

VENABLE

# Identity and the Internet of Things

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@jgrantindc

# IOT: Why identity matters

```
USER:      PASS:      USER:      PASS:
-----      -----      -----      -----
root       xc3511     admin1     password
root       vizxv     administrator 1234
root       admin     666666    666666
admin      admin     888888    888888
root       888888    ubnt      ubnt
root       xmhdipc   root      klv1234
root       default   root      Zte521
root       juantech  root      hi3518
root       123456    root      jvbzd
root       54321     root      anko
support    support    root      zlxx.
root       (none)    root      7ujMko0vizxv
admin      password  root      7ujMko0admin
root       root      root      system
root       12345    root      ikwb
user       user      root      dreambox
admin      (none)    root      user
root       pass      root      realtek
admin      admin1234 root      00000000
root       1111     admin     1111111
admin      smcadmin  admin     1234
admin      1111     admin     12345
root       666666   admin     54321
root       password  admin     123456
root       1234     admin     7ujMko0admin
root       klv123   admin     1234
Administrator admin     admin     pass
service    service   admin     meinsm
supervisor supervisor tech      tech
guest      guest     mother    f...er
guest      12345
guest      12345
```

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admin	(none)	root	user
root	pass	root	realtek
admin	admin1234	root	00000000
root	1111	admin	1111111
admin	smcadmin	admin	1234
admin	1111	admin	12345
root	666666	admin	54321
root	password	admin	123456
root	1234	admin	7ujMko0admin
root	klv123	admin	1234
Administrator	admin	admin	pass
service	service	admin	meinsm
supervisor	supervisor	tech	tech
guest	guest	mother	f
guest	12345		
guest	12345		

## NEWS

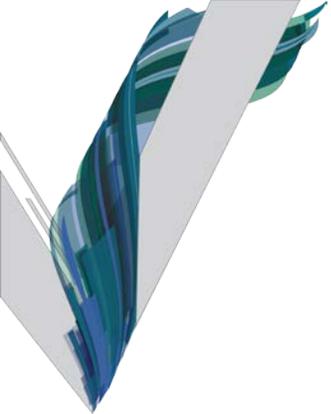
### Here are the 61 passwords that powered the Mirai IoT botnet

Mirai was one of two botnets behind the largest DDoS attack on record



Default usernames and passwords have always been a massive problem in IT. These days, the consumer technology that envelops the Internet of Things (IoT) has only made the problem larger.

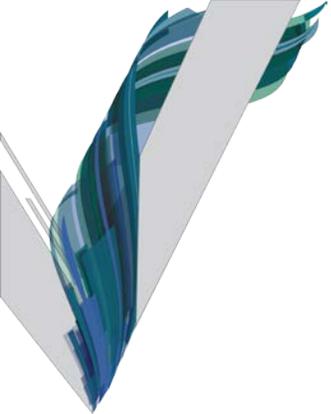
Default credentials, which are ignored or too difficult for some people to change, behind the development of [a botnet that took part in the largest DDoS attack on record](#).



