



# Cybersecurity in a changing world

Stefano Zanero, PhD

Associate Professor, Politecnico di Milano

Founder, Secure Network Srl



# The iper-connected future





# The iper-connected future





# The iper-connected future





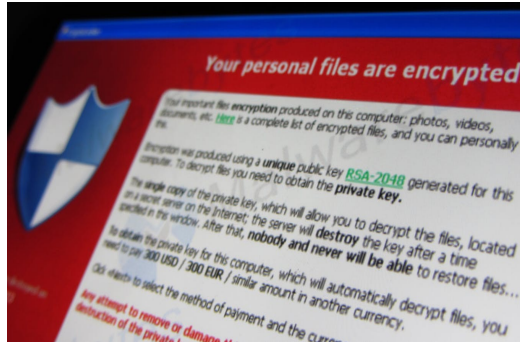


# The iper-connected future



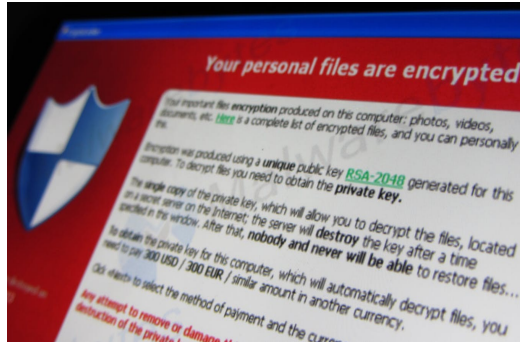


# Upcoming threats



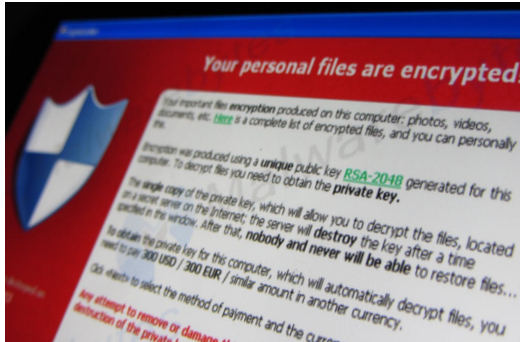


# Upcoming threats





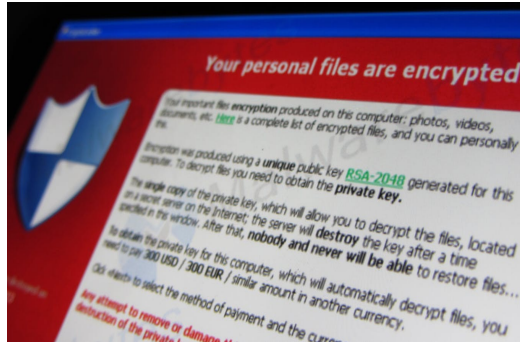
# Upcoming threats







# Upcoming threats



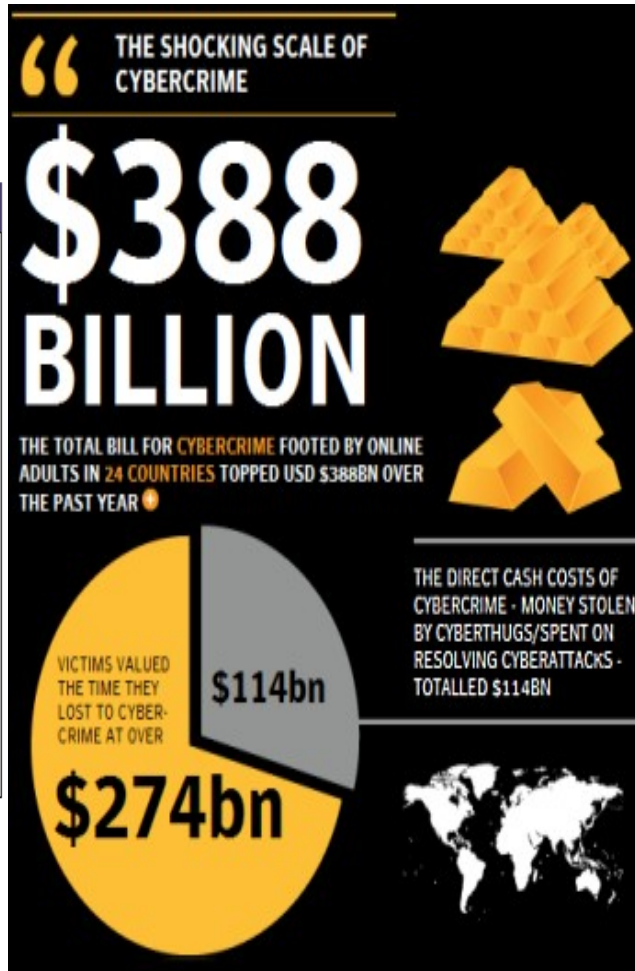
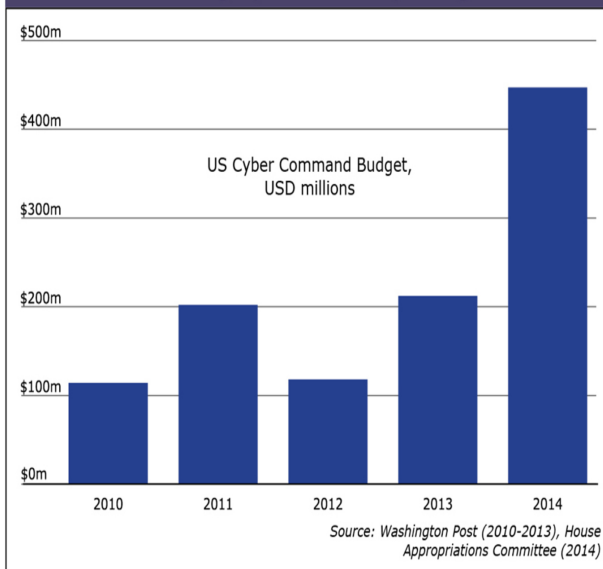




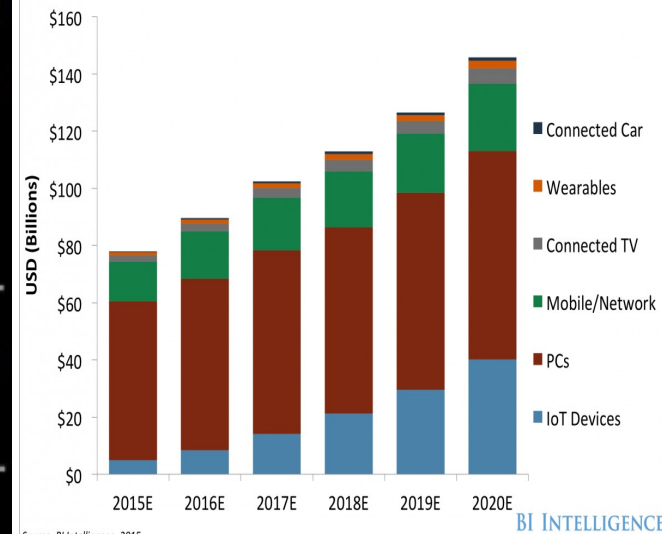


# Costs and damage

A soaring cyber-security budget



Cybersecurity Market Annual Forecast  
Global





# The underground economy

- The underground financial fraud community has become increasingly organized, facilitating an expanded reach
- Anyone, independently from their skill level, can buy a malware builder and create a customized sample
- The price depends on the features of the trojans, typically starting from 100\$ for an old, leaked version, to about 3,000\$ for a new complete version
- Cybercriminals also offer paid support and customization, or sell advanced configuration files that the end users can include in their custom builds
- Compromised banking accounts are traded for five to ten percent of their current balance



