

Owin Ifill

Professor Diwakar Yalpi

Cybersecurity, Technology, and Society

26, March 2024

### **SCADA Applications to Reduce Cybersecurity Risks**

Critical infrastructure systems are essential for modern society's functioning but face significant cybersecurity risks. These risks include cyberattacks, physical security threats, reliance on legacy systems, interconnectedness, and human factors. However, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) applications play a crucial role in mitigating these risks.

In Cyberattacks, SCADA applications implement a strong security measure such as encryption, authentication, and access controls to prevent unauthorized access and manipulation by malicious actors.

In Physical Security, SCADA systems incorporate strong authentication mechanisms and access controls to restrict physical access to infrastructure components, preventing unauthorized tampering.

In Legacy Systems, SCADA bridges the gap between legacy systems and modern cybersecurity standards by implementing security protocols, encryption techniques, and network segmentation strategies.

In Interconnectedness, SCADA facilitates secure communication and data exchange between interconnected systems while maintaining isolation and segmentation to contain the spread of cyber threats.

In Human Factors, SCADA applications incorporate user authentication, role-based access controls, and training programs to mitigate risks associated with human error or negligence.

In summary, SCADA applications enhance the security posture of critical infrastructure systems by implementing strong cybersecurity measures, monitoring capabilities, and integration with modern security technologies. Constant assessment and updating of security strategies are essential to adapt to evolving threats effectively.

Reference page

- “Mitigations for Security Vulnerabilities in Control System ...” *Mitigations for Security Vulnerabilities Found in Control System Networks*, [www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/MitigationsForVulnerabilitiesCSNetsISA\\_S508C.pdf](http://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/MitigationsForVulnerabilitiesCSNetsISA_S508C.pdf). Accessed 26 Mar. 2024.
- “SCADA Systems.” *SCADA Systems*, [www.scadasystems.net/](http://www.scadasystems.net/). Accessed 26 Mar. 2024.