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# CYBERSECURITY IN DE PRAKTIJK

## Technische risico's en productveiligheid



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## Technische risico's en productveiligheid

1. Trusted Cybersecure Connected Products in Energy Transition – Ludwig De Locht (Sirris)
2. Technical risks and product security – Vincent Haerinck (Toreon)



**sirris**

The innovation  
companion of the  
technology industry

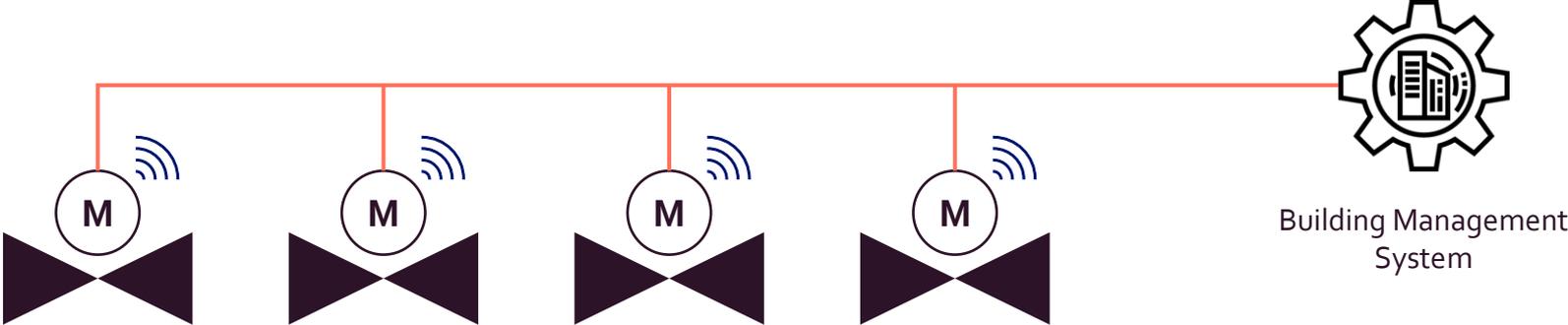


# Trusted Cybersecure Connected Products in Energy Transition

Ludwig De Locht – Program Manager Digital Security



# When Everything Connects, Security Gets Harder



# CRA – a new regulatory reality



## Objective:

- Ensure digital and connected products on the EU market have a baseline level of cybersecurity throughout their lifecycle.

## Scope:

- Applies to *hardware and software products with digital elements* (e.g., IoT devices, embedded systems, applications, cloud-based components).
- +data processing solutions

## Who is affected?

- Manufacturers of connected products
- Importers and distributors
- Software developers and vendors
- System integrators

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2847/oj>

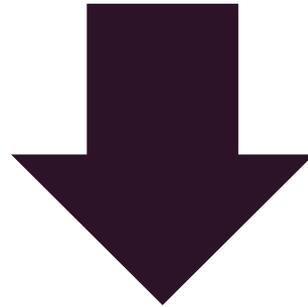
# Requirements

- **Security-by-design and by-default** in product development
- **Vulnerability handling**: monitoring, disclosure, and patching processes
- **Cyber risk assessment** and mitigation plans
- **Compliance documentation** (technical file, EU declaration of conformity)
- **CE marking** including cybersecurity compliance
- **Conformity assessment procedures**, which vary by product risk level

# Start CRA Compliance with Your Digital Product Risk Assessment

- (1) Products with digital elements shall be designed, developed and produced in such a way that they ensure an **appropriate level of cybersecurity based on the risks**.
- (2) On the basis of the **cybersecurity risk assessment** referred to in Article 13(2) and where applicable, products with digital elements shall:

Annex I – Section 1



YOU IDENTIFY YOUR  
RISK ASSESSMENT

# 3-step risk assessment framework

## Identify What Needs Protection

What systems, assets, data cause major damage if hacked?

## Assess the Biggest Threats

- What are the most likely cyber threats (phishing, ransomware, 3rd party)?
- Use a low-medium-high rating

## Act Mitigate & Monitor

- Simple cost-effective security actions (backup, MFA, training)

# Trusted Cybersecure Connected Products in Energy Transition

COOCK+: Practical Support for Your Company

Project Objectives:

- ✓ Help **SMEs in the energy transition** sector comply with the **EU Cyber Resilience Act (CRA)**.
- ✓ Support SMEs in **designing, acquiring, configuring, and testing** connected securely.
- ✓ Provide **clear, actionable guidelines** and tools tailored to SMEs with **limited R&D capacity**.



