

A Scientific Research and Development Approach to Transform Cyber Security

A Report Prepared for the
Department of Energy
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On behalf of the Cyber Security Community
(DOE Laboratories, Universities, Industry participants)

ASCAC - March 3, 2009



**A Scientific
Research and Development Approach
To
Cyber Security**

December 2008

Submitted to

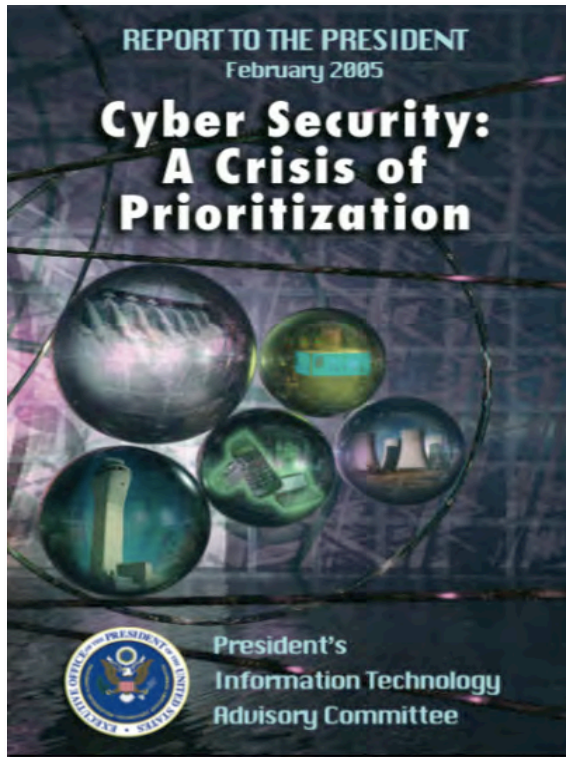
The Department of Energy

Background

- Summits
- Working Groups
- Open Workshops
- Report Vetted w/ Industry, Multiple Agencies

