

# INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEMS VULNERABILITIES AND RESOURCES



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CYBER+INFRASTRUCTURE

July 9, 2019

# ICS SECURITY IS A NATIONAL IMPERATIVE

**CISA leads an integrated,  
unified national effort to  
drive down industrial  
control systems risk**

- ICS are integral to critical infrastructure (CI) operations
- Successful exploitation of ICS can result in not only data corruption and exfiltration, but significant physical consequences
- Different risk factors and security constraints come into play in an ICS environment
- Managing ICS risk requires specific information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) technical expertise



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# HELP OUR PARTNERS HELP THEMSELVES

No organization can defeat ICS threats alone

- **Today:** We must continue to build on the outstanding ICS defense capabilities we currently provide
- **Tomorrow:** Sustainable ICS security through whole community ICS risk management



# ICS STAKEHOLDERS

## MAJOR STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY



FEDERAL  
DEPARTMENTS  
AND AGENCIES

LAW ENFORCEMENT / INTELLIGENCE  
COMMUNITY / CYBERSECURITY CENTERS

OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND  
AGENCIES (INCLUDES REGULATORS AND  
SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCIES)

WHITE HOUSE

CONGRESS



SLTT



INDUSTRY

UTILITY CO-OPS

CI OWNERS AND OPERATORS (INCLUDES  
SECTION 9 ENTITIES AND ISACS)

