TEL2813/IS2820 Security Management

Developing the Security Program

Jan 27, 2005

Introduction

- Some organizations use security programs
  - to describe the entire set of personnel, plans, policies, and initiatives related to information security
- Information security program
  - used here to describe the structure and organization of the effort that contains risks to the information assets of organization

Organizing for Security

- Some variables that determine how to structure an information security program are:
  - Organizational culture
  - Size
  - Security personnel budget
  - Security capital budget

Security in Large Organizations

- Information security departments in large organizations tend to form and re-form internal groups to meet long-term challenges even as they handle day-to-day security operations
- Functions are likely to be split into groups
- In contrast, smaller organizations typically create fewer groups, perhaps only having one general group of specialists

Very Large Organizations More than 10,000 Computers

- Security budgets often grow faster than IT budgets
- Even with large budgets, average amount spent on security per user is still smaller than any other type of organization

  Where small orgs spend more than $5,000 per user on security, very large organizations spend about 1/18th of that, roughly $300 per user
- Does a better job in the policy and resource mgmt areas, although only 1/3 of organizations handled incidents according to an IR plan

Large Organizations With 1,000 to 10,000 computers

- At this size, approach to security has often matured, integrating planning and policy into organization's culture
- Unfortunately, large organization does not always put large amounts of resources into security considering vast numbers of computers and users often involved
- Tend to spend proportionally less on security

Security in Large Organizations

- An approach: separate functions into 4 areas:
  - Functions performed by non-technology business units outside of IT
    - Legal; training
  - Functions performed by IT groups outside of information security area
    - Network/systems security administrator
  - Functions performed within information security department as customer service
    - Risk assessment; systems testing; incident response
  - Functions performed within the information security department as compliance
    - Policy; compliance

Responsibilities in Large Organizations

- Remains CISO's responsibility to see that
  - information security functions are adequately performed somewhere within the organization
- Deployment of full-time security personnel depends on a number of factors, including
  - sensitivity of information to be protected,
  - industry regulations and
  - general profitability
- The more money a company can dedicate to its personnel budget,
  - the more likely it is to maintain a large information security staff

