



TROOPERS CONFERENCE IN 2022
TROOPERS

JUNE 27 TO
JULY 01, 2022



Resurrecting After A Ransomware Attack Be Secure(d), And Prepared!



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Jorge de Almeida Pinto

Senior Solutions Architect
Product Manager Semperis ADFR
Incident Response Team Member

Me, Myself And I!




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Product Manager Semperis ADFR
Incident Response Team Member

LinkedIn	http://tiny.cc/JorgeLinkedIn
Blog	http://tiny.cc/JQFKblog
Twitter	http://tiny.cc/JQFKtwitter
Website	https://www.semperis.com/
Blog	https://www.semperis.com/blog/
Podcast	https://hipconf.libsyn.com/
Contact	jorged@semperis.com

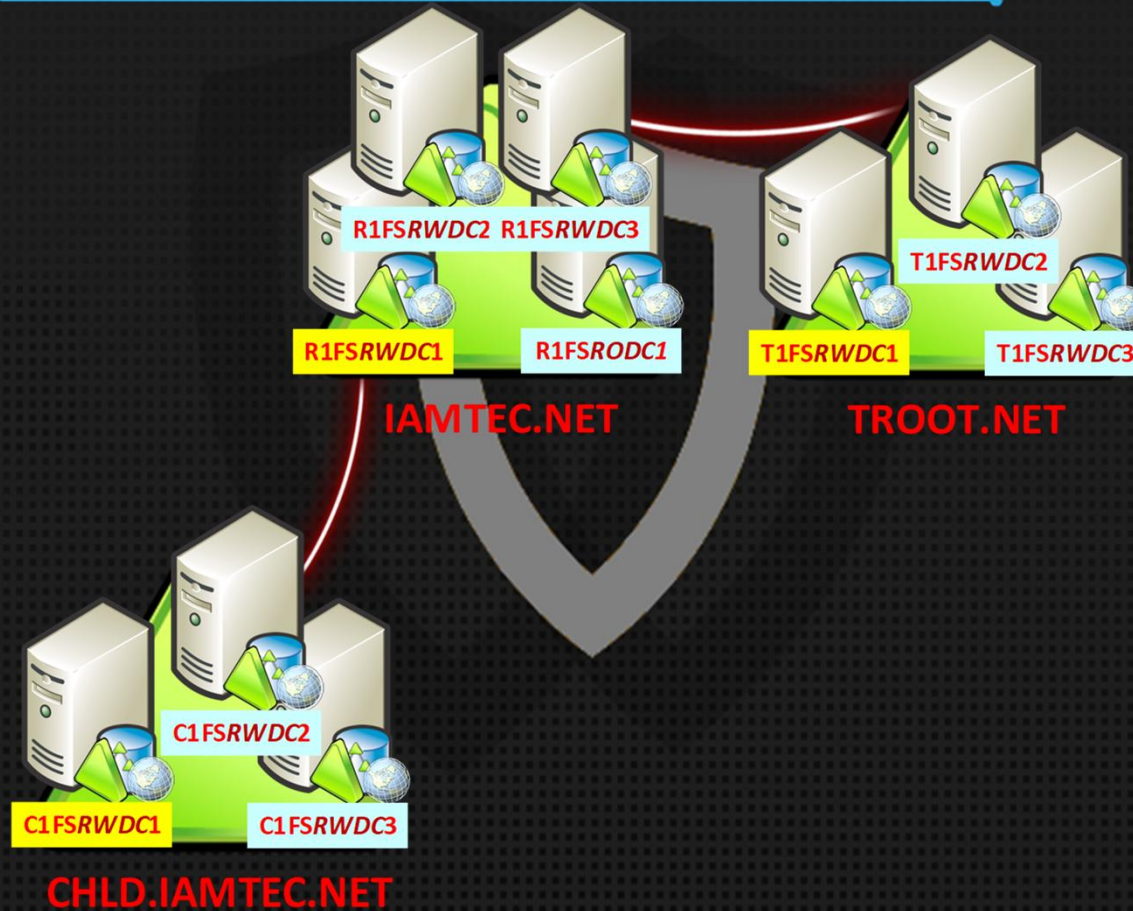
Architecting, designing, implementing and maintaining secure identity solutions
Technology Focus: Identity, Security And Recovery
Product Focus: AD, ADFS, AAD Connect, FIM/MIM, Azure AD Technologies.



Agenda

1. Securing & Protecting AD
 2. AD DR Plan - Why?
 3. AD DR Plan - Options
 4. Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario
 5. Take Aways!
- 

Demo! - While Presenting





Securing & Protecting AD



Securing And Protecting AD



Ø Pro-Actively - Search And Fix

Ø By looking for Indicators of Exposure (IoEs)

- Ø Account Hygiene - Settings and Passwords
- Ø Security Related Configurations in AD
- Ø “Invisible” attack paths

Ø By looking for Indicators of Compromise (IoCs)

- Ø DC Shadow
- Ø Kerberoasting
- Ø ... and many more

Ø THINK and LOOK AT your (AD) environment as an attacker would

[Reading: Defenders Think in Lists. Attackers Think in Graphs](#)

[Video: Defenders Think in Lists. Attackers Think in Graphs](#)

+++++ STATISTICS FOR IAMTEC.NET +++++

AD Scan Report Includes Will Include

Default Report Details,

Details About Last Logon Per DC,

Details About Kerberos Delegation,

Details About Control Access Rights At AD Domain NC Level,

Details About Explicit Permissions At Object And AdminSDHolder Level,

Details About Account Security And Password Hygiene (Without ReUsed Hashes Displayed!)

Protecting AD



Threat Detection Response (TDR) Tools!

Domain FQDN	IAMTEC.NET
> Start Date/Time Script	2019-12-06 16.45.33
> Start Date/Time This AD Domain	2019-12-06 16.47.59
> End Date/Time This AD Domain	2019-12-06 16.49.38
> Time Spent For This AD Domain (Minutes)	1,65
> Total Accounts	322
> Total Enabled Accounts	256
> Total Disabled Accounts	66
> Total Locked Accounts	1
> Total Accounts With Pwd Never Expires	183
> Total Accounts With Admin Count Stamp	0
> Total Accounts As Delegatable Admin	7
> Total Accounts With No Pre-AuthN Required	1
> Total Accounts With sidHistory	0
> Total Accounts With LM Hashes	3
> Total Accounts With Default Pwd	0
> Total Accounts With Blank Pwd	6
> Total Accounts With DES Keys Only	1
> Total Accounts With Missing AES Keys	0
> Total Accounts With Pwd Rev Encrypt Storage	1
> Total Accounts With Pwd Not Required	11
> Total Accounts With Shared Pwds	106
> Total Accounts With Compromised Pwds	107
> Total Accounts With Most Used Hashes	112
> Total Accounts With SPNs	38
> Total Accounts With Acc Based Unconstrained Deleg	5
> Total Accounts With Acc Based Constrained Deleg	5
> Total Accounts With Res Based Constrained Deleg	4
> Total Accounts With 'DS Repl Changes' Permissions	8
> Total Accounts With 'DS Repl Changes All' Permissions	6
> Total Accounts With 'Migrate SidHistory' Permissions	7
> Total Accounts With 'Protected Group' Memberships	18
> Total Accounts With ACE On AdminSDHolder	5
> Total Accounts With Powerful ACE(s) On Objects	322
> Total Accounts With Processed Changes	6

Domain FQDN	Domain NBT	Domain DN	Container/OU	Sam Account Name	Account Name	Account Type	User Principal Name
IAMTEC.NET	IAMTEC	DC=IAMTEC,DC=NET	IAMTEC/NET/TEST/	AAAS	IAMTEC/AAAS	computer	NOT CONFIGURED
IAMTEC.NET	IAMTEC	DC=IAMTEC,DC=NET	IAMTEC/NET/TEST/	BBBS	IAMTEC/BBBS	computer	NOT CONFIGURED
IAMTEC.NET	IAMTEC	DC=IAMTEC,DC=NET	IAMTEC/NET/TEST/	CCBS	IAMTEC/CCBS	computer	NOT CONFIGURED

Enabled	Locked	When Created	Account Expires On	Pwd Last Set On	Pwd Expires On
TRUE	FALSE - Never Locked	2019-02-08 16:40:11	NEVER	2019-02-08 16:40:11	NEVER
TRUE	FALSE - Never Locked	2019-02-08 16:40:20	NEVER	2019-02-08 16:40:20	NEVER
FALSE	FALSE - Never Locked	2019-02-08 16:40:30	NEVER	2019-02-08 16:40:30	NEVER

Pwd Never Expires	Last Logon Timestamp	Last Logon (Per RWDC)	Has Admin Count Stamp	Delegatable Admin	Does Not Require Pre-AuthN	Has Sid History	Has LM Hash
NEVER (Org Server 'N.A.' AD Site 'N.A.')	0000-00-00 00:00:00 (NEVER) (on 'R15CWO02')	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
NEVER (Org Server 'N.A.' AD Site 'N.A.')	0000-00-00 00:00:00 (NEVER) (on 'R15CWO02')	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE

Has Default Pwd	Has Blank Pwd	Uses DES Keys Only	Has Missing AES Keys	Pwd Rev Encrypt	Pwd Not Required	Compromised Pwd
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE

Most Used Hash (Count)	Service Principal Names	Acc Based Deleg Type	Acc Based Deleg To	Res Based Deleg For	DS Repl Chng Perms	DS Repl Chng All Perms	Migr Sid History Perms
No SPNs	No SPNs	No Acc-Deleg	No Delegation SPNs	No Res-Deleg	No Perms	No Perms	No Perms
No SPNs	No SPNs	No Acc-Deleg	No Delegation SPNs	No Res-Deleg	No Perms	No Perms	No Perms

Protected Group Membership	ACE On AdminSDHolder	Powerful ACEs On Objects
No Memberships	No ACEs	Object CN: IAMTEC/NET/OU=Users/TEST/Locked Accounts ACE Through: Authenticated Users (RIGHT) Generalizable All INHERITTYPE: None This Object
No Memberships	No ACEs	Object CN: IAMTEC/NET/OU=Users/TEST/Locked Accounts ACE Through: Authenticated Users (RIGHT) Generalizable All INHERITTYPE: None This Object

Securing And Protecting AD



How? - You ask? – Threat Detection Response (TDR) Tools!

