

DCSO Remediation Tracking Tool Operator's Handbook

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Operator's Handbook

Introduction

The DCSO Remediation Tracking Tool was developed during large scale security incidents to track remediation project/program milestones and progress. It enables quick information gathering and transparent global communication across different time zones during complex projects/programs, reducing the number of status calls significantly, whilst providing in-depth status overviews at the same time.

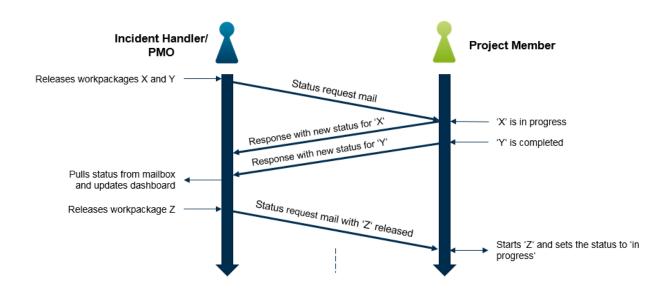
The Excel based tool integrates Outlook to create and send emails, containing the current status and links for the recipients to respond with a new status or an issue.

Using the customizable dashboard, it enables visualization of the progress in almost real-time, supporting managerial decisions and steering of remediation measures.

To operate the tool, Microsoft Office is required.

For out-of-band communication, a cloud hosted email-provider (e.g. Office365) can be used to avoid communication on compromised infrastructure.

1.1 Communication Scheme





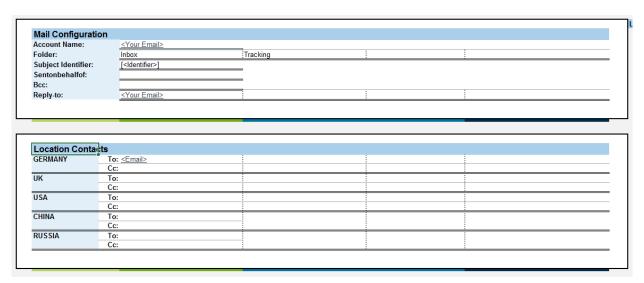
2. Operators

2.1 Prerequisites

- MS Office 2010 or later, including Office365 (VBA-Macro enabled Excel and Outlook)
- Central E-Mail address and hosting (e.g. Office 365, company)
 - For out-of-band communication and during remediation-event when there is no email communication possible, Office365 and Mailbox.org are recommended.

2.2 Configure the Tool

Go to the 'Configuration' sheet:



Required fields:

- 'Account Name': Put in your E-Mail Account name (normally your E-Mail address).
- 'Folder': Provide your email folder structure. To provide subfolders, use the next right field.
- 'Subject Identifier': The identifier is required to identify status emails. Status E-Mail subjects will begin with this identifier.
- 'Reply-To': Provide email addresses of persons who are supposed to track the project status. Status-response emails will be sent to the listed emails.

Optional fields:

- 'Sentonbehalfof': Provide another address to use as sender.
- 'Bcc': Provide a BCC address. Status-request emails will be sent to the address.

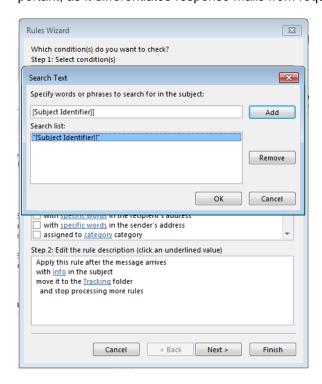
Location contacts:

- Provide addresses of the contacts who should receive status requests.
- To provide more than one address, fill in the fields to the right.



2.3 Configure Outlook for Data-Import

- Create an E-Mail folder in which all status update and issue report mails will be moved.
 - E.g.: Inbox/Tracking
- Create a rule to move all status-response and issue report mails to the folder.
- The rule should check for '[Subject Identifier][' in the subject. The last open bracket '[' is important, as it differentiates response mails from request mails.

