

Control Import

This article describes the import of controls in verinice. Controls can be structured as simple lists or trees. After importing they can be added to assets. Controls are imported from CSV files. All imported files are stored in database and can be reopened again.

All example CSV files known to us can be found here: [Example CSV Files](#)

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 (Column A)** - 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 (Column B)** of control. Can but should not be empty.
3. **0 or 1 or 2 (Column C)** (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 (Column D)** 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. **Weight 1 (Column E)**: a first weight for this control (usually multiplied with the maturity level)
2. **Weight 2 (Column F)**: 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.
3. **Maturity (Column G)**: a numeric maturity level for this control (i.e. grade of implementation) can be any numeric value
4. **Threshold 1 (Column H)**: a threshold, i.e. from which maturity level this control is considered "yellow"
5. **Threshold 2 (Column I)**: 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 is according to defined maturity levels.",0,8,6,3,5
```