

# GE Grid Solutions

## Cyber Security

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June 8, 2017



imagination at work

# Cyber Security Introduction

# Failure Mode and Effects Analysis of Security

1. Function: Describe the function to be analyzed to secure against a specific cyber incident.
2. Failure Mode: Understanding the threat
3. Failure Causes: Understanding the types of attacks
4. Identify Failure Effects and Criticality: How serious are the consequences
5. Understand Solutions: What are the current methods of securing against the attack?
6. Match solution to analysis:  
Establish a Security system to match the analysis



# Understanding the Threat

- *Protecting against -*
  - *The Hacker*
  - *The Vandal*
  - *The Terrorist*
  - *The Disgruntled Employee*
  - *The Competitor*
  - *The Customer*
  - *The Security System*

## *Types of attack -*

- *Eavesdropping*
- *Traffic Analysis*
- *Replaying*
- *Spoofing*
- *Cracking*
- *Social Engineering*
- *Denial of Service*
- *Destruction*
- *Reconfigure*
- *Malware*



# Understanding Consequences and Risks

- Analysis of Areas of Attack:
- Control – Take control of switches (meters or substations)
- Information – Interrupt or corrupt data flow
- Configuration – Change configuration to open door for future action
- Safety – Compromise safety of people or things

# Protect – Detect – Respond

- Need to properly implement ...
  - Border/Network Security
  - Intrusion Detection System (Passive)
  - Intrusion Prevention System (Active)
  - Configuration & Firmware Management
  - Data Security (Static & Dynamic)
  - Event Management & Logging
  - Authentication & Role Based Access Control
  - Patch Management System

# Factors of Authentication

- 1. What You Know** – Passwords are widely used to identify a User, but only verify that somebody knows the password.
- 2. What You Have** – Digital certificates in the User's computer add more security than a password, and smart cards verify that Users have a physical token in their possession, but either can be stolen.
- 3. What You Are** – Biometrics such as fingerprints and iris recognition are more difficult but not impossible to forge.
- 4. What You Do** – Dynamic biometrics such as hand writing a signature and voice recognition are the most secure; however, replay attacks can fool the system.



# Summary

NERC and Corporate Security Requirements

Functions to Protect

Understanding the threat

Understanding the types of attacks

How likely and serious are the consequences

Security methods

Deploy a matching solution





Case Study:  
Hacking a GE Industrial Ethernet  
Switch

# Reputation Effects from Media and Tech Conferences

**ITmedia**  
ITmedia Enterprise > News > hard-coding of vulnerability

**THE STACK** NEWS | PARTNERS | EDUCATION | MAGAZINE | ABOUT US

**The Register**  
Biting the hand that feeds IT

SECURITY  
**General Electric industrial Ethernet switches revealed to have hard-coded SSL key – and other vulnerabilities**  
Martin Anderson

**black hat**

**SA**

**DEFCON**

**44CON CYBER SECURITY**

riial Ethernet switch? Get  
s found in firmware

# Security (Hacking) Demo

## ML800 Managed Switch

- A hard-coded session key can allow a user to access administrative interface without authentication.
- This demo will show the benefit of the patch / firmware update. We will:
  - Perform Man-in-the-Middle attack
  - Use the hard-coded session key to gain administrative access
  - Repeat process on patched ML800





# Vulnerability Messages

GE  
Grid Solutions  
Hard-coded Credentials Vulnerability  
ML800/1200/1600/2400  
ML810/3000/3100  
Date: May 31, 2016  
GE Publication Number: GET-20042

Product Bulletin  
CVE: CVE-2016-2310

## Overview

A vulnerability has been identified in the GE MultiLink ML800 managed switch that could result in unauthorized access. GE's Grid Solutions business unit has validated the vulnerability through testing and confirmed that the issue affecting the ML800 also affects the ML1200, ML1600, ML2400, and ML3100. These vulnerabilities have been publicly disclosed.

This product bulletin has been reviewed and approved for release.

## Background

The MultiLink ML800 is used in industrial applications and environments.

## Vulnerability

GE has received reports of a vulnerability that could be used to bypass the web configuration interface. The vulnerability could be exploited remotely.

## Mitigation

GE recommends that users update their devices to the latest firmware version. Use the contact information provided in this bulletin for more information.



GE Digital Energy  
RSA Private Key & DoS Vulnerability  
ML800/1200/1600/2400  
ML810/3000/3100  
Date: January 6, 2015  
Updated: September 8, 2015  
GE Publication Number: GET-20024A

Product Bulletin  
ICS-CERT Advisory: ICSA-15-013-04

## Overview

Three vulnerabilities were identified in the GE MultiLink ML800 managed switch that could result in unauthorized access or denial of service. GE Digital Energy has validated these vulnerabilities through testing and confirmed that the issues affecting the ML800 also affect the MultiLink series of managed Ethernet switches including the ML1200, ML1600, ML2400, and ML3100. These vulnerabilities have been publicly disclosed.

