



# Web Application Security Strategies -- OWASP Taiwan 2008

OWASP

Yen-Ming Chen  
Director of Consulting, Northwest  
Foundstone, A Division of McAfee

[Yen-Ming.Chen@Foundstone.Com](mailto:Yen-Ming.Chen@Foundstone.Com)

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# Agenda

- Security Problems and Statistics
- Analysis
- Strategic Planning
- Conclusion



# Yen-Ming Chen

- Director of Consulting, Northwest.
- Joined Foundstone in 2000
- 4 Contributing authorships: HE 3rd edition, HE of Web App, Win XP professional Security and HackNote Web security
- Dozens of articles in SecurityFocus, DevX, SysAdmin, PCWeek, CNET Taiwan, ITHome and other medias
- Invited speaker for world wide security conferences
- MSIN from C.M.U. Information Networking Institute (1999)



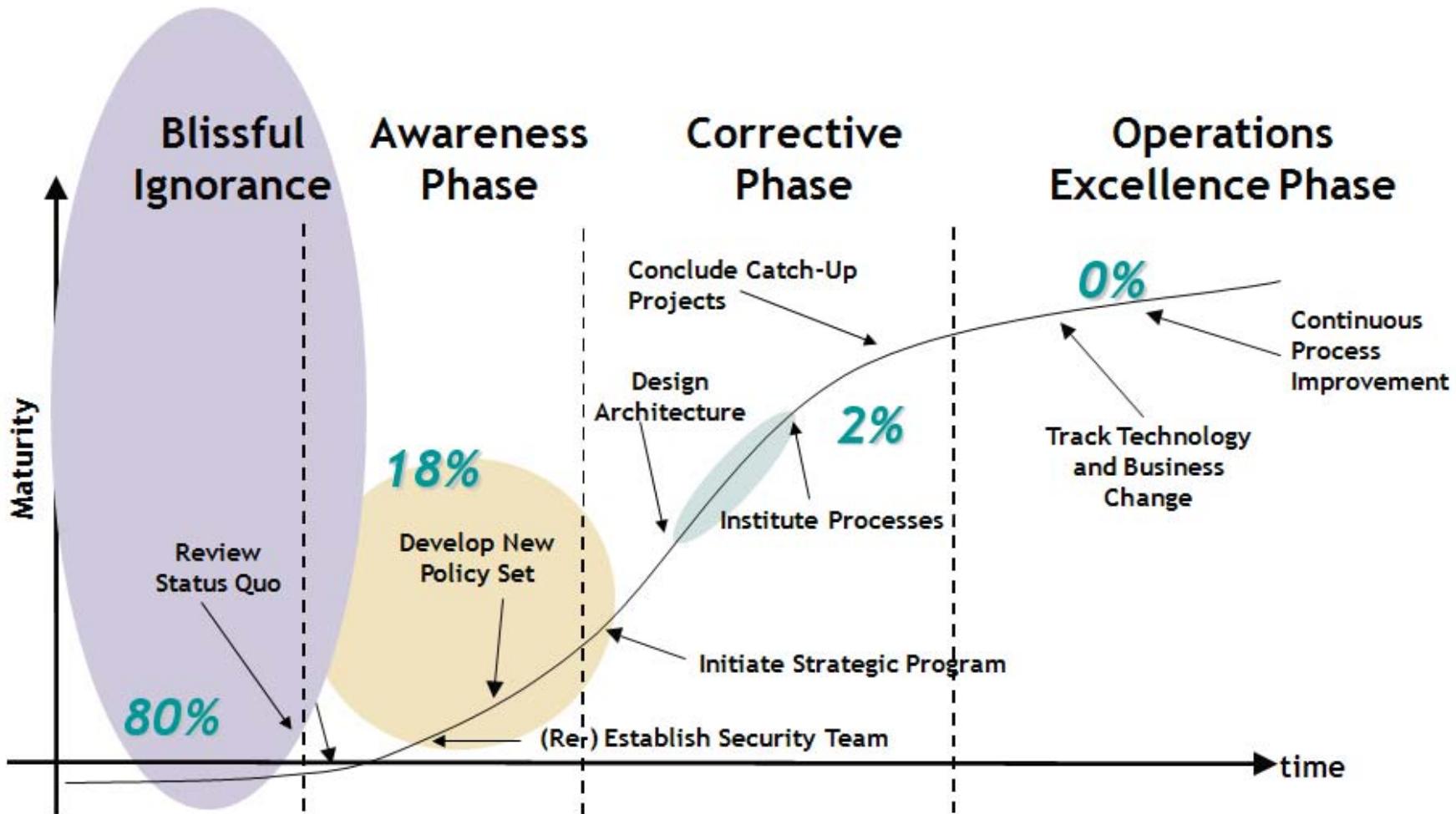
*Thus do many calculations lead to victory, and few calculations to defeat*

# **SECURITY PROBLEMS**

# Current Status

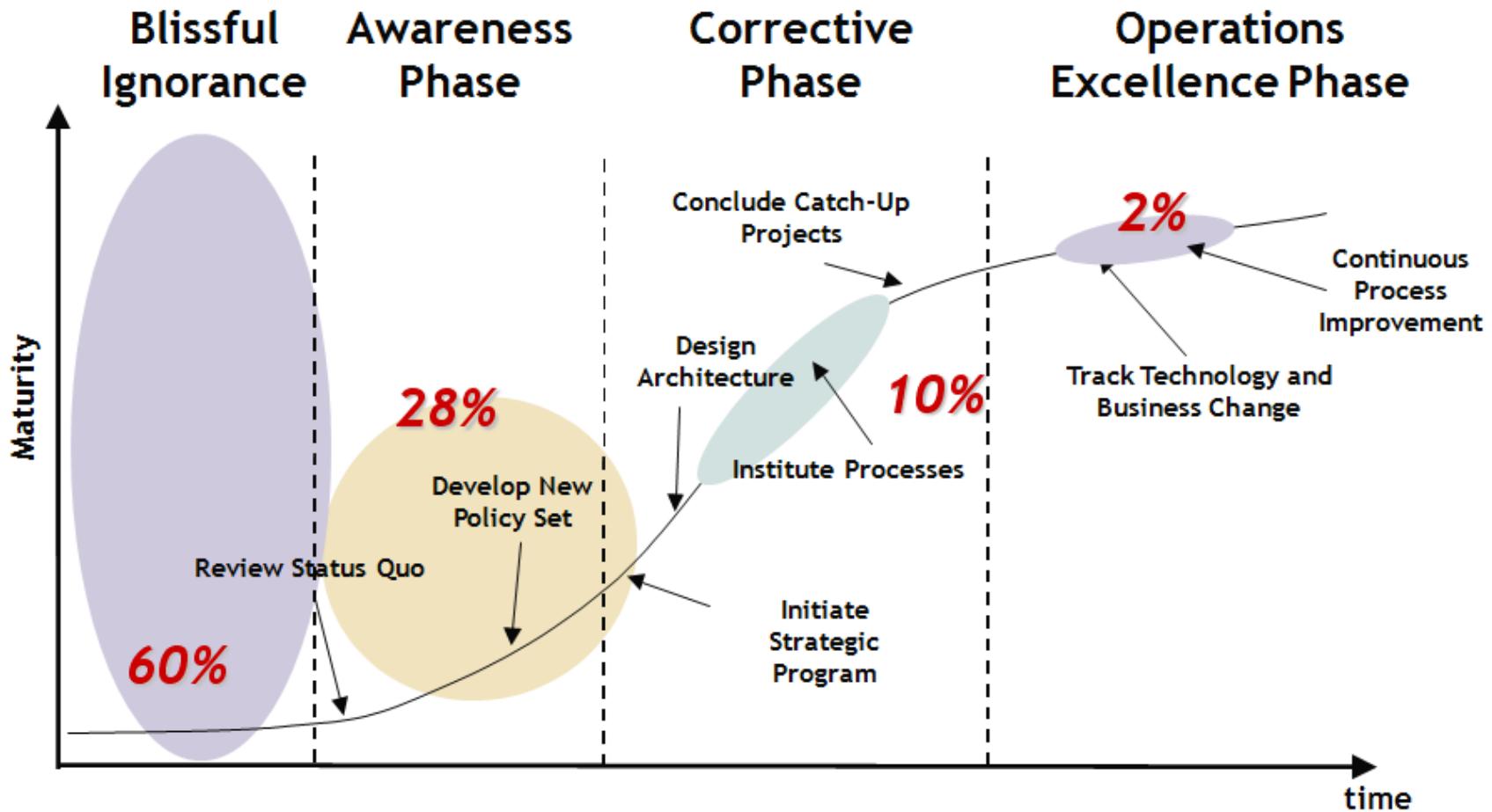
- Security Maturity
- Attack Target Shift
- Security Ecosystem
- SQL Injection
- Why You Still Can't Rely on Automated Tools

