

Cloud Security Assessment – Recommended Documents

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1 INTRODUCTION

Like other technologies, Cloud Computing brings both benefits and increased risks to IT environments. There is no way to have one without the other, and companies should begin their risk assessment based on the specifics of their own business.

There are many documents regarding Cloud Security available on the Internet, some more useful than others. To help members find the most valuable sources, INTUG has screened many of the freely available documents. We would like to bring to your attention certain documents from ENISA and the Cloud Security Alliance, because we found them particularly useful.

2 ENISA

2.1 About ENISA

enisa.europa.eu

The website of ENISA, the European Network and Information Security Agency, is expected to become the European “hub” for the exchange of information, best practices and knowledge in the field of Information Security.

2.2 Cloud Computing Risk Assessment

Whatever your security concern, a risk assessment process should be considered as your first step. This process is largely described in this [ENISA document](#). Even though the results are specific for each context, the document may give you some guidance.

2.3 Other documents

You should keep ENISA in your ‘favorites’ for other IT security concerns too, including [smartphone security](#), [next-generation web standards](#) and the security and resilience of [government clouds](#).

3 CLOUD SECURITY ALLIANCE

3.1 About CSA

cloudsecurityalliance.org

CSA declares in its mission statement that it aims to be the central point for information on the latest Cloud Security news.

The alliance works in multiple Cloud Security areas, including training and certification. The workload is split across many working groups and local chapters.

3.2 Top Threats to Cloud Computing

To begin your risk assessment you could read this [document](#), which outlines threats, their impact, possible mitigation measures, etc.

3.3 CSA Security Guidance

The various domains that are detailed later are described here. In this [document](#), you will find questions you should ask yourself before making the decision to move some of your assets to the Cloud. There are also recommendations regarding appropriate governance.

3.4 Cloud Control Matrix – Excel tool

The controls and checks you might wish to consider are listed in these [Excel files](#).

3.5 Control Assessment Questions

A step further along the process a list of [questions](#) you may want to ask your Cloud provider comes in handy.

4 OTHER SOURCES

4.1 NIST

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (US) is a good source for documents on security and the subject of [Cloud Security](#) is no exception.

4.2 The Open Group

The Jericho Forum, now part of the Open Group, has been looking into the issue of the protection of assets in a borderless approach for a long time. Here, they present their view on [Architectural View of Security for Cloud Computing](#).

4.3 ISACA

ISACA has released a new guide designed to help organizations understand how to implement effective [Cloud Computing governance](#).