



Emerging Cyber Surveillance Threats SIG-ISM – WISE workshop 2021-05-25

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We have a long history to cope with threats related to

- System compromise
- Compromised accounts
- Software vulnerabilities
- Weak configurations
- Inadequate credentials

Recap of terms

- Vulnerability – A weakness that can be exploited
- Threat - A circumstance or event with potentially adverse business impact
- Exposure – A combination of likelihood and impact for a risk
- Risk – Effect of uncertainty of objectives, business impact
- Control – Technical and/or administrative means to managing risks
- Mitigation – A strategy to reduce risks to an acceptable level

Political risks

- Political risks can significantly affect the viability of our infrastructures
- Changes in national and international conditions can have major business impacts:
 - Funding
 - Regulation
 - Conditions for procurement
 - Compliance requirements
 - Information Security
 - Data Protection
 - Critical infrastructure
 - Economic sanctions and international trade disputes
 - Export regulation for vital technology

Risks related to cyber surveillance and information warfare (1/2)

- Advance persistence threats
- Surveillance laws, access to infrastructure
- Blacklisting of companies and citizens from certain countries
- Politicization of infrastructure projects
- Challenging requirements on security compliance

Risks related to cyber surveillance and information warfare (2/2)

- Restrictions on data transfers (GDPR etc)
- Requirements for security clearances
- Rising international tensions
- An emerging market to exploit vulnerabilities and data leaks
- Active surveillance and intrusion attempts by government cyber agencies

How to mitigate risks on cyber surveillance?

- Security housekeeping, keep your services secure (basic level at least)
- Proactive security (IDS/IDP, monitoring)
- Raising your security level (MFA, Secure terminal devices, securing your own infrastructure)
- Limit open an public access to services?
- Re-evaluate trust in federated identity providers?
- Avoiding controversial providers?
- Divert decision making to authorities?
- Take the risk

What do YOU think?

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