

# Cyber Security at the SEI

26 September, 2017

# Software Engineering Institute

A DoD R&D FFRDC operated by Carnegie Mellon University



## Mission

*To support the Nation's defense by advancing the science, technologies, and practices needed to acquire, develop, operate, and sustain software systems that are innovative, affordable, trustworthy, and enduring*

## Approach

- Research
- Collaboration
- Development and Demonstration
- Transition

# SEI works to address gaps in 7 technical areas

Enduring



## Software Engineering & Information Assurance

Enable high quality, secure software-based systems in a predictable, affordable manner



## Cyber Security

Develop improved systems, repeatable practices, and capable personnel to enable cyber missions



## System Verification & Validation

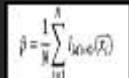
Enhance confidence in the systems engineering lifecycle with evidence-based methods and tools

*Make software less costly and more resilient and mission capable by ruthlessly automating all aspects of design, development, integration, testing, deployment, operations, defense, and sustainment of software systems*

Emerging



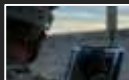
**Data Modeling & Analytics:** Develop and apply mathematically rigorous data collection, analysis, and visualization techniques



**C4ISR Mission Assurance:** Enable reliable and predictable mission support by software and systems, which are resilient to adversary actions



**Autonomy & Counter-Autonomy:** Develop evidence that indicates the trustworthiness, dependencies, & vulnerabilities of autonomous systems



**Human-Machine Interactions:** Invent, assess, improve comprehensible, safe, and trustworthy technologies for humans to use and team with machines



Anticipating and solving the Nation's cybersecurity challenges

## Enabling



Acquirers & Developers



Operators & Analysts



Decision Makers



## Acquirers & Developers



## Operators & Analysts



## Decision Makers




Security-Aware Acquisition



Secure Development 



System and Platform Evaluation 



Threat-Aware Sustainment 



Enterprise Risk Management 



Network Situational Awareness 



Cyber Intelligence 



Digital Forensics



Insider Threat



Cyber Operator Development



Cyber Center Development







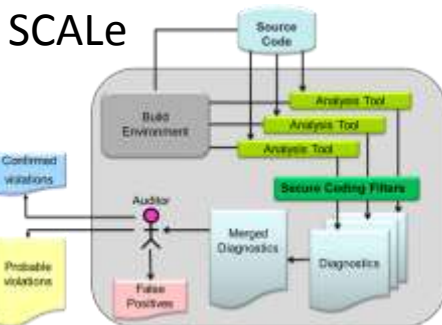
# Secure Development



Assuring and assessing platforms through the analysis of source code

## Current

- Language-specific coding standards with automated enforcement
- Composition of static analysis capabilities
- Automated domain-specific code rewriting
- Architecture recovery
- Program correctness through model-checking
- Integrating security into Agile and DevOps



CERT Secure Coding  
Professional Certificates

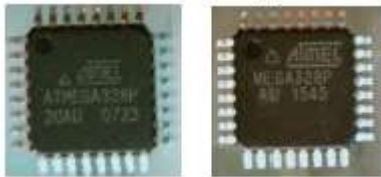
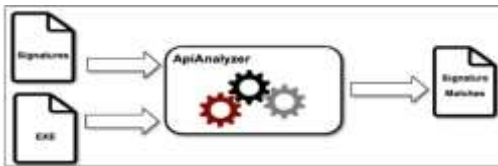
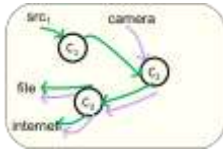
## Future

- Coverage of additional languages
- Comprehensive automated source code rewriting

# System and Platform Evaluation



DidFail



Assessing software, devices, systems and platforms of unknown design or provenance

## Current

- Repeatable approaches to find classes of vulnerabilities
- Focused analysis of features, behaviors, attack surface and implementation
- Automated characterization of capabilities or functionality
- Characterize the relationships between defects and vulnerabilities

