

CSV file format

In this section the import format of the CSV (comma-separated values) file (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comma-separated_values) is described. CSV files are simple text files. Filename extension must be **.csv**. Controls are separated by **new lines**. Empty lines will be ignored. Each row has **4 fields** containing the data of one control. Field separator char is **comma**. So each line must contain 3 commas. Fields that contain a special character (comma, newline, or double quote), must be enclosed in **double quotes**. A double quote character is escaped by placing another double quote character next to it. Fields can be empty.

Description of data fields:

1. **Dot separated number** - Structures the controls as a tree or list. Number format is $n[n1..]$ e.g. *1.2* or *3.4.1* or simply *2*. Must not be empty if the line is the beginning of a new control definition. Controls are ordered by number strings as chapters in books. 1 is parent of 1.1, 1.2... 1.0 is ancestor of 1.1 and child of 1.
2. **Title** of control. Can but should not be empty.
3. **0 or 1 or 2** (type) - 0 means row is a control. 1 means row is a threat. 2 means row is a vulnerability. If field is empty, row is a control.
4. **description** of control. Can but should not be empty. Can contain line breaks or special characters if field is enclosed in double quotes.

Optional fields:

1. **Maturity: a numeric maturity level for this control (i.e. grade of implementation) can be any numeric value**
2. **Weight 1: a first weight for this control (usually multiplied with the maturity level)**
3. **Weight 2: a second weight, i.e. first weight can be suggested weight, second weight is actual used weight. How you use it depends on your report and customization of input fields in verinice.**
4. **Threshold 1: a threshold, i.e. from which maturity level this control is considered "yellow"**
5. **Threshold 2: a second threshold, i.e. from which maturity level this control is considered "green"**

You can add new paragraphs to a control description by adding a new line with empty fields 1-3. Description fields of these lines are added to last row which contained a number.

Example rows:

Normal row containing a control

```
1,Desktops,0,Controls for desktops
```

Row containing a control with empty type field and description enclosed in double quotes because it contains commas.

```
1.1,Windows Desktops,, "Controls for desktops with Windows 2000, XP, Vista and 7"
```

Three rows containing one control with a description of two paragraphs. Third row is part of second row because line break is enclosed in double quotes.

```
Csv-Beschreibung.odt  
1.1.1,Install and use Firefox,0,Install Firefox und use it instead of IE  
,,,"1. Download Firefox from http://www.mozilla.com  
2. Double click setup.exe"
```

A row containing a control with maturity levels, weights etc. that will be imported to verinice:

```
1.1.1.1, "Is there a formal ISMS policy?",0,"Please decide from 0-9 how complete your implementation"
```