

# RSA<sup>®</sup>Conference2019

San Francisco | March 4–8 | Moscone Center



**BETTER.**

SESSION ID: HT-F01

## Phantom Menace, Episode I? The Attack That Undressed the Mexican Banks in '18

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#RSAC

# Your Company Is Ready?



**RSA**Conference2018

San Francisco | April 16 – 20 | Moscone Center

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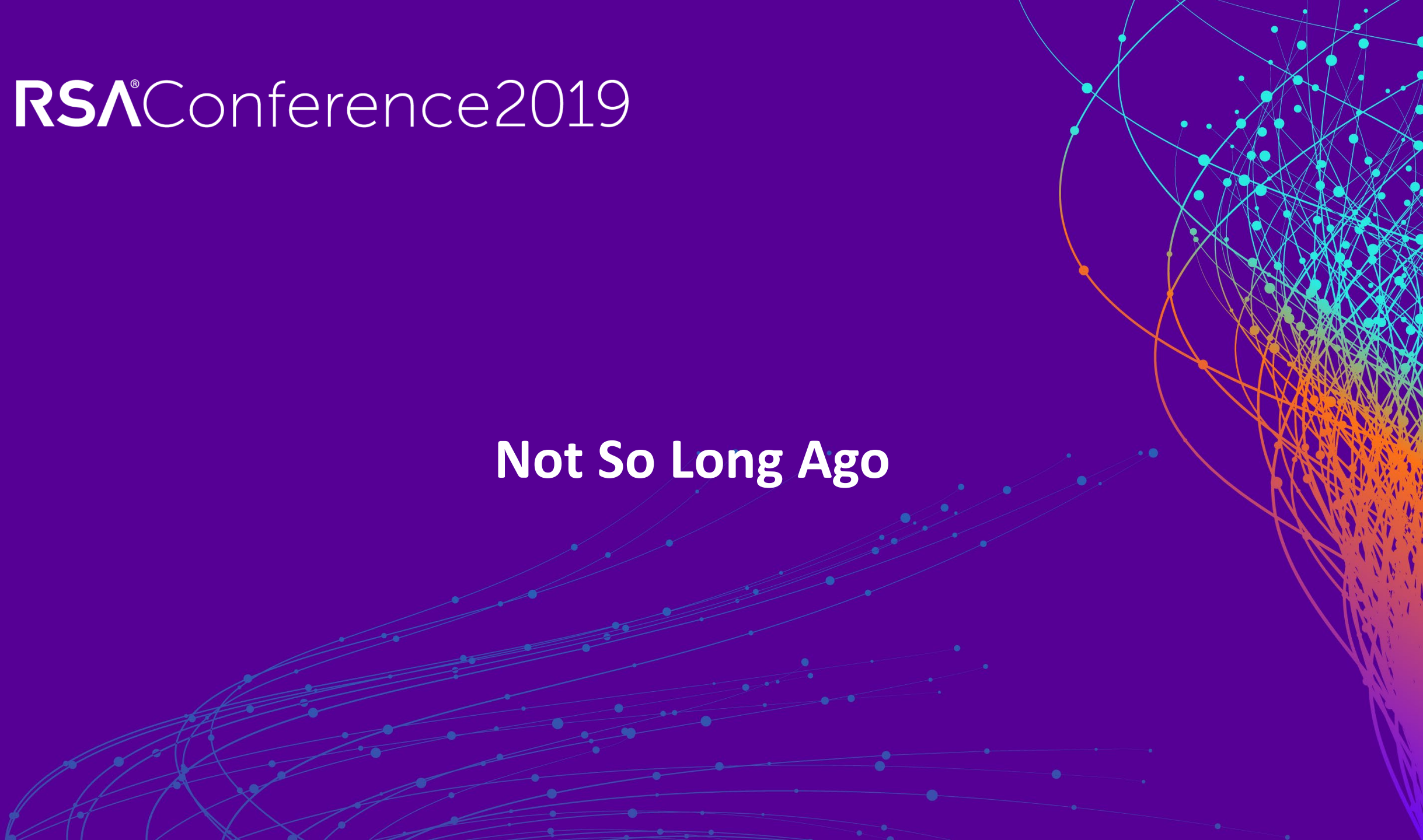
# Agenda

- Remembering The Main Attacks On Wire Transfer Systems.
- Understanding a Payment System.
- Building A Secure Infrastructure.
- Living A Cyberattack, On First Person.
- Learned Lessons.



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**Not So Long Ago**



# The Usual Suspects



**Organized Crime** –  
**50%** Motivated by profit. Often looking for personally identifiable information (PII) such as social security numbers, credit cards, and banking info.

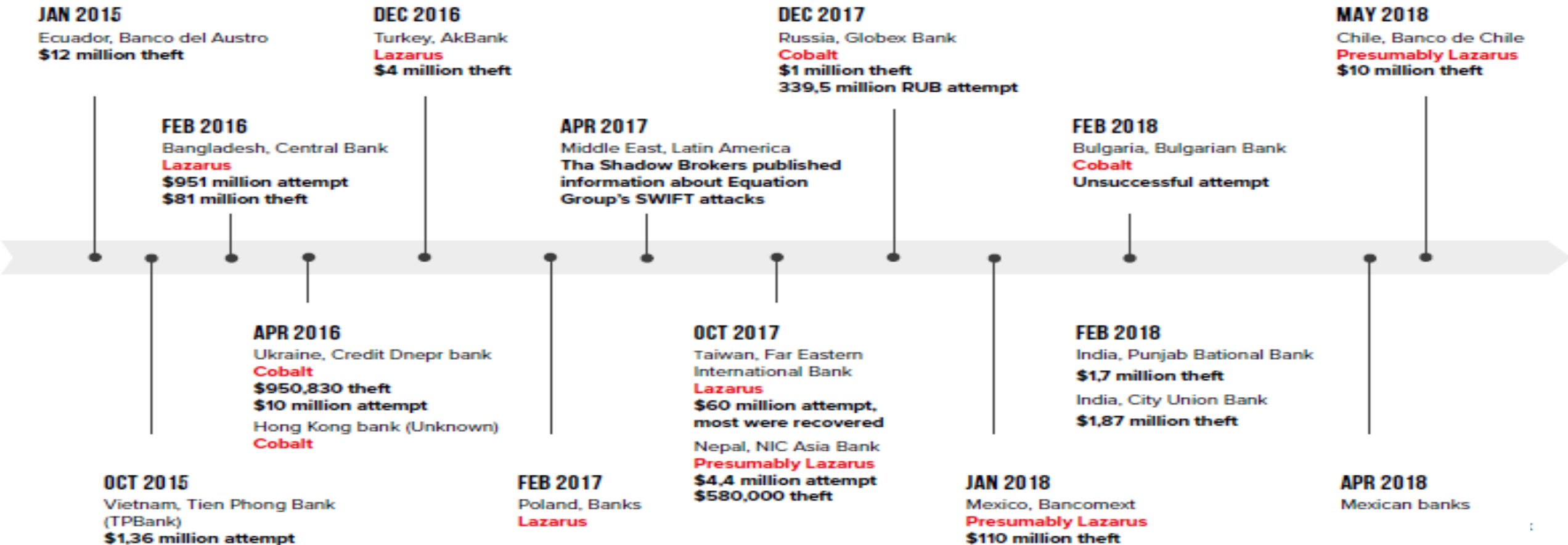
**Insiders** – **28%**  
Disgruntled employees looking for revenge or financial gain. May collaborate with other threat actors for money.

