

# Cloud-based Data Validation patterns...

DEEPSEC

We need a new approach!

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I like to think that tequila inspired this talk.

Tokyo 1999... a night to forget.

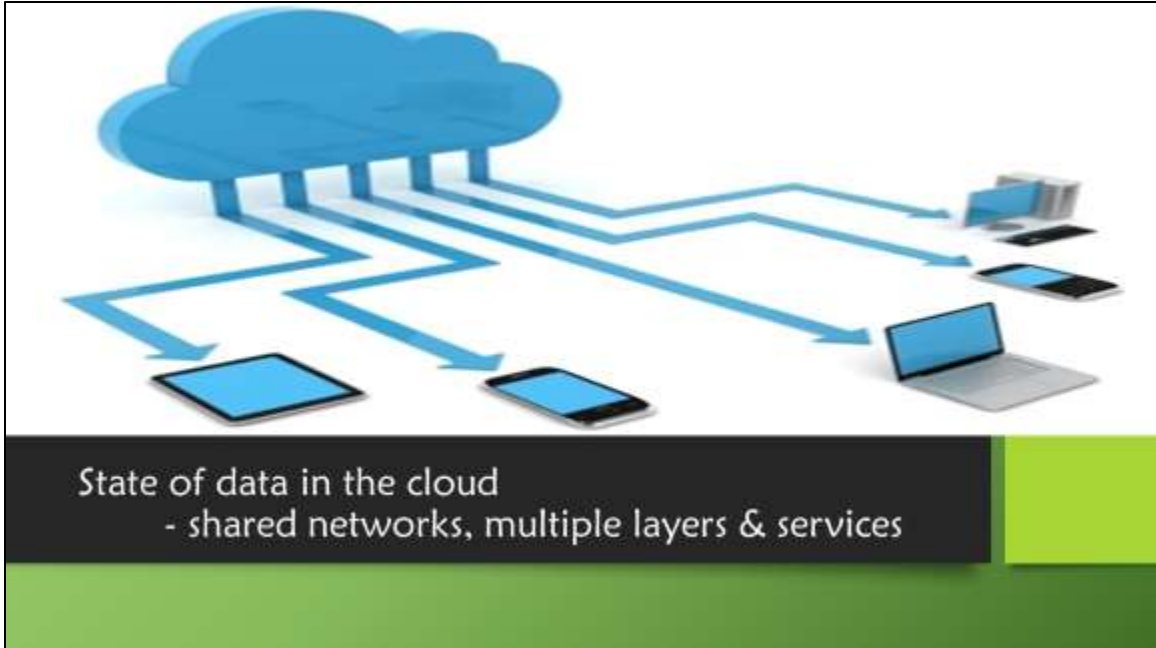
16 hours of waiting for the hangover.

I get the trampoline effect now.

How does this relate to Validation?

My body self-validates against tequila!

[GIVE AGENDA]



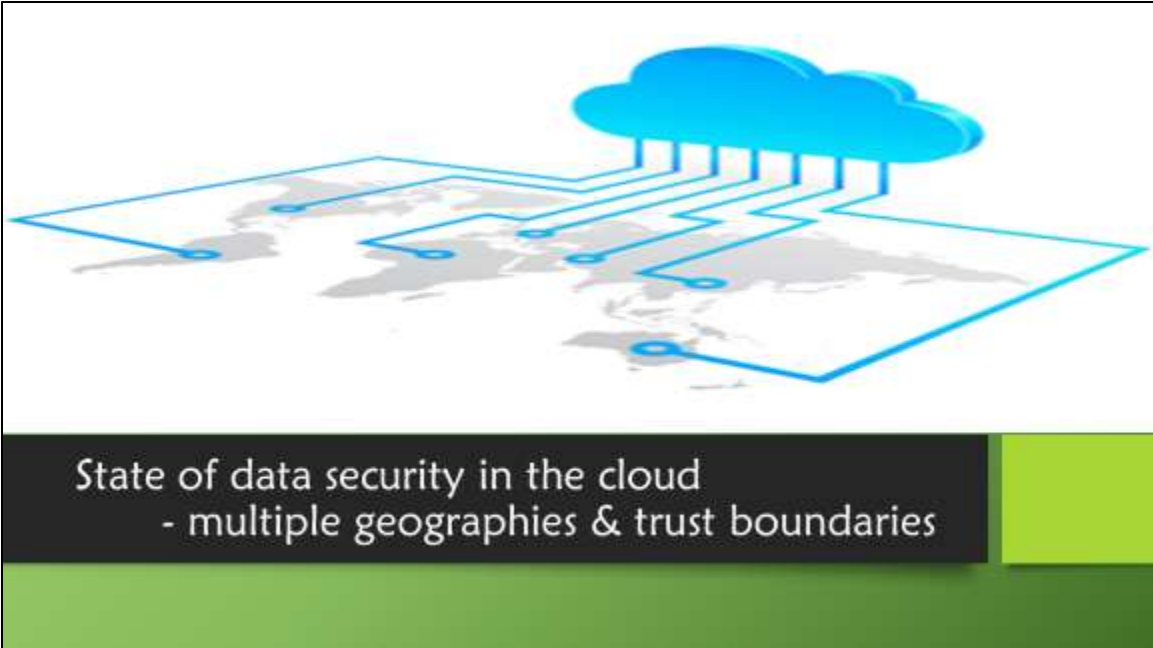
Migrating workloads to a shared network and compute infrastructure increases the potential for unauthorized exposure.

