Update on the Italian scheme

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Organismo di Certificazione della Sicurezza Informatica
Introduction to OCSI

- Organismo di Certificazione della Sicurezza Informatica
- Established through decree in 2004
- Currently preparing for shadow certification
The Italian schemes

Ministry of Communications

Prime Minister

Certification Body

Certification Body

ISCOM

ANS

Evaluation Facilities (LVS)

Evaluation Facilities (Ce.Va.)

Commercial IT products/systems

Classified information
ISCOM organisation

Ministry of Communications

Certification Body
Commercial products/systems

Evaluation Facilities
Classified information
OCSI Activities

- Definition of national Evaluation and Certification procedures according to the international criteria
- Managing Certifications
- Managing of Evaluation Facilities (LVS):
  - accreditation, suspension and revocation
- Training and qualification of Certifiers, Evaluators and Assistants
- Spreading the Information Technology Security Culture
- Collaboration with Foreign Certification Bodies
Guidelines

- LGP1: Overview of the Scheme
- LGP2: Accreditation of Evaluation Facilities
- LGP3: Evaluation/Certification Procedures
- LGP4: Evaluation Activities
- LGP5: Evaluation Work Plan
- LGP6: Production of PP and ST
- LGP7: Glossary
Evaluation Facilities - LVS

- Accredited by OCSI
  - Possible to choose EAL level
  - Theoretical exam
  - Practical exam
  - Site inspection
- Accreditation valid for 3 years
- Site inspection repeated every year
- Currently 4 accredited facilities
Accredited by OCSI

Can provide pre-certification technical support to the developer or sponsor

Two profiles:
- focus on documentation
- focus on operational aspects

Currently 5 accredited assistants
The OCSI view

- Currently, maintenance of certifications is not widespread
  - To patch or not to patch?
- Many evaluations at medium-high levels, but often excluding functionality
- Unrealistic operational environment
- Focus on the developer, not the end user
The Italian ICT landscape

- Small number of SW/HW producers
- Large number of system integrators
  - Using COTS products
  - Certification at medium EAL levels too expensive or not feasible
OCSI priority areas

- Focus on low assurance certifications
- Certification of systems
- Assurance maintenance
Why certifications at low assurance levels?

1) Certifications require less time and become economically accessible

2) Assurance maintenance is more realistic

3) Possibility to certify systems

4) CC “assistants” with the necessary knowledge can assist the sponsor/developer in evaluation and maintenance preparations

5) If system certifications become widespread, the national security would benefit as a whole
Some recent ISCOM/OCSI activities

• IT security educational TV show
  – “Futuro semplice”

• Publication of IT security guidelines:
  – The quality of service in ICT networks
  – Network Security – from risk analysis to protection strategies
  – Network Security – in critical infrastructures
For more information

- ISCOM: http://www.iscom.gov.it
- OCSI: http://www.ocsi.gov.it