**State Sponsored** –  
**12%** Motivated by political, economic, or military agendas. Often looking for competitive information or users that can be exploited.

**Hackers**  
Cause damage to disliked organizations. The ultimate goal is to gain awareness for their issue.

**Opportunists**  
Amateur criminals, driven by desires of notoriety. Looking to exploit flaws in network systems and devices.

# Main Attacks On Wire Transfers Systems



Group IB. (October 2018). Swift And Local Interbank Payment Systems. The Hi-Tech Crime Trends 2018, p.22.



# How Many More Attacks Should Happen So That We Learn To Protect Payment Systems?

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**Malware Attacks on Polish Banks Linked to Lazarus Group**

By Eduard Kovacs on February 13, 2017

Poland Bank Attacks Part of Bigger Campaign Targeting Over 100 Organizations

The recently discovered attacks aimed at banks in Poland appear to be part of a bigger campaign targeting financial organizations around the world, and researchers have found some links to the threat actor known as Lazarus.

BadCyber reported earlier this month that the systems of several Polish banks had been infected with a new piece of malware. The attackers hijacked the website of the Polish Financial Supervision Authority (knf.gov.pl) and abused it to deliver malware to its visitors.

While there is no evidence that money has been stolen from banks or their customers, some of the organizations whose systems have been infected have noticed large outgoing data transfers.

Researchers at Symantec and BAE Systems have also analyzed the attack and determined that the custom exploit kit used by the attackers was configured to infect only visitors with certain IP addresses.

Symantec has identified roughly 150 targeted IPs associated with more than 100 organizations across 31 countries. Most of the targeted organizations are banks, but the list of targets also includes telecoms and Internet companies. The IP addresses have been linked to banks in Poland, the U.S., Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, Venezuela, Colombia, the U.K., Peru and India.

The custom exploit kit was used to target Symantec customers in Poland, Mexico and Lithuania in attacks first spotted in October 2016.

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THE ORIGINAL SCADA/ICS CYBERSECURITY CONFERENCE

October 22-25, 2018 | Atlanta

Bancomext suffers cyber attack (January 10, 2018)

EMPRESAS

**Bancomext sufre ataque cibernético**

El Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior suspendió sus operaciones de manera preventiva en su plataforma de pagos internacionales.

JEANETTE LEYVA 10/01/2018

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BANK INFO SECURITY

Central by LogMeIn

Looking for an end management solution? Selecting the best tool can overwhelm. This guide.

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TRENDING: Financial Services, Fraud, and the Future of Digital Onboarding · AI and Machine Learning for Regulate

Anti-Malware, Anti-Money Laundering (AML), Compliance

**Bangladesh Bank Attackers Hacked SWIFT Software**

Attackers Used Malware to Steal \$81 Million, BAE Systems Says

Mathew J. Schwartz | InfoSec | April 25, 2016

SWIFT logo

Megahack banking Mexico (May 14, 2018)

Megahack Banca México

1 mayo 14, 2018, 01:14:08 pm

Quien dice CUPoofers: Desde hace como mes y medio iniciaron con problemas con el sistema de transferencias interbancarias de la red de bancos en México. Al principio no querían ventilar la realidad de problema por no querer manchar la reputación de los principales bancos implicados (Banamex y Banorte). Pero esta semana les estalló la bomba mediática, con periodistas que anuncian un recibo que efectivamente fue un hackeo muy grande con pérdidas millonarias (mayores a 400000) para los bancos del país. Hasta el día de hoy aparecen esto (adjunto imagen) en los foros de 4chan y a los pocos minutos desaparecieron... Que opinan el respectivo?

Megahack Banca México

1 mayo 14, 2018, 01:45:47 pm

Mis ahorros en banco itacaogan de existir, de seguro el orquestó es gran hackeo, que se moche con las chelas y las tizas ahora que heare el Tropicón.

Megahack Banca México

1 mayo 14, 2018, 02:35:37 pm

El ya habia puesto algo de eso en Twitter, igual ya se sabia algo en el darknet.

Cyber attacks in Mexico grew 35 percent this year: Kaspersky Lab.



