

# Scale, Sophistication, Speed: Navigating the Modern Threat Landscape

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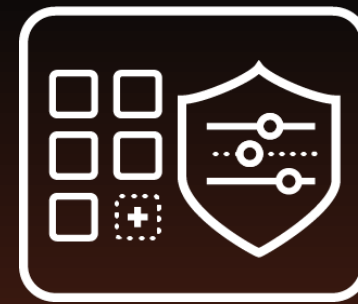
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September 2024

# Palo Alto Networks Unit 42



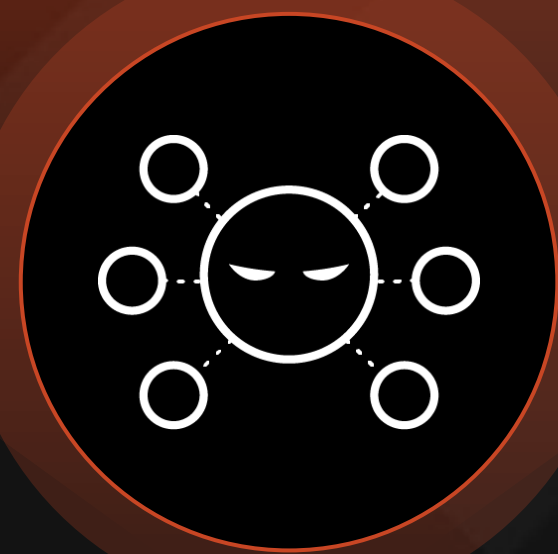
**Proactive Services**



**Managed Services**



**Incident Response**

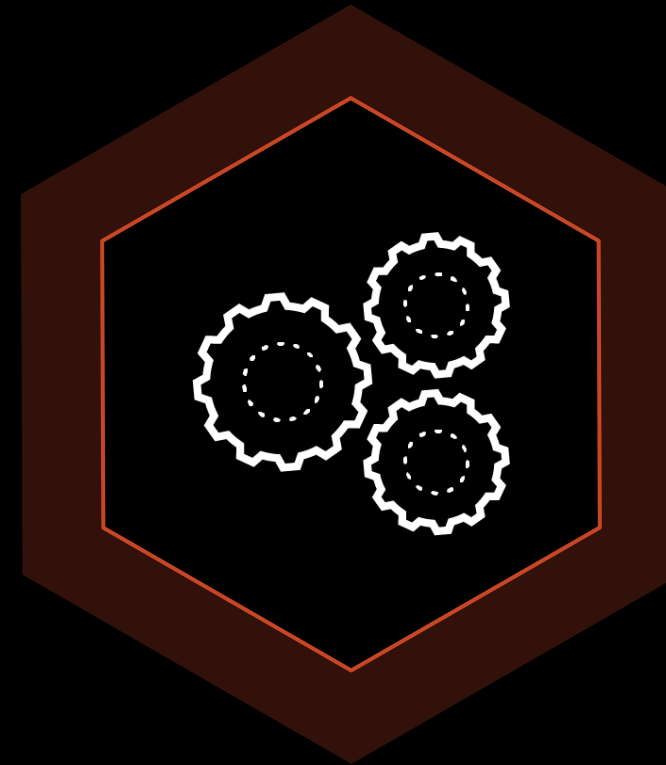


**Threat Intelligence**

# The Threat Landscape Is Intensifying



**Scale**



**Sophistication**



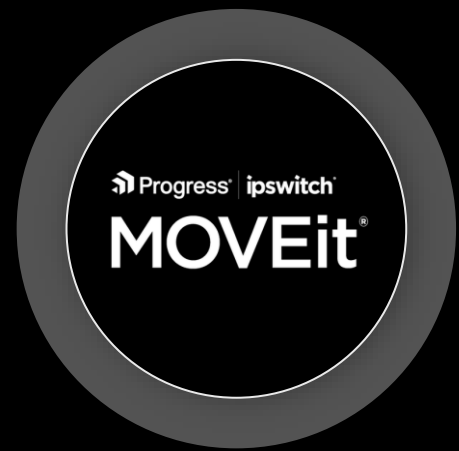
**Speed**

**\$8 TRILLION**  
COST OF CYBERCRIME

# Scale

# Vulnerabilities Surpass Phishing as Most Common Initial Attack Vector

May 31, 2023



**MOVEit**

**2,176**

exposed devices

*Estimated 8K victims globally*

July 18, 2023



**Citrix Netscaler**

**108,810**

exposed devices  
(Citrix ADC and Gateway)

