

# Cyber attack 2019 Hydro ASA

Peter Uhrenholt Magnor 2024

# Norsk Hydro ASA





- 40 countries
- 140 locations
- 33.000 employees around the world
- Result of 2,4 billion NOK

# Norsk H





the world

#### Preparation for a potential cyber attack



- Restrictions on what to download and how
- Restrictions on web sites and links
- Firewall established
- Behavior training

- Contingency plan in place for years
  - IT breakdown
  - Local cyber attack
- Backup to external servers
- Backup to IBM servers



#### The attack!

#### Hydro

#### Seen from Hydro Extrusion Denmark A/S

- Monday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 23.00 the first report came to local IT.
- Shortly after second plant in Denmark reported issues.
- Within the first hours it was clear that a central serve Norway had been encrypted and ransom was chosen
- Local management was alerted, and evolutions and dis-connected.
- Escalation to IBM
  - Austria, Polancia



and Denmark effected

- First meeting March 19<sup>th</sup> at 08.30
  - Continue
  - ine employees?

Which systems are affected?



19.03.2019

[March 19, 07:00 CET] Cyber attack against Hydro

All Hydro employees: Due to a cyber-attack against Hydro, employees must NOT turn on their Hydro PC's. Phones are ok to use. We will update as soon as we know more. This is not a drill.

## **Immediate problems**

#### Can we produce?

- Packing list
- Production orders
- Die storage
- CNC programs
- Drawings
- Expected full stop: 3-5 days
- Next meeting at 12.00



## The film about the cyber attack

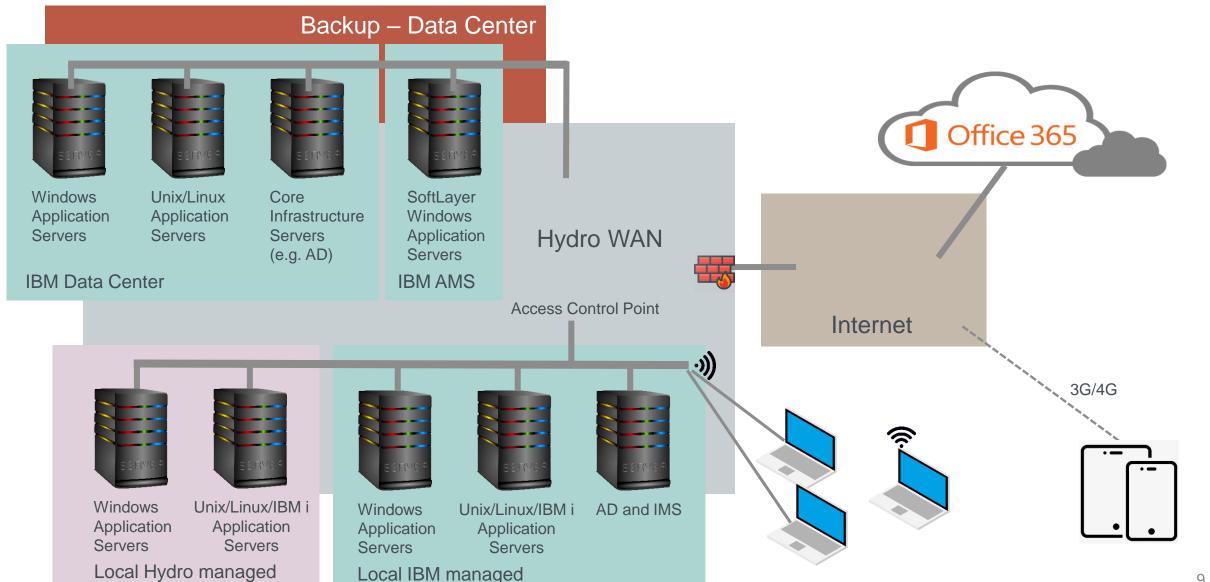


• <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-ZIVuM0we0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-ZIVuM0we0</a>



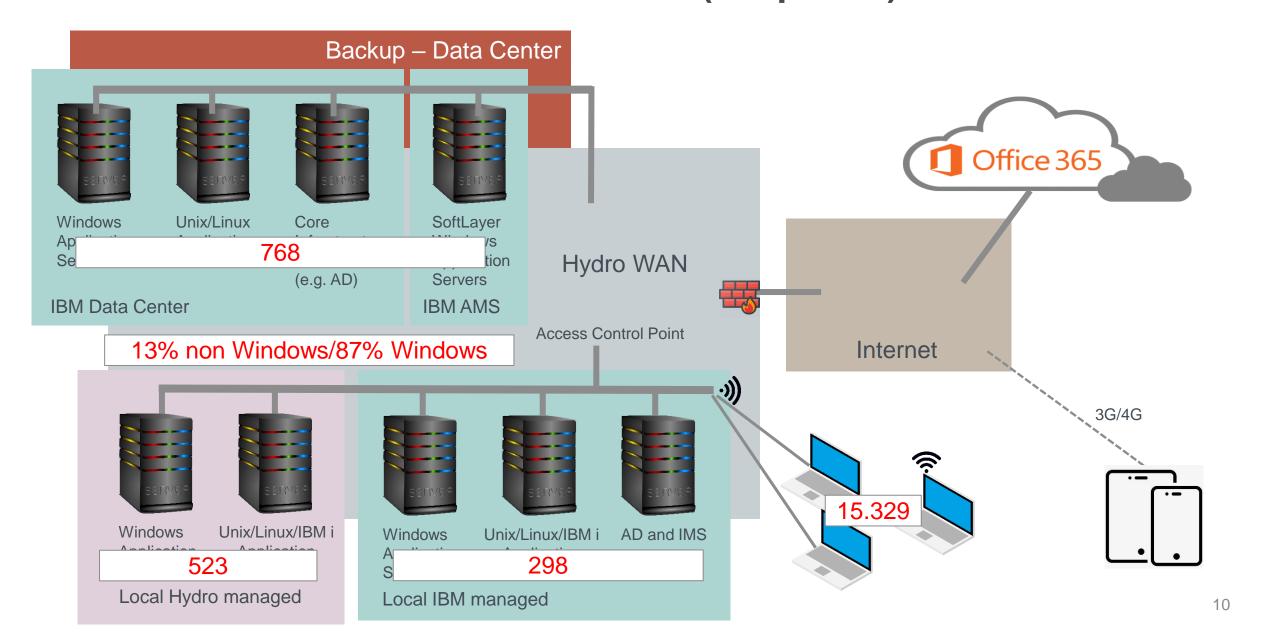
#### **Extruded Solutions IT Infrastructure (simplified)**





