

# 2019 Curacao Aviation Security Conference

**Dan daCosta**

**SITA Cybersecurity Lead - Americas**



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# Agenda

1. Who is SITA
2. Threat Landscape for Air Transport Industry
3. Top Threats: What are they, and how to defend against them
4. What SITA does to protect itself and it's customers



Who is SITA



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# SITA – An Air Transport Industry Leader

- Dedicated to air transport, 100% owned and driven by the community
- We transform air travel through technology – for airlines, airports and aircraft
- Nearly every passenger trip relies on our technology
- SITA supports almost every airline and airport in the world



**1,000**  
Airports –  
presence

**65+**  
years industry  
experience

**2000+**  
Strong global  
service team

**200**  
Countries and  
territories served

WE CONNECT  
**13,500**  
air transport  
industry sites

**2,800**  
Customers

airlines,  
airports,  
services and  
governments

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# Threat Landscape



# CYBER THREAT LANDSCAPE

## Actors



### HACKTIVISTS

Information disclosure,  
disruption, reputation



### CRIMINALS

Loyalty Programs,  
fraud, ransomware...

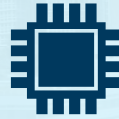


### STATE & COMPANY DESTABILIZATION

Espionage, service  
disruption,  
assets destruction



## Challenges



### TECHNOLOGY

Digital and Smart  
Legacy Systems  
Inventory and Patching  
New cyber weapons



### PEOPLE

Human vector  
Shortage of expertise



### REGULATION

Data Privacy, Aviation  
Industry, Critical  
Infrastructures



## Business Impacts



### COMPLIANCE



### FINANCIAL



### OPERATIONAL



### REPUTATION

# Trends

**Inc.**

REGISTER FOR THE INC. FAST

## The CEO of Delta Air Lines Was Asked What He Worries About Most. His Answer Will Truly Frighten Customers

Never imagine an airline CEO is worried about the things you're worried about.

in f t



By Chris Matyszczyk *Owner, Howard Raucous LLC* [@ChrisMatyszczyk](#)

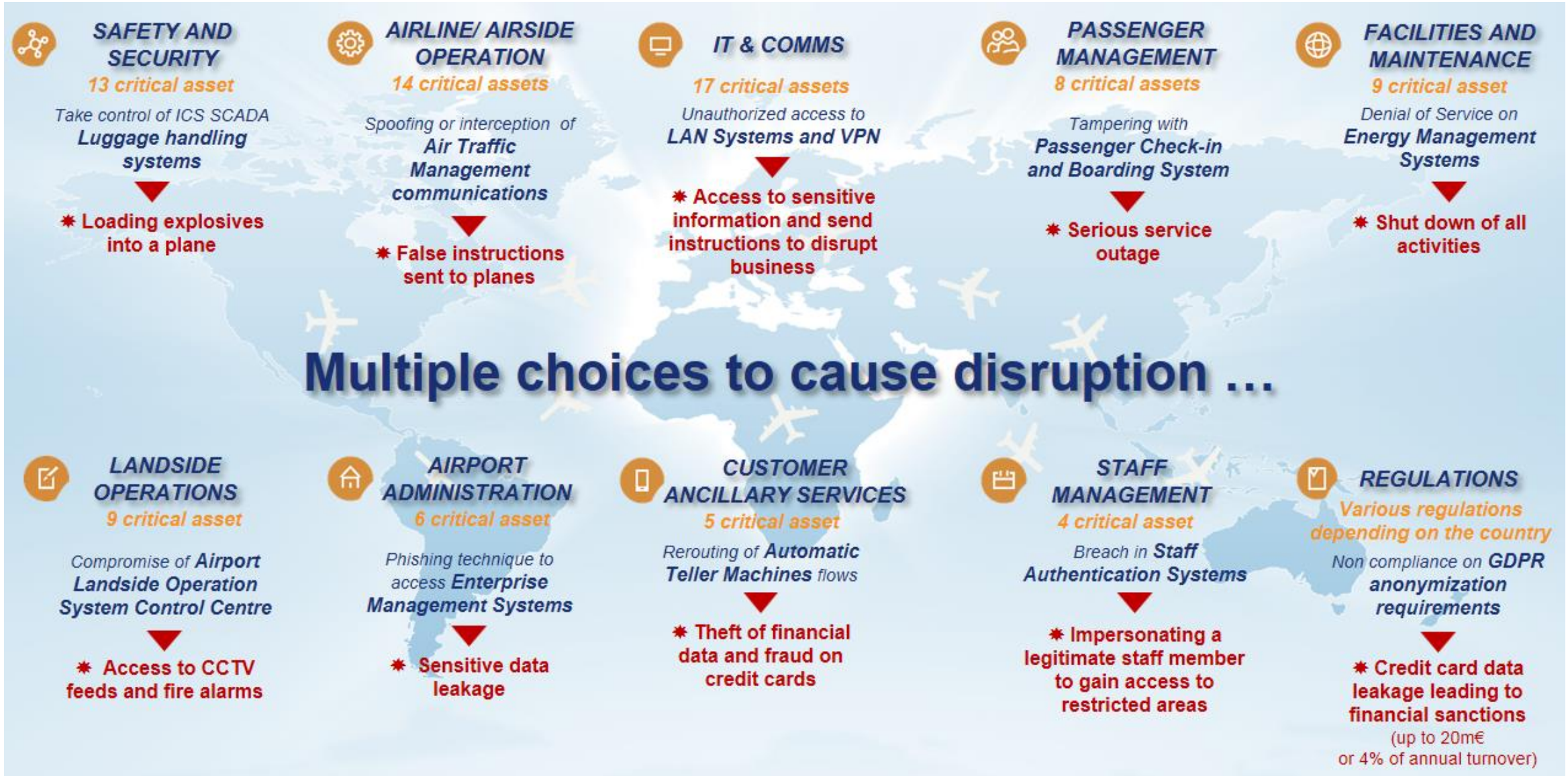
“These days, cybersecurity. And it doesn't keep me awake, but I'd say this would be one of the things that I spend my time more focused on than I care to be... The people that are trying to attack are using technology to cause real harm to our business.”

