

Software Assurance:

A Strategic Initiative of the U.S.
Department of Homeland Security
to Promote Integrity, Security, and
Reliability in Software



Considerations for Modernization in Advancing a National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace

October 27 , 2005



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US Department of Homeland Security

Mission to Secure Cyberspace

The National Cyber Security Division (NCSD) mission, in cooperation with public, private, and international entities, is to secure cyberspace and America's cyber assets.

Mission components include:

- Implementation of the *National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace* and Homeland Security Presidential Directive #7 (HSPD#7)
- Implementation of priority protective measures to secure cyberspace and to reduce the cyber vulnerabilities of America's critical infrastructures



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Cyberspace & physical space are increasingly intertwined and software controlled/enabled

► Chemical Industry

- 66,000 chemical plants



► Banking and Finance

- 26,600 FDIC institutions

► Agriculture and Food

- 1.9M farms
- 87,000 food processing plants



► Water

- 1,800 federal reservoirs
- 1,600 treatment plants



► Public Health

- 5,800 registered hospitals

► Postal and Shipping

- 137M delivery sites

► Transportation

- 120,000 miles of railroad
- 590,000 highway bridges
- 2M miles of pipeline
- 300 ports



► Telecomm

- 2B miles of cable



► Energy

- 2,800 power plants
- 300K production sites



► Key Assets

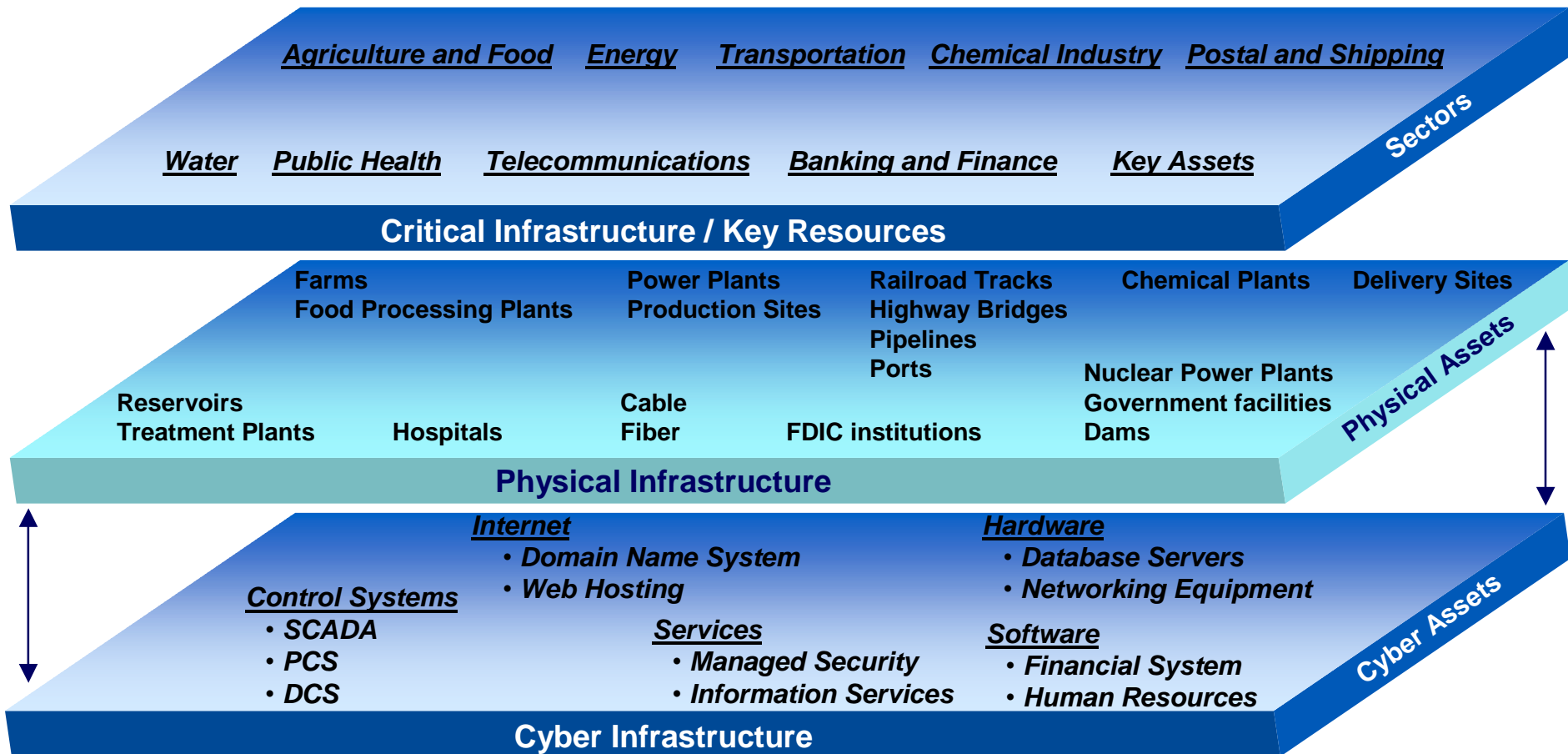
- 104 nuclear power plants
- 80K dams
- 5,800 historic buildings
- 3,000 government facilities
- commercial facilities / 460 skyscrapers



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An Asymmetric Target-rich Environment

Cyberspace & physical space are increasingly intertwined and software controlled/enabled



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Need for secure software applications

National Cyber Security Division (NCSD) goals are strategically aligned to four frameworks

Mandates

National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace

- I. National Cyberspace Security Response System
- II. National Cyberspace Threat and Vulnerability Reduction Program
- III. Nation Cyberspace Security Awareness and Training Program
- IV. Securing Governments Cyberspace
- V. International Cyberspace Security Cooperation

HSPD-7

"...maintain an organization to serve as a focal point for the security of cyberspace.."

NIPP

Provides a consistent, unifying structure for integrating the current multitude of CIP efforts into a single national program

NRP "Cyber Annex"

Describes framework for Federal cyber incident response coordination among Federal departments and agencies

NCSD GOALS

1. Establish a National Cyber Security Response System to prevent, detect, respond to, and reconstitute rapidly after cyber incidents.
2. Work with public and private sectors to reduce vulnerabilities and minimize the severity of cyber attacks.
3. Promote a comprehensive national awareness program to empower all Americans — businesses, the general workforce, and the general population — to secure their own parts of cyberspace.
4. Foster adequate training and education programs to support the Nation's cyber security needs.
5. Coordinate with the intelligence and law enforcement communities to identify and reduce threats to cyberspace.
6. Build a world-class organization that aggressively advances its cyber security mission and goals in partnership with its public and private stakeholders.



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National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace

- ▶ Outlines a framework for organizing and prioritizing efforts
- ▶ Provides direction to federal government departments and agencies
- ▶ Identifies steps to improve our collective cyber security
- ▶ Highlights role of public-private engagement
- ▶ Outlines Strategic Objectives

1	2	3
Prevent cyber attacks against America's critical infrastructures	Reduce national vulnerability to cyber attacks	Minimize damage and recovery time from cyber attacks that do occur

HSPD-7: A national policy to protect our nation's infrastructure

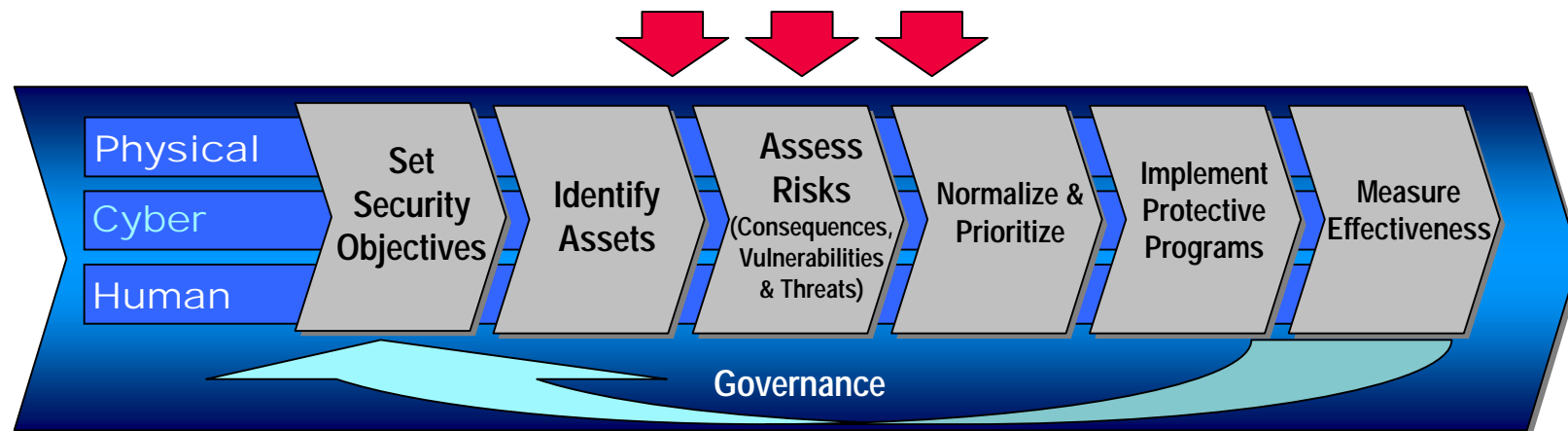
- ▶ Maintain an organization to serve as a focal point for the security of cyberspace
- ▶ Facilitate interactions and collaborations between and among federal departments and agencies, state and local governments, the private sector, academia, and international organizations
- ▶ Execute a mission including analysis, warning, information sharing, vulnerability reduction, mitigation, and aiding national recovery efforts for critical information systems

The NIPP outlines a unifying structure

- ▶ Allows all levels of government to collaborate with the appropriate private sector entities
- ▶ Encourages the development of information sharing and analysis mechanisms and continues to support existing sector-coordinating mechanisms
- ▶ Broken down into 17 sector-specific plans to cover all areas of critical infrastructure, including the Information Technology (IT) sector

NIPP Risk Management Framework

Dynamic Threat Environment



National Risk Profile



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NRP Cyber Annex describes the framework for response coordination

National Cyber Response Coordination Group

Provide indications and warning of potential threats, incidents, and attacks

Information sharing both inside and outside the government

Analyze cyber vulnerabilities, exploits, and attack methodologies

Provide technical assistance

Conduct investigations, forensics analysis and prosecution

Attribute the source of the attacks

Defend against the attack

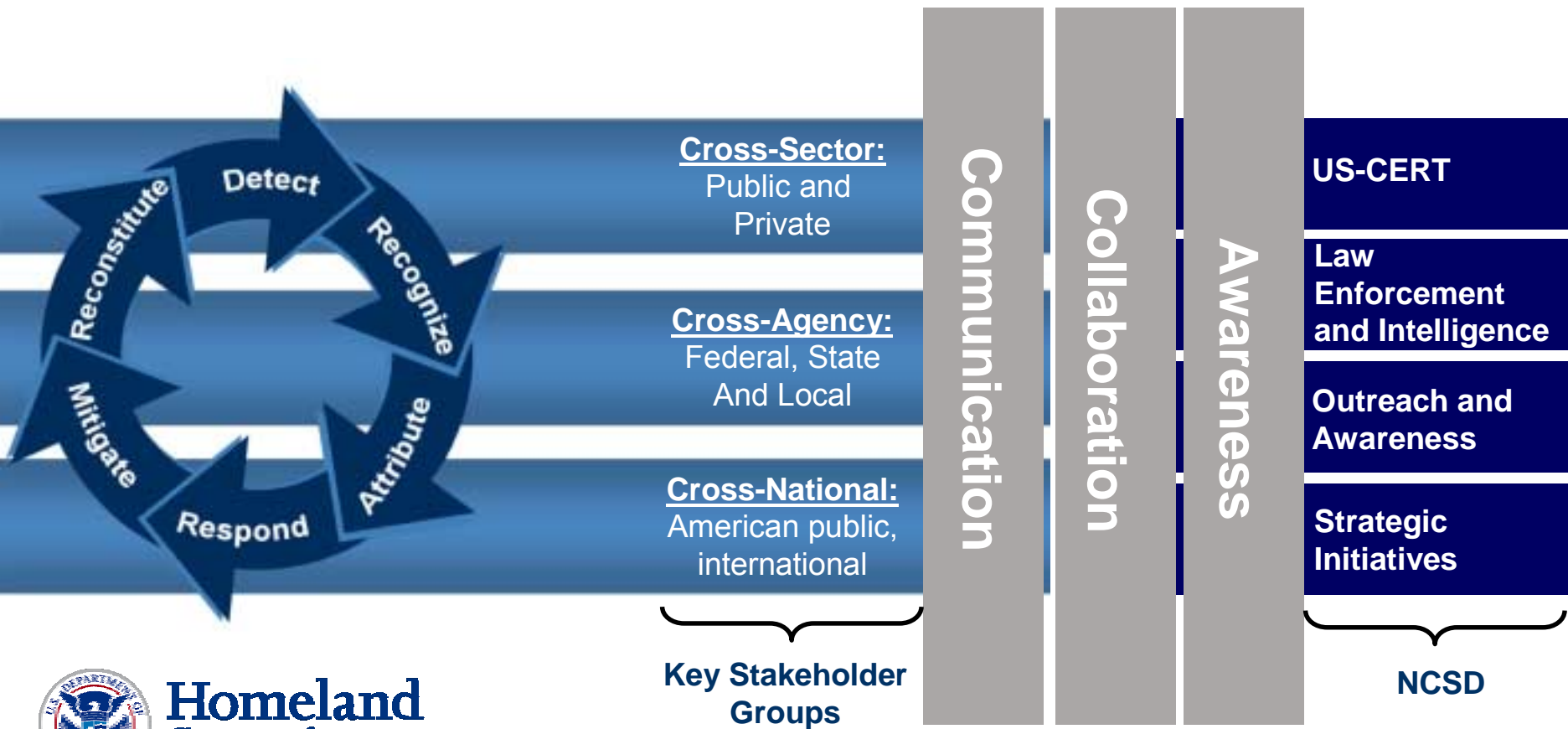
Lead National Recovery Efforts



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DHS National Cyber Security Division (NCSD) provides the framework for addressing cyber security and software assurance challenges

Key Functions of the DHS Cybersecurity Partnership Program



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DHS National Cyber Security Division

Acting Director
Andy Purdy

DHS Cyber Security Partner Program
Office of Director
Strategic Planning
Policy
International
Management (Budget, HR)
COOP
PCII

US-CERT/Operations
Jerry Dixon

Situational Awareness
Analytical Cell
Production
Federal Coordination

LE/Intelligence
Patrick Morrissey

Intel Requirements
LE Coordination
NCRCG

Outreach/Awareness
Liesyl Franz

Communications
Messaging
Outreach to Stakeholders
Cyber Security Awareness
Partnerships

Strategic Initiatives
Hun Kim

CIP Cyber Security
Control Systems Security
Software Assurance
Training & Education
Exercise Planning & Coordination
Standards & Best Practices
R&D Coordination



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Driving Needs for Software Assurance

- ▶ Software vulnerabilities jeopardize: infrastructure operations, web-based applications & services, business operations & services, intellectual property, and consumer trust
- ▶ Growing awareness and concern over the ability of an adversary to subvert the software supply chain
 - Federal Government relies on COTS products and commercial developers using foreign and non-vetted domestic suppliers to meet majority of IT requirements
 - Software lifecycle processes offer opportunities to insert malicious code and to poorly design and build software which enables future exploitation
- ▶ Growing concern about inadequacies of suppliers' capabilities to build and deliver secure software with requisite levels of integrity
 - Current education & training provides too few practitioners with requisite competencies in secure software engineering
 - Concern about suppliers not exercising "minimum level of responsible practice"
 - Growing need to improve both the state-of-the-practice and the state-of-the-art on software capabilities of the nation
- ▶ Processes and technologies are required to build trust into software



