# EXPANDING YOUR COMPETITVE INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS WITHOUTBREAKING THE BANK

SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





#### Agenda

- Introduction to the CIRAT
- Infrastructure of the CIRAT
- Watch Program
- Business Intelligence and Innovation Lab (BI<sup>2</sup>)
- Innovation Entente Lab (IEL)
- Intelligence Fusion Lab (IFL)
- Questions





# INTRODUCTION TO CIRAT SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





#### What is the CIRAT?

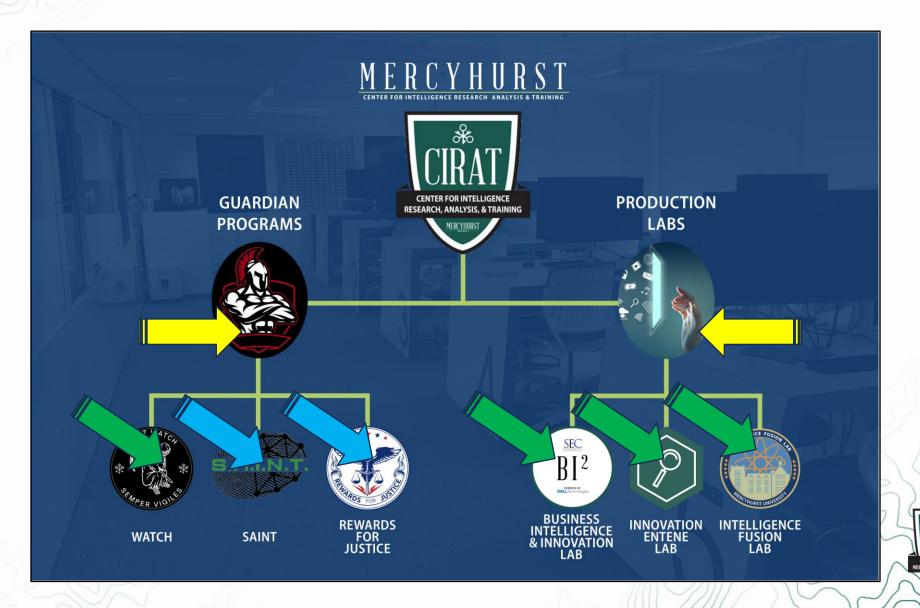
The Center for Intelligence Research, Analysis, and Training (CIRAT) is a nonprofit arm of Mercyhurst University whose mission is to develop opportunities with business and government entities through contracts, grants, and academic partnerships that enhance and professionalize the capabilities of Intelligence Studies and Computer Information Science students, making them competitive in the job market upon graduation.

- > Students gain applied real-world competitive intelligence, strategic and tactical intelligence, law enforcement intelligence, data analytics, and cyber security experience while working with national security, law enforcement, the Department of Defense, competitive intelligence organizations, private sector businesses, and non-governmental organizations.
- The CIRAT provides these opportunities through contractual product development, direct support, business operations support, internship programs, and grant projects.
- The CIRAT is flexible in setting up contracts with varying time frames and taskings and adapting the scope of work as the client's operational needs pivot.
- ➤ The Center consists of three major program focus areas and three production labs, which include the three Guardian Programs (Watch, SAINT, RFJ) and Business Intelligence and Innovation Lab, Innovation Entente Lab, and Intelligence Fusion Lab.

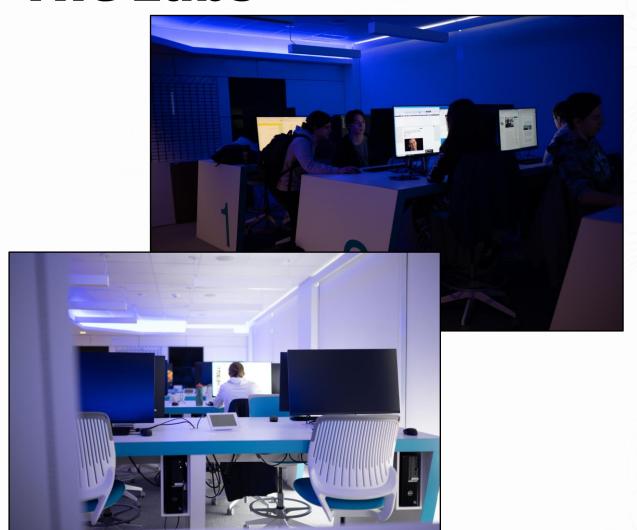




#### **The Center**



#### **The Labs**



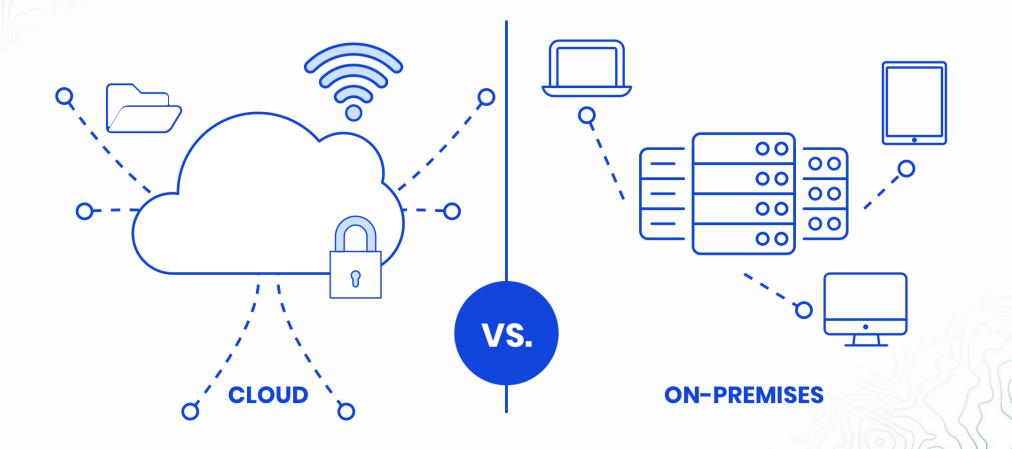


# INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE CIRAT SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





# Network Infrastructure



#### On Premise Servers

**Location**: On-premise servers are physically housed within the organization's own facilities, such as a data center or server room. This gives the organization direct control over the servers and their environment.

Ownership and Maintenance: The organization is responsible for purchasing, installing, configuring, and maintaining the on-premise servers. This includes tasks such as hardware maintenance, software updates, security patches, and backups.

**Data Security**: With on-premise servers, the organization has full control over the security measures implemented to protect their data. They can customize security protocols to meet their specific needs and regulatory requirements.

**Performance**: On-premise servers can offer high performance and low latency since they are near the users and other network resources within the organization.

#### **On Premise Servers**

- Costs: While on-premise servers may involve higher upfront costs for hardware and infrastructure setup, they can be cost-effective in the long run for organizations with predictable workloads and IT budgets.
- Scalability: Scaling up on-premise servers typically involves purchasing additional hardware, which may take time and resources. However, organizations have full control over the scalability process and can tailor it to their specific requirements.
- Redundancy and Disaster Recovery:
   Organizations must implement their own redundancy and disaster recovery solutions for on-premise servers, such as redundant hardware, backup power sources, and off-site backups, to ensure business continuity in case of hardware failures or disasters.





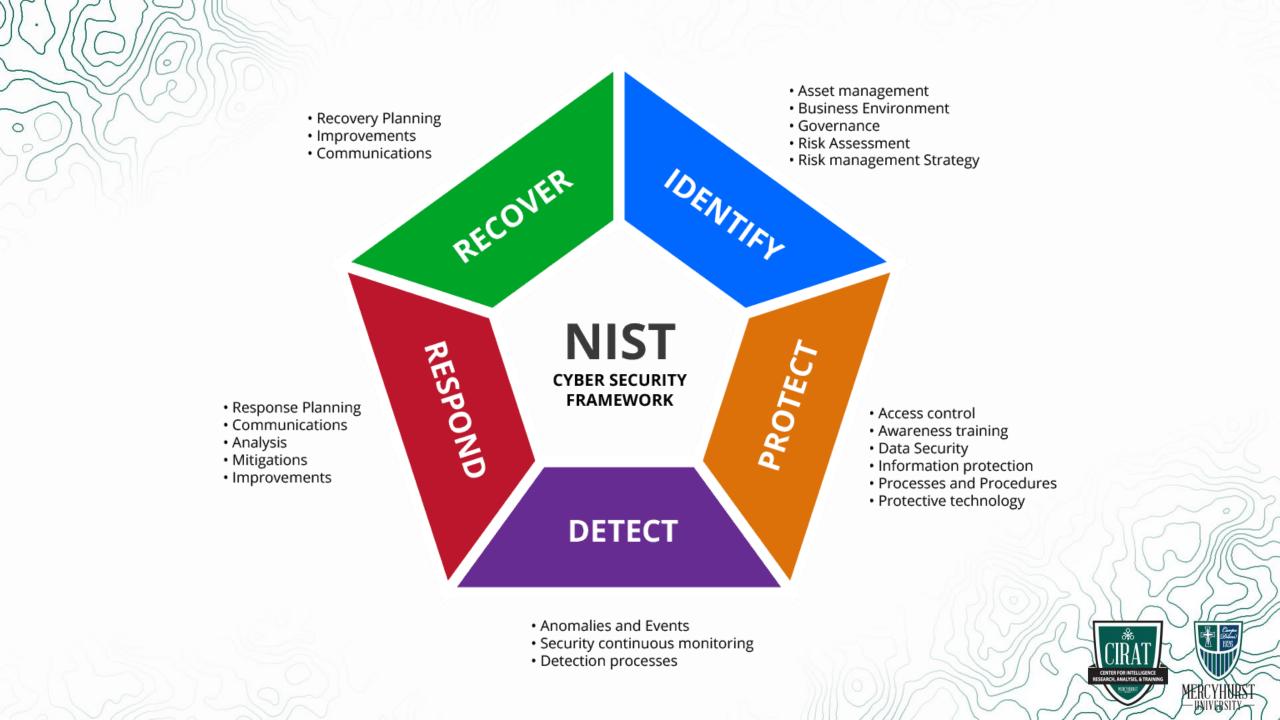


#### **NIST Certification**

- Understanding Risks: Identifying and documenting the cybersecurity risks and threats relevant to the CIRAT's operations and services.
- Establishing Policies: Developing and implementing foundational cybersecurity policies and procedures tailored to the organization's needs and objectives.
- Implementing Basic Controls: Deploying basic cybersecurity controls and safeguards to protect against common threats, such as antivirus software, firewalls, and access controls.
- Training and Awareness: Providing cybersecurity training and awareness programs to staff and stakeholders to promote a culture of security awareness and compliance.
- Incident Response Plan: Developing and documenting an incident response plan to effectively respond to cybersecurity incidents and minimize their impact on operations.
- Continuous Improvement: Establishing processes for continuous monitoring, assessment, and improvement of cybersecurity practices and controls based on evolving threats and organizational changes.







# NIST Certification: What we gain

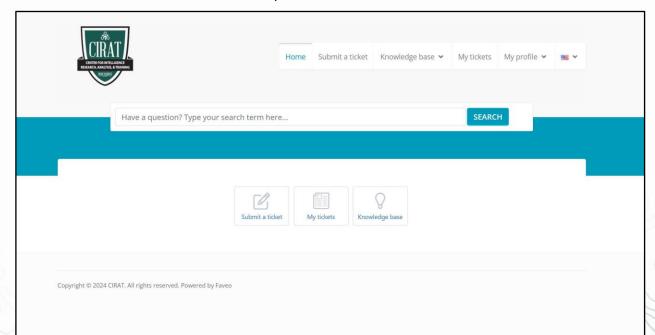
- Credibility and Trust: Certification from a reputable institution like NIST enhances an organization's credibility.
- Competitive Advantage: Certification can provide a competitive edge in the marketplace.
- **Risk Mitigation**: Compliance with NIST standards helps mitigate various risks, such as data breaches, cyber-attacks, and non-compliance penalties.
- Access to Opportunities: Some contracts, particularly in government and certain industries, may require NIST certification as a prerequisite for participation.
- Continuous Improvement: The certification process often involves rigorous assessments and audits, encouraging organizations to continuously evaluate and improve their processes, systems, and security measures.
- Global Recognition: NIST standards are recognized globally, which can benefit organizations operating in international markets.
- Cost Savings: While obtaining certification may involve upfront costs, it can lead to long-term cost savings by reducing the likelihood of security incidents, regulatory fines, and legal liabilities associated with non-compliance.





# Intelligence Helpdesk System

- Ticket Creation: Users (customers, employees, etc.) submit their questions or issues through various channels such as email, phone calls, online forms, or a dedicated portal.
- **Ticket Assignment**: The system automatically assigns the ticket to the appropriate support agent or team based on predefined criteria such as issue type, urgency, or expertise.
- **Ticket Tracking**: Agents work on resolving the tickets assigned to them. They update the ticket with progress, notes, and solutions as they work on the issue.



## Intelligence Helpdesk System

- Communication: The system facilitates communication between support agents and users. Users may receive updates on their tickets via email notifications or through the system's portal.
- Resolution and Closure: Once the issue is resolved, the ticket is marked as resolved or closed. Users may also provide feedback on their experience with the support process.
- Analytics and Reporting: Helpdesk systems often include reporting and analytics features that allow organizations to track metrics such as ticket volume, resolution times, customer satisfaction scores, and common issues. This data can be used to identify trends, improve processes, and optimize support operations.





### **Helpdesk Statistics**

Department	Closed	Deleted	Open	Resolved	Totals
CIRAT Support	32	3	4	3	42
GA Support	19	0	7	0	26
Support	4	0	0	1	5
The Watch	2	0	10	0	12
Tools	17	0	13	2	32
Tools	17	0	13	2	3
Totals	74	3	34	6	117

<sup>\*24</sup> January 2024 – 18 April 2024





#### **Tools and Platforms\***

# The GDELT Project

**MALTEGO** 

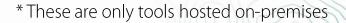




















# WATCH PROGRAM SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





#### Agenda

- What is a Watch?
- Structure
- Three I's
  - Indication
  - Investigation
  - Information
- Training Exercise





## The Watch: Team Composition



- Fall Term 2023
- Faculty, 4 Graduate students, and a handful of Undergrads
- Near-immediate report of an observed anomaly
  - Sent onward / upward to USG agency

- Current incarnation
- Faculty, 3 Grad students, 11 Undergrads



#### The Watch: Products



- Three (3) Monitoring Units, each led by a Graduate student
  - Branding / Sentiment Analysis / Competitive Intelligence (MMU)
  - Geopolitical (GMU)
  - Transportation (TMU)

- Daily & Weekly Reports, with updates as necessary
- Immediate concerns
- Future: Dashboard





# The Watch: Areas of Responsibility



- Asia
- Americas
- Europe
- Africa
- Middle East





# Watch Function = Global Security Operations Center (GSOC)



• The Watch is a program that monitors and analyzes a dynamic list of client indicators on a global scale. Some capabilities include geopolitical risk analysis, air and marine monitoring, and comprehensive open-source research. Based on observed behaviors and/or actions that suggest something is going to happen or has happened, the Watch has predetermined courses of action (COA). All of this is done to disseminate intelligence in a timely manner to the decision maker.





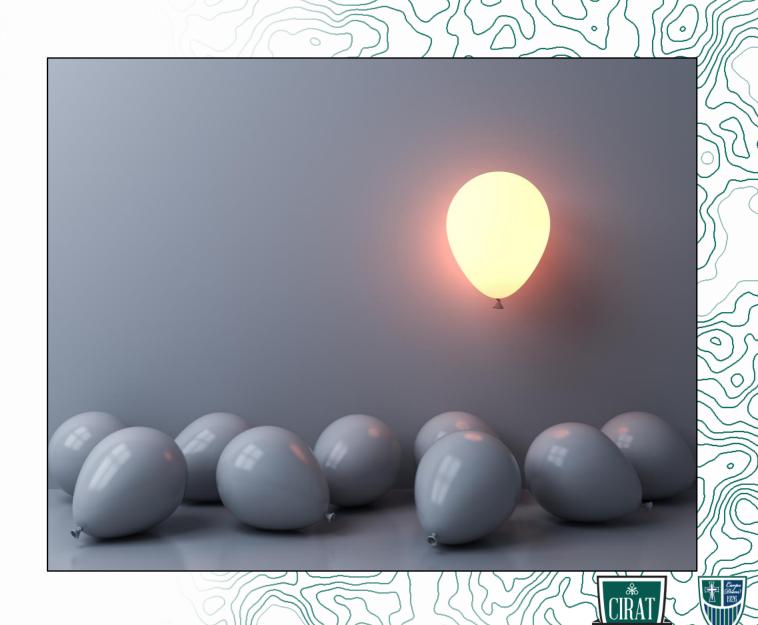
# 3 l's

Indication, Investigation, Information



#### Indication

- Observe behaviors and/or actions that suggest something is going to happen or has happened.
- Utilize Key Intelligence Topics (KIT's) to shape your monitoring.

