Japan Computer
Emergency Response
Team Coordination Center

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JPCERT/CC Activities Overview [April 1, 2018 – June 30, 2018]

Activity Overview Topics

ー Topic 1ー　Activities related to VDO for more efficient coordination of vulnerability information

At the 30th annual conference of the Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST), JPCERT/CC gave a presentation on activities related to Vulnerability Description Ontology (VDO) which is undertaking for more efficient coordination of vulnerability information. These activities are aimed at machine-processing vulnerability information written in a common language based on VDO, which is proposed by the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This presentation was positioned as one of the sessions held under the theme of vulnerability among the conference's programs, and it was attended by an audience of approximately 100, including experts in this field. After the presentation, conference participants asked some basic questions about the scope of application of VDO, the method used to convert to VDO and so on, and engaged in active exchange of opinions, with some participants expressing a desire to participate in a VDO project. The presentation helped establish a footing for advancing this concept in an open framework.

While this technology is still in an early stage of development, as technological development advances, it is expected not only to boost efficiency by partially automating the vulnerability information coordination process, but also to improve the readability of vulnerability information through standardized description, among offer benefits.

"Removing the Pain From the Repetitive Processing of Vulnerability Reports Using a Vulnerability Ontology", Masanobu Katagi (JPCERT/CC, JP), Takayuki Uchiyama (JPCERT/CC, JP), Masaki Kubo (NICT, JP)
https://www.first.org/conference/2018/program#premoving-the-pain-from-the-repetitive-processing-of-vulnerability-reports-using-a-vulnerability-ontology

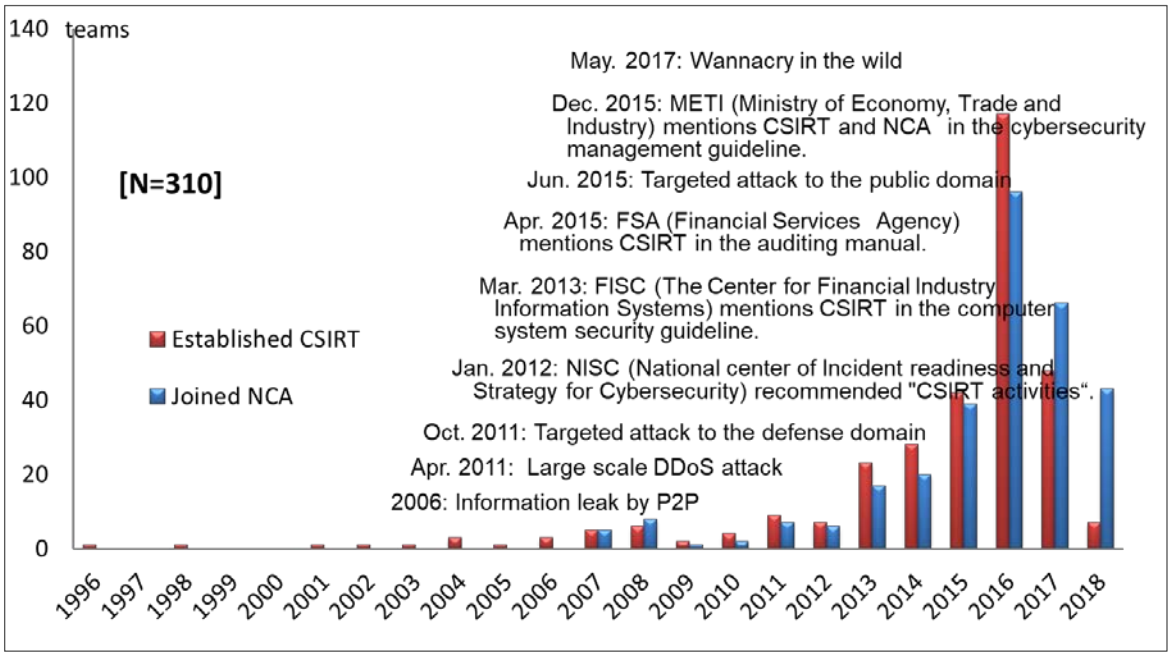
NISTIR 8138 (DRAFT) Vulnerability Description Ontology (VDO): a Framework for Characterizing Vulnerabilities
https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/nistir/8138/draft

ー Topic 2ー NCA membership reaches 300 organizations

The number of Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) that have joined the Nippon CSIRT Association (NCA) reached 300 as of the end of June 2018.

