



# **BUILDING A CYBERSECURITY WORKING GROUP**

Chuck Mitchell, Commerce OIG

Chair of the CIGIE Cybersecurity Working Group

**CYBERSECURITY IS HARD**

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Vision

Structure

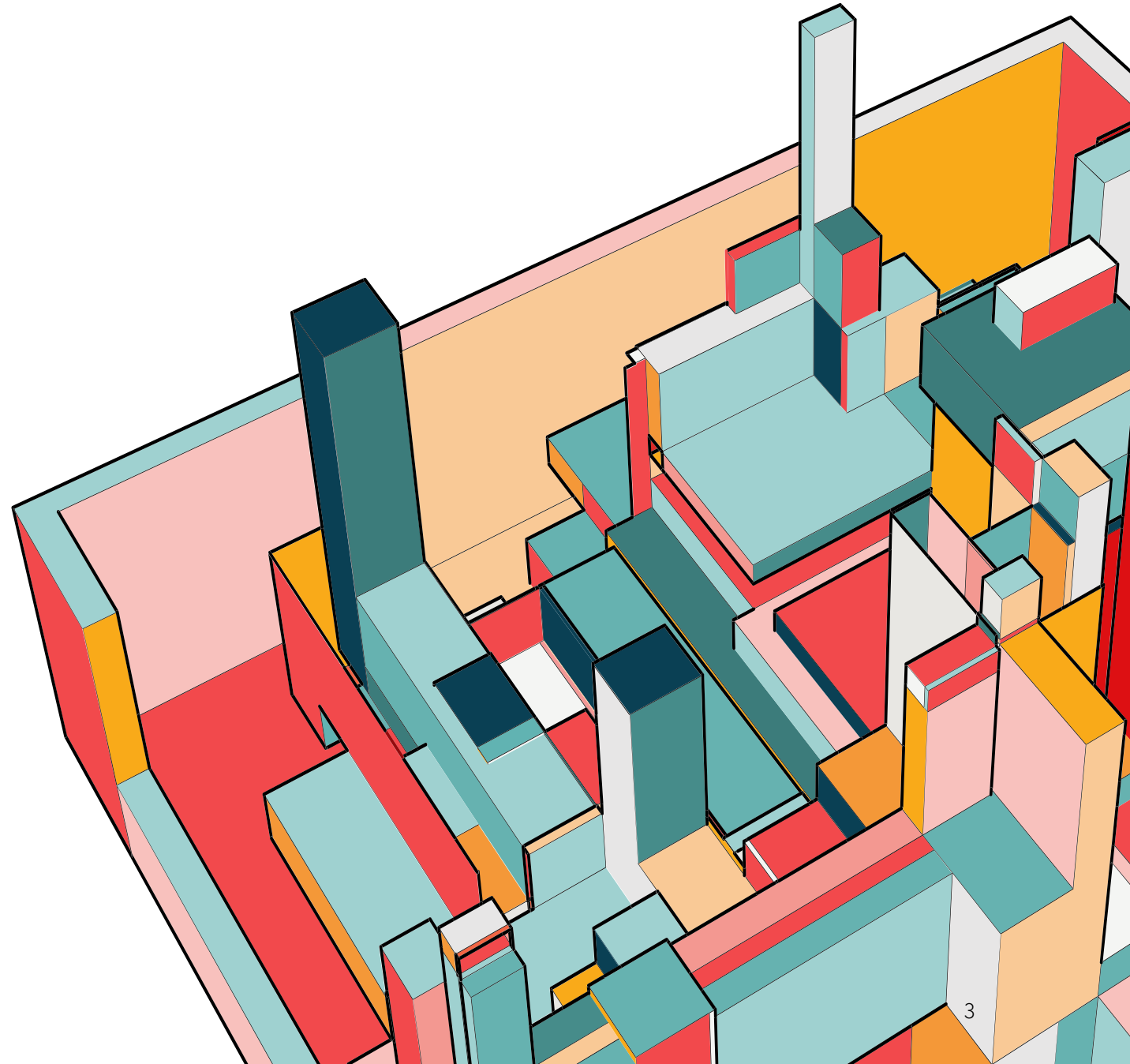
Initiatives

Progress

People

Challenges

Momentum



# WHERE TO START

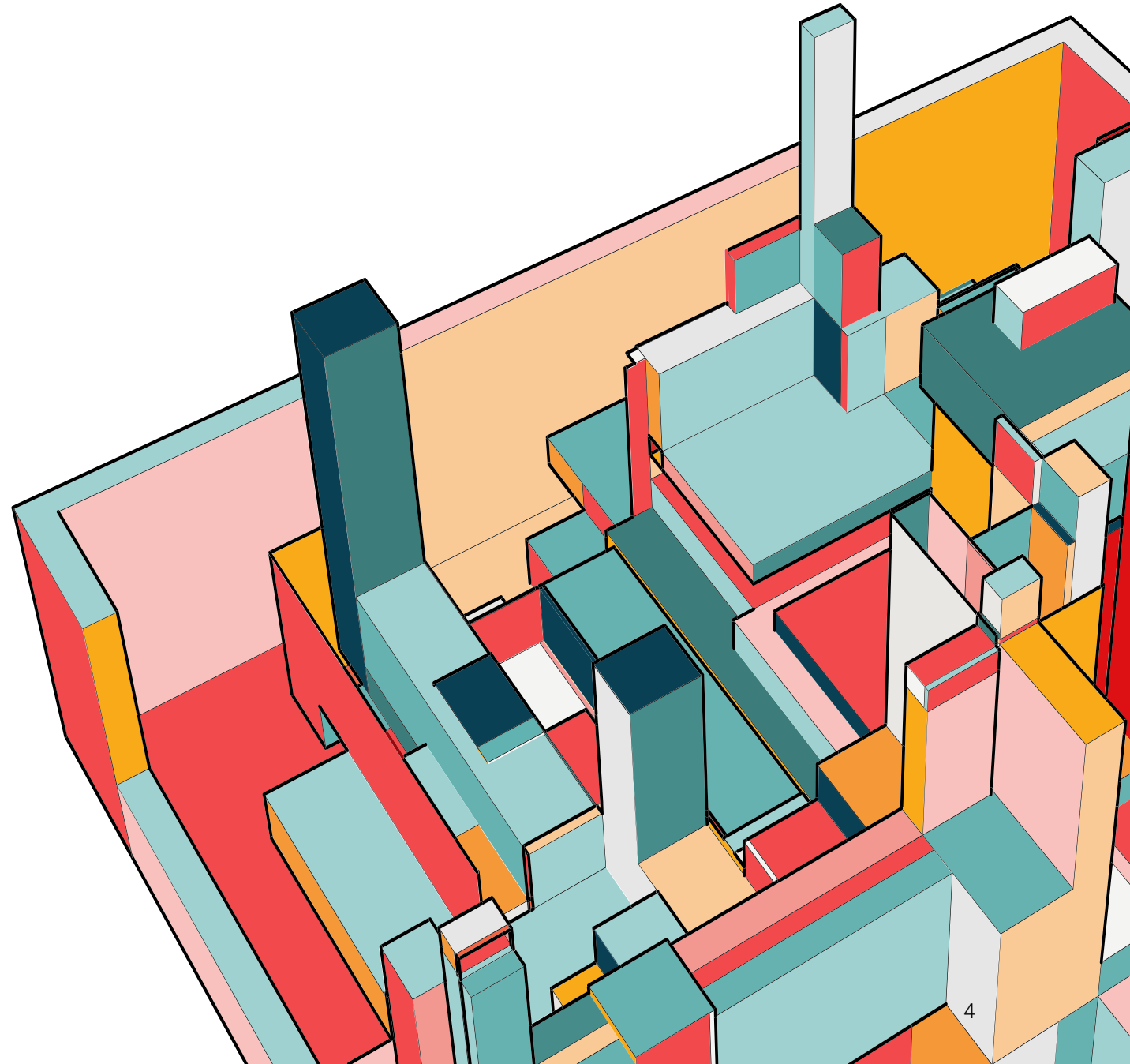
People are interested

Put out a call

Hold an information session

Ask people what they want

Set the vision



# POLL #1 – WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF CYBERSECURITY EXPERTISE?

**1**

Specialist / Primary Job  
Duty

**2**

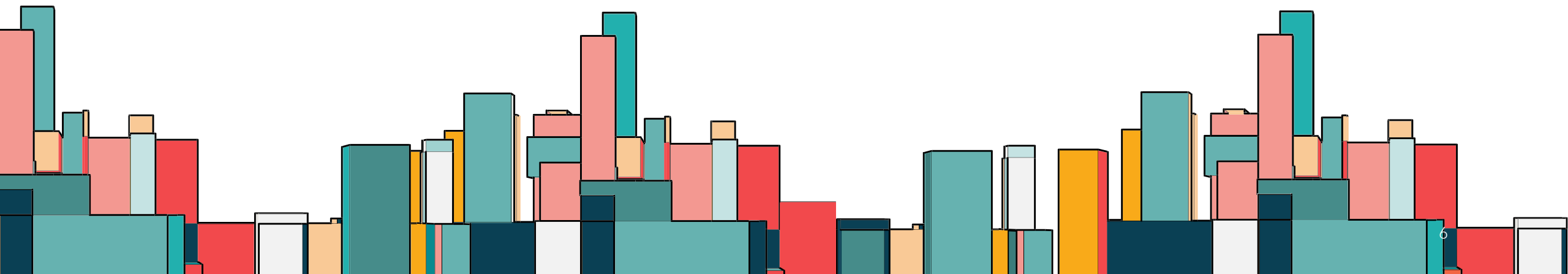
Not an expert but I'm  
familiar with the  
concepts