This product bulletin has been reviewed and approved for release.

## Background

The MultiLink ML800 is used in industrial applications and environments.

Researcher Eirann Leverett coordinated his Emergency Response Team (ERT) to investigate these vulnerabilities. Mr. Leverett's ERT also identified a cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability in the ML810, ML3000, and ML3100.

## Vulnerability

The three confirmed vulnerabilities are: 1) the Denial of Service (DoS) vulnerability, 2) the Denial of Service (DoS) vulnerability, and 3) the Denial of Service (DoS) vulnerability.



**Advisory (ICSA-16-154-01)**  
GE MultiLink Series Hard-coded Credential Vulnerability  
Original release date: June 02, 2016

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**OVERVIEW**  
GE has identified a hard-coded credential vulnerability in GE's MultiLink series managed switches. GE has produced new firmware versions to mitigate this vulnerability.

**AFFECTED PRODUCTS**  
The following MultiLink products are affected:

- GE ML800 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0,
- GE ML810 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0k,
- GE ML1200 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0,
- GE ML1600 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0,
- GE ML2400 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0,
- GE ML3000 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0k, and
- GE ML3100 Switch, firmware versions prior to Version 5.5.0k.

**IMPACT**

**Advisory (ICSA-15-013-04A)**  
GE Multilink Switch Vulnerabilities (Update A)  
Original release date: January 13, 2015 | Last revised: August 04, 2015

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**OVERVIEW**  
This updated advisory is a follow-up to the original advisory titled ICSA-15-013-04 GE MultiLink Switch Vulnerabilities that was published January 13, 2015, on the NCCIC/ICS-CERT web site.

----- Begin Update A Part 1 of 3 -----

Eirann Leverett of iCActive has identified three vulnerabilities in the General Electric (GE) MultiLink ML800 series managed switches. GE Digital Energy has validated these vulnerabilities through testing and confirms that the issues affecting the ML800 will also affect the MultiLink series of managed Ethernet switches including the ML1200, ML1600, ML2400, ML810, ML3000, and ML3100. GE recommends that its customers upgrade switch firmware and disable the configuration web server to mitigate these vulnerabilities. These vulnerabilities have been publicly disclosed.

These vulnerabilities could be exploited remotely.

**AFFECTED PRODUCTS**  
The following GE MultiLink Ethernet switch is affected:

- GE MultiLink ML800/1200/1600/2400 Version 4.2.1 and prior, and
- GE MultiLink ML810/3000/3100 series switch Version 5.2.0 and prior.



# Vulnerability Response – ML800 Series

CVSS = 10.0

## Product

### Energy Connections - ML800



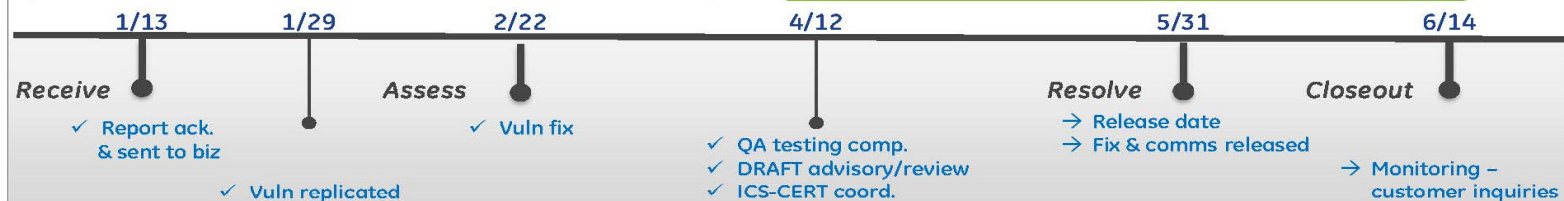
**Hardened managed Ethernet switch**  
Provides high-speed networking w/ management functions for industrial protocols & applications. Used in industrial facilities & substations.

### Vulnerability report

**Date received:** 1-13-2016  
**Researcher:** Jason Larsen (IOActive)  
**Business unit:** EC - Grid Solutions  
**PSL:** Ron Wiederhold



**Vulnerability:** Hard-coded credential that could be used to bypass the web configuration access controls; could allow a user to gain administrative access to the device configuration resulting in exposure and control of all configuration options available.



