

# A FRAMEWORK AND MODEL OF OPERATION FOR ELECTRONIC PERSONAL INFORMATION TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 7 OF THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION (POPI) ACT

by

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# **ABSTRACT**

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. In South Africa, the first privacy legislation in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013) was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The POPI Act promotes the protection of personal information by South African institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in 12 Chapters, which includes 8 Conditions for lawful processing of personal information. Condition 7 of the POPI Act makes specific provision for security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information. While the legislative requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act are spelt out in Sections 19, 20, 21 and 22, the requirements are not supported by specific guidance in terms of how these should be satisfied. There is also no specific guidance on the security safeguards, as required in Section 19, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information. Hence, this thesis - which focuses on electronic personal information - proposes a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards that may serve as a frame of reference and be used by South African institutions that store, process and transmit electronic personal information, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act. As part of this study, a POPI research survey is used to assess the current state of security safeguards in South African institutions and to validate the selection of security safeguards of the proposed framework. In addition, a model of operation of security safeguards is proposed to guide one on how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act. Furthermore, this thesis explores the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and provides an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape, including South African privacy legislation. An analysis is also conducted to assess the extent to which the privacy legislation of the European Union (EU) and South Africa addresses the international 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines. The POPI research survey is also used to assess the level of compliance with the POPI Act and specifically Condition 7 of the Act. In addition, the POPI research survey is used to assess the financial value associated with electronic personal information and the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information.



# **SUMMARY**

Title: A Framework and Model of Operation for Electronic Personal Information to

Achieve and Maintain Compliance with Condition 7 of the Protection of

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Information, Information Security, Integrity, OECD, POPI Act, POPI

Research Survey, Privacy, Protection of Personal Information, Security

Safeguards.



I dedicate this thesis to my daughter Ayana Dala, an absolute blessing and joy, who was born during the course of this remarkable journey. In addition, I dedicate this thesis to South African institutions, whom I hope will benefit from this research in tackling the mammoth task of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.



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"Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish." - Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011).



# **CONTENTS**

ABS	TRACT	i
SUN	IMARY	ii
ACK	NOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
CON	ITENTS	v
LIST	OF ABBREVIATIONS	xi
LIST	OF TABLES	xii
LIST	OF FIGURES	.xiv
PΔR	T 1 - INTRODUCTION	16
	PTER 1 - INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Introduction	
1.2	Motivation	
1.3	Research Problem	
1.4	Research Goal, Scope, Limitations and Objectives	24
	1.4.1 Goal	
	1.4.2 Scope	24
	1.4.3 Limitations	24
	1.4.4 Objectives	25
1.5	Research Methodology	26
1.6	Layout	27
1.7	Research Publications	29
1.8	Conclusion	31
PAR	T 2 - BACKGROUND	34
CHA	PTER 2 - CONCEPT AND PRINCIPLES OF PRIVACY AND GLOBAL PRIVACY	
LEG	ISLATIVE LANDSCAPE	35
2.1	Introduction	36
2.2	Privacy Concept	36
2.3	Privacy Principles	39
2.4	Importance of Privacy	43



2.5	Global Privacy Legislative Landscape	44
2.6	Conclusion	47
CHA	PTER 3 - SOUTH AFRICAN PRIVACY LEGISLATION	48
3.1	Introduction	49
3.2	The Need for Privacy Legislation in South Africa	49
3.3	Journey from POPI Bill to Act	51
3.4	Purpose of the POPI Act	51
3.5	Personal Information	52
3.6	Applicability, Accountability and Exclusions of the POPI Act	53
3.7	Requirements of the POPI Act	54
3.8	Requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act	55
3.9	Information Regulator	55
3.10	Commencement Date of the POPI Act	56
3.11	Risks Associated with the POPI Act	57
3.12	Opportunities Associated with the POPI Act	57
3.13	Conclusion	58
PAR	T 3 - PRIVACY LEGISLATION COMPARISON	59
CHA	PTER 4 - EXTENT TO WHICH THE PRIVACY LEGISLATION OF THE EUROPE	AN
UNIC	N AND SOUTH AFRICA ADDRESSES THE INTERNATIONAL 2013 OECD	
GUID	DELINES	60
4.1	Introduction	61
4.2	Rationale	61
4.3	Overview	62
	4.3.1 The International OECD Guidelines on Trans-Border Data Flows and Protection of Privacy	
	4.3.2 European Union Privacy Legislation	63
	4.3.3 South African Privacy Legislation	64
4.4	Analysis of the European Union and South African Privacy Legislation in Relation	n to
	The International 2013 OECD Guidelines	64
4.5	Critical Evaluation - Similarities and Differences	70



4.6	Conclusion	.72	
D.4.D.7			
	7 4 - PROPOSED FRAMEWORK	.73	
	PTER 5 - PROPOSED FRAMEWORK WITH A SELECTION OF SECURITY		
	GUARDS		
5.1	Introduction		
5.2	Requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act		
5.3	Overview of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework		
5.4	Basis of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework		
5.5	Phases of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework with a Selection of Security		
	Safeguards		
	5.5.1 Phase 1: Identify		
	5.5.1.1 Strategy Perspective		
	5.5.1.2 People Perspective		
	5.5.1.3 Process Perspective		
	5.5.1.4 Technology Perspective	.80	
	5.5.2 Phase 2: Secure	.81	
	5.5.2.1 Definition of a Security Safeguard	.81	
	5.5.2.2 Source of the Selection of Security Safeguards	.81	
	5.5.2.2.1 Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA)	.82	
	5.5.2.2.2 National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)	.85	
	5.5.2.2.3 Office of Government Commerce United Kingdom (OGCUK)	.87	
	5.5.2.2.4 International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO)	.88	
	5.5.2.3 Specific Selection of Security Safeguards	.89	
	5.5.2.3.1 Management Domain Security Safeguards	.90	
	5.5.2.3.2 Operational Domain Security Safeguards	.91	
	5.5.2.3.3 Technical Domain Security Safeguards	.93	
	5.5.2.4 Summary and Source of the Specific Selection of Security Safeguards	.95	
	5.5.3 Phase 3: Monitor and Report	.97	
	5.5.3.1 Monitor Aspect	.98	
	5.5.3.2 Report Aspect	.98	
	5.5.4 Phase 4: Remediate	aa	



	5.5.4.1 Correction or Implementation of Adequate Security Safeguards	100
5.6	Critical Evaluation - Benefits and Limitations	100
5.7	Conclusion	103
PAR <sup>-</sup>	T 5 - RESEARCH SURVEY AND RESULTS	104
CHA	PTER 6 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY	105
6.1	Introduction	106
6.2	Research Design	106
6.3	Research Instrumentation	107
6.4	Research Group	109
6.5	Data Analysis Approach	110
6.6	POPI Research Survey Results - Demographics	111
	6.6.1 Institution Sector	111
	6.6.2 Institution Industry Sector	112
	6.6.3 Institution Size	113
6.7	Conclusion	114
CHA	PTER 7 - LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE POPI ACT AND SPECIFICA	ALLY
CON	DITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT	115
7.1	Introduction	116
7.2	2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa	116
7.3	POPI Research Survey Results - Analysis	118
	7.3.1 The Overall Level of Understanding of the POPI Act	118
	7.3.2 The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act	119
	7.3.3 The Current Level of Compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act	121
	7.3.4 The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information .	123
	7.3.5 The Potential Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Informa	tion124
7.4	Critical Evaluation - Key Findings and Recommendations	125
	7.4.1 The Overall Level of Understanding of the POPI Act	126
	7.4.2 The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act (Comparison Bet	ween
	2012 and 2015)	126



	7.4.3 Overall Compliance with the POPI Act versus Overall Compliance with	
	Condition 7 of the POPI Act	129
	7.4.4 The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information	131
	7.4.5 The Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Information	132
7.5	Conclusion	133
СНА	PTER 8 - CURRENT STATE OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS AND VALIDATION	ON OF
THE	SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS	134
8.1	Introduction	135
8.2	Selection of Security Safeguards	136
8.3	POPI Research Survey Results - Analysis	137
	8.3.1 Applicability of Security Safeguards	137
	8.3.2 Extent of Implementation of Security Safeguards	139
	8.3.3 Completeness of Security Safeguards	140
8.4	Validity of the Selection of Security Safeguard within the Proposed POPI Cor	dition
	7 Framework	146
8.5	Critical Evaluation - Key Findings and Recommendations	150
	8.5.1 Applicability of Security Safeguards	151
	8.5.2 Extent of Implementation of Security Safeguards	151
	8.5.3 Completeness of Security Safeguards	152
	8.5.4 Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards	156
8.6	Conclusion	157
PAR	T 6 - MODEL OF OPERATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS	158
СНА	PTER 9 - MODEL OF OPERATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS	159
9.1	Introduction	160
9.2	Revised Selection of Security Safeguards	160
9.3	Prerequisites Applicable to the Model of Operation of Security Safeguards	165
9.4	Model of Operation of Security Safeguards	168
	9.4.1 Management Component	170
	9.4.2 Operational Component	173
	9.4.3 Technical Component	176



9.5	Critical Evaluation - Benefits and Limitations	185
9.6	Conclusion	188
PAR	T 7 - CONCLUSION	189
СНА	PTER 10 - CONCLUSION	190
10.1	Introduction	191
10.2	Research Problem Addressed	191
10.3	Research Objectives Accomplished	194
10.4	Research Contribution	195
10.5	Future Research	196
10.6	Conclusion	197
APP	ENDICES	198
Appe	endix A - Summary of High Profile Data Breaches	199
Appe	endix B - Minimum Requirements of the POPI Act	200
Appe	endix C - Data Protection Directive	207
Appe	endix D - POPI Research Survey	209
Appe	endix D.1 - POPI Research Survey: Overview	209
Appe	endix D.2 - POPI Research Survey: Terms and Conditions	210
Appe	endix D.3 - POPI Research Survey: Qualifying Questions	211
Appe	endix D.4 - POPI Research Survey: Main Research Questions	212
Appe	endix E - Ethics Committee Approval	223
Appe	endix F - Research Publications	224
BIBI	IOGRAHY	288



# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

COBIT - Control Objectives for Information and related Technology

DLP - Data Loss Prevention

EU - European Union

GCIS - Government Communication and Information Services

IRS - Internal Revenue Service

ISACA - Information Systems Audit and Control Association

ISMS - Information Security Management System

ISO - International Organisation for Standardisation

NIST - National Institute of Standards and Technology

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OGUK - Office of Government Commerce United Kingdom

PCI-DSS - Payment Card Industry - Data Security Standard

PDCA - Plan-Do-Check-Act

PIPEDA - Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act

POPI - Protection of Personal Information

SIEM - Security Incident Event and Monitoring

US - United States

USA - United States of America



# **LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1.1:	Research Publications	29
Table 1.2:	Research Questions, Layout and Research Publications	31
Table 2.1:	Types of Privacy	37
Table 2.2:	OECD Privacy Principles Adopted in 1980	40
Table 3.1:	Number of Personal Information Records Disclosed in South Africa	50
Table 4.1:	Extent to which the EU Data Protection Directive addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines	65
Table 4.2:	Extent to which the South African POPI Act addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines	67
Table 5.1:	Alignment between the Phases of the PDCA Model and the Proposed POPI  Condition 7 Framework	78
Table 5.2:	NIST 18 Families of Security Controls	85
Table 5.3:	Security Controls from the Audit and Accountability Family	86
Table 5.4:	ISO 27001 - 14 Groups of Security Controls	88
Table 5.5:	Summary and Source of the Specific Selection of Security Safeguards	95
Table 5.6:	Condition 7 Requirements of the POPI Act Addressed by the Proposed POPI	
	Condition 7 Framework1	01
Table 7.1:	Formulation of Common Categories for Comparison1	26
Table 8.1:	Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants1	41
Table 8.2:	Impact Analysis of the Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants1	42
Table 8.3:	Applicability of the 20 Security Safeguards from the Proposed POPI Condition	17
	Framework1	47
Table 8.4:	Updates to the Security Safeguard Names and/or Descriptions1	52



Table 9.1: Revised Selection of Security Safeguards	161
Table 9.2: Mapping of Input, Processing and Storage Information Assets and Data	
Channels Associated with Electronic Personal Information	168
Table 9.3: Alignment between Components of the Model of Operation of Security	
Safeguards and the Security Safeguard Domains	170
Table 9.4: Relationship between the Information Assets, Data Channels and the	
Associated Security Safeguards	179



# **LIST OF FIGURES**

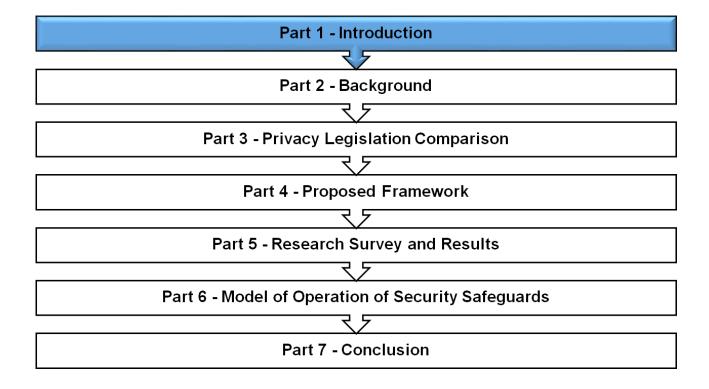
Figure 1.1: 2016 Data Breach Category Summary	20
Figure 1.2: Layout	27
Figure 2.1: Extent of Data Protection Regulation and Enforcement - February 2017.	46
Figure 5.1: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework to Address the Requirements of	
Condition 7 of the POPI Act in Relation to Electronic Personal Informatio	n76
Figure 5.2: Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) Model	77
Figure 5.3: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 1 (Identify)	79
Figure 5.4: COBIT 5 Process Reference Model	83
Figure 5.5: Risk IT Framework	84
Figure 5.6: Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) Framework	87
Figure 5.7: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 2 (Secure)	90
Figure 5.8: Secure Phase - Management Domain (5 Security Safeguards)	90
Figure 5.9: Secure Phase - Operational Domain (6 Security Safeguards)	91
Figure 5.10: Secure Phase - Technical Domain (9 Security Safeguards)	93
Figure 5.11: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 3 (Monitor and Report)	)98
Figure 5.12: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 4 (Remediate)	99
Figure 6.1: POPI Research Survey - Sample Size	110
Figure 6.2: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Sector	111
Figure 6.3: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Industry Sector	113
Figure 6.4: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Size	114
Figure 7.1: 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa Survey	117
Figure 7.2: The Overall Level of Understanding of the POPI Act	119
Figure 7.3: The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act	120
Figure 7.4: The Level of Compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act	122
Figure 7.5: The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information	123



Figure 7.6: The Potential Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Information	.125
Figure 7.7: The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act (Comparison between	
2012 and 2015)	.128
Figure 7.8: Overall Compliance with the POPI Act versus Overall Compliance with	
Condition 7 of the POPI Act	.130
Figure 8.1: Applicability of Security Safeguards	.138
Figure 8.2: Extent of Implementation of Applicable Security Safeguards	.140
Figure 9.1: Prerequisite Electronic Personal Information Identification Process	.166
Figure 9.2: Customer Business Process and Corresponding Information Assets	.167
Figure 9.3: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards	.169
Figure 9.4: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Management Component	.171
Figure 9.5: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Operational Component	.173
Figure 9.6: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Technical Component	.176



# **PART 1 - INTRODUCTION**





# **CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION**

Part 1 - Introduction
45
Chapter 1 - Introduction
Part 2 - Background
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
35
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation
45
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Part 4 - Proposed Framework
Fait 4 - Proposed Framework
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey
75
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
₹5
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
4
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
Part 7 - Conclusion
45
Chapter 10 - Conclusion



# 1.1 Introduction

Today, more than ever, we find ourselves in an information revolution that has transformed the way we transact and conduct business, resulting in an unparalleled proliferation of records preserved within databases containing fertile fields of personal data (Solove, 2004). According to the National Crime Prevention Council (2016): "Since its beginning in the 1990s, the Internet has grown into a vast electronic network that now spans the entire globe, and it will only continue to grow. Because people use the Internet in their everyday lives, they rely on it for a safe and accurate exchange of information. Constantly, personal data such as social security numbers, credit card numbers, and passwords are traveling through wires, and also through the air, from one computer to another. With security measures in place to protect this sort of information online, most people feel safe on the Internet and trust that their personal information will remain confidential. But, unfortunately, criminals have also adapted to advancements in technology and, these days, people are becoming victims of crimes committed over the Internet."

The currency of the digital world and "oil" of the Internet is personal information (Kuneva, 2009). Personal information according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2013) is regarded as any information relating to an identifiable, living and natural individual. Personal information can be bought, sold and traded creating economic value (Ali et al., 2013).

Hence, the global risks identified by the World Economic Forum (2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017) from 2014 to 2017 include data loss as a result of data fraud or theft as a major risk within the technology domain. Furthermore, for the first time in 2017, since 2007, is a massive incident of data fraud/theft listed in the top 5 global risks in terms of the probability by the World Economic Forum (2017).

The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age (Saunders and Zucker, 1999) and this has subsequently resulted in the most prevalent crime of the new millennium known as identity theft (Hoar, 2001). Identity theft is defined by the OECD (2009) as a form of crime which, "occurs when a party



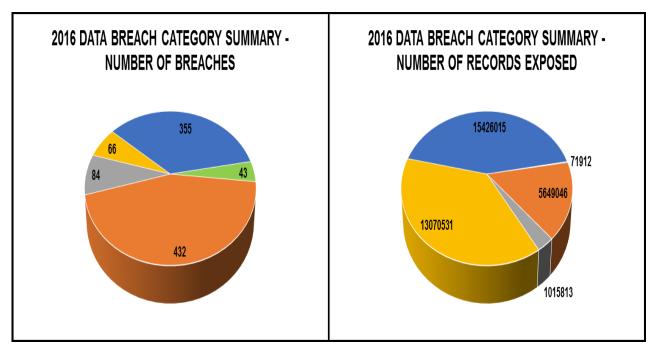
acquires, transfers, possesses, or uses personal information of a natural or legal person in an unauthorized manner, with the intent to commit, or in connection with, fraud or other crimes". Similarly, according to Schipke (2006) identity theft, "involves stealing another person's "identity" - personal and financial information - for the purpose of committing other crimes constituting fraud." This rampant form of crime is largely achieved through techniques such as phishing (luring victims to divulge personal information via deceptive emails or fake web sites) and pharming (redirecting victims from an authentic web site to a fraudulent web site which replicates the authentic web site in appearance with the intention to illicit personal information from victims) that are used to trick victims to divulge personal information for illicit purposes (OECD, 2009). The magnitude of this ever increasing prevalent crime is indicated in the 2016 Identity Fraud Study (Javelin, 2016) that assessed the financial impact of identity theft for a 6-year period ending 2015, at 112 billion U.S. dollars, which is equivalent to 35600 U.S. dollars per minute for the aforementioned period.

Furthermore, criminals break into information systems of institutions to gain unauthorised access to databases, commonly referred to as a data breach, which provides them with the ability to steal personal information such as, among others, financial account numbers, addresses or identity numbers (Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), 2014a).

The World's Biggest Data Breaches by Information Is Beautiful (2017) provides a graphically illustration of data breaches and globally the number of data breaches and the extent of the data breach in terms of the number of personal information records have both progressively increased on an annual basis from 2004 to 2017. Appendix A provides a summary of numerous high profile data breaches experienced in recent times on a global level by international institutions such as Ashley Madison, Sony Entertainment and the Korean Pharmaceutical Information Centre (Internet Society, 2016) as well as LinkedIn, the Philippine Commission on Elections and Yahoo (Identity Force, 2016).



This growing trend of data breaches is further confirmed by the *2016 Internet Security Threat Report* (Symantec, 2016), which reported 318 (429 million identities exposed) data breaches in 2015 compared to 253 (552 million identities exposed) and 312 (348 million identities exposed) data breaches in 2013 and 2014 respectively. Similarly, from 1 January to 13 December 2016, the Identity Theft Resource Centre (2016) reported a total of 980 data breaches which exposed over 35 million records across several industry sectors as illustrated in Figure 1.1 below.



Category	Number of breaches	Number of records exposed
Banking/Credit/Financial	43	71912
Business	432	5649046
Educational	84	1015813
Government/Military	66	13070531
Medical/Healthcare	355	15426015
Total	980	35233317

Figure 1.1: 2016 Data Breach Category Summary
Source: Adapted from Identity Theft Resource Centre (2016)

From a South African perspective, the reporting of data breaches by South African institutions is limited to the extent that only 5 data breaches were registered in 2015



(Gemalto, 2015). The non-reporting of data breaches in South Africa is due to the lack of privacy legislation compelling South African institutions to notify the public in the event of a data breach (Alfreds, 2016). In 2016, the non-reporting of data breaches by South African institutions continued, however the following data breaches became public knowledge:

- Armscor Invoicing information displaying customer and supplier details exposed (MyBroadBand, 2016a).
- Government Communication and Information Services (GCIS) Personal information associated with 1500 government employees exposed, including names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and hashed passwords (Vermeulen, 2016a).
- Department of Water Affairs Highly sensitive financial data, names of managers and details of projects exposed (Vermeulen, 2016b).
- Ethekwini Municipality Personal information associated with 98330 residents exposed, including passwords, full names, addresses, and identity numbers (MyBroadBand, 2016b).
- MTN Names, numbers and bills of customers made accessible to other customers (MyBroadBand, 2016c).

Due to the instrumental value associated with privacy (Moor, 1997), the data breach trend will continue to increase, locally in South Africa and internationally, in terms of the number of data breaches and the extent of personal information exposed. As a result, legislation in the ambit of protecting personal information is critical to preserve the privacy of individuals, which according to Moore (2008), entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. Furthermore, protection of personal information legislation would protect individuals against identity theft as well as offer wide-ranging benefits to institutions including the protection of an institution's brand, image and reputation, enhancing the credibility of an institution as well as promoting consumer confidence and goodwill (Titus, 2011). Specifically in the South African context, privacy legislation will enhance transparency and end attempts by institutions to keep data breaches under the radar (Floor, 2015).



Countries around the world such as Canada and the United States of America (USA) as well as member states of the European Union (EU) have identified the importance of protecting personal information and as such have implemented privacy legislation with a specific focus on protecting personal information. The EU adopted the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995 to protect personal information of individuals within member states (European Parliament, 1995). The USA responded to meet the requirements of the Data Protection Directive (1995), specifically relating to the adequacy standard, by introducing the Safe Harbor Act of 2000 designed to allow for the transfer of personal information between EU member states and the USA (Steinke, 2002). Similar to the EU, Canada has the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act (PIPEDA) of 2000 in place to govern how institutions collect, use and disclose personal information (Government of Canada, 2014).

The South African response to the protection of personal information legislation has taken the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill, which was first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012). After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill (2009) was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the POPI Act (Act 4 of 2013). This thesis commenced in 2014 and at the time of completing the thesis, the POPI Act (2013) was still not enforced and the commencement date was still to be announced.

This chapter serves as an introduction to the thesis and also provides the motivation for undertaking the study. Furthermore, this chapter provides the research problem and associated research questions as well as the research goal, scope, limitations, objectives, methodology and layout. In addition, a listing is provided of the research work associated with this thesis, which has already been published as research papers as part of conference proceedings and formulated to be submitted to a journal for consideration to be published.

# 1.2 MOTIVATION

As highlighted in the introduction of this chapter, there was a need for protection of personal information legislation in South Africa, which eventually came to the fore in 2013



when it was enacted in the form of the POPI Act (2013). This thesis is motivated by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) in the context of electronic personal information, as well as the view shared by de Stadler and Esselaar cited by Heyink (2015), who state that: "It must be recognised that addressing the information security issues will be critical to the achievement of compliance with POPI." Specifically, Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), brings to the fore the information security element, in that a selection of security safeguards is required to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information.

# 1.3 RESEARCH PROBLEM

As highlighted in the motivation above, Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) requires a selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information. However, the research problem identified is that while the legislative requirement of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) is spelt out in Sections 19, 20, 21 and 22, the requirements are not supported by specific guidance in terms of how the requirements should be satisfied. There is also no specific guidance on the security safeguards, as required in Section 19, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of specifically electronic personal information. Sikhungo (2016) confirmed this problem and stated that: "POPI does not provide a "tick list" of security requirements to meet. Responsible parties must consider applicable industry security practices and then implement security appropriate security measures for the business." Therefore, in providing a solution to the aforementioned research problem, specifically focused on Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and limited to electronic personal information, this thesis is guided by the following 6 research questions:

- Research question 1 To what extent does the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa address the international 2013 OECD guidelines?
- Research question 2 How can South African institutions, who store, process and transmit electronic personal information achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), including the security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?



- Research question 3 What is the current level of compliance by South African institutions to the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013)?
- Research question 4 What is the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information?
- Research question 5 To what extent is the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis valid?
- Research question 6 How can the security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013)?

# 1.4 RESEARCH GOAL, SCOPE, LIMITATIONS AND OBJECTIVES

The research goal, scope, limitations and objectives are formulated below based on the defined research problem and 6 associated research questions.

#### 1.4.1 GOAL

The goal of this research is to provide a solution to the aforementioned research problem by addressing the 6 associated research questions outlined in section 1.3, with a specific focus on Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and limited to electronic personal information.

# 1.4.2 **SCOPE**

Based on the research goal, the scope of this thesis provides a solution that encompasses a framework and model of operation of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, in order to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 1.4.3 LIMITATIONS

This thesis is focused on Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and is limited to electronic personal information. As such, the research survey was specifically targeted at participants



from South African institutions who store, process or transmit electronic personal information and who, as a result, are impacted by the POPI Act (2013).

The research is further limited by the South African context, in terms of the implementation of the POPI Act (2013), which at the time of writing this thesis, had still not come into effect, despite being ratified.

Furthermore, this thesis is premised within the information security domain as a result of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). As such, this thesis is not premised in the legal domain and therefore does not in any way aim to encompass an analysis from a legal perspective, for example a legal analysis of the requirements of the POPI Act or EU Data Protection Directive.

#### 1.4.4 OBJECTIVES

In analysing the above-mentioned research goal, scope and limitations in conjunction with the research problem and 6 associated research questions, this thesis is guided by the following objectives:

- Exploring the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and providing an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape.
- Providing an overview of South African privacy legislation.
- Analysing the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines.
- Proposing a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards that may serve as a frame of reference and be used by South African institutions, who store, process and transmit electronic personal information, to ultimately achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).
- Assessing the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act, through a research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions.
- Assessing through a research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions the current state of security safeguards within these institutions to



achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically related to electronic personal information.

- Evaluating the applicability and completeness of the selection of security safeguards through a research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions who store, process and transmit electronic personal information, in order to validate the selection of security safeguards of the proposed framework.
- Proposing a model of operation of security safeguards to guide how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

# 1.5 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology encompasses a combination of research techniques including a literature review of several sources of information namely, research papers, academic journals, whitepapers, web sites and previous surveys, as well as analysis, modelling and quantitative inferential research, utilising a research survey.

The literature review led to the formulation of the research problem and associated research questions and provided a background in terms of the concept and principles of privacy, the importance of privacy and an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape, including South African privacy legislation. A combination of a literature review and analysis was used to assess the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines. Modelling was used to propose a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards that may serve as a frame of reference and be used by South African institutions that store, process or transmit electronic personal information, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). The assessment of the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act was achieved through quantitative inferential research techniques, in the form of a POPI research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions. The POPI research survey was also used to understand the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions and to validate the



selection of security safeguards of the proposed framework. Modelling was once again employed to propose the model of operation of security safeguards to guide how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

# **1.6 LAYOUT**

This thesis consists of 10 chapters divided into 7 parts as illustrated in Figure 1.2 below.

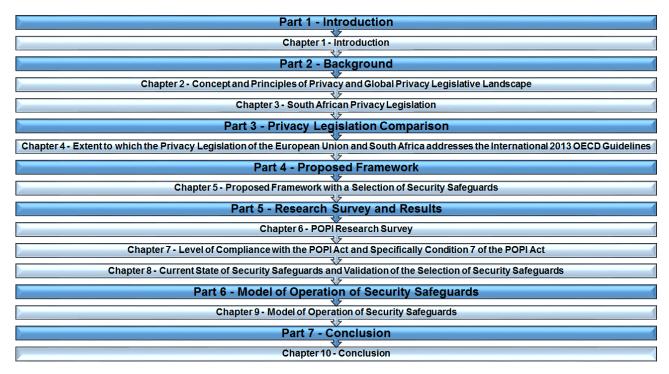


Figure 1.2: Layout

Part 1 - Introduction - comprises of Chapter 1, which serves as an introduction to the thesis. This chapter includes the research problem and associated research questions as well as the research goal, scope, limitations, objectives, methodology and layout. In addition, the research publications associated with the thesis in the form of conference research papers and a journal article is provided.

Part 2 - Background - provides a background to the thesis and consists of Chapters 2 and 3. Chapter 2 explores the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of



privacy in the context of this research and provides an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape. Chapter 3 provides an overview of South African privacy legislation.

Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison - provides a privacy legislation comparison and consists of Chapter 4. This chapter provides the rationale for the privacy legislation comparison followed by the analysis in terms of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines. Lastly, this analysis gives rise to a critical evaluation in terms of the similarities and differences associated with the privacy legislation compared within the chapter.

Part 4 - Proposed Framework - comprises of Chapter 5, which proposes a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards that may serve as a frame of reference and be used by South African institutions that store, process and transmit electronic personal information, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). In addition, this chapter provides a critical evaluation in terms of the benefits and limitations associated with the proposed framework.

Part 5 - Research Survey and Results - is made up of Chapter 6, 7 and 8 respectively. Chapter 6 provides an overview of the POPI research survey in terms of the research design, research instrumentation, research group, data analysis approach and the POPI research survey results in terms of demographics as it relates to the participants' institutions' sector (public versus private), industry sector and institution size. Chapter 7 provides the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act as well as the financial value associated with electronic personal information and the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information. Furthermore, Chapter 8 focuses on the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions and validates the selection of security safeguards of the proposed framework from Chapter 5 through the POPI research survey results. Lastly, a critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results is provided in Chapter 7 and 8 respectively.



Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - consists of Chapter 9, which proposes a model of operation of security safeguards to guide one on how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). In addition, this chapter provides the benefits and limitations associated with the model of operation of security safeguards as part of a critical evaluation.

Part 7 - Conclusion - comprises of Chapter 10 devoted to concluding the thesis. The final chapter assesses the extent to which the research problem and associated research questions have been addressed by the thesis. In addition, the final chapter provides the research contribution associated with the thesis as well as highlights potential areas of future research.

Finally, the appendices associated with this thesis as well as a bibliography of research consulted during the formulation of this thesis is provided after the last chapter.

# 1.7 RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

During the process of formulating this thesis, research publications were produced in the form of peer-reviewed conference research papers and a journal article was formulated to be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for consideration and publication.

The research publications in the form of published peer-reviewed conference research papers are provided in Appendix F and a summary is provided in Table 1.1 below, in chronological order based on the date that they were presented at the respective conferences.

Table 1.1: Research Publications

Conference	research	Conference	Date and	Acceptance rate
paper title			location	
A Framework	of Security	10 <sup>th</sup> International	24 to 25 March	Acceptance Rate:
Safeguards	for	Conference on	2015.	47%.



# Chapter 1 - Introduction

Conference research	Conference	Date and	Acceptance rate
paper title		location	
Confidentiality and Integrity	Cyber Warfare and		
of Electronic Personal	Security (ICCWS)	Kruger National	Received the
Information.	2015.	Park, South	Joint Award for
		Africa.	the Best
			Conference
			Paper presented
			at ICCWS 2015.
The Extent to which	African Cyber	2 to 3 November	Acceptance Rate:
Privacy Legislation of the	Citizenship	2015	39%
European Union and South	Conference	Port Elizabeth,	
Africa addresses the 2013	(ACCC) 2015.	South Africa.	
OECD Guidelines.			
Understanding the Level of	South African	26 to 28	Acceptance Rate:
Compliance by South	Institute of	September 2016.	39%.
African Institutions to the	Computer		
POPI Act (2013).	Scientists and	Johannesburg,	
	Information	South Africa.	
	Technologists		
	(SAICSIT) 2016.		
The Current State of	African Cyber	31 October 2016	Acceptance Rate:
Security Safeguards within	Citizenship	to 1 November	52%
South African	Conference	2016.	
Institutions to achieve	(ACCC) 2016.		
Compliance to Condition 7		Port Elizabeth,	
of the POPI Act (2013).		South Africa.	

At the time of concluding and submitting this thesis for examination, a journal article entitled: A Model of Operation for Electronic Personal Information to Achieve and Maintain



Compliance to Condition 7 of the POPI Act was formulated and submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for consideration and publication.

# 1.8 Conclusion

Part 1 (Introduction) of this thesis was concluded in terms of Chapter 1, which served as an introduction to the thesis and as a result of a literature review, the research problem and associated research questions were defined. In addition, the research goal, scope, limitations, objectives, methodology and layout were provided. Lastly, the research publications associated with the thesis in the form of conference papers and a journal article were provided.

As such, Table 1.2 below demonstrates the relationship between the research questions defined based on the research problem and the layout of the thesis together with the research publications produced as a result of this thesis. For example, the research question 2, "How can South African institutions, who store, process and transmit electronic personal information achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act, including the security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?" is addressed by Chapter 5 within Part 4, of the thesis, "Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards", which is associated with a peer-reviewed conference research paper titled, "A Framework of Security Safeguards for Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information", which was published in the conference proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security in 2015.

Table 1.2: Research Questions, Layout and Research Publications

Research question	Layout	Research publications	
Research question 1 - To what	Part 2 - Chapter 4:	Conference paper	
extent does the privacy legislation of	Extent to which the	published and presented -	
the EU and South Africa address	Privacy Legislation of	ACCC 2015: The Extent	
the international 2013 OECD	the EU and South	to which Privacy	
guidelines?	Africa addresses the	Legislation of the EU and	

Research question	Layout	Research publications
	international 2013	South Africa addresses
	OECD Guidelines.	the 2013 OECD
		Guidelines.
Research question 2 - How can	Part 3 - Chapter 5:	Conference paper
South African institutions, that store,	Proposed Framework	published and presented -
process and transmit electronic	with a Selection of	ICCWS 2015: A
personal information achieve and	Security Safeguards.	Framework of Security
maintain compliance with Condition		Safeguards for
7 of the POPI Act (2013), including		Confidentiality and
the security safeguards to be		Integrity of Electronic
considered to ensure the		Personal Information.
confidentiality and integrity of		
electronic personal information?		
Research question 3 - What is the	Part 4 - Chapter 7:	Conference paper
current level of compliance by South	Level of Compliance	published and presented -
African institutions to the POPI Act	with the POPI Act and	SAICSIT 2016:
(2013) and specifically Condition 7	specifically Condition	Understanding the Level
of the Act?	7 of the POPI Act.	of Compliance by South
		African Institutions to the
		POPI Act (2013).
Research question 4 - What is the	Part 4 - Chapter 8:	Conference paper
current state of security safeguards	Current State of	published and presented -
within South African institutions to	Security Safeguards	ACCC 2016: The Current
achieve compliance with Condition	and Validation of the	State of Security
7 of the POPI Act (2013),	Selection of Security	Safeguards within South
specifically in relation to electronic	Safeguards.	African Institutions to
personal information?		Achieve Compliance to
Research question 5 - To what		Condition 7 of the POPI
extent is the selection of security		Act.
safeguards proposed as part of the		



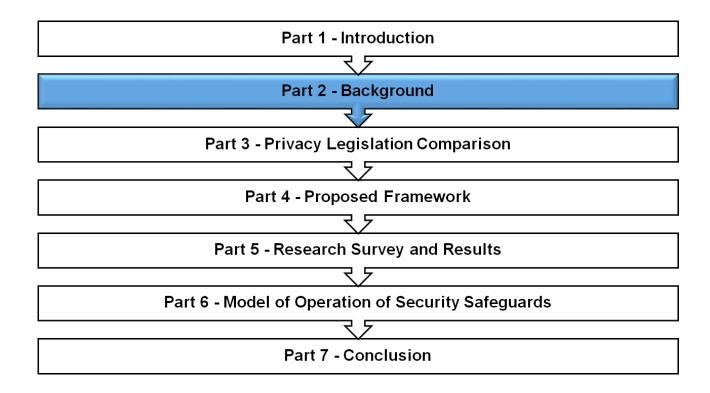
# Chapter 1 - Introduction

Research question	Layout	Research publications
framework within this thesis valid?		
Research question 6 - How can the	Part 5 - Chapter 9:	Journal article formulated
security safeguards proposed as	Model of Operation of	in 2017 to be submitted to
part of the framework within this	Security Safeguards.	a peer-reviewed journal
thesis be implemented to achieve		for consideration and
and maintain confidentiality and		publication: A Model of
integrity of electronic personal		Operation for Electronic
information as required by Condition		Personal Information to
7 of the POPI Act (2013)?		Achieve and Maintain
		Compliance to Condition
		7 of the POPI Act.

Part 2 (Background) of this thesis follows this chapter and serves to provide a background to the thesis in Chapter 2 and 3 respectively. Chapter 2 explores the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and provides an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape. Chapter 3 provides an overview of South African privacy legislation.



# **PART 2 - BACKGROUND**





# CHAPTER 2 - CONCEPT AND PRINCIPLES OF PRIVACY AND GLOBAL PRIVACY LEGISLATIVE LANDSCAPE

Part 1 - Introduction
Chapter 1 - Introduction
Part 2 - Background
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
4
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Part 4 - Proposed Framework
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards
45
Part 5 - Research Šurvey and Results
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey
75
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
The state of the s
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
That is mean in Special or occurry delegated
Part 7 - Conclusion
Chapter 10 - Conclusion
·



#### 2.1 Introduction

Chapter 1 provided an introduction to the thesis. This thesis is underpinned within the privacy domain specifically in the context of privacy legislation to ultimately protect personal information. As such, this chapter unpacks the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and also provides an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape.

#### 2.2 PRIVACY CONCEPT

The concept of privacy dates back to as early as the era of Greek philosophers such as Socrates, in that his writings differentiated between 'public' and 'private', 'inner' and 'outer' as well as 'society' and 'solitude' (Holvast, 2009). According to Holvast (2009), the concept has evolved from a period of understanding the importance of privacy to a period of taking measures in the form of privacy regulations and more recently, to a deep understanding of the critical role played by information in combating fraud, criminality and terrorism.

Despite the evolution of privacy, Solove (2006 and 2008) characterised the concept as suffering from an "embarrassment of meanings" and argues that it is a concept in disarray as: "It is a sweeping concept, encompassing (among other things) freedom of thought, control over one's body, solitude in one's home, control over personal information, freedom from surveillance, protection of one's reputation, and protection from searches and interrogations." As such, Solove (2002) demystified the concept of privacy and stated that privacy entails the right to be left alone, providing limited self-access, maintaining secrecy, controlling personal information, the protection of personhood in terms of personality, individuality and dignity as well as intimacy by controlling access to aspects of life and intimate relationships. Similarly, the philosophical dimensions of Schoeman's (1984) privacy study associated the concept of privacy with claim, entitlement, right, the degree of control, access and visibility to personal information and intimacy. In addition, Gormley (1992) explored the concept of privacy and a similar association is made in terms of autonomy, personhood, and the ability to regulate personal information as well as secrecy, anonymity and solitude also affirmed by Gavison (2012). Furthermore, according to Privacy International (2017) the concept of privacy enables the creation and



management of boundaries to ultimately serve as a form of protection in terms of controlling who has access to an individual's body, place, possessions, communication and information. The concept of privacy in a South African context is provided from a legal perspective in terms of the definition by Neethling (2005), which is accepted in case law - National Media Ltd v Jooste. This definition by Neethling (2005) states that: "privacy can be described as a condition of human life characterized by seclusion from the public and publicity. This condition embraces all those personal facts which the person concerned has himself determined to be excluded from the knowledge of outsiders and in respect of which he has the will that they be kept private". As such Roos (2007) argues, based on definition of privacy provided by Neethling (2005), that privacy allows an individual to have control in terms of either sharing or restricting information, such as personal information.

A common theme associated with the concept of privacy as highlighted by the aforementioned researchers is the ability to control. This theme is affirmed by Galvez Cruz (2008) and Reddy (2012) who also explored the concept of privacy, as part of their respective research theses, in order to adopt a formal definition of privacy. According to Galvez Cruz (2008) privacy allows a person to be in control of disclosure, personal information and boundaries. Similarly, Reddy (2012) stated that: "privacy is the right of individuals to control both information about themselves and their boundaries during interactions with others".

A further clarification of the concept of privacy is achieved by understanding the context in which privacy is applied i.e. what an individual is able to control, therefore giving rise to the different types of privacy. As a result, Clarke (1997) who according to Finn et al. (2013) was the first to formulate the types of privacy in logical and structured manner as illustrated in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1: Types of Privacy
Source: Adapted from Clarke (1997)

Privacy type	Definition
Bodily Privacy	Addresses the integrity associated with a person's



Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape

Privacy type	Definition
	body, such as blood transfusion without consent.
Behaviour Privacy	Addresses all behavioural aspects in both public and
	private locations and is particularly focused on sexual
	preferences and habits, political activities and
	religious practices.
Personal Communication Privacy	Addresses the ability for individuals to utilise various
	forms of media to communicate with other individuals,
	without the prevailing communication being subjected
	to monitoring by individuals or institutions.
Personal Data Privacy	Addresses the ability of individuals to control the
	access and use of personal data by other individuals
	or institutions.