<https://www.inc.com/chris-matyszczyk/ceo-of-delta-air-lines-has-worries-that-will-make-customers-shudder.html>

# Airports... a complex operating environment



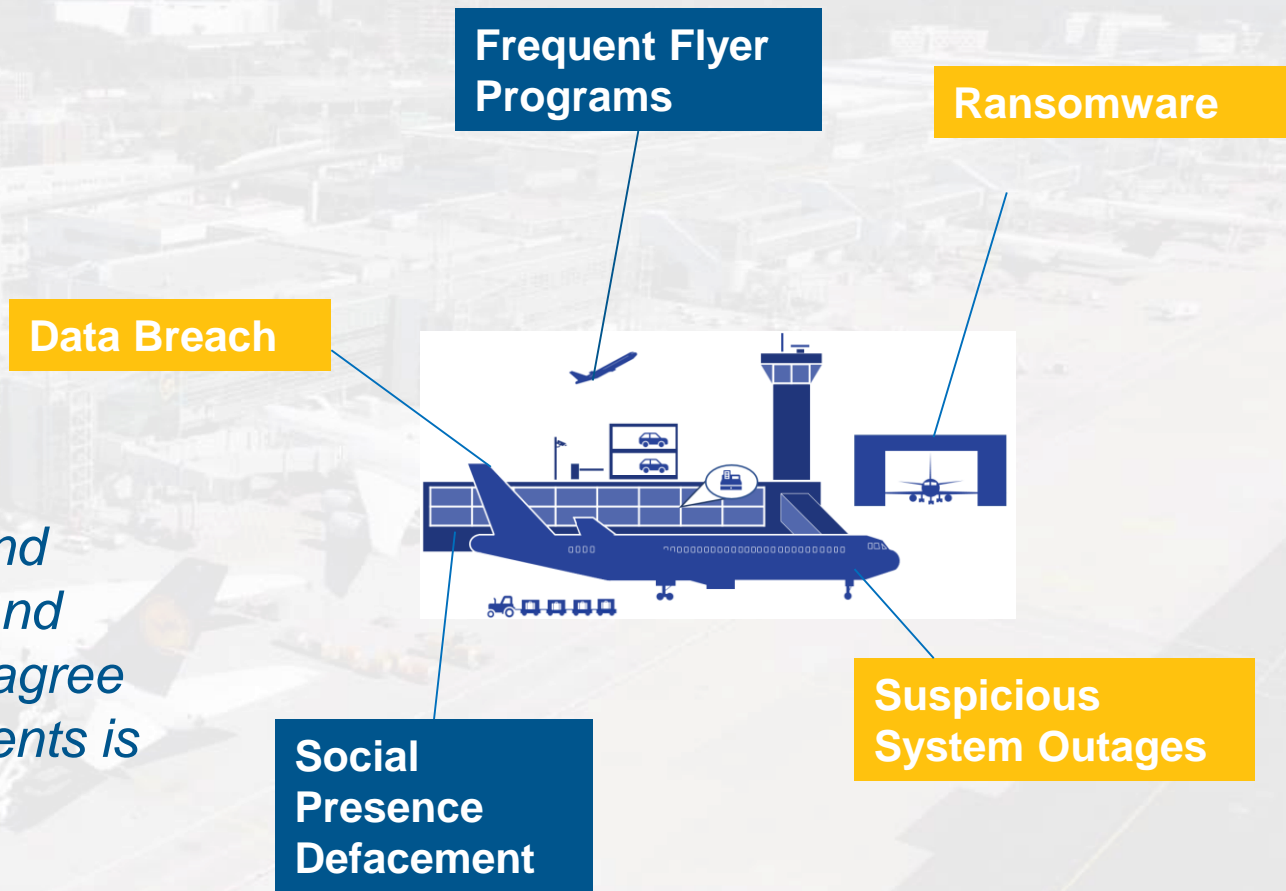
# ...with many systems and processes



# Result: Hackers bombard aviation sector with over 1,000 attacks per month!

*Top of the agenda for CIOs at both airlines and airports, are investments in **cyber security** and cloud services. ... both airlines and airports agree that the number one priority for their investments is cyber security.*

*... 95% of airlines and 96% of airports – plan to invest in major programs or R&D on cyber security initiatives over the next three years. Source SITA*





# Top Threats



# Top airline cyber attack types

(Based on SITA Research of ATI incidents)

1. Phishing, Ransomware
2. Cloud security risks
3. Frequent Flyer, Ticketing Fraud & Scraping via BOTs
4. OT / IoT
5. DDoS
6. Insider threat
7. Supply Chain / 3rd party

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# Phishing: Defining the problem

- Phishing is sending emails to trick recipients into divulging information, opening a file, or clicking on a link. It is called “fishing” due to the similarity of using a bait in an attempt to catch a victim. It is believed nearly 80% of attacks start with phishing.
- Examples:
  - Many, search Internet
- Aviation Business Impact:
  - Data Leakage, Malware Infiltration, Ransomware, PII Customer/Employees Data Breach, Information Leakage, Regulatory Implications/Penalties, Reputational Damage, Spyware
- Likelihood factors
  - The more realistic and personalized the Emails, the more effective they are. [Airline phishing attack has 90% success rate](#), Lack of User Awareness, Lack of phishing email assessment capability, Lack of suspicious email reporting capability.

## Phishing: Reducing the risk

- **People:** Awareness Training, Internal Phishing Campaign tests
