CHANGING TECHNOLOGY REQUIRES CHANGES TO THE ITC SECURITY EDUCATION

Juhani Anttila, Jorma Kajava and Juha E. Miettinen
Sonera Corporation Helsinki FINLAND

Juhani.Anttila@sonera.com
Jorma.Kajava@oulu.fi
Juha.E.Miettinen@sonera.com

Abstract: To understand the genious needs of information security education, we must first analyze the present situation of technology and changes beeing taking place. Security education is currently strongly related to technical solutions in hardware, software and various kinds of protocols and relies heavily on encryption. People must be trained to take advantage of these solutions. Within the next two years, however, technical solutions will be embedded into the basic structure of the next generation of protocols, such as IPv6. This means that security will soon be transparent and requires no extra activities to be undertaken by end-users. As a result, security education in its classical formulation loses a lot of its relevance.

Some researchers claim that information can be divided into two classes, namely, explicit (5%) and tacit information (95%). Explicit information consist of all printed and electronic material, while tacit information refers to all other forms of information that are stored chiefly in human brains.

Information security education is experiencing a paradigm shift from technical details to a focus on human aspects. In the future, information security awareness will increase in importance and a great part of this process will inevitably be based on tacit knowledge. In the organizational perspective this translates into stronger co-operation between organizations and culture - and security education must lead the way.

If security education is to keep up with the development, security education must take a step forward. Information systems, software, hardware and various combinations thereof have become highly complicated. A prime example of such a system is the Internet. It is characteristic of complicated systems that changes in one component lead to corresponding changes in other components. If this trend continues, less and less time can be spent on actual system management.