

Cyber Resilience in AI-Driven Industrial Control Systems: Strategies and Innovations

Moderator: Mark R. Himes, Federal Market Leader, Olsson Inc.

Speakers:

- Jeremy Lawrence, Cyber Security Program Manager, EPRI
- Jason Hollern, Cyber Security Technical Executive, EPRI

May 15, 2024, 10:30 a.m.



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MODERATOR



Mark R. Himes, PE
Olsson, Inc.

Federal Market Leader

Fun Facts

- Virginia Tech Hokies 
- Hobbies: Golfing, Outdoors
- Did you Know I...played volleyball internationally

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SPEAKER



Jeremy Lawrence
Electric Power Research
Institute
Cyber Security Program Manager

Fun Facts

- Former USN Submariner, CPO
- Hobbies: Water sports, boating, fishing, beach
- Kids sports Uber driver.



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SPEAKER



Jason M. Hollern

Electric Power Research Institute
Technical Executive

Fun Facts

- The Ohio State Univ. Buckeyes
- Hobbies: Brewing, Single Board Computers (RPI)
- Did you Know I... published a cookbook.



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Learning Objectives

- Objective 1 Have a generalized understanding of how AI is being integrated into OT and other applications within the energy sector.
- Objective 2 Grasp the concepts of how cyber attackers both target and use AI.
- Objective 3 Make the linkage between IT and OT cyber security program implementation and operations as IT/OT convergence matures in the energy sector.
- Objective 4 Connect best practice approaches for OT data security that can be applied to AI data sets and models.



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The Landscape



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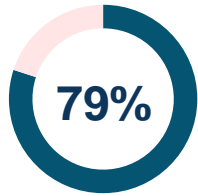
Rapid Rise of Deep Fakes



Social Engineering: Attackers create a false sense of urgency to provide information, imitate a trusted person, pose as a position of authority.

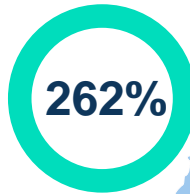
- 74%: Involve Human Element (Error, Privilege Misuse, Stolen Credentials, Social Engineering)*
- 17% Of All Breaches involved Social Engineering (Top 3)*

Evolution of the Generation Landscape and Impacts



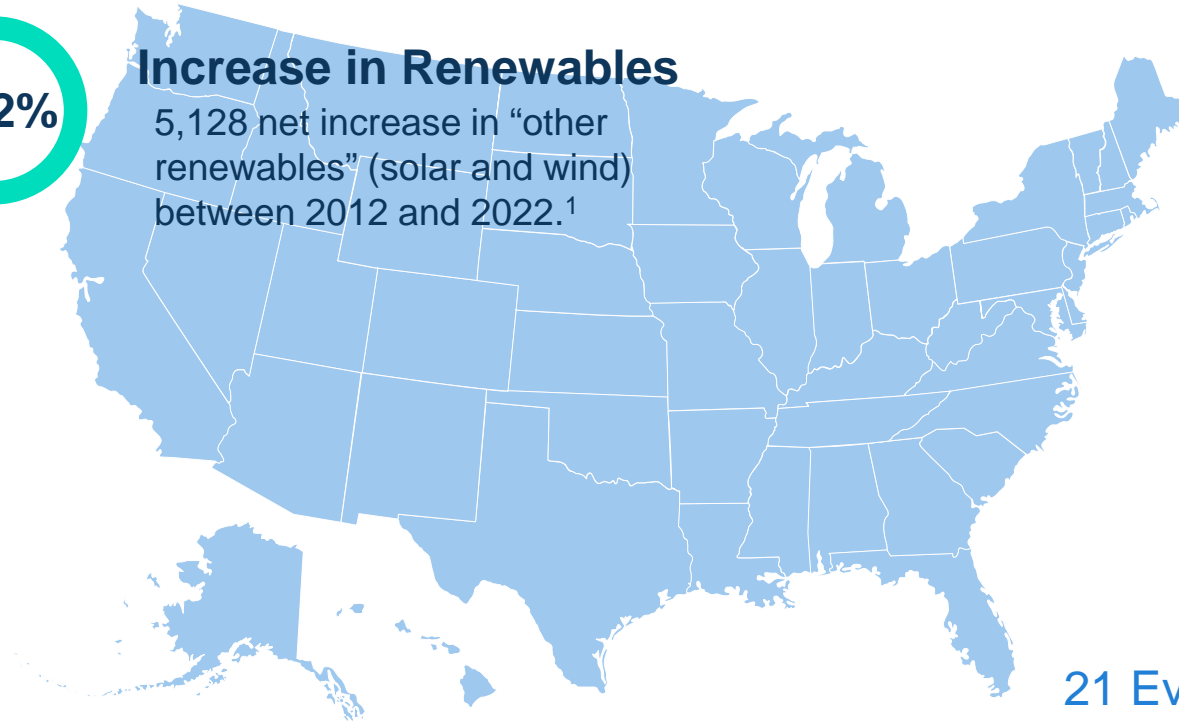
Increase in Facilities

5,541 net increase in power generation facilities between 2012 and 2022.¹



Increase in Renewables

5,128 net increase in "other renewables" (solar and wind) between 2012 and 2022.¹



¹https://www.eia.gov/electricity/annual/html/epa_04_01.html

Attack Surface

Larger attack surface, with more remotely monitored and operated facilities.

Physical Posture

Less physical security presence.

