



# OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CYBERSECURITY EXPERT PANEL FORUM 2023

22 – 23 AUGUST 2023

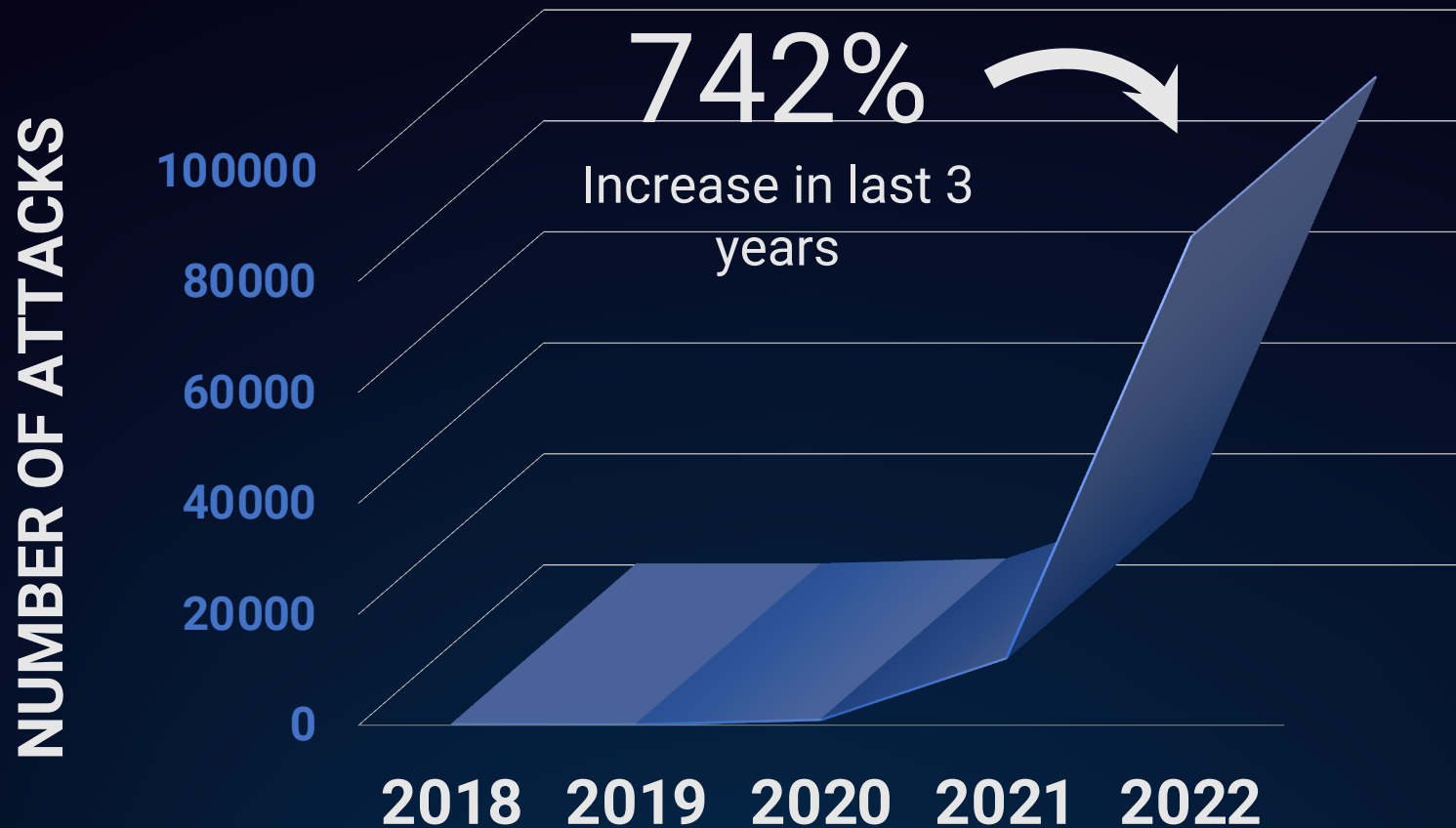
Evolving Threats and Emerging Regulations  
in OT Software Supply Chain Security