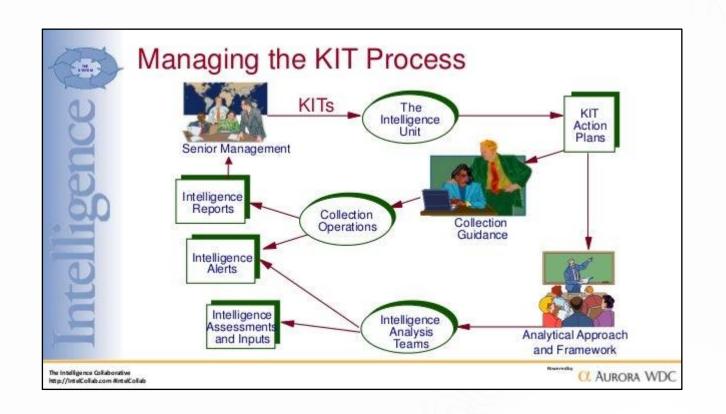


# Setting Up Early Warning Indicators

Key Intelligence Topics (KIT's)

- Recent M&A in your sector
- Change in Gov Policy
- Macro-economic factors

Competitor PR







# **Collection Requirements**

Topic	Question	Monitor Frame	Indicator Level
Industry	Will company x merge with company y?	FY23	5
	Is company x coming out with a new summer line?	1/01/23-06-01/23	3
Government	Will a new president's policy affect this industry?	2024 - 2025	2
	How will this policy change the market?	Next 3 Months	4
Brand	What is the public perception of this new endeavor?	Next 3 Months	3
	How bad is the backlash on the leaked internal memos?	Next 3 Months	5
Environment	Is my container ship on schedule?	Until Arrival	5
	What are the long-term effects of climate change on my supply chain?	Indefinite	1

Indicator Level Key			
5	Daily Updates		
4	Weekly Updates		
3	Bi-weekly Updates		
2	Monthly Updates		
1	As needed		

## Mercyhurst Monitoring Unit (MMU)

**Brand Protection** 

Applied Example:

- Keywords & Topics from the Administration
  - Local & Regional issues affecting the University
  - National issues on Higher Education
  - Specific Competitive Intelligence on similar Universities / Programs
- Special Topics / Projects as arise
- Self-directed
  - Based on findings and internal discussion



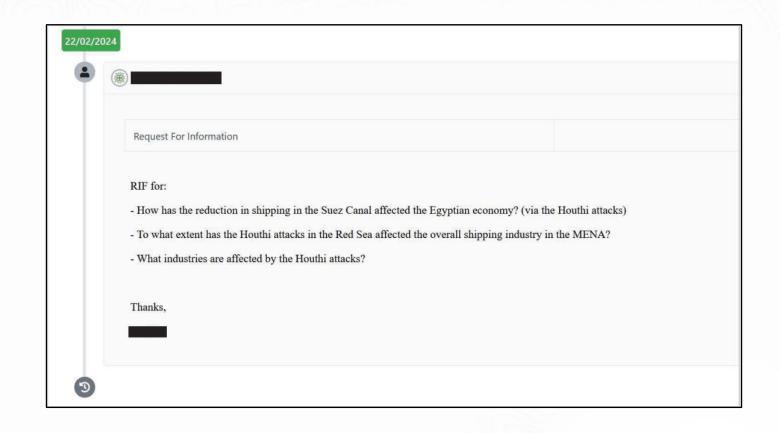
### Watch Center Support for You

- Standalone unit/team that monitors all potential threat & opportunity Indicators
- Company-wide support
- Other units provide Indicators for monitoring & POC



## Watch Center Support for You

- RFI submissions as necessary and applicable
- Tailored to your company requirements
  - Local? Regional? National?
     Specific location?
  - Industry-wide? Productspecific? Brand-specific?
  - Threat-/Opportunityspecific?







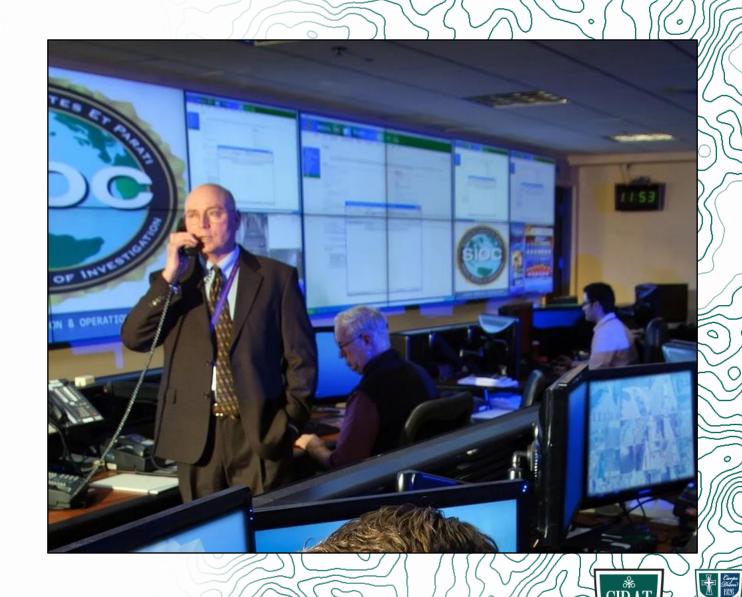
#### **Watch Center Infrastructure**

- Existing Office
  - Add a monitor/large monitor
  - Separate/other workstation
  - Global monitoring (CNN, Flight Tracking, Marine Tracking, etc.)
- New Space
  - Add several monitors and workstations for collaborative environment
  - A/V system to project & present
  - Some seating arrangement for decision makers & interested parties



#### Watch Desk Operations Center

- Communications Center
- Controlled environment for specific issues or operations
- Common space in/at Headquarters for important meetings & updates
- Training & education center



## Support for Your Company

- Competitive Environment Analysis
  - All-source analysis on your Industry/Products/Services
- Brand Sentiment Analysis
  - News and social media action & reaction to your company
  - Action & reaction to brands & Products / Services
  - Reactions to growth/downsizing plans & rumors
- Threat / Risk Assessments
  - "Random" threats/threat actors from social media trolling to violent threats and real-world penetration attempts or protests
  - Economic and Physical risks







#### Investigation

- Fact-finding mission to determine whether your organization or AOR is threatened- based on initial indications.
- Start your investigation by defining your Key Intelligence Questions (KIQ's)





#### Starting Your Investigation

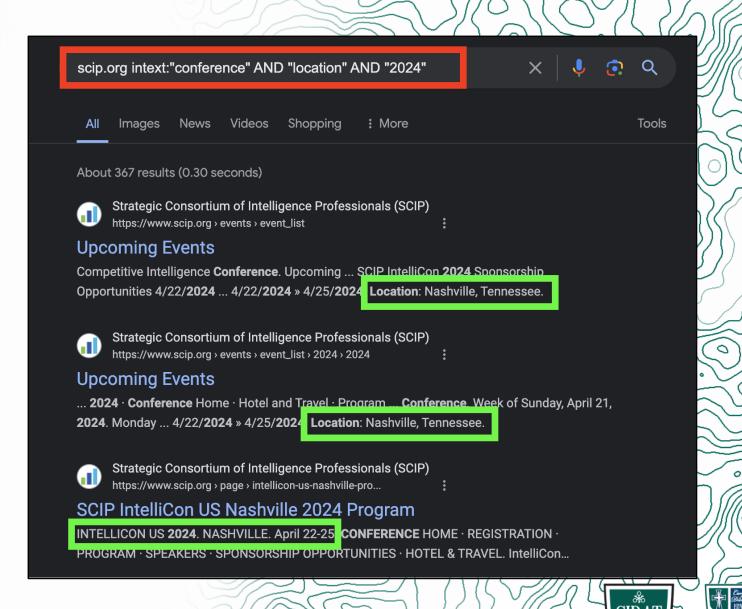
Key Intelligence Questions (KIQ's)

- How will this merger affect the industry?
- When will this new government policy go into effect?
- What is causing turbulence in the market?
- Ex. Where will this industry be holding its annual conference?

### Tradecraft: Google Dorking

Google can often return a swathe of results, some of which are unrelated to your query. Google Dorking allows you to hone your query with specific operators that filter your results.

- Filter by Site
- Filter by File Type
- Filter by Date
- Boolean Operators



## Tradecraft: Managed Attribution

Change your appearance when investigating in the public domain.

- IP Address
- Device Type
- Time Zone
- Language

Conducting anonymous secondary research can lead to better results. As a company you are researching may obfuscate otherwise publicly available information from their competitors.



# Tradecraft: Air and Marine Monitoring

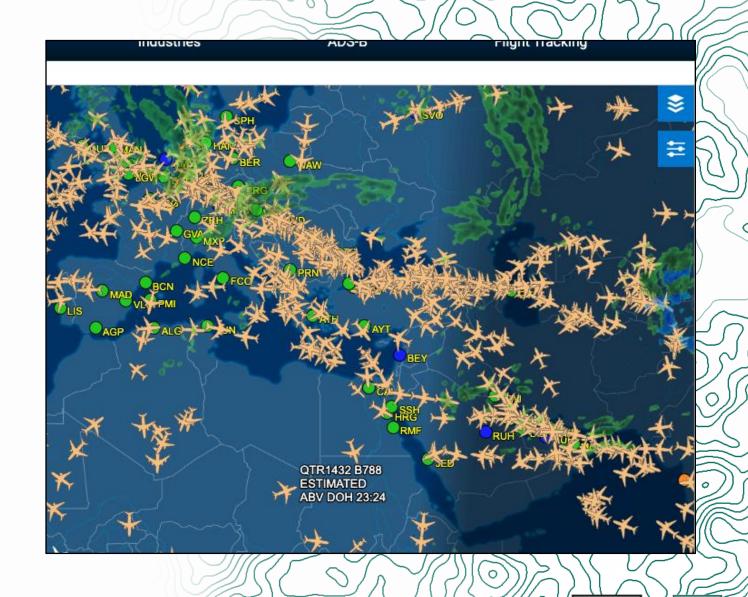
Keeping a Watch on the skies and the seas can provide valuable insights:

- Shipping Status
- Airport/Port Status
- Executive Protection
- Competitor PJ travel



## Tradecraft: Flight Tracker

- RadarBox
- FlightAware
- FlightTracker24
- PlaneFinder





2,062 mi to go

1,077 mi flown

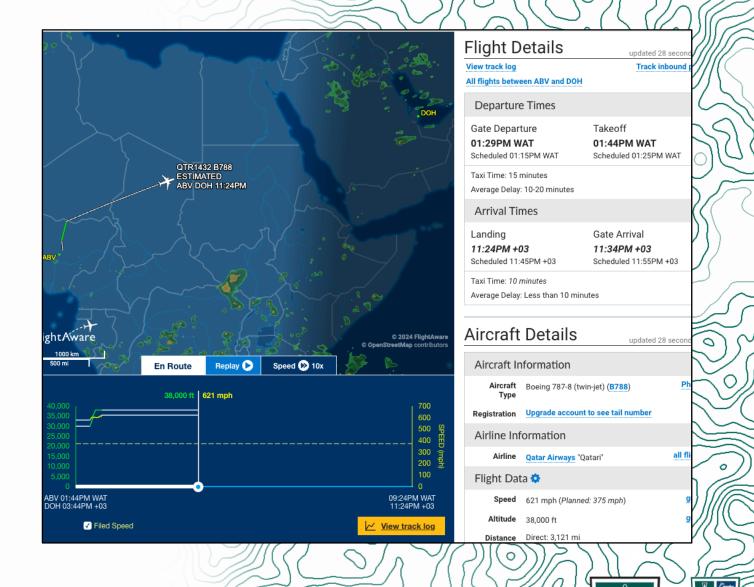




## Tradecraft: Flight Details

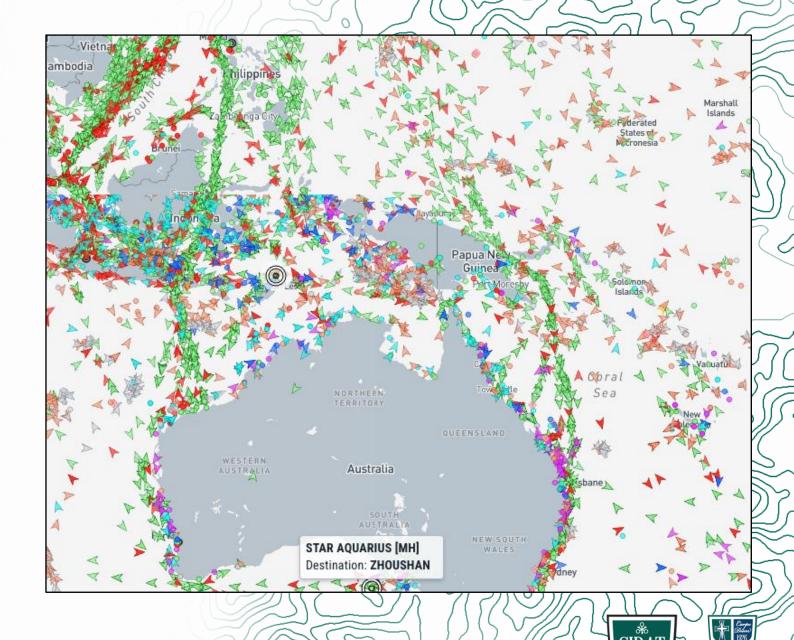
Display individual Flight details

- Airline flight number
- Schedule & on-time status
- Speed & elevation
- Plane details



#### Tradecraft: Marine Tracker

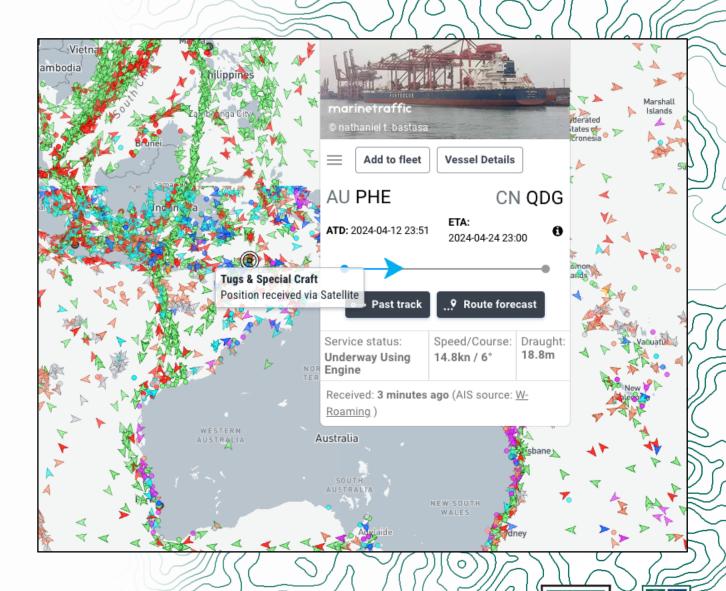
- ShipFinder
- MarineTraffic
- VesselFinder
- Ship Tracker
- ShipView



## Tradecraft: Marine Tracker

#### Ship details

- Type of ship (cargo, fishing, personal)
- Departure & destination ports
- Speed & course



## Tradecraft: Monitoring Public Forums

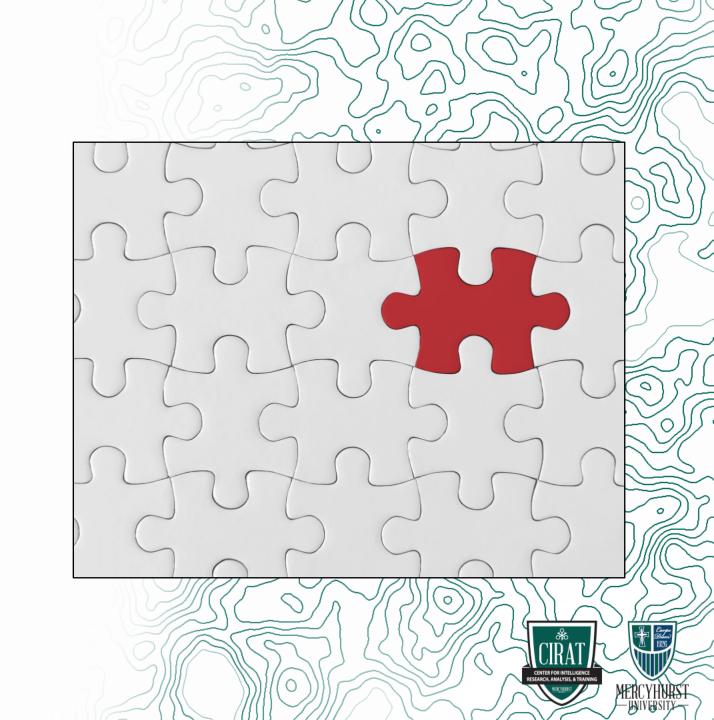
Employees, Customers, and Clients talk, and not just on Facebook. Having a collection plan for these sites would provide insights into those conversations.

