

# Modernizing InfoSec Training and IT Operations at USF

Goodbye Tedious Tasks! A Novel Automation Framework Leveraging Splunk

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Nicholas Recchia, Director & Information Security Officer
September, 2017 | Washington, DC

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#### **About Us**

- University of San Francisco (USF) more than 12,000 students, faculty and staff
- Catholic Jesuit Education





#### **About Me**

- Tim Ip
  - Senior Security Engineer
  - Leverages Splunk to automate processes in USF
  - From Hong Kong 2 years ago
  - 10+ years experience in security industry and 6+ years experience on SIEM development
  - Previous worked for a consulting company as a SIEM consultant
  - Primary focus on Security monitoring, process automation and big data analytics
  - Holds a master degree, OSCP, GPEN, CISSP, CISA and CISM







#### **About Me**

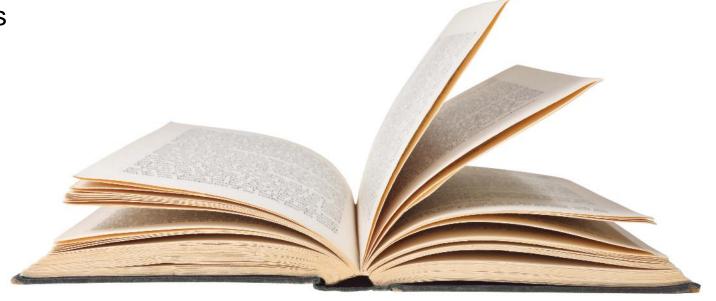
- Nick Recchia
  - Director & Information Security Officer
  - USF Alumnus
  - 12+ years experience in Information Technology and 8+ years focused on InfoSec with integration
  - Manages the security group and oversee related InfoSec programs
  - Holds doctorate degree in Organization and Leadership, CISSP, PMP, ITILv3, etc.
  - LinkedIn





## Agenda Our Splunk Journey

- Ch.1 Background & Context
  - InfoSec training: from manual methods to strategic innovation
- Ch.2 Course Automation
  - Methodology and technical highlights
- Ch.3 IT Automation
  - Reuse methodology
- Key Takeaways
- Q&A







# Background & Context

InfoSec training: from manual methods to strategic innovation



## **Background: Technology Transformation**

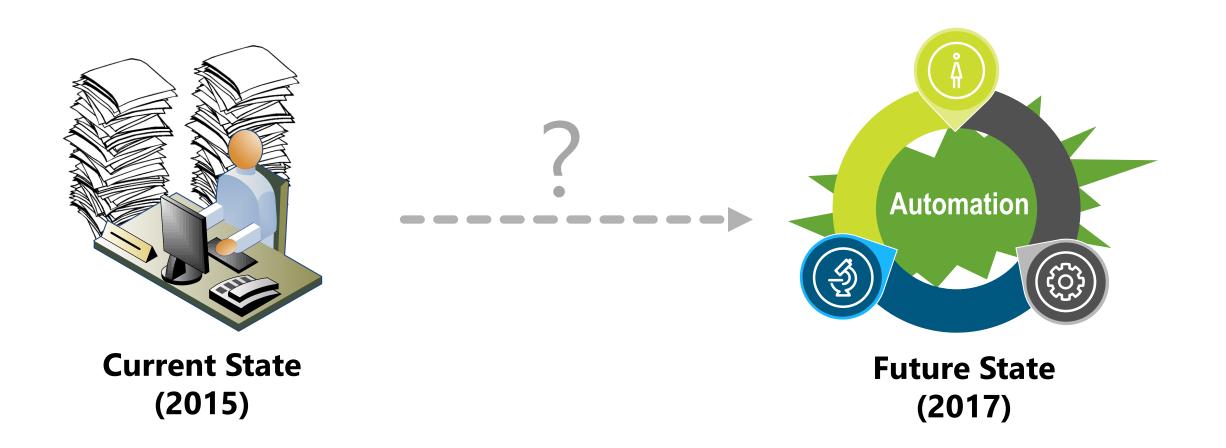
Manual methods to strategic innovations





## **Background: Technology Transformation**

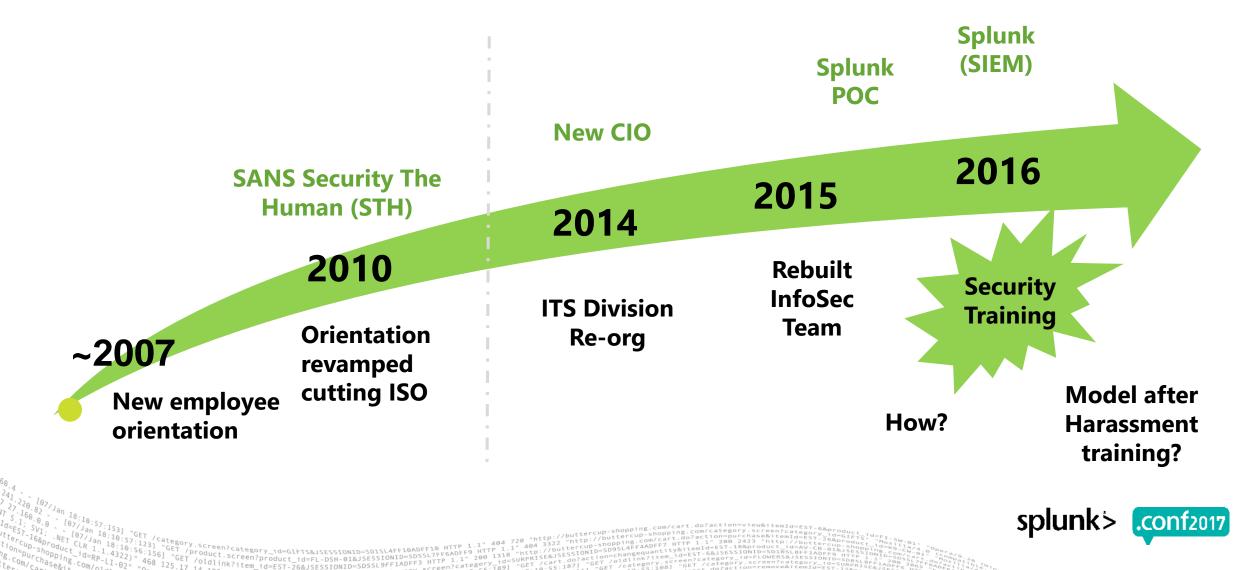
Manual methods to strategic innovations





## Background: Infosec Training @ USF

Timeline: required security training



## **Context: Infosec Training @ USF**

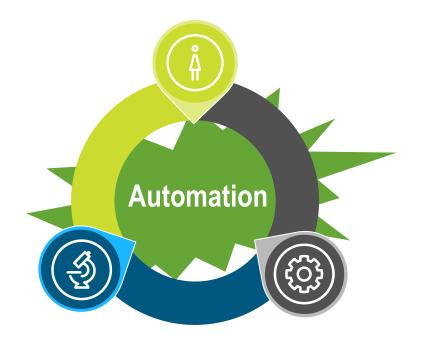
**Conceptual Development** 



**Technology** 

**Process** 

**People** 





#### InfoSec Course

Context: People, Process and Technology

#### **People:**

InfoSec

Team



<<

Enrollment (3000 people)

