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Quantitative Security Risk Assessment and Management for Railway Transportation Infrastructures

presented by

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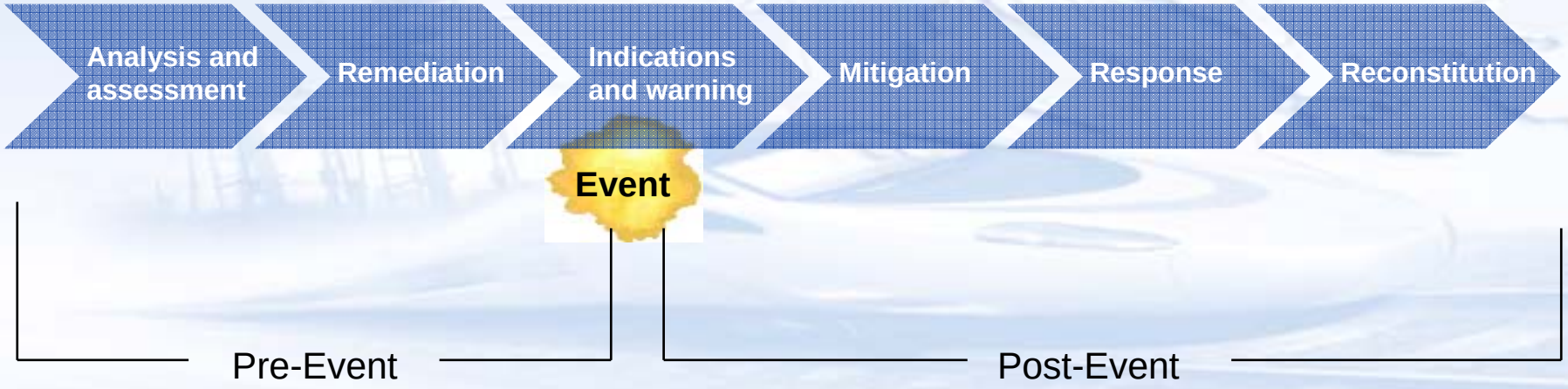
Critical Infrastructure Security

- Railway and Subway transportation systems are exposed to threats ranging from vandalism to terrorism
- CIP life-cycle:



Risk Analysis

- Risk Analysis
  - Qualitative
  - Quantitative
- Iterative steps
  - Risk Assessment
  - Risk Mitigation
- Main objective of traditional (qualitative) approaches
  - Evaluation of most relevant vulnerabilities
- Advantages of quantitative approaches
  - More precise results
  - Support the design of protection mechanism
  - Evaluation of the return on investment

Quantitative Definition of Risk

$$R = P \cdot V \cdot D$$

- *P* : threat frequency [events / year]
- *D* : expected damage [€]
- *V* : system vulnerability w.r.t threat (adimensional)

$$P(success \mid threat)$$

Therefore, the Risk can be expressed in [€ / year] (monetary loss)

Effect of Protection Mechanisms

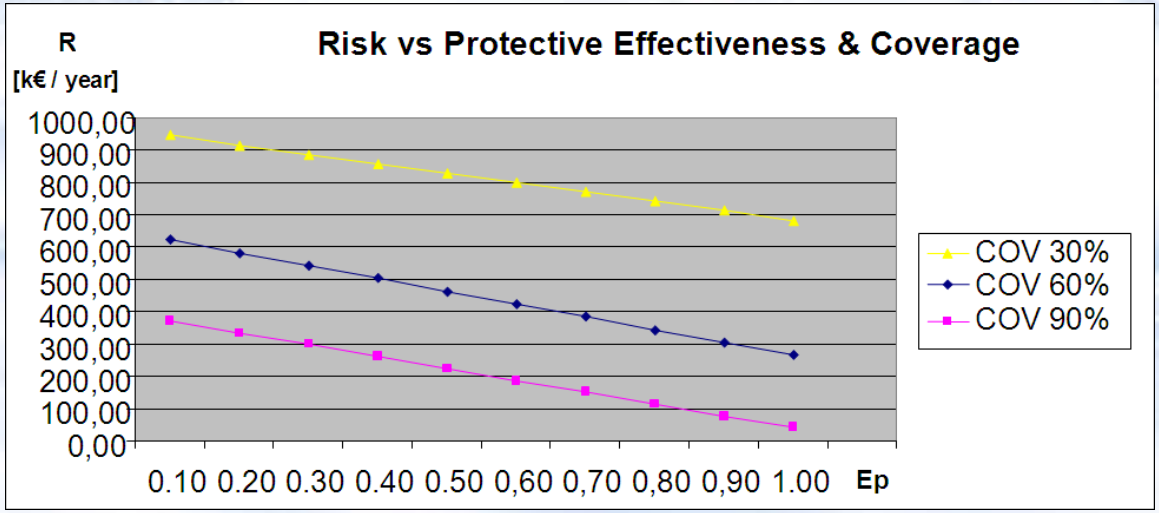
- Protection mechanisms are able to reduce the risk by having three main effects:
  - Protective, aimed at the reduction of *V*
  - Deterrent, aimed at the reduction of *P*
  - Rationalizing, aimed at the reduction of *D*
- In the assumption that:
  - Threat *T* belongs to category *C*
  - Threat *T* happens in (or passes through) site *S*
  - Protection *M* is installed in site *S*
  - Protection *M* is effective on threat category *C*

