Defense and Response Against Insider Threats & User Errors

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Document Markings

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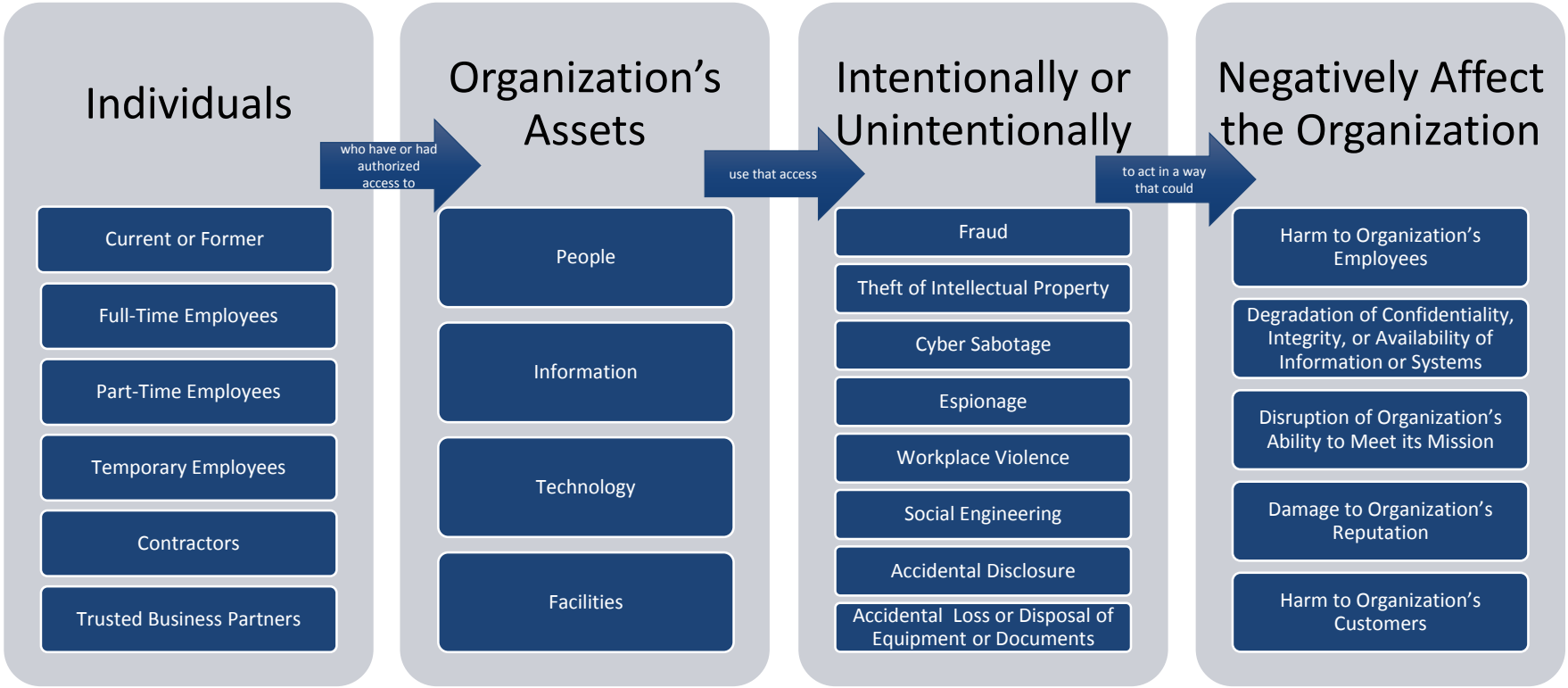
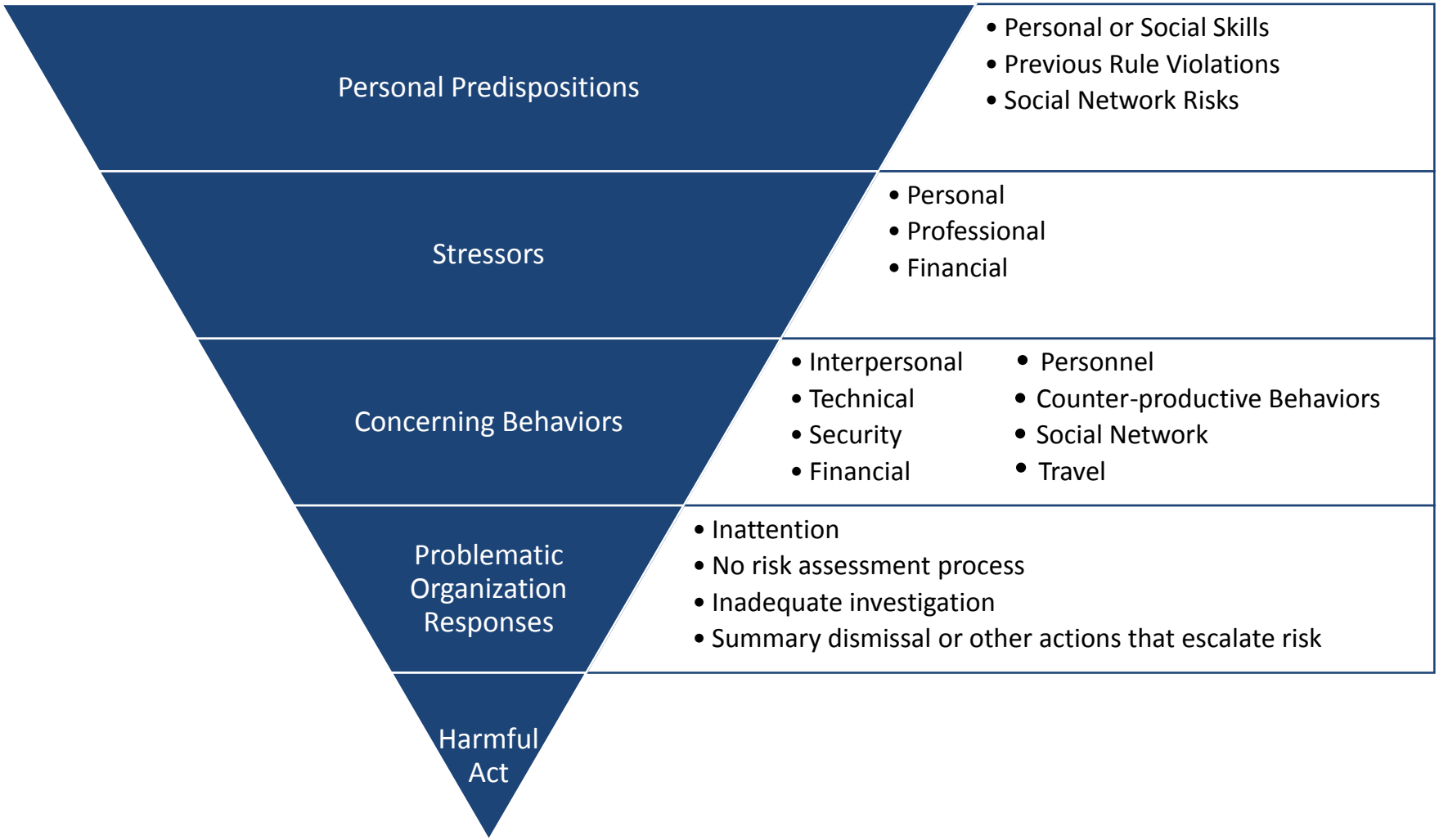
The Insider Threat Defined

