

# ICS Testbed Tetris: Practical Building Blocks Towards a Cyber Security Resource

CSET '20 - Long Preliminary Work Paper  
13<sup>th</sup> USENIX Workshop on Cyber Security Experimentation and Test  
August 10, 2020

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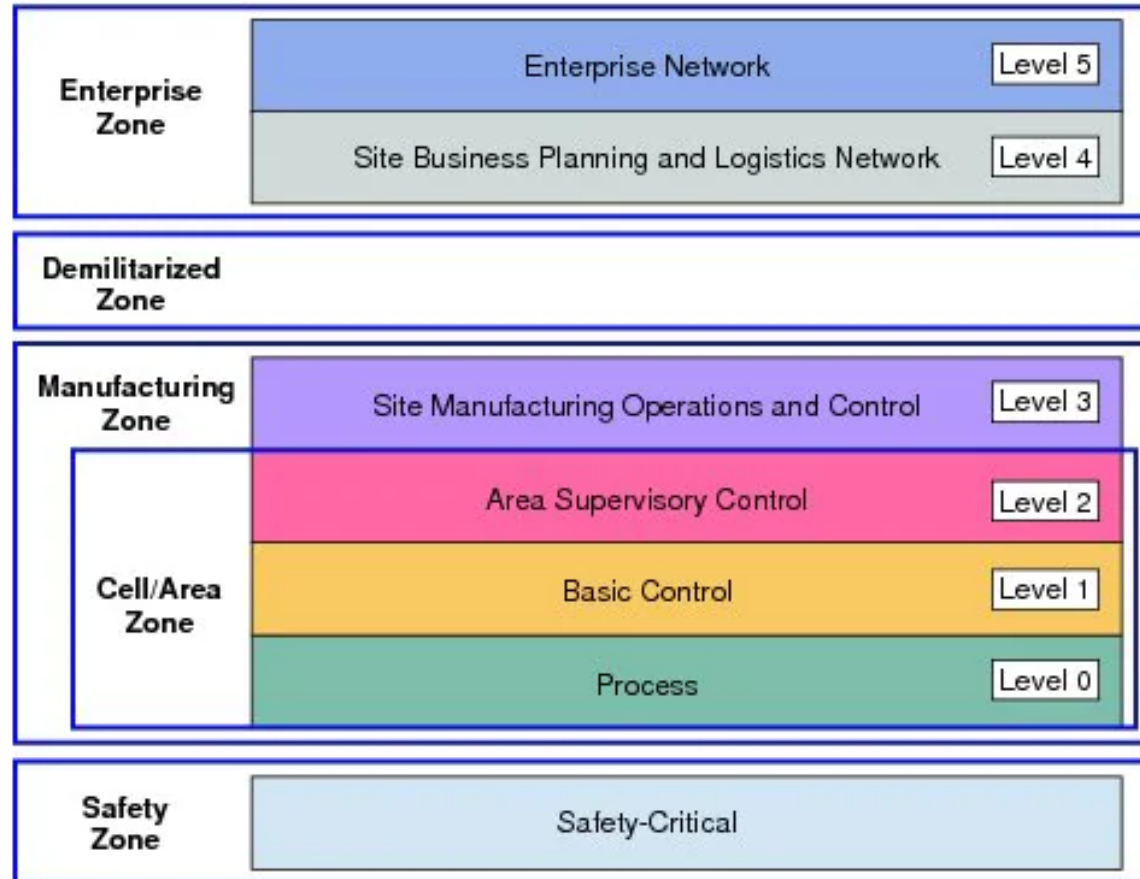
<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/security-lancaster/>

## Introduction

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- What are Industrial Control Systems (ICS)
- Our work to date/Related work
- Design considerations
- Experiment lifecycle
- High-Level Model
- Model breakdown
- Practical implementation
- Living resource
- TIDE-H and future work

## What are Industrial Control Systems (ICS)



## Related Work

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- Our work
  - Over 6 years of ICS testbed development
  - Collaborative engagement
  - 5 Existing publications in this space
- Related work
  - Surveys
  - Theoretical concepts
  - Practical implementation

Green, B., Lee, A., Antrobus, R., Roedig, U., Hutchison, D. and Rashid, A., 2017. Pains, gains and PLCs: ten lessons from building an industrial control systems testbed for security research. In *10th {USENIX} Workshop on Cyber Security Experimentation and Test ({CSET} 17)*.