CRITICAL IOEs FOUND

- Certificate templates that allow requesters to spe...**
This indicator checks if certificate templates are enabling requesters to specify a subjectAltName in the CSR.
[Read More](#)
- Print spooler service is enabled on a DC**
This indicator looks for Domain Controllers that have the print spooler service running. This service is enabled by default.
[Read More](#)
- Users with permissions to set Server Trust Account**
Checks for permissions on the domain NC head that enables a user to set a UAC flag - Server_Trust_Account on computer ...
[Read More](#)
- Non-default principals with DC Sync rights on the ...**
Any security principals with Replicate Changes All and Replicate Directory Changes permissions on the domain ...
[Read More](#)
- Privileged Users with Weak Password Policy**
This indicator looks for privileged users in each domain that don't have a strong password policy enforced, according to ...
[Read More](#)

ADDITIONAL IOEs FOUND

NAME	PLATFORM	SEVERITY LEVEL	ACTION
Admins with old passwords	AD	Warning	Read More
Built-in domain Administrator account used within the last two weeks	AD	Warning	Read More
Certificate templates with 3 or more insecure configurations	AD	Warning	Read More
Changes to Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access Group membership	AD	Warning	Read More
Check if legacy authentication is allowed	Azure AD	Warning	Read More
Computer or user accounts with unconstrained delegation	AD	Warning	Read More
Computers with password last	AD	Warning	Read More



PURPLE KNIGHT

- Powerful UI-tool for evaluating sec. posture of AD forest & AAD Tenant
- Continuously updated with new vulnerability checks

PURPLE KNIGHT (Community edition)

Agreement Environment Indicators Progress Summary

65% **ACTIVE DIRECTORY** 80% **AZURE AD**

Forest	iamtec.net	Tenant	IAMTEC
No. of Domains	3	Application ID	-4d53-9e1b-7bd28c232391
Indicators	98	Indicators	10
Passed	52	Passed	8
IOEs found	43	IOEs found	2
Not Relevant	0	Not Relevant	0
Duration	00:08:53	Duration	00:03:31
Run by	IAMTEC\ADM.ROOT	Run by	IAMTEC\ADM.ROOT

NEW SCAN SAVE AS ... VIEW REPORT

SECURITY INDICATOR

Evidence of Mimikatz DCSshadow attack

IOE Found 0%

SEVERITY: Critical WEIGHT: 10 MITRE ATT&CK FRAMEWORK CATEGORY: Defense Evasion

Description
DCShadow attacks enable attackers that have achieved privileged domain access to inject arbitrary changes into AD by replicating from a "fake" domain controller. These changes bypass the security event log and can't be spotted using standard monitoring tools. This indicator looks for evidence of a specific implementation of that attack by the popular Mimikatz tool.

Likelihood of Compromise
The Mimikatz tool is widely used by legitimate pen-testers as well as nefarious hackers. The criticality and impact of such an attack necessitate further investigation to ensure that no serious compromise has occurred.

Result
Found 1 objects that indicate DCSshadow may have been used to compromise your environment.

ManagedBy	CreatedDate	DistinguishedName	LastModified
	17-Jan-2020 19:29:27	CN=RTCLNTADM,OU=Computers,OU=NO-SYNC-TO-AAD,OU=Org-Users,DC=IAMTEC,DC=NET	10-Jun-2021 20:37:29

Showing 1 of 1

Remediation Steps
If a host has been detected that has been used to launch Mimikatz DCSshadow attacks, the host should be taken offline to prevent further compromise, and its logs reviewed to determine the attacking user.

Securing

How? - You



Do-It-Yourself in



PURPLE KNIGHT

- Powerful UI-tool for evaluating security posture of an AD forest
- Continuously updated with new vulnerability checks

iamtec.net - Healthcheck analysis

Date: 2022-06-21 - Engine version: 2.10.1.1

This report has been generated with the Basic Edition of PingCastle. Being part of a commercial package is forbidden (selling the information contained in the report). If you are an auditor, you MUST purchase an Auditor license to share the development effort.

Active Directory Indicators

This section focuses on the core security indicators. Locate the sub-process determining the score and fix some rules in that area to get a score improvement.

Indicators



Risk model

Stale Objects	Privileged accounts	Trusts	Anomalies
Inactive user or computer	Account take over	Old trust protocol	Auth
Network topology	ACL Check	SID filtering	Backup
Object configuration	Admin control	SID history	Certificate take over
Obsolete DS	Control paths	Trust impermissibility	Golden ticket
Old authentication protocols	Delegation Check	Trust inactive	Local group vulnerability
Privileging	Inevitable change	Trust with Azure	Network sniffing
Replication	Privilege control		Pass-the-credential
Vulnerability management	Read-Only Domain Controllers		Password retrieval
			Recruitment
			Temporary admin
			Weak password

Legend:

- score is 0 - no risk identified but some improvements detected
- score between 1 and 10 - a few actions have been identified
- score between 10 and 30 - rules should be looked with attention
- score higher than 30 - major risks identified

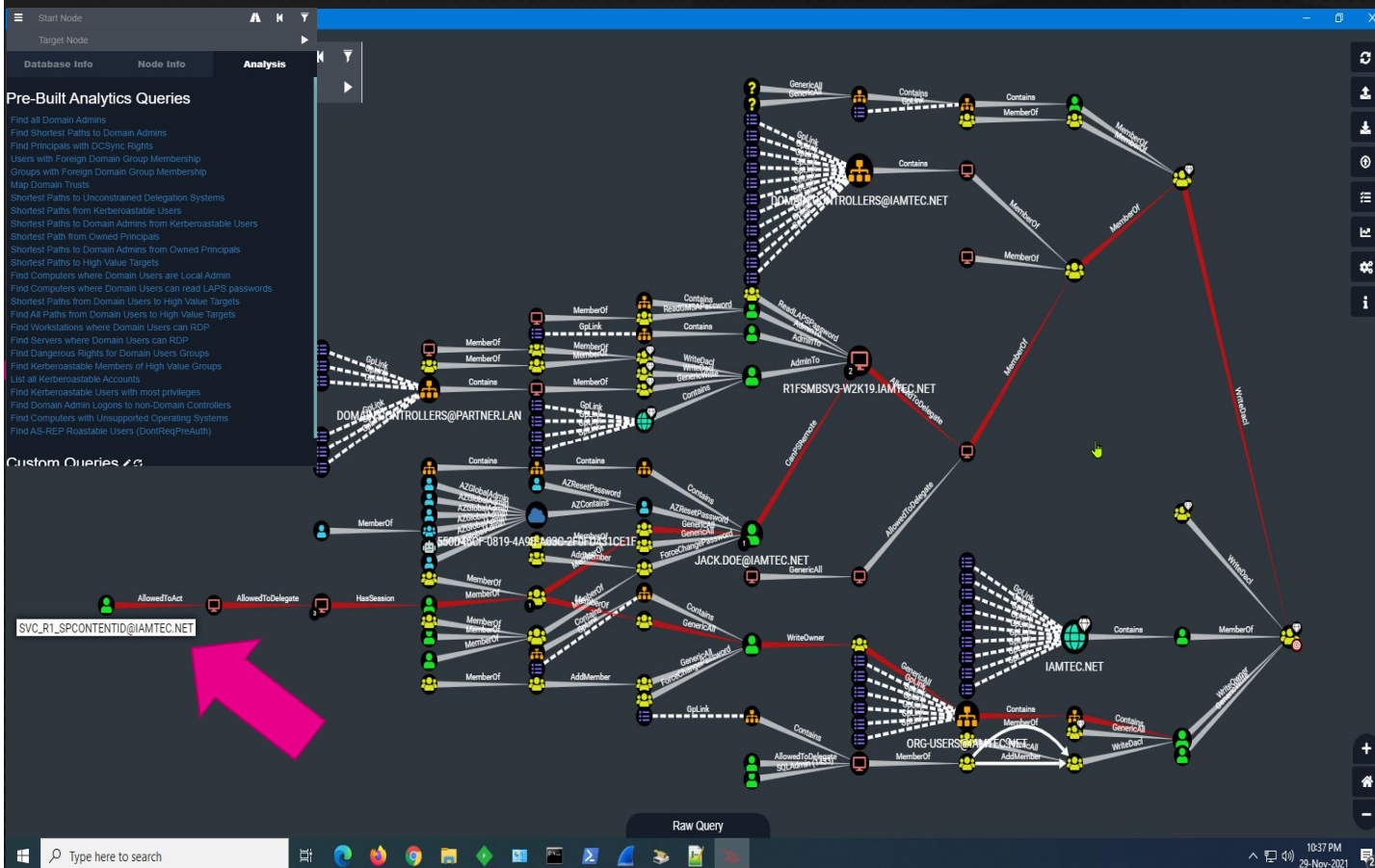


Response (TDR) Tools!

Securing And Protecting AD



How? - You ask? – Threat Detection Response (TDR) Tools!



BLOODHOUND

- Ø Extraction of AD data through SharpHound command-line tool
- Ø Imported/Processed by BloodHound UI-tool to visualize attack-path(s)

Securing And Protecting AD



Ø How? - You ask? – Threat Detection Response (TDR) Tools!