Employee, Faculty & Affiliate

#### **Technology:**





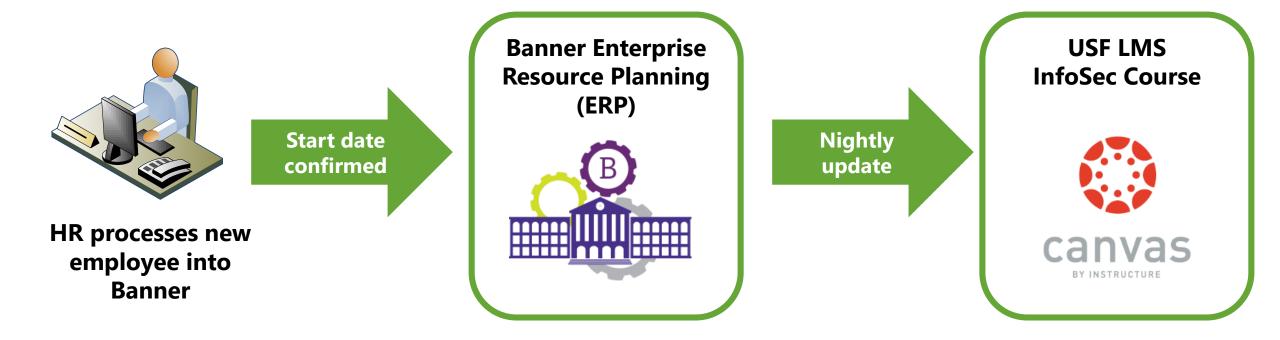
#### **Process:**

- Enrollment?
- Monitoring progress?
- Encourage completion?



#### **Context: Enrollment**

High-level: Leverage Existing Process





## **Context: Monitor Progress**

High-level: Automated Course Alerts & Mgmt. Reports

Course Logs















## **Concept: Auto Alerts**

High-level: Inform, Remind, Escalate

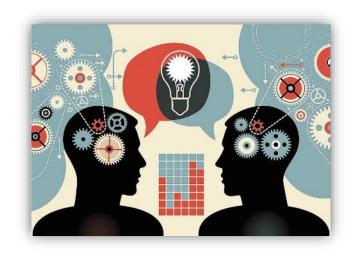
Alert #	1	2	3	4	
Email Schedule	Day 1	Day 10	Day 27	Day 31	Monthly
Email Title	Welcome	Courtesy Reminder	Due Date Approaching	Manager Escalation	Executive Status Report
Recipient(s)	1.Employee	1.Employee	1.Employee 2.Supervisor	1.Employee 2.Supervisor 3.Manager	Sent to associated Division/School Leaders



