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CYB 410 – 6-2 Project One Submission: Risk Management Planning Debrief

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Risk Register

A risk register is crucial, as it provides the organization with a consolidated view of all identified risks. It details the risk, its probability, potential impact, and possible mitigation strategies. It enables decision-makers to act based on facts rather than assumptions during a crisis. However, it helps managers prioritize which risks require immediate attention and allocate resources more effectively. Maintaining the register ensures everyone is aligned and enhances the organization of planning efforts.

The risk register is directly tied to the threat landscape because it records the threats that matter most to the organization. The threat landscape encompasses everything from cyberattacks to natural disasters, but the register filters these down to the risks that could realistically impact business operations. For example, while many outside threats exist, not all of them will affect the garden nursery. The register focuses on potential threats to its systems, employees, and daily operations, such as a ransomware attack on its sales database, severe weather damaging crops, or supply chain issues with fertilizer vendors. When writing these risks into the register, the organization can assess the magnitude of the threat, its likelihood of occurrence, and the potential impact it would have if it were to materialize. Updating the register on a regular basis ensures it remains aligned with the evolving threat environment, allowing the business to stay prepared rather than being caught off guard. In essence, the register turns the big picture of the threat landscape into specific risks that the business can plan for.

Business Impact Analysis (BIA)

A Business Impact Analysis (BIA) is a crucial and strategic tool in an organization's decision-making process. This identifies potential risks that could arise from various incidents, including accidents, natural disasters, or security breaches. BIAs highlight specific threats to the organization being assessed, which could disrupt daily operations or have financial repercussions. Following this, the BIA outlines the necessary recovery procedures to restore the organization to its full operational capacity. It is particularly useful in determining which business functions should be prioritized for recovery and which elements are critical for maintaining operational continuity in the face of a disaster. For example, if a ransomware attack locks the sales system, a BIA would outline the recovery steps, such as restoring backups, to keep transactions running. This comprehensive information supports informed decision-making in project planning and organizational strategy, offering the organization a sense of security and confidence.

The Business Impact Analysis (BIA) plays a pivotal role in ensuring an organization's survival by identifying the operations that are important to its continuity. As for the garden nursery, this involves keeping plant care systems operational, making sure point-of-sale systems are functional and running smoothly, and maintaining strong relationships with suppliers. Any disruptions in any of these areas can result in significant financial losses, damaging customer trust, or even lead to the business's permanent closure. By establishing recovery time objectives and acceptable downtime thresholds, the BIA enables the organization to understand its operational limits. This comprehension is critical in determining whether a business can recover from disruptions. The BIA offers a strategic guide that supports the company in weathering even the most severe incidents.

Risk Management Planning

Bringing systems thinking, an adversarial mindset, and the CIA triad together makes risk management planning stronger and more practical. Systems thinking helps me understand how everything in the business operates, so if something fails, I can identify what else gets affected. Using an adversarial mindset means thinking like an attacker and identifying weaknesses before others do. The CIA triad maintains a balanced focus by protecting data, ensuring its accuracy, and ensuring it is available when needed. When these ideas are applied, the organization is better prepared, decisions are clearer, and resources can be prioritized in the right places. For the nursery, this means protecting customer information, keeping sales and plant systems, and being prepared for both cyber and physical threats.