- GlassDoor
- Reddit
- Discord
- Quora
- Industry Specific Forums



#### Information

Actionable insights, gathered during the investigation phase, which you can use to brief the decision maker.



## A Watch function allows your organization to...







Gain foresight into industry changes



#### **Support Your Whole Team**

- Watch Center answers RFIs from every Company department
  - C-Suite
  - Corporate Communications
  - Finance
  - || ||
  - Logistics / Distribution
  - Manufacturing / Professional Services
  - Marketing / Branding
  - R&D
  - Sales



#### Support Your Whole Team

- Watch Center can advise on Company security policies
  - Counterintelligence
    - Security / Access Control practices
    - Operational Security & Situational Awareness training
  - Travel
    - Meeting / Conference read-ahead packages
    - Travel Safety / Security Reports
    - Executive Protection Reports

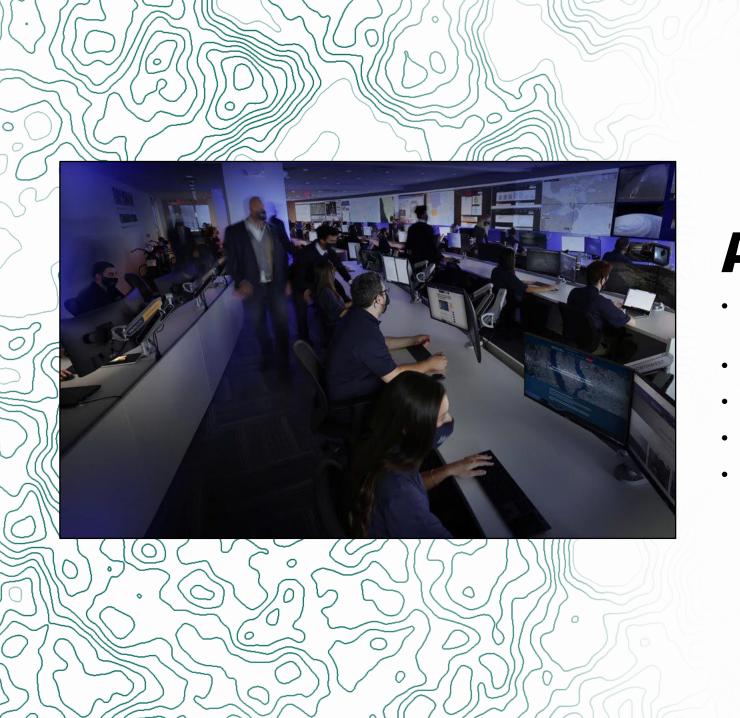




### Watch Desk Operations Center

- 24/7 coverage may mean reviewing overnight developments
- Specific responsibilities avoids unnecessary overlap
- Structured to ensure universal coverage
- Information sharing system





#### Al for GSOC/Watch

- Social Media scraping results & sentiment analysis
- Processing overnight data analysis
- Monitoring physical security
- Monitoring supply chain movements
- Automated searching of company database(s), report repositories





### From Unique to Universal

- Watch Center combines Cl with Global Awareness
- Always an eye to the Big Picture
- Umbrella products
- Tailored products
- Reducing uncertainty for the Decision Maker





### **Cost Break Down**

Tool	Cost
Meta Search Engines	Free
Google	Free
Social Media Platforms	Free
Authentic8 Silo	Negotiable
Babel Street	Negotiable
AirNav RadarBox	\$399
ShipXplorer	\$399
Total	Based on negotiated prices





#### Some other Reading

- "NSA's National Security Operations Center celebrates 50 years of 24/7 operations in service to the Nation"
  - National Security Agency Press Room, 21 Feb 2023. <a href="https://www.nsa.gov/Press-Room/News-Highlights/Article/Article/3302922/nsas-national-security-operations-center-celebrates-50-years-of-247-operations/">https://www.nsa.gov/Press-Room/News-Highlights/Article/Article/3302922/nsas-national-security-operations-center-celebrates-50-years-of-247-operations/</a>
- FBI Strategic Information Operations Center
  - "FBI Global Command and Communications Center," Federal Bureau of Investigation. Online at: <a href="https://www.fbi.gov/about/leadership-and-structure/intelligence/sioc">https://www.fbi.gov/about/leadership-and-structure/intelligence/sioc</a>
- Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) "Hub"
  - John Born, Director, Ohio Department of Public Safety. "Integrated Intelligence for Public Safety," The Police Chief, June 2015. Online at: <a href="https://www.policechiefmagazine.org/integrated-intelligence-for-public-safety/">https://www.policechiefmagazine.org/integrated-intelligence-for-public-safety/</a>
- State of Indiana Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
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- "Coast guard's marine watch desk reports sightings in real time to protect B.C. orcas"
  - Canadian Press, 14 Jan 2021. <a href="https://kitchener.citynews.ca/2021/01/14/coast-guards-marine-watch-desk-reports-sightings-in-real-time-to-protect-bc-orcas-3262202/">https://kitchener.citynews.ca/2021/01/14/coast-guards-marine-watch-desk-reports-sightings-in-real-time-to-protect-bc-orcas-3262202/</a>

#### Some other Reading

- What is a security operations center (SOC)? [cyber]
  - Microsoft Security. Online at: <a href="https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/security/business/security-101/what-is-a-security-operations-center-soc">https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/security/business/security-101/what-is-a-security-operations-center-soc</a>
- What is a security operations center (SOC)? [cyber]
  - Mark Scapicchio, Amanda Downie, Matthew Finio. IBM, 15 Mar 2024. Online at: <a href="https://www.ibm.com/topics/security-operations-center">https://www.ibm.com/topics/security-operations-center</a>
- "How to build a security operations center on a budget"
  - Dan Gundry. Security Magazine, 01 Apr 2022. Online at: <a href="https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/97337-how-to-build-a-security-operations-center-on-a-budget">https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/97337-how-to-build-a-security-operations-center-on-a-budget</a>
- "How Real-Time Location Intelligence is Changing Corporate Security"
  - Carl Walter and Eric Pollard. WhereNext Magazine, 11 Jan 2022. Online at: <a href="https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/publications/wherenext/new-corporate-security-techniques/">https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/publications/wherenext/new-corporate-security-techniques/</a>

### Thank You!

Questions and Comments? cirat@mercyhurst.edu



# BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND INNOVATION LAB SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





#### Agenda

- Lab Purpose and Overview
- Lab Processes
  - Bottom Up
  - Top Down
- Tools
  - Rover
  - Recorded Future
- Product Examples
  - Risk Rating Matrix







#### **Bl<sup>2</sup> Lab: Operational Focus**



The **Business Intelligence and Innovation Laboratory (BI2)** exists to advance further the understanding and use of open-source intelligence (OSINT) and business information analysis in the private sector, including its value, capabilities, and tools. It will provide security leaders with real-time and predictive information to help their business partners and executives make more informed business decisions.

- The lab's mission is to help build an understanding of the value of intelligence and information analysis for the private sector, similar to the capabilities available to the public sector.
- Because there is abundant information to track and analyze, it can be difficult for private-sector security
  practitioners to identify actionable information. The Lab will create and leverage tools that assist the
  private sector in identifying relevant information and allow businesses to draw actionable conclusions
  and make evidence-based risk decisions.

The goal of the Lab is to empower corporate security practitioners and their executives to ingest information more quickly by breaking it down to a manageable and actionable level—without increasing their staff.



#### **Operations Process**



#### Bottom-up Support

- Topics are developed by our BI2 analysts Top-down Support
- Topics are developed by the SEC and supported by our BI2 analysts Crisis Management
- We do have a crisis response function, in which case reports can be returned within 24-48 hours of receiving the request.





#### **Bottom-Up**



#### Process:

- The BI2 analysts compile a weekly list of geopolitical events and risk and security issues that affect the private sector industry.
- A council of SEC and MU subject matter experts review the topics and then provide direction and feedback on which topics the lab will proceed with building products.
- Products range from Executive Summaries to a variety of Intelligence Reports to Executive-level Briefings and Special Products.



#### **Top-Down Support**



#### Process:

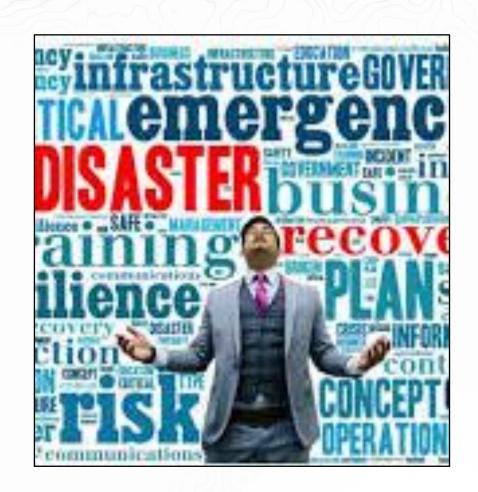
- The SEC subject matter experts and Mercyhurst University administrators provide directives for production.
- BI2 Members/Clients request information regarding global or domestic risk and security issues affecting private-sector industries.
- Lab outputs/results will help corporate security practitioners effectively communicate findings to executive leadership, helping them make better decisions.
- Bl2 creates innovative processes, strategies, solutions, and tools that answer the challenges of new and changing operational environments.



#### **Crisis Reports**

Process: Client Driven Needs

- The BI2 has the capability and processes for executing immediate crisis action support without disrupting status quo operations.
- SEC, MU Administrators, and clients can request, approved by CIRAT/Lab Directors
- When a client needs immediate action, the BI2 lab can return a full report within 24 hours.
- More concise and shorter, yet relevant and timely, reporting products.
- Prioritization of tools, databases, and production timelines are key (SOP dictates).

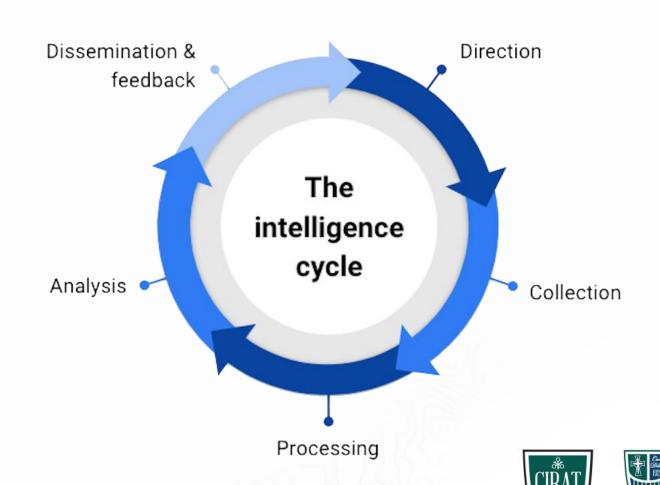


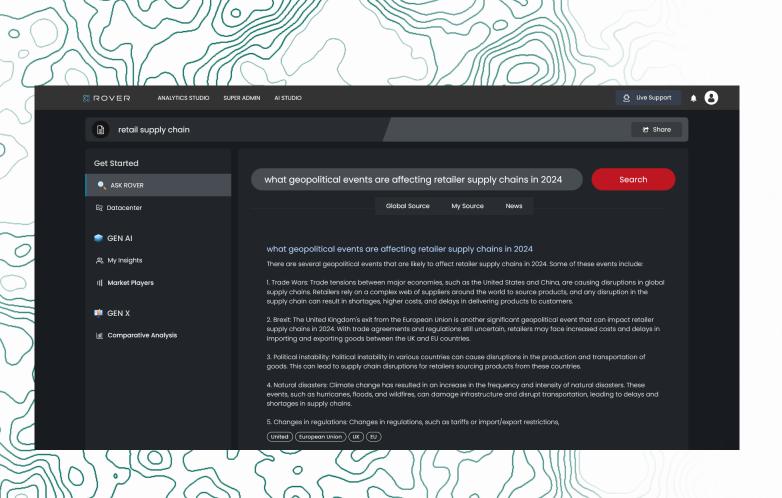




### Intelligence Cycle

- 1. Topic decision/notification
- 2. Rover
- 3. Recorded Future
- 4. OSINT
- 5. Analysis/Writing
- 6. Editing
- 7. Dissemination
  - Risk Rating
- 8. Feedback





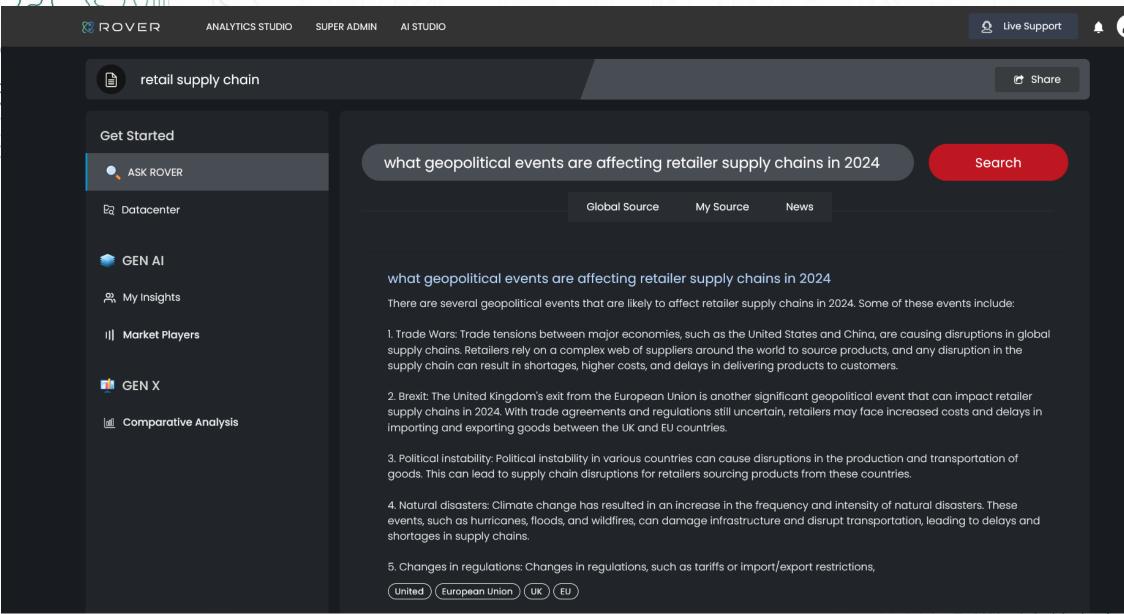
#### **Rover Al**

- Our Bl<sup>2</sup> lab has been instrumental in developing the use of Generative Al processes in supporting intelligence analysis and processes regarding competitive business intelligence and risk and security threat modeling.
- The lab specifically uses it for supply chain analysis, developing lists of indications and warnings affecting global supply chain operations.











