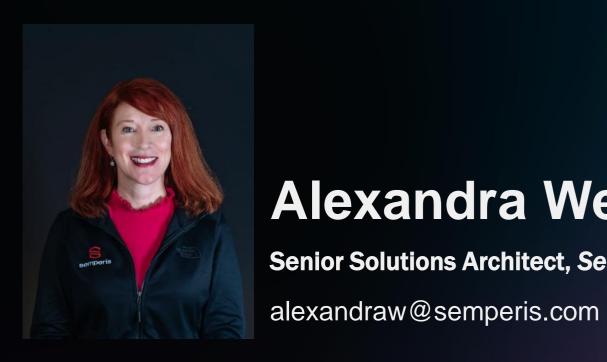
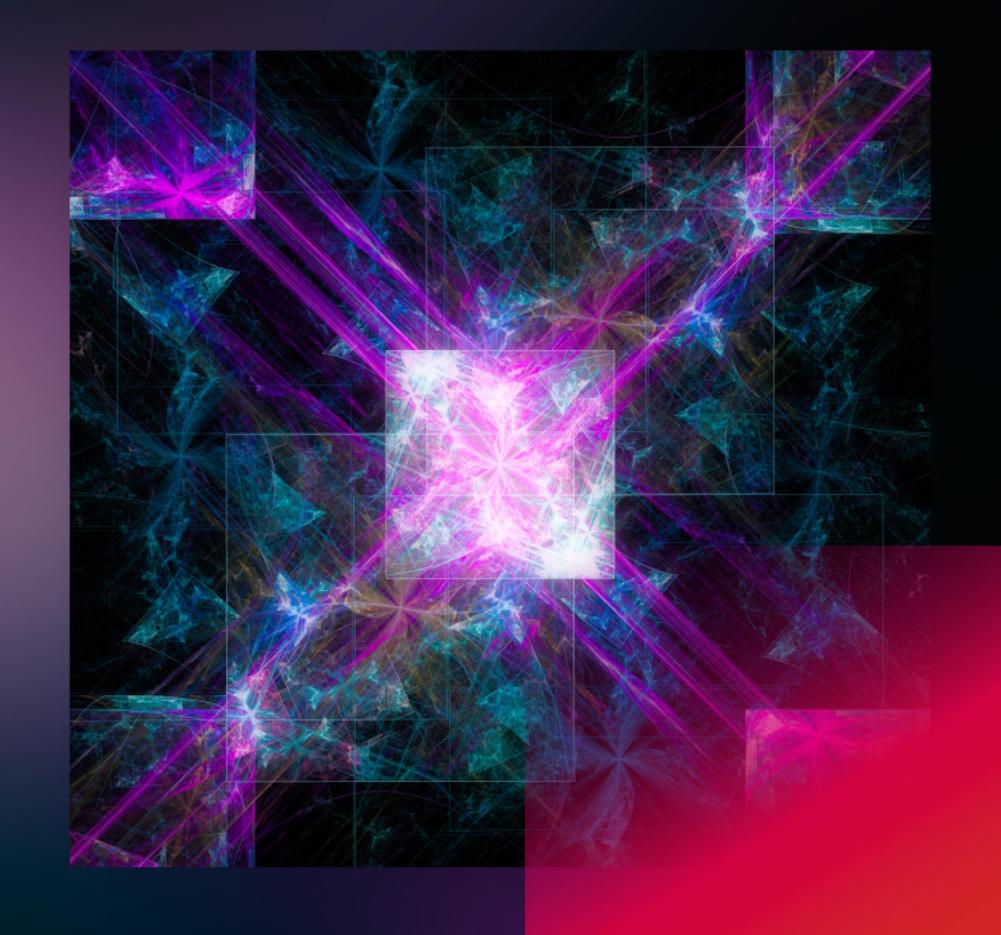


Incident Response and Resilience



Alexandra Weaver **Senior Solutions Architect, Semperis**



KKR

INSIGHT **PARTNERS**



Enterprise Cloud Alliance Microsoft Accelerator Alumni Microsoft Co-Sell Microsoft Intelligence Security Association (MISA)

The best defense against a cyberattack is a well-prepared incident response plan

Incident Response Plans (IRP) are an approach that organizations use to:

- Identify
- Contain
- Eliminate
- Recover from cybersecurity incidents

The **goal** of IR is to minimize damage, reduce recovery time and costs, and prevent future incidents.

