

TRIANGLE INFOSEC CON 2026 • LEADERSHIP TRACK

When Everything Depends on Everything

What breaks when security fails in cascades, not silos.

Mike Faas • Fractional CTO/CISO



“Are we secure?”



*“I can describe each square.
I can’t tell you what happens
when one of them fails.”*

Eight grades.
Zero lines between them.

**We score security like it's
complicated.
It isn't.**

Security doesn't fail in silos. It fails in cascades.

Three failures · the math · a graph · Monday

CIS • NIST • ISO • PCI • SOC 2

Decompose. Score each part. Add it up.

Eight domains. Eight dashboards. Eight budgets. Zero connections.

Identity

Devices

Email

Backup

Network

Data protection

Vendor risk

Incident readiness

A cascade is a dependency.



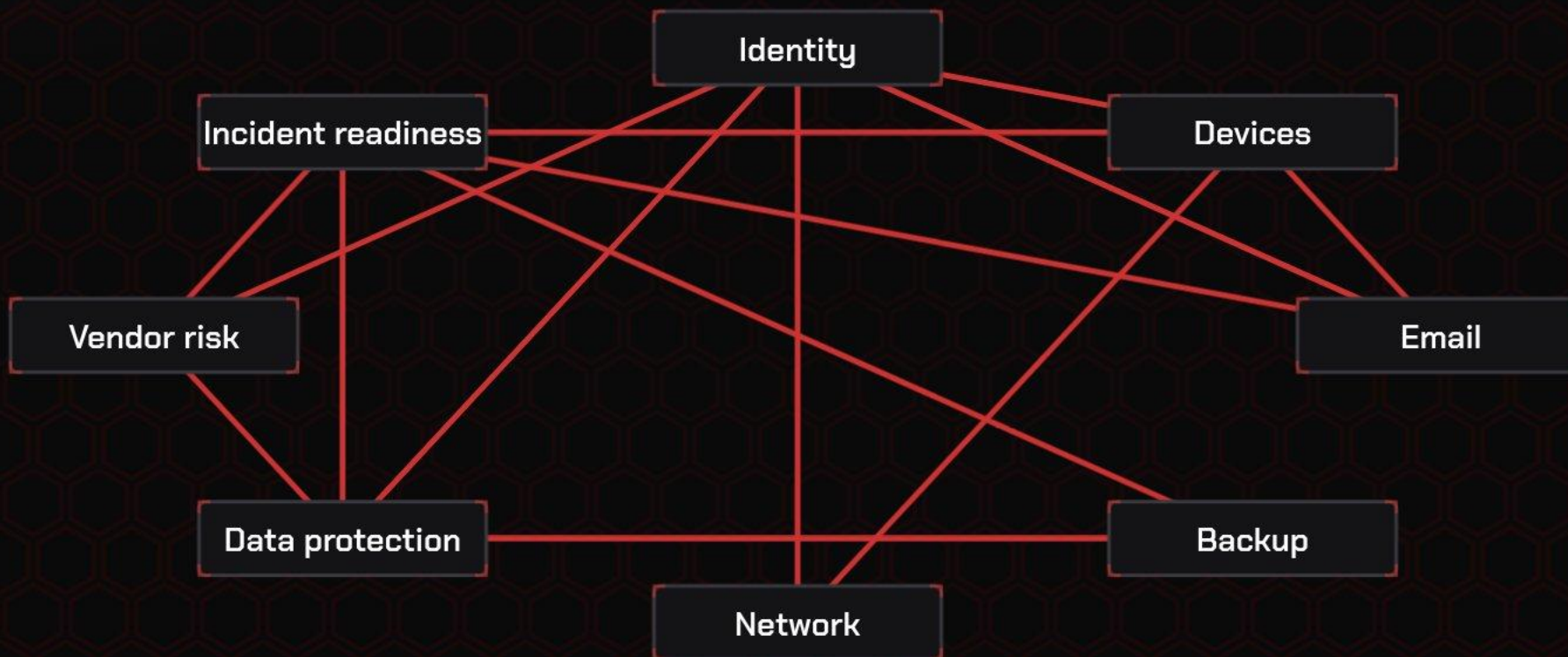
Square B needs square A to work.

A cascade is a dependency.

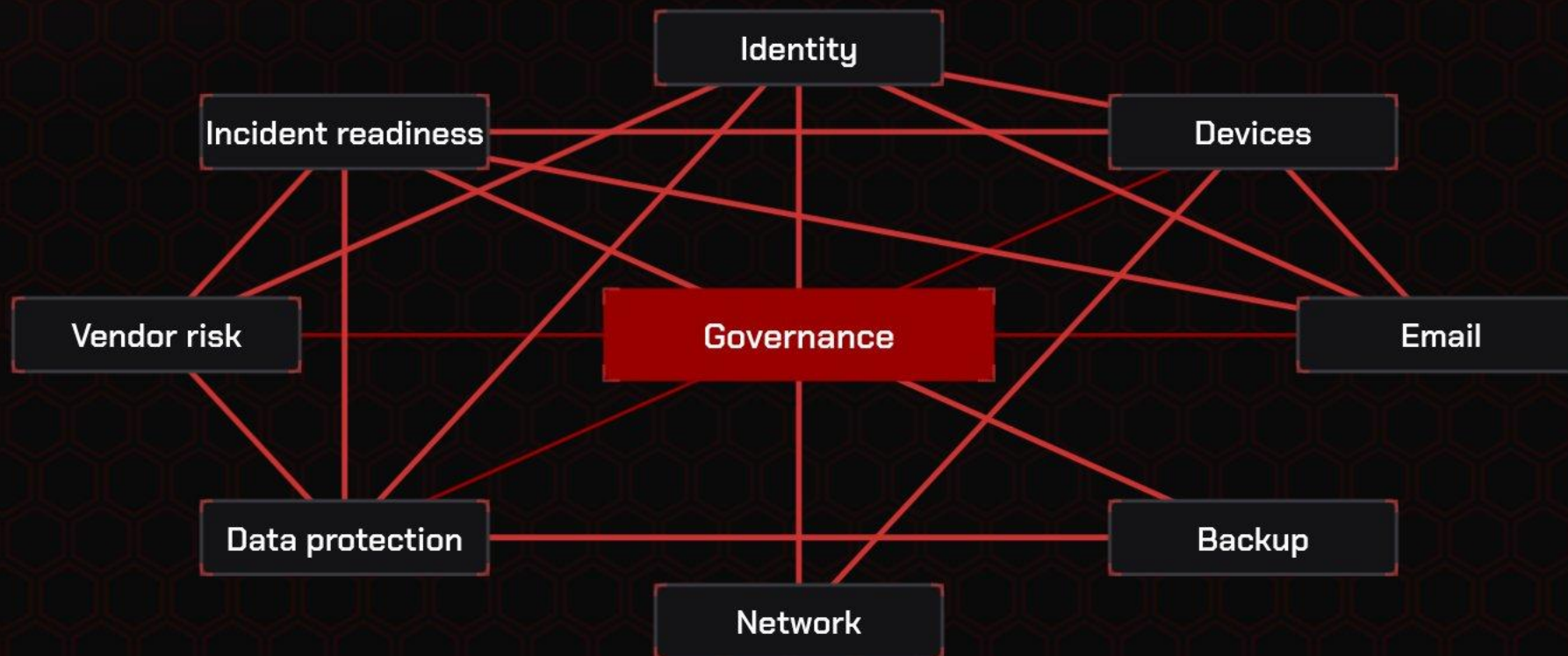


When A fails, B fails for A's reason.

Pull one node. The web moves.



Governance



It isn't one of eight. It's what the eight are standing on.

Security doesn't fail in silos. It fails in cascades.

Take that sentence and go argue with it.

You're not failing.
The model you were handed is.

Anodot

Snowflake / BigQuery

Vimeo

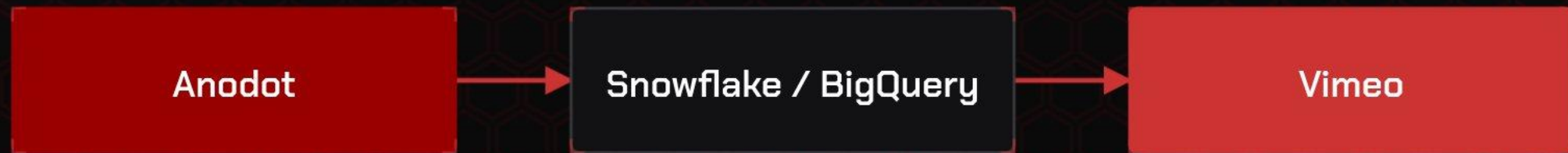
April 28, 2026

Anodot

Snowflake / BigQuery

Vimeo

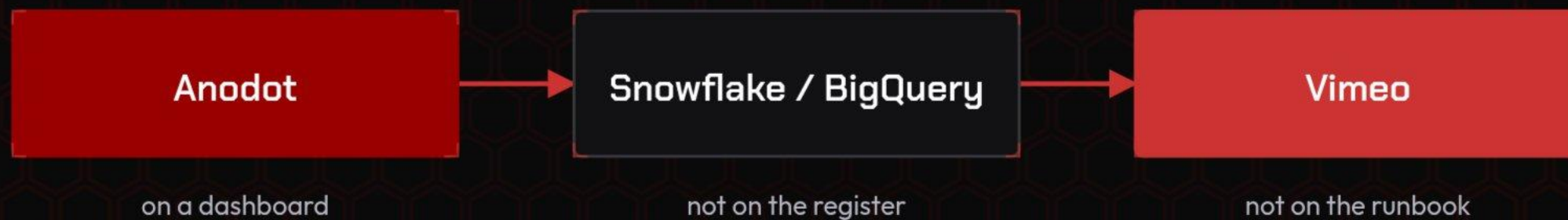
Nobody broke into Vimeo.

