# ABSTRACT for the 2018 ISA WWAC Symposium

# **Title**

# Don't Let Cyber Attacks Leave You "Dead in the Water"

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# SUBMISSION TYPE \_X 30 minute presentation \_\_ 6-12 page paper plus 30-minute presentation \_\_ 3 foot wide x 4 foot high large format poster

### **KEYWORDS**

Cyber threats, Cybersecurity, Ransomeware, Utilities, Safety

### **ABSTRACT**

Put 200-300 word abstract here.

It is a concern shared by many. Water utilities are not immune to ransomware and other cyber-attacks. Even though we see more headlines concerning the electric grid, the water sector may be even more vulnerable.

Water utility operations are increasingly connected to the internet — not just billing and email services but also the pump stations and treatment systems that are a utility's core function. Internet connections allow operators to monitor systems from afar, which cuts costs. But after a number of attacks in recent years exploited utility system weaknesses — the hacking of a dam in New York in the summer of 2013, for instance, and an attack on Ukraine's electrical grid in December 2015 that shut off power to some 700,000 people for a few hours — water officials are understanding the need to secure their control networks against cyber threats.

In this session we will discuss how cyber threats infiltrate water utilities and operate to compromise water safety and availability. We will review the various security gaps that enable these attacks and discuss what type of security controls can be implemented to reduce risk and improve operations.

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# **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

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Barak Perelman is the CEO and Co-Founder of Indegy, an industrial cybersecurity startup building a comprehensive security and governance platform to protect industrial networks and critical infrastructures. Before founding Indegy, Perelman led several multimillion dollar cybersecurity projects at

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the Israeli Defense Force and received commendation for his service and achievements. He is a graduate of the elite Talpiot military academy and has over 15 years of hands-on experience in cybersecurity and protection of critical infrastructures. Perelman holds a B.Sc. in computer science, physics and math, and an MBA from the Tel Aviv University.

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