





- Modals & Strategies of SOCs
- Processes
- People & Skills

Modals & Strategies



- Centralized
- Distributed
- In-hose
- Constituency
- Managed
- Hybrid

Centralized



- One Team
- One Central Location
- Close to HQ
- Most Common
- Most Feasible
- 24x7

Distributed



- Multiple Teams
- May have Multiple sets of Dashboards
- Small Team in SOC & rest outside the SOC
- Follow the Sun vs 24x7



Within the organization

• Pros:

- Dedicated staff
- Knows environment better
- Correlations between internal groups
- Logs stored locally

• Cons:

- Larger up-front investment
- Pressure to show ROI
- Hard to find competent staff

Constituency



- External SOC
 - UnManaged
 - No write access to security devices
 - Managed
 - Has write access to security devices



- Active Access on Security Appliances as well
- Pros:
 - quick start with less Capex
 - reduced staff requirement including for managing Security
 Appliances

Cons:

- less environment knowledge
- external data mishandling
- external device mishandling
- lack of archiving



- High level Centralized
- Focused Distributed

• Pros:

- Sufficient Visibility across the environment
- Quickest detection & Response Time
- Reduced backlog
- Intel sharing

• Cons:

- Most costly
- 3rd party handling

Authority



- No authority
- Shared authority
- Full authority
- Situations of Containment
- Pre-agreements
- Reactive
- Proactive (pushing emergency patches)



1. Monitoring and Detection

- I. Identification
- II. Correlation
- III. Aggregation
- IV. Retention
- V. Scanning
- VI. Monitoring

2. Incident response

- I. Alerting
- II. Incident management
- III. Communication

3. Threat Intelligence

- I. Threat hunting
- II. Intelligence collection
- III. Vulnerability management

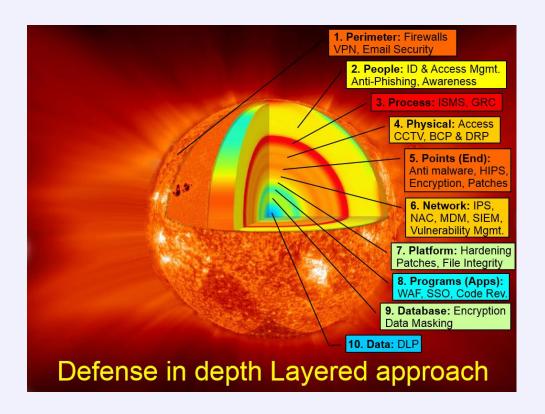
4. Quality Assurance

- I. Optimization
- II. Tuning and Maintenance
- III. Metrics

Identification



- What, Where, How much
- Asset Management
- Risk Management
- Supported Devices
- Licenses, EPS
- Storage



Correlation



- Prime objective Incident tracking
- Timestamp
- Time synchronization
- Real-time correlation
- Includes:
 - Filtering
 - Aggregation
 - De-duplication
- Custom Rules

Aggregation



- Normalization
- Storage Usage
- Evidence preservation
- Deduplication

Retention



- Active data for analysis
- Archived data
- Investigation
- Compliance requirements
- Storage Capacity Management
- Access especially Admin

Intelligence



- Subscription to other SoCs
- Automated
- Manual Advisories
- Collections
 - IOC, IOA,TTP
- Analysis & Assessment
- Applicability
- Distribution
- Creation
- External Feed
- OSINT



- Network Mapping (size, shape, makeup, and perimeter interfaces)
 - Automated & Manual
- Vulnerabilities
- Passive Fingerprinting (to avoid disruptions due to scanning)
- Correlation of events related to Vulnerable Services

Monitoring



- Real-time
- Network Monitoring Net Flows
- Perimeter
- Configuration
- Critical Files changes
- Privileged use
- IDS/IPS
- 24/7 Shift Schedules
- Follow the sun
- UBA/UEBA

Alerting



- For Prompt Action
- Focused teams involvement
- Rules building
- Actions against alerts
- Ticketing system integration
- Workflow management

Incident Management



- a) Detection
- b) Analysis
- c) Prioritization
- d) Response
- e) Containment
- f) Eradication
- g) Recovery
- h) Forensic Investigation
- i) Learning

Detection



- What, Where, How much
- IDS/IPS, SIEM, log management tools, AV
- Misuse or signature-based detection
- Anomaly detection
- IOCs, IOAs & TTP



- Who, what, when, where, and why of an intrusion
- Must be time constrained
- How to limit damage
- How to recover
- Malware Implant (Reversing)
 - De-compilation (Static code)
 - Detonation (thru runtime execution)
- Documented
- Recommendation for further action