- **Technology:** SPAM filters, Threat Intelligence (Proactively combat phishing campaigns), Web filter to block malicious websites, Solution to scan attachments for malware and viruses, Solution to promptly evaluate phishing emails, Mail Systems integrated with an alert generation mechanism for users to immediately report suspected emails, Reverse Engineering expertise, Browser add-ons and extensions can be enabled on browsers that prevent users from clicking on malicious links, Install an Anti-Phishing Toolbar.
- **Process:** Incident Response, Forensics

# Ransomware: Defining the problem

- Ransomware is a type of malicious software from crypto-virology that threatens to publish the victim's data or perpetually block access to it unless a ransom is paid.
- Examples:
  - Many, search Internet
- Aviation Business Impact:
  - Operations & Business Process Disruption, Ransom (Financial loss), PII Customer/Employees Data Breach, Information Leakage, Regulatory Implications/Penalties, Reputational Damage
- Likelihood factors: Lack of...
  - user awareness, anti-malware, phishing prevention, patching mechanism, incidence response capability, threat intelligence, network visibility (who is on your network), SOC, data backup and restoration procedures



**Your personal files are encrypted by CTB-Locker.**

Your documents, photos, databases and other important files have been encrypted with strongest encryption and unique key, generated for this computer.

Private decryption key is stored on a secret Internet server and nobody can decrypt your files until you pay and obtain the private key.

**You only have 96 hours to submit the payment. If you do not send money within provided time, all your files will be permanently crypted and no one will be able to recover them.**

Press 'View' to view the list of files that have been encrypted.

Press 'Next' for the next page.

