

# Common AWIA Assessment Findings and How to Address Them

Cybersecurity Focus



**David Espy**  
- CISSP

NATIONAL OPERATIONAL  
TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE  
LEADER



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# Knowledge Goals:

- Understand the AWIA Cybersecurity RRA Process
- Understand Top 10 AWIA Cybersecurity Findings
- Understand How to Mitigate the Top 10 Findings



# Cybersecurity Critical Assets

*Identification*

# Common Critical Assets Considered in AWIA RRA

## Cybersecurity Assets



*Network/  
Communications  
Infrastructure*



*Telemetry Network*



*Firewalls*



*Server  
Infrastructure*



*Physical  
Communications  
Media*



*SCADA –PLC's and  
HMI Software*



*Skilled Staff*



*Financial Systems*

# Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity

Version 1.1

National Institute of Standards and Technology

April 16, 2018

NIST Special Publication 800-53  
Revision 5

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## Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations

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**NIST Special Publication 800-82**  
Revision 2

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## Guide to Industrial Control Systems (ICS) Security

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Systems, Distributed Control Systems (DCS),  
and Other Control System Configurations such as Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC)

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# Cyber Security Evaluation Tool - CSET



Standards Based  
Evaluation Tool



Can be Used for Continuous  
Evaluation



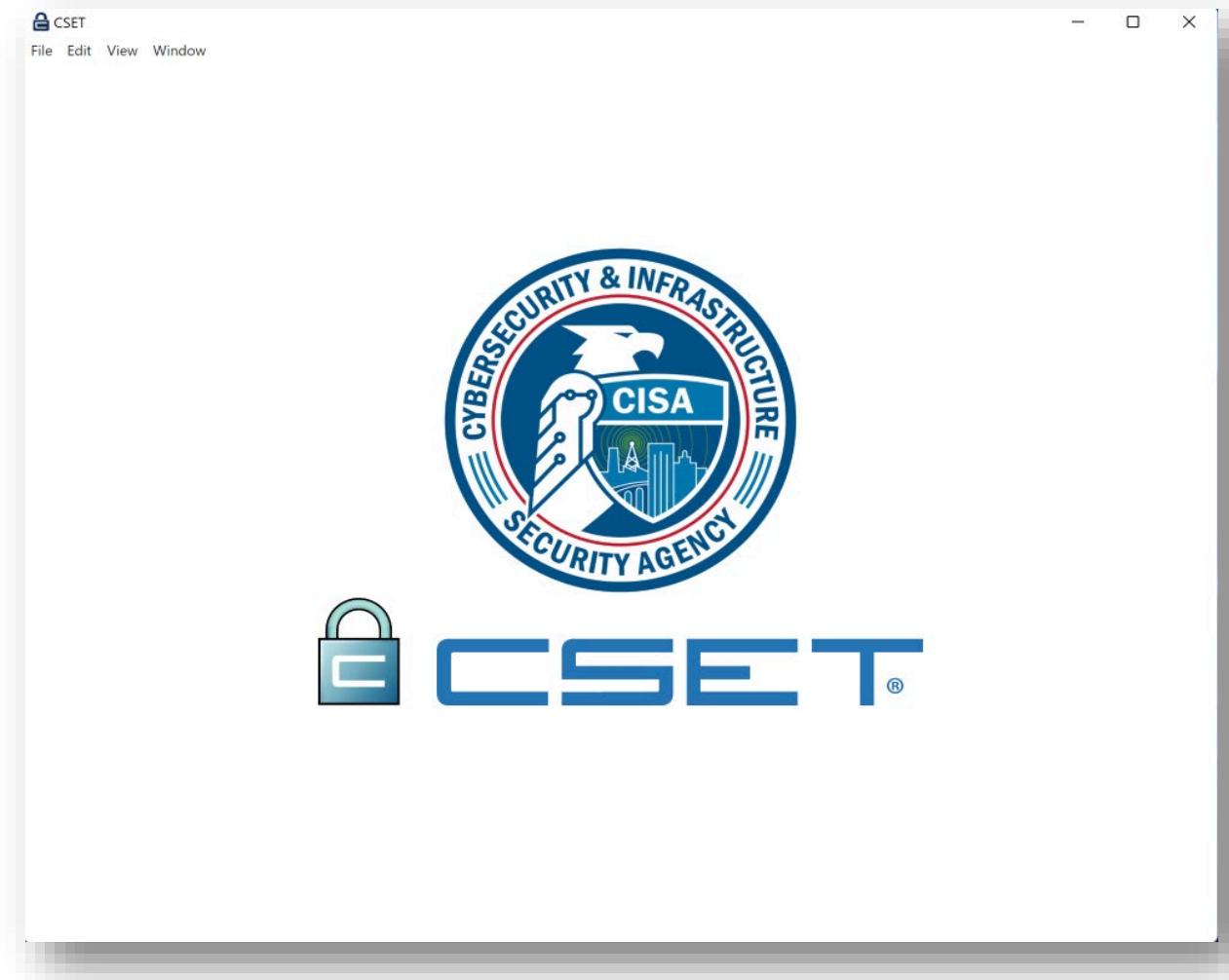
Year Over Year Baseline  
Comparisons



Network Diagram  
Evaluation



Continuous Improvements  
to the Tool



# Other Items Considered in AWIA RRA

- Network Architecture
- Documentation
- Age of:
  - OS
  - Hardware
  - Software
- Updates and Patching Status
- Physical Security for OT Components
- Administrative Policies and Procedures



# Findings

Natural Disasters Tend to have the Largest Economic Impact, but Extremely Low Probability.

Cyber Attacks can have Large Scale Impacts on Utilities with a Relatively High Probability.

A Widespread Cyber attack can be as Disruptive to Operations as a Regional Storm Event or Natural Disaster.

The Cost-Benefit Ratio for Cyber Improvements is High  
*(typically 5:1 or higher).*





# Top AWIA Findings

*10 Most Common AWIA RRA Cybersecurity Findings*

# Top 10

## Most Common Findings

### #1 - No ICS Cybersecurity Program

- *No ICS Cybersecurity Policies and Procedures*
- *No Risk Management Program*
- *No Security Framework Identified*
- *No one in charge of ICS Cybersecurity*
- *No Business Continuity Plan*
- *No Incident Response Plan*
- *No Disaster Recovery Plan for OT/SCADA*
- *No personnel screening policies*
- *No termination/departure procedures*

# How to Fix It – ICS Cybersecurity Program

(NIST SP 800-82 6.0)

**1**

*Start with Picking a Framework/Standard*

- *NIST CSF*
- *NIST SP 800-53*
- *NIST SP 800-82*
- *ANSI/ISA 62443*

**2**

*Start Chipping Away at Policies & Procedures (NIST SP 800-82 Appendix G – ICS Overlay)*

- *Look for templates*
- *Borrow from IT then tweak if needed*
- *Ask Electric Utility*
- *Start with human factors*

# How to Fix It – ICS Cybersecurity Program

(NIST SP 800-82 6.0)

**3**

## ***Perform Risk Assessment***

*(NIST SP 800-82 3.2)*

- ***Identify critical facilities/equipment***
- ***Identify single points of failure***
- ***Identify mitigations***

**4**

## ***Then Develop the Plans***

- ***Business Continuity***
- ***Disaster Recovery***
- ***Incident Response***

# Risk Assessment - Criticality & Business Impact

## Start with an Asset Inventory.

- Hardware
- Software
- Communications
- Data

Identify the Criticality of Each Asset, *then* Determine How to Protect it Appropriately.

