Motivating to Successful Collaboration with Results

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NCSC-FI

- CERT-FI formed early 2001
- Transformed into NCSC-FI in 2014
- Snapshot of NCSC-FI services:
  » Operates national early warning and detection system, HAVARO
  » Autoreporter
  » Collaboration networks
    - Uniting security professionals within Finland
  » Incident response and support
  » Vulnerability coordination

Facts
- Constituency: Finland (from citizens to CIP to government)
- Employees: ~75
- Part of Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority
Collaboration?
Collaboration is about

» NDAs to enable
  • Exchange of confidential information
  • Discussion between different organizations

» Strict common ways of working
  • A lot of bureaucracy
  • Technical Information sharing platforms
Yes but no.
Collaboration is about

» Personal relationships with people
» Trust building
» Sharing (confidential) information
» Having the contacts when sh** hits the fan
Collaboration enhances situational awareness

**SOURCES**
- Statutory information sources
- Public sources
- Media observations
- Information exchange networks and ISACs
- Own monitoring systems
- Unconfirmed information

**INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION**
- Quick situation updates
- Periodical Reports
- Decision to concerned/source of mandatory reporting
- Sectoral distributions
- Governmental distributions
- Client-specific distributions
- Advice

**INFORMATION PROCESSING**
- Collaboration enhances situational awareness
ISAC

» Group of people with similar problems discussing about information security

» Every group have written operating principals, but the group decides these principles
   • Usually TLP and Chatham house rules

» As a result uniting the security professionals within Finland
Use cases for an ISAC

» Provides a framework to have effective meetings & workgroups
  ● Cyber weather, presentations from different organizations, round the table

» Information gained within the groups is used as input to NCSC-FI’s situational awareness

» Groups can be used to process e.g. threats towards certain sector
ISACs in Finland

- Co-operation networks were established in agreement with National Emergency Supply Agency
Active ISACs

- State administration
- Internet service providers (ISPs)
- Chemical and forest industry
- Banks
- Media
- Energy sector
- Food industry and supply chain
- Healthcare
- Software industry
Benefits of ISAC co-operation

» Best practices
» Highlighting what NOT to do
» Situational awareness for constituents
» Discussion forum for security professionals in the industry
Welcome to Alcoholics Anonymous
Welcome to Infosec Pros Anonymous
Learnings from the past years

- ISAC will only function properly if a sufficient level of trust is established between the members
  » Face to face meetings are MUST

- ISAC will only function properly if participants share information
  » What you share is what you get!

- Groups with more than 15 participants will erode the level of trust!

- Networking and social events will enhance the possibility to strengthen the trust between individuals

- 3-4 times a year is an optimal face-to-face meeting interval
  » Active use of other communication channels ensures the information exchange meanwhile
Collaboration can be

» Simple
» Effective
» Cheap

But you need to have

» Trust