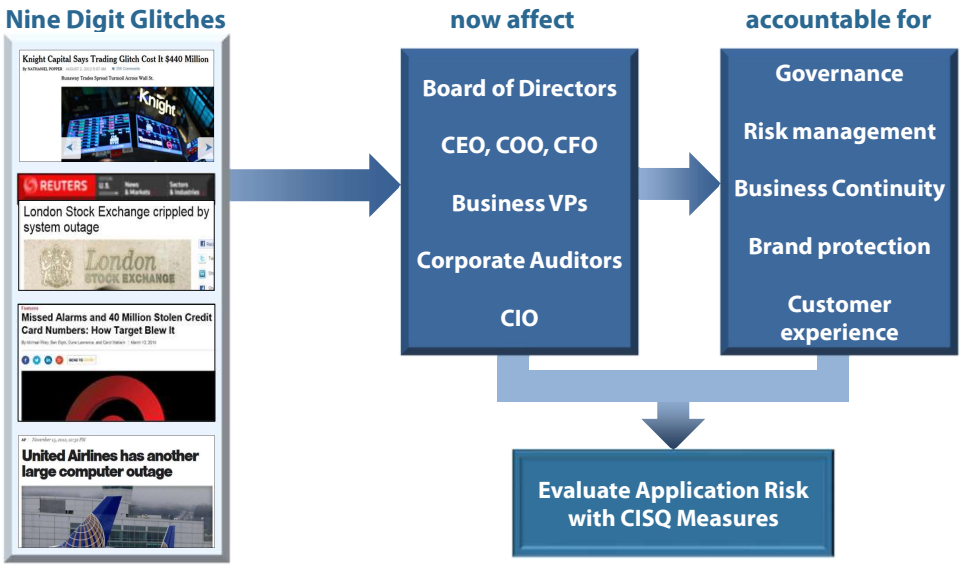
Measuring the Cybersecurity Risk of Software-Intensive Systems

Marc Jones
Director, CISQ Federal Outreach

CISQ Consortium for IT Software Quality

International Standards for Automating Software Size and Structural Quality Measurement

Nine-Digit Glitches



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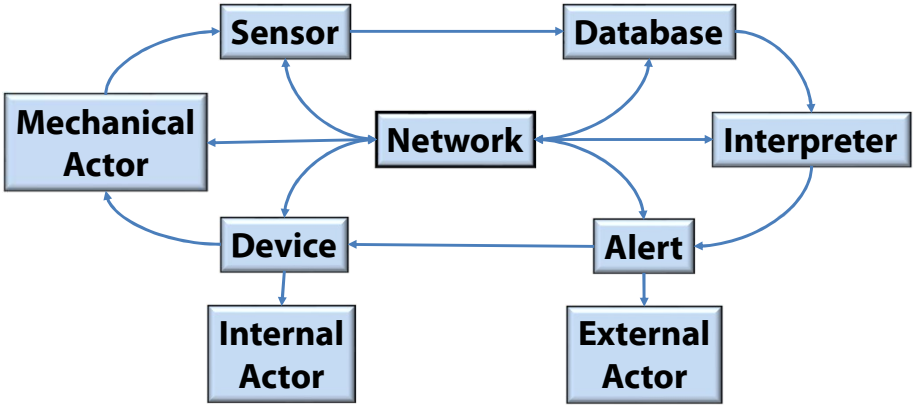
Security Challenges in IoT Systems



- Broad attack surface with rapid propagation across components
- Components developed by different organizations
- Lack of shared cybersecurity information on component weaknesses
- Reliance on process certifications instead of software analysis

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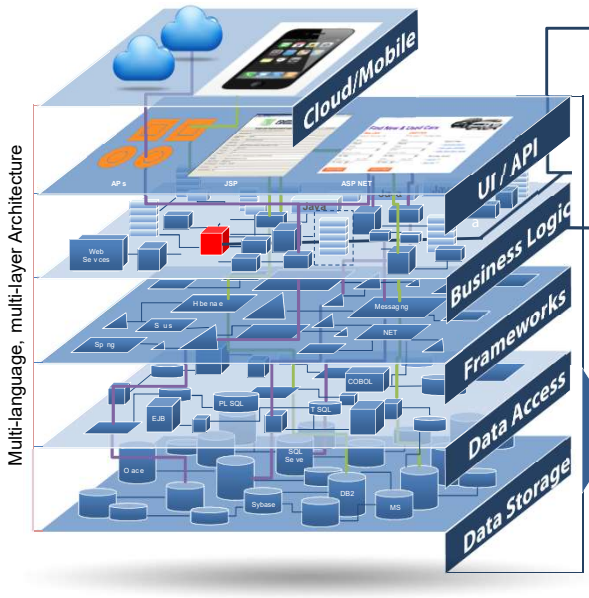
Modern Apps Are a Technology Stack



