Let's go cisco live!



Cisco XDR

Making Sense of all the Parts & Pieces

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\$ whoami



Cisco role: Distinguished Engineer, Threat Detection & Response

Unofficial title:

"Cisco History Professor"

Experience: Old enough to wonder how I have been doing this for ~30 years

Fun fact 1: Father of 5 daughters

Fun fact 2: Oldest works for Cisco now! Youngest is 2!

Fun fact 3: Working through his Cyber Security Master's Degree from SANS Institute (~05/24)

Sarcasm

"If we can't laugh at ourselves, Then we cannot laugh at anything at all"





Webex App

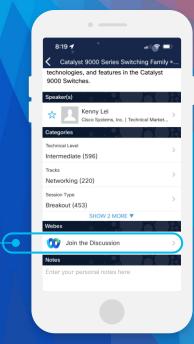
Questions?

Use the Webex App to chat with the speaker after the session

How

- 1 Find this session in the Cisco Events Mobile App
- Click "Join the Discussion"
- 3 Install the Webex App or go directly to the Webex space
- 4 Enter messages/questions in the Webex space

Webex spaces will be moderated by the speaker until February 23, 2024.



https://ciscolive.ciscoevents.com/ciscolivebot/#BRKSEC-2113

Disclaimer: "All Comments are my own, and are not representative of Cisco... Any correlation to real live persons or situations was completely unintentional... Blah Blah Blah..."



Participating in user research gives you a place to share your thoughts and experiences to influence the future of Cisco Secure products.

- You'll hear from us at most once every 90 days.
- Participation is completely optional and you can opt out at any time.





Please fill out the survey



Drop your email in the comments - I WILL respond!



Let's get this road on the show...



Agenda

- A History Lesson
- Evolution
- Incident Management & Workflow
- Integrations & Response
- Key XDR Telemetry
- That's a wrap!

A Little History Lesson



Way Back in 2017

- Security Leadership pet Project: "Visibility"
 - Renamed to Cisco Threat Response (2018)
 - Based on history of performing incident response
 - Productizing the process they followed as practitioners
 - Search for "observables" and it enriches from all integrated sources (via APIs) with "findings"
 - Note: Cisco acquires Obsrvbl Networks in same year



Then in 2020...





Introduced SecureX May of 2020

A cloud-native, built-in platform experience within our portfolio

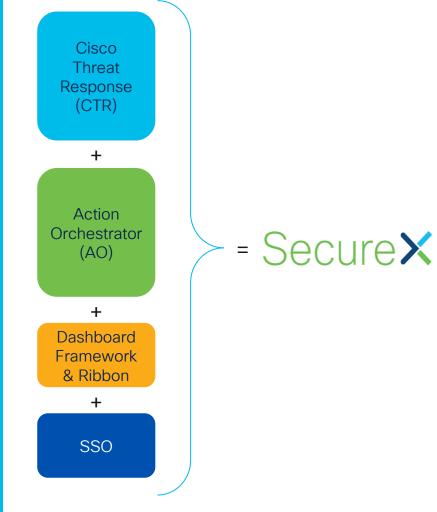




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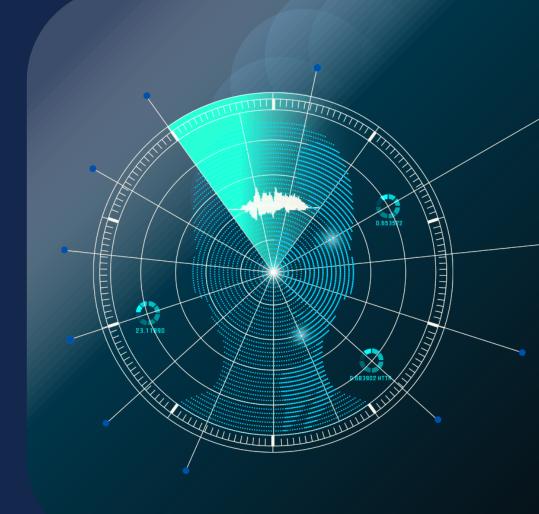
SecureX was to be THE Platform

- Cisco Secure [function]
 - X was to be the central place
 - X leveraged Cisco Threat Response to integrate all Cisco products together
 - X adds a full automation engine we "acquired" from the cloud division
 - X provided the SSO experience for Cisco Security
 - All future Ul's to be built in SecureX



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In 2021 analysts create a new market category "eXtended detection & Response"





"Cisco SecureX is a leader for XDR"

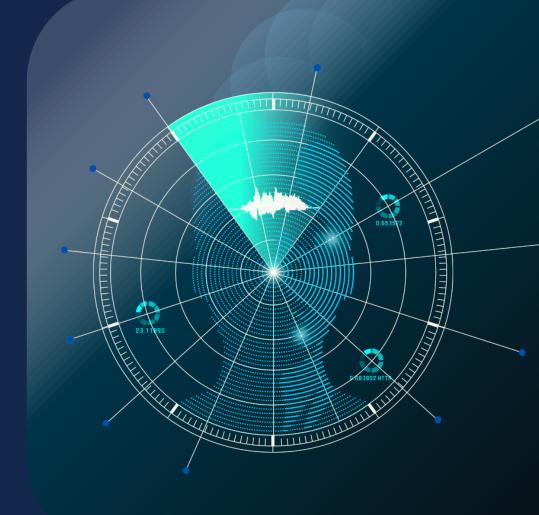
- Analysts in 2021



Uhh... "Yes, we ARE"... Go forth & market it that way...

- Former Cisco Executive Leaders

Cisco fully embraces the XDR concept; sees it as a market transition





Let's go!!!!



Cisco dives head-on into XDR space

Hired external research and design company to augment us

1 Invests millions in research

Invested heavily internally

2

Expanding our User
Experience & Interface
Teams

Customers didn't even know they were talking to Cisco (blind) as well as our own customer feedback

3 Blind & Sighted Interviews

Extensive Hiring of Experts

4

Brought in Principal
Engineers in key places
with tons of incident
management / SOC
experience

Leveraging the BEST technology to meet the defined experience, not building the experience based on the tech

5 Restructured our Products



What did it yield?





An XDR is an expression of business needs

Where are we most exposed to risk? How good are we at detecting attacks early?

1 Detect Sooner

Prioritize by Impact

attacks that represent the largest material impacts to our

How quickly are we able to understand the full scope and entry vectors of attacks?

3 Reduce Investigation Time

Accelerate Response

How fast can we confidently respond
How much can
SecOps automate
improving our time
to respond?

Are we prioritizing the

business?

Do we have full visibility into all our assets? Can we reliably identify a device and who uses it?

5 Extend Assets Context





Adversary Turla



// Nickname
Snake,
Venomous Bear,
Uroburos,
Group 88,
Waterbug

The adversary: What do we know?

- Estonian intelligence services associate this group with the Russian federal security service (FSB).
- Does NOT deploy advanced tools unless necessary to compromise the target

Method:

- Prefers watering holes and social engineering to manipulate victims
- Crafted lures are highly tailored to their targets
- Exploit themes related to current events
- First-stage malware typically acts as a filter



Without XDR, How Can We Detect and Respond to All of This?





Telemetry data source importance

The top six data sources that customers believe are essential for an XDR are Endpoint, Network, Firewall, Identity, Email and DNS

	Essential	
	Count	Share
🎾 Endpoint	255	85.0%
ති Network	226	75.3%
Firewall	207	69.0%
(A) Identity	191	63.7%
∅ Email	179	59.7%
⊕ DNS	140	46.7%
Public Cloud	137	45.7%
Non-Security Sources	36	12.0%





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What Are the Building Blocks of an Ideal XDR Solution?