Data will be exposed on:

- multi-tenant environment storage

- Spanned multiple layers in the cloud stack

- Platforms secured by multiple technologies and services



State of data security in the cloud  
- multiple geographies & trust boundaries

Authentication/authorization **and validation** technologies are becoming increasingly important.

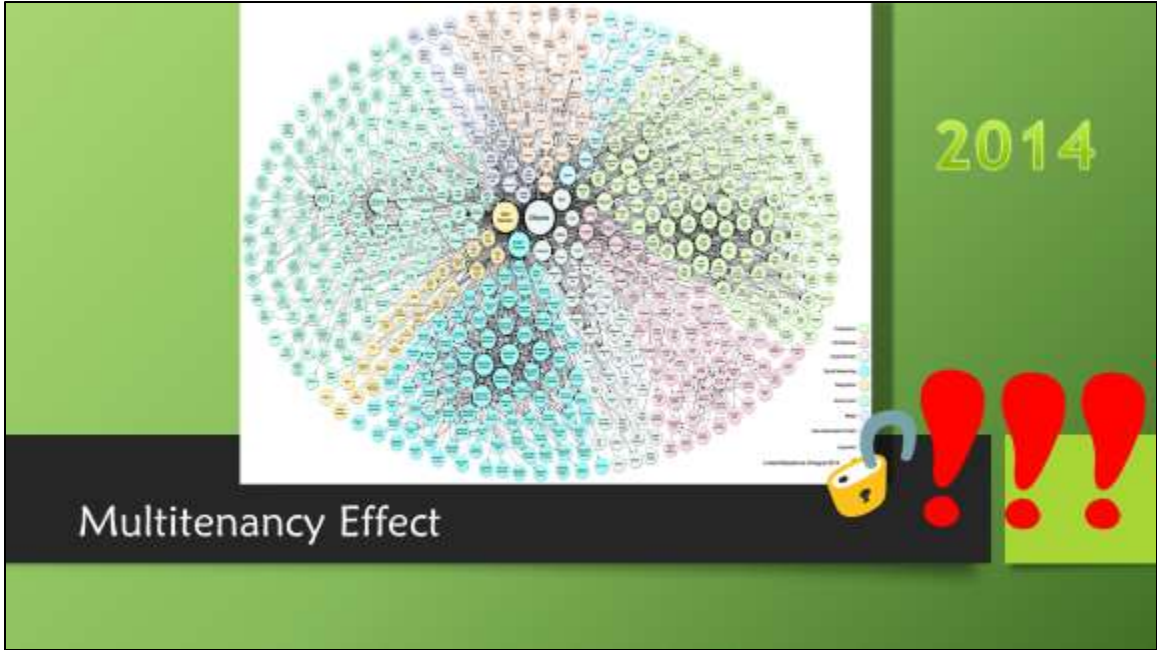
Data will be exposed on:

- different trust levels, including anonymous, users, privileged cloud users
- various geographies where it is located

The image features a central network diagram of open data organizations as of March 2009. The diagram consists of numerous circular nodes, each representing an organization, connected by lines. The nodes are color-coded in shades of blue, yellow, green, and pink. The network is highly interconnected, with many nodes having multiple connections. To the right of the diagram, the year '2009' is displayed in a large, green, stylized font. Below the diagram, on a black background, is the text 'Proof – the Incredible growth of Open Data orgs' followed by a small icon of a padlock with a keyhole. The entire graphic is set against a green background.

