



**strike**

# Threat Modeling 101

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# Threat Modeling 101. Am I in the right spot?

- If you have already done Threat Models this might not be for you. Go check it out for other tracks while you still can 😊
- This is an introductory presentation about Threat Modeling.

# Content and links

- Sessions will be recorded and available online at <https://strike> next week.

# A real analogy ....

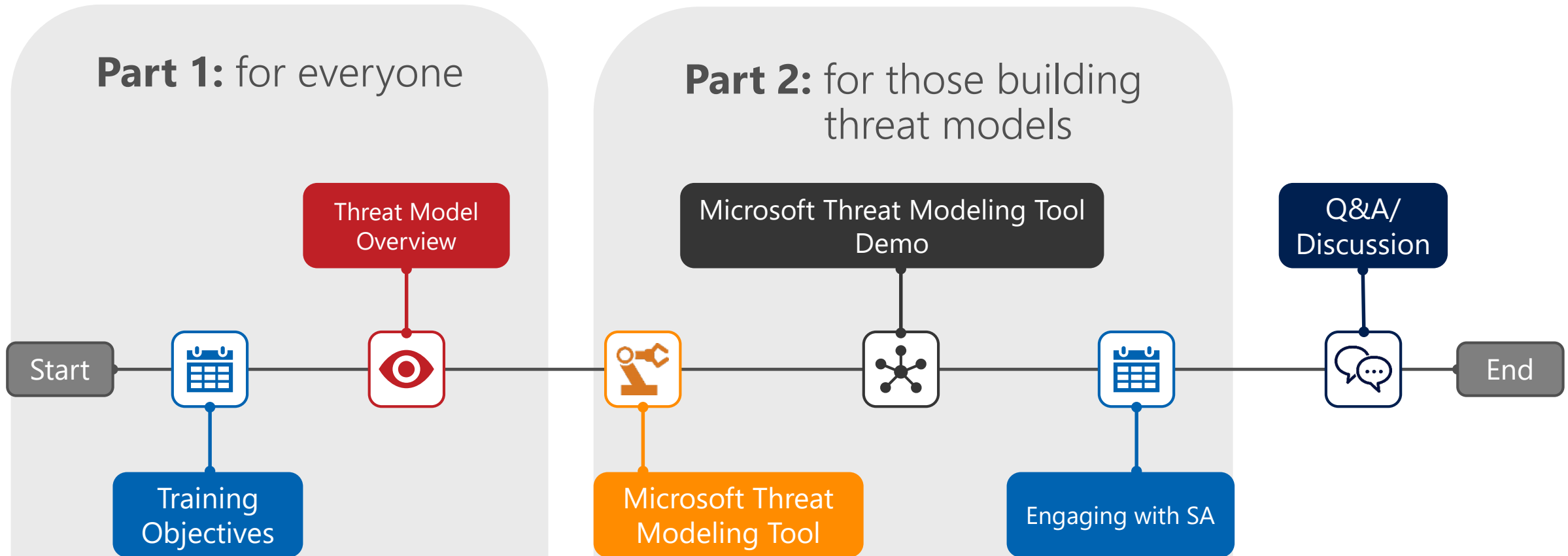
Do you play an instrument?

Do you do any sports?



# Purpose of this training:

Develop a critical muscle that will enable us to deliver trusted content to our customers.



# Training objectives

Understand the **security mindset**.

Understand threat modeling and **how to prepare for and participate in a security review**.



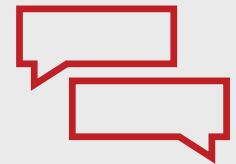
Understand that **security is part of your job**.

Enabled to **take action**.



Understand **how to build a threat model**.

Start the **conversation**.



# Part 1: threat model overview

Dataflow Diagram (DFD) + model analysis







# Threat Model



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# Dataflow Diagram (DFD)

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# Model Analysis



# Why model my service?

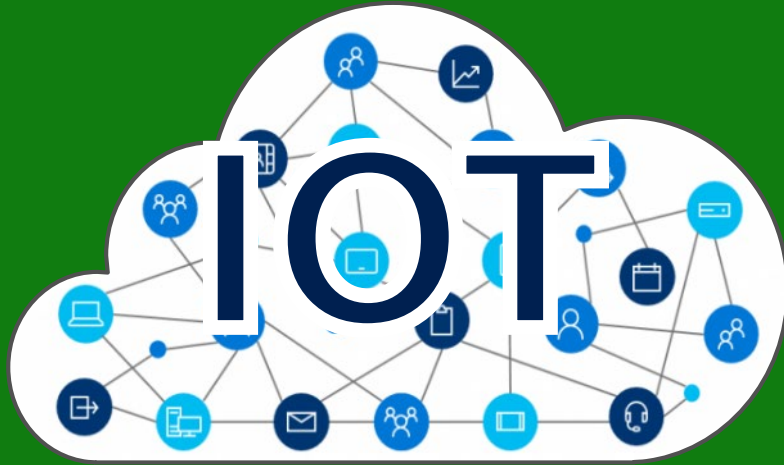




# How to diagram in the security mindset

- **You own security.**
- **Understanding your environment is critical.**
- To get started, ask yourself, "what keeps you up at night?"
- In other words, "how would you attack your own service?"

# When to model?







Reorg

New component

New feature

New tool

Major changes to the service

Deprecation of the service

# Threat model maintenance



# Threat Model



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Dataflow  
Diagram (DFD)



