

NASA IV&V's Cyber Range for Space Systems

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GSAW 2019 Feb. 25-28, 2019

Renaissance Los Angeles Airport Hotel

"Creating Smarter Ground Systems"





# NASA IV&V's Lab History



- In 2010, a team of specialized engineers were put together to develop high fidelity simulations to enable dynamic analysis of NASA's spacecraft flight software
  - The Jon McBride Software Testing & Research (JSTAR) laboratory was born out of necessity to enable the development and execution of these simulations
- JSTAR currently contains high fidelity ground to space simulations for many of NASA's most critical missions (i.e. digital twin)
  - GPM, JWST, SLS, MPCV, EGS/GSDO, etc.
  - S/C flight software executes "unmodified" within environments (i.e. a software-only flatsat)
- In 2013, the JSTAR lab's scope expanded to include cybersecurity capabilities (i.e. "cyber range")
  - Ground system cyber assessments (i.e. Blue Team) and penetration testing methodology developed with accompanying training
    - Executed assessments/tests across NASA ground systems for 5 years
- In 2018, combined the high fidelity simulation capability and cyber range with lessons learned from 5 years of assessments on operational ground systems to establish a highly specialized cyber range for space systems



## Proof of Concept Completed End-to-End Virtualized Mission



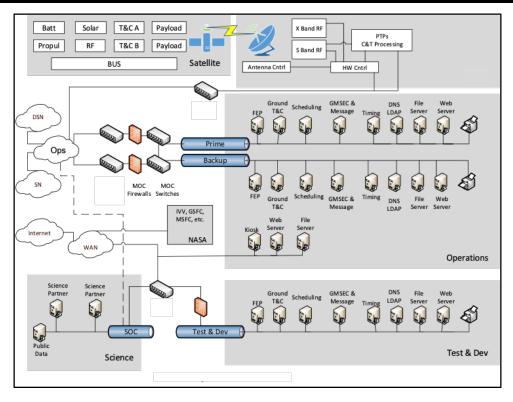
#### Mission networking environment

- Corporate/Internet Network
- Science Operations
- Mission Ops Infrastructure
- Dev/Test

#### **C&DH** environment

- ASIST, FEDS, and cFS
- Built from the ground up
- Bleeding edge SW releases
- Enables plug-and-play into simulations



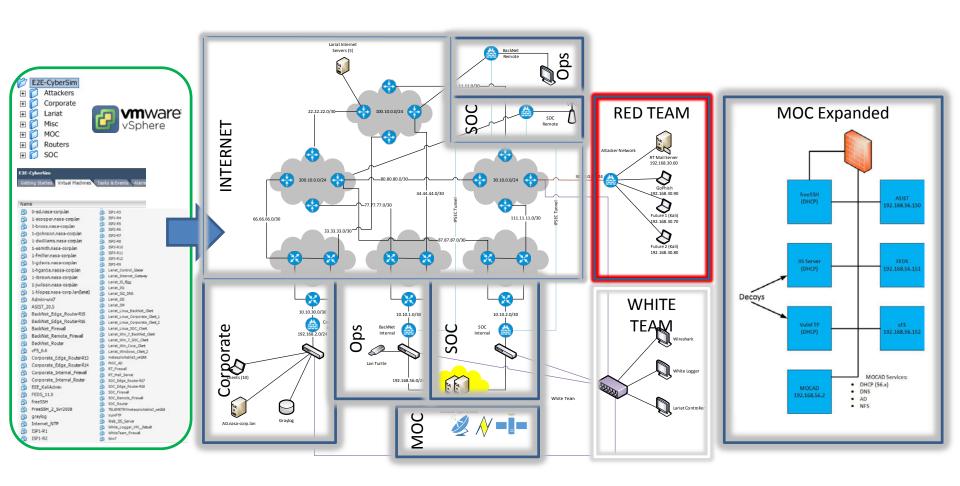


- A complete Ground System and Satellite packaged in three virtual machines
- Usage of CCSDS Communications Link Transmission Units
- Usage of CCSDS TeleCommand Transfer Frames
- Usage of CCSDS AOS Telemetry Frames
- Ability of ground station to send commands to and receive telemetry from cFS.
- Python scripts that act as 'uplinks' and 'downlinks' and serve to terminate TCP connections to ground and emulate RF transmission to FSW by using UDP.
- CFDP upload functionality from the ground station



# **Tradecraft Proving Ground**







## "Capture the Spacecraft" Exercise



- Similar to past Exercises
  - DoD
    - Fallen Angel, Cyber Guard
  - ICS-CERT Training
    - · Red vs. Blue
  - But uses all simulation and virtualization to accurately represent real life scenarios
- Red vs. Blue
  - Building on knowledge and principles learned via training
  - 2 Week "live-fire" exercise





# IV&V Red Team / Blue Team Training Environment



#### **Blue Team Objectives**

- Secure the environment: establish baseline, patching, hardening
  - Assets Firewall, Routers, Windows OS, Linux OS, IDS, DNS Server, Web Application, Database Application, Domain Controller, Web Server
- Detection After the fact
  - Entry Point Detection Phish email, Firewall, Routers, Host OS, IDS, Web App, Database App, DC, Web Server
- Prevention Blocked Intrusion
  - Blocked point Phish email, Firewall, Routers, Host OS, IDS, Web App, Database App, DC, Web Server
- Incident Response
  - Analyze detection points
  - Ensure environment secured
  - Enforce prevention
  - Trace impact and origin

