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Automated resolving of security incidents as a key mechanism to
fight massive infections of malicious software

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Overview

- PRISM is a tool which allows incident management.
- Introduction of PRISM
 - Architecture
 - Sensors
 - Workflow and Escalationmodel
 - Use-Cases
 - Screenshots

Motivation/ Problems of Computer Security Teams

- An increase of computer security incidents means an increase of administrative work for CSIRT Teams
- Massive infections with malicious software increase the noise level in a network resulting in more IDS events
- Extrusion Detection becomes more difficult
- More reports from external CSIRTs about malicious activity in the local network

Consequences

- Reduce the noise level in the computer security incidents
- Try to **differentiate between qualified and unqualified** computer security events

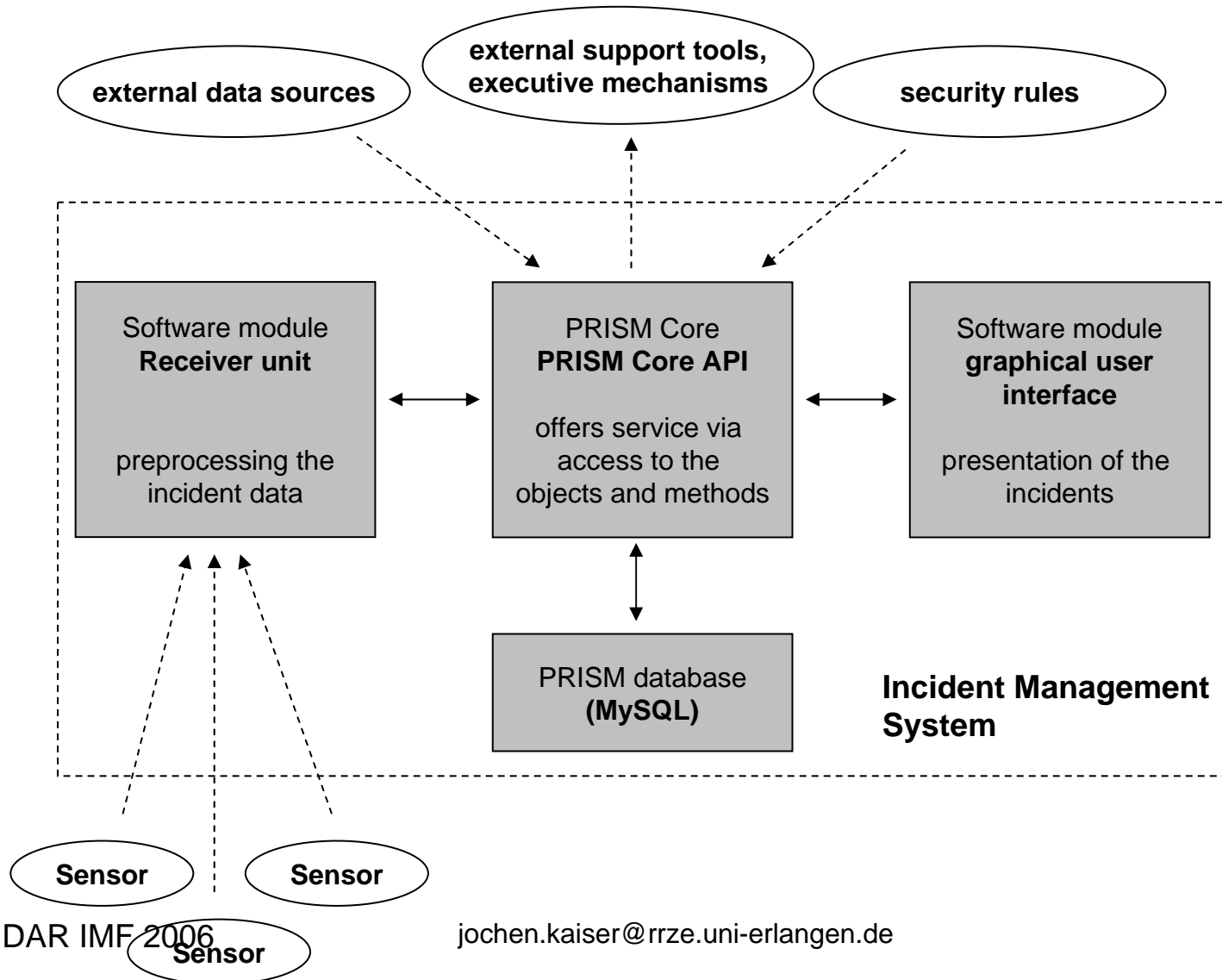
Using conventional Helpdesksystems for CSIRT tasks

- Very often, CSIRTs use a modified Helpdesksystem for handling the computer security incidents.
 - Components:
 - Mail2TT-Gateway
 - Queues for priorities to
 - maybe: Self service terminal tells status of own TT
 - maybe: Solution database
 - missing:
 - self service terminal with advanced functions
 - automated assignment between incidents and solutions
 - delegation of computer security incidents
- Development of the incident management tool PRISM:
(Portal for Reporting Incidents and Solution Management)

PRISM architecture

- Modular System with well defined interfaces
- open source components:
FreeBSD, Apache, MySQL, PERL
- IDMEF is used for the
- Terminal for Administrators
- Self service terminal for end users
- Escalation paths
- Role model differentiates in users, admins and CSIRTs
- Support for solution finding

Modular Architecture



Prerequisites which have to be fulfilled before an incident management can operate

- **Update Networks**
resources for updating the end user systems in a network
- **Tool for blocking hosts**
a tool is needed implements disconnection of a host upon required:
block <IP>
unblock <IP>
(the update resources must be reachable though!)
- **Tool for information about the institutions organizational structure**
a tool to deliver information about the responsible computer administrators and the head of departments of a given IP address
- **Optional: a tool to by-pass WWW queries to the incident management**
the WWW-queries of an affected host shall be by-passed to the incident management so that the user gains knowledge of the problems.