**Section 1: Untangling the Software Supply Chain Attack**

# OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CYBERSECURITY EXPERT PANEL FORUM 2023

## Software Supply Chain Attacks Are Increasing Exponentially



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## Confusion About What Is Considered a Supply Chain Incident



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## What Is a Software Supply Chain Attack? (one common definition)



***A software supply chain attack occurs when a cyber threat actor infiltrates a software vendor's network and employs malicious code to compromise the software before the vendor sends it to their customers. The compromised software then compromises the customer's data or system.***

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency  
US Federal Government



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## What Is a Software Supply Chain Attack? (another definition)



***Attacks that allow the adversary to utilize implants or other vulnerabilities inserted prior to installation in order to infiltrate data, or manipulate information technology hardware, software, operating systems, peripherals (information technology products) or services at any point during the life cycle.***

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## What Is a Software Supply Chain Attack? (a broader definition)



***Attacks that exploit the inherent trust between the participants in the software supply chain to target and exploit one or more end users of a product***

## What Makes Software Supply Chain Attack Special?



***An organization could be vulnerable to a supply chain attack even when its own defences are quite good***



***More than 50% of the supply chain attacks were attributed to APT groups or well-known attackers***





## Section 2: A Barrage of Regulations

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## A Rapidly Maturing Regulatory Environment in the United States

### Executive Order 14028

Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity

May 2021

- Software Bill of Materials (SBOMs)
- Tools to check for and remediate vulnerabilities
- Accurate, up-to-date provenance of software

### DHS/TSA Security Directives

for Critical Pipeline Owners & Operators

Jul 2021

- Report confirmed & potential cybersecurity incidents
- Report gaps and remediation measures to address cyber risks

### National Security Memorandum

Improving Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure Control Systems

Oct 2021

- Performance goals
- Threat visibility, indicators, detections, and warning

### Software Supply Chain Risk Mgmt Act

- SBOMs required for all critical software used in federal systems
- Certification that each item in SBOM is free from security vulnerabilities

Dec 2021

### OMB Memorandum M-22-18

Agencies required to obtain:

- self-attestation for 3<sup>rd</sup>-party software
- SBOMs for critical software

Sep 2022

### National Cybersecurity Strategy

- Encourage coordinated vulnerability disclosure across all technology types and sectors; promote the further development of SBOMs
- Build on implementation of EO 14028, including the Software Bills of Material (SBOM)

Mar 2023

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## International Regulation and Guidance on Supply Chain Security

### IT Security Act

2.0

Increasing the Security of IT Systems



2021

#### Requirements:

- Manufacturers must provide a declaration of guarantee
- The declaration covers the manufacturer's entire supply chain

### ENISA:

Threat Landscape for Supply Chain Attacks



2021

#### Recommendations:

- Define quality objectives: number of externally identified vulnerabilities
- Maintain accurate, current data on origins of software code or components
- Risk analysis via a vulnerability scoring system
- Patch verification and testing

### EU Cyber Resilience Act



#### Requirements:

- Commission to specify format/elements of SBOMs
- Manufacturers to document vulnerabilities and components, and create SBOMs

2022

### CII Supply Chain Programme 2022



#### Initiatives:

- Real time transparency in cyber supply chain risks

2022

### Call for Views on Software Resilience and Security



#### Survey on security controls and processes:

- Produce a component inventory or SBOM and share with customers
- Share a vulnerability exploitability alert (e.g., VEX)

Feb 2023

### A Guide to Implementing the Software Bill of Materials (SBOM) for Software Management



#### Guidance on:

- Benefits of introducing SBOMs
- SBOM creation and sharing
- SBOM operation and management

