File 20100811.1252: 'The exercise of designing a secure system shares many of the characteristics of solving a *wicked problem* [48]. A wicked problem can be characterised in security by the lack of clear statement for what it means to secure the system, the lack of an immediate test proving that a system is secure, and the large number of possible controls which are potential solutions to a specified security problem [emphais in original].' Source: [1].

References

[1] Shamal Faily and Ivan Fléchais. To boldly go where invention isn't secure: applying Security Entrepreneurship to secure systems design. In *NSPW'10*, Concord, Massachusetts, September 23–23, 2010.