

Developing Cybersecurity Programs and Policies

by Omar Santos



Chapter 4: Governance and Risk Management

Objectives

- Define governance
- Explain cybersecurity governance and NIST's Cybersecurity Framework
- Explain the importance of strategic alignment
- Know how to manage cybersecurity policies
- Describe cybersecurity-related roles and responsibilities
- Identify the components of risk management
- Create policies related to cybersecurity policy, governance, and risk management

Understanding Cybersecurity Policies

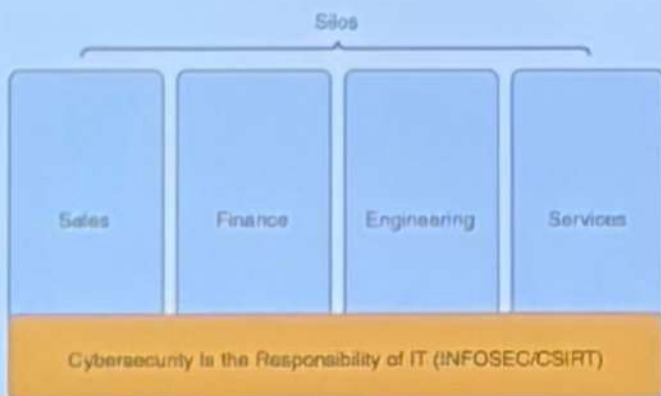
- The goal of the cybersecurity policies is to protect the organization from harm
 - Policies should be written
 - Policies should be supported by management
 - Policies should help companies align security with business requirements and relevant laws and regulations
- ISO 27002:2013 can provide a framework for developing security policies

Governance

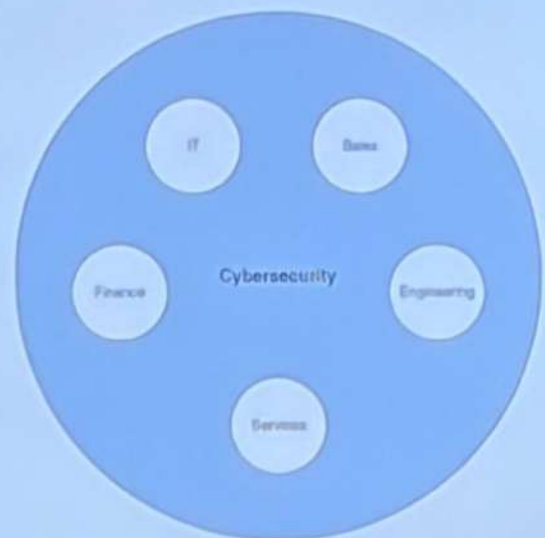
- Governance: Establishing and maintaining a framework (and supporting management structure and processes) to assure that cybersecurity strategies
 - Are aligned with and support business objectives
 - Are consistent with applicable laws and regulations through adherence to policies and internal controls
 - Provide assignment of responsibility
- The purpose of governance is to manage risk

Two Approaches to Cybersecurity

- Silo (parallel) approach
- Integrated approach



Silo Based



Integrated

Regulatory Requirements

- Require covered entities to
 - Have written policies and procedures in place to protect their information access
 - Review them on a regular basis
- Many organizations are subject to more than one set of regulations

Characteristics of a Good Governance Program

- Examines the organization's environment, operations, culture, and threat landscape against industry standard frameworks
- Aligns compliance to organization risk
- Incorporates business processes
- Enables companies to measure progress against mandates and achieve compliance standards

User-Level Cybersecurity Policies

- Can serve as teaching documents to influence behavior
- Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and corresponding agreement should be developed specifically for end-users
- Should include explanations and examples
- Agreement requires users to acknowledge they understand

Vendor Cybersecurity Policies

- Companies can outsource work but not responsibility or liability
- Vendors should be required to have controls that meet or exceed organizational requirements
- Some vendors have cybersecurity vulnerability disclosure policies

Client Synopsis of Cybersecurity Policies

- Provided to clients upon request
- Should not disclose confidential business information

In Practice

Cybersecurity Policy

Synopsis: The organization is required to have a written cybersecurity policy and supporting documents.