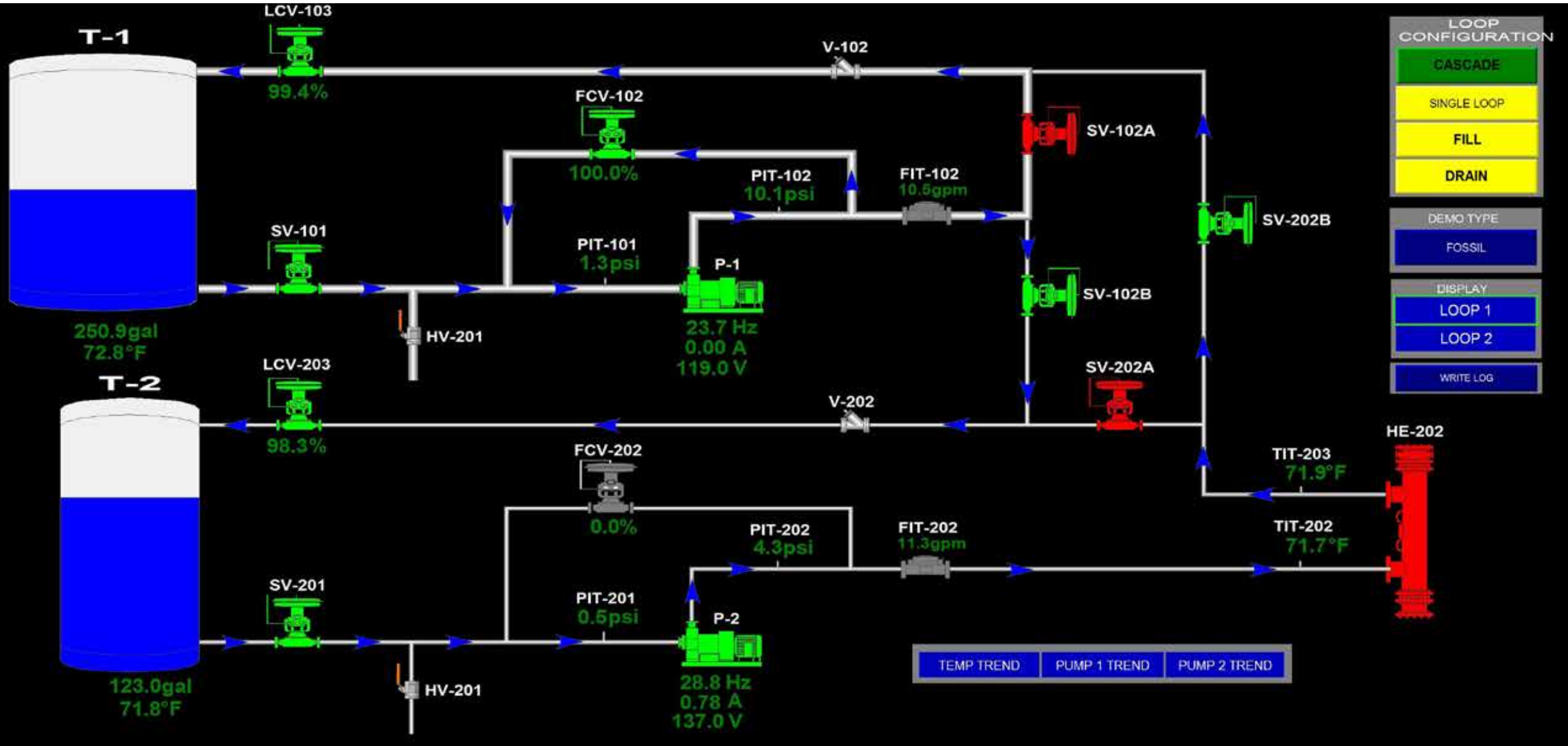
Distributed

Larger distributed footprint.

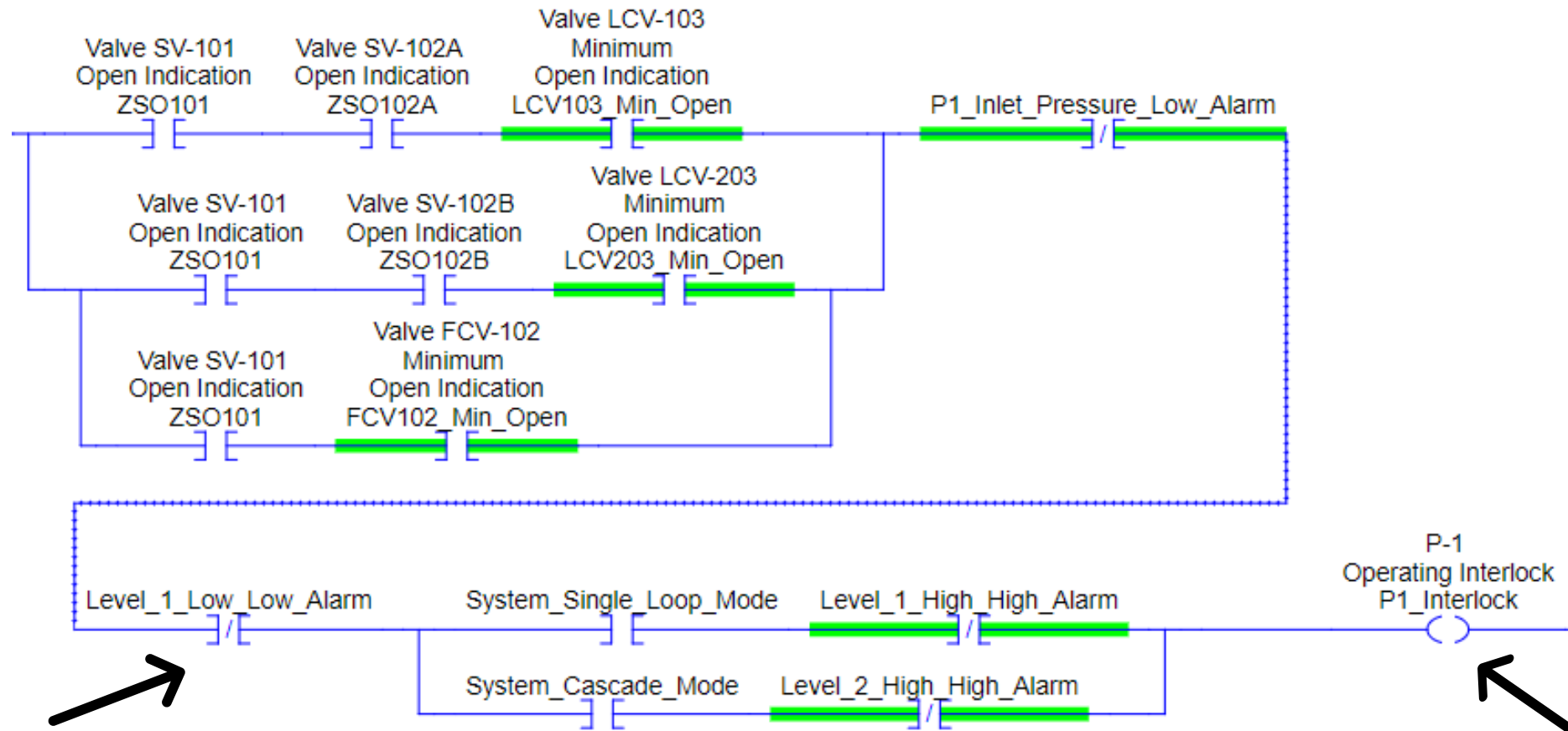
US Statistics (as Reported DOE-417)
21 Events Reported Affecting Power Facilities 2021-2023

Live Content Slide

Poll: Dwell Time: Measures the time attackers have free access to a system. Considers the time to detect (MTTD) and respond (MTTR). What is the average Dwell Time for Attacks?



