An Approach Applying Zero Trust in Acquisition

JUNE 12, 2023

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DM23-0553

Overview

Why apply a zero trust strategy for cybersecurity?



Zero trust is a security model that John Kindervag and his team from Forrester Research, Inc. developed in 2009.

Goals

- Remove implicit trust. (Zero trust is the associated buzzword.)
- Move security from the network to users, applications, and workloads.

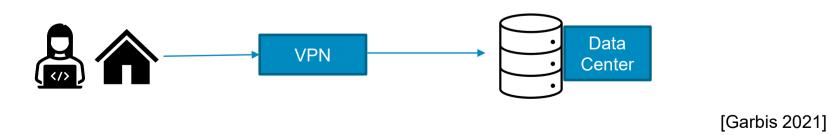
Food for Thought

• The zero trust strategy applies to personnel and physical security. The Department of Defense (DoD) has applied zero trust to these areas for

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- Ensure all resources are accessed securely, regardless of location.
- Adopt a least privilege strategy and strictly enforce access control.
- Inspect and log traffic necessary to support continuous auditing.
- Ensure all components support application programming interfaces (APIs) for event and data exchange.
- Automate actions across environments and systems driven by context and events.



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Working Definitions

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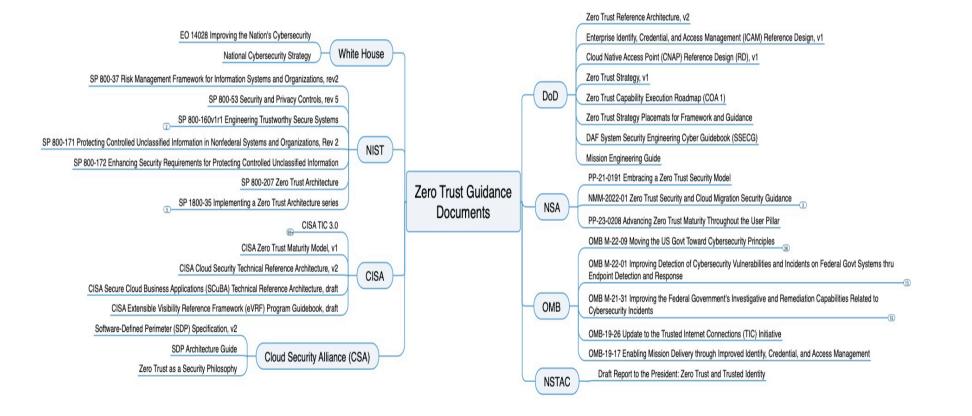
A zero trust system employs an *integrated security solution* that uses *contextual information* from (1) identity, security, and IT infrastructure and (2) risk analytics tools to inform and enable the *dynamic enforcement of security policies uniformly across the enterprise* [Garbis 2021].



Zero trust shifts security from an ineffective perimeter-centric model to a *resource- and identity-centric model*. As a result, organizations can continuously adapt access controls to a changing environment, resulting in improved security, reduced risk, simpler and more resilient operations, and increased business agility [Garbis 2021].

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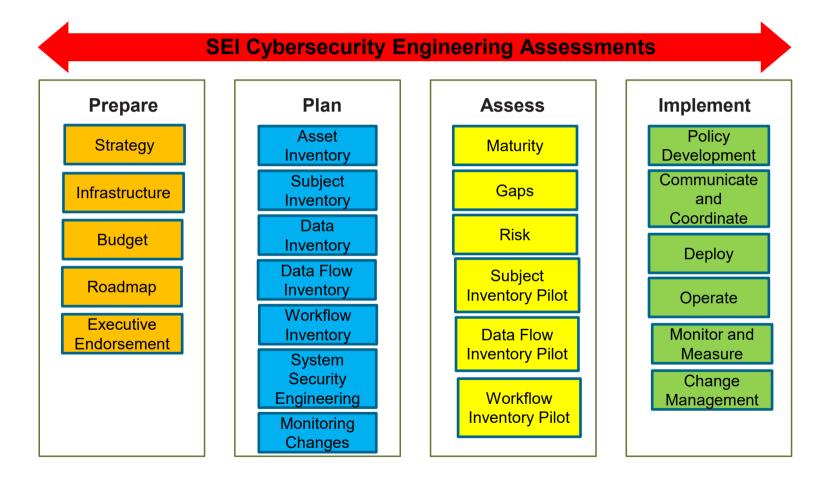
Guidance Documents When Considering a Zero Trust Implementation



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Software Engineering Institute (SEI) Zero Trust Journey

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What's Mission Engineering and its Objectives?

