



ANM  
**TECH DAY**

**The Modern SOC: Faster Detection, Smarter Response**

# Chris Hammer

## Cybersecurity Architect

- 25+ Years of IT and Security Experience
- Security, Network, Cloud, and Data Center background
- Built and managed Red / Blue Teams
- I like fast things...If it has an engine, I will drive, ride, or fly it

### Key Skills:

- Cybersecurity Risk Management and Program Development
- Aligning security objectives to risk and outcomes
- Validation Services (Red & Blue Team Exercises)
- Enterprise Security Architecture
- Wading through the fluff



# What We Will Cover

## Agenda



• **The Modern SOC: Faster Detection, Smarter Response**

• **The Attacker Perspective**

• **What Challenges Does this Cause**

• **The Defender Evolution**

• **Real Life Use Case**

• **Q & A**

# Zero Trust Principles are Critical

AI Drives the Requirement for Faster Detection and Response

- \$10.5T Annual Cost of Cybercrime
- 29 Minutes Average Breakout Time
- 89% Surge in AI-Enabled Attacks YoY

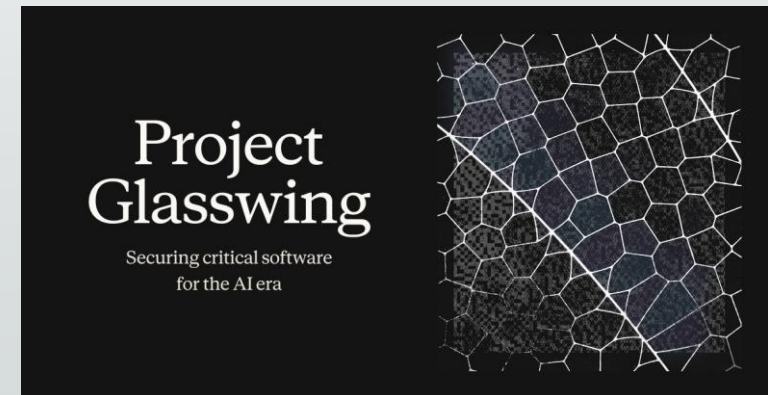


## Zero Trust Core Principle's:

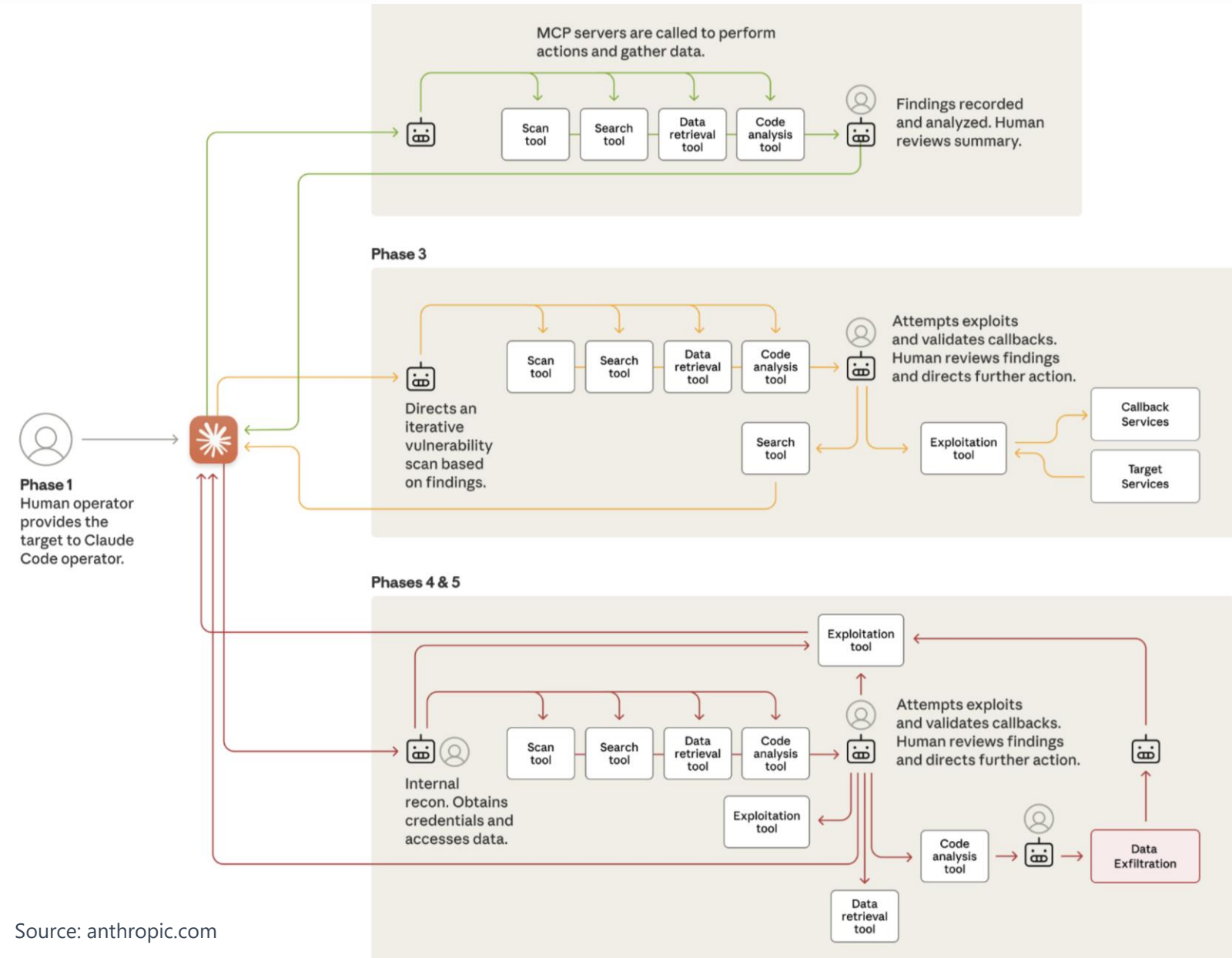
**Never Trust, Always Verify**

**Least Privilege Access**

**ASSUME BREACH**



# Autonomous AI Hacking?



- Target Initialization & Reconnaissance
- Vulnerability Exploitation & Initial Access
- Post-Exploitation & Exfiltration

# How bad is it?

## Details in the Noise

Report Claim	Considerations
80% - 90% autonomous / agentic execution	Required custom framework, jailbreaks, human validation
Major inflection point in cyber threats	Hallucinations & unreliability show current limits
Large-scale state-sponsored op	Minimal IOCs, metrics, or independent corroboration shared
AI handled recon -> exploit -> exfil	Techniques echo prior AI-assisted attacks; not a paradigm shift
Proof of agentic weaponization era	AI-Assisted intrusions



