#### Introduction to Information Security Prof. V. Kamakoti Department of Computer Science and Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

#### Lecture – 02 Introduction to Information Security System: Part 1

Brothers and sisters, we will now see module one of the course [FT] part [FT]

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So, this is the module 1 of the introduction to information security course.

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So, these are the reference books and websites. Principles of information security by Whitman et al; and then, we have also used some materials from the university of Oregon; and, thanks to ISACA for the COBIT. And, we thank all the authors for their slides provided with the book and also on the website; some of which we are using in this presentation.

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My Rules
✓ask questions (Through Discussion Forums)
<ul> <li>Feel free to ask any question – your perspective may be different but more apt than mine</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Correct me if I make a mistake (remember I am in a continuous learning mode)</li> </ul>
$\checkmark$ Don't take notes, this slide deck will be available on the web.
<ul> <li>Finally – please make sure your cell phones are in shivering mode ! Your chat window in busy mode – you need undivided attention to understand the course.</li> </ul>

The rules of this course – you should ask questions through discussion forums and feel free to ask any question; your perspective may be different or more apt than mine. Correct me if I make a mistake; remember I am in a continuous learning mode. Do not take notes; this slide deck will be available on the web. And finally, please make sure your cell phones are in shivering mode; your chat window in busy mode, so that you give undivided attention to understand the course.

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# Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this lecture you should be able to:

- Understand what information security is in modern day scenario.
- Comprehend the evolution of computer security to information security.
- Understand the key terms and critical concepts of information security.
- Understand the professional organogram of an Information Security driven organization.

Now, we just want to reiterate the learning objectives. Upon completion of this lecture,1) you should be able to understand what information security in the modern day context.

2) And also, in early days, it was called computer security; how it evolved into information security.

3) Understand many key terms and critical concepts of information security of modern day.

4) And, most importantly, understand the way an organization, which is IT driven – the IT management of an organization; what would be the organogram of that organization; who would be responsible for doing what.

All these four objectives are very important to appreciate information security. And, each of these objectives will have some subtle concepts. I hope many of you know Bertrand Russell.

So, Bertrand Russell came out with a small statement – very very small; he is very much well known for very small jargons or very small statements; is that, obviousness is the enemy of correctness. Many of the things that we will be teaching in this course or we will be debating in this course are obvious things, which are not followed. And, because of that, we land up with issues. So, we will be teaching you the obvious things in... And, what it means if you neglect those things in the global scenario. So, this is what would be our learning objectives.

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## Module - 1

- Topics Discussed?
  - What is Information Security & Why do you need it?
  - Basics Principles of Confidentiality, Integrity Availability Concepts
  - Policies, procedures, Guidelines, Standard
  - Administrative Measures and Technical Measures
  - People, Process, Technology

This course as mentioned earlier has six modules. This is sub-module of module one. And, what we will be discussing in the entire module one would be what is information security; why do you need it; then, CIA is a very very important term in information security; it basically talks about confidentiality, integrity and availability. And, to bring this confidentiality, integrity and availability into the information security system, there are lot of things that need to be done. And, what you see in the three bullet points that follow are those that are necessary to build in confidentiality, integrity and availability into a system. For example, policies, procedures, guidelines, standard from a security perspective; what are all the administrative measures and technical measures needed to enforce these three – the CIA, which are basically the foundations of information security or the goals of information security.

We also look at people, process and technology. People are the ones, who follow a process; and, these processes are implemented by technology. So, security should be addressed at the technology level and the process, which uses this technology, and the people who actually uses these processes. So, there is lot of disciplines and policies and procedures that need to be implemented at each one of these stages namely at the people level, at the process level and technology level. And, this module will talk deeply about that.

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## **Reality:**

"People are the weakest link. You can have the best technology, firewalls, intrusion-detection systems, biometric devices - and somebody can call an unsuspecting employee. That's all she wrote, baby. They got everything."

- Kevin Mitnik

Now, we are talking about Kevin Mitnik, who is actually a hacker; actually he was a cyber criminal and he was actually captured by – arrested by FBI. he came back and he became one of the world-renowned computer security expert. And, he came out with this very interesting statement; again, it is a very obvious statement – people are the weakest link. This particular phrase is known for decades now that, whenever there is a security lapse, majorly it is going to be because of people's unawareness about certain security measures.

Though we know that people are the weakest link, many many organizations do not actually invest in educating their people on the issues of security. So, this is Kevin Mitnik statement that you read on the screen. You can have the best technology, firewalls, intrusion-detection systems, biometric devices but, somebody can call an unsuspecting employee; but, all is that, if a small leak from the employee side, the human error or human carelessness – that could essentially kill your entire system. And, this is reality.