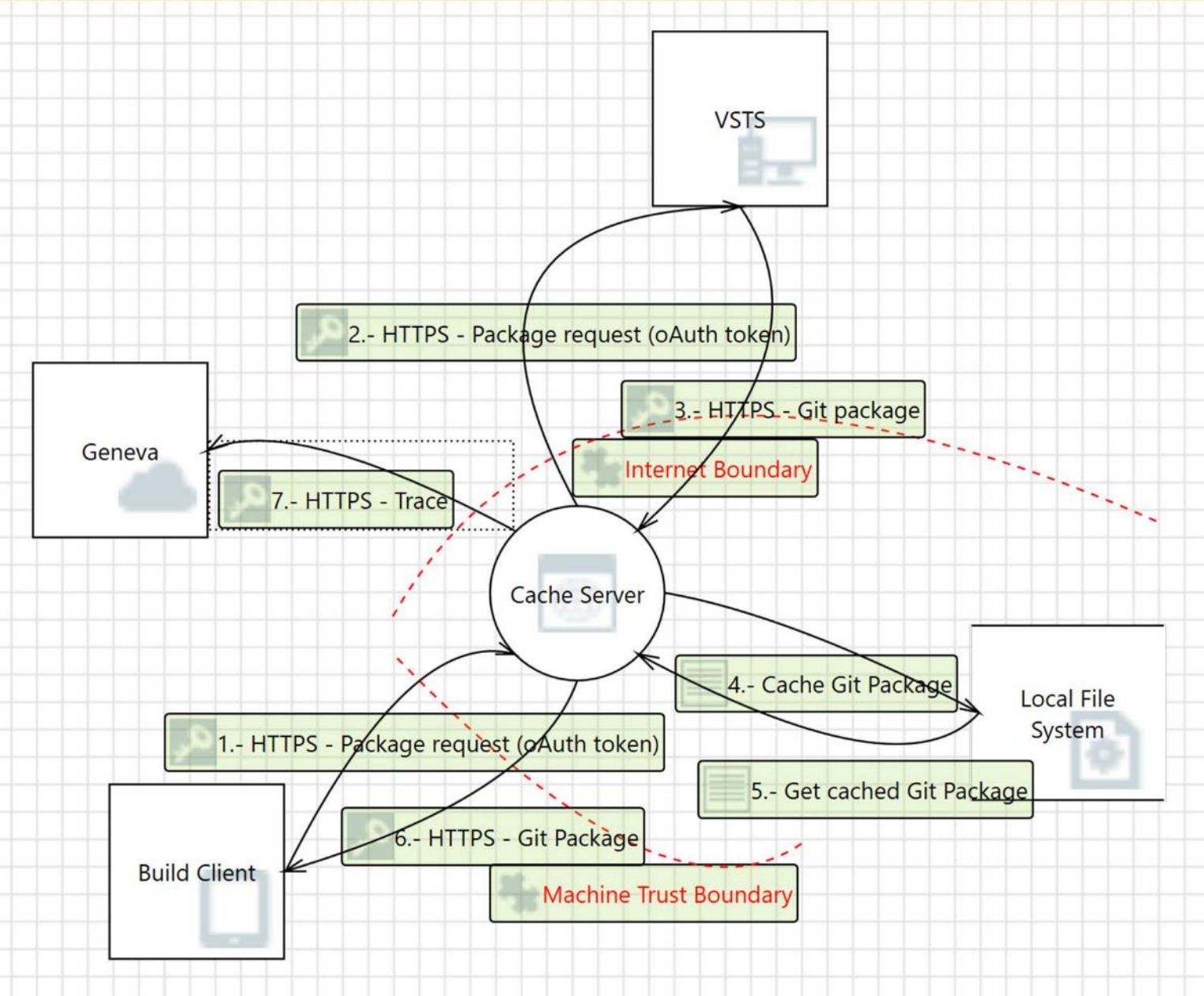
+

Model Analysis

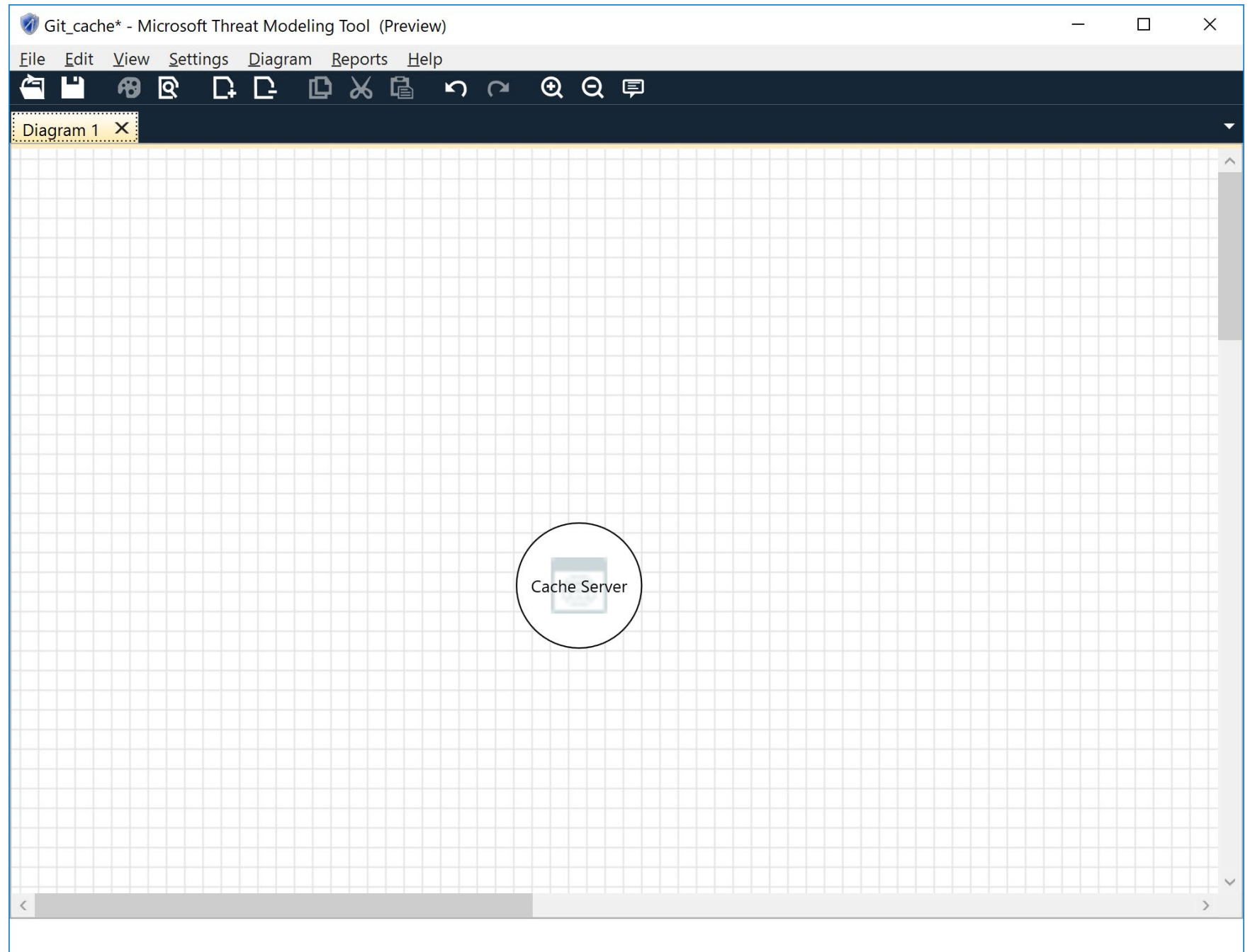


# Dataflow diagram example:

## GIT cache server

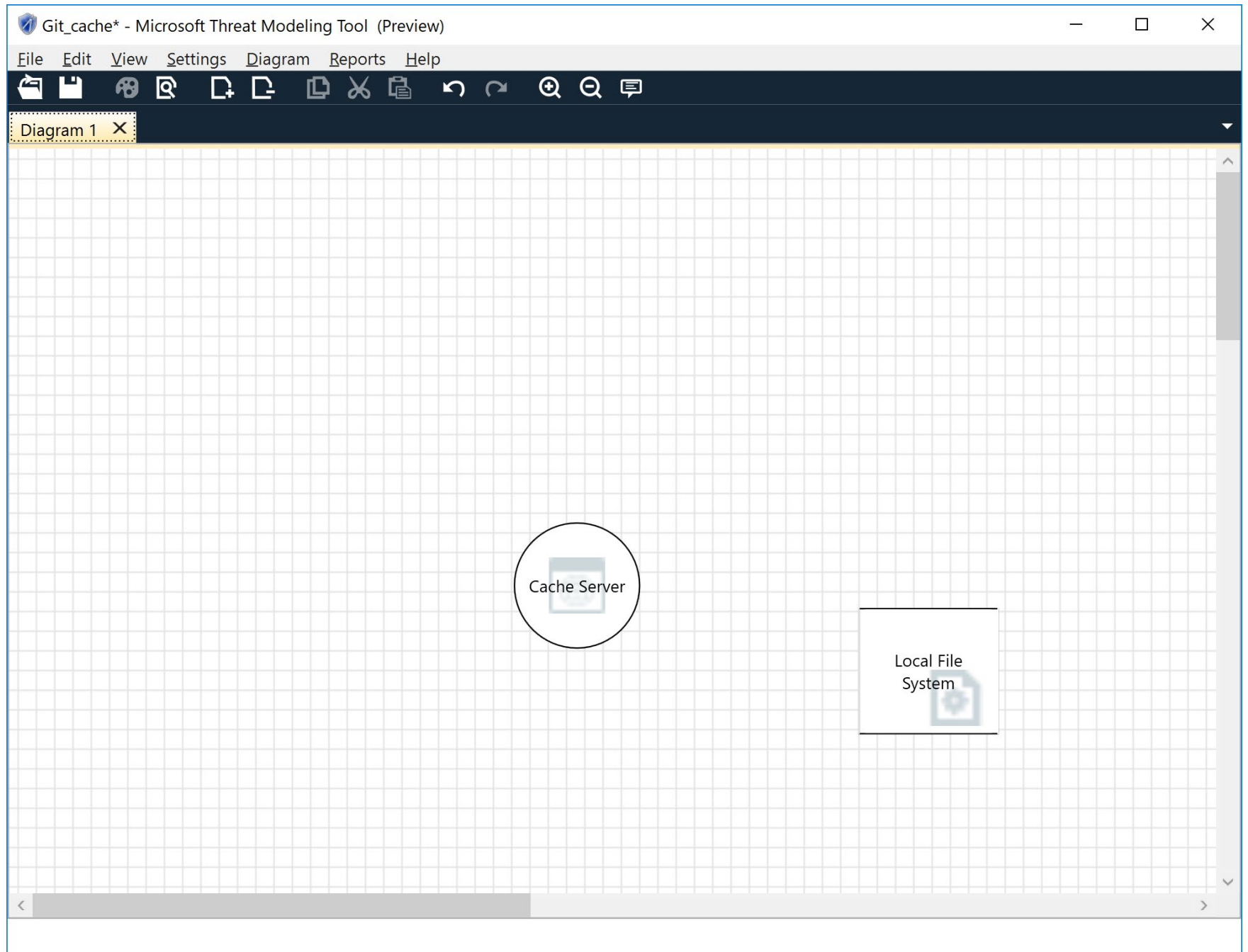


Start with  
your  
Process(es).

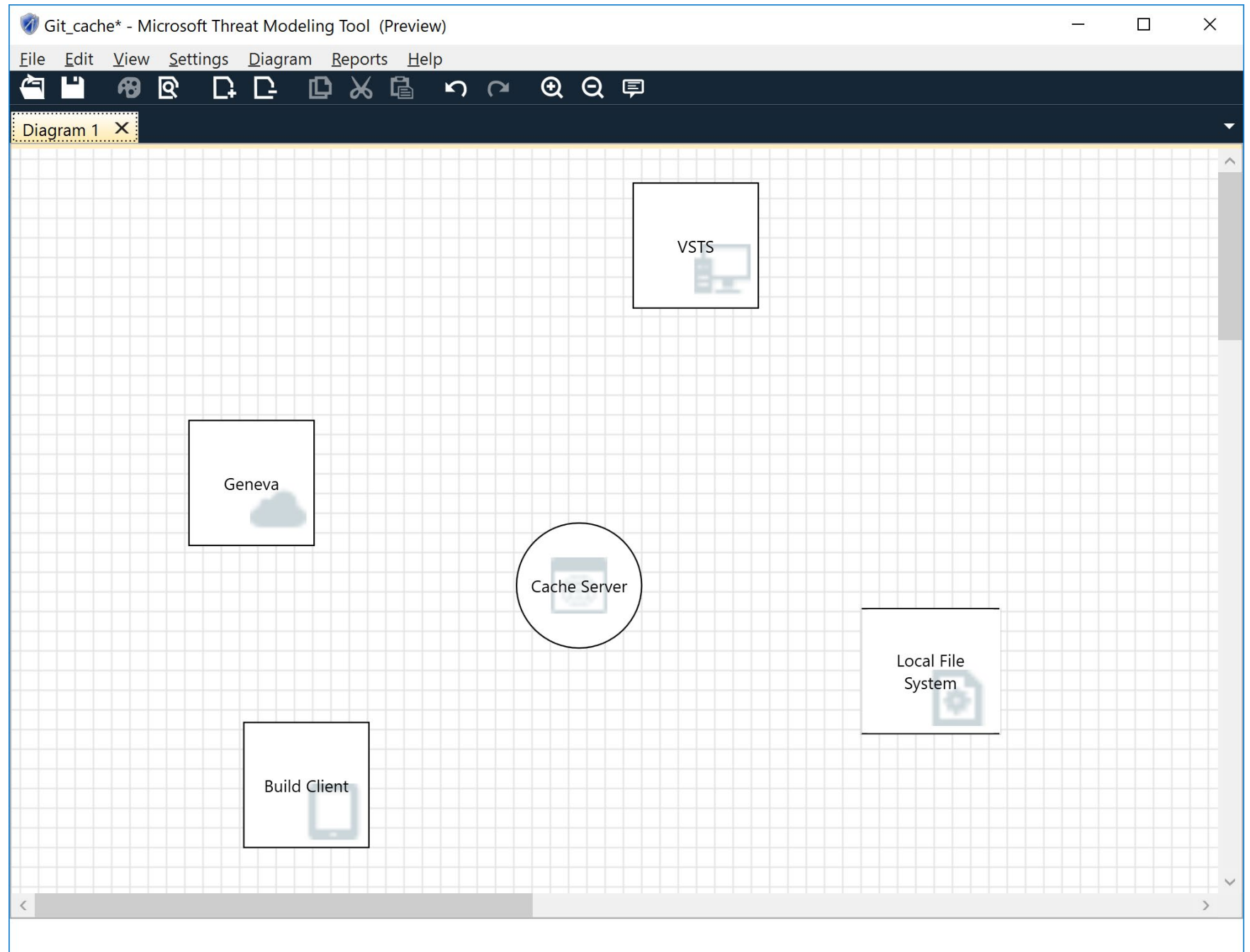




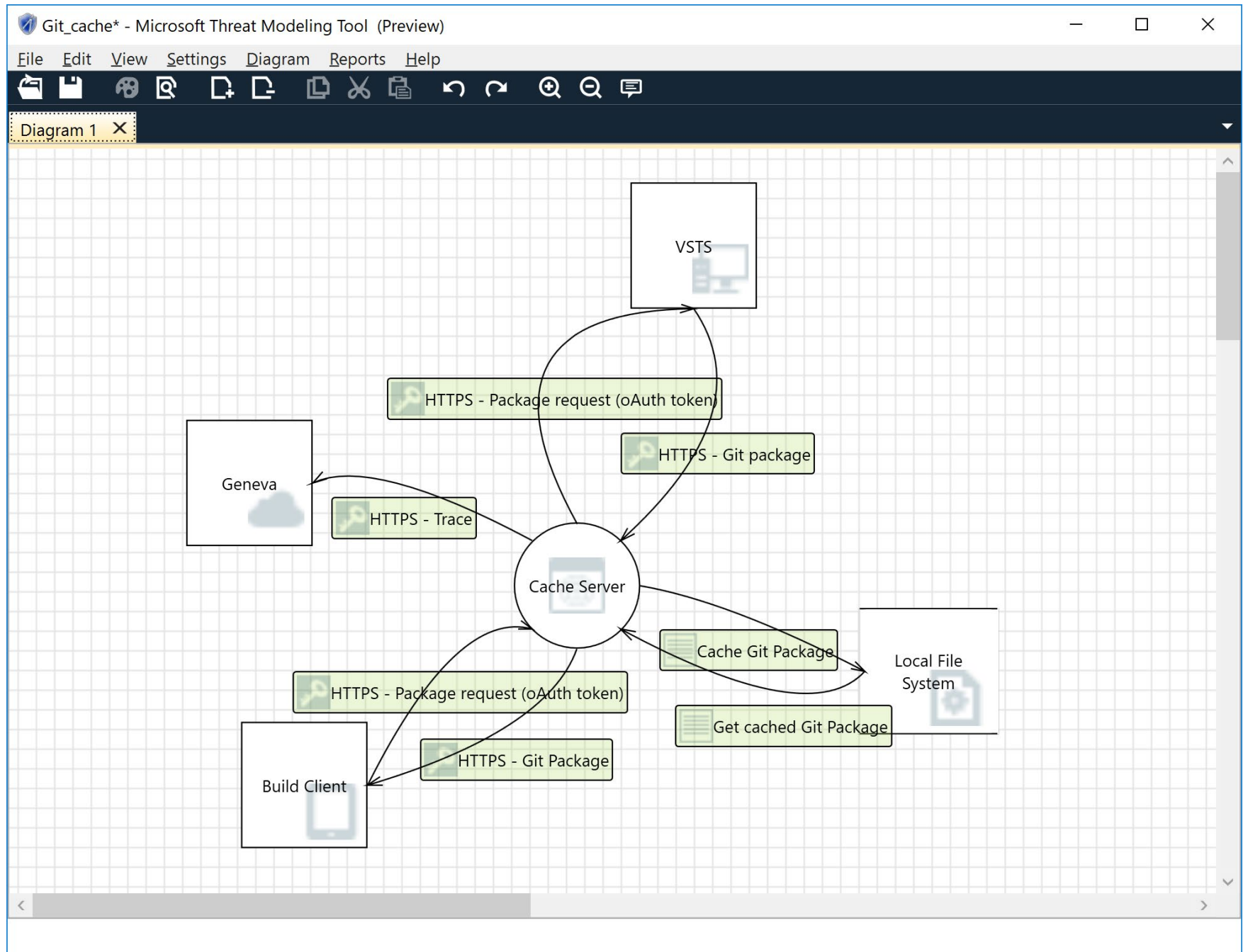
Add its  
Storage.