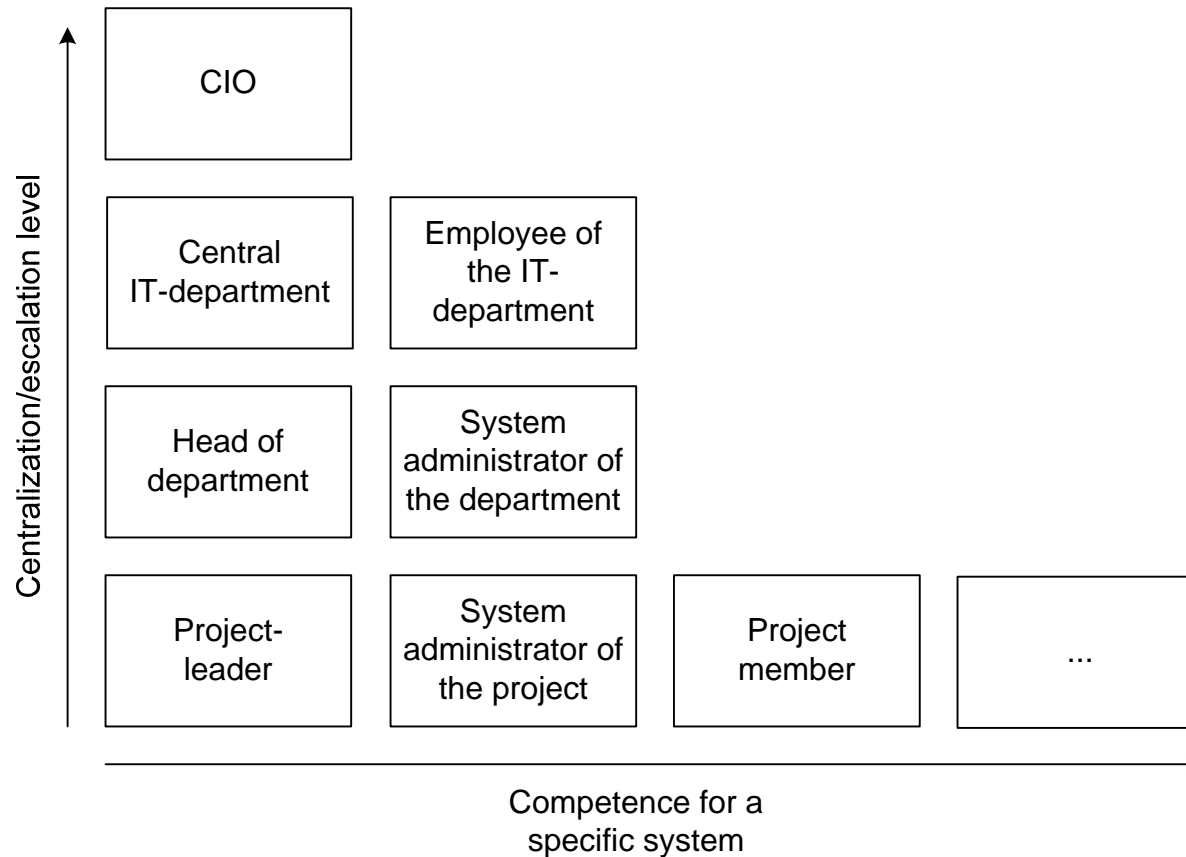
PRISM sensors

- An incident report IDMEF sensor
(Intrusion Detection Message Exchange Format)
- several sensors are available:
 - sophos virus detection mail gateway
 - Intrusion Detection System Snort
 - IDMEF-Aggregator für Snort
 - manual input of incidents via a WWW interface
 - DNS policies (if a host has no entry in the DNS db)