Policy Statement:

- The company must have written cybersecurity policies.
- Executive management is responsible for establishing the mandate and general objectives of the cybersecurity policy.
- The policies must support organizational objectives.
- The policies must comply with relevant statutory, regulatory, and contractual requirements.
- The policies must be communicated to all relevant parties both within and external to the company.
- As applicable, standards, guidelines, plans, and procedures must be developed to support the implementation of policy objectives and requirements.
- For the purpose of educating the workforce, user-level documents will be derived from the cybersecurity policy, including but not limited to Acceptable Use Policy, Acceptable Use Agreement, and Information Handling Instructions.
- Any cybersecurity policy distributed outside the organization must be sanitized.
- All documentation will be retained for a period of six years from the last effective date.

Authorization of Cybersecurity Policy

- Executive management should authorize policy
 - Owners
 - Directors
 - Executive officers
- Executive management is responsible for and can be held legally liable for the protection of information assets

NACD Principles for Executive Authorization

- Approach cybersecurity as an enterprise-wide risk management issue, not just an IT issue
- Understand the legal implications of cyber risks
- Boards should have adequate access to cybersecurity expertise; cyber-risk management should be given adequate time on board agendas
- Directors should set expectations that management will establish an enterprise cyber-risk management framework
- Boards need to discuss details of cyber-risk management and risk treatment

Cybersecurity Governance

- The process of managing, directing, controlling, and influencing organizational decisions, actions, and behaviors
- The Board of Directors is usually responsible for overseeing the policy development
- Effective security requires a distributed governance model with the active involvement of stakeholders, decision makers, and users

Distributed Governance Model

- Chief information security officer (CISO)
- Cybersecurity steering committee
- Compliance officer
- Privacy officer
- Internal audit
- Incident response team
- Data owners
- Data custodians
- Data users

Evaluating Cybersecurity Policies

- Policies can be evaluated internally or by independent third parties
- Audit
 - Systematic, evidence-based evaluation
 - Include interviews, observation, tracing documents to management policies, review of practices, review of documents, and tracing data to source documents
 - Audit report containing the formal opinion and findings of the audit team is generated at the end of the audit
- Capability Maturity Model (CMM)
 - Used to evaluate and document process maturity for a given area

Revising Cybersecurity Policies

■ Change Drivers

- Demographic
- Economic
- Technological
- Regulatory
- Personnel related

NIST Cybersecurity Framework Governance

- Subcategories and Informative Resources

- ID.GV-1: Organization information security policy is established
- ID.GV-2: Information security roles and responsibilities are coordinated and aligned with internal roles and external partners
- ID.GV-3: Legal and regulatory requirements regarding cybersecurity, including privacy and civil liberties obligations, are understood and managed
- ID.GV-4: Governance and risk management processes address cybersecurity risks

Regulatory Requirements

- Gramm-Leach Bliley (GLBA) Section 314.4
- HIPAA/HITECH Security Rule Section 164.308(a)
- Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DDS) section 12.5
- 23 NYCRR 500: Cybersecurity Requirements for Financial Services Companies— Section 500.02
- European Global Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- European Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS Directive)
- 201 CMR 17: Standards for the Protection of Personal Information of the Residents of the Commonwealth – Section 17.0.2

Three Factors of Influence

- Three factors influence cybersecurity decision making and policy creation
 - Guiding principles
 - Regulatory requirements
 - Risk associated with achieving business objectives

Risk-Related Terms to Know

- Risk: The potential of undesirable or unfavorable outcome from a given action
- Risk tolerance: How much undesirable outcome the risk taker is willing to accept
- Risk appetite: The amount of risk an entity is willing to accept in pursuit of its mission