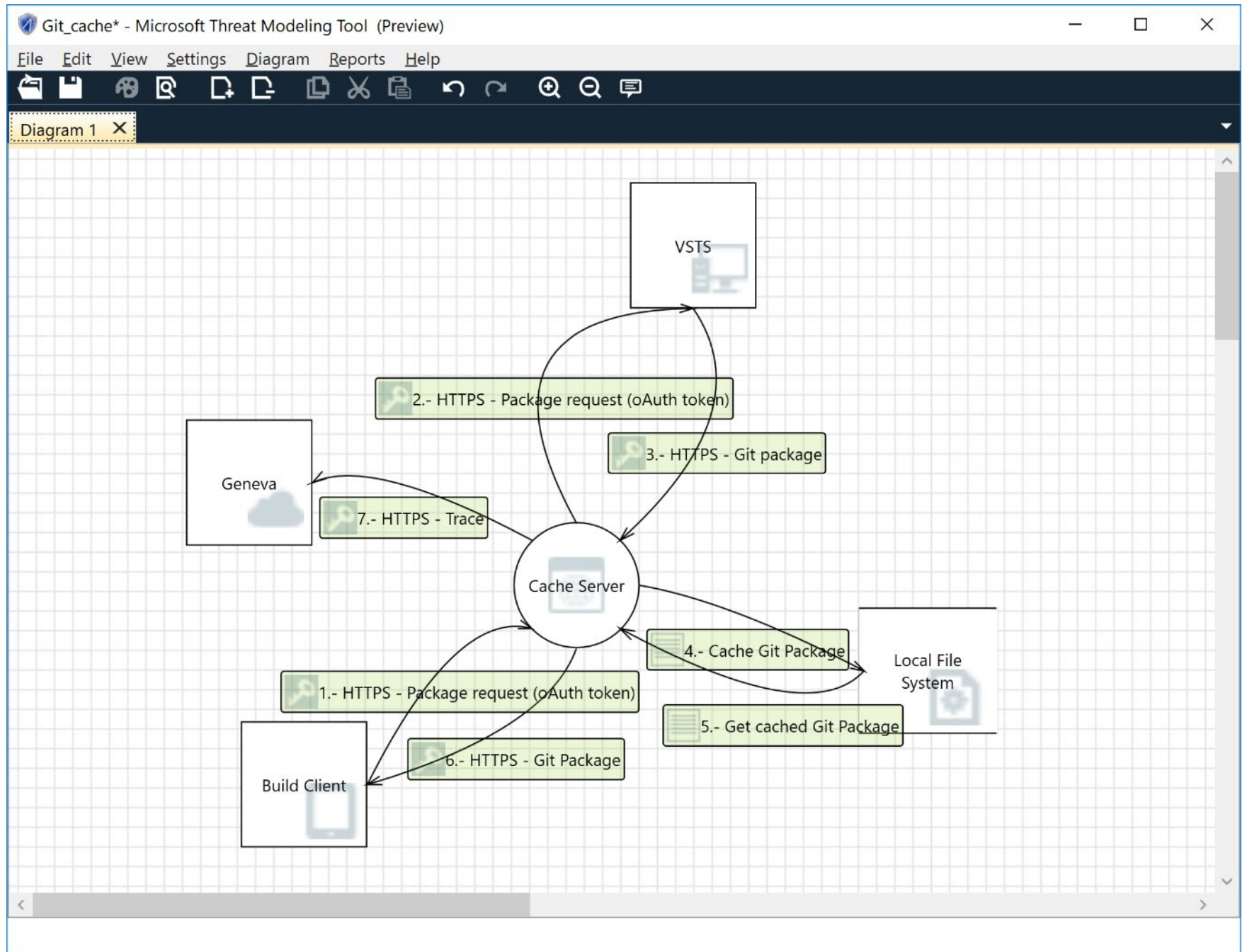
Add external interactors.



Add  
Dataflows.

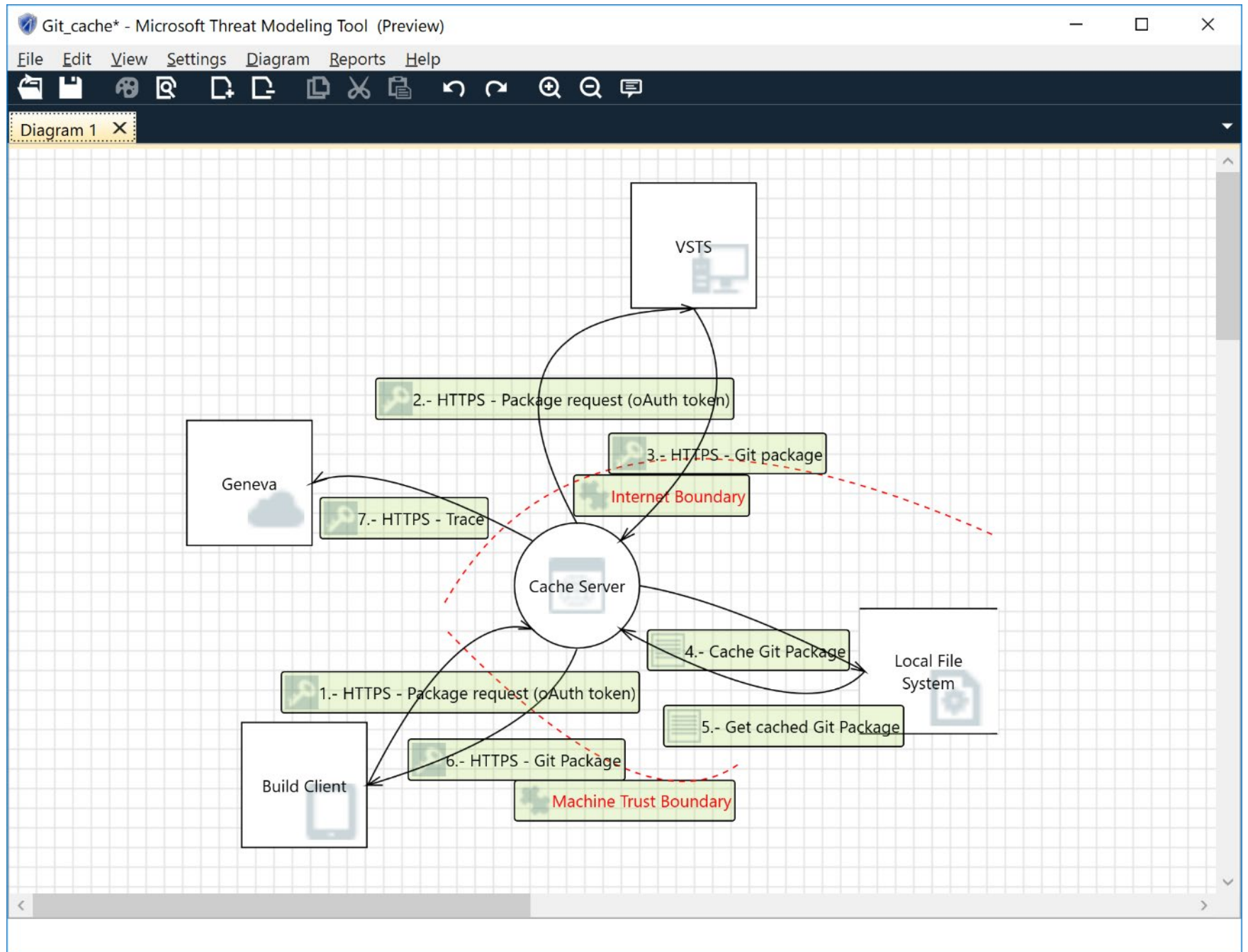


Add numbering.

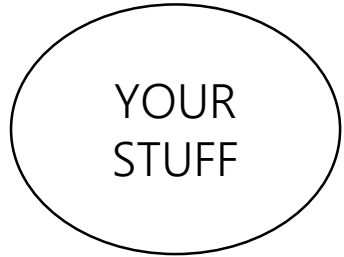




Add Trust Boundaries.



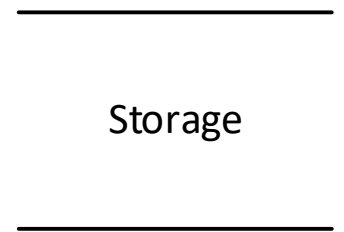
# Dataflow diagram elements



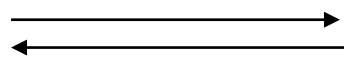
Circles: your service and processes  
(i.e. your code or under your control)



Squares: external interactors (users, 3<sup>rd</sup> party services  
and other Microsoft services not under your control)



Lines: data storage  
(databases, Azure storage, shared files)