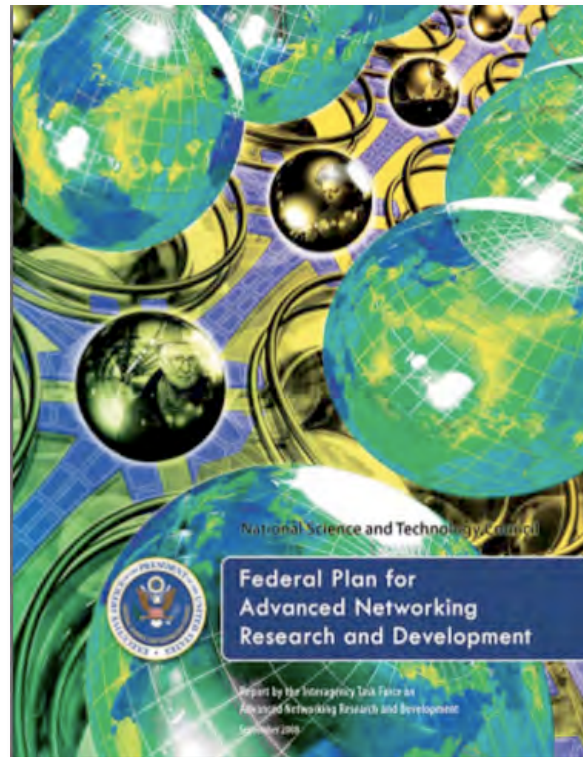
A National *Priority*

2005



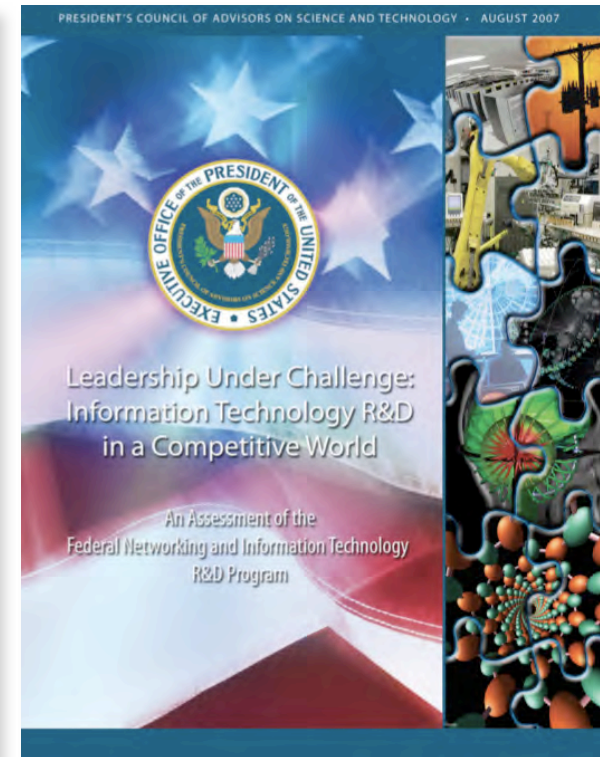
“broad failure to invest” in
“fundamental research in
civilian cyber security.”

2007



“The ability to design and
develop secure... systems is
a national priority.”

2008



“special focus and
prioritization are needed to
respond to current national
networking security
concerns.”

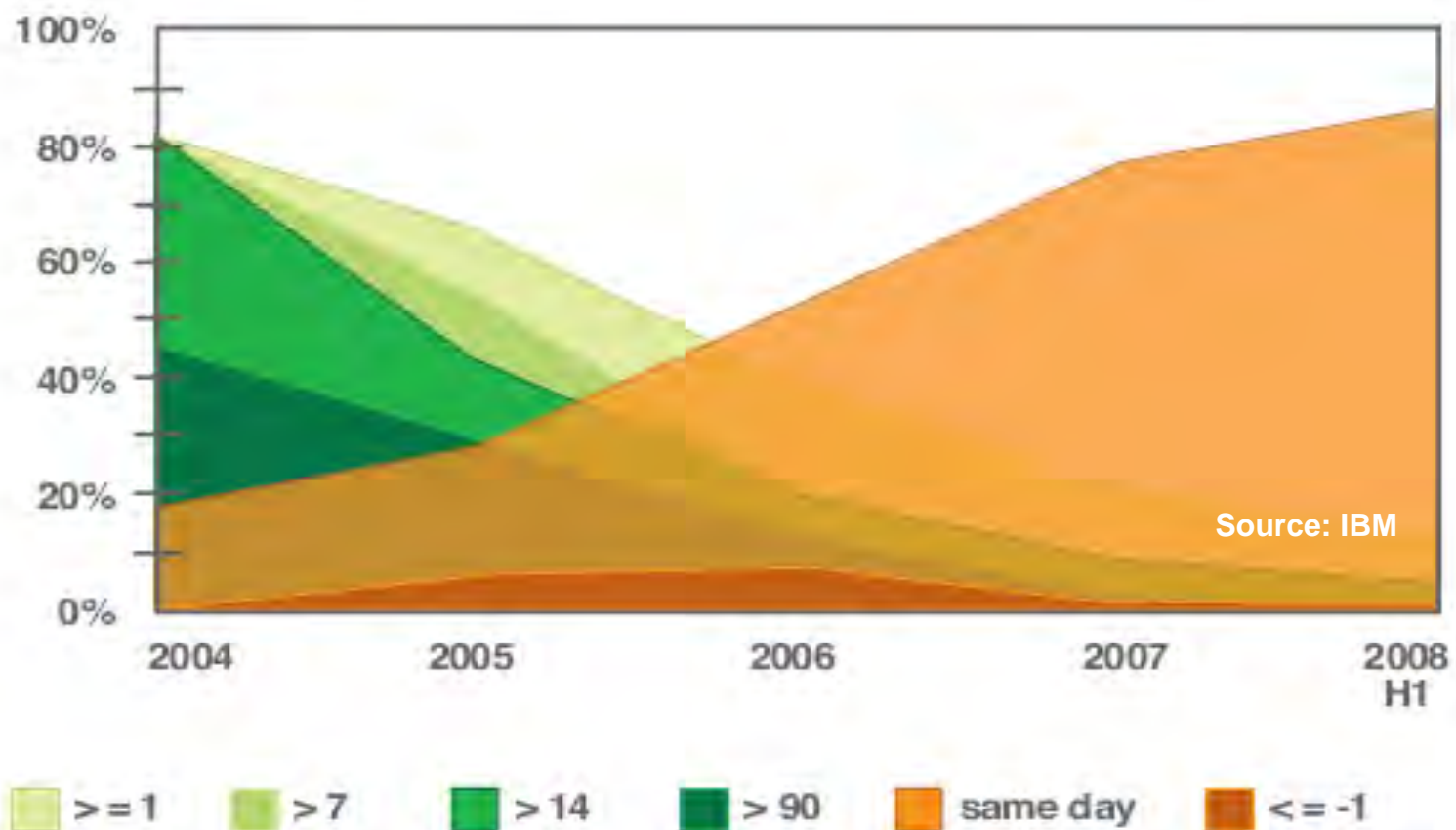
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- **Unique Requirements**
 - National-scale civilian and classified infrastructure, assets, programs
 - International science communities
- **Unique Strengths**
 - National Laboratories with strong multi-disciplinary programs and rich academic and industry collaborations
 - Mathematics and Computational Science programs coupled with Leadership Class facilities.

