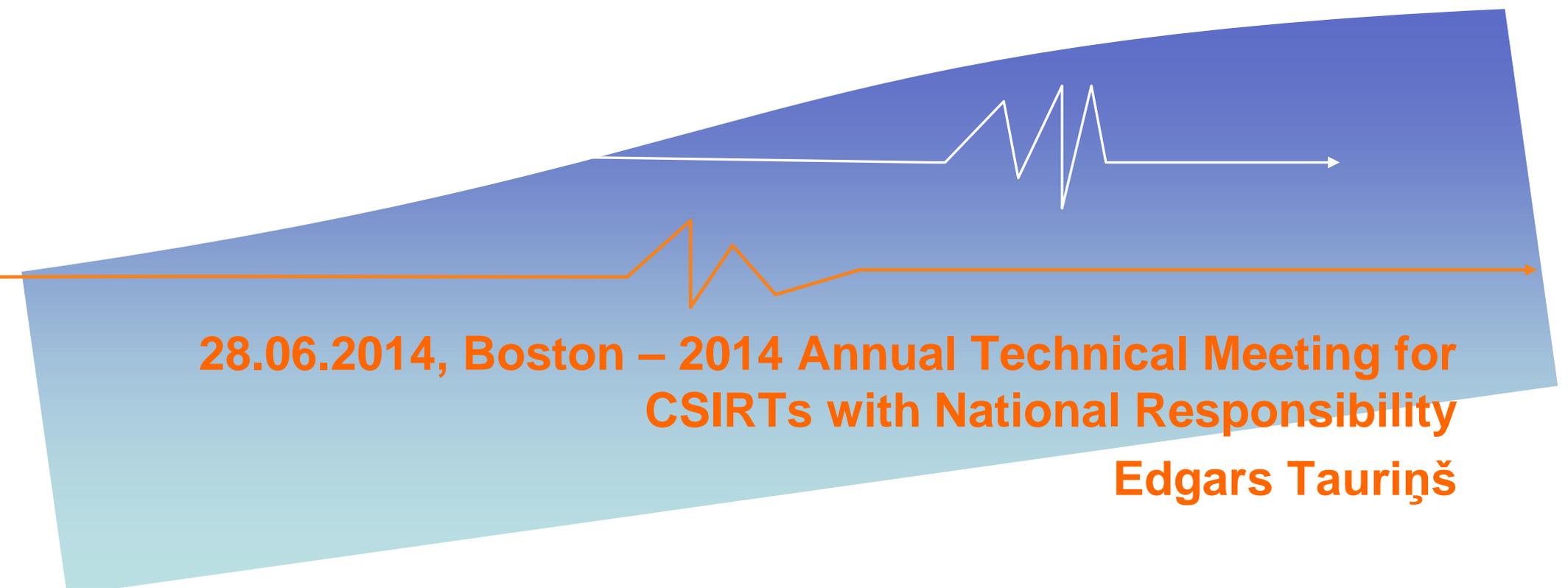


LATVIAN CYBER GUARDS RISING

A large, abstract graphic consisting of a blue-to-teal gradient background. It features a white waveform line and an orange waveform line, both with arrows at their ends, suggesting a signal or data flow. The white waveform is positioned higher than the orange one.

**28.06.2014, Boston – 2014 Annual Technical Meeting for
CSIRTs with National Responsibility**

Edgars Tauriņš

Outline

- Latvian Cyber Defense Unit
 - Cooperation with CERT.LV
- 

National Guards

National Guards are part of the National Armed Forces with aim to involve citizens of the Republic of Latvia in the protection of the state territory and **interests of the society**.

National Guards participate in the state defense planning and execution according to the tasks set out by the law.



Basic principles for National Guards

- Patriotism
 - Participation in the free time (from everyday work)
 - State compensates participation up to 30 days per year
 - Participation in the international missions – voluntary
 - Possibilities to build synergies among various different professions using their knowledge and experience
- 

Cyber Defense Unit – the goal

To provide support for CERT.LV and National Armed Forces in responding to the IT security incidents and mitigation of the consequences.

Timeline

April 2007 –
First ideas
and
discussions

February
2013 –
Ministry of
Defense
decision to
create the
unit, looking
for key people