Holvast (2009), identified bodily and personal data privacy types same as was identified by Clarke (1997) with the exception of the territorial privacy type. Territorial privacy addresses who has access to a person's belongings such as a home or car (Holvast, 2009). Similar to Clarke (1997) and Holvast (2009), Banisar and Davies (Unknown) identified bodily, personal communication, personal data (information) and territorial privacy types. However, more recently in 2013, Finn et al. (2013) proposed an expansion to the different privacy types by Clarke (1997), from 4 to 7 privacy types, due to the advances in technology such as whole body imaging scanners, unmanned aerial vehicles, human enhancement technologies and second-generation biometrics. As a result, based on these advances in technology, Finn et al. (2013) expanded upon the bodily, behaviour, personal communication and personal data privacy types by Clarke (1997) and proposed new privacy types related to association, thoughts and feelings as well as location and space. Association privacy addresses the ability of an individual to associate with any individual or group free from being monitored (Finn et al., 2013). Thoughts and feelings privacy addresses the ability of an individual not to share or reveal their thoughts and feelings (Finn et al., 2013). Location and space privacy allows individuals the ability to freely move around without being identified, tracked or monitored (Finn et al., 2013).



In 2013, Clarke (2013) expanded upon the types of privacy to include personal experience privacy that addresses the need to protect an individual's personal experience from exploitation. For example, the locations of individuals may be tracked and analysed to ascertain who is meeting with who and the frequency thereof. This privacy type proposed by Clarke (2013) was the same as the location and space privacy type proposed by Finn et al. (2013).

As a result of understanding the concept of privacy and the different types of privacy, Moore's (2008) definition of the concept of privacy which focuses on controlling the use and access of place, location and in particular personal information is adopted as the most appropriate for this thesis. This definition of the concept of privacy by Moore (2008) adequately addresses the fundamentals of privacy in a non-complicated fashion by focusing on the theme of control in the appropriate context which in this instance is related to the personal data (information) privacy type given the focus area of this thesis in terms of the related privacy legislation to ultimately achieve the protection of personal information or personal data (information) privacy as described by Clarke (1997), Holvast (2009), Banisar and Davies (Unknown), Finn et al. (2013).

Having formally adopted a definition of privacy for the purpose of this thesis, it is important to also explore the privacy principles.

# 2.3 PRIVACY PRINCIPLES

In 1980, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which is a forum in which governments collaborate to share experiences and solve problems in order to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world (OECD, 2015), adopted international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy (OECD, 1980).

At that stage, the major drivers for these guidelines were the threats associated with privacy due to the ever increasing use of personal information and the impact restrictions on the flow of information had on the global economy (OECD, 2011a). As a result, the



guidelines included 8 privacy principles as illustrated in Table 2.2 to govern the preservation of privacy and trans-border flow of personal information (OECD, 1980). These guidelines were recommended to OECD member states to be applied to all personal information by both public and private institutions (OECD, 1980 and Kirby, 2011).

Table 2.2: OECD Privacy Principles Adopted in 1980 Source: Adapted from OECD (1980)

Number	Privacy principle	Privacy principle description		
1	Collection limitation principle	There should be limits to the collection of personal information and it should be obtained by lawful and fair means and, where appropriate, with the knowledge or consent of the data subject.		
2	Data quality principle	Personal information should be relevant to the purposes for which they are to be used and to the extent necessary for those purposes, should be accurate, complete and kept up-to-date.		
3	Purpose specification principle	The purposes for which personal information is collected should be specified not later than at the time of data collection and the subsequent use limited to the fulfilment of those purposes or such others as are not incompatible with those purposes and as are specified on each occasion of change of purpose.		
4	Use limitation principle	Personal information should not be disclosed, made available or otherwise used for purposes other than those specified in accordance with the purpose specification principle, except:  a) With the consent of the data subject.  b) By the authority of law.		



Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape

Number	Privacy principle	Privacy principle description		
		Personal information should be protected by		
5	Security safeguards	reasonable security safeguards against risks such as loss or unauthorised access,		
	principle	destruction, use, modification or disclosure of		
		data.		
		There should be a general policy of openness		
		about the developments, practices and policies		
		with respect to personal information. Means		
6	Openness principle	should be readily available of establishing the		
		existence and nature of personal information,		
		and the main purposes of their use, as well as		
		the identity and usual residence of the data		
		controller.		
		An individual should have the right:		
		a) To obtain from a data controller, or		
		otherwise, confirmation of whether or not the		
		data controller has data relating to him.		
		b) To be communicated to him, data relating to		
		him within a reasonable time; at a charge, if		
7	Individual participation	any that is not excessive; in a reasonable		
<b>'</b>	principle	manner; and in a form that is readily intelligible		
		to him.		
		c) To be given reasons if a request made		
		under subparagraphs (a) and (b) is denied, and		
		to be able to challenge such denial.		
		d) To challenge data relating to him and, if the		
		challenge is successful, to have the data		
		erased, rectified, completed or amended.		
8	Accountability principle	A data controller should be accountable for		
		complying with measures which give effect to		



Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape

Number	Privacy principle	Privacy principle description					
		the	seven	other	privacy	principles	stated
		abo	ve.				

The 1980 international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy were revised by the OECD in 2013. Major drivers for the revision of the 1980 guidelines were due to increased globalisation of the world economy, growing economic importance of data processing, ubiquity of data transfers over the Internet, greater direct involvement in trans-border data flows, changing role of geography, growing risk to the privacy of individuals (Kuner, 2011). These drivers were further supported by an evolving privacy landscape that presented an ever increasing volume of personal information being collected, used and stored, the range of analytics enabled by personal information, providing insights into individual and group trends, movements, interests, and activities, the value of the societal and economic benefits enabled by new technologies and responsible uses of personal information (OECD, 2011b). In addition, the extent of threats to privacy, the number and variety of actors capable of either putting privacy at risk or protecting privacy, the frequency and complexity of interactions involving personal information that individuals are expected to understand and negotiate as well as the global availability of personal information, supported by communications networks and platforms that permit continuous, multipoint data flows all served to reinforce the key drivers associated with the evolving privacy landscape (OECD, 2011b).

The 8 privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) prescribed within the guidelines in 1980 by the OECD remained unchanged in the 2013 revision of the guidelines (Kuschewsky, 2014). However, the 2013 guidelines placed greater focus on implementing accountability, the basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, national implementation as well as international cooperation and interoperability (OECD, 2013).

# Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape

In terms of implementing accountability an adequate privacy management programme has to be defined and implemented and be subject to review from a privacy enforcement authority as well as providing notice to the privacy enforcement authority in the event of a breach of personal information (OECD, 2013).

With regards to the basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, an organisation (the data controller) remains accountable for the personal information irrespective of the location of the data. Tans-border data flows should not be restrictive if other country applies the guidelines and if restrictions are required, the risk should be assessed in relation to the privacy principles (OECD, 2013).

National implementation addresses the privacy strategies and laws that should be defined and implemented by countries as well as key considerations such as sanctions, unfair discrimination which should be taken into account during implementation (OECD, 2013).

International co-operation and interoperability deals with the cross border privacy law enforcement, international arrangements that promote interoperability among privacy frameworks, sharing of information in relation to compliance with the guidelines (OECD, 2013).

#### 2.4 IMPORTANCE OF PRIVACY

The drivers for the development of the OECD international guidelines in 1980 which included the 8 privacy principles and the most recent revision of the OECD international guidelines in 2013 clearly demonstrate the importance of privacy. Prior to the OECD international guidelines the importance of privacy as a basic human right was reflected within Article 12 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations (1948) and Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by the United Nations (1966).

According to Clarke (2006), privacy is important from a social, economic, political and psychological perspective. Socially individuals, need to be free to interact, associate and behave without being subject to surveillance (Clarke, 2006). From an economic



perspective individuals require ongoing freedom to innovate in order to remain competitive and contribute to a sustainable economy (Clarke, 2006). Politically individuals need to be afforded freedom to think, argue and act in order to ensure a healthy democracy (Clarke, 2006). Lastly, from a psychological perspective, individuals require their private space and the ability to control the use and access thereof (Clarke, 2006). In a similar fashion, Holvast (2009) highlights the importance of privacy in relation to modern life by expressing the need for personal autonomy as privacy is the basis for the development of individuality as well as the need for emotional release due to physical and psychological health demands of life. In addition, the importance of privacy, as it relates to decision making and self-evaluation by individuals, as well as the need to ensure limited and protected communication, is also highlighted by Holvast (2009). However, Holvast (2009) differs from Clarke (2006) by adding the technology dimension, and as a result, highlights the importance of privacy in present technology, such as video surveillance, biometric identification, genetic data, identity theft, data warehousing and data mining, chips or smartcards, global positioning system, Internet, key loggers, radio frequency identification, wireless networking and the Internet of Things (IoT) as well as smart homes and future technology such as neurolinguistics, memetics, ambient and grid technology.

#### 2.5 GLOBAL PRIVACY LEGISLATIVE LANDSCAPE

Privacy is therefore important in the social, economic, political and technological contexts. As a result, an invasion or a violation of privacy may take place within the aforementioned contexts, ultimately impacting an individual's ability to control the use and access to place, location and personal information. As such, Greenleaf (2013) states that data privacy laws serve as the legal instrument most capable of preserving privacy. Therefore, armed with an understanding of the privacy concept and principles as well as the importance of privacy, globally many countries commenced with the development and in some cases have fully implemented privacy legislation in the form of data protection laws and regulations, which specifically focus on the protection of personal information.

The European Union (EU) has adopted the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995 to protect personal information of individuals within EU



member states (European Parliament, 1995). The United States of America (USA) responded to meet the requirements of the Data Protection Directive (1995), specifically relating to the adequacy standard, by introducing the Safe Harbor Act of 2000 designed to allow for the transfer of personal information between EU member states and the USA (Steinke, 2002). Furthermore, in the USA the Privacy Act of 1974 (United States Department of Justice, 2015) is in place to regulate the information practices of the public sector, however there is no comprehensive privacy protection law in place for the private sector, instead various Amendments as part of the Constitution (1789) and federal laws are in place. The First Amendment of the Constitution of the USA (1791) protects the freedom of expression, religion, and assembly. The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution of the USA (1791) prohibits unreasonable search and seizure. The Fourteenth Amendment (1795) guarantees due process and non-disclosure of personal information. Federal laws, as cited by Holvast (2009), also address the protection of personal information as it relates to financial records, credit reports, educational records, telephone records, video rentals and cable television.

Canada has the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act (PIPEDA) of 2000 in place to govern how organisations collect, use and disclose personal information (Government of Canada, 2014). Similarly, protection of personal information legislation has been adopted by several countries such as Argentina in the form of the Personal Data Protection Act (Government of Argentina, 2000), Australia in terms of the Privacy Act (Government of Australia, 1988), Japan in the form of the Personal Information Protection Law (Government of Japan, 2003) and New Zealand in terms of the Privacy Act (Government of New Zealand, 1993).

The global privacy legislative landscape is eloquently captured by the *Data Protection Laws of the World Handbook* (DLA Piper, 2016), in that it provides a comprehensive listing and current status of data protection laws and regulations for several countries on an annual basis. The latest edition of the *Data Protection Laws of the World Handbook* (DLA Piper, 2016) included 89 countries such as Angola, Brazil, Cayman, China Islands,



Denmark, Estonia, France, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Netherlands, Lithuania, Nigeria, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates.

In addition, Figure 2.1 below illustrates on a global scale as at February 2017 the extent of data protection regulation and enforcement.

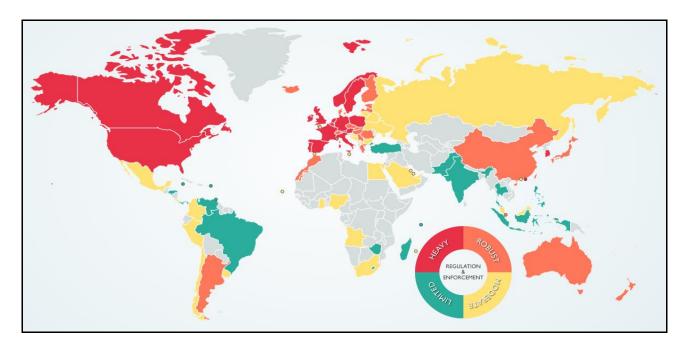


Figure 2.1: Extent of Data Protection Regulation and Enforcement - February 2017

Source: DLA Piper (2017)

There is a robust degree of data protection regulation and enforcement in Argentina, Australia and China compared to countries such as Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States of America where there is a high degree of data protection regulation and enforcement (DLA Piper, 2017). Countries such as Angola, Columbia, Egypt, Nigeria, Russia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa have a moderate degree of data protection regulation and enforcement compared to countries such as Brazil, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Turkey and Zimbabwe who have a low degree of data protection regulation and enforcement (DLA Piper, 2017).



Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape

# 2.6 CONCLUSION

This chapter in terms of Part 2 (Background) of this thesis explored the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and provided an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape.

The next chapter which also forms part of the background of this thesis explores the South African response in relation to privacy legislation.



# **CHAPTER 3 - SOUTH AFRICAN PRIVACY LEGISLATION**

Part 1 - Introduction		
Chapter 1 - Introduction		
7.5		
Part 2 - Background		
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape		
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Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation		
<b>V</b>		
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison		
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines		
₹ <u></u>		
Part 4 - Proposed Framework		
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Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards		
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results		
7		
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey		
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Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act		
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Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards		
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Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards		
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards		
Part 7 - Conclusion		
Chapter 10 Conclusion		
Chapter 10 - Conclusion		



#### 3.1 Introduction

Chapter 2 provided an understanding of the global privacy legislative landscape in addition to the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy. This chapter provides an overview of the South African response to privacy legislation which has the taken the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013). The discourse in this chapter includes the need for privacy legislation in South Africa, the journey from POPI Bill to Act, the purpose of the Act, personal information defined in terms of the Act, applicability, accountability and exclusions of the Act, the requirements of the Act and specifically Condition 7, the establishment of an Information Regulator and the commencement date of the Act. This will be followed by the risks and opportunities associated with the POPI Act (2013).

# 3.2 THE NEED FOR PRIVACY LEGISLATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

The information age we live in is continually the subject of data breaches involving personal information (Anandarajan et al., 2013). South Africa is not immune to data breaches of personal information. As such during 2016, as mentioned in Chapter 1 of this thesis, Government Communication and Information Services (GCIS) (Vermeulen, 2016a), the Department of Water Affairs (Vermeulen, 2016b), Armscor (MyBroadBand, 2016a), the Ethekwini Municipality (MyBroadBand, 2016b) and MTN (MyBroadBand, 2016c) all suffered data breaches of personal information which became public knowledge. Furthermore, South Africa faces a growing problem in terms of the extensive amount of personal information being disclosed online through electronic documents available on web sites (Grobler et al., 2014). As a result, between 12 November 2013 and 30 May 2014, in an investigation by Grobler et al. (2014), a number of personal information records, as listed in Table 3.1 on the next page, were disclosed by 293 out of 2714 unique South African domains (co.za) evaluated during the aforementioned period.



Table 3.1: Number of Personal Information Records Disclosed in South Africa
Source: Adapted from Grobler et al. (2014)

Personal information	Number of personal information records disclosed in
record type	South Africa from 12 November 2013 to 30 May 2014
Identity number	892 811
Landline number	852 713
Cellphone number	1 214 516
Email address	407 307
Credit card number	78 037
Addresses	537 141

To further compound the problem, the disclosure of personal information records as a result of a data breach, negligence or accident by South African institutions is often associated with a lack of transparency and cover-ups (Floor, 2015). This is due to the lack of privacy legislation compelling South African institutions to notify the public in the event of an unauthorised disclosure of personal information records as a result of a data breach, negligence or accident (Alfreds, 2016).

As such, there was a great need for privacy legislation in South Africa required to provide the legal platform capable of protecting personal information for enforcing a greater deal of accountability and responsibility when dealing with personal information and most importantly, to ensure transparency by South African institutions in the event of a data breach, negligence or accident associated with personal information. In addition, the concept of privacy is enshrined in Section 14 of the South African Constitution (1996), which is the supreme law of the land that affords every individual a right to privacy. As such, Neethling et al. (2005) argues this right to privacy afforded to every individual in the Constitution further enhances the need for privacy legislation to be enacted in South Africa to protect personal information.

Furthermore, under South African common law, privacy is recognised and protected in relation to an individual in terms of personality interest - physical liberty, good name,



dignity, feelings, privacy and identity (Roos, 2007). However, according to Roos (2016), the common law principles present a shortcoming in terms of effectively protecting privacy as an individual does not know when personal information is collected, if it is correct and who has access to this information. Neethling et al. (2005) affirms this common law shortcoming associated with personal information. Due to the common law shortcoming to effectively protect privacy both Roos (2016) and Neethling (2016) identify that there is an urgent need for privacy legislation in South Africa to protect personal information.

Therefore, privacy legislation in South Africa to protect personal information is the natural progression required to enforce the preservation of the right to privacy afforded to every individual and address the shortcoming presented by common law to effectively protect privacy. Furthermore, according to Roos (2006 and 2007) privacy legislation is critical from an international perspective if South Africa aims to remain part of the international information community and global economy.

# 3.3 JOURNEY FROM POPI BILL TO ACT

Privacy legislation to address the protection of personal information in South Africa was first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012) in the form of the POPI Bill (2009). After being made available for public scrutiny and comment as well as lengthy and detailed deliberations and numerous reviews, the POPI Bill (2009) was subjected to the final process of becoming an Act. This process involved tabling the POPI Bill (2009) in Parliament for comment by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Justice and thereafter it was submitted for approval to the National Council of Provinces, followed by the National Assembly. Finally, after an extensive journey, the POPI Bill was enacted and signed into law by the President of the Republic of South Africa on 26 November 2013 as the POPI Act (2013) and published in the Government Gazette. However, the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) is still to be announced.

# 3.4 PURPOSE OF THE POPI ACT

The purpose of the POPI Act (2013), as outlined in Section 2, is to: "promote the protection of personal information processed by public and private bodies; to introduce certain



conditions so as to establish minimum requirements for the processing of personal information; to provide for the establishment of an Information Regulator to exercise certain powers and to perform certain duties and functions in terms of this Act and the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000; to provide for the issuing of codes of conduct; to provide for the rights of persons regarding unsolicited electronic communications and automated decision making; to regulate the flow of personal information across the borders of the Republic; and to provide for matters connected therewith."

In essence, the POPI Act (2013) aims to ensure the right to privacy by offering individuals: "a right to protection against the unlawful collection, retention, dissemination and use of personal information."

#### 3.5 Personal Information

Since personal information is mentioned throughout this thesis, a common understanding of personal information is critical. As a result, the definition of personal information as specified by the POPI Act (2013) below, is deemed to be the most suitable, given that personal information will be studied in the context of requirements specified within the POPI Act (2013) itself.

Any information relating to an identifiable, living and natural individual is referred to as personal information (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 2013). This definition of personal information by the OECD (2013) is extended upon in Section 1 of the POPI Act (2013), which defines personal information as: "information relating to an identifiable, living, natural person, and where it is applicable, an identifiable, existing juristic person, including, but not limited to:

(a) information relating to the race, gender, sex, pregnancy, marital status, national, ethnic or social origin, colour, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental health, well-being, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture, language and birth of the person;



- (b) information relating to the education or the medical, financial, criminal or employment history of the person;
- (c) any identifying number, symbol, e-mail address, physical address, telephone number, location information, online identifier or other particular assignment to the person;
- (d) the biometric information of the person;
- (e) the personal opinions, views or preferences of the person;
- (f) correspondence sent by the person that is implicitly or explicitly of a private or confidential nature or further correspondence that would reveal the contents of the original correspondence;
- (g) the views or opinions of another individual about the person; and
- (h) the name of the person if it appears with other personal information relating to the person or if the disclosure of the name itself would reveal information about the person."

Personal information stored, processed or transmitted may exist in electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) or non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems).

# 3.6 APPLICABILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND EXCLUSIONS OF THE POPI ACT

The protection of personal information as specified by the POPI Act (2013) is applicable to public and private institutions in South Africa. A public institution in terms of the POPI Act (2013) is referred to as a "public body" and defined as: "(a) any department of state or administration in the national or provincial sphere of government or any municipality in the local sphere of government; or (b) any other functionary or institution when - (i) exercising a power or performing a duty in terms of the Constitution or a provincial constitution; or (ii) exercising a public power or performing a public function in terms of any legislation". A private institution in terms of the POPI Act (2013) is referred to as a "private body" and defined as: "(a) a natural person who carries or has carried on any trade, business or profession, but only in such capacity; (b) a partnership which carries or has carried on any trade, business or profession; or (c) any former or existing juristic person, but excludes a public body".



Therefore, public and private institutions that collect, store, process or disseminate personal information as part of their business activities are impacted by the Act (De Bruyn, 2014). The coverage of the POPI Act (2013) in terms of both public and private institutions is aligned with Greenleaf's (2013) view that privacy legislation should cover most of a country's private and public sectors and not only be focused on a few sub-sectors, like "credit reporting" or "health".

Furthermore, accountability for compliance with the POPI Act (2013) rests with the responsible party defined within the Act as: "a public or private body or any other person which, alone or in conjunction with others, determines the purpose of and means for processing personal information". According to Monty (2015), the responsible party must be resident in South Africa or the processing must take place in the country, subject to certain exclusions and therefore if an institution outsources the processing of personal information, the institution is still responsible for ensuring compliance with the POPI Act (2013). Therefore, institutions should ensure that their third party supplier contracts include clauses for recourse by the institution against the third party supplier, in the event an individual takes action against the institution for the unlawful collection, retention, dissemination and use of personal information (Monty, 2015).

The POPI Act (2013), however does not apply to the processing of personal information as it relates to purely personal or household activities, sufficiently de-identified information, specific State functions which involve State security, criminal prosecutions as well as cabinet and its committees or the executive council of a province, judicial functions and journalism, guided by a code of ethics.

# 3.7 REQUIREMENTS OF THE POPI ACT

In order to lawfully process personal information in South Africa, compliance with the minimum requirements of the POPI Act (2013) is required. Appendix B provides the minimum requirements for the lawful processing of personal information in South Africa as specified by the POPI Act (2013) in 12 Chapters (including 8 Conditions) consisting of 115 Sections.



The minimum requirements outlined in the POPI Act (2013) ensure the lawful collection, retention, dissemination and use of personal information. As a result, according to Monty (2015), South African institutions should ensure that personal information is collected for a specific purpose and should be relevant and updated. In addition, security measures should be implemented to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information, upon request the subject to which the personal information belongs should be allowed the required access. Monty (2015) also advocates that prior consent be obtained from consumers before processing personal information and that an Information Officer be appointed to achieve and maintain compliance with the POPI Act (2013).

Of particular importance to this thesis, given the research problem identified in Chapter 1, is Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). The next section provides an understanding of the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 3.8 REQUIREMENTS OF CONDITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT

Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) relates to security safeguards and requires institutions to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information in its possession and in its control (Sikhungo, 2016). The requirements for Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) are outlined in 4 sections. Section 19 of the POPI Act (2013) specifies the need to implement security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information. Section 20 of the POPI Act (2013) defines the responsibilities for handling personal information. The responsibilities of an operator processing personal information are defined in Section 21 of the POPI Act (2013). Lastly, Section 22 of the POPI Act (2013) specifies the need for notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information.

#### 3.9 Information Regulator

An Information Regulator has to be established in terms of Section 39 of the POPI Act (2013) to enforce the minimum requirements for the lawful processing of personal information in South Africa as specified by the POPI Act (2013) in 12 Chapters (including 8 Conditions). This supports Greenleaf's (2013) recommendation that an independent "data



protection authority" be established, which in the South African context is the Information Regulator, to enforce the privacy legislation as well as perform investigations relating to privacy complaints and to drive improvement of the adopted privacy legislation.

As such, the main role of the Information Regulator as per the POPI Act (2013) is to promote, enforce and monitor compliance with the POPI Act (2013). Furthermore, the POPI Act (2013) requires the Information Regulator to facilitate cross-border cooperation in the enforcement of privacy laws, conduct research and report to Parliament as well as to provide education, issue and deal with codes of conduct, consult with interested parties and handle complaints relating to the POPI Act (2013).

In 2015, processes commenced to set up the Office of the Information Regulator (Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, 2015). On 26 October 2016, the President of South Africa announced the appointment of Advocate Pansy Tlakula as the chair, Advocate Cordelia Stroom and Mr Johannes Weapond as full-time members, and Professor Tana Pistorius and Mr Sizwe Snail as part-time members of the Office of the Information Regulator, with effect from 1 December 2016 (Michalsons, 2016).

#### 3.10 COMMENCEMENT DATE OF THE POPI ACT

At the time of completing this thesis, the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) was still to be announced. However, the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013), as per Section 115, will be determined by the President of South Africa and there may be different dates of commencement for different provisions of the Act or with respect to the different classes of information and bodies. Since, the Office of the Information Regulator is now in place (Michalsons, 2016) the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) may be looming on the horizon.

The "Transitional Arrangements" section of the POPI Act (2013) within Chapter 11 specifies that within 1 year of the commencement date, compliance with the Act should be achieved by public and private institutions in South Africa, unless exemptions which are



gazetted are granted; however the time to comply as a result of an exemption may not exceed 3 years.

#### 3.11 RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE POPI ACT

The POPI Act (2013) presents the risk of non-compliance. Therefore, in the event compliance with the POPI Act (2013) is not achieved, members of the South African public and private institutions may be fined up to R10 million, face imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment. Furthermore, institutions may risk suffering reputational damage, loss of customers and may have to pay out millions in damages due to civil class action (Michalsons, 2014). As a result, Milo and Ampofo-Anti (2014) state that once the POPI Act (2013) is enforced: "tightening-up security measures only after a breach has occurred will become an expensive luxury, and one that may be academic if your reputation - or your wallet - doesn't survive the breach".

#### 3.12 OPPORTUNITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE POPI ACT

Chivers and Kafouris (2013) state that complying with the POPI Act (2013) is not: "just about obeying the law; it's essential to doing business in a data-driven world - and has tangible benefits for profitability and competitiveness - giving a company that gets compliant early a competitive advantage". Similarly, Rees (2016) argues from a business perspective that institutions need to manage their data better, not as a result of legislation, since doing so makes good business sense. In addition, to the aforementioned opportunities associated with the POPI Act (2013), Gerber and Skolmen (2015) highlighted that compliance with the Act may lead to an improvement in data quality from an integrity perspective, enhancement of business processes that may lead to greater efficiency, savings due to the prevention of data breaches of personal information, potential new business opportunities from institutions in the European Union (EU) as well as enhanced customer relationships and trust.

From a consumer perspective, the POPI Act (2013) provides an opportunity to protect personal information by enforcing a greater deal of accountability and responsibility on South African institutions who collect, retain, disseminate and use personal information of



# Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation

consumers. Most importantly for consumers, South African institutions will no longer be able to conceal a data breach, negligence or accident associated with personal information from the impacted consumers and the public at large.

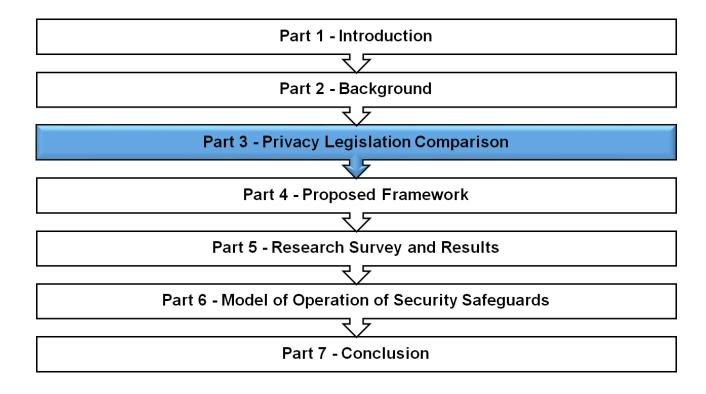
#### 3.13 Conclusion

This chapter concluded Part 2 (Background) of this thesis, by providing an overview of the South African response to privacy legislation in the form of the POPI Act (2013). In so doing, an understanding was provided in terms of the need for privacy legislation in South Africa, the country's journey from the POPI Bill to an Act, the purpose of the POPI Act (2013), personal information defined in terms of the POPI Act (2013), applicability, accountability and exclusions of the POPI Act (2013), the requirements of the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7, the establishment of an Information Regulator and the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) followed by the risks and opportunities associated with the Act.

Part 3 (Privacy Legislation Comparison) of this thesis which consists of Chapter 4 follows this chapter and provides an analysis in terms of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines.



# **PART 3 - PRIVACY LEGISLATION COMPARISON**





# CHAPTER 4 - EXTENT TO WHICH THE PRIVACY LEGISLATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND SOUTH AFRICA ADDRESSES THE INTERNATIONAL 2013 OECD GUIDELINES

Chapter 2 - Background  Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape  Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation  Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 1 - Introduction
Part 2 - Background  Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape  Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation  Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	75
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape  Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation  Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Cnapter 1 - Introduction
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape  Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation  Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Port 2 Posterround
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation  Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 2 - Background
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison  Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	₹5
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines  Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	75
Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison
Part 4 - Proposed Framework  Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chartest Fishert which the Driver of a significant for the Fisher and Court Africa and Cour
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Dout A. Dronosod Francounds
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results  Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 4 - Proposed Framework
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey  Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	75
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 5 - Research Survey and Results
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act  Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 6 POR Passarah Survey
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 6 - POPTResearch Survey
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards  Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chanter 7 Level of Compliance with the PORI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the PORI Act
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards  Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 7 - Lever of Compinance with the POPTACE and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPTACE
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards Part 7 - Conclusion	Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards Part 7 - Conclusion	75
Part 7 - Conclusion	Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
<b>V</b>	Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
<b>V</b>	7
	Part 7 - Conclusion
Chapter 10 - Conclusion	Chapter 10 - Conclusion



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

#### 4.1 Introduction

Chapter 2 explored the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy and provided an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape. Chapter 3 focused on the privacy legislation adopted by South Africa in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013). This chapter addresses research question 1 - To what extent does the privacy legislation of the European Union (EU) and South Africa address the international 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines?

In so doing, the rationale for analysing the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, is provided. This is followed by an overview of the OECD international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy as well as the EU and South African privacy legislation. Thereafter, an analysis is performed to address the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa address the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. Lastly, this analysis gives rise to a critical evaluation in terms of the similarities and differences associated with the privacy legislation compared in this chapter.

#### 4.2 RATIONALE

Several researchers such as Dowling (2009), De Bruyn (2014), and Botha et al. (2015) have compared the privacy legislation of specific countries or regions. Dowling (2009) compared the EU privacy legislation, the Data Protection Directive (1995), to several countries within Europe and around the globe. De Bruyn (2014) compared the POPI Act (2013) (limited to the 8 conditions) to the privacy legislation of the United Kingdom. Botha et al. (2015) compared the POPI Act (2013) (limited to the 8 conditions) to the privacy legislation of the EU as well as the United Kingdom, United States of America (USA) and Australia.



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

However, at the time of conducting research as part of this thesis, the extent to which the EU and South African privacy legislation addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes the 8 privacy principles, had not been explored. Furthermore, the rationale for selecting the EU privacy legislation for comparison as part of this research is due to South African privacy legislation favouring the European concept to protect personal information as cited by Stein (2012) and Perumall (2013), and which according to Birnhack (2008) was largely motivated by international trade and for participation in the global economy (Roos, 2007).

# 4.3 OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of the OECD international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy as well as the EU and South African privacy legislation as these form the basis for the comparison as part of the analysis conducted in this chapter.

# 4.3.1 THE INTERNATIONAL OECD GUIDELINES ON TRANS-BORDER DATA FLOWS AND THE PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

As mentioned in Chapter 2, in 1980 the OECD adopted international guidelines on transborder data flows and the protection of privacy. The guidelines included 8 privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) to govern the preservation of privacy and trans-border flow of personal data (OECD, 1980). The international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy were revised by the OECD in 2013 to make provision for the basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, national implementation, international co-operation and interoperability as well as implementing accountability (OECD, 2013). The 8 privacy principles prescribed within the international guidelines by the OECD in 1980 remained unchanged in the 2013 revision (Kuschewsky, 2014).



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

#### 4.3.2 EUROPEAN UNION PRIVACY LEGISLATION

Privacy legislation in the EU takes the form of the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995. The purpose of the Data Protection Directive (1995) as outlined in Article 1 is to ensure that: "member states shall protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons, and in particular, their right to privacy with respect to the processing of personal data." In addition, the Data Protection Directive (1995) encourages the free flow of personal data between member states as long as privacy is preserved.

Article 2 of the Data Protection Directive (1995) defines personal data as: "any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity."

The protection of personal data as promoted by the Data Protection Directive (1995) is applicable to all EU member states. However, each EU member state enacts their own privacy laws based on the Data Protection Directive (1995), utilising the 7 Chapters (including 34 Articles) as provided in Appendix C of this thesis.

The Data Protection Directive (1995) is not a regulation and this has allowed EU member states to interpret and apply the Directive in an inconsistent manner within their own enacted privacy legislation (Lynch, 2013). For example, Chapter 3 of the Directive (1995) makes provision for judicial remedies, liability and sanctions, however the conditions, actual penalties and enforcement in the event of a breach of personal information differs for each EU member state.

As a result, in 2012 the European Commission proposed that the Data Protection Directive (1995) be replaced by the General Data Protection Regulation (2012). This proposal marked a paradigm shift from "directive" to "regulation" that sought to provide a single data protection law applicable to all EU member states, thus preventing the need for individual privacy legislation by each member state. Greens (2015) envisaged that the General Data



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

Protection Regulation will be adopted by the end of 2015 and will be followed by a twoyear transition period to allow EU member states to comply, followed by the enforcement of the regulation. During the course of this thesis, on 27 April 2016 the European Parliament published the General Data Protection Regulation (2016) which will be effective from 25 May 2018 within all EU member states.

#### 4.3.3 SOUTH AFRICAN PRIVACY LEGISLATION

The South African privacy legislation was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the POPI Act (2013). Chapter 3 of this thesis provides a detailed overview of the POPI Act (2013). In summary, the POPI Act (2013) promotes the lawful processing of personal information by South African public and private institutions as per the minimum requirements specified within 12 Chapters (including 8 Conditions), as reflected in Appendix B. An Information Regulator has to be established in terms of Section 39 of the POPI Act (2013) to promote, enforce and monitor compliance with the Act. Although the POPI Act (2013) was signed into law on 26 November 2013, the commencement date of the Act is still to be announced.

# 4.4 ANALYSIS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND SOUTH AFRICAN PRIVACY LEGISLATION IN RELATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL 2013 OECD GUIDELINES

The analysis uses the OECD's 8 privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) as well as the additional focus areas (implementing accountability, basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, national implementation and international co-operation and interoperability) of the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, as the basis for comparison.

As a result, Table 4.1 on the next page provides the first component of the analysis, which evaluates the extent to which the EU Data Protection Directive (1995) addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines.



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

Table 4.1: Extent to which the EU Data Protection Directive addresses the International 2013

OECD Guidelines

Number	Description of the international 2013 OECD guideline on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the EU Data Protection Directive of 1995
	Privacy principle: Collection	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
1	limitation	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
	Privacy principle: Data	(Articles 5 and 6).  Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
2	quality	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
2	quanty	(Article 6).
	Privacy principle: Purpose	,
3	specification	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
		(Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11).
	Privacy principle: Use	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
4	limitation	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
		(Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20 and 21).
	Privacy principle: Security	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
5	safeguards	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
		(Articles 16 and 17).
	Privacy principle: Openness	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
6		lawfulness of the processing of personal data
		(Articles 12 and 13).
	Privacy principle: Individual	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
7	participation	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
		(Articles 14 and 15).
8	Privacy principle:	Yes - Chapter 1: General provisions (Article 4)
	Accountability	and Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

	Description of the	
	international 2013 OECD	Paguiroment addressed by the EU Data
Number	guideline on trans-border	Requirement addressed by the EU Data
	data flows and the	Protection Directive of 1995
	protection of privacy	
		of the processing of personal data (Article 6).
_	Other focus areas:	No - Specific reference is not made to a privacy
	Implementing accountability	management programme.
9	- Privacy management	
	programme	
	Other focus areas:	Yes - Chapter 6: Supervisory authority and
10	Implementing accountability	working party on the protection of individuals
10	- Privacy enforcement	with regard to the processing of personal data
	authorities	(Article 28).
	Other focus areas:	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the
44	Implementing accountability	lawfulness of the processing of personal data
11	- Data security breach	(Article 18).
	notification	
	Other focus areas: Basic	Yes - Chapter 4: Transfer of personal data to
	principles of international	third countries (Articles 25 and 26).
12	application in terms of free	
12	flow and legitimate	
	restrictions - Trans-border	
	flows of personal data	
	Other focus areas: National	No - The European Union Data Protection
	implementation	Directive is not a regulation; it is a directive. As
13		a result, Chapter 1: Article 4 states that each
		member state shall apply the national
		provisions it adopts pursuant to the directive.
14	Other focus areas:	Yes - Chapter 4: Transfer of personal data to



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

Number	Description of the international 2013 OECD guideline on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the EU Data Protection Directive of 1995
	International co-operation and interoperability	third countries (Articles 25 and 26).

As per Table 4.1 above, the EU Data Protection Directive (1995) addresses the 8 privacy principles from the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. However, the EU Data Protection Directive (1995) does not make reference to a privacy management programme to address the national implementation requirement as it is not a regulation; it is a directive.

Similarly, Table 4.2 below provides the second component of the analysis, which evaluates the extent to which the South African POPI Act (2013) addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines.

Table 4.2: Extent to which the South African POPI Act addresses the International 2013

OECD Guidelines

Number	Description of the international 2013 OECD guideline on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the South African POPI Act
1	Privacy principle: Collection limitation	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Conditions 2, 3 and 4).
2	Privacy principle: Data quality	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

	Description of the	
Number	international 2013 OECD	Requirement addressed by the South
	guideline on trans-border	•
	data flows and the	African POPI Act
	protection of privacy	
		5).
3	Privacy principle: Purpose	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
	specification	processing of personal information (Conditions
		3 and 4).
4	Privacy principle: Use	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
	limitation	processing of personal information (Conditions
		2, 3 and 4) and Chapter 6: Prior authorisation.
5	Privacy principle: Security	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
	safeguards	processing of personal information (Condition
		7).
6	Privacy principle: Openness	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
		processing of personal information (Condition
		6).
	Privacy principle: Individual	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
7	participation	processing of personal information (Condition
		8).
8	Privacy principle:	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
	Accountability	processing of personal information (Condition
		1).
9	Other focus areas:	No - Specific reference is not made to a privacy
	Implementing accountability	management programme. However, chapter 11
	- Privacy management	makes reference to an administrative fine being
	programme	enforced in the event of failure to conduct a risk
		assessment and maintain good policies,
		procedures and practices to protect personal



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

	Description of the	
Number	international 2013 OECD	Paguiroment addressed by the South
	guideline on trans-border	Requirement addressed by the South
	data flows and the	African POPI Act
	protection of privacy	
		information.
10	Other focus areas:	Yes - Chapter 5: Information regulator.
	Implementing accountability	
	- Privacy enforcement	
	authorities	
11	Other focus areas:	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful
	Implementing accountability	processing of personal information (Condition
	- Data security breach	7).
	notification	
	Other focus areas: Basic	Yes - Chapter 9: Trans-border information
	principles of international	flows.
12	application in terms of free	
12	flow and legitimate	
	restrictions - Trans-border	
	flows of personal data	
	Other focus areas: National	Yes - The Protection of Personal Information
	implementation	Act is applicable to all public and private
		institutions in South Africa. At this stage the Act
		was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The
12		enforcement date for the POPI Act (2013) is still
13		to be announced. Thereafter, a one year
		transition period will apply to allow all public and
		private institutions in South Africa to comply
		with the POPI Act (2013), after which
		enforcement will be monitored by the



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

Number	Description of the international 2013 OECD guideline on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the South  African POPI Act
		Information Regulator.
14	Other focus areas: International co-operation and interoperability	Yes - Chapter 5: Information regulator (cooperating on a national and international basis with other persons and bodies concerned with the protection of personal information).

In terms of the South African POPI Act (2013) as per Table 4.2 above, the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, including the 8 privacy principles are addressed. The only exception is that no specific reference is made to a privacy management programme within the POPI Act (2013). However, reference is made to an administrative fine being enforced in the event of failure to conduct a risk assessment and maintain good policies, procedures and practices to protect personal information.

#### 4.5 Critical Evaluation - Similarities and Differences

The critical evaluation of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines, led to the identification of similarities and differences between these pieces of legislation.

The EU's privacy legislation which takes the form of the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the South African privacy legislation in the form of the POPI Act (2013) are similar in that both address all 8 privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) specified within the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. The provision of the 8 privacy principles by the Data Protection



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) is critical, as according to Greenleaf (2013), data privacy laws can only be effective if they include a comprehensive set of data privacy principles that are compliant with international standards, such as the 8 privacy principles specified within the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy.

Furthermore, the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) are similar in that both do not make provision for a privacy management programme as specified within the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. An adequate privacy management programme has to be defined, implemented and subjected to review from a privacy enforcement authority to uphold the accountability privacy principle and ensure that notice is provided to the privacy enforcement authority in the event of a breach of personal data (OECD, 2013). However, from a POPI Act (2013) perspective, to overcome the shortcoming related to the lack of a privacy management programme, Chapter 11 of the POPI Act (2013), makes reference to an administrative fine being enforced in the event of failure to conduct a risk assessment and to maintain good policies, procedures and practices to protect personal information. In addition, a privacy enforcement authority in the form of the Information Regulator, as specified in Chapter 5 of the POPI Act (2013), is required to monitor enforcement and receive notifications relating to breaches of personal data.