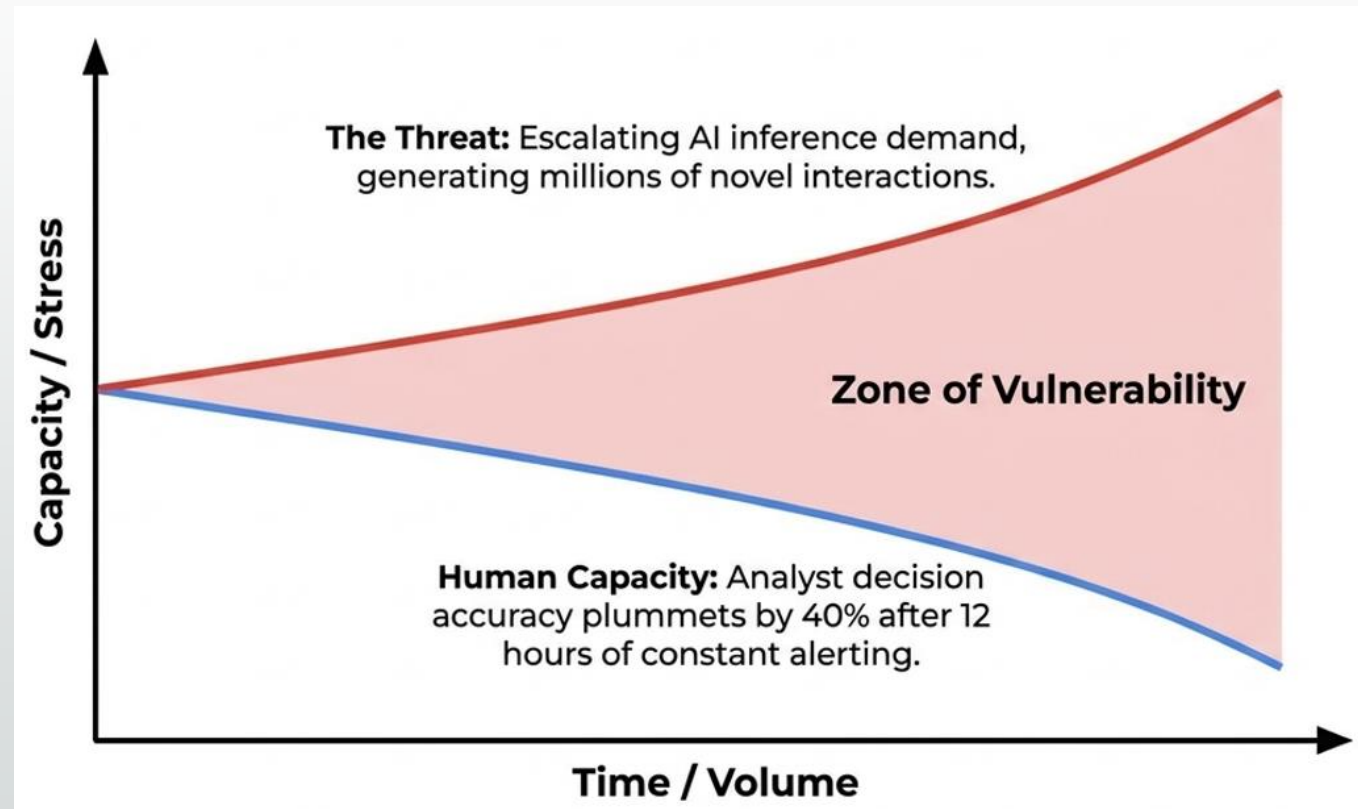


# AI: The Defender Challenge and Approach

---

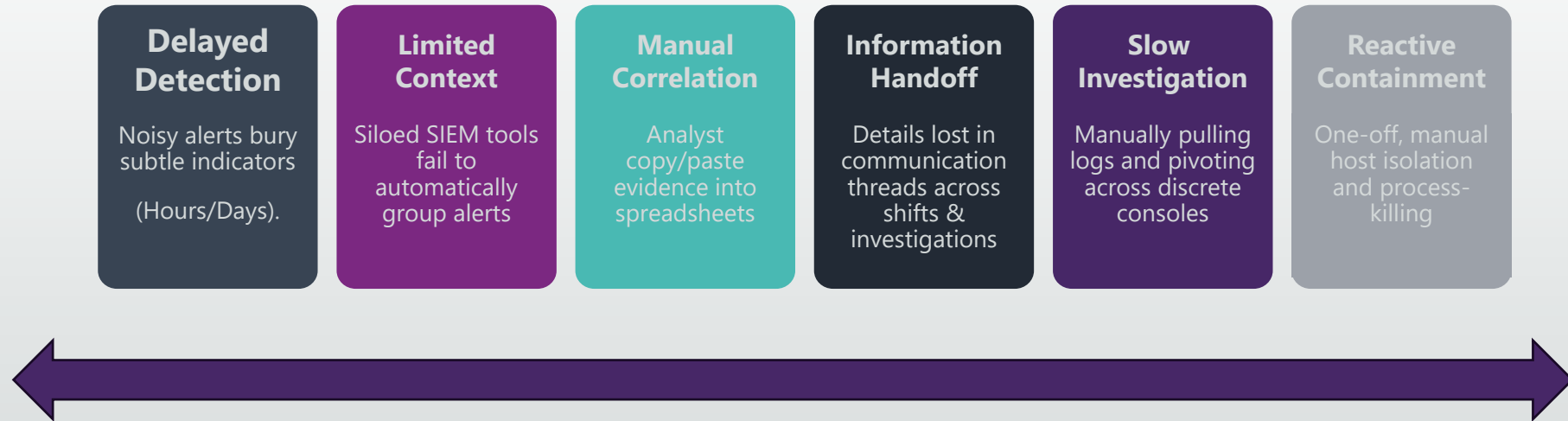
# Critical Zone of Vulnerability

- 70% of SOC analysts experience severe stress
- Up to 64% consider leaving their roles within a year
- Replacing expertise is expensive and challenging