Typical Information Security Staffing in a Large Organization

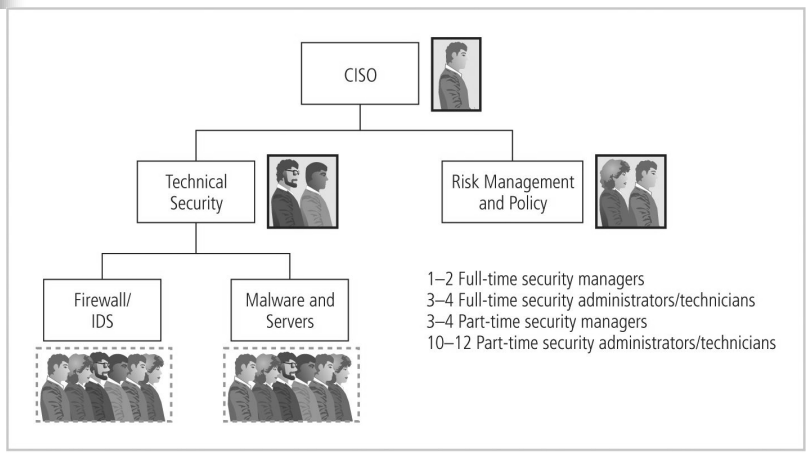


FIGURE 5-1 Information Security Staffing in a Large Organization

Typical InfoSec Staffing in a Very Large Organization

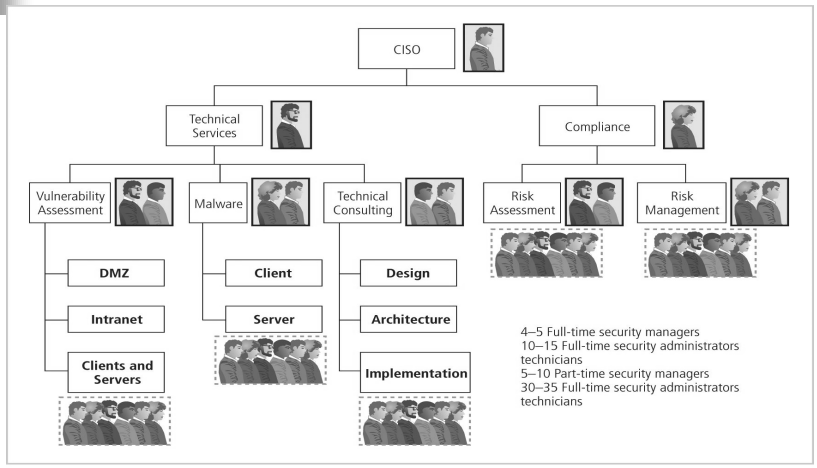


FIGURE 5-2 Information Security Staffing in a Very Large Organization

Security in Medium-Sized Organizations (100-1,000 PCs)

- Have smaller total budget
- Have same sized security staff as small org, but larger need
- Must rely on help from IT staff for plans and practices
- Ability to set policy, handle incidents in regular manner and effectively allocate resources is, overall, worse than any other size

Security in Medium-Sized Organizations (100-1,000 PCs)

- May be large enough to implement multi-tiered approach to security with fewer dedicated groups and more functions assigned to each group
- Medium-sized organizations tend to ignore some security functions

Typical InfoSec Staffing in a Medium Organization

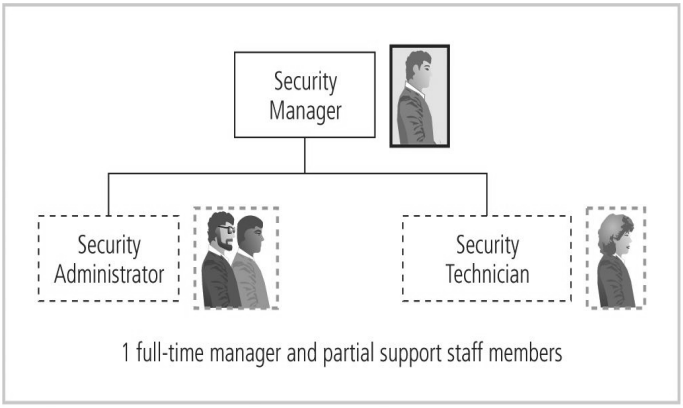


FIGURE 5-3 Information Security Staffing in a Medium-Sized Organization

Security in Small Organizations 10-100 Computers

- Have simple, centralized IT organizational model
- Spend disproportionately more on security
- Information security in small org is often responsibility of a single security administrator
- Such organizations frequently have little in the way of formal policy, planning, or security measures
  - Commonly outsource their Web presence or electronic commerce operations
  - Security training and awareness is commonly conducted on a 1-on-1 basis

Security in Small Organizations 10-100 Computers (Continued)

- Policies are often issue-specific
- Formal planning is often part of IT planning
- Threats from insiders are less likely in an environment where every employee knows every other employee

