

# Advancing Information Risk Practices Seminar

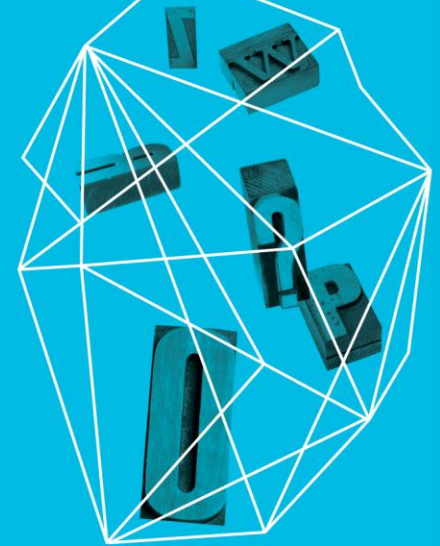
Start Time	Title	Presenter
1:00 PM	Introduction	
1:05 PM	Risky Business: Quantifying Risk in the Absence of Statistical Data	Brook Schoenfield
1:55 PM	Risk Management: The Perspective of the Business Stakeholder	Doug Graham
2:45 PM	Break	
3:00 PM	Educating the Next Generation of Information Security Risk Managers	Summer Fowler
3:50 PM	Automation and Risk Management, Do They Mix?	Evan Wheeler (Moderator) Summer Fowler Doug Graham Brook Schoenfield Ben Tomhave
4:30 PM	Seminar Adjourns	

## Risky Business:

*Forget what you were taught, apply what you've learned*

**Brook Schoenfield**  
Principal Architect, McAfee, Inc.

Security in  
knowledge



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“Risk assessment...will identify threats to the organization’s mission; prioritize those threats into risk levels,...”

Risk Analysis Versus Risk Assessment

Thomas R. Peltier, SecureWorld Expo



“threats into  
risk”?  
What was I  
thinking?!?”

“Risk assessment...will  
identify threats to the  
organization’s mission;  
*prioritize* those threats  
into risk levels,”

Risk Analysis Versus Risk Assessment

Thomas R. Peltier, SecureWorld Expo



—  $\text{risk}_{\text{level}} = \text{Prioritize}(\text{identifiedThreats}[]);$

“Risk assessment...will **identify threats** to the organization’s mission; **prioritize** those **threats** into **risk** levels,”

[Risk Analysis Versus Risk Assessment](#)

Thomas R. Peltier, SecureWorld Expo



# Infosec 101 Equation

$$\text{Probability} * \text{Annualized Loss} = \text{Risk}$$

Calculates risk  
*based upon actuarial tables*

Probability \* Annualized Loss =  
***Risk***



What do you actually need?

# “Know Thyself”

*What is your personal security posture?*





# “Know Thyself”

*What is your personal security posture?*



What posture is required?  
Is mine different?

Nothing is *truly* secure. It's all about *risk*.

# The Holy Grail

- ▶ Quantified
- ▶ Repeatable
- ▶ Useful to security
- ▶ Inform executive decisions