Defenders remain trapped in human-dependent processes

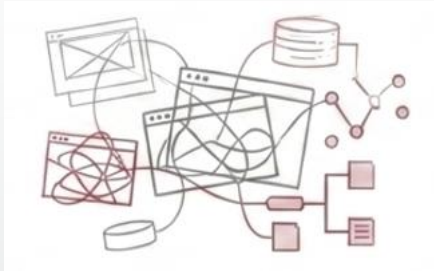
# Legacy Architectures Cannot Scale to Machine-Speed



**Bottom Line: Traditional incident response actions break when faced with novel and dynamic AI Threats**

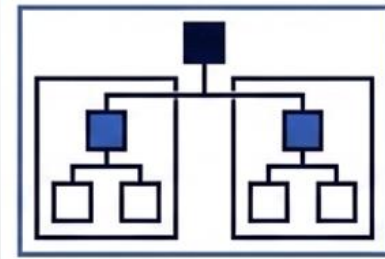
# The Shift to Autonomous Operations

## The Legacy Model



- Human-driven triage overwhelmed by high false positive rates
- Reactive, retrospective incident handling
- Siloed telemetry pipelines and fragmented investigations

## The Unified AI Platform



- Intelligent Data Foundation stitching telemetry together
- Machine triaged data leveraging behavioral ML
- Automated inline playbooks decreasing MTTD & MTTR

# Evolving Automation: Hybrid Wins

<b>Traditional Automation</b>	<b>Agentic AI</b>	<b>Hybrid Agentic AI (Goldilocks Solution)</b>
<b>Strengths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Efficient for known threats, predictable, consistent</li></ul>	<b>Strengths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Autonomous planning, self-improving, adapts to new threats</li></ul>	<b>Strengths</b> <p>Combines automation's precision with AI's adaptability. Operates within well-defined parameters while applying proven decision-making frameworks for novel scenarios</p>
<b>Limitations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Breaks on novel attacks, limited adaptability, requires constant manual updates</li></ul>	<b>Limitations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Risk of policy violations, unintended errors, requires validation of guardrails</li></ul>	

