TCG Cyber Resilient Technologies

Embedded Technologies Expo & Conference
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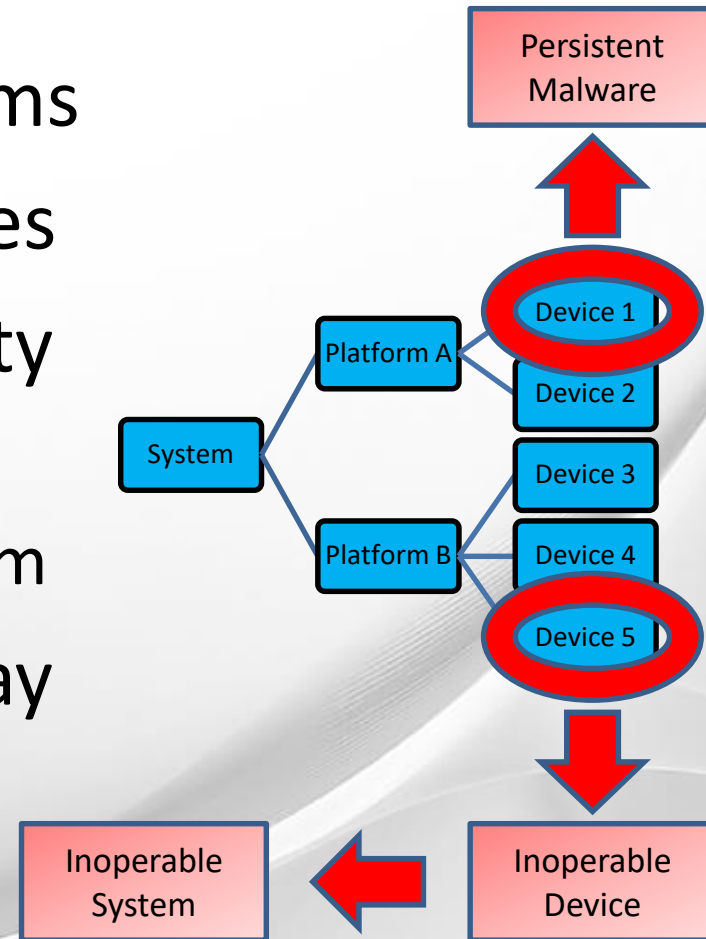**Microsoft Principal Security Strategist**

Agenda

- Motivation: NIST SP 800-193 (Platform Firmware Resiliency Guidelines)
- TCG Cyber Resilient Technologies Workgroup:
  - Goals
  - Scope and Structure
  - Deliverables
- Work in progress
  - Representative scenarios
  - Draft definitions
  - Relationship with roots of trust
  - Cyber Resilient Building Blocks
- What comes next

NIST Special Publication 800-193 : Platform Firmware Resiliency Guidelines

- Published by NIST in May 2018

- North star for many of the TCG participants

- Potential for widespread remote attacks to cripple systems

- Protection of firmware and critical data

- Looks at how to better protect systems and reliably recover

NIST SP 800-193: Devices are Important

- Systems are made of platforms
- Platforms are made of devices
- Devices are crucial to integrity and availability of systems
  - Device attacks corrupt a system
- Without devices, systems may fail to operate
  - Device attacks may cause permanent damage