## **Context: Infosec Training @ USF**

Conceptual formula

#### Trusted Partnership

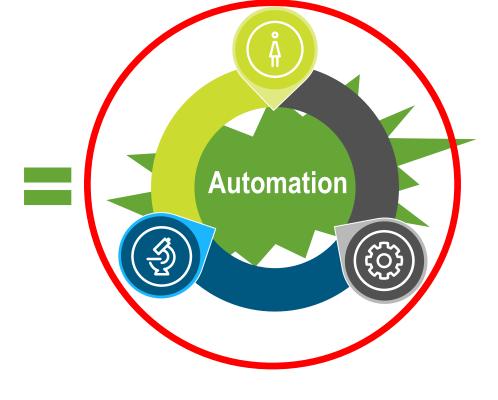


**Business** 

Intel









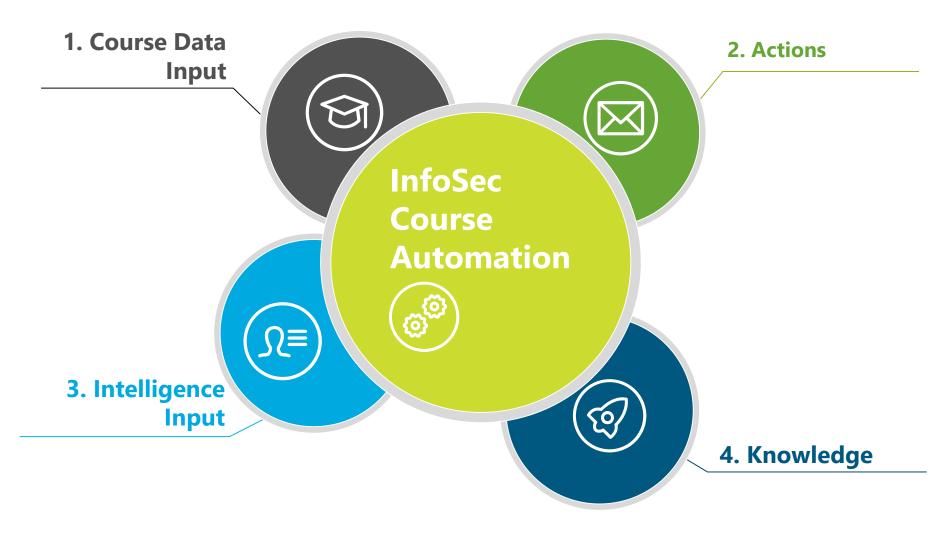


## **Course Automation**



#### **Framework Introduction**

Use Case: InfoSec Course Automation



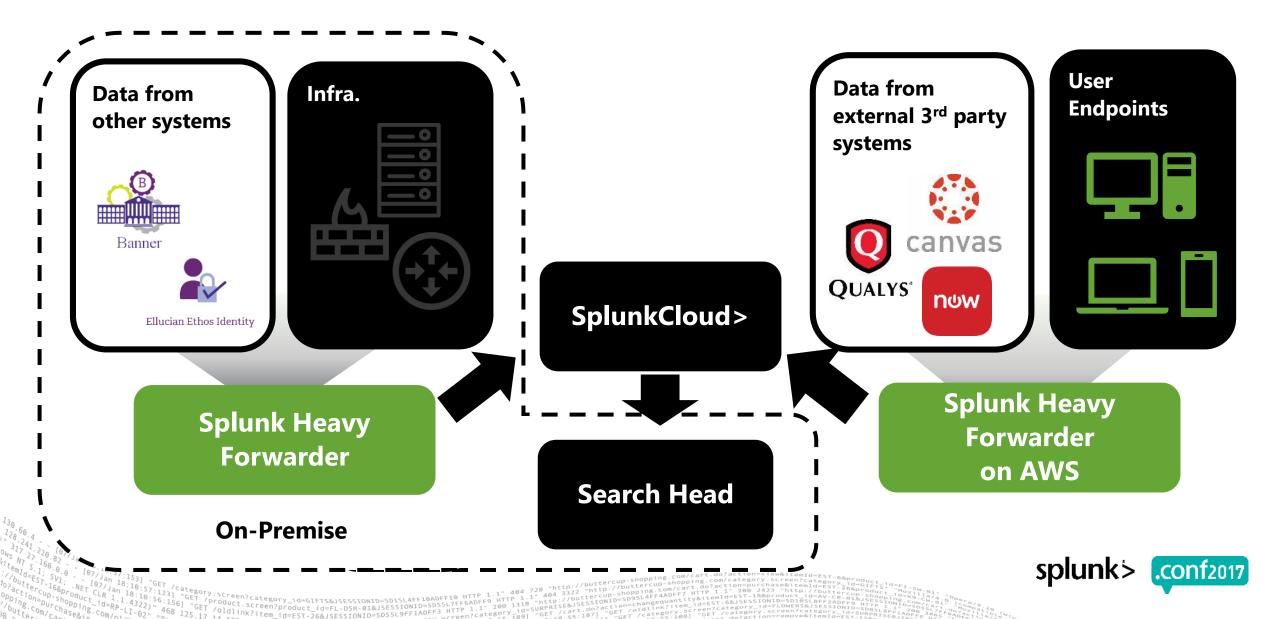


## How to make it happen?

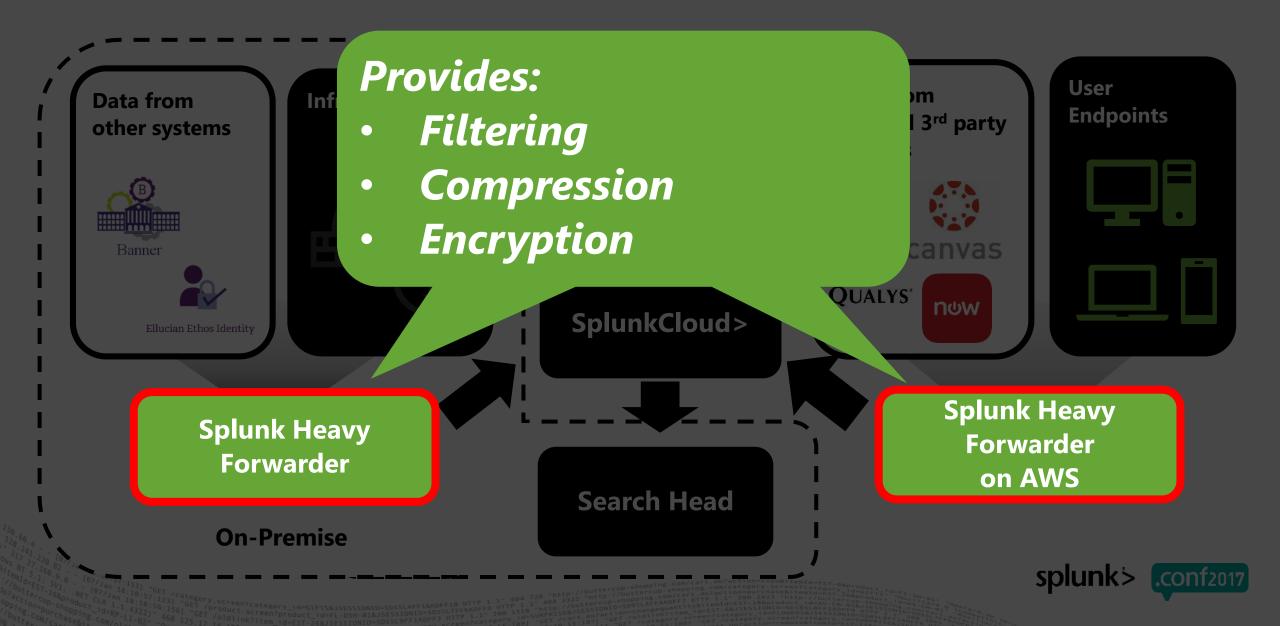




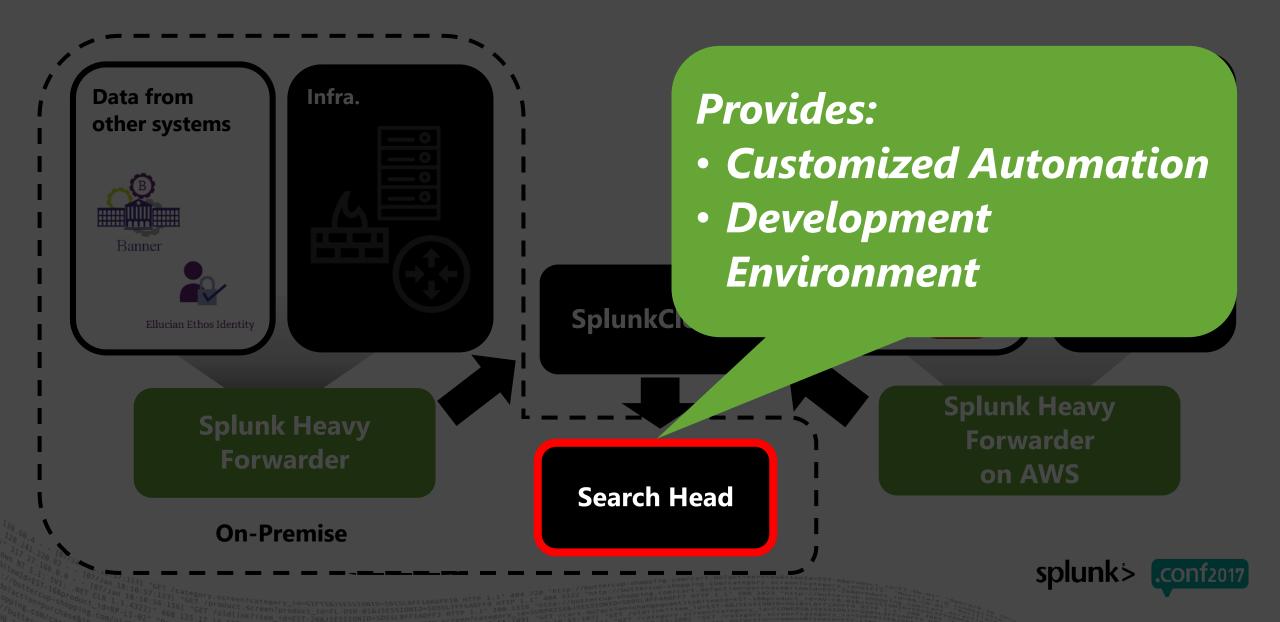
## Splunk@USF



## Splunk@USF



## Splunk@USF



#### Architecture





## 1. Course Data Input

For InfoSec Course



#### **Architecture**



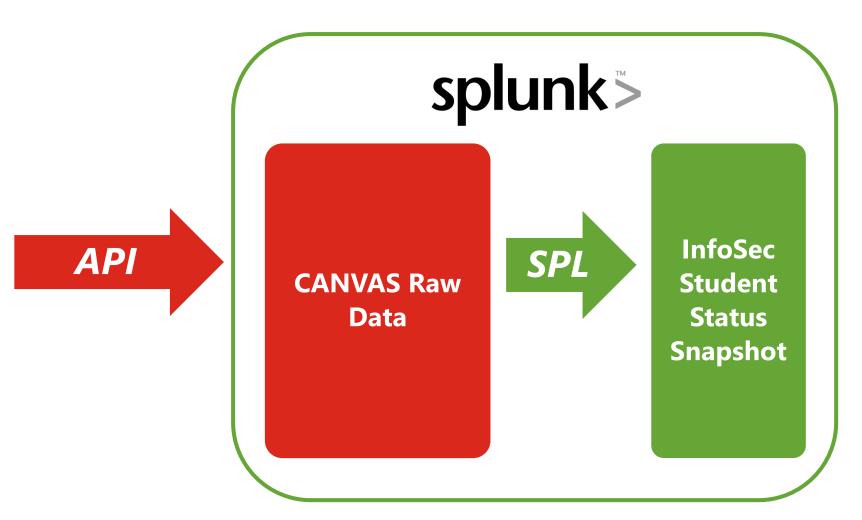


## **Canvas Integration**





- Gradebook History
- Assignment Submission
- Enrollments
- Section
- User List
- Ana Student Summaries
- Course Assignment

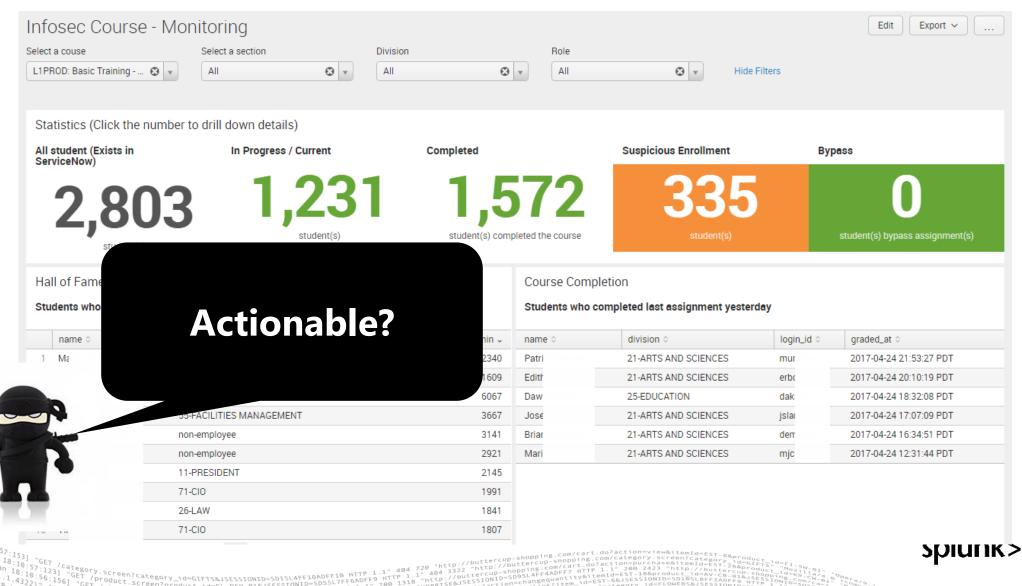




#### **Canvas Integration**

Dashboard







#### Ninja Brainstorming

We need something more actionable

InfoSec Team Division Leads need to access to the data to monitor their staff progress!

How to give access to the division leads?

Send the information to them an email?

Edit Export V ...

Export PDF

Schedule PDF Delivery

Print



## Ninja Brainstorming

We need something more actionable



