

The background of the slide features a dark, textured surface. In the lower-left, a silhouette of a person stands holding a lantern, which casts a bright, circular pool of light on the ground. Several large, semi-transparent radiation symbols (yellow and orange) are scattered across the dark background, some appearing to be floating or reflected.

# From Weapons to Radiological Security and Risk Analysis: It's not just about consequences.

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*PRESENTED BY*

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SAND2020-4525 PE



# SYSTEMS ANALYSIS USED TO ASSESS DIRTY BOMB RISK

*Provides salient, scientific information for the decision maker*

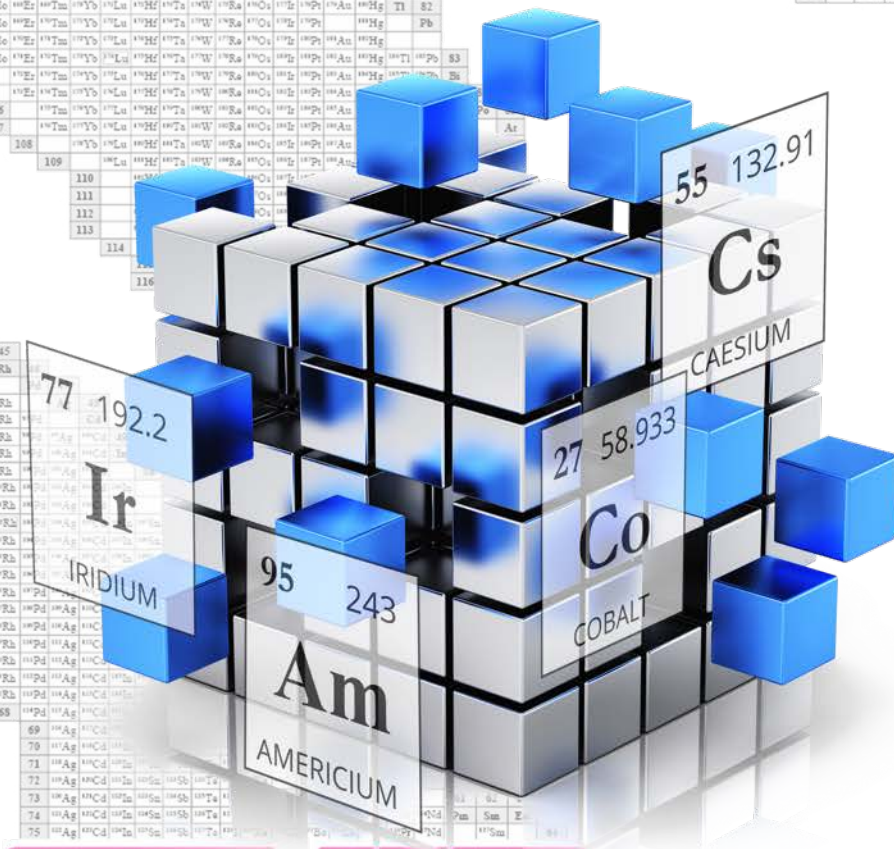


“

Risk comes from  
not knowing what  
you're doing.