Customer Outputs "Inputs" XDR Portal Consumption Native and Analytics & Incident 3rd Party Telemetry **Correlation Engine** Management Sources Customer Managed **Threat** Response Actions and Incident Data Repository Intelligence **Workflow Automation** Response **Managed Detection** & Response Asset **Threat Hunting** Context Case Management (device, user)



How do we accomplish this?



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Evolution

- Parts of SecureX
- Plus Secure Cloud Analytics
- Plus Kenna Intellectual Property
- Plus New Tech
- EQUALS Cisco XDR







Incidents 6.277 Incident

SecureX is no longer "the platform"

The "Cisco Security Cloud" is the platform







"XDR is a Security Operations Productivity Tool"

- Me



Top 3 Responsibilities of a SOC

Monitoring and Response

- Continuous monitoring of security systems.
- Alert triage, analysis, and incident response.
- Coordination of response efforts and stakeholder communication.

Operations Management

- Threat hunting, intelligence gathering, and risk assessment.
- Conducting vulnerability assessments and penetration testing.
- Fine-tuning security tools and processes for optimal performance.

Compliance, Education, and Strategy

- Policy development, compliance enforcement, and vendor management.
- Educating users through training and awareness programs.
- Keeping informed on emerging threats to inform security strategy.

Common SOC Duties

Tier 1 (Triage):

- Phishing campaigns
- Phishing file analysis
- IP/domain analysis
- Mobile device wipes
- Email investigations
- 3rd party vulnerability reports – threat hunt
- Escalate to T2

Tier 2 (Sr/Lead):

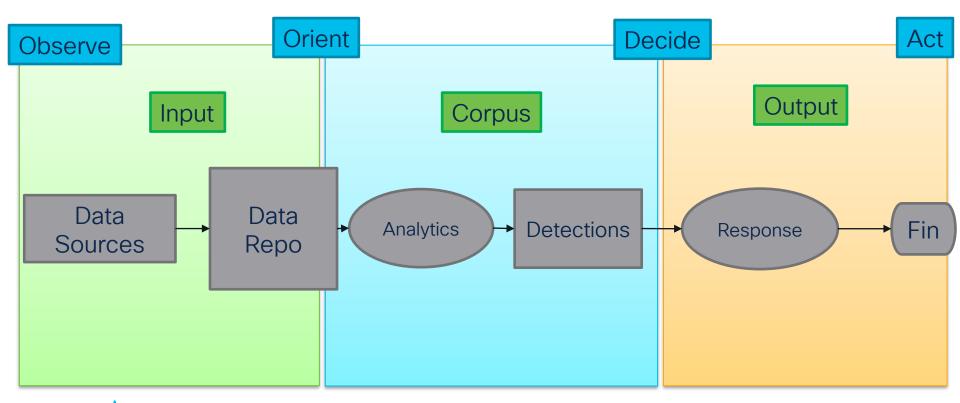
- IDS/IPS alerts
- Rogue users
- DNS Sinkholing domains
- IP/VPN blocks
- DDoS
- Escalate to CTI/CTA/CTD/IR
- Email pulls
- Account disables/wipes
- Pull forensic package

Shift Lead (Sr/T3):

- Create and Monitor dashboards
- Train new hires
- Make sure everyone is doing their work
- Jump into incidents ad hoc
- Manage the SOC queue
- Interface with vendors



An XDR speeds up the OODA Loop

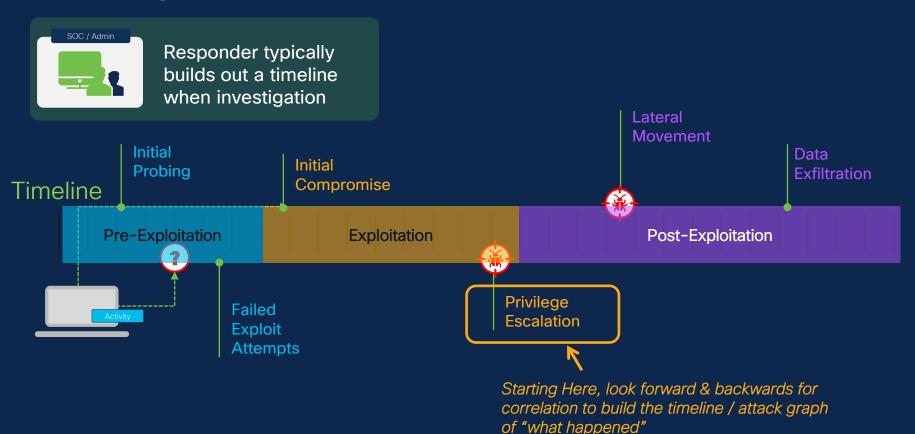


Investigators build out a timeline.

The XDR

automates the
timeline creation

Investigation Timeline - what happened & when?





So how can we get the XDR to work across all those all those attacks/TTPs?



We need Analytics & Correlation, not just Sightings

Obsrvbl Analytics Engine

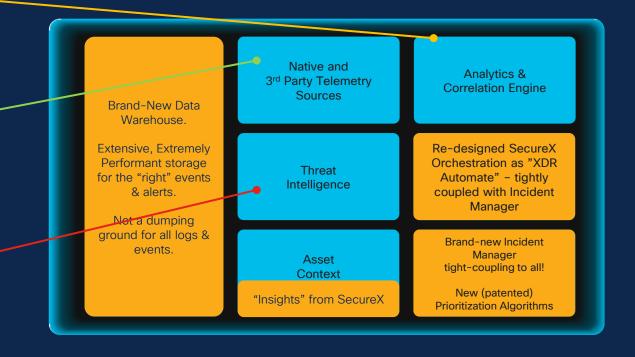
SCA's powerful analytics & correlation engine

SecureX & SCA Integrations

Merged the integration frameworks from SecureX & Cloud Analytics – for a new & improved integration model.

External Enrichments

The enrichment protocols from SecureX, without requiring storage of all data in Data Repo (like SIEM would have to do).



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Incident Management & Workflow



Cisco XDR - Incident Manager

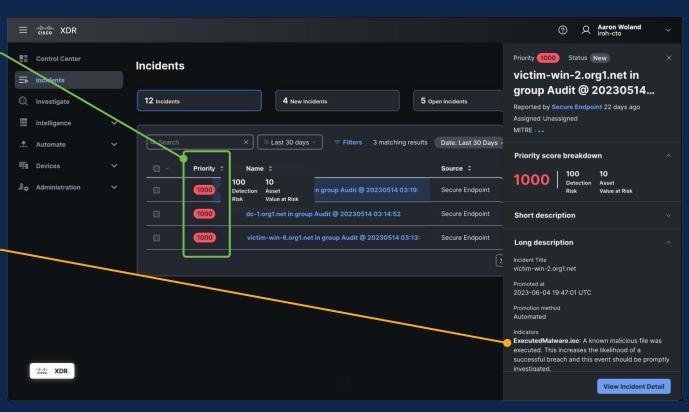
Prioritized Queue

Leverages (patent pending) advanced algorithm from Kenna Scientist based on Asset Value + Risk of the TTPs

Incident Summary

Progressive Disclosure of more details of the incident - Priority Details, Short / Long Descriptions, TTPs





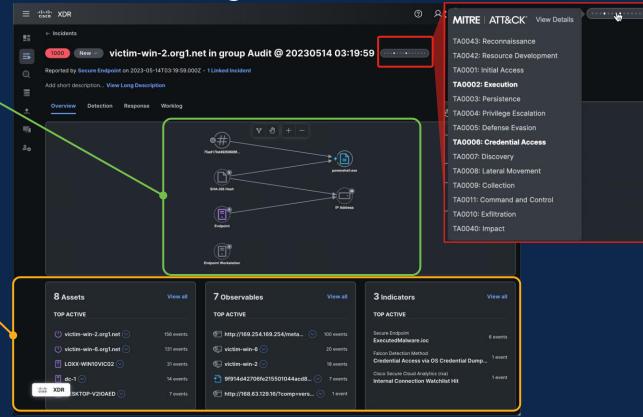
Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Overview

Overview

Diagram to summarize the incident. *Not* the detailed investigative diagram.