Sory.screen?category\_id=GIFTS&JSESSIONID=SDISL4FF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://butterup-shopping.com/c. FT /Product.screen?product\_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SDSSL4FF6ADFF0 HTTP 1.1" 404 3322 http://butterup-shopping GET /oldlink?item\_id=EST-76&JSESSIONID=SDSSL4FF10ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://butterup-shopping.com/c.d F.17 14 1318 [destrict of the company of the compan



## 2. Actions

For InfoSec Course





#### **Architecture**





#### **Notification**

#### Type of notification



#### To Students:

- Welcome Email
- Reminder Email
- Overdue Email



#### To division leads:

- Monthly Report
- Escalation Report



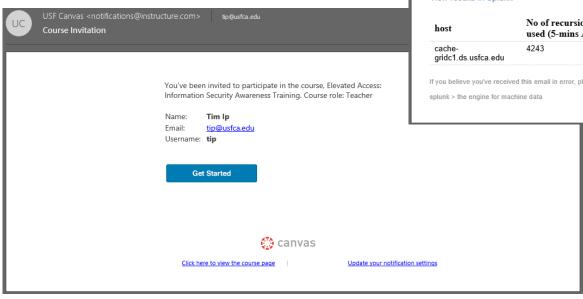




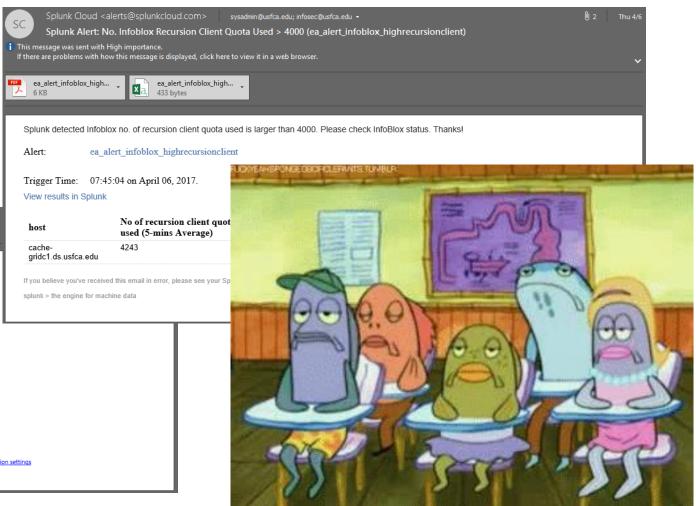
#### **Default Alert Notification**



- Not user friendly
- Lack of enforcement
- Not Actionable



133] "GET /product.screen?category\_id=GIFTS&JSESSIONID=SDISLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://buttercup-6:156] "GET /product.screen?product\_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 404 3322 "http://buttercup-468 ] "GET /Oldlink?item\_id=EST-26&JSESSIONID=SDSSL9FF1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup-788 125.17 14 1450 "GET /ccs.1871" 65





#### **Customized Email Notifications**

#### Goals

- User friendly email
- Dynamic information from Splunk
- Flexible and reusable



Information Security Awareness Training Course

#### Welcome!

Dear

Welcome! You have been enrolled in the required Information Security Awareness Basic Training course.