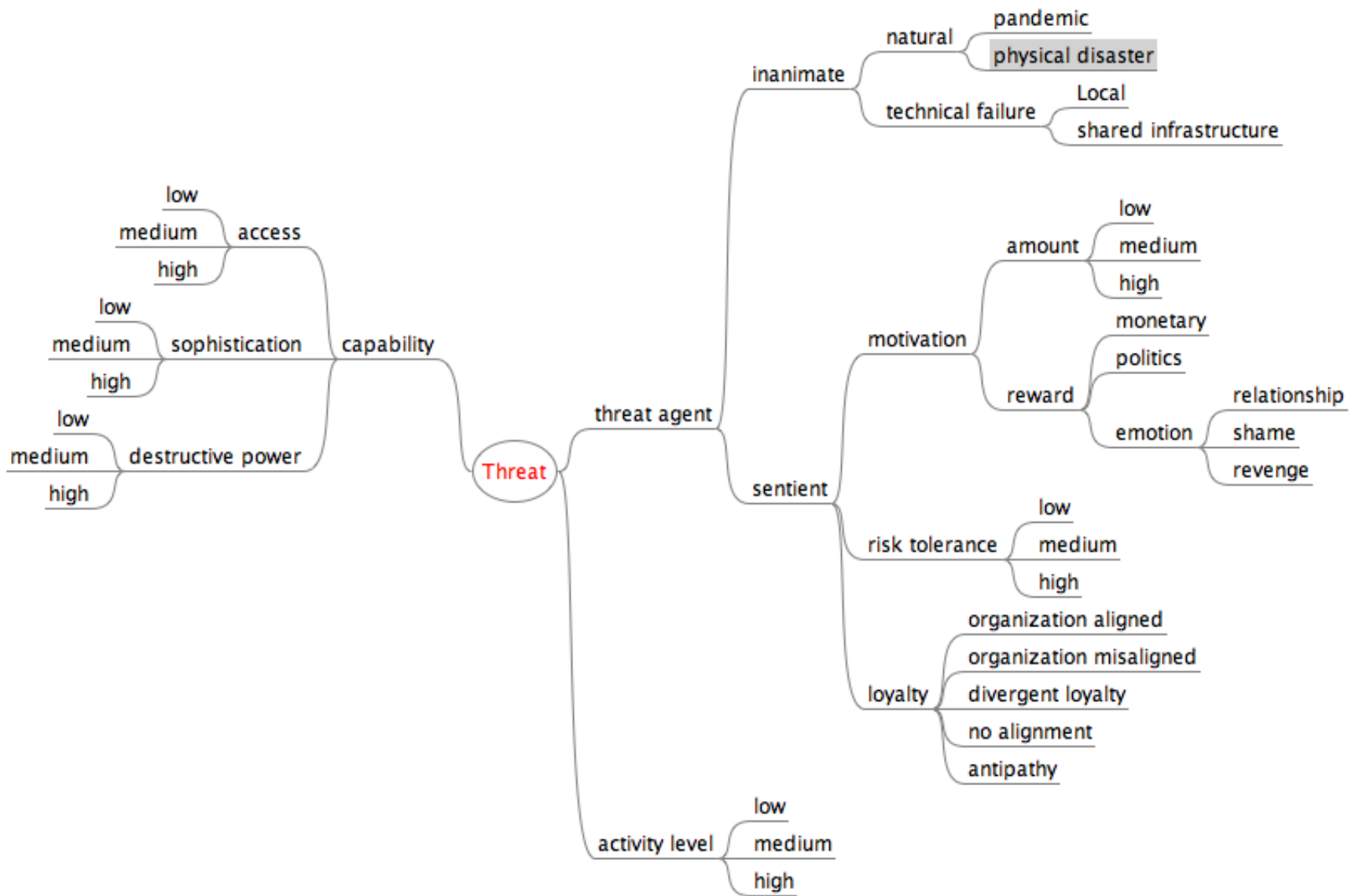


# “Just Good Enough Risk Rating”

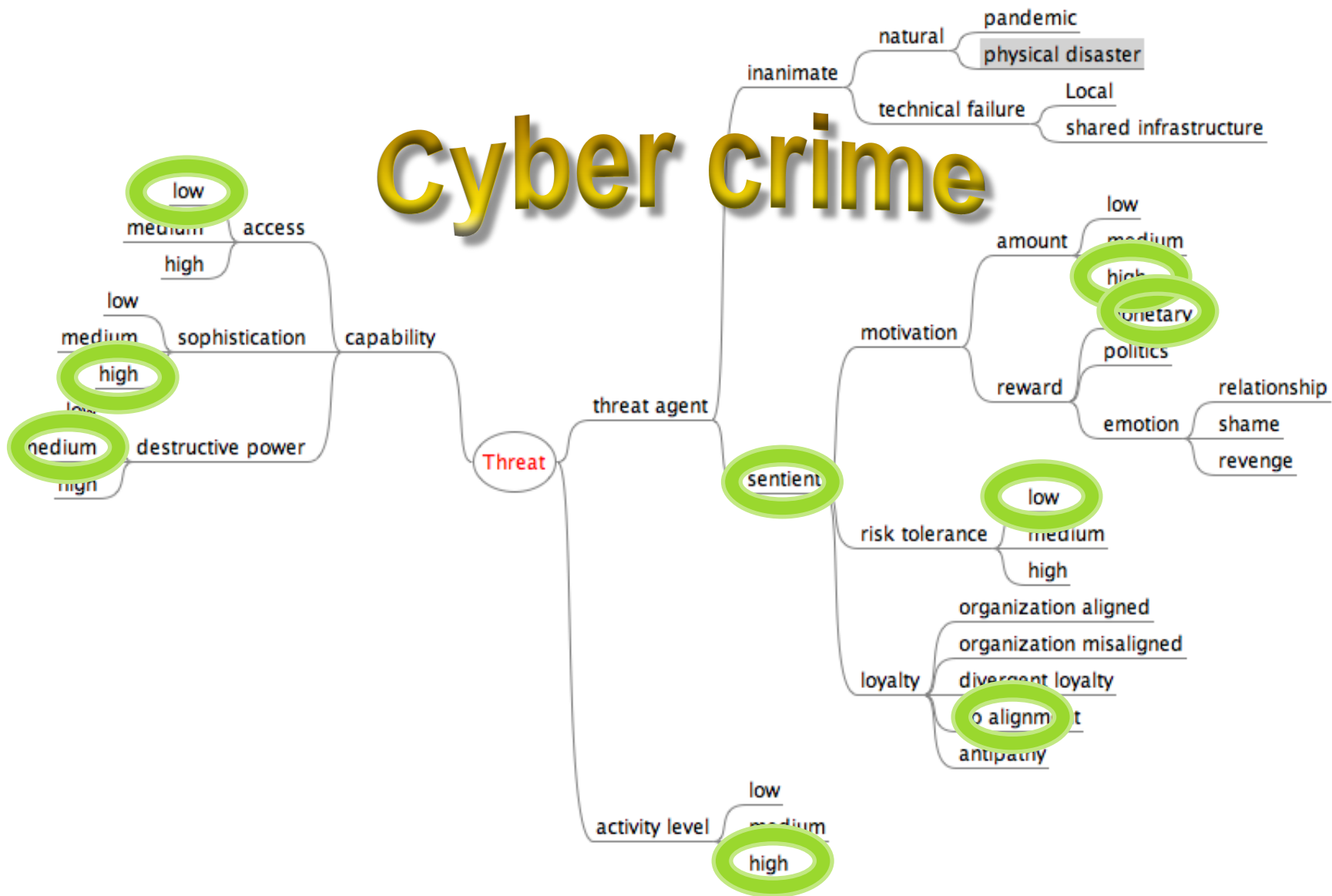


**RSACONFERENCE2013**

- *JGERR:*  
*Rigorous, lightweight risk calculation for security practitioners*
- A more precise semantic
  - articulate the components of risk
- Capture mental risk  
“arithmetic”
- Substitute probability



# Cyber crime



# Risk Rating, Please?



# Bald Tire Risk Rating?



Risk Term	Definition
Threat	Entity that can harm
Vulnerability	Weakness that has impact
Exploit	Method to exercise a vulnerability
Exposure	Availability of vulnerability for exploitation
Impact	Damage or loss from exploitation of vulnerability by a threat



# A vulnerability has risk when:

1. The vulnerability is **exposed** to a **credible, active** threat capable of **exploitation**<sup>1</sup>
2. The exercise of the vulnerability will have a significant **impact**

1. “attack vector”

***Attack vector:***

A credible threat  
exercising an exploit  
on an exposed  
vulnerability



# Tribal Knowledge → Attack Vectors & Impacts → Risk Assessment

- ▶ *Distill* existing security expertise
- ▶ Smoke out *exceptions* (to standards)
- ▶ *Separate* terms: attack vector from impact
- ▶ *Transform* knowledge into assessment questions
- ▶ *Scale* (*bucket-ize*) answers



# Approximating Probability



0 = 1

# Substitute Probability<sup>1</sup> = $0 \leq N \leq 1$

- ▶ “Attack vector” replaces the probability term
- ▶ Scale the relative importance of each “attack vector”
  - ▶ Questions may have different combinations of the terms
- ▶ Estimation must be *reasonably* consistent
  - Generate<sup>2</sup> a number between 0 and 1

1. An “attack vector”, as defined