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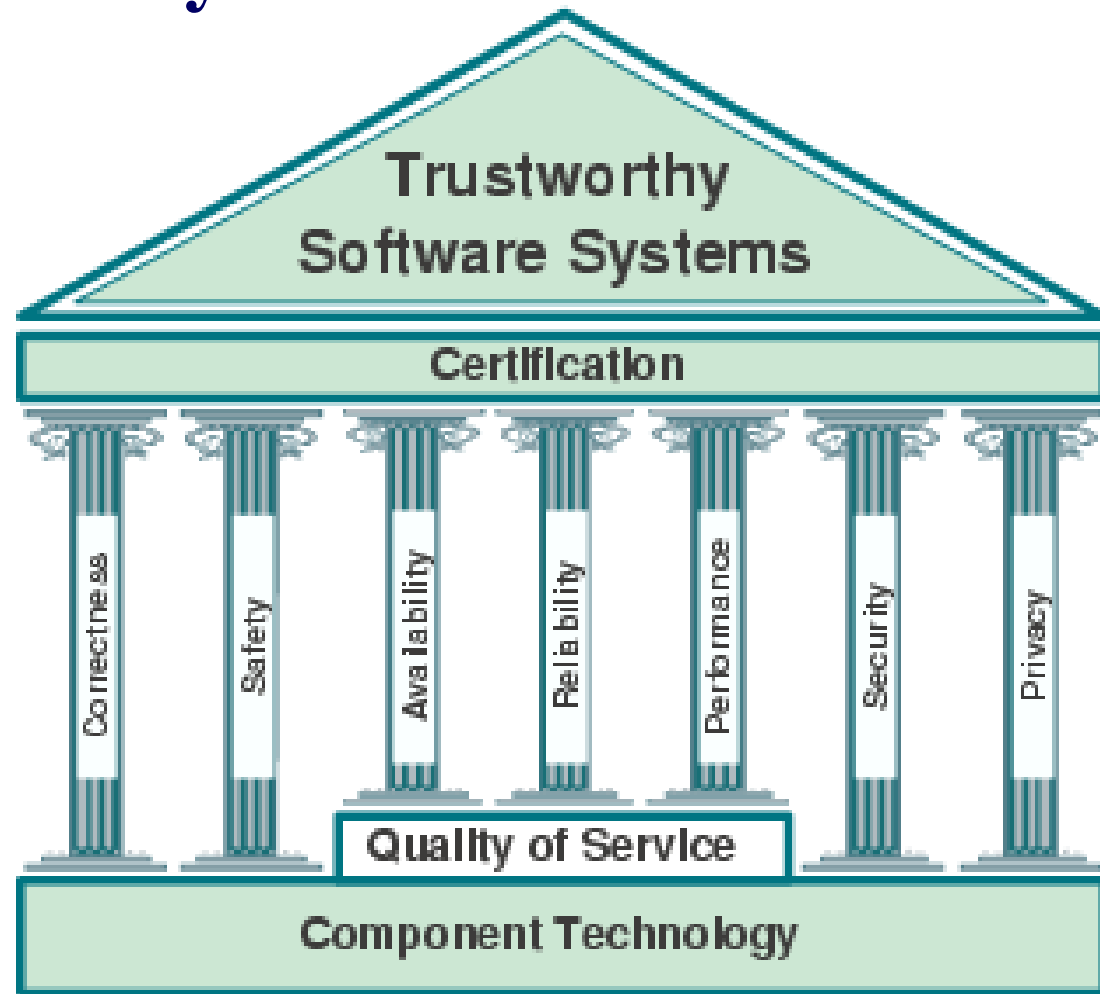
Strengthen operational resiliency

Software Assurance contributes to Trustworthy Software Systems

Suppliers must consider enabling technologies and lifecycle processes

Holistic approach must factor in all relevant technologies, protection initiatives and contributing disciplines

Standards are required to better enable national and international commerce and to provide basis for certification



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Adopted from the TrustSoft Graduate School on Trustworthy Software Systems, started April 2005; funded by the [German Research Foundation \(DFG\)](http://trustsoft.uni-oldenburg.de). See German Oldenburg <http://trustsoft.uni-oldenburg.de>

United States 2nd National Software Summit

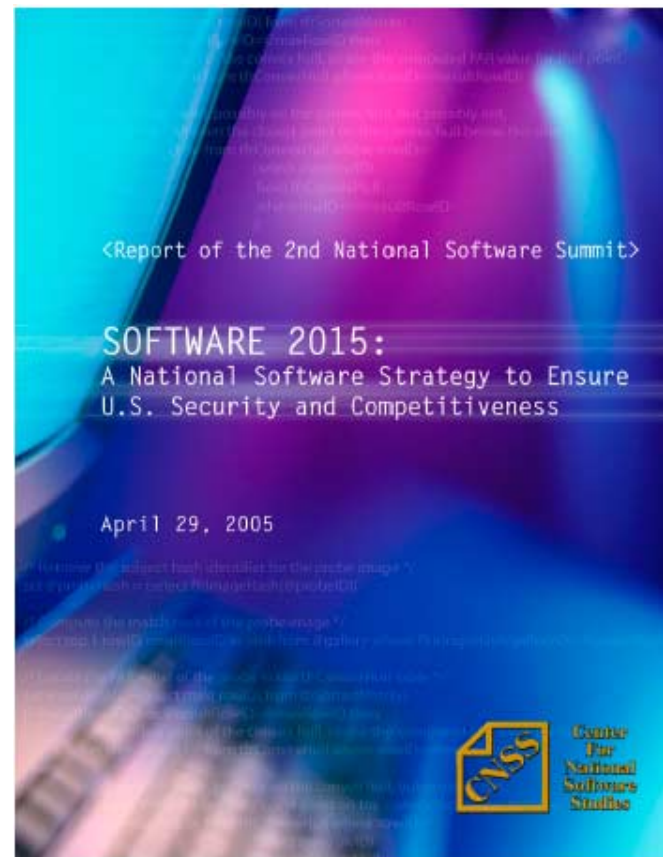
Report April 29, 2005*

► Identified major gaps in:

- Requirements for software tools and technologies to routinely develop error-free software and the state-of-the-art
- State-of-the-art and state-of-the-practice

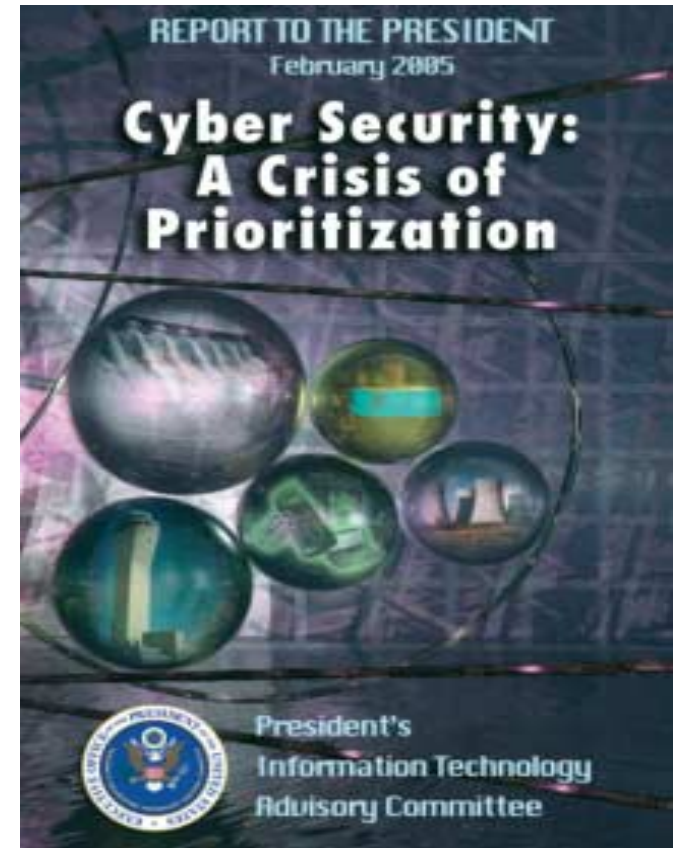
► Recommended elevating software to national policy

- through implementation of “Software 2015: a National Software Strategy to Ensure US Security and Competitiveness”
 - to be pursued through public-private partnerships involving government, industry and academia
- Purpose of National Software Strategy:
 - Achieve ability to routinely develop and deploy trustworthy software products
 - Ensure the continued competitiveness of the US software industry



PITAC* Findings Relative to Needs for Secure Software Engineering & Software Assurance

- ▶ Commercial software engineering today lacks the scientific underpinnings and rigorous controls needed to produce high-quality, secure products at acceptable cost.
- ▶ Commonly used software engineering practices permit dangerous errors, such as improper handling of buffer overflows, which enable hundreds of attack programs to compromise millions of computers every year.
- ▶ In the future, the Nation may face even more challenging problems as adversaries – both foreign and domestic – become increasingly sophisticated in their ability to insert malicious code into critical software.



* President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) Report to the President, "Cyber Security: A Crisis of Prioritization," February 2005 identified top 10 areas in need of increased support, including: 'secure software engineering and software assurance' and 'metrics, benchmarks, and best practices' [Note: PITAC is now a part of PCAST]

GAO Reports relative to Software Assurance

- ▶ GAO-04-321 Report, “**Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure Protection,**” May 2004
- ▶ GAO-04-678 Report, “**Defense Acquisitions: Knowledge of Software Suppliers Needed to Manage Risks,**” May 2004
 - Outsourcing, foreign development risks & insertion of malicious code
 - DoD noted domestic development subject to similar risks
 - Recommendations for program managers to factor in software risks and security in risk assessments
- ▶ GAO-05-434 Report, “**Critical Infrastructure Protection: DHS Faces Challenges in Fulfilling Cybersecurity Responsibilities,**” May 2005
- ▶ GAO R&D study on “risks attributable to outsourcing of software throughout critical infrastructure” being completed

Why Software Assurance is Critical

- ▶ Software is the core constituent of modern products and services – it enables functionality and business operations
- ▶ Dramatic increase in mission risk due to increasing:
 - Software dependence and system interdependence (weakest link syndrome)
 - Software Size & Complexity (obscures intent and precludes exhaustive test)
 - Outsourcing and use of un-vetted software supply chain (COTS & custom)
 - Attack sophistication (easing exploitation)
 - Reuse (unintended consequences increasing number of vulnerable targets)
 - Number of vulnerabilities & incidents with threats targeting software
 - Risk of Asymmetric Attack and Threats
- ▶ Increasing awareness and concern

Software and the processes for acquiring and developing software represent a material weakness



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What has Caused Software Assurance Problem

Increasing software vulnerabilities and exploitation

► Then

- Domestic dominated market
- Stand alone systems
- Software small and simple
- Software small part of functionality
- Custom and closed development processes (cleared personnel)
- Adversaries known, few, and technologically less sophisticated

► Now

- Global market
- Globally network environment
- Software large and complex
- Software is the core of system functionality
- COTS/GOTS/Custom in open and unknown, un-vetted development processes with outsourcing & reuse (foreign sourced, un-cleared, un-vetted)
- Adversaries numerous and sophisticated



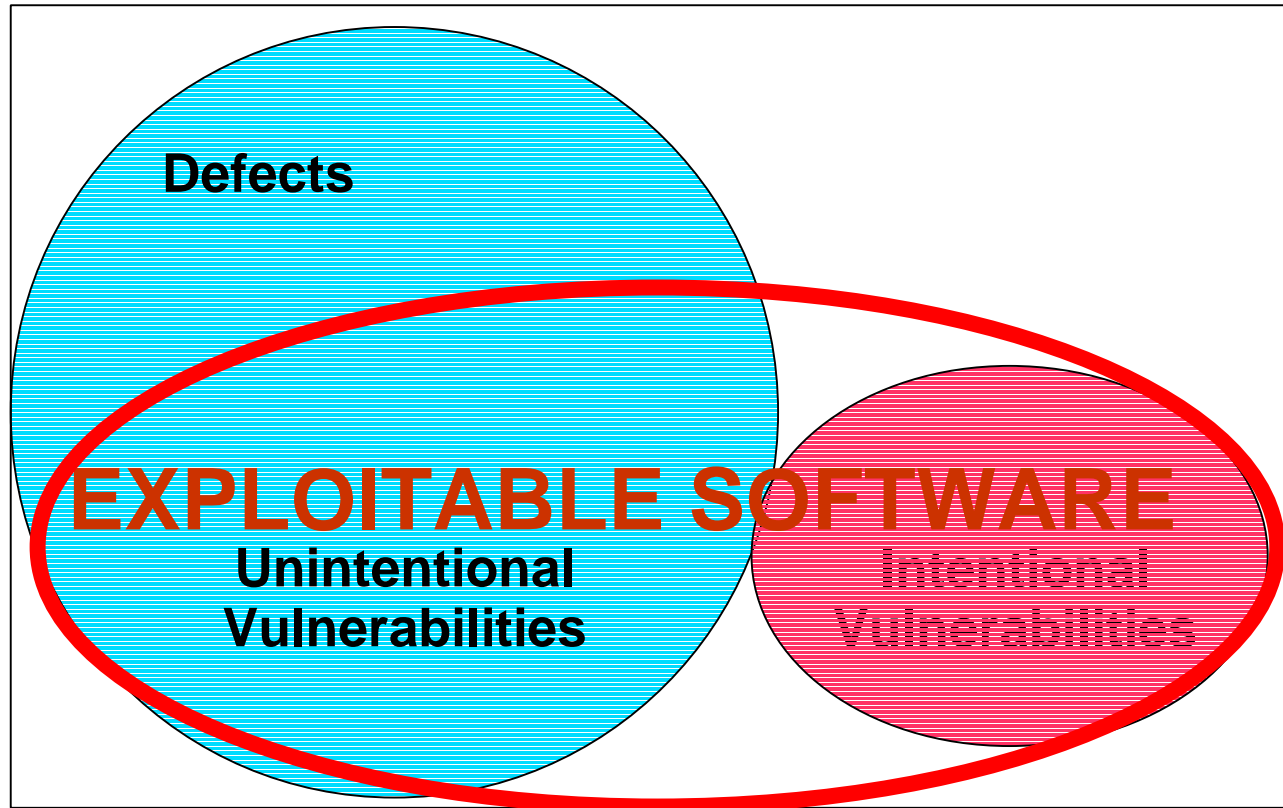
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Exploitable Software:

Outcomes of non-secure practices and/or malicious intent

Exploitation potential of vulnerability independent of “intent”

Software



*Intentional vulnerabilities are spyware & malicious logic deliberately imbedded (and might not be considered defects)



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Note: Chart is not to scale – notional representation -- for discussions

Realities of Relying on Software

- ▶ Software has defects – many defects have security implications.
- ▶ As new attacks are being invented, software behaviour that could reasonably have been considered correct when written may have unintended effects when deliberately exploited.
- ▶ Current software patching solutions are struggling to catch up with the attacks.
- ▶ Since hackers are trying to break into system at every level of the application stack, heap or registry, it's critical to understand the security implications of programming decisions in order to keep your software secure.