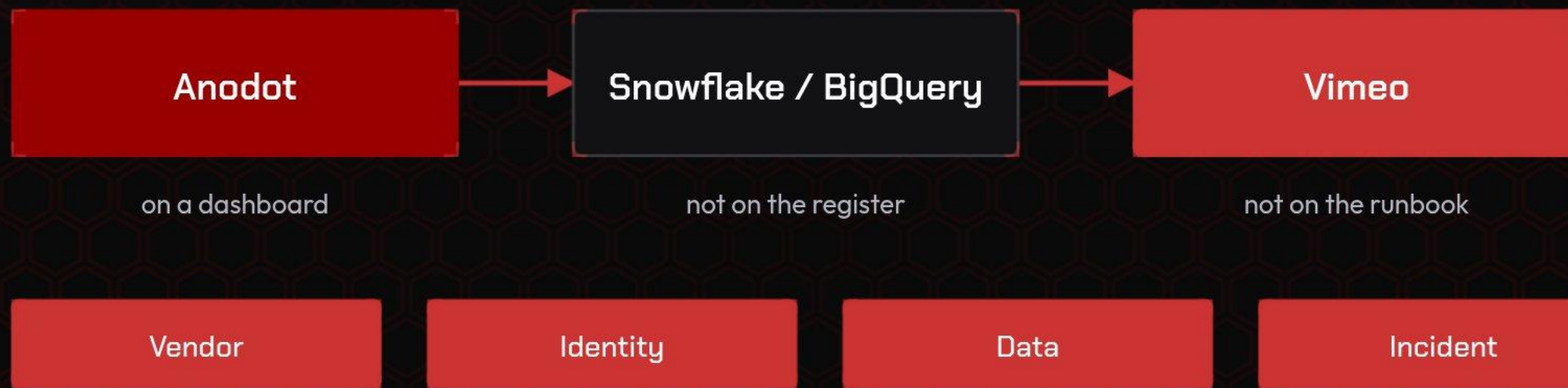


They logged in. As Anodot.

~119,000 people.
Email addresses and metadata.

No passwords. No cards. No video.





One integration. Four squares.

MOVEit. Snowflake, 2024. Cleo.

Same shape.
Different logos.



IDENTITY B	DEVICES B	EMAIL C	BACKUP B
NETWORK B	DATA PROTECTION A	VENDOR RISK B	INCIDENT READINESS B

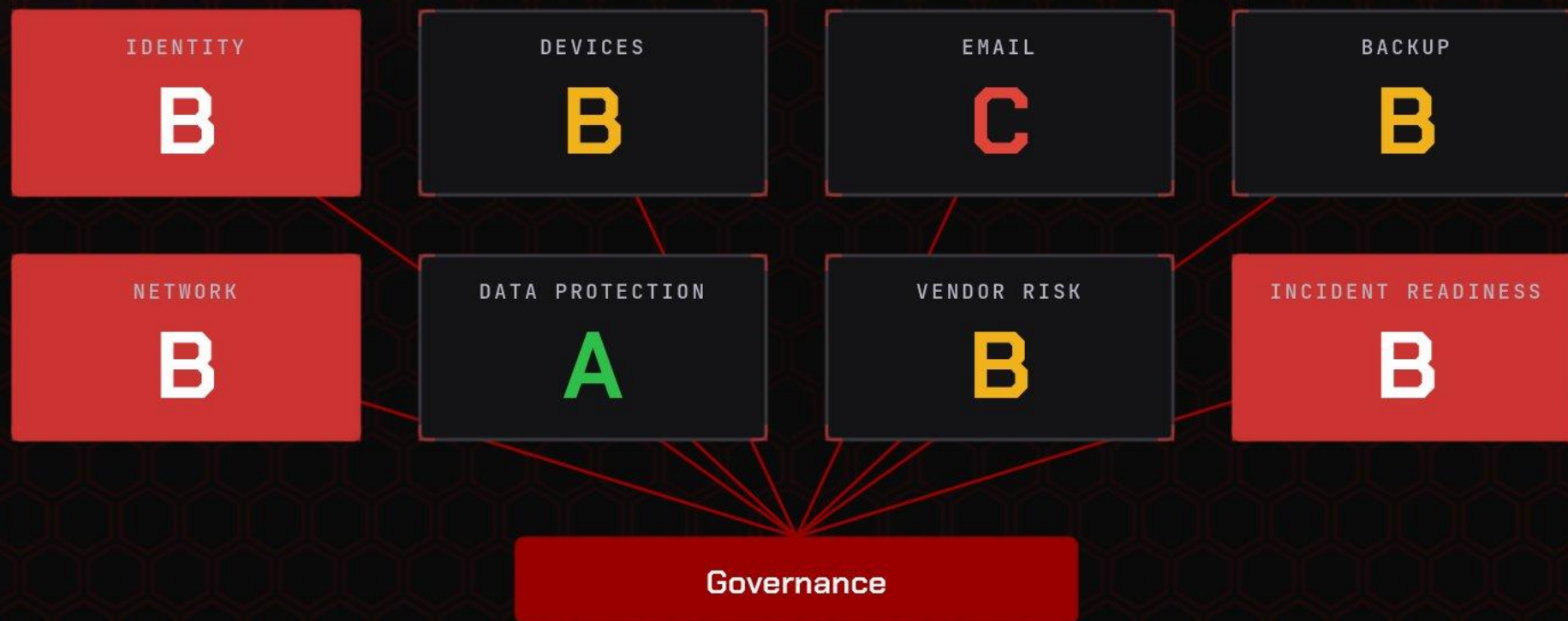
Governance: **B**. Not “weak.” Absent.