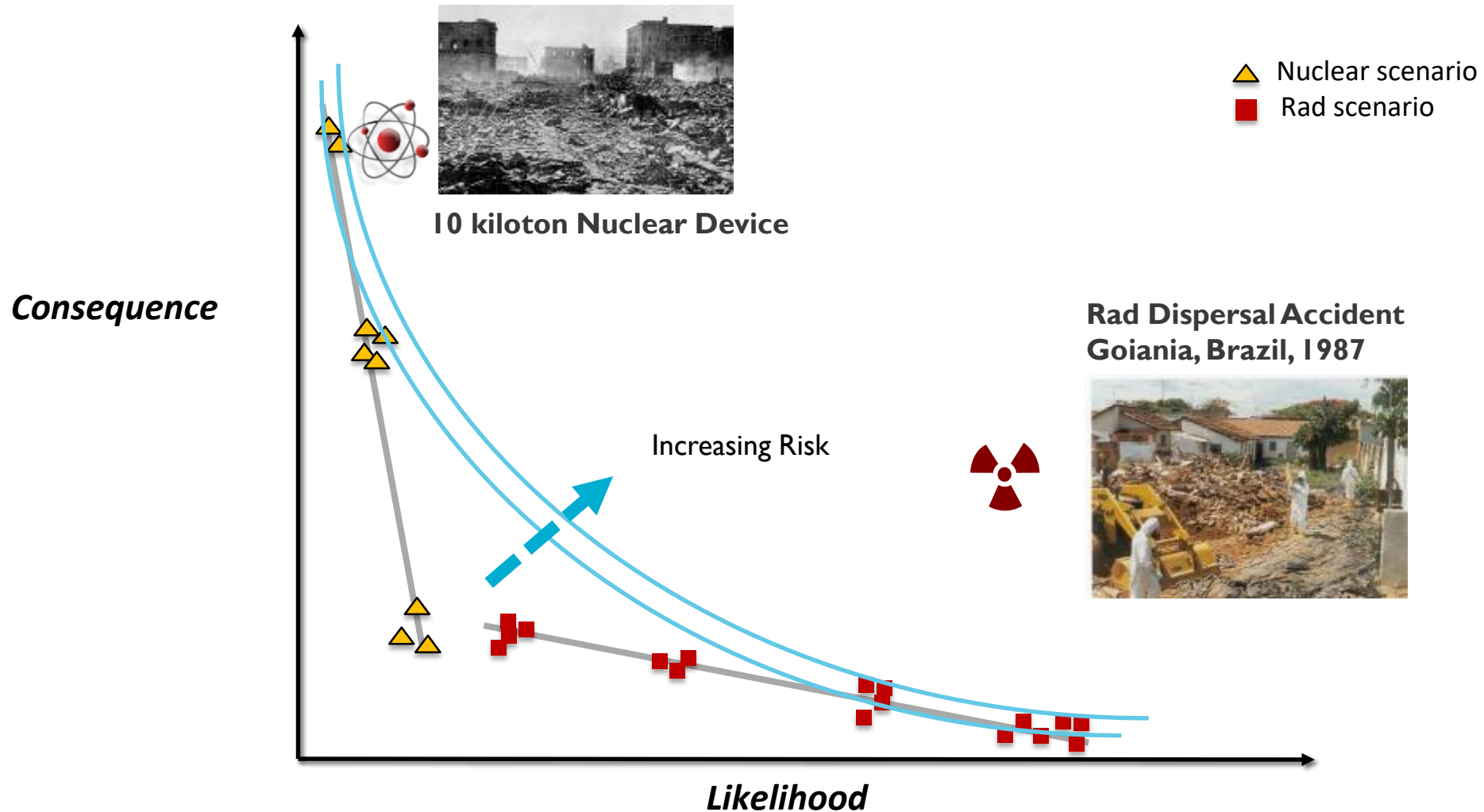
”

-Warren Buffet



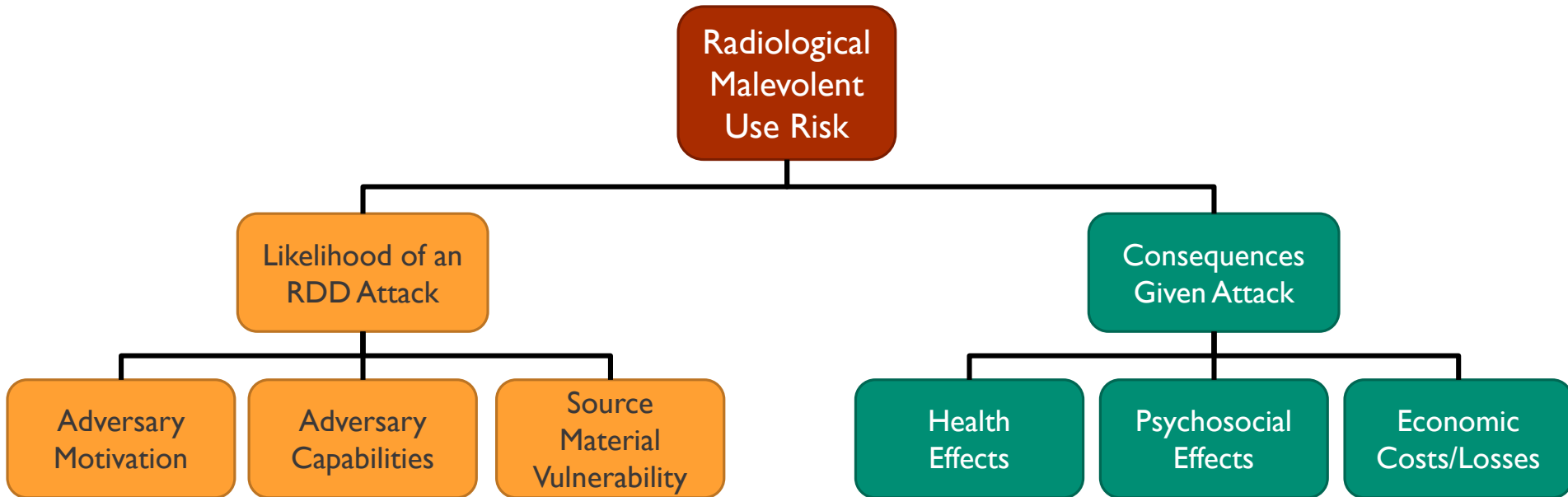
# RISK IS MORE THAN POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES

