

# Network Security, Incident Management, and Insider Threats in the Healthcare Industry

*CERT Insider Threat Center*

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[http://www.cert.org/insider\\_threat/](http://www.cert.org/insider_threat/)



# Insider Threat Agenda

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## Introduction

How bad is the insider threat?

Exploration of each type of insider crime:

- IT sabotage
- Theft of Intellectual Property
- Fraud

## Mitigation Strategies





# Introduction

# What is CERT?

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Center of Internet security expertise



Established in 1988 by the US Department of Defense on the heels of the Morris worm that created havoc on the ARPANET, the precursor to what is the Internet today

Located in the Software Engineering Institute (SEI)

- Federally Funded Research & Development Center (FFRDC)
- Operated by Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)

# Who is a Malicious Insider?

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*Current or former employee, contractor, or other business partner who*

- *has or had authorized access to an organization's network, system or data and*
- *intentionally exceeded or misused that access in a manner that*
- *negatively affected the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the organization's information or information systems.*



# Types of Insider Crimes

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## ***Insider IT sabotage***

An insider's use of IT to direct specific harm at an organization or an individual.

## ***Insider theft of intellectual property (IP)***

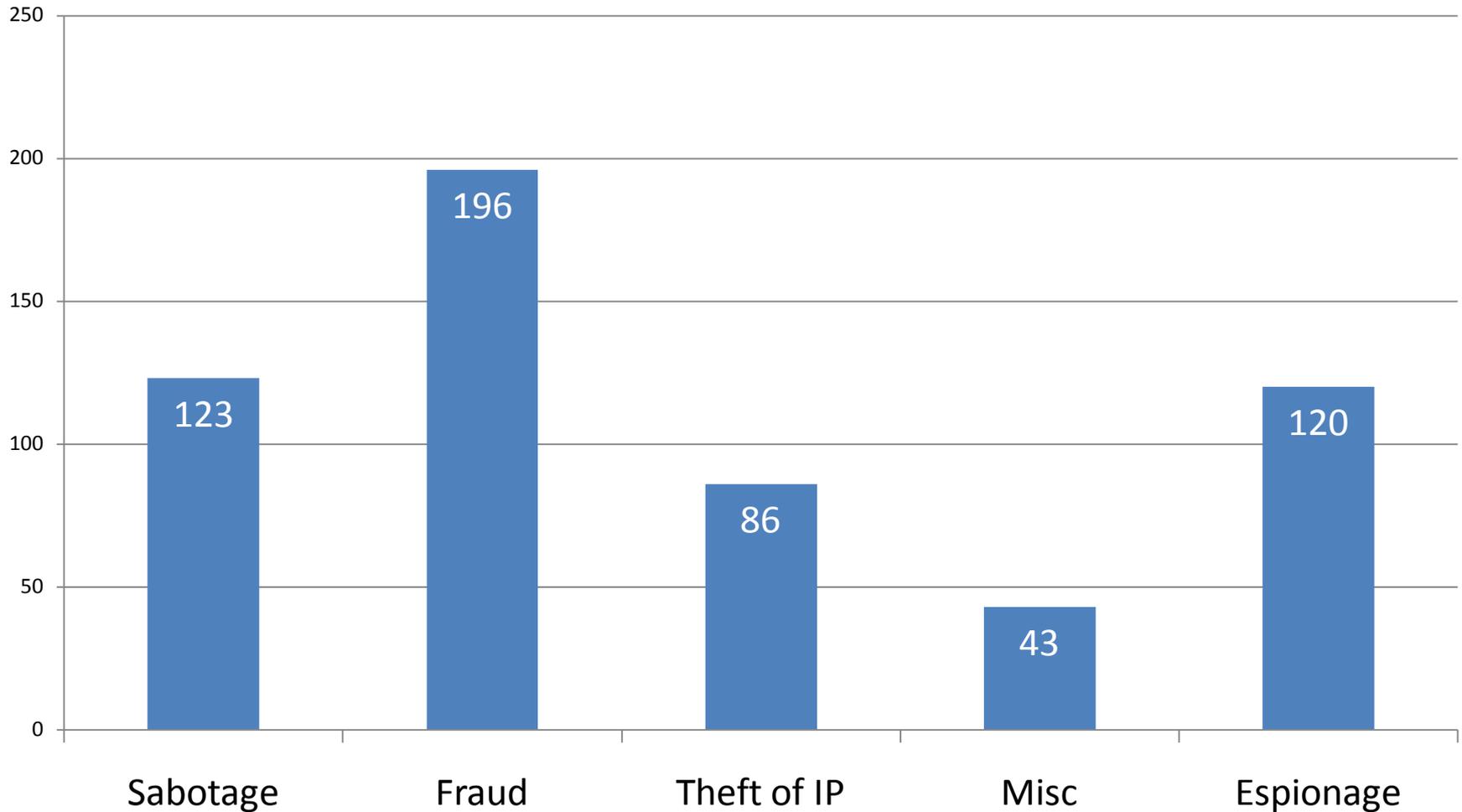
An insider's use of IT to steal intellectual property from the organization. This category includes industrial espionage involving insiders.

