File 20100816.0638: Paragraph for ATAS:

Cross Domain Systems (CDS) for handling classified information complicate the security test and evaluation problem because, by definition, they span security boundaries; in the present scheme, this leads to multiplication of cost with no concomitant improvement in security. This research will examine project records from a pair of related CDS certification efforts in the US and UK with the aim of developing a tool based on a generalisable model of inter-accreditor communication in which not all accreditors are cleared to the same or comparable levels. (The model is therefore useful for both intra- and international security accreditations.) Other data will come from interviews with certifiers and accrediting authorities in the intelligence communities of the US and UK governments; MATLAB will be used to develop an equilibrium model based on microeconomic theory and to perform experiments on the equilibrium in silico. The eventual goal of this research is to reduce the time and cost of certification test and evaluation as applied to CDS systems by eliminating unnecessary re-testing of the same or similar security requirements during accreditation by mutually distrustful data owners whose interests align in minimising the residual risk of the CDS.

I will send it to Dr Martin for his approval, then forward to Julie Sheppard to make it official, then back to ATAS.

References