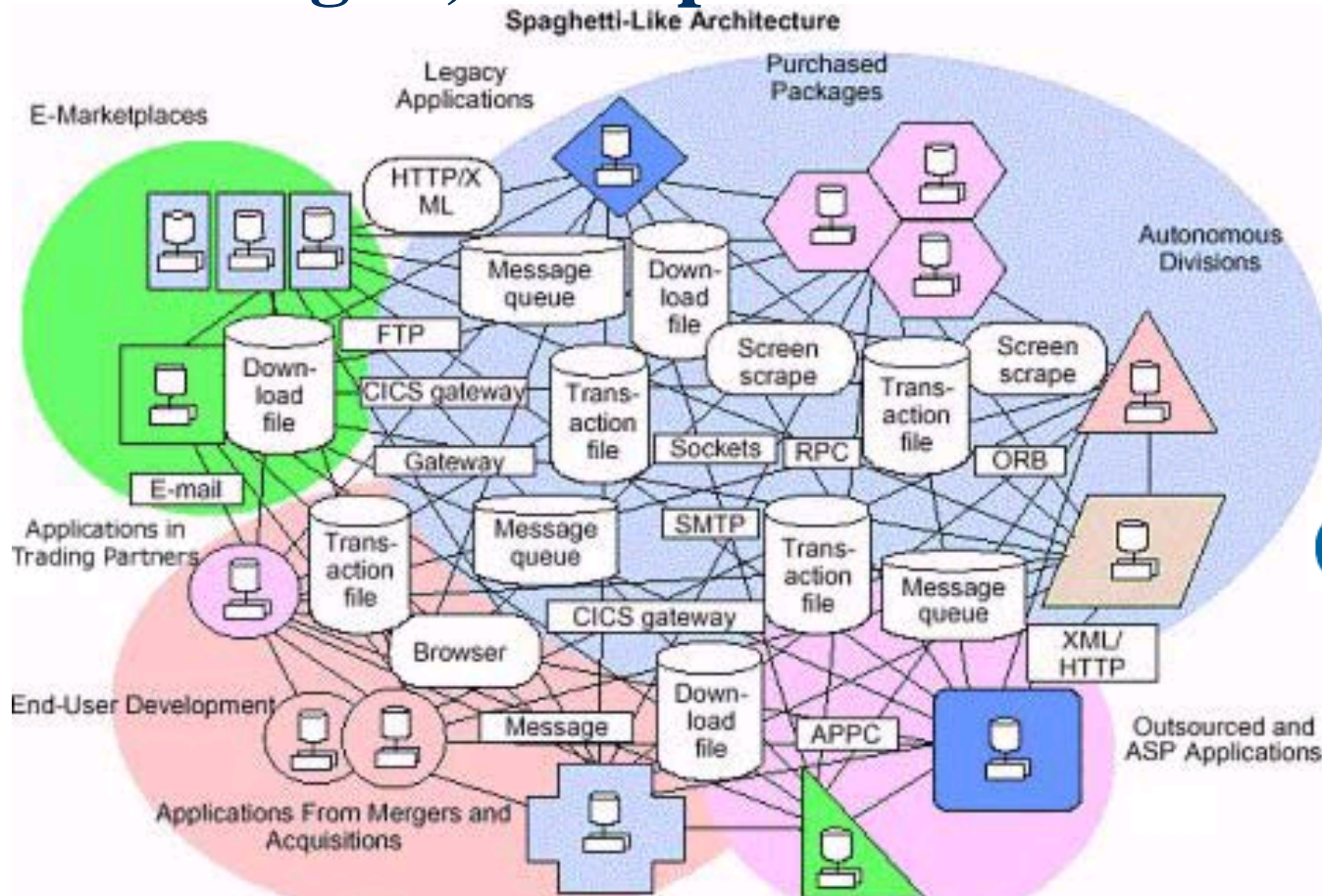


Exploitation of Software Vulnerabilities

- ▶ Serve as primary points of entry that attackers may attempt to use to gain access to systems and/or data
- ▶ Enable compromise of business and missions
- ▶ Allow Attackers to:
 - Pose as other entities
 - Execute commands as other users
 - Conduct information gathering activities
 - Access data (contrary to specified access restrictions for that data)
 - Hide activities
 - Conduct a denial of service
 - Embed malicious logic for future exploitation



Reality of Existing Software: complex, multiple technologies, multiple vendors



Gartner

- Based on average defect rate, deployed software package of 1MLOCs has 6000 defects;
- if only 1% of those defects are security vulnerabilities, there are 60 different opportunities for hacker to attack the system



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DHS Software Assurance Program Overview

- ▶ Program based upon the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace - Action/Recommendation 2-14:

“DHS will facilitate a national public-private effort to promulgate best practices and methodologies that promote integrity, security, and reliability in software code development, including processes and procedures that diminish the possibilities of erroneous code, malicious code, or trap doors that could be introduced during development.”



- ▶ DHS Program goals promote the security of software across the development life cycle
- ▶ Software Assurance (SwA) program is scoped to address:
 - **Trustworthiness** - No exploitable vulnerabilities exist, either maliciously or unintentionally inserted
 - **Predictable Execution** - Justifiable confidence that software, when executed, functions in a manner in which it is intended
 - **Conformance** - Planned and systematic set of multi-disciplinary activities that ensure software processes and products conform to requirements, standards/ procedures



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Software Assurance Comes From:



Knowing what it takes to “get” what we want

- ▶ Development/acquisition practices/process capabilities
- ▶ Criteria for assuring integrity & mitigating risks



Building and/or acquiring what we want

- ▶ Threat modeling and analysis
- ▶ Requirements engineering
- ▶ Failsafe design and defect-free code



Understanding what we built / acquired

- ▶ Production assurance evidence
- ▶ Comprehensive testing and diagnostics
- ▶ Formal methods & static analysis

*Multiple Sources:

DHS/NCSD,
OASD(NII)IA,
NSA, NASA,
JHU/APL



Using what we understand

- ▶ Policy/practices for use & acquisition
- ▶ Composition of trust
- ▶ Hardware support


























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Software Assurance Lifecycle Considerations

- ▶ Define Lifecycle Threats/Hazards, Vulnerabilities & Risks
- ▶ Identify Risks attributable to software
- ▶ Determine Threats (and Hazards)
- ▶ Understand key aspects of Vulnerabilities
- ▶ Consider Implications in Lifecycle Phases:
 - Threats to: System, Production process, Using system
 - Vulnerabilities attributable to: Ineptness (undisciplined practices), Malicious intent, Incorrect or incomplete artifacts, Inflexibility
 - Risks in Current Efforts: Policies & Practices, Constraints



Software Assurance Program Alignment

	National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace					HSPD-7
	Priority 1: National Cyberspace Security Response System	Priority 2: National Cyberspace Threat and Vulnerability Reduction Prog.	Priority 3: National Cyberspace Security Awareness and Training Prog.	Priority 4: Securing Govt.'s Cyberspace	Priority 5: International Cyberspace Security Cooperation	"...maintain an organization to serve as a focal point for the security of cyberspace.."
NCSD Goal 1: Prevent, detect, and respond to cyber incidents, and reconstitute rapidly after cyber incidents.						
NCSD Goal 2: Work with public and private sectors to reduce vulnerabilities and minimize the severity of cyber attacks.						
NCSD Goal 3: Promote a comprehensive national awareness program to empower all Americans to secure their own parts of cyberspace.				Software Assurance Program alignment		
NCSD Goal 4: Foster adequate training and education programs to support the Nation's cyber security needs.						
NCSD Goal 5: Coordinate with the intelligence and law enforcement communities to identify and reduce threats to cyber space.						



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*"National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace" and Homeland Security Presidential Directive #7

Software Assurance Program Alignment – FY05

	<i>National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace</i>					<i>HSPD7</i>
	Priority 1: National Cyberspace Security Response System	Priority 2: National Cyberspace Threat and Vulnerability Reduction Program	Priority 3: National Cyberspace Security Awareness and Training Program	Priority 4: Securing Govt.'s Cyberspace	Priority 5: International Cyberspace Security Cooperation	HSDP7: “...maintain an organization to serve as a focal point for the security of cyberspace..”
NCSD Goal 2: Work with public and private sectors to reduce vulnerabilities and minimize the severity of cyber attacks.		SW Security in the SDLC Developers Guide – Draft Build Security In Web site – launched 3 Oct	SwA Common Body of Knowledge – Draft 0.7 Articles in journals SwA Forums, workshops and conferences	Tools and Product Evaluation NIAP Review SEMATE: Metrics and Tool Evaluation	Processes and Practices National & International standards SwA security measurement	Software Assurance Program Management – SwA Director hired 21 Mar 2005



Software Assurance Program Alignment – FY06

	<i>National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace</i>					<i>HSPD7</i>
	Priority 1: National Cyberspace Security Response System	Priority 2: National Cyberspace Threat and Vulnerability Reduction Program	Priority 3: National Cyberspace Security Awareness and Training Program	Priority 4: Securing Govt.'s Cyberspace	Priority 5: International Cyberspace Security Cooperation	HSDP7: “...maintain an organization to serve as a focal point for the security of cyberspace..”
NCSD Goal 2: Work with public and private sectors to reduce vulnerabilities and minimize the severity of cyber attacks.		SW Security in the SDLC Developers Guide – final March 2006 Build Security In Web site – stakeholder review, CCB, updates	SwA Common Body of Knowledge – version 1.0 in March 2006 Articles in journals SwA Forums, workshops and conferences	Federated Labs - Tools and Product Evaluation (NIAP Review) SEMATE: Metrics and Tool Evaluation Acquisition Guides: Procurement templates	Processes and Practices National & International standards SwA security measurement	Software Assurance Program Management – SwA Deputy Director/ Program Mgr to be hired (already selected)



Software Assurance Program Structure

- ▶ Program framework encourages the production and acquisition of better quality and more secure software and leverages resources to target the following four areas:
 - People – developers (includes education and training) and users
 - Processes – best practices, standards, and practical guidelines for the development of secure software
 - Technology – evaluation tools and cyber security R&D
 - Acquisition – software security improvements through specifications and guidelines for acquisition and outsourcing

DHS SwA Program Alignment with Related Initiatives – National Software Strategy

► DHS SW Assurance Program

- People – developers (includes education and training) and users
- Processes – best practices, standards, and practical guidelines for development of secure software
- Technology – evaluation tools and cyber security R&D
- Acquisition – software security improvements in specifications and guidelines for acquisition and outsourcing

► NSG Software Strategy

- Improving SW Trustworthiness
 - Trustworthy SW Measurement & Analysis
 - Trustworthy SW Development
 - Trustworthy SW Ed & Awareness
 - Trustworthy SW Business Practices
 - Trustworthy SW R&D
- Educating & Fielding SW Workforce
 - Science & Eng Revitalization
 - SW Engineering Education
 - Understanding Impact of Offshore Outsourcing on Workforce
- Re-energizing SW R&D
 - SW R&D Roadmap (Grand Challenges & SW capability Business Case Development)
 - Government-led Strategic SW R&D
- Encouraging Innovation in US SW industry
 - Software Innovation Initiative



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**DHS NCSD Director for Software Assurance
is a member of the National Steering Group**

DHS SwA Program Alignment with Related Initiatives – DoD SwA Initiative

► DHS SW Assurance Program

- People – developers (includes education and training) and users
- Processes – best practices, standards, and practical guidelines for development of secure software
- Technology – evaluation tools and cyber security R&D
- Acquisition – software security improvements in specifications and guidelines for acquisition and outsourcing

► DoD SwA Initiative - Tiger Team

- Engineering-in-Depth
 - SwA in Engineering Processes
 - SwA planning in Systems Engineering Plans
 - SwA planning in Test & Evaluation Plans
 - Industry standards and metrics
 - Enhancements in acquisition guidance
- Industry Outreach
 - Defense Trade Associations
 - Standards Organizations
- Science & Technology
 - Executive Agent for SW Vulnerability Mitigation and Discovery
 - Center for Assured Software with key partners



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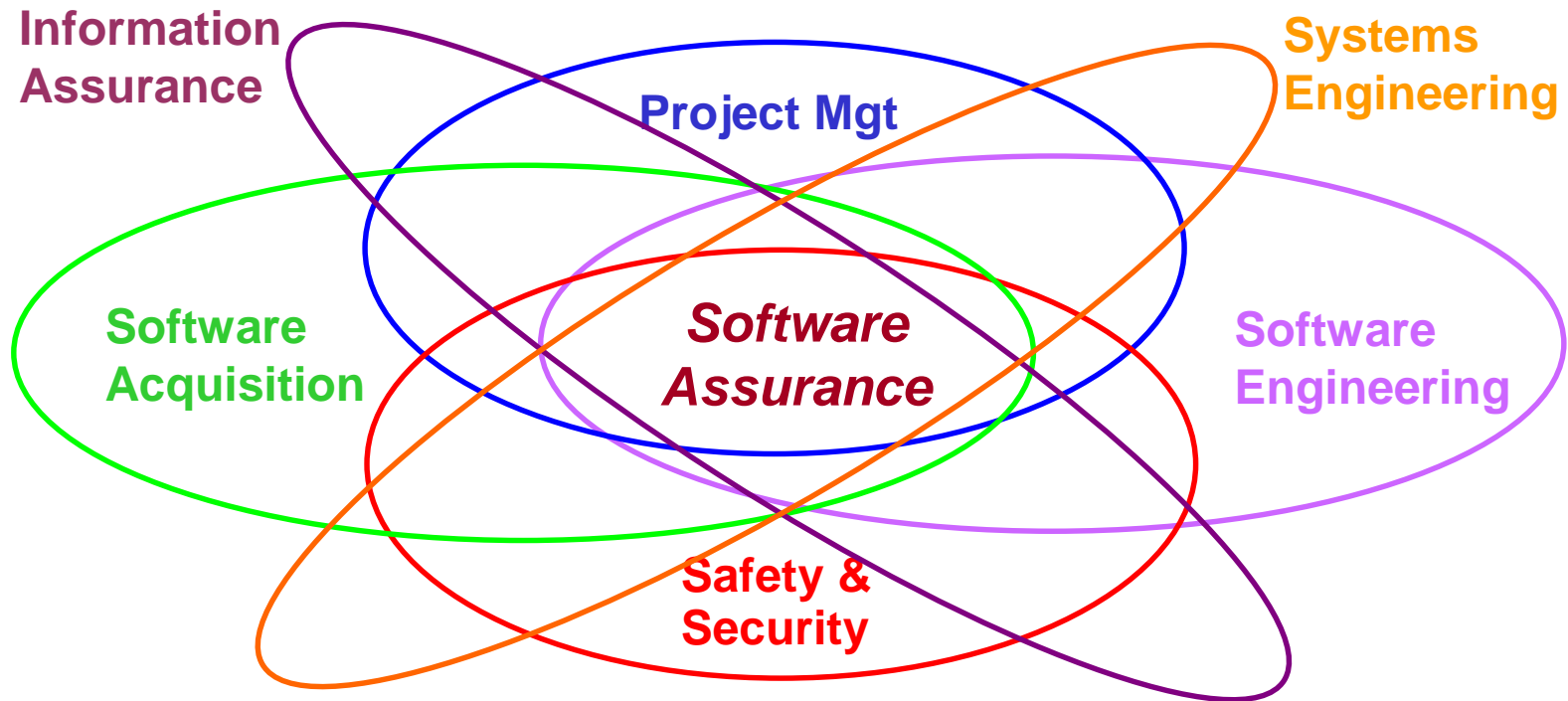
DHS NCSD collaborates with DoD via WGs, Standards Organizations and DoD SwA Executive Roundtable

Software Assurance: People

- ▶ Provide Guide to Software Assurance Common Body of Knowledge (CBK) as a framework to identify workforce needs for competencies and leverage standards and “best practices” to guide curriculum development for Software Assurance education and training**
 - Hosted Electronic Develop a Curriculum Event and CBK Working Groups (April, June, August, and October 2005) to develop CBK that involved participation from academia, industry and Federal Government
 - **Addressing three domains: “acquisition & supply,” “development,” and “post-release assurance” (sustainment)**
 - **Distributed CBK v0.7 in October 2005**, with v.0.9 in January 2006 and v1.0 by March 2006
 - Developed CBK awareness materials, including Frequently Asked Questions by Oct 2005 with update in January 2006
 - Develop pilot training/education curriculum consistent with CBK in conjunction with early adopters for distribution by September 2007



Disciplines Contributing to SwA CBK



In Education and Training, Software Assurance could be addressed as:

- A “knowledge area” extension within each of the contributing disciplines;
- A stand-alone CBK drawing upon contributing disciplines;
- A set of functional roles, drawing upon a common body of knowledge; allowing more in-depth coverage dependent upon the specific roles.