Assets / Observables & Indicators

Top active listed with total count called out at the top.





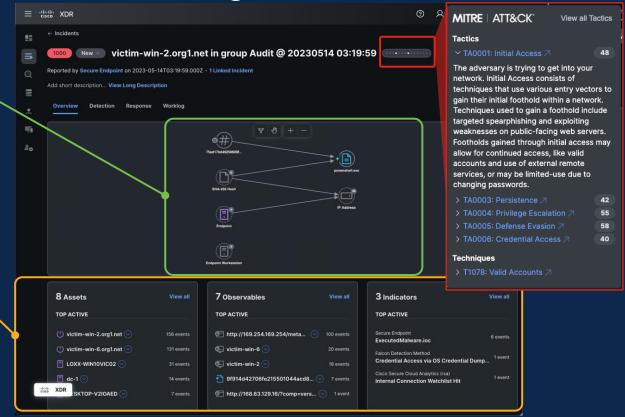
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Assets /
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Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Detection

Detection

Used to show the events that have been correlated into this incident

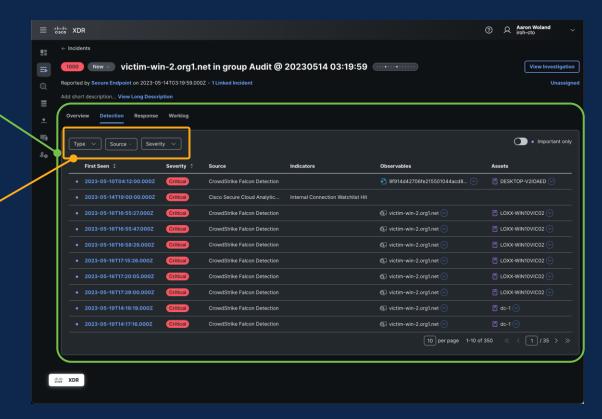
Types of Events

Original: the alert sent

to XDR

Investigated:

correlated events





Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Detection

Detection

Used to show the events that have been correlated into this incident

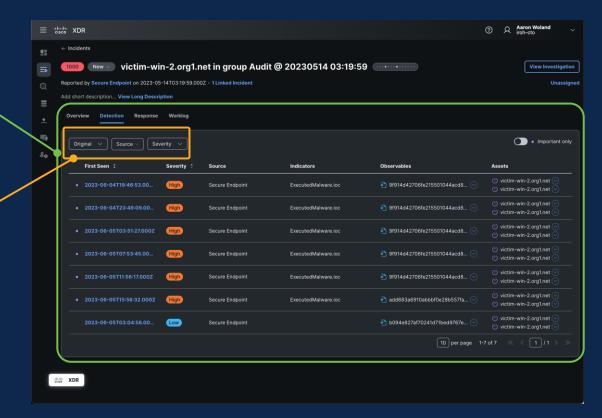
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Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Detection

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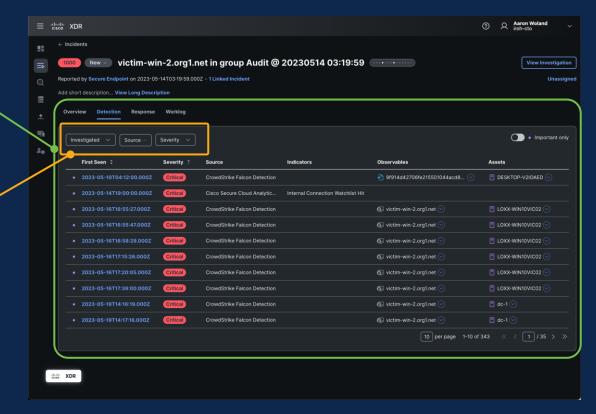
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Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Response

≡ "li-ili XDR

Responses

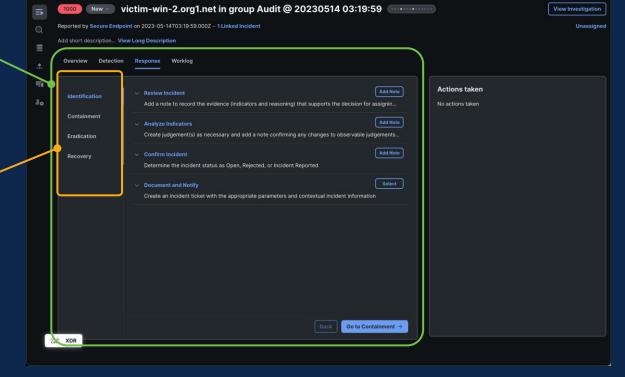
Content specific for the TTPs in the incident

Step Through

Identification -> Containment ->

Eradication ->

Recovery





Cisco XDR - Incident Manager / Response

Responses

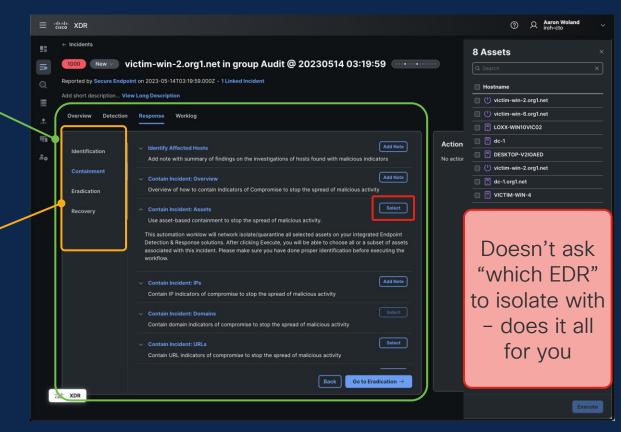
Content specific for the TTPs in the incident

Step Through

Identification -> Containment ->

Eradication ->

Recovery





Cisco XDR - Al helping the analyst

9 Assets

coco XDR

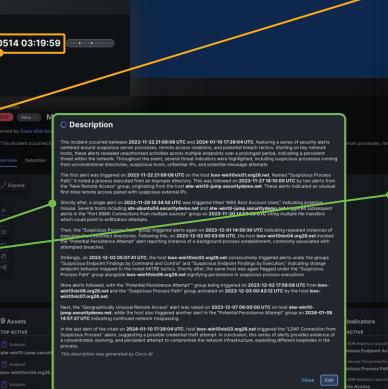


Incident Names

Now generated by Al. making them much clearer.

Descriptions

Short and Long Descriptions are also generated by Al now. Significantly decreases effort of the Analyst



Multistage Remote Breach and Internal System...

Reported by Cisco XDR Analytics (securitydemo-

net) 2 months ago Assigned AW MITRE (

Priority 1000 Status New

Priority score breakdown

Short description

This incident occurred between 2023-11-22 21:09:08 UTC and 2024-01-10 17:39:04 UTC. featuring a series of security alerts centered around suspicious server processes, remote access violations, and potential breach tactics. Starting on key network hosts, these alerts revealed unauthorized activities across multiple endpoints over a prolonged period, indicating a persistent threat within the network. Throughout the event, several threat indicators were highlighted, including suspicious processes running from unconventional directories. suspicious hosts, unfamiliar IPs, and potential misusage attempts

Long description

This incident occurred between 2023-11-22 21:09:08 UTC and 2024-01-10 17:39:04 UTC, featuring a series of security alerts centered around suspicious server processes, remote access violations, and potential breach tactics. Starting on key network hosts, these alerts revealed unauthorized activities across multiple endpoints over a prolonged period, indicating a persistent threat within the network. Throughout the event, several threat indicators were highlighted, including suspicious processes running from unconventional directories.

