NIST Publishes Guidance on Building Automation and Control System Cybersecurity



NIST has released tips and tactics for securing building automation and control systems. The source text we received only describes the author's background, so the guidance itself should be read at the original publication.

- NIST's cybersecurity blog announced tips and tactics for building automation and control system cybersecurity.
- The excerpt available to us introduces Keith Stouffer, a supervisory mechanical engineer at NIST since 1989.
- He has focused on industrial control system and OT cybersecurity since 2000 and leads the Cybersecurity for Operational Technology Systems Team.
- He is lead author of NIST SP 800-82, Guide to Operational Technology (OT) Security.

> - SP 800-82 addresses OT security alongside performance, reliability and safety requirements.

NIST has published a blog item titled "Tips & Tactics for Building Automation & Control System Cybersecurity". The text provided to us contains only the author's biography, not the recommendations themselves, so this note does not describe the specific tips.

What the source tells us

The author, Keith Stouffer, is a supervisory mechanical engineer who has worked at NIST since 1989. He has concentrated on industrial control system and OT cybersecurity since 2000 and leads the Cybersecurity for Operational Technology Systems Team.

He is also the lead author of NIST Special Publication 800-82, Guide to Operational Technology (OT) Security. That publication covers how to secure OT while respecting its distinct performance, reliability and safety requirements.

Why it matters for your institution

Building automation and control systems are a form of OT, and many regulated institutions run them in head offices, data centres and branches. Security measures for these systems need to be weighed against safety and availability, which is the balance SP 800-82 is described as addressing.

Because the excerpt does not list the tips, we suggest reading the original NIST post directly before drawing conclusions or changing controls.

What to do now

1. Read the original NIST post to obtain the actual tips and tactics.
2. Confirm whether building automation and control systems are included in your OT asset inventory.
3. Review NIST SP 800-82 as a reference when assessing OT security for building systems.
4. Assign clear ownership of building control systems between facilities, IT and security teams.