February
2014 – Unit
established,
personnel and
equipment
approved

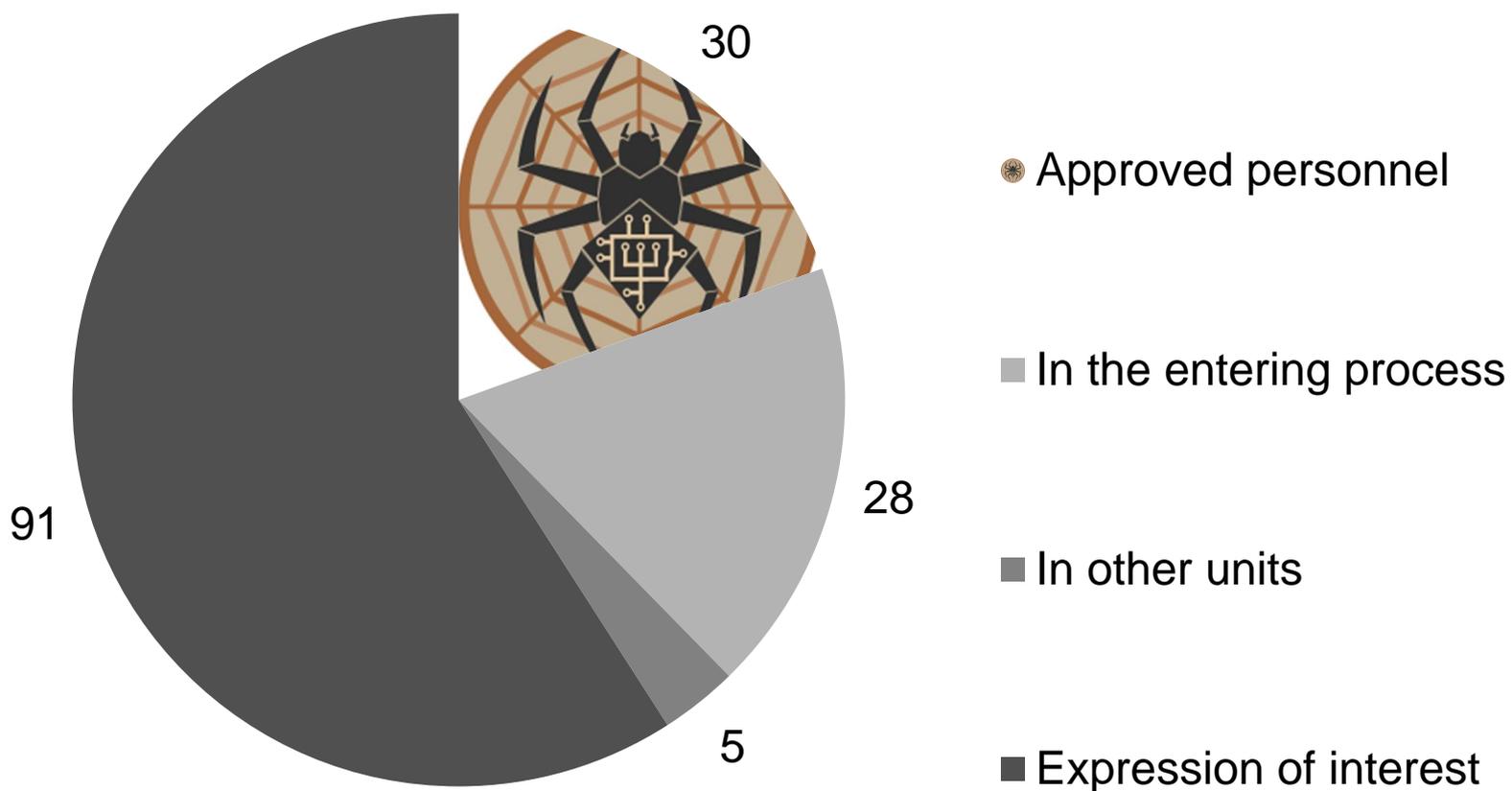
January 2012
– Situation
analysis,
concept
development
(CCDCoE
involved)

July 2013 –
Paperwork,
Unit included
in the NAF
structure



Personnel

Participants



Requirements

- IT education (can be a student) or practical knowledge of IT
- Basic requirements for entering National Guards have to be met (citizenship, no criminal record, age, health, etc.)
- Security clearance
- Willingness and ability to acquire new knowledge and to devote time to the Cyber Defense Unit
- Monthly 1-3 days involvement required

Needed skills

- Networks
- Applications, software
- Policies and users
- Technical solutions
- History
- Legal issues
- Teamwork
- Other skills and knowledge

Typical cyber guard

- Bachelor degree in IT or closely related
 - 80 % employees from private companies, 20% governmental employees
 - Representatives of banks, Telecoms, postal services, IT services, Educational institutions etc.
- 

Motivation

- Professional challenge
- Possibility to learn
- Possibility to gain «hands on» experience

Cooperation with CERT.LV

- Support for CERT is included in law of National guards
- Monthly meetings with CERT
- Training with real life incidents
- NOT everyday monitoring or incident solving
- Procedures for cooperating in crisis situation (in development)

International participation 2014

- ENISA «CYBER EUROPE» - April, September
- NATO CCDCoE «LOCKED SHIELDS» – May
- EUCOM «BALTIC GHOST» – June
- NATO «CYBER COALITION» – November

Participation in CE2014



Commander of national guards visiting cyberdefense unit during CE2014

- 1 team
- 18 participants
- 8 solved incidents (from 10)
- In top 10 of results
- Willingness to continue participation

Participation in «Locked Shields 2014»



CERT.LV + Cyberdefense unit team

- Blue team – Latvia + Czech Republic
- Latvia = CERT.LV + Cyberdefense unit
- 2nd place from 12 teams!!!



Points for consideration

- Potential for development
 - Coordination and cooperation of talented individuals
 - Formalization of cooperation process
 - Similar initiatives and interest from other European countries
- 

Thank you!

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