

# Usually a MISP workshop

Introduction into Information Sharing using MISP for CSIRTs



**CIRCL**

Computer Incident  
Response Center  
Luxembourg



**MISP**  
Threat Sharing

Team CIRCL  
*TLP:WHITE*

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## Plan for this session

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- Explanation of the CSIRT use case for information sharing and what CIRCL does
- Building an information sharing community and best practices

## Communities operated by CIRCL

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- As a CSIRT, CIRCL operates a wide range of communities
- We use it as an **internal tool** to cover various day-to-day activities
- Whilst being the main driving force behind the development, we're also one of the largest consumers
- Different communities have different needs and restrictions

# Communities operated by CIRCL

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- Private sector community
  - Our largest sharing community
  - Over **900 organisations**
  - **2000 users**
  - Functions as a central hub for a lot of sharing communities
  - Private organisations, Researchers, Various SoCs, some CSIRTs, etc
- CSIRT community
  - Tighter community
  - National CSIRTs, connections to international organisations, etc

# Communities operated by CIRCL

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- Financial sector community
  - Banks, payment processors, etc.
  - Sharing of **mule accounts** and **non-cyber threat information**
- X-ISAC
  - **Bridging the gap** between the various sectorial and geographical ISACs
  - New, but ambitious initiative
  - Goal is to **bootstrap the cross-sectorial sharing** along with building the infrastructure to enable sharing when needed
  - <https://www.x-isac.org/>

Need access? np: <mailto:info@circl.lu>

## Communities operated by CIRCL

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- Coming up - the ATT&CK EU community
  - Work on attacker modelling
  - With the assistance of Mitre themselves
  - Unique opportunity to **standardise on TTPs**
  - Looking for organisations that want to get involved!
  - <https://attack.mitre.org>

## Communities supported by CIRCL

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- FIRST.org's MISP community
- Telecom and Mobile operators' community
- Various ad-hoc and time limited communities, exercises for example
  - Most recently the ENISA exercise a few months ago (2nd year MISP was used)
  - Open for other events

# Sharing Scenarios in MISP

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- Sharing can happen for **many different reasons**. What are the typical CSIRT scenarios?
- We can generally split these activities into 4 main groups when we're talking about traditional CSIRT tasks:
  - Core services
  - Proactive services
  - Advanced services
  - Sharing communities managed by CSIRTs for various tasks



# CSIRT core services

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- Incident response
  - **Internal storage** of incident response data
  - Sharing of indicators **derived from incident response**
  - **Correlating data** derived and using the built in analysis tools
  - **Enrichment** services
  - **Collaboration** with affected parties via MISP during IR
  - **Co-ordination** and collaboration
  - **Takedown** requests
- Alerting of information leaks (integration with **AIL**<sup>1</sup>)

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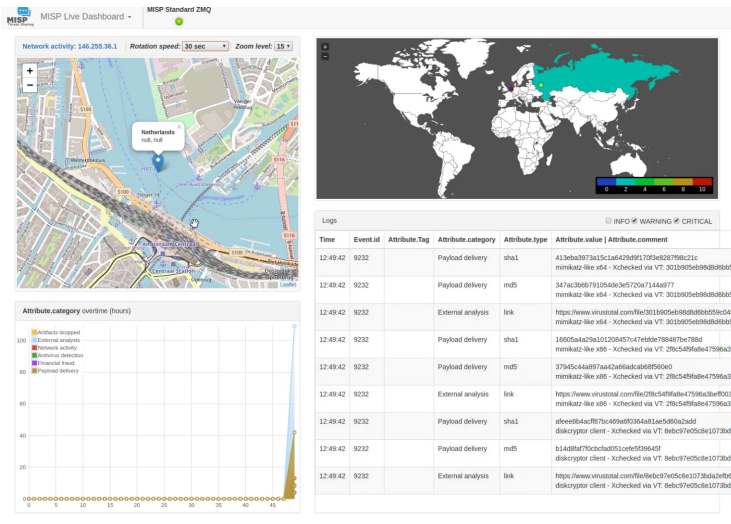
<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/CIRCL/AIL-framework>