### Processing & Analysis - Rover Al

- Supply chain analysis use
- The key with generative AI being the analyst's ability to ask the correct questions to the AI.
- The goal of this tool being to streamline our analyst's work flows and speed of production.
- Beginning of the intelligence Cycle

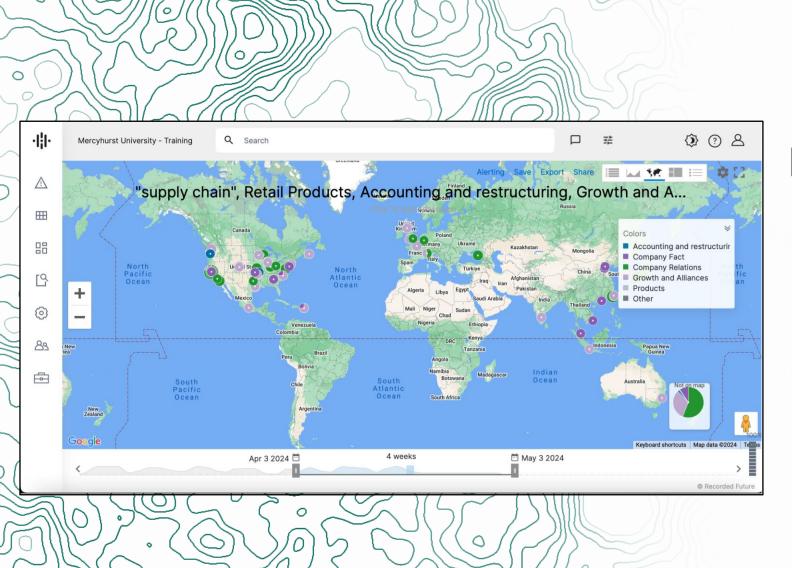


#### **Processing & Analysis**



- Collaborative Culture
- Weekly sync meetings
  - Questions about methodology
  - Creative solutions
  - Review other analyst products and analysis
- Analysts work independently or in small teams
  - Create products and briefing material





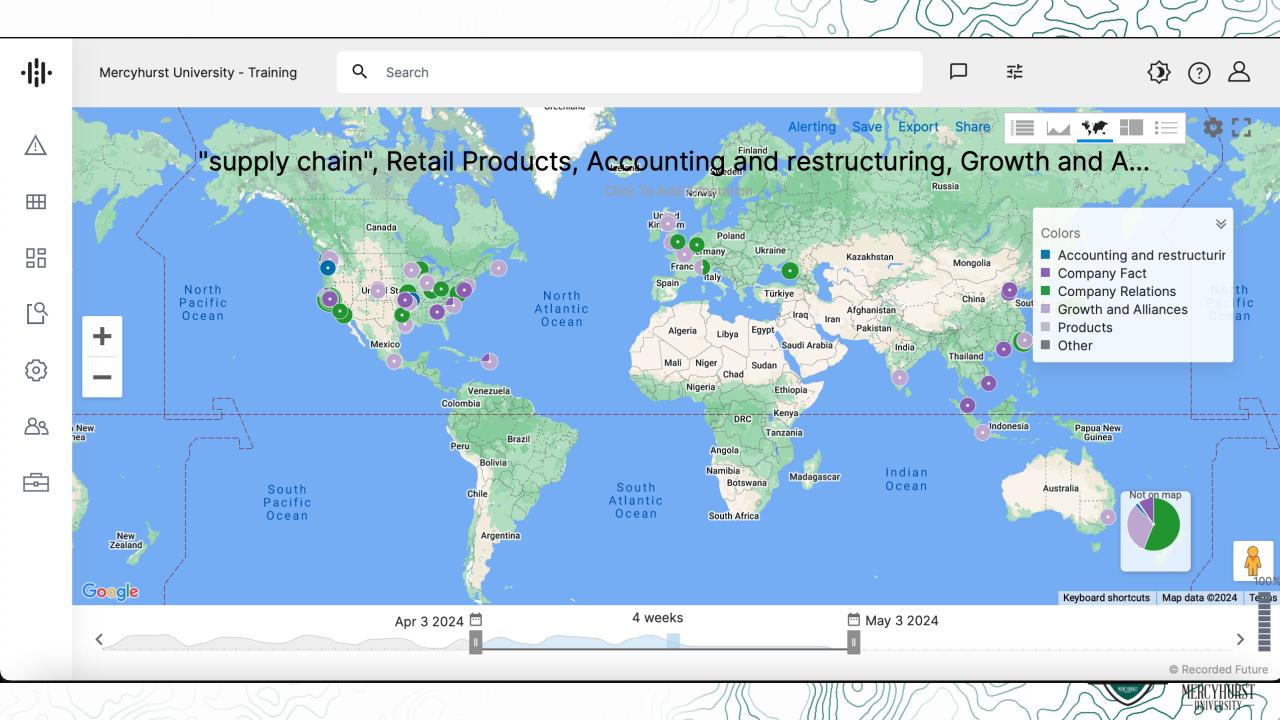
#### **Recorded Future**

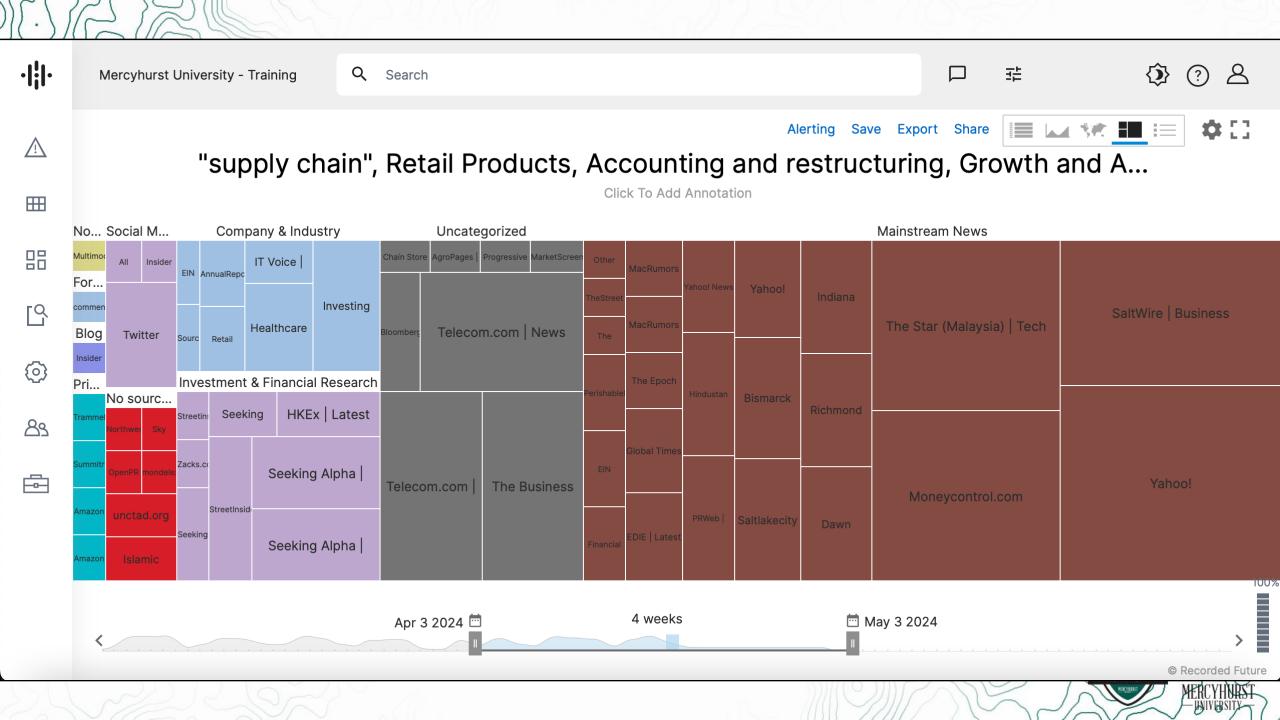
- Recorded Future is an intelligence security database that can be used for collection on recent events
- The BI2 lab uses Recorded Future as one of their tools for event awareness.
- Different Functions for users to evaluate the impact of events.

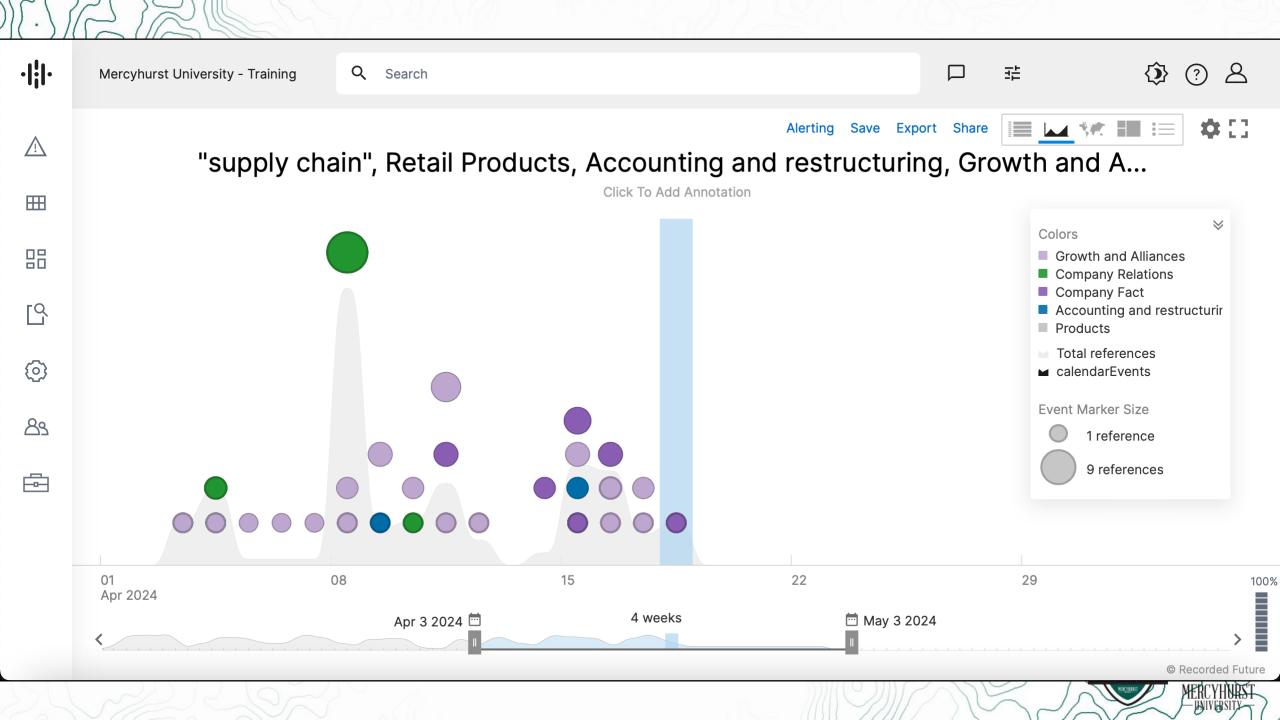












### **Production**

- Written Products
  - SFARs
  - LFARs
  - Industry Intelligence Bulletins
  - Executive Summaries
- Briefings
  - PowerPoint Presentation to an audience of the clients choosing
- Risk Rating Matrix

#### **Executive Summary**

On 5 February 2024, strikes led by dissatisfied truck drivers and a series of trucking organizations erupted on over 13 of Mexico's major roadways. Demands for road safety, tow truck regulations, stopped abuses and extortions, and the return of federal highways were proposed to the government by members of the strike. If demands are not met, strikes will likely continue and spread in the coming weeks.

Supply chain effects will likely be felt by many industries in the areas. Analysts recommend that companies turn to other forms of freight transportation, such as planes, trains, and boats.

**Rails**: Rails act as the cheapest of the three options and also provide a high carrying capacity; however, they also often get stopped at borders for checks, which would likely cause further shipping delays.

**Ship**: Ships offer a large carrying capacity with limited rules and regulations regarding the size and materials of freight; however, they have a significantly slower transit time and would likely cause a delay in shipping as companies would still need to transport products to coasts.

**Plane**: Planes offer the fastest shipping method of the three; however, they also have the lowest carrying capacity and are significantly impacted by inclement weather. They also are the most expensive of the three options, with shipping costs calculated by the





## Risk Rating

The BI2 has built an internal risk rating chart that supports their reports and decision-making processes.

This was created specifically by the BI2 to have a lab-wide standard for rating the likelihood of events.

Risk rating is built to look at the issue from a CSO perspective.

ticality										
10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	8
7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	7	7
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	6	6	6	6
5	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
4	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Proba



## Risk Rating Cont.

Example: Due to the Israel and Hamas conflict two Israeli ports, Ashdod and Ashkelon, are at risk of closure. The port of Ashdod is facing a likely closure in coming weeks and the port of Ashkelon has already announced a closure for the foreseeable future. The closure of said ports would cause a negative effect on not only Israel's economy, but also the economy of Germany, India, the Netherlands, Switzerland, China, and the United States, their biggest trade partners.

The supply chain also faces disruptions as backups at port and a shortage of truck drivers lead to an overflow of products sitting in port. This is likely to affect multiple sectors including oil and petroleum supply, bromine and potash, fertilizer, technology, pharmaceuticals, and textiles.

Criticality	
-------------	--

10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9	
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	8	
7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	7	7	
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	6	6	6	6	
5	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	
4	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	
3	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2))/(
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	()((1)	7///
7510	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Pro	bability





## Cost Break Down

Tool	Cost
Meta Search Engines	Free
Recorded Future	Negotiable
Babel Street	Negotiable
Rover	Not available for public use yet
Total	Based on negotiated prices





## Final Thoughts

- Actionable intelligence achievable with minimal tools and analysts.
  - Proper lab structure
  - High Communication between analysts and decision-makers is necessary for this to be successful
- What does the BI2 provide its decision-makers?



## Thank You!

Questions and Comments? cirat@mercyhurst.edu



## INNOVATION ENTENTE LAB

SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





### Agenda

- What is the NWPA Innovation Beehive Network
- Purpose
- Services
- Collection Methods
  - Meta Search Engines
  - Demographic Databases
  - Patent Databases
  - ZoomInfo
  - Social Media Analysis
  - SEO Analysis



### MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

The Innovation Entente Lab





### **NWPA Beehive Network**

#### PRIMARY MISSION

- Reduce and eliminate barriers to regional innovation and business growth.
- Provide unique, high-impact learning and careerdevelopment experiences for our students
- Amplify similar efforts of other organizations



### ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

The Allegheny Center for Sustainable Development



#### MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

The Innovation Entente Lab



### ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Idea Lab



#### PENN STATE BEHREND

The Meehl Innovation Commons



#### GANNON UNIVERSITY

The Center for Business Ingenuity



### PENNWEST EDINBORO

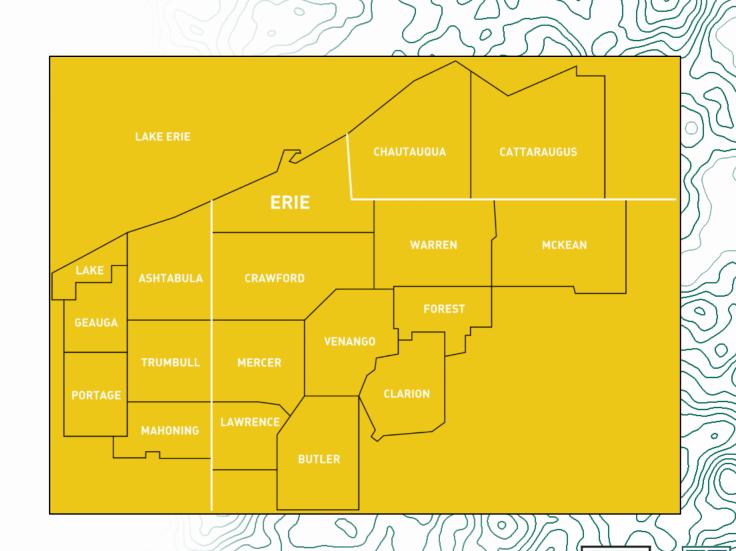
The Center for Branding and Strategic Communication





### NWPA Beehive Network

- Small Business and Entrepreneurs
- 18 Counties
  - Eastern Ohio
  - Southern New York State
  - Northwest Pennsylvania



### **Innovation Entente Lab**



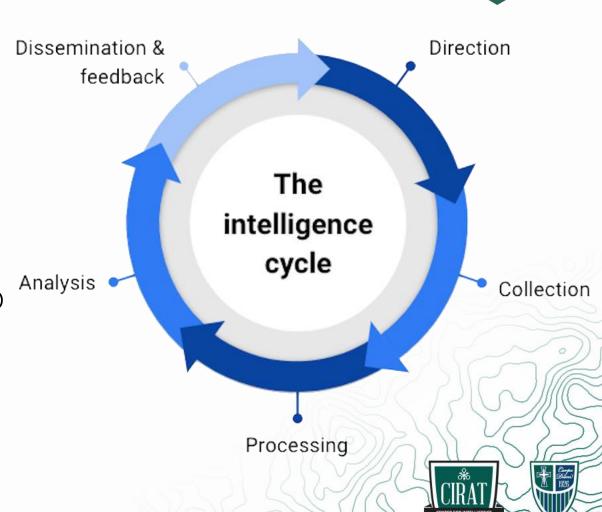
- Create an area for students to gain real-world experience in competitive business intelligence
- Give back to the greater Northwest Pennsylvania community
- Develop and support key components of the region's economy and entrepreneur ecosystem
- Grant funded
- Services provided ~\$100,000



### **Innovation Entente Lab**



- Competitor Analysis
- Market Analysis Data
- Intellectual Property Information
- Funding Opportunities
- Social Media Market Analysis
- Industry best practices and pitfalls to avoid
- Data collection and manipulation
- Cybersecurity



### Collection



- Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT)
  - Google Dorking
  - Demographic Research
  - Meta Search Engines (Carot2, DuckDuckGo, Qwant)
  - Patent Database Search (WIPO, Google Patent Database)
- ZoomInfo
- Social media analysis
  - Social Blade
  - Going to accounts and collecting information on posts
- SEO Analysis
  - Seobility
  - In-house scripts





### Meta Search Engines

- Allows for analysts to filter through large amounts of search results based on clusters
- Help identify trends
- Allows for visualization of local data sets
- Social media content analysis







## Meta Search Engines



#### Play Port Arcade and Family Fun Center<sup>1</sup>

Located in Erie, Pennsylvania, Play Port Arcade and Family Fun Center is an activity center that promotes a specific 80's and 90's while providing consumers with a unique experience that includes a wide variety of futuristic games with a vintage theme. This company prioritizes the consumer experience and provides multiple options for activities – to ensure a fun and exclusive time, giving local Erie artists a chance to showcase their talent by designing visual effects.

