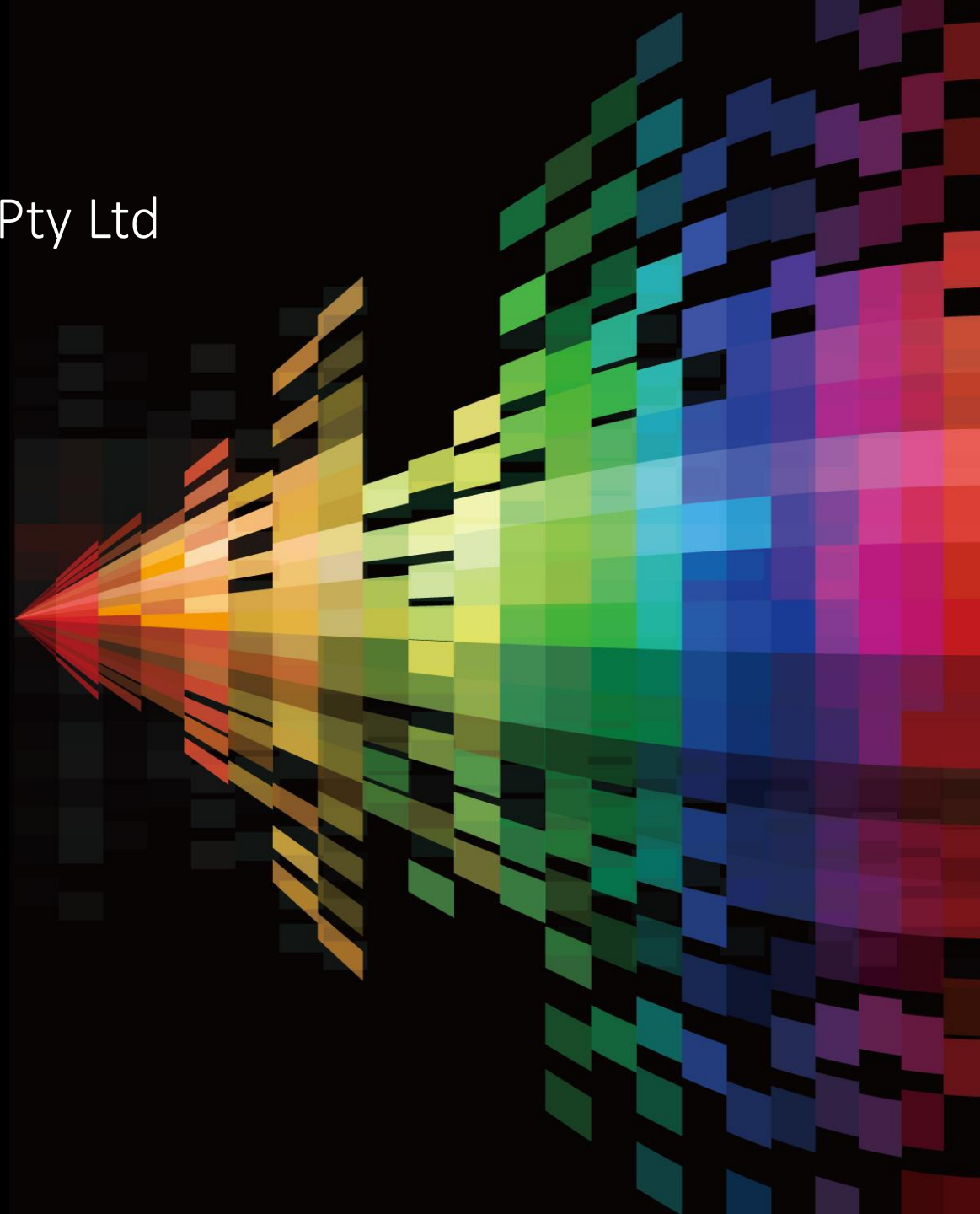# Murray Goldschmidt

Chief Operating Officer – Sense of Security Pty Ltd
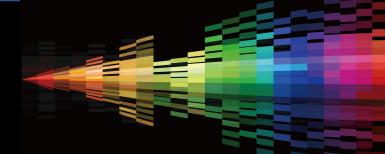
Micro Services, Containers and Serverless PaaS Web Apps? How safe are you?
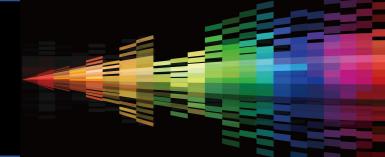
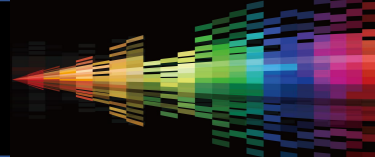INNOVATE | DISRUPT | CHANGE

AUSTRALIAN CYBER CONFERENCE   AISA

A G E N D A	1	Serverless, Microservices and Container Security	4	CI/CD Integration for Automated Security
	2	Key Implications for Penetration Testing Programs		End to End Vulnerability Management
	3	Key Security features for Container Deployments		Continuous Monitoring, Governance & Compliance Reporting

Are Containers As Good as it Gets?

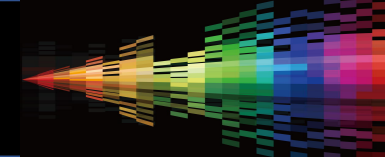Cloud containers are designed to virtualize a single application

*** Modified *** https://searchcloudsecurity.techtarget.com/feature/Cloud-containers-what-they-are-and-how-they-work

As Good as it Gets?

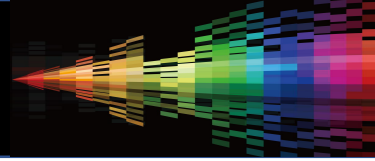e.g., you have a MySQL container and that's all it does, provide a virtual instance of that application.

*** Modified *** https://searchcloudsecurity.techtarget.com/feature/Cloud-containers-what-they-are-and-how-they-work

As Good as it Gets?

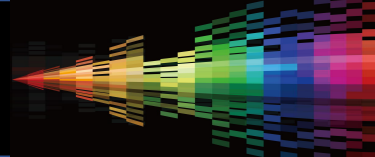Containers ***SHOULD*** create an *isolation boundary* at the application level rather than at the server level.

*** Modified *** https://searchcloudsecurity.techtarget.com/feature/Cloud-containers-what-they-are-and-how-they-work

As Good as it Gets?

This isolation ***SHOULD*** mean that if anything goes wrong in that single container (e.g., excessive consumption of resources by a process) it only affects that individual container and [not the whole VM](#) or whole server.