*Opened U.S. view of nuclear risk to include radiological attacks*



# RISK ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

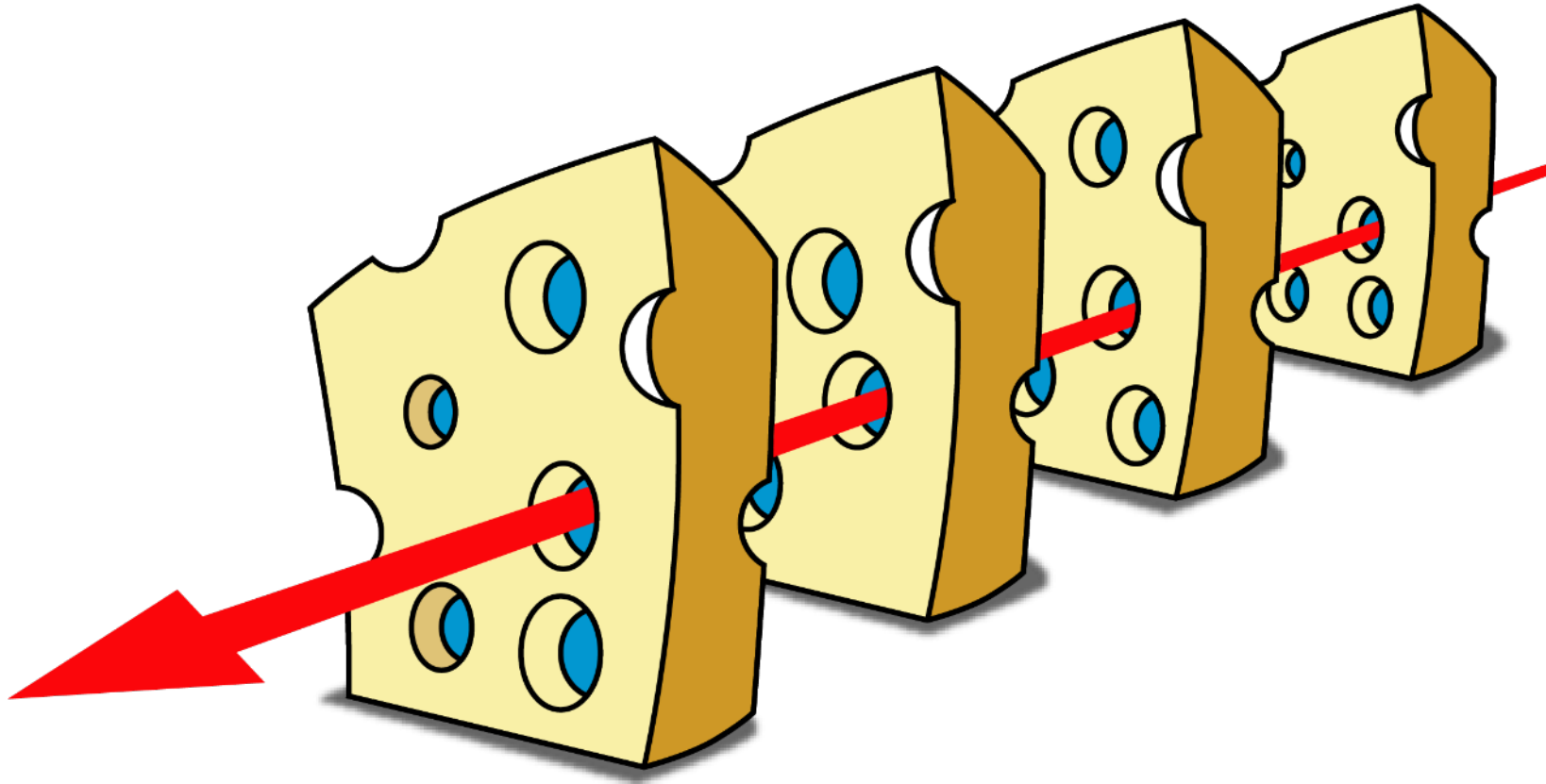
*Drives comprehension*