## ***Insider fraud***

An insider's use of IT for the unauthorized modification, addition, or deletion of an organization's data (not programs or systems) for personal gain, or theft of information which leads to fraud (identity theft, credit card fraud).

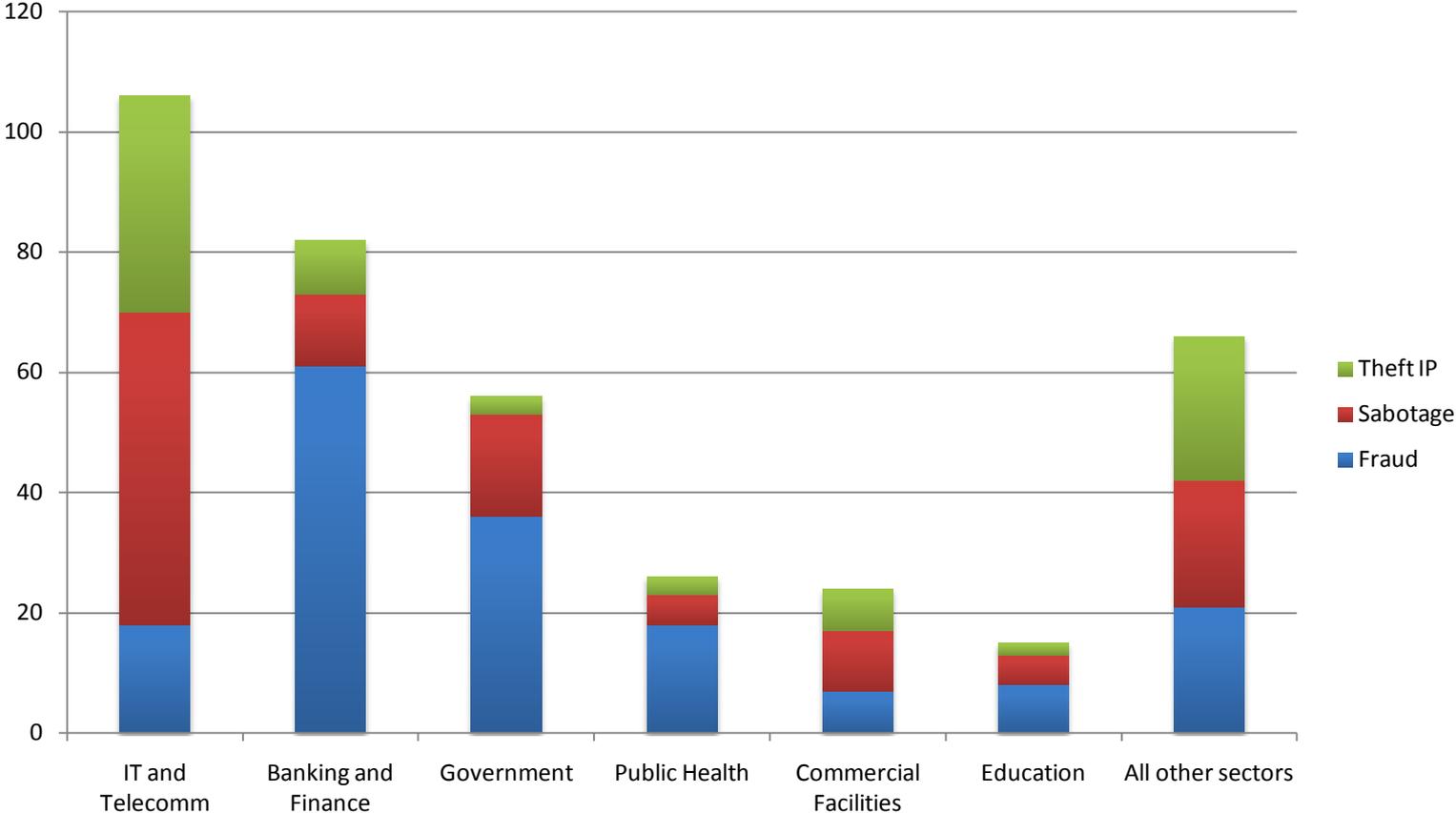
# CERT's Insider Threat Case Database

U.S. Crimes by Category

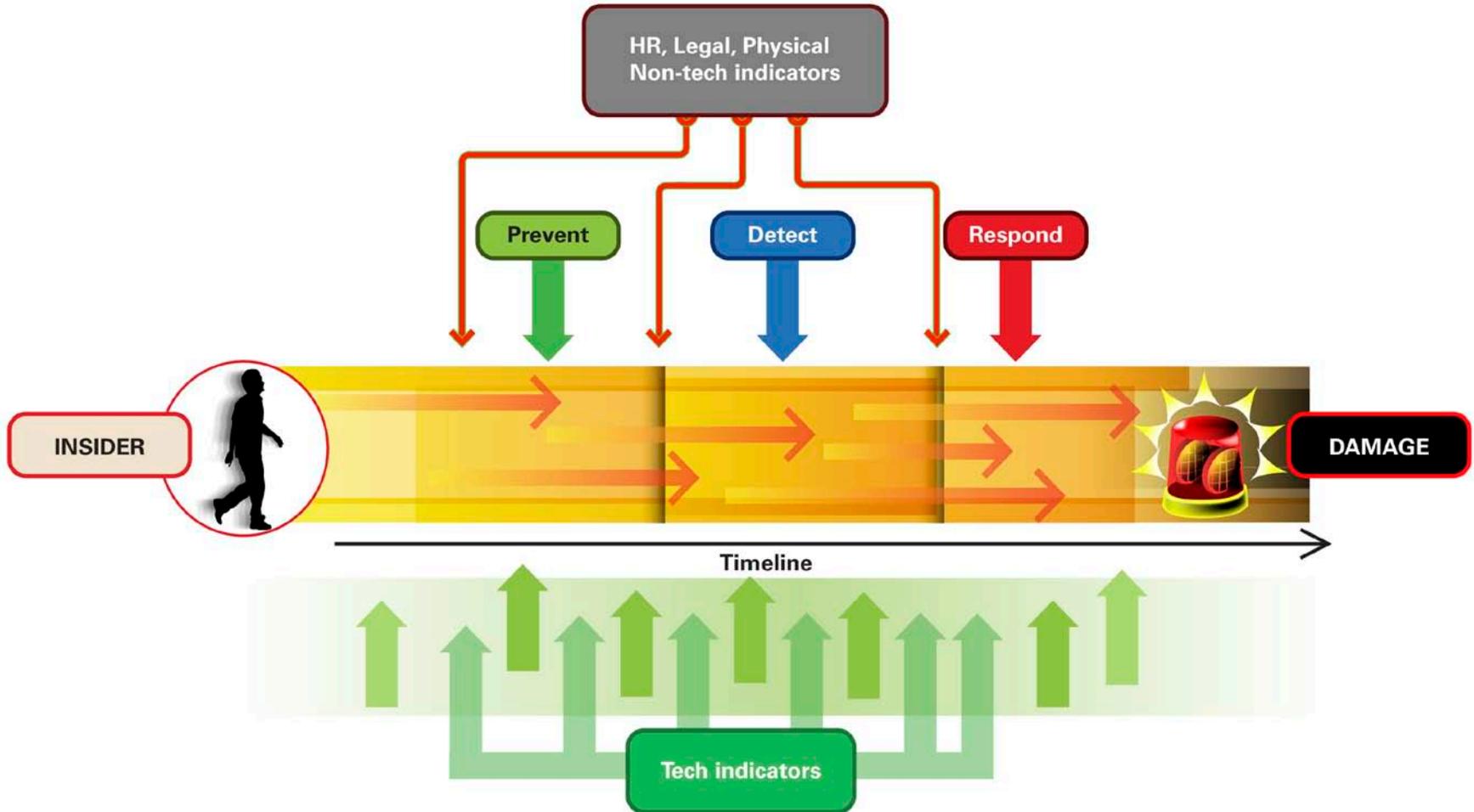


# Critical Infrastructure Sectors

## US Cases by Sectors (top 6) and Type of Crime



# CERT Insider Threat Center Objective



*Opportunities for prevention, detection, and response for an insider attack*



# How bad is the insider threat?

# Insider Threat Issue

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Insiders pose a substantial threat by virtue of their knowledge of, and access to, their employers' systems and/or databases.

Insiders can bypass existing physical and electronic security measures through *legitimate* measures.