Persistent Malware

Device 1

Platform A

Device 2

System

Device 3

Platform B

Device 4

Device 5

Inoperable System

Inoperable Device

NIST SP 800-193:
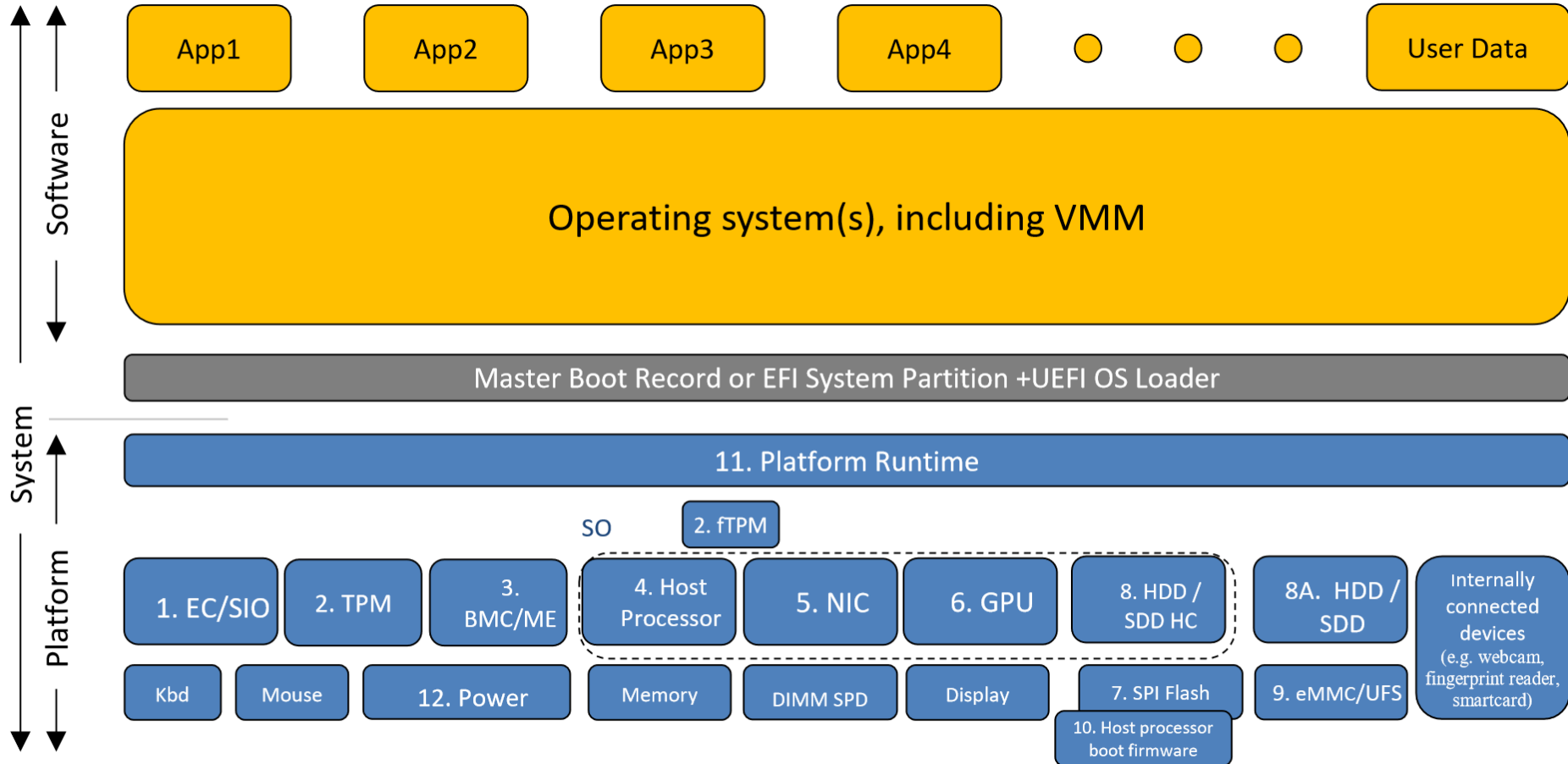# System Architecture Diagram

Figure 1: High-Level System Architecture

NIST SP 800-193: Definition of Resiliency

- Resiliency applied to information systems as:

  "ability to anticipate, withstand, recover from, and adapt to adverse conditions, stresses, attacks, or compromises on systems that include cyber resources"

- Need to expect attacks and respond…

  – Understand platform and devices deeply

  – Increase **Protection** against attacks for platforms and devices

  – **Detect** when attacks have occurred

  – **Recover** from attacks to a state of integrity

NIST SP 800-193:
Roots and Chains of Trust

- Root of trust/chain of trust concept
  - A component performing security-specific functions
  - Trusted to always behave in an expected manner
  - Its misbehavior cannot be detected
  - Can be start of a chain of trust to deliver more complex functionality (like recovery)
- Roots of trust in 800-193
  - Update: Authenticates updates prior to persisting
  - Detection: Authenticates code prior to execution and looks for malware/corruption
  - Recovery: Restores code/config regardless of malware

