

# Network Security Review

## Issue

All modern IT systems rely on networks. Performance, reliability and security of the networks are necessary conditions for an efficient business operation. Large networks are always geographically widely spread; connect large numbers of different organizations, and implement a large number of connections to external networks including the Internet. Moreover network technology is quickly changing. On these premises, most enterprises have difficulties to judge and assess the quality and the security of their network infrastructure in general and of selected network components in particular. Best practice requires that corporate networks are carefully designed and appropriately protected such that known weaknesses cannot be abused.

## Cnlab Services

Cnlab analyze the networks and related administrative processes and applications. The goal is to identify the **vulnerability** to known weaknesses, to identify the potential **damage** which can incur if a weakness is exploited, and to assess the related **risk** for the organizations. Further, suggestions for **improvements** are worked out where this seems necessary.

The Cnlab methodology is based on our own experience from more than 10 years in the field, and on the common standards (such as ISO 17799, BSI, OSSTMM).

## Project Sketch

Projects start with an **analysis** phase (interviews, document studies). Based on this, detailed test plans are worked out for a subsequent **verification** phase (automated and manual tests, analysis of component configurations). Results are always documented in a formal **report** which provides a management summary, a description of the review and the obtained results, a list of the performed tests, and a list of the identified weaknesses and the related risks.

Work depends on actual network size and complexity, and on the review focus. Typical network related projects start from 10 days and go up to 30 and more (person) days for more complex scenarios.

## Success Stories

Cnlab has analyzed large computer networks and network components since 1997, for Internet Service Providers, for hosting providers in the banking area, for major international banks and for public administrations. Reviews have shown weaknesses (in some cases). Based on our engineering background we have always been able to work out improvements which could be implemented within reasonable time and budget, and which could effectively fight the observed weaknesses.

## Cnlab contacts

Detail Information on network security reviews can be obtained from the following Cnlab representatives:

Thomas Lüthi	Tel +41 55 214 33 41
Christian Birchler	Tel +41 55 214 33 40
Paul Schöbi	Tel +41 55 214 33 33