

D2.11 SPHINX Architecture v3

WP2 – Conceptualisation, Use Cases and System Architecture

Version: 2.00



SPHINX

A Universal Cyber Security Toolkit for
Health-Care Industry



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Executive Summary

This document describes the architecture of the SPHINX Solution, presenting the final version of the system's high-level design, concerning SPHINX main building blocks, top-level components and detailed technical specifications, including data flows and interfaces. In particular, this document provides an overview and the main outcomes of the work performed by the SPHINX Consortium on the SPHINX architectural design, as part of Task 2.5 - SPHINX Architecture and Detailed Technical Specs.

The SPHINX main building blocks are the Device Verification and Certification Module, the Automated Cyber Security Risk Assessment Module, the Cyber Security Toolkit Module, the Decision Support System and Analytics Engine Module and the Common Integration Platform Module. These modules are then detailed into a set of twenty-one key components, presented in terms of functional description, technical specifications, and interface specifications, supported by dedicated component diagrams that highlight the workflow and interaction among the different SPHINX components. In addition, this document includes a set of general technical specifications addressing elements of security, reliability, interoperability, and scalability.

The key innovation attained in this document is the updated architectural design of the novel SPHINX concept, focusing on the proactive assessment and mitigation of cyber security vulnerabilities and threats, the verification and certification of medical devices and equipment, as well as the preservation of healthcare data privacy and integrity.

Importantly, in this document, the SPHINX architecture and technical specifications have been updated from the version presented in deliverable *D2.6 - SPHINX Architecture v2*, considering the implementation work of the different SPHINX components in Work Packages 3 – Cyber security risk assessment & Beyond – SPHINX Intelligence, 4 – SPHINX Toolkits and 5 – Analysis and Decision Making, as well as the integration effort developed in Work Package 6 – SPHINX Common Integration Platform & Incremental Strategy.

Moreover, a new section was added to the document, assisting to illustrate what may be a reference deployment of the SPHINX System and its comprising components. To this end, the SPHINX partners have considered one of the SPHINX use cases, deemed highly representative of real end-user needs and of the SPHINX benefits, and present how the different SPHINX components would address the specific use case challenges, highlighting the involved dataflows among the deployed components (functional diagram) and the sequence of events related with the dynamics of the use case (sequence diagram). This section provides an additional technical insight that contributes to generate a better understanding of the SPHINX System in operation.

Leveraging on the work leading to deliverables *D2.2 - Ethical Requirements*, *D2.6 - SPHINX Architecture v2*, *D2.9 - Use Cases Definition and Pilot Overview Document v3* and *D2.10 - SPHINX Requirements and Guidelines v3*, the *SPHINX Architecture v3* document reflects the prevailing project's synergies and sets the basis for the SPHINX System's innovative architectural and technical framework. The final SPHINX architecture framework benefitted from all the technical development, integration and testing activities in the context of the SPHINX Project concerning the actual implementation of the different SPHINX cyber security tools.





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Table of Abbreviations

AAAC – Authentication and Authorisation Access Control

ABS – Attack and Behaviour Simulators

AD – Anomaly Detection

AE – Analytic Engine

AI – Artificial Intelligence

AP – Anonymisation and Privacy

APIs – Application Programming Interfaces

ARM – Advanced RISC Machine

AST – Abstract Syntax Tree

ATAM – Architecture Trade-off Analysis Method





BaaS – Blockchain as a Service

BBTR – Blockchain Based Threats Registry

CAL – Chimera Anonymisation Language

CEF – Common Event Format

CIP – Common Integration Platform

CPU – Central Processing Unit

CST – Cyber Security Toolbox

CVE – Common Vulnerabilities and Exposure

CVS – Comma-Separated Values

CVSS – Common Vulnerability Scoring System

DSS – Decision Support System

DTM – Data Traffic Monitoring

ENISA – European Union Agency for Network and Information and Security

EU – European Union

FDCE – Forensic Data Collection Engine

FPGA – Field-Programmable Gate Array

GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

HDFS – Hadoop File System

HE – Homomorphic Encryption

HP – Honeypot

HTTP – Hyper Text Transfer Protocol

ICT – Information and Communication Technology

ID – Interactive Dashboards

IP – Internet Protocol

IT – Information Technology

JSON – JavaScript Object Notation

KB – Knowledge Base

KPIs – Key Performance Indicators

LSTM - Long Short-Term Memory

MAC – Media Access Control

ML – Machine Learning

MLID – Machine Learning-empowered Intrusion Detection





MSB – Message and Service Bus

NASL - Nessus Attack Scripting Language

OSINT – Open-source intelligence

PCA – Principal Component Analysis

PII – Personally Identifiable Information

PMBOK – Project Management Body of Knowledge

QoS – Quality of Service

RCRA – Real-time Cyber Risk Assessment

REST - REpresentational State Transfer

RFC – Request for Comments

S-API – SPHINX Application Programming Interface

SB – Sandbox

SEM – Security Event Management

SIEM – Security Information and Event Management

SIM – Security Information Management

SM – Service Manager

SSL – Secure Socket Layer

STA - Stakeholders

t-SNE – t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbour Embedding

TLS – Transport Layer Security

UI – User Interface

UML – Unified Modelling Language

URLs – Universal Resource Locators

VAaaS – Vulnerability Assessment as a Service

VMs – Virtual Machines

VPN – Virtual Private Network

WP – Work Package





1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and scope

This document, named “*SPHINX Architecture v3*”, elaborated as an addition to Task 2.5 - SPHINX Architecture and Detailed Technical Specifications, presents the final version of the SPHINX architecture and detailed technical specifications. It describes the SPHINX main building blocks and general requirements, as well as the SPHINX high-level components together with their corresponding technical requirements, data flows and interfaces.

The technical requirements herein specified consider the functional and non-functional requirements and guidelines elaborated as part of Task 2.1 - Cyber Situation Awareness Trend Analysis, Task 2.2 - Basis of Ethical and Legal Requirements, Task 2.3 - Stakeholders’ Requirements and Task 2.4 - Reference Scenarios and Pilot Operations Specifications and KPIs.

This document provides not only the necessary foundations to guide the detailed design, implementation and integration of the SPHINX components, conducted throughout WP3 to WP5, but also reflects the actual development, integration and testing work being performed by the technical project partners across the different work packages and throughout the SPHINX Project to build the SPHINX System and its comprising cybersecurity tools. It is the final update of the architecture defined for SPHINX (*D2.6 - SPHINX Architecture v2*), fully aligned with the development work conducted on the SPHINX System and its cybersecurity tools.

1.2 Structure of the deliverable

The remainder of this document is structured as follows: section 2 provides an overview of the SPHINX Platform from a functional perspective; section 3 presents the SPHINX system architecture and its comprising architectural components, describing their interactions and data flows, as well as associated technical specifications (requirements); section 4 presents a SPHINX deployment addressing a reference use case, including two diagrams (i.e., a structural diagram and a sequence diagram), depicting the involved SPHINX components, their interactions and sequence of events related with the dynamics of the use case; section 5 establishes the relation between the SPHINX technical specifications and the SPHINX stakeholder requirements through a requirements traceability matrix; section 6 delivers the conclusions of the work performed; and section 7 conveys the bibliographical references used in this document.

1.3 Relation to other WPs and Tasks

The elaboration of the SPHINX technical specifications considers the functional and non-functional requirements ongoing definition by other Tasks within WP2: The Ethical Requirements as part of Task 2.2, the Stakeholders’ Requirements as part of Task 2.3 and the SPHINX Use Cases as part of Task 2.4. As Tasks 2.3 and 2.4 evolved, refinements were introduced into the initial architectural design and technical specifications captured in deliverable *D2.3 - SPHINX Architecture v1*.

The high-level architecture not only guides but also reflects the detailed design and implementation of the SPHINX components, conducted throughout WP3 to WP5, as well as the integration efforts conducted in WP6. Specific features and components of the SPHINX system are also relevant to demonstrate the true added-value and benefit of SPHINX to the healthcare sector through the pilot activities implemented in WP7.



1.4 Methodology

The SPHINX architecture specifies the main components constituting the SPHINX system. The high-level architecture primarily produces the top-level component diagram.

The SPHINX technical specifications translate the stakeholder requirements defined in Deliverable D2.10 - *SPHINX Requirements and Guidelines v3* into system requirements and add new ones, where required. The technical specifications have been defined accordingly to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) guidelines in order to be "*unambiguous (measurable and tested), traceable, complete, consistent and acceptable to key stakeholders*". To ensure the specifications' traceability and verification, the SPHINX technical specifications are allocated to each SPHINX component defined in the SPHINX architecture. The architecture verification is to be carried out aiming to deliver the following system's key aspects: scalability, extensibility, performance, reliability, modularity, configurability, interoperability and robustness.

The SPHINX technical specifications follow the VOLERE methodology [2], adapted to meet the SPHINX research activities and allow agile refinement. Based on this adapted methodology, each SPHINX technical specification is identified as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Specification ID: | A unique identifier, as follows: <COMPONENT-LETTER><type><sequential-number> For example: CIP-F-010 (CIP refers to SPHINX Common Integration Platform (CIP); F is a functional specification (see next); and 10 is the specification number). A system-level specification uses SYS in "COMPONENT-LETTER". Once numbered, it shall not be changed. |
| Specification Type | Functional specifications (F) are the fundamental or essential subject matter of the product and are measured by concrete means like data values, decision-making logic and algorithms. Non-functional requirements (see letter below) are the behavioural properties that the specified functions must have. Non-functional specifications can be assigned a specific measurement. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (U) Usability and Look and Feel Specifications; • (P) Performance Specifications; • (M) Maintainability and Support Specifications; • (S) Security Specifications; • (L) Legal and Ethical Specifications. |
| Dependencies | Reference to the stakeholder requirement(s) it is related to (if applicable). Stakeholder requirements are specified in D2.5, D2.8 and D2.10. |
| Customer Value | Mandatory: 1 to 5 scale (5 being highest; use of "shall" in description); Optional: 0 (use of "should" in description). |
| Description and Rationale | A one sentence statement describing the specification, highlighting the context of the specification. |

Table 1: The Template for the SPHINX Technical Specifications

2 SPHINX Overview

SPHINX brings a **Universal Cyber Security Toolkit for the Health and Care Domain** that enhances the cyber protection of the healthcare IT ecosystem and ensures the patients' data privacy and integrity. The SPHINX toolkit offers an embedded, smart and robust security awareness layer, able to identify modern and advanced cyber threats, enhanced with a personalised data security management tool.

The SPHINX architecture has the capability to concentrate and handle the data of many devices or services, thus covering a wide range of use case scenarios. The SPHINX users are kept informed at any time via highly comprehensive dashboards and visual analytics, while being able to interact with the services and functions of the proposed solution in an intuitive and user-friendly way.

The SPHINX automated zero-touch device and service verification toolkit is easily adapted or embedded on existing, medical, clinical or health available infrastructures, while a user may choose from a number of available security services through the SPHINX cyber security toolbox.

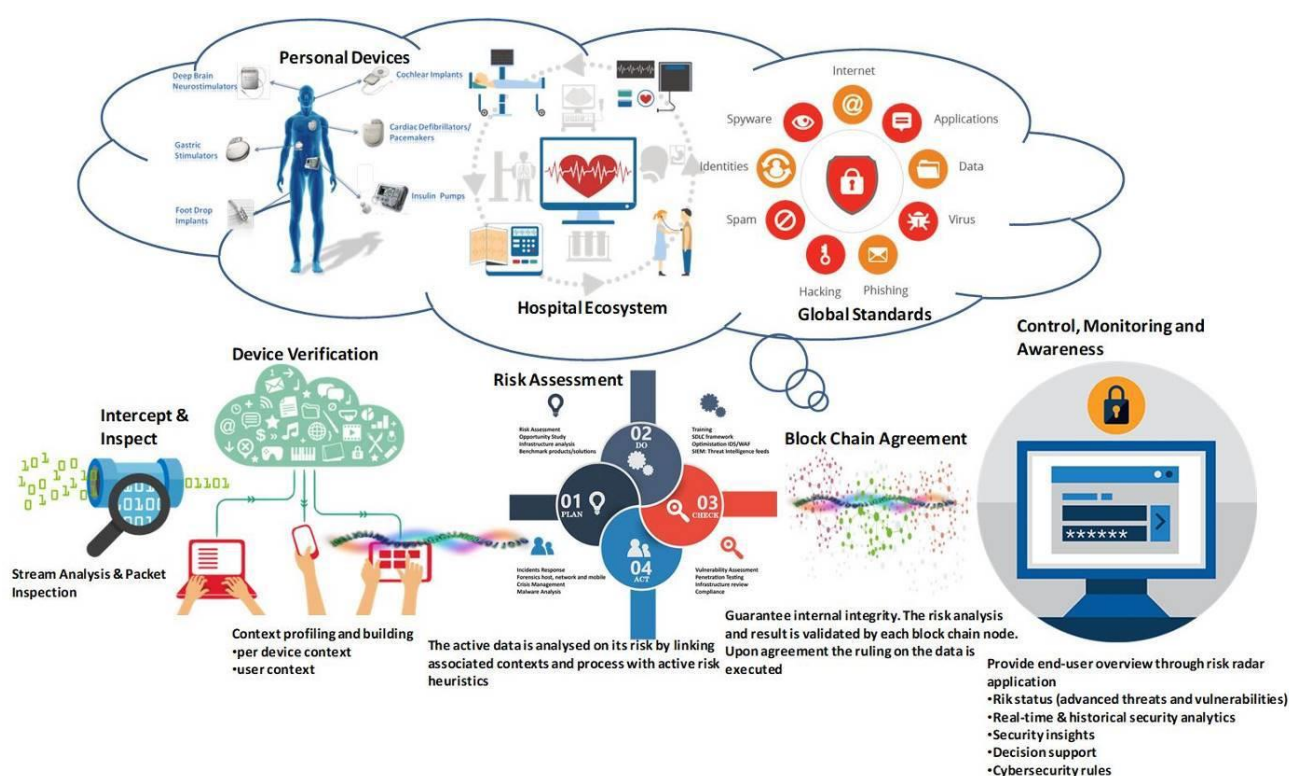


Figure 1: The SPHINX Concept

On the other hand, users may utilise a variety of services that possibly request a share of their personal information to the eHealth service providers for personal medical services. Personalised medical services are highly sensitive to the context and the requirements of the user, while a service may not require the same level of personalisation. Different levels of personalisation are needed in digital Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services, which are highly dependent on types of service and user requirements.

SPHINX embeds an innovative architecture to fulfil the following purposes: (a) scrutable user-side personalisation with dynamic privacy control by exploiting a predefined configuration (b) re-usability of the parts of a user model across different services.



The usability of the SPHINX Platform is paramount to the widespread uptake and usage of the project. It is designed to facilitate the operation of the SPHINX toolkit in real-life conditions allowing regular technology users (not limited to cyber security experts) to operate the system. The relevant SPHINX outcomes from a user's perspective are:

- **Cybersecurity Vulnerability Assessment and Certification Toolkit** that address in a systemic way the healthcare sector including healthcare providers (e.g., hospitals, care centres), manufacturers (e.g., medical devices and devices carrying personal health data), supporting service providers (including IT developers) and consumers (e.g., patients).
- **Interactive Dashboards** that allow users to visually observe and compose their own processes directly on the user interface, enabling intuitive customisation of actions and views related to data events in order to obtain a better granularity and effectiveness of the analysis.
- **Actionable Alerts** that create a sense of urgency and explain why it is important to act or react, summarising the reason for the alert and emphasising exactly what the action response will cause to happen. The alerting sub-system also provides specific means for establishing the authenticity of alerts.
- **Assessment Checklists** that provide users with effective ways of evaluating the state of readiness and the potential exposures and vulnerabilities that were available in the past only to experts, thus increasing awareness of cyber security issues.





3 SPHINX System Architecture and Technical Specifications

3.1 SPHINX High Level Architecture

To facilitate the understanding of the SPHINX architecture, it is possible to identify the main building blocks that provide the required capabilities to make SPHINX a universal cyber security toolkit for the healthcare sector. Hence, the SPHINX building blocks are:

- **Device Verification and Certification** - this block provides functionalities for the verification of the level of cyber security of software applications and devices, including assessment of vulnerabilities. It provides a safe and isolated testing environment where deployment and cyber security testing can be performed. This block also delivers a certification report concerning the compliance with SPHINX standards;
- **Automated Cyber Security Risk Assessment** - this block deals with advanced and automated tools to assess the level of cyber security of a given environment (e.g., healthcare information technology operational environment). It includes tools dealing with protocol analysis, detection of anomalous behaviour, security events, intrusion detection, vulnerability assessment and honeypots. It also includes knowledge repositories and distributed threat registries;
- **Decision Support System and Interactive Dashboards** - this block targets user-side functionalities related with decision support (provide recommendations on suitable courses of action following a cyber incident) and presenting information in an intuitive and actionable way, via (near) real-time interactive dashboards (e.g., multiple panels displaying high-level status, statistical data, charts and histograms);
- **Cyber Security Toolbox** - this block enables users to select SPHINX services and functionalities that best match their needs. It preconfigures the services for deployment and performs associated management operations;
- **Third-party APIs** - this block enables third-party healthcare solution providers to access and interact with the SPHINX Platform and its components;
- **Common Integration Platform** - this block provides a data and processes integration framework and infrastructure for all SPHINX components and systems. It is built upon the basic concepts of virtualisation, containers and Virtual Machines (VMs), allowing each SPHINX component to be deployed independently. It also provides a distributed Message and Service Bus (MSB) and interoperable application programming interfaces (APIs), able to aggregate heterogeneous external services and make use of various data exchange protocols, such as RESTful web services.

SPHINX main building blocks (and comprising components) are depicted in Figure 2. The figure considers the SPHINX Platform running in a **Healthcare Information Technology (IT) Operational Environment** (involving users, workstations, servers, medical devices) in which the SPHINX modules are deployed as part of the **SPHINX Operational Environment**. For purposes of verification and certification, an isolated environment (i.e., **SPHINX Sandboxed Environment**) is created.



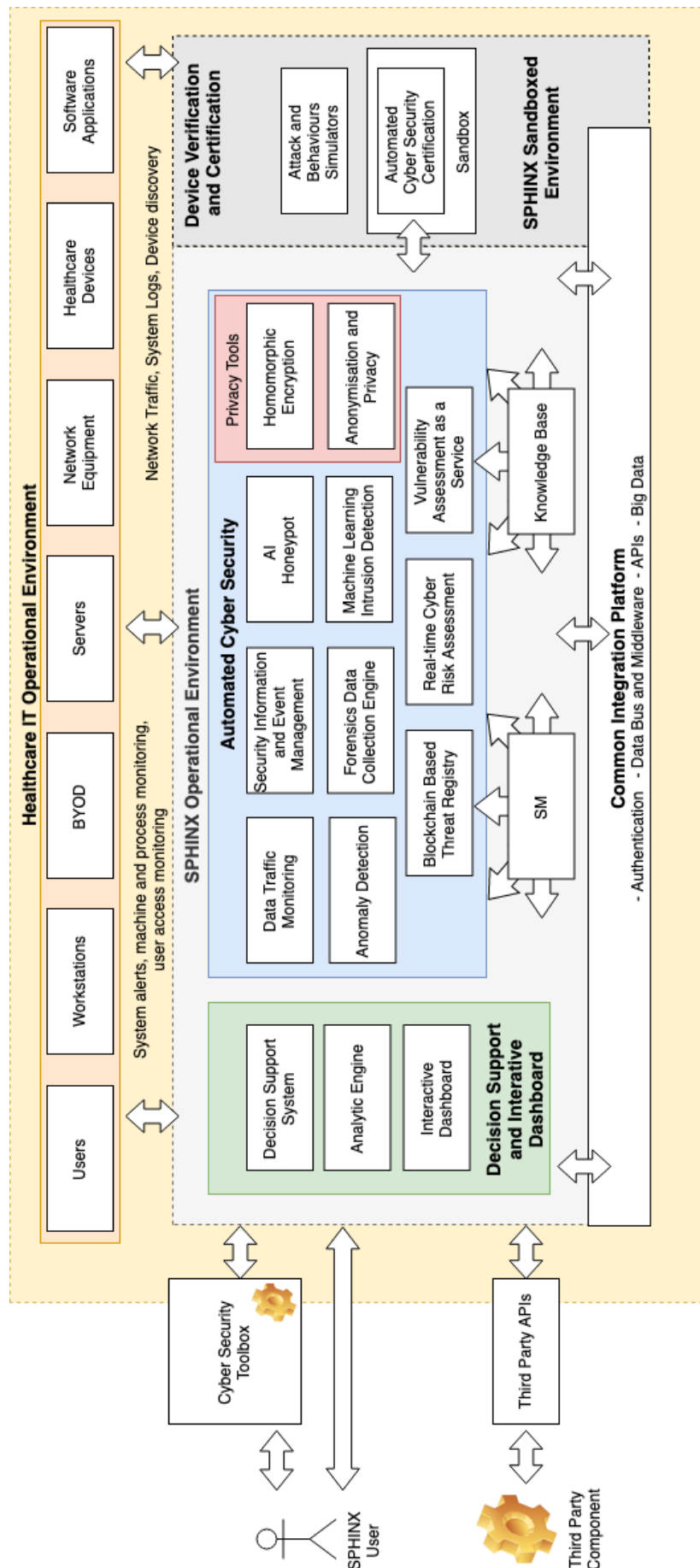


Figure 2: SPHINX Platform High-Level Architecture



3.1.1 SPHINX General Specifications

The set of general requirements described in this section apply to the SPHINX Platform. Notwithstanding, it should be noted that achieving them often required that specific capabilities be present in the involved SPHINX components, which were newly developed within the SPHINX Project.

| SPHINX shall support advanced cyber security capabilities. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-050; STA-F-080 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform delivers a Universal Cyber Security Toolkit for the Health and Care domain, capable of identifying modern and advanced cyber threats, providing a personalised data security management tool, enhancing the cyber protection of the healthcare IT Ecosystem and ensuring the patients' data privacy and integrity. |

| SPHINX shall interact with existing cyber security tools. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-F-015 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-020; STA-F-040; STA-F-060; STA-F-070 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform shall be able to interact with cybersecurity tools (e.g., dealing with detection, monitoring and reaction tools such as firewall, antivirus software, email monitoring software, blockers of unauthorised Internet sites, log analysers) already in use by the organisation. |

| SPHINX shall respond automatically to the changes in the cyber ecosystem. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-040; STA-F-050; STA-F-150; STA-F-210 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform continuously monitors the cyber ecosystem and relevant security events and information are used by the Platform to update its risk status. |

| SPHINX shall enable automated notifications. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-F-030 (previous SYS-F-120) |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-150; STA-F-380; STA-F-460; STA-F-500 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform provides the functionality of automated notifications to the user on system status, alerts and warnings to simplify the relation between the Platform and its users, to ensure users are duly and promptly informed about the system status and to facilitate prompt intervention, whenever required. |





| SPHINX shall enable query features. | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-F-040 (previous SYS-F-130) |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-320; STA-F-560; STA-F-810 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform provides ways for users to search and obtain an overview of results pertaining to the Platform's operations. The results of the queries are stored persistently in the Platform so that they are observed by users. |

| SPHINX shall be inclusive of all users. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-U-010 (previous SYS-F-080) |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-080; STA-F-530; STA-F-800; STA-U-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform is designed to accommodate the needs of different users (from IT managers to IT cyber specialists). |

| SPHINX shall deliver a dashboard for the interaction between the user and the Platform, upholding sound usability criteria. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-U-020 (previous SYS-F-100) |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-080; STA-F-530; STA-F-800; STA-U-010; STA-U-020; STA-U-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform provides a dashboard that enables the user to visualise information about the cyber ecosystem. The design of the dashboard takes into consideration usability requirements to promote user acceptance. |

| SPHINX shall deliver a multilingual Platform. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-U-030 (previous SYS-F-110) |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-030; STA-F-800 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform is pragmatically designed to ease its easy and fast adaptation to different languages, enabling internationalisation by design. |

| SPHINX shall adopt a behavioural design for its advanced security framework. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-U-040 |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-030; STA-L-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform shall adopt a behavioural design, considering how the design can be unobtrusive and shape or be used to influence human/user behaviour concerning the adoption of cybersecurity measures. |



| SPHINX shall adopt an ethical design for its advanced security framework. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-U-050 |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-030; STA-L-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform shall adopt an ethical design, compliant with applicable data protection and privacy standards, respecting the users' effort by means of functionality, convenience and reliability requirements and delivering a delightful user experience. |

| SPHINX system shall timely react to events and information. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-P-010 (previous SYS-F-060) |
| Requirement Type | Performance Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-040; STA-F-050 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform is ready to accommodate soft real-time requirements, providing acceptable response times and meeting pre-defined Quality of Service (QoS) assurance. |

| SPHINX shall be implemented following modular architecture principles. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-M-010 (previous SYS-F-030) |
| Requirement Type | Maintainability and Support Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Modularity is fundamental to ensure the flexibility of the SPHINX Platform. The use of containers, the adoption of loosely coupled middleware and the mapping of SPHINX functionalities to different components are mechanisms to ensure maximum flexibility. |

| SPHINX shall deliver a scalable platform. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-M-020 (previous SYS-F-040) |
| Requirement Type | Maintainability and Support Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform adopts an architectural solution that includes scalability requirements, in order to cope with a potentially high number of inputs and interaction. |

| SPHINX shall be designed to support interoperability of the different SPHINX components. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-M-030 (previous SYS-F-090) |
| Requirement Type | Maintainability and Support Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |





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|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform is designed to enable the SPHINX components to interoperate in order to deliver the required services with high QoS requirements. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| The installation and operation of the SPHINX Platform shall be as transparent as possible to the existing IT network infrastructure. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-M-040 (previous SYS-M-010) |
| Requirement Type | Maintainability and Support Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-030 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | The installation and operation of the SPHINX Platform should not lead to significant changes in the configuration of the ICT infrastructure (e.g. changes in the routing between networks, changes in Internet Protocol or IP address space). In general, changes to network topologies and configurations can lead to service disruption due to misconfiguration in the new settings or significant downtime until the new settings are propagated in the whole network. |

| | |
|--|--|
| When any upgrades, bug and security fixes for the SPHINX Platform become available, the relevant IT staff should be notified and enabled to install it. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-M-050 (previous SYS-M-020) |
| Requirement Type | Maintainability and Support Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-020; STA-M-040 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | When any upgrades, bug and security fixes for the SPHINX Platform become available, the relevant IT staff should be notified and enabled to install it. An important part of cyber security programs is the timely application of upgrades and fixes. It is therefore important to notify the relevant IT personnel of upgrades, bug and security fixes and offer them a way to automatically or manually install the available updates and fixes. |

| | |
|--|---|
| SPHINX shall provide data management functions to control sensitive data. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-010 (previous SYS-F-140) |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-010; STA-S-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform enables users to control collected sensitive data, including accessing it, rectifying it, blocking it and deleting it. SPHINX delivers a user-centric approach that empowers the users to have an active role in data management. |

| | |
|--|--|
| SPHINX shall enforce secure management and storage of user credentials. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-020 (previous SYS-S-010) |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform enforces proper security mechanisms for managing (add, edit, modify, delete) and storing user credentials, providing role-based authentication and |



| | |
|--|--|
| | authorisation system, allowing the users to access the SPHINX services in a secure manner. |
|--|--|

| SPHINX shall enable sessions management and re-authentication with single sign-on. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-030 (previous SYS-S-020) |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform undertakes responsibility for managing all user sessions, providing single sign-on capabilities. Once authenticated, users can navigate and submit requests in the Platform without having to provide again their credentials. |

| SPHINX shall securely manage and store information on user account databases. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-040 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The users' information (e.g., login credentials) is required for the operation of the SPHINX Platform. The SPHINX Platform stores users' information with appropriate security mechanisms. |

| SPHINX shall allow update and deletion of the information on user account databases. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-050 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-030; STA-S-050 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform allows the editing of the users' accounts information stored in databases and their deletion, when required. |

| SPHINX shall ensure that all collected sensitive information is encrypted and properly secured to avoid disclosure to unauthorised parties. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-060 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-010; STA-S-020; STA-S-040; STA-L-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform collects sensitive data that is adequately encrypted, processed and stored in a secure way. |

| SPHINX shall ensure that only authorised and authenticated users may access the system. | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Requirement ID | SYS-S-070 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform shall implement Authentication and Authorisation Access Control (AAAC) mechanisms to ensure that only authorised and authenticated users are capable of accessing the organisation's SPHINX System. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| SPHINX shall be designed to operate at a European level. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-L-010 (previous SYS-F-050) |
| Requirement Type | Legal and Ethical Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform observes the applicable national and European legal requirements that sustains the capability to operate in European Union (EU) Member States. |

| | |
|---|--|
| SPHINX shall include privacy features. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-L-020 (previous SYS-F-070) |
| Requirement Type | Legal and Ethical Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-010; STA-L-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform enables users to assess the privacy level ensured by the Platform during their operations, with minimum effort. Simple and intuitive controls highlight SPHINX's privacy compliance. |

| | |
|--|--|
| SPHINX shall process data in compliance to applicable European and national legal requirements. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-L-030 (previous SYS-L-010) |
| Requirement Type | Legal and Ethical Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform is designed taking into consideration the nature of the data collected and the applicable legal requirements, both at national and international levels, to ensure legal compliance in terms of data processing. |

| | |
|---|--|
| SPHINX shall apply data protection mechanisms. | |
| Requirement ID | SYS-L-040 |
| Requirement Type | Legal and Ethical Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX Platform shall include privacy by design and security by design data protection mechanisms to ensure the lawful and transparent processing of data, including sensitive or personal data. |

Finally, as part of the SPHINX general specifications, it is also relevant to note that there is a set of ethical requirements that apply to the SPHINX Platform. These requirements are described in Deliverable D2.2 - Ethical Requirements.





3.2 SPHINX Architectural Components and Technical Specifications

Having a modular architecture, each SPHINX system component implements a specific capability of SPHINX; Notwithstanding, the main architectural building blocks require a decomposed perspective to ascertain the variety of components working together to deliver the capability that each high-level module aims to achieve.

Overall, the SPHINX System comprises the following components:

- Vulnerability Assessment as a Service (VAaaS) led by HMU;
- Data Traffic Monitoring (DTM) led by SIMAVI;
- Anomaly Detection (AD) led by SIMAVI;
- Real-time Cyber Risk Assessment (RCRA) led by NTUA;
- Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) led by PDMFC;
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Honeypot (HP) led by FINT;
- Machine Learning-empowered Intrusion Detection (MLID) led by AIDEAS;
- Forensic Data Collection Engine (FDCE) led by NTUA;
- Homomorphic Encryption (HE) led by TEC;
- Anonymisation and Privacy (AP) led by PDMFC;
- Decision Support System (DSS) led by KT;
- Analytic Engine (AE) led by KT;
- Interactive Dashboards (ID) led by SIMAVI;
- Attack and Behaviour Simulators (ABS) led by NTUA;
- Sandbox (SB) led by PDMFC;
- Knowledge Base (KB) led by FINT;
- Blockchain Based Threats Registry (BBTR) led by TECNALIA;
- Cyber Security Toolbox (CST) led by HMU;
- SPHINX Application Programming Interface for Third Parties (S-API) led by EDGE;
- Service Manager (SM) led by ICOM;
- Common Integration Platform (CIP) led by ICOM.

Next, a set of specific logical components that constitute the main modules of the SPHINX architecture and their associated technical specifications is presented.

3.2.1 Vulnerability Assessment as a Service

The Vulnerability Assessment as a Service (VAaaS) component dynamically assesses network entities against certain vulnerabilities, produces detailed reports of its findings based on STIX 2.0, scores the results based on the CVSS v3 scoring system (that reflects the level of security of that particular entity), and propagates those reports to the Kafka service.