# 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey -1

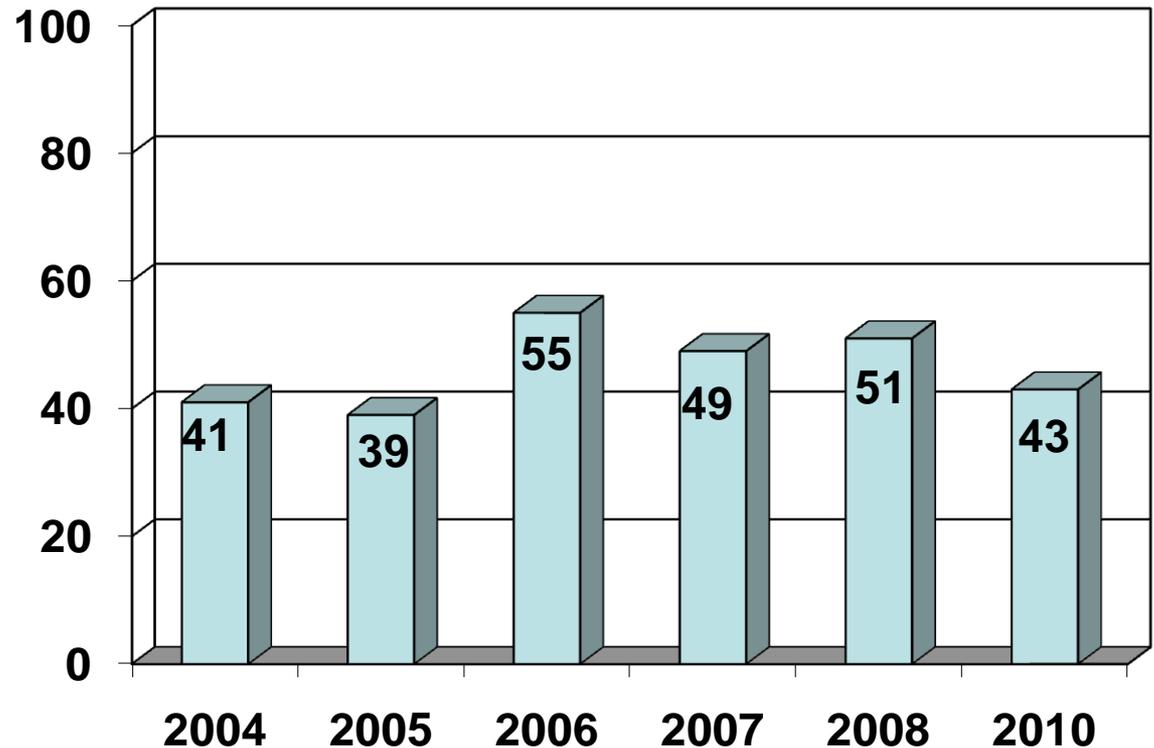
CSO Magazine, USSS, CERT &  
Deloitte

607 respondents

## Percentage of Participants Who Experienced an Insider Incident

*38% of organizations  
have more than 5000  
employees*

*37% of organizations  
have less than  
500 employees*



Source: 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey, CSO Magazine, U.S. Secret Service, Software Engineering Institute CERT Program at Carnegie Mellon University and Deloitte, January 2011.

# 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey -2

46 % of respondents    Damage caused by insider attacks more damaging than outsider attacks

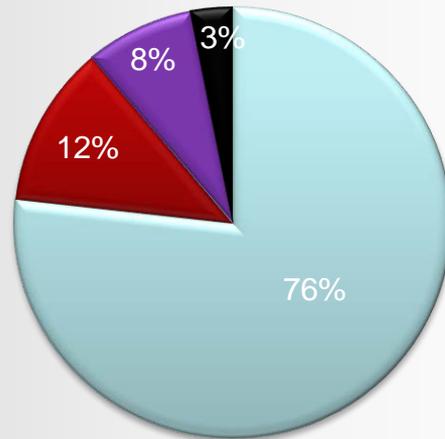
## Most common insider e-crime

Unauthorized access to / use of corporate information	(63%)
Unintentional exposure of private or sensitive data	(57%)
Virus, worms, or other malicious code	(37%)
Theft of intellectual property	(32%)

Source: 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey, CSO Magazine, U.S. Secret Service, Software Engineering Institute CERT Program at Carnegie Mellon University and Deloitte, January 2011.

# 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey - 3

## How Insider Intrusions Are Handled



- Internally (without legal action or law enforcement)
- Internally (with legal action)
- Externally (notifying law enforcement)
- Externally (filing a civil action)

## Reason(s) CyberCrimes were not referred for legal action

	2011	2010