# AI is a Force Multiplier, Not a Replacement



## Where Machines Excel

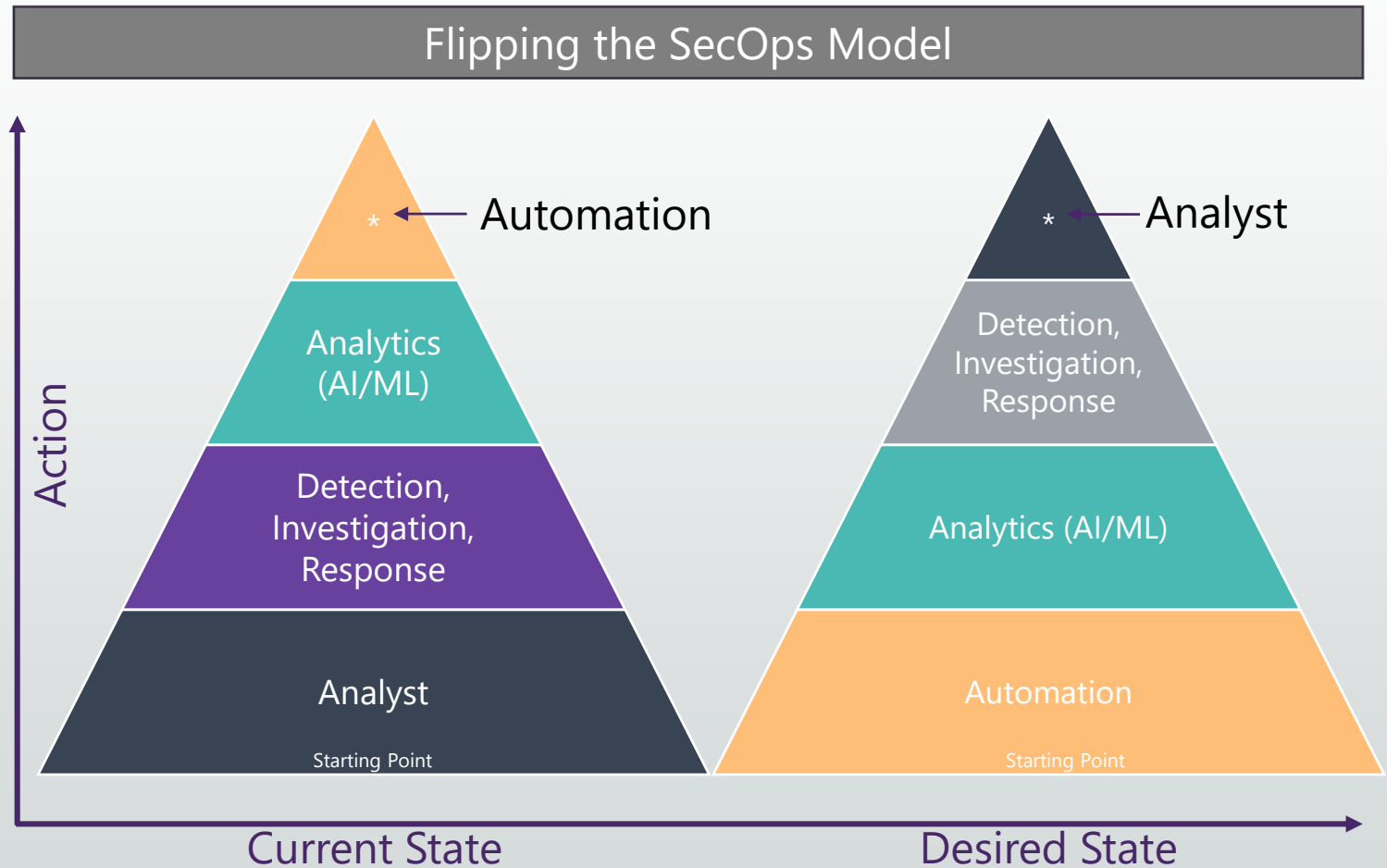
- Rapid data processing and log aggregation
- Consistent execution of established playbooks
- 24/7 continuous monitoring without cognitive fatigue
- Pattern recognition across massive disjointed datasets

## Where Humans Excel

- Navigating complex organizational dynamics
- Making nuanced risk trade-offs (e.g., business continuity vs. security)
- Creative problem solving
- Strategic threat hunting and security architecture design

# Defender Perspective

- **Today actions start with the Analyst**
- **We need to flip the model**
- **Intelligence (AI), automation, and consolidation are critical for SOC's to be successful**



# Elevating the Security Professional



## Analyst -> Investigator

### From:

Manually triaging thousands of basic alerts and fighting fatigue

### To:

Investigating complex, novel threats and validating AI-generated root cause analysis



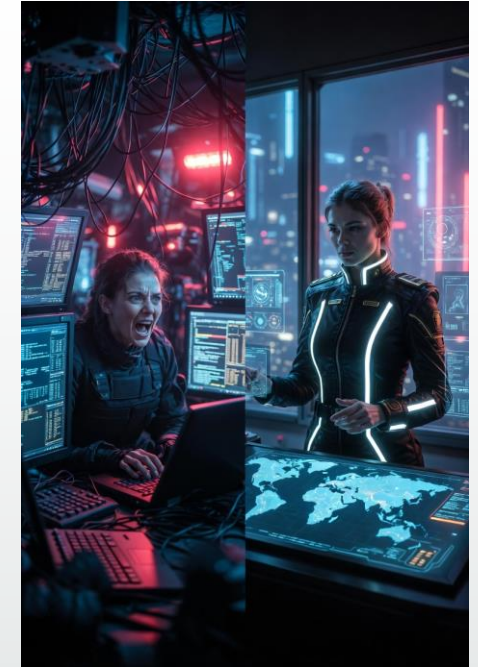
## Engineer -> Architect

### From:

Managing siloed telemetry pipelines and tuning noisy architecture alert rules

### To:

Designing comprehensive methodologies and intelligent response workflows that AI scales organizationally