Ø Do-It-Yourself in PowerShell



Ø ...and many other free/paid TDR tools

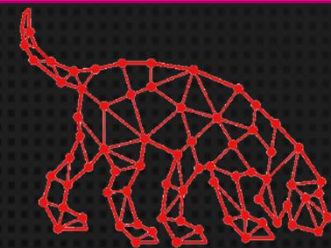


PURPLE KNIGHT

- Ø Powerful UI-tool for evaluating security posture of an AD forest
- Ø Continuously updated with new vulnerability checks



- Ø Command-Line tool for evaluation security posture of an AD domain



BLOODHOUND

- Ø Extraction of AD data through SharpHound command-line tool
- Ø Imported/Processed by BloodHound UI-tool to visualize attack-path(s)



AD DR Plan - Why?

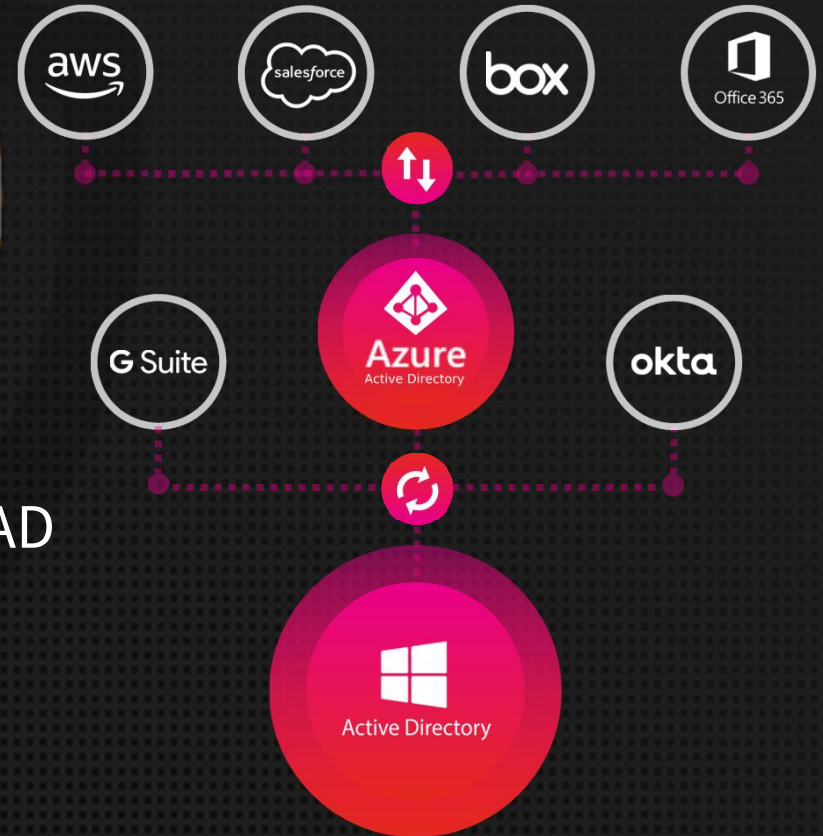
AD DR Plan - Why?



∅ AD Has The Keys To The KINGDOM!

If Active Directory isn't secure, nothing is!

- ∅ 80% of all breaches involve credential abuse
- ∅ Systematic/historical weakness make AD a soft target
- ∅ Cloud identity extends from AD
- ∅ Zero trust model assumes hybrid AD integrity



📍 → For 90% of enterprises, IDENTITY starts with AD



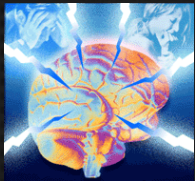
AD DR Plan - Why?

∅ Business Reasoning



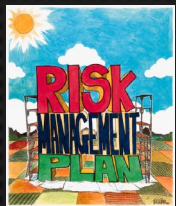
∅ Regulations:

- ∅ Business continuity (e.g., banks, health care, utility, etc.)



∅ Complexity:

- ∅ May look simple, difficult in practice!
- ∅ Reinstalling/recovering 1 DC is easy! Recovering many, in distributed environment? What about outsourcing?



∅ Risk Management:

- ∅ Previous: “unlikely”; Now: “very common” à very high impact
- ∅ No AD? à Acceptable follow-up risks and costs?

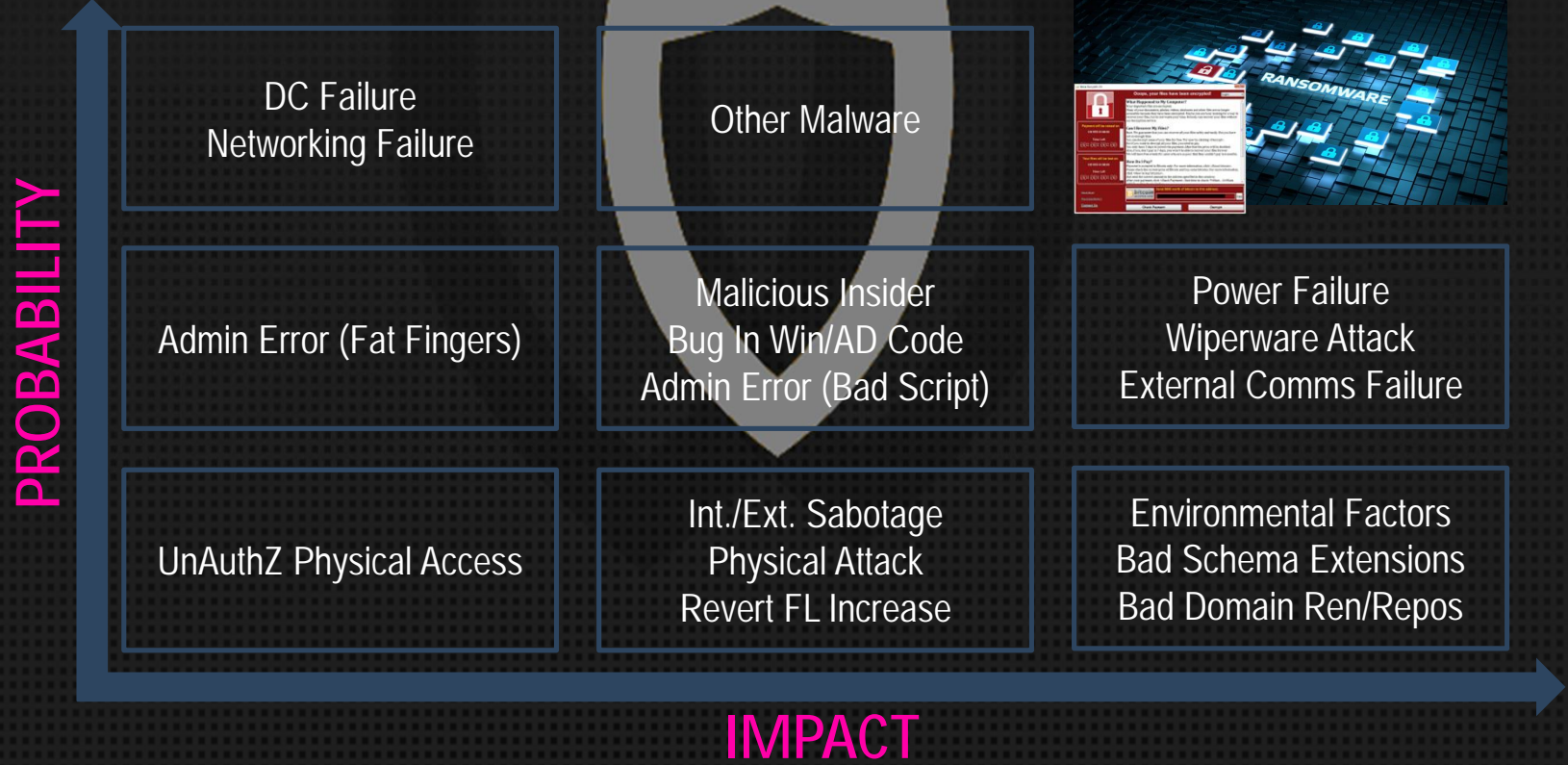


AD DR Plan - Why?



∅ Business Reasoning

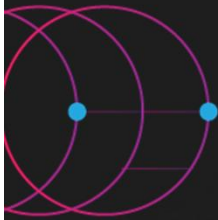
∅ Probability/Impact of Scenarios



IMPACT



AD DR Plan - Options



AD DR Plan - Options



	MSFT Default AD DR Plan -- Manual --	Customized AD DR Plan -- Semi Automated, a.k.a. D-I-Y --	Customized AD DR Plan -- Fully Automated --
<i>Focus</i>	Core only, no dependencies	Comms, logistics, pre/post, core, dependencies	
<i>Text/Tools</i>	High/None	Medium/E.g. PowerShell	Low/Commercial tool (AD focussed)
<i>Risk Mitigation/Pre/Post-Tasks</i>	Not described	Described	
<i>Core Tasks</i>	Described, unclear sequence	Described, clear sequence	
<i>Orchestration Backup/Rstre/AD</i>	Backup: Auto Restore: None AD: None	Backup: Auto Restore: None AD: Semi	Backup: Auto Restore: Auto AD: Auto
<i>Backup Type (Size)</i>	WSB (Large) + Custom (Large) (AD Integrated?! -> L)		Propriety (Small) + Non-AD-I



AD DR Plan - Options



	MSFT Default AD DR Plan - Manual -	Customized AD DR Plan - Semi Automated, a.k.a. D-I-Y -	Customized AD DR Plan - Fully Automated -
High Level Way Of Working	Restore initial RWDC, clone, redeploy		Whatever you choose
Security Assessment	None or Separate		Integrated or Separate
Skills Required			
Complexity DR Plan/Test			
Recovery Time Objective (RTO)			

∅ Have you also thought about:

- ∅ Where to store your plan/code/tools?
- ∅ Credentials required during recovery?
- ∅ Impact of recovery on Hybrid connections? (AuthN/Sync)
- ∅ AuthN method for AAD – Fed, PTA or PHS?