## Remediation

### Overview

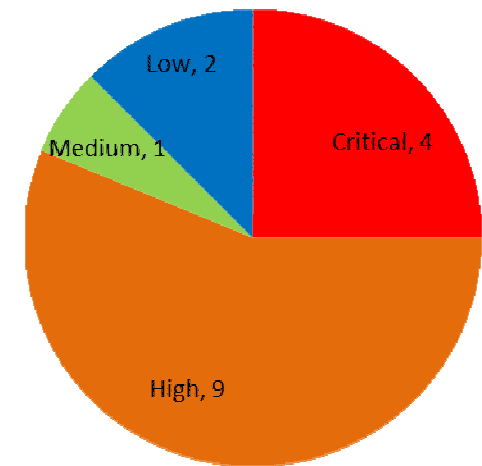
- ✓ GE publication number: GET - 20042
- ✓ CVE: 2016-2310 has been assigned
- ✓ Legal & comms review of GE & ICS-CERT advisories
- ✓ Holding statement prepared

### Mitigation

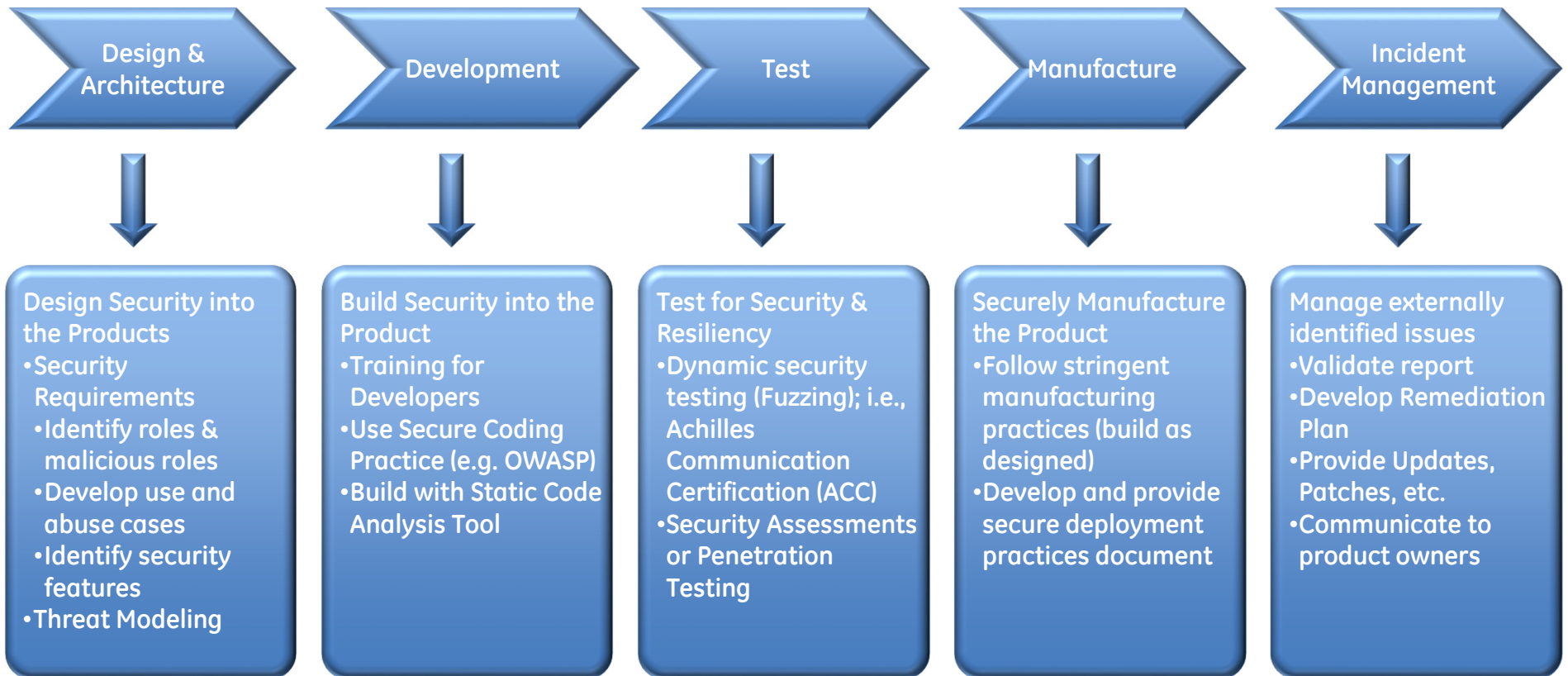
- **Upgrade device firmware:** GE recommends users to upgrade the device firmware to version 5.5.0  
<https://www.gegridsolutions.com/app/ViewFiles.aspx?prod=ml800&ttype=7>

