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CISQ NEWSLETTER

November 2015



New Standards Introduced at Cyber Risk Summit

On October 13 CISQ held an event in Arlington, Virginia to introduce the **Quality Characteristic Measures** to IT leaders and policymakers in the U.S. Federal Government. To set the stage was discussion of increased cyber threats, the new role of Federal CIOs, federal policies to improve IT acquisition, and constructive ideas to enact change.

[Left] Dr. Bill Curtis, Executive Director of CISQ, explains how to use quality measures in government contracts to improve IT acquisition. *[Right]* Dr. J. Michael Gilmore, Director of Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E), Office of the Secretary of Defense, U.S. Department of Defense, shares his viewpoint as the final quality gate for government weapons and business systems.



The event was co-hosted by CISQ and ITAAC, the **IT Acquisition Advisory Council**. John Weiler, Managing Director of ITAAC, notes "the broad embrace of CISQ's emerging standard for automating cyber risk identification and mitigation will give leaders in OMB, DOD and DHS a mechanism for assuring mission critical systems. DHS NPPD and S&T should claim some credit for driving industry towards a consensus-based standard for dealing with this growing threat." Other discussion points:

- **Brett Leatherman, FBI Cyber Division:** Time is of the essence during a cyber attack. Detection of attack within two weeks is critical. Damage is done and evidence degrades over time. Read the press coverage: [What keeps an FBI cyber official up at night?](#)
- **FITARA panel:** FITARA is the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act. **FITARA policy** was implemented to help Federal CIOs migrate from old legacy systems. Maintenance effort saps 70-80% of IT spend (roughly \$80 billion). With FITARA, focus on outcomes is important.
- **Dr. J. Michael Gilmore, Dept. of Defense, Operational Test & Evaluation (OT&E):** Current quality practices are NOT enough. Those in a position of authority don't exercise it, and if they do they get attacked for doing it. Every initiative, well intentioned, creates additional bureaucratic morass. Build quality in.

Read press coverage for context: [The next battle waged on the cyber range could be a DoD turf war](#) and [New DoD program office to create cyber equivalent of the Joint Munitions Effectiveness Manual](#).

- **CISQ software measurement panel:** Standard contract language is needed. If you do not build visibility into a vendor contract, you do not know what you are getting. Assurance begins in the IT acquisition process. Show the link between quality and total cost of ownership (TCO). How does this square with federal guidelines for source selection, Lowest Price Technically Acceptable (LPTA)? Quality factor is needed.

The presentations are posted to the [Members Area](#) under "Event & Seminar Presentations."

Thank you to CISQ sponsors Accenture, Atos, Booz Allen Hamilton, CAST, Huawei and Wipro.

Robert Martin (MITRE) Presents Security Webcast

CISQ Webcast:

Latest Advances in Cybersecurity and the NEW CISQ Security Standard
Recorded live October 15, 2015

Robert Martin, Director of the Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) at MITRE and lead researcher on the CISQ Security measure, provides an overview of cybersecurity. In this webcast he introduces the new **CISQ Security measure** which was developed to predict the vulnerability of application source code to external attack.

Access the [presentation slides](#) or view the webcast on [CISQ YouTube](#).

Read This New SLA Guide!

Many of the contracts written, even in the last 5 years, use fundamentally the same time-based SLAs for ADM. SLAs that contract around the quality of the actual code produced are rare in contrast.

Read this new whitepaper:

[CISQ Recommendation Guide: Effective Software Quality Metrics for ADM Service Level Agreements](#)

Other resources you might find useful:

- **[How to Deliver Resilient, Secure, Efficient, and Easily Changed IT Systems in Line with CISQ Recommendations](#)**
- **[Example Terms for Using Automated Function Points in Software ADM Contracts](#)**

CISQ Event Calendar

- **[Gartner Sourcing & Strategic Vendor Relationships Summit](#)** · Nov. 3-5, 2015 · Grapevine, TX
- **[Agile Development Conference, Better Software Conference, & DevOps Conference East](#)** · Nov. 8-13, 2015 · Orlando, FL
- **[Gartner Application Architecture, Development & Integration Summit](#)** · Dec. 1-3, 2015 · Las Vegas, NV

Would you like to meet? [Contact us](#).

[Visit CISQ Event Calendar](#)

Welcome Booz Allen Hamilton as CISQ Sponsor!

We are so glad that **[Booz Allen Hamilton](#)** has come on board to support CISQ!

Over the next year, Booz Allen Hamilton will contribute to new **CISQ software quality specifications: Automated Enhancement Function Points**, a measure of software size to be used in the analysis of maintenance activities and productivity; **Technical Debt**, a measure of software cost, effort and risk due to defects remaining in code at release; and **Quality-Adjusted Productivity**, a measure of development productivity that takes into account the quality of software produced.

Booz Allen will be among the first organizations to pilot the **CISQ conformance assessment** program which is under development for certifying the structural quality of software.

New Blog Posts

"In most commercial environments the developers are distributed — rarely occupying the same physical site and often on very different hours. Faced with this reality, AGILE struggles." Read: **[Adjusting Agile for Remote Environments](#)**

"DevOps dramatically increases the speed that application code is developed and moved into production and the first requirement is to design for speed." Read: **[What Operations Should Expect from Developers in DevOps](#)** and **[What Developers Should Expect from Operations in DevOps](#)**

Write a [Member Blog](#), [Contact us](#)

Thank You CISQ Sponsors:



About CISQ

The Consortium for IT Software Quality (CISQ) is an IT industry leadership group comprised of IT executives from the Global 2000, system integrators, outsourced service providers, and software technology vendors committed to introduce a computable metrics standard for measuring software quality and size. CISQ is a neutral, open forum in which customers and suppliers of IT application software can develop an industry-wide agenda of actions for improving IT application quality and reduce cost and risk.

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