TCG Workgroup:
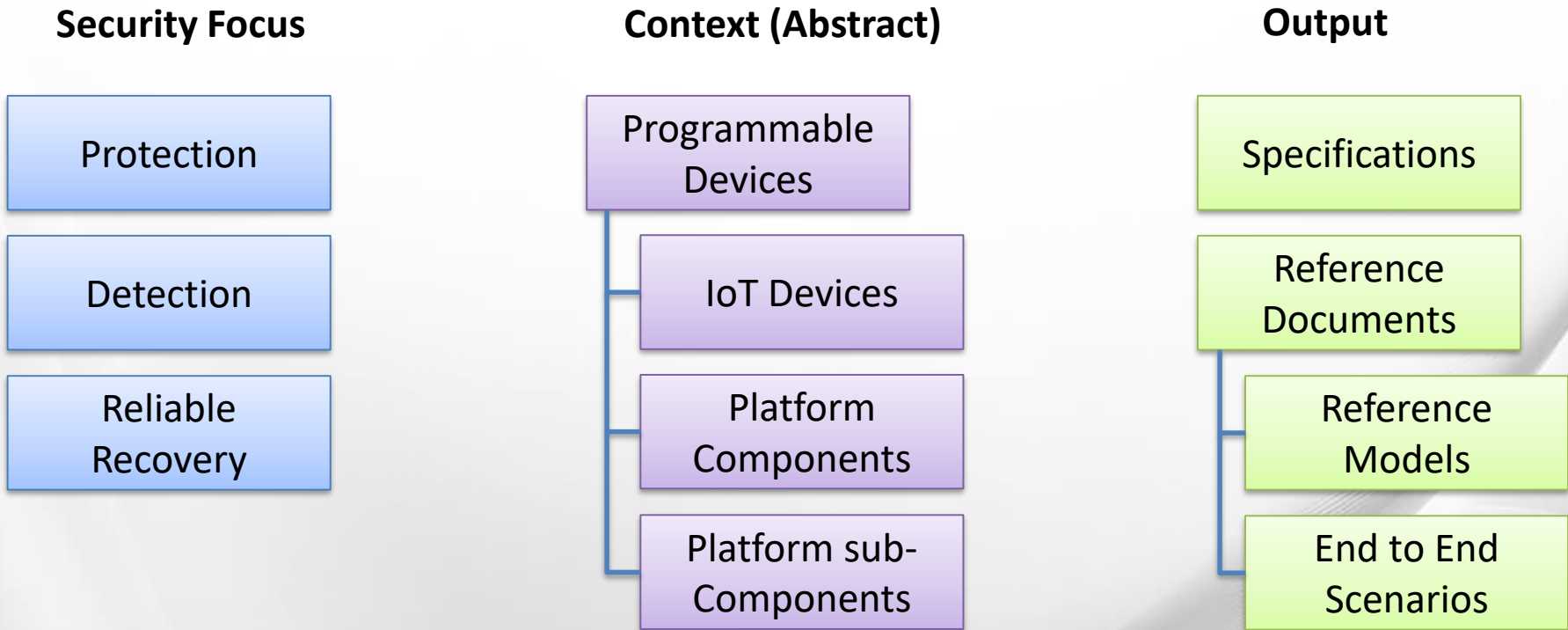# Cyber Resilient Technologies

Created in June 2018

Goals in Progress:

- Explain how to implement 800-193 using TCG technologies

- Explore how TCG technologies help satisfy protection, detection and recovery requirements

