EDITORIAL

This first two papers of this Issue focus on the optimization of IT education in identifying the main cause(s) of security breach incidents and the importance of offering software free trials as a strategy for selling cybersecurity software. The last of the three papers examines the security concern regarding the transfer of images over the internet and proposes the optimal method for executing this operation.

The first paper, entitled "Root Cause Analysis for Information Security Incidents: a pedagogical requirement", is by Garry White and Jaymeen Shah from the USA. It explores the use of the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) technique to identify the main cause(s) of a security breach incident. This exploratory research investigates issues in RCA education and shows the need to teach RCA in information security courses. The results indicate that students have problems with analytical thinking, namely in differentiating symptoms and causes of security incidents, although students are very creative with valid content beyond what was presented in a security course.

In the second paper, "Free Trial with Annoyance Mechanism as an Optimal Strategy in Cybersecurity Software Offering", the authors, Bin Mai and Kutsal Dogan, who are also from the USA, study the optimal software free trial offering strategy for cybersecurity software. By focusing on the free trial strategy that is common in the cybersecurity software industry: free trial offering with annoyance mechanism, the authors investigate the conditions under which such a strategy is optimal for the cybersecurity software vendor, in comparison with other strategies. The authors find a need for cybersecurity software vendors to offer a free trial version with full functionality indefinitely, coupled with a strategically designed level of annoyance mechanism.

The third paper is entitled "Hype and Reality Comparative Study of LSB and DWT based Steganography combined with Arnold Transformation for Image Security", and is by Shruti Gulati, Adil Bashir, and Ajaz Hussain Mir from India. It examines the security concern regarding the transfer of images over the internet. Two steganographic methods, i.e., LSB and DWT, are combined with Arnold Transformation. The two sets of results are then analyzed and compared on the basis of image quality parameters, showing that Arnold-DWT takes more encryption and decryption time than Arnold-LSB, supporting the need to scramble image information to a level where it becomes difficult for an intruder to obtain actual transferred image

I hope that you will find this Issue interesting reading.

Gurpreet Dhillon, Editor-in-Chief