Foreword

The importance of information and the protection of its integrity against ever-increasing cyber risks and threats necessitate that businesses ensure that reasonable steps are taken to secure their information assets, resources, and systems, failing which may render them legally liable. In recent years considerable effort has been made to protect information assets, especially in the form of customer, client, and patient information against unauthorised disclosure and misuse. However, it is not often that one comes across a study focusing on cybercafés and the importance of its cyber security infrastructure. This topic is often ignored and/or neglected as focus is generally placed on the importance of corporate cyber security. This book, however, correctly highlights the importance of cybercafés. Cybercafés are often used in various countries to conduct day-to-day business and conclude important transactions. Cybercafés are in fact one of the best ways in which the digital divide can be breached. It is therefore encouraging that this topic is highlighted in the book.

In the preface to this book the editor pronounces the purpose of this work as being to provide essential information on cybercafé systems/network security and software. In evaluating this expressed intention it must be stated that this work definitely succeeds in meeting this objectives, as is evident in the practical style of the book. While network and system administrators are provided with an in-depth and detailed explanation of the conceptual basis and practical aspects of cyber security in cybercafés, I cannot help but feel that educators and students interested and specialising in cyber security will also derive great value from this work.

Security and software for cybercafés aims to provide a thorough exposition of all the aspects of cyber security in cybercafés. This is evident from the work’s scope and structure. The work’s layout is very organised. A number of characteristics are evident from this work as a whole. Firstly, the emphasis is on practicality. When one has regard to the contents of the work it is clear that its purpose is to make cyber security in specifically cybercafé’s more accessible to the reader. This work not only provides network and system administrators with a detailed background knowledge of cyber security, but also guides them on how to apply it in cybercafés. Secondly, it must be noted that in my opinion the value of this work for students and practitioners is to be found in the manner in which the contributors succeeds to combine theory with practice. Thirdly, I am of the opinion that this book will prove to be a valuable contribution not only to developing countries but also to first world countries as this will enable the latter to better understand the numerous challenges facing cyber security in developing countries. The
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research contained in this book is comprehensive and thorough and should be viewed as a stepping stone for further studies on this subject-matter.