# Information Security Maturity: 1996

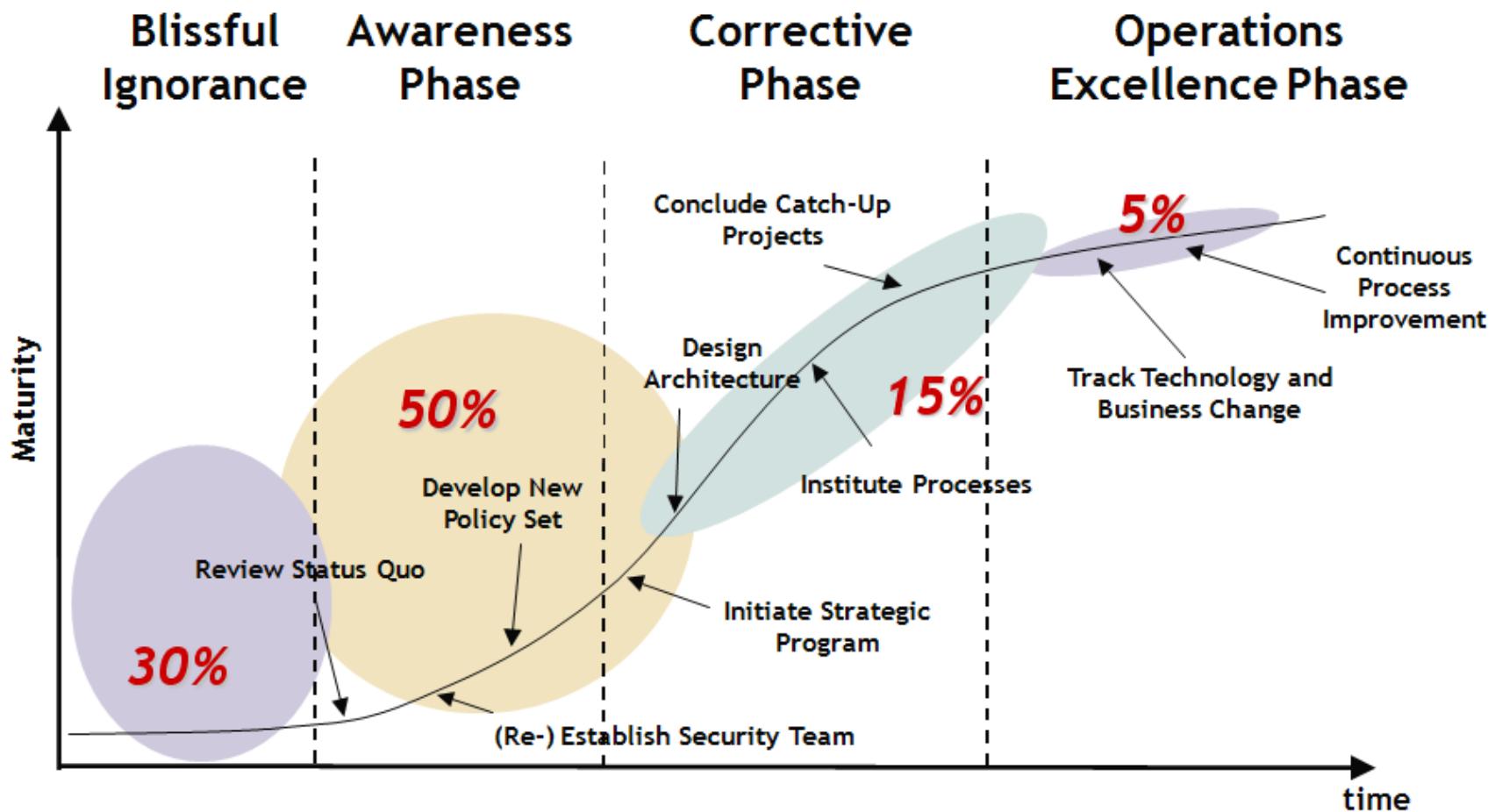


NOTE: Population distributions represent typical, large G2000-type organizations

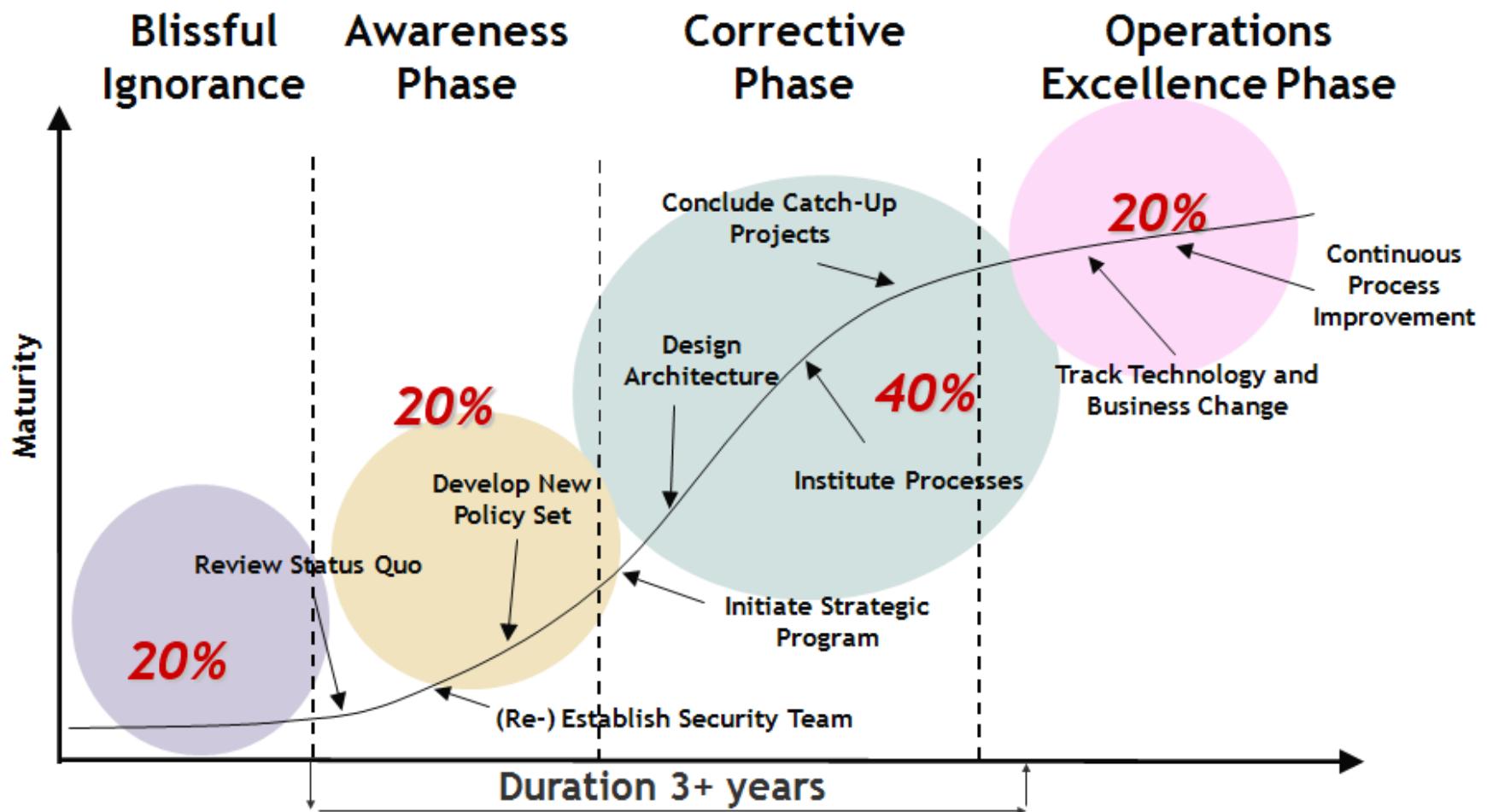
# Information Security Maturity: 2000



# Information Security Maturity: 2004



# Information Security Maturity: 2008

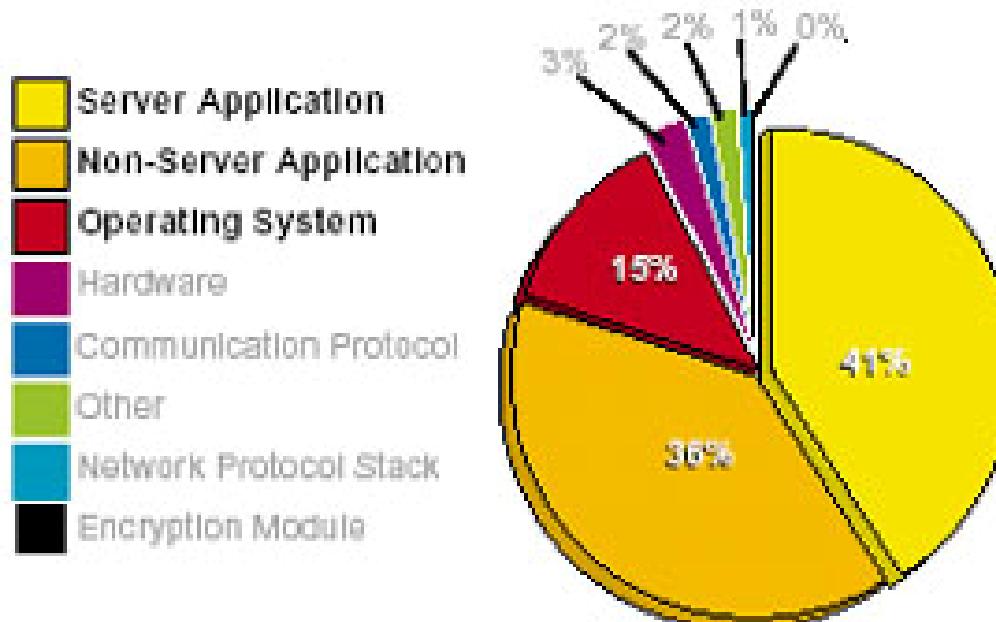


# Attack Target Shift

- From server to application; from corporate network to every user.

## Target: Applications At Risk

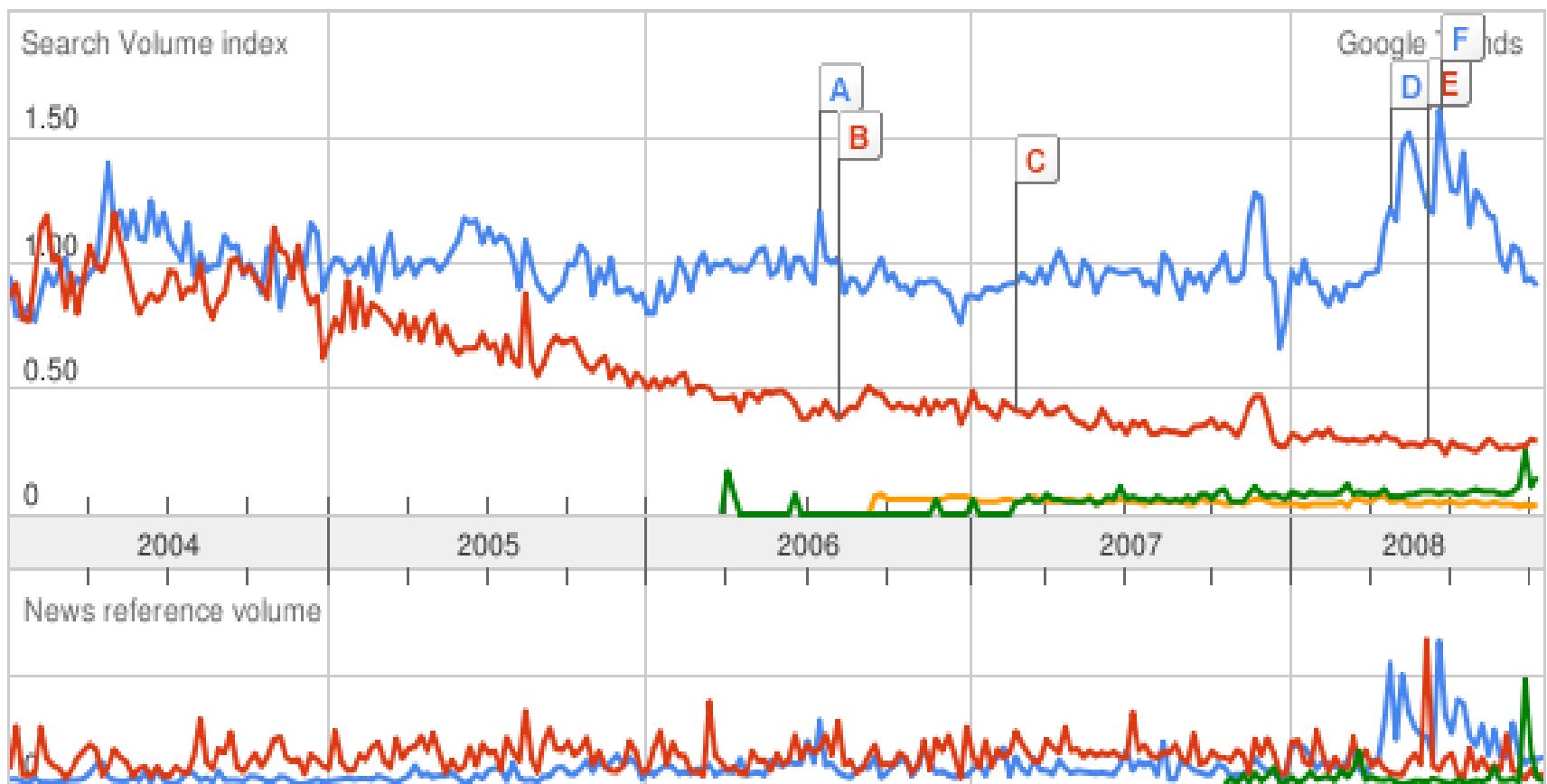
92% of reported vulnerabilities are in applications, not networks