1 Unit Level
- Code style & layout
- Expression complexity
- Code documentation
- Class or program design
- Basic coding standards
- Developer level

2 Technology Level
- Single language/technology layer
- Intra-technology architecture
- Intra-layer dependencies
- Inter-program invocation
- Security vulnerabilities
- Development team level

3 System Level
- Multiple languages
- Architectural compliance
- Risk propagation
- Application security
- Resiliency checks
- Transaction integrity
- Function points
- Integration quality
- Data access control
- SDK versioning
- Calibration across technologies
- IT organization level

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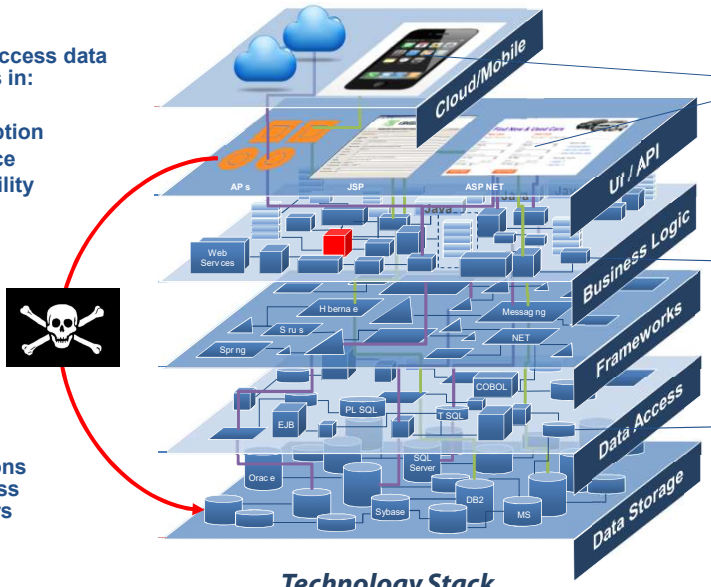
Security Analysis Must Be System-Wide

Skipping layers to access data can cause problems in:

- Security
- Data corruption
- Performance
- Maintainability



User entry

User & input authentication

Data access manager

Detection requires analyzing transactions and data flows across languages and layers

Technology Stack

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What Is CISQ ?

Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute

OBJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP

Co-founders

Paul Nielsen — **CISQ** — **Richard Soley**

OMG Special Interest Group

CISQ is chartered to specify measures of software size and quality that can be automated from source code, and promote them through OMG and other international standards organizations

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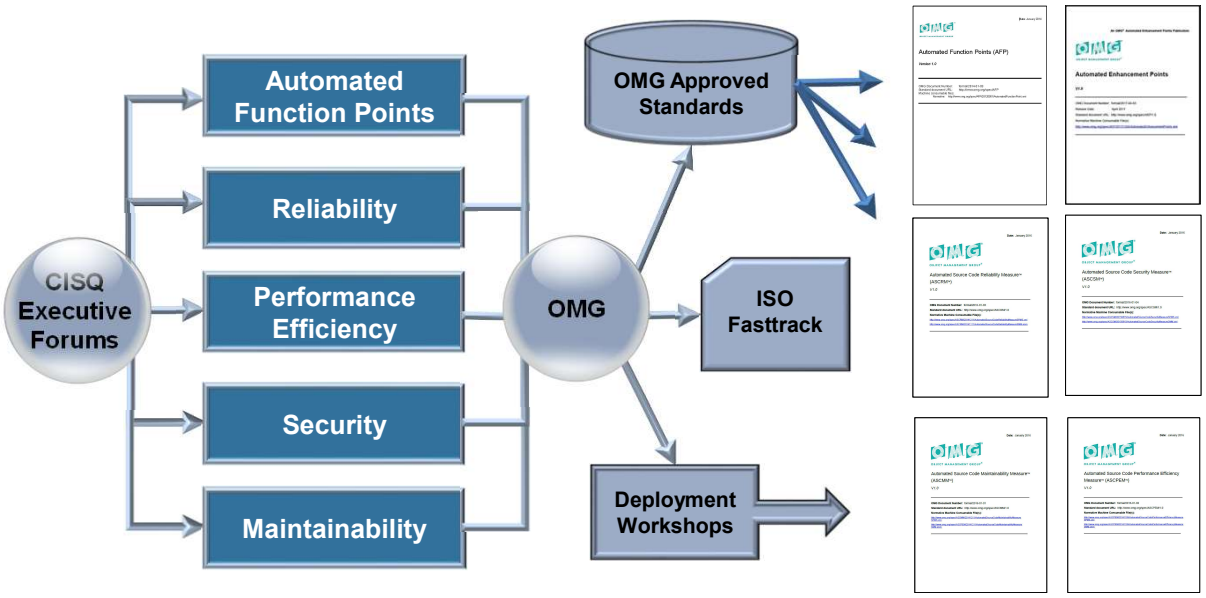
CISQ/OMG Standards Process



