

# CiviProxy

CiviCRM Enhanced Security Architecture



**SYSTOPIA**  
Organisationsberatung

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# Why?

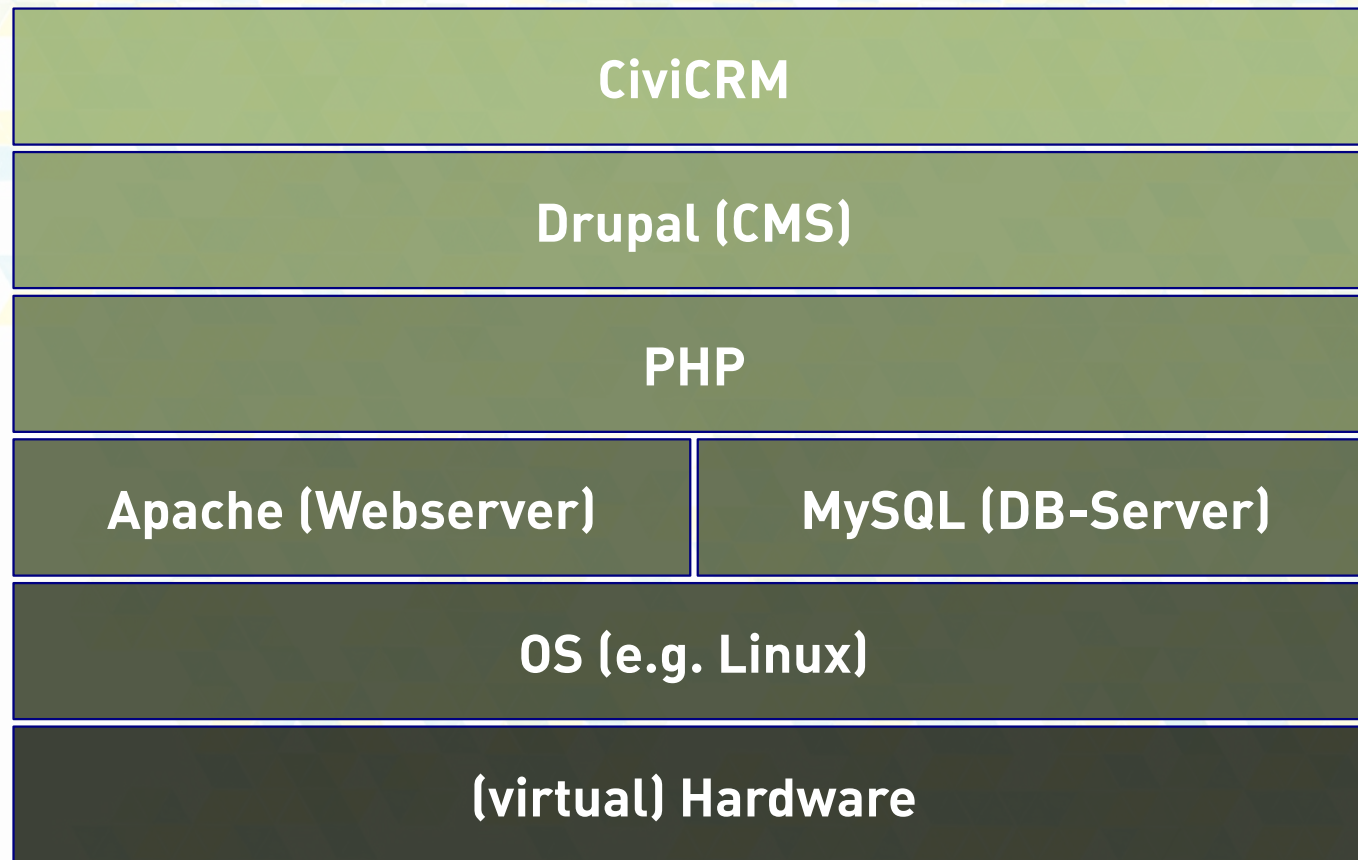
- ▶ System complexity increasing
- ▶ New first-choice way to harm your organisation
- ▶ State-funded surveillance
- ▶ Hacking tools easy-to-use and widely available



