Cyber Physical Security for IoT Society

Aiming to establish a resilient security infrastructure to support Society 5.0

Industrial systems and IoT devices installed in physical space, including living environments, are connected to cyberspace, such as a cloud, through a variety of networks. Thus, additional value is created through advanced knowledge processing and analysis, leading to enormous economic benefits for society. However, as IoT-based solutions proliferate, industrial activities are increasingly being threatened by the possibility of cyberattacks. Supply chains can also be exposed to the risk of falsification or infection by malicious programs during manufacturing and distribution processes. To avoid these risks, a project is being planned to develop a cyber-physical security infrastructure to protect a large-scale supply chain equipped with IoT systems and services, including small and medium-sized businesses. During this project, newly developed infrastructure will be incorporated into an actual supply chain with the aim to strengthen an IoT-based society against cyberattack threats.

Profile

Atsuhiro Goto received his PhD from the University of Tokyo in 1984. Upon graduation, he joined NTT, working for nearly 27 years on information technologies. In 2007, he was named head of the NTT Information Sharing Platform Laboratories, and subsequently named head of the NTT Cyber Space Laboratories in 2010. He became a professor at the Institute of Information Security’s Graduate School of Information Security in 2011, and has served in his present position since 2017. Dr. Goto has various experiences in government-related work as well, serving as member or chair for various councils and committees for the Cabinet Secretariat, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Defense.

Research and Development Themes

To ensure the security of an entire supply chain together with IoT systems and services, a trustworthy chain validating each component of hardware and software needs to be established. To this end, testing will be carried out on the creation and confirmation of trustworthiness in IoT device security and the building blocks of supply chains, including organizations, products, and services.

(A) R&D on technology to create and confirm trustworthiness

The security of individual IoT devices and services needs to be improved. R&D activities will be carried out on technology for creating and confirming trustworthiness to ensure the security of various IoT systems and services and an entire supply chain.

(B) R&D on technology to construct and distribute a trustworthy chain

R&D activities will be carried out on technology to construct a trustworthy chain for IoT systems, services, and supply chains. It will enable information to be distributed in a secure manner and ensure that security is maintained in various social infrastructures and services as well as wide-ranging supply chains.

(C) R&D on technology to verify and maintain a trustworthy chain

R&D activities will be carried out on technology to verify that a trustworthy chain is safely operated and maintained. In addition, manuals will be prepared for the introduction and operation of a trustworthy chain, and human resources will be developed with a view toward applying developed technologies in society.
The project team will be led by a program director who works in cooperation with a steering committee composed of relevant government agencies, experts, and external specialists. This team will promote the project, while cross-sectional challenges, including demonstration and dissemination of R&D outcomes, will be addressed by working groups. Participating companies will play a key role in the project team, as they are expected to proactively commercialize R&D results. The project team will also include representatives of universities and other organizations which possess advanced technologies. In addition, the project team structure will allow team members to share requirements raised from the perspective of realizing practical application. This will enable participating companies who have actual business experience and challenges to carry out demonstration tests in a proactive manner.

Strategy for commercialization

- **From demonstration testing to practical application**
  Demonstration testing of developed technologies will be carried out and test results will be fed back into R&D activities. In pursuit of early practical application in society, the cycle of testing and feedback will be repeated. At the same time, use of developed infrastructure will be promoted across supply chains, including small and medium-sized companies, with the aim of disseminating products, services, and systems having a high level of security ensured by Japanese technology.

- **Commercialization led by participating companies**
  Participating companies will take the lead for the commercialization and introduction of developed technologies in industrial fields. Activities will include licensing of technology to relevant vendors with the aim of technology dissemination.

- **Coordination with US and EU frameworks as well as the system established by Japanese government ministries**
  This project will be carried out in coordination with Japanese government measures regarding IoT devices and supply chains. It will contribute to the establishment of a system comparable to US and EU cybersecurity frameworks. In particular, it will be necessary to verify that project activities and achievements are in line with cybersecurity framework activities being accelerated in the US and Europe in order to ensure Japan’s international competitiveness.

Expected results

By the end of 2020, demonstration testing will start with the aim of applying cyber-physical security infrastructure in specific industries. After that, use of developed technologies will be expanded to other industries that have large-scale supply chains. When the project concludes in 2022, a management scheme will be designed to continuously maintain the security of an entire supply chain. The management structure will include organizations responsible for verifying demonstration results, managing a trustworthiness list, and handling information about vulnerability, incidents, threats, or other issues related to infrastructure.

Cyber-physical security infrastructure designed in the project will create a resilient IoT society and prevent economic losses resulting from cybercrime. The realization of such a security infrastructure is expected to support Society 5.0 in creating economic benefits valued at 90 trillion yen. In a global supply chain, security assurance is required to conduct business. The ability to provide a security infrastructure at a reasonable cost will strengthen the international competitiveness of Japanese products and services.