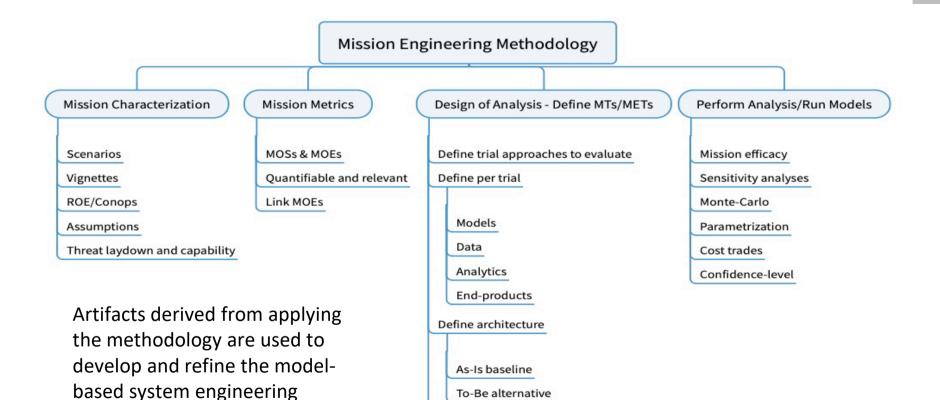
Mission Engineering (ME) is the planning, analyzing, organizing, and integrating of current and emerging operational and system capabilities to achieve desired warfighting mission effects.

Five Objectives

- 1. Enable mission-focused, threat-informed analysis.
- 2. Identify and address mission gaps.
- 3. Develop Government Reference Architectures (GRA) to guide development and prototypes.
- 4. Inform stakeholders how the architecture is envisioned to address/support the missions.
- 5. Generate and capture scenarios, assumptions, constraints, system attributes, and data for use during analysis.

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Focused View of ME Methodology

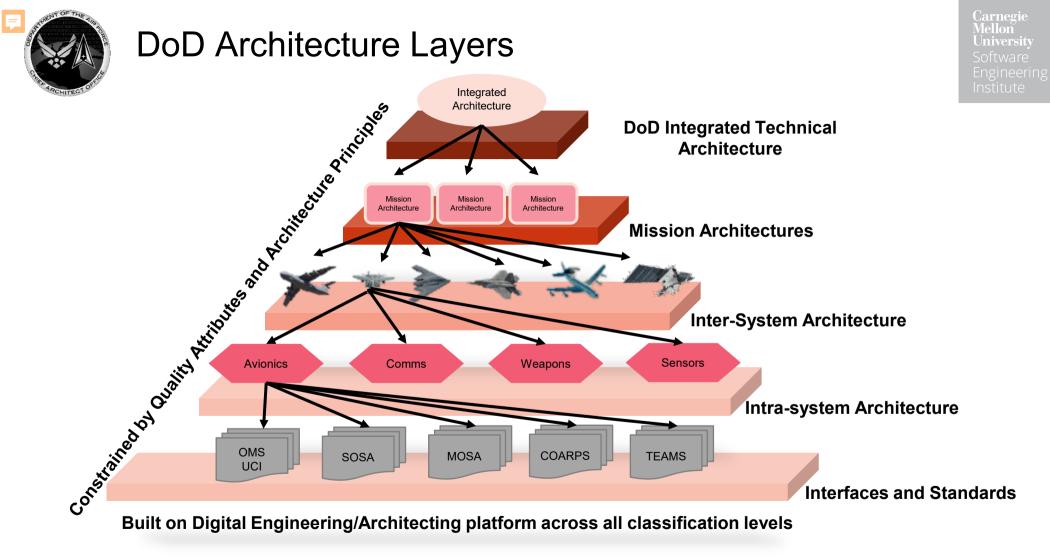


To-Be alternative

Gather data/models

(MBSE) efforts.

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Threats to Zero Trust Implementations

- 1. Subversion of the zero trust architecture (ZTA) decision process
- 2. Denial-of-service or network disruption
- 3. Stolen credentials/insider threat
- 4. Visibility of the network (i.e., awareness of the components and data within a network)
- 5. Storage of system and network information
- 6. Reliance on proprietary data formats or solutions
- 7. Use of NPEs in ZTA administration
- 8. Attack, which is directed at the APIs, that alters the data stream to permit access through tampered telemetry during conditions/entitlement checks

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Threat Mapping -1

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| Zero Trust Architecture Threat | Components and Inputs | Proposed Mitigations |
|--|---|---|
| Subversion of the ZTA Decision Process | Policy Engine Policy Administrator | Configuration Management Monitoring Detection |
| Denial-of-Service or Network Disruption | Policy Engine Policy Administrator Policy Enforcement Point | Resilience |
| Stolen Credentials/Insider Threat | ID Management Data Access Policy | Architecture Contextual Trust Algorithm |
| Visibility on the Network | Activity Logs SIEM | Network Traffic Inspection Network Traffic Logging Metadata Machine Learning |