Risk Assessment

- Evaluate what can go wrong and the likelihood of a harmful event occurring
- Risk assessment involves
 - Identifying the inherent risk based on relevant threats, threat sources, and related vulnerabilities
 - Determining the impact of a threat if it occurs
 - Calculating the likelihood of occurrence
 - Determining residual risk

More Risk-Related Terms to Know

- Inherent risk: The level of risk before security measure are applied
- Residual risk: The level of risk after security measures are applied
- Threat: Natural, environmental, or human event that could cause harm
- Vulnerability: A weakness that could be exploited by a threat
- Impact: The magnitude of harm

Risk Management

- ✓ Risk Management: The process of determining an acceptable level of risk, calculating the current risk level, accepting the level of risk, or taking steps to reduce it to an acceptable level
 - Risk acceptance
 - Risk mitigation
 - Risk reduction
 - Risk transfer
 - Risk sharing
 - Risk avoidance

Components of a Risk Assessment Methodology

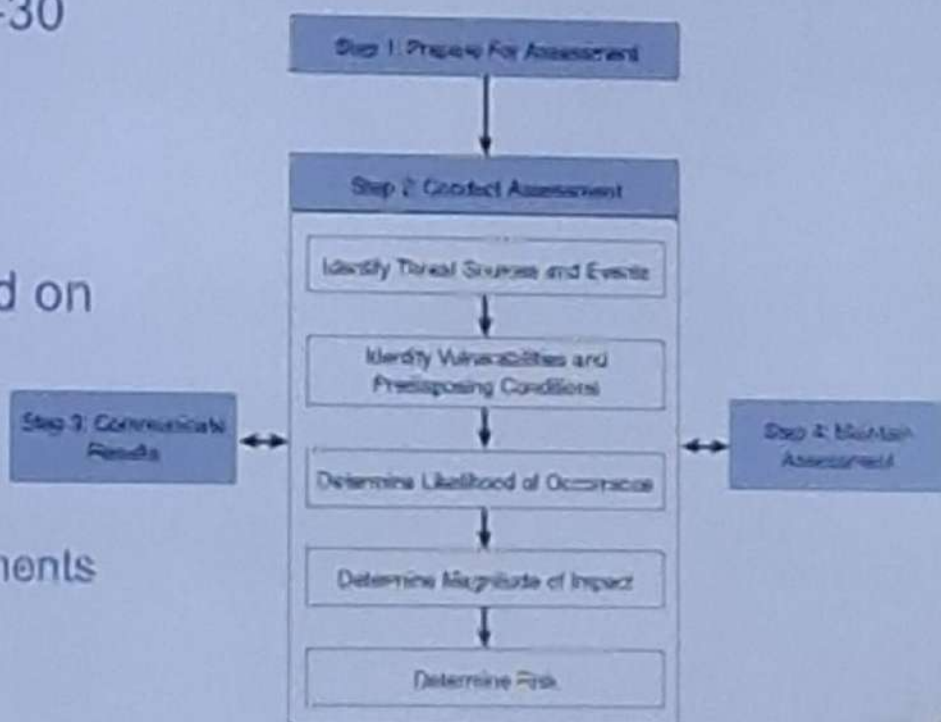
- Defined process
- Risk model
- Assessment approach
- Standardized analysis

Risk Assessment Methodologies

- Three well-known cybersecurity risk assessment methodologies
 - Operationally Critical Threat, Asset, and Vulnerability Evaluation (OCTAVE)
 - Factor Analysis of Information Risk (FAIR)
 - NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF)

NIST Risk Assessment Methodology

- Defined in SP-800-30
- Each organization should adapt and customize the methodology based on
 - Size
 - Complexity
 - Industry sector
 - Regulatory requirements
 - Threat vector



Summary

- Risk assessment involves identifying risks, determining the impact of a threat, calculating its likelihood, and determining residual risk
- Risk management involves risk acceptance and mitigation (reduction, transfer, sharing, avoidance)
- Risk assessment methodologies include OCTAVE, FAIR, and RMF