Damage level insufficient to warrant prosecution	42%	37%
Could not identify the individual/ individuals responsible for committing the eCrime	40%	29%
Lack of evidence/not enough information to prosecute	39%	35%
Concerns about negative publicity	12%	15%
Concerns about liability	8%	7%
Concerns that competitors would use incident to their advantage	6%	5%
Prior negative response from law enforcement	5%	7%
Unaware that we could report these crimes	4%	5%
Other	11%	5%
Don't know	20%	14%
Not applicable	N/A	24%

Source: 2011 CyberSecurity Watch Survey, CSO Magazine, U.S. Secret Service, Software Engineering Institute CERT Program at Carnegie Mellon University and Deloitte, January 2011.



# Insider Crime Profiles

# IT Sabotage



# IT Sabotage Incidents

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An IT consultant for a hospital medical supply facility seeks revenge when he loses control of his company

*...System administrator sabotages systems on his way out*

A security guard at a U.S. hospital, after submitting resignation notice, obtained physical access to computer rooms

*...Installed malicious code on hospital computers, accessed patient medical records*



# Insider IT Sabotage

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## Who did it?

- Former employees
- Male
- Highly technical positions
- Age: 17 – 60

## How did they attack?

- No authorized access
- Backdoor accounts, shared accounts, other employees' accounts, insider's own account
- Many technically sophisticated
- Remote access outside normal working hours