[Sanders 2021]

Threat Mapping –2

| Zero Trust Architecture Threat | Components and Inputs | Proposed Mitigations |
|---|--|--|
| Storage of System and Network Information | Policy Engine Policy Administrator Activity Logs CDM Systems Industry Compliance Data Access Policy PKI ID Management SIEM Information | Restrictive Data Access Policies |
| Reliance on Proprietary Data Formats and Solutions | Policy Engine Policy Administrator Policy Enforcement Point | Service Provider Evaluation Vendor Security Controls Enterprise Switching Costs Supply Chain Risk Management Performance/Stability |

[Sanders 2021]

Threat Mapping –3

| Proposed Mitigations | Components and Inputs | Zero Trust Architecture Threat | |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| Regular Retuning Analysis | Policy Engine Policy Administrator | Use of Non-Person Entities (NPEs) in ZTA Administration | |
| Assess API Risks | Policy Engine Policy Administrator CDM System ID Management SIEM Information | API Attacks | |

[Sanders 2021]

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NIST SP 800-160v1r1 Engineering Trustworthy Secure Systems

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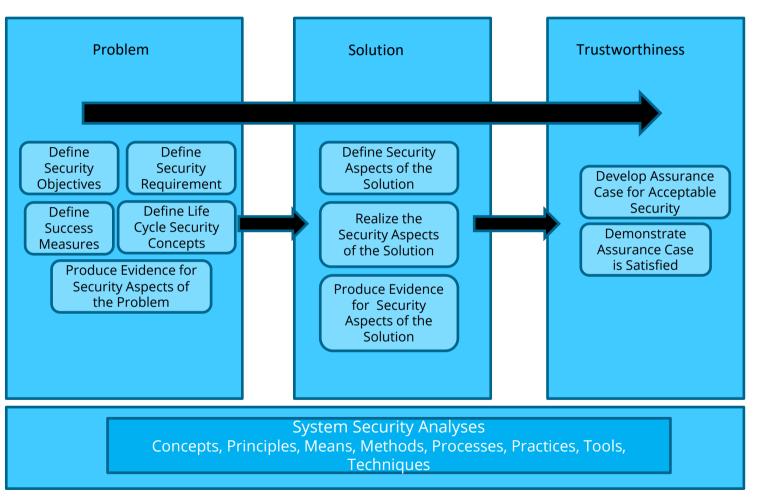


Figure 10

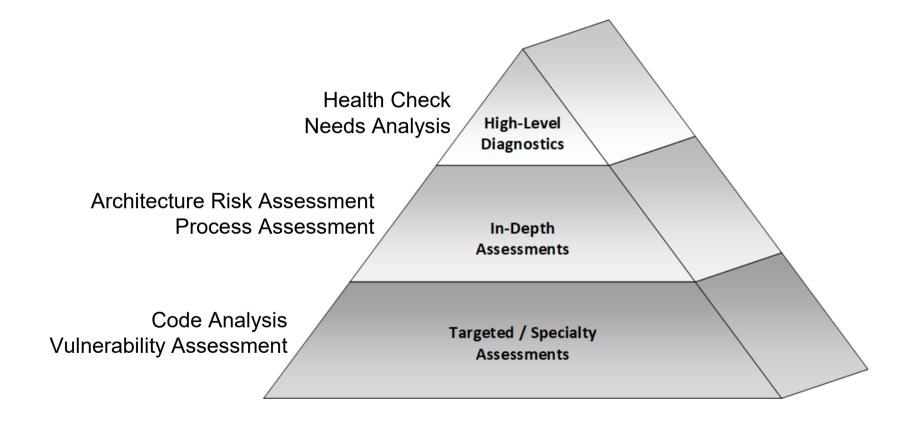
DAF System Security Engineering Cyber Guidebook (SSECG) - Cyber Survivability Attributes

| CSA | Pillar | Cyber Survivability Attribute (CSA) | | |
|--------|----------|---|---|--|
| CSA-01 | Prevent | Control Access | System Survivability Key Performance | |
| CSA-02 | Prevent | Reduce System's Cyber Detectability | Parameter | |
| CSA-03 | Prevent | Secure Transmissions and Communications | | |
| CSA-04 | Prevent | Protect System's Information from Exploitation | | |
| CSA-05 | Prevent | Partition and Ensure Critical Functions at Mission Completion Performance Levels | | |
| CSA-06 | Prevent | Minimize and Harden Cyber Attack Surfaces | | |
| CSA-07 | Mitigate | Baseline & Monitor Systems, & Detect Anomalies | | |
| CSA-08 | Mitigate | Manage System Performance if Degraded by Cyber Events | | |
| CSA-09 | Recover | Recover System Capabilities; Actively manage System's Configuration to Counter Vulnerabilities at Tactically Relevant Speeds | | |
| CSA-10 | Adapt | Achieve & Manage System's an operationally relevant Cyber Survivability Risk Posture (CSRP) and to counter risk changes in adversary's capabilities | | |