# CRA – Why Act Now

2027 is closer than it seems



- Build security into products from the start
- Formalize vulnerability handling and disclosure
- Document risk assessments to demonstrate compliance
- Gain visibility into third-party components (SBOM)

# Making Risk-Based Security Actionable with Threat Modelling

Define the system and what stakeholders expect

Apply proven attack scenarios to exposed system entry points

Evaluate the risk of each scenario

Select effective defences and mitigations



What are we building?

What can go wrong?

What are we going to do about it?

Did we do a good enough job?

**Ludwig  
De Locht**

PROGRAM MANAGER DIGITAL SECURITY

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# **Cyber security in practice**

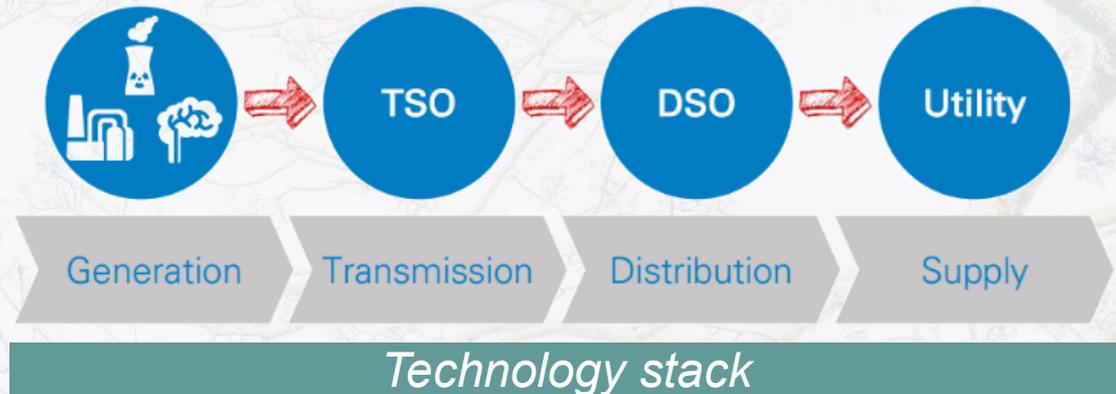
## Technical risks and product security

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# #whoami

- 10y+ Cyber security
- 10y+ Energy





al je vraag

vrtnws

Dossier Zonnepanelen

85 p

LEVEN | MENINGEN

DeMorgen.

POLITIEK

Achtergrond Black-out

EURACTIV

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Energy, Environment & Transport

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# EU's energy transition resilience needs action, gas infrastructure funding

Europe needs low-carbon hydrogen, but there's also a push to develop renewable gases and to incentivise the infrastructure. Energy resilience requires all options to be on the table.



# Product security

*Not cutting it up in separate parts*

Product security is a **holistic** approach to **building, delivering, and maintaining** secure products (hardware, software, devices) across their **entire lifecycle**, from design to end-of-life, by embedding security into every stage to protect against cyber threats, tampering, and data breaches, ensuring **resilience** and **trust**.

*Getting hit and getting back up again*



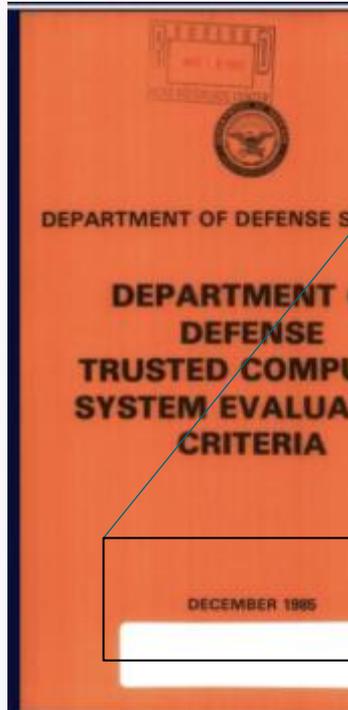
# What is a product? 😊

- An article or substance that is manufactured or refined for sale *from Oxford Languages*

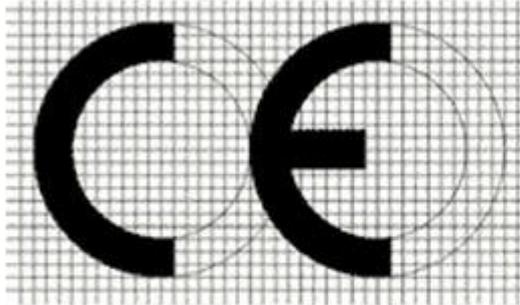




# Is it new?



**CE mark**  
**EEC Decision 93/465/EEC**



The acronym "CE" is composed of the capital letters of a French expression "Conformité Européenne", translated as "European Conformity".