The component monitors the underlying network and discovers all existing and newly introduced network entities:

- Monitoring is performed by utilising a VAaaS-internal discovery service;
- VAaaS correlates the discovered services by querying the SPHINX Knowledge Base and external vulnerability databases;
- VAaaS uses the correlation between the running services and their relevant reported vulnerabilities to determine the entity's CVSS score;



- The component outputs a CVSS score for each assessed entity. The score reflects the overall level of security of the assessed entity and its vulnerabilities;
- The component also produces detailed reports based on STIX 2.0 format;
- Results are propagated to the to the Kafka service.

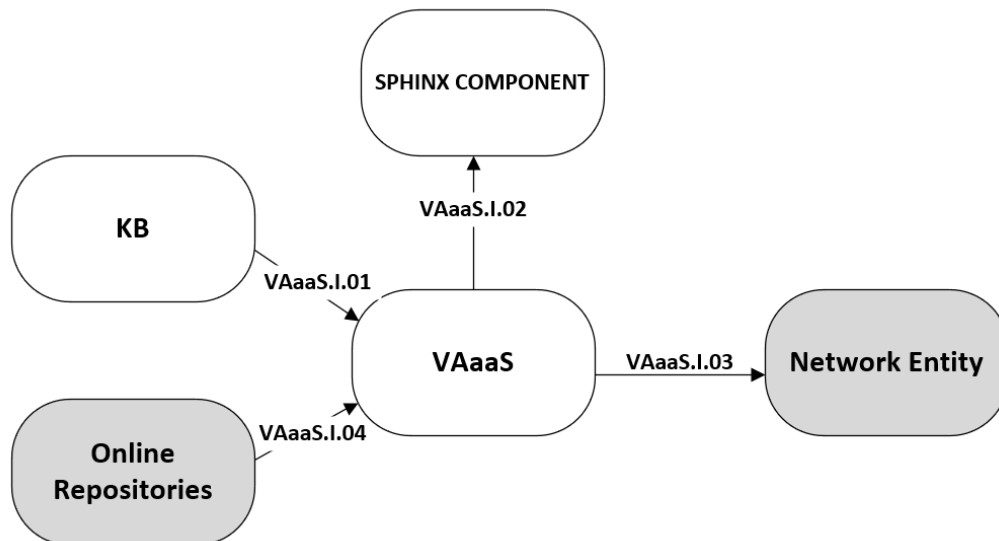


Figure 3: SPHINX VAaaS Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the VAaaS component are as follows.

| VAaaS shall retrieve the list of connected entities in near real time from a discovery service. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | VAAAS-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-120 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The VAaaS performs assessment in network entities. For that, it needs to know which entities are connected. For this purpose, the VAaaS module queries a discovery service to retrieve the list of connected network entities. |

| VAaaS shall perform a vulnerability assessment in networked entities. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | VAAAS-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-070 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | VAaaS assesses non-assessed network entities the moment they are introduced and periodically re-assesses existing ones against cyber security vulnerabilities in order to determine their CVSS score and a detailed list of vulnerabilities. |

| VAaaS shall produce a CVSS score and a report depicting the entities' vulnerability status. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | VAAAS-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-110; STA-F-120; STA-F-130 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | As a result of the assessment operation, the VAaaS outputs a score depicting the entity's vulnerability status, based on a standardised scoring system (CVSS v3 ¹). VAaaS also produces a detailed assessment report in a structured format (e.g. JSON). Specifically, the report contains a list of the discovered vulnerabilities and proposed mitigation actions for each of those vulnerabilities, in order to assist system administrators to decide and proceed with the most appropriate mitigation actions. |

| VAaaS shall acquire attack patterns from the SPHINX KB and public repositories. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | VAAAS-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-110; STA-F-120 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | In order to keep up to date on the latest attacks and vulnerabilities, the VAaaS retrieves attack patterns from the SPHINX KB and public cyber threat intelligence repositories, each time an assessment is initiated. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX VAaaS component are:

- VAAAS.I.01: Knowledge Base Interface**
 This interface allows the VAaaS component to receive attack patterns from the KB repository.
 - Input:** List of attack patterns (Nessus Attack Scripting Language or `nasl`² files or list of files);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: KB.I.02.
- VAAAS.I.02: Vulnerability Assessment Kafka Interface**
 This interface allows the VAaaS component to provide a detailed report of the vulnerability assessment of a network entity to the Kafka component.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Detailed report of the vulnerability assessment of a network entity (JSON file).
 Related Interface: Kafka topic (subscribed by DSS, SB, RCRA and ID).
- VAAAS.I.03: Network Entity Interface**
 This interface allows the VAaaS component to interact with each networked entity for purposes of conducting vulnerability assessment procedures and assess the connected entities in terms of cyber security vulnerabilities.
 - Input:** Response from networked entity to VAaaS attack patterns (network traffic);
 - Output:** Set of attack patterns (network traffic).
 Related Interface: Not applicable.

¹ <https://www.first.org/cvss/v3.0/specification-document>.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nessus_Attack_Scripting_Language.



- **VAAAS.I.04: Online Repositories Interface**

This interface allows the VAaaS component to receive attack patterns from public online repositories (external component).

- **Input:** Set of attack patterns (network traffic);
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| VAAAS.I.01 | VAaaS and KB | The KB contains attack patterns useful for the VAaaS assessment process. | List of attack patterns. |
| VAAAS.I.02 | VAaaS and Kafka (subscribed by DSS, SB, RCRA and ID) | VAaaS exports a detailed report of the assessment conducted to the Kafka to allow the dissemination of the reports. | Vulnerability score (i.e., CVSS) and a detailed report describing the assessment results. |
| VAAAS.I.03 | VAaaS and Network Entity (external components) | Based on the list of connected network entities, the VAaaS assesses network entities. | Network traffic related with (1) attack patterns and (2) respective response from entities. |
| VAAAS.I.04 | VAaaS and Online Repositories (external components) | Online repositories contain attack patterns useful for the VAaaS assessment process. | List of attack patterns. |

Table 2: SPHINX VAaaS Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs:

The following third-party APIs are accessible to third-parties:

- **VAAAS.API.01: VAaaS Operational Status**

This interface is used to provide information concerning the VAAAS status.

- **Input:** Not applicable.
- **Output:** VAaaS status.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **VAAAS.API.02: VAaaS Vulnerability Report**

This interface is used to receive vulnerability reports from the VAAAS.

- **Input:** Computer name or address (Optional).
- **Output:** VAaaS generated reports (Vulnerability score (i.e., CVSS) and a detailed report describing the assessment results).

Related Interface: VAAAS.I.2.

- **VAAAS.API.03: VAaaS Task List**

This interface is used to retrieve a list of tasks executed by VAAAS.

- **Input:** Not applicable.
- **Output:** VAaaS list of tasks.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **VAAAS.API.04: VAaaS New Task**

This interface is used to request the initiation of a vulnerability assessment in a given system.

- **Input:** Information concerning the system to undergo a vulnerability assessment.
- **Output:** VAaaS new task information.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **VAAAS.API.05: VAaaS Task Status**

This interface is used to request the status of an ongoing task.

- **Input:** Information concerning the task.
- **Output:** Task status.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

3.2.2 Data Traffic Monitoring

Supported by multiple protocols based on pre-defined rules and filters, the Data Traffic Monitoring (DTM) component tracks the devices that are connected to a network, the data those devices are accessing and how much bandwidth each device is using. Moreover, it captures packets in real-time and displays them in a human-readable format, in order to detect suspicious programmes' network traffic, analyse the traffic flow on the network or troubleshoot network problems.

The main functionalities of the Data Traffic Monitoring (DTM) component are:

- capturing traffic from multiple protocols;
- analysing packets and files in different formats;
- identifying traffic information for every user and source;
- highlighting unusual communication/activity according to the rules and filters defined.

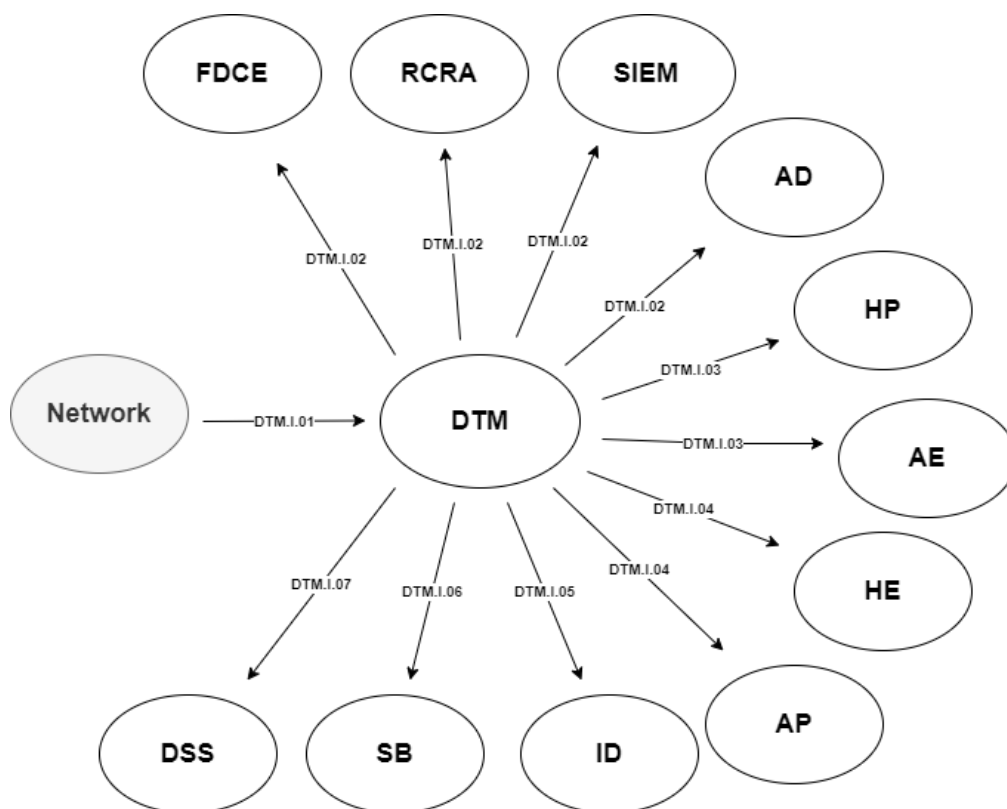


Figure 4: SPHINX DTM Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the DTM component are as follows.

| DTM shall collect traffic data of the user's network. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DTM-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-050; STA-F-200; STA-F-300 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | DTM captures traffic information from multiple protocols in the entity's network. |

| DTM shall identify and discriminate traffic data for each user and source. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | DTM-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-290 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | DTM identifies the source (device or computer) and user generating the traffic. This discrimination is important to identify sources of anomalies and suspicious behaviour. |

| DTM shall generate statistical information concerning traffic data. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DTM-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-290; STA-F-300 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | DTM provides statistical information concerning connected devices such as: connected users, data access type, bandwidth used. |

| DTM shall analyse collected data traffic in order to identify unusual communication/activity. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DTM-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-200; STA-F-460 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | DTM identifies unusual communication/activity according to the rules and filters defined. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX DTM component are:

- **DTM.I.01: Network Interface**

This interface allows the DTM component to collect and analyse traffic data from the network.

- **Input:** Data traffic;



- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **DTM.I.02: Abnormal and Suspicious Traffic Activity Interface**

This interface allows the DTM to send information to the AD, the FDCE, the RCRA and the SIEM components regarding detected anomalies and suspicious activity in the network, including packets and files on traffic data and unusual activities concerning users and their connections.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Abnormal and suspicious traffic data.

Related Interfaces: AD.I.02; FDCE.I.01; RCRA.I.01; SIEM.I.04.

- **DTM.I.03: Honeypots Interface**

This interface allows the DTM to send abnormal and suspicious traffic data (data files and packets) to the HP component to further detect and analyse possible attacks.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Abnormal and suspicious traffic data.

Related Interface: HP.I.08.

- **DTM.I.04: Anonymisation Interface**

This interface allows the DTM to send sensitive traffic information (data files and packets) to the AP or to the HE components for anonymisation and encryption.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Sensitive traffic data.

Related Interfaces: AP.I.03; HE.I.01.

- **DTM.I.05: Statistical Information Interface**

This interface allows the DTM to send statistical information concerning collected data traffic (e.g., number of connected devices and connected users, data access type, bandwidth used per device and per user) to the ID component.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Statistics on collected data traffic.

Related Interface: ID.I.01.

- **DTM.I.06: Sandbox Interface**

This interface allows the DTM to send traffic information, including with respect to connected devices, to the SB component, in order to support the complete mapping of the IT infrastructure. This information is used specifically for intrusion detection and alerts on Denial of Service attacks.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Network and data traffic.

Related Interface: SB.I.09.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| DTM.I.01 | DTM and Network (external component) | The DTM collects and analyses traffic data from the network to highlight suspicious communications. | Traffic data. |
| DTM.I.02 | DTM and AD | The DTM sends relevant data on abnormal and suspicious network traffic activity to the | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |





| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--|--|
| | | AD component for anomaly detection analyses. | |
| DTM.I.02 | DTM and FDCE | The DTM sends relevant data on abnormal and suspicious network traffic activity to the FDCE component for forensic analyses. | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |
| DTM.I.02 | DTM and RCRA | The DTM sends relevant data on abnormal and suspicious network traffic data to the RCRA component to update the precursors. | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |
| DTM.I.02 | DTM and SIEM | The DTM sends relevant data on unusual network traffic activity (including user identity, network activities, vulnerability state) to the SIEM component for registry. | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |
| DTM.I.03 | DTM and HP | The DTM sends relevant data on unusual network traffic activity to the HP component for further detection and analysis of possible attacks. | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |
| DTM.I.04 | DTM and AP | The DTM sends data packets containing sensitive (personal) information to the AP component for anonymisation purposes. | Sensitive traffic data. |
| DTM.I.04 | DTM and HE | The DTM sends data packets containing sensitive (personal) information to the HE component for encryption purposes. | Sensitive traffic data. |
| DTM.I.05 | DTM and ID | The DTM sends relevant statistical information concerning collected traffic data to the ID component so that it may be presented to users. | Statistical information on collected traffic data. |
| DTM.I.06 | DTM and SB | The DTM sends to the SB components traffic information, including with respect to connected devices, to support the complete mapping of the IT infrastructure. | Network and traffic data. |
| DTM.I.07 | DTM and DSS | The DTM sends traffic information to DSS components as well as unusual network traffic | Network data and abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |





| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | activity for further detection and analysis of possible attacks. | |
|--|--|--|--|

Table 3: SPHINX DTM Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:

- DTM.API.01: Abnormal and Suspicious Packet Activity Interface**
 This interface is used by the DTM to enable third parties to receive information regarding detected anomalous or suspicious data traffic.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Abnormal and suspicious traffic information.
 Related Interface: DTM.I.02.
- DTM.API.02: Statistical Traffic Information Interface**
 This interface is used by the DTM to enable third parties to receive statistical information on collected data traffic (e.g., number of connected devices and connected users, data access type, bandwidth used per device and per user).
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Statistical information concerning collected data traffic.
 Related Interface: DTM.I.05.

3.2.3 Anomaly Detection

The Anomaly Detection (AD) component deals with identification of events, activities or observations that raise suspicion by differing significantly from the normal infrastructure/component/user behaviour.

The main functionalities of this component are:

- detection of ecosystem disturbances;
- implement a set of rules based on the characteristics of previous system events, user activities and incidents;
- provide an alert engine to raise notifications.

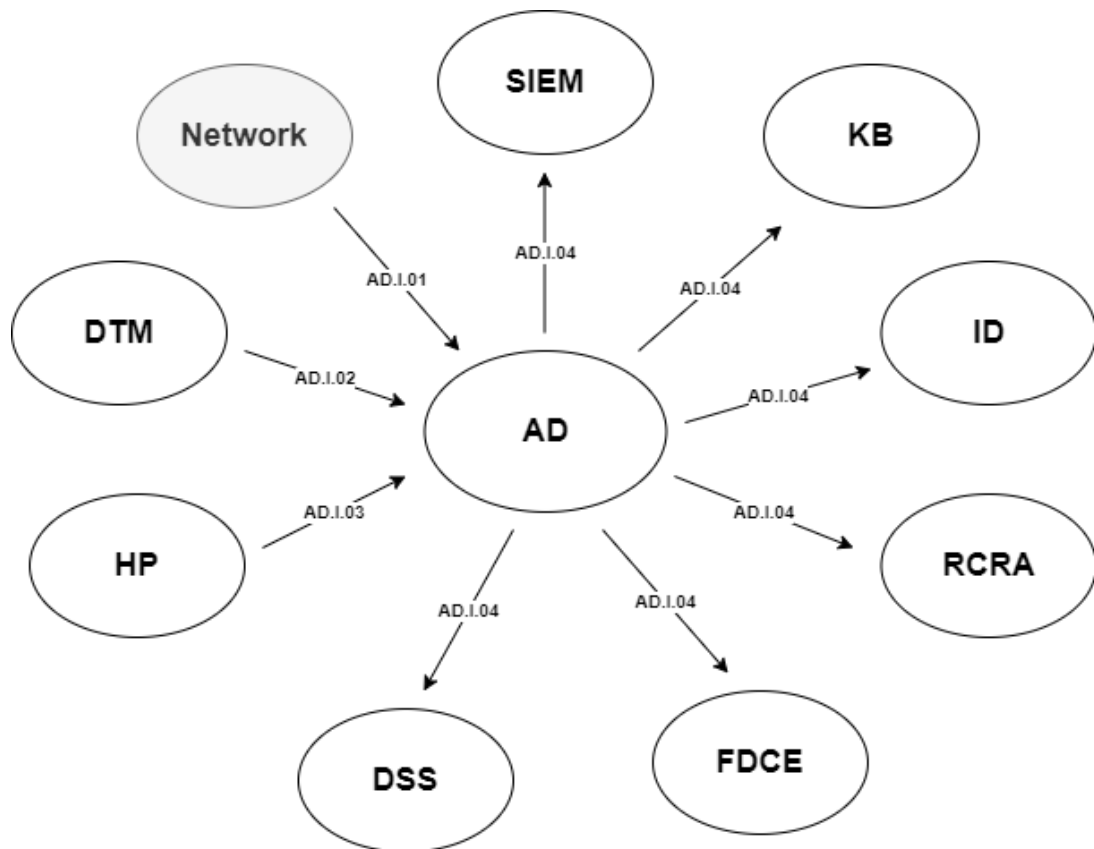


Figure 5: SPHINX AD Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the AD component are as follows.

| AD shall detect threats concerning unusual system events and user activity. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | AD-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-050; STA-F-200 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The AD component empowers the investigation of possible advanced threats, targeting the effective characterisation of flow messages in terms of “typical” and “abnormal” behaviours concerning the infrastructure (system) and the users. |

| AD shall enable the near real-time extraction of spatiotemporal statistics. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AD-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-700 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The AD component focuses on the near real-time extraction of spatiotemporal statistics, such as the connectivity between pair of IP-enabled components |



| | |
|--|---|
| | (computers, IT devices & Artificial Intelligence or AI Honeypots) available in the core network system. |
|--|---|

| AD shall deliver lightweight and resource-efficient intrusion detection mechanisms based on a user profile and detection of suspicious behaviour. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AD-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-210 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Based on the established device communications profiling, the AD component is able to early identify invasions and then to classify them. SPHINX deals with the delivery of lightweight and resource-efficient intrusion detection mechanisms that can be applied by design to the future IT infrastructure. |

| AD shall deliver the profiling of user behaviour. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AD-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-210 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Based on registered device profiles, the AD component is able to classify generated abnormal traffic and cyber-attack patterns in order to detect suspicious user behaviour and perform automated intrusion detection. |

| AD shall provide an alert engine to raise notifications. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | AD-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-460 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The AD component is able to provide an early warning engine for the detection of suspicious user or network activity, massive data processing and unusual access patterns, having different warning levels for an efficient situation identification. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX AD component are:

- AD.I.01: Network Interface**
 This interface allows the AD to retrieve data inputs from the network concerning unusual events and user behaviours to perform anomaly detection analyses.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Unusual network data.
 Related Interface: Not applicable.
- AD.I.02: Abnormal and Suspicious Traffic Activity Interface**
 This interface allows the AD to receive information on suspicious traffic data (data traffic packets) from the DTM component to perform anomaly detection analyses.





- **Input:** Suspicious traffic data;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DTM.I.02.

- **AD.I.03: Honeypots Interface**

This interface allows the AD to receive information on potential new cyber-attacks (unknown or unregistered advanced threats) from the HP component to perform anomaly detection analyses.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Collected potential cyber-attack data.

Related Interface: HP.I.02.

- **AD.I.04: Anomaly Detection Interface**

This interface allows the AD to provide to the FDCE, the SIEM, the RCRA, the KB and the ID components information on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviour that comprise a threat to the IT infrastructure.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour.

Related Interfaces: FDCE.I.01; RCRA.I.01; SIEM.I.02; KB.I.01; ID.I.03, DSS.I.02.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| AD.I.01 | AD and Network | The AD component collects data from the network (unusual events and user behaviours) and processes it to identify anomalies. | Network data on unusual events and user behaviours. |
| AD.I.02 | AD and DTM | The AD component collects suspicious data traffic and information from the DTM and processes it to identify anomalies. | Suspicious traffic data. |
| AD.I.03 | AD and HP | The AD component collects data and information on potential cyber-attacks from the HP and processes it to identify anomalies (new and advanced threats). | Potential cyber-attacks data. |
| AD.I.04 | AD and FDCE | The AD component sends to the FDCE relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours to perform forensic analyses. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| AD.I.04 | AD and RCRA | The AD component sends to the RCRA relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours to update RCRA's precursors. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| AD.I.04 | AD and SIEM | The AD component sends to SIEM relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours for registration purposes. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |





| | | | |
|---------|------------|---|--|
| AD.I.04 | AD and KB | The AD component sends to the KB relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours for storage purposes. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| AD.I.04 | AD and ID | The AD component sends to the ID relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours for displaying to users. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| AD.I.04 | AD and DSS | The AD component sends to the DSS relevant data on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviours for displaying to users. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |

Table 4: SPHINX AD Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party API is accessible:

- **AD.API.01: Anomaly Detection Interface**

This interface is used by the AD to enable third parties to receive information regarding detected anomalies in system and user behaviour that constitute a threat.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour.

Related Interface: AD.I.04.

3.2.4 Real-time Cyber Risk Assessment

The Real-time Cyber Risk Assessment (RCRA) component within SPHINX periodically assesses the risk of cyber security incidents, determining their probable consequences and presenting warning levels and alerts for users.

The RCRA draws on information from

- available in logging systems,
- extracted from other SPHINX components (AD, DTM, HP and SIEM) and
- provided by other intrusion detection systems (external components to SPHINX)
- from its own security protocol analysis capabilities.

to periodically assess risk in relation with cyber security incidents, using the corresponding precursors.

The RCRA has embedded security protocol analysis capabilities that allow the enrichment of the available information regarding the security protocols used in the system, as well as the calculation of the risk of these protocols' security capabilities being breached.

Essentially, based on the available data, the RCRA component:

- makes forecasts of various types of cyber-attacks and incidents;
- makes forecasts of the multiple consequences of such attacks;
- aggregates such consequences in a utility model; and
- aggregates the above three components to assess the risk.



Indices for each of the relevant consequences are also provided and states of security level are introduced. By using risk assessment methodologies, the security level for each object is defined, leading to a multi-perspective evaluation model. Moreover, the assessment model is not restrained in defining the level of security in the present, but for the near future too, through forecasting techniques, like variations of exponential smoothing and state-of-the-art techniques, like Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM). In particular, the attacks and their consequences are foreseen, and a *future* risk assessment takes place, based on the aggregated consequences. Warning levels for the risk indices are also determined, in order to alert the users when needed.

A tentative approach at each timeframe is:

- Obtain the precursors;
- If observed precursors lay above the corresponding upper forecast, raise an alarm;
- Compute the risk indices;
- If risk indices lay above the corresponding upper forecast or the warning level, raise an alarm;
- Update forecasting models and issue forecasts for indicators and risk indices;
- If warning levels are covered by intervals, raise an alarm.

Depending on the alarm, different decisions need to be made. A generic model for incident handling and risk management is implemented allowing to properly handle warnings.

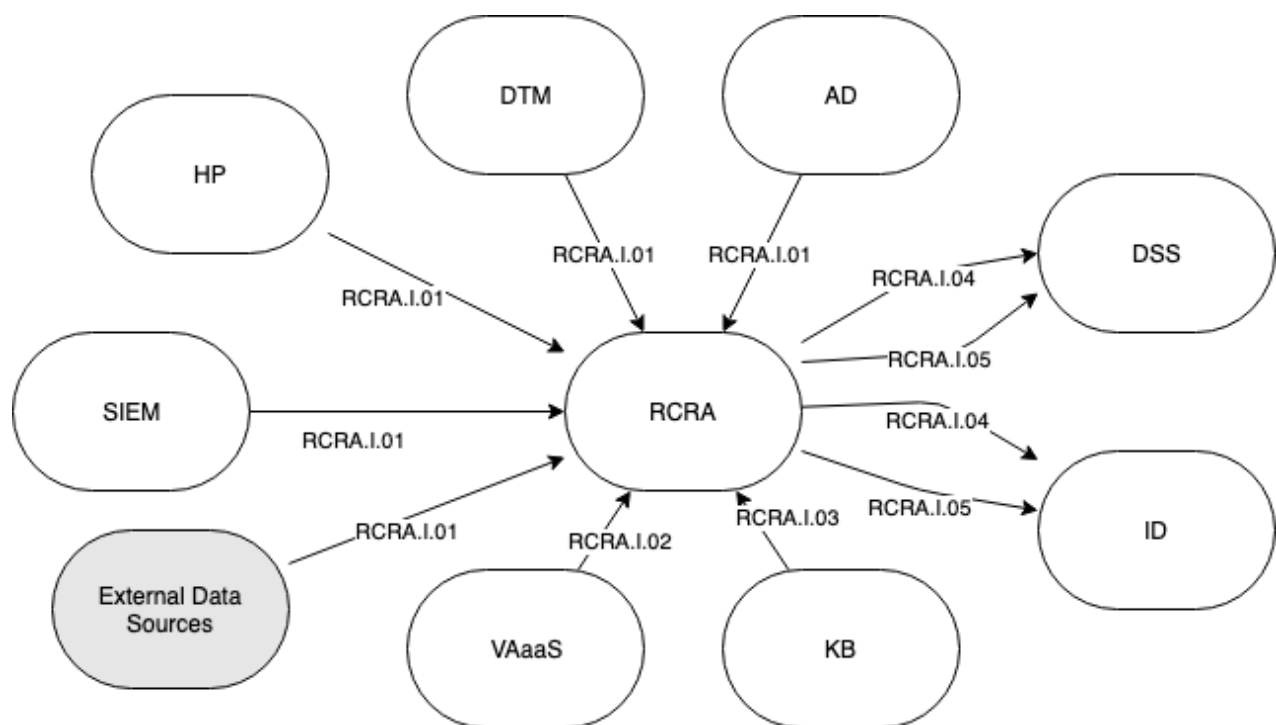


Figure 6: SPHINX RCRA Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the RCRA component are as follows.



| The RCRA shall periodically assess the risk of cyber security incidents for each and every object of the system. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | RCRA-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-060; STA-F-140; STA-F-150 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | RCRA receives information from several SPHINX components and external components to feed forecast modules that periodically update the corresponding precursors and provide a risk assessment report. |

| The RCRA shall generate forecasts of cyber security incidents and their associated consequences. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | RCRA-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-140; STA-F-270 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | For each probable cyber security incident, the RCRA component generates forecasts of its consequences, such as security protocol breaches, which are aggregated for determining the risk for the user. |

| The RCRA shall make forecasts for the near future. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | RCRA-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-270 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Forecasting techniques are used (variations of exponential smoothing, LSTM) to make a projection of the level of security in the near future. The module aims to foresee potential attacks and their consequences leading to a <i>near-future</i> risk assessment. |

| The RCRA shall generate notifications and alerts aimed for the SPHINX users. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | RCRA-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-460; STA-F-500 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Warning levels for the risk indices are determined. In case the computed values do not lay within acceptable levels, an alert is triggered to inform users that an action might be needed. The alerting/warning procedure is designed to facilitate a prompt incident handling response by users. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX RCRA component are:

- **RCRA.I.01: Threat Events Identification Interface**
This interface allows the RCRA to receive information on identified threat events from the SPHINX AD, DTM, HP and SIEM components and external components to update the precursors.
 - **Input:** Information on threats and threat events.





- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interfaces: AD.I.04; DTM.I.02; SIEM.I.05.

- **RCRA.I.02: Vulnerability Assessment Results Interface**

This interface allows the RCRA to receive and identify vulnerabilities of networked components.

- **Input:** Detailed report of the vulnerability assessment of a network entity (e.g., JSON file).
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: VAaaS.I.06.

- **RCRA.I.03: KB Interface**

This interface allows the RCRA to retrieve information (e.g., threats taxonomy, consequences of attacks) from the SPHINX Knowledge Base to update the precursors.

- **Input:** Cyber-attacks information;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: KB.I.02.

- **RCRA.I.04: Cyber Risk Assessment Interface**

This interface allows the RCRA to provide information to SPHINX DSS and ID components regarding the current status of existing risks in the system (including associated consequences and indices), according to the latest data.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** List of cyber risks.

Related Interfaces: DSS.I.04; ID.I.08.

- **RCRA.I.05: Cyber Risk Warning and Alerting Interface**

This interface allows the RCRA to provide warnings and alerts on forecasted cyber security incidents (including indices and consequences) to the SPHINX DSS and ID components, supporting the user's decision-making process.

- **Input:** Not applicable.
- **Output:** Warnings and alerts on forecasted cyber security incidents.

Related Interfaces: DSS.I.07; ID.I.09.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| RCRA.I.01 | RCRA and AD | The RCRA receives information on anomalies detected in system and user behaviours from the AD to update its precursors. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| RCRA.I.01 | RCRA and DTM | The RCRA receives information on abnormal and suspicious traffic data from the DTM to update the precursors. | Abnormal and suspicious traffic data. |
| RCRA.I.01 | RCRA and HP | The RCRA receives information on new cyber-attacks (unknown or unregistered advanced threats) from the HP to update the precursors. | Potential cyber-attacks data. |



| | | | |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| RCRA.I.01 | RCRA and SIEM | The RCRA receives information on the system's security information and events from the SIEM to update the precursors. | System security information and events. |
| RCRA.I.01 | RCRA and Intrusion Detection Systems (external components) | The RCRA receives information on cyber security threats and events from external intrusion detection systems to update the precursors. | Cyber security threats and events. |
| RCRA.I.02 | RCRA and VAaaS | The RCRA receives identified vulnerabilities of networked components from the VAaaS to update the precursors. | Detailed vulnerability assessment report of a network entity. |
| RCRA.I.03 | RCRA and KB | The RCRA retrieves information on previous cyber-attacks from the KB to update the precursors. | Previous cyber-attacks information (e.g., threats taxonomy, consequences of attacks). |
| RCRA.I.04 | RCRA and DSS | The RCRA sends information about the system's security risk level to the DSS to support decision-making. | System security risk level (list of risks, including indices and consequences). |
| RCRA.I.04 | RCRA and ID | The RCRA sends information about the system's security risk level to the ID for user awareness. | System security risk level (list of risks, including indices and consequences). |
| RCRA.I.05 | RCRA and DSS | The RCRA sends warnings and alerts on forecasted risks to the DSS to support decision-making. | Warnings and alert notifications on forecasted risks. |
| RCRA.I.05 | RCRA and ID | The RCRA sends warnings and alerts on forecasted risks to the ID for user awareness. | Warnings and alert notifications on forecasted risks. |

Table 5: SHPINX RCRA Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

There are no third-party APIs identified for the RCRA component.

