ERNCIP Newsletter n.20, Jun-Dec 2017

ERNCIP Group of EU CIP Experts meeting - 12 July, Ispra

Representatives from 11 Member States participated in this meeting, co-organised adjacent to a DG HOME EPCIP points of contact meeting, for the convenience of the participants. The new ERNCIP thematic groups for 2017/19, recently approved by DG HOME, were presented. The EU CIP Experts were asked to nominate additional experts beneficial to these Groups e.g. airport operators.

The opportunity was taken to visit the Resilience and Security Technology laboratory for a demonstration of the modelling and simulation tool, Geospatial Risk and Resilience Assessment Platform (GRRASP).

Thematic Groups Updates

Extended Virtual Fencing

The new ERNCIP Thematic Group "Extended virtual fencing: use of biometrics and video technologies" held its kick-off meeting on the 28 November in Ispra, with the aim of defining the work streams to be adopted in its work programme.

The Group discussed how it would work on the need to move from isolated short-range systems for biometric recognition to complete solutions that integrate the biometric elements with other information sources within a cognitive framework for protecting critical infrastructures. The Group will also investigate realistic concepts of operations to provide extended virtual boundaries, around two main use cases to be developed: a secure site and a crowded "wide zone". The Group will also incorporate further work on standardisation, privacy and ethics. The next meeting of the Group will start drafting the boundaries of the two use cases and will finalise the work programme.

Chemical and Biological (CB) Risks to Drinking Water

The Group has kicked-off its activities for 2017-2018. It has had two meetings (13-14 June, 28-29 September) in Brussels. The work programme has been finalised, with the Group working towards the following goals:

• The need and the feasibility of establishing quality control and performance requirements for measuring devices for drinking water quality.
• Analytical best practices for identifying the nature of contamination (chemical, biological).
• A European-level guidance document aimed at water utility operators recommending the requirements for production of a water security plan that would address the security aspects in drinking water supply.

Detection of Indoor Airborne Chemical-Biological Agents

The Group met on 5 September at Ispra and via teleconference on 6 July and 22 November. The work programme for 2017-2018 has been finalised and work has started on two main items:

• Guidance to security operators on establishing sensing systems for Detection, Identification and Monitoring of indoor, airborne chemical and biological threats, including optimal combination of different type of sensors, proposals for algorithms for sensoring signals evaluation, methods for decontamination based on the type of critical infrastructure, and integrated alerting systems. This work will be supported by numerical simulation.
• Identification of gaps for research and standardisation regarding sensing systems for identifying chemical and biological indoor threats.

Protection of Structures against explosive effects

The group discussed the future work programme and agreed its the working structure. Communication with CEN TC 33 and ISO TC160 was discussed and the next steps agreed. The Group discussed the recruitment of new members needed for the task concerning risk assessment for buildings. In addition, the Group started to review European standards EN 1991-1-7 and EN 13123 for possible improvements.
Radiological and Nuclear Threats to Critical Infrastructure

The Group met at Ispra in December 2017 to consider further steps to promote centralised alarm adjudication at the national, regional and international levels; the possibilities of further work to advance the use of robotic technologies with radiological detectors, including the new standard for list-mode data acquisition (IEC 63047); and the benefits of increased civil-military cooperation.

The sub-group for centralised alarm adjudication met (Brussels, October) to finalise its report, now published, on the after-action analysis of the outcome of the highly successful joint ERNCIP/GICNT workshop, Magic Maggio, held at the JRC in March 2017. As a follow-up to the JRC-organised high-level scenario-based RN security exercise (APEX-EUROPA, November 2016), the Group participated in FINEST, a Finnish-Estonian demonstration on Expert Support in Nuclear Security held in December 2017.

The sub-group on Novel Technologies has met twice (Imperial College, London September; Ispra December) reviewing the emerging detection technologies for nuclear security and emergency preparedness.

European IACS components Cybersecurity Certification Framework

This Group is conducting practical exercises based on the ICCF proposals, in support of DG CNECT’s “Roadmap toward a European ICT security certification framework for products and services”. The behavioural and governance models of the ICCF are being challenged by “National Exercise Teams” (NETs) from France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain, in consultation with CEN/CENELEC’s Cyber Security Coordination Group. Each NET uses the perspectives of the different actors having a role in certification: IACS vendor; evaluation laboratory; certification body; national cybersecurity agency; critical infrastructure operator. Meetings with the NETs have monitored the progress of the exercises which will inform the third version of the ICCF’s feasibility study due in March 2018.