The CE mark was officially published in the EEC Decision 93/465/EEC, date 22 July 1993.

The conditions pertaining to the usage of the CE mark are stated in the annex of the EEC Decision 93/465/EEC.



# Do I need product security?



Product  
Security



Supply Chain  
Security





# Do I need product security?



CRA



NIS2



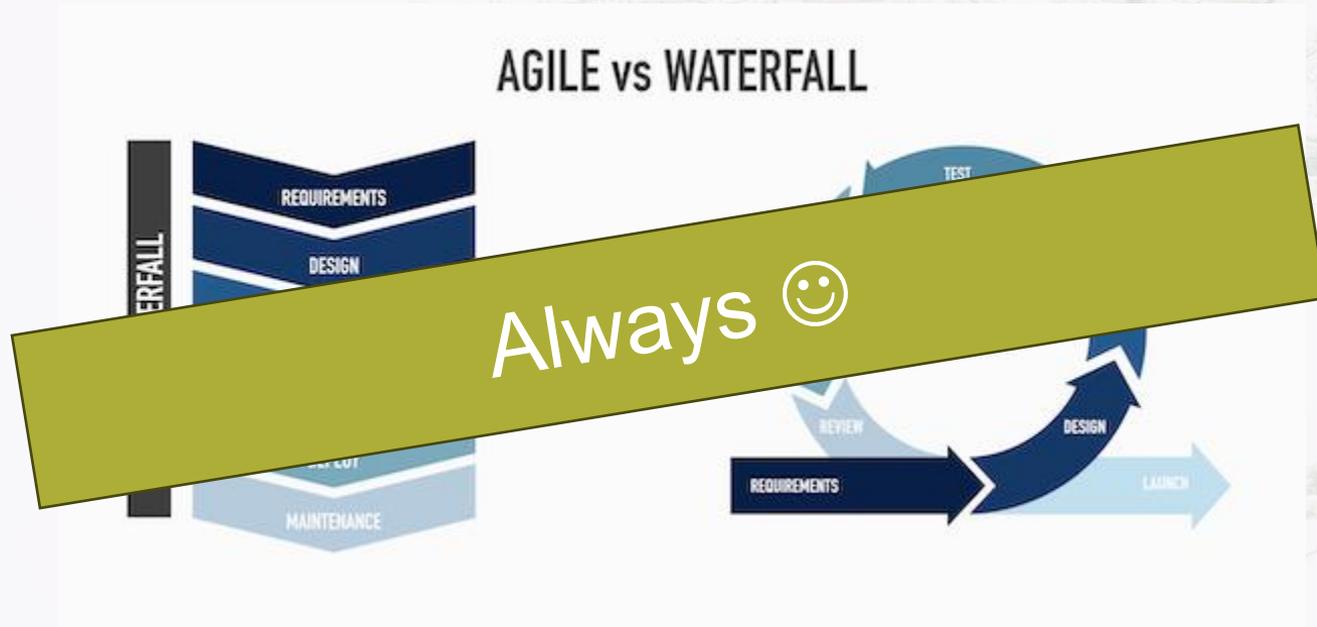


# When do I need to apply product security?





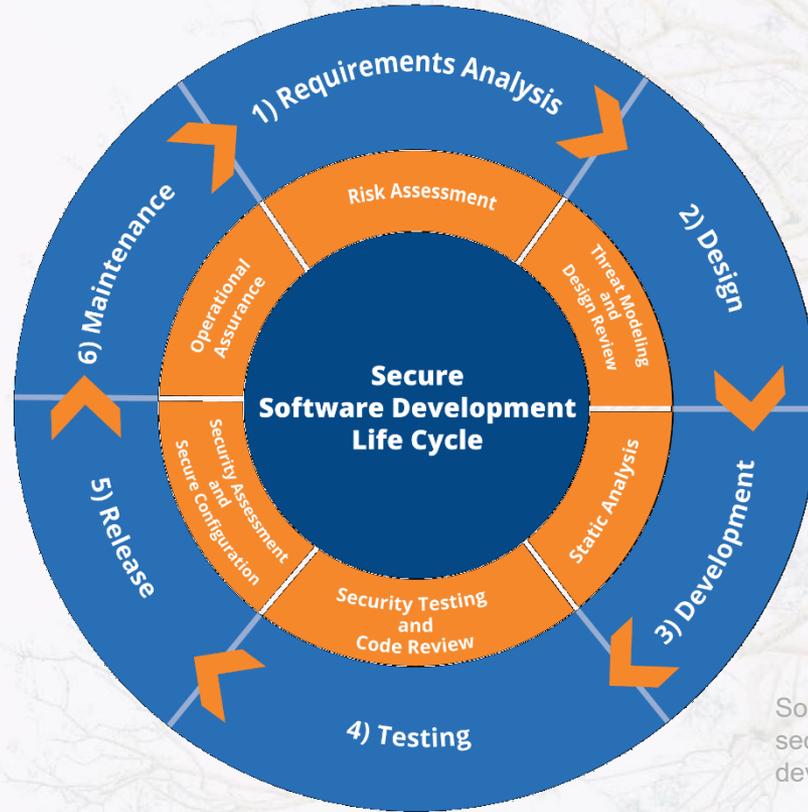
# Software/System Development Lifecycle (SDLC)



Source: <https://www.easyagile.com/blog/software-development-methodologies>



# Secure SDLC (SSDLC)



Source: <https://www.digitalmaelstrom.net/it-security-services/secure-software-development-lifecycle-ssdlc/>



# How do you know a product is secure?

Producer

