

File 20120503.1436: Backhouse and Dhillon (1996) [1] contains an excellent review in the first half of the article of the history of computer security standards, internationally.

Some quotations from the article:

Information security research can broadly be classified into three categories. First is the category characterised by extensive checklists. . . . Second is the group of approaches which use risk analysis to identify the necessary controls. Third is a set of approaches which use security evaluation methods.

Checklists inevitably draw concern onto the detail of procedure without addressing the key task of understanding what the substantive questions are. Procedures are constantly changing and for this reason offer little in the way of analytical stability.

Source: [1, p. 2].

The following is an important quotation from Backhouse & Dhillon, I think:

*‘. . . security problems often arise where the communication necessary for co-ordinated action breaks down. . . .’* [emphasis added]

Source: [1, p. 4]

## References

- [1] James Backhouse and Gurpreet Dhillon. Structures of responsibility and security of information systems. *European Journal of Information Systems*, 5(1):2–9, 1996. I can’t get this. Comlab library might have it. UPDATE: got for \$30 from Nature.com.