July 2023

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## Industry-Specific Mandates

### Medical Devices

FDA — Ensuring Cybersecurity of Medical Devices – S. 524B (Takes effect Oct 1, 2023)

Requirements for manufacturers:

- Create a plan to monitor, identify, and address, as appropriate, in a reasonable time, post-market cybersecurity vulnerabilities
- Provide a software bill of materials, including commercial, open-source, and off-the-shelf software components

### Bulk Electrical Systems

NERC CIP-013 Cyber Security – Supply Chain Risk Management (Enforced July 2020)

Requirements for manufacturers:

- Develop one or more documented supply chain cybersecurity risk management plan(s)
- Disclose known vulnerabilities
- Verify software integrity and authenticity of all software and patches provided by the vendor

### Automotive

NHTSA — Cybersecurity Best Practices for the Safety of Modern Vehicles (Draft 2022)

Requirement for suppliers and vehicle manufacturers:

- Maintain a database of their operational hardware and software components (aka SBOM)
- Track sufficient details related to software components, so when a new vulnerability is identified manufacturers can quickly identify what ECUs and specific vehicles would be affected

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## Company-Specific Direction and Research

### EEI Model Procurement Contract Language

(Published October 2022)

Terms now getting included in utility procurement contracts:

- Provide a software bill of materials for procured (including licensed) products consisting of a list of components and associated metadata
- Use reasonable efforts to investigate whether computer viruses or malware are present in any software or patches before providing such software or patches...
- To the extent Contractor is supplying third-party software or patches, Contractor will use reasonable efforts to ensure the third-party will not insert any code...
- When install files, scripts, firmware, or other [...] solutions are flagged as malicious, infected, or suspicious by an anti-virus vendor, Contractor must provide technical justification as to why the “false positive” hit has taken place

### Industry Response Research

**Government intervention, the rise of the SBOM and the evolution of software supply chain security – Sonatype**  
(Survey Conducted May 2023)

Findings:

- 76% of enterprises globally have adopted an SBOM in the past two years
- 60% of respondents mandating that the businesses they work with maintain an SBOM
- 41% of security decision-makers see cyber regulation as the factor having the greatest positive impact on software security



# Section 3: Trust, but Verify

## What Is a Software Bill of Materials (SBOM)?

**Software Bill of Materials (SBOM):**  
**A formal record containing the details and supply chain relationships of various components used in building software.**



The Minimum Elements For a  
Software Bill of Materials (SBOM)

The United States Department of Commerce



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## SBOMs Provide Transparency, Not Risk Analysis







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## Minimum Components of an SBOM

- NTIA defined the requirements for an SBOM
- Three approved formats:
  1. SWID
  2. SPDX
  3. CycloneDX

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# Document Information
SPDXVersion: SPDX-2.2
DataLicense: CC0-1.0
DocumentNamespace: http://www.spdx.org/spdxdocs/PI
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DocumentName: PI Vision_2017_.exe-3.2.0.11
SPDXID: SPDXRef-DOCUMENT
Creator: Organization: aDolus Technology Inc.
Created: 2021-04-07T17:21:27Z
DocumentComment: <text>Please contact aDolus Technology Inc. to include vulnerability,
malware, reputation, or obsolescence analysis with this SBOM</text>
Relationship: SPDXRef-DOCUMENT DESCRIBES SPDXRef-OSIsoft-Inc.-PI Vision-2017-.exe-3.2.0.11