Arrows: data, control, and influence move between elements



Dashed Lines: privilege boundary

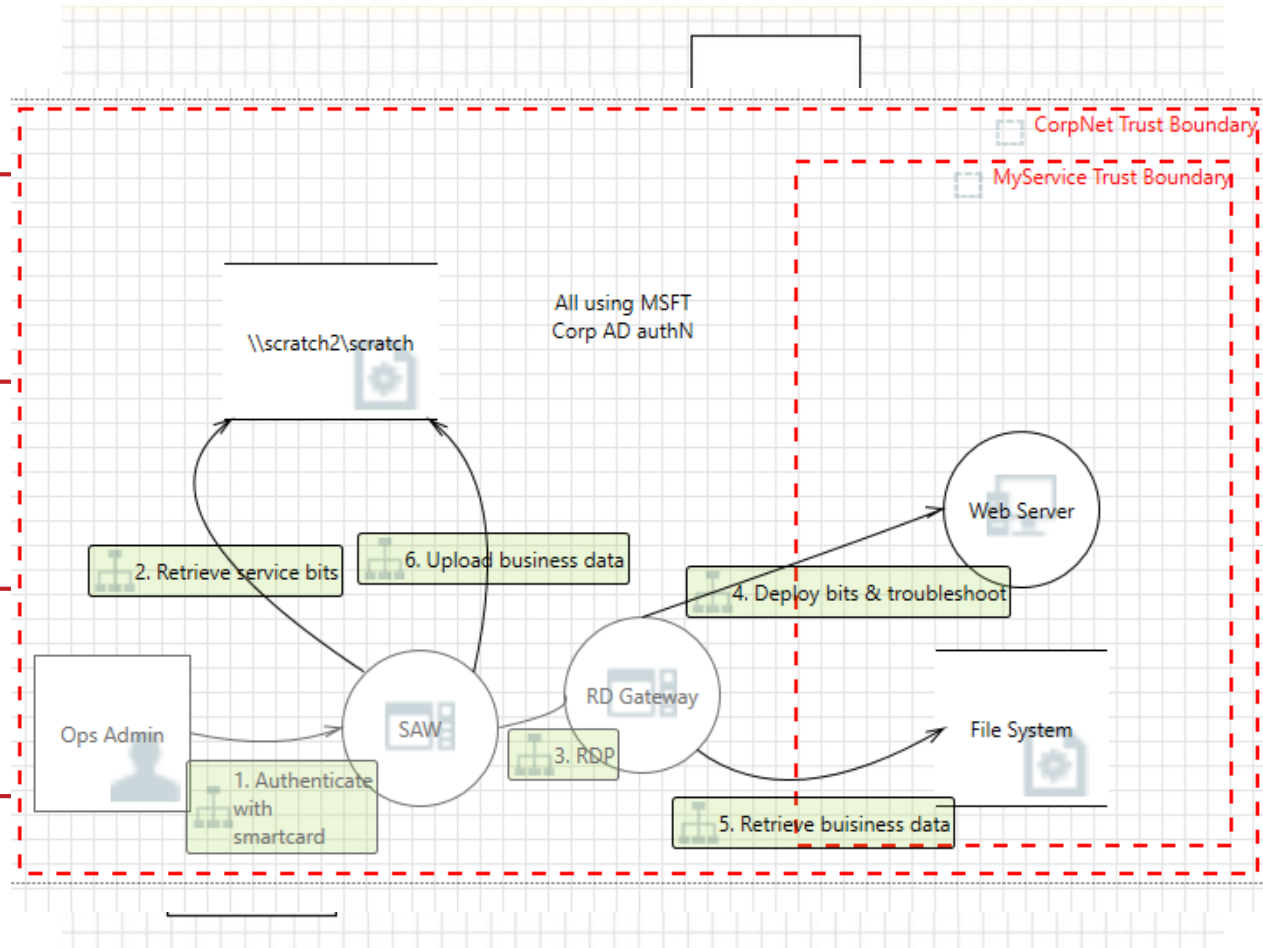
# Dataflow diagram complete

Dependencies

Machine roles and services

Storage entities

Relevant interactions



# Threat Model



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# Dataflow Diagram



+

# Model Analysis





# Model analysis

**STRIDE** represents these threat categories:

**S**poofing (of user identity)

**T**ampering

**R**epudiation

**I**nformation Disclosure (privacy breach or data leak)

**D**enial of Service (DoS)

**E**levation of Privilege



# Spoofting

Framing questions:

- How do we know the human user is who they claim to be?
- How do users know we are who we claim to be?
- How do you identify entities in a service to service communication?



Spoofting (of user identifier)

Tampering

Repudiation

Information Disclosure

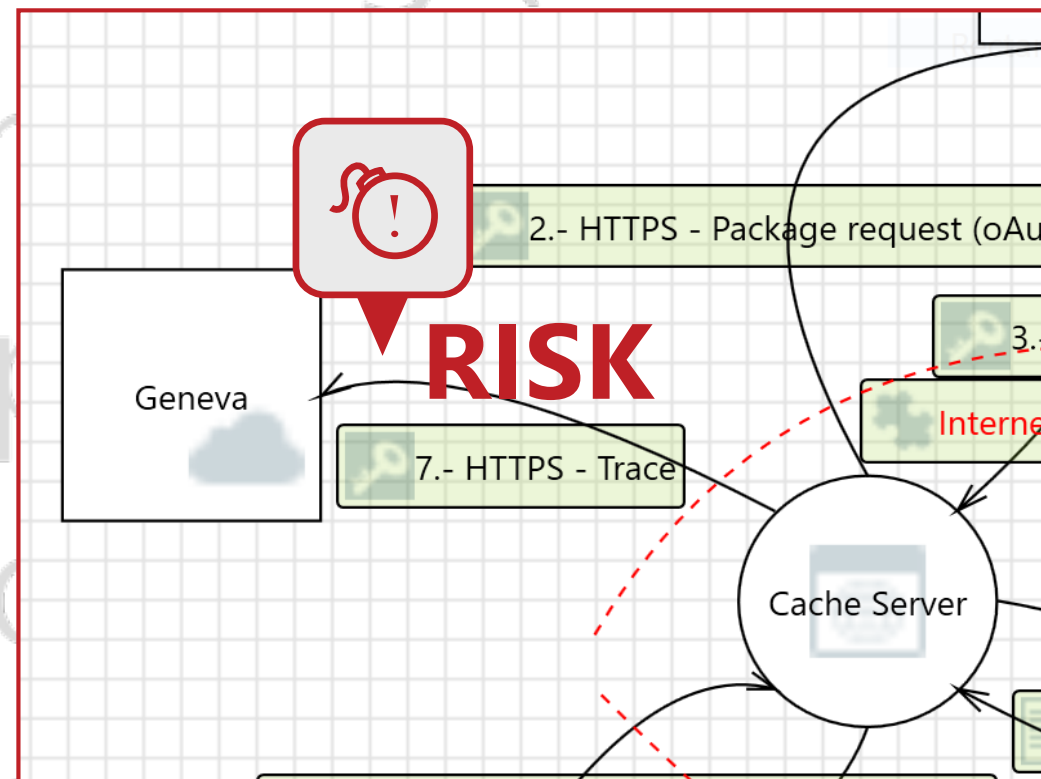
Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

# Spoofting

Someone could try to spoof Geneva to the Cache Server.

How can the Cache Server know Geneva is really Geneva?



# Spoofer

How do we mitigate?

Authentication

Mutual Authentication  
(certificate based)

- Consider Certificate pinning

Spoofer (of user identifier)

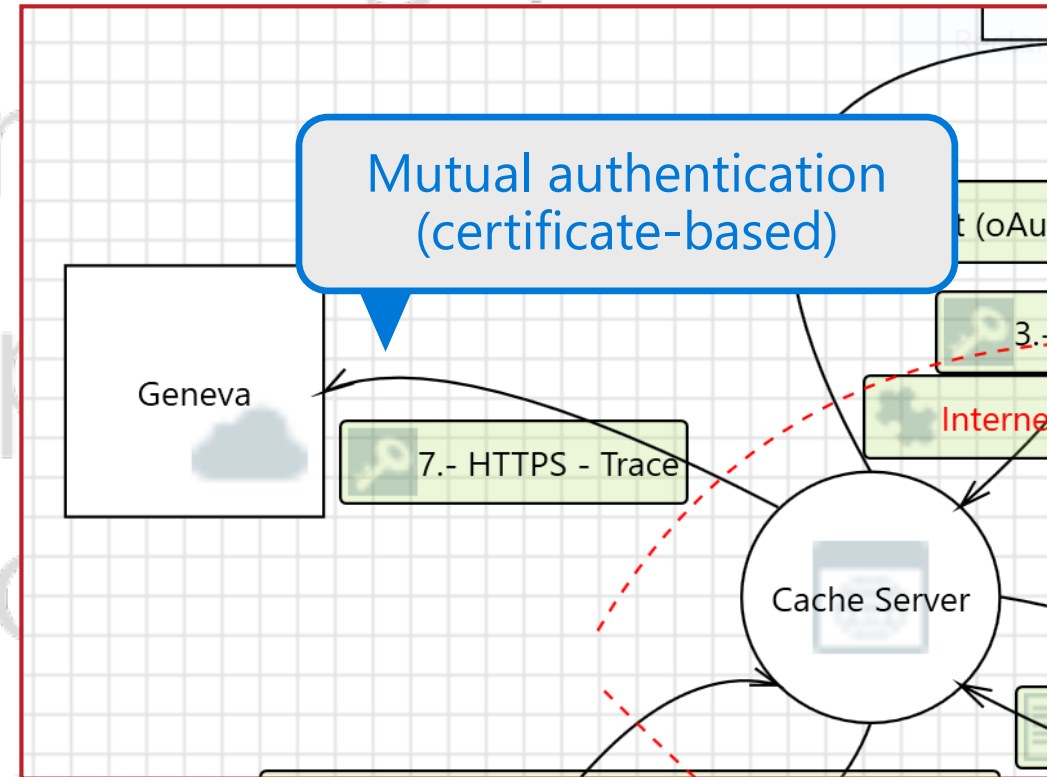
Target

Request

Information

Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege





# Tampering

Framing questions:

- Can somebody modify the data in transit?
- Can an unauthorized user modify the data at rest?
- Who can modify the binaries we deploy?



Spoofing (of user identifier)

Tampering

Recovery

Integrity

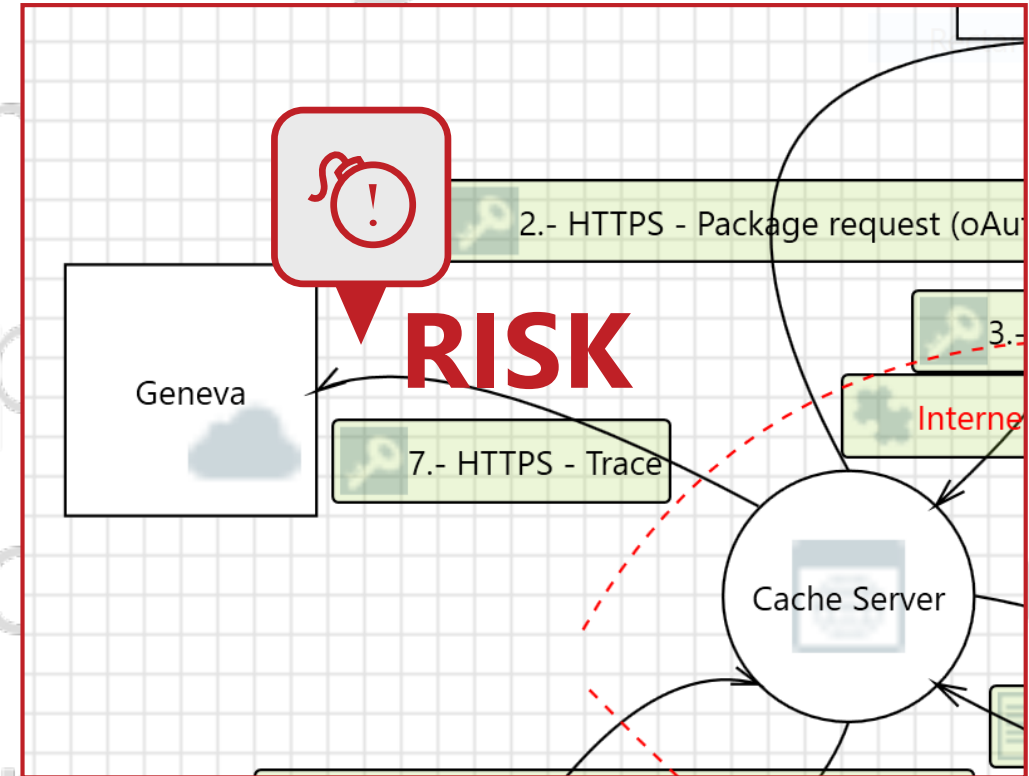
Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

# Tampering

Someone might tamper with the logs before they arrive at Geneva.

How can we prevent or detect that?