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Secure Software Assurance

A Guide to the Common Body of Knowledge to Produce, Acquire and Sustain Secure Software, v0.7

- ▶ Further review and comments have been solicited for feedback by November 15, 2005 -- broader stakeholder community being contacted
- ▶ To provide comments, people must join the Software Workforce Education and Training Working Group to collaborate through the US CERT Portal (<https://us-cert.esportals.net/>) using Organization ID 223
- ▶ **Version 0.9 to be released in Jan 2006 via Federal Registry, with v1.0 to be published by March 2006**
- ▶ Offered for informative use; it is not intended as a policy or a standard

Information for Educators & Trainers

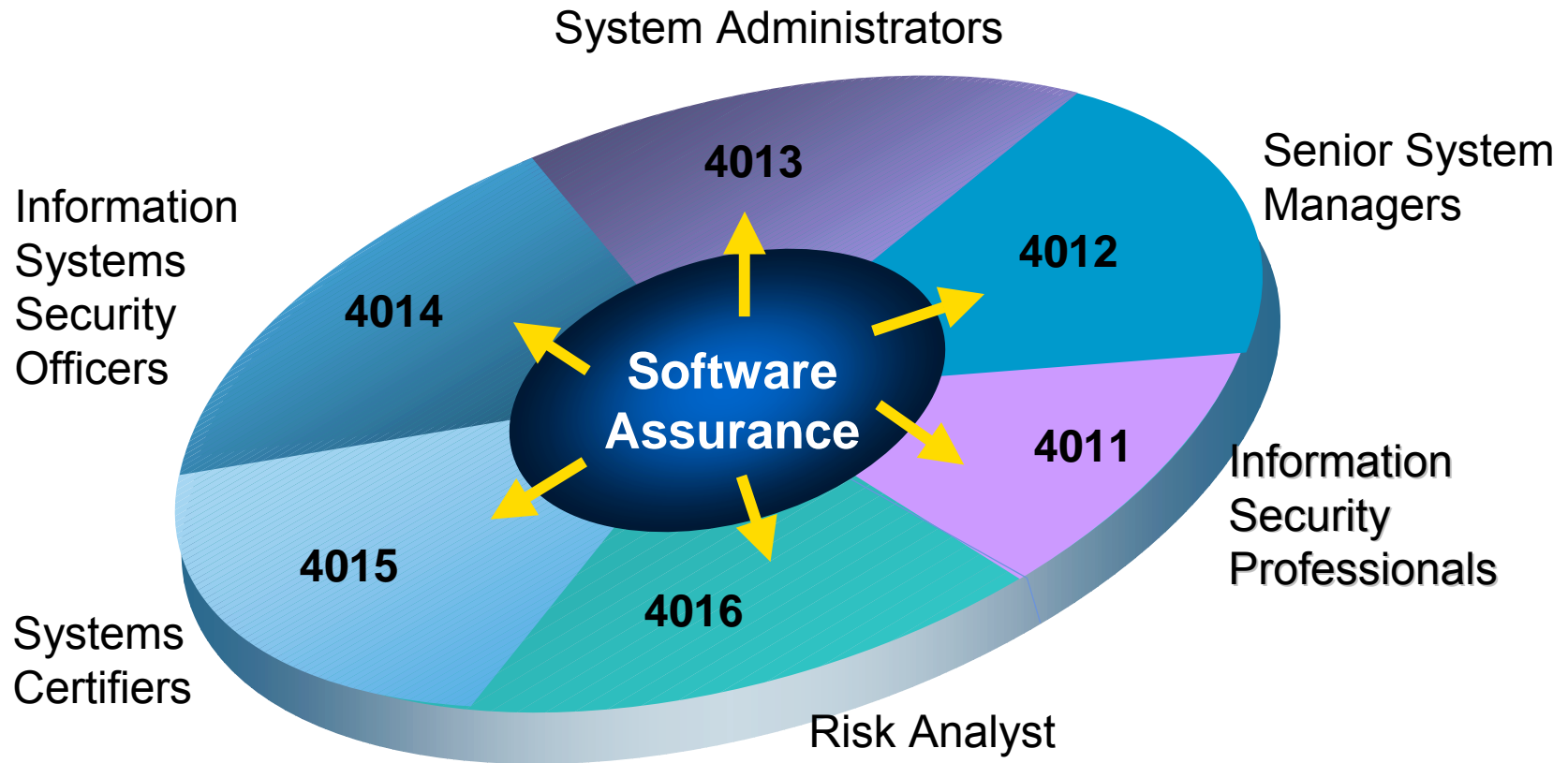
Secure Software Assurance

A Guide to the Common Body of Knowledge to Produce, Acquire, and Sustain Secure Software (Draft, v0.7)

September 30, 2005



Integrating SwA CBK with CNSS IA Standards



Software Assurance considerations for IA functional roles:

- add SwA material in each CNSS 4000 series standard
- add a new CNSS 4000 series standard on SW Assurance

Software Assurance: Process

- Provide practical guidance in software assurance practices and process improvement methodologies**

- Launched a web-based central repository “Build Security In” on US-CERT web site “buildsecurityin.us-cert.gov on October 3, 2005

– Provides dissemination of recommended practices and technologies for secure software development

– Continuing to sponsor work with CMU Software Engineering Institute and industry to further develop practical guidance and update the web-based repository



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**NCSG Goal Action 2.3.2



Process Agnostic Lifecycle

Launched 3 Oct 2005

Architecture & Design

- ✓ Architectural risk analysis
- ✓ Threat modeling
- 🔍 Principles
- 🔍 Guidelines
- 🔍 Historical risks
- 🔑 Modeling tools
- 📄 Resources

Code

- ✓ Code analysis
- ✓ Assembly, integration & evolution
- 🔍 Coding practices
- 🔍 Coding rules
- 🔑 Code analysis
- 📄 Resources

Test

- ✓ Security testing
- ✓ White box testing
- 🔍 Attack patterns
- 🔍 Historical risks
- 📄 Resources

Requirements

- ✓ Requirements engineering
- 🔍 Attack patterns
- 📄 Resources

Touch Points & Artifacts

Fundamentals

- ✓ Risk management
- ✓ Project management
- ✓ Training & awareness
- ✓ Measurement
- 🔍 SDLC process
- 🔍 Business relevance
- 📄 Resources

System

- ✓ Penetration testing
- ✓ Incident management
- ✓ Deployment & operations
- 🔑 Black box testing
- 📄 Resources

<http://buildsecurityin.us-cert.gov>



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Key

- ✓ Best practices
- 🔍 Foundational knowledge
- 🔑 Tools
- 📄 Resources

Software Assurance: Process (cont.)

- ▶ Provide practical guidance in software assurance practices and process improvement methodologies** (cont.)
 - Released draft developers' guide "SECURING THE SOFTWARE LIFECYCLE: Making Application Development Processes – and Software Produced by Them – More Secure"
 - Collect, develop, and publish practical guidance and reference materials for security through the software development life cycle
 - Provide an informative aid for developers on software assurance process improvement methodologies.

Information for Developers

Securing the Software Lifecycle

Making Application Development Processes – and the Software Produced by Them – More Secure (Draft)

September 30, 2005



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“Securing the Software Lifecycle: Making Application Development Processes – and the Software Produced by Them – More Secure” (draft)

► Initial content from DoD-sponsored *Application Security Developer Guides*:

- Securing the Software Development Lifecycle
- Security Requirements Engineering Methodology
- Reference Set of Application Security Requirements
- Secure Design, Implementation, and Deployment
- Secure Assembly of Software Components
- Secure Use of C and C++
- Secure Use of Java-Based Technologies
- Software Security Testing

► Content updated, expanded, & revised based on documents and inputs from other sources across SwA community



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Information for Developers

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“Securing the Software Lifecycle: Making Application Development Processes – and the Software Produced by Them – More Secure” (draft)

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Information for Developers

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September 30, 2005



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Software Assurance: Process (cont.)

- ▶ Provide practical guidance in software assurance process improvement methodologies** (cont.)
 - Develop a business case analysis to support lifecycle use of security best practices
 - Complete the DHS/DoD co-sponsored comprehensive review of the NIAP (National Information Assurance Partnership)
 - Continue to seek broader participation of relevant stakeholder organizations and professional societies
 - Participate in relevant standards bodies; identify software assurance gaps in applicable standards from ISO/IEC, IEEE, NIST, ANSI, OMG, CNSS, and Open Group and support effort through sponsored Processes and Practices Working group (April, June, August, October, and December 2005 and March, June and September 2006)

**NCSD Goal Action 2.3.2



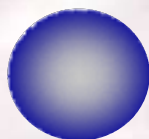
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Value of Standards

A standard is a Name for an otherwise fuzzy concept

In a complex, multidimensional trade space of solutions ...

... a standard gives a name to a bounded region.



It defines some characteristics that a buyer can count on.

Jim Moore, 2004-03 CSEE&T Panel

7

- **Software Assurance** needs standards to assign names to practices or collections of practices.
- This enables communication between:
 - ☐ Buyer and seller
 - ☐ Government and industry
 - ☐ Insurer and insured

Standards represent the “**minimum level of responsible practice,**” not necessarily the best available methods



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Role of Standardization for Software Assurance

- ▶ SwA standards are needed to better enable exchange of information between participants and enable interoperability between solutions (provided by multiple vendors) needed to perform SwA activities.
 - SwA Standards should allow different participants to initiate collaboration and activities in area of SwA through the common framework and achieve greater automation of SwA processes by enabling interoperability between different supporting tools
- ▶ Standardization would increase interoperability among tools and manual processes by creating an open framework.
- ▶ Standardization would enable a new generation of solutions to benefit all sectors (Government, Industry and others)
- ▶ Standardization would ensure that all sectors are investing within the context of a coordinated strategy.



Using Standards and Best Practices to Close gaps between state-of-the-practice and state-of-the-art *1, 2

Raising the Ceiling

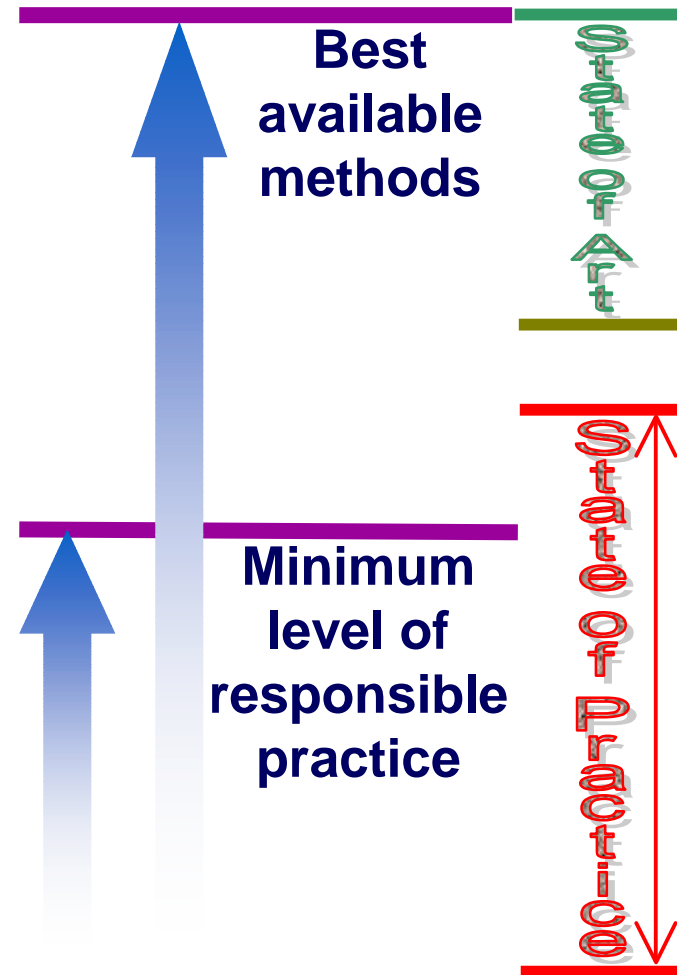
► *Information Assurance, Cyber Security and System Safety* typically treat the concerns of the most critical system assets.

- They prescribe extra practices (and possibly, extra effort) in developing, sustaining and operating such systems.

Raising the Floor

► However, *some* of the concerns of *Software Assurance* involve simple things that any user or developer should do.

- They don't increase lifecycle costs.
- In many cases, they just specify "stop making avoidable mistakes."



*[1] Adopted from Software Assurance briefing on "ISO Harmonization of Standardized Software and System Life Cycle Processes," by Jim Moore, MITRE, June 2, 2005, *[2] US 2nd National Software Summit, April 29, 2005 Report (see <http://www.cnsoftware.org>) identified major gaps in requirements for software tools and technologies to routinely develop error-free software and the state-of-the-art and gaps in state-of-the-art and state-of-the-practice

Using Standards and Best Practices to Close gaps between state-of-the-practice and state-of-the-art ^{*1, 2}

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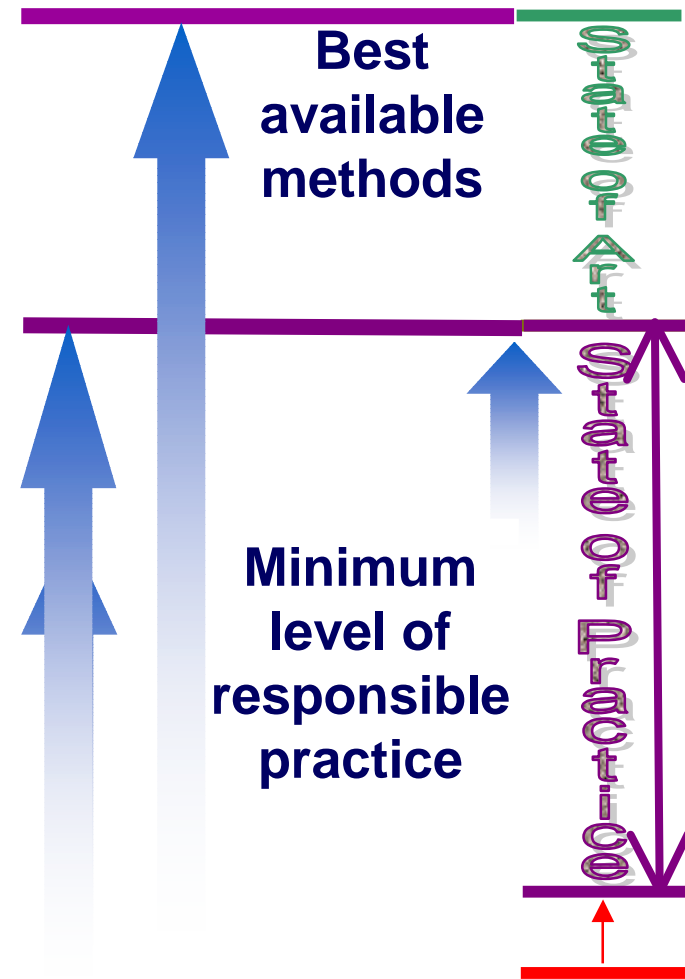
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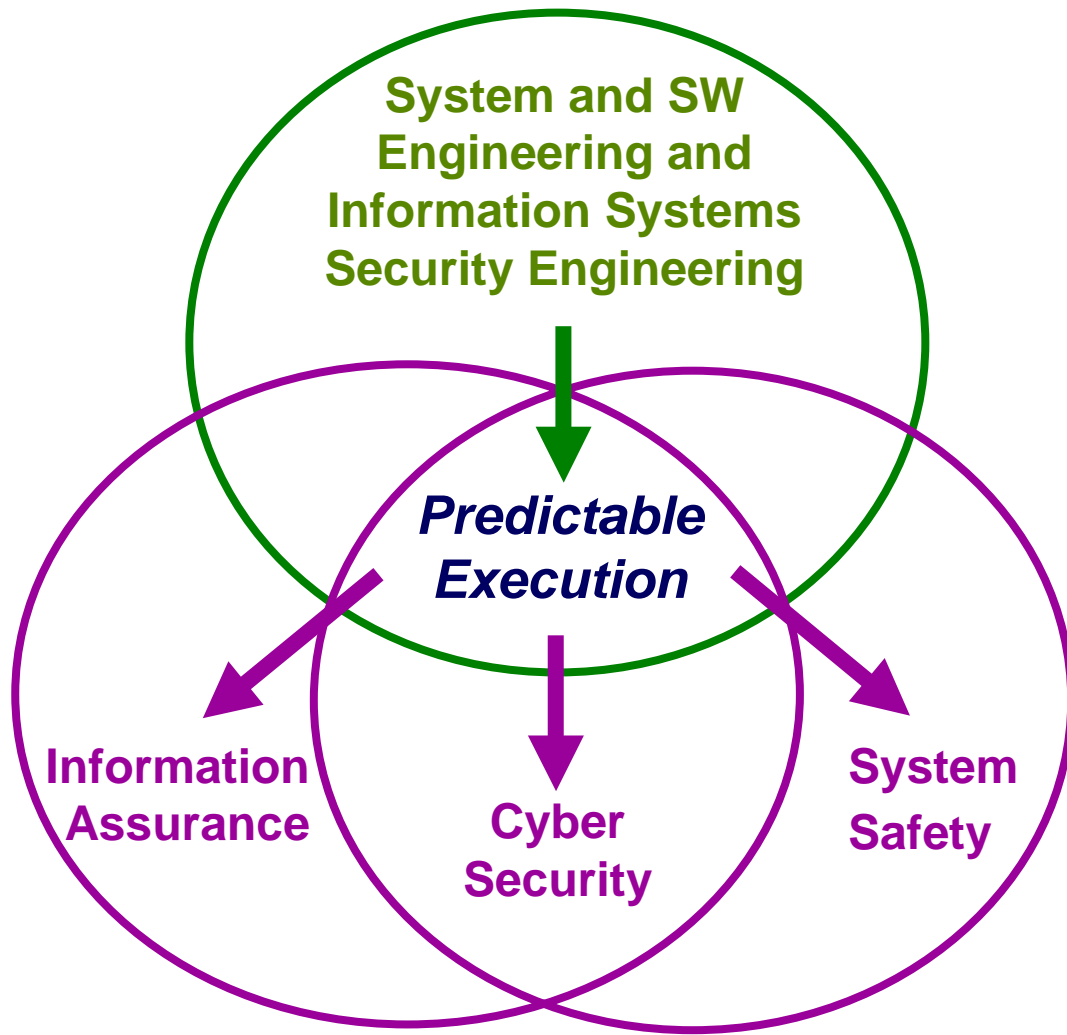
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Relating SW Assurance to Engineering Disciplines



For a safety/security analysis to be valid ...

