



# Cyber & Information Security Readiness

A HOLISTIC APPROACH

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# Middle Market Cyber & Information Security

- ▶ Increased frequency of attacks and breaches
- ▶ Limited internal resources and confusion among management on what is getting addressed
- ▶ Increased expectations by all stakeholders in regards to safeguarding privacy
- ▶ Increased operational, financial, legal and reputational risks
- ▶ Need for a unified methodology and an easy way to measure and manage



# Cyber Readiness Approaches

## Minimal

- Keeping up with latest patches and fixes at best
- Highly reactive in nature
- Lack of cyber related plans and budgets

## Traditional

- Having a formal cyber program in place
- Leveraging applicable industry methodologies
- Highly IT focused and driven

## Holistic

- Active cyber program in place
- Leveraging leading industry practices
- Close and active collaboration between IT and Management

# A Holistic Approach



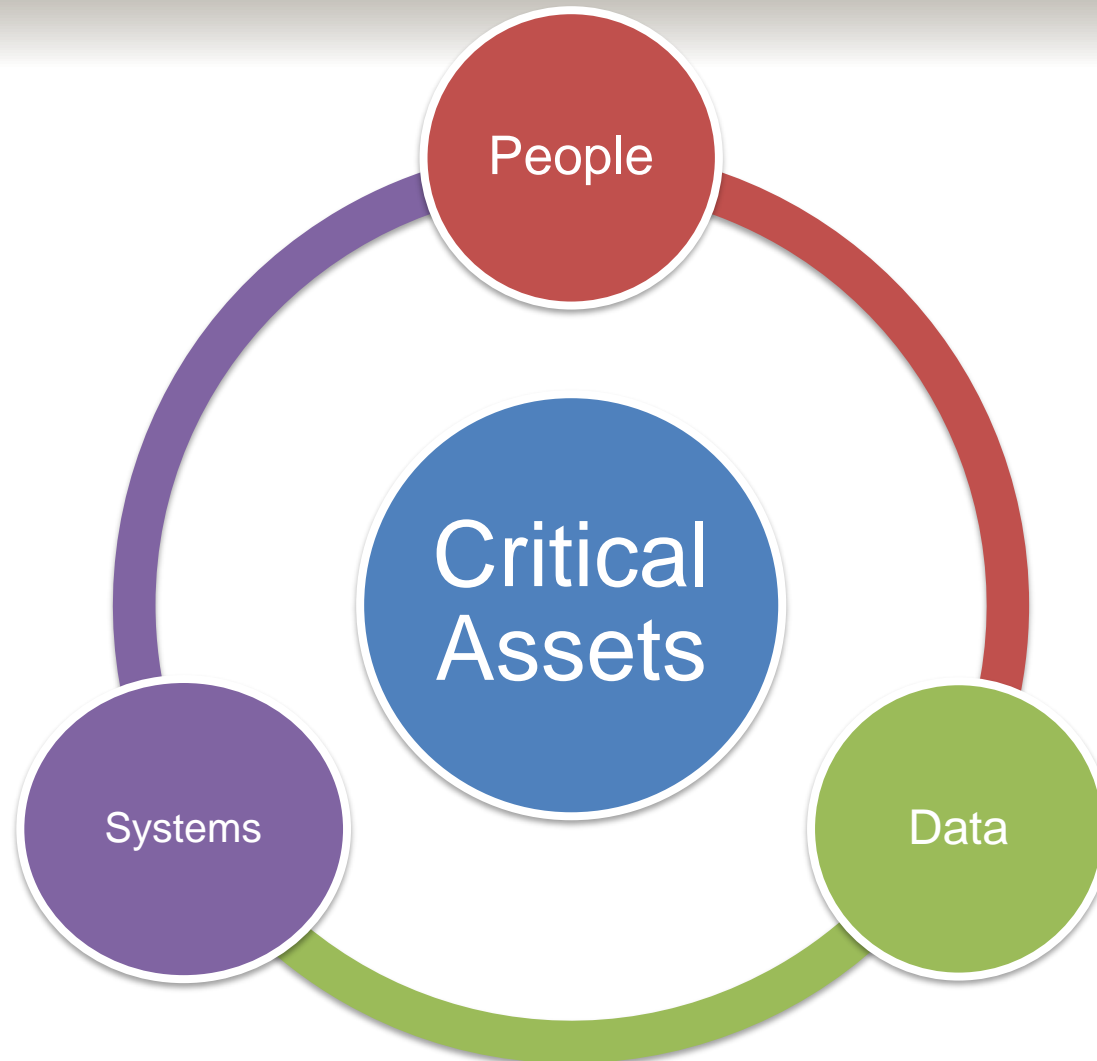
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# Industry Dynamics