The major difference between the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) is that the latter is enforceable, compared to the Data Protection Directive (1995) which is not enforceable. As such, the national implementation requirement as specified within the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy is addressed by the POPI Act (2013), compared to the Data Protection Directive (1995) where it is not addressed. This is due to the Data Protection Directive (1995) not being enforceable as it is a directive rather than a regulation and, as such, is viewed as a guideline to serve as a frame of reference for EU member states when developing and enacting their own privacy legislation. However, this shortcoming is



Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the EU and SA addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines

being addressed by the General Data Protection Regulation (2016) which was published on 27 April 2016 and will become effective from 25 May 2018 within all EU member states.

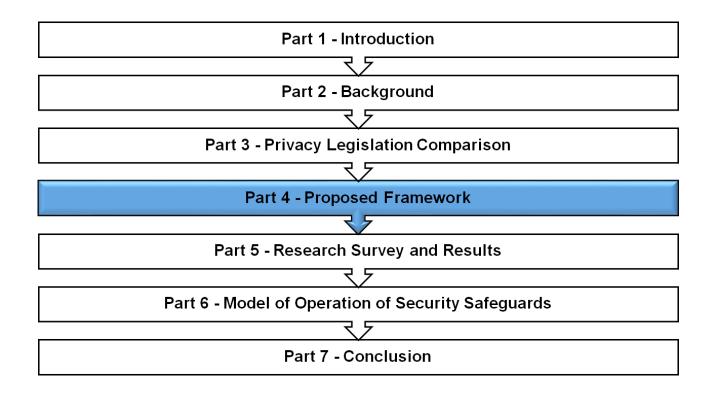
## 4.6 Conclusion

Part 3 (Privacy Legislation Comparison) of this thesis was concluded in terms of Chapter 4, which provided the rationale for analysing the extent to which the EU and South African privacy legislation addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. This was followed by an overview of the OECD international guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy as well as the EU and South African privacy legislation. Thereafter, the research question associated with this chapter was addressed by analysing the extent to which EU and South African privacy legislation respectively address the international 2013 OECD guidelines on transborder data flows and the protection of privacy. Lastly, a critical evaluation in terms of the similarities and differences associated with the privacy legislation compared within the chapter was provided.

This chapter is followed by Part 4 (Proposed Framework) of this thesis, which consists of Chapter 5 that proposes a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information in order to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).



# **PART 4 - PROPOSED FRAMEWORK**





# CHAPTER 5 - PROPOSED FRAMEWORK WITH A SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

Part 1 - Introduction				
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Chapter 1 - Introduction				
Part 2 - Background				
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape				
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Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation				
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Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines				
Part 4 - Proposed Framework				
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Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards				
₹.				
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results				
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey				
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act				
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards				
35				
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards				
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards				
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Saleguards				
Part 7 - Conclusion				
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Chapter 10 - Conclusion				



## 5.1 Introduction

Chapter 4 assessed the extent to which the privacy legislation of the European Union (EU) and South Africa addresses the international 2013 Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. This chapter addresses research question 2 - How can South African institutions, who store, process and transmit electronic personal information achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), including the security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?

This chapter proposes a framework that encapsulates a selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. In doing so, the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) are provided followed by an overview and basis for the proposed framework as well as a description of each phase of the proposed framework, including a selection of security safeguards. In addition, a critical evaluation in terms of the benefits and limitations associated with the proposed framework is provided.

#### 5.2 REQUIREMENTS OF CONDITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT

Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) specifically requires the implementation of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information (Section 19), the definition of responsibilities for handling personal information (Section 20), clear responsibilities for an operator processing personal information (Section 21) as well as the need for notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information (Section 22).

However, as per the research problem identified in Chapter 1, the legislative requirement of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) defined in sections 19, 20, 21 and 22 is not supported by specific guidance in terms of how the requirement should be satisfied. There is also no specific guidance on the security safeguards, as required in Section 19, to



ensure the confidentiality and integrity of specifically electronic personal information for the purpose of this thesis.

## 5.3 OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED POPI CONDITION 7 FRAMEWORK

In order to address the research question in this Chapter as a result of the shortcoming of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), in terms of specific guidance to achieve the requirements of sections 19, 20, 21 and 22, the "POPI Condition 7 framework" as illustrated in Figure 5.1 below is proposed. This framework provides in 4 distinct phases ("Identify", "Secure", "Monitor and Report" and "Remediate") an approach, which includes a specific selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase, to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information.

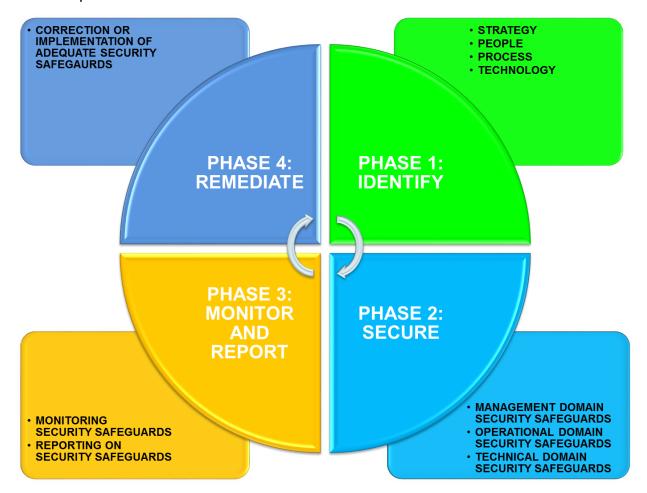


Figure 5.1: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework to Address the Requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act in Relation to Electronic Personal Information



The "Identify" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is focused on the identification of electronic personal information. This is followed by the "Secure" phase that aims to secure electronic personal information, which has been identified that needs to be protected through the selection and implementation of security safeguards. The next phase, "Monitor and Report", ensures that electronic personal information remains protected and in instances when the protection is not in place, this should be reported in order to initiate remedial action. The final phase, "Remediate", addresses remedial action to ensure that the protection of electronic personal information is maintained.

## 5.4 Basis of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework

The 4-phased approach taken in the POPI Condition 7 framework leverages off the principles from the quality assurance model known as Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) applied to the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) management system standards (British Standards Institute (BSI), 2013) as illustrated in Figure 5.2 below.

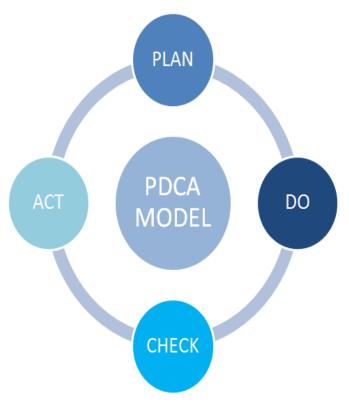


Figure 5.2: Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) Model Source: Adapted from BSI (2014)



The "Plan" phase analyses the current environment, establishes objectives, sets interim targets for review and defines plans to achieve these targets (BSI, 2013). This is followed by the "Do" phase which is focused on the implementation of the defined plans. The "Check" phase measures the actual results against planned objectives (BSI, 2013). Lastly, the "Act" phase aims to correct and improve plans to meet or exceed planned objectives (BSI, 2013).

The PDCA model was adopted in an information security context in terms of the ISO 27001 standard (BSI, 2005). The ISO 27001 standard (BSI, 2005) prescribed the use of the PDCA model to implement an information security management system (ISMS) as a means to effectively manage the information assets of an organisation. Electronic personal information is an information asset and the 4-phased approach of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework for protecting electronic personal information is closely aligned to the principles of the PDCA model. Table 5.1 below, provides a description of each phase of the PDCA model in terms of implementing an ISMS and the alignment to the 4 phases of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework.

Table 5.1: Alignment between the Phases of the PDCA Model and the Proposed POPI

Condition 7 Framework

Number	PDCA phase	Proposed POPI Condition 7 framework phase		
1	Plan - Establish an	"Identify" - Identification of electronic personal		
	ISMS.	information.		
		"Secure" - Securing the electronic personal		
2	Do - Implement and	information identified that needs to be protected		
	operate the ISMS.	through the selection and implementation of		
		security safeguards.		
		"Monitor and Report" - Monitoring and reporting to		
	Check - Monitor and	ensure that the electronic personal information		
3	review the ISMS.	remains protected and instances when the		
	Teview the ISIVIS.	protection is not in place this should be reported in		
		order to initiate remedial action.		



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

Number	PDCA phase	Proposed POPI Condition 7 framework phase		
4	Act - Maintain and	"Remediate" - Remedial action taken to ensure the protection of electronic personal information is		
improve the ISMS.	maintained.			

# 5.5 Phases of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

The 4 distinct phases ("Identify", "Secure", "Monitor and Report" and "Remediate") of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework with a specific selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase, address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. Subsections 5.5.1 to 5.5.4 unpacks each phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework. Furthermore, the specific selection of security safeguards is provided as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework within subsection 5.5.2.3.

# 5.5.1 PHASE 1: IDENTIFY

Phase 1 ("Identify") of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework focuses on the identification of electronic personal information and consists of 4 key perspectives: Strategy, People, Process and Technology as illustrated in Figure 5.3 below.

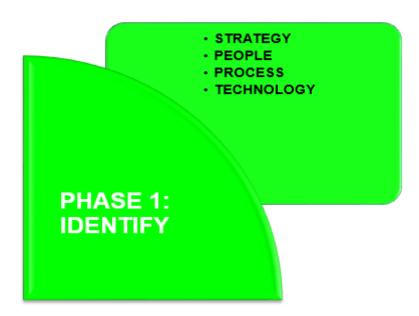


Figure 5.3: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 1 (Identify)



The key perspectives as illustrated in Figure 5.3 are unpacked below from subsection 5.5.1.1 to 5.5.1.4.

## **5.5.1.1 STRATEGY PERSPECTIVE**

The strategic perspective considers whether an institution has identified the threats and vulnerabilities associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information and developed a strategy to mitigate the risk, thereby demonstrating strategic intent to comply and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 5.5.1.2 PEOPLE PERSPECTIVE

From a people perspective, this phase questions whether the relevant internal and external stakeholders have been identified who will drive the initiative to comply and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

## 5.5.1.3 PROCESS PERSPECTIVE

The process perspective consists of the identification of manual and automated business processes within the institution which store, process and transmit personal information as defined by the POPI Act (2013). Thereafter, the personal information identified should be categorised as personal information that is stored, processed and transmitted in electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) as opposed to non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems).

## 5.5.1.4 TECHNOLOGY PERSPECTIVE

Lastly, the technology perspective identifies the extent to which technology may be leveraged to safeguard electronic personal information.

The "Identify" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is followed by the "Secure" phase as discussed below.



## 5.5.2 Phase 2: Secure

Phase 2 ("Secure") is premised on selecting security safeguards commonly referred to as security controls to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information identified in Phase 1 ("Identify"). This subsection, provides a definition for a security safeguard and the source of the selection of security safeguards. This is followed by the specific selection of security safeguards within 3 domains (management, operational and technical) to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. Lastly, a summary and the source of the specific selection of security safeguards within the 3 domains (management, operational and technical), which form part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is provided.

## 5.5.2.1 DEFINITION OF A SECURITY SAFEGUARD

A security safeguard, commonly referred to as a control as per the Control Objectives for Information and related Technology (COBIT) framework (ISACA, 2007), is defined as: "policies, procedures, practices and organisational structures designed to provide reasonable assurance that business objectives will be achieved and that undesired events will be prevented or detected and corrected." In line with the definition provided by the COBIT framework (ISACA, 2007), preventative, detective and corrective control categories exist. Preventative controls are designed to prevent the unauthorised disclosure and manipulation of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014b). In comparison, a detective control intends to detect while corrective controls aim to correct a scenario of unauthorised disclosure and manipulation of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014b). Furthermore, preventative, detective and corrective controls may be classified as technical (for example a firewall) or non-technical (for example, an information security policy or data classification policy) (ISACA, 2014b).

## 5.5.2.2 Source of the Selection of Security Safeguards

The source of the selection of security safeguards within the "Secure" phase is derived from several leading practices formulated by leading practice institutions including the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), the National Institute of



Standards and Technology (NIST), the Office of Government Commerce United Kingdom (OGCUK) and the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO). These leading practices which serve as a source for the selection of security safeguards are grouped by leading practice institutions and unpacked from subsections 5.5.2.2.1 to 5.5.2.2.4 to follow.

# 5.5.2.2.1 Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA)

ISACA first introduced the COBIT framework in 1996 with a primary focus on audit (Stroud, 2012). From 1996, the COBIT framework evolved into COBIT 2 in 1998, which focused on controls to COBIT 3 in 2000, which expanded to include the management aspects of information technology, to COBIT 4.1 in 2007 which highlighted information technology governance. The latest version of the COBIT framework, COBIT 5, was released in 2012 and focuses on the governance of enterprise information technology (Stroud, 2012) by creating optimal value from information technology through maintaining a balance between releasing benefits, optimising risk levels and resource usage (ISACA, 2014c).

The governance and management of enterprise information technology is underpinned by 5 key principles within COBIT 5 - namely, meeting stakeholder needs, covering the enterprise end to end, applying a single integrated framework, enabling a holistic approach and separating governance from management (ISACA, 2014c). These 5 principles are complemented by a series of enablers - principles, policies and frameworks, processes, organisational structures, culture, ethics and behavior, information, services, infrastructure and applications as well as people, skills and competencies (ISACA, 2014c). In addition, as illustrated in Figure 5.4 on the next page, COBIT 5 (ISACA, 2014c) consists of 5 governance processes encapsulated within the evaluate, direct and monitor (EDM) domain as well as 32 management processes encapsulated within 4 domains - align, plan and organise (APO), build, acquire and implement (BAI), deliver, service and support (DSS) and monitor, evaluate and assess (MEA).



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

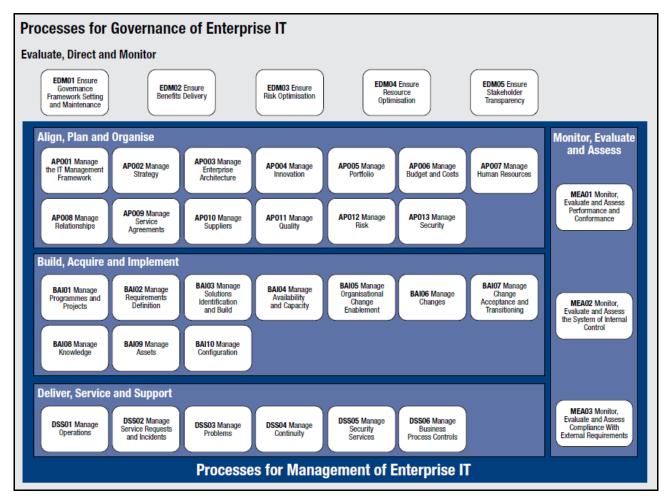


Figure 5.4: COBIT 5 Process Reference Model
Source: ISACA (2014c)

Furthermore, ISACA also developed the Risk IT framework in 2009 to provide guiding principles to identify, govern and effectively manage IT risk within institutions (ISACA, 2009). The guiding principles of the Risk IT framework includes a connection to business objectives, alignment of IT risk management with overall enterprise risk management, balancing the costs and benefits of managing IT risk, promoting fair and open communication of IT risk, establishing the right tone and accountability at the top as well as embedding the IT risk management process into daily activities (ISACA, 2009). In addition, the Risk IT framework (ISACA, 2009) is supported by a process model that includes 3 domains (risk governance, risk evaluation and risk response) with each domain consisting of 3 processes (the risk governance domain - to establish and maintain a common risk view, integrate with enterprise risk management and make risk aware

## Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

business decisions, the risk evaluation domain - to collect data, analyse risk and maintain a risk profile and the risk response domain - to articulate risk, manage risk, react to events) as illustrated in Figure 5.5 below.

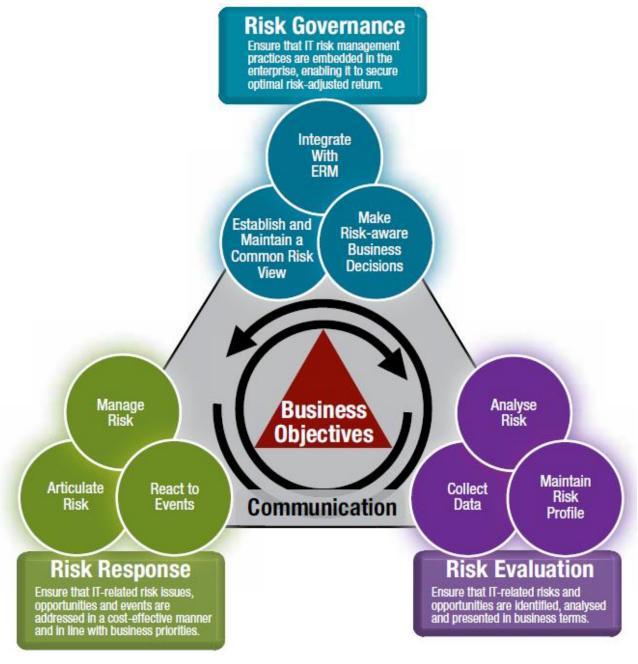


Figure 5.5: Risk IT Framework

Source: ISACA (2009)



# 5.5.2.2.2 NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST)

The NIST in the United States of America (USA) develops information security standards, guidelines and specifies the minimum requirements for federal information systems (2013). As a result, the NIST Special Publication 800-53 (2013) provides guidelines for selecting and specifying security controls to meet the Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems as required by the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS).

Revision 3 of the NIST Special Publication 800-53 was released in August 2009 (NIST, 2009) and this was followed by Revision 4 (NIST, 2013), which was released in April 2013. The NIST Special Publication 800-53 (2013) groups security controls into 18 families as illustrated in Table 5.2 below.

Table 5.2: NIST 18 Families of Security Controls
Source: Adapted from NIST (2013)

Number	Security control family ID	Security control family name
1	AC	Access Control
2	AT	Awareness and Training
3	AU	Audit and Accountability
4	CA	Security Assessment and Authorization
5	CM	Configuration Management
6	СР	Contingency Planning
7	IA	Identification and Authentication
8	IR	Incident Response
9	MA	Maintenance
10	MP	Media Protection
11	PE	Physical and Environmental Protection
12	PL	Planning
13	PS	Personnel Security
14	RA	Risk Assessment
15	SA	System and Services Acquisition



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

Number	Security control family ID	Security control family name	
16	SC	System and Communications Protection	
17	SI	System and Information Integrity	
18	PM	Program Management	

Each of the 18 families of security controls listed in Table 5.2 above consists of the related security controls, for example, the Audit and Accountability family includes 16 security controls as illustrated in Table 5.3 below.

Table 5.3: Security Controls from the Audit and Accountability Family
Source: Adapted from NIST (2013)

Security control family		Audit and Accountability		
Number   Security control ID		Security control name		
1	AU-1	Audit and Accountability Policy and Procedures		
2	AU-2	Audit Events		
3	AU-3	Content of Audit Records		
4	AU-4	Audit Storage Capacity		
5	AU-5	Response to Audit Processing Failures		
6	AU-6	Audit Review, Analysis, and Reporting		
7	AU-7	Audit Reduction and Report Generation		
8	AU-8	Time Stamps		
9	AU-9	Protection of Audit Information		
10	AU-10	Non-Repudiation		
11	AU-11	Audit Record Retention		
12	AU-12	Audit Generation		
13	AU-13	Monitoring for Information Disclosure		
14	AU-14	Session Audit		
15	AU-15	Alternate Audit Capability		
16	AU-16	Cross-Organisational Auditing		



# 5.5.2.2.3 OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT COMMERCE UNITED KINGDOM (OGCUK)

The OGCUK developed the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) framework as an approach to IT service management (OGCUK, 2007a). This framework is currently in its third revision which was released in 2007 and addresses service lifecycle governance processes which is comprised of continual service improvement and service strategy processes, while service lifecycle operational processes is comprised of service design, service transition and service operation processes as illustrated in Figure 5.6 below (OGCUK, 2007a). In addition, each of the aforementioned components are supported by underlining processes, for example as illustrated in Figure 5.6, service strategy processes are supported by demand management, strategy generation, service portfolio management and information technology financial management processes.

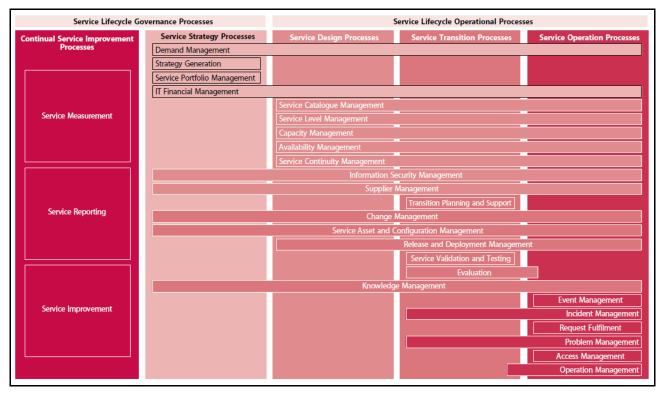


Figure 5.6: Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) Framework
Source: OGCUK (2007a)



# 5.5.2.2.4 International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO)

The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) in 2005 developed an Information Security Management System (ISMS) standard, ISO 27001 (BSI, 2005). In 2005, the ISO 27001 standard consisted of 133 controls across 11 groups (BSI, 2005). The latest revision to the ISO 27001 standard in 2013 consists of 14 groups, as illustrated in Table 5.4 below, which in turn comprise of 114 controls (ISO, 2013). For example, the Human Resource Security group within the ISO 27001 standard (ISO, 2013) consists of controls relating to prior employment (screening, terms and conditions of employment), during employment (management responsibilities, information security awareness, education and training as well as disciplinary process) as well as termination and change of employment (termination or change of employment responsibilities) controls.

Table 5.4: ISO 27001 - 14 Groups of Security Controls
Source: Adapted from ISO (2013)

Number	, , ,	Security group name (number of controls)	
	control ID		
1	A.5	Information Security Policies (2 Controls)	
2	A.6	Organisation of Information Security (7 Controls)	
3	A.7	Human Resource Security (6 Controls)	
4	A.8	Asset Management (10 Controls)	
5	A.9	Access Control (14 Controls)	
6	A.10	Cryptography (2 Controls)	
7	A.11	Physical and Environmental Security (15 Controls)	
8	A.12	Operations Security (14 Controls)	
9	A.13	Communications Security (7 Controls)	
10	A.14	System Acquisition, Development and Maintenance (13 Controls)	
11	A.15	Supplier Relationships (5 Controls)	
12	A.16	Information Security Incident Management (7 Controls)	
13	A.17	Information Security Aspects of Business Continuity Management (4 Controls)	



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

Number	Security group control ID	Security group name (number of controls)
14	A.18	Compliance (8 Controls)

Similarly in 2012, the ISO developed a business continuity management standard, ISO 22301 to assist institutions with the establishment, implementation, operation, monitoring, review, maintenance and improvement of business continuity capabilities in order to ensure continued operations in the event of a disruption (ISO, 2012). Furthermore, ISO 22301 specifies the requirements for setting up and managing a business continuity management system in 7 sections - context, leadership, planning, support, operation, evaluation and improvement (ISO, 2012).

## 5.5.2.3 Specific Selection of Security Safeguards

The security safeguards which form part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is not the selection and implementation of leading practices mentioned above such as COBIT (ISACA, 2014c) Risk IT (ISACA, 2009), NIST Special Publication 800-53 (NIST, 2009 and 2013), ITIL (OGCUK, 2007a and 2007b), ISO 27001 (BSI, 2005 and ISO, 2013) or ISO 2230 (Drewitt, 2013 and ISO, 2012) in its entirety. The security safeguards which form part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is instead a specific selection of security safeguards prescribed by the various leading practices as a means to address a specific requirement, which in this case is to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information and in so doing to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

NIST classifies security safeguards into 3 domains (2009). The first domain is the management domain, which focuses on managing risk by key stakeholders providing direction and intent to the protection of personal information initiative (NIST, 2009). The operational domain is the second domain, which focuses on people executing processes associated with managing and monitoring security safeguards (NIST, 2009). The third domain is the technical domain, which focuses on the implementation and execution of security safeguards driven by technology (NIST, 2009). As a result, the management,



operational and technical domains form the basis of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in that a selection of security safeguards are specifically proposed for each of the 3 domains as illustrated in Figure 5.7 below.



Figure 5.7: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 2 (Secure)

## 5.5.2.3.1 Management Domain Security Safeguards

As such, the management domain of the "Secure" phase consists of 5 security safeguards as illustrated in Figure 5.8 below.

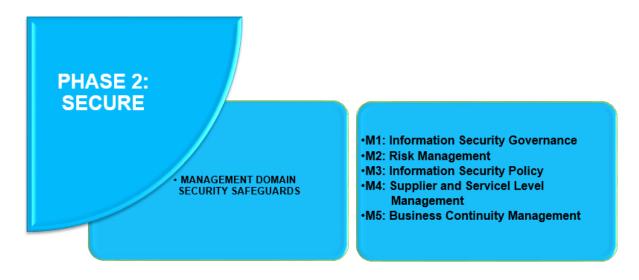


Figure 5.8: Secure Phase - Management Domain (5 Security Safeguards)



The first safeguard within the management domain is M1: Information Security Governance. This security safeguard is an integral part of governance that encompasses leadership, organisational structures as well as clear roles and responsibilities (ISACA, 2006 and ISO, 2013) for safeguarding electronic personal information. M2: Risk Management is the second safeguard within the management domain and requires the governance, evaluation and a response to risks presented by electronic personal information (ISACA, 2009 and 2014c). The third safeguard, M3: Information Security Policy, requires management direction and support for information security to be achieved through a formally defined and approved information security policy (ISO, 2013). M4: Supplier and Service Level Management is the fourth safeguard of the management domain which focuses on the contracts in place with third party operators external to the institution as well as internal stakeholders within the institution responsible for providing services in relation to electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c and OGCUK, 2007a). Lastly, the M5: Business Continuity Management safeguard addresses the ability to recover from a business interruption in the most effective and efficient manner (Drewitt, 2013, ISACA, 2014c, ISO 2012 and 2013), which includes the recovery of electronic personal information maintained by an institution.

#### 5.5.2.3.2 OPERATIONAL DOMAIN SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

The operational domain of the "Secure" phase consists of 6 security safeguards as illustrated in Figure 5.9 below.

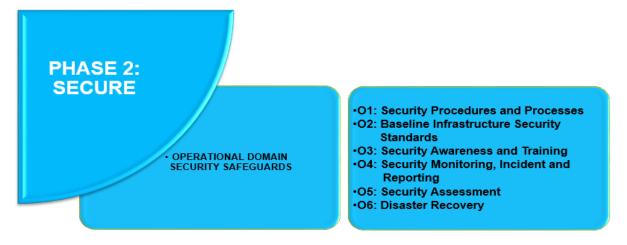


Figure 5.9: Secure Phase - Operational Domain (6 Security Safeguards)



## Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

The first security safeguard in the operational domain is O1: Security Procedures and Processes. This security safeguard addresses the security procedures and processes in place to maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. The security procedure and process areas to be considered include: change and configuration management, patch management, availability management, incident management, backup management, user account and access management (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b) as well as the management of encryption keys to secure data channels (BSI, 2005). O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security Standards is the second safeguard in the operational domain and focuses on all server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, web servers, network components (firewalls, routers, wireless) that form part of the technology infrastructure, to enable the protection of electronic personal information, baseline infrastructure security standards should be applied as a security safeguard to prevent the adoption of default configurations and to ensure consistent configurations (NIST, 2013). The third security safeguard in this domain is O3: Security Awareness and Training which focuses on employees, contractors or third party operators need to be provided with awareness and training with regards to information security (ISO, 2013, NIST, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b), with a specific focus on the security of electronic personal information. O4: Security Monitoring, Incident and Reporting is the fourth security safeguard in the operational domain that requires all audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure to be assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c, NIST, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b). Furthermore, the incident management processes may report a data breach of electronic personal information. The fifth security safeguard in this domain is O5: Security Assessment requiring regular security assessments to be performed in order to assess the security posture of the institution from a technical, organisational, procedural, administrative or physical security perspective (NIST, 2013 and Palmer et al., 2001). The last security safeguard in the operational domain is *O6: Disaster Recovery* which requires people, processes and technology associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information as well as to ensure continued operations to be defined (Drewitt, 2013, ISO 2012 and 2013, and NIST 2013).



## 5.5.2.3.3 TECHNICAL DOMAIN SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

Lastly, the technical domain of the "Secure" phase consists of 9 security safeguards as illustrated in Figure 5.10 below.

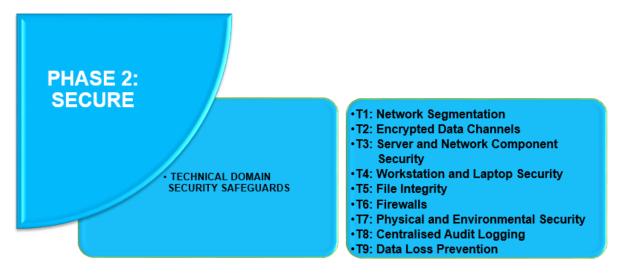


Figure 5.10: Secure Phase - Technical Domain (9 Security Safeguards)

T1: Network Segmentation is the first security safeguard in the technical domain. The segmentation of a network entails a logical grouping of related network assets, resources and applications (Solomon, 2011). As a result, all the application and database servers that respectively process and store personal information should be located on a dedicated network segment that is separated from the rest of the corporate network (NIST, 2013). The second security safeguard in this domain is T2: Encrypted Data Channels requiring all electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment to be encrypted and access to the data channels should be strictly monitored and controlled (ISO, 2013 and NIST, 2013). T3: Server and Network Component Security is the third security safequard in this domain which specifies that all server and network components should be configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards, 02 - Baseline infrastructure security standards, adopted in the operational domain (ISACA, 2014c and NIST, 2013). The fourth security safeguard in the technical domain is T4: Workstation and Laptop Security which requires all workstations and laptops to be configured as per the defined baseline infrastructure security standards adopted and be locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or install additional

Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

applications not authorised by the institution (ISACA, 2014c and NIST, 2013). T5: File Integrity is the fifth security safeguard in this domain and requires all configurations associated with server and network components to be associated with a unique value known as a hash value. The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations (ISACA, 2014c and OGCUK, 2007b). The sixth security safeguard in this domain is *T6: Firewalls* used to separate networks by controlling access and analysing traffic between networks (ISACA, 2013). As such a firewall should be used to separate the application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information located on a dedicated network segment from the rest of the corporate network (NIST, 2013). T7: Physical and Environmental Security is the seventh security safeguard in this domain requiring physical and environmental security safeguards in place within the server rooms hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information. Physical security safeguards to control access to the server rooms and environmental security safeguards to provide alternate power sources to ensure availability as well as to protect against environmental hazards such as floods and fire should be in place (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2013 and NIST, 2013). The eight security safeguard in this domain is T8: Centralised audit logging which requires audit logs to be maintained for all applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with storing, processing and transmitting electronic personal information. All the audit logs maintained should be sent to a centralised audit logging server where analysis may be performed to identify ineffective security safeguards as well as security incidents and to serve as the basis for conducting an investigation in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2013 and NIST, 2013). Lastly, the ninth security safeguard within the technical domain is T9: Data loss prevention, which entails the protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or at an end point (Kanagasingham, 2008). As such, to prevent the loss of electronic personal information specifically via workstations or laptops utilised by users to access applications processing personal information or databases storing personal information, data loss prevention should be implemented (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2012 and NIST, 2013).



## 5.5.2.4 SUMMARY AND SOURCE OF THE SPECIFIC SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

Table 5.5 below provides a summary of the specific selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework across the management, operational and technical domains. In addition, Table 5.5 provides the source of the security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information identified in Phase 1 ("Identify"). For example, the *M2: Risk Management* security safeguard of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework falls within the management domain and the source of the security safeguard are the COBIT and Risk IT leading practices developed by ISACA.

Table 5.5: Summary and Source of the Specific Selection of Security Safeguards

Selected security safeguard	ISACA	NIST	OGCUK	ISO
Mana	gement domai	n		
M1: Information Security Governance	COBIT			ISO
mir macmanen Gesamy Geremanes	002			27001
M2: Risk Management	COBIT			
WZ. Nok Wanagement	RISK IT			
M3: Information Security Policy				ISO
Wo. Information Security Folicy				27001
M4: Supplier and Service Level	COBIT		ITIL	
Management	OODII		1112	
				ISO
				22301
M5: Business Continuity Management	COBIT			
				ISO
				27001
Operational domain				
O1: Security Procedures and	COBIT		ITIL	ISO
Processes	OODII		1116	27001
O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security		NIST		
Standards		Special		



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

Selected security safeguard	ISACA	NIST	OGCUK	ISO
		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST		
O3: Security Awareness and Training		Special	ITIL	ISO
03. Security Awareness and Training		Publication	1111	27001
		800-53		
		NIST		
O4: Security Monitoring, Incident and	COBIT	Special	ITIL	
Reporting	COBIT	Publication	1111	
		800-53		
		NIST		
O5: Security Assessment		Special		
OS. Security Assessment		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST		ISO
		Special		22301
O6: Disaster Recovery		Publication		
		800-53		ISO
				27001
Tecl	hnical domain			
		NIST		
T1: Network Segmentation		Special		
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST		
T2: Encrypted Data Channels		Special		ISO
,		Publication		27001
		800-53		
T3: Server and Network Component	COBIT	NIST		
Security		Special		



Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

Selected security safeguard	ISACA	NIST	OGCUK	ISO
		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST		
T4: Workstation and Laptop Security	COBIT	Special		
14. Workstation and Laptop Security	COBIT	Publication		
		800-53		
T5: File Integrity	COBIT		ITIL	
		NIST		
T6: Firewalls		Special		
TO. FIIEWallS		Publication		
		800-53		
	COBIT	NIST		
T7: Physical and Environmental		Special		ISO
Security		Publication		27001
		800-53		
		NIST		
T8: Centralised Audit Logging	COBIT	Special		ISO
To. Certifalised Addit Logging	COBIT	Publication		27001
		800-53		
		NIST		ISO
TO: Data Lago Provention	CODIT	Special		
T9: Data Loss Prevention	COBIT	Publication		22301
		800-53		

The "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is followed by the "Monitor and Report" phase.

# 5.5.3 Phase 3: Monitor and Report

Phase 3, "Monitor and Report", consists of 2 aspects namely, monitoring and reporting as illustrated in Figure 5.11 on the next page. This phase ensures that the electronic personal



information remains protected and instances when the protection is not in place this should be reported in order to initiate remedial action.



Figure 5.11: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 3 (Monitor and Report)

The 2 aspects of this phase namely, "Monitor" and "Report" as illustrated in Figure 5.11 above are unpacked below in subsection 5.5.3.1 and 5.5.3.2 respectively.

## 5.5.3.1 MONITOR ASPECT

The "Monitor" aspect of this phase is dependent on the *O4: Security Monitoring, Incident and Reporting* security safeguard, which forms part of the operational domain (O4) of the "Secure" phase. As such, the "Monitor" aspect of this phase addresses the monitoring of the selection of security safeguards in the operational and technical domains implemented in the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework to ensure that the implemented security safeguards are working as intended.

#### 5.5.3.2 REPORT ASPECT

The "Report" aspect of this phase addresses reporting in terms of the effectiveness of the implemented security safeguards. In the event of a security compromise of electronic personal information, specific information regarding the compromise, such as the security



safeguard that was circumvented and the nature and extent of electronic personal information disclosed or modified, may be required. Furthermore, an inspection of the audit logs maintained on the centralised audit logging server, as required by *T8: Centralised Audit Logging*, may potentially provide information of how and by whom the security compromise was performed. All information gathered relating to the security compromise will need to be availed to internal stakeholders for further investigation as well as to the external Information Regulator to ensure compliance with Section 22 of Condition 7 (notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information) of the POPI Act (2013).

The "Monitor and Report" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is followed by the final phase known as the "Remediate" phase.

#### 5.5.4 PHASE 4: REMEDIATE

The final phase, "Remediate", as illustrated in Figure 5.12 below, addresses remedial action in the form of correction of security safeguards in place or the implementation of adequate security safeguards to ensure that the protection of electronic personal information is maintained.

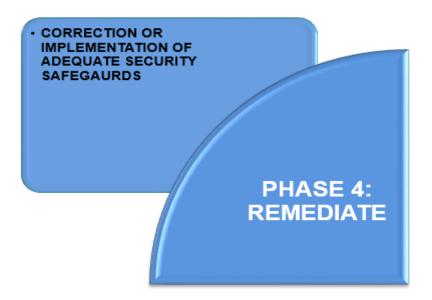


Figure 5.12: Proposed POPI Condition 7 Framework - Phase 4 (Remediate)



The correction of security safeguards in place or the implementation of adequate security safeguards as illustrated in Figure 5.12 on the previous page is unpacked below in subsection 5.5.4.1.

#### 5.5.4.1 CORRECTION OR IMPLEMENTATION OF ADEQUATE SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

During the "Monitor" aspect of Phase 3 of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, if it is identified that a security safeguard is not working as intended or a security compromise has occurred resulting in a circumvented security safeguard, immediate action should be taken as electronic personal information may be disclosed or modified, resulting in the compromise of electronic personal information. This compromise may negatively impact an institution from a compliance, financial and reputational perspective. As a result, the "Remediate" phase is aimed to correct the current security safeguard or implement an alternate adequate security safeguard to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information and to ultimately ensure compliance with Section 19 of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework through the 4 aforementioned phases clearly demonstrates an approach, which includes a specific selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase, to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. The section which follows provides a critical evaluation of the proposed POPI Condition 7.

## 5.6 CRITICAL EVALUATION - BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS

A critical evaluation of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework led to the identification of benefits and limitations associated with the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework.

A major benefit of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is that it provides South African institutions with a 4-phased ("Identify", "Secure", "Monitor and Report" and "Remediate") approach to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information, as illustrated in Table 5.6 on the next page.



Table 5.6: Condition 7 Requirements of the POPI Act Addressed by the Proposed POPI

Condition 7 Framework

Condition		Condition 7 requirement
7 section	Condition 7 requirement	addressed by the proposed
number		POPI Condition 7 framework
	The need to implement security safeguards	Phase 2 - "Secure"
19	to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of	
	personal information.	Phase 4 - "Remediate"
20	The responsibilities for handling personal	Phase 1 - "Identify"
	information.	Thase Tachtiny
21	The responsibilities of an operator	Phase 1 - "Identify"
	processing personal information.	Fliase 1 - Identily
	The need for notification in the event of a	Phase 3 - "Monitor and
22	security compromise of personal	Report"
	information.	
		Phase 4 - "Remediate"

According to Monty (2015), the POPI Act (2013) requires reasonable measures to be taken to protect personal information in order to reduce the risk of potential data breaches and the associated public relations and legal ramifications for an institution. As such, another benefit associated with the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is that the "Secure" phase provides South African institutions with specific guidance in terms of the reasonable measures, in the form of security safeguards, to consider for ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information required to ultimately achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework may be applied within any institution in the public or private sector, independent of the institution size or industry sector that is required to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information required to ultimately achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).



# Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards

The "Identify", "Monitor and Report", and "Remediate" phases of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework may be applied to personal information in both electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) and non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems). In addition, the security safeguards in the management and operational domains of the "Secure" phase may be applied to personal information in both electronic and non-electronic format.

Another benefit associated with the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is that a summary of the source in terms of leading practices is provided for in the selection of security safeguards within the "Secure" phase to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, as illustrated in Table 5.5 within section 5.5.2.4. This serves as a point of reference for further detailed guidance relating to the proposed security safeguards. For example, when addressing the disaster recovery security safeguard (O6 in Table 5.5 above within section 5.5.2.4), ISO 22301 and ISO 27001 as well as the NIST Special Publication 800-53 leading practices may provide the further guidance required. In addition, if an institution has for example implemented the COBIT leading practice, the source of the selection of security safeguards as listed in Table 5.5 above within section 5.5.2.4 may be used to assess the gap in terms of the security safeguards already in place as a result of implementing COBIT (such as M1: Information Security Governance, M2: Risk Management and O4: Security Monitoring, Incident and Reporting) and the security safeguards that still need to be implemented (M3: Information Security Policy or T2: Encrypted Data Channels). In addition, the source of the selection of security safeguards as listed in Table 5.5 above within section 5.5.2.4 may be used to explore appropriate leading practices in order to implement outstanding security safeguards, for example in terms of the T6: Firewalls security safeguard the NIST Special Publication 800-53 may be explored.

Lastly, from a benefit perspective the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is not the selection and implementation of leading practices such as COBIT (ISACA, 2014c) RISK IT (ISACA, 2009), NIST Special Publication 800-53 (NIST, 2009 and 2013), ITIL (OGCUK, 2007a and 2007b), ISO 27001 (BSI, 2005 and ISO, 2013) or ISO 2230 (Drewitt, 2013 and



ISO, 2012) in its entirety. However, the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is instead a specific selection of security safeguards prescribed by the various leading practices as a means to address a specific requirement, which in this case is to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) in relation to electronic personal information.

A limitation of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is that the security safeguards in the technical domain of the "Secure" phase is focused on the personal information stored, processed and transmitted in electronic format as opposed to non-electronic format. Furthermore, the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is limited to addressing only the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) in relation to electronic personal information.