- Design
- Document
- Test / Certify

Consumer

- Require
- Test/Assess
- Assure/Insure



# What can I do to secure products?



What can I do: basic judgement



What should I do: best practice



What must I do: CRA if applicable, otherwise use risk-based approach



# What can I do?

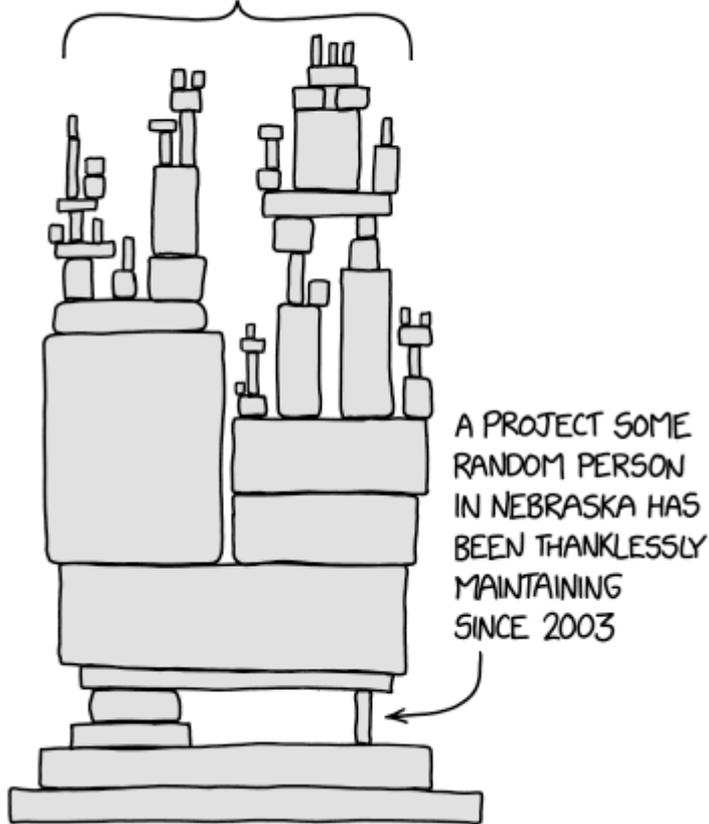




# Identify

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ALL MODERN DIGITAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE



## SBOM

- Know the components you create and integrate (with)
- See Log4j/React/...



## Suppliers

- Document and prioritise
- Do they offer services/products you can easily replace?
- Are they monopolists?
- How “risky” are they?
- Do they have attestations/certifications?