Cyber Defense Today

- Mathematics & Computational Science Untapped
 - Mathematics-based Intrusion Detection
 - Limited use of modeling and simulation
- Architecture is Anachronistic
 - Inherent trust among components
 - Passive data
- Policy is Reactive and Tactical
 - Defense against specific, previous tactics
 - Underlying model (layered defense) awkward

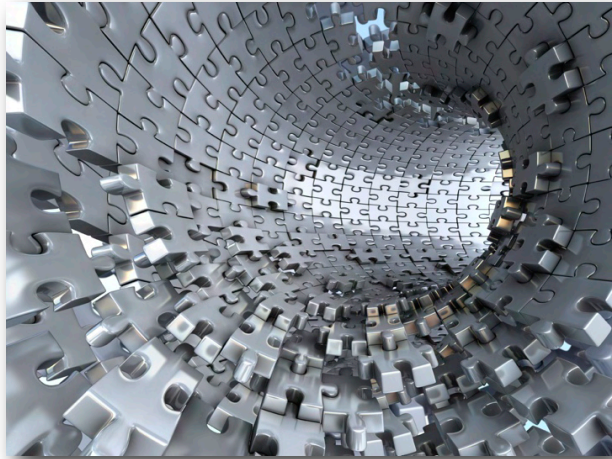
Client-Side Exploits Vulnerability Disclosure to Public Exploit



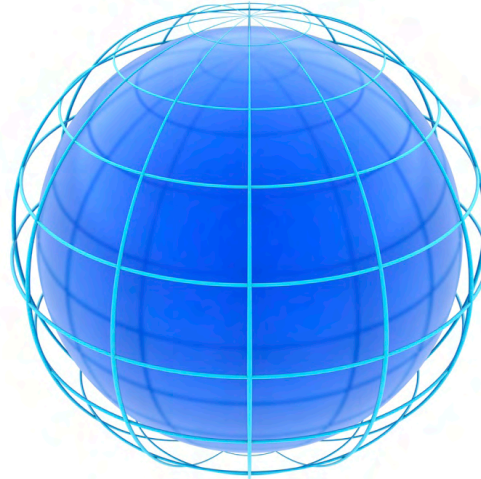
Incremental vs. revolutionary improvements...



