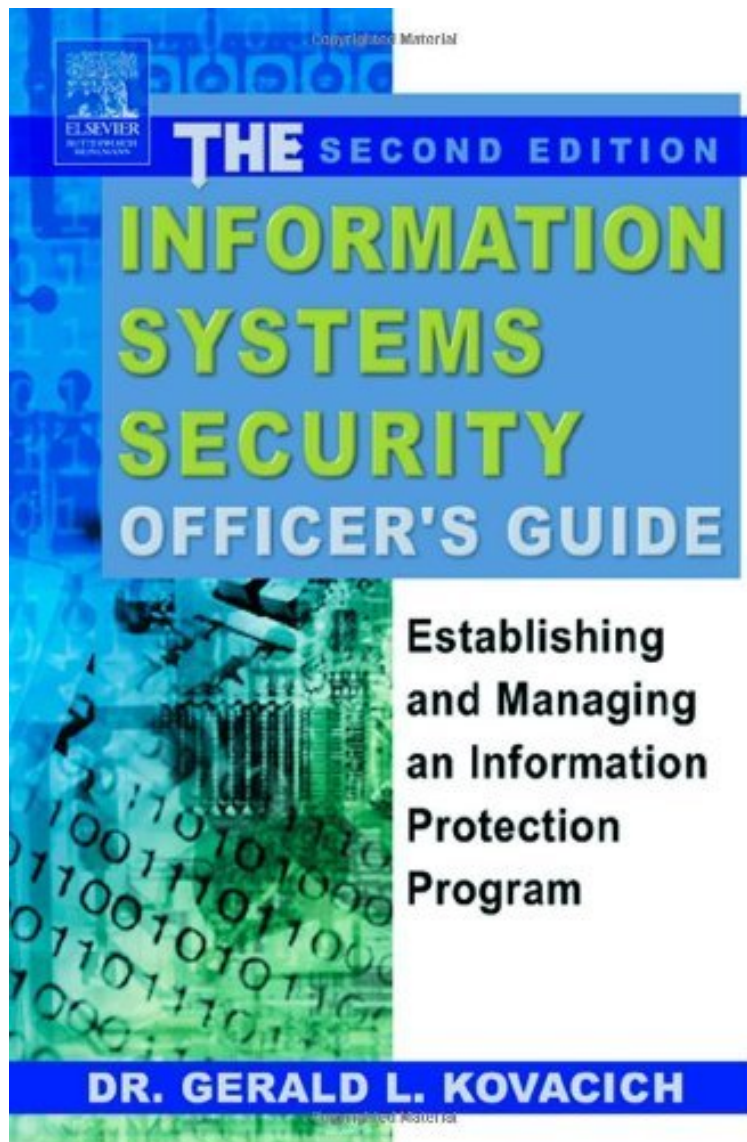


The Information Systems Security Officer's Guide: Establishing and Managing an Information Protection Program