2. *Garnered from a presentation at RSA*

# — Real World<sup>1</sup> Risk Calculation

*estimated attack vector* \* *scaled size of impact* =  
calculation akin to risk

1. Information security risk assessment

# — Speak *Risk* to Executives

- ▶ Communicate your reasoned assessment
  - Credible active attack vectors, prioritized
  - Likelihood of occurrence
  - Technical difficulty
- ▶ Communicate your best understanding of impact
  - Impact includes business participation
  - Include the range of impacts
  - Add in additional *technically enabled* impact
- ▶ Be credible; no FUD

Let risk owner decide



Q & A

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# Credits

- Rakesh Bharania & Catherine Blackadder Nelson
- Vinay Bansal & the Cisco “Web Arch” team
- Jack Jones & FAIR
- John and Ann-Marie Borrelli & the KnowledgeConnect forum participants
- That unnamed trust researcher at RSA
- The Information Security Risk Methodology working group at Cisco Systems, Inc:

Doug Dexter, Marc Passey, Richard Puckett, Jim Borne, Brook Schoenfield

# Formal Definitions

Vulnerability	Any weakness, administrative process, or act or physical exposure that makes an asset susceptible to exploit by a threat
Threat	A potential cause of an unwanted impact to a system or organization. (ISO 13335-1)
Exposure	The potential damage to or loss of an asset from a given threat and/or vulnerability after consideration of existing controls
Impact	The overall (worst case scenario) loss expected when a threat exploits a vulnerability against an asset
Exploit	A means of using a vulnerability in order to cause a compromise of business activities or information security

