

# CYBERSECURITY

## RESOURCE AND REFERENCE GUIDE

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Cybersecurity Partnerships Division

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The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of useful, readily available references to support Security Cooperation across the USG, commercial sector, and U.S. allies and partners. Within this document, readers will find information regarding cybersecurity norms, best practices, policies, and standards written and adopted by the U.S. federal government, the U.S. Department of Defense, and recognized institutional standards.

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## Purpose

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The purpose of this document is to provide a useful reference of both U.S. and International resources, in order to develop cybersecurity programs and to build and maintain strong network protection. Extensive reference materials exist that support efforts to build and operate trusted networks and ensure information systems maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality, integrity, authentication, non-repudiation, and availability among international and U.S. stakeholders. The resources compiled here support security cooperation and shared best practices to help achieve collective cybersecurity goals. This guide provides readily available and unclassified information pertaining to cybersecurity norms, best practices, security cooperation, policies and standards authored and adopted by the United States Government (USG), the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), and recognized international institutes and workforce development training resources provided by government, industry, and academia.

## Disclaimers

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This reference and resource guide is a compilation of readily available and unclassified resources and should not be considered an exhaustive list. Abstracts, diagrams, and descriptions were taken directly from the sources' websites. U.S. DoD Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) does not claim authorship of resource descriptions and gives full credit to the organizations referenced. The guide attempts to link to the most authoritative source for each item represented and will be updated on an annual basis as needed.

References to any specific products, processes, or services by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by U.S. DoD CIO CISO.

For further information or to report a broken or invalid link, please contact the DCIO-Cybersecurity International Division at [dod-cio-cs-international@mail.mil](mailto:dod-cio-cs-international@mail.mil).

## Introduction

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In order to maintain strong network defenses and to ensure information remains a shared strategic asset, the DoD CIO promotes cybersecurity collaboration with international partners by sharing information. This includes standards and best practices for building and defending networks, incident recovery, and developing strong cyber workforces. Regardless of architecture, security control automation, workforce development, or other initiatives put in place in an organization, good network security cannot be achieved without good network operations. Developing effective monitoring and analysis capabilities, incident response procedures, efficient communication management and control, and timely reporting are the fundamental characteristics of healthy network operations on which strong network security can be built.

The resources compiled here reflect the DoD CIO's commitment to support security cooperation, share best practices, and assist partners in the development of cybersecurity programs and the creation and maintenance of strong network protection.

## Quick Guide

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DoD
<a href="#">DoD Directives/Instruction/Manual</a>
<a href="#">CNSS (Committee on National Security Systems)</a>
<a href="#">CJCSM (Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Manual)</a>
Non-DoD
NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology)
FIPS (Federal Information Processing Standards)
ISO (International Organization for Standardization)
CSIRT (Computer Security Incident Response Team)
NCCIC (National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center)

References to help answer cybersecurity-related questions quickly and efficiently:

### Glossary References

CNSS Instruction No. 4009, *Committee on National Security Systems Glossary*, April 2015

Website: <https://rmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/CNSSI-4009.pdf>

NIST Interagency Report (IR) 7298, Revision 3, *Glossary of Key Information Security Terms*, July 2019 Website:

<https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ir/2019/NIST.IR.7298r3.pdf>

### **Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS)**

Under the Information Technology Management Reform Act (Public Law 104-106), the Secretary of Commerce approves standards and guidelines that are developed by the NIST for federal computer systems. These standards and guidelines are issued by NIST as FIPS for use government-wide. NIST develops FIPS when there are compelling Federal government requirements, such as for security and interoperability, and there are no acceptable industry standards or solutions.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips>

### **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)**

NIST was founded in 1901 and is a non-regulatory agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Its mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve quality of life. NIST is dedicated to supporting U.S. in areas of national importance from communications technology and

cybersecurity to advanced manufacturing and disaster resilience. By developing new standards, frameworks, and tools to measure critical attributes, provide authoritative data, and bring stakeholders together to find the way forward.

Website: <https://www.nist.gov/>

### **NIST Special Publications (SP) 800 Series**

The Special Publications (SP) 800 series presents documents of general interest to the computer security community and reports on research, guidelines, and outreach efforts in computer security, and its collaborative activities with industry, government, and academic organizations. Special publications relating to a risk management framework (RMF) or to securing network architecture are included here. The complete text of all Special Publication 800 series documents can be downloaded at:

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/sp800>

### **Committee on National Security Systems & CNSS Directives**

The CNSS sets national-level cybersecurity policies, directives, instructions, operational procedures, guidance, and advisories for USG departments and agencies for the security of national security systems. It provides a comprehensive forum for strategic planning and operational decision-making to protect national security systems and approves the release of information security products and information to foreign governments.

Website: <https://www.cnss.gov/CNSS/index.cfm>

Directives Website: <https://www.cnss.gov/CNSS/issuances/Directives.cfm>

### **DoD Cybersecurity Policy Chart, May 22, 2019**

The goal of the DoD Cybersecurity Policy Chart is to capture the tremendous breadth of applicable policies, some of which many cybersecurity professionals may not even be aware of, in a helpful organizational scheme. The use of color, fonts, and hyperlinks are all designed to provide additional assistance to cybersecurity professionals navigating their way through policy issues in order to defend their networks, systems, and data. Please see the graphic in the Appendix.

Website: <https://www.csiac.org/resources/the-dod-cybersecurity-policy-chart/>

### **DoD Chief Information Officer (CIO) Library**

The DoD CIO Library site lists series of documents related to policies, architectures, guidance, and strategies. Relevant documents include topic areas of modern software practices, networks, cyber-attack, Identity, Credential, and Access Management (ICAM), operational effectiveness, frameworks, reference material, and strategies.

Website: <https://dodcio.defense.gov/Library/>

## Developing a Cybersecurity Strategy and Supporting Policies

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The purpose of a strategy is to guide an organization or a country in achieving a series of objectives over time; often, a strategy sets a course for a four- or five-year period. This period of time is required to enact change, achieve end-states, and to allocate financial means to build and sustain organizational missions. To succeed, a strategy must assess strategic interests, as well as the geopolitical environment for operations. It must set strategic end-states to achieve; it must identify the missions required to achieve those end-states; and it must identify the policy, personnel, and financial investments necessary to execute required missions and achieve required end-states.

It is imperative that defense organizations develop the appropriate strategies for protecting interests in cyberspace, develop policies to further clarify how those strategies will be implemented, and develop the appropriate organizational structure to coordinate efforts within individual services and across services. Defense organizations must develop a cyber protection strategy, tied into a national-level effort, so that investments made to develop cyber capabilities are in support of overarching national strategic objectives. Policies, instruction, and directives are used to guide the decisions determined in the strategy and to achieve desired outcomes. Several resources pertaining to strategic vision and examples of national and ministerial level strategies, supporting policies, and directives are included below.

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### United States Resources

#### **Presidential Policy Directive (PPD)-41, *United States Cyber Incident Coordination*, July 26, 2016**

This Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) sets forth principles governing the federal government's response to any cyber incident, whether involving government or private sector entities. For significant cyber incidents, this PPD also establishes lead federal agencies and an architecture for coordinating the broader federal government response. This PPD requires the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security to maintain updated contact information for public use to assist entities affected by cyber incidents in reporting those incidents to the proper authorities.

Website: <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/07/26/presidential-policy-directive-united-states-cyber-incident>

#### **Presidential Executive Order, *Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity*, May 12, 2021**

This Presidential Executive Order sets requirements to make bold changes and significant investments to defend the vital institutions that underpin the American way of life. This Executive Order makes a significant contribution toward modernizing cybersecurity defenses by protecting federal networks, improving information-sharing between the USG and the private sector on cyber issues, and strengthening the United States' ability to respond to incidents when they occur. This Executive Order establishes a Cyber Safety Review board responsible for the review and assessment of cyber incidents defined under PPD-41.

Website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/05/12/executive-order-on-improving-the-nations-cybersecurity/>

#### **Interim National Security Strategy (NSS), March 2021**

The publication of the National Security Strategy (NSS) is a presidential milestone. A statutorily mandated document, the NSS explains to the American people, U.S. allies and partners, and federal agencies how the President intends to put his national security vision into practice on behalf of fellow citizens.

Website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/NSC-1v2.pdf>

#### **National Defense Strategy (NDS), 2018**

The U.S.' National Defense Strategy (NDS) is used to establish the objectives for the plans for military force structure, force modernization, business processes, supporting infrastructure, and required resources



(funding and manpower). The NDS plays a key role in identifying the capabilities required by the warfighters to support the NSS.

Website: <https://dod.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/2018-National-Defense-Strategy-Summary.pdf>

### **National Military Strategy (NMS), 2018**

Provides the Joint Force a framework for protecting and advancing U.S. national interests. Pursuant to statute, it reflects a comprehensive review conducted by the Chairman with the other members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the unified combatant commanders. As an overarching military strategic framework, this strategy implements the substantial body of policy and strategy direction provided in the 2017 National Security Strategy, the 2018 National Defense Strategy (NDS), the Defense Planning Guidance (DPG), and other documents. The 2018 NMS provides the Chairman's military advice for how the Joint Force implements the defense objectives in the NDS and the direction from the President and the Secretary of Defense.

Website: [https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Publications/UNCLASS\\_2018\\_National\\_Military\\_Strategy\\_Description.pdf](https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Publications/UNCLASS_2018_National_Military_Strategy_Description.pdf)

### **National Cyber Strategy of the United States of America, 2018**

America's prosperity and security depend on how we respond to the opportunities and challenges in cyberspace. Critical infrastructure, national defense, and the daily lives of Americans rely on computer-driven and interconnected information technologies. As all facets of American life have become more dependent on a secure cyberspace, new vulnerabilities have been revealed, and new threats continue to emerge. Building on the NSS and the Administration's progress over its first 18 months, the National Cyber Strategy outlines how the U.S. will ensure the American people continue to reap the benefits of a secure cyberspace that reflects our principles, protects our security, and promotes our prosperity.

Website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/National-Cyber-Strategy.pdf>

### **Department of Defense Cyber Strategy, 2018**

The 2018 DoD Cyber Strategy represents the Department's vision for addressing this threat and implementing the priorities of the NSS and NDS for cyberspace. It supersedes the 2015 DoD Cyber Strategy.

Overview Website: <https://www.defense.gov/explore/story/Article/1648425/dods-cyber-strategy-5-things-to-know/>

Summary Document: [https://media.defense.gov/2018/Sep/18/2002041658/-1/-1/1/CYBER\\_STRATEGY\\_SUMMARY\\_FINAL.PDF](https://media.defense.gov/2018/Sep/18/2002041658/-1/-1/1/CYBER_STRATEGY_SUMMARY_FINAL.PDF)

### **DoD Digital Modernization Strategy, 2019**

The DoD Digital Modernization Strategy is the cornerstone for advancing our digital environment to afford the Joint Force a competitive advantage in the modern battlespace. The Digital Modernization Strategy provides a roadmap to support implementation of the National Defense Strategy lines of effort through the lens of cloud, artificial intelligence, command, control and communications and cybersecurity.

Website: <https://media.defense.gov/2019/Jul/12/2002156622/-1/-1/1/DOD-DIGITAL-MODERNIZATION-STRATEGY-2019.PDF>

### **DoD Cloud Strategy, December 2018**

The DoD Cloud Strategy reasserts DoD's commitment to cloud and the need to view cloud initiatives from an enterprise perspective for more effective adoption. It recognizes DoD's experience over the past five years and identifies seven strategic objectives along with guiding principles to set a path forward. It emphasizes mission and tactical edge needs along with the requirement to prepare for artificial intelligence while accounting for protection and efficiencies.

Website: <https://media.defense.gov/2019/Feb/04/2002085866/-1/-1/1/DOD-CLOUD-STRATEGY.PDF>

### **International Strategy for Cyberspace, 2011**

The U.S. International Strategy for Cyberspace outlines strategic vision, including an approach to building cyberspace policy, the future of cyberspace, policy priorities, and a way ahead. The revised strategy will be published when the new administration releases it to the public.

Website: [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/rss\\_viewer/international\\_strategy\\_for\\_cyberspace.pdf](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/international_strategy_for_cyberspace.pdf)

### **Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 8000.01, *Management of the Department of Defense Information Enterprise (DoD IE), Incorporating Change 1, July 27, 2017***

DoDD 8000.01 establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for DoD information resources management activities to the DoD CIO.

Website: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodd/800001p.pdf>

### **Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 8500.01, *Cybersecurity, March 14, 2014***

DoDI 8500.01 establishes a DoD cybersecurity program to protect and defend DoD information and information technology (IT).

Website: [http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/850001\\_2014.pdf](http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/850001_2014.pdf)

### **DoDI 5205.13, *Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Cyber Security (CS) Activities, Incorporating Change 2, August 21, 2019***

This Instruction establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and delegates authority in accordance with the authority in DoDD 5144.02 for directing the conduct of Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Cybersecurity activities to protect unclassified DoD information that transits or resides on unclassified DIB information systems and networks.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/520513p.pdf>

### **DoDI 8510.01, *Risk Management Framework (RMF) for DoD Information, Incorporating Change 3, December 29, 2020***

This instruction establishes the RMF for DoD IT, establishing associated cybersecurity policy and assigning responsibilities for executing and maintaining the RMF. The RMF replaces the DoD Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process and manages the life-cycle cybersecurity risk to DoD IT in accordance with References.

Website: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/851001p.pdf>

### **NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-37, Revision 2, *Risk Management Framework for Information Systems and Organizations, December 2018***

This publication describes the RMF and provides guidelines for applying the RMF to information systems and organizations. The RMF provides a disciplined, structured, and flexible process for managing security and privacy risk that includes information security categorization; control selection, implementation, and assessment; system and common control authorizations; and continuous monitoring. The RMF includes activities to prepare organizations to execute the framework at appropriate risk management levels. The RMF also promotes near real-time management and ongoing information system and common control authorization through the implementation of continuous monitoring processes; provides senior leaders and executives with the necessary information to make efficient, cost-effective, risk management decisions about the systems supporting their missions and business functions; and incorporates security and privacy into the system development life cycle.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-37r2.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-30, Revision 1, *Guide for Conducting Risk Assessment, September 2012***

The purpose is to provide guidance for conducting risk assessments of federal information systems and organizations, amplifying the guidance in SP 800-39. Risk assessments, carried out at all three tiers in the risk management hierarchy, are part of an overall risk management process—providing senior

leaders/executives with the information needed to determine appropriate courses of action in response to identified risks.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-30r1.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-39, *Managing Information Security Risk*, March 2011**

The purpose of SP 800-39 is to provide guidance for an integrated, organization-wide program for managing information security risk to organizational operations (i.e., mission, functions, image, and reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, and the nation resulting from the operation and use of federal information systems.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-39.pdf>

### **National Vulnerability Database (NVD)**

The NVD is the USG repository of standards-based vulnerability management data represented using the Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP). This data enables automation of vulnerability management, security measurement, and compliance. The NVD includes databases of security checklist references, security-related software flaws, misconfigurations, product names, and impact metrics.