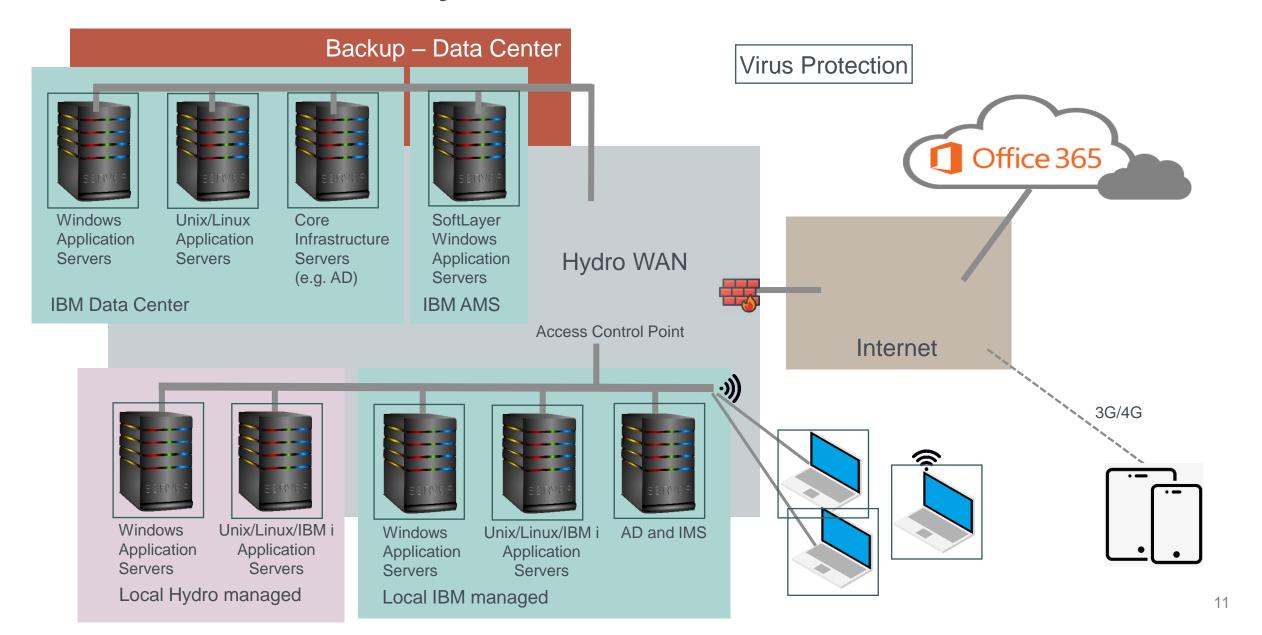
#### **Extruded Solutions IT Infrastructure (simplified)**