# Operating environment



- Plant vs residential
- Deployment size vs scale
- Isolated vs connected



# Document data flows

- Expected communications
  - Call home, monitoring, ...
- Non-standard communications
  - Built-in but unused

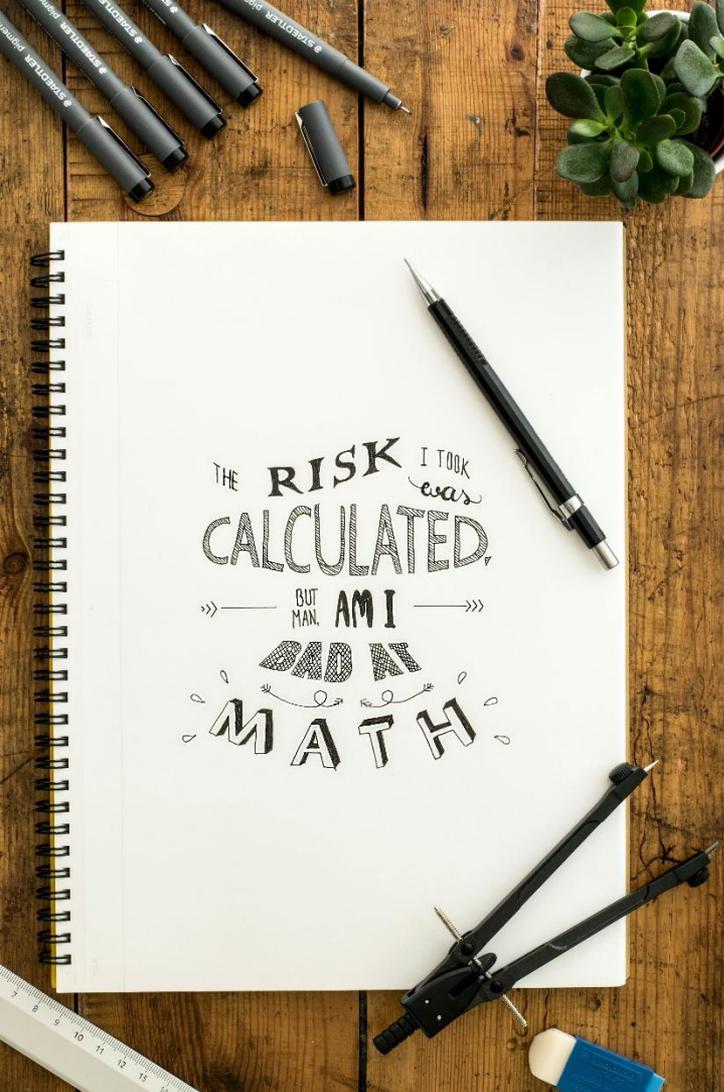




# Vulnerability identification



- Threat intel
  - [E.g. Cyber Threat Research & Intelligence Sharing | CCB Safeonweb](#)
- Disclosure management
- Vulnerability analysis



# Analyse risk

- Perform threat model or risk analysis
- Define security requirements and drivers
- Analyse vulnerabilities in code, product, ...



# Protect

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# Access management

- Authenticate users – preferably strongly and securely
  - **Force** unique password
- Authenticate other components
  - Use secret non-embedded keys!
- Least privilege
  - No “Admin” account for everyone
  - Define roles – user, installer, monitor, ...





# Awareness



- Educate users, personnel, suppliers, ...



# Data protection

- At rest
- In motion
- In use
  
- Safeguards like back-ups
- Sensitive data: secrets, ...





# Secure operation



- Configuration management
- Software and hardware maintenance
- Usage monitoring/logging
- Detection of unauthorised software
- Resilient operation



Home  
Assistant



83.134.171.39

39.171-134-83.fia-dyn.isp.proximus.be  
Proximus NV/SA

Belgium, Antwerpen

```
dns:
services:
  8123/tcp home-assistant:
    location_name=Home
    Name=home
    Address=192.168.21.2 2a02:a03f:8c18:3600:16b3:1fff:fe0f:1012 fe80::16b3:1fff:fe0f:1012
answers:
PTR:
  _home-assistant._tcp.local
```

185.77.12.234

Localitel bvba

Belgium, Antwerpen

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Last-Modified: Tue, 28 Oct 2025 15:34:04 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
ETag: W/"Yw9lieq6NgMYw9KE8HOKmY"
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 1413
Server: Jetty(9.4.54.v20240208)
```