Gerald L. Kovacich

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Gerald L. Kovacich : The Information Systems Security Officer's Guide: Establishing and Managing an Information Protection Program before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Information Systems Security Officer's Guide: Establishing and Managing an Information Protection Program:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good information, very dry
By Kevin Mazzone
This book has good information but is very, very dry. I had to fight very hard to not fall asleep at times. Kovacich does make some very good points about balancing the information security needs with the needs of the business. He also stress that information security needs to utilize existing business processes and be aligned with the goals of the organization. This is the best material he provides and details in several chapters.
1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. THE how-to job book.
By D. Cannon
One of the biggest challenges in any career is how to present yourself and your objectives to gain favorable support from others. Once you scan inside this book - you'll realize how powerful it is.
31 of 31 people found the following review helpful. Must have for ISSOs or ISSO wannabees
By J. G. Heiser
This book is the Boy Scout Senior Patrol Leader's handbook for Information Security Officers. " On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to my corporation and profession..." It is a short book-I read it in an evening-that tries to be a complete guide to a very complex profession. Following this merit badge guidebook approach, the entire subject of risk is covered in 3 pages, and CP/DR is covered in just over 2. It just doesn't contain enough text to be the sole reference book for any single aspect of the job, but it does have some useful information that I'm not aware of in any other text. It is process and organizationally organized, and does not deal with technology at all. My favorite chapter is the second one, "Understanding the Business and Management Environment." With a background in social science and significant experience in multi-cultural situations, the author is uniquely qualified to help an information security practitioner operate effectively within what is essentially an alien culture. A question that I'm frequently asked, and I see often in infosec forums, is "What do I do to get into the security business?" Chapter 4 provides excellent advice on creating a career path, followed by Chapter 5 which contains suggestions on finding a new job. I recommend these chapters to anyone who is looking to break into this field, or who wants to advance their career. If you have managed to find yourself a leadership role in infosec, and are wondering what you should do next, the chapter on creating security plans should be helpful. The chapter on establishing an infosec program is also helpful, and contains some excellent job descriptions for different infosec positions. This is hardly stimulating reading, but if you are an ISSO, your choice is to find usable boilerplate like this, or make it up yourself. The author approaches the subject from a single point of view. All of the examples are drawn around a single hypothetical corporation, and it is obvious that the author has a law enforcement orientation. An infocop approach like this is not necessarily successful within every corporate culture, nor does everyone who is responsible for an information security program think of their role in corporate criminal justice terms. I do think that anyone running an information security program would benefit from this book-or anyone who wants to work towards such a position. If you like org charts and job descriptions, you'll probably feel comfortable with it. For those who are not ISSOs, or those who just looking for an introductory guide to security, this is not the ideal text. For those who are ISSOs, or otherwise responsible for infosec programs, Thomas Wradlow's book, "The Process of Network Security," is a meatier and more sophisticated book that covers much of the same subject matter at a lower price. I recommend that anyone responsible for creating or implementing infosec programs get both books.

Information systems security continues to grow and change based on new technology and Internet usage trends. In order to protect your organization's confidential information, you need information on the latest trends and practical advice from an authority you can trust. The new ISSO Guide is just what you need. Information Systems Security Officer's Guide, Second Edition, from Gerald Kovacich has been updated with the latest information and guidance for information security officers. It includes more information on global changes and threats, managing an international information security program, and additional metrics to measure organization performance. It also includes six entirely new chapters on emerging trends such as high-tech fraud, investigative support for law enforcement, national security concerns, and information security consulting. This essential guide covers everything from effective communication to career guidance for the information security officer. You'll turn to it again and again for practical information and advice on establishing and managing a successful information protection program.* Six new chapters present the latest information and resources to counter information security threats* Every chapter contains opening objectives and closing summaries to clarify key points* Accessible, easy-to-read style for the busy professional

Regardless of where you are in the security hierarchy, this is the definitive text for learning what it takes to be an effective information systems security officer (ISSO). The book paints an excellent portrait of an ISSO's duties, challenges, and working environments. It includes everything from how to handle new technologies and threats to how to perform information-security duties in a national-security environment. Using situations found in actual workplaces, the author leads readers through the process of building an effective corporate information assets protection program (CIAPP) through the fictitious International Widget Corporation. One of the most interesting chapters deals with establishing a metrics-management system, which provides the basics for creating a CIAPP. Metrics management will help ISSOs identify areas needing improvement and methodologies for tracking resource costs and usage. A chapter on investigative support for high-tech crime is germane to today's ISSOs. The author emphasizes the importance of policies that dictate when an investigation will be done internally or when it will involve law enforcement and, in the

latter case, what kind of staff support to provide. Information warfare, information operations, and information assurance also receive their due in this book. Understanding these concepts is critical to competing in a global environment. This is a very effective presentation of a broad range of information about a critical security function. It should find a place on the desk of all infosec professionals. - Security Management

From the Publisher This book presents a total systems approach to the all the topics needed for the infosec professional, beginning with defining the position of the information systems security officer (ISSO), to establishing and managing an infosec program. It is based on a business approach, not a technical approach. The author writes from over 14 years of research and experience. Each chapter ends with thought-provoking questions for use by the instructor.

From the Back Cover * Six new chapters present the latest information and resources to counter information security threats * Every chapter contains opening objectives and closing summaries to clarify key points * Accessible, easy-to-read style for the busy professional

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