Ciberataques en México crecieron 35 por ciento este año: Kaspersky Lab

Twitter • 12/12/18 01:10

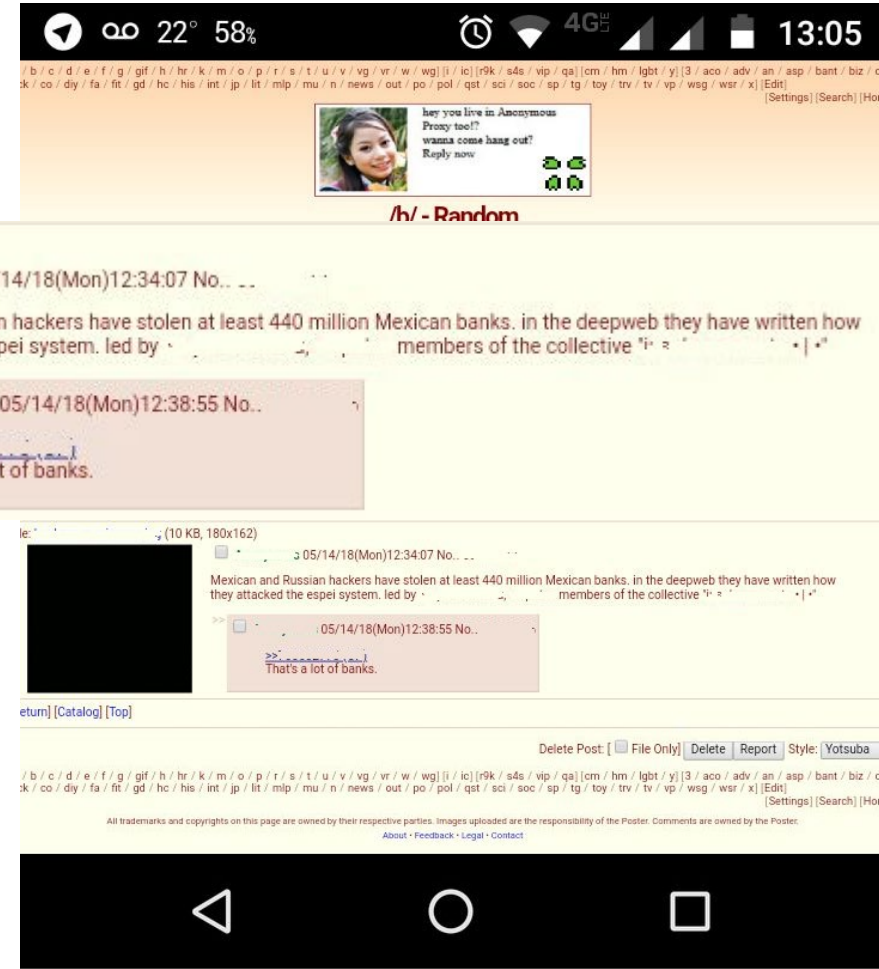
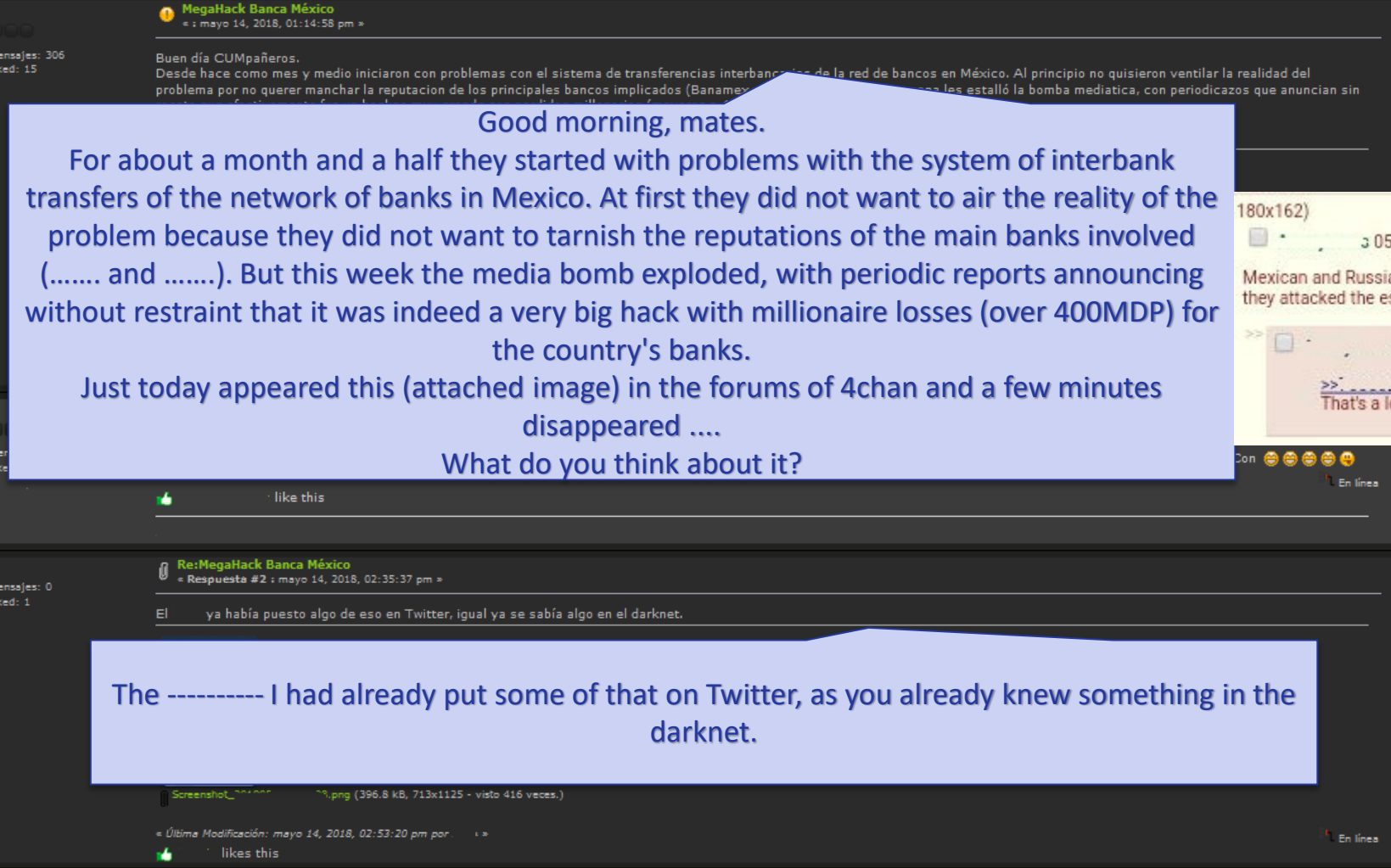
The attackers who stole \$81 million from Bangladesh Bank in February used malware that allowed them to hack into the bank's SWIFT software to transfer money, as well as hide their tracks, according to technology consultancy BAE Systems Applied Intelligence.