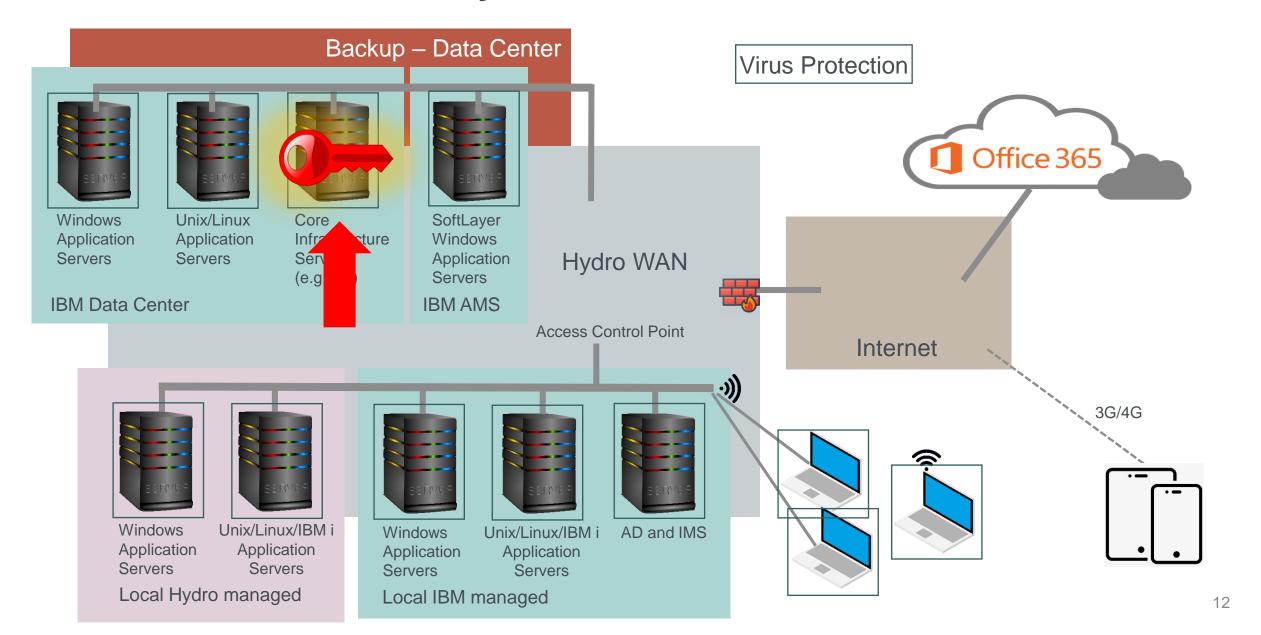


## **Status before Feburary 2019**

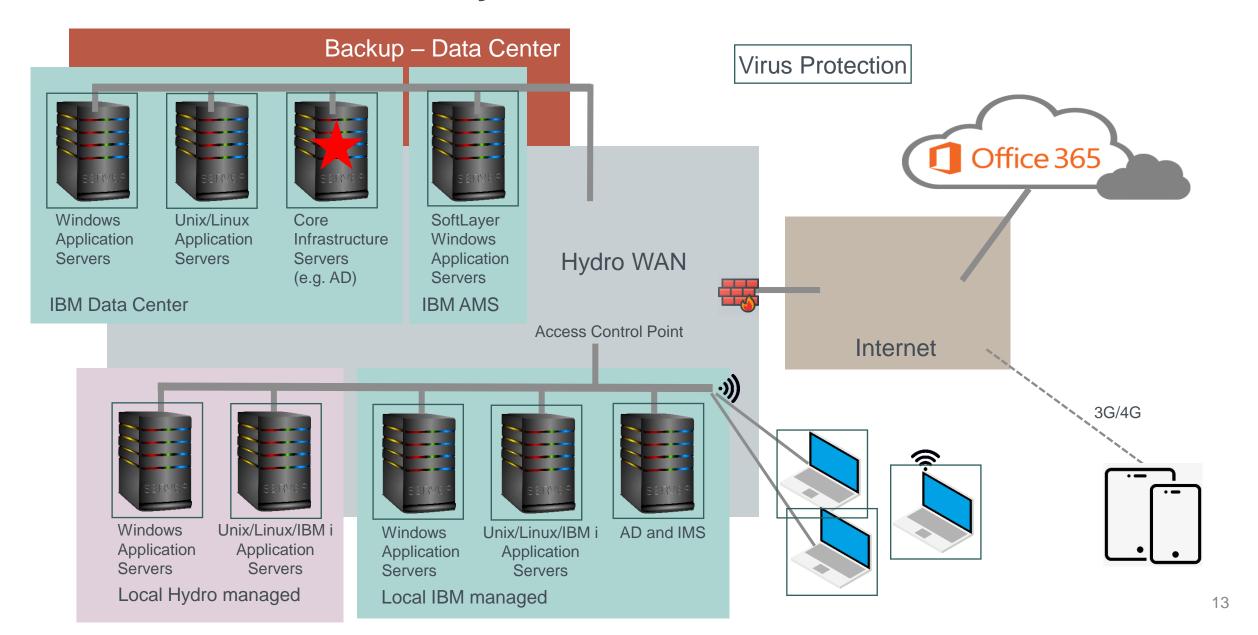




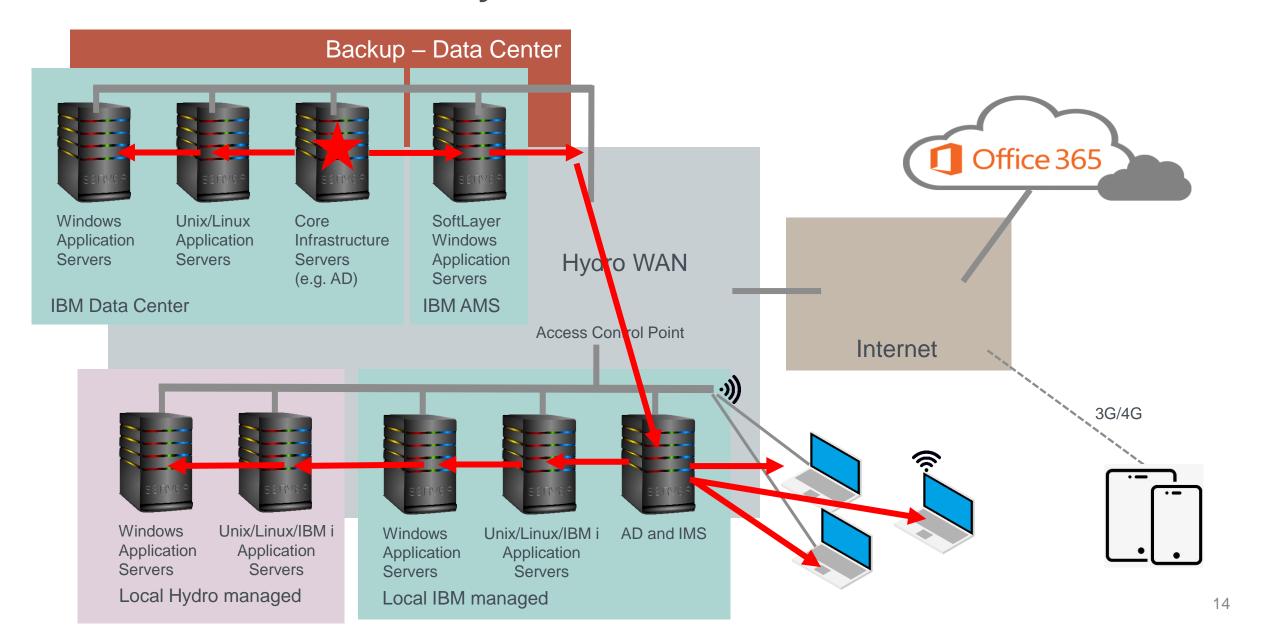




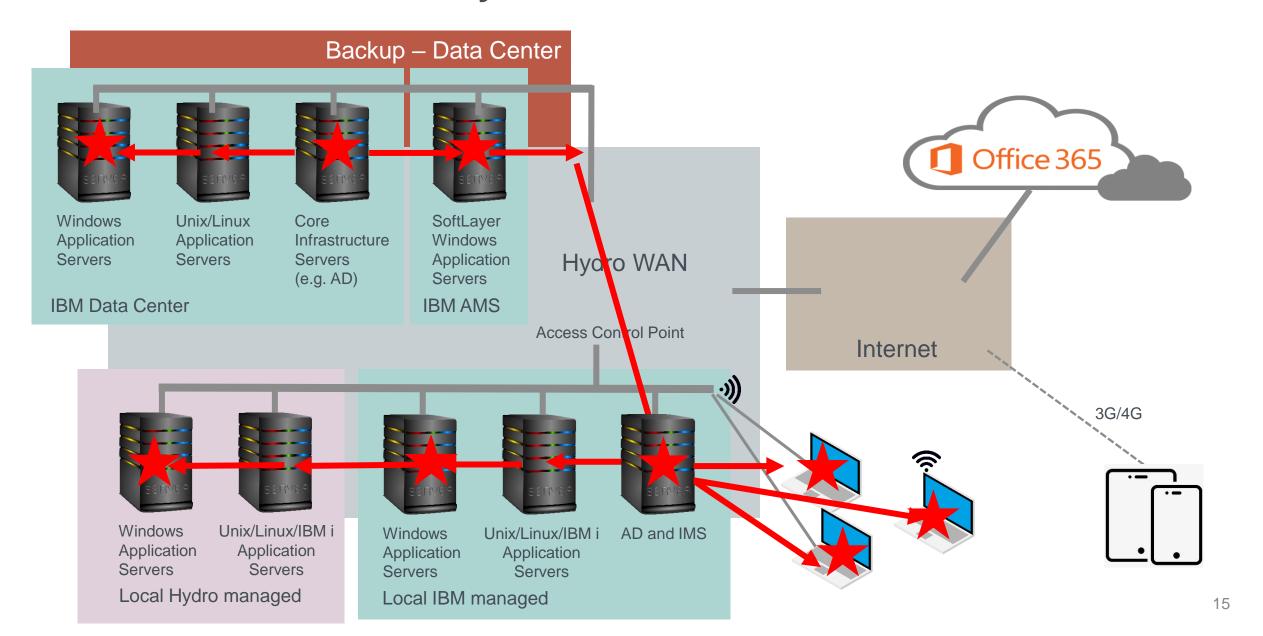






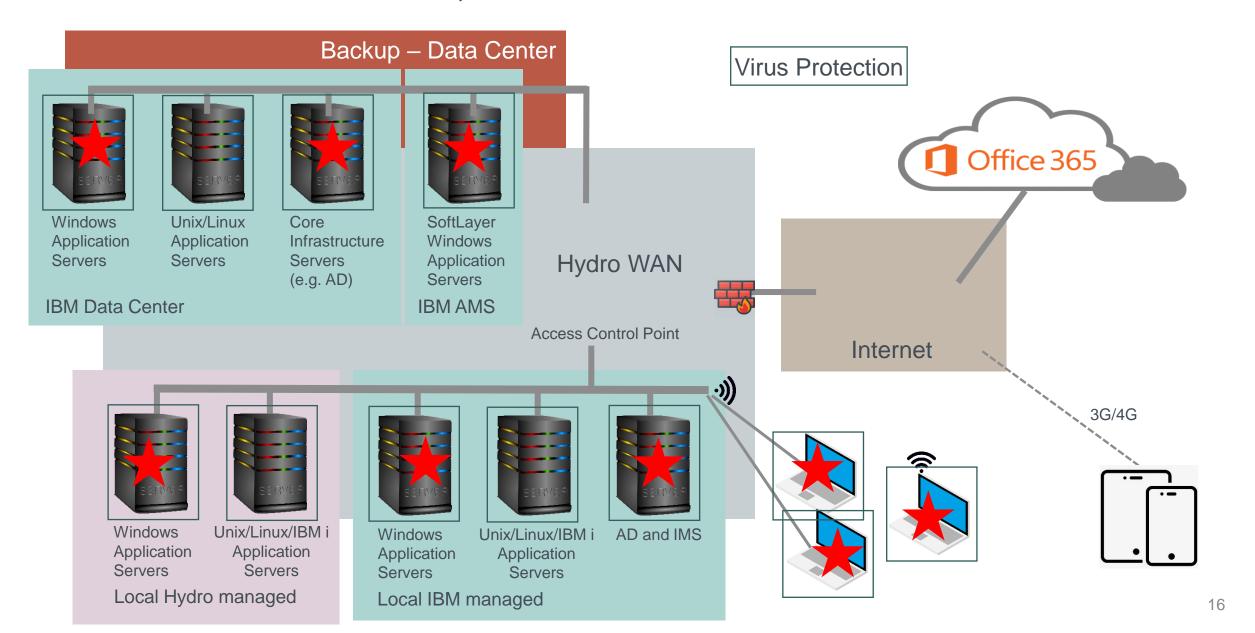






