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11:00 AM – 11:20 AM

Quantifying Zero Trust Readiness — A Risk-Based Model for Accelerating Federal Adoption

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Abstract:

Federal agencies and military organizations face an unprecedented challenge: achieving full Zero Trust (ZT) adoption by the FY2027 end of year mandate while maintaining mission availability, operational continuity, and security at scale. Traditional checklist driven approaches have proven insufficient for environments where strict access controls can disrupt critical operations, where modernization budgets are constrained, and where workforce capacity is already stretched thin. These challenges are amplified in operational technology (OT) environments, where legacy systems, safety critical processes, and limited downtime windows make Zero Trust implementation uniquely complex.

This presentation introduces the Zero Trust Risk Based Objective Assessment Methodology (ZT ROAM), a quantitative solution designed to help agencies prioritize investments, measure ZT readiness, and validate progress through outcomes rather than compliance artifacts. By integrating mission impact, risk exposure, architectural maturity, and operational constraints into a unified scoring model, this automated assessment process enables leaders to make quick, defensible, data driven decisions about where to focus limited resources. It also provides a structured path for aligning IT and OT Zero Trust efforts, reducing implementation friction, and accelerating transformation without compromising availability.