- P-1 Operating Interlock is TRUE if all conditions are met:
1. A viable flow path (combination of open valves)
 2. Adequate inlet pressure (inlet pressure low alarm is FALSE)
 3. Sufficiently high level in Tank 1, the pump's source (low low level alarm is FALSE)
 4. Sufficiently low level in Tank where Pump P-1 is pumping into (corresponding tank high high level alarm is FALSE)



Live Content Slide

Poll: Think like an attacker: How can an attacker disrupt the system?

AI Security – Is it Really Different?



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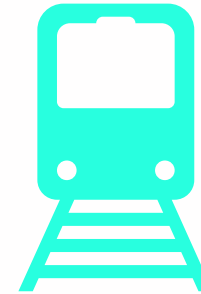
AI Changes the Game



Ladder Logic vs AI

Use cases for AI in OT.

Does a LLM always give the same result?



Increased Data Needs

Data, data, data...

Retraining models – different data flows

Attackers Targeting LLM's

LLM01: Prompt Injection

LLM02: Insecure Output Handling

LLM03: Training Data Poisoning

LLM04: Model Denial of Service

LLM05: Supply Chain Vulnerabilities

LLM06: Sensitive Information Disclosure

LLM07: Insecure Plugin Design

LLM08: Excessive Agency

LLM09: Overreliance

LLM10: Model Theft

<https://owasp.org/www-project-top-10-for-large-language-model-applications/>

AI Cybersecurity Trinity

01

Protect AI

Models and data sets
used for critical
application

02

AI Security Tools

AI to help cyber teams in
the trenches

03

AI Threat Landscape

Hackers can use AI too

What we are seeing in industry



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Protecting AI (Pillar 1) – Use Cases in Industry

- Power Generation Uses in AI Today
 - Operator/Engineer Aid
 - Control – ADEX
 - Anomaly Detection

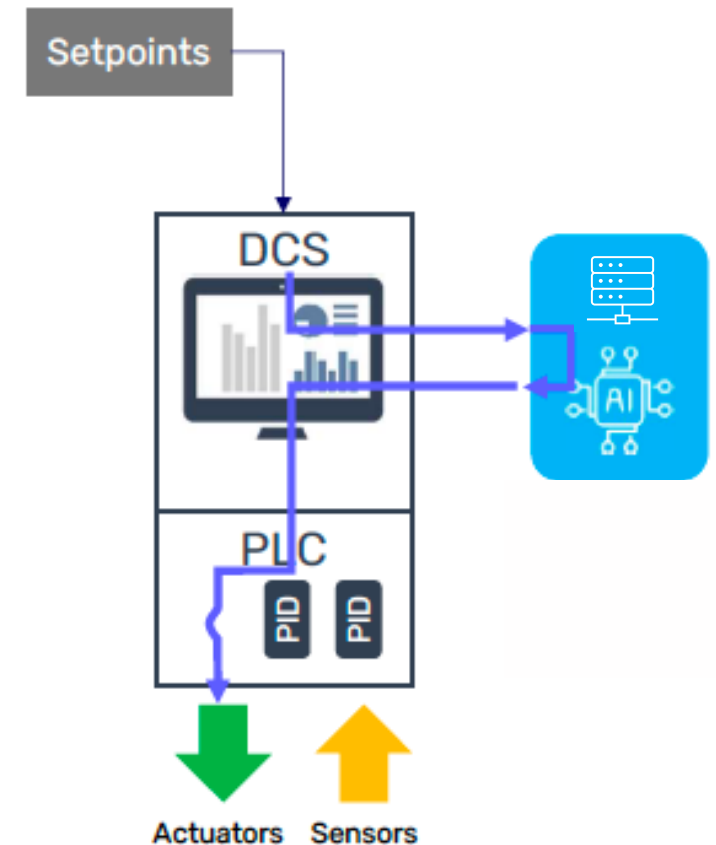
OPTORA – Multi-Unit Dispatch Optimization

- Using digital twins of the assets, calibrated to actual site:
 - Weather conditions
 - Maintenance
 - Performance
- Using predictive analytics to determine which units to dispatch at which time to meet the load demand.



Real-Time Controls Autotuning

- Historian, sensor, and performance data is analyzed.
- AI algorithms use real-time plant data to understand plant conditions and what changes can be made to improve processes.
- AI algorithm changes DCS setpoints in real-time to optimize equipment performance.



Generative AI Use-Cases in Energy Sector

Internal Company Use-Case	Externally Facing Use-Case
Operational awareness	Level 1 customer assistance
Maintenance strategy analysis	Outage information generation
Regulatory analysis	Public communications, social media
Engineering resource support	Advanced usage/billing insights and reporting
Image generation to support CNN	Hiring, interviewing, human resources
Vegetation management analysis	Templates, websites, presentation designs
Process, procedure development	Tailored energy efficiency guidance

