Social Network Management for Homeland Security

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MITRE Sponsored Research





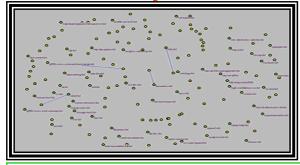
Problem

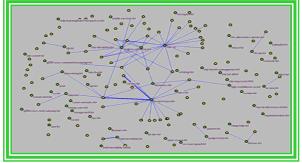
- Networked organizations are distinct from traditional hierarchies – they are multi-networks, cellular, and distributed.
- Networked organizations are adaptive new structure emerges, roles change.
- Adaptation or self-organization without central control does <u>not</u> guarantee effectiveness.
- New tools applied at the nexus of formal and informal organizations are needed to affect performance:
 - Detect, track, and influence emergent organizations
 - Engineer hybrid adaptive organizations

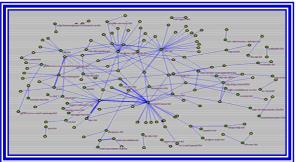
Background

- Communication networks and organizational forms are undergoing rapid change driven by advances in communication technology.
- Network forms of organization are emerging; juxtaposed between traditional hierarchies and marketplaces.
- Networks are built around flows that link people locally and globally.
- Networks as organizations bridge space and time. Hypothesis: networked organizations are processes that can be "managed."

Community Evolution







Objectives

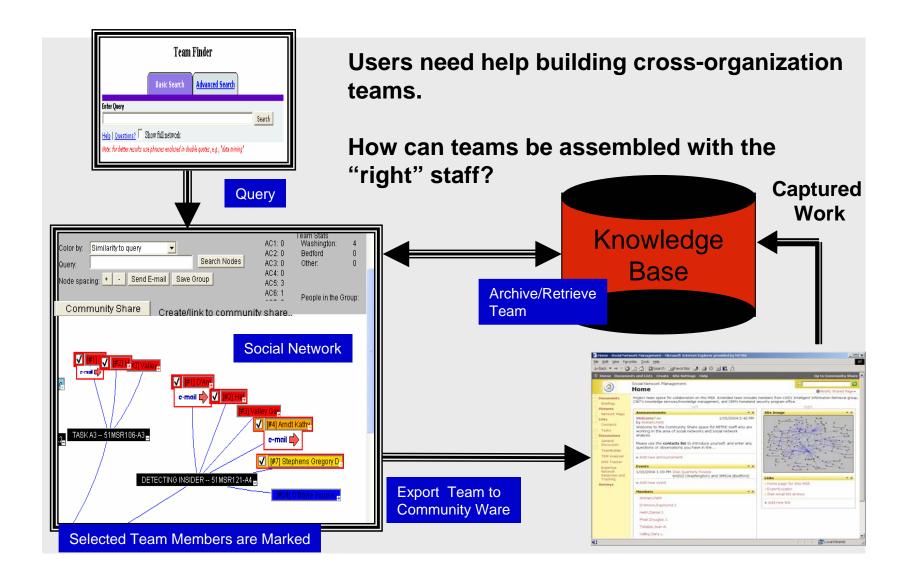
- Tools That Make Organizational Networks Visible
 - Track ongoing work and collaboration areas
 - Assess resource utilization, etc.
 - Risk & vulnerability analysis (e.g., stovepipes)
- Tools for Network Analysis
 - Identify cohesive or fragmented work areas
 - Key person analysis: leaders, brokers,...
 - Community design; optimize coordination
- Services and Embedded Functionality
 - Tools to manage professional networks
 - Social networks integrated into core services
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Activities

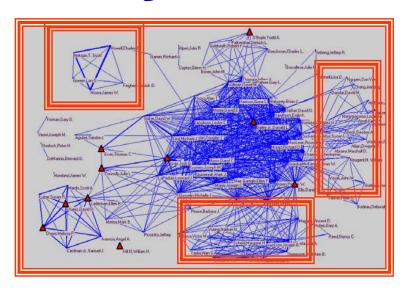
- Target Key Problems and Candidate Applications
 - User interviews used to ensure organization relevance
 - Proof-of-concept demonstrations used to validate problem set and bootstrap target problem list
- Extended Network Data Collection Architecture
 - Enhanced collection tools developed under the Social Information Retrieval MSR (FY03)
- Selected Prototyping Initiated
 - Ad hoc team generation
 - Knowledge network analysis



Ad hoc Team Generation



Knowledge Networks Analysis: TEMS



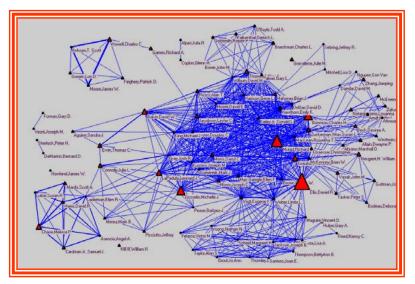
User is organizing a Technical Exchange Meeting (TEM) on the topic of Malicious Code. The Domain Network is automatically generated.

How are selected speakers embedded within it? Is there a selection bias? Are there gaps?



Other Key Persons
Automatically Detected

How are other key staff embedded within network? Which key persons participate at the TEM? Who doesn't?



Impacts

- New ways to view enterprise work that make visible the juxtaposition of formal and informal organizations
- More effective use of organizational resources to meet shifting mission requirements
- Tools that are easy to use and intuitive; that allow individuals, groups, and whole organizations to assess their embeddedness within operational domains
- Tools that work for MITRE and for MITRE's sponsors

Future Plans

Detecting Network
Vulnerabilities or Risks
that Affect Performance

Performance Optimization Through Social Network "Management"

