



“My computer is secure. I have a virus scanner”

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Computer
security is not
a product !

Computer security is an ongoing process of evaluating the risks to the security of one's information assets, implementing the appropriate controls to mitigate these risks and periodically assessing the controls to ensure that they remain effective

What if someone said this ?.....

“My vehicle is safe.

I have air bags”

Vehicle Safety Factors

- Is your vehicle well maintained?
- Do you wear your seat belt?
- Do you stay alert at all times while driving?
- Do you drive in treacherous conditions?
- Do you live in a dangerous neighbourhood?
- Do you drive in high accident areas?
- Do you drive when tired, intoxicated or on drugs?
- Does your vehicle have anti-lock braking?
- Does your vehicle have a backup alarm?
- etc.....

No vehicle is 100% safe

So.....why do we drive ??

Answer.....

Because we have examined the possible threats to our safety, determined the risks and implemented controls that we deem sufficient to **reduce** those risks to an **acceptable** level

No computer is 100% secure

So.....why do we use computers ??

Answer.....

Because we have examined the possible threats to the security of our information, determined the risks and implemented controls that we deem sufficient to **reduce** those risks to an **acceptable** level

The role a a computer security consultant is to assist computer users in identifying security threats, determining the risks that these threats pose to their information assets and implementing the appropriate controls to mitigate these risks

The mission of Sentinel Ridge Consulting is to assist companies, government agencies, educational institutions and individuals in safeguarding their information assets through the **appropriate** use of **effective** security technologies

Appropriateness – determined by **risk assessment**

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- **Effectiveness** – determined by proper **implementation**, **configuration** and ongoing **assessment** (security audits, vulnerability assessments, penetration testing)

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Responses to statement: “My computer is secure. I have a virus scanner.” (or similar)

- Do you **understand** the threats that could impact the integrity and security of the information on your computer(s)?
- Have you **evaluated** the consequence and likelihood (i.e. risk) of these threats impacting your company?
- Have you implemented the **appropriate** security controls to mitigate these risks?
- Do you periodically verify that the controls are working **effectively**?