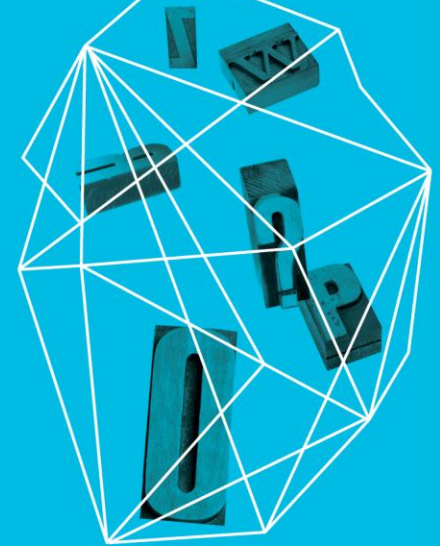
# Some Information Risk Methodologies

- CVSS: Vulnerability, exposure, some impact: technically focused
- Microsoft STRIDE: exploit, exposure, some threat - Assumes impact
- Bruce Schneier's attack tree methodology
- FAIR: Approach partly upon which JGERR is based
- The Security-specific Eight Stage Risk Assessment Methodology
- LAVA
- Vendors' tools...

## RISK MANAGEMENT: THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE BUSINESS STAKEHOLDER

Doug Graham  
EMC Corporation

Security in  
knowledge



# FROM A FEW TO MANY

- ▶ Security organization demand is at an all time high
  - ▶ Most organizations can't scale horizontally
  - ▶ We have more risk than we can handle
  - ▶ We need help
- ▶ Risk management must be a shared responsibility
  - ▶ Look at any large scale model e.g. personal healthcare
  - ▶ Collective responsibility is a force multiplier



# COMMUNITY BASED SECURITY



Empowers the consumers to participate in security



Fuels organizational and operational growth



Improves security awareness



Enables trust in the business and its employees



Protects the business through confidence



# REACHING THE BUSINESS



## Congruity

### Harmonization of thinking with the business

- ▶ Lack of alignment leads to conflicting priorities
- ▶ No connection of security goals to business objectives
- ▶ Humans will take drastic measures to remove incongruity



## Consistency

### Deliver clear and coherent guidelines for operations

- ▶ Unclear direction results in unpredictable outcomes
- ▶ We can't measure success with different yardsticks
- ▶ Set expectations for default behaviors and actions

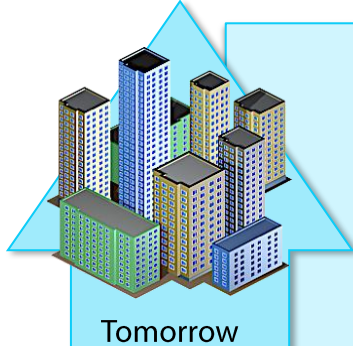


## Necessity

### People like to understand why they need to do things

- ▶ "Because I told you so" doesn't work with adults
- ▶ We want people to buy in to security rather than just accept it
- ▶ We need to justify any infringement on user freedom

# BUSINESS SECURITY ENABLEMENT



Tomorrow

## Centralized

- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Foundational Controls
- ▶ Consulting
- ▶ Monitoring & Response
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Reporting

## Federated

- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Customized Controls
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Reporting

## Centralized

- ▶ Policy
- ▶ Foundational Controls
- ▶ Detailed Controls
- ▶ Monitoring & Response
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Reporting



Yesterday

## Guiding Principles

- ▶ Maintain investment in foundations
- ▶ Risk based standard controls
- ▶ Shared security responsibility
- ▶ Security should be agile and transparent
- ▶ We must empower, enable, and protect the business
- ▶ Aim is to drive more resources focused on security

## Key Considerations

- ▶ Security IS everyone's responsibility
- ▶ Accountability must be broad
- ▶ Controls must be measured and reported
- ▶ This is a cultural change



# — THE SECURITY LIAISON

- ▶ BSMs, ISOs, BISOs (pick what works)
- ▶ Role: **Interact** with the business
- ▶ Represent security to the business
- ▶ Represent the business to security

Interact First — Sell Second

# COMMUNICATING RISK

## An Industry Problem

Our language of “riskeze” isn’t getting it done!

### We must understand

- ▶ How secure do we need to be?
- ▶ How secure we are?
- ▶ How do we compare to our peers?

### We must communicate

- ▶ Why we need security
- ▶ How business decisions impact security
- ▶ How security decisions impact the business

## Creating the Message

Master the ‘art’ of communication



### Hints & Tips

- ▶ Don’t ‘force’ security negotiate
- ▶ Use evidence based on risk
- ▶ Use plain language
- ▶ Listen adjust and adapt

# GIVING THE BUSINESS OPTIONS

**Risk is a business driven function that requires a series of business decisions**



How many options can we drive purely from a security perspective?

