

Study Group on ASP/SaaS Information Security Measures—1st Meeting
Summary of Minutes

1. Date and Time

Thursday, June 21, 2007; 10:00–12:00

2. Location

Room A, 3rd floor, Mita Common Meeting Place

3. Attendees (honorifics omitted)

(1) Group Members

Eiji Aoki (NEC Corporation), Masami Imada (Fujitsu Business Systems Ltd.), Yasuo Iwashita (Osaka Excellent iDC KK), Inekazu Uehara (Okinawa Electric Power Company, Incorporated; represented by Shigekazu Ohshiro), Yoshiyuki Oikawa (salesforce.com Co., Ltd.), Hiroyuki Ogura (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation), Takashi Kimura (Blayn Co., Ltd), Shintaro Kobayashi (Nomura Research Institute, Ltd.), Ryoichi Sasaki (Tokyo Denki University), Kunikazu Tsuda (ASP Industry Consortium Japan), Koji Nakao (KDDI Corporation), Toshio Nishiyama (NTT Communications), Shunsuke Hanato (TRICORN Corporation), Satoshi Hayashi (Miroku Jyoho Service Co., Ltd.), Masayo Fujimoto (Institute of Information Security), Yoshiki Matsushashi (Sansui Co., Ltd.), Hajime Miyasaka (NTT Data Corporation, represented by Akira Shinozaki)

(2) MIC Representatives

Terasaki (Director-General for Policies), Takahashi (Director, Office of IT Security Policy), Murakami (Deputy Director, Office of IT Security Policy), Shibazaki (Deputy Director, Computer Communications Division), Hagiwara (Deputy Director, Telecommunication Systems Division), Tanabe (Policy Unit Chief, Office of IT Security Policy)

4. Agenda

(1) Opening

(2) Opening Speech by Director-General for Policies Terasaki

(3) Introduction of Group Members

Each group member was introduced as described in Document 1-1.

(4) Approval of Establishment of the Study Group

MIC presented a summary of the establishment of this Study Group as described in Document 1-2, and the establishment was approved.

(5) Publicizing and Handling of Minutes

MIC explained the publicizing of the minutes and the method of handling the minutes as described in Document 1-3, and these issues were approved.

(6) Appointment of Chair and Vice Chairs

According to the summary of establishment, Mr. Sasaki was appointed as the Chair and Ms. Fujimoto and Mr. Nakao were appointed as the Vice Chairs.

(7) Meeting Proceedings

1) The Purpose of the Study Group and Discussion Schedule

MIC explained the purpose this Study Group and discussion schedule as described in Document 1-4.

2) Current Status of ASP/SaaS

Mr. Tsuda, Mr. Imada, and Mr. Oikawa presented a report concerning the current status of ASP/SaaS, as described in Documents 1-5, 1-6, and 1-7.

3) Free Discussion

Members exchanged opinions about the current status and challenges concerning ASP/SaaS, as well as about the proceedings of the following meetings. A summary of comments follows below:

- The purpose of the Study Group is to identify the issues to be undertaken as necessary information security measures, and to quantify the level of requirement for each issue in order to implement them as concrete measures. The detailed discussions by the study group concerning future security measures, is expected produce conclusions, particularly in regard to ASP/SaaS.
- It may be beneficial to follow the methods used to establish ISO/IEC17799 and its prototype, BS7799, in which members presented security-related opinions and potential measures from a variety of viewpoints and unified them into a standard. The ideal result through this process is to produce a more comprehensive version of the current ISO/IEC17799.
- There are some operation-related descriptions in ISO/IEC27002 (formerly ISO/IEC17799), which will be particularly important for ASPs.
- It may be necessary to discuss the realization of security at the level required by users.

- The coverage of research may become too wide if it takes into account general BCP and reliability issues; the major focus of this Study Group should be limited solely to information security.
- The Study Group would like to maintain close communications with the Security and Reliability Committee within the ASP Promotion Conference established by MIC and ASPIC. The main discussions in this Study Group will continue to concern information security and related issues.
- Greater emphasis on cost efficiency tends to result in less security regarding privacy. We have to seek a balance that delivers both cost efficiency and privacy security.
- Being certified by the PrivacyMark System or ISMS is costly, making it difficult for small-to-medium-sized businesses to become certified. Although newly starting ASPs are not affluent enough to pay for such certificates, it would be better to discuss providing some form of safety measures so that they are not excluded from the competition field.
- The most important point is providing users with a means to confirm the security level of an ASP. Users should be able to choose the best ASP for themselves, with full information about the “pros and cons” of each ASP. We should continue to represent the users’ point of view in this group discussion.
- Therefore, discussions should include how a user can determine the status of an ASP.
- Discussions must include how to maintain a consistent security policy among ASPs, as well as structuring a legal system and organizational requirements. For example, business/technological mashup may ruin the integrity of the security policy as a greater number of organizations are involved in one business. Also, we need to address the potential problems associated with the cross-border transfer of private information within a global company.

(8) Others

The secretariat presented the schedule for the next meeting.

(9) Close of Meeting