Website: <https://nvd.nist.gov/>

### **National Checklist Program (NCP) Repository**

NIST maintains the National Checklist Repository (NCP), which is a publicly available resource that contains information on a variety of security configuration checklists for specific IT products or categories of IT products. A security configuration checklist (also called a lockdown, hardening guide, or benchmark) is a series of instructions or procedures for configuring an IT product to a particular operational environment, for verifying that the product has been configured properly, and/or for identifying unauthorized changes to the product. The IT product may be commercial, open source, government-off-the-shelf, etc.

Website: <https://nvd.nist.gov/ncp/repository>

### **NIST SP 800-70, Revision 4, *National Checklist Program for IT Products – Guidelines for Checklist Users and Developers*, February 2018**

A security configuration checklist is a document that contains instructions or procedures for configuring an IT product to an operational environment, for verifying that the product has been configured properly, and/or for identifying unauthorized changes to the product. Using these checklists can minimize the attack threat surface, reduce vulnerabilities, lessen the impact of successful cyber threat activity, and identify changes that might otherwise go undetected. To facilitate development of checklists and to make checklists more organized and usable, NIST established the NCP. This publication explains how to use the NCP to find and retrieve checklists, and it also describes the policies, procedures, and general requirements for participation in the NCP.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-70r4.pdf>

### **United States Government Configuration Baseline (USGCB)**

The purpose of the United States Government Configuration Baseline (USGCB) initiative is to create security configuration baselines for IT products widely deployed across the federal agencies. The USGCB baseline evolved from the Federal Desktop Core Configuration mandate. The USGCB is a federal government-wide initiative that provides guidance to agencies on what should be done to improve and maintain effective configuration settings focusing primarily on security.

Website: <http://usgcb.nist.gov>

### **Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)**

The Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) is a synthesis of interoperable specifications derived from community ideas. Community participation is a great strength for SCAP because the security automation community ensures the broadest possible range of use cases is reflected in SCAP functionality.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/security-content-automation-protocol/>

### **NIST SP 800-126, Revision 3, *The Technical Specification for the Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP): SCAP Version 1.3, February 2018***

This document provides the definitive technical specification for version 1.3 of the SCAP. SCAP is a suite of specifications that standardize the format and nomenclature by which software flaw and security configuration information is communicated, both to machines and humans. This document collectively defines the technical composition of SCAP version 1.3 in terms of its component specifications, their interrelationships and interoperation, and the requirements for SCAP content.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-126r2.pdf>

### **Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management**

Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) is the process of identifying, assessing, and mitigating the risks associated with the distributed and interconnected nature of information and operational technology product and service supply chains. It covers the entire life cycle of a system (including design, development, distribution, deployment, acquisition, maintenance, and destruction) as supply chain threats and vulnerabilities may intentionally or unintentionally compromise an information and operational technology product or service at any stage.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/Projects/Supply-Chain-Risk-Management>

### **DHS CISA Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) Task Force**

Sponsored by CISA, Department of Homeland Security's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) Task Force is the United States' preeminent public-private supply chain risk management partnership. It was established in response to these realities and entrusted with the critical mission of identifying and developing consensus strategies that enhance ICT Supply Chain security."

Website: <https://www.cisa.gov/ict-scrm-task-force>

### **Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)**

National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC) works with its partners to assess and mitigate the activities of foreign intelligence entities and other adversaries who attempt to compromise the supply chains of our government and industry. These adversaries exploit supply chain vulnerabilities to steal America's intellectual property, corrupt our software, surveil our critical infrastructure, and carry out other malicious activities.

Website: <https://www.dni.gov/index.php/ncsc-what-we-do/ncsc-supply-chain-threats>

### **NIST SP 800-161, *Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organizations, April 2015***

Federal agencies are concerned about the risks associated with information and communications technology (ICT) products and services that may contain potentially malicious functionality, are counterfeit, or are vulnerable due to poor manufacturing and development practices within the ICT supply chain. These risks are associated with the federal agencies decreased visibility into, understanding of, and control over how the technology that they acquire is developed, integrated, and deployed, as well as the processes, procedures, and practices used to assure the integrity, security, resilience, and quality of the products and services. This publication provides guidance to federal agencies on identifying, assessing, and mitigating ICT supply chain risks at all levels of their organizations. This publication integrates SCRM into federal agency risk management activities by applying a multi-tiered, SCRM-specific approach, including guidance on supply chain risk assessment and mitigation activities.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-161.pdf>

**Figure 2: Components and Contributing Disciplines of ICT SCRM**



Source: Boyens, J., Paulsen, C., Moorthy, R., & Bartol, N. (2015). *Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organizations*. National Institute of Standards and Technology.

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## International Resources

### **Cybersecurity Strategy of the European Union (EU)**

Published by the European Commission, Cybersecurity Strategy of the European Union: An Open, Safe, and Secure Cyberspace represents the European Union's (EU) comprehensive vision on how best to prevent and respond to cyber disruptions and incidents. Specific actions are aimed at enhancing cyber threat resilience of information systems, reducing cybercrime, and strengthening EU international cybersecurity policy and protection.

Website: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/eus-cybersecurity-strategy-digital-decade-0>

### **European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) Strategy, June 2020**

European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) aims to achieve a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union in cooperation with the wider community. It does this through acting as a centre of expertise on cybersecurity, collecting and providing independent, high quality technical advice and assistance to Member States and EU bodies on Cybersecurity. ENISA contributes to developing and implementing the Union's cyber policies. This strategy document, developed through the engagement of all of ENISA's staff, the members of its management board, and its advisory group in a collaborative and inclusive process, sets the clear objectives that will drive ENISA's work in the coming years to meet the many challenges ahead.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/corporate-documents/a-trusted-and-cyber-secure-europe-enisa-strategy>

### **National Cyber Security Strategies: An Implementation Guide**

National Cyber Security Strategies: An Implementation Guide, developed by ENISA, introduces a set of concrete actions, which if implemented will lead to a coherent and holistic national cybersecurity strategy. It also proposes a national cybersecurity strategy lifecycle, with a special emphasis on the development and execution phase. Policy makers will find practical recommendations on how to control the overall development and improvement processes and how to follow up on the status of national cybersecurity affairs within their country.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/national-cyber-security-strategies-an-implementation-guide/>

### **ENISA Cyber Security Strategies Repository**

ENISA is supporting the EU Member States since 2012 to develop, implement and evaluate their National Cyber Security Strategies (NCSS). Since 2017, all EU Member States have published their own NCSS. The ENISA NCSS Interactive Map lists all the documents of National Cyber Security Strategies in the EU together with their strategic objectives and good examples of implementation. ENISA's goal is to create an info-hub with information provided by the Member States on their efforts to enhance national cybersecurity.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/topics/national-cyber-security-strategies/ncss-map/national-cyber-security-strategies-interactive-map>

### **Encrypted Traffic Analysis Use Cases & Security Challenges, November 2019**

Within this report, ENISA explores the current state of affairs in Encrypted Traffic Analysis and in particular discusses research and methods in 6 key use cases; viz. application identification, network analytics, user information identification, detection of encrypted malware, file/device/website/location fingerprinting and DNS tunnelling detection. In addition, the report discusses recent research in TLS practices identifying common improper practices and proposing simple but efficient countermeasures like certificates validation and pinning, minimize exposed data over HTTP redirects, using proper private keys and the latest versions of TLS (i.e. 1.2 and 1.3), deprecating older ones and employing certificate signing and by a trusted CA.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/encrypted-traffic-analysis>

### **EU Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS Directive), 2016**

The NIS Directive is the first piece of EU-wide cybersecurity legislation with the goal of enhancing cybersecurity across the EU. Adopted in 2016, the NIS Directive has three parts:

1. National capabilities: EU Member States must have certain national cybersecurity capabilities of the individual EU countries, e.g. they must have a national CSIRT, perform cyber exercises, etc.
2. Cross-border collaboration: Cross-border collaboration between EU countries, e.g. the operational EU CSIRT network, the strategic NIS cooperation group, etc.
3. National supervision of critical sectors: EU Member states have to supervise the cybersecurity of critical market operators in their country: Ex-ante supervision in critical sectors (energy, transport, water, health, digital infrastructure and finance sector), ex-post supervision for critical digital service providers (online market places, cloud and online search engines)

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/topics/nis-directive>

### **NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (NATO CCDCOE)**

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) is an international military organization accredited in 2008 by NATO's North Atlantic Council as a "Centre of Excellence". The NATO CCDCOE's mission is to enhance capability, cooperation, and information sharing between NATO, NATO Member States, and NATO's partner countries in the area of cyber defense by virtue of research, education, and consultation. The CCDCOE also offers resources such as the Tallinn Manual that can help guide discussions and policies related to cybersecurity strategies.

Website: <https://www.ccdcoe.org/>

### **Guide to Developing a National Cybersecurity Strategy**

Since 2016, NATO CCDCOE participated in the development of a reference guide aimed at supporting national efforts of developing cyber security strategies. The process, led by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), concluded with the publication of this 'Guide to Developing a National Cybersecurity Strategy' in September 2018. The guide represents a comprehensive one-stop resource for countries to gain a clear understanding of the purpose and content of a national cybersecurity strategy, as well as actionable guidance for how to develop a strategy of their own. The reference guide further lays out existing practices, relevant models and resources, as well as offers an overview of available assistance from other organizations. Included among the reference materials of are two NATO CCDCOE publications, National Cyber Security Strategy Guidelines and National Cyber Security Framework Manual. The national cybersecurity strategy reference guide was developed by twelve partners from intergovernmental and international organizations, private sector, as well as academia and civil society.

Website: <https://ccdcoe.org/library/publications/guide-to-developing-a-national-cybersecurity-strategy/>

### **National Cyber Security Framework Manual**

The National Cyber Security Framework Manual provides detailed background information and in-depth theoretical frameworks to help the reader understand the various facets of National Cyber Security,

according to different levels of public policy formulation. The four levels of government - political, strategic, operational, and tactical/technical - each have their own perspectives on National Cyber Security, and each is addressed in individual sections within the Manual. Additionally, the Manual gives examples of relevant institutions in National Cyber Security, from top-level policy coordination bodies down to cyber crisis management structures and similar institutions.

Website: <https://ccdcoe.org/library/publications/national-cyber-security-framework-manual/>

### **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)**

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) was set up to help protect the United Kingdom's (UK) critical services from cyber threats, manage major incidents, and improve the underlying security of the UK internet through technological improvement and advice to citizens and organizations. The centre supports the most critical organizations in the UK, the wider public sector, industry, and SMEs. When incidents do occur, it provides effective incident response to minimize harm to the UK, help with recovery, and learn lessons for the future.

Website: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/>

### **United Nations (UN) General Assembly, *Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, October 8, 2021***

The UN General Assembly released a draft resolution in October 2021 signed on by 55 nations highlighting the developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security and advancing responsible State behavior in the use of information and communications technologies.

Website: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/N21/281/02/pdf/N2128102.pdf?OpenElement>

### **NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA)**

The NCIA is the executive arm of the NATO Communication and Information Organisation (NCIO), which aims to achieve maximum effectiveness in delivering C3 capabilities to stakeholders, while ensuring their coherence and interoperability, and ensuring the provision of secure CIS services at minimum cost to Allies – individually and collectively.

Website: <https://www.ncia.nato.int/>

### **International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an independent, non-governmental international organization with a membership of 161 national standards bodies. Through its members, it brings together experts to share knowledge and develop voluntary, consensus-based, market relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide solutions to global challenges.

Website: <https://www.iso.org/>

### **International Technology Union (ITU) National Cybersecurity Strategies Repository**

This Repository includes the National Cybersecurity Strategies, be it in a form of a single or multiple documents or as an integral part of a broader ICT or national security strategies.

Website: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Cybersecurity/Pages/National-Strategies-repository.aspx>

### **10 Steps to Cyber Security**

Published by NCSC, this guidance is designed for organizations looking to protect themselves in cyberspace. The 10 Steps to Cyber Security was originally published in 2012 and is now used by a majority of the FTSE350. The 10 Steps guidance is complemented by the paper Common Cyber Attacks: Reducing the Impact. This paper sets out what common cyber threats look like and how threat actors typically undertake them.

Website: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/10-steps-cyber-security>

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## Other Sources

### **Software Engineering Institute (SEI)**

The primary mission of Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute (SEI) is to support the defense of the U.S. The SEI conducts research in software engineering, systems engineering, cybersecurity, and many other areas of computing, working to introduce private-sector innovations into government. In addition to supporting the DoD, they also work extensively with the private sector and academia in an array of disciplines. Their research, prototyping, mission application, training, and education activities are heavily interrelated and are relevant to a broad range of problem sets.

Website: [www.sei.cmu.edu](http://www.sei.cmu.edu)

### **The CERT® Resilience Management Model**

The SEI CERT Division partners with government, industry, law enforcement, and academia to improve the security and resilience of computer systems and networks. They study problems that have widespread cybersecurity implications and develop advanced methods and tools to counter large-scale, sophisticated cyber threats. CERT experts are a diverse group of researchers, software engineers, security analysts, and digital intelligence specialists working together to research security vulnerabilities in software products, contribute to long-term changes in networked systems, and develop cutting-edge information and training to improve the practice of cybersecurity.

Website: <https://www.sei.cmu.edu/about/divisions/cert/index.cfm>

### **Measures for Managing Operational Resilience**

In this report, members of the SEI CERT Resilient Enterprise Management team define high-level objectives for managing an operational resilience management system, demonstrate how to derive meaningful measures from those objectives, and present a template for defining resilience measures, along with example measures.

Website: [https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/asset\\_files/TechnicalReport/2011\\_005\\_001\\_15407.pdf](https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/asset_files/TechnicalReport/2011_005_001_15407.pdf)



## **Building Defensible Networks and Protecting Networks from Incidents**

Good management and engineering, including planning for cybersecurity from inception, are foundational to the development of high-quality networks. Large enterprises require careful provisioning and sound governance, and senior management must ensure that resources are available and that recognized security standards and policies are incorporated into the design and development processes, as well as the day-to-day operations. A cybersecurity architecture that increases mission effectiveness and enables cyber protection efforts includes well-defined network boundaries, appropriate access controls, and carefully managed interconnections, to name just a few elements. Key network defense considerations include active monitoring, automation, reliable detection, and proper procedures and resources to respond to incidents. Developing good tactics, techniques, and procedures to stop, mitigate, and respond effectively to network incidents is a fundamental aspect of defensive network operations.

The resources in this section provide technical standards and best practices for developing a strong network security posture resulting in a defensible, resilient network. Many of these resources can be applied to both new and legacy information systems. Users will find links to U.S.' technical policies, U.S.-developed information by the NIST, including publications, checklists, baselines and frameworks, and links to Center for Strategic International Studies' guidance on automating critical security controls. Internationally-developed resources include those developed by the ISO and the International Telecommunications Union, as well as NATO, the European Commission, the ENISA, and the UK's NCSC.