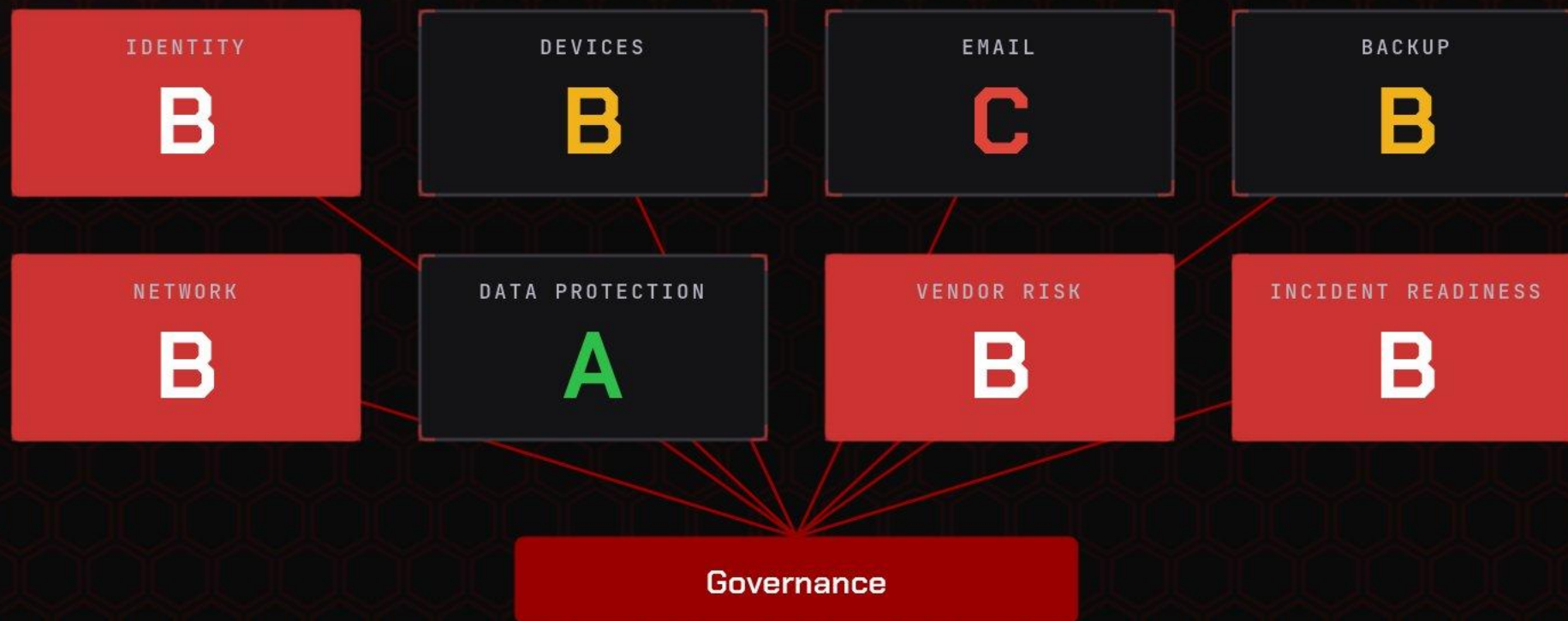
→ Audit finding



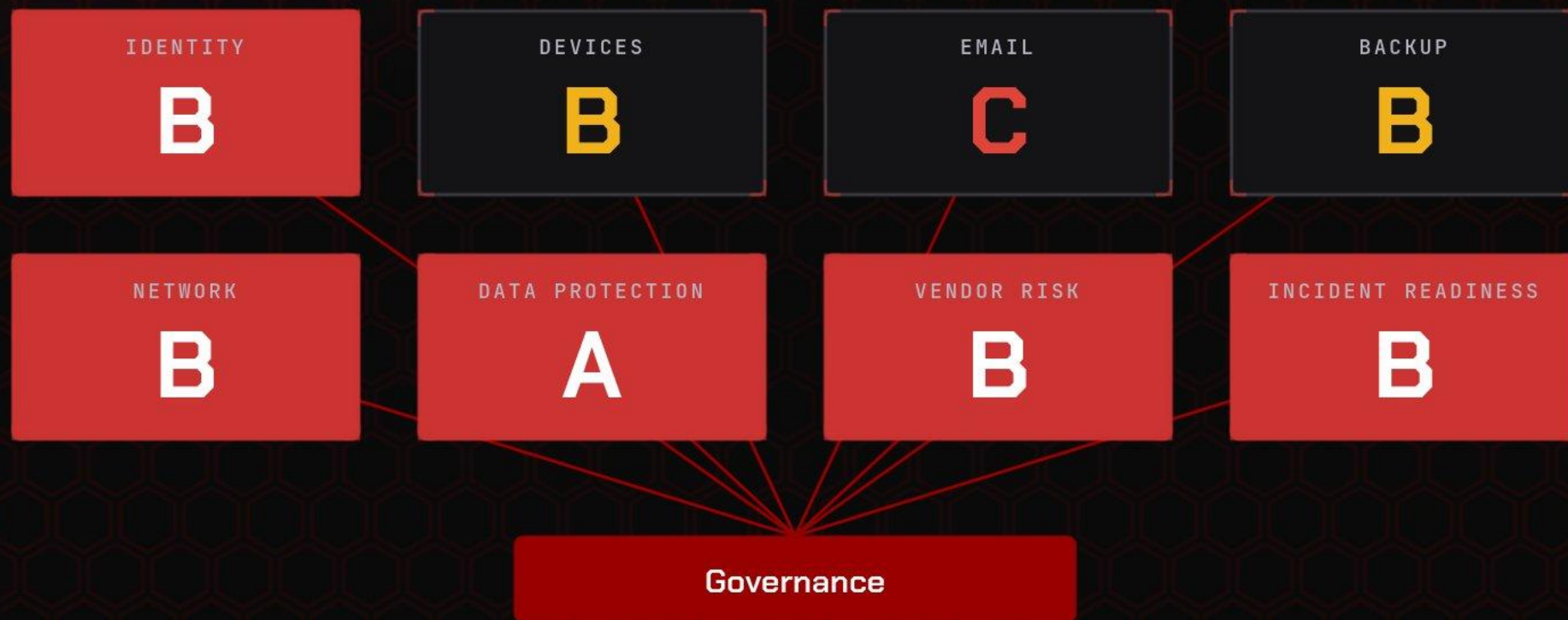
→ New engineer gets everything



→ No plan when someone clicks



→ "Describe your third-party risk program."



→ Nobody classified anything

Same gap.
Different hats.

One gap. Five squares.
The grade said medium five times.

QUESTION 01

How many SaaS integrations hold tokens to your data warehouse right now?

QUESTION 01

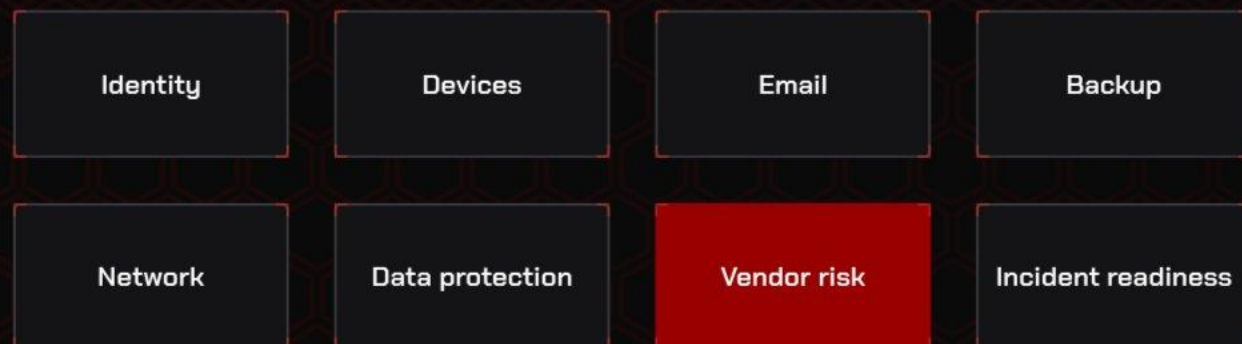
How many SaaS integrations hold tokens to your data warehouse right now?

QUESTION 02

How many of those does your security team know about?

It's a cascade
you haven't drawn yet.

Vendor & SaaS Risk

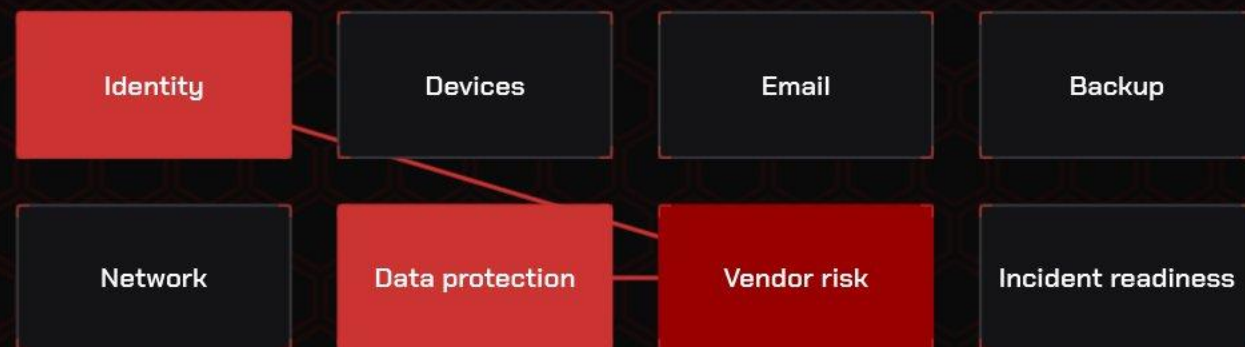


Register: "third-party risk, medium."