  then it can be stated that *M* protects against *T*

Extensive Risk Formula

$$R_T = \sum_i R_i \cdot \prod_j (1 - E_{Pji} \cdot COV_j) \cdot (1 - E_{Dji} \cdot COV_j) \cdot (1 - E_{Rji} \cdot COV_j)$$

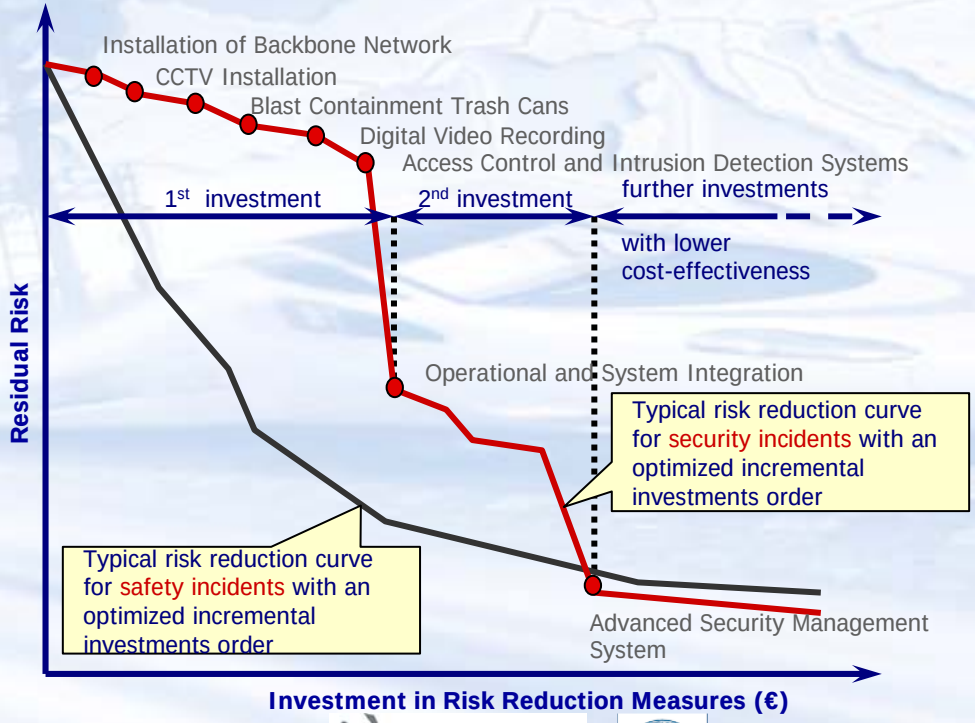
- *Rt* is the total mitigated risk
- *Ri* is the initial risk associated to threat *i*
- *Epji* is an estimate of the protective effect of mechanism *j* on threat *i*
- *Edji* is an estimate of the deterrent effect of mechanism *j* on threat *i*
- *Erji* is an estimate of the rationalizing effect of mechanism *j* on threat *i*
- *COVji* is a measure of the coverage of mechanism *j* (e.g. percentage of the physical area or perimeter of the site)