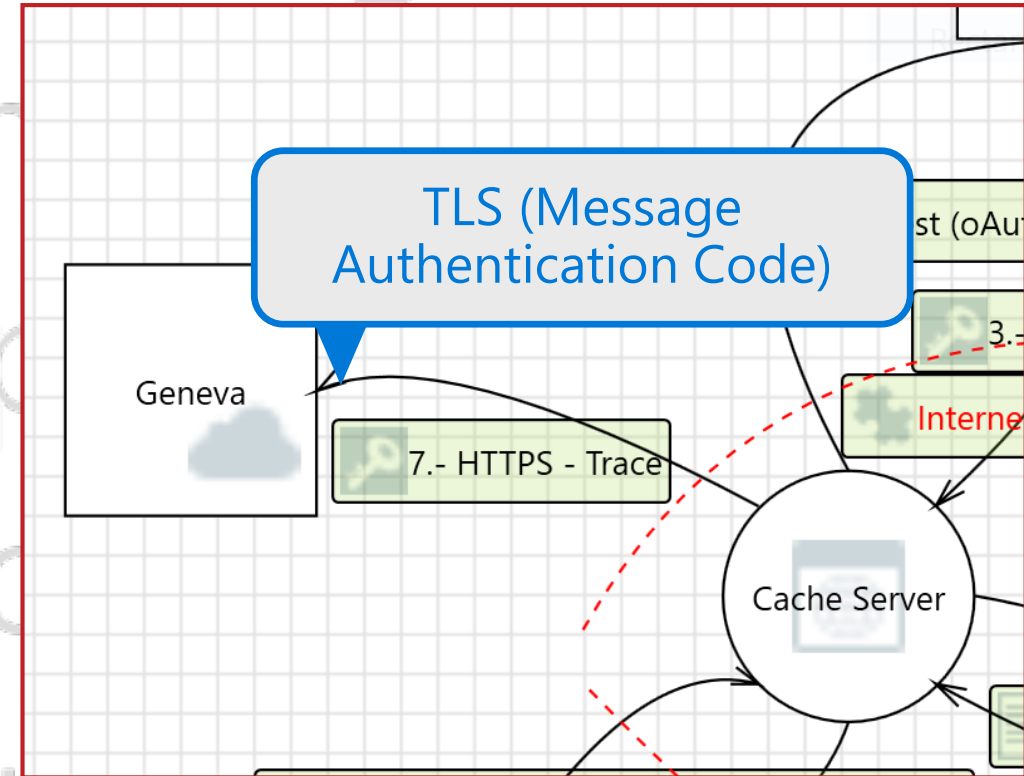


# Tampering

How do we mitigate?

- Using protocols that provide integrity protection (i.e. HTTPS).
- For data-at-rest, use digital signatures or Authenticated Encryption (AE).
- Digital signature on executables.

\*Transport Layer Security (TLS)

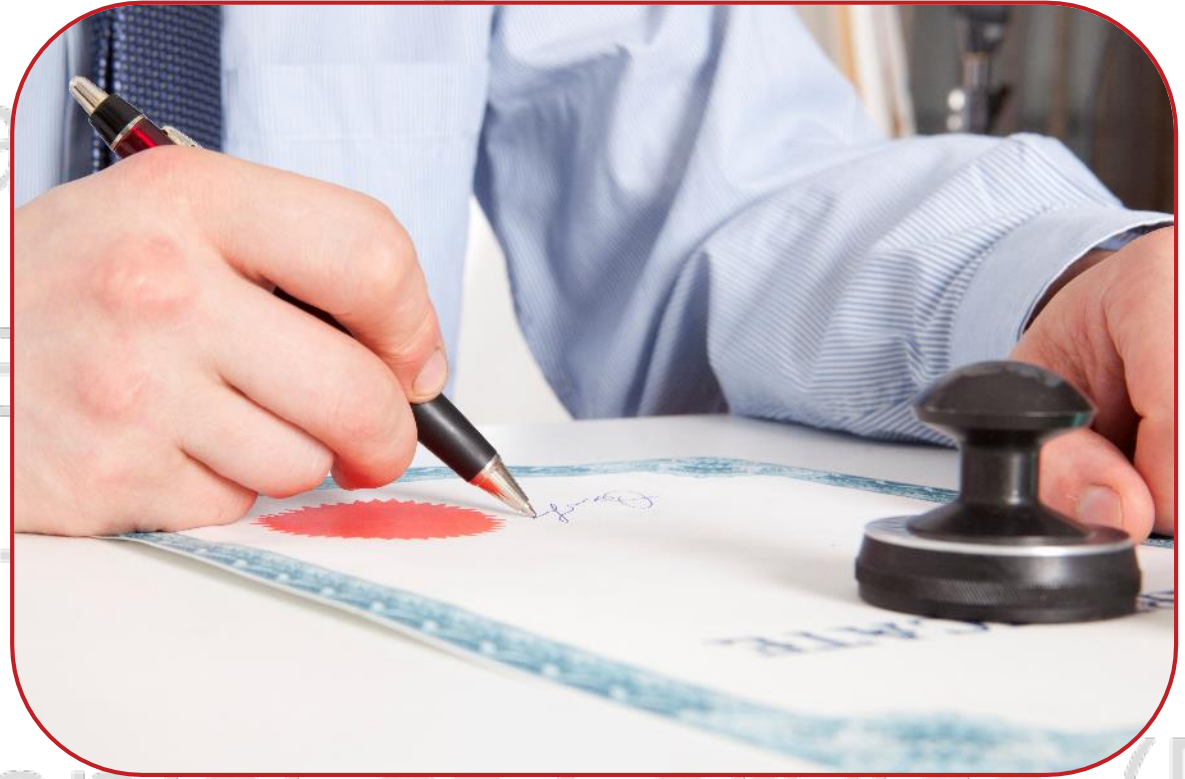




# Repudiation

Framing question:

Can the user claim they did not commit an action on the server?



Spoofing (of user identifier)

Tampering

Repudiation

Integrity

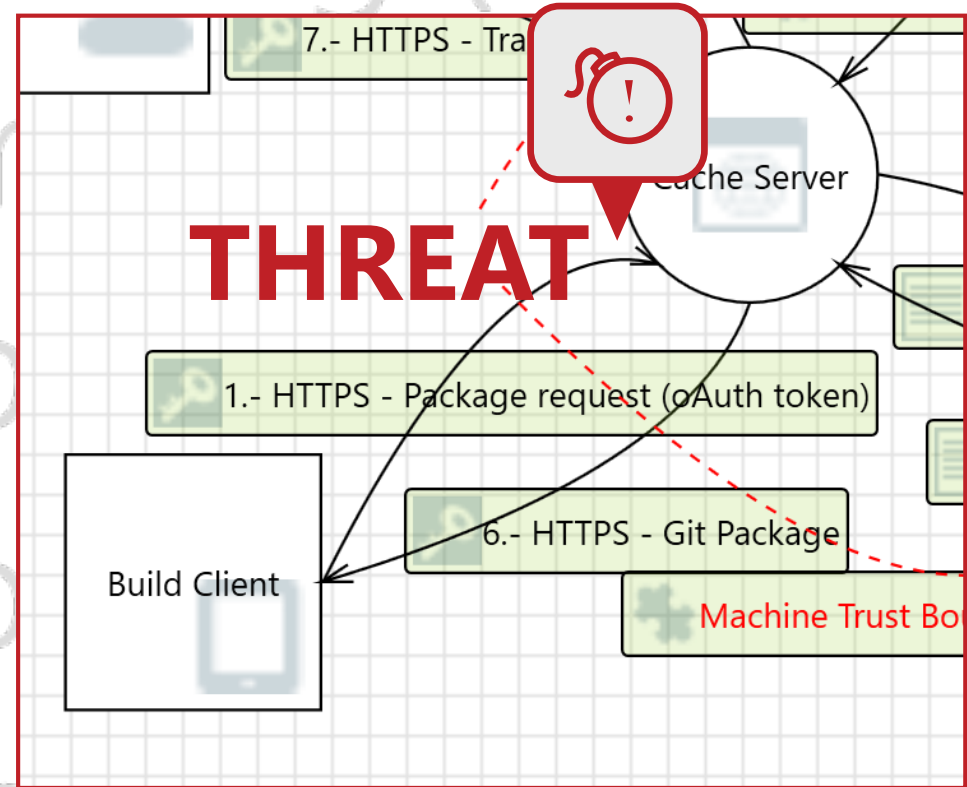
Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

# Repudiation

Build Client could repudiate receipt of the package it requested.

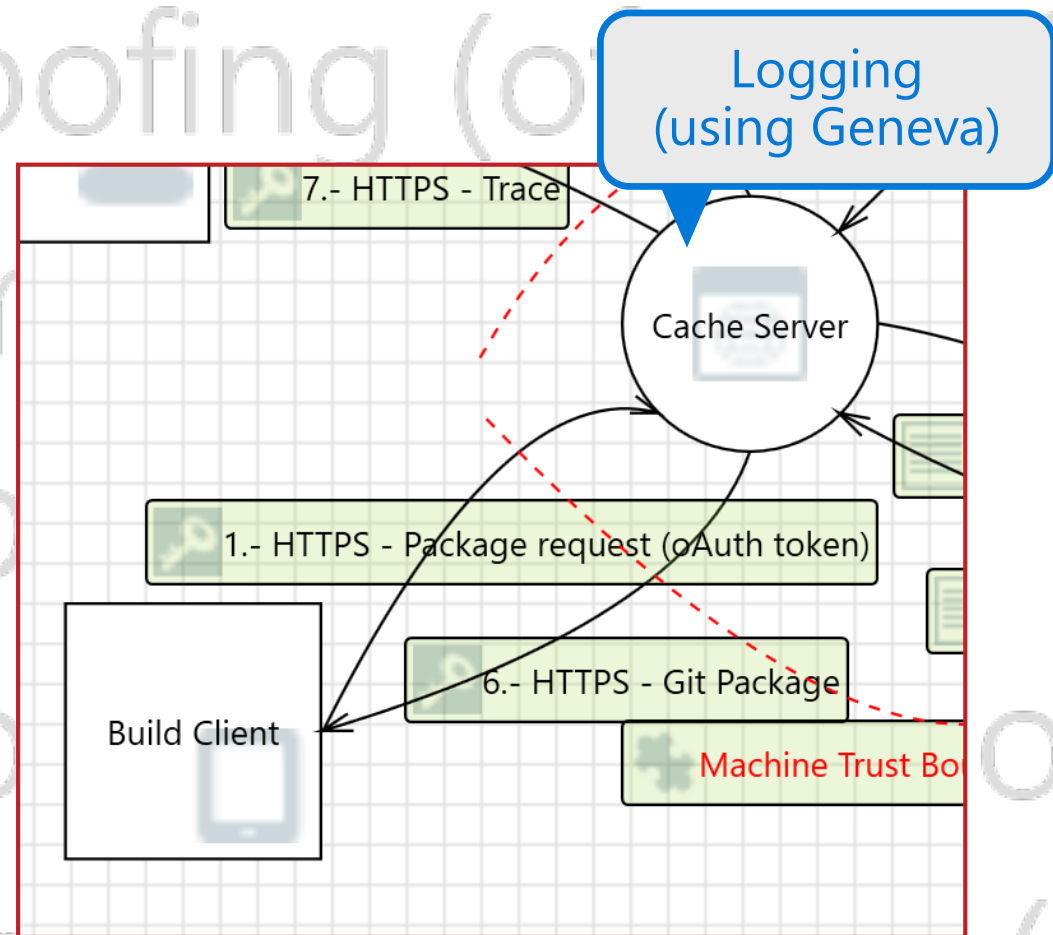
How can Cache Server prove that it sent the right package?



# Repudiation

How do we mitigate?

- Application logging
- Audit logs
- Event logs
- Monitoring



# Information Disclosure

## Framing questions:

- Can somebody else look at the data being transmitted?
- Can unauthorized users access the data on disk (data at rest)?
- Can unauthorized users infer valuable information from errors in the system?