# THE CORPORATE DIALOGUE

Map the risk dialogue to the business dialogue

## Board of Directors

## CEO Staff

- ▶ Investment Tradeoffs
- ▶ Prioritization
- ▶ Board of Directors Communication

## BU's and Functions

- ▶ Develop strategy
- ▶ Identify BU/function Specific Risks
- ▶ Define Mitigation Plans
- ▶ EVP Awareness

## Audit Committee

- ▶ Oversee risk management

## Management Risk Committee

- ▶ Monitor, manage and report on enterprise risk management program

## GRC Council

- ▶ Create Mandate for Risk Assessments
- ▶ Communication to BU's and Functions
- ▶ Assess and Prioritize Risk Activities
- ▶ Collate and Report
- ▶ Budget and Planning of Mitigation

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

<b>1. Formalized Interaction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Clearly define and communicate liaison roles</li><li>▶ Establish formal interaction processes</li><li>▶ Ensure that senior leadership has visibility about the role</li></ul>
<b>2. Integrated Workflows</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Identify touch points and ways to integrate the liaison role into key business and security activities</li></ul>
<b>3. Streamlined Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Narrow the breadth of the liaison role by:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Pairing liaisons with other staff</li><li>▶ Removing delivery responsibility</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>4. Community of Liaisons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Keep liaisons connected</li><li>▶ Shared goals and methodologies</li></ul>
<b>5. Focus on the soft skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Develop two-way communication skills, and business logic</li></ul>

## SEM-004: ADVANCING INFORMATION RISK PRACTICES SEMINAR

### EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INFORMATION SECURITY RISK MANAGERS

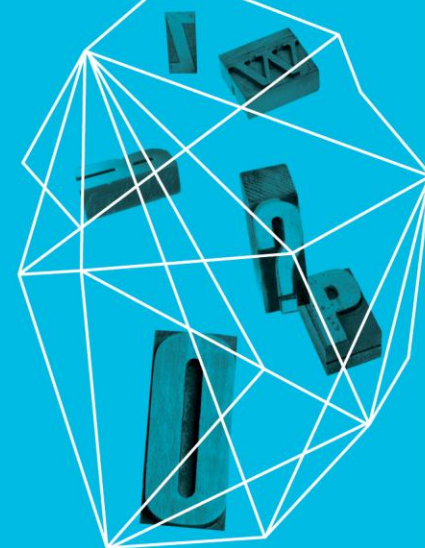
Summer C. Fowler

Carnegie Mellon University

Software Engineering Institute

CERT<sup>™</sup>

Security in  
knowledge

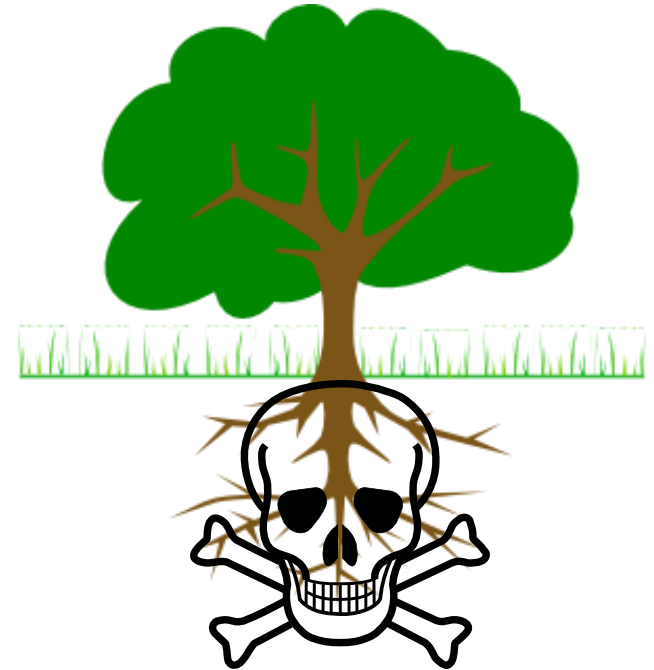


# — Agenda – more than an education

- ▶ Perception & “Constructive Paranoia”
- ▶ Risky Business
- ▶ United Nations of Risk
- ▶ Exercise IS good for you
- ▶ Heading in the Right Direction
- ▶ Risks are Realized – Resilience Rules!