View Incident Detail

New Remote Access

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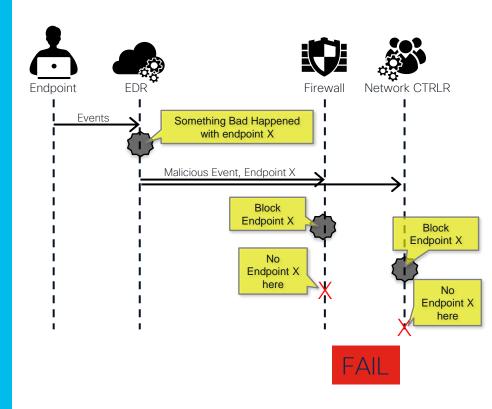
Integrations & Response



State of Industry: no common identities

- You see this with SIEM & SOAR
- Each product views endpoint in its own way.
 - GUID (specific to product)
 - IP Address (ephemeral & changes all the time)
 - Mac Address (ephemeral, private, unavailable, duplicative)
- Making the products work together is a challenge

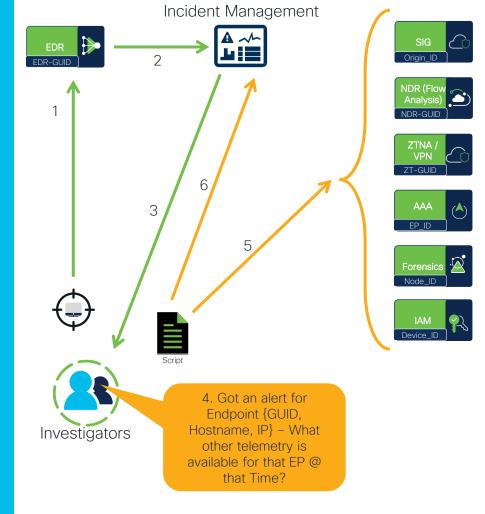




We need a common endpoint "object"

Note: this is a Generic Example:

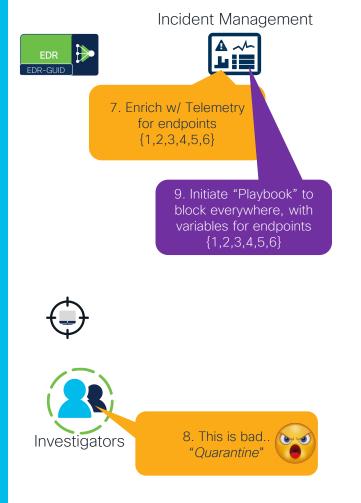
- EDR detects malicious activity
- 2. Alerts fired off to an incident management system
- Investigators are notified of new incident
- 4. Investigator takes endpoint details from EDR & runs script
- 5. Script retrieves all IDs from the other sources of telemetry (none are the same)
- 6. Script updates the Incident Manager with new Observables to enrich investigation with



Note: this is a Generic Example:

- 7. Incident Manager churns through new telemetry from sources, for their endpoint identifiers
- 8. Investigator realizes this is bad & initiates the "all powerful" Quarantine option
- 9. Incident Management Tool(s) initiate the playbook to respond in all enforcement points

**Someone needed to build these flows

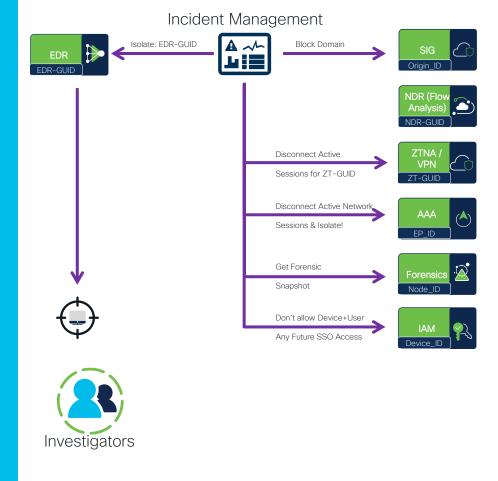


Note: this is a Generic Example:

- a) Playbook initiates isolation via EDR, using the EDR-GUID
- b) Playbook blocks domain at SIG
- c) Playbook disconnects Active Sessions for ZTNA/VPN & AAA sessions
- d) Playbook isolates the endpoint when new AAA session begins
- e) Playbook initiates a new forensic snapshot of the infected host
- f) Playbook informs IAM solution to deny any future attempts w/ User+Device combination

**Someone needed to build these flows



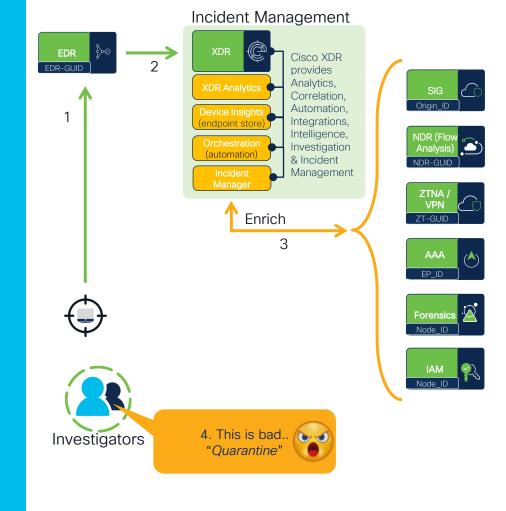


With Cisco XDR:

- 1. EDR detects malicious activity
- Alert sent to Cisco XDR

Device Insights has all unique IDs from the Integrated Security Products

- 3. Alert prioritized in XDR Analytics.
 - Incident enriched from each integrated security product & intelligence source
- 4. Investigator can see it all & take action
- 5. Response leverages the correct ID for each source



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With Cisco XDR:

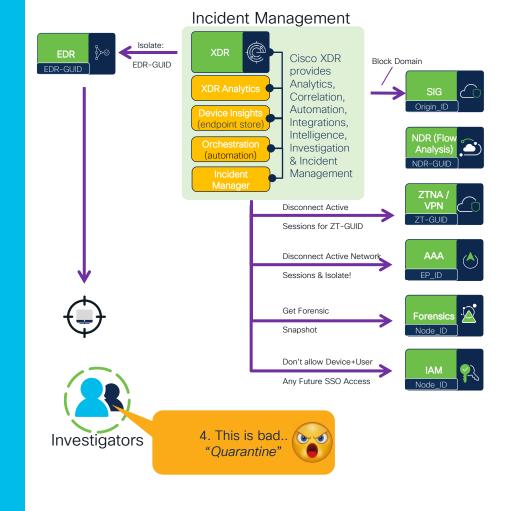
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Let's talk about that prioritization, shall we?



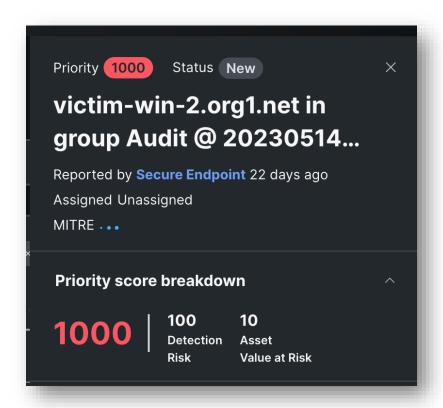
Incident Priority

At its core: It's the combo of:

Detection Risk +

Asset Value

Where does that value come from?