The potential for an individual who has or had authorized access to an organization's assets to use their access, either maliciously or unintentionally, to act in a way that could negatively affect the organization.

Scope of the Insider Threat

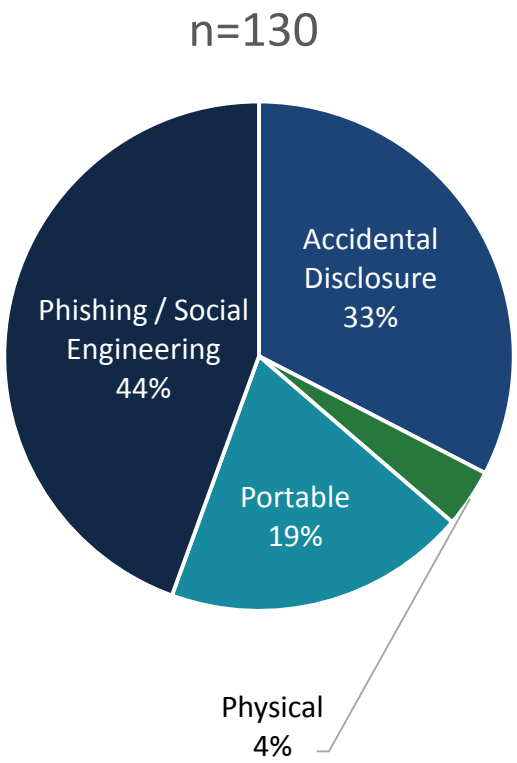


The Critical Path to Insider Risk



Adapted from Shaw, Eric, and Laura Sellers. "Application of the Critical-Path Method to Evaluate Insider Risks." *Studies in Intelligence* 59.2 (Extracts, June 2015)

