

NIST Releases Security Guidelines

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) last week released guidelines for federal agencies to address areas such as the basics of choosing security products and developing security training and awareness. Of particular interest is NIST special publication SP 800-50 titled *Building an Information Technology Security Awareness and Training Program*. This guideline has been prepared for use by federal agencies. It may be used by nongovernmental organizations on a voluntary basis and is not subject to copyright. (Attribution would be appreciated by NIST.)

This document provides guidelines for building and maintaining a comprehensive awareness and training program, as part of an organization's IT security program. The guidance is presented in a life-cycle approach, ranging from designing, developing, and implementing an awareness and training program, through post-implementation evaluation of the program. The document includes guidance on how IT security professionals can identify awareness and training needs, develop a training plan, and get organizational buy-in for the funding of awareness and training program efforts.

Source: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/>