## **TECHNICAL CODE**

# INFORMATION AND NETWORK SECURITY - REQUIREMENTS (FIRST REVISION)

**Developed by** 



Registered by



Registered date:

4 October 2019

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## **Development of technical codes**

The Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 ('the Act') provides for Technical Standards Forum designated under section 184 of the Act or the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission ('the Commission') to prepare a technical code. The technical code prepared pursuant to section 185 of the Act shall consist of, at least, the requirement for network interoperability and the promotion of safety of network facilities.

Section 96 of the Act also provides for the Commission to determine a technical code in accordance with section 55 of the Act if the technical code is not developed under an applicable provision of the Act and it is unlikely to be developed by the Technical Standards Forum within a reasonable time.

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A technical code prepared in accordance with section 185 shall not be effective until it is registered by the Commission pursuant to section 95 of the Act.

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## **Committee representation**

This technical code was developed by Information and Network Security Sub Working Group which supervised by Security, Trust and Privacy Working Group under the Malaysian Technical Standards Forum Bhd (MTSFB) consists of representatives from the following organisations:

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## **Foreword**

This technical code for Information and Network Security - Requirements ('this Technical Code') was developed pursuant to section 185 of the Act 588 by the Malaysian Technical Standards Forum Bhd (MTSFB) via its Security, Trust and Privacy Working Group.

Major modifications in this revision are as follows:

- a) update on the risk management process; and
- b) update of security controls with additional control based on Critical Security Controls CIS 20 V7.0.

This Technical Code cancels and replaces the MCMC MTSFB TC G009:2016, Requirements for Information and Network Security.

This Technical Code shall continue to be valid and effective until reviewed or cancelled.

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## **INFORMATION AND NETWORK SECURITY - REQUIREMENTS**

## 1. Scope

This Technical Code provide requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continually improving Information and Network Security (INS) management systems within the context of an organisation. This Technical Code also includes requirements for the assessment and treatment of information security risks tailored to the needs of the organisation. The requirements set out in this Technical Code are generic and intended to be applicable to all organisations, regardless of size, type or nature.

#### 2. Normative references

The following normative references are indispensable for the application of this Technical Code. For dated reference, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative references (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 27000, Information technology - Security techniques - Information security management systems - Overview and vocabulary

## 3. Abbreviations

CISO Chief Information Security Officer
INS Information and Network Security

IP Internet Protocol

OWASP Open Web Application Security Project

TCP Transmission Control Protocol

UDP User Datagram Protocol

## 4. Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this Technical Code, the definition as stated in ISO/IEC 27000 is referred.

## 5. Requirements

#### 5.1 Organisation context

#### 5.1.1 Understanding context of organisation

The organisation shall determine internal and external issues that are relevant to its purpose and that affects its ability to achieve the intended outcome(s) of its INS management system.

## 5.1.2 Understanding the expectation of interested parties

The organisation shall determine:

a) interested parties that are relevant to the INS management systems; and

b) the requirements of these interested parties relevant to the INS.

NOTE: The requirements of interested parties may include legal and regulatory requirements and contractual obligations.

## 5.1.3 Determining the scope of Information and Network Security (INS) management system

The organisation shall determine the boundaries and applicability of the INS management system to establish its scope. The determination of scope shall take the following into consideration:

- a) the internal and external issues referred in 5.1;
- b) the requirements referred in 5.2; and
- c) interfaces and dependencies between activities performed by the organisation, and those that are performed by other organisations.

The scope shall be available as documented information.

## 5.1.4 Information and Network Security (INS) management system

The organisation shall establish, implement, maintain and continually improve an INS management system, in accordance with the requirements of this Technical Code.

## 5.2 Risk management

#### 5.2.1 General

When planning for the INS management system, the organisation shall consider the issues referred in 5.1 and determine the following risks and opportunities that need to be addressed:

- a) security management system can achieve its intended results(s):
- b) enhance desirable effects:
- c) prevent, or reduce undesired effects; and
- d) achieve improvement.

The organisation shall plan the actions to address these risks and opportunities and identify the following items:

- a) integrate and implement the actions into its INS management system processes; and
- b) evaluate the effectiveness of these actions.

## 5.2.2 Risk management process

The main purpose of the risk management process is to enable the organisation to assess the existing or potential risks that may be faced, evaluate the risks by comparing the risk analysis results with the established risk criteria, and treat such risks using the risk treatment options. The organisation shall use such process when making decisions.