The execution of the system must be *predictable*.

This requires ...

- Correct implementation of requirements, expectations and regulations.

Traditional concern

- Exclusion of unwanted function even in the face of attempted exploitation.

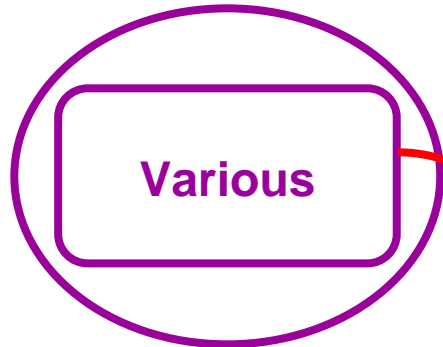
Growing concern



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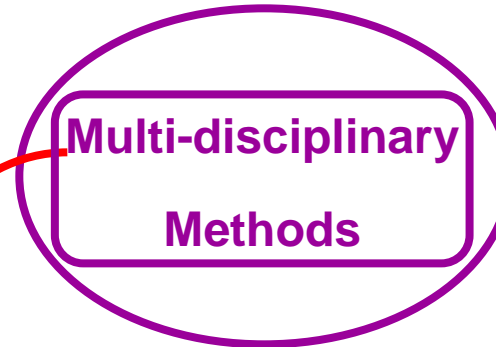
Simplified Relationships among Disciplines

Software Engineering



Achieves desired function

Software Assurance



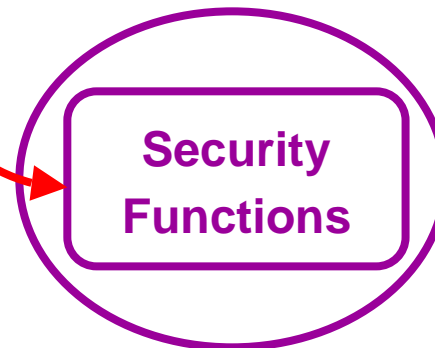
Precludes undesired function despite attempts to exploit



Permits confidence in



Safety



Information Assurance

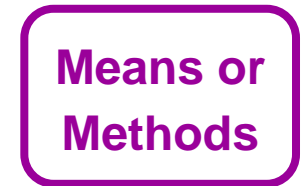
Key



Discipline



Property

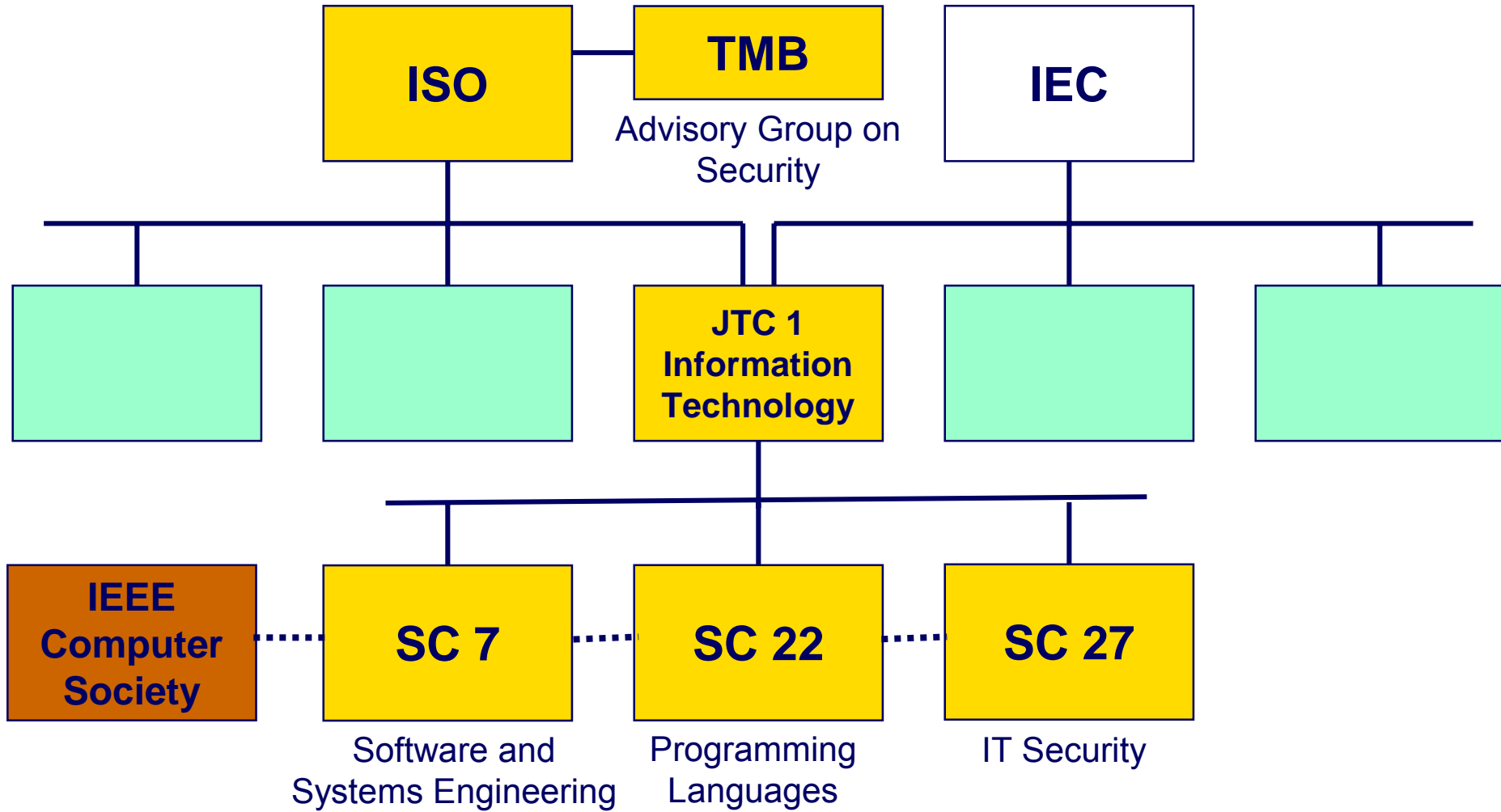


Means or Methods



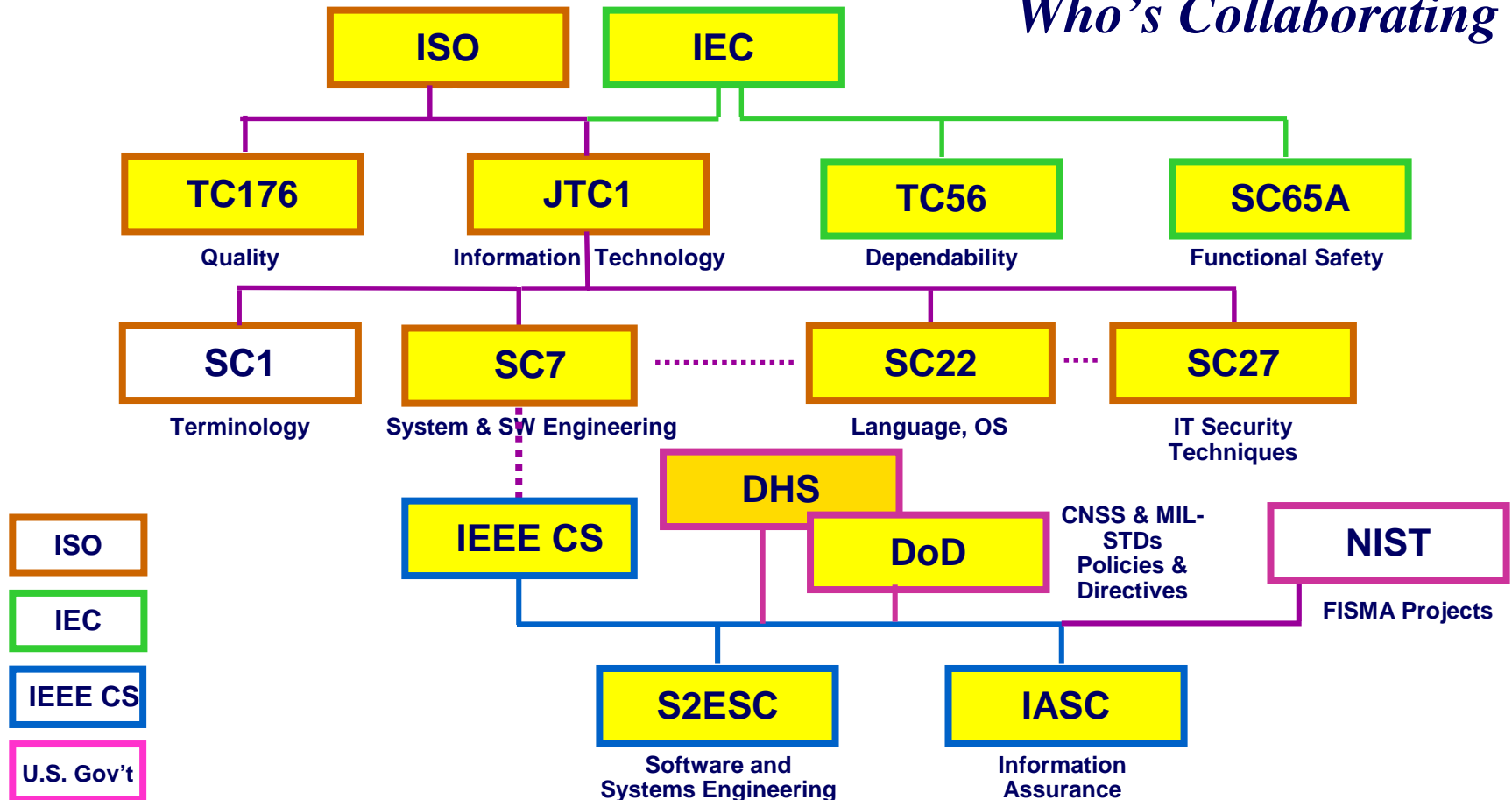
Relationship

Security and Assurance Concerns in ISO

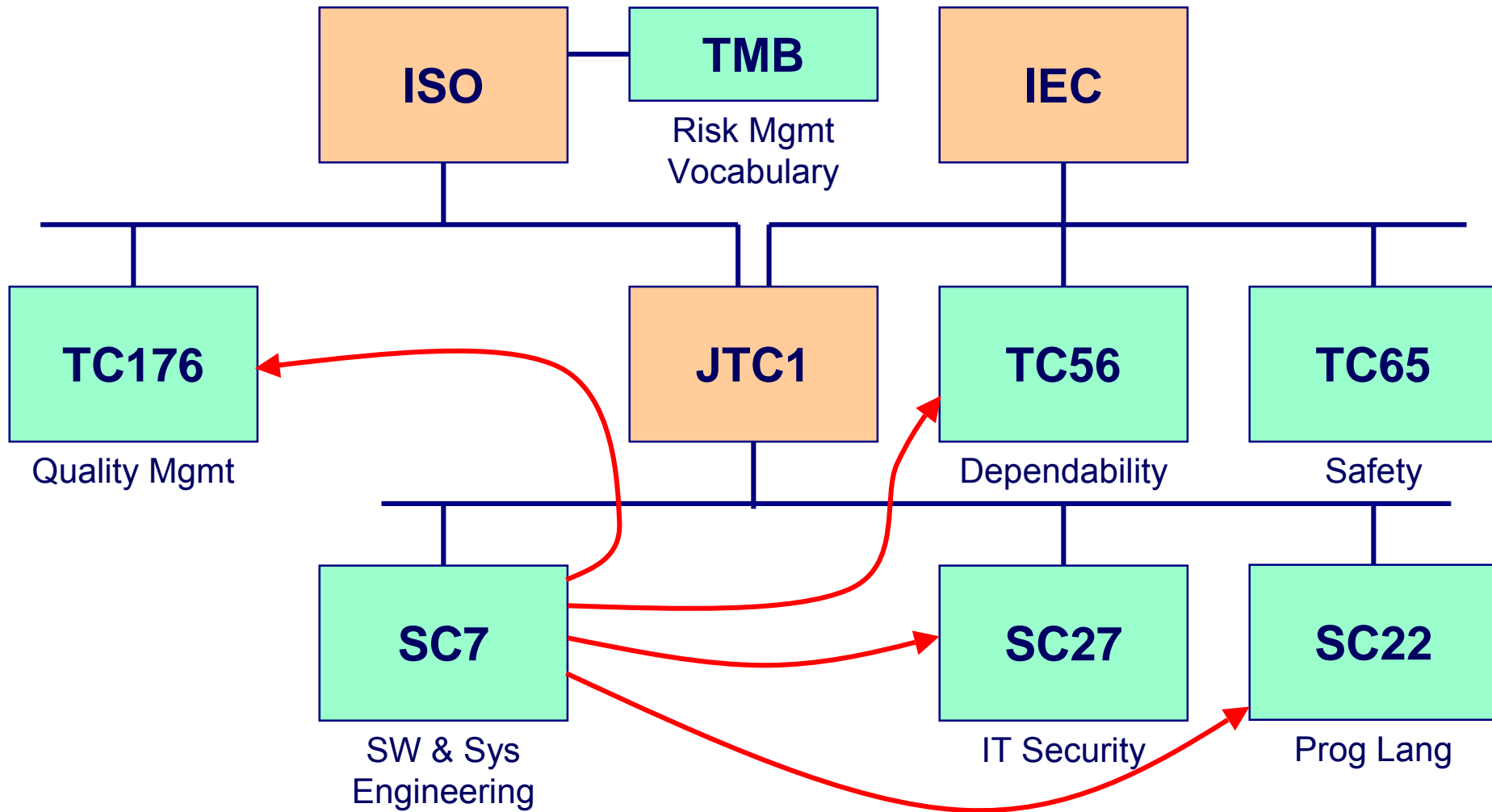


Harmonization Efforts Impacting Systems and Software Assurance

Who's Collaborating



Leveraging/Linking International Standards



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* DHS NCSD has membership on SC7 & SC27 along with FFRDC support serving in liaison role between SC7 & SC27

ISO SC27 (INCITS CS1) Standards Portfolio

► Management

- Information security and systems
- Third party information security service providers (outsourcing)