Incident Response Plans (IRPs) generally tie into the NIST framework

Six phases of an IRP:

- 1. Preparation
- 2. Detection & Identification
- 3. Containment
- 4. Eradication
- 5. Recovery
- 6. Lessons learned and post incident review

Social Engineering Tactics:



- Phishing
- Vishing
- BEC Business Email Compromise
- Pretexting
- Honeytrap
- Tailgating
- Deep fakes
- Whaling
- Baiting
- Smishing.....

Steps to improve your cyber resilience today

Without an AD-specific backup solution, organizations "will have no choice but to pay the ransom."

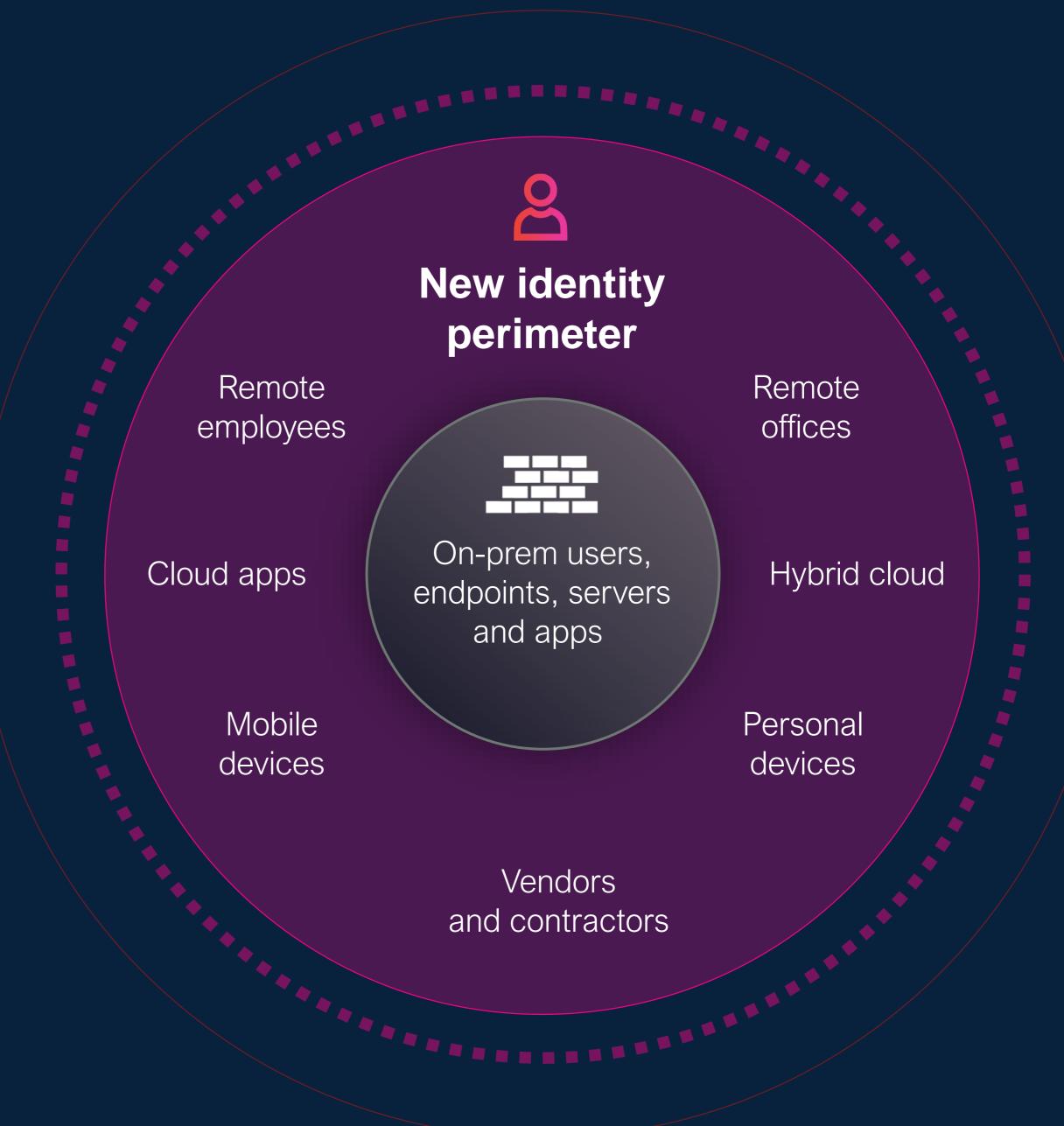
Gartner

- Map out your most critical assets and understand the business processes that are essential to your Minimum Viable Company
- Determine the necessary infrastructure to run those essential processes and services
- IDENTITY is at the center—for 90% of global organizations, Active Directory is the primary identity system

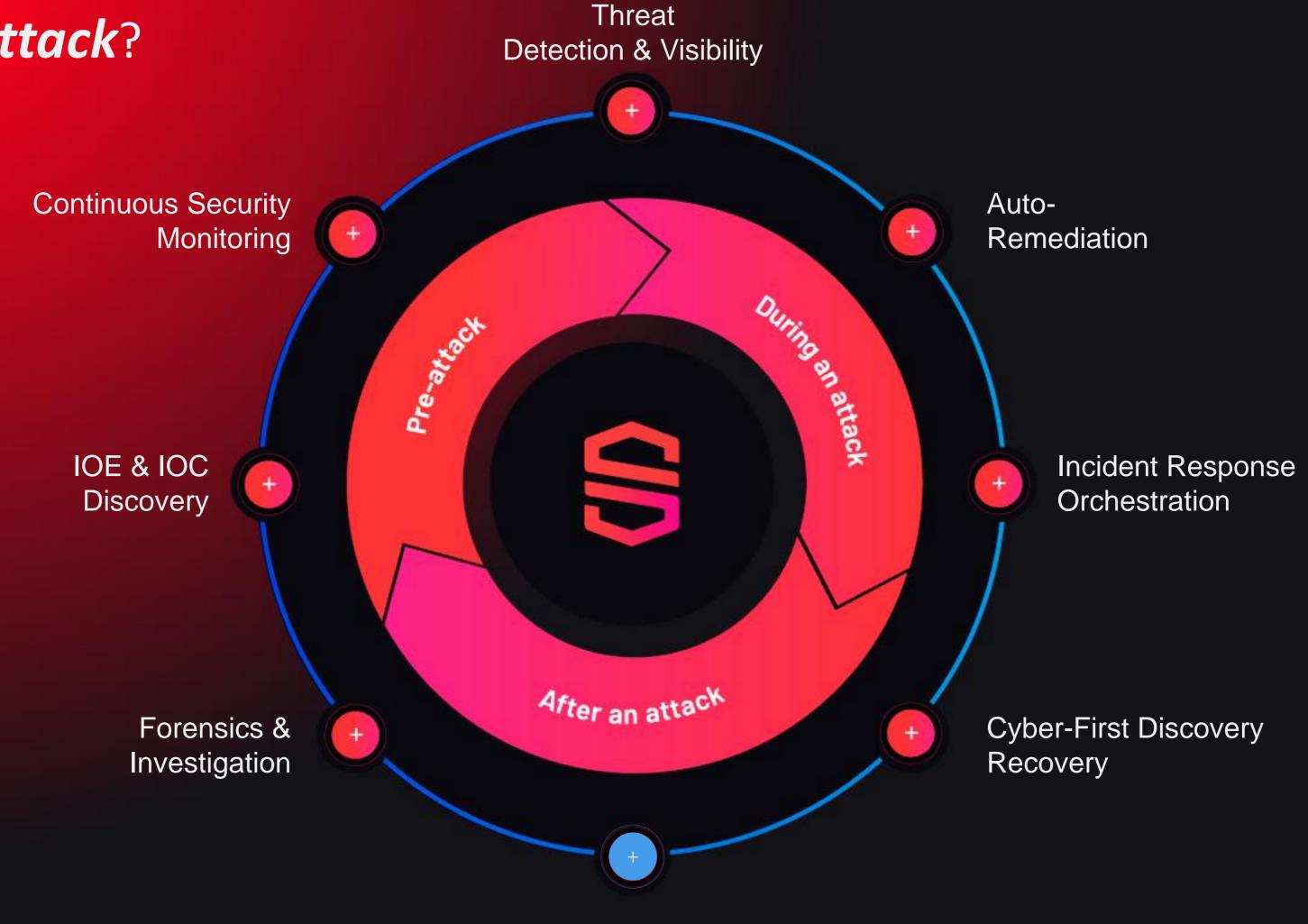
RESILIENCY CHALLENGES

Identity has become fundamental

- Keeps legacy environments secure
- Enables digital transformation
- Is a building block of Zero Trust