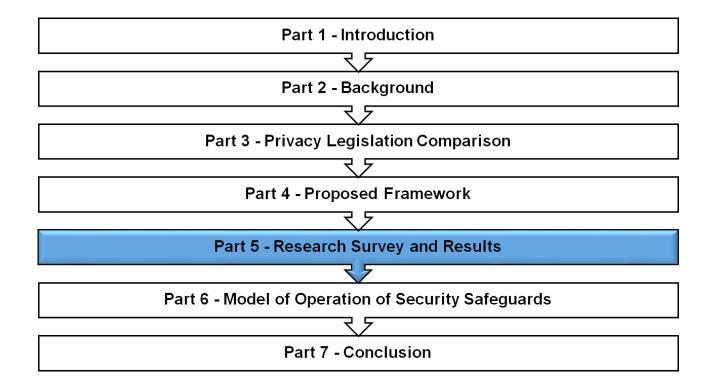
# 5.7 CONCLUSION

This chapter concluded Part 4 (Proposed Framework) of this thesis by outlining the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and then addressed the research question associated with this chapter by proposing the POPI Condition 7 framework to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework consisted of a 4-phased ("Identify", "Secure", "Monitor and Report" and "Remediate") approach, which encapsulates a specific selection of 20 security safeguards across 3 domains (management, operational and technical) as part of the "Secure" phase to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. Lastly, a critical evaluation in terms of the benefits and limitations associated with the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework was provided.

Part 5 (Research Survey and Results) of this thesis follows this chapter and is comprised of Chapter 6, 7 and 8 respectively. Chapter 6 which follows provides an overview of the POPI research survey used to address the research questions associated with Chapter 7 and 8 of this thesis.



# **PART 5 - RESEARCH SURVEY AND RESULTS**





# **CHAPTER 6 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY**

Part 1 - Introduction
Chapter 1 - Introduction
The state of the s
Part 2 - Background
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
₹
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation
Don't 2 Drivery Laviation Communican
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
35
Part 4 - Proposed Framework
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards
Chapter 3 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Salegualus
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results
*
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey
4.5
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
₹
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
35
Part 7 - Conclusion
Chapter 10 - Conclusion



## 6.1 Introduction

A framework to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013) was proposed in Chapter 5. The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework included a selection of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. This chapter provides an overview of the POPI research survey used to address research question 3 covered in Chapter 7, as well as research questions 4 and 5 covered in Chapter 8.

The overview of the POPI research survey includes the research design, research instrumentation, research group, data analysis approach and the POPI research survey results in terms of demographics, as it relates to the participants' institutions' sector (public versus private), industry sector and institution size.

## 6.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

Research may be descriptive, casual or exploratory in nature (Anusree et al., 2014). Descriptive research is pre-planned, aimed at observations based on characteristics and is more quantitative in nature by focusing on collecting data that can be inferred from a population (Anusree et al., 2014). Casual research is similar to descriptive research in that it is pre-planned and more quantitative in nature but differs in that is focuses on the cause and effect relationship between variables as opposed to the observational style of descriptive research (Anusree et al., 2014). Lastly, exploratory research differs from descriptive and casual research in that it is more qualitative in nature in that it focuses on the discovery of ideas and providing deeper insights (Anusree et al., 2014). As such, the research methodology adopted to address the research questions within Chapter 7 and 8 of this thesis is descriptive in nature.

According to Kothari (2004), the research methodology may be complemented by 2 research approaches. The first is a qualitative approach which is a subjective assessment of attitudes, opinions and behavior (Kothari, 2004). The second is a quantitative approach which focuses on the generation of data which may be subjected to quantitative analysis.



The quantitative approach, according to Kothari (2004), may be further classified as inferential (a sample of a population is studied, questioned or observed to identify characteristics that are inferred onto the overall population), experimental (specific variables may be manipulated to observe the effect on other variables) or simulation (creating an artificial environment to test conditions and generate data for further analysis).

As such, the research associated with Chapters 7 and 8 of this thesis is descriptive in nature and encompasses a quantitative inferential research approach executed through the use of an appropriate research instrument.

## 6.3 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION

Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey

The quantitative inferential research approach was executed through the use of a research survey as the preferred research instrument. This research survey is provided in Appendix D of this thesis and is referred to as the POPI research survey.

The POPI research survey consisted of an overview and contained 3 sections that comprised a total of 14 multiple choice questions which were carefully worded, unambiguous and objective. The first section of the POPI research survey, terms and conditions, had 1 question as listed below, which required all participants to electronically provide consent and to accept the terms and conditions of the POPI research survey before participating.

Question 1: Consent and Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

The second section of the POPI research survey, qualifying questions, comprised the following 2 questions, which assessed the validity of the participant to undertake the POPI research survey:

- Question 2: Does your organisation operate within South Africa?
- Question 3: Does your organisation within South Africa maintain electronic personal information and as a result is affected by the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?



The third section of the POPI research survey, main research questions, consisted of the following 11 questions aimed at addressing the research questions associated with Chapter 7 and 8 respectively. These 11 questions which were only made available to valid participants as a result of their institution operating in South Africa and maintaining electronic personal information, which resulted in them affected by the POPI Act (2013).

- Question 4: How would you rate your overall level of understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?
- Question 5: In which sector does your organisation operate?
- Question 6: Which industry sector best describes your organisation?
- Question 7: What is the size of your organisation?
- Question 8: How would you rate your organisation's overall compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?
- Question 9: How would you rate your organisation's overall compliance to ensuring confidentiality (prevention of unauthorised disclosure) and integrity (prevention of unauthorised modification) of electronic personal information as required the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?
- Question 10: What do you estimate is the financial value of electronic personal information maintained by your organisation?
- Question 11: What are the focus areas within your organisation presently to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Multiple focus areas may be selected if applicable)?
- Question 12: What is the status of the following 20 safeguards within your organisation to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?
- Question 13: Are there any security safeguards your organisation has considered or implemented in addition to the 20 safeguards listed in question 12 to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?
- Question 14: How will a breach/compromise of electronic personal information impact your organisation (select the scenario below that will have the highest impact on your organisation)?



Upon receiving approval from the Ethics Committee of the University of Pretoria as indicated in Appendix E of this thesis, the POPI research survey was launched online at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI</a> from 1 October 2015 to 15 December 2015.

The POPI research survey targeted a specific research group and was completely anonymous as participants were not requested to provide any identifying information such as personal information (title, name, surname and email address) or the name of the institution which they represent.

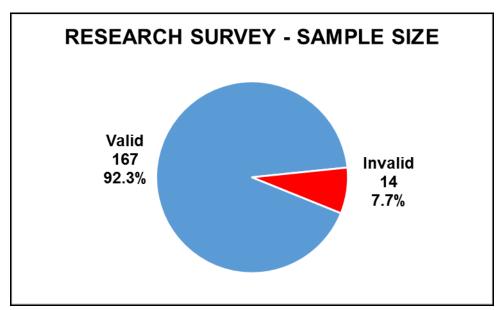
### 6.4 RESEARCH GROUP

The research group specifically targeted by the POPI research survey were participants from South African institutions who store, process or transmit electronic personal information and as a result are impacted by the POPI Act (2013). A self-selection sampling technique was employed to attain the sample population inherent to the quantitative inferential research approach. This technique was suitable as it provided participants with the choice to either part take and complete the POPI research survey or not to part take in the research at all (Leard Dissertation, 2012).

Participants were informed of the POPI research survey via an email that included a link to the POPI research survey as well as through social media (Twitter and LinkedIn posts) and the South African Chapter of Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), who distributed the POPI research survey link to members of the South African chapter. Participants were also able to share the POPI research survey link with other participants within their network. As such, CIBECS assisted by distributing the POPI research survey link to participants who were targeted for the 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey (CIBECS, 2012).

From the date the POPI research survey was launched on 1 October 2015 to the date it closed on 15 December 2015, 181 participants completed the POPI research survey. However, only 167 research survey responses from participants were considered valid, as illustrated in Figure 6.1 on the next page. The criteria for a valid response to the POPI

research survey was for a participant to be from an institution operating in South Africa and maintaining electronic personal information, which would mean that their institution is impacted by the POPI Act (2013).



Research survey validity	Response count	Response percentage
Valid	167	92.3%
Invalid	14	7.7%
Total	181	100%

Figure 6.1: POPI Research Survey - Sample Size

As a result, the sample size of the population associated with the POPI research survey was a total of 167 participants based on the valid research survey responses received. Therefore, the POPI research survey results subjected to data analysis is based on the 167 valid research survey responses from participants.

#### 6.5 DATA ANALYSIS APPROACH

The data analysis approach to assess and summarise the POPI research survey results is represented through a combination of different types of graphs, charts and tables.

This data analysis approach is applied to the POPI research survey results to provide an overview of the demographics in terms of the 167 valid research survey responses from



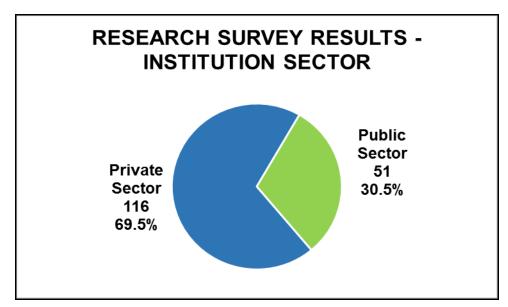
participants, in the next section of this chapter. Furthermore, the data analysis approach is applied to the POPI research survey results associated with Chapter 7 and 8 respectively, in order to ultimately address the research questions covered in these chapters.

#### 6.6 POPI RESEARCH SURVEY RESULTS - DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics associated with the 167 valid research survey responses received from participants were assessed in terms of a participant's institution. This assessment was derived from a sector (public versus private), industry sector and institution size perspective, as the POPI Act is applicable to both public and private institutions in South Africa across all industry sectors, irrespective of their size.

#### 6.6.1 Institution Sector

The sectors by differentiation of public or private sector that the 167 participants represented, is depicted in Figure 6.2 below.



In which sector does your organisation operate?	Response Count	Response percentage
Private Sector	116	69.5%
Public Sector	51	30.5%
Total	167	100%

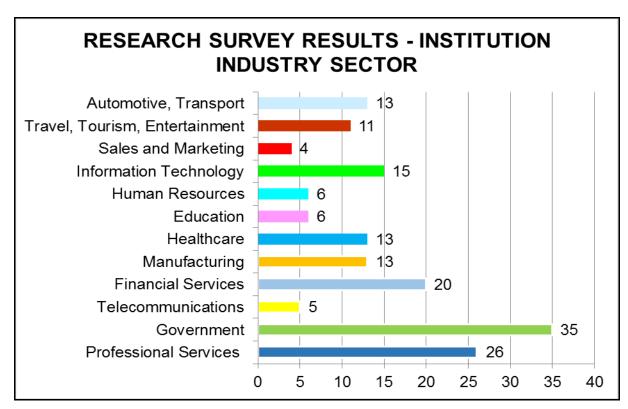
Figure 6.2: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Sector



The majority of participants (69.5%) were from South African institutions in the private sector, while the remaining participants (30.5%) were from South African institutions in the public sector.

#### 6.6.2 Institution Industry Sector

The industry sector in which the 167 participants' South African institutions operate in is depicted in Figure 6.3 below:



Which industry sector best describes your organisation?	Response count	Response percentage
Professional Services (Accounting, Legal, Engineering, Real Estate, Actuary, Consulting Services)	26	15.6%
Government	35	21.0%
Telecommunications	5	3.0%
Financial Services (Banking, Investments, Insurance)	20	12.0%
Manufacturing	13	7.8%
Healthcare	13	7.8%
Education	6	3.6%
Human Resources	6	3.6%
Information Technology	15	9.0%



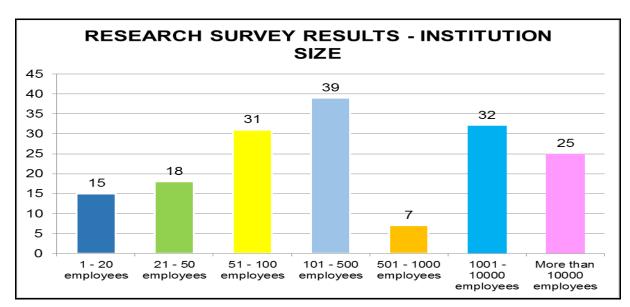
Which industry sector best describes your organisation?	Response count	Response percentage
Sales and Marketing	4	2.4%
Travel, Tourism, Entertainment	11	6.6%
Automotive, Transport	13	7.8%
Total	167	100%

Figure 6.3: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Industry Sector

Participants were from South African institutions who operate within different industry sectors such as professional services (15.6%), government (21.0%), telecommunications (3.0%), financial services (12.0%), manufacturing (7.8%), healthcare (7.8%), education (3.6%), human resources (3.6%), information technology (9.0%), sales and marketing (2.4%), travel, tourism, entertainment (6.6%) and automotive, transport (7,8%).

#### 6.6.3 Institution Size

The size of the South African institutions which the 167 participants operate in (as determined by the number of employees at their respective institutions) is depicted in Figure 6.4 below:



What is the size of your organisation?	Response count	Response percentage
1 - 20 employees	15	9.0%
21 - 50 employees	18	10.8%



What is the size of your organisation?	Response count	Response percentage
51 - 100 employees	31	18.6%
101 - 500 employees	39	23.4%
501 - 1000 employees	7	4.2%
1001 - 10000 employees	32	19.2%
More than 10000 employees	25	15.0%
Total	167	100%

Figure 6.4: POPI Research Survey Results - Institution Size

The majority of participants (23.4%) were from South African institutions which had an employee count of between 101 and 500 employees. This was followed by 19.2% of participants who were from South African institutions who had an employee count of between 1001 and 10000 employees. There were also 15.0% of participants who had an employee count of more than 10000 employees.

#### 6.7 Conclusion

This chapter in terms of Part 5 (Research Survey and Results) of this thesis provided an overview of the POPI research survey which included the research design, research instrumentation, research group and the data analysis approach. Furthermore, the demographics associated with the POPI research survey results obtained was assessed in terms of a participant's institution. This assessment was from a sector (public versus private), industry sector and institution size perspective as the POPI Act is applicable to both public and private institutions in South Africa across all industry sectors, irrespective of their size.

The research questions associated with Chapter 7 and 8 respectively, which follow this chapter, are addressed through an analysis of the 167 valid research survey responses from participants, who completed the POPI research survey.



# CHAPTER 7 - LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE POPI ACT AND SPECIFICALLY CONDITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT

Part 1 - In	troduction
7 417 111	7
Chapter 1 -	introduction
	۶ <u>.                                    </u>
Part 2 - Ba	ckground
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Priva	y and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
Chapter 3 - South Afric	can Privacy Legislation
	7
Part 3 - Privacy Leg	islation Comparison
	7
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Un	on and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Part 4 - Propos	sed Framework
Fait 4 - Flopos	5 cu i idiliework
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with	th a Selection of Security Safeguards
7	7
Part 5 - Research S	Survey and Results
Chanter 6 - POPI	Research Survey
Shapter 6-1 Gri	7
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI	Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
	7
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards ar	d Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
Part 6 - Model of Operation	on of Security Safeguards
	7
Chapter 9 - Model of Opera	tion of Security Safeguards
Part 7 - C	onclusion
Chapter 10 ·	Conclusion



#### 7.1 Introduction

Chapter 6 provided an overview of the POPI research survey which included the research design, research instrumentation, research group and the data analysis approach. Furthermore, Chapter 6 assessed the demographics associated with the POPI research survey results in terms of the participant's institution. This chapter, utilising the POPI research survey results from 167 participants, addresses research question 3 - What is the current level of compliance by South African institutions to the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013)?

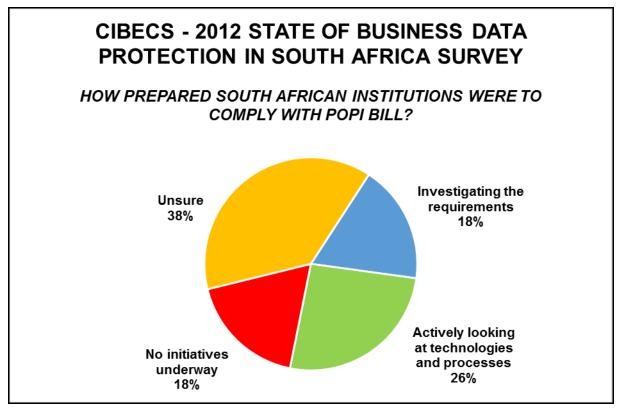
This is achieved by providing an overview of the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey (CIBECS, 2012) conducted in 2012 and analysing the POPI research survey results. Firstly, the analysis of the POPI research survey results provides the overall level of understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013) by the 167 participants who took part in the POPI research survey. Secondly, the analysis addresses the aforementioned research question by providing the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) as well as with Condition 7 of the Act. Lastly, the POPI research survey results provide the financial value associated with electronic personal information as well as the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information. In addition, a critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results is provided.

## 7.2 2012 STATE OF BUSINESS DATA PROTECTION IN SOUTH AFRICA

In 2012, CIBECS as part of their *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey (CIBECS, 2012) assessed, among other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation. As per Figure 7.1 on the next page, the results of the survey revealed that 38% of participants were unsure of the how prepared their institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation (CIBECS, 2012). Furthermore, 18% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway to ensure compliance (CIBECS, 2012). However, 26% of participants were actively looking at technologies and processes to ensure compliance, while 18% of participants were investigating the



requirements but not actively pursuing compliance with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation (CIBECS, 2012).



CIBECS category – 2012	Response percentage
Investigating the requirements but not actively pursuing compliance	18%
Actively looking at technologies and processes to ensure compliance	26%
No initiatives were underway to ensure compliance with the forthcoming protection of personal information legislation	18%
Unsure of the how prepared their institutions were to comply with the forthcoming protection of personal information legislation	38%
Total	100%

Figure 7.1: 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa Survey
Source: Adapted from CIBECS (2017)



#### 7.3 POPI RESEARCH SURVEY RESULTS - ANALYSIS

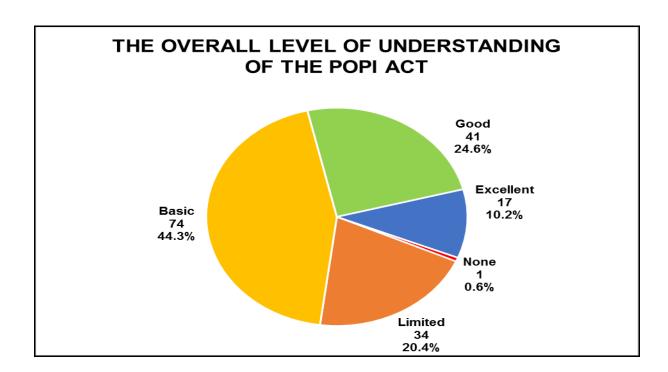
Since the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey (CIBECS, 2012), the POPI Bill progressed to an Act and thus presented an opportunity to analyse the progress made by South African institutions in terms of the following aspects listed below:

- The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013).
- The current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013).
- The current level of compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).
- The financial value associated with electronic personal information.
- The potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information.

As such, the POPI research survey results associated with 167 participants who completed the POPI research survey is analysed from subsection 7.3.1 to 7.3.5 to address the aforementioned aspects.

## 7.3.1 THE OVERALL LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE POPI ACT

The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013) by the 167 participants from South African institutions is depicted in Figure 7.2 below:





Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act

How would you rate your overall level of understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?	Response count	Response percentage
None	1	0.6%
Limited	34	20.4%
Basic	74	44.3%
Good	41	24.6%
Excellent	17	10.2%
Total	167	100%

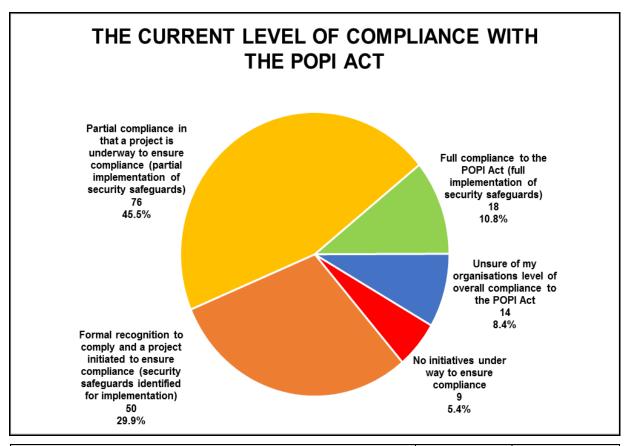
Figure 7.2: The Overall Level of Understanding of the POPI Act

The majority of participants (44.3%) had a basic overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013). This was followed by 24.6% of participants who had a good overall level of understanding as opposed to 10.2% of participants who had an excellent overall level understanding of the POPI Act (2013). A limited overall understanding of the POPI Act (2013) was applicable to 20.4% of participants with only 1 participant (0.6%) possessing no overall level understanding of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 7.3.2 THE CURRENT LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE POPI ACT

The assessment of the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) by South African institutions as provided by the 167 participants of the POPI research survey, provided in Figure 7.3 on the next page, addresses the research question associated with this chapter as outlined in the Introduction above.





How would you rate your institution's overall compliance to the POPI Act?	Response count	Response percentage
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	9	5.4%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	50	29.9%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards)	76	45.5%
Full compliance to the POPI Act (full implementation of security safeguards)	18	10.8%
Unsure of my institution's level of overall compliance to the POPI Act	14	8.4%
Total	167	100%

Figure 7.3: The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act

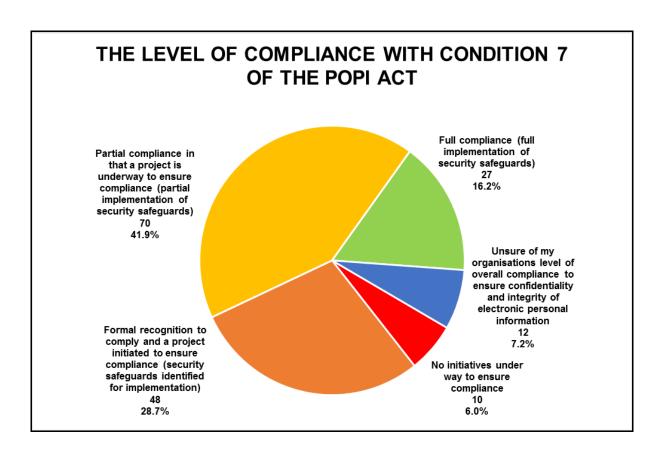
As per Figure 7.3 above, the majority of participants (45.5%) stated that their respective institutions was partially complying to the POPI Act (2013), in other words, that a project is underway to ensure compliance and security safeguards are partially implemented. Formal recognition to comply with the POPI Act (2013), and as such a project was initiated to



ensure compliance with the legislation, was applicable to 29.9% of the participants. However, 8.4% of participants were unsure of their institutions' level of overall compliance with the POPI Act (2013). Furthermore, 5.4% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway in their institutions to ensure compliance with the POPI Act (2013). However, 10.8% of participants stated that their institutions fully comply with the POPI Act (2013), implying that security safeguards are fully implemented.

#### 7.3.3 THE CURRENT LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT

Taking into account the level of overall compliance with the POPI Act (2013) the second aspect of the research question associated with this chapter as outlined in the Introduction section above is provided in Figure 7.4 below. This assessment explored the level of compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) by South African institutions as provided by the 167 participants of the POPI research survey, specifically relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.





How would you rate your institutions overall compliance to ensuring confidentiality (prevention of unauthorised disclosure) and integrity (prevention of unauthorised modification) of electronic personal information as required by the POPI Act?	Response count	Response percentage
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	10	6.0%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	48	28.7%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards)	70	41.9%
Full compliance (full implementation of security safeguards)	27	16.2%
Unsure of my institutions level of overall compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information	12	7.2%
Total	167	100%

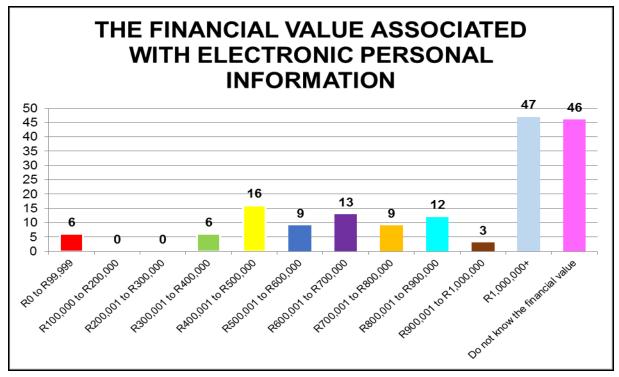
Figure 7.4: The Level of Compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act

The majority of participants (41.9%) stated that their respective institution was partially complying in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), in that a project is underway to ensure compliance. There is formal recognition to comply with ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and as such, a project was initiated to ensure compliance, which was applicable to 28.7% of the participants. However, 7.2% of participants were unsure of their institutions' level of compliance to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). Furthermore, 6.0% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway in their institutions to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). However, 16.2% of participants stated that their institutions fully comply with ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).



#### 7.3.4 THE FINANCIAL VALUE ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTRONIC PERSONAL INFORMATION

Participants also provided a view on the financial value associated with the electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions, as illustrated in Figure 7.5 below.



What do you estimate is the financial value of electronic personal information maintained by your institution?	Response count	Response percentage
R0 to R99,999	6	3.6%
R100,000 to R200,000	0	0.0%
R200,001 to R300,000	0	0.0%
R300,001 to R400,000	6	3.6%
R400,001 to R500,000	16	9.6%
R500,001 to R600,000	9	5.4%
R600,001 to R700,000	13	7.8%
R700,001 to R800,000	9	5.4%
R800,001 to R900,000	12	7.2%
R900,001 to R1,000,000	3	1.8%
R1,000,000+	47	28.1%
Do not know the financial value	46	27.5%
Total	167	100%

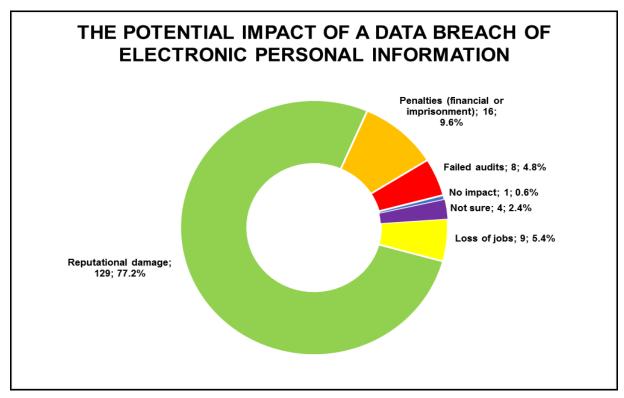
Figure 7.5: The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information



In terms of the financial value associated with electronic personal information, the majority of participants (28.1%) assigned a value in excess of R1 million. A number of participants (27.5%) did not know the financial value associated with electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions. However, the remaining 44.4% of participants could allocate a financial value ranging from R0 to R1 million.

# 7.3.5 THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF A DATA BREACH OF ELECTRONIC PERSONAL INFORMATION

As illustrated in Figure 7.6 below, participants provided a view of the potential impact a data breach of electronic personal information may have on their respective institutions.



How will a breach/compromise of electronic personal information impact your institution (select the scenario below that will have the highest impact on your institution)?	Response count	Response percentage
Loss of jobs	9	5.4%
Reputational damage	129	77.2%
Penalties (financial or imprisonment)	16	9.6%
Failed audits	8	4.8%
No impact	1	0.6%

Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act

How will a breach/compromise of electronic personal information impact your institution (select the scenario below that will have the highest impact on your institution)?	Response count	Response percentage
Not sure	4	2.4%

Figure 7.6: The Potential Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Information

The highest impact of a data breach of electronic personal information would be reputational damage to the institution, according to 77.2% of participants. This was followed by penalties (financial or imprisonment) which account for 9.6% of participants, loss of jobs which account for 5.4% of participants and failed audits which account for 4.8% of participants. However, 2.4% of participants were unsure of the impact of a data breach of electronic personal information and 1 participant (0.6%) stated that a data breach of electronic personal information would have no impact.

#### 7.4 Critical Evaluation - Key Findings and Recommendations

The analysis of the POPI research survey results forms the basis of the critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations as it relates to the following aspects:

- The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013).
- The current level of compliance with the POPI Act (comparison between the 2012 CIBECS survey and POPI research survey conducted as part of this thesis in 2015).
- Comparing the overall compliance with the POPI Act (2013) to the overall compliance with Condition 7 of the Act.
- The financial value associated with electronic personal information.
- The potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information.

The key findings and recommendations associated with the aforementioned aspects follow from subsection 7.4.1 to 7.4.5 below.



#### 7.4.1 THE OVERALL LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE POPI ACT

The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013) at the time of the POPI research survey being conducted was at a basic level (44.3% of the participants). As a result, given that the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) has not been announced and as such the POPI Act (2013) is not yet enforceable, there is a window of opportunity that exists to increase the level of understanding from basic to good or excellent via formal training and awareness sessions in order to successfully drive initiatives to ensure compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and to address areas of non-compliance.

# 7.4.2 THE CURRENT LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE POPI ACT (COMPARISON BETWEEN 2012 AND 2015)

In order to compare the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) by South African institutions in 2015 to the level of compliance shown in 2012 as per the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey conducted by CIBECS (2012), the grouping as illustrated in Table 7.1 below was performed to ascertain the common categories for comparison. The rationale for ascertaining common categories for comparison is that in 2012 the Protection of Personal Information legislation was still at the stage of a Bill and once it was enacted as the POPI Act (2013), formal initiatives to comply had commenced. In both research surveys, participants stated "No" initiatives were underway to comply or they were "Unsure" of the level of compliance with the protection of personal information legislation, resulting in a direct link in the formulation of the two of the three common categories for comparison. However, the third common category termed "Yes" was formulated by grouping together all activities towards achieving compliance from investigation to formal recognition and partial compliance as well as full compliance with the POPI Act (2013).

Table 7.1: Formulation of Common Categories for Comparison

CIBECS catego	ory - 2012	POPI categor	researd y - 2015		survey	Common formulated for co	category mparison
Investigating	the	Formal	recog	gniti	on to	Yes	
requirements	but no	comply	and	а	project	res	

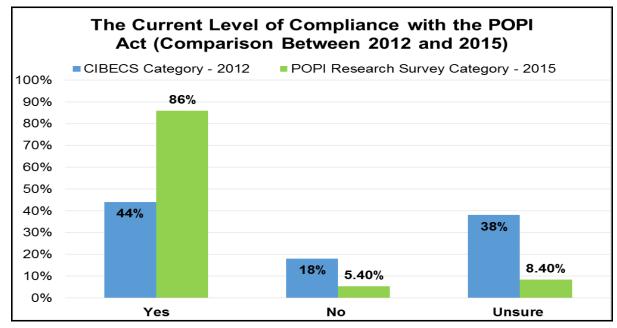


Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act

OIDEOC antonomy 2042	POPI research survey	Common category
CIBECS category - 2012	category - 2015	formulated for comparison
actively pursuing	initiated to ensure	
compliance - 18%	compliance (security	
Actively looking at	safeguards identified for	
technologies and	implementation) - 29.9%	
processes to ensure		
compliance - 26%	Partial compliance in that a	
	project is underway to	
	ensure compliance (partial	
	implementation of security	
	safeguards) - 45.5%	
	Full compliance to the POPI	
	Act (full implementation of	
	security safeguards) -	
	10.8%	
No initiatives were		
underway to ensure		
compliance with the	No initiatives under way to	No
forthcoming protection of	ensure compliance - 5.4%	NO
personal information		
legislation - 18%		
Unsure of the how		
prepared their institutions	Unsure of my institutions	
were to comply with the	level of overall compliance	Unsure
forthcoming protection of	to the POPI Act - 8.4%	Onsuic
personal information		
legislation - 38%		



The comparison between the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) by South African institutions in 2015 to the previous level of compliance as per the 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey conducted by CIBECS (2012) is provided in Figure 7.7 below, utilising the common categories formulated in Table 7.1 on the previous page.



Common category formulated for comparison	CIBECS category - 2012	POPI research survey category - 2015
Yes	44%	86%
No	18%	5.4%
Unsure	38%	8.4%

Figure 7.7: The Current Level of Compliance with the POPI Act (Comparison between 2012 and 2015)

The POPI research survey conducted in 2015 illustrated a significant increase towards achieving compliance with the POPI Act (2013) from 44% to 86% of the participants. This can be attributed to the fact that the POPI Act (2013) was signed into law on 26 November 2013. Furthermore, in 2015 processes commenced to setup the Office of the Information Regulator (Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, 2015), who would be responsible for enforcing the POPI Act (2013). On 26 October 2016, the President of South Africa

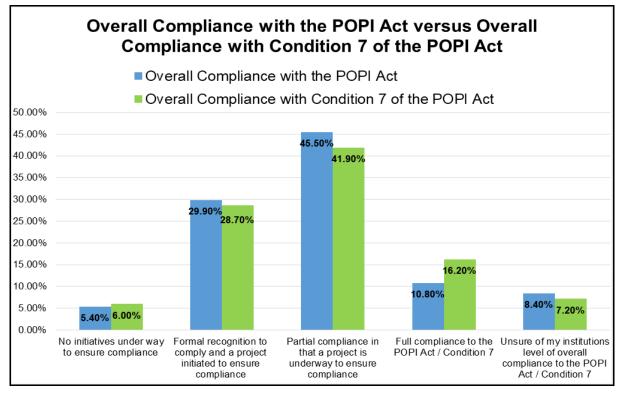


announced the appointment of Advocate Pansy Tlakula as the chair, Advocate Cordelia Stroom and Mr Johannes Weapond as full-time members, and Professor Tana Pistorius and Mr Sizwe Snail as part-time members of the Office of the Information Regulator, with effect from 1 December 2016 (Michalsons, 2016). As a result, the commencement date of the POPI Act (2013) may be looming on the horizon leaving South African public and private institutions with one year to comply. Therefore, it is critical that South African institutions continue the momentum to ultimately achieve and maintain full compliance with the POPI Act (2013) as the short timeframe to comply may not be sufficient if compliance initiatives are embarked upon only once the commencement date is announced. However, it is encouraging to note the significant decrease in participants who stated "No" initiatives (from 18% to 5.4% of participants) were underway to ensure compliance with the POPI Act (2013) or they were "Unsure" of the level of compliance (from 38% to 8.4%) to the POPI Act (2013) by their respective institutions.

# 7.4.3 OVERALL COMPLIANCE WITH THE POPI ACT VERSUS OVERALL COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 7 OF THE POPI ACT

An analysis of the overall level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) compared to the overall level of compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) is provided in Figure 7.8 on the next page. This analysis is critical to ensure that compliance with the POPI Act (2013) does not neglect electronic personal information.





Level of compliance category	Overall compliance with the POPI Act	Overall compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act	Variance
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	5.4%	6.0%	+0.6%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	29.9%	28.7%	-1.2%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards)	45.5%	41.9%	-3.6%
Full compliance to the POPI Act / Condition 7 (full implementation of security safeguards)	10.8%	16.2%	+5.4%
Unsure of my institutions level of overall compliance to the POPI Act / Condition 7	8.4%	7.2%	-1.2%

Figure 7.8: Overall Compliance with the POPI Act versus Overall Compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act



In the data table associated with Figure 7.8 on the previous page, a positive variance reflects the overall level of compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information for a particular compliance category, to be higher than the overall level of compliance with the entire POPI Act (2013). In comparison, a negative variance reflects the overall level of compliance with Condition 7 of the Act, in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information for a particular compliance category to be lower than the overall level of compliance with the entire POPI Act (2013). As such, the positive and negative variances for 4 of the 5 categories did not exceed 5%, as per the data table associated with Figure 7.8 on the previous page. This illustrates a degree of alignment between the overall initiative to achieve compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and at the same time, to address the requirements of Condition 7 of the Act to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. For example, 8.4% of participants were unsure of the overall level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and 7.2% of participants were unsure of the level of compliance in ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. One compliance category exceeded 5%, as per the data table associated with Figure 7.8 on the previous page, and it related to full compliance. This demonstrates that there is a greater level of compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as opposed to the overall level of compliance with the entire POPI Act (2013). This does not pose a major threat as the overall level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) takes into account several other requirements, for example, non-electronic personal information. However, it is critical to ensure that the POPI compliance initiative is adequate and comprehensive to address all requirements to ultimately achieve compliance with the POPI Act (2013), without neglecting any requirement.

## 7.4.4 THE FINANCIAL VALUE ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTRONIC PERSONAL INFORMATION

The majority of participants (72.5%) associated a financial value to the electronic personal information maintained by their institutions. 28.1% of participants assigned a value in excess of 1 million rand while 44.4% of participants associated a financial value ranging from 0 to 1 million rand. However, the remaining 27.5% of participants could not associate



a financial value to the electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions. This may pose a challenge in terms of justifying the costs associated with the safeguards required to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. For example, if the financial value of electronic personal information is R900 000, the safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information should generally not exceed R900 000. In addition, understanding the financial value of electronic personal information together with the costs of safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information will strengthen the business case relating to the POPI compliance initiative. Furthermore, in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information a financial value may be associated with the loss of electronic personal information. Therefore, it is critical to ensure that a financial value is associated with electronic personal information within the institution and the most opportune time to associate a financial value would be when the electronic personal information is identified within the institution and the need for storing, processing or transmitting the electronic personal information is understood.

## 7.4.5 THE IMPACT OF A DATA BREACH OF ELECTRONIC PERSONAL INFORMATION

Reputational damage to an institution was rated to have the highest impact in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information by 77.2% of participants. This was followed by penalties (financial or imprisonment) which account for 9.6% of participants. Reputational damage will remain a high impact area in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information. However, once the POPI Act (2013) is enforced and if not complied with, members of the South African public and private institutions may be fined up to 10 million rand, face imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment. This may lead to an increase in the number of participants who associate the impact of a data breach with penalties (financial or imprisonment). Therefore, it will be in the best interests of South African institutions to ensure compliance with the POPI Act (2013) given the aforementioned implications associated with a data breach.



#### 7.5 CONCLUSION

This chapter, in terms of Part 5 (Research Survey and Results) of this thesis, provided an overview of the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey (CIBECS, 2012) conducted in 2012 and analysed the POPI research survey results in order to address the research question associated with this chapter. Firstly, the analysis of the POPI research survey results provided the overall level of understanding of the POPI Act (2013) by the 167 participants who took part in the POPI research survey. Secondly, the analysis addressed the research question associated with this chapter by providing the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) as well as with Condition 7 of the Act. Lastly, the POPI research survey results provided the financial value associated with electronic personal information as well as the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information. In addition, a critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results was provided.

Part 5 (Research Survey and Results) of this thesis also consists of the next chapter which provides the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. In addition, the validity of the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework within Chapter 5 is also assessed.



# CHAPTER 8 - CURRENT STATE OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS AND VALIDATION OF THE SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

Part 1 - Introduction
75
Chapter 1 - Introduction
Part 2 - Background
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
₹5
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation
45
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison
V I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Doub A. Dromonoul Francoursely
Part 4 - Proposed Framework
<u> </u>
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results
Taite Nessansi Saits) and Nessans
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey
Ghapter o - P o - Nessarien Gurvey
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Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
75
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
35
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards
₹5
Part 7 - Conclusion
V
Chapter 10 - Conclusion



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

#### 8.1 Introduction

A framework to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act, (Act 4 of 2013) was proposed in Chapter 5. The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework included a selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. Chapter 6 provided an overview of the research design, research instrumentation, research group, data analysis approach and assessed the demographics associated with the POPI research survey results in terms of a participant's institution. Chapter 7 presented the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act as well as the financial value associated with electronic personal information and the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information. This chapter utilising the POPI research survey results from 167 participants addresses the following research questions:

- Research question 4 What is the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information?
- Research question 5 To what extent is the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis valid?

This chapter analyses the POPI research survey results in terms of the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. This analysis is achieved by firstly, providing an overview of the selection of security safeguards across 3 domains (management, operational and technical) from several leading practices, as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). Secondly, the current state of security safeguards is assessed by exploring the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the selection of security safeguards. Applicability explores if the security safeguard is used within an institution. The extent of implementation assesses if the security safeguard is



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

fully implemented, partially implemented or is being considered for implementation. Lastly, completeness assesses if there are any additional security safeguards, which may not have been considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

By obtaining an understanding of the current state of security safeguards the validity of the selection of security safeguards within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is also assessed. The applicability factor allows for the identification of security safeguards not utilised in South African institutions based on the POPI research survey results from the 167 participants. On the other hand, the completeness factor allows for the identification of security safeguards used within South African institutions, which were not considered as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in the selection of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

Lastly, a critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results is provided.

#### 8.2 SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

In Chapter 5, the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework encapsulates a selection of security safeguards across management, operational and technical domains, to facilitate the achievement and maintenance of compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), with a specific focus on preventing unauthorised disclosure (maintaining confidentiality) and modification (ensuring integrity) of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. The management domain accounted for 5 security safeguards, namely information security governance, risk management, information security policy, supplier and service level management and business continuity management. This was followed by the operational domain which accounted for 6 security safeguards, namely security procedures and processes, baseline infrastructure security standards, security awareness and training, security monitoring, incident and reporting, security assessment and disaster recovery. The remaining 9



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

security safeguards formed part of the technical domain, namely network segmentation, encrypted data channels, server and network component security, workstation and laptop security, file integrity, firewalls, physical and environmental security, centralised audit logging, data loss prevention.

The aforementioned selection of security safeguards forms the basis for analysing the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information.

#### 8.3 POPI RESEARCH SURVEY RESULTS - ANALYSIS

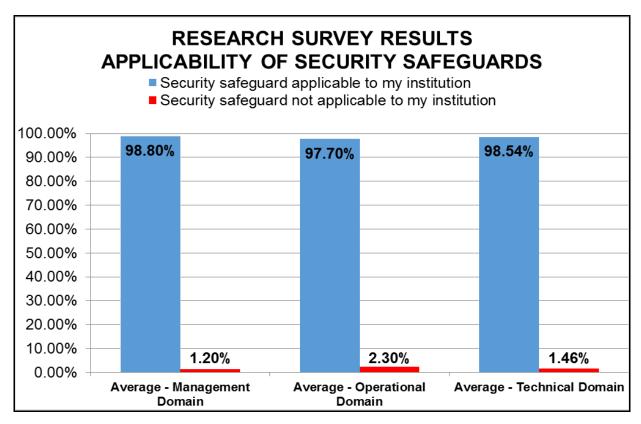
An analysis of the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information is provided from subsection 8.3.1 to 8.3.3 below. The analysis explores the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the selection of security safeguards based on the research survey responses received from the 167 participants who completed the POPI research survey.