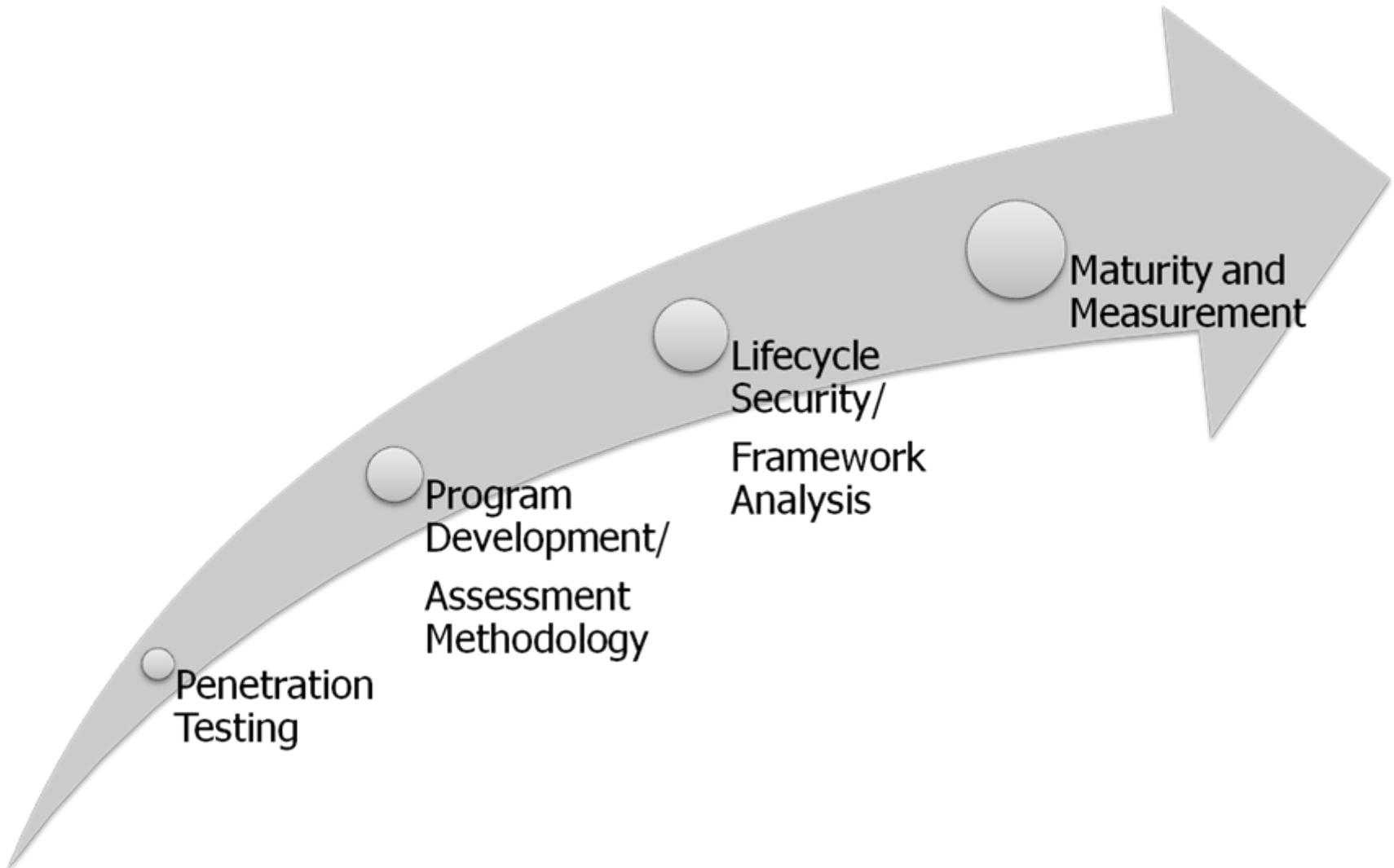
SOURCE: NIST

# Google Search Trend

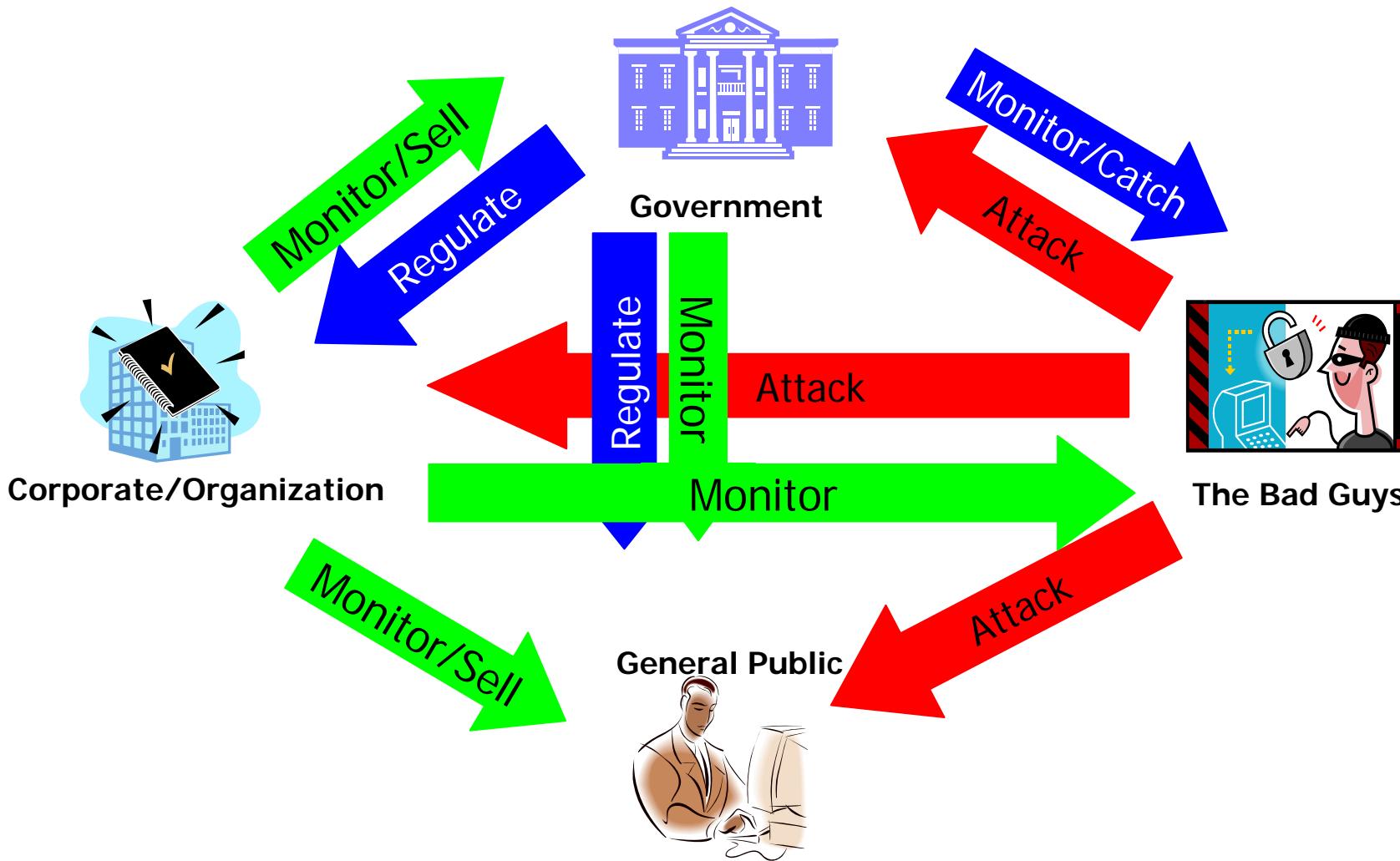
sql injection 1.00   buffer overflow 0.56   cross-site scripting 0.02  
csrf 0.03



# Hacking Evolved



# Security EcoSystem



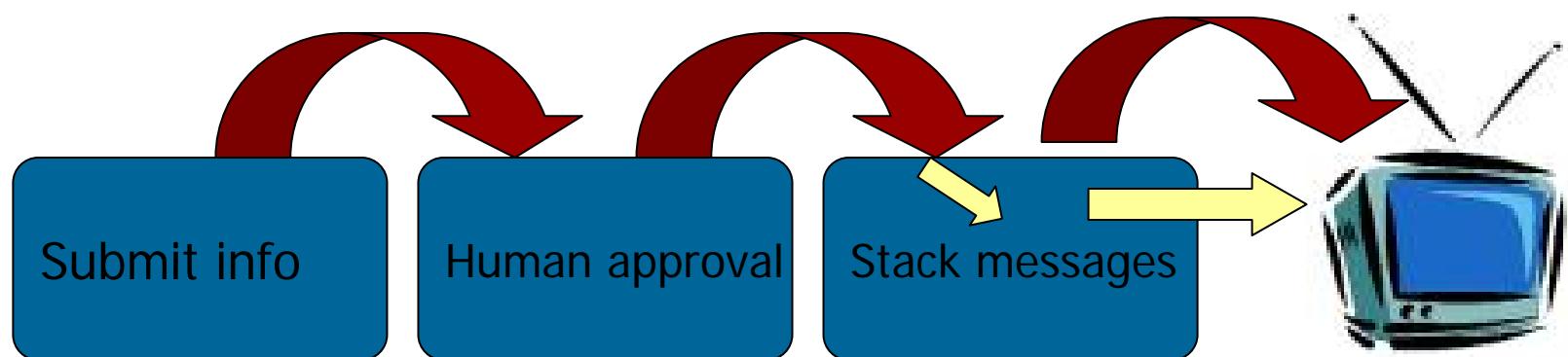
# SQL Injection

- RFP (Rain Forest Puppy) identified the problem in Phrack 54 (December 1998)
  - ▶ <http://www.phrack.org/issues.html?issue=54&id=8#article>
- In 2005, Cardsystem lost 40 million credit card info
- In 2008, an automated mass attack of 500,000 (estimated) web servers
  - ▶ Yes, using SQL Injection!
- Exploits of a mom (<http://xkcd.com/327/>):



# Why You Still Can't Rely on Automated Tools?

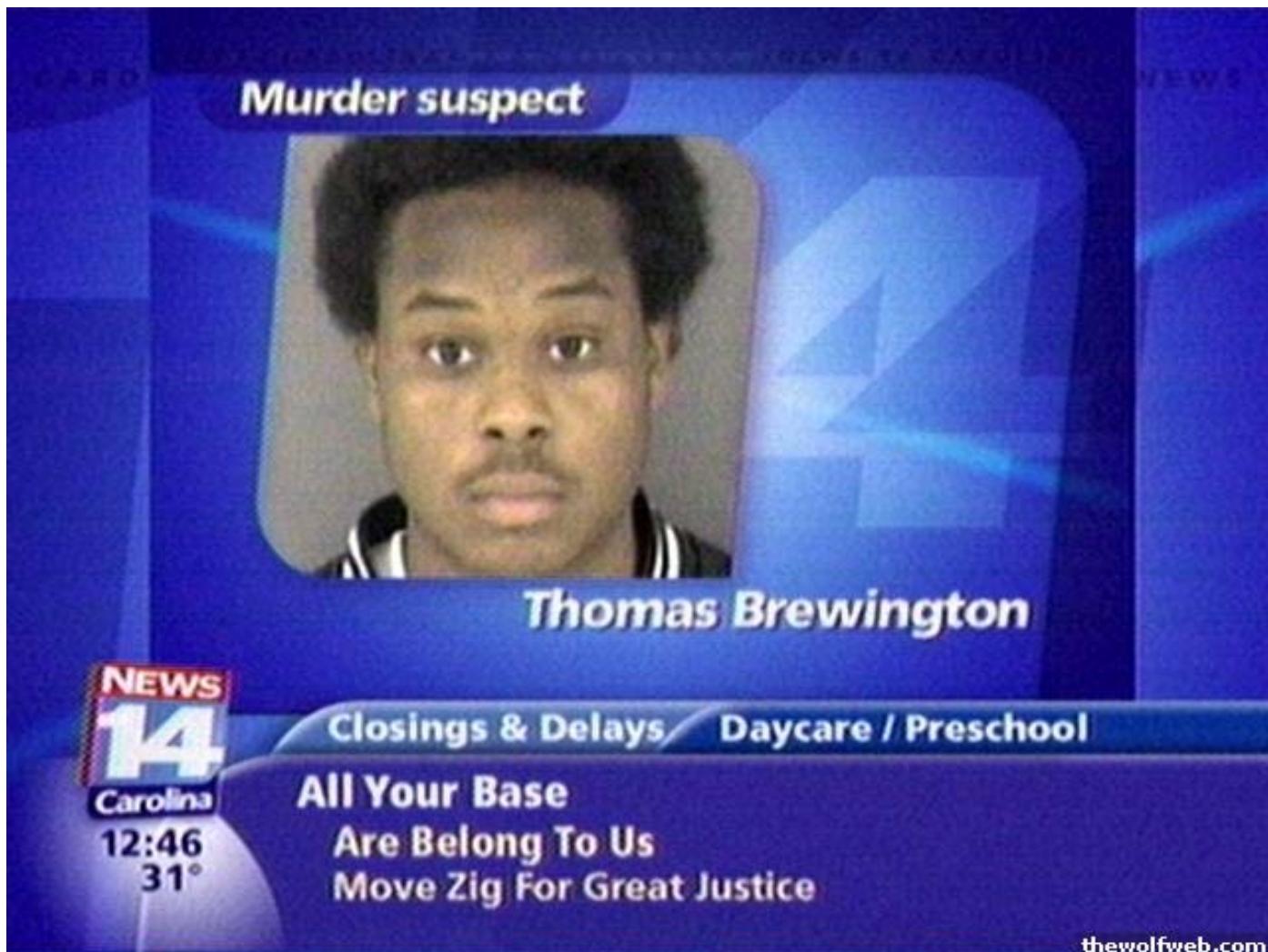
- North Carolina News 13
- Web-based “closings” ticker for schools/businesses



