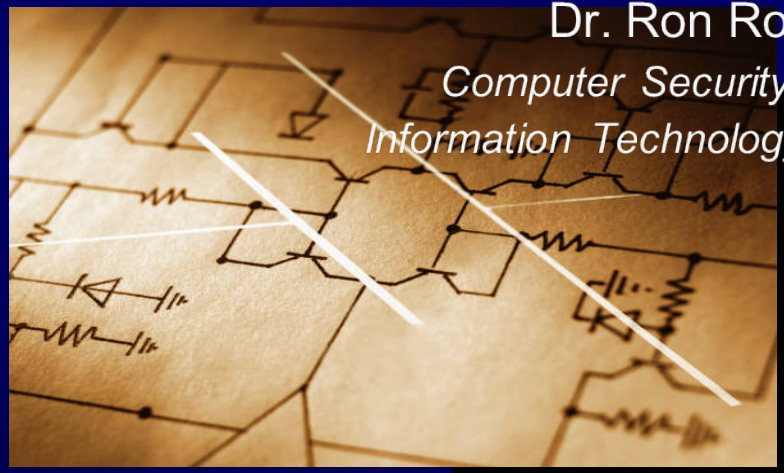
Federal Computer Security Program Managers' Forum

Top 10 Myths

FISMA, RMF, 800-53, Continuous Monitoring, and Life

Dr. Ron Ross
Computer Security Division
Information Technology Laboratory



First, a quick refresher course.

Risk management 101.

Risk.

Function (threat, vulnerability, impact, likelihood)

The unlikely threat.

Our three-year old adopted pit bull.

Cute.
Lovable.
Smart.

The vulnerability.


The impact.
and the likelihood?.
100%

And a few family photos.

Our newest addition.

7-week old kitten rescued yesterday from a storm drain next to Starbucks...

Named him “Bucks”

Now on to business.

Myth #1

FISMA focuses more on compliance than effective security.

Myth #2

Organizations have to implement all security controls in NIST SP 800-53.

Myth #3

NIST does not prioritize the security controls in SP 800-53.

Myth #4

FISMA is just a paperwork exercise.

Myth #5

The new Cybersecurity Framework is going to replace the RMF.

Myth #6

Organizations can obtain FISMA certifications for their products, systems, and services.

Myth #7

FISMA requires organizations to assess every security control annually.

Myth #8

The DHS Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation Program is intended to replace the current CM efforts.

Myth #9

Hiring more people with hacking skills is the best way to improve your cybersecurity work force.

Myth #10

Mitigating vulnerabilities is the best way to ensure that your critical systems are resilient.


We The People

Contact Information

100 Bureau Drive Mailstop 8930
Gaithersburg, MD USA 20899-8930

Project Leader

Dr. Ron Ross
(301) 975-5390
ron.ross@nist.gov

Administrative Support

Peggy Himes
(301) 975-2489
peggy.himes@nist.gov

LinkedIn
http://www.linkedin.com/in/ronrossnist

Senior Information Security Researchers and Technical Support

Pat Toth
(301) 975-5140
patricia.toth@nist.gov

Kelley Dempsey
(301) 975-2827
kelley.dempsey@nist.gov

Web: csrc.nist.gov

Comments: sec-cert@nist.gov