

European R&D and dependencies

The European Commission has started the Coordination Action Parsifal as well as another Specific Targeted Research Project for the critical financial infrastructure (CFI).



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It is a well recognised fact that Critical Infrastructures (CI) comprises a set of sectors, with slight differences per nation. There is no debate over the importance of energy, telecommunications, human needs (drinking water, food, and health), transport and financial services. But is there a need to research each sector separately in respect of security and CIP – or is every sector alike?

European R&D has resulted in an increased understanding of CI dependencies. Most CI-sectors understand their critical dependencies and have taken mitigating measures. However, when a specific CI relies on these measures of other CI sectors for their service continuity, failure is the likely outcome because the business continuity planning neglected the second and third level dependencies, e.g. the dependency on fuel for backup generators or the need for specific knowledge in the head of an unavailable person. A second article in a series on business continuity touches some of these aspects.

About this issue

Two European funded research projects, COMIFIN – a middleware for critical financial industry – and DIESIS - .the designing of a federated multipart research facility for CIP are presented first.

An Overview on Software Supply Chain Integrity and its best practice is meant to increase the confidence of all parties. On process control and SCADA security the 3rd Dutch event is outlined and a market analysis by Euro SCSIE headlines the results. An article on BCP and crisis scenario discusses the financing and the border of BCM in high impact low probability incidents.

Register for CRITIS now!

The CRITIS conference Series will continue with the 4th International Workshop on Critical Information Infrastructures Security in Bonn, Germany, Sept. 29-Oct 2, 2009 <http://www.critis09.org>. A resume of the last conference CRITIS'08, 13th to 15th of October 2008 in Rome is given. This should make the readers keen to attend this years' conference.

As always, selected links – mostly derived from the author's articles – and events conclude this issue.

When discussing 'business continuity', the editors of the ECN face a dark period as the funding and hosting of this newsletter is not guaranteed in the near future. Up till now, the ECN publication and web appearance were hosted by EU framework projects such as CI2RCO and IRRIS. These projects have ended. The editors will continue at least with one addition issue and have tried to find alternative funding for the next years by approaching EU R&D directorates and ENISA. Until now, we have not been successful despite very positive reactions to the contents of and community building by the ECN. Ideas or help by our large reader community is appreciated. Despite those dark clouds, enjoy reading this issue of the ECN!

PS. *Authors willing to contribute to future ECN issues are very welcome. Please contact me or one of the national representatives. Further information about the ECN and its publication policies can be found in the introduction of the first ECN, see www.irris.eu.*