*** Modified *** https://searchcloudsecurity.techtarget.com/feature/Cloud-containers-what-they-are-and-how-they-work
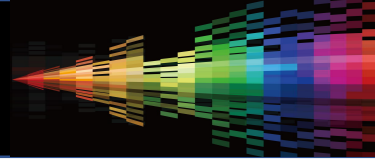
Container Security – Tech Neutral

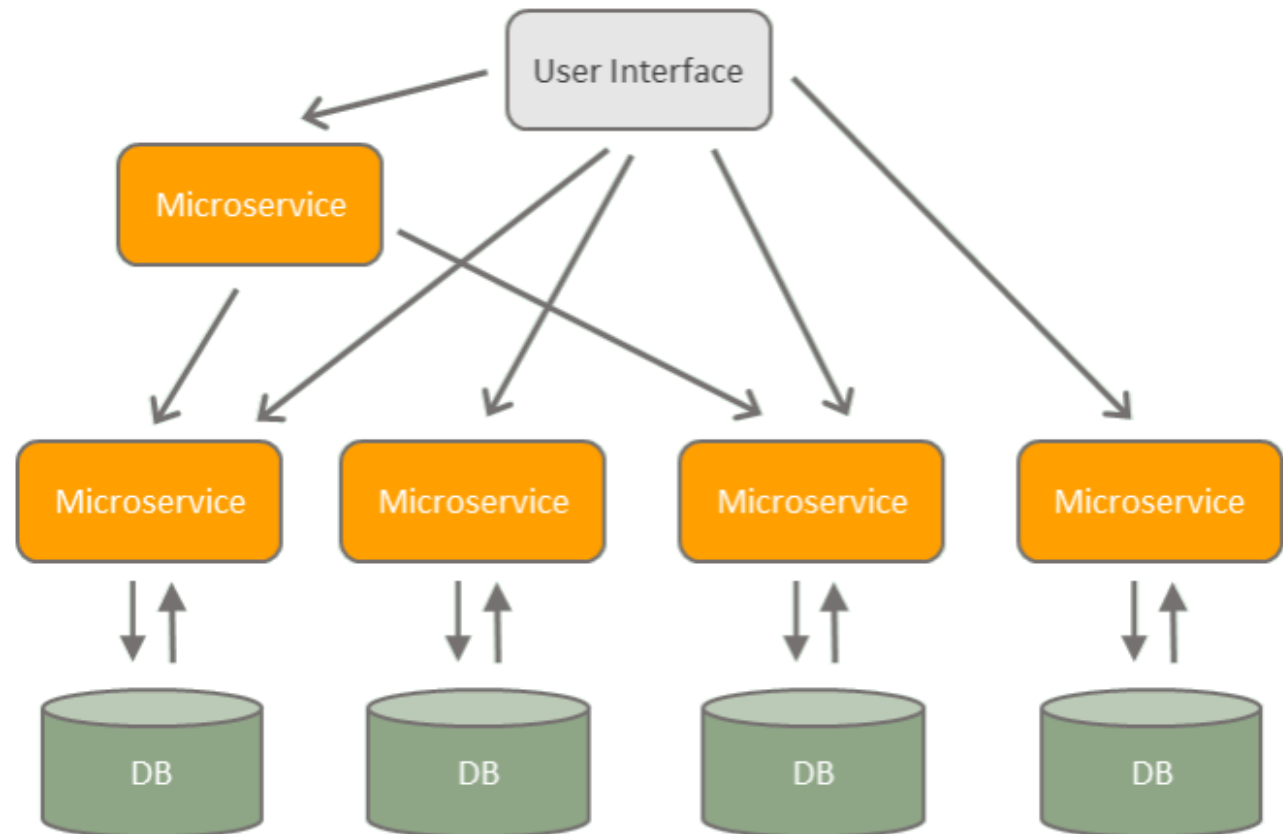| Security Requirements	Addressed By
Intrinsic Security of the Kernel	Supply Chain Risk Mgt/ Vuln Mgt/ CaaS
Attack Surface Reduction	Hardening/Config Mgt/Vuln Mgt
Container Configuration	Configuration Management
Hardening of the Kernel and how it interacts with Containers	Hardening

Monolithic vs Microservices Architecture

MONOLITHIC
ARCHITECTURE

User Interface
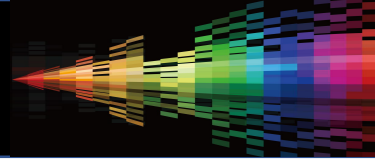
Business Logic

Data Access
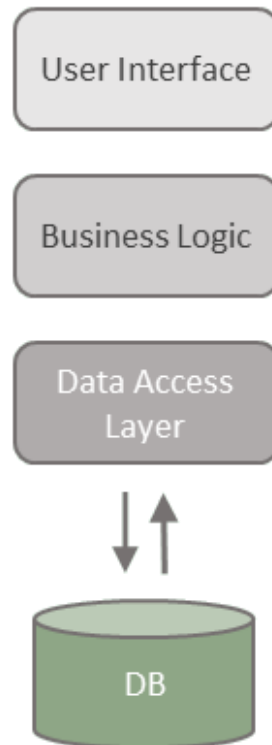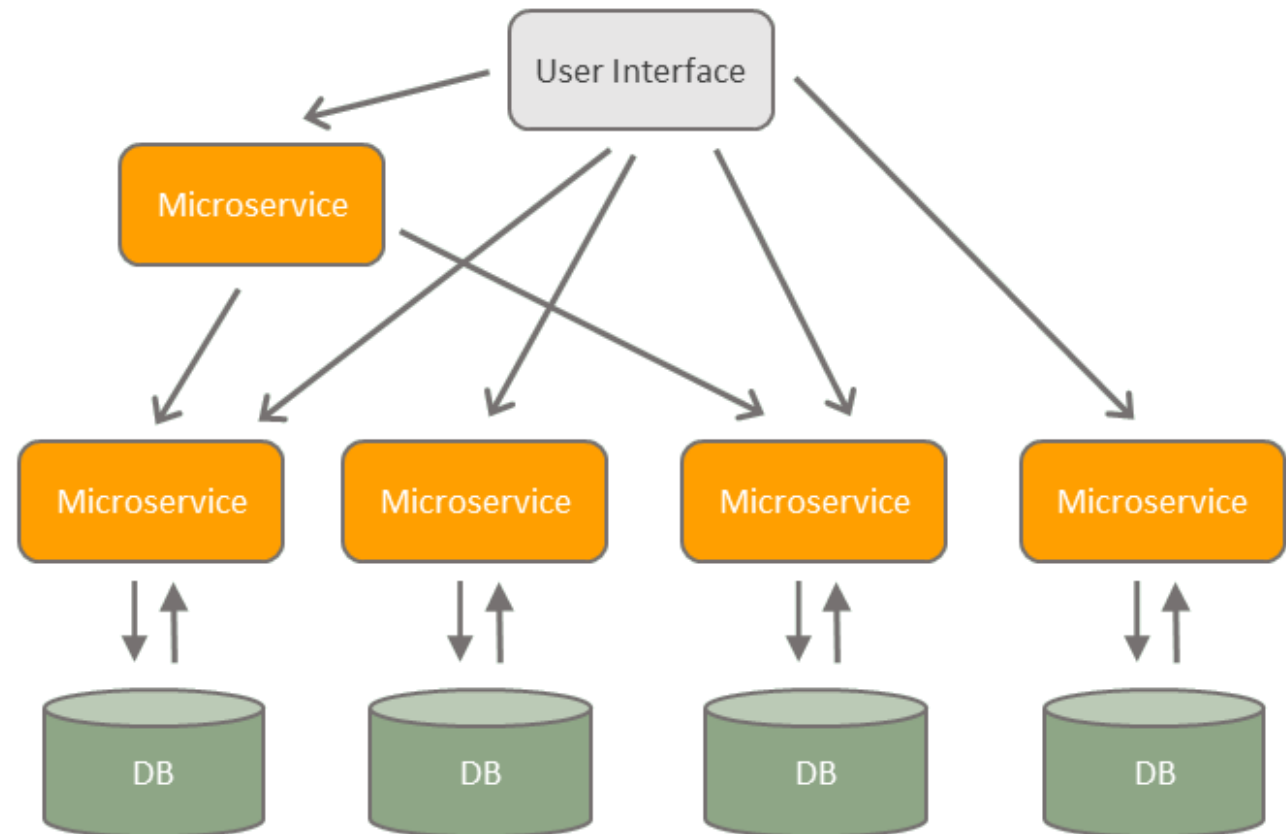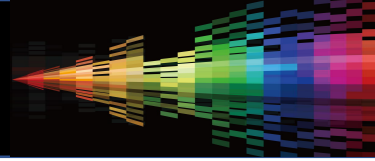Layer