**3**

Annual training and  
that's about it

# VISION

Raise the overall understanding of cybersecurity across the OIG community



# STRUCTURE THE TEAM

## Chair

Motivated, labour of love

## Vice Chair

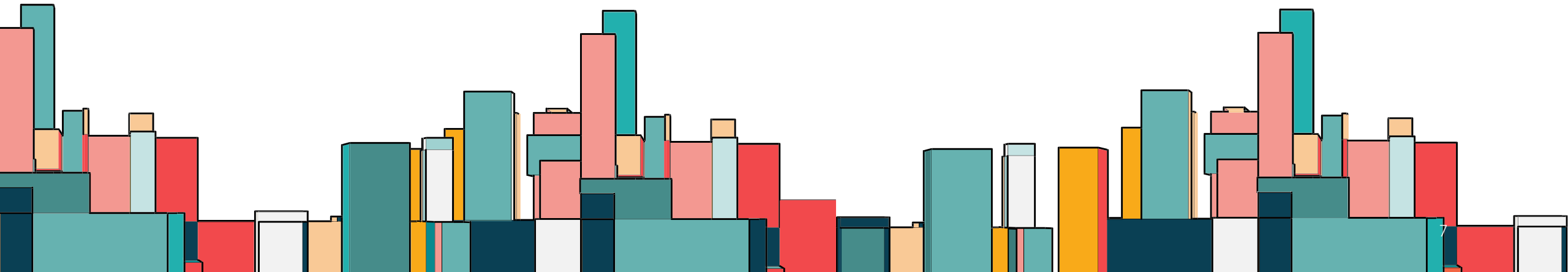
Connected, ready to help

## Leads

First to volunteer, wants to make a difference

## Volunteers

Interested, willing to pitch in if asked



# POLL #2 – WHAT LEVEL WOULD YOU PARTICIPATE AT?

**1**

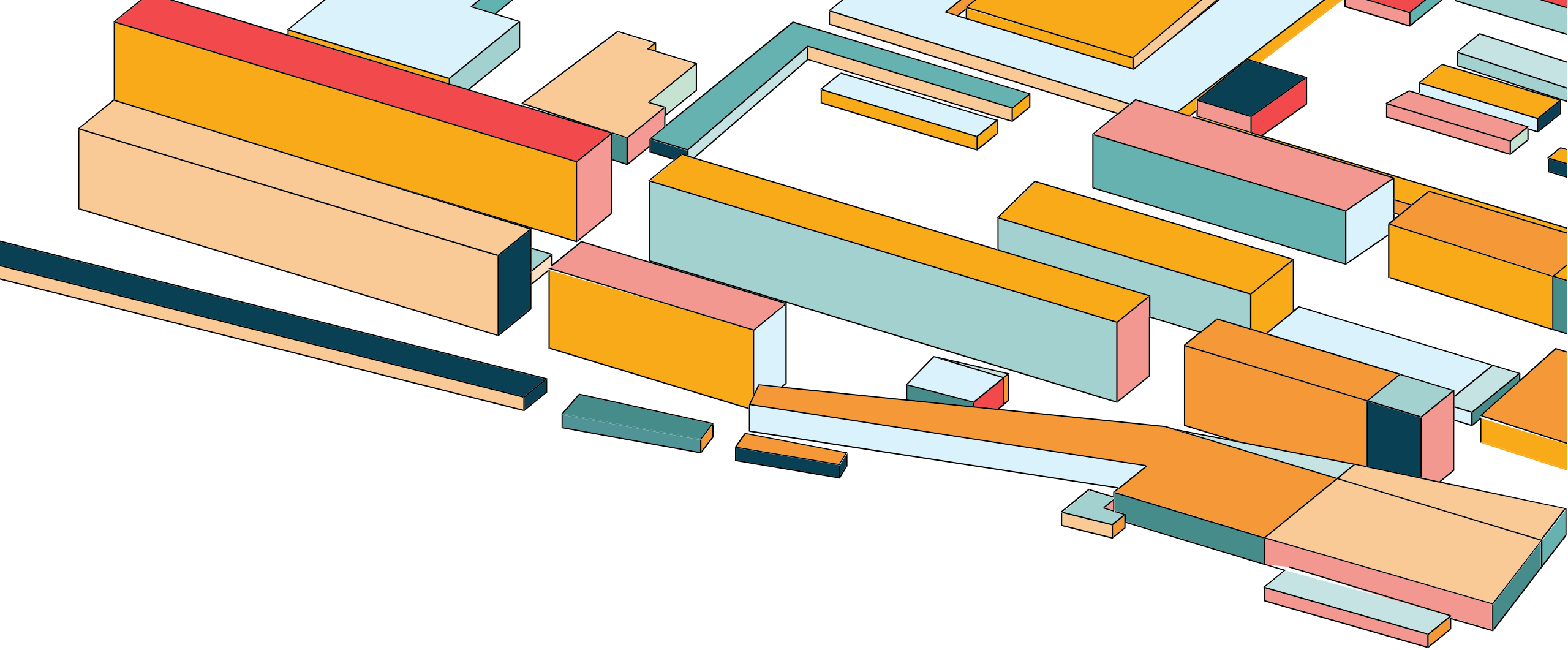
Lead the charge

**2**

Pitch in where I can

**3**

Listen in to stay  
informed