# Information Stealers: an overview

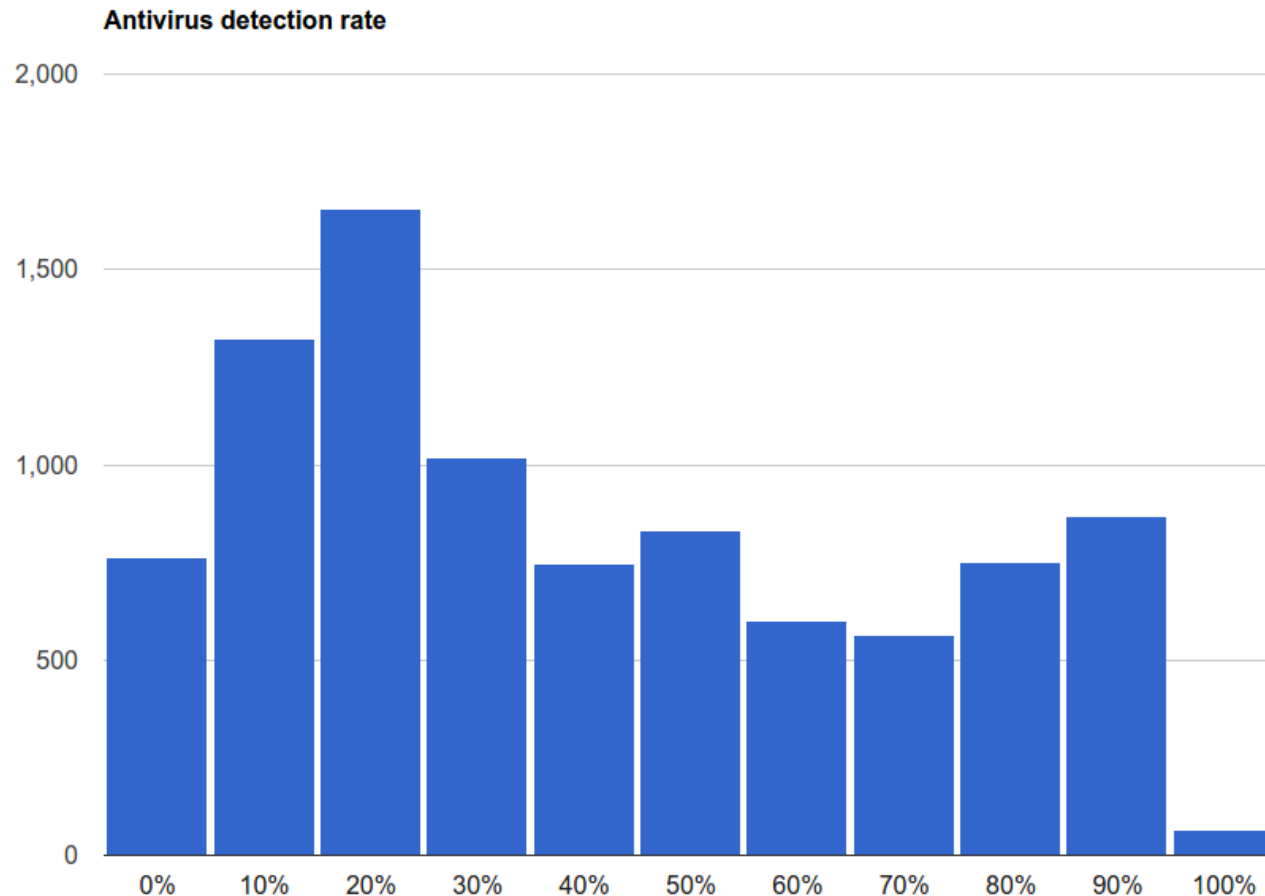
- What they are:
  - ✓ Malware that steal credentials such as usernames, passwords, and second factors of authentication
  - ✓ They are also named “banking trojans”, because they are often used to steal banking credentials and perform online financial frauds
- ZeuS (2007), SpyEye (2011), Citadel (2012), are the most notorious
- What they do:
  - ✓ Steal private information submitted to web forms
  - ✓ Harvest and steal files
  - ✓ Hijack browser session
  - ✓ Use the victim as a proxy





# AV Detection Rate

Low detection rate: as of yesterday, according to ZeuS Tracker the overall detection rate is 40.04%





# Man in the Browser and WebInject

- Info-stealing trojans exploit API hooking techniques to be able to intercept all the data going through the browser even when the connection is encrypted (Man in the Browser attacks)
- They also contain a module called WebInject able to manipulate and modify web pages injecting new content
- The goal is to make the victim believe that the web page is legitimately asking for the second factor of authentication or any other private information

A screenshot of a login form with a light blue background. It contains two input fields: "User ID" and "Password". Below the fields are two green buttons: "Unable to log on?" and "Continue".

