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# PRISM/US-984XN Overview



OR

## *The SIGAD Used **Most** in NSA Reporting* Overview



PRISM Collection Manager, S35333

April 2013

Derived From: NSA/CSSM 1-52  
Dated: 20070108  
Declassify On: 20360901



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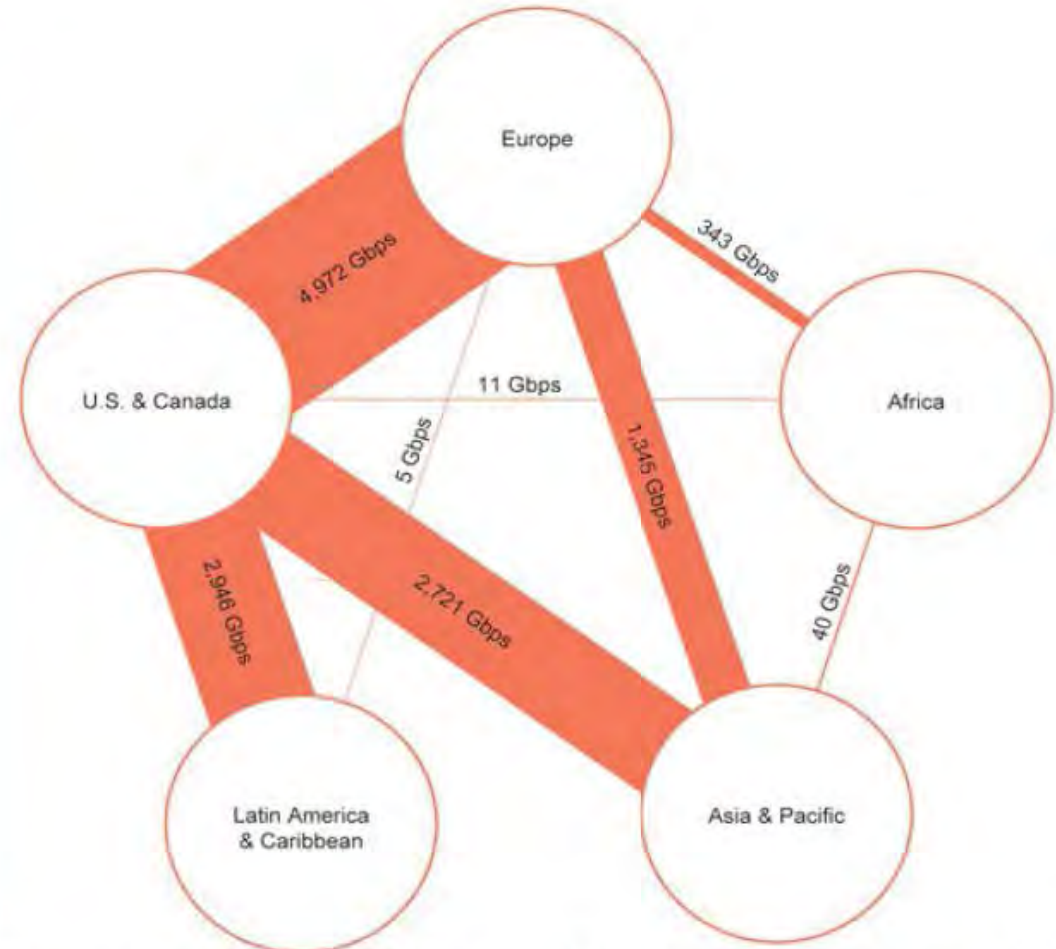


# (TS//SI//NF) Introduction

## *U.S. as World's Telecommunications Backbone*



- Much of the world's communications flow through the U.S.
- A target's phone call, e-mail or chat will take the **cheapest** path, **not the physically most direct** path – you can't always predict the path.
- Your target's communications could easily be flowing into and through the U.S.



International Internet Regional Bandwidth Capacity in 2011

Source: Telegeography Research



# (TS//SI//NF) FAA702 Operations

*Two Types of Collection*



**Upstream**

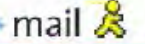
- Collection of communications on fiber cables and infrastructure as data flows past.

**You Should Use Both**



**PRISM**

- Collection directly from the servers of these U.S. Service Providers: Microsoft, Yahoo, Google Facebook, PalTalk, AOL, Skype, YouTube Apple.



