



American Water Works
Association

Cybersecurity & the Water Sector

NAWC Water Summit

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San Diego, CA

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How to deal with Cyber Threat?

- **How would our operations change if we did not have SCADA working?**
- **How sure are we that our SCADA systems are secure?**
- **When was the last time we performed cyber security vulnerability assessments?**
- **What would be the impact to our organizations if we were aware of vulnerabilities and did nothing?**



The vulnerabilities were found in widely used programmable logic controllers (PLCs) made by General Electric, Rockwell Automation, Schneider Modicon, Koyo Electronics and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories.

	AB	Schneider	GE	SEL	Koyo
Fireware	!	✗	!	!	!
Ladder Logic	!	!	✗	!	✗
Backdoors	!	✗	✗	✓	✓
Firmware	✗	✗	✗	!	!
Web	!	✗	N/A	N/A	✗
Web Config	!	!	✗	!	!
Substation	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Modbus Protocols	!	✗	✗	!	!

Check only for vulnerabilities from 2007-2011. Cell for Schneider is based on 2011. Cell for GE includes the vulnerabilities for the GE PLCs that were released, but does not include the GE PLCs that were released but not included in the research.

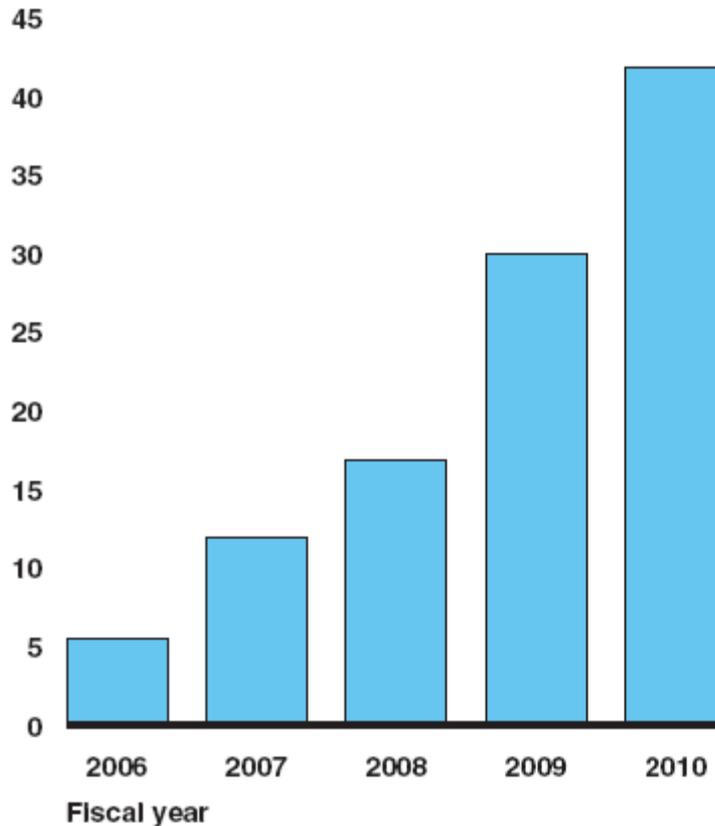
.....the work of a different researcher who was able to locate and map more than 10,000 industrial control systems hooked up to the public Internet, including water and sewage plants. While some may have been test systems, some of them were actually in production. Only 17 percent of the systems found asked remote users for authorization to connect, according to that research.



Federal Attention

Figure 1: Incidents Reported to US-CERT, Fiscal Years 2006-2010

Number (in thousands)



Source: GAO analysis of US-CERT data.

United States Government Accountability Office	
GAO	Report to Congressional Committees
October 2011	INFORMATION SECURITY
	Weaknesses Continue Amid New Federal Efforts to Implement Requirements



So What is the Problem?

Finding

There is no lack of cybersecurity guidance[but] given the plethora of guidance available, individual entities within the sectors may be challenged in identifying the guidance that is most applicable and effective in improving their security posture.

