



Ransomware

A case study of the impact, recovery and remediation events

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Palindrome Technologies

Assurance, Trust, Confidence



Agenda

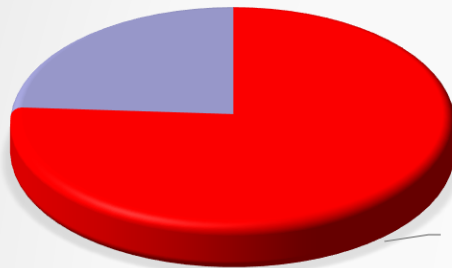
- Incident Events
- Detection, analysis containment of the threat
- Threat Remediation
- About Palindrome

NJ Statistics on Cyber Security

"Cybersecurity is hardly the only area that governments need to consider as they try to cut down on technological risk"... Ref: M. Pheiffer, Rutgers University Nov. 2015, Study on NJ Municipalities and Cybersecurity

565
Local Governments

3rd Party IT
Audit
24%



174
Evaluated

No 3rd Party
IT Audit
76%

9 local governments have data breach policy

Only 56 have performed any sort of strategic planning

30 local governments commissioned third-party audit and/or intrusion testing

Its 10pm, do you know where your data breach policy is?

Events

The steps to contain and recover from attack and also institute a vulnerability and threat management program.

Detection

- a) Event detected by Municipality IT
- b) Impacted critical servers and workstations

Analysis and containment

- a) Palindrome engaged
- b) Performed server and network traffic forensics
- c) Determined that a user's workstation was infected
- d) Attack vector:** Phishing email
- e) Workstation Antivirus not updated

Recovery

- a) IT team recovered affected files from backups
- b) Enhanced firewall filters
- c) Performed Vulnerability Assessment & penetration testing
- d) Developed a Remediation Plan

Remediation

- a) Addressed vulnerabilities identified from penetration testing (patches, host/WiFi configuration, network controls)
- b) Deployment of SIEM
 - Network/Host monitoring
 - Vulnerability Management
- c) Awareness Training

Attack

User receives
“promotional” email

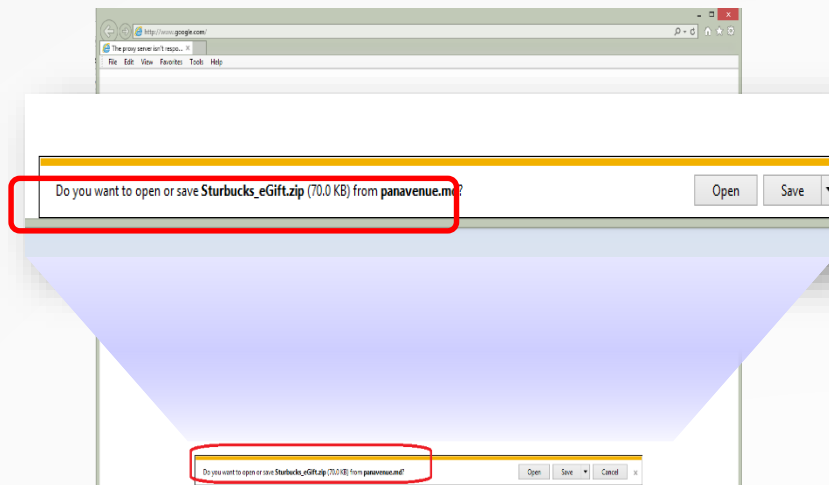


Email contains a link to a file
containing the ransomware

Once the user downloads
and opens the file they get
infected

The ransomware
silently propagates to
local drive and
network shares!