- Manage autonomous components without a person
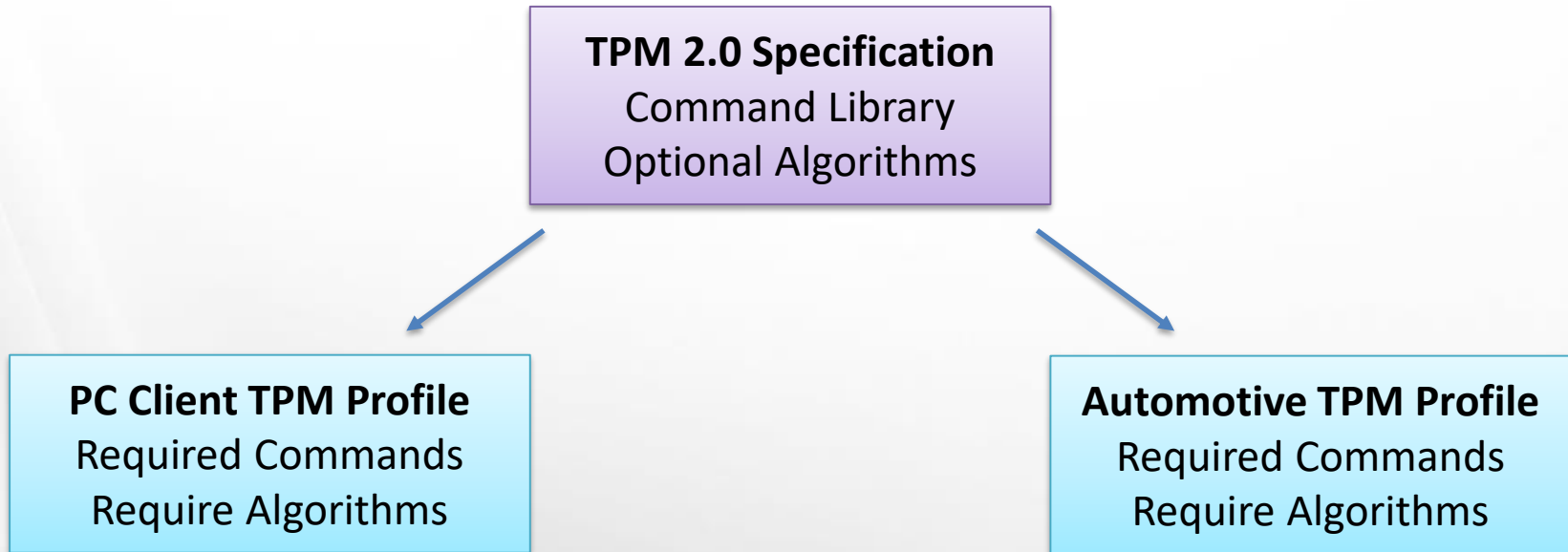
Future Goals:

- Improve software detection using attestation

- Address recovery authorization challenges

Cyber Resilient Technologies Workgroup Scope

TRUSTED® COMPUTING GROUP

Security Focus

- Protection
- Detection
- Reliable Recovery

Context (Abstract)

- Programmable Devices
  - IoT Devices
  - Platform Components
  - Platform sub-Components

Output

- Specifications
- Reference Documents
  - Reference Models
  - End to End Scenarios

- Defining abstract building blocks to help with resilience
- Drawing from existing standards whenever possible

TCG Building Block Example: Relationship to Platform Requirements

TPM 2.0 Specification
Command Library
Optional Algorithms

PC Client TPM Profile
Required Commands
Require Algorithms

Automotive TPM Profile
Required Commands
Require Algorithms

- TCG defines platform independent building blocks
- TCG platform workgroup define requirements in the context of a specific type of platform
- Similar model for cyber resilient building blocks

Resilient
Building Block Deliverables

In Progress:

- Protecting persistent storage except through authorized recovery or update mechanisms

- Failsafe mechanisms for pushing updates to out of date and/or compromised devices

Future:

- Provisioning mechanisms to deploy resiliency policies and obtain updates

- Discovery mechanisms for device resiliency characteristics and manufacturer maintenance updates

- Hardware and software mechanisms to reliably trigger recovery, and protocols, if required