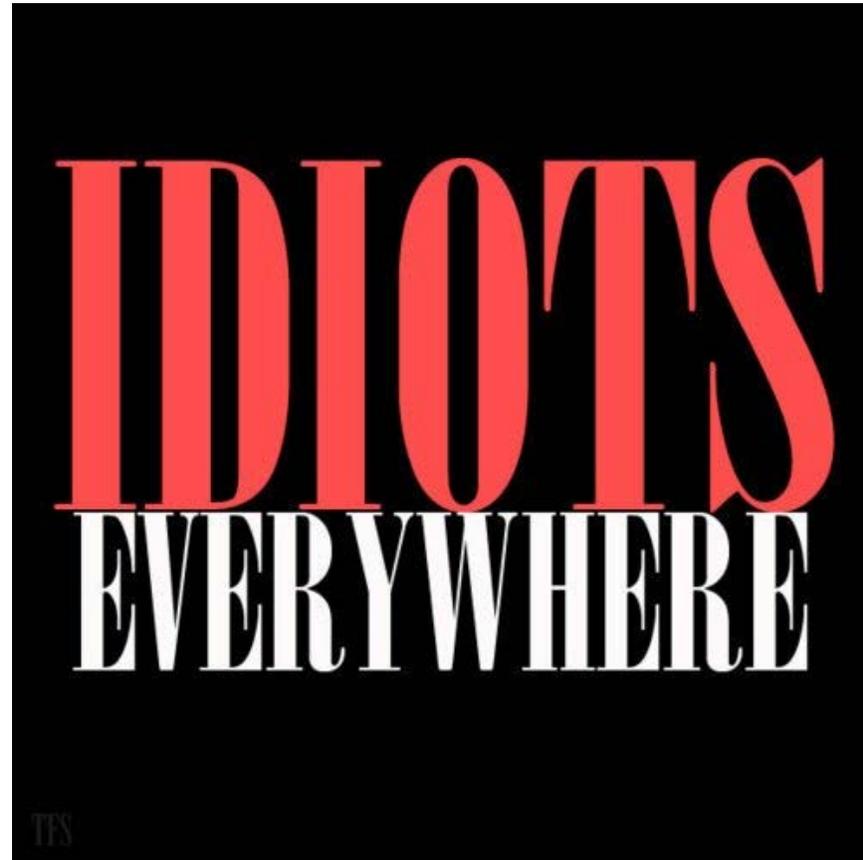
# The relevant acronym

# **ID IOT**

## **IDentity of Internet of Things**



**Let's turn this into a good thing!**



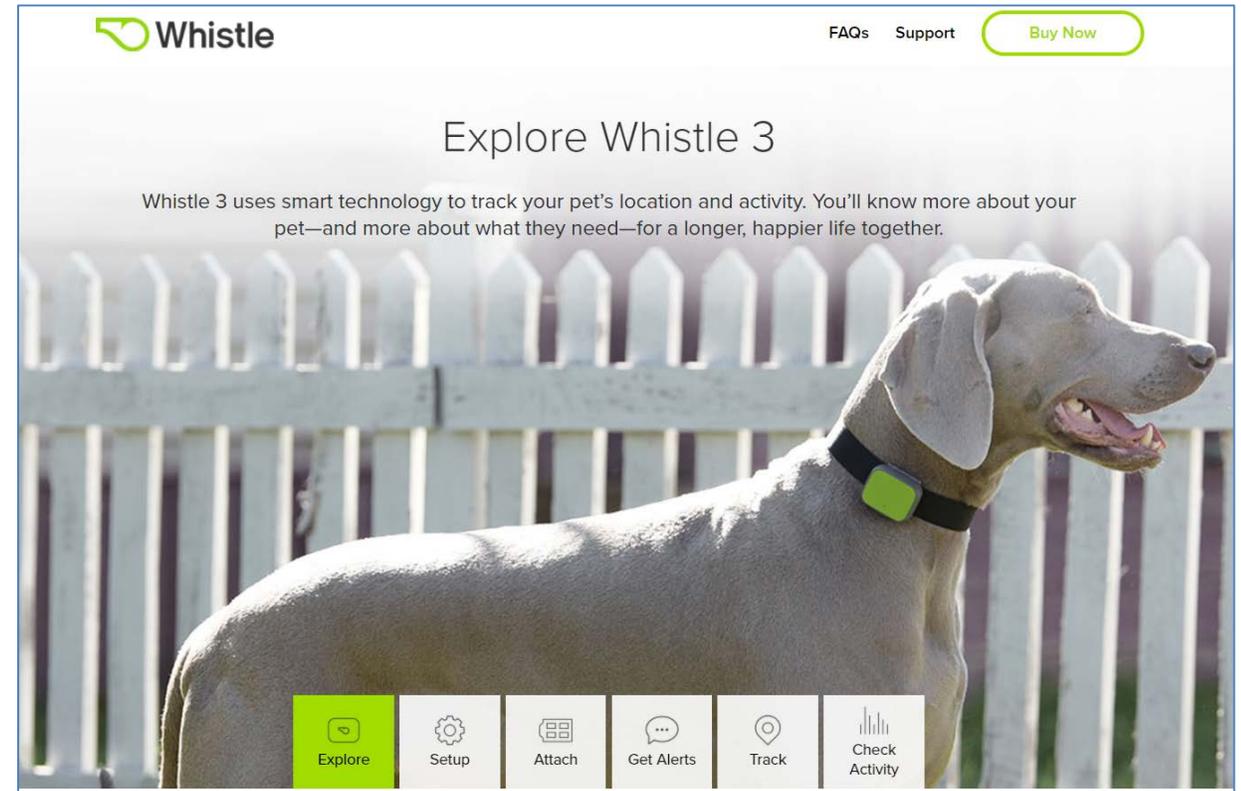
# Evolution

1993



*"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."*

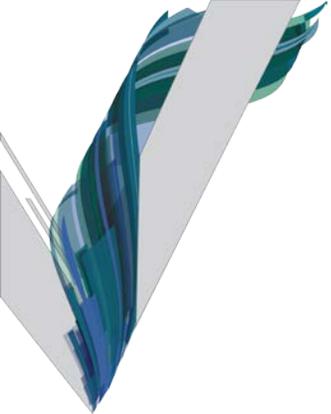
2017



*If your dog is on the Internet,  
how do you know it's not a toaster?*

*Or – how do you make sure that someone can't take hack into your toaster and use it to control your dog?*





**Authentication is important to ID-IOT**

**But it's not the only thing**



# The “5 As” of Identity

## Authentication

- The means by which a receiver of an electronic transaction or message makes a decision to accept or reject that transaction or message\*
- Is a device what it claims to be?
- Is the entity seeking to control a device who or what it claims to be?

## Authorization

- What actions is a device – or an entity seeking to control a device – authorized to perform?
- How are permissions or delegations granted or revoked?

## Analytics

- Detecting whether identities are being used improperly or suspiciously – and triggering additional, appropriate controls

## Audit

- Looking back to review events and confirm the identity system was being used properly
- Determining what happened if it was not

## Administration

- How is the identity system governed?
- How are the policies and processes of the identity system managed?
- How are new devices and entities added or removed from the identity system?

\*Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Report, 2002



# Why the “5 As” of Identity Matter

Authentication

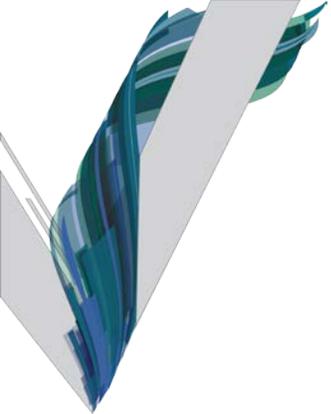
Authorization

Analytics

Audit

Administration

- Most IoT devices connect – at some point – to the cloud
- Human control of – and access to – these devices is generally controlled by traditional identity solutions
- A full-lifecycle approach to identity is needed to govern access to Things on the Internet