# Summary of Findings

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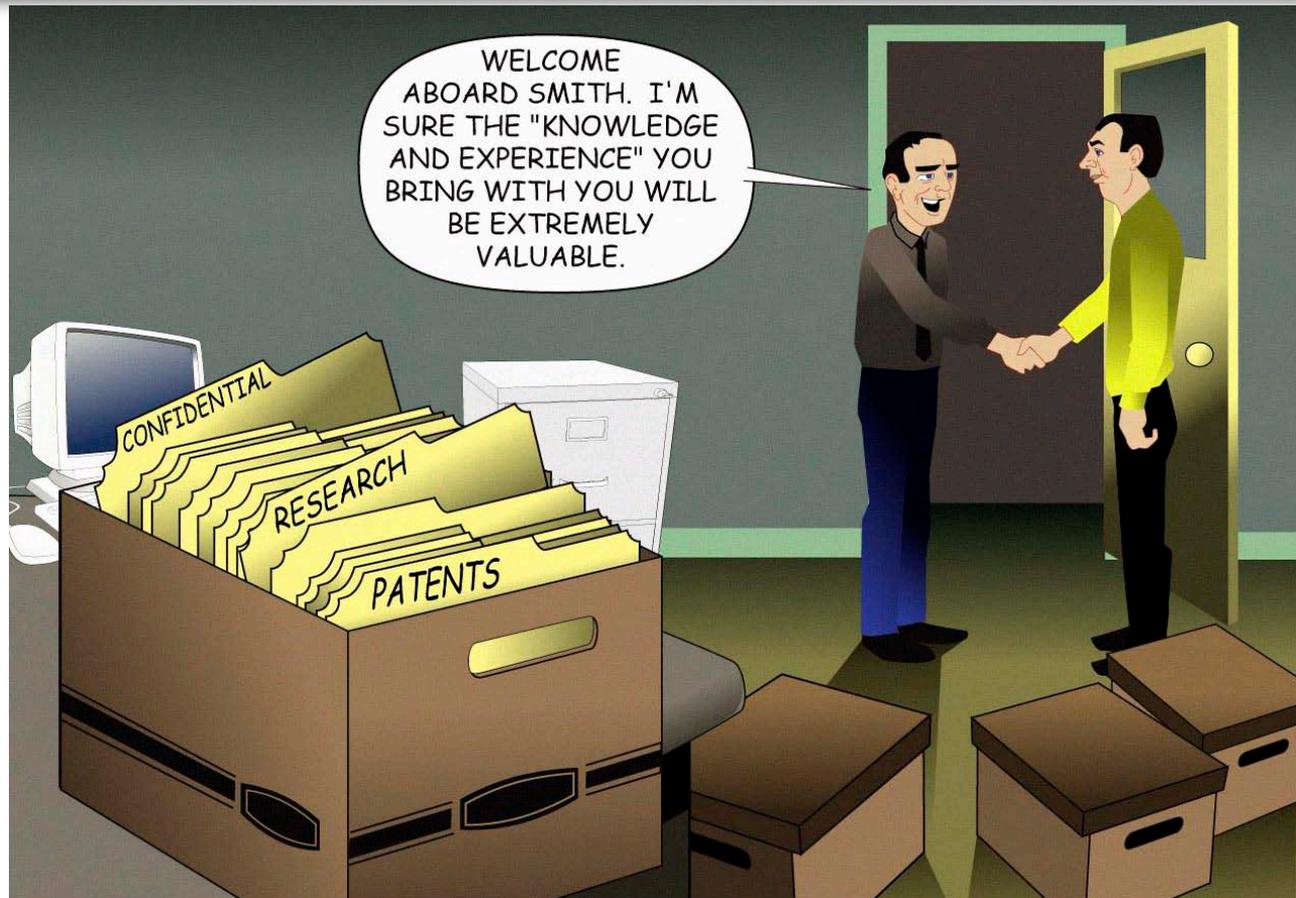
	IT Sabotage
<b>% of crimes in case database</b>	35%
<b>Current or former employee?</b>	Former
<b>Type of position</b>	Technical (e.g. sys admins or DBAs)
<b>Gender</b>	Male

# Summary of Findings

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	IT Sabotage
<b>Target</b>	Network, systems, or data
<b>Access used</b>	Unauthorized
<b>When</b>	Outside normal working hours
<b>Where</b>	Remote access
<b>Recruited by outsiders</b>	None
<b>Collusion</b>	None

# Theft of Intellectual Property



# *Theft of Information Incidents*

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A technical operations associate at a pharmaceutical company downloads 65 GB of information, including 1300 confidential and proprietary documents, intending to start a competing company, in a foreign country...

*Organization spent over \$500M in development costs*



# Theft of Intellectual Property

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## Who did it?

