

Module 3 - Network Security - Collaborative discussion 1

Unit 2 - "Peer Response" for a student

This was a really interesting read and I enjoyed it very much, especially when you managed to link the different risks associated with both SMEs and the large energy sector.

The link seems to loop back to competence and technological expertise which would be a key area of securing systems and improving the team members' awareness.

You had stated that "going digital usually means having a bigger attack surface in terms of cybersecurity", I fully agree with this statement. According to Yuan et al. (2020), "technological innovation is not achievable without digitalization". Businesses may therefore see the early stages of digitalization as a predicament that they are willing to accept.

You also stated "they lack the leadership and expertise to embrace the necessary mindset towards cybersecurity". This would also be supported by research that had been carried out by Krovaite & Stankeviciene (2019), under their identified risk categorization of "competence risk".

Do you think that a cybersecurity awareness event should be implemented in the process of new business registrations?

To conclude, there could be a slight difference in the vector of weakness between SMEs and large energy sector systems. The difference may lay in the area of Operational Technology within industrial control systems of manufacturing or production businesses. With the push to achieve connectivity, legacy systems have become increasingly exposed to the internet. This is a big issue because it is very difficult to shut production down or update these legacy systems. Therefore, it may be helpful for all newly registered SMEs to attend a mandatory cybersecurity roundtable event and implement such events into business related degrees.

References

Krovaite, K. & Stankeviciene, J. (2019) Risk of Digitalisation of Business Models. In: International Scientific Conference. Vilnius, Lithuania: VGTU Press, 380-387

Yuan, S., Musibau, H.O., Genç, S.Y., Shaheen, R., Ameen, A. and Tan, Z., 2021. Digitalization of economy is the key factor behind fourth industrial revolution: How G7 countries are overcoming with the financing issues?. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 165, p.120533.