

SCADA SAT (SSAT) - UK

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Who we are?

What is the SSAT?

Personnel experience of deploying the SSAT



Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure

CPNI provides integrated (electronic, personnel and physical) security advice to the businesses and organisations which make up the national infrastructure.

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CPNI SCADA team

Security Advisors – not auditors.

Energy (Electricity, Oil & Gas), Water, Transport, (Food & Health)

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No NERC CIP in UK

UK has SCADA Good Practice Guides

Pros and Cons – can be discussed for ever

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Why do we need a SSAT

Good Practice published - 2005

Are UK utilities using it?

Can we measure the % of Good Practice in the UK?

SSAT first sent out 2008

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**Questions are based the CPNI Good Practice
Guidance and Cyber Security Procurement
Language for Control Systems**

Question set have been reviewed by UK Industry

Good Practice Guide: Process Control and SCADA Security

Available on CPNI public website www.cpni.gov.uk search SCADA

Guide 1. Understand the business risk

Guide 2. Implement secure architecture

Guide 3. Establish response capabilities

Guide 4. Improve awareness and skills

Guide 5. Manage third party risk

Guide 6. Engage projects

Guide 7. Establish ongoing governance

Firewall Deployment for SCADA and Process Control Networks

Plus

Cyber Security Procurement Language for Control Systems

CPNI Personnel Security Measures

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SSAT Overview

- 99 questions
- Physical, Personnel and Electronic
- Based upon CPNI, Industry and International good practice
- “The SSAT seeks to provide a high level snap-shot of the information assurance of an organisation’s industrial control system(s) that are deemed to constitute (directly or indirectly) the UK critical national infrastructure. It is intended that the SSAT be completed on an annual basis by UK CNI companies across the relevant sectors to enable comparisons overtime and across industries. The SSAT links directly to the CPNI SCADA security good practice. “

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SCADA Self Assessment Tool

171 75 Does your organisation ensure all vendors incorporate appropriate anti-virus protection within their SCADA/telemetry system(s)?

No ▼

172 76 Does your organisation establish an effective software patching process with its vendors?

No ▼

173 77 Has your organisation agreed with its vendor(s) system hardening procedures for the SCADA/telemetry system(s) in operation?

No ▼

174 78 Has your organisation identified all component technologies (e.g. databases) used within your SCADA/telemetry system(s) to ensure that all vulnerabilities are managed?

No ▼

175 79 Does your organisation consider and address the security of remote support from vendors? E.g how secure is the connection (authentication), what vendor staff are allowed to connect and for what purpose?

No ▼

Manage risk from support organisations (7.3.3 Manage risk from support organisations).

176 80 Does your organisation require a 'code of connection' agreement defining the terms and conditions of a network connection between your network and third party organisations?

No ▼

178 81 Does your organisation require support organisations to notify you of vulnerabilities discovered within their system(s) that interact with your SCADA/telemetry system(s)?

No ▼

179 82 Does your organisation ensure that all support organisations connecting to your organisation incorporate appropriate anti-virus protection within their own system(s)?

No ▼

180 83 Does your organisation ensure that all support organisations connecting to your organisation incorporate appropriate patch their system(s)?

No ▼

181 84 Does your organisation undertake regular risk assessment & security reviews and audits of all support organisations.

No ▼



Why do we use it?

High level understanding of level of protective for SCADA/ICS assets in the UK

‘Door opener’ for further discussion, and joint working to improve protective security



What it does not do

Answers/scoring is not weighted.

Yes/No/Sometimes answers plus text boxes

Not a standalone assessment tool

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Scoring – Tfc light - % of good practice

Green – 85% or more	
Amber – 60 to 84%	
Red – 59% or less	

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- Companies report will contain their own scoring
 - Scoring from the previous year
 - Plus a average score from their sector
 - A list of recommendations


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Common findings

- Companies need to conduct a threat assessment
- Should understand impacts if threats realised
- Should identify a senior manager responsible for SCADA/Telemetry networks
- Should have a managerial member with defined responsibility for SCADA/Telemetry networks

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- Should ensure all connections to SCADA/Telemetry networks have a business case
 - Should have a change control process
 - Should have a documented password policy
 - Should have a starters and leavers policy
 - Verify devices are free from malware before connecting
 - Should have a SCADA/Telemetry staff awareness programme
 - Develop a forum between SCADA/Telemetry and corporate IT teams can share knowledge

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 - Should review CPNI guidance on managing third party risk
 - Should engage with projects to identify implications for SCADA/Telemetry networks are identified

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Outcomes

Process – Now moving into 3rd year

SSAT question set – v3.1

(input and review by Industry)

Improvement - average increase of performance –
40% (electricity sector)

Well received by all companies and UK Government

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What are the results used for

- Sector aggregated results reported to UK Government
- Benchmarking
- Shows areas of weakness/vulnerabilities
 - Who should solve these?
 - Industry
 - Government
 - CPNI
 - Or all three

Future

- Use internally by UK Utilities

- Not for public release

- Never design for this

- Scoring not weighted

- Not robust enough

- Never the aim

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BUT

If anyone would like to design a publically available
Scada Self Assessment Tool, that links direct to
SCADA Good Practice,

Please do

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SSAT - Benefits

- Electronic Security Background
- Corporate / Government Systems
 - Heavily regulated
 - Accreditation
 - Incidents to ‘focus the mind’
- Minimal experience of Control Systems

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One year of working with SSAT

- Initial impressions of ICS Security were poor
 - Existing guidance (passwords, group accounts)
 - Impressions from research (Wikipedia)
 - » the lack of concern about security and authentication in the design, deployment and operation of existing SCADA networks
 - » SCADA systems have the benefit of security through obscurity through the use of specialized protocols and proprietary interfaces
 - » SCADA networks are secure because they are physically secured
 - » SCADA networks are secure because they are disconnected from the Internet
 - 10 years behind the curve
- Initial returns from SSAT worrying
 - Patching policy (What?)
 - Legacy kit
 - Network design


But with experience and Time..

- Meetings with Companies
 - Availability rather than confidentiality
 - Cost constraints
 - Equipment lifecycle – 20 years +
 - Threat Awareness
 - Use of corporate technology but none of the security methods (AV, Intrusion Detection)
- Better understand Companies
 - Mechanism for closer involvement



In average terms, an improvement in every area:

	SECTOR 2009
1) Understand the Business Risk (max=10)*	Up 9%
1a) Understand the Vulnerabilities (max=10)*	Up 27%
2) Establish Ongoing Governance (max = 5)	Up 21%
3) Implementing Secure Architecture	
Perimeter Defence (max =26)	Up 16%
Malware Protection (max=16)	Up 8%
Insider Threat (max=9)	Up 22%
Security Management (max=3)	Up 10%
Backups and recovery (max=3)	Up 7%
Physical Security (max=6)	Up 12%
4) Improve Awareness and Skills (max=5)	Up 17%
5) Establish Response Capabilities (max=5)	Up 2%
6) Manage Third Party Risk (max=16)	Up 4%
7) Engage Projects (max=4)	Up 20%
8) Procurement (max=5)	N/A

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Highlighted work to do

- SSAT will adapt/improve year by year
 - Threats and technology change
- Improvements still to be made
 - Change control
 - Working with vendors
 - Threat awareness
 - Remote Access solutions

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Questions?

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Thank you

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