Figure 1 shows the steps for an effective implementation/integration of the risk management process are as follows:

- a) communication and consultation;
- b) scope, context and criteria;
- c) risk assessment;
- d) risk treatment;
- e) monitoring and review; and
- f) recording and reporting risk.

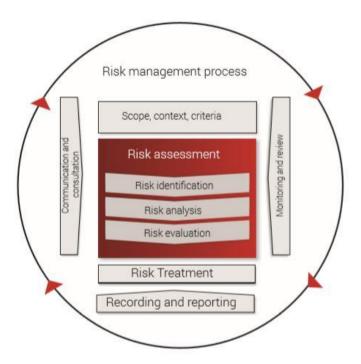


Figure 1. Risk management process

## 5.2.3 Communication and consultation

Proper risk management requires structured and on-going communication and consultation with those affected by the organisation's operations.

The communication seeks to promote awareness and understanding of risk and the means to respond to it.

Consultation involves obtaining feedback and information to support decision-making which the activities in this step are as follows:

- a) bringing different areas of expertise together for each step of the risk management process;
- b) ensuring different views are considered when defining risk criteria and evaluating risks;
- c) providing sufficient information to facilitate risk oversight and decision-making; and

d) building a sense of inclusiveness and ownership among those affected by risk.

Engagement sessions with both internal and external stakeholders shall occur throughout the information security risk management process. Communication and consultation with stakeholders are important as stakeholders make judgements based on their perceptions of risk which can vary in values, needs, assumptions, concepts and concerns.

#### 5.2.4 Scope, context and criteria

The organisation shall define the purpose and scope of its risk management activities, and determine the objectives of the risk management process and the specific objectives of risk assessment. When establishing the context, the organisation shall take into account the organisation's external context (political, social, etc.) and internal context (objectives, strategies, structures, ethics, discipline, etc.). The organisation's context must be understood before the full range of risks can be identified. This includes the establishment of the information security risk acceptance criteria and the criteria for performing INS risk assessment.

## 5.2.5 Information and Network Security (INS) risk assessment

Risk assessment is an integral part of INS risk management. It comprises of risk identification, risk analysis and risk evaluation.

#### 5.2.5.1 Risk identification

Risk identification is about the creation of a comprehensive list of risks (both internal and external) that the organisation faces, and can involve input from sources such as historical data, theoretical analysis, expert options, and stakeholder's needs.

The identification of risks shall be a formal, structured process that includes risk sources, events, their causes and their potential consequences.

The organisation shall establish and maintain security risk criteria that includes:

- a) the risk acceptance criteria; and
- b) criteria for performing INS risk assessment.

The organisation shall ensure that repeated information security risk assessments produce consistent, valid and comparable results.

The organisation shall identify INS risks by:

- a) applying the INS risk assessment process to identify risks associated with the confidentiality, integrity and availability for information within the scope of the INS management system; and
- b) identifying risk owners.

#### 5.2.5.2 Risk analysis

The organisation shall analyse each risk that was identified in the 5.2.5.1. Based on the level of risk that is determined after the risk analysis, the organisation is able to define whether the risk is acceptable or not. As so, if the risk turns out to be unacceptable, the organisation can take actions to modify the risk to correspond to the acceptable level of risk.

The organisation shall use a formal technique to consider the consequence and likelihood of each risk, and these techniques can be qualitative, semi-quantitative, quantitative, or a combination thereof, based on the circumstances and the intended use.

Analyse the INS risks includes:

- a) assess the potential consequences (impact) that would result if the risks identified materialise;
- b) assess the realistic likelihood of the occurrence of the risks identified; and
- c) determine the level of risks.

#### 5.2.5.3 Risk evaluation

This step offers the organisation the opportunity to have a mechanism that helps them rank the relative importance of each risk, so that a treatment priority can be established.

Evaluate the INS risks:

- a) compare the result of risk analysis with the risk criteria established in 5.2.4; and
- b) prioritise analysed risk for risk treatment.

#### 5.2.6 Risk treatment

The organisation shall define and apply an INS risk treatment process to:

- a) select appropriate INS risk treatment options, taking account of the assessment result;
  - NOTE: There are 4 options available for risk treatment options: risk modification, risk retention, risk avoidance and risk sharing.
- b) determine all controls that are necessary to implement the INS risk treatment option(s) chosen;
  - NOTE: Organisations can design controls as required, or identify them from Annex A or any source.
- c) formulate an INS risk treatment plan; and
- d) obtain risk owner's approval of the INS risk treatment plan and acceptance of the residual INS risk.

The organisation shall retain documented information about the INS risk assessment process.