## Future

- Automated PoC exploit generation



# Threat-Aware Sustainment



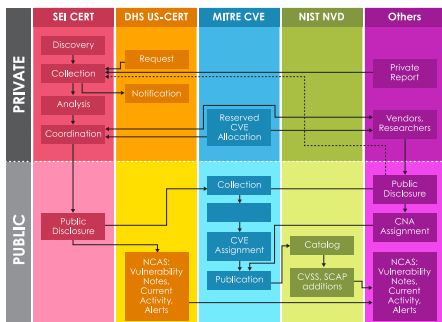
Reducing the window of exposure from known vulnerabilities in fielded systems

## Current

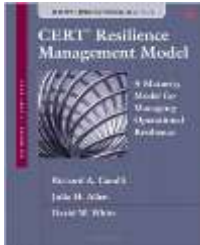
- Vulnerability coordination
- Timely watch-and-warning of new vulnerabilities and recommended mitigations
- Identifying systemic problems and emerging trends
- Guidance on establishing and operating a Product Computer Security Incident Response Team (PCSIRT)

## Future

- Application and refinement of existing methodologies to new software ecosystems



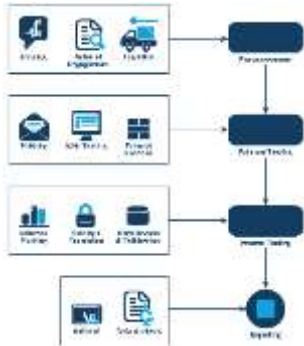
# Enterprise Risk Management



Measurable practices and frameworks that enable an organization to measure and mitigate risk

## Current

- Guidance on industry and government compliance and commonly-accepted practices
- Assessment approaches to identify capabilities and maturity
- Predicting security posture through practice and process evaluations, risk assessments and technical control data
- Economic models to prioritize investments and quantify their effectiveness



## Future

- Cyber Maturity Model



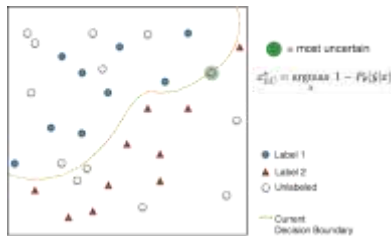
# Network Situational Awareness



Reasoning about the cyber terrain in context of the mission

## Current

- Sensors that maintain visibility into the evolving network and platform technologies
- Analytical techniques that synthesize organizational, grey-space and cyber intelligence data to:
  - Characterize assets at risk
  - Measure scope and scale of adversary activity
  - Prioritize response to threat data
  - Resource planning and provisioning



## Future

- Improved insight into the cyber-dependencies
- Cyber affordances

# Cyber Intelligence



Characterizing the behavior, capabilities and properties of adversary cyber tools and actors

Pharos Framework

+  
ROSE@LLNL



How BigGrep works



## Current

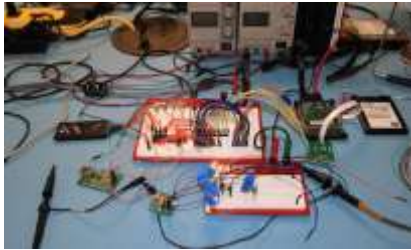
- Automation for reverse engineering
  - Deobfuscation and unpacking
  - Code comprehension
  - Dynamic analysis environments
- Creating indicators and identifiers for the detection and attribution of actors and malware families
- Trending emerging capabilities, tactics and targets
- Enabling threat modeling for system design

## Future

- Automated code comprehension
- Automated malware classification

**The Cyber Intelligence  
Research Consortium**

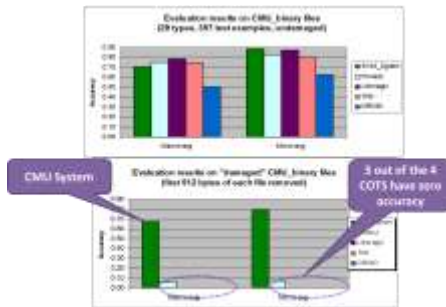
Emerging Technology Center



Enabling incident response and analysis activities as the technology and adversary evolves