See Also: Live Webinar | Levers of Human Deception: The Science and Methodology Behind Social Engineering

The consultancy notes that it's found "custom malware" developed by an individual based in Bangladesh, which "contains sophisticated functionality for interacting with local SWIFT Alliance Access software running in the victim infrastructure."



# Let The Cat Out Of The Bag



Blog. (2018). Blog. 2018, de A underground blog on internet.

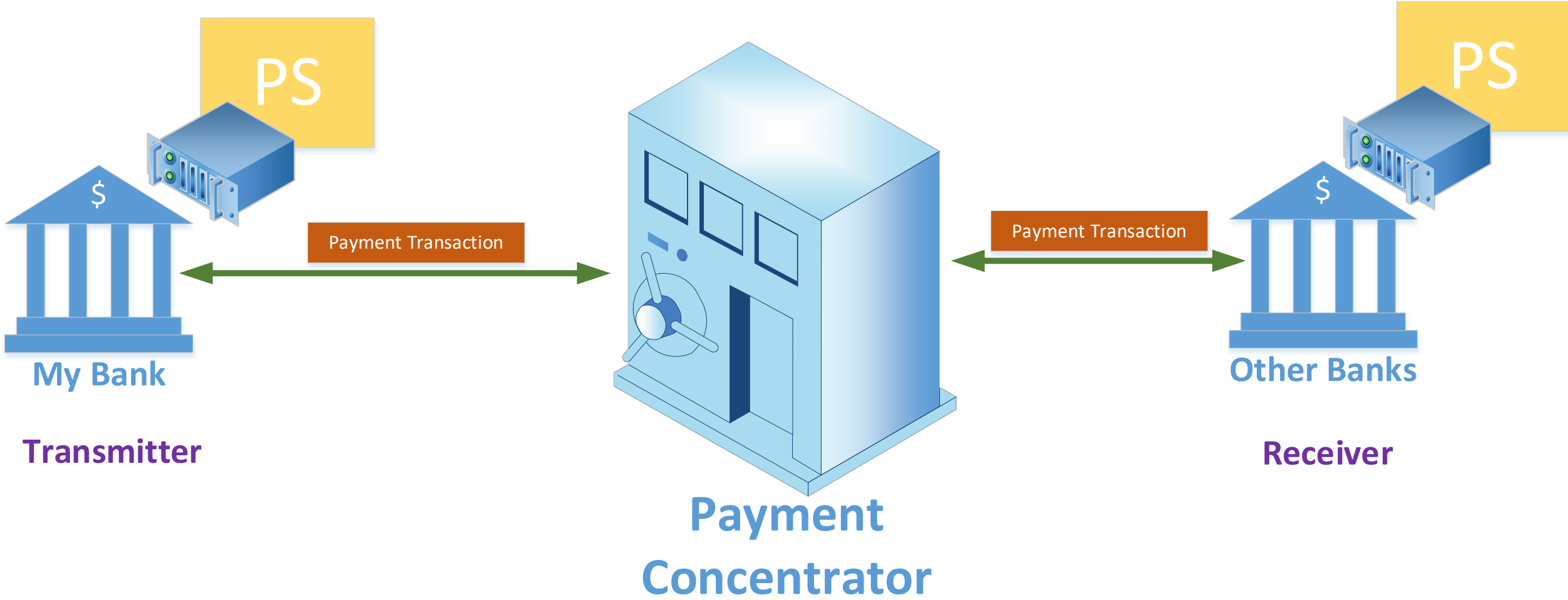
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# Understanding a Payment System