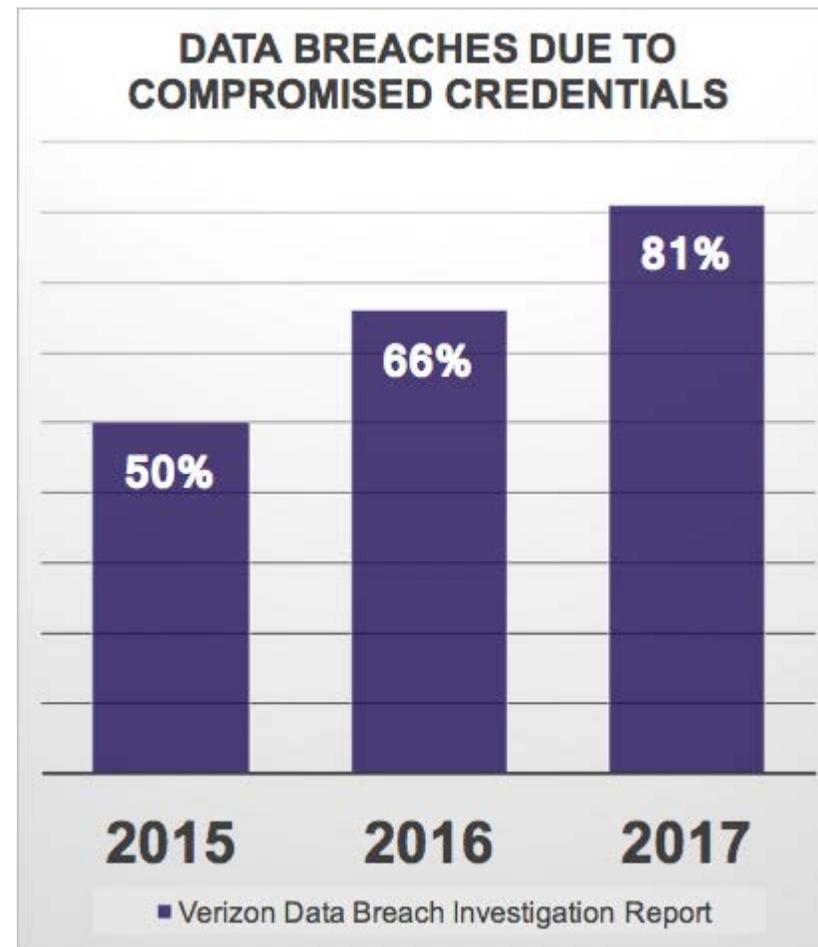


# Let's go back to Authentication

Default passwords are bad.

# Let's go back to Authentication

But...how much will changing passwords help?



# The security value of passwords

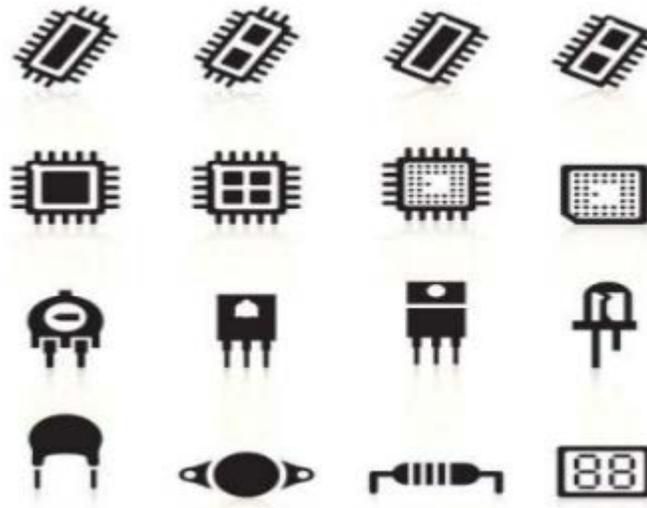


# Authentication in IOT: What's Better?

The ideal (from a security perspective): cryptographic keys

But in the IOT, not all the "T's" have the same capabilities.

- The "things" we are connecting to the Internet vary widely...
- ...as do the chips within them



# Not all crypto works in all things

NISTIR 8114

## Report on Lightweight Cryptography

Kerry A. McKay  
Larry Bassham  
Meltem Sonmez Turan  
Nicky Mouha

This public

There are several emerging areas in which highly constrained devices are interconnected, working in concert to accomplish some task. Examples of these areas include: automotive systems, sensor networks, healthcare, distributed control systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), cyber-physical systems, and the smart grid. Security and privacy can be very important in all of these areas. Because the majority of modern cryptographic algorithms were designed for desktop/server environments, many of these algorithms cannot be implemented in the constrained devices used by these applications. When current NIST-approved algorithms can be engineered to fit into the limited resources of constrained environments, their performance may not be acceptable. For these reasons, NIST started a lightweight cryptography project to investigate the issues and then develop a strategy for the standardization of lightweight cryptographic algorithms.

