IMT 3501 - Excercise 1 review of Jan Lindermann

Reviewed by Joakim Harbitz

Is the mechanism described so that it is understandable to a knowledgeable reader while not being trivial?

Jan has described the definition of Trusted Path in the beginning of the text. The language is very good and can easily be understood by a reader that doesn't have a understanding of the topic beforehand.

Does the mechanism described as a Trusted path conform with the definition of a Trusted path in the TCSEC, i.e., "A mechanism by which a person at a terminal can communicate directly with the Trusted Computing Base. This mechanism can only be activated by the person or the Trusted Computing Base and cannot be imitated by untrusted software."? Note that "person at a terminal" refers to the user and "trusted computing base" refers to the operating system.

I think Jan has described the mechanisms of Trusted Path in Linux in a simple way which is easy to understand. He first explains what Trusted Path is and how it is implemented in the Linux kernel in a way that conforms with the definition in TCSEC. Although his explanation is a little short, the his text has an ok level of detail.

Are references included that support the description of the mechanism?

Yes. Jan uses a common method of referencing. Unique numbers are placed after the text, and the references are listed at the bottom of the text. This makes it easy for the reader to look it up later.

Grade: Pass