What is in place to detect *before*, recording *during*, and provide IOC after a cyber security *attack*?



24/7 Global IR Support

Common Cyber Attacks

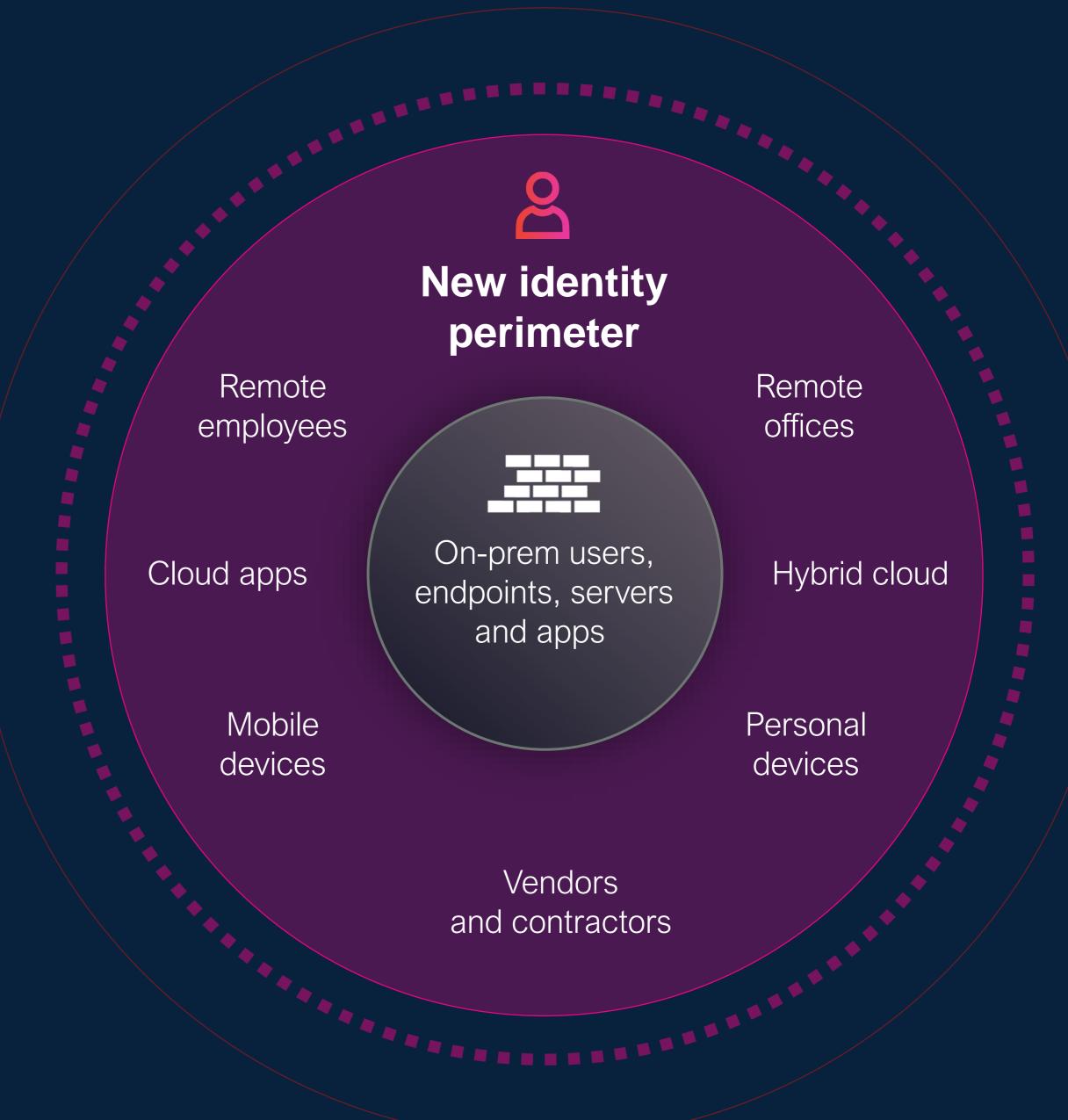
- Malware
- Phishing
- Zero Day Exploits
- Ransomware
- Password Attacks
- DoS & DDoS
- DNS spoofing

