

# Doing the Unstuck

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How Rugged Cultures Drive  
Biz & AppSec Value

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- Director of Security Intelligence for Akamai Technologies

- Former Research Director, Enterprise Security [The 451 Group]
- Former Principal Security Strategist [IBM ISS]

- Industry:

- Co-Founder of “Rugged Software” [www.ruggedsoftware.org](http://www.ruggedsoftware.org)
- Faculty: The Institute for Applied Network Security (IANS)
- 2009 NetworkWorld [Top 10 Tech People to Know](#)
- Ponemon Institute Fellow
- BLOG: [www.cognitivedissidents.com](http://www.cognitivedissidents.com)

- Things I’ve been researching:

- DevOps
- Security Intelligence
- Chaotic Actors
- Espionage
- Security Metrics



A Personal Bit...

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Passionate  
Purposeful  
Principled  
Protector  
Provider



Honest  
Courageous  
Consequential

Unreasonable  
A Fool

Are We Getting Better...

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No



*Is it getting better?*

*Or do you feel the  
same?*

*Will it make it easier  
on you now?*

*You got someone to  
blame...*

How would you  
know?

By which criteria?

# Constant Change







Why It Matters...

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WHY

HOW

WHAT

# Consequences: Value & Replaceability



<http://blog.cognitivedissidents.com/2011/10/24/a-replaceability-continuum/>



Performance



Fungible Assets



Intellectual Property & Trade Secrets

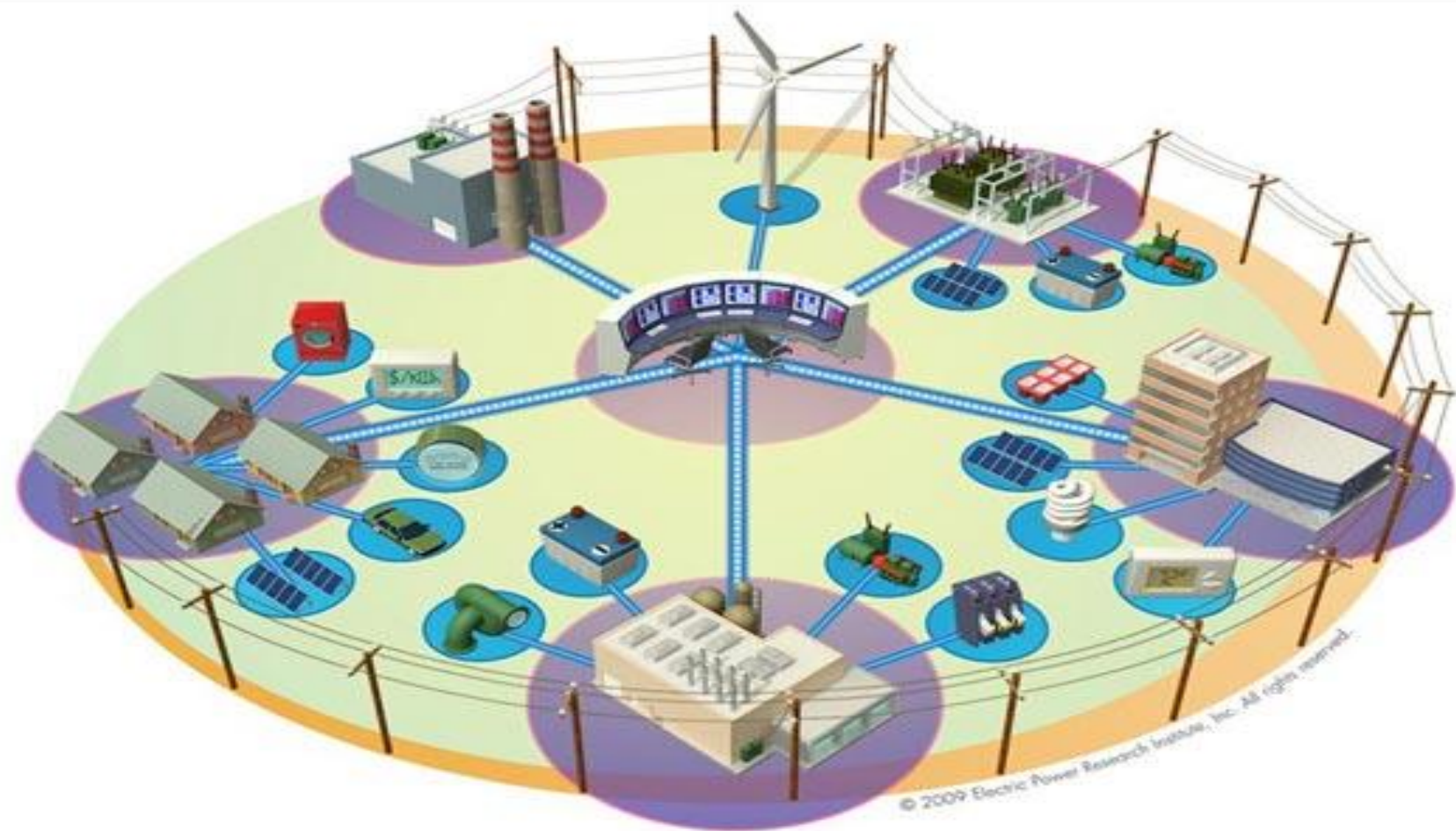


Rights & Civility



Safety & Human Life

# Dependence









Sensor  
Glucose Level  
**129**



Consider...

s/Software/Vulnerability/

Consider...

s/Connected/Exposed/

Consider...

Our challenges are not  
technical...  
but cultural



OWASP Top 10

*“We can eliminate  
SQLi in our lifetime”*

Activity

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Effect

# Symptoms

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# Root Causes

Easy

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Important



80/20

Best Practices

aren't

Good Enough

isn't

# Incentives



What you can do about it...

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Pick one:

- ☐ Make Excuses
- ☐ Make Progress

ARE THERE  
BE DRAGONS



CORIN

MARKET

LOW ISLANDS

GERON

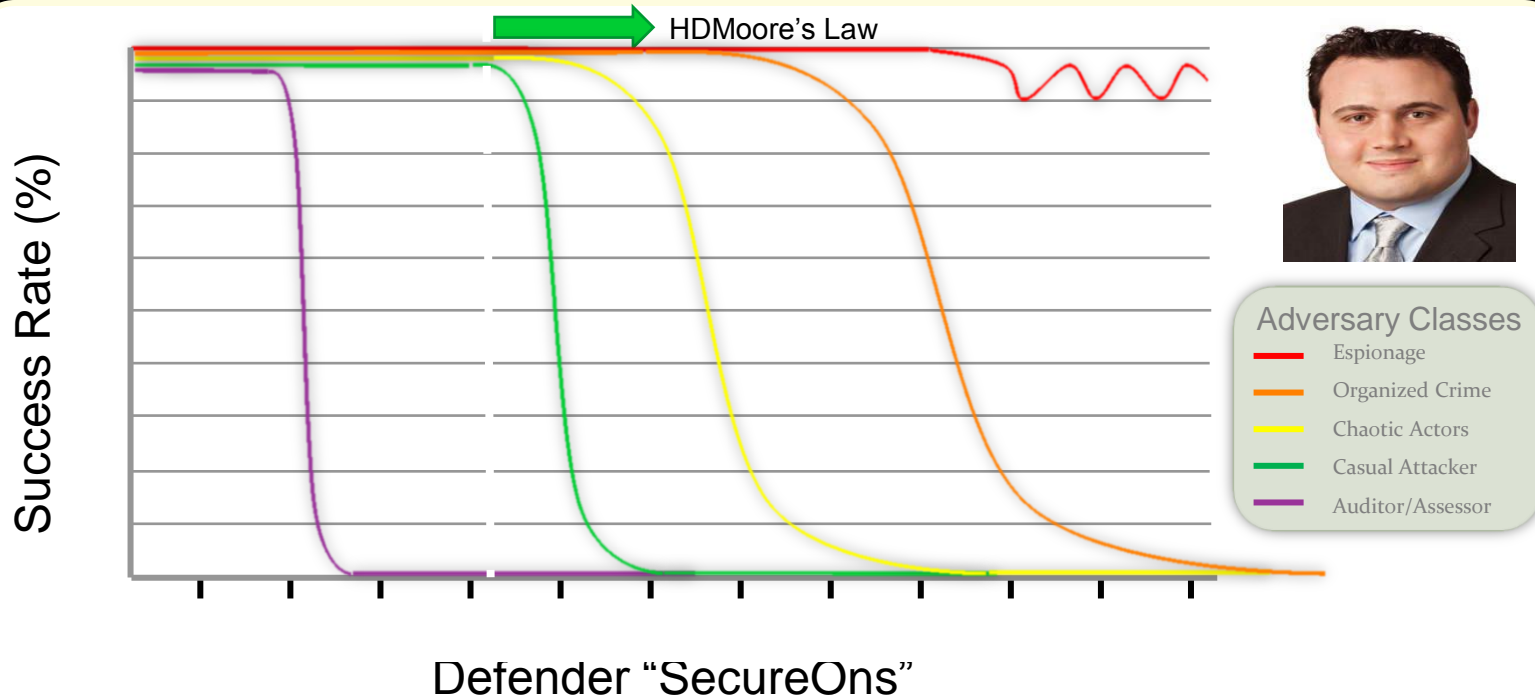




-MAR-



# HDMoore's Law



x

<http://blog.cognitivedissidents.com/2011/11/01/intro-to-hdmoores-law/>

# Adversary Centric

Actor Classes



```
graph TD; A[Actor Classes] --> B[Motivations]; B --> C[Target Assets]; C --> D[Impacts]; D --> E[Methods];
```

Motivations

Target Assets

Impacts

Methods

Rugged DevOps: IT @ Ludicrous Speed!









## Defensible Infrastructure





## Gene Kim

MULTIPLE AWARD-WINNING CTO, RESEARCHER, VISIBLE OPS CO-AUTHOR, ENTREPRENEUR & FOUNDER OF TRIPWIRE



Operational Excellence

Defensible Infrastructure



Situational Awareness

Operational Excellence

Defensible Infrastructure





Countermeasures

Situational Awareness

Operational Excellence

Defensible Infrastructure





# Experimentation

An untested hypothesis is a wish



RUGGED SOFTWARE





# FAST



# AGILE





**Are You Rugged?**



HARSH



UNFRIENDLY



# THE MANIFESTO

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# *The Rugged Manifesto*

*I am rugged... and more importantly, my code is rugged.*

*I recognize that software has become a foundation of our  
modern world.*

*I recognize the awesome responsibility that comes with  
this foundational role.*

*I recognize that my code will be used in ways I cannot  
anticipate, in ways it was not designed, and for longer  
than it was ever intended.*

*I recognize that my code will be attacked by talented and  
persistent adversaries who threaten our physical,  
economic, and national security.*

*I recognize these things - and I choose to be rugged.*

*I am rugged because I refuse to be a source of  
vulnerability or weakness.*

*I am rugged because I assure my code will support its  
mission.*

*I am rugged because my code can face these challenges  
and persist in spite of them.*

*I am rugged, not because it is easy, but because it is  
necessary... and I am up for the challenge.*

I recognize that my code will be used in ways I cannot anticipate, in ways it was not designed, and for longer than it was ever intended.

Rugged?





[www.ruggedsoftware.org](http://www.ruggedsoftware.org)

<https://www.ruggedsoftware.org/documents/>

**CrossTalk**

<http://www.crosstalkonline.org/issues/marchapril-2011.html>



~~SECURITY~~

COST  
INHIBITOR

# Rugged-ities

- **Availability**
- **Survivability**
- **Defensibility**
- **Security**
- **Longevity**
- **Portability**

# Rugged DevOps Success

- Vertical: Financial
- Business: Money management firm
- Implemented Rugged DevOps to quicken the change cycle and tighten the security
- Results:
  - Increased from quarterly change cycle, to daily changes, 46 average a month.
  - Reduced failed changes from 17% to 4%
  - Reduced IT audit exceptions to zero



## ✂ Our Commitment to Rugged

CabForward is committed to the highest standards of application and network security for all of our client applications. We secure our infrastructure, ensure our data is protected, build defenses against common threats, practice rugged software development methodologies, and carefully review our code. CabForward has always believed in transparency; in fact, it's part of the CabForward DNA. We strive to deliver safer, more effective, defensible software and should you or someone you trust choose to validate it; we're completely open for review.

