## MANAGING INFORMATION SHARING COMMUNITIES

E.103

CIRCL COMPUTER INCIDENT RESPONSE CENTER LUXEMBOURG

MISP PROJECT https://www.misp-project.org/

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- Tips for joining information sharing communities
- Tips for being a good member in a sharing community
- Tips for building your own sharing community
- Tool for managing a sharing community
  - Managing organisations and contacts
  - Maintaining distribution lists (aka sharing groups)
  - Managing a large cluster of MISPs

# BEING PART OF AN INFORMATION SHARING COMMUNITY

#### There is a wide range of MISP communities type:

- Private sector communities
  - Private organisations, researchers, central hub
- ISACs communities
  - Central hub for sectorial or geographical Communities
  - Examples: GSMA, FIRST.org, CSIRT Network, Banking, etc
- Ad-hoc communities
  - Often use for exercises such as ENISA or LockedShield

### Considerations before joining a sharing community:

- Understand the community's objectives
  - Defense, prevention, collaboration, research, specific reporting duties
- Make sure the use-cases are not conflicting
  - False-positive appetite, maturity levels, topical interests
  - Detection rules VS threat intelligence VS prevention

# TIPS FOR BEING A GOOD MEMBER OF A SHARING COMMUNITY

#### As explained extensively in course *e.206*, Context is king:

- You should try to contextualise as best as you can using:
- Normalized vocab: Taxonomies, Galaxies & MITRE ATT&CK
- Connected graph using MISP Objects and relationships
- Add timeliness with Sightings and first\_seen / last\_seen
- Sharing results and reports
- Sharing enhancements or proposals to existing data
- Validating data (sightings) or flagging false positives
- Asking for support from the community

#### Different models for your constituents

- Having an account on a MISP instance
- Hosting their own instance and connecting to a peer
- Becoming member of a sectorial MISP community that is connected to multiple peers
- Planning ahead for future growth
  - Estimating requirements (workforce, hardware requirements)
  - Deciding early on common vocabularies (i.e. taxonomies)
  - Offering services through MISP to promote adhesion

- **Lead by example** the power of immitation
- Don't block sharing with unrealistic quality controls
  - You might loose organisations that might turn into valuable contributors
  - Organisations will start sharing junk to stay above the thresholds
- Encourage improving by doing
  - What should the information look like?
  - How should it be contextualised
  - What do you consider as useful information?
  - What tools did you use to get your conclusions?
- Side effect is that you will end up raising the capabilities of your constituents

### Convert the passive organisations into actively sharing ones

- Help them increase their capabilities
- Lead by example
- Give credit where credit is due
  - Never steal the contribution of your community
- Offers the possiblity to take over their data via delegation
  - Anonymity of organisations might help them building confidence at the beginning

- Encourage sharing of supporting materials, scripts or guidance for protection
- Raise awareness about the benefits of a well modelled, graph-based information
- Again, context is king! If possible, make contextualisation a requirement
  - Users can then filter based on their needs
  - Classification help your peers to understand why the data is important
  - And also, why this data can be useful to them

# DISPELLING THE MYTHS AROUND BLOCKERS WHEN IT COMES TO INFORMATION SHARING

Sharing difficulties are not really technical issues but often it's a matter of **social interactions** (e.g. **trust**).

- You can play a role here: organise regular workshops, conferences, have face to face meetings
- Legal restrictions
  - "Our legal framework doesn't allow us to share information."
  - "Risk of information leak is too high and it's too risky for our organization or partners."
- Practical restrictions
  - "We don't have information to share."
  - "We don't have time to process or contribute indicators."
  - "Our model of classification doesn't fit your model."
  - "Tools for sharing information are tied to a specific format, we use a different one."

- Often within a community, smaller bubbles of information sharing will form
  - e.g: Within a national private sector community, a dedicated community for financial institutions
  - If an incident involves multiple organisations
- MISP's sharing group serve this purpose mainly
- If you are building your own community, consider bootstraping these specific sharing community
  - Organisations can self-organise, but you are probably the ones with the know-how to get them started

# COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT AND OR-CHESTRATION TOOL

# ADDITIONAL CHALLENGES OF COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

- MISP is just one part of the puzzle
- Information sharing presumes knowledge of contacts
- Creating reusable community-specific distribution list need to be maintained
- Fleet management for larger organisations needs additional work