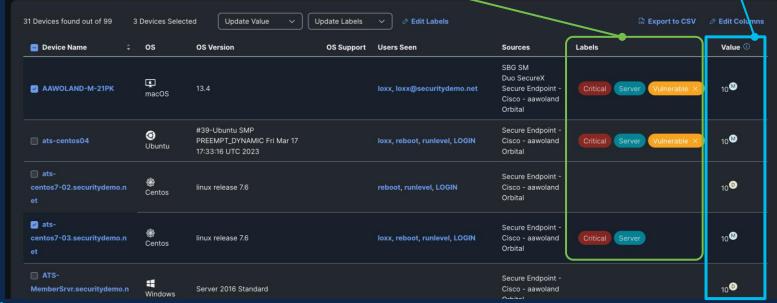




Describe/group devices - manual and programmatically

Device Value

Value of 1-10 1 = least valuable 10 = most valuable



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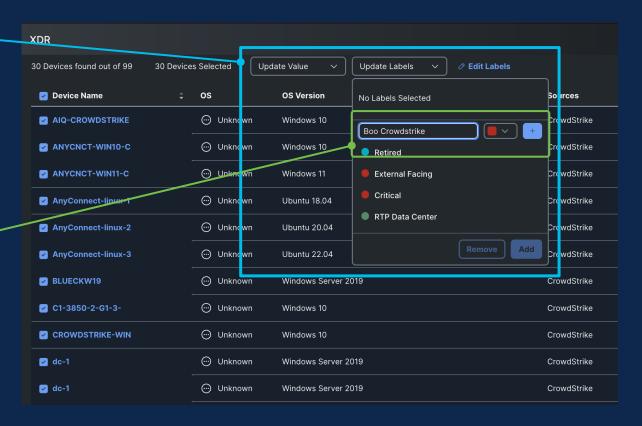


Update in Bulk

Can update the labels and values of all selected assets in bulk, from inventory screen.

Create in-line

Can even create and apply new labels inline



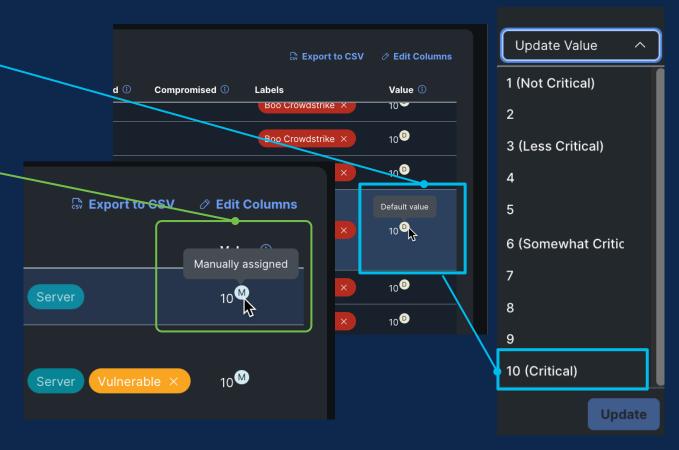


Default Value

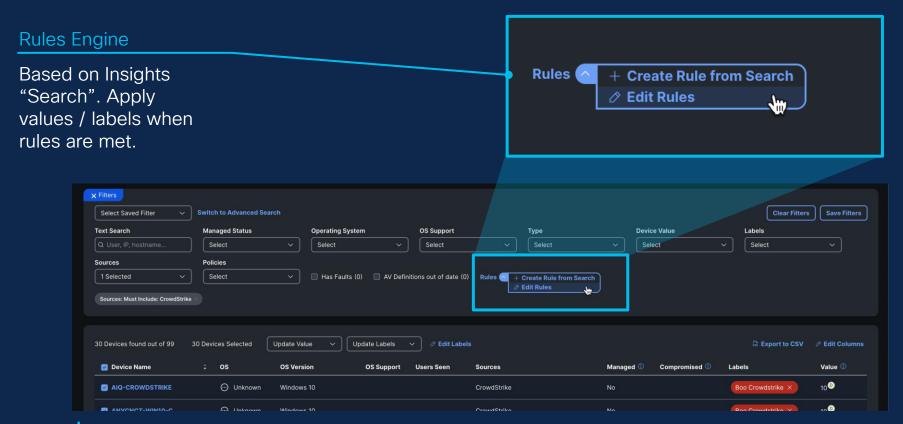
The default value is 10 (most valuable)

Manually Assigned

The value is tagged if its manually assigned, which will always "win" in a conflict







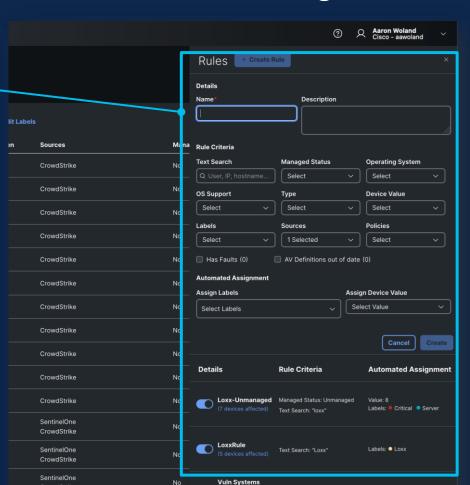
Rules Engine

Based on Insights "Search". Apply values / labels when rules are met.

May enable / disable rules

May change or delete them

Can use existing searches or create a new search in the rule editor.





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Telemetry, Telemetry & more Telemetry



Telemetry data source importance

The top six data sources that customers believe are essential for an XDR are Endpoint, Network, Firewall, Identity, Email and DNS

	Essential	
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(A) Identity	191	63.7%
∅ Email	179	59.7%
⊕ DNS	140	46.7%
Public Cloud	137	45.7%
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Also 3rd Parties

• EDR:



Crowstrike



Sentinel One



MSFT Defender

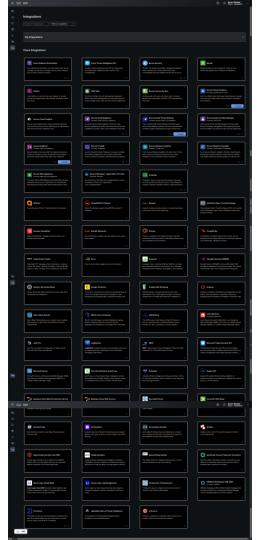
- NDR:
 - Dark Trace

DARKTRACE

ExtraHop



...And other intel sources





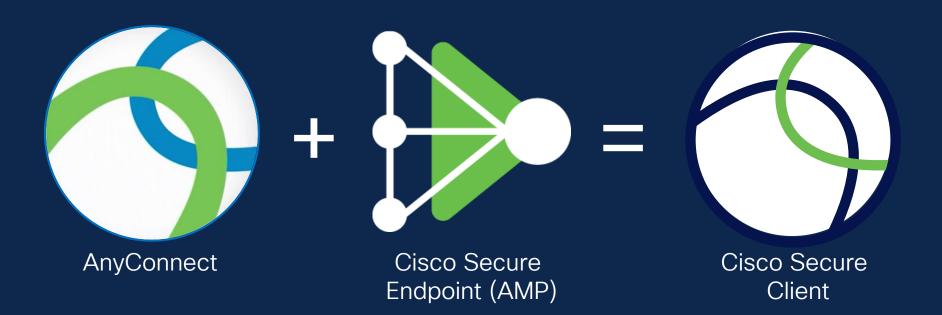


-Tom Gillis, SVP & GM - Cisco Secure



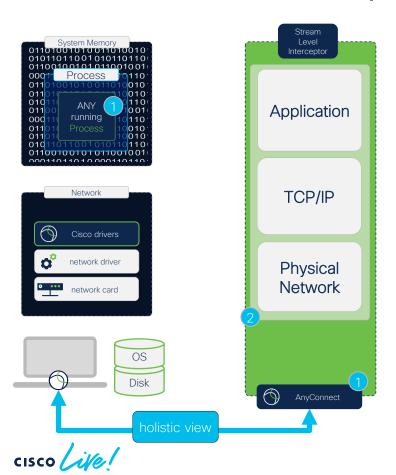


AnyConnect has been rebranded





Stream Level Interceptor



- ► The Stream Level Interceptor included in Secure Client (AnyConnect) enables a full holistic, preencrypted view on the endpoint network activity
- ► This core function from Cisco Secure Client makes the solution so powerful
- It enables other modules like the Umbrella Module or/and NVM to work
- This holistic view examines & manipulates information for any network communication
 - from the running application
 - to the physical network layer

Why does this matter to the SOC, or for the Cisco XDR?



