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Level Up!

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Navigating Cloud Security

Establishing trust with Certifications & Attestations

Cloud is just another person's computer

Do I trust another person's computer a.k.a. The Cloud?

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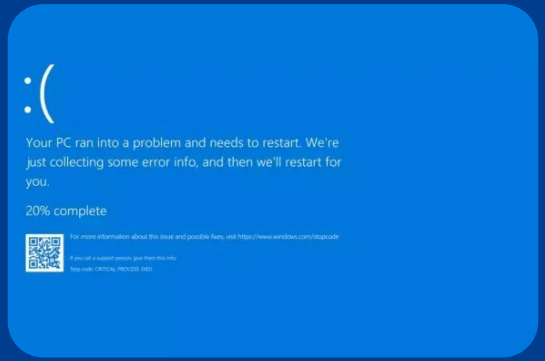
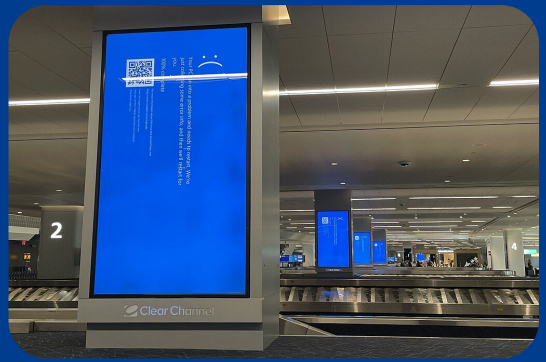
Let's revisit the July 2024 CrowdStrike Incident

My computer:

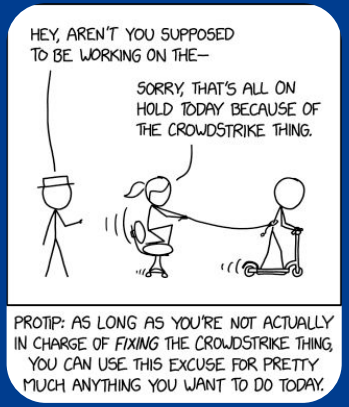


Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/

Another person's computer:



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/



Source: https://xkcd.com/

- Approx 8,5 Mio. computers globally stuck in a boot loop
- Faulty software update from a security vendor interfered with Windows OS
- In general - could happen to my or another person's computer

Why security certifications?

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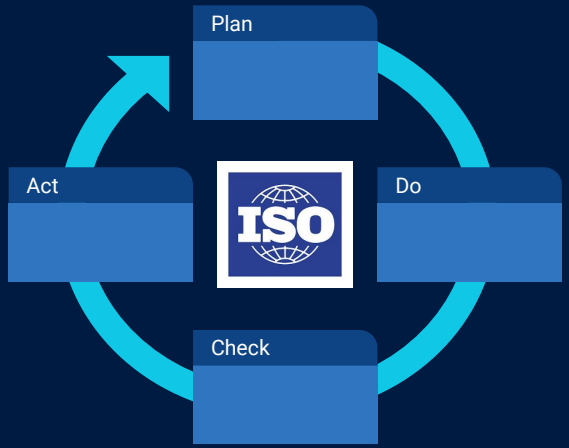

The management system **owner** steers **improvement** of **security levels** and practises!

- **Structured approach** to Information Security **Management**
- **Standardised processes** (Risk, Incident, ... Management)
- **Customer Recognition** and **Trust**
- **Continuous Improvement** Inside - Hackers do the same

Certification vs. Attestation

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	Certification	Attestation
Foundation	3rd party audits based on requirements/controls	
Purpose	Adherence to a trusted standard	Assurance about control compliance through evidence verification
Scope	Broad scope - Covers different security levels and processes	Narrower scope - Focused on control framework
Result	Compact certificate with defined validity date in the future	Comprehensive attestation report covering a defined time period in the past
Examples	ISO27001, BSI IT-Grundschutz	BSI C5, PCI DSS

Certification/ Attestation based trust in IONOS

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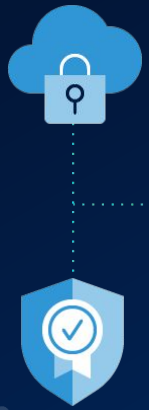

Cloud Business Prducts

Consumer Products

NIS2 / KRITIS / Telecommunication law

KRITIS

Cloud Security:
BSI C5 Attestation

ISMS:
BSI IT- Grundschutz

ISO 27001 IT-Grundschutz

PCI DSS COMPLIANT

Payment Card Industry (PCI)

TÜV NORD CERT GmbH ISO/IEC 27001

ISO 14001 CERTIFIED COMPANY

Security Management: **ISO27001**
Energy/Sustainability Management**: ISO 50001/14001**

Security Compliance

Product Certs

Foundation Certs

Which other trust factors play a role from a customer view?

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Many commodity trust factors are already covered by certifications... up to a certain level:

Trust Factor	Covered by Certificate
Information Security Policies, Measures and Processes	Core of the ISMS - always in scope (Requirements and Control catalogues)
Service Level Agreements (Availability and other Protection Goals)	BSI C5 sets a control baseline from a Cloud customer perspective
Physical Security of data centres and cloud provider offices	- Covered by Requirements and Control catalogues - KRITIS sets standards for 3rd party onsite audits

Recommendation:
Develop your own Cloud Security Strategy, that covers goals and required measures beyond certifications

Responsibility transparency begets trust - Customer and provider share responsibility

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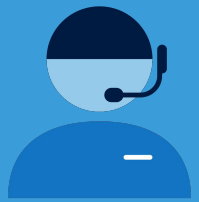
Customer / User

Cloud Provider



Presentation Layer (Browser, Mobile, ...)

Application Programming Interfaces

Applications/Software

Data

Metadata

Integration

Middleware

Application Programming Interfaces

Network

Abstraction

Hardware

Data centre Infrastructure

SaaS - Software as a Service

PaaS - Platform as a Service

IaaS - Infrastructure as a Service

Cloud customer recommendations for sustained trust

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Customer should have an own **Cloud Security Strategy**

- Clear **responsibilities** for actively **managed Cloud** and other **Assets**
- Classified data (low, medium or high risk)
- Employee security **awareness training**
- **Emergency and continuity plans** that span on premise and cloud
- Enable a "**risk-friendly**" culture

Cloud providers should offer corresponding **solutions**

- **Transparent** management of Cloud Assets
- Technical and organisational **security measures** for customer users, i.e. 2FA for all users, dependency tracking for developers
- Offer **risk-aware security configurations** with **secure** defaults

- Do I trust another person's computer now?
- Reliability develops trust - with the right strategy

Key-Takeaways

Trust the Cloud

1. Form your own Cloud Security Strategy
2. Develop your own trust in Cloud Products
3. Know your assets and security responsibility
4. Classify your data
5. Build a “risk-friendly” culture

Thank you!