

File 20110331.1636: Notes for WAR to DM:

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In attempting to explain the current state of C&A practice, I had to go back to the standards for DIACAP (DoDI 8510.01) and its predecessor, DITSCAP (5200.40) to re-think them using current information. I saw a very interesting presentation this week from Steve Welke of Raytheon TCS in which he made the assertion that Assessment & Authorisation (A&A), in the mould of the NIST interpretation rooted in SP 800-39 is gaining traction in both the SABI and TSABI worlds (modified in the latter case by CNSS). The term ‘C&A’ ‘...implies a finality that led people in the past to try to pick up an accredited system and put it down someplace else.’ A&A, he asserts, correctly reflects a security authorisation process. I am trying to get hold of the author of that presentation so I can cite him properly. Without a doubt, the R” case study was the first to apply the NIST approach in the wake of ICD 503.

I found the treatment of scientific hypotheses in phenomenological research from a book chapter by Dalton (1959) highly useful this week; for research inside organisations, that author gives good advice on writing up results. I am lagging my schedule for Chapters 1–4 but confident of getting them done in time to submit for COS; fewer distractions and more time to work are helping tremendously. For Lockheed, I wrote a contribution on SSD forensics for a capture manager that was inspired by Wei, et al.’s research but extended it in the direction of improved SSD design for forensics-friendly and emergency-sanitisation-facilitating uses. In the context of 8570.01-M training for DAAs, I read the newly issued DoDM 3305.13, dated 14th March, relevant to the NIST SP 800-137 continuous monitoring policy in the context of C&A for NSS.

Status: writing Ch. 2 and thinking about Ch. 3 for COS application in April. I will send a chapter to Dr Martin as soon as I have something written that I am willing to release.

References