Security through AI – Advancements in Security



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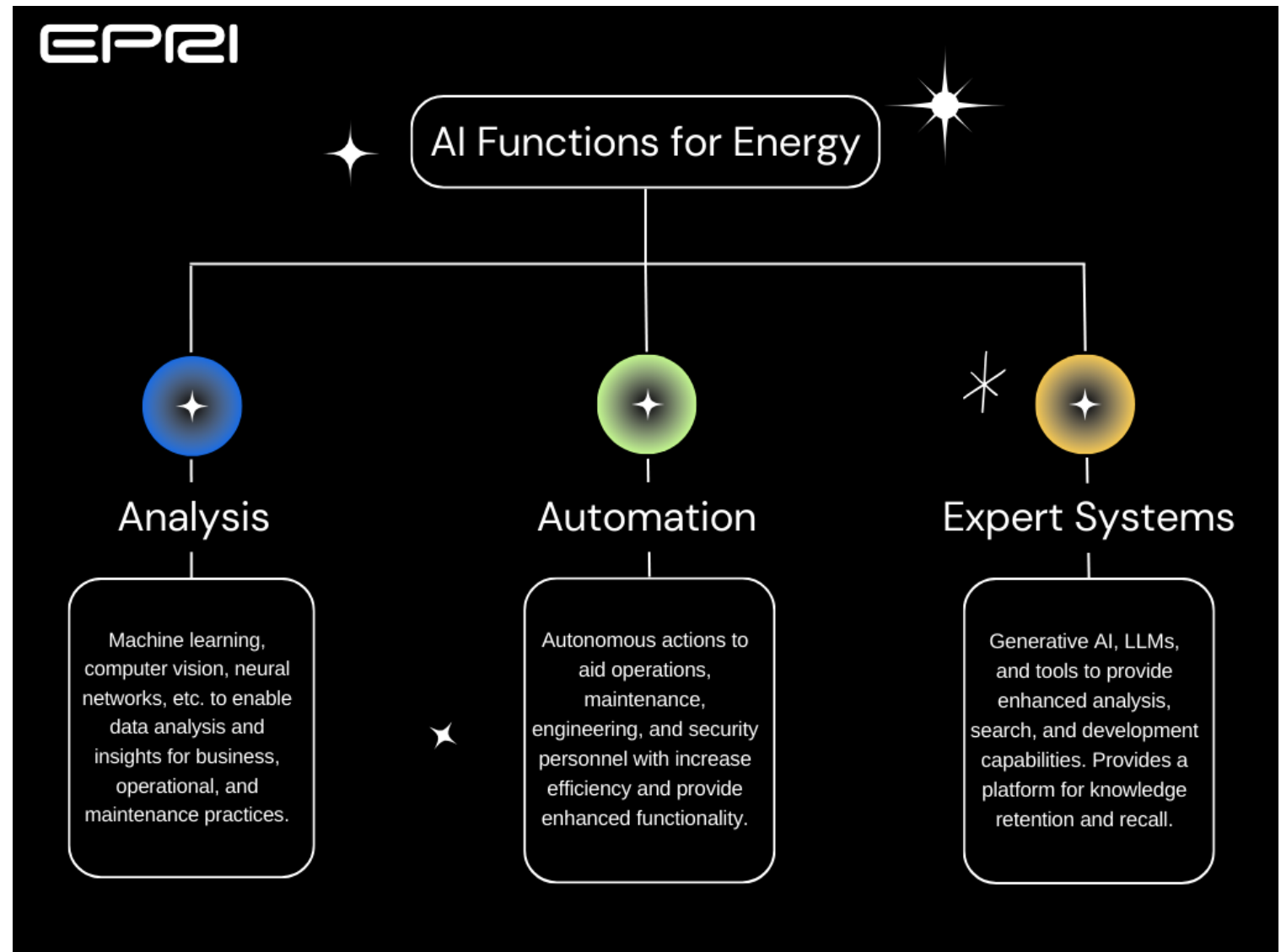


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AI is already here for Energy

The future of AI will see implementation of tools and capability in OT systems and applications.

The power of AI comes when these functions can be integrated through various tools and applications to provide a force multiplier.

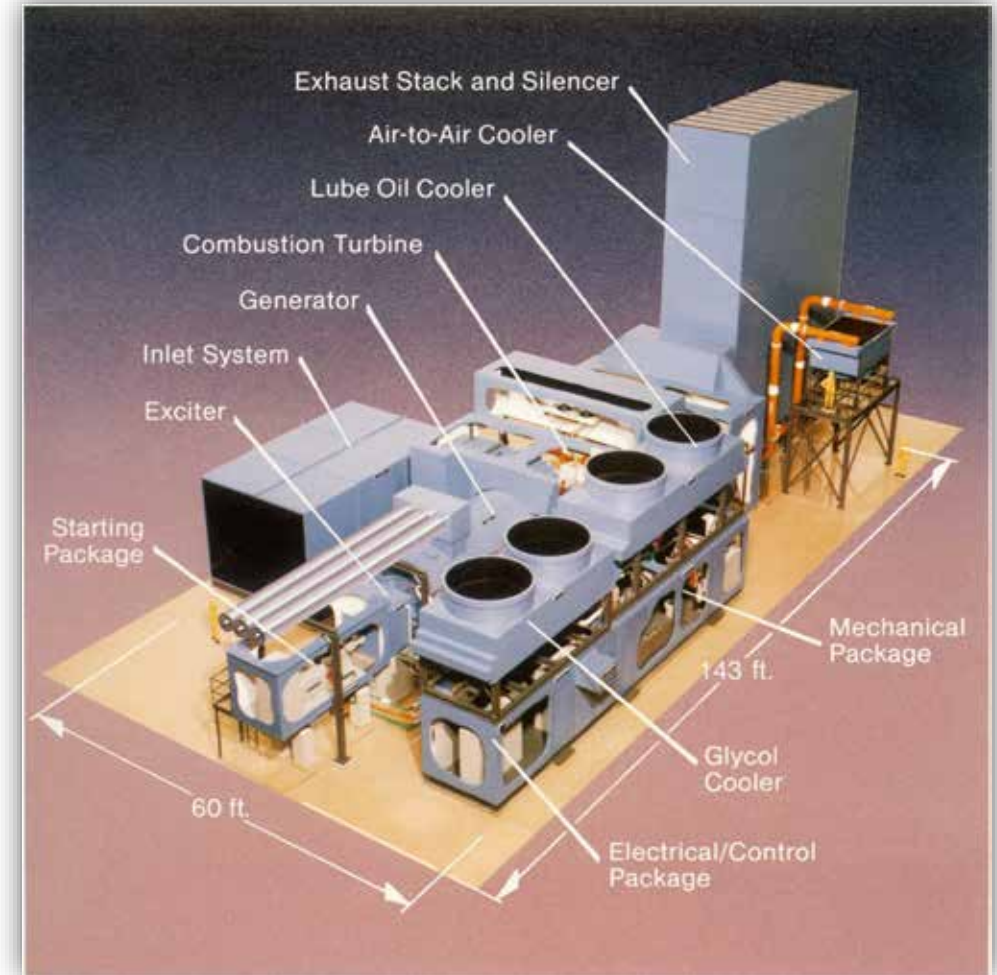


Live Content Slide

Poll: What is a digital twin?