# Lessons Learned

- Develop a good rapport with the Researcher(s)
- Researcher's findings are often "Low Hanging Fruit"
- Security assessment, afterwards revealed additional security vulnerabilities
- We spent a lot of time and effort – working with researchers, PSIRT, ICS-CERT, etc. - that could have been avoided



# Product - Secure Development Lifecycle (SDL)





# Case Study: Ukraine Power Outage

# Ukraine Power Outage - Summary

What	Unscheduled power outages due to cyber-attack against Distribution Systems
When	December 23, 2015, lasting 1 – 6 hours Initial cyber-attack (phishing email) occurred in March 2015
Consequence	3 regional Oblenergos (utilities) 225,000 end-consumers Remote control lost for months
Who did it	No positive Identification . . .
Why	Unknown – many believe it is due to geopolitics in the region
How	See next slide 😊

# Ukraine Power Outage - Summary

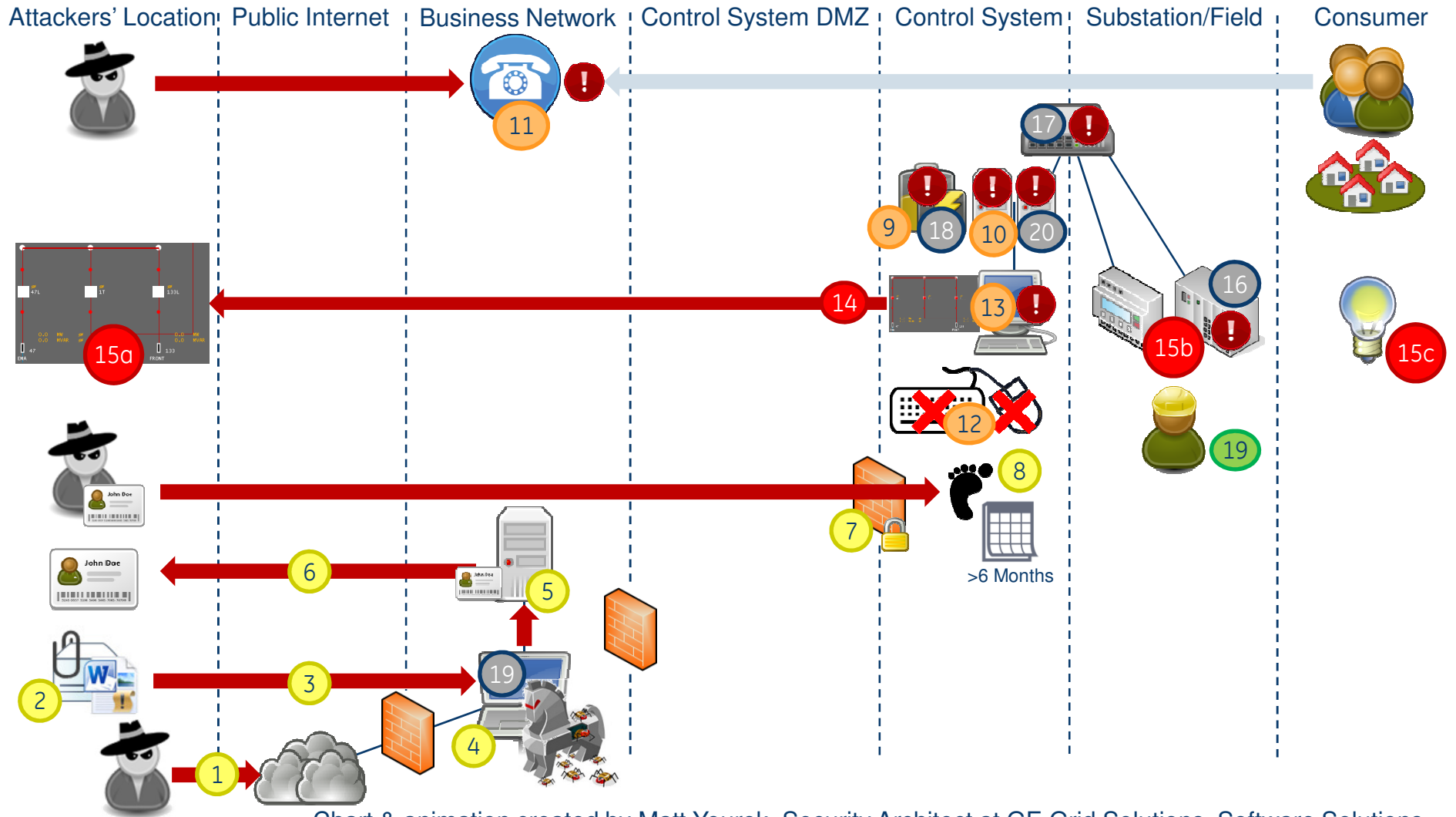
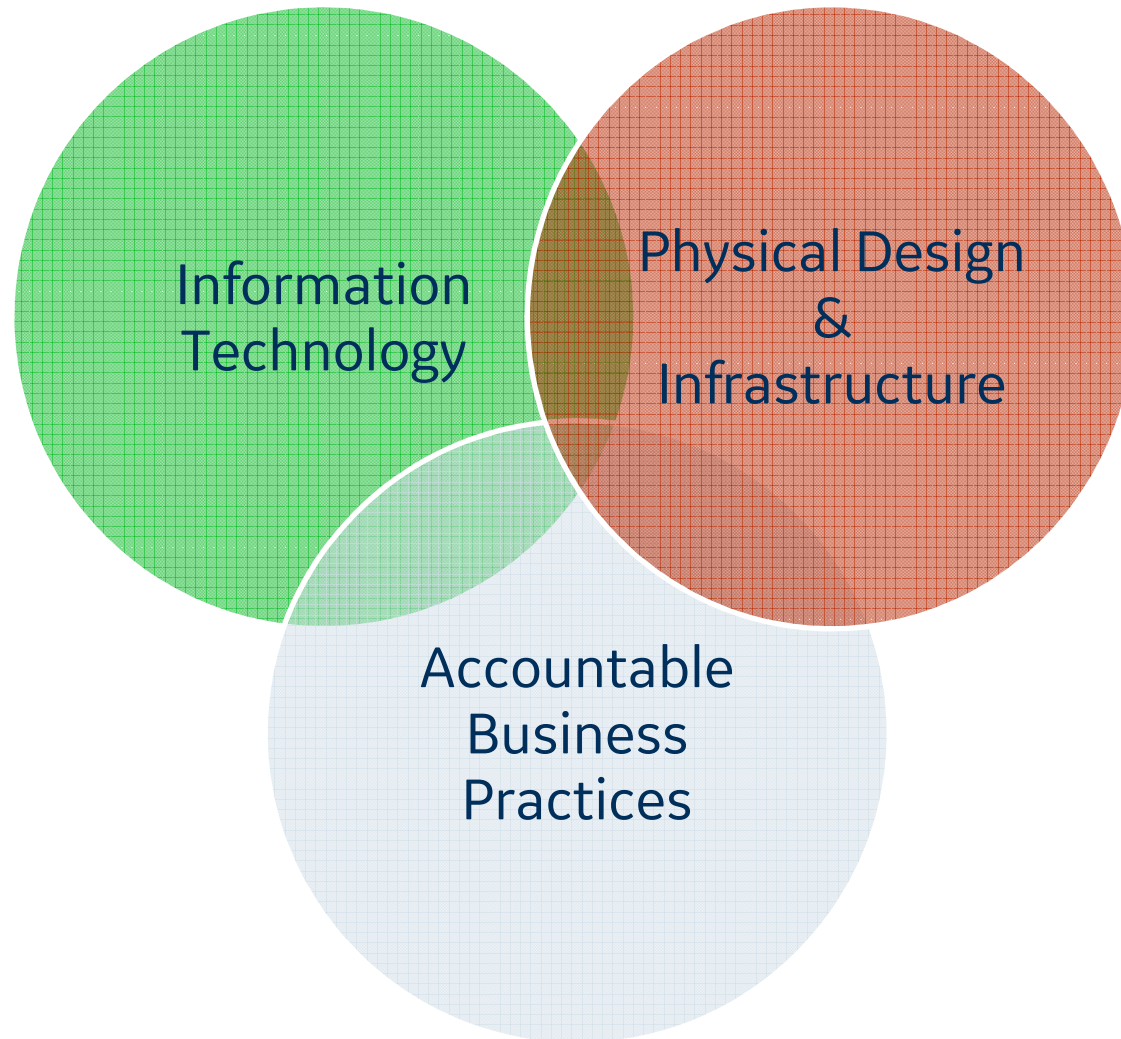


Chart & animation created by Matt Yourek, Security Architect at GE Grid Solutions, Software Solutions

# Privacy by Design

# Privacy by Design: Trilogy of Applications



**Source: Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D., Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada  
[www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf](http://www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf)**