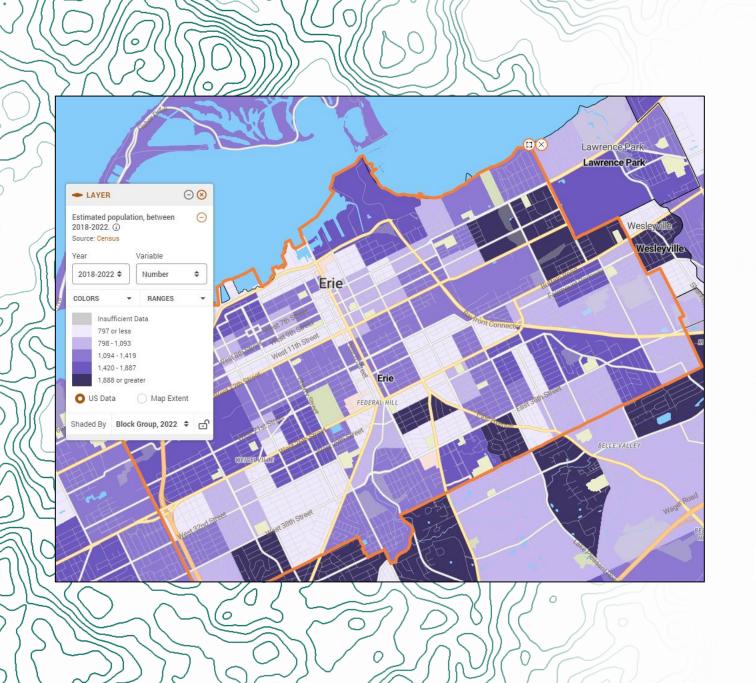
#### Services and Pricing

One of the key components of Play Port Arcade and Family Fun Center is how many options they offer customers. While providing a variety of classic games such as mini-golf and laser tag, it differentiates itself by giving a futuristic setting to each game. Some of these options include:

- Glow Golf & Pool<sup>2</sup>
- Laser Maze<sup>3</sup>
- Laser Tag Arena<sup>4</sup>
- Virtual Reality<sup>5</sup>

Play Port Arcade does not charge for the activity. Instead, they offer a "Free Play" system in which each participant pays a fee and is allowed to play any game desired. Prices offered are as follows, a regular admission, which allows free play of video games, and 1 round of glow golf is \$10.99. The family saver includes 4fourregular admission tickets along with one large topping pizza and four drinks for \$55.55.9 Customers can also purchase a round of laser tag at \$6 per player/game. Lastly, a offered "VR 4-PACK" is an additional purchase that gifts the customer double the playtime and four 10-minute sessions with the virtual reality part of the experience.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Website Design	<ul> <li>SM Platform Diversity</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Social Media Content</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Website Pricing Options</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Customer Communication</li> </ul>	Weekend Revenue
Opportunities	Threats
<ul> <li>More Social Media Platforms</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lack of Relaxed Game Options</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>More Food/Drink Promotion</li> </ul>	Competitors SM presence
<ul> <li>Partnerships</li> </ul>	Low Employee count





## Demographic Data

- Policymaps, Google Earth Pro, US census Data
- Allows for visualization of various data points
  - Demographics
  - Income
  - Education
  - Housing

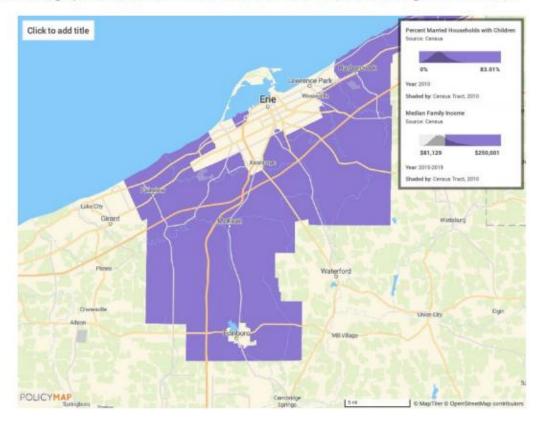
### POLICYMAP



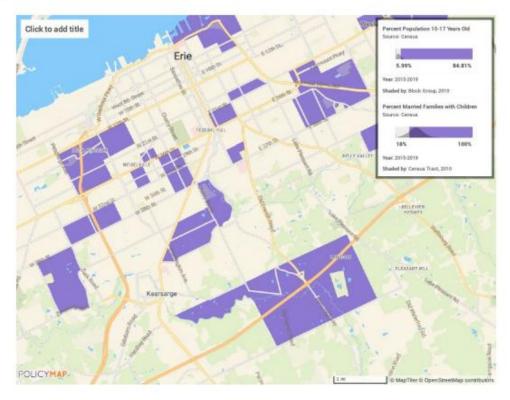


## Demographic Data

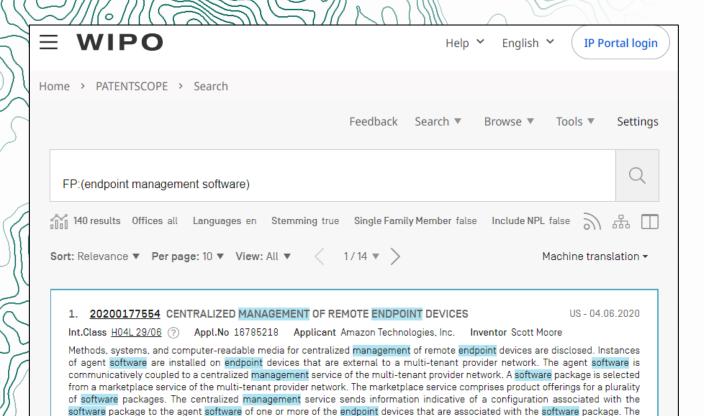
The 2<sup>nd</sup> map, below this, shows in the purple areas with the ideal family that would be interested in an activity like mini golf. As seen below, the southeast, McKean area is a highly populated area according to the demographic of a married household with children and an income higher than \$81,000.



The target market for laser tag is shown below. The main demographic Adventures Erie would be most suited to strive for in order to create profit would be a 15 year old male, which is the average customer of a typical laser tag establishment (60% of customers) with a stable home in which both parents are present and willing to help transport the customer to the business. \*xxix\* As seen, the majority of this demographic is located in Langdon and the Federal Hill-Kearsarge area.







centralized management service receives, from the agent software, an indication that the configuration has been deployed on the

Methods, systems, and computer-readable media for centralized management of remote endpoint devices are disclosed. Instances of agent software are installed on endpoint devices that are external to a multi-tenant provider network. The agent software is communicatively coupled to a centralized management service of the multi-tenant provider network. A software package is selected from a marketplace service of the multi-tenant provider network. The marketplace service comprises product offerings for a plurality of software packages. The centralized management service sends information indicative of a configuration associated with the software package to the agent software of one or more of the endpoint devices that are associated with the software package. The

2. 10560432 CENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT OF REMOTE ENDPOINT DEVICES

Int.Class H04L 29/06 (?) Appl.No 15618576 Applicant Amazon Technologies, Inc.

one or more of the endpoint devices.



## Patent Databases

- WIPO, Google Patent Database, USPTO
- Search for similar products and ideas
- Identify key differences
- Identify competitors

US - 11.02.2020

Verify clients unique ideas



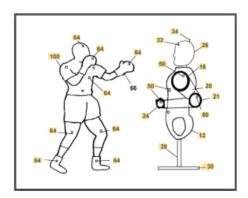


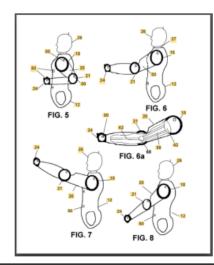
### **Patent Research**

#### **UFP Similar Patents**

Robotic Sparring Partner (US20140378281A1) – this device is provided having an upright torso section operatively engaged with arms, legs, and a head. Both the arms and legs are formed of two sections and engaged to the torso at the respective shoulder and hip positions. Computer-controlled electric motors at points similar to human joints provide rotation of the joined leg and arm sections in two planes. A computer controller is configured with software to elicit human-like offensive and counter-movements of the sparring device's limbs in response to or an offensive movement toward a human sparring partner.<sup>68</sup>

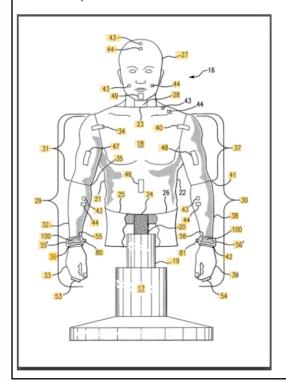
The patent was created by its inventor Joseph Mazi and was initially filed in June 2013 and was published in December 2014. The patent's current status is abandoned, but no reason for abandonment is provided. The full list of claims, description, and background is available on the patent page.<sup>69</sup>





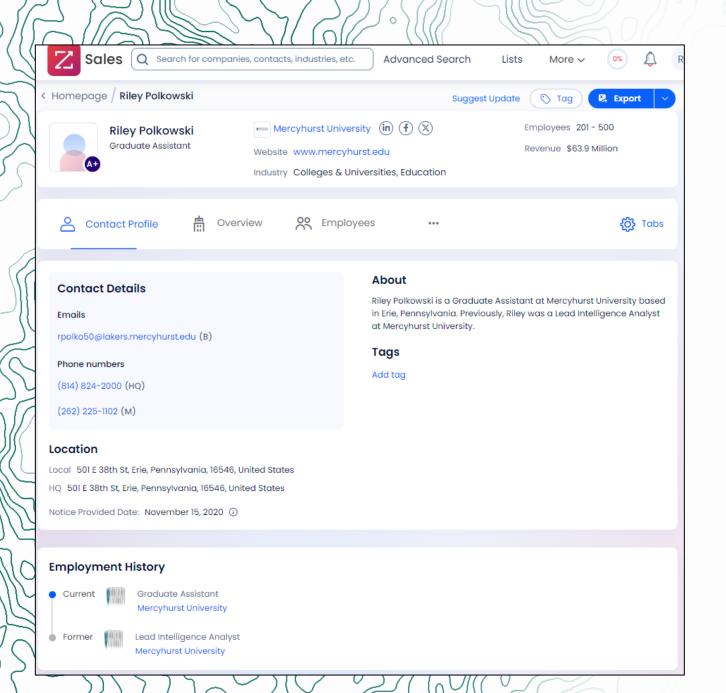
<u>Training Device</u> (US8777818B1) - A training device for use in the various martial arts and other competitive sports that responds to a person using the training device. A torso sits on a base, a head is attached to the torso, arms are connected to the torso, and legs may be attached to the torso. Sensors on the torso, head, arms, and legs communicate to move the head, torso, arms, and legs. A means for controlling the movement of the components can be programmed to move the elements in response to, or independently of, the actions of a user of the device.<sup>78</sup>

The inventor of this device was Larry E. Tate Jr., and the application was initially filed in 2010 and was granted and published in 2014. The patent's expected expiration is September 2032; however, the patent's current status is expired due to fee-related issues. The patent has 21 claims associated with the invention.<sup>79</sup>











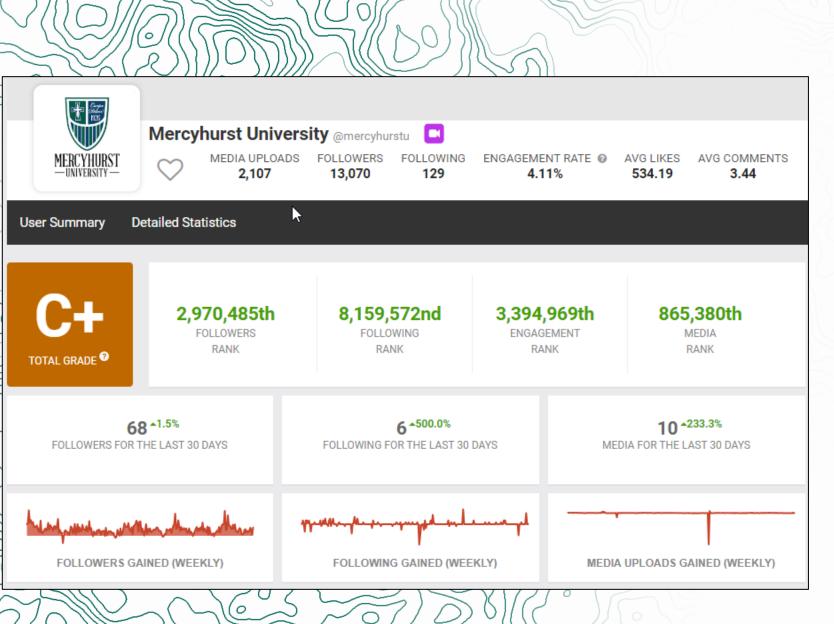
### ZoomInfo

- Gain insights into corporate structure
- Gain contact information on potential competitors, clients, and investors
- Gather information on employees











### Socialblade

- Gather information on social media accounts
- Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Twitch, Facebook,
- Identify and track high-performing accounts and trends
- Monitor client social media progress







## Social Media Analysis

#### Social Media Analysis

#### Competitor Social Media Overview

	COIII	etitor Soci		verview		
Competitors	Twitter	Instagram	YouTube	TikTok TikTok	LinkedIn	Facebook
Play Port Arcade and Family Fun Center						х
Stumpy's Hatchet House	х	x	х	x	x	х
Buffalo Battleground	х	х	x			х
Erie Axe Throwing		X	х			х
Laser Storm Pittsburgh		X				х

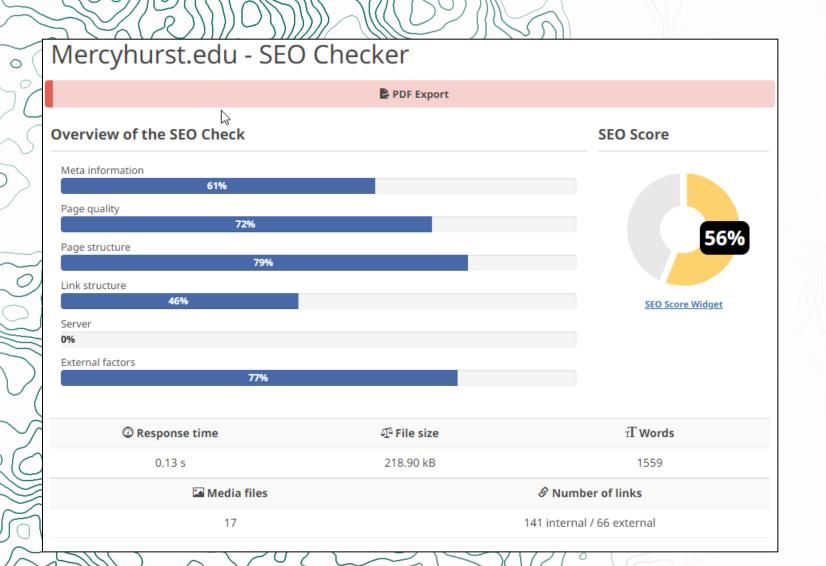
The most used platform among Adventures Erie competitors are:

Facebook: 100%
LinkedIn: 33%
Instagram: 83%
Twitter: 33%
TikTok: 16%
YouTube: 66%

#### Social Media Engagement

Play Port Arcade has little presence on social media. While accounting for all major platforms, its only account resides on Facebook. 12 As of 2022, the account has a total of 12 posts. 13 These posts accounted for 490 likes total, an average of 40.8 likes per post, and 256 comments, 21.3 average per post.14 The account has also accumulated a total of 7,010 posts and 7,145 followers total.15 In the last year, Play Port Arcade's Facebook has also achieved 597 shares on all posts, averaging a share count of 49.75 shares per post. The content contains events being posted, advertising things such as BYOB nights, openings of new activities available, and updates on popular games/attractions at the facility. Its most popular post, reaching 252 likes, 7 230 comments, and 536 shares, is a post containing six pictures announcing the grand opening of its new laser tag facility.16 Play Port Arcade's social media prioritizes attracting customers with both deals available for a short amount of time, such as one night, and more prominent attractions such as pictures and promotions of popular games such as pinball and laser tag. The account is also extremely consistent with communication via social media. Under several posts, the company responds to comments/questions concerning times, pricing, etc.17 This promotes a personal touch with consumers and encourages a friendly and open environment in the business.







