



**NATO Command, Control and  
Consultation Agency**

**NATO**  
|  
**OTAN**

**Cyber Defence Data  
Exchange and Collaboration  
Infrastructure**

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**Luc Dandurand  
CAT 2 – Cyber Defence and Assured Information Sharing**

## Objectives of the CDXI

- **Improve Cyber Defence activities such as**
  - Patching Systems
  - Vulnerability Analysis
  - Intrusion Detection
  - Forensics
  - Red Teaming
- **Enable automated response**
  - Blocking ports, IP addresses
  - Shutting down vulnerable services
  - Quarantining compromised hosts/networks
- **Distribute the workload of maintaining Cyber Defence**  
***“Reference Data”***

- **Data on the following key topics common to all Cyber Defence activities:**
  - Software (Operating systems and applications)
  - Hardware
  - Vulnerabilities
  - Malware
  - Fixes
  - Verification Tests (e.g. IDS signatures and VA tests)
  - Protocols
- **Nothing that is specific to an organization (no IP addresses, no incident data, etc.)**

## Improve and Automate Cyber Defence

- **The CDXI can be seen as a service providing *Reference Data* to security products and custom applications**
- **Reference Data consists of:**
  - Pure enumerations on key topics common to all Cyber Defence activities
  - Relationships between elements in these topics
  - Supporting information and meta-data
- **For these objectives, the CDXI will provide an API through which *Reference Data* can be integrated into security products and custom applications**

## Distributing the Workload

- **The CDXI must provide:**
  - a user interface to manage the data
  - collaboration tools to discuss problems with the data
  - version control of records so that “*many truths can coexist until the ultimate truth is found*”
- **The CDXI must make it easier for people to contribute Reference Data back to the community**
- **The CDXI must enable data mining by allowing users to develop custom classification schemes and relationships**

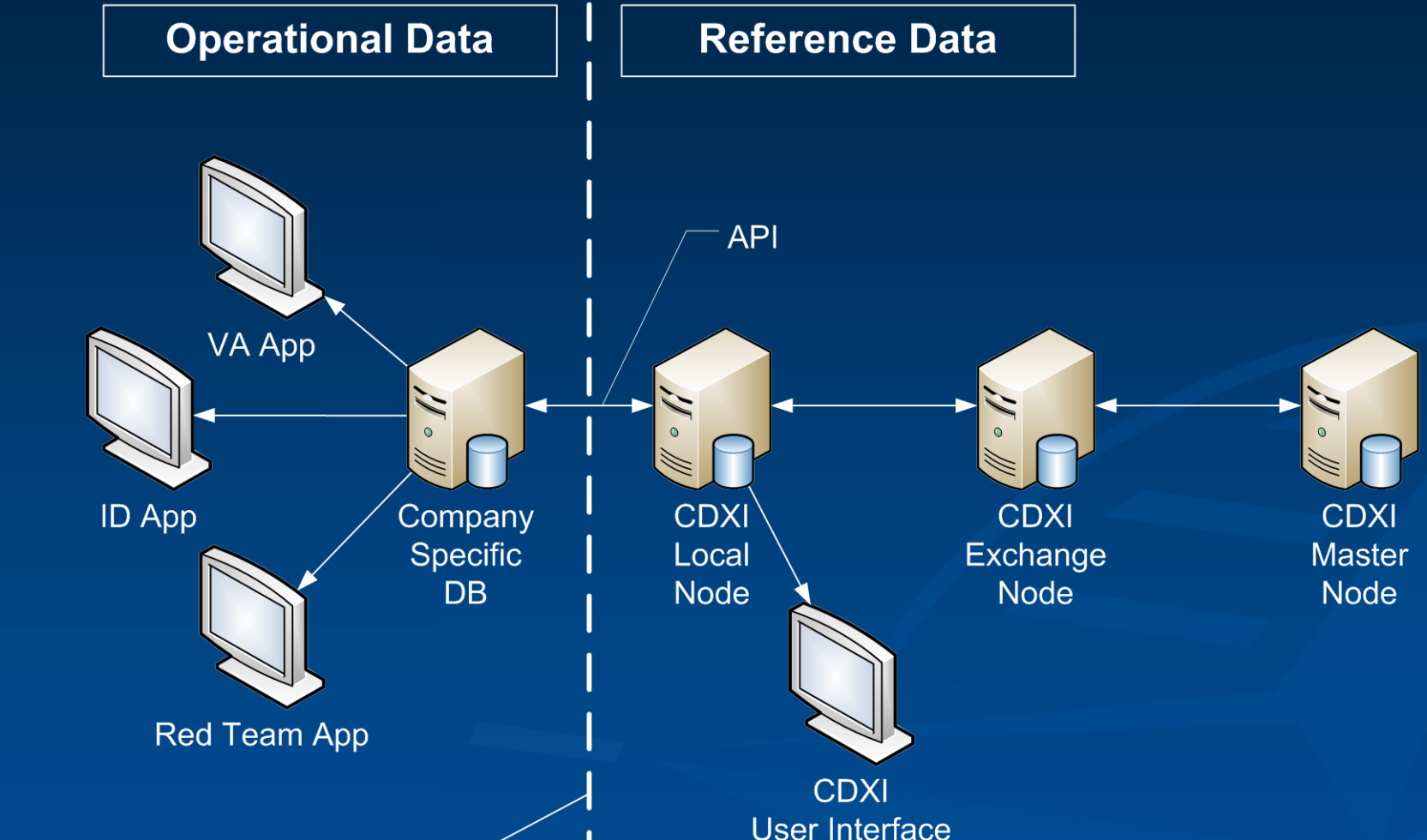
# Automating Cyber Defence

- **Accuracy and integrity of the Reference Data is critical**
- **To ascertain the accuracy of Reference Data:**
  - The CDXI must provide the mechanism to develop and use custom “Quality Assurance” processes
- **To ensure integrity:**
  - The CDXI must allow for the cryptographic signing of Reference Data and QA records

## Other Required Features

- **Granular access controls to allow for private data and controlled sharing within communities of interest**
- **Encryption of data to allow for commercial exploitation**
  - Feeds of reference data can be sold
  - Quality assurance can be sold
  - Data-mining can be outsourced

# CDXI Schematic



**“Control Barrier”**  
 - Only QA’ed data is brought in  
 - No Operational data goes out





## CDXI Status



- **Concept has been in development for a number of years, including some prototyping**
- **Detailed NATO requirements and specifications to be completed in 2010**
- **Initial prototype planned for development in 2011**
- **Currently seeking to establish contact with interested parties to:**
  - Share our results where possible
  - Obtain additional input from various communities
  - Perhaps collaborate on the prototype?

## Conclusion

- The CDXI will be a service that provides Reference Data directly into security applications
- The CDXI will be sort of a **Wikipedia of Reference data**, but with the addition of:
  - **Structure** to enable machine processing
  - **Trust** to enable automation
  - **Access Controls** to control sharing
  - Support for **Commercial Exploitation**

For additional information, please contact:

[luc.dandurand@nc3a.nato.int](mailto:luc.dandurand@nc3a.nato.int)