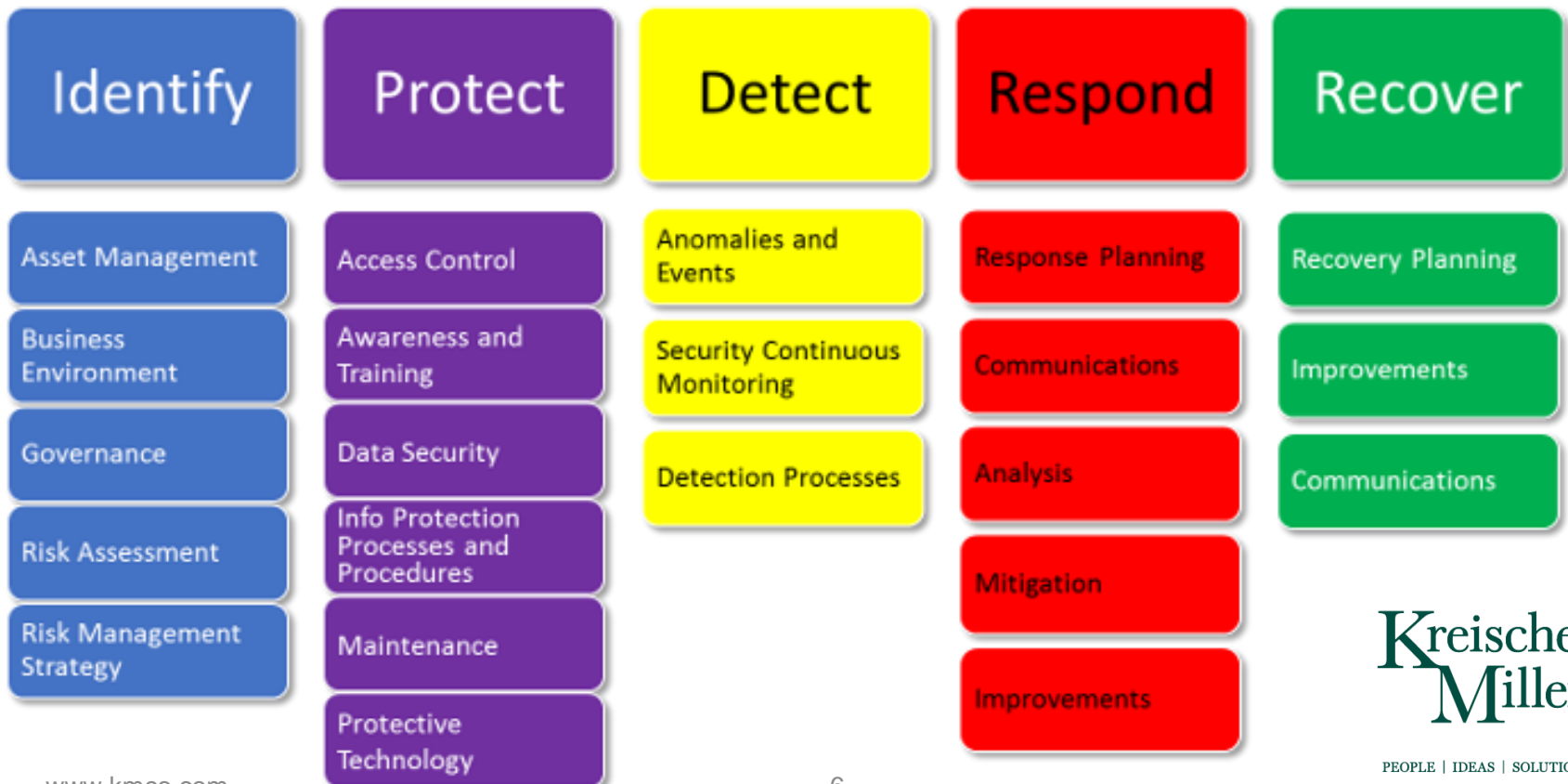
- Competitive Landscape – Each industry is subject to its own unique competitive realities that can impact each firm's appropriate security postures.
- Business Vision – Each firm within a certain industry segment has their own plans and priorities, creating their unique strategy and as such, will influence their overall security posture.
- Client Requirements – Customers are demanding more flexibilities and options when dealing with their providers that will create new potential challenges for many companies.
- Regulatory Realities – Compliance requirements add another layer to be dealt with for many businesses.

