



# Operational Technology Cybersecurity

An Industry Perspective

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# What is industry concerned about?



ALANITE



COVELLITE



CHRYSENE



CHERNOVITE



DYMALLOY



ELECTRUM



ERYTHRITE



HEXANE



KAMACITE



KOSTOVITE



MAGNALLIUM



PETROVITE



PARISITE



RASPITE



STIBNITE



TALONITE



VANADINITE



WASSONITE



XENOTIME



VOLTZITE



# VOLTZITE

## Active Since 2023



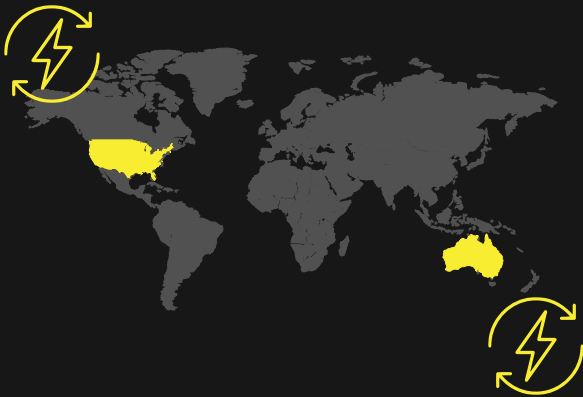
Focused on the Energy sector, and potentially other industrial infrastructure sectors in the United States

Conducts offensive operations with a major focus on detection evasion and sophisticated operational security tradecraft

Frequently utilizes living off the land (LOTL) techniques, and often tunnels C2 traffic through compromised SOHO routers

# KOSTOVITE

Active Since 2021



Targets **renewable energy operations** in North America and Australia



**KOSTOVITE**  
SINCE 2021

#### ADVERSARY:

- + High level of operational discipline & network device knowledge
- + Lives off land with stolen sys/net-admin creds

#### CAPABILITIES:

- + Zero-day exploits
- + Pulse Secure PCS
- + QNAP

#### VICTIM:

- + Global renewable energy company based in South Asia
- + North America, Australia

#### INFRASTRUCTURE:

- + Dedicated per target
- + Compromised home and small business QNAP NAS devices exposed to internet
- + Commercial Ivanti VPN appliances

#### ICS IMPACT:

- + Stage 2 of ICS Kill Chain
- + Intrusion into OT networks and devices

STAGE 02 Develop

STAGE 02 Test

STAGE 02 Deliver

STAGE 02 Install / Modify

STAGE 02 Execute ICS Attack

Reached Stage 2 of ICS **Kill Chain capabilities** with a confirmed intrusion into an operations and maintenance (O&M) firm's OT networks and devices

The background features a dark, moody image of industrial structures, possibly a bridge or a large crane, with a complex network of steel beams and cables. Overlaid on this are faint, glowing green circuit-like patterns and lines, suggesting a technological or industrial theme.

# Commercial Industry Perspectives

# What Do Our Commercial Customers Ask Dragos?

- Is my environment compromised by a threat actor?
- What are the dependencies of my critical functions and assets?
- Are things operating as expected?
- Should I care about *{vulnerability}* that is present in my environment?
- Is my OT cybersecurity program effective?