#### 8.3.1 APPLICABILITY OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

In terms of assessing the applicability of security safeguards, participants were asked if the security safeguards across the 3 domains were applicable (that is are the security safeguards within the 3 domains used within their institutions) or not applicable to their institutions, as it relates to ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), as illustrated in Figure 8.1 on the next page.



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards



Security safeguard domain	Security safeguard applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution (response percentage)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response percentage)
Average - Management Domain	165.00	98.80%	2.00	1.20%
Average - Operational Domain	163.17	97.70%	3.83	2.30%
Average - Technical Domain	164.56	98.54%	2.44	1.46%
Overall Average - All Domains	164.25	98.35%	2.75	1.65%

Figure 8.1: Applicability of Security Safeguards

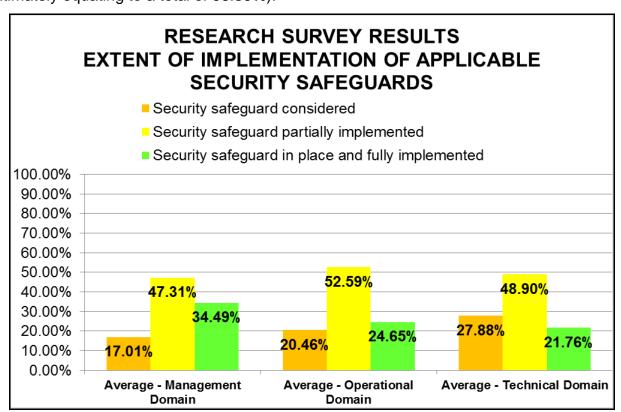


Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

As per Figure 8.1 on the previous page, an average of 98.35% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were applicable to their respective institutions in that these are either being considered for implementation or already partially or fully implemented. However, an average of 1.65% participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were not applicable to their respective institutions.

#### 8.3.2 EXTENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

The extent of implementation of the security safeguards across the 3 domains as illustrated in Figure 8.2 below is based on the average applicability of 98.35% associated with the security safeguards as per Figure 8.1 on the previous page. As such, the average extent of implementation of the security safeguards across the 3 domains is equivalent to 98.35% (22.93% of security safeguards considered for implementation, 49.61% of security safeguards partially implemented and 25.81% of security safeguards fully implemented, ultimately equating to a total of 98.35%).





Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Security safeguard domain	Security safeguard considered (response count)	Security safeguard considered (response percentage)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response count)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response percentage)	Security safeguard fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented (response percentage)
Average - Management Domain	28.40	17.01%	79.00	47.31%	57.60	34.49%
Average - Operational Domain	34.17	20.46%	87.83	52.59%	41.17	24.65%
Average - Technical Domain	46.56	27.88%	81.67	48.90%	36.33	21.76%
Overall Average - All Domains	38.30	22.93%	82.85	49.61%	43.10	25.81%

Figure 8.2: Extent of Implementation of Applicable Security Safeguards

An average of 49.61% of participants, as per Figure 8.2 above, revealed partial implementation of the security safeguards across the 3 domains within their institutions. In addition, an average of 25.81% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the 3 domains were fully implemented in their institutions. However, an average of 22.93% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the 3 domains are still being considered within their institutions for implementation.

#### 8.3.3 COMPLETENESS OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

To assess the completeness of security safeguards, the 167 participants were requested to assess if there are any additional security safeguards to the selection of security safeguards, which may not have been considered to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). 150 out of the 167 participants (89.8%) did not provide additional security safeguards that are being considered or implemented (partially or fully) by their institutions. However, 17 participants (10.2%) indicated that there were security safeguards that their institutions are considering or implementing (partially or fully) in addition to the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5. From these 17 responses, 6 were invalid as they did not provide accurate and sufficient information for further consideration. However, the



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

remaining 11 of the 17 responses, as listed in Table 8.1 below, provided accurate and sufficient information for further consideration.

Table 8.1: Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants

Number	Safeguards suggested by participants	Number	Safeguards suggested by participants
1	Database level encryption	7	Next generation firewall
2	Encryption	8	File integrity hashing value validation
3	Payment card industry data security standard (PCI DSS)	9	Firmware embedded basic input output system (BIOS) based persistent and remote asset tracking  Data and device security
4	International standards and frameworks	10	We acquired an enterprise wide IT system to protect the electronic information
5	Security standards	11	Wi-Fi networks
6	Mobile device management		

An impact analysis of the 11 valid responses (Table 8.1 above) as depicted in Table 8.2 on the next page was conducted to assess the completeness of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. The impact analysis entailed grouping similar responses from the 11 valid responses and then assessing the responses in terms of either impacting or not impacting the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5. A response was considered to impact the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, if it introduced new security safeguards or resulted in changes to the name of a



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

security safeguard or an update of the description associated with a security safeguard. In comparison, a response was considered not to have an impact on the selection of security safeguards as per the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, if it resulted in no change at all as the current selection of security safeguards adequately address the information provided by a response. The result of the impact analysis for each grouping of responses was supported by a rationale. Furthermore, all responses considered to impact the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, was supported by a relevant action aimed at capturing the change required to the affected security safeguards.

Table 8.2: Impact Analysis of the Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants

Security	
safeguards	Impact (Yes/No), rationale and action required (Yes/No)
suggested by	impact (res/No), rationale and action required (res/No)
participants	
Response 1:	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (Encrypted
Database level	data channels)
encryption	Rationale: Encryption is only addressed from a data channel
	perspective by the encrypted data channels security safeguard.
Response 2:	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Rename the "Encrypted data
Encryption	channels"security safeguard to "Encryption" and update the
	description to address encryption holistically from a data security
Response 9:	perspective to cover data transmission (data channels) and
Data security	storage (databases).
	Impact (Yes/No): No
Response 3:	Rationale: Credit card information is considered personal
Payment card	information however the Payment Card Industry - Data Security
industry data security	Standard (PCI-DSS) is a standard specifically for credit card
standard (PCI-DSS)	information (PCI Security Standards Council, 2016) and does not
	apply to institutions who have personal information such as



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Impact (Yes/No), rationale and action required (Yes/No)
names, surnames and email addresses of clients but no credit card information. As a result, PCI-DSS will not result in an additional security safeguard or an amendment to the security safeguards proposed. However, compliance with the PCI-DSS
standard will encompass the implementation of the majority of the security safeguards proposed.
Action Required (Yes/No): No
Impact (Yes/No): No
Rationale: The baseline infrastructure security standards safeguard addresses security standards. Furthermore, the security safeguards includes the need for an information security policy, security procedures and processes as well as baseline infrastructure security standards, which should ideally be based on international standards and frameworks to prevent re-inventing the wheel. For example, the information security policy may be based on International Standards Organisation (ISO) 27001.  Action Required (Yes/No): No
Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (workstation
and laptop security as well as data loss prevention).  **Rationale:* Workstation and laptop security makes no provision for mobile devices. Furthermore, data end points for data loss prevention are limited to workstations and laptops.  **Action Required (Yes/No):* Yes - Rename the security safeguard "Workstation and laptop security" to "Workstation, laptop and mobile device security" and update the description of the security safeguard to include security of mobile devices. In addition,



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Security		
safeguards	Impact (Yes/No), rationale and action required (Yes/No)	
suggested by	impact (165/16), rationale and deticn required (165/16)	
participants		
	update the description of the "Data loss prevention" security	
	safeguard to include mobile devices as data end points.	
	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (file	
Response 7:	integrity).	
Next generation	Rationale: Firewalls independent of vendor or technology is	
firewall	addressed by the current security safeguards (firewall).	
	Action Required (Yes/No): No	
	Impact (Yes/No): No	
Response 8:	Rationale: File integrity is addressed by the file integrity security	
File integrity hashing	safeguard, with no provision for hash value validation.	
value validation	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the	
	"File integrity" security safeguard to include hash value validation.	
	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (Security	
	monitoring, incident and reporting, workstation and laptop security	
	as well as data loss prevention).	
Response 9:	Rationale: Yes - Security monitoring, incident and reporting	
Firmware embedded	safeguard as well as the workstation and laptop security and data	
basic input output	loss prevention safeguards did not take into account asset	
system (BIOS) based	tracking.	
, ,	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the	
persistent and	security monitoring, incident and reporting safeguard to include	
remote asset	persistent and remote asset tracking. In addition, the workstation	
tracking	and laptop security safeguard description to be updated to	
	include firmware BIOS based tracking on supported workstations,	
	laptops and mobile devices. Furthermore, the data loss	
	prevention safeguard to enable tracking of assets via data end	



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Security	
safeguards	Impact (Vac/No) rationals and action required (Vac/No)
suggested by	Impact (Yes/No), rationale and action required (Yes/No)
participants	
	points, if firmware BIOS based asset tracking is not supported on
	workstations, laptops or mobile devices.
	Impact (Yes/No): No
Response 10:	Rationale: Enterprise-wide IT system is open to interpretation
We acquired an	and could be a data loss prevention (DLP) system or a security
enterprise wide IT	incident event and monitoring (SIEM) system. Both the DLP and
system to protect the	SIEM systems are addressed by the current security safeguards
electronic information	(Data loss prevention and security monitoring, incident and
	reporting).
	Action Required (Yes/No): No
	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (network
	segmentation as well as server and network component security).
	Rationale: The network segmentation as well as the server and
	network component security safeguards do not make a distinction
Response 11:	between wired and wireless networks.
Wi-Fi networks	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the
	"Network segmentation" and "Server and network component
	security" safeguards to state that the security safeguards are
	applicable to any form of network may it be wired and wireless or
	a combination thereof.

As a result of the aforementioned impact analysis in Table 8.2 above, based on the 11 valid responses, 5 responses had no impact on the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, based on the rationale provided as part of the impact analysis in Table 8.2 above. However, 6 of the 11 valid responses had an impact on the selection of security safeguards as per the



## Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

"Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, in that it resulted in updates to the security safeguards (name of the security safeguard or the description associated with the security safeguard), but no additional security safeguards were identified.

As a result of the aforementioned analysis relating to the completeness of the selection of security safeguards as well as the analysis relating to the applicability of the selection of security safeguards, the validity of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the Proposed POPI Condition 7 framework may be assessed.

## 8.4 VALIDITY OF THE SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARD WITHIN THE PROPOSED POPI CONDITION 7 FRAMEWORK

The validity of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is dependent on the applicability and completeness factors associated with the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information.

The applicability factor allowed for the identification of security safeguards not utilised in South African institutions based on the POPI research survey results from the 167 participants. Table 8.3 on the next page illustrates the applicability of each of the 20 security safeguards which were proposed as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5.



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Table 8.3: Applicability of the 20 Security Safeguards from the Proposed POPI Condition 7

Framework

Security safeguard	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response percentage)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response percentage)
M1: Information Security Governance	0	0.00%	167	100.00%
M2: Risk Management	3	1.80%	164	98.20%
M3: Information Security Policy	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
M4: Supplier and Service Level Management	4	2.40%	163	97.60%
M5: Business Continuity Management	2	1.20%	165	98.80%
Average - Management Domain	2.00	1.20%	165.00	98.80%
O1: Security Procedures and Processes	3	1.80%	164	98.20%



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Security safeguard	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response percentage)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response percentage)
O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security Standards	3	1.80%	164	98.20%
O3: Security Awareness and Training	8	4.79%	159	95.21%
O4: Security  Monitoring, Incident and Reporting	4	2.40%	163	97.60%
O5: Security Assessment	4	2.40%	163	97.60%
O6: Disaster Recovery	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
Average - Operational Domain	3.83	2.30%	163.17	97.70%
T1: Network Segmentation	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
T2: Encrypted Data Channels	3	1.80%	164	98.20%



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Security safeguard	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response percentage)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution - under consideration, partially or fully implemented (response percentage)
T3: Server and Network Component Security	2	1.20%	165	98.80%
T4: Workstation and Laptop Security	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
T5: File Integrity	5	2.99%	162	97.01%
T6: Firewalls	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
T7: Physical and Environmental Security	1	0.60%	166	99.40%
T8: Centralised Audit Logging	4	2.40%	163	97.60%
T9: Data Loss Prevention	4	2.40%	163	97.60%
Average - Technical Domain	2.44	1.46%	164.56	98.54%

All 20 security safeguards proposed as part of the "Secure" phase of the framework in Chapter 5 were considered to be applicable as each security safeguard on an individual



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

basis was associated with an applicability factor, based on the number of responses received from participants, which exceeded 90%.

The completeness factor allows for the identification of security safeguards used within South African institutions, which were not considered as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in the selection of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. Based on the impact analysis in Table 8.2 within section 8.3.3 above as part of the completeness analysis, of the 11 valid responses, 5 responses had no impact on the security safeguards previously proposed as supported by the rationale provided. However, 6 of the 11 valid responses had an impact on the selection of security safeguards previously proposed, in that it did result in updates to the security safeguards (name of the security safeguard or the description associated with the security safeguard) but no additional security safeguards were identified.

As a result, the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework were valid given the level of applicability (each security safeguard proposed exceeded a 90% level of applicability) and completeness (there were updates to the name of the security safeguard or the description associated with the security safeguard, however no additional security safeguards were identified) associated with the selection of security safeguards.

### 8.5 Critical Evaluation - Key Findings and Recommendations

The analysis of the POPI research survey results forms the basis of the critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations as it relates to the current state of security safeguards in terms of applicability, extent of implementation and completeness is provided from subsection 8.5.1 to 8.5.3 below. In addition, key findings and recommendations associated with the validity of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework is provided in subsection 8.5.4.



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

### 8.5.1 APPLICABILITY OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

An average of 98.35% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains, as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, were applicable to their respective institutions (either being considered for implementation or already partially or fully implemented). An average of 1.65% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were not applicable to their respective institutions. Certain security safeguards may not be applicable in the event where the institution has compensating safeguards (other alternative security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information) in place. However, in the event that the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information may be compromised due to the lack of a security safeguard, it is recommended that the security safeguards identified as not applicable to the institution across the management, operational and technical domains be re-considered for implementation to mitigate the risk of disclosure and modification of electronic personal information as well as to ultimately ensure compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

### 8.5.2 EXTENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

At the time of the POPI research survey being conducted an average of 25.81% of the 98.35% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were fully implemented in their institution. However, security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were partially implemented (average of 49.61% of the 98.35% participants) or being considered for implementation (average of 22.93% of the 98.35% of participants). Given that the POPI Act (2013) is not yet enforceable, the progress made by South African institutions is considered acceptable in that the implementation of certain of the security safeguards account for a combined average of 75.42% of the 98.35% of participants (partial implementation - 49.61% and full implementation - 25.81%). South African institutions should aim to achieve full implementation of the security safeguards in order to contribute towards the achievement of ensuring compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) as well as the overall POPI Act (2013). As a result, the security safeguards that have been



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

fully implemented can be continuously monitored to ensure that the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information is preserved, while the security safeguards that have been partially implemented should be fully implemented. Similarly, the security safeguards that are being considered for implementation should be prioritised and implemented in the most effective and efficient manner in order to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) as well as the overall Act.

### 8.5.3 COMPLETENESS OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

From a completeness perspective, no additional security safeguards were added to the selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. However, based on the information provided by participants in terms of the responses received, driven by themes such as encryption, mobile devices and asset tracking, the names of 2 security safeguards (workstation and laptop security changed to workstation, laptop and mobile security as well as encrypted data channels changed to encryption) were updated. In addition, the description associated with 7 security safeguards was updated. The aforementioned updates are illustrated in italics within Table 8.4 below.

Table 8.4: Updates to the Security Safeguard Names and/or Descriptions

Update description	Security safeguard name	Current safeguard description	Updated safeguard description
Update to the security safeguard description	Security monitoring, incident and reporting	All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or	All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Update	Security	0	Hadatad safannand
description	safeguard	Current safeguard	Updated safeguard
	name	description	description
		data breaches of	information. Security
		electronic personal	monitoring to include
		information.	persistent and remote
			asset tracking.
		Application and	Application and database
		database servers that	servers that respectively
		respectively process	process and store
		and store personal	personal information are
Undata to the		information are located	located on a dedicated
Update to the	Network	on a dedicated	network segment (may be
security safeguard	segmentation	network segment that	a wired or wireless
description		is separated from the	network or a
		rest of the corporate	combination thereof)
		•	·
		network.	that is separated from the
		network.	that is separated from the rest of the corporate
		network.	·
		network.  All electronic personal	rest of the corporate network.
			rest of the corporate network.
	Enomina	All electronic personal information flowing	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal
Update to the	Encryption	All electronic personal information flowing	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information <i>transmitted</i>
Update to the security safeguard	(previously	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information <i>transmitted</i> (flowing into and out of the
'	(previously encrypted	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information <i>transmitted</i> (flowing into and out of the dedicated network
security safeguard	(previously encrypted data	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information <i>transmitted</i> (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) <i>and stored</i> , is
security safeguard name and	(previously encrypted	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted and access to the data	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information transmitted (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) and stored, is encrypted and access to
security safeguard name and	(previously encrypted data	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted and access to the data channels is strictly	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information transmitted (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) and stored, is encrypted and access to the data channels and
security safeguard name and	(previously encrypted data	All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted and access to the data channels is strictly monitored and	rest of the corporate network.  All electronic personal information transmitted (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) and stored, is encrypted and access to the data channels and storage (databases) is



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

description  security safeguard description	Security safeguard name network component security	Current safeguard description  components are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards.	Updated safeguard description  (may be a wired or wireless network or a combination thereof) components are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards.
Update to the security safeguard name and description	Workstation, laptop and mobile security (previously workstation and laptop security)	Workstations and laptops are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards and are locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or install additional applications.	Workstations, laptops and mobile devices are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards and are locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or install additional applications. In addition, firmware basic input output system (BIOS) based tracking should be enabled on supported workstations, laptops and mobile devices (for non-supported workstations, laptops and mobile



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Update description	Security safeguard name	Current safeguard description	Updated safeguard description
			devices asset tracking should be implemented through the data loss prevention security safeguard)
Update to the security safeguard description	File integrity	All configurations associated with server and network components are associated with a unique value known as a hash value. The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations.	All configurations associated with server and network components are associated with a unique value known as a hash value. The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations via hash value validation.
Update to the security safeguard description	Data loss prevention	The protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or at an end point. To prevent the loss of electronic personal information specifically via workstations or laptops.	The protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or at an end point.  To prevent the loss of electronic personal information specifically via workstations, laptops and mobile devices.  Furthermore, track assets via data end



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

Update description	Security safeguard name	Current safeguard description	Updated safeguard description
			points, if firmware basic input output system (BIOS) based asset tracking (Workstation, laptop and mobile security safeguard) is not supported on workstations, laptops or mobile devices.

The model of operation of security safeguards which follows this chapter is based on the updates to the security safeguard names and descriptions as reflected in Table 8.4 above.

### 8.5.4 VALIDATION OF THE SELECTION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

The selection of security safeguards within the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework were valid given the level of applicability (each security safeguard proposed exceeded a 90% level of applicability) and completeness (there were updates to the name of the security safeguard or the description associated with the security safeguard, however no additional security safeguards were identified) associated with the selection of security safeguards. Therefore, it is recommended that the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, which includes a validated selection of security safeguards as part of the "Secure" phase, be used by South African institutions to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information.



Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards

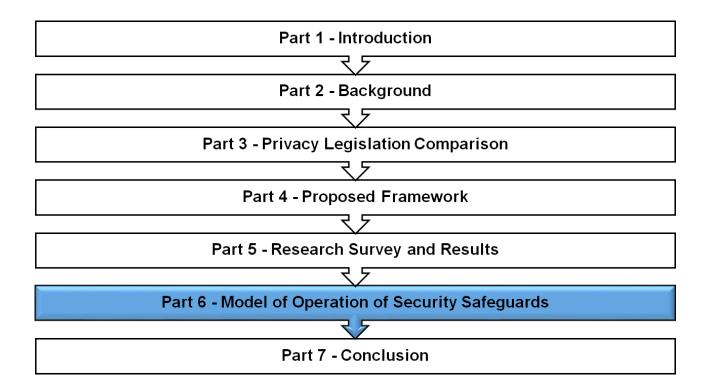
#### 8.6 Conclusion

This chapter concluded Part 5 (Research Survey and Results) of this thesis by presenting an analysis of the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. This analysis was achieved by firstly, providing an overview of the selection of security safeguards across 3 domains (management, operational and technical) from several leading practices, as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework in Chapter 5, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). Secondly, research question 4 was addressed by assessing the current state of security safeguards through exploring the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness associated with the selection of security safeguards. In addition, research question 5 was addressed by assessing the validity of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework. Lastly, a critical evaluation in terms of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results was provided.

The updates to the selection of security safeguards identified in this chapter forms the basis of Part 6 (Model of Operation of Security Safeguards) of this thesis, in Chapter 9.



### PART 6 - MODEL OF OPERATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS





### **CHAPTER 9 - MODEL OF OPERATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS**

Part 1 - Int	roduction
Tare 1 - Inte	5
Chapter 1 - I	ntroduction
	7
Part 2 - Ba	ckground
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privac	y and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape
7	7
Chapter 3 - South Afric	an Privacy Legislation
	7
Part 3 - Privacy Legi	siation Comparison
7	7
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Uni	on and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines
Part 4 - Propos	ed Framework
7	7
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework wit	h a Selection of Security Safeguards
7	7
Part 5 - Research S	Survey and Results
Chapter 6 - POPI	Z Research Survey
7	5
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPIA	Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act
7	7
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and	d Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards
Dout C. Madal of Operation	n of Conveity Cofeminards
Part 6 - Model of Operation	n or Security Saleguards
Chapter 9 - Model of Operat	tion of Security Safeguards
4	7
Part 7 - Co	onclusion
Chapter 10 -	Z Conclusion
533p 33 32	



### 9.1 Introduction

Chapter 8 provided the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act, (Act 4 of 2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. In addition, the validity of the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework within Chapter 5 was also assessed. This chapter addresses research question 6 - How can the security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013)?

This chapter proposes a model of operation of security safeguards to guide one on how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). This includes an overview of the revised selection of security safeguards which forms the basis for the model of operation of security safeguards. In addition, the prerequisites applicable to the model of operation of security safeguards are provided. Lastly, this chapter provides the benefits and limitations associated with the model of operation of security safeguards as part of a critical evaluation.

### 9.2 Revised Selection of Security Safeguards

In Chapter 8, the validity of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework was assessed. This assessment revealed that the selection of security safeguards within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework were valid given the level of applicability (each security safeguard proposed exceeded a 90% level of applicability) and completeness (updates to the names and descriptions of certain security safeguards but no additional security safeguards were identified) associated with the selection of security safeguards. As such, Table 9.1 on the next page provides the revised selection of security safeguards (updates highlighted in italics) applicable to the model of operation of security safeguards to be considered for



implementation to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

Table 9.1: Revised Selection of Security Safeguards

Number	Security safeguard name	Security safeguard description	
	Management domain		
1	M1: Information Security Governance	Leadership, organisational structures as well as clear roles and responsibilities (ISACA, 2006 and ISO, 2013) for safeguarding electronic personal information.	
2	M2: Risk Management	Governance, evaluation and a response to risks presented by electronic personal information (ISACA, 2009 and 2014c).	
3	M3: Information Security Policy	Management direction and support for information security to be achieved through a formally defined and approved information security policy (ISO, 2013).	
4	M4: Supplier and Service Level Management	Contracts in place with third party operators external to the institution as well as internal stakeholders within the institution responsible for providing services in relation to electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c and OGCUK, 2007a).	
5	M5: Business Continuity Management	The ability to recover from a business interruption in the most effective and efficient manner (Drewitt, 2013, ISACA, 2014c, ISO 2012 and 2013), which includes the recovery of electronic personal information maintained by an institution.	
	Operational domain		
6	O1: Security Procedures and Processes	Security procedures and processes in place to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. The security procedure and process areas	



Number	Security safeguard name	Security safeguard description
		to be considered include: change and configuration management, patch management, availability management, incident management, backup management, user account and access management (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b) as well as the management of encryption keys to secure data channels (BSI, 2005).
7	O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security Standards	All server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, web servers, network components (firewalls, routers, wireless) that form part of the technology infrastructure, to enable the protection of electronic personal information, should apply baseline infrastructure security standards as a security safeguard to prevent the adoption of default configurations and to ensure consistent configurations (NIST, 2013).
8	O3: Security Awareness and Training	Employees, contractors or third party operators need to be provided with awareness and training with regards to information security (ISO, 2013, NIST, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b), with a specific focus on the security of electronic personal information.
9	O4: Security Monitoring, Incident and Reporting	All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c, NIST, 2013 and OGCUK, 2007b). Security monitoring to include persistent and remote asset tracking.
10	O5: Security Assessment	Regular security assessments to be performed in order to assess the security posture of the institution from a technical, organisational, procedural, administrative or



Number	Security	Convity antoquard description	
Number	safeguard name	Security safeguard description	
		physical security perspective (NIST, 2013 and Palmer et	
		al., 2001).	
		People, processes and technology associated with the	
		storage, processing and transmission of electronic	
11	O6: Disaster	personal information to ensure continued operations to	
	Recovery	be defined (Drewitt, 2013, ISO 2012 and 2013, and NIST	
		2013).	
		Technical domain	
		Application and database servers that respectively	
		process and store personal information are located on a	
	T1: Network Segmentation	dedicated network segment (may be a wired or	
12		wireless network or a combination thereof) that is	
		separated from the rest of the corporate network (NIST,	
		2013).	
		All electronic personal information transmitted (flowing	
	T2: Encryption (previously encrypted data channels)	into and out of the dedicated network segment) and	
13		stored, is encrypted and access to the data channels	
		and <b>storage</b> ( <b>databases</b> ) is strictly monitored and	
		controlled (ISO, 2013 and NIST, 2013).	
		All server and network (may be a wired or wireless	
	T3: Server and	network or a combination thereof) components are	
14	Network	configured to implement the defined baseline	
	Component	infrastructure security standards (ISACA, 2014c and	
	Security	NIST, 2013).	
15	T4: Workstation, Laptop and	Workstations, laptops and <i>mobile devices</i> are	
		configured to implement the defined baseline	
	Mobile Security	infrastructure security standards and are locked down to	
	•	prevent the user to change the configuration or install	
	(previously workstation and	additional applications (ISACA, 2014c and NIST, 2013).	



Number	Security safeguard name	Security safeguard description
	laptop security)	In addition, firmware basic input output system (BIOS) based tracking should be enabled on supported workstations, laptops and mobile devices (for non-supported workstations, laptops and mobile devices asset tracking should be implemented through the data loss prevention security safeguard).
16	T5: File Integrity	All configurations associated with server and network components are associated with a unique value known as a hash value (ISACA, 2014c and OGCUK, 2007b). The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations <i>via hash value validation</i> .
17	T6: Firewalls	A firewall should be used to separate the application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information located on a dedicated network segment from the rest of the corporate network (NIST, 2013).
18	T7: Physical and Environmental Security	Physical and environmental security safeguards in place within the server rooms hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information. Physical security safeguards to control access to the server rooms and environmental security safeguards to provide alternate power sources to ensure availability as well as to protect against environmental hazards such as floods and fire should be in place (ISACA, 2014c, ISO, 2013 and NIST, 2013).
19	T8: Centralised	Audit logs to be maintained for all applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with storing,



Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Number	Security safeguard name	Security safeguard description	
	Audit Logging	processing and transmitting electronic personal	
		information. All the audit logs maintained should be sent	
		to a centralised audit logging server where analysis may	
		be performed to identify ineffective security safeguards	
		as well as security incidents and to serve as the basis for	
	conducting an investigation in the event of a da		
		of electronic personal information (ISACA, 2014c, ISO,	
		2013 and NIST, 2013).	
		The protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or	
	T9: Data Loss Prevention	at an end point. To prevent the loss of electronic	
		personal information specifically via workstations,	
		laptops and mobile devices (ISACA 2014b, ISO 2012	
20		and NIST 2013). Furthermore, track assets via data	
		end points, if firmware basic input output system	
		(BIOS) based asset tracking (Workstation, laptop and	
		mobile security safeguard) is not supported on	
		workstations, laptops or mobile devices.	

The revised selection of security safeguards as per Table 9.1 above, to be considered for implementation to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) forms the basis for the model of operation of security safeguards. In addition, the implementation of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with a prerequisite in the form of the identification of electronic personal information.

# 9.3 PREREQUISITES APPLICABLE TO THE MODEL OF OPERATION OF SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

In order to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information the identification of such information is required based on where it is stored, processed and

transmitted within an institution, as per the "Identify" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework. This creates a platform for selecting and implementing the appropriate security safeguards from Table 9.1 above, to ultimately ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. Therefore, the identification of electronic personal information is a prerequisite applicable to the implementation of the model of operation of security safeguards.

This prerequisite may be achieved by the process highlighted in Figure 9.1 below, which entails locating all the business processes in the institution associated with electronic personal information. Within each business process the information assets which store, process and transmit electronic personal information should be determined. This will result in the identification of all the input, processing and storage information assets such as web sites or mobile applications, applications and databases. Each storage information asset (database) identified should be queried to confirm the electronic personal information stored by the institution as well as to confirm the source of the electronic personal information in terms of the associated processing information asset (application) to which the data storage information asset (database) is linked as well as the data channels for transmission of electronic personal information between the web site or mobile application, application and database. Thereafter, the platform for applying the model of operation of safeguards is in place to ultimately ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.



Figure 9.1: Prerequisite Electronic Personal Information Identification Process



By way of example, as illustrated in Figure 9.2 below, the prerequisite electronic personal information identification process is applied to a customer business process whereby a customer enters electronic personal information such as for example, their name, address, identity number and contact details via a web site.

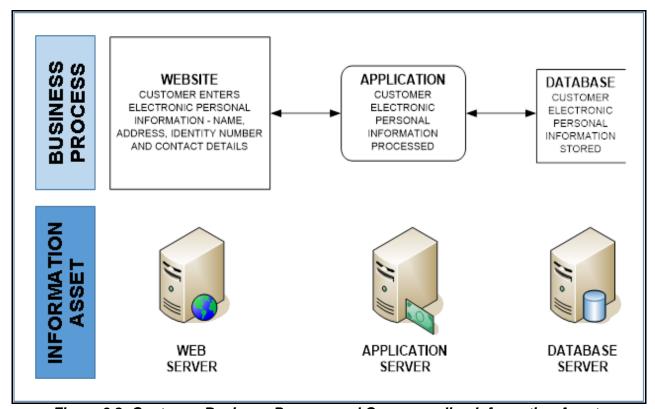


Figure 9.2: Customer Business Process and Corresponding Information Assets

The electronic personal information provided by the customer captured via the web site is transmitted to the application, which in turn stores it in a database. Therefore, the input information asset is the web server hosting the web site and the processing information asset is the application server and the storage information asset is the database server. The database should then be queried to ensure that the name, address, identity number and contact details electronic personal information is stored. In so doing, the number of customer records may also be determined. Lastly, the data source of the electronic personal information stored in the database should be confirmed to the associated application and the data channels which enable the transmission of electronic personal information between the web site, application and database should also be confirmed.



This should result in a mapping of the all the input, processing and storage information assets as well as the data channels associated with electronic personal information as illustrated in Table 9.2 below, based on the aforementioned example.

Table 9.2: Mapping of Input, Processing and Storage Information Assets and Data Channels

Associated with Electronic Personal Information

Business	Input	Processing	Storage	
process	information	information	information	Data channels
	asset	asset	asset	
				Web Server
	Web Server	Application Server	Database Server	to/from
				Application
				Server
Customer				
				Application
				Server to/from
				Database
				Server

Once the mapping of the all the input, processing and storage information assets as well as the data channels associated with electronic personal information is complete, the model of operation of safeguards may be applied by selecting and implementing appropriate safeguards to the identified information assets in order to ultimately ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

### 9.4 Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

In order to address the research question associated with this chapter a model of operation of security safeguards is proposed, as illustrated in Figure 9.3 on the next page. This model of operation of security safeguards demonstrates how the selection of security safeguards as per section 9.2 of this chapter should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).



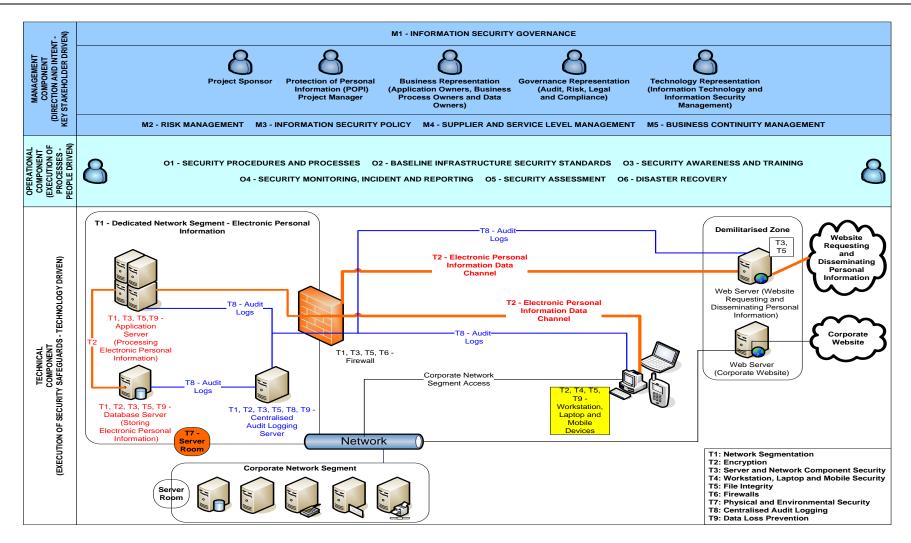


Figure 9.3: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards



The model of operation of security safeguards consists of 3 components based on the 3 domains associated with the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, namely the management component, operational component and technical component. These components are aligned to the management, operational and technical domains of the selection of security safeguards as per the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, as illustrated in Table 9.3 below, since the functionality of each component is dependent on the selection of security safeguards in the respective domain.

Table 9.3: Alignment between Components of the Model of Operation of Security

Safeguards and the Security Safeguard Domains

Components of the model of operation	Security safeguard domains
of safeguards	
Management Component	Management Domain
Operational Component	Operational Domain
Technical Component	Technical Domain

The management component of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with the 5 security safeguards in the management domain as listed in section 9.2 of this chapter. Similarly, the operational and technical components of the model of operation of security safeguards are associated with 6 and 11 security safeguards in the operational and technical domains respectively, as listed in section 9.2 of this chapter.

These components of the model of operation of security safeguards are discussed from section 9.4.1 to 9.4.3 which follows below.

### 9.4.1 MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

The management component of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with 5 security safeguards, as illustrated in Figure 9.4 on the next page, is driven from a key stakeholder perspective to provide direction and demonstrate intent to achieve and maintain compliance with the POPI Act (2013).

Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

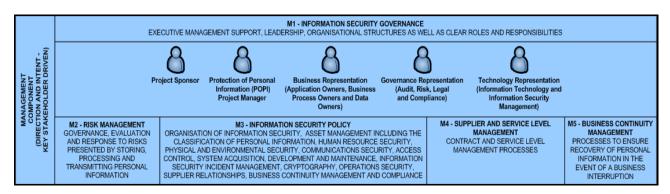


Figure 9.4: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Management Component

Key stakeholders should include, but are not limited to, the project sponsor, project manager/information officer as well as representation from a business, governance and technology. The project sponsor of the POPI project should be responsible for providing strategic direction, support, funding and holding key stakeholders accountable to ensure and maintain compliance with the POPI Act (2013). The POPI project manager/information officer will firstly, drive the initiative to ensure compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and thereafter should be responsible for maintaining compliance with the Act. Business representation is critical in the form of application owners, business process owners and data owners as they would all play a critical role in the identification of personal information within the institution and ensure the compliance with the POPI Act (2013) during the execution of day-to-day activities. Governance representation in the form of audit, risk, legal and compliance will play a pivotal role in providing independent assurance in terms of the extent of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) as the initiative to ensure compliance is underway (audit function). Thereafter, the compliance function will monitor compliance to ensure that the institution is indeed complying with the POPI Act (2013) and the risk management function will manage the non-compliance risk and while the legal function will address legal matters that may arise due to non-compliance with the POPI Act (2013). Technology representation in the form of information technology and information security management will be responsible for the definition, execution and monitoring of processes within the operational domain (information security management) as well as the technology required to implement the security safeguards in the technical domain (information technology management).





As illustrated in Figure 9.4 on the previous page, the management component of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with 5 security safeguards. In terms of the M1: Information Security Governance security safeguard executive management support and leadership is required to drive the POPI compliance initiative. In addition, the organisational structures such as a formal steering committee to oversee the POPI compliance initiative as well as clear roles and responsibilities for safeguarding electronic personal information need to be defined.

This is followed by the M2: Risk Management security safeguard which requires the governance, evaluation and a response to risks presented by storing, processing and transmitting electronic personal information that may lead to non-compliance with the POPI Act (2013). This may form part of the overall enterprise wide risk management processes and the risk register of the institution should include risks relating to the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information.

The M3: Information Security Policy security safeguard requires a formally defined, approved and implemented information security policy addressing the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as it relates to the organisation of information security, asset management, human resource security, physical and environmental security, communication security, access control, system acquisition, development and maintenance, information security incident management, cryptography, operations security, supplier relationships, business continuity management and compliance.

The next security safeguard is M4: Supplier and Service Level Management where contract and service level management processes are applied to third party contractors external to the institution as well as internal stakeholders within the institution. Therefore, contracts and service level agreements should include a clear definition of roles and responsibilities, misuse of electronic personal information and the penalties that may be imposed in the event of a breach of contract or lack of service as per the defined service levels in relation to electronic personal information. A breach of contract may be the lack of security safeguards by the third party resulting in a data breach of electronic personal



information and a lack of service may be the inability of a third party to provide access to electronic personal information.

Lastly, the *M5: Business Continuity Management* security safeguard ensures that the recovery of electronic personal information in the event of a business interruption should not be overlooked. As such, the processes and parameters for acceptable recovery of electronic personal information should be defined as part of the business continuity plan. In addition, the recovery of electronic personal information should also form part of the testing associated with business continuity management processes.

### 9.4.2 OPERATIONAL COMPONENT

The operational component of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with 6 security safeguards, as illustrated in Figure 9.5 below, which encapsulates the execution of processes driven from a people perspective.



Figure 9.5: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Operational Component

The O1: Security Procedures and Processes security safeguard within the operational component requires the definition, approval and implementation of security procedures and processes to address electronic personal information. As such, security procedures and processes for change and configuration management, patch management, availability management, incident management, backup management, user account and access management as well as the management of encryption keys to secure data channels and



enforce encryption should be defined or updated if they already exist, to specifically make provision for electronic personal information.

To prevent the adoption of default configurations and to ensure consistent configurations of all technology infrastructure (server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, network components (firewalls, routers, wireless) and web servers), which store, process or transmit electronic personal information, the *O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security Standards* security safeguard within the operational component requires the definition of baseline infrastructure security standards. Once defined, the baseline infrastructure security standards should be approved for implementation.

The O3: Security Awareness and Training security safeguard within operational component specifies the need for employees, contractors or third party operators to be provided with security awareness and training, specifically focused on securing electronic personal information. The security awareness and training may take the form of formal awareness and training sessions as well as via communication platforms such as posters, videos and emails.

In order for the *O4:* Security Monitoring, Incident and Reporting security safeguard within the operational component to be effective, all audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with electronic personal information needs to maintain audit logs. This will enable security monitoring, incident identification and reporting for all applications and the technology infrastructure associated with electronic personal information. In addition, security monitoring should encompass persistent and remote asset tracking of all information assets that store, process or transmit electronic personal information. The incident aspect of this safeguard should provide for the ability to identify a security incident associated electronic personal information. Lastly, the reporting aspect of this safeguard should cater for the ability to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information.



The *O5:* Security Assessment security safeguard is in place to test the security posture from a technical, institutional, procedural, administrative or physical security perspective as it relates to electronic personal information. As such, security assessments in the form of penetration tests should be performed on a regular basis to identify technical, organisational, procedural, administrative or physical security weaknesses. The weaknesses identifies should be dealt with in an effective and efficient manner to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

In the event of a disaster, to continue operations electronic personal may be required by the institution therefore the *O6: Disaster Recovery* security safeguard within the operational component requires the people, processes and technology associated with electronic personal information to be defined. As such in the event of a disaster, the people, processes and technology associated with electronic personal information should enable the recovery of the required electronic personal information to ensure continued operations.

The security procedures and processes, baseline infrastructure security standards, security awareness and training, security monitoring, incident and reporting as well as the security assessment security safeguards within the operational component are as a result of the information security policy and risk management security safeguards of the management component. In addition, the security monitoring, incident and reporting security safeguard of the operational component is utilised to enforce the supplier and service level management aspect within the management domain. The disaster recovery security safeguard of the operational component provides the people, processes and technology required to ensure continued operations in the event of a disaster and is a direct result of the business continuity management security safeguard of the management component.



#### 9.4.3 TECHNICAL COMPONENT

The technical component of the model of operation of security safeguards is associated with 9 security safeguards, as illustrated in Figure 9.6 below, is technology driven to enable the execution of security safeguards.