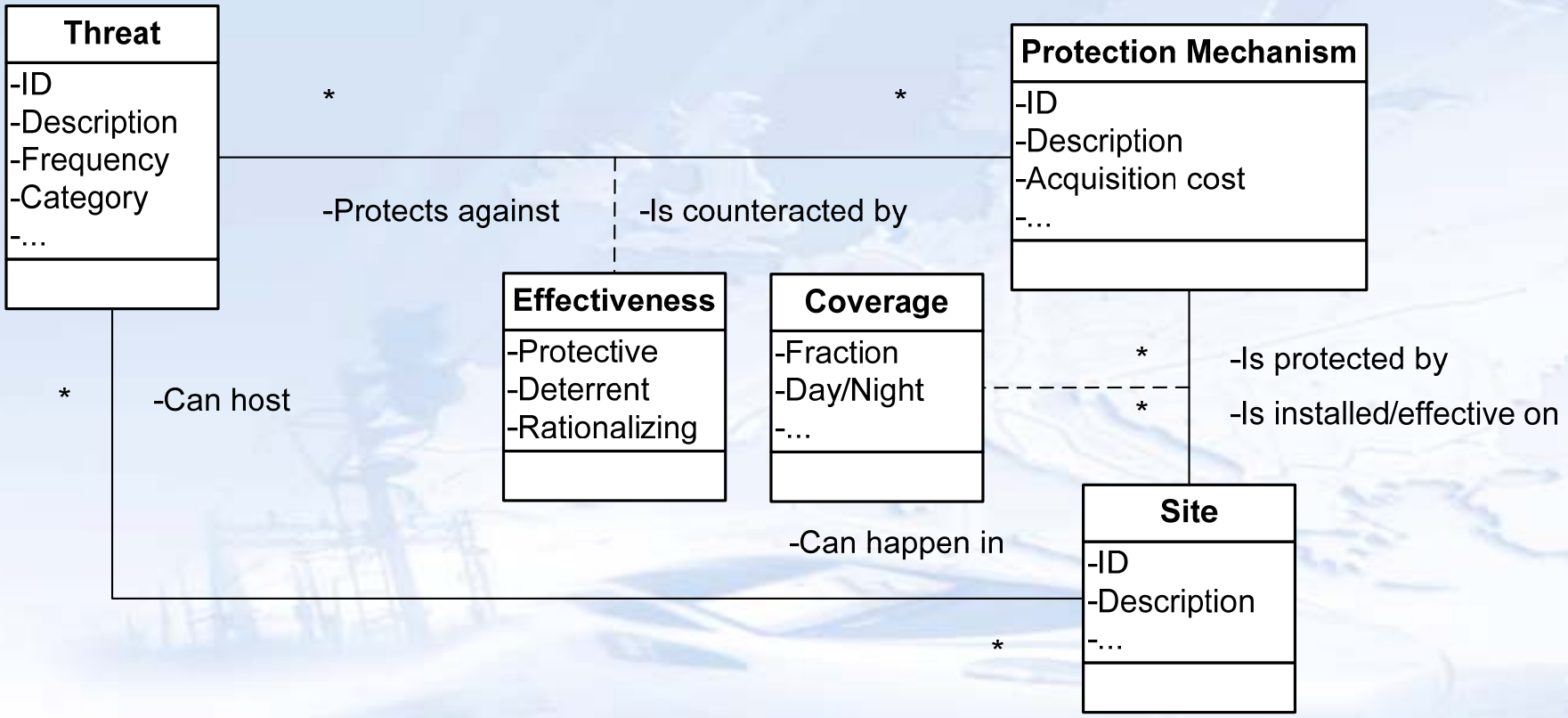
Return on investment

$$EB = \text{risk reduction} - \text{total investment in security} = (R_T - \sum_i R_i) - \sum_j C_j$$

- *EB* is the Expected Benefit, which can be positive or negative
- *Cj* is the cost of the protection mechanism *j*, obtained considering all the significant costs (acquisition, installation, management, maintenance, etc.)



