

# Information Security Business Unit

## *Community Oversight Panel*

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CISSP, CDPSE, HISP

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# *Agenda*

- 1 Information Security at ST:** Function Overview and Background
- 2 Situational Awareness:** Risks, Current Posture and Recent Attacks
- 3 Ongoing Efforts and Current Focus**
- 4 Panel Q&A**

# About your Presenter

- Sound Transit's Chief Information Security Officer
- BS in Electronic Engineering, specialization in Control Systems
- Master of Engineering and Technology Management, *Summa Cum Laude*
- Over 26 years of experience across industries such as Energy, Consulting, Managed Services, IT and Transit
- Member of the Washington State Technology Services Board Security Subcommittee
- Relevant security designations: C|CISO, CISA, CISM, CRISC, CISSP, CDPSE, HISP

# Information Security: Broader than IT Security



# Function Overview

## Designed for...



Enterprise Oversight



Governance



Assurance Services

## To...



Preserve the Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability of information assets

## With...

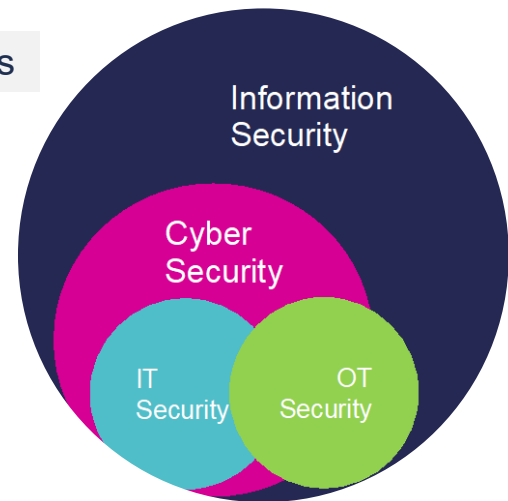


Agency-wide purview and scope

## Based on...



The framework provided by the ISO 27001 international standard for Information Security



*The Information Security function is enabled by **Agency Policy 1100** which establishes its core component – the agency's Information Security Management System (ISMS)*

# Background

Pre  
'16

Cybersecurity not explicitly addressed prior to 2016, leading to significant gaps across the board

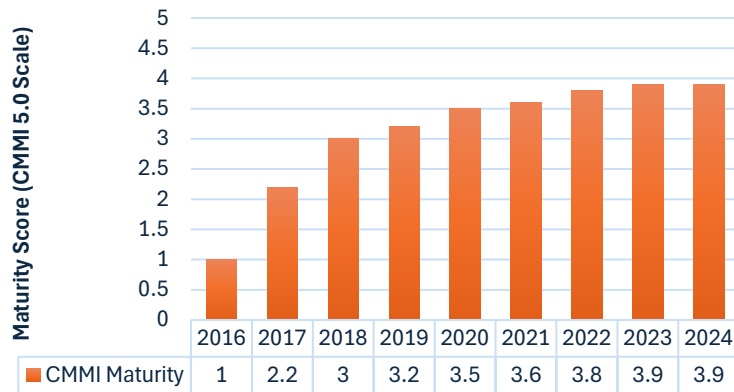
2016

Information Security function formally established under IT, per CIO sponsorship

2024

CEO Sparrman sponsors Cybersecurity Activation Plan to address issues and target “best in class” posture