Designation	Description	Tolerance	Restoration Requirement
<b>Mission Critical</b>	Assets critical to business, primary means of communication or operation	1 hour	Must be restored immediately.
<b>High</b>	Assets required for daily business functions	8 hours	Must be restored by start of next calendar day.
<b>Medium</b>	Assets required for operation over weekends and holidays	24 hours	Must be restored by end of next calendar day.
<b>Low</b>	Assets required for operation during normal business hours	72 hours	Must be restored by start of next business day.
<b>Non-Essential</b>	Assets not critical to business operations	> 72 h	Must be restored on an "as can" basis. Recovery required but not urgent.

# Top 10

# Most Common Findings

## # 2 - Asset Management Issues

- EOL equipment
- No accurate asset inventory
- No lifecycle plan (OT and SCADA)
- No replacement budget
- No upgrade budget
- No spares or limited spares for critical components
- Unknown devices on the network

# How to Fix It – Asset Management

**1**

## *Start with Asset Inventory*

- *Visual Inventory*
- *Electronic Inventory (ICS network monitoring tools can provide this)*
- *Identify EOL status*
- *Identify software/firmware revisions*
- *Account for Spares (ID critical equip and ensure spares)*
- *Add to asset management system*

**2**

## *Develop Lifecycle Plans for Each Component Type*

- *Computers – 5 years max (thin clients can last for 8-10)*
- *Network Equipment – 10 years*
- *PLCs – 10-20 years (depends on when in the manufacturer's lifecycle PLCs are purchased)*
- *Firewalls 3-5 years*

**3**

## *Plan for Lifecycles*

- *Plan CAPEX/OPEX for replacements*
- *Some manufacturers have financing programs that span 5 years and keep costs even*

# Top 10

# Most Common Findings

## #3 - Documentation Gaps

- No IP List
- No connectivity/network drawings
- No SCADA as-builts
- No network inventory
- No document management
- No documentation update procedure



# How to Fix It – Documentation

## *Develop List, Diagrams, & As-Builts*

- *The exercise alone will inform you on status of systems*
- *Can help locate single points of failure and critical assets*
- *Will help in long term maintenance and training of new staff*

# Top 10

# Most Common Findings

## #4 - Backups and Disaster Recovery

- No backups
- No testing of backups
- No offsite backups
- No secured backups
- No DR procedure
- No restoration priority/criticality list

# How to Fix It – Backups and DR

*Follow 3-2-1-1-0 Backup Procedure  
(five conditions to be met):*

*At least  
3 copies  
of your data,  
including the  
production  
copy*

*At least 2  
different  
storage media  
should be used*

*At least 1  
of the copies  
should be kept  
off-site*

*At least 1 copy  
should be kept  
offline* (can use  
cloud storage if  
immutable -  
immutability means  
that this copy cannot  
be modified in any  
way, under any  
circumstances)

*Your backups  
should have  
completed  
with 0 errors*

# How to Fix It – Backups and DR

## *Verify Backups*

- *Ensure restore capabilities*
- *Test regularly*

## *Develop a DR Procedure*

- Procedure for complete server room destruction*
- *Spare equipment?*
  - *Order new equipment?*
  - *VMs make recovery easier*
  - *Have restore priority list*

# Backups / Disaster Recovery



Backups

HMI backups

PLC code backups

Server backups

Workstation backups

Offsite storage

Keep backup data secure

- From deletion
- From unauthorized access

# Top 10

## Most Common Findings

### #5 - Change/Configuration Management

- No change management procedure
- No change management board/committee
- No PLC configuration management
- No network configuration management
- No way to track changes
- No policy or procedure to document 3rd party vendor changes

# How to Fix It – Change/Configuration Management

**1**

## *Develop Change Management Policy & Procedure*

- *Develop Policy*
- *Institute and Change Management Board/Committee*
- *Develop procedure (forms, submittal process, review process)*
- *Develop log mechanism*

**2**

## *Things to Consider*

- *Each submitted/proposed change should have backout/failback plan*
- *There should be an expedited process for emergency changes*
  - *Authority for change with retroactive approval?*

**3**

## *Configuration Management*

- *Easier with software*
- *PLC, HMI, Network configs should be monitored*
- *Includes any vendor package system (always have copy of vendor PLC/OIT programs)*

# Top 10

## Most Common Findings

### #6 - Lack of physical and logical network segmentation/segregation

- No segregation between ICS and Enterprise IT
- No segmentation of ICS network
- No DMZ
- Backdoor access by vendors that bridge networks
- No segregation of telemetry from plant ICS



# How to Fix It – Network Segregation/ Segmentation

**1**

## ***Segregate IT/OT!!!!!!!***

- ***Top priority***
- ***Do not share physical equipment between security zones***
- ***Can use IT WAN transports via firewall /VPN tunnels***

**2**

## ***Implement DMZ if Required***

*(NIST SP 800-82 5.5.4)*

- ***Ensure no network bridging***
  - ***Remote Access should be through DMZ and jump host***
- ***Can have multiple DMZs***