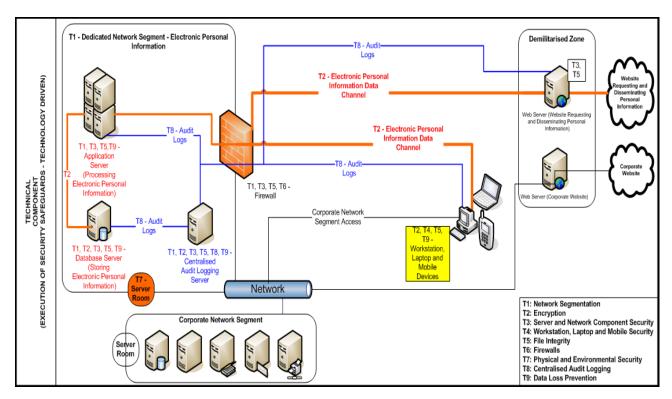


Figure 9.6: Model of Operation of Security Safeguards - Technical Component

The model of operation of security safeguards is premised on the centralisation of electronic personal information and this is supported by the *T1: Network Segmentation* security safeguard. As such, the *T1: Network Segmentation* security safeguard will enable the creation of a central point for the processing and storing of electronic personal information. Therefore, all application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information should be located on a dedicated network segment (may be a wired or wireless network or a combination thereof) that is separated from the rest of the corporate network.

The T2: Encryption safeguard is the next security safeguard within the technical component of the model of operation of safeguards. This safeguard deals with the



encryption of all electronic personal information that is stored or transmitted. Therefore, all information assets, such as databases, which store electronic personal information should be identified and encrypted. In addition, all electronic personal information transmitted (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) should take place over encrypted data channels, therefore it is critical to identify all data channels associated with electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment. The use of encryption will significantly increase the ability to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

The next security safeguard *T3:* Server and Network Component Security deals with implementing the approved baseline infrastructure security standards defined within the O2: Baseline Infrastructure Security Standards security safeguard as part of the operational component of the model of operation of security safeguards. As such, all technology infrastructure components (server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, network (firewalls, routers, wireless) and web servers), which store, process or transmit electronic personal information should be configured in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure standards.

The security safeguard *T4: Workstation, Laptop and Mobile Security* is applicable to workstations, laptops and mobile devices in a similar fashion to the security safeguard *T3: Server and Network Component Security*, which was applicable to server and network components. As such, all workstations, laptops and mobile devices in an institution, with access to electronic personal information should be configured in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure standards. Furthermore, workstations and laptops should be locked down to prevent users to change the configuration or install additional applications. In addition, to track the location of workstations, laptops and mobile devices, if supported, firmware basic input output system (BIOS) based tracking should be implemented.

The *T5:* File Integrity security safeguard ensures the integrity of all configurations associated with server and network components. Therefore, after configuring all server



and network components which store, process or transmit electronic personal information in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure standards, each configuration should be associated with a unique value known as a hash value. Thereafter, on a regular basis, to ensure that no unauthorised changes were affected to configurations of server and network devices hash value validation should be performed. This validation entails comparing the hash value associated with configuration to the hash value generated during hash value validation, if no changes were affected to the configuration the hash values should match and in the event of unauthorised changes to the configuration the hash values will not match. In the event of authorised changes to a configuration as a result of an approved update to the baseline infrastructure standard, a new hash value should be generated to be associated with the updated configuration.

The next security safeguard *T6: Firewalls* enables the separation of the application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information located on a dedicated network segment from the rest of the corporate network. Therefore, a firewall should be deployed as part of the dedicated network segment to create the segmentation between the dedicated network segment and the corporate network segment. In addition, the firewall should be used to control access to the dedicated network segment.

In terms of the security safeguard, *T7: Physical and Environmental Security*, physical and environmental security safeguards need to be in place within the server rooms hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information. Physical security safeguards will allow for physically securing the server rooms hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated electronic personal information by strictly controlling physical access to the server rooms. To address environmental hazards such as floods and fire the server rooms require environmental controls to be deployed to mitigate the associated risk.



The T8: Centralised Audit Logging security safeguard necessitates audit logs to be maintained for all applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with storing, processing and transmitting electronic personal information. These audit logs should be sent to a centralised audit logging server located in the dedicated network segment. The centralised audit logging server should analyse the audit logs in order to identify ineffective security safeguards and security incidents. In addition, the centralised audit logging based on the audit logs maintained will play a critical part when conducting an investigation in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information.

Lastly the *T9: Data Loss Prevention* security safeguard enables the prevention of electronic personal information within the institution specifically focused on workstations, laptops and mobile devices. As such, data loss prevention should be enforced on workstations, laptops or mobile devices that have access to electronic personal information. In addition, as an additional layer of security it is also recommended to implement data loss prevention on servers within the dedicated network segment such as the application, database and centralised audit logging servers to prevent the loss of electronic personal information.

Based on how the security safeguards within the technical component of the model of operation of safeguards should be implemented, Table 9.4 below demonstrates the relationship between the information assets, data channels and the associated security safeguards within the technical component of the model of operation of safeguards as illustrated in Figure 9.6 above. The process to identify the information assets is provided and illustrated in Table 9.2 above within section 9.3 of this chapter.

Table 9.4: Relationship between the Information Assets, Data Channels and the Associated Security Safeguards

Information	asset /	Associated security safeguard (technical component)
data channel		
Dedicated	Network	T1: Network Segmentation - The dedicated network segment
Segment		that is created which is separated from the corporate network



Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Information asset /	Associated security safeguard (technical component)		
data channel			
	segment and consists of the application server (processing		
	electronic personal information), database server (storing		
	electronic personal information) and the centralised audit		
	logging server.		
Application Server	T1: Network Segmentation - The application server processing		
(Processing Electronic	electronic personal information forms part of the dedicated		
Personal Information)	network segment.		
	T3: Server and Network Component Security - The application		
	server processing electronic personal information is configured		
	in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure		
	security standards.		
	T5: File Integrity - The configuration of the application server		
	processing electronic personal information is associated with a		
	hash value and via file integrity monitoring it is subject to hash		
	value validation to ensure no unauthorised changes to the		
	configuration implemented as per the approved baseline		
	infrastructure security standards.		
	T9: Data Loss Prevention - The application server processing		
	electronic personal information implements data loss		
	prevention to prevent the loss of electronic personal		
	information.		
Database Server	T1: Network Segmentation - The database server storing		
(Storing Electronic	electronic personal information forms part of the dedicated		
Personal Information)	network segment.		
	T2: Encryption - The database server storing electronic		



# Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Information asset /	/ Associated security safeguard (technical component)		
data channel			
	personal information is encrypted.  T3: Server and Network Component Security - The database		
	server storing electronic personal information is configured in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.		
	T5: File Integrity - The configuration of the database server storing electronic personal information is associated with a hash value and via file integrity monitoring it is subject to hash value validation to ensure no unauthorised changes to the configuration implemented as per the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.		
	T9: Data Loss Prevention - The database server storing electronic personal information implements data loss prevention to prevent the loss of electronic personal information.		
Centralised Audit Logging Server	T1: Network Segmentation - The centralised audit logging server forms part of the dedicated network segment.		
	T2: Encryption - The centralised audit logging server is encrypted to secure the audit logs stored for further analysis.		
	T3: Server and Network Component Security - The centralised audit logging server is configured in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.		
	T5: File Integrity - The configuration of the centralised audit		



Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Information asset /	Associated security safeguard (technical component)		
data channel			
	logging server is associated with a hash value and via file integrity monitoring it is subject to hash value validation to		
	ensure no unauthorised changes to the configuration implemented as per the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.		
	T8: Centralised Audit Logging - All audit logs from workstations, laptops, mobile devices, the web site requesting and disseminating electronic personal information as well as the audit logs from the application server processing electronic personal information and the database server storing electronic personal information is sent for analysis to the centralised audit logging server.		
	T9: Data Loss Prevention - The centralised audit logging server implements data loss prevention to prevent the loss of audit logs stored for further analysis.		
Server Room	T7: Physical and Environmental Security - The server room hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure (dedicated network segment which contains the application, database and centralised audit logging servers) associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information implements physical and environmental security.		
Firewall	T3: Server and Network Component Security - The firewall is configured in accordance with the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.  T5: File Integrity - The configuration of the firewall is associated		



Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Information asset /	Associated security safeguard (technical component)		
data channel			
	with a hash value and via file integrity monitoring it is subject to		
	hash value validation to ensure no unauthorised changes to		
	the configuration implemented as per the approved baseline		
	infrastructure security standards.		
	T6: Firewalls - The firewall is implemented to control access to		
	the dedicated network segment that hosts the application,		
	database and centralised audit logging servers.		
Workstations, Laptops	T2: Encryption - The workstations, laptops or mobile devices		
or Mobile Devices	are encrypted to secure the associated electronic personal		
	information.		
	T4: Workstation, Laptop and Mobile Security - Workstations,		
	laptops or mobile devices are configured in accordance with		
	the approved baseline infrastructure security standards and		
	locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or		
	install additional applications. Furthermore, firmware basic		
	input output system (BIOS) based tracking is implemented on		
	supported devices.		
	T5: File Integrity - The configuration of workstations, laptops or		
	mobile devices are associated with a hash value and via file		
	integrity monitoring it is subject to hash value validation to		
	ensure no unauthorised changes to the configuration		
	implemented as per the approved baseline infrastructure		
	security standards.		
	T9: Data Loss Prevention - The workstations, laptops or mobile		
	devices implement data loss prevention to prevent the loss of		
	electronic personal information and asset tracking is enabled		



Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

Information asset /	Associated security safeguard (technical component)			
data channel				
	on workstations, laptops or mobile devices that do not support			
	firmware basic input output system (BIOS) based tracking.			
Web Server (Web site	T3: Server and Network Component Security - The web server			
Requesting and	hosting the web site requesting and disseminating electronic			
Disseminating	personal information is configured in accordance with the			
Electronic Personal	approved baseline infrastructure security standards.			
Information)				
	T5: File Integrity - The configuration of the web server hosting			
	the web site requesting and disseminating electronic personal			
	information is associated with a hash value and via file integrity			
	monitoring it is subject to hash value validation to ensure no			
	unauthorised changes to the configuration implemented as per			
	the approved baseline infrastructure security standards.			
Electronic Personal	T2: Encryption - All data channels that enable the transmission			
Information Data	of electronic personal information are encrypted.			
Channel				

In essence, the security safeguards within the technical component of the model of operation of safeguards, as illustrated in Figure 9.6, involves segmenting the network to include application, database and other servers associated with electronic personal information in a separate dedicated network segment from the rest of the corporate network. Furthermore, all electronic personal information that enters or leaves the separate dedicated network segment should utilise encrypted data channels as well as a firewall at the perimeter of the dedicated network segment. The servers, network components, workstations and laptops that store, process and transmit personal information should be secured by the implementation of the defined and approved baseline infrastructure security standards. These configurations should form part of file integrity monitoring processes via hash value validation to identify any changes to the configurations. Physical access to the server rooms where the actual servers are located



that store, process and transmit electronic personal information should be strictly controlled and the server room should appropriately mitigate risks associated with environmental hazards. In the event of a data breach where electronic personal information is compromised a central audit logging server which should maintain audit logs of all applications and technology infrastructure components will serve as the critical evidence source during an investigation. Lastly, data loss prevention should be implemented to ensure that electronic personal information is not leaked from workstations, laptops or mobile devices as well as servers that store, process and transmit electronic personal information.

The model of operation of security safeguards through the management, operational and technical components clearly guides one on how the selection of security safeguards as per section 9.2 of this chapter should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). The next section which follows provides a critical evaluation of the model of operation of security safeguards.

#### 9.5 Critical Evaluation - Benefits and Limitations

A critical evaluation of the model of operation of security safeguards led to the identification of benefits and limitations associated with the model of operation of security safeguards.

Sikhungo (2016) states that: "POPI does not provide a "tick list" of security requirements to meet". Gawande (2012) is however a huge proponent of the "tick list" approach, also referred to as the "checklist" approach, and argues that it is often overlooked when addressing complex problems and provides a means to ensure that all aspects are covered quickly and concisely. As such a major benefit of the model of operation of security safeguards is that it not only provides South African institutions with a "tick list" of security requirements in the form of the selection of security safeguards within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework (which were validated by 167 participants), but goes a step further by providing guidance on how the selection of security safeguards



### Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

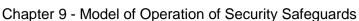
The model of operation of security safeguards may be applied within any institution in the public or private sector, independent of the institution size or industry sector, that needs to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information required to ultimately achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

Furthermore, the model of operation of security safeguards has a pre-requisite for identifying all electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted by an institution. As a result, an approach to identify all the electronic personal information is provided as part of the model of operation of security safeguards as a precursor in section 9.3 of Chapter 9.

Another major benefit associated with the model of operation of security safeguards is that from a technical component perspective, since the model of operation of security safeguards is premised on the creation of a dedicated network segment for the processing and storing of electronic personal information, separate from the corporate network, it may be applied to centralised or decentralised architectures. In a centralised architecture a single dedicated network segment is created and the storage and processing of electronic personal information all occurs at the single dedicated network segment. For example, in a centralised architecture if the single dedicated network segment is at head office and when electronic personal information is received at a regional level, this information will be transmitted to the single dedicated network segment at head office for storage or processing. An advantage of applying the model of operation of safeguards to a centralised architecture is that it offers easier administration, reduces the need to apply multiple safeguards in multiple locations.

In a decentralised architecture there is more than one dedicated network segment for the processing and storing of electronic personal information. For example, in a decentralised





architecture there is a dedicated network segment at head office for all storage and processing of electronic personal information in that environment and there are dedicated network segments at regional level for storing and processing electronic personal information at those specific levels. An advantage of applying the model of operation of safeguards to a decentralised architecture is that it eliminates a central point of failure and offers enhanced performance with multiple locations for storing and processing electronic personal information.

In addition, the model of operation of security safeguards applies the defence in depth principle (several security safeguards in place instead of a single security safeguard to protect information assets) based on the selection of security safeguards from the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework associated with the model of operation of security safeguards. For example, the dedicated network segment responsible for storing and processing of electronic personal information advocates the use of a firewall (*T6: Firewalls* security safeguard) in conjunction with encrypting (*T2: Encryption* security safeguard) electronic personal information transmitted and stored.

The strategic and operational components of the model of operation of security safeguards may be applied to personal information in both electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) and non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems).

The model of operation of security safeguards is dependent on a selection of security safeguards, ideally the selection of security safeguards from the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, in support of the management, operational and technical components defined within the model.

There are limitations associated with the application of the model of operation based on the architecture. As such, applying the model of operation of security safeguards to a centralised architecture is that it creates a central point of failure and if there are multiple locations, which are geographically dispersed there may be performance related issues



### Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards

impacting the processing and storage of electronic personal information. The application of the model of operation of security safeguards in a decentralised architecture may lead to greater costs as multiple security safeguards need to be implemented in multiple locations and there is a greater deal of administration required.

The last limitation associated with the model of operation of security safeguards is that the technical domain is applicable only to personal information in electronic format.

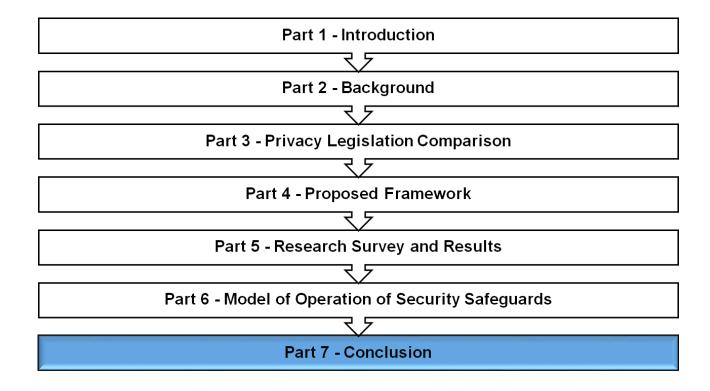
#### 9.6 CONCLUSION

This chapter concluded Part 6 (Model of Operation of Security Safeguards) of this thesis by addressing research question 6 through a proposed model of operation of security safeguards. The proposed model of operation of security safeguards provided guidance on how the selection of security safeguards within the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework should be implemented to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). This included an overview of the revised selection of security safeguards as a result of the POPI research survey results in Chapter 8 and the prerequisites applicable to the model of operation of security safeguards. Lastly, the benefits and limitations associated with the model of operation of security safeguards was provided as part of a critical evaluation.

Part 7 (Conclusion), through the final chapter which follows, is devoted to concluding this thesis.



### **PART 7 - CONCLUSION**





## **CHAPTER 10 - CONCLUSION**

Part 1 - Introduction				
Chapter 1 - Introduction				
. 35				
Part 2 - Background				
Chapter 2 - Concept and Principles of Privacy and Global Privacy Legislative Landscape				
3				
Chapter 3 - South African Privacy Legislation				
Port 2 Privacy Louislation Companies				
Part 3 - Privacy Legislation Comparison				
Chapter 4 - Extent to which the Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa addresses the International 2013 OECD Guidelines				
3				
Part 4 - Proposed Framework				
Chapter 5 - Proposed Framework with a Selection of Security Safeguards				
75				
Part 5 - Research Survey and Results				
Chapter 6 - POPI Research Survey				
Chapter o - Portressearch survey				
Chapter 7 - Level of Compliance with the POPI Act and Specifically Condition 7 of the POPI Act				
Chapter 8 - Current State of Security Safeguards and Validation of the Selection of Security Safeguards				
Traplet of Surface of Society Surface of Society Surface of Surfac				
Part 6 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards				
Chapter 9 - Model of Operation of Security Safeguards				
7/				
Part 7 - Conclusion				
Chapter 10 - Conclusion				



#### 10.1 Introduction

In Chapter 9, a model of operation of security safeguards to guide one on how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Act 4 of 2013) was proposed. This chapter assesses the extent to which the research problem guided by research questions and the research objectives defined in Chapter 1 have been addressed. Furthermore, the research contribution associated with this thesis is provided followed by potential areas of future research.

#### 10.2 RESEARCH PROBLEM ADDRESSED

Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), requires a selection of security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information. However, the research problem identified was that the legislative requirement of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) is spelt out in Sections 19, 20, 21 and 22, but the requirements are not supported by specific guidance in terms of how the requirements should be satisfied. There is also no specific guidance on the security safeguards, as required in Section 19, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of specifically electronic personal information for the purpose of this thesis. Sikhungo (2016) confirmed this problem and stated that: "POPI does not provide a "tick list" of security requirements to meet. Responsible parties must consider applicable industry security practices and then implement security appropriate security measures for the business." Therefore, in providing a solution to the aforementioned research problem, specifically focused on Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) and limited to electronic personal information, the following 6 research questions formulated and associated with the research problem were addressed as follows:

 Research question 1 - To what extent does the privacy legislation of the European Union (EU) and South Africa addresses the international 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines?

Chapter 4 of the thesis provided an analysis in terms of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa address the international 2013



Organisation for OECD guidelines. In addition, a critical evaluation of the analysis in terms of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines led to the identification of similarities and differences associated with the privacy legislation compared as part of the analysis.

 Research question 2 - How can South African institutions, who store, process and transmit electronic personal information achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), including the security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?

By addressing this research question a solution directly associated with the research problem was provided within Chapter 5, in the form of a proposed POPI Condition 7 framework to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. The proposed POPI Condition 7 framework consisted of a 4-phased ("Identify", "Secure", "Monitor and Report" and "Remediate") approach, which encapsulated a specific selection of 20 security safeguards across 3 domains (management, operational and technical) as part of the "Secure" phase to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. Furthermore, as a result of a critical evaluation, benefits and limitations associated with the POPI Condition 7 framework were identified.

 Research question 3 - What is the current level of compliance by South African institutions to the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the POPI (2013) Act?

Based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results associated with 167 participants the current level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) as well as with Condition 7 of the Act was ascertained within Chapter 7. Furthermore, the analysis of the POPI research survey results provided the overall level of understanding of



the POPI Act (2013) by the 167 participants who participated in the POPI research survey. In addition, the POPI research survey results provided the financial value associated with electronic personal information as well as the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information. Lastly, a critical evaluation led to the identification of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results.

 Research question 4 - What is the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information?

The analysis of the POPI research survey results associated with 167 participants provided the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information, within Chapter 8. This assessment explored the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the "Secure" of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework. In addition, a critical evaluation led to the identification of key findings and recommendations based on the analysis of the POPI research survey results.

 Research question 5 - To what extent is the selection of security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis valid?

By obtaining an understanding the current state of security safeguards in terms of applicability and completeness, the validity of the selection of security safeguards within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework was provided in Chapter 8 of this thesis. Furthermore, as a result of the outcome of the validity of the selection of security safeguards within the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework, key findings and recommendations were identified as part of a critical evaluation.



 Research question 6 - How can the security safeguards proposed as part of the framework within this thesis be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013)?

A model of operation of security safeguards was proposed in Chapter 9 to guide one on how the selection of security safeguards within the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework should be implemented to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). Furthermore, as a result of a critical evaluation benefits and limitations associated with the model of operation of security safeguards were identified.

### 10.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES ACCOMPLISHED

Taking into account the research goal and scope in conjunction with the research problem and associated research questions, this thesis accomplished the following research objectives:

- Explored the concept and principles of privacy as well as the importance of privacy.
   It also provided an overview of the global privacy legislative landscape within Chapter 2.
- Provided an overview of South African privacy legislation in Chapter 3.
- Analysed, in Chapter 4, the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines.
- Chapter 5 proposed a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards
  that may serve as a frame of reference and be used by South African institutions
  that store, process and transmit electronic personal information, to ultimately
  achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).
- Assessed the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act through the POPI research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions within Chapter 7.



- Chapter 8 assessed, through the POPI research survey aimed at participants from South African institutions, the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically related to electronic personal information.
- Validated the selection of security safeguards of the proposed POPI Condition 7
  framework, as part of Chapter 8, by evaluating the applicability and completeness of
  the selection of security safeguards through the POPI research survey aimed at
  participants from South African institutions who store, process and transmit
  electronic personal information.
- Chapter 9 proposed a model of operation of security safeguards to guide how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 10.4 RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION

In light of the achievement of the research objectives there are 2 major research contributions made by this thesis. Firstly, the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework within Chapter 5 would now provide South African institutions with a 4-phased approach to ultimately address the requirements of Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically in relation to electronic personal information. In addition, the "Secure" phase of the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework provides specific guidance on the security safeguards, as required in Section 19, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of specifically electronic personal information. The second major research contribution associated with this thesis is the model of operation of security safeguards as it would provide South African institutions with guidance on how the selection of security safeguards should be implemented to achieve and maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013). In essence, the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework and model of operation of safeguards will greatly assist South African institutions in their journey to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) by ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted.



Furthermore, this thesis may be associated with a research contribution in terms of the concept and principles of privacy, importance of privacy, global privacy legislative landscape and an overview of the South African privacy legislation. This is followed by the research contribution based on the analysis in terms of the extent to which the privacy legislation of the EU and South Africa address the international 2013 OECD guidelines. Lastly, a research contribution is made as it relates to the assessment of the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act, as well as the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions to achieve compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), specifically related to electronic personal information.

#### 10.5 FUTURE RESEARCH

Future research may be conducted in 3 areas as a result of this thesis. Firstly, an analysis in terms of the extent to which revised privacy legislation of the EU effective from 25 May 2018 addresses the international 2013 OECD guidelines. Secondly, an assessment of the level of compliance with the POPI Act (2013) and specifically Condition 7 of the Act as well as the state of security safeguards within South African institutions after the grace period of 1 year to comply expires upon the enforcement of the POPI Act (2013), which is still to be announced. Lastly, upon the enforcement of the POPI Act (2013), an analysis of the extent to which the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework and model of operation of safeguards assisted South African institutions in their journey to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013) by ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted.

Furthermore, in order for the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework and model of operation of safeguards to transcend the academic sphere and reach South African institutions to ultimately assist them in their journey to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition 7 of the POPI Act (2013), by ensuring the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted, this thesis will be made available in the University of Pretoria library and further promoted on social media platforms. In addition, a meeting will be scheduled with the Information Regulator (POPI



Act, 2013) to share the proposed POPI Condition 7 framework and the model of operation of safeguards as this may serve as a frame of reference and assist the Information Regulator when developing further regulations, guidelines or practice notes in support of the POPI Act (2013).

### 10.6 CONCLUSION

Part 7 (Conclusion) of this thesis in this chapter served to conclude the research and as such assessed the extent to which the research problem, guided by research questions and research objectives defined in Chapter 1, were addressed. This was followed by the research contribution associated with the thesis as well as the potential areas of future research.

This chapter is followed by the appendices associated with this thesis as well as a bibliography of research consulted during the formulation of this thesis.



## **APPENDICES**



### APPENDIX A - SUMMARY OF HIGH PROFILE DATA BREACHES

Institution	Data breach details			
Ashley Madison	37 million records exposed including names, hashed passwords,			
	addresses, phone numbers and transaction information.			
Korean	Medical information exposed relating to approximately 90% of			
Pharmaceutical	the South Korean population.			
Information Centre				
Sony Entertainment	Emails between Sony executives, copies of unreleased movies,			
	salaries of executives and movie stars, and personal			
	information, including social security numbers of employees and			
	their dependents exposed.			
U.S. Office of	21.5 million past, present and potential employee records			
Personnel	exposed, which included social security numbers, names,			
Management	addresses, and for some employee records detailed financial			
	and personal information needed to obtain a security clearance,			
	including fingerprints.			
Target	40 million customer credit and debit card records exposed.			
AdultFriendFinder.com	Personal information associated with 412 million users exposed.			
Cisco	Personal information of job-seekers exposed.			
Dropbox	68 million user email addresses and passwords exposed.			
Internal Revenue	Personal information associated with 700 000 American			
Service (IRS)	taxpayers exposed.			
LinkedIn	117 million user email addresses and passwords exposed.			
Philippine Commission	Personal information of every single voter in the Philippines			
on Elections	exposed, equating to approximately 55 million people.			
Snapchat	Personal information associated with 700 current and former			
	employees exposed.			
Yahoo	Personal information associated with 1 billion Yahoo accounts			
	exposed.			

Source: Adapted from Identity Force (2016) and Internet Society (2016)



## APPENDIX B - MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE POPI ACT

Chapter	Chapter	Section
number	description	Section
1	Definitions and	1. Definitions
1	purpose	2. Purpose of Act
		3. Application and interpretation of Act
		4. Lawful processing of personal information
2	Applications	5. Rights of data subjects
2	provisions	6. Exclusions
		7. Exclusion for journalistic, literary or artistic
		Purposes
	Conditions for lawf	ul processing of personal information
	Part A - Processing	g of personal information in general
	Condition 1 -	8. Responsible party to ensure conditions for
	Accountability	lawful processing
	Condition 2 -	9. Lawfulness of processing
		10. Minimality
	Processing limitation	11. Consent, justification and objection
	Illilitation	12. Collection directly from data subject
	Condition 3 -	13. Collection for specific purpose
3	Purpose	14. Retention and restriction of records
	specification	
	Condition 4 -	15. Further processing to be compatible with
	Further	purpose of collection
	processing	
	limitation	
	Condition 5 -	16. Quality of information
	Information	
	quality	
	Condition 6 -	17. Documentation



Chapter	Chapter	O and the second
number	description	Section
	Openness	18. Notification to data subject when collecting
		personal information
		19. Security measures on integrity and
		confidentiality of personal information
	Condition 7 -	20. Information processed by operator or person
	Security	acting under authority
	safeguards	21. Security measures regarding information
		processed by operator
		22. Notification of security compromises
	Condition 8 -	23. Access to personal information
	Data subject	24. Correction of personal information
	participation	25. Manner of access
		26. Prohibition on processing of special personal
		information
		27. General authorisation concerning special
		personal information
		28. Authorisation concerning data subject's
		religious or philosophical beliefs
	Part B -	29. Authorisation concerning data subject's race
	Processing of	or
	special personal	ethnic origin
	information	30. Authorisation concerning data subject's trade
		union membership
		31. Authorisation concerning data subject's
		political
		persuasion
		32. Authorisation concerning data subject's health
		or sex life
		33. Authorisation concerning data subject's



Chapter	Chapter		Section
number	description		Section
			criminal behaviour or biometric information
	Part C	-	34. Prohibition on processing personal information
	Processing	of	of children
	personal		35. General authorisation concerning personal
	information	of	information of children
	children		
	Exemption fr	rom	36. General
	conditions	for	37. Regulator may exempt processing of personal
4	processing	of	information
	personal		38. Exemption in respect of certain functions
	information		
	Supervision	1	
			39. Establishment of Information Regulator
			40. Powers, duties and functions of Regulator
			41. Appointment, term of office and removal
			of members of Regulator
			42. Vacancies
			43. Powers, duties and functions of Chairperson
			and other members
5	Part A	-	44. Regulator to have regard to certain matters
	Information		45. Conflict of interest
	Regulator		46. Remuneration, allowances, benefits and
			privileges of members
			47. Staff
			48. Powers, duties and functions of chief
			executive officer
			49. Committees of Regulator
			50. Establishment of Enforcement
			Committee



Chapter number	Chapter description	Section
		51. Meetings of Regulator
		52. Funds
		53. Protection of Regulator
		54. Duty of confidentiality
	Part B -	55. Duties and responsibilities of Information Officer
	Information	
	Officer	56. Designation and delegation of deputy information officers
		<ul><li>57. Processing subject to prior authorisation</li><li>58. Responsible party to notify Regulator if</li></ul>
	Prior	processing is subject to prior
6	authorisation	authorisation
	authorisation	59. Failure to notify processing subject to
		prior authorisation
		60. Issuing of codes of conduct
		61. Process for issuing codes of conduct
		62. Notification, availability and
		commencement of code of conduct
		63. Procedure for dealing with complaints
		64. Amendment and revocation of codes of
7	Codes of	conduct
	Conduct	65. Guidelines about codes of conduct
		66. Register of approved codes of conduct
		67. Review of operation of approved code of
		conduct
		68. Effect of failure to comply with code of
		Conduct
0	Rights of data	69. Direct marketing by means of unsolicited
8	subjects	electronic communications



Chapter	Chapter	Castian
number	description	Section
	regarding direct	70. Directories
	marketing by	71. Automated decision making
	means of	
	unsolicited	
	electronic	
	communications,	
	directories and	
	automated	
	decision-making	
9	Trans-border	72. Transfers of personal information outside
3	information flows	Republic
	Enforcement	73. Interference with protection of personal
		information of data subject
		74. Complaints
		75. Mode of complaints to Regulator
		76. Action on receipt of complaint
		77. Regulator may decide to take no action
		on complaint
		78. Referral of complaint to regulatory body
10		79. Pre-investigation proceedings of Regulator
10		80. Settlement of complaints
		81. Investigation proceedings of Regulator
		82. Issue of warrants
		83. Requirements for issuing of warrant
		84. Execution of warrants
		85. Matters exempt from search and seizure
		86. Communication between legal adviser and
		client exempt
		87. Objection to search and seizure



Chapter	Chapter	Saction		
number	description	Section		
		88. Return of warrants		
		89. Assessment		
		90. Information notice		
		91. Parties to be informed of result of assessment		
		92. Matters referred to Enforcement Committee		
		93. Functions of Enforcement Committee		
		94. Parties to be informed of developments during		
		and result of investigation		
		95. Enforcement notice		
		96. Cancellation of enforcement notice		
		97. Right of appeal		
		98. Consideration of appeal		
		99. Civil remedies		
		100. Obstruction of Regulator		
		101. Breach of confidentiality		
		102. Obstruction of execution of warrant		
		103. Failure to comply with enforcement or		
		information notices		
	Offences,	104. Offences by witnesses		
11	penalties and	105. Unlawful acts by responsible party in		
	administrative	connection with account number		
	fines	106. Unlawful acts by third parties in		
		connection with account number		
		107. Penalties		
		108. Magistrate's Court jurisdiction to impose		
		penalties		
		109. Administrative fines		
12	General	110. Amendment of laws		
12	provisions	111. Fees		



Chapter number	Chapter description	Section		
		112. Regulations		
		113. Procedure for making regulations		
		114. Transitional arrangements		
		115. Short title and commencement		

Source: Adapted from POPI Act (2013)



## APPENDIX C - DATA PROTECTION DIRECTIVE

Chapter	Chapter title and related articles
number	
	General provisions
	- Article 1: Object of the directive
1	- Article 2: Definitions
	- Article 3: Scope
	- Article 4: National law applicable
	General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data
	- Article 5: Conditions under which the processing of personal data is
	lawful
	- Article 6: Principles relating to data quality
	- Article 7: Criteria for making data processing legitimate
	- Article 8: Processing of special categories of data
	- Article 9: Processing of personal data and freedom of expression
	- Article 10: Information in cases of collection of data from the data subject
	- Article 11: Information where the data have not been obtained from the
2	data subject
2	- Article 12: Right of access
	- Article 13: Exemptions and restrictions
	- Article 14: Data subjects right to object
	- Article 15: Automated individual decisions
	- Article 16: Confidentiality of processing
	- Article 17: Security of processing
	- Article 18: Obligation to notify the supervisory authority
	- Article 19: Contents of notification
	- Article 20: Prior checking
	- Article 21: Publicising of processing operations
3	Judicial remedies, liability and sanctions
3	- Article 22: Remedies



## Appendix C - Data Protection Directive

Chapter	Chapter title and related articles	
number	Chapter title and related articles	
	- Article 23: Liability	
	- Article 24: Sanctions	
	Transfer of personal data to third countries	
4	- Article 25: Principles	
	- Article 26: Derogations	
Codes of conduct		
3	- Article 27: Codes of conduct	
	Supervisory authority and working party on the protection of individuals with	
	regard to the processing of personal data	
6	- Article 28: Supervisory authority	
	- Article 29 and 30: Working party on the protection of individuals with	
	regard to the processing of personal data	
	Community implementing measures	
	- Article 31: The committee	
7	- Article 32: Final provisions	
	- Article 33: Commission reporting	
	- Article 34: Directive addressed to the member states	

Source: Adapted from Data Protection Directive (1995)

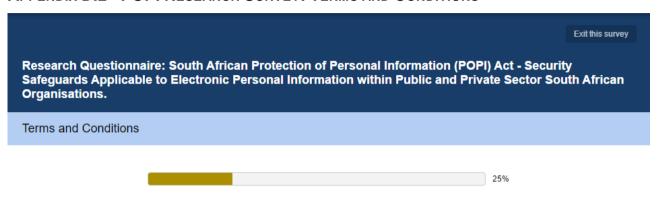
## APPENDIX D - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY

## **APPENDIX D.1 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY: OVERVIEW**

Exit this survey
Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.
Overview
13%
Dear Participant,
I am a student at the University of Pretoria, currently completing my thesis for my PHD Information Technology.
You have been voluntarily invited to participate in a research questionnaire that will contribute towards research, which forms part of my thesis as well as research papers or journal articles.
The purpose of the research questionnaire is to ascertain the extent to which the security safeguards applicable to electronic personal information, to ensure confidentiality and integrity, as required by the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act, have been implemented within public and private sector South African organisations.
Should you agree to participate in the research questionnaire, by accepting the terms and conditions and providing your consent in the next section, your participation will involve completing a research questionnaire that consist of research questions, which should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. The research questionnaire is completely anonymous and at no stage will you be required to provide identifying information such as personal information (title, name, surname and email address) or your organisations name.
As a token of appreciation, at the completion of the research questionnaire a link will be provided to download my previous research paper, which won the joint based paper at the 10th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security Conference held in March 2015. The previous research paper proposed a selection security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, in terms of a framework, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act.
Your participation is greatly appreciated.
Thank you
Next



### APPENDIX D.2 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY: TERMS AND CONDITIONS



This research questionnaire is aimed at participants of South African public and private organizations leading or involved in Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act initiatives (with a specific focus on electronic personal information).

All information obtained from participants as a result of the research questionnaire will only be used for academic purposes and shall be treated with utmost confidentiality. However, the results of the research questionnaire will be presented in a research paper or journal article as well as my final thesis and may therefore be referenced by other researchers or organisations.

Only research questionnaires completed from 1 October 2015 to 15 December 2015 will be accepted.

By selecting the "I PROVIDE CONSENT TO COMPLETE THE RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE AND ACCEPT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED ABOVE" option below, you willing provide consent to complete the research questionnaire and understand the terms and conditions stated above.

If you do not want to provide consent to complete the research questionnaire or agree with the terms and conditions stated above, you may press the "EXIT THIS SURVEY" button at the top right hand corner of this page to exit the research questionnaire.

* 1. Consent and Acceptance of Terms and Cond	litions 🖭		
I provide consent to complete the research question	nnaire and acce	pt the terms and	conditions stated above.
	Prev	Next	



## APPENDIX D.3 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY: QUALIFYING QUESTIONS

	Exit this survey  Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security sonal Information within Public and Private Sector South African
Section A - Qualifying Questions	
which form part of section B. The reason is that sul	"NO" the survey will exit instead of continuing to the main research questions subjects from only South African organisations who maintain electronic personal Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act are required.  th Africa?
* 3. Does your organisation within South Africa in Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?  Yes  No	maintain electronic personal information and as a result is affected by the



## APPENDIX D.4 - POPI RESEARCH SURVEY: MAIN RESEARCH QUESTIONS

	Exit this survey
Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Inform Organisations.	Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security ation within Public and Private Sector South African
Section B - Main Research Questions	
	50%
* 4. How would you rate your overall level of understanding o	of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act? 👂
None	
Limited	
Basic	
Good	
Excellent	
* 5. In which sector does your organisation operate?	
Private Sector	
Public Sector	
* 6. Which industry sector best describes your organisation?	<b>P</b>
Professional Services (Accounting, Legal, Engineering, Real Estate	e, Actuary, Consulting Services)
Government	
Telecommunications	
Financial Services (Banking, Investments, Insurance)	
Manufacturing	
Healthcare	
Education	
Human Resources	
Information Technology	
Sales and Marketing	
Travel, Tourism, Entertainment	
Automotive, Transport	
_	
* 7. What is the size of your organisation?	
1 - 20 employees	
21 - 50 employees	
51 - 100 employees	
101 - 500 employees	
501 - 1000 employees	
1001 - 10000 employees	
More than 10000 employees	
Prev	Next



Exit this survey Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Section B - Main Research Questions \* 8. How would you rate your organisations overall compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act? Ø No initiatives under way to ensure compliance Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation) Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards) Full compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (full implementation of security safeguards) Unsure of my organisations level of overall compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act \* 9. How would you rate your organisations overall compliance to ensuring confidentiality (prevention of unauthorised disclosure) and integrity (prevention of unauthorised modification) of electronic personal information as required the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act? No initiatives under way to ensure compliance Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation) Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards) Full compliance (full implementation of security safeguards) Unsure of my organisations level of overall compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information \* 10. What do you estimate is the financial value of electronic personal information maintained by your organisation? R0 to R99,999 R100.000 to R200.000 R200,001 to R300,000 R300,001 to R400,000 R400 001 to R500 000 R500,001 to R600,000 R600,001 to R700,000 R700,001 to R800,000 R800,001 to R900,000 R900,001 to R1,000,000 R1.000.000+ Do not know the financial value \* 11. What are the focus areas within your organisation presently to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act? (Multiple focus areas may be selected if applicable) Management: Information security governance, Risk management, Information security policy, Supplier and service level management, Business continuity management Operational: Security procedures and processes, Baseline infrastructure security standards, Security awareness and training, Security monitoring, incident and reporting, Security assessment, Disaster recovery Technical: Network segmentation, Encrypted data channels, Server and network component security, Workstation and laptop security, File integrity, Firewalls, Physical and environmental security, Centralised audit logging, Data loss prevention Unsure of the focus areas within my organisation Prev Next



Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.					
Section B - Main Resea	arch Questions				
* 12. What is the status of the following 20 safeguards within your organisation to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?					
oloculonic personal inici	Security safeguard <b>not applicable</b> to my  organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented	
Information security governance - Encompasses leadership, organisational structures as well as clear roles and responsibilities for safeguarding electronic personal information.	0	0	0	0	
Risk management - Governance, evaluation and response to risks presented by electronic personal information.	0	0	0	0	
3. Information security policy - Management direction and support for information security is achieved through a formally defined and approved information security policy.			0	0	
4. Supplier & service level management - Contracts with third party operators external to your organisation and internal stakeholders within your organisation responsible for providing services in relation to electronic personal information.	0	0	0	0	
		Prev Next			



Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African					
Organisations.  Section B - Main Research Questions					
* 12. What is the status of the following 20 safeguards within your organisation to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?					
	Security safeguard <b>not applicable</b> to my  organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented	
5. Business continuity management - The ability to recover from a business interruption in the most effective and efficient manner, which includes the recovery of electronic personal information maintained by your organisation.		0		0	
6. Security procedures & processes - Change and configuration management, patch management, availability management, incident management, backup management, user account and access management, encryption key management for secure data channels.		0	0	0	
		Prev Next			



Research Questionna	ire: South African Pr	otection of Personal Ir	nformation (POPI) Act	Exit this survey  - Security
Organisations.	e to Liectionic Ferso	nai miormation within	T ublic allu i livate Se	ctor South Amedi
Section B - Main Resea	arch Questions			
* 12. What is the status of		ıards within your organis	75% ration to ensure confiden	tiality and integrity of
electronic personal info	Security safeguard not applicable to my organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented
7. Baseline infrastructure security standards - All server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, web servers, network components (firewalls, routers, wireless) that form part of the technology infrastructure.	0	0		
8. Security awareness & training - Employees, contractors or third party operators need to be provided with awareness and training with regards to information security, with a specific focus placed on the security of electronic personal information.	0	0		0
9. Security monitoring, incident and reporting - All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information.	0	0	0	0
		Prev Next		



Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.				
Section B - Main Research Questions				
* 12. What is the status of electronic personal info		uards within your organis	75% sation to ensure confident	iality and integrity of
	Security safeguard <b>not applicable</b> to my  organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented
10. Security assessment - Regular security assessments are performed to assess the security posture of the organisation from a technical, organisational, procedural, administrative or physical security perspective.	0	0	0	0
11. Disaster recovery - People, processes and technology (including data backups) associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information is in place.	0		0	
12. Network segmentation - Application and database servers that respectively process and store personal information are located on a dedicated network segment that is separated from the rest of the corporate network.	0	0	0	0
		Prev Next		



				Exit this survey
			nformation (POPI) Act Public and Private Se	
Section B - Main Resea	arch Questions			
			75%	
* 12. What is the status of		uards within your organis	ation to ensure confiden	tiality and integrity of
electronic personal info	rmation?	Conurity onforward	Coourity cofoguerd in	
	Security safeguard <b>not</b> <b>applicable</b> to my organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented
13. Encrypted data channels - All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted and access to the data channels is strictly monitored and controlled.	0		0	0
14. Server and network component security - All server and network components are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards.	0	0	0	0
15. Workstation and laptop security - Workstations and laptops are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards and are locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or install additional applications.	0	0	0	
		Prev Next		



				Exit this survey
		otection of Personal Ir onal Information within		
Section B - Main Rese	arch Questions			
			75%	
* 12. What is the status of		uards within your organis	sation to ensure confiden	tiality and integrity of
electronic personal info	Security safeguard not applicable to my organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented
16. File integrity - All configurations associated with server and network components are associated with a unique value known as a hash value. The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations.	0	0		
17. Firewalls - A firewall is in place to separate the application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information.	0	0	0	0
18. Physical and environmental security - The physical and environmental security safeguards in place within the server rooms hosting the applications and technology infrastructure associated with electronic personal information.		0	0	0
		Prev Next		

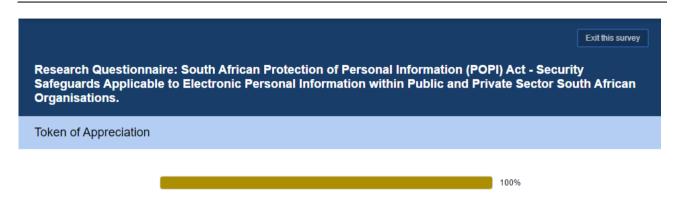


				Exit this survey	
Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.					
Section B - Main Resea	arch Questions				
* 12. What is the status of electronic personal info		uards within your organis	75% sation to ensure confiden	tiality and integrity of	
	Security safeguard <b>not applicable</b> to my  organisation	Security safeguard considered by my organisation but currently not implemented	Security safeguard in place within my organisation however only partially implemented	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented	
19. Centralised audit logging - Audit logs are centrally maintained for all applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with storing, processing and transmitting electronic personal information.		0	0	0	
20. Data loss prevention - The protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or at an end point. To prevent the loss of electronic personal information specifically via workstations or laptops.	0	0	0	0	
		Prev Next			



Exit this survey
Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.
Section B - Main Research Questions
75%
* 13. Are there any security safeguards your organisation has considered or implemented in addition to the 20 safeguards listed in question 12 to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information?
No
Yes (If selected, provide a description of the security safeguard and state one of the following options - please provide your response in the format specified in the example below):  - a) Not implemented - b) Partially implemented - c) Fully implemented
Example: Security Safeguard Name (Not Implemented)
Prev Next
Research Questionnaire: South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act - Security Safeguards Applicable to Electronic Personal Information within Public and Private Sector South African Organisations.
Section B - Main Research Questions
88%
* 14. How will a breach/compromise of electronic personal information impact your organisation (select the scenario below that will have the highest impact on your organisation)?
○ Loss of jobs
Reputational damage
Penalties (financial or imprisonment)
○ Failed audits
○ No impact
○ Not sure
Prev Next





As a token of appreciation, you may download my previous research paper (<u>A Framework of Security Safeguards for Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information</u>), which won the joint based paper at the 10th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security Conference held in March 2015.