<http://tinyurl.com/pwpec>

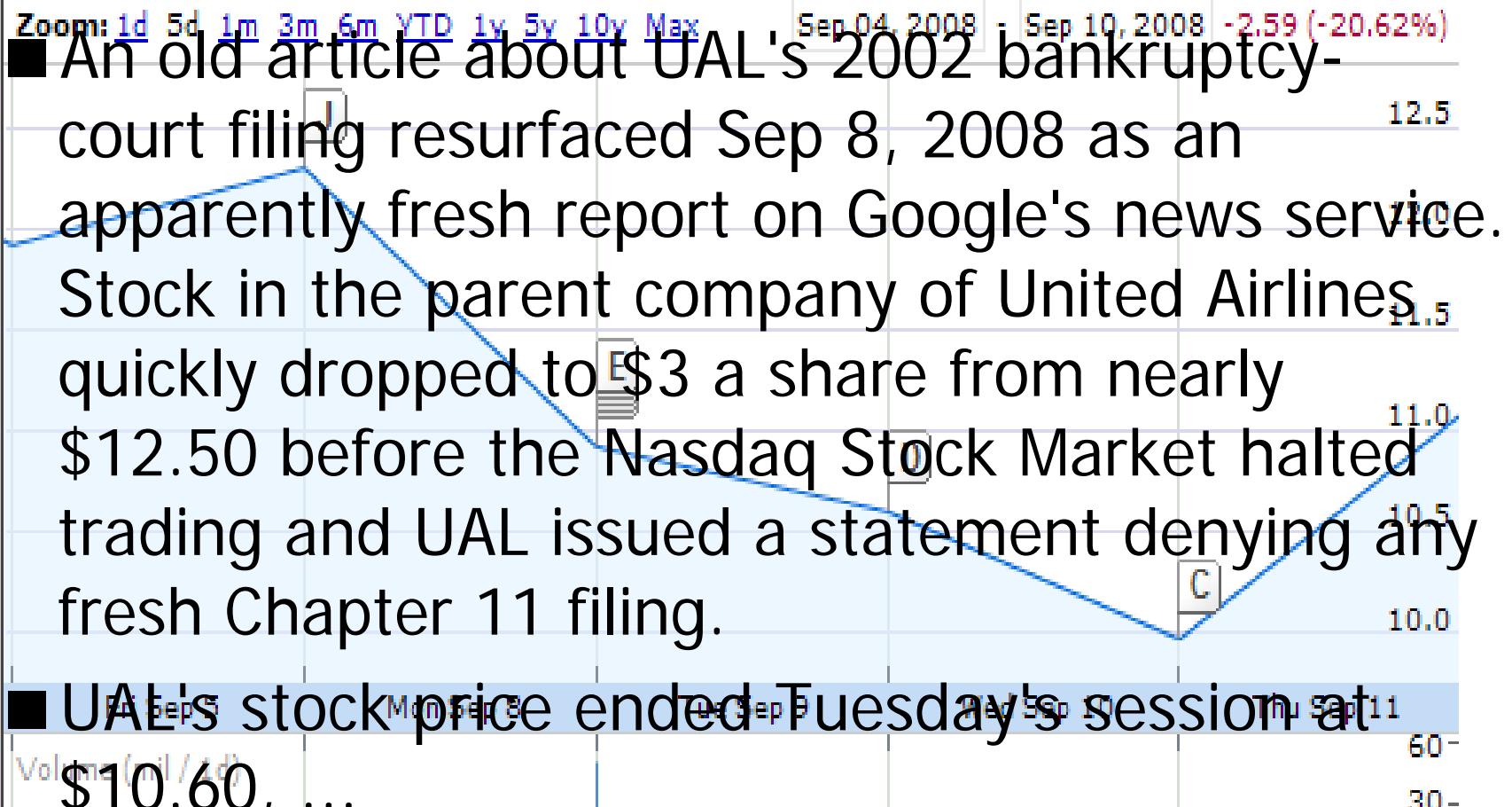


# This is What You See...



# UAL vs. Google

- An old article about UAL's 2002 bankruptcy-court filing resurfaced Sep 8, 2008 as an apparently fresh report on Google's news service. Stock in the parent company of United Airlines quickly dropped to \$3 a share from nearly \$12.50 before the Nasdaq Stock Market halted trading and UAL issued a statement denying any fresh Chapter 11 filing.
- UAL's stock price ended Tuesday's session at \$10.60, ...



Date	Price
Sep 4, 2008	12.50
Sep 8, 2008	3.00
Sep 10, 2008	10.60



# UAL vs. Google

Sep 6, 2008  
10:36pm PDT,  
A new link to  
the UAL story  
was found

Sep 8, 2008  
UAL stocks  
dropped from  
\$12 to \$3

**\$1.1 Billion market value  
disappeared in a few hours!!!**

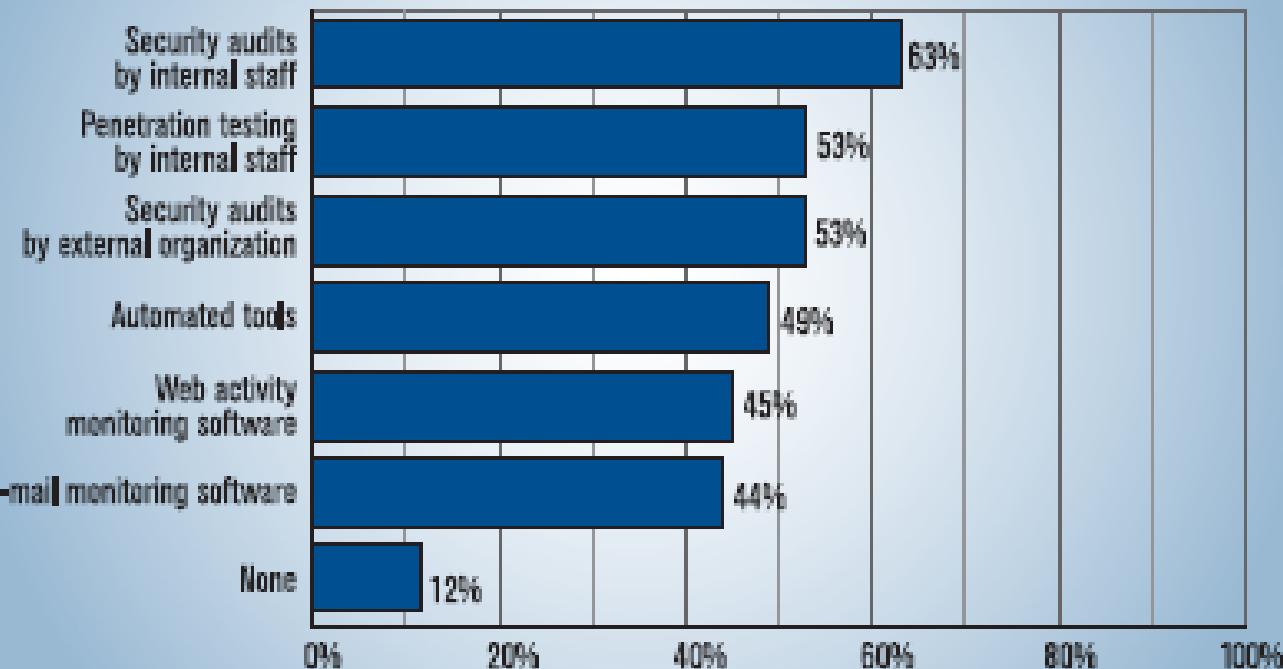


Google news  
took and  
indexed the link



# Some Survey Data

**Figure 20. Techniques Used to Evaluate Effectiveness of Security Technology**  
By Percent of Respondents



CSI 2007  
Source

CSI 2007 Computer Crime and Security Survey  
Source: Computer Security Institute

2007: 475 Respondents

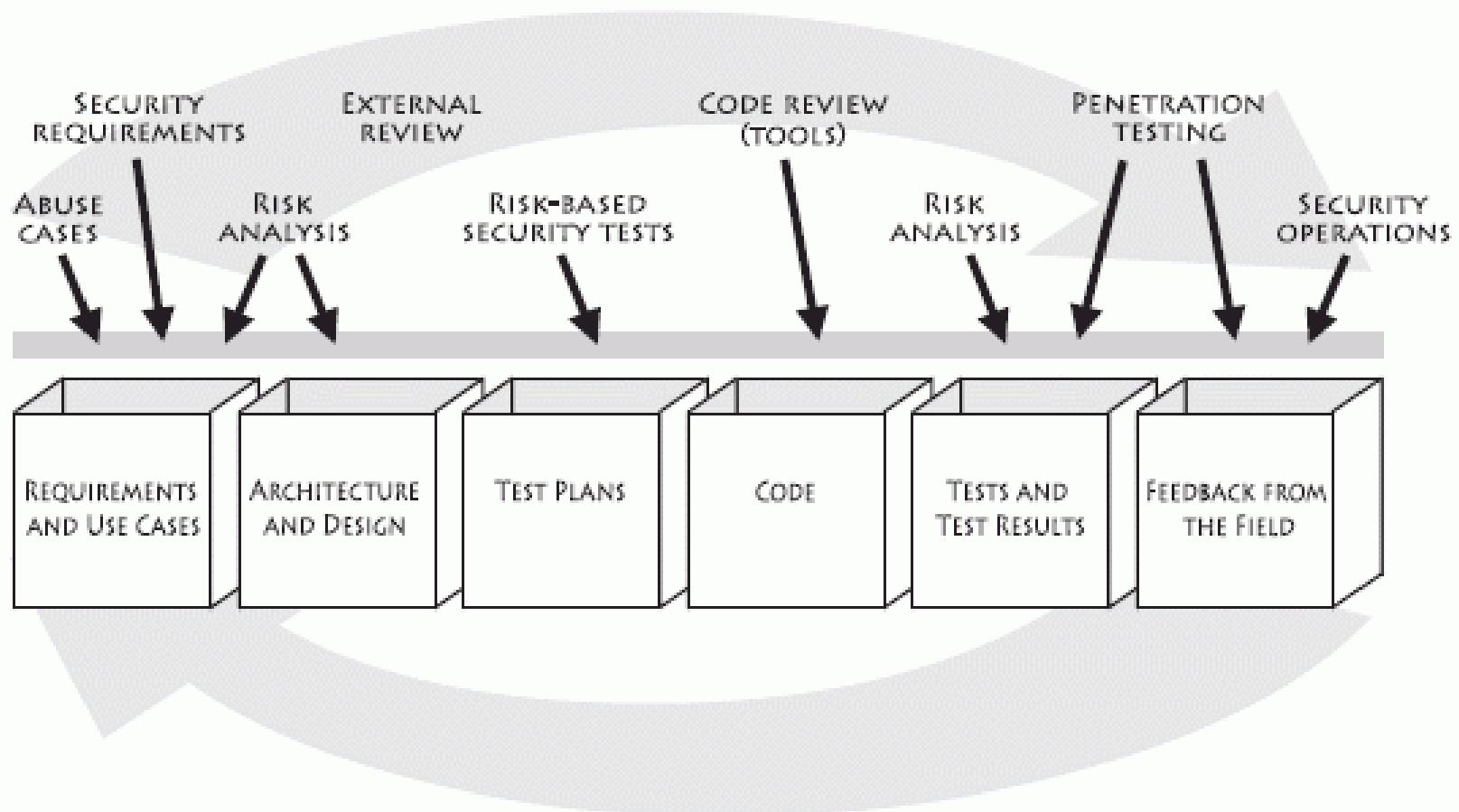
CSI 2007 Computer Crime and Security Survey  
Source: Computer Security Institute

Source: Computer Security Institute

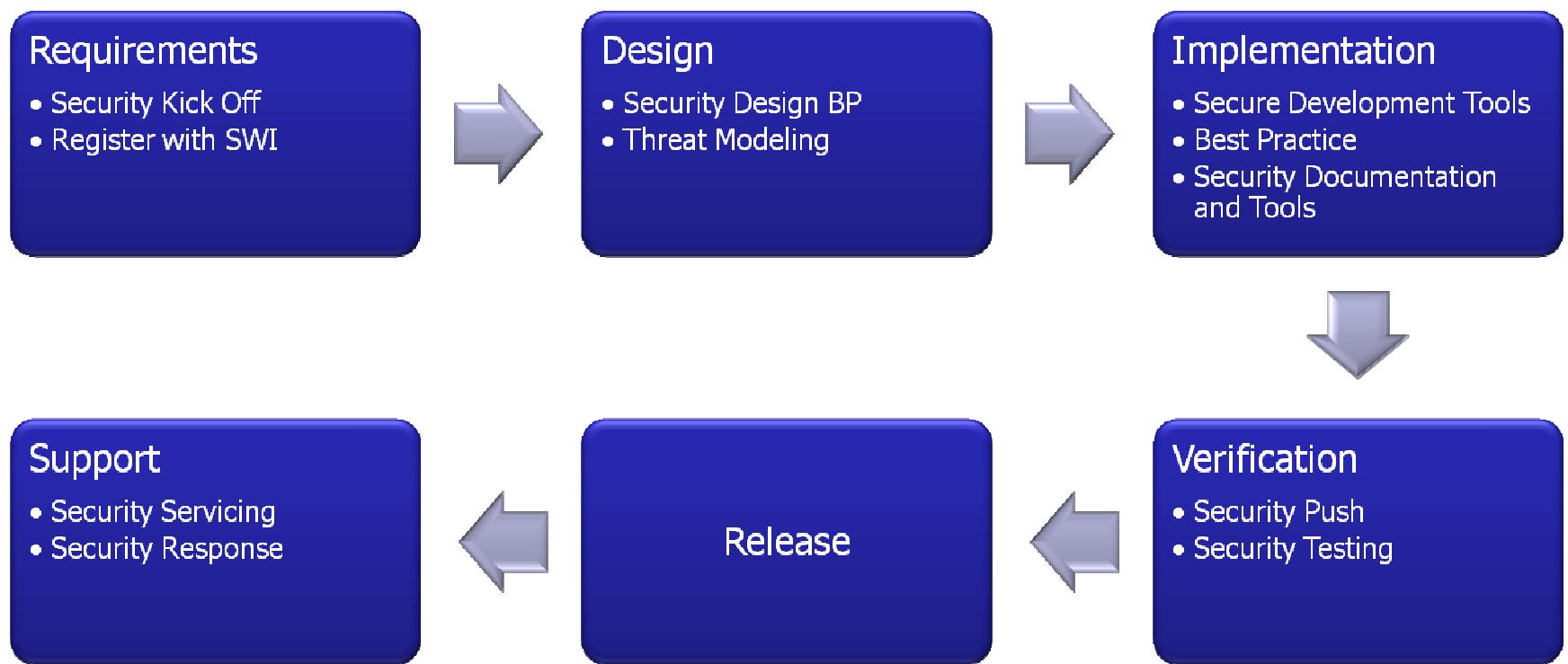
OWASP



# McGraw Touchpoint Secure SDLC



# Microsoft SDL



# Where are things going?

- Penetration testing is still how a lot of companies are going to assess their security
- Frameworks/libraries/etc are going to make shooting yourself in the foot harder (xss, SQLi, etc)
- “Silver Bullet” devices/technologies are always going to be around
- SDL is starting to show proven results