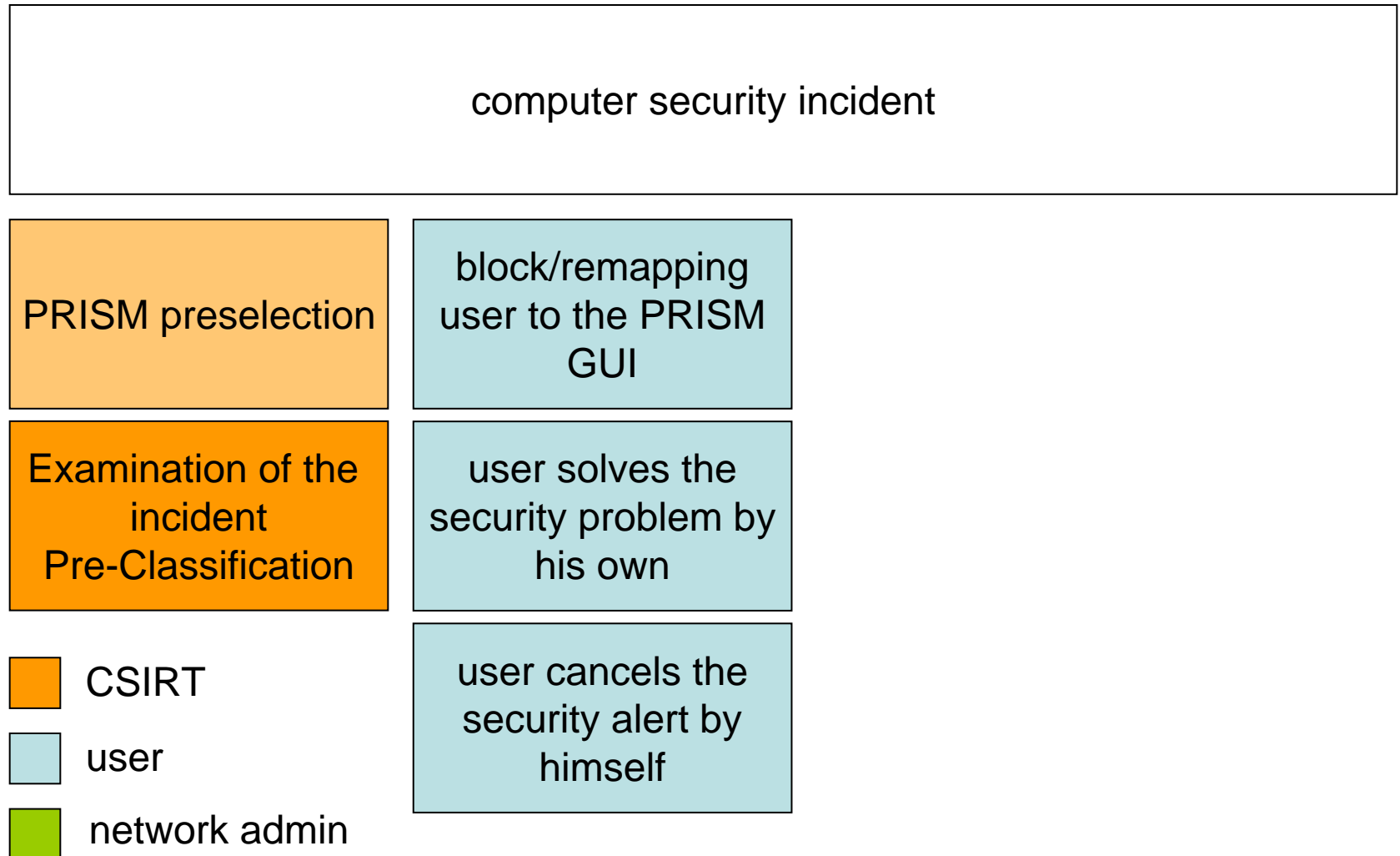
Role- and escalation model

- **Different Roles:**
 - end user in the role as a main user of a system
 - computer/network administrator of the sub network
 - CSIRT-Administrators
- **Escalation Models**
 - **Class 1 - Level 1** this describes security incidents which have a low risk to the organization.
 - **Class 1 - Level 2** An escalation to level 2 means that the end user was not able to solve the problem himself and that now the computer administrator which is responsible for the organization has to clear the problem.
 - **Class 1 - Level 3** In case the computer administrator cannot fix the problem in level 2, it is possible to increase the level to level 3 and to have a CSIRT administrator supervising the incident.
 - **Class 2 – all Levels** incidents are those which have a significant impact on the organization. These ones should not be solved from users or network administrators but from the CIRT team. A security incident of this class will never be in the scope of an end user.

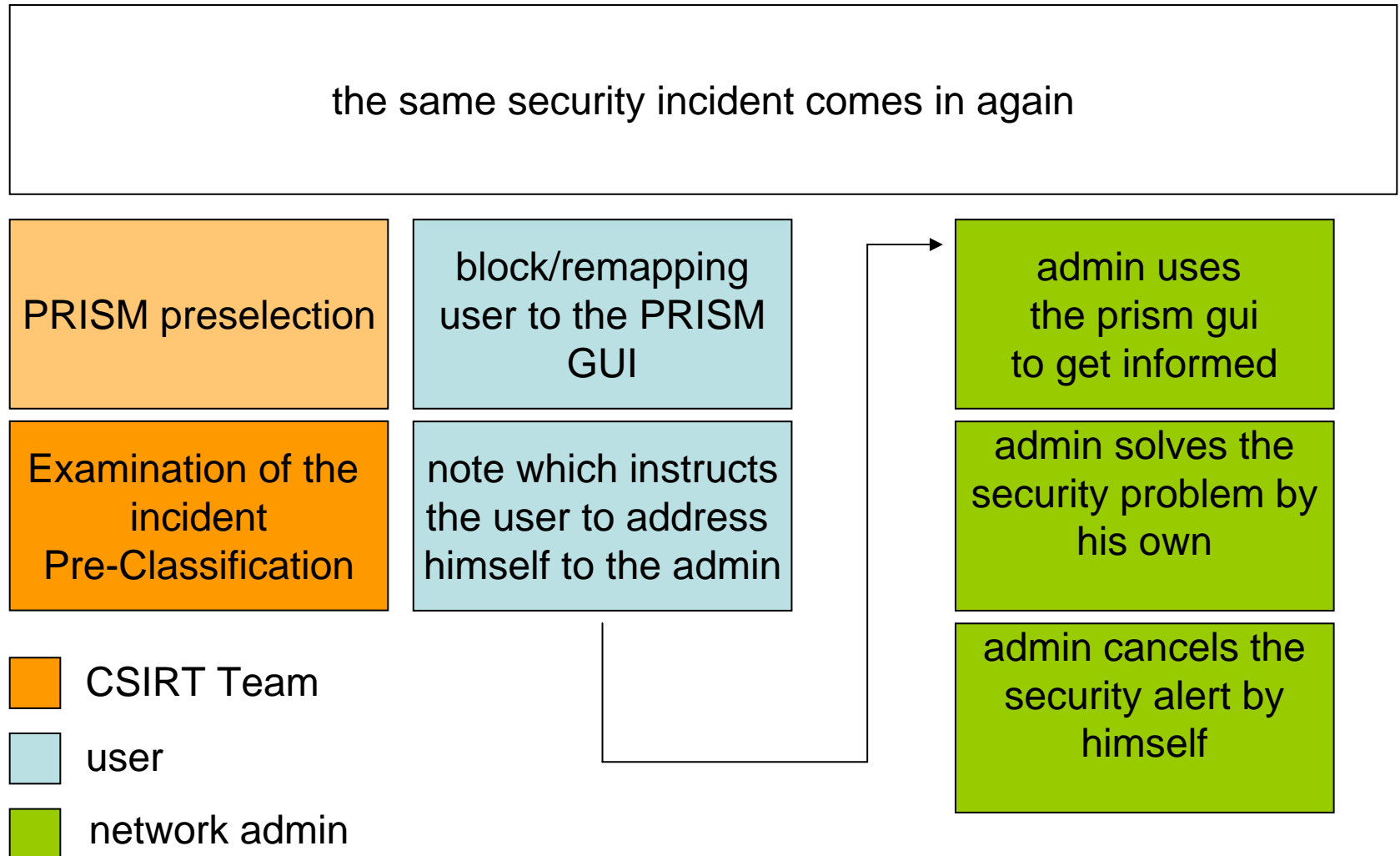
Example for a hierarchy of responsibility