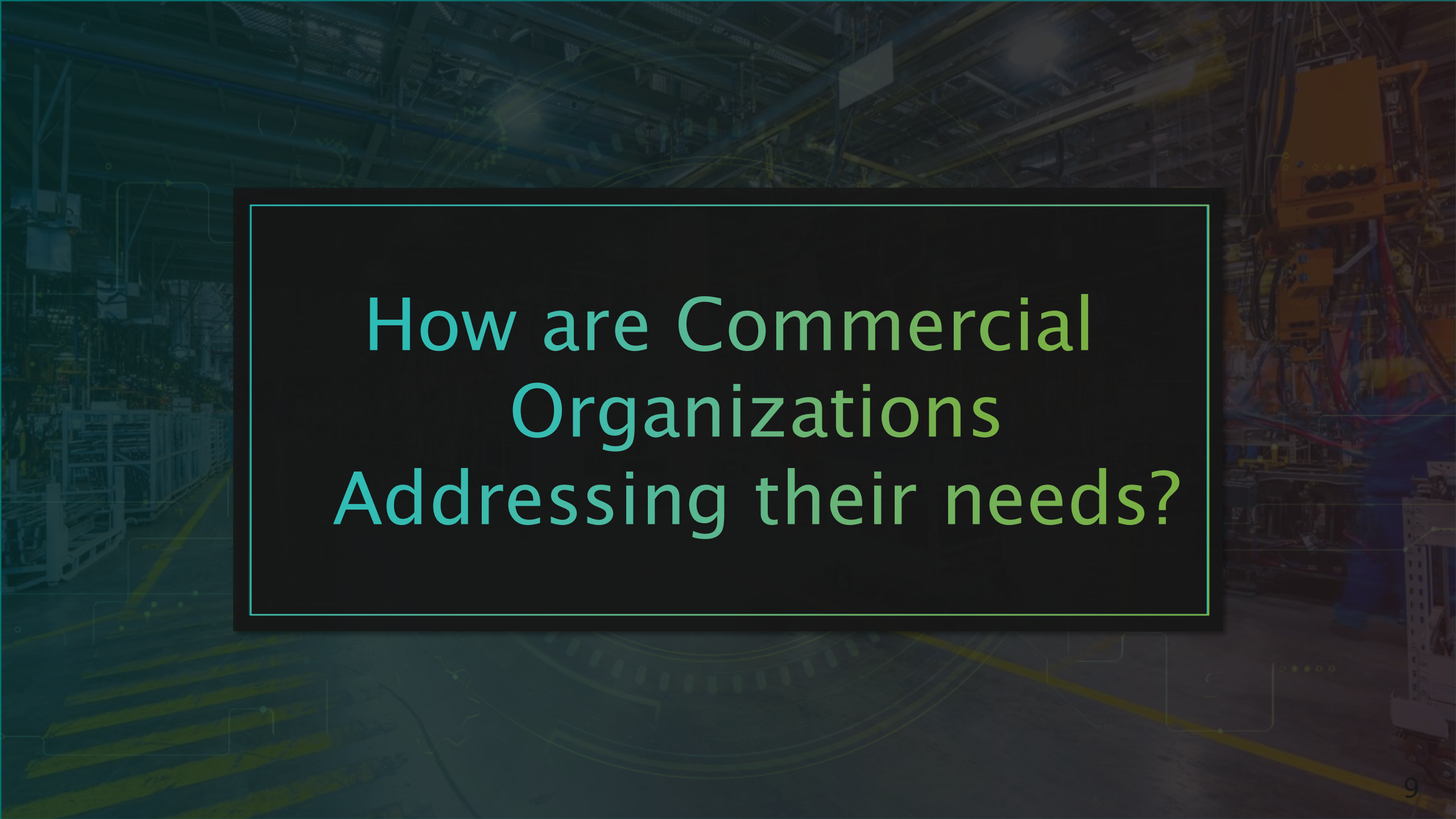
# Are these the right questions?

- Must understand what commercial companies are focused on:
  - Safety
  - Reliability (Availability)
  - Productivity
- THEN
  - Confidentiality
  - Integrity

# Additional Commercial Drivers

- Insurance requirements
- Government regulations
- Government contracts
- Profit



The background of the slide is a dark, semi-transparent image of an industrial facility, possibly a power plant or manufacturing plant. It features complex piping, structural beams, and various mechanical components. A central black rectangular box with a thin green border contains the text. The text is in a light green, sans-serif font. The overall color palette is dark with green highlights.

# How are Commercial Organizations Addressing their needs?

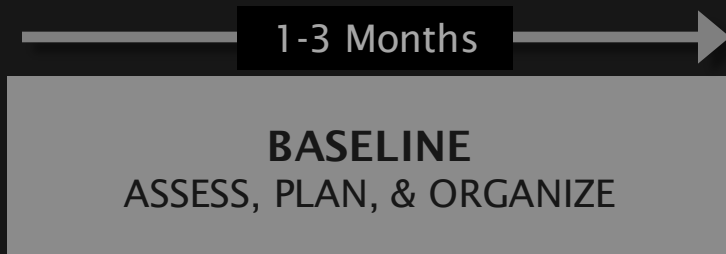
# ICS/OT Cyber Security Journey

**BASELINE**  
ASSESS, PLAN, & ORGANIZE

**OPERATIONALIZE**  
OT-SPECIFIC  
RISK CONTROLS

**OPTIMIZE**  
MATURE OT RISK  
REDUCTION PROGRAM

# ICS/OT Cyber Security Journey



## Establish Baseline

### Create an Incident Response Plan

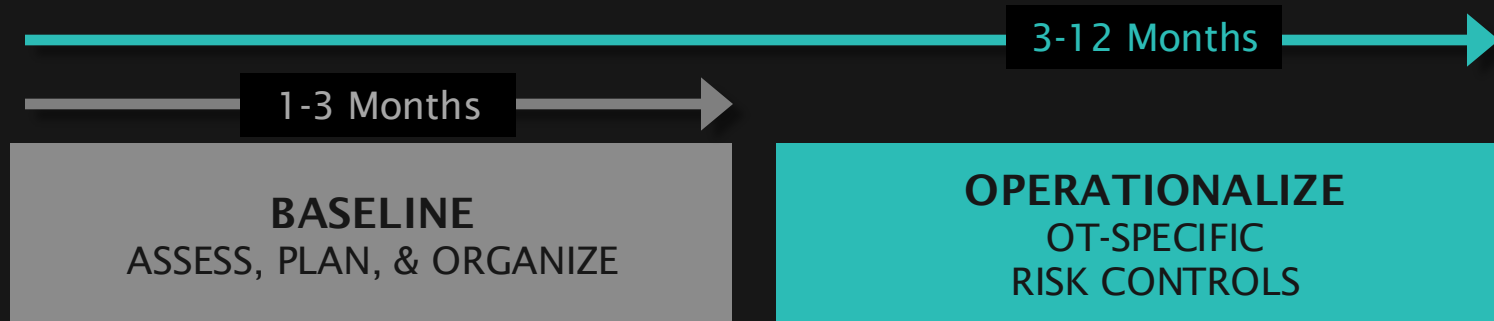
- Assess Your OT Cyber Security Architecture
- Organize your assets inventory & collection management framework