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### United States Resources

#### **CJCSM 6510.01B, *Cyber Incident Handling Program*, July 10, 2012 (Amended December 18, 2014)**

This manual describes the DoD Cyber Incident Handling Program and specifies its major processes, implementation requirements, and related USG interactions. This program ensures an integrated capability to continually improve ability to rapidly identify and respond to cyber incidents that adversely affect DoD information networks and information systems. It does so in a way that is consistent, repeatable, quality-driven, measurable, and understood across DoD organizations. This enclosure provides requirements and methodology for establishing, operating, and maintaining a robust DoD cyber incident handling capability for routine response to events and incidents within DoD.

Website: <http://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Library/Manuals/m651001.pdf?ver=2016-02-05-175710-897>

#### **DoD Cybersecurity Test & Evaluation Guidebook Version 2, Change 1, February 10, 2020**

The purpose of this updated guidebook is to promote data-driven mission-impact-based analysis and assessment methods for cybersecurity test and evaluation (T&E) and to support assessment of cybersecurity, survivability, and resilience within a mission context by encouraging planning for tighter integration with traditional system T&E. Cybersecurity T&E starts at acquisition initiation and continues throughout the entire life cycle. The guidebook supplements information provided in the Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP) Guidebook. For more information about TEMPs see References. This updated version avoids restating policy, such as that in the Risk Management Framework (RMF); instead, it encourages the reader to go directly to policy source documents for more information.

Website: [https://www.dau.edu/cop/test/\\_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/cop/test/DAU%20Sponsored%20Documents/Cybersecurity-Test-and-Evaluation-Guidebook-Version2-change-1.pdf&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1](https://www.dau.edu/cop/test/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/cop/test/DAU%20Sponsored%20Documents/Cybersecurity-Test-and-Evaluation-Guidebook-Version2-change-1.pdf&action=default&DefaultItemOpen=1)

#### **National Security Agency Cybersecurity Advisories & Guidance**

National Security Agency's Cybersecurity Advisories & Guidance website hosts repository of advisories, information sheets, technical reports, and operational risk notices on evolving cybersecurity threats.

Website: <https://www.nsa.gov/Press-Room/Cybersecurity-Advisories-Guidance/>

### **DoDI 5000.02, *Operation of the Defense Acquisition System*, January 23, 2020**

Updates established policy for the management of all acquisition programs with the guidelines found in the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-11 and authorizes Milestone Decision Authorities (MDAs) to tailor the regulatory requirements and acquisition procedures to efficiently achieve program objectives.

Website: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/500002p.pdf?ver=2019-05-01-151755-110>

### **DoDI 5000.75, *Business Systems Requirements and Acquisitions, Change 2*, January 24, 2020**

Establishes policy for the use of the business capability acquisition cycle for business systems requirements and acquisition. Implements the statutory requirements of Subtitle III of Title 40, United States Code (U.S.C.) and Section 811 of Public Law 106-398. The CIO recommends that no reviews beyond those described in this issuance are required for CCA compliance. This instruction supersedes DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5000.02 for all business system acquisition programs that are not designated as a Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP).

Website: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/500075p.PDF>

### **DoDI 5200.44, *Protection of Mission Critical Functions to Achieve Trusted Systems and Networks (TSN)*, Incorporating Change 3, October 15, 2018**

Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities to minimize the risk that DoD's warfighting mission capability will be impaired due to vulnerabilities in system design or sabotage or subversion of a system's mission critical components by foreign intelligence, terrorists, or other hostile elements.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/520044p.pdf>

### **DoDI 8500.01, *Cybersecurity*, Incorporating Change 1, October 7, 2019**

DoDI 8500.01 establishes a DoD cybersecurity program to protect and defend DoD information and information technology (IT).

Website: [https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/850001\\_2014.pdf](https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/850001_2014.pdf)

### **DoDI 8530.01 *Cybersecurity Activities Support to DoD Information Network Operations*, Incorporating Change 1, July 25, 2017**

Establishes policy and assigns responsibilities to protect the DoD information network against unauthorized activity, vulnerabilities, or threats.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/853001p.pdf>

### **DoDI 8551.01 *Ports, Protocols, and Services Management (PPSM)*, Incorporating Change 1, July 27, 2017**

Updates policy and standardizes procedures to catalog, regulate, and control the use and management of protocols in the Internet protocol suite and associated ports. Establishes Ports, Protocols, and Services Management support requirements for configuration management and continuous monitoring to include discovery and analysis of ports, protocols, and services to support near real-time command and control of the DoD information network and Joint Information Environment.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/855101p.pdf>

### **DoDI 8560.01, *Communications Security (COMSEC) Monitoring*, August 22, 2018**

Establishes DoD policies and responsibilities for conducting Communications Security (COMSEC) monitoring of DoD telecommunications systems and conducting IA readiness testing of operational DoD information systems. This Instruction also authorizes the monitoring of DoD telecommunications systems for COMSEC purposes and the penetration of DoD information systems for IA readiness testing purposes only. This document incorporates and cancels DoD Instruction 8560.01, "Communications Security Monitoring and Information Assurance Readiness Testing," October 9, 2007.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/856001p.pdf>

### **Director, Operational Test & Evaluation (DOT&E) Memo, *Procedures for Operational Test and Evaluation of Cybersecurity in Acquisition Programs*, April 3, 2018**

This memorandum provides policies and procedures for the test and evaluation of cybersecurity as part of all operational test and evaluation (OT&E) of systems and capabilities in the Department of Defense (DOD). It also includes processes and procedures for assessing cybersecurity within OT&E.

Website: [https://www.dote.osd.mil/Portals/97/pub/policies/2018/20180403ProcsForOTEofCybersecurity/nAcqProgs\(17092\).pdf](https://www.dote.osd.mil/Portals/97/pub/policies/2018/20180403ProcsForOTEofCybersecurity/nAcqProgs(17092).pdf)

### **FIPS Publication 199, *Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems*, February 2004**

The purpose of this document is to provide a standard for categorizing federal information and information systems according to an agency's level of concern for confidentiality, integrity, and availability and the potential impact on agency assets and operations should their information and information systems be compromised through unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/fips199/FIPS-PUB-199-final.pdf>

### **Cyber Security Evaluation Tool (CSET®), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)**

The Cyber Security Evaluation Tool (CSET®) is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) product that assists organizations in protecting their key national cyber assets. It was developed under the direction of the DHS Industrial Control System Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) by cybersecurity experts and with assistance from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This tool provides users with a systematic and repeatable approach for assessing the security posture of their cyber systems and networks. It includes both high-level and detailed questions related to all industrial control and IT systems.

Website: <https://us-cert.cisa.gov/ics/Downloading-and-Installing-CSET>

### **FIPS Publication 200, *Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems*, March 2006**

FIPS 200 is the second standard that was specified by the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996. It is an integral part of the risk management framework that NIST has developed to assist federal agencies in providing levels of information security based on levels of risk. FIPS 200 specifies minimum security requirements for federal information and information systems and a risk-based process for selecting the security controls necessary to satisfy the minimum requirements.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/fips200/FIPS-200-final-march.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-40, Revision 3, *Guide to Enterprise Patch Management Technologies*, July 2013**

Patch management is the process for identifying, acquiring, installing, and verifying patches for products and systems. This publication is designed to assist organizations in understanding the basics of enterprise patch management technologies. It explains the importance of patch management and examines the challenges inherent in performing patch management. It provides an overview of enterprise patch management technologies, and it also briefly discusses metrics for measuring the technologies' effectiveness.

Website: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-40r3.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-41, Revision 1, *Guidelines on Firewalls and Firewall Policy*, September 2009**

Firewalls are devices or programs that control the flow of network traffic between networks or hosts employing differing security postures. This publication provides an overview of several types of firewall technologies and discusses their security capabilities and their relative advantages and disadvantages in detail. It also makes recommendations for establishing firewall policies and for selecting, configuring, testing, deploying, and managing firewall solutions.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-41-Rev1/sp800-41-rev1.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-44, Version 2, Guidelines on Securing Public Web Servers, September 2007***

Web servers are often the most targeted and threatened hosts on organizations' networks. As a result, it is essential to secure web servers and the network infrastructure that supports them. This document is intended to assist organizations in installing, configuring, and maintaining secure public web servers. Practices described in detail include choosing web server software and platforms, securing the underlying operating system and web server software, deploying appropriate network protection mechanisms, and using, publicizing, and protecting information in a careful and systematic manner. The publication also provides recommendations for maintaining secure configurations through patching and upgrades, security testing, log monitoring, and backups of data and operating system files.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-44-ver2/SP800-44v2.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-53, Revision 5, Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations, September, 2020***

This publication provides a catalog of security and privacy controls for federal information systems and organizations and a process for selecting controls to protect organizational operations (including mission, functions, image, and reputation), organizational assets, individuals, other organizations, and the nation from a diverse set of threats including cyber threats, natural disasters, structural failures, and human errors (both intentional and unintentional).

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-53r5.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-55, Performance Measurement Guide for Information Security, July 2008***

This document provides guidance on how an organization, through the use of metrics, identifies the adequacy of in-place security controls, policies, and procedures. It provides an approach to help management decide where to invest in additional security protection resources or identify and evaluate nonproductive controls. It explains the metric development and implementation process and how it can also be used to adequately justify security control investments. The results of an effective metric program can provide useful data for directing the allocation of information security resources and should simplify the preparation of performance-related reports.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-55-Rev1/SP800-55-rev1.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-59, Guideline for Identifying an Information System as a National Security System, August 2003***

This document provides guidelines developed in conjunction with the Department of Defense and the National Security Agency, for identifying an information system as a national security system. The guideline includes definitions of relevant terms, the legal or administrative basis for the definitions, a checklist to be used in determining whether or not a system is a national security system.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-59.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-94, Guide to Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems (IDPS), February 2007***

This publication seeks to assist organizations in understanding intrusion detection system (IDS) and intrusion prevention system (IPS) technologies and in designing, implementing, configuring, securing, monitoring, and maintaining intrusion detection and prevention systems (IDPS). It provides practical, real-world guidance for each of four classes of IDPS: network-based, wireless, network behavior analysis software, and host-based. The publication also provides an overview of complementary technologies that can detect intrusions, such as security information and event management software. It focuses on enterprise IDPS, but most of the information in the publication is also applicable to standalone and small-scale IDPS deployments.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-94/final>

### ***NIST SP 800-115, Technical Guide to Information Security Testing and Assessment, September 2008***

The purpose of this document is to assist organizations in planning and conducting technical information

security tests and examinations, analyzing findings, and developing mitigation strategies. The guide provides practical recommendations for designing, implementing, and maintaining technical information security test and examination processes and procedures. These can be used for several purposes, such as finding vulnerabilities in a system or network and verifying compliance with a policy or other requirements. The guide is not intended to present a comprehensive information security testing and examination program, but rather an overview of key elements of technical security testing and examination with an emphasis on specific technical techniques, the benefits and limitations of each, and recommendations for their use.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-115/SP800-115.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-123, Guide to General Server Security, July 2008***

The purpose of this document is to assist organizations in understanding the fundamental activities performed as part of securing and maintaining the security of servers that provide services over network communications as a main function. The document discusses the need to secure servers and provides recommendations for selecting, implementing, and maintaining the necessary security controls.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-123/SP800-123.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-128, Guide for Security-Focused Configuration Management of Information Systems, August 2011***

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for organizations responsible for managing and administering the security of federal information systems and associated environments of operation. Configuration management concepts and principles described in NIST SP 800-128 provide supporting information for NIST SP 800-53, Recommended Security Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations. NIST SP 800-128 assumes that information security is an integral part of an organization's overall configuration management.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-128/sp800-128.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-137, Information Security Continuous Monitoring (ICSM) for Federal Information Systems and Organizations, September 2011***

The purpose of this guideline is to assist organizations in the development of a continuous monitoring strategy and the implementation of a continuous monitoring program by providing visibility into organizational assets, awareness of threats and vulnerabilities, and the effectiveness of deployed security controls. It provides ongoing assurance that planned and implemented security controls are aligned with organizational risk tolerance as well as the information needed to respond to risk in a timely manner should observations indicate that the security controls are inadequate.

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-137/SP800-137-Final.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-147, BIOS Protection Guidelines, April 2011***

This document provides guidelines for preventing the unauthorized modification of Basic Input/Output System (BIOS) firmware on client systems. Unauthorized modification of BIOS firmware by malicious software constitutes a significant threat because of the BIOS's unique and privileged position within the architecture. A malicious BIOS modification could be part of a sophisticated, targeted threat to an organization—either a permanent denial of service (if the BIOS is corrupted) or a persistent malware presence (if the BIOS is implanted with malware).

Website: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-147/NIST-SP800-147-April2011.pdf>

### ***NIST SP 800-171, Revision 2, Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations, February 2020***

The protection of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) resident in non-federal systems and organizations is of paramount importance to federal agencies and can directly impact the ability of the federal government to successfully conduct its assigned missions and business operations. This publication provides federal agencies with a set of recommended security requirements for protecting the

confidentiality of CUI when such information is resident in nonfederal systems and organizations; when the non-federal organization is not collecting or maintaining information on behalf of a federal agency or using or operating a system on behalf of an agency; and where there are no specific safeguarding requirements for protecting the confidentiality of CUI prescribed by the authorizing law, regulation, or government-wide policy for the CUI category or subcategory listed in the CUI Registry.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-171r2.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-207, Zero Trust Architecture, August 2020**

This document describes zero trust for enterprise security architects. It is meant to aid understanding of zero trust for civilian unclassified systems and provide a road map to migrate and deploy zero trust security concepts to an enterprise environment. Cybersecurity managers, network administrators, and managers may also gain insight into zero trust and zero trust architecture from this document.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-207.pdf>

### **DoD, Zero Trust Reference Architecture, Version 1.0, February 2021**

The DoD Zero Trust Engineering Team is developing this reference architecture document to align with DoD definition: “Reference Architecture is an authoritative source of information and about a specific subject area that guides and constrains the instantiations of multiple architectures and solutions.” This reference document provides a logical progression of information about the Zero Trust Architecture in DoD. It provides an end-state vision and framework for Mission Owners across the DoD to utilize in order to strengthen cybersecurity capabilities and guide the evolution of existing cybersecurity capabilities focusing on a data centric strategy.

Website: [https://dodcio.defense.gov/Portals/0/Documents/Library/\(U\)ZT\\_RA\\_v1.1\(U\)\\_Mar21.pdf](https://dodcio.defense.gov/Portals/0/Documents/Library/(U)ZT_RA_v1.1(U)_Mar21.pdf)

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## International Resources

### **Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)**

Established in Washington, D.C., over 50 years ago, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is a bipartisan, nonprofit policy research organization dedicated to providing strategic insights and policy solutions to help decision makers chart a course toward a better world. CSIS looks at how rapidly changing technology and cybersecurity are affecting the world in the twenty-first century. Issues covered include intelligence, surveillance, encryption, privacy, military technology, space, and more. Programs leading the research on this topic include the Technology Policy Program and the International Security Program.