# Agenda

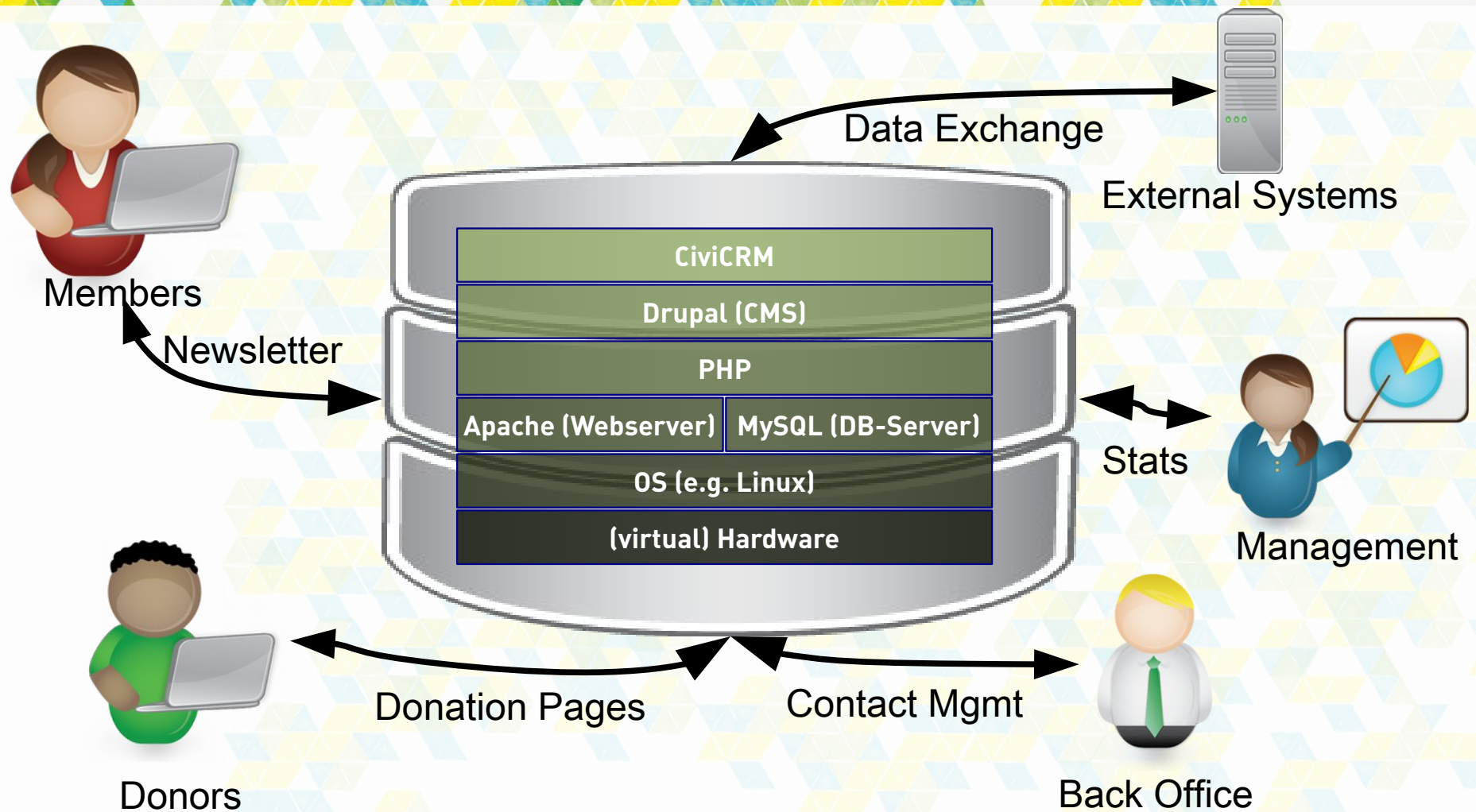
- ▶ CiviCRM Security Threats
- ▶ Application Firewalls
- ▶ CiviProxy
- ▶ Live Demo
- ▶ Discussion

