

# A Case Study Cyber Security and Compliance

May 2, 2016





# **Executive Briefing**

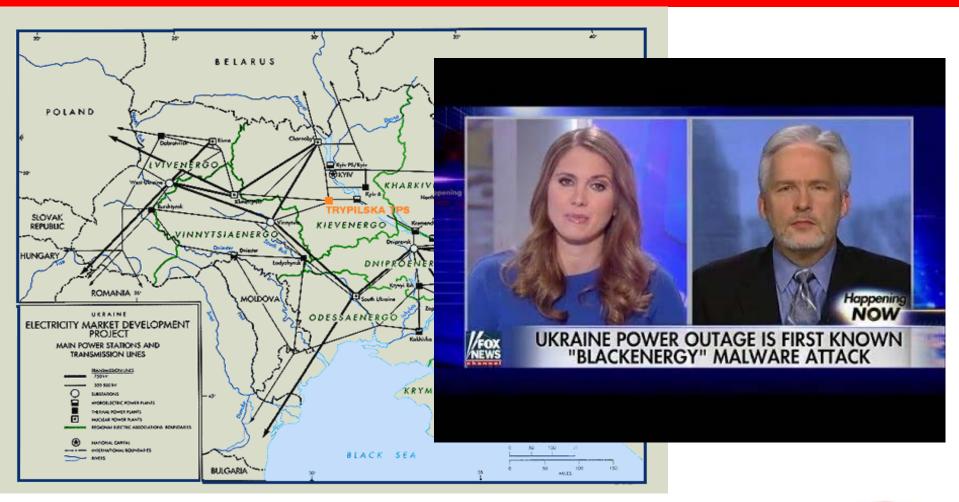
**Deandra Williams-Lewis, Director of Enforcement** 



## **Security Is Important**



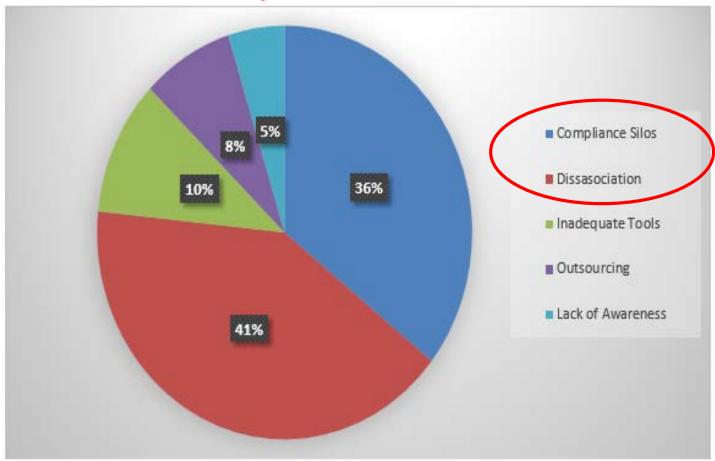
## **Our Industry Is a Target**



"[T]he downing of utilities in western Ukraine on December 23 was due to an attack, which is believed to be the first known successful cyber intrusion to knock a power grid offline."

## **CIP Themes Report**

There are common themes that lead to cultural and programmatic security and compliance issues.





## **Issue Spotting**

- > Reliability Quality Assurance
  - Independent, Objective Internal Evaluation
- > Ability to Identify, Assess, and Correct
  - Self-reporting history and expectations
- > Are the Tools Useful?
  - Benchmark your tools; separate tools for compliance and security
- ➤ Who, How, and When are You Training?
  - Timely, Effective, Practical, and Targeted
- ➤ Is your Compliance Dysfunctional?
  - Attitude towards regulatory governance
- > Implementation Paralysis
  - Bureaucracy vs. ability to make necessary changes