# RISK ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK



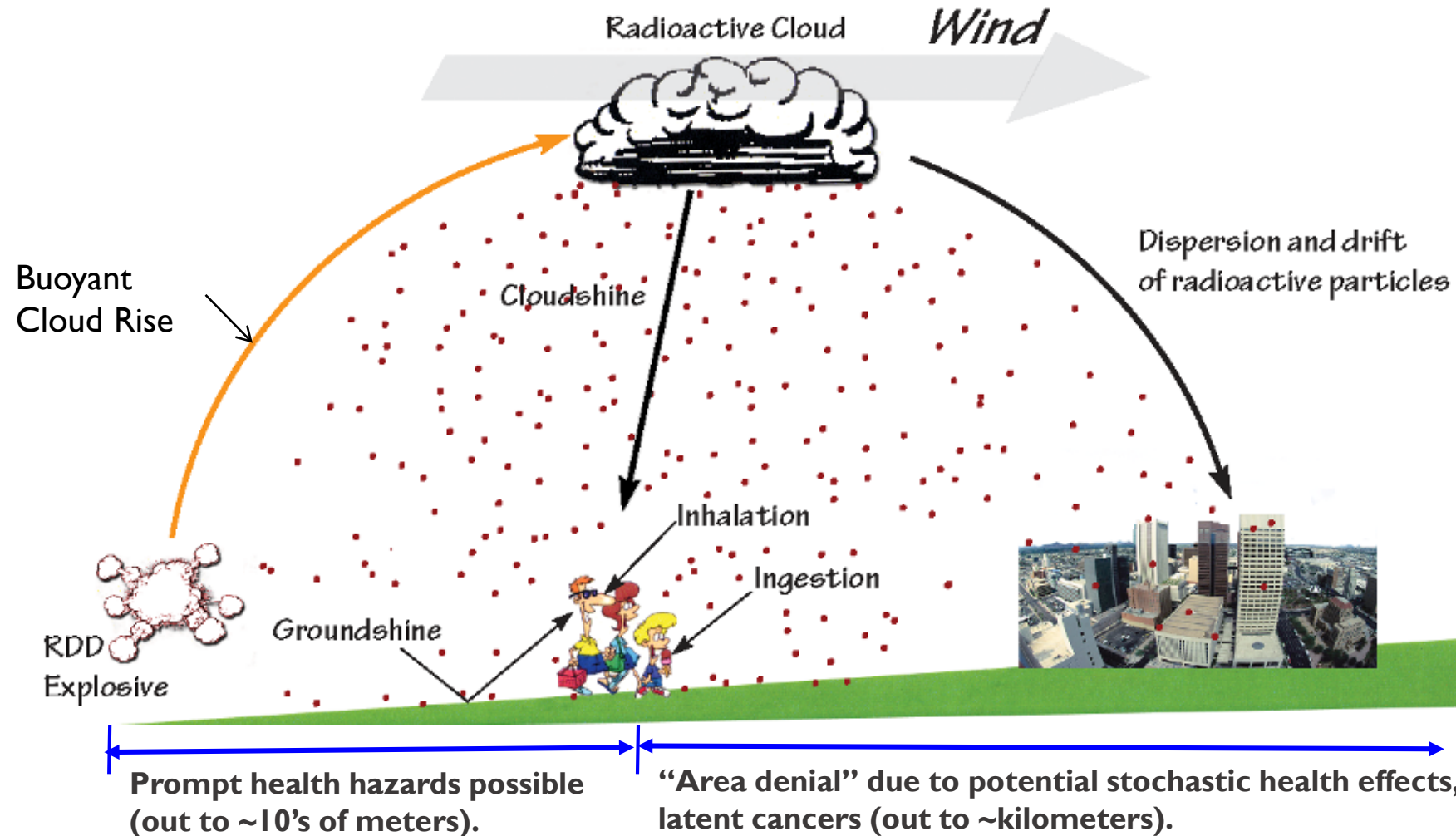
*Identify paths that lead to an “easy” attack with significant consequences*



*Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD) scenario identified as the path with high likelihood and high consequence.*

# CONSEQUENCES FOR THE EXPLOSIVE RDD

*Radioactive ground contamination can have a lasting, mass effect by creating an “area denial”*



# RDD MATERIAL ATTRACTIVENESS:

*Final four were ... A new study identifies five.*



*Identify the top four materials available in quantities suitable for a significant RDD*

***CsCl poses unique concerns as a salt powder.***

## ***Down selection process criteria***

Radioactivity

Moderate half-life with high activity

Commercially available

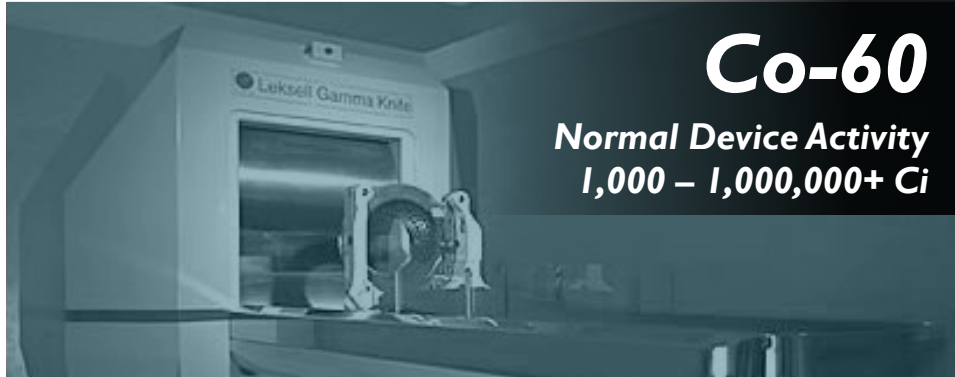
Radionuclide	Material Form Type
Co-60	Hard Metal
Cs-137	Salt Powder
Ir-192	Hard Metal
Am-241/ Be	Oxide Powder



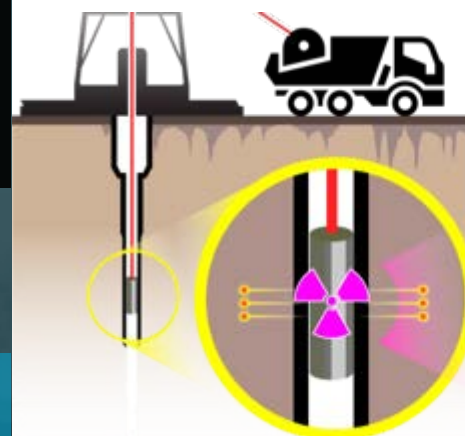
# TOP FOUR ARE FOUND IN CRUCIAL MEDICAL AND INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS



**Co-60**  
Normal Device Activity  
1,000 – 1,000,000+ Ci



- Teletherapy and Gamma Knife units (cancer treatment)
- Self-shielded and panoramic irradiators (research and sterilization)



Oil well logging  
(industrial imaging)