# What's Next?

- Security research is chasing after new technologies
  - ▶ New vulns on different products will happen daily
  - ▶ Better accuracies from security products
  - ▶ Slower to see new paradigm shift
- Integrate security into your daily life
  - ▶ Corporate M&A
  - ▶ Need better management on execution
  - ▶ New technologies to make it harder to make unsecure web applications
- Learn from other fields
  - ▶ Knowledge Discovery, Data Mining & Information Retrieval
  - ▶ Biology, Physics, Social Science and others



*Whoever is first in the field and awaits the coming of the enemy,  
will be fresh for the fight*

# WEB APPLICATION SECURITY

# 2007-2008 Analysis

- Collected 77 Applications in 5 industries
- Picked 27 out of them and did further study
- Arranged findings based on
  - ▶ Foundstone Security Framework,
  - ▶ Overall risk level and
  - ▶ Root cause in SDLC phases

# Foundstone Security Framework

## Configuration Management

- Secure deployment and hardening. Issues will include default deployment settings and administrative access

## Data Protection

- Handling of sensitive data as it is at rest in files and databases or as it is transmitted across the network

## Authentication & Authorization

- Access to protected resources and kinds of controls on such access. How identities are verified.

## Logging & Auditing

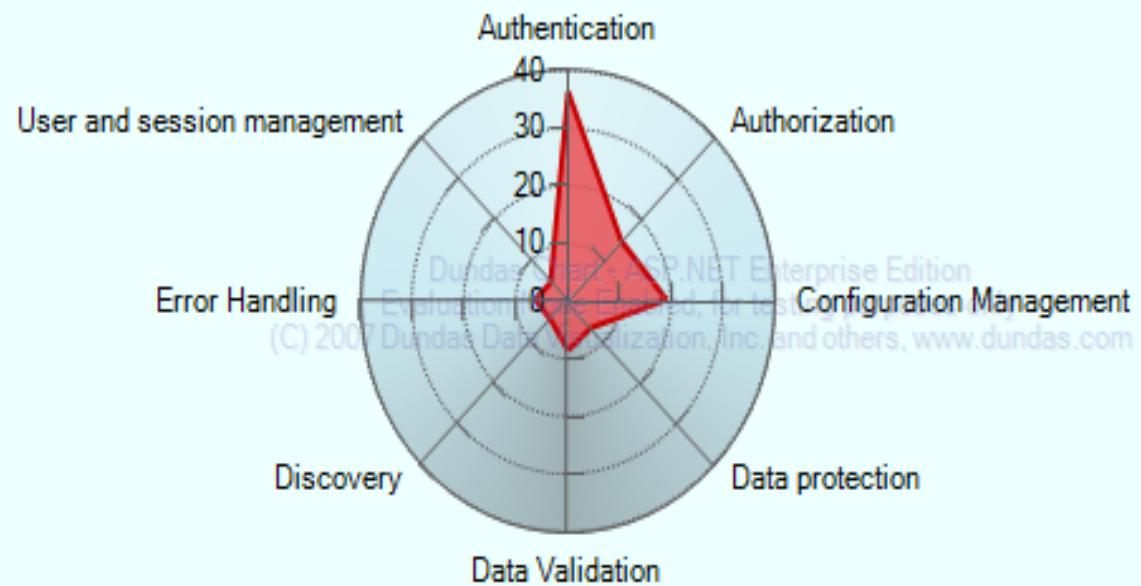
- What information is logged and where it is logged. Can information act as audit trail?

## Data Validation and Exception Management

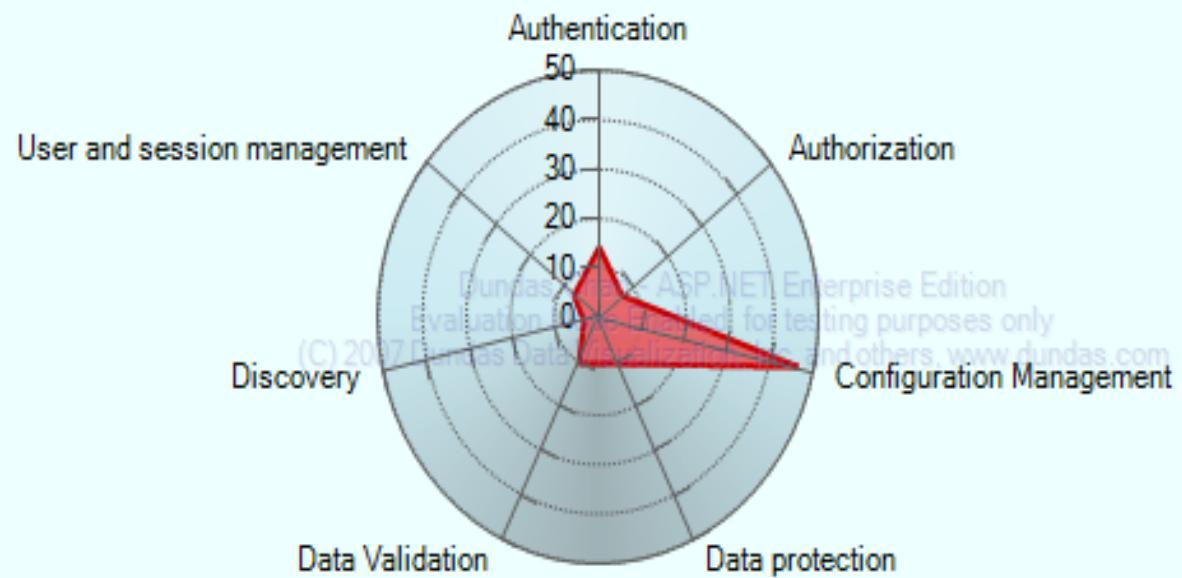
- How the application performed data validation on both input and output and how exceptions are being handled without information leakage



