



# A GLIMPSE INTO TARGETED ATTACKS

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# ABOUT ME

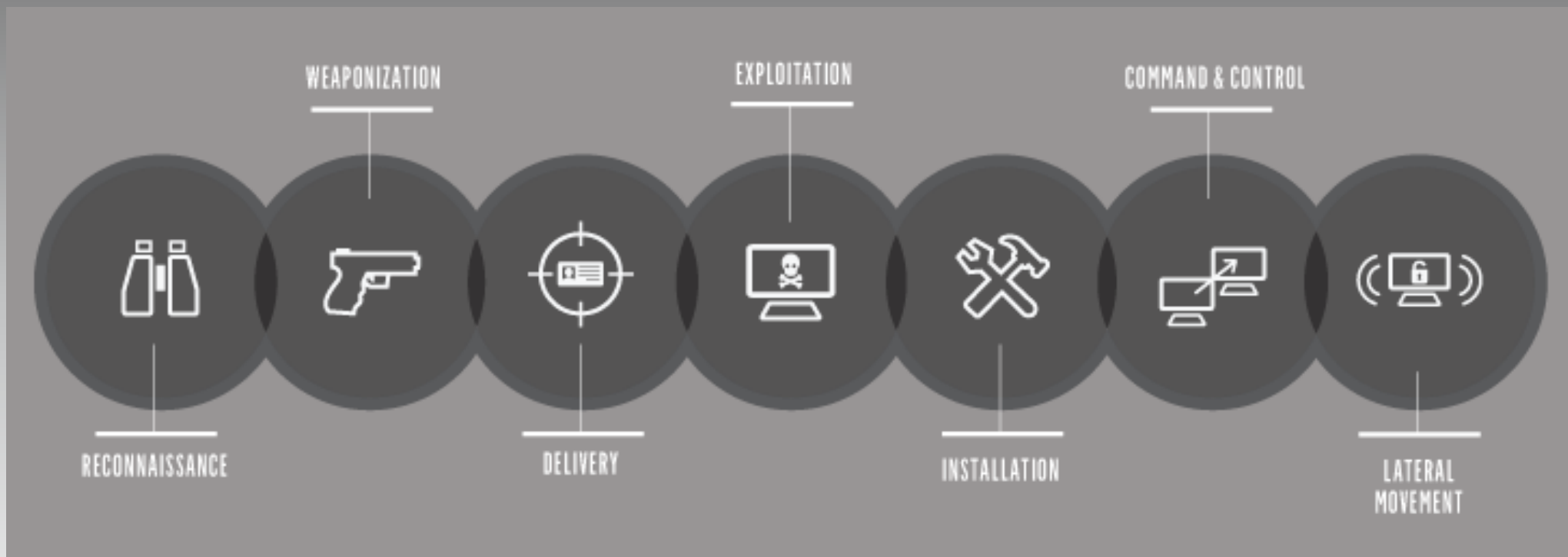
- B.Sc. Medieninformatik, FH GE
- M.Sc. Angewandte Informatik  
Institut fuer Internet-Sicherheit if(is), FH GE
- FTE, if(is) WHS/FH GE
- PhD, Uni Mannheim
- CrowdStrike