A screenshot of a login form with a light blue background. It contains four input fields: "User ID", "Password", "Memorable word", and "Date of Birthday". The "Date of Birthday" field is composed of three dropdown menus for "day", "month", and "year". A red rectangular box highlights the "Memorable word" and "Date of Birthday" fields. Below the fields are two green buttons: "Unable to log on?" and "Continue".



# Mobile trojans

- Most banking trojan toolkits include nowadays a mobile component
- This mobile component works in pairs with the PC versions and can access all the information in the user's phone, including SMS sent by banks containing One Time Passwords (OTP)

[www.yourbank.com](http://www.yourbank.com)





# Yet another example: ransomware

## CRYPTOWALL RANSOMWARE COST USERS \$325 MILLION IN 2015

by [NewsEditor](#) on November 2nd, 2015 in [Industry and Security News](#).

### Ransomware Hackers Blackmail U.S. Police Departments

Chris Francescani  
Tuesday, 26 Apr 2016 | 10:30 AM ET



June 23, 2015

Alert Number  
I-062315-PSA

CRIMINALS CONTINUE TO DEFRAUD AND EXTORT FUNDS  
FROM VICTIMS USING CRYPTOWALL RANSOMWARE  
SCHEMES

## WannaCry Ransomware Encrypted Hospital Medical Devices

Hollywood hospital pays \$17,000 in bitcoin to  
hackers; FBI investigating





# Do you wannacry?







<http://gizmodo.com/385113/this-is-how-cyber-criminals-party-mimes-and-blow-up-dolls>

## AV industry in 1998



## AV industry in 2008





*The IoT is the network of physical objects or "things" embedded with electronics, software, sensors, and network connectivity, which enables these objects to collect and exchange data*