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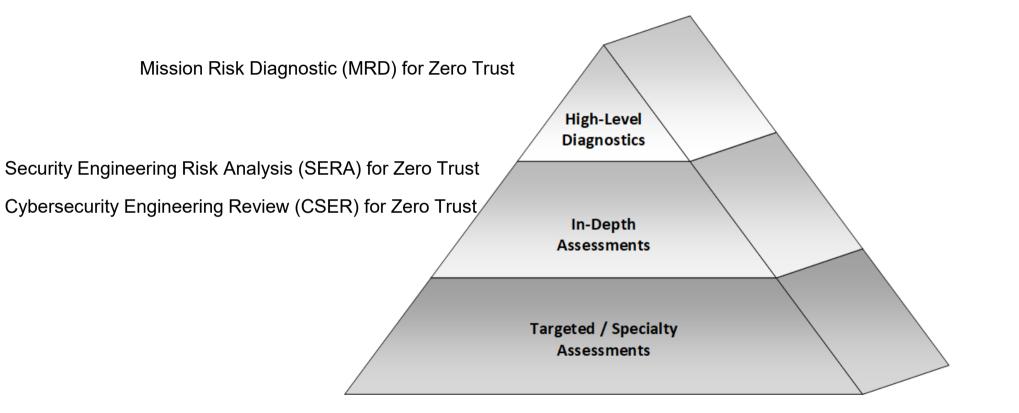
Types of Assessments and Analysis

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Proposed Zero Trust Assessments

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What is the Acquisition Security Framework (ASF)?

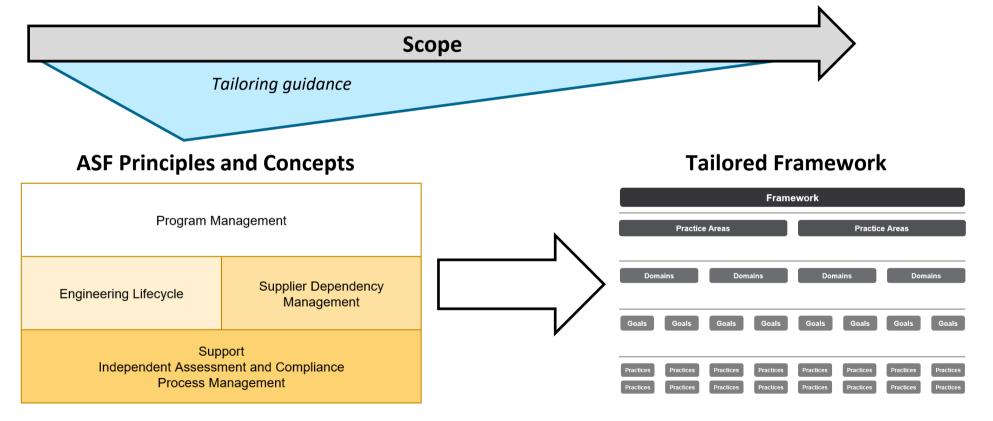
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The ASF is a collection of leading practices for building and operating secure and resilient software-reliant systems.

The ASF is designed to proactively enable system security and resilience engineering across the lifecycle and supply chain.

- Provides a roadmap for building security and resilience into a system rather than "bolting it on" after deployment
- Facilitates efficient and predictable systems environments and more manageable delivery and risk outcomes

Creating Tailored Risk Frameworks



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Envisioned Zero Trust Framework: Guidance