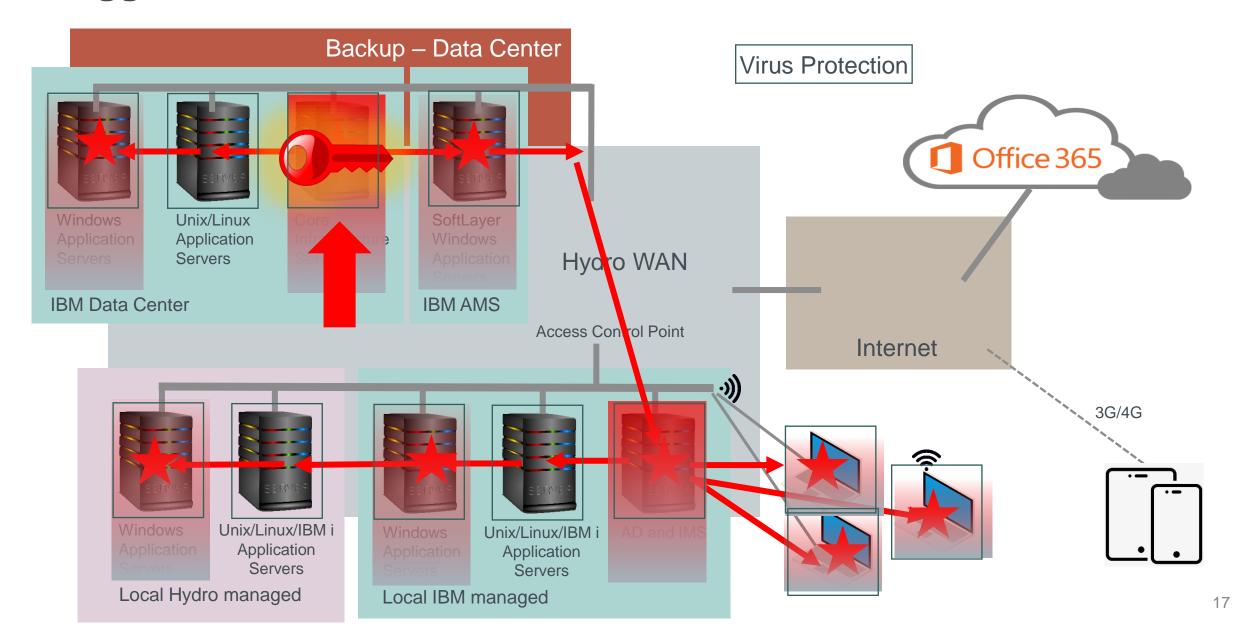
#### Status before March 18, 2019





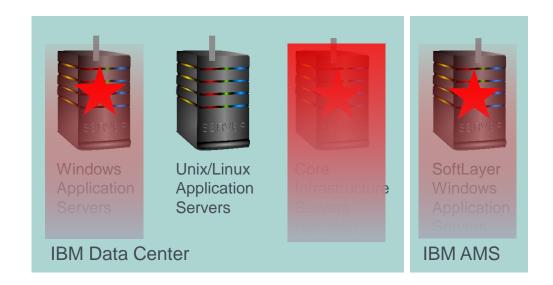
#### **Trigger on March 18/19, 2019**



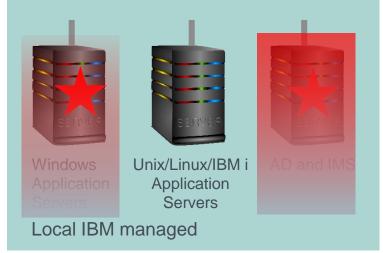


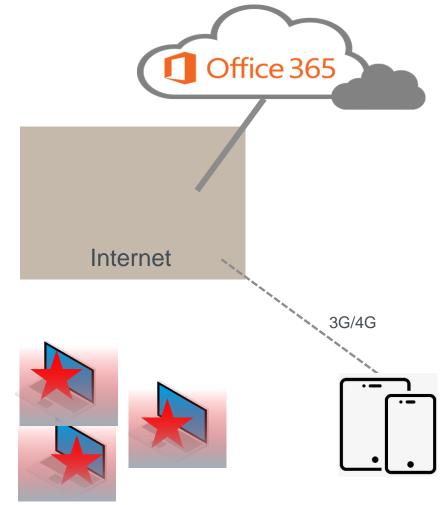