- Mechanisms to recover from vendor, operator, customer or technology failures
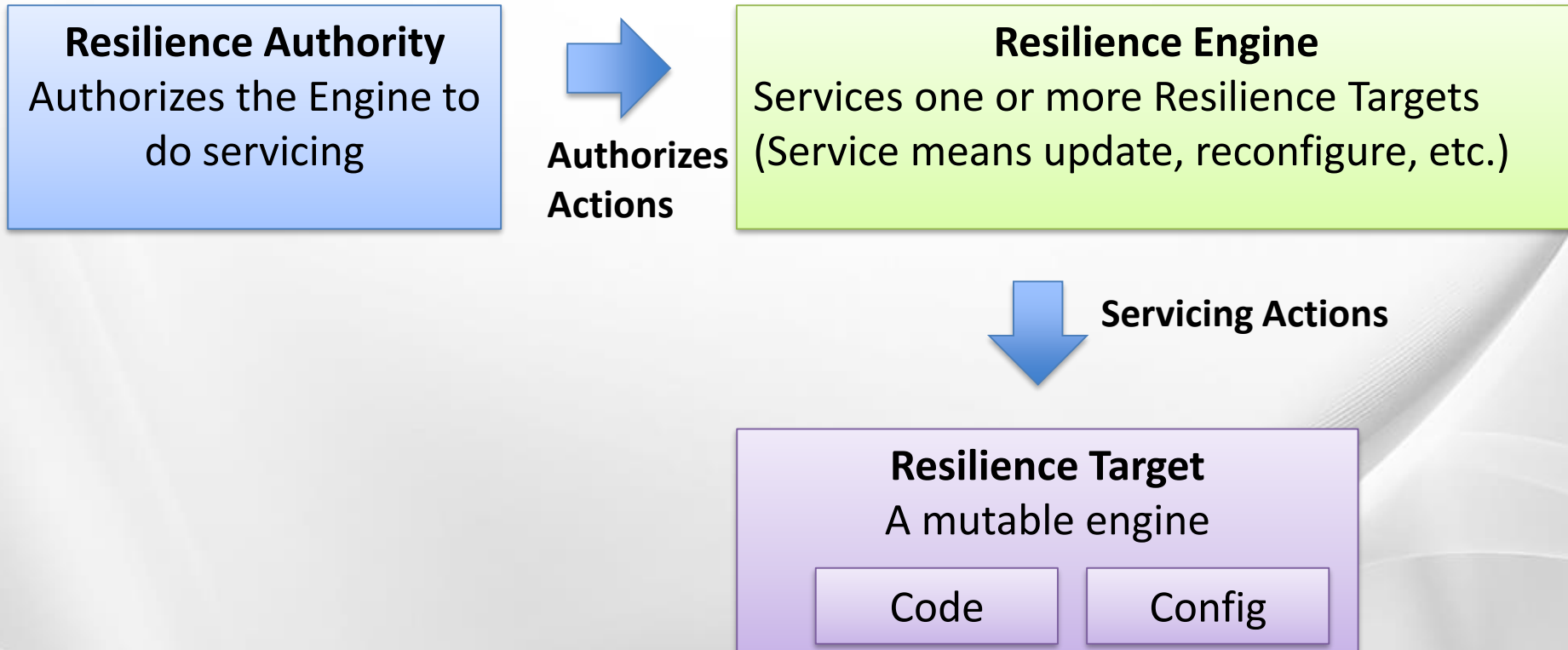
Scenarios Considered

- Microcontroller-based Smart Device
- Network connected Security Camera
- Management of a High-Availability Industrial Controller
- Firmware Management of a sub-component of a computing platform (for example: a Storage Controller in a PC/Server)
- Management of Nodes in Sensor Networks
- Management of Embedded Controller Units (ECU) in Automotive Domain