# Case Study: East Power

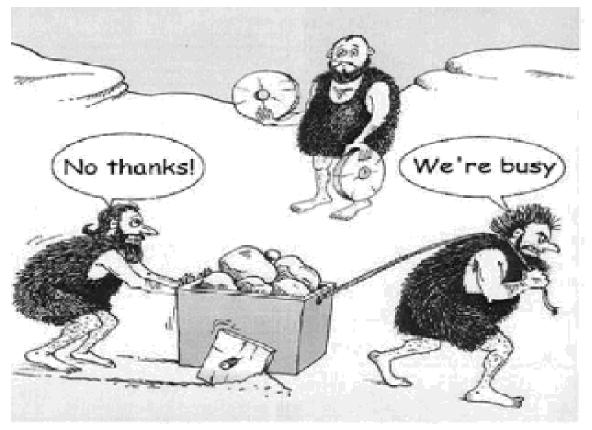
Kristen Senk, Counsel



## **Case Study: East Power**

## > Background

• Audit in 2011: 19 Violations



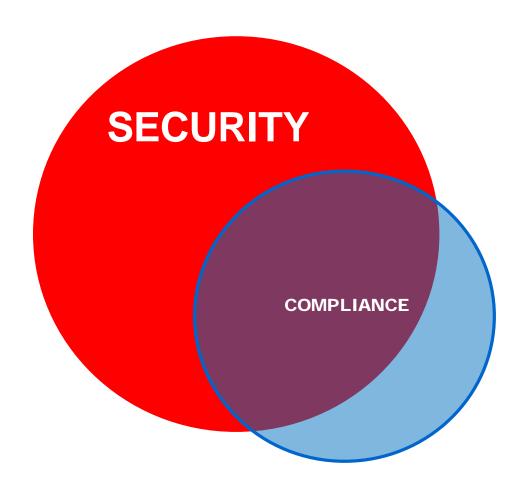
• Audit in 2014: 36 Violations



## **Overarching Root Causes**



# Disassociation





## **Disassociation**

## Physical Security

- Manipulated three Physical Security Perimeter doors to prevent locking and ease access
- Did not prevent employee with revoked access from gaining access to control room to work eight separate shifts



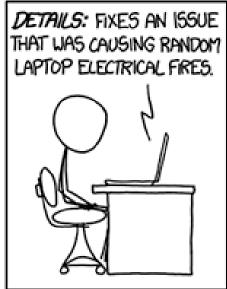


#### **Disassociation**

#### > Patch Management

 Did not patch its Energy Management System after completing mitigation for same violation from 2011 compliance audit







(THIS UPDATE WILL REQUIRE



## **Lack of Awareness**

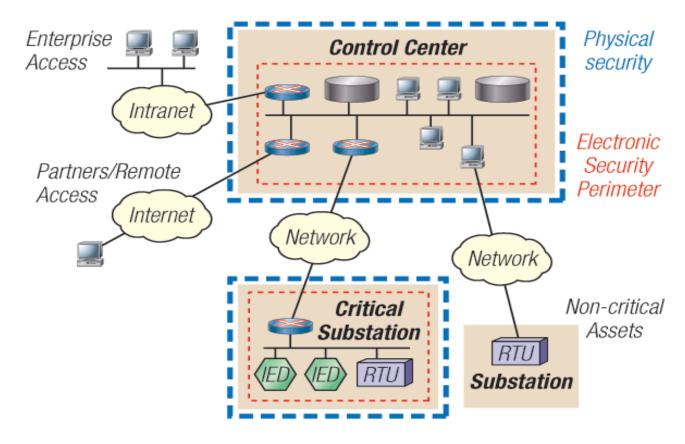




#### **Lack of Awareness**

#### > Understanding CIP Environment

Electronic Security Perimeter vs. Physical Security





## **Business Unit Silos**





## **Business Unit Silos**

#### Workforce Management

 Contractors and service vendors lacked training and Personnel Risk Assessments





# East Power's Response to Audit

## Mitigation Plan Submission

- Delay
- Baseline Mitigation
- Mitigation Disregarding Reliability

## Mitigation Plan Completion

- Struggled to demonstrate performance
- Late to complete mitigation
- Failure to complete four mitigation plans



## RF's Redirection and East Power's Response

#### > RF Leadership Intervention

 RF President meets with East Power's President and explains RF's perception of East Power and its state of cyber security

#### East Power Commits to Improve

Will holistically evaluate and improve CIP compliance program

#### East Power Begins to Improve

 East Power creates and begins executing project plan to address overarching issues will goal of becoming best in class.