How any wire transfer system works



# General Architecture



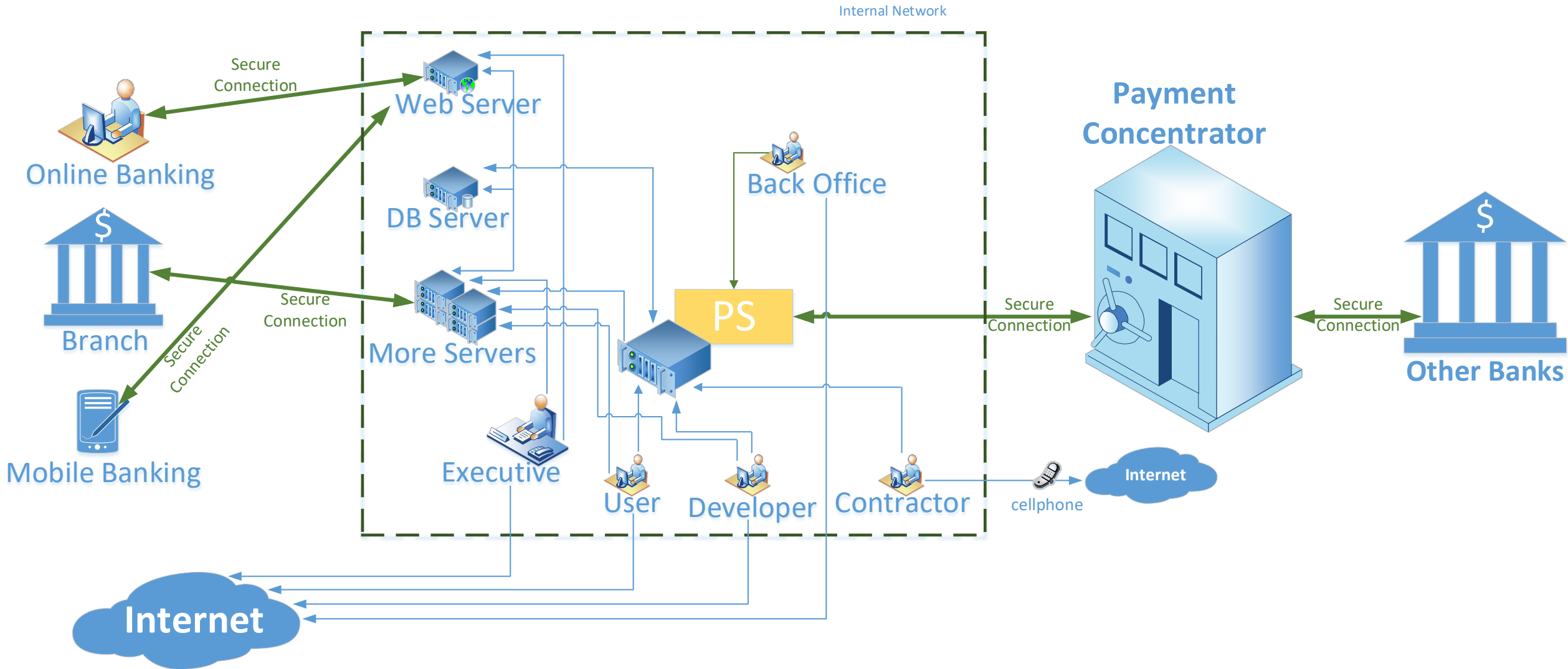


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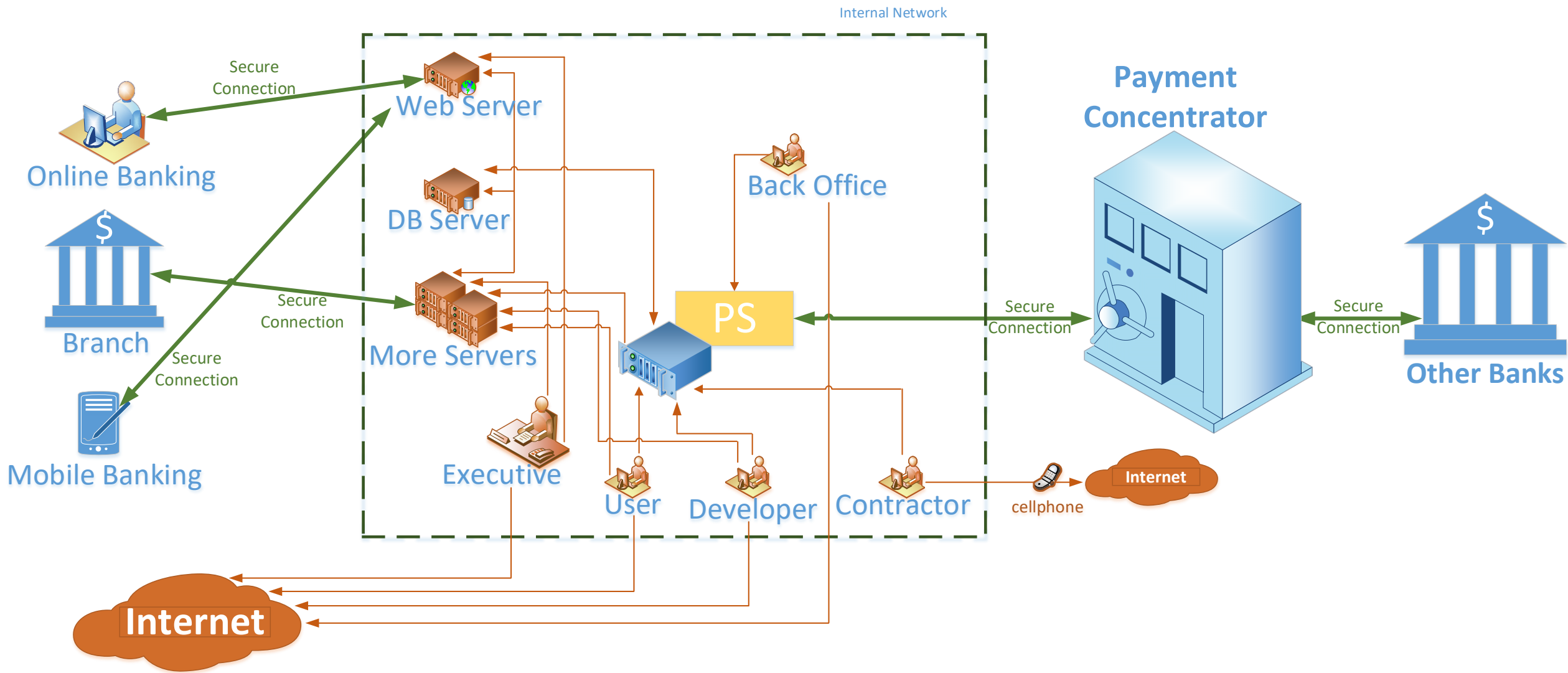
# **Possible Attacks to a Wire Transfer System application**