UNIVERSITÄT  
MANNHEIM



CROWDSTRIKE





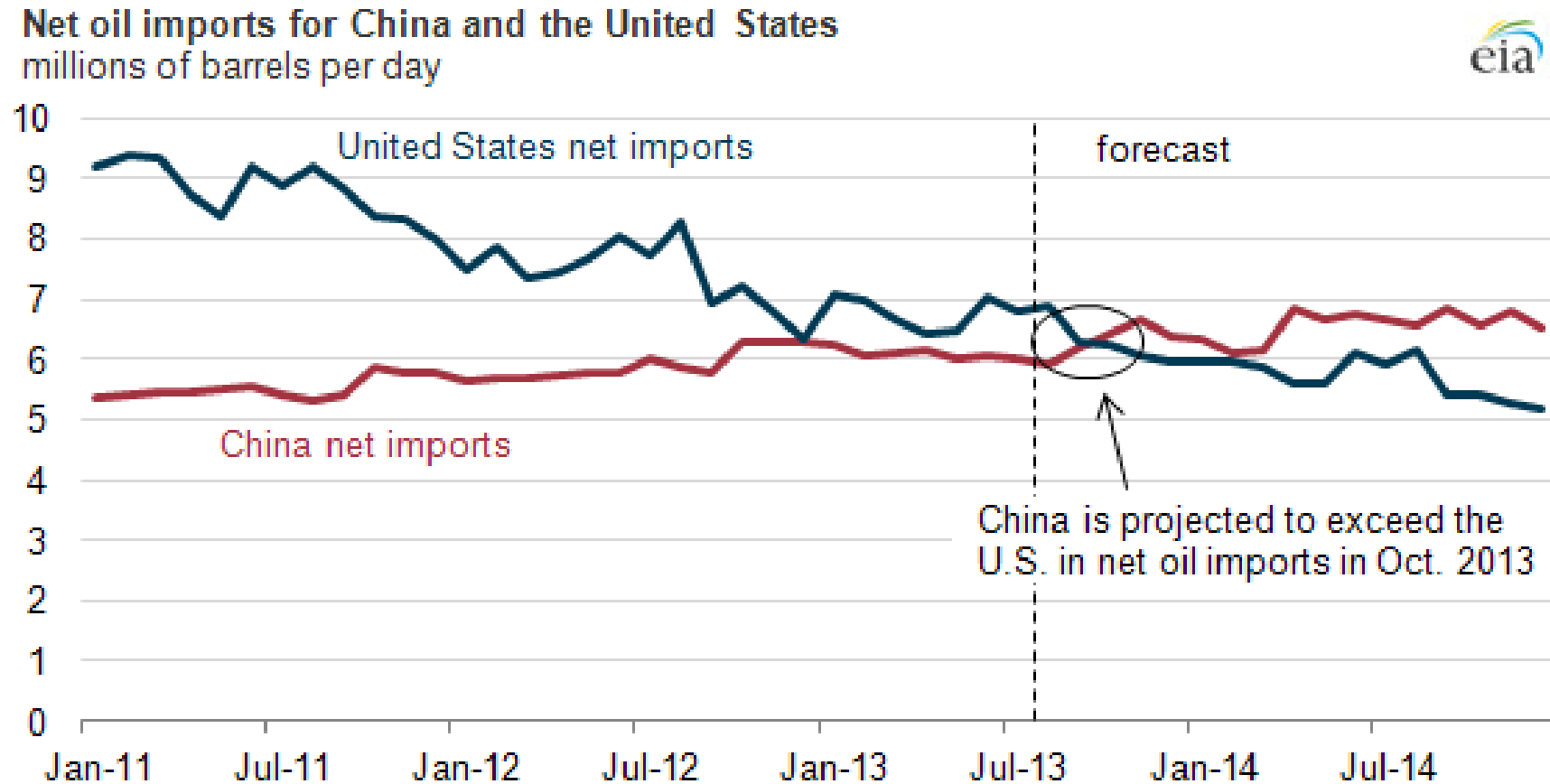
# CASE 1

# TARGETING THINK TANKS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORG

- Former senior government staff
- Suffering from targeted attacks regularly
- Mid-June 2014: Target shift
  - Previously: Far East, Asia/Pacific, China
  - Now: individuals with a tie to Iraq and Middle East issues
- **Why?**