3.2.5 Security Information and Event Management

The Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) component provides the following features:

- Security Information Management (SIM);
- Security Event Management (SEM);
- Define a common taxonomy for security events and incidents;
- Define a common information model leveraged on the industry and government published standards.



The SPHINX SIEM component implements a query interface where other components or users are able to distinguish between normal and abnormal operations. To complement the data search, visual analytics methods are made available to visually depict characteristics that assist the human operator in discovering attacks and their causes.

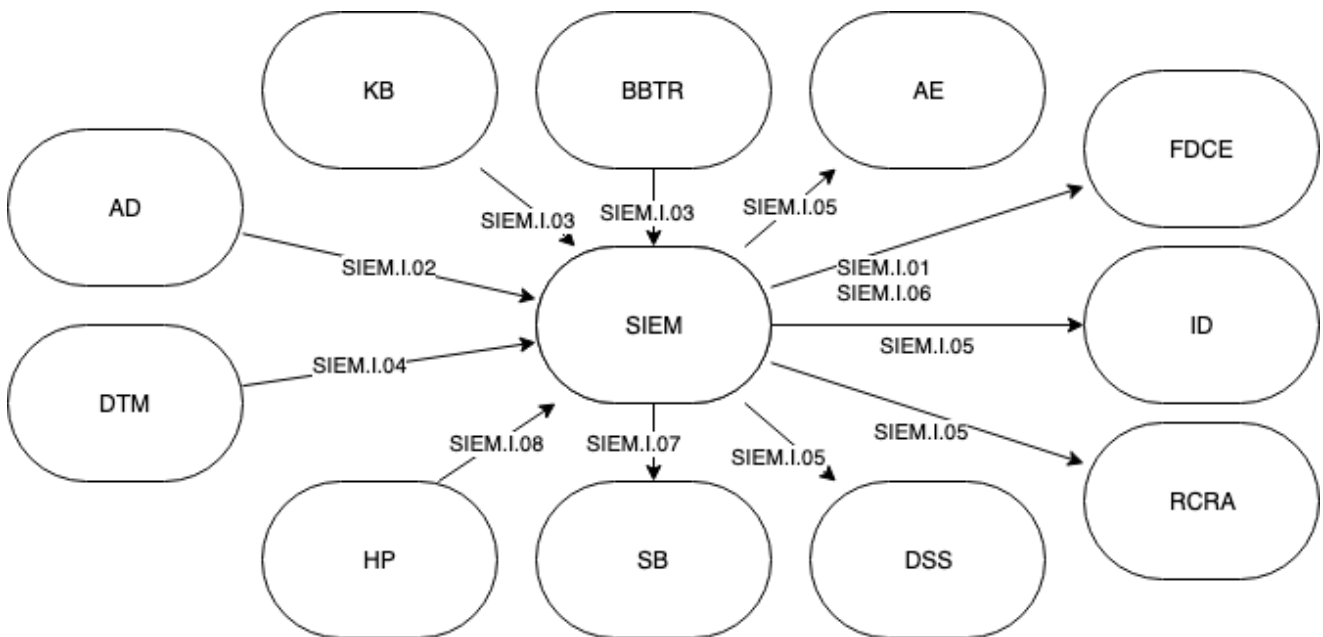


Figure 7: SPHINX SIEM Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the SIEM component are as follows.

| SIEM shall support a common taxonomy for security events and incidents. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-250; STA-F-260 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM supports a defined taxonomy of security events and fields as a common way to represent events and fields from multiple components that facilitates data correlation. |

| SIEM shall provide transparent data collection and handling. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-100; STA-F-290 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM provides retrieval, aggregation, sorting, filtering and analysis of data across all distributed SPHINX components. A global view, having the ability to search, report and analyse data of different components, is a key function of SIEM's security intelligence. |

| SIEM shall deliver industry-based log collection methods. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-290 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM supports industry-based log collection methods (syslog, WMI, JDBC, SNMP, Checkpoint LEA), aiming to simplify and accelerate the setup of the component in an existing IT infrastructure and the interoperability with other systems. |

| SIEM shall provide a dashboard for the display of network and security information. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-220 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM provides a dashboard for the easy visualisation of security and network information, delivering fast insights on prevailing security incidents. Information for simple queries can be delivered locally, whereas complex correlations are consumed from the ID component. |

| SIEM shall deliver correlated security and threat intelligence data feeds. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-070 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-240; STA-F-290 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM integrates security and threat intelligence feeds (i.e., geographic mapping, known botnet channels, known hostile networks) to support the correlation of internal activity with external threats. These data feeds are updated automatically. |

| SIEM shall deliver dynamic query capabilities. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SIEM-F-080 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-560 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | SIEM provides a search interface with a domain specific language that allows other components or users to search through its events and perform transformations on the retrieved. Provided are at least the following functionalities: time-based queries, row and column filtering, statistical aggregations, event correlation, event enrichment. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX SIEM component are:

- **SIEM.I.01: Security Incident-Related Information Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to deliver incident-related information and associated data (log entries of security threats) to the SPHINX FDCE components.



- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Cyber incidents and threats (log entries).

Related Interface: FDCE.I.01.

- **SIEM.I.02: Anomaly Detection Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to collect information about detected anomalies in system and user behaviours to complete the system's security information and events.

- **Input:** Detected anomalies in system and user behaviours;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: AD.I.04.

- **SIEM.I.03: Threat Intelligence Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to collect information on threat intelligence from the SPHINX KB (threats taxonomy) and BBTR (list of threats) components to establish the system's security information and events (e.g., normalise the classification of events, data fields and security incidents, as well as to augment internal incidents' information with external data).

- **Input:** Threat taxonomies and threat intelligence information;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interfaces: KB.I.02; BBTR.I.01.

- **SIEM.I.04: Detected Abnormal and Suspicious Packet Activity Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to collect information on abnormal and suspicious traffic activity (including data packets) to complete the system's security information and events.

- **Input:** Events of abnormal and suspicious traffic data;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DTM.I.02.

- **SIEM.I.05: Security Information and Events Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to deliver the system's security information and events to SPHINX RCRA, DSS, AE and ID components.

- **Input:** Query;
- **Output:** Security information and events.

Related Interfaces: DSS.I.02; ID.I.04; RCRA.I.01; AE.I.03.

- **SIEM.I.06: Asset Information Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to deliver the system's assets information to the FDCE component for forensic analysis.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** System and services information by host.

Related Interface: FDCE.I.05.

- **SIEM.I.07: Sandbox Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to deliver the system's security information and events and the system's characteristics, privileges and access rights to the SB component to support the mapping of the IT infrastructure and to support the certification process.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** System's security information and events and characteristics, privileges and access rights.

Related Interfaces: SB.I.06; SB.I.07.



- **SIEM.I.08: Honeypot Interface**

This interface allows SIEM to receive from the Honeypot component security information and events that allow the SIEM to receive the cyberattacks detected by the Honeypot probes.

- **Input:** Detected security events and cyber-attacks (e.g., input commands performed by attackers);
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: HP.I.03.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| SIEM.I.01 | SIEM and FDCE | SIEM provides log entries of security incidents and threats to the FDCE for forensic analysis. | Cyber incidents and threats (log entries). |
| SIEM.I.02 | SIEM and AD | SIEM retrieves information about detected anomalies from AD. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviours. |
| SIEM.I.03 | SIEM and KB | SIEM retrieves information on threat taxonomies and intelligence from the KB. | Threat taxonomies and threat intelligence information. |
| SIEM.I.03 | SIEM and BBTR | SIEM retrieves the list of threats from the BBTR. | List of cyber incidents and threats. |
| SIEM.I.04 | SIEM and DTM | SIEM retrieves detected abnormal activity information from the DTM. | Security information and events on abnormal and suspicious traffic information. |
| SIEM.I.05 | SIEM and AE | SIEM delivers system information alerts and event notifications to the AE to enrich analytics. | System information alerts and event notifications. |
| SIEM.I.05 | SIEM and DSS | SIEM delivers security information and events to DSS to inform enhanced decision-making. | Security information and events. |
| SIEM.I.05 | SIEM and ID | SIEM delivers security information and events to ID so that it may be presented to the users. | Security information and events. |
| SIEM.I.05 | SIEM and RCRA | SIEM delivers security information and events to the RCRA to update the precursors. | Security information and events. |
| SIEM.I.06 | SIEM and FDCE | SIEM delivers information on system assets to the FDCE to perform forensic analyses. | System and services information by host |
| SIEM.I.07 | SIEM and SB | SIEM delivers system security information and events and characteristics, privileges and access rights | System security information and events and characteristics, privileges and access rights. |



| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---|--|
| | | to the SB to support the sandboxing environment. | |
| SIEM.I.08 | SIEM and HP | SIEM retrieves the cybersecurity events recorded by the HP component. | Security events and input commands performed by attackers. |

Table 6: SPHINX SIEM Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:

- SIEM.API.01: Security Incident-Related Information Interface**
 This interface allows SIEM to deliver incident-related information (log entries of security incidents and threats).
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Cyber incidents and threats (log entries).
 Related Interface: SIEM.I.01.
- SIEM.API.02: Security Information and Events Interface**
 This interface is used by SIEM to deliver the system's security information and events to other components.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Security information and events.
 Related Interface: SIEM.I.05.

3.2.6 Artificial Intelligence Honeypot

Honeypots are part of the cyber defence arsenal and are used widely to prevent, detect and respond to cyber-attacks. Their value resides on luring the adversaries to attack them instead of the real production IT systems. To achieve this, honeypots emulate services or even complete systems that may be considered targets from an adversary. In the context of SPHINX, the Honeypot (HP) component provides data dynamically to the Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms designed to detect anomalies, such as the attempt to install malware in the authority's IT infrastructure.

According to their type, honeypots are categorised as:

- low-interaction honeypots** present to the attacker emulated services with a limited subset of the functionality they would expect from a server. For example, the Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) service on a low-interaction honeypot would only support the commands needed to identify that a known exploit is being attempted.
- high-interaction honeypots** allow the attacker to interact with the system as they would do with any regular operating system. The goal is to capture the maximum amount of information on the attacker's techniques. Any command or application an end-user would expect to be installed is available and generally, there is little to no restriction placed on what the attacker can do upon compromising the system.
- medium-interaction honeypots** fully implement a subset of services and/or systems (like the HTTP protocol to emulate a well-known vendor's implementation, such as Apache web server).

SPHINX AI Honeypots is realised both as virtual and hardware appliances. The virtual one is mainly used for implementing high interaction honeypots whereas the hardware one is utilised to implement low-to-medium level interaction honeypots. The hardware version comes in two flavours, the first one based on a low-cost



Advanced RISC Machine (ARM) system - Quad-core Cortex-A7 central processing unit (CPU) - that is able to support lightweight detection algorithms whereas the second one is capable of operating as a honeypot and a router system, with the capability of handling computing intensive algorithms without a noticeable delay for the attacker. To achieve this, the system utilises programmable logic in the form of a compact low power field-programmable gate array (FPGA) module. Towards facilitating the deployment and maintenance of the SPHINX Honeypots (i.e. their soft components) the docker framework is exploited; this also enables the SPHINX AI Honeypots to work as farms and to be dynamically (re)configured by utilising, for example, the SPHINX's situation awareness system.

Finally, and towards increasing the devices' resiliency against malicious activities that aim to conceal the attacks (e.g. attackers remove their traces from the logs), both flavours are built on the notion of a two-layer AI Honeypot with the first layer being visible to the attackers and the second one, considered *safe*, being used for studying the attacks staged at the *unsafe* layer.

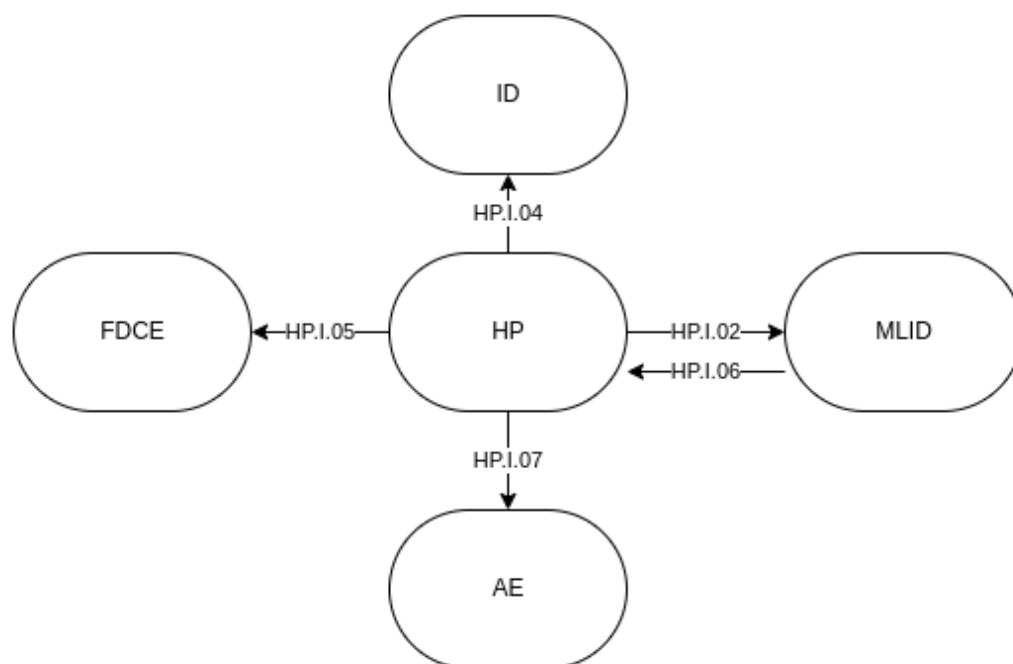


Figure 8: SPHINX HP Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the HP component are as follows.

| The Honeypot shall deploy services and systems emulating those existing in IT infrastructure. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-010; STA-F-290; STA-F-300; STA-F-350; STA-F-370 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Honeypots are used to lure adversaries to attack them instead of the real production IT systems. For this, honeypots emulate services and systems that may be considered targets from an adversary. |



| The Honeypot shall detect anomalies and attacks incidents. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-230; STA-F-260; STA-F-290; STA-F-360 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The HP detects incidents and attacks based on the activity recorded in emulated services and systems. Furthermore, HP provides data to the MLID that uses AI algorithms to perform meta-analysis on the attack detection data collected from the HP. |

| The Honeypot shall generate alerts in case anomalies and attacks are detected. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-360; STA-F-460 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | In case anomalies and attacks are detected, HP generates notification messages to inform SPHINX components, such as the SIEM, the DSS and the ID. In the case of the ID, the interface is used for the SSO and for forwarding data to the ID for visualisation. |

| The Honeypot shall use encrypted communication channels for exchanging data with other SPHINX components. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-340 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Honeypot utilises encrypted communication channels for exchanging data with other SPHINX components, such as the SPHINX Knowledge Base repository and the detection analytics components. The use of encrypted communication channels will enable for the safe exchange of data and provide protection against eavesdropping. |

| The Honeypot shall communicate any detected attack to the appropriate SPHINX modules. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-360 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Honeypot communicates any detected attack to the appropriate SPHINX modules, such as the Decision Support System. It is important that any detected attack is communicated to the Decision Support System (or any other designated component) towards enabling the organisation's IT team to take proper countermeasures and/or follow (if any) the incident response plan. |

| The Honeypot shall restrict user access to its safe layer. | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Requirement ID | HP-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-010; STA-S-020; STA-F-370 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The purpose of the <i>safe layer</i> is to allow to the IT personnel to have a safe and isolated place from where they can observe and log the attacks, disarming at the same time the attacker(s) from erasing their activities' traces; therefore, any unauthorised access is prohibited. |

| The <i>safe layer</i> of the Honeypot shall be isolated from the layer exposed to attackers. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | HP-S-010 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-370 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | The purpose of the <i>safe layer</i> is to allow the IT personnel to have a safe and isolated place from where they can observe and log the attacks, disarming at the same time the attacker(s) from erasing their activities' traces; the isolation of the <i>safe layer</i> prohibits such actions. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX HP component are:

- HP.I.02: AI-enabled Attack Detection Interface**
 This interface allows the HP component to send the logs of detected cyber-attacks to the AI-enabled SPHINX MLID and AD components for further meta-analysis towards gaining new insights about the patterns of manifested attacks.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Attack logs.
 Related Interfaces: AD.I.03; MLID.I.02.
- HP.I.04: Dashboard Interface**
 This interface allows the HP component to deliver to the ID component the detected cyber-attacks to generate user awareness.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Attack logs.
 Related Interface: ID.I.10.
- HP.I.05: FDCE Interface**
 This interface allows the HP component to deliver to the FDCE component collected evidence (e.g., logs) on detected cyber-attacks.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Attack logs and attack installed files (e.g., malware executables).
 Related Interface: FDCE.I.01.
- HP.I.06: MLID Interface**
 This interface allows the HP component to receive from the MLID component information on attack types. The information will be used by the HP to refine its detection engine and assist in the identification of any unauthorised attempts to access its safe layer.
 - Input:** ML data generated from honeypot based on attack records;
 - Output:** Temporary decisions/alerts with respect to anomalies and attacks that were received from HP in a numeric formatting (e.g., 0-no attack, 1-possible attack, 2-attack type A, 3-attack type B).

Related Interface: MLID.I.02.

- **HP.1.07: AE Interface**

This interface allows AE to receive from the HP component information and classification about attacks detected on the HP and use them for historical data purposes and analytics.

- **Input:** Temporary decisions/alerts with respect to anomalies and attacks that were received from HP in a numeric formatting (e.g., 0-no attack, 1-possible attack, 2-attack type A, 3-attack type B);
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: AE.I.02.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| HP.I.02 | HP and MLID | The HP sends information about attempted cyber-attacks to the MLID component for further analysis on attack patterns. | Datasets for training the MLID algorithms. |
| HP.I.04 | HP and ID | The HP sends notifications about detected cyber-attacks to the ID component to deliver user awareness. | Attack notifications. |
| HP.I.05 | HP and FDCE | The HP sends information about attempted cyber-attacks to the FDCE component to support the forensic data collection procedure. | Attack logs and attack files. |
| HP.I.06 | HP and MLID | The HP receives from the MLID component information about the type of attempted cyber-attacks for identifying any attempts to access its safe layer. | Information on attack types. |
| HP.1.07 | HP and AE | The HP sends attack information and classifications to the AE to be stored for analytics purposes | Temporary decisions/alerts with respect to anomalies and attacks received from the HP in a numeric format (e.g., 0-no attack, 1-possible attack, 2-attack type A, 3-attack type B). |

Table 7: SPHINX HP Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

There are no third-party APIs identified for the SPHINX HP component.

3.2.7 Machine Learning-empowered Intrusion Detection

The increase of cyber-attacks against companies has required the advent of enhanced security mechanisms on networks. Outperforming current solutions that are typically capable of coping with known threats, SPHINX makes a step forward developing an intelligent defensive system capable of either detecting existing threats or learning new uncategorised ones. Unknown threats typically copy attack patterns from known threats but are also able to combine two or more known attack patterns. Based on advanced statistics and pattern recognition principles, the Machine Learning-empowered Intrusion Detection (MLID) component is capable of mitigating the possibility of an intruder teaching the system to consider its attacks as normal data.

MLID operates in conjunction with honeypots to gather attack information from intruders and supervised machine learning and/or deep learning algorithms for dynamic learning of both registered and unregistered data. The SPHINX HP is used to collect interaction data generated by attackers, whereas supervised learning eliminates the need of manual and continuous updates of databases, as typically performed in traditional intrusion detection.

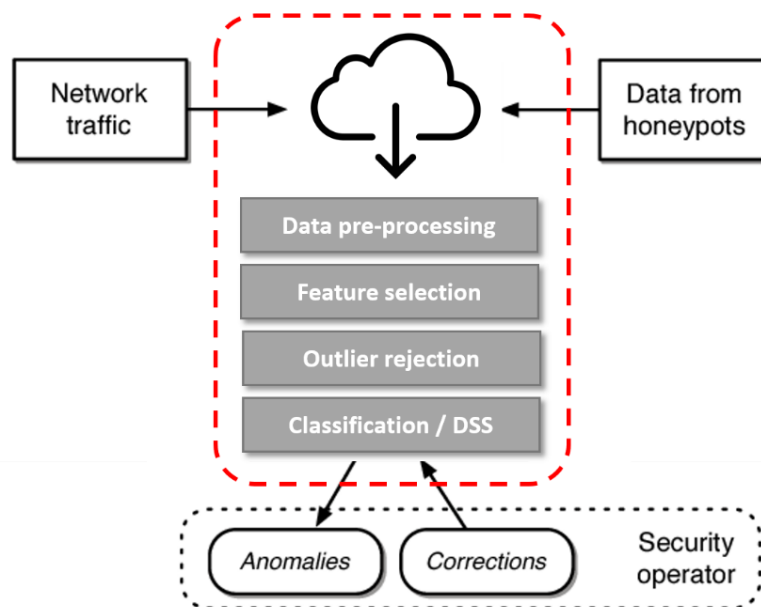


Figure 9: The SPHINX Machine Learning Methodology

A four-step methodology is employed to accomplish the implementation of the hybrid system: (1) Data collection: to retrieve logs/attacker data and signatures from the honeypots for further analysis, (2) Feature selection: to extract and identify important information from the collected honeypot logs, (3) Learning: to use selected information to train the deep learning algorithms so as to be able to alert network administrators about incoming attacks. (4) Classification: to use the trained system as an early detection functioning intrusion detection system that can flag and classify in near real-time traffic generated from honeypot interactions.

The training process of the proposed learning procedure is visualised below:

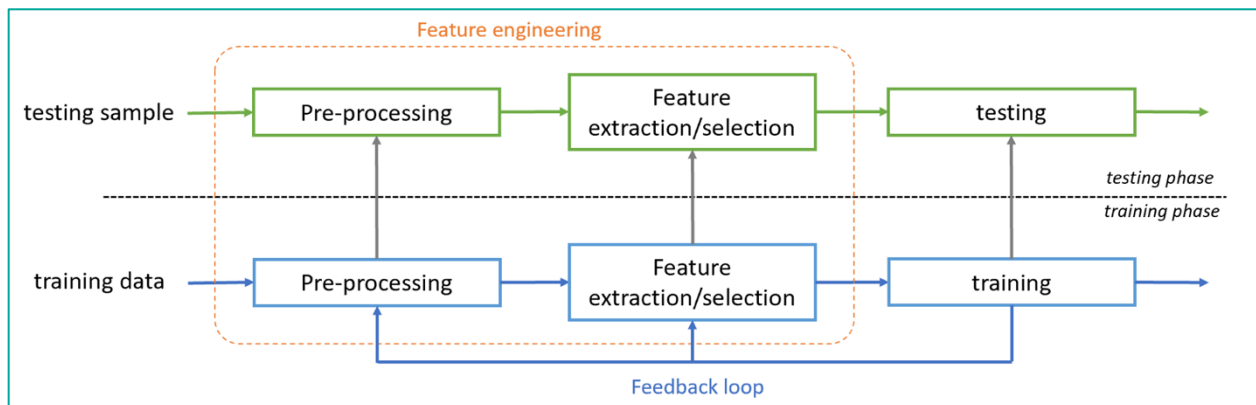


Figure 10: Learning and Deployment of the SPHINX Machine Learning Model

The MLID component (Figure 10) operates in two phases: the learning phase (training) and testing one. The role of the pre-processing unit is to normalise data, remove noise and apply any other function or routine that will contribute to the formulation of a more compact representation of the samples. During the training phase, the feature extraction/selection unit attempts to generate and/or identify the most informative feature subset in which the learning model will be applied. The feedback loop allows adjustments of the pre-processing and feature extraction/selection units that will further improve the performance of the learning model. During the testing phase, the trained model is utilised to take an appropriate decision (detection of possible intrusion) for each one of the testing samples based on the selected features. Deep learning will be also investigated setting an alternative architecture by shifting the burden of feature engineering to the underlying learning system. In this alternative implementation scenario, pre-processing and feature extraction or selection will be omitted leading to a fully trainable system that begins from raw input (honeypot's data) and ends with the final output of recognised intrusion attacks.

Two approaches to the MLID component are investigated in SPHINX and the most appropriate one will be implemented based on the available data:

- **Approach A - Supervised:** The machine learning (ML) algorithm is capable of classifying incoming data/activity from the honeypots to one of the predetermined classes. A recognition accuracy is given (%). Memberships to the predetermined classes are also given. In case a sample obtains small memberships to all classes, it possibly refers to a new unknown threat and this information is given to the Decision Support System (DSS) component for further analysis.
- **Approach B - Unsupervised:** In this approach, clusters are generated by the MLID component. Every cluster includes data that follow a similar pattern. In case a new cluster is created, it possibly means that the new cluster may correspond to a new threat. This cluster information is given to the DSS component for further analysis.



Figure 11: SPHINX MLID Component Diagram



Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the MLID component are as follows.

| MLID shall provide an early detection intrusion detection mechanism that can flag and classify traffic generated from honeypot interactions. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | MLID-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-190; STA-F-210 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Based on HP's gathered attack information from intruders, MLID applies supervised machine learning and/or deep learning algorithms for dynamic learning of both registered and unregistered data, functioning as an early detection intrusion detection system that can flag and classify in near real-time traffic generated from honeypot interactions. |

| MLID shall recognise attack patterns of cyber-attacks. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | MLID-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-050; STA-F-190; STA-F-230; STA-F-240; STA-F-260 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | MLID is able to recognise attacks and/or quantified memberships of cyber-attacks to various clusters. |

| MLID shall obtain data from the Honeypot for its training. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | MLID-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-050 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Data is collected by the SPHINX AI Honeypots and the obtained datasets form the training sets of the MLID models. |

| MLID shall obtain additional data from external sources for its training. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | MLID-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-060; STA-F-240 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Additional data resources are exploited to enhance the training sets of the SPHINX MLID models. |



| MLID shall be capable to analyse and extract knowledge from the training data. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | MLID-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-260; STA-F-230 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Data mining algorithms are applied on available datasets to extract and/or select the most informative features (e.g. Intrinsic features, content features holding information about the original packets, time-based features holding the analysis of the traffic input over a two-second window and host-based features) that are used by the classifiers. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX MLID component are:

- **MLID.I.01: Training Datasets Interface**

This interface allows the MLID to receive datasets from the HP in order to train the MLID algorithms.

- **Input:** Datasets for training the MLID algorithms. Raw data collected from the HP is transformed to interpretable features;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: HP.I.02.

- **MLID.I.02: Detected Anomalies and Attacks Interface**

This interface allows the MLID to send data concerning possible anomalies and attacks to the HP component, in order to temporarily restrict user access to its *safe* layer.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Temporary decisions/alerts with respect to anomalies and attacks are sent back to the HP in a numeric formatting (e.g., 0-no attack, 1-possible attack, 2-attack type A, 3-attack type B).

Related Interface: HP.I.06.

- **MLID.I.04: Anomaly and Attack Detection Storage Interface**

This interface allows the MLID to send data to be stored by the KB concerning recognised attack types (possible type and confidence of detection).

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Decisions/alerts; Data on recognised attack types; Memberships to predetermined classes/clusters.

Related Interface: KB.I.01.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| MLID.I.01 | MLID and HP | Data collected by the HP is used to build datasets necessary to train the MLID algorithms. | Datasets for training the MLID algorithms. |
| MLID.I.02 | MLID and HP | Once a possible attack has been detected, the MLID component sends an alert back to the HP to temporarily restrict user access to its <i>safe</i> layer. | Temporary decisions/alerts concerning possible anomalies and attacks. |



| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--|---|
| MLID.I.04 | MLID and KB | The MLID component sends the generated knowledge (recognised attacks and memberships to clusters) to the KB. | Decisions/alerts; Data on recognised attack types; Memberships to predetermined classes/clusters. |
|------------------|-------------|--|---|

Table 8: SPHINX MLID Interface Specifications

Third-Party APIs

No third-party APIs are identified for the MLID component.

3.2.8 Forensic Data Collection Engine

The operation of the Forensic Data Collection Engine (FDCE) component is based on pioneering mathematical models (e.g. game theory) for analysing, compiling, combining and correlating all incident-related information and data from different levels patterns and contexts in a privacy-aware manner.

These techniques provide the basis required for supporting the processing and storage of data gathered from various sources into a unified structure in order to discover the relationships between devices and the related evidence and produce a timeline of cyber security incidents, including a map of affected devices and a set of meaningful chain of evidence (linked evidence). The always-on and lightweight FDCE component supports also the recording of incident-related information to enable a full reconstruction of cyber security incidents.

In SPHINX, the FDCE component connects to an online cyber threats taxonomy base that is part of a knowledge base of formal and uniform representations of digital evidence, along with their relationship, that encapsulates all concepts of the forensic field. The SPHINX ontology and taxonomy share a common understanding of the structure of all information, linking to evidence the relevant stakeholders and the forensics investigators.

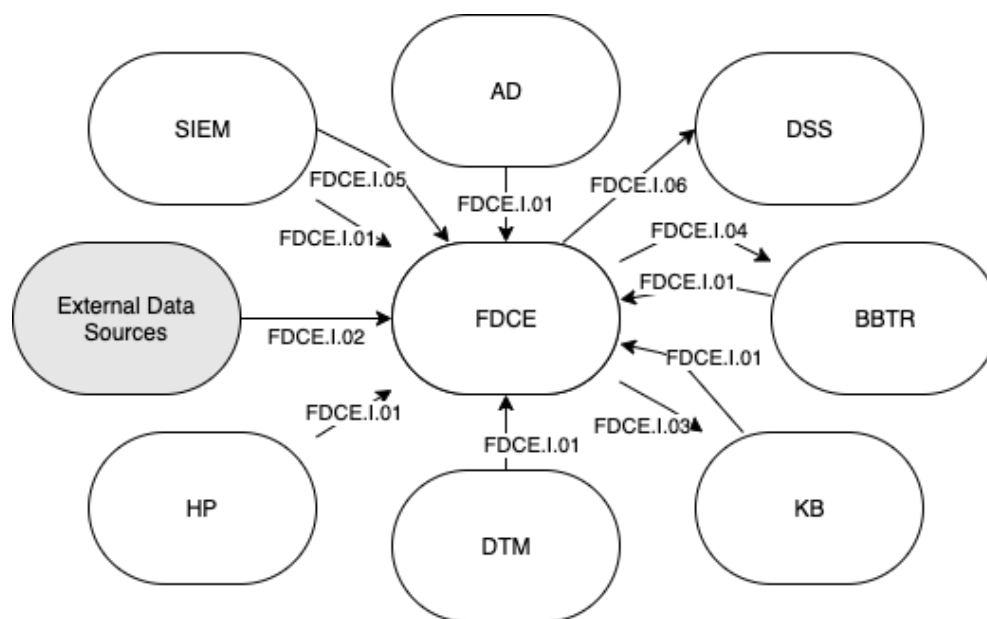


Figure 12: SPHINX FDCE Component Diagram



Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the FDCE component are as follows.

| The FDCE shall record detailed information produced internally within the SPHINX system. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | FDCE-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-060; STA-F-070; STA-F-230; STA-F-240; STA-F-260 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The FDCE component supports the recording of incident-related information produced internally within the SPHINX system in order to enable a full reconstruction of cyber security incidents. This information is complemented with available external data sources in order to include available information regarding cyber threats. |

| The FDCE shall implement mechanisms to identify links between the compromised assets and the threats. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | FDCE-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-280; STA-F-300; STA-F-700 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | After an incident occurrence, the FDCE component uses the recorded information to investigate and discover relationships between the threat and the compromised assets, thus producing a meaningful chain of evidence. |

| The FDCE shall correlate the incident with its ex-post evaluated impact. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | FDCE-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-240; STA-F-290; STA-F-300 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | After an incident occurrence, the FDCE component correlates the said incident with its impact evaluation, as provided by the user. |

| The FDCE shall store the collected information in the SPHINX Knowledge Base. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | FDCE-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-240 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The FDCE component inserts/updates information and data into the SPHINX KB (e.g., taxonomy base, information from previous attacks and logs) to construct the chain of evidence. |



| The FDCE shall provide attack information to update the SPHINX Threat Registry. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | FDCE-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-240, STA-F-330 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The FDCE component inserts/updates information and data into the SPHINX BBTR (e.g., attack metadata from forensic analysis results) to construct the chain of evidence. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX FDCE component are:

- FDCE.I.01: Security Incident-Related Information Interface**
 This interface allows the FDCE to gather all incident-related information (including threat taxonomy in case of unknown threats) within the SPHINX system in order to perform forensic analyses and be part of the final evidence envelop.
 - Input:** Incident-related information (log entries);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interfaces: AD.I.04; BBTR.I.02; DTM.I.02; KB.I.02; SIEM.I.01.
- FDCE.I.02: Attack Types and Patterns Data Sources Interface**
 This interface allows the FDCE to gather information from external data sources regarding attack types/patterns and the related components that could be affected in order to perform forensic analyses and be part of the final evidence envelop.
 - Input:** Information on attack types/patterns.
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: Not applicable.
- FDCE.I.03: Knowledge Database Interface**
 This interface allows the FDCE to update the SPHINX Knowledge Base repository with successful cyber-attacks' chain of evidence results from the forensic analysis.
 - Input:** Not applicable.
 - Output:** Results of chain of evidence of successful cyber-attacks.
 Related Interface: KB.I.01.
- FDCE.I.04: Threat Registry Interface**
 This interface allows the FDCE to update the SPHINX Threat Registry with attack type information and metadata resulting from the forensic data analysis.
 - Input:** Not applicable.
 - Output:** Attack type information and metadata.
 Related Interface: BBTR.I.01.
- FDCE.I.05: Asset Information Interface**
 This interface allows the FDCE to gather information on the system's assets from the SIEM component system in order to perform forensic analyses and be part of the final evidence envelop.
 - Input:** System and services information by host;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: SIEM.I.06.