- Trojan Horse Attacks
- SQL Infection Attacks
- Cross Site Scripting
- Insider Threat
- Root kits

AGAIN.... Identity is the key!!!

Identity has become fundamental

- Keeps legacy environments secure
- Enables digital transformation
- Is a building block of Zero Trust



Cyberattacks start with identity compromise

 "Attackers are targeting Active Directory and the identity infrastructure with phenomenal success." – Gartner

 More often than not, attacks like ransomware are the second stage, predicated by an identity compromise. In fact, if you read all the attention-grabbing headlines, you'll find that most novel techniques rely on compromising identity first." -Microsoft

"Attackers don't break in...they log in"



Phases of a

ransomware attack

Initial access

Post Exploit

Reconnaissance



Core attack

- Phishing emails
- Malicious websites
- Targeted attacks with **stolen** credentials



- Download of malware for **Recon Phase**
- Connection to C2* systems
- Remote connection established

- Evaluation of AD vulnerabilities to gain domaindominance
- Lateral movement to other systems
- Credential harvesting and privilege escalation

- Access to and Extraction of corebusiness data
- Encryption of devices, often including AD DCs

*C2 = Command-and-Control

In

Through

Out

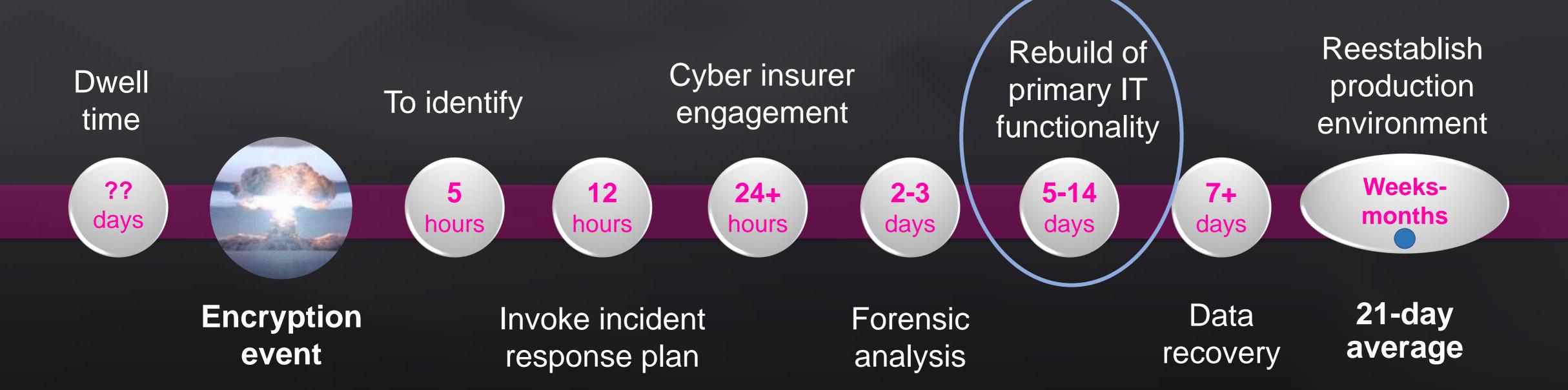


YOUR FILES ARE ENCRYPTED

Your photos, documents and other important files have been encrypted with unique key, generated for this computer.



