# DEVELOPMENT OF SECUREMET: A TOOL FOR ALIGNING SECURITY METRICS AND ORGANIZATIONS SECURITY OBJECTIVES

A project submitted to Dean of Awang Had Salleh Graduate School of arts and Science in partial

Fulfillment of the requirement for the degree

Master of Science (Information Technology)

Universiti Utara Malaysia

Ву

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# DEVELOPMENT OF SECUREMET: A TOOL FOR ALIGNING SECURITY METRICS AND ORGANIZATIONS SECURITY OBJECTIVES

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UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA 2011

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# ABSTRACT (BAHASA MALAYSIA)

Tujuan projek ini adalah membangun satu alat iaitu SecureMet untuk membantu organisasi dalam menentukan metrik keselamatan yang sejajar dengan objektif keselamatan berdasarkan kepada keupayaan organisasi tersebut. Kebanyakan organisasi menghadapi masalah dalam penentuan metric keselamatan sejajar dengan objektif keselamatan organisasi. SecureMet ini dapat menyumbang organisasi dalam pemilihan metrik keselamatan yang paling sesuai dan juga dapat meningkatkan keupayaan untuk mencapai objektif keselamatan organisasi. Alat yang dibangunkan ini adalah mengikut pendekatan daripada *Quality Function Development* (QFD). Manakala rangkakerja yang sedia ada seperti SSE-CMM dan COBIT digunakan sebagai panduan dalam pemilihan keupayaan keselamatan dan objektif keselamatan. Methodologi yang digunakan untuk projek ini adalah bedasarkan kepada model *Rapid Application Develoment* (RAD) dan dibahagikan kepada empat fasa iaitu fasa analisis, fasa reka bentuk, fasa pembangunan, dan fasa pengesahan.

# **ABSTRACT (ENGLISH)**

The purpose of this project is to develop a tool henceforth called SecureMet to help an organization to determine the security metrics aligned with its security objectives based on the organization's capabilities. The majority of organizations face a common problem in determining their security metrics aligned with their security objectives. SecureMet will be able to assist the organization in choosing the suitable security metrics and helping it to enhance its capabilities to achieve its security objectives. The tool is developed based on the Quality Function Development (QFD) approach, while existing frameworks such as the SSE-CMM and COBIT are used as guides in the determination and choice of the security capabilities and security objectives. The methodology employed for this project is based on the Rapid Application Develoment (RAD) model and is divided into four parts, namely, the requirement analysis phase, the design phase, the development phase and the verification phase.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Praise and gratitude be given to Allah the Almighty for putting forward me such a great strength, patience, courage, and ability to complete this project.

My gratefulness to my supportive and helpful supervisor, **Prof. Nazib bin Nordin** for assisting and guiding me in the completion of this project. With all truthfulness, without him, the project would not have been a complete one. He has always been my source of motivation and guidance. I am truly grateful for him continual support and cooperation in assisting me all the way through the semester.

I would like to present my thanks to my father, my mother, my husband and all my family who has always been there for me. Finally, I would like to express my appreciations to all my friends, colleagues, Examinations Unit staff, and everyone who has helped me in this journey.

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

COBIT Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology

CVSS Common Vulnerability Scoring System

Institute for Information Infrastructure Protection

IT Information Technology

KGI Key Goal Index

KPI Key Performance Index

POLIMAS Politeknik Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah

QFD Quality Function Deployment

RAD Rapid Application Develoment

SCADA Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

SECMET Security Metrics

SPI Software Process Improvement

SSCAM System Security Capability Assessment Model Development

and Application

SSE-CMM System Security Engineering Capability Maturity Model

# **CHAPTER ONE**

# INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses on the background of the study by quoting some facts from journals. It is followed by the problem statement, the project questions, the objectives of the study, and the significance of the study. The scope and the limitations of the study are also included in this chapter.

# 1.1 Background

In today's era, most business processes are closely tied to information technology (IT). As a result of its dependence on IT, the need for security in the IT systems is highly desirable. The use of IT applications in many fields has increased tremendously over the years and there seems to be no let up in its importance. Currently, the internet is not only a source for information but has fast become a medium for many kinds of business transactions. Organizations today need to hook up onto the global network and breaking national geographical barriers, to communicate and deal with ever increasing number of customers, suppliers, clients, business partners and, also their own employees. However this IT connection has its ever present and constant threat from malicious hacking activities. The threat from theft of confidential information from an organization is often the case but a more harmful threat may involve a system failure. Due to increase in internet

# The contents of the thesis is for internal user only

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