- **FDCE.I.06: Affected Assets' IP**

This interface sends the assets' IPs that the specific event affects.

- **Input:** Assets' IPs';
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DSS.I.06.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| FDCE.I.01 | FDCE and AD | The FDCE retrieves information from the AD on detected anomalies in systems and user behaviour to conduct its forensic analysis. | Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour. |
| FDCE.I.01 | FDCE and DTM | The FDCE retrieves information from the DTM on suspicious data traffic to conduct its forensic analysis. | Suspicious data traffic information. |
| FDCE.I.01 | FDCE and HP | The FDCE retrieves new cyber-attack (unknown or unregistered advanced threats) information from the HP to conduct its forensic analysis. | New cyber-attack information (unknown or unregistered threats). |
| FDCE.I.01 | FDCE and KB | The FDCE retrieves information from the KB concerning previous successful cyber-attacks and threat taxonomy of new and unknown attack types to conduct its forensic analysis. | Threat taxonomy. |
| FDCE.I.01 | FDCE and SIEM | The FDCE uses SIEM's log entries on security information and events in order to identify possible correlations with relevant information from other components and conduct its forensic analysis. | Incident-related information and associated data. |
| FDCE.I.02 | FDCE and External Data Sources | The FDCE gathers information on attack types and patterns and related components that could be affected from external data sources to conduct its forensic analysis. | Attack types and patterns and the related components that could be affected. |



| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|--|
| FDCE.I.03 | FDCE and KB | The FDCE updates the KB's threat taxonomy and incident-related information with the forensic analysis results. | Forensic analysis results. |
| FDCE.I.04 | FDCE and BBTR | The FDCE updates the BBTR's with new threat information resulting from the forensic analysis. | Forensic analysis results on new threats (attack type information and metadata). |
| FDCE.I.05 | FDCE and SIEM | The FDCE gathers SIEM's information on system assets to conduct forensic analyses. | System and services information by host. |
| FDCE.I.06 | FDCE and DSS | The FDCE sends the assets' IPs that the specific event affects to DSS. | Assets' IPs. |

Table 9: SPHINX FDCE Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party API is accessible:

- **FDCE.API.01: Threat Registry Interface**

This interface is used to send data on new threats following the detection of successful attacks.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** New threat information (attack type information and metadata).

Related Interface: FDCE.I.04.

3.2.9 Homomorphic Encryption

The SPHINX architecture makes use of an Encryption technique named Homomorphic Encryption to ensure user data privacy and security. This technique is implemented by the Homomorphic Encryption (HE) component that acts as a backbone for the SPHINX Platform and ensures that all stored sensitive data is in encrypted format.

Instead of opting for a conventional approach of downloading all data and decrypting it to find the desired file/content, HE allows for a search to be performed on the encrypted stored data and only the data/files containing the desired content are downloaded for further processing, thus making it a viable solution. The HE module has two main components: one that runs on the gateway/client and another that runs on a server.

The HE component that runs on the gateway/client has four main tasks:

- **Key Generation:** The Asymmetric nature of the HE tool requires it to produce a Public/Private key pair. This key pair generation module is triggered every time a new user registers with the SPHINX Platform. The Private key is associated with the client part of the user's profile and the Public key is sent to the server. Both these keys are associated with a single person only, thus giving him/her full control over the stored personal data.
- **Encryption:** Every time a user needs to store something on the server, the Encryption module is triggered. This module makes use of the Private key that was generated by the Key generation module and uses it to



create a unique Cipher text. This Cipher text is then pushed onto the server for storage purposes. The server that has the user's public key is not able to decrypt the stored data as it is a one-way encryption scheme.

- **Search Query Generation:** Once the user needs to find a particular file on the server, a Search Query is generated. This query is generated using the word or sentence that the user wants to search for and then it is encrypted using the user's private key. This query is immune to a probabilistic attack meaning that if the user searches for the same word or sentence multiple times, every time the query generation mechanism generates a different cipher text. This approach makes the system impervious to eavesdroppers on the communication channel and a curious server owner.
- **Decryption:** The search query returns a list of file names that contain the requested content. This list is organised in a descending matching pattern, with the file containing the most similarity to the requested query on the top and the file containing the least matching at the bottom. The user has the option to select the file that is deemed suitable and the system triggers the decryption module. This module first downloads the requested file and then uses the user's private key to decrypt it, thus converting the cypher text back into plain text.

The server component of the HE module deals with storage and processing of the search query. Upon reception of the public key from the client module. The server associates this key with the authorised user's profile and maintains it for further use. It receives all stored data and logs it properly associating it with a specific profile so that in future all query executions are performed on this limited set only. Despite having this logging function, any intruder is not able to decrypt this information without the private key and this key is never shared with anyone. Once the client triggers the search module, the search query that is generated at the client is passed onto the server. The server takes this query and processes it using the user's public key. This generates another cipher text which is then used to find the maximum matching set from all stored data files. Once the matching process has been executed for all stored files, the server module returns the list of files that contain the required content.

The HE module is an effective way to ensure secure data storage and processing. In order to accomplish this, an entity (e.g., Hospital) using the SPHINX Platform would go through a mere six step process as shown in Figure 13.

- 1) The hospital triggers a Master Key generator with a seed value which is used to create a unique Public/Private key pair.
- 2) The Master key generator sends the Public/Private key pair to the hospital
- 3) All the data that needs to be stored onto the server is encrypted by the public key of the hospital.
- 4) Once a search is needed on the encrypted data, the hospital processes the search query in a trapdoor generation mechanism and relays this trapdoor to the server. The server takes the incoming trapdoor and executes it onto the stored encrypted files.
- 5) The resultant of the trapdoor execution is a list of file names that contains the required content. This list is sent to the hospital as a search response.
- 6) The hospital looks at the file list and selects a specific file to be downloaded which is then received from the server onto the local repository.

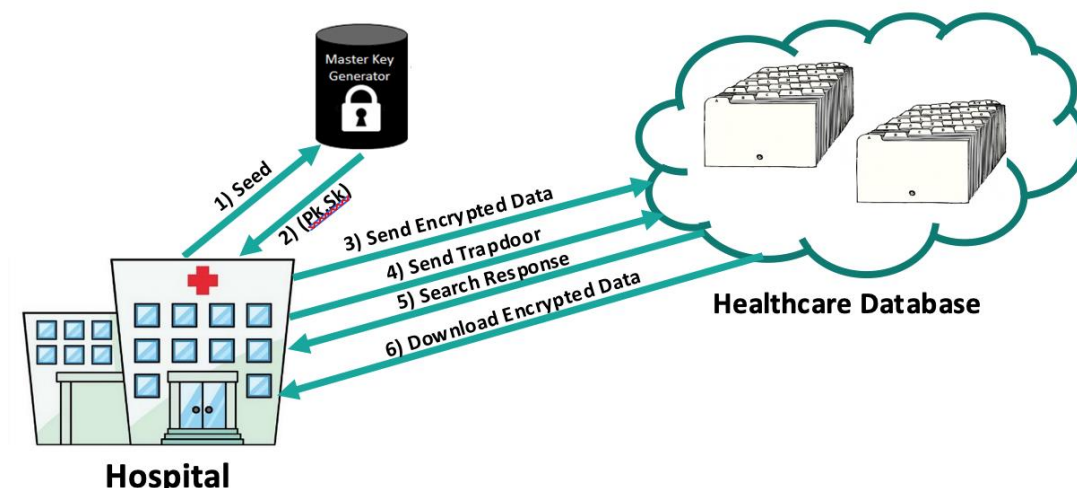


Figure 13: HE Module Data Flow

This six-step process enables entities to store and search in the encrypted domain, thus saving critical information from adversarial attacks.

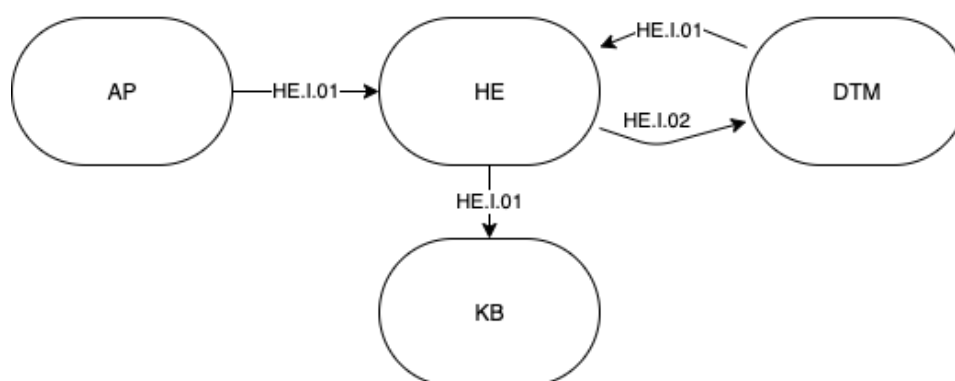


Figure 14: SPHINX HE Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the HE component are as follows.

| HE shall enable storing sensitive data in encrypted format. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | HE-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-300; STA-F-310 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Information to be stored in SPHINX may contain sensitive and personal data. To protect this data from unauthorised or unnecessary access, sensitive information is stored in encrypted format using homomorphic encryption. |

HE shall provide a secure mechanism to perform searches in and retrieve results from sensitive repositories.



| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Requirement ID | HE-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-310; STA-F-320 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Instead of granting unnecessary access to whole data repositories, HE allows that a search is performed on the encrypted stored data and only the data/files containing the desired content are downloaded for further processing. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX HE component are:

- **HE.I.01: HE Anonymisation Interface**

This interface is provided by the HE in order to allow homomorphic encryption operations on sensitive data.

- **Input:** Sensitive Data;
- **Output:** Encrypted data.

Related Interfaces: DTM.I.04; AP.I.04; KB.I.04.

- **HE.I.02: HE Search Operations Interface**

This interface is provided by the HE in order to allow homomorphic encryption searches on repositories containing sensitive data.

- **Input:** Search query;
- **Output:** List of files (matching query).

Related Interface: DTM.I.04.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| HE.I.01 | HE and DTM | The HE provides an encryption service that allows to encrypt the sensitive traffic data of the DTM component. | Sensitive traffic data. |
| HE.I.01 | HE and AP | The HE provides an encryption service that allows to encrypt the sensitive personal data of the AP component. | Personal data. |
| HE.I.01 | HE and KB | The HE provides an encryption service that allows to encrypt the sensitive personal data of the KB component. | Personal data. |
| HE.I.02 | HE and DTM | The HE provides a query service that allows to search encrypted traffic data of the DTM component. | Encrypted traffic data. |

Table 10: SPHINX HE Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:





- **HE.API.01: HE Anonymisation Interface**

This interface is provided by the HE in order to allow homomorphic encryption operations on sensitive data.

- **Input:** Sensitive Data;
- **Output:** Encrypted data.

Related Interface: HE.I.01.

- **HE.API.02: HE Search Operations Interface**

This interface is provided by the HE in order to allow homomorphic encryption searches on repositories containing sensitive data.

- **Input:** Search query;
- **Output:** List of files (matching query).

Related Interface: HE.I.02.

3.2.10 Anonymisation and Privacy

The SPHINX Anonymisation and Privacy (AP) component is comprised of two modules: the anonymisation module and the privacy module.

The anonymisation module of AP is a dataflow tool that has high throughput for processing large text datasets in unstructured formats and perform user-defined transformations to clean, bake, structure, anonymise and or encrypt. Since formats change greatly and often, the tool needs to be customisable and support a dynamic language to define which fields should be transformed. The Chimera Anonymisation Language (CAL) is leveraged by the SPHINX Project as a way to formally define how personal data at rest should be handled, transformed, anonymised, encrypted or decrypted, to keep relevant data protected from prying eyes.

AP provides a backend written in a language that compiles to binary format (elf / exe) for performance reasons. This backend has a hand-written parser and lexer that creates an Abstract Syntax Tree (AST) for the CAL language. Further, a tree walker interpreter provides the runtime for CAL. Message passing between AST nodes is performed through shared memory and all nodes follow the same specifications for accessing data and creating new data. To ease the usage of the domain specific language, a web frontend with a single page application is developed to help operators to design the workflows visually and then export the rules in CAL to a standard format that can be passed into the backend runtime.

Figure 15 depicts the architecture for the anonymisation module of the SPHINX AP component.



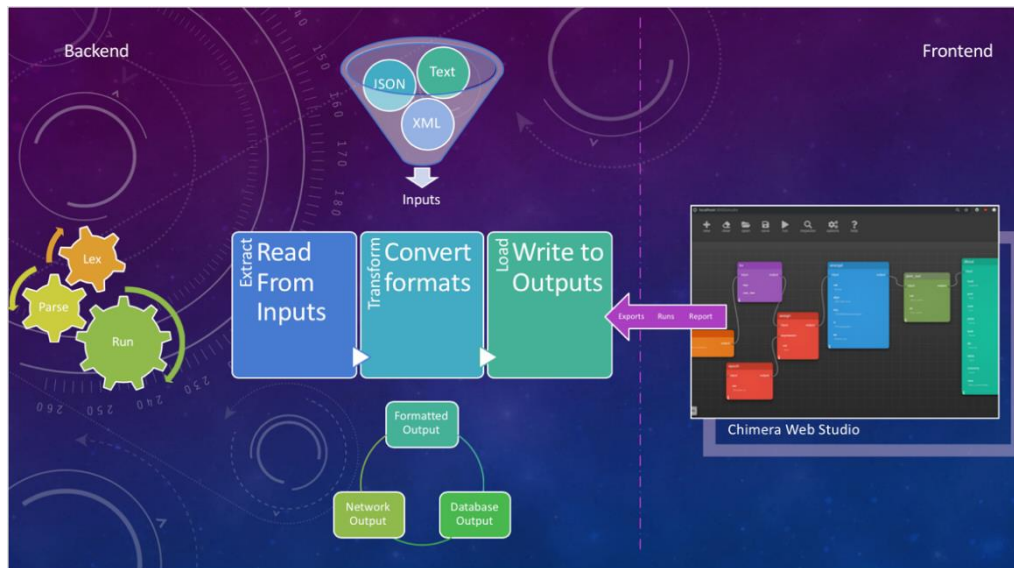


Figure 15: SPHINX Anonymisation Module Architecture

The anonymisation module provides an API that is able to remotely transform data, by either performing encryption/decryption or by applying anonymisation techniques such as one-way hashing combined with k-anonymity/t-closeness/p-sensitive. Another API is designed and implemented for sensitive data detection, allowing the searching of structured and unstructured data and reporting found evidence of privacy data. The SPHINX homomorphic encryption mechanism allows encryption by using encryption systems with homomorphic properties and enables calculations on encrypted data without requiring decryption, thus keeping data safe even when custody is not controlled.

A) Raw event, 157 chars
 <134>Dez 12 23:59:59 alfr04dnsvs named[28633]:
 12-Dec-2015 23:59:59.849 queries: client 87.103.90.XXX#52442: query: www.facebook.com
 IN A + (87.103.113.XXX)

B) Filtered, 68 chars
 1436808722,87.103.90.XXX,52442,87.103.113.XXX,www.facebook.com,A,+

C) SHA1 + salt, 120 chars [SHA1 always 40 chars – License problem]
 1436808722,8e28b667a35fdfa32512ea07ff810746e030487,52442,
 8659e321f3e032929ade0e19e5b790d1034df91d,www.facebook.com,A,+

D) AES 128 + salt + Base64, 85 chars [Size linear with input & block size]
 1436808722,AvIMiH9j+NQbvUOnljDzlg==,52442,fPxTwK6Cupx6TXxFCg==,
 www.facebook.com,A,+

Figure 16: Example of Data Anonymisation with Hashing

The privacy module of the AP component provides:

- a modular component to support the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance;
- automated methods for elicitation, map and analysis of personal data;
- support for the specification, management and enforcement of personal data consent;



- integrated encryption and anonymisation solution for GDPR compliance;
- an ability for organisations to visualise their GDPR readiness and define a plan of action for missing compliance requirements;
- support privacy complaints and individual rights;
- management and notification of privacy incidents and breach identification;
- an ability for organisations to measure and review their privacy level and to analyse safeguards and privacy/security measures for mitigating potential risks;
- support the development of trust-related models within the organisation and between the organisation and third-party suppliers;
- safeguard access to data, enforce data privacy and simplify data sharing;
- prevent unintended access to sensitive data.

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679) ensures an equivalent level of protection in all EU Member States and recognises the importance for citizens of the value of data privacy and the necessity for the privacy-enabled management of personal data, providing strict principles and obligations and recognising that individuals' rights must be anticipated by organisations.

Apart from the regulatory, technical and financial challenges imposed by GDPR, organisations must deal with organisational challenges including:

- **Limited resources:** Resource allocation when implementing a privacy management framework may be too demanding in terms of the overall investment cost;
- **Limited expertise:** Smaller organisations and most public administrations may lack the level of expertise to promote an efficient understanding and implementation of GDPR;
- **Legacy Systems:** Legacy systems, designed to operate on closed environments and without much interaction, have encouraged *legacy* thinking in terms of information privacy, often resulting in fragmented and isolated privacy and security arrangements that present risks on data privacy.

The privacy module of AP is orthogonal to all other components in the sense that is deployed by organisations independently of other components to serve the single purpose of collecting the required evidence of compliance with GDPR by the organisation. In order to collect such evidence, it relies on other SPHINX components, such as the SIEM. The Privacy module itself consists of a series of software elements that work at different levels. The production of each element is done mostly by extending existing software and integrating it in specific components and services, developing the SPHINX's AP component as an orchestrator of the functionalities provided by the individual SPHINX tools. SPHINX's privacy modules span two levels (Planning Level and Operational Level), and act across three management areas (Data Scope, Data Process and Data Breach) as shown in the next figure.



| | Data Scope Management (DSM) | Data Process Management (DPM) | Data Breach Management (DBM) |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Planning level | Identify data, assets Art. 4 | Data access rights Art. 15 | |
| | Organisational information establishments Art. 4 | Personal data consent Art. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14 | Data Breach Plan Specification Art. 34 |
| | Identify accountability Art. 5 | Security and privacy specification Art. 24 | |
| | Data flows Art. 4 | | |
| Operational level | Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) Art. 35 | Security and Privacy Technologies Art. 32 | |
| | Data transparency, lawfulness, minimisation Art. 4, 25 | Privacy Data Consent Monitoring and Notification Art. 19 | Data breach Detection, Notification and Response Art. 23, 33, 34, 36 |
| | Security and Privacy Threats Art. 23 | | |
| | Privacy by Design Art. 25 | | |

Figure 17: Levels and Management Areas of the Privacy Module

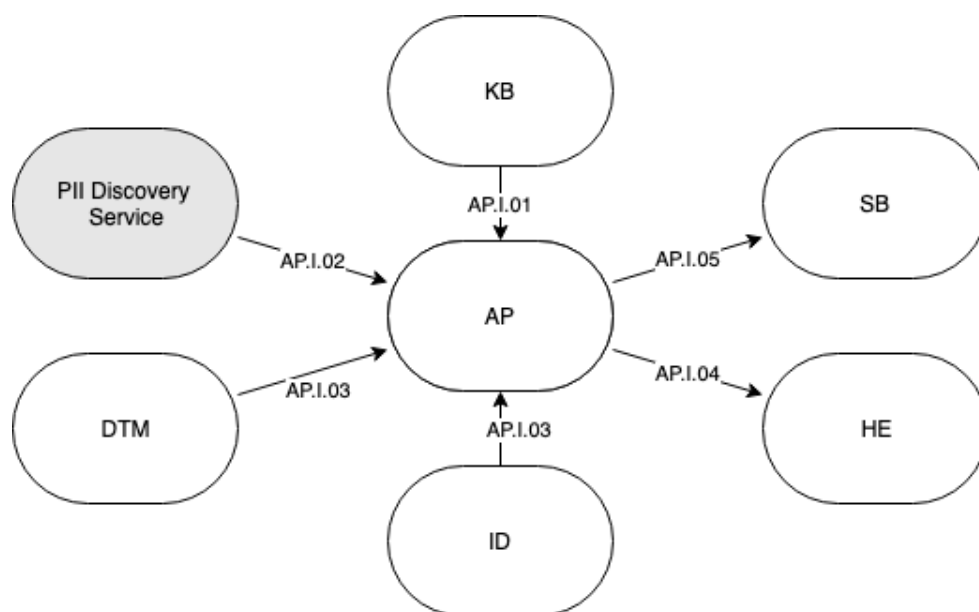


Figure 18: SPHINX AP Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the AP component are as follows.

| AP shall provide personal data detection methods. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-300 |
| Customer Value | 5 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Description and Rationale | AP provides a method to detect personal data in structured and unstructured data, so that users are able to know where personal data is stored in SPHINX, without requiring specific declarative or programmatic definition. |
|----------------------------------|--|

| AP shall provide data anonymisation methods. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-300; STA-F-310 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides a method to anonymise personal data in structured and unstructured data, so that other components are able to anonymise the personal data in SPHINX. |

| AP shall provide data encryption methods. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-310; STA-L-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides a method to encrypt personal data in structured and unstructured data, so that users are able to encrypt the personal data in SPHINX. HE can be leveraged for homomorphic encryption when needed. |

| AP shall provide data decryption methods. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-310 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides a method to decrypt personal data in structured and unstructured data, so that users are able to decrypt the encrypted personal data in SPHINX. HE can be leveraged for homomorphic decryption support. |

| AP shall provide GDPR compliance readiness self-assessment procedures. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides procedures to conduct a self-assessment on GDPR compliance readiness and obtain its GDPR compliance readiness status. |

| AP shall deliver GDPR accountability. | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | AP provides tools to generate reports on the compliance to GDPR obligations (implementation of the principles of lawfulness, fairness and transparency, purpose limitation, data minimisation, accuracy, storage limitation, integrity and confidentiality) and to compose the accountability file providing evidence of compliance, both for internal and external audits. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| AP shall deliver a personal data mapping mechanism. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-070 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides a mechanism supporting data mapping of personal data processing to the corresponding assets and services. Specifically, it maps the processing activities, identifies which database stores personal data, identifies the stored personal data and identifies the personal data flows to provide assurance of the correct identification of personal data within the organisation and the processes that handle and manage personal data. |

| AP shall deliver notifications of expired personal data retention periods. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-080 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP allows the discovery of the elapsed time for a given category of stored personal data and the notification to all identified data processors of every time personal data can no longer be processed (e.g., expiration of the personal data retention period). |

| AP shall allow the management of subjects' data consent forms. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-090 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides tools to manage the subjects' consent forms concerning the handling and management of personal data, associating the application/service collecting personal data and requiring subjects' data consent forms to stored terms of use and privacy policy that easily deliver valid consent forms per application/service. |

| AP shall facilitate the management of subjects' requests concerning their data protection rights. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-100 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides tools to facilitate the response to the subjects' requests concerning the exercise of their personal data and privacy rights (right of access, right to rectification, |



| | |
|--|--|
| | right to erasure, right to restriction of processing, right to data portability, right to object, right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing). |
|--|--|

| AP shall facilitate the tracking of personal data. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-110 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides tools to facilitate the discovery of the personal data required to respond to the subjects' requests concerning the exercise of their personal data and privacy rights, in order to reduce the cost of complying with the implementation of personal data rights. |

| AP shall enforce checkpoints to validate the protection of personal data. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-120 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-300; STA-L-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP enforces multiple checkpoints to validate the protection of personal data against relevant threats. |

| AP shall deliver a data protection impact assessment. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-130 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-050 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP provides tools to enable a data protection impact assessment that will contain at least the information listed in Article 35(7) of the GDPR. |

| AP shall deliver data breach notifications. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-140 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-L-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | AP supports the reporting/notification of personal data breaches to subjects and provide an option for the subjects to revise their consent for personal data handling and management. |

| AP shall deliver authentication and authorisation mechanisms. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | AP-F-150 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-020; STA-L-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | AP delivers authentication and authorisation mechanisms, based on different access rights implementing the least privilege principle. |
|----------------------------------|---|

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX AP component are:

- AP.I.01: Anonymised Personal Data Interface**
 This interface enables the AP component to anonymise personal data in the SPHINX KB component.
 - Input:** Personal data;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: KB.I.03.
- AP.I.02: PII Discovery Service Interface**
 This interface allows the AP component to identify previously unknown personally identifiable information (PII) using an external discovery service.
 - Input:** Personal data;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: Not applicable.
- AP.I.03: Data Anonymisation Interface**
 This interface allows the AP component to identify and anonymise personal data in collected traffic information (including data packets, Universal Resource Locators or URLs, IPs and timestamps).
 - Input:** Personal data;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: DTM.I.04.
- AP.I.04: Homomorphic Encryption Interface**
 This interface allows the AP component to consume the Homomorphic Encryption API to encrypt data that needs to be anonymised.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Encrypted personal data.
 Related Interface: HE.I.01.
- AP.I.05: Sandbox Interface**
 This interface allows the AP component to provide anonymised data to the SB component, in order to prevent any security and privacy issues to raise concerning the involvement of non-trusted parties and the protection of sensitive data.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Anonymised personal data.
 Related Interface: SB.I.04.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| AP.I.01 | AP and KB | The AP component identifies and anonymises personal data in KB's structured and unstructured data repository. | Personal data. |





| | | | |
|---------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| AP.I.02 | AP and PII Discovery Service (external component) | The AP component uses an external discovery service to identify previously unknown PII and anonymise it. | Personal data. |
| AP.I.03 | AP and DTM | The AP component identifies and anonymises personal data in DTM's connected traffic information (data packets, URLs, IPs and timestamps). | Personal data in traffic information. |
| AP.I.04 | AP and HE | The AP component receives the HE's homomorphic encryption services in order to secure encrypted personal data. | Encrypted personal data. |
| AP.I.05 | AP and SB | The AP component delivers anonymised data to the SB component to prevent privacy and trust issues in the sandboxing environment. | Anonymised personal data. |

Table 11: SPHINX AP Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:

- AP.API.01: Anonymised Personal Data Interface**
 This interface enables the AP component to anonymise personal data from input data provided by third parties.
 - Input:** Data;
 - Output:** Anonymised personal data.
 Related Interface: AP.I.01.
- AP.API.02: Data Traffic Anonymisation Interface**
 This interface allows the AP component to identify and anonymise personal data in data traffic information provided by third parties.
 - Input:** Data traffic;
 - Output:** Data traffic with anonymised personal data.
 Related Interface: AP.I.03.

3.2.11 Decision Support System

The Decision Support System (DSS) component resides on the user's side. It consists of advanced information processing mechanisms, fully utilising raw data and measurements from SPHINX components dealing with data collection (e.g., VAaaS, SIEM, MLID) and effectively detecting potential abnormalities at different levels of the IT distributed network in the spatiotemporal domain. DSS integrates lower level decisions and alerts that lead to high-level decisions and plan suggestions that are sent to Interactive Dashboards via a REST API.

To support decision-making in terms of analysing the root cause of cyber-attacks in the IT infrastructure, a novel visual analytics framework is developed dealing with the effective management and visualisation of data that





follows a Syslog or Common Event Format (CEF), able to be integrated also to existing cyber security frameworks.

The SPHINX DSS consists of four major modules: Data Management, Model Management, Knowledge Management and User Interface (UI) Management.

The **Data Management** module performs the function of storing and maintaining the information that DSS uses. The data management component, therefore, consists of both the DSS information and the DSS database management system. The information in the DSS comes from one or more of the following sources:

- **Organisational information:** Within DSS, the system is provided with data from honeypot logs to analyse and extract the features with the highest importance. After pre-processing, the data is stored in the database. The purpose of a stored procedure is to perform actions without returning any result, return one or more scalar values as the parameters and return one or more result sets.
- **External information:** It provides additional insights on the vulnerability, malware, and/or potential exploits, including manufacturer, cyber security-knowledgeable organisations, internet service providers and internal sources that provide insights on an incident's impact within the organisation, such as Log files (e.g., device logs, server logs, domain name server logs, firewall logs, router logs), System and network tools and sensors, Device users, and System and network administrators.

SPHINX DSS has as input the data provided from Honeypots and it classifies them as one of the following:

- Secure data,
- Possible intrusion and
- Intrusion.

These lead to suggested actions for the user.

The **Model Management** module is a key element in most decision-making processes. It consists of both the DSS models and the DSS model management system. A model is a representation of an event (e.g. secure data, possible intrusion and intrusion), fact, or situation. As it is not always practical, or wise, to experiment with reality, users build models and use them for experimentation. Organisations may use models to represent variables and their relationships. DSS helps in various decision-making situations by utilising models that allow the user to analyse information in many different ways. The model management system stores and maintains the DSS models. Its function of managing models is similar to that of a database management system. The models to be used in DSS depend on the decisions of the user and the kind of analysis required. Once the initial incident parameters have been established, the incident analysis begins.

The **User Interface Management** module facilitates communication with the DSS and is set to perform the following three tasks:

- **Data management:** DSS stores user and product information. In addition to the organisational information, it also needs external information, such as demographic information, industry and style trend information.
- **Model management:** DSS needs models to analyse the information. The models create new information that decision-makers need to plan risks. For example, in cases where medical devices are deliberately targeted, if these devices are linked to a hospital network, they extend the attack surface and the associated threat level is high.
- **User interface management:** A user interface (UI) enables decision-makers to access information and to specify the models they want to use to create the information they need.

