Security Risk Management: Building an Information Security Risk Management Program from the Ground Up

By Evan Wheeler

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Security Risk Management is the definitive guide for building or running an information security risk management program. This book teaches practical techniques that will be used on a daily basis, while also explaining the fundamentals so students understand the rationale behind these practices. It explains how to perform risk assessments for new IT projects, how to efficiently manage daily risk activities, and how to qualify the current risk level for presentation to executive level management. While other books focus entirely on risk analysis methods, this is the first comprehensive text for managing security risks.

This book will help you to break free from the so-called best practices argument by articulating risk exposures in business terms. It includes case studies to provide hands-on experience using risk assessment tools to calculate the costs and benefits of any security investment. It explores each phase of the risk management lifecycle, focusing on policies and assessment processes that should be used to properly assess and mitigate risk. It also presents a roadmap for designing and implementing a security risk management program.

This book will be a valuable resource for CISOs, security managers, IT managers, security consultants, IT auditors, security analysts, and students enrolled in information security/assurance college programs.

- Named a 2011 Best Governance and ISMS Book by *InfoSec Reviews*
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Editorial Review

Review

"Evan Wheeler has developed a much needed new approach to the field of security risk management. Readers familiar with this field of study will find that it does what he says he wants it to do: shake the old risk paradigms out of their roots and plant something fresh and useful today."--Dennis Treece, Colonel, US Army (Retired)/Chief Security Officer, Massachusetts Port Authority-Boston

"Wheeler's book is predominantly a practitioner's guide to security risk management but can also be used as a teaching text to help engineers, students of security, information assurance, or information systems more broadly. The key message that Wheeler is emphasizing is that risk is at the core of security, and at the heart of every business. Despite that the book lacks key referencing from academic literature, it can still be used as the basis for setting a large-scale team assignment on devising a risk management program from the ground up for a real organisation. Security professionals in banks will particularly find the book relevant."--Computers and Security

"This book is packed with practical?tips and the information contained throughout provides a good overview of the subject matter. The author explains the fundamentals of risk identification, assessment and management, exploring the differences between a vulnerability assessment and a risk assessment, and also providing rationales behind each of the subjects covered. This is not a technical book and the author generally avoids detailed technical analysis; rather it is an aide-memoir for Security Risk Management. ...his book is recommended, in particular, for those beginning a career in Risk Management. It also provides a useful reference for current risk professionals who perhaps could benefit from a book that helps refine and further improve their current skillset."--**Best Governance and ISMS Books in InfoSecReviews Book Awards**

"Evan Wheeler's book, Security Risk Management, provides security and business continuity practitioners with the ability to thoroughly plan and build a solid security risk management program. The buzz words that are used throughout the corporate risk management industry today are often misused or overused. Wheeler breaks down such terms, translating them for the reader and articulating how they apply to a security risk management program. He believes risk managers should consider banning the term "best practices" from their vocabulary; he doesn't think one size fits all when creating a security risk management program... Building an information security risk management program from the ground up is a monumental task that requires various business units to react and adopt change to move a business forward. This book provides valuable information for security, IT, and business continuity professionals on creating such a program."--Security Management

From the Back Cover

The goal of *Security Risk Management* is to teach you practical techniques that will be used on a daily basis, while also explaining the fundamentals so you understand the rationale behind these practices. Security professionals often fall into the trap of telling the business that they need to fix something, but they can't explain why. This book will help you to break free from the so-called "best practices" argument by articulating risk exposures in business terms. You will learn techniques for how to perform risk assessments

for new IT projects, how to efficiently manage daily risk activities, and how to qualify the current risk level for presentation to executive level management. While other books focus entirely on risk analysis methods, this is the first comprehensive guide for managing security risks.

About the Author
Evan Wheeler currently is a Director of Information Security for Omgeo (A DTCC | Thomson Reuters Company), an instructor at both Clark and Northeastern Universities, and the author of the Information Security Risk Management course for the SANS Institute. Previously he spent six years as a Security Consultant for the U.S. Department of Defense.

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