Within 1 hour of attack the
infection propagated on domain
servers and started encrypting
files

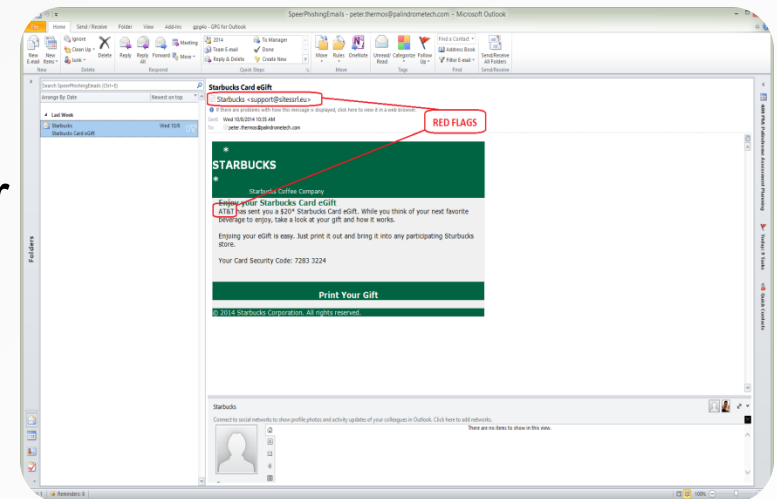


**URL Downloads a .zip file that
contains malware !!!**

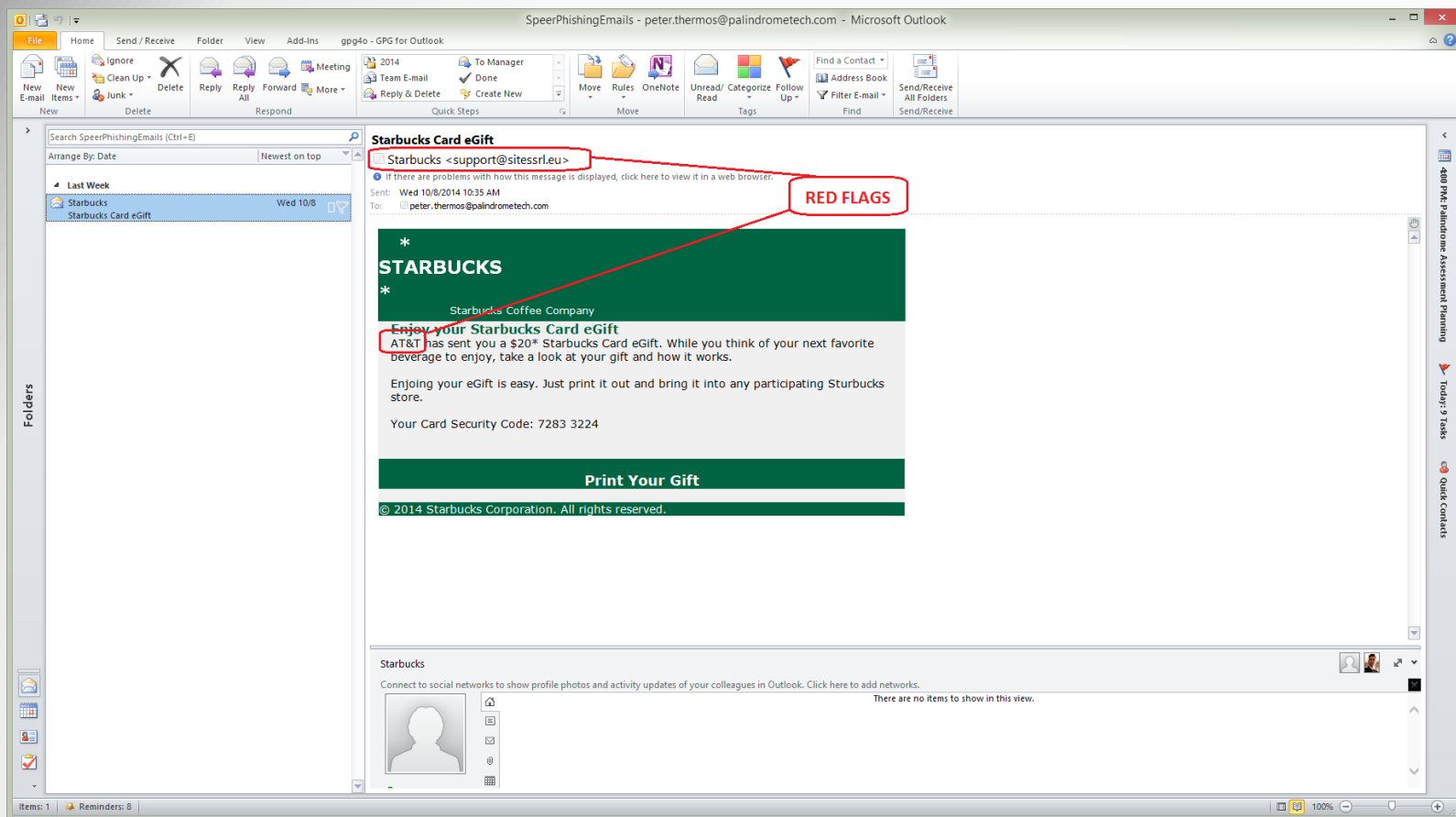
Tuesday 9:00AM -
Users cant access files
on critical servers