Cyberattack recovery timeline



Cyberattacks 101: How to take down Active Directory

Biggest concerns regarding identity threats

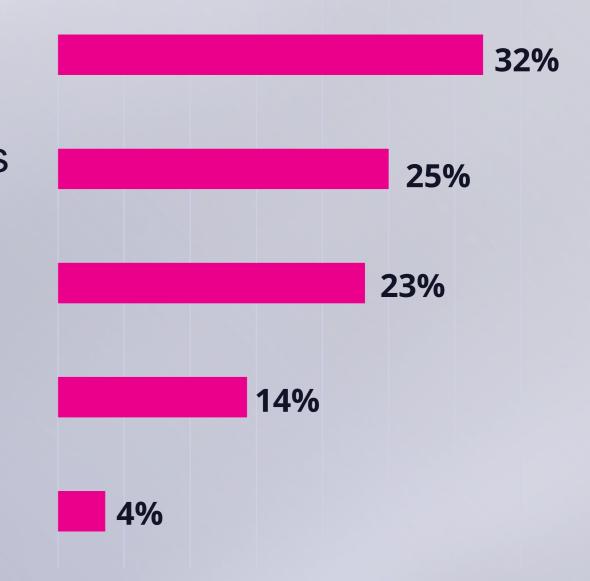
Attacks that bypass SIEM and other traditional tools

Legacy AD misconfigurations and vulnerabilities

Lack of tested AD recovery plan

Hybrid identity attacks

Limited AD response and recovery expertise



SURVEY RESULTS Evaluating Identity Threat Detection & Response (ITDR) Solutions

TODAY'S RISKS

Protecting the digital enterprise

In today's cloud-first, mobile-first world, dependency on identity systems is rapidly growing—so is the attack surface.



Cloud applications



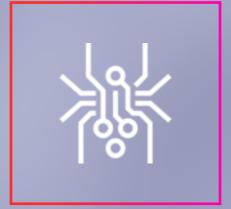
Bring your own devices



Scattered hybrid identities



Anywhere, anytime access



Ransomware attacks



Cyber espionage



Basics to strengthen your environment:

- ✓ Require strong passwords
- ✓ MFA
- ✓ JIT
- ✓ JEA
- ✓ PAWS
- ✓ VPN when using public Wi-Fi
- ✓ Patch
- ✓ Top-down security initiative



Back up Active Directory and prepare for recovery

- ✓ Backup every domain, *especially* the root
- ✓ Backup two+ DCs per domain
- ✓ Test your backups regularly
- ✓ Test downstream applications
- ✓ Use supported backup methods
- ✓ Ensure backups are malware free
- ✓ Don't forget to keep offline copies of backups

Prepare for an Active Directory recovery!

- Know your AD topology and know disaster recovery passwords.
- Know DNS topology and passwords. Name resolutions will fail as long as AD is down.
- Reduce the number of OS versions on your DCs.
- Take a backup of at least two DCs per domain in your forest & not backup the OS.
- Know the Microsoft AD Forest Recovery guide. Ideally, you have fully automated all the recovery steps.
- Be prepared for a lot of post restore manual tasks.

Top 10 things to do to improve security

- Implement good identity processes
- Implement trust security
- Secure Kerberos
- Deter lateral movement
- Secure privileged users and groups

- Harden privileged access
- Secure dependencies
- Harden domain controllers
- Monitor for unusual activity
- Back up AD—and be ready to recover

Free AD vulnerability scanning tools

Scan your AD to find out how intruders could use any gaps to their advantage.

FREE → www.semperis.com/purple-knight/
www.semperis.com/forest-druid/



Purple Knight powered by Semperis

- Powerful UI-tool for evaluating security posture of a complete AD forest
- Continuously updated with new indicators of exposure (IOEs) and indicators of compromise (IOCs)