Green, B., Frey, S.A.F., Rashid, A. and Hutchison, D., 2016. Testbed diversity as a fundamental principle for effective ICS security research. *Serecin*.

Gardiner, J., Craggs, B., Green, B. and Rashid, A., 2019, November. Oops I did it again: further adventures in the land of ICS security testbeds. In *Proceedings of the ACM Workshop on Cyber-Physical Systems Security & Privacy* (pp. 75-86)

Ani, U.D., Watson, J.M., Green, B., Craggs, B. and Nurse, J., 2019. Design Considerations for Building Credible Security Testbeds: A Systematic Study of Industrial Control System Use Cases. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1911.01471*.

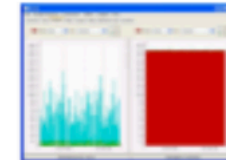
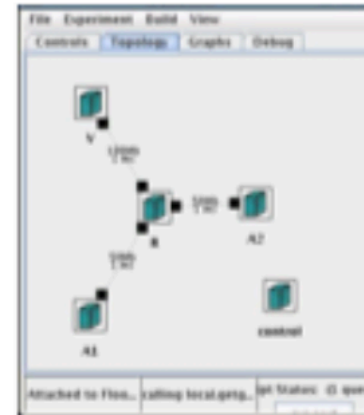
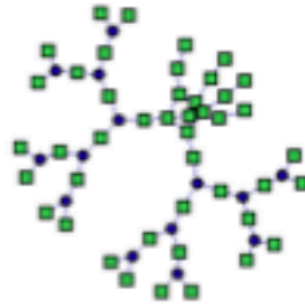
Green, B., Paske, B., Hutchison, D. and Prince, D., 2014. Design and construction of an industrial control system testbed. In *PG Net-The 15th Annual PostGraduate Symposium*

