

# WORDS THAT WELCOME: CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE LANGUAGE

*Language* is used every day without truly understanding the whole meaning of the phrases or the origins of our words. In recent years, there has been an increased awareness in the United States to understand better the phrases we use and how they have impacted marginalized communities today.

This *cybersecurity workforce language* resource is an ongoing document drafted by the WiCyS Equity Advisory Committee for others to share with their cybersecurity teams. This collective effort will help shape the industry into one we can all be proud of as we move forward together.

## COMMONLY USED:

Master  
Slave  
Blacklist  
Whitelist  
White board  
Whitebox testing  
Blackbox testing  
Master Git branch  
Scrum Master  
Sanity-check  
Crazy ex. “crazy outliers in the data”  
Master Black Belt (Six Sigma)  
(You) guys  
Man Hours ex. “how many man hours...”  
Man a booth, man a table, manpower  
Chairman  
Grandfathered  
Blackhat hacker  
Whitehat hacker  
Native feature  
Man-in-the-middle  
DMZ  
Blackhole  
Blackout  
Application whitelisting  
Gray hat  
White-hat  
Handicapped

## CHANGE TO:

Lead, Primary, Original  
Follow, Secondary, Replica  
Deny list, Blocklist  
Allow list, Approved list  
Collaboration board, Ideation, Brainstorm  
Open Testing  
Closed Testing  
Main, Production, Release, Live branch  
Scrum Lead/Manager  
Check for completeness and clarity  
Baffling ex. “baffling outliers in the data”  
Six Sigma Expert  
You all, team, folks  
Hours ex. “how many hours...”  
Staff a booth, staff a table, workforce  
Chair of the board  
Exempt, rollover  
Unethical hacker  
Ethical hacker  
Built-in  
On-path  
Perimeter network  
Process vacuum or sinkhole  
Power failure or power loss  
Application control  
Semi-authorized  
Authorized or legal or ethical  
Impeded

**TOGETHER, WE THRIVE!**

This document provided through contributions  
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