

SSEI Research Task Summary – T24

Task Number: SSEI/T24

Lead Delivery Organisation : Cobham Technical Services

Project Title : Pan DE&S Management of Information Assurance for Software-Intensive Projects

Research Theme : *Developing Dependable Systems*

Version : 2



Objective of Work (why are we doing it ?)

Modern military equipment has increasingly complex requirements for missions and information-handling. At the same time, threats to the confidentiality, integrity and availability of mission information are growing and evolving. This complexity is increasingly being addressed by the procurement of software-intensive systems and the wider use of pre-developed software.

A DE&S-sponsored security survey recently identified deficiencies and inconsistencies in the MOD's procurement process. These can cause programme delays and cost-overruns, as well as unacceptable exposure to mission vulnerabilities and/or the loss of confidence in the use of mission systems in critical scenarios.

This task aims to develop a pan DE&S project-oriented Information Assurance Management System.

Nature of Work (what is it?)

A recent DE&S survey identified considerable duplications of effort in establishing management processes across IPTs and inconsistencies in the methods used to determine and record risk levels and select appropriate risk-management strategies.

This task will investigate current best practice for information assurance in MOD, HMG, industry and academia. It will develop an Information Assurance Management System for use across DE&S. The System will include process maps, step-by-step guidance and risk-management techniques, and will incorporate a reporting framework to ensure that assurance evidence is presented in a mature, consistent and auditable format. This will help to inform decision-making concerning system assurance and accreditation.

Outcomes (what will it produce/has it produced ?)

This task will have 3 main outcomes:

- Project-oriented Information Assurance Management System for use across DE&S
- Step-by-step guidance to help IPTs manage the accreditation process consistently and ensure compliance with JSP440
- A template and process for an Information Assurance Case report, to present an evidence-based case for accreditation to inform decision-making

Timescales 24-month task, August 2009 to July 2011

Partners University of York, CESG, DSAS

Related Work

Task Lead Tim Reilly
tim.reilly@cobham.com
01372 367000