Email spear-Phishing Attack Overview

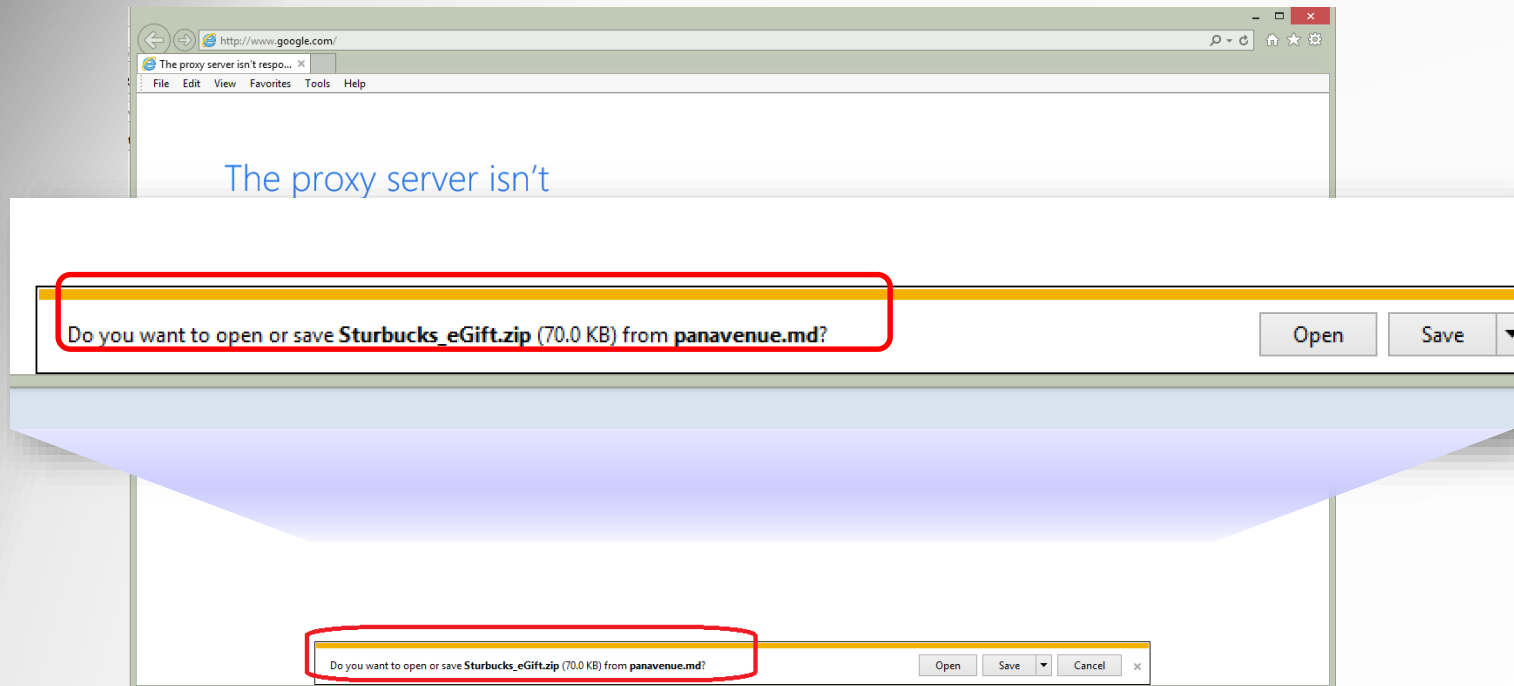
- The attacker may:
 - Address the recipient by name
 - Use lingo/jargon of the organization
 - Reference actual procedures or instructions that the user is familiar
- The email appears to be genuine.
- Sometime these emails have legitimate operational and exercise nicknames, terms, and key words in the subject and body of the message.