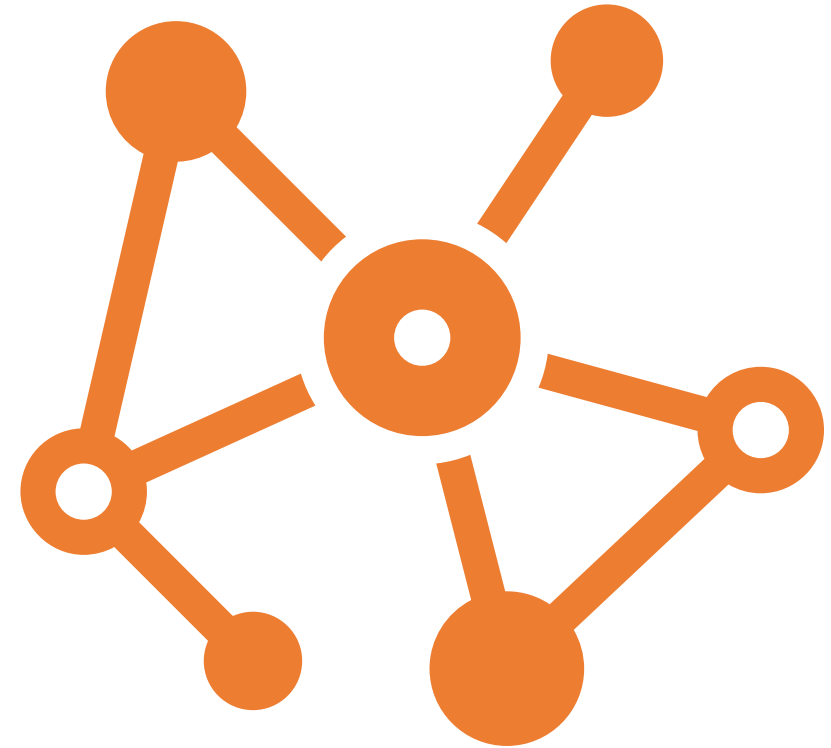
**3**

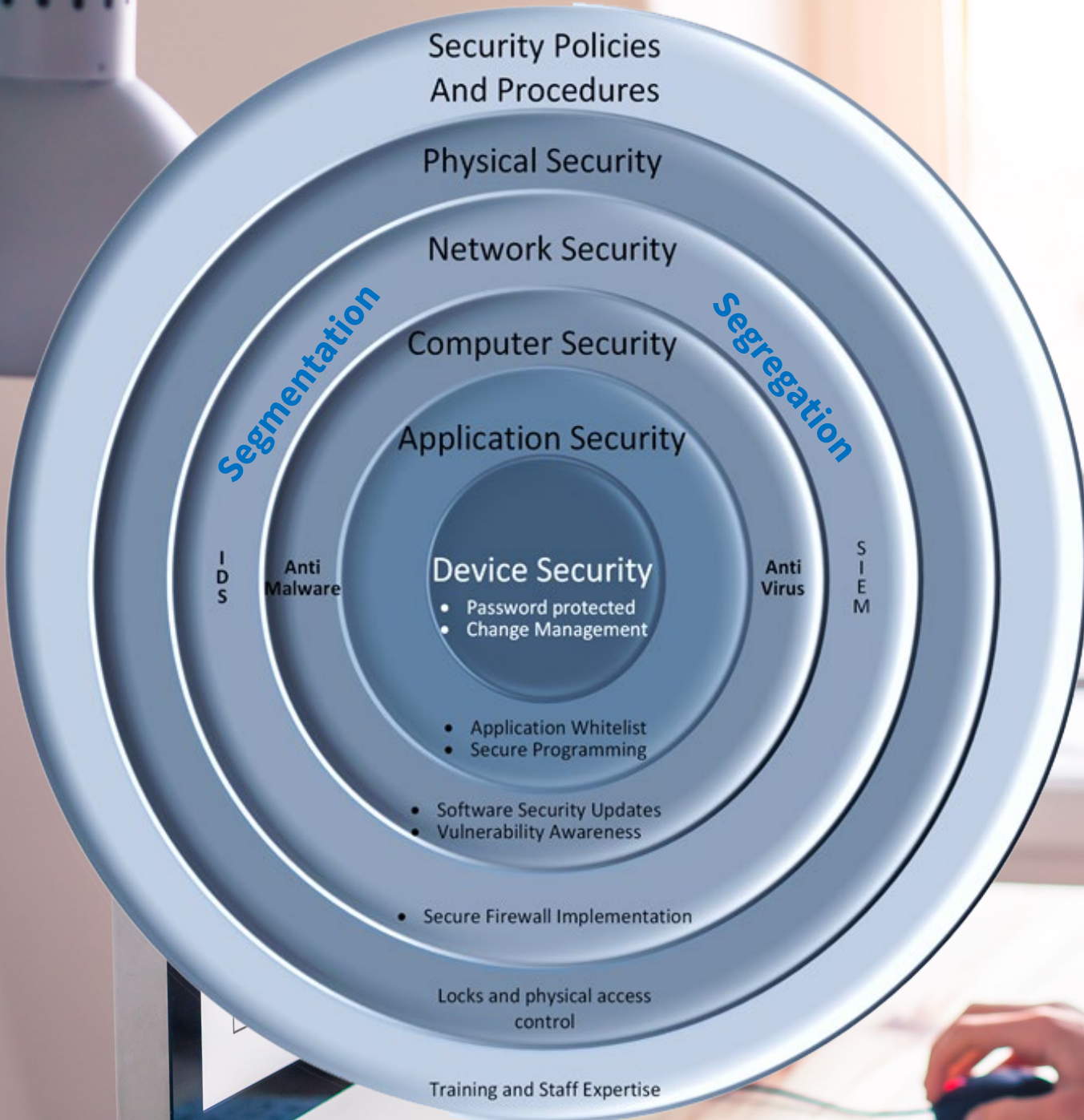
## ***Use VLAN Segregation in the Control System Security Zone***

- ***Helps protect sensitive control components***
- ***Exclude windows protocols from PLC/Control VLAN***