InfoSec Staffing in a Smaller Organization

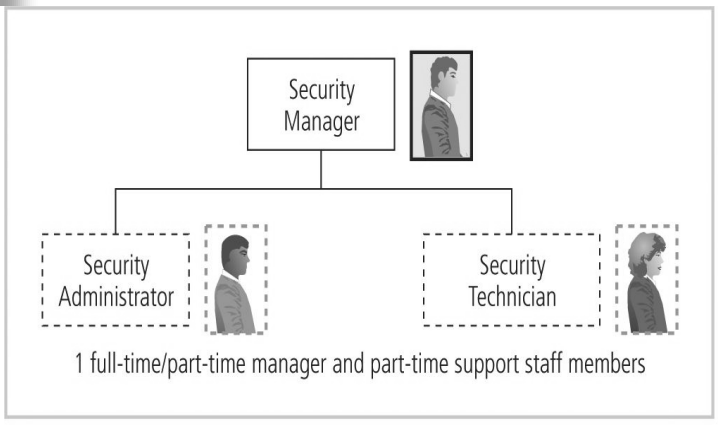


FIGURE 5-4 Information Security Staffing in a Smaller Organization

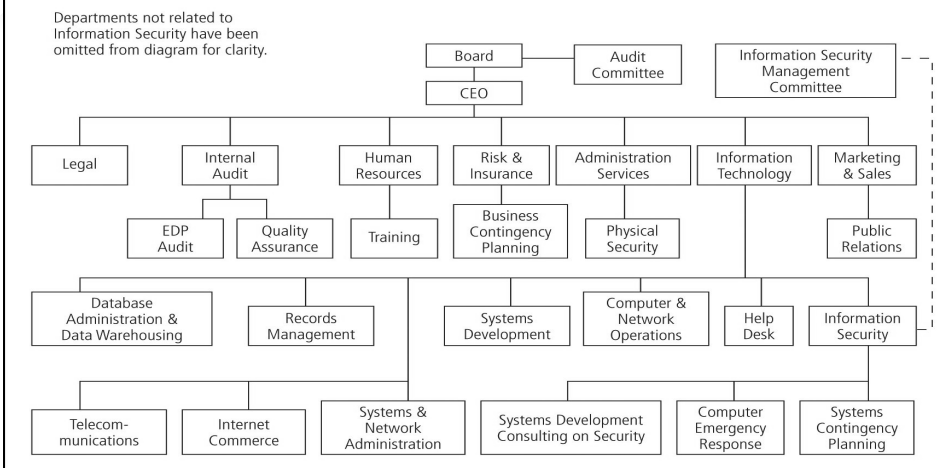
Placing Information Security Within An Organization

- In large organizations,
  - InfoSec is often located within IT department,
  - headed by CISO who reports directly to top computing executive, or CIO
- By its very nature, an InfoSec program is sometimes at odds with the goals and objectives of the IT department as a whole

Placing Information Security Within An Organization (Continued)

- Possible conflicts between CIO/CISO goals
  - Current movement to separate information security from IT division
- The challenge is
  - to design a reporting structure for the InfoSec program that balances the needs of each of the communities of interest

IT Department



From *Information Security Roles and Responsibilities Made Easy*, used with permission.

FIGURE 5-5 **Wood's Option 1: Information Security Reports to Information Technology Department**

Broadly Defined Security Department

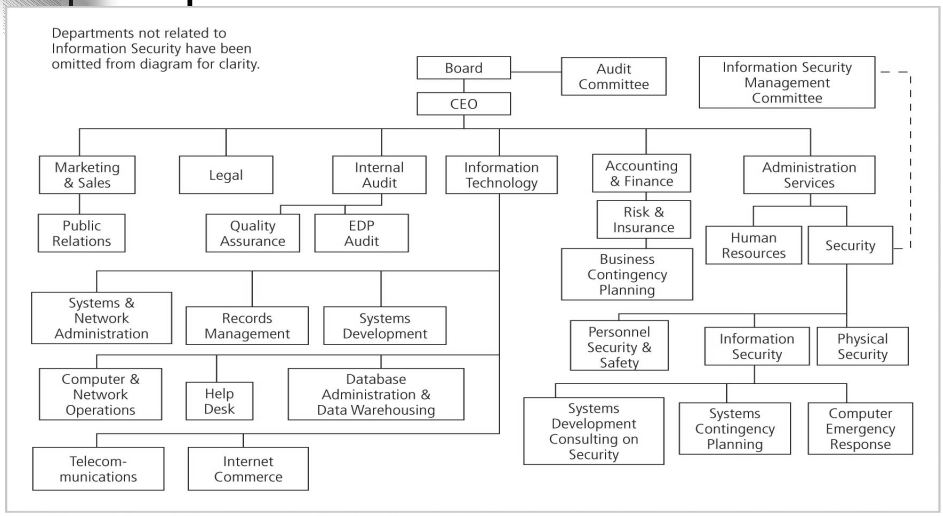


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FIGURE 5-6 **Wood's Option 2: Information Security Reports to Broadly Defined Security Department**