Website: <https://www.csis.org/topics/cybersecurity-and-technology>

### **Critical Controls for Effective Cyber Defense**

CSIS' *Critical Controls for Effective Cyber Defense*, commonly referred to as *The 20 Critical Controls*, is a consensus document outlining 20 crucial controls that form a prioritized baseline of information security measures that can be applied across enterprise environments. Fifteen of these controls can be monitored, at least in part, automatically and continuously. The consensus effort has also identified a second set of five controls that are essential, but do not appear to be able to be monitored continuously or automatically with current technology and practices. The security guidelines developed outlined in NIST's Special Publication 800-53, provide a very comprehensive set of controls. *The 20 Critical Controls* seeks to identify a subset of security control activities that can be referenced as top, baseline priority. *The 20 Critical Controls* map directly to about one-third of the controls identified in SP 800-53. The UK's *10 Steps to Cybersecurity* references *The 20 Critical Controls* as guidelines to develop a healthy cybersecurity posture.

Website: [http://csis.org/files/publication/Twenty\\_Critical\\_Controls\\_for\\_Effective\\_Cyber\\_Defense\\_CA\\_G.pdf](http://csis.org/files/publication/Twenty_Critical_Controls_for_Effective_Cyber_Defense_CA_G.pdf)

### **International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**

ISO is an independent, non-governmental international organization with a membership of 161 national standards bodies. Through its members, it brings together experts to share knowledge and develop voluntary, consensus-based, market-relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide solutions to global challenges. International Standards make things work. They give world-class specifications for products, services, and systems, to ensure quality, safety and efficiency. They are instrumental in facilitating international trade. ISO has published 22,161 International Standards and related documents, covering almost every industry, from technology to food safety, to agriculture and healthcare. ISO International Standards impact everyone everywhere.

Website: <https://www.iso.org/>

### **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**

NATO is an alliance of 29 countries from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty signed on 4 April 1949. In accordance with the Treaty, the fundamental role of NATO is to safeguard the freedom and security of its member countries by political and military means. NATO is playing an increasingly important role in crisis management and peacekeeping. NATO and its Allies rely on strong and resilient cyber protection to fulfil the Alliance's core tasks of collective defense, crisis management, and cooperative security.

Website: [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_78170.htm#](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_78170.htm#)

### **European Commission**

The European Commission is the EU's executive arm. It takes decisions on the Union's political and strategic direction. The Commission helps to shape the EU's overall strategy, proposes new EU laws and policies, monitors their implementation, and manages the EU budget. It also plays a significant role in supporting international development and delivering aid. Securing network and information systems in the EU is essential to keep the online economy running and to ensure prosperity. The EU works on a number of fronts to promote cyber resilience across the EU.

Website: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/cyber-security>

### **UN Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)**

The JIU is the only independent external oversight body of the UN system mandated to conduct evaluations, inspections and investigations system-wide. Its mandate is to look at cross-cutting issues and to act as an agent for change across the United Nations system. JIU works to secure management and administrative efficiency and to promote greater coordination both between UN agencies and with other internal and external oversight bodies. For the past 50 years, the Unit has been dedicated to assisting the legislative bodies of numerous United Nations organizations and agencies in meeting their governance responsibilities. JIU provides support in the context of these agencies' oversight function regarding human, financial and other resources. In its reports and notes, JIU identifies best practices, proposes benchmarks and facilitates information-sharing throughout all the organizations of the UN system that have adopted its Statute.

Website: <https://www.unjiu.org/>

### **UN JIU Report, *Cybersecurity in the United Nations System Organization*, March 2021**

The main objectives of the report is: to identify and analyze common cybersecurity challenges and risks faced by United Nations system organizations individually, as well as their respective response there to, bearing in mind organizations' context-specific requirements (vertical perspective); and to examine current inter-agency dynamics facilitating a system-wide approach to cybersecurity for better coordination, collaboration and information-sharing among the United Nations system organizations, and, where appropriate, the potential for shared solutions (horizontal perspective).

Website: [https://www.unjiu.org/sites/www.unjiu.org/files/jiu\\_rep\\_2021\\_3\\_english.pdf](https://www.unjiu.org/sites/www.unjiu.org/files/jiu_rep_2021_3_english.pdf)

### **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)**

The NCSC supports the most critical organizations in the UK, the wider public sector, industry, and SMEs.

When incidents do occur, they provide effective incident response to minimize harm to the UK, help with recovery, and learn lessons for the future. The NCSC was set up to help protect their critical services from cyber threats, manage major incidents, and improve the underlying security of the UK internet through technological improvement and advice to citizens and organizations.

Website: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/>

### **Security Supervision under the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC), January 2020**

In December 2018, the EU adopted a new set of telecom rules, the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC). An important part of the EECC is consumer protection and security of electronic communications. Article 40 of the EECC contains specific security requirements and brings important changes for electronic communication. With this document ENISA aims to support EU countries with their transposition, by analyzing the main changes to the security requirements and the security supervision under the new rules. As new rules will foster seven important changes, in this document, ENISA proposes three key areas where work needs to be done by the national authorities as well as ENISA.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/supporting-the-implementation-of-the-european-electronic-communications-code-eecc>

### **ENISA's 5G Supplement Guidelines on Security Measures under the EECC 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, July 2021**

This document contains a 5G technology profile which supplements the technology-neutral Guideline on Security Measures under the EECC. The document gives additional guidance to competent national authorities about how to ensure implementation and strengthening of security measures by mobile network operators for mitigation of risks to 5G networks. The supplement focuses on the cybersecurity of 5G networks at the policy level relating to the EU 5G toolbox and at the technical level for new technologies, such as virtualization, slicing and edge computing.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/5g-supplement-security-measures-under-eecc>



## Critical Infrastructure Protection

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Critical infrastructure protection (CIP) requires a unity of effort among stakeholders to strengthen and maintain secure, functioning, and resilient critical infrastructure that is able to withstand and rapidly recover from all hazards—physical and cyber. Achieving this requires integration with multiple systems, agencies, and organizations that span prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery. The resources in this section provide basic information, CIP models, and best practices for general and sector-specific concerns.

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### United States Resources

#### **Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Guide to Implementing the Cybersecurity Framework, October 2019**

The Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Guide to Implementing the Cybersecurity Framework supports DoD's critical infrastructure responsibilities for the DIB and was developed working with our private sector partners to implement the Framework, while also incorporating the security requirements of NIST SP 800-171. This guide and supporting online Template are intended to assist an organization in evaluating current and desired cybersecurity outcomes that support a more comprehensive approach to cybersecurity. Organizations can use this guide as a roadmap for achieving a desired state of cybersecurity risk management practices and assess how their current activities align with DoD requirements.

Website: <https://dibnet.dod.mil/rest/jcr/repository/collaboration/sites/intranet/web%20contents/site%20artifacts/content-new-splash/DIB%20Guide%20to%20Implementing%20the%20Cybersecurity%20Framework.pdf>

#### **DoD CIO, DoD Enterprise DevSecOps Reference Design, Version 1.0, August 12, 2019**

DevSecOps is an organizational software engineering culture and practice that aims at unifying software development (Dev), security (Sec), and operations (Ops). This DoD Enterprise DevSecOps Reference Design describes the DevSecOps lifecycle, supporting pillars, and DevSecOps ecosystem. This document also provides implementation and operational guidance to Information Technology (IT) capability providers, IT capability consumers, application teams, and Authorizing Officials.

Website: <https://dodcio.defense.gov/Portals/0/Documents/DoD%20Enterprise%20DevSecOps%20Reference%20Design%20v1.0%20Public%20Release.pdf>

#### **CISAs Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT)**

The CISA leads the national effort to protect and enhance the resilience of the nation's physical and cyber infrastructure. The Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT), found within the CISA, works to reduce risks within and across all critical infrastructure sectors by partnering with law enforcement agencies and the intelligence community, and coordinating efforts among federal, state, local, and tribal governments and control systems owners, operators, and vendors. Additionally, ICS-CERT collaborates with international and private sector CERTs to share control systems-related security incidents and mitigation measures.

Website: <https://www.us-cert.gov/ics>

#### **NIST's Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, Version 1.1, April 2018**

NIST's Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity (NIST Cybersecurity Framework) focuses on using business drivers to guide cybersecurity activities and consider cybersecurity risks as part of the organization's risk management processes. The Framework consists of three parts: the Framework Core, the Implementation Tiers, and the Framework Profiles. The Framework Core is a set of cybersecurity activities, outcomes, and informative references that are common across sectors and critical infrastructure. Elements of the Core provide detailed guidance for developing individual organizational profiles. Through use of Profiles, the Framework will help an organization to align and prioritize its cybersecurity activities with its business/mission requirements, risk tolerances, and resources. The Implementation Tiers provide a mechanism for organizations to view and understand the characteristics

of their approach to managing cybersecurity risk, which will help in prioritizing and achieving cybersecurity objectives.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/CSWP/NIST.CSWP.04162018.pdf>

### **NISTIR 8170, *The Cybersecurity Framework: Approaches for Federal Agencies to Use the Cybersecurity Framework*, March 2020**

This publication assists federal agencies in strengthening their cybersecurity risk management by helping them to determine an appropriate implementation of the *Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity* (known as the Cybersecurity Framework). Federal agencies can use the Cybersecurity Framework to complement the existing suite of NIST security and privacy risk management standards, guidelines, and practices developed in response to the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA), as amended. The relationship between the Cybersecurity Framework and NIST RMF are discussed in eight use cases.

Website: <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/nistir/8170/final>

### **SP 800-82, Revision 2, *Guide to Industrial Control Systems (ICS) Security*, May 2015**

This document provides guidance on how to secure ICS, including Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems, Distributed Control Systems, and other control system configurations, such as Programmable Logic Controllers, while addressing their unique performance, reliability, and safety requirements. The document provides an overview of ICS and typical system topologies, identifies typical threats and vulnerabilities to these systems, and provides recommended security countermeasures to mitigate the associated risks.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-82r2.pdf>

### **Department of Defense Control Systems Security Requirements Guide, Version 1, Release 1, January 26, 2021**

Control systems are key elements in many diverse DoD operating environments. The Control Systems Security Requirements Guide intends to streamline and unify DoD's risk-based approach to managing control systems' cybersecurity. It utilizes and integrates the Cybersecurity Framework to aid organizational risk management and the DoD Risk Management Framework to enable system risk management.

Website: [https://dl.dod.cyber.mil/wp-content/uploads/external/pdf/Jan\\_26\\_Control\\_Systems\\_SRG.pdf](https://dl.dod.cyber.mil/wp-content/uploads/external/pdf/Jan_26_Control_Systems_SRG.pdf)

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## International Resources

### **European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP)**

The general objective of European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP) is to improve the protection of critical infrastructure in the EU. The legislative framework for the EPCIP consists of the following:

4. a procedure for identifying and designating European critical infrastructure and a common approach to assessing the need to improve the protection of such infrastructure. This will be implemented by means of a directive;
5. measures designed to facilitate the implementation of EPCIP, including an EPCIP action plan, the Critical Infrastructure Warning Information Network, the setting up of CIP expert groups at EU level, CIP information sharing processes, and the identification and analysis of interdependencies;
6. support for EU countries regarding National Critical Infrastructures that may optionally be used by a particular EU country, and contingency planning;
7. an external dimension;
8. accompanying financial measures, and in particular the Specific EU Programme on "Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism and other Security Related Risks" for the period 2007-2013, which will provide funding opportunities for CIP related measures.

Website: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2006:0786:FIN:EN:PDF>

### **Quick Start Guide: An Overview of ISA/IEC 62443 Standards, *Security of Industrial Automation and Control Systems*, June 2020**

This document is intended to provide the reader with a detailed overview of the ISA/IEC 62443 Series of standards and technical reports. The ISA/IEC 62443 Series addresses the Security of Industrial Automation and Control Systems (IACS) throughout their lifecycle. These standards and technical reports were initially developed for the industrial process sector but have since been applied to building automation, medical devices, and transportation sectors. The goal of the ISA/IEC 62443 Series is to improve the safety, reliability, integrity, and security of Industrial Automation and Control Systems (IACS) using a risk-based, methodical, and complete process throughout the entire lifecycle. The ISA/IEC 62443 Series describes a set of common terms and requirements that can be used by asset owners, product suppliers, and service providers to secure their Control Systems and the Equipment Under Control..

Website: <https://gca.isa.org/hubfs/ISAGCA%20Quick%20Start%20Guide%20FINAL.pdf>

### **North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) 1300 Standards, Updated October 1, 2021**

North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is a not-for-profit entity whose mission is to ensure the reliability of the bulk power system in North America. NERC develops and enforces reliability standards; annually assesses seasonal and long-term reliability; monitors the bulk power system through system awareness; and educates, trains, and certifies industry personnel. NERC's area of responsibility spans the continental U.S., Canada, and the northern portion of Baja California, Mexico.

Website: <http://www.nerc.com/pa/Stand/Reliability%20Standards%20Complete%20Set/RSCompleteSet.pdf>

## Managing Access in Systems and Data

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Ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of information throughout its lifecycle (i.e., create, transmit, process, and store) is critical to maintaining end-user trust in systems. Robust identities based on public key infrastructure (PKI) and other cryptographic-based technologies are important elements for protecting and sharing information within organizations as well as collaboration with partners. Strong cryptographic-based security will become increasingly practical to protect data integrity and confidentiality, and continual modernization and strengthening of cryptography and key management efforts are required to keep ahead of adversary advances. The guidance below is intended to provide basic information on defending systems and data using digital signatures, personal identity verification methods, security classifications, and cryptography.

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### United States Resources

#### **DoDI 8520.02 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Public Key (PK) Enabling, May 2011**

Establishes and implements policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for developing and implementing a DoD-wide PKI and enhancing the security of DoD information systems by enabling these systems to use PKI for authentication, digital signatures, and encryption.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/852002p.pdf>

#### **DoDI 8520.03 Identity Authentication for Information Systems, Incorporating Change 1, July 27, 2017**

Implements policy, assigns responsibilities, and prescribes procedures for implementing identity authentication of all entities to DoD information systems. Implements use of the DoD Common Access Card, which is the DoD personal identity verification (PIV) credential, into identity authentication processes.

Website: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/852003p.pdf?ver=2019-02-26-101529-723>

#### **DoDI 8540.01 Cross Domain Policy, Incorporating Change 1, August 28, 2017**

Procedures for the interconnection of information systems of different security domains using cross domain solutions. Aligns cross domain guidance for managing the information security risk and authorizing a cross domain solutions with the RMF.

Website: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/854001p.pdf>

#### **CNSSD No. 507, National Directive for Identity, Credential and Access Management Capabilities (ICAM) on the United States (US) Federal Secret Fabric, July, 7, 2020**

CNSS Directive No. 507 governs how Identity, Credential and Access Management capabilities will be implemented and managed across the Federal Secret fabric to promote secure information sharing and interoperability within the federal government.