# Securing Critical Assets

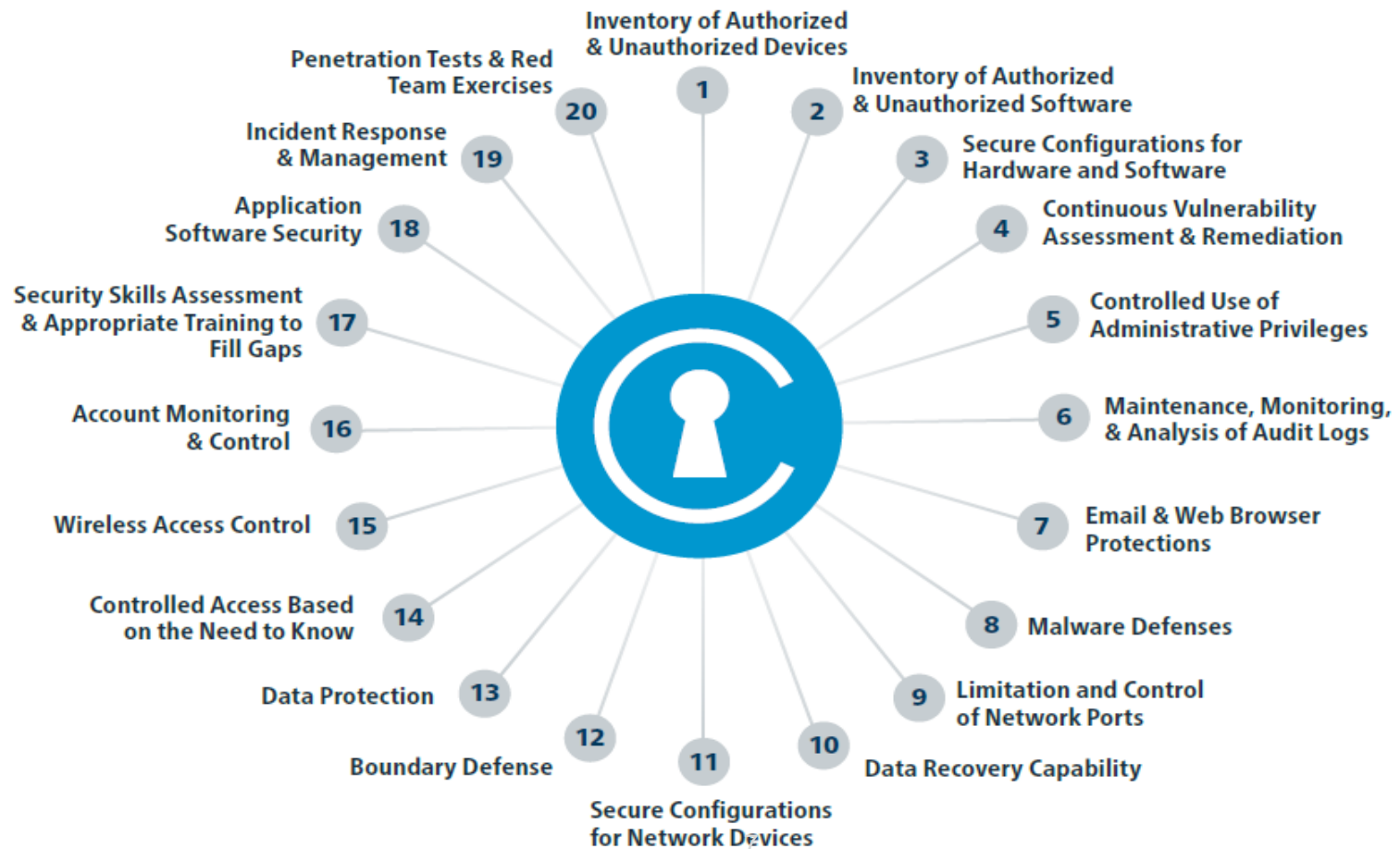


# Leveraging Frameworks

## NIST Cyber Security Framework

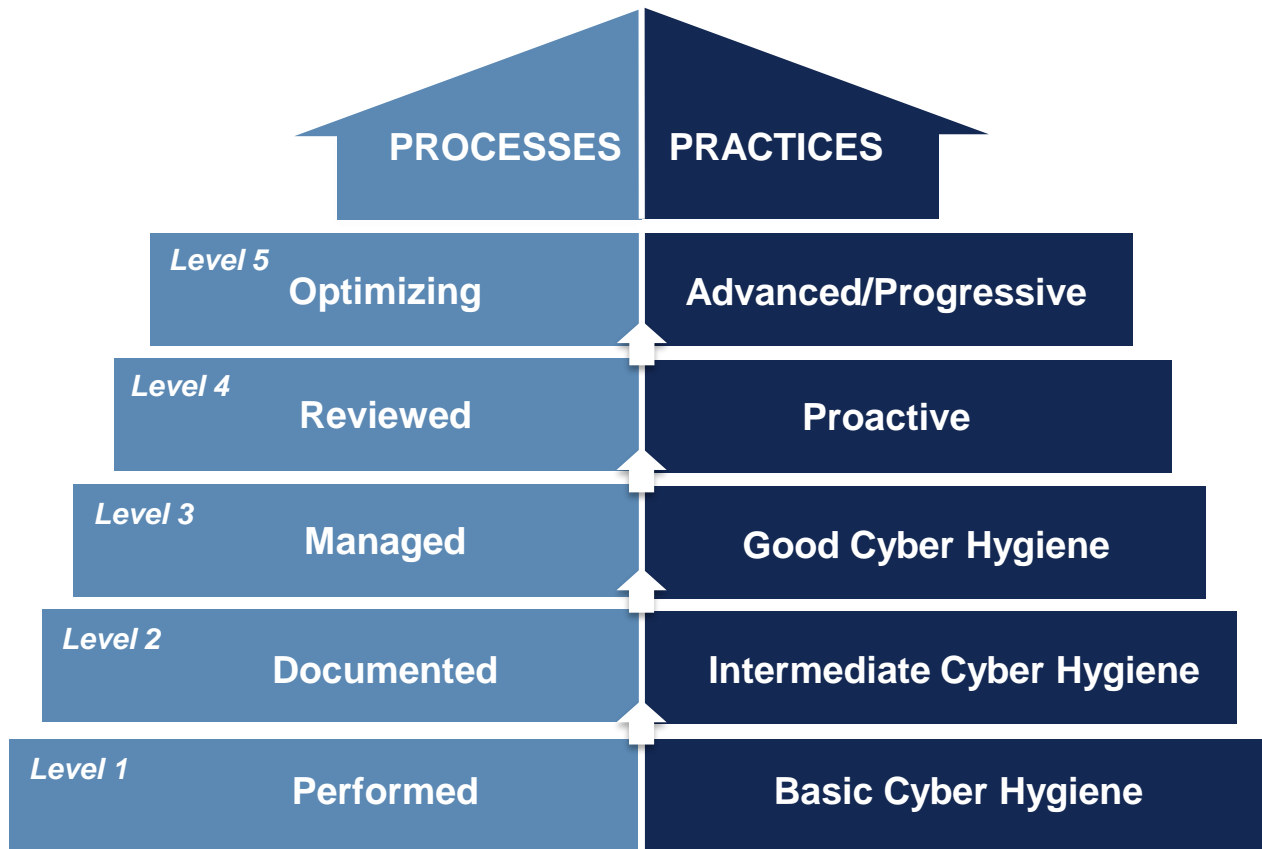


# CIS Top 20 Controls Approach

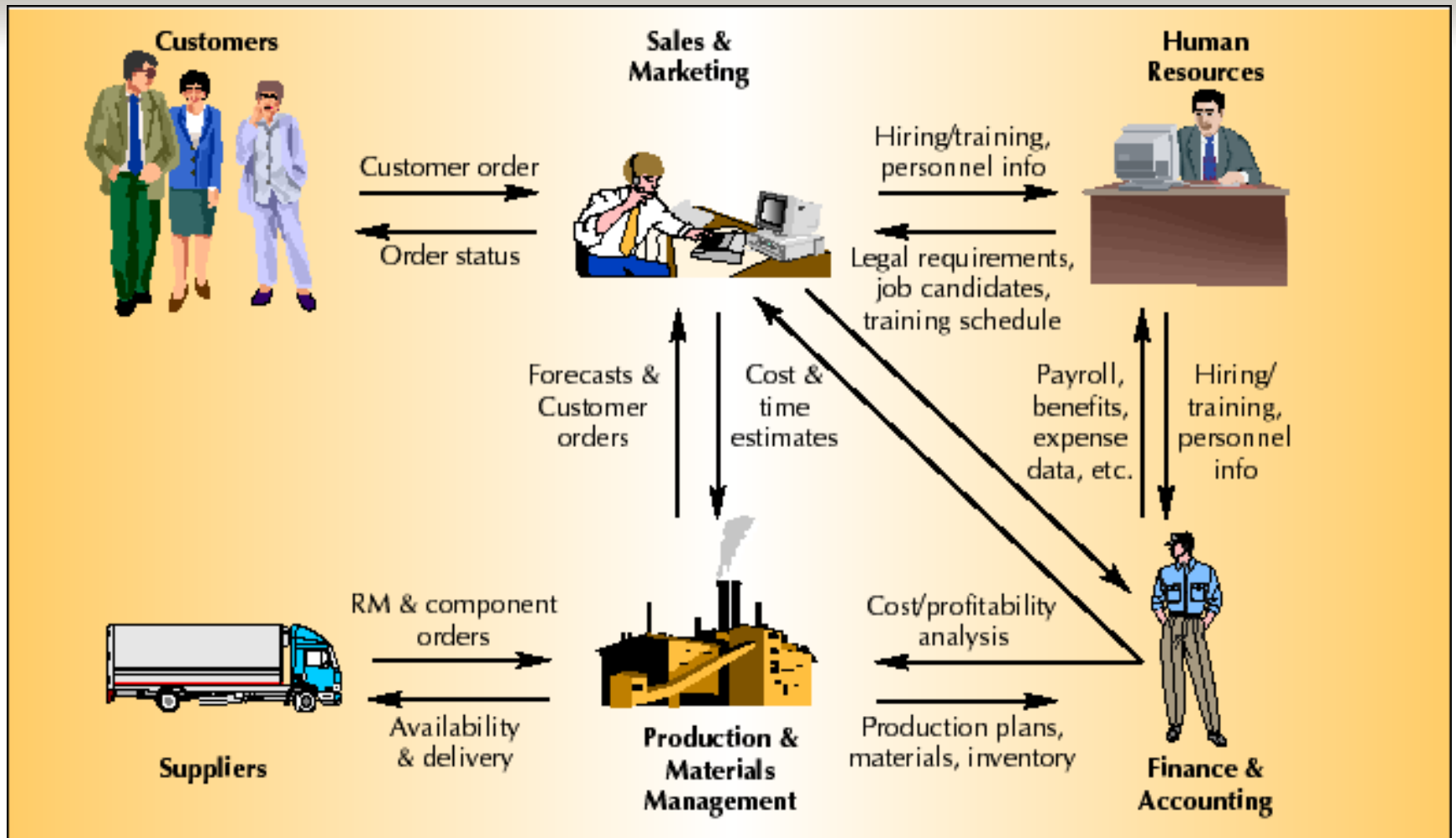




# CMMC/DoD Controls Approach



# Key Business Processes



# External Parties



# Resource Considerations

- Middle market companies are the ones feeling the impact of IT security resources the most:
  - Larger firms have dedicated security teams
  - Small businesses rely on affordable cloud based tools
- There is no shortage of cyber and information security solutions on the market.
- Most often middle market companies go on an investment binge after experiencing a cyber incident, resulting in a “fog of more” solution impact.
- Selecting proper tools and partners could significantly impact middle market organizations cyber readiness levels.