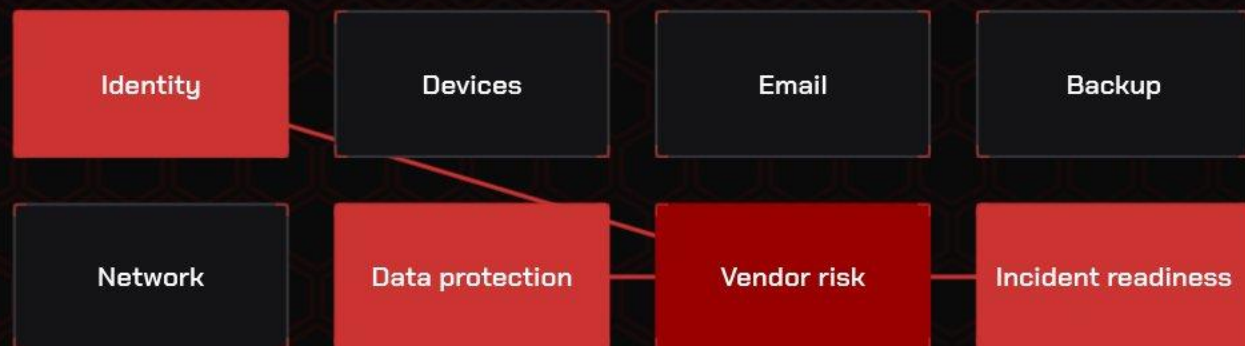
→ Identity & Access



→ Data Protection

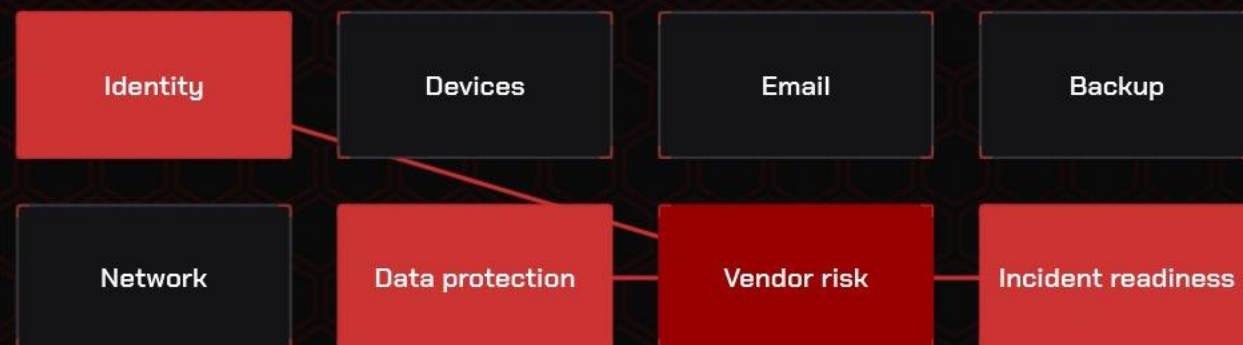


→ Incident Readiness



The obligations

WHAT FIRES

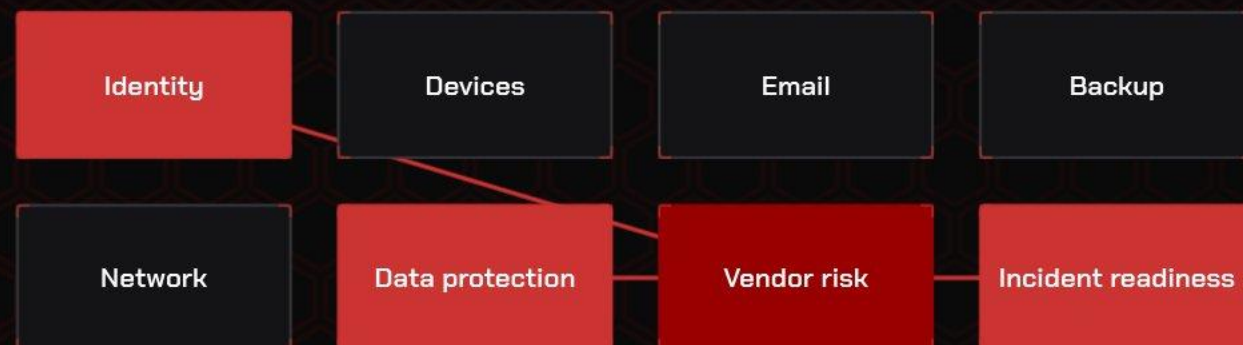


SOC 2

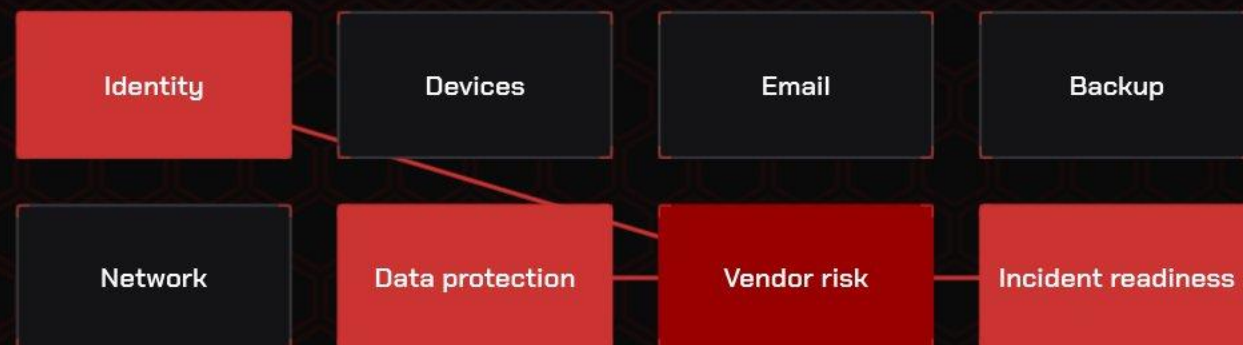
WHAT FIRES

SOC 2

CC9.2 · CC6 · CC7



PCI DSS



WHAT FIRES

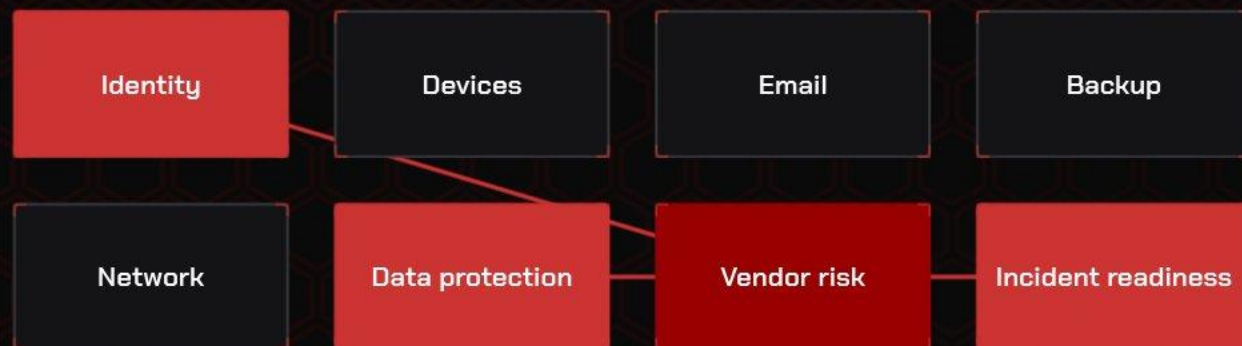
SOC 2

CC9.2 · CC6 · CC7

PCI DSS

12.8 · 12.10

HIPAA



WHAT FIRES

SOC 2

CC9.2 · CC6 · CC7

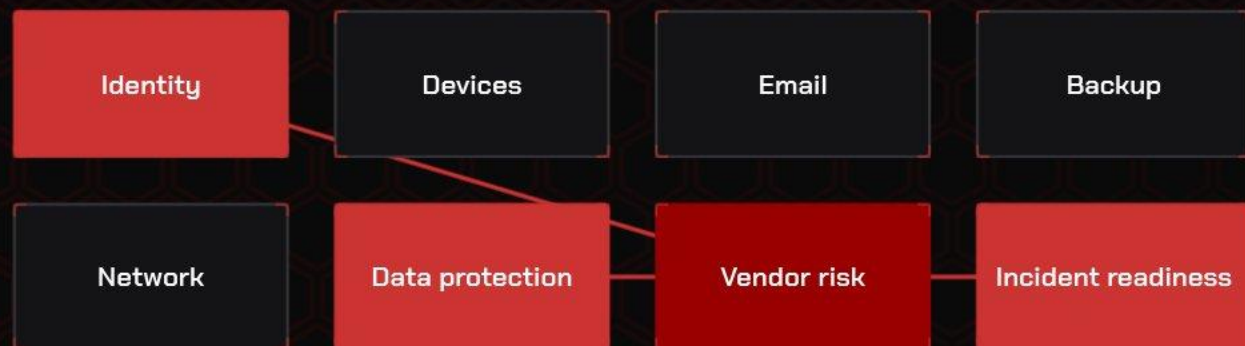
PCI DSS

12.8 · 12.10

HIPAA

BAA · 164.404 · 60 days

NC 75-65 · GDPR 33



WHAT FIRES

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CC9.2 · CC6 · CC7

PCI DSS

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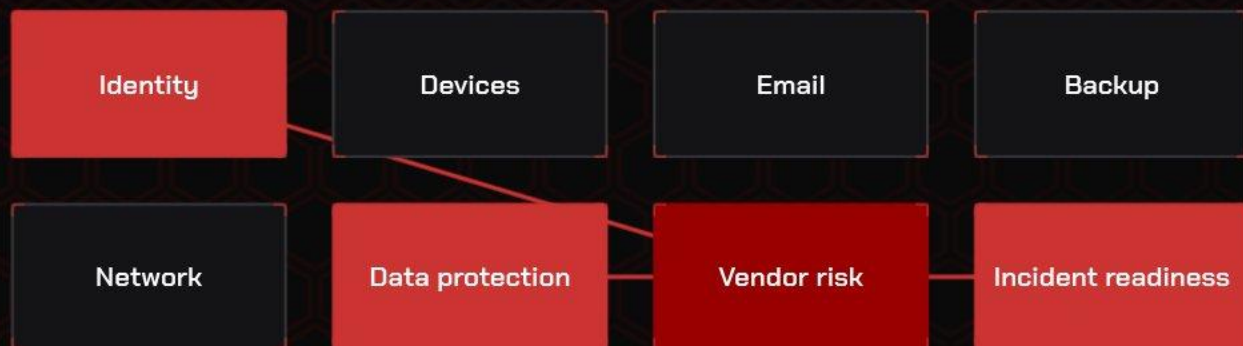
HIPAA