# CiviCRM Architecture

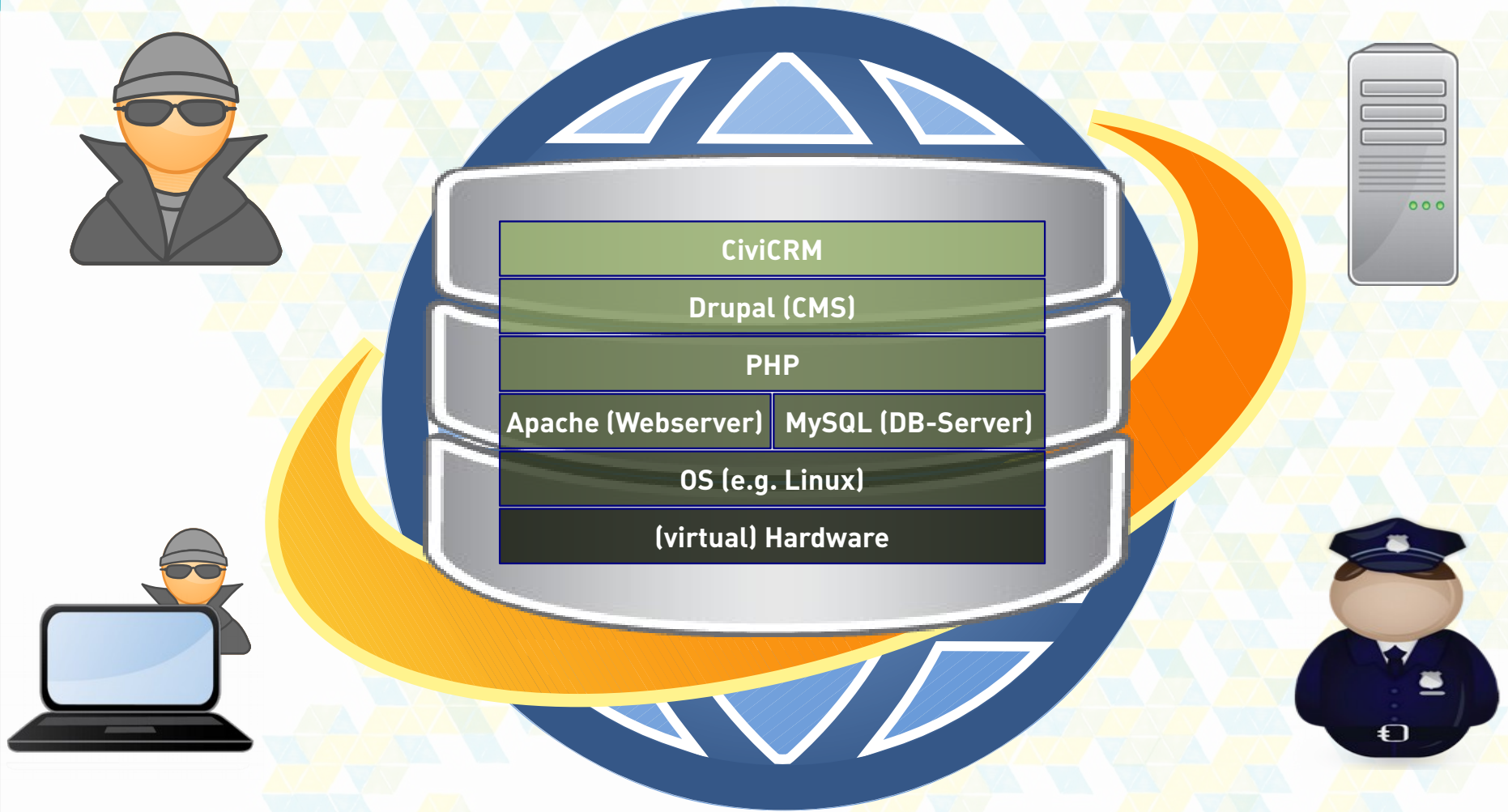




# CiviCRM Architecture

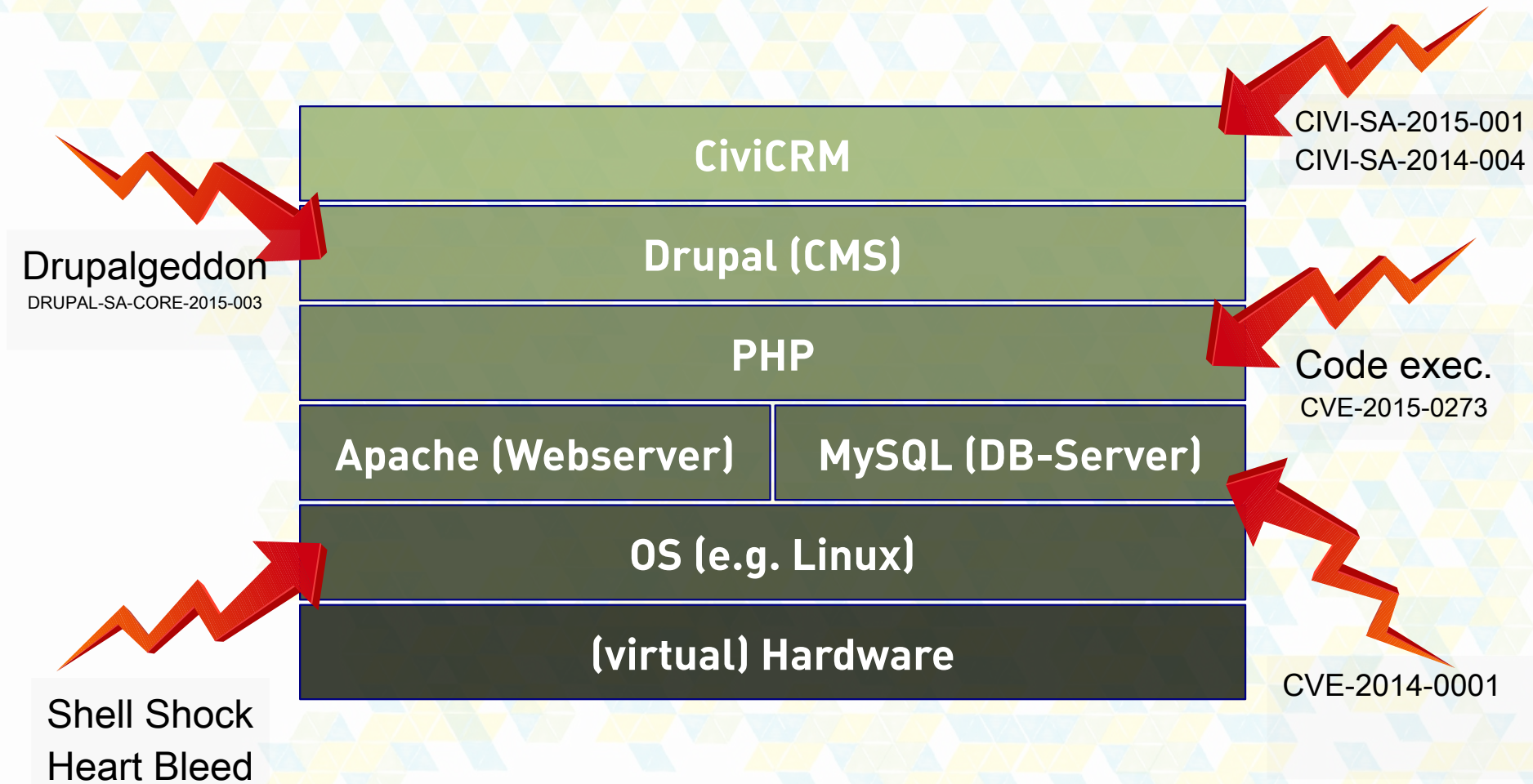


# CiviCRM Security Threats

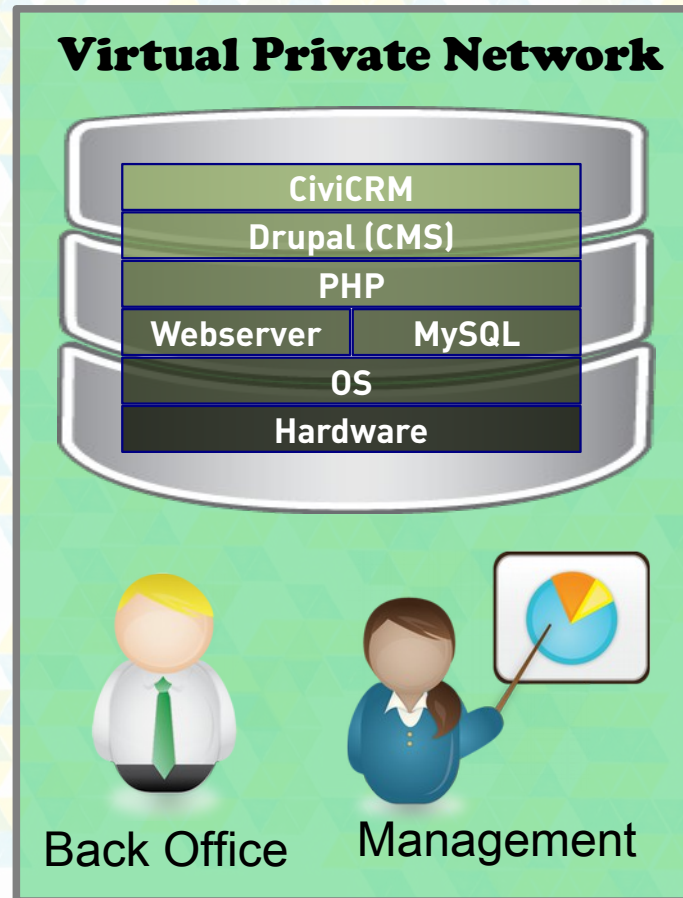




# CiviCRM Security Threats

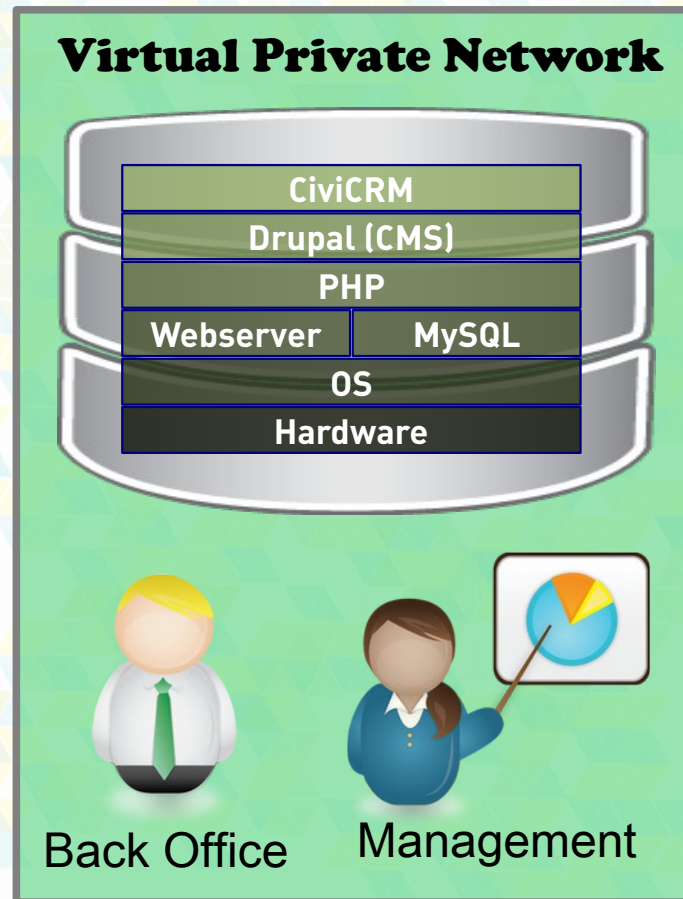


# CiviCRM Virtual Privacy



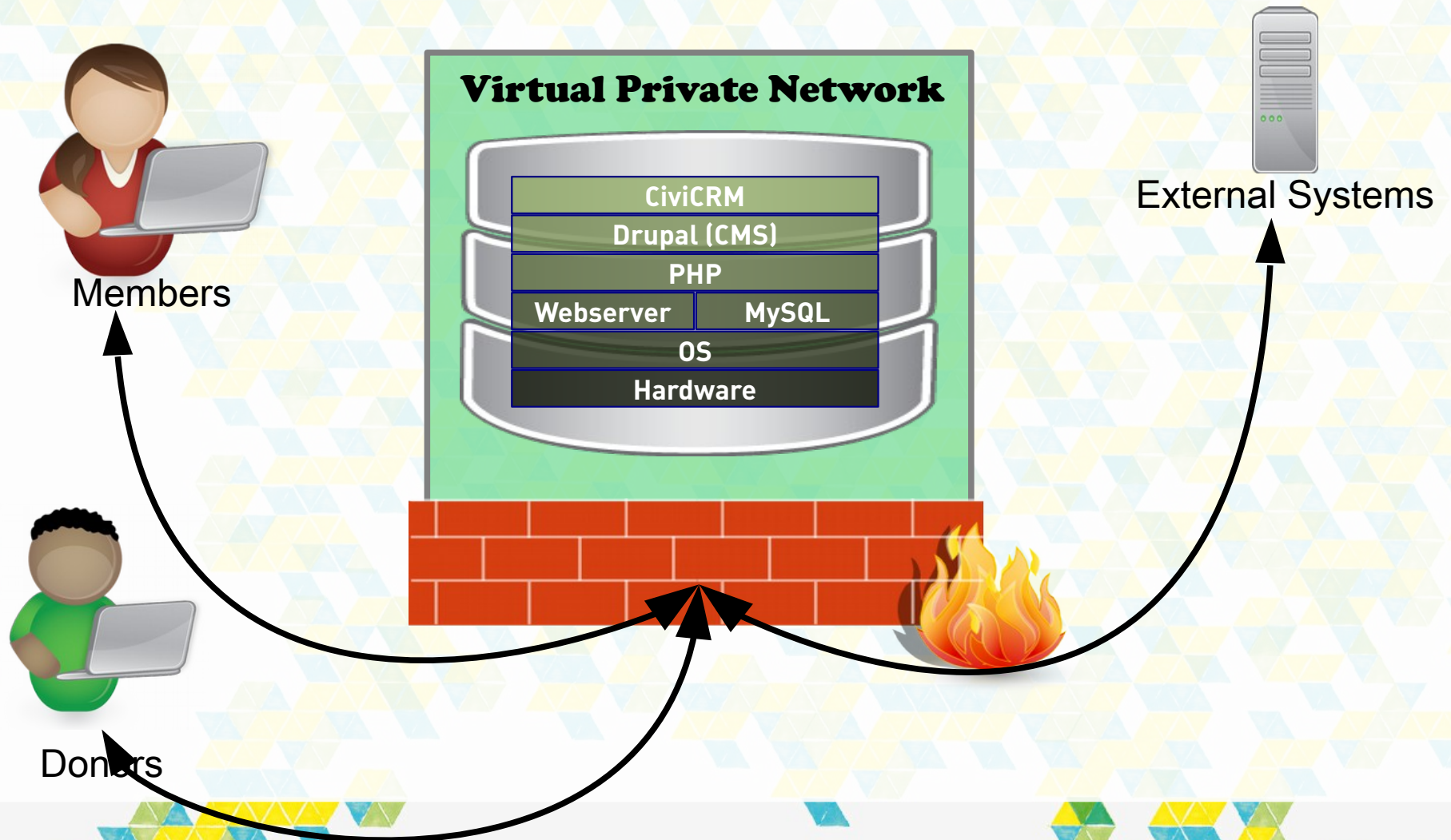


# CiviCRM Virtual Privacy



External Systems

# CiviCRM - Firewall





# Application Firewalls

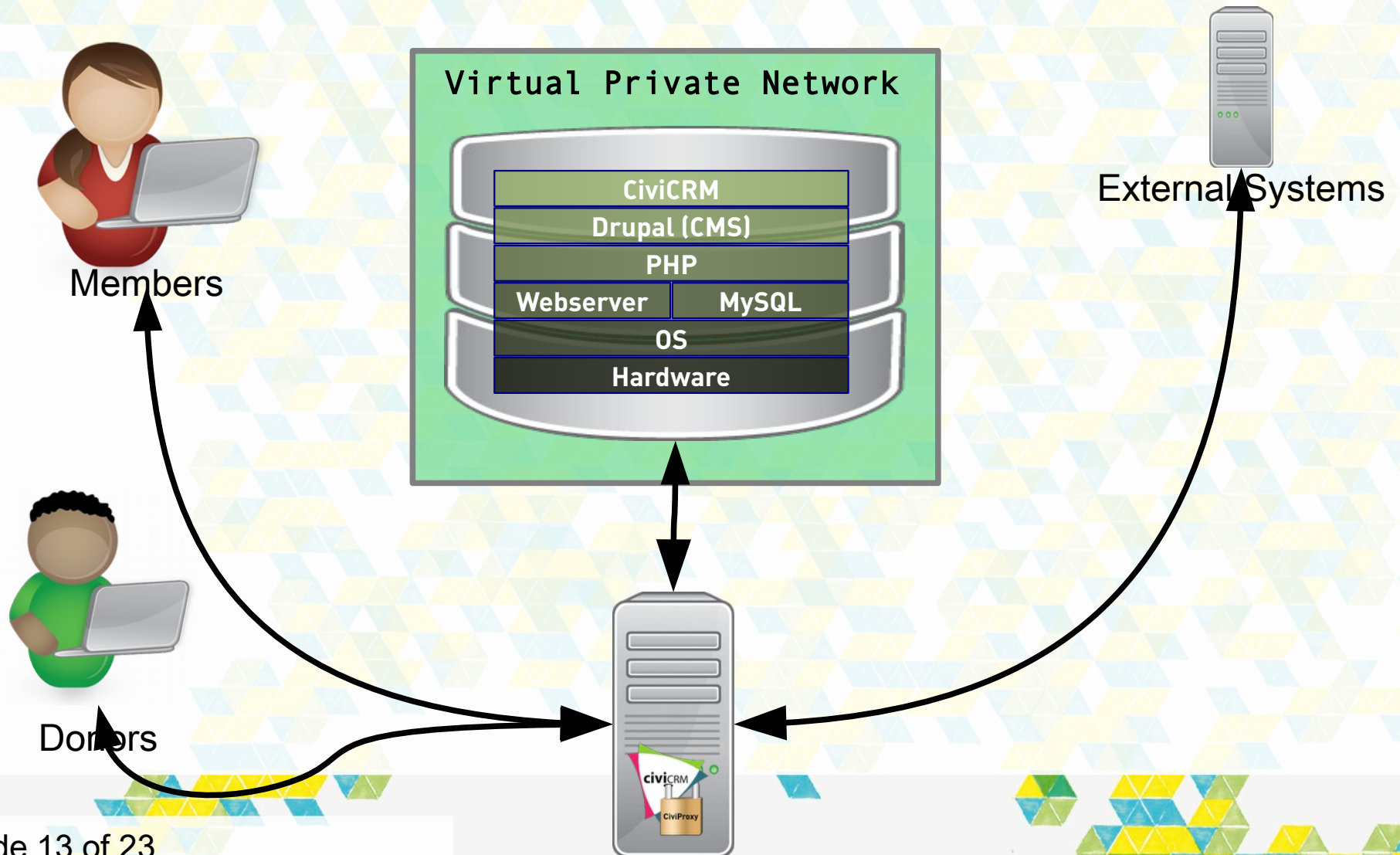
- ▶ Filter the traffic to / from the server