Secure Socket Layers (SSL) or Virtual Private Networks (VPN) solutions **cannot address** the reality that data travels everywhere and anywhere in a cloud.

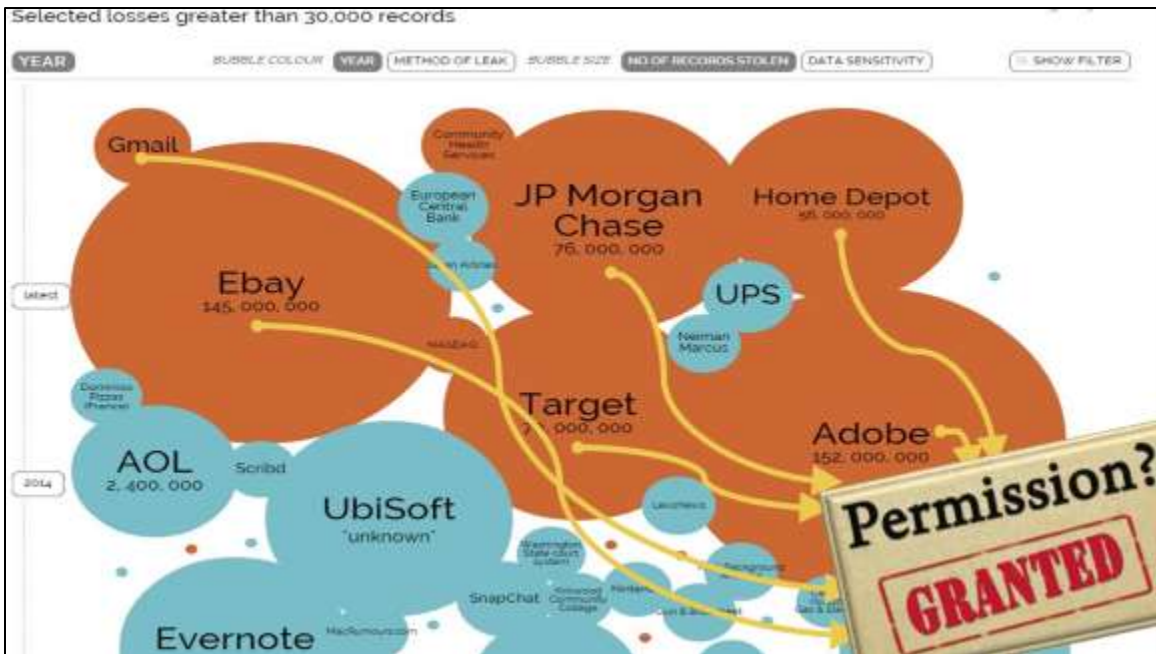
In 2009, this may have been maintainable...



In 2014, not so much.

How is SSL/TLS going to solve the rapid growth of connected sites?

Call it the Multitenancy Effect.



Malware attacks will make their way to internal networks via techniques such as SQL injection.

Once they're on the network, they inherit the permissions of a trusted user and find their way over to more important assets

## Data validation issues still horrendous in 2014

Number of breaches per threat action category over time



SQL injection was leveraged in 27 of the 34 (80%) attacks against web applications in the retail industry.

Why is this still happening?



Enterprise guidance to the Rescue!

## Enterprise guidance... *Constrain, Reject and Sanitize*

- OWASP General Data Validation

CENTRALISED VALIDATION

- OWASP Application Security Verification Standard

TRUSTED ZONES

- Microsoft Guidance Share

CENTRALISED VALIDATION

OWASP General Data Validation -

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Data\\_Validation\\_%28Code\\_Review%29](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Data_Validation_%28Code_Review%29)

OWASP Entity Encoding -

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/How\\_to\\_perform\\_HTML\\_entity\\_encoding\\_in\\_Java](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/How_to_perform_HTML_entity_encoding_in_Java)

OWASP Application Security Verification Standard is a step in the right direction, but still based on trusted zones - [http://code.google.com/p/owasp-asvs/wiki/Verification\\_V5](http://code.google.com/p/owasp-asvs/wiki/Verification_V5)

Microsoft Guidance Share is based on centralized validation control-

[http://www.guidanceshare.com/wiki/Web\\_Application\\_Security\\_Design\\_Guidelines\\_-\\_Input\\_-\\_Data\\_Validation](http://www.guidanceshare.com/wiki/Web_Application_Security_Design_Guidelines_-_Input_-_Data_Validation)