The previous research paper proposed a selection security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, in terms of a framework, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Prev Done

# Appendix E - Ethics Committee Approval

# APPENDIX E - ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL



Reference Number: EBIT/91/2015

01-Oct-2015

Prittish P Dala EBIT: School of Information Technology UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

Dear Dala,

#### FACULTY COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

Your recent application to the EBIT Ethics Committee refers.

 I hereby wish to inform you that the research project titled "A framework and model operation to achieve and maintain confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information to ensure compliance to Condition Seven of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act No. 4 of 2013." has been approved by the Committee.

This approval does not imply that the researcher, student or lecturer is relieved of any accountability in terms of the Codes of Research Ethics of the University of Pretoria, if action is taken beyond the approved proposal.

- According to the regulations, any problem arising from the study or research methodology must be brought to the attention of the Faculty Ethics Committee via the Faculty Ethics Office.
- 3. The Committee must be notified on completion of the project.

Approval is granted for the duration of the project or for a period of two years from the date of this letter, whichever is shorter. Please note that any amendments or changes must be approved by the Ethics Committee, and that the applicant should apply for these via the online ethics system.

The Committee wishes you every success with the research project.

(System-generated letter without signature. Please contact the EBIT Ethics Office should you need a paper copy with signature)

Prof. J.J. Hanekom

Chair: Faculty Committee for Research Ethics and Integrity
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



# **APPENDIX F - RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**





# Proceedings of the

# 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security

Co-hosted by The University of Venda and

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
Kruger National Park
South Africa

24-25 March 2015



# Edited by Dr Jannie Zaaiman

University of Venda, South Africa and

# Dr Louise Leenen

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa



A conference managed by ACPI, UK



# Proceedings of The 10th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security ICCWS-2015

Co-hosted by the
University of Venda
and
The Council for Scientific and Industrial
Research
Kruger National Park
South Africa

24-25 March 2015

Edited by
Dr Jannie Zaaiman
And
Dr Louise Leenen

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Papers have been double-blind peer reviewed before final submission to the conference. Initially, paper abstracts were read and selected by the conference panel for submission as possible papers for the conference.

Many thanks to the reviewers who helped ensure the quality of the full papers.

These Conference Proceedings have been submitted to Thomson ISI for indexing.

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#### **Preface**

These Proceedings are the work of researchers contributing to the 10th International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security ICCWS-2015, co-hosted this year by the University of Venda and The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The conference is being held at the Kruger National Park, South Africa on the 24-25 March 2015.

The Conference Chair is Dr Jannie Zaaiman from the University of Venda, South Africa, and the Programme Chair is Dr Louise The opening keynote address this year is given by Mr Laurens Cloete, Group Executive Operations at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Pretoria, South Africa and the second keynote will be given by Marius Hamman from the Digital Crimes Unit, Legal & Corporate Affairs, Middle East & Africa, Microsoft. The second day will be opened by General AJ Coetzee of the South African National Defence Force.

An important benefit of attending this conference is the ability to share ideas and meet the people who hold them. The range of papers will ensure an interesting and enlightened discussion over the full two day schedule. The topics covered by the papers this year illustrate the depth of the information Operations' research area, with the subject matter ranging from the highly technical to the more strategic visions of the use and influence of information in cyber war and information security.

With an initial submission of 134 abstracts, after the double blind, peer review process there are 47 research papers, 7 PhD research papers, 6 masters research papers, 1 Work in Progress papere and 2 Non-academic papers published in these Conference Proceedings. These includes contributions from Australia, Botswana, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Namibia, The Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, UK, USA.

We wish you a most enjoyable conference.

Dr Jannie Zaaiman And Dr Louise Leenen March 2015



#### **Conference Committee**

#### **Conference Executive**

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# A Framework of Security Safeguards for Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information

Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

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Abstract: Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. In South Africa, the first privacy legislation in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The POPI Act promotes the protection of personal information by public and private institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in twelve chapters, which includes eight conditions for lawful processing of personal information. Condition Seven of the POPI Act makes specific provision for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information. However, one of the limitations of Condition Seven is that it is a requirement which is not supported by guidance relating to security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. Hence, this paper aims to propose a framework based on a selection of security safeguards from several leading practices to be considered to prevent unauthorised disclosure and modification of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. The authors believe that the proposed framework will facilitate the achievement and maintenance of compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act, with a specific focus on electronic personal information.

**Keywords**: protection of personal information, POPI Act, electronic personal information, security safeguards, confidentiality and integrity

#### 1. Introduction

The currency of the digital world and oil of the Internet is personal data (Kuneva, 2009). Personal data can be bought, sold and traded creating economic value (Ali et al, 2013). Hence, the 2014 global risks identified by the World Economic Forum (2014) include data loss as a result of data fraud as a major risk within the technology domain. This is due to the advent of the information age which has presented new challenges in terms of preserving personal information (Saunders and Zucker, 1999).

According to Moore (2008), privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. The concept of privacy is enshrined in Section Fourteen of the South African Constitution (1996) and affords every individual a right to privacy. The Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013) defines the right to privacy as, "a right to protection against the unlawful collection, retention, dissemination and use of personal information." Personal information according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2013) is regarded as any information relating to an identifiable, living and natural individual.

The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age (Saunders and Zucker, 1999) and this has subsequently resulted in the most prevalent crime of the new millennium known as identity theft (Hoar, 2001). This rampant form of crime largely occurs by criminals breaking into information systems of an organisation to gain access to databases, which allow them to steal personal information such as financial account numbers, addresses or identity numbers (Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), 2014).

As a result, the protection of personal information aims to protect individuals against identity theft and offers wide-ranging organisational benefits such as the protection of an organisation's brand, image and reputation, enhancing the credibility of an organisation as well as promoting consumer confidence and goodwill (Titus, 2011).

On a global scale, the OECD (2013) adopted eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) in order to emphasize the importance of preserving privacy through data protection. These principles were used as the basis by many countries including the European Union (EU) and South Africa for developing privacy legislation with a specific focus on protecting personal information. The EU has adopted the Data Protection Directive (1995), also known as Directive 95/46/EC, to protect personal information of individuals within EU member



#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

states. The United States of America (USA) responded to meet the requirements of this directive, specifically relating to the adequacy standard, by introducing the Safe Harbor Act of 2000 designed to allow for the transfer of personal information between EU member states and the USA (Steinke, 2002). Similar to the EU, Canada has the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act (PIPEDA) (2014) in place to govern how organisations collect, use and disclose personal information.

The South African response to the protection of personal information was in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012). After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill (2009) was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013).

This paper focuses on Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013), which makes provision for a selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information. The problem that this paper addresses is the limitation of Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is that Condition Seven is a requirement which is not supported by guidance relating to security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

Hence, this paper aims to propose a selection security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, in terms of a framework, to achieve and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows: Section one provides a background in relation to the POPI Act. Section three highlights the requirements of Condition Seven of the POPI Act and proposes a framework that includes a selection of security safeguards to be considered for implementation to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. Section four provides a critical evaluation of the proposed framework. Section five concludes the paper and provides a view of future work.

#### 2. Background

This section provides a background in relation to the protection of personal information from a South African context in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013).

Section one of the POPI Act (2013) defines personal information as, "information relating to an identifiable, living, natural person, and where it is applicable, an identifiable, existing juristic person." The protection of personal information as promoted by the POPI Act (2013) is applicable to public and private institutions in South Africa. In order to lawfully process personal information the South African public and private institutions need to comply with the minimum requirements of the POPI Act (2013), specified in twelve chapters including eight conditions.

The "Transitional arrangements" section of the POPI Act (2013) specifies that, within one year, compliance to the Act should be achieved by public and private institutions in South Africa, unless exemptions are granted which need to be gazetted. Furthermore, the POPI Act (2013) specifies that time to comply as a result of an exemption may not exceed three years. An external Information Regulator has to be established in terms of Section Thirty Nine of the POPI Act (2013) to promote, enforce and monitor compliance to the Act. In the event that compliance is not achieved, institutions may be fined up to ten million rand, face imprisonment not exceeding ten years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment (POPI Act, 2013). Furthermore, institutions may suffer reputational damage, lose customers and may have to pay out millions in damages due to civil class action (Michalsons, 2014).

The next section of this paper addresses, in terms of a proposed framework, the security safeguards to be considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

#### 3. Proposed framework

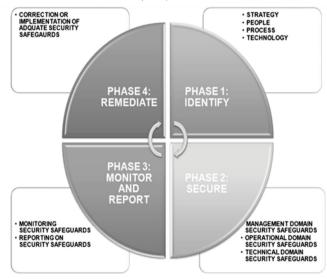
This section provides the requirements of Condition Seven of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act and proposes a framework that encapsulates the selection of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted.

#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

The selection of security safeguards are from several leading practices by the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Office of Government Commerce United Kingdom (OGCUK) and the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), referred to in the rest of this paper as "leading practice organisations". However, the proposed framework is not the implementation of leading practices such as COBIT (ISACA, 2014) RISK IT (ISACA, 2009), NIST Special Publication 800-53 (2009), ITIL (OGCUK, 2007), ISO 2230 (Drewitt, 2013) or ISO 27001 (BSI, 2005) in its entirety. The proposed framework is instead a specific selection of security safeguards prescribed by the various leading practices as a means to address a specific requirement, which in this case is to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013).

Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) specifically addresses the need to implement security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information (Section Nineteen), the responsibilities for handling personal information (Section Twenty), the responsibilities of an operator processing personal information (Section Twenty One) as well as the need for notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information (Section Twenty Two).

Of significance in this study is that Section Nineteen of Condition Seven of the POPI Act is a requirement with no specific guidance in terms of how the requirement should be achieved in relation to the security safeguards to be considered to ensure the confidentiality and integrity, specifically of electronic personal information. Hence, the framework illustrated in Figure 1 below provides in four distinct phases (identify, secure, monitor and report, remediate) an approach, which includes a specific selection of security safeguards, to ultimately address the requirements of Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013).



**Figure 1**: Proposed framework to ensure and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act in relation to electronic personal information

The four phase approach leverages of the principles from the quality assurance model known as Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) (British Standards Institute (BSI), 2005). This PDCA model was adopted in an information security context in terms of the ISO 27001 standard (BSI, 2005). The ISO 27001 standard (BSI, 2005) prescribes the use of the PDCA model to implement an information security management system (ISMS) as a means to effectively manage information assets of an organisation. Electronic personal information is an information asset and the four phase approach of the proposed framework for protecting electronic personal information is closely aligned to the principles of the PDCA model. Table 1, provides a description of each phase of the PDCA model and the alignment to the four phases of the proposed framework:

#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

**Table 1:** Alignment between the plan-do-check-act (PDCA) model applied during the implementation of an information security management system (ISMS) and the proposed framework for protecting electronic personal information

No.	PDCA phase	Proposed framework phase	
1	Plan - Establish an ISMS	n ISMS Identify - Identification of electronic personal information.	
2	Do - Implement and operate the ISMS	Secure - Securing the electronic personal information that needs to be protected through the selection and implementation of security safeguards.	
3	Check - Monitor and review the ISMS	Monitor and Report - Monitoring and reporting to ensure that the electronic personal information remains protected and instances when the protection is not in place this should be reported in order to initiate remedial action.	
4	Act - Maintain and improve the ISMS	Remediate - Remedial action taken to ensure the protection of electronic personal information is maintained.	

The four phases of the proposed framework to ensure and maintain compliance with Condition Seven (Sections Nineteen, Twenty, Twenty One and Twenty Two) of the POPI Act (2013) in relation to electronic personal information, is discussed in each of the sections to follow.

#### Phase 1: Identify

The identification phase is based on four key perspectives: strategy, people, process and technology. The strategic perspective considers whether an organisation has identified the threats and vulnerabilities associated with the storage, processing and transmission of personal information and developed a strategy to mitigate the risk, thereby demonstrating strategic intent to comply and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

From a people perspective, this phase questions whether the relevant internal and external stakeholders have been identified who will drive the initiative to comply and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act

The process perspective consists of the identification of manual and automated business processes within the organisation which store, process and transmit personal information as defined by the POPI Act (2013). Thereafter, the personal information identified should be categorised as personal information that is stored, processed and transmitted in electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) as opposed to non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems).

Lastly, the technology perspective identifies the extent to which technology may be leveraged to safeguard electronic personal information.

#### Phase 2: Secure

The secure phase is premised on the selection of security safeguards from several leading practices by leading practice organisations to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) (2009) classifies security safeguards into eighteen families which are grouped into three domains. The first domain is the management domain which focuses on managing risk by key stakeholders providing direction and intent to the protection of personal information initiative (NIST, 2009). The operational domain is the second domain, which focuses on people executing processes associated with managing and monitoring security safeguards (NIST, 2009). The third domain is the technical domain, which focuses on the implementation and execution of security safeguards driven by technology (NIST, 2009). As a result, the management, operational and technical domains form the basis of the secure phase of the proposed framework in that a selection of security safeguards as discussed in the sections below are specifically proposed for each of the three domains.

The management domain consists of the following five security safeguards:

■ M1: Information security governance



#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

This security safeguard is an integral part of governance that encompasses leadership, organisational structures as well as clear roles and responsibilities (Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), 2006) for safeguarding electronic personal information.

M2: Risk management

The governance, evaluation and response to risks presented by electronic personal information are addressed by this security safeguard (ISACA, 2009).

■ M3: Information security policy

Management direction and support for information security is achieved through a formally defined and approved information security policy (BSI, 2005).

M4: Supplier and service level management

The supplier and service level management safeguard focuses on the contracts in place with third party operators external to the organisation and internal stakeholders within the organisation responsible for providing services in relation to electronic personal information (Office of Government Commerce United Kingdom (OGCUK), 2007).

■ M5: Business continuity management

This security safeguard addresses the ability to recover from a business interruption in the most effective and efficient manner (Drewitt, 2013). This includes the recovery of electronic personal information maintained by the organisation.

The operational domain consists of the following six security safeguards:

O1: Security procedures and processes

This security safeguard addresses the security procedures and processes in place to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. The security procedure and process areas to be considered include: change and configuration management, patch management, availability management, incident management, backup management, user account and access management (OGCUK, 2007) as well as the management of encryption keys to secure data channels (BSI, 2005).

• O2: Baseline infrastructure security standards

All server, workstation and laptop operating systems, database servers, web servers, network components (firewalls, routers, wireless) that form part of the technology infrastructure to enable the protection of electronic personal information should apply baseline infrastructure security standards as a security safeguard to prevent the adoption of default configurations and to ensure consistent configurations.

O3: Security awareness and training

Employees, contractors or third party operators need to be provided with awareness and training with regards to information security (OGCUK, 2007), with a specific focus on the security of electronic personal information.

O4: Security monitoring, incident and reporting

All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure should be assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information. Furthermore, the incident management processes may report a data breach of electronic personal information.

O5: Security assessment

Regular security assessments should be performed to assess the security posture of the organisation from a technical, organisational, procedural, administrative or physical security perspective (Palmer et al, 2001).

O6: Disaster recovery

People, processes and technology to ensure continued operations as well as associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information should be defined (Drewitt, 2013). The technical domain consists of the following nine security safeguards:

■ T1: Network segmentation

The segmentation of a network entails a logical grouping of related network assets, resources and applications (Solomon, 2011). As a result, all the application and database servers that respectively process and store



#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

personal information should be located on a dedicated network segment that is separated from the rest of the corporate network.

#### T2: Encrypted data channels

All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, should be encrypted and access to the data channels should be strictly monitored and controlled.

#### T3: Server and network component security

All server and network components should be configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards adopted in the operational domain (O2 - Baseline infrastructure security standards).

#### T4: Workstation and laptop security

Workstations and laptops should be configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards adopted and should be locked down to prevent the user to change the configuration or install additional applications not authorised by the organisation.

#### T5: File integrity

All configurations associated with server and network components should be associated with a unique value known as a hash value. The hash value may be used to ascertain if unauthorised changes were affected to configurations.

#### ■ T6: Firewalls

A firewall is used to separate networks by controlling access and analysing traffic between networks (ISACA, 2013). A firewall should be used to separate the application and database servers that respectively process and store electronic personal information located on a dedicated network segment from the rest of the corporate network.

#### ■ T7: Physical and environmental security

The physical and environmental security safeguards in place within the server rooms hosting the applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with the storage, processing and transmission of electronic personal information. Physical security safeguards to control access to the server rooms and environmental security safeguards to provide alternate power sources to ensure availability as well as to protect against environmental hazards such as floods and fire should be in place (BSI, 2005).

#### ■ T8: Centralised audit logging

Audit logs should be maintained for all applications as well as the technology infrastructure associated with storing, processing and transmitting electronic personal information. All the audit logs maintained should be sent to a centralised audit logging server where analysis may be performed to identify ineffective security safeguards as well as security incidents and to serve as the basis for conducting an investigation in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information.

#### ■ T9: Data loss prevention

The protection of data loss for data at rest, in motion or at an end point (Kanagasingham, 2008). To prevent the loss of electronic personal information specifically via workstations or laptops utilised by users to access applications processing personal information or databases storing personal information, data loss prevention should be implemented.

#### Phase 3: Monitor and Report

This phase is focused on monitoring and reporting. The security monitoring, incident and reporting security safeguard (O4), which forms part of the operational domain of the secure phase is critical to ensure the effectiveness of this phase. The 'monitor' aspect of this phase addresses the monitoring of security safeguards in the operational and technical domains implemented in the secure phase (phase two) of the framework to ensure that the implemented security safeguards are working as intended.

The 'report' aspect of this phase addresses the reporting of the effectiveness of the implemented security safeguards. In the event of a security compromise of electronic personal information, specific information regarding the compromise, such as the security safeguard that was circumvented and the nature and extent of

#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

personal information unlawfully obtained, may be required. Furthermore, an inspection of the audit logs maintained on the centralised audit logging server may potentially provide information of how and by whom the security compromise was performed. All information gathered relating to the security compromise, will need to be availed to internal stakeholders for further investigation as well as to the external Information Regulator to ensure compliance with Section Twenty Two (notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information) of the POPI Act (2013).

#### Phase 4: Remediate

During the 'monitor' aspect of phase three of the proposed framework, if it is identified that a security safeguard is not working as intended or a security compromise has occurred resulting in a circumvented security safeguard, immediate action should be taken as electronic personal information may be disclosed or modified, resulting in the compromise of electronic personal information. This compromise may negatively impact the organisation from a compliance, financial and reputational perspective. As a result, the 'remediate' phase aims to correct the current security safeguard or implement an alternate adequate security safeguard to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information and to ultimately ensure compliance with Section Nineteen of Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013).

#### 4. Critical evaluation of the proposed framework

This section provides a critical evaluation of the proposed framework in terms of benefits and limitations.

A major benefit of the proposed framework is that in four distinct phases (identify, secure, monitor and report, remediate) an approach is provided to ultimately address the requirements of Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) as illustrated in table 2.

**Table 2**: Condition seven requirements of the protection of personal information (POPI) Act addressed by the proposed framework

Condition seven section number	Condition seven requirement	Condition seven requirement addressed by the proposed framework
19	The need to implement security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of personal information	Phase 2 - Secure
20	The responsibilities for handling personal information	Phase 1 - Identify
21	The responsibilities of an operator processing personal information	Phase 1 - Identify
22	The need for notification in the event of a security compromise of personal information	Phase 3 - Monitor and Report
		Phase 4 - Remediate

The identify, monitor and report, and remediate phases of the proposed framework may be applied to personal information in both electronic format (within information systems and their corresponding databases) and non-electronic format (hard copy or paper based outside information systems). In addition, the security safeguards in the management and operational domains of the secure phase may be applied to personal information in both electronic and non-electronic format. Most importantly, twenty security safeguards are identified as part of the secure phase (consisting of three domains - management, operational and technical) of the proposed framework, which may be considered in order to ultimately ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

Table 3 below provides a summary of the source of the twenty selected safeguards in terms of leading practices to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information and serves as a point of reference for detailed guidance relating to the proposed safeguards. For example, when addressing the the disaster recovery security safeguard (O6 in table 3), ISO 22301 and ISO 27001 as well as the NIST Special Publication 800-53 leading practices may provide the required guidance.



#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

Table 3: Source of the selected safeguards to specifically ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by condition seven of the Popi Act

Selected Safeguard	ISACA	NIST	OGCUK	ISO
	Management Domain			
M1: Information security governance	COBIT			ISO 27001
M2: Risk management	COBIT			
	RISK IT			
M3: Information security policy				ISO 27001
M4: Supplier and service level management	COBIT		ITIL	
M5: Business continuity management	COBIT			ISO 22301
(	Operational Domain			
O1: Security procedures and processes	COBIT		ITIL	ISO 27001
		NIST Special		
O2: Baseline infrastructure security standards		Publication		
,		800-53		
		NIST Special		
O3: Security awareness and training		Publication	ITIL	ISO 27001
		800-53		
04: 5		NIST Special		
O4: Security monitoring, incident and	COBIT	Publication	ITIL	
reporting		800-53		
		NIST Special		
O5: Security assessment		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST Special		ISO 22301
O6: Disaster recovery		Publication		
		800-53		ISO 27001
	Technical Domain			
		NIST Special		
T1: Network segmentation		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST Special		
T2: Encrypted data channels		Publication		ISO 27001
		800-53		
		NIST Special		
T3: Server and network component security	COBIT	Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST Special		
T4: Workstation and laptop security	COBIT	Publication		
		800-53		
T5: File integrity	COBIT		ITIL	
		NIST Special		
T6: Firewalls		Publication		
		800-53		
		NIST Special		
T7: Physical and environmental security	COBIT	Publication		ISO 27001
		800-53		
		NIST Special		
T8: Centralised audit logging	COBIT	Publication		ISO 27001
		800-53		
		NIST Special		150 22204
T9: Data loss prevention	COBIT	Publication		ISO 22301
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		800-53		

A limitation of the proposed framework is that the security safeguards in the technical domain of the secure phase is focused on the personal information stored, processed and transmitted in electronic format as opposed to non-electronic format. In addition, the proposed framework is not the implementation of leading practices such as COBIT (ISACA, 2014) RISK IT (ISACA, 2009), NIST Special Publication 800-53 (2009), ITIL (OGCUK, 2007), ISO 2230 (Drewitt, 2013) or ISO 27001 (BSI, 2005) in its entirety. However, the proposed framework is instead a

#### Prittish Dala and Hein Venter

specific selection of security safeguards prescribed by the various leading practices as a means to address a specific requirement, which in this case is to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013). Furthermore, the proposed framework is limited to addressing only the requirements of Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) in relation to electronic personal information.

#### 5. Conclusion and future work

In this paper, the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act was explored with specific emphasis on Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013), which makes provision for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information. However, the challenge identified is that Condition Seven of the POPI Act is a requirement with no specific information in terms of how the requirement should be achieved, with a specific focus on electronic personal information. As a result, the proposed framework outlined a selection of security safeguards that should be considered in a four phase approach (identify, secure, monitor and report, and remediate) to ultimately achieve and maintain compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

In terms of future work, a model of operation will be proposed that aims to provide a holistic approach consisting of twenty security safeguards across three domains (management, operational and technical) to be considered for implementation to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. Furthermore, a rigorous comparison of the requirements to protect personal information will be conducted between the POPI Act and the Data Protection Directive adopted by the European Union based on the privacy principles adopted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFRICAN CYBER CITIZENSHIP CONFERENCE 2015 (ACCC2015)

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#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The full papers for the African Cyber Citizenship Conference 2015 were refereed by a double-blind reviewing process according to South Africa's Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) refereeing standards. Before accepting a paper, authors were to include the corrections as stated by the peer reviewers. Of the 36 full papers received, 14 were accepted for the Proceedings (acceptance rate: 39%).

Papers were reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Relevancy of the paper to the Cyber-based theme
- Originality and Innovativeness of the research
- Quality of Academic writing and Argument
- Appropriateness and Quality of Literature sources used

The program committee reflected the inter-disciplinary nature of the conference and consisted of international experts in the fields of Information Technology, Law, Psychology, Management, and Education.

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# The Extent to which Privacy Legislation of the European Union and South Africa Addresses the 2013 OECD Guidelines

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#### Abstract

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age and with it, the occurrence of the most prevalent crime of the new millennium known as "identity theft". Largely as a response to ever increasing use of personal information, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) adopted guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. These guidelines included eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) to govern the preservation of privacy and trans-border flow of personal data. The European Union adopted the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995 to protect the personal information of individuals within European Union member states. In South Africa, privacy legislation in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The POPI Act promotes the protection of personal information by public and private institutions and specifies the minimum requirements which include eight conditions for lawful processing of personal information. To date, an analysis to ascertain the extent to which the European Union and South African privacy legislation addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy including the eight privacy principles, has not been undertaken. Hence, this paper aims to initiate such an analysis, with particular focus on the extent to which the European Union's Data Protection Directive and the South African POPI Act addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, including the eight privacy principles. In addition, similarities and differences were identified between the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) as a result of the analysis.

#### Keywords

Protection of personal information, POPI Act, Data protection directive, OECD privacy principles

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#### 1. Introduction

The currency of the digital world and oil of the Internet is personal data (Kuneva, 2009). Personal data can be bought, sold and traded creating economic value (Ali et al. 2013). Hence, global risks identified by the World Economic Forum (2014) include data loss as a result of data fraud as a major risk within the technology domain. This is due to the advent of the information age which has presented new challenges in terms of preserving personal information (Saunders and Zucker, 1999).

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information (Moore, 2008). The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age (Saunders and Zucker, 1999) and this has subsequently resulted in the most prevalent crime of the new millennium known as identity theft (Hoar, 2001). This rampant form of crime according to the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) (2014) largely occurs when criminals electronically break into information systems (such as those owned by organisations) to gain access to databases, which allows them to steal personal information such as financial account numbers, addresses or identity numbers.

As a result, the protection of personal information aims to protect individuals against identity theft and offers wide-ranging organisational benefits such as the protection of an organisation's brand, image and reputation, enhancing the credibility of an organisation as well as promoting consumer confidence and goodwill (Titus, 2011).

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (1980 and 2013) adopted guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. The guidelines included eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) to govern the preservation of privacy and trans-border flow of personal data.

Privacy legislation in the European Union took the form of the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995, which aimed to protect the personal information of individuals within European Union member states.

The South African privacy legislation response to protect personal information was in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012). After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill (2009) was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013).



The extent to which the European Union and South African privacy legislation addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes the eight privacy principles, has not been explored. Hence, this paper aims to analyse the extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive and the South African POPI Act addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes the eight privacy principles. Thus, the contribution of this paper is to provide a comparison of specific privacy legislation in relation to the 2013 OECD guidelines, instead of comparing privacy legislation of specific countries or regions to each other, which has been conducted by several researchers such as Botha et al. (2015) and Dowling (2009).

This paper is one of a series of papers that aim to provide an understanding of the POPI Act as well as:

a framework of security safeguards for confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which has been completed and submitted.

the extent to which the European Union and South African privacy legislation addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, including eight privacy principles, which is this paper.

the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions, in relation to electronic personal information, to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is a forthcoming paper; and

a model of operation to guide the implementation of the security safeguards, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is a forthcoming paper.

The paper is structured as follows: Section 2 provides a background of the OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy as well as the European Union and South African privacy legislation. Section 3 analyses the extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive and the South African POPI Act addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes the eight privacy principles. Section 4 provides a critical evaluation of the analysis. Section 5 concludes the paper and also presents future work.

# 2. Background

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54

This section provides a background of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy as well as the European Union and South African privacy legislation.

#### **OECD Guidelines on Trans-Border Data Flows and the Protection of Privacy**

In 1980, the OECD adopted guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. At that stage, the major drivers for these guidelines were the threats associated with privacy due to the ever increasing use of personal information and the impact restrictions on the flow of information will have on the global economy (OECD, 2011). As a result, the guidelines included eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) to govern the preservation of privacy and trans-border flow of personal data (OECD, 1980). These guidelines were recommended to OECD member states to be applied to all personal data by both public and private institutions [OECD, 1980 and Kirby, 2011).

The guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy were revised by the OECD in 2013. Major drivers for the revision of the guidelines according to Kuner (2011), was due to increased globalisation of the world economy, growing economic importance of data processing, ubiquity of data transfers over the Internet, greater direct involvement in trans-border data flows, the changing role of geography and the growing risk to the privacy of individuals.

The eight privacy principles prescribed within the guidelines by the OECD in 1980 remained unchanged in the 2013 revision (Kuschewsky, 2014). However, the revised guidelines by OECD (2013) placed greater focus on implementing accountability, the basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, national implementation as well as international co-operation and interoperability.

#### **European Union Data Protection Directive**

Privacy legislation in the European Union takes the form of the Data Protection Directive (also known as Directive 95/46/EC) of 1995.

The purpose of the Data Protection Directive (1995) as outlined in article 1 is to ensure that, "member states shall protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons, and in particular their right to privacy with respect to the processing of personal data". In addition, the free flow of personal data between member states is encouraged as long as privacy is preserved.

Article 2 of the Data Protection Directive of 1995 defines personal data as, "any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'); an identifiable person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification

55

number or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity".

The protection of personal data as promoted by the Data Protection Directive (1995) is applicable to European Union member states. However, each European Union member state enacts their own privacy laws based on the Data Protection Directive (1995) which consists of 34 articles within 7 chapters.

The Data Protection Directive (1995) is not a regulation and this has allowed European Union member states to inconsistently interpret and apply the Directive within their own enacted privacy legislation (Lynch, 2013). For example, chapter 3 of the Directive makes provision for judicial remedies, liability and sanctions, however the conditions, actual penalties and enforcement in the event of a breach of personal information differs for each European Union member state.

As a result, in 2012 the European Commission proposed that the Data Protection Directive (1995) be replaced by the General Data Protection Regulation (2012). This proposal marked a paradigm shift from "directive" to "regulation" that sought to provide a single data protection law applicable to all European Union member states, thus preventing the need for individual privacy legislation by each European Union member state. According to Greens (2015), it is envisaged that the General Data Protection Regulation will be adopted by the end of 2015 and will be followed by a two year transition period to allow European Union member states to comply, followed by enforcement of the regulation.

#### South African Protection of Personal Information Act

South African privacy legislation took the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill, first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012). After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act, with the purpose clearly outlined within section 2 (2013).

Section 1 of the POPI Act (2013) defines personal information as, "information relating to an identifiable, living, natural person, and where it is applicable, an identifiable, existing juristic person."

The protection of personal information as promoted by the POPI Act (2013) is applicable to public and private institutions in South Africa. In order to lawfully process personal information the South African public and private institutions need to comply with the

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56

minimum requirements of the POPI Act (2013), specified within 12 chapters including 8 conditions

Although the POPI Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013 the enforcement date of POPI Act is still to be announced. However, the "Transitional arrangements" section of the POPI Act (2013) contained in chapter 11 specifies that within 1 year, compliance to the Act should be achieved by public and private institutions in South Africa, unless exemptions which are gazetted are granted. In the event of such exemption, however, the time granted to comply may not exceed 3 years.

An external Information Regulator has to be established in terms of section 39 of the POPI Act (2013) to promote, enforce and monitor compliance to the POPI Act. According to Michalsons (2014), in the event that compliance to the POPI Act is not achieved, members of the South African public and private institutions may be fined up to 10 million rand, face imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment. Furthermore, institutions may suffer reputational damage, lose customers and may have to pay out millions in damages due to civil class action (Michalsons, 2014).

# 3. Analysis of the European Union and South African privacy legislation in relation to the 2013 OECD guidelines

This section analyses the extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) and the South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013) address the 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy.

The analysis uses the eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) as well as the additional focus areas (implementing accountability, basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions, national implementation and international co-operation and interoperability) of the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, as the basis for comparison. The analysis is reflected in table 1 below, which provides the extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) and South African POPI Act (2013) addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines.

	Requirement addressed by the European Union Data Protection Directive of	the South African
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No.	Description of the 2013 OECD guideline on trans- border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the European Union Data Protection Directive of 1995	Requirement addressed by the South African Protection of Personal Information Act
1	Collection limitation principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 5 and 6).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Conditions 2, 3 and 4).
2	Data quality principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Article 6).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition 5).
3	Purpose specification principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Conditions 3 and 4).
4	Use limitation principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20 and 21).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Conditions 2, 3 and 4) and Chapter 6: Prior authorisation.
5	Security safeguards principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 16 and 17).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition 7).
6	Openness principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 12 and 13).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition 6).
7	Individual participation principle	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Articles 14 and 15).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition 8).
8	Accountability	Yes - Chapter 1: General provisions (Article 4) and	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of

Proceedings of the African Cyber Citizenship Conference 2015
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No.	Description of the 2013 OECD guideline on trans- border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the European Union Data Protection Directive of 1995	Requirement addressed by the South African Protection of Personal Information Act
	principle	Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Article 6).	personal information (Condition 1).
9	Implementing accountability: Privacy management programme	No - Specific reference is not made to a privacy management programme.	No - Specific reference is not made to a privacy management programme. However, chapter 11 makes reference to an administrative fine being enforced in the event of failure to conduct a risk assessment and maintain good policies, procedures and practices to protect personal information.
10	Implementing accountability: Privacy enforcement authorities	Yes - Chapter 6: Supervisory authority and working party on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data (Article 28).	Yes - Chapter 5: Information regulator.
11	Implementing accountability: Data security breach notification	Yes - Chapter 2: General rules on the lawfulness of the processing of personal data (Article 18).	Yes - Chapter 3: Conditions for lawful processing of personal information (Condition 7).
12	Basic principles of international application in terms of free flow and legitimate restrictions: Transborder flows of personal data	Yes - Chapter 4: Transfer of personal data to third countries (Articles 25 and 26).	Yes - Chapter 9: Trans- border information flows.
13	National implementation	No - The European Union Data Protection Directive is not a regulation, it is a directive. As a result, Chapter 1: Article 4 states	Yes - The Protection of Personal Information Act is applicable to all public and private institutions in South Africa. At this stage the Act

No.	Description of the 2013 OECD guideline on trans- border data flows and the protection of privacy	Requirement addressed by the European Union Data Protection Directive of 1995	Requirement addressed by the South African Protection of Personal Information Act
		that each member state shall apply the national provisions it adopts pursuant to the directive.	was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The enforcement date for the POPI Act is still to be announced. Thereafter, a one year transition period will apply to allow all public and private institutions in South Africa to comply with the POPI Act, after which enforcement will be monitored by the Information Regulator.
14	International co- operation and interoperability	Yes - Chapter 4: Transfer of personal data to third countries (Articles 25 and 26).	Yes - Chapter 5: Information regulator (cooperating on a national and international basis with other persons and bodies concerned with the protection of personal information).

Table 1: Extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) and the South African Protection of Personal Information Act (2013) addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines (2013)

4. Critical evaluation of the analysis of the European Union and South African privacy legislation in relation to the 2013 OECD guidelines

Proceedings of the African Cyber Citizenship Conference 2015 Port Elizabeth, 2-3 November 2015 (http://accconference.nmmu.ac.za) ISBN: 978-1-920508-67-8



60

This section provides a critical evaluation of the analysis performed in section three of this paper, to ascertain the extent to which the European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) and the South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013) addresses the 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes eight privacy principles.

The European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) addresses the eight privacy principles (collection, data quality, purpose specification, use limitation, security safeguards, openness, individual participation and accountability) from the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. However, the Directive does not make reference to a privacy management programme. In terms of implementing accountability an adequate privacy management programme has to be defined and implemented and be subject to review from a privacy enforcement authority. The programme includes providing notice to the privacy enforcement authority in the event of a breach of personal data. In addition, the Directive does not address the national implementation requirement as it is not a regulation but a directive.

In terms of the South African POPI Act (2013), the 2013 OECD guidelines on transborder data flows and the protection of privacy, including the eight privacy principles are addressed. The only exception is that no specific reference is made to a privacy management programme within the POPI Act. However, the POPI Act does make reference to an administrative fine being enforced in the event of failure to conduct a risk assessment and maintain good policies, procedures and practices to protect personal information. Furthermore, a privacy enforcement authority in the form of the Information Regulator is required by the POPI Act to monitor enforcement and receive notifications relating to breaches of personal data.

Furthermore, similarities and differences were noted between the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) as a result of the analysis performed in section three of this paper. Firstly, all eight privacy principles specified by the OECD (2013) are addressed by both the Data Protection Directive (1995) and POPI Act (2013). Secondly, the Data Protection Directive (1995) and POPI Act (2013) both do not make provision for a privacy management programme. The major difference between the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) is that the POPI Act is enforceable compared to the Data Protection Directive which is not enforceable. The Data Protection Directive (1995) is not enforceable as it is not a regulation, but is viewed as a guideline to serve as a frame of reference for European

61

Union member states when developing their own privacy legislation, which becomes enforceable within that member state once enacted.

#### 5. Conclusion and future work

In this paper the 2013 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, which includes eight privacy principles as well as the European Union Data Protection Directive (1995) and the South African Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013) were explored.

This gave rise to an analysis of the European Union and South African privacy legislation in relation to the 2013 OECD guidelines. The analysis was followed by a critical evaluation that identified the extent to which the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013) address the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy. In addition, the critical evaluation identified similarities and differences between the Data Protection Directive (1995) and the POPI Act (2013).

In terms of future work, the current state of security safeguards within South African institutions, in relation to electronic personal information, to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) will be explored. In addition, a model of operation will be proposed to guide the implementation of the security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed and transmitted, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013).

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63

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# Understanding the Level of Compliance by South African Institutions to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act

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#### ABSTRACT

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. In South Africa, the first privacy legislation in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The POPI Act promotes the protection of personal information by South African public and private institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in twelve chapters, which includes eight conditions for lawful processing of personal information. In 2012, CIBECS as part of their State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey assessed, amongst other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation. Since that survey, the POPI Bill progressed to an Act and, more recently, in 2015 processes commenced to appoint the Information Regulator (in terms of the legislation), who would be responsible for enforcing the POPI Act. Due to the aforementioned developments and looming enforcement date associated with the POPI Act, this paper assesses the level of understanding of the POPI Act by participants from South African institutions as well as the current level of compliance to the POPI Act. Specifically, the current level of compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act, relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, is explored. Furthermore, a view is provided of the financial value associated with electronic personal information maintained as well as the potential impact a data breach of electronic personal information may have on an institution.