This course must be completed within 30 business days from today, which is Wednesday, September 13, 2017. This mandatory course helps keep university assets and data secure, and is overseen by USF Information Technology Services & Human Resources.

For your information, failure to complete this requirement could result suspension of your USF network and email access.

Click here to take the course now.

Rather take the course in a day or two? Add to calendar: Google Calendar • Outlook

Additional Information:

As you may know, awareness of cyber security is one of the most important aspects to safeguarding university data. In order to avoid pitfalls and maintain a high level of awareness, participation from all members of the University community is essential.

The following 6 topics will be covered to establish a foundation for our shared responsibilities:

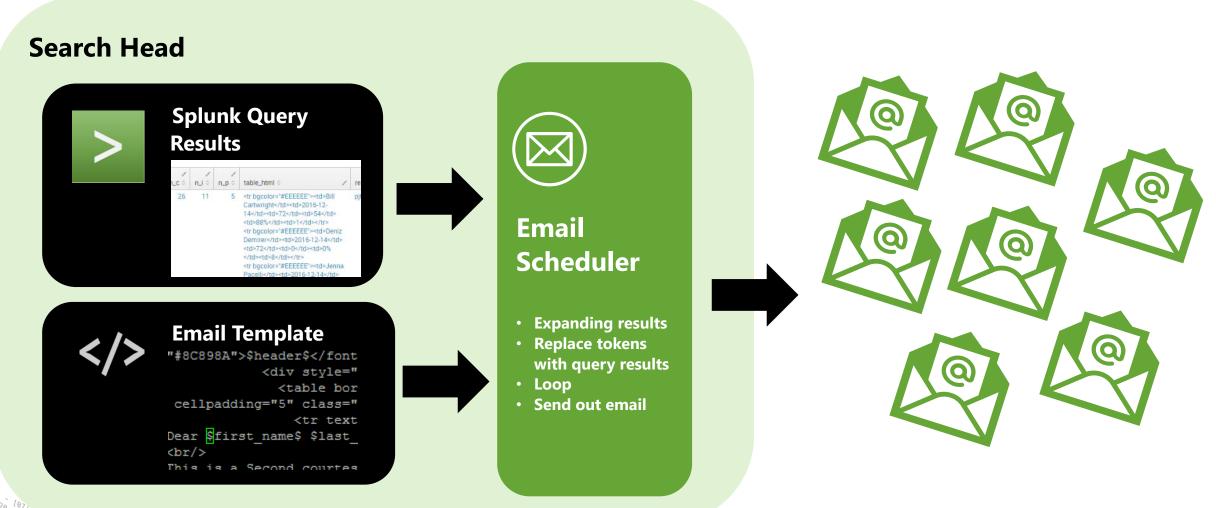
- 1. Social Engineering: recognizing ways people try to extract information from you
- 2. Email & Messaging: avoiding suspicious attacks
- 3. Browsing: safely browsing the Internet
- 4. Passwords: creating and maintaining quality passwords



#### **Customized Email Notification Scheduler**



Customized Email Scheduler



/product.screen?product\_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SD1SL4FF10ADFF10 HTTP 1 T /old14bbscreen?product\_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SD5SL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 131



# Customized Email Notification

For Student

- Reminder, Due Date
   Approaching and Due
   Date Overdue Alert
  - All dynamic information from Splunk query
  - Customized "Add to Calendar" Link



Information Security Awareness Training Course

#### Due Date Approaching Overdue

Dear

This is a Second courtesy reminder notice. Your required Information Security Awareness course completion due date is Monday, August 07, 2017.

Click here to take the course now.

Rather take the course in a day or two? Add to calendar: Google Calendar • Outlook

A copy of the original message is below:

Welcome! You have been enrolled in the required Information Security Awareness Basic Training course. This course must be completed within 30 business days from today, which is Monday, August 07, 2017. This mandatory course helps keep university assets and data secure, and is overseen by USF Information Technology Services & Human Resources.

For your information, failure to complete this requirement could result suspension of your USF network and email access.

Click here to take the course now.

Rather take the course in a day or two? Add to calendar: Google Calendar • Outlook

Additional Information:

As you may know, awareness of cyber security is one of the most important aspects to safeguarding university data. In order to avoid pitfalls and maintain a high level of awareness, participation from all members of the University community is essential.



## Customized **Email Notification**

For Executive

- **Executive Report** 
  - Statistics by role
  - Overview and details



USF Information Security and Compliance

Information Security Awareness Training Course

### Monthly Executive Escalation Status Report

Dear

Below is the Information Security Awareness Course status report for your division.

Please review the overdue section and follow-up with those individuals for completion. As a reminder the system has sent each of these people three courtesy reminders.

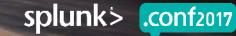
Sincerely,

Information Security and Compliance (ISC)

This is an automated message. Please do not reply. Contact infosec@usfca.edu with questions or concerns.

### Statistics

	Completion Percentage	No. of Past Due People
Affiliate	62%	12
Employee_FT	100%	0
Employee_PT	100%	0
Faculty_PT	58%	4