#### Shutdown of all connections and servers on March 19





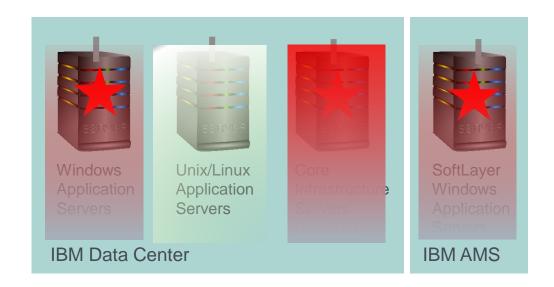




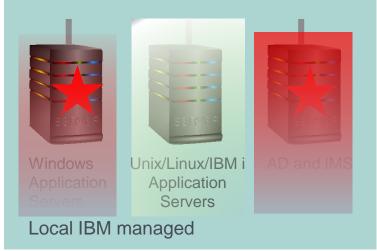


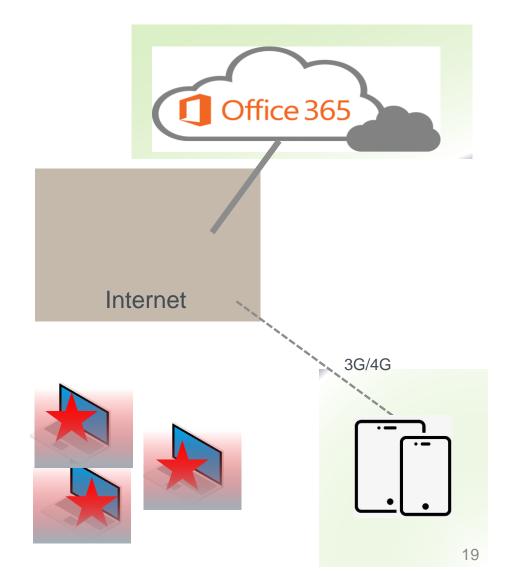
#### Shutdown of all connections and servers on March 19