This work has had an important role in the overall discussion regarding potential sectoral schemes to be launched as the result of the Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on ENISA, the “EU Cybersecurity Agency”, and on ICT cybersecurity certification (“Cybersecurity Act”).

ERNCIP Externally

Hybrid Threats

Developing tools and vulnerability indicators for hybrid threats in critical infrastructures

On 19 December, DG HOME, in collaboration with the JRC, organised in Brussels the 2nd workshop on Hybrid Threats for Member States (MS), during which the JRC presented its proposal for vulnerability indicators for hybrid threats. This proposal was thoroughly discussed during the workshop, with MS providing feedback on these proposals during January 2018. Next steps include practical application of the guide by MS in order to self-assess their security posture against hybrid threats.

IMPROVER Updates

IMPROVER has completed a resilience management framework, applicable to all types of critical infrastructure, allowing operators to understand and improve their performance when exposed to crises and disasters.

Operationalisation of the framework and methodologies is assured by pilot implementations at two living labs, one of which is the water network in Barreiro, Portugal. The results from the pilot implementation in Barreiro are improve their performance when exposed to crises and disasters.

The behaviovoiristic and governance models of the ICCF are being challenged by “National Exercise Teams” (NETs) from France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain, in consultation with CEN/CENELEC’s Cyber Security Coordination Group. Each NET uses the perspectives of the different actors having a role in certification: IACS vendor; evaluation laboratory; certification body; national cybersecurity agency; critical infrastructure operator. Meetings with the NETs have monitored the progress of the exercises which will inform the third version of the ICCF’s feasibility study due in March 2018.

This work has had an important role in the overall discussion regarding potential sectoral schemes to be launched as the result of the Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on ENISA, the “EU Cybersecurity Agency”, and on ICT cybersecurity certification (“Cybersecurity Act”).

Survey indexing the European cybersecurity centres of expertise

The Commission is calling on all cybersecurity competence centres across the EU, whether public or private, to register their organisations and share information about their work and expertise.

Are you a center of excellence in the field of cybersecurity?
Register before 15 February 2018!

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/cybersecurity-survey

RESILIENCE

14-16 December 2017, Ispra

The 2nd international workshop on Modelling of Physical, Economic and Social Systems for Resilience Assessment

Organised by the JRC in close collaboration with the US National Institute of Standards and Technology and Colorado State University, this workshop gathered participants from Europe, USA, China, Korea, South America and Africa, as well as UNISDR, IFAD and OECD. With the aim of improving resilience, the workshop covered Resilience of Critical Energy Infrastructure, Social and Economic Resilience, Resilience of Critical Infrastructures and the build environment to Natural hazards, Resilience to Food Insecurity and Crisis, Resilience in Migration Policies, Conflict Resilience in post-conflict Societies, Resilience Decision Support Tools, Resilience Metrics, Complex Systems for Resilience and Engineering Methods for Earthquake Resilient cities.

Upcoming Events

30 Jan 2018 – ERNCIP Group of EU CIP Experts in ISPRA.

March 2018 – Chemical and Biological (CB) Risks to Drinking Water TG to meet in Brussels, aligned to the DG HOME-organised Community of Users on Secure, Safe and Resilient Societies (CoU) Water security/safety workshop.

March & June 2018 – Protection of Structures TG meetings in Ispra

9 March 2018 – Extended Virtual Fencing TG meeting in Chania, Crete

21/22 March 2018 – Radiological and Nuclear Threats to Critical Infrastructure TG to meet in Ispra, in tandem with the Central Alarm Adjudication and Novel technologies sub-groups.

23-24 May 2018 – IMPROVER / ERNCIP Operators Workshop

The 3rd workshop of the series on Critical Infrastructure Resilience will take place in Lisbon, Portugal. It will present current developments in the area of Resilience and the final implementation results of the IMPROVER project. Contact the ERNCIP Office if you are interested in participating.

Contact

Georgios Giannopoulos
European Commission, Joint Research Centre
Space, Security & Migration Technology Innovation in Security
Via E. Fermi 2749, I-21027 Ispra, Italy
e-mail: erncip-office@ec.europa.eu
Tel +39 0332 786045 - Fax +39 0332 786565