#### **Red Team Objectives**

- Find Vulnerabilities
  - Assets Firewall, Routers, Windows OS, Linux OS, IDS, DNS Server, Web Application, Database Application, Domain Controller, Web Server
- Exploitation -
  - Assets Firewall, Routers, Windows OS, Linux OS, IDS, DNS Server, Web Application, Database Application, Domain Controller, Web Server
- Exfiltration
  - Extract "make believe" sensitive data (i.e. Easter eggs)
- Attack
  - The "holy grail" on the attack perspective is to perform the following
    - Send NOOP command to S/C
    - Or run hack.prc script on ASIST
    - Upload custom/malicious TBL or SW to S/C
    - DOS of commanding/telemetry by stopping FEP. "Hack" into the FEP box and kill communication to S/C

- Using the Cyber Range
- Leveraging the Cybersecurity Knowledge Base and Training Curriculum
  - Intro to Cybersecurity and PenTesting
  - ~40 labs
- Intro to Space Systems and Design
  - Ref architectures, ASIST, Front End Data System, CCSDS



# **Sample Testing Scenarios**



- The threat actor would enter the "enterprise network" or contractor facility via the Internet. Once in, there would be a software development lab (SDL), and the threat actor would have access to an FSW repository of source and compiled and loadable images of the FSW, command & telemetry dictionaries, and sequence. The threat actor objective is to inject malware and/or manipulate that information to hinder the mission in some way.
- The threat actor's objective would be to deny proper communication with the S/C during a pass. Attacks are launched against ground critical infrastructure where the actor would work to damage/hinder the ability of assets to communicate to the S/C.
- The MOC physical barrier is breached using a lost badge. When the threat actor finds it, this will give them access into the MOC which is coupled with a remote access device. This will garner the threat actor with a persistent remote connection directly into the MOC.



## Takeaways from Exercise



- Overall, both teams achieved the scenario objectives
- Blue Team learned to:
  - Detect malicious network traffic
  - Identify adversarial Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures
  - Prevent future attacks by setting security controls
- Red Team learned to:
  - Identify vulnerabilities through network enumeration and testing
  - Exploit vulnerabilities by leveraging pen-testing tools
  - Navigate spacecraft infrastructure
- Infrastructure team took away many lessons learned to better expand and improve realism for future years
  - Improve traffic generation realism relative to each enclave
  - Add spacecraft simulation visualization to enable kinetic effect
  - Malicious 3<sup>rd</sup> party / Man-in-the-Middle attack
  - ICS/OT integrations (e.g. Tofino, Allen-Bradley, HMI, etc.)
    - Physical or software based ICS systems within the network at various points with defined support and potential cyber-physical



## **Usages Outside of Red/Blue**

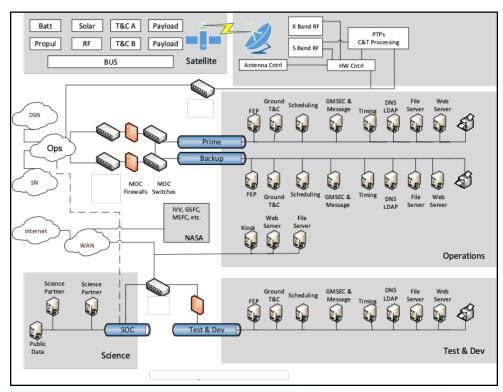


- Help ensure the success of the Mission Objectives and related capabilities
- Assure the cybersecurity characteristics and elements as defined in the planning, development, design, launch, sustained operations, and decommissioning of

Space systems and related SW components used to collect, generate, process, store,

display, transmit, or receive

- Supporting and related infrastructure
- Gain knowledge and understanding of the current and projected full range of threats to systems and SW
- Risk informed decision making
- Increased assurance and resilience of mission-essential functions and defined capabilities of mission systems, infrastructure
- Help protect against disruption, degradation, and destruction, whether from environmental, mechanical, electronic, software, or hostile faults/anomalies







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#### **Human Exploration**

Mission	Platform
Space Launch System (SLS)	SLS Software-only Simulator (S3)
Ground System and Data Operations (GSDO)	GSDO Software-only Simulator (G2)
Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV)	Software-Only Crew Exploration vehicle Risk Reduction Analysis Test Environment Simulation (SOCRRATES) *
Integrated Tri- Program Simulation	Advanced Risk Reduction Integrated Software Test and Operations Tri-program Lightweight Environment (ARRISTOTLE)
International Space Station (ISS)	MADE Final Qualification Tests (FQTs) *

#### **Small Satellites**

Mission	Platform
Simulation-to-Flight 1 (STF-1)	NASA Operational Simulator for Small Satellites (NOS³)
Lunar Ice Cube	

#### **Science Missions**

Mission	Platform
JWST	JWST Integrated Simulation & Test (JIST)
DSCOVR	Mission Test Set (MTS)
GPM	GPM Operational Simulator (GO-SIM)
OSIRIS-Rex Insight MAVEN	SoftSim (Lockheed Martin) *
ICESAT-II	ATLAS FSW Simulation Environment *
WFIRST	Leon-4 Emulator, cFS, ASIST, 42, WFI/CGI simulator
Europa	RAD750 Emulator, CORE, GDS, WSTS

