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Executive Summary: Meta Issues in Cybersecurity initiative

Cyberspace is an important domain of human endeavor. Cybersecurity is the set of practices, tools, professions, and approaches which seek the technologies which are increasingly important in the world today. In the future, it may be thought of as the collective activity of protecting cyberspace. In recent years this has become a challenging task. Meta Issues in Cybersecurity is an initiative of the IEEE Standards Association seeking to apply IEEE's approach of advancing technology for humanity to cybersecurity. We see a lack of motivation for secure products, due to either regulatory pressure or commercial reward. A competitive rather than cooperative approach to achieving cybersecurity limits common solutions. Maturity models have an implied expectation that those who can afford security deserve the best security (eg banks, not hospitals). This multi-disciplinary initiative from the world's largest technology professional community is seeking new and creative approaches to fundamentally improve the quality of cybersecurity. We are engaging technologists in industry, research and government, social scientists, legal scholars, policymakers, economists, and others.

This initiative is distinct in several ways:

1. IEEE provides a technically, politically, and culturally neutral platform for this global problem, while representing hundreds of thousands of technology professionals.
2. We recognize that cybersecurity practice is becoming progressively less effective.
3. We are focused on outcomes: growing compliance with security programs at the same time as worsening cyber security attacks is not a cause for celebration.
4. IEEE Standards Association provides standards that benefit billions of people every day.

Working groups focused on specific areas of challenge

*   Economics of cybersecurity
*   Psychology/human behavior and cybersecurity
*   Legal aspects of cybersecurity
*   Public policy and cybersecurity
*   Technical aspects of cybersecurity

We are seeking broad participation, in particular encouraging people with diverse backgrounds and profiles. You may get involved in several ways:

*   Join and participate in one or more of the working groups
*   Participate as a subject matter expert in reviewing draft documents for one or more of the working groups
*   Subscribe to our mailing list to keep in touch with our activities

If interested, please, contact the Secretary of the Meta Issues in Cybersecurity initiative via metacyber-chair@ieee.org