## **Enforcement Philosophy**

#### Message

 Focus on reliability through a commitment to continuous improvement, strong management practices, and effective compliance programs

#### > Actions

- Incent desired behavior (Penalty offsets, Processing treatment)
- Deter undesired behavior (Monetary penalties, sanctions)

Behavior Incent/Deter Results (Continuous Improvement)





# Opportunities for Improvement

**David Sopata, Senior Reliability Consultant** 



#### **Overview**

- > How did East Power get to this point?
- > How did East Power respond?
- > What is East Power doing now?



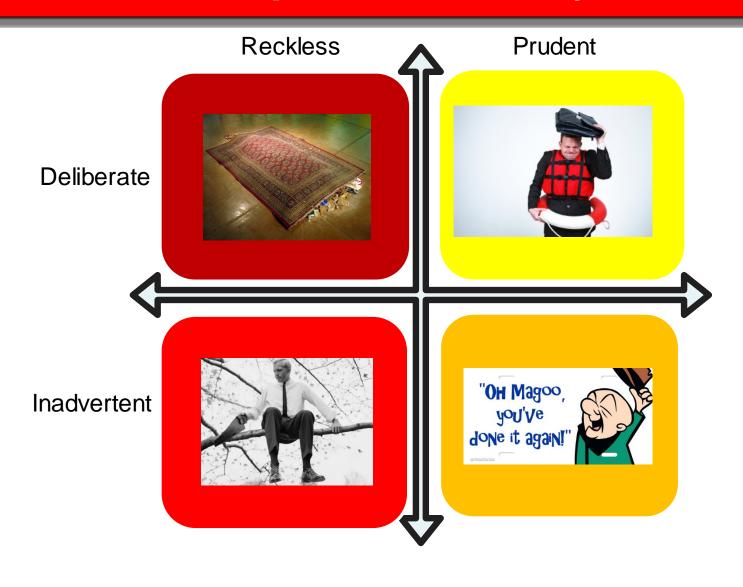
## **Terminology**

#### > Debt:

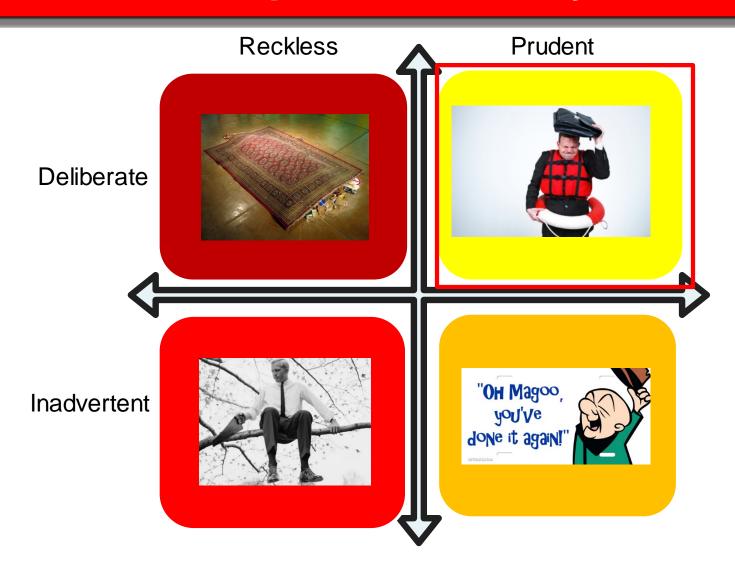
- an amount of money that you owe to a person, bank, company, etc.
- the state of owing money to someone or something
- the fact that you have been influenced or helped by someone or something (Merriam Webster)
- ➤ <u>Technical Debt</u>: a metaphor coined by Ward Cunningham to explain the refactoring of software code.
  - http://agile.dzone.com/articles/understand-high-cost-technical