Administrative Services Department

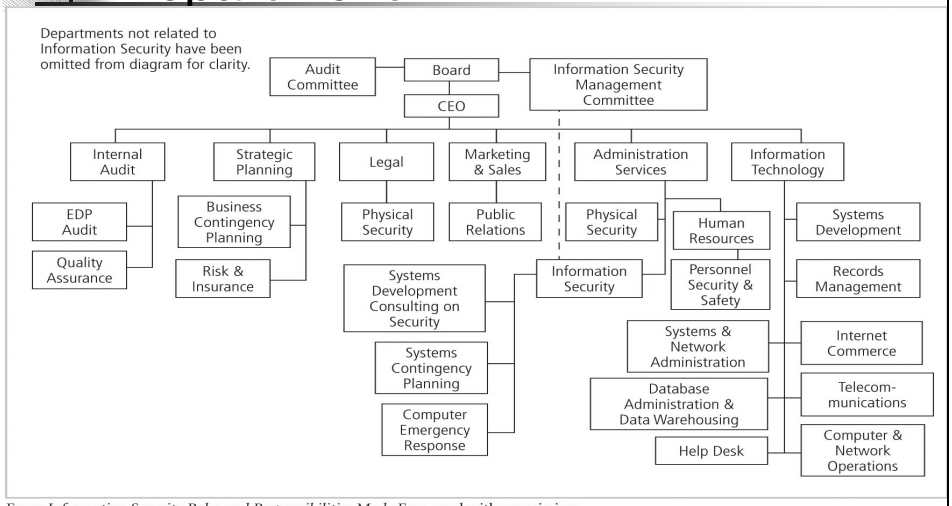

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FIGURE 5-7 Wood's Option 3: Information Security Reports to Administrative Services Department

Insurance & Risk Mgmt Department

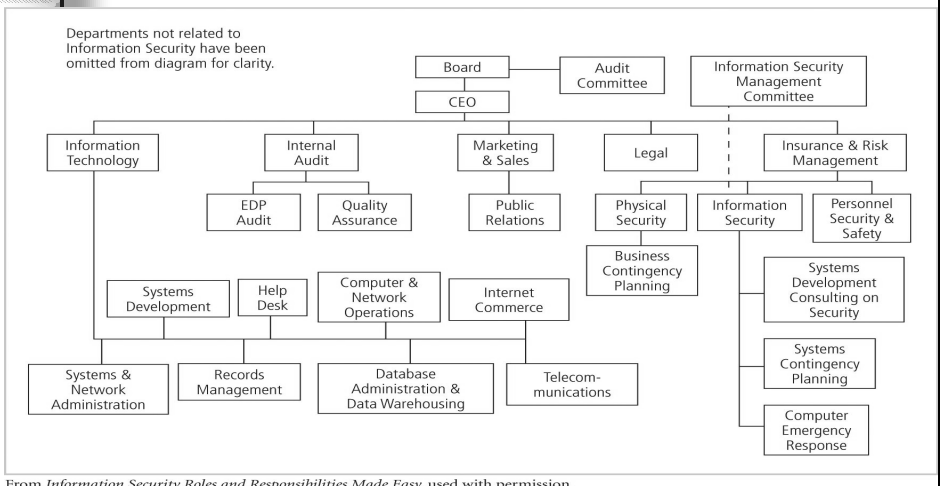

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FIGURE 5-8 Wood's Option 4: Information Security Reports to Insurance and Risk Management Department

Strategy & Planning Department

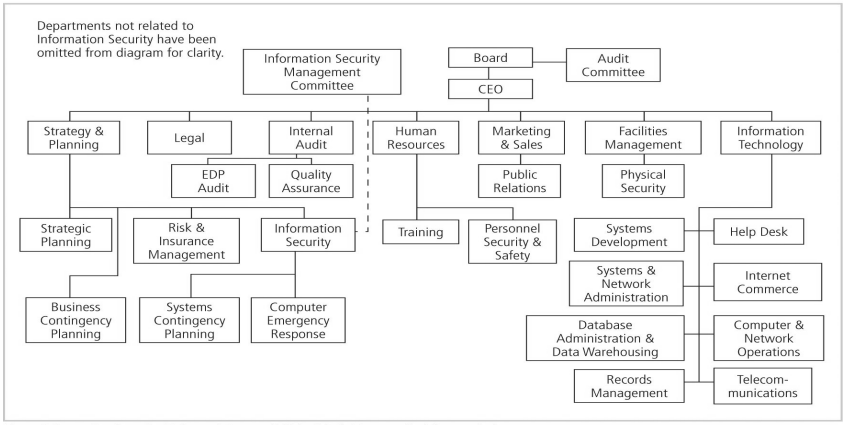

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FIGURE 5-9 **Wood's Option 5: Information Security Reports to Strategy and Planning Department**