# ESTABLISH INITIATIVES

# OUR INITIATIVES



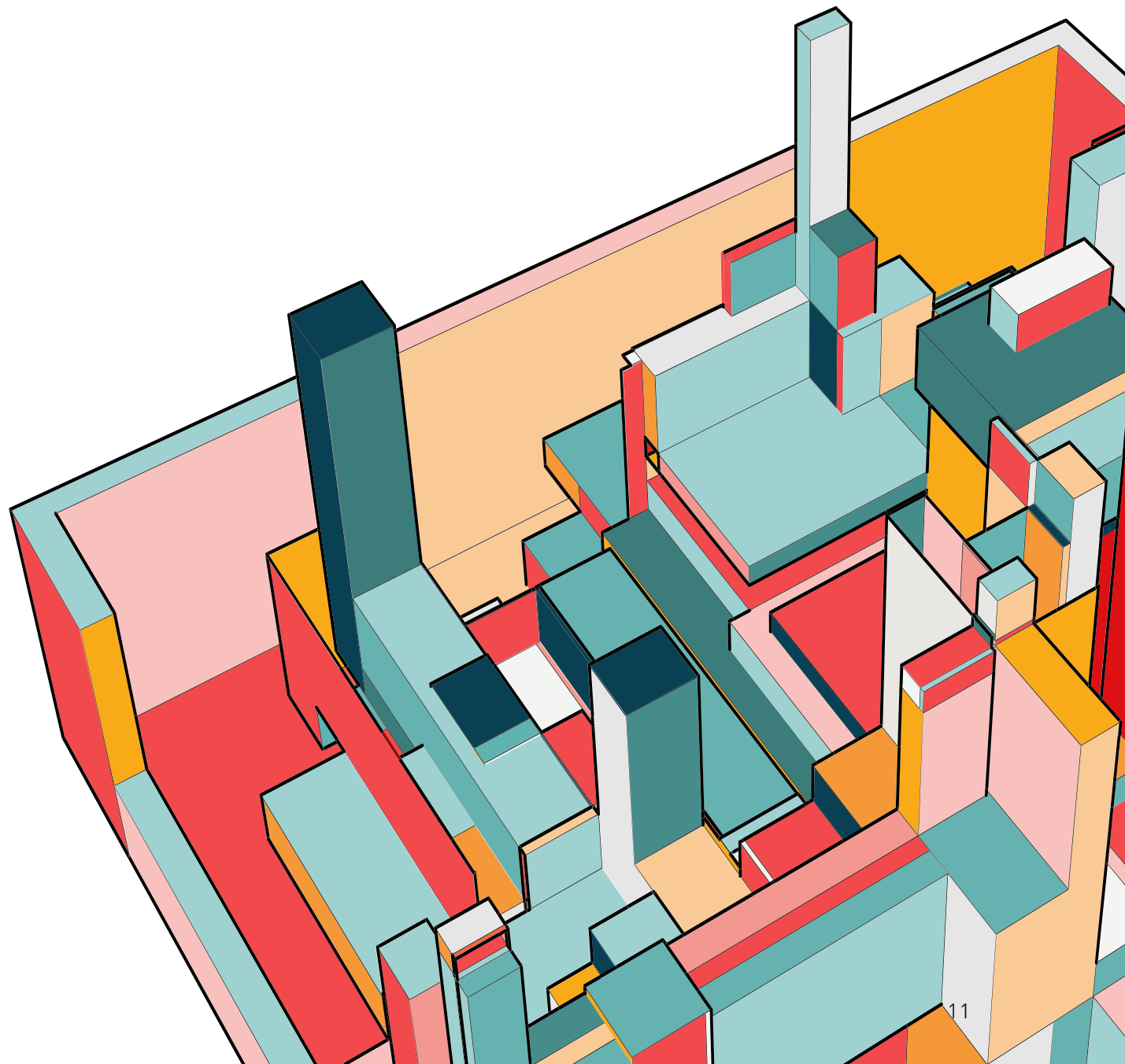
Communications

Education

Events

# COMMUNICATIONS

Goal: Keep the OIG community current on cybersecurity news / events / guidance and serve as a touch point throughout CIGIE.



# COMMUNICATIONS TASKS



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## Detailed Newsletter

Fortnightly to a broad audience



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## Executive Newsletter

Monthly to Inspectors  
General



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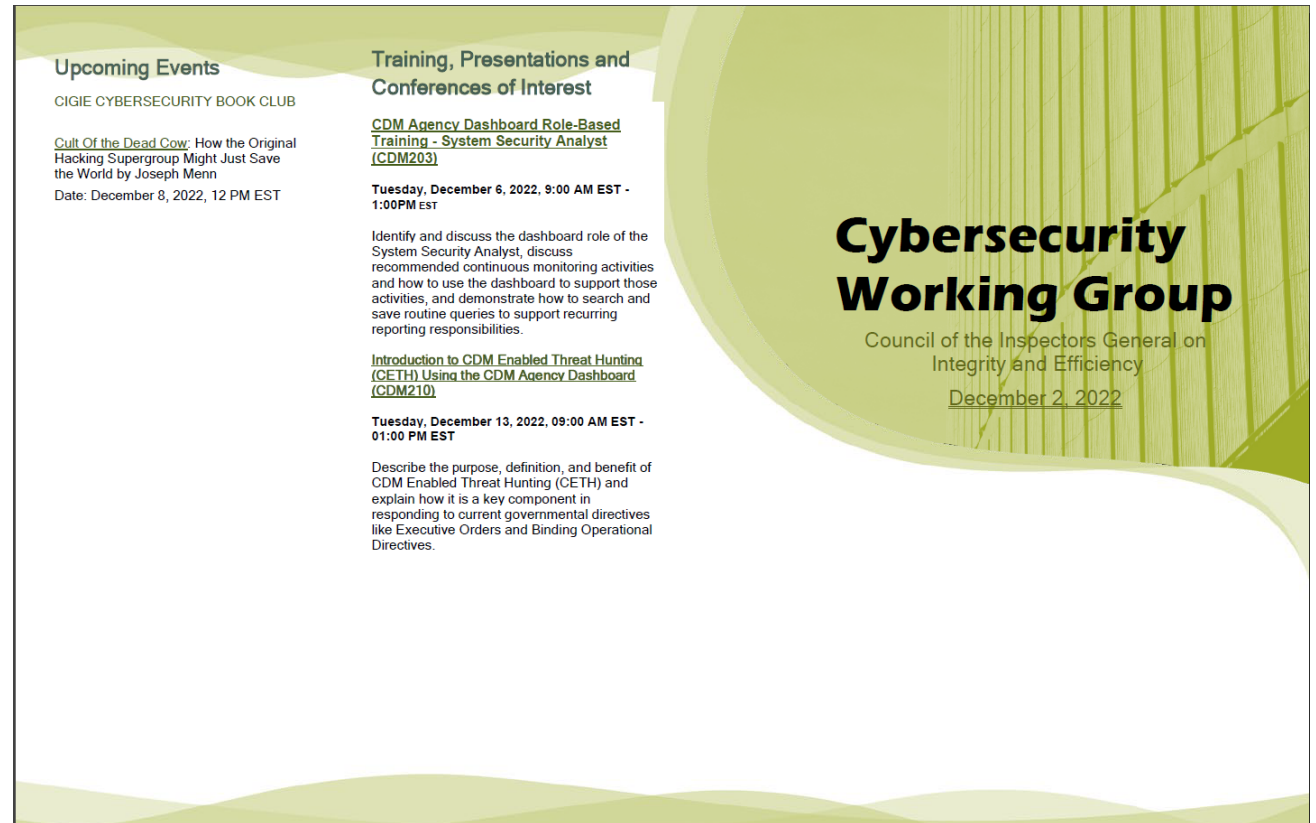
## Design + Engage

