

Introduction to KM and Security: Protecting Intellectual Property Minitrack

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We have heard and read many times in the last several decades that the most important asset of an organization is the knowledge of its employees. To allow an easy access to knowledge, organizations are implementing Knowledge Repositories. While this type of automation made it easy to store and distribute knowledge, it also made it easy to move knowledge outside the boundaries of a company. Organizations put in place many technology-based security measures (firewalls, filtering systems), yet they shouldn't overlook the human-side of security practices. An organization can have the best security technology in place, yet a careless employee talking or emailing or posting on Facebook about the 'new development' at the company bypasses all this security technology with ease.

Furthermore, one can find lot of information about current projects done by a company by searching the web. How can an organization effectively protect its intellectual property remains an answered question. What type of security and intelligence techniques are out there that can protect the IP? What are the best ways to train employees so that they would spot potentially criminal activity among employees? Could crowdsourcing be used in this case, meaning asking employees to vote on a particular issue to determine whether it represents a potential threat? This mini-track seeks papers that investigate issues related to security and protection of intellectual assets and explore how organizations can use security measures to protect their KM practices.

This is the first year for the KM and Security: Protecting Intellectual Property Minitrack at HICSS and it has attracted a total of four papers of which two were accepted for presentation. It is expected that future years will see the minitrack grow as it expands into the KM and security research communities.

The two papers are: A Formal Analysis of Fraud in Banking by Partha Saha, Nandan Parameswaran, Binay Bhushan Chakrabarti, and Ambuj Mahanti and Assessing Knowledge Loss Risk of Departing

Employees by Murray Jennex and Alexandra Durcikova. A Formal Analysis of Fraud in Banking investigates knowledge gained in investigating frauds that can be used to identify and prevent fraud from occurring. Assessing Knowledge Loss Risk of Departing Employees provides a methodology for prioritizing efforts within an organization to capture knowledge from departing employees.

The minitrack co-chairs want to thank authors and reviewers for their work in making this first year of the minitrack a success and we look forward to building this research community in the coming years.