The Q-RA tool: software architecture



- Languages / technologies employed in design and implementation of the tool:
  - UML, MySQL, JSP, Apache Tomcat

Example application

THREATS

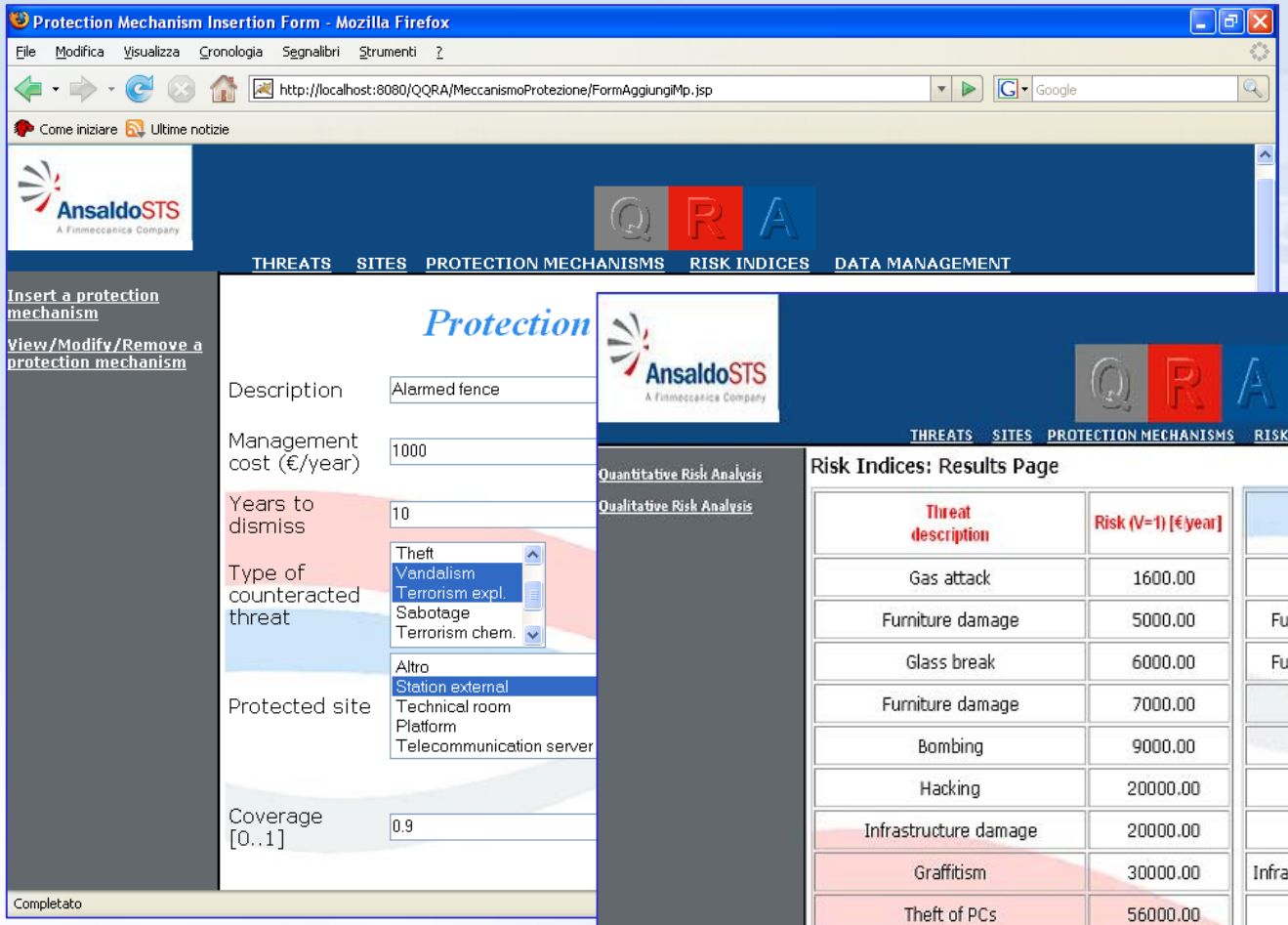
Threat ID	Threat Description	Threat Category	Site	Est. P [# / year]	Est. V_{INIT}	Exp. asset D [k€]	Exp. service D [k€]
1	Graffitism	Vandalism	Station Ext.	60	0.9	0.5	0
2	Theft of PCs	Theft	Tech. Room	4	0.8	8	6
3	Glass break	Vandalism	Station Ext.	12	1	0.5	0
4	Bombing	Terrorism Expl.	Platform	0.01	1	600	300
5	Hacking	Sabotage	Tlc Server	2	0.8	0	10
6	Gas Attack	Terrorism Chem.	Platform	0.01	1	10	150
7	Furniture Damage	Vandalism	Hall	70	1	0.1	0
			Platform	50	1	0.1	0
8	Infrastruct. Damage	Physical Sabotage	Platform	4	0.9	5	0