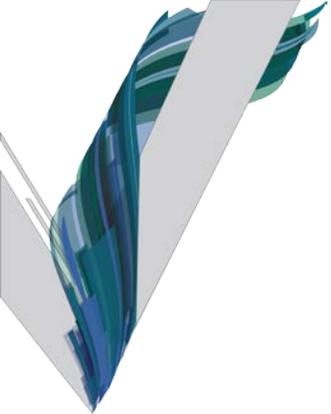
**NIST**  
National Institute of  
Standards and Technology  
U.S. Department of Commerce



# So we'll need different types of authentication

- PKI/X.509 certs are highly secure – but not feasible in many devices, and may be overkill
- FIDO standards (aka “PK without the I”) can deliver PK-based security with less overhead
- Constrained devices will likely need something else – more work needed here
- 2016 Cornell paper\* declared there are 40+ authentication protocols which may apply – and noted many have shortcomings

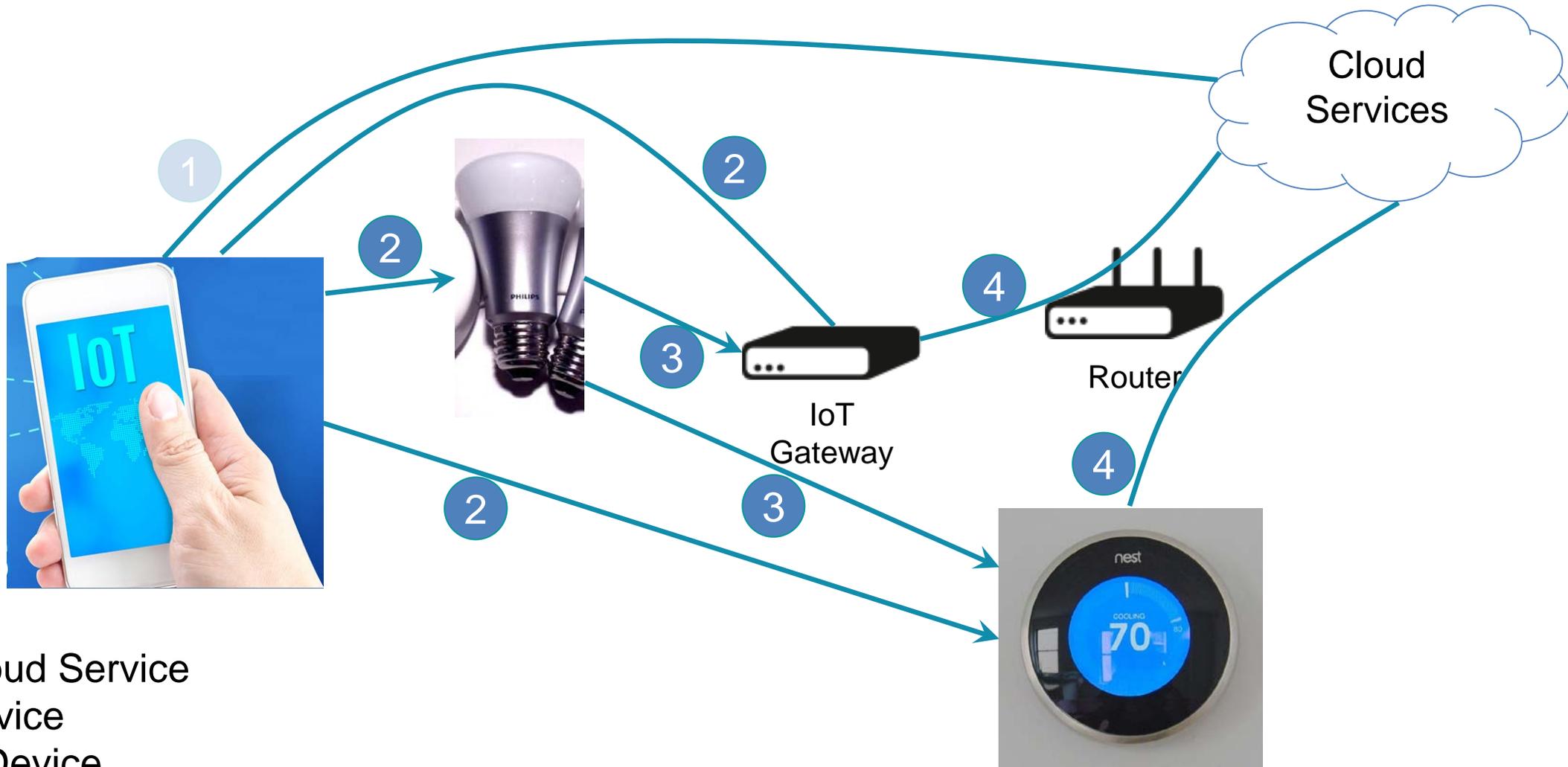
\*<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.07206.pdf>