## 5.2.7 Monitoring and review

Organisation shall monitor and review the risk treatment plan by:

- a) examining the progress of treatment plans; and
- b) monitoring the established controls and their effectiveness.

## 5.2.8 Recording and reporting

Organisation shall record and report the risk management activities and outcomes pertaining to those activities throughout the organisation and providing the necessary basis and information for making informed decisions.

## 5.3 Objectives and planning

The organisation shall establish INS objectives at relevant functions and levels. The INS objectives shall consider the following items:

- a) be consistent with the INS policy;
- b) be measurable (if applicable):
- c) take into account applicable INS requirements, and results from risk assessment and risk treatment;
- d) be communicated; and
- e) be updated as appropriate.

The organisation shall retain documented information on the INS objectives.

When planning how to achieve its INS objectives, the organisation shall determine the following questions:

- a) what will be done;
- b) what resources will be required;
- c) who will be responsible;
- d) when it will be completed; and
- e) how the results will be evaluated.

## 6. Roles and responsibilities

## 6.1 Leadership and commitment

Top management shall demonstrate leadership and commitment with respect to the INS management system by:

- appointing a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) or equivalent who is an independent authority and reports to Board of Directors, that is responsible for the overall INS for the organisation;
- b) ensuring the INS policy and the objectives are established and are compatible with the strategic direction of the organisation;
- c) ensuring the integration of the INS requirements into the organisation's process;
- d) ensuring that the resources needed for the INS management system are available;
- e) communicating the importance of effective INS management and of confirming to the INS management requirements;
- f) ensuring that the INS management system achieves the intended outcome(s);
- g) directing and supporting persons to contribute the effectiveness of the INS management system;

- h) promoting continual improvement; and
- i) supporting other relevant management roles to demonstrate their leadership as it applies to their areas of responsibilities.

## 6.2 Policy

Organisation leadership shall establish a management framework to initiate and control the implementation of INS. Management shall approve the INS policy, assignment of security roles, coordinate and review of the implementation of security across the organisation.

Each policy shall have an owner who has approved management responsibility for the development, review and evaluation of the policies. Reviews include assessing opportunities for improvement of the organisation's policies and approach to managing information security in response to changes to the organisational environment, business circumstances, legal conditions or technical environment.

Top management shall establish an INS policy that:

- a) is appropriate to the purpose of the organisation;
- b) includes INS objectives or provide the framework for setting the INS objectives;
- c) includes a commitment to satisfy applicable requirements related to INS; and
- d) include a commitment to continual improvement of the INS management system.

The INS policy shall:

- a) be available as documented information;
- b) be communicated within the organisation; and
- c) be available to interested parties, as appropriate.

## 6.3 Roles, responsibilities within the organisation and authorities

Top management shall ensure that the responsibilities and authorities for roles relevant to information security are assigned and communicated.

Top management shall assign the responsibilities and authority for:

- ensuring that the INS management system conforms to the requirements of this Technical Code;
   and
- b) reporting on the performance of the INS management system to top management.

NOTE: Top management may also assign responsibilities and authorities for reporting performance of the INS management system within the organisation.

These are the functions shall be assigned in the applicable organisation:

- a) regulatory/authority contact;
- b) INS responsibility; and
- c) risk management.

## 7. Support

#### 7.1 Resources

The organisation shall determine and provide the resources needed for the establishment, implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the INS management system.

## 7.2 Competence

The organisation shall:

- determine the necessary competence of person(s) doing work under its control that affects the performance of INS;
- b) ensure that these persons are competent on the basis of appropriate education, training or experience;
- c) where applicable, take action to acquire the necessary competence, and evaluate effectiveness of the action taken; and
- d) retain appropriate documented information as evidence of competence.

NOTE: Applicable action may include i.e. the provision of training to, the mentoring of, or the re-assignment of current employees, or the hiring or contracting of competent persons.

#### 7.3 Awareness

Persons doing work under the organisation's control shall be aware of:

- a) INS policy;
- b) their contribution to the effectiveness of the INS management system, including the benefits of improved INS performance; and
- c) the implications of not conforming to the INS management system.

#### 7.4 Communication

The organisation shall determine the need for internal and external communications relevant to INS management system including:

- a) what to communicate;
- b) when to communicate;
- c) with whom to communicate;
- d) who shall communicate; and
- e) the process by which communication shall be affected.

#### 7.5 Documented information

#### 7.5.1 General

The organisation's INS management shall include:

- a) documented information required by this Technical Code; and
- b) documented information determined by the organisation as being necessary for the effectiveness of the INS management system.