# Privacy by Design: 7 Foundation Principles

1. **Proactive** not **Reactive**
2. Privacy as the **Default** setting
3. Privacy **Embedded** into Design
4. **Full** Functionality: Positive-Sum, not Zero-Sum
5. End-to-End **Security**: Full Lifecycle Protection
6. Visibility **and** Transparency: Keep it Open
7. Respect for User Privacy: Keep it User-Centric

Source: Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D., Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada  
[www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf](http://www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf)



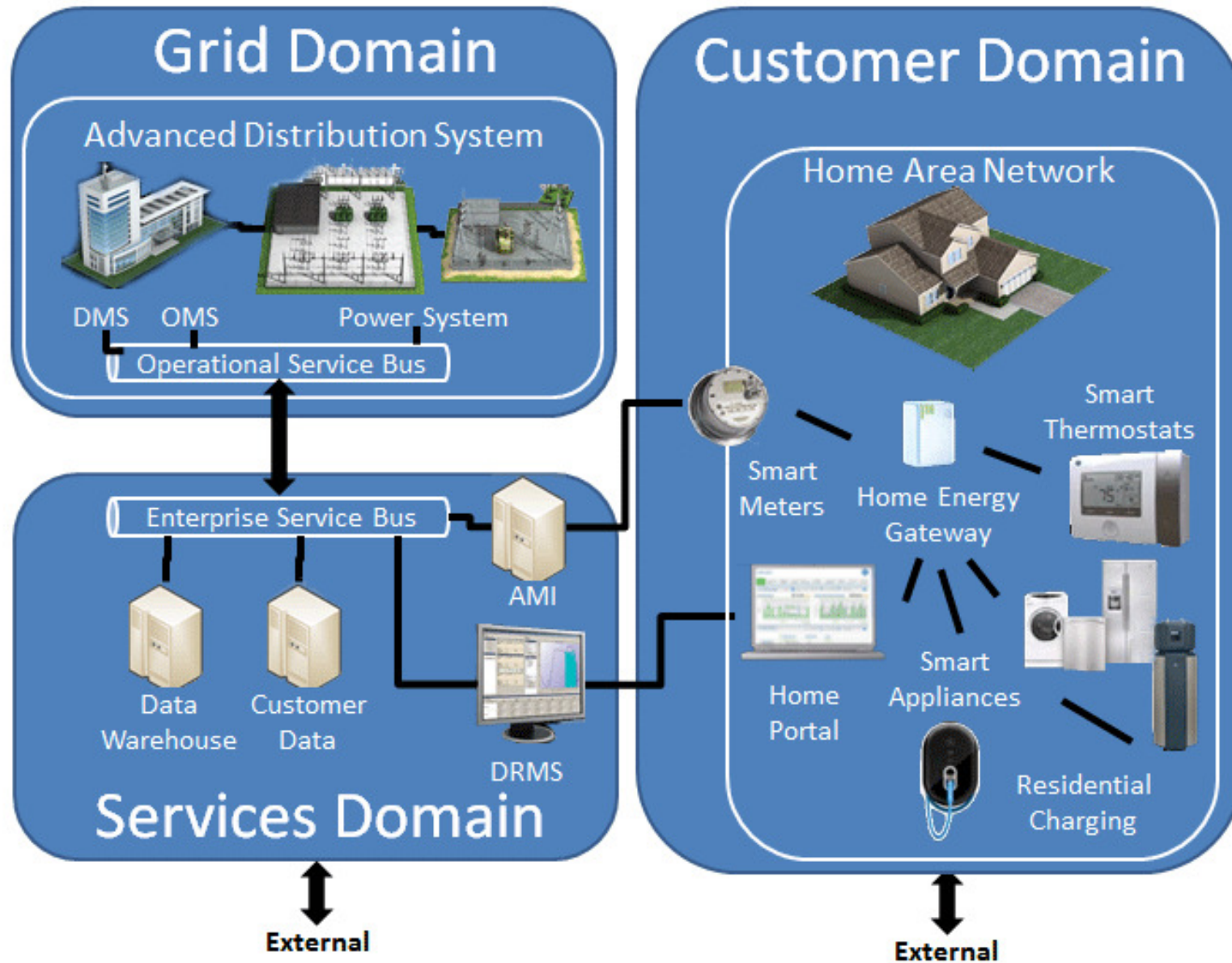
# Personal Information on the Smart Grid

- What constitutes “personal information” on the Smart Grid is the subject of much discussion;
- Personal information is defined by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) and the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA), as **“recorded information about an identifiable individual;”**
- Once it becomes apparent that a Smart Grid technology, system or project will involve the collection of personal information, either directly or through some form of data linkage, privacy considerations immediately apply;
- Digitization - Digital smart meter data, like all digital data, is vulnerable to accessing, copying, matching, merging and widespread dissemination.