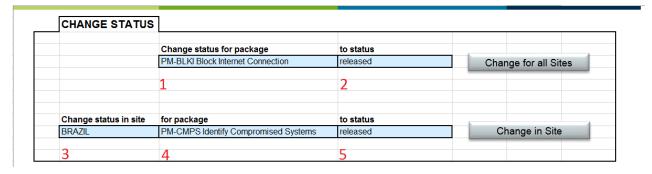


The rule should not move request mails to the tracking folder, to prevent parsing errors during import.

2.4 Release a Package and Change a Status

It is possible to release and change status of each package for each location or globally.

Go to the 'Start packages' sheet.





To release or change a status of a package

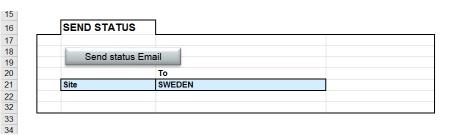
- globally:
 - Choose the package from the dropdown list in field 1.
 - Choose the status in field 2.
 - Click on 'Change for all Locations'.
- for a specific location:
 - Select the location and package in field 3 and 4.
 - Choose the status in field 5.
 - Click on 'Change in Location'.

A status request should be sent to the corresponding sites after releasing a package (2.5).

2.5 Send Status-Request

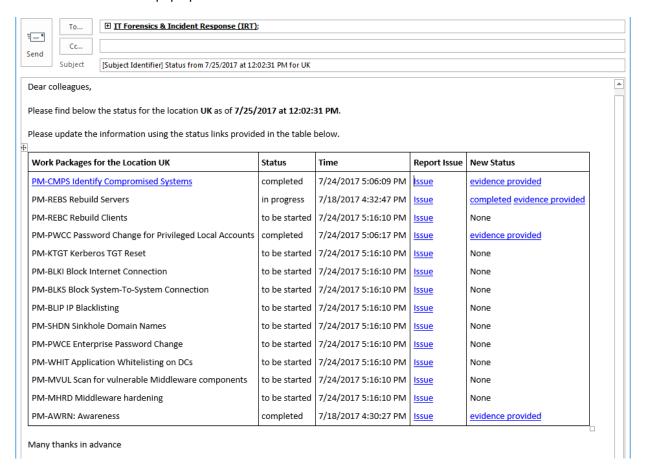
Go to the 'Start packages' sheet.

Choose the location in the dropdown list and click on 'Send status Email'.



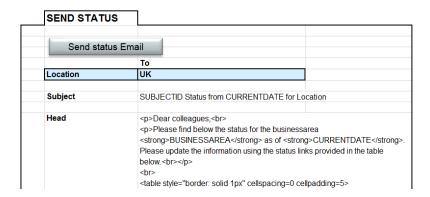


An Outlook window will pop up:



Verify that the email address is correct and click on 'Send' to send the mail.

To modify the content of the request, response and issue mails, click on the plus sign on the left side to reveal the html code. Do not modify capitalized strings, as they will be modified by the VBA macro.





2.6 Import Status Update and Issue Mails from Outlook

Go to the 'OutlookImport' sheet and click on 'Import from Outlook'.



If a warning window pops up, click on 'Allow'.



New imports will be added to the list and the dashboard will be updated automatically.

Reapply changes by clicking 'Re-apply IDs'.

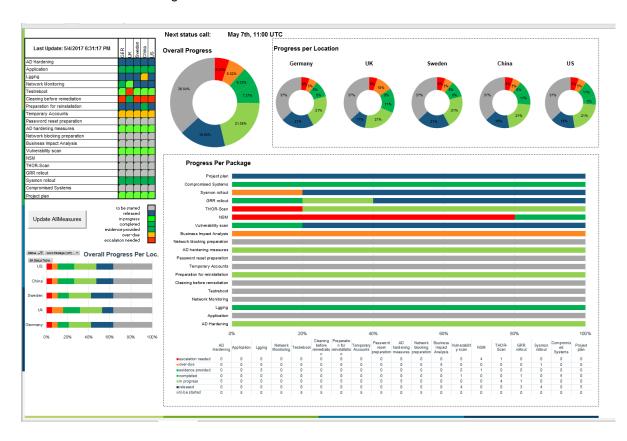
To automatically import new status every minute, click on 'Automatic Import ON'.