"Network Telemetry is Critical to a Defensible Network. It's too bad that we cannot get NetFlow from the Endpoint"

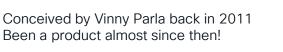
- SANS Instructor SEC530: Defensible Network Architectures



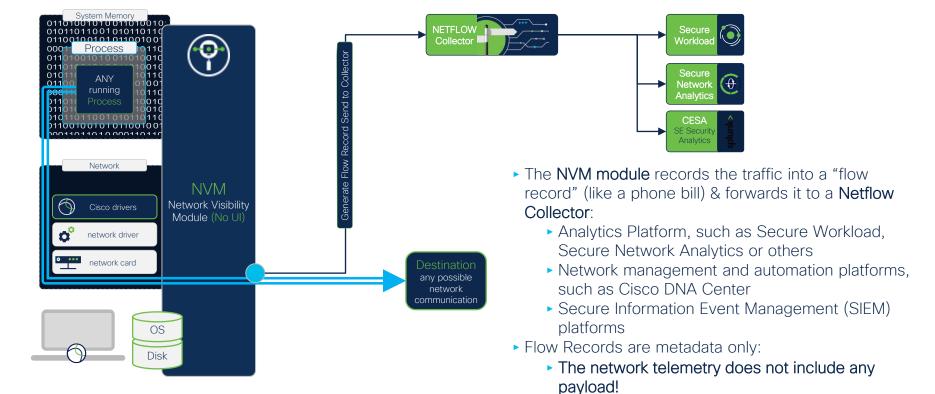
Network Visibility Module (NVM)

- Creates a flow record of every network connection from endpoint
 - User, Process, Machine Info, etc.
 - Works On and Off Prem
 - Sends Data in IPFIX (NetFlow) based "nvzFlow".





Network Visibility Module





Network + Endpoint Visibility Together





Netflow/IPFIX

Source IP
Destination IP
Source Port
Destination Port
Bytes Sent
Bytes Received

True device attribution, Not just "IP Address"

Source IP Destination IP Source Port Destination Port **Bytes Sent Bytes Received OS Version** OS Edition Host Name Logged In User Process Name Process Hash Process Account Parent Process Name Parent Process Hash Parent Process Account **DNS/Destination Hostname** Module Hash List

NVM (IPFIX Formatted)

Deep Endpoint Visibility

User
Traffic Stats
Processes
Applications
SaaS Used
Accounts
Destinations
Machine Details



Interface Name / Type / UID

System Manufacturer

System Type

MAC Address

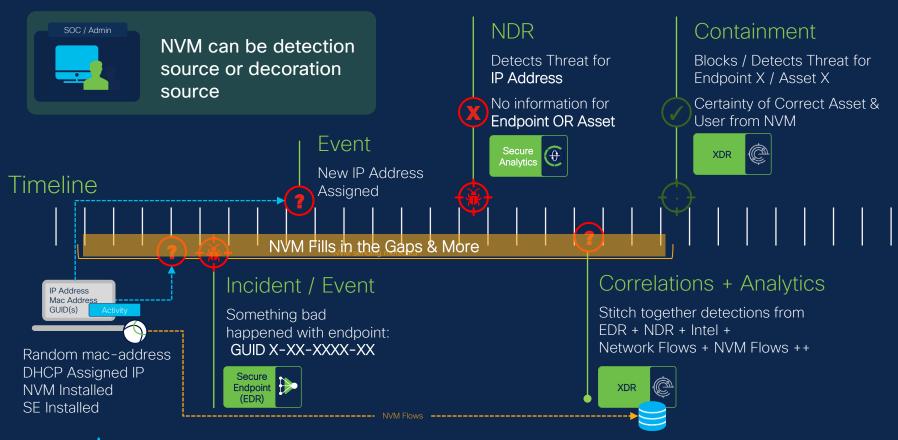
Sure, this is cool – but why should you care?

"NVM says: not just this IP is talking to this IP on these ports[...] It actually has this application is opening this connection"

-Michael Scheck, Director Cisco CSIRT



Investigation Timeline

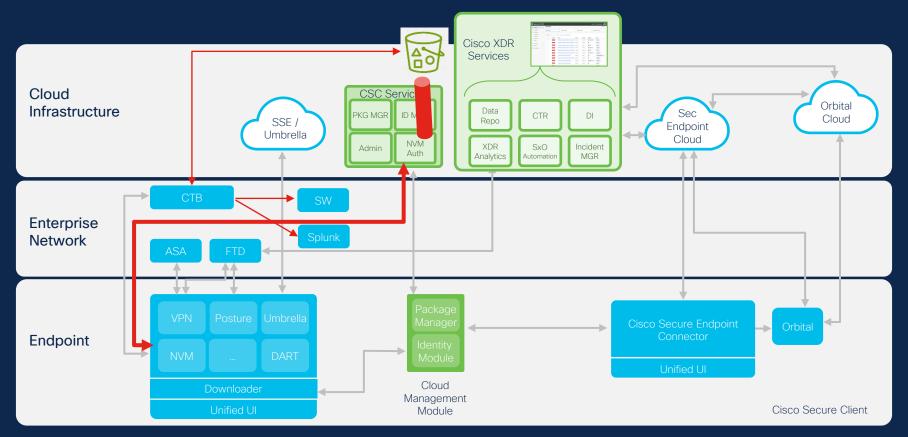




NVM is now a key component of the Cisco XDR

- Default CSC Deployment
 - Default CM Profile
 - Default NVM Profile set to the XDR
- NVM sends direct to cloud
 - Requires Cloud Managed CSC
 - Provides ID & Secure transport
 - Can be cloud or onPrem, not both (today)

Cisco Secure Client / XDR - Architecture





NVM Event Viewer in XDR Analytics

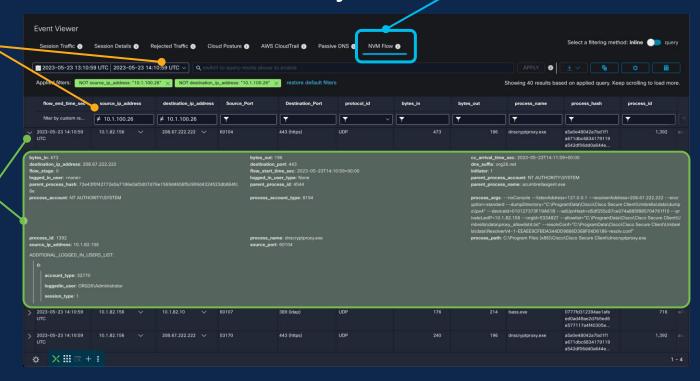
New NVM Flows Tab

INSTANT FILTERS

Search activity per attribute or many with advanced search.