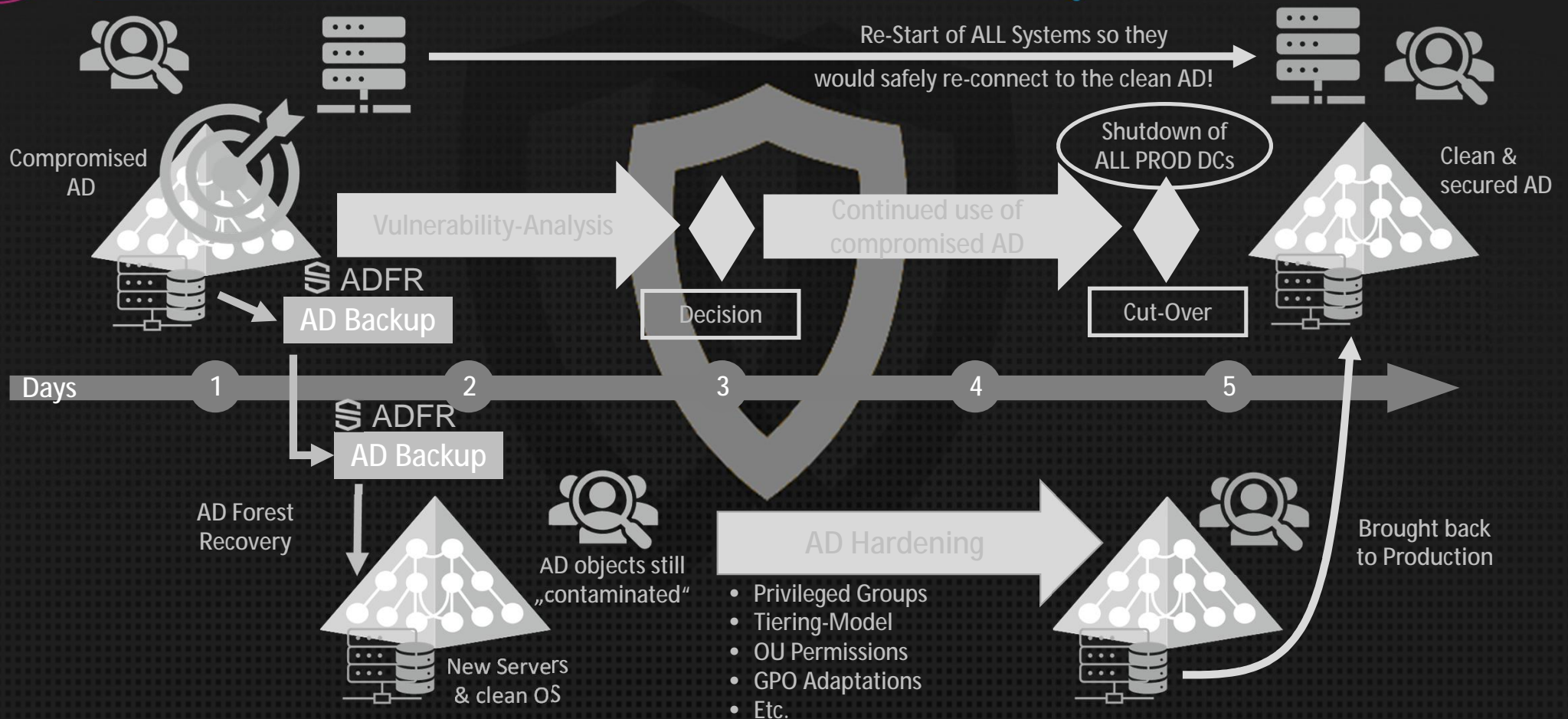


Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario Semperis

Compromised Network

Isolated Network



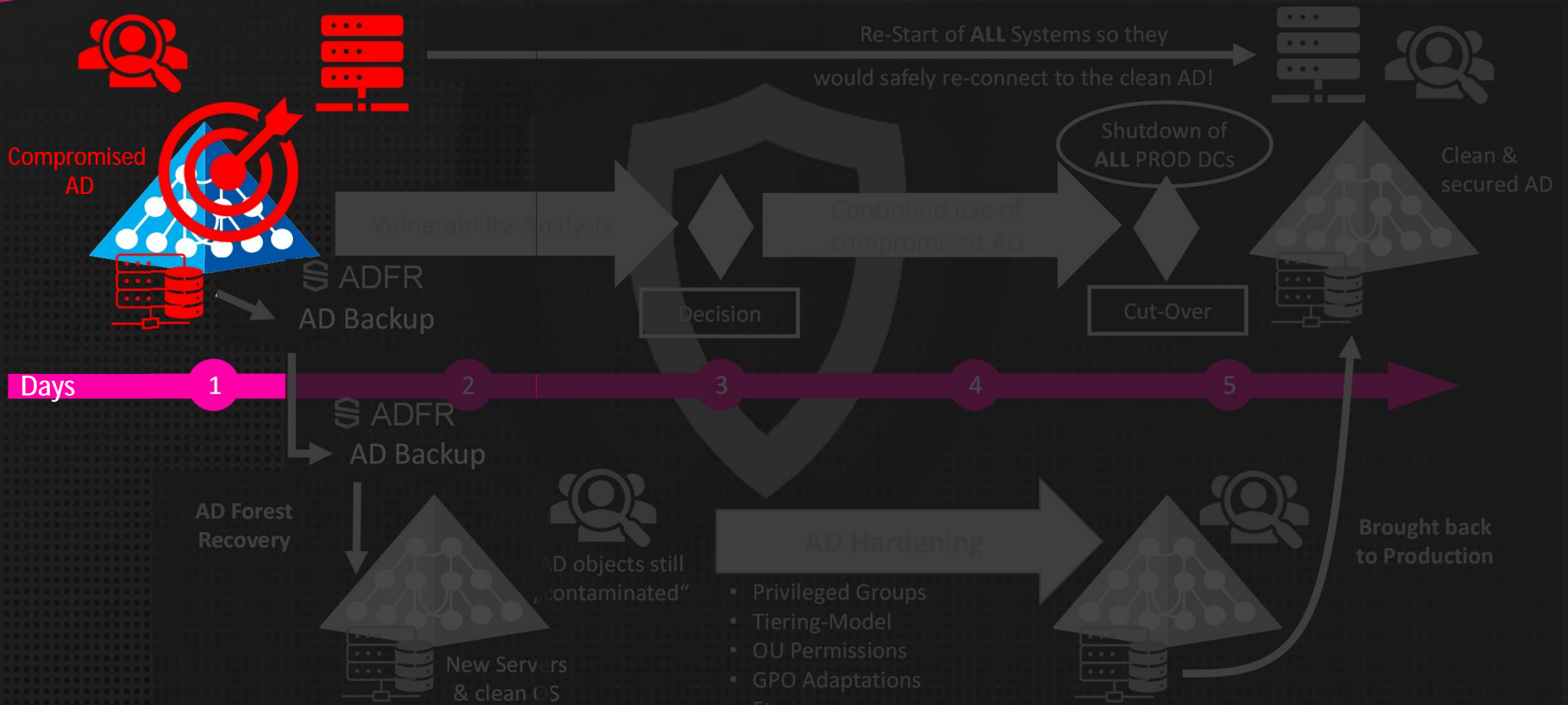
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> Oops, You've Been BREACHED !!!



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



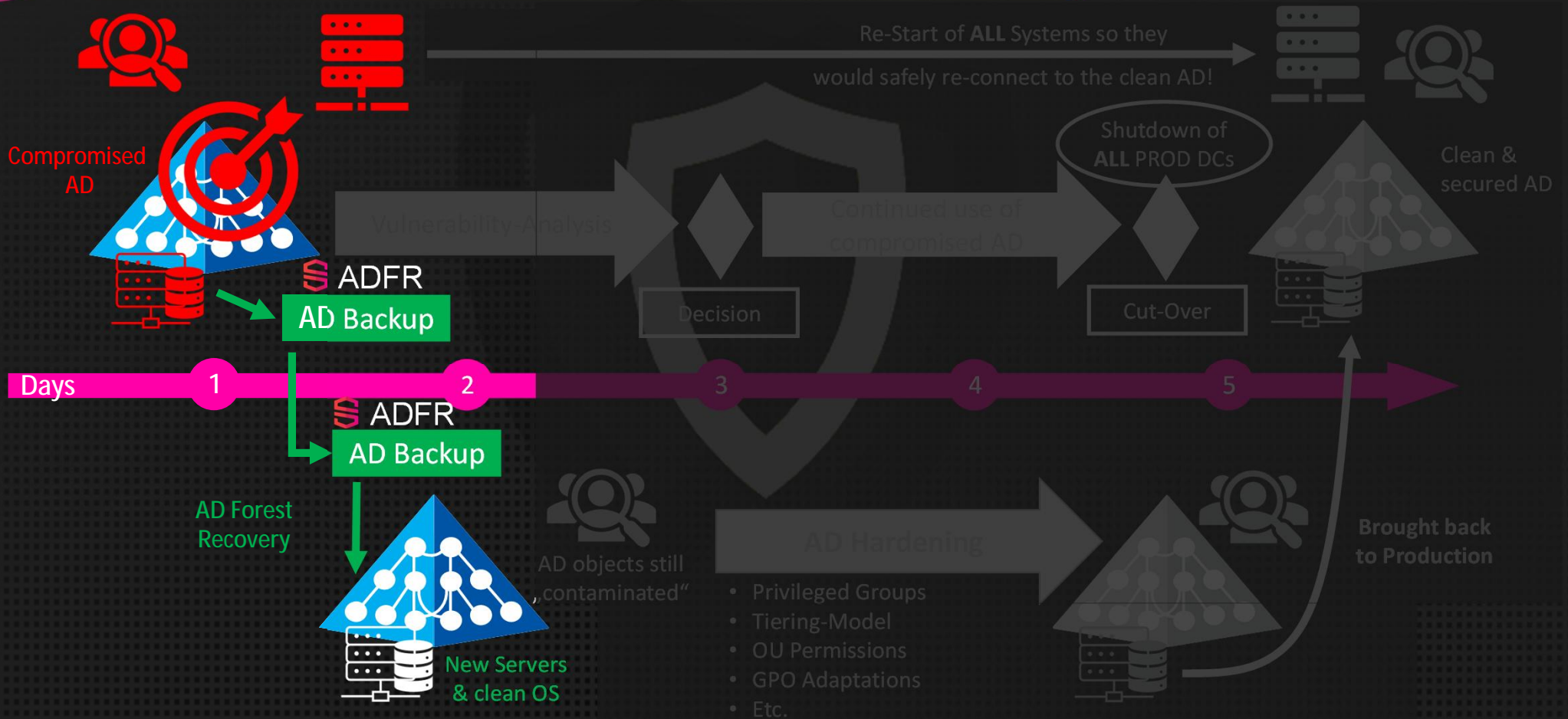
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE I - SAFETY NET For AD