Oct 4, 2023



**Atlassian Confluence**

**102,686**

exposed devices

Oct 16, 2023



**Cisco IOS XE**

**2,110**

exposed devices

January 10 and 31, 2024



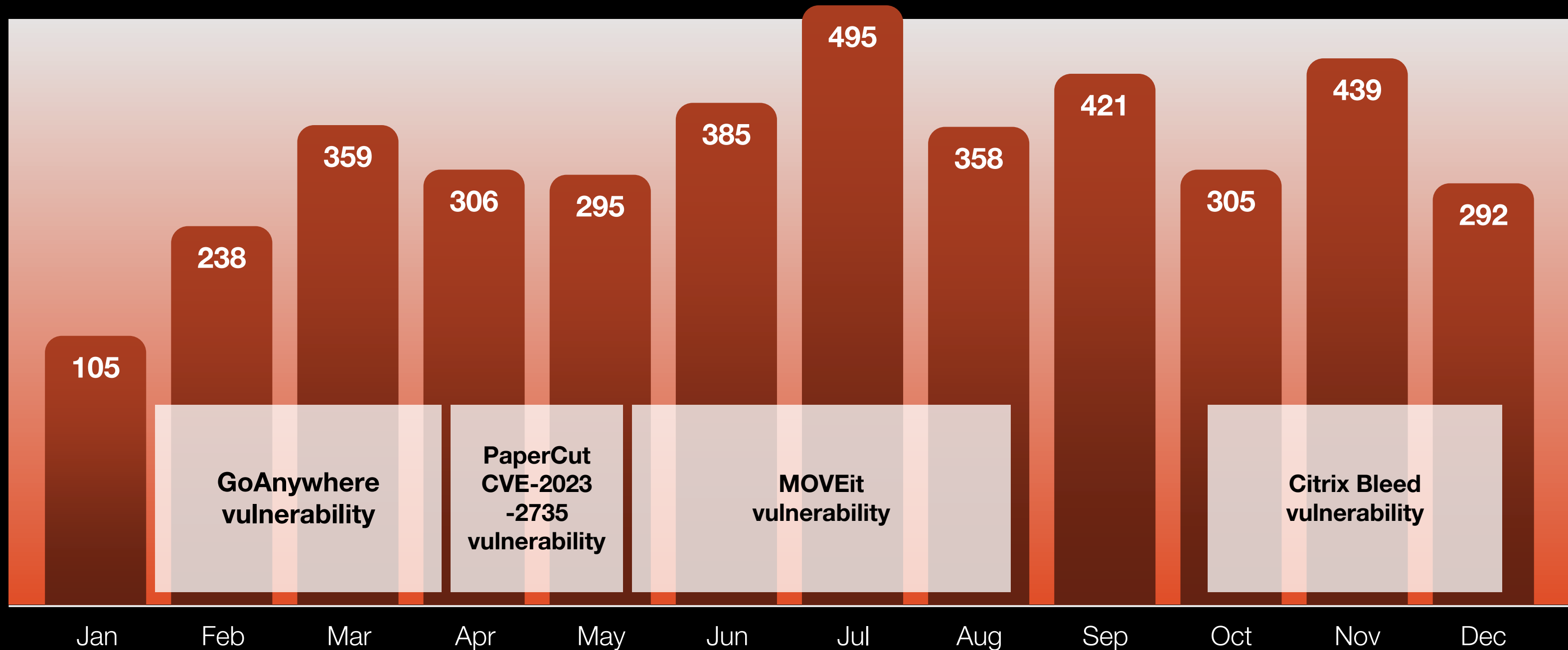
**Policy Secure  
Connect Secure**