# Personal things...



Ring





# Home things...





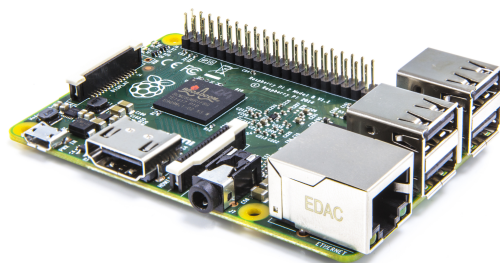


# Medical things (ouch!)





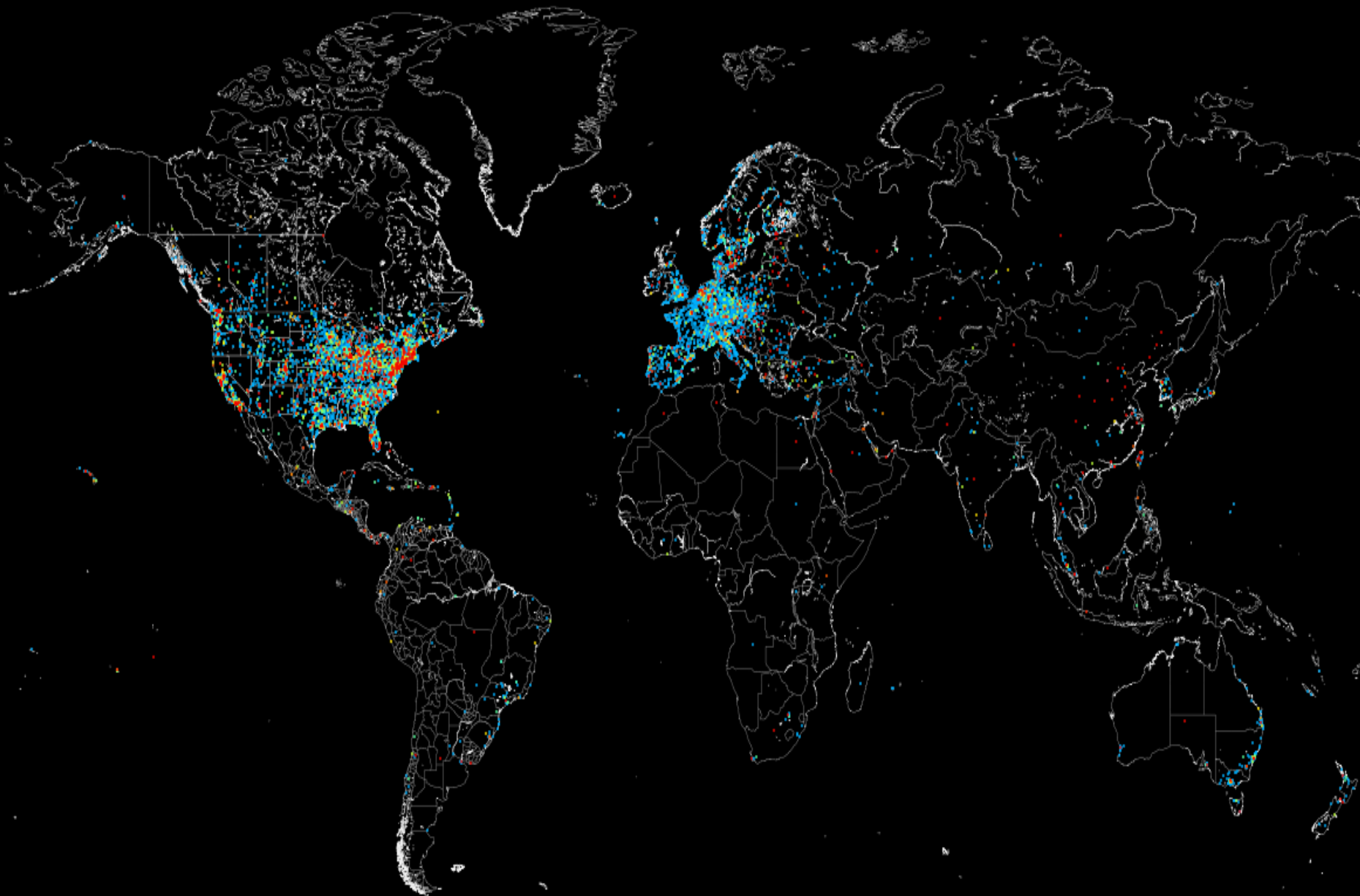
# But also industrial things...!





- **Originally-disconnected systems now “opening” to the Internet**
- Critical infrastructure and safety-critical systems
- (sometimes) no humans in the middle
- → Influence environment and humans (≠ data security!)

# ICS on the Internet





## Attacks against ICS share some characteristics

- 2014: Steel mill incident
  - Spear phishing leads to compromise of corporate network
  - Pivot into plant network
  - Exploitation phase (compromise network controllers)
- 23rd December 2015: Ukraine power outage
  - Black energy malware
  - Spear phishing leads to compromise of corporate network
  - BlackEnergy malware steals VPN credentials
  - Pivot into plant networks
  - Exploitation phase (modification of UPS controller firmware)