# **Cerebrate** is an open-source tool meant to address these challenges

## WHAT IS CEREBRATE?



- Open source community management and orchestration tool
- Central tool for the Melicertes 2 project (Co-funded by the EU as a CEF project)
  - Project for the CSIRT network building a common set of tools and services for the national CSIRTs
  - Flexible to support a wide range of communities
- Tight integration with various open-source tools
- Planned as the primary MISP management tool

# WHY DO WE NEED CEREBRATE FROM A MISP PERSPECTIVE

### Deficiencies in our current tool chain

- Do I really have to jump through hoops and long e-mail chains to **onboard new members**?
- How do I find trusted information on who an organisation is in MISP?
- How can I manage a large cluster of MISPs without tedious manual labour?
- If I run a community through MISP, how can I reuse my member information for other community tasks such as mailing lists?
- Information signing has been on the MISP roadmap for a long time - where do we get ground truths for a community from?

#### Community management

- Repository of organisations and individuals
- Management of sharing groups
- **Exchange** of contact and sharing group information
- Cryptographic key lookup for information signing
- Local tool management
  - Instrumentation of local tool interconnections
  - Local tool fleet management
  - Feeding the local tools with Cerebrate data

### A set of Common functionalities

- Contact Database
- Sharing group management
- Cerebrate to Cerebrate synchronisation
- Mailing list management
- Local tool orchestration integration modules
- Inbox system
- Local tool fleet management

- Index of Organisations and Individuals
- Flexible meta-data model (community specific, constituency, etc)
- Content aware search functionalities

## **CEREBRATE: CONTACT DATABASE**

# Flexible meta-data model to include community specific data point

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B	ID	17		
B	Name	CIRCL		
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<b>^</b>	URL	http://www.circl.lu/		
	Nationality	Luxembourg		
**	Sector	private		
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	Contacts	info@circl.lu		
	Tags			
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•	website	http://www.circl.lu/		
÷.	enisa-geo-group	EU		
	is-approved	1		
4>	first-member-type	Member		
	team-name	Computer Incident Response Center Luxembourg		

### **CEREBRATE: CONTACT DATABASE**

#### Content aware search functionalities: CIDR block search ContactDB Organisation Index<sup>i</sup>

Activity Past 7 + 0 IZ 0	days 🕈	Nationalities •		Sectors •				
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Add organisat	ion All ENISA Accredited	ENISA not-Accredited EN	ISA CSIRT Network	(GOV)	185.194.92.0/22	2	Search	<b>▼</b> ≡ •
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### Global searches on a large variety of data point

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METAFIELDS sami.mokadde sami.mokadde INDIVIDUALS sami.mokadde	m@circl.lu (individual::alternate_email) m@securitymadein.lu (individual::alternate_ema m@circl.lu	• 2 <b>iil)</b> • 1
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### **CEREBRATE: SHARING GROUP MANAGEMENT**

# Allow to define sharing groups composed of organisations that can be download from another Cerebrate or from MISP

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### **CEREBRATE: SHARING GROUP MANAGEMENT**

# Sharing groups can also be generated based on filters via the reusable blueprints

#19: Non-sanctioned financial organisations 👕	{	o 🖍 🕯
	"AND": {	
	"OR": {	
	"org_sector": "Financial",	
	"sharing_group_id": 127	
	},	
	"NOT": {	
	"org_nationality": [	
	"Russia",	
	"Russian Federation",	
	"Belarus",	
	"Republic of Belarus"	
	]	
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## CEREBRATE: SYNCHRONISATION

### **CEREBRATE-CEREBRATE**

### Mechanism to exchange contact data via synchronisation

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1	1 cerebrate.misp-project.org	Run Status: OK (243 ms) Remote: Cerebrate v1.4 User: GraphMan (admin) Sync permission: Yes	https://cerebrate.misp-project.org		CIRCL	<ul> <li>₽</li> <li>₽</li> <li>0</li> <li>0</li></ul>

## **CEREBRATE: LOCAL TOOL ORCHESTRATION**

#### Manage and configure local tools (such as MISP) via Cerebrate

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<u>.</u> .				can also be managed through the connector.	iglocska.eu: Unauthorized	
5					covid-19.iglocska.eu: OK	

### **CEREBRATE: LOCAL TOOL ORCHESTRATION**

# Inter-connect local tools (such as a MISP instance) to another through Cerebrate



- Budapest convention allowed us to have a public inventory of contact infomartion
- Once this data is ingested in Cerebrate, we can make use of the search functionalities to quickly get the infomartion we need
- TODO: Include picture of data stored in Cerebrate