- ▶ Behaviour defined by a set of rules
- ▶ Various Open Source options available

# Application Firewalls

- ▶ Tradeoff between number and precision of rules  
→ the more precise the rules, the harder to maintain
- ▶ Tendency to be too lax, not to obstruct donor interaction



# Alternative: CiviProxy



# CiviProxy

## CiviProxy Mission:

- ▶ Security proxy **designed** for CiviCRM
- ▶ But: keep it simple!
- ▶ Whitelisting (instead of blacklisting)
- ▶ Strict parameter sanitation
- ▶ Add / enable only the desired features.



# CiviProxy

## CiviProxy Implementation:

- ▶ Set of very simple PHP scripts
- ▶ Can be simply uploaded to any managed server or web-hosting service

# CiviProxy

Managed hosting has its perks:

- ▶ High security standards
- ▶ Inexpensive
- ▶ Huge bandwidth, well connected
- ▶ “Shields” your network from unnecessary traffic



# CiviProxy

What it can do (atm):

- ▶ Serve (cached) newsletter resources
- ▶ Serve (cached) static newsletter
- ▶ Handle newsletter sign on / off
- ▶ Full REST API
- ▶ Flooding / DOS filters\*

\*) commissioned, but not implemented yet

# CiviProxy

What it can **not** do (yet):

- ▶ Donation / membership / event / petition pages
- ▶ Drupal Webforms
- ▶ Self service dashboard
- ▶ Profiles



# CiviProxy

## Feature: “Mailings”:

- ▶ CiviProxy caches all resources
- ▶ Pass on all “open” and “click-through” events
- ▶ Comes with a CiviCRM extension to automatically “mend” all URLs in outgoing mails

# CiviProxy

Feature: “API”:

- ▶ API backbone of communication with other systems.
- ▶ Simply define entity and action to allow, and define sanitation rules





# CiviProxy

## Demonstration

# AF vs. CiviProxy

- ▶ extensible
- ▶ established
- ▶ hard to set up
- ▶ hard to maintain
- ▶ API extension hard
- ▶ input sanitation complex

- ▶ predefined functions
- ▶ newly developed
- ▶ easy to set up
- ▶ easy to maintain
- ▶ API extension easy
- ▶ input sanitation built-in



# CiviProxy

## Discussion

Interested? Contact us: [info@systopia.de](mailto:info@systopia.de)