

Principles :

- **Of Least privilege**

Why : if a simple user has administrators level access rights and permissions, anyone can go in the network and destroy it or just to use it to what he wants.

Control : ring 0 (one ring to rule them all) / Protection ring

Example of successful attack : SNMP (Single Network Management protocole exploitation) (Layer 7 - Application). Attackers abuse over-permissive configurations to control network devices.

Security measure / strategy : Limit permissions strictly to necessary functions.

- **Segregation of Duties**

Why : Limit the scope of action of a compromised target, the scope of damage too.

Control : Unix file system permissions → separate roles and control file access.

Example of successful attack : VLAN hopping (Layer 2) – used to go on isolated network segments.

Security measure / strategy : Enable ID VLAN filtering and disable DTP (Dynamic Trunking Protocol).

- **Complete mediation**

Why : Access request ← must be verified to prevent privilege escalation.

Control : sudo word ← got only the right for certain tasks (only been granted to have root access to the specific executable / path). It ensures a minimal access.

Example of successful attack : HTTP Parameter Pollution attacks (Layer 7). Attackers manipulate unmediated requests to escalate privileges

Security measure / strategy : Enforce strict access controls for each request.

- **Acceptability**

Why : if a security solution requires too many effort, if it is too costly, a user will just try to avoid to do this effort. Obviously we don't want that. If the user bypass the security system ← this is a failure.

Control : Encryption in smartphone is transparent to the user. We can use our smartphone in the same way with or without (user don't notice it).

Example of successful attack : Users disabling VPNs, exploited in man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks (Layer 4).

Security measure / strategy : Implement Always-On VPNs and user-friendly interfaces

- **Defense in Depth**

Why : To don't have a single layer of defense → must put many more efforts to attack an infrastructure.

Control : A multi-layer email system : front-end / backend / firewall / all this component are secured in different way.

Example of successful attack : DoS attacks (Layer 3).

Security measure / strategy : Use Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

- **Fail Safe**

Why : When a system fails, it should did it in the most secure state.

Control : (ATM) if power outage : lock the safe == fail secure / The tram : if someone has access to the navigation : stops and open doors == fail safe.

Example of successful attack : Exploiting a system that reverts to "open" configurations after a failure (Layer 3).

Security measure / strategy : Configure firewalls to "fail closed" (block everything).

- **KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid)**

Why : Easy system is easier to protect.

Control : Have simple infrastructures reducing the attack surface.

Example of successful attack : ARP Spoofing (Layer 2) ← poorly managed network configurations.

Security measure / strategy : Enable Access Control Lists (ACLs).

- **Open Design**

Why : Security should not rely on secrecy of design ← must be robust enough even if every know it.

Control : Shared secret (security by obscurity) / put on the chip.

Example of successful attack : Exploiting WEP (Wifi Protected Access) (Layer 2).

Security measure / strategy : Migrate to secure, open standards (e.g., WPA3).

- **Least Common Mecanism**

Why : Minimize the shared ressources among users ← reduce the risk of interference.

Control : Security mecanisms that are not are the same level

Example of successful attack : Exploiting shared servers in side-channel attacks (Layer 4).

Security measure / strategy : isolate critical process, if one is attacked, the other can be safer.

- **Weakest Link**

Why : The most vulnerable part of a system will be the first target for an attacker, the security of a system is the security of its weakest point.

Control : goal for an attacker = admin account / We already know what we must protect.

Example of successful attack : SSH brute-force attacks (Layer 7 / Maybe the 8 too).

Security measure / strategy : Double factor authentication + strong password policies.

- **Leveraging Existing Components**

Why : Reusing tested and secure components reduces risks and speeds up deployment compared to building everything from 0.

Control : Use known librairies / frameworks...

Example of successful attack : custom encryption impementations (Layer 5).

Security measure / strategy : → don't use your own crypto.

- **Audit and Accountability**

Why : Important to track actions to analyse them when incidents occurs.

Control : Enable logging mecanisms : SIEMs (Security Information and Event Management) ← monitor and analyse actions of users.

Example of successful attack : Undetected intrusion via a compromised VPN (Layer 4).
Security measure / strategy : Strict firewall rules.

- **Defense Against Known Threats**

Why : Already have a secure system against known vulnerabilities is a saving of time.

Control : Some patches are here to bring solutions to existing vulnerabilities. Keep applications up to date.

Example of successful attack : DNS cache poisoning (Layer 3).

Security measure / strategy : DNSSec ← secure DNS queries.

- **Redundancy and Resilience**

Why : Systems must withstand and recover from failures (or attacks).

Control : backups, failover systems.

Example of successful attack : Network outages caused by BGP hijacking / Route spoofing (Layer 3).

Security measure / strategy : Firewall with anti-spoof policy.

- **Continuous Improvement**

Why : Threat landscape evolves → the security must evolve too.

Control : Perform periodic security assessments and incorporate lessons learned ← into policies and procedures.

Example of successful attack : Log4j ← exploitation of unpatched vulnerabilities (Layer 7).

Security measure / strategy : Update standards (new security policies).

- **User Education and Awareness**

Why : Users = weakest link in security, prevention can avoid many phishing results for example.

Control : Do security training and awareness campaigns.

Example of successful attack : Spearphishing <- steal VPN credentials (Layer 7).

Security measure / strategy : train users with new threats.

- **Risk Management**

Why : Finite resources ← prioritize mitigating the highest risks to align with their risk tolerance.

Control : Risk assessments and frameworks (NIST / ISO) to evaluate and address threats.

Example of successful attack : Exploiting and overlooked service (Layer 7).

Security measure / strategy : Monitor critical resources.

- **Security Standards and compliance**

Why : stick to the standard = security measures meet industry best practices and regulatory requirements.

Control : Align policies with standards like ISO 27 001 ← ensure compliance.

Example of successful attack : Non-compliance with PCI DSS exposing sensitive data (Layer 7).

Security measure / strategy : Do audit regularly ← ensure compliance.