## Technical/Compliance/Security Debt Quadrant

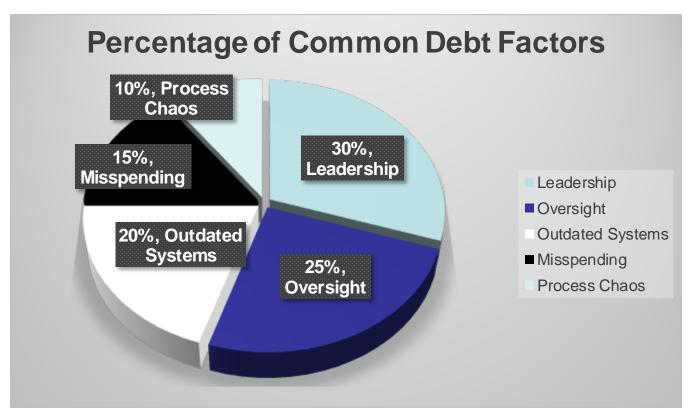


## Technical/Compliance/Security Debt Quadrant



## Technical/Security/Compliance Debt

➤ What are the factors that contribute to Technical/Compliance/Security debt?



http://ww2.cfo.com/it-value/2015/05/scorecard-technology-debt/

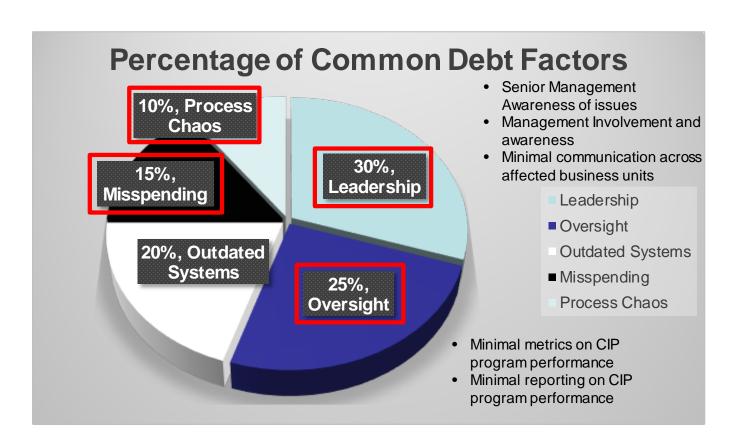


#### What about East Power?

- Awareness of processes
- Understanding how one process affects another

Ineffective use of:

- People
- Technology



http://ww2.cfo.com/it-value/2015/05/scorecard-technology-debt/



## **Improved Leadership**

- Compliance and continuous improvement was made a high priority, holding management and their teams accountable. This message was communicated in many ways to ensure that it permeated from top-down and across the organization.
- This message also required a drastic and quick cultural change within the organization that was also facilitated by senior leadership and management.

