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# How to Perform a Security Investigation in AWS

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# Today's Speakers

- Kyle Dickinson SANS Instructor, Analyst and Author; Cloud Security Architect, Koch Industries
- David Aiken AWS Marketplace, Specialist Solutions Architect



## Agenda

Incident Response (IR) Planning

**Incident Data Sources** 

Amazon EC2 Instance Metadata and Forensic Acquisition

Use Cases

**AWS Marketplace Solutions** 

AWS Marketplace Success Stories





# Incident Response (IR) Planning



## SANS Six-Step Incident Response Methodology

# **Cloud-Specific IR Planning**

#### 1. Preparation

- What cloud service provider is being used?
- What is the deployment model? (Public? Hybrid? Private?)
- What is the cloud model? (SaaS, PaaS, IaaS?)

#### 2. Identification

- Is there unusual activity in the audit logs?
- Did something get misconfigured?

#### 3. Containment

- Can we disable a user's access?
- Can we isolate the VM or subnet?
- How do we acquire an image?

#### 4. Eradication

- Can we remove affected systems?
- Can we remove/replace compromised credentials?

#### 5. Recovery

- Can we restore normal business operations?
- Is a business continuity plan available?
- Did that plan need to be implemented?

#### 6. Lessons Learned

- What gaps in coverage did we discover?
- How do we close those gaps?

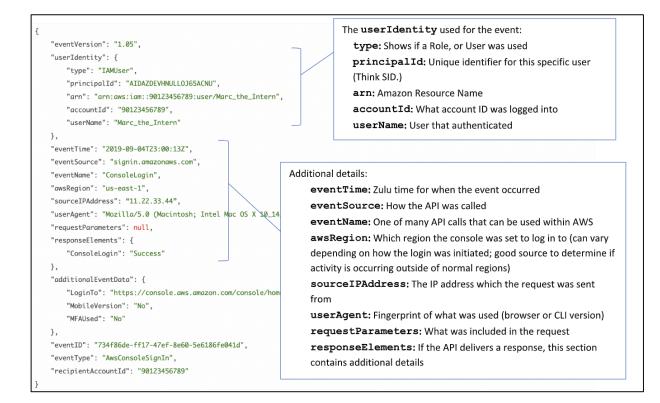
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# **VPC Traffic Mirroring**

- "Spanport-as-a-Service"
- Mirror traffic of selected instances to a target
  - Elastic Load Balancer
  - Amazon EC2 instance
    - Suricata
    - Zeek
    - Third-party SaaS tool

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# **AWS CloudTrail Events**





## **Amazon EC2 Instance Metadata**

## AMI ID

IAM data

Instance ID

Instance type

## Public hostname



## **Forensic Acquisition**

- Create a Security Group that does not allow outbound traffic.
- Attach to compromised Amazon EC2 instance.
- Create snapshot of Amazon EC2 instance.
- Perform memory acquisition, if possible.
- Share snapshot with Security Account (if using one).
- Create volume from snapshot.
- Attach volume to SIFT EC2 instance.



## Use Case 1

- Scenario: Amazon EC2 instance is communicating to unusual destinations.
- AWS services to use:
  - AWS CloudTrail
    - Was something modified to permit this traffic?
  - Amazon VPC Flow Logs/Amazon Traffic Mirroring
    - Details of network communication
  - Amazon EC2 Snapshot
    - If additional review is required of instance

## Use Case 2

- Scenario: Administrative activity is occurring from multiple IP Addresses.
- AWS services to use:
  - AWS CloudTrail
    - Understand additional activity
  - AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM)
    - Temporarily disable key while investigation is underway to understand anomalous behavior

