CISA, in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University’s Software Engineering Institute, developed the Insider Risk Mitigation Program Evaluation Tool to help stakeholders explore and gauge their readiness for a potential insider threat incident.

BACKGROUND

Today's critical infrastructure is more vulnerable to compromise and attack than ever before. External factors are not the only threats to organizations; regardless of size or function, every entity is susceptible to disruption by an insider, or someone with institutional knowledge and current or prior trusted access. This access makes it possible for current or former employees, contractors, and other trusted insiders to cause significant damage to assets, systems, and networks, such as compromised sensitive information, reputation damage, revenue loss, intellectual property theft, reduced market share, and even direct harm to people.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) plays an integral role in supporting public and private sector efforts in preventing and mitigating risks posed by insider threats. To assist and empower stakeholders, CISA created the Insider Risk Mitigation Program Evaluation Tool.

PURPOSE

The tool pulls from insider threat planning and preparedness resources to allow users to evaluate the maturity of their insider threat program in one convenient and easy-to-navigate fillable PDF.

CISA urges its partners to share and use the new self-assessment tool to assist in increasing their own organizational security and resilience. The protective measures organizations incorporate into their security practices today can pay for themselves many times over by preventing an insider threat or mitigating the impacts of a successful attack in the future.

THE DETAILS

- Visitors will find the evaluation tool on CISA’s Insider Risk Mitigation Program Evaluation Tool webpage to assist owners and operators or organizations—especially small and mid-sized entities that may not have in-house security departments—with gauging their vulnerability to an insider threat incident.

- The tool also includes guidance to better interpret questions and provides suggested measures. The Insider Risk Self-Assessment is one more way CISA is working with public and private stakeholders at the federal, state, local, and community levels to prevent and mitigate risk to our nation’s critical infrastructure.

- The tool contains questions to gauge organizational readiness, drawing upon valuable information and best practices that can be used in an organization’s insider risk mitigation program. When the user completes answering the directed questions, the tool generates a numeric gauge of the organization’s vulnerability to an insider incident. It also provides recommendations for establishing or enhancing an insider threat mitigation program based upon the user’s score.

- No user data or information is collected or stored by CISA. Downloading the tool is completely voluntary and users need only enter the information they prefer.

CONTACT

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