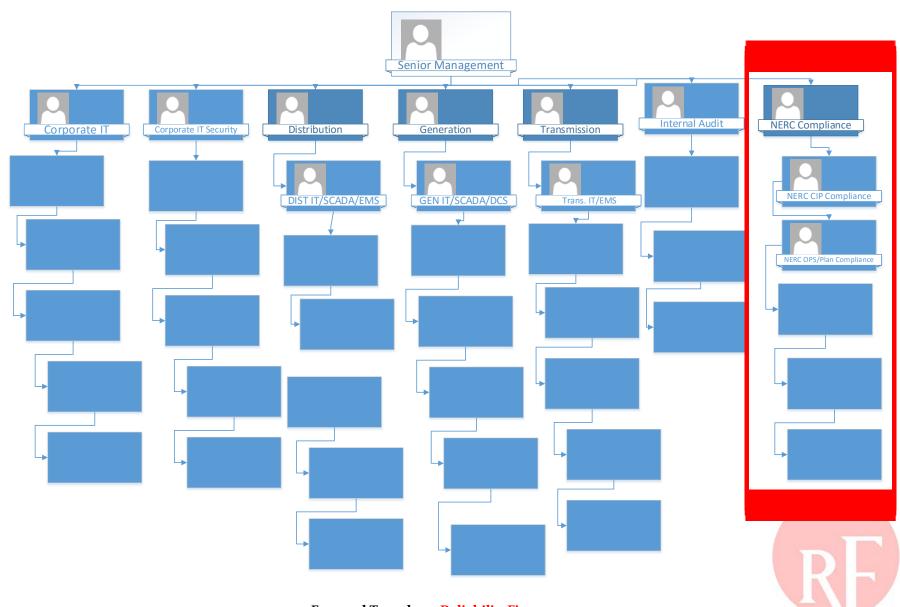


#### Leadership & Management

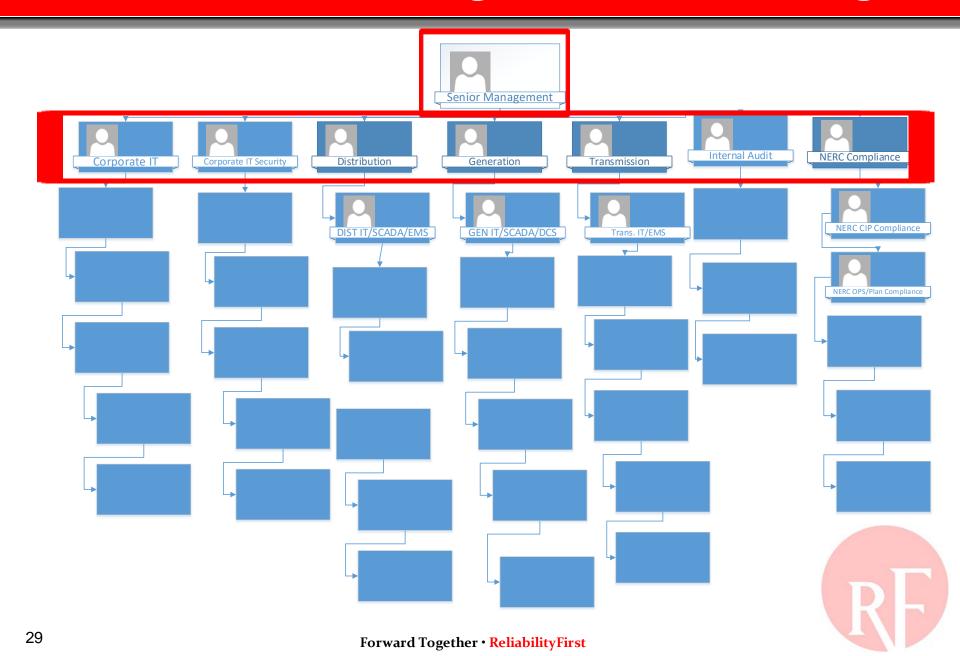
Instilling an important inspiring vision Getting important good operational processes



