



EU-SEC PARTNERS FRAUNHOFER FOKUS

About Fraunhofer FOKUS

Fraunhofer FOKUS, based in Berlin, Germany, develops solutions for the communication infrastructure of the future. The research institute explores how communication networks will contribute to a more secure and convenient living environment. Thus, the institute addresses important challenges in society and the smart cities of the future, including access to information, economic and sustainable use of resources, smart mobility and a modern governmental administration. In its projects, Fraunhofer FOKUS establishes useful ties between industry, governmental administration, users and the people and acts as a link between research and practical application.

What is Fraunhofer's role in the project?

Fraunhofer FOKUS is project coordinator and scientific partner for the specification and development of the Continuous Auditing Certification Scheme. Fraunhofer has defined the Continuous Auditing Certification Scheme in the Governance Structure & Integration work package and supports its implementation, its piloting as well as its exploitation throughout the project's other work packages. Moreover, Fraunhofer FOKUS is responsible for the overall project coordination and the innovation management.

What skills and experience does Fraunhofer contribute?

Fraunhofer has renowned expertise in cloud computing, service-oriented systems engineering, product certification, cross-organizational business processes, collaborative software development and in open source development. Participating in large number of research projects, Fraunhofer FOKUS has state of the art experience in software development including the definition of software architectures, quality management processes, testing,

and interoperability. Besides technical infrastructures, Fraunhofer FOKUS creates manifold practical concepts, applications and prototypes. Independent from specific manufacturers, products and technologies, the institute provides a neutral platform and serves as a competent companion in realizing IT projects for companies and governmental administration. As a member of important standardization bodies, the institute contributes to the definition of new standards in information and communication technologies. Based on Fraunhofer's experience in standardization and certification, FOKUS is well positioned to contribute to the EU-SEC research work and to coordinate the EU-SEC project.

Why is the EU-SEC project important to Fraunhofer and what are you expecting to get from it?

Following its role as an intermediary between research and industry, Fraunhofer FOKUS aims to transfer research results directly to industry. This is usually done by publishing and demonstrating project results at industrial conferences and fairs, by participating in standardization and in direct cooperation with industry. Research results from EU-SEC will be used to strengthen the market position of Fraunhofer as a research and consultancy partner and thus, will help Fraunhofer FOKUS to acquire new research and industry projects, especially in the area of cloud security and certification. New solutions and approaches, like the Continuous Auditing Certification, will be integrated in already existing and renowned tools like Fraunhofer [RACOMAT](#) to support Fraunhofer FOKUS' overall service offering for security risk assessment and testing. All tools, services and solutions are either offered by Fraunhofer itself as part of its consultancy services or will be offered through existing or newly created spin offs.

What are the big challenges for Fraunhofer in this project?

FOKUS has led multiple research projects and has been working for several years on certification solutions suitable for use in industry. These include approaches such as modular certification or the automation of assessment procedures, which are in particular dedicated to the rapid innovation cycles of the software industry. On the one hand, the need for independent and proficient security evaluation and security certification procedures increases with the growing importance of IT security. On the other hand, proliferation of various certification schemes in Europe has significantly increased the number

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of certificates required by Cloud Service Providers, and with it the associated certification effort. Test and assessment processes in certification are usually not automated and scale poorly, so that classic certification processes are difficult to design more efficiently. One of the biggest technical challenges is to automate these processes in such a way that the depth and frequency of the assessment can be extended through the use of tools. Considering the results of the EU-SEC Continuous Auditing Certification Scheme, the EU-SEC project has developed such an approach, which we now have to make known to certifiers as well as to national and European Institutions.

What kind of organisations do you collaborate with and how will they benefit from the results of the EU-SEC project?

Fraunhofer supports industry, civil society and the public sector in developing new information and communication applications in the precompetitive environment. As such, Fraunhofer FOKUS maintains good contacts with Public Authorities, Standardization Organisations and European Institutions. Since 2010 for example, Fraunhofer FOKUS has been tasked by the Federal Office for Information Security ([BSI](#)) with the monitoring of a subset of their Common Criteria-based evaluation procedures of software and hardware products in coordination with a BSI certifier. Through years of experience with accredited auditors, federal authorities and industry, Fraunhofer FOKUS is the ideal partner to develop and disseminate new certification solutions and bring their benefits to stakeholders in politics and business.

Useful links

<https://www.fokus.fraunhofer.de/>

<https://www.sec-cert.eu/>

<https://www.fokus.fraunhofer.de/en/sqc/>

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