Source: Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D., Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada  
[www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf](http://www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf)



# Personal Information on the Smart Grid





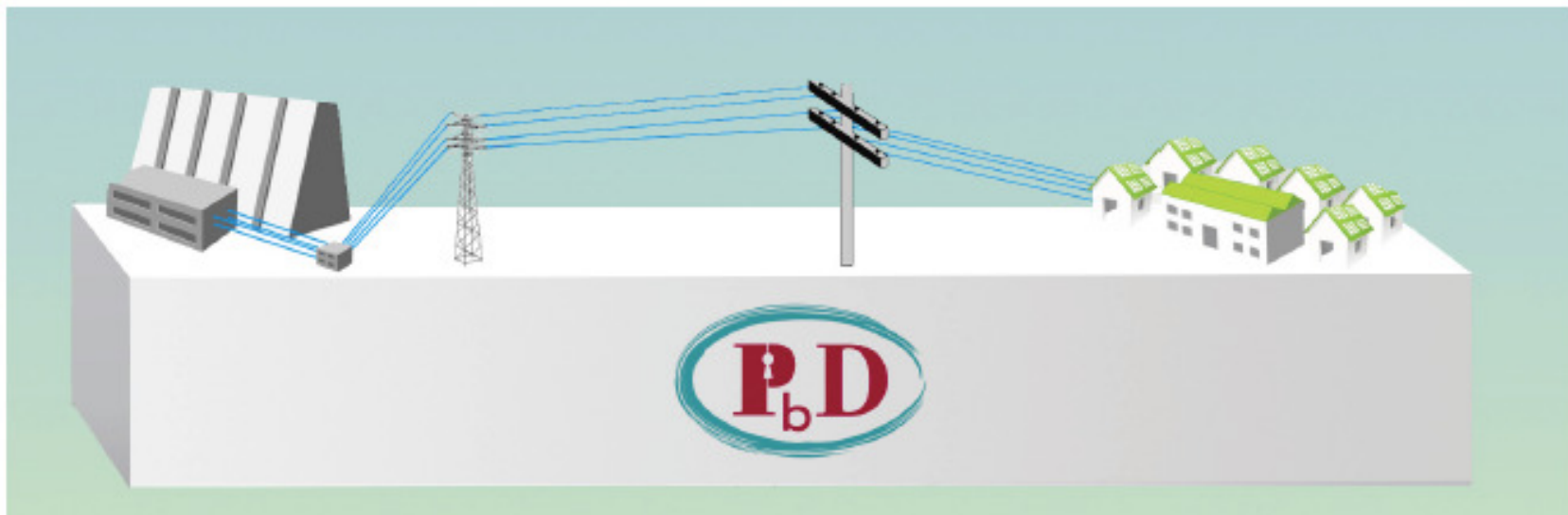
# Best Practices

1. Proactively embed privacy in designs and governance framework
2. Ensure that privacy is the default – no action required to ensure privacy
3. Privacy a core functionality in the design and architecture
4. Avoid any unnecessary trade-offs to achieve privacy objectives
5. Build in privacy end-to-end, throughout the entire data life cycle
6. Systems must be visible and transparent to consumers
7. Respect consumer privacy