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PackageName: PI Vision_2017_
SPDXID: SPDXRef-OSIsoft-Inc.-PI Vision-2017-.exe-3.2.0.11
PackageVersion: 3.2.0.11
PackageFileName: PI Vision_2017_.exe
PackageSupplier: Organization: OSIsoft, Inc.
PackageDownloadLocation: NOASSERTION
FilesAnalyzed: true
PackageVerificationCode: cf4d02ad37f33d66d4644437141eaf1a38cf0228
PackageChecksum: MD5: f1678e0565b8c0c942f4adecfa0c73e0
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DOCUMENT
Relationship: SPDXRef-OSIsoft-Inc.-PI Vision-2017-.exe-3.2.0.11 CONTAINS SPDXRef-
PIVision-3.2.0.11-RunCommand.cmd
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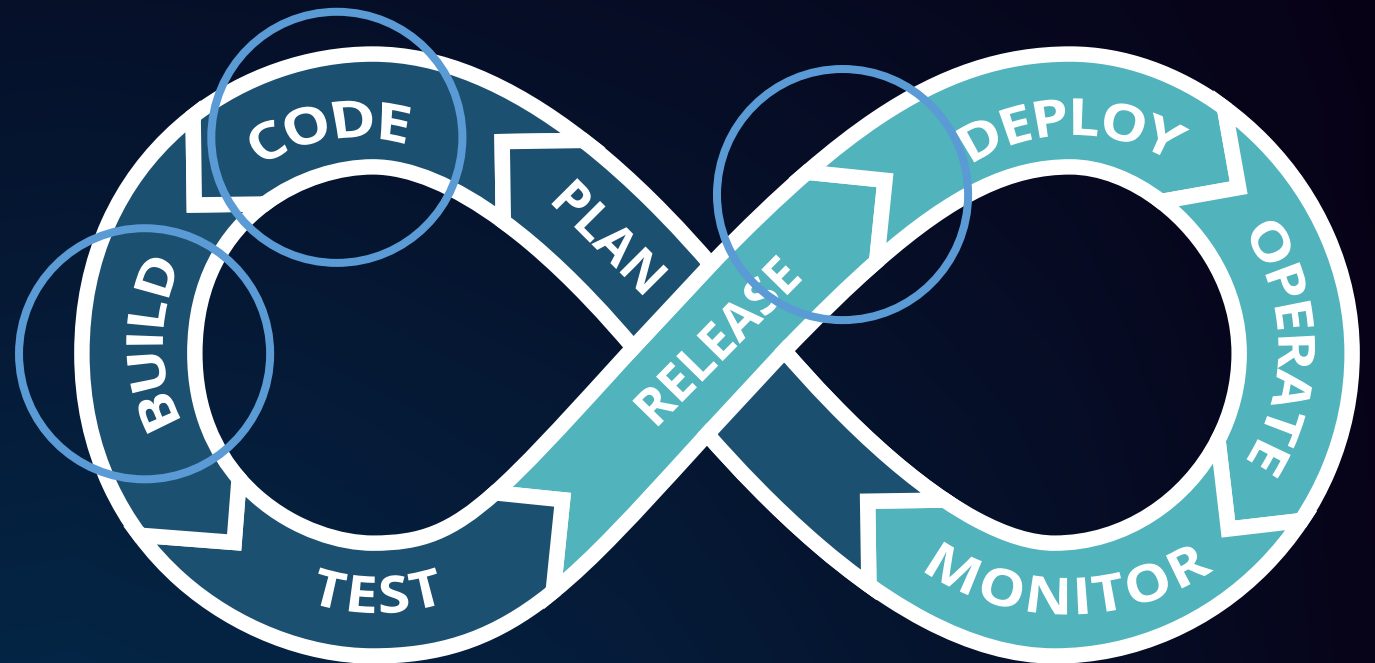
Callouts in the image point to the following fields:

- Author of SBOM Data: Creator: Organization: aDolus Technology Inc.
- Timestamp: Created: 2021-04-07T17:21:27Z
- Component Name: PackageName: PI Vision\_2017\_
- Component Version: PackageVersion: 3.2.0.11
- Supplier Name: PackageSupplier: Organization: OSIsoft, Inc.
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- Dependency Relationship: Relationship: SPDXRef-OSIsoft-Inc.-PI Vision-2017-.exe-3.2.0.11 CONTAINS

