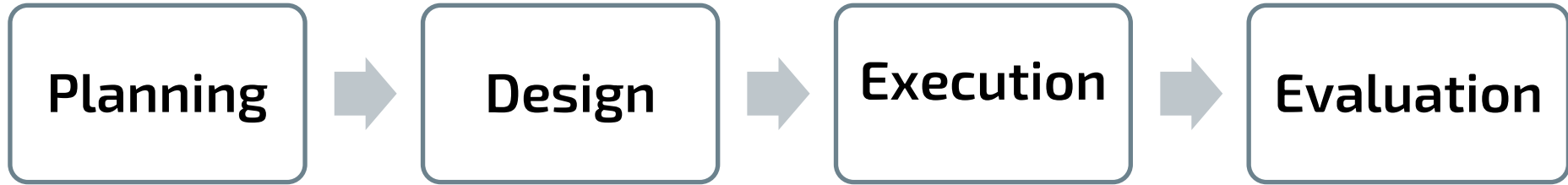
The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for Base4Security/T3SF. The repository is public and has 15 stars, 1 fork, and 1 watch. The repository is currently on the 'main' branch, with 2 other branches and 3 tags. The repository is owned by 'lanfranB4' and has 24 commits. The repository is described as 'Technical Tabletop Exercises Simulation Framework'. The repository is licensed under GPL-3.0 license. The repository is available on various platforms: slack, framework, telegram, telegram-bot, discord, discord-bot, python3, whatsapp, slack-bot, python-3, whatsapp-bot, and ttx. The repository is a report repository. The repository is available on various platforms: slack, framework, telegram, telegram-bot, discord, discord-bot, python3, whatsapp, slack-bot, python-3, whatsapp-bot, and ttx. The repository is a report repository.

File	Commit	Time
<code>.github/ISSUE_TEMPL...</code>	Update issue templates	last year
<code>T3SF</code>	Version 1.2!	2 weeks ago
<code>docs</code>	Edited README, added CHANGELOG	last year
<code>examples</code>	Updated Slack's injects example	last week
<code>CHANGELOG.md</code>	Version 1.2!	2 weeks ago
<code>CONTRIBUTING.md</code>	Update CONTRIBUTING.md	last year
<code>LICENSE</code>	Initial commit	last year
<code>README.md</code>	Version 1.2!	2 weeks ago
<code>TODO.md</code>	Version 1.2!	2 weeks ago

<https://t3sf.readthedocs.io>

<https://github.com/Base4Security/T3SF>

Methodology

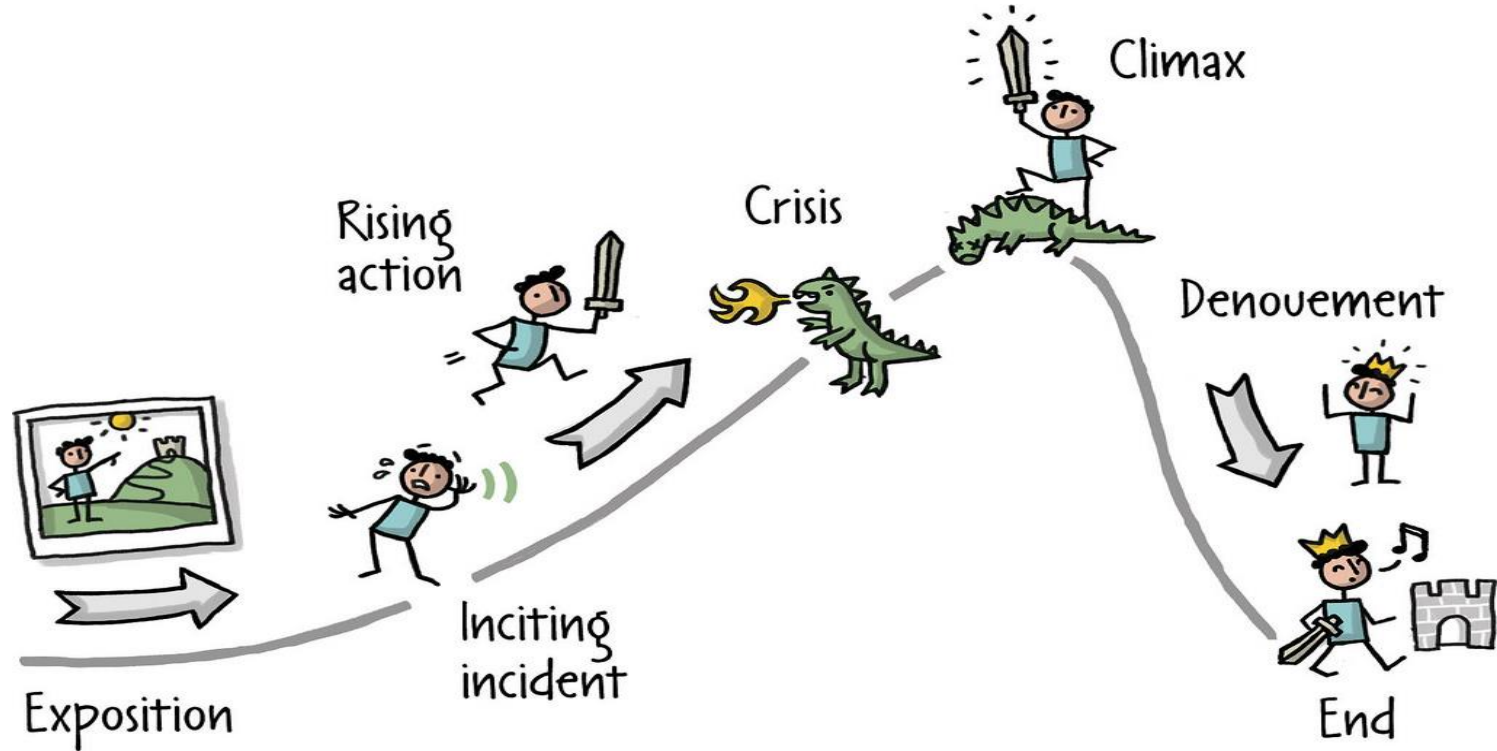


Deliverables

- Initial planning
- Welcome Package
- Detailed results report
- Executive summary



The Story: our IR Hero Journey



Upcoming features

- GUI for automated platform channels creation
- Scenarios and injects database (based on OpenAI)
- Full compatibility with the main platforms
- Integration with technical emulation tests

Lessons learned

- TTXs proved to help enhance IR capabilities
- TTXs work for (almost) any kind of organization
- Traditional mode is still the most common choice
- TTXs coordination is a fine art
- The human factor is key: Communication problems
- People fight the scenarios (mostly tech guys)
- Open-Source tools can help democratization

Thanks for your time

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