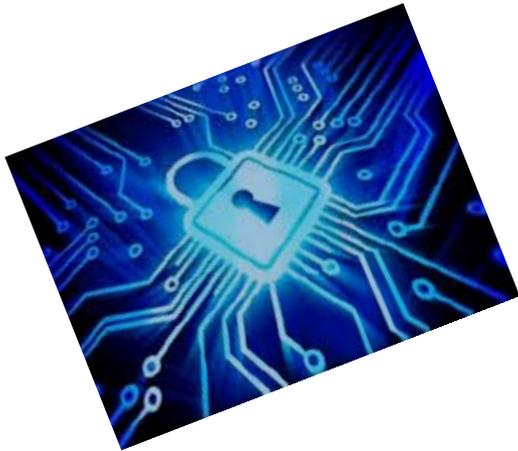
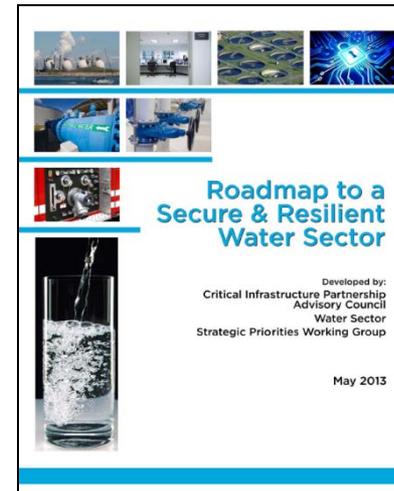
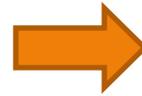
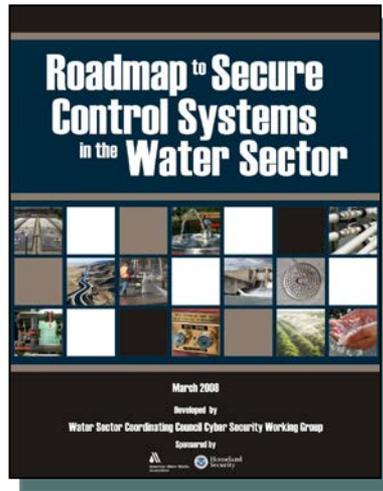
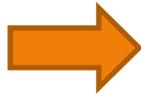
Recommendation

Develop a better understanding of the available guidance and best practices would help both federal and private-sector decision-makers coordinate protection of critical cyber-reliant assets.



Water Sector & Cyber Risk

- Y2K
- BT Act 2002



Critical Milestone
Develop a recommended practices ICS security template for widespread use in the water sector

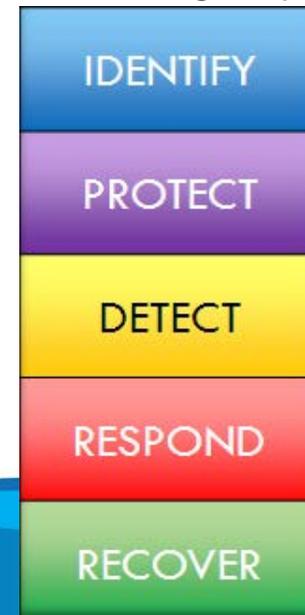
#1 Priority
Advance the development of sector-specific cybersecurity resources



Moving Forward

Executive Order 13636: Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity

- NIST will lead development of a **Cybersecurity Framework**
 - a prioritized, flexible, repeatable, performance-based, and cost-effective approach, including information security measures and controls, to help owners and operators of critical infrastructure identify, assess, and manage cyber risk.
- Current draft is function based approach
- Draft was issued in August 28, 2013
- Final expected in February, 2014



Water Sector Approach

AWWA WITAF Project #503

- Develop water sector guidance that provides a consistent and repeatable recommended course of action to reduce vulnerabilities in process control systems.
- Target audience for this resource are water utility general managers, chief information officers and utility directors with oversight and responsibility for process control systems.
- Aligns with sector and national priorities, fulfills need for sector-specific guidance as specified in EO 13636.
- Deliverable: *October 2013*



Project Overview

- Project Kickoff – May 1, 2013
- Project Steering Committee
 - AWWA PM – Kevin Morley
 - 3 Water Utility Reps, Consult. Firm, Equip Vendor
- SME Panel
 - 16 Water Utility Reps
 - Vendors & Consulting Firms
 - EPA, DHS, WaterISAC



Project Overview

Current Security Practices survey

- 46 questions
- Online survey administered through AWWA website
- 114 respondents
- Confirmed need for Guidance document
 - Continuing deficiencies in implementation of cybersecurity programs in water sector
 - Limited focus by utility management



Project Overview

Definition Workshop

- Held in Denver on June 25, 2013
- Workshop Objectives
 - Review challenge in raising the importance of protecting control systems against cyber-attack
 - Explore the critical reasons for utilities to focus on this issue and the risks inherent in not doing so.
 - Discuss impediments to utility leadership embracing cyber security as high priority and barriers that get in the way of investing in protection of control systems
 - Develop general framework for the type of cyber security guidance required
 - Define clear communications strategy for ensuring leadership buy-in and successful deployment of AWWA Guidance Document