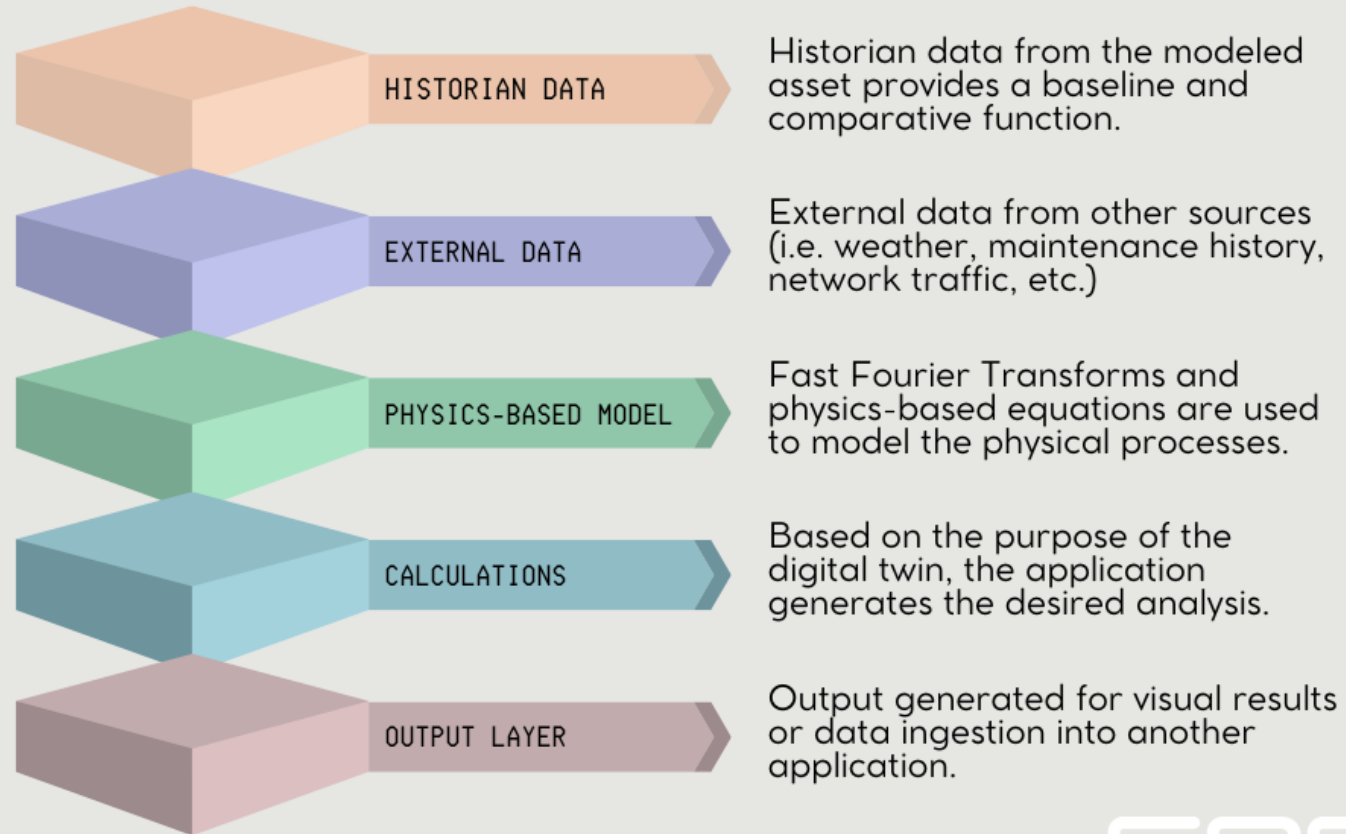
AI Driven Cyber Security

- Digital Twins for Anomaly Detection
 - Types of Digital Twins
 - Digital Twin vs. Actual Asset
 - Baselineing, Testing, and Detection
 - Protecting the Digital Twin



Digital Twin Development

Hybrid Digital Twins



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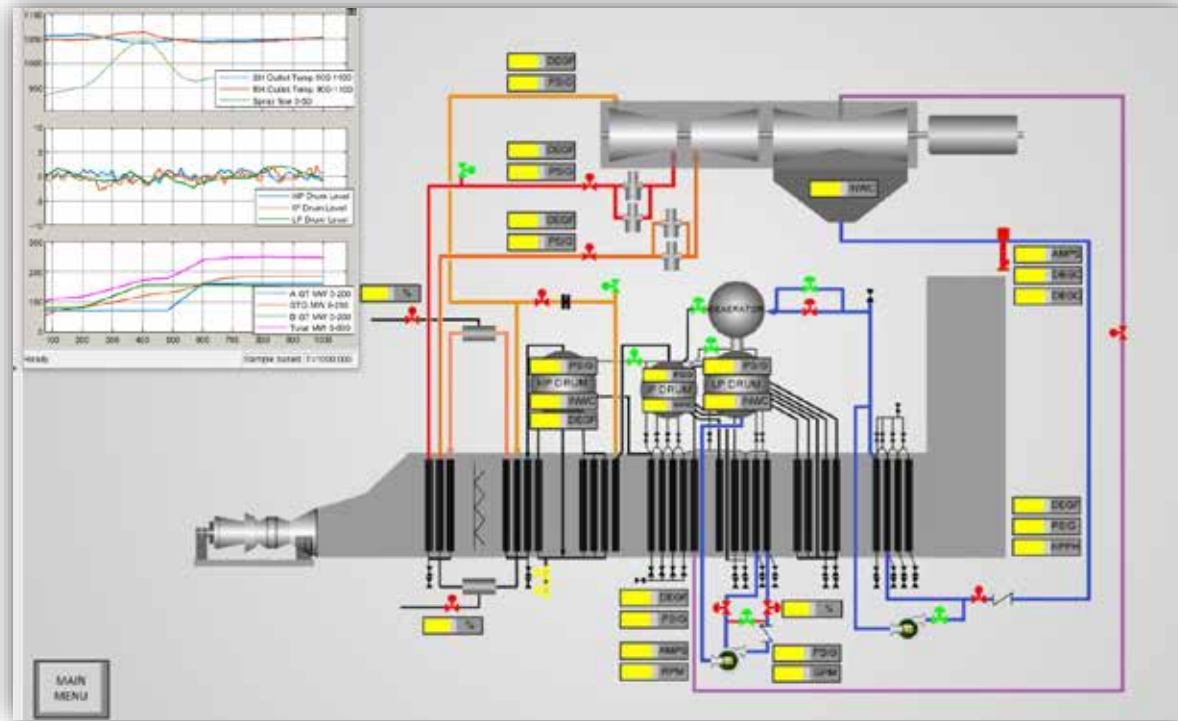
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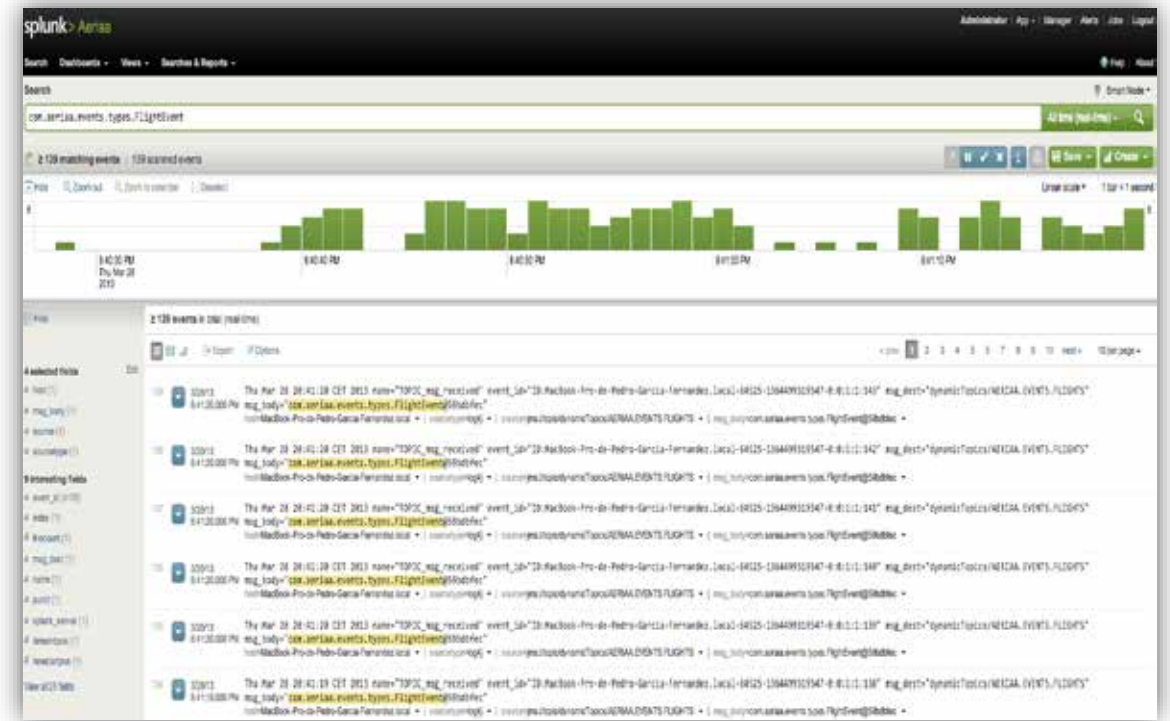
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Enhanced Detection Capability