DB

Monolithic vs Microservices Architecture

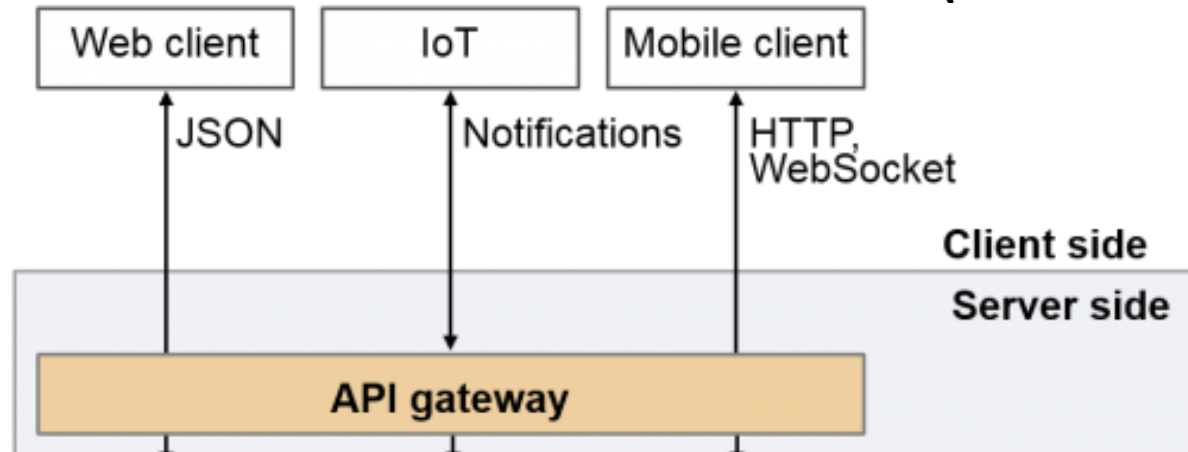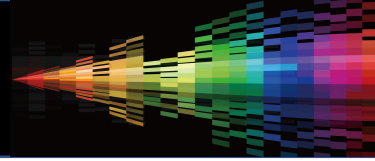MICROSERVICES ARCHITECTURE
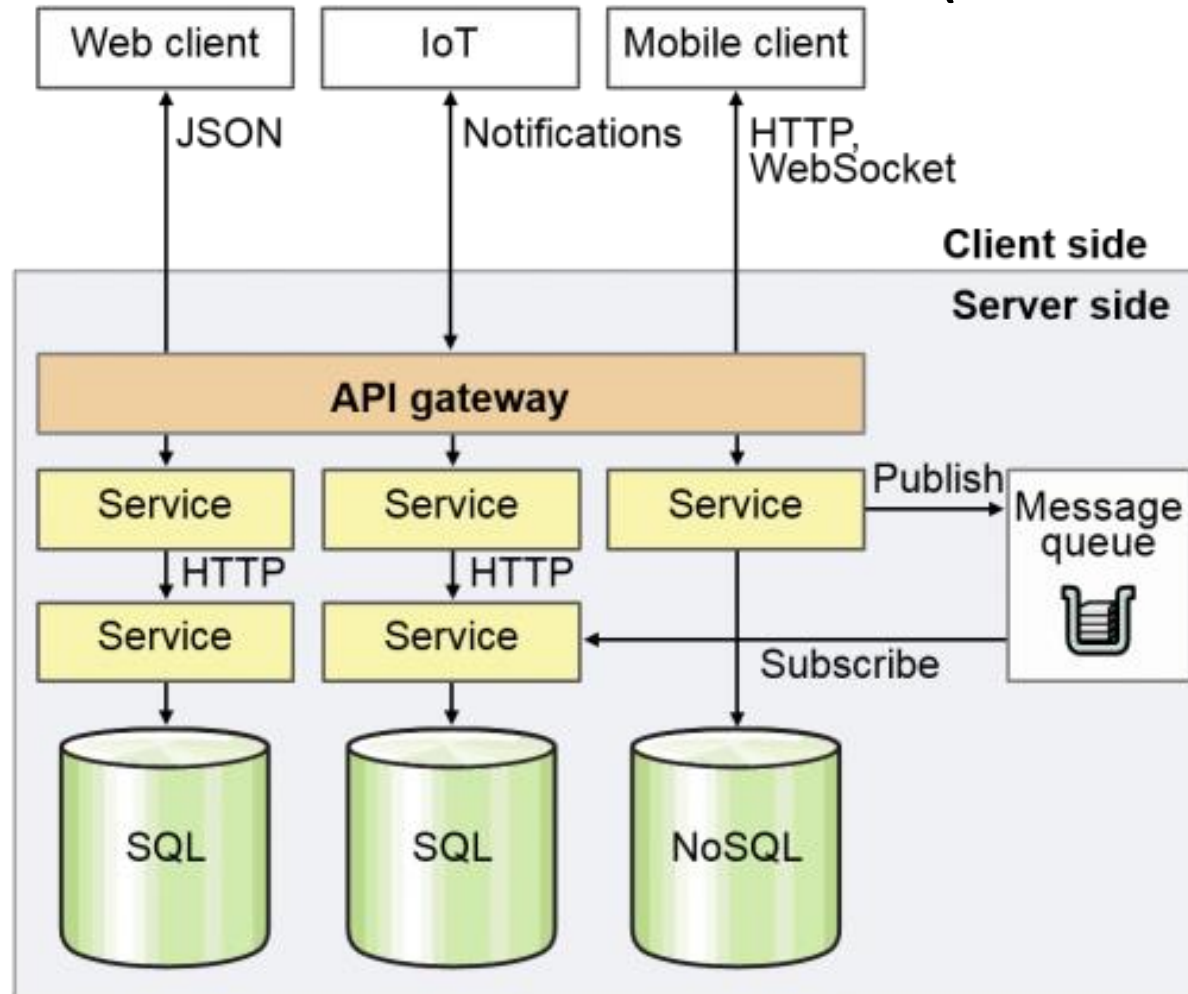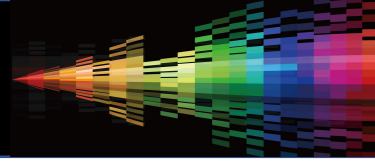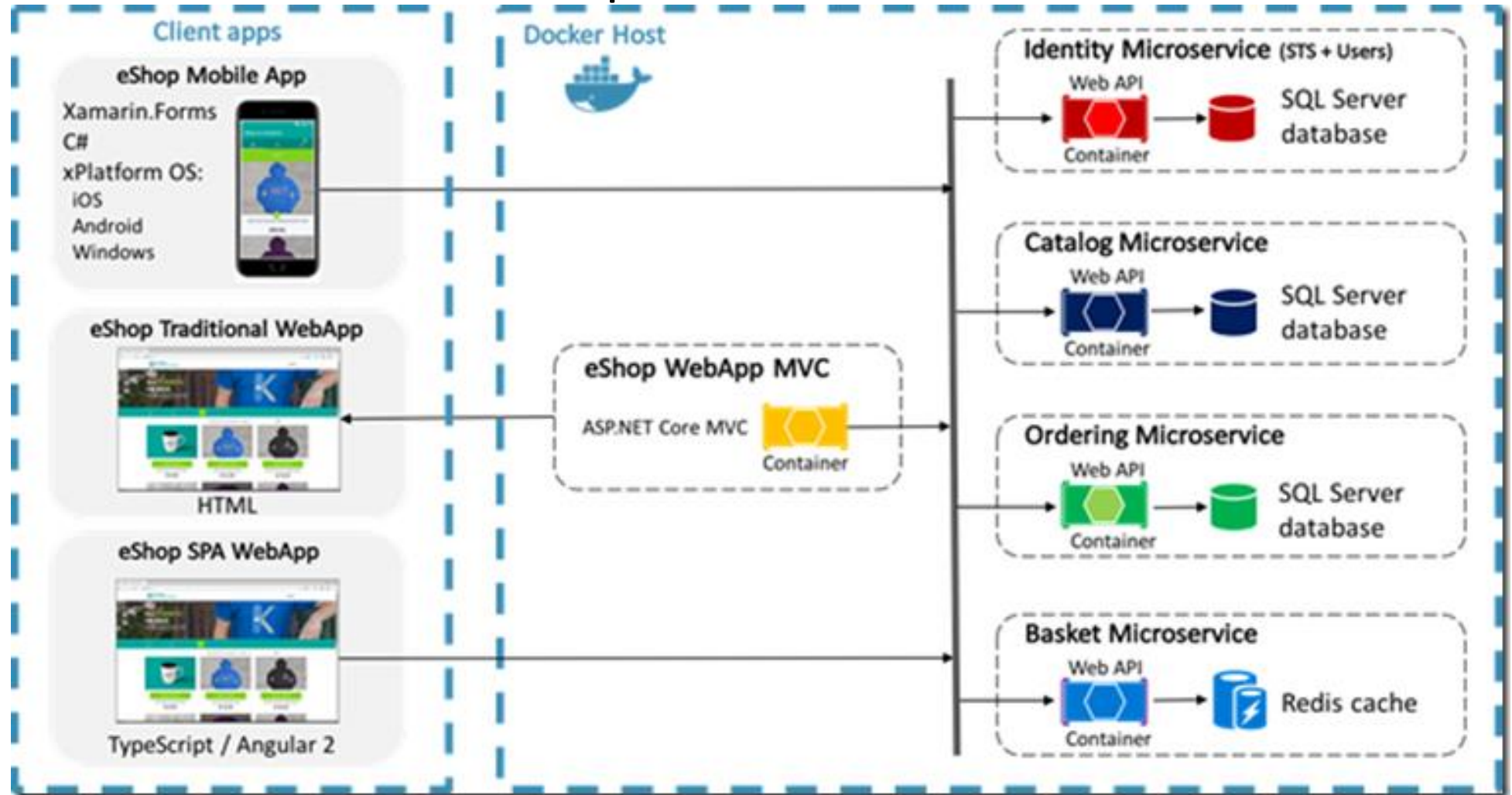
Monolithic vs Microservices Architecture