# Customized Email Notification

For Executive

- Executive Report
  - Statistics by role
  - Overview and details

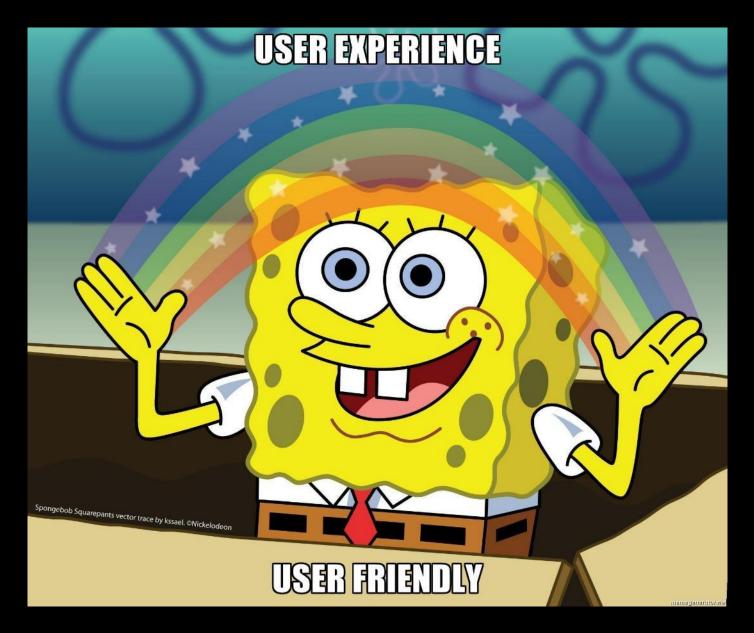
### **Affiliate** Details

**Statistics** 

Total Number	Completed	In Progress	Past Due
50	31	19	12

#### **List of Past Due People**

Name	Enrollment Date	No. of business day from first enrollment	Total Activity Time (Minutes)	Progress	No. of Outstanding Assignment
(Sponsor:	2017-07-14	12	0	0%	8
(Sponsor:	2017-07-14	12	0	0%	8
(Sponsor:	2017-07-14	12	0	0%	8
(Sponsor:	2017-07-14	12	0	0%	8
(Sponsor:	2017-07-14	12	0	0%	8





## Ninja Brainstorming

Lack of Enforcement



Will students ignore the notification?

How to influence the action?

Escalate to supervisor!
Hmm... Where can we get the supervisor information?



## 3. Intelligence Input

For InfoSec Course



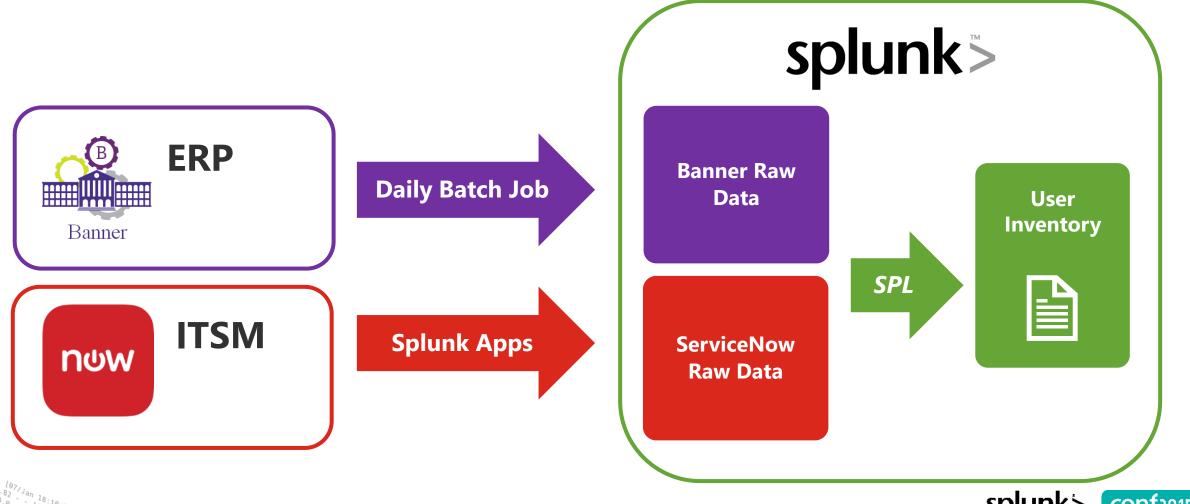
## **Architecture**





## Banner/ServiceNow – Splunk Integration







## **Ingest ERP Data**

Banner: Escalation Data



Employee	Supervisor
Tim	Nick
Vince	Nick
Nick	Opinder
Michael	Nick
Opinder	Paul



Escalation Path		
Tim, Nick, Opinder, Paul		
Vince, Nick, Opinder, Paul		
Nick, Opinder, Paul		
Michael, Nick, Opinder, Paul		
Opinder, Paul		

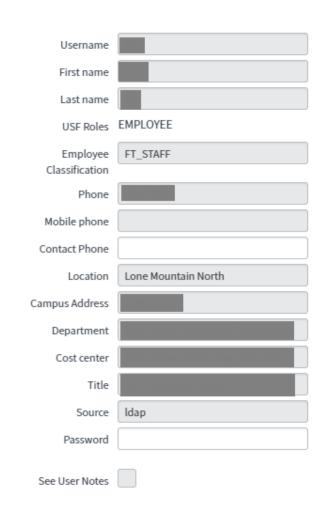


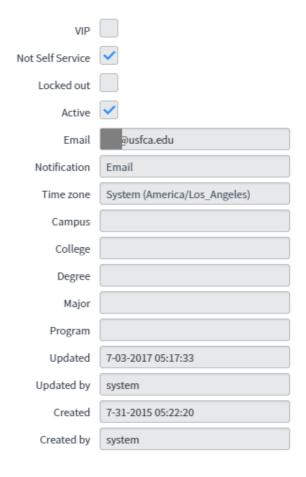
## **Ingest ITSM data**

### ServiceNow: User Profile

N≡)

- Roles
- Department







## 4. Knowledge

For InfoSec Course





## Architecture





## **Business Logic**

From complex business requirements and SPL queries

Day 10

Day 1

Welcome Email (Employee)

**Courtesy Reminder** (Employee)

Day 30

Manager Escalation (Employee, Supervisor and Manager)

We will listed on department head escalation report.

Course Completed

If user completed the course, they will receive a congratulation email. (Employee) Day 27

**Due Date Approaching** (Employee and Supervisor)



## Knowledge



Ninja Experience/Skills



**Business Knowledge** 



SUPY.screen?category\_id=GIFTs&JSESSIONID=SDISLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://buttercup-shopton GET /product.screen?product\_id=EL-DSH-018JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 404 3322 "http://butterg.com/can GET /oldlink?item id=EST-7&8:ISESSIONID=SDSSL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup-shopton S.17 14 200 1318 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF9 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF9 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF9 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF9 SURPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDSSL7FF