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CISQ Structural Quality Measures

CISQ Structural Quality Measures		Example architectural and coding weaknesses included in the CISQ measures
Security	22 weaknesses (Top 25 CWEs)	• SQL injection • Cross-site scripting • Buffer overflow
Reliability	29 weaknesses	• Empty exception block • Unreleased resources • Circular dependency
Performance Efficiency	15 weaknesses	• Expensive loop operation • Un-indexed data access • Unreleased memory
Maintainability	20 weaknesses	• Excessive coupling • Dead code • Hard-coded literals

An international team of experts selected the weaknesses to include in CISQ measures based on the severity of their impact on operational problems or cost of ownership.

Only weaknesses considered severe enough that they must be remediated were included in the CISQ measures.

CISQ Structural Quality measures are currently being extended to embedded systems software.

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22 (of Top 25) CWEs Form the CISQ Security Measure

- CWE-22 Path Traversal Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-78 OS Command Injection Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-79 Cross-site Scripting Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-89 SQL Injection Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-120 Buffer Copy without Checking Size of Input
- CWE-129 Array Index Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-134 Format String Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-252 Unchecked Return Parameter of Control Element Accessing Resource
- CWE-327 Broken or Risky Cryptographic Algorithm Usage
- CWE-396 Declaration of Catch for Generic Exception
- CWE-397 Declaration of Throws for Generic Exception
- CWE-434 File Upload Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-456 Storable and Member Data Element Missing Initialization
- CWE-606 Unchecked Input for Loop Condition
- CWE-667 Shared Resource Improper Locking
- CWE-672 Expired or Released Resource Usage
- CWE-681 Numeric Types Incorrect Conversion
- CWE-706 Name or Reference Resolution Improper Input Neutralization
- CWE-772 Missing Release of Resource after Effective Lifetime
- CWE-789 Uncontrolled Memory Allocation
- CWE-798 Hard-Coded Credentials Usage for Remote Authentication
- CWE-835 Loop with Unreachable Exit Condition ('Infinite Loop')

Robert Martin
MITRE

Common Weakness Enumeration
cwe.mitre.org

Update to CISQ measures:

- Extensions for embedded
- Additional critical weaknesses
- Expected 2H 2019
- CWE Parent-child structure:
  - 34 parents
  - 41 children

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CISQ and the NIST Cybersecurity Framework

Function Unique Identifier	Function	Category Unique Identifier	Category
ID	Identify	ID.AM	Asset Management
		ID.BE	Business Environment
		ID.GV	Governance
		ID.RA	Risk Assessment
		ID.RM	Risk Management Strategy
		ID.SC	Supply Chain Risk Management
PR	Protect	PR.AC	Identity Management and Access Control
		PR.AT	Awareness and Training
		PR.DS	Data Security
		PR.IP	Information Protection Processes and Procedures
		PR.MA	Maintenance
		PR.PT	Protective Technology
DE	Detect	DE.AE	Anomalies and Events
		DE.CM	Security Continuous Monitoring
		DE.DP	Detection Processes
RS	Respond	RS.RP	Response Planning
		RS.CO	Communications
		RS.AN	Analysis
		RS.MI	Mitigation
		RS.IM	Improvements
RC	Recover	RC.RP	Recovery Planning
		RC.IM	Improvements
		RC.CO	Communications

The CISQ Security measure (and others) can be used in numerous processes of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Some examples:

- **Empirical risk tolerance thresholds for software security**
- **Contractual SLAs and audits for software security**
- **Evaluation of software assets for security weaknesses**
- **Continual improvement of software security**
- **Periodic scans for software weaknesses**
- **Software security and weakness data are shared**
- **Security weaknesses are identified and mitigated**

The CISQ structural quality measures play an important requirements and verification role for 'Build Security In' approaches to cybersecurity