Compromised Network

Isolated Network

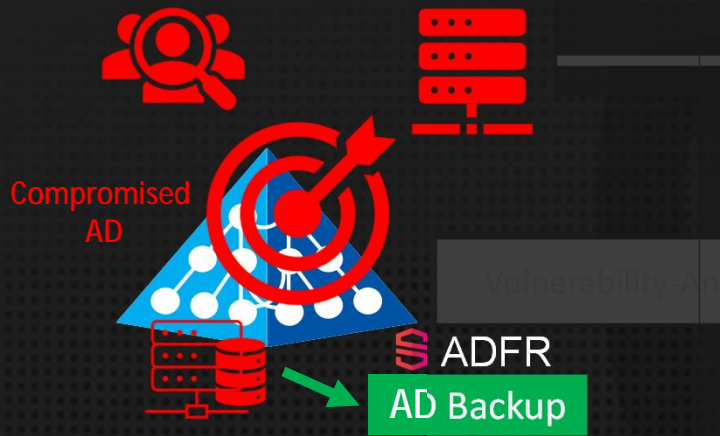


Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE I - SAFETY NET For AD



Compromised Network



Isolated Network

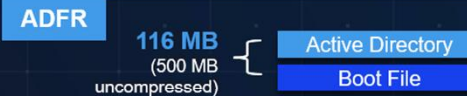
AD Forest Recovery



Re-Start of ALL Systems so they

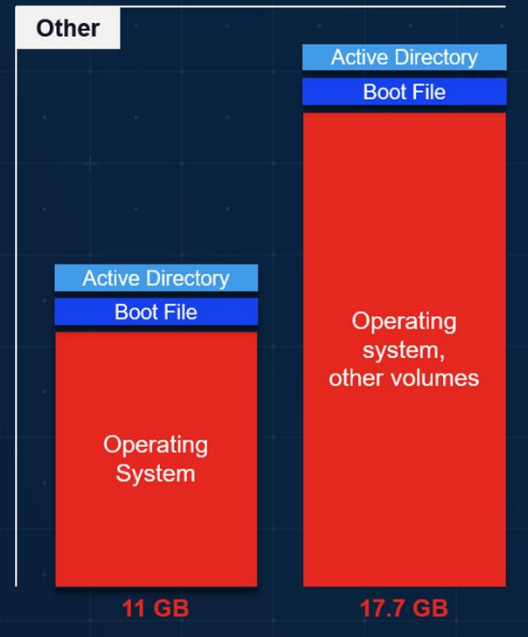
BACKUP COMPARISON

ADFR vs. other Domain Controller backups



ADFR backups

- ✓ Contain no OS → no OS-resident malware in recovery
- ✓ Remove dependence on source hardware → recover anywhere
- ✓ Are significantly smaller
- ✓ Provide faster backup and recovery
- ✓ Require less storage



- Privileged Groups
- Tiering-Model
- OU Permissions
- GPO Adaptations
- Etc.

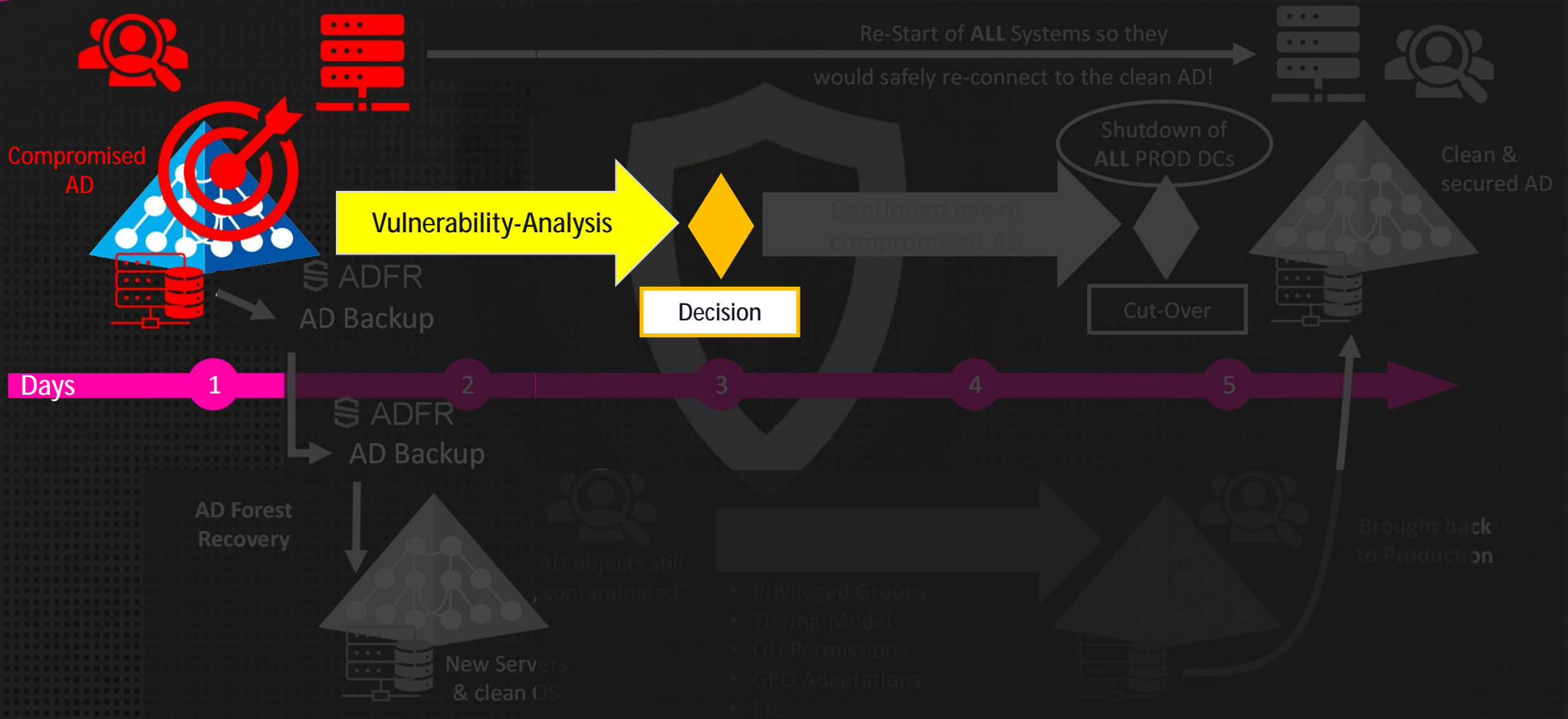
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE II – AD Vulnerability Analysis



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



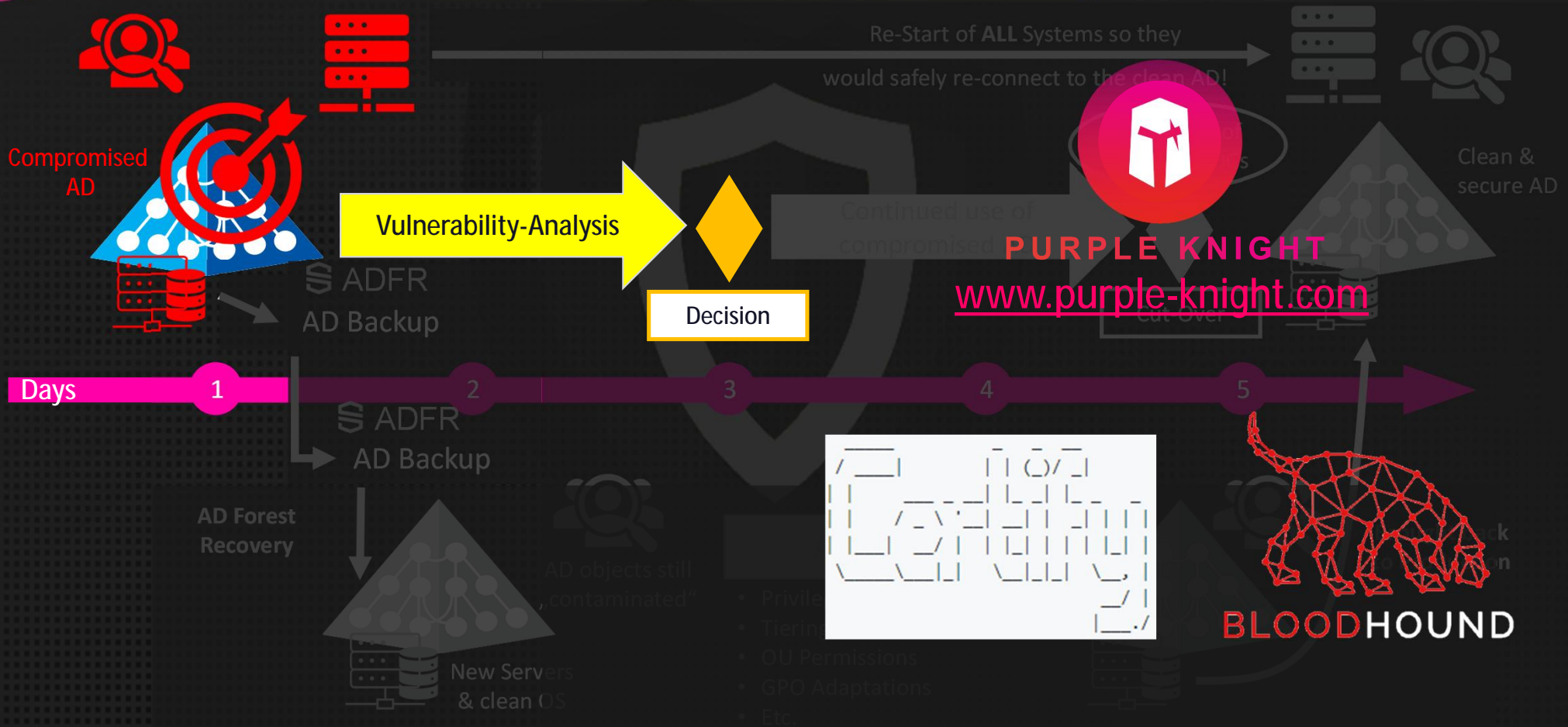
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE II – AD Vulnerability Analysis