# Management Practices

- Management is ultimately responsible for safeguarding company assets and ensuring effective operations during disruptive periods.
- IT is responsible for educating management on effective technology enabled solutions while management is responsible for defining organizations risk management approach and priorities using such tools.
- Managements responsibility extends to Board members and external advisors in relation to effective cyber and information privacy considerations.
- IT management by itself can not achieve a holistic approach towards increased cyber effectiveness.

# How do we get there?

- Conduct a detailed review of existing IT system vulnerabilities including scanning your computing environment.
- Review applicable control methodologies ranging from CIS to DFARS/CMMC, SOC, HIPAA or PCI to evaluate your controls.
- Interview executives and key business process owners, conduct walkthroughs to identify potential cyber and information privacy risks in your critical business processes.
- Establish baseline competency evaluation of users cyber and information security knowledge.
- Review all existing policies and procedures related to internal and external use of data and systems.
- Analyze data, develop scores, to identify risk factors and establish remediation priorities.

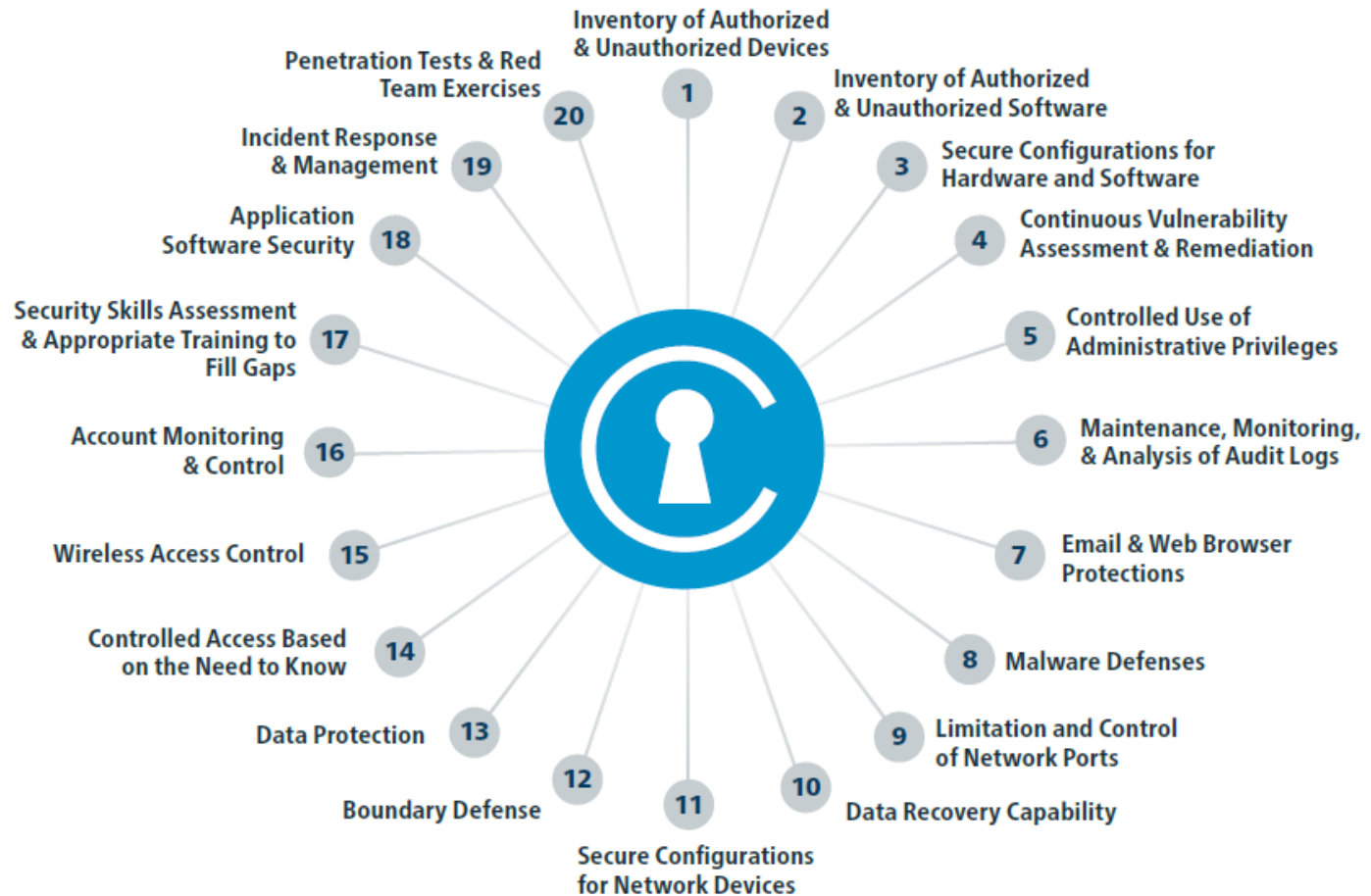
# A Holistic Approach – NIST+



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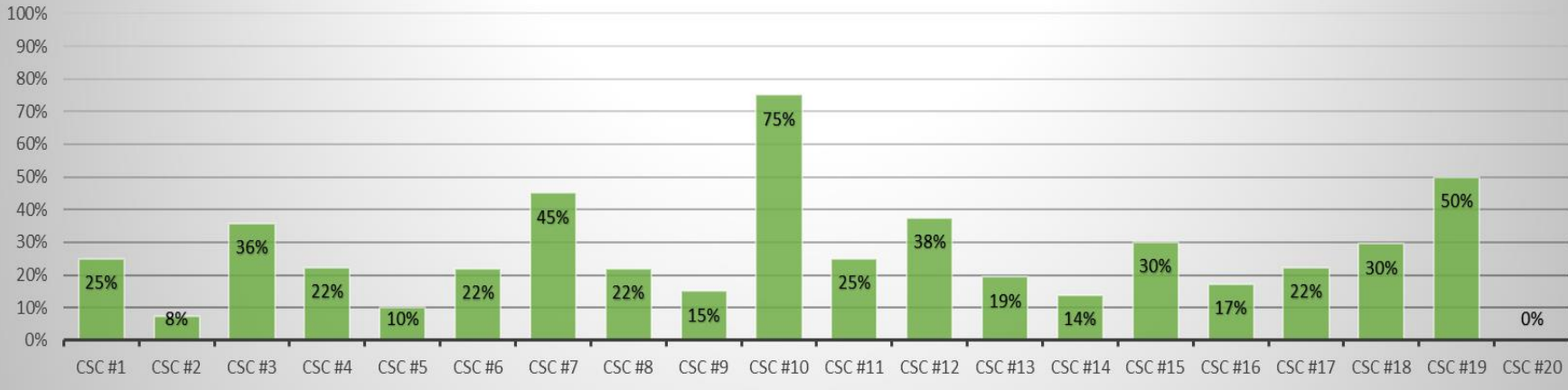
# CIS Top 20 Controls Approach





# CIS Top 20 Dashboard

## Implementation Percentage by Control



# CIS Top 20 Controls Risk Summary

<b>CONTROL GROUP</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Sampling of Key Findings</b>
BASIC	B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Effective hardware &amp; software management practices</li><li>- Need to address Admin account privileges</li></ul>
INTERMEDIATE	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Effective data recovery capabilities</li><li>- Need to improve device security configurations</li></ul>
ADVANCE	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Effective application software controls in place</li><li>- Need to develop incident response plan</li></ul>

# Key Business Process Cyber Risks

PROCESS	GRADE	Sampling of Key Findings
Sales	C+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved control of CRM access credentials</li> <li>- Handling of client confidential information</li> <li>- Implement MDM solution for sales team</li> </ul>
Operations	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve warehouse wireless security</li> </ul>
H/R	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update current employee onboarding cyber related policies and procedures</li> </ul>
Finance	B+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implement multi factor authentication for bank account access</li> </ul>

