

Challenges of Cyber Security in Smart Grids

Gothenburg, 2010-10-11

Jens Zerbst



Cyber Security perceptions of a 'Smart Grid'

- Introduction and expansion of a **communication network** for the **current** and **upcoming electricity network**
- Introduction of **new technology** and **connectivity approach**
- Long term usage of legacy assets in the domains operation, bulk generation, transmission and distribution
- Introduction of **intelligent control** and **connectivity** between different domains; e.g. customer, markets, service provider, operation, bulk generation, transmission and distribution
- In some parts usage of **large scale homogeneous** technical environmental
- ...

Multi-layered risk discussion in 'Smart Grid'

- Vulnerabilities
 - Legacy systems
 - Introduction of connectivity (even to un-trusted partners)
 - Increasing technical complexity (e.g. protocols)
 - "Security by obscurity" security culture background
 - Lacking physical access restriction
 - ...

Multi-layered risk discussion in 'Smart Grid'

- Likelihood
 - High grade of connectivity
 - Huge amount of devices with homogeneous technology
 - Partly exposed infrastructure
 - Processing of increasing amount of data (e.g. customer data)
 - Potential larger scale communication network
 - ...

Multi-layered risk discussion in 'Smart Grid'

- Impact
 - Fraud
 - Privacy
 - Compliance
 - Availability, Reliability
 - Safety
 - ...

Threat vector as an example

	Intentional	Un-intentional
Malicious	e.g. dedicated attack from criminal individuals, groups, terrorists or nations	e.g. un-directed attack from a 'common' Botnet virus
Non-malicious	e.g. a disgruntled employee or outsourcing vendor intentionally manipulates sensor data	e.g. malfunction of software or procedures

Questions