[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ee658105.aspx#Validation\\_Design\\_Steps\\_for\\_Validating\\_Input\\_and\\_Data](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ee658105.aspx#Validation_Design_Steps_for_Validating_Input_and_Data)

## Frameworks



### Microsoft

Validation Application Block; heavyweight and complex to use  
[http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn440720\(v=pandp.60\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn440720(v=pandp.60).aspx)

### OWASP

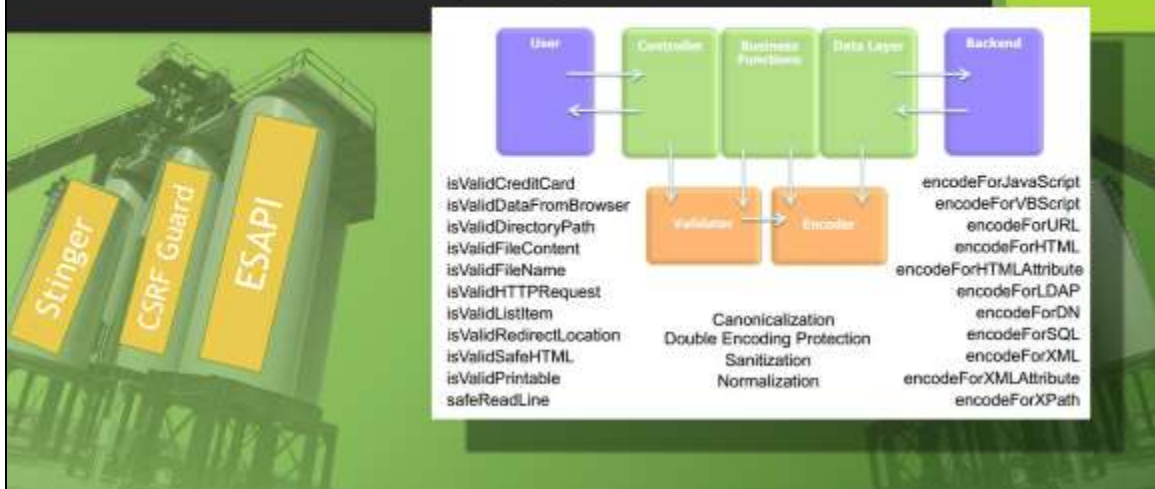
CSRF Guard - [http://www.owasp.org/index.php/CSRF\\_Guard](http://www.owasp.org/index.php/CSRF_Guard)

Stinger (inactive) was the start of a centralized input validation component; replaced by ESAPI? –

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ESAPI main purpose is to retrofit security into existing applications –  
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## Frameworks – Heavyweight!



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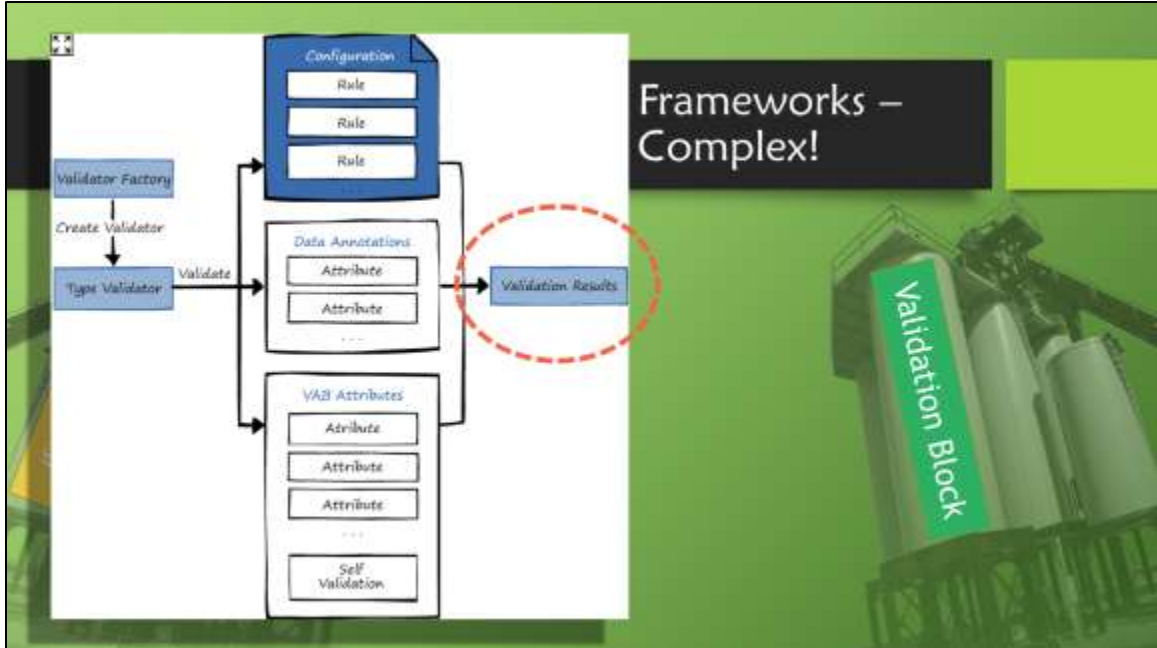
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## Constrain, Reject and Sanitize... with regex?

```
^[a-zA-Z]{1,50}$
```