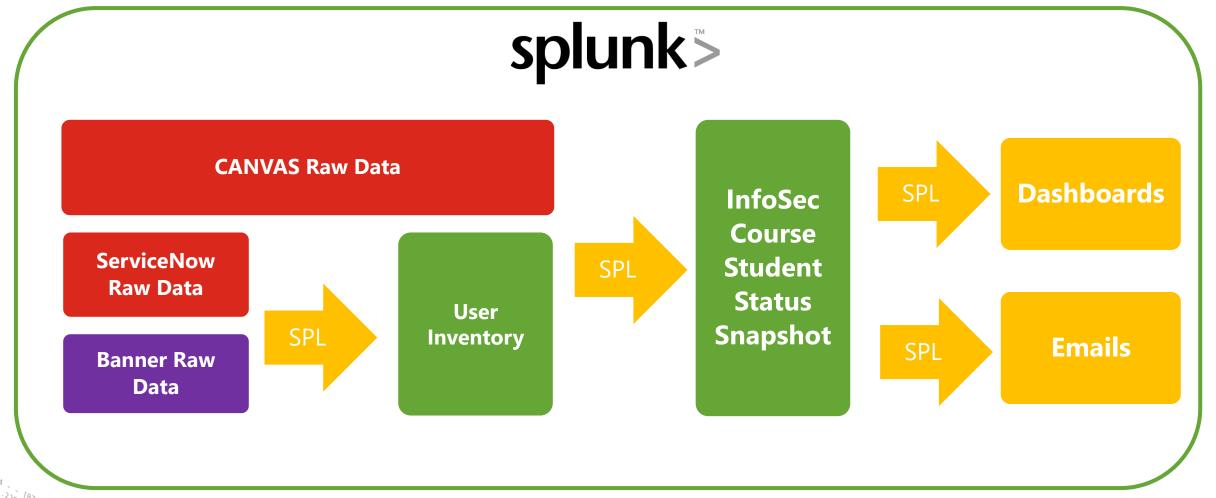


Splunk SPL Query / dashboard/ automation



### **SPL Queries**





iET / screen?category\_id=GIFTS&JSESSIONID=SDISLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.TP 1.
"CPProduct.screen?product\_id=FL-DSH-018\_JSESSIONID=SDSSL7F6ADFF9 HTTP 200 1318
5.17 14
5.17 14