Project Overview

Recommended Cybersecurity Practices

- 52 practices organized in 12 categories
 1. Governance and Risk Management
 2. Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery
 3. Server and Workstation Hardening
 4. Access Control
 5. Application Security
 6. Encryption
 7. Telecommunications, Network Security, and Architecture
 8. Physical Security of PCS Equipment
 9. Service Level Agreements
 10. Operations Security
 11. Education
 12. Personnel Security



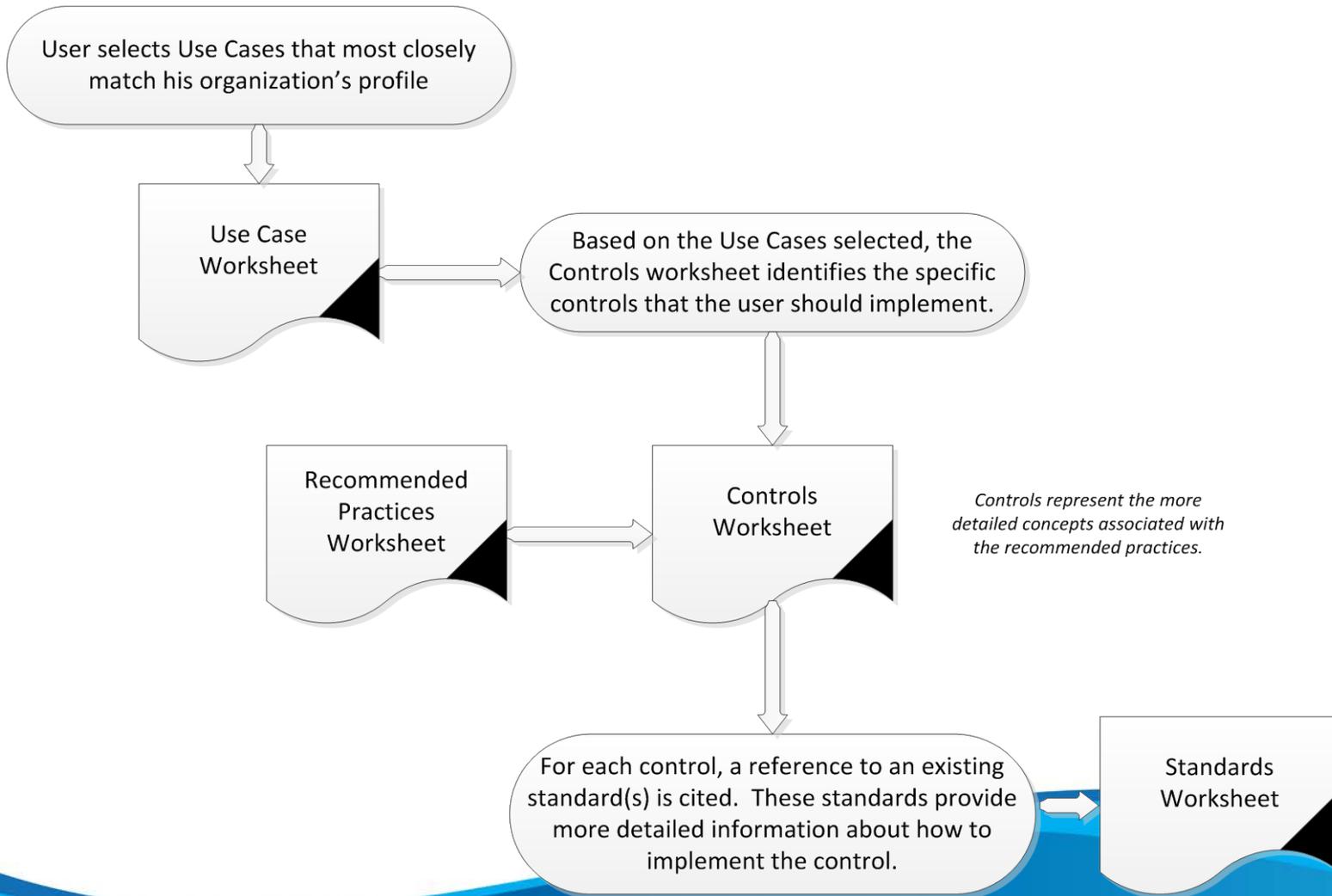
Project Overview

Cybersecurity Guidance for the Water Sector

- PCS Use Cases
 - Characterizes manner in which utility uses PCS and connections to external sources
- Cybersecurity Controls
 - Total of 82 controls
 - More detailed measures needed to implement recommended practices
- References to Existing Standards
 - Paragraph/section number references to set of 9 existing NIST, AWWA, & ISA standards



PCS Cybersecurity Guidance



Questions

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