## Design Considerations

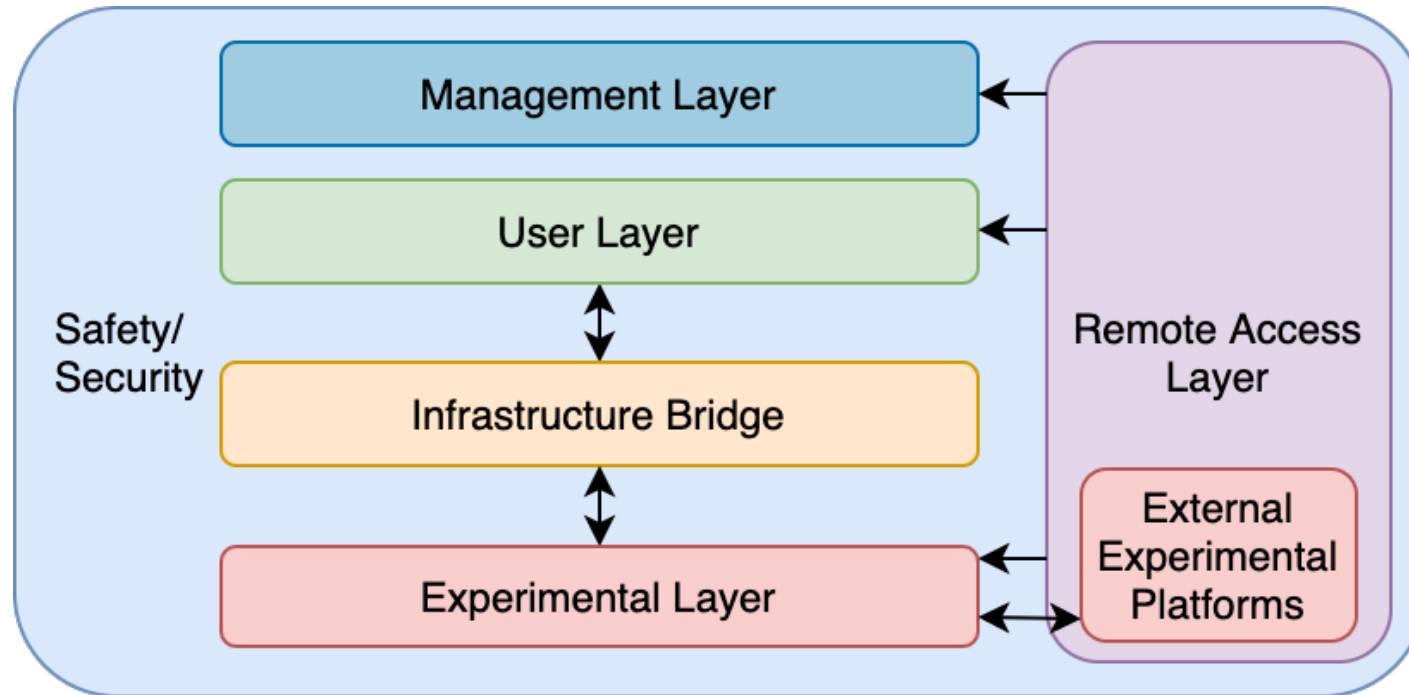
Characteristic	TBO	TBA	TBE
Fidelity		✓	
Modularity	✓	✓	
Diversity		✓	
Interoperability		✓	
Monitoring and Logging	✓	✓	
Openness	✓	✓	
Scalability/Extensibility		✓	
Flexibility/Adaptability	✓	✓	
Repeatability/Reproducibility	✓	✓	✓
Measurability&Measurement Accuracy		✓	✓
Cost-effectiveness	✓	✓	✓
Isolation/Safe Execution	✓	✓	
Usability	✓	✓	
Complexity		✓	

# Cyber Security Experiment Lifecycle

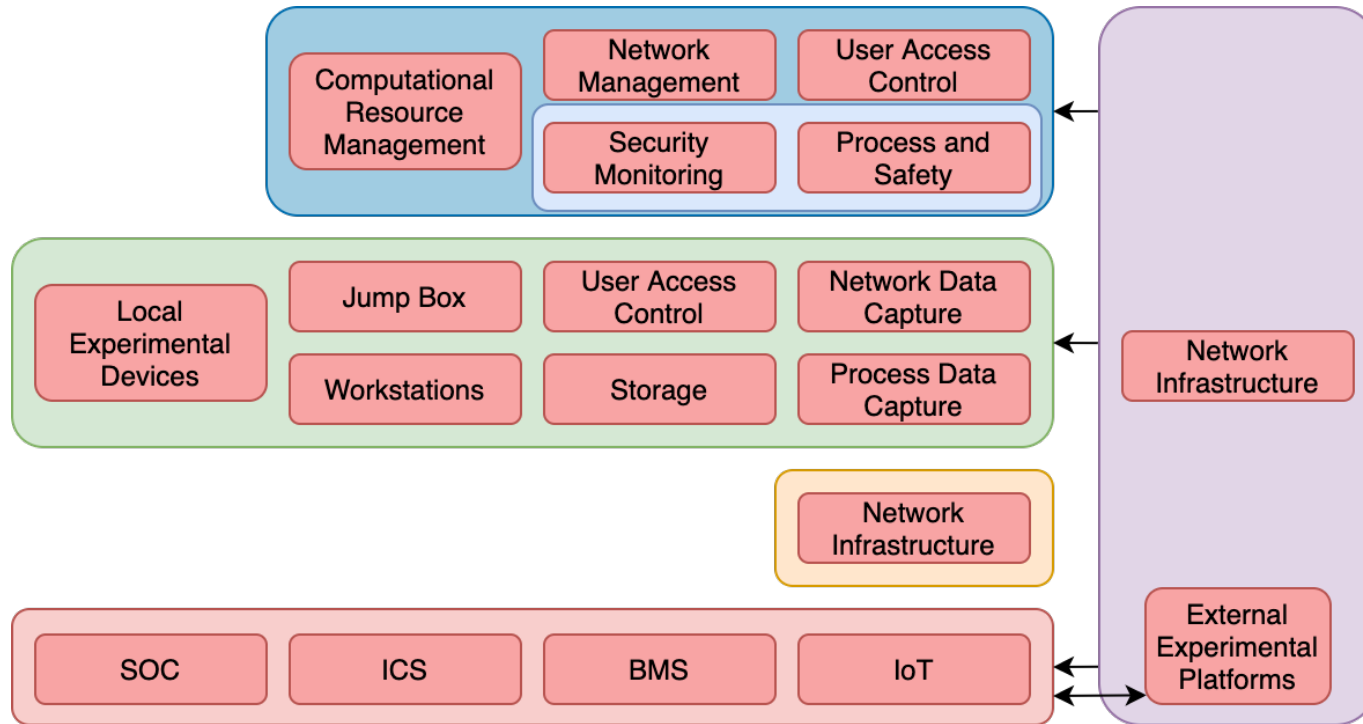
Design  $\rightleftarrows$  Instantiation  $\rightleftarrows$  Execution  $\rightleftarrows$  Analysis