### **SEOBILITY**

- Review website quality
- Provide auditing, keyword monitoring, backlink analysis, Content optimization, and reporting
- Assist with competitor analysis
- Provides monitoring dashboards

seobility







- Page Analysis
- Keyword Analysis
- GitHub

#### Page Analysis:

show all notice

	page	word count	number of notices
>	https://www.mercyhurst.edu/academics/cirat	1607	214

#### **Keyword Analysis:**

keywords	count
intelligence	36
student	31
business	17
analysis	15
cirat	14
service	14
information	13
support	13
data	13
competitive	12



## Self Created Scripts

- Provide all the same functionality of Seobility
- Open-source
- Modified to fit Innovation Entente Lab uses





### SEO Analysis

#### **Meta Specifications / Descriptions:**

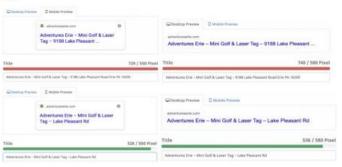
Meta Descriptions are extremely important for search engines to understand what your page is about. A meta description is information about your page that appears in the search engine results page below the page title and URL of your page.

Adventure Erie scored 80 percent in this category. There are two areas that need to be addressed.



#### Actions for Improvement:

Shorten the Page Title. This is the title that shows up when you search for Adventure Erie
in Google. Having longer page titles has a higher chance of getting cut off. This is the
first impression someone has when they search for your website so make sure it's visually
appealing.



#### **Keyword Research:**

Keyword research is the process by which you research popular search terms people type into search engines like Google, and include them strategically in your content so that your content appears higher on a search engine results page (SERP).

#### **Keywords:**

- things to do in erie pa
  - Reach out to blog posts via email to get your business added to their websites.
- laser tag near me
  - Adventures Erie ranks first on Google My Business
  - Ranks 7th on the overall Search Engine Results Page
  - To Rank Higher for this keyword, have more descriptive alt tags on pictures. You
    have "laser tag" throughout the text on your webpage however. There are pictures
    pertaining to laser tags that are labeled "Mini Golf" in the alt tag.
- putt putt golf erie pa
  - Adventures Erie ranks first on Google My Business
  - o Ranks 2nd on the overall Search Engine Results Page
- family activities in erie pa
  - Adventures Erie doesn't rank for this keyword. To help Rank for this keyword I would suggest adding words such as,
    - "Fun for the Whole Family"
    - "Kids Love it"

According to <u>SmartInsight</u> the first ranked website achieves roughly 30-40%, second highest receives 15-25% and the number drops off the lower you get down on the SERP.





Description:

Overview:

, located across the United States, offers a sanctuary of luxury and holistic well-being. Known for an unwavering commitment to an unparalleled massage and facial experience, their diverse services range from therapeutic massages to revitalizing facials. The spa's ambiance, marked by soothing colors and calming scents, sets the stage for a transformative journey toward relaxation. Skilled therapists

provide personalized treatments in state-of-the-art facilities, including relaxation lounges and steam rooms. Embracing a holistic approach to wellness, curated programs address specific needs, ensuring comprehensive rejuvenation. Committed to sustainability, integrates eco-friendly practices, offering membership and loyalty programs that foster lasting connections with valued patrons.

Service Analysis: offers a comprehensive range of services catering to diverse preferences and needs. In the realm of massages, the Absolute Massage stands out as a deep tissue table massage, providing ultimate massage relaxation for durations of 30, 45, or 60 minutes, priced at \$99, \$129, and \$159, respectively. The Be Up Massage, focusing on the upper body with a deep tissue chair massage, offers relief for back pain in sessions ranging from 15 to 60 minutes, with prices ranging from \$44 to \$94. The Be Foot Massage, a foot massage and Reflexology, spans 15 to 45 minutes, priced from \$44 to \$94. The Head Up Massage, targeting head and neck for stress relief, varies from 15 to 60 minutes, with costs ranging from \$44 to \$94.

In nail care, exclusive Men Manicure and Express Manicure cater to various needs. Men Manicure lasts 15 to 35 minutes at \$45, while Express Manicure, including cleaning, filing, and base coat application, ranges from \$35 to \$45, with dazzle dry and gel options. Classic Manicure, spanning 30 to 45 minutes, offers polish, dazzle dry, and gel options priced from \$45 to \$65. Classic Pedicure, lasting 35 to 60 minutes, includes thorough foot care and is priced from \$59 to \$79. Wellness offerings include the Shower, ideal for post-travel rejuvenation, with durations of 10 to 25 minutes, and costs are unavailable. In beauty services, waxing sessions (10 to 30 minutes) and facials (30 to 60 minutes) in private rooms are available, with facial prices starting at \$74. The Combo Package, providing a head-to-toe experience, includes a 20-minute foot massage and a 20-minute Be Up Chair Massage, totaling 40 minutes at a cost of \$95

Marketing:

has successfully cultivated a strong online presence with 10,000 followers and likes on Facebook, along with 6,721 followers on Instagram. Their consistent posting strategy, covering a spectrum from services and benefits to self-care treatments and product promotions, showcases a dedication to engaging their audience on multiple fronts. The business's visually appealing Instagram profile, enriched with high-quality images, effectively captures the essence of their luxurious and tranquil ambiance. By incorporating product promotions alongside service highlights, not only encourages service bookings but also diversifies potential revenue streams. While maintaining this strong presence, the business could further enhance engagement by incorporating user-generated content and exploring interactive features to deepen the connection with their audience. The link to their Facebook account is <a href="https://link.pub.edu/https://link.p

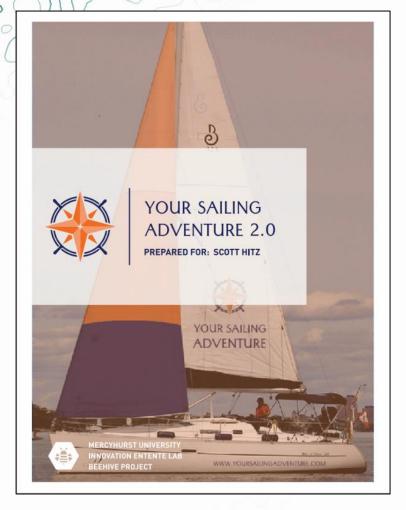


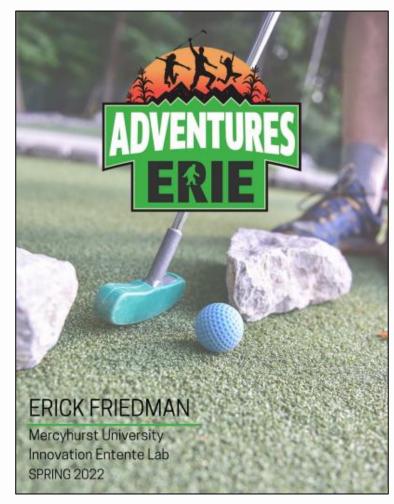
### Dissemination

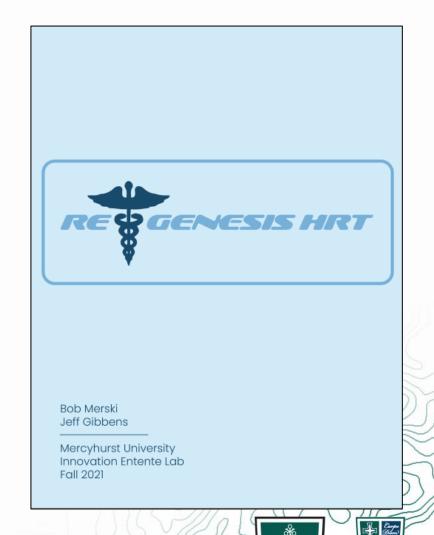
- Written Products
- Briefings
- Proofread and corrected by senior leadership



### **Final Products**







## **Cost Break Down**

Tool	Cost
Meta Search Engines	Free
Demographic Data	_
Policymaps	Map Access Free (Negotiable)
Google Earth Pro	Free
US Census Data	Free
Patent Databases (WIPO, Google Patent, USPTO)	Free
ZoomInfo	50,000 Commercial (Negotiable)
SocialBlade	Free
Seobility	600
Python-Seo-Analyzer	Free
Total	Based on negotiated prices





## Thank You!

Questions and Comments? cirat@mercyhurst.edu





## INTELLIGENCE FUSION LAB

SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





## Agenda

- What is the purpose of the IFL
- Collection Requirements/Statement of Work
- Collection Plan/Risk Assessment
- OSINT/Managed Attribution: Tradecraft/Tools
- Products
  - Analytical Reports/Executive Summaries
  - Course of Action Development
  - Indicators and Warnings (Process and Charts)
- Monitoring/Collection Requirements (Coordination with Watch)
- Knowledge Management
- Key Tools Utilized





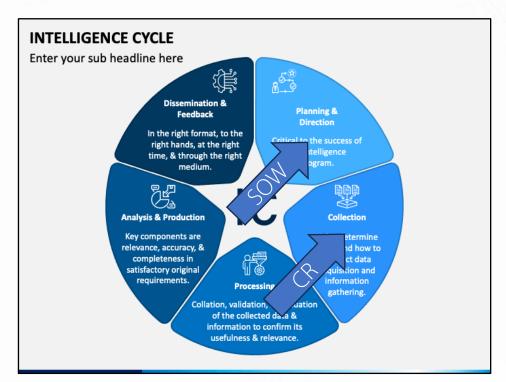
### What is the purpose of the IFL?

- Intelligence Fusion Lab
  - Production for Decision Makers
  - Provides Intelligence/Information for Operational Support
  - Provides companies with quality Intelligence Analysts, Data Scientists, Cyber
- Constantly Evolving
  - Pivoting to meet industry needs
  - Adaptive products
  - New tools
  - New techniques
  - Creating leaders



# Statement of Work/ Collection Requirements

- First step of process
- Statement of Work (SOW)
  - What does the client/decision-maker need?
  - How do they want it returned?
  - Time frame?
  - Sharing of data?
  - NDA?
- Collection Requirements (CR)
  - What data must be collected to answer the SOW
  - Roles and responsibilities of the Project Team
  - Sources, tradecraft, data handling
  - LTIOV







### **Collection Plan**

- Plan Identification Data
  - Project name
  - Originating organization
  - Date and period of collection
  - Target/Subject
- Operational Data
  - Intelligence requirement
  - Justification/Background
  - Proposed TTP (tools)
  - Risk
  - Proposed collection techniques/procedures (Key words List, Attribution,
  - Coordination
  - Addition resource requirements



## **Collection Plan Example**

#### OPEN-SOURCE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION PLAN (U)

- 1. (U) PLAN IDENTIFICATION DATA:
- a. (U) NAME: 5-Star Border Security
- b. (U) ORIGINATING ORGANIZATION: RIAP 121 OSINT
- c. (U) DATE AND PERIOD OF COLLECTION: [2.22.24 4.29.24]
- d. (XX) TARGET: US/Mexico Border Migration Issue: US and Mexico Government Relations
   Causations and consequences of Southern Border Migration
- .....
- 2. (U) OPERATIONAL DATA:
- a. (U) INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENT:
- 1) Where are migrants coming from and why?
- 2) What is the diplomatic situation currently between the United States and Mexico concerning the border?
- 3) Where are migrants crossing the border at the highest frequencies?
- 4) What is the effect of illegal immigrants on US National Security?
- **B. (U) JUSTIFICATION/BACKGROUND:** This research will be completed to fulfill the Practical Exercises for OSINT 121 requirements to further the team's application of the tools and techniques introduced.

#### c. (U) PROPOSED TTP:

- Discuss procedures and processes, then equally distribute tasks and responsibilities
- 2) Construct a structured timeline
- 3) Synthesize a collection plan, risk assessment form, and source log
- 4) Generate a key words list
- 5) Translate the key words list into the intended language (Spanish)
- 6) Develop a managed attribution plan
  - a. Invent a point of presence that will appear standard on the targeted website utilizing websites such as SimilarWeb
  - b. Research the typical user's appearance on the targeted website to blend in with expected behavior
  - c. Utilize Authentic8's Silo and Toolbox to reduce topical risk

- d. Employ the 4+4 rule during ingress and egress to the targeted website
- e. Keep cookies on and follow common website patterns
- 7) Perform and collect research utilizing our managed attribution plan in order to mitigate technical and topical risks
- 8) Re-adjust key words for a more refined search
- 9) Take screenshots of research in order to collect it
- 10) Save any screenshots or websites in the Authentic8 Cloud Storage
- 11)Produce a product answering the intelligence requirements utilizing the research collected and thus disseminate the information

d. (U) RISK: \*\*attached risk assessment sheet

#### e. (U) PROPOSED SPECIAL COLLECTION TECHNIQUES / PROCEDURES (IAW DODM 5240.01):

- Authentic8's TOR network utilized for Dark Web research and collection

#### f. (U) COORDINATION:

Brian Fuller - access to OSINT tools

Phone number: 814-824-2324

E-mail: <u>bfuller@mercyhurst.edu</u>

Gianfranco Machado – access to OSINT tools

E-mail: gmacha91@lakers.mercyhurst.edu

#### g. (U) ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS: {If needed.}

CLASSIFIED:\_\_\_\_\_WHEN FILLED IN

OPEN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION PLAN

NII:\_\_\_\_\_

DATE

#### 5. (U) Approval:

a. (U) AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT ACTIVITY: Professor Brian Fuller

b. (U) Approved

V

(Approving Authority)



### Risk Assessment

- Determined based on Collection Plan
- What are the collection threats
- What is the level of the threat
- How can you mitigate the threat (Managed Attribution)
- New level of risk
- Is the risk level acceptable?
- CYA



## Risk Assessment: Example

	DELIBE	RATE RISK	ASSESSMENT WORK	SHEET		
4 Micologic Transfer	ODIDTION			La DATE (DDA##22222		
MISSION/TASK DESCRIPTION			2. DATE (DD/MM/YYYY)			
Iran's growing influence in Latin America			02/04/2024			
3. PREPARED BY	1. H. J. W. B		L Dest Octob	L. D. t. Title Decision		
a. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)  b. Rank/G				c. Duty Title/Position		
C Boden, K Ralph, F Garrett, H Kassidy, M Colin, W A		e. Work Email	Students	Open Source Intelligence Analyst f. Telephone (DSN/Commercial (Inclu		
I I		1	s.mercyhurst.edu	1. Telephone (DSN/Commercial (Incid	ide Area Code))	
			ort/Lesson Plan or OPORD (as	i. Signature of Preparer		
OSINT 121-01 required)						
Five steps of Risk Manag	gement: (1) Identify the haza	(4) Implement contro	(2) Assertls (5) Superonumbered items on form)	ss the bazards  farrett fitzgeri  ervise and evaluate  ontrols & make decisions	Develop c ald (Step	
		6.	onambered tems of form	8. HOW TO	9.	
4. SUBTASK/SUBST	5. HAZAR	D INITI AL	7. CONTROL	IMPLEMENT/	RESIDUAL	
EP OF MISSION/TASK		RISK		WHO WILL IMPLEMENT	RISK LEVEL	
Identify key countries,	Failure to identify internal	L	Conduct thorough research and	How:	LEVEL	
organizations, and other	external actors that are invo	olved	collection of information on key	How: Keywords, Recorded Future		
actors that are involved.	in the topic can hinder the development and execution	M ▼	actors involved.	Who:	L	
Objective of internal	effective strategies.		Control of the description	Veritas Letalis		
Objectives of internal and external actors that	Failure to undertsand the objectives and intentions or		Consistently monitor the activities of external and internal actors that	How: Keywords, Recorded Future	۱	
are involved.	actors can hinder the develor and execution of effective	opment M	are involved in order to understand their true intentions.	Who:	M	
	Accept foreign domains			Veritas Letalis		
Collection of foreign websites and	without a proper MA plan		Develop a proper MA plan and use A8 for any foreign websites found	How: Keywords, BabelStreet, MA plan, A8	1 _	
social media	a topical risk and overall our product.	threat to EF	on BabelStreet that should be	Who:	H▼	
Predict potential future	Failure to predict potential		further explored. (target websites)	Veritas Letalis		
actions by key actors	outcomes could result in m	issed	Develop appropriate response and backup plans to adapt to actions	How:	1	
along with the impact and implications.	opportunities for taking appropriate action.	H 💌	conducted by key actors.	Keywords, Recorded Future, A8, I2	M▼	
				Who:		
				Veritas Letalis  How:		
				now.		
				Who:		
	IA	dditional entries for i	tems 5 through 9 are provided on pa	 age 2.		
10. OVERALL RESIDUA	AL RISK LEVEL (All contri		×	П		
EXTRE			_	_		
HIGH			HIGH LOW		MEDIUM	
11. OVERALL SUPERV	VISION PLAN AND RECO	MMENDED COURS	E OF ACTION			
When it comes to using Authentic 8 to conduct further research on targeted foreign websites, regularly check with all analysts on the team to						
ensure that they are co AOR to avoid suspicion		ge attribution and ar	e using a well-developed trail when	n ingressing and egressing target we	bsites of the	
A COR TO AVOID SUSPICIO	on and detection.					
		[				
12. APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF MISSION OR TASK APPROVE DISAPPROVE						
a. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) b. Rank/Grade c. Duty Title/Position		d. Signature of Approval Authority				
Fuller, Brian OSINT Instructor						
e. Additional Guidance						
DD FORM 2977, J	IAN 2014				of 2 Pages be Professional	