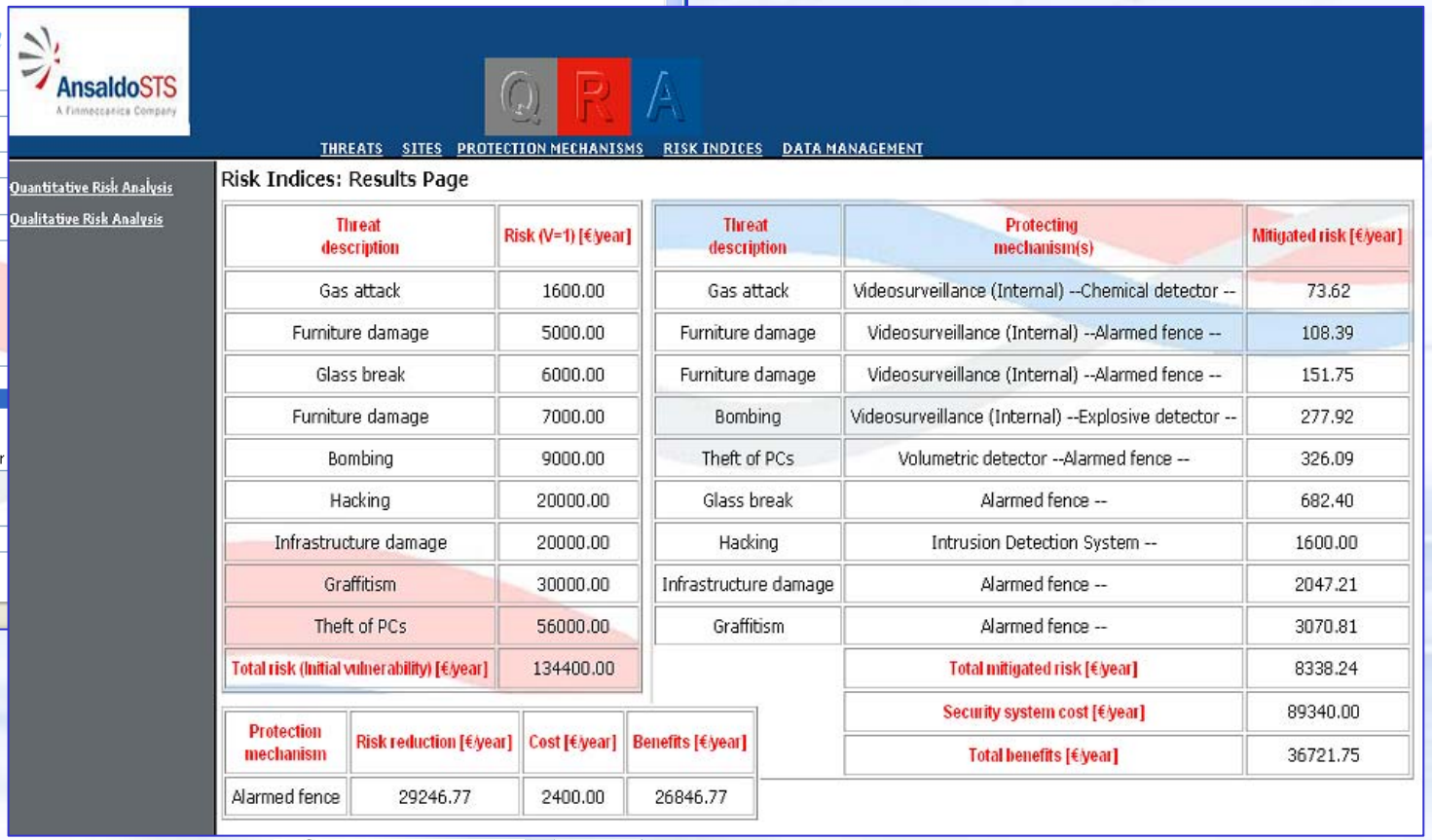
PROTECTION MECHANISMS

Prot. ID	Countermeasure Description	Acq. Cost [k€]	Manag. Cost [k€ / year]	Site	COV	Threat Categories	E_P	E_D	E_R
1	Alarmed Fence	10	1	Station Ext.	0.9	Vandalism	0.9	0.3	0.2
						Theft	0.9	0.3	0.2
				Station Int. (night)		P. Sabotage	0.9	0.3	0.2
2	Volumetric Detector	5	1	Tech. Room	1	Theft	0.8	0.6	0.2
3	Video-surveillance (internal)	150	20	Hall, Platform	0.95	Vandalism	0.4	0.6	0.3
						Theft	0.6	0.6	0.3
						Sabotage	0.6	0.6	0.8
						Terrorism Expl.	0.4	0.3	0.6
						Terrorism Chem.	0.4	0.3	0.6
4	Chem. Detector	50	2	Platform	0.9	Terrorism Chem.	0.6	0.2	0.4
5	Intrusion Detection System	1	0.5	Tlc Server	1	L. Sabotage	0.9	0	0
6	Explosive Detector	50	2	Station Int. (*)	1	Sabotage	0.8	0.4	0.1
						Terrorism Expl.	0.8	0.1	0.1

(*): detectors are physically installed near turnstiles, but the protection is effective on the whole station internal.

Q-RA GUI: example inputs and outputs





Threat description	Risk (V=1) [€/year]
Gas attack	1600.00
Furniture damage	5000.00
Glass break	6000.00
Furniture damage	7000.00
Bombing	9000.00
Hacking	20000.00
Infrastructure damage	20000.00
Graffitism	30000.00
Theft of PCs	56000.00
Total risk (initial vulnerability) [€/year]	134400.00

Threat description	Protecting mechanism(s)	Mitigated risk [€/year]
Gas attack	Videosurveillance (Internal) --Chemical detector --	73.62
Furniture damage	Videosurveillance (Internal) --Alarmed fence --	108.39
Furniture damage	Videosurveillance (Internal) --Alarmed fence --	151.75
Bombing	Videosurveillance (Internal) --Explosive detector --	277.92
Theft of PCs	Volumetric detector --Alarmed fence --	326.09
Glass break	Alarmed fence --	682.40
Hacking	Intrusion Detection System --	1600.00
Infrastructure damage	Alarmed fence --	2047.21
Graffitism	Alarmed fence --	3070.81
	Total mitigated risk [€/year]	8338.24