## CSIRT proactive services

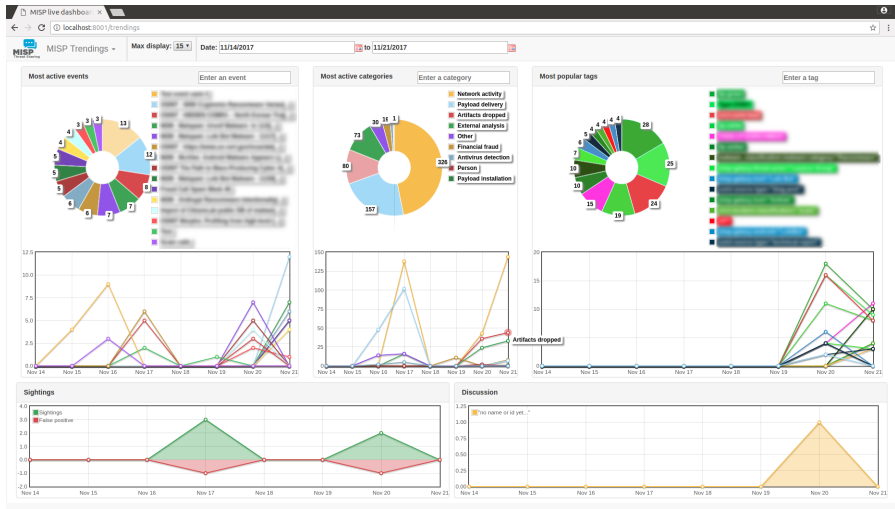
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- **Contextualising** both internal and external data
- **Collection** and **dissimination** of data from various sources (including OSINT)
- Storing, correlating and sharing own manual research (**reversing, behavioural analysis**)
- Aggregating automated collection (**sandboxing, honeypots, spamtraps, sensors**)
  - MISP allows for the creation of **internal MISP "clouds"**
  - Store **large specialised datasets** (for example honeypot data)
  - MISP has **interactions with** a large set of such **tools** (Cuckoo, Mail2MISP, etc)
- **Situational awareness** tools to monitor trends and adversary TTPs within my sector/geographical region (MISP-dashboard, built in statistics)

# CSIRT proactive services - MISP dashboard



# CSIRT proactive services - MISP dashboard



## CSIRT advanced services

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- Supporting **forensic analysts**
- Collaboration with **law enforcement**
- **Vulnerability** information sharing
  - **Notifications** to the constituency about relevant vulnerabilities
  - **Co-ordinating** with vendors for notifications (\*)
  - Internal / closed community sharing of pentest results
  - We're planning on starting a series of hackathons to find

## CSIRTs' management of sharing communities for constituent actions:

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- **Reporting** non-identifying information about incidents (such as outlined in NISD)
- **Seeking** and engaging in **collaboration** with CSIRT or other parties during an incident
- Pre-sharing information to **request for help** / additional information from the community
- **Pseudo-anonymised sharing** through 3rd parties to **avoid attribution** of a potential target
- Building processes for **other types of sharing** to get the community engaged and acquainted with the methodologies of sharing (mule account information, border control, etc)

## A quick note on compliance...

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- Collaboration with Deloitte as part of a CEF project for creating compliance documents
  - Information sharing and cooperation **enabled by GDPR**
  - How MISP enables stakeholders identified by the **NISD** to perform key activities
  - **AIL** and MISP
- For more information: <https://github.com/CIRCL/compliance>

# Getting started with building your own sharing community

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- Starting a sharing community is **both easy and difficult** at the same time
- Many moving parts and most importantly, you'll be dealing with a diverse group of people
- Understanding and working with your constituents to help them face their challenges is key



# Getting started with building your own sharing community

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- When you are starting out - you are in a unique position to drive the community and set best practices...



# Running a sharing community using MISP - How to get going?

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- Different models for constituents
  - Connecting to a MISP instance hosted by a CSIRT
  - Hosting their own instance and connecting to CSIRT's MISP
  - Becoming member of a sectorial MISP community that is connected to CSIRT's community
- Planning ahead for future growth
  - Estimating requirements
  - Deciding early on common vocabularies
  - Offering services through MISP

## Rely on our instincts to immitate over expecting adherence to rules

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- Lead by example - the power of immitation
- Encourage improving by doing instead of blocking sharing with unrealistic quality controls
  - What should the information look like?
  - How should it be contextualise
  - 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

## What counts as valuable data?

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- Sharing comes in many shapes and sizes
  - Sharing results / reports is the classical example
  - Sharing enhancements to existing data
  - Validating data / flagging false positives
  - Asking for support from the community
- Embrace all of them. Even the ones that don't do either, you'll never know when they change their minds...

## How to deal with organisations that only "leech"?

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- From our own communities, only about 30% of the organisations actively share data
- We have come across some communities with sharing requirements
- In our experience, this sets you up for failure because:
  - Organisations will lose protection who would possibly benefit the most from it
  - Organisations that want to stay above the thresholds will start sharing junk / fake data
  - You lose organisations that might turn into valuable contributors in the future

## So how does one convert the passive organisations into actively sharing ones?

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- Rely on organic growth
- Help them increase their capabilities
- As mentioned before, lead by example
- Rely on the inherent value to one's self when sharing information (validation, enrichments, correlations)
- Give credit where credit is due, never steal the accolades of your community (that is incredibly demotivating)

# Dispelling the myths around blockers when it comes to information sharing

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- 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."

## Get in touch if you need some help to get started

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- Getting started with building a new community can be daunting. Feel free to get in touch with us if you have any questions!
- Contact: [info@circl.lu](mailto:info@circl.lu)
- <https://www.circl.lu/>
- <https://github.com/MISP> - <https://gitter.im/MISP/MISP> - <https://twitter.com/MISPPProject>



# One final #rant

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