

Lexicon of Key Terms used in Security

The Security Lexicon Project was established to develop an authoritative lexicon of key security terms to be published as a Standards Australia Handbook. The need for this lexicon arose out of the Security Standards and Support Systems project and the Critical Infrastructure Protection Training Analysis project, in which it was identified that there is a lack of common understanding of terminology used in the security industry. Good terminology aids efficiency, security, quality and safety. Using the same terms for the same concepts helps to avoid misunderstandings that lead to conflict, wasted time and money. In order to achieve this, extensive consultation took place with the owners and operators of critical infrastructure represented in the Trusted Information Sharing Network for Critical Infrastructure Protection (TISN) and other key interested parties.

The Security Lexicon Handbook aims to develop an authoritative lexicon of key security terms that will assist the owners and operators of critical infrastructure to develop a common understanding of terminology used in the security industry and to use standard terminology to communicate security related matters.

The lexicon focused on the following ten key terms and their interrelationships. It was beyond the scope of the document to create a general dictionary of all the terms used in security. The terms below were chosen because they have been identified as creating the most confusion.

- (a) Security
- (b) Security Risk Management
- (c) Emergency Management
- (d) Business Continuity Management
- (e) Enterprise-Wide Risk Management
- (f) Business Resilience
- (g) Infrastructure Assurance
- (h) National Security
- (i) Protective Security
- (j) Critical Infrastructure

The lexicon of key security terms takes an 'all hazards' approach to critical infrastructure protection from a business perspective and covers all aspects of the security industry and security management.

StanCert was the consultant to Standards Australia on this project, which was successfully led by Mark Bezzina, Managing Director. The Security Lexicon will soon be published.