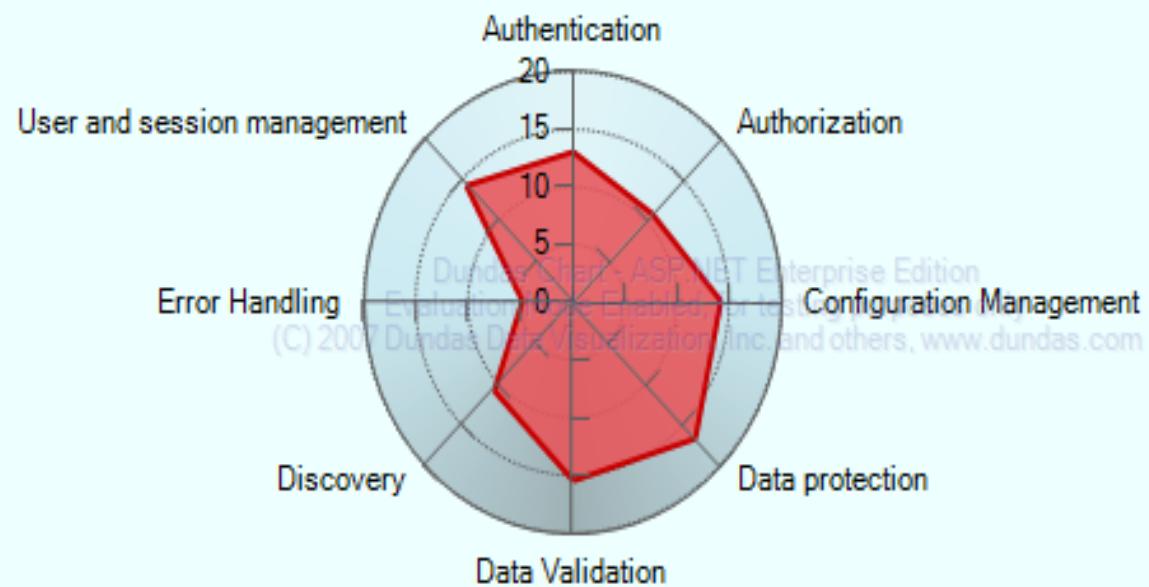
# Financial Services – 15 Apps



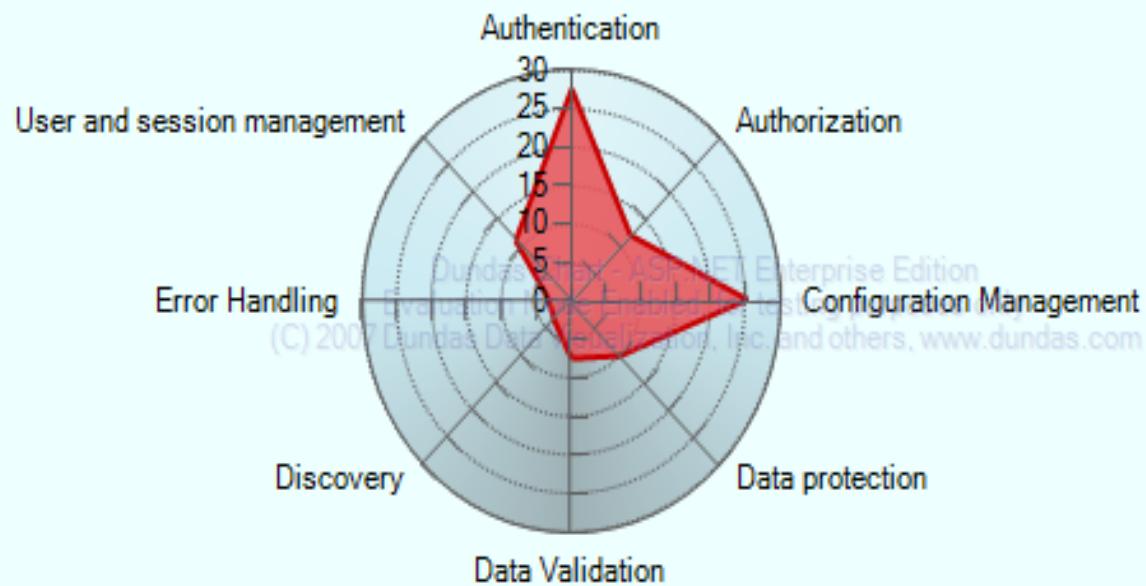
# Healthcare – 12 Apps



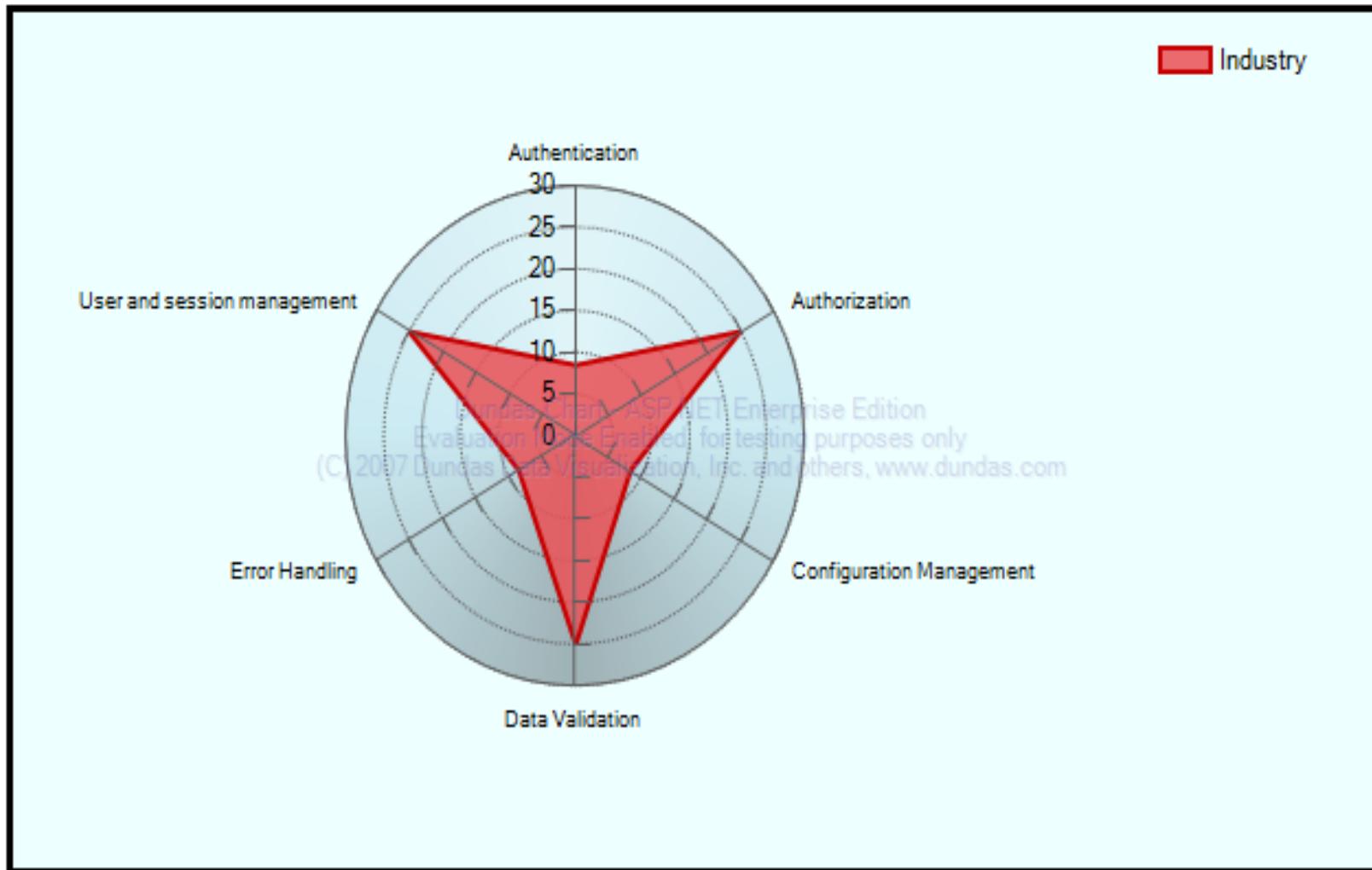
# Insurance – 27 Apps



# Retail – 17 Apps



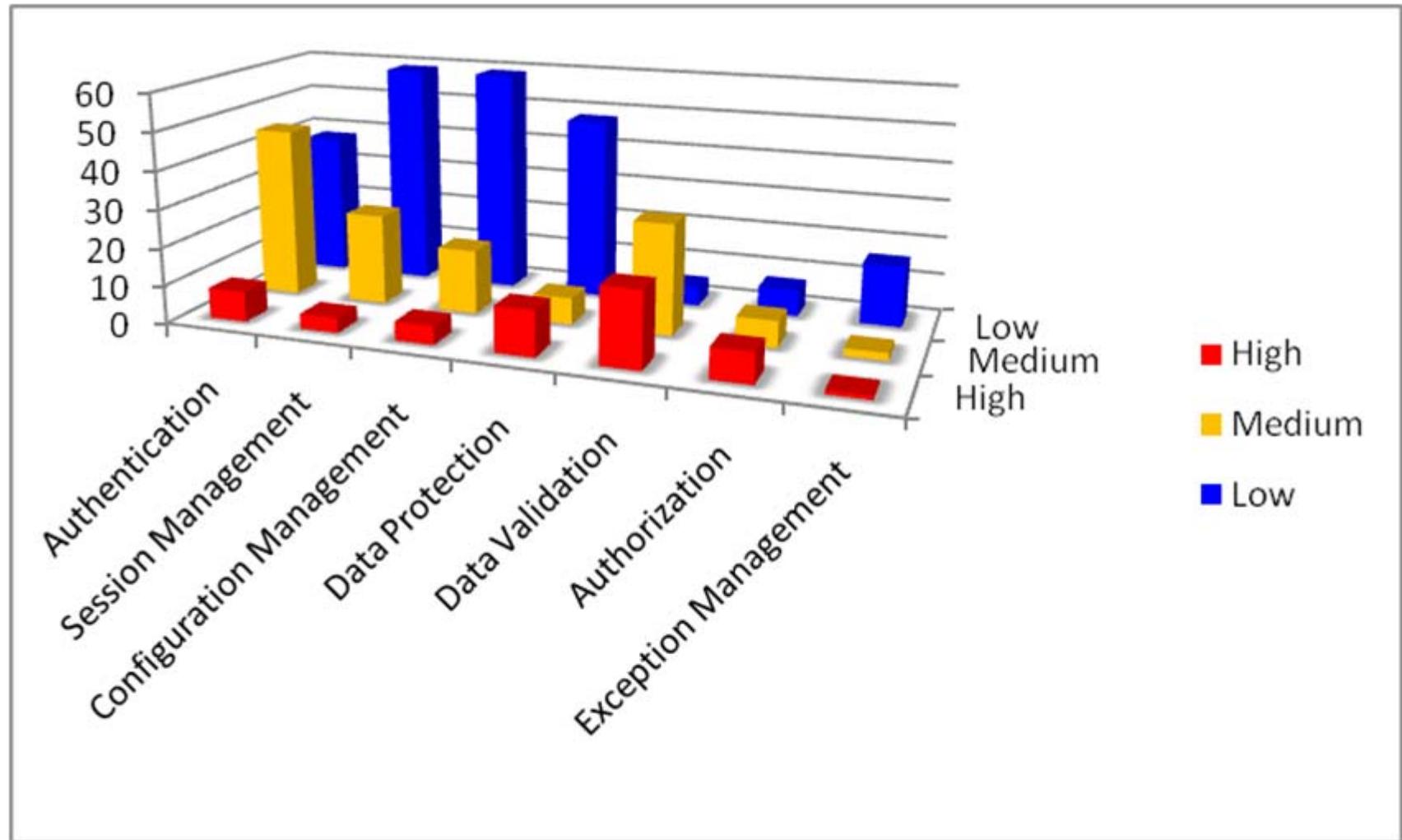
# Utility – 6 Apps



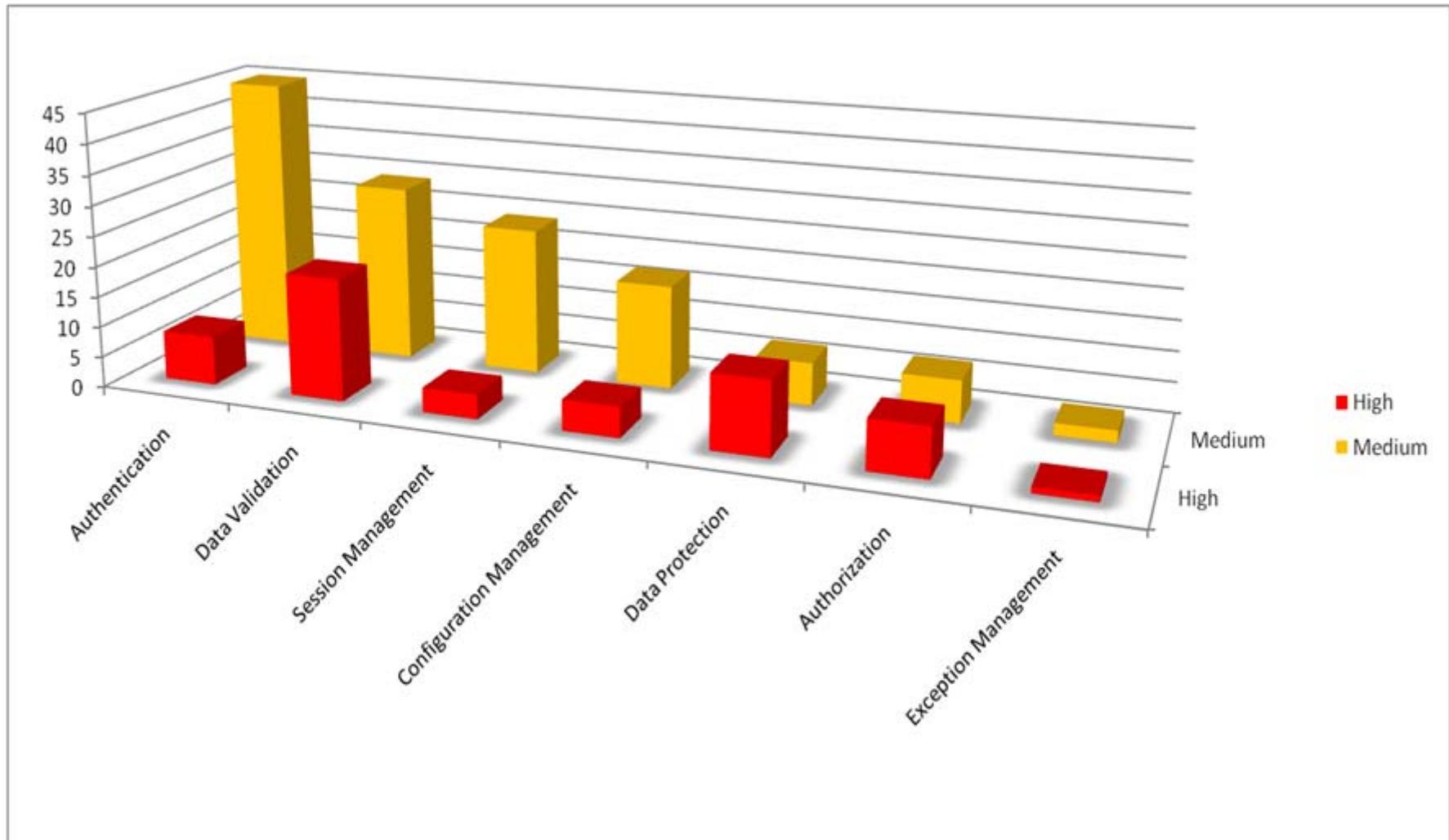
# 27 Applications

- 13 on Unix; 13 on Windows; 1 on Novell
- Total 421 findings

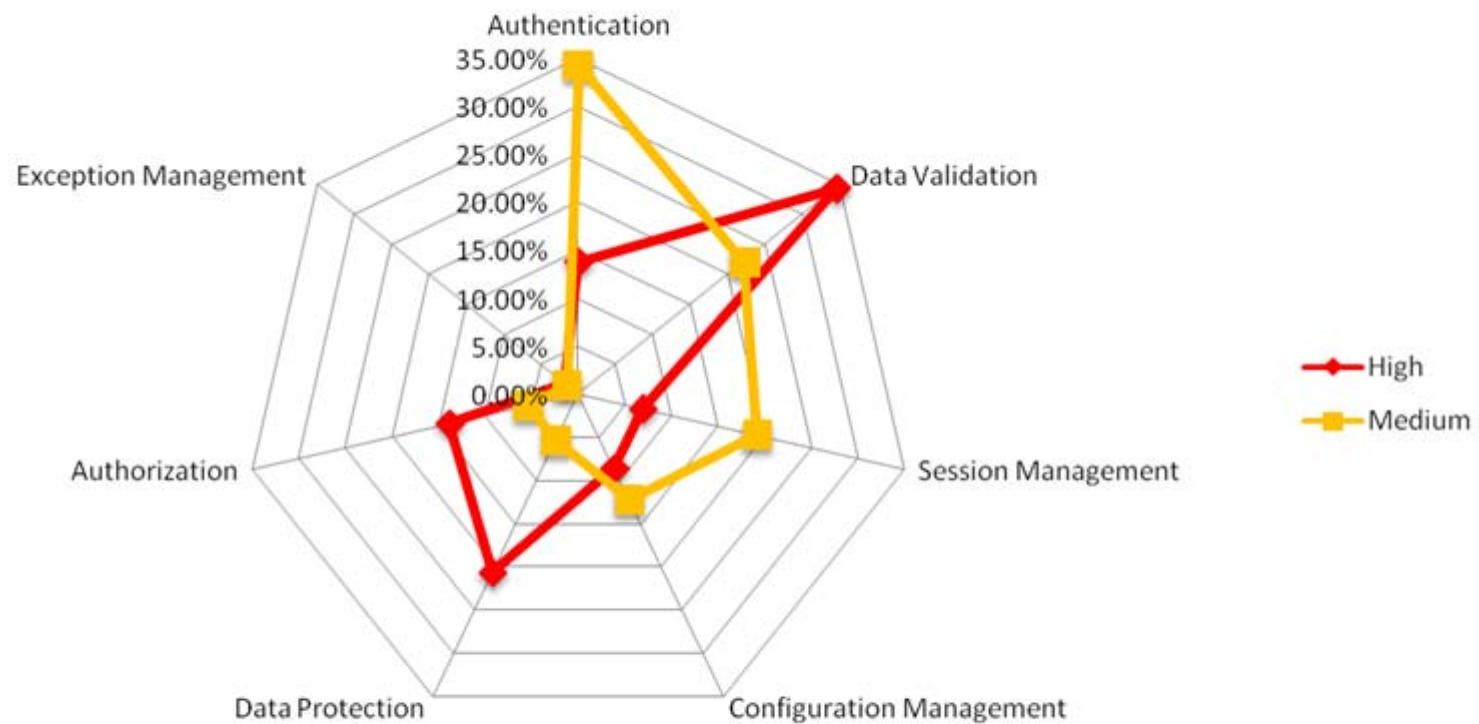
# Findings by Framework and Risk Level



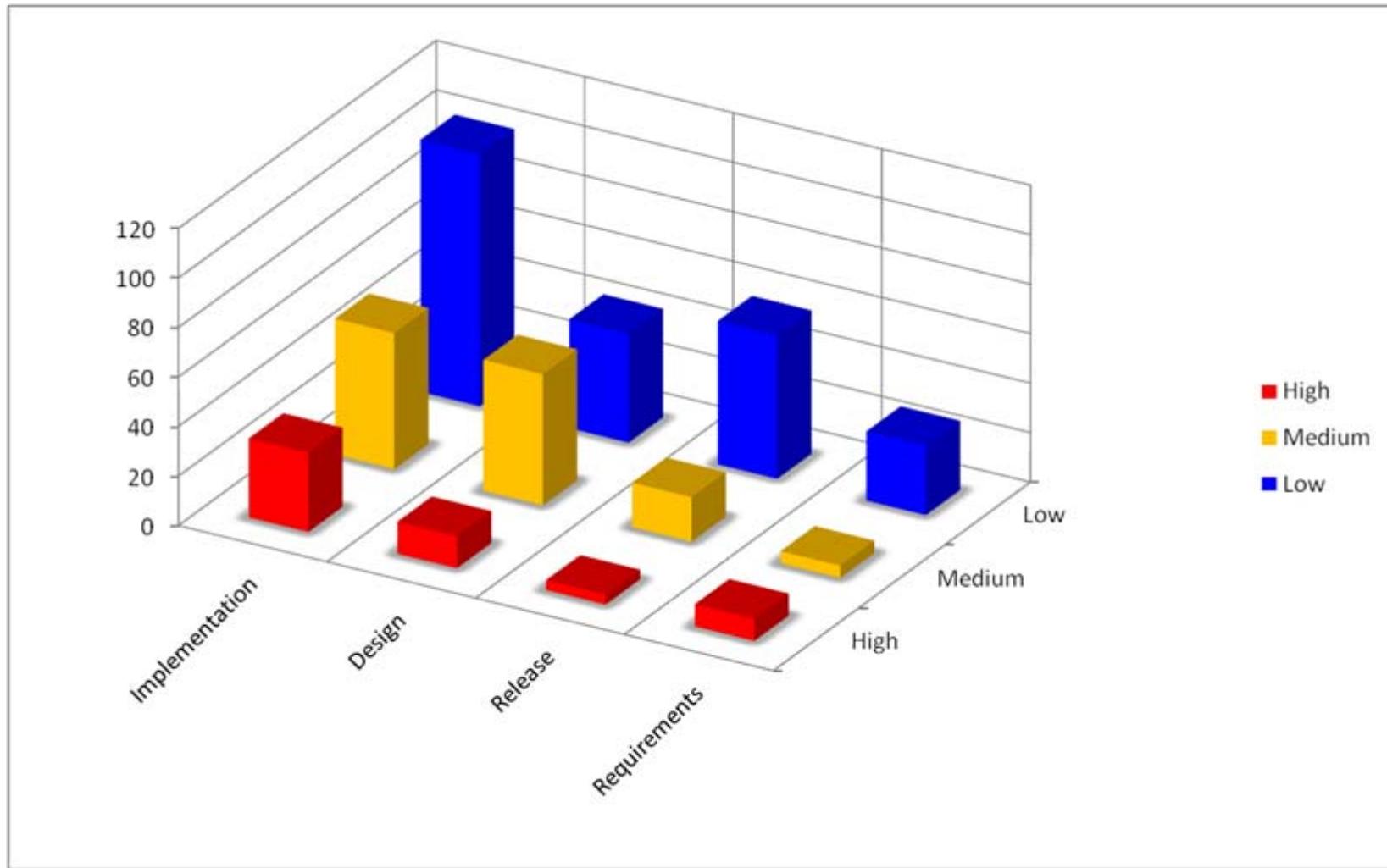
# High and Medium Risk Findings



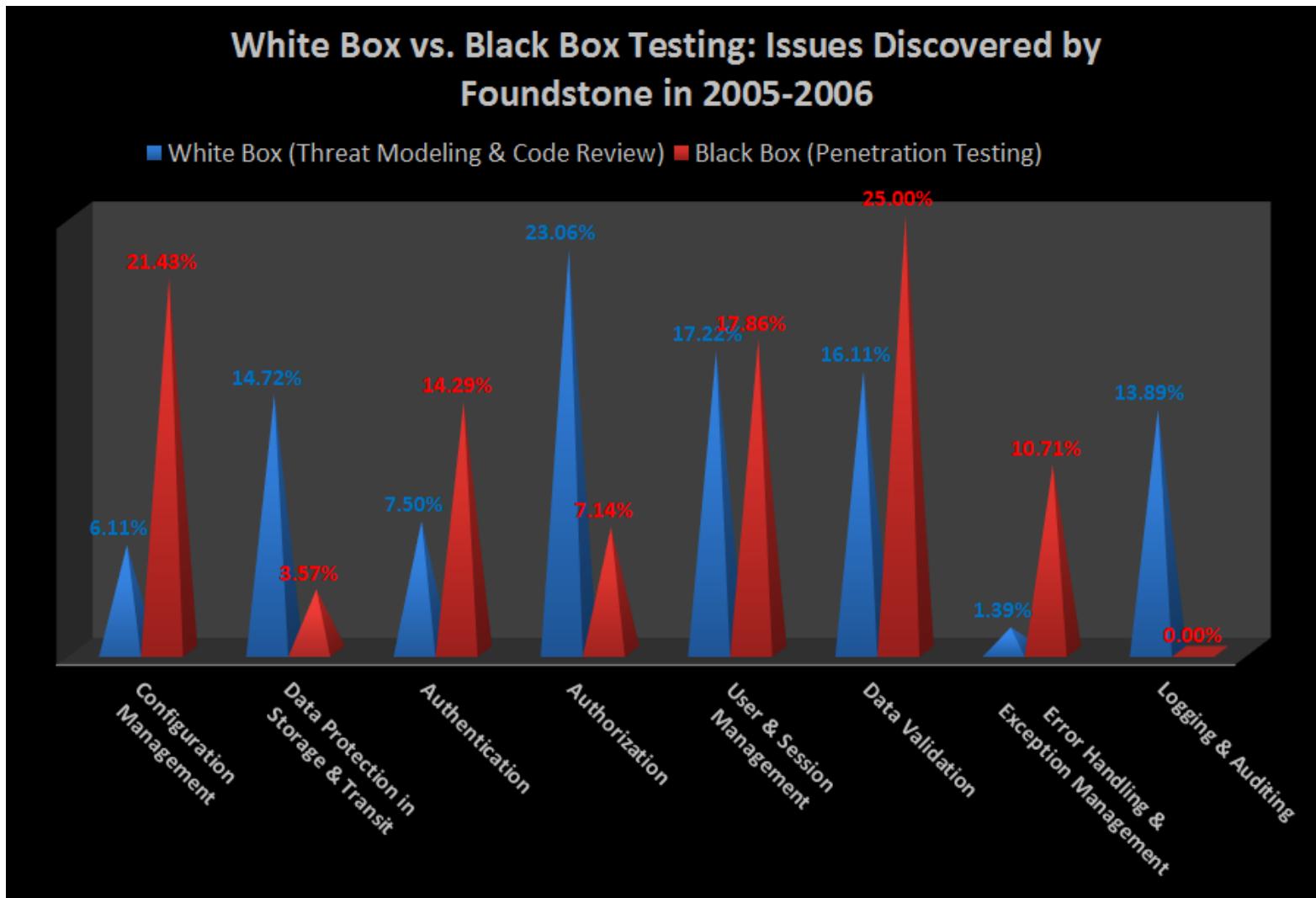
# Findings by Percentage



# Findings by SDLC Phases



# White Box vs. Black Box



# 10 Things To Secure Your Web App

- Authentication
  - ▶ Password policy
    - Reset password function, history, complexity and account lockout
- Authorization
  - ▶ Role/privilege mapping and enforcement
  - ▶ Workflow/business logic authorization enforcement
- Data Validation
  - ▶ Do your validation on the server-side both on output and input!
- Session Management
  - ▶ Use random session ID and maintain the state on server-side. Do not depend on any state information on the client
- Data Protection
  - ▶ Protect your important data in storage and transit
  - ▶ Choose your data protection solution wisely
- Configuration Management
  - ▶ Secure server configuration and patch it well!
- Exception Management
  - ▶ Handle all exception and return generic error messages
- Logging and Auditing
  - ▶ What to log and how/when to audit?