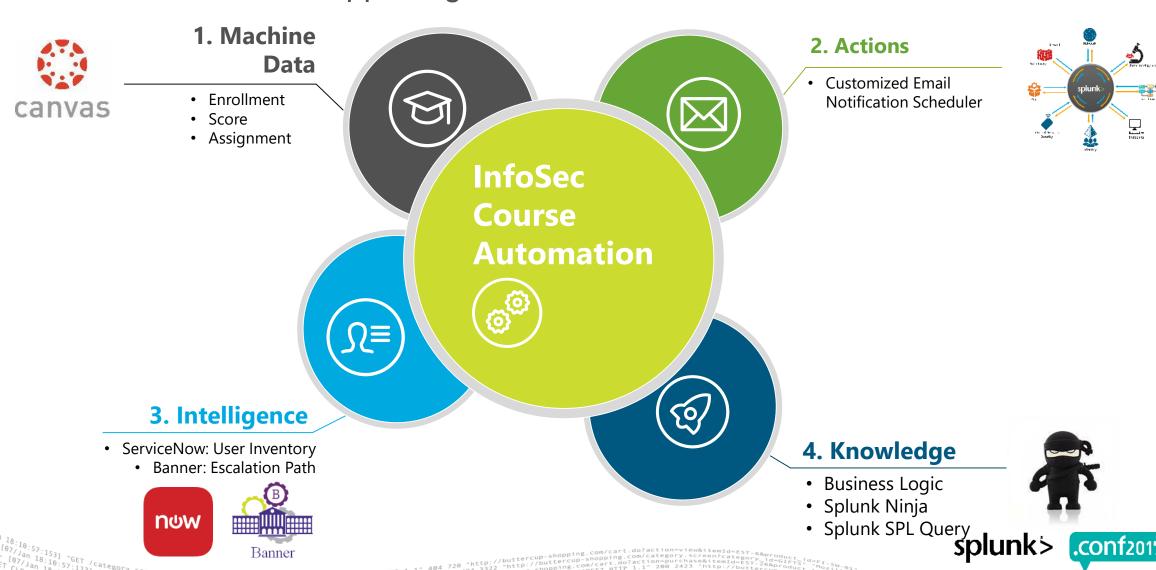
## Results

InfoSec Course



### **Use Case**

### For supporting InfoSec Course Automation

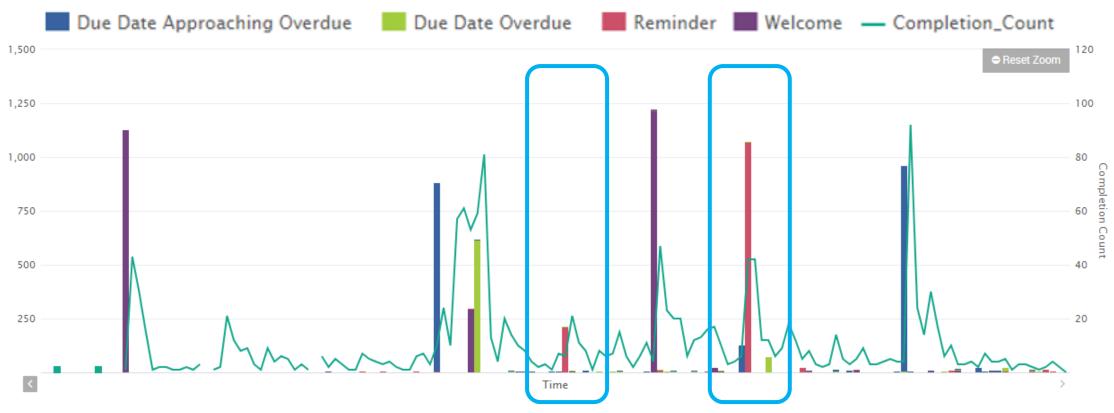


Banner

### **Normal Notification**

### Notification vs Completion

Timechart: Email Count and User Completion Count

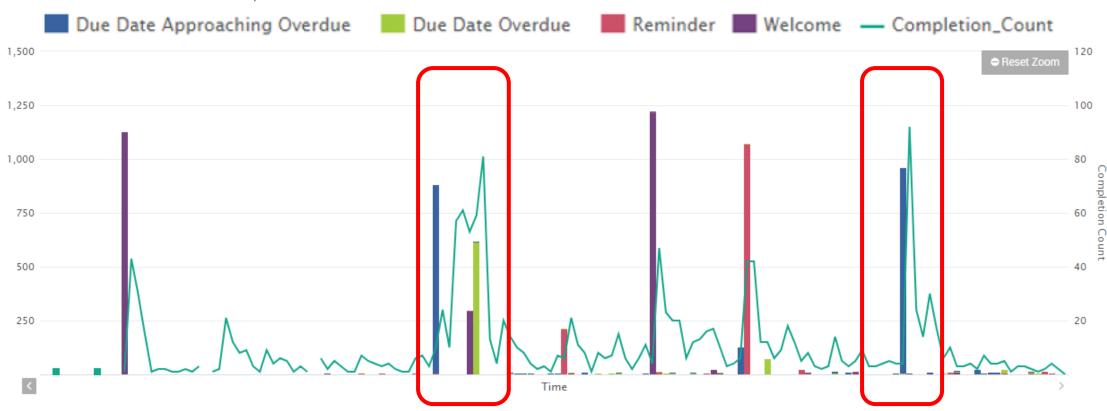




## **Management Escalation**

Notification vs Completion

Timechart: Email Count and User Completion Count





Course Data Actions Intelligence Knowledge





Machine Data
Adaptive Responses
Intelligence
Knowledge

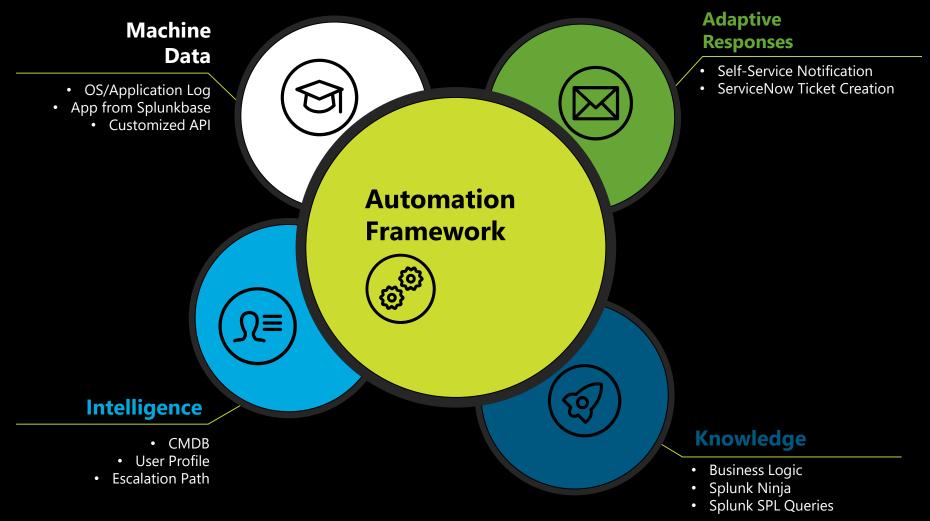
IT InfoSec Course
Automation



## IT Automation



### **USF Automation Framework**







## Intelligence Inputs



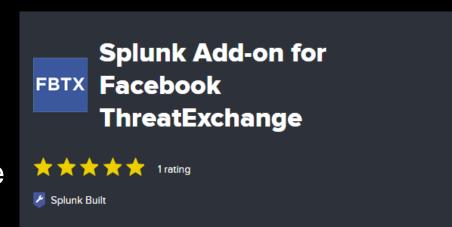
22,965

### **External**

- Splunkbase
  - e.g.: Splunk Add-on for Facebook ThreatExchange
- Customized Threat Intelligence Download
  - https://github.com/timip/threatintel

### Internal

- User Inventory (Human)
- CMDB (Machine)



emerging\_threats\_compromised\_ip\_blocklist

palevo ip blocklist

iblocklist\_web\_attacker

zeus\_bad\_ip\_blocklist

zeus\_standard\_ip\_blocklist

iblocklist proxy

iblocklist\_spyware

http://rules.emergingthre

https://palevotracker.abu

http://list.iblocklist.com/

https://zeustracker.abuse

http://rules.emergingthre http://isc.sans.edu/block.

https://zeustracker.abuse http://malc0de.com/bl/IP

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## **Adaptive Responses**

Human



### **Severity**



**Students** 



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123] "GET / Product.screen?category\_id=GIFTs&JSESSIONID=SDISLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 3722 "http://buttercup/micart.do?action=purchase&steem;
156:156] "GET / Product.screen?product\_id=FIFTs&JSESSIONID=SDISL7F6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup/micart.do?action=purchase&steem;
1681 | GET / Oldlink?item\_id=EST-6&JSESSIONID=SDISSL7F6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup/micart.do?action=purchase&steem;
17.0 | GET / Oldlink?item\_id=EST-6&JSESSIONID=SDISSL9FF1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "id=SUMPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDISSL9FF1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "id=SUMPRISE&JSESSIONID=SDISSL9FT1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 20

**Faculty** 



**Customized Email** 

**ServiceNow Ticket** 

**Employee/ Affiliate** 



**Customized Email** 

**ServiceNow Ticket** 

Slack Channel



# Adaptive Response Self Service Notification



#### Information Security Notification

### Inactive PCI Domain Account

Dear

Our security intelligence system has detected the following issue(s) with your PCI domain account. Please follow suggested actions below to rectify the issue(s).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contract ITS Helpdesk.

Sincerely. Information Security and Compliance (ISC)

### Issues

#### Your PCI Account is inactive for more than 90 days

Action: Please logon to a designated PCI Point of Sale laptop to retain access to your PCI account. If your job function has changed and you no longer require your PCI account, please

- by email and request your account to be decommissioned OR
- (ITS staff only) Obtain documented approval from department director, then submit a ServiceNow ID removal request ticket to DE Team

#### Your PCI account password has not been changed for more than 90 days

Action: Please login to a designated PCI Point of Sale laptop and reset your password. If you need assistance, please contact ITS Help Desk.



## **Adaptive Responses**

Next Step: Human + Machine



splunk>

**Students** 



**Faculty** 

**Email** 

**Customized ServiceNow Ticket** 

**Employee/ Affiliate** 



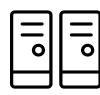
**Customized Email** 

**ServiceNow Ticket** 

Slack **Channel** 

**Phantom** 

Machine



Trigger **Antivirus Full Scan**  **Apply new IP** blocking firewall rule

And more...





## Knowledge







**Business Requirements** 



"GET /category.screen?category\_id=GIFTs&JSESSIONID=SDISLAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/category.screen?category.





Splunk SPL Query



## **Expanding Use Cases**

Increase automation to IT

	Machine Data Input	Intelligence Input	Adaptive Response	Knowledge
InfoSec Course Automation	Canvas	Banner / ServiceNow	Email	Splunk Ninja + Business Intel
	Domain Controller User List	ServiceNow User Profile	Email	Splunk Ninja + Business Intel
PCI Anti-Virus Problem Notification	Sophos Log	ServiceNow CMDB	Email / ServiceNow Ticket	Splunk Ninja + Business Intel





### People:

 Trusted partnership - business intel/company culture & Splunk Ninja skills

### Technology

 Splunk - reuse valuable data for various use cases – security, IT operations, beyond

### **Process**

Transition data/business intelligence in to queries/actions

Automation: Turn data/intelligence into answers and/or actions



## Q&A

Tim Ip | Senior Security Engineer Nicholas Recchia | Director & Information Security Office





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