Workflow (no escalation)

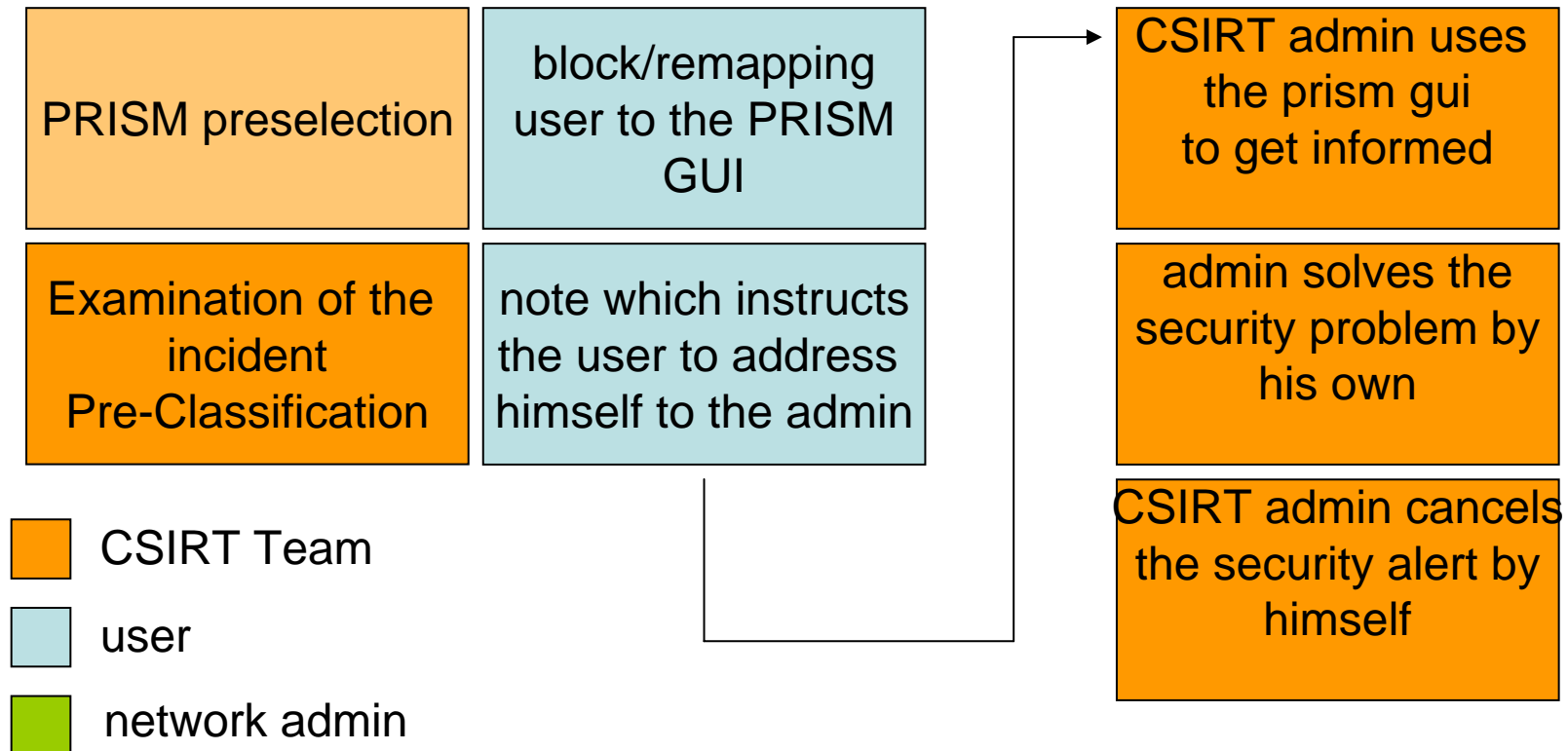


Workflow (Escalation level 1)

