Prototype Technology Detects Insider Threats

US researchers are collaborating to develop new approaches to identifying various insider threats before they cause problems. Such threats include situations in which a formerly trusted employee of the government or a defense contractor might share classified information with unauthorized parties. The two-year, $9 million Anomaly Detection at Multiple Scales (ADAMS) project will reportedly include the development of algorithms able to detect insider threats by analyzing massive datasets—including e-mail, instant messages, and file transfers—for unusual activity that can be prioritized for further investigation. The system will also use advanced statistical anomaly-detection methods and knowledge-based relational machine-learning algorithms. The researchers are developing it based on data gathered in organizations where employees have agreed to monitoring. The ADAMS project is led by Science Applications International Corp. and includes Georgia Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, the University of Massachusetts, and Carnegie Mellon University researchers. DARPA and the US Army Research Office are funding the project. (PhysOrg.com) (Georgia Institute of Technology)