**WARNING! DO NOT TRY TO GET RID OF THE PROGRAM YOURSELF. ANY ACTION TAKEN WILL RESULT IN DECRYPTION KEY BEING DESTROYED. YOU WILL LOSE YOUR FILES FOREVER. ONLY WAY TO KEEP YOUR FILES IS TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTION.**

[View](#) **95:59:59** [Next >>](#)

# Ransomware: Reducing the risk

- See Phishing recommendations
- **People:** User awareness
- **Technology:** Advance malware protection (Email & Endpoints), Web ransomware protection, Continuous threat intelligence, Network visibility and monitoring, Security Operations Center, Ad-blocking capacities and anti-spam filters
- **Process:** Regular Back-ups and restore rehearsals, Incidence response capability, Ransomware response exercise (Readiness), Patch and configuration management, Network segmentation

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# Cloud Security Risks: Defining the Problem

- Cloud security risks are risks that come from unsanctioned use of insecure cloud services, or use of any cloud service in an inappropriate way.
- Examples:
  - Many, search Internet, Asian Airline using pdf converter that “owns” data, European Airline employee uploads vast information to Open Sharepoint site.
- Aviation Business Impact:
  - Data Leakage, Shadow-IT, Business Disruption (Ransomware or Malware can be distributed from the cloud), Regulatory Non-Compliance
- Likelihood Factors:
  - Lack of knowledge of cloud usage by employees or departments, lack of visibility and control of

# Cloud Security Risks: Reducing the risk

- **People:** Provide users with all the tools they need from trusted sources. Education.
- **Technology:** Cloud Risk Assessments, Cloud Security Solutions, Data Loss Prevention
- **Process:** Govern and apply appropriate policies for managed or unmanaged device access to cloud Apps. Restrict access on a need to know basis. Detect and alert on anomalies of cloud App user logins, excessive downloads/uploads etc. Monitor privileged accounts and prevent unauthorized activity in IaaS instances

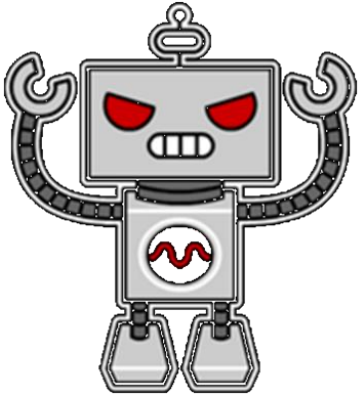
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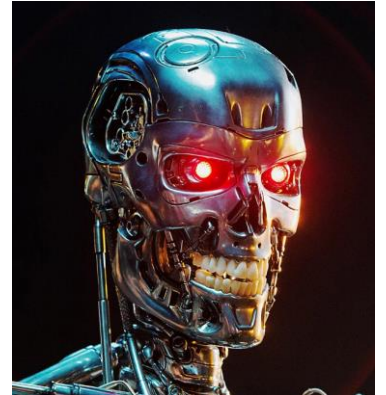
# BOT Attacks: Defining the Problem

- Criminals and BOTs can use credentials (stolen or leaked), to access Airline Loyalty programs to sell FF miles and other perks. Competitors can also do “price scraping” wherein they do many price requests, driving up the “look-to-book” ratios and costing the carrier money.
  - Examples: Many, search Internet
- Aviation Business Impact
  - Loss of data, Loss of revenues, Additional costs, Reputational harm, Operational slowdown and increased costs (e-commerce sites serving BOTS)
- Likelihood factors
  - frequent flyer program (value of points: How many partners, how many places they fly), “hardness” of FF Program-number of methods of payment