## Infrastructure Control

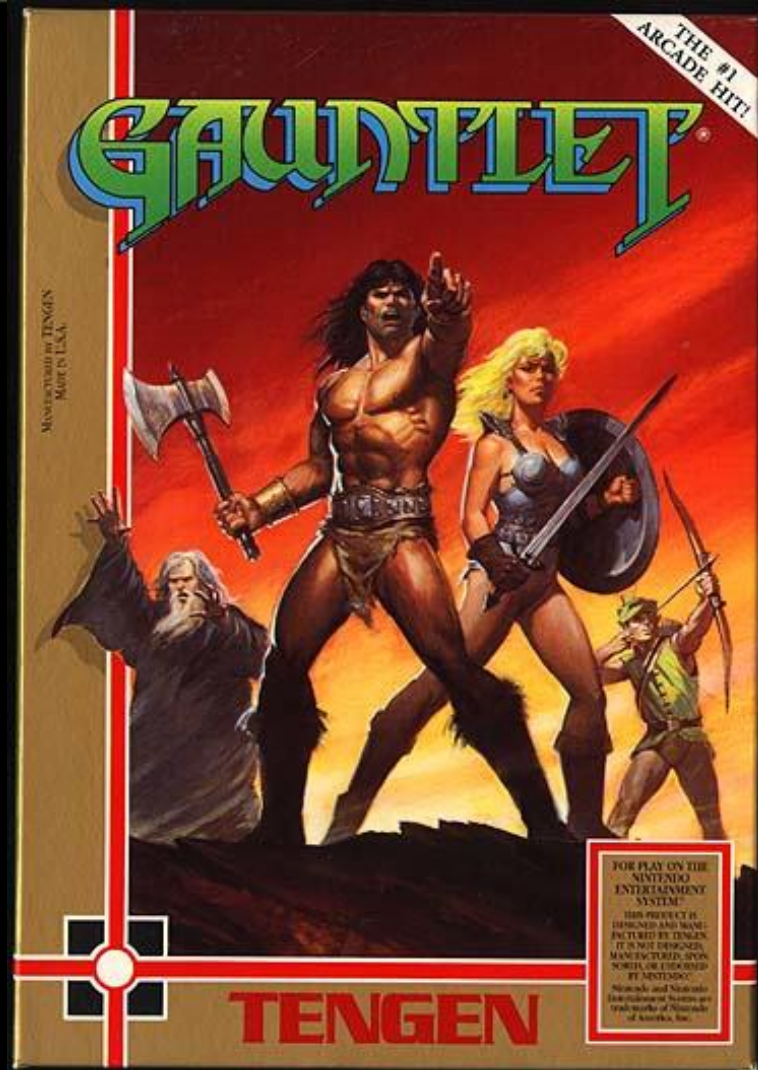
As we move into a cloud services delivery model, we have made significant investments in best of breed service providers. In our case, we leverage our relationships with both Heroku & Engine Yard to provide the highest level of security and control available. If we were to mimic the hardened infrastructure of either of these providers locally; the costs would be in the hundreds of thousands if not low millions of dollars. We move quickly; we are agile and we leverage the battle-hardened, magic quadrant cloud based service providers.

## Application Control

We leverage frameworks that allow us to reduce exposure to the most common exploits. We avoid dangerous software development frameworks that have extreme unresolved or non-defensible vulnerabilities. While we are exploit aware, we choose frameworks that allow us agility in the cloud. Code quality and security is absolutely critical, but the environment it runs on is just as important. We have an active interest in local security scene. We attend the local security conferences and we take to heart rugged security principles in our core product design.

## Data Protection

There is no higher priority to us than protecting your data. In order to achieve this goal, we have adopted a 'rugged' approach to authentication and access control. This common defense applies across all of our client(s) and allows us to react quickly to new exploits. Again, we leverage





A declaration of  
intent &  
recognition...

# The Rugged Summit



We don't all agree



# STRAW MAN ARGUMENT

Dorothy, why do some AppSec guru's hate Rugged?





