







Auto Bytes

Automotive cyber security regulations and compliance

January 2021





Introduction

In today's time, as the automotive sector is seeing a paradigm shift through large transformation initiatives such as adoption of digital technologies, connected vehicles, transition to cloud, there has been a growing concern over the risks associated over the cyber realm. Need for cyber dominates the priorities of the sector as it adapts to a post-COVID 19 world.

The automobile sector is investing in software innovations to enhance consumer experience and improvise modern vehicles. These innovations are cashing largely on the digitalisation of invehicle systems, extending it to the back end and propagating softwares to pack modern technologies in today's vehicles. The demand for vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) connectivity technology and incorporation of Internet of Things (IoT) has increased the number of cloud-based applications and advanced technology in new forms of mobility, including connected and autonomous vehicles

In the coming three years, about 1.2 billion motorised vehicles are likely to have connected features wherein the demand for connected and autonomous vehicles will grow more than five times to USD 212 billion by 2027. The average vehicle today contains up to 150 electronic control units (ECUs) and about 100 million lines of software code. With every line of code, the cyber risk to the connected vehicles increases. The number is projected to reach 300 million lines of code by 2030.

This emergence of autonomous vehicle technology is a key trend raising demand for advanced features; however, this is also resulting in cyber threats. As Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) deal with this one-of-a-kind threat, the challenge has become severe in the post-COVID world.

The representation below illustrates the differences between reliability, functional safety and cyber security issues



Internal failure = Reliability issue











Traffic light not detected
=
Functional safety issue

Malicious signal disabling detecting function =

Cyber security issue

The looming cyber threats specifically in terms of data confidentiality and protection have posed pressure on the automobile sector. The cyber security automotive regulations provide a need to develop solutions with required cyber measures in vehicles. Some of the measures include hardware and software vulnerability discovery, reverse engineering, cyber forensics and specialised tools and facilities. This will help industry and government analyse how to integrate security and technology. Moreover, effective compliance programmes are likely to ensure minimal cyber threats.

In the automotive cyber market, cloud security is growing at a CAGR of 29.4%, thereby representing a great revenue generation opportunity for OEMs. According to Data Security Council of India (DSCI), the Indian cyber security services industry is expected to grow to USD 7.6 billion in 2022. Moreover, with the influence of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) which is a worldwide regulatory forum within the institutional framework of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)- the UNECE WP.29 regulation on cyber security and software updates displays a broad adoption of the regulation across



the world. Interfaces and communications are considered as key elements for evaluating the cyber security of a system. The analysis of such high-level system threat in a specific context commonly referred to as a threat modelling and is documented in the automotive sector through a model called threat analysis and risk assessment.

The WP.29* regulations

The automotive regulations require OEMs & relevant third parties to implement measures in areas related to:



Managing vehicle cyber risks



Securing vehicles by design to mitigate risks along the value chain



Detecting and responding to security incidents across vehicle fleet



Providing secure software updates and ensuring vehicle safety is not compromised



Data protection and privacy of customers

Risk assessment standards



The International Organization for Standardization/Society of Automotive Engineers (ISO/SAE)** standards provide enough common ground to allow the automobile sector to produce consistent cyber security practices for the development of the next generation of connected vehicles.



In addition, to WP.29 regulation, the ISO is developing automotive cyber security standards. The ISO/SAE* 21434 standard establishes 'cyber security by design' throughout the entire lifecycle of the vehicle.



It provides the model for developing a risk assessment system and specifies details on processes and work products.

^{*}The WP.29 regulation defines the automotive cyber security requirements to approve vehicles based on type (cars, vans, trucks and buses) and the certificate of compliance for the Cyber Security Management System (CSMS)

^{**}ISO/SAE standard 21434 hopes to establish clear technical and procedural requirements for each stage of the vehicle's life cycle

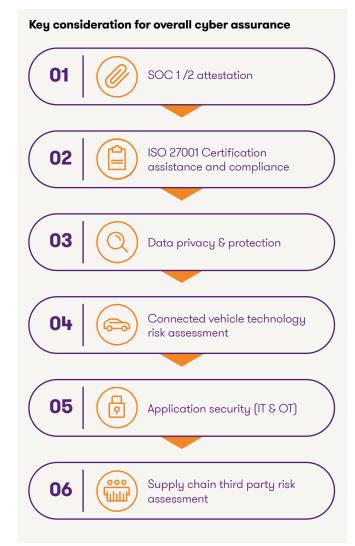
Our view

Automotive technology has raised concerns about the cyber threats to connected vehicles and induced the sector to rethink of cyber security risks along the entire value chain.

The rise in electric vehicles, IoT, connected vehicles and the seamlessness of the technology within, has resulted in a surge in cyber risks across the ecosystem. A collaborative approach may be required to overcome the investments in time, money and broader organisational changes. The reality is that cybercrimes could generate millions in losses to the automotive sector. Paving way to new approaches of cyber security applied to the automobile sector, which must be flexible and adaptive along the production chain and the lifetime of CAVs. It is imperative that the auto players focus on cyber threats while the systems are being designed to ensure security by design. They should also keep a close eye on the evolving cyber threats to ensure systems are updated more frequently.

There is a need to make the integration of cyber security practices as practical and easy as possible for automotive stakeholders. Hence, OEMs need to engage with the cyber community, working together with government, private-sector firms, standards organisations, academia, research and testing facilities, to face the cyber challenges and deepen the knowledge of automotive cyber security technologies and best practices. The automotive sector players will also need to enhance their in-house cyber capabilities in order to ensure the systems are resilient and also supports the end consumer with ongoing security monitoring giving them an added trust and confidence.

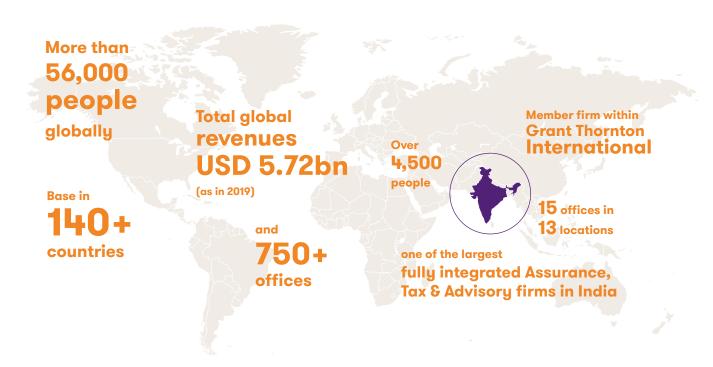
Given the scale of challenges ahead, the industry is likely to experience a considerable disruption in the coming years, as OEMs support their own cyber security capabilities and new players enter the value chain with dedicated cyber security offerings cyber security is a constant race between attackers and defenders, and for the automobile industry.







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