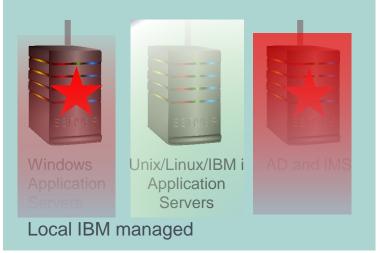


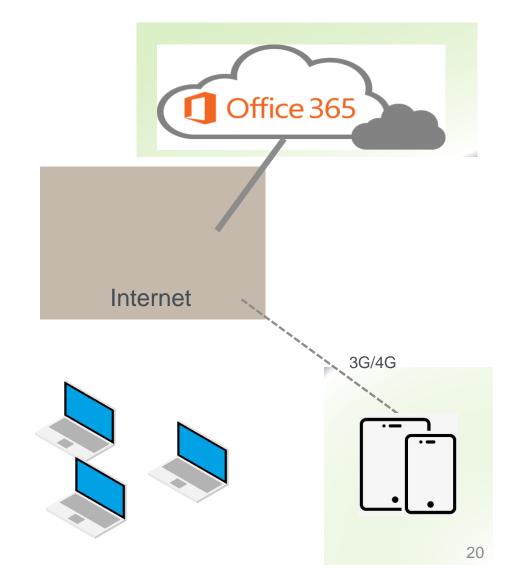
## **Recovery process since Mach 20**











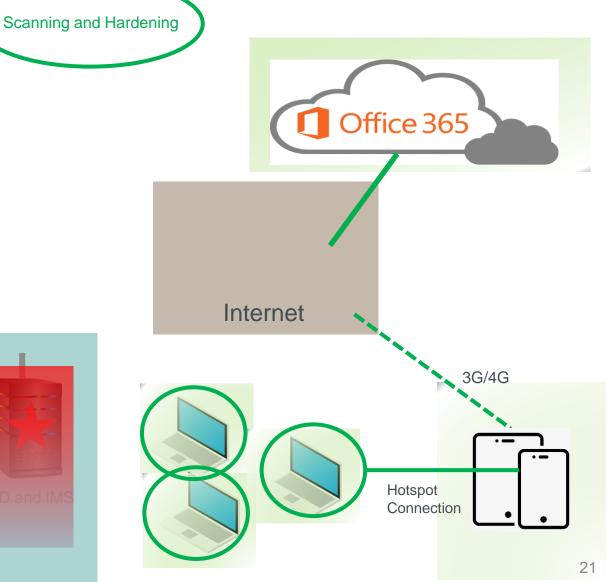
## **Recovery process since Mach 20**















## **Recovery process since Mach 20**

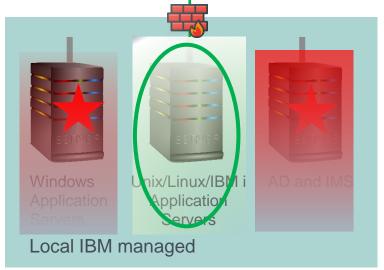


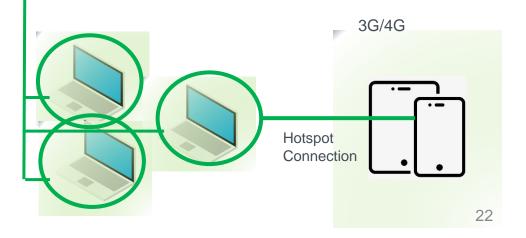


Scanning and Hardening





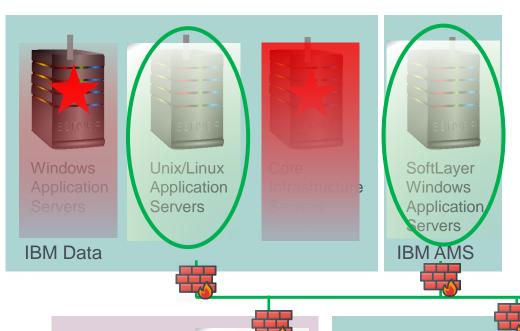




Internet

## Access to non infected systems

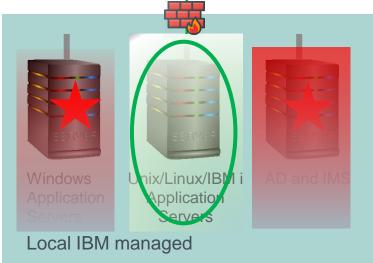


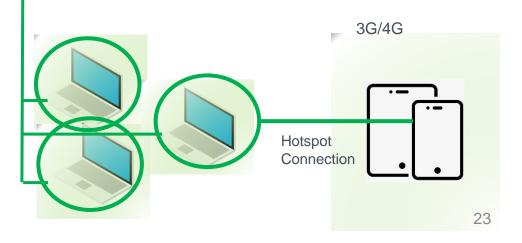


Scanning and Hardening





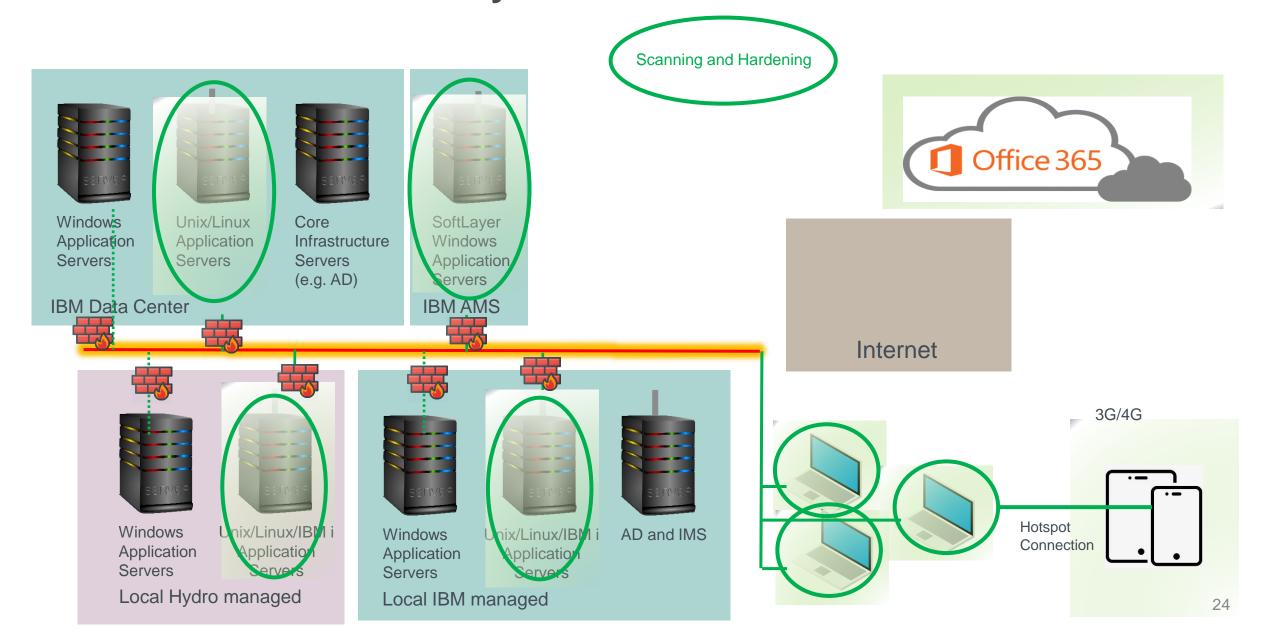




Internet

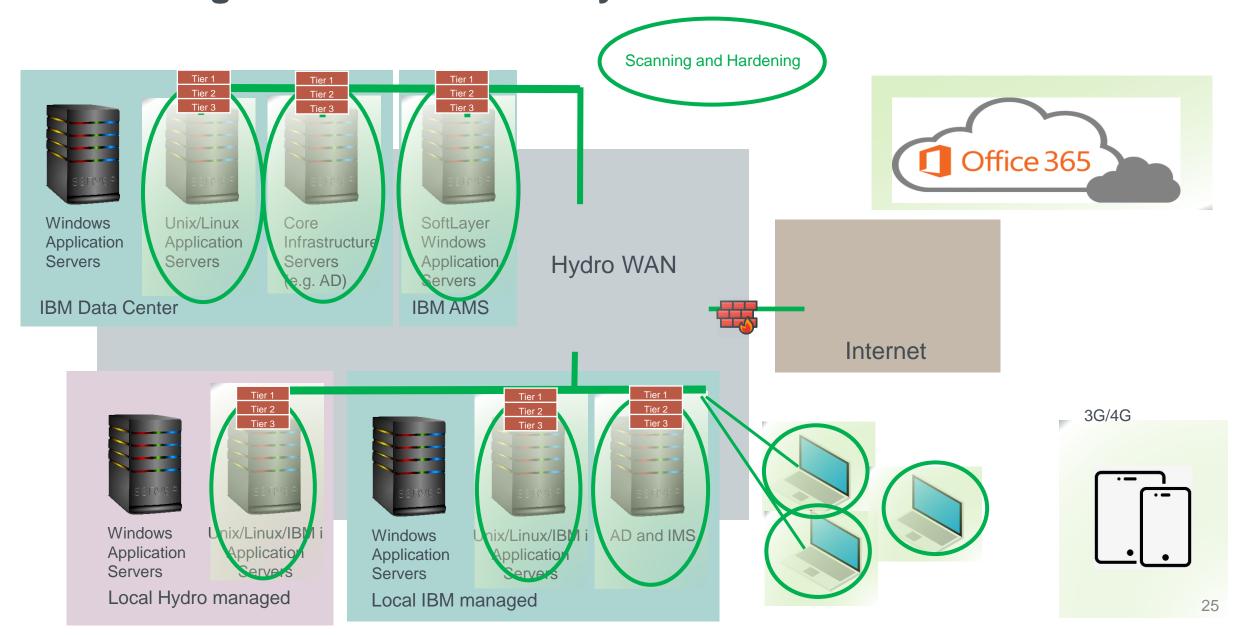
#### Access to non infected systems





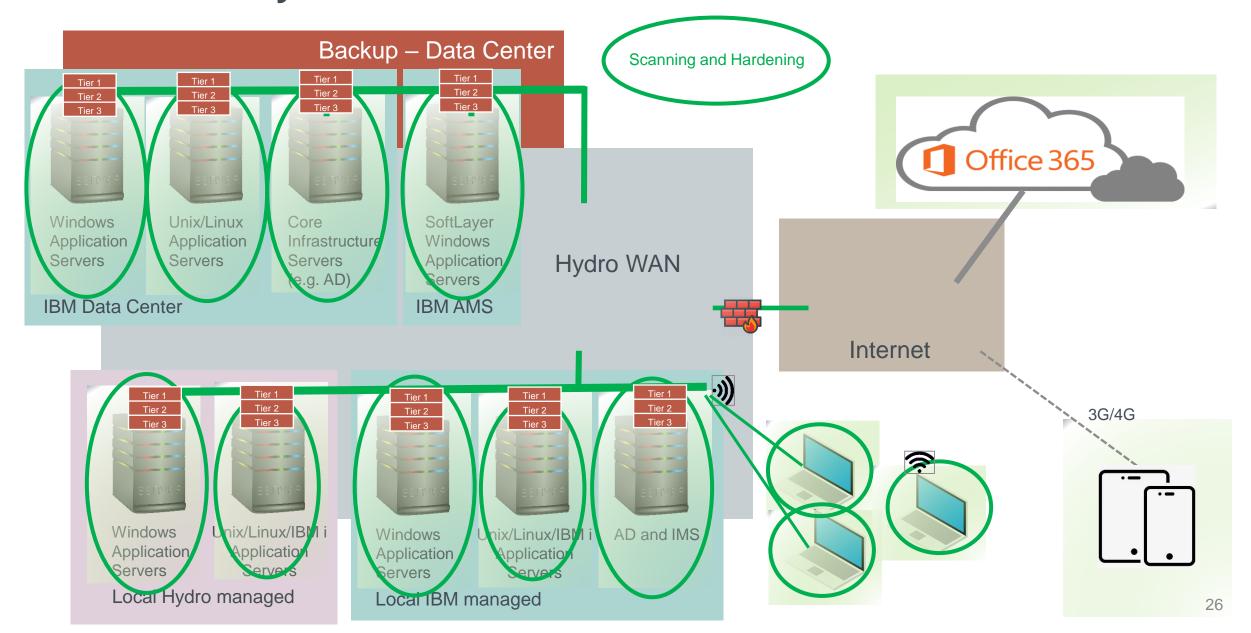
## Rebuilding network functionality





#### **Final recovery**





#### Local issues



- Lost access to orders, production planning and invoicing.
- The very old DOS based ERP system used in a few plants was not infected
- Die storage robot can work, but overview is gone (15.000 dies!)
- Profile dimension measurement is working off-line
- Capability calculations can be done manually
- · Mechanical testing can be done off-line
- No access to profile drawings.
- Communication was down through PC and web site.