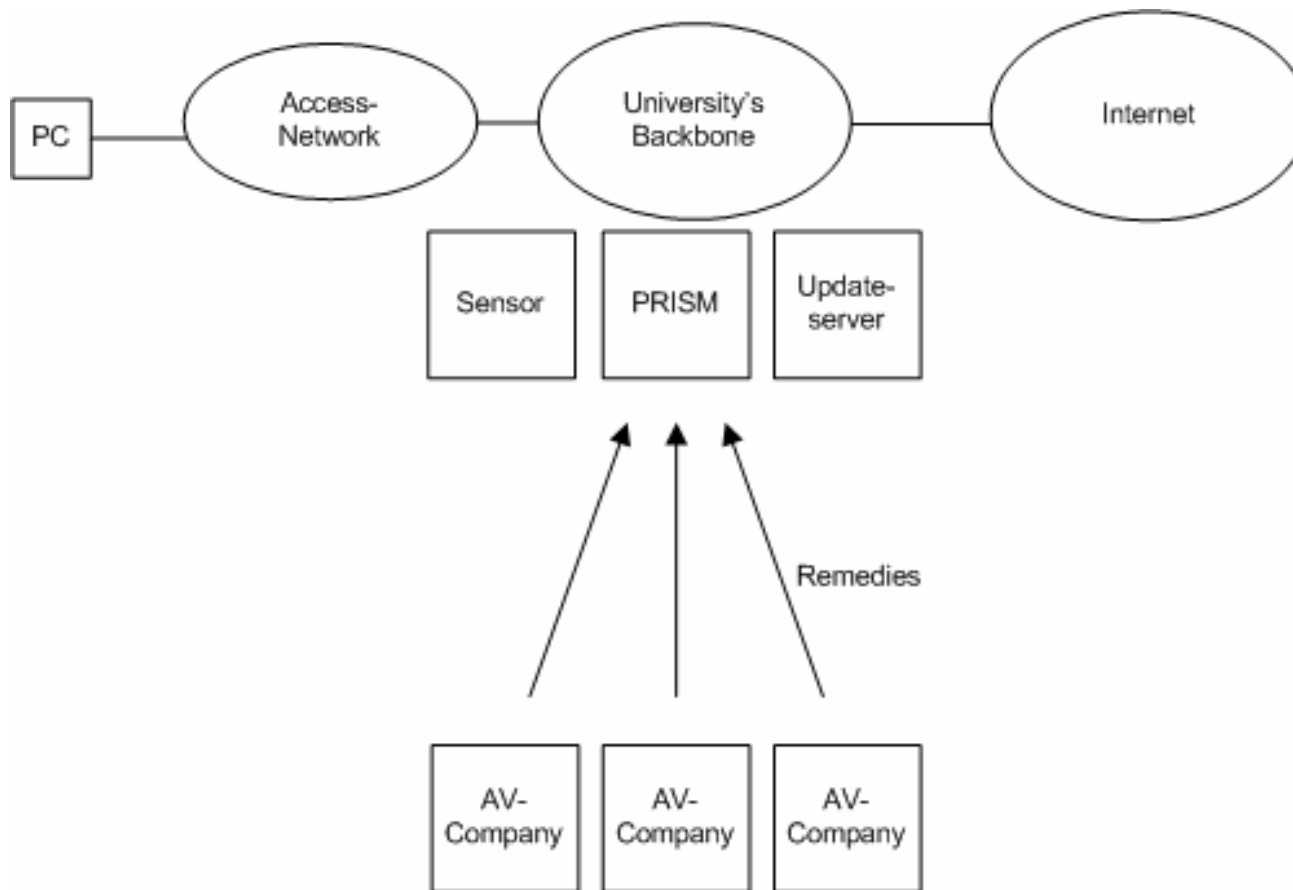


Workflow (Escalation level 2)

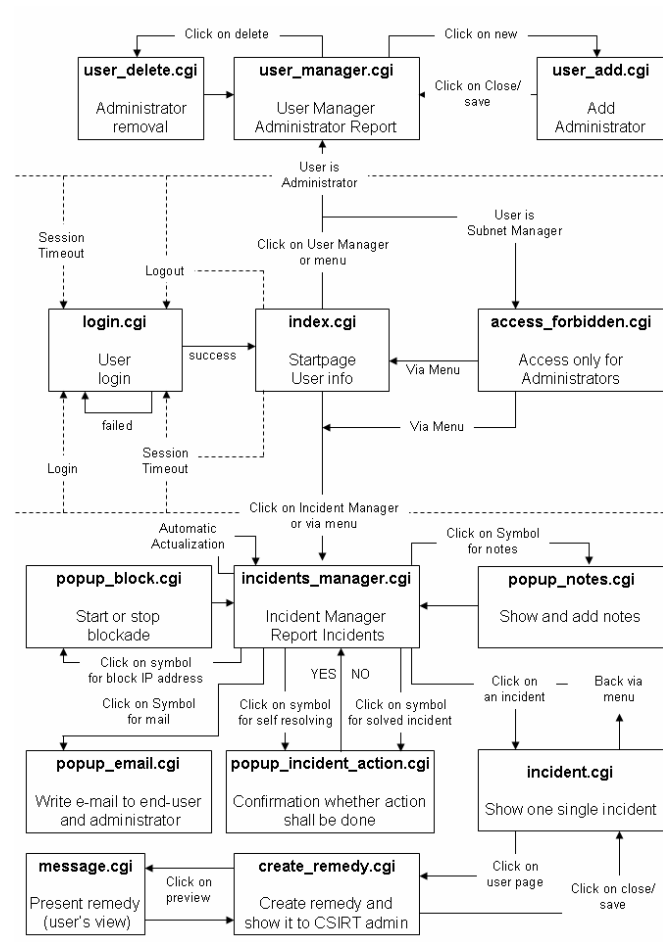
the same computer incident enters the system again