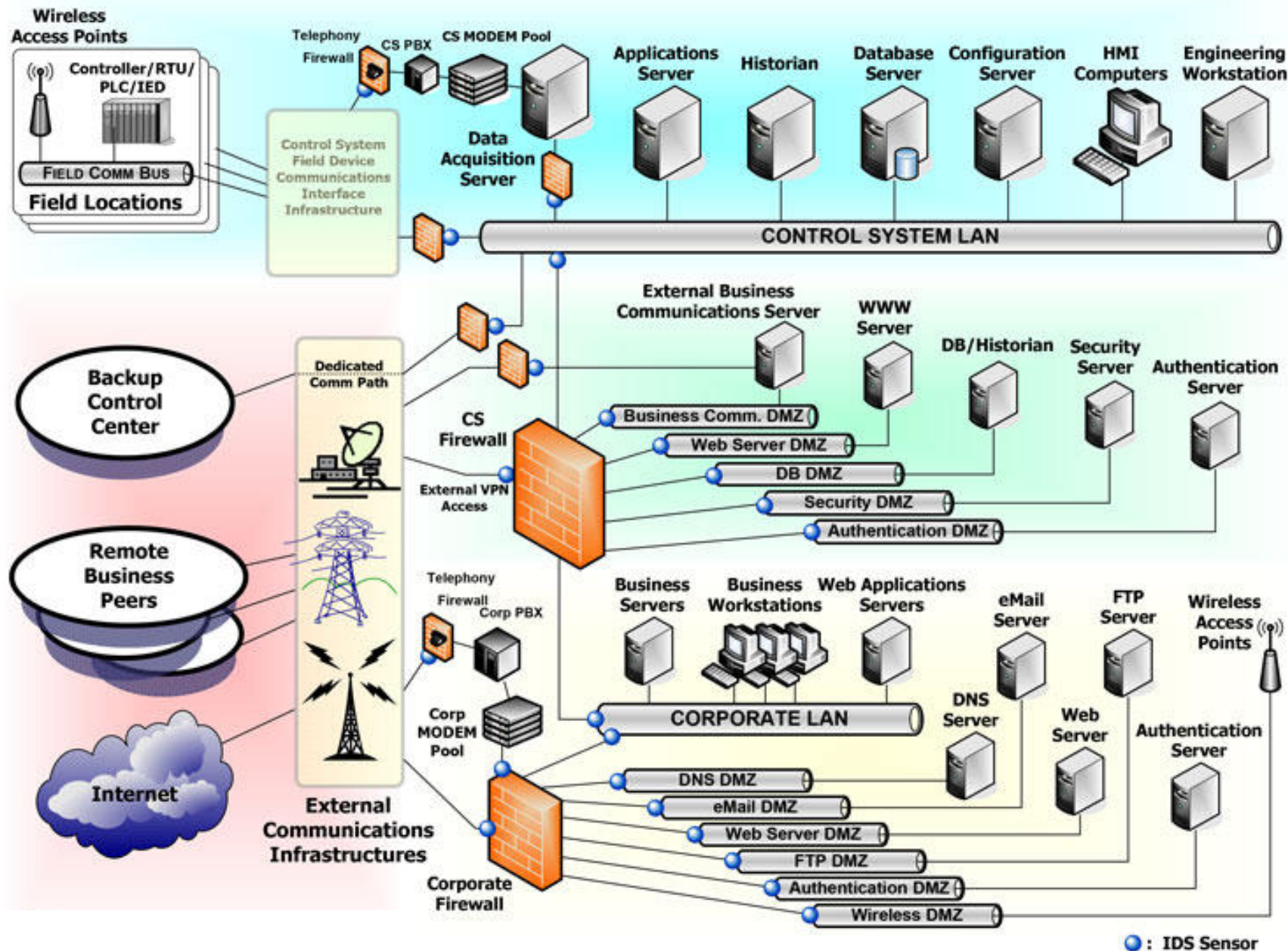
# Network Segregation and Segmentation

“**NIST SP 800-82 R2 5.1-4 states:** “Network segmentation and segregation is one of the **most effective architectural concepts** that an organization can implement to protect its ICS. The ICS network should, at a minimum, be logically separated from the corporate network on ***physically separate network devices.***”





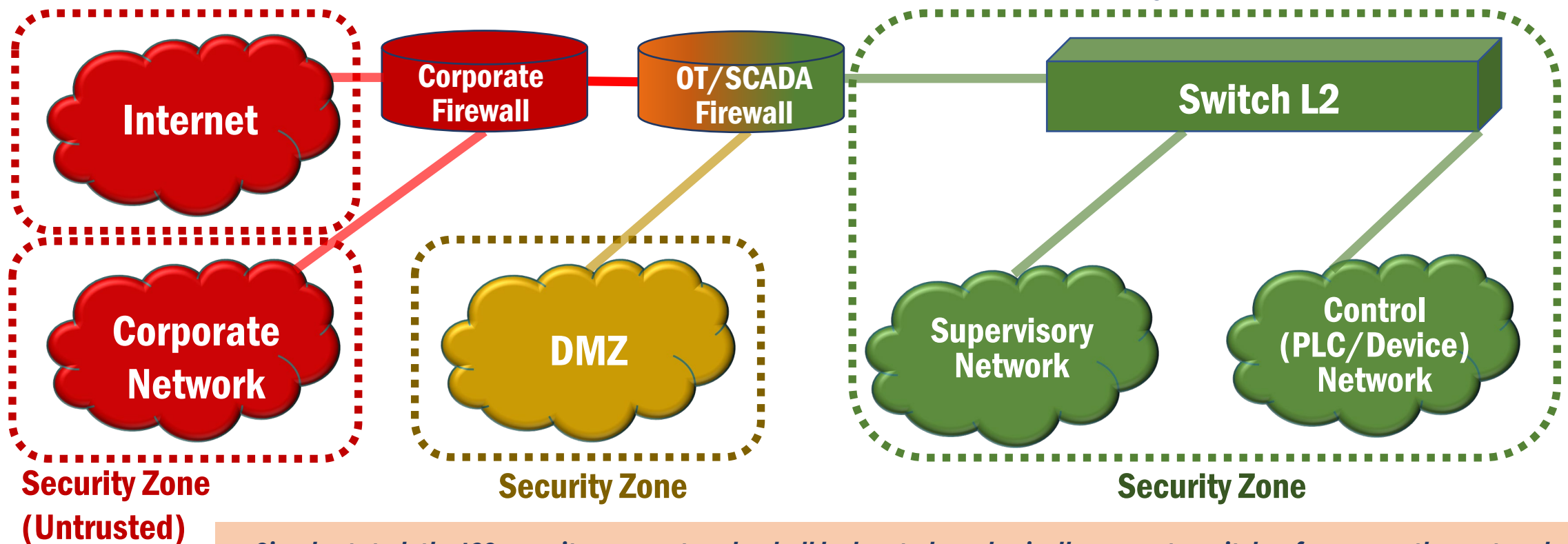
# NIST Example ICS Diagram (From SP 800-82)