Telemetry Details

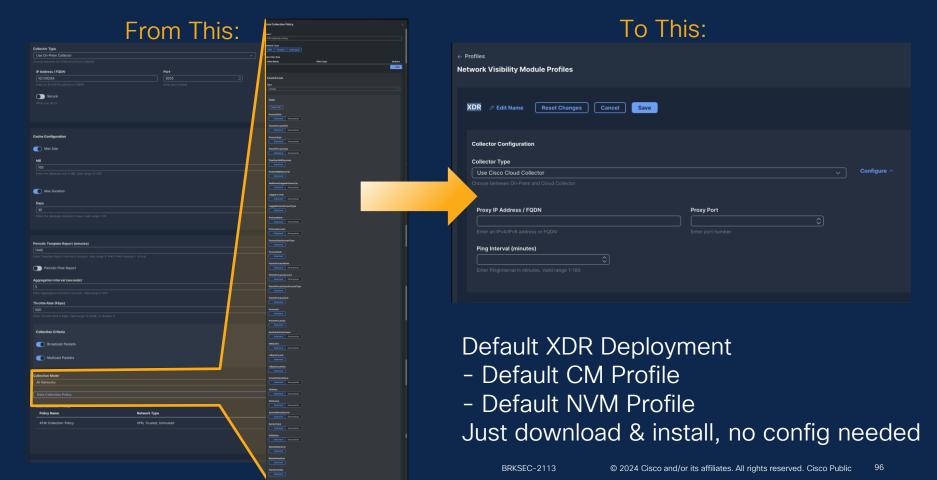
See the detailed telemetry collected from the flow



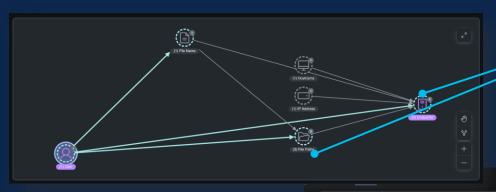


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Simplicity! NVM Profiles



NVM Provides Detections and Decorations

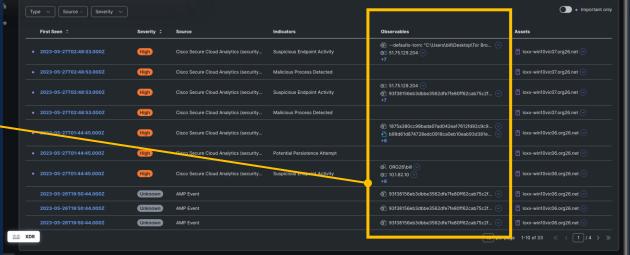


Displays Lateral Movement

Provides the East-West & North-South visibility and correlation

Direct source of observables

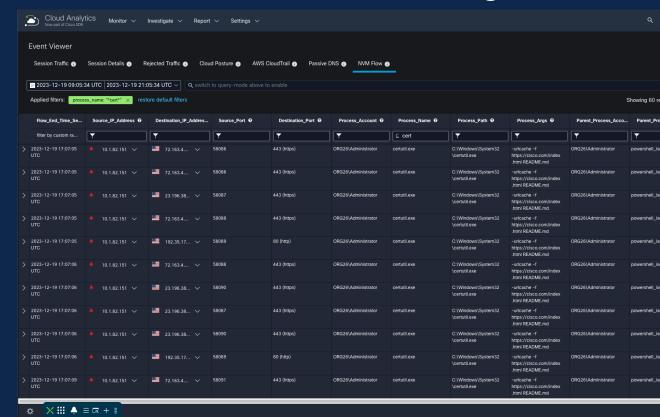
For brand-new detections in XDR Analytics





NVM versus SYSMON & Network Event Logs

- NVM Captures all the flows.
- Sysmon captures the first time & never again





Identity is a critical component of any XDR





Identity in XDR

- Not only human (user) identity
 - Already covered the importance of device identity
 - Human identity is also a critical aspect of an incident
 - For Context: who was involved
 - For Detection: Identity based attacks

Users Inventory Page (in Beta)

Key Metrics Displayed

Assets > Users

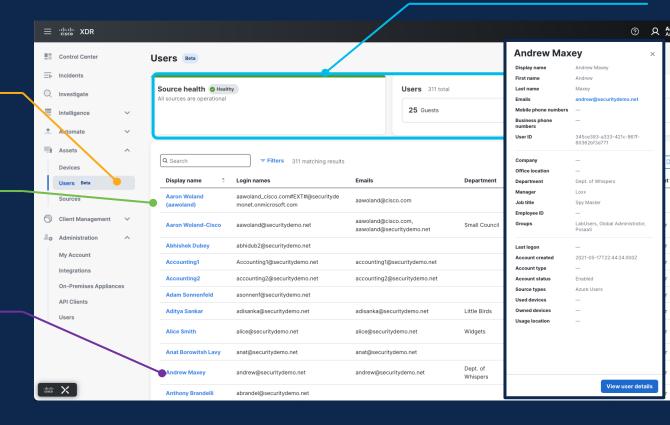
User "inventory" is a subset of "Assets" category

Merged Inventory

Filterable, Sortable, Summary-Level of merged user accounts from all integrated sources.

Progressive Disclosure

Click on User for a User Details "Drawer". Click on manager for drawer of manager's details.





User Details Page

Top Devices Used / Owned

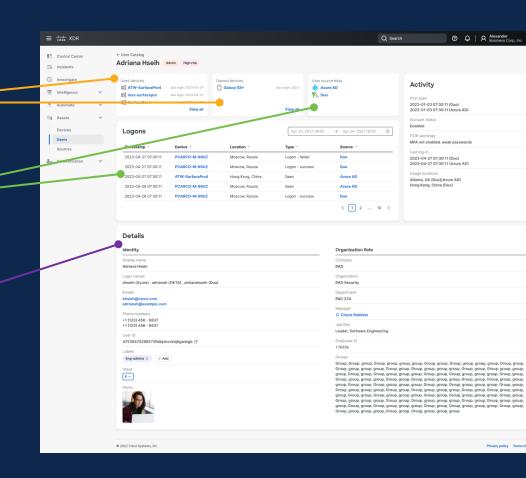
Click "View All" for Progressive Disclosure list of all devices

Where Seen

List of all sources merged for this user & recent logon events for user

More Details

All properties of the user: Group Memberships, Org Structure, Picture (if available), all Email addresses



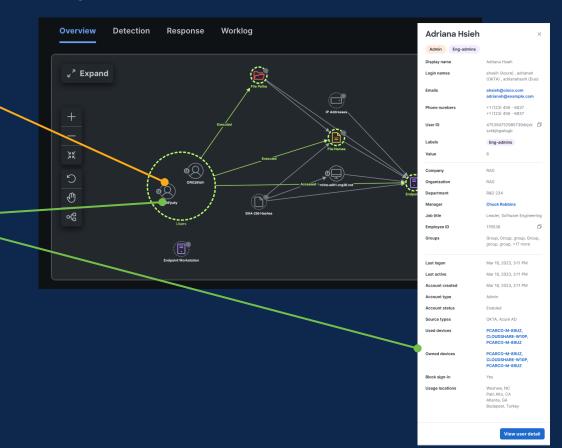
User Context In an Investigation / Incident Management

Details for User "Assets"

Becomes the User Object, instead of generic data

Progressive Disclosure

Clicking the user in the graph would display the User Details "drawer" within the window



Identities lead to Identity Threat Detection & Response

- Identity-based attacks are on the rise
- Threat actors are exploiting the "identity sprawl" from cloud adoption & ZT style policies
 - Ex: MFA Flooding / MFA **Fatique**
- Leverage compromised credentials, users w/ improper privileges

BRKSEC-2113



Cisco Identity Intelligence



Why OORT?

