

IT Security and Risk Management

Introduction

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Introduction

- Some hundreds of years ago, we would have been making living on agriculture.
- Say a hundred years ago you were likely to be making a living working in a factory.
- Today, we live in the information age where everyone has a job somehow connected to information stored in digital form on a network.

History of Information Security

- Computer security began immediately after the first mainframes were developed
- Physical controls were needed to limit access to authorized personnel to sensitive military locations

The 1990s

- Networks of computers became more common, so too did the need to interconnect the networks
- Resulted in the Internet, the first manifestation of a global network of networks
- In early Internet deployments, security was treated as a low priority

The present

- The Internet has brought millions of computer networks into communication with each other – many of them unsecured
- Ability to secure each now influenced by the security on every computer to which it is connected

What is Security?

- The quality or state of being secure—to be free from danger
- A successful organization should have multiple layers of security in place:
 - Physical security
 - Personal security
 - Operations security
 - Communications security
 - Network security
 - Information security

Critical characteristics of information

- The value of information comes from the characteristics it possesses:
 - Availability
 - Accuracy
 - Authenticity
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Utility
 - Possession

Component of Information System

- Information system (IS) is the entire set of software, hardware, data, people, procedures, and networks necessary to use information as a resource in the organisation

Approaches for implementing Security

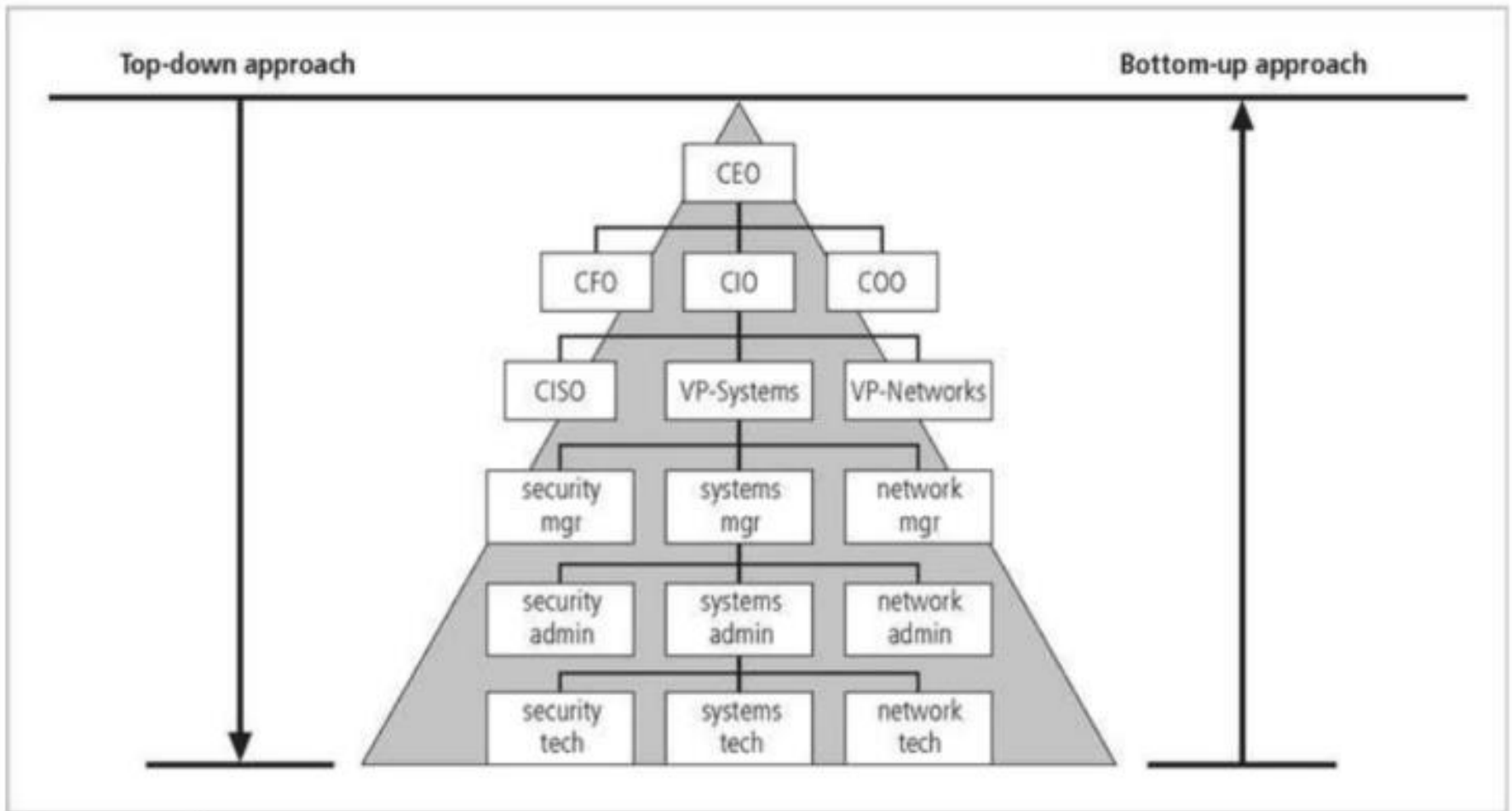
Bottom Up Approach

- Security from a grass-roots effort - systems administrators attempt to improve the security of their systems
- Key advantage - technical expertise of the individual administrators
- Seldom works, as it lacks a number of critical features:
 - participant support
 - organizational staying power

Top – Down Approach

- **Initiated by upper management:**
 - issue policy, procedures, and processes
 - dictate the goals and expected outcomes of the project
 - determine who is accountable for each of the required actions
- **This approach has strong upper management support, a dedicated champion, dedicated funding, clear planning, and the chance to influence organizational culture**
- **May also involve a formal development strategy referred to as a systems development life cycle**
 - Most successful top-down approach