► Measurement and Assessment

- Security Metrics
- Security Checklists
- IT security assessment of operational systems
- IT security evaluation and assurance

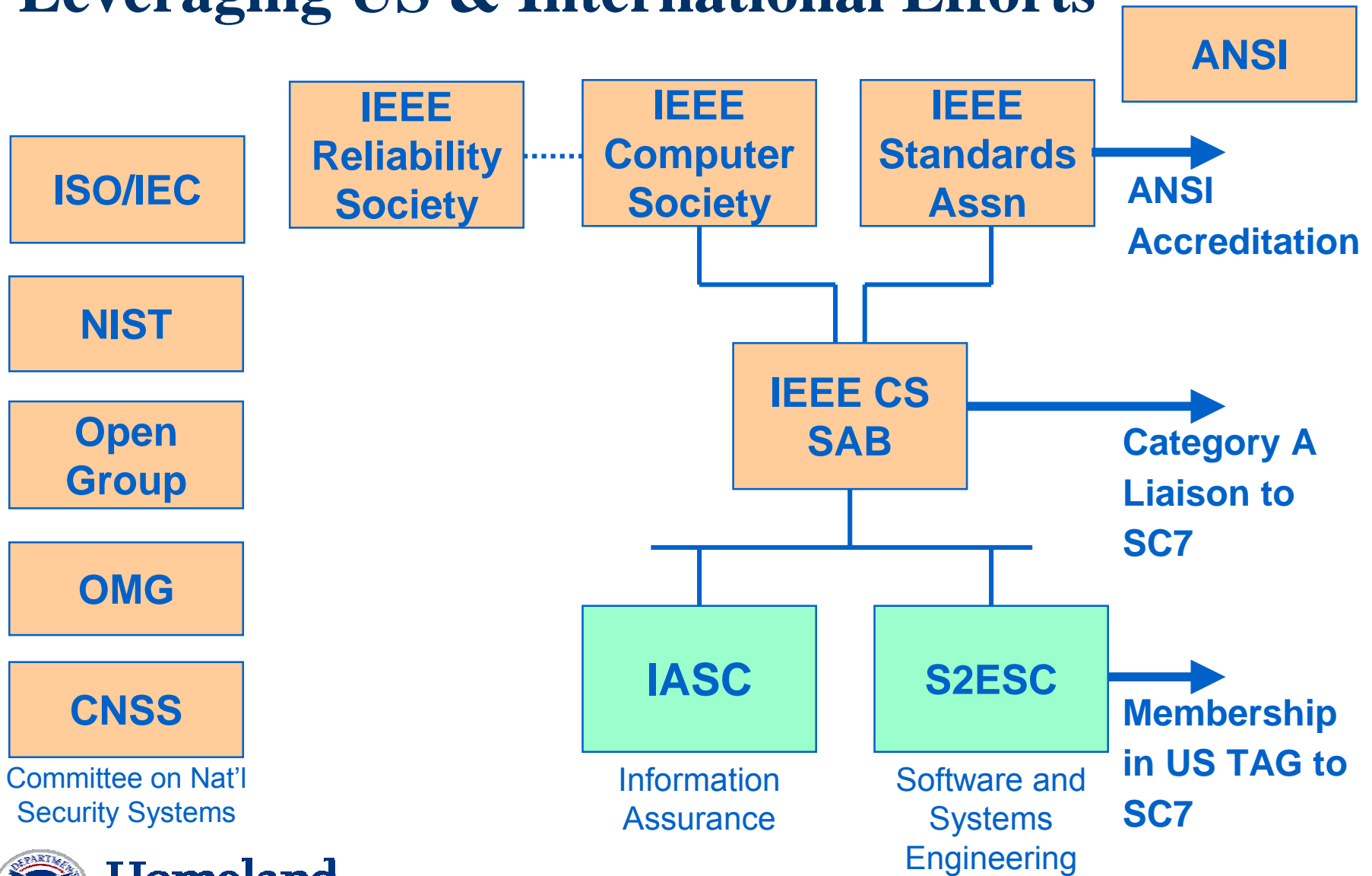
► IA & Cyber Security Requirements and Operations

- Protection Profiles
- Security requirements for cryptographic modules
- Intrusion detection
- Network security
- Incident handling
- Role based access control



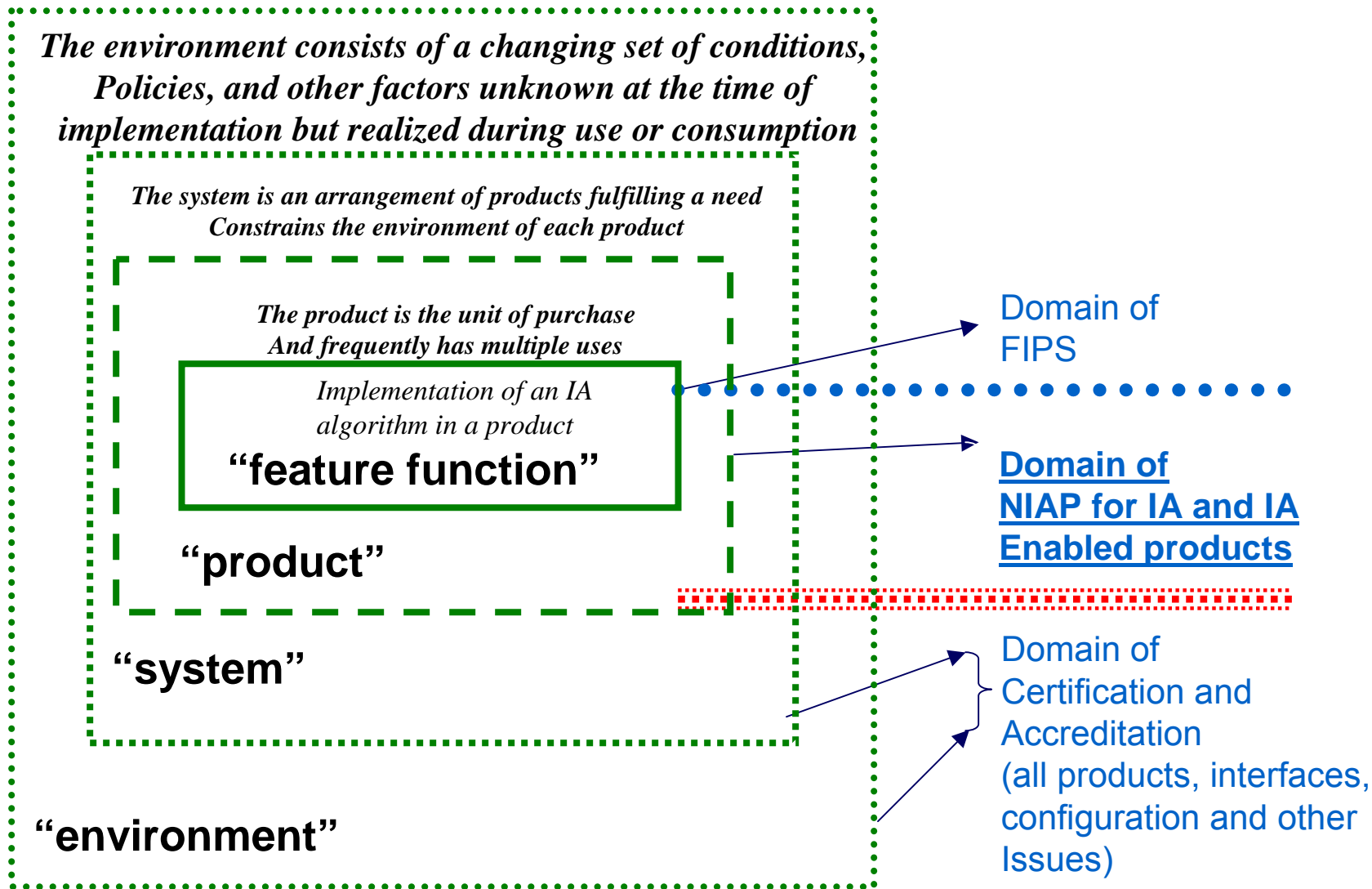
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Leveraging US & International Efforts



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Context for IT Security



New Scope of ISO/IEC 15026 “System and Software Assurance”

“System and software assurance focuses on the management of risk and assurance of safety, security, and dependability within the context of system and software life cycles.”

Terms of Reference changed: ISO/IEC JTC1/SC7 WG9, previously “System and Software Integrity”

Input to 15026 from the Safety and Security Extensions for Integrated CMMs

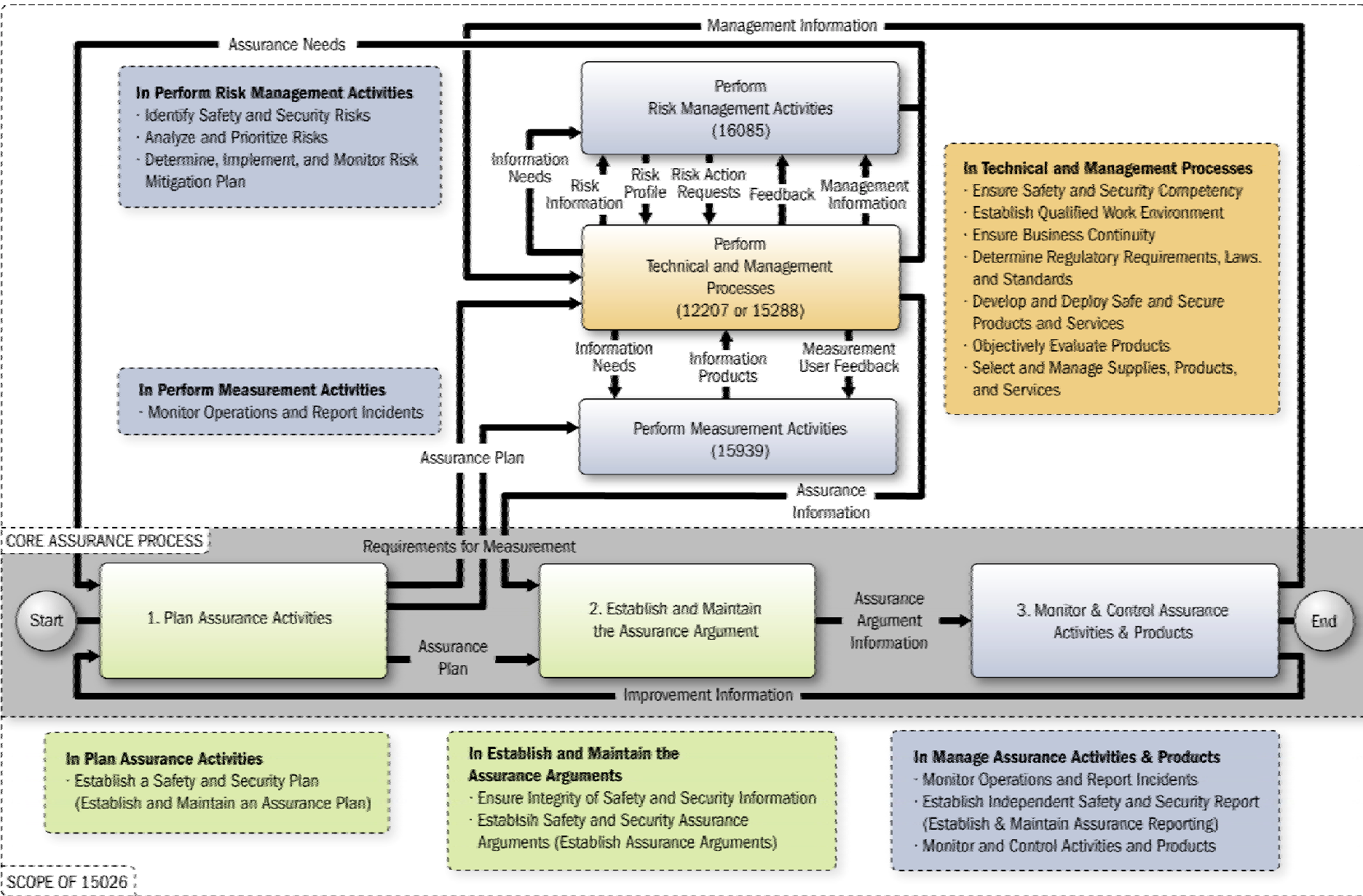
1. Ensure Safety and Security Competency
2. Establish Qualified Work Environment
3. Ensure Integrity of Safety and Security Information
4. Monitor Operations and Report Incidents
5. Ensure Business Continuity
6. Identify Safety and Security Risks
7. Analyze and Prioritize Risks
8. Determine, Implement, and Monitor Risk Mitigation Plan

9. Determine Regulatory Requirements, Laws, and Standards
10. Develop and Deploy Safe and Secure Products and Services
11. Objectively Evaluate Products
12. Establish Safety and Security Assurance Arguments
13. Establish Independent Safety and Security Reporting
14. Establish a Safety and Security Plan
15. Select and Manage Suppliers, Products, and Services
16. Monitor and Control Activities and Products

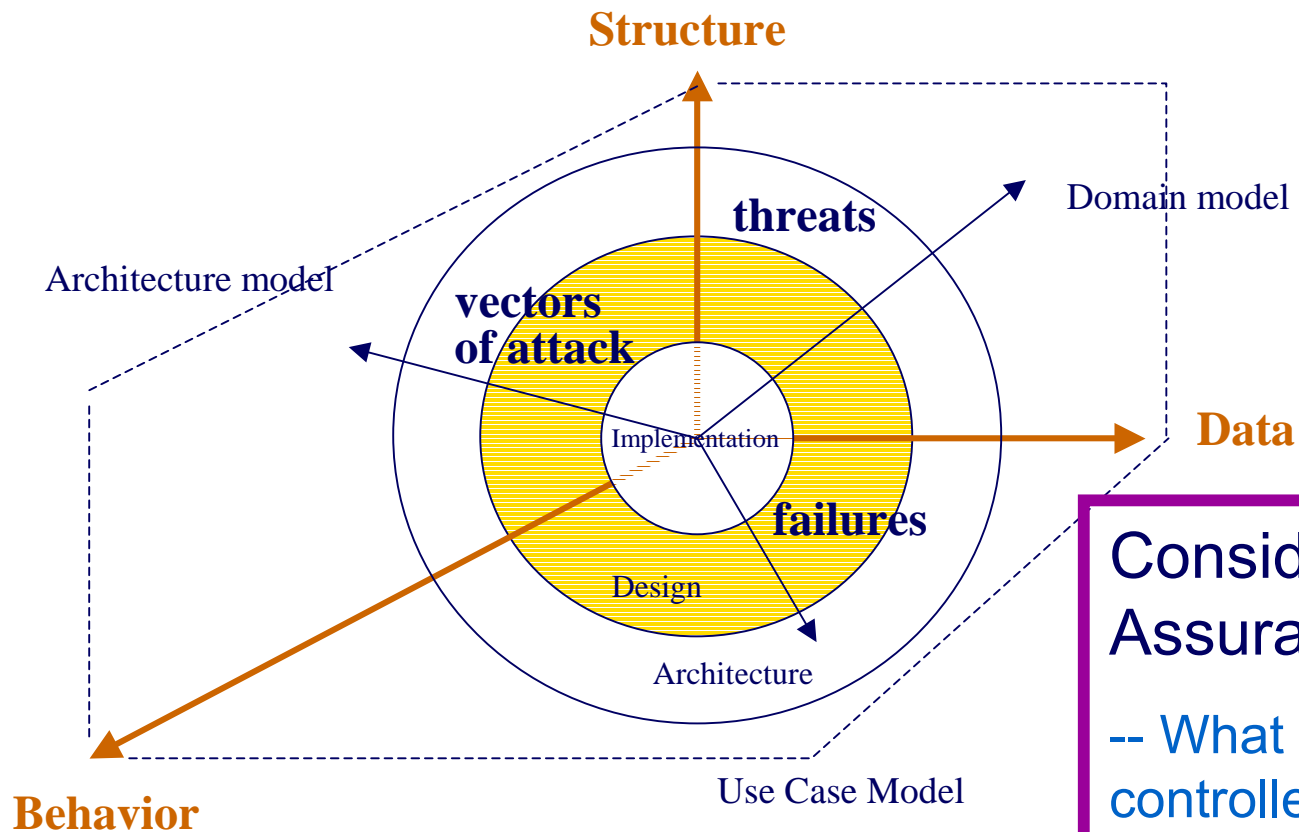
Source: *United States Department of Defense and Federal Aviation Administration joint project on, Safety and Security Extensions for Integrated Capability Maturity Models*, September 2004 www.faa.gov/ipg