# Bad BOT Airline Targets



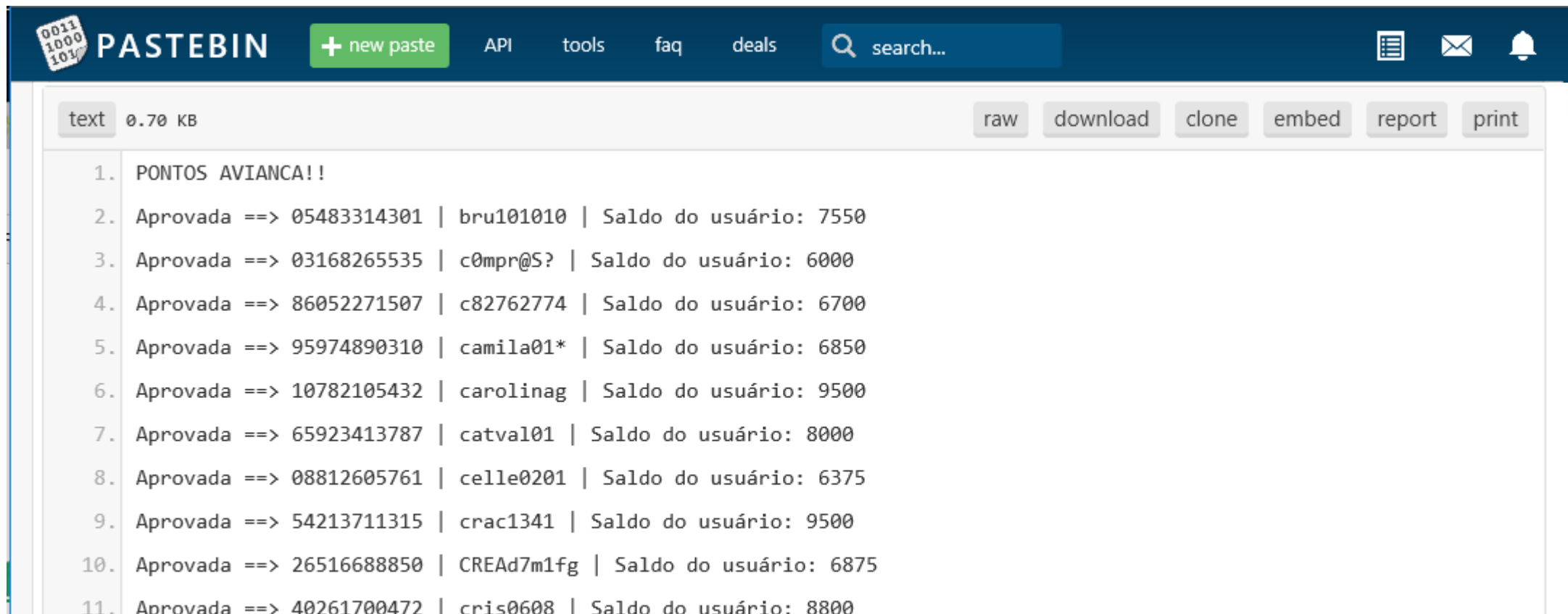
1. Criminals: Use stolen credentials for fraudulently buy tickets and access frequent flyer accounts
2. Online Travel Agents and Competitors: “Scrape” Content and Pricing from Airline Websites



# DEMO! How BAT BOTs work

Spotify: <https://pastebin.com/tji6B3eV>

Spotify: <https://pastebin.com/YBEawMMJ>



The screenshot shows a Pastebin interface with a dark blue header. The header includes the Pastebin logo, a '+ new paste' button, and navigation links for API, tools, faq, and deals. A search bar is also present. Below the header, the main content area shows a list of 11 entries, each starting with 'Aprovada ==>' followed by a flight number, a user ID, and a balance. The entries are numbered 1 through 11. The text is displayed in a monospaced font. At the bottom right of the page, the ITA logo is visible.

PASTEBIN + new paste API tools faq deals search...

text 0.70 KB raw download clone embed report print

1. PONTOS AVIANCA!!
2. Aprovada ==> 05483314301 | bru101010 | Saldo do usuário: 7550
3. Aprovada ==> 03168265535 | c0mpr@S? | Saldo do usuário: 6000
4. Aprovada ==> 86052271507 | c82762774 | Saldo do usuário: 6700
5. Aprovada ==> 95974890310 | camila01\* | Saldo do usuário: 6850
6. Aprovada ==> 10782105432 | carolinag | Saldo do usuário: 9500
7. Aprovada ==> 65923413787 | catval01 | Saldo do usuário: 8000
8. Aprovada ==> 08812605761 | celle0201 | Saldo do usuário: 6375
9. Aprovada ==> 54213711315 | crac1341 | Saldo do usuário: 9500
10. Aprovada ==> 26516688850 | CREA7m1fg | Saldo do usuário: 6875
11. Aprovada ==> 40261700472 | cris0608 | Saldo do usuário: 8800

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# Criminals: How BOTS attack FF programs

- Step 1: Unrelated compromise of login credentials:
- 2.3 Billion Credentials spilled in 2017
  - 15 Months between Spill and announcement

Source: [Shape Security 2018 Credential Spill Report](#)

- Step 2: Program BOT to perform “Credential Stuffing” in Target Airlines FF Programs

- Step 3: Upon Success, convert miles to flights, goods/services, debit cards

## BOT Attacks: Reducing the risk

- **People:** User Training, avoid reusing passwords and make complex passwords. Avoid sharing too much on social media.
- **Technology:** Two-factor authentication (2FA), Use a fraud detection platform / BOT Mitigation Solution
- **Process:** “Normal” PCI compliance, Have an incident management process,

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# IoT / IT/OT convergence defining the problem

- Description:
  - IoT greatly increases the attack surface. IoT devices are very basic and often cannot support clients for verification/authentication.
  - Operational Technology (OT), is continuously being automated and integrated within the IT environment. This makes for an attractive target for disruption-motivated hackers and makes OT accessible from the IT infrastructure.
- Examples: [European Airport Baggage System hijacked by hackers](#), [Asian A/P FIDs screen overwritten with insults to local politicians](#),
- Aviation Business Impact: Operational disruption
- Likelihood factors: Attack surface, cyber controls