# — Did You Shower Today?

- ▶ Perception == Reality?
  - ▶ Standards and guidelines recommend risk-based approaches to information security
  - ▶ Calculations for likelihood and impact of risk differ greatly
  - ▶ Perceived Risk versus Computed Risk





# Perceived Risk vs. Computed Risk

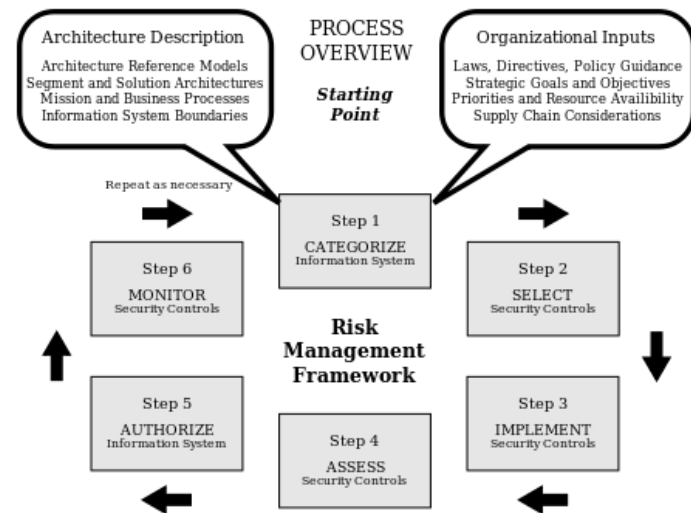
- ▶ Perceived Risk is a Psychological Construct
  - ▶ Endogenous factors (attitudes, beliefs)
  - ▶ Exogenous factors (environmental circumstances)
  - ▶ Measured indirectly by the aggregation of several underlying factors
- ▶ Computed Risk
  - ▶ Risk = Likelihood x Impact
  - ▶ Frequently recommended to conduct “risk assessments”

Concept of  
“constructive  
paranoia”  
embraces  
perceptions of  
risks

# Get Nosy – Risky Business is YOUR Business

- ▶ Risk isn't just a concern for the Risk Manager
  - ▶ Universities are offering courses in Risk Management
    - ▶ In three years, CMU's offering went from 30 students in technical programs to over 130 students from ALL majors

*Where is your role in this framework?*



The Risk Management Framework (NIST Special Publication 800-37).

# Definitions of Risk

**Risk** is the potential that a chosen action or activity (including the choice of

*Risk: the variability in possible outcomes, usually in reference to the possibility of negative results*

Risk can be seen as relating

**HUNDREDS OF DEFINITIONS**

propensity of a hazard  
Risk is the  
resulting in an adverse  
event, times the severity of  
the event

threat will exploit  
vulnerabilities of an asset or  
group of assets and thereby  
cause harm to the  
organization