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> Dubious Permissions & >1 Attackers



SECURITY INDICATOR

Dangerous control paths expose certificate templates

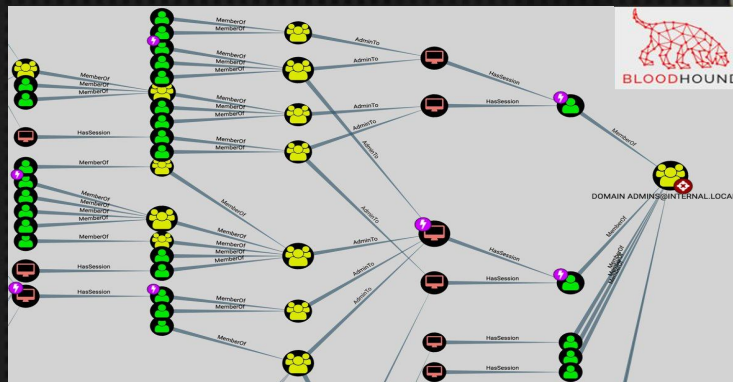
SEVERITY: Warning (Yellow bar) | WEIGHT: 7

Security Frameworks

MITRE ATT&CK

- Credential Access

Domain Computers were allowed to change certificate templates – which allows intruders to create their own authentication certificates for any user!



A special helpdesk account was granted the rights to reset the password of everyone in the domain.

And EVERYONE was permitted to reset the password of the helpdesk account!

Analysis of EDR Team showed that **MULTIPLE attackers were active** in the environment at the SAME time (four different “fingerprints” were found) – intruders were happily re-using the existing Domain-Admin accounts whenever one of the AD admins changed their password!

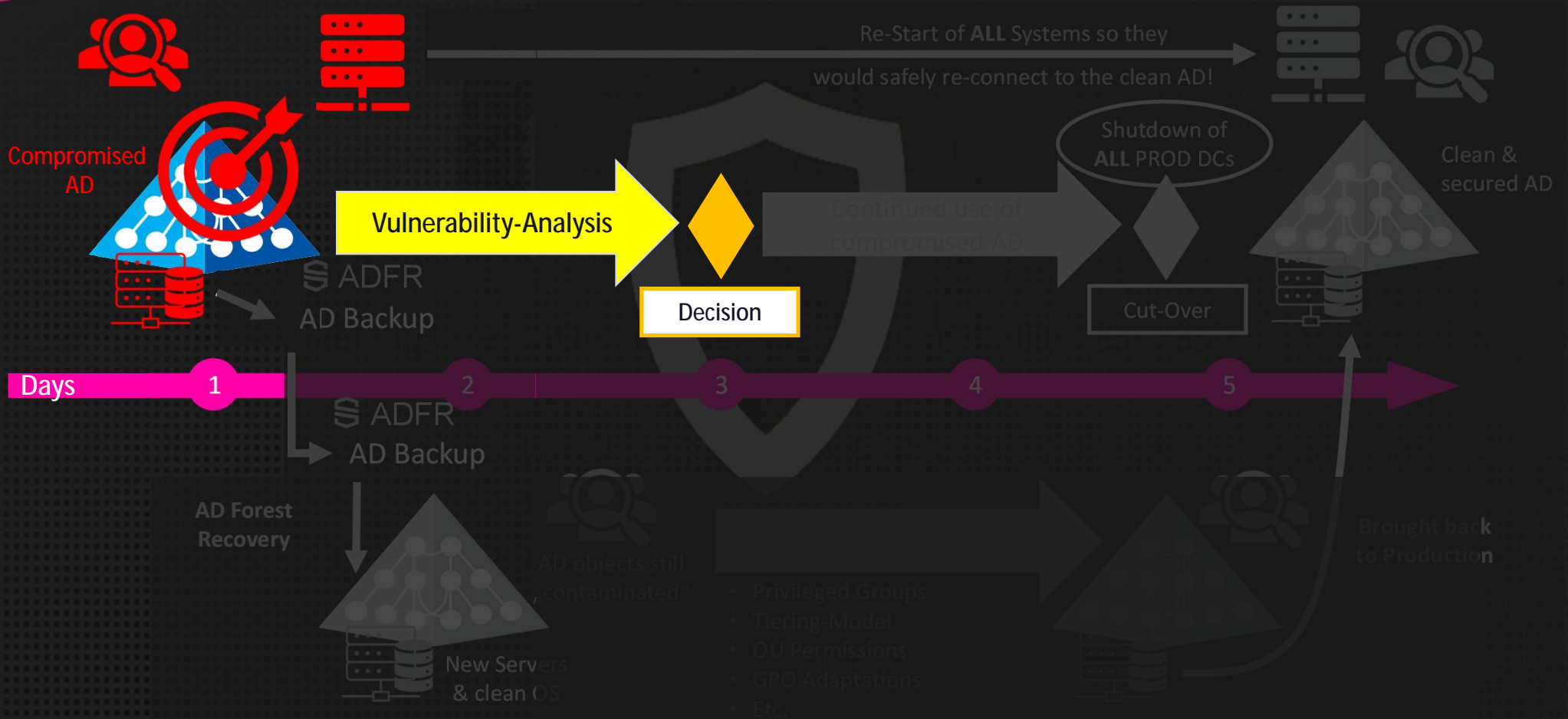
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE II – AD Vulnerability Analysis



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



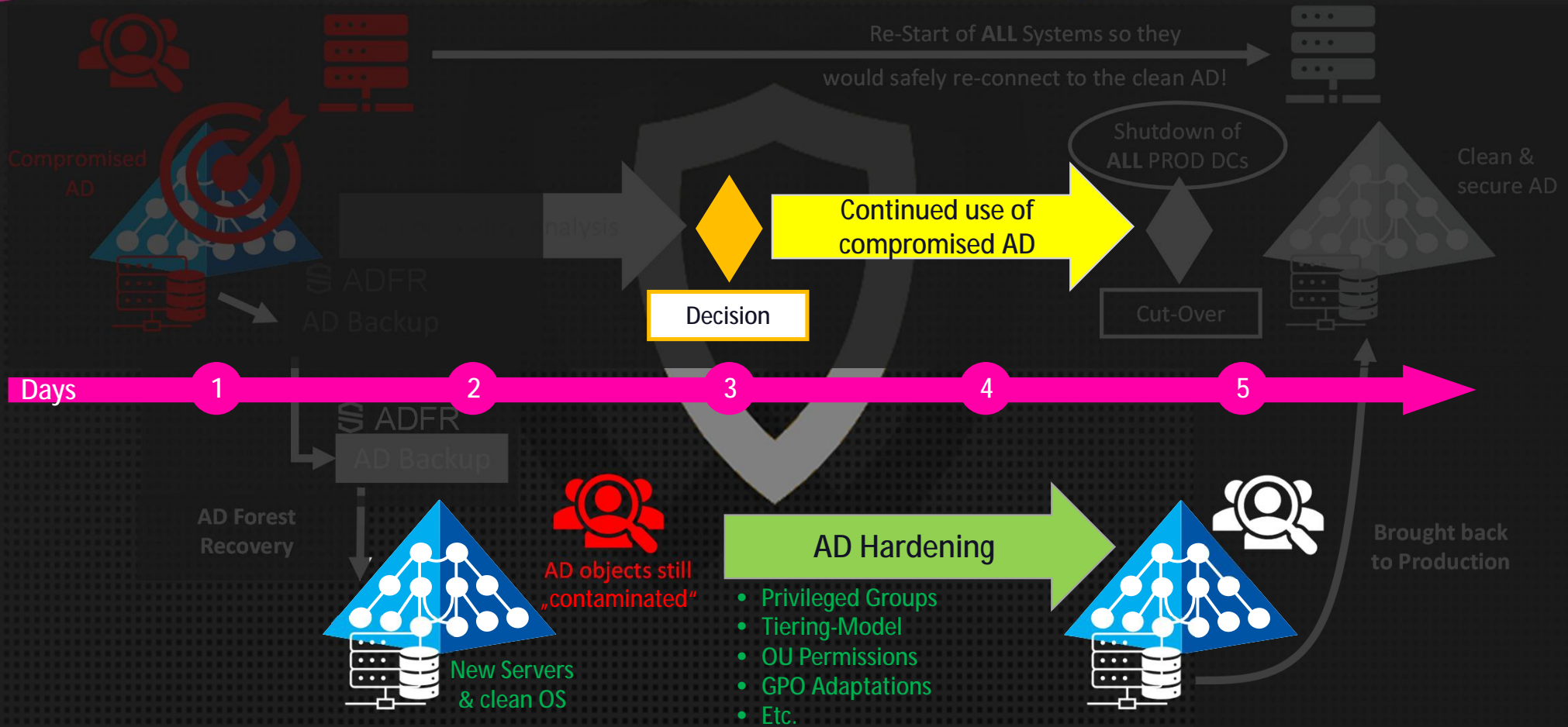
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE III - Devide And Conquer!