The extent of documented information for an INS management system can differ from one organisation to another due to:

- a) size and type of activities, process, products and services of an organisation;
- b) the complexity of processes and their interactions; and
- c) the competence of the persons.

## 7.5.2 Creating and updating

When creating and updating documented information the organisation shall ensure appropriate:

- a) identification and description (e.g. title, date, author or reference number);
- b) format (e.g. language, software version, graphics) and media (e.g. paper, electronic); and
- c) review and approval for suitability and adequacy.

## 7.5.3 Control of documented information

Documented information required by the INS management system and by this Technical Code shall be controlled to ensure:

- a) it is available and suitable for use, where and when it is needed; and
- b) it is adequately protected (e.g. from loss of confidentiality, improper use or loss of integrity).

For the control of documented information, the organisation shall address the following activities as applicable:

- a) distribution, access, retrieval and use;
- b) storage and preservation, including the preservation of legibility;
- c) control of changes (e.g. version control); and
- d) retention and disposition.

Documented information of external origin, determined by the organisation to be necessary for the planning and operation of the INS management system shall be identified as appropriate and controlled.

NOTE: Access implies a decision regarding the permission to view the documented information only, or the permission and authority to view and change the documented information, etc.

## 8. Operations

## 8.1 Operational planning and control

The organisation shall plan, implement and control the processes needed to meet INS requirements, and to implement the actions determined in 5.1. The organisation shall also implement plans to achieve INS objectives determined in 6.2.

The organisation shall keep documented information to the extent necessary to have confidence that the processes have been carried out as planned.

The organisation shall control planned changes and review the consequences of unintended changes, taking action to mitigate any adverse effects, as necessary.

The organisation shall ensure that outsourced processes are determined and controlled.

## 9. Performance evaluation

## 9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation

The organisation shall evaluate the information security performance and the effectiveness of the INS management system.

The organisation shall determine the following items:

- a) what needs to be monitored and measured, including INS processes and controls; and
- the methods for monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation, as applicable to ensure valid results.

NOTE: The methods selected shall produce comparable and reproducible results to be considered valid.

The organisation shall retain appropriate documented information as evidence of the monitoring and measurement results.

#### 9.2 Internal audit

The organisation shall conduct internal audits at planned intervals to provide information on whether the INS management system:

- a) conforms to the organisation's own requirements for its INS management system and the requirements of this Technical Code; and
- b) is effectively implemented and maintained.

The organisation shall:

- a) plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit program(s), including the frequency, method, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting. The audit program(s) shall take into consideration the importance of the processes concerned and the result of the previous audit;
- b) define the audit criteria and scope of each audit;
- c) select auditors and conduct audits that ensure the objectivity and impartiality of the audit process;
- d) ensure that the results of the audits are reported to the relevant management; and

e) retain documented review information as evidence of the audit program(s) and the audit results

## 9.3 Management review

Top management shall review the organisation's INS management system at planned intervals to ensure its continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness.

The management review shall include considerations of:

- a) the status of actions from previous management reviews;
- b) changes in external and internal issues that are relevant to the INS management system;
- c) feedback on the INS performance, including trends in:
  - i) nonconformities and corrective actions;
  - ii) monitoring and measurement results;
  - iii) audit results; and
  - iv) fulfilment of INS objectives.
- d) feedback from interested parties;
- e) results of risk assessment and status of risk treatment plan; and
- f) opportunities for continual improvement.

The outputs of the management review shall include decisions related to continual improvement opportunities and any needs for changes to the INS management system.

The organisation shall retain documented information evidence of the results of management reviews.

## 10. Improvement

## 10.1 Nonconformity and corrective action

When nonconformity happens, the organisation shall:

- react to the nonconformity, and as applicable take action to control and correct it and deal with the consequences;
- evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of nonconformity, in order that it does not recur
  or occur elsewhere by review the nonconformity, determining the causes of the nonconformity, and
  determining if similar nonconformities exist, or could potentially occur;
- c) implement any action needed;
- d) review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken; and
- e) make changes to the INS management system, if necessary.

Corrective actions shall be appropriate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered. The organisation shall retain documented information as evidence of:

- a) the nature of the nonconformities and any subsequent actions take; and
- b) the results of any corrective action.

## 10.2 Continual improvement

The organisation shall continually improve the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the INS management system.