Operational Parameters



Network Parameters



Using AI to Increase Security Response

- Through an Integrated Security Operations Center (ISOC)
 - IT network and security data
 - OT network and security data
 - Physical security system data
 - Monitoring & Diagnostic center data
- Automated response to anomalous events
 - Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR)
 - Security operations implications (efficiency, cost, resources, etc.)

Expert System Deployment

EPRI's LLM: STELLA

Storage Technologies for Energy
Large Language Application
(STELLA)

Language-based LLM built on
Llama2 7B, hosted on-prem
with NVIDIA DGX2 compute.

Focused on energy storage
technologies (batteries,
thermal, chemical, etc.)

Better performance metrics than
major competitors because it
is trained using *Grounding*.



Securing the Future of AI



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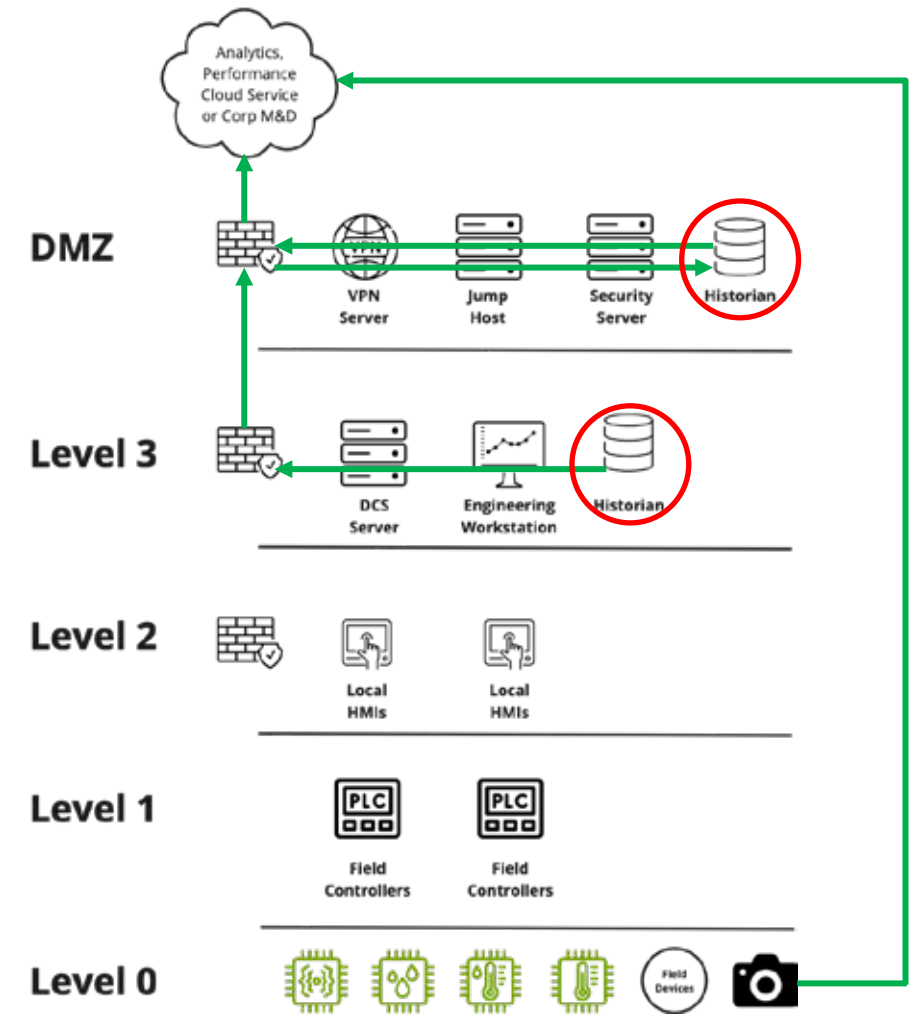
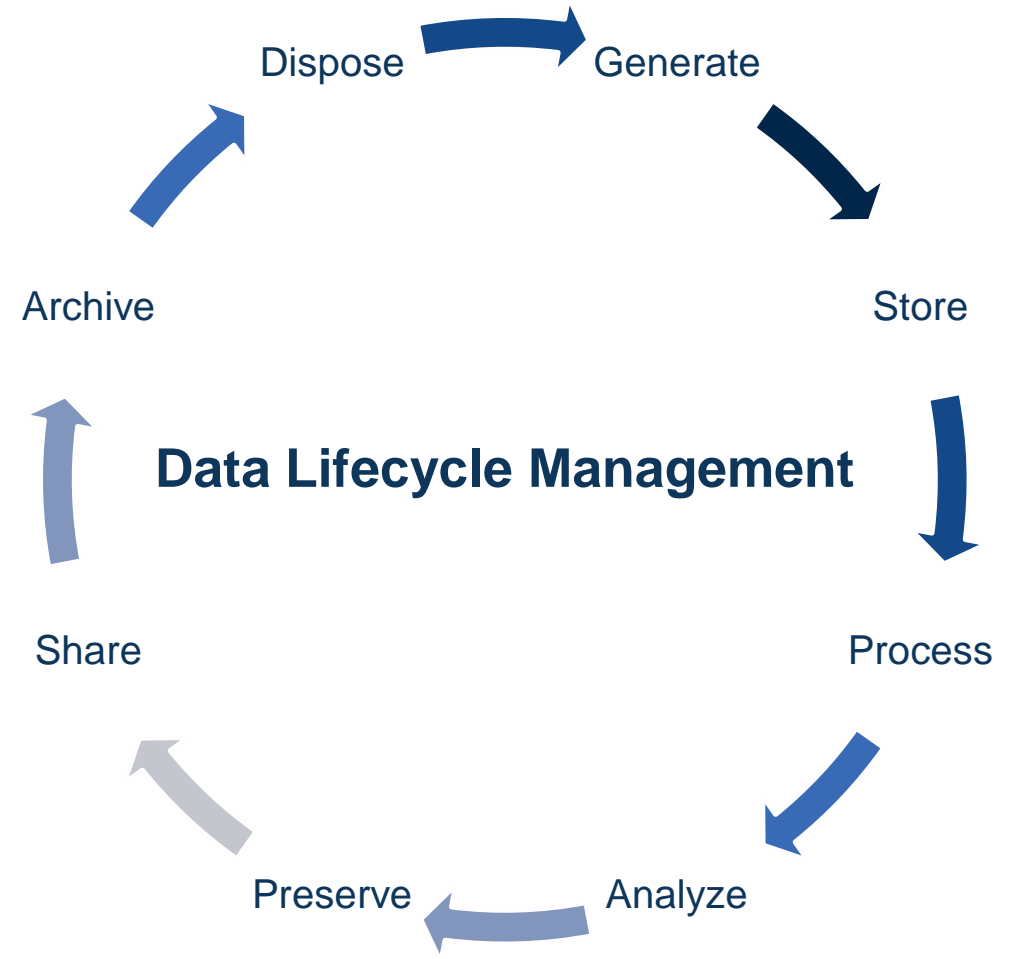


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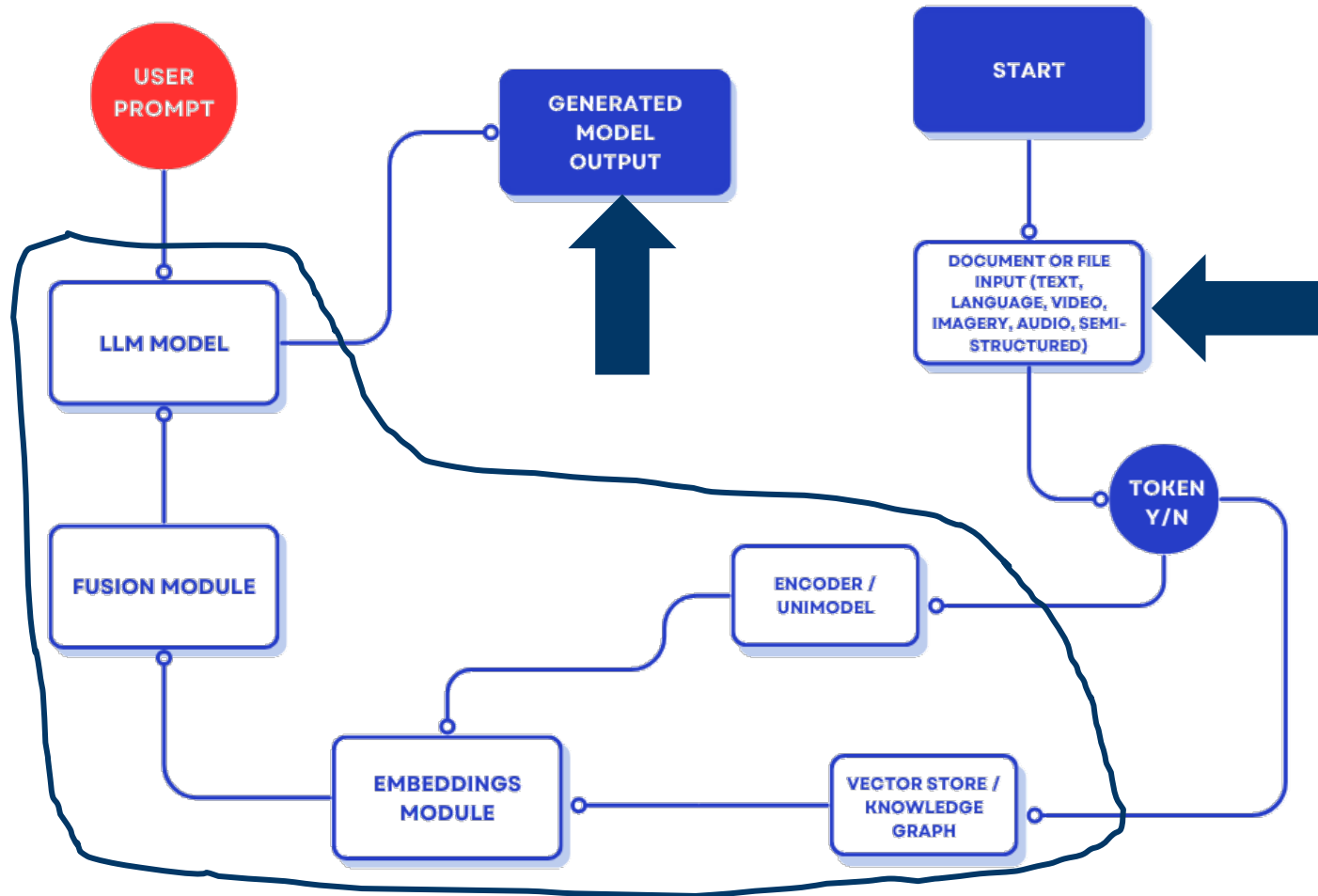
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Protecting IT/OT Data Systems



