

Module Description, available in: EN

Security of Industrial Operational Technology

General Information

Number of ECTS Credits

3

Module code

TSM_SecIndOpT

Valid for academic year

2024-25

Last modification

2023-07-25

Coordinator of the module

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Explanations regarding the language definitions for each location:

- Instruction is given in the language defined below for each location/each time the module is held.
- Documentation is available in the languages defined below. Where documents are in several languages, the percentage distribution is shown (100% = all the documentation).
- The examination is available 100% in the languages shown for each location/each time it is held.

	Lausanne			Lugano	Zurich		
Instruction					X E 100%		
Documentation					X E 100%		
Examination					X E 100%		

Module Category

TSM Technical scientific module

Lessons

2 lecture periods and 1 tutorial period per week

Entry level competences

Prerequisites, previous knowledge

Students should have a basic understanding of computer networks and security concepts. It is recommended that students have completed introductory courses in computer networking and security before taking this module.

Pre-reading material required for specific labs may be provided.

Brief course description of module objectives and content

This module provides an understanding of the fundamental principles of the security of Operational Technology (OT) in an industrial context. The module will cover the standards, key concepts and methodologies involved in securing OT systems commonly used in industrial environments, such as factories, power plants, and other critical infrastructure.

The module will begin by exploring particularities of OT systems and the unique security challenges associated with OT environments. Different aspects of OT systems and their implication for security are studied, such as network technology and network architecture. Challenges related to product lifecycle and key management as well as existing solutions to those problems are explored. A specific focus is put on the implementation of standard IEC 62443.

Aims, content, methods

Learning objectives and acquired competencies

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- Understand the unique security challenges associated with OT environments
- Comprehend the main cybersecurity standards related to OT environments
- Identify and assess the risks and threats associated with OT systems
- Understand which security measures are suitable to protect OT systems and how to respond to incidents

Contents of module with emphasis on teaching content

The module will address the following topics:

- An introduction to the particularities of OT systems in comparison to IT systems and Sensor Technology
- Securing OT-relevant aspects of SCADA, DCS & ICS
- Communication technology relevant to OT environment as well as the implications of air-gapped and connected systems
- Threat models for OT systems
- Product lifecycle, in particular issues related to key generation and key management
- Incident Response in an OT context
- The application of Standard IEC 62443, in particular weakness analysis, post-incident analysis and auditing

Teaching and learning methods

In addition to lectures, the module is completed by exercises on simulated OT environments corresponding to industry standards. The exercises will apply the content from the lectures to specific situations inspired by the challenges of real world environments.

Literature

Assessment

Certification requirements

Module does not use certification requirements

Basic principle for exams

As a rule, all the standard final exams for modules and also all resit exams are to be in written form

Standard final exam for a module and written resit exam

Kind of exam

written

Duration of exam

120 minutes

Permissible aids

Aids permitted as specified below:

Permissible electronic aids

Any passive resource is permitted.

Other permissible aids

No other aids permitted

Special case: Resit exam as oral exam

Kind of exam

oral

Duration of exam

30 minutes

Permissible aids

No aids permitted