Monolithic vs Micro Services (API Centric)
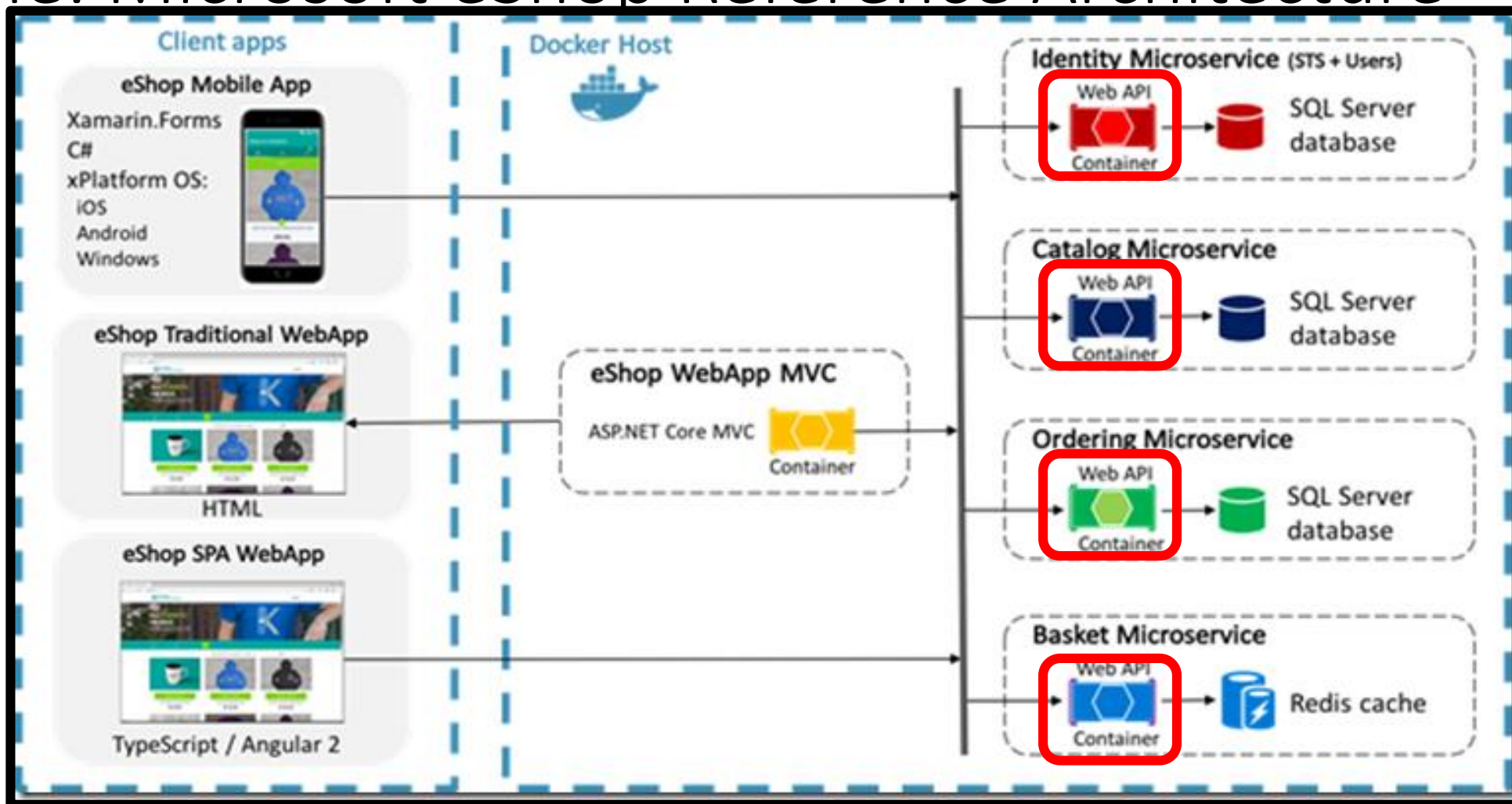
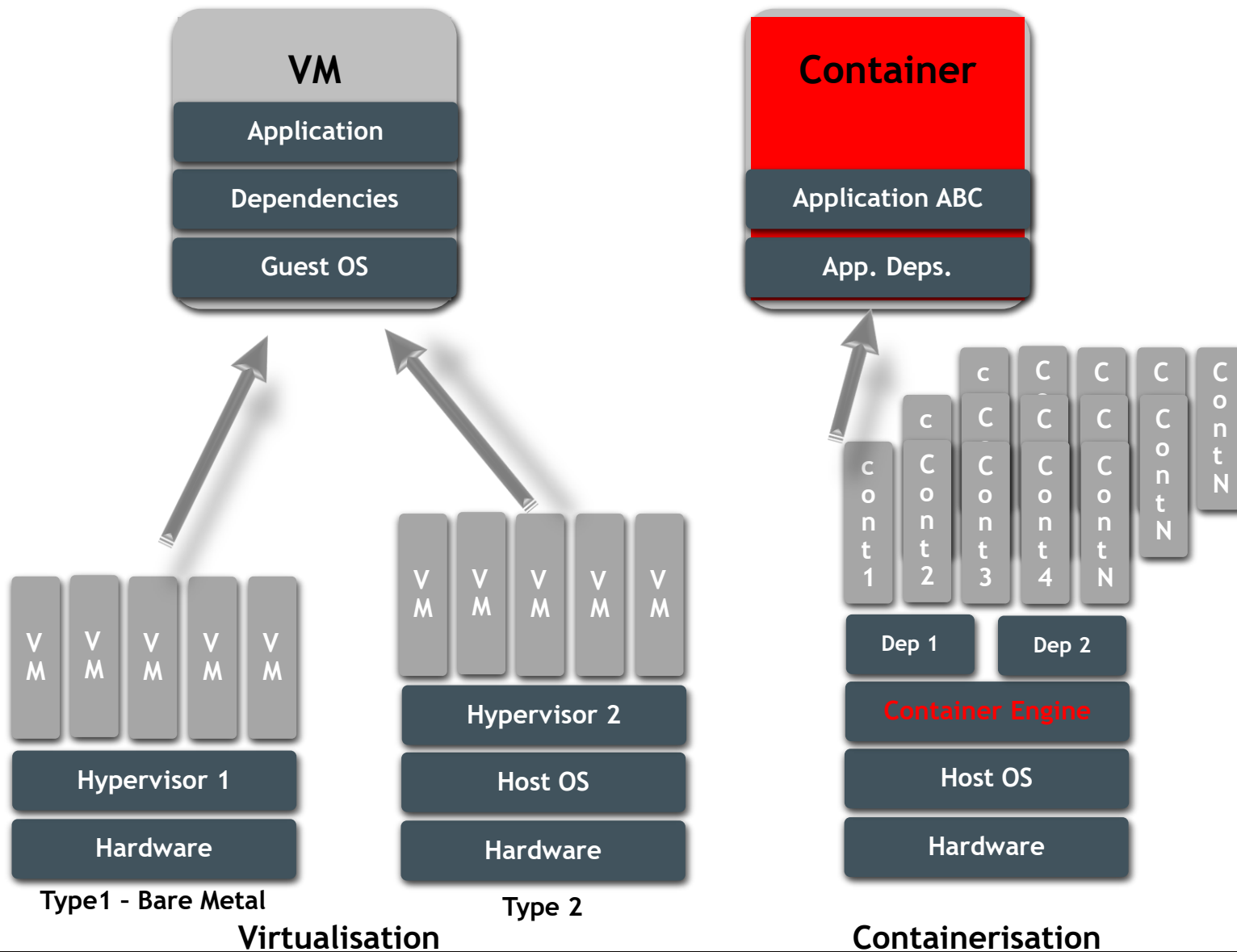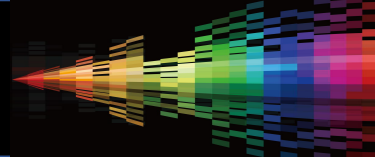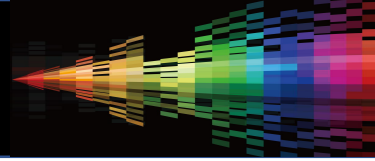# Monolithic vs Micro Services (API Centric)