Word mapping

Hey this is easy enough

```
^[a-zA-Z]+$
```

But what if I wanted to block certain patterns...

```
[v,V,(\V)](\W)[i,I,1,l,L](\W)[a,A,@,(\V)](\W)[g,G](\W)[r,R](\W)[a,A,@,(\V)]
```

(**viagra** anyone?)

## How Complex?

```
[v,V,(\\V)](\\W|)[i,I,1,l,L](\\W|)[a,A,@,(\\/\n\\)](\\W|)[g,G](\\W|)[r,R](\\W|)[a,A,@,(\\/\n\n))]
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## ...regex absurdities...

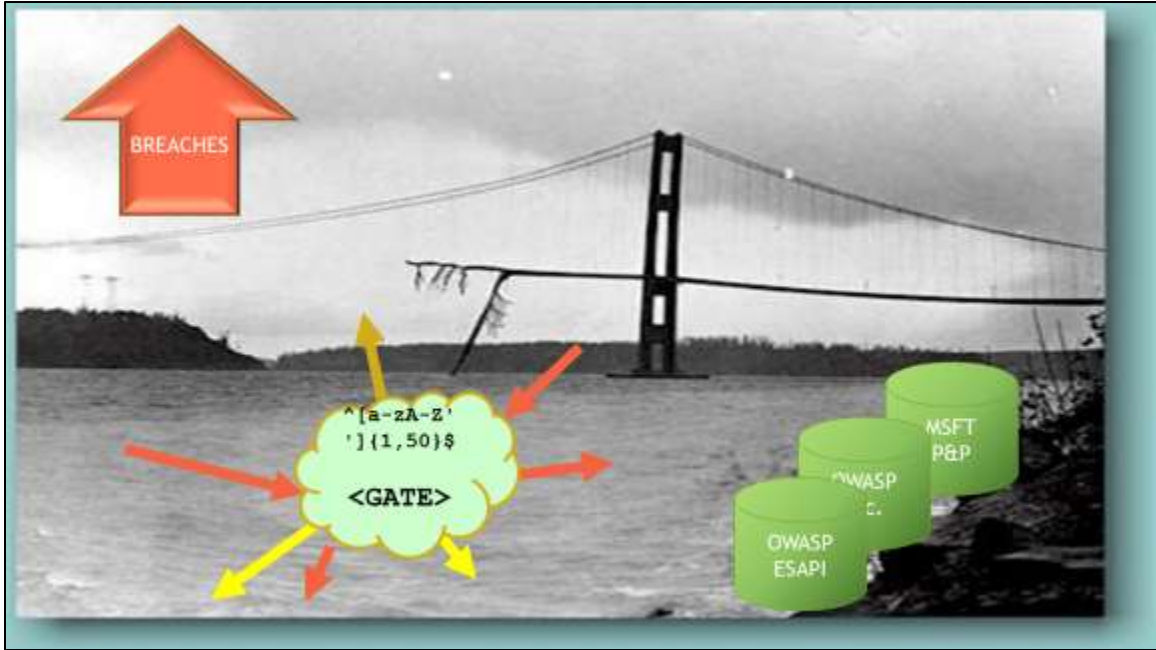
```
(?:[a-z0-9!#$%&'*/+=?^_`{|}~-]+(?:\. [a-z0-9!#$%&'*/+=?^_`{|}~-]+)*|"(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21\x23-\x5b\x5d-\x7f]|\\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])*")@(?:(?:[a-r9](?:[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9])?\.)+[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9])?|[(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?)\.)}{3}(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9])?|[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9]:(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21-\x5a\x53-\x7f]|\\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])+)\])
```

Email address mapping

Ugh, what is this mess?