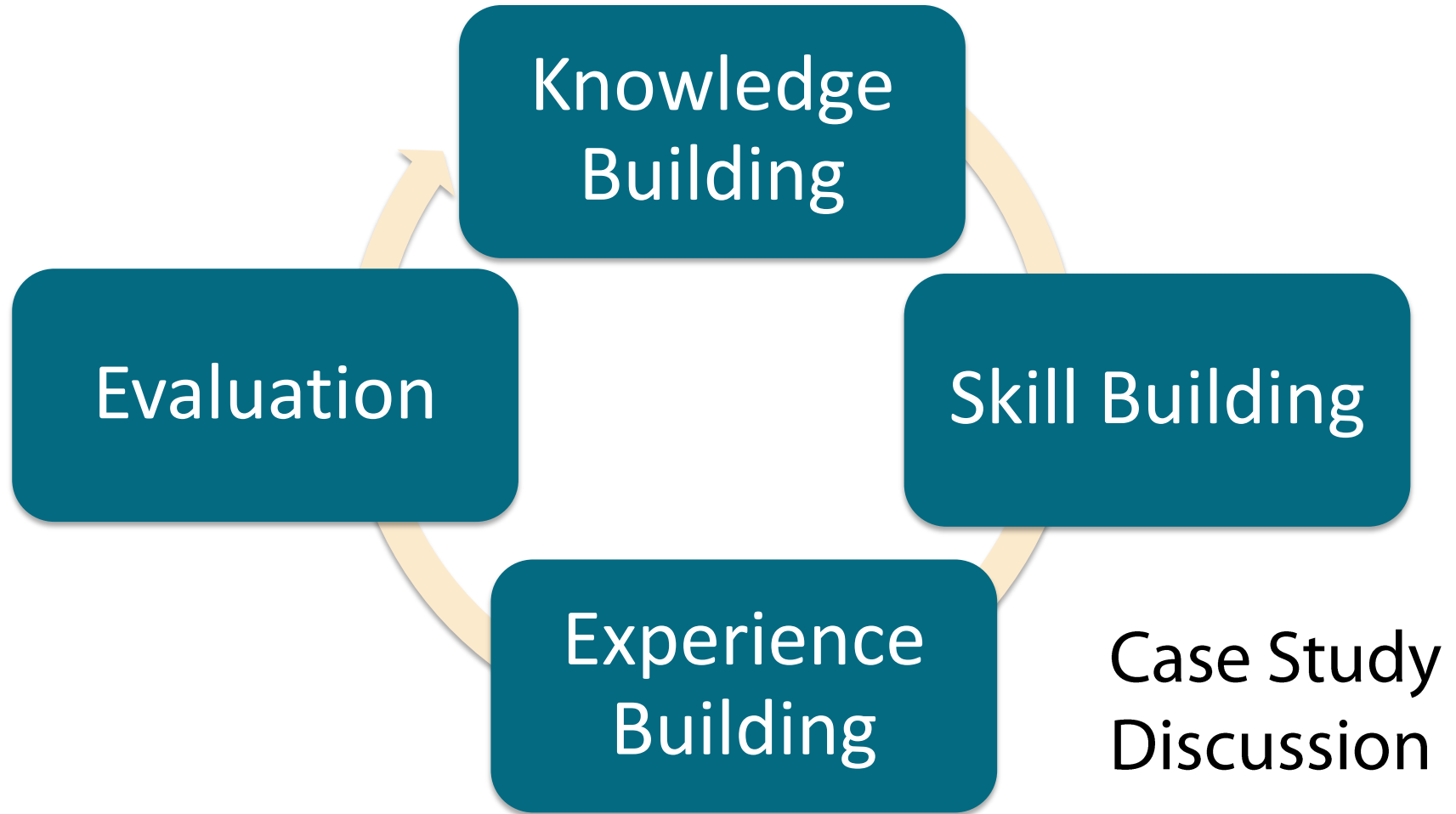


# — Anyone Have An Interpreter?

- ▶ For Information Security Risk Management to mature, we need a risk taxonomy
  - ▶ Other fields that do this well: Medical, Construction
  - ▶ Until the field converges, your company can adopt/create a dialect!
    - ▶ **ISO31000: 2009 Risk Management Standard**
    - ▶ **National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (Cybersecurity Workforce Framework)**



# Give a man a risk or teach him how to manage risk?



# — Not just *how* to teach, but *what* to teach

- ▶ Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative resulted in NICE Cybersecurity Workforce Framework
  - ▶ Developed by over 20 Federal D/As & 18 non-profit/GO's
- ▶ Organized cybersecurity discipline into seven high-level categories with specialty areas
  - ▶ Roles for Risk and Vulnerability Analyst and Risk Executive, e.g.
  - ▶ Over 100 references to RISK in the framework
  - ▶ KSAs provided for specialty areas <http://csrc.nist.gov/nice/framework/>



# It Happens...How Will You Respond?

- ▶ Hurricane Sandy:
  - ▶ Expected: Wind damage, Loss of Power, Need for Generators
  - ▶ Unexpected: Failures, Blizzard, Fires

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News

## Hurricane Sandy: Backup generators fail at major New York hospitals

Expert advises that diesel pumps be moved to higher ground, and that data centers in the city consistently test backup systems

By **Matt Hamblen**  
November 1, 2012 02:21 PM ET [Add a comment](#)

Computerworld - Devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy forced at least two major hospitals and a data center in lower Manhattan to resort to backup generators fueled by diesel for power.



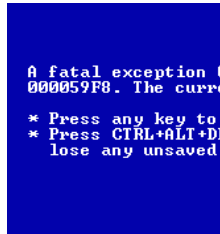


# From Risk to Resilience

- ▶ Operational resilience: The emergent property of an organization exhibited when it continues to carry out its mission after disruption that does not push it beyond its operational limit [CERT<sup>®</sup>-RMM]