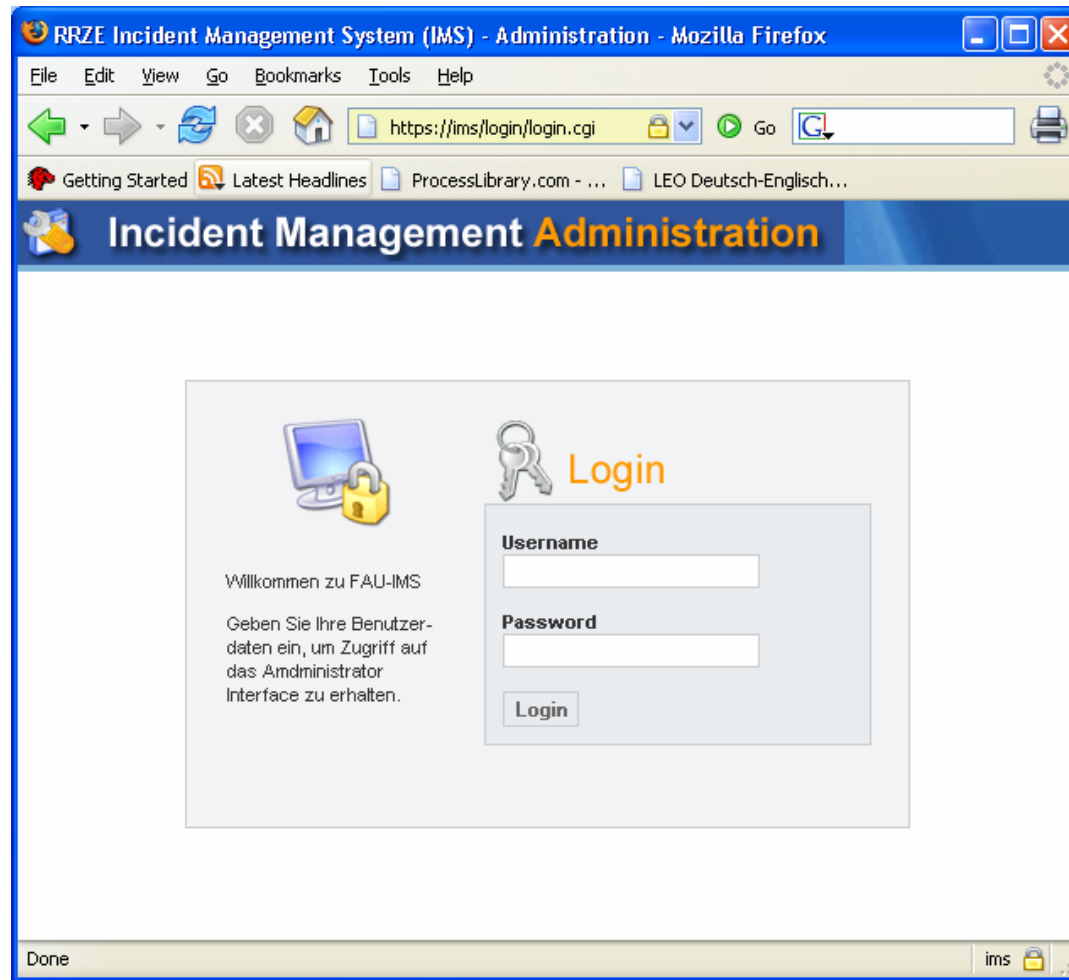
usage scenario: university



Overview of the implementation



Example Session (1) - Login



Example Session (2) – main page

The screenshot shows the main page of the RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) Administration interface. The browser window title is "RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) - Administration - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL "https://ims/webapp/index.cgi". The page has a blue header with the title "Incident Management Administration" and a navigation bar with links: "Startseite", "Konfiguration", "Vorfälle", and "Hilfe". The user is logged in as "unrz111" and has the role "Subnetzbetreuer".

The main content area is titled "Startseite" and contains three icons: "Vorfall Manager", "Benutzer Manager", and "Hilfe". A "Willkommen" (Welcome) message is displayed, stating: "Sie sind angemeldet als: unrz111" and "Zugriffsberechtigung: Subnetzbetreuer". It also mentions "Zugriff auf alle Vorfälle innerhalb Ihrer Zuständigkeit." (Access to all incidents within your jurisdiction).