Example: Microsoft eShop Reference Architecture

Example: Microsoft eShop Reference Architecture

Virtualisation

Containerisation

Increasing order of Complexity

Increasing order of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction

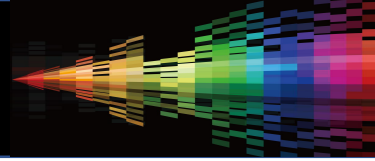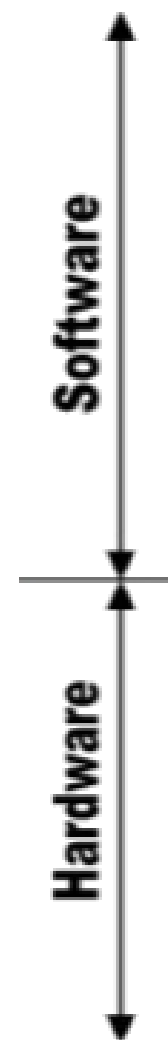Layers of Abstraction

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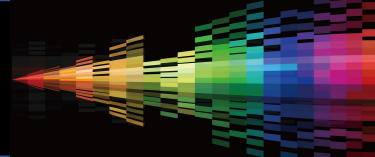
Increasing order of Complexity

Increasing order of Abstraction

Software

Hardware

Gates/Registers

Devices (Transistors)

