Below is the security case for instant messaging (IM) software, displayed in a hierarchical tree format using dashes (-) to denote different levels:

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- G1: IM software is acceptably secure in the instant messaging system.

- C1: Definition and description of IM software

- C2: Definition and description of the instant messaging system

- C3: Definition of acceptably secure

- S1: Argument that IM software assets are under protection.

- J1: Protection of software assets supports that software is acceptably secure

- G2: All identified IM software critical assets are protected.

- S2: Respective arguments of IM software critical assets.

- C4: List of IM software critical assets

- J2: Relationship between assets is clear and can be argued separately

- G3: IM messages are protected.

- S3: Argument of the type which the software critical asset belongs to.

- C5: List of software critical asset types in PEDD

- J3: Types of software assets are according to PEDD

- G4: IM messages which belong to encrypted communication are protected.

- G3: User credentials are protected.

- S3: Argument of the type which the software critical asset belongs to.

- C5: List of software critical asset types in PEDD

- J3: Types of software assets are according to PEDD

- G4: User credentials which belong to user authentication are protected.

- G3: Contact list data is protected.

- S3: Argument of the type which the software critical asset belongs to.

- C5: List of software critical asset types in PEDD

- J3: Types of software assets are according to PEDD

- G4: Contact list data which belongs to personal information management are protected.

- G3: File transfers are protected.

- S3: Argument of the type which the software critical asset belongs to.

- C5: List of software critical asset types in PEDD

- J3: Types of software assets are according to PEDD

- G4: File transfers which belong to data sharing are protected.

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