

File 20111215.0949: Notes from meeting with Dr Martin, 0915 this morning (1615 GMT). Duration of call was fifteen minutes.

I reported status to Dr Martin in a meeting Thursday. The SCAP protocol (NIST Special Publication 800-117) actually has some applications to certification testing, I think. CDS developers and evaluators haven't figured it out yet, but a SCAP compliant CDS could report SP 800-53 security controls in a form to facilitate Beta 1 and Beta 2 testing. This might be the solution I've been looking for to streamline accreditation. I ran another idea by Dr Martin, one resulting from the Third Interim Report of the Air France 447 mishap investigation board. I speculated that the literature of Crew Resource Management (CRM), developed in response to Eastern 401 in 1972, might be a useful analogy for explaining the events of CS-2, which not unlike AF 447 flew a structurally sound and perfectly functioning system into the ground because of misaligned mental models and poor communication. The developer and validators in CS-2 had a reliable and well-tested system. Dr Martin encouraged me to follow the SCAP direction, because it is a solution to the problem, but not to spend more time on the CRM idea, which is just an analogy. I reported that I continue to work through familiarisation with ATLAS.ti, interrupted by some necessary paperwork having to do with health care insurance, but I should be proficient with ATLAS.ti after the weekend. Not to get distracted away from coding CS-1, but I need to check-point the SCAP idea so I do not forget it.

I reported that Air Force has put forth 6.3 funding for a follow-on to probabilistic redaction, to take the system to accreditation; I felt responsible to help write a report for the PM who is going after that proposal. My college got the GSO.15 form for extension of time, but needs a detailed schedule and plan for finishing; I promised to write it today so the academic affairs office can process the paperwork before everyone else goes away on holiday. I have another meeting scheduled for 21st December.

[not for WAR]

Dr Martin suggested asking the funding sponsor to delay funding it until April, because I could use the funding.

Next meeting Weds, 21st December at 1430 GMT.

Dr Martin is drowning in paperwork, so I let him off the phone. CESG are getting ready to recognise centres of excellence in information assurance, modelled on the NSA programme, and he has to write Oxford's bid. He is assembling faculty papers, descriptions of courses, and it is all due tomorrow.

References