- Tech & Talent Acquisition
- Literally the team that wrote Device Insights – left Cisco & created Oort
- Practically tailor-made for this integration

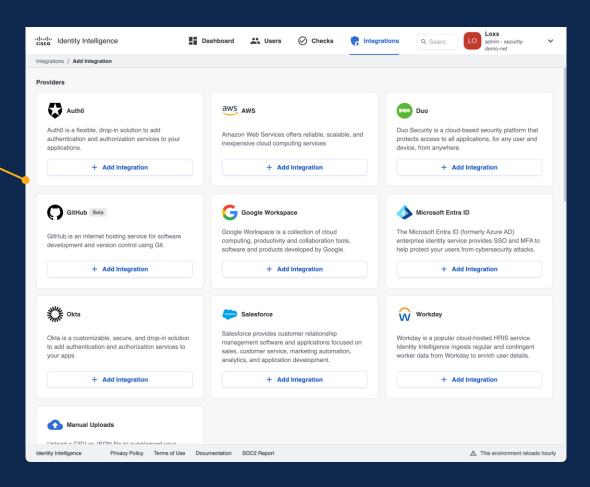
- Leader in ITDR market
- Large influencer / advisor for Identity Security with the major analysts
- Data Scientists / Engineering team with leaders in Identity Security

Note: these screens are from the original Oort UI



Integrations!!

Cisco Identity Intelligence integrates w/ many key (cloud-based) ID sources already.

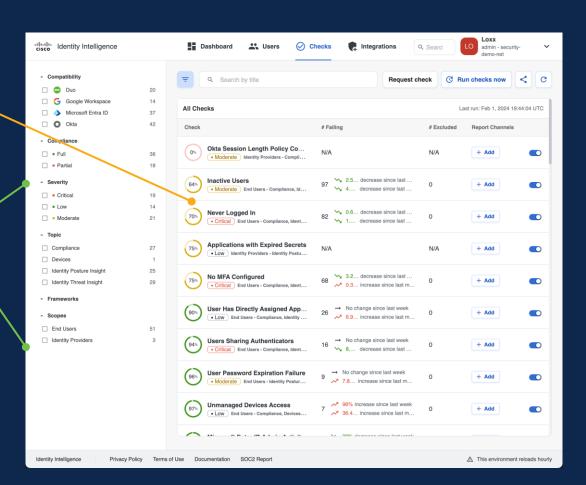


Checks

AKA: Signatures for Detections

Filterable

All checks are categorized, assigned to applicable ID sources, and fully filterable



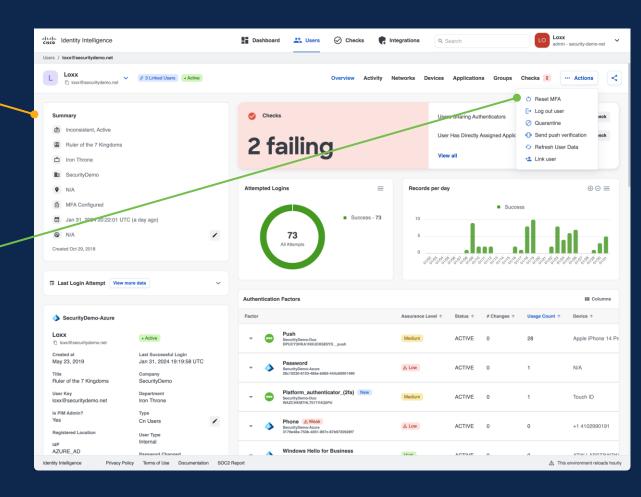


User Details

Will merge this data into "User Insights" & the user-details

Response

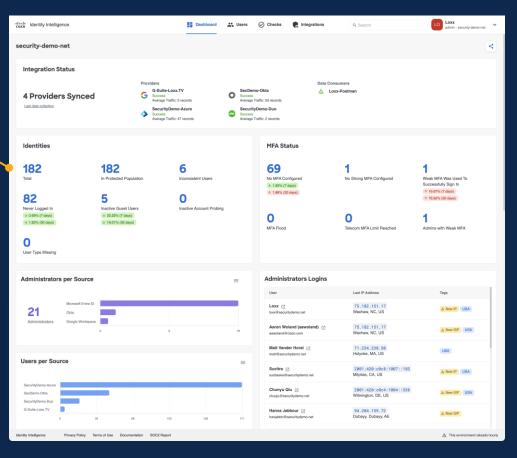
OORT has minimal responses already; which will tie into XDR incidents & response.



Insights

Provides detailed statistics on the identities merged, the MFA status(es), administrative logins, etc..





Identity Security split into 2 distinct focuses

Level-Setting

- Identity Threat Detection & Response (ITDR)
 - REACTIVE
 - Leverages detections and analytics across all identity and authentication sources in the organization
 - Integrates Identity-related threats into the incidents for a complete picture
 - Eg: MFA Flood attack or Impossible Time Travel (ITT).

- Identity Security Posture Management (ISPM)
 - PROACTIVE
 - Focuses on misconfigurations, policy infractions.
 - Eg: Weak / no MFA configured



The integration of Cisco Identity Intelligence into Cisco XDR & Duo Security is active work in progress

Keep an eye out!



Agenda

- A History Lesson
- Evolution
- Incident Management & Workflow
- Integrations & Response
- Key XDR Telemetry
- That's a wrap!

So... What Happens Now?

- XDR is a new product, and Cisco is charging for it.
- SecureX can migrate to Cisco XDR.
- Secure Cloud Analytics becomes XDR.

- All existing integrations for SecureX & SCA will continue to work.
- All existing orchestration workflows will continue to work.
- SecureX will continue to exist for CSC management & existing customers who did not migrate to XDR
- SecureX EoL in July '24, replacement for CSC
 Management forthcoming

Links

- Retired Session with VERY useful information:
 - BRKSEC-2754 Device Insights Dedicated Session (OnDemand): Making XDR Investigations and SOAR Automation Work by Unifying Assets https://www.ciscolive.com/on-demand/on-demand-library.html?search=Woland#/video/1676612951781001qAcG
- Public Webex Spaces to Join:
 - XDR Bar (public Webex space): https://eurl.io/#i10UBcGzR
 - Endpoint Bar (Secure Client/AnyConnect): https://eurl.io/#TmrReXaEj



Continue your education

- Visit the Cisco Showcase for related demos
- Book your one-on-one Meet the Engineer meeting
- Attend the interactive education. with DevNet, Capture the Flag, and Walk-in Labs
- Visit the On-Demand Library for more sessions at ciscolive.com/on-demand. Sessions from this event will be available from February 23.

Other XDR sessions



Matt Vander Horst Technical Leader



Matthew Robertson Distinguished TME



Aaron Woland Distinguished TME

Accelerate your SOC with Cisco XDR

Extended Detection with Cisco XDR: Security analytics across the enterprise

Cisco's Unified Agent: Cisco Secure Client. Bringing AMP, AnyConnect, Orbital & Umbrella together

BRKSEC-1023

Tuesday @ 2:00 PM

BRKSEC-2178

Wednesday @ 4:00 PM

BRKSEC-2113

BRKSEC-2834

Tuesday @ 4:00 PM

Other Sessions



Serhii Kucherenko Customer Escalations Engineer

Cisco Secure Client and Device Insights - better together

LABSEC-2776

Walk-in Lab



Steven Chimes
Platform Security Architect

(ZTNA) Demystified - What It Is, Why You Need It and the New Cisco Technologies That Make Frictionless Security Possible

BRKSEC-2079

Friday @ 11:00 AM



Matt Vander Horst Technical Leader

Getting started with Cisco XDR Automation workflows and atomics -

DEVWKS-1190

Wednesday @ 1:30 PM



CTF booth at World of Solutions

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Continue your education



Participating in user research gives you a place to share your thoughts and experiences to influence the future of Cisco Secure products.

- You'll hear from us at most once every 90 days.
- Participation is completely optional and you can opt out at any time.







Thank you



