Home > Vol 9, No 2 (2002) > Hutchinson

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Information Warfare: using the viable system model as a framework to attack organisations

Bill Hutchinson, Mat Warren

Abstract

Information is the glue in any organization. It is needed for policy, decision-making, control, and co-ordination. If an organisation's information systems are disrupted or destroyed, then damage to the whole inevitably follows. This paper uses a proven systemic, analytic framework the Viable System Model (VSM) - in a functionalist mode, to analyse the vulnerabilities of an organisation's information resources to this form of aggression. It examines the tactics available, and where they can be used to effectively attack an organisation.

Full Text: PDF

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Reading Tools

Review policy
About the author
How to cite item
Indexing metadata
Notify colleague*
Email the author*
Add comment*
RELATED ITEMS
Author's work
Book searches
Web search

* Requires registration

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- *Library*
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