Unintentional Insider Threats



Accidental Disclosure (e.g., via the internet)

- sensitive information posted publicly on a website, mishandled, or sent to the wrong party via email, fax, or mail

Malicious Code (e.g., hacking, malware/spyware)

- an outsider's electronic entry acquired through social engineering (e.g., phishing email attack, planted or unauthorized USB drive) and carried out via software, such as malware and spyware

Improper/accidental disposal of physical records

- lost, discarded, or stolen non-electronic records, such as paper documents

Portable equipment no longer in possession

- lost, discarded, or stolen data storage device, such as a laptop, PDA, smart phone, portable memory device, CD, hard drive, or data tape

Source: Unintentional Insider Threats: A Foundational Study, Available Online at https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=58744

Contributing Factors to Human Error

Fatigue

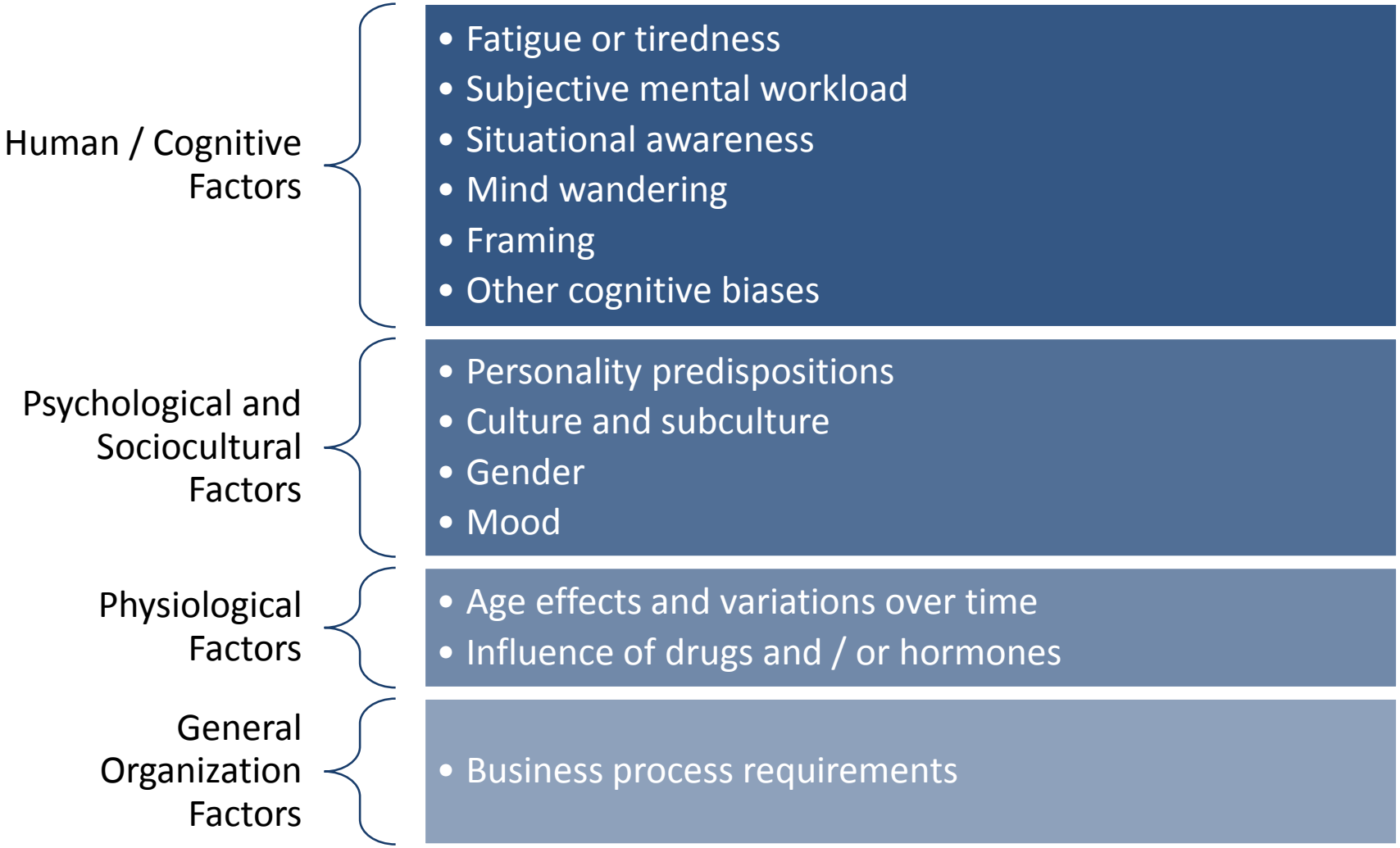
High Subjective Mental Workload

Lack of / Loss of Situational Awareness

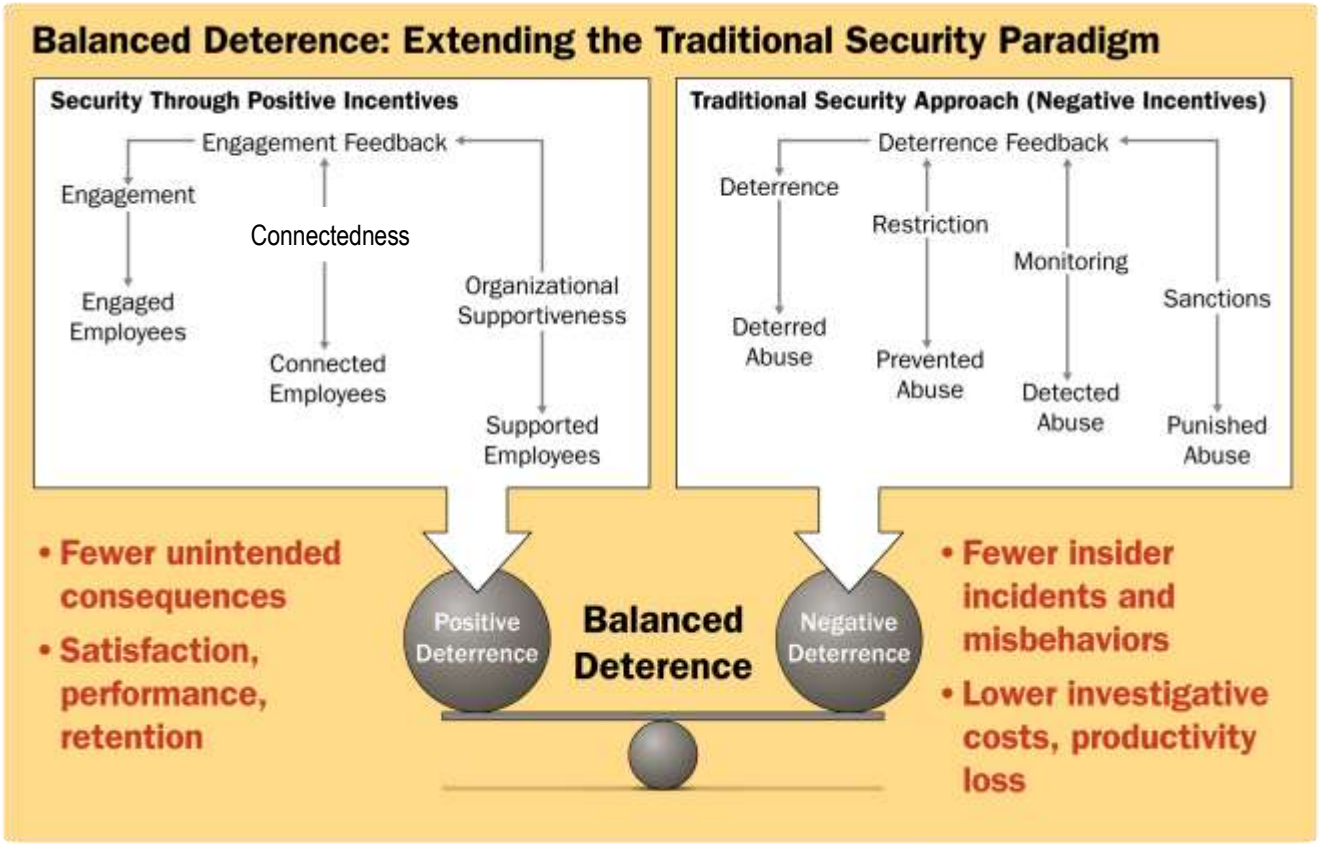
Mind Wandering

Risk Perception and Risky Decision Making

Contributing Factors in Risk Perception



Extending the Traditional Security Paradigm



Source: The Critical Role of Positive Incentives for Reducing Insider Threats, Available Online at https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=484917

Presenter Contact Information

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