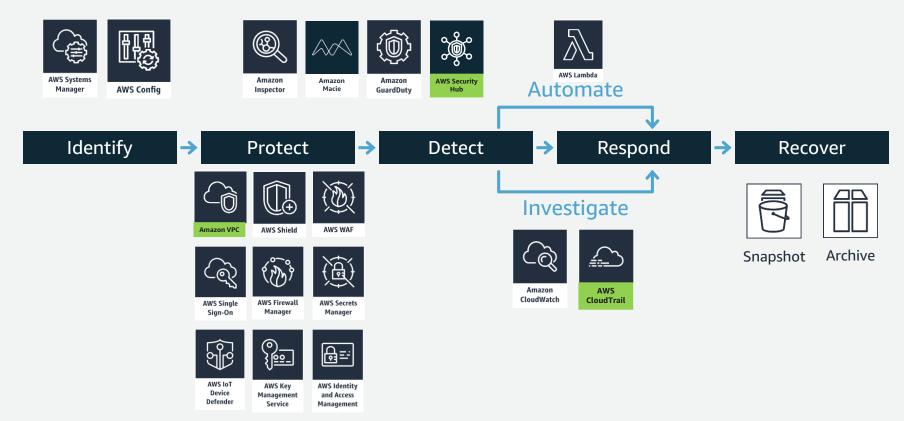
## **Next Steps**

- Create an IaaS-specific incident response plan.
- Formulate exercises.
- Identify training opportunities.



# Enabling a Security Investigation in AWS

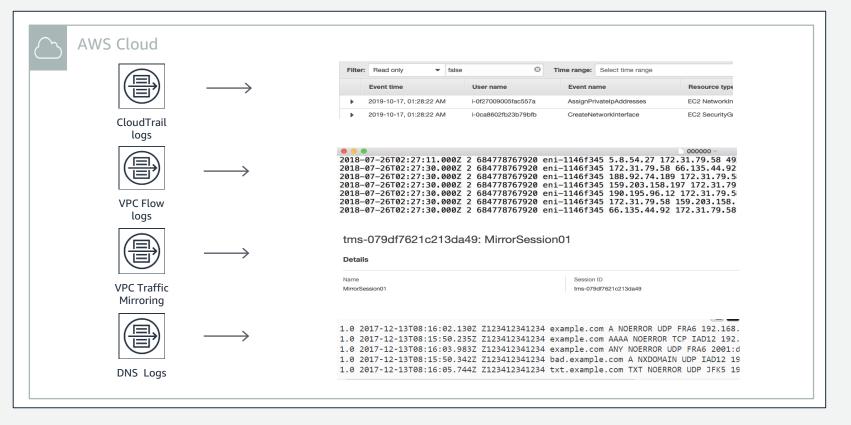
## AWS services that enhance security investigations

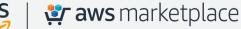




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## Data sources that support contextual investigations





## Integrations that support effective investigations





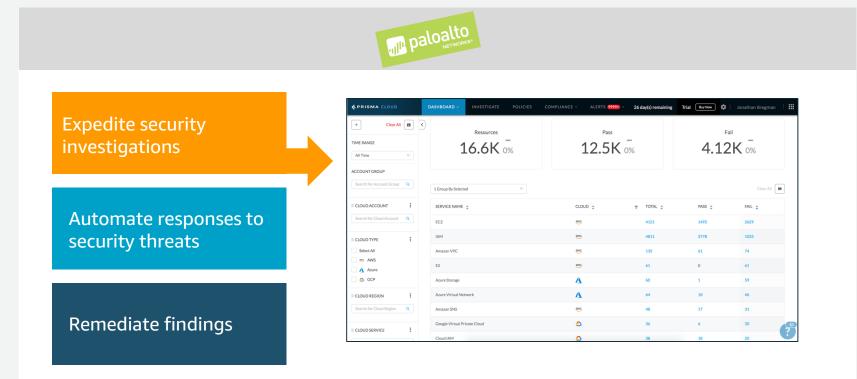
#### AWS Security Services forwarding findings into AWS Security Hub

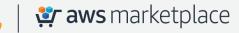
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# How are AWS customers leveraging Palo Alto Networks?





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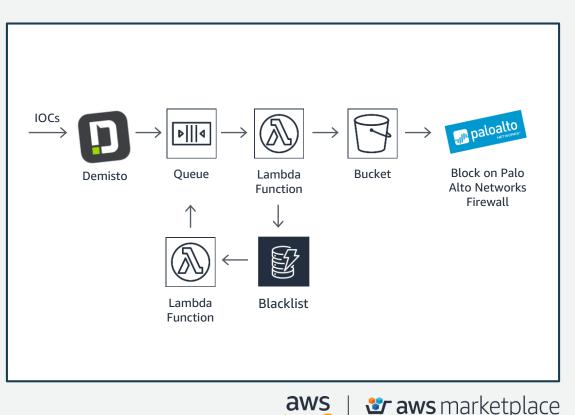
## Pokémon improves SOC efficiencies