## High-Level Model



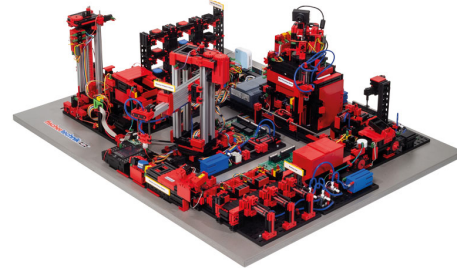
## Model Breakdown





# Baseline Implementation Guide

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<https://www.gunt.de/en/products/process-engineering/water-treatment/multistage-water-treatment/water-treatment-plant-1/083.58100/ce581/glct-1:pa-148:ca-255:pr-57>

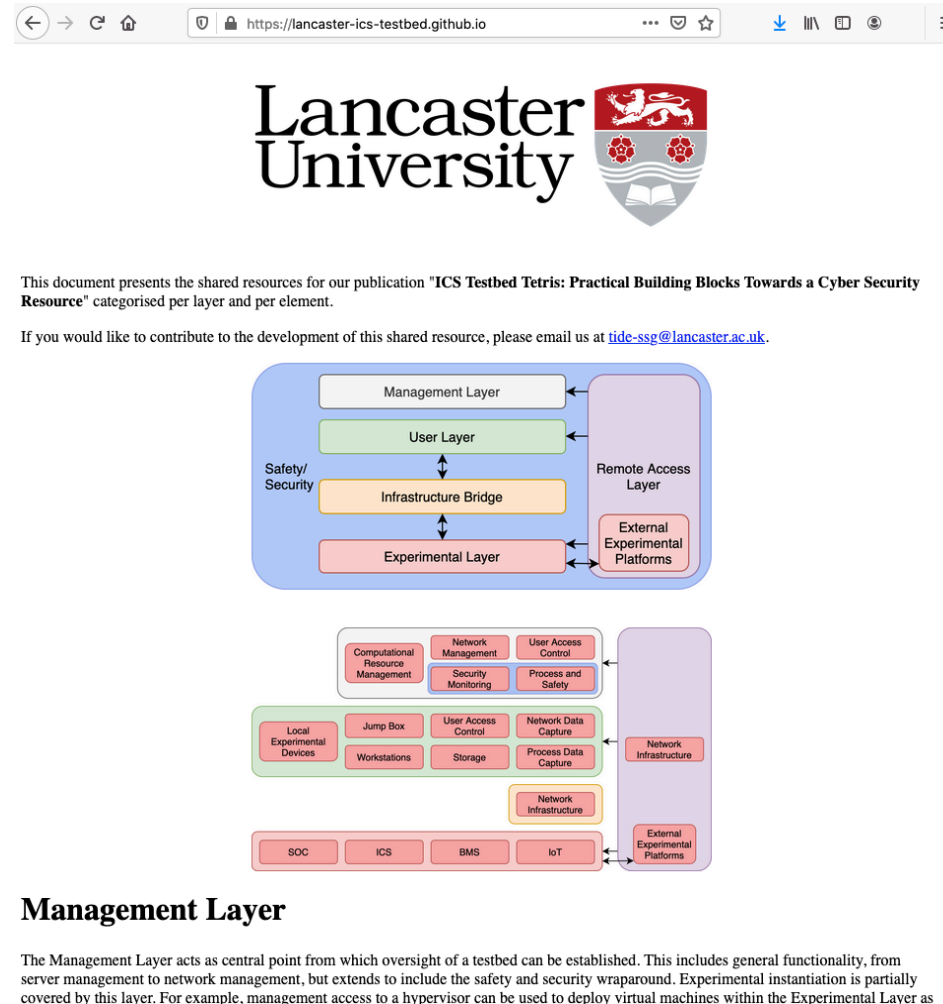
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<https://factoryio.com/features>