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Legal Department

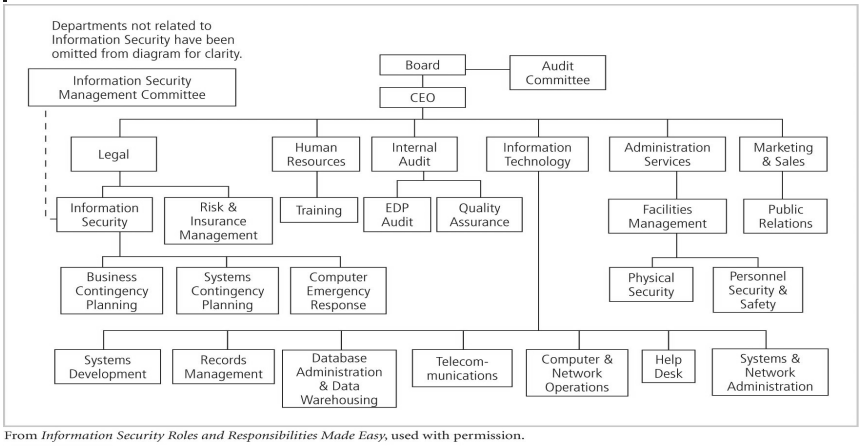

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FIGURE 5-10 **Wood's Option 6: Information Security Reports to Legal Department**

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Other Options

- Option 7: Internal Audit
- Option 8: Help Desk
- Option 9: Accounting and Finance Through IT
- Option 10: Human Resources
- Option 11: Facilities Management
- Option 12: Operations

Components of the Security Program

- Information security needs of any organization are unique to
  - the culture, size, and budget of that organization
- Determining what level the information security program operates on depends on the organization's strategic plan
  - In particular, on the plan's vision and mission statements
- The CIO and CISO should use these two documents to formulate the mission statement for the information security program
  - NIST SP 800-14 Generally Accepted Principles for Securing Information Technology Systems
  - SP 800-12 An Introduction to Computer Security: The NIST Handbook

Information Security Roles

- Information security positions can be classified into one of three types:
  - Those that define,
    - *provide the policies, guidelines, and standards They're the people who do the consulting and the risk assessment, who develop the product and technical architectures. These are senior people with a lot of broad knowledge, but often not a lot of depth.*
  - Those that build
    - *Then you have the builders. They're the real*

Information Security Titles

- Typical organization has a number of individuals with information security responsibilities
- While the titles used may be different, most of the job functions fit into one of the following:
  - Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
  - Security managers
  - Security administrators and analysts
  - Security technicians
  - Security staff

Information Security Roles

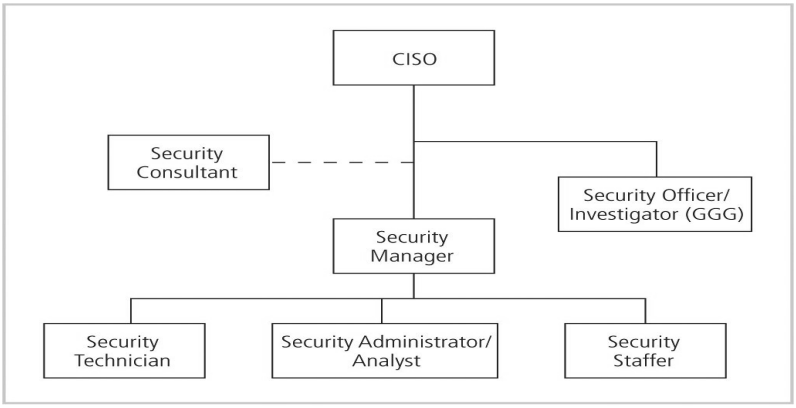

FIGURE 5-11 Information Security Roles

Integrating Security and the Help Desk

- Help desk
  - an important part of the information security team,
  - enhances the ability to identify potential problems
- User's complaint about his or her computer,
  - may turn out to be related to a bigger problem, such as a hacker, denial-of-service attack, or a virus
- Because help desk technicians perform a specialized role in information security,
  - they have a need for specialized training