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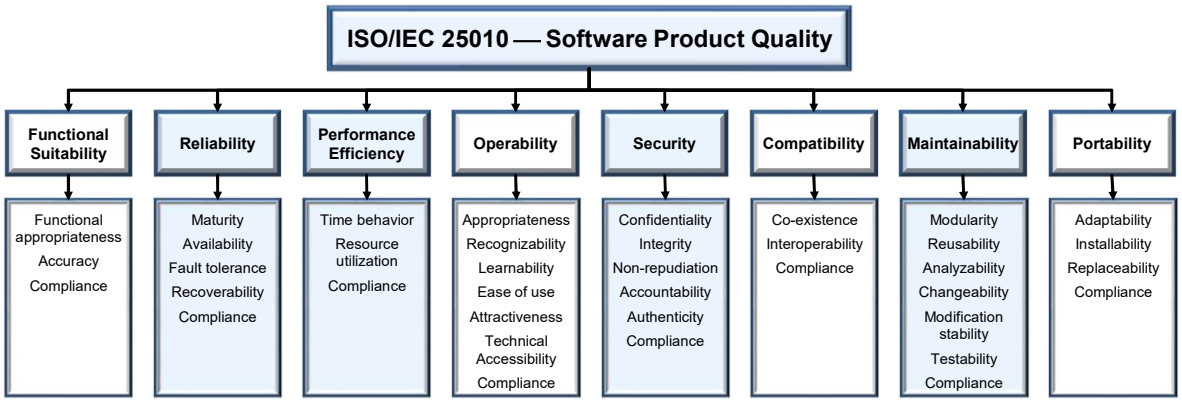
CISQ Conforms/Supplements ISO 25000 standards

- ISO/IEC 25010 defines a software product quality model of 8 quality characteristics
- CISQ conforms to ISO/IEC 25010 quality characteristic definitions
- ISO/IEC 25023 defines measures, but not automatable or at the source code level
- CISQ supplements ISO/IEC 25023 with automatable source code level measures



CISQ automated structural quality measures are highlighted in blue

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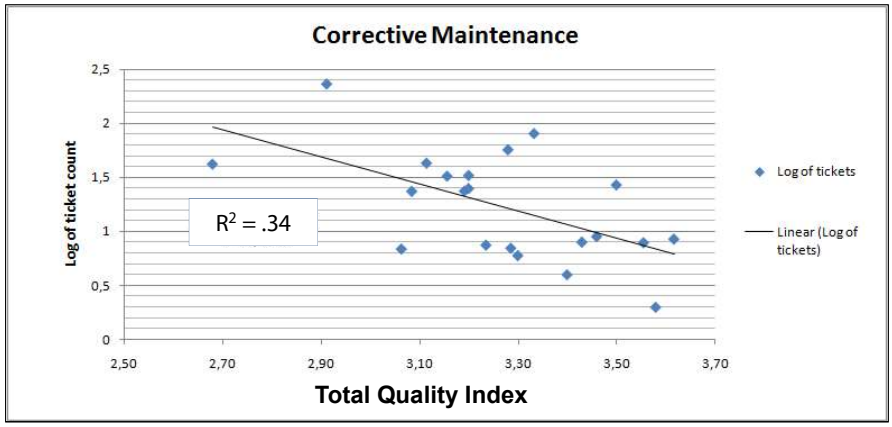
CISQ-like Measures Predict Incidents & Costs

Correlation of Total Quality Index and log of incidents for 21 applications in a large global system integrator

R^2 = .34
Total Quality Index accounts for 1/3 of variation in incidents

Increase in Total Quality Index of .24 decreased corrective maintenance effort 50%