- Current employees
- Technical or sales positions
- All male
- Average age: 37

## What was stolen?

- Intellectual Property (IP)
- Customer Information (CI)

## How did they steal it?

- During normal working hours
- Using authorized access

# Dynamics of the Crime

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Most were *quick* theft upon resignation

Stole information to

- Take to a new job
- Start a new business
- Give to a foreign company or government organization

Collusion

- Collusion with at least one *insider* in almost 1/2 of cases
- Outsider *recruited* insider in less than 1/4 of cases
- Acted *alone* in 1/2 of cases

# Summary of Findings

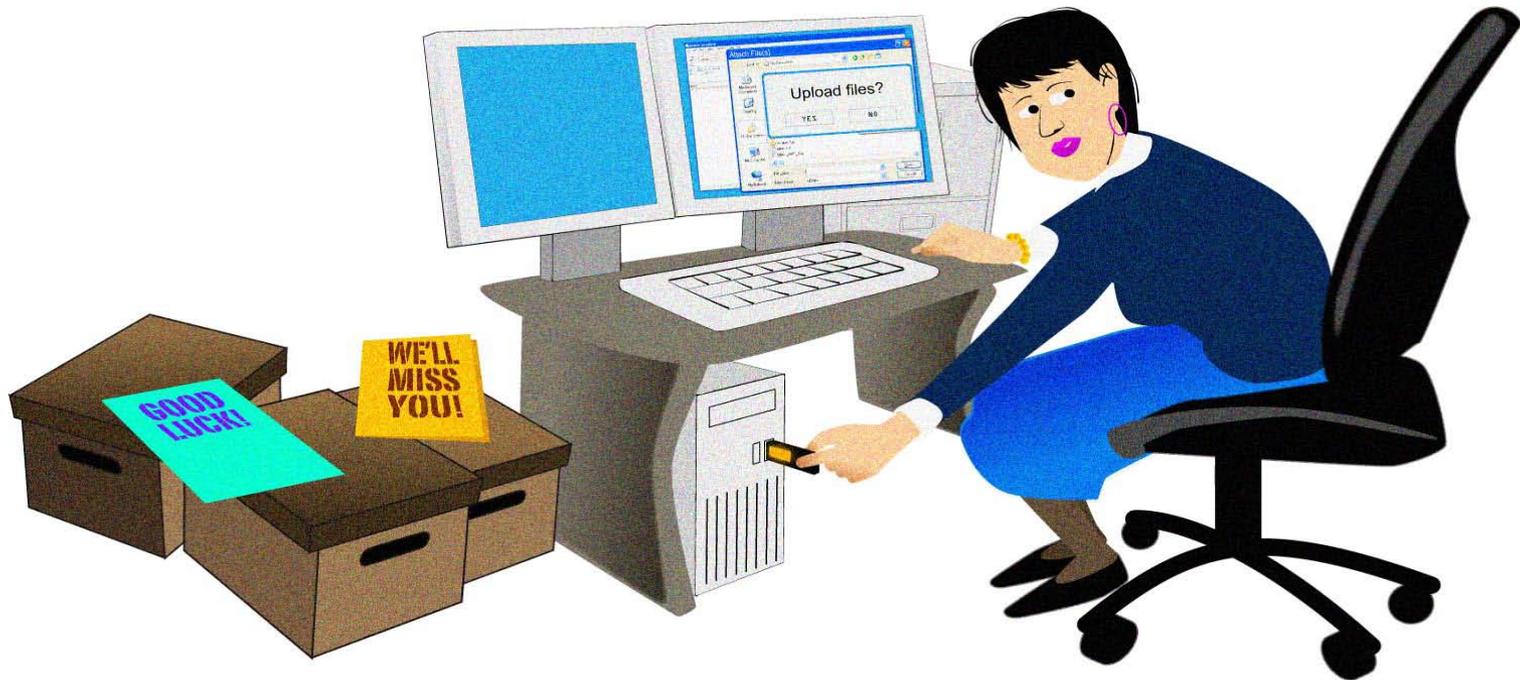
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	IT Sabotage	Theft of Intellectual Property
<b>% of crimes in case database</b>	35%	18%
<b>Current or former employee?</b>	Former	Current
<b>Type of position</b>	Technical (e.g. sys admins or DBAs)	Technical (71%) - scientists, programmers, engineers  Sales (29%)
<b>Gender</b>	Male	Male