**28,474**

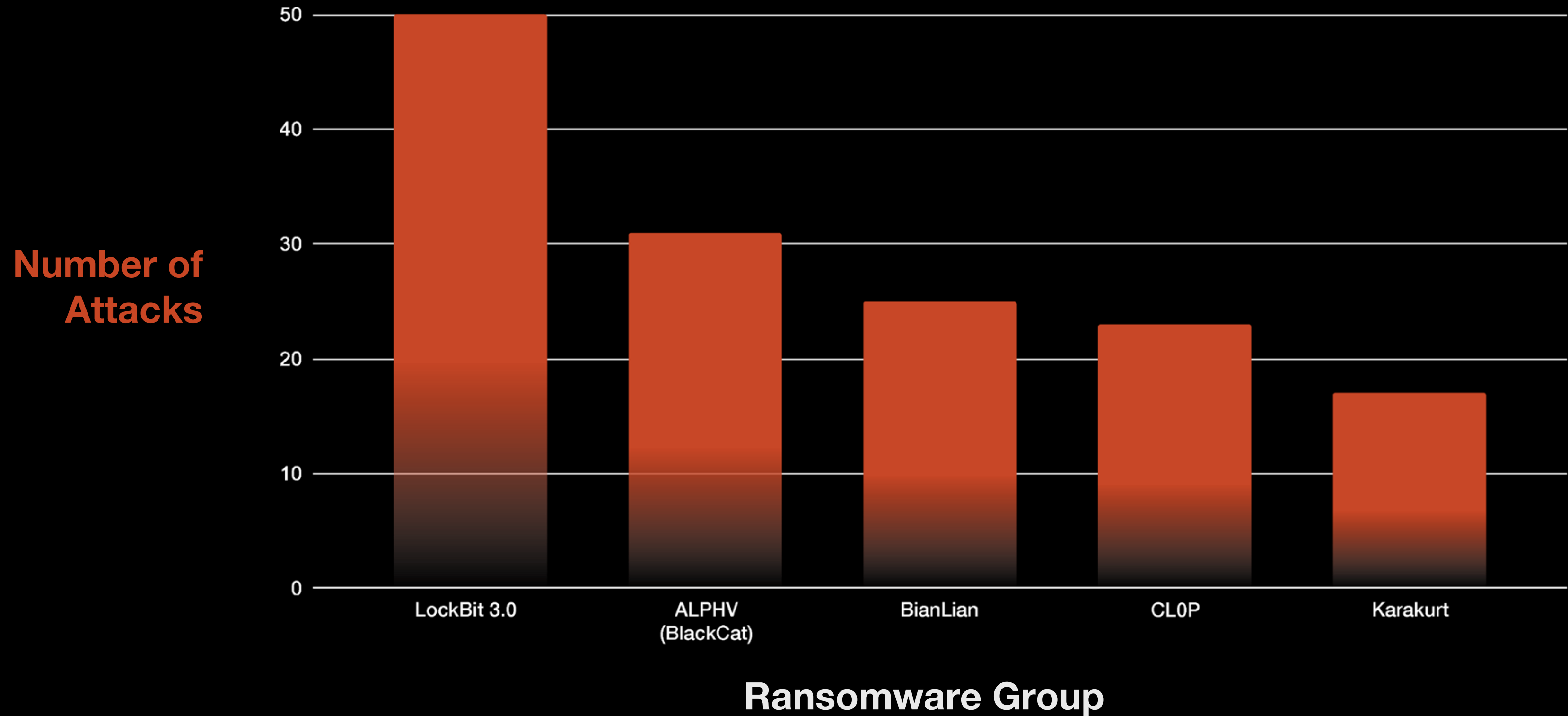
exposed devices

# The Scale of Ransomware Attacks Is Up 50% YoY

## 2023 Leak Site Posts From Ransomware Groups, by Month

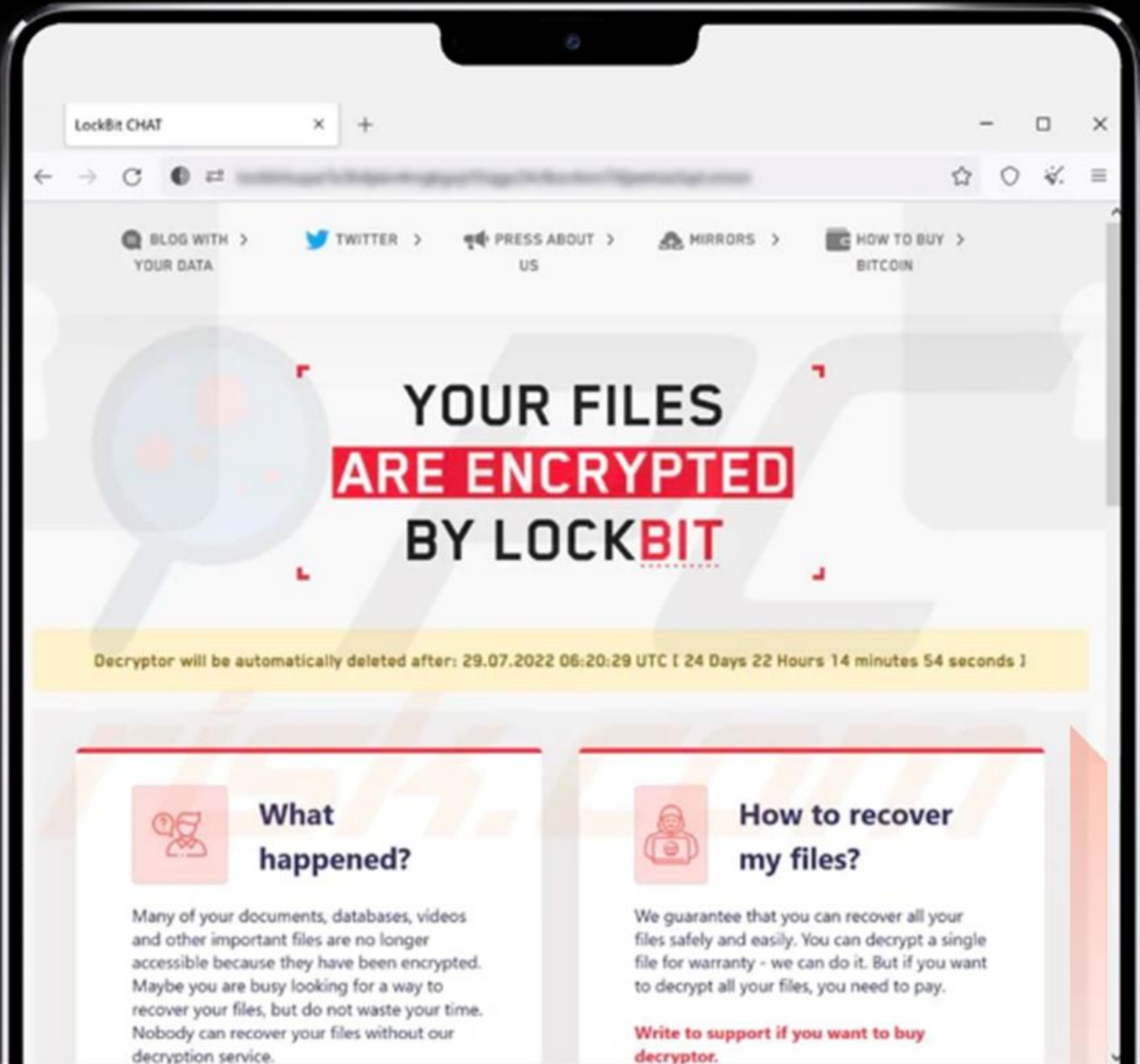


# Top Groups



*\*Public postings on leak sites tracked by Unit 42, January-December 2023*

# LockBit – Down But Not Out



LE takedown Feb. 19, 2024.  
LockBit's own operations compromised by PHP vulnerability.