# ICS Network Segmentation – Physical as Well as Logical

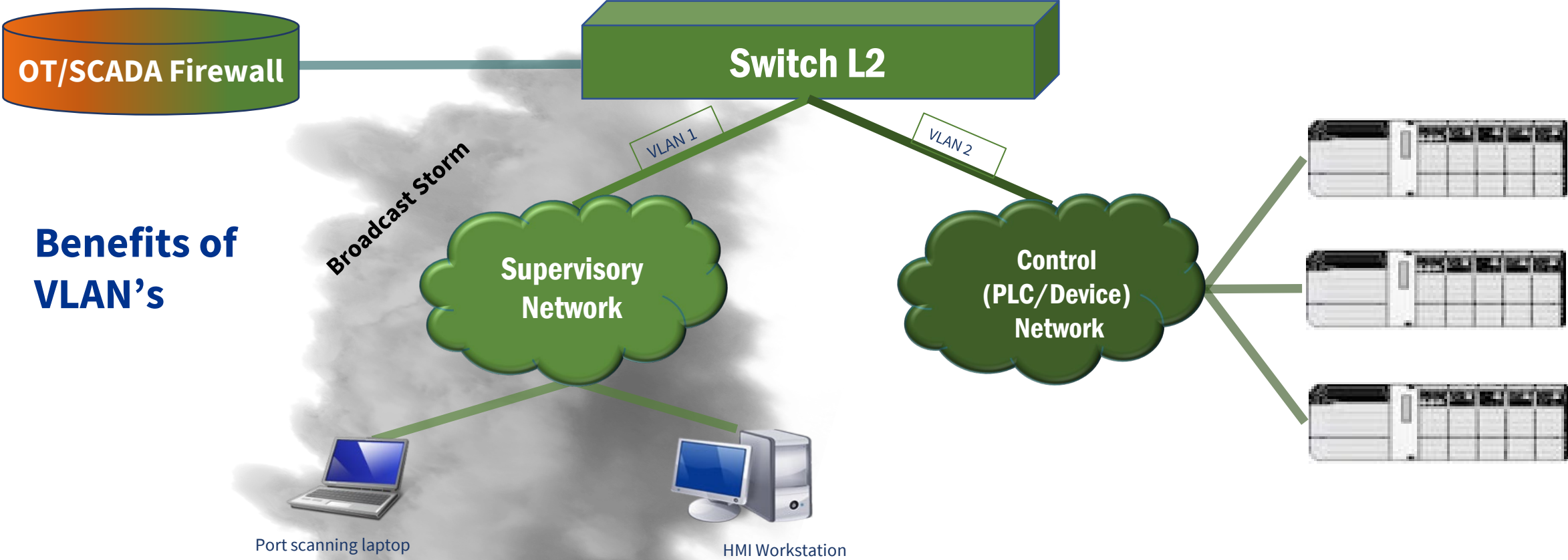
“The ICS network should, at a minimum, be logically separated from the corporate network on *physically separate network devices.*”

it is strongly recommended that *only minimal (single if possible) connections be allowed* and that the connection is through a firewall and a DMZ.”



Simply stated, the ICS security zone networks shall be located on physically separate switches from any other network.