Physics

Layers of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction

Instruction Set Architecture

Micro Architecture

Gates/Registers

Devices (Transistors)

Physics

Layers of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction
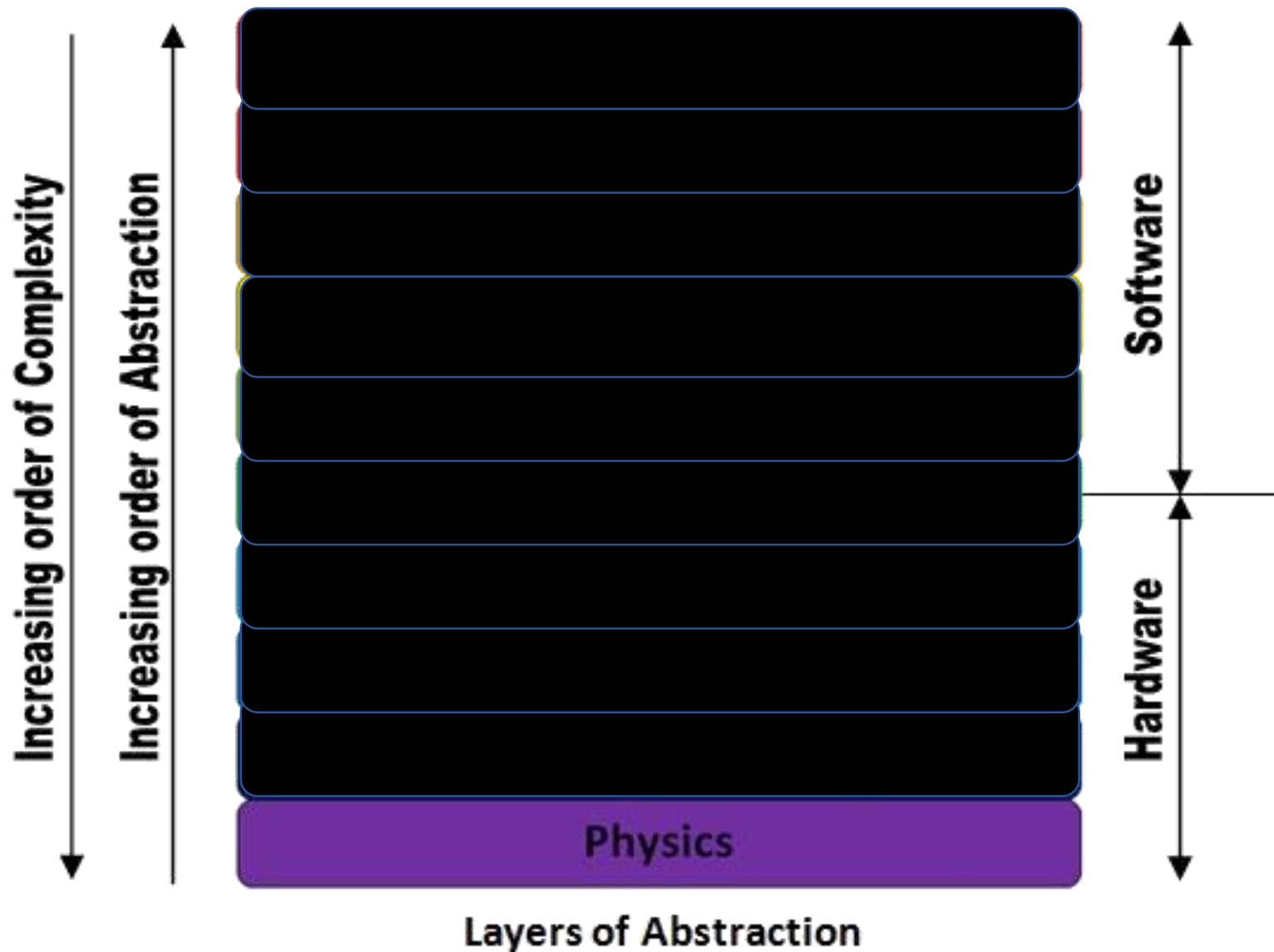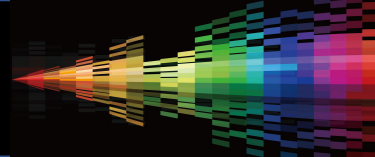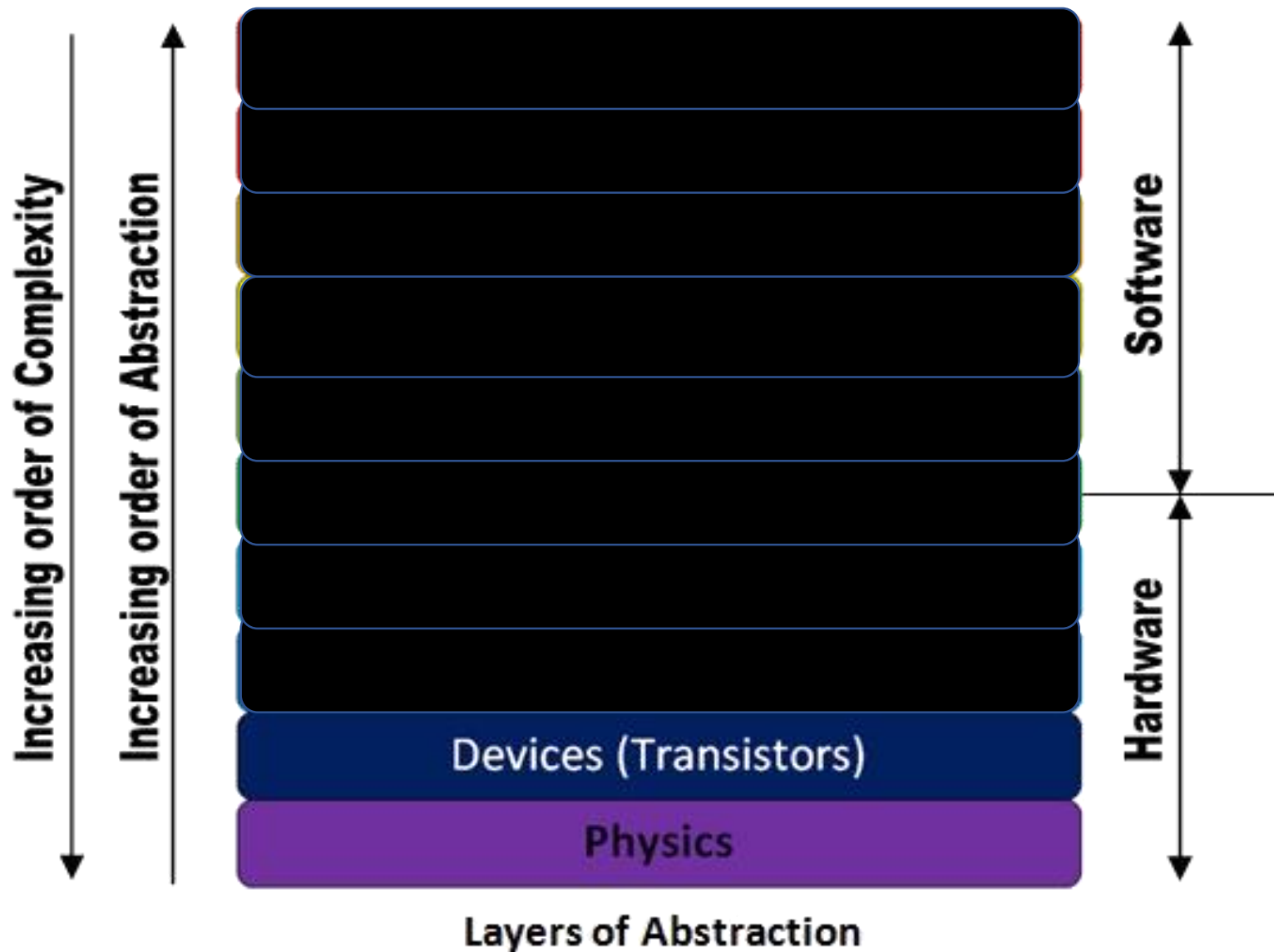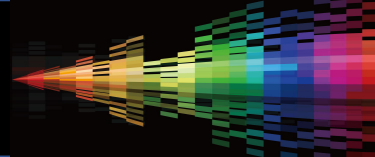
Layers of Abstraction

