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SEI Bulletin — April 1, 2020

An Introduction to the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC)

A new SEI blog post introduces the Department of Defense's (DoD's) Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC). The SEI's CERT Division co-developed the CMMC with the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. CMMC aims to combat cybercrime in the Defense Industrial Base (DIB), the DoD's trusted supply chain of more than 300,000 organizations, by requiring those suppliers to certify their level of cybersecurity before receiving controlled unclassified information (CUI).

In the blog post, "An Introduction to the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC)," co-authors Katie Stewart, a senior engineer, and Andrew Hoover, team lead for resilience engineering, discuss CMMC's development and structure. Stewart and Hoover were part of the CERT team that developed CMMC.

"The CMMC framework draws on maturity processes and cybersecurity best practices from multiple standards," Stewart and Hoover write in the post, "including the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) frameworks and references, as well as input from DIB entities and the DoD." The result is a framework with multiple domains of technical capabilities, each with security practices and certification levels.

Organizations will have to reach CMMC Level 3 before receiving CUI from the DoD.

Read "[An Introduction to the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC)](#)."

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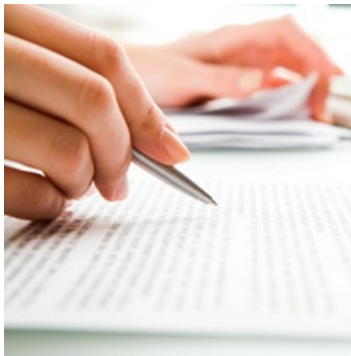
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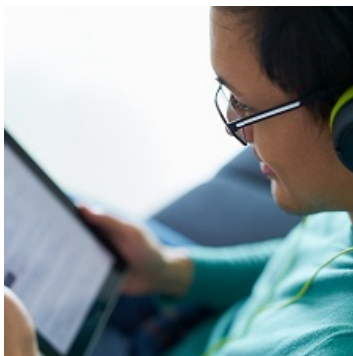
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