- Facebook was used to update Norwegian colleagues.

- Establishing local network
- Should we go for LINUX/Ubuntu solutions?
- PC's can be switched on OFF-LINE at 14.00



#### Discoveries within the first days



- IBM backup of die storage system did not exist!
- A colleague had downloaded all die drawings few weeks before.
- Real production of profiles started 26 hours after the attack
  - Based on experienced operators
  - Based on verbal production orders from customers
  - Fully manually controlled processes and calculations
- Test machines were re-programmed internally

- The attack happened in Norway → Norwegian cyber police was involved and initiated their investigation.
- The virus had been placed as a sleeping virus weeks before the actual attack!
- Probably through a USB stick!
- Several backups were infected!
- Colleagues who could not do normal work assisted in challenging production areas.
  - HSE issues?

#### Challenges and considerations



- SAP finance was down for weeks and monthly/quarterly report to Hydro was delayed.
- Can we get process data directly from PLC's?
- Are we able to calculate process variation manually (SPC)?
  - Release of productions?
- How to register who is working?
- Does anyone have IT skills to support IT?
- Perimeter safety?
- How to communicate with banks, tax etc?

- Mental health challenges
- Long working days
- Cancel all non-critical meetings!
- Does the pay role system work?
- Free lunch for all!
- The communication with customers got tougher after 10 days!
- Daily update from HQ
- Competitors started to mis-inform customers.

#### **New/changed processes**



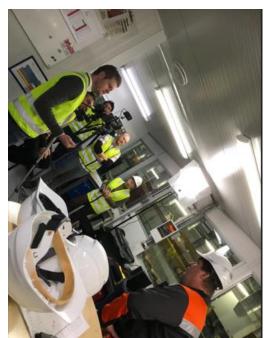
- NO visible passwords in production areas!
- Cyber security awareness training
- Regular test of IT awareness
- USB stick drop test
- Lock your screen

• Daily meetings ended May 21st after 9 weeks!

#### How to let others know what had happened?



- From the very beginning, Hydro chose to very open about the attack.
- Daily press conferences about the situation were performed from HQ.
- Major interest from the media BBC, Microsoft, Dagens Næringsliv and other.





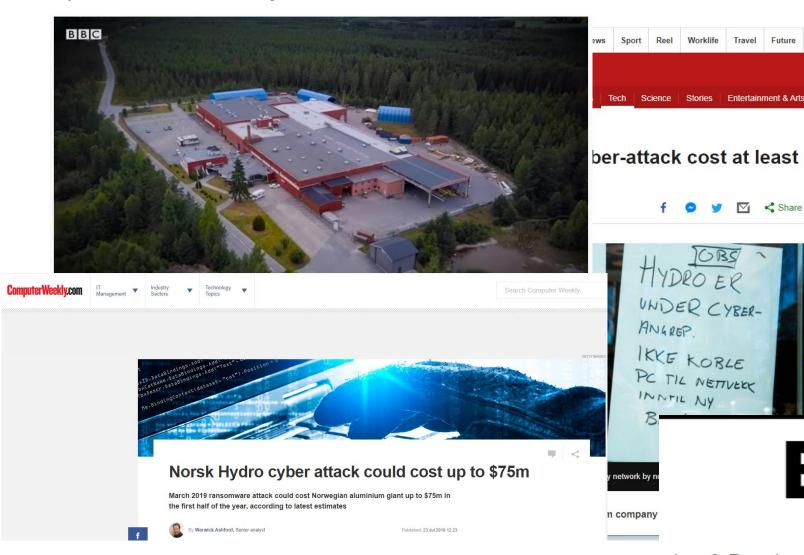




#### **Openness**



Hydro was awarded Åpenhetsprisen 20.09.2019 because we dared to be open about the cyber attack





Hydro får Åpenhetsprisen: Turte å være åpne da de ble utsatt for massivt dataangrep

en omfattande cyberattack mot koncernens IT-system. Nu pressas de på pengar av angriparna.

**Bloomberg** 



Industries that matter