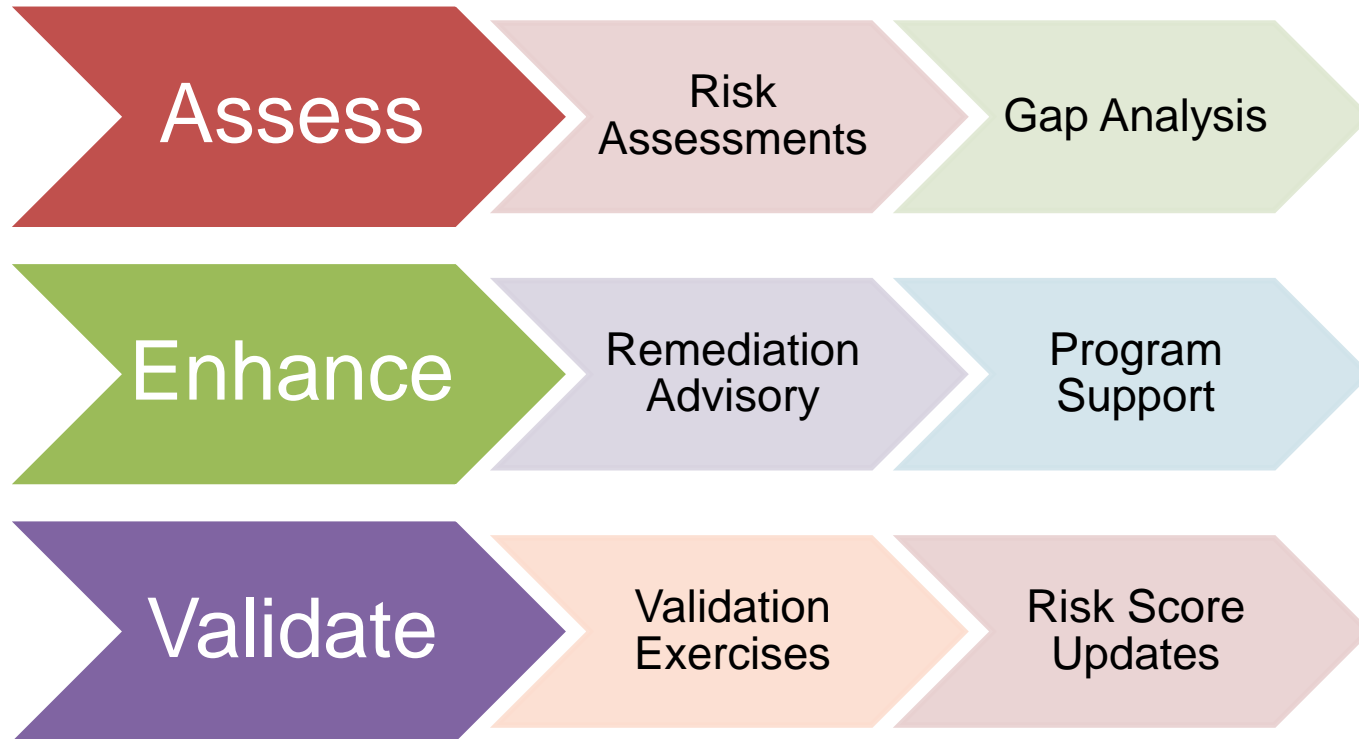
# External Party Risk Summary

<b>CONTROL GROUP</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	<b>Sampling of Key Findings</b>
Customers	B	- Safeguard client credit card information
Suppliers	B	- Establish proper vendor system access policies and procedures
Service Providers	C	- Validate IT provider security credentials

# Benefits of a Holistic Cyber Approach

- Conducting a periodic “grading” of cyber and information privacy readiness to ensure we have a better understanding of potential risks as technologies, key processes and threat vectors are changing at all times.
- Ability to plan IT related initiatives and remediation efforts that would have maximum Risk Mitigation ROI as seen best fit by executive management.
- Establishing a collaborative mindset between IT and non-IT to ensure most effective planning and execution, resulting in increased competitive capabilities for the firm.
- Reducing risks of a future cyber and information security event and being better prepared if one occurs.

# KM 3 Phases of Cyber & Information Security Program Support



Thank you for attending!



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