Annex A (normative)

#### **Controls**

#### A.1 Introduction

The list of controls is a combination of controls derives from Annex A of ISO 27001 and Critical Security Control CIS 20 V7.0. List of controls are divided into 4 categories as per Figure A.1.



Figure A.1. Families of control

## A.2 Organisation (Category 1)

This family of control focuses on organisational readiness for INS. A business shall have a formal and systematic approach to implementing and maintaining an effective INS program.

## A.2.1 Information and Network Security (INS) policy

The organisation shall develop a policy that encompasses information security requirements that provides the management direction and intent based on business requirements that are:

- a) guided by relevant laws and regulatory requirements; and
- b) reviewed at planned intervals to ensure congruence towards the dynamic landscape of business, appropriateness based on current technologies and effectiveness of controls and requirements.

## A.2.2 Business continuity management

Organisation survival depends on having a solid business continuity plan. This plan needs to incorporate the INS elements to ensure completeness and comprehensiveness of the plan, in line with the organisation's INS program. The plans are as follows:

a) establish, maintain and implement effective plans for emergency response and post disaster recovery to ensure availability and continuity of operations in emergency situations;

- b) review, verify and evaluate the plans at regular intervals to ensure effectiveness and validity; and
- c) information processing facilities shall be implemented with redundancy sufficient to meet availability requirements.

## A.2.3 Information and Network Security (INS) compliance

Organisations are bound by the laws of the land, which requires compliance by identifying and understanding the legal, statutory and contractual obligations pertaining to INS.

- a) Applicable legal, statutory and contractual obligations shall be identified, documented and keep up to date.
- b) Procedures shall be established in relation to management of intellectual property rights and use of proprietary software products.
- c) Records/information, personal and sensitive data shall be protected from loss, destruction, falsification, unauthorised access and unauthorised release, in accordance with legal, regulatory, contractual and business requirements.
- d) Privacy and personally identifiable information shall comply with relevant legislation and regulation where applicable.
- e) The organisation's approach to managing INS and its implementation shall be reviewed independently at planned intervals or when significant changes occur.
- f) Information systems shall be regularly reviewed for compliance with the organisation's INS policies, standards and any other security requirements.

## A.2.4 Organisation of information security

The organisation shall establish the following management framework to initiate and control the implementation and operation of information security within the organisation:

- a) information security roles and responsibilities;
- b) segregation of duties;
- c) contact with authorities;
- d) contact with special interest groups; and
- e) information security in project management.

The organisation also shall establish a policy on mobile device and teleworking.

## A.2.5 Information and Network Security (INS) incident management

Security incident management will assist in responding appropriately to security incidents, including applying appropriate remedies and future prevention measures. The organisation shall:

- a) ensure that there are written incident response plans that defines roles of personnel as well as phases of incident handling/management;
- b) establish procedures to ensure a quick, effective, and orderly response to security incidents;

- c) designate management personnel, as well as backups, who will support the incident handling process by acting in key decision-making roles;
- communicate security events and weaknesses in a manner allowing timely corrective action to be taken;
- e) report incidents related to INS through appropriate management channels as quickly as possible;
- f) properly collect, document and preserve evidence relating to a security violation;
- g) properly investigate and analyse all incidents. Corrective action shall be taken to recover from security violations. Subsequently, preventative measures shall be taken to avoid the reoccurrence of the incident:
- h) review preventative measures on a periodic basis (as part of operational procedural review) to evaluate the effectiveness of the controls and lessons learned; and
- i) maintain third-party contact information to be used to report a security incident, such as Law Enforcement, relevant government departments, vendors and partners.

## A.3 Infrastructure (Category 2)

Managing the security of infrastructure of information security is one of the family of control focuses on organisational readiness for INS. This is due to growing information security risks, organisations shall also continually monitor and effectively manage the security of their computing infrastructure to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of their information assets.

#### A.3.1 Asset management

Business performance relies on its assets which may comprise of physical or virtual elements, network equipment, software, hardware and human capital. The organisation shall ensure that:

- all assets pertaining to information processing shall be identified and maintained in an up-to-date inventory with the owners identified as well as their location;
- b) in the case of hardware assets, the inventory shall record the network address, machine name, category of asset, and asset owner and department for each asset;
- c) these assets shall be returned upon termination of employment, contract or agreement; and
- d) acceptable use of asset rules shall be identified, documented and implemented.

## A.3.2 Data/Information management

To protect data/information, an organisation shall perform as following controls.

- a) Information shall be classified, labelled and handled in accordance to value, sensitivity, criticality and legality.
- b) Management of information lifecycle procedure shall be implemented i.e. creating, processing, storing, distribution, destruction of information.
- c) Test data shall be carefully selected, protected and controlled.
- d) Test data derived from production data shall be protected equivalent to production data.

