

NIST  
Information Technology Laboratory  
(ITL)  
The Cyber Maryland Showcase





# The Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002



# FISMA 2002, Summary of NIST Responsibilities

- Information Security Standards that-
  - Provide minimum information security requirements
  - Are otherwise necessary to improve the security of federal information and information systems
- NIST has the mission of developing standards, guidelines and associated methods and techniques for information systems:
  - Standards to be used by all agencies to categorize all information and information systems....according to a range of risk levels
  - Guidelines recommending the types of information and information systems to be included in each category
  - Minimum information security requirements for information and information systems in each such category
  - Provide technical assistance to agencies, upon request
  - Conduct research, as needed
  - Assist the private sector, upon request



# Show Me Your FIMSA?

Has the Government COR/COTR/CO/PM  
Ever Asked you:

- How is your FISMA?
- Do you Do FISMA?
- We need you to do FISMA.

What are They Talking About and How  
Do You Answer?



# NIST Standards and Guidelines

- Consistent and Know Method to Express Security Requirements to Industry Partners.
- Ability to Understand Expectations of Government.
- Negotiated Discussion for Implementation Specifics.
- **RESPONSIBILITY CAN NEVER BE OUTSOURCED.**



# NIST Standards and Guidelines

- Standards for the US Federal Government
  - Required for “other than national security systems”
- Guidelines for Security Program Implementation Assistance

Both Used By Organizations at All Levels  
Across the Country and the World.



# Risk-Based Protection

- ***Enterprise missions and business processes drive security*** requirements and associated safeguards and countermeasures for organizational information systems.
- ***Highly flexible implementation; recognizing diversity*** in missions/business processes and operational environments.
- ***Senior leaders take ownership*** of their security plans including the safeguards/countermeasures for the information systems.
- Senior leaders are both ***responsible and accountable*** for their information security decisions; understanding, acknowledging, and explicitly accepting resulting mission/business risk.



# NIST Method

## Open, Transparent, Inclusive

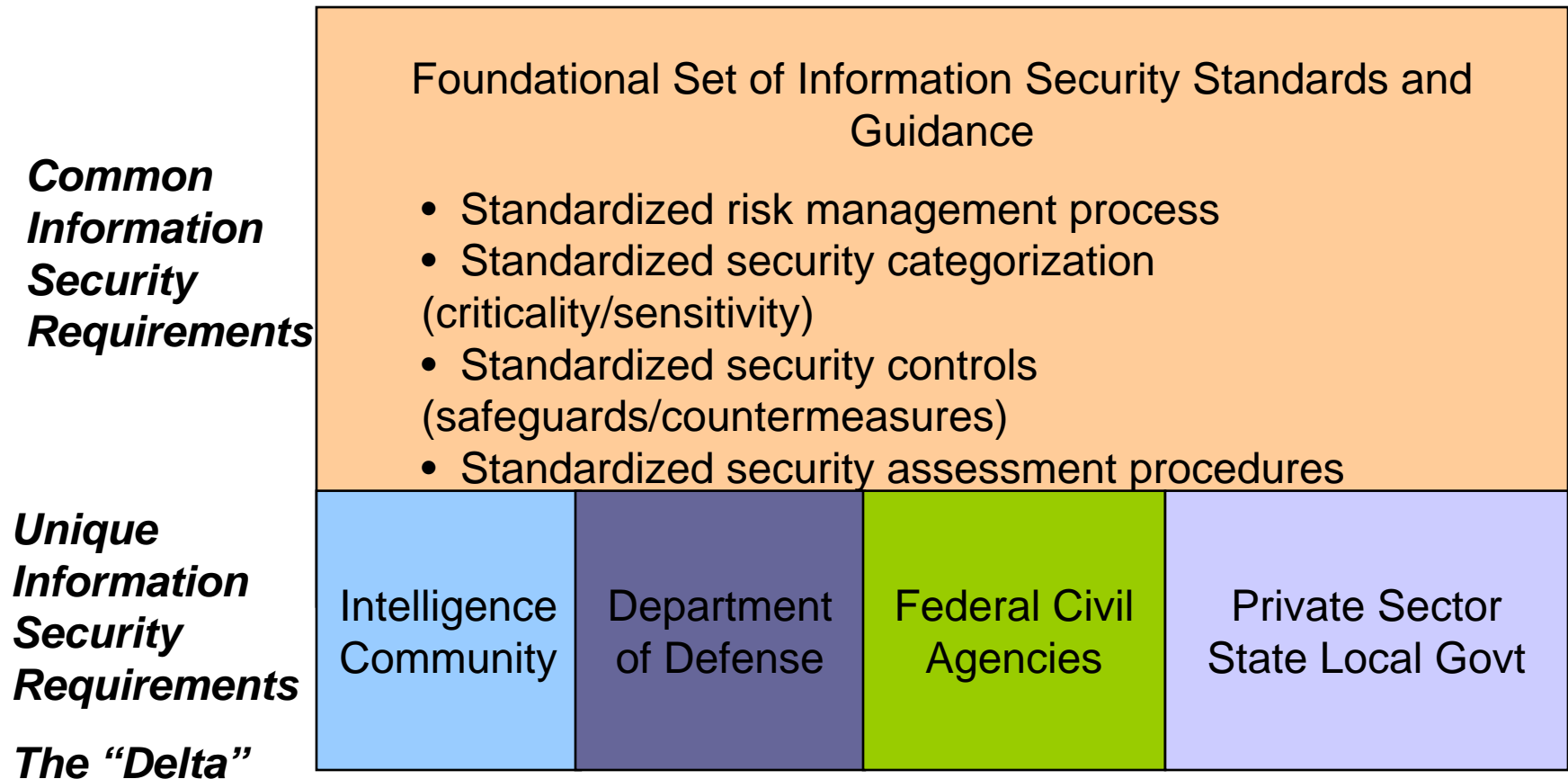
- Standards and Guidelines
  - Developed in an Open and Transparent Manner
  - Includes Public and Government Participation
  - Involves Best Practices and Open Exchange of Ideas
  - Results in Products Better Than The Sum of the Authors