**Am-241**  
Normal Device Activity  
5-20 Ci



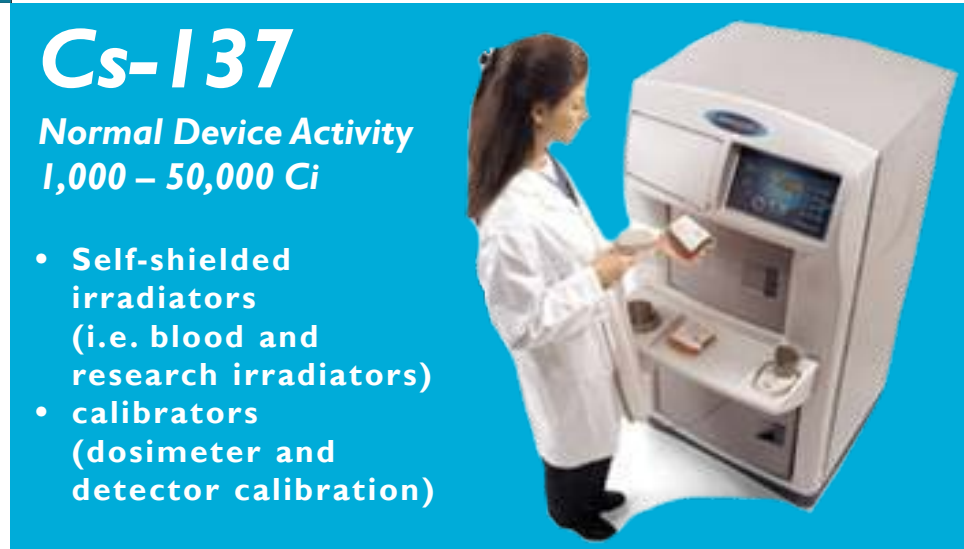
**Ir-192**  
Normal Device Activity  
10-100 Ci

Radiography  
(industrial imaging)



**Cs-137**  
Normal Device Activity  
1,000 – 50,000 Ci

- Self-shielded irradiators (i.e. blood and research irradiators)
- calibrators (dosimeter and detector calibration)





# IS IT DIFFICULT TO STEAL A SOURCE?

*Source removal analysis shows it is not*



## Attack Exposure Analysis for Fixed Devices

- Typical Cs-137 blood irradiators: less than 24 rems
- Teletherapy: less than 2.3 rems
- Gamma Knife: up to 330 rems

## Interagency program to develop security enhancements.

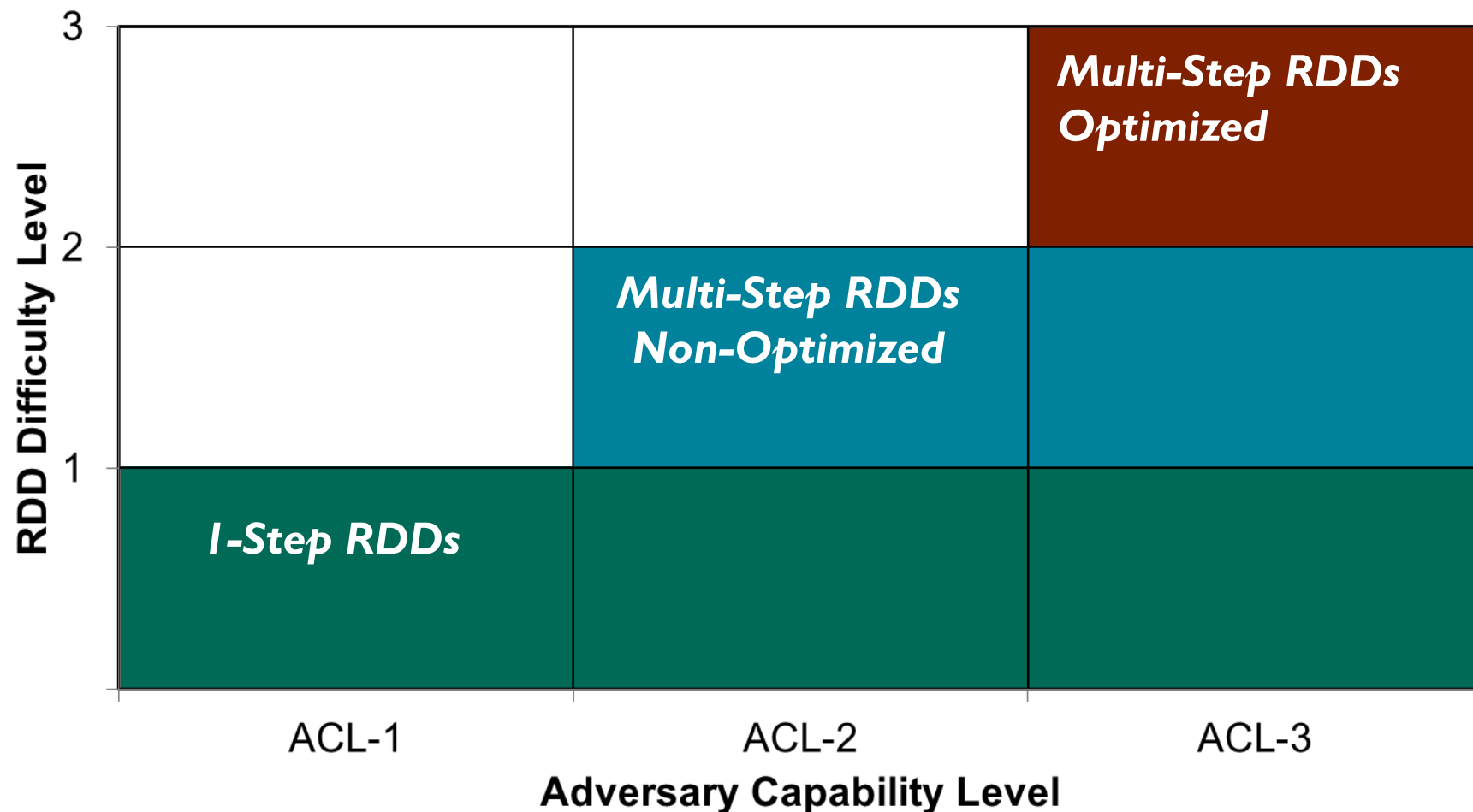
- Collaborate with manufacture's engineers and regulators
- In-field retro-fit plates to delay attacks



