

# CREATING AI OFFENSIVE & DEFENSIVE TOOLS FOR OT/ICS CYBERSECURITY



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UTILSEC

## ABSTRACT

Cyber attackers are using AI to amplify their attacks, so why aren't defenders using it more? Cyberattacks against OT/ICS environments like power plants, water treatment facilities, and other critical infrastructure are doubling every year. Not only is the number of attacks doubling, but the impact from these attacks is increasing significantly. Blackouts. Downed manufacturing lines. No clean water. No food that's safe to eat. In these environments, resources for cybersecurity can be scarce and the OT cybersecurity teams that do exist are asked to do much more with far less. So, this is where AI can come in and help. But are we ready for AI in OT/ICS?

## SPEAKER BIO

Mike Holcomb is an independent consultant focused on OT/ICS cybersecurity and an educational content creator. Prior to supporting clients full-time through UtilSec, he was the Fellow of Cybersecurity and the OT/ICS Cybersecurity Global Lead for one of the world's largest engineering and construction companies, providing him with the opportunity to work to secure some of the world's largest OT/ICS environments, from power plants and commuter rail to manufacturing facilities and refineries. As part of his community efforts, Michael founded BSidesICS/OT with multiple events planned globally in 2026. He has his master's degree in OT/ICS cybersecurity from the SANS Technology Institute. Additionally, he maintains cybersecurity and OT/ICS certifications such as the CISSP, GRID, GICSP, GCIP, GPEN, GCIH, ISA 62443, and more. He was awarded the SANS Difference Maker Award for Practitioner of the Year: ICS/OT Defender for 2025. He posts regularly on LinkedIn and YouTube to help others secure OT/ICS and critical infrastructure. You can find out more information about Mike and his resources at [mikeholcomb.com](http://mikeholcomb.com).