**Also: there are different authentication use cases.**

# Different authentication use cases

Thanks to  
NokNok Labs  
for Ideas and  
content here!



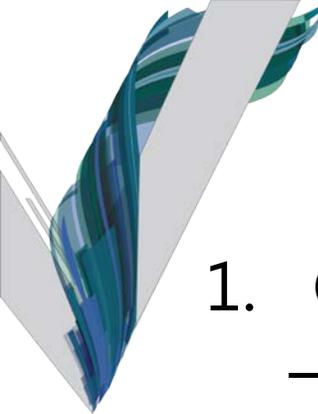
1. User to Cloud Service
2. User to Device
3. Device to Device
4. Device to Cloud Service



# Keep in mind

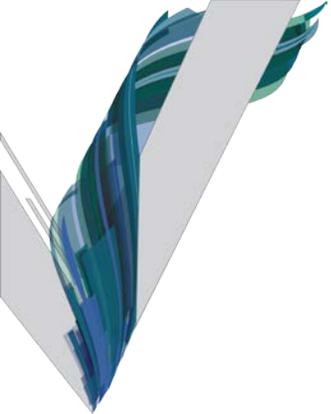
- Some devices will be connected directly to the Internet
- Some won't – but will be connected to other devices that are
- Any device could be an attack point

**Secure identity for every connected device becomes very important**

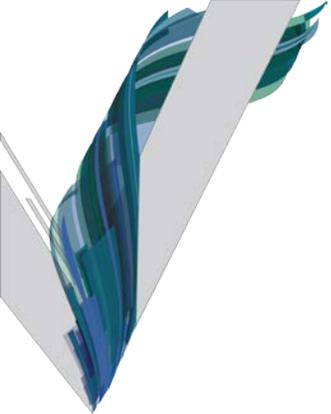


# Summary: Where Work is Needed

1. Guidance on how to handle the “5 As” of the IOT Identity life cycle
  - Authentication
  - Authorization
  - Analytics
  - Audit
  - Administration
2. Specific work on Authentication for IOT
  - Passwords aren’t the only answer
  - Lightweight crypto – to enable strong ID-IOT authentication in devices of all shapes, sizes and capabilities
  - Focus on the 4 major use cases – and are there others?