Website: <https://www.cnss.gov/CNSS/issuances/Directives.cfm>

#### **CNSSI No. 1253, Security Categorization and Control Selection for National Security Systems, March 2014**

Provides all federal government departments, agencies, bureaus, and offices with guidance on the first two steps of the RMF, Categorize and Select, for national security systems.

Website: [https://www.dcsa.mil/portals/91/documents/ctp/nao/CNSSI\\_No1253.pdf](https://www.dcsa.mil/portals/91/documents/ctp/nao/CNSSI_No1253.pdf)

#### **FIPS Publication 186-4, Digital Signature Standard, July 2013**

This Standard specifies a suite of algorithms that can be used to generate a digital signature. Digital signatures are used to detect unauthorized modifications to data and to authenticate the identity of the signatory. In addition, the recipient of signed data can use a digital signature as evidence in demonstrating

to a third party that the signature was, in fact, generated by the claimed signatory. This is known as non-repudiation, since the signatory cannot easily repudiate the signature at a later time.

Website: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/FIPS/NIST.FIPS.186-4.pdf>

### **FIPS Publication 201-2, *Personal Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal Employees and Contractors*, August 2013**

This Standard specifies the architecture and technical requirements for a common identification standard for federal employees and contractors. The overall goal is to achieve appropriate security assurance for multiple applications by efficiently verifying the claimed identity of individuals seeking physical access to federally controlled government facilities and logical access to government information systems.

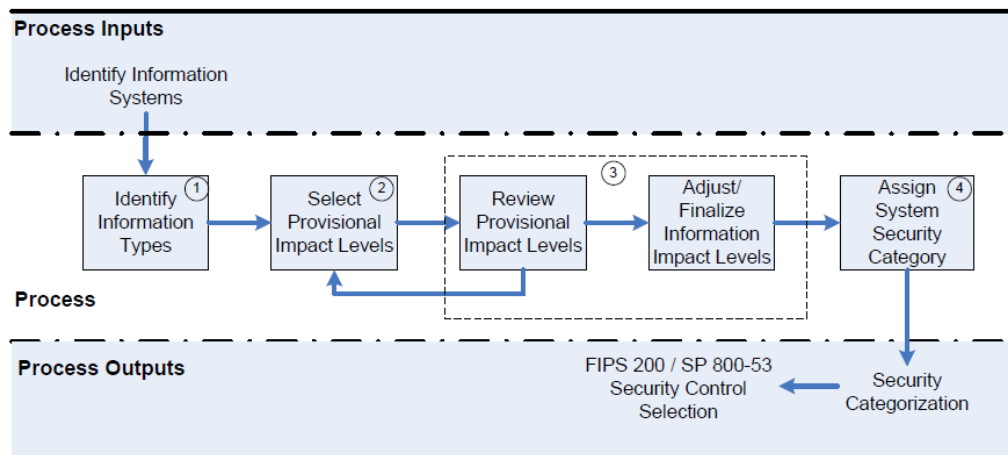
Website: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/FIPS/NIST.FIPS.201-2.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-60 Revision 1, *Guide to Mapping Types of Information and Information Systems to Security Categories*, August 2008**

This document was issued in response to the 2002 FISMA tasking to develop guidelines recommending the types of information and information systems to be included in each such category.

Website: [http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-60-rev1/SP800-60\\_Vol1-Rev1.pdf](http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-60-rev1/SP800-60_Vol1-Rev1.pdf)

**Figure 3: SP 800-60 Security Categorization Process Execution**



Source: Stine, Kevin; Kissel, Rich; Barker, William C.; Fahlsing, Jim; Gulick, Jessica;. (2008). *Guide for Mapping Types of Information and Information Systems to Security Categories*. National Institute of Standards and Technology.

### **NIST SP 800-130, *A Framework for Designing Cryptographic Key Management Systems (CKMS)*, August 2013**

The Framework for Designing Cryptographic Key Management Systems (CKMS) contains topics that should be considered by a CKMS designer when developing a CKMS design specification. For each topic, there are one or more documentation requirements that need to be addressed by the design specification. Thus, any CKMS that addresses each of these requirements would have a design specification that is compliant with this Framework.

Website: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-130.pdf>

### **NIST SP 800-133, Revision 2, *Recommendation for Cryptographic Key Generation*, June 2020**

Cryptography is often used in an IT security environment to protect data that is sensitive, has a high value, or is vulnerable to unauthorized disclosure or undetected modification during transmission or while in storage. Cryptography relies upon two basic components: an algorithm (or cryptographic methodology) and a cryptographic key. This Recommendation discusses the generation of the keys to be managed and used by the approved cryptographic algorithms.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-133r2.pdf>

**NIST SP 800-152, *A Profile for U. S. Federal Cryptographic Key Management Systems (FCKMS)*, October 2015**

This Profile for U. S. Federal CKMS contains requirements for their design, implementation, procurement, installation, configuration, management, operation, and use by U.S. Federal organizations. The Profile is based on SP 800-130, “A Framework for Designing CKMS.”

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-152.pdf>

**NIST SP 800-157, *Guidelines for Derived Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Credentials*, December 2014**

This document provides technical guidelines for the implementation of standards-based, secure, reliable, interoperable PKI based identity credentials that are issued by federal departments and agencies to individuals who possess and prove control over a valid PIV Card. The scope of this document includes requirements for initial issuance and maintenance of these credentials, certificate policies and cryptographic specifications, technical specifications for permitted cryptographic token types, and the command interfaces for the removable implementations of such cryptographic tokens.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-157.pdf>

**NIST SP 800-210, *General Access Control Guidance for Cloud Systems*, July 2020**

This document presents cloud access control characteristics and a set of general access control guidance for cloud service models: IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service), PaaS (Platform as a Service), and SaaS (Software as a Service). Different service delivery models require managing different types of access on offered service components. In general, access control guidance for IaaS is also applicable to PaaS and SaaS, and access control guidance for IaaS and PaaS is also applicable to SaaS. However, each service model has its own focus with regard to access control requirements for its service.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-210.pdf>

## Sharing Information

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In order to establish a front line of protection against today's immediate threats, nations must create or enhance shared situational awareness of network vulnerabilities, threats, and events within services, agencies and other Government entities - and ultimately with allied nations, regional or local governments, and private sector partners. This enhanced situational awareness will be the first step before effectively developing the ability to act quickly to reduce vulnerabilities and prevent intrusions for a coalition or international partnership. We all must focus on key aspects necessary to bridge across the elements of information sharing: foundational capabilities and investments such as upgraded infrastructure, increased bandwidth, and integrated operational capabilities; enhanced collaboration, including common technology, tools, and procedures; and shared analytic and collaborative technologies.

The development of international shared situational awareness and warning capabilities enables collective self-defense and collective deterrence. By sharing timely indicators about cyber events, threat signatures of malicious code, and information about emerging actors and threats, allies and international partners can increase the collective cyber protection posture. Cyberspace is a network of networks that includes thousands of Internet Service Providers across the globe; no single state or organization can maintain effective cyber protection on its own. This information sharing helps build trust and confidence essential to strong international partnerships. The resources below offer guidance to support shared situational awareness and collaboration across centers that are responsible for carrying out cyber activities.

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### United States Resources

#### **CISA Automated Indicator Sharing (AIS)**

Automated Indicator Sharing (AIS), a CISA capability enables the real-time exchange of machine-readable cyber threat indicators and defensive measures to help protect participants of the AIS community and ultimately reduce the prevalence of cyberattacks. The AIS community includes private sector entities; federal departments and agencies; state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments; information sharing and analysis centers (ISACs) and information sharing and analysis organizations (ISAOs); and foreign partners and companies. AIS is offered at no cost to participants as part of CISA's mission to work with our public and private sector partners to identify and help mitigate cyber threats through information sharing and provide technical assistance, upon request, that helps prevent, detect, and respond to incidents.

Website: <https://www.cisa.gov/ais>

#### **Committee for National Security Systems Policy (CNSSP) No. 15, *Use of Public Standards for Secure Information Sharing*, October 2016**

This Policy specifies the use of public standards for cryptographic protocol and algorithm interoperability to protect national security systems. Based on analysis of the effect of quantum computing on IA and IA-enabled IT products, the Policy updates the set of authorized algorithms to provide vendors and IT users more near-term flexibility in meeting their IA interoperability requirements. The set of authorized algorithms for long-term use on national security systems will be specified in a subsequent update to this Policy.

Website: <https://www.cnss.gov/CNSS/issuances/Policies.cfm>

#### **DoD Cyber Exchange**

The DoD Cyber Exchange provides one-stop access to cyber information, policy, guidance, and training for cyber professionals throughout the DoD and the general public. These resources are provided to enable the user to comply with rules, regulations, best practices, and federal laws. Defense Information Systems Agency is mandated to support and sustain the DoD Cyber Exchange (formerly the Information Assurance Support Environment) as directed by DoDI 8500.01 and DoDD 8140.01.

Website: <https://public.cyber.mil/>

## **National Security Agency (NSA)/Central Security Service Technical Cyber Threat Framework v2, November 2018**

This framework was designed to help NSA characterize and categorize adversary activity by using a common technical lexicon that is operating system agnostic and closely aligned with industry definitions. This common technical cyber lexicon supports sharing, product development, operational planning, and knowledge-driven operations across the intelligence community. Public dissemination of the technical cyber lexicon allows for collaboration within the whole community. Use of the NSA/Central Security Service Cyber Threat Framework facilitates organizing and examining adversary activity to support knowledge management and enable analytic efforts.

Website: <https://www.nsa.gov/Portals/70/documents/what-we-do/cybersecurity/professional-resources/ctr-nsa-css-technical-cyber-threat-framework.pdf>

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## **Industry Resources**

### **MITRE Resources**

MITRE is a not-for-profit organization that operates research and development centers sponsored by the U.S. federal government. They operate federally funded research and development centers, which are unique organizations that assist the United States government with scientific research and analysis, development and acquisition, and systems engineering and integration.

Website: <https://www.mitre.org>

### **MITRE ATT&CK®**

MITRE ATT&CK® is a globally-accessible knowledge base of adversary tactics and techniques based on real-world observations. The ATT&CK knowledge base is used as a foundation for the development of specific threat models and methodologies in the private sector, in government, and in the cybersecurity product and service community.

Website: <https://attack.mitre.org/>

### **Cyber Partnership Blueprint: An Outline**

The Cyber Partnership Blueprint (“Blueprint”) is a building plan for how an entity (public or private) can establish and operate a consortium (cyber partnership) for sharing unclassified cyber threat information. This outline will guide a series of online posts that will constitute the Blueprint. Brief notes appear under the various sections that describe the content that will be fleshed out in the Blueprint series. Those online posts will be periodically compiled into a single stand-alone Blueprint document.

Website: [http://www.mitre.org/sites/default/files/publications/Bakis\\_Partnership\\_Blueprint\\_Outline\\_0.pdf](http://www.mitre.org/sites/default/files/publications/Bakis_Partnership_Blueprint_Outline_0.pdf)

Website: <http://www.mitre.org/capabilities/cybersecurity/overview/cybersecurity-blog/blueprint-for-cyber-threat-sharing-series>

### **Cybersecurity Information Sharing Models: An Overview**

Cybersecurity is often expensive, and the costs of intrusions can be exceedingly high. Thus, there can be a massive gain in return-on-investment by leveraging work done by others. Information sharing between organizations can enable participants to develop tailored strategies for layering protection across different steps of the kill chain. This paper discusses the advantages and disadvantages of sharing different types of information.

Website: [http://www.mitre.org/sites/default/files/pdf/cyber\\_info\\_sharing.pdf](http://www.mitre.org/sites/default/files/pdf/cyber_info_sharing.pdf)

### **Standardizing Cyber Threat Intelligence Information with the Structured Threat Information eXpression (STIX™)**

This document reflects ongoing efforts to create, evolve, and refine the community-based development of sharing and structuring cyber threat information. Structured Threat Information eXpression (STIX™) is built upon feedback and active participation from organizations and experts across a broad spectrum of



industry, academia, and government. MITRE serves as the moderator of the Structured Threat Information eXpression (STIX™) community on behalf of the DHS and welcomes your participation. Website: <https://oasis-open.github.io/cti-documentation/>

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## International Resources

### **ENISA Resources**

#### **A Flair for Sharing – Encouraging Information Exchange between CERTs**

This study focuses on the legal and regulatory aspects of information sharing and cross-border collaboration of national/governmental CERTs in Europe.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/legal-information-sharing-1>

#### **Detect, SHARE, Protect - Solutions for Improving Threat Data Exchange among CERTs**

The focus of this report is on the threat and incident information exchange and sharing practices used among CERTs in Europe, especially, but not limited to, national/governmental CERTs. It aims at; taking stock of existing communication solutions and practices among European CERTs; identifying the functional and technical gaps that limit threat intelligence exchange between national/governmental CERTs and their counterparts in Europe, as well as other CERTs within their respective countries; and defining basic requirements for improved communications interoperable with existing solutions.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/detect-share-protect-solutions-for-improving-threat-data-exchange-among-certs>

#### **European Information Sharing and Alert System (EISAS) Basic Tool Set**

This study describes how EU Member States can deploy the European Information Sharing and Alert System framework for its target group comprised of citizens, and small and medium enterprises. The report highlights the way to reach citizens with information sharing awareness by targeting them at work, and also using the UK concept of information sharing communities to reach small and medium enterprises as a way forward.

Website: <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/eisas-basic-toolset>

### **NATO CCDCOE Resource**

#### **Conceptual Framework for Cyber Defense Information Sharing within Trust Relationships, November 2011**

The framework explores four aspects of cyber defense collaboration to identify approaches for improving cyber defense information sharing. First, incentives and barriers for information sharing, which includes the type of information that may be of interest to share and the motivations that cause social networks to be used or stagnate. Second, collaborative risk management and information value perception. This includes risk management approaches that have built-in mechanisms for sharing and receiving information, increasing transparency, and improving entity peering relationships. Third, we explore procedural models for improving data exchange, with a focus on inter-governmental collaborative challenges. Fourth, we explore automation of sharing mechanisms for commonly shared cyber defense data (e.g., vulnerabilities, threat actors, black/ white lists).

Website: [https://ccdcoe.eu/uploads/2012/01/6\\_5\\_VazquezEt-al\\_TrustRelationships.pdf](https://ccdcoe.eu/uploads/2012/01/6_5_VazquezEt-al_TrustRelationships.pdf)

## **Building and Maintaining a Cyber Workforce**

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Cyberspace is a warfighting domain that continues to evolve in terms of threat and complexity. As a result, the cyber workforce must also evolve to address the challenges posed by our adversaries and meet strategic mission requirements. Part of this requires reshaping our understanding of the cyber workforce to include all personnel who build, secure, operate, defend, and protect U.S. cyber resources; conduct cyber-related intelligence activities; and enable current and future cyber operations. In line with this, U.S. Federal Law now requires all positions requiring the execution of IT, cybersecurity, or cyber-related work to be coded to a role-based structure. This allows for enhanced communication and coordination across organizational lines.