Protecting AI Systems

Multimodal LLM



TRAINING DATA

1. Analysis Data
2. Model Output
3. Model Code Elements
4. Training Data

Cyber Security Best Practices for AI

Secure Deployment

- Ensure robust IT governance and secure configurations in the deployment environment.
- Apply security best practices to AI systems and their IT environments.
- Manage deployment environment governance and ensure a robust architecture.
- Harden deployment environment configurations and protect networks from threats.

Continuous Protection

- Validate AI systems before and during use.
- Protect deployment networks and exposed APIs.
- Actively monitor model behavior and protect model weights.
- Apply and monitor cyber controls along the entire data lifecycle.

Secure Operations & Maintenance

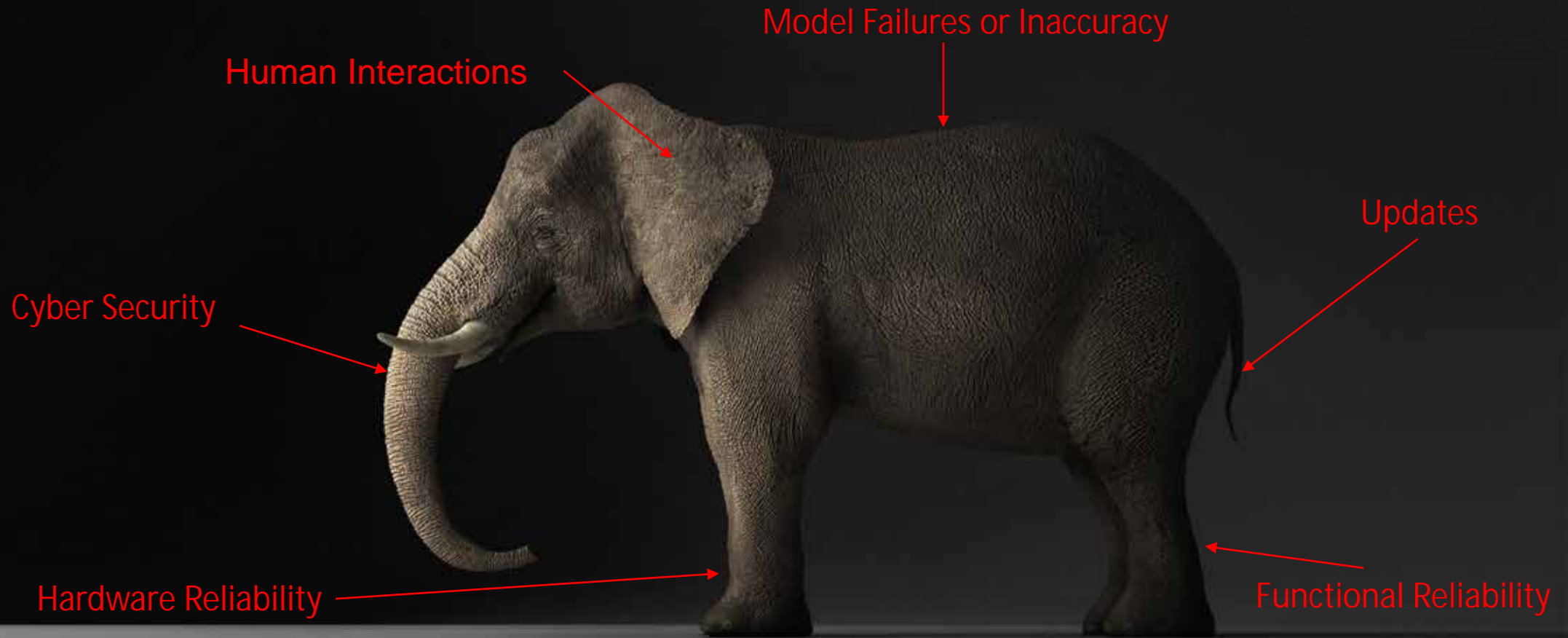
- Enforce strict access controls and ensure user awareness and training.
- Conduct audits and penetration testing.
- Implement robust logging and monitoring.
- Regularly update and patch systems.
- Build out robust recovery and restoration plans.

Protecting Against AI Assisted Threats (Pillar 3)

- Education and Awareness
- Enhanced Detection
- Automation
- Preparedness



Looking at the Whole Elephant



How to address design requirements, risks, and hazards in one integrated process



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Learn More About Our Work in AI at EPRI

ChatGPT and the Power Sector: What's Hype? What's Possible?

- [White paper](#) with initial considerations and potential use cases
- Published April 2023

ChatGPT and the Power Sector: What's Hype? What's Possible? – One Year Later

- White paper with revised considerations and proof-of-concept use cases
- Expected to be published by Q3 2024

Embracing the Power of Large Language Models: Shaping the Future of AI

- EPRI *Current* [podcast](#) with Christine Lee and Lea Boche
- Published September 2023

Harnessing AI to Transform Cybersecurity Detection and Response in OT Environments

- Collaborative [presentation](#) with Jeremy Lawrence
- GTC 2024

Leveraging GPUs to Coordinate Outage Scheduling for Utilities

- Collaborative [presentation](#) with Adam Wigington
- GTC 2022



Resources

- OWASP LLM Top 10: <https://owasp.org/www-project-top-10-for-large-language-model-applications/>
- Five Artificial Intelligence Grand Challenges for the Electric Power Industry: <https://www.epri.com/research/products/000000003002022804>
- Cyber Awareness Posters: <https://www.epri.com/research/programs/112046/results/3002027921>
- Quick Briefs (Support): <https://www.epri.com/research/programs/112046/results/>



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Q&A

- Jeremy Lawrence, jlawrence@epri.com
- Jason Hollern, jhollern@epri.com