# A Overview Of A Wire Transfer Architecture

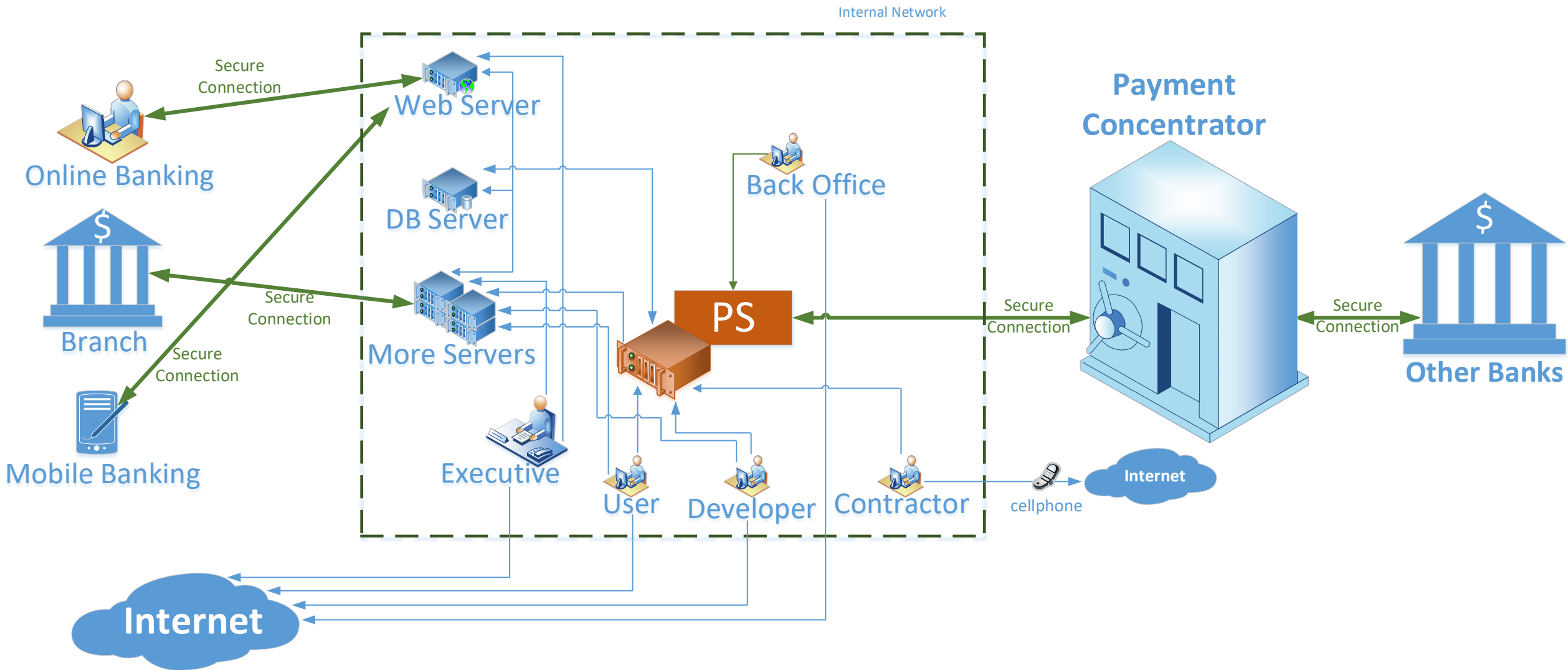


# Case 1. Pwning Wire Transfer System





# Case 2. Pwning Wire Transfer System



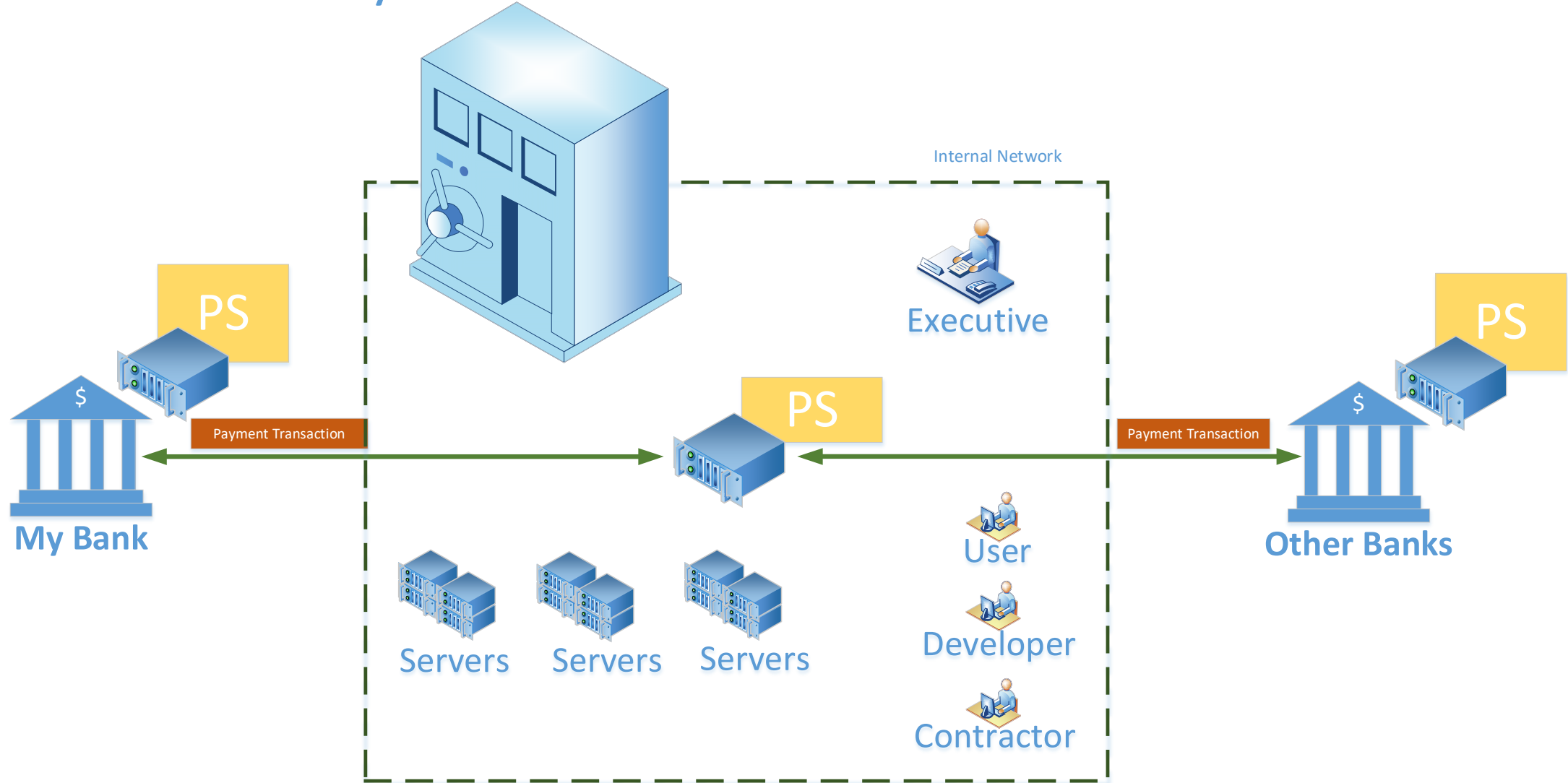
## Thinking as an attacker

Imagining very bad things

An abstract graphic on the right side of the slide, consisting of numerous overlapping, thin, light blue lines and small dots. The lines form a complex, web-like pattern that resembles a network or a series of interconnected paths. The dots are scattered along these lines, creating a sense of movement and connectivity. The overall effect is a dynamic and intricate visual element that complements the theme of 'Thinking as an attacker'.