# (TS//SI//NF) FAA702 Operations

*Why Use Both: PRISM vs. Upstream*



	PRISM	Upstream
DNI Selectors	9 U.S. based service providers ✓	Worldwide sources ✓
DNR Selectors	Coming soon ⊘	Worldwide sources ✓
Access to Stored Communications (Search)	✓	⊘
Real-Time Collection (Surveillance)	✓	✓
“Abouts” Collection	⊘	✓
Voice Collection	✓ Voice over IP	✓
Direct Relationship with Comms Providers	⊘ Only through FBI	✓



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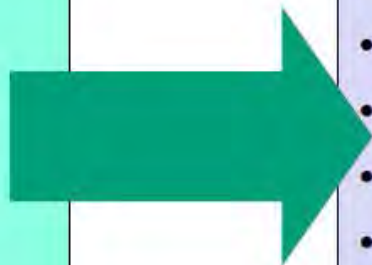
(TS//SI//NF)

# PRISM Collection Details



## Current Providers

- Microsoft (Hotmail, etc.)
- Google
- Yahoo!
- Facebook
- PalTalk
- YouTube
- Skype
- AOL
- Apple



## What Will You Receive in Collection (Surveillance and Stored Comms)?

It varies by provider. In general:

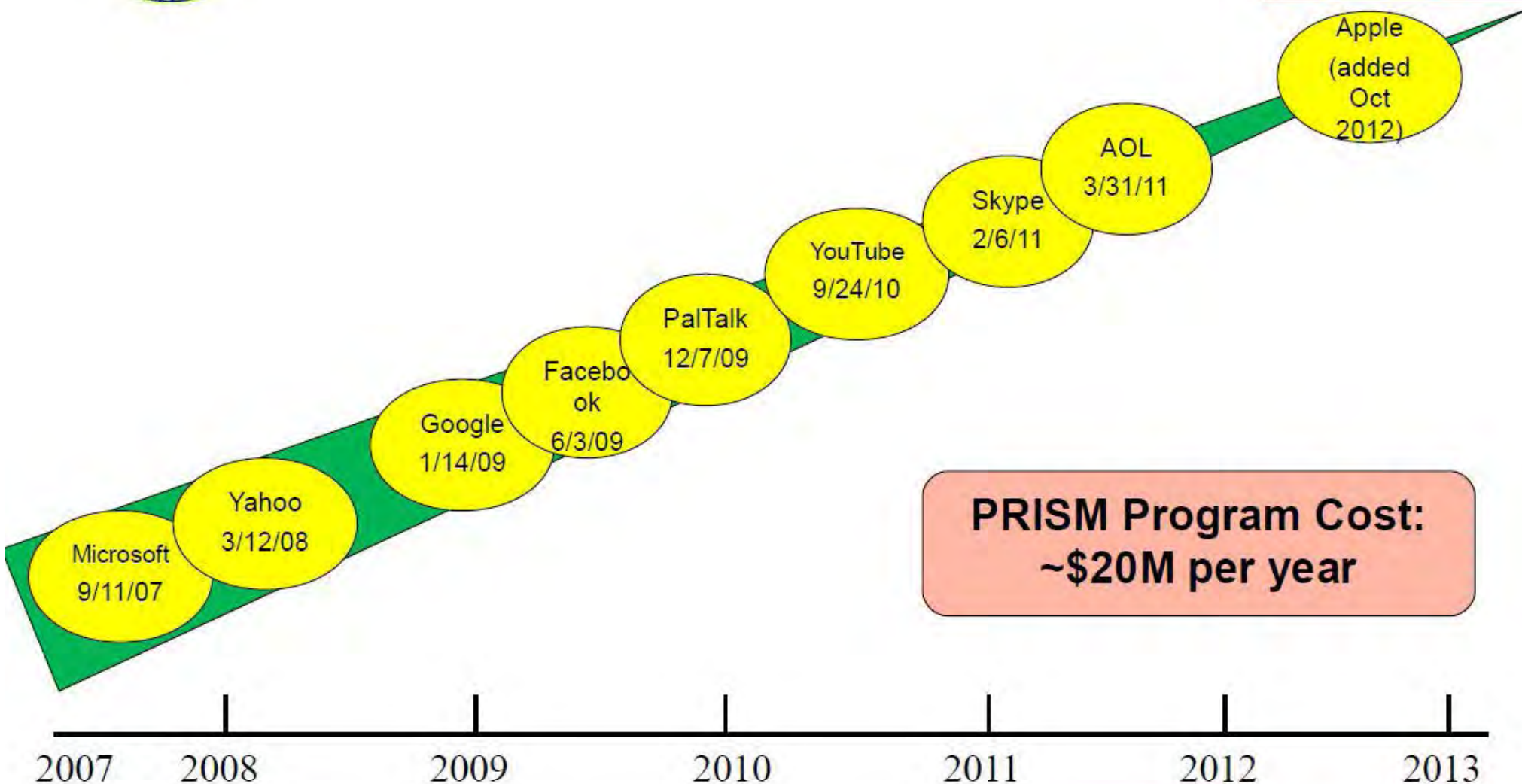
- E-mail
- Chat – video, voice
- Videos
- Photos
- Stored data
- VoIP
- File transfers
- Video Conferencing
- Notifications of target activity – logins, etc.
- Online Social Networking details
- **Special Requests**