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So, Jim Anderson came out with this very interesting definition of information security. Especially in today's enterprise world, where we have huge data centers, it is nothing but a well-informed sense of assurance that, the information risks and controls are in balance. For every risk, I have a way to control that. I take a risk; I have enough checks and balances to control it. So, if that assurance is given, then your information is actually secured. And, this is the definition that was given by Jim Anderson.

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Now, we go into some history of information security, because we have to learn the lessons of the past to go and appreciate the present and the future. The computer security basically began; that time it was computer security; it began immediately after the first

mainframes were developed. There were groups developing code breaking computations during World War 2, which created the first modern computers. Physical controls at that point to secure these computing machines, which actually stored some information, which is very sensitive; there were no network, but they had some lot of physical controls; essentially they want to physically secure these system; physically secure means it is should not be broken, manually damaged, it should not be taken out of a place, it should be under lock and key. So, the physical controls were needed to limit access to authorized persons to sensitive memory locations. And, only rudimentary controls were available to defend against this physical theft, espionage and sabotage



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The enigma was the first German computer, which was actually used for sending coded message. So, here is a small description of enigma.

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So, the entire notion of security started with the Advanced Research Project Agency – ARPA, which began examining the feasibility of a redundant networked communications. This was basically headed by Larry Roberts, who has developed the project from its inception. Larry Roberts is known for his contribution to the internet.

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So, if you just look at the ARPANET program plan, the program plan was to basically share. If you carefully look into it, the objective was to develop networking and resource sharing. So,this is the first notion, where computers – where the resources available on multiple computers were shared.

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The ARPANET actually grew in popularity between the 70s and 80s as and so, were the potentials for misuse. The fundamental problem with ARPANET security were identified at that point. First and foremost, there was no safety procedures for dial-up connections; and, user identification and the authorization to the system were non-existent. So, in the late 1970s, the microprocessor expanded computing capabilities and security threats. So, the ARPANET, which was connecting these microprocessors, essentially brought in a no-tion of security, wherein somebody dials up a connection, is he an authentic person, is he authorized to dial up the connection. And, if somebody starts using the system, does he have the necessary identification and authorization. And, these are all something, which became issues with the ARPANET. And, this started as early as 1970s and 80s.

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Then, came out the R-609, which called the Rand Report, which formed the first report on computer security; the scope of computer security grew from physical security to include safety of the data, limiting unauthorized access to that data, and also involvement of personnel from multi levels of the organization and each having some specific authorization to use the computers with some level of security. So, if you look at what happened immediately after world war, was that, people were more interested in having the computer a lock and key; there was no notion of sharing the resources between computers; and, slowly came the ARPA, where people started sharing the systems; and, the moment they started sharing, then the issues of – is the correct fellow logging in to the system, is he dialing up, is he you using the data. So, more than the physical security of the computer, people started realizing even in the late 70s and early 80s that, the data in the computer can be stolen without physically accessing the computer. And that, the first notions of that was reflected in this Rand Report R-609.

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## The 1990s

- Networks of computers became more common, so too did the need to interconnect the networks
- Resulted in the Internet, the first manifestation of a global network of networks
- In early Internet deployments, security was treated as a low priority

In the 1990's, networks of computers became more common in the civilian sector. And so, so did the need to interconnect the networks. So, this resulted in a massive global network, which we today call as the internet. But, in those days still, in this large scale internet deployments, security unfortunately was treated as a low priority, because information that is stored in the computer can be sensitive, is a feel people which did not realize much during those time. They thought a network is basically used for sharing the resources and data also became something that someone can share. And, they wanted to share the data. But, there are going to be unshareable data within a system, is something a realization, which did not immediately occur to the people of the early 1990s. And, that is why, when you look at large scale internet deployments of those days, security was still given a low priority. At present, the internet has brought millions of computer networks into communication with each other and many of them are still unsecure.

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So, the ability to secure each, now, influenced by the security on every computer to which it is connected. As I mentioned in my welcome talk, a mistake done by one system, a vulnerability on one system can launch a massive denial of service attack on the entire LAN. And, this is something that one need to be careful. And so, the present system requires a large scale awareness and discipline in system usage to bring things under control.

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So, what is today's environment? look at all these – Wii, Skype, Ebay, You Tube, Blackberry, Facebook, Amazon, iPhone, LimeWire, iPod, Google.



The world Google has actually become a verb. Hey, they want something; google it. So, today, so many organizations have trillions and trillions of data and millions and millions of users communicating using this data; and that, everyone wants some level of security and privacy and confidentiality and availability. Now, the entire gamut of information security is to come out with a policy, a process, a procedure, a technology, which will go and enable a major secure feeling and assurance. It will give you a major secure assurance to this millions and millions of users about the privacy availability, confidentiality, integrity of the trillions of trillions of data that they are using.

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