# Design Concepts – Network Segmentation



# Design Concepts – Network Segmentation

## **Control** (PLC/Device) VLAN

- *PLC and control device traffic only*
- *HMI Servers have NIC in this VLAN*

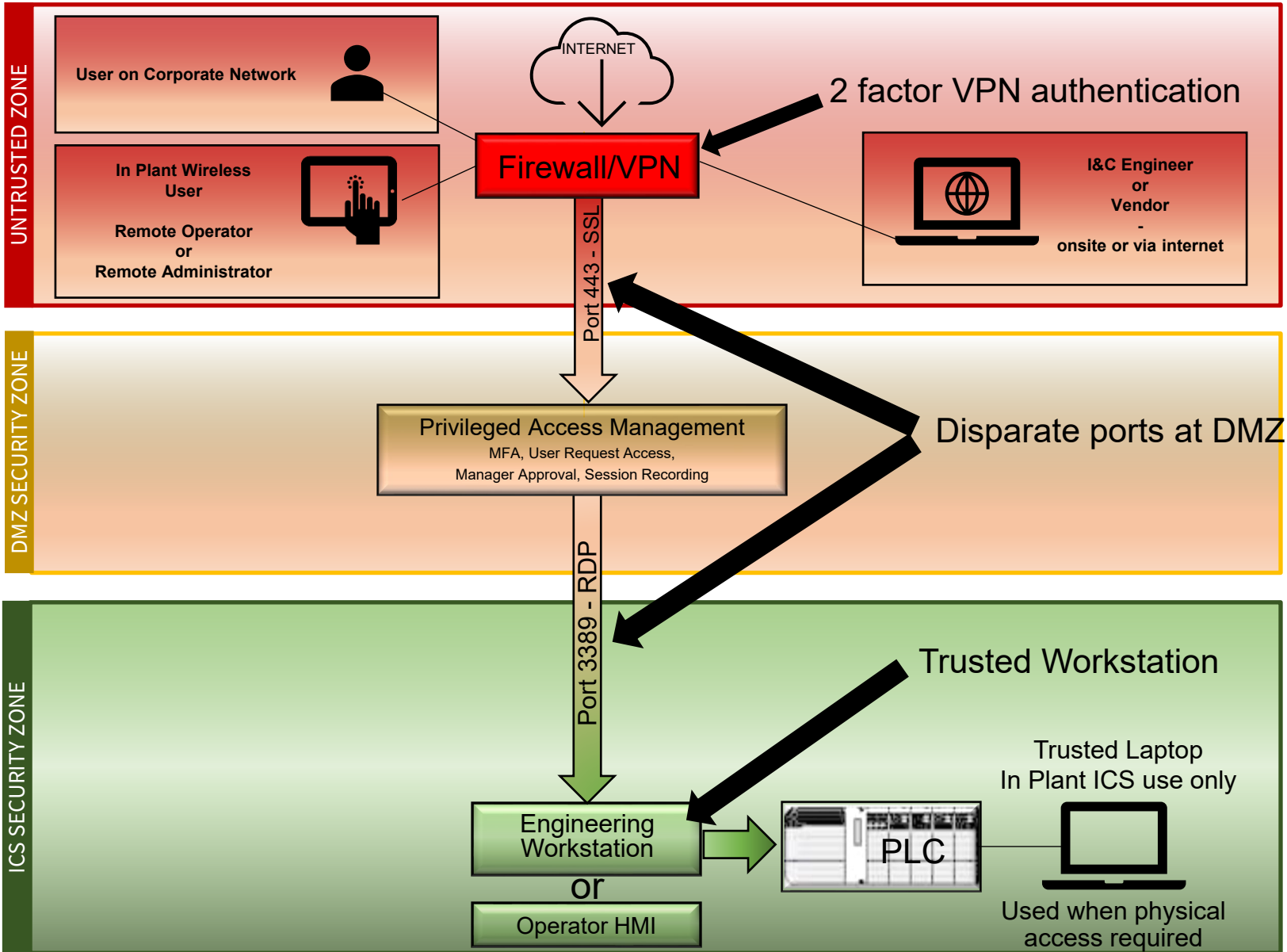
## **Supervisory** (HMI) VLAN

- *All Windows OS based computers*
- *Network Time Protocol Server*

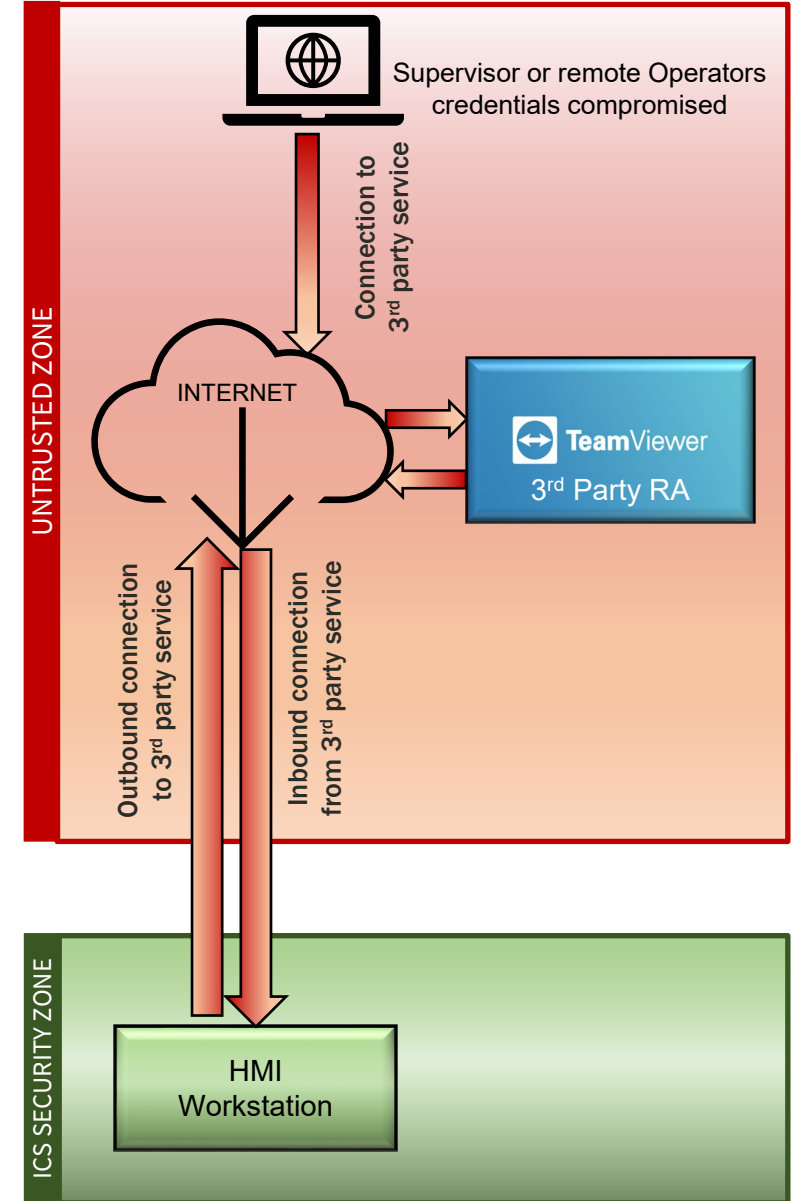
## **Management** VLAN

- *All management interfaces*

# Design Concepts - Secure Remote Access



# Oldsmar Remote Access





# Top 10

# Most Common Findings

## #7 - Staffing Issues

- No trained OT staff
- No designated cybersecurity staff
- Limited SCADA staff
- SCADA Staff expected to handle cybersecurity
- No CISO or similar position

# How to Fix It – Staffing Issues

## **1** *Designate Someone as Responsible for ICS Cybersecurity*

- *Top priority*

## **2** *Use Enterprise IT or Third Party for OT Support*

- *If lacking OT skills within utility*
- *Using IT can be tricky, need clear SLAs/MOUs and proper ICS specific training*
  - *Staff changes can affect support*
- *Training SCADA staff to be OT/Cyber experts is very difficult*

## **3** *Ensure Adequate SCADA Staff*

- *Can help keep system updated and secure*
- *Can limit dependency on third party support during adverse events that affect large geographic areas*

# Top 10

## Most Common Findings

### #8 - Lack of Standardization

- No PLC standards
- No HMI standards
- No networking standards
- No engineering/construction requirements to use standardized components

# How to Fix It – Lack of Standards

## *Develop Standards*

- *Develop Standards*
- *PLC, HMI, Alarm, Historian*
- *Hardware, Software*
  - *Network*
  - *Servers*
  - *Firewalls*
  - *PLCs*
  - *OITs*
  - *Communications*
- *Panels*
- *Testing*

*Ensure standards  
are in All  
Engineering  
Packages for  
CIP Projects*

# Top 10

## Most Common Findings

### #9 - Access Control Issues

- Logged on operator workstations (with no compensating control)
- No HMI security
- No security group delineation (Supervisors vs Operators)
- Common accounts (no non-repudiation)
- No account management
- No centralized access control/authentication

# How to Fix It – Access Control Issues

## *Develop Policies & Procedures*

- *Access control policy*
- *Access control settings*
- *Security architecture*
  - *Security groups*
  - *Security policies*
  - *Application-level security*
- *Use compensating security controls*

## *Policy for Termination/Departure*

- *Accounts disabled*
- *Access revoked (electronic & physical keys)*

# Physical Security

A combination padlock is shown in the foreground, set against a background of a blue circuit board. The padlock is silver and has three dials with numbers 0-9. The background is a close-up of a circuit board with intricate patterns of copper and silver traces.

- Physically Secure
- Network Equipment
- Server Equipment
- Control Rooms
- PLC's
- Radios
- Use Intrusion Alarms

# Top 10

# Most Common Findings

## #10 - Anti-Virus/Anti Malware

- None
- Outdated
  - *No current definition updates*
  - *No engine updates*
- Old school products
- No AI-based detection
- No management



# How to Fix It – Anti-Virus/Anti-Malware

## *Install Something*

- *Check HMI vendor exclusions and recommendations*

## *Use EDR/XDR*

- *Can be expensive*
- *The absolute best protection from ransomware*
- *Architectures use cloud services or substantial on-prem server infrastructure*