Implementing Security Education, Training, and Awareness Programs

- SETA program:
  - designed to reduce accidental security breaches
  - consists of three elements:
    - security education,
    - security training, and
    - security awareness
- Awareness, training, and education programs offer two major benefits:
  - Improve employee behavior
  - Enable organization to hold employees accountable for their actions

Implementing SETA (Continued)

- The purpose of SETA is to enhance security:
  - By building in-depth knowledge, as needed, to design, implement, or operate security programs for organizations and systems
  - By developing skills and knowledge so that computer users can perform their jobs while using IT systems more securely
  - By improving awareness of the need to protect system resources

Comparative SETA Framework

	AWARENESS	TRAINING	EDUCATION
Attribute:	"What"	"How"	"Why"
Level:	Information	Knowledge	Insight
Objective:	Recognition	Skill	Understanding
Teaching Method:	Media - Videos -Newsletters -Posters, etc.	Practical Instruction - Lecture - Case study workshop - Hands-on practice	Theoretical Instruction - Discussion Seminar - Background reading
Test Measure:	True/False Multiple Choice (identify learning)	Problem Solving (apply learning)	Eassay (interpret learning)
Impact Timeframe:	Short-term	Intermediate	Long-term

Security Training

- Security training involves providing detailed information and hands-on instruction to give skills to users to perform their duties securely
- Two methods for customizing training
  - Functional background:
    - General user
    - Managerial user
    - Technical user
  - Skill level:
    - Novice
    - Intermediate
    - Advanced

Training Techniques

- Using wrong method can:
  - Hinder transfer of knowledge
  - Lead to unnecessary expense and frustrated, poorly trained employees
- Good training programs:
  - Use latest learning technologies and best practices
  - Recently, less use of centralized public courses and more on-site training
  - Often for one or a few individuals, not necessarily for large group — waiting for large-enough group can cost companies productivity
  - Increased use of short, task-oriented modules and training sessions that are immediate and consistent, available during normal work week

Delivery Methods

- Selection of training delivery method:
  - Not always based on best outcome for the trainee
  - Other factors: budget, scheduling, and needs of the organization often come first
    - One-on-One
    - Formal Class
    - Computer-Based Training (CBT)
    - Distance Learning/Web Seminars
    - User Support Group
    - On-the-Job Training
    - Self-Study (Noncomputerized)

Selecting the Training Staff

- Employee training:
  - Local training program
  - Continuing education department
  - External training agency
  - Professional trainer, consultant, or someone from accredited institution to conduct on-site training
  - In-house training using organization's own employees

Implementing Training

- While each organization develops its own strategy based on the techniques discussed above, the following seven-step methodology generally applies:
  - Step 1: Identify program scope, goals, and objectives
  - Step 2: Identify training staff
  - Step 3: Identify target audiences
  - Step 4: Motivate management and employees
  - Step 5: Administer the program
  - Step 6: Maintain the program
  - Step 7: Evaluate the program

Security Awareness

- Security awareness program:
  - one of least frequently implemented, but most effective security methods
- Security awareness programs:
  - Set the stage for training by changing organizational attitudes to realize the importance of security and the adverse consequences of its failure
  - Remind users of the procedures to be followed

SETA Best Practices

- When developing an awareness program:
  - Focus on people
  - Refrain from using technical jargon
  - Use every available venue
  - Define learning objectives, state them clearly, and provide sufficient detail and coverage
  - Keep things light
  - Don't overload the users
  - Help users understand their roles in InfoSec
  - Take advantage of in-house communications media
  - Make the awareness program formal; plan and document all actions
  - Provide good information early, rather than perfect information late