ICS VENDORS AND INTEGRATORS

SMALL / MEDIUM / LARGE COMPANIES



INTERNATIONAL



RESEARCHERS  
AND ACADEMIA

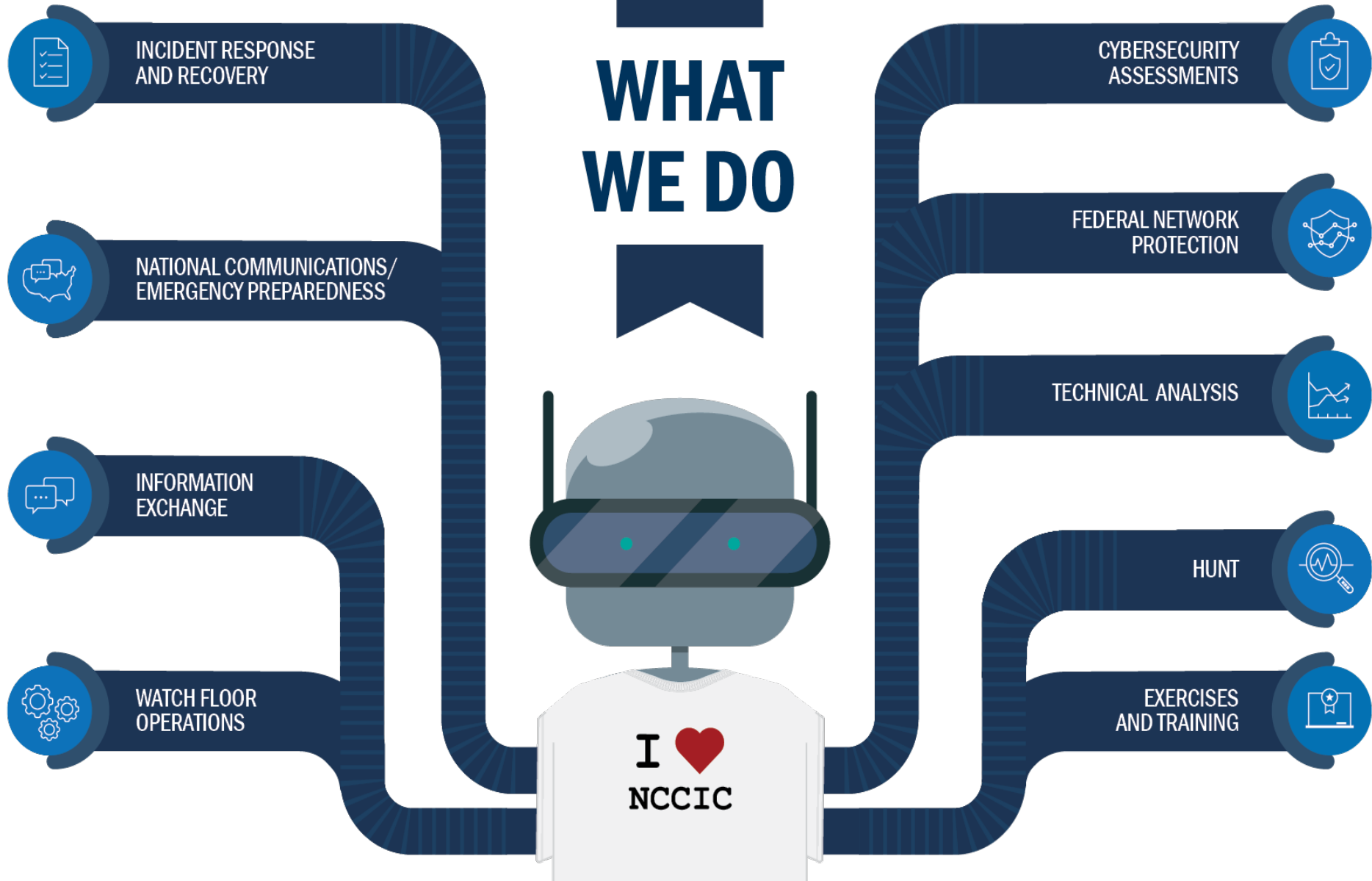


GENERAL  
PUBLIC



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# WHAT WE DO



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# Case Studies



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# Case Studies

Actors sought and exfiltrated ICS- and SCADA-related information

## FY 2012 ACTIVITY AGAINST U.S. PIPELINES

In FY 2012, 23 pipeline transmission companies reported spear-phishing incidents

- Document searches for “SCADA”

- Personnel lists
- Usernames and passwords
- Dial-up access information
- System manuals

**13** Confirmed Compromises

**3** Not Compromised

**7** Unknown



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<https://go.usa.gov/xPbww>

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# Case Studies



**In September 2013, an Iranian actor accessed a SCADA system interface associated with a U.S. dam**

- Actors accessed the SCADA system, which was mechanically disabled for maintenance

- Demonstrates ICS complexity leveraging the Open Platform Communications protocol

- System required no login

- Unclear if dam was targeted or dam was a target of opportunity



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# Case Studies



## UKRAINE CYBERATTACKS

Demonstrated concerted effort and capabilities by actors to leverage ICS attacks

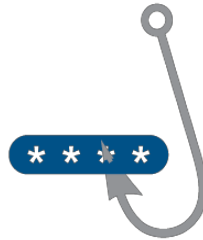


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### INVESTIGATE

U.S. Government interagency team (DOE, FBI, DHS, E-ISAC) traveled to Ukraine to investigate



### SPEAR PHISHING

Attackers used spear phishing to steal credentials, which they leveraged in connecting company VPN and remote desktop software to manipulate HMI controls



### RESTORED POWER

Power was restored within 4-6 hours by switching to manual control.



### ATTACKS

The attacks demonstrated extensive preparation and coordination but limited technical sophistication



# Case Studies



## UKRAINE CYBERATTACKS

First known  
cyberattacks on  
civilian  
infrastructure



### 2015 ATTACK

- BlackEnergy malware used for recon
- Six-month dwell time
- Credential harvesting
- Actual impact done via manual takeover
- Malicious firmware used
- Attacks on UPS/PBX

### 2016 ATTACK

- CRASHOVERRIDE framework used
- Impact could have been automated
- Unclear why it was not more widespread
- Serial communication modules
- Infection vector is unknown

<https://go.usa.gov/xPbww>

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# Case Studies



## Russian Activity Against **ENERGY SECTOR**

**Russian government actors targeting U.S. Government entities and organizations in the Energy, Nuclear, Water, Aviation, and Critical Manufacturing critical infrastructure sectors**

- Hundreds of victims targeted or impacted by this campaign
- Campaign targeted smaller entities with trusted relationships to obtain access to true victims
- Campaign end goal appears to have been ICS system accesses