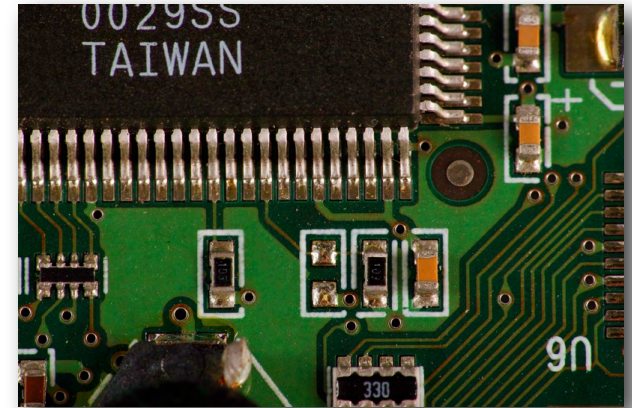
Three Focus Areas



Mathematics
*Predictive Awareness
for Secure Systems*



Information
*Self-Protective Data and
Software*



Platforms
*Trustworthy Systems from
Untrusted Components*

Focus Areas in Context

PITAC (2005)

Authentication Technologies

Secure Fundamental
Protocols

Secure Software Engineering
& Software Assurance

Holistic System Security

Monitoring & Detection

Mitigation & Recovery
Methodologies

Cyber Forensics: Catching &
Deterring Criminal Activities

Modeling & Testbeds for New
Technologies

Metrics, Benchmarks, & Best
Practices

Non-Technology Issues that
Compromise Cyber Security

Mathematics
Predictive Awareness
for Secure Systems

Information
Self-Protective Data
and Software

Platforms
Trustworthy Systems
from Untrusted
Components

PCAST (2007)

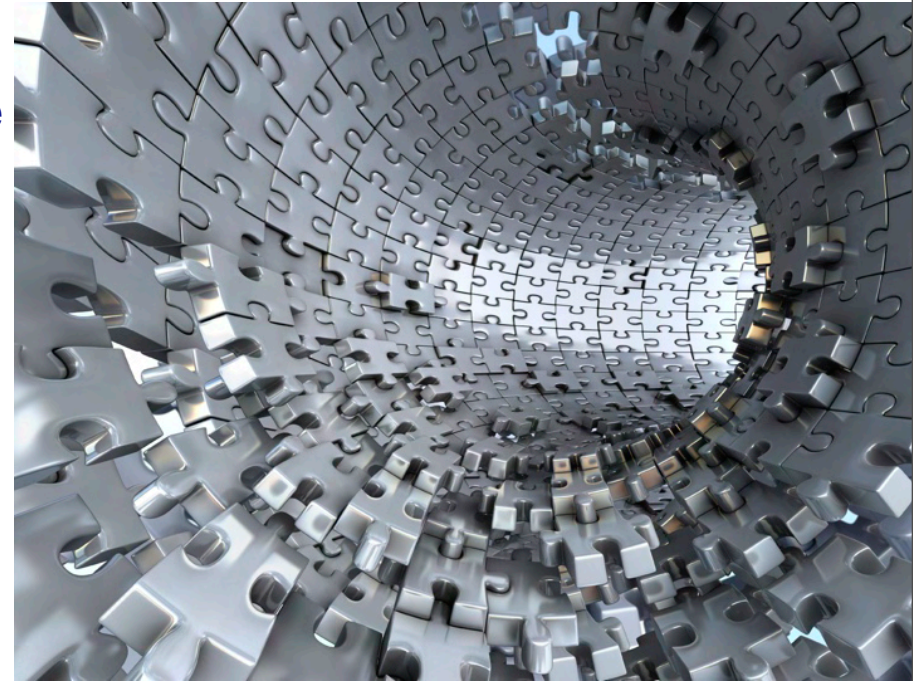
Comprehensive analysis of
potential system-level
vulnerabilities to inform the
design of inherently secure
NIT systems

Generation of the
fundamental building blocks
for the development of
secure NIT systems

Usability and related social
sciences, because progress
in improving the security of
NIT systems also involves
altering user behavior.”