## IoT / IT/OT convergence Reducing the risk

- **People:** Automate/verify IT configurations
- **Technology:** Network Access Control
- **Process:** Network segmentation, asset discovery/classification/management-authentication- up to date device security patching. Automated security responses

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# DDoS Defining the Problem



- A denial-of-service (DoS) attack is an attempt to make a machine or network resource unavailable to its intended users, such as to temporarily or indefinitely interrupt or suspend services of a host connected to the Internet. A distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) is where the attack source is more than one, often thousands of, unique IP addresses.
- Examples:
  - Many, search Internet
- Aviation Business Impact
  - Flight departure delays, Disruption of operations, Revenue, Lost Sales, Reputation
- Likelihood factors
  - Public visibility, Public facing IPs, Limited bandwidth capacity

## DDoS Reducing the risk



- **People:** N/A
- **Technology:** DDoS protection solution
- **Process:** Separate networks/subnets. Public/Private Internet Access, Perimeter Security Configurations

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# Insider threat Defining the Problem



- Insider threat can be intentional or accidental. People are often the weakest link, or the biggest threat. Weakest link because they may not be aware of the risks, may click on links they should not or open attachments they shouldn't. They may make mistakes in configuring Firewalls, or leaving their PCs unlocked. Also, employees may have access to key information and systems and, given the right motivation, may use that access to ill-effect.
- Examples
  - Edward Snowden, See Examples of [Phishing](#), and [Ransomware](#), which can start with an [unwitting employee](#). [PenAir](#) is an example of purposeful cyber attack by employee. Mistakes by IT and Cyber employees can be responsible for many breaches/attacks but often are not divulged as such.
- Aviation Business Impact:
  - Loss of data, operational disruption, reputational, revenue loss, IP Loss, PAX safety, "spying." According to Ponemon Institute 2018 Global Study on Cost of Insider Threats, total average cost per incident is \$8.76 million, and it takes 2 months to resolve.
- Likelihood factors:
  - employee awareness, hostility / disgruntled / satisfaction, behavior monitoring/analysis, lack of DLP / Access Control, "political" nature of entity, global exposure

## Insider threat: Reducing the risk



- **People:**
  - For general employees, see [Phishing](#) and [Ransomware](#) advice. End Users training, User behavior analytics
  - For IT Staff, Related Policies and Process
- **Technology:** Data Loss Prevention, Cloud Access Security Broker (CASB), Security Information and Event Management (SIEM), Account management.
- **Process:** Limit information on a need-to-know basis. Do not share passwords/logins. Exiting employees should have credentials immediately revoked.

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## Supply Chain / 3rd Party

- Description: Risks that 3<sup>rd</sup> parties that provide services will not secure the data or systems access that they must be given.
- Examples: [Australian Airport ID card Provider](#), [Target \(HVAC\)](#), Many, search Internet
- Aviation Business Impact: Many
- Likelihood factors: Number of third parties, what they have access to, partner security controls.

## Questions you should ask your partners

- Do you have a security strategy?
- What is your Level of preparation with regards to new regulation (Data protection, regulations, critical infra...)?
- Have you identified all threat vectors and potential risks?
- Do you have an incident response plan? Is it tested?
- If so, has it proven effective when facing cyber attacks?
- .....

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# What SITA Does



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# SITA Cyber Security

## Aviation Cyber Security Challenges

**Lack of understanding of business impact**

**Limited knowledge of ATl among cyber providers**

**Large cyber risk and low budget**



SITA  
Proposition

Cyber Security Expertise



Deep Aviation Knowledge



A set of solutions specifically designed to address the needs of the air transport industry