A table lists the subnets managed by the user:

Subnetzname	Subnetz/groesse	Subnetzbereich
win-ipv6-2	131.188.11.0/24	131.188.11.0 - 131.188.11.255
win-ipv6	131.188.10.0/24	131.188.10.0 - 131.188.10.255

Example Session (3) – incident manager

RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) - Administration - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

https://ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de/webapp/incidents_manager.cgi

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Incident Management Administration

Startseite Konfiguration Vorfälle Hilfe 0 0 Logout unrz111

RRZE Incident Management / Vorfälle -> Vorfälle Manager

Vorfall Manager

Filter:

#	Vorfall	Sensor	Name des Systems	Adresse	Klassifikation	Eingegangen	Letzte Aktualisierung	selbst losend	aufgelöst	Adresse gesperrt
1	test test test	Incident Web Notification	frieden.gate.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.4.54	malware	2006-06-14 14:19:03	2006-06-15 21:26:39	✓	✗	✗
2	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	lstm05.gate.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.98.14	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:49:29	2006-06-15 20:21:14	✓	✗	✗
3	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	plato.fim.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.192.11	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 02:12:01	2006-06-15 20:10:17	✓	✗	✗
4	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	fauam2.am.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.101.20	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 02:20:57	2006-06-15 20:10:17	✓	✗	✗
5	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	fau200.informatik.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.32.20	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 02:09:38	2006-06-09 02:09:38	✓	✗	✗
6	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	venus.lit.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.110.30	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:47:14	2006-06-09 01:47:14	✓	✗	✗
7	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	voyager.st-peter.stw.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.24.132	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:47:09	2006-06-09 01:47:09	✓	✗	✗
8	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	www.uvt.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.144.193	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:42:45	2006-06-09 01:42:45	✓	✗	✗
9	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	styx.imp.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.216.20	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:40:33	2006-06-09 01:40:33	✓	✗	✗
10	Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie	Snort Sensor	ccc011.chemie.uni-erlangen.de	131.188.128.11	P2P/Malware/Chat	2006-06-09 01:36:00	2006-06-09 01:36:00	✓	✗	✗

<< Start < Previous 1 Next > End >>

Display # 10 Results 1 - 10 of 2530

✓ / ✗ Klicken Sie auf die Symbole, um Statusänderungen durchzuführen.

Done ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

Example Session (4) – IDMEF raw

RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) - Administration - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

https://ims/webapp/incident.cgi

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Incident Management Administration

Startseite Konfiguration Vorfälle Hilfe 0 0 Logout unr211

RRZE Incident Management / Vorfälle -> Vorfall

Vorfall 5229: Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie vom 2006-06-09 01:49:29

Meldung! Subnetz Quelle Subnetz Ziel

Meldung im 'Incident Detection Message Exchange Format'