Mathematics: Predictive Awareness for Secure Systems

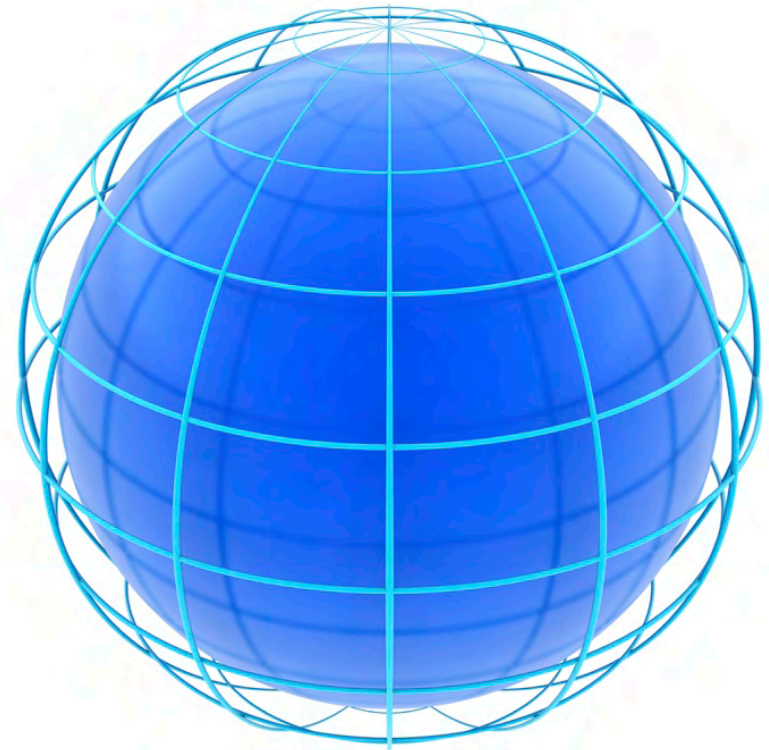
- **Create** capabilities to examine system or network behavior to anticipate failure or attack, including real-time detection of anomalous activity and adaptive “immune system” response.
- **Requires** a deeper understanding of complex applications and systems, appropriate architectures, techniques, and processes – using data-driven modeling, analysis, and simulation.
- **Leverages** DOE programs in mathematics and computational science, and leadership computing expertise and facilities.



“...meteorology provides proof that complex, evolving, large-scale systems are amenable to mathematical analysis and that the network-security community need not necessarily restrict itself to the (probably oversimplified) models now in the literature.” *Workshop on Scalable Cyber-Security Challenges in Large-Scale Networks: Deployment Obstacles, Interagency Working Group for IT R&D, March 2003.*

