

Governing Energy



Is it Real or Is It . . . ?

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There is an old TV commercial (circa 1970s) where a singer hits a high note and shatters the wine glass. The comment goes along the lines, “Is it real or is it a tape recording?” The audience is left with the belief that it is the high-quality recording.

The fidelity of recordings is no longer in question. However, the fidelity of data and information is more in question than ever before.

This is not about fake news or other opinion based positions. It is about a much more important issue. Can data sources used to manage business/government be trusted?

Most news worthy articles or broadcasts about cyber security focus on hacks or the theft of data. What if nefarious forces inset 'manufactured' data into your system?

Decision support systems (human and non-human) make certain assumptions that the data input is accurate, at least at some level. If this assumption is corrupted, stakeholder value is a risk.

This pundit believes that the **Next Gen** cybercrime is not the extraction of data but the insertion of 'fake' data disguised to fool decision support systems. This may result in the destruction of assets and loss of human life, i.e. plant explosions.

Typically, crime fighting is one or more steps behind the perpetrators. With so much at stake, it is time for society and its protective institutions to get ahead of this issue.

Cybercrime and potential new variants are Board of Director issues. It is fallacy to delegate this new trend to the IT department.

To date, most cyber penetrations have resulted in so called 'breaches' which are costing billions in actual losses, law suits and destruction of shareholder value. The threat of manufactured data may cause an order of magnitude greater destruction.

Is Your Organization Ready for the Next Gen Cyber Crime?

Free [Economic Value Proposition Matrix](#) version 2.0 (realize the value of your investment)

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Additional details are available from the author.

About the Author

Dr. [Scott M. Shemwell](#) has over 30 years technical and executive management experience primarily in the energy sector. He is the author of six books and has written extensively about the field of operations. Shemwell is the Managing Director of The Rapid Response Institute, a firm that focuses on providing its customers with solutions enabling Operational Excellence and regulatory compliance management. He has studied cultural interactions for more than 30 years—his dissertation; *Cross Cultural Negotiations Between Japanese and American Businessmen: A Systems Analysis (Exploratory Study)* is an early peer reviewed manuscript addressing the systemic structure of societal relationships.