METHODOLOGY FOR PRACTICE OF INFORMATION SECURITY IN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES

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Degree of Master of Business Administration in Information Technology

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Sri Lanka

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DECLARATION

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The above candidate has carried out research for the Masters thesis under my supervision.

…….. …….

Dr Chandana Gamage Date

Signature of the Supervisor

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ABSTRACT

When modern organizations are considered, information is one of the most critical assets that need to be protected against external and internal threats. Since there is a massive increase in threats related to information technology applications, information security has become a significant factor. Moreover, information security ensures business continuity and reduce the risk of damage to an organization's reputation. Therefore, internal information security management is a critical factor. There are several factors which affect implementation of information security management. This research is focused on finding out a methodology for information security management in software development companies. To achieve objective information security governance, senior management support and organizational culture factors impact on information security management in software development companies are comprehensively studied. Furthermore, existing management models such as plan, do, check and act model, maturity models, etc., were analyzed to understand its applicability to information security management. An online questionnaire was developed based on three major factors identified during the literature review and shared with Associate technical leads, Technical leads, Software architects, Project managers, Delivery managers, Information Technology managers and Heads of IT in the software industry to represent the information security decision makers in an organization. Collected data was analyzed quantitatively using a statistical tool.

The research results have shown a strong positive relationship between information security governance and senior management support with information security management. Whereas Organizational culture has a very weak relationship with information security management. According to the research results, PDCA can be recommended to manage information security in Software development organizations.

Keywords: Information security, Information security governance, Information security management, Organizational culture, PDCA Model

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
BDIM	Business Driven Information technology Management
BSC	Balanced Scorecard framework
CMMI	Capability Maturity Model Integration
CMM	Capability Maturity Model
COBIT	Control Objectives for Information and related Technologies
CSI	Crime Scene Investigation
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
IDEAL	Initiating, Diagnosing, Establishment, Acting and Learning
ISG	Information Security Governance
ISM	Information Security Management
IT	Information Technology
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
OC	Organizational Culture
OPM3	Organizational Project Management Maturity Model
PDCA	Plan, Do, Check and Act
QIP	Quality Improvement Paradigm
ROI	Return On Investment
SLASSCOM	Sri Lanka Association of Software and Service Companies
SMS	Seiner Management Support
SRE	Secure Requirement Engineering
SSE-CMM	System Security Engineering Maturity Model