# OSINT/Managed Attribution: Tradecraft / Tools

- What is Managed Attribution?
- Why is it needed?
- Mitigates all technical and topical risks (If Done Properly)
- MA Plan (Next slide)
- Authentic8
  - Browser encryption tool for high-risk, sensitive collection
  - Tier 0, Tier 1, Tier 2
  - Utilized for management attribution plan
  - Silo, Toolbox, TOR







## **OSINT/Managed Attribution: MA Plan**

- What is an MA Plan?
- Why is it needed?
- Mitigates all technical and topical risks (If Done Properly)
- MA Plan Construction
  - Target Website (Threat info)
  - Website Statistics
  - Select Point of Presence (POP)
  - User Agent String
  - 4 + 4 trail (Ingress/Egress plan)
  - Collection of data plan



### **OSINT/Managed Attribution: MA Plan Example**



#### MA Plan

Keywords: Relations; Mexico; America "Relaciones México-Estados Unidos"

Foreign Site: About the U.S.-Mexico Bilateral Relationship

 $\label{lem:https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=77d7e763bbfd482bJmltdHM9MTcwODk5MjAwMCZpZ3VpZ\\ \underline{D0wYmVjNjU3OS04YzljLTZkMGUtMjRIZC03NiE4OGQ2MTZjMTUmaW5zaWQ9NTlxNA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=3&fclid=0bec6579-8c9c-6d0e-24ed-\\ \end{tabular}$ 

76188d616c15&psg=Relaciones+M%c3%a9xico-

Estados+Unidos+%22.mx%22&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly9wb3J0YWxlcy5zcmUuZ29iLm14L21leC1ld WEvYWNlcmNhLWRlLWxhLXJlbGFiaW9uLWJpbGF0ZXJhbA&ntb=1

#### Tier: 2

POP: US West

<u>Time zone</u>: Similar time zones; do not collect at odd hours of the night to not raise suspicion

Established Browser: google.com

VirusTotal: not flagged as malicious

Typical User Profile: United States (30.19%), China (23.89%)

**User Agent String:** Desktop User (65.83%)

#### Website Analytics:

Monthly Visits: 84.86 B

Average Visit Duration: 10:38

Pages per visit: 8.63 Bounce Rate: 28.25%

Group Traffic Share Split: 95% google.com
Branded vs Non-Branded Search: 88% Branded

#### MA Plan:

- 1. Use a SILO browser as the first level of attribution
- 2. Utilize determined POP Toolbox
  - Employ the researched website analytics to determine bounce rate, monthly visits, average visit duration, etc.
- Ingress
  - Start the session by going to newzit.com, as the site provides a solid lead into the next site with 26.45 of the shares in Top Referring Websites.

- b. Go to drudgereport.com as the lead into msn.com, as it has the greatest share in Top Referring Websites.
- c. Go to Msn.com as the last stop before the targeted website, as it has over 78% of the share in Top Referring Websites.

#### 4. Egress

- a. Since there are no link destinations described on SimilarWeb, go to Duck Duck Go
  and use the key words "Relaciones México-Estados Unidos" to find the next site
  to visit
- b. Go to <a href="https://www.latimes.com/espanol/mexico/articulo/2022-12-13/el-que-y-porque-desde-washington-mexico-y-estados-unidos-200-anos-de-emociones-fuertes">https://www.latimes.com/espanol/mexico/articulo/2022-12-13/el-que-y-porque-desde-washington-mexico-y-estados-unidos-200-anos-de-emociones-fuertes</a> as it is a US site that is written in Spanish and follows a plausible egress trail using the keywords surrounding the topic of interest.
- c. From the previous site, go to en. Wikipedia.org, as it has the highest percent share of the Top referring websites.
- d. From the previous website, go to wikimedia.org to finish out the egress trail before closing out the browser



## **Production: Types**

- Executive Summary for C-Suite
- Analytical Reports of key findings
  - SFAR/LFAR/Threat Analysis (Strategic, Tactical, Competitive Business)
  - Course of Action (COA)
  - Indicators and Warnings (I&W)
  - Subject Packages
  - Red Team Reports (Includes Cyber)
- PowerPoint Presentations/Briefings
- Data Visualization
- Vulnerability Assessments
- Custom reporting
- Program Evaluation





### **Products: COA and I&W**

- Course of Action: Development based on Event or Threat
  - Most Likely
  - Most Dangerous
  - Wildcard
  - Allows for contingency planning with decision maker
- Indicators and Warnings: Based on COAs
  - Indicators: Vetted information or intelligence that an action may be occurring
  - Warning: Based on a set number of Indicators that action is occurring
  - A set number of Warnings confirms or denies which COA is occurring
- Developed efficiently in a short period of time
- Can drive collection requirements
- Can be easily monitored with the correct level of collection platforms
- What are your contingency processes?
  - Alert team lead
  - Create an intelligence report
  - Alert Decision maker
  - Briefing depending on severity and time

SEC/Mercyhurst CIRAT Impact Analysis Study: European Energy Crisis



#### Prepared By:

Principal Investigator: Brian Fuller Lead Student Analyst: Bri Stegmeier Analysts: Evan Medvec, Thomas Lupica, Research Analysts: Nicholas Saunders, & Jenna Van Schaik









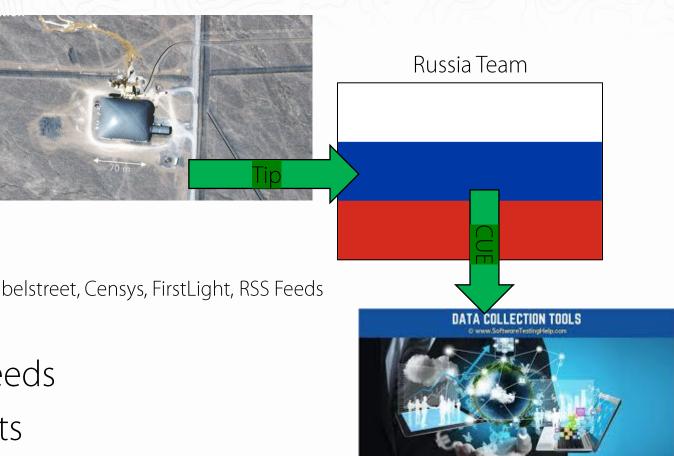




## Monitoring: Tipping and Cueing

- Watch Program
  - Collection Requirements
  - POC to alert or send SFAR
- IFL Project Team Monitoring
  - Use of Tools:
    - A8 Collector, Recorded Future, Maltego, Babelstreet, Censys, FirstLight, RSS Feeds
  - Generative Al: Rover, Collector
- Weekly/daily depending on needs
- Update Collection requirements

\*Tipping and cueing is a technique that uses monitoring platforms to identify and track changes or updates to situations or activities, then communicate (Tipping) these updates or changes to key stakeholders for directing further (Cue) collection and analysis.

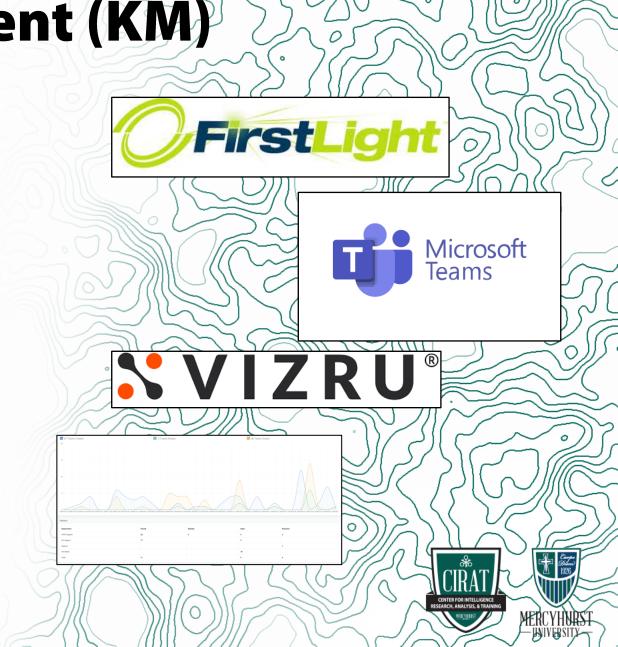






## **Knowledge Management (KM)**

- Repository for products and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- Training on new tools
- RFI Tracking
- Tools
  - FirstLight
  - Teams Sharepoint
  - Internally built Dashboard/Repository
  - Rover



## Cost Break Down

Tools	Type		
Lexusnexus	Online Database for News, Legal Cases, Company Info, etc.		
Similar Web	Website analystics database		
Intelius	Public record database		
Zoom info	Corporate/Buiness network analysis		
Mind miester	Product creation tool for visually appealing documents, picture collages, etc.		
Google	Singular search engine		
Lexusnexus	Online Database for News, Legal Cases, Company Info, etc.		
Similar Web	Website analytics database		
Intelius	Public record database		
Zoom info	Corporate/Business network analysis		





## Cost Break Down

Tool	Cost
LexusNexus	Negotiable
Similar Web	\$333
Intelius	\$275
ZoomInfo	Negotiable
Mind Meister	\$180 yearly/user
Google	Free
Total	Based on negotiated prices





### Conclusion

- Importance of a production cell
- Importance of correct tools
- Importance of MA and reducing risk
- Importance of KM
- Can handle large amounts of data with limited personnel with the correct infrastructure and technology
- Can meet your decision-makers needs in a timely manner
- Questions??????





## Thank You!

Questions and Comments? cirat@mercyhurst.edu



## CIRAT TOOLS & SOP SCIP INTELLICON NASHVILLE 2024





## Agenda

- SOP Overview
- Managed attribution tools
- Databases
- Search engines
- Generate Al



### **SOP Overview**

- The standard operating procedure provides a compartmentalized collection of the lab's 93 tools, databases, and software
- Training guides use efficiency
- Provides users the ability to master cutting-edge programs
- Provides Lab members with a quick onboarding process
- Updated bi-annually



## **Managed Attribution Programs**

 Used to protect users from being tracked by malicious software and users

Hides IP address and mask user activity

Browser Mirror See what your browser reveals

client IP address: 38.87.207.20 [see what this reveals]

encryption: 256-bit session key

Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br, zstd

Accept-Language: en-US;q=0.5,en;q=0.3

Referer: https://centralops.net/co/body

request: GET /asp/co/BrowserMirror.vbs.asp HTTP/1.1

Connection

authentication: none

Host: centralops.net

Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin Sec-Fetch-Mode: navigate Sec-Fetch-User: ?1 Sec-Fetch-Dest: frame

HTTP headers

يعبر حول لوينسك



Yes! You are unique among the 2553097 fingerprints in our entire dataset

chrome

Web browser

anu/linux based

Operating system

The following informations reveal your OS, browser, browser version as well as your timezone and preferred language. Moreover, we show the proportion of users sharing the same

Language



UTC-04:00

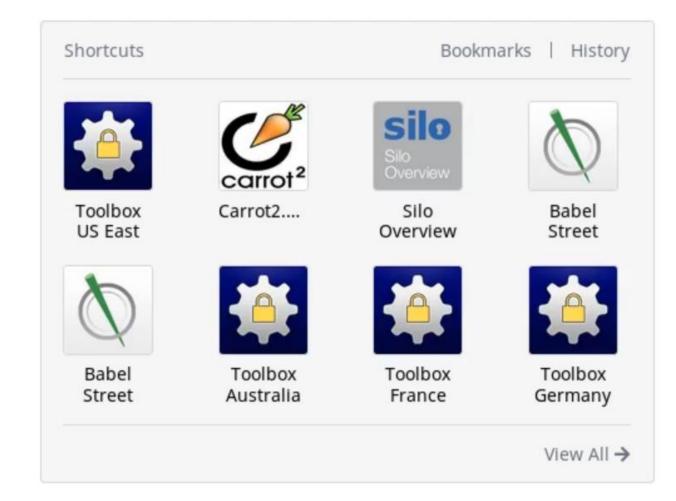
Timezone



### **A8 Silo**

#### Managed Attribution

- browser encryption tool and resource management tool used in high-risk collection
- The key program used to maintain managed attribution
- Toolbox feature allows the user to mask IP addresses with regional proxy servers





## Databases

Collections of information on Geopolitical, Commerce, and Cyber events Over 10 databases in the SOP

#### Global Events

- GDELT
- ACLED
- Database

### Supply Chain **Business/Commercial** • Recorded Future

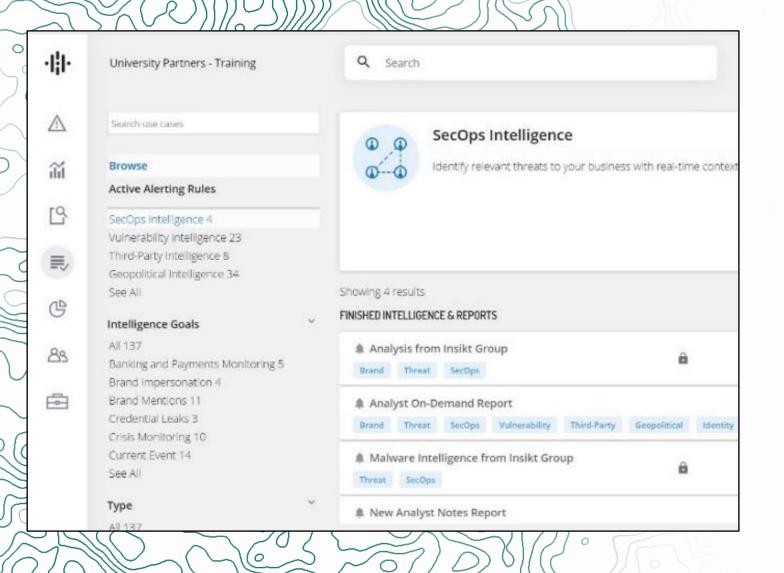
- Panjiva
- Global Terrorism
   Intelliegnce2day
  - ZoomInfo
  - Wango

### Cybersecurity

### Social Media **Exploitation**

- Babel Street
- Namechk
- Dedicated social media sites





#### **Recorded Future**

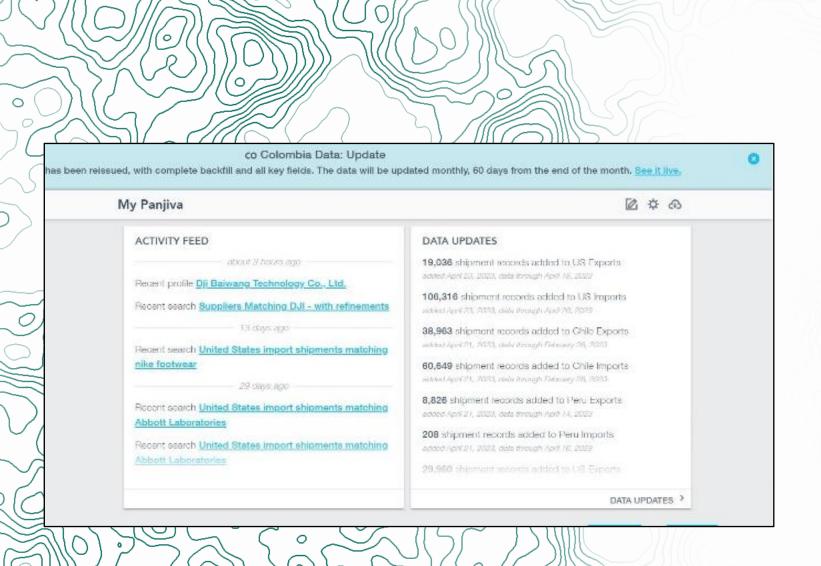
Cybersecurity

- Intelligence security database that can be used for information collection based on recent events
- Analyze vast amounts of open, dark, and proprietary web data in real-time
- Provides actionable insights into emerging threats, vulnerabilities, and exploits.









