

Security from IT to IoT

Sandro Etalle

(Prof. dr.) full professor, head of the security group at the Technical University of Eindhoven (faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science) s.etalle@tue.nl

For the sake of transparency: co-founder and chairman of the board at SecurityMatters



IT -> ICS -> Smart Industry -> Smart Cities



IT





Industrial Control Systems



Smart Industry/building

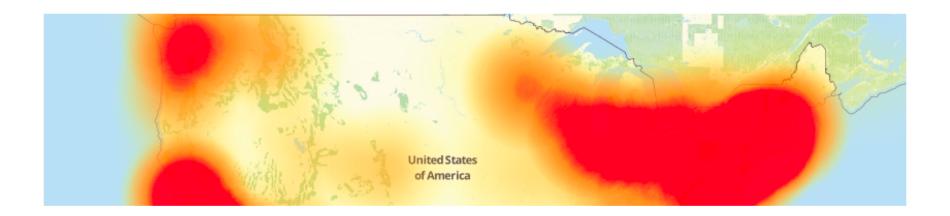


Smart Cities (full IoT)

- Differences relevant to security
 - **DIVERSITY**: proprietary systems & protocols
 - SCALE
 - GOVERNANCE: Central/distributed/outsourced



Do not Panic, but Think Ahead



Do not Panic

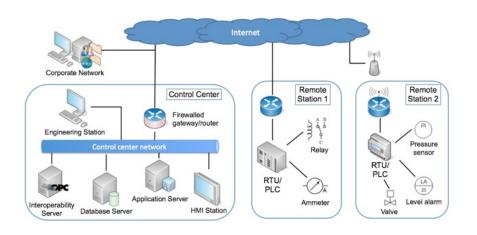
- Not everything that can be attacked will be attacked
- Attackers have usually better things to do

But do worry

- IoT botnets are a fact
- Attackers are finding ways to make money from IoT weaknesses
- There will be liability issues



The attacker's view pt. 1 (Industrial Control Systems)



See Also: Michael J. Assante and Robert M. Lee, The Industrial Control System Cyber Kill Chain, Report, SANS Institute, 2015

IF you have an appropriate network segmentation THEN

• (If your device is on SHODAN, you have a bigger problem)

[GOOD] Expensive (but not difficult) for the attacker to get inside [GOOD] Difficult for the attacker to make money (ransomware?)

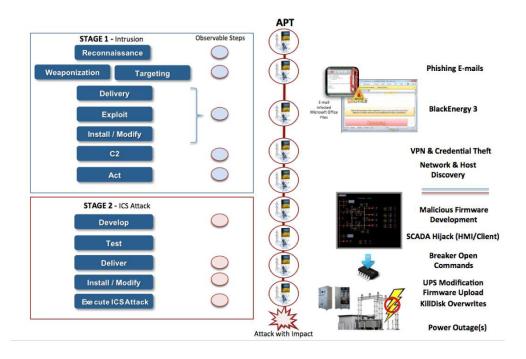
[BUT] Segmentation is not Segregation

Lots of people and devices getting in and out, vendors, maintenance, ...



www.tue.nl

The attacker's view pt. 2 (Industrial Control Systems)



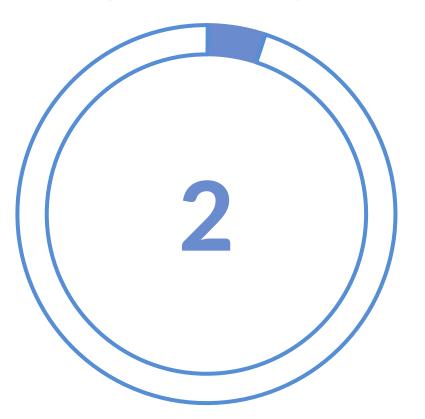
[GOOD] Attacks take time (at least so far). For the reconnaissance [GOOD] The defender has a window of opportunity [BAD] IPv6 Standardization of IoT will reduce this window