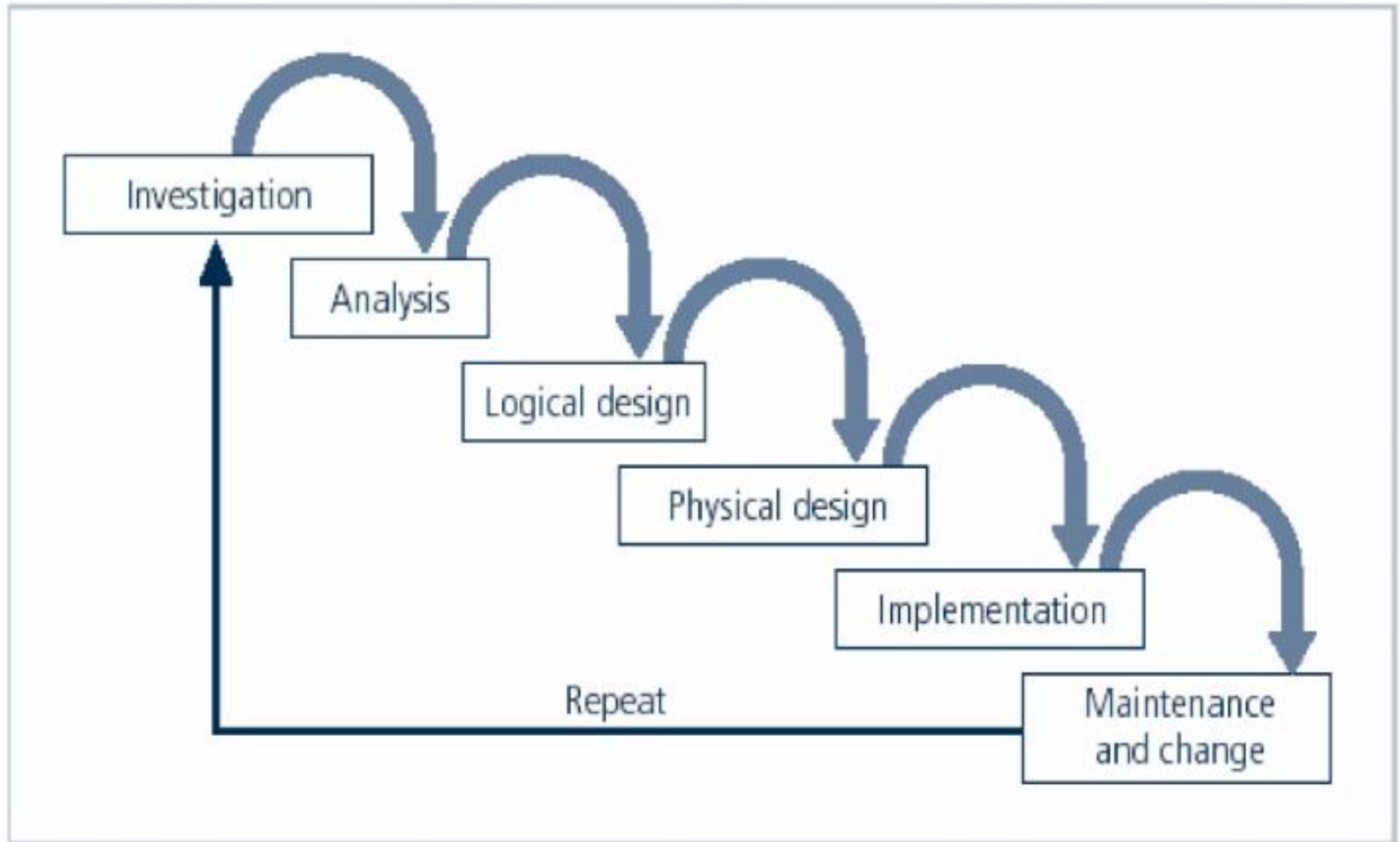
Approaches for implementing Security



Security Systems Development life cycle

- The same phases used in traditional SDLC may be adapted to support specialized implementation of an IS project
 - Investigation
 - Analysis
 - Logical design
 - Physical design
 - Implementation
 - Maintenance & change
- Identification of specific threats and creating controls to counter them
- SecSDLC is a coherent program rather than a series of random, seemingly unconnected actions

SDLC



SDLC Waterfall Methodology

Investigation

- Identifies process, outcomes, goals, and constraints of the project
- Begins with enterprise information security policy
- Organizational feasibility analysis is performed

Analysis

- Documents from investigation phase are studied
- Analyzes existing security policies or programs, along with documented current threats and associated controls
- Includes analysis of relevant legal issues that could impact design of the security solution
- The risk management task begins

Logical Design

- Creates and develops blueprints for information security
- Incident response actions planned:
 - Continuity planning
 - Incident response
 - Disaster recovery
- Feasibility analysis to determine whether project should continue or be outsourced

Physical Design

- Needed security technology is evaluated, alternatives generated, and final design selected
- At end of phase, feasibility study determines readiness of organization for project

Implementation

- Security solutions are acquired, tested, implemented, and tested again
- Personnel issues evaluated; specific training and education programs conducted
- Entire tested package is presented to management for final approval

Professionals involved in information security within an organization

Senior Management

- Chief Information Officer (CIO)
 - Senior technology officer
 - Primarily responsible for advising senior executives on strategic planning
- Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
 - Primarily responsible for assessment, management, and implementation of IS in the organization
 - Usually reports directly to the CIO

Information Security Project Team

- A number of individuals who are experienced in one or more facets of required technical and nontechnical areas:
 - Champion
 - Team leader
 - Security policy developers
 - Risk assessment specialists
 - Security professionals
 - Systems administrators
 - End users