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Please help improve Common Criteria Wikipedia

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Kirill Sinitski 5:11 PM 6/27/2013

Canadian Common Criteria Scheme

I am going to skip ahead on a number of very important questions, like who are we trying to market CC to, how can we reach and influence decision makers, what are the drivers for certification and how we can reinforce them.

One of the problems that strongly resonates with me is delivering a consistent yet easily understood message. For anyone not already intimately involved in the Common Criteria world, it is not easy to find answers to simple questions like "What does it mean?", "How do I start?".

Imagine the following hypothetical scenario - a VP of sales approaches a product manager and informs him/her that in order to sign a very lucrative contract the product needs to get a XYZ certification, and they need it yesterday!

What happens next?

The product manager only heard about XYZ, so after the meeting with the VP of sales, the product manager Googles XYZ. The product manager finds links to XYZ Portal, XYZ Wikipedia, NIAP- XYZ, and the list of XYZ -certified products. None of these links provide the product manager with a concise procedure to get an XYZ evaluation started. Some of these links even provide conflicting information, because just as with everything else, XYZ certification process is mired in politics. If they are lucky, the product manager gets a hold of a competent XYZ consultant who walks them through the process. If they are unlucky, they arrive at the wrong conclusion and/or receive bad advice. Since the customer is always right, and for both consultants and labs the product manager pays the bills, these errors might never be corrected.

We can draw parallels between hypothetical XYZ certification and Common Criteria.

Over time the process described above leads to misinformation, unreasonable expectations, and a lot of confusion. If we are serious about marketing CC to anyone at any point, we need to start at producing accessible and easy to understand information.

To begin, we should improve the Common Criteria Wikipedia page. Wikipedia is the default starting point for anyone looking for information, and it is accessible and easy to improve. I strongly believe expanding Common Criteria Wikipedia page is how we can clarify and explain CC to whomever we end up targeting.



Axel Rennoch 11:50 AM 7/10/2013

Fraunhofer FOKUS

Dear Kirill,

your XYZ scenario is a very good starting point. From this I see a need for appropriate material to support users of the CC.

How about a "learning corner" published by an editing team via <http://www.ccusersforum.org/> offering free books, tutorials, videos, tools, bibliography and other supporting material as we did it for the testing standard TTCN-3 (<http://www.ttcn-3.org/index.php/learn/>)?

Best regards,
Axel

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