The DSS UI includes:

- Pleasing screen design;
- Symmetrical layouts;



- Appropriate arrangement of options/menus;
- Informative plots and graphs regarding the honeypot data.

The **Knowledge Management** module provides information about the relationship among data that is too complex for a database to represent. It consists of rules that can constrain possible solutions as well as alternative solutions and methods for evaluating them.

On a strategic level, all relevant EU directives must be and are supported. In December 2018, the EU reached a political agreement on the 2017 Cyber Security Act that reinforces the mandate of the EU Agency for Cyber Security, the European Union Agency for Network and Information and Security (ENISA). The aim is to better support Member States in tackling cyber security threats and attacks; it also establishes an EU framework for cyber security certification of specific ICT processes, products and services, and medical devices are explicitly mentioned.

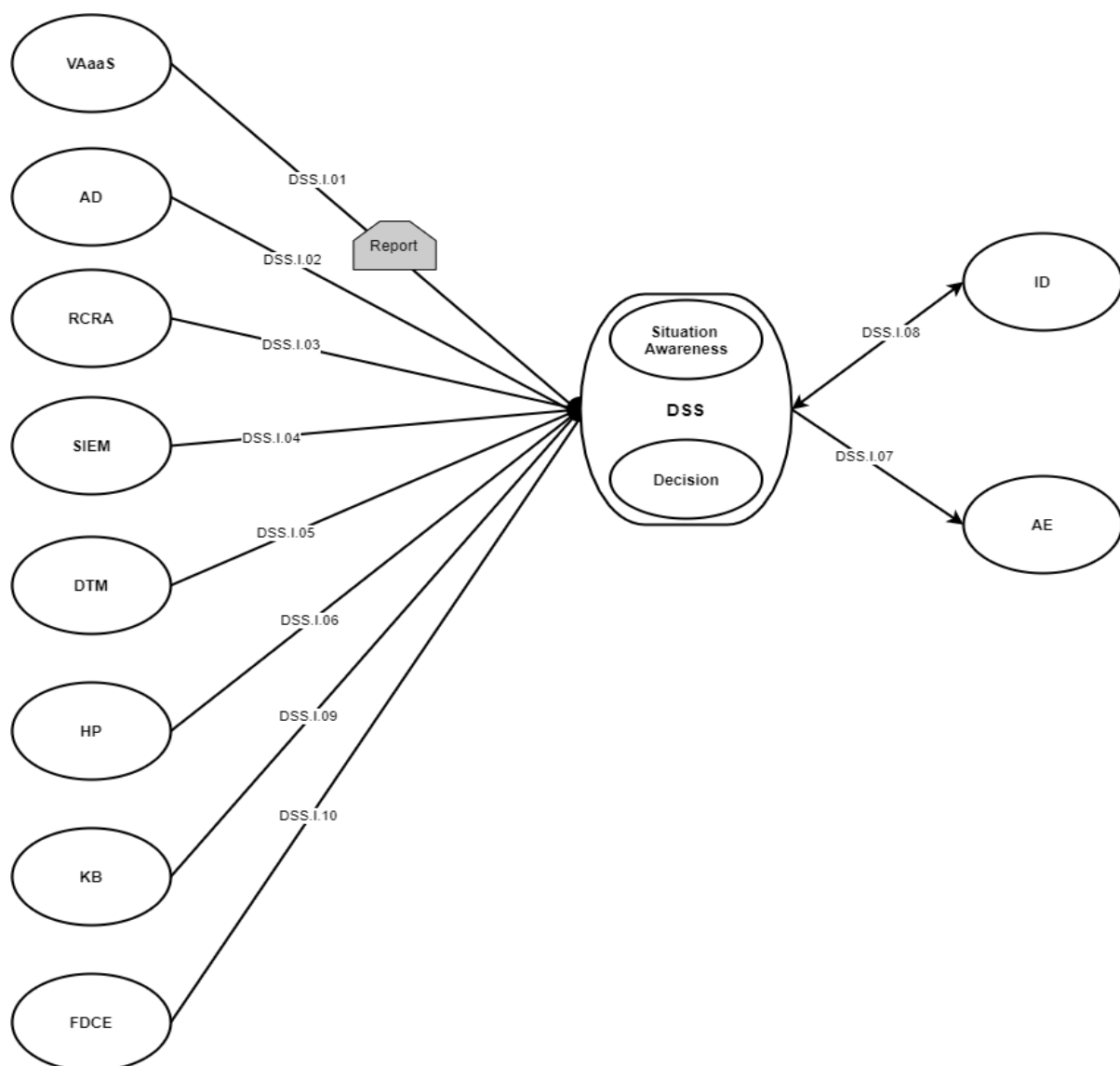


Figure 19: SPHINX DSS Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

The technical requirements/specifications for the DSS component are as follows.

| DSS shall provide the impact of each decision. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | DSS-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-500 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The DSS component shall produce reports with the cost and impact of the suggested decisions for better-informed decision-making processes. |

| DSS shall provide suggested courses of actions. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DSS-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-070; STA-F-200; STA-F-210; STA-F-240 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The DSS component shall provide a list of possible actions based on the cost/impact analysis for each decision. |

| DSS shall populate the Knowledge Database with previously unrecognised threats. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DSS-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-080 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The DSS component shall identify new, previously unrecognised, threats and notify the relevant SPHINX components to update the level of the system's awareness. |

| DSS shall provide suggestions based on risk assessment. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | DSS-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-380 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The DSS component shall provide suggested actions based on the risk evaluation provided by other SPHINX components. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX DSS component are:

- **DSS.I.01: VAaaS Interface**
This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve information on existing cyber security vulnerabilities.
 - **Input:** CVSS score and a detailed list of vulnerabilities;
 - **Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: VAaaS.I.02.



- **DSS.I.02: AD Interface**

This interface allows DSS to receive information on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviour that comprise a threat to the IT infrastructure.

- **Input:** List of anomalies detected in system events and user behaviour.
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: AD.I.04.

- **DSS.I.03: RCRA Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve information on the current status of existing risks in the system (including associated consequences and indices), according to the latest data.

- **Input:** List of cyber risks;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interfaces: RCRA.I.05, RCRA.I.06.

- **DSS.I.04: SIEM Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve security information from the system.

- **Input:** Security information and events data;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: SIEM.I.05.

- **DSS.I.05: DTM Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve information network traffic.

- **Input:** Network traffic;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DTM.I.02.

- **DSS.I.06: HP Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve information on detected cyber-attacks.

- **Input:** Attack logs;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: HP.I.03.

- **DSS.I.07: AE Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to provide suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences to the AE component to visualise the most frequent decisions.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences.

Related Interface: AE.I.01.

- **DSS.I.08: ID Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to provide suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences based on the system's overall cybersecurity state to the ID component for visualisation purposes.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences.

Related Interface: ID.I.07.

- **DSS.I.09: KB Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve external references such as CAPEC and CWE IDs related to the attack pattern that is being reported. Additionally, the DSS can search the KB to retrieve courses of action in case an unknown event is met.



- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** External references and proposed courses of action.

Related Interface: KB.I.02.

- **DSS.I.10: FDCE Interface**

This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve the assets' IPs' that the specific event affects.

- **Input:** Assets' IPs;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DSS.I.06.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| DSS.I.01 | DSS and VAaaS | The DSS component receives a report of existing vulnerabilities in the system's cybersecurity from the VAaaS component. | Detailed report of the vulnerability assessment of a network entity (JSON). |
| DSS.I.02 | DSS and AD | The DSS component receives information on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviour that comprise a threat to the IT infrastructure. | Information on anomalies detected in system events and user behaviour that comprise a threat to the IT infrastructure (JSON). |
| DSS.I.03 | DSS and RCRA | The DSS component receives lists of cyber risks and warnings and alerts on forecasted cyber security incidents (including indices and consequences) from the RCRA component. | Information on the risk of a cyber security incident on a specific asset. |
| DSS.I.04 | DSS and SIEM | The DSS component receives security information and event data from the SIEM component. | Security information and events data (e.g. JSON). |
| DSS.I.05 | DSS and DTM | The DSS component receives Network Traffic and IDS alerts from the DTM component. | Network Traffic information and Suricata alerts (JSON). |
| DSS.I.06 | DSS and HP | The DSS component receives information on detected cyber-attacks from the HP component. | Detected attack data (e.g. JSON). |
| DSS.I.07 | DSS and AE | The proactive part of the DSS component provides cyber threat predictions to the AE component. | Predictions for imminent DoS and Probe attacks based on network traffic. |
| DSS.I.08 | DSS and ID | The DSS component provides suggested decisions, proposed courses of action | Suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences. |





| | | | |
|----------|--------------|---|---|
| | | and their consequences to the ID component, and other incident-related information for visualisation purposes. Also the ID returns the selected courses of actions. | Incident related vulnerabilities, risk level for the affected assets, external references and a confidence level for the reported incident. |
| DSS.I.09 | DSS and KB | The DSS retrieves external references for attack patterns and courses of action for unknown events. | CAPEC and CWE IDs and courses of action for unknown events. |
| DSS.I.10 | DSS and FDCE | This interface allows the DSS component to retrieve the assets' IPs' that the specific event affects. | Assets' IPs. |

Table 12: SPHINX DSS Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

No third-party interfaces are identified for the SPHINX DSS component.

3.2.12 Analytic Engine

The Analytic Engine (AE) component is used to visualise data in real-time (or near real-time) with pie, scatter and bar plots that provide a first insight into the user's behaviour. The Analytic Engine combines data from the DSS and HP components, as well as historical and real-time data, and delivers descriptive statistics: for example, it provides the total or average number of detected abnormalities in the system (how many attacks) per month or year, using graphs.

The SPHINX Analytic Engine (AE) component is comprised of the following modules:

- **Interactive multi-objective behavioural module:** This module combines data from the SPHINX Honeypots, Security Information and Events, Intrusion Detection, Knowledge Base and Decision Support System to deliver fast descriptive data statistics (bar, scatter and pie plots). If suspicious information or event is detected in the AE insight, the data is further analysed in the graph embedding behavioural clustering module. The interactive multi-objective behavioural module therefore serves to quickly assess the cyber security status of the system, having as the target parameter the user's behaviour. To predict how fast a suspicious behaviour is recognised, the multi-target regression method is used. In case a new threat is identified/recognised with an associated description, it is recorded to the database.
- **Graph embedding behavioural clustering module:** This module detects abnormalities at different levels and provides scatter plots to visualise the users' behaviour. The scatter plot has two groups of users, coloured differently: the first group encompasses the users with normal behaviour and the second group gathers the users with abnormal behaviour. Algorithms like k-means clustering, t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbour Embedding (t-SNE), Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and others are used. The system's first action is to isolate the observations of the second group of users and to compute the descriptive statistics (mean, median and other) for this group. In this way, it is possible to know the specific elements of these users' behaviours. If these elements are known, then is easier to predict if a user is likely to adopt an abnormal behaviour. For this prediction, machine learning algorithms are used.

- **SPHINX prediction tools:** Attack graphs are an appropriate tool to perform cyber security threat prediction. Attack graphs show the different ways a hacker may exploit vulnerabilities to break into a network of computer systems. Such information can be analysed to see where the system's weaknesses lie.

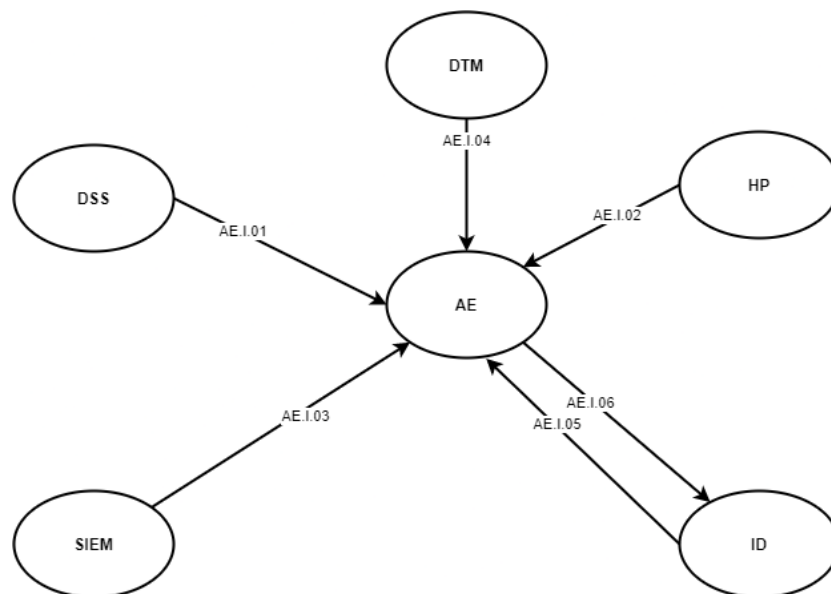


Figure 20: SPHINX AE Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

The technical requirements/specifications for the AE component are as follows.

| AE shall produce descriptive statistics. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | AE-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-220 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX AE component combines data received by other SPHINX components and produces descriptive analytics according to the user's needs. The visualisation of the descriptive analytics of the clustering information and attack events is provided with pie, scatter and bar plots, in an easy-to-view and easy-to-read manner for the user. |

| AE shall support users' requests for analytics. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | AE-F-020 (previous AE-F-030) |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-700 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SPHINX AE component enables the user to request a variety of descriptive analytics and visual results and produce the requested outcome. |



The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX AE component are:

- **AE.I.01: DSS Interface**

This interface allows the AE component to retrieve cyber threat predictions generated from the proactive part of the DSS component, in order to produce relevant descriptive statistics and visualise the results in pie, scatter and bar plots.

- **Input:** Predictions for imminent DoS and Probe attacks based on network traffic;
- **Output:** Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots).

Related Interface: DSS.I.07.

- **AE.I.02: HP Interface**

This interface allows the AE component to retrieve clustering information from the MLID component (via the HP component), in order to visualise the results in pie, scatter and bar plots.

- **Input:** Clustering information on attacks performed in the HP environment;
- **Output:** Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots).

Related Interface: HP.I.07.

- **AE.I.03: SIEM Interface**

This interface allows the AE component to retrieve security information and event notifications from the SIEM component, in order to produce relevant descriptive statistics and visualise the results in pie, scatter and bar plots.

- **Input:** Security information and event notifications;
- **Output:** Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots).

Related Interface: SIEM.I.05.

- **AE.I.04: DTM Interface**

This interface allows the AE component to retrieve alerts from the DTM component.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots).

Related Interface: DTM.I.02.

- **AE.I.05: ID Interface**

This interface allows the AE component to provide relevant descriptive statistics and visual results to the ID component, based on users' requests.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots).

Related Interface: ID.I.02.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| AE.I.01 | AE and DSS | The AE component receives suggested decisions and courses of action from the DSS component. | Suggested decisions and courses of action. |
| AE.I.02 | AE and HP | The AE component receives clustered generated knowledge on recognised attacks and membership from the MLID component (via the HP component). | Clustering information (in JSON format). |

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---|---|
| AE.I.03 | AE and SIEM | The AE component receives security information and event notifications from the SIEM component. | Security information and events data (in JSON format). |
| AE.I.04 | AE and DTM | The AE component retrieves IDS alerts from the DTM component. | Suricata alerts for cyber-attacks. |
| AE.I.05 | AE and ID | The AE component provides relevant descriptive statistics and visual results to the ID component. | Descriptive statistics and visualisations (pie, scatter and bar plots). |

Table 13: SPHINX AE Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

No third-party interfaces are identified for the SPHINX AE component.

3.2.13 Interactive Dashboards

The advanced SPHINX Interactive Dashboards (ID) component provides a powerful framework for SPHINX components to interactively display and share trends, forecasts and answers to business questions about the cyber security and protection of their IT infrastructure. Delivering information collected from a large set of internal SPHINX components, the ID allow users to interact in a dynamic way with their own information processes and offer a high degree of freedom regarding the analysis of their security system. A set of diversified panels support the users' easy-to-access, intuitive and friendly visualisation of relevant cyber security information in the graphical, statistical, tabular and temporal formats, as well as of alerts and notifications, that are designed to enable the users' rapid situational awareness and understanding.

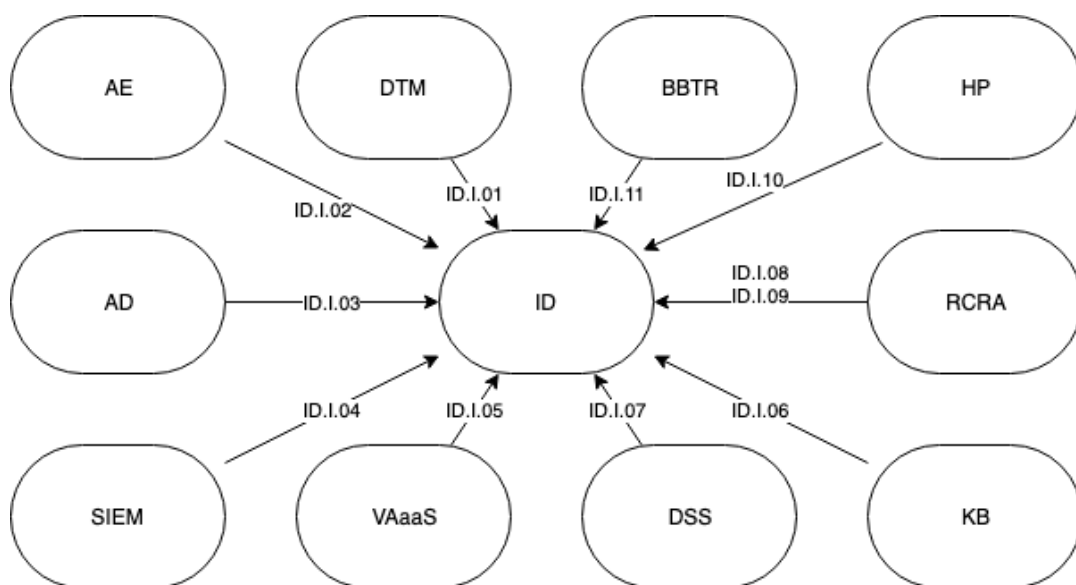


Figure 21: SPHINX ID Component Diagram



Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the ID component are as follows.

| ID shall display interactive graphs regarding network activity, notifications and alerts. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-200; STA-F-360; STA-F-380; STA-F-470; STA-F-500; STA-F-510; STA-U-010; STA-U-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component implements intelligent User Interfaces supporting a multi-dimensional approach. It presents data and information in the appropriate formats (e.g., charts, tabular information, colours) and implements adequate push-based notification mechanisms to emphasise urgency or new information requiring action. |

| ID shall provide intuitive and efficient mechanisms allowing users to easily interact with large amounts of information. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-U-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component supports users to easily interact with a large amount of information regarding system data, including personal data, through intuitive and efficient mechanisms. |

| ID shall enrich the degrees of freedom of user interaction. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-U-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component enables the enrichment (in quantity and quality) of the degrees of freedom for user interaction with the SPHINX Platform and, concurrently, with the real processes in the IT infrastructure. |

| ID shall provide an advanced analytic data visualisation engine. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-220 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component provides an advanced analytic data visualisation engine that is capable of visually presenting intuitive data on the IT ecosystem's network and users' behaviour. Descriptive statistics and graphs (pie, bar and scatter plots) allow the IT operator to rapidly acknowledge detected suspicious network and user behaviour and take appropriate mitigation measures. |



| ID shall include contact information of individuals to be alerted in case of cybersecurity incidents. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-470 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component includes a list of individuals to be alerted in case of forecasted, suspected or ongoing cyber security incidents. Alerting mechanisms include dashboard displays, emails and text messages to ensure appropriate recipients are informed at all times. The alerts consider rules such as incident classification and severity type. |

| ID shall allow the classification of automated alerts. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-520 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component enables the classification of the automated alerts or notifications issued of imminent, ongoing and forecasted cyber threats, incidents and attacks. The classification scheme shall allow the easy identification of vulnerabilities, risks, threats, events, incidents or attacks, as well as of situations worth monitoring or requiring urgent intervention. The ID component allows users to filter the registered alerts by category. |

| ID shall provide parametrisable dashboard views per user. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-070 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-530 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component enables users to establish the parameters of their own dashboard views, based on their role and duties concerning the operation of the IT ecosystem. |

| ID shall provide customised cyber security reports. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-080 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-700 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | <p>The ID component provides customised cyber security report containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comprehensive visual analytics (e.g., charts, tabular information, statistics); statistical information on registered cyber security events and incidents in the IT ecosystem, including successful and unsuccessful hacking attempts and type of attack: spam, email trap, malware, phishing, database injection, anomalous user and network behaviours; identification and location of the organisation affected by the cyber-attack. |

| ID shall display alerts generated by the SPHINX components. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-090 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-710 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | <p>The ID component aggregates all the alerts generated by the individual SPHINX tools and depicts them in tabular format as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first column in the alert table shows an alert number and its generated date, time and location; • the second column shows the classification of each alert (i.e. CRITICAL, ALERT, ERROR, INFORMATIONAL) depending on the associated level of criticality; • the third column identifies the specific SPHINX tool or service that generated the associated alert; • and the fourth column displays the alert status through a dropdown menu with the options Closed, Open, Ignore, Acknowledge and Empty Field (the initial state). As the user selects one option, the table row is immediately updated and registers also the user's name and the date when the action was performed. This information is locked and only the system's administrator may unlock the locked alert status field; • The fifth column displays the system's proposed course of action and the risk assessment tools available in the SPHINX system. <p>The user may sort the alert table by date, alert classification, SPHINX tool and alert status. The table supports pagination.</p> |

| ID shall present spatiotemporal information about each generated alert. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-100 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-720 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | <p>The ID component presents the spatiotemporal information about each generated alert, such as the date and time and the location (i.e., the location of the targeted hospital).</p> |

| ID shall display a menu bar with alert information and access to specific functions. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-110 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-730 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | <p>The ID component displays a menu bar that includes at least 3 fields: the first field displays the number of critical alerts; the second field provides an option menu allowing the user to visualise various graphs on alert statistics in a separate webpage and to export the alert table in csv or excel files; the third field refers to the dashboard's settings, which enable the user to easily customise/configure the area below the alerts table. This area may display different graphs associated to the operations of specific SPHINX tools or services. Other fields that the menu bar includes are: a field for selecting the display language, a field for searching and querying</p> |



| | |
|--|--|
| | features and a button to display the list of individuals to contact in case of a cyber security event or incident. |
|--|--|

| ID shall allow the selection of different statuses for each alert. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-120 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-740 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component allows users to select a status for each alert (i.e. Closed, Open, Ignore, Acknowledge and Empty Field), depending on the action to be taken for that specific alert. |

| ID shall display the proposed action for each alert. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-130 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-750 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component displays the suggested/proposed actions to be taken in order to mitigate an incident. |

| ID shall allow the creation user accounts with different roles. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-140 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-760 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component allows the SPHINX administrator to create users and assign roles (e.g. administrator, operator, and observer) in SPHINX. SPHINX users are able to login, logout, setup profile (e.g., name), email and change the password. |

| ID shall allow the selection of different tools and services. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-150 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-770 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component displays a list of all the SPHINX tools and services, including a short description of the tool or service (with an overlay window). Users may choose an item by clicking on it and be redirected to the selected tool or service, without having to login again. |

| ID shall present data in visual and rich forms. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | ID-F-160 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-780 |
| Customer Value | 5 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | The ID component allows users to visualise data using various graphs, such as time-series, alert statistics. The used visualisation mechanisms enable users to intuitively and efficiently understand the data. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| | |
|--|--|
| ID shall allow the user to export data into different file formats. | |
| Requirement ID | ID-F-170 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-790 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component allows users to export the data into different file formats, such as Comma-Separated Values (CSV), JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) and excel files. |

| | |
|---|---|
| ID shall allow the user to customise the interface according to their needs. | |
| Requirement ID | ID-F-180 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-800 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component contains a list of dashboard settings which enables users to customise/configure the interface, by having a designated area which users can modify. This area displays different graphs associated to the operations of specific SPHINX tools or services. |

| | |
|--|---|
| ID shall provide searching and querying features. | |
| Requirement ID | ID-F-190 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-810 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component contains a search bar which enables users to easily search for different elements. |

| | |
|--|--|
| ID shall deliver a web-based dashboard aggregating information from SPHINX tools. | |
| Requirement ID | ID-U-010 |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-U-030 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component delivers a set of web-based dashboards to present summaries of the relevant data and information associated to each of the SPHINX cyber security tools and services. The main SPHINX dashboard aggregates the relevant data and information of all SPHINX tools and services. |



| ID shall allow users to visualise the cyber security status related with the organisation's IT assets from a single location. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | ID-U-020 |
| Requirement Type | Usability Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The ID component provides an overview of the cyber security status of an IT organisation. Users are able to conveniently access this function from a single location (e.g., user workstation), provided it is authorised and complies with the SPHINX specifications. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX ID component are:

- ID.I.01: DTM Interface**
 This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant traffic data provided by the DTM component. The users are able to visualise and interact with traffic statistics (graphics) and notifications and alerts about suspicious traffic data.
 - Input:** Traffic data;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: DTM.I.05.
- ID.I.02: AE Interface**
 This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant data on cyber threats and attacks provided by the AE component. The users are able to visualise and act upon statistics (graphics) and notifications and alerts about cyber threats and attacks.
 - Input:** Cyber threats and attacks data (JSON files);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: AE.I.05.
- ID.I.03: AD Interface**
 This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant data on detected anomalies provided by the AD component. The users are able to visualise and act upon statistics (graphics) and notifications and alerts about detected anomalous system and user behaviours.
 - Input:** Detected anomalous system and user behaviour data (JSON files);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: AD.I.04.
- ID.I.04: SIEM Interface**
 This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant data on security information and events provided by the SIEM component. The users are able to visualise and act upon statistics (graphics) and notifications and alerts about registered security information and events.
 - Input:** Security information and events data;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: SIEM.I.05.
- ID.I.05: VAaaS Interface**
 This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way the vulnerability assessment reports provided by the VAaaS component.



- **Input:** Vulnerability assessment reports;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: VAaaS.I.07.

- **ID.I.06: KB Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant structured data on the IT infrastructure's overall cyber security information history, status and forecast provided through the KB component. The users are able to visualise and act upon the IT infrastructure's overall cyber security information.

- **Input:** Overall cyber security information;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: KB.I.01.

- **ID.I.07: DSS Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way the suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their associated consequences (impact) provided by the DSS component. The users are able to visualise and act upon suggested decisions and proposed courses of action (including decisional graphics).

- **Input:** Suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DSS.I.05.

- **ID.I.08: RCRA Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant information about the system's security risk level (list of risks, including indices and consequences) provided by the RCRA component.

- **Input:** List of cyber security risks;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: RCRA.I.05.

- **ID.I.09: RCRA Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way relevant warnings and alerts on forecasted risks provided by the RCRA component.

- **Input:** Warnings and alert notifications on forecasted risks;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: RCRA.I.06.

- **ID.I.10: HP Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way detected cyber-attacks provided by the HP component.

- **Input:** List of detected cyber-attacks;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: HP.I.04.

- **ID.I.11: BBTR Interface**

This interface allows the ID component to display in a highly user-friendly and interactive way new cyber threats provided by the BBTR component.

- **Input:** List of new cyber threats;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: BBTR.I.02.





| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| ID.I.01 | ID and DTM | The ID component displays to the users traffic data provided by the DTM component, including suspicious traffic data. | Traffic data. |
| ID.I.02 | ID and AE | The ID component displays cyber threats and attacks data to the users, as provided by the AE component. | Cyber threats and attacks data. |
| ID.I.03 | ID and AD | The ID component displays to the users detected anomalies on system and user behaviours provided by the AD component. | Detected anomalous system and user behaviour data. |
| ID.I.04 | ID and SIEM | The ID component displays relevant security information and events to the users, as provided by the SIEM component. | Security information and events data. |
| ID.I.05 | ID and VAaaS | The ID component displays to the users the vulnerability assessment reports provided by the VAaaS component. | Vulnerability assessment reports. |
| ID.I.06 | ID and KB | The ID component displays to the users structured data on the IT infrastructure's overall cyber security information history, status and forecast provided through the KB component. | Overall cyber security information history, status and forecast. |
| ID.I.07 | ID and DSS | The ID component displays to the users suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their associated consequences provided by the DSS component. | Suggested decisions and proposed courses of action and their consequences. |
| ID.I.08 | ID and RCRA | The ID component displays to the users the system's security risk level provided by the RCRA component. | System security risk level (list of risks, including indices and consequences). |
| ID.I.09 | ID and RCRA | The ID component displays to the users the warnings and alerts on forecasted risks provided by the RCRA component. | Warnings and alert notifications on forecasted risks. |





| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| ID.I.10 | ID and HP | The ID component displays to the users the detected cyber-attacks provided by the HP component. | Detected cyber-attacks. |
| ID.I.11 | ID and BBTR | The ID component displays to the users the new cyber threats provided by the BBTR component. | New cyber threats. |

Table 14: SPHINX ID Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

No third-party interfaces are identified for the SPHINX ID component.

3.2.14 Attack and Behaviour Simulators

The SPHINX Attack and Behaviour Simulator (ABS) component comprises two sub-frameworks developed in Task 5.3 (Attack Simulator) and Task 5.4 (Behaviour Simulator).

By providing routines/scripts of already documented cyber-attacks, with known effects, outcomes and consequences, the Attack Simulator allows the testing of the operational and detection capabilities of the SPHINX Platform components. The success performance indicator is the Platform's capability to properly identify the simulated attacks. The modelled cyber-attacks/incidents paths and patterns and the reconstruction of reliable and valid chains of evidence, are used to validate the appropriate response of the system. The Attack Simulator concentrates the effort of simulating the SPHINX Use Cases in the replicated infrastructure and environments provided by the pilots and mainly DYPE5. As it is not a SPHINX component but an attack emulation framework accompanied by the methodological steps to reproduce attack kill chains the Attack Simulator cannot be expressed by a traditional architecture schema. More information on the Attack Simulator can be sought in SPHINX D5.8.