# OIL RESOURCE CONSUMPTION

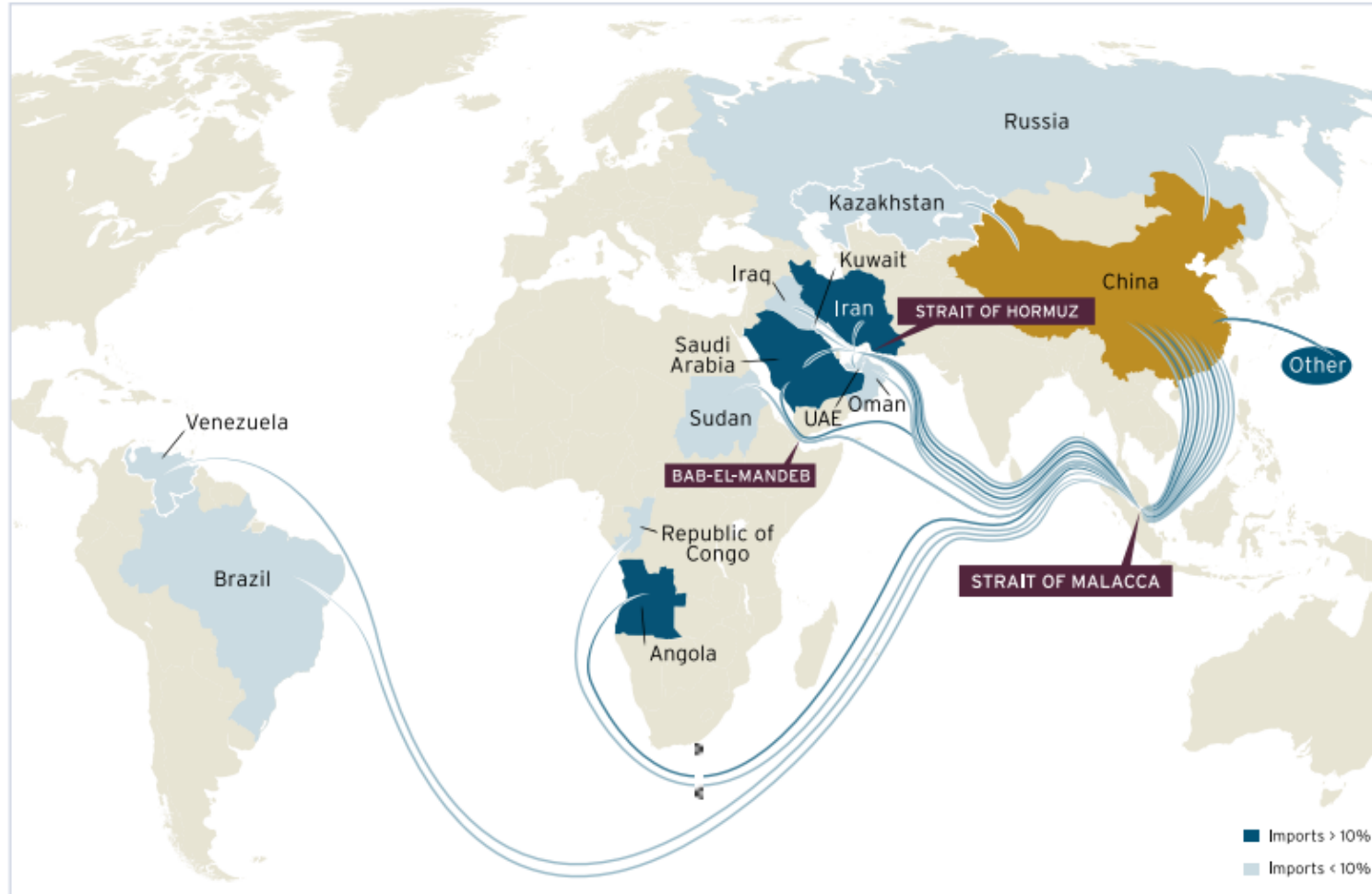


Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration Short-Term Energy Outlook, [August 2013](#).

Note: Net oil imports are defined as total liquid fuels consumption less domestic production.



## China Import Countries, 2011



| Country               | Saudi Arabia | Angola  | Iran    | Russia  | Oman    | Iraq    | Sudan  | Venezuela | Kazakhstan | Kuwait | UAE    | Brazil | Republic of Congo | Other   |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|---------|
| Percentage of Imports | 19.8         | 12.3    | 10.9    | 7.8     | 7.2     | 5.4     | 5.1    | 4.5       | 4.4        | 3.8    | 2.7    | 2.6    | 2.2               | 11.3    |
| Thousand Barrels      | 366,825      | 227,395 | 202,575 | 144,175 | 132,495 | 100,740 | 94,900 | 83,950    | 81,760     | 69,715 | 49,275 | 48,910 | 41,245            | 208,780 |

Created by Marcia Underwood of the Brookings Institution with data compiled from the U.S. Energy Information Agency's China Country Report 2012. <http://www.eia.gov/countries/cab.cfm?fips=CH>.