Focus for each scenario is how they could be better using resilient technologies
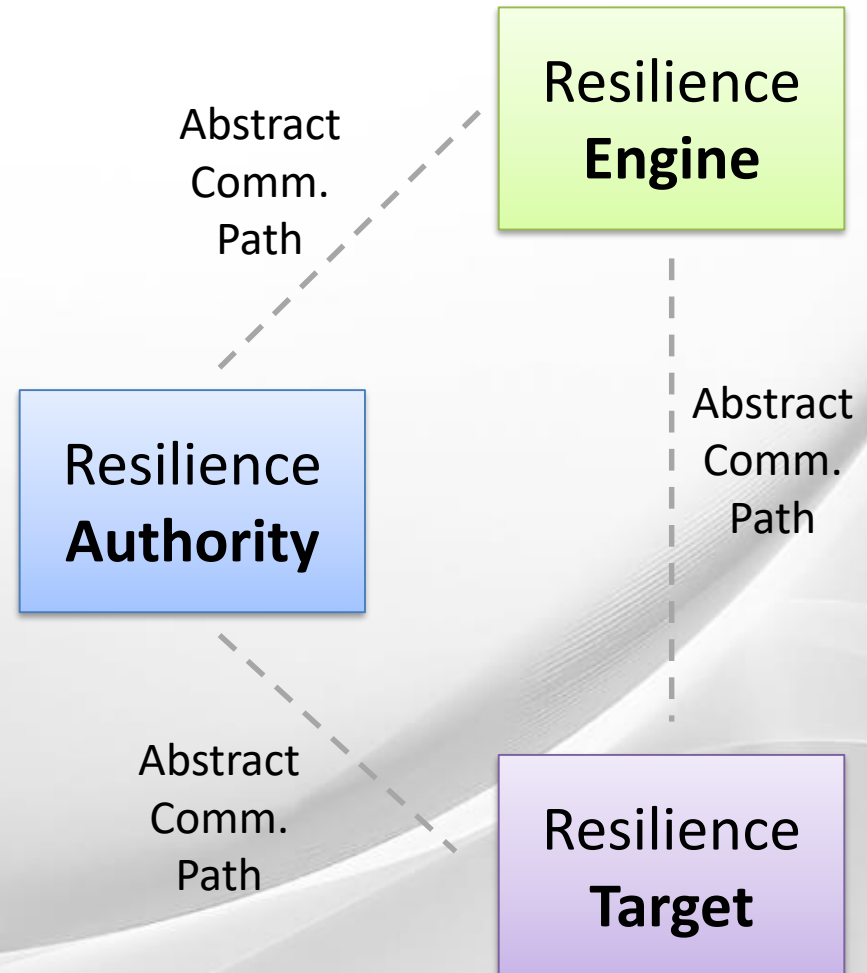
Draft Definitions

- **Resilience Target** - A mutable engine that is serviceable by one or more Resilience Engines.

- **Resilience Engine** - An engine that services one or more local Resilience Targets. A Resilience Engine recognizes one or more Resilience Authorities for servicing instructions.

- **Resilience Authority** - An entity that authorizes a Resilience Engine to perform servicing actions on a Resilience Target.

Definitions Visually

Resilience Authority
Authorizes the Engine to do servicing

Authorizes Actions →

Resilience Engine
Services one or more Resilience Targets
(Service means update, reconfigure, etc.)