Relaunched infrastructure Feb. 24.  
Updated ransom notes  
Same tooling

47%

Decrease in leak site posts for comparable periods in 2023 and 2024.



Announced dedicated targeting of .gov, .edu, .org  
– But post-takedown leaks show every industry affected



# Sophistication

# What's in a name? Muddled Libra

## WHO

### Origin

- Social Chat
- Gaming Groups

### Numbers

- Thousands Strong
- Few Consequential

### Geography

- Primarily NA
- Few Europe

### Language

- Fluent English

### Organization

- AlphV Affiliate
- Agile Teams



## HOW

### Key Tactics

- MFA Bypass
- Social Engineering

### Proficiencies

- SaaS / Cloud
- OSINT

### Tradecraft

- LOLBINS
- RMMs
- Blackcat

### Campaigns

- Industry Clustering


### Objective

- Extortion
- Data Theft
- Disruption

# Creativity is Reaching a New Level

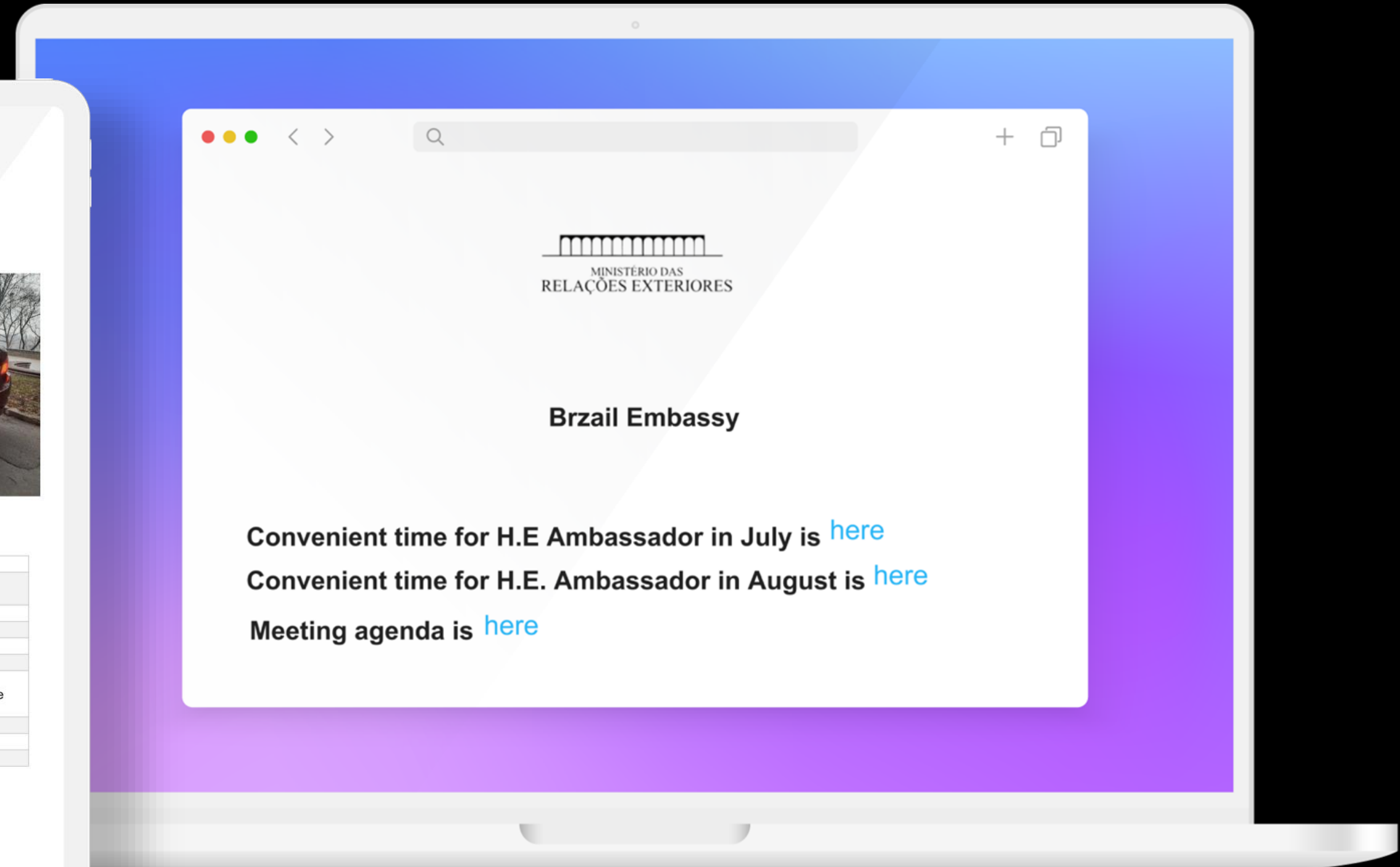
## Cloaked Ursa (Russia)