Design an overall coms strategy  
Stay in touch

# DETAILED NEWSLETTER

## Sections:

- Upcoming Events
- Job Postings
- Training, Presentations, and Conferences of Interest
- Security Hot Topics
- Cybersecurity Audits and Evaluations
- Recent Attacks
- Binding Operational Directives (BODs), Executive Orders, Office of Management and Budget Memorandums
- CISA Alerts and Vulnerabilities



## Upcoming Events

### CIGIE CYBERSECURITY BOOK CLUB

[Cult Of the Dead Cow](#): How the Original Hacking Supergroup Might Just Save the World by Joseph Menn

Date: December 8, 2022, 12 PM EST

## Job Board

## Training, Presentations and Conferences of Interest

### [CDM Agency Dashboard Role-Based Training - System Security Analyst \(CDM203\)](#)

Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 9:00 AM EST - 1:00PM EST

Identify and discuss the dashboard role of the System Security Analyst, discuss recommended continuous monitoring activities and how to use the dashboard to support those activities, and demonstrate how to search and save routine queries to support recurring reporting responsibilities.

### [Introduction to CDM Enabled Threat Hunting \(CETH\) Using the CDM Agency Dashboard \(CDM210\)](#)

Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 09:00 AM EST - 01:00 PM EST

Describe the purpose, definition, and benefit of CDM Enabled Threat Hunting (CETH) and explain how it is a key component in responding to current governmental directives like Executive Orders and Binding Operational Directives.

# Cybersecurity Working Group

Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency

December 2, 2022

## Security Hot Topics

### [It's Time for Better Data Protection: Why the 3-2-1 Rule Isn't Enough](#)

Data has become a critical resource that's central to keeping operations running. So, when ransomware causes a business to lose access to its data, operations can become paralyzed for days or weeks. It's at this point that many organizations that are still reliant on 3-2-1 approaches discover that their recovery isn't fast and won't necessarily be guaranteed. Organizations looking to build on their traditional 3-2-1 strategy are now turning to Disaster Recover as a Service (DRaaS) providers that offer the hosted infrastructure resources, data replication and continuous data protection technologies they need to maintain critical data resilience and recoverability across all their environments -- on-premises, hybrid and multi-cloud.

### [U.S. Military Goes Zero-Trust on Software and Government Gets Busy](#)

The Pentagon this week outlined its zero-trust strategy roadmap. The Department of Defense wants to put a zero-trust framework fully in place by 2027, and the strategy encompasses four goals that include ensuring that personnel are aware of and trained for zero trust and that it covers all information systems.

### [Augmenting Supply Chain Resilience Through Unified Endpoint Management](#)

Cybersecurity must be an integral part of your supply chain strategy. However, cybersecurity is a vast realm involving many domains. Owing to the significant increase in the use of mobile and IoT devices, securing and managing the plethora of endpoints deployed in your fleet through unified endpoint management (UEM) solutions is a great launching point to improve cyber resilience.

## Cybersecurity Audits/Evaluations

### [DoD Cybersecurity: Enhanced Attention Needed to Ensure Cyber Incidents are Appropriately Reported and Shared](#)

GAO issued a report this week that made six recommendations to DOD. Recommendations included assigning responsibility for ensuring proper incident reporting, improving the sharing of DIB-related cyber incident information, and documenting when affected individuals are notified of a PII breach. DOD concurred with the recommendations

## Recent Attacks

### [Microsoft Attributes Alleged Chinese Attack on Indian Power Grid to "Boa" IoT Vulnerability](#)

Microsoft has tied an attack on seven facilities managing the electricity grid in Northern India to a vulnerability affecting a web server discontinued in 2005 but still used widely by vendors across a variety of IoT devices and popular software development kits. Microsoft noted that the attacks were part of a string of attacks on Indian critical infrastructure since 2020 that has continued until as recently as October 2022, when the Hive ransomware group [attacked major energy provider Tata Power](#).

### [EU Parliament Website Attacked After Members of Parliament Slam Russian 'Terrorism'](#)

The European Parliament website was hit by a cyberattack claimed by pro-Russian hackers Wednesday shortly after lawmakers approved a resolution calling Moscow a "state sponsor of terrorism". The parliament website was targeted by a DDOS attack designed to force high levels of outside traffic onto the site's server, disrupting the network.

### [US Merit Systems Protection Board Compromised in Iranian Government-Linked Hack: Report](#)

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, responsible for arbitrating disputes with federal employees, was compromised in an Iranian government-linked hack earlier this year, according to a report. Hackers exploited the well-known Log4Shell vulnerability to install cryptocurrency mining software and compromise credentials, [the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency said Wednesday](#) in an alert. It remains unclear what information may have been compromised because of the incident, but hackers broke into an unpatched VMware Horizon server in February and then used that access to move laterally within the network of an unidentified federal agency, according to the CISA alert.

## Binding Operational Directives (BODs), Executive Orders, Office of Management and Budget Memorandums

### [Known Exploited Vulnerabilities \(KEVs\)](#)

- 3 exploited vulnerabilities were due this week
- 5 exploited vulnerabilities are due week of December 9, 2022
- 2 exploited vulnerability issued this week. See details on page 3

### [Migrating to Post-Quantum Cryptography \(PDF\)](#)

OMB memorandum M-23-02 provides direction for agencies to comply with the National Security Memorandum 10 in preparation for implementing post-quantum cryptography. Agencies must comply with the following deadlines:

- ✓ December 18, 2022, designate a cryptographic inventory and migration lead for their organization.
- ✓ May 4, 2023, and annually thereafter, agencies must submit a prioritized inventory of information systems and assets, excluding national security systems, that contain cryptanalytically relevant quantum computer (CRQC)-vulnerable cryptographic systems to the Office of the National Cyber Director and the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.
- ✓ June 3, 2023, and annually thereafter, funding requirement assessment for migration.