## Iraq

- 5.4% of oil imports
- Ranked 6th



# JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> 2014

## ISIS takes over Iraq's main oil refinery at Baiji - reports

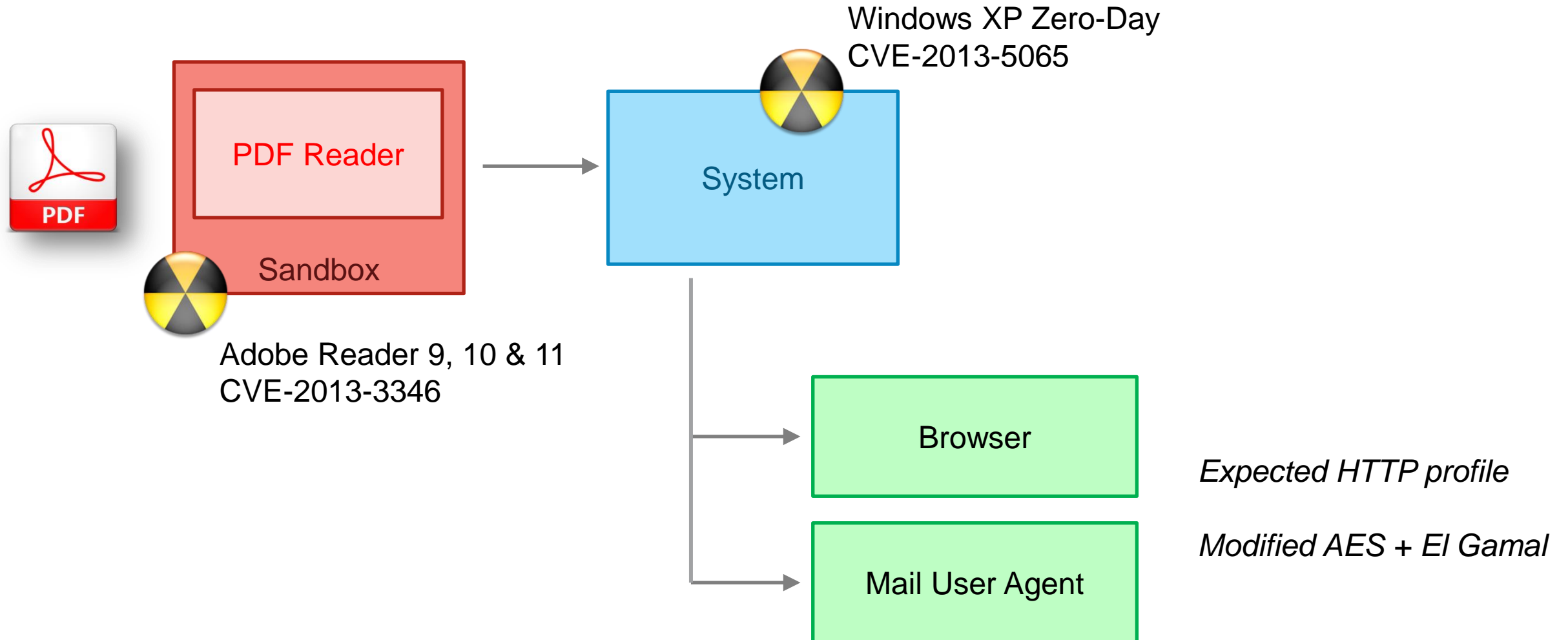


A view of Baiji oil refinery, 180km (112 miles) north of Baghdad (Reuters/Thaier al-Sudani)



# CASE 2

# ANATOMY OF AN ATTACK



# EXPLOIT CLIENT-SIDE SOFTWARE

- Exploit vulnerabilities in client-side software
  - Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
  - Email/communication software
  - PDF readers
  - OS components
- Specifically crafted exploit documents