## ST ISO 27001/2 Information Security Capability Maturity Score



### Achievements

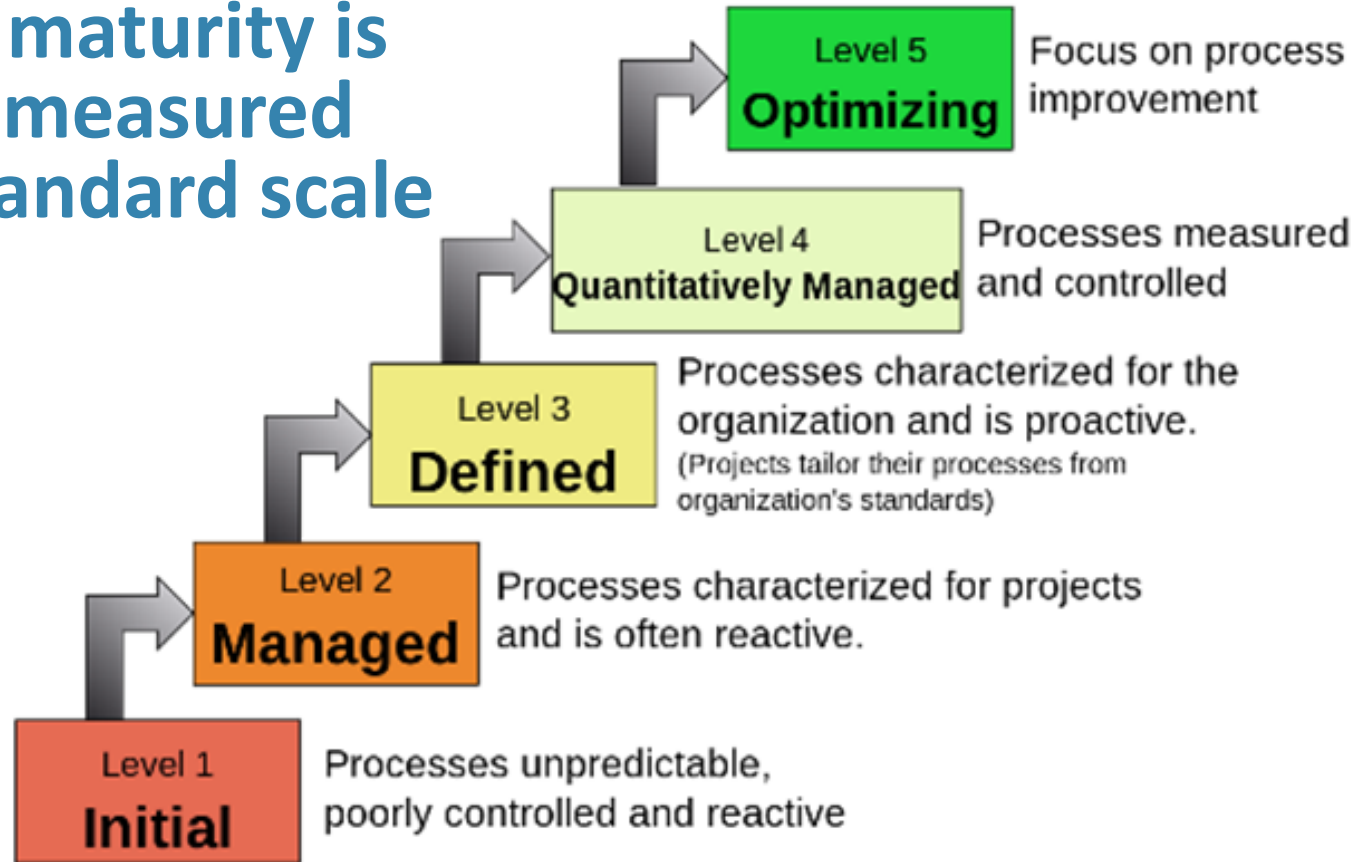
Externally-audited maturity level of the business function of **3.9** (5-point Gartner scale)



### Challenges

Funding, large technical debt, limited resource capacity, evolving threats

# Program maturity is typically measured with a standard scale



# An effective program also encompasses elements from many functions and areas





# InfoSec Program – Main Objectives

**Enable our Mission**



Risk Control

Best in class (Transit)

Comparable to Top Performers

Enterprise Approach

# InfoSec BU Functional Organization



# Situational Awareness

Government is  
actively being  
targeted

Federal  
Regulation is  
looming – DHS  
CISA

Attacks  
consistently  
exploit the  
fundamentals

Financial losses  
resulting from  
attacks are  
increasing

Attackers are  
better resourced

Threat  
landscape  
continuously  
evolves

Geopolitical  
conditions drive  
attack increases

Extortion and  
Ransomware are  
still profitable

Attackers are  
nimble, adopt  
new tech faster

# Challenges

Legacy  
technology  
infrastructure

Generally low  
maturity of  
industry vendors

Limited  
resources

Competing  
priorities

Incompatible  
maintenance  
horizons

Uncertainty in  
regulatory space

# Ongoing Efforts and Current Focus

➤ CEO Constantine maintains Sound Transit focus and executive support of cybersecurity investments for high priority areas, supporting the agency's Information Security Strategic Plan

Enhance  
**prevention &  
detection**

Reduce  
**technical  
debt**

Introduce /  
enhance robust  
cyber **access  
control**  
practices

Address  
**technical  
issues**

Introduce  
mature **data  
protection**  
capabilities

Deploy security  
systems in the  
**cloud**

# Key Success Factors



# Key Enablers for Continued Progress



Continued investment in Information Security space



Recognition of Information Security objectives as a key strategic enabler



Integration of security controls as essential requirements for capital projects

# Panel Q&A



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*Thank you.*



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