Layers of Abstraction

Developers

Hackers

RACE TO THE BOTTOM

Hooking Lowest Wins

NtCreateFile (Original)

```
mov eax, 0x42
mov edx, 0x7FFE0300
call dword ptr ds:[edx]
return 2C
```

NtCreateFile(Hooked)

```
jmp MaliciousCode
mov edx, 0x7FFE0300
call dword ptr ds:[edx]
return 2C
```

Malicious Code

```
(Malicious Code Here)
....
....
jmp OriginalBytes
```

Original Bytes

```
mov eax, 0x42
jmp NtCreateFile+5
```

KEY:
- Original Code
- Malicious Code

(The instruction "mov eax, 0x42" is 5 bytes)
(The instruction "jmp MaliciousCode" is also 5 bytes)

North-South & East-West Attacks and Pivots

https://neuvector.com/network-security/securing-east-west-traffic-in-container-based-data-center/

Break-In

Entry Point is usually a "Pin Hole" issue

For example a known application issue

Containers – The "Contained" Challenge

IF you can Break-In

You then Need to Break-Out

<goWest   **goEast>**

Either Find a Container Vuln & Exploit

Or - Living off the Land

Relying on misconfiguration, ability to use native tools, or download new and execute

Low TTL Bi-Product

Hacked container may very soon be pulled down.
Much harder for hacker persistence.
Ability to refresh environment quickly – Vuln Mgt improvements e.g. Secure @ Source

Low TTL Challenge
Hard for Forensics and Monitoring
Vuln Mgt – environment constantly changing
Config Mgt – environment constantly changing

Container TTL

Low TTL Bi-Product	Low TTL Challenge
Hacked container may very soon be pulled down.	Hard for Forensics and Monitoring
Much harder for hacker persistence.	Vuln Mgt – environment constantly changing
Ability to refresh environment quickly – Vuln Mgt improvements e.g. Secure @ Source	Config Mgt – environment constantly changing

Content Slide Layout

How to Upgrade your Vuln Mgt Program

What to expect from a Pen Test	Implications for CaaS
Supply Chain Risk	DevSecOps

Pen Test – Mechanical Attack

vs Knowledge & Finesse

Monolithic vs Microservices Architecture

MONOLITHIC ARCHITECTURE

MONOLITHIC
ARCHITECTURE

User Interface

Business Logic

Data Access
Layer

DB

MICROSERVICES ARCHITECTURE

https://neuvector.com/run-time-container-security/

NGFW

WAF

Container Firewall

External & Legacy Apps

https://neuvector.com/run-time-container-security/

Hack Transformation

Hack Transformation

Hack Transformation

Hack Transformation

https://neuvector.com/network
-security/next-generation-
firewall-vs-container-firewall/

Security Testing Needs to Go Down The Stack

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User Interface (WebApps, forms, logons, API's)

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Finesse

Lower Cost

Predictable

Even if a Web App/Service Pen Test not suitable for current technologies

Doesn't really assess the threats

More North-South than East-West

Check Box

More considered
Requires expert capability, R&D
Requires understanding of the full stack incl implications of -aaS
Requires persistence in an ephemeral setting
Yes – it will cost more
Assurance, Validation & Compliance

There are Pen Tests & There are Pen Tests!

Lower Cost	More considered
Predictable	Requires expert capability, R&D
Even if a Web App/Service Pen Test not suitable for current technologies	Requires understanding of the full stack incl implications of -aaS
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Blue Team: Key Steps to App Container Security

1	**End-to-End Vulnerability Management**
2	Container Attack Surface Reduction
3	User Access Control
4	Hardening the Host OS & the Container
5	SDLC Automation (DevOps)

SHIFT LEFT

Build

- API's & Plug-ins
- Third Party Components
- Vuln Mgt Automation

Registry

- Automated Scan of Pub/Priv Registry

Host

- Compliance Scanning
  - OS
  - CaaS

Runtime

- Audit logging
- Event logging

Image adapted from Qualys materials

Adapted from: Ten Basic Steps To Secure Software Containers, Instructions For Safely Developing And Deploying Software In Containers
by Amy DeMartine and David

Develop / Build

Test / Modify

Release / Production

Develop / Build

Test / Modify

Release / Production

Use Trusted Images

Reduce Attack Surface

Third Party Components Mgt (SCA)