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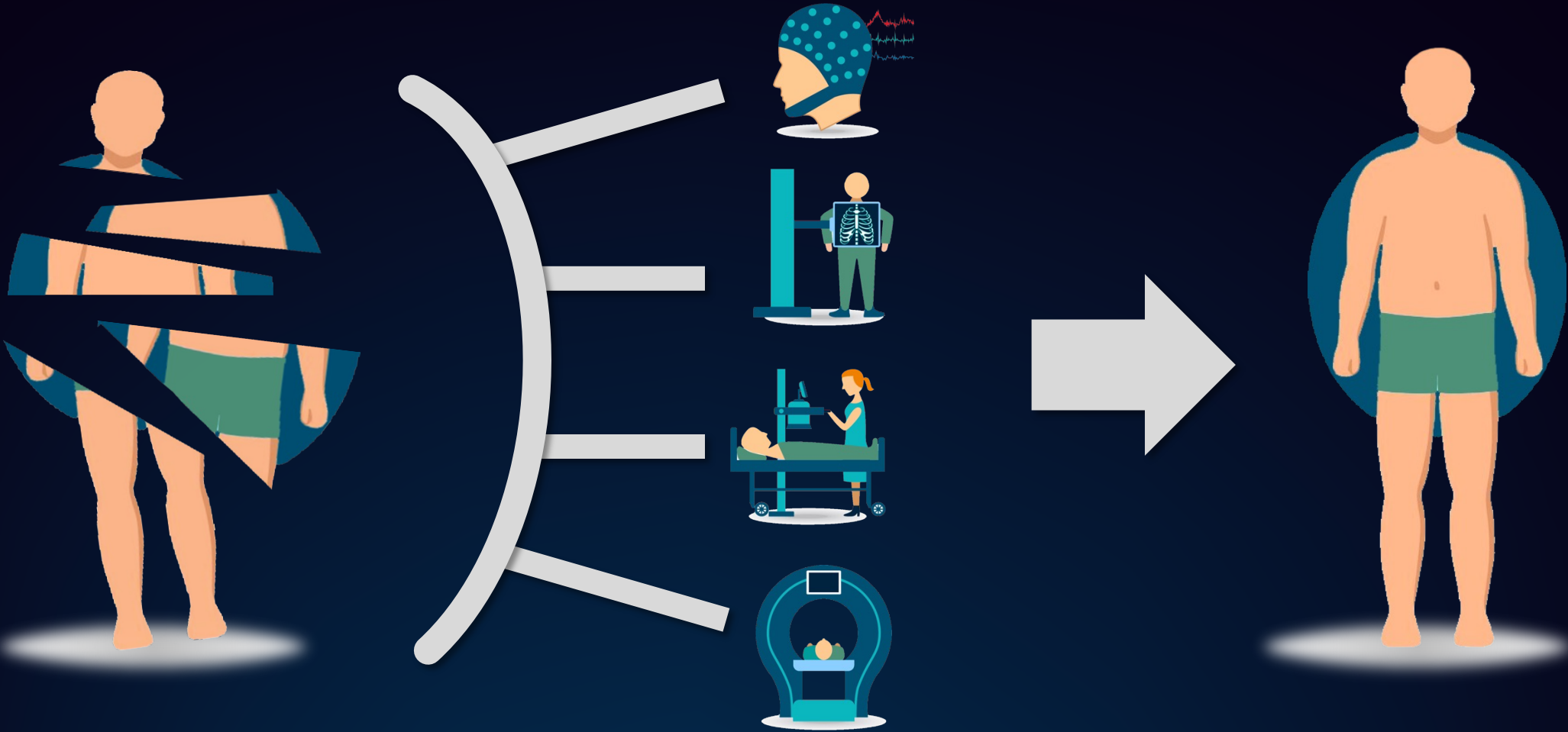
## When to Generate an SBOM