Information: Self-Protective Data and Software

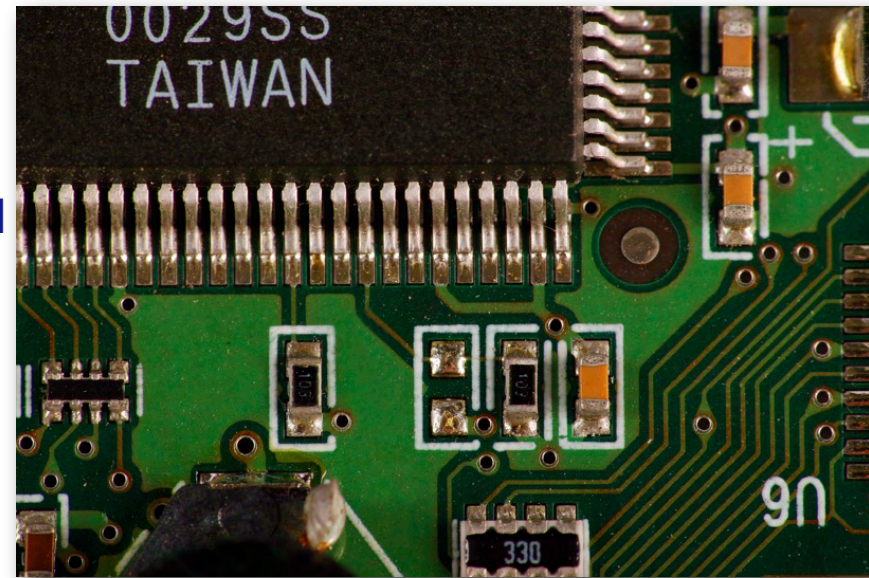
- **Create** “active” data systems and protocols to enable self-protective, self-advocating, and self-healing digital objects.
- **Requires** data provenance and related research to provide information integrity, awareness of attributes such as source, modification, trace back, and actors; and mechanisms to enforce policy concerning data confidentiality and access.
- **Leverages** DOE leadership in, and mission requirements for, protection of classified and/or controlled information (data, software) and analysis and stewardship of large-scale scientific data sets for international experiments.



**Self-Protective Data
and Software**

Platforms: Trustworthy Systems from Untrusted Components

- **Create** mechanisms for specifying and maintaining overall trust properties for operating environments and platforms.
- **Requires** techniques for quantifying and bounding security and protection, integrity, confidentiality, and access in the context of a “system” comprised of individual components for which there are varying degrees of trust.
- **Leverages** DOE expertise in hardware and software systems architecture, operating systems, and secure build and test facilities.