Complete list and details on PRISM web page:

Go PRISMFAA



# (TS//SI//NF) Dates When PRISM Collection Began For Each Provider



**PRISM Program Cost:  
~\$20M per year**



(TS//SI//NF) FAA702 Reporting Highlight  
*PRISM and STORMBREW Combine*  
*To Thwart* [REDACTED]



# SAME-DAY NTOC/FBI COLLABORATION

PREVENTS 150GB EXFIL EVENT FROM CLEARED DEFENSE CONTRACTOR (CDC)

2012 14 DEC



**NTOC TIPS FBI TO IMMINENT THREAT**



② NTOC tips the FBI to the activity



**FBI HELPS CDC REMOVE IMPLANT**

③ The FBI contacts the CDC and works with them to clean the network

The victim performed comprehensive actions on the infected network, thus **PREVENTING EXFILTRATION** on the **SAME DAY NTOC DISCOVERED ADVERSARY INTENT**



Hotmail®

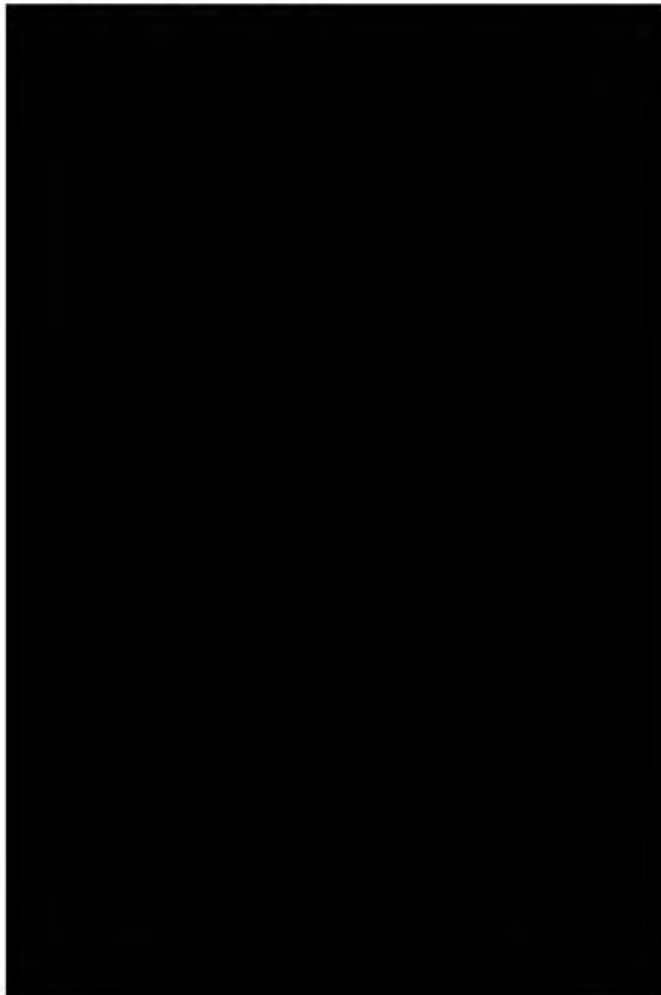


# (TS//SI//NF) Some Higher Volume Domains Collected from FAA Passive



In addition to Hotmail, Yahoo, Google, Paltalk, Facebook, Skype, AOL:

Select IP Addresses



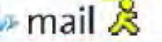
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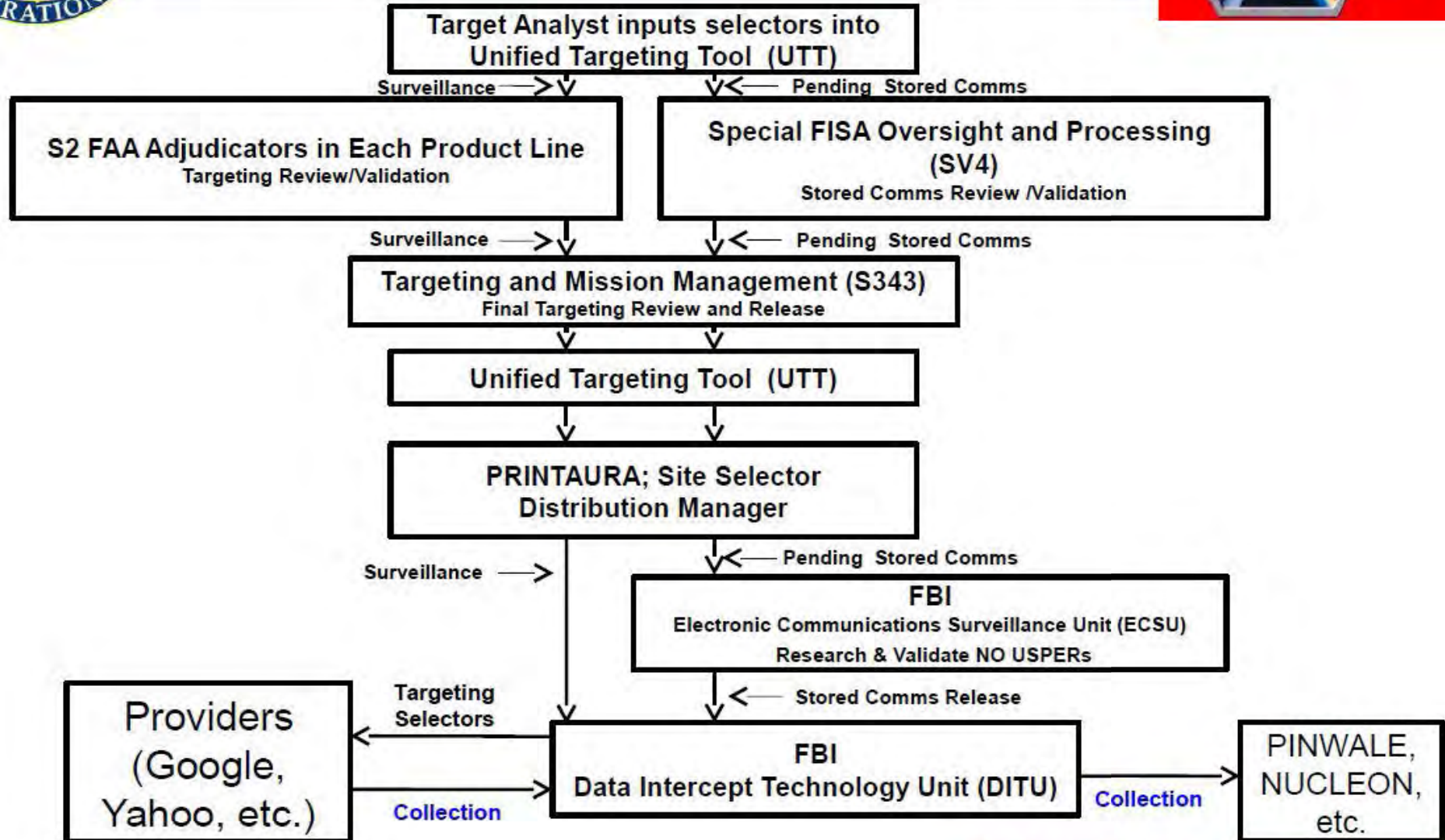
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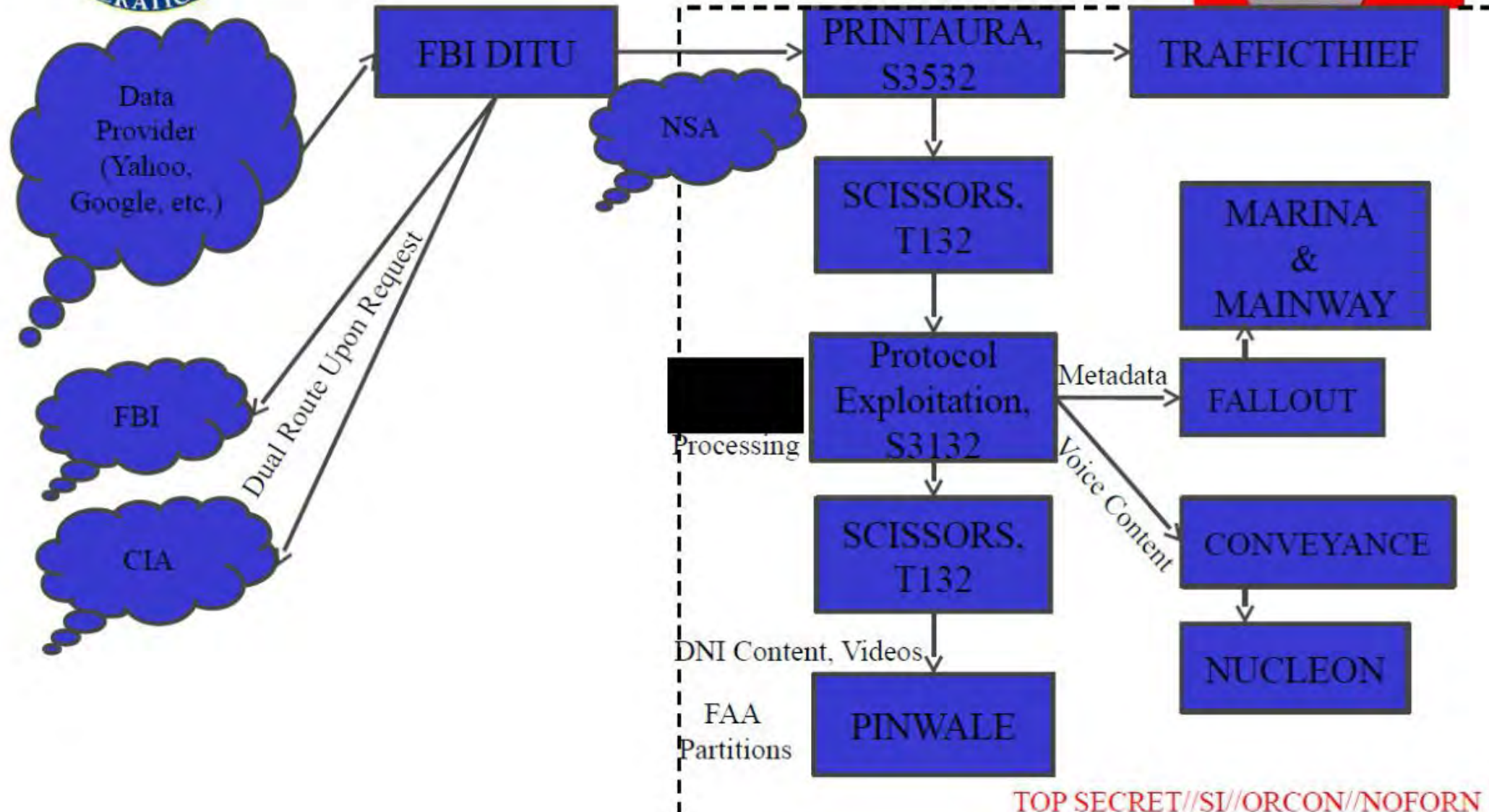


# (TS//SI//NF) PRISM Tasking Process





# (TS//SI//NF) PRISM Collection Dataflow





Hotmail



Google



paltalk.com

YouTube



# (TS//SI//NF) PRISM Case Notations



# P2ESQC120001234

- PRISM Provider
- P1: Microsoft
  - P2: Yahoo
  - P3: Google
  - P4: Facebook
  - P5: PalTalk
  - P6: YouTube
  - P7: Skype
  - P8: AOL
  - PA: Apple

Fixed trigraph, denotes PRISM source collection

Year CASN established for selector

Serial #

- Content Type**
- A: Stored Comms (Search)
  - B: IM (chat)
  - C: RTN-EDC (real-time notification of an e-mail event such as a login or sent message)
  - D: RTN-IM (real-time notification of a chat login or logout event)
  - E: E-Mail
  - F: VoIP
  - G: Full (WebForum)
  - H: OSN Messaging (photos, wallposts, activity, etc.)
  - I: OSN Basic Subscriber Info
  - J: Videos
  - . (dot): Indicates multiple types