Phishing Example

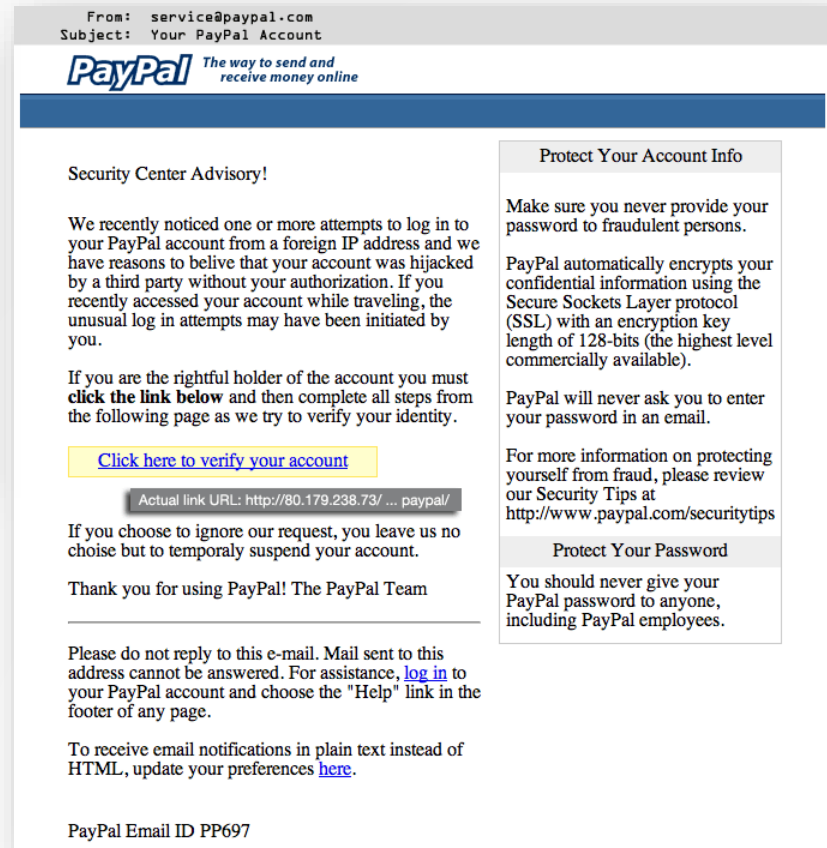
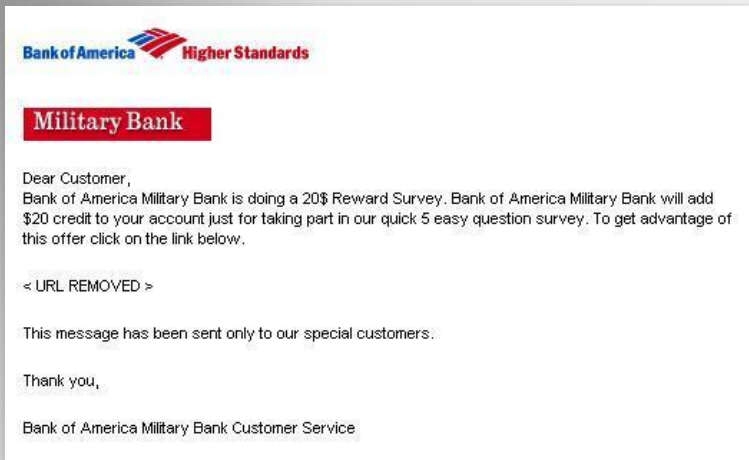


Malware/Ransomware through Phishing



URL Downloads a .zip file that contains malware !!!

Additional email Phishing Examples



Analysis, containment, recovery

Host Forensics

Analyze active memory, processes, OS logs, filesystem and network shares to determine behavioral patterns of ransomware (*Cryptowall*).

Network Forensics

Network traffic captures & firewall logs were reviewed in order to extract traffic patterns that may help narrow the initial activity of the malware.