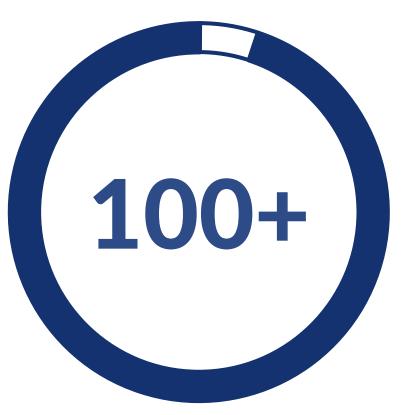


Security is not the only problem of IoT

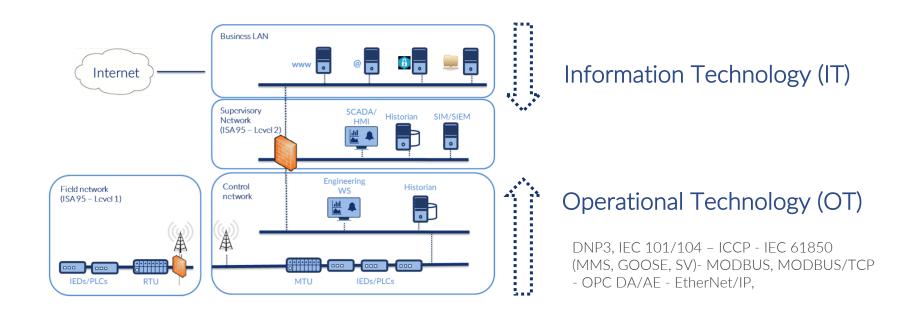
Reported events that can be classified as actual attacks and exploitation attempts

Reported events that could have seriously affected business continuity





Defender still has a few problems pt. 1



- [BAD] Standard "out-of-the-box" IT defenses do not work in OT/IoT
 - Antivirus, WAF, vulnerability advisories
- In IoT, SECURITY == UNDERSTANDING
 - IoT Defenses have "running" (ongoing) costs, Someone has to do it



Defender still has a few problems pt. 2



- [BAD] The Defender usually has no idea what happens inside
 - Laptops & devices, Network misconfiguration, vendors "messing around". Internet-connected maintenance people



Defender still has a few problems pt. 3

- GOVERNANCE & LIABILITIES
- Combination of several vendors with competing goals





Stellingen

In IoT, SEGMENTATION IS CRUCIAL

 Not to block the attacker but to make the attack expensive, and contain mistakes

In IoT, MONITORING WILL BECOME ROUTINE

- In IoT, SECURITY == UNDERSTANDING
- Monitoring would have actually detected: Stuxnet, Ukraine 2015/16, Havex, etc

EVERY SMART DEVICE HAS A RUNNING "SECURITY" COST

• IMHO: irresponsible to plan a smart . . . (city/plant/building, whatever) without thinking ahead about who/what is going to take care of its security

LIABILITIES WILL BECOME AN ISSUE

Do not let the vendor/system integrator interfere with your choices



www.tue.nl 10

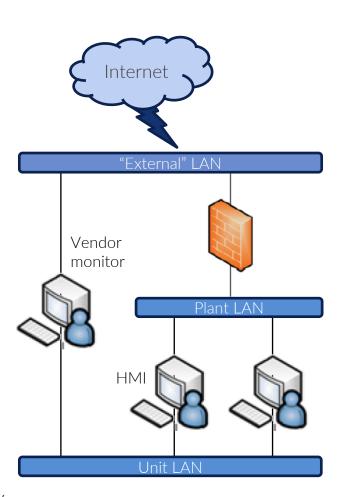
Questions?

Small note for the LinkedIn users who are kindly connecting please include a note about where we met.



"Insider-outsider" threat Power generation company

- Maintenance contract with OEM
 - One person on-site
 - Remote connectivity for maintenance/support
 - Plant faced complete turbine shutdowns
 - No warning, no alarm
 - Actions not initiated by operators
 - No equipment failure
- Vendor monitor was not read-only
 - Connection not documented
 - 2 months of investigation
 - Cyber security now a management priority





A tiny taxonomy of cyberattackers

- Interesting types
 - 1. Criminals (Cost < Benefit)
 - 2. Hacktivists (Cost < fixed limit)
 - 3. Nation states (no constraints)
 - 4. Occasional (typically: insiders)
- Not everything hackable will be hacked, see e.g. Where Do All The Attacks Go?, by Florencio and Herley
- Interesting for ICS is #2,3,4 (for the moment)
- When criminals will have found a way to a good ROI in attacking ICS, things will change completely.
 - IMHO: this is not going to happen very soon.
 - "Ransomware for ICS" is possible but not as lucrative (yet?)



www.tue.nl

13