Prioritization



- Based on Impact
- For Example:
 - Level 1 Incidents that could cause significant harm
 - Level 2 Compromise of or unauthorized access to noncritical systems or information
 - Level 3 Situations that can be contained and resolved by the information system custodian, data/process owner, or HR personnel



- Action to deter, block, or cut off
- Eradication/ Remediation
- Manual
- Automated
- Active
- Passive
- On-site & Remote
- E.g. firewall blocks, DNS black holes, IP blocks, patch deployment, and account deactivation.
- Creation of signature

Containment



- 1st Action
- Isolation of incident so it doesn't spread & cause further damage
- Disconnection of affected devices from Network & Internet
- Short term & long term containment Strategies
- Questions to address
 - What's been done to contain the breach short term?
 - What's been done to contain the breach long term?
 - Has discovered malware been quarantined from the environment?
 - What sort of backups are in place?

Eradication



- Eliminate the root cause of incident
- E.g. removal of Malware
- Complete removal of malware
- Questions to address
 - Have malware been securely removed?
 - Has the system be hardened, patched, and updates applied?
 - Can the system be re-imaged?



- to a known good state
- Based on priority
- Need of Evidence Preservation
- Systems up and running again without the fear of another breach

Questions to address:

- When systems can be returned to production?
- Have systems been patched, hardened and tested?
- Can the system be restored from a trusted back-up?
- How long will the affected systems be monitored and what will you look for when monitoring?
- What tools will ensure similar attacks will not reoccur? (File integrity monitoring, intrusion detection/protection, etc)

Forensic Investigation



- Unearthing ground truth of an incident
- Establishing a detailed timeline of events
- Gathering and storing artifacts e.g. storage media
- For legal proceedings
- Jurisdiction
- Documenting chain of custody
- bit-by-bit copies of evidence



- Root cause analysis
- Preventive controls to avoid reoccurrence
- Post incident meeting with all Team members
- Documented
- what worked well, and were there some holes
- Custom Signature Creation, Validation and Distribuition
- Questions to address:
 - What changes need to be made to the security?
 - How should employee be trained differently?
 - What weakness did the breach exploit?
 - How will you ensure a similar breach doesn't happen again?

Metrics



- KPIs
- SLA
- MTTD
- MTTR
- E.g.:
 - Response Time
 - No of Incidents
 - Pro Active Lead Time to Patch Vulnerabilities
 - No of False Positives

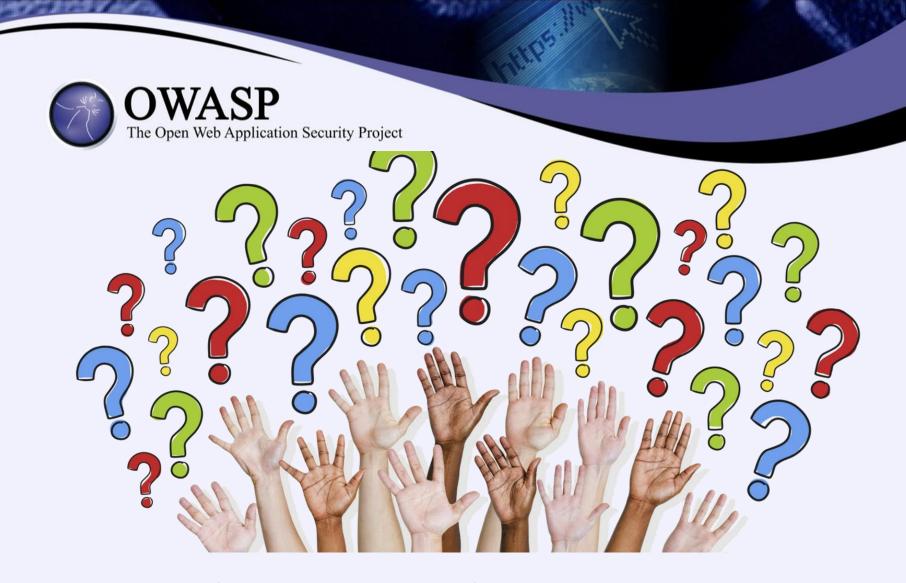
Communication



- Within SOC
- Internal
- External
- Alternative Channels
- Call centre, Email messages, Phone calls, Walk-in reports
- SOC website
- Cyber tip feeds (from other SOCs)
- SOC can't afford to miss tips
- Post incident communication



- Segregation of Duties
- Access to Admins
- Artificial Intelligence is not a substitute
- SOC Analyst
- Incident Handler
- SOC Expert
- SOC Manager



For more information, queries, feedback and updates:

OWASP Security Operations Center (SOC) Framework Project