Spoofting (of user identifier)

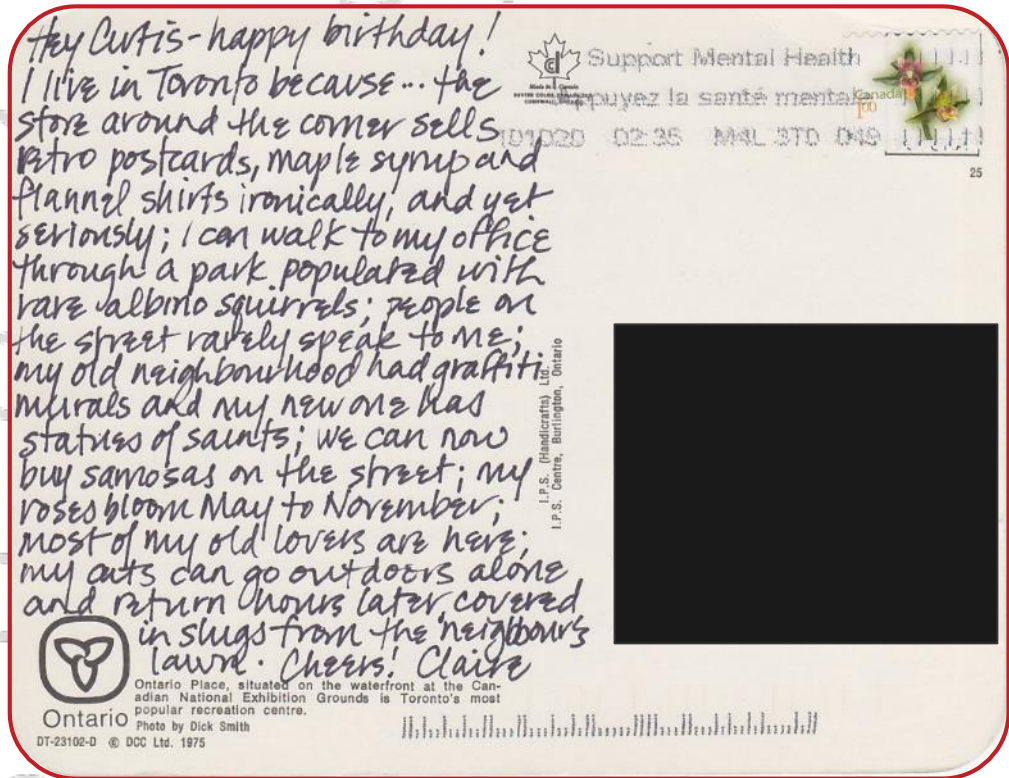
Target

Replication

Information

Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

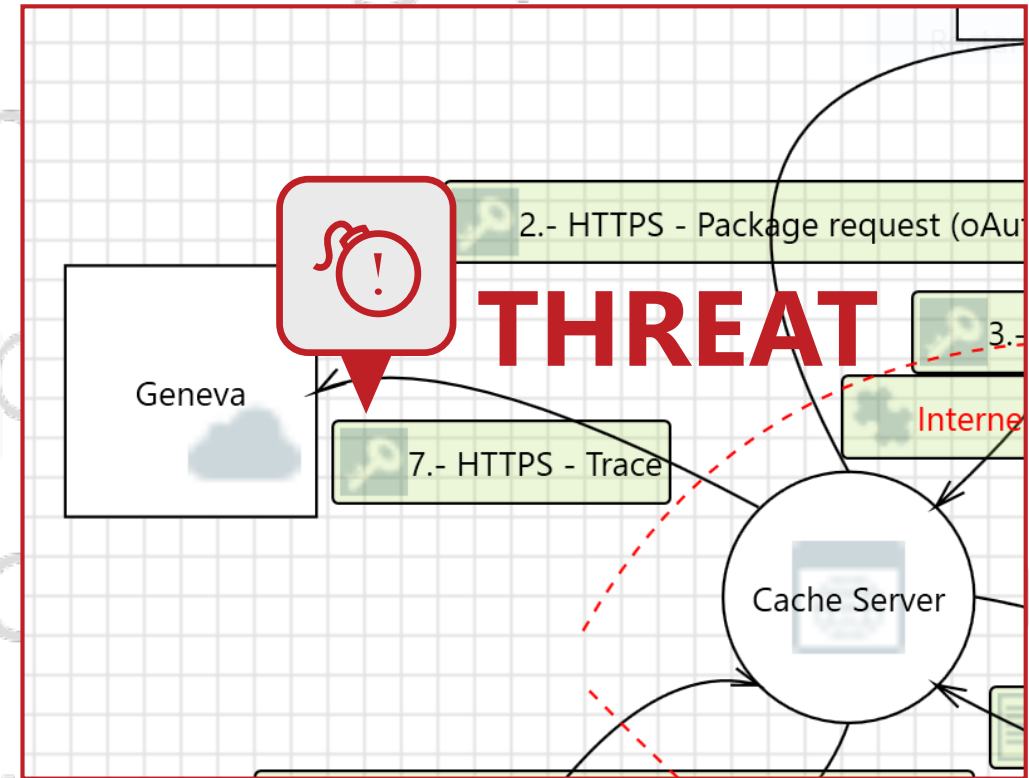




# Information Disclosure

Information in logs might be Disclosed to an interloper en route to Geneva.

How can Cache Server keep this information secret?

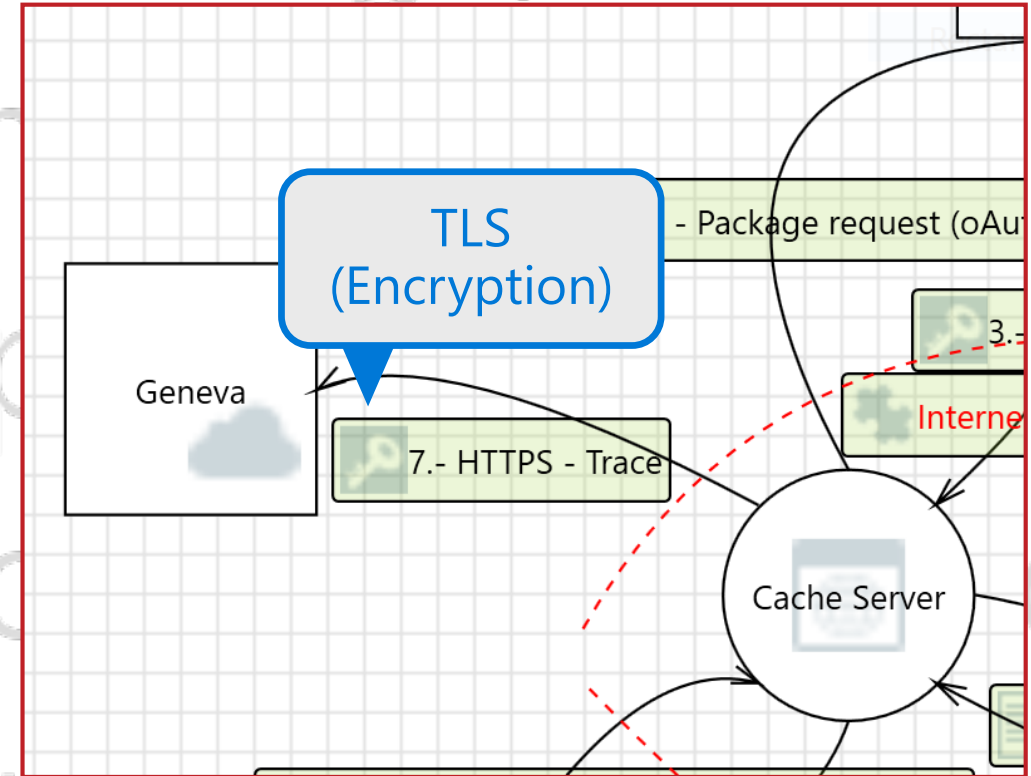


# Information Disclosure

How do we mitigate?

- Encryption in transit (i.e. HTTPS)
- Encryption at rest
- Security details must not be exposed in error messages

\*Transport Layer Security (TLS)



# Denial of service

Framing questions:

- Could somebody prevent this interaction from being established?
- Could service disruption occur by using/abusing the API?



Spoofing (of user identifier)

Tampering

Repudiation

Integrity

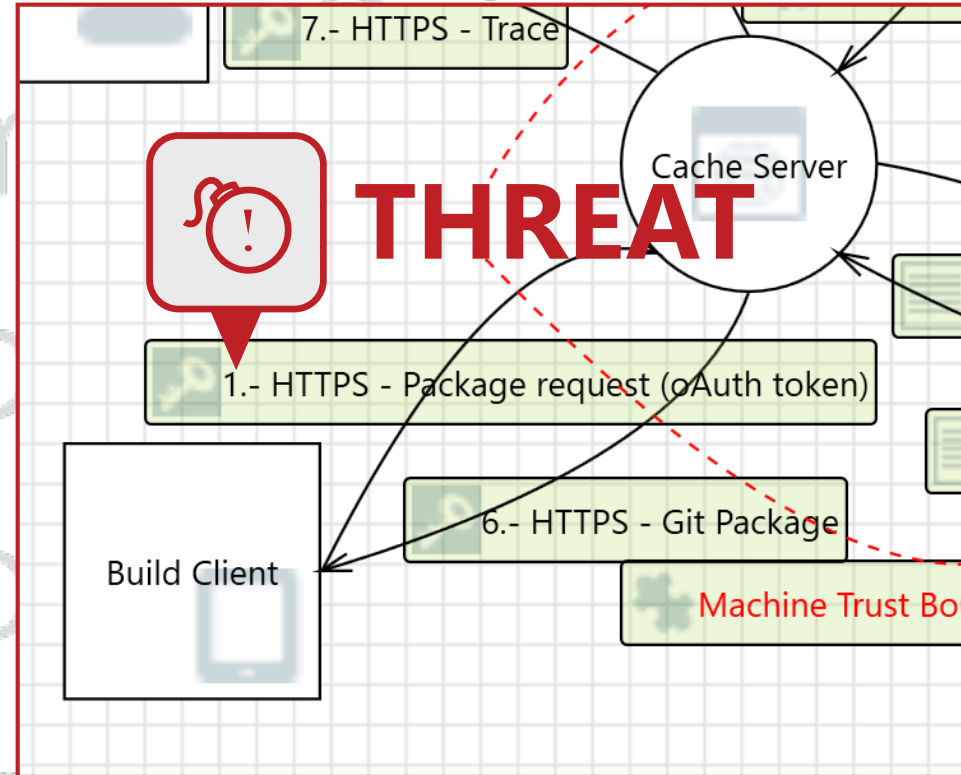
Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

# Denial of service

What if a hostile Build Client floods the Cache Server with requests?

Could the Build Client DOS the Cache Server by running it out of disc cache?

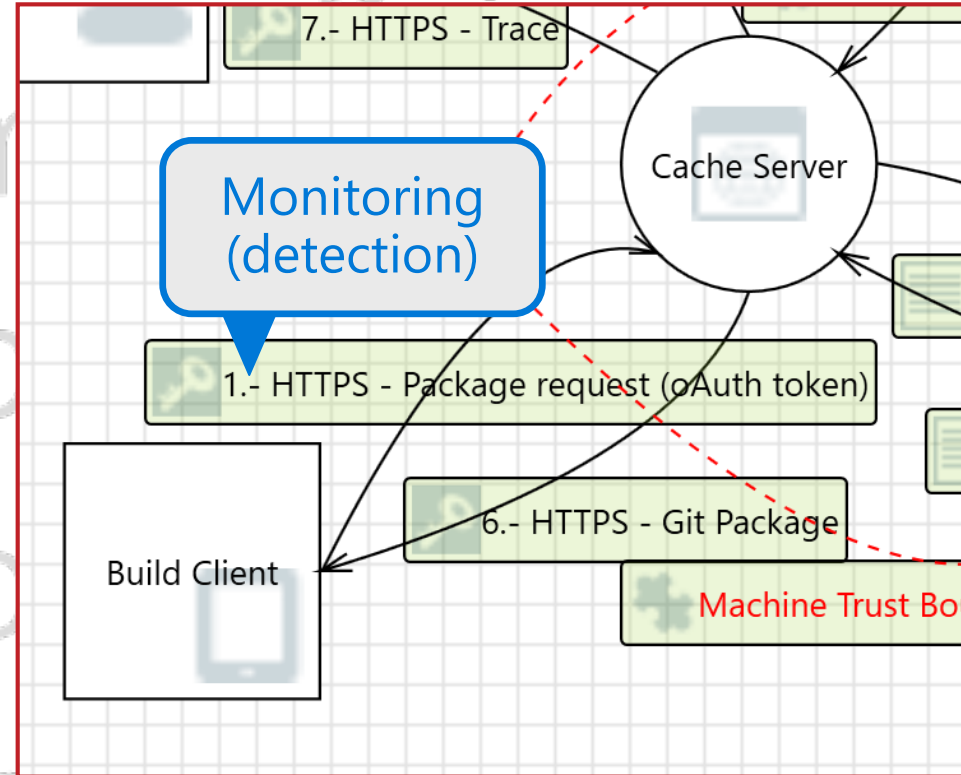




# Denial of Service

How do we mitigate?