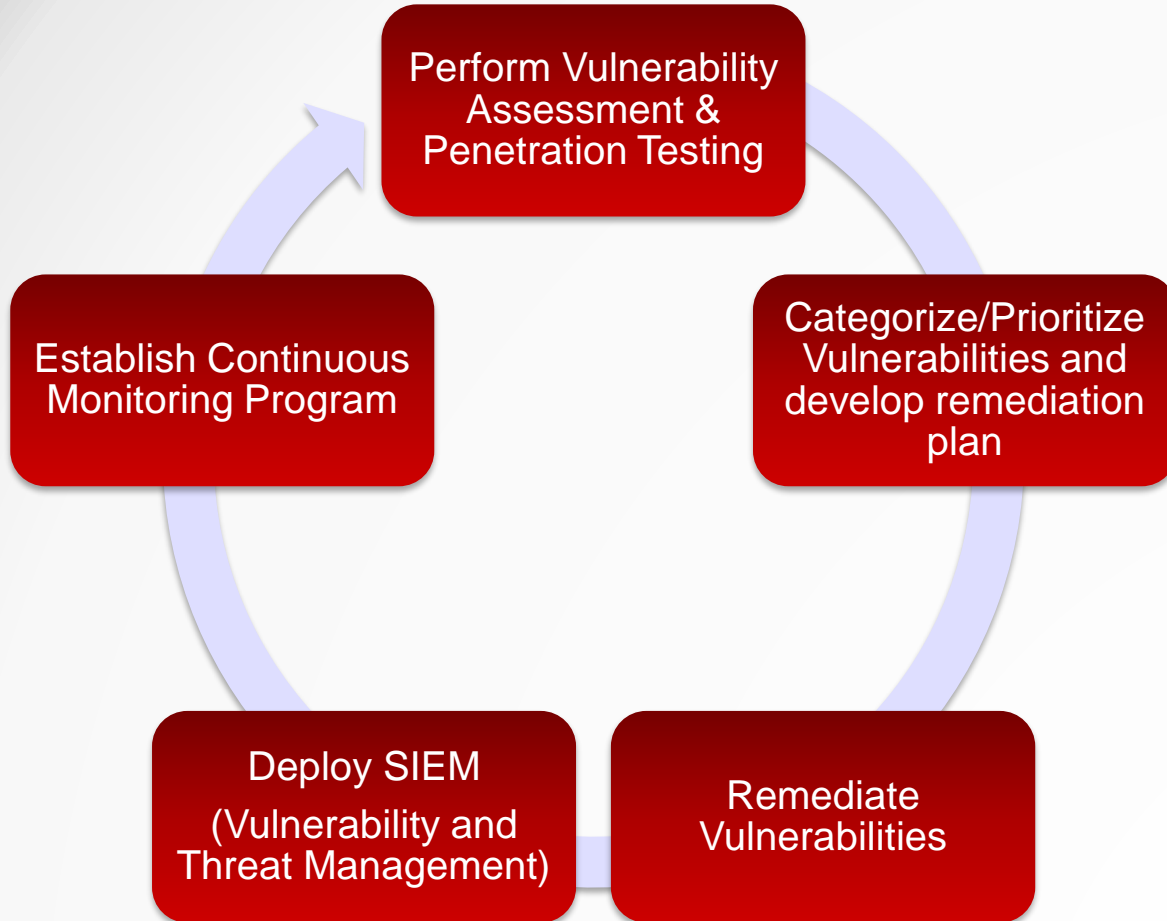
Containment Plan

Stringent User permissions
Firewall filters to prevent in-bound/outbound propagation,
Update antivirus/malware signatures

Recovery

Examine and validate if most recent backup reference is infected
Restore data from backup prior to infection
Prepare remediation strategy
Hosted awareness training

Threat Remediation



About Palindrome

Professional Services

- Information Security and Assurance
- Vulnerability Assessments
- Penetration Testing
- Risk and Threat Analysis
- Security Policy
- Architecture Review
- Forensics
- Incident Response
- Governance
- Compliance
- Disaster Recovery Planning

Managed Services

- SIEM
- Alerting
- Event Correlation
- Log Normalization
- User Monitoring
- Malware Detection

