

File 20120104.1049: Notes from meeting with Dr Martin this morning:

I reported that I am working on the white paper for Lockheed on SCAP, which I am really writing as Chapter 6, but then I will make minor changes and deliver it as a white paper to the developer. I described my conversations with Dr Fléchais on Christmas Eve and why I must do this last report for Lockheed, as they can make it sticky for me if I don't cooperate. They could scuttle my leaving and cut off my health care insurance if I don't write this last report for them. Dr Martin shook his head over my leaving a steady job in this economy, but I have to. It's a short-term optimisation, but I'll be back on track career-wise in a year. (Although with student loans to pay off.) I described the report as comprising a formal recommendation from the developer to the programme office with implementation plan, budget and schedule, testing and validation plan, coordination with a validation laboratory, and rating maintenance. Dr Martin asked how much change would be needed to turn the white paper into a chapter; I replied that I'm writing the chapter, and would turn it into a white paper.

I remarked that SCAP is useful for preventing the common situation where system security officers turn off required security controls soon after the accreditors leave, in the name of operational efficiency. This supports my previous assertion that it lowers the average cost of CT&E and ST&E.

I need to re-do my thesis outline in light of the revised schedule, but haven't had time.

I reported that I am meeting with HR and the VP tomorrow to finalise the leaving. As soon as I deliver this last report, I'm gone from there.

I described the meeting with the patent lawyer, Mr Tanner. The application should be filed in January. Dr Martin asked some questions about US patent law and how it differs from EU patent law.

I reported that I have several papers for Reading Group. Dr Martin will not be there for Reading Group next week, but wants it to continue. I told him about the Bellovin 'mother's maiden name' story, but between the two of us we decided that [1] is probably not suitable for Reading Group; we want papers that people can learn from. It's fun to read, but it's only history. I will suggest a paper for next week, being a good one that people can learn security principles from. Dr Fléchais will likely be there.

I reported that I am finishing the white paper for Lockheed on SCAP and it will be my Chapter 6. Lockheed are probably getting more than they bargained for. Dr Martin wants to meet with me next week, but then whilst he is in Singapore, I will spend a few weeks meeting with Dr Fléchais instead, since I'll be working on his stuff then.

We discussed using Google+ 'hangouts' for video conferencing of more than one person, since Skype charges for the same service. It might work well for Reading Group when we need more than one person remotely located. I set up hangouts on my Google+ and installed the web browser plugin and tested and configured the camera. I can make it work from Gmail now.

Dr Martin is teaching security principles next week, then is off to Singapore for a few weeks.

Duration of call: 15 minutes.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 11th January 2012 at 5.15pm GMT.

References

- [1] Steven M. Bellovin. Frank Miller: Inventor of the one-time pad. *Cryptologia*, 35(3):203–222, 2011.