- Azure DoS protection
- Monitor service availability
- Throttling



# Elevation of Privileges

Framing questions:

- Can the user do more than they are supposed to?
- What else does your process have permission to do?



Spoofing (of user identifier)

Target

Replication

Information

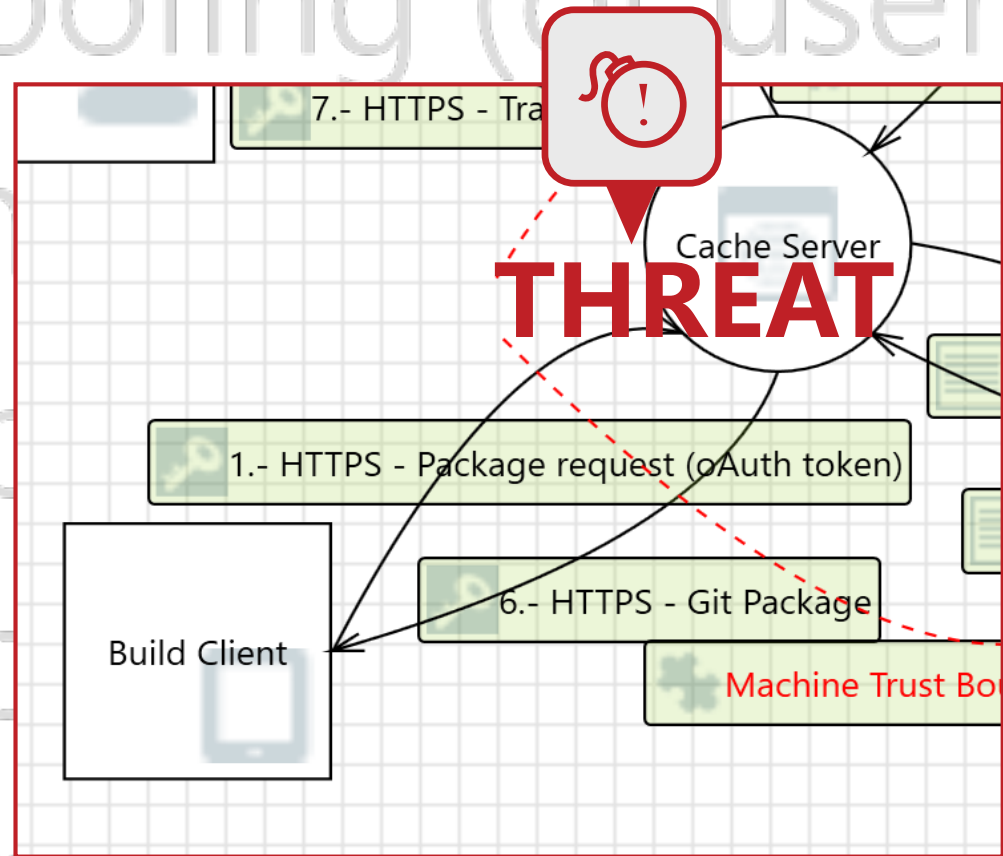
Denial of Service (DoS)

Elevation of Privilege

# Elevation of Privileges

Could an attacker Elevate to the Cache Server's Privileges and gain additional access to VSTS?

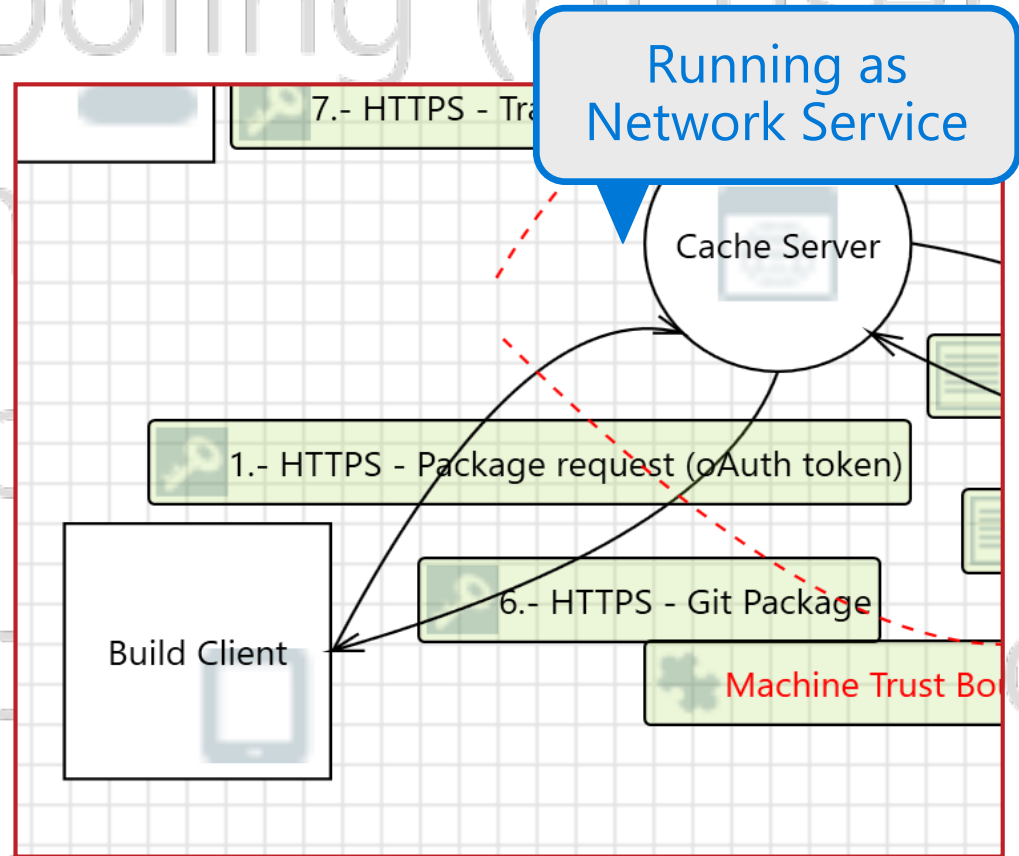
Could a malformed package request let a rogue Build Client get the Cache Server to do things other than what it was designed to do?



# Elevation of Privileges

How do we mitigate?

- Run services with limited privileges  
i.e., Network Service
- Strong access control policies and procedures
- Treat user input as hostile





# Model analysis

**STRIDE** represents these threat categories:

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## Key Takeaways

Threat model = Dataflow diagram (DFD) + model analysis

Build a model for the right reason: to uncover risks & bugs

Build your dataflow diagram (DFD) & then analyze (STRIDE)