*Avoid assuming that sources and devices are “self-protecting”*

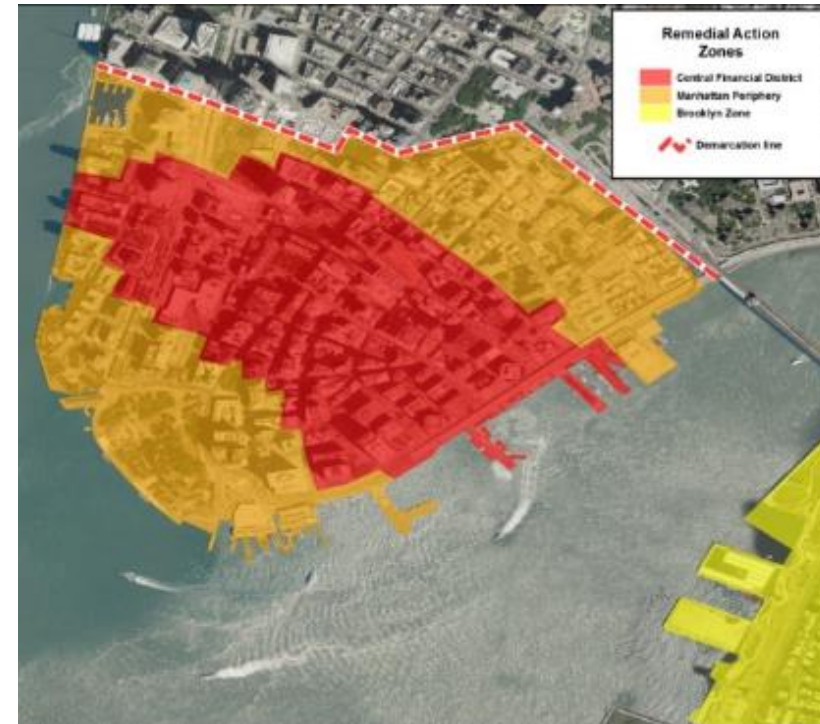
# IS IT DIFFICULT TO MAKE AN RDD?

