

# Cyber Trainer & Ranges: A Dual Use Success Story

**Defense and Dual-Use Technologies 2018**  
**Sevilla, Spain , 3 - 4 October 2018**

*FABIO COCURULLO, HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND CTO*  
*LEONARDO, CYBERSECURITY AND ICT LINE OF BUSINESS*



## What is a Cyber Trainer / Range?

*“Interactive, simulated representations of a system, tools, and applications that are connected to a simulated Network level environment and support the execution of cyber attack (“red” team) and defence operations (“blue” team)*

*“Systems can be composed of a combination of Information and Communication Technologies, SCADA – Operational Technologies, Internet of Things Devices, Embedded systems, even if most present instances are limited to ICT*

*Full trace of the sessions is kept and can be subsequently replayed and analysed by “white team”*

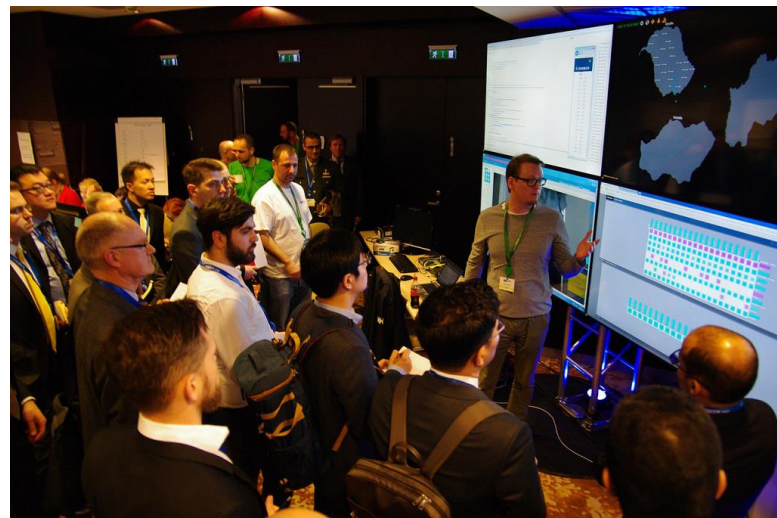


Photo: NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence

## A Functional View

### RED TEAM

«Red Team» impersonate «cyber attackers» trying to compromise the target system

Target Infrastructure: Virtualized with simulated and physical components



### WHITE TEAM



«White Team» prepares the exercise, brief red and blue teams, monitor the execution, score performance, define methodologies and discipline

### BLUE TEAM

«Blue Team» defend the infrastructure, monitoring it, detecting attacks and managing response

## Cyber Range: A Safe, Legal Environment to Conduct Activities

*Performance-based learning and assessment  
prepare for cyber credentialing examinations  
Classroom education, competition.*



Photo: CyberChallenge IT (CINI)

*Analyse and solve complex cyber problems  
Develop and test cyber tools and doctrine to use them*

*Cybersecurity Testing During the Whole Lifecycle  
organizational technical environments trial before deployment*



## ***Current Status – A quintessential Dual Use Technology***

*As implied in the name,, ranges were born in the military world*



Photo: NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence

*But testing for safety or performance is nothing new in engineering as Crash Test Facilities, Wind Tunnels and material climatic Testing*

*Current state of affairs: Cyber Range used by US DoD, NATO; Nations are building national Cyber Range, Commercial solutions covering part of the functional perimeter are being Built; EDA and other organizations are carrying on projects to Federate Ranges Large companies and industry association are experimenting Cyber Ranges*

## ***Cyber Range: Trends***

Cyber Range Exhibit a significant “network effect” and are effective when the platform is complete, with a community of experts with significant knowledge, size and real world experience to keep the simulated environment up to date

Growing importance of vertical Knowledge and sector-specific Cyber Ranges because at the very end, we are all interested in evaluating not the effect on the infrastructure but the effect on the supported application or on the mission capabilities. This may be achieved by federation (of vertical knowledge)

As with other testing and experimentation facility there is a general understanding that complex facilities tend to be shared.

- The recently proposed regulation of the European Union about the network of competence centres in Europe state this network may host testing facilities.
- EDA is carrying out a federation initiatives between different EU CR

## ***Synergies between funding – 1***

- Leonardo is building and improving modules of a its Cyber Range Solution combining
  - Self Investment
  - National Defence Research programs within a consortium, led by Leonardo
  - FESR Project, Funded by Abruzzo (italian Region) 2014-2020, 1.1.1 e 1.1.4 action lines
- Leonardo proposed a Project Outline to an «ESIF Request for Projects» Call by the European Defence Agency (EDA) in 2015.
  - the project proposal included an endorsement letter by Abruzzio Region
- EDA selected the project in Sept. 2015 as strategic and provided free technical assistance for submission to the competent ESIF Man. Authority



The European Defence Agency (EDA) is pleased to inform that your project *CYBER TRAINER*, submitted in response to the «ESIF Request for Projects» (RfP) launched by EDA on 10 February 2015 [Communication N° EDA201502037], was selected to benefit from free technical assistance. As mentioned in the Rules for applicants of the RfP, this support is aimed at developing the complete document portfolio required for the project submission to the competent ESIF Managing Authority (MA).

## Synergies between funding – 2

- Abruzzo Region published a competitive call for proposal including the area of cyber trainer in 4Q16
  - The call included terms and conditions an technical score according to the region smart specialization strategy (presence in the region, investment, participation in other regional initiatives)
  - Leonardo submitted a proposal leading a consortium of local companies in early 2017
  - The proposal was selected for funding in late 2017
  - Project started in 1H2018
- Lesson Learned and possible areas for improvement
  - We did it!
  - Time frame too long considering cybersecurity evolution
  - Double submission (statistically half the probability to win), with the FESR call having to reconcile requisites from different areas
  - Technical Assistance is useful to help companies that do not have a practice in submitting funded proposals