To deactivate automatic import, click on 'Automatic Import OFF'.



2.7 Modularized Dashboard

The Remediation Tracking Tool comes with a standard dashboard in the sheet 'Dashboard'.



- It is possible to rearrange and modify all modules of the dashboard besides the status matrix, which is generated by VBA code.
- Dashboard modules can be found in the sheet 'DashboardModules' and used to create new dashboards.
- Issues are shown below the Dashboard:

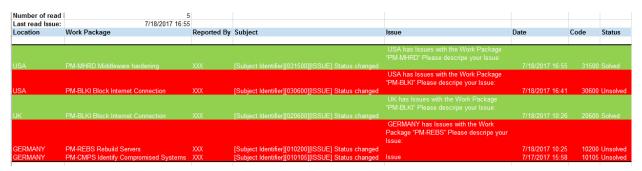




2.8 Reported Issues

The 'Issues' sheet shows reported issues.

Change the status to solved using the dropdown menu.



2.9 Changelog

The changelog provides a history of all the status changes:

	Α	В	С	D	Е	F
1	Workpackage	Status	Location	Date	Reported/Manual	
2	PM-CMPS Identify Compromised Systems	in progress	UK	7/18/2017 16:30	Reported	
3	PM-AWRN: Awareness	completed	UK	7/18/2017 16:30	Reported	
4	PM-REBS Rebuild Servers	in progress	UK	7/18/2017 16:32	Reported	
5	PM-CMPS Identify Compromised Systems	completed	All locations	7/24/2017 17:06	Manual	
6	PM-PWCC Password Change for Privileged Lo	completed	All locations	7/24/2017 17:06	Manual	
7						

The changelog is not deleted, when only tracking is reset.

2.10 Deadlines

Deadlines can be provided in the 'Deadlines' table:

	Is calculated a			automatically
Work Package	Deadline	~	Over-due	Issue
PM-CMPS Identify Compromised Syst	e 4/1/17 12:00	AM	TRUE	
PM-REBS Rebuild Servers	4/4/18 6:00	PM	FALSE	
PM-REBC Rebuild Clients	4/25/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-PWCC Password Change for Privi	l 4/26/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-KTGT Kerberos TGT Reset	4/27/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-BLKI Block Internet Connection	4/28/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-BLKS Block System-To-System C	4/29/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-BLIP IP Blacklisting	4/30/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-RMAC Replace RAT	5/1/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-SHDN Sinkhole Domain Names	5/2/17 6:00	PM	TRUE	
PM-PWCE Enterprise Password Chan	9 5/3/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-ESAE Implement ESAE	5/4/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-WHIT Application Whitelisting on D	5/5/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-MVUL Scan for vulnerable Middlev	v 5/6/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-MHRD Middleware hardening	5/7/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	
PM-AWRN: Awareness	5/8/17 6:00	РМ	TRUE	

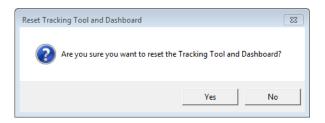


2.11 Reset Tracking Tool and Dashboard

To only reset the tracking and dashboard, go to the 'Configuration' sheet:



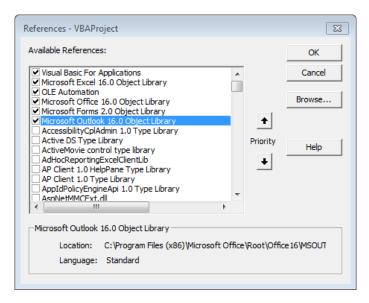
Click on 'Reset Tracking' and confirm reset.



To reset all sheets, click on 'Delete All Data'.

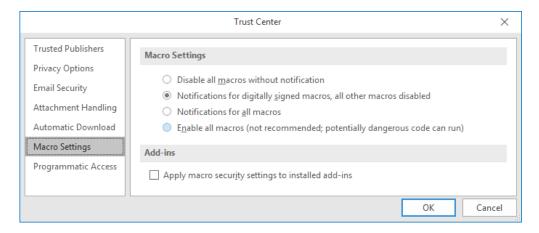
2.12 