## National Cyber Awareness Systems Alerts

Title	Publication Date
AA22-335A: #StopRansomware: Cuba Ransomware	12/01/2022
AA22-321A: #StopRansomware: Hive Ransomware	11/17/2022
AA22-320A: Iranian Government-Sponsored APT Actors Compromise Federal Network, Deploy Crypto Miner, Credential Harvester	11/16/2022
AA22-294A: #StopRansomware: Daixin Team	10/21/2022
AA22-279A: Top CVEs Actively Exploited By People's Republic of China State-Sponsored Cyber Actors	10/6/2022
AA22-277A: Impacket and Exfiltration Tool Used to Steal Sensitive Information from Defense Industrial Base Organization	10/4/2022
AA22-265A: Control System Defense: Know the Opponent	9/22/2022
AA22-264A: Iranian State Actors Conduct Cyber Operations Against the Government of Albania	9/21/2022
AA22-257A: Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Affiliated Cyber Actors Exploiting Vulnerabilities for Data Extortion and Disk Encryption for Ransom Operations	9/14/2022
AA22-249A: #StopRansomware: Vice Society	9/6/2022

## National Cyber Awareness Systems Current Activity

Title	Publication Date
CISA and FBI Release Advisory on Iranian Government-Sponsored APT Actors Compromising Federal Network	11/16/2022
Mozilla Releases Security Updates for Multiple Products	11/16/2022
Samba Releases Security Updates	11/16/2022
Cisco Releases Security Updates for Identity Services Engine	11/16/2022
CISA Releases Two Industrial Control Systems Advisories	11/17/2022
#StopRansomware: Hive	11/17/2022
CISA, NSA, and ODNI Release Guidance for Customers on Securing the Software Supply Chain	11/17/2022
CISA Releases Eight Industrial Control Systems Advisories	11/22/2022
CISA Adds Two Known Exploited Vulnerabilities to Catalog	11/28/2022
CISA Releases Seven Industrial Control Systems Advisories	11/29/2022
CISA Releases Three Industrial Control Systems Advisories	12/1/2022
#StopRansomware: Cuba Ransomware	12/1/2022

## CISA Known Exploited Vulnerabilities

<u>CVE</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Date Added</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
CVE-2022-4135	Chromium	11/28/2022	12/19/2022
CVE-2021-35587	Fusion Middleware	11/28/2022	12/19/2022

# EXECUTIVE NEWSLETTER

## Sections:

- In The News
- Cyber-Jargon
- Topics of Interest
- Recent OIG Work
- Important Dates

## Cybersecurity Working Group

Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency  
Executive Newsletter November 2022

### IN THE NEWS

#### [Biden Administration Unveils Cybersecurity Goals for Critical Infrastructure Operators](#)

The Department of Homeland Security unveiled new benchmarks for critical infrastructure to strengthen cybersecurity defenses. The cybersecurity performance goals – developed by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Institute of Standards and Technology – lays out the voluntary security steps the government expects all critical infrastructure entities to undertake.

#### [Amid a Recent Wave of Layoffs Across the Technology Sector, the VA is Working to Position Itself as an Enticing Destination for Unemployed Tech Workers](#)

With sweeping layoffs at major U.S. technology companies putting tens of thousands of highly skilled workers back into the job market in recent months, the Department of Veterans Affairs is working to entice talented tech employees to join the agency by conducting targeted outreach, launching an expanded career website, and working to expand pay for federal tech specialists.

### CYBER-JARGON

- [Quantum Computer](#) - Machines that exploit quantum mechanical phenomena to solve mathematical problems that are difficult or impossible for conventional computers.
- [Qubit](#) - a quantum bit, is the basic unit in quantum computing. Unlike a bit with just two states (0 or 1), a qubit can represent any proportion between 0 and 1, allowing a single qubit to represent significantly more values. Using qubits, a quantum computer could break existing encryption in minutes instead of millions of years.
- [Post-Quantum Cryptography \(PQC\)](#) - An area of cryptography that researches and advances the use of quantum-resistant techniques, with the goal of keeping existing public-key encryption safe in the era of quantum computing.

### TOPICS OF INTEREST

#### [Red, Purple, and Blue -- Security Teams Keeping the Hackers at Bay](#)

Regardless of how much money is spent on cybersecurity, the likelihood of getting hacked is steadily increasing as the threat landscape continues to evolve. Security software alone does not offer complete protection. A solution is to find your own weaknesses and remediate them before they can be exploited. One of the best ways to do this is through red, blue, and purple team testing.

### RECENT OIG WORK (OVERSIGHT.GOV)

#### [Simulated Internal Cyber Attack Gained Control of Critical Census Bureau Systems](#)

The Department of Commerce OIG initiated the audit to determine the effectiveness of the U.S. Census Bureau's cybersecurity posture against a simulated real-world attack.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### [Migrating to Post-Quantum Cryptography \(PDF\)](#)

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- ✓ June 3, 2023, and annually thereafter, funding requirement assessment for migration.

# DESIGN + ENGAGE

## Quarterly Focus

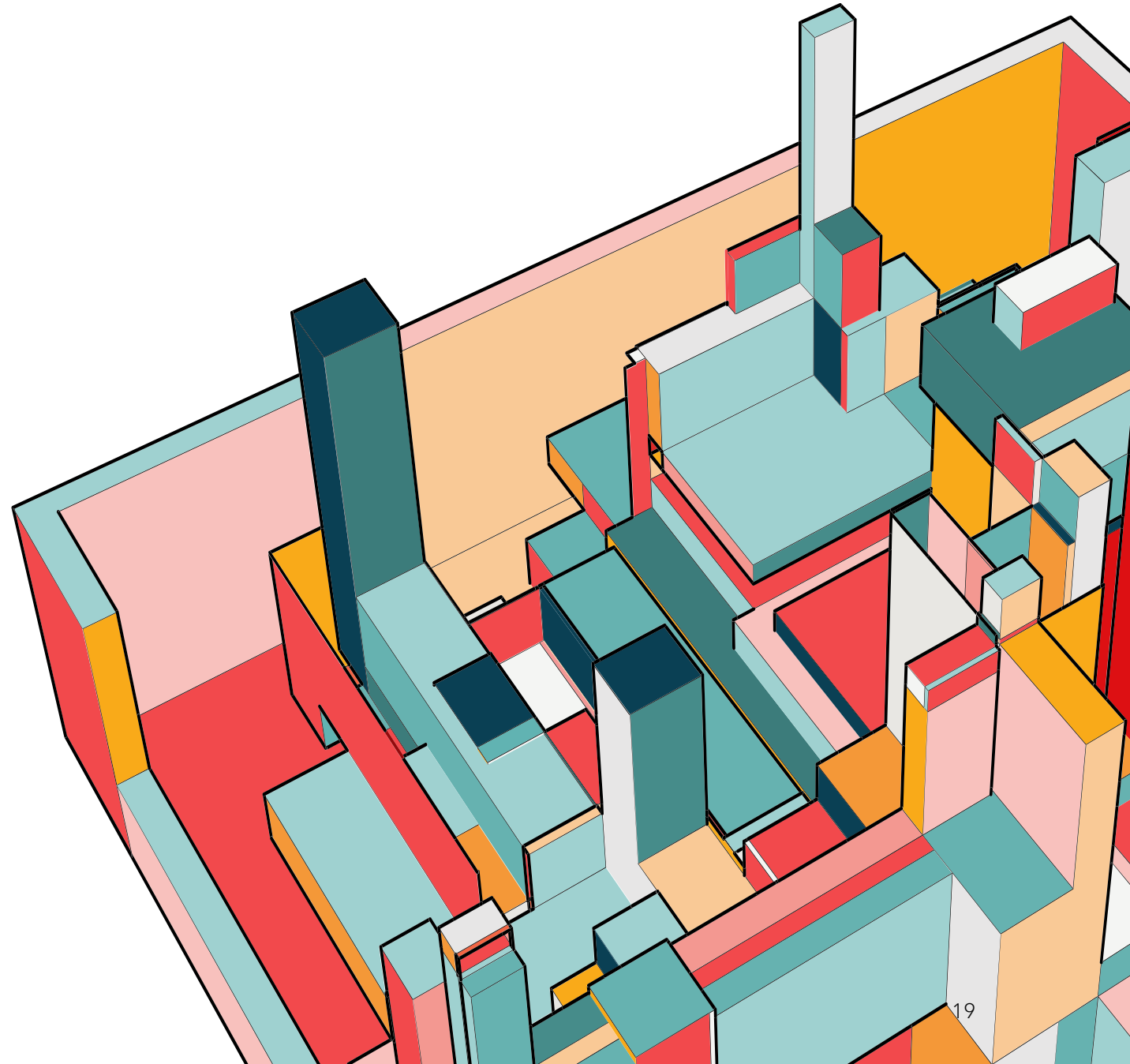
- New undertaking for the group
- Select a topic that all initiatives will focus on
- Benefit: Allows the team to focus and plan

## Committee Outreach

- Get involved
- Listen to feedback and potential topics
- Get the word out with a personal touch

# EDUCATION

Goal: Identify and coordinate delivery of formal training or educational talks that maintain and enhance the OIG community's cybersecurity skills.