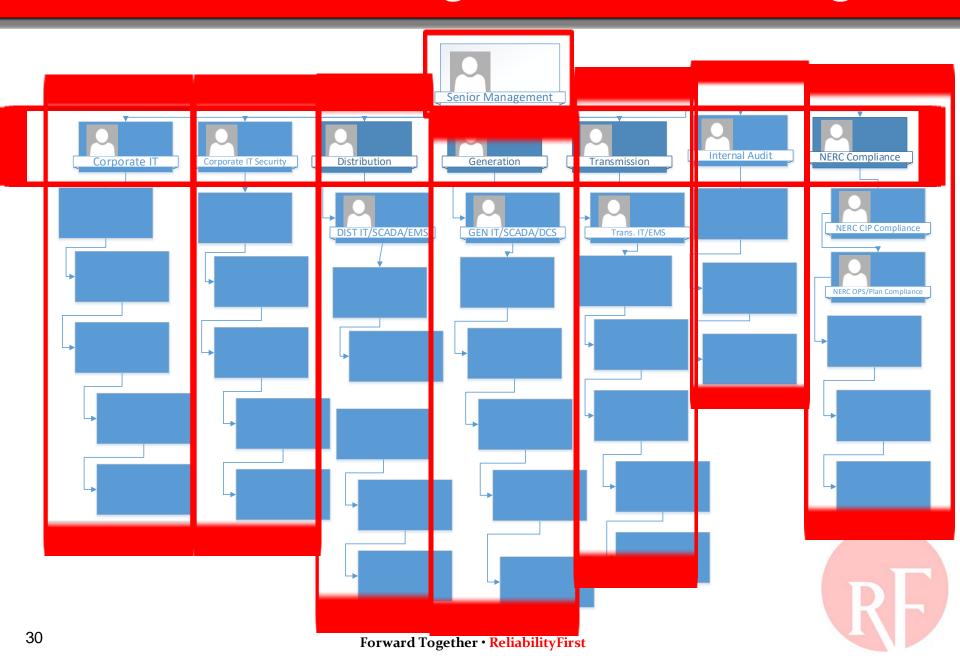
# First Phase of Organizational Message



# **Second Phase of Organizational Message**



## Third Phase of Organizational Message



## Increased Leadership Engagement

## > Description of New Culture

- Increased individual awareness, responsibility, and accountability regarding security and compliance for management and subject matter experts
- Developed the ability for individual openness to report issues and mistakes to management

## > This did not happen over night!

- This message was communicated through multiple weeks of Senior Management meetings and team meetings.
- The message was also continuously communicated throughout the improvement project.

## Address Misspending (People)

## > Reorganization of Compliance Department

- Brought business units representatives into compliance department and have dedicated individuals within each department to focus on compliance.
- Changed structure of group to have more individuals/managers (who directly report to the director of NERC Compliance) with designated areas of focus
- Added a continuous improvement expert (focus on improvement and root cause).
- Brought everyone into one workspace to help foster more effective and direct communication with subject matter experts.

# **New Team for NERC CIP Compliance**



## Address Misspending (People)

- Performed a detailed analysis to understand and reallocate roles and responsibilities
  - ✓ Hired additional support staff and consultants
  - ✓ Dedicated teams to focus on control development and control effectiveness
  - ✓ Invested in people and resources to ensure longevity of the compliance program after remediation efforts!!!!





# Address Misspending (Technology)

- ✓ Investment in new systems to help automate and monitor the systems and processes to maintain the compliance program.
- Development and implementation of new baselines for systems





## **Improved Oversight**

- Multi-level reports and dashboards were created to help track progress in closing program gaps
  - Tracking policy and procedures development progress
  - Implementation tasks and priorities progress
  - Tracking potential issues and roadblocks in preventing tasks from being completed on time





#### **Address Process Chaos**

- Dedicated teams to focus on control development and control effectiveness
- Dedicated team for developing and implementing new training on new systems, processes and controls





## **Summary**

➤ East Power was able to completely turn around its security posture and improve its compliance program by:

#### • Improving the culture

- Senior Management sending a positive message to Management and Staff that Security and Compliance are a priority
- Senior Management and Management applying resources, people, and technology to help improve the program
- Empowering staff to report issues or mistakes so issues can be resolved and solutions can be developed.
- Management rewarding and showing sincere appreciation of good work and performance.



## **Summary**

#### Fostering communication between different departments

- Enabling different departments to:
  - Share processes, data, and ideas
  - Collaborate on security controls and best practices
  - Share technology and tasks to improve security and compliance for corporate IT, Security, Compliance, and Energy Departments.

#### Creating Project Plans and roadmaps to:

- Track the progress of over 300 significant tasks over the course of 6 months to implement a whole CIPv5 program!
- Identify barriers and issues to remove and/or resolve them.
- Improved their Self Reporting and Mitigation processes to reduce time between violation and mitigation efforts
- Performing regular assessments with compliance, internal audit, and assist visits with Entity Development.

#### Conclusion

- > East Power is on track for CIPv5 by July 1st.
- ➤ They are using the extra time given by the FERC order to perform more assessments, improve their processes and procedures, and to implement more automation.
- ➤ In addition to improving processes and procedures, East Power is also striving for continuous improvement and to go above compliance for their Security program.



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