### **Panjiva**

#### Supply Chain

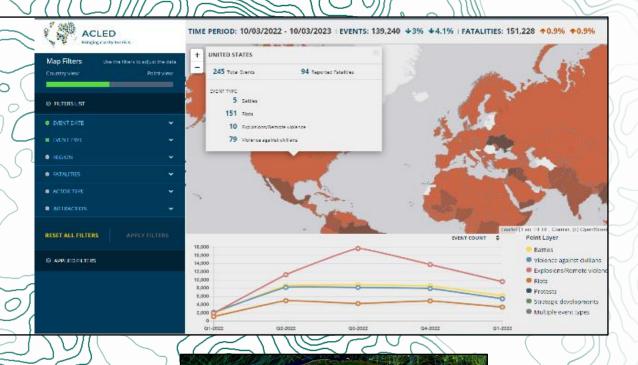
- Trade program that provides both raw data and actionable intelligence regarding global trade.
- Provides global trends and raw data regarding shipments of exports/imports worldwide and those that are sending/receiving them.

#### Panjiva

**S&P Global**Market Intelligence







#### **ACLED**

#### Global event database

- The Armed Conflict Location & Event is a disaggregated data collection, analysis, and crisis mapping project.
- Collects information on the dates, actors, locations, fatalities, and types of all reported political violence and protest events around the world.



### **GDELT**

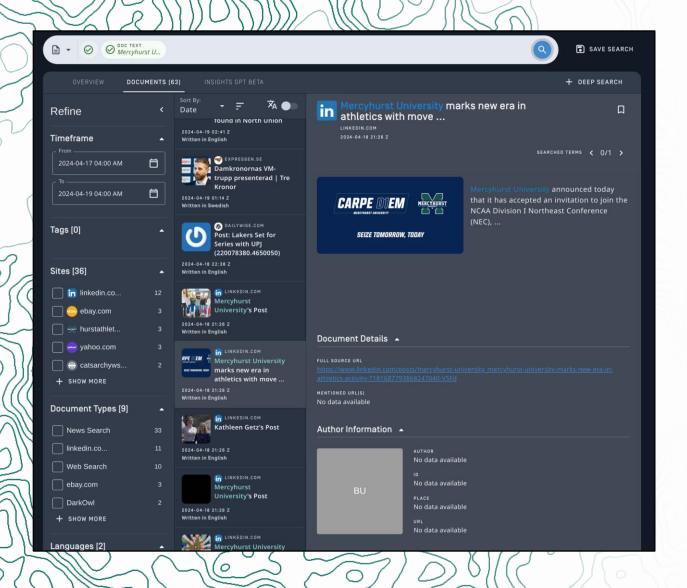
#### Global event database

- Provides results from a wide range of topics
- Updated Daily for near real-time developments on Geopolitical, economic, and social issues.
- Used with Rover to enhance our collection

The GDELT Project







### **Babel Street**

Social Media Exploitation

- Web searches, IP lookups, geolocational searches, entity analysis
- Pulls results from X, Meta, Flickr, and LinkedIn
- Reduces the need to conduct separate collections on each of the aforementioned Social Media apps







## Search Engines

Meta search engines take user input and then query multiple search engines for results.

Dark Search Engines access the unindexed section of the internet

#### Meta Search Engines

- Carrot2
- Qwant
- Dogpile
- All the Internet
- Start Page
- Yippy Inc.

#### Dark Search Engines

- Torch
- DuckDuckGo
- Not Evil
- AHMIA
- Haystack

#### Foreign Search Engines

- Yandex
- Baidu
- Shenma
- Google Domain Extender

#### Image Search Engines

- FotoForensics
- · ImgOps
- Google Image Search
- TinEye

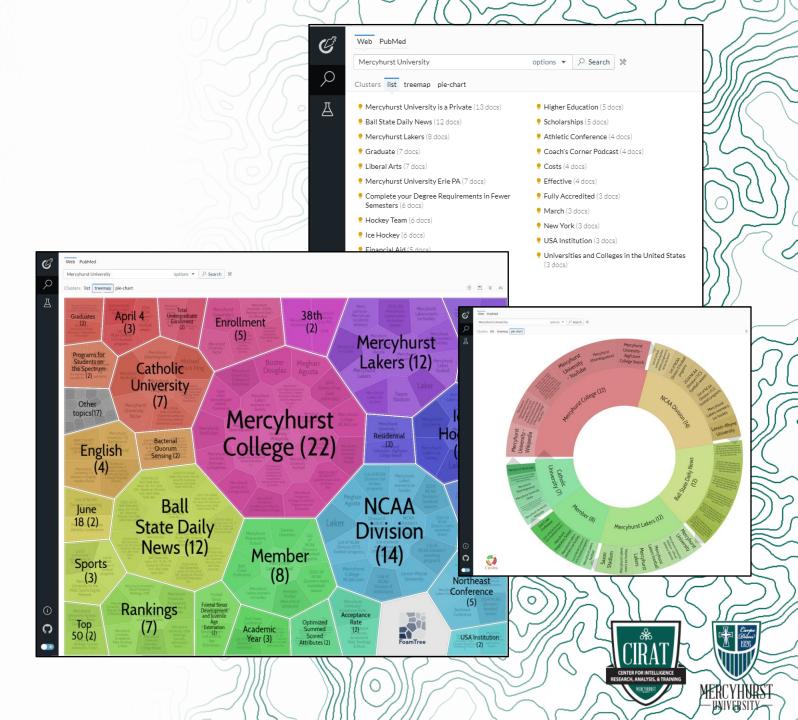


#### **Carrot 2**

#### Meta Search Engine

- The main Meta search engine used in the lab
- Compartmentalizes Results into thematic Charts and clusters, allowing for more efficient use
- Pulls from several sources simultaneously, allowing for in-depth results

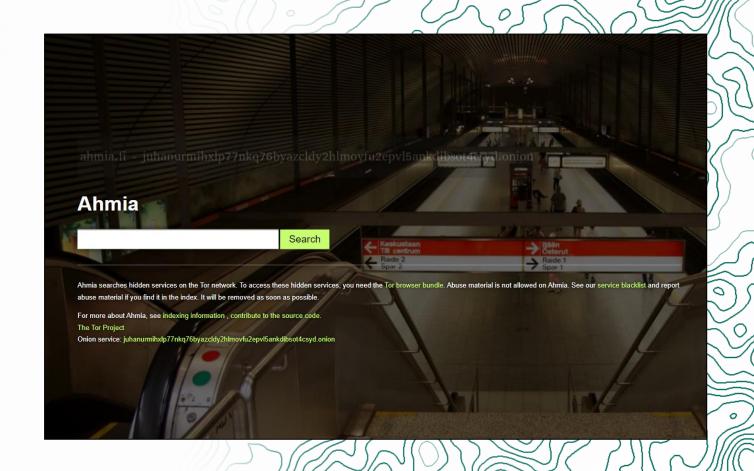




### **Ahmia**

Dark Search Engine

- The main Dark Web search engine used in the lab
- Curates searches in order to eliminate potentially illicit results



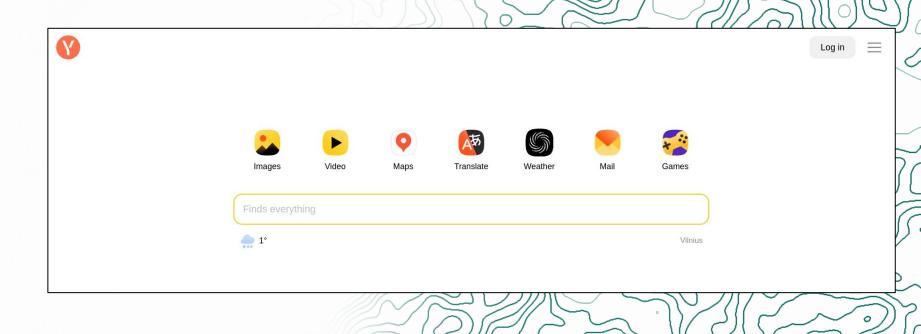




### **Yandex**

Foreign Search Engine

- Russian equitant to Google
- Insight on the general Chinese pulse on a given issue

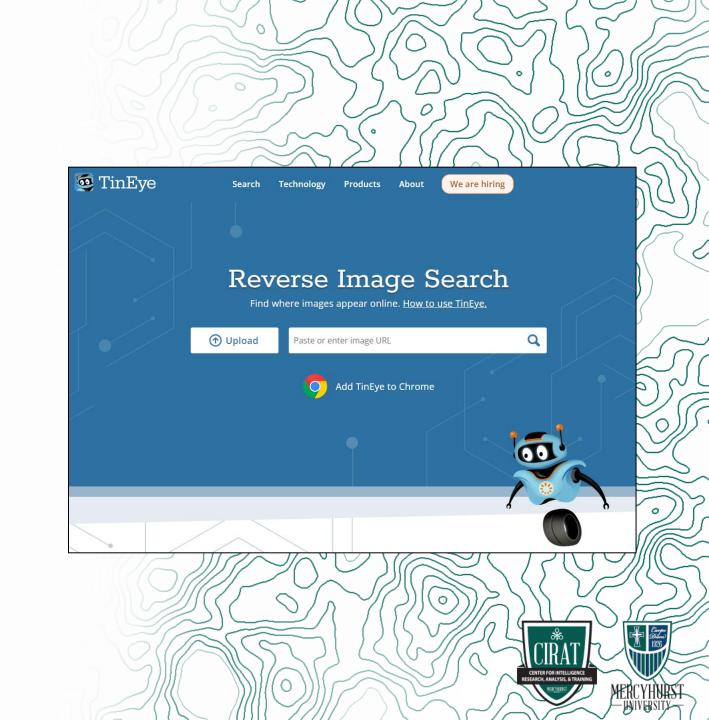


### **TinEye**

Image Search Engine

The main reverse image search used in the labs

- Allows for an analyst to identify the source of images
- Allows for the investigation of images to identify if the pictures are doctored



## Project Management Tools

#### Used to:

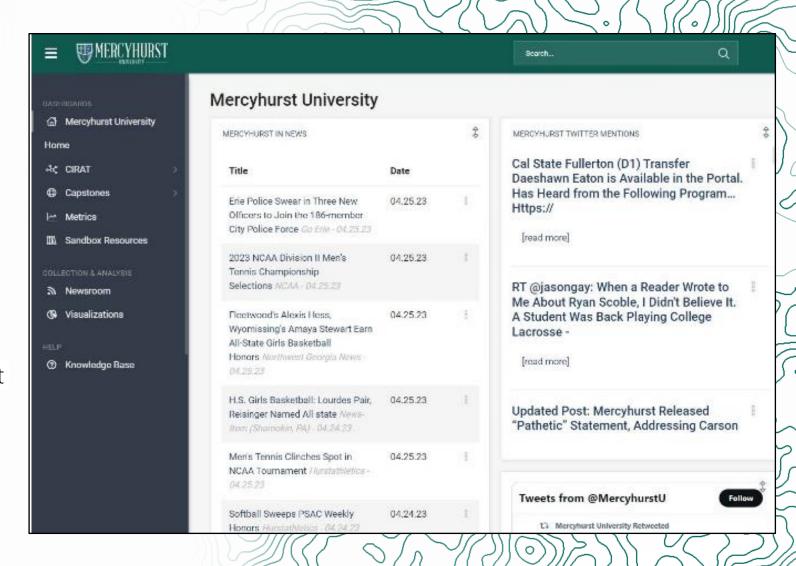
- Plan the structure of the project
- Save data on dedicated pages and documents
- Monitor potential new findings



### **FirstLight**

- First Light is a project management and social listening tool.
- Compartmentalizes project findings into dedicated pages
- Can upload documents and customize the pages to fetch relevant social media data.







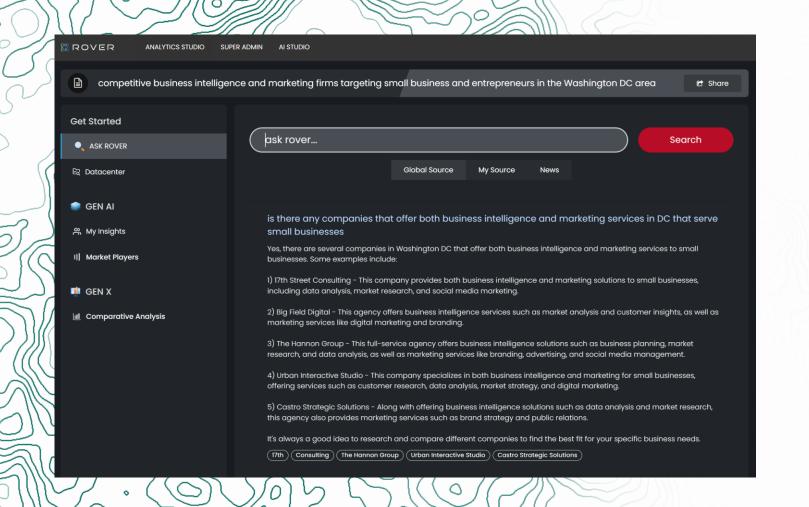
### Intelligence2day

- Comprehensive intelligence management platform designed to facilitate the collection, analysis, and dissemination of strategic intelligence
- Competitive intelligence, market research, risk management, and decisionmaking processes.









#### **Generative Al**

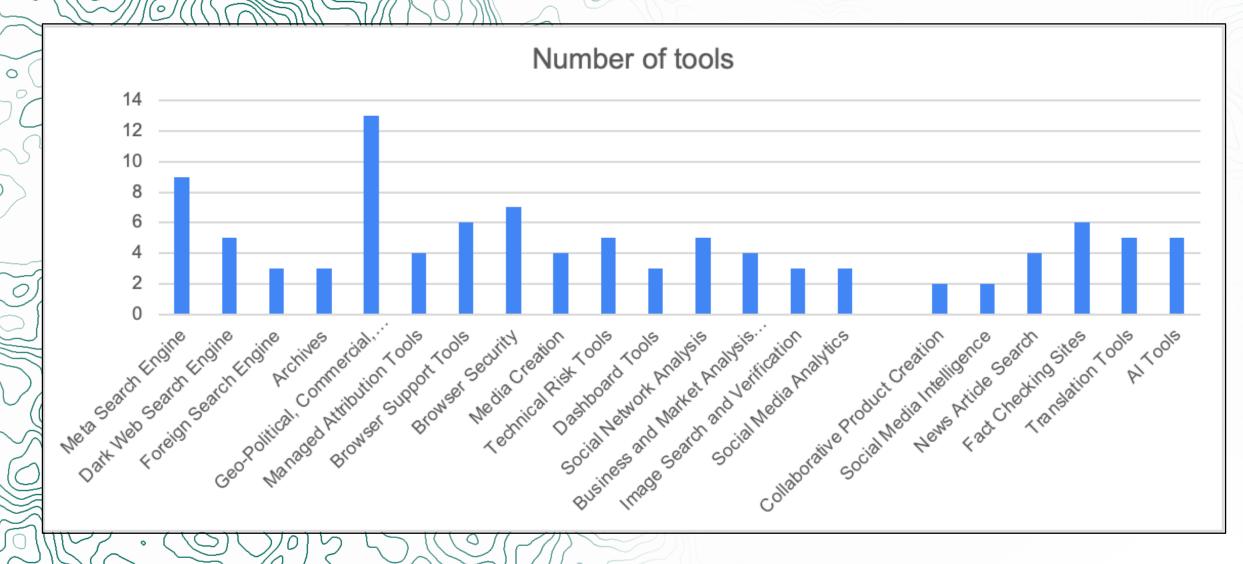
Generative Al is used:

- Planning
- Formatting final products
- Data Analysis













### Conclusion

- Streamlines program training and ease of use
- Reduces the need to keep separate training guides
- Logs all company programs into 1 document
- Helps with team onboarding

#### Thank You for your attendance!

**Questions and Comments?** 

bfuller@mercyhurst.edu

New Website Launched!!!!!
Mucirat.com