#### CCS Concepts

 Security and privacy;500→Human and societal aspects of security and privacy;300→Privacy protections;500.

#### Keywords

Protection of personal information; POPI Act; POPI Act research survey; electronic personal information; and compliance.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The currency of the digital world and the "oil" of the Internet is personal data [1]. Personal data can be bought, sold and traded, creating economic value [2]. Hence, the global risks identified by the World Economic Forum [3] included data loss as a result of data fraud as a major risk within the technology domain. This is due to the advent of the information age which has presented new challenges in terms of preserving personal information [4].

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information [5]. The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age [4] and this has subsequently resulted in the most prevalent crime of the new millennium, known as "identity theft" [6]. This rampant form of crime, according to the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) [7], largely occurs when criminals electronically break into information systems (such as those owned by institutions) to gain access to databases, which allows them to steal personal information such as financial account numbers, addresses or identity numbers.

As a result, legislation in the ambit of the protection of personal information aims to protect individuals against identity theft and offers wide-ranging institutional benefits such as the protection of an institution's brand, image and reputation, enhancing credibility as well as promoting consumer confidence and goodwill [8].

From a South African perspective, legislation in this area took the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill which was first published for comment in 2005 [9]. After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill [10] was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act [11]. Condition Seven of the POPI Act [11] specifies the need for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information.

In 2012, CIBECS [12] as part of their State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey assessed, amongst other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming legislation addressing the protection of personal information. Since then, the POPI Bill [10] has progressed to an Act [11] and more recently in 2015 processes commenced to appoint the Information Regulator, who would be responsible for enforcing the POPI Act [13]. The appointment of the Information Regulator will lead to an enforcement date for the POPI Act [11], after which South African public and private institutions will have



one year to comply with the legislation. Hence, due to the aforementioned developments and the looming enforcement date associated with the POPI Act, this paper through a research survey assesses the current level of compliance to the POPI Act by South African institutions. A specific focus on the level of compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information will be explored. Furthermore, the contribution of this paper is to provide an overall level of understanding of the POPI Act by participants from South African institutions who completed the research survey. In addition, participants provide a view of the financial value associated with electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions as well as the potential impact a data breach of electronic personal information may have on their institutions

This paper is one of a series of papers associated with the author's research relating to the POPI Act, which focuses specifically on the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, namely:

- A framework of security safeguards for the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which has been presented and published.
- The extent to which the European Union and South African privacy legislation addresses the 2013 Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, including eight privacy principles, which has been presented and published.
- Understanding the level of compliance by South African institutions to the POPI Act, which is this current paper.
- The current state of security safeguards within South African institutions, in relation to electronic personal information, to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which has been completed and submitted.
- A model of operation to guide the implementation of the security safeguards, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is a forthcoming paper.

This paper is structured as follows: Section 2 provides a background of the POPI Act and an overview of the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey. An overview of the research methodology, research group and research survey results, followed by an analysis of the research survey responses received, is provided in Section 3. Section 4 provides a critical evaluation of the analysis performed in Section 3 by way of key findings, recommendations and comparisons. Section 5 concludes the paper and also presents future work.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

This section provides a background of the POPI Act and an overview of the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey [12] which assessed, amongst other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation.

#### 2.1 South African POPI Act

The POPI Act [11] promotes the protection of personal information by South African public and private institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in 12 chapters, which includes 8 conditions for lawful processing of personal information. Condition Seven of the POPI Act [11] specifically

addresses the need to implement security safeguards to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information.

Although the POPI Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013 the enforcement date is still to be announced. However, the "Transitional arrangements" section of the POPI Act [11] contained in Chapter 11 specifies that within 1 year, compliance to the Act should be achieved by public and private institutions in South Africa, unless exemptions, which are gazetted, are granted. In the event of such exemption, however, the time granted to comply may not exceed 3 years.

An external Information Regulator has to be established in terms of Section 39 of the POPI Act [11] to promote, enforce and monitor compliance to the Act. The processes to appoint the Information Regulator commenced in 2015 and are currently underway [13].

According to Michalsons [14], in the event that compliance to the POPI Act is not achieved, members of South African public and private institutions may be fined up to 10 million rand, face imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment. Furthermore, institutions may suffer reputational damage, lose customers and may have to pay out millions in damages due to civil class action [14].

# 2.2 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa

In 2012, CIBECS [12] as part of their State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey assessed, amongst other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation.

The results of the survey revealed that 38% of participants were unsure of the how prepared their institutions were to comply with the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation. Furthermore, 18% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway to ensure compliance. However, 26% of participants were actively looking at technologies and processes to ensure compliance, while 18% of participants were investigating the requirements but not actively pursuing compliance to the then forthcoming protection of personal information legislation [12].

#### 3. RESEARCH SURVEY AND ANALYSIS

This section provides an overview of the research methodology, research group and research survey results, followed by an analysis of the research survey responses received. The analysis of the responses focused on the following aspects:

- The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act.
- The current level of compliance to the POPI Act.
- The level of compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act.
- The financial value associated with electronic personal information as well as the potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information.

#### 3.1 Research Methodology

The research methodology encompassed a quantitative inferential approach [15], which aims to draw conclusions about a group based on a sample in the form of a research group. This approach was driven by the use of a research survey, which was located at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI</a> and was launched from 10 October 2015 to 15 December 2015. The research survey was completely anonymous and participants were not requested to



provide any identifying information such as personal information (title, name, surname and email address) or the name of the institution which they represent. All participants had to electronically provide consent and accept the terms and conditions of the research survey before participating.

#### 3.2 Research Group

The research survey specifically targeted participants at South African institutions who store, process or transmit electronic personal information and who, as a result, are impacted by the POPI Act.

The participants were informed of the research survey via an email that included a link to the research survey as well as social media (Twitter and LinkedIn posts) and the South African Chapter of Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), who distributed the research survey link to members of the South African chapter. Participants were also able to share the link with other participants within their network. As such, CIBECS assisted by distributing the survey link to participants who were targeted for the 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey [12].

#### 3.3 Research Survey Results

The research survey was launched on 1 October 2015 and closed on 15 December 2015. During this period, 181 participants completed the survey. However, only 167 research survey responses from participants were considered valid, in that the participant's institution operates in South Africa and maintains electronic personal information and as a result is affected by the POPI Act

#### 3.4 Research Survey Response Analysis

3.4.1 The Overall Level of Understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act
The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act by the 167 participants from South African institutions is depicted in table 1 below:

Table 1: Overall level of understanding of the POPI Act

How would you rate your overall level of understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act?	Response Count	Response Percentage
None	1	0.6%
Limited	34	20.4%
Basic	74	44.3%
Good	41	24.6%
Excellent	17	10.2%
Total	167	100%

The majority of participants (44.3%) had a basic overall level of understanding of the POPI Act. This was followed by 24.6% of participants who had a good overall level of understanding as opposed to 10.2% of participants who had an excellent overall level understanding of the POPI Act. A limited overall understanding of the POPI Act was applicable to 20.4% of participants with only 1 participant (0.6%) possessing no overall level understanding of the POPI Act.

# 3.4.2 The Current Level of Compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act

A critical aspect of this research paper is the assessment of the current level of compliance to the POPI Act by South African institutions as provided by the research survey participants, which is summarised in table 2 below.

Table 2: The current level of compliance to the POPI Act

How would you rate your institution's overall compliance to the POPI Act?	Response Count	Response Percentage
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	9	5.4%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	50	29.9%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards)	76	45.5%
Full compliance to the POPI Act (full implementation of security safeguards)	18	10.8%
Unsure of my institution's level of overall compliance to the POPI Act	14	8.4%
Total	167	100%

As per table 2 above, the majority of participants (45.5%) stated that their respective institution was partially complying to the POPI Act, in other words, that a project is underway to ensure compliance and security safeguards are partially implemented. Formal recognition to comply with the POPI Act, and as such a project was initiated to ensure compliance to the legislation, was applicable to 29.9% of the participants. However, 8.4% of participants were unsure of their institutions' level of overall compliance to the POPI Act. Furthermore, 5.4% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway in their institutions to ensure compliance with the POPI Act. However, 10.8% of participants stated that their institutions fully comply with the POPI Act, implying that security safeguards are fully implemented.

3.4.3 The Level of Compliance to Condition Seven of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act Taking into account the level of overall compliance to the POPI Act, specifically relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, was explored as illustrated in table 3 below:



Table 3: The level of compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act

How would you rate your institutions overall compliance to ensuring confidentiality (prevention of unauthorised disclosure) and integrity (prevention of unauthorised modification) of electronic personal information as required by the POPI Act?	Response Count	Response Percentage
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	10	6.0%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	48	28.7%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards)	70	41.9%
Full compliance (full implementation of security safeguards)	27	16.2%
Unsure of my institutions level of overall compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information	12	7.2%
Total	167	100%

The majority of participants (41.9%) stated that their respective institution was partially complying in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, in that a project is underway to ensure compliance. There is formal recognition to comply with the ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act and as such a project was initiated to ensure compliance, which was applicable to 28.7% of the participants. However, 7.2% of participants were unsure of their institutions' level of compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. Furthermore, 6.0% of participants stated that no initiatives were underway in their institutions to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. However, 16.2% of participants stated that their institutions fully comply with ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

3.4.4 The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information as well as the Potential Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Information

Participants also provided a view on the financial value associated with the electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions, as illustrated in table 4 below:

Table 4: The financial value associated with electronic personal information

What do you estimate is the financial value of electronic personal information maintained by your institution?	Response Count	Response Percentage
R0 to R99,999	6	3.6%
R100,000 to R200,000	0	0.0%
R200,001 to R300,000	0	0.0%
R300,001 to R400,000	6	3.6%
R400,001 to R500,000	16	9.6%
R500,001 to R600,000	9	5.4%
R600,001 to R700,000	13	7.8%
R700,001 to R800,000	9	5.4%
R800,001 to R900,000	12	7.2%
R900,001 to R1,000,000	3	1.8%
R1,000,000+	47	28.1%
Do not know the financial value	46	27.5%
Total	167	100%

In terms of the financial value associated with electronic personal information, the majority of participants (28.1%) assigned a value in excess of 1 million rand. A number of participants (27.5%) did not know the financial value associated with electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions. However, the remaining 44.4% of participants could allocate a financial value ranging from 0 to 1 million rand. Furthermore, as illustrated in table 5 below, participants provided a view on the potential impact a data breach of electronic personal information may have on their respective institutions.

Table 5: The potential impact of a data breach of electronic personal information

F			
How will a breach/compromise of electronic personal information impact your institution (select the scenario below that will have the highest impact on your institution)?	Response Count	Response Percentage	
Loss of jobs	9	5.4%	
Reputational damage	129	77.2%	
Penalties (financial or imprisonment)	16	9.6%	
Failed audits	8	4.8%	
No impact	1	0.6%	
Not sure	4	2.4%	
Total	167	100%	

The highest impact of a data breach of electronic personal information would be reputational damage to the institution, according to 77.2% of participants. This was followed by penalties (financial or imprisonment) which account for 9.6% of participants, loss of jobs which account for 5.4% of participants and failed audits which account for 4.8% of participants. However, 2.4% of participants were unsure of the impact of a data



breach of electronic personal information and 1 participant (0.6%) stated that a data breach of electronic personal information would have no impact.

# 4. CRITICAL EVALUATION OF THE ANALYSIS

This section provides a critical evaluation of the analysis performed in section three of this paper by way of key findings, recommendations and comparisons.

# 4.1 The Overall Level of Understanding of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act

The overall level of understanding of the POPI Act at the time of the research survey being conducted was at a basic level (44.3% of the participants). As a result, given that the POPI Act is not yet enforceable, there is a window of opportunity that exists to increase the level of understanding from basic to good or excellent in order to successfully drive the initiatives to ensure compliance and address areas of non-compliance.

# 4.2 The Current Level of Compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (Comparison Between 2012 and 2015)

In order to compare the level of compliance to the POPI Act by South African institutions in 2015 to the level of compliance shown in 2012 as per the *State of Business Data Protection in South Africa* survey conducted by CIBECS [12] the grouping as illustrated in table 6 below was performed to ascertain the common categories for comparison.

The rationale for ascertaining common categories for comparison is that in 2012 the Protection of Personal Information legislation was still at the stage of a Bill and once it was enacted as the POPI Act, formal initiatives to comply had commenced. In both research surveys, participants stated "No" initiatives were underway to comply or they were "Unsure" of the level of compliance to the protection of personal information legislation, resulting in a direct link in the formulation of the two of the three common categories for comparison. However, the third common category termed "Yes" was formulated by grouping together all activities towards achieving compliance from investigation to formal recognition and partial compliance as well as full compliance to the POPI Act.

Table 6: Formulation of common categories for comparison

CIBECS Category - 2012	Research Survey Category - 2015	Common Category Formulated for Comparison
Investigating the requirements but not actively pursuing compliance - 18%	Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation) - 29.9%	Yes

CIBECS Category - 2012	Research Survey Category - 2015	Common Category Formulated for Comparison
Actively looking at technologies and processes to ensure compliance - 26%	Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security safeguards) - 45.5%	
	Full compliance to the POPI Act (full implementation of security safeguards) - 10.8%	
No initiatives were underway to ensure compliance with the forthcoming protection of personal information legislation - 18%	No initiatives under way to ensure compliance - 5.4%	No
Unsure of the how prepared their institutions were to comply with the forthcoming protection of personal information legislation - 38%	Unsure of my institutions level of overall compliance to the POPI Act - 8.4%	Unsure

The comparison between the current level of compliance to the POPI Act by South African institutions in 2015 to the previous level of compliance as per the 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey conducted by CIBECS [12] is provided in table 7 below, utilising the common categories formulated in table 6 above:

Table 7: The current level of compliance to the POPI Act (comparison between 2012 and 2015)

Common Category Formulated for Comparison	CIBECS Category - 2012	Research Survey Category - 2015	
Yes	44%	86%	
No	18%	5.4%	
Unsure	38%	8.4%	

The research survey conducted in 2015 illustrated a significant increase towards achieving compliance to the POPI Act from 44% to 86% of the participants. This can be attributed to the fact that the POPI Act [11] was signed into law on 26 November 2013 and more recently in 2015 processes commenced to appoint the Information Regulator, who would be responsible for enforcing the POPI Act [13]. The appointment of the Information Regulator will lead to an enforcement date for the POPI Act, after which South African public and private institutions will have one year to comply [11]. It is also encouraging to note the significant decrease in participants who stated "No" initiatives (from 18% to 5.4% of



participants) were underway to ascertain the level of compliance or they were "Unsure" of the level of compliance (from 38% to 8.4%) to the POPI Act by their respective institutions.

# 4.3 Overall Compliance to the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act versus Overall Compliance to Ensure Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information as Required By Condition Seven of the POPI Act

An analysis of the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act compared to the overall level of compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act is provided in table 8 below. This analysis is critical to ensure that the compliance initiative does not neglect electronic personal information.

Table 8: Overall compliance to the POPI Act versus overall compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act

Level of Compliance Category	Overall Compliance to the POPI Act	Overall Compliance to Ensuring Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information as Required By Condition Seven of the POPI Act	Variance
No initiatives under way to ensure compliance	5.4%	6.0%	+0.6%
Formal recognition to comply and a project initiated to ensure compliance (security safeguards identified for implementation)	29.9%	28.7%	-1.2%
Partial compliance in that a project is underway to ensure compliance (partial implementation of security	45.5%	41.9%	-3.6%

Level of Compliance Category	Overall Compliance to the POPI Act	Overall Compliance to Ensuring Confidentiality and Integrity of Electronic Personal Information as Required By Condition Seven of the POPI Act	Variance
Full			
compliance to the POPI Act (full implement- ation of security safeguards)	10.8%	16.2%	5.4%
Unsure of my institutions level of overall compliance to the POPI Act	8.4%	7.2%	-1.2%

In table 8 above, a positive variance reflects the level of compliance in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information for a particular compliance category to be higher than the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act. In comparison, a negative variance reflects the level of compliance in terms of ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information for a particular compliance category to be lower than the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act. As such, the positive and negative variance for 4 of the 5 categories do not exceed 5%, as per table 8 above, and this illustrates a degree of alignment between the overall initiative to achieve compliance to the POPI Act and at the same time, to address the requirements of Condition Seven of the POPI Act to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. For example, 8.4% of participants were unsure of the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act and 7.2% of participants were unsure of the level of compliance in ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. One compliance category exceeded 5%, as per table 2 above, and it related to full compliance. This demonstrates that there is a greater level of compliance to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as opposed to the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act. However, this does not pose a major threat as the overall level of compliance to the POPI Act takes into account several other requirements, for example, nonelectronic personal information as well as processes for reporting a breach.



#### 4.4 The Financial Value Associated with Electronic Personal Information

The majority of participants (72.5%) associated a financial value to the electronic personal information maintained by their institutions. 28.1% assigned a value in excess of 1 million rand while 44.4% of participants associated a financial value ranging from 0 to 1 million rand. However, the remaining 27.5% of participants could not associate a financial value to the electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions. This may pose a challenge in terms of justifying the costs associated with the safeguards required to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. For example, if the financial value of electronic personal information is R900 000, the safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information should generally not exceed R900 000. In addition, understanding the financial value of electronic personal information together with the costs of safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information will strengthen the business case relating to the protection of personal information (POPI) compliance initiative. Furthermore, in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information a financial value may be associated with the loss of electronic personal information.

# 4.5 The Impact of a Data Breach of Electronic Personal Information

Reputational damage to an institution was rated to have the highest impact in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information by 77.2% of participants. This was followed by penalties (financial or imprisonment) which account for 9.6% of participants. Reputational damage will remain a high impact area in the event of a data breach of electronic personal information. However, once the POPI Act is enforced and if not complied with, members of the South African public and private institutions may be fined up to 10 million rand, face imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or receive a combination of a fine and imprisonment [14]. This may lead to an increase in the number of participants who associate the impact of a data breach with penalties (financial or imprisonment).

#### 5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this paper, the overall level of understanding of the POPI Act by participants from South African institutions was assessed, which revealed that at the time of the research survey being conducted the overall level of understanding of the POPI Act was at a basic level (44.3% of the participants).

In addition, in this paper the current level of compliance to the POPI Act as well as level of compliance to Condition Seven of the Act, specifically relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information was explored. The current level of compliance to the POPI Act showed a significant increase from 44% (2012) to 86% (2015). In addition, the overall initiative to ensure compliance with the POPI Act compared to the compliance initiative to address Condition Seven of the Act specifically relating to the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information presented a degree of alignment in that neither compliance initiatives were neglected.

Furthermore, in the assessment of financial value associated with electronic personal information the majority of participants (72.5%) were able to associate a financial value to the electronic personal information maintained by their respective institutions. With regard to a potential data breach of electronic personal

information, reputational damage to an institution was rated to have the highest impact.

In terms of future work, a model of operation will be proposed to guide the implementation of the security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed and transmitted, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

#### 6. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFRICAN CYBER CITIZENSHIP CONFERENCE 2016 (ACCC2016)

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#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The full papers for the African Cyber Citizenship Conference 2016 were refereed by a double-blind reviewing process according to South Africa's Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) refereeing standards. Before accepting a paper, authors were to include the corrections as stated by the peer reviewers. Of the 31 full papers received, 16 were accepted for the Proceedings (acceptance rate: 52%).

Papers were reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Relevancy of the paper to the Cyber-based theme
- Originality and Innovativeness of the research
- Quality of Academic writing and Argument
- Appropriateness and Quality of Literature sources used

The program committee reflected the inter-disciplinary nature of the conference and consisted of international experts in the fields of Information Technology, Law, Psychology, Management, and Education.

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#### The Current State of Security Safeguards within South African Institutions to Achieve Compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act

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#### Abstract

Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information. In South Africa, the first privacy legislation in the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013. The POPI Act promotes the protection of personal information by South African institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in twelve chapters, which includes eight conditions for lawful processing of personal information. Condition Seven of the POPI Act makes specific provision for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information. In a previous research paper, the authors proposed a framework that included a selection of security safeguards across 3 domains (management, technical and operational) from several leading practices to facilitate the achievement and maintenance of compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act, with a specific focus on confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. However, the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the 3 domains has not been explored. Hence, this paper, through an assessment of the current state of security safeguards done via participants from South African institutions, provides an evaluation of applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the 3 domains, previously proposed by the authors, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

#### Keywords

Protection of personal information, POPI Act, POPI Act research survey, electronic personal information, security safeguards.

#### 1. Introduction

The currency of the digital world and the "oil" of the Internet is personal data (Kuneva, 2009). Personal data can be bought, sold and traded creating economic value (Ali *et al.* 2013). Hence, the global risks identified by the World Economic Forum (2014) included data loss as a result of data fraud as a major risk within the technology domain. This is due to the advent of the information age which has presented new challenges in terms of preserving personal information (Saunders and Zucker, 1999).



Privacy entails controlling the use and access to place, location and personal information (Moore, 2008). The value of personal information has increased significantly due to the advent of the information age (Saunders and Zucker, 1999) and this has subsequently resulted in the most prevalent crime of the new millennium known as "identity theft" (Hoar, 2001). This rampant form of crime according to the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) (2014) largely occurs when criminals electronically "break into" information systems (such as those owned by institutions) to gain access to databases, which allows them to steal personal information such as financial account numbers, addresses or identity numbers.

As a result, legislation in the ambit of the protection of personal information aims to protect individuals against identity theft and offers wide-ranging institutional benefits such as the protection of an institution's brand, image and reputation, enhancing the credibility of an institution as well as promoting consumer confidence and goodwill (Titus, 2011).

From a South African perspective, legislation in this area took the form of the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Bill which was first published for comment in 2005 (Stein, 2012). After undergoing numerous reviews, the POPI Bill (2009) was finally enacted and signed into law on 26 November 2013 as the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (2013). Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) specifies the need for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information.

In a previous research paper (2015), the authors proposed a framework that included a selection of security safeguards across 3 domains (management, operational and technical) from several leading practices to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. However, the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the 3 domains (management, operational and technical) has not been explored. Applicability explores if the security safeguard is used within an institution. The extent of implementation assesses if the security safeguard is fully implemented, partially implemented or is being considered for implementation. Lastly, completeness assesses if there are any additional security safeguards, which the authors may not have considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. Hence, the contribution of this paper, through an assessment of the current state of security safeguards done via participants from South African institutions, is to provide an evaluation of applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the 3 domains (management, operational and technical), previously proposed by the authors, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

This paper is one of a series of papers associated with the authors' research relating to the POPI Act, which focuses specifically on the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, namely:

A framework of security safeguards for the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which has been presented and published.

The extent to which the European Union and South African privacy legislation addresses the 2013 OECD guidelines on trans-border data flows and the protection of privacy, including eight privacy principles, which has been presented and published.

Understanding the level of compliance by South African institutions to the POPI Act, which has been completed and submitted.

The current state of security safeguards within South African institutions, in relation to electronic personal information, to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is this paper.

A model of operation to guide the implementation of the security safeguards, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, which is a forthcoming paper.

The paper is structured as follows: Section 2 provides a background of the POPI Act as well as the selection of security safeguards across the 3 domains (management, operational and technical), previously proposed by the authors, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. An overview of the research methodology, research group and research survey results followed by an analysis of the research survey responses received is provided in Section 3. Section 4 provides key findings and recommendations. Section 5 concludes the paper and also presents future work.

#### 2. Background

This section provides a background of the POPI Act as well as the selection of security safeguards across the 3 domains (management, operational and technical), previously proposed by the authors, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act.

#### 2.1. South African Protection of Personal Information Act

The POPI Act (2013) promotes the protection of personal information by South African institutions and specifies the minimum requirements in 12 chapters, which includes 8 conditions for lawful processing of personal information. Although the POPI Act was signed into law on 26 November 2013 the enforcement date of the Act is still to be announced.

#### 2.2. Selection of Security Safeguards

Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013) specifies the need for security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of personal information.

In a previous research paper, the authors (2015) proposed a framework that included a selection of security safeguards across management, operational and technical domains, to facilitate the achievement and maintenance of compliance with Condition Seven of the POPI Act, with a specific focus on preventing unauthorised disclosure (maintaining confidentiality) and modification (ensuring integrity) of electronic personal information stored, processed or transmitted. The management domain accounted for 5 security safeguards, namely information security governance, risk management, information security policy, supplier and service level management and business continuity management. This was followed by the operational domain which accounted for 6 security safeguards, namely security procedures and processes, baseline infrastructure security standards, security awareness and training, security monitoring, incident and reporting, security assessment and disaster recovery. The remaining 9 security safeguards formed part of the technical domain, namely network segmentation, encrypted data channels, server and network component security, workstation and laptop security, file integrity, firewalls, physical and environmental security, centralised audit logging, data loss prevention.

#### 3. Research survey and analysis

This section provides an overview of the research methodology, research group, and research survey results followed by an analysis of the research survey responses



received via participants from South African institutions in terms of the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains.

#### 3.1. Research methodology

The research methodology encompassed a quantitative inferential approach (Kothari, 2004), which aims to draw conclusions about a group based on a sample in the form of a research group. This approach was driven by the use of a research survey, which was located at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAPOPI</a> and was launched from 1 October 2015 to 15 December 2015. The research survey was anonymous and participants were not requested to provide any identifying information such as personal information (title, name, surname and email address) or to disclose the name of their institution. Participants electronically provided consent before participating in the research survey.

#### 3.2. Research group

The research survey specifically targeted participants at South African institutions who store, process or transmit electronic personal information and who, as a result, are impacted by the POPI Act.

The participants were informed of the research survey via an email that included a link to the research survey as well as social media (Twitter and LinkedIn posts) and the South African Chapter of Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), who distributed the research survey link to members of the South African chapter. Participants were also able to share the link within their network. As such, CIBECS assisted by distributing the research survey link to participants who were targeted for the 2012 State of Business Data Protection in South Africa survey that assessed, amongst other aspects, how prepared South African institutions were to comply with the forthcoming protection of personal information legislation, which at that stage took the form of the POPI Bill.

#### 3.3. Research survey results

181 participants completed the research survey. However, only 167 research survey responses from participants were considered valid (participants were required to represent a South African institution that maintains electronic personal information and as a result is affected by the POPI Act).

#### 3.4. Research survey response analysis - Applicability of security safeguards

In terms of assessing the applicability of security safeguards, participants were asked if the security safeguards across the 3 domains were applicable (that is, used within their institutions) or not applicable to their institutions, as it relates to to ensuring confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act, as illustrated in table 1 below:

Security safeguard domain	Security safeguar d applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard applicable to my institution (response percentage)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response count)	Security safeguard not applicable to my institution (response percentage)
Average - Management	165.00	98.80%	2.00	1.20%
Average - Operational	163.17	97.70%	3.83	2.30%
Average - Technical	164.56	98.54%	2.44	1.46%
Overall Average - All Domains	164.25	98.35%	2.75	1.65%

Table 1: Applicability of security safeguards

As per table 1 above, an average of 98.35% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were applicable to their respective institutions in that these are either being considered for implementation or already partially or fully implemented. However, an average of 1.65% participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were not applicable to their respective institutions.

# 3.5. Research survey response analysis - Extent of implementation of security safeguards

The extent of implementation of the security safeguards across the 3 domains in terms of full implementation, partial implementation or being considered for implementation, applicable to the average of 98.35% of participants is illustrated in table 2 below:

Security safeguard domain	Security safeguard considered (response count)	Security safeguard considered (response percentage)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response count)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response percentage)	Security safeguard fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented (response percentage)
Average - Management	28.40	17.01%	79.00	47.31%	57.60	34.49%

Security safeguard domain	Security safeguard considered (response count)	Security safeguard considered (response percentage)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response count)	Security safeguard partially implemented (response percentage)	Security safeguard fully implemented (response count)	Security safeguard in place and fully implemented (response percentage)
Average - Operational	34.17	20.46%	87.83	52.59%	41.17	24.65%
Average - Technical	46.56	27.88%	81.67	48.90%	36.33	21.76%
Overall Average - All Domains	38.30	22.93%	82.85	49.61%	43.10	25.81%

Table 2: Extent of implementation of security safeguards

An average of 49.61% of participants, as per table 2 above, revealed partial implementation of the security safeguards across the 3 domains within their institutions. In addition, an average of 25.81% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the 3 domains were fully implemented in their institutions. However, an average of 22.93% of participants stated that the security safeguards across the 3 domains are still being considered within their institutions for implementation.

#### 3.6. Research survey response analysis - Completeness of security safeguards

To assess completeness, the 167 participants were asked to assess if there are any additional security safeguards to the selection of security safeguards, which the authors may have not considered to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act. 150 participants (89.8%) did not provide additional safeguards that are being considered or implemented (partially or fully) by their institutions. However, 17 participants (10.2%) indicated that there were security safeguards that their institutions are considering or implementing (partially or fully) in addition to the selection of security safeguards proposed by the authors. From these 17 responses, 6 were invalid in that they did not provide accurate and sufficient information for further consideration. However, the remaining 11 of the 17 responses, as listed in table 3 below, provided accurate and sufficient information for further consideration:

No.	Safeguards suggested by participants	No.	Safeguards suggested by participants
1	Database level encryption	7	Next generation firewall
2	Encryption	8	File integrity hashing value validation
3	Payment card industry data security standard (PCI DSS)	9	Firmware embedded basic input output system (BIOS) based persistent and remote asset tracking Data and device security
4	International standards and frameworks	10	We acquired an enterprise wide IT system to protect the electronic information
5	Security standards	11	Wi-Fi networks
6	Mobile device management		

Table 3: Security safeguards suggested by participants

An impact analysis of the 11 valid responses (table 3 above) as depicted in table 4 below was conducted to assess the completeness of the security safeguards proposed by the authors, to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. The impact analysis entailed grouping similar responses from the 11 valid responses and then assessing the responses in terms of either impacting or not impacting the security safeguards proposed by the authors. A response was considered to impact the security safeguards proposed by the authors, if it introduced new security safeguards or resulted in changes to the name of a security safeguard or an update of the description associated with a security safeguard. In comparison, a response was considered not to have an impact on the security safeguards proposed by the authors, if it resulted in no change at all as the current selection of security safeguards adequately address the information provided by a response. The result of the impact analysis for each grouping of responses was supported by a rationale. Furthermore, all responses considered to impact the security safeguards proposed by the authors, was supported by a relevant action aimed at capturing the change required to the affected security safeguards.

Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants	Impact (Yes/No), Rationale and Action Required (Yes/No)
Response 1:	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (Encrypted data channels)
Database level encryption	<b>Rationale:</b> Encryption is only addressed from a data channel perspective by the encrypted data channels security safeguard.
Response 2: Encryption	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Rename the "Encrypted data channels" security safeguard to "Encryption" and update the description to address encryption holistically from a data security perspective to cover data transmission (data absence) and storage (databases)
Response 9: Data security	channels) and storage (databases).
Response 3:	Impact (Yes/No): No
Payment card	Rationale: Credit card information is considered personal information however

Security Safeguards Suggested by Participants	Impact (Yes/No), Rationale and Action Required (Yes/No)
industry data	PCI-DSS is a standard specifically for credit card information (PCI Security
security standard	Standards Council, 2016) and does not apply to institutions who have personal
(PCI-DSS)	information such as names, surnames and email addresses of clients but no credit
	card information. As a result, PCI-DSS will not result in an additional security
	safeguard or an amendment to the security safeguards proposed. However,
	compliance to the PCI-DSS standard will encompass the implementation of the
	majority of the security safeguards proposed.
	Action Required (Yes/No): No
Response 4:	Impact (Yes/No): No
International	Rationale: The baseline infrastructure security standards safeguard addresses
standards and	security standards. Furthermore, the security safeguards includes the need for an
frameworks	information security policy, security procedures and processes as well as baseline
114111411411	infrastructure security standards, which should ideally be based on international
Response 5:	standards and frameworks to prevent re-inventing the wheel. For example, the
Security	information security policy may be based on International Standards Organisation
standards	(ISO) 27001.
	Action Required (Yes/No): No Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (workstation and laptop
	security as well as data loss prevention).
Response 6:	Rationale: Workstation and laptop security makes no provision for mobile
Mobile device	devices. Furthermore, data end points for data loss prevention are limited to
management	workstations and laptops.
	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Rename the security safeguard "Workstation
Response 9:	and laptop security" to "Workstation, laptop and mobile device security" and
Device security	update the description of the security safeguard to include security of mobile
	devices. In addition, update the description of the "Data loss prevention" security
	safeguard to include mobile devices as data end points.
Damoura 7.	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (file integrity).
Response 7: Next generation	Rationale: Firewalls independent of vendor or technology is addressed by the
firewall	current security safeguards (firewall).
111 0 11 411	Action Required (Yes/No): No
Response 8:	Impact (Yes/No): No
File integrity	Rationale: File integrity is addressed by the file integrity security safeguard, with
hashing value	no provision for hash value validation.
validation	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the "File integrity"
	security safeguard to include hash value validation.
	Impact (Yes/No): Yes - Current security safeguards (Security monitoring, incident and reporting, workstation and laptop security as well as data loss
	prevention).
Response 9:	Rationale: Yes - Security monitoring, incident and reporting safeguard as well as
Firmware	the workstation and laptop security and data loss prevention safeguards did not
embedded basic	take into account asset tracking.
input output	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the security
system (BIOS)	monitoring, incident and reporting safeguard to include persistent and remote
based persistent	asset tracking. In addition, the workstation and laptop security safeguard
and remote asset	description to be updated to include firmware BIOS based tracking on supported
tracking	workstations, laptops and mobile devices. Furthermore, the data loss prevention
	safeguard to enable tracking of assets via data end points, if firmware BIOS based
	asset tracking is not supported on workstations, laptops or mobile devices.
Response 10:	Impact (Yes/No): No
We acquired an	Rationale: Enterprise wide IT system is open to interpretation and could be a data
enterprise wide	loss prevention (DLP) system or a security incident event and monitoring (SIEM)
IT system to	system. Both the DLP and SIEM systems are addressed by the current security

Securit Safeguar Suggested Participa	ds Impact (Yes/No), Rationale and Action Required (Yes/No)
protect t	he safeguards (Data loss prevention and security monitoring, incident and reporting).
electron informati	(100000000000000000000000000000000000
Response	
Wi-Fi networks	Action Required (Yes/No): Yes - Update the description of the "Network segmentation" and "Server and network component security" safeguards to state that the security safeguards are applicable to any form of network may it be wired and wireless or a combination thereof.

Table 4: Impact analysis of the security safeguards suggested by participants

As a result of the aforementioned impact analysis in table 4 above, based on the 11 valid responses, 5 responses had no impact on the security safeguards previously proposed by authors as supported by the rationale provided. However, 6 of the 11 valid responses had an impact on the selection of security safeguards previously proposed by authors, in that it did result in updates to the security safeguards but no additional security safeguards were identified.

#### 4. Critical evaluation of the analysis

This section provides a critical evaluation of the analysis performed in section 3 of this paper by way of key findings and recommendations.

#### 4.1. Applicability of security safeguards

An average of 98.35% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains, proposed by the authors, were applicable to their respective institutions (either being considered for implementation or already partially or fully implemented). An average of 1.65% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were not applicable to their respective institutions. Certain security safeguards may not be applicable in the event where the institution has compensating safeguards (other alternative security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information) in place. However, in the event that the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information may be compromised due to the lack of a security safeguard, it is recommended that the security safeguards identified as not applicable to the institution across the management, operational and technical domains be re-considered for implementation to mitigate the risk of disclosure and modification of electronic personal information as well as to ultimately ensure compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act.



#### 4.2. Extent of implementation of security safeguards

At the time of the research survey being conducted an average of 25.81% of the 98.35% of participants stated that security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were fully implemented in their institution. However, security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains were partially implemented (average of 49.61% of the 98.35% participants) or being considered for implementation (average of 22.93% of the 98.35% of participants). Given that the POPI Act is not yet enforceable, the progress made by South African institutions is considered acceptable in that the implementation of certain of the security safeguards account for a combined average of 75.42% of the 98.35% of participants (partial implementation - 49.61% and full implementation -25.81%). South African institutions should aim to achieve full implementation of the security safeguards in order to contribute towards the achievement of ensuring compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act as well as the overall POPI Act. As a result, the security safeguards that have been fully implemented can be continuously monitored to ensure that the confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information is preserved, while the security safeguards that have been partially implemented should be fully implemented. Similarly, the security safeguards that are being considered for implementation should be prioritised and implemented in the most effective and efficient manner in order to achieve compliance to Condition Seven of the POPI Act as well as the overall POPI Act.

#### 4.3. Completeness of security safeguards

From a completeness perspective, no additional security safeguards were added to the selection of security safeguards previously proposed by the authors to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. However, based on the information provided by participants in terms of the responses received, driven by themes such as encryption, mobile devices and asset tracking, the names of 2 security safeguards (workstation and laptop security changed to workstation, laptop and mobile security as well as encrypted data channels changed to encryption) were updated. In addition, the description associated with 7 security safeguards were updated. The aforementioned updates are illustrated in italics within table 5 below:

Update Description	Security Safeguard Name	Current Safeguard Description	Updated Safeguard Description
4.3.1.1. Update to the security safeguard description	4.3.1.2. Security monitoring, incident and reporting	4.3.1.3. All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information.	4.3.1.4. All audit logs from applications as well as the technology infrastructure is assessed in order to report on any malicious activities or data breaches of electronic personal information. Security monitoring to include persistent and remote asset tracking.
4.3.1.5. Update to the security safeguard description	4.3.1.6. Network segmentation	4.3.1.7. Application and database servers that respectively process and store personal information are located on a dedicated network segment that is separated from the rest of the corporate network.	4.3.1.8 Application and database servers that respectively process and store personal information are located on a dedicated network segment (may be a wired or wireless network or a combination thereof) that is separated from the rest of the corporate network.
4.3.1.9. Update to the security safeguard name and description	Encryption (previously encrypted data channels)	4.3.1.10. All electronic personal information flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment, is encrypted and access to the data channels is strictly monitored and controlled.	4.3.1.11. All electronic personal information transmitted (flowing into and out of the dedicated network segment) and stored, is encrypted and access to the data channels and storage (databases) is strictly monitored and controlled.
4.3.1.12. Update to the security safeguard description	4.3.1.13. Server and network component security	4.3.1.14. All server and network components are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards.	4.3.1.15. All server and network (may be a wired or wireless network or a combination thereof) components are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards.
4.3.1.16. Update to the security safeguard name and description	Workstation, laptop and mobile security (previously workstation and	4.3.1.17. Workstations and laptops are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards and are locked	4.3.1.18. Workstations, laptops and mobile devices are configured to implement the defined baseline infrastructure security standards and are locked

144

Update Description	Security Safeguard Name	Current Safeguard Description	Updated Safeguard Description
	laptop security)	down to prevent the user to change	down to prevent the user to change
	9,000	the configuration or install	the configuration or install additional
		additional applications.	applications. In addition, firmware
			basic input output system (BIOS) based
			tracking should be enabled on
			supported workstations, laptops and
			mobile devices (for non- supported
			workstations, laptops and mobile
			devices asset tracking should be
			implemented through the data loss
		42121 411	prevention security safeguard)
		4.3.1.21. All configurations associated with server and network	4.3.1.22. All configurations associated with server and network components are
	4.3.1.20. File integrity	components are associated with a	associated with a unique value known
4.3.1.19. Update to the		unique value known as a hash	as a hash value. The hash value may
security safeguard		value. The hash value may be used	be used to ascertain if unauthorised
description		to ascertain if unauthorised	changes were affected to
		changes were affected to	configurations via hash value
		configurations.	validation.
		4.3.1.25. The protection of data loss for	4.3.1.26. The protection of data loss for
		data at rest, in motion or at an end	data at rest, in motion or at an end
		point. To prevent the loss of	point. To prevent the loss of
		electronic personal information	electronic personal information
4.3.1.23. Update to the		specifically via workstations or	specifically via workstations, laptops
security safeguard description	4.3.1.24. Data loss prevention	laptops.	and mobile devices. Furthermore, track
	norman Data ious prevention		assets via data end points, if firmware
			basic input output system (BIOS) based
			asset tracking (Workstation, laptop and
			mobile security safeguard) is not
			supported on workstations, laptops or mobile devices.
		100 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000	movue aevices.

Table 5: Updates to the security safeguard names and/or descriptions

The updates to the security safeguard names and descriptions as reflected in table 5 above will be taken in account when the model of operation to guide the implementation of security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal is to be defined by the authors.

#### 5. Conclusion and future work

In this paper, the applicability, extent of implementation and completeness of the security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains, proposed by the authors, through an assessment of participants from South African institutions was explored.

From an applicability and extent of implementation perspective, the security safeguards across the management, operational and technical domains, proposed by the authors, were widely used by South African institutions in that an average of 98.35% of participants stated that security safeguards across the 3 domains were applicable to their respective institutions and the security safeguards are either being considered for implementation (average of 22.93% of the 98.35% of participants) or already partially (average of 49.61% of the 98.35% of participants) or fully implemented (average of 25.81% of the 98.35% of participants).

In terms of the completeness of the security safeguards proposed by the authors, no additional security safeguards were added to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information. However, the names and descriptions of specific security safeguards were updated based on the information provided by participants. These updates are to be factored, as part of future work, into the model of operation which aims to guide the implementation of the security safeguards to ensure confidentiality and integrity of electronic personal information stored, processed and transmitted, as required by Condition Seven of the POPI Act (2013).

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146

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147

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