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE IDMEF-Message PUBLIC "-//IETF//DTD RFC XXXX IDMEF v1.0//EN" "idme
IDMEF-Message"
<Alert messageId="00004488B7883903910000EEFD0080">
  <Analyzer model="Snort Sensor" analyzerid="snort@roadrunner">
    <Node category="hosts">
      <name>roadrunner.rrze.uni-erlangen.de</name>
      <Address category="ipv4-addr">
        <address>131.188.2.22</address>
      </Address>
    </Node>
  </Analyzer>
  <CreateTime ntpstamp="0xc8333608.0x0">2006-06-08-T23:49:28Z</CreateTime>
  <Source>
    <Node category="hosts">
      <name>istm05.gate.uni-erlangen.de</name>
      <Address category="ipv4-addr">
        <address>131.188.98.14</address>
      </Address>
    </Node>
  </Source>
  <Target>
    <Node category="hosts">
      <name>resolving failed !</name>
      <Address category="ipv4-addr">
        <address>255.255.255.255</address>
      </Address>
    </Node>
  </Target>
  <Classification text="Verstoss gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie">

```

Example Session (5) – Contact Persons

RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) - Administration - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

https://ims/webapp/incident.cgi

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Incident Management Administration

Startseite Konfiguration Vorfälle Hilfe 0 0 Logout umrz111

RRZE Incident Management / Vorfälle -> Vorfälle Benutzer Seite Hilfe

Vorfälle 5229: Verstoß gegen Filesharing und Malware Richtlinie vom 2006-06-09 01:49:29

Meldung Subnetz Quelle Subnetz Ziel

Subnetzbetreuer Quelle

Subnetz

Größe: 131.188.98.0/24
Bereich: 131.188.98.0 - 131.188.98.255
Name: Istm
Institut: Lehrstuhl für Strömungsmechanik
Bemerkung:

1. DNS Administrator:

Name: Dr. Dimos Trimis
E-Mail: Trimis.Dimos@trinis.uni-erlangen.de
Telefon: +49 9131 85-29490
Institut: Lehrstuhl für Strömungsmechanik

https://ims/webapp/incident.cgi#

Example Session (6) – user page

RRZE Incident Management System (IMS) - Administration - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

https://ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de/webapp/create_re

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Incident Management Administration

Startseite Konfiguration Vorfälle Hilfe 0 0 Logout unrz111

RRZE Incident Management / Vorfälle -> Vorfall -> Benutzer Seite Vorschau Speichern Abbrechen H

Benutzer Seite

Details der Seite, die einem gesperrten Benutzer angezeigt wird

Benutzer darf ☒ auflösen: [auswählen](#) [Vorgefertigtes Remedy](#)

Überschrift:

Erklärung:

Anweisung:

Hilfreiche Links:

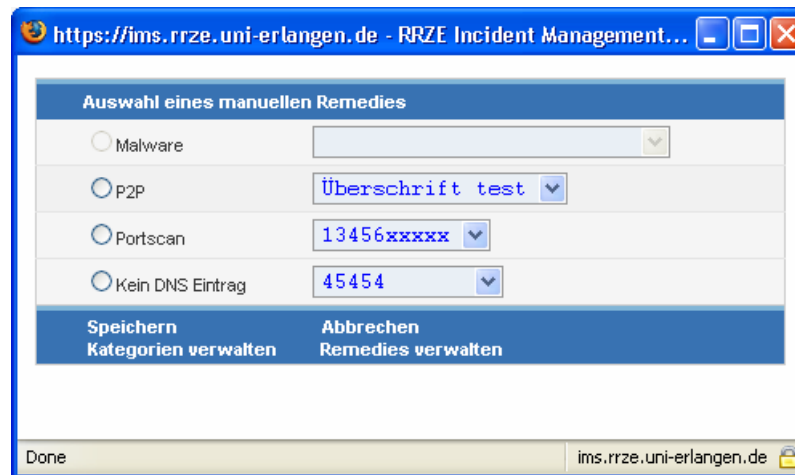
Removal Tool Links:

Strafandrohung:

Zusätzlicher Text:

Done ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

Example Session (7) – solution selection

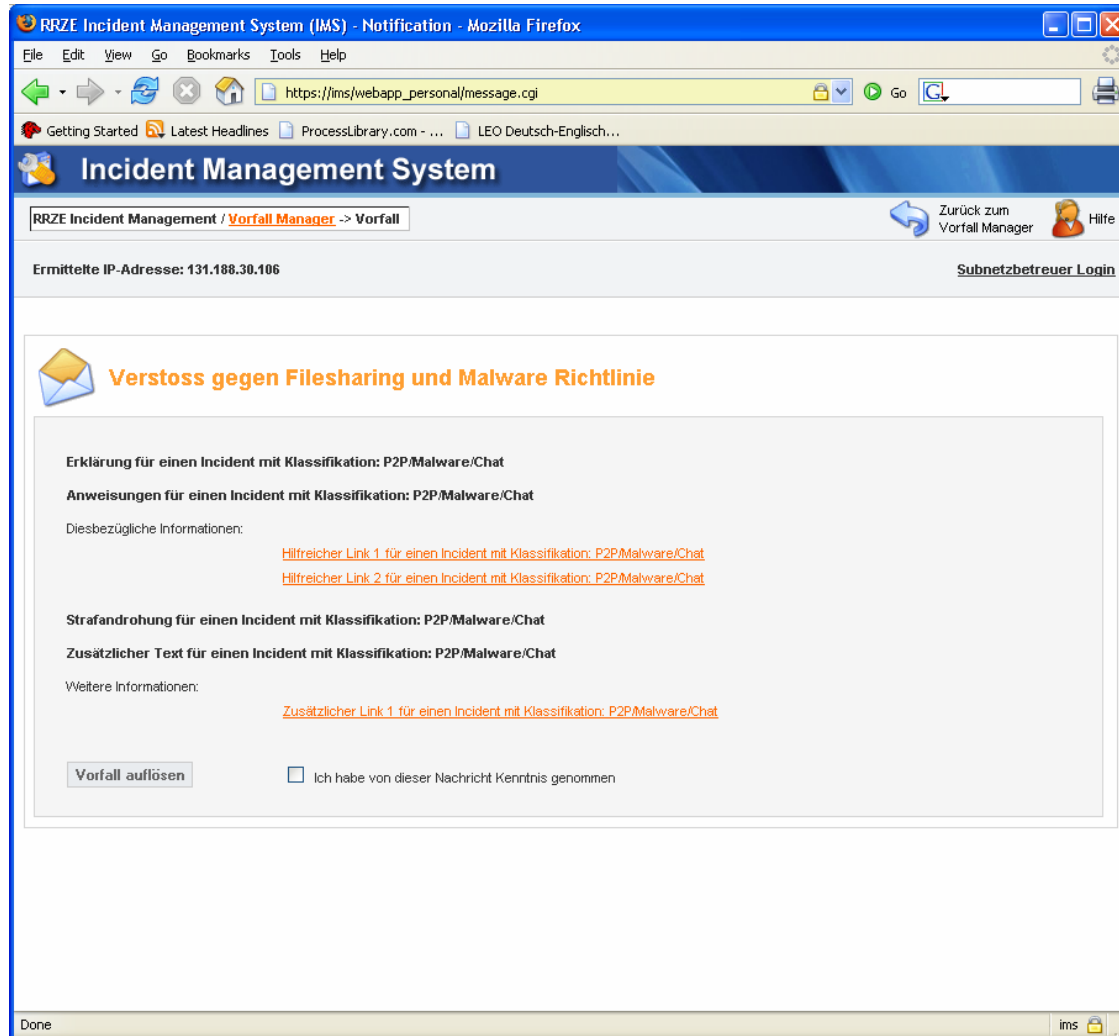


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `https://ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de - RRZE Incident Management...`. The main content area is titled "Auswahl eines manuellen Remedies" and contains a form with four radio buttons and corresponding dropdown menus:

Radio Button	Dropdown Menu
<input type="radio"/> Malware	[Empty]
<input type="radio"/> P2P	Überschrift test
<input type="radio"/> Portscan	13456xxxxx
<input type="radio"/> Kein DNS Eintrag	45454

Below the form, there are two buttons: "Speichern Kategorien verwalten" and "Abbrechen Remedies verwalten". The status bar at the bottom shows "Done" on the left and the URL `ims.rrze.uni-erlangen.de` on the right.

Example Session (8) – WWW user page



Conclusion and next steps

- PRISM is a comfortable tool for administration of security incidents with inclusion of the end user
- PRISM works, but not all prerequisites are fulfilled

Next steps:

- research and implementation of additional incident evaluation methods
- gaining more experience through practical usage
- new research:
„Strategies for Evaluating computer security incidents“

Future work:

Possible classification strategies

- to process a big number of security incidents, automated processing has to be improved
- research has to be done which relevant (meta) information about the security incident is needed