In addition, impending U.S. DoD policy will expand current workforce requirements from IA personnel to all cyber personnel, necessitating the entire cyber workforce to be identified, tracked, qualified, and managed, to ensure DoD can accomplish its varying mission sets in cyberspace. In addition to links to DoD workforce policies and implementation guidance, other resources highlighted in this section include federally-funded entities, industry partners, and academic institutions that provide certification and training programs to U.S. and international students, both in the U.S. and abroad. The workforce development training resources highlighted in this section do not represent an exhaustive list. Regional Combatant Commands and U.S. Embassy Security Assistance representatives should be consulted for additional options via Foreign Military Sales cases, direct commercial sales, or grant based funding such as Foreign Military Financing, International Military Education and Training, or Counterterrorism Fellowship Program.

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### United States Resources

#### **DoD Cyber Exchange – DoD Cyber Workforce Home**

The DoD Cyber Exchange – DoD Cyber workforce Home contains information regarding DoD policy and implementation initiatives for the management, qualification and development of the DoD cyber workforce. Some of the specific programs are described further below.

Website: <https://public.cyber.mil/cw/>

#### **DoD Cyber Excepted Service (CES) Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service**

The DoD Cyber Excepted Service (CES) is an enterprise-wide approach for managing civilian cyber professionals across the Department. The CES is aligned to both Title 10 and Title 5 provisions in that it offers flexibilities for the recruitment, retention, and development of cyber professionals across Department. The content on the website consists of strategic guidance, policies, and tools for implementing CES across the enterprise.

Website: <https://public.cyber.mil/cw/dod-cyber-excepted-service-ces/>

#### **DoDD 8140.01, *Cyberspace Workforce Management*, October 5, 2020**

#### **DoD 8570.01-M, *Information Assurance Workforce Improvement Program*, Incorporating Change 4, November 10, 2015**

DoD Directive 8140.01 reissues and re-numbers DoDD 8570.01 to update and expand established DoD policies and assigned responsibilities for managing the DoD cyberspace workforce. Presently, there is not an accompanying DoD 8140.01 Manual (still in draft form). The DoD 8570.01-M provides in-depth guidance and procedures for implementation.

DoDD

8140.01: <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodd/814001p.pdf?ver=2019-06-06-120639-863>

DoD 8570.01-M: <http://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodm/857001m.pdf>

#### **Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE)**

The CDSE proves the DoD with a security center of excellence for the professionalization of the security community and be the premier provider of security education and training for the DoD and industry under the National Industrial Security Program (NISP). The CDSE provide development, delivery, and exchange of security knowledge to ensure a high-performing workforce capable of addressing nation's security challenges.

Website: <https://www.cdse.edu/>

### **National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence**

The National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence, a part of NIST, is a collaborative hub where industry organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions work together to address business' most pressing cybersecurity issues. The center is partnered with over 30 market-leading IT companies, which contributes hardware, software, and expertise. The center is located in Rockville, Maryland.

Website: <https://nccoe.nist.gov/>

### **National Defense University (NDU)**

The National Defense University (NDU) develops joint warfighters and other national security leaders through rigorous academics, research, and engagement to serve the common defense. Within the NDU is the College of Information and Cyberspace, which educates and prepares selected military and civilian leaders and advisers to develop and implement cyberspace strategies, and to leverage information and technology to advance national and global security.

Website: <https://cic.ndu.edu/>

### **Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)**

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) is a fully-accredited university offering over 35 unique academic curricula to military and civilian members of the U.S. DoD and allies around the world. Graduate-level programs are focused on increasing the combat effectiveness of U.S. armed forces and coalition partners and fully support the unique and emerging requirements of the defense establishment. All programs contain a military application and are not duplicated at civilian colleges and universities. The NPS is located in Monterey, California. U.S. NPS offers the Center Cybersecurity and Cyber Operations; America's foremost center for defense-related research and education in software security, Inherently Trustworthy Systems, Cybersecurity Defense, and the use of computational systems in both defensive and adversarial cyber operations.

Website: <https://my.nps.edu/web/c3o/welcome>

### **National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE)**

The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE), led by NIST, is a partnership between government, academia, and the private sector focused on cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development. Located in the Information Technology Laboratory at NIST, the NICE Program Office operates under the Applied Cybersecurity Division, positioning the program to support the country's ability to address current and future cybersecurity challenges through standards and best practices. The mission of NICE is to energize and promote a robust network and an ecosystem of cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development.

Website: <https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice>

### **Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework)**

The NICE Cybersecurity Workforce Framework (aka the NICE Framework) NIST Special Publication 800-181, is a national-focused resource that categorizes and describes cybersecurity work. The NICE Framework establishes a taxonomy and common lexicon that describes cybersecurity work and workers irrespective of where or for whom the work is performed. The NICE Framework is intended to be applied in the public, private, and academic sectors.

NICE has developed the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework to provide a common understanding of and lexicon for cybersecurity work. Although named a cybersecurity framework, it

includes work roles that describe the functions of a broader cyber workforce. It has a hierarchical structure with seven broad Categories, 33 Specialty Areas, and 52 Work Roles. Each Work Role contains a definition, as well as a representative list of tasks and knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) describing what is needed to execute key functions. This role-based structure is being used to facilitate the uniform identification, tracking, and coding of cyber work across the federal government and the DoD. It is also being used to support talent management and develop qualification requirements.

Website: <https://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/resources/nice-cybersecurity-workforce-framework>

### **National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies (NICCS)**

The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies (NICCS) aims to make cybersecurity materials more readily available and maintains an extensive library of information. The vision and mission of NICCS aims to assist in developing a workforce of effective cybersecurity professionals. NICCS connects Government employees, citizens, students, educators, and industry through a premier online resource/hub for cybersecurity workforce development frameworks, education, careers, training, and general awareness. The online portal features training and education catalogs, and is developing a robust listing of all cybersecurity or cybersecurity-related education and training courses offered in the United States..

Website: <https://niccs.cisa.gov/>

### **NIST SP 800-16, *Information Technology Security Training Requirements: A Role- and Performance-Based Model*, April 1998**

This document supersedes NIST SP 500-172, Computer Security Training Guidelines, published in 1989. The new document supports the Computer Security Act (Public Law 100-235) and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-130 Appendix III requirements that NIST developed and issues computer security training guidance. This publication presents a new conceptual framework for providing IT security training. This framework includes the IT security training requirements appropriate for today's distributed computing environment and provides flexibility for extension to accommodate future technologies and related risk management decisions.

Website: [https://ws680.nist.gov/publication/get\\_pdf.cfm?pub\\_id=151633](https://ws680.nist.gov/publication/get_pdf.cfm?pub_id=151633)

### **NIST SP 800-100, *Information Security Handbook: A Guide for Managers*, March 2007**

This Information Security Handbook provides a broad overview of information security program elements to assist managers in understanding how to establish and implement an information security program. The material in this handbook can be referenced for general information on a particular topic or can be used in the decision-making process for developing an information security program.

Website: <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-100.pdf>

### **Software Engineering Institute (SEI)**

A Federally Funded Research and Development Center, the SEI is administered by Carnegie Mellon University and offers training opportunities for international partners. U.S. based and international classroom training is focused on ensuring that software developers, internet security experts, network and system administrators, and others are able to resist, recognize, recognize, and recover from incidents on networked systems.

Website: <https://www.sei.cmu.edu/>

### **CERT® STEPfwd (Security Training Evaluation Platform)**

CERT® STEPfwd makes components from traditional classroom training, including lecture, presentation, and hands-on labs available anywhere in the world through a web browser. The content available ranges from management-focused training such as the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) to technical subjects such as Internet Protocol v6 and The Domain Name System Security Extensions. The goal of CERT® STEPfwd is to provide the opportunity for security professionals to gain

knowledge, skills, and experience in a flexible and time-efficient manner without leaving the office.

Website: <https://stepfwd.cert.org/lms>

### **Common Sense Guide to Mitigating Insider Threats**

The *Common Sense Guide to Mitigating Insider Threats* provides the most current recommendations of the CERT® Program, based on an expanded database of more than 700 insider threat cases and continued research and analysis. It introduces the topic of insider threats, explains its intended audience and how this guide differs from previous editions, defines insider threats, and outlines current patterns and trends. The guide then describes 19 practices that organizations should implement across the enterprise to prevent and detect insider threats, as well as case studies of organizations that failed to do so. The appendices provide a revised list of information security best practices, a new mapping of the guide's practices to established security standards, a new breakdown of the practices by organizational group, and new checklists of activities for each practice.

Website: <http://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=484738>

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## Industry Resources

The US DoD formally recognizes the benefit of industry personnel certifications for some cybersecurity categories. Any certification recognized must be accredited to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) 17024 Standard for Personnel Certifications. The ANSI 17024 Standard matches the International Standards Organization 17024 standard for the same subject. The list of DoD accepted certifications by category will be updated in 2022 to include alignment to work role.

Website: <https://public.cyber.mil/cw/cwmp/dod-approved-8570-baseline-certifications/>

### **Cisco**

Cisco has taken note of the evolution of the role of the network professional and its relevance to the industry. The speed at which network security is evolving demands more practical, hands-on skills in network security engineering and has made network security performance more visible to the entire organization. Network security engineers in the marketplace today understand the products and the discipline of good network security, the practices and compliance mandates of industry and government, and the need to protect their organizations from increasingly sophisticated threats to their systems.

Website: <https://www.cisco.com>

### **Cisco Certified Network Associate - Security (CCNA - Security)**

The Cisco Certified Network Associate - Security certification lays the foundation for job roles such as Network Security Specialist, Security Administrator, and Network Security Support Engineer. It is the first step for individuals wishing to obtain their Cisco Certified Network Professional - Security certification.

Website: [https://learningnetwork.cisco.com/community/certifications/security\\_ccna](https://learningnetwork.cisco.com/community/certifications/security_ccna)

### **Cisco Certified Network Professional - Security (CCNP -Security)**

Cisco Certified Network Professional - Security certification program is aligned specifically to the job role of the Cisco Network Security Engineer responsible for security in Routers, switches, networking devices, and appliances, as well as choosing, deploying, supporting, and troubleshooting firewalls, virtual private networks, and IDS/IPS solutions for their networking environments.

Website: <https://learningnetwork.cisco.com/community/certifications/ccnpsecurity>

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### **CompTIA**

As a non-profit trade association advancing the global interests of IT professionals and companies, CompTIA focuses programs on four main areas: education, certification, advocacy, and philanthropy. CompTIA provides educational resources including online guides, webinars, market research, business mentoring, open forums and networking events, and technology-neutral and vendor-neutral IT certifications. CompTIA has four IT certification series that test different knowledge standards, from

entry-level to expert.

Website: <http://www.comptia.org>

### **CompTIA A+**

Covers preventative maintenance, basic networking, installation, troubleshooting, communication, and professionalism.

Website: <https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/a>

### **CompTIA Security+**

Covers system security, network infrastructure, cryptography, assessments, and audits.

Website: <https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/security>

### **CompTIA Advanced Security Practitioner (CASP)**

The CompTIA Advanced Security Practitioner certification validates advanced-level competency in risk management; enterprise security operations and architecture; research and collaboration; and integration of enterprise security.

Website: <https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/comptia-advanced-security-practitioner>

### **CompTIA Network+**

Covers managing, maintaining, troubleshooting, operating, and configuring basic network infrastructure.

Website: <https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/network>

### **CompTIA Cyber Security Analyst+ (CySA+)**

Covers identifying and combating malware, advanced persistent threats, and performing data analysis.

Website: <https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/cybersecurity-analyst>

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### **International Council of E-Commerce Consultants (EC-Council)**

The International Council of E-Commerce Consultants is a member-based organization that certifies individuals in information security and e-business skills. Programs are offered in over 87 countries through a training network of more than 450 training partners globally. Currently, E-Commerce-Council is supporting the International Multilateral Partnership against Cyber Threats that is a partner organization of the United Nations/International Telecommunication Union to provide training and technical support to governments of its 191 member states.

Website: <https://www.eccouncil.org/>

### **Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)**

A Certified Ethical Hacker is a skilled professional who understands and knows how to look for weaknesses and vulnerabilities in target systems and uses the same knowledge and tools as a malicious hacker, but in a lawful and legitimate manner to assess the security posture of a target system(s). The Certified Ethical Hacker credential certifies individuals in the specific network security discipline of Ethical Hacking from a vendor-neutral perspective.

Website: <https://www.eccouncil.org/programs/certified-ethical-hacker-ceh/>

### **Global Cyberlympics**

The Global Cyberlympics is a not-for-profit initiative led and organized by E-Commerce-Council Foundation. Its goal is to raise awareness towards increased education and ethics in information security through a series of cyber competitions that encompass forensics, ethical hacking, and protection. Games are held regionally, and the overall competition includes a World Finals championship.

Website: <http://www.cyberlympics.org/>

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### **International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, Inc., (ISC)<sup>2</sup>®**

Headquartered in the U.S. and with offices in London, Hong Kong, and Tokyo, the International

Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, Inc., (ISC)<sup>2</sup>®, is a global, not-for-profit provider of education and certification of information security professionals throughout their careers. (ISC)<sup>2</sup>® provides vendor-neutral education products, career services, and Gold Standard credentials to professionals in more than 135 countries and boasts a membership network of nearly 90,000 certified industry professionals worldwide (ISC)<sup>2</sup>®. Certifications included in DoDD 8570.01 guidance are highlighted here.

Website: <https://www.isc2.org>

### **Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)®**

CISSP certification is a globally recognized standard of achievement that confirms an individual's knowledge in the field of information security. CISSPs are information assurance professionals who define the architecture, design, management, and/or controls that assure the security of business environments. Specialized, CISSP concentrations are available in Information Systems Security Architecture, Information Systems Security Engineering, and Information Systems Security Management.

Website: <https://www.isc2.org/Certifications/CISSP>

### **Certified Secure Software Lifecycle Professional (CSSLP)**

As a Certified Secure Software Lifecycle Professional, you have an internationally-recognized ability to incorporate security practices — authentication, authorization, and auditing — into each phase of the software development lifecycle.

Website: <https://www.isc2.org/Certifications/CSSLP>

### **Certified Authorization Professional (CAP)**

The Certified Authorization Professional certification is an objective measure of the KSAs required for personnel involved in the process of authorizing and maintaining information systems. Specifically, this credential applies to those responsible for formalizing processes used to assess risk and establish security requirements and documentation.

Website: <https://www.isc2.org/cap/default.aspx>

### **Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP)**

The Systems Security Certified Practitioner is open to all candidates with as little as one-year experience, making it a starting point for a new career in information security or to add a layer of security to a current IT career. The Systems Security Certified Practitioner credential ensures that candidates continuously monitor systems to safeguard against security threats while having the knowledge to apply security concepts, tools, and procedures to react to security incidents.