### Implement MFA

Global organizations with multiple sites struggle with this phase more so than any other.

Organizations **MUST** acknowledge they cannot centralize all functions, and that each site must have its own people, plans, and procedures nested underneath higher echelon guidance.

# ICS/OT Cyber Security Journey



## Operate Dragos Platform

- Monitor OT assets & network traffic in Crown Jewel sites
- Identify & manage key OT vulnerabilities
- Detect & respond to OT incidents

The actions during this phase are similar in nature to that of mission analysis during the military decision making process.

Global organizations may have many interconnected sites; establishing visibility and having *people* who understand how processes work across boundaries is key to success in this phase.

# ICS/OT Cyber Security Journey





# ICS/OT Cyber Security Journey



HAVING PARTNERS THAT UNDERSTAND OT HELPS  
ORGANIZATIONS SCALE QUICKER



# Key Capabilities/Resources Used by Industry

- OT-specific cyber threat intelligence
- Threat Detection
- Asset Management
- Vulnerability Management
- SIEM
- Data Historians
- Configuration Change Detection
- Endpoint Security

The background of the slide features a dark, moody image of a Ferris wheel, likely the London Eye, with its intricate metal lattice structure visible. Overlaid on this are faint, glowing green circuit-like lines and patterns, giving the slide a technological or digital aesthetic. A dark rectangular box with a thin green border is centered on the slide, containing the text.

AND....

The background features a dark, moody image of a Ferris wheel, likely the London Eye, with its intricate metal structure visible. Overlaid on this are various abstract, light-colored lines and shapes, including concentric circles and angular patterns, creating a technical or architectural feel.

PEOPLE!!!

# People are our #1 challenge

- OT cybersecurity requires at least fundamental knowledge in:
  - Sector-specific engineering (how things work)
  - Networking (how things communicate to work)
  - IT Systems (yes, they're within or are part of OT, too)
  - Cybersecurity (thing Purple – not just red or blue)



# People are needed at all levels and locations

(Not all inclusive)

- Local to Site
  - Protect, Defend, Hunt, Initial Response
  - Cyber commissioning
- Enterprise
  - Centralized understanding of operational risk
  - Cybersecurity Service-provider functions (SOC, etc.)
  - IT-in-OT infrastructure support (IDaM, transport, etc.)
  - Security control validation
- Strategic
  - Resourcing
  - Translation of OT cyber/engineering to senior leaders
  - OT cyber governance

# Call to Action

# FIVE CRITICAL CONTROLS



## CRITICAL CONTROLS FOR EFFECTIVE OT CYBERSECURITY

A Journey to safety, reliability, and productivity:  
Enabled through OT Cybersecurity

**01**

An ICS-specific incident response plan

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**02**

A defensible architecture

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**03**

OT Visibility: asset inventory, vulnerability mapping, & monitoring

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**04**

Vulnerability management program

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**05**

Multi-factor authentication (MFA)

# Community: Dragos OT-CERT



**OT-CERT**  
OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY  
CYBER EMERGENCY READINESS TEAM

**1,600  
members**

**60  
countries**

OT-CERT is the Operational Technology – Cyber Emergency Readiness Team dedicated to addressing the OT resource gaps that exist in industrial infrastructure.



# Dragos Community Defense Program (CDP)

**Free OT cybersecurity  
software technology**

Dragos Platform & other  
key resources such as  
Dragos Academy

**For small water,  
electric, and natural gas  
providers**

<\$100 million revenues

**To help reduce risk  
of cyber events**

- Inventory assets
- Detect & hunt threats
- Manage vulnerabilities
- Respond to incidents

Register at:

[Dragos.com/community-defense-program](https://dragos.com/community-defense-program)

Email us at:

[CDPinfo@dragos.com](mailto:CDPinfo@dragos.com)



# A Call to Action: Protecting Small Utilities is ALL our jobs

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Apply now. *Dragos.com/community-defense-program* Or request more info *cdpinfo@dragos.com*

## Organizations that don't qualify, and want to improve cyber security

Contact *info@dragos* to help chart your journey and join OT-CERT at *Dragos.com/ot-cert/registration*

## ISACs, other community & government organizations

Help get the word out. Send this link to qualifying organizations *Dragos.com/community-defense-program*



# Thank You



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