```
<!doctype html><html><head><meta charset="utf-8">
```

Default unique password  
HTTPS by default  
Minimal ports open  
Easy guide to set up

Default passwordless  
HTTP by default  
Minimal ports open  
Difficult setting up



# Detect

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# Monitoring

- Physical environment
- Networks and services
- Hardware and software parameters
- Usage and activity: internal and external
- Correlation from multiple sources
- Incident generation





# Faults in hardware hacking

## Lennert Wouters reveals one of the first security breakdowns of Starlink's user terminals

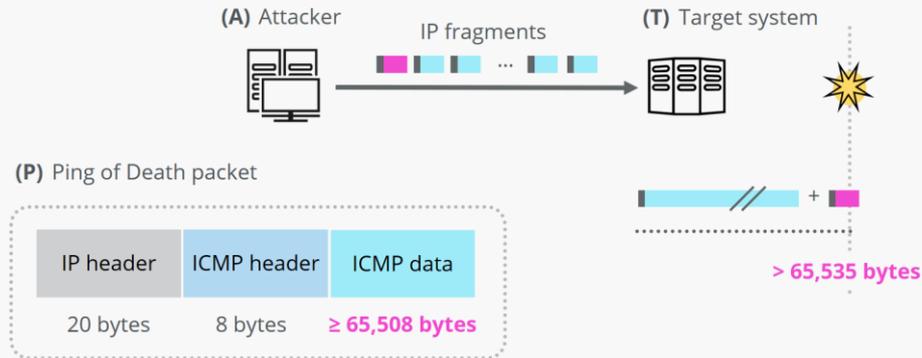
COSIC researcher Lennert Wouters managed to hack into a Starlink satellite dish. It only cost him \$25 worth of parts to create a tool that allows custom code to run on the satellite dishes. His homemade printed circuit board (PCB) launched a fault injection attack to bypass the security protocol. This way, the researcher managed to get into locked parts of the system.



# Network-based attacks

## Ping of Death

How it works



IONOS

IONOS



# Respond

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# Plan

- Incident response process and actions
  - Fail-secure, fail-closed or fail-open?
- Incident criteria definition
- Containment of incidents





# Analysis inputs



- Incident data and metadata collection