## Current

- Forensic recovery techniques for data on emerging mediums
- Models to evaluate the efficacy of cyber effects and mitigations



## Future

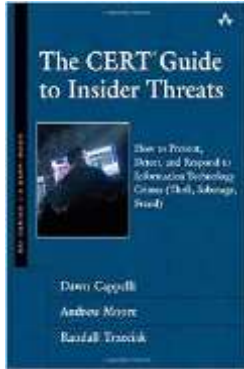
- Increased capabilities in the analysis of:
  - Crypto-currencies and related infrastructure
  - Mobile application ecosystem







# Insider Threat

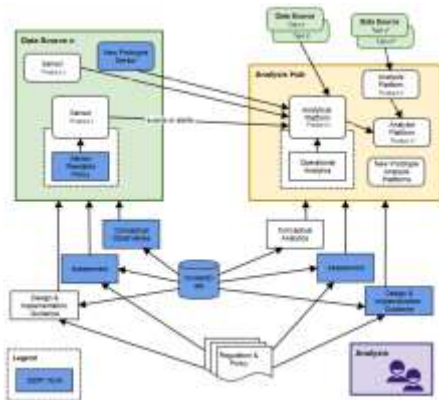


Detecting and mitigating the impact of and reducing the likelihood of insider threat

## Current

- Indicators to use in end-point and hub analytics
  - Reactive – user activity monitoring
  - Proactive – behavior modelling
  - Preventative – aids and incentives
- Guidance on establishing and operating insider threat programs compliant with the EO 13587 and NISPOM

## CERT Insider Threat Certificates and Training



## Future

- National Insider Threat Research Development Testing and Evaluation Facility

# Cyber Operator Development



Growing and maintaining a cyber workforce at sufficient scale with a known readiness

## Current

- Designing and executing of Joint and Service-scale exercises
- Representative cyber environments for modelling and simulation
- Verifying role readiness of cyber operator
- Federated architecture to link cyber and kinetic simulators



## Future

- Automated assessment of operators
- Improved trainee engagement through gamification



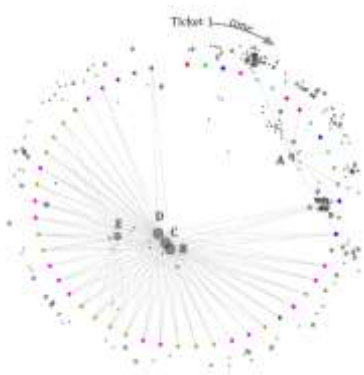
# Cyber Center Development



Measurable and repeatable practices to improve and align operational security organizations

## Current

- Models to guide investments and organization processes based on emerging threats, technology landscape and mission priorities
- Analytics of workflow data
- Automated information sharing
- International capability building



## Future

- Improved capacity and capability models



# Transitioning Capability from the Lab to the Field



[www.cert.org](http://www.cert.org)

# CMU SEI 2017 Research Review: October 17-18

An annual event held in Pittsburgh featuring presentations and posters session describing the results of our FY Line-funded research projects.

In our 2017 Research Review, you will learn about AR&D conducted during FY2017 concerning automated code repair, causal factors of software cost, machine perception, cyber workforce training, continuous runtime verification, and other areas important to closing technology gaps across the software lifecycle.

The CMU SEI 2017 Research Review is by invitation only. The event is free, but we do ask that you register. The full program and registration is available on the event site <http://www.sei.cmu.edu/go/research-review/index.cfm>

If you have any questions or would like to attend contact Palma Buttles  
[pjb@sei.cmu.edu](mailto:pjb@sei.cmu.edu)



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