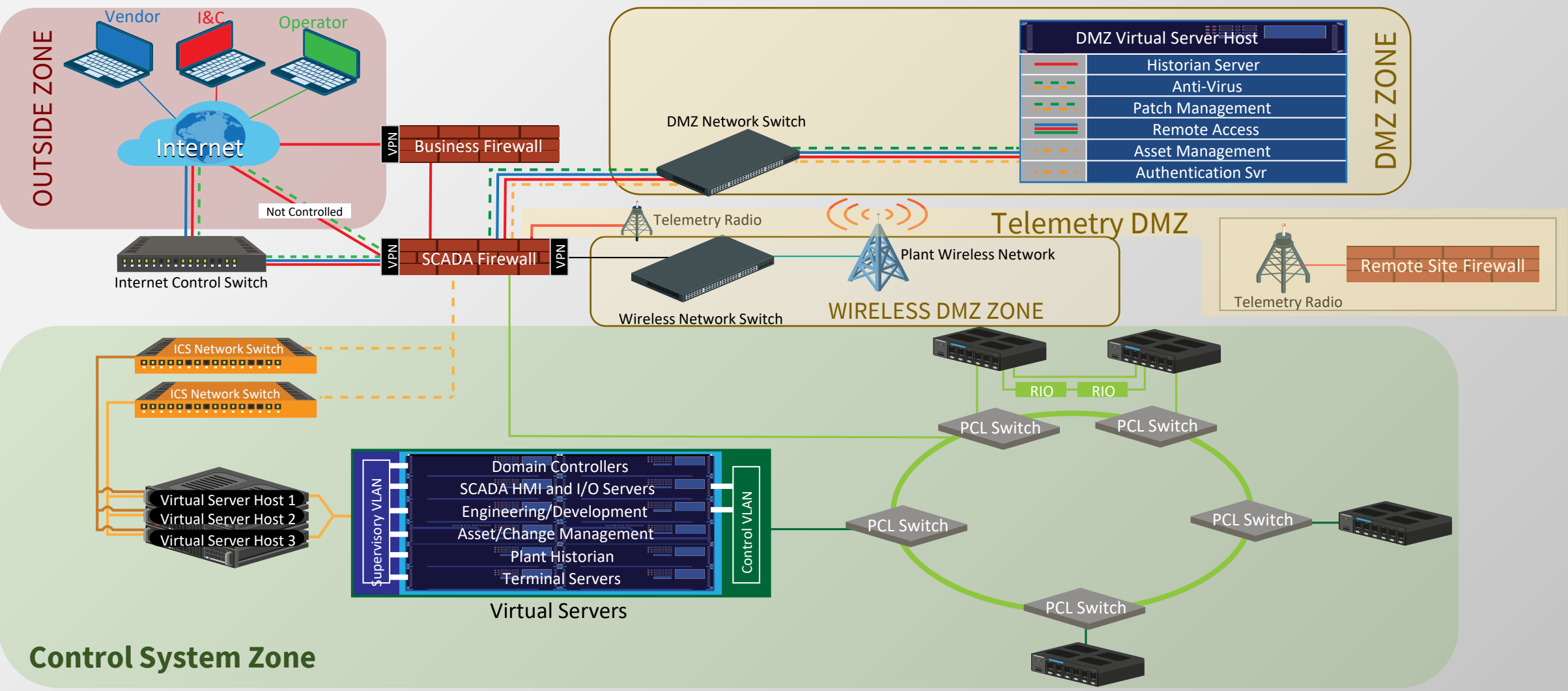
# Other Common Findings

- No network logging (historian for the network)
- No network monitoring (lack of skillsets)
- Outdated/unsupported OS
- No current security patching
- No physical security on control panels, control room, server room
- Insecure remote access
- Insecure WiFi access
- No regular vulnerability or penetration testing
- No auditing ability (no accurate time source)
- 3rd Party devices allowed on ICS network (vendor laptops)
- Default credentials on devices
- Single points of failure