CAR FOR SALE IN KYIV  
THE PRICE IS REDUCED!!!  
BMW 5 (F10) 2.0 TDI, 7,500 Euros!!  
Very good condition, low fuel consumption



More high quality photos are [here](https://t.ly/): <https://t.ly/>

Model	BMW 5, 2.0 TDI (184 HP)
Year	April 2011
Mileage	266,000 km
Engine	2.0 Diesel
Transmission	Mechanic
Colour	Black, black leather interior
Package	A/C, set of summer and winter tires, ABS/ESP, led lights, cruise control, multifunction steering wheel, CD, electric seats, electric windows, engine control, rain sensor, electrical hand brake, airbags, start-stop system.
Price	7,500 Euros
Custom	NOT CLEARED
Contact	



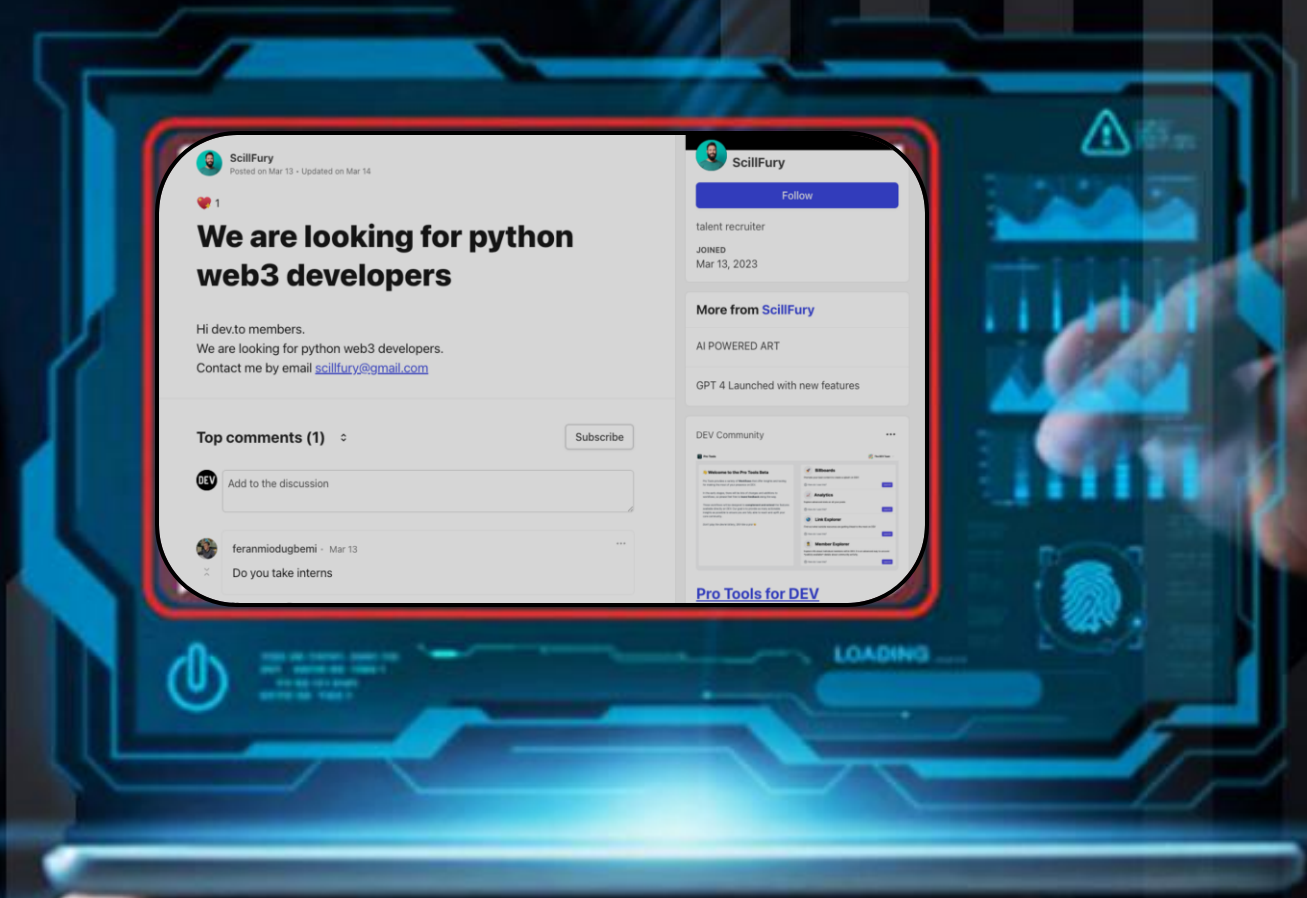
MINISTÉRIO DAS  
RELAÇÕES EXTERIORES

Brzail Embassy

Convenient time for H.E Ambassador in July is [here](#)  
Convenient time for H.E. Ambassador in August is [here](#)  
Meeting agenda is [here](#)