Website: <https://www.isc2.org/sscp/default.aspx>

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## **ISACA**

As an independent, nonprofit, global association, ISACA engages in the development, adoption, and use of globally-accepted knowledge and practices for information systems. ISACA provides practical guidance, benchmarks, and other tools for all enterprises that use information systems and defines the roles of information systems governance, security, auditing, and assurance professionals worldwide.

Website: <https://www.isaca.org>

### **Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)**

The management-focused Certified Information Security Manager certification promotes international security practices and recognizes the individual who manages, designs, oversees, and assesses an enterprise's information security.

Website: <http://www.isaca.org/Certification/CISM-Certified-Information-Security-Manager/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)**

The Certified Information Systems Auditor certification is a standard of achievement for those who audit,

control, monitor, and assess an organization's information technology and business systems.

Website: <http://www.isaca.org/Certification/CISA-Certified-Information-Systems-Auditor/Pages/default.aspx>

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### **The SANS Institute**

The SANS Institute was established as a cooperative research and education organization. SANS courses were developed through a consensus process involving hundreds of administrators, security managers, and information security professionals, and address security fundamentals and the in-depth technical aspects of crucial areas of IT security. SANS training can be taken in a classroom setting, self-paced over the Internet, or in mentored settings around the world. It also develops, maintains, and makes available at no cost the largest collection of research documents about various aspects of information security.

Website: <http://www.sans.org/>

### **The SANS Institute Reading Room**

SANS is a source for information security training and security certification and develops, maintains, and makes available at no cost research documents about various aspects of information security. The SANS Reading Room features over 2,030 original computer security white papers in 78 different categories.

Website: <http://www.sans.org/reading-room>

### **Simulating Cyber Operations: A Cyber Security Training Framework**

This paper proposes an innovative way to model cyber operations by representing the core simulation elements as objects and describing their interactions via a Scenario Definition Language, which dictates the rules governing object interactions. It further describes an approach used to create purpose-built simulations, defines fundamental object types, presents a lexicon, and shows how gaming can be used to support effective cyber operations training and assessment.

Website: <http://www.sans.org/reading-room/whitepapers/bestprac/simulating-cyber-operations-cyber-security-training-framework-34510>

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### **Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC)**

The purpose of Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC) is to provide assurance that a certified individual has the knowledge and skills necessary for a practitioner in key areas of computer, information, and software security. GIAC certifications address a range of skill sets, including entry-level information security and broad-based security essentials, as well as advanced subject areas. GIAC certifications included in DoDD 8140.01 guidance are highlighted here.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/>

### **GIAC Certified Intrusion Analyst (GCIA)**

GIAC Certified Intrusion Analysts have the KSAs to configure and monitor intrusion detection systems, and to read, interpret, and analyze network traffic and related log files.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/certified-intrusion-analyst-gcia>

### **GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender (GCED)**

The GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender builds on the security skills measured by the GIAC Security Essentials Certification (no overlap). It assesses more advanced, technical skills that are needed to defend the enterprise environment and protect an organization as a whole. KSAs assessed are taken from the areas of defensive network infrastructure, packet analysis, penetration testing, incident handling, and malware removal.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/certified-enterprise-defender-gced>

### **GIAC Certification Forensic Analyst (GCFA)**

When a person obtains the Global Information Assurance Certification Forensic Analyst, it ensures that they have an advanced understanding of computer forensics tools and techniques to investigate: data



breach intrusions, tech-savvy rogue employees, nation-state threats, and complex digital forensic cases.

Website: <https://digital-forensics.sans.org/certification/gcfa>

### **GIAC Certified Incident Handler (GCIH)**

Incident handlers manage security incidents by understanding common incident techniques, vectors, and tools, as well as defending against and/or responding to such incidents when they occur. The GIAC Certified Incident Handler certification focuses on detecting, responding, and resolving computer security incidents.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/certified-incident-handler-gcih>

### **Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional (GICSP)**

The Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional bridges together IT, engineering, and cybersecurity to achieve security for industrial control systems from design through retirement. This unique vendor-neutral, practitioner-focused industrial control system certification is a collaborative effort between GIAC and representatives from a global industry consortium involving organizations that design, deploy, operate, and/or maintain industrial automation and control system infrastructure. Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional will assess a base level of knowledge and understanding across a diverse set of professionals who engineer or support control systems and share responsibility for the security of these environments.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/global-industrial-cyber-security-professional-gicsp>

### **GIAC Security Essentials Certification (GSEC)**

The GIAC Security Essentials Certification was created for security professionals that want to demonstrate they are qualified for IT systems hands-on roles with respect to security tasks. Candidates are required to demonstrate an understanding of information security beyond simple terminology and concepts.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/security-essentials-gsec>

### **GIAC Security Leadership Certificate (GSLC)**

The GIAC Security Leadership Certificate certification was created for security professionals with managerial or supervisory responsibility for information security staff.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/security-leadership-gslc>

### **GIAC Systems and Network Auditor (GSNA)**

GIAC Systems and Network Auditors have the KSAs to apply basic risk analysis techniques and to conduct a technical audit of essential information systems. The target audience is technical staff responsible for securing and auditing information systems and auditors who wish to demonstrate technical knowledge of the systems they are responsible for auditing.

Website: <https://www.giac.org/certification/systems-network-auditor-gsna>

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### **Logical Operations, Inc.**

For over 35 years, Logical Operations has evolved to provide students with the best learning experience possible through instructor-led training. As a company, Logical Operations drives innovation of next generation learning tools for use in and beyond the classroom. They are passionate about training and providing the tools necessary to connect with learning in a more meaningful way. At Logical Operations, they are committed to providing industry-leading learning solutions that enable organizations to educate and certify customers, develop employees, and support partners. They develop high-stakes IT certification programs that fill a gap in the certification marketplace and help employers pick the right candidates out from the crowd.

Website: <http://logicaloperations.com/>

### **CyberSec First Responder (CFR)**

The CyberSec First Responder™ cybersecurity training and certification program will prepare security

professionals to become the first responders who defend against cyber threats by teaching students to analyze threats, design secure computing, and network environments, proactively defend networks, and respond to/investigate cyber security incidents.

Website: <http://logicaloperations.com/certifications/1/CyberSec-First-Responder/>

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## Appendix

### Quick Reference Chart

<b>Developing a Cybersecurity Strategy and Supporting Policies</b>	
PPD-41	<i>United States Cyber Incident Coordination</i>
DoDD 8000.01	<i>Management of the Department of Defense Information Enterprise (DoD IE)</i>
DoDI 8500.01	<i>Cybersecurity</i>
DoDI 5205.13	<i>Defense Industrial Base (DIB) Cyber Security (CS) Activities</i>
DoDI 8510.01	<i>Risk Management Framework (RMF) for DoD Information Technology</i>
NIST SP 800-37	<i>Guide for Applying the Risk Management Framework to Federal Information Systems</i>
NIST SP 800-30	<i>Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments</i>
NIST SP 800-39	<i>Managing Information Security Risk</i>
NIST SP 800-70	<i>National Checklist Program for IT Products: Guidelines for Checklist Users and Developers</i>
NIST SP 800-117	<i>Guide to Adopting and Using the Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)</i>
NIST SP 800-126	<i>The Technical Specification for the Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP)</i>
NIST SP 800-161	<i>Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organizations</i>
<b>Building Defensible Networks and Protecting Networks from Incidents</b>	
CJCSM 6510.01B	<i>Cyber Incident Handling Program</i>
DoDI 5000.02	<i>Operation of the Defense Acquisition System</i>
DoDI 5000.75	<i>Business Systems Requirements and Acquisition</i>
DoDI 5200.44	<i>Protection of Mission Critical Functions to Achieve Trusted Systems and Networks (TSN)</i>
DoDI 8500.01	<i>Cybersecurity</i>
DoDI 8530.01	<i>Cybersecurity Activities Support to DoD Information Network Operations</i>
DoDI 8510.01	<i>Risk Management Framework (RMF) for DoD Information Technology (IT)</i>
DoDI 8551.01	<i>Ports, Protocols, and Services Management (PPSM)</i>
DoDI 8560.01	<i>Communications Security (COMSEC) Monitoring</i>
FIPS 199	<i>Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems</i>
FIPS 200	<i>Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems</i>
NIST SP 800-40	<i>Guide to Enterprise Patch Management Technologies</i>
NIST SP 800-41	<i>Guidelines on Firewalls and Firewall Policy</i>
NIST SP 800-44	<i>Guidelines on Securing Public Web Servers</i>
NIST SP 800-53	<i>Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations</i>
NIST SP 800-55	<i>Performance Measurement Guide for Information Security</i>
NIST SP 800-94	<i>Guide to Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems (IDPS)</i>
NIST SP 800-115	<i>Technical Guide to Information Security Testing and Assessment</i>
NIST SP 800-123	<i>Guide to General Server Security</i>
NIST SP 800-128	<i>Guide for Security-Focused Configuration Management of Information Systems</i>
NIST SP 800-137	<i>Information Security Continuous Monitoring (ICSM) for Federal Information Systems and Organizations</i>

NIST SP 800-147	<i>BIOS Protection Guidelines</i>
NIST SP 800-171	<i>Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations</i>
NIST SP 800-207	<i>Zero Trust Architecture</i>
<b>Critical Infrastructure Protection</b>	
NISTIR 8170	<i>The Cybersecurity Framework: Approaches for Federal Agencies to Use the Cybersecurity Framework</i>
ISA/IEC 62443 Standards	<i>Security of Industrial Automation and Control Systems</i>
<b>Managing Access in Systems and Data</b>	
CNSSD No. 507	<i>National Directive for Identity, Credential and Access Management (ICAM) on the United States (US) Federal Secret Fabric</i>
CNSSI No. 1253	<i>Security Categorization and Control Selection for National Security Systems</i>
DoDI 8520.02	<i>Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and Public Key (PK) Enabling</i>
DoDI 8520.03	<i>Identity Authentication for Information Systems</i>
DoDI 8540.01	<i>Cross Domain (CD) Policy</i>
FIPS 186-4	<i>Digital Signature Standard (DSS)</i>
FIPS 201-2	<i>Personal Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal Employees and Contractors</i>
NIST SP 800-60	<i>Guide to Mapping Types of Information and Information Systems to Security Categories</i>
NIST SP 800-130	<i>A Framework for Designing Cryptographic Key Management Systems (CKMS)</i>
NIST SP 800-133	<i>Recommendation for Cryptographic Key Generation</i>
NIST SP 800-152	<i>A Profile for U.S. Federal Cryptographic Key Management Systems (FCKMS)</i>
NIST SP 800-157	<i>Guidelines for Derived Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Credentials</i>
NIST SP 800-210	<i>General Access Control Guidance for Cloud Systems</i>
<b>Sharing Information</b>	
CNSSP No. 15	<i>Use of Public Standards for Secure Information Sharing</i>
<b>Building and Maintaining a Cybersecurity Workforce</b>	
DoDD 8140.01	<i>Cyberspace Workforce Management</i>
DoD 8570.01-M	<i>Information Assurance Workforce Improvement Program</i>
NIST SP 800-16	<i>Information Technology Security Training Requirements: A Role- and Performance-Based Model</i>
NIST SP 800-100	<i>Information Security Handbook: A Guide for Managers</i>

## Acronym List

AIS	Automated Indicator Sharing
BIOS	Basic Input/Output System
CAP	Certified Authorization Professional
CASP	CompTIA Advanced Security Practitioner
CCDCOE	Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence
CCNA	Cisco Certified Network Associate
CCNP	Cisco Certified Network Professional
CDSE	Center for Development of Security Excellence
CEH	Certified Ethical Hacker
CERT	Cyber Emergency Response Team
CES	Cyber Excepted Service
CFR	CyberSec First Responder
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CIP	Critical Infrastructure Protection
CISA	Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
CISM	Certified Information Security Manager
CISO	Chief Information Security Officer
CISSP	Certified Information Systems Security Professional
CJCSM	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Manual
CKMS	Cryptographic Key Management Systems
CNSS	Committee on National Security Systems
COMSEC	Communications Security
CS	Cybersecurity
CSET	Cyber Security Evaluation Tool
CSIH	Computer Security Incident Handler
CSIS	Center for Strategic and International Studies
CSSLP	Certified Secure Software Lifecycle Professional
CUI	Controlled Unclassified Information
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DIB	Defense Industrial Base
DCIO	Deputy Chief Information Officer
DoD	Department of Defense
DoDD	DoD Directive
DoDI	DoD Instruction
DoDM	DoD Manual
DOT&E	Director, Operational Test & Evaluation
EECC	European Electronic Communications Code
EISAS	European Information Sharing and Alert System
ENISA	European Union Agency for Cybersecurity
EPCIP	European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection
EU	European Union

FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standards
FISMA	Federal Information Security Management Act
GCED	GIAC Certified Enterprise Defender
GCFA	GIAC Certification Forensic Analyst
GCIAC	GIAC Certified Intrusion Analyst
GCIH	GIAC Certified Incident Handler
GIAC	Global Information Assurance Certification
GICSP	Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional
GSEC	GIAC Security Essentials Certification
GSLC	GIAC Security Leadership Certificate
GSNA	GIAC Systems and Network Auditor
IA	Information Assurance
ICAM	Identity, Credential and Access Management
ICS	Industrial Control Systems
ICSM	Information Security Continuous Monitoring
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDS	Intrusion Detection System
IDPS	Intrusion Detection and Prevention System
IPS	Intrusion Prevention System
IR	Interagency Report
ISA	International Society for Automation
(ISC) <sup>2</sup> ®	International Information Systems Security Certification Consortium, Inc.
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IT	Information Technology
ITU	International Technology Union
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
KSAs	Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCCIC	National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center
NCIA	NATO Communications and Information Agency
NCSC	National Cyber Security Centre
NCP	National Checklist Repository
NCSS	National Cyber Security Strategies
NDS	National Defense Strategy
NDU	National Defense University
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NICE	National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education
NIS	Network and Information Systems
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NPS	Naval Postgraduate School
NSA	National Security Agency
NSS	National Security Strategy
NVD	National Vulnerability Database
ODNI	Office of the Director of National Intelligence

PIV	Personal Identity Verification
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PPSM	Ports, Protocols, and Services Management
RMF	Risk Management Framework
SCAP	Security Content Automation Protocol
SCRM	Supply Chain Risk Management
SEI	Software Engineering Institute
SP	Special Publications
SSCP	Systems Security Certified Practitioner
STIX™	Structure Threat Information eXpression
TSN	Trusted Systems and Networks
UN	United Nations
UK	United Kingdom
U.S.	United States
USG	United States government
USGCB	United States Government Configuration Baseline

# Seven Steps to Effectively Defend Industrial Control Systems



## INTRODUCTION

Cyber intrusions into US Critical Infrastructure systems are happening with increased frequency. For many industrial control systems (ICSs), it's not a matter of *if* an intrusion will take place, but *when*. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 295 incidents were reported to ICS-CERT, and many more went unreported or undetected. The capabilities of our adversaries have been demonstrated and cyber incidents are increasing in frequency and complexity. Simply building a network with a hardened perimeter is no longer adequate. Securing ICSs against the modern threat requires well-planned and well-implemented strategies that will provide network defense teams a chance to quickly and effectively detect, counter, and expel an adversary. This paper presents seven strategies that can be implemented today to counter common exploitable weaknesses in "as-built" control systems.