*If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles*

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

# Six Sigma Tactical Steps

- Define
- Measure
- Analyze
- Improve
- Control

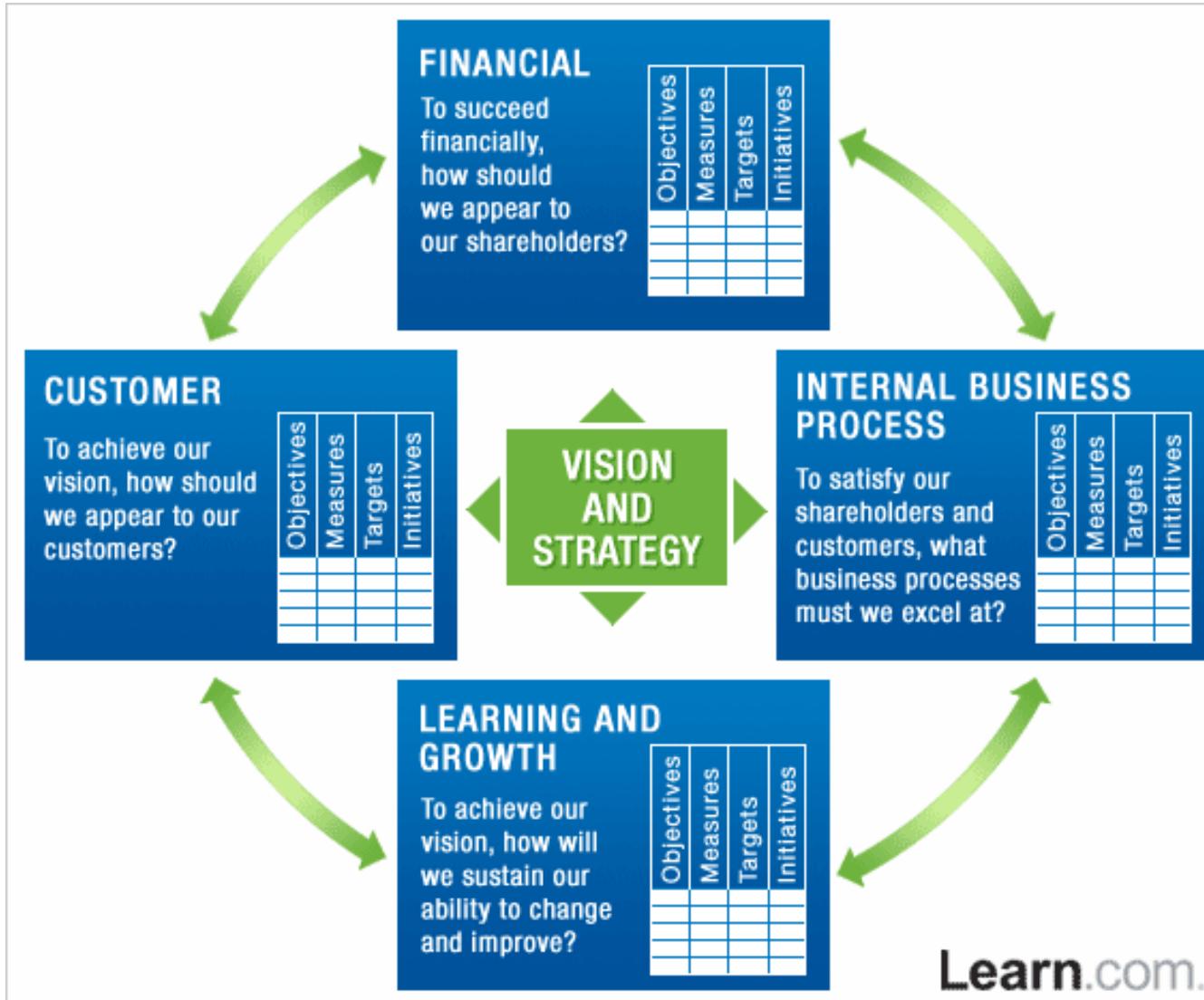


# What is Process Sigma?

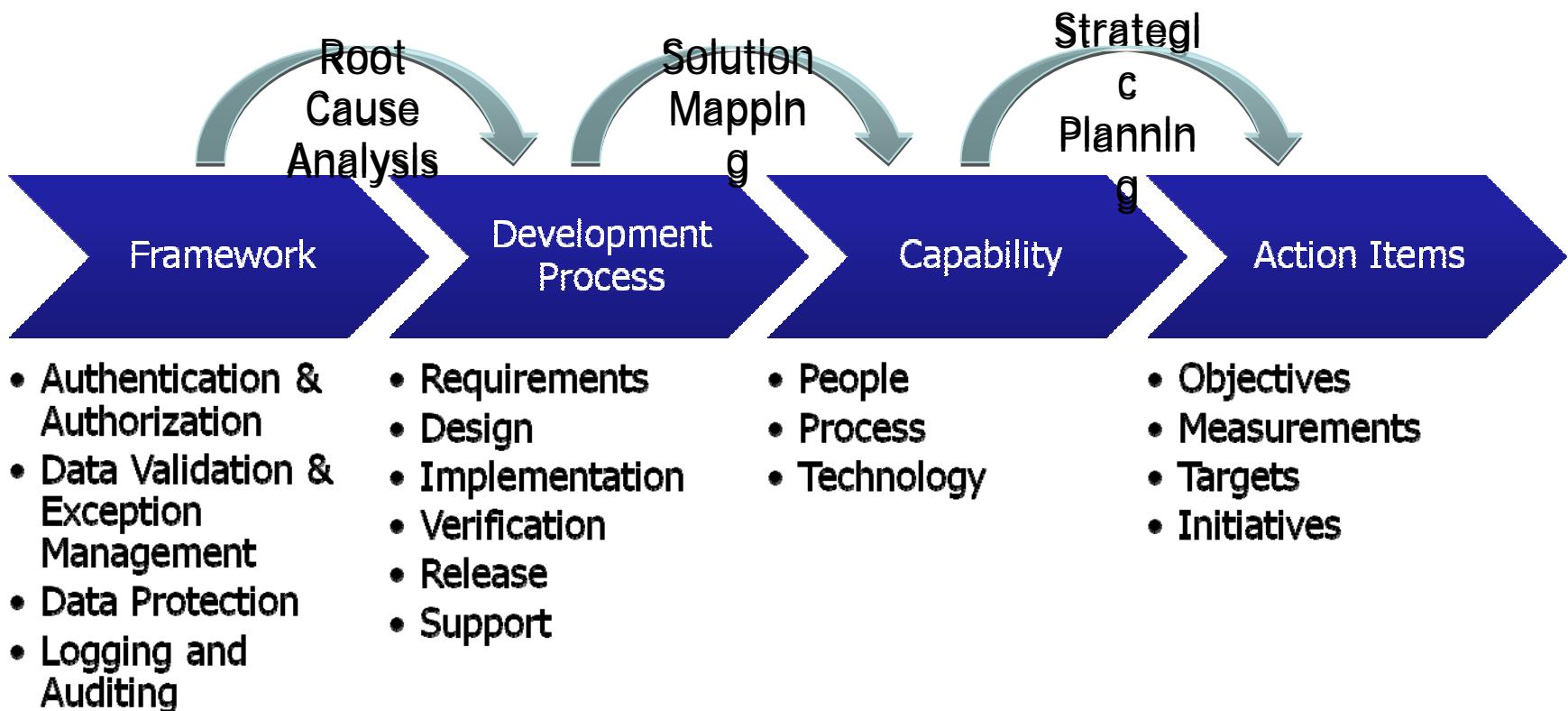
- Defects per Unit and Opportunities
- 3.4 defects per 1 million opportunities is Six Sigma

$$\frac{\text{Number of Defects}}{\text{Number of units} \times \text{Number of opps.}} \times 1,000,000$$

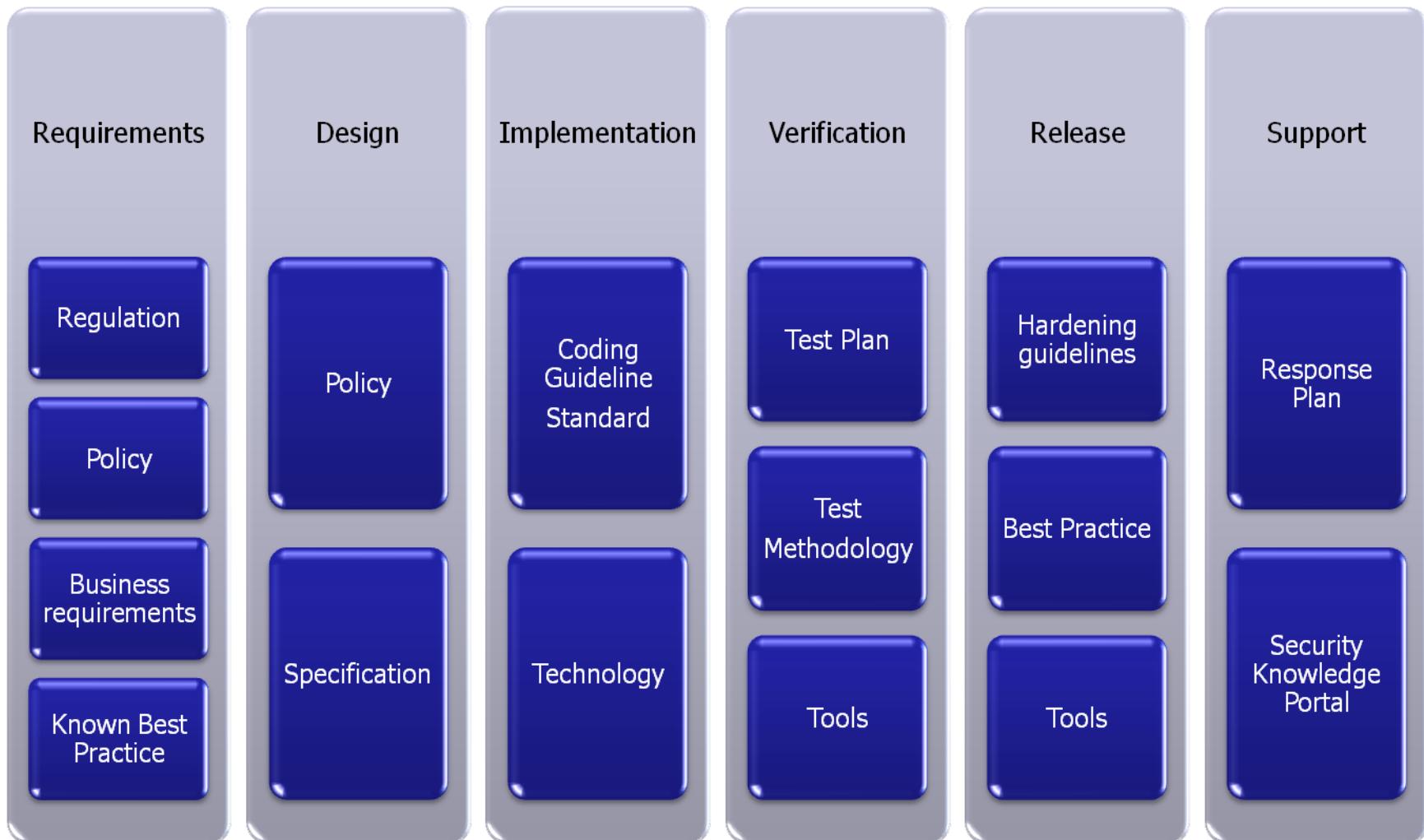
# Balanced Scorecard



# Methodology



# Solution



# Capability

## People

- Organization
- Training
- Budget

## Process

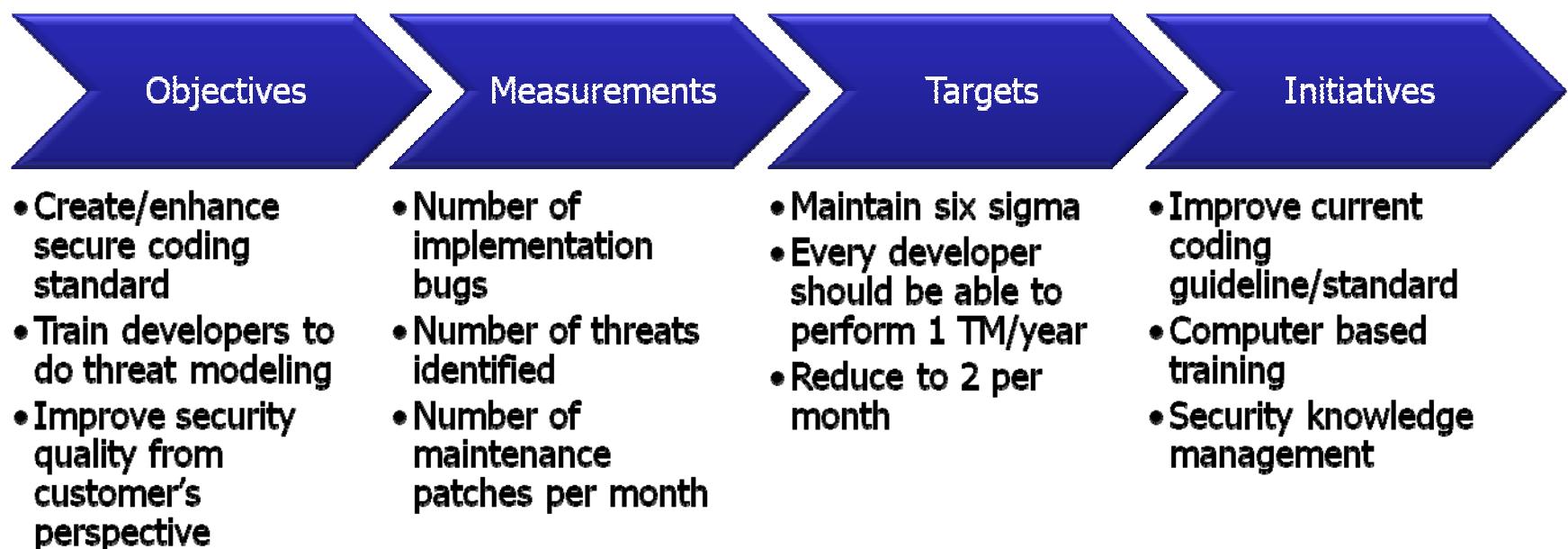
- Policy
- Guidelines
- Standards
- Best Practices
- Methodology
- Response

## Technology

- Tools
- Knowledge Repository



# Action Items



*In order to carry out an attack, we must have means available*

# **CONCLUSION**

# Summary

- We reviewed:
  - ▶ Current security status
  - ▶ Web application security statistics
  - ▶ Strategic planning to keep your web application secure
- Security is an on-going process that also requires people and technology to play important roles.

# No Silver Bullets or Easy Button!



# If Toyota Builds Your Web Applications...

- Modularization, Automation and Just-In-Time
- Reduce cost, maintain highest customer satisfaction
- Implementation phase will be automated and modularized
- Developers won't be able to use any insecure implementation techniques
- Web applications will be stick to the known best practice with high quality in security. When there is a serious flaw there will be a recall.





# Thank You

OWASP

Yen-Ming Chen  
Director of Consulting,  
Foundstone, A Division of McAfee  
Yen-ming.chen@foundstone.com

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