



Specifying Reusable Security Requirements

Firesmith, D. "Specifying Reusable Security Requirements", *Journal of Object Technology*, 3.1 (January-February 2004): 61-75.

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Summary

- This article discusses how security requirements can be highly reusable by using parameterized security requirements templates.
- The author suggested a step-by-step procedure in specifying the security requirements and determining the parameters for using the reusable security requirement templates



Appreciative Comments

- The idea of using a template
- Reusable
 - Easy to learn, use and reuse
 - Less repetitive task
 - Standardise
 - Search
- Assets-based, Risk-driven Analysis Method
 - Help to Prioritize



Critical Comments

- High Level of Abstraction
 - Security requirements template in order to suit all different kinds of applications



Critical Comments – cont'd

- How useful?
 - “Whereas the specific type of attack may vary greatly depending on the architecture under attack, the similarity of threats and attackers tends to lead to considerable uniformity when it comes to the architectural *security mechanisms* that are used to protect these assets from the threats posed by these attackers.”



Critical Comments – cont'd

- How useful? – cont'd
 - The author's assumption to similar kinds of security mechanisms to fulfill security requirements
 - No evidence showing effectiveness



Question & Discussion

- If you are in the requirements team, given a security template as such, would you use it and find it useful for reducing your workload?