**One more thing...**

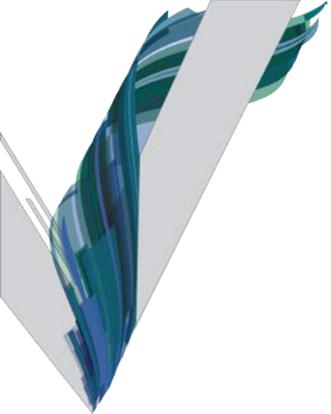


**We need to prevent a race to the bottom.**



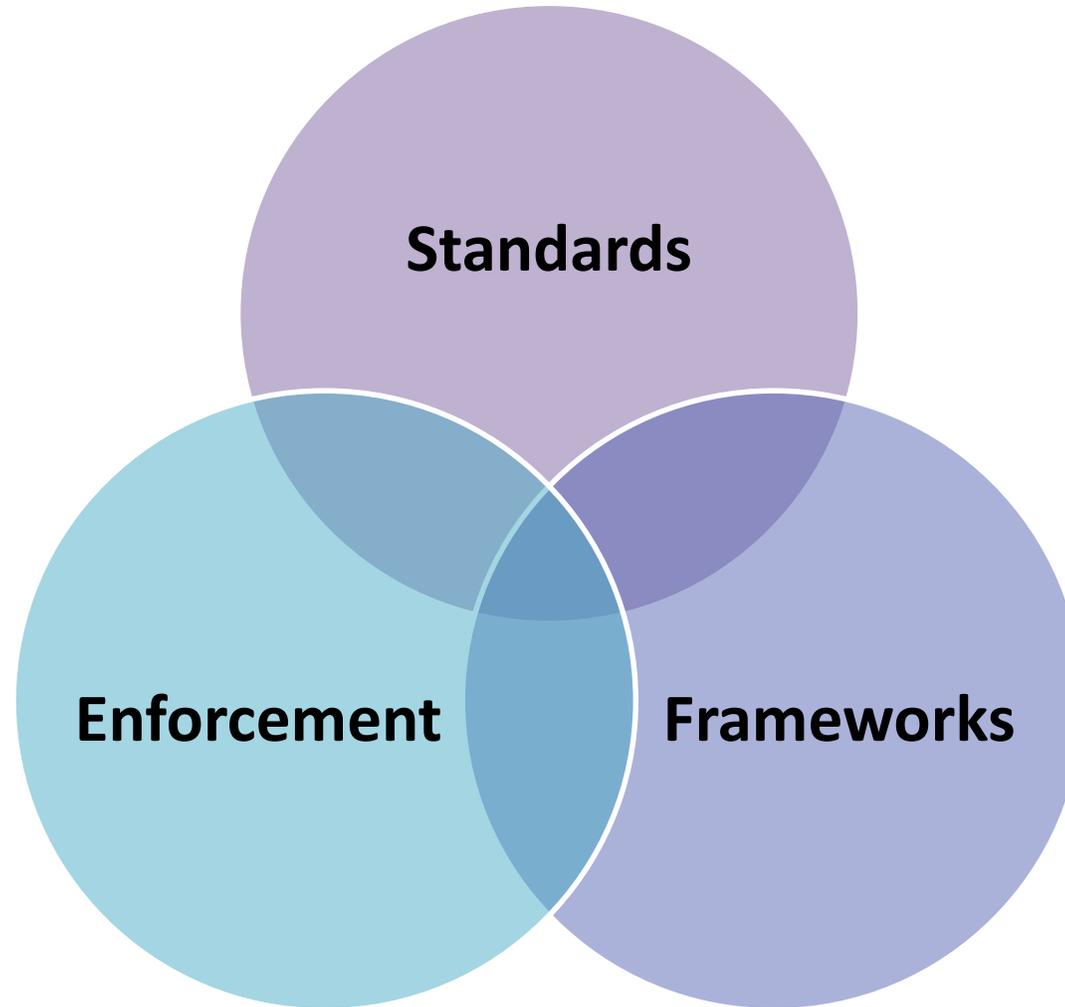
# We need to prevent a race to the bottom

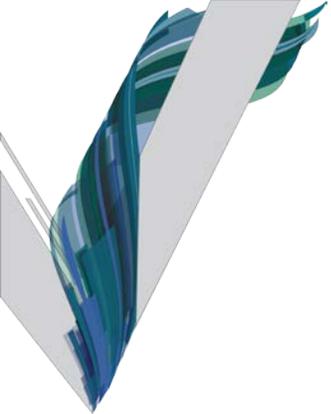
- Many IOT vendors – who want to do the right thing – are expressing concerns that the market won't
- Economics at play may disincentivize “good” security behavior if there is no forcing function
  - If building in security adds 10% to the cost, will anyone buy it?



Amidst concern that laws or regulations would be too heavy handed – and stifle innovation – what can government do?

# What government can do





# Questions?

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