Cerebrate

Community management and tool orchestration the open-source way

#FirstCON22 SPEAKER

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Cerebrate Project

FIRSTCON22





- The Computer Incident Response Center Luxembourg (CIRCL)
- CIRCL is the CERT for the private sector, communes and non-governmental entities in Luxembourg
- CIRCL leads the development of the open-source MISP threat intelligence platform
 - As well as running multiple large MISP communities performain active daily threat-intelligence sharing

MELICERTES II: A QUICK RECAP OF THE MORNING SESSION

MeliCERTes

- Common tooling for CSIRTs
- Cerebrate a central component of the new tooling

Takes care of:

- Contact management
- orchestration
- Sharing group distribution and management

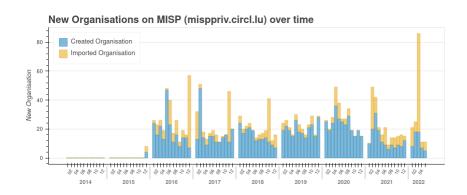
Some stats about one of our MISP instance: MISPPriv (1)

Events	97680 (+794)
Attributes	29378602
	(+678136)
Attributes / event	301
Correlations found	42930929
Proposals active	2753
Users	4171
Users with PGP keys	2812 (67.4%)
Organisations	2048
Local Organisations	1499
Event creator orgs	600
Average Users / Org	2.8

User and Organisation Statistics

User (Total)	4171
User (Month)	44 ^
User (Year)	268 ^
Org Local (Total)	1499
Org Local (Month)	15 ^
Org Local (Year)	70 ^
Org External (Total)	549
Org External (Month)	4 ^
Org External (Year)	102 ^

Some stats about one of our MISP instance: MISPPriv (2)



Rising number of communities is great!

- Bridge the gap between between communities
- Sharing with peers that face **similar threats**
- Reuse of TTPs across sectors
- Hybrid threats How seemingly unrelated things may be interesting to correlate
- Spread the love, as our field is ahead of several other sectors when it comes to information sharing

ISSUES WE'RE TRYING TO SOLVE

However, broader and more diverse communities lead to more issues

- Non-technical issues
 - Sharing difficulties in terms of social interactions (e.g trust)

#FIRSTCON22 greatly helps in that aspect!

- Lots of points of contacts
- Technical issues
 - Centralised identity management
 - Data might change or evolve over time
 - Loads of UUIDs to manually process
 - Distribution list management is difficult across communities

Organisation CIRCL

ID	2
UUID	55f6ea5e-2c60-40e5-964f-47a8950d210f
Local or remote	Local

Constituencies of organisations

- Geographic & sectorial
- But also technical: CIDR blocks & AS Numbers
- Cryptographic key lookup for information signing
 - MISP's protected event feature (New since MISP v2.4.156)

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Hint:

Come to the MISP workshop to learn more!



- Customisable data model adaptable to each community
 - Based on the sheer amount of different types of communities, it's a must
- Sharing group management
- Synchronisation and lookup system

OUR ATTEMPT AT SOLVING THEM: CEREBRATE

Open source community management and orchestration tool



- Central tool for the Melicertes 2 project (Co-funded by the EU as a CEF project - SMART 2018/1024)
- Rich Contact Database
- Tightly coupled management system and companion for MISP (and other tools)

Get in touch with us if you need help building integrations!

Planned as the primary MISP fleet management tool

- Goals: Simplicity, lightweight and open-source
- Technologies used: PHP, cakephp4, BS5, ...
 - (almost) the same as in MISP for easier maintainability and code re-use
- IAM centric design
 - Tightly integrated with Keycloak
- Core functionalities: Auditing, API
 - Any changes should be easily accessible to counter errors or foul plays
 - From our perspective, automation and integration is essential and should be as easy as possible

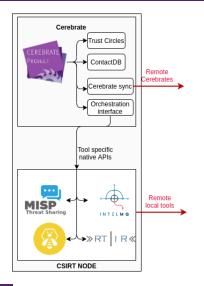
GOALS AND DESIGN

Built with tool integration in mind, acting as a contact database

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Create Sync Config List Servers	Cerebrate vie	ew				CEREBRATE
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Server overlap analysis matrix List Communities	Name	cerebrate.misp-project.org				-70-
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	15 🗙	7d7e167e 924d-4199-8385-6c4t2de2a4cd		R-IT CSIRT		*
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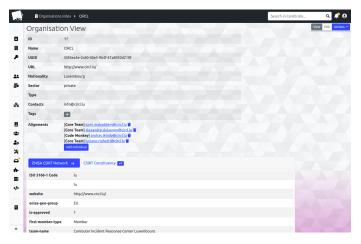
MISP is able to look up Organisations & Sharing Group in Cerebrate

CEREBRATE'S PLACE IN A TYPICAL CSIRT SOFTWARE STACK



CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE

- Contact database for the CSIRT network
 - Common contact fields such as UUID, name, contact email address, nationality, URL, ...



CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE

	Organisations index								Search in Cerebr	ate	۹ 🎝
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Page 1	1 of 1, showing 2 organis			ng on 2							

- Flexible system to store additional information: meta-fields (KV-store)
- These meta-fields are part of a larger structure called meta-templates
- Support of multiple templates used by various entities out there
 - FIRST Directory
 - ENISA CSIRT inventory
 - CSIRT Constituency (CIDR blocks, AS Numbers, ...)

CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: META-FIELDS

FIRST Directory v1	ENISA CSIRT Network 😼 CSIRT Constituency 🗤
team	CIRCL
team-full	CIRCL - Computer Incident Response Center Luxembourg
host	security made in Lëtzebuerg" (SMILE) g.i.e.
establishment	2008-01-05
address	CIRCL - Computer Incident Response Center Luxembourg c/o smile - "security made in Letzebuerg" GIE 16, bd d'Avranches L-1160 Luxembourg"
country	Luxembourg
website	https://www.circl.lu/
email	info@circl.lu
timezone	GMT+1
operating-hours	During legal workdays (Monday to Friday) from 9:00 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 17:00 Central European Time (GMT+0100, GMT+0200 from April to October according to daylight saving periode)
constituency	Government, Private and Public sectors
constituency- description	CIRCL is the CERT for the private sector, communes and non-governmental entities for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.
member-since	May 29, 2014
This meta-template conta	ains 13 meta-fields

CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: META-FIELDS

-24-5	🔁 MetaTem	plates index > FIRST Directory				Search in Cerebrate	۹ 🖨 م
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8	ID	4					
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»	address		text	×		1	

CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: META-FIELDS

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C cerebrate_csirt_constituency.json	new: [lib:metafields] New template CSIRT Constituency		4 month	is ago
C cerebrate_individual_extended.json	chg: [meta_templates:individual_extended] Added support of phone number		7 month	is ago
C csn_individual.json	new: [csn] initial templates		2 year	rs ago
🗅 csn_org.json	new: [csn] initial templates		2 year	rs ago
enisa-csirt-inventory.json	chg: [libraries:meta-template] Bumped version		5 month	is ago
🗅 first.json	new: [libraries] first JSON added to metaFields		2 year	rs ago
t_infrastructure_and_services.json	new: [meta_templates:it_infra_and_services] Added new template for or		7 month	is ago

Cerebrate's contact database: Sharing group management

- Easy way to create and share distribution lists
- Allow sharing groups to be **reusable**
- Circumvent limitations of traditional Threat Intelligence Sharing Platform
 - The exchange of sharing groups on creation / modification rather than on data exchange
 - Avoids the duplication of similar sharing groups

CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: SHARING GROUP MANAGEMENT

-24-	La Sharing	Groups index > Sharing group for	r take-down Search	h in Cerebrate	9 🗘 ۵
_	Sharing	Group view			View Edit Actions *
8	ID	4			
	UUID	fde69f4c-893a-47c4-b2e1-5	180b236c69f		
۶	Name	Sharing group for take-dow			
	Organisation	CIRCL			
**	Releasability	For incident #54912			
5	Description				
	Active	~			
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Cerebrate's contact database: Identity and Signing

- Cerebrate can act as a trusted contact database containing cryptographic keys (PGP, S/MIME)
- Which can be used by other application to sign and validate information
 - See MISP's protected Event feature



CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: IDENTITY AND SIGNING

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۶	Owner	Individual: (7) andras.iklody@circl.lu		
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CEREBRATE'S CONTACT DATABASE: OPEN DIRECTORY

- Cerebrate can be configured to act as an open directory of contact information
- Other tools (including other Cerebrate nodes) can use this directory
- Allows for information and information source validation



Basically the same strategy as the one used in MISP:

- **Connect** with other Cerebrate nodes
- Diagnose connectivity issues
- Remotely browse data of the other node
- Fetch and save organisation, individual, sharing-group data

