Integrated Enterprise-wide Risk Management
Organization, Mission, and Information Systems View

Information System Security Association

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The Threat Situation

Continuing serious cyber attacks on federal information systems, large and small; targeting key federal operations and assets...

- Attacks are organized, disciplined, aggressive, and well resourced; many are extremely sophisticated.
- Adversaries are nation states, terrorist groups, criminals, hackers, and individuals or groups with intentions of compromising federal information systems.
- Effective deployment of malicious software causing significant exfiltration of sensitive information (including intellectual property) and potential for disruption of critical information systems/services.
Asymmetry of Cyber Warfare

The weapons of choice are—

- Laptop computers, hand-held devices, cell phones.
- Sophisticated attack tools and techniques downloadable from the Internet.
- World-wide telecommunication networks including telephone networks, radio, and microwave.

Resulting in low-cost, highly destructive attack potential.
Unconventional Wisdom

NEW RULE: *Boundary protection is no longer sufficient against high-end threats capable of launching sophisticated cyber attacks...*

- Complexity of IT products and information systems.
- Insufficient penetration resistance (trustworthiness) in commercial IT products.
- Insufficient application of information system and security engineering practices.
- Undisciplined behavior and use of information technology and systems by individuals.
The Fundamentals

Fighting and winning a 21st century cyber war requires 21st century strategies, tactics, training, and technologies...

- Integration of information security into enterprise architectures and system life cycle processes.
- Common, shared information security standards for unified cyber command.
- Enterprise-wide, risk-based protection strategies.
- Flexible and agile selection / deployment of safeguards and countermeasures (maximum tactical advantage based on missions / environments of operation).
- More resilient, penetration-resistant information systems.
- Competent, capable cyber warriors.
Compliance vs. Risk-based Protection

“We should not be consumed with counting the number of dead bolts on the front door when the back door is wide open...”

-- Anonymous
Risk-Based Protection

- Enterprise missions and business processes drive security requirements and associated safeguards and countermeasures for organizational information systems.

- Highly flexible implementation; recognizing diversity in missions/business processes and operational environments.

- Senior leaders take ownership of their security plans including the safeguards/countermeasures for the information systems.

- Senior leaders are both responsible and accountable for their information security decisions; understanding, acknowledging, and explicitly accepting resulting mission/business risk.
Strategic Initiatives

The Long-term View

- Build a unified information security framework for the federal government and support contractors.
- Integrate information security and privacy requirements into enterprise architectures.
- Employ systems and security engineering techniques to develop more secure (penetration-resistant) information systems.
Tactical Initiatives

The Short-term View

- Update security controls catalog and baselines.
  - Delivery vehicle: NIST Special Publication 800-53, Revision 3

- Develop enterprise-wide risk management guidance.
  - Delivery vehicle: NIST Special Publication 800-39

- Restructure the current certification and accreditation process for information systems.
  - Delivery vehicle: NIST Special Publication 800-37, Revision 1

- Provide more targeted guidance on risk assessments.
  - Delivery vehicle: NIST Special Publication 800-30, Revision 1
Change the Culture

- Strong, top-level senior leadership commitment.
  - Understand adversary capabilities, types of threats and attacks.
  - Recognize information security is essential for mission success.

- Employ more discipline and structure in how information systems are implemented and used.
  - Implement least privilege, least functionality.
  - Require corporate and individual responsibility and accountability.

- Develop a cyber warrior mentality.
  - Obtain situational awareness during day-to-day agency operations.
  - Require ongoing monitoring of people, processes, and technologies.
Risk Management Hierarchy

- Multi-tiered Risk Management Approach
- Implemented by the Risk Executive Function
- Enterprise Architecture and SDLC Focus
- Flexible and Agile Implementation

LEVEL 1
Organization

LEVEL 2
Mission / Business Process

LEVEL 3
Information System
Risk Management Hierarchy

- **Risk Executive Function** (Oversight and Governance)
- **Risk Assessment Methodologies**
- **Risk Mitigation Approaches**
- **Risk Tolerance**
- **Risk Monitoring Approaches**
- **Linkage to ISO/IEC 27001**
Risk Management Hierarchy

LEVEL 1
Organization
- Mission / Business Processes
- Information Flows
- Information Categorization
- Information Protection Strategy
- Information Security Requirements
- Linkage to Enterprise Architecture

LEVEL 2
Mission / Business Process

LEVEL 3
Information System
Risk Management Hierarchy

LEVEL 1
Organization

LEVEL 2
Mission / Business Process
- Linkage to SDLC
- Information System Categorization
- Selection of Security Controls
- Security Control Allocation and Implementation
- Security Control Assessment
- Risk Acceptance
- Continuous Monitoring

LEVEL 3
Information System

Risk Management Framework

NIST SP 800-37
The Central Question
From Two Perspectives

- **Security Capability Perspective**
  What security capability is needed to defend against a specific class of cyber threat, avoid adverse impacts, and achieve mission success? *(REQUIREMENTS DEFINITION)*

- **Threat Capability Perspective**
  Given a certain level of security capability, what class of cyber threat can be addressed and is that capability sufficient to avoid adverse impacts and achieve mission success? *(GAP ANALYSIS)*
Risk Management Framework

Starting Point
FIPS 199 / SP 800-60

CATEGORIZE Information System
Define criticality/sensitivity of information system according to potential worst-case, adverse impact to mission/business.

