

IEEE Communication Society
Communications and Information Security Technical Committee

Meeting at Globecom 2006, San Francisco, CA, USA
November 29, 2006

Attendance:

Hsiao Hwa Chen	Xi Zhang	Jiankun Hu
Pramode Verma	Seung-Woo Seo	Wenye Wang
Jelena Mistic	Yinan Jing	Zhijun Liu
Florian de Rango	Mahalingam Ramkumar	Slim Rekhis
Khalid Sharif	Bo Sun	Chetan Mathur
Lykamidis Mastroleon	Xiaoming Fu	Chen-Nee Chuah
Amitabh Mishra	Robert Malaney	Peter Reiher
Jun Li	Peter Stavroulakis	Camille Gaspard
Tom Chen	Alberto Dainotti	Kejie Lu
Shengli Fu	Yi Qian	Stamatios Kartalopoulos

1. Introduction

Stamatios Kartalopoulos chaired the meeting and made some opening remarks on the committee's success in attracting members and organizing popular sessions at conferences. Peter Reiher agreed to keep minutes on the meeting.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The meeting opened formally with approval of the agenda and approval of the minutes from the last meeting.

3. Reports on conference activities:

- a) Stam attended OFC/NFOEC 06. Otherwise, the committee had no involvement with the conference this time. It is too late for the committee to do much for the 2007 conference, but we should take a more active role in the 2008 conference.
- b) CISTC sponsored/organized a symposium at Globecom 06 with 187 submissions. Also, CISTC organized a symposium at ICC 2007 with more than 224 submission, and a symposium at ICC 2008. Stamatios congratulated Professor HH Chen for his tireless efforts in co-organizing the Globecom'06, ICC'07 and ICC'08 Symposia. For Globecom
- c) 2007, it was not clear what the role of the TC would be, as the technical program organizers of this conference did not include our symposium proposal. (Note: after our meeting, it was agreed with the conference technical program chair that the CISTC will organize the track on security which will be under the general symposium of the Globecom 2007).
- d) Our committee was active in organizing a session and reviewing papers for Milcom 06. The TC organized two sessions on security at Milcom 05, but Milcom 06 had about 35% of its sessions on security-related topics, an indication

of the growing interest in communications security. We anticipate even more involvement in future Milcoms.

- e) TC members were encouraged to become more involved in organizing sessions, workshops and symposia at Infocom and other IEEE (co-)sponsored conferences.

4. Web page:

A skeleton version of our web pages is up, but we need to improve it and keep it up to date. We asked for volunteers and Xiaoming Fu and Camille Gaspard agreed to improve the web page on the IEEE server. Peter Reiher will work with them to get the web pages in better shape. Among other things, policy, rules and approved minutes of previous meetings should be posted there.

5. Logo:

The committee needs a nice logo. Stam requested that committee members think about possible logos and submit any candidate logos to him. Once we have a sufficient number to choose from, the committee will select a logo, which will be used on our web pages and on other committee-related materials.

6. Email Exploder:

Stam has set up an email exploder that sends email to all registered committee members. It is cistc@comsoc.org.

7. Membership:

Our original goal of 100 committee members by the end of 2006 was easily exceeded by mid-year, when we had 160 members. Our new goal is 200 members by the end of the year. Stam urged all current members to contact parties who work in this field. If they are interested in joining the TC, they should send email to him.

8. Special issues:

IEEE Communications Magazine will have a special issue originating from our committee next September.

We should consider setting up more special issues for JSAC and other journals. Peter Stavroulakis has submitted one proposal to JSAC, with generally positive feedback. He is in the process of refining it to address their comments. He is clearly ruling out things involving key management and authentication, concentrating instead on issues of the security of the network itself and the use of new approaches to achieve that goal. Examples of such approaches include neural networks, chaotic systems, and data mining. Stam suggested that the proposal should have a tight focus on particular approaches or issues, since it's important to avoid contention in journal proposals that originate from our committee.

Another group of committee members led by Antonio Pescapè is preparing a proposal for a JSAC or IEEE Communications Magazine special issue on the topic of Malware Traffic in the Internet: Detection, Classification, and Prevention. They invited other interested committee members to contact them about this proposal, which has not yet been submitted.

There were questions about whether we should put special journal proposals on the web page. Stam said it was OK, but we need to be very clear about the status of such

posted proposals - whether they have been accepted for a future issue of the journal in question, are being prepared for submission to the journal, or have been submitted but not yet decided upon.

9. Possible Transactions on Security journal:

Peter Stavroulakis is spearheading this effort. He sees a need for an IEEE journal in this area, and believes there is a substantial body of research and papers that fall between other security areas covered by existing IEEE journals. The first step towards getting such a journal approved will be his JSAC issue.

10. Report on activities in China:

Peter Stavroulakis has been actively involved with several Chinese initiatives related to our committee. He recently participated in a Chinese networking conference whose goal is to become the "Globecom for China." In its last incarnation, it had a large number of submissions and a 30% acceptance rate, and its organizers expect submissions for future conferences to be up, and acceptance rates lower.

A Chinacom will be held in Shanghai in October 2008. This is unfortunately close to the ICC 2008 conference, which will be in Beijing in December of that year.

There is also a new Chinese communications Journal. Peter Stavroulakis was involved in an upcoming special issue of that journal on security topics.

11. Standards:

Peter Stavroulakis reported that the European Union has just issued a proposal for research in information security standards. There will be ~200 million euros devoted to this effort, with another 250 million euros on space communications security. American researchers can be involved, but cannot be funded from these sources. There are existing programs that help fund international efforts between Europe and the US, and interested members should investigate those.

12. Testbeds:

Peter Reiher reported on the status of the DETER testbed, which is up and running at ISI and at UC Berkeley. This testbed is intended to support experiments on DDoS, worms, botnets, router security, and related topics that require isolated testing in an Internet-like environment. Ongoing research will add various useful tools to the testbed, such as DDoS traffic generators and tools for automatically generating test topologies. Members who have an interest in such areas should visit <http://www.deterlab.net> for more information and instructions on how to register for access to this testbed.

13. Tutorials/Short courses:

Stamatios urged members to submit proposals for tutorials and short courses on security topics to IEEE conferences. Submissions should comply with conference instructions; typically, conferences have submission forms on their web pages.

14. Distinguished Lecturer program.

Those interest in the DL program should send email to the TC chair to be included in the next nomination list.

15. Recertification:

Stamatios said that all TCs are up for recertification, including the CISTC, even if it is very new (less than a year old).

16. New business:

Several topics for new business were proposed prior to the meeting, but no one at the meeting brought up any of them to discuss.

17. Next meeting:

The next meeting of the committee will take place at ICC 2007, which will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, in late June 2007. Details on the exact date, time, and location of the meeting will be sent to committee members once they are available.

18. Adjourn

There was a motion to adjourn, which passed.