Goal-Level Guidance

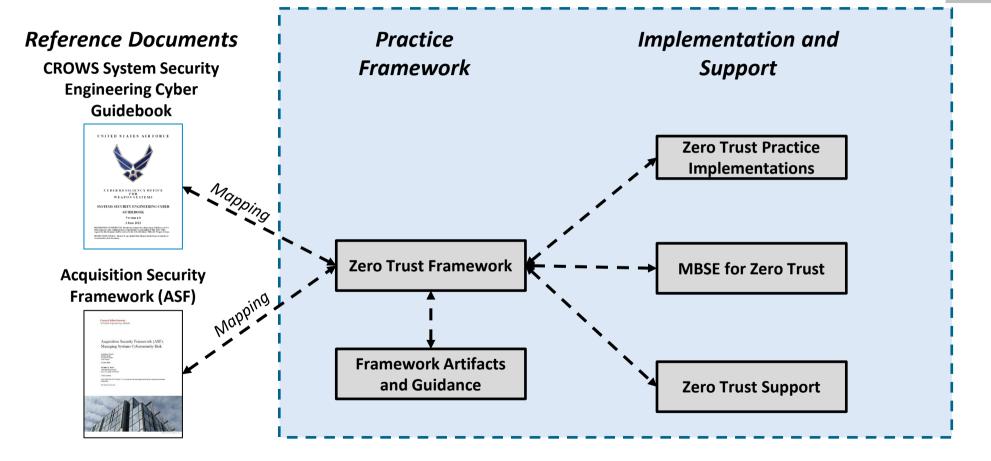
- Description and Context
- Competencies

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Practice-Level Guidance

- Question Intent
- Typical Work Products
- Criteria for "Yes" Response
- Criteria for "Incomplete" Response

Notional ZT Framework Application



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Developing context using mission engineering approach enables security architectures to reason about zero trust strategy, design, and possible implementations for weapon systems, as well as enterprises.

Set of zero trust assessments need to be developed to support the life cycle of weapon system/enterprise.

Need to use an approach like ASF to build in security and resilience into weapon systems/enterprise in support of efforts like CROWS SSECG to provide the artifacts to enable zero trust assessments

Backup

Mission Risk Diagnostic (MRD)

What

• An approach for assessing mission risk in interactively complex, socio-technical systems (e.g., acquisition programs, development projects, enterprise initiatives, organizational capabilities)

Why



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- Assess a mission's current potential for success in relation to a set of known risk factors
- Develop a plan for managing risk and increasing the potential for mission success

Benefits

- Provides a time-efficient means of assessing acquisition programs, development projects, initiatives, and capabilities
- Establishes confidence in the ability to achieve mission objectives
- Can be self-applied or expert led

Security Engineering Risk Analysis (SERA)

What

 A systematic approach for analyzing complex security risks in software-reliant systems and systems of systems across the lifecycle and supply chain

Why

• Build security into software-reliant systems by addressing design weaknesses as early as possible (e.g., requirements, architecture, design)



• Assemble a shared organizational view (business and technical) of cybersecurity risk

Benefits

- Correct design weaknesses before a system is deployed
- Reduce residual cybersecurity risk in deployed systems
- Ensure consistency with NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF)

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Cybersecurity Engineering Review (CSER)

What

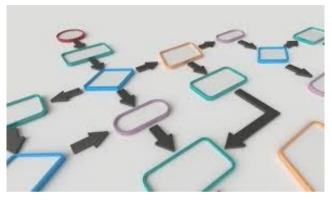
• Evaluates an acquisition program's security practices for conformance to accepted CSE practices

Why

- Understand the effectiveness of an acquisition program's cybersecurity practices
- Develop a plan for improving a program's cybersecurity practices

Benefits

- Establish confidence in a program's ability to acquire software-reliant systems across the lifecycle and supply chain
- Reduce cybersecurity risk of deployed software-reliant systems



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Assessment Information

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Mission Risk Diagnostic (MRD) Method Description

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=10075

Security Engineering Risk Analysis (SERA) Collection

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=485410

ASF Information

Acquisition Security Framework (ASF): Managing Systems Cybersecurity Risk

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=889215

Acquisition Security Framework (ASF): An Acquisition and Supplier Perspective on Managing Software-Intensive Systems' Cybersecurity Risk

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=887698

Acquisition Security Framework (ASF)

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=889453

Addressing Supply Chain Risk and Resilience for Software-Reliant Systems

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=974293

Asking the Right Questions to Coordinate Security in the Supply Chain

https://resources.sei.cmu.edu/library/asset-view.cfm?assetid=974136

ASF Engineering Lifecycle: Domains and Goals

| Domain | Goal Name |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Domain 1—Engineering Infrastructure | Infrastructure Development |
| | Infrastructure Operation |
| Domain 2—Engineering Management | Technical Activity Management |
| | Product Risk Management |
| Domain 3—Engineering Activities Our initial development is focused on Engineering Activities (Domain 3). | Requirements |
| | Architecture |
| | Third-Party Components |
| | Implementation |
| | Test and Evaluation |
| | Transition Artifacts |
| | Deployment |
| | Secure Product Operation |

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