From synthesis and harmonization of practices from 8 standards (4 on security and 4 on safety)

ISO/IEC 15026 Framework for System & SW Assurance



Separation of Concerns in Software Systems



Considerations for Assurance Arguments:

- What can be understood & controlled –vs- what cannot
- What must be articulated in terms of claims and how might the bounds of such claims be described



Interoperability facilitates exchange

- ▶ In order to facilitate exchange of claims about software industry-wide, there should be (at least):
 - agreement of common terminology, boilerplate claims, properties, etc.
 - Structured way to exchange such claims (templates, XML schemas, etc.)
 - Archives of such claims (libraries, repositories) that allow search, comparison, etc. (which again needs shared taxonomy, etc.)
 - Agreed-upon ways to interpret such claims, properties, etc. (common meaning, as opposed to simply common format).
 - When it comes to software – all this needs to be automated (supported by tools)



Proposed standardization work within OMG

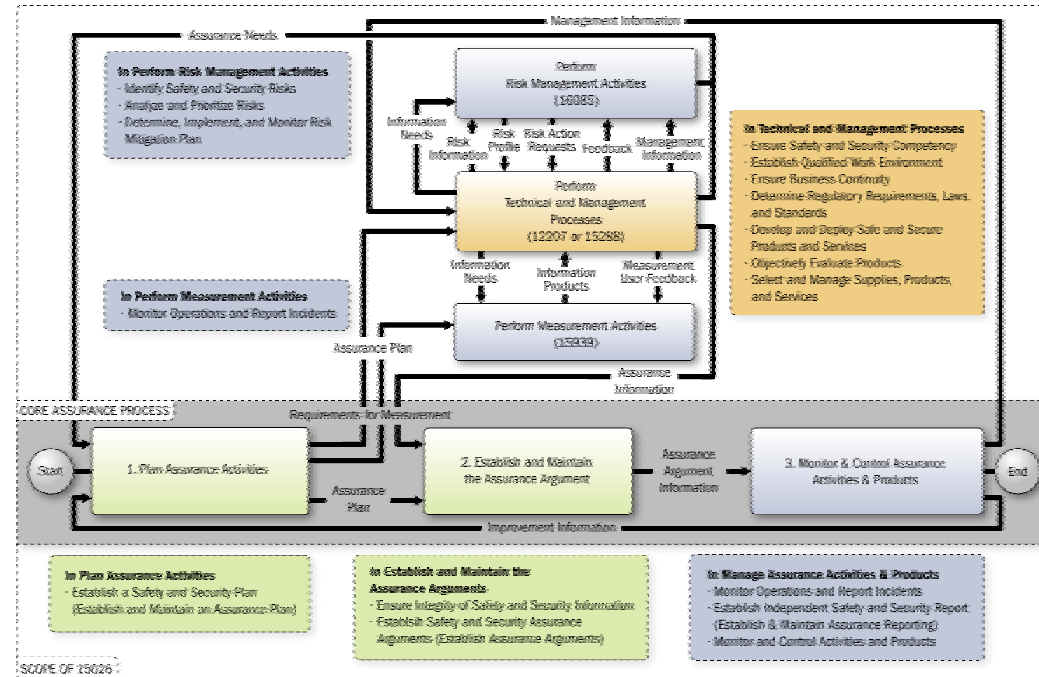
- ▶ Recently, OMG launched Architecture-Driven Modernization (ADM) Task Force to develop specifications related to modernization of existing software systems.
 - Often referred to as “*MDA-in-reverse*,” it addresses the need to apply modeling techniques to software products that are already in production to facilitate understanding, evaluation, assessment, certification, or modernization.
 - ADM techniques reach new frontiers in software understanding.
- ▶ The first specification of the ADM Task Force – Knowledge Discovery Meta-model (KDM) - establishes the Foundation for Software Assurance and Modernization by standardizing common platform-neutral framework for describing software systems, their artifacts, designs, architecture and their operating environment.
 - KDM defines common terminology that can be shared by tool vendors and integrators, and assessment and certification bodies;
 - KDM also defines a formal interoperability specification, so that descriptions can be exchanged; thus it providing interoperability in software understanding.

Software Assurance Meta-model

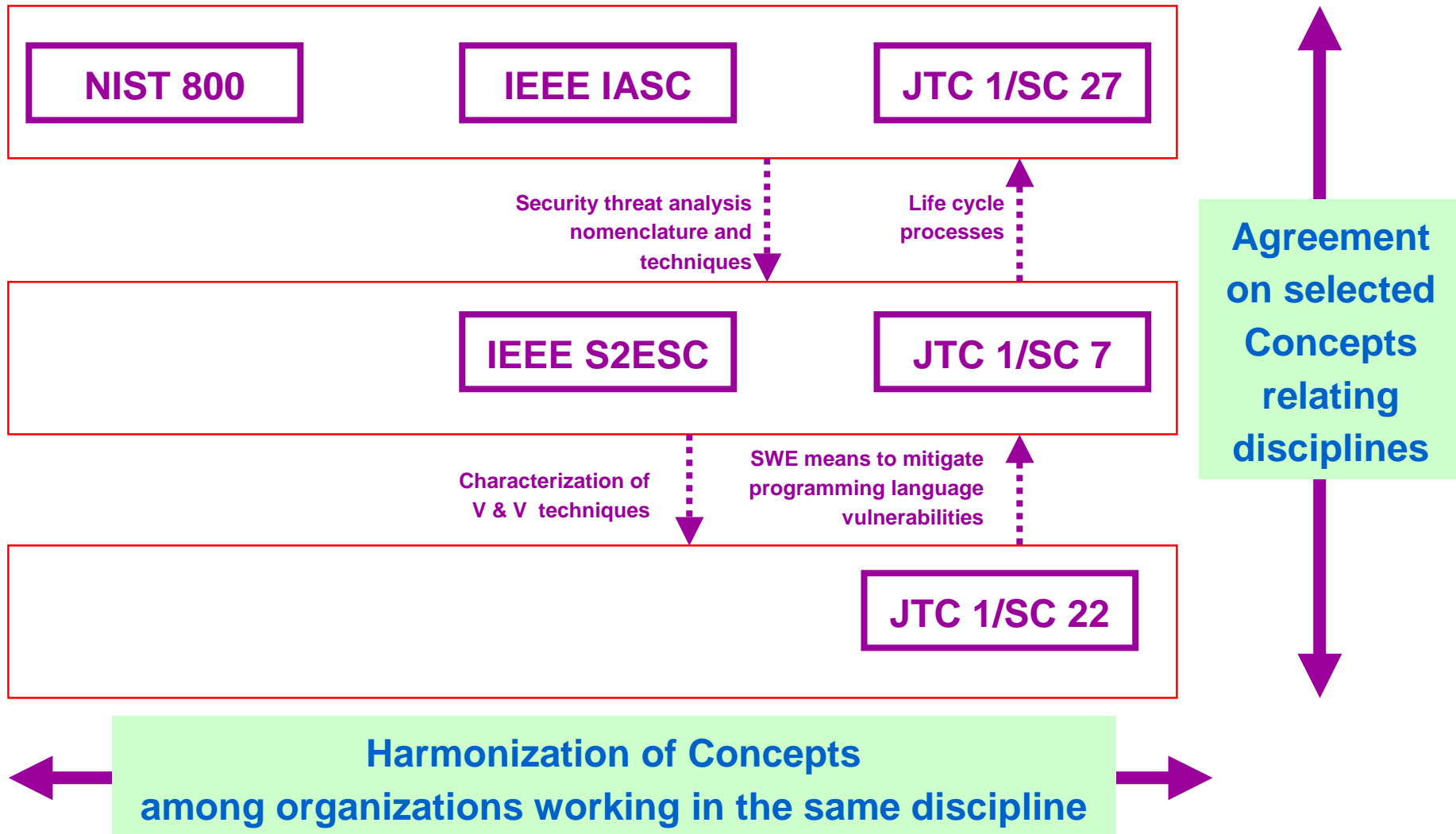
- ▶ Process of building *trust* ... embodied in software asset evaluation
- ▶ *Claims* about software systems...
 - Involve certain *Target Requirement* (intentions)
 - Related to *risks*
 - How vendor-specified risk is mitigated
 - Security requirements
 - Process requirements (cleanroom, ISO, etc.;)
 - Architectural TR (especially when system of systems; integrations of 3rd party components is involved)
 - Specify the *degree* to which the target requirement was addressed
 - Levels of *certainty* of the claim
 - What kind of proof exists to support the certain claim
 - What benchmarks were involved
- ▶ Process of building/assembling software components
- ▶ Trust is *derived* from claims
 - Levels of trust and how vendor-specified risks *match* buyer's risks

Next Steps for System and Software Assurance

- Modify 15026 context diagram
- Write supporting text
 - Clearly establish centrality of the Assurance Argument
 - Describe the Assurance Argument in detail
 - Describe interfaces/ amplifications to the Technical and Management processes of 15288 and 12207
 - Describe interfaces/ amplifications to the Risk Management Process of 16085 and the Measurement Process of 15939 and Security Metrics of 27004
- Reconvene in December to review and comment



Examples of Desired Relationships



Key Standards for Software & System Processes

- ▶ ISO/IEC 15288, System Life Cycle Processes
 - 25 processes spanning the life cycle of a system.
 - The standard is primarily descriptive.
- ▶ ISO/IEC 12207:1995, Software Life Cycle Processes
 - 17 processes spanning the life cycle of a software product or service.
 - The standard is somewhat prescriptive in defining a minimum level of responsible practice.
 - Describes processes meeting the needs of organizational process definition.
- ▶ ISO/IEC 12207:Amd 1
 - Describes processes to meet the needs of process assessment and improvement.
- ▶ ISO/IEC 15026, Integrity Levels → Assurance
 - Describes additional techniques needed for high-integrity systems.
 - Currently, not process-oriented, but is being repositioned.
- ▶ ISO/IEC 16085, Risk Management Process
- ▶ ISO/IEC 15939, Measurement Process
- ▶ Other standards treating specific processes in greater detail

Some Current Efforts

► ISO SC7

- Incorporate “raise the floor” assurance practices into life cycle standards.
- Incorporate “raise the ceiling” practices into separate standards strongly related to the life cycle standards.
- Use “16 Practices” as a benchmark for measuring success.

► ISO SC22

- Develop coding guidelines for common programming languages.

► ISO SC27

- Expand their perceived context to include assurance concerns.

► IEEE S2ESC

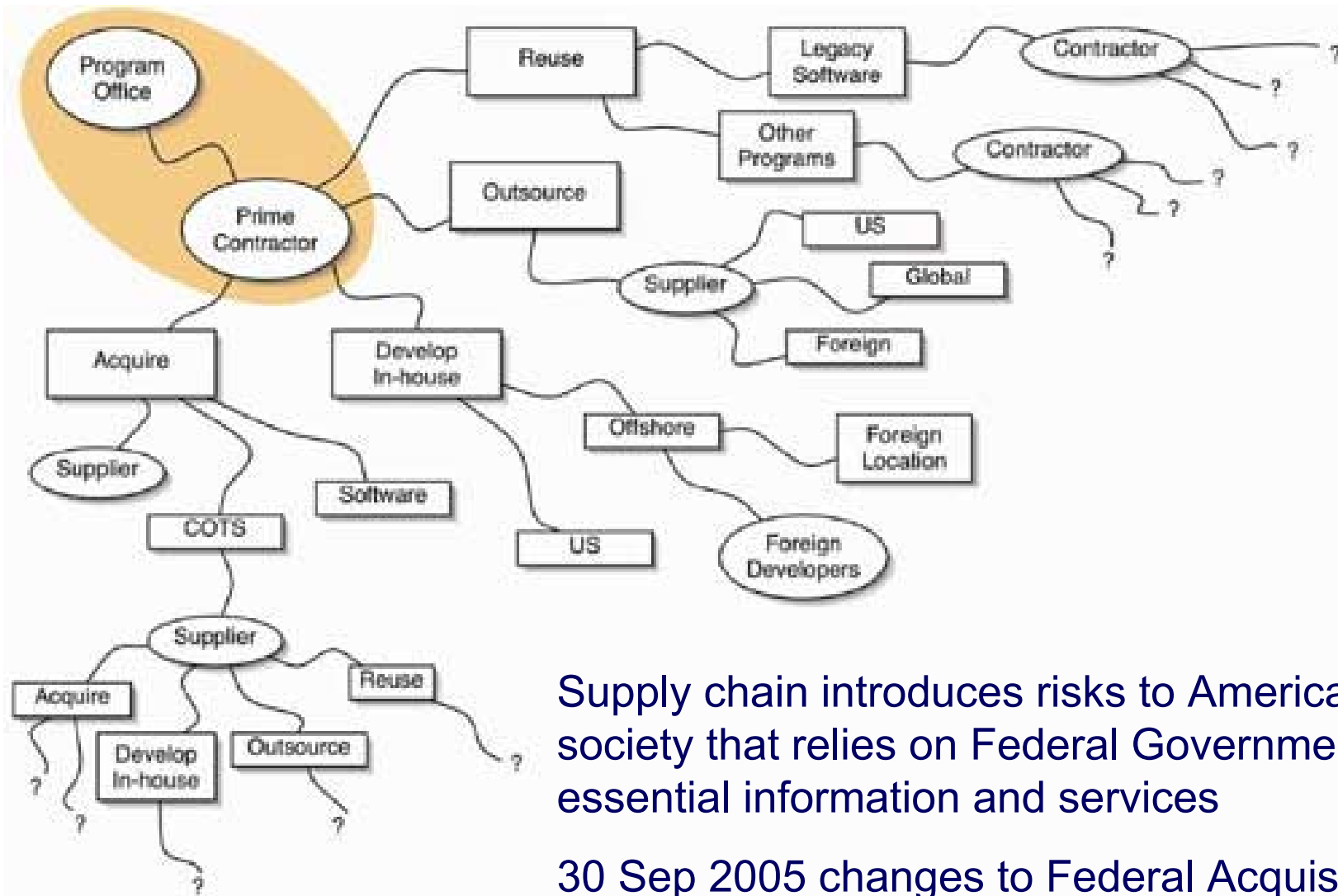
- Use as an “integrator” of standards for packaging and transition to industry.



Software Assurance: Acquisition

- ▶ **Collaborate with stakeholders to enhance software supply chain management through improved risk mitigation and contracting for secure software****
 - Collaborate with CNSS and industry working groups to identify needs for reducing risks associated with software supply chain
 - Work with organizations providing acquisition training and education to develop applicable curriculum
 - Chair IEEE CS S2ESC WG to update of IEEE 1062, “Software Acquisition”
 - Collaborate with stakeholder organizations to support acquisition community:
 - Develop and disseminate templates for acquisition language and evaluation based on successful models
 - Develop and disseminate common or sample statement of work / procurement language that includes provisions on liability for federal acquisition managers
 - Develop and disseminate acquisition guidebook on acquisition of secure software-intensive systems and services
 - Collaborate with agencies implementing changes responsive to changes in the FAR that incorporated IT security provisions of FISMA when buying goods and services





Supply chain introduces risks to American society that relies on Federal Government for essential information and services

30 Sep 2005 changes to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) focus on IT Security

Focuses on the role of contractors in security as Federal agencies outsource various IT functions.