Mobile Security Solutions

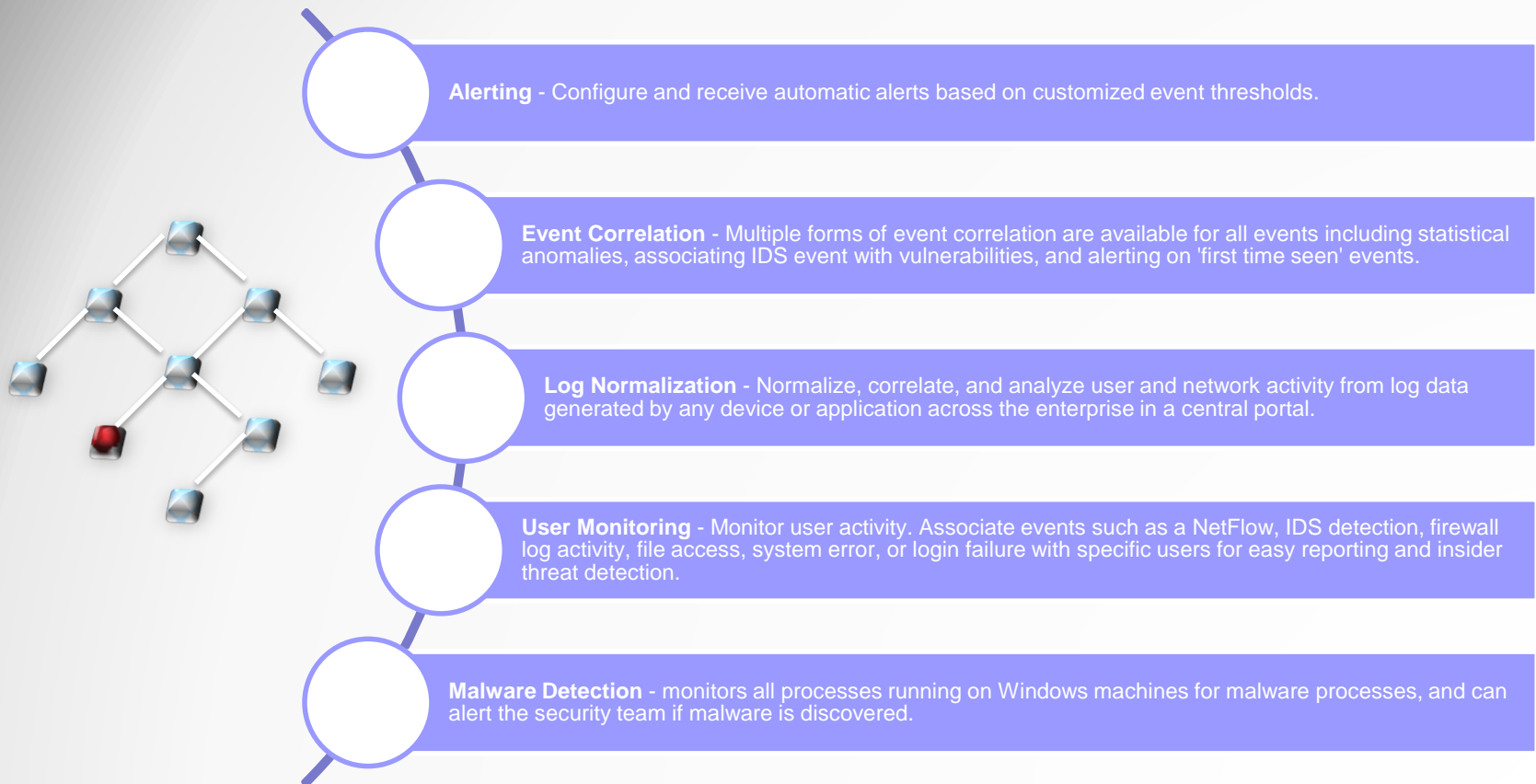
- Recap Mobile Security Vulnerability and Threat Management

Managing Cyber Threats

Managed Services

- **Security Information and Event Management**

- Log analysis
- Linked to the intrusion detection and incident response plan



Q & A



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