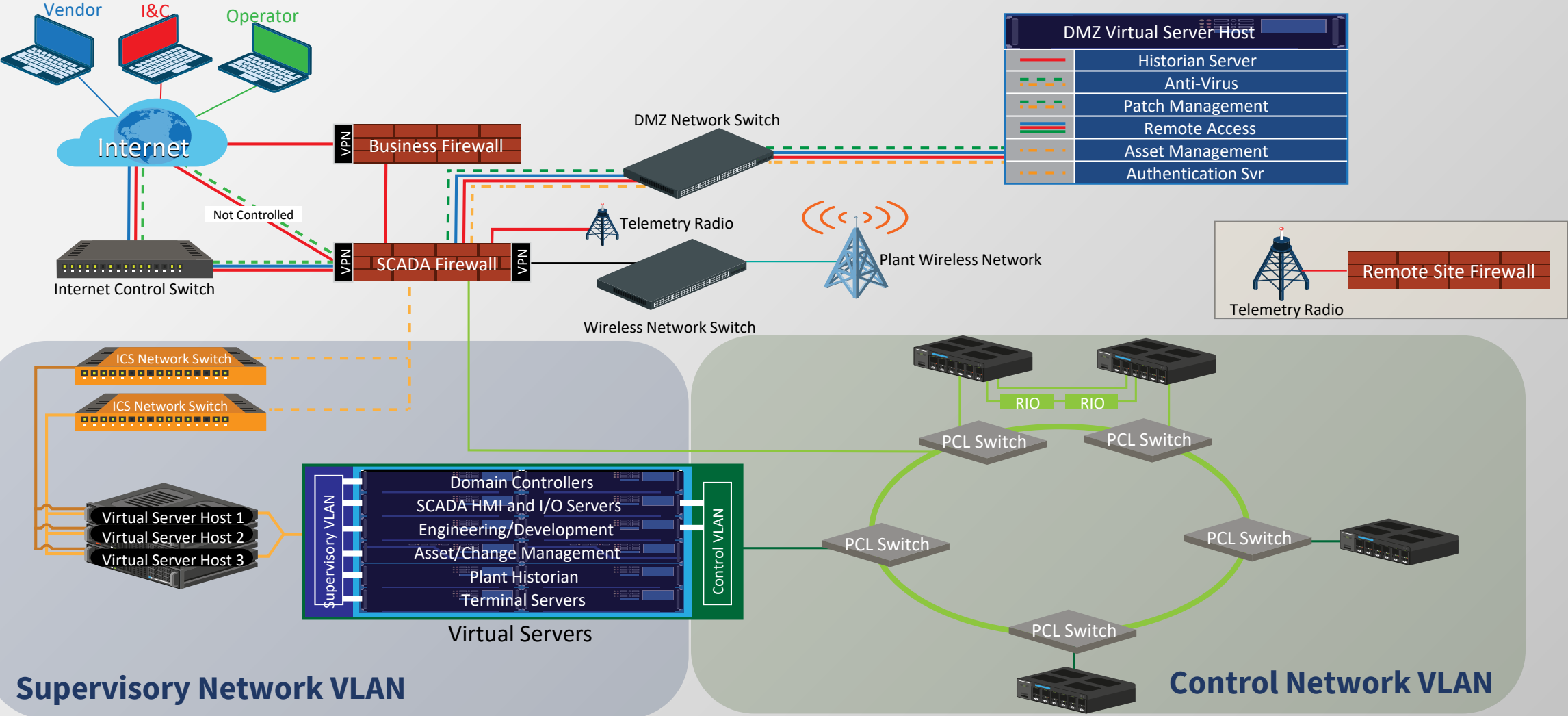
**End of Presentation**

***Questions?***

# DESIGN CONCEPTS



# DESIGN CONCEPTS



# SP 800-82 Appendix G - ICS Overlay

**Table G-1 Security Control Baselines**

CNTL NO.	CONTROL NAME	INITIAL CONTROL BASELINES		
		LOW	MOD	HIGH
AC-1	Access Control Policy and Procedures	<b>AC-1</b>	<b>AC-1</b>	<b>AC-1</b>
AC-2	Account Management	<b>AC-2</b>	<b>AC-2 (1) (2) (3) (4)</b>	<b>AC-2 (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (11) (12) (13)</b>
AC-3	Access Enforcement	<b>AC-3</b>	<b>AC-3</b>	<b>AC-3</b>
AC-4	Information Flow Enforcement	Not Selected	AC-4	AC-4
AC-5	Separation of Duties	Not Selected	<b>AC-5</b>	<b>AC-5</b>
AC-6	Least Privilege	Not Selected	<b>AC-6 (1) (2) (5) (9) (10)</b>	<b>AC-6 (1) (2) (3) (5) (9) (10)</b>
AC-7	Unsuccessful Logon Attempts	<b>AC-7</b>	<b>AC-7</b>	<b>AC-7</b>
AC-8	System Use Notification	<b>AC-8</b>	<b>AC-8</b>	<b>AC-8</b>
AC-10	Concurrent Session Control	Not Selected	Not Selected	<b>AC-10</b>
AC-11	Session Lock	Not Selected	<b>AC-11 (1)</b>	<b>AC-11 (1)</b>
AC-12	Session Termination	Not Selected	<b>AC-12</b>	<b>AC-12</b>

# System Cybersecurity Details - NIST SP 800-82 Appendix G

SPECIAL PUBLICATION 800-82 REVISION 2

GUIDE TO INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEMS (ICS) SECURITY

## Appendix G—ICS Overlay

### AC-11 SESSION LOCK

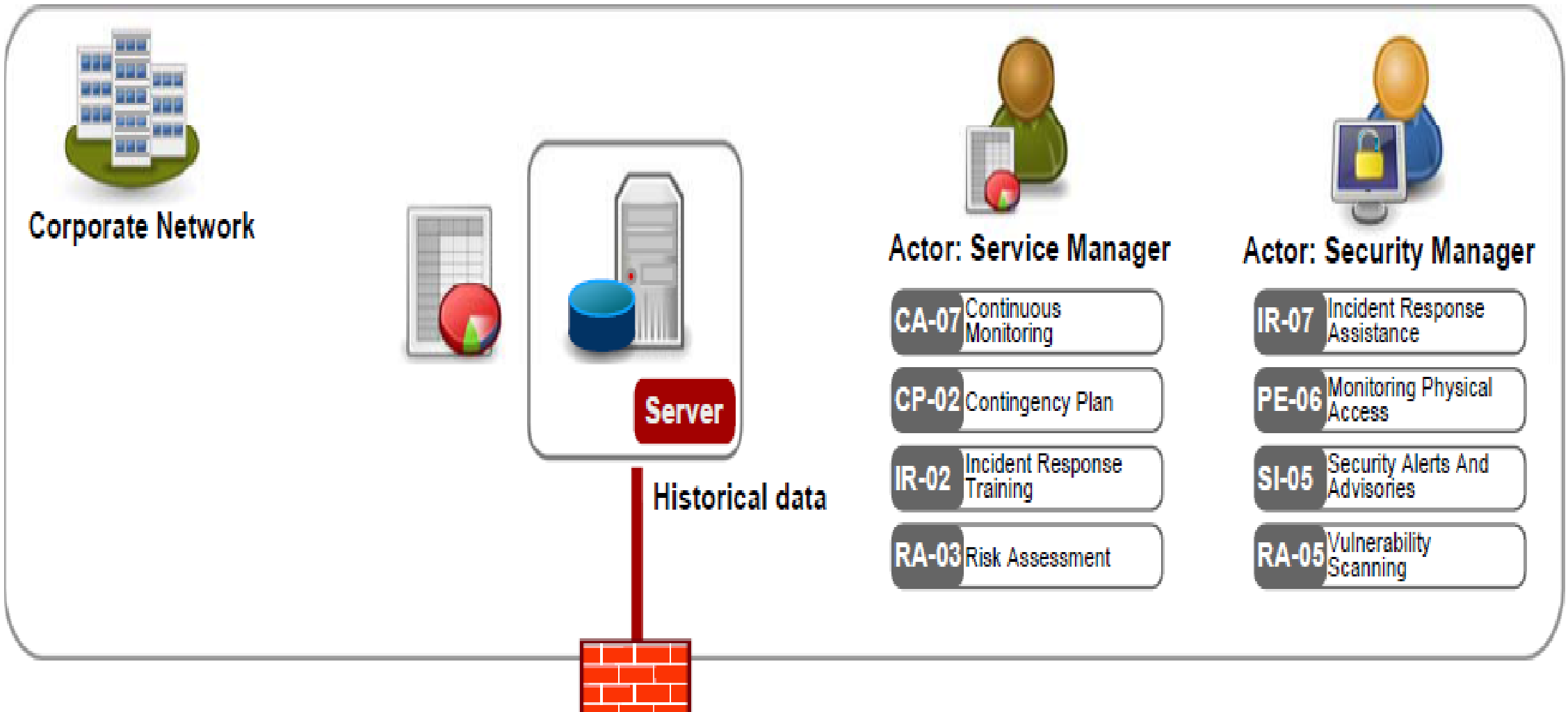
CNTL NO.	CONTROL NAME <i>Control Enhancement Name</i>	CONTROL BASELINES		
		LOW	MOD	HIGH
AC-11	Session Lock		Selected	Selected
AC-11 (1)	SESSION LOCK   PATTERN-HIDING DISPLAYS		Selected	Selected

ICS Supplemental Guidance: This control assumes a staffed environment where users interact with information system displays. When this assumption does not apply the organization tailors the control appropriately (e.g., the ICS may be physically protected by placement in a locked enclosure). The control may also be tailored for ICS that are not configured with displays, but which have the capability to support displays (e.g., ICS to which a maintenance technician may attach a display). In some cases, session lock for ICS operator workstations/nodes is not advised (e.g., when immediate operator responses are required in emergency situations). Example compensating controls include locating the display in an area with physical access controls that limit access to individuals with permission and need-to-know for the displayed information.

Control Enhancement: (1) ICS Supplemental Guidance: ICS may employ physical protection to prevent access to a display or to prevent attachment of a display. In situations where the ICS cannot conceal displayed information, the organization employs nonautomated mechanisms or procedures as compensating controls in accordance with the general tailoring guidance.

In some cases, session lock for ICS operator workstations/nodes is not advised

# Policies and Procedures





# Policies and Procedures