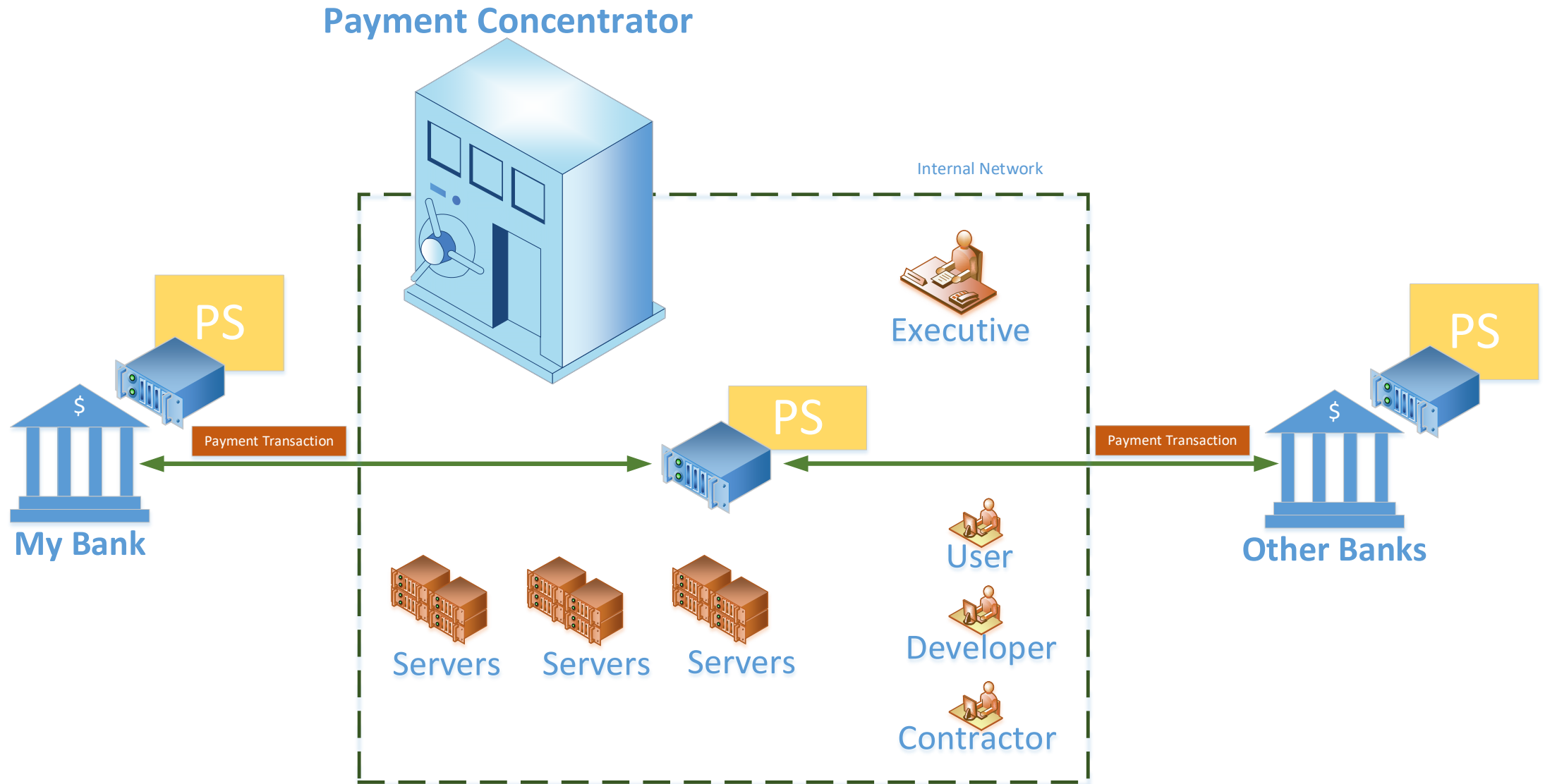
# Payment Concentrator Side

## Payment Concentrator





# Pwning Payment Concentrator Side



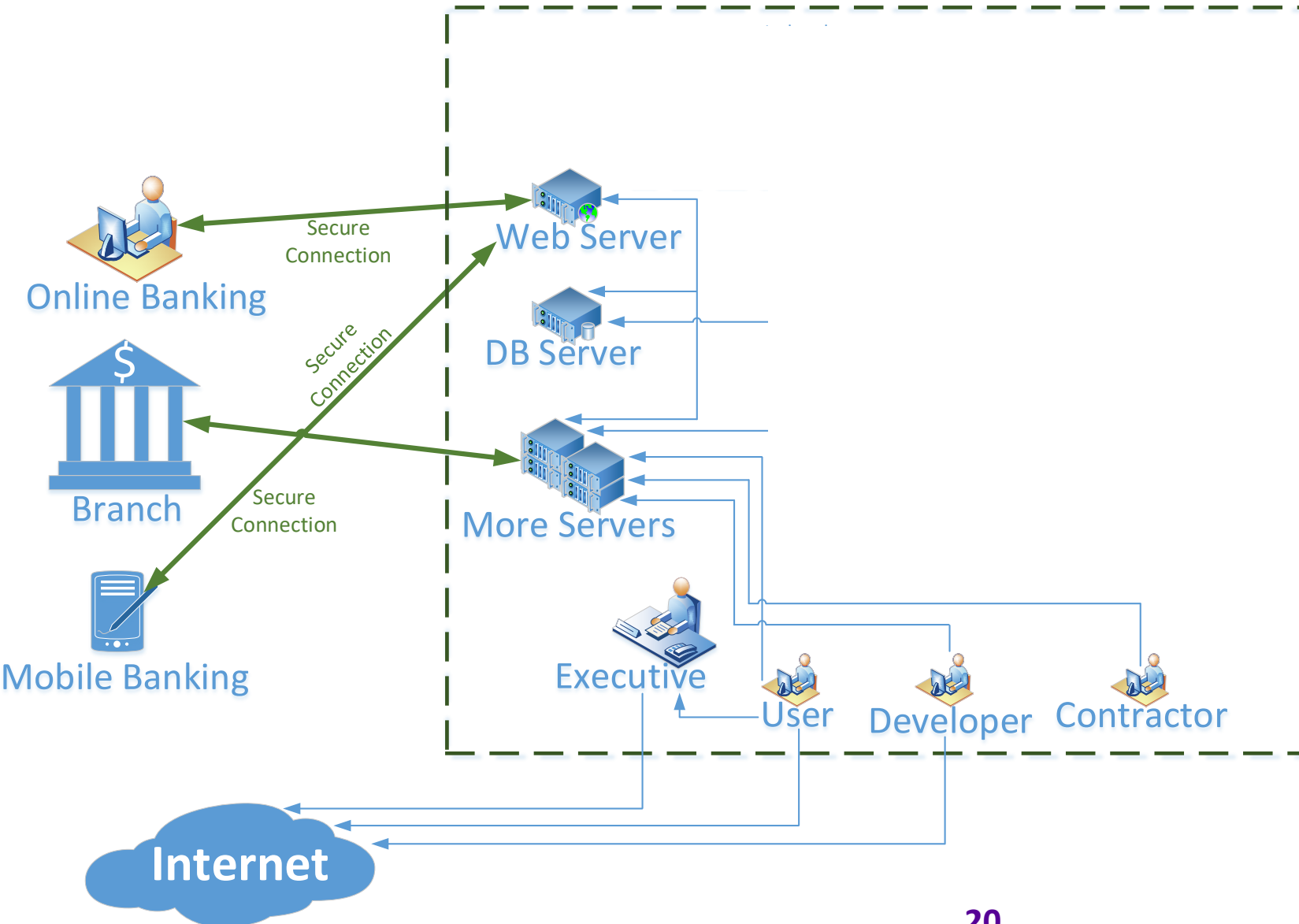
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# Building A Secure Infrastructure



