



Critical infrastructure at risk: What should we do to regulate security?

What kind of regulations do we need to encourage good security practices?

Comprehensive security regulation remains elusive. Like privacy law, security remains an uncoordinated sectoral patchwork. Security investment requires flexibility; imposing direct cost without immediate profitability. The benefits are limited to uncertain avoidance of unquantifiable future loss. The private sector owns, operates or maintains 85% of critical infrastructures. Cyber-infrastructure risks particular vulnerability as the communications backbone that enables eCommerce, payment and control systems, and national defense.

This talk analyzes the incentives for security investment; illustrates how fragmented security law fails to adequately incentivize security; and proposes comprehensive regulation deploying known, reliable tools: disclosure, due diligence duties, professionalism, contingency planning, standards and audit.

John Bagby is a professor of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State University. He is co-director of the Institute for Information Policy. His courses and research cover the law of information sciences & technology, business law, entrepreneurship, regulation, securities law, privacy, electronic forensics, security and intellectual property. He has co-authored numerous college texts, and he has served as chair of the Legal Issues Committee of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSAm) and the American Bar Association's Task Force on 'Bots (database protections).

Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014, 8:00 pm.
(Refreshments and networking at 7:30 pm.)
Place: Small Auditorium, Room CS 105
Computer Science Building, Princeton University
Information: Dennis Mancl (908) 582-7086
On-line info: <http://PrincetonACM.acm.org>

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A pre-meeting dinner is held at 6:00 p.m. at Ruby Tuesday's Restaurant on Route 1. Please send email to princetonacm@acm.org in advance if you plan to attend the dinner.

