

Control: 0924; Revision: 1; Updated: Nov-10; Applicability: UD, P, C, S, TS; Compliance: should; Authority: AA

Personnel should avoid posting personal information, such as the following, on websites:

- past and present employment details
- personal details
- schools/institutions
- clubs/hobbies
- educational qualifications
- current work duties
- work contact details.

[REMOVED]

ASD removes control limiting use of LinkedIn in Australian Government

Australian Public Service: It's time to update your LinkedIn profile!

- Published on December 22, 2017
<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/australian-public-service-its-time-update-your-linkedin-aaron-dinnage/>

Have you ever noticed that so few public servants have up-to-date or complete LinkedIn profiles, or don't even have a profile at all?

It may surprise you that up until recently the Australian government Information Security Manual has encouraged all staff to avoid putting the sort of information online that makes up a LinkedIn profile.

The ISM Control in question explicitly called out employment details, schools, clubs, education, etc as things government employees should not post online. Pretty much everything you'd expect to find on a LinkedIn Profile page. But no more ...

In the update to the [ISM Controls for November 2017](#) the Australian Signals Directorate (overseers of all things InfoSec) have removed the prohibition, in fact, the control (0924) has been removed from the ISM completely. The ASD now refers to a more generic control (0821) for ongoing guidance in these matters. However, this control is far more permissive, stating that personnel should simply make informed decisions before posting this sort of information online.

Agencies should ensure that personnel are informed of the security risks associated with posting personal information on websites, especially for those personnel holding higher level security clearances.

This is certainly sound advice. Holders of higher security clearances should be careful about what they reveal online, but for the majority of government workers around the country this change in guidance is most definitely a sensible step forward.

So as 2017 winds down, now is a good time to freshen up (or create) that LinkedIn profile you've been neglecting for so long. LinkedIn itself has become a great source of industry news for professionals across public and private sector, and a *de facto* CV for many a job seeker. So be aware of your security obligations, but don't be afraid to jump in.