# Strategic Partnerships

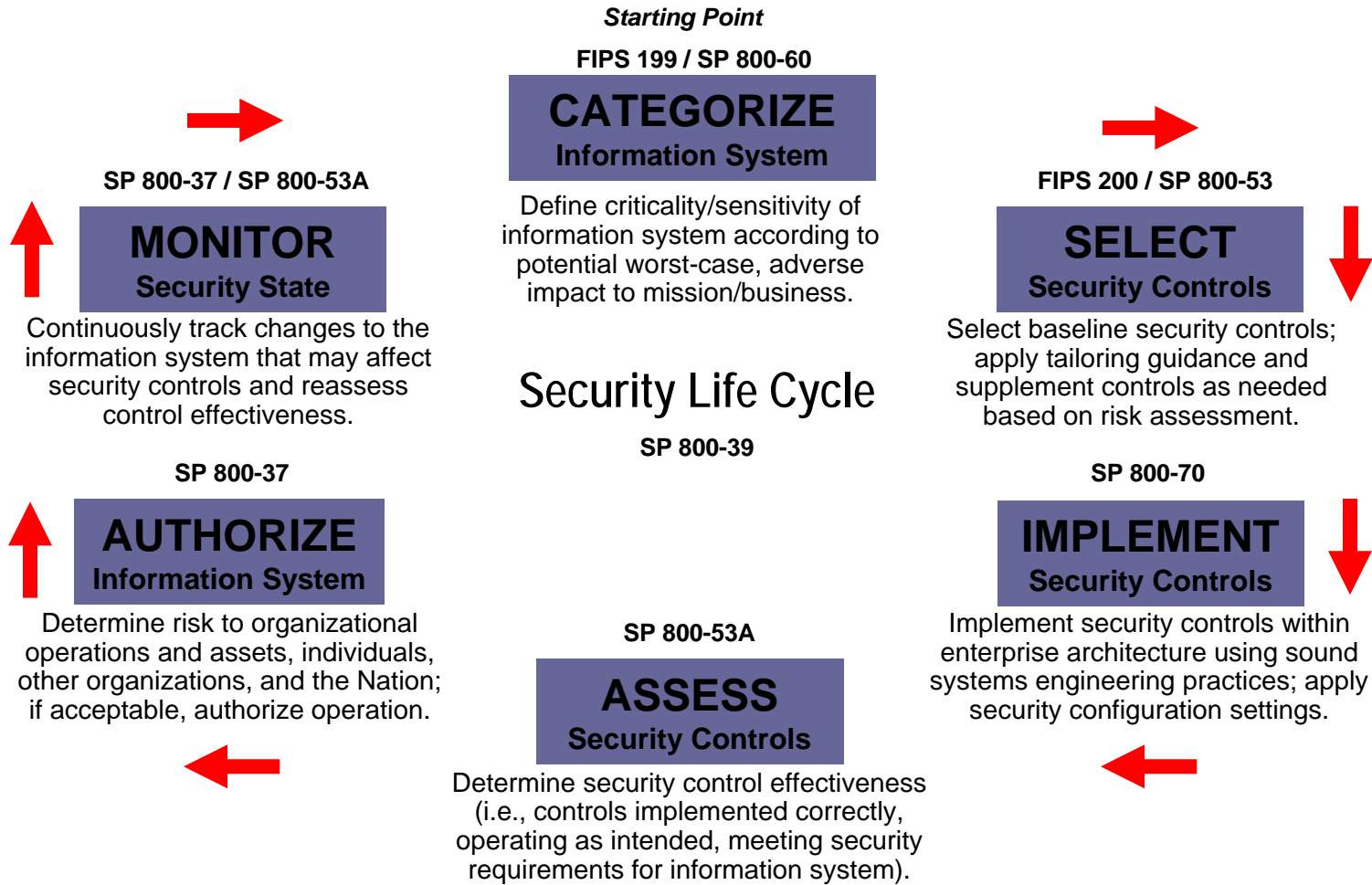
*For Information Security*



National security and non national security information systems



# Risk Management Framework



# Some of What We Face (example listing)

## *Threats*

- Social engineering and phishing
- Web browsing attacks (compromised commercial websites)
- SQL injection methods against vulnerable websites
- Increasingly sophisticated BotNets
- Stolen credentials and certificates
- Pharming (website redirection)
- DNS Attacks
- Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS)
- Supply chain insertion
- Man in the Middle Attacks
- BIOS Root kits

## *Motivations*

- Data Theft
- Blackmail
- Denial of Service
- Command and Control Disruption
- Espionage
- Fraud
- Terrorism
- Revenge
- Accidental
- Nature Events



# What is your weakest link?

Constant Tension of Threat and Defend  
“for every action there is an opposite reaction”

The Threat Actors are:

    Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous

The Threats are:

    Sophisticated, Agile, Tenacious, Impactful  
Needs for Continuous Risk Management,  
Agile Defenses,  
Operations Under Compromise,  
Rapid Response and Restore Capability,



# Outreach to Federal Agencies

- Federal Computer Security Managers Forum
- Federal Information Security Educators Association
- Federal Agency Security Practices
- Information Security and Privacy Advisory Board
- Multiple Workshops, Conferences, Events
- Multiple Individual Agency Assistance



# Standards and Guidelines Adoption by States

- State of Maryland
- State of California
- State of Missouri
- State of Georgia
- State of Florida
- State of Texas
- State of Alabama
- State of Arizona

“The Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) wishes to acknowledge the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) publication, NISTIR 7359, and the NIST website as the source for much of the information contained in this document. GTA choose to model Georgia’s information risk management program after the federal program developed by NIST and overseen by the President’s Office of Management and Budget. As you read this document, you will gain an understanding of the benefits provided by this model.”



# Outreach to the Private Sector

- Small-Medium Business Security Outreach
  - Joint Program with FBI/SBA
- Work with Major COTS Vendors
- Open Workshops/Public Participation
- Standards Development Organizations
  - IEEE, ANSI, ISO, IETF, CNSS



Matthew Scholl  
Computer Security Division  
Information Technology Laboratory  
mscholl@nist.gov  
301-975-2941