Interdisciplinary Consortium for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity $(IC)^3$
A Research Overview

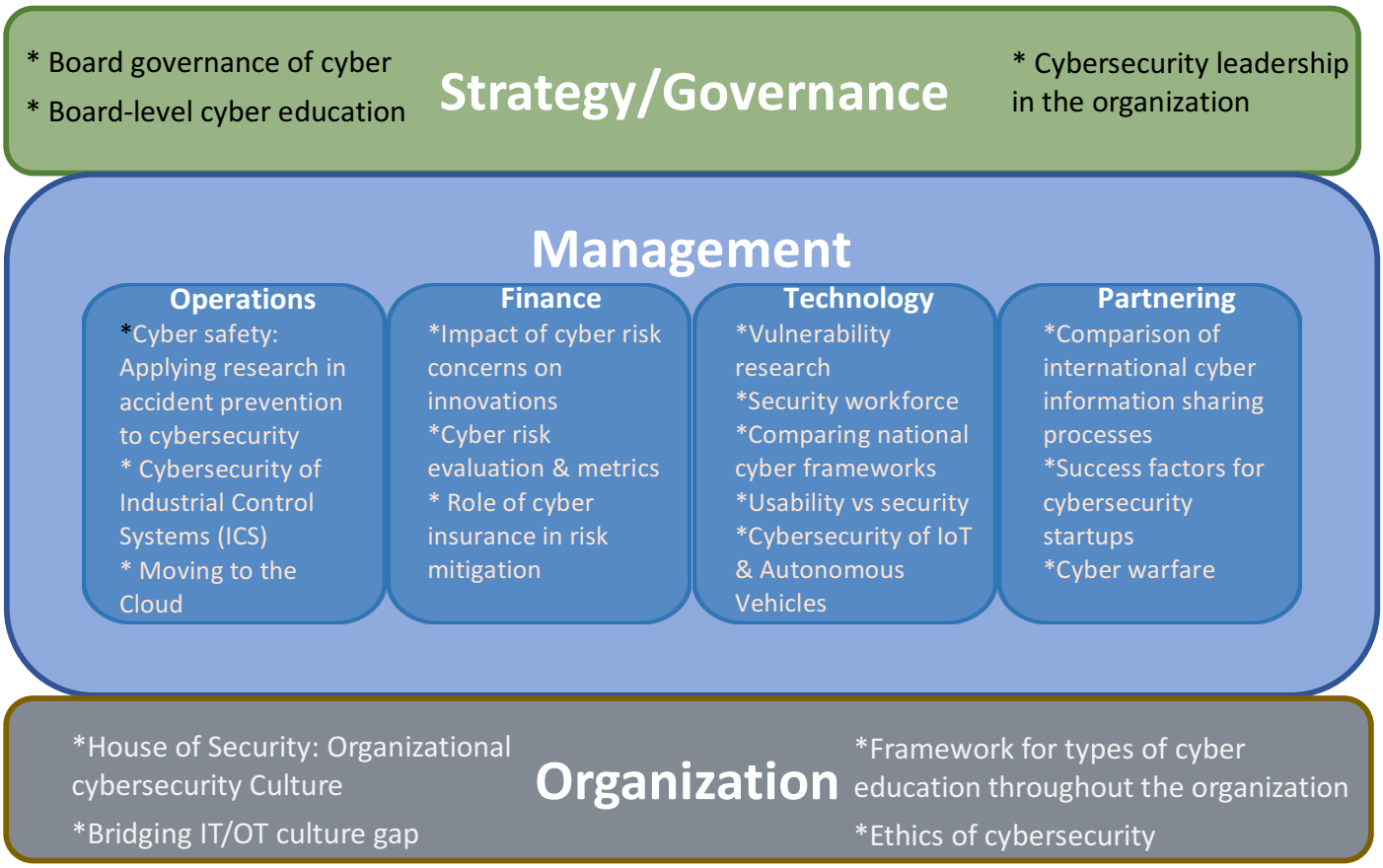
If you don't address the people issues, you're missing the hard cybersecurity problems.

–Stuart Madnick

$(IC)^3$ brings together thought leaders from industry, academia and government with MIT faculty, researchers and students to address strategy, management, governance and organization of cybersecurity for critical infrastructure.

Cybersecurity Must Be Actively Managed Throughout The Organization

All the technology available won't stop a cyber-attack if someone inside the organization 'leaves the door open.' Estimates are that between 50% and 80% of all cyberattacks are aided or abetted by insiders, usually unintentionally. If you don't address the people issues, you're missing the hard cybersecurity problems. A lot of the vulnerabilities in organizations come from the corporate culture and the practices. For example, in most industrial organizations, a safety mindset permeates the organization. Industrial plants display signs touting the number of days since the last accident as a badge of pride and a reminder of a safety mindset. But organizations have not gotten to this level with cybersecurity. Clicking on an inappropriate email which might release a virus into the corporate systems does not seem to elicit the same level of attention to safety as the physical plant signs. The consequences are not often as obvious or as immediate. But they can be just as devastating. Research at $(IC)^3$ covers these and other topics, graphically depicted in the diagram below.



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