BAA · 164.404 · 60 days

NC 75-65 · GDPR 33

without unreasonable delay · 72h

Cyber insurance



WHAT FIRES

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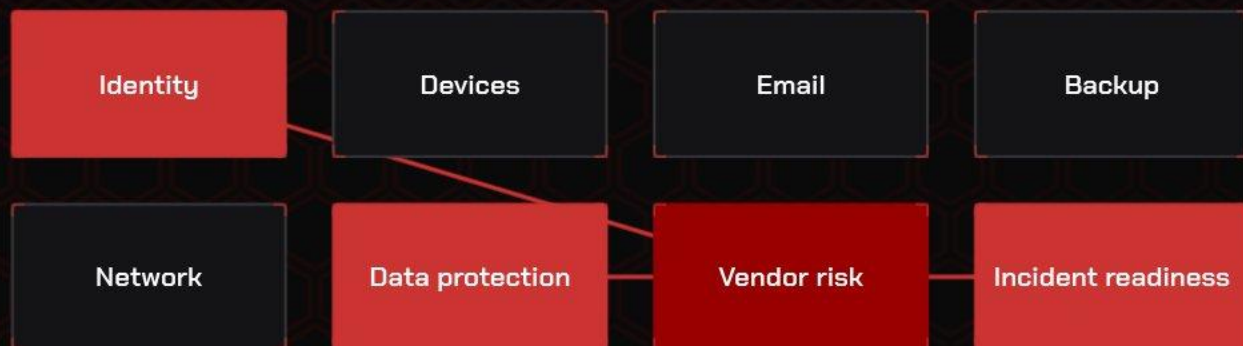
NC 75-65 · GDPR 33

without unreasonable delay · 72h

Cyber insurance

application warranties

Customer MSAs



WHAT FIRES

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CC9.2 · CC6 · CC7

PCI DSS

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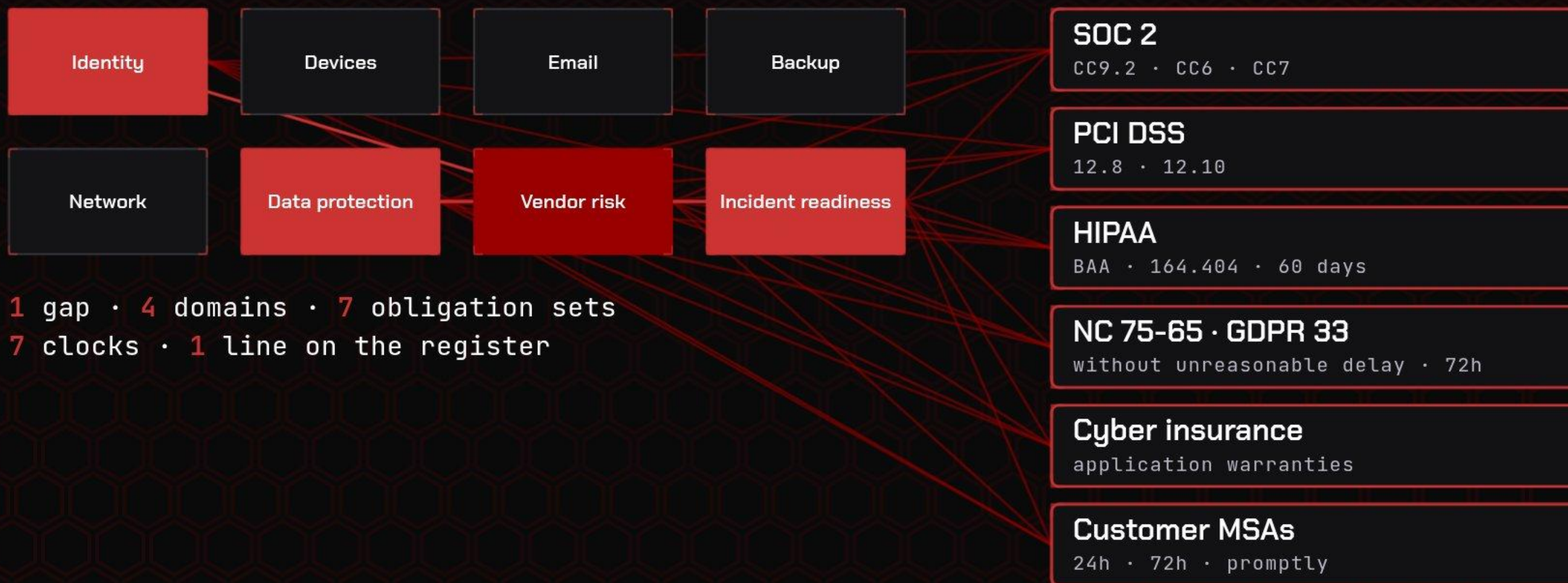
Cyber insurance

application warranties

Customer MSAs

24h · 72h · promptly

The math



A graph.
Not a spreadsheet.
Not a maturity model.

Sidekick Security · Trust Map

12 domains · 102 practices · 772 dependencies

Same edges.
Read backwards.

One square on the board.