Security Life Cycle
SP 800-39

AUTHORIZE Information System
Determine risk to organizational operations and assets, individuals, other organizations, and the Nation; if acceptable, authorize operation.

SP 800-53A

ASSESS Security Controls
Determine security control effectiveness (i.e., controls implemented correctly, operating as intended, meeting security requirements for information system).

MONITOR Security State
Continuously track changes to the information system that may affect security controls and reassess control effectiveness.

SP 800-37 / SP 800-53A

SELECT Security Controls
Select baseline security controls; apply tailoring guidance and supplement controls as needed based on risk assessment.

FIPS 200 / SP 800-53

IMPLEMENT Security Controls
Implement security controls within enterprise architecture using sound systems engineering practices; apply security configuration settings.

SP 800-70

FIPS 199 / SP 800-60

SP 800-37
Security Control Selection

- **STEP 1**: Select Baseline Security Controls (NECESSARY TO COUNTER THREATS)
- **STEP 2**: Tailor Baseline Security Controls (NECESSARY TO COUNTER THREATS)
- **STEP 3**: Supplement Tailored Baseline (SUFFICIENT TO COUNTER THREATS)
An increasingly sophisticated and motivated threat requires increasing preparedness...
Dual Protection Strategies

- **Boundary Protection**
  Primary Consideration: *Penetration Resistance*
  Adversary Location: *Outside the Defensive Perimeter*
  Objective: *Repelling the Attack*

- **Agile Defense**
  Primary Consideration: *Information System Resilience*
  Adversary Location: *Inside the Defensive Perimeter*
  Objective: *Operating while under Attack*
Agile Defense

- Boundary protection is a necessary but not sufficient condition for **Agile Defense**
- Examples of **Agile Defense** measures:
  - Compartmentalization and segregation of critical assets
  - Targeted allocation of security controls
  - Virtualization and obfuscation techniques
  - Encryption of data at rest
  - Limiting of privileges
  - Routine reconstitution to known secure state

*Bottom Line: Limit damage of hostile attack while operating in a (potentially) degraded mode...*
RISK EXECUTIVE FUNCTION
Enterprise-wide Oversight, Monitoring, and Risk Management Strategy

Architecture Description
- Architecture Reference Models
- Segment and Solution Architectures
- Mission and Business Processes
- Information System Boundaries

Organizational Inputs
- Laws, Directives, Policy Guidance
- Strategic Goals and Objectives
- Priorities and Resource Availability
- Supply Chain Considerations

RMF
RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

INFORMATION SYSTEM

SP: Security Plan
SAR: Security Assessment Report
POAM: Plan of Action and Milestones

Common Controls
(Inherited by Information Systems)
A Unified Framework
For Information Security

The Generalized Model

Unique Information Security Requirements
The “Delta”

Common Information Security Requirements

Foundational Set of Information Security Standards and Guidance
- Standardized risk management process
- Standardized security categorization (criticality/sensitivity)
- Standardized security controls (safeguards/countermeasures)
- Standardized security assessment procedures
- Standardized security authorization process

Intelligence Community
Department of Defense
Federal Civil Agencies

National security and non national security information systems
Key Risk Management Publication

- NIST Special Publication 800-53, Revision 3 (Final Public Draft) *Recommended Security Controls for Federal Information Systems*
  Projected: May 2009

- Updating all material from NIST Special Publication 800-53, Revision 2
- Incorporating lessons learned from interagency assessment case project
- Incorporating material from Draft CNSS Instruction 1253
- Incorporating new security controls for advanced cyber threats
- Incorporating information security program-level controls
- Incorporating threat appendix for cyber preparedness
  (Separately vetted and added to SP 800-53, Revision 3 when completed)
Key Risk Management Publication

- NIST Special Publication 800-37, Revision 1 (Final Public Draft)
  *Applying the Risk Management Framework to Federal Information Systems*
  
  *Projected: June 2009*

- Incorporating comments from Initial Public Draft
- Implementing guideline for Risk Management Framework
- Transforming previous certification and accreditation process
- Integrating Risk Management Framework into the SDLC
- Greater emphasis on ongoing monitoring of information system security state
- Ongoing security authorizations informed by risk executive function
- Greater accountability and assurances for common (inherited) controls
- Increased use of automated support tools
Key Risk Management Publication

- NIST Special Publication 800-39 (Third Public Draft)
  *Managing Enterprise Risk: An Integrated System Life Cycle Approach*
  
  - Projected: August 2009

  - Incorporating public comments from NIST Special Publication 800-39, Second Public Draft
  - Incorporating three-tiered risk management approach: organization, mission/business process, and information system views
  - Incorporating cyber preparedness information
  - Providing ISO/IEC 27001 mapping to risk management publications
Key Risk Management Publication

- NIST Special Publication 800-30, Revision 1 (Initial Public Draft)
  *Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments*
  **Projected: September 2009**
  - Down scoping current publication from risk management focus to risk assessment focus
  - Providing guidance for conducting risk assessments at each step in the Risk Management Framework
  - Incorporating threat information for cyber preparedness
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