#### A.3.3 Media management

To prevent unauthorised disclosure, modifications, remover or destruction of information stored in a media, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Procedures shall be implemented for the management and disposal of storage media based on the classification scheme.
- b) Media containing information shall be protected against unauthorised access, misuse or other damage.
- Media intended to handle sensitive information shall have functions for encryption or access control.

#### A.3.4 Access control

To limit access to information and information processing facilities, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) An access control policy shall be drawn up, documented and reviewed based on business, information security and network security requirements.
- Access to network and services shall only be provided for those who have been specifically authorised.

## A.3.5 User access management

To ensure authorised user access and to prevent unauthorised access to systems and services, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) A formal process for user registration and de-registration shall be implemented to enable assignment of account and access rights.
- b) A formal process for user access provisioning shall be implemented to assign or revoke access rights for all types of users, systems and services.
- c) The allocation of secret authentication information shall be controlled through a formal management process.
- d) Users shall be required to adhere to organisation's practices in the use and management of secret authentication information.
- e) Allocation and use of privileged access rights shall be restricted and controlled. Access shall be granted or removed based on job roles and responsibility, adhering to the principle of least privilege and segregation of duties. Segregation of duties shall be applied wherever feasible, according to business needs and requirements.
- f) User and privilege access rights shall be reviewed at regular intervals.
- g) An inventory of all administrative accounts, including domain and local accounts shall be maintained, to ensure that only authorised individuals have elevated privileges.
- Before deploying any new asset, all default passwords shall be changed to have values consistent with administrative level accounts.

- i) All users with administrative account access shall use a dedicated or secondary account for elevated activities. This account shall only be used for administrative activities and not internet browsing, email, or similar activities.
- i) All authentication credentials shall be encrypted or hashed when stored.
- k) Any account that cannot be associated with a business process or business owner shall be disabled
- I) Dormant accounts shall be disabled after a set period of inactivity in accordance with the organisations policy.

#### A.3.6 Systems, services and application access control

To prevent unauthorised access to systems, services and applications, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Access to systems, services and application shall be restricted in accordance with the access control policy of the organisation.
- b) Access to systems, services and applications shall be controlled by a secure log-on procedure where required by the access control policy.
- c) When passwords are used, a password management system shall be interactive and shall ensure quality/strong passwords.
- d) Use of privileged systems which provide capabilities to override system and application controls shall be restricted and tightly controlled.
- e) Programmed source code access shall be restricted.
- Automatically lock workstation sessions after a standard period of inactivity.

#### A.3.7 Cryptography

To ensure proper and effective use of cryptography to protect the confidentiality, authenticity and/or integrity of information, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) A policy on the use of cryptographic controls for protection of information shall be developed and maintained, based on legal/regulatory obligations and other industry requirements.
- b) Cryptographic key management policy on the use, protection and lifetime shall be developed and implemented to manage its lifecycle.
- c) Cryptographic controls shall be used in compliance to all relevant legislations, regulations and contracts/agreements and shall be in accordance with industry best practices.
- d) Encrypt all sensitive information in storage, transit, and process.
- e) Implement strong encryption in wireless data transmission.

## A.3.8 Information and Network (INS) in operations

To ensure correct and secure operations of information processing fatalities, an organisation shall perform the following.

- Documented security configuration standards and operating procedures shall be maintained for all authorised network devices.
- b) Changes made in the operations environment shall be controlled, managed and documented.
- c) Resources used in operations shall be monitored, tuned and projections made of future capacity requirements to ensure required system performances are met.
- d) Environments of development, testing and production shall be kept separate to reduce risks of unauthorised access or changes.
- e) All configuration rules that allow traffic to flow through network devices shall be documented with a specific business reason.
- f) The latest stable version of any security-related updates shall be installed on all network devices.
- g) The management network infrastructure shall be managed separately from the business network infrastructure.
- h) Regular scans shall be performed from outside each trusted network boundary to detect any unauthorised connections which are accessible across the boundary.
- i) Communications with known malicious or unused Internet IP addresses shall be denied and access shall be limited only to trusted and necessary IP address ranges at each of the organisation's network boundaries.
- j) Communication over unauthorised Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) or User Datagram Protocol (UDP) ports or application traffic shall be denied to ensure that only authorised protocols are allowed to cross the network boundary in or out of the network at each of the organisation's network boundaries.
- k) A separate wireless network for untrusted devices shall be created.