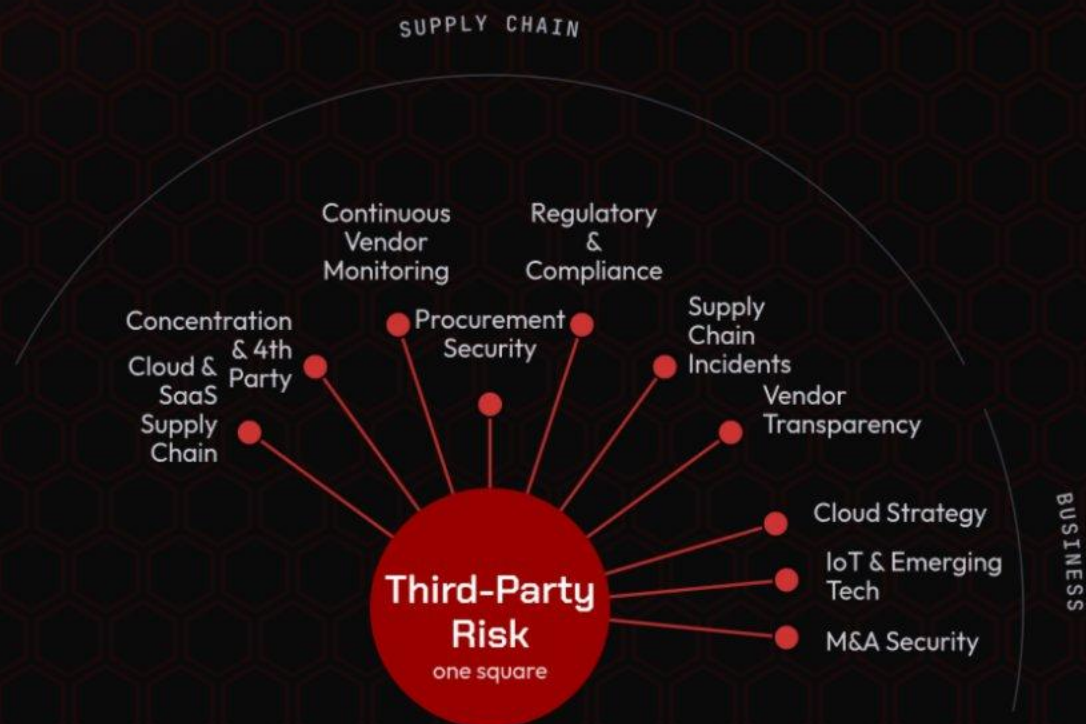


Third-Party
Risk
one square

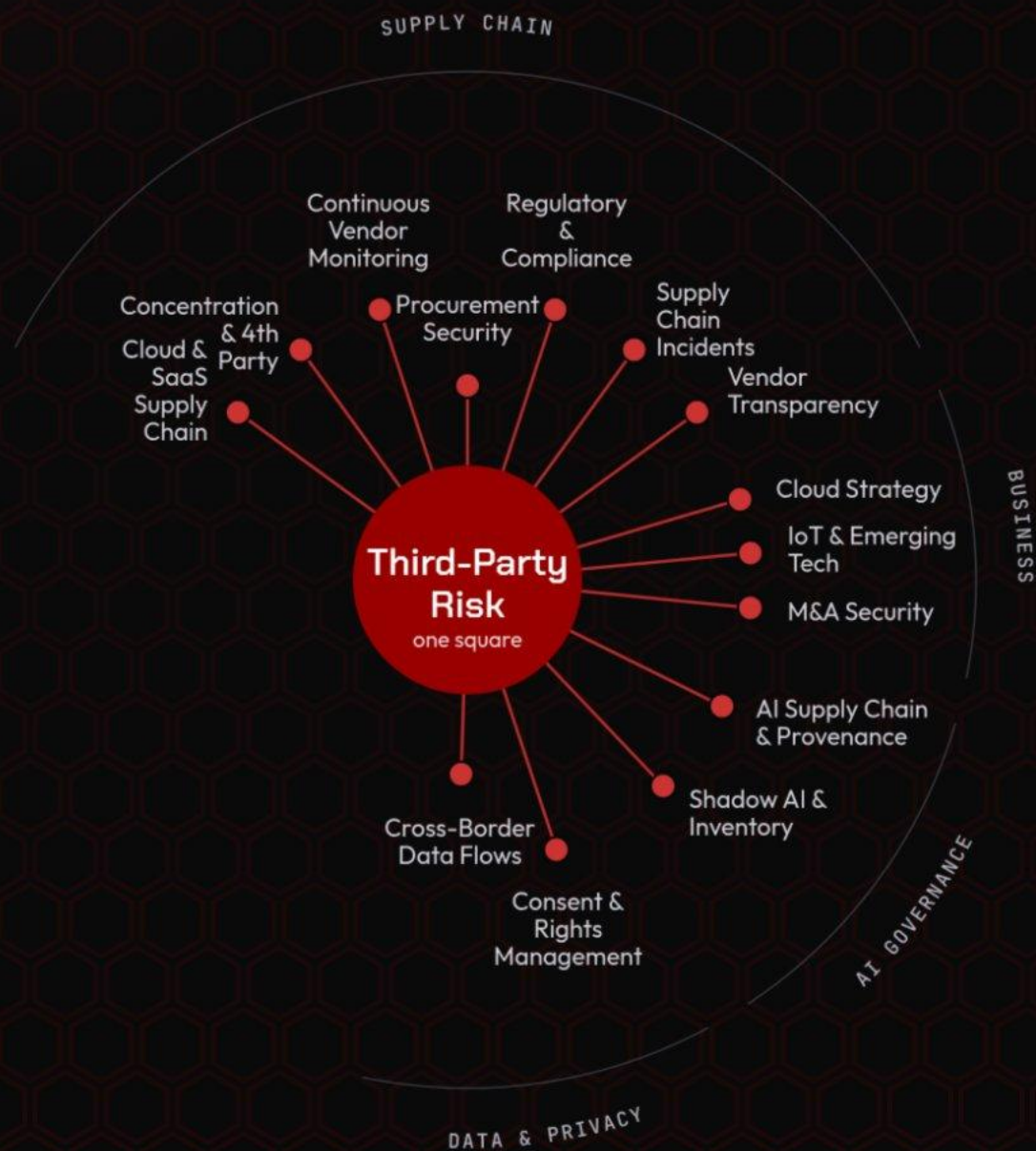
7 so far · 1 domain



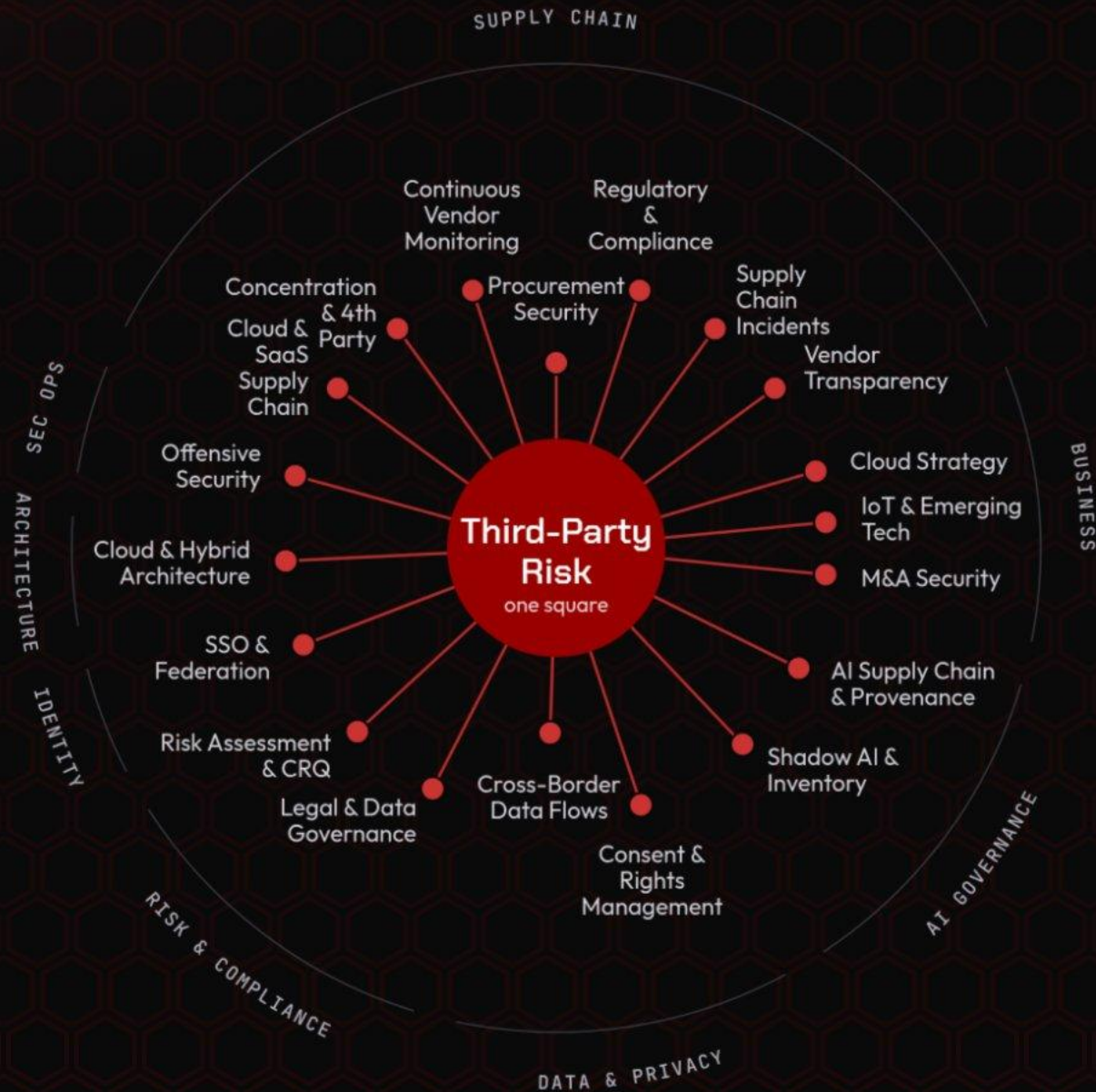
10 so far · 2 domains



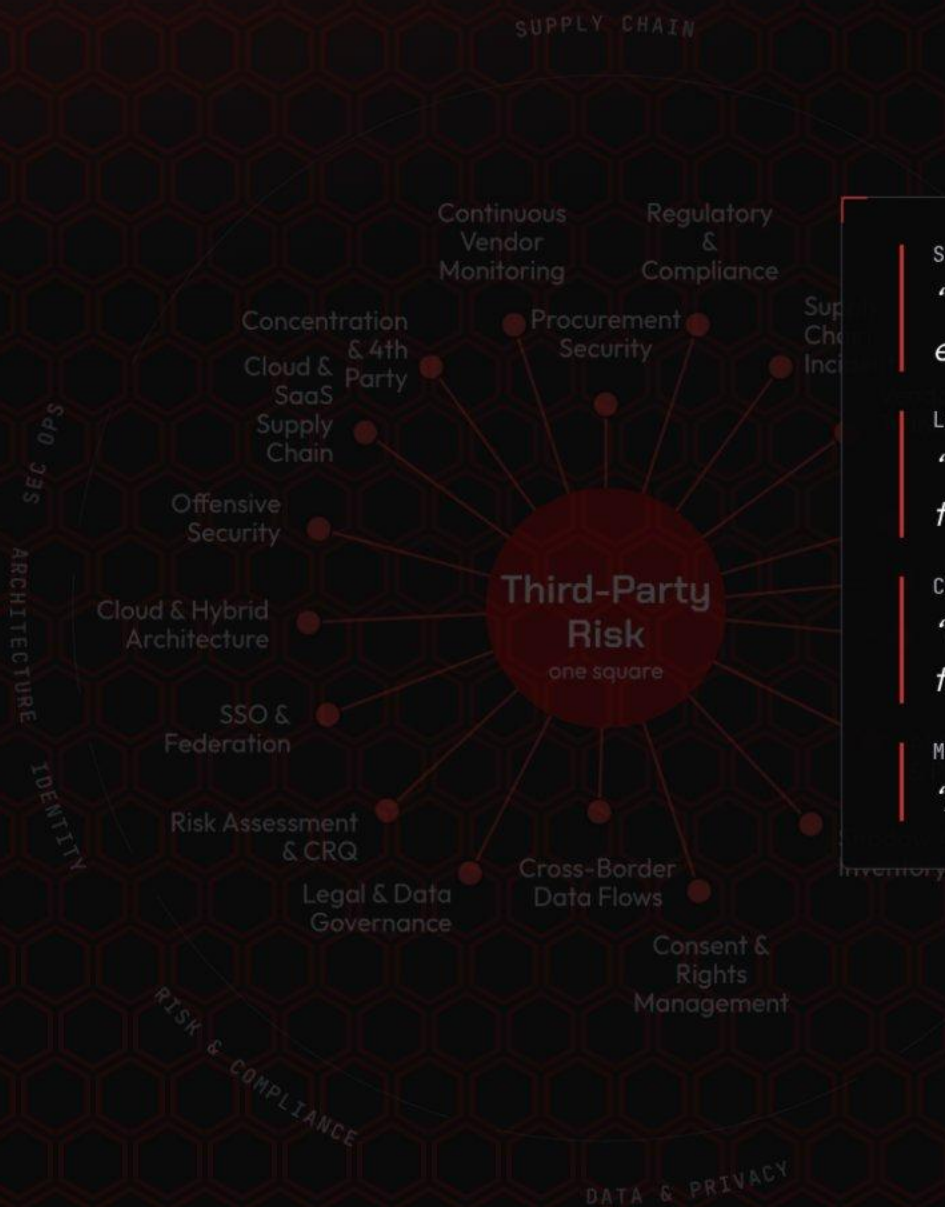
14 so far · 4 domains



19 practices fail for its reason · 8 domains



Why, in their words



SSO & FEDERATION → DEPENDS ON THIRD-PARTY RISK

“Third-party vendor access often requires federation: TPRM must evaluate vendor identity practices.”

LEGAL & DATA GOVERNANCE → DEPENDS ON THIRD-PARTY RISK

“Vendor contracts and data processing agreements are negotiated through legal.”

