

A Case for Societal Digital Security Culture

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ABSTRACT

Information systems such as e-commerce services, smart phones, social media, and pervasive systems are an indispensable part of our life. Cyber attacks on these systems could cause huge financial losses, privacy and safety compromises, and operational interruptions. Security research has focused on developing more secure technical solutions to prevent attacks. But technical security solutions alone are not sufficient to protect individuals and information systems from attacks. Consequently usable security solutions have been proposed but they have limited scope. We need a comprehensive solution in the form of Societal Digital Security Culture (SDSC): collective knowledge, common practices, and intuitive common behavior about digital security. SDSC complements the technical and usable security solutions by improving the knowledge and creating a change in the behavior of society towards digital security. SDSC is a first step in the development of comprehensive security solutions for societal information systems.