## Part 2: Microsoft Threat Modeling Tool

<https://aka.ms/threatmodelingtool>

Now it is https ^^^^ ^^ 😊

# Threat modeling tool overview

Smart diagram objects

Smart threats

Threat and mitigation output

Self-contained, stand-alone tool

Ideal for services, applications, and OS

Not designed for modeling hardware



It's all in the details



Peace Arch

Peace Arch ★ ★ ★ Border Crossing

Border Crossing

★ ★

Border Crossing

Border Crossing ★

★

Border Crossing

★

Border Crossing

International  
Airport

★

★

International  
Airport

★

Scary Big Volcano

★

Sleepy Volcano

Road to Oregon

★

★

Doughnuts

Road to Idaho

★

★

Airport

★

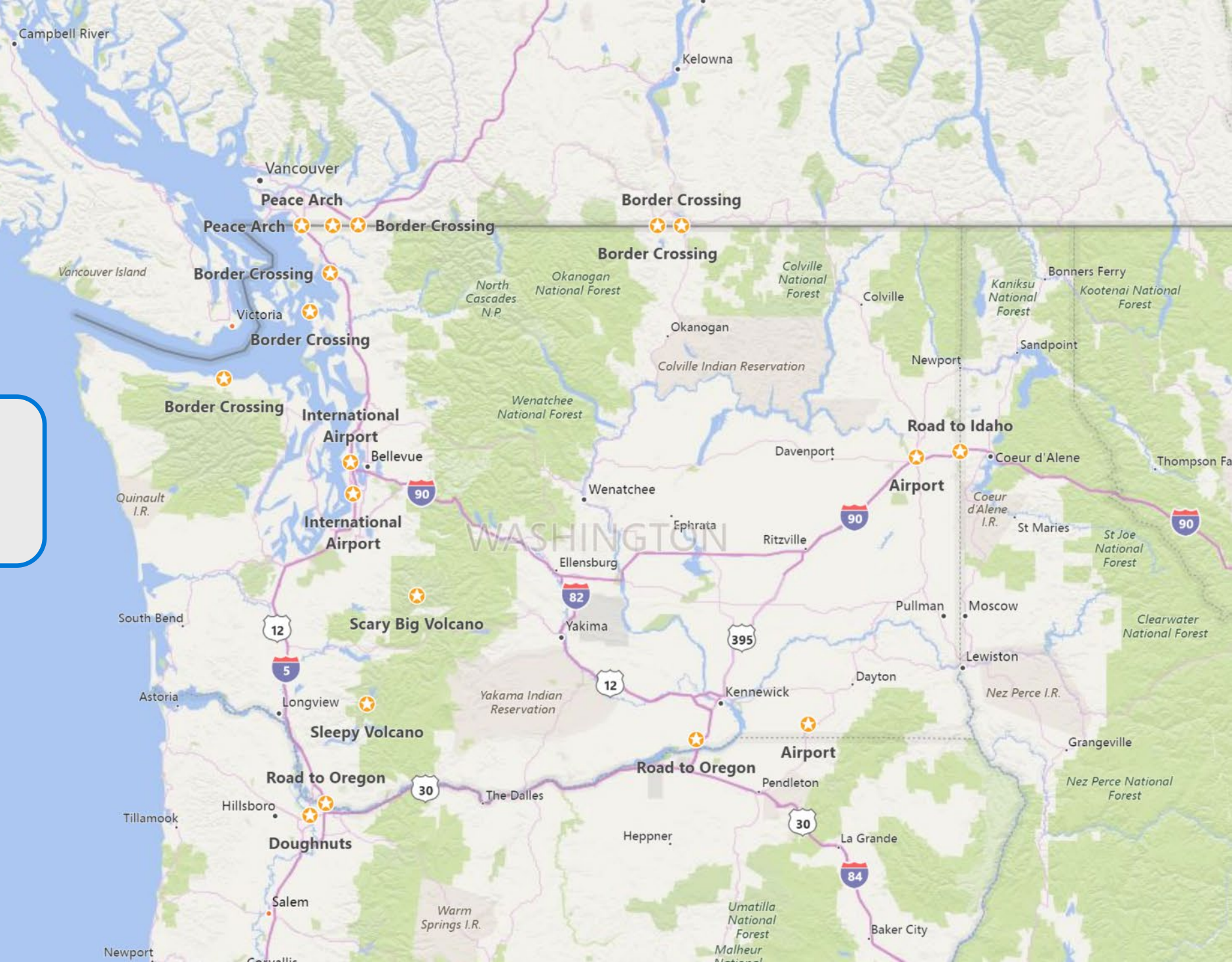
Airport

Road to Oregon

★

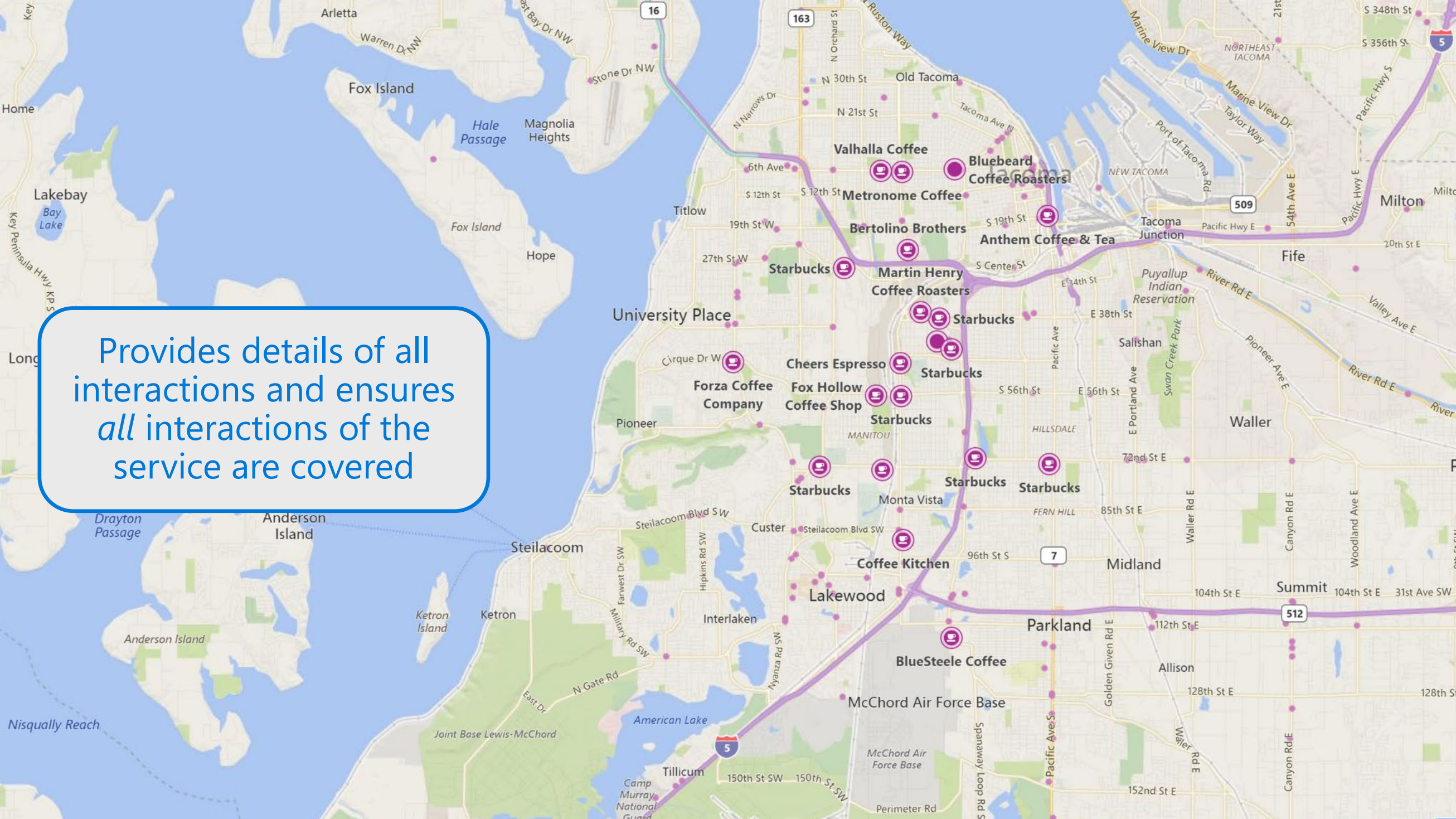


Establishes a high-level understanding of your service





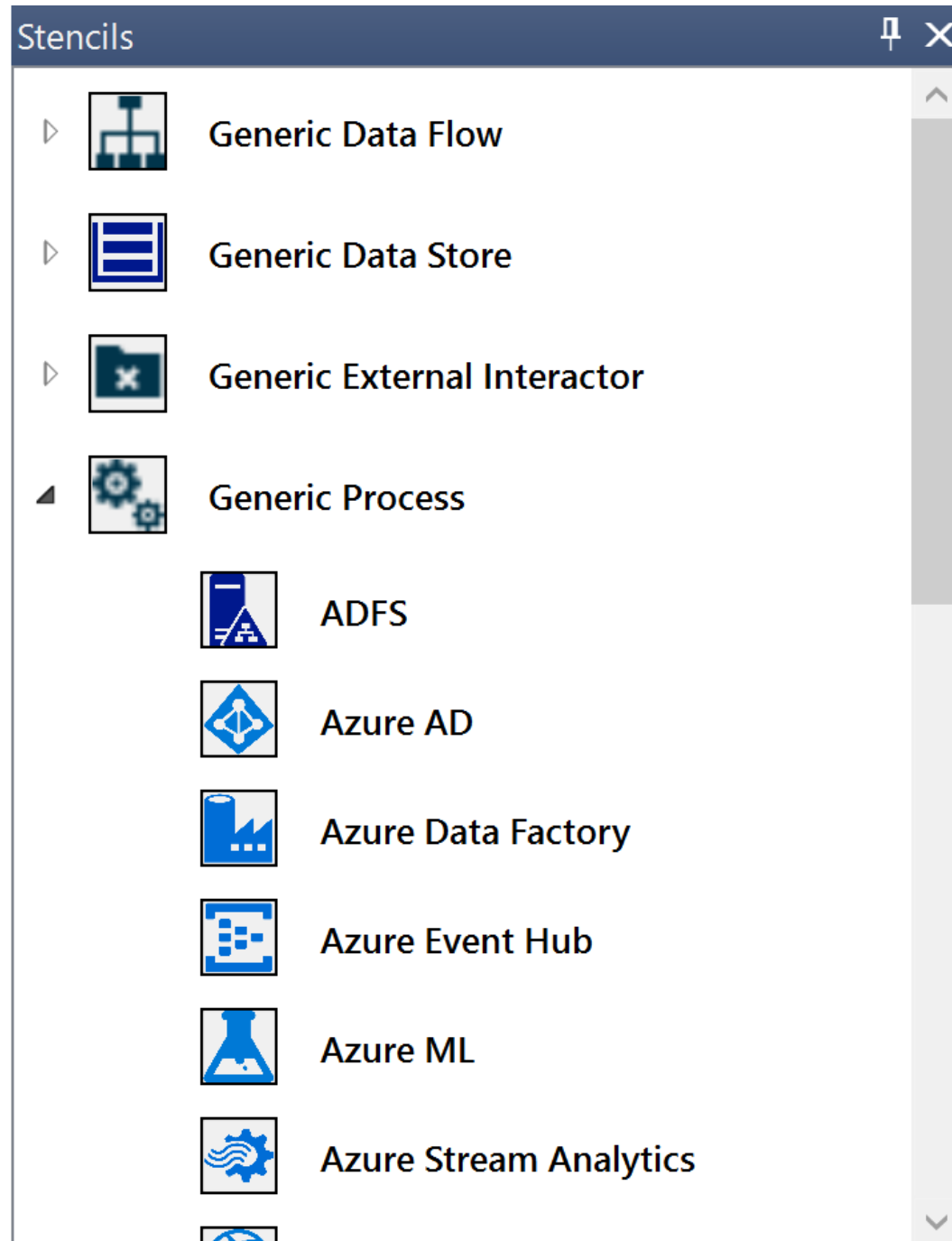
Provides details of all interactions and ensures *all* interactions of the service are covered



# Stencils

Objects to drag into a threat model

- Processes
- External entities
- Data stores
- Data flows
- Trust boundaries





# Properties

- Characteristics of selected entity (stencil)
- Specific to the type of entity
- Ex. HTTP dataflow vs HTTPS dataflow

Element Properties

**Web Application**

Name: ResReader (network Service)

**Out Of Scope**

Reason For Out Of Scope

**Configurable Attributes**

Web Application Technologies: MVC6

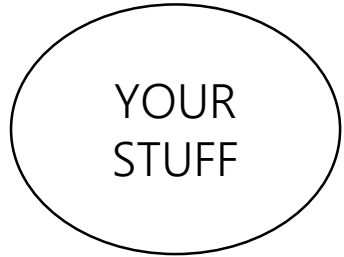
EnvironmentType: OnPrem

Processes XML: Select

**As Generic Process**

[Add New Custom Attribute](#)

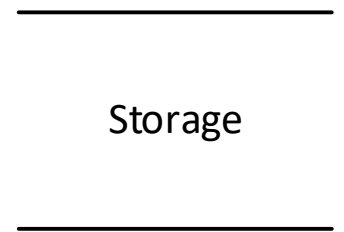
# Dataflow diagram elements



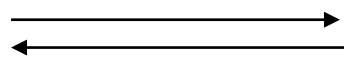
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Squares: external interactors (users, 3<sup>rd</sup> party services  
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Lines: data storage  
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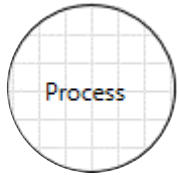


Arrows: data, control, and influence move between elements

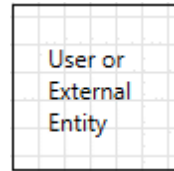


Dashed Lines: privilege boundary

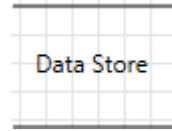
# Dataflow diagram stencils



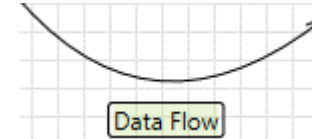
Azure AD  
Azure Web job  
Dynamics CRM  
Azure ML  
WCF  
Web API  
Web Application  
Etc.



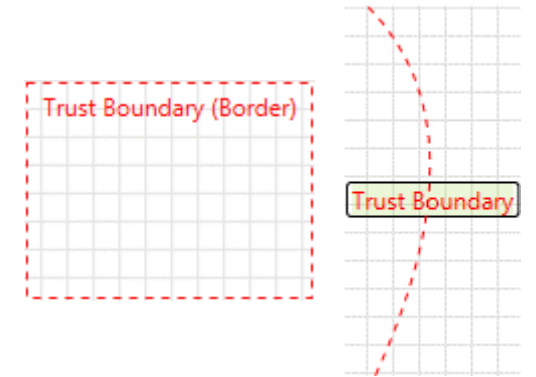
Mobile Client  
Web browser  
Anything external  
to the system that  
you can't control



Database  
Cached  
Azure DocDB  
Azure Storage



Request or  
Response  
Network traffic  
Function call  
Any flow where  
data moves from  
one entity to  
another entity  
on DFD



Points/surfaces  
where an attacker  
can interject  
Examples of  
boundaries:  
Machine  
Privilege  
Network  
(even TLS)

# Microsoft Threat Modeling Tool Demo





# Microsoft Threat Modeling Tool Links

- TM Templates are available on our GitHub repo, we invite you all to collaborate:  
<https://aka.ms/tmtrepo>
- We are always looking for feedback, so please provide that using this link:  
<https://aka.ms/threatmodelingsurvey>

## Key Takeaways

All-in-one tool for creating dataflow diagram & analysis.

Use "design view" to create level 0 dataflow diagram.

Use "analysis view" to conduct STRIDE.

# Go Do

- ✓ Own a service?  
Start threat modeling it!
- ✓ Working on a new version of a service?  
Great! Start modeling the new design!
- ✓ My service is already in production.  
Go ahead and model everything as-is!
- ✓ I don't own a service.  
Go talk to your PM/Dev/OPS counterpart about how you can help.

# Q&A

I will be doing a QA later from 2:00-2:45 , come talk if you have questions 😊



- ✓ Security community
- ✓ Documentation
- ✓ Training resources
- ✓ Event content
- ✓ And more...

Your online STRIKE resource

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strike

Thank you!