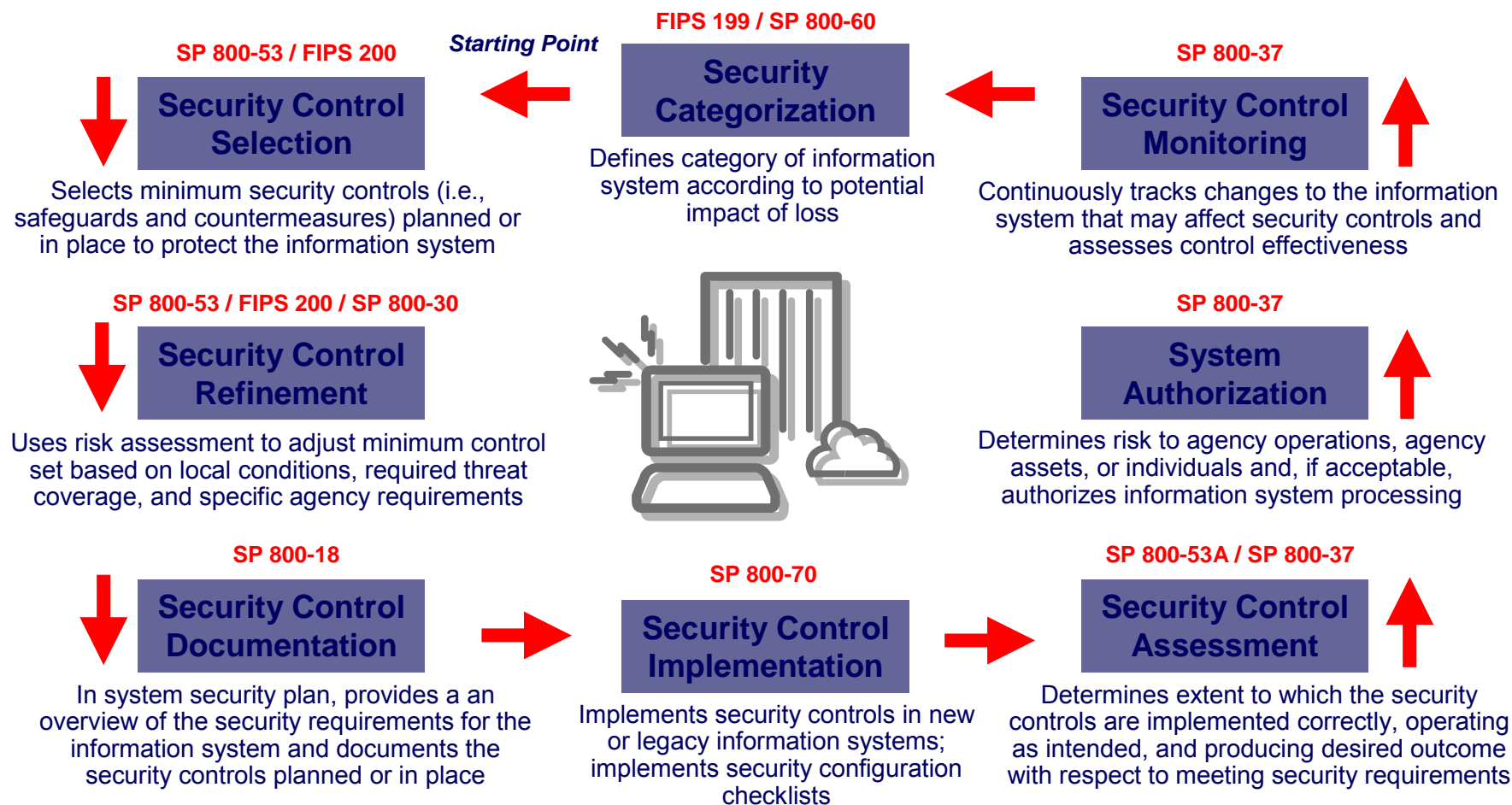
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FISMA IT security provisions now in FAR

- ▶ 30 Sep 2005 amended FAR parts 1, 2, 7, 11, and 39 implements IT security provisions of FISMA for all phases of IT acquisition life cycle
 - Incorporate FISMA into Fed Acquisition with clear and consistent IT security guidance
 - Require agencies to identify and provide InfoSec protections commensurate with security risks to Federal information collected or maintained for the agency and info systems used or operated on behalf of an agency by a contractor
 - Incorporate IT security in buying goods and services
 - Require adherence to Federal Information Processing Standards
 - Require agency security policy and requirements in IT acquisitions
 - Require contractors and Fed employees be subjected to same requirements in accessing Fed IT systems and data
 - Applies Information Assurance definitions for Integrity, Confidentiality and Availability to Federal IT, including Sensitive But Unclassified information



NIST Enterprise Risk Management Framework



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Source: FISMA Implementation Project, Dr. Ron Ross, NIST, April 2004

FISMA Implementation Project Standards and Guidelines

- ▶ FIPS Publication 199 (Security Categorization)
- ▶ NIST Special Publication 800-37 (Certification & Accreditation)
- ▶ NIST Special Publication 800-53 (Security Controls)
- ▶ NIST Special Publication 800-53A (Assessment)
- ▶ NIST Special Publication 800-59 (National Security)
- ▶ NIST Special Publication 800-60 (Category Mapping)
- ▶ FIPS Publication 200 (Minimum Security Controls)



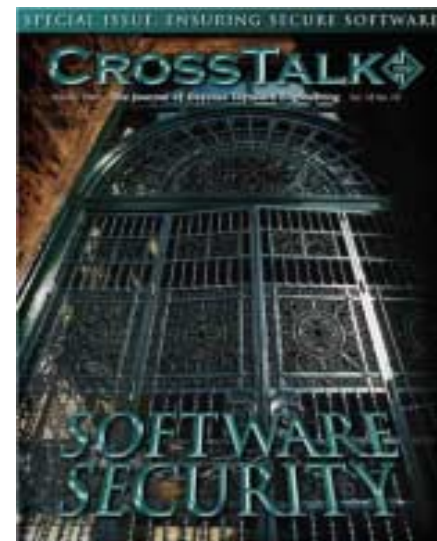
Software Assurance: Technology

- ▶ Enhance software security measurement, identify SwA R&D priorities, and assess Software Assurance testing and diagnostic capabilities**
 - Collaborate with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to inventory software assurance tools and measure effectiveness, identify gaps and conflicts, and develop a plan to eliminate gaps and conflicts
 - NIST SEMATE workshops to assess, measure, and validate tool effectiveness
 - Identify R&D requirements for DHS S&T consideration; coordinating Software Assurance R&D requirements with other federal agencies
 - Advocate funding of R&D (through the DHS S&T Directorate) that will examine tools and techniques for analyzing software to detect security vulnerabilities.
 - Leverage SwA R&D prioritization efforts from DoD SwA Initiative (IRC HP list)
 - Leverage multi-agency Cyber Security and IA R&D provided to stakeholders.
 - Include techniques that require access to source code & binary-only techniques
 - Collaborate with other agencies and allied organizations to mature measurement in security to support SwA requirements and explore needs and organizing mechanisms for federated labs to address R&D needs



Software Assurance (SwA) Outreach Service

- ▶ Co-sponsor semi-annual Software Assurance Forum for government, academia, and industry to facilitate the ongoing collaboration -- next 16-17 March 2006
- ▶ Sponsor SwA issues of CROSSTALK (Oct 05 & Sep 06), and provide SwA articles in other journals to “spread the word” to relevant stakeholders
- ▶ Provide free SwA resources via “BuildSecurityIn” portal to promote relevant methodologies
- ▶ Provide DHS Speakers Bureau speakers



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Examining IT Security Requirements

- ▶ How are common flaws (vulnerabilities) in software addressed in procurements?
- ▶ Are existing schemes for product evaluation adequate?
- ▶ What test guidance should be provided?
- ▶ How should certification and accreditation processes better address security requirements?
- ▶ How does acquisition community evaluate capabilities of suppliers to deliver secure software?

Reaching the Stakeholders

Leverage Efforts in Evolving ISO Standards, CNSS IA and IEEE CS SWEBOK

Education

- Curriculum
- Accreditation Criteria

*CNSS IA Courseware
Evaluation*

*IEEE/ACM SW Engineering
2004 curriculum*

ABET



**University
acceptance**

Professional Development

- Continuing Education
- Certification

CSDP Online Prep Course

IEEE CS SWE Book Series

*Certified Software
Development Professional*



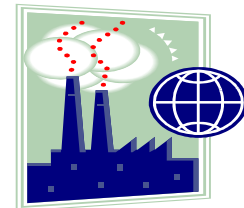
**Individual
acceptance**

Training and Practices

- Standards of Practice
- Training programs

*IEEE Software and
Systems Engineering
Standards Committee*

*ISO/IEC JTC1/SC7 & SC27
and other committees*



**Industrial
acceptance**



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Adopted from "Integrating Software Engineering Standards" material prepared by IEEE Computer Society Liaison to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 7, James.W.Moore@ieee.org, 23 February 2005

DHS Software Assurance Program

- ▶ Program goals promote security for software throughout the lifecycle:
 - Secure and reliable software supporting mission operational resiliency *
 - Better trained and educated software developers using development processes and tools to produce secure software
 - Informed customers demanding secure software, with requisite levels of integrity, through improved acquisition strategies. *
- ▶ Program objectives are to:
 - Shift security paradigm from Patch Management to SW Assurance.
 - Encourage the software developers (public and private industry) to raise the bar on software quality and security.
 - Partner with the private sector, academia, and other government agencies in order to improve software development and acquisition processes.
 - Facilitate discussion, develop practical guidance, development of tools, and promote R&D investment.



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* Guiding principles in the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace provide focus on “producing more resilient and reliable information infrastructure,” and includes “cyber security considerations in oversight activities.”

Software Assurance Observations

- ▶ Business/operational needs are shifting to now include “resiliency”
 - Investments in process/product improvement and evaluation must include security
 - Incentives for trustworthy software need to be considered with other business objectives
- ▶ Pivotal momentum gathering in recognition of (and commitment to) process improvement in acquisition, management and engineering
 - Security requirements need to be addressed along with other functions
 - Software assurance education and training curriculum is a key enabler
- ▶ From a national/homeland security perspective, acquisition and development “best practices” must contribute to safety and security
 - More focus on “supply chain” management is needed to reduce risks
 - National & international standards need to evolve to “raise the floor” in defining the “minimal level of responsible practice” for software assurance
 - Qualification of software products and suppliers’ capabilities are some of the important risk mitigation activities of acquiring and using organizations
 - In collaboration with industry, Federal agencies need to focus on software assurance as a means of better enabling operational resiliency



Next Software Assurance Forum at McLean Hilton 16-17 March 2006

www.us-cert.gov →

<http://buildsecurityin.us-cert.gov>



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Questions?



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Back-up Slides

Vulnerabilities and Malware

► Vulnerability information

- **National Vulnerability Database (NVD)** <http://nvd.nist.gov>
Search U.S. government vulnerability resources for information about vulnerabilities on your systems
- **Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures List (CVE)** <http://cve.mitre.org>
Search vulnerabilities by CVE name or browse the US-CERT list of vulnerabilities in CVE name order
- **Open Vulnerability Assessment Language (OVAL)** <http://oval.mitre.org>
Identify vulnerabilities on your local systems using OVAL vulnerability definitions

► Malware

- **Common Malware Enumeration (CME)** <http://cme.mitre.org>
Provides single, common identifiers to new virus threats to reduce public confusions during malware outbreaks.





National Vulnerability Database

a comprehensive cyber vulnerability resource

The National Vulnerability Database (NVD) is vulnerability resource tool co-sponsored by NIST and the DHS National Cyber Security Division/US-CERT, and it:

- Is a comprehensive IT vulnerability database that integrates all publicly available U.S. Government vulnerability resources and provides links to industry resources
- Is built upon the CVE standard vulnerability nomenclature and augments the standard with a search engine and reference library
- Provides IT professionals with centralized and comprehensive vulnerability information in order to assist with incident prevention and management to mitigate the impact of vulnerabilities
- Strives to include all industry vulnerability databases, creating a “meta search engine”
- Provides official U.S. Government information on virtually all vulnerabilities
- Provides a fine grained search capability
- Provides user requested vulnerability statistics



NVD Search Capability

The NVD enables users to search a database containing virtually all known public computer vulnerabilities by a variety of vulnerability characteristics including:

- related exploit range
- software name and version number
- vendor name
- vulnerability type, severity, impact

Updated every 4 minutes, to date, the NVD contains:

- Over 12,800 vulnerability summaries
- 38 US-CERT Alerts
- 1090 US-CERT Vulnerability Notes
- Over 1,000 OVAL queries
- 47,000 industry references
- 36 executable Cold Fusion programs

The screenshot shows the NVD search engine interface. At the top, it is sponsored by the DHS National Cyber Security Division/US-CERT and is part of the NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology. The main heading is "National Vulnerability Database" with the subtitle "a comprehensive cyber vulnerability resource". Below this are links for "Search CVE", "Download CVE", "Statistics", "Contact", and "FAQ". The interface is divided into two main sections. The left section, titled "Welcome to NVD!!", provides a description of the NVD as a comprehensive cyber security vulnerability database that integrates all publicly available U.S. Government vulnerability resources and provides references to industry resources. It is based on the CVE vulnerability naming standard. Below this is a "Resource Status" box listing: 11966 Vulnerabilities, 482 US-CERT Alerts, 1095 US-CERT Vulnerability Notes, 781 OVAL Queries, Last updated: 08/07/05, and Publication rate: 10 vulnerabilities / day. The right section, titled "CVE Vulnerability Search Engine", includes a "Keyword search:" field with a "Search" button. Below the search field are two buttons: "Search last 3 months" and "Search last 3 years". There are also radio buttons to filter results by "US-CERT Technical Alerts", "US-CERT Vulnerability Notes", "US-CERT Technical Alerts or Vulnerability Notes", and "OVAL Queries". At the bottom, there is a "Recent CVE Vulnerabilities" section listing two entries: CAN-2005-2489 (High severity) and CAN-2005-2488 (Medium severity), both published on 8/7/2005.



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<http://nvd.nist.gov>



Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

The Standard for Information Security Vulnerability Names

- ▶ An international security community activity
 - to provide common names for publicly known security vulnerabilities and exposures
- ▶ Key tenets
 - One name for one vulnerability or exposure
 - One standardized description for each
 - Existence as a dictionary
 - Publicly accessible on the Internet
 - Industry participation in open forum (editorial board)
- ▶ The CVE list and information at <http://cve.mitre.org>



12,081 unique CVE names ~350-500 new/month



Open Vulnerability and Assessment Language

- ▶ Community-based collaboration
- ▶ Precise definitions to test for each vulnerability, misconfiguration, policy, or patch
- ▶ Standard schema of security-relevant configuration information
- ▶ OVAL schema and definitions freely available for download, public review, and comment
- ▶ Security community suggests new definitions and schema
- ▶ OVAL board considers proposed schema modifications



1,141 OVAL Definitions

<http://oval.mitre.org>
Public unveiling - December 2002

CME provides single, common identifiers to new virus threats to reduce public confusions during malware outbreaks.

- **Assign unique IDs to high profile malware threats**
- **Create a community forum for sample exchange and deconfliction**
- **Standardize malware analysis content to provide consistent information to incident responders and enable machine consumption by network management tools**

CME is not an attempt to solve the challenges involved with naming schemes for viruses and other forms of malware, but instead aims to facilitate the adoption of a shared, neutral indexing capability for malware. The CME initiative seeks to:

- Reduce the public's confusion in referencing threats during malware incidents.
- Enhance communication between anti-virus vendors.
- Improve communication and information sharing between anti-virus vendors and the rest of the information security community.



US-CERT Publications on Securing Computers

► **Before You Connect a New Computer to the Internet**

- Tips for first time connecting a new (or newly upgraded) computer to the internet
- For home users, students, small businesses, or any organizations with limited Information Technology (IT) support

► **Home Network Security**

Overview of security risks and countermeasures associated with internet connectivity

► **Home Computer Security**

Examples, checklists, and a glossary for securing a home computer

► **Common Sense Guide to Cyber Security for Small Businesses**

- Security practices for non-technical managers at companies with more than a single computer, but without a sophisticated in-house information technology department
- Details of small businesses that were adversely affected by cyber crimes

► **Virus Basics**

An introduction to viruses and ways to avoid them

► **Software License Agreements: Ignore at Your Own Risk**

An overview of the risks computer users may incur by blindly agreeing to terms contained in software licensing agreements.



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www.us-cert.gov