# A Secure Infrastructure

Internal Network





# In Summary

- Are your data protected in?:
  - Rest.
  - In transit.
  - In use.
- Have you already done your annual pentest?
- Have you already done your annual threat and risk analysis?
- Do you know the architecture of your applications?

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# Living A Cyberattack, On First Person



# Are You Ready To Face A Security Incident?

- First question:
  - Do you have already thought about what you should do to attend a security incident?
- In the following scenarios, imagine that you are in the position mentioned and you must attend to what is being requested.
- Let's start the security incident.



# CEO

- The reporters are at the principal entrance, you are ready to give a speech?.
- The company has already lost 20% of its value, shareholders want to know what happens.
- The regulator is on the phone and wants to know what's going on.
- You need to urgently call other CEOs.

# CIO

- You have a reporter waiting on the cellphone for an interview for a local channel.
- The board are waiting for actions.
- The CFO is texting you and reporting the multi-million dollar losses of the company.
- Your work team is waiting for instructions and doesn't understand what's happening.
- The regulator awaits the report on the unavailability of services.

# CISO

- Social networks demand the resignation of the CISO.
- The Board wants to understand what's happening through a video call and in terms that they understand (they do not understand technological terms and less security terms).
- Marketing requests your help to write an official statement.
- The CEO are very upset and are asking for immediate actions.
- Can you perform all these actions while you're attending a security conference in another country?

# The Company in General

- All employees know how to face an attack?, they know what to do?.
- There are different communication plans, ready to face the most common threats?
- The CEO, CIO, CISO, CFO, CTO etc. Are ready to answer an interview?. -Now-
- Your infrastructure is ready to be resilient for a cyber attack.



# We're On Time

- At night, on the weekend or back to our house, let's take 10 minutes to reflect on the following:
  - What points caught my attention?
  - With what points can I help my company?
  - What points can't my company cover today?
  - What actions should we take to be ready for a cyber attack?
- On Monday, as the first task, let's start the first activities.
- Remember, the timer is running.

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## Learned Lessons



## The Big Question Is:

- The question isn't whether my payment systems will be compromised, is when someone tries to compromise them?, or how many times they tried to compromise them?



## What We Can Do

- Place the wire transfer systems servers and personal computers that operates the wire transfer system in an isolated network.
- Dedicate exclusive personal computers to wire transfer systems.

\*\*\* The above points are less expensive than any incident.\*\*\*

- Implement transaction validation mechanisms in all systems.
- Scan the application code.



## What We Can Do

- Protect wire transfer systems isn't a rocket science and doesn't require a large investment.
- Place the wire transfer applications on physical servers.
- Performs an annual audit by a specialist payment systems firm.
- There must be constant internal reviews of payment media applications.

# PLEASE! Don't be a statistic

| Year | Bank                               | Amount                     |
|------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2018 | State Bank of Mauritius (NEW)      | \$14MM                     |
|      | Banco De Chile (NEW)               | \$10MM (\$100MM attempted) |
|      | City Union Bank (NEW)              | \$2MM                      |
|      | Punjab National Bank (NEW)         | \$1.77B                    |
|      | Bank Negara Malaysia (NEW)         | Unsuccessful               |
| 2017 | EastNets Bureau (Middle East)      | No impact                  |
|      | Far Eastern International (Taiwan) | \$500K                     |
|      | NIC Asia                           | \$580K (\$4.4MM Attempted) |
| 2016 | Bangladesh Central Bank            | \$81MM (\$1B attempted)    |
|      | Unnamed Bank (Ukraine)             | \$10MM                     |
|      | First Bank of Nigeria              | \$100MM                    |
|      | Union Bank of India                | \$171MM                    |
|      | Central Bank of Malaysia           | Unsuccessful               |
|      | P.T. Bank Bumi Arta Tbk (India)    | Unsuccessful               |
|      | Akbank (Turkey)                    | \$4MM                      |
|      | Russian Central Bank               | \$31MM                     |
| 2015 | Banco del Austro (Ecuador)         | \$12MM                     |
|      | Central Bank of the Philippines    | Undisclosed                |
|      | Tien Phon Bank (Thailand)          | \$1.3M Attempted           |



# The Most Important

- The **AWARENESS** is the most important action.





 @josuloza

 Add to Network **Josu Loza**