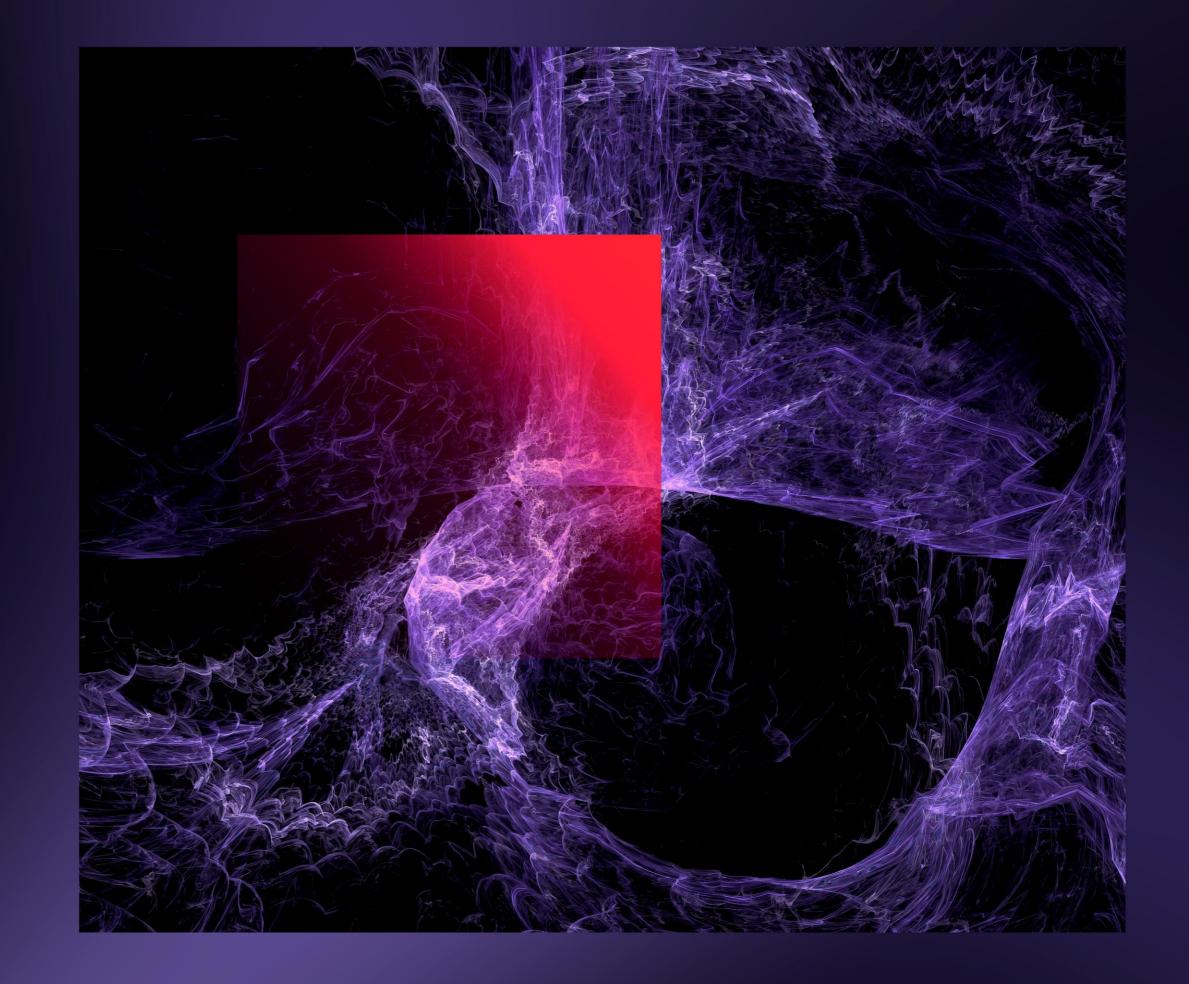
Forest Druid powered by Semperis

- Powerful UI tool for visualization of attack paths
- Easy to use—no setup required
- Built to help AD defenders



Key takeaways

- Active Directory: Your Achilles heel?
- Hybrid attacks: Double the identity, double the attack surface
- Job #1: Lock down AD security
- Scan continuously
- Prepare for malware-free AD recovery!



→ Check out Semperis Purple Knight and Forest Druid to get started.



THANK YOU

Questions?



TOP 5 FASTEST-GROWING CYBERSECURITY COMPANIES Technology Fast 500 2023 NORTH AMERICA

Deloitte.

3 YEARS IN A ROW OF **DOUBLE-DIGIT GROWTH**



2024 LIST

Inc.Best Workplaces

> **2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS ON** THE LIST



#14 ON DUN'S 100 2022 RANKING OF BEST STARTUPS



150+ COMBINED YEARS OF MICROSOFT MVP EXPERIENCE

Vet100

TOP 10 OF US 100 FASTEST-GROWING

VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES



EY HONORS SEMPERIS CEO



2023 Award Winner

MICKEY BRESMAN