↓ **Servicing Actions**

Resilience Target
A mutable engine

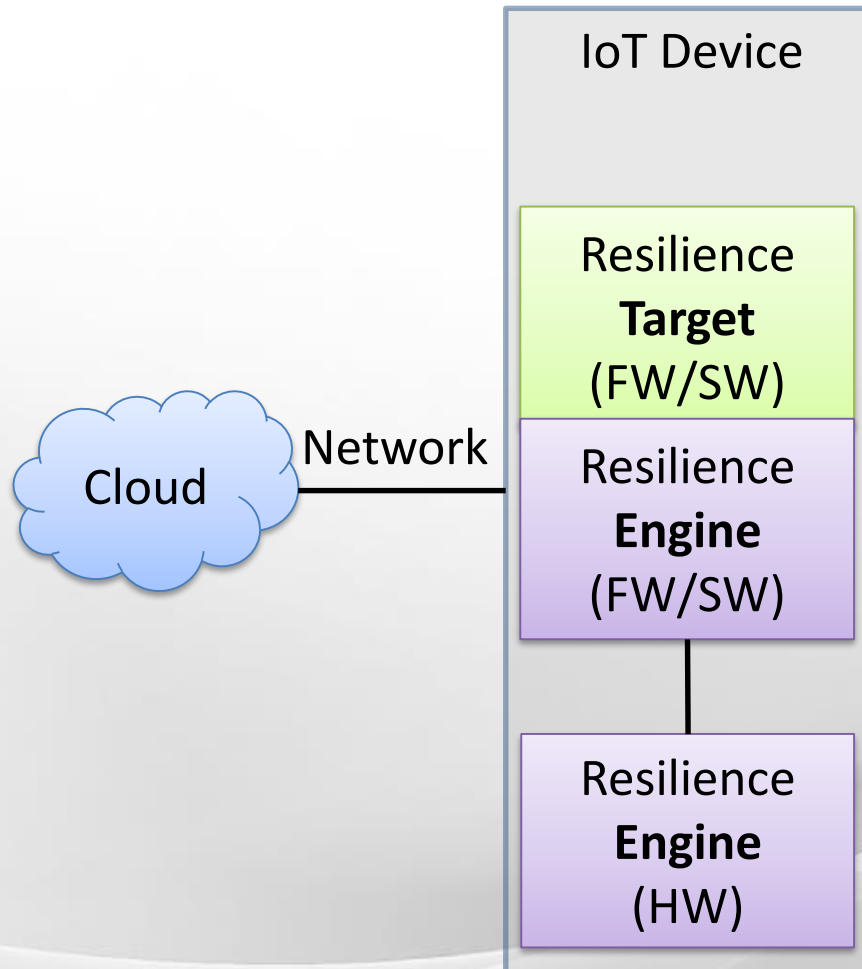| Code	Config

Relationships Between Terms

- Note: The Engine is local to the Target

- Solutions are likely to have communication between all three entities

- Example: The Target attesting its health to the Authority

Resilience **Engine**

Abstract Comm. Path

Abstract Comm. Path

Resilience **Authority**

Abstract Comm. Path

Resilience **Target**

Roots of Trust

- NIST SP 800-193 defined new roots of trust: Update, Detection and Recovery

- With TPM, TCG defined roots of trust for Storage, Measurement and Reporting

- Note: The Resilience Engine definition is separate from the roots of trust for Storage, Reporting and Measurement

- Roots of Trust for Storage, Reporting and Measurement could be optional in some resilient architectures
  - Example: Target is regularly overwritten entirely

IoT Example with a Remote Resilience Authority

Basic Building Blocks

- Secure Execution Environment – "Safe place to stand" for the Resilience Engine
  - Ensures a potentially compromised Resilience Target cannot affect recovery during runtime

- Protection Latches (Write-Lock, Read-Lock)
  - Ensures a potentially compromised Resilience Target cannot affect the persistent storage of the Resilience Engine

- Watchdog Timers
  - Ensures a potentially compromised Resilience Target cannot affect the Resilience Engine from performing the recovery

Watchdog Timer Types

- Conventional Watchdog
  - "I hope malware doesn't cancel me"

- Latchable Watchdog Timer
  - "Once you set me, I will power cycle"

- Authenticated Watchdog Timer
  - "Get someone to vouch that you're healthy and I'll let you keep running for another day"

- Wakeup Watchdog Timer
  - "I promise to wake you up even when malware tells you to sleep forever"

What is Next in the TCG Cyber Resilient Technology Workgroup

- Complete abstract library of cyber resilient building blocks specification

- Work with other TCG workgroups for developing platform specific guidance

Thank you and please consider joining us! ☺

Additional Information

- NIST Special Publication 800-193:

  https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-193/final

- TCG Home Page:

  https://trustedcomputinggroup.org/

- TCG Cyber Resilient Technology workgroup:

  https://trustedcomputinggroup.org/work-groups/cyber-resilient-technologies/

- Microsoft Cyber-Resilient Platform Program:

  http://aka.ms/cyres