## A.3.9 Malicious software protection

To ensure that information and information processing facilities are protected against malware, an organisation shall perform the following.

- Sufficient detection, prevention and recovery controls to protect against malware shall be implemented.
- b) Awareness on malware shall be made to all organisation users.
- c) The organisation's anti-malware software, scanning engine and signature database shall be updated on a regular basis.
- d) Devices shall be configured so that they automatically conduct an anti-malware scan of removable media when inserted or connected.
- All malware detection events shall be logged to enterprise anti-malware administration tools and event log servers for analysis and alerting.

## A.3.10 Logging and monitoring

To record events and generate evidence, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Event logs shall be enabled to record system activities, exceptions, faults and security events.
- b) Local logging shall be enabled on all systems and networking devices.
- Administrative and operator access shall be logged and the logs regularly reviewed and sufficiently protected.
- d) Systems shall be configured to issue a log entry and alert when an account is added to or removed from any group assigned administrative privileges.
- e) System logging shall be enabled to include detailed information such as event source, date, user, timestamp, source addresses, destination addresses, and other useful elements.
- f) Appropriate logs shall be stored for analysis and review. On a regular basis, logs shall be reviewed to identify anomalies or abnormal events.
- g) Logs and logging facilities shall be protected against unauthorised access and tampering.
- h) Clocks of all relevant systems/information and infrastructure shall be synchronised to an organisation authorised reference time source.
- i) All systems that store logs shall have adequate storage space for the logs generated.

#### A.3.11 Control of operational software

To ensure the integrity of operational systems, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Installation of software on operational system shall be controlled based on installation and implementation procedures.
- b) Documented security configuration shall be maintained for authorised operating systems, databases and applications.
- c) Secure images or templates for all systems in the enterprise shall be maintained based on the organisation's approved configuration standards.
- d) Only software that is approved by the organisation and properly licensed to the organisation shall be added to the organisation's authorised software list.

#### A.3.12 Technical vulnerability management

To prevent exploitation of technical vulnerabilities, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Information about technical vulnerabilities of systems/network/infrastructure shall be obtained in timely manner, to ensure that exposure to such vulnerabilities are evaluated and necessary measures taken to address the risk.
- b) Procedures governing installation of software by users shall be established and implemented.
- c) An up-to-date vulnerability scanning tool shall be utilised to scan all systems on the network at least on a yearly or more frequent basis depending on the criticality of the business applications to identify all potential vulnerabilities on the organisation's systems.

- d) The results from previous vulnerability scans shall be compared with the current results to verify that vulnerabilities have been remediated in a timely manner.
- e) A risk-rating process shall be utilised to prioritise the remediation of discovered vulnerabilities.

#### A.3.13 Information and network audit

Activities involving verification of operational systems and audit requirements shall be planned and agreed to minimise disruption to business processes.

## A.3.14 Backup

To protect against loss of data, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Backup of information, software and system shall be performed in accordance to the backup policy.
- b) Backup copies shall be tested in accordance to the backup policy.
- c) Backups shall be properly protected via physical security or encryption when they are stored, as well as when they are moved across the network.

## A.3.15 Network communications security management

To ensure the protection of information in networks and its supporting information processing facilities, an organisation shall perform the following.

- Networks shall be managed and controlled to protect information in systems, application and services.
- b) Network service agreements for both in-source and outsourced environment shall contain requirements of security mechanisms, service levels and management of all network services.
- c) Networks shall be segregated based on groups of information services, users and systems.
- d) Only network ports, protocols, and services listening on a system with validated business needs shall be running on each system.

## A.3.16 Information transfer

To maintain the security of information transferred within an organisation and with any external entity, an organisation shall perform the following.

- Formal policies, procedures and controls shall be in place to protect information transfer through the use of all types of communication facilities. The organisation shall minimally:
  - i) block all e-mail attachments entering the organisation's e-mail gateway if the file types are unnecessary for the organisation's business; and
  - ii) configure devices to not auto-run content from removable media.
- b) Formal agreements shall address the secure transfer of information between organisation and external parties.
- Non-disclosure or confidentiality agreements reflecting the need of the organisation to protect information shall be identified, regularly reviewed and documented.
- d) Electronic messaging that contains any sensitive information of the organisation shall be protected;

## A.3.17 Security requirements of systems

To ensure that information security is an integral part of information systems across the entire lifecycle, an organisation shall perform the following. This also includes the requirements for information systems which provide services over public networks.