## Responder -> Strategist

### From:

Manually collecting evidence and executing one-off script containments

### To:

Coordinating complex investigations, managing stakeholder communications, and proactive exposure management



# What Does This Look Like?: Case Study

---

# The Goal

## Dynamic Threat Intel Platform

- Run Threat Hunts On Demand
- Turn LLM output into usable, structured findings
- Keep execution local-first and private
- Avoid shared-session behavior and allow for additional use cases
- Output to operator-usable (aka me) dashboard



# Stale Reports to Live Actionable Data

## Multi-Source Threat Intel Roll-up Brief (v0)

Generated: 2026-03-03T23:43:15.422483+00:00

### Data Sources Used

- KEV scored/correlated: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/kev\_scored\_correlated\_234315Z.json`
- CISA advisories normalized: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/cisa\_advisories\_events\_234312Z.json`
- NVD normalized: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/nvd\_events\_234313Z.json`
- Unit 42 Tier 2 normalized: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/paloalto\_unit42\_events\_234315Z.json`
- CrowdStrike Tier 2 normalized: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/crowdstrike\_blog\_events\_234315Z.json`
- Cisco Talos Tier 2 normalized: `~/Users/hammer/.openclaw/workspace/SecOps-Threat-Platform/data/normalized/2026-03-03/cisco\_talos\_events\_234315Z.json`

### Executive Summary

- KEV tracked: **\*\*1531\*\***
- Corroborated KEV findings: **\*\*7\*\***
- Corroborated preferred-vendor findings: **\*\*2\*\***
- CISA advisories (high-signal): **\*\*5 / 30\*\***
- NVD context events: **\*\*200\*\***
- Tier 2 research events: **\*\*40\*\*** (high-signal: **\*\*6\*\***)
- Mode: conservative, correlation-gated escalation

### Top 10 Action Queue (Correlation-Weighted)

1. **\*\*CVE-2026-22719\*\*** | P1 | risk=100 | rollup=110.0 | corroborated=yes | vendor=Broadcom
2. **\*\*CVE-2023-46805\*\*** | P1 | risk=100 | rollup=100.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Ivanti
3. **\*\*CVE-2025-49113\*\*** | P1 | risk=90 | rollup=100.0 | corroborated=yes | vendor=Roundcube
4. **\*\*CVE-2018-8639\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Microsoft
5. **\*\*CVE-2024-38094\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Microsoft
6. **\*\*CVE-2023-20269\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Cisco
7. **\*\*CVE-2023-36884\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Microsoft
8. **\*\*CVE-2022-41080\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Microsoft
9. **\*\*CVE-2020-3433\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Cisco
10. **\*\*CVE-2022-41082\*\*** | P1 | risk=95 | rollup=98.0 | corroborated=no | vendor=Microsoft