Regarding the Behaviour Simulator, it consists of a central management server based on the OpenAPI³ specification which allows the emulation of device / user behaviours on demand. This service allows to build a realistic network traffic background similar to the one observed in the real DYPE5 infrastructure. This traffic can be used as backbone for the Attack Simulation process as well as for the main framework for realistic healthcare network traffic datasets. The emulation takes place in the application layer through integrated automation frameworks such as python Selenium (web traffic, HIS and LIS hospital systems) and EDGE persona simulator for edge IoT device simulation. The tool is fully parametrizable in terms of communication flow durations while it provides the capability of setting up end-user defined device profiles for fast emulations that require little to no configuration through configuration files. The Behaviour Simulator is a stand-alone tool that needs to be installed in every machine of the experimentation environment to make it look like a machine of the real infrastructure allowing for full customization of the behavioural patterns. This setup does not require neither interfacing with any SPHINX components nor CIP as the Behaviour Simulator is a network infrastructure-oriented tool. The architecture of the Behaviour Simulator is illustrated in **Error! Reference source not found..**

³ <https://www.openapis.org/>

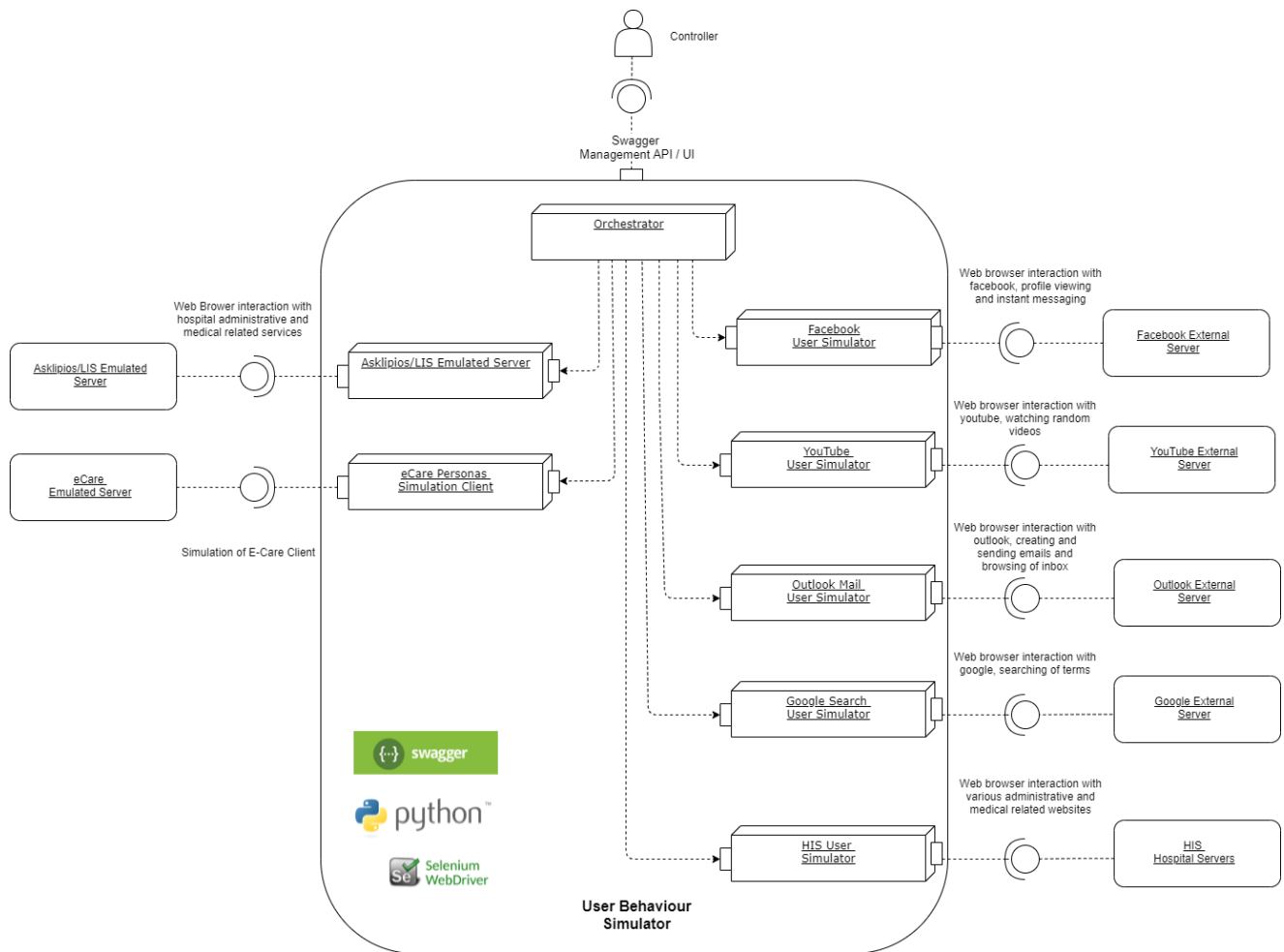


Figure 22: SPHINX ABS Architecture

By providing a realistic simulation of user behaviour (Behaviour Simulator) and of real and well-documented cyberattacks and kill chains (Attack Simulator) these two frameworks will support the exhaustive testing of the SPHINX toolkit against various setup and different attack scenarios.

3.2.15 Sandbox

A Sandbox provides a safe and isolated testing environment where components can be deployed without compromising any of the other services. It enables users to run programs or execute files without affecting the main application, system or platform on which they run. Software developers can use sandboxes to test new programming code. Cyber security professionals can use sandboxes to test potentially malicious software. Sandboxes are also used to safely execute malicious code to avoid harming the device on which the code is running, the network or other connected devices. The outcome is a secure way of assessing new components or tools in terms of security.

The Sandbox is an important component for integrating the Automated Cyber Security Certification in the SPHINX Platform, mitigating potential negative effects on the main functionalities of the system and IT infrastructure. More importantly, sandboxing is mandatory for performing real time and live automated tests on the actual infrastructure, minimising the possibility for uncontrolled behaviour and prohibiting any negative impacts which affect the main system. The main purpose of the sandbox is to enable *users to automate the sample submission process; completely analyse any threat; and quickly act to protect sensitive data*. Once the

sandbox gets the malware, it can analyse and evaluate the actions and processes of the malicious software. This allows system administrators to evaluate the potential exposure of their networks and take the appropriate action to secure against the latest threats. For instance, Honeypots are often surrounded by a *sandbox* in order to contain and prevent the code or malware from wreaking havoc. Furthermore, a sandbox creates an appropriate environment for enabling software isolation and detect malware, while offering an additional layer of protection against security threats, such as stealthy attacks and exploits that use zero-day vulnerabilities.

The SPHINX Sandbox (SB) component is a multipurpose component with two distinct modes of operation:

- 1) **Provide a safe environment where components could be deployed without compromising any of the other services.** In this mode, SB is a security mechanism for separating running programs, usually in an effort to mitigate compromised medical devices or software vulnerabilities from spreading. The proposed shared environment can also be used to execute untested or untrusted programs or code, from unverified or untrusted third parties, suppliers, users or websites, without risking harm to the host machine or operating system. SB provides a tightly controlled set of resources for guest programs to run in the IT infrastructure;
- 2) **Perform cyber certification and assessment methods.** In this mode, SB provides a detailed compliant and certification report. This report identifies the assessed component's compatibility with the certification used by the Health and care domain that is applied. It checks the compliance with standards such as ISO/IEC 27001, NIST 800-X; defines a vulnerability classification taxonomy informed with the domain specific compliance checks; defines the multiple certification levels based on CVSS scores, risk profile and exposure and defines the threshold points that divide the certification levels.

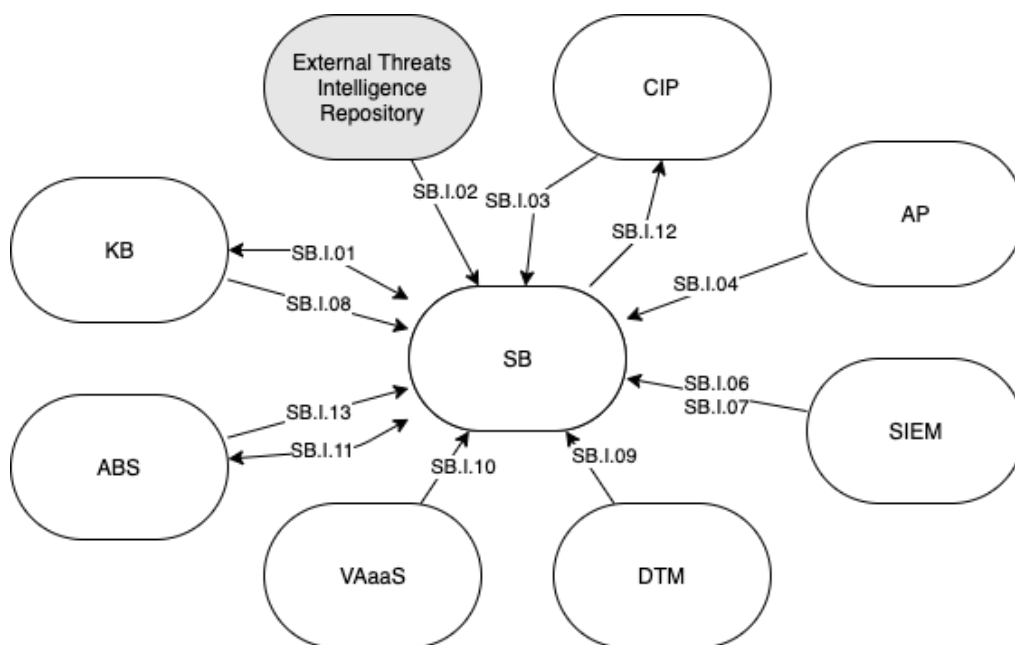


Figure 23: SPHINX SB Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the SB component are as follows.



| The SB shall provide a safe and isolated environment to deploy and test components without affecting the main services and IT infrastructure. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-160; STA-F-570 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB provides an environment that is isolated from the IT infrastructure and its main services, therefore enabling testing of components without affecting normal operations. |

| The SB shall support automation in order to analyse threats and protect sensitive data. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-150 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB environment includes automation features to support the analysis of threats and the protection of sensitive data as part of the cyber security certification mode. |

| The SB shall replicate the IT infrastructure enabling the deployment of tests in a valid environment. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-570 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB provides a safe environment to deploy tests to the fullest of capabilities in order to stress the system in the various aspects that are critical. Further analysis might be required in testing various older or updated versions of the infrastructure deriving from historical records. |

| The SB shall be able to integrate various IT infrastructures. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-160; STA-F-570 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB is designed to be easily adapted to various IT infrastructures and maintain its functionality. The deployment time is not guaranteed, mostly because it depends on the size and complexity of the IT infrastructure. |

| The SB shall consider suspicious traffic or suspicious performance peaks to ensure the software isolation process. | |
|--|------------|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-200 |
| Customer Value | 5 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Description and Rationale | The SB is designed to consider suspicious network traffic along with performance peaks on specific systems in order to restrict them or to create the required process or user groups, as the evaluation and securitisation of the IT infrastructure takes place. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| The SB shall maintain privileges and an overview of the running processes and systems. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-210 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB is designed to accommodate an overview of the restrictions and privileges of the IT infrastructure's running processes and systems, so that indication of any possible incidents or warnings is duly reported. |

| The SB shall provide certification management. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-070 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-170 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB receives information regarding the details and specifications of the required certification in order to customise the certification process in the same terms of its requirements. The SB has the ability to check the applicable certifications and follow possible certification updates, as well as of providing information regarding the progress for each certification. |

| The SB shall deliver reports on the progress of certification processes and their assessment results. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-080 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-150; STA-F-170 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB delivers reports related to the current progress of the IT infrastructure towards implementing the certification (required mostly for the real version and less for the testbed version). Final reports concerning the assessment results, tests performed, and certification criteria's fulfilment are also produced. |

| The SB shall provide graph and network visualisation. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-090 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-220 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB provides automatically graph and network visualisation features of newly discovered Common Vulnerabilities and Exposure (CVE) and cyber security incidents to trigger appropriate warnings. The SB also contemplates the possibility of providing suggestions on possible tools able to inform on CVEs and cyber security incidents. |



| The SB shall verify compliance against current and official certification requirements. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-100 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-170 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB ensures that certification criteria is constantly up-to-date and officially appreciated when performing a validated and reliable certification process, so that it follows the official requirements. |

| The SB shall provide service and systems enumeration. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-110 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-110 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB ensures that all running services and systems within the IT infrastructure are enumerated and presented accordingly. Older, outdated and non-used services are also reported in order to maintain the monitoring of all services, including those that are no longer required. |

| The SB shall consider vulnerability assessment results to isolate any unsupervised processes. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-120 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-200 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Within the SB, vulnerability assessment is a major process for providing relevant cyber security information and for presenting all the possible exploits related to the particular IT infrastructure's vulnerabilities. The SB allows for this process to be customised and focused to the specific criteria that relate to the particular IT infrastructure. |

| The SB shall monitor self-replication processes of automated tests. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-130 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-110; STA-F-120; STA-F-150 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB monitors and reports the self-replication of automated tests, including the malicious activities and prevailing connections, in order to better monitor the testing process. |

| The SB shall incorporate potential social engineering attacks using social profiles in the assessment process. | |
|--|------------|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-140 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-460 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB considers the use of phishing emails or malicious activities related to social engineering and open-source intelligence (OSINT) methods to create a network of social connections and interrelations, along with data flows. The SB not only expands on technology elements but also integrates social connections. |

| | |
|--|---|
| The SB shall provide up-to-date information on Zero-Day attacks and directions. | |
| Requirement ID | SB-F-150 |
| Requirement Type | Functional |
| Dependencies | STA-F-150 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Since Zero-Day attacks often happen, the SB and its automated cyber security certification process provide up-to-date information on this domain and propose discovered solutions or related third parties. |

| | |
|---|---|
| The SB shall provide a list of available certification services to a given third-party based on the type of system to certify. | |
| Requirement ID | SB-F-160 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | SAT-F-180; STA-F-610 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB provides a list of available certification services to third parties that includes the mandatory parameters and settings required for an effective certification report request. |

| | |
|--|--|
| SB shall allow for a third-party to request a certification report on a given system. | |
| Requirement ID | SB-F-170 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SB allows for third parties to request a certification compliance report based on their service. To accomplish this request, the third-party must provide all parameters required for the certification report to be executed successfully (e.g., endpoint URLs, IP addresses, ports, MAC addresses, login credentials). Based on these input parameters, the certification report creation is executed in an asynchronous way, so that third parties do not need to wait for the conclusion of the process. |

| | |
|--|--|
| The SB shall be able to notify back the conclusion of a certification report. | |
| Requirement ID | SB-F-180 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-150; STA-F-170; STA-F-180; STA-F-610; STA-F-620 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | After the certification tests are concluded successfully, the SB is able to notify asynchronously third parties about the report's results. As a certification test might be a time-expensive operation, the third-party should not wait synchronously, nor polling the system for the results. Therefore, the SB is the one sending a call back event |



| | |
|--|---|
| | notifying about the conclusion of the certification process, as well as the report's contents or an URI referencing to the report data. |
|--|---|

| The SB shall be able to integrate external information from threat intelligence repositories. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | SB-F-190 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Sandbox shall collect information and correlate the responses with external threat repositories in order to enhance the process of certification process and increase reliability. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX SB component are:

- **SB.I.01: Certification Process and Knowledge Base**

This interface allows for the SB to retrieve the initial status regarding common threats from the KB. The automated cyber security certification observes the list of these main threats as a starting point. The interface returns the SB's certification process and results to be stored in the KB repository.

- **Input:** Current threats;
- **Output:** Certification process and results.

Related Interfaces: KB.I.02; KB.I.01.

- **SB.I.02: Sandbox and External Threat Intelligence Repositories**

This interface allows for the SB to retrieve from external threat intelligence repositories up-to-date cyber threat intelligence (new malware, zero-day attacks). The automated cyber security certification observes the list of these new threats as a starting point.

- **Input:** New cyber threats (new malware, zero-day attacks);
- ⊖ **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **SB.I.03: Sandbox and Service Enumeration and Topology**

This interface allows for the SB to retrieve from the CIP the list of all running services along with privilege enumeration and the network topology's specifications. This information is required for deploying the dockers or for the sandboxing. The result is parsed and a sandbox or a replication of the overall IT infrastructure is created.

- **Input:** List of running services and network topology specifications;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: CIP.I.01.

- **SB.I.04: Sandbox and Anonymisation**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve the AP's anonymised data before the replication of the IT infrastructure, so as to prevent any security and privacy issues that might arise when non-trusted parties are included or to protect the actual sensitive data. The process of creating a safe sandbox or replicating the IT infrastructure's services requires the removal of all features that may lead to a data breach. The anonymisation process parses and processes the infrastructure's data that is critical not to disclose.

- **Input:** Anonymised data on the IT infrastructure (e.g., usernames, mac addresses);





- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: AP.I.05.

- **SB.I.06: Sandbox and SIEM**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve SIEM's security information and events resulting from the continuous protection of the IT infrastructure (e.g., monitoring of access rights and non-prohibited user behaviour).

- **Input:** List of security information and events;
- **Output:** Not applicable;

Related Interface: SIEM.I.07.

- **SB.I.07: Certification Process and SIEM**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve SIEM's data on the characteristics, privileges and access rights that are important for parsing to the attack and behaviour simulators or to compare the results in terms of privilege escalation (security scoring and metrics related to access rights).

- **Input:** List of system characteristics, privileges and access rights;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: SIEM.I.07.

- **SB.I.08: Certification Process and the Certification Criteria**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve the certification criteria from the chosen certification standards stored in the KB. These criteria perform as tasks for succeeding in the automated cyber security certification.

- **Input:** Certification criteria from chosen certification standards;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: KB.I.06.

- **SB.I.09: Sandbox and Data Traffic Monitoring**

This interface allows the SB to capture DTM's traffic information, including with respect to connected devices, to support the complete mapping of the IT infrastructure. This information is used specifically for intrusion detection and alerts on Denial of Service attacks.

- **Input:** Network and data traffic;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: DTM.I.06.

- **SB.I.10: Certification Process and VAaaS**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve the VAaaS's vulnerability assessments that provide intelligence on the level of security of particular entities (CVSS report). The details regarding vulnerability assessments are important for conducting the certification process.

- **Input:** Vulnerability assessments (CVSS reports);
- **Output:** API calls (trigger of the VAaaS process and the sharing of technical details).

Related Interface: VAaaS.I.03.

- **SB.I.11: Certification Process and Attack and Behaviour Simulators**

This interface allows the SB to retrieve the ABS's modelling of cyber-attacks and threat paths to support intelligence on the IT infrastructure's security scoring (relevant metrics for the certification criteria). The SB returns to the ABS component the evaluation results of the response after a simulation.

- **Input:** Designed attack patterns and/or designed routines/scripts;
- **Output:** Evaluation results of the response to the simulation.

Related Interface: ABS.I.03.





- **SB.I.12: Sandbox and Common Integration Platform**

This interface allows the SB to provide to the CIP the list of running services so that their deployment, initialisation and orchestration is performed.

- **Input:** List of applicable services and deployed nodes;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: CIP.I.01.

- **SB.I.13: Sandbox and Attack and Behaviour Simulators**

This interface allows the SB to provide to the ABS information regarding the current infrastructure, services and network topology, along with the access rights and privileges for each user.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Modelled cyber-attacks and threat paths.

Related Interface: ABS.I.04.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| SB.I.01 | SB and KB | The SB retrieves the initial status regarding common cyber threats from the KB. The SB stores the certification process and results in the KB repository. | List of current cyber threats. Certification process and results. |
| SB.I.02 | SB and Threat Intelligence Repositories (external components) | The SB retrieves from external threat intelligence repositories updated information on cyber threat intelligence and taxonomy (e.g., new malware, zero-day attacks). | List of updated cyber threat intelligence and taxonomy. |
| SB.I.03 | SB and CIP | The SB retrieves the list of all running services along with privilege enumeration and the network topology's specifications from the KB. | List of running services and network topology specifications. |
| SB.I.04 | SB and AP | The SB retrieves from the AP anonymised data before the replication of the IT infrastructure to prevent any security and privacy issues. | Anonymised data on the IT infrastructure. |
| SB.I.06 | SB and SIEM | The SB retrieves SIEM's security information and events resulting from the continuous protection of the IT infrastructure. | List of security information and events. |
| SB.I.07 | SB and SIEM | The SB retrieves SIEM's data on the system's characteristics, privileges and access rights. | List of system characteristics, privileges and access rights. |
| SB.I.08 | SB and KB | The SB retrieves the certification criteria from chosen official certification standards stored in the KB. | Certification criteria from chosen certification standards. |

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---|---|
| SB.I.09 | SB and DTM | The SB captures DTM's traffic information, including with respect to connected devices, to support the complete mapping of the IT infrastructure. | Network and data traffic. |
| SB.I.10 | SB and VAaaS | The SB retrieves the VAaaS's vulnerability assessments that provide intelligence on the level of security of particular entities. | API calls (trigger of the VAaaS process and the sharing of technical details). Vulnerability assessments (CVSS reports). |
| SB.I.11 | SB and ABS | The SB retrieves the ABS's modelling of cyber-attacks and threat paths to support intelligence on the IT infrastructure's security scoring. The SB provides to the ABS the evaluation results of the response after a simulation. | Designed attack patterns and/or designed routines/scripts. Evaluation results of the response to cyber-attack simulations. |
| SB.I.12 | SB and CIP | The SB provides to the CIP the list of running services to ensure their deployment, start and orchestration. | List of applicable services and deployed nodes. |
| SB.I.13 | SB and ABS | The SB provides to the ABS information regarding the current infrastructure, services and network topology, along with the access rights and privileges for each user. | Modelled cyber-attacks and threat paths. |

Table 15: SPHINX SB Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:

- **SB.API.01: SPHINX Third-Party Certification Services Interface**

This interface provides the mechanism for components developed by third parties to access the SPHINX SB for cyber security certification. The third-party components might be deployed in a local network or in a cloud environment.

- **Input:** Third-party component's technical specifications;
- **Output:** List of available certification services delivered by SPHINX.

Related Interface: S-API.I.03.

- **SB.API.02: SPHINX Certification Report Interface**

This interface provides the mechanism for the SPHINX SB to deliver a certification report to third-party components, indicating either full compliance to SPHINX cyber security standards or the alterations required in the third-party component for it to become fully compliant to SPHINX cyber security standards and thus certified. The third-party components might be deployed in a local network or in a cloud environment.

- **Input:** Not applicable.
- **Output:** Certification report (CVSS format).

Related Interface: S-API.I.03.

3.2.16 Knowledge Base

The aim of SPHINX Knowledge Base (KB) component is to represent domain specific knowledge in a form that can be used by both computers and humans to effectively operate on the knowledge acquired by SPHINX. To achieve this, an ontology (knowledge model) of the information security domain is needed. SPHINX's envisioned ontology consists of four main entities and the relationships among them and it is divided into two main parts: the concepts representing the IS domain knowledge (i.e. core concepts of the healthcare-related cyber security domain) and the concepts representing information about the considered healthcare organisations that are essential in the measurement of their security level. These concepts are a) Asset; b) Vulnerability; c) Threat; and d) Control. The most important relations among these concepts are a) Asset has a Vulnerability; b) a Vulnerability is exploited by Threat severity; c) a Threat threatens assets; and d) a Vulnerability is mitigated by Control.

Towards collecting and forming knowledge, the SPHINX KB collects anonymised security intelligence and insights from external web sources (for this purpose, autonomous agents will search and mine web sources), as well as from SPHINX components (e.g. SPHINX MLID and HP). This information is translated into security rules and shared among the network by updating the respective *advanced threats registries*. The KB gathers security incentives for a collective wisdom creation, as well as interconnects/ integrates with third parties threat intelligence. These third parties threat intelligence repositories are included (optionally) in the SPHINX installations and provide insights on occurred cyber-attacks (no specific user or device data, including origin are transmitted, only the sequence and shape of the attacks).

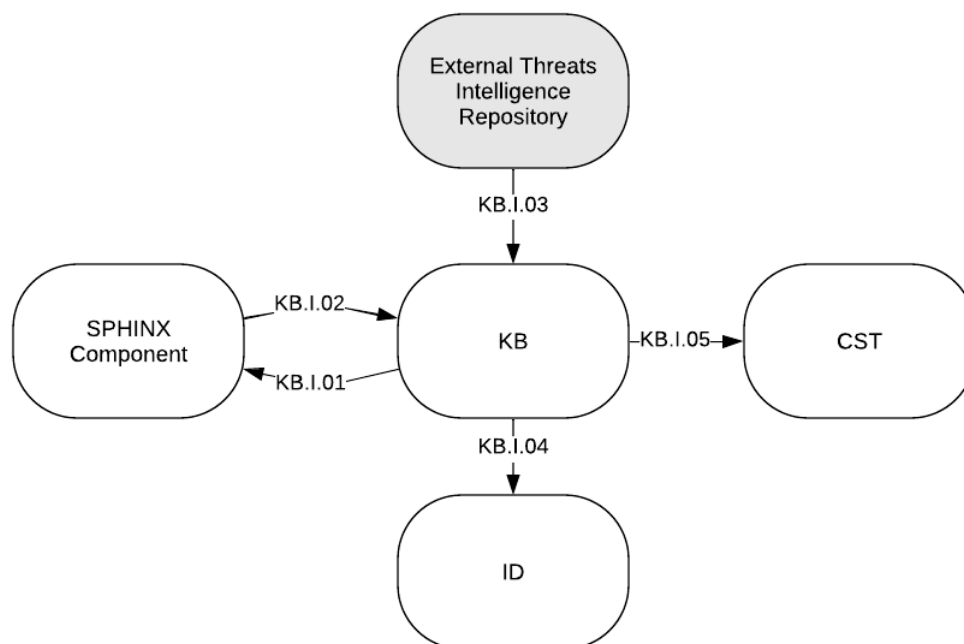


Figure 24: SPHINX KB Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the KB component are as follows.



| The Knowledge Base shall collect threat intelligence knowledge from external threat intelligence repositories. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | KB-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functionality Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base repository enriches its base with information living in open external Threat Intelligence repositories. The threats landscape changes frequently and the external repositories provide a good source of information regarding these changes, ensuring that SPHINX is always up to date. |

| The Knowledge Base shall collect knowledge about cyber security incidents from the SPHINX components. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | KB-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functionality Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-260 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base repository stores any cyber security-related knowledge produced from other SPHINX components (e.g. FDCE). In this way, the collected knowledge can be used to derive and provide best cyber security practices. |

| The Knowledge Base shall translate the collected knowledge to security rules. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | KB-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functionality Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-070; STA-S-080 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base repository creates security rules from the collected knowledge to be used for addressing cyber-attack incidents. |

| The Knowledge Base shall allow SPHINX users to query its database for retrieving the stored knowledge. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | KB-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functionality Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-560 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base component allows authorised SPHINX users (e.g. health organisation's IT administrators) to query its database for retrieving knowledge about specific cyber security threats. |

| The Knowledge Base shall allow SPHINX users to specify criteria for their queries based on chronological and cyber threat categorical attributes. | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Requirement ID | KB-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functionality Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-560 |
| Customer Value | 5 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base component allows authorised SPHINX users (e.g. health organisation's IT administrators) specify filtering criteria when querying its database for retrieving knowledge about specific cyber security threats. The criteria are based on chronological, and cyber threat categorical properties. |
|----------------------------------|--|

| The Knowledge Base shall use encrypted communication channels for exchanging data with other SPHINX components or with the external threat intelligence repositories. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | KB-S-010 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base repository uses encrypted communication channels for exchanging data with other SPHINX components and with external threat intelligence repositories. The use of encrypted communication channels enables the safe exchange of data and provides protection against eavesdropping. |

| The Knowledge Base shall prohibit any unauthorised access to its resources. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | KB-S-020 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-020 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The Knowledge Base shall prohibit any unauthorised access to its resources. It is clear that any unauthorised access to the system can have a negative impact to the whole SPHINX operations, as the malicious altering of the stored knowledge can lead to unwanted results for SPHINX components consuming that information. |

Interface Specifications

The use of STIX language for expressing threat intelligence information in the SPHINX domain resulted in the specification of KB cyber-threat intelligence information sharing interfaces to two generic ones, namely KB.I.01 (for storing intelligence information to the KB) and KB.I.02 (for accessing the stored intelligence information from the KB).

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX KB component are:

- **KB.I.01: Knowledge Input Interface**

This interface allows the SPHINX components to store knowledge on cyber-attacks in the SPHINX KB.

- **Input:** Knowledge on cyber-attacks;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interfaces: AD.I.04; FDCE.I.03; MLID.I.04; RCRA.I.03; VAaaS.I.01.

- **KB.I.02: Knowledge Output Interface**

This interface provides to the SPHINX components access to the KB's stored knowledge on cyber-attacks (cyber threats and attacks taxonomy, risk assessments and calculations, security incidents and events information, data faults, system disturbances and intrusions, protocol analysis, forensic analysis, decisions and courses of action to protect against cyber-attacks).

- **Input:** Query or parameters used to identify knowledge on cyber-attacks;
- **Output:** Knowledge that meets the input query.





Related Interfaces: AD.I.04; FDCE.I.03; MLID.I.04; RCRA.I.03; VAaaS.I.01; DSS.I.09.

- **KB.I.03: External Threat Intelligence Repositories Interface**

This interface allows the KB component to interoperate with well-known external threat intelligence repositories and retrieve knowledge and insights about the current cyber security threats landscape.

- **Input:** Information of security threats;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **KB.I.04: Dashboards Interface**

This interface allows authenticated users in the Interactive Dashboard to use the dashboard provided by the KB, by using the SSO mechanism.

- **Input:** HTTP requests for SSO;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: ID.I.06.

- **KB.I.05: CST Interface**

This interface allows the KB component to receive a request from the CST component and provide it with a list of best practices and lessons learned concerning cybersecurity.

- **Input:** Query about a specific cybersecurity threat/event/incident;
- **Output:** List of existing cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned (JSON structured file).

Related Interface: CST.I.02.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| KB.I.01 | KB and SPHINX components | The KB component enables the SPHINX components to store any produced threat intelligence information. | Intelligence Information on advanced threats, data faults and system disturbances using STIX language. |
| KB.I.02 | KB and SPHINX components | The KB component provides the stored threat intelligence information as STIX objects to any requesting SPHINX component. | Structured threat intelligence information, such as attack patterns, vulnerabilities and indicators. |
| KB.I.03 | KB and External Threat Intelligence Repositories | The KB component stores the primitive knowledge and insights contained in external Threat Intelligence repositories. | Primitive knowledge and insights of external threat intelligence repositories. |
| KB.I.04 | KB and ID | The KB retrieves requests from ID for SSO mechanism. It redirects users from the ID to the KB dashboard. | HTTP requests for SSO purposes. |
| KB.I.05 | KB and CST | The KB component receives from the CST component a request for well-known cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned and delivers this information. | List of cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned. |

Table 16: SPHINX KB Interface Specifications





Third-party APIs

There are no APIs identified for the KB component.

3.2.17 Blockchain Based Threats Registry

With the traditional architecture design, every application has to set up its own compatible servers for their own code execution, rendering difficult data sharing. Additionally, such approach also implies a possibility for a single point of failure in the system. With the use of blockchain, each node (server, device) on the network replicates the necessary data for all nodes, making a whole system more dynamic and reliable by putting up in front the true benefits of the decentralisation approach. SPHINX benefits from this concept by integrating the **adaptation of the blockchain architecture** in order to maximise the data security and integrity aspects of the proposed cyber security solution. Not only it will provide the novel cyber security tool for healthcare applications, but it also will have an integrated secure **self-defence** mechanism to reflect (repulse) the most modern attacks by decentralising its core decision-making engine.

The proposed solution brings bespoke functionalities with an intuitive user interface for non-expert IT security users in their working environments, that would normally be available only for data professionals and security experts.

The blockchain paradigm provides a robust auditing mechanism for advanced threats registry. Blockchain technology is employed in order to deliver a distributed auditing/log system that protects against tampering, as it has been widely discussed in other research works like Gaetani & Aniello & Baldoni & Lombardi & Margheri & Sassone (2017) [3], Shekhtman & Erez Waisbard (2018) [4], Pourmajidi & Miranskyy (2018) [5] and Cucurull & Puiggalí (2016) [6].

The Blockchain-based Threat Registry (BBTR) component acts as a background infrastructure which safely stores different logs from different sources such as hospitals, care centres, pharmacies, medical devices and patients. It can be used to store any kind of interesting information, such as critical logs or thread information. The main advantage in using Blockchain is to have a distributed ledger with unalterable information, synchronised between all parties.

The before-mentioned entities can interact with the SPHINX BBTR component using an API REST mechanism, so the Blockchain exposes an IP-port combination and the different parties send HTTP requests to it. To prevent packet interception/sniffing, SPHINX uses Transport Layer Security (TLS)/Secure Socket Layer (SSL) ciphering over HTTP, i.e., adopts the use of HTTPS.

The API Rest enables the healthcare organisations, such as hospitals, to register new threat events when they take place, be updated of any new threat that has taken place in another node of the network so that it is possible to put in place measures to prevent the threat and also receive general purpose services, such as, visualising statistics of events or historical data. These general services are defined based on the needs of the project, since they are not in the BBTR component's critical path.