NCA was established in 2007 to provide a venue where domestic private CSIRTs can cooperate and work together to solve common issues.

Although activities were launched by six CSIRTs including JPCERT/CC, membership started increasing notably from 2013 mainly among CSIRTs of organizations in the service (IT related), financial, and communication industries, with membership reaching 100 by the end of September 2015. This increase was triggered by the mention of CSIRT in a discussion in 2012 on how the government and the private sector should cooperate in information security measures. Moreover, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry published Cybersecurity Management Guidelines in 2015, which led to the CSIRTs of roughly 100 organizations becoming new members of the NCA in 2016.

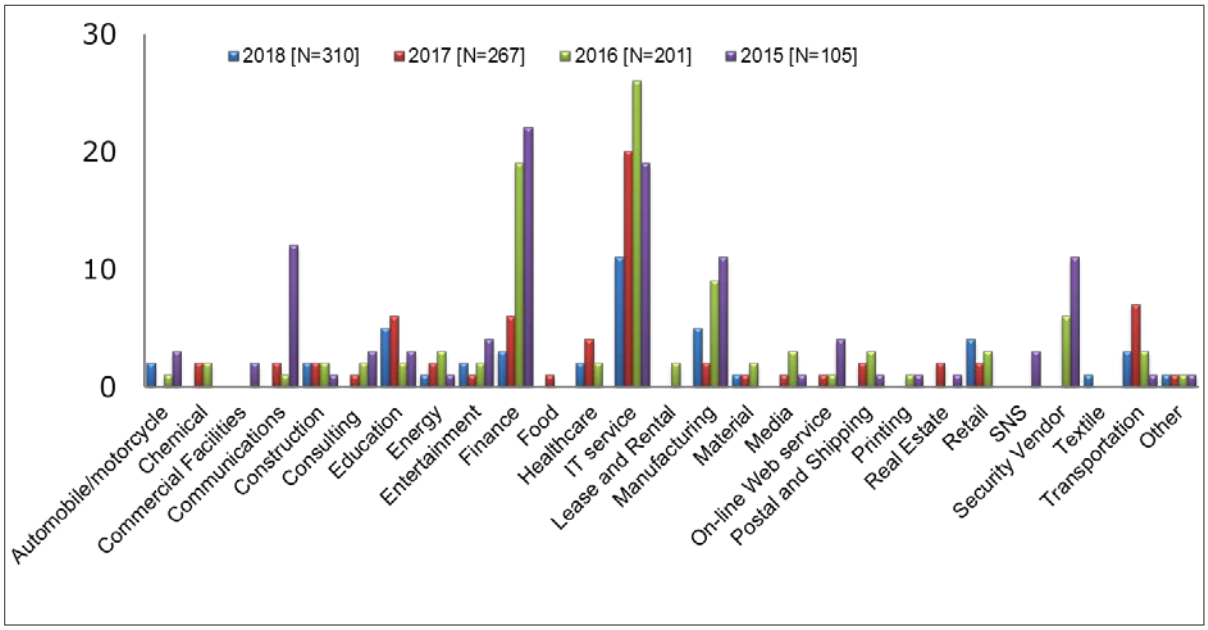


[Number of NCA member CSIRTs (as of September 1,2018)]

Source: 2017 List of NCA Member Organizations

According to a member survey conducted in November 2017, the "service industry (IT related)" accounted for roughly 30%, and the financial industry (banking, securities, insurance, etc.) roughly 10%, of NCA member organizations. The remaining 60% comprises a wide range of industries, and from around 2016, membership of university CSIRTs and CSIRTs of organizations in the railway industry has increased. Recently, CSIRTs of leading companies in the tourism and pharmaceutical industries have joined the

association, and it is expected that membership in these two industries will increase in the coming years.



[Breakdown of NCA member CSIRTs by industry (as of September 1,2018)]

Source: 2017 List of NCA Member Organizations

Visit the following website for more information about NCA.

Nippon CSIRT Association (NCA)

http://www.nca.gr.jp/en/