### Corroborated Findings

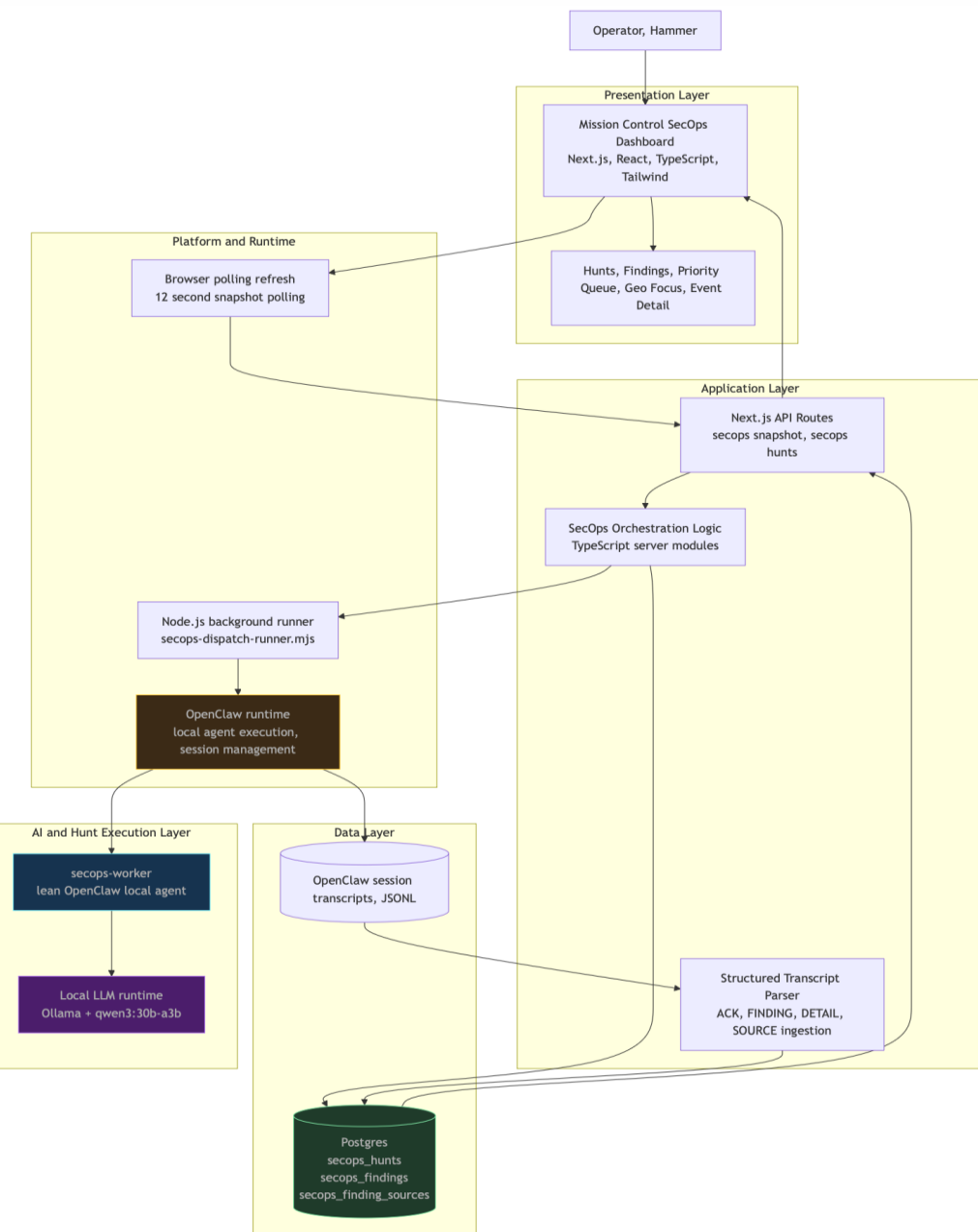
- **\*\*CVE-2026-22719\*\*** | priority=P1 | sources=cisa\_advisories, cisa\_kev | boost=corroborated



# DEMO



# Super Easy...



Isolation



Code Repository



LLM'S & Agents

Presentation

Orchestration



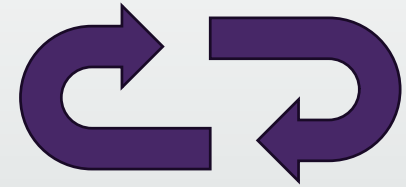
Data Layer

# What Did I Learn?

5 Out of 100 Lessons...

- Start with a clear objective
- It's an iterative process
- Use the right model for the right task
- Things can get complicated (and expensive!) quickly...
- Have fun & learn!
- Ok.. One more... should you build or buy?