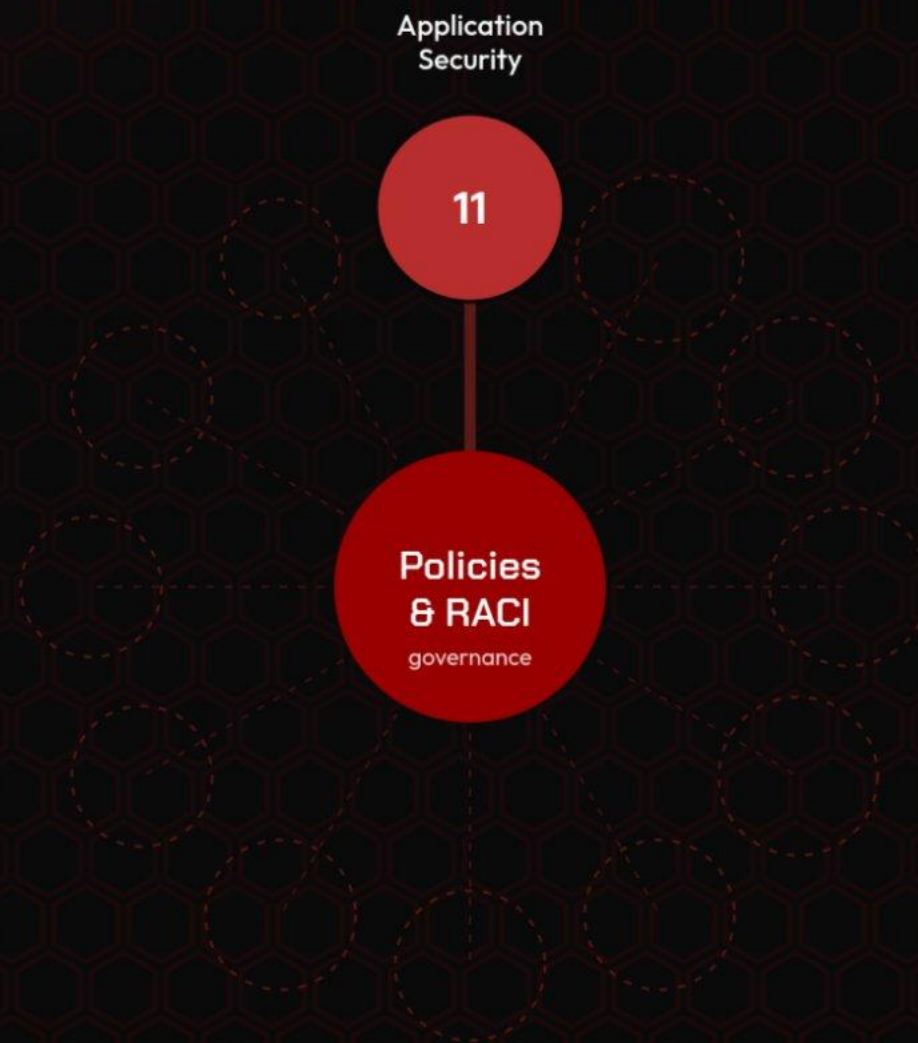
CLOUD & HYBRID ARCHITECTURE → DEPENDS ON THIRD-PARTY RISK

“Cloud vendors are third parties: their security posture must be assessed through TPRM.”

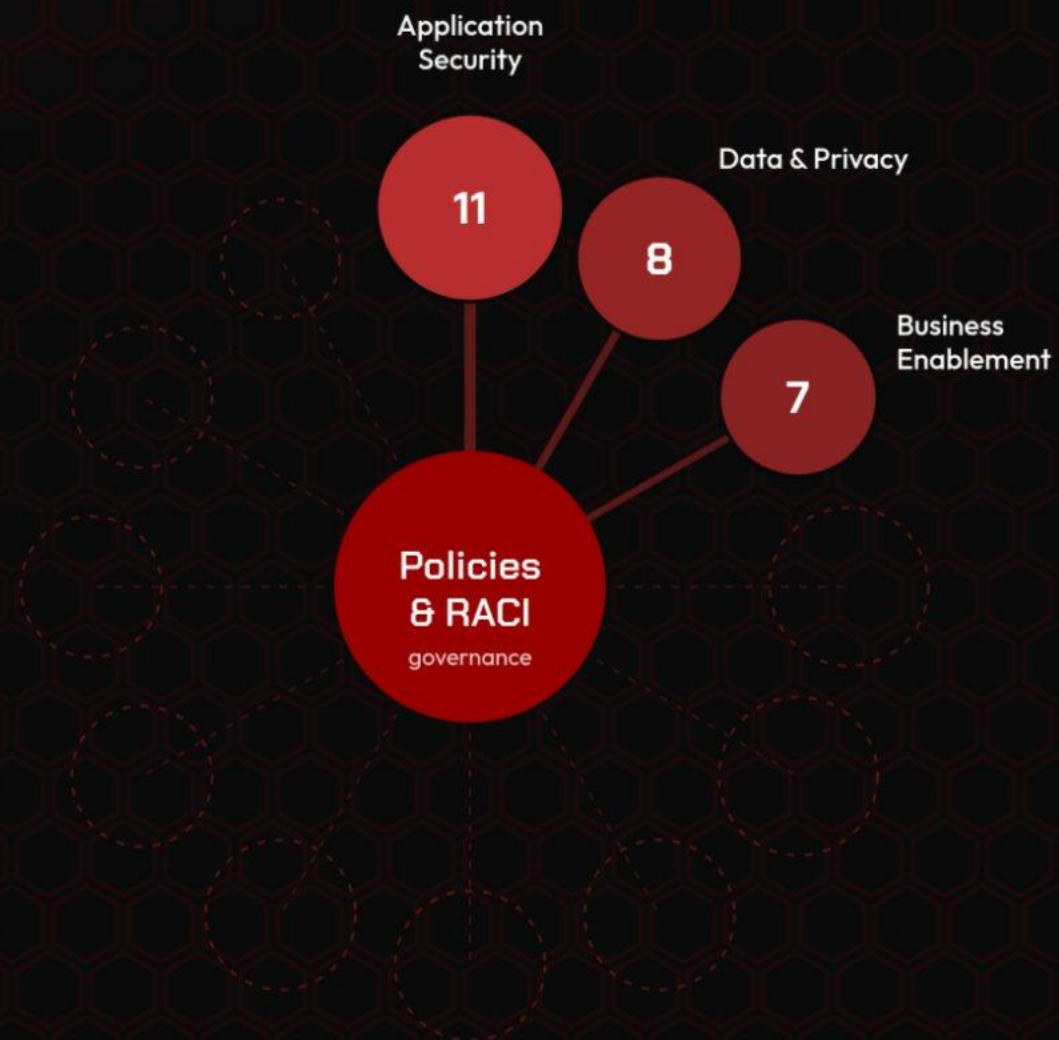
M&A SECURITY → DEPENDS ON THIRD-PARTY RISK

“Acquired company's vendor relationships become your third-party risk.”