The Ten Commandments of InfoSec Awareness Training

- Information security is a people, rather than a technical, issue
- If you want them to understand, speak their language
- If they cannot see it, they will not learn it
- Make your point so that you can identify it and so can they
- Never lose your sense of humor
- Make your point, support it, and conclude it
- Always let the recipients know how the behavior that you request will affect them
- Ride the tame horses
- Formalize your training methodology
- Always be timely, even if it means slipping schedules to include urgent information

Employee Behavior and Awareness

- Security awareness and security training are designed to modify any employee behavior that endangers the security of the organization's information
- Security training and awareness activities can be undermined, however, if management does not set a good example

Awareness Techniques

- Awareness can take on different forms for particular audiences
- A security awareness program can use many methods to deliver its message
- Effective security awareness programs need to be designed with the recognition that people tend to practice a tuning out process (acclimation)
  - Awareness techniques should be creative and frequently changed

Developing Security Awareness Components

- Many security awareness components are available at little or no cost - others can be very expensive if purchased externally
- Security awareness components include the following:
  - Videos
  - Posters and banners
  - Lectures and conferences
  - Computer-based training
  - Newsletters
  - Brochures and flyers
  - Trinkets (coffee cups, pens, pencils, T-shirts)
  - Bulletin boards

The Security Newsletter

- Security newsletter: cost-effective way to disseminate security information
  - In the form of hard copy, e-mail, or intranet
  - Topics can include threats to the organization's information assets, schedules for upcoming security classes, and the addition of new security personnel
- Goal:
  - keep information security uppermost in users' minds and stimulate them to care about security

The Security Newsletter (Continued)

- Newsletters might include:
  - Summaries of key policies
  - Summaries of key news articles
  - A calendar of security events, including training sessions, presentations, and other activities
  - Announcements relevant to information security
  - How-to's

The Security Poster

- Security poster series can be a simple and inexpensive way to keep security on people's minds
- Professional posters can be quite expensive, so in-house development may be best solution
- Keys to a good poster series:
  - Varying the content and keeping posters updated
  - Keeping them simple, but visually interesting
  - Making the message clear
  - Providing information on reporting violations

Security Posters

FIGURE 5-15 SETA Awareness Components: Posters

The Trinket Program

- Trinkets may not cost much on a per-unit basis, but they can be expensive to distribute throughout an organization
- Several types of trinkets are commonly used:
  - Pens and pencils
  - Mouse pads
  - Coffee mugs
  - Plastic cups
  - Hats
  - T-shirts

Figure 5-16
Security Trinkets

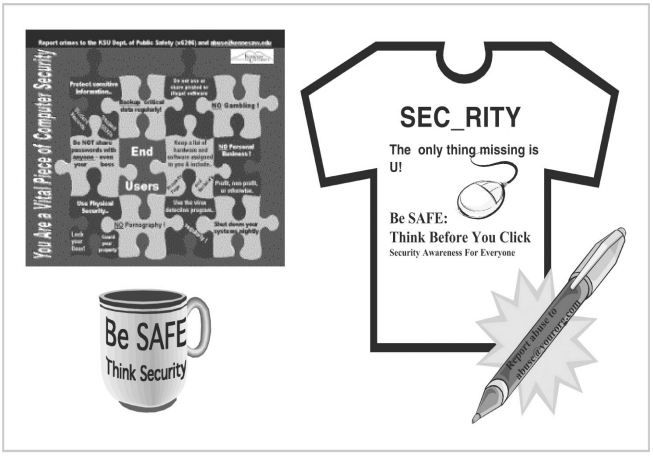

FIGURE 5-16 SETA Awareness Components: Trinkets

Information Security Awareness Web Site

- Organizations can establish Web pages or sites dedicated to promoting information security awareness
- As with other SETA awareness methods, the challenge lies in updating the messages frequently enough to keep them fresh

Information Security Awareness Web Site (Continued)

- Some tips on creating and maintaining an educational Web site are provided here:
  - See what's already out there
  - Plan ahead
  - Keep page loading time to a minimum
  - Seek feedback
  - Assume nothing and check everything
  - Spend time promoting your site

Security Awareness Conference/Presentations

- Another means of renewing the information security message is to have a guest speaker or even a mini-conference dedicated to the topic
  - Perhaps in association with National Computer Security Day - November 30