Changing the Paradigm of Control System Cyber Security

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Joe Weiss PE, CISM, CRISC, ISA Fellow Managing Partner Applied Control Solutions, LLC joe.weiss@realtimeacs.com





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Definitions

- Cyber incident
 - Electronic communication between systems that affects either Confidentiality, Integrity, or Availability
 - EMI/RFI can be considered cyber if they affect control systems
 - Doesn't have to be malicious
 - Doesn't address safety
- Edge device
 - Control system devices such sensors, actuators, drives
 - Not IT devices such as cell phones, laptops, routers
- Risk F*C, don't know either term



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Changing the Paradigm

- Current IT approach is monitor the network for vulnerabilities/malware
- Engineering focus is reliability, availability, productivity, and safety
 - Process sensors, actuators, and drives directly affect all 4, have no security, and can be hacked with minimal forensics
- Adequately maintaining these requirements maintains security; however, the converse may not be true
- If cyber can't impact the 4 key requirements, cyber is not important for control system cyber security!



Change in Focus is Needed

• Current approach is IT-focused and is untractable



• Need to make it an engineering problem which can be solved





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Physical Processes can be Dangerous

What we worry about



What we don't worry about



Network Cyber Vulnerability

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Control System Security Expertise Lacking





Control Systems Basics

Human Machine



Comparison of IT and Control Systems

| Attribute | IT | Control Systems |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Confidentiality (Privacy) | Very High | Low |
| Message Integrity | Low-Medium | Very High |
| System Availability | Low-Medium | Very High |
| Authentication | Medium-High | High |
| Non-Repudiation | High | Low-Medium |
| Safety | Low | Very High |
| Determinism (Timing) | Low | Very High |
| System Downtime | Tolerated | Not Acceptable |
| Security Skills/Awareness | Usually Good | Usually Poor |
| Network Monitoring | Most Important | Important |
| Patching | Expeditious, Generic Patch | Deferred, ICS Vendor Patch |
| Field Devices (Process Sensors) | Not Important | Very Important |
| System Knowledge | Usually Poor | Very Good |
| System Lifecycle | 3-5 Years | 15-25 Years |
| Interoperability | Not Critical | Critical |
| Computing Resources | "Unlimited" | Very Limited |
| Applicable Standards | ISO27000 | ISA/IEC62443 |



Examples of Recent ICS Cyber Events

- Numerous cyber attacks affecting operations/hardware
 - Chip plant shutdown
 - Power lost to 20,000+ customers in US
 - British Airways data center compromise
 - Honeywell thermostat server issues
- Russian attacks
 - DHS disclosures about "Russia in control rooms"
 - NERC Lessons Learned Russian ransomware affecting grid equipment
- Iran aware of Level 0,1 lack of security



UPS Cyber Issues

- >200,000 power devices on the web including a combined 100,000 UPS's, PDU's and Battery monitoring systems.
- NO passwords required to get into the unit or to get to the system configuration screen
- Card manufactured by Megatech used by a number of US UPS manufacturers.
- Hundreds of thousands of these types of cards in service
- Options:
 - Drain the battery in a full battery test until its low,
 - Cause the UPS to shut down in a power failure or glitch,
 - Put the UPS into sleep mode indefinitely, etc.

From Bob Hunter



Control System Cyber Incidents Are Real

- >1,000 incidents to date
- Impacts ranged from significant discharges to significant equipment damage to major electric outages to deaths

>1,000 deaths to date

>\$60 Billion in direct impacts

- Very few ICS-specific cyber security technologies, training, and policies
- >2 million ICS devices directly connected to the Internet (and counting)
 - Many are gateways
- Resilience and recovery need to be addressed



















What Are ICS-Unique Cyber Threats?

- Cyber-physical, not just the network
- Limited number of vendors supporting end-users world-wide
- Persistent Design Vulnerabilities, Not just Advanced Persistent Threats
- Want undetected control of the process, not denial-of-service Gap in protection of the process (Purdue Reference Model Level 0)

 eg, Aurora, EMI/RFI

Compromise of the measurement ((Purdue Reference Model Level 1) – eg, HART vulnerability

Compromise design features of the controller (Purdue Reference Model Level 2)

- eg, Stuxnet





EMI in Industrial Control Systems



November 1999, the U.S. Navy was conducting exercises off San Diego during which, two commercial spectrum users experienced severe electromagnetic interference (EMI) to their Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) wireless networks operating at approximately 928.5 MHZ.

The San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and the San Diego Gas and Electric (SDGE) Companies were unable to remotely actuate critical valve openings and closings as a result. This necessitated sending technicians to remote locations to manually open and close water and gas valves.

The cause of the EM interference was determined to be a Navy AN/SPS-49 radar operating off the coast of San Diego.



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SCADA EMI Resulting In A Natural Gas Pipeline Failure

- Natural gas pipeline SCADA system located 1 mile from the Naval port of Den Helder, Netherlands
- EMI was traced to an L-band Naval radar coupling into SCADA
- SCADA disturbance caused a catastrophic failure of roughly 36-inch diameter pipeline, causing a large gas explosion
 - RF energy caused the SCADA system to open and close a relay at the radar scan frequency (6-12 rpm), which was in turn, controlling the position of a large gas flow-control valve
 - Resulting changes in valve position created shock waves that traveled down the pipeline causing pipeline failure



Aurora Vulnerability Demonstration

Level 0 – The Process





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Aurora Vulnerability – What is it?