Sign & Verify Images

Privileged Access & Auth Mgt

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User Authentication

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Advanced Security Controls

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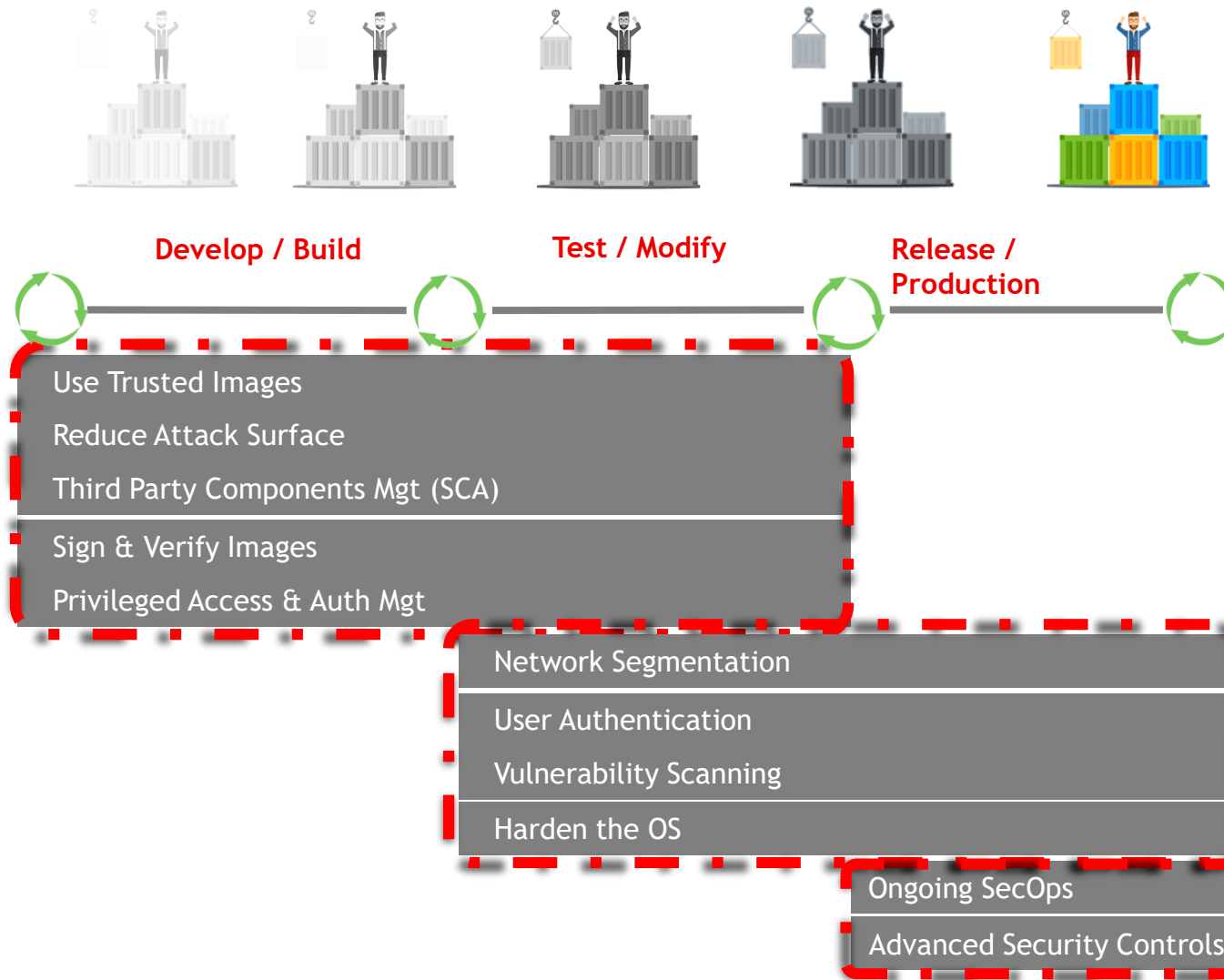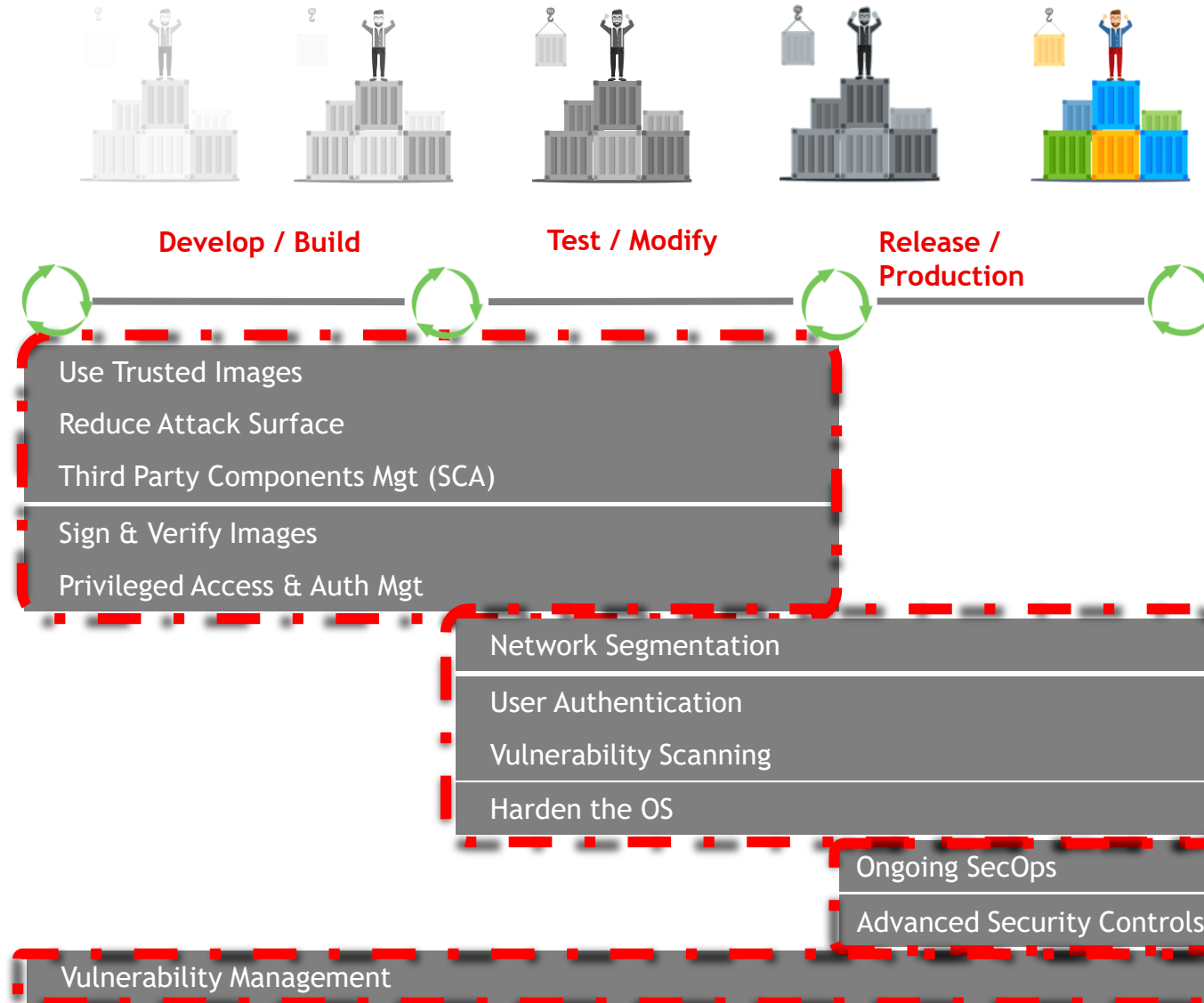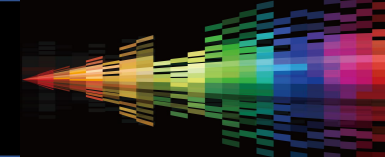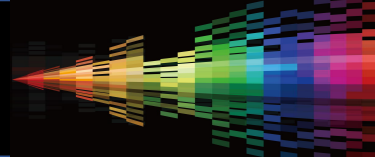Advanced Security Controls

Vulnerability Management

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Recap

1	**Serverless, Microservices and Container Security**	**CI/CD Integration for Automated Security**	4
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