Figure 26 represents two hospitals storing logs in a Blockchain. In this design, a Blockchain as a Service (BaaS) is depicted, where the different parties are acting as a Blockchain users. In order to do that, each party has its own certificate, identifying itself in the Blockchain.

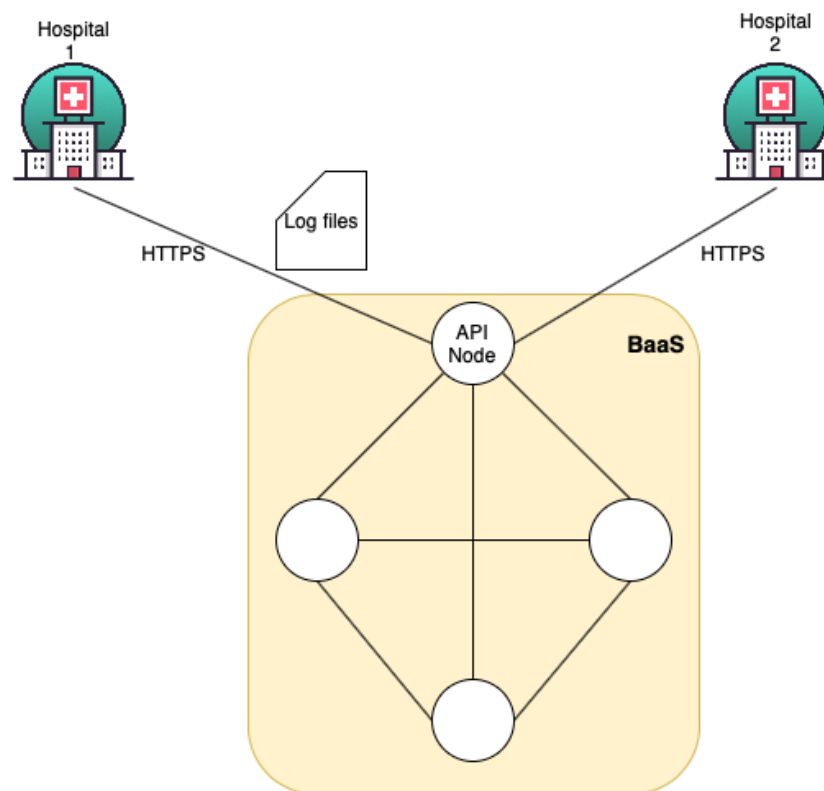


Figure 25: SPHINX Blockchain-as-a-Service

The SPHINX Blockchain-as-a-Service (BaaS) concept advantages encompasses:

- **Modularity:** it is possible and easy to add new parties to the solution;
- **Scalability:** it is possible to add new Blockchain nodes if additional service availability is needed. Information is replicated in every single node, so extra nodes need the same storage requirements than the previous ones;
- **Multi-party Interoperability:** by principle and by-design, the solution is deployed to allow multiple parties to securely exchange data;
- **Loosely coupled Infrastructure:** the infrastructure is completely decoupled from the party's IT infrastructure; thus, no modifications are required. Since the BaaS is managed and maintained by external parties, no specialised know-how is required by the party.

A party may opt to host and manage the whole Blockchain infrastructure or a hybrid approach might be selected, combining in-site nodes with external nodes. However, such requires modifications to the party's IT infrastructure and require for the party to acquire and maintain specialised skills. The chosen solution must have into account the associated costs, so one of the main goals is to decrease these costs.

Logs Format

All users in the Blockchain must use the same format when logging, so that the BBTR component can understand the logs from different sources. To generate further intelligence with this information, the JSON format is proposed to do the logging, because it is a universal web-friendly format that is widely supported.

Inputs and Outputs

There are some restrictions in input files to the Blockchain. Blockchain rapidly consumes disk capacity, so inputs must be simple types. SPHINX recommends for the distributed thread registry the use of a JSON format with information about different threads, so that performance is not affected.

Focusing on other log files, SPHINX recommends storing the hashes of these files, rather than the whole file. By this process, SPHINX achieves integrity without compromising performance and significantly reduces the required disk capacity. The actual log file can be stored in a repository that is external to the Blockchain nodes.

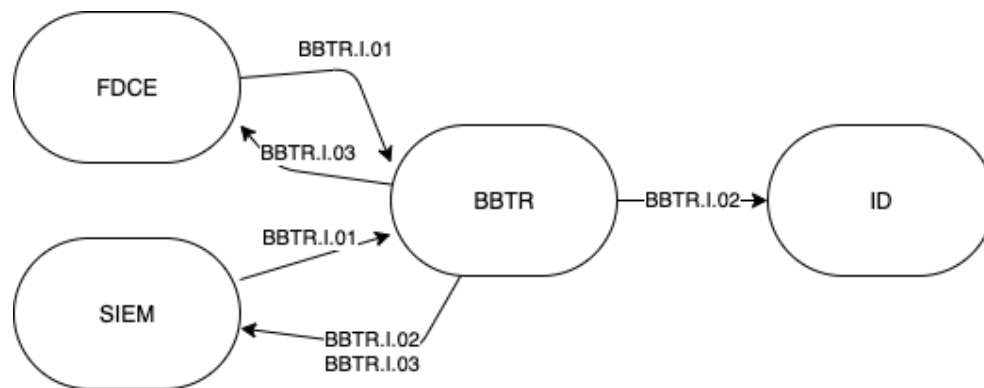


Figure 26: SPHINX BBTR Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the BBTR component are as follows.

| The BBTR shall provide a blockchain threat registry to register new real-time threats. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | BBTR-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-330 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | BBTR provides secure mechanisms to build a chain of evidence, allowing information pertaining to threats to be stored and distributed across nodes. This enables all connected hospitals using the SPHINX solution to host a blockchain node and thus a synchronised threat registry. |

| The BBTR shall provide a blockchain threat registry allowing all nodes to be informed of new real-time threats. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | BBTR-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-340 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | When a node is attacked, the threat registry is updated. This causes all nodes to be informed (notified) through the BBTR mechanism. |

| The BBTR shall allow retrieving registered threats. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | BBTR-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-330: STA-F-340 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | BBTR allows modules to retrieve registered threats. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX BBTR component are:

- BBTR.I.01: Insert New Threat Registry Interface**
 This interface allows the BBTR to receive information regarding new threats and attack types.
 - Input:** New attack type information and metadata;
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interfaces: FDCE.I.04; SIEM.I.01.
- BBTR.I.02: Threat Registry Notification Interface**
 This interface is used by the BBTR to notify SPHINX components that a new threat was registered.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** New attack type information and metadata.
 Related Interfaces: FDCE.I.01; ID.I.02.
- BBTR.I.03: Retrieve Threat Registry Interface**
 This interface allows the BBTR to provide information concerning registered threats.
 - Input:** Threat select criteria (e.g., selected types of threats and time scale) (or all if no criteria is provided);
 - Output:** List of threats meeting the provided criteria.
 Related Interfaces: FDCE.I.04; SIEM.I.01.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| BBTR.I.01 | BBTR and SIEM | SIEM generates log entries of new threats and logs them in the BBTR. | New threat registry (attack type information and metadata). |
| BBTR.I.01 | BBTR and FDCE | FDCE identifies new threats and logs them in the BBTR. | New threat registry (attack type information and metadata). |
| BBTR.I.02 | BBTR and FDCE | FDCE receives updates regarding new threats from BBTR. | New threat registry (attack type information and metadata). |
| BBTR.I.02 | BBTR and ID | ID receives information in case a new threat is identified so that users can be notified. | New threat registry (attack type information and metadata). |
| BBTR.I.03 | BBTR and SIEM | SIEM retrieves the list of threats from BBTR. | List of threats. |
| BBTR.I.03 | BBTR and FDCE | FDCE retrieves the list of threats from BBTR. | List of threats. |

Table 17: SPHINX BBTR Interface Specifications





Third-party APIs

The following third-party APIs are accessible:

- **BBTR.API.01: Insert New Threat Registry Interface**

This interface allows the BBTR to receive information from third parties regarding new threats and attack types.

- **Input:** New attack type information and metadata;
- **Output:** Not applicable.

Related Interface: BBTR.I.01.

- **BBTR.API.02: Threat Registry Notification Interface**

This interface is used by the BBTR to notify third parties that a new threat was registered.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** New attack type information and metadata.

Related Interface: BBTR.I.02.

- **BBTR.API.03: Retrieve Threat Registry Interface**

This interface allows the BBTR to provide information concerning registered threats to third parties.

- **Input:** Threat select criteria (e.g., selected types of threats and time scale) (or all if no criteria is provided);
- **Output:** List of threats meeting the provided criteria.

Related Interface: BBTR.I.03.

3.2.18 Cyber Security Toolbox

The SPHINX Cyber Security Toolbox (CST) component enables SPHINX users to select the security services that best match their needs, to use within the SPHINX ecosystem. It allows users to *plug* cyber security services into their existing connectivity services and configure/adapt them according to their security needs. In this respect, and upon receiving the users' requests, CST jointly examines the available infrastructure resources and the available security functions/services that are part of the Toolbox and produces an indicative list of the appropriate technical offerings. To achieve this, the KB repository is utilised for the drawing of good practices and lessons learned from past experiences.

The CST component utilises a common web-based graphical user interface so that SPHINX users are able to:

- list existing SPHINX security services from the services repository;
- select specific SPHINX security services and deploy them on the CIP;
- place their requests for SPHINX services and declare their requirements for the corresponding security functions/services;
- preconfigure (if applicable) the selected SPHINX services before deployment;
- monitor the status of the established security services and associated security functions, as well as to perform, according to their rights, management operations (e.g. start, stop) concerning them.

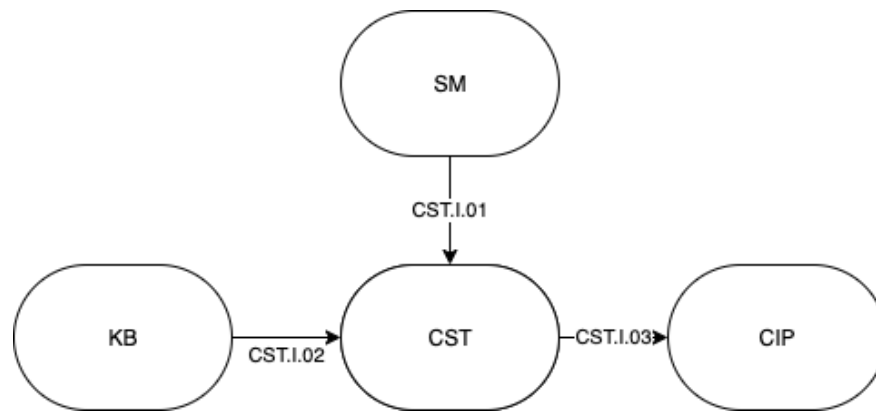


Figure 27: SPHINX CST Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the CST component are as follows.

| CST shall retrieve the list of existing SPHINX services from the local services repository. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | CST-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-090; STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The CST component queries the SM to retrieve the list of offered services that can be deployed and run on the Common Integration Platform. |

| CST shall provide the capability to deploy a selected service on the CIP. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | CST-F-020 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-090; STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The CST user interface offers to users the functionality of browsing through the offered SPHINX services, select the services that best match their needs/requirements and deploy them on the CIP. |

| CST shall provide to users the capability to place requests for desired services with specific requirements. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | CST-F-030 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-090; STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The CST component allows users to place their requests for a desired SPHINX service that will meet specific requirements. The CST will compare the requested requirements to the existing services and suggest the existing services that match or reflect those requirements. |



| CST shall provide to users the capability to pre-configure selected services before deployment. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | CST-F-040 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-090; STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The CST component allows users to pre-configure a selected service before deploying it on the CIP, to best integrate it with the existing security services. |

| CST shall allow users to monitor the status of deployed services, as well as to perform management operations. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | CST-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-090; STA-U-040 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The CST component allows users to monitor the deployed SPHINX services' status. Additionally, users are able to manage (start, stop, pause) the deployed SPHINX services, provided they have the proper permissions. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX CST component are:

- CST.I.01: Service Manager Interface**
 This interface allows the CST component to receive information regarding all existing security services from the Service Manager.
 - Input:** List of existing security services (JSON structured file);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interfaces: SM.I.04.
- CST.I.02: Knowledge Base Interface**
 This interface allows the CST component to receive from the KB component a list of best practices and lessons learned concerning cybersecurity.
 - Input:** List of existing cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned (JSON structured file);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: KB.I.02.
- CST.I.03: CIP Interface**
 This interface allows the CST component to deploy specific security services onto the CIP component.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** List of relevant security services, comprising the service's description and configuration (JSON structured file).
 Related Interface: CIP.I.01.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| CST.I.01 | CST and SM | The CST receives from the SM component the list of registered security services that can be offered for deployment on the CIP. | List of available security services. |
| CST.I.02 | CST and KB | The CST receives from the KB well known cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned, that fit the current infrastructure, in terms of resources and assets. | List of cybersecurity best practices and lessons learned. |
| CST.I.03 | CST and CIP | The CST sends a list of specific security services to be deployed on the CIP. | List of relevant security services. |

Table 18: SPHINX CST Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

There are no APIs identified for the CST component.

3.2.19 Application Programming Interface for Third Parties

The SPHINX Application Programming Interface (API) for Third Parties (S-API) enable third-party healthcare solution providers to access and interact with the SPHINX Platform and its components. Subject to authentication and using end-to-end encryption, S-API exposes advanced cyber security functionalities implemented by SPHINX components, such as device/application certification, threat registry notification and anomaly detection. The third-party interface specification for each component is presented in the respective component subsection. The S-API concept is presented in Figure 29.

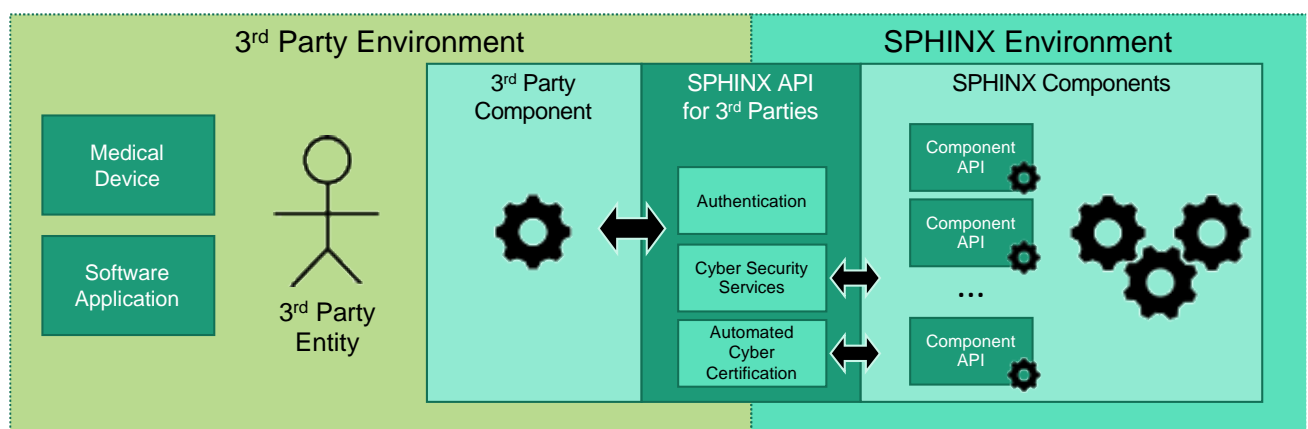


Figure 28: The S-API Architecture

A particularly important feature in S-API consists of the delivery to third parties of SPHINX device certification functionalities. Specifically, S-API may be used by medical devices manufacturers (constrained hardware running specialised software or firmware) and software services providers (specialised software applications and solutions) to access the SPHINX Sandbox and receive assurance that the device and services are SPHINX-compliant and certified, therefore becoming trusted assets in a SPHINX-secured IT ecosystem.

Facilitated through the S-API, the certification process for third-party components shall be performed in a controlled environment, not to disrupt normal operations. Upon the creation of a Virtual Private Network (VPN) between the third-party manufacturer/developer and the SPHINX Sandbox, the S-API enables the direct interaction of the SPHINX Sandbox with third-party components for purposes of certification (see details in the SB component section).

Aiming to maximise interoperability and ease of integration, SPHINX will support the following type of interfaces with third-party components:

- JSON data format (RFC 8259);
- Web services based on the REST architecture, allowing devices to access services from the SPHINX Sandbox;
- OAuth2.0 as authorisation framework (RFC 8252 and RFC 6750);

Implemented in WP3, S-API includes the protocols, functions, data structures and variables, within the accompanying source code and usage instructions. The interface choice is designed to fully decouple the third-party component from SPHINX.

The high-level architecture for the S-API is depicted in the next figure.

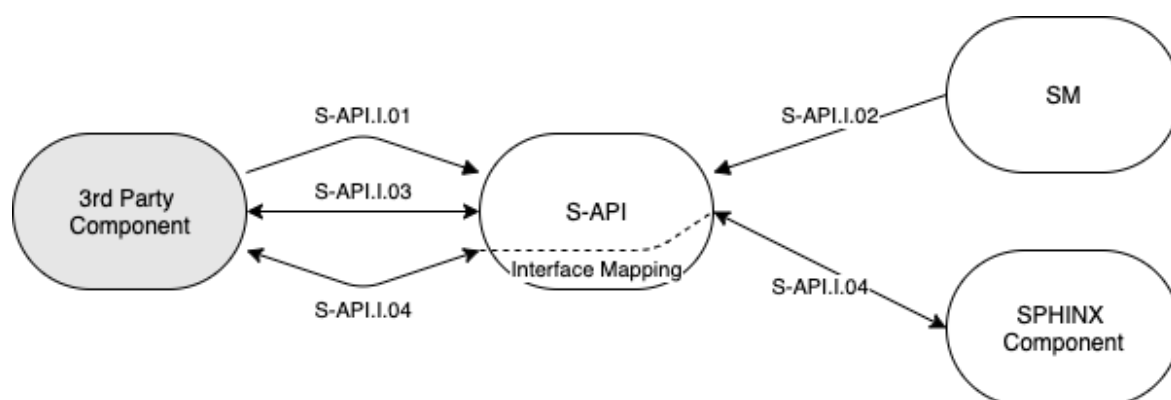


Figure 29: The S-API Component Diagram

Detailed Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the S-API component are as follows.

| SPHINX shall provide an open API to third parties enabling them to access SPHINX functionalities. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | S-API-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-580 |
| Customer Value | 5 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Description and Rationale | SPHINX provides an open Application Programming Interface for Third Parties (API), making its advanced cyber security functionalities and cyber certification capabilities available to them. This API provides a set of calls to invoke specific actions. The API calls must be well-documented and open to enable an easy integration by third parties. Via the API, Third Parties will be able to discover and find which SPHINX data protection and information security services are available. |
|----------------------------------|--|

| SPHINX API access shall be authenticated and secure. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | S-API-S-020 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-590 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | Third parties' access shall be protected by means of authentication, using end-to-end secure protocols to avoid the interception and/or manipulation of API calls and to enforce authenticity on the entities invoking such calls. |

| SPHINX shall be able to manage credentials for API access. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | S-API-S-030 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-590; STA-S-050 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | To authenticate and authorise access to the API features, SPHINX must be able to provide and manage credentials which identify the third-party using them and specify the set of features the user is able to access. The management of such credentials includes the ability to generate and to revoke them at any time. The process to generate authentication credentials to third parties should be efficient and, preferably, automated. Credentials might be revoked by SPHINX or by the respective third party in order to release SPHINX resources from being misused by unauthorised providers. Such authentication mechanisms should be open, robust, based on standards and widely used to ease integration with third-party clients and to avoid authentication points of failure. |

| SPHINX shall be able to manage credential roles. | |
|--|--|
| Requirement ID | S-API-S-040 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-590 |
| Customer Value | 4 |
| Description and Rationale | Based on the third-party provider's role on the system, different types of access control might be defined per SPHINX component, comprising API calls permissions available for each role. |

| SPHINX API shall provide a list of available services to a given third-party based on its role. | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Requirement ID | S-API-F-050 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-580; STA-F-600 |





| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Based on the access control roles previously defined, SPHINX must provide a mechanism to discover the available services on the SPHINX platform. This discovery feature must allow third parties to access such services in a secure and loosely decoupled way. |

| SPHINX API shall allow third-parties to request a cyber certification of their IT components. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | S-API-F-060 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-610 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | <p>Third-parties can submit a cyber certification request to the SPHINX Platform via the third-party API.</p> <p>The request can refer to an already deployed component, or it can refer to a new component (planned to be deployed or in assessment phase).</p> <p>S-API submits the request to the SB component. The SB component then performs the certification task.</p> |

| SPHINX API shall provide to the third-party the certification reports related with their IT components. | |
|---|--|
| Requirement ID | S-API-F-070 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-F-620 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | A third-party that shall receive a certification report related with a cyber certification request of its IT components. Note that, albeit the certification task is performed by SB, the certification report is submitted by the SIEM component. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SPHINX S-API component are:

- S-API.I.01: SPHINX Third Party Authentication Interface**
 This interface allows third parties to authenticate themselves with the SPHINX system.
 - Input:** Third-party credentials (valid username and password);
 - Output:** Authentication result (if successful, authentication token; if non-successful, error message).
 Related Interface: Not applicable.
- S-API.I.02: SPHINX Services Information Interface**
 This interface allows the S-API to receive from the SM component the list of available SPHINX security services for third-parties, including the associated third-party interface specification.
 - Input:** List of security services available for third-parties, comprising the service's description and configuration and the interface specification that each service exports to third-parties (JSON structured file);
 - Output:** Not applicable.
 Related Interface: SM.I.01





- **S-API.I.03: SPHINX Services Discovery Interface**

This interface allows third parties to discover and retrieve services related with the SPHINX certification process.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** List of services available to perform the SPHINX certification process.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **S-API.I.04: SPHINX Generic Interface for Third Parties**

This interface represents a generic mechanism that maps the access of third parties to specific SPHINX components via these components' third-party interfaces.

- **Input:** Third-party request for a specific SPHINX service;
- **Output:** Services accessible in the SPHINX Platform.

Related Interface: See identified third-party APIs within each SPHINX component subsection.

- **S-API.I.05: SPHINX Certification Request for Third Parties**

This interface allows third parties to issue a certification request for an IT component.

- **Input:** Information about the IT component to certify;
- **Output:** Not applicable (certification report is received in S-API.I.06).

Related Interface: Not applicable.

- **S-API.I.06: SPHINX Certification Report to Third Parties**

This interface allows third parties to receive a certification report as a result of a certification request.

- **Input:** Not applicable;
- **Output:** Certification report.

Related Interface: Not applicable.

| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|--|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| S-API.I.01 | S-API and Third Parties | The S-API allows third-parties to authenticate themselves with the SPHINX system. | Third-party credentials. Authentication results. |
| S-API.I.02 | S-API and SM | The S-API receives a list of available security services for third-parties, including the associated third-party interface specification from the SM. | List of security services available for third-parties, including the third-parties' interface specifications. |
| S-API.I.03 | S-API and Third Parties | The S-API allows third-parties to discover and retrieve services related with the SPHINX certification process. | List of services available to perform the SPHINX certification process. |
| S-API.I.04 | S-API and SPHINX components with third-party APIs (DTM, AD, SIEM, FDCE, HE, AP, SB, BBTR) | The S-API allows third-parties to access the SPHINX components' third-party interfaces. | Third-party request for a specific SPHINX service. Services accessible in the SPHINX Platform. |
| S-API.I.05 | S-API and SB | The S-API allows third-parties to issue a certification request to the SPHINX System. | Third-party certification request, including information of the IT service(s) required to perform certification. |



| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| S-API.I.06 | S-API and Third Parties | The S-API allows third-parties to receive certification reports resulting from certification requests. | Certification reports related with IT components. |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--|---|

Table 19: SPHINX S-API Interface Specifications

S-API.I.04 Detailed Specification:

The S-API.I.04 interface described the generic interactions with several SPHINX components. Its detailed specifications are presented in the next table.

| Component Interfaces to Third Parties | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|
| Interface ID | Description | Exchanged information | Method |
| AD-API.01 | This interface provides information regarding detected anomalies in system and user behaviour that constitute a threat. | Output: Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour | GET |
| AD-API.02 (Kafka) | Replicates AD-API.01, producing a message to Kafka topic "ad-alert" when an anomaly is detected. | Output: Detected anomalies in system and user behaviour | Kafka Topic |
| BBTR-API.01 | This interface is used to receive information regarding new threats and attack types. | Input: New attack type information and metadata. | POST |
| BBTR-API.02 (notification) | This interface is used to receive notifications that a new threat was registered. | Output: New attack type information and metadata. | BBTR Notification |
| BBTR-API.03 | This interface is used to provide information concerning registered threats. | Input: Search criteria Output: List of threats meeting the provided criteria. | GET |
| DTM-API.01 | This interface is used to receive information regarding detected anomalous or suspicious data traffic. | Output: Abnormal and suspicious traffic information | GET |
| DTM-API.02 | This interface is used to receive statistical information on collected data traffic (e.g., number of connected devices and connected users, data access type, bandwidth used per device and per user). | Output: Statistical information concerning collected data traffic | GET |
| DTM-API.03 (Kafka) | Replicates DTM-API.01, producing a message to Kafka topic "dtm-alert" when an anomaly or suspected data traffic is detected. | Output: Abnormal and suspicious traffic information | Kafka Topic |
| SIEM-API.01 | This interface is used to deliver incident-related information (log entries of security incidents and threats). | Input: Not applicable; Output: Cyber incidents and threats (log entries). | GET |



| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|--------------------|
| SIEM-API.02 | This interface is used to deliver the system's security information and events. | Input: Not applicable; Output: Security information and events. | GET |
| SIEM-API.02 (Kafka) | Replicates SIEM-API.02, producing a message to Kafka topic "siem-input-events" on a new event. | Output: Security information and events. | Kafka Topic |
| VAAAS.I.01 | This interface is used to provide information concerning the VAAAS status. | Output: VAaaS status | GET |
| VAAAS.I.02 | This interface is used to receive vulnerability reports from the VAAAS. | Output: VAaaS generated reports (Vulnerability score (i.e., CVSS) and a detailed report describing the assessment results) | GET |
| VAAAS.I.03 | This interface is used to retrieve a list of tasks executed by VAAAS. | Output: VAaaS list of tasks | GET |
| VAAAS.I.04 | This interface is used to request the initiation of a vulnerability assessment in a given system. | Input: Information concerning the system to undergo a vulnerability assessment. Output: VAaaS list of tasks | POST |
| VAAAS.I.05 | This interface is used to request the status of an on-going task. | Input: Information concerning the task. Output: Task status. | POST |
| VAAAS.I.06 (Kafka) | Replicates VAAAS-API.02, producing a message to Kafka topic "vaaas-reports" when a new vulnerability reports is generated. | Output: VAaaS generated reports (Vulnerability score (i.e., CVSS) and a detailed report describing the assessment results) | Kafka Topic |

Table 20: SPHINX S-API.I.04 Interface Specifications

3.2.20 Service Manager

The SPHINX Service Manager (SM) component keeps the registry of services managing information such as the service name, description, URL, version, call method, exceptions, security, and permissions based on role management. SM can also serve as a mediator responsible for authenticating clients and authorising access to services or resources. Users of the SPHINX services need to authenticate to have access to the services requested. Different privileges are defined per user and service account, based on the roles and permissions assigned to the account. After authentication, a session ticket is provided to the user which is included in requests for registered services to validate the authority of the user and allow access to the requested service. The ticket shall not be replicable and guessable. Note that each ticket is associated with a session and can expire after timeout. The SM component determines whether the ticket is valid and if the session is still active. If the token is not valid or the user does not have the authority to access the service(s), an error message is returned. Otherwise, the requestor of the service can invoke the requested service(s).

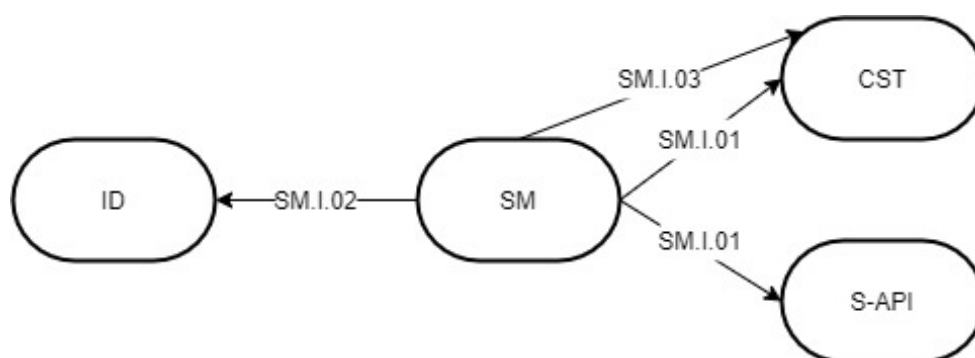


Figure 30: The SM Component Diagram

Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX project, the technical requirements/specifications for the SM component are as follows.

| The SM shall embed an appropriate authentication and authorisation scheme. | |
|--|---|
| Requirement ID | SM-S-010 |
| Requirement Type | Security Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-S-020; STA-S-060 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | The SM component allows users to access the SPHINX services based on roles and permissions assigned to the user and service accounts while providing SSO functionalities. |

Interface Specifications

The interfaces applicable to the SM component are:

- SM.I.01: Get Service Interface**
 This interface allows the SM component to provide list of existing SPHINX services.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** List of existing services.
 Related Interface: CST.I.01, S-API.I.02
- SM.I.02: Manage SSO users**
 This interface allows the ID component to manage Single Sign On (SSO) users.
 - Input:** Not applicable;
 - Output:** Details for the SSO users managed (get/create/delete/edit).
 Related Interface: Not applicable
- SM.I.03: Manage external data at SM registry**
 This interface allows the CST component to manage external data at SM registry.
 - Input:** Data to be stored at the SM registry;
 - Output:** Data retrieved from the SM registry.
 Related Interface: CST.I.01



| Component Interfaces | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Interface ID | Involved Components | Components Relation | Interface Content |
| SM.I.01 | SM and CST | The SM allows the CST component to retrieve a list of existing SPHINX services. | List of existing SPHINX services. |
| SM.I.01 | SM and S-API | The SM allows the S-API component to retrieve a list of existing SPHINX services. | List of existing SPHINX services. |
| SM.I.02 | SM and ID | The SM allows the ID to manage SSO users | User details. |
| SM.I.03 | SM and CST | The SM allows the CST component to manage external data to the SM registry | Data to be stored/retrieved to/from the SM registry |

Table 21: SPHINX SM Interface Specifications

Third-party APIs

There are no APIs identified for the SM component.

3.2.21 Common Integration Platform

The SPHINX Common Integration Platform (CIP) provides a data and processes integration framework and infrastructure for all SPHINX components and services.

The CIP is built upon the basic concepts of virtualisation, containers and Virtual Machines (VMs), therefore providing inherent sandboxing capabilities. Containers use a common kernel for process level isolation and VMs through hardware level abstraction. Containerisation allows to package applications in containers for secure and isolated execution, making them portable between different computing environments. A container packages up code, runtime and all its dependencies so that the application runs quickly and reliably independently of the underlying hardware and operating system. The encapsulation of each software component in a container image allows developers to separate tasks into microservices (standalone applications that collaborate with each other) thus enabling independent maintenance. Upscaling and update.

Each SPHINX component is deployed independently on the CIP component in the form of a docker container. Docker containers are deployed on VMs so that microservices are isolated from each other but also grouped inside of the VM host.