### SITA PORTFOLIO



#### Consulting Services

*360° Airline Cyber Risk assessment  
Maturity assessment  
Incident response*

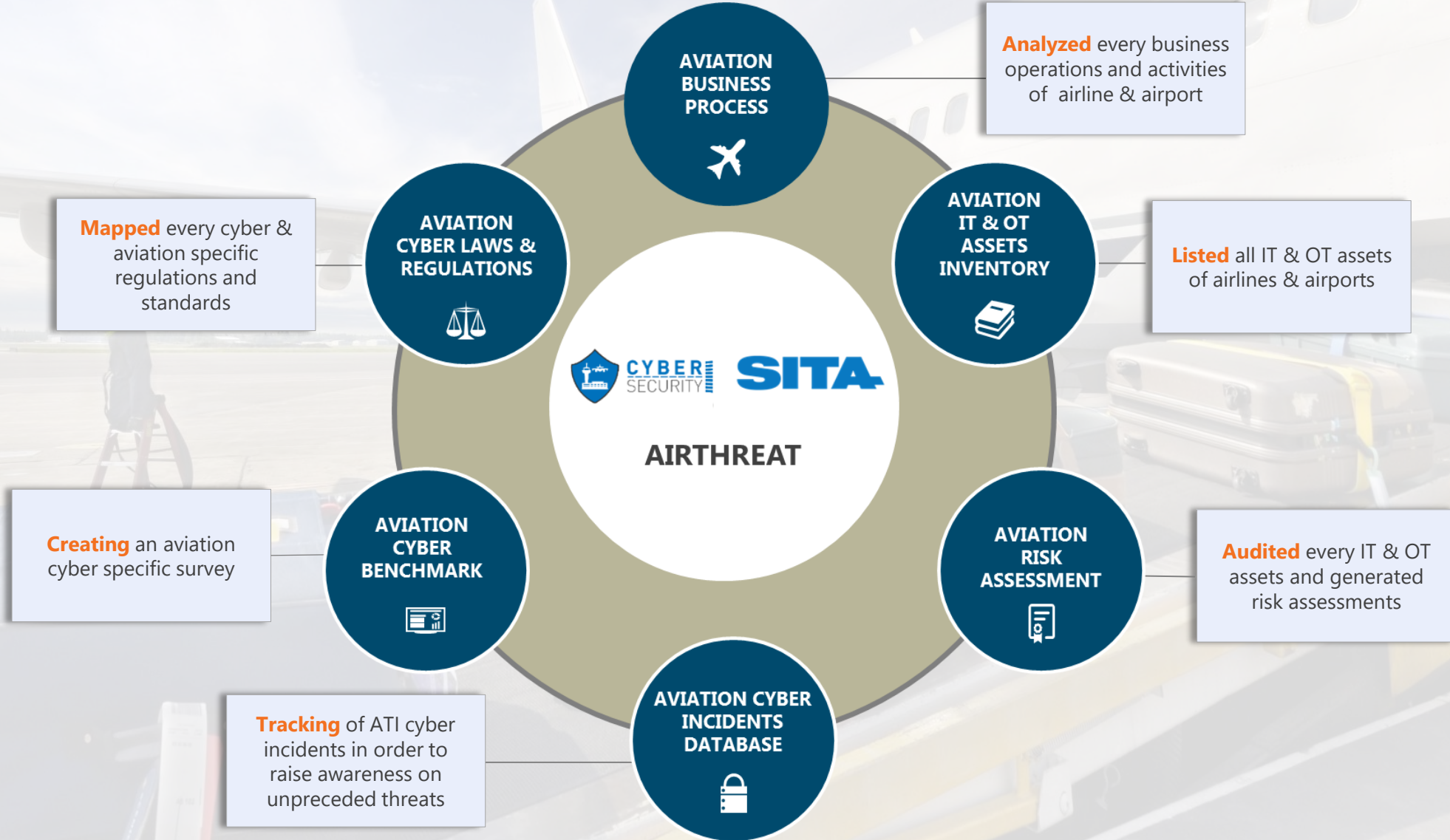
#### Managed Services

SECURITY OPERATIONS  
CENTER  
*Aviation SOC & SOC advisory*

MANAGED SECURITY  
APPLIANCES  
*Infra and Cloud Security*

# SITA UNIQUE AIRPORT TOOLS AND METHODOLOGY

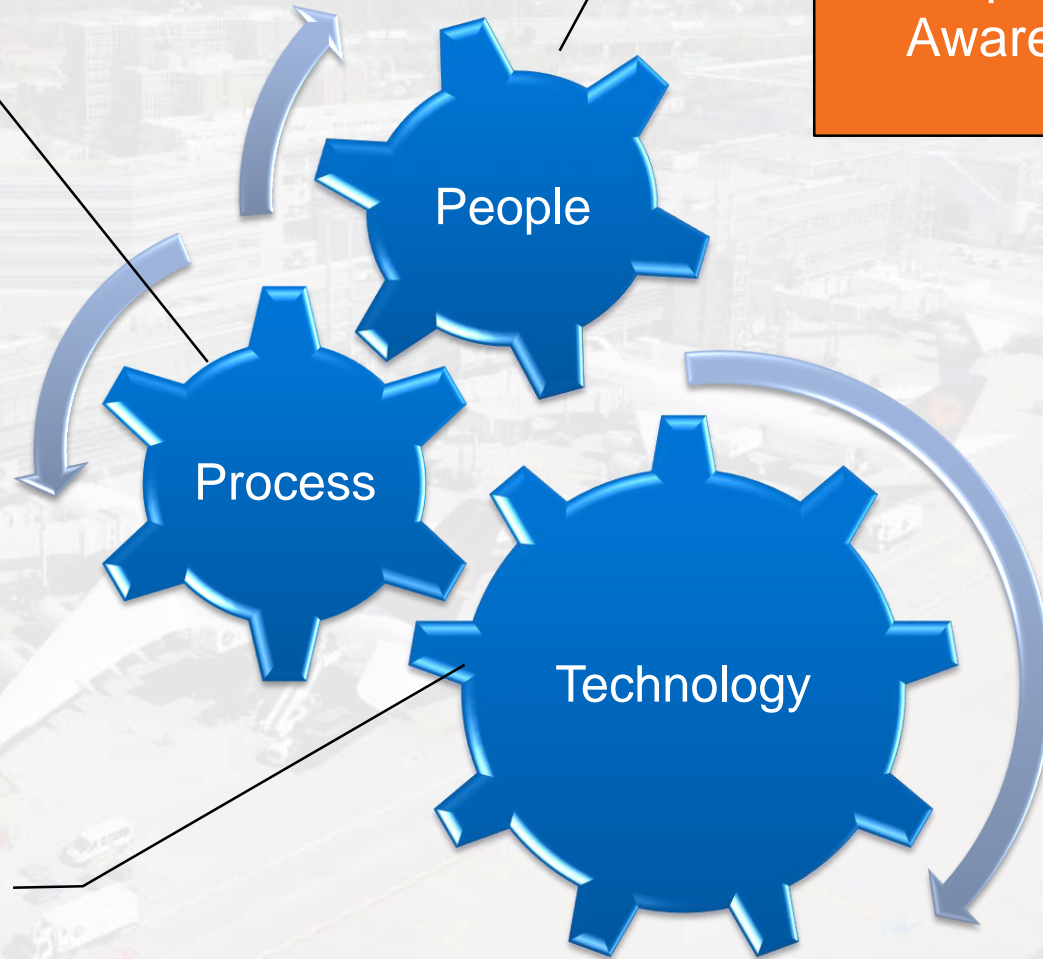
We concentrated **70 years** of business expertise into one single Aviation specific cyber security **toolkit**.



- ISO-27001
- Network Design
- SW Development
- 2FA for Outlook
- Periodic testing/reviews
- Incident Response

- CISO Office
- Executive Management
- Employee Training and Awareness

- Physical Security
- Perimeter Security
- Defense in Depth
- PC Security
- Web Security
- Security Operations Center (SOC)
- ATI Threat Feed



# Creating Community Value

## SITA COMMUNITY CYBER THREAT CENTER

**SITA**  
Create success. Together

Industry  
Collaboration

Foster increased **collaboration** for:

- collective defense to facilitate industry responses and mitigation of risks disruption to business

Cyber Threat  
Intel.

Support sharing of **actionable security info.** on emerging threats, vulnerabilities and techniques to:

- support their security management and risk mitigation activities



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# SITA Community Cyber Threat Center (CCTC)

- Cyber Threat Intelligence tailored for the ATI
- SITA Manages the platform