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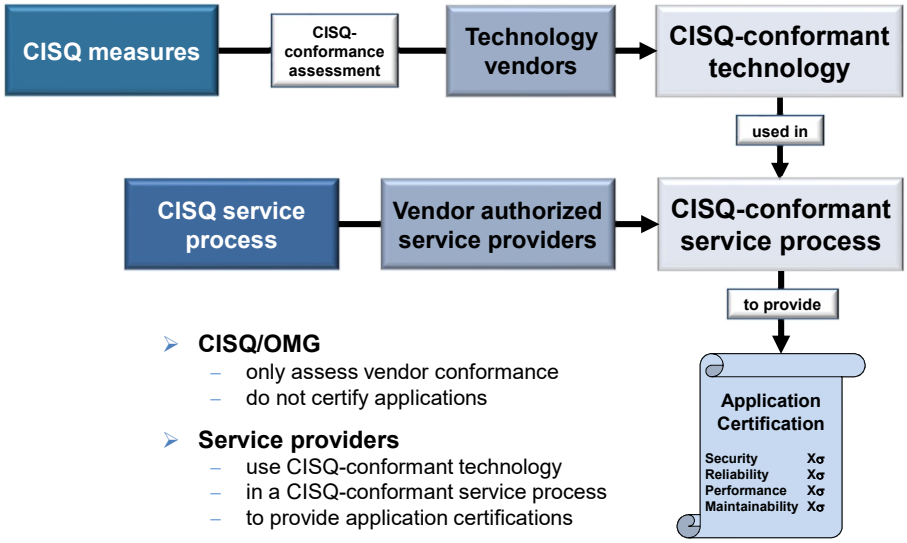
Application Certification Using CISQ



- **CISQ/OMG**
  - only assess vendor conformance
  - do not certify applications
- **Service providers**
  - use CISQ-conformant technology
  - in a CISQ-conformant service process
  - to provide application certifications

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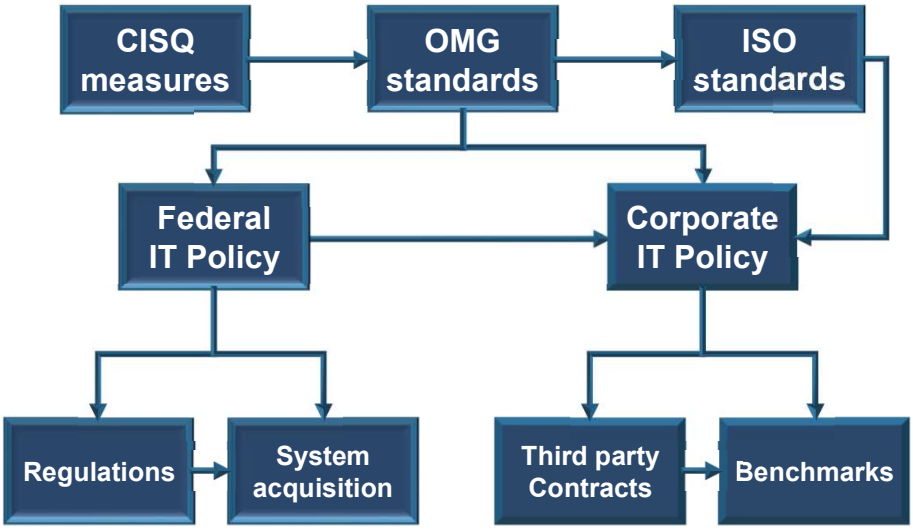
Deploying CISQ Measures



Sec. & Exch. Com.
State of Texas

US State Dept.
Gen. Serv. Admin.

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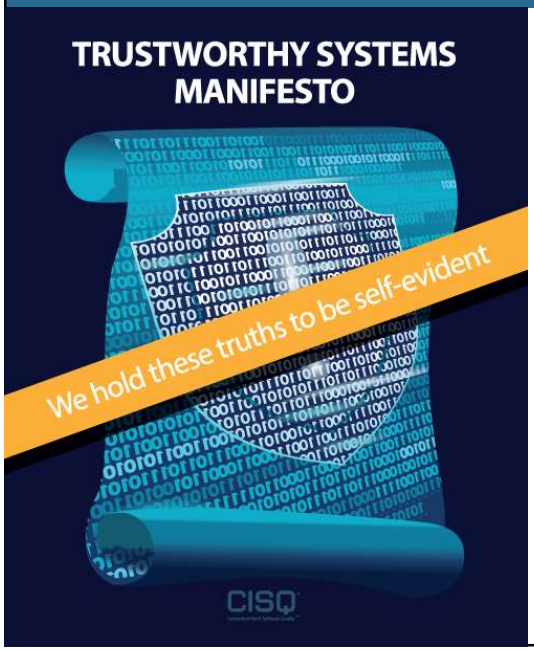
Trustworthy Systems Manifesto



As a greater portion of mission, business, and safety critical functionality is committed to software-intensive systems, these systems become one of, if not the largest source of risk to enterprises and their customers. Since corporate executives are ultimately responsible for managing this risk, we establish the following principles to govern system development and deployment.

1. **Engineering discipline in product and process**
2. **Quality assurance to risk tolerance thresholds**
3. **Traceable properties of system components**
4. **Proactive defense of the system and its data**
5. **Resilient and safe operations**

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