# POLL #3 – WHAT TYPE OF TRAININGS ARE YOU MOST INTERESTED IN?

**1**

Hands-on highly  
technical

**2**

Technical but lecture  
style

**3**

Less technical – bring  
me up to speed and  
keep it plain language

# EDUCATION TASKS

## Identify Topics

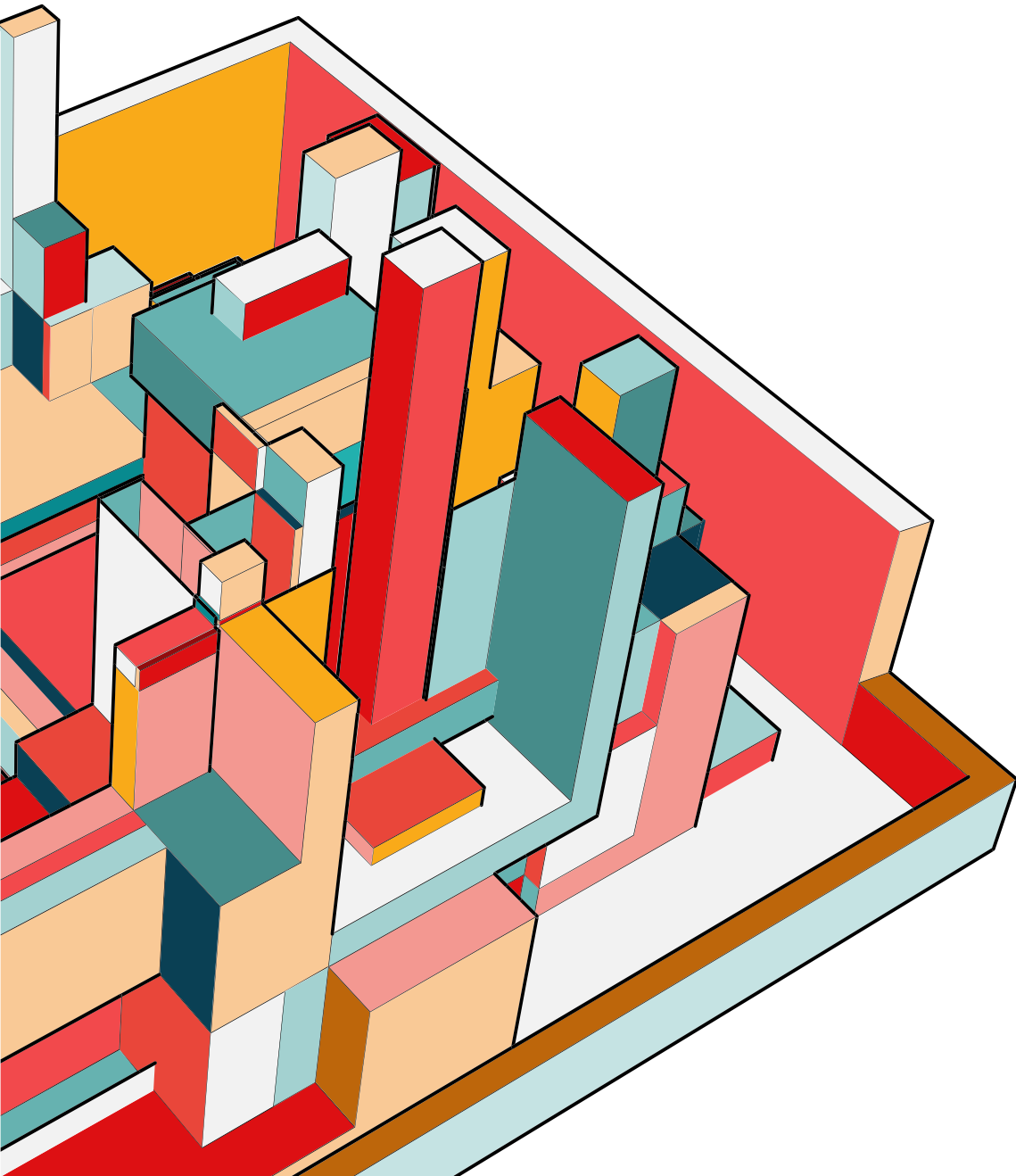
Zero Trust 101  
Mobile and Cloud Forensics  
CISA Vulnerability Disclosure  
Policy Platform  
GSA FedRAMP Program

## Find Presenters

Reach out to community  
Ask after you hear a good one  
Pick a focus and search  
Look outside

## Set a Time and Place

Be consistent  
Remember time zones  
Make it accessible



# EVENTS

Goal: Organize, coordinate, and host OIG community events that encourage interaction of cybersecurity personnel and cross-pollination of security ideas.

# EVENTS TASKS



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## Book Club

Share Ideas



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## Conference

Bring people together



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## Challenges

Show off your skills  
against others

# BOOK CLUB EXAMPLES

## The Code Book

The Secrets Behind Codebreaking

## Dawn of the Code War

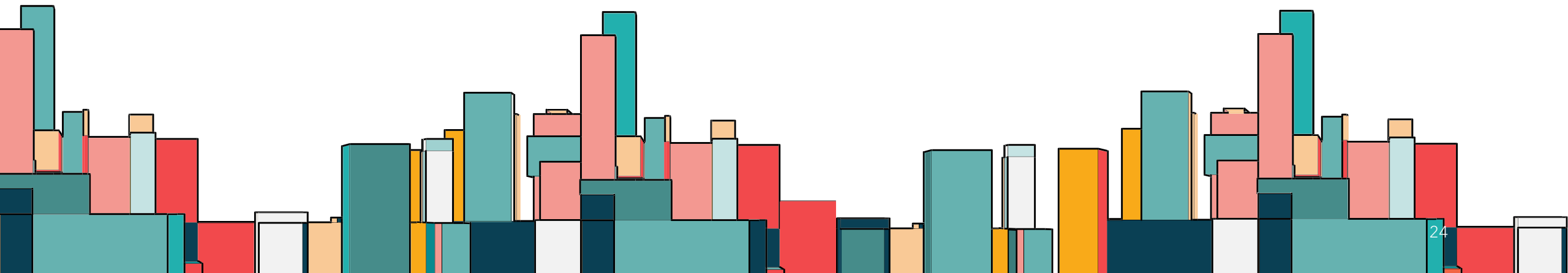
America's Battle Against Russia, China, and the Rising Global Cyber Threat