### Seven Strategies to Defend ICSs

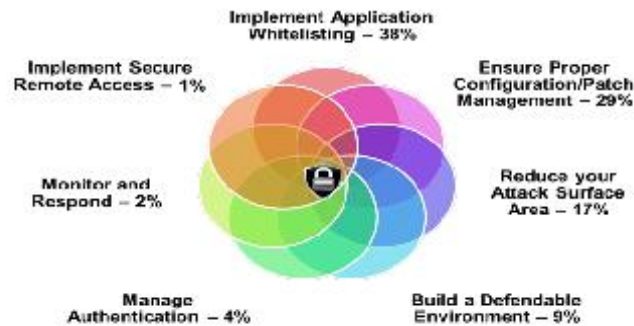


Figure 1: Percentage of ICS-CERT FY 2014 and FY 2015 Incidents Potentially Mitigated by Each Strategy<sup>a</sup>

a. Incidents mitigated by more than one strategy are listed under the strategy ICS-CERT judged as more effective.





If system owners had implemented the strategies outlined in this paper, 98 percent of incidents ICS-CERT responded to in FY 2014 and FY 2015 would have been prevented. The remaining 2 percent could have been identified with increased monitoring and a robust incident response.

## THE SEVEN STRATEGIES

### 1. IMPLEMENT APPLICATION WHITELISTING

*Application Whitelisting (AWL)* can detect and prevent attempted execution of malware uploaded by adversaries. The static nature of some systems, such as database servers and human-machine interface (HMI) computers, make these ideal candidates to run AWL. Operators are encouraged to work with their vendors to baseline and calibrate AWL deployments.

**Example:** ICS-CERT recently responded to an incident where the victim had to rebuild the network from scratch at great expense. A particular malware compromised over 80 percent of its assets. Antivirus software was ineffective; the malware had a 0 percent detection rate on VirusTotal. AWL would have provided notification and blocked the malware execution.

### 2. ENSURE PROPER CONFIGURATION/PATCH MANAGEMENT

Adversaries target unpatched systems. A configuration/patch management program centered on the safe importation and implementation of trusted patches will help keep control systems more secure.

Such a program will start with an accurate baseline and asset inventory to track what patches are needed. It will prioritize patching and configuration management of “PC-architecture” machines used in HMI, database server, and engineering workstation roles, as current adversaries have significant cyber capabilities against these. Infected laptops are a significant malware vector. Such a program will limit connection of external laptops to the control network and preferably supply vendors with known-good company laptops. The program will also encourage initial installation of any updates onto a test system that includes malware detection features before the updates are installed on operational systems.

**Example:** ICS-CERT responded to a Stuxnet infection at a power generation facility. The root cause of the infection was a vendor laptop.

Use best practices when downloading software and patches destined for your control network. Take measures to avoid “watering hole” attacks. Use a web Domain Name System (DNS) reputation system. Get updates from authenticated vendor sites. Validate the authenticity of



downloads. Insist that vendors digitally sign updates, and/or publish hashes via an out-of-bound communications path, and use these to authenticate. Don't load updates from unverified sources.

**Example:** HAVEX spread by infecting patches. With an out-of-band communication path for patch hashes, such as a blast email, users could have validated that the patches were not authentic.

### 3. REDUCE YOUR ATTACK SURFACE AREA

Isolate ICS networks from any untrusted networks, especially the Internet.<sup>b</sup> Lock down all unused ports. Turn off all unused services. Only allow real-time connectivity to external networks if there is a defined business requirement or control function. If one-way communication can accomplish a task, use optical separation ("data diode"). If bidirectional communication is necessary, then use a single open port over a restricted network path.

**Example:** As of 2014, ICS-CERT was aware of 82,000 cases of industrial control systems hardware or software directly accessible from the public Internet. ICS-CERT has encountered numerous cases where direct or nearly direct Internet access enabled a breach. Examples include a US Crime Lab, a Dam, The Sochi Olympic stadium, and numerous water utilities.

### 4. BUILD A DEFENDABLE ENVIRONMENT

Limit damage from network perimeter breaches. Segment networks into logical enclaves and restrict host-to-host communications paths. This can stop adversaries from expanding their access, while letting the normal system communications continue to operate. Enclaving limits possible damage, as compromised systems cannot be used to reach and contaminate systems in other enclaves. Containment provided by enclaving also makes incident cleanup significantly less costly.<sup>c</sup>

b. ICS-ALERT-14-063-01AP, Multiple Reports of Internet Facing Control Systems, ICS-CERT 2015.

c. Improving Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity with Defense in Depth, ICS-CERT 2009.



**Example:** In one ICS-CERT case, a nuclear asset owner failed to scan media entering a Level 3 facility. On exit, the media was scanned, and a virus was detected. Because the asset owner had implemented logical enclaving, only six systems were put at risk and had to be remediated. Had enclaving not been implemented, hundreds of hosts would have needed to be remediated.

If one-way data transfer from a secure zone to a less secure zone is required, consider using approved removable media instead of a network connection. If real-time data transfer is required, consider using optical separation technologies. This allows replication of data without putting the control system at risk.

**Example:** In one ICS-CERT case, a pipeline operator had directly connected the corporate network to the control network, because the billing unit had asserted it needed metering data. After being informed of a breach by ICS-CERT, the asset owner removed the connection. It took the billing department 4 days to notice the connection had been lost, clearly demonstrating that real-time data were not needed.

## 5. MANAGE AUTHENTICATION

Adversaries are increasingly focusing on gaining control of legitimate credentials, especially those associated with highly privileged accounts. Compromising these credentials allows adversaries to masquerade as legitimate users, leaving less evidence than exploiting vulnerabilities or executing malware. Implement multi-factor authentication where possible. Reduce privileges to only those needed for a user's duties. If passwords are necessary, implement secure password policies stressing length over complexity. For all accounts, including system and non-interactive accounts, ensure credentials are unique, and change all passwords at least every 90 days.

Require separate credentials for corporate and control network zones and store these in separate trust stores. Never share Active Directory, RSA ACE servers, or other trust stores between corporate and control networks.

**Example:** One US Government agency used the same password across the environment for local administrator accounts. This allowed an adversary to easily move laterally across all systems.



## 6. IMPLEMENT SECURE REMOTE ACCESS

Some adversaries are effective at gaining remote access into control systems, finding obscure access vectors, even “hidden back doors” intentionally created by system operators. Remove such accesses wherever possible, especially modems as these are fundamentally insecure.

Limit any accesses that remain. Where possible, implement “monitoring only” access enforced by data diodes, and do not rely on “read only” access enforced by software configurations or permissions. Do not allow remote persistent vendor connections into the control network. Require any remote access be operator controlled, time limited, and procedurally similar to “lock out, tag out.” Use the same remote access paths for vendor and employee connections; don’t allow double standards. Use two-factor authentication if possible, avoiding schemes where both tokens are similar types and can be easily stolen (e.g., password and soft certificate).

**Example:** Following these guidelines would have prevented the BlackEnergy intrusions. BlackEnergy required communications paths for initial compromise, installation and “plug in” installation.

## 7. MONITOR AND RESPOND

Defending a network against modern threats requires actively monitoring for adversarial penetration and quickly executing a prepared response.

Consider establishing monitoring programs in the following five key places:

- 1) Watch IP traffic on ICS boundaries for abnormal or suspicious communications.
- 2) Monitor IP traffic within the control network for malicious connections or content.
- 3) Use host-based products to detect malicious software and attack attempts.
- 4) Use login analysis (time and place for example) to detect stolen credential usage or improper access, verifying all anomalies with quick phone calls.
- 5) Watch account/user administration actions to detect access control manipulation.

Have a response plan for when adversarial activity is detected. Such a plan may include disconnecting all Internet connections, running a properly scoped search for malware, disabling affected user accounts, isolating suspect systems, and an immediate 100 percent password reset. Such a plan may also define escalation triggers and actions, including incident response, investigation, and public affairs activities.

Have a restoration plan, including having “gold disks” ready to restore systems to known good states.



**Example:** Attackers render Windows<sup>d</sup> based devices in a control network inoperative by wiping hard drive contents. Recent attacks against Saudi Aramco<sup>e</sup> and Sony Pictures demonstrate that quick restoration of such computers is key to restoring an attacked network to an operational state.

### CONCLUSION

Defense against the modern threat requires applying measures to protect not only the perimeter but also the interior. While no system is 100 percent secure, implementing the seven key strategies discussed in this paper can greatly improve the security posture of ICSs.

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### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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d. Windows<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corp.

e. Saudi Aramco<sup>™</sup> is an unregistered trademark of Saudi Arabian Oil Company.



# Homeland Security

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## NSA'S Top Ten Cybersecurity Mitigation Strategies

NSA's Top Ten Mitigation Strategies counter a broad range of exploitation techniques used by Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) actors. NSA's mitigations set priorities for enterprise organizations to minimize mission impact. The mitigations also build upon the NIST Cybersecurity Framework functions to manage cybersecurity risk and promote a defense-in-depth security posture. The mitigation strategies are ranked by effectiveness against known APT tactics. Additional strategies and best practices will be required to mitigate the occurrence of new tactics.

The cybersecurity functions are keyed as: ■ Identify, ■ Protect, ■ Detect, ■ Respond, ■ Recover

### 1. Update and Upgrade Software Immediately

■ Identify, ■ Protect

Apply all available software updates, automate the process to the extent possible, and use an update service provided directly from the vendor. Automation is necessary because threat actors study patches and create exploits, often soon after a patch is released. These "N-day" exploits can be as damaging as a zero-day. Vendor updates must also be authentic; updates are typically signed and delivered over protected links to assure the integrity of the content. Without rapid and thorough patch application, threat actors can operate inside a defender's patch cycle.

### 2. Defend Privileges and Accounts

■ Identify, ■ Protect

Assign privileges based on risk exposure and as required to maintain operations. Use a Privileged Access Management (PAM) solution to automate credential management and fine-grained access control. Another way to manage privilege is through tiered administrative access in which each higher tier provides additional access, but is limited to fewer personnel. Create procedures to securely reset credentials (e.g., passwords, tokens, tickets). Privileged accounts and services must be controlled because threat actors continue to target administrator credentials to access high-value assets, and to move laterally through the network.

### 3. Enforce Signed Software Execution Policies

■ Protect, ■ Detect

Use a modern operating system that enforces signed software execution policies for scripts, executables, device drivers, and system firmware. Maintain a list of trusted certificates to prevent and detect the use and injection of illegitimate executables. Execution policies, when used in conjunction with a secure boot capability, can assure system integrity. Application Whitelisting should be used with signed software execution policies to provide greater control. Allowing unsigned software enables threat actors to gain a foothold and establish persistence through embedded malicious code.

### 4. Exercise a System Recovery Plan

■ Identify, ■ Respond, ■ Recover

Create, review, and exercise a system recovery plan to ensure the restoration of data as part of a comprehensive disaster recovery strategy. The plan must protect critical data, configurations, and logs to ensure continuity of operations due to unexpected events. For additional protection, backups should be encrypted, stored offsite, offline when possible, and support complete recovery and reconstitution of systems and devices. Perform periodic testing and evaluate the backup plan. Update the plan as necessary to accommodate the ever-changing network environment. A recovery plan is a necessary mitigation for natural disasters as well as malicious threats including ransomware.

### 5. Actively Manage Systems and Configurations

■ Identify, ■ Protect

Take inventory of network devices and software. Remove unwanted, unneeded or unexpected hardware and software from the network. Starting from a known baseline reduces the attack surface and establishes control of the operational environment. Thereafter, actively manage devices, applications, operating systems, and security configurations. Active enterprise management ensures that systems can adapt to dynamic threat environments while scaling and streamlining administrative operations.

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Website: <https://www.nsa.gov/Portals/70/documents/what-we-do/cybersecurity/professional-resources/csi-nsas-top10-cybersecurity-mitigation-strategies.pdf>



## 6. Continuously Hunt for Network Intrusions

■ Detect, ■ Respond, ■ Recover

Take proactive steps to detect, contain, and remove any malicious presence within the network. Enterprise organizations should assume that a compromise has taken place and use dedicated teams to continuously seek out, contain, and remove threat actors within the network. Passive detection mechanisms, such as logs, Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) products, Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) solutions, and other data analytic capabilities are invaluable tools to find malicious or anomalous behaviors. Active pursuits should also include hunt operations and penetration testing using well documented incident response procedures to address any discovered breaches in security. Establishing proactive steps will transition the organization beyond basic detection methods, enabling real-time threat detection and remediation using a continuous monitoring and mitigation strategy.

## 7. Leverage Modern Hardware Security Features

■ Identify, ■ Protect

Use hardware security features like Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI) Secure Boot, Trusted Platform Module (TPM), and hardware virtualization. Schedule older devices for a hardware refresh. Modern hardware features increase the integrity of the boot process, provide system attestation, and support features for high-risk application containment. Using a modern operating system on outdated hardware results in a reduced ability to protect the system, critical data, and user credentials from threat actors.

## 8. Segregate Networks Using Application-Aware Defenses

■ Protect, ■ Detect

Segregate critical networks and services. Deploy application-aware network defenses to block improperly formed traffic and restrict content, according to policy and legal authorizations. Traditional intrusion detection based on known-bad signatures is quickly decreasing in effectiveness due to encryption and obfuscation techniques. Threat actors hide malicious actions and remove data over common protocols, making the need for sophisticated, application-aware defensive mechanisms critical for modern network defenses.

## 9. Integrate Threat Reputation Services

■ Protect, ■ Detect

Leverage multi-sourced threat reputation services for files, DNS, URLs, IPs, and email addresses. Reputation services assist in the detection and prevention of malicious events and allow for rapid global responses to threats, a reduction of exposure from known threats, and provide access to a much larger threat analysis and tipping capability than an organization can provide on its own. Emerging threats, whether targeted or global campaigns, occur faster than most organizations can handle, resulting in poor coverage of new threats. Multi-source reputation and information sharing services can provide a more timely and effective security posture against dynamic threat actors.

## 10. Transition to Multi-Factor Authentication

■ Identify, ■ Protect

Prioritize protection for accounts with elevated privileges, remote access, and/or used on high value assets. Physical token-based authentication systems should be used to supplement knowledge-based factors such as passwords and PINs. Organizations should migrate away from single factor authentication, such as password-based systems, which are subject to poor user choices and susceptible to credential theft, forgery, and reuse across multiple systems.

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