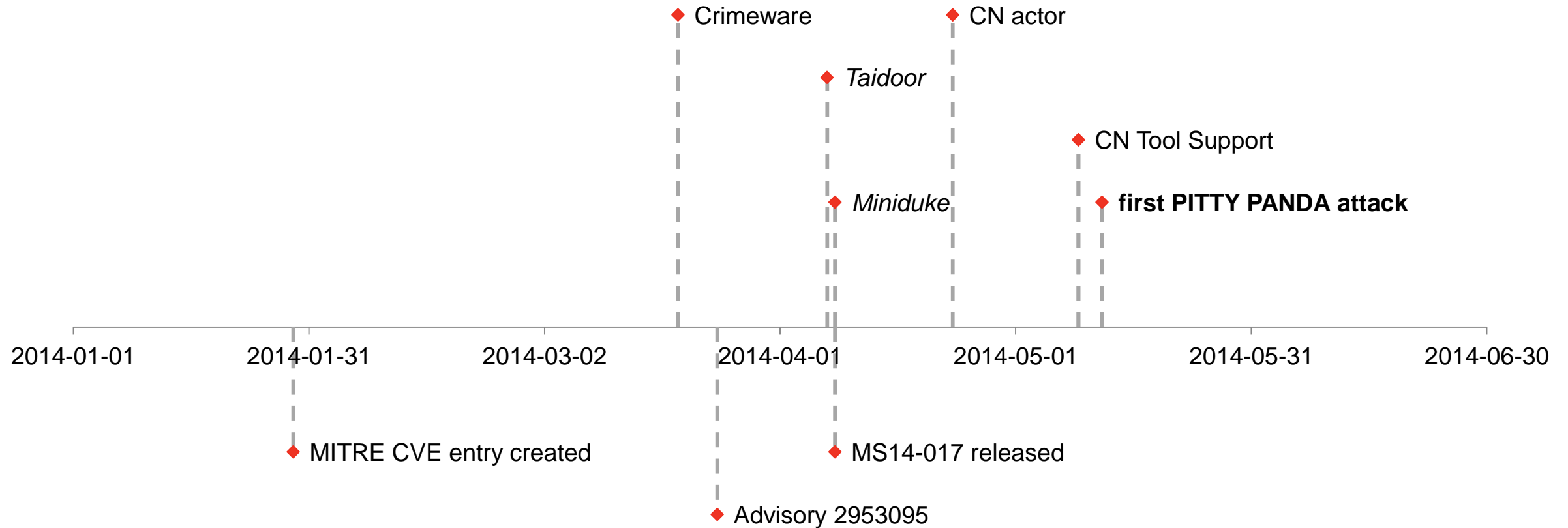
# CVE-2014-1761 – KEY FACTS

- Initially discovered by Google Security Team
- RTF Parser Memory Corruption Vulnerability
- Affects Microsoft Word versions 2003 to 2013
- Popular among targeted attack actors in Q2 2014

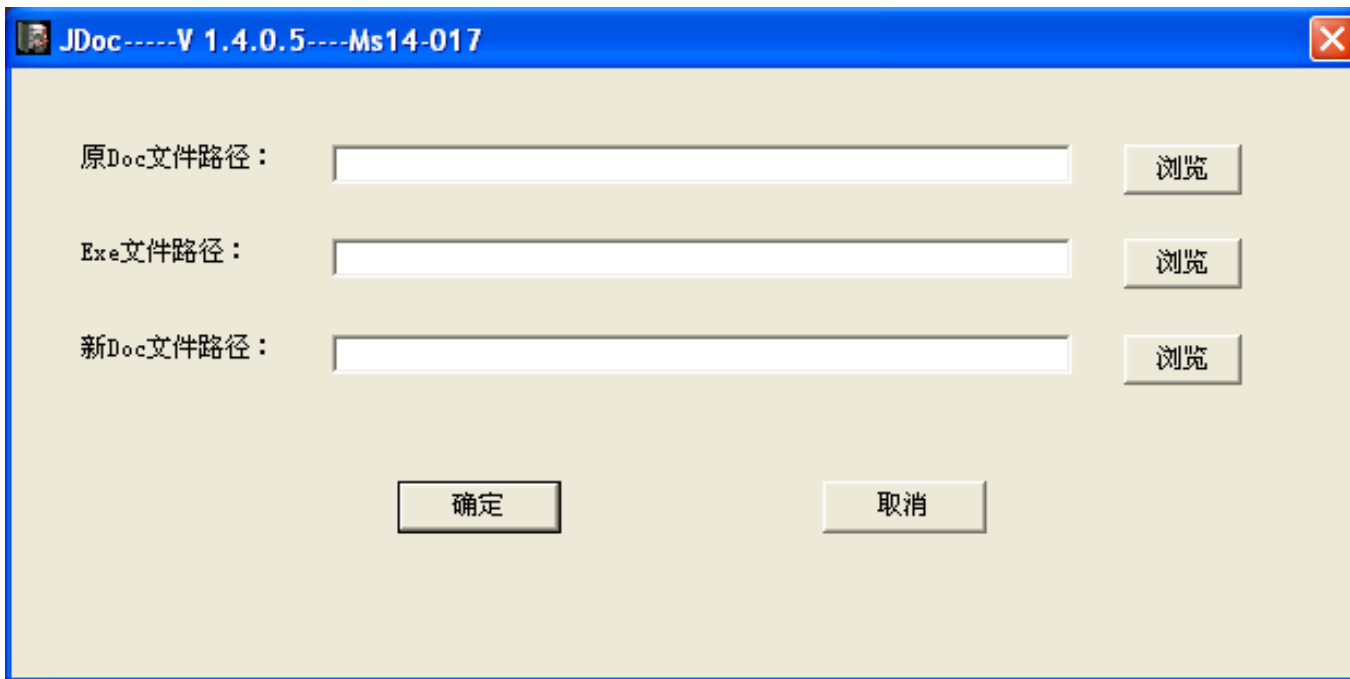




# PROLIFERATION OF CVE-2014-1761 – TIMELINE



# PROLIFERATION OF CVE-2014-1761



- Adversary tool support
- Automatically create exploit documents for CVE-2014-1761
- Input
  - Arbitrary Word decoy document
  - Arbitrary malware binary

THANK YOU.