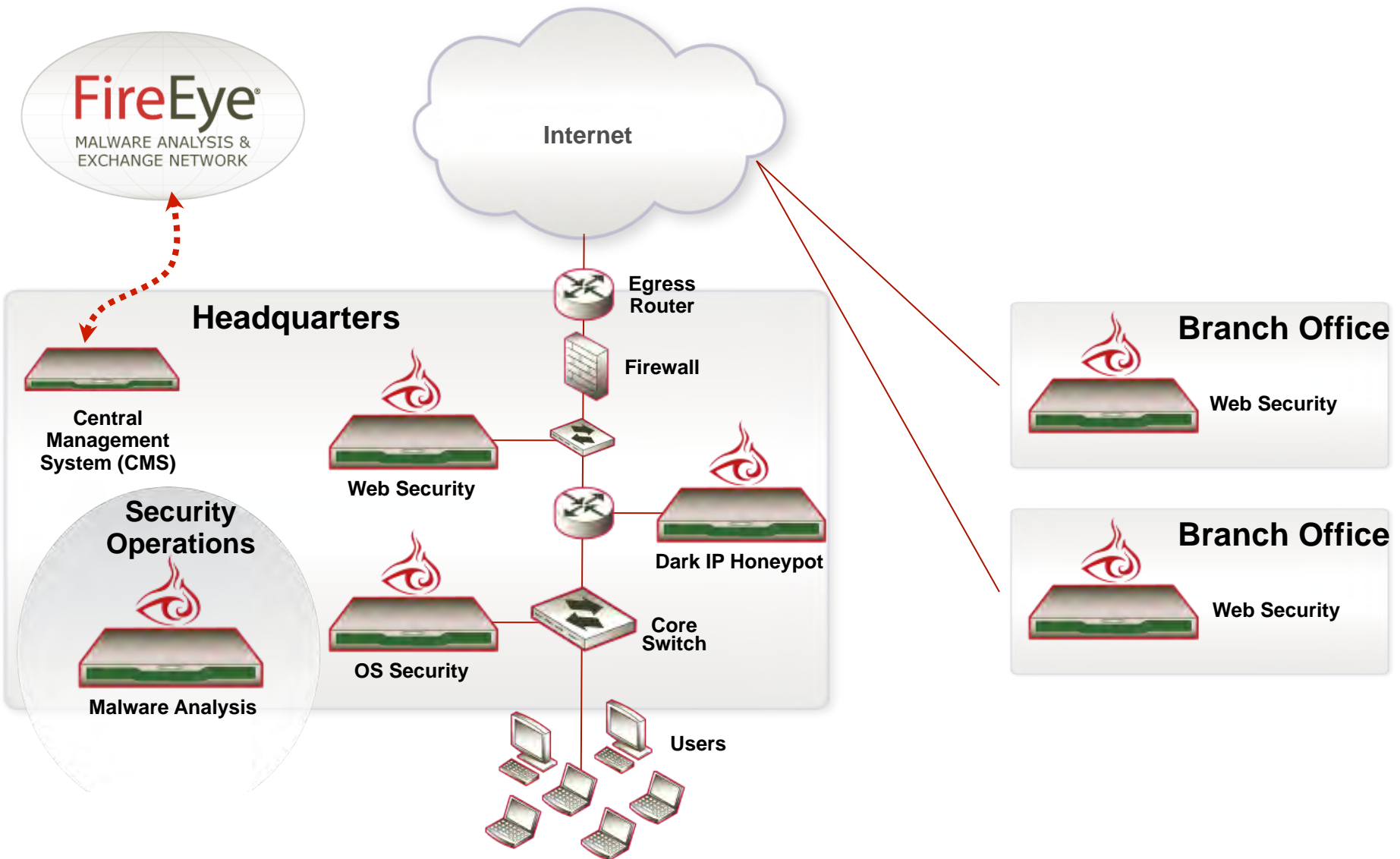


**Trustworthy Systems from
Untrusted Components**

DOE: Uniquely Positioned

	DOE	DARPA	NSF	DOD Labs	NSA, IARPA	NIH	DHS
Programmatic Orientation	Vision & Project	Project	Project	Vision	Project	Vision & Project	Project
“Customer”	Society; Energy	DOD	Society	DOD	Intelligence Community	Society; Medical Community	National Infra.
National Laboratory Assets	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Research Horizon	Near Mid Long	- Mid -	- - Long	- - Long	Near Mid Long	Near Mid Long	Near Mid Long
Typical Performers	Gov Academia Industry	Gov Academia Industry	- Academia -	Gov Academia -	Gov Academia Industry	- Academia Industry	- Academia Industry
Cyber Security Expertise	✓	✓	some	some	✓		✓
Primary Results Applicability	<i>Flexible</i>	Classified	Open	Classified	Classified	Open	Classified

Example of Industry Work



Recommendations (1 of 2)

- **Focus Areas to Harness DOE Strengths**
 - **Mathematics: Predictive Awareness for Secure Systems**
 - Leadership computing, mathematics, and computational science programs – cyber security as a computational science and engineering challenge leveraging INCITE.
 - **Information: Self-Protective Data and Software**
 - Computer science, computer architecture programs to explore novel approaches to *active* data.
 - **Platforms: Trustworthy Systems from Untrusted Components**
 - System software and architecture programs to pursue new operating system, distributed application, and platform architectures harnessing state-of-the-art such as multicore.

Recommendations (2 of 2)

- Programmatic Considerations
 - SciDAC-scale multidisciplinary teams
 - “X-Prize” style – clear targets, broad competition
 - Engage Industry
 - Facilitate many “failures” to find diamonds in the rough (aggressive program leadership/management)
 - Proactive research collaboration with industry, other agencies (NSF, DHS) and DOE programs.
 - Harness Leadership Computing, data analysis, and related infrastructure.
 - Support computational science (modeling and simulation) as well as nearer term needs such as sensor data analysis and intensive software vulnerability testing (e.g. “a software wind tunnel”)