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Trusted CI engagement with the US Academic Research Fleet

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Purpose of Engagement

- Survey security practices of research vessels
- Survey of security threats to research vessels
- Provide resources for the RV community
- Provide recommendations to ARF



Timeline of Engagement

- 2019
 - Weekly meetings between TrustedCI and ARF from July through December
 - August 30th Requested deadline for documentation from ship operators
 - October 2nd Interview science party
 - October 7th RV Sikuliaq site visit
 - October 14th RV Sproul site visit
 - October 15-17th NSF Cybersecurity Summit
 - October 17th HiSeasNet site visit
 - October 22nd-24th Attend RVTEC meeting
 - November 7-8th RV Armstrong and RV Endeavour site visit
 - November Final report writing stage
 - December 3rd Send draft final report to ARF, seek feedback, revise
 - December 17th Target date for final report.



Site visits so far (Sikuliaq, Sproul, HiSeasNet)

















Security challenges observed so far that are uncommon

- It's a vehicle!
- Very short and infrequent maintenance windows
- Very low bandwidth while at sea
- Low budget for security mandates
- High crew turnover
- Science parties BYODs
- IoT everywhere
- Unique hardware
- Potentially life risking situations
- Travel to foreign ports
- Remote only access only for security checks
- Unusual console locations, sharing
- Policies that aren't compatible with institutional security controls
- Limited space / Overlapping purposes of rooms







Got to see the engine control room of the RV Meir



1:39 PM · Oct 11, 2023 · Twitter Web App

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Cybersecurity self-assessment handout

- Available in your RVTEC folder
- Takeaway so that you can discuss with your staff
- Helps build awareness of cybersecurity risks
- Helps you identify areas where you could improve security.



Def Con 27 "Hack The Sea" Village





Trusted CI can help

Contact us to request help, from small questions to month-long engagements: See also:

https://trustedci.org/help/

See also: https://trustedci.org/situational-awareness/ https://trustedci.org/webinars/ https://trustedci.org/ctsc-email-lists/ http://blog.trustedci.org/ @TrustedCI



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