# Summary of Findings

	IT Sabotage	Theft of Intellectual Property
<b>Target</b>	Network, systems, or data	IP (trade secrets) – 71% Customer Info – 33%
<b>Access used</b>	Unauthorized	Authorized
<b>When</b>	Outside normal working hours	During normal working hours
<b>Where</b>	Remote access	At work
<b>Recruited by outsiders</b>	None	Less than 1/4
<b>Collusion</b>	None	Almost 1/2 colluded with at least one insider; 1/2 acted alone

# Fraud



# *Fraud Incidents*

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**An accounts payable clerk, over a period of 3 years, issues 127 unauthorized checks to herself and others...**

***Checks totaled over \$875,000***

**A front desk office coordinator stole PII from hospital...**

***Over 1100 victims and over \$2.8 M in fraudulent claims***



# Fraud: Theft or Modification

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Most attacks were long, ongoing schemes

## Who did it?

- Current employees
- “Low level” positions
- Gender: fairly equal split
- Average age: 33

## What was stolen/modified?

- Personally Identifiable Information (PII)
- Customer Information (CI)
- Very few cases involved trade secrets

## How did they steal/modify it?

- During normal working hours
- Using authorized access

# Summary of Findings

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	IT Sabotage	Theft of Intellectual Property	Fraud
<b>% of crimes in case database**</b>	35%	18%	40%
<b>Current or former employee?</b>	Former	Current	Current
<b>Type of position</b>	Technical (e.g. sys admins or DBAs)	Technical (71%) - scientists, programmers, engineers  Sales (29%)	Non-technical, low-level positions with access to confidential or sensitive information (e.g. data entry, customer service)
<b>Gender</b>	Male	Male	Fairly equally split between male and female

**\*\* Does not include national security espionage**

# Summary of Findings

	IT Sabotage	Theft of Intellectual Property	Fraud
<b>Target</b>	Network, systems, or data	IP (trade secrets) – 71% Customer Info – 33%	PII or Customer Information
<b>Access used</b>	Unauthorized	Authorized	Authorized
<b>When</b>	Outside normal working hours	During normal working hours	During normal working hours
<b>Where</b>	Remote access	At work	At work
<b>Recruited by outsiders</b>	None	Less than 1/4	1/2 recruited for theft; less than 1/3 recruited for mod
<b>Collusion</b>	None	Almost 1/2 colluded with at least one insider; 1/2 acted alone	Mod: almost 1/2 colluded with another insider Theft: 2/3 colluded with outsiders



# Mitigation Strategies

# Our Suggestion

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Continuous Logging



Targeted Monitoring



Real-time Alerting





# ***Common Sense Guide to Prevention and Detection of Insider Threats***

<http://www.cert.org/archive/pdf/CSG-V3.pdf>

# Summary of Best Practices in CSG

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Consider threats from insiders and business partners in enterprise-wide risk assessments.

Clearly document and consistently enforce policies and controls.

Institute periodic security awareness training for all employees.

Monitor and respond to suspicious or disruptive behavior, beginning with the hiring process.

Anticipate and manage negative workplace issues.

Track and secure the physical environment.

Implement strict password and account management policies and practices.

Enforce separation of duties and least privilege.

Consider insider threats in the software development life cycle.

Use extra caution with system administrators and technical or privileged users.

Implement system change controls.

Log, monitor, and audit employee online actions.

Use layered defense against remote attacks.

Deactivate computer access following termination.

Implement secure backup and recovery processes.

Develop an insider incident response plan.

# Publicly Available Information

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Reports

Podcasts

Insider Threat Study

System Dynamics

Cyber Crime Survey

[\(http://www.cert.org/insider\\_threat/\)](http://www.cert.org/insider_threat/)

# Point of Contact

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