#### By adopting Demisto's SOAR Platform

#### **Benefits:**

- Provided scaling for cloud environment
- Automated repetitive tasks, enabling SecOps analysts to focus on critical operations
- Active use cases include phishing enrichment and response, employee onboarding, and EC2 & account compromise



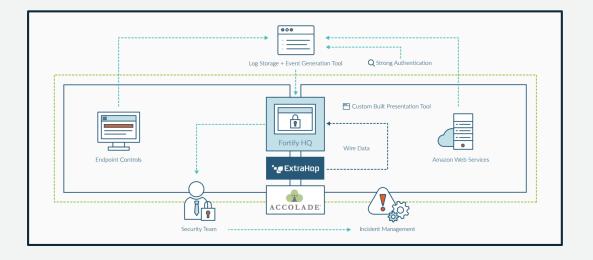
## Accolade audits security hygiene in real-time

```
• ExtraHop Accolade
```

By leveraging wire data from ExtraHop Reveal(x)

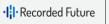
#### **Benefits:**

- Real-time, cross-tier visibility into all East-West traffic
- Identifying and remediating any security incident
- Reduced annual IT security monitoring spend nearly 60%





## St. Jude streamlines security investigations



With Recorded Future's real-time threat intelligence

#### **Benefits:**

- 63% reduction on exploit kit traffic
- 28x better detection of botnet traffic
- 50% savings in analyst time for malicious IOC investigation

CVE-2014-6271 (Shellshock) – Vu	Ilnerability ☞	
Very Critical Risk Score 99		<ul> <li>Print</li> <li>Request Data Review</li> <li>Add to List</li> </ul>
of 100	ules Triggered	EXPORT ENTITIES
10 000+ References to This Entity First Seen Jul 17, 2010 Last Seen Jun 9, 2016 ★ Curated Entity		
Show all events involving CVE-2014-6271 in	Table   🗸	



## Why AWS Marketplace?



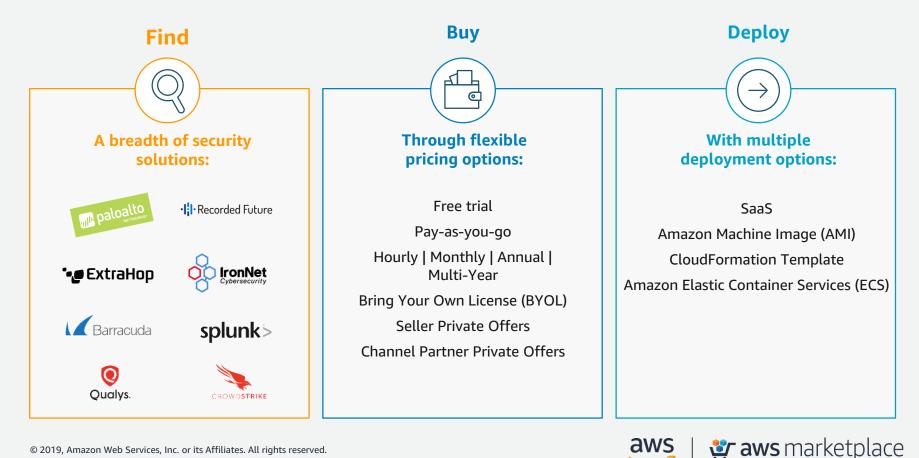
Flexible consumption and contract models

Quick and easy deployment

Helpful humans to support you



## How can you get started?





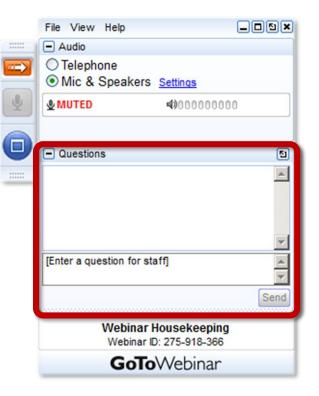


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# Q&A

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# Acknowledgments

Thanks to our sponsor:

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To our special guest: David Aiken

And to our attendees, thank you for joining us today!