- a) INS related requirements shall be included in the requirements for new systems or existing system enhancements.
- b) Information pertaining to application service and service transactions shall be protected to maintain confidentiality, integrity and availability.
- c) Approved hardening configurations shall be used for operating systems, databases and applications.

#### A.3.18 Security requirements for development and support processes

To ensure that information security is designed and implemented within the development lifecycle of information systems, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) Procedures for development of systems, software and services shall be established and applied to developments within the organisation.
- b) Changes to systems, software and services within the development lifecycle shall be controlled through a formal change control procedure.
- c) Business critical applications, software and services shall be reviewed and tested to ensure there are no adverse impact on operations or security when operating platforms are changed.
- d) All changes to systems, software and services shall be strictly controlled; modifications to packages shall be discouraged, limited to necessary changes.
- e) Secure systems engineering principles shall be established, documented, maintained and applied to any implementation efforts.
- f) Procedure for establishing and protecting secure development environment for development and integration efforts that cover the entire system development lifecycle shall be drawn up.
- g) Security functionality testing shall be carried out during development.
- h) Organisation shall supervise and monitor activities of outsourced system development.
- Acceptance testing criteria and programs shall be established for new systems, upgrades and new versions.

#### A.3.19 System acquisition, development and maintenance

To ensure protection of information during system acquisition, development and maintenance, an organisation shall do the following:

- a) All security requirements shall be identified and analysed at the requirements phases of a project and justified, agreed, documented, tested and delivered as part of the overall business case for an information system.
- b) Project and support environments shall be strictly controlled. Designated owner shall be responsible for the security elements of the project or support processes.

- c) Establish secure coding practices, e.g., Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP), appropriate to the programming language and development environment being used.
- d) Verify that the version of all software acquired from outside your organisation is still supported by the developer.
- e) Use only standardised encryption algorithms for development.
- f) For applications that rely on a database, use standard hardening configuration templates.

## A.4 People (Category 3)

Although technology is an essential part of the process of securing information assets, it is the people responsible for design, implementation and operation of these technological tools that may be driving or restraining forces in the effective implementation of the management system.

## A.4.1 Human resource security

To ensure that employees and contractors understand their responsibilities and are suitable for the roles for which they are considered, which include:

- a) The organisation shall ensure employees and contractors understand and comply with their responsibilities and are suitable for the roles for which they are assigned.
- b) The organisation shall adhere to its security-related responsibilities in personnel-related processes, inclusive of:
  - i) screening;
  - ii) terms and conditions of employment;
  - iii) management responsibilities;
  - iv) information security awareness, education and training;
  - v) disciplinary process; and
  - vi) termination or change of employment responsibilities.
- c) The organisation shall ensure that the organisation's security awareness program is reviewed at least annually to address new technologies, threats, standards and business requirements.

## A.4.2 Supplier relationships

To ensure protection of the organisation's assets that is accessible by suppliers, an organisation shall perform the following.

- a) The organisation shall ensure that its suppliers and partners are aware of their security obligations, and that these suppliers and partners maintain a security standard that is suitable to prevent breaches in security.
- b) The supplier agreements shall include requirements for INS and address INS risks associated with information technology services and product supply chain.
- c) Organisation shall regularly monitor, review, audit supplier service delivery.

d) Changes to the provision of services by suppliers, including maintaining and improving existing INS policies, procedures and controls, shall be managed, taking account of the criticality of business information, systems and processes involved and re-assessment of risks.

### A.5 Environment (Category 4)

Physical and environmental security is an essential factor in protecting people, data, equipment, systems, facilities and company asset. The information security and physical and environmental security need to work conjointly in achieving and maintaining confidentiality, integrity and availability of information, and information processing facilities, including telecommunication systems and infrastructure, and to protect against cyber-crime, fraudulent activities, information loss and other security risks and threats.

## A.5.1 Physical and environmental security

To prevent unauthorised physical access, damage and interference to the organisation's information and information processing facilities, an organisation shall ensure the following.

- a) The organisation shall ensure that physical and environmental security controls are identified, and these controls are implemented.
- b) Physical and environmental security measures shall prevent unauthorised physical access, damage and interference to the organisation's premises and information.
- c) Security perimeters shall be clearly defined, and the siting and strength of each of the perimeter shall depend on the security requirements of the assets within the perimeter and the results of a risk assessment.
- d) Equipment, software or information shall not be taken off-site without prior authorisation.
- e) All items of equipment containing storage media shall be verified to ensure that any sensitive data and licensed software has been removed or security overwritten prior to disposal or re-use.

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