## Sandworm

A New Era of Cyberwar and the Hunt for the Kremlin's Most Dangerous Hackers

## Cult of the Dead Cow

How the Original Hacking Supergroup Might Just Save the World



# POSSIBLE FUTURE INITIATIVES

**1**

Coordinate Policies  
and Standards

Coordinate

**2**

Structured learning  
tracks

**3**

Cyber Range / Lab  
Services

# SHOW PROGRESS

Start strong to get attention

## First Week

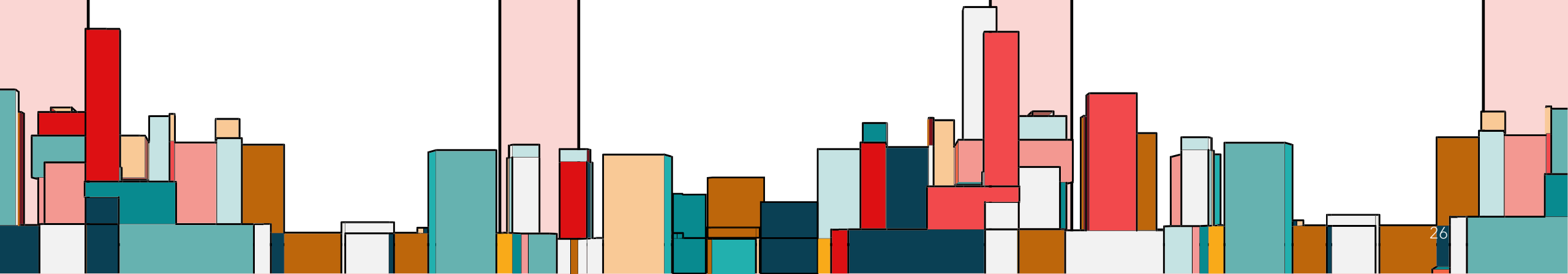
First Group Meeting

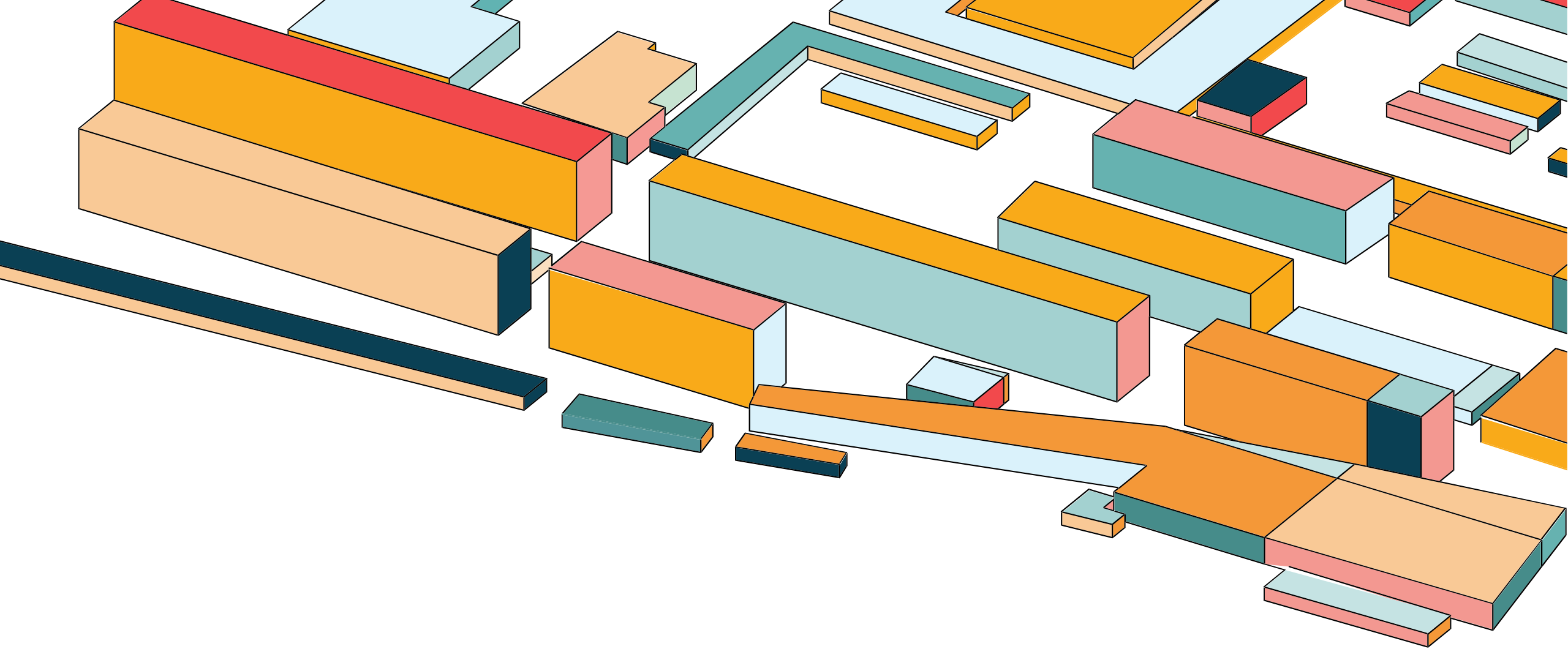
## First Month

Newsletter  
Big Draw Training

## First Quarter

Book Club





**BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER**

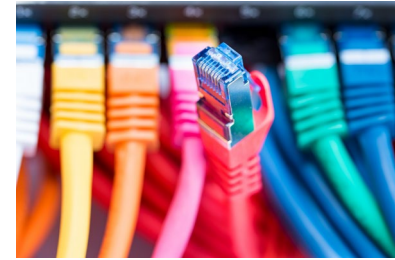
# THINK BROADLY



Audit



Investigations



Operations

# BIG TEAM MEETING



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Discuss Topics



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Get People  
Involved



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Pick FutureTasks

# **POLL #4 – OF THE FOLLOWING THREE, WHAT SECURITY CONTROL FAMILY DO YOU THINK IS MOST IMPORTANT?**

**1**

Access Control

**2**

Configuration  
Management

**3**

Incident Response

# POLL #5 DO I REALLY NEED TO ENCRYPT SENSITIVE EMAIL IF IT'S INTERNAL ONLY?

**1**

Yes

**2**

No

**3**

It Depends

# POLL #6: WHICH BAD PASSWORD MEETS COMMON SECURITY STANDARDS?

**1**

Winter2023

**2**

Password1!