*Adversary capability analysis shows it is not*



# Cs-137 RDD in NEW YORK CITY

*Representative, not worse case, scenario shows the contamination area leads to significant consequence*



*Plume large but missed air and seaports.*

**The study used the US relocation threshold of 500 mrem second year, which is guidance, not the law.**



# PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS OF AN RDD ATTACK ARE THE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TOWARDS THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

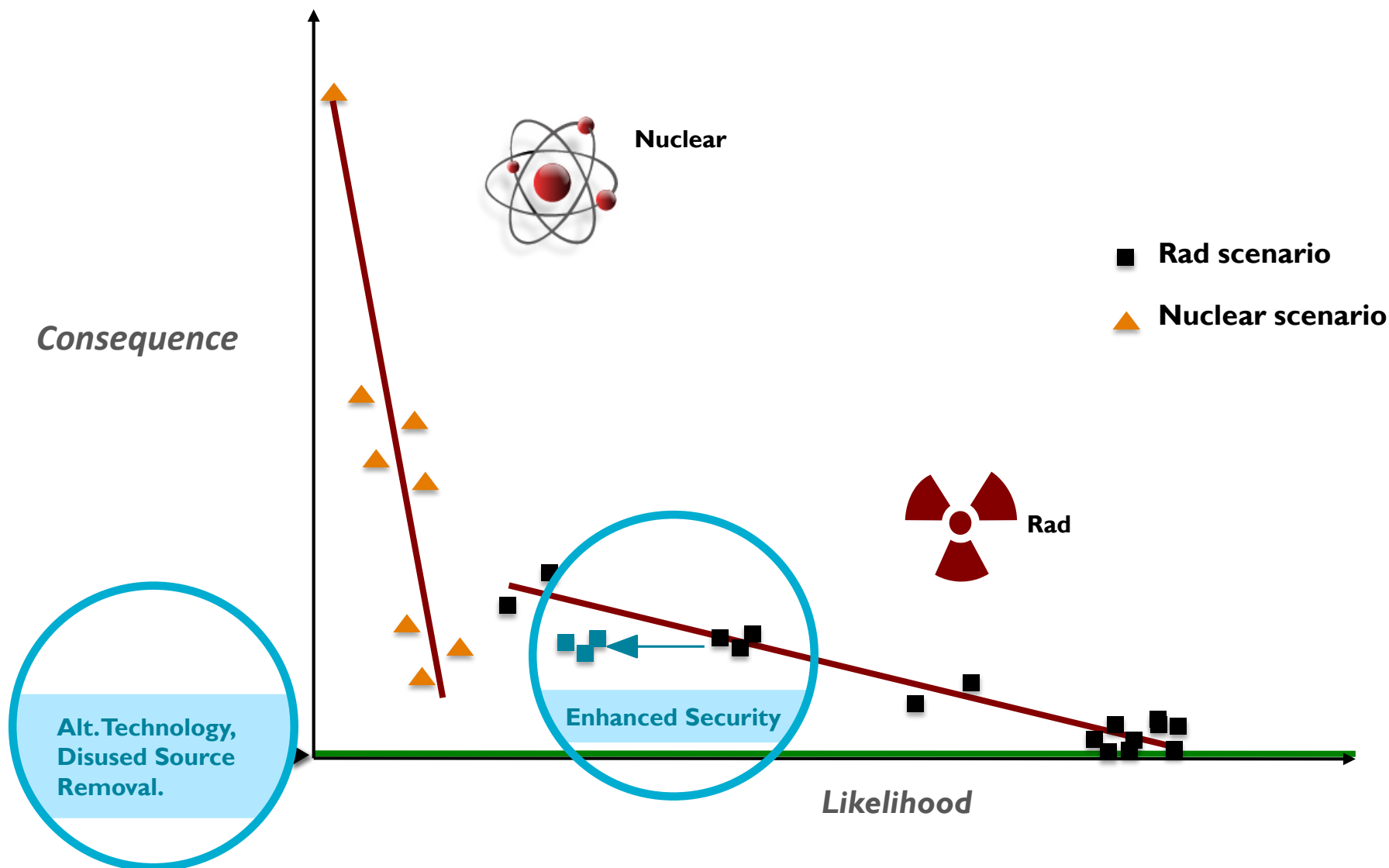


*NYC is preparing to screen nearly one million people for contamination...*



# RISK MITIGATION

*RDD risk can be high but can be mitigated through security, alternative technology, and removing disused sources.*



# QUESTIONS?