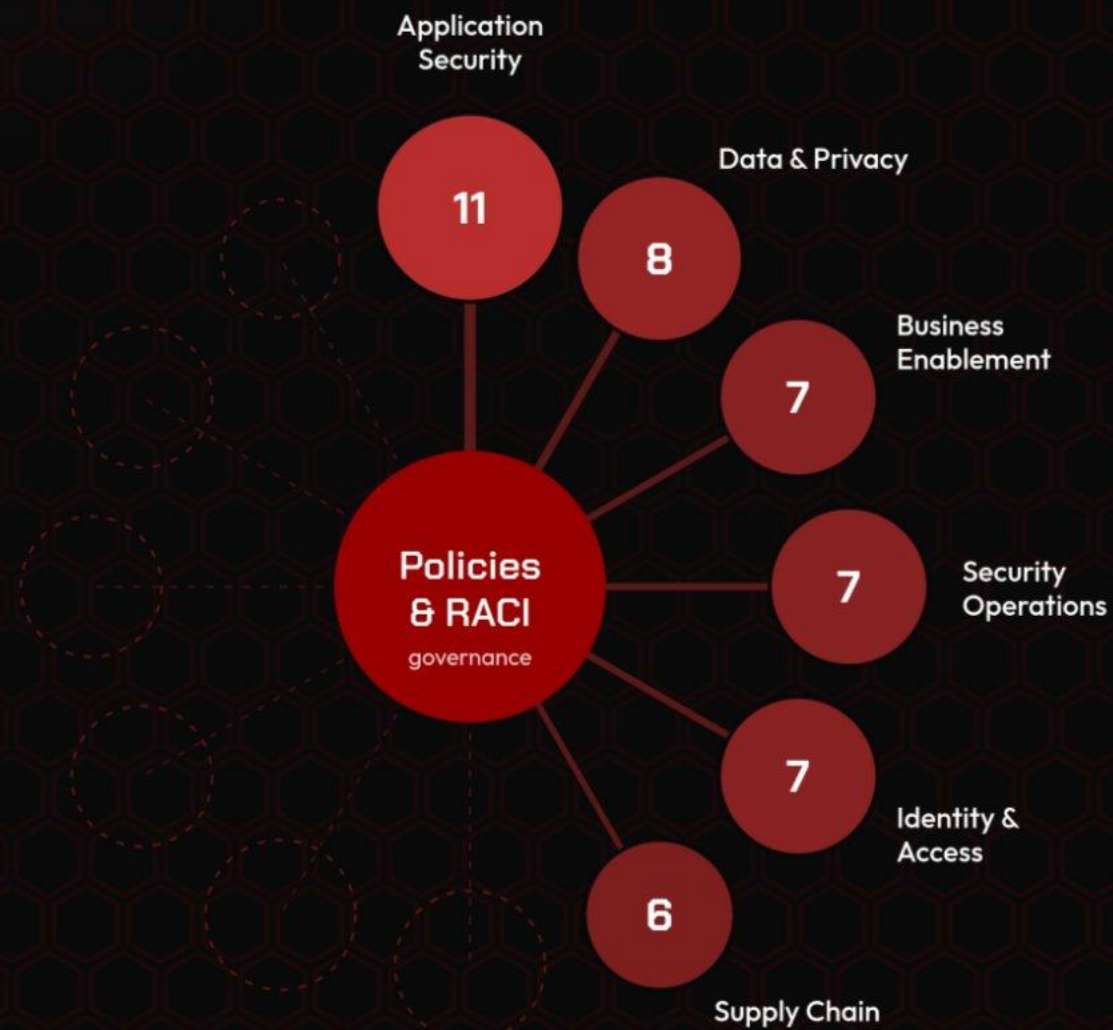
11 in the first domain alone



26 so far · 3 domains

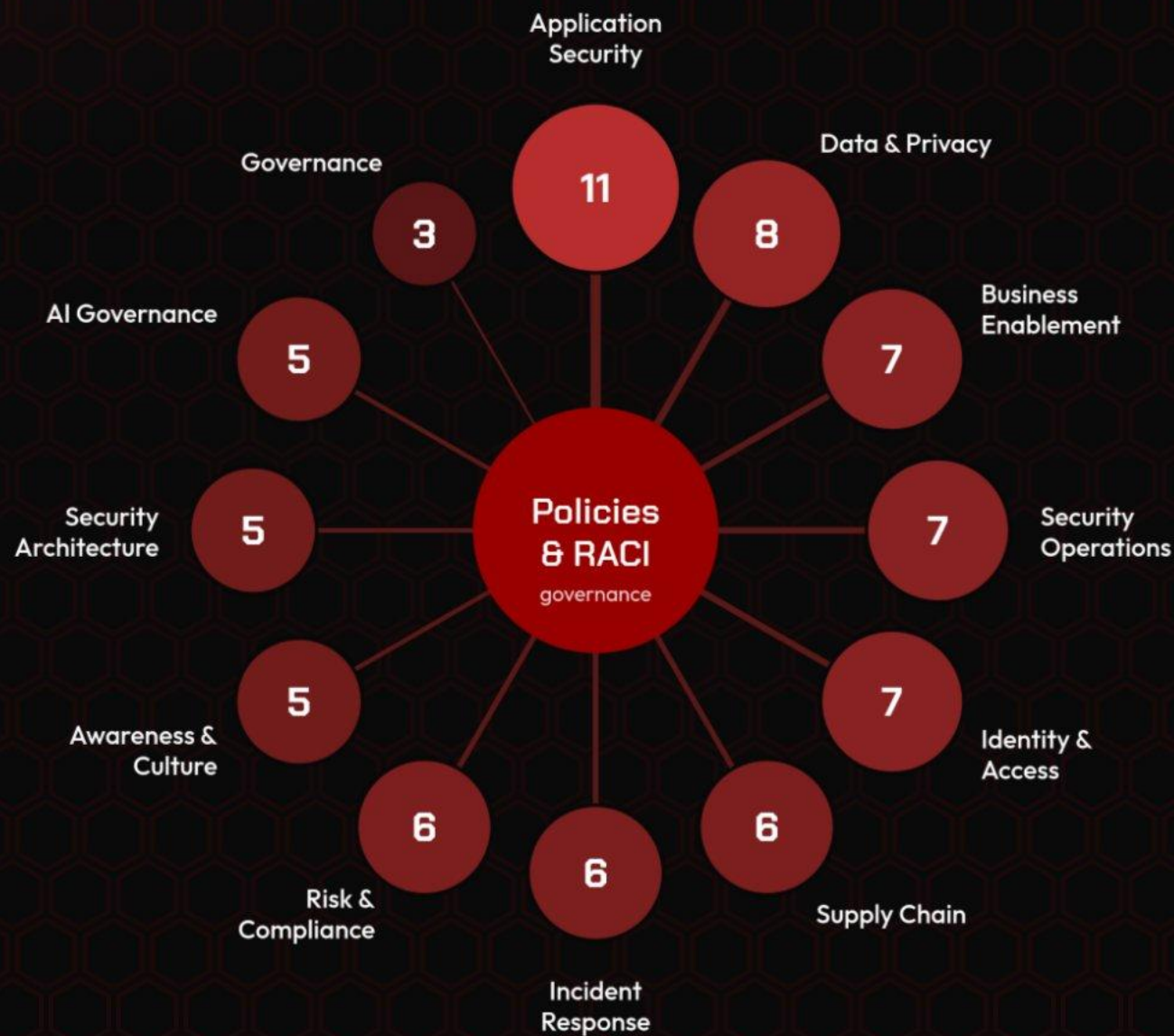


46 so far · 6 domains



76 practices hang from it · all 12 domains

Next most-connected practice: 34



THE EIGHT MOST-DEPENDED-ON PRACTICES

1	Policies & RACI	76
2	Risk Assessment & CRQ	34
3	Compliance & Audits	27
4	Frameworks & Standards	25
5	Strategy & Alignment	24
6	Data Governance & Classification	22
7	Threat Detection & SOC	22
8	Vulnerability Management	21

*The domain I'd spent the least time on
is the one everything hangs from.*

Version one. Every edge counts the same.

It's the structure, not your assessment.

01 Draw one edge.

02

03

MONDAY MORNING

01 Draw one edge.

Hand it to the owner at the other end. Ask: did you know?

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03

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02 Find the tokens.

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Two lists. The difference is your Anodot.

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03 Change the board slide.

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From “are we secure” to “what fails first.”

MONDAY MORNING

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Two lists. The difference is your Anodot.

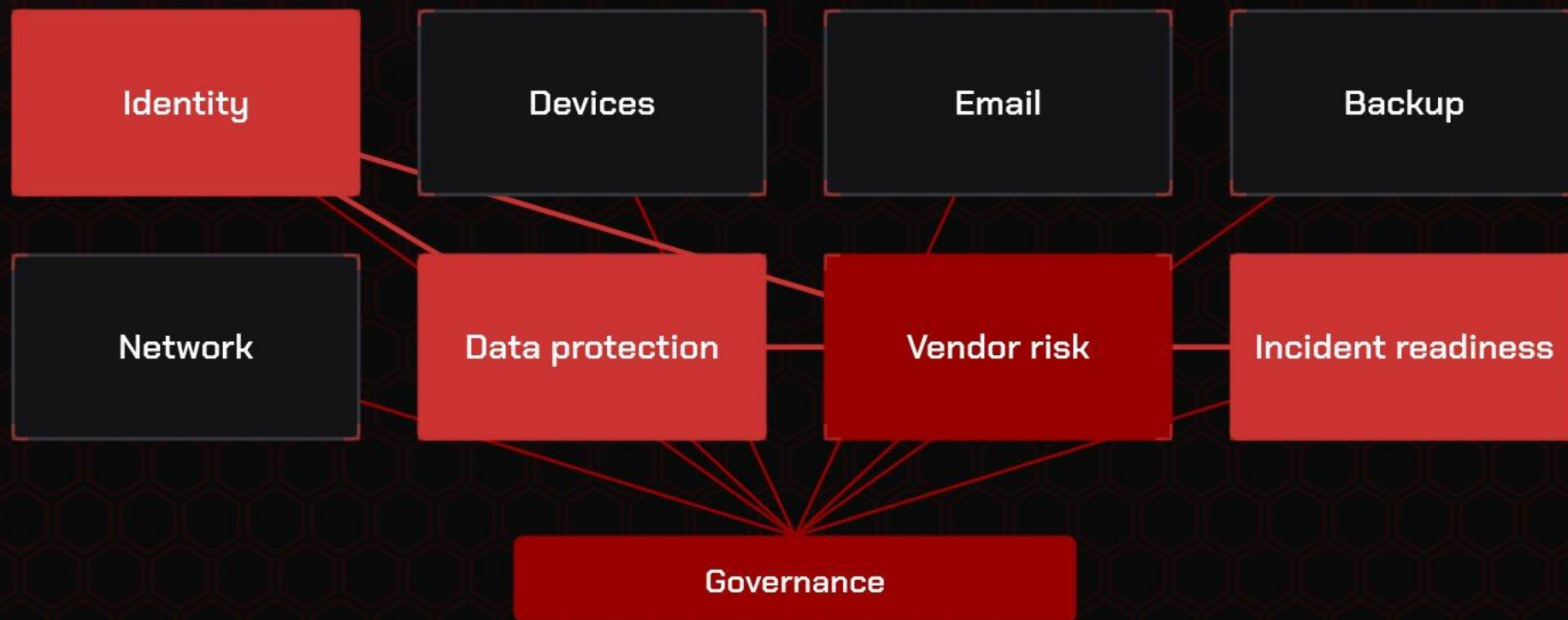
03 Change the board slide.

From “are we secure” to “what fails first.”

Complicated systems, you optimize.
Complex systems, you govern.



Same board. Same eight squares. Same **B**.



Same question. Different answer.

*“Here’s what fails first.
Here’s what it takes down with it.
And here’s whose name is on the line between.”*

**When everything depends
on everything.**

Go draw **the lines.**

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SLIDES