- Stakeholder engagement



# Recover

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# Secure restoration

- Integrity verification during recovery
  - Secure boot/secure load/...
- Recovery actions definition
  - Altered startup cycle/self-checks/..





# Govern

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# Stakeholder analysis

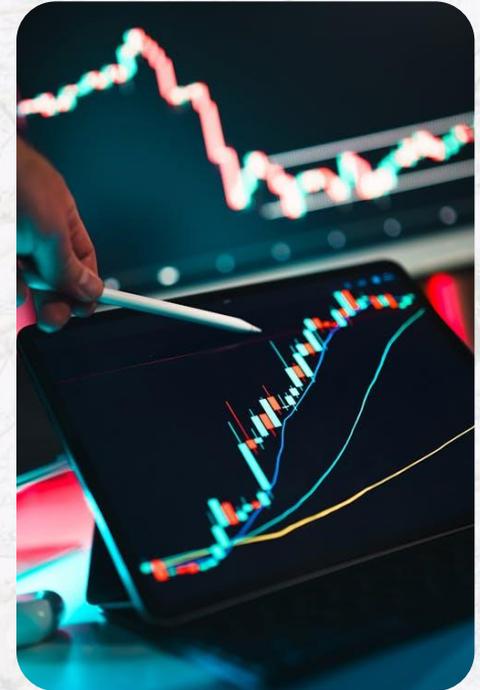


- Internal and external
- Roles and responsibilities
- Objectives
- Communication lines



# Risk management

- Supply chain
- Customers, employees, developers, partners
- Risk appetite and tolerance
- Due diligence
- Risk and response register
- Threat modeling



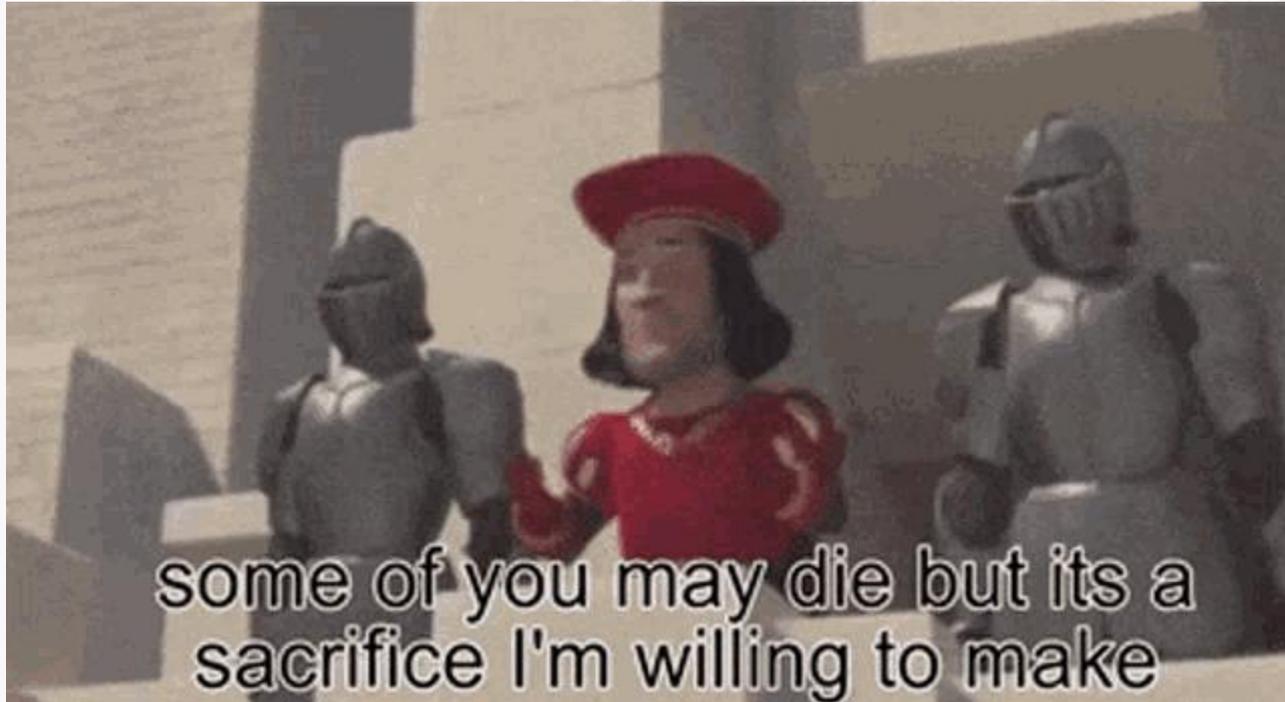


# What must I do?

- Check laws and regulations



## Effect of EU Regulations





## Where can I find help and guidance?

1. OWASP SAMM (Software Assurance Maturity Model) – Prescriptive standard – High level
2. Eclipse Open Regulatory Compliance WG – Open Source focused
3. IEC62443-4-1 and 4-2
4. ETSI TS 102 165-1
5. NIST SSDF
6. ...



# CRA

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## CRA – Recap

Adopted in 2024

No transposition  
needed  
(EU regulation)

Full activation  
11/12/2027

Product security  
now part of CE-  
label

Shared  
responsibility

Mandatory  
reporting for  
vulnerabilities  
and incidents



# CRA - Scope

“Product with digital elements” (*≈connected products*) **being placed on the market**