DATA SHARING

2	器 Broods index				Search in Cerebrate	9 🖨 🍳
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- -	1 cerebrate.misp-project.org	Run Status: OK (99 ms) Remote: Cerebrate v1.4 User: GraphMan (admin) Sync permission: Yes	https://cerebrate.misp-project.org		<u>CIRCL</u>	0 / C i
	2 cerebrate.pilot.melicertes.eu	Run	https://cerebrate.pilot.melicertes.eu		CSIRT.SK	• / 6 1
,	3 Self	Run	http://172.19.0.5:80		CIRCL	• / 2 1
	4 Pilot 2	Run	https://cerebrate.pilot.melicertes.eu/		CIRCL	• / 2 1
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DATA SHARING

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DATA SHARING: SYNCHRONISATION STRATEGIES

Two synchronisation strategies:

- 1. Standard: Only fetch and save new records
- 2. **Trusted upstream source**: Remote Cerebrate acts as an authoritative instance

Search
Actions
101
101
188
100
100

Why would Cerebrate have integration with other tools?

- To support information sharing, being able to validate information sources is crucial
- Traditional information sharing software stacks have to have their own organisation database
- Why re-invent the wheel everytime?



There will inevitably be integration between local tools and Cerebrate. Why not go a step further?

- Cerebrate exposes a modular system to manage these local tools
- Based on a configuration file, user interfaces can be created to visualise data and instruct local tools to perform operations

pr main - cerebrate / src / Lib / default / local_tool	_connectors /	Go to file
mokaddem Merge branch 'develop' of github.com:cereb	rate-project/cerebrate into	× 7ea5acb on 21 Feb 🕄 History
CommonConnectorTools.php		5 months ago
MispConnector.php		4 months ago
SkeletonConnectorExample.php		5 months ago

- **Configure** a MISP instances via server settings
- **Fetch** Organisations & Sharing Groups
- **Diagnose** other connected MISP servers
- Manage users, ...

LOCAL TOOL: MISP CONNECTOR CAPABILITIES

-24	× LocalTools	s index 🔸 iglocska.eu			Search in Cerebrate	۹ 🦨
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Why do one when we can do many?

- Cerebrate can connect to multiple tools via its associated connector
- Allowing local tool fleet management
 - MISP fleet management!

LOCAL TOOL: MISP FLEET MANAGEMENT

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Previous	Next				
Name O	onnector	Version	Description	Connections	Actions
MISP M	ispConnector	0.1	MISP connector, handling diagnostics, organisation and sharing group management of your instance. Synchronisation requests can also be managed through the connector.	Dev instance: Connection issue	•
			synchronisación requests can also de manageo chrough che connector.	jglocska.eu: OK	
				covid-19.iglocska.eu: OK	
Page 1 of 1 Previous		anisation:	out of 1 total, starting on record 1, ending on 1		

- Cerebrate's main goal is to **ease community management**
- Select which local tools are meant to be exposed to the community for requests
- Open dialogues to community members to request tool-to-tool interconnections

LOCAL TOOL INTERCONNECTION VIA CEREBRATE

Cerebrate can leverage its access to local tool to reach out to tools from other Cerebrate nodes

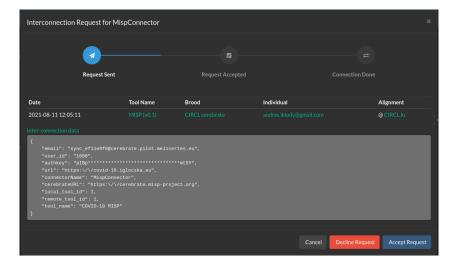
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2	covid-19.iglocska.eu	MispConnector		iglocska.eu: Connected		

- Local tools can be exposed to other Cerebrate nodes
- Inter-connection requests can be issued from one node to another
- Following a 3-way handshake protocol, inter-connections can be:
 - Issued
 - Accepted
 - Finalised

LOCAL TOOL INTERCONNECTION VIA CEREBRATE



MISP INTERCONNECTION VIA CEREBRATE



- Mailing list management
- ACL system
- Inbox system
 - Inter-connection requests, enrolment requests
- Tagging
- Update system
- Audit logs
- Open API

WHAT ELSE DOES CEREBRATE HAVE?

Cerebrate has dark theme and more!





- Data signing / validation
 - Community centric PKI
 - Enable data validation services for tools such as MISP
- Integration with other tools
 - Ticketing systems
 - Tighter Mailing list integration (Mailman)
 - Messaging App (Mattermost)

- Want to integrate your tool with Cerebrate? \rightarrow Get in touch!
- Want to have a live demo?
 - \rightarrow Get in touch!
- Want to suggest features or integrations? That's right → Get in touch!