

File 20110412.1100: Notes from Kevin Miller's systems engineering meeting today: Kevin recommended to me an article about Marlinspike's research on SSL. News on the RM 5.0 certification:

BOE to be handed to CDTAB soon for 5.01. The technical risk of 5.0 was rated at high, and they are still trying to get that reduced to medium. They want it lower because a CDS with a 'high' technical risk rating requires flag approval (admirals or generals) to deploy in the field. There are three types of risk in the TRR: technical risk, data risk and attack risk. A 'medium' technical risk allows the developer to add in some higher risk protocols such as VoIP that would be considered too high an attack risk when associated with a 'high' TR.

There were 230 attendees at the RMUG last week. One presentation proposed a CDS in a backpack. Kevin is out of town next week at Johns Hopkins for the Cross Domain Technical Forum.

Details on Mike Pahl and Greg Shettlesworth: when about a year ago four portfolios were collapsed to three, their small area of work dried up. The two of them moved to installations. However, level 5 installers must be SMEs in order to be justified under the staffing plan. For example, Marso and Marikle are both SMEs although not leaders. The business case required the leaders to reduce the number of level 5 installers. Both gentlemen are about ready to retire. Greg was hoping for it; Mike was not quite so ready, but both are going to take retirement.

Expect work slowdown in April, then it will pick up again in May. RM is always extremely busy in Autumn. RM was overstaffed by Bryan Rollins when he was in charge; consequently the programme has all these new guys that we have to pay now. They had to reduce the installer count, especially the level 5s. Susie Brizuela is on medical leave; she caught whooping cough when pregnant and they cannot treat it with drugs during pregnancy. Not sure if she will come back at all; that helps the staffing problem as well. Steve Bean says staff at 95% and work overtime as needed.

Kevin travelling to CDTF with Boyd Fletcher at Johns Hopkins next week.

References