```
(?:[a-z0-9!#$%&'*/+=?^_`{|}~-]+(?:\. [a-z0-9!#$%&'*/+=?^_`{|}~-]+)*|"(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21\x23-\x5b\x5d-\x7f]|\\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])*")@(?:(?:[a-r9](?:[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9])?\.)+[a-z0-9](?:[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9])?|[(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9]?)\.)}{3}(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|[01]?[0-9][0-9])?|[a-z0-9]*[a-z0-9]:(?:[\x01-\x08\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x1f\x21-\x5a\x53-\x7f]|\\[\x01-\x09\x0b\x0c\x0e-\x7f])+)\])
```





Malicious Data breaches are increasing

The old model of validation gates doesn't work in a multi-tenancy world

Current frameworks are complex and siloed









Execute smoothly with Data - Availability



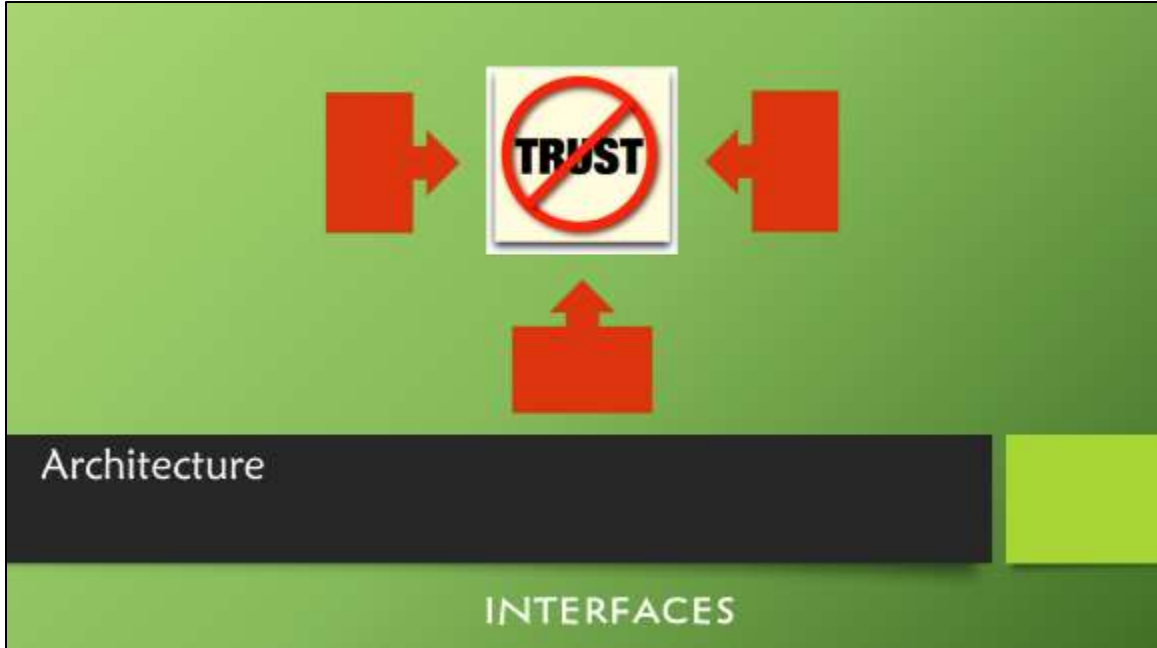
### Concept of Zero-trust architecture

In Zero Trust, all network traffic is untrusted. Thus, security professionals must verify and secure all resources, limit and strictly enforce access control, and inspect and log all network traffic.

The core concepts of Zero Trust are:

- There is no longer a trusted and an untrusted interface on our security devices.
- There is no longer a trusted and an untrusted network.
- There are no longer trusted and untrusted users

The Zero Trust model provides a data-centric approach to security that protects against sophisticated and targeted attacks



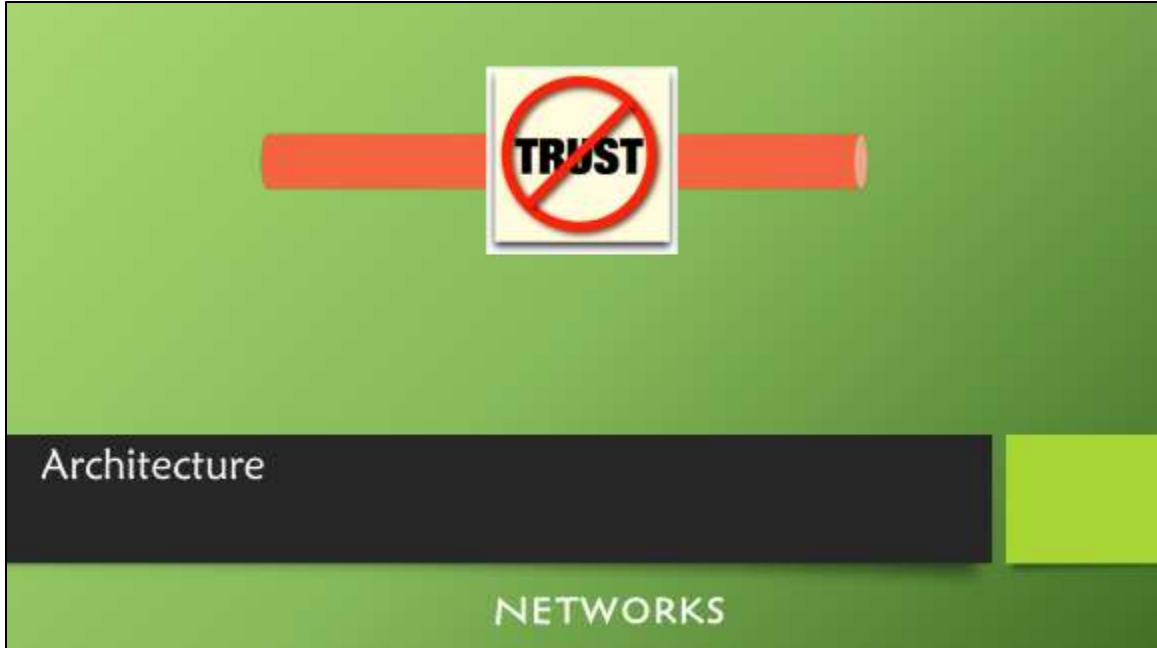
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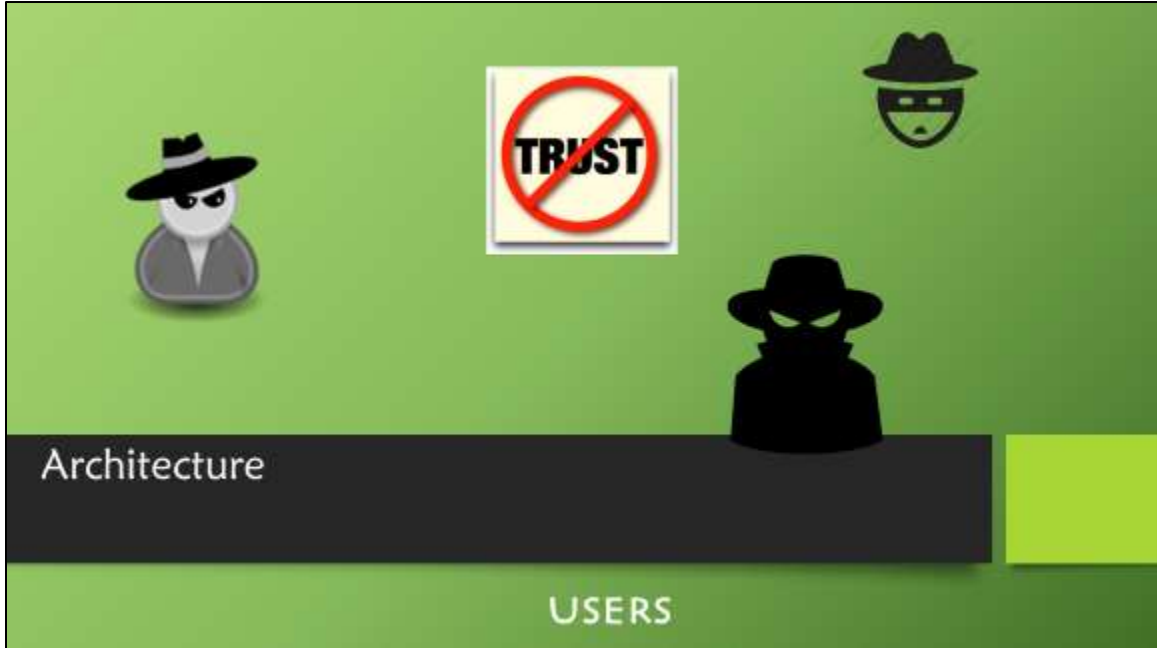
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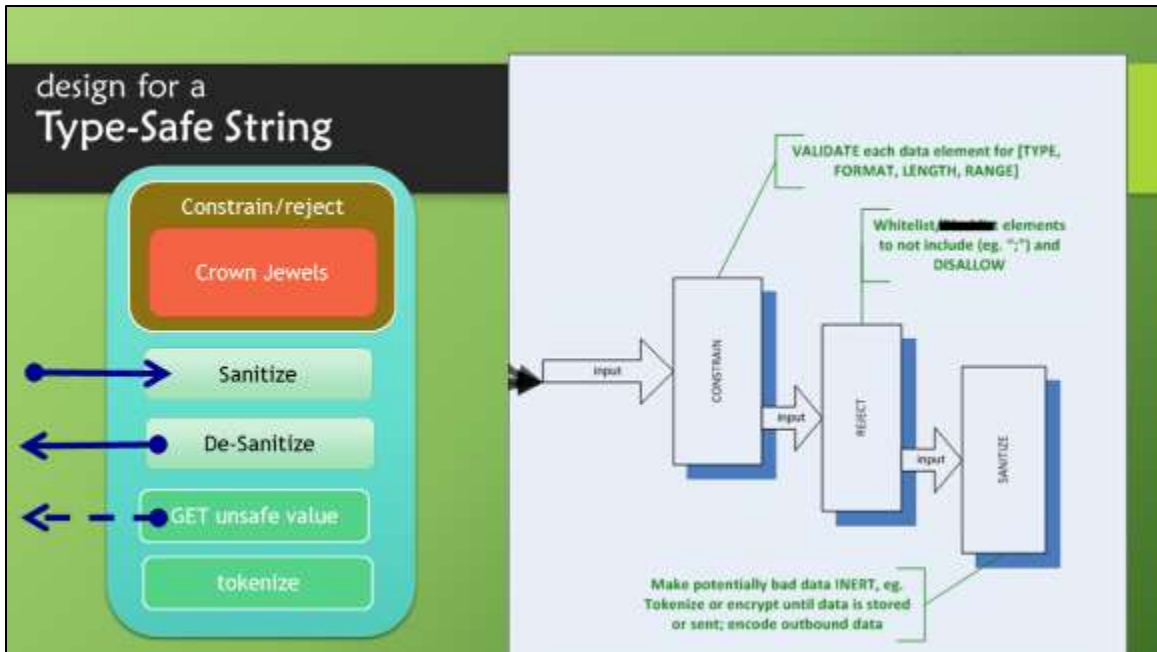
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What is a “type-safe” string?

It acts like a string, but has the desired validation architecture *built into the class!* The type-safe string will take the validation with it where it gets used. Developers will no longer have to remember to also do validation because the type-safe string will take care of this.

- **Constrain and reject** when setting value
- Type
- Format
  - Simple regex
- Length
- Range
  - only applies to numbers
- **Sanitize** when passing data
  - Inert payload component

## A note on Sanitization...



A note about sanitization during data validation. Sanitization is loosely based on the concept of tokenization. Tokenization provides a method by which to replace sensitive data with a disassociated and randomly generated alias. The process to tokenize and detokenize is strictly controlled with a special API. Data is persistently tokenized from the point of capture to the point of consumption or rest.

Sanitization doesn't rely upon a randomly generated or disassociated representation in this case as it is used to mitigate against injection attacks.

It makes the data inert.



(Setting Expectations)

I EXPECT THIS TO START A CONVERSATION, NOT BE THE END ALL BE ALL.

MANY EDGE CASES, DOESN'T SOLVE OUTPUT ISSUES CLEARLY.

As I got further into the exploration of this topic, I found more and more interesting avenues to explore.

Much still needs to be explored, such as

- serialisation (what kind)
- Output encoding
- Adoption
- Fundamentally my talk comes down to TRUST
  - Interesting talk with Simon the other night
  - Addressing the deeper need for changing languages
  - Million dollar question is how to embed trust into exchange of information!

Demo!



Questions?

DEEPSEC

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Artis-Secure Ltd.