<http://snap7.sourceforge.net/>

## Living Resource

- Online resource
  - [www.ics-testbed.co.uk](http://www.ics-testbed.co.uk)
  - Transcends static nature of paper
  - Community contribution
  - [tide-ssg@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:tide-ssg@lancaster.ac.uk)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://lancaster-ics-testbed.github.io>. The page features the Lancaster University logo and a text block stating: "This document presents the shared resources for our publication 'ICS Testbed Tetris: Practical Building Blocks Towards a Cyber Security Resource' categorised per layer and per element. If you would like to contribute to the development of this shared resource, please email us at [tide-ssg@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:tide-ssg@lancaster.ac.uk)."

The diagram illustrates the architecture of the ICS Testbed, organized into layers and components:

- Management Layer:** The top layer, responsible for oversight and general functionality.
- User Layer:** The layer for user interaction and access.
- Infrastructure Bridge:** A central layer connecting the User Layer to the Experimental Layer.
- Experimental Layer:** The layer where experimental setups are instantiated.
- Remote Access Layer:** A vertical layer on the right that provides access to the Experimental Layer.
- External Experimental Platforms:** Platforms that interface with the Experimental Layer.
- Local Experimental Devices:** Includes components like Jump Box, Workstations, and Storage.
- Network Infrastructure:** Includes components like Network Management, Security Monitoring, User Access Control, Process and Safety, Network Data Capture, and Process Data Capture.
- External Experimental Platforms (Bottom):** Includes components like Network Infrastructure and External Experimental Platforms.
- Operational Systems:** Includes SOC, ICS, BMS, and IoT.

**Management Layer**

The Management Layer acts as central point from which oversight of a testbed can be established. This includes general functionality, from server management to network management, but extends to include the safety and security wraparound. Experimental instantiation is partially covered by this layer. For example, management access to a hypervisor can be used to deploy virtual machines within the Experimental Layer as

## Security Lancaster's TIDE-H & Future Work

### LANC TIDE-H: Lancaster's "Threat Intelligence Data Exchange Hub"

#### TIDE-H

##### Academia

Threats Dataset  
Repository for  
Academic  
Collaborations  
(iDID, h-UNIQUE,  
ICS, OS,  
Network,  
Social...)

##### Industry

Anonymized  
Sharing of  
Attacks &  
Threat  
Patterns  
(Banks, CIP...)

##### Government

Repository for  
Threat profiles,  
Health DBs...  
(Police,  
GCHQ+ Intl.,  
NHS...)

##### Virtual Labs

Incubator Env.  
Tools/Testbeds  
/IPR/Best  
Practices...

Synergy: Data Sciences Institute, Secure Digitalization (Secured @UEZ),  
Lancaster Technology Accelerator, Manchester/Lancashire CyberFoundry,  
Health Innovation Campus, Eden, EC CONCORDIA...

Thank You for Watching!

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