## The Rugged Bank Security Story

**Commitment:** Brick-and-mortar banks protect money with vaults, guards, and alarms. As we move these operations to cyberspace, everyone should expect even better protection of their money and financial information. RuggedBank is committed to the highest standards of application and network security for our RBOOnline application. We secure our infrastructure, ensure data is always protected, build defenses against injection and other application attacks, practice rugged software development, and carefully verify our code. At the core of our security is a commitment to transparency – across our protections, processes, and even potential problems.



### Infrastructure Control

RBOOnline security depends on maintaining control of our physical and network infrastructure. We are hosted in a secure data center, managed by trusted staff, and our systems are kept hardened, patched, and up-to-date. Our network is defended and segmented by firewalls and we detect and block both network and application attacks.

[Learn more...](#) ▶



### Application Control

All our data protections depends on having software that is resistant to injection or other attacks that rob us of control of our systems. We have strict rules around data handling and interpreter use to prevent injection. In addition we ensure the application is always available and ready for use.

[Learn more ...](#) ▶



### Data Protection

Protecting your data is our highest priority. Our primary defense is universal authentication and access control. As a secondary defense, we also use strong encryption everywhere data is transmitted or stored. To ensure that these protections are not bypassed, we have established extensive protections against injection and other attacks.

[Learn more ...](#) ▶



### Rugged Development

To make sure that our application is designed and implemented securely, We follow a secure development lifecycle. All our developers are trained in using our standard security defenses. We have performed extensive threat modeling and minimized our attack



### Security Verification

An independent team performs architecture analysis, code review, and penetration testing on our application. We use a custom test suite and automated security tools to double-check for vulnerabilities. We are committed to finding and eliminating