- **NTIA requirements state SBOMs may be generated:**
  1. From a source repository (Source SBOMs)
  2. At software build time (Build SBOMs)
  3. From static analysis of already-built software (Binary SBOMs)



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The Sum Is Greater Than The Parts





**Section 4: What to Do with all those SBOMs**

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## Responding to the Log4j Incident the Old Way



***My team was forced to manually call almost 200 of our software suppliers to determine if the software they had sold us contained Log4j. It took over two weeks to complete.***

Chief Information Security Officer  
Major US Defense Contractor



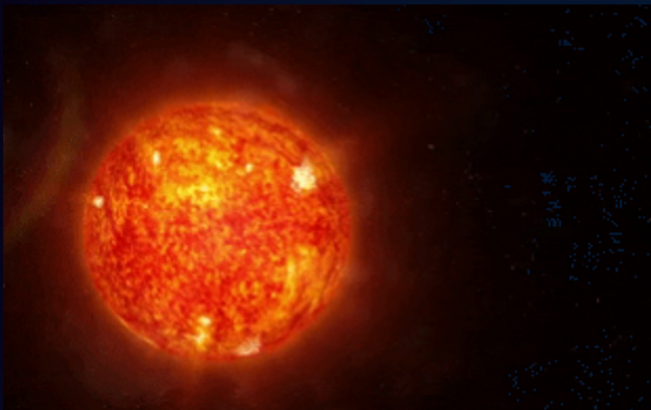
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## Responding to the SolarWinds Incident with SBOMs



***[My company] was able to investigate all of our approximately 1,200 on-premise products in about two hours to determine they were not vulnerable to the SolarWinds attack. Most of that two hours was determining the names of the affected components.***

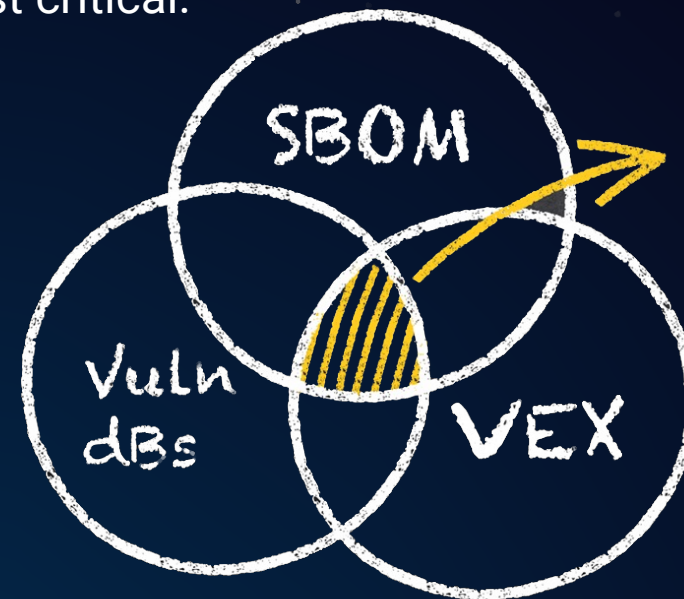
Product Cybersecurity Strategist  
Top 5 IT Software Company



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## SBOM Companion Reports – VDR and VEX

- **Vulnerability Disclosure Report (VDR):** A document that lists all the vulnerabilities discovered in an SBOM for a single product.
- **Vulnerability Exploitability eXchange (VEX):** A document that summarizes the vulnerability intelligence found within a product or a product family to help end users quickly focus on the vulnerabilities that are most critical.



No need to  
panic





# OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY CYBERSECURITY EXPERT PANEL FORUM 2023

## Some Key Takeaways



**Organizations with good defences can be vulnerable to supply chain attacks**



**Supply chain security foundations are built on transparency**



**Both government and industry are demanding visibility into the supply chain**



**SBOMs make risk analysis possible; they do not replace it**

