

*pilar*

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**PILAR**  
**essential assets**

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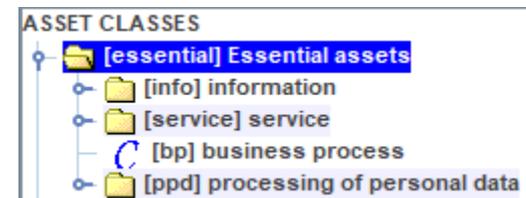
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# essential assets

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- essential assets
  - are used to talk with system owners (business requirements)
    - information to protect (intangible)
    - services to provide
  - are not technical



- essential assets depend on supporting assets
- supporting assets
  - are technical elements that materialize the information system
  - represent the attack surface for attacker to work on



# valuation

- essential assets should be always valued
  - information: I, C, Auth, Acc, PD
  - services: A
  - ... or a combination of

The screenshot shows a window titled "[example] A.1.3. valuation of domains" with a menu bar containing "Edit", "Export", and "Import". Below the menu is a table with columns for asset/security domain and valuation metrics: [A], [I], [C], [Auth], [Acc], [V], and [PD]. The table lists several assets and security domains with their respective values. At the bottom of the window, there are buttons for "associate" and "dissociate", along with icons for a folder, a smiley face, a question mark, and a sad face.

asset / security domain	[A]	[I]	[C]	[Auth]	[Acc]	[V]	[PD]
[example]							
[-] [essential] Essential assets	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
[-]   [E_INFO] Business information		[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
[-] S [S] Business service	[5]						
[-] is [mission] Business mission	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
[-] Security domains							
[-] [base] Base	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]



- Defining a unique [mission] asset is a fast way to capture the top requirements on the system skipping details
- Defining several INFO assets permits ...
  - that business identify different information of concern
  - separate different parts of the system that manage different information
- Defining several SERVICE assets permits ...
  - that business identify different services of concern
  - separate different parts of the system that provide different services



# supporting assets

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- PILAR evaluates the requirements on supporting assets
  - either by explicit one-to-one dependencies
  - or as members of a security domain
- supporting assets may be explicitly valued or excluded from valuation
  - this option should be kept to the minimum required
  - it permits to add some value to assets that are more important than the essential assets
    - what typically means that you have not identified all essential assets
  - it permits to exclude (n.a.) some assets that do not support business value



# supporting assets

- supporting assets may be excluded from valuation
  - e.g. VPNs are encrypted, and I and C are not be protected there
  - e.g. standard PCs are not involved in supporting system availability

asset	[A]	[I]	[C]	[Auth]	[Acc]	[V]	[PD]
<b>ASSETS</b>							
[essence]							
I [E_INFO] Business information		[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
S [S] Business service	[5]						
is [mission] Business mission	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
[supporting]							
A [SERVER]	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
A [PC] pool of pc's	[n.a.]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
A [LAN]	[5]	[4]	[4]	[4]	[4]		[1]
A [VPN]	[5]	[n.a.]	[n.a.]	[n.a.]	[n.a.]		[n.a.]

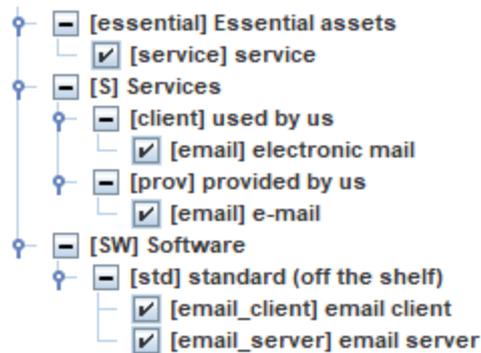


# best practice

- info assets shall be uniquely essential



- service assets may include other classes





# any question?

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