

# **Major Computer Security Threats Faced by Organizations in Protecting Information Systems: Is “Human Incompetence” Another Factor? A Research Study Conducted in Selected Educational Institutions in the Klang Valley and Nilai, Malaysia**

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## **ABSTRACT**

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Information systems always have to be protected at all times from threats at all cost. The question is why? Many users think that if a virus attacks a PC system, an antivirus program that is installed in the system will capture and eliminate the virus from the system. However, it is not that simple. Most virus programs are created by hackers and they are constantly being updated every year. The cost of coming up with anti-virus programs on a yearly basis is not cheap at all. In addition, intruders inside an organization may prove to be a major headache to many organization requiring them to re examine the thinking process of protecting data from it being leaked into the open world of hackers, intruders, rogue clients, etc. Also, natural disasters such as earthquake, fire, volcanoes must be seen as possible threats. Although such situations rarely happen, it needs to be taken into consideration. The problem of data protection also poses a fairly thin line of argument in terms of higher security needs as when is enough really enough to prevent incidents and reduce the collateral damage especially to an organization. Also, there is a need to seriously consider a proposed new security factor that involves human incompetence and, due attention must be given to this factor alongside the other seven main computer security threats.