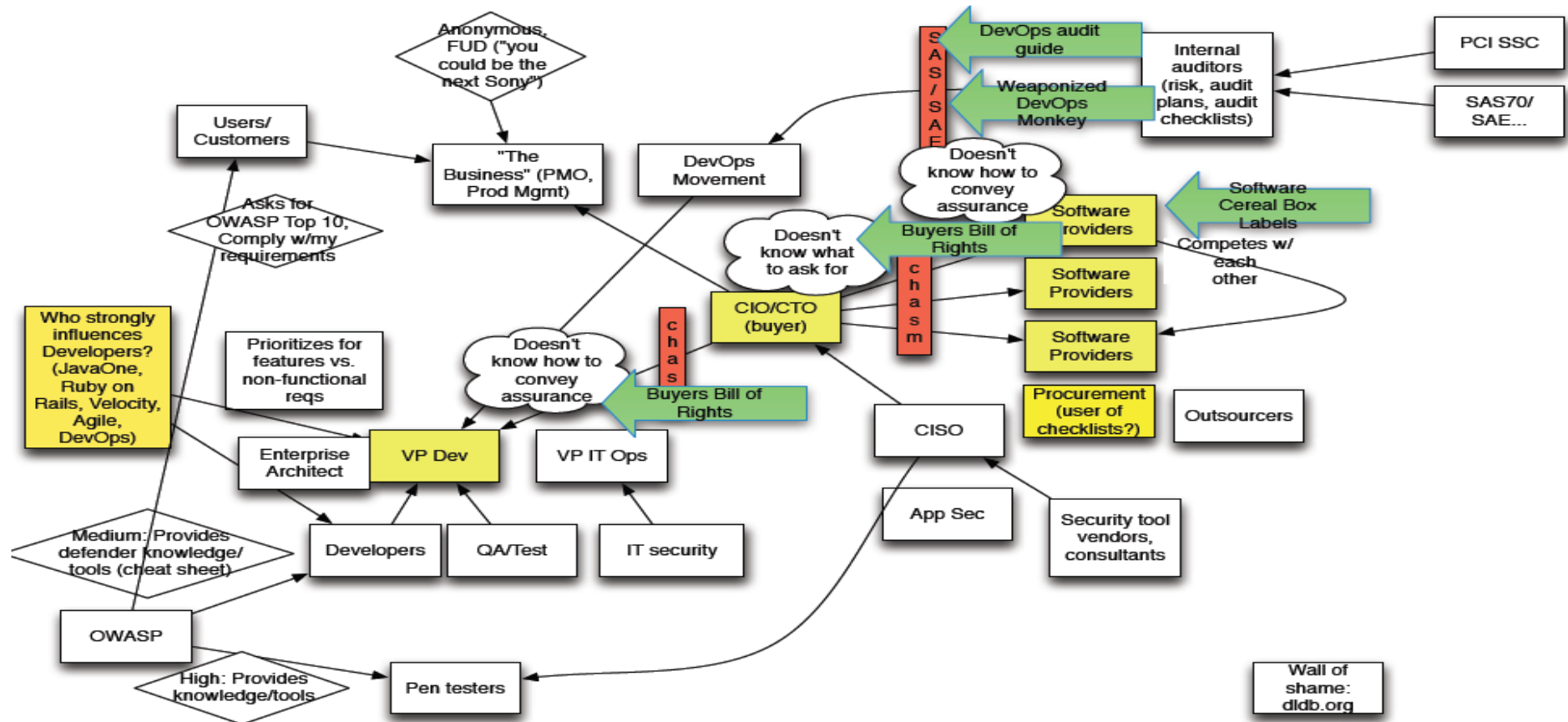


### Transparent Security

Without information, good security decisions are impossible, so we are committed to ensure that you understand the protections that we have provided. We will notify you of any security issues that might affect your business. You can export your data from