Actions of people



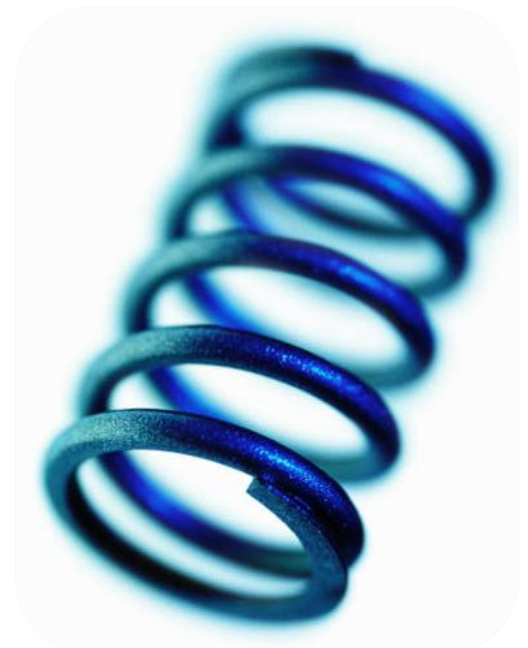
Systems & technology failures



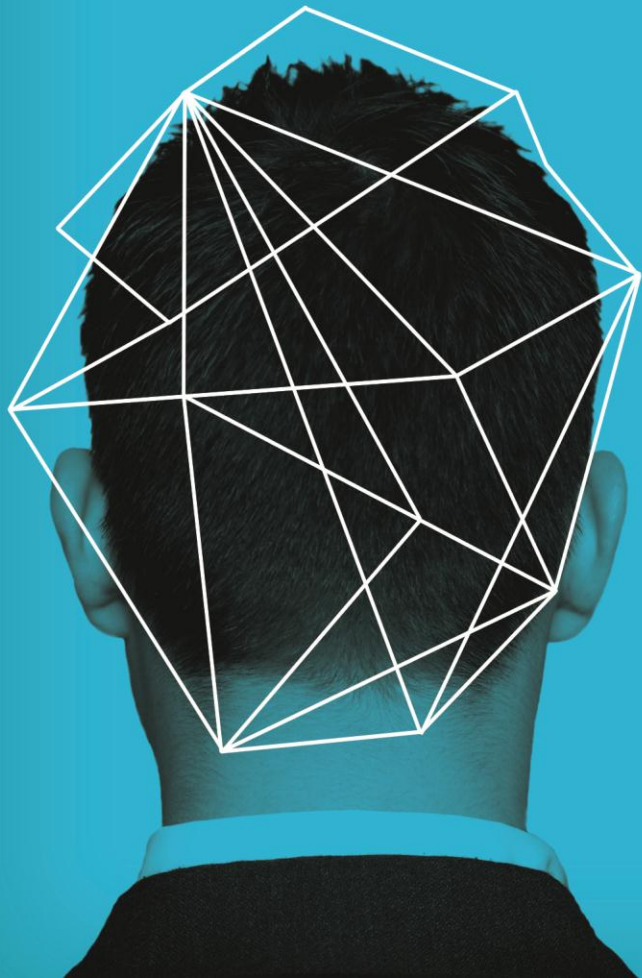
Failed internal processes



External events



**QUESTIONS?**





# Security in knowledge

## AUTOMATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT, DO THEY MIX?

**MODERATOR:**

**Evan Wheeler**

Omgeo

**PANELISTS:**

**Brook Schoenfield**

McAfee, Inc.

**Doug Graham**

EMC Corporation

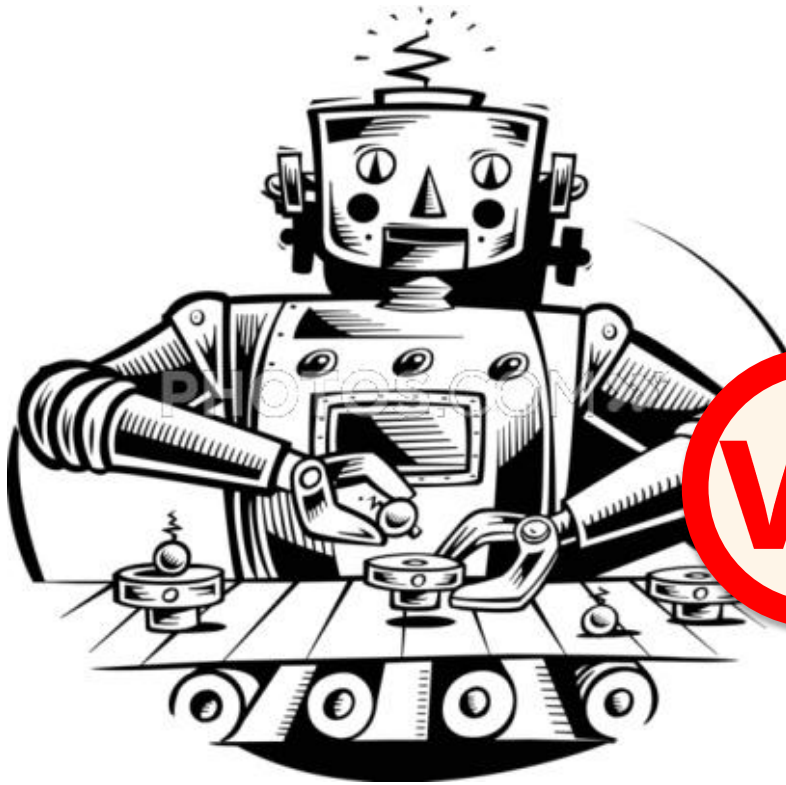
**Summer Fowler**

CERT

**Ben Tomhave**

LockPath

# Discussion Topics



**VS**