# APTs are Targeting Job Applicants and Companies

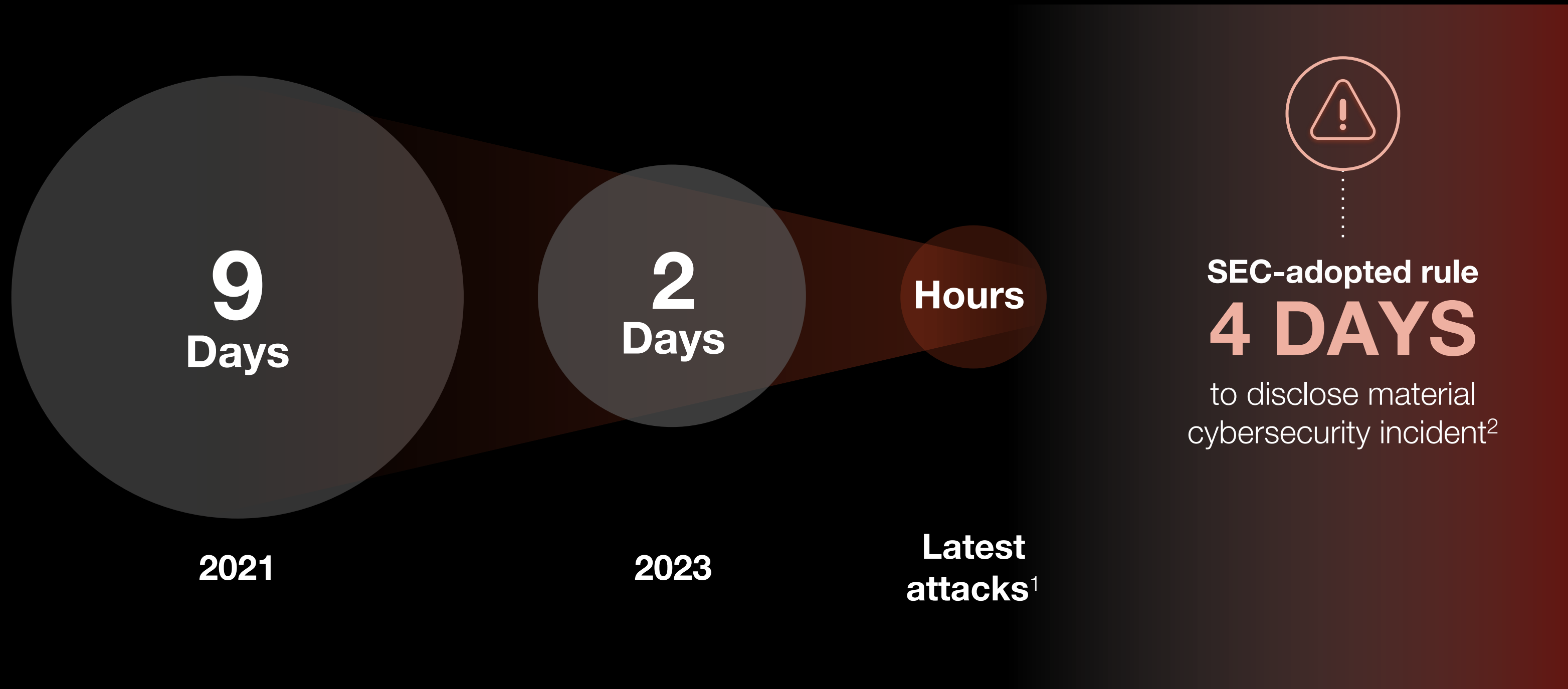
DPRK (North Korea)



# Speed

# Attacks Happening Faster Than Organizations Can Respond

Median Days From Compromise to Exfil (MTTE)



<sup>1</sup> Source: Unit 42 IR data. <sup>2</sup> SEC rule: Report "material" cybersecurity incidents on a Form 8-K within four business days of materiality determination.

# Actors Move at Machine Speed To Exploit New Vulnerabilities

**ivanti**

**28,474**  
exposed devices

<sup>1</sup> Source: Unit 42 IR data.

**3 waves of attacks**

**5 vulnerabilities in less than 30 days –  
affecting 145 countries worldwide**

**Government agencies  
worldwide issued warnings:**

- CISA (U.S.)
- ASD's ACSC (Australia)
- NCSC-UK
- Canadian Centre for Cyber Security
- NCSC-NZ

## Assess

*Proactive Assessments to **test and validate your security controls against the right threats***

- Ransomware Readiness Assessment
- Compromise Assessment
- Red & Purple Team / Pentest Exercises
- Incident Response Plan Development & Review
- Cloud Security Assessment
- Tabletop Exercises
- Breach Readiness Review
- SOC Assessment
- Supply Chain Risk Assessment
- Business Email Compromise Readiness Assessment

## Evolve

*Strategic Advisory services to help **evolve your security strategy with a threat-informed approach***

- BoD Security Strategy Review
- Security Program Design
- Cyber Risk Assessment
- Virtual CISO
- M&A Cyber Due Diligence

## Respond

*Incident Response & investigation services to **mobilize your response and recovery***

- Business Email Compromise
- Ransomware Investigation
- APT Investigation
- PCI Investigation
- Cloud Incident Response
- OT/ICS Incident Response
- Web App Compromise
- Digital Investigations & Insider Threat
- Mobile Forensics
- Structured Data Investigations
- Expert Witness / Testimony / Litigation Support

## Unit 42 Retainer

A prepaid block of credits that can be used for Incident Response or for any of our Proactive Services