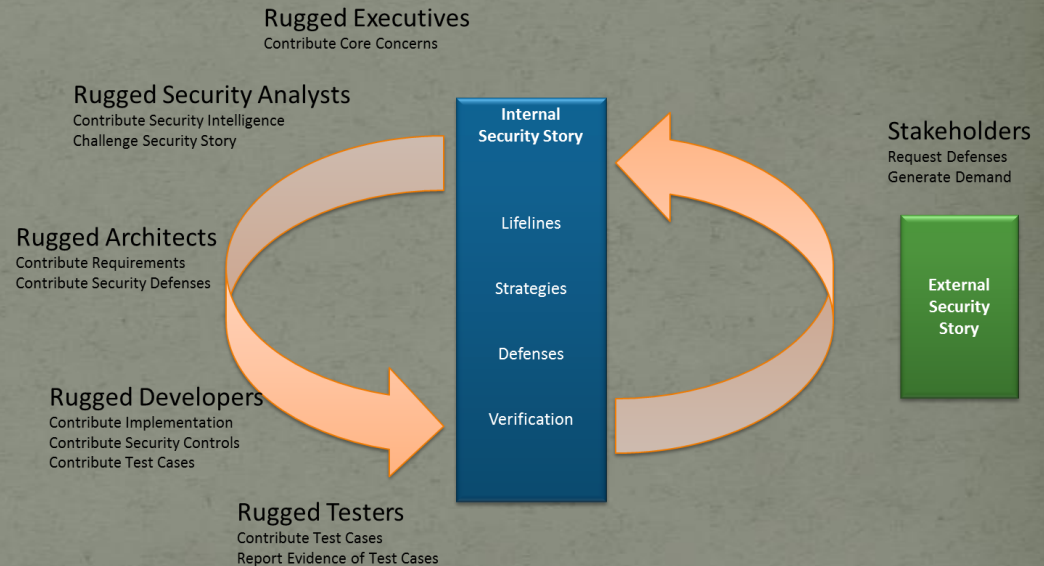


# From the Rugged Handbook StrawMan

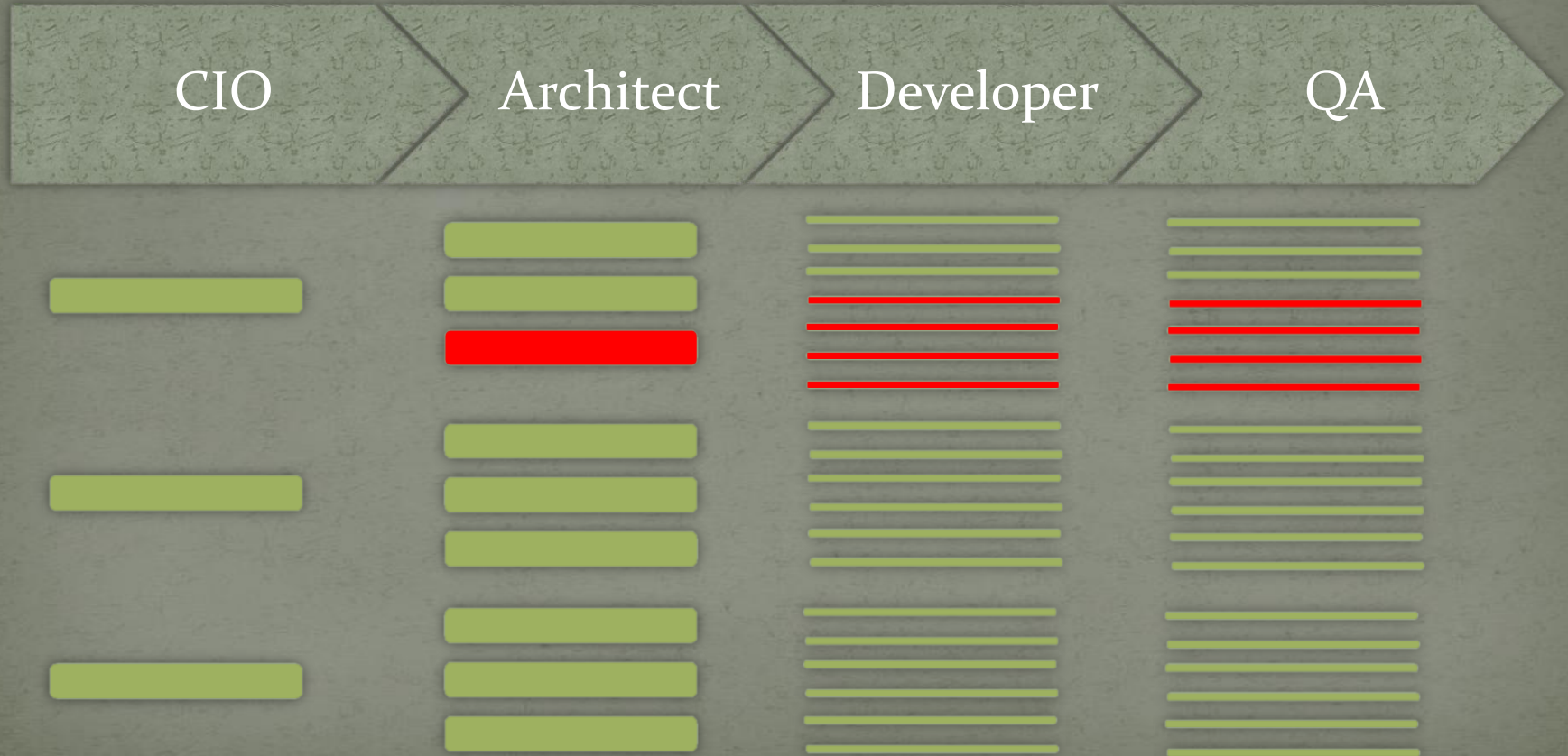


# Rugged by Role

- Executives CIO/CTO
- Security “Analysts”
- Architects
- Developers
- Testers
- Program Managers



# Linkage and Efficiency



# To be added from the Rugged Summit

- Buying and selling software
- Understanding the entire software supply chain
- Network security, physical security, database security, etc...
- Other types of software projects, including legacy code, outsourced code, libraries, etc...
- Enterprise level security as opposed to individual projects





A 2x2 matrix diagram is centered on a dark, textured background. The matrix is defined by two white arrows: a vertical arrow pointing up and down, and a horizontal arrow pointing left and right. These arrows intersect at the center, dividing the space into four quadrants. Each quadrant contains a light green, rounded square with a subtle pattern. Inside each square, text is written in a white, serif font. The top-left square is labeled 'Old Purchased', the top-right 'New Purchased', the bottom-left 'Old Built', and the bottom-right 'New Built'.

Old  
Purchased

New  
Purchased

Old Built

New Built

# Experimentation

An untested hypothesis is a wish

# Operational & Attitude



**HONEY BADGER**



**DON'T CARE**





Make it better

THANK YOU  
My Collaborators

# Joshua Corman

[Knowledge Seeker | Zombie Killer]

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