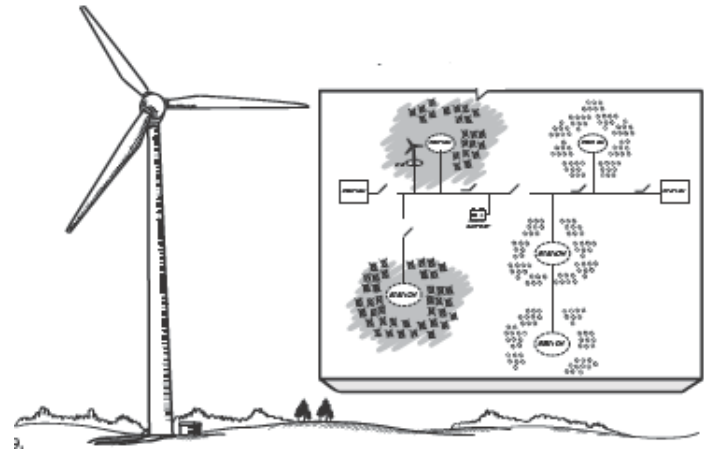
# Case Study — Hydro One

## Operationalizing *Privacy by Design*: The Ontario Smart Grid Case Study



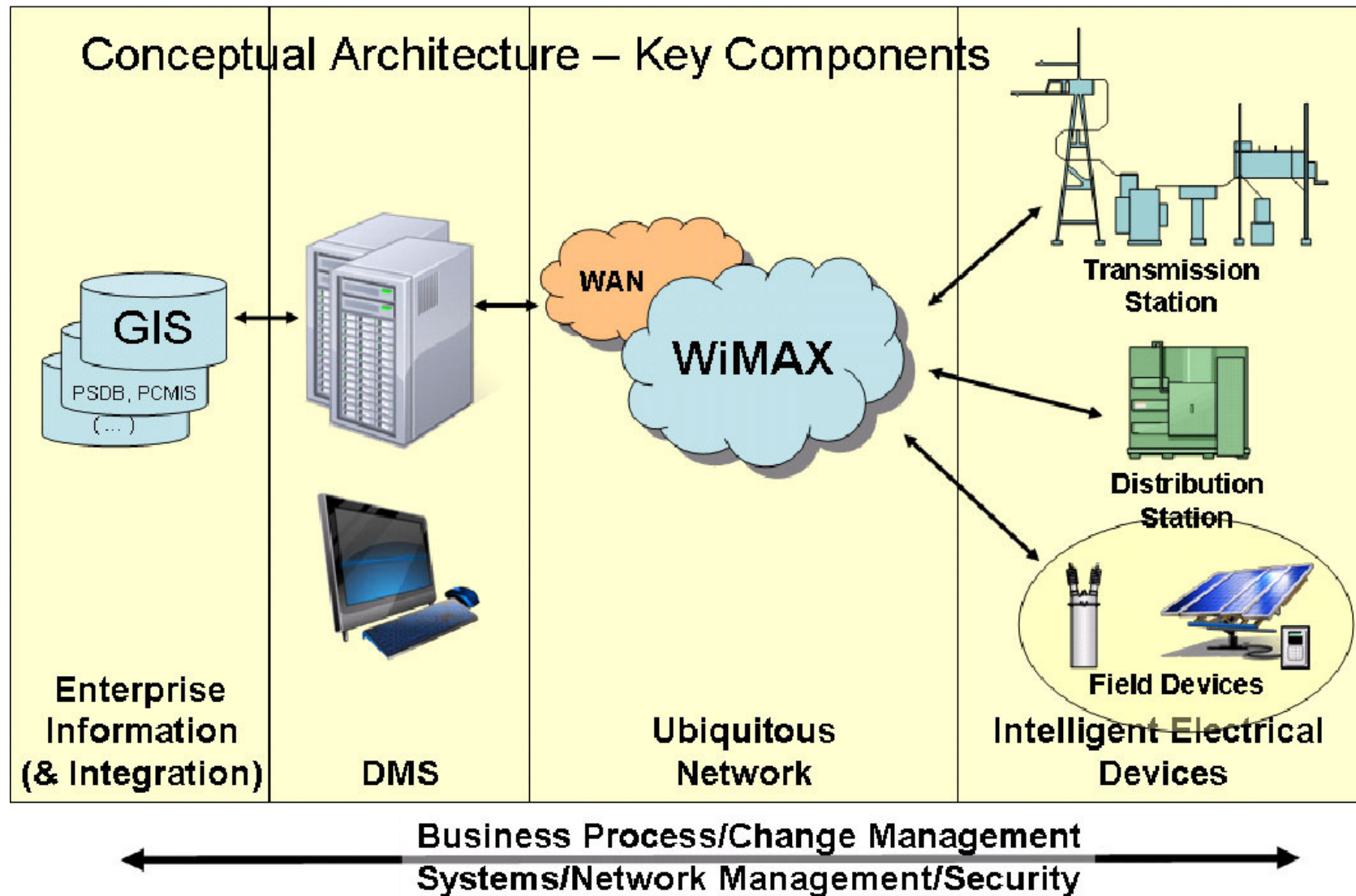
# Hydro One – Advanced Distribution System

1. Optimize connection of Distributed Generation (DG) on the Distribution Network
2. Improve Distribution Reliability and Operations
3. Optimize Outage Restoration
4. Optimize Network Asset Planning



hydro one

# Hydro One – Advanced Distribution System



# Hydro One – Advanced Distribution System

## Operationalizing Privacy by Design into ADS

1. Separation of Domains
  - Transcription of messages
  - Message management tools
2. Privacy data between the Domains
  - Aggregate data according to location not customer name
  - Critical safety concerns could require tie to customer name
3. Demand Response and Privacy
  - System must be designed with privacy at it's core
  - Manage privacy connecting with external parties such as ISO
4. Load Forecasting
  - Aggregate meter load on various points on feeder
  - Remove customer name – use meter location