Timothy Mullen

How to Use Building Engineering Specs for OT Cyber Supply Chain Security

Cyber supply chain risk management seeks to limit attack vectors from equipment procurement, service providers, and software dependencies. In hospitals, universities, and other public facilities, IT security teams work to keep these risks in check. However, some organizations have challenges ensuring that OT technology meets the same security maturity as IT technology. OT systems are the critical infrastructure of critical infrastructure, providing the power, water, heating, and cooling for surgical operating rooms, biology labs, and emergency response centers. Taking a demarcate and silo approach to OT is no longer adequate, and neglects opportunities provided by IT/OT convergence. But when procurement channels differ from enterprise technologies, it can be a challenging and inefficient process to achieve an organization's security goals in OT systems.

In this talk, we will discuss how OT technology is commonly procured, how to read engineering specifications, and ways to utilize the specification to ensure your organization's security goals are being met in engineered capital projects. We will provide a baseline on the OT technologies involved in these projects, review samples of actual engineering specifications, and discuss how coordination with other parties can be used to make security a requirement in the project design.

Biography

Timothy Mullen is the OT Cybersecurity Team Lead at Applied Control Engineering, Inc. (ACE). At ACE, Tim leads a multi-disciplinary team through projects to assess and remediate cyber vulnerabilities that impact industrial

control systems (ICS) and other Operational Technologies (OT) used in many industries. Prior to ACE, Tim worked in commercial nuclear power performing cybersecurity assessments of plant control upgrades. Tim holds a BS in Computer Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University, an MS in Computer Engineering from Villanova University, and is a Global Industrial Cyber Security Professional (GICSP). Tim's writings on cybersecurity have been published in Control Engineering magazine and other outlets.