**IT = Revenue Support**



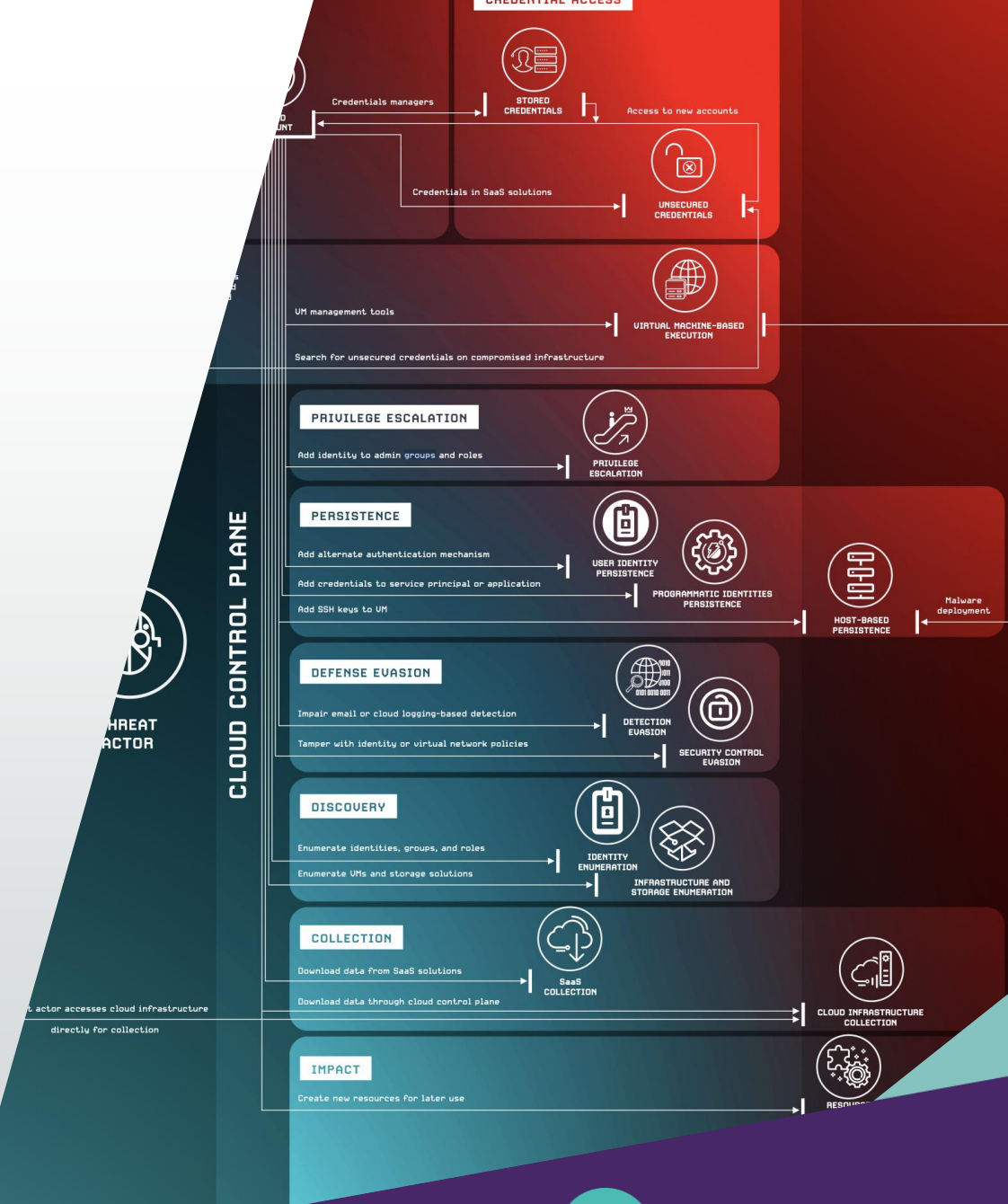
**Security = Revenue Protection**

You must be conscious of time and dollar investment

# Final Thoughts

The Condensed Version...

- 1.) AI is going to continue to evolve and improve. This leads to benefits for Attackers AND Defenders.
- 2.) AI helps with but does not solve "Tool Sprawl". Look for opportunities to consolidate and focus on specific use cases.
- 3.) You don't need AI when scripting can solve the problem. Make smart SecOps decisions.
- 4.) Be aware of creating "AI Dependence". Humans still need to be in the loop.



# Let us help.

**AI Readiness Advisory** – Overall look into AI and how it can impact your environment and preferred practices for rolling it out to your organization

**Governance and Controls Assessment** – Review of the governance program and controls in place and help implement AI guardrails to reduce risk

**Tools Rationalization** – Align tool capabilities to risk and control gaps. Identify where AI SecOps could broaden your organizations security posture

---

**Contact your Account Manager**

---



Thank you!

---

Questions?