	Security system cost [€/year]	89340.00
	Total benefits [€/year]	36721.75

Protection mechanism	Risk reduction [€/year]	Cost [€/year]	Benefits [€/year]
Alarmed fence	29246.77	2400.00	26846.77

Conclusions & future works

- A methodology and a tool for the quantitative risk analysis have been developed which allow to compute the return on investment of security protection mechanism.
- The tool has been designed and experimented for the physical protection of rail-based mass transit systems; however, it is suited to logical threats and other classes of critical infrastructures
- The automation provided by the tool also eases the analysis of parametric sensitivity in order to assess how error distributions in the input values affect the overall results.
- For attacks involving persons (injury or kill), a quantification of consequences, though possible, is not generally accepted. Therefore, qualitative approaches can be applied separately to such classes of threats. Q-RA is also intended for the integration of qualitative analysis by means of associative tables
- It is possible to extend the tool with functionalities of cost/benefit optimization (e.g. by genetic algorithms), considering limited budget constraints. In such a way, the optimal set of protection mechanism minimizing the risk can be automatically determined.
- The evaluation of parameters involved in the risk formula can be performed by adopting model-based approaches. See:

  F. Flammini, V. Vittorini, N. Mazzocca, C. Pragliola: "*A Study on Multiformalism Modelling of Critical Infrastructures*". In: *Proc. 3rd International Workshop on Critical Information Infrastructures Security*, CRITIS'08, Frascati (Rome), Italy, October 13-15, 2008.

  …later, during the poster session.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Any questions?