## NOT in scope



SaaS and web platforms and managed services (covered by NIS2)



Built-in software on device for basic functions like fridge firmware (≈not connected)



Cars, medical devices, aviation, shipping, rail freight (temporary under CRA until law is published), defense, ... (specific laws)



Non-commercially open source, e.g. libraries etc (voluntary)

## In scope



e.g. smart TVs, soundbars, ...



e.g. digital carrier devices with software (e.g. OS, software applications, .)



Web browser



Mobile apps on your phone



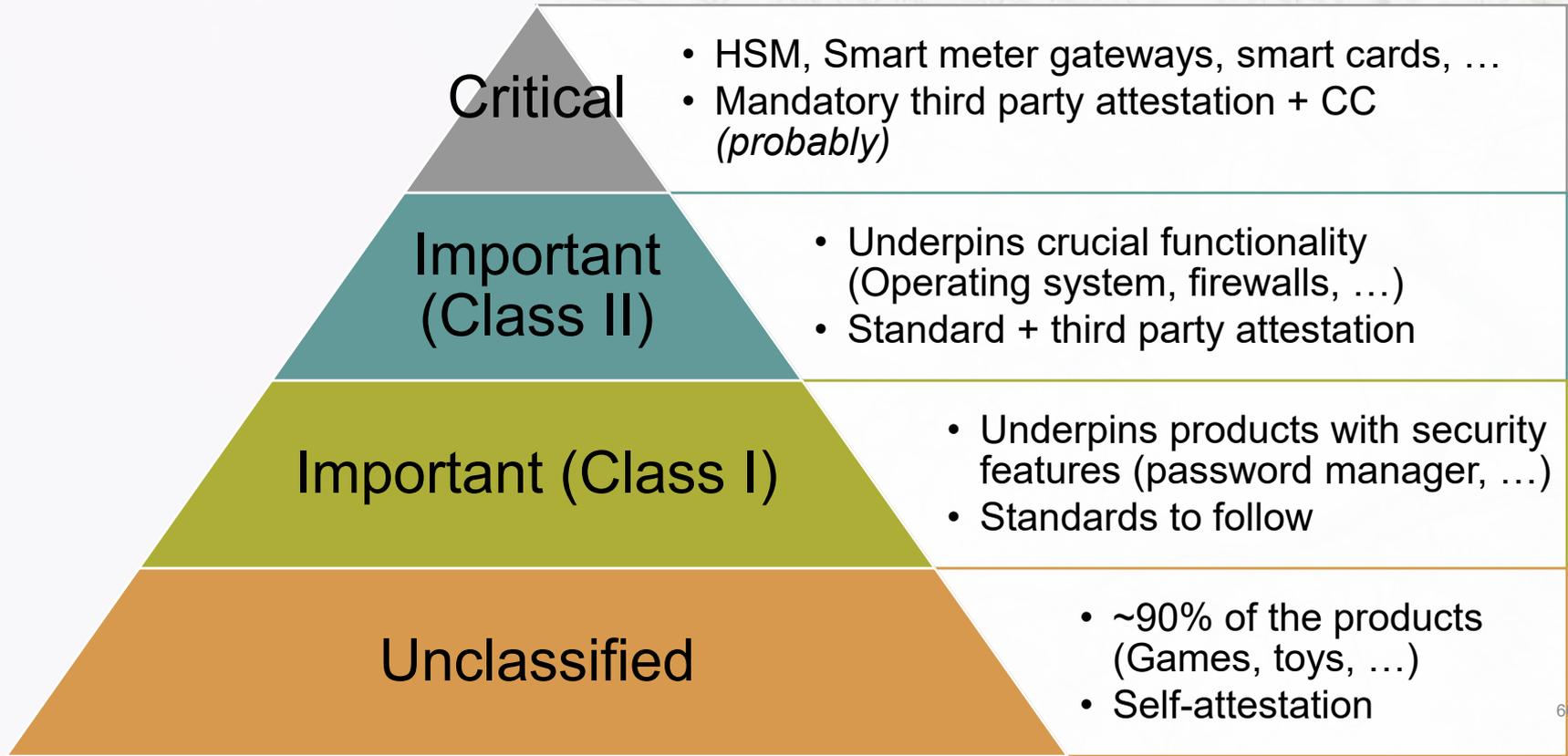
Smart devices like camera's, but also the platforms that process their data



Integrating open source into your product = treating it as your own code/supplier



## Categories





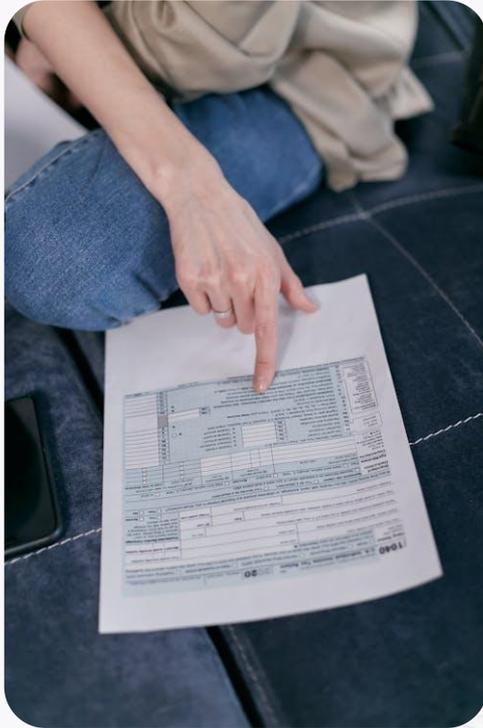
# Anticipate future laws and regulations

- Check “common sense”
  - Document secure configuration and conformity
  - Secure out of the box
  - Implement basic security features (MFA, ...)
  - Risk based decision-making
  - Make product adaptive throughout lifespan
  - Check vulnerability periodically





# How to use secure products?



- RTFM if available
- Use your best judgement
- Keep in mind
  - Secure products <> Secure organisation
  - Use <> Intended use



# Thank you!

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