Part of the SPHINX CIP is a messaging middleware in the form of a distributed Message and Service Bus (MSB) that allows all actors and systems (SPHINX service consumers, SPHINX service providers, SPHINX components and services) to act as networked objects and exchange data.

The SPHINX CIP includes the foundational components required for establishing and ensuring the connectivity among the SPHINX software components and operation of the SPHINX Universal Cyber Security Toolkit. These include:

- (i) The Service Manager (SM) that provides a registry of the SPHINX services and an authentication and authorization mechanism.
- (ii) The Single Sign-On (SSO) mechanism provided by the SM component for the management of end users.



(iii) A Kafka Server and its integration with the SM for the asynchronous communication between the SPHINX components.

(iv) A Kubernetes API (K-API) service that facilitates the automated deployment of the SPHINX components on the Kubernetes cluster making use of the Kubernetes API₃.

Further details about the Common Integration Platform are documented in *D6.1 - Specifications of SPHINX Software Integration Framework*.

Technical Specifications

Based on the VOLERE methodology as adapted by the SPHINX Action, the technical requirements/specifications for the CIP component are as follows.

| CIP shall be a modular, scalable and interoperable platform. | |
|---|---|
| Requirement ID | CIP-F-010 |
| Requirement Type | Functional Specifications |
| Dependencies | STA-M-010 |
| Customer Value | 5 |
| Description and Rationale | Comprise the mechanism of facilitating the integration and deployment of all SPHINX components. |

Third-party APIs

There are no APIs identified for the CIP component.

4 SPHINX System Functional Diagrams

To complete the presentation of the SPHINX System's architectural design, the SPHINX partners considered to be relevant to further illustrate what could be a reference deployment of the SPHINX System and its comprising components.

Following the definition of the use cases in Deliverable D2.9 - *Use Cases Definition and Pilot Overview Document v3* and the system architecture here-in established, the SPHINX partners have considered one of the SPHINX use cases, *Use Case 1 (UC1): Attacking Obsolete Operating Systems in Hospital*, deemed highly representative of real end-user needs and of the SPHINX benefits, to present how the different SPHINX components would address the specific use case challenges, highlighting the involved dataflows among the deployed components (functional diagram) and the sequence of events related with the dynamics of the use case (sequence diagram).

The SPHINX UC1 captures the overall SPHINX System functions, thus becoming a paradigm illustration of how the SPHINX System and its components would be deployed to other SPHINX use cases, displaying similar functional and sequence diagrams. This exercise allowed the SPHINX partners to conduct a thorough analysis of the positioning and the interactions among the different SPHINX components and the results of this analysis do provide additional technical insight of the SPHINX System in operation.

Figure 31 presents a structural diagram involving several SPHINX components and their interconnections:

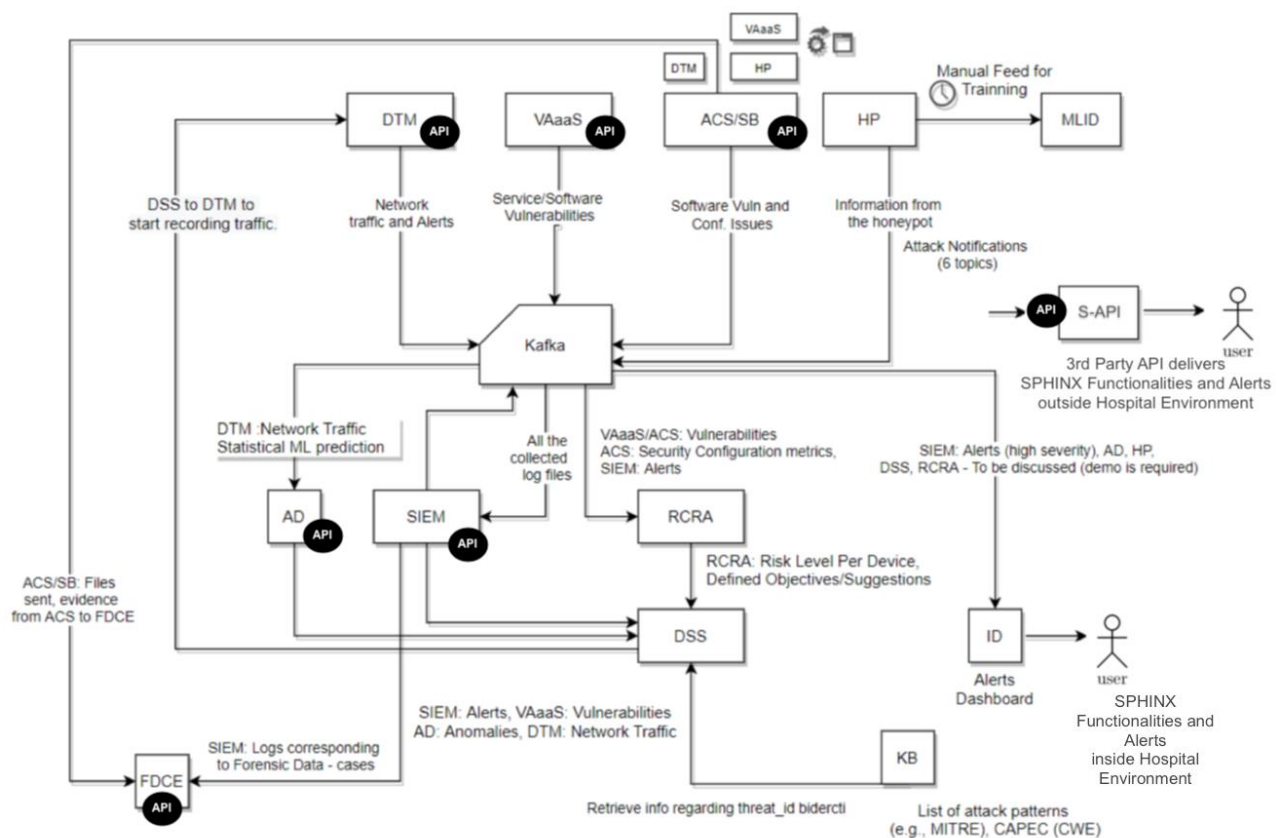


Figure 31: Structural Diagram of the SPHINX Components Following The Reference Architecture



The diagram highlights that:

- VAaaS and ACS/SB are used for **detecting existing vulnerabilities and certifying existing components**. The components report their results using their dedicated UI and Kafka (that subsequently distributes the information to subscribers, such as FDCE, DSS, ID, RCRA and SIEM).
- AD, DTM, HP and SIEM are used for **real-time detection of incidents**. These components perform active monitoring of the network and its assets. The HP in particular, creates vulnerable services to lure potential attackers. When attacks (or suspicious behaviour) are detected, alerts are generated and displayed using dedicated UI, or published to Kafka (that subsequently distributes the information to subscribers, such as DSS and ID).
- RCRA and DSS (with AD) consume data from several SPHINX components. They provide **further insights concerning network activity and possible attacks**. The DSS also suggests proper course of action for recovery and mitigation measures.
- ID and S-API provide **access to SPHINX functionalities and overall alerting mechanisms to users**. ID operates inside hospital network and is SPHINX main component for users to monitor the overall status of the network. S-API allows users to access SPHINX functions (i.e., from components exposing API to third parties) and information outside the hospital network, potentially anywhere and everywhere.
- FDCE collects relevant attack-related data generating **reports assisting cyber forensic procedures and lessons learned**.

The following figure presents a sequence diagram based on *UC1: Attacking Obsolete Operating Systems in Hospital*. The sequence diagram displays the attack vector as the starting point, also referring to additional vulnerable conditions (e.g., presence of obsolete (vulnerable) systems). As described in UC1, a user works on a VM running on a vulnerable OS (e.g., Windows XP). The user accidentally downloads and executes an application infected with a malware. The malware logs activity in the VM (e.g., keylogger), sending information to an external server controlled by the attacker. Via this connection, the attacker gains access to the hospital network and attempts to infect other machines, aiming to compromise the delivery of hospital services.



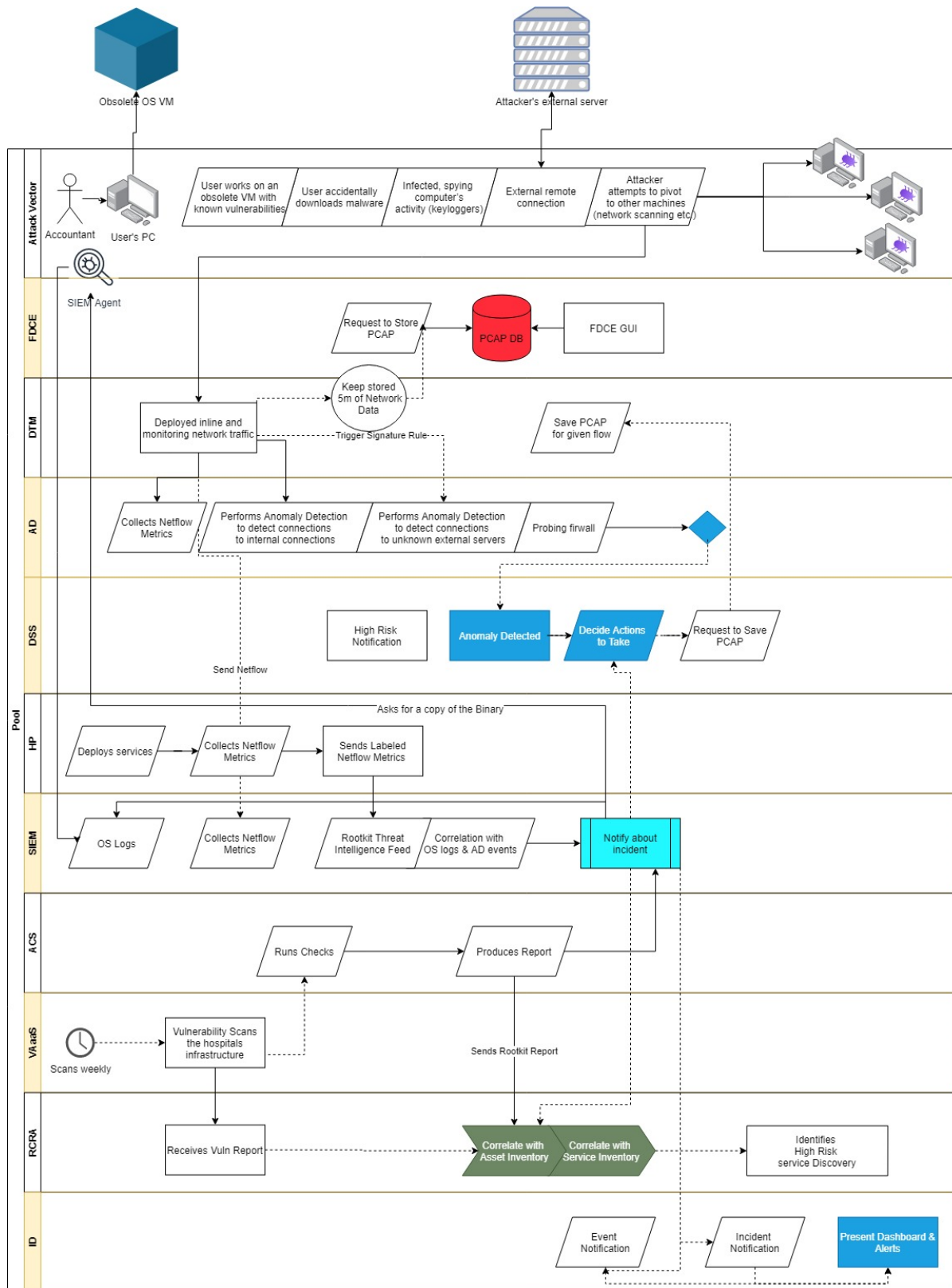


Figure 32: Sequence Diagram for SPHINX UC1: Attacking Obsolete Operating Systems in Hospital

The sequence diagram sets that the Honeypot (HP) and the Vulnerability Assessment as a Service (VAaaS) are executed from the start. VAaaS identifies existing network vulnerabilities while HP detects potential intrusions/attack attempts. The Automated Cybersecurity Certification (ACS) is also initiated to support the pre-



attack phase of identifying the vulnerabilities and setting up the honeypots. These components are pivotal in informing the IT cyber-security staff of weak points in their network that could be exploited by cyber-attacks. Using this information, the IT staff may take proper protection measures, such as moving all vulnerable assets to an isolated network with limited connectivity. Doing so, this attack vector would have been neutralised.

In the event that the attack is carried out and no mitigating actions had taken place, an anomalous activity would occur in the hospital's affected machines and IT network. The HP detects potential intrusions/attack attempts in the network (an attacker trying to compromise services exposed by HP), while the Data Traffic Monitoring (DTM) captures network anomalies, sending data to the Anomaly Detection (AD) tool. The Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) component gathers information from network computers (such as CPU load, memory usage, network usage) and detects anomalous CPU load in the affected machine, triggering an alert to the ID. Moreover, SIEM aggregates and correlates data from several sources (the SPHINX components), triggering alerts according to scheduled queries. The Real-time Cyber Risk Assessment (RCRA) tool consumes the SPHINX generated alerts and generates a report matching the vulnerabilities and potential security issues that arise with a risk level for the infrastructure's assets. The Decision Support System (DSS) is also notified, suggesting proper courses of action for recovery and mitigation measures. Importantly, the IT staff would be able to monitor the cybersecurity status of their network via the ID, being notified of relevant events, as generated by the several SPHINX components. Also, via the ID, the IT staff would be able to access details of the alerts, by navigating to the respective tool. In addition, if a relevant member of the IT staff would be outside of the hospital, it would still be possible for this member to follow the developing cyberattack remotely, by using the functions provided by the S-API tool.

Once the attack is resolved, the IT staff would be able to access the Forensic Data Collection Engine (FDCE) for post-attack analysis. The FDCE stores digital evidence, such as pcap files or other collective information from the assets and, using its Graphical User Interface (GUI), it is capable of supporting the hospital's IT staff with the cybersecurity incident analysis.



5 Requirements Traceability Matrix

The following matrix presents the allocation of stakeholder/user requirements (D2.10) to system technical specifications (defined in section 3).

| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| SYS-F-010 | STA-F-010 STA-F-050 STA-F-080 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Identify new, modern and advanced cyber threats Personalised data security management tool |
| SYS-F-015 | STA-F-020 STA-F-040 STA-F-060 STA-F-070 | Interoperate with existing tools Automated continuous monitoring function Interoperate with existing cyber threat intelligence repositories Protect against known cyber threats |
| SYS-F-020 | STA-F-010 STA-F-040 STA-F-050 STA-F-150 STA-F-210 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Automated continuous monitoring function Deal with advanced cyber threats Automated zero touch device and service verification Automated intrusion detection |
| SYS-F-030 | STA-F-150 STA-F-380 STA-F-460 STA-F-500 | Automated zero touch device and service verification Alert and recommend response Early warning system Actionable alerts |
| SYS-F-040 | STA-F-320 STA-F-560 STA-F-810 | Search and query in the encrypted domain Query features Dashboard with search and query features |
| SYS-U-010 | STA-F-080 STA-F-530 STA-F-800 STA-U-010 | Personalised data security management tool Parametrisable dashboard views Customisable dashboard user interface Focus on usability (user accessibility) |
| SYS-U-020 | STA-F-080 STA-F-530 STA-F-800 STA-U-010 STA-U-020 STA-U-030 | Personalised data security management tool Parametrisable dashboard views Customisable dashboard user interface Focus on usability Provide interactive dashboards Web-based dashboard |
| SYS-U-030 | STA-F-030 STA-F-800 | Prevention of human errors Customisable dashboard user interface |
| SYS-U-040 | STA-F-030 STA-L-010 | Prevention of human errors Behavioural and ethical design |
| SYS-U-050 | STA-F-030 STA-L-010 | Prevention of human errors Behavioural and ethical design |
| SYS-P-010 | STA-F-010 STA-F-040 STA-F-050 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Business continuity Identify new, modern and advanced cyber threats |
| SYS-M-010 | STA-M-010 | Modularity and flexibility |



| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| SYS-M-020 | STA-M-010 | Scalability |
| SYS-M-030 | STA-M-010 | Interoperability |
| SYS-M-040 | STA-M-030 | Transparency of installation and operations |
| SYS-M-050 | STA-M-020 STA-M-040 | Easy to upgrade and maintain Notification of upgrades and automated installations |
| SYS-S-010 | STA-S-010 STA-S-040 | Implement information security mechanisms (C, A, I) Authorised and authenticated access to sensitive information |
| SYS-S-020 | STA-S-030 | Secure storage of user credentials |
| SYS-S-030 | STA-S-060 | Session management and authentication (single sign-on) |
| SYS-S-040 | STA-S-030 | Secure storage of user credentials |
| SYS-S-050 | STA-S-030 STA-S-050 | Secure management of user information Third-parties may delete own information |
| SYS-S-060 | STA-S-010 STA-S-020 STA-S-040 STA-L-030 | Implement information security mechanisms (C, A, I) Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX Authorised and authenticated access to sensitive information Collected sensitive information is encrypted and secure |
| SYS-S-070 | STA-S-020 | Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX |
| SYS-L-010 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| SYS-L-020 | STA-L-010 STA-L-040 | Privacy features Data protection mechanisms |
| SYS-L-030 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| SYS-L-040 | STA-L-040 | Data protection mechanisms |
| VAAAS-F-010 | STA-F-120 | Devices' vulnerability assessment |
| VAAAS-F-020 | STA-F-070 | Protect against known cyber threats |
| VAAAS-F-040 | STA-F-060 | Link to external cyber threats repositories |
| VAAAS-F-020 | STA-F-110 | Vulnerability assessment |
| VAAAS-F-030 | STA-F-110 STA-F-120 STA-F-130 | Vulnerability assessment Devices' vulnerability assessment Vulnerability Assessment Checklist |
| VAAAS-F-040 | STA-F-110 STA-F-120 | Vulnerability assessment Devices' vulnerability assessment |
| DTM-F-010 | STA-F-010 STA-F-050 STA-F-200 STA-F-300 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities (record network activity) Identify new, modern and advanced cyber threats (monitor the ecosystem) Detection of and alerts on anomalous traffic Collect data in a privacy-aware manner (log entries of security incidents) |
| DTM-F-020 | STA-F-290 | Collection of evidence (specialised auditing and logging mechanisms) |
| DTM-F-030 | STA-F-010 STA-F-290 STA-F-300 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities (record network activity) Collection of evidence (specialised auditing and logging mechanisms) Collect data in a privacy-aware manner (log entries of security incidents) |





| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| DTM-F-040 | STA-F-200 STA-F-460 | Detection of and alerts on anomalous traffic Early warning system (notify and alert users of suspicious network activity) |
| AD-F-010 | STA-F-050 STA-F-200 | Deal with advanced cyber threats Detection of and alerts on anomalous traffic |
| AD-F-020 | STA-F-700 | Report: spatiotemporal statistics; record time and duration of attacks; identification of affected assets |
| AD-F-030 | STA-F-210 | Automated Intrusion detection |
| AD-F-040 | STA-F-210 | Automated intrusion detection |
| AD-F-050 | STA-F-460 | Early warning system (alert engine) |
| RCRA-F-010 | STA-F-010 STA-F-060 STA-F-140 STA-F-150 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Interoperate with existing cyber threat intelligence repositories Risk assessment report Automated zero touch device and service verification |
| RCRA-F-020 | STA-F-010 STA-F-140 STA-F-270 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Risk assessment report Forecasts |
| RCRA-F-030 | STA-F-010 STA-F-270 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Forecasts |
| RCRA-F-040 | STA-F-460 STA-F-500 | Early warning system Actionable alerts |
| SIEM-F-010 | STA-F-250 STA-F-260 | Categorisation of cyber events Patterns of incidents (including external sources) |
| SIEM-F-040 | STA-F-100 STA-F-290 | Concentrate data and performance Collection of evidence (logs, records, registries) |
| SIEM-F-050 | STA-F-290 | Collection of evidence (logs, records, registries) |
| SIEM-F-060 | STA-F-220 | Data analysis and visualisation |
| SIEM-F-070 | STA-F-240 STA-F-290 | Deal with known cyber attacks Collection of evidence (logs, records, registries) |
| SIEM-F-080 | STA-F-560 | Query features |
| HP-F-010 | STA-F-010 STA-F-290 STA-F-300 STA-F-350 STA-F-370 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities Collection of evidence (logs, records, registries) Collect data in a privacy-aware manner Emulate existing IT system Emulate safe layer |
| HP-F-020 | STA-F-230 STA-F-260 STA-F-290 STA-F-360 | Analysis of cyber attacks Patterns of incidents (including external sources) Collection of evidence (logs, records, registries) Emulate system to detect and alert |
| HP-F-030 | STA-F-360 STA-F-460 | Emulate system to detect and alert Early warning system (alert engine) |
| HP-F-040 | STA-F-340 | Secure transfer of data on detected cyber attacks |
| HP-F-050 | STA-F-360 | Emulate system to detect and alert |
| HP-F-060 | STA-F-370 | Emulate safe layer |





| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| | STA-S-010 STA-S-020 | Implement information security mechanisms (C, A, I) Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX |
| HP-S-010 | STA-F-370 | Emulate safe layer |
| MLID-F-010 | STA-F-190 STA-F-210 | Anomaly detection Automated intrusion detection |
| MLID-F-020 | STA-F-050 STA-F-190 STA-F-230 STA-F-240 STA-F-260 | Deal with advanced cyber threats Anomaly detection Analysis of cyber attacks Deal with known cyber attacks Patterns of incidents (including external sources) |
| MLID-F-030 | STA-F-050 | Deal with advanced cyber threats |
| MLID-F-040 | STA-F-060 STA-F-240 | Access to external cyber threats repository Deal with known cyber attacks |
| MLID-F-050 | STA-F-230 STA-F-260 | Analysis of cyber attacks Patterns of incidents (including external sources) |
| FDCE-F-010 | STA-F-060 STA-F-070 STA-F-230 STA-F-240 STA-F-260 | Access external cyber threats repositories Protect against known cyber threats Analysis of cyber attacks Deal with known cyber attacks (establish chain-of-evidence) Patterns of incidents (including external sources) |
| FDCE-F-020 | STA-F-280 STA-F-300 | Develop forensics analysis Collect data in a privacy-aware manner (security incidents and threats). |
| FDCE-F-030 | STA-F-240 STA-F-290 STA-F-300 | Deal with known cyber attacks (establish chain-of-evidence) Collection of evidence Collect data in a privacy-aware manner (security incidents and threats) |
| FDCE-F-040 | STA-F-240 | Deal with known cyber-attacks (establish chain-of-evidence) |
| FDCE-F-050 | STA-F-240 STA-F-330 | Deal with known cyber-attacks (establish chain-of-evidence) Blockchain (secure threat registry) |
| HE-F-010 | STA-F-300 STA-F-310 | Collect data in a privacy-aware manner Enhanced anonymisation and encryption |
| HE-F-020 | STA-F-310 STA-F-320 | Enhanced anonymisation and encryption Search and query in the encrypted domain |
| AP-F-010 | STA-F-300 | Collect data in a privacy-aware manner |
| AP-F-020 | STA-F-300 STA-F-310 | Collect data in a privacy-aware manner Enhanced anonymisation and encryption |
| AP-F-030 | STA-F-310 STA-L-030 | Enhanced anonymisation and encryption Collected sensitive information is encrypted and secure |
| AP-F-040 | STA-F-310 | Enhanced anonymisation and encryption |
| AP-F-050 | STA-L-060 | GDPR compliance self-assessment procedures |
| AP-F-060 | STA-L-060 | GDPR compliance self-assessment procedures |
| AP-F-070 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| AP-F-080 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |





| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| AP-F-090 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| AP-F-100 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| AP-F-110 | STA-L-020 | Compliance with national and EU legal requirements |
| AP-F-120 | STA-F-300 STA-L-030 | Collect data in a privacy-aware manner Collected sensitive information is encrypted and secure |
| AP-F-130 | STA-L-050 | Data protection risk assessment |
| AP-F-140 | STA-L-060 | GDPR compliance self-assessment procedures |
| AP-F-150 | STA-S-020 STA-L-040 | Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX Data protection mechanisms |
| DSS-F-010 | STA-F-500 | Actionable alerts (response and actions, including their impact) |
| DSS-F-020 | STA-F-070 STA-F-200 STA-F-210 STA-F-240 | Protect against known cyber threats Detection of anomalous network traffic Automated intrusion detection Deal with known cyber attacks |
| DSS-F-030 | STA-F-080 | Security rules to handle cyber attacks and incidents |
| DSS-F-040 | STA-F-380 | Alert and recommend response |
| AE-F-010 | STA-F-220 | Data analysis and visualisation |
| AE-F-020 | STA-F-700 | Visual analytics |
| ID-F-010 | STA-F-200 STA-F-360 STA-F-380 STA-F-470 STA-F-500 STA-F-510 STA-U-010 STA-U-020 | Alerts of abnormal network traffic Alerts of emulated services Alert and recommend response List of individuals to alert/notify Actionable alerts Means for establishing authenticity of alerts Focus on usability Provide interactive dashboards |
| ID-F-020 | STA-U-010 | Focus on usability |
| ID-F-030 | STA-U-010 | Focus on usability |
| ID-F-040 | STA-F-220 | Data analysis and visualisation |
| ID-F-050 | STA-F-470 | List of individuals to alert/notify |
| ID-F-060 | STA-F-520 | Allow classification of automated alerts |
| ID-F-070 | STA-F-530 | Provide parametrisable dashboard views per user |
| ID-F-080 | STA-F-700 | Reports: visual analytics; spatiotemporal analysis; time and duration of attacks; identification of affected organisation |
| ID-F-090 | STA-F-710 | Alerts display |
| ID-F-100 | STA-F-720 | Display alerts' spatiotemporal information |
| ID-F-110 | STA-F-730 | Dashboard menu bar for alerts |
| ID-F-120 | STA-F-740 | Select alerts' statuses |
| ID-F-130 | STA-F-750 | Display alerts' proposed course of action |
| ID-F-140 | STA-F-760 | Creation of user accounts with different roles |
| ID-F-150 | STA-F-770 | Display of different tools and services |
| ID-F-160 | STA-F-780 | Presentation of data in visually rich forms (graphs) |
| ID-F-170 | STA-F-790 | Export of data in different formats |





| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| ID-F-180 | STA-F-800 | Customisable dashboard user interface settings |
| ID-F-190 | STA-F-810 | Dashboard with search and query features |
| ID-U-010 | STA-U-030 | Web-based dashboards |
| ID-U-020 | STA-U-040 | Manage from a single location |
| ABS-F-010 | STA-F-010 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities |
| ABS-F-020 | STA-F-010 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities |
| ABS-F-030 | STA-F-010 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities |
| ABS-F-040 | STA-F-010 | Advanced cybersecurity capabilities |
| SB-F-010 | STA-F-160 STA-F-570 | Verification toolkit easy to integrate Isolated sandboxed environment |
| SB-F-020 | STA-F-150 STA-F-180 | Automated zero touch device and service verification Automated certification (including API) |
| SB-F-030 | STA-F-570 | Isolated sandboxed environment (replication of IT infrastructure for tests) |
| SB-F-040 | STA-F-160 STA-F-570 | Verification toolkit easy to integrate Isolated sandboxed environment |
| SB-F-050 | STA-F-200 | Monitoring network traffic and suspicious network packets |
| SB-F-070 | STA-F-170 | Devices certification (requirements in accordance to Directives) |
| SB-F-080 | STA-F-150 STA-F-170 | Automated zero touch device and service verification (report) Devices certification (report) |
| SB-F-090 | STA-F-220 | Data analysis and visualisation |
| SB-F-100 | STA-F-170 | Devices certification (verify compliance to requirements) |
| SB-F-120 | STA-F-200 | Monitoring discovered unsupervised processes |
| SB-F-150 | STA-F-150 | Automated zero touch device and service verification (zero day attacks) |
| SB-F-160 | STA-F-180 STA-F-610 | Automated certification (including API) Third-party request certification |
| SB-F-170 | STA-F-180 STA-F-610 | Automated certification (including API) Third-party request certification |
| SB-F-180 | STA-F-150 STA-F-170 STA-F-180 STA-F-610 STA-F-620 | Automated zero touch device and service verification (report) Devices certification Automated certification (including API) Third-party request certification Third-party certification report |
| SB-F-190 | STA-F-060 | Link to external cyber threats repositories |
| KB-F-010 | STA-F-060 | Link to external cyber threats repositories |
| KB-F-020 | STA-F-260 | Patterns of cyber security incidents |
| KB-F-030 | STA-F-070 STA-S-080 | Protect against known cyber attacks Security rules to handle cyber attacks and incidents |
| KB-F-040 | STA-F-560 | Query features |
| KB-F-050 | STA-F-560 | Query features |
| KB-S-010 | STA-S-010 | Implement information security mechanisms (C, A, I) |
| KB-S-020 | STA-S-020 | Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX |





| Technical Specification ID | Stakeholder Requirement ID | Observations |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| BBTR-F-010 | STA-F-330 | Blockchain (chain of evidence) |
| BBTR-F-020 | STA-F-340 | Sharing information among users (BBTR) |
| BBTR-F-030 | STA-F-330 STA-F-340 | Blockchain (chain of evidence) Sharing information among users (BBTR) |
| CST-F-010 | STA-F-090 STA-U-040 | Cyber security toolkit Manage cybersecurity from a single location |
| CST-F-020 | STA-F-090 STA-U-040 | Cyber security toolkit Manage cybersecurity from a single location |
| CST-F-030 | STA-F-090 STA-U-040 | Cyber security toolkit Manage cybersecurity from a single location |
| CST-F-040 | STA-F-090 STA-U-040 | Cyber security toolkit Manage cybersecurity from a single location |
| CST-F-050 | STA-F-090 STA-U-040 | Cyber security toolkit Manage cybersecurity from a single location |
| S-API-F-010 | STA-F-580 | Third-party access |
| S-API-F-020 | STA-F-590 | Authorisation of third-parties |
| S-API-F-030 | STA-F-590 STA-S-050 | Authorisation of third-parties Third-party may remove own info |
| S-API-F-040 | STA-F-590 | Authorisation of third-parties |
| S-API-F-050 | STA-F-580 STA-F-600 | Third-party access Third-party discover functionality |
| S-API-F-060 | STA-F-610 | Third-party request certification |
| S-API-F-070 | STA-F-620 | Third-party receives a certification report |
| SM-S-010 | STA-S-020 STA-S-060 | Only authorised and authenticated users can access SPHINX Session management and authentication (single-sign-on) |
| CIP-F-010 | STA-M-010 | Modularity |





6 Conclusions

This deliverable provides the final version of the architectural design of the SPHINX Platform and of the technical specifications upheld by the SPHINX main components, which ought to be considered in tandem with the ethical requirements of Deliverable *D2.2 - Ethical Requirements*, the stakeholders' requirements of Deliverable *D2.10 - SPHINX Requirements and Guidelines v3* and the SPHINX use cases of Deliverable *D2.9 - Use Cases Definition and Pilot Overview Document v3*.

The SPHINX Platform's architecture model enables the integration of the SPHINX components and interfaces as they are implemented and become available from the technical activities performed in Work Packages 3 to 5. The methodology for specification of the architecture has been based on the VOLERE model, adapted to the specifics of the SPHINX Project to ensure a sound approach to the software-oriented system design.

The initial reference architecture and technical specifications of SPHINX, reflected in deliverable *D2.3 - SPHINX Architecture v1*, has been revised, updated and fine-tuned, promoting an alignment with the actual SPHINX components developed, integrated and tested during the SPHINX Project.





7 References

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