Aurora Vulnerability Impacts





Aurora Vulnerability - Impacts





Aurora Vulnerability - Impacts





ICS Cyber Security Culture Issues

- Level 1 viewed as engineering systems no security
- IT views cyber security as the network not looking at the sensor and field devices before becoming packets
 - Can be analog or digital
- IOT/IIOT generally ignoring "edge ICS" (Level 1) devices
 - Affects all industrial clouds
- Vulnerability assessments assume there is some level of security
 - Gap analysis infinite for Level 1
- ICS CERT 2016 ICS Cyber Incidents
 - 290 ICS Incidents
 - Spear phishing (26%),
 - Network scanning and probing (12%)
 - No mention of Level 1 issues

Olympic Pipeline Rupture

- Broadcast storm shutdown SCADA and Delayed Leak Detection
 - Loss of View, Loss of Control
- All sensors set to average values and safety systems didn't actuate
 - Loss of Safety
- Requires revisiting cyber security and safety standards





Benefits of Monitoring Sensors

- Real time sensor data can be used to:
 - Provide granular situational awareness
 - Help with cyber or equipment failure response
 - Help to find supply chain issues
 - Extend maintenance/testing intervals
 - Improve first principles models
 - Help refine operator response
 - Optimize equipment performance such heat exchanger effectiveness
 - Improve existing predictive maintenance programs
- Bottom line: ROI for cyber as most incidents won't be cyber



What is Being Done

- Demonstrations of hacking process sensors it's real
- Proof-of-concept testing of sensor monitoring technology and its benefits
 - Power plant (use case 1), Chemical plant (use case 2), water plant (use case 3), water level control (use case 4)
 - Building controls
 - Additional test cases
- ISA99 established new Task Group to address Level 1 devices ISA99WG4TG7
 - Scope is to identify IEC62443 standards that address, or should address, Level 1 devices for adequacy
 - Also looking at the definition of "Level 0,1", "sensors", etc.



Is Process Sensor Data Trustworthy?



Operators often do not have a reliable picture of the health of the asset or process Sensors drift or have other deviations Equipment and sensor anomalies are found at the "physics" not packet level



Raw Signal Measurement Challenges



Raw sensor data rarely can be used directly

- Electrical output of sensing element has higher frequency components
- Raw signals subjected to signal conditioning such as amplification, filtering
- Higher frequency components indicative of offset, sensitivity errors, nonlinearities filtered out



CLIENT CASE STUDY #1

Accurate identification of fault avoids turbine downtime- Predictive Maintenance

| Client: | Electricity Generation: Israel Electric Corporation (IEC) | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Challenge: | Solution: | Results: | |
| A GE Mark V gas turbine failed to stabilize and deactivated upon fuel feed. Even after replacing a control card on the main controller, the situation still could not be remedied. Costly turbine outage was scheduled. | The new technology showed an activation cross- fire (bad temperature sensor) that was not visible from HMI. The resulting adjustment allowed for safe turbine activation without costly outage. | The technology's ability to precisely identify the exact location and character of the fault by cross-correlating sensor readings enabled an immediate resolution, avoiding costly downtime | ISRAEL ELECTRIC CORPORATION |



CLIENT CASE STUDY #2 Identification of production anomaly – Asset Optimization

| Client: | Petrochemical Process: Israel Chemicals Ltd. (ICL) | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| Challenge: | Solution: | Results: | Δ |
| Bromine reactor anomalies in pH values have a direct impact on production quality and volumes | The technology quickly identified a previously undetected anomaly at the source, showing that a critical process exceeded the norm, changing pH values and decreasing production parameters | Early identification of the pH process failure enabled immediate correction, saving raw materials and vital process time and allowed for clarification of work procedures and reporting | |



CLIENT CASE STUDY #3

Early detection of pending fault - Improved cyber security and resilience





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CLIENT CASE STUDY #4

Monitoring Canal Water Levels to Prevent Flooding – Asset management

| Client: | Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Challenge: | Solution: | Results: | |
| MWRD's main purpose is the reclamation and treatment of wastewater and flood water abatement in Chicago and Cook County to protect the health and safety of citizens and of area waterways. | The technology has been installed at MWRD's Lockport Powerhouse on the Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal, a facility that generates an average of 40 million kWh of electricity per year | Preliminary results illustrate the technology's ability to detect minute electrical signals not visible on MWRD's SCADA system MWRD Chicago MWRD Chicago | |



Key Outcomes from Case Studies

- 1. Validates process operations
- Autonomic system learns the process through data obtained directly from sensors, without knowing the process
- Machine learning algorithm supports *understanding of all processes*, correct readings of values, compatibility with the operating pattern
- Technology *identifies any deviation* related to changes in the dynamics of the process or sensor deviation
 - Includes cyber, supply chain, sensor drift, etc.



Key Outcomes from Case Studies

- 2. Detects process/sensor anomalies not identified by HMI
- Gateways are designed to filter and smooth "noisy" electrical signals to HMI
- However, process/sensor anomalies are identified through process noise/electrical signals
 - Sensor anomaly identified by granular monitoring
- 3. Continues to monitor operations independent of HMI
- Without HMI, technology continued to take readings and identify process anomalies providing improved cyber security and resiliency
 - Could have identified Stuxnet



The Cyber Holy Grail – Correlating Malware to Physical Impacts

Process anomaly detection
Network anomaly detection





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Summary

- Cyber is real issue that can cause long term impacts
 - Doesn't require a nation-state
 - Minimal cyber forensics and technology for control system field devices
 - Change the paradigm to look at the process not just the network