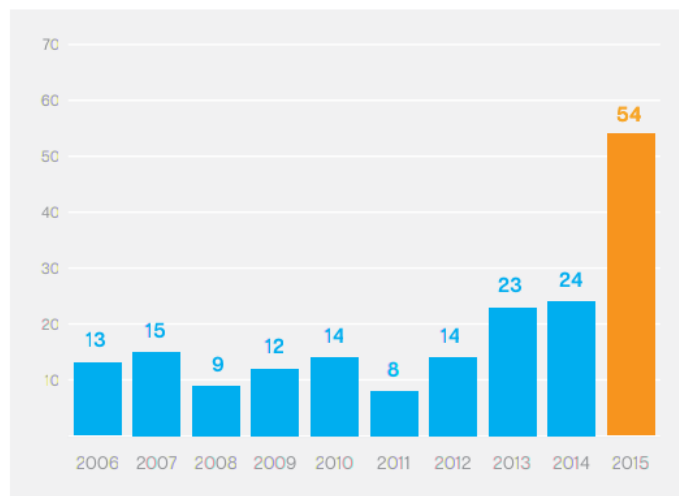




# Phishing, spear phishing, and the most important vulnerability...

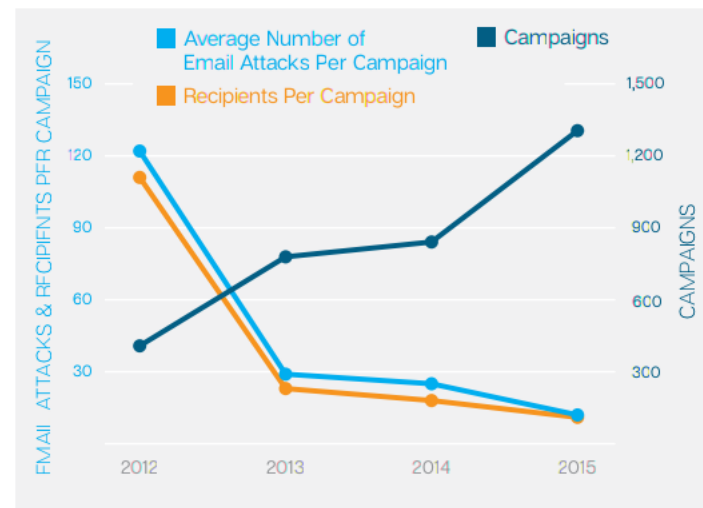
## Zero-Day Vulnerabilities, Annual Total

- The highest number of zero-day vulnerabilities was disclosed in 2015, evidence of the maturing market for research in this area.



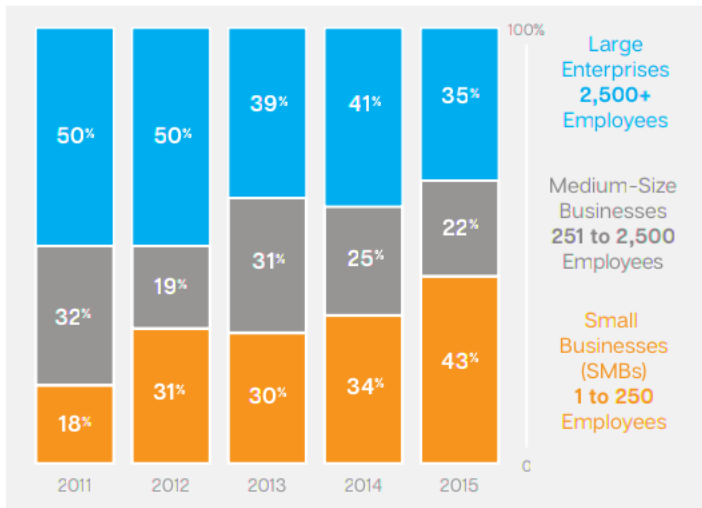
## Spear-Phishing Email Campaigns

- In 2015, the number of campaigns increased, while the number of attacks and the number of recipients within each campaign continued to fall. With the length of time shortening, it's clear that these types of attacks are becoming stealthier.



## Spear-Phishing Attacks by Size of Targeted Organization

- Attacks against small businesses continued to grow in 2015, although many of these attacks were directed to fewer organizations, increasing by 9 percentage points.



Source: Symantec Internet Security Threat Report 2016



- Read the full research report at <http://robosec.org>



# Questions?

- Thank you for your attention!
- You can reach me at [stefano.zanero@polimi.it](mailto:stefano.zanero@polimi.it)
- Or just tweet @raistolo

