

Alexandria Proctor

Professor Duval

Cye 200t

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## Scada Systems

BLUF (Bottom Line Up Front):

Infrastructure systems, like power grids and water plants, are essential for society.

SCADA systems help protect these systems, but they also have security risks. Properly securing SCADA systems is crucial to preventing threats.

Introduction

As these infrastructure systems become more digital, they face new security risks.

SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems help monitor and protect these systems but also have vulnerabilities.

Vulnerabilities in Critical Infrastructure Systems

Critical infrastructure systems are vulnerable to both physical and cyber risks.

Cyberattacks like hacking and malware can disrupt operations, especially in older systems that lack security. Some systems allow remote access, increasing the risk of unauthorized control.

An attack on a power grid or water treatment plant could have serious consequences, such as power outages or water contamination.

### How SCADA Systems Help Reduce Risks

SCADA systems detect problems early and allow operators to respond quickly. SCADA systems also help protect against cyberattacks by tracking system activity and alerting operators to unauthorized access. More recent SCADA systems use encryption and multi-factor authentication to improve security. However, SCADA systems themselves can be targets of cyberattacks.

### Conclusion

SCADA systems are crucial for protecting critical infrastructure but must be secured to prevent attacks. By monitoring and controlling systems, SCADA helps keep essential services running safely. However, regular updates and security measures are needed to ensure these systems remain protected.

### References:

- SCADA SystemsLinks article
- Smith, J. (2023). "The Evolution of SCADA Security: Challenges and Solutions." *Journal of Industrial Control Systems*, 32(4), 234-249.