**3**

qwertyzyuiopasdfghjklz

# CHALLENGES



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## Discussions

Group discussions are  
sometimes the same  
voices



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## Volunteers

Help is hard to find,  
leads are even harder



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## Time

Other, other, other duty  
as assigned

# KEEP UP MOMENTUM

## Make Participation Easy

Make joining easy and make effective use of varying skill

## Be Consistent

Try to hit the same timeframes every month

## Try New Things

Stay relevant

# POLL #7 – DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN A CYBERSECURITY WORKING GROUP?

**1**

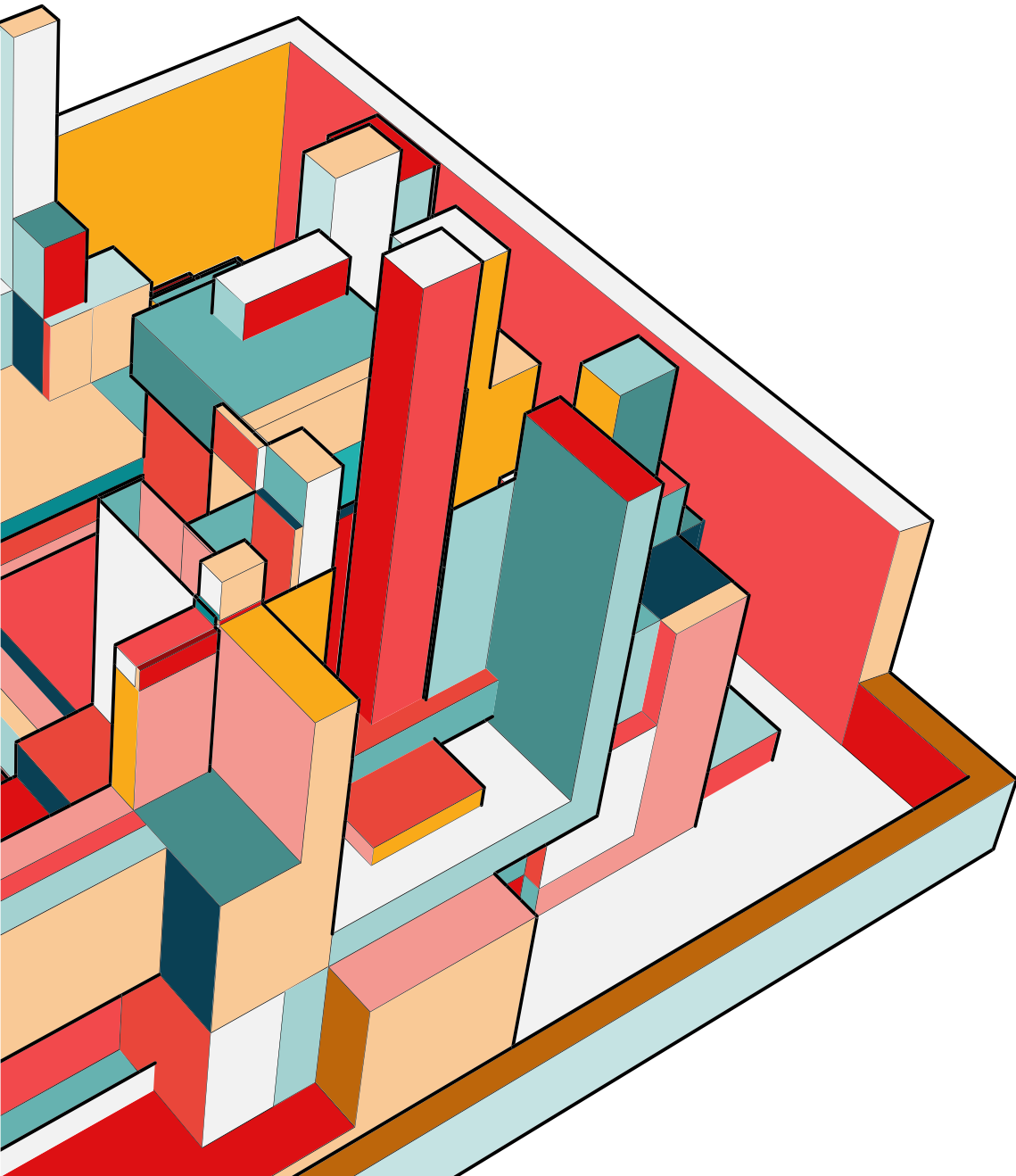
Yep

**2**

Maybe

**3**

Nope



# IN SUMMARY

Vision

Structure

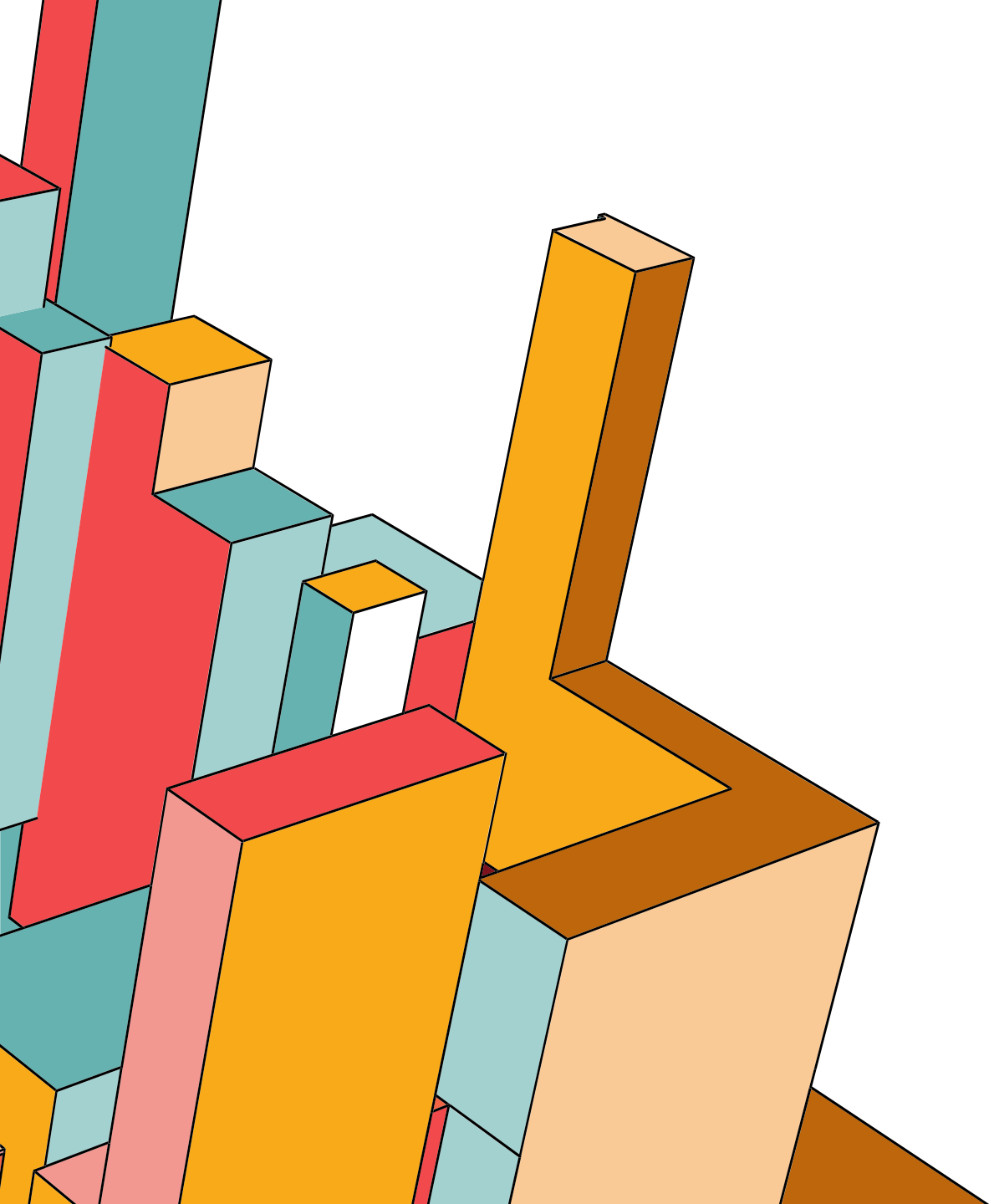
Initiatives

Progress

People

Challenges

Momentum



**NOTHING IS PERFECT**

# THANK YOU

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