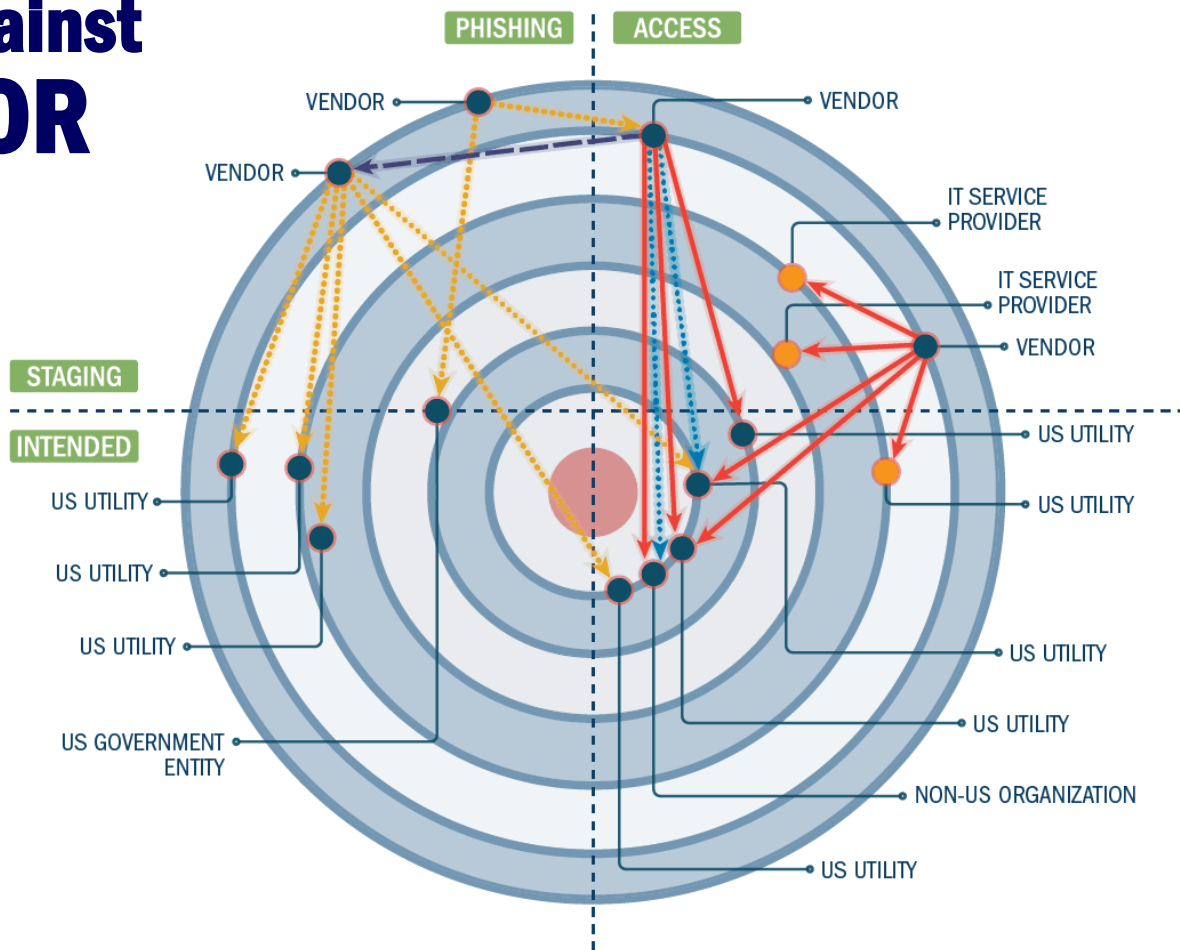


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# Case Studies

## Russian Activity Against ENERGY SECTOR



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# Case Studies



## TRITON/TRISIS/HATMAN

**Malware amplification attacks designed to cause physical damage, including include loss of life**

- Sophisticated malware with low-level interaction with firmware
- Designed to be used in conjunction with other activity



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# Mitigations

## INCIDENT RESPONSE ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

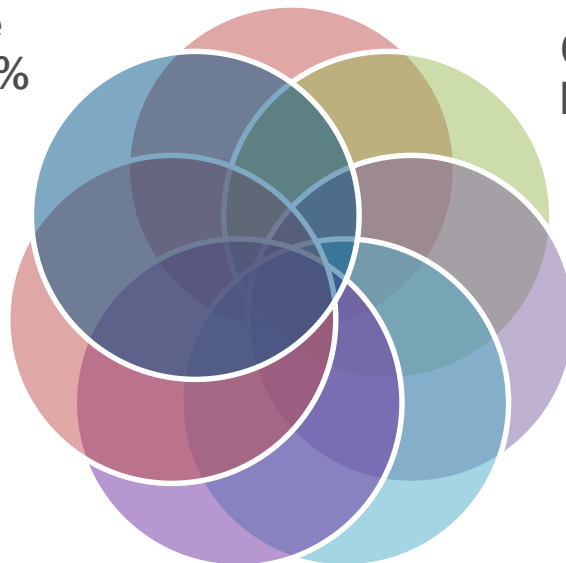
Implement Secure  
Remote Access – 1%

Monitor and  
Respond – 2%

Implement Application  
Whitelisting – 38%

Ensure Proper  
Configuration/Patch  
Management – 29%

Reduce your Attack  
Surface Area – 17%



Manage  
Authentication – 4%

Build a Defendable  
Environment – 9%



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<https://go.usa.gov/xPbwU>

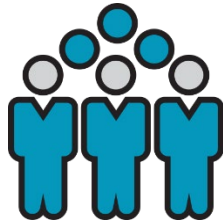
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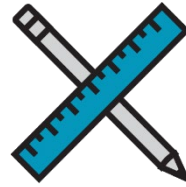
# Key Takeaways for Leaders



**LEAD  
THE  
CHARGE**



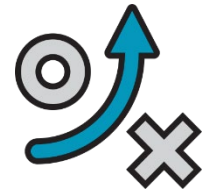
**CYBER IS  
NOT  
TECHNICAL  
BUT PEOPLE**



**PREPARE  
AND  
EXERCISE**



**INCENTIVISE  
POSITIVE  
OUTCOMES**



**REORIENT  
ON TACTICS  
VS.  
INDICATORS**



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