- Members may share information either anonymously or attributed to the organization
- Consolidates ATI-focused information and includes:
  1. Threat Intelligence Information and Advisories
  2. Customized Intelligence Alerts
  3. SITA weekly news and Cyber Threat Digest
  4. Invitations to calls/meetings/conferences on the subject

# AVIATION CYBER SECURITY RECOMMENDED FRAMEWORK

## Aviation Framework

### Identify aviation cyber risks

Develop the institutional understanding to manage cybersecurity risk to systems, assets, data, and capabilities

### React for business safeguard

Mitigate potential business impacts of an incident or eventually a crisis.



### Protect Aviation critical assets

Risk mitigation controls and safeguard tailored to the Air Transport context and constraints.

### Detect Industry specific attacks

Tailored detection solutions and scenario to the aviation sector.

# Aviation cyber security : good practices observed



- 1 Raise awareness with company board
- 2 Risk-based, top-down approach
- 3 Perform **cyber maturity assessments**
- 4 Prepare for real attacks to lower impact and cost
- 5 Update Processes, Tools, train people, measure
- 6 Perform distributed cyber risk assessments of suppliers
- 7 Adopt **industry cybersecurity** and data protection standards
- 8 Engage with peers, share and receive cyber intelligence



# Final Word

## Address CYBER risks as a community...

- Share threat intelligence
- Collaborate on initiatives
- Raise public awareness
- Partner with public sector and authorities