Compromised Network

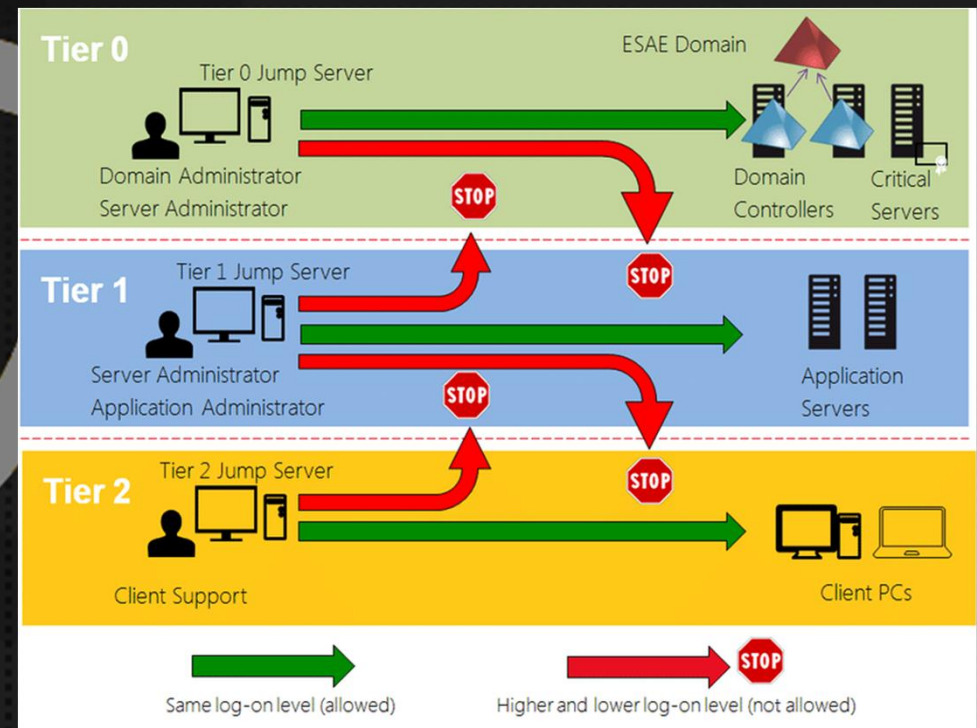
Isolated Network



Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario > AD Hardening Speedway...



- Ø 1.5 days available to harden AD
- Ø Tiering-Model (w/o MFA)
- Ø Cleaned up Privileged Groups
- Ø NEW accounts in Privileged Groups
- Ø Protected Users group
- Ø No Privileged Accounts with SPNs
- Ø OU/AdminSDHolder Permissions
- Ø GPO Adaptations
- Ø ...



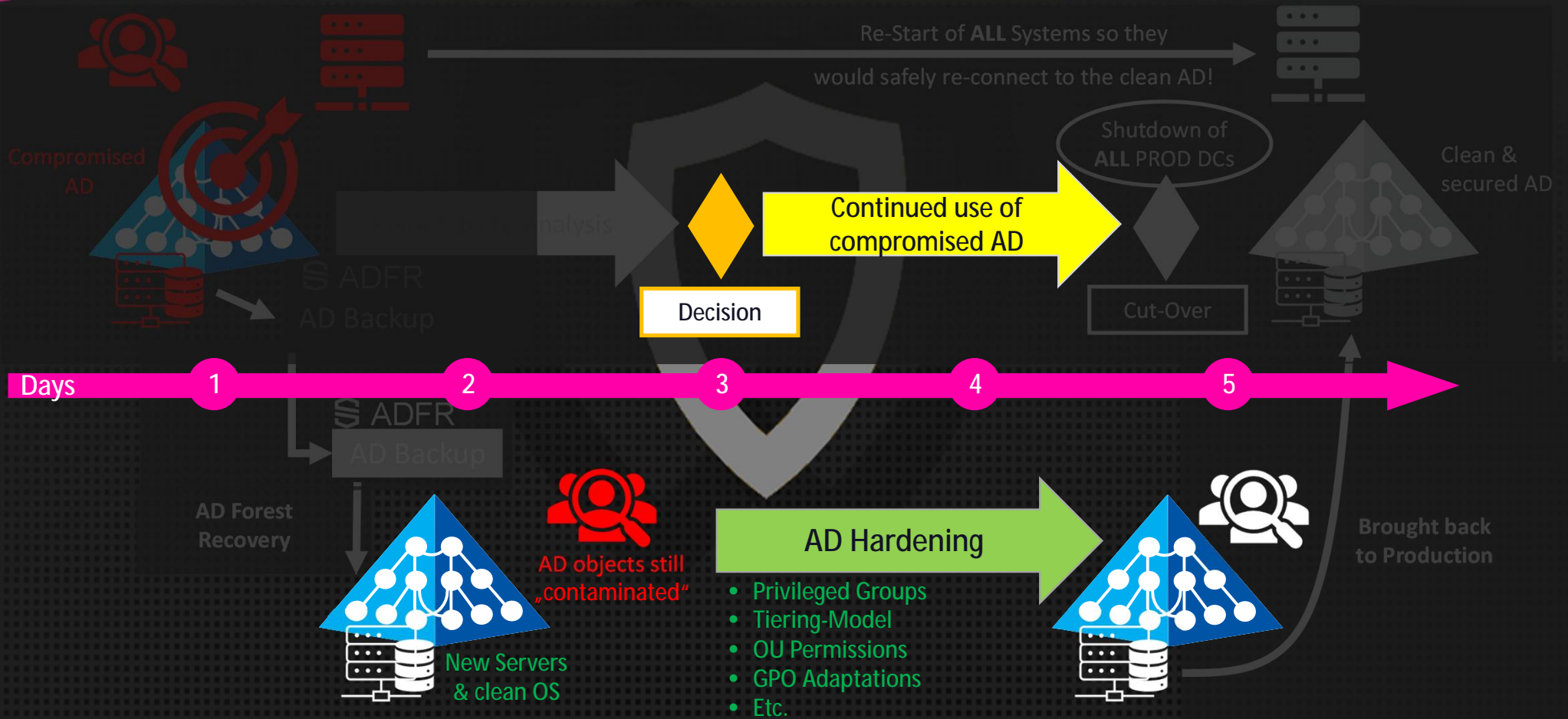
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE III - Device And Conquer!



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



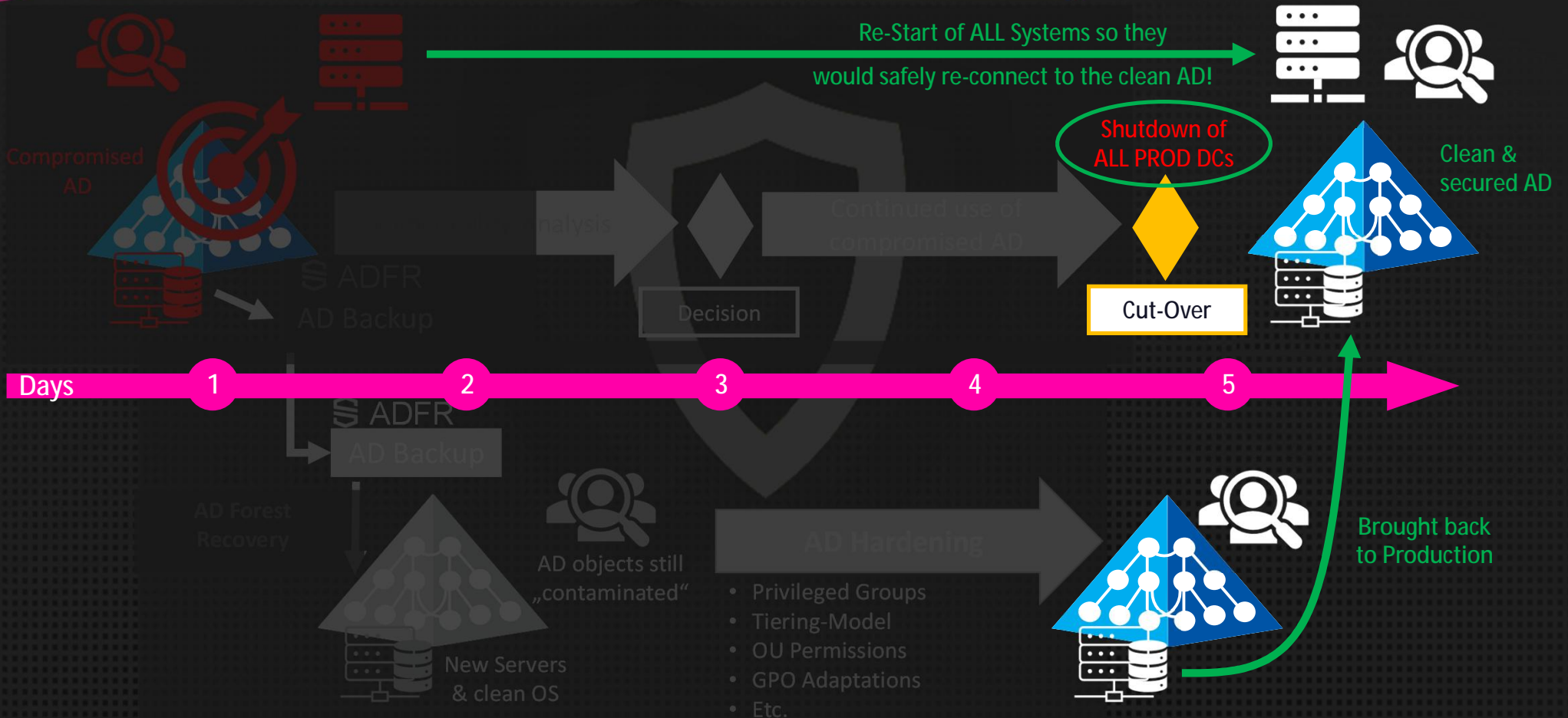
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> PHASE IV - Hardened AD Back To Prod



Compromised Network

Isolated Network



Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> *This Experience Felt Like...*



Saudi's Again Changing Wheels Tyres while driving!



Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario > Coordinated Efforts For Cut Over



- ∅ Tough decision: take down ALL existing (compromised) AD DCs of forest in all data-centers
 - ∅ Change of VLAN and IP-addresses of recovery AD DCs
 - ∅ Were also acting as DNS servers ...
 - ∅ Fully working AD brought back online in 30 min
- 
- A large, light gray shield icon is centered in the background of the slide.



Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario > *Coordinated Efforts For Cut Over*



∅ Fully Automated Recovery

∅ Restored DCs + Repromoted DCs + AD Service Steps

∅ EDR Team had in parallel taken down more than 20 C2 (!) systems and blocked 100's of external IPs

∅ Rebooted all servers and clients to ensure killing any existing process and to re-create secure channel with recovered AD

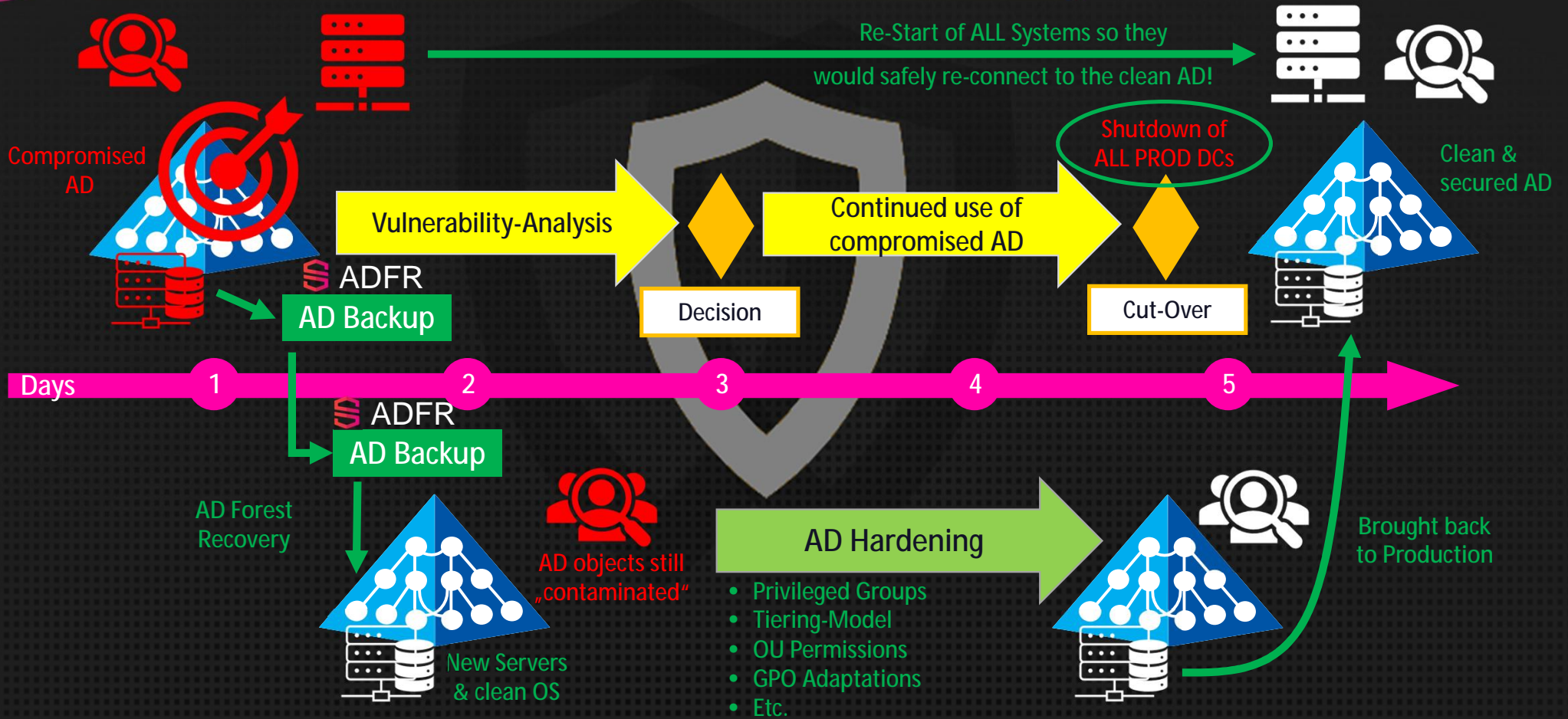
Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> In The End – They Survived! J



Compromised Network

Isolated Network





Real Life AD Incident/Recovery Scenario

> *Key Outcome...*



Ø Very FAST recovery of a FULLY FUNCTIONAL and SAFE Active Directory

Ø NO more owned privileged accounts available anymore for the attackers to leverage!

Ø All existing Apps even including AAD Pass-Through Authentication (PTA) for O365 continued to work seamlessly AFTER recovery



Take Aways!



Take Aways!



Ø Please INVEST in:

Ø PROactively securing your environment with (TDR) tools

- Ø ...for both on-prem AD, Azure AD and other clouds
- Ø ...that assess security posture and monitor real-time
- Ø ...that support preventive and detective controls
- Ø ...that incorporate guidance e.g.: MITRE ATT&CK, ANSSI, etc.

Ø REactively being able to recover (DR Plan)

- Ø Prepare for the unexpected: new zero-day exploits against AD will be discovered from time 2 time
- Ø Although tech-focused, in the end, it is about your business!
- Ø Logistics, communications and technology and more



Take Aways!



Ø SEEK HELP if needed, BEFORE attack/breach

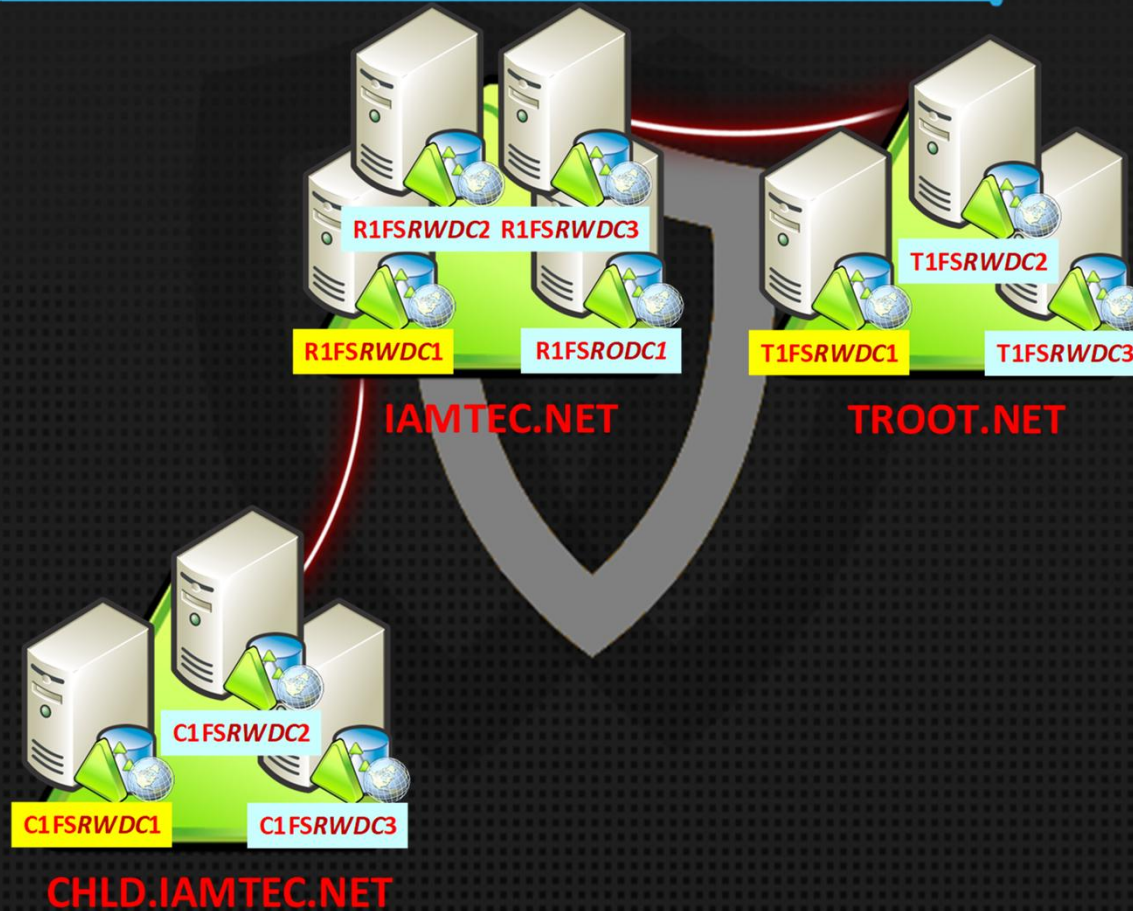
Ø AUTOMATE as much as possible

- Ø AD recovery is more than restoring single/multiple DCs
- Ø Consider 3rd party tool (= BEST Insurance, Fastest RTO!)

Ø Have Quality Assurance Check on DR plan!

- Ø It is NOT just about recovery, it needs to be secure too!
- Ø Perform periodic DR drills

Demo! - While Presenting



Questions? – Get In Touch!



Jorge de Almeida Pinto

Contact	jorged@semperis.com
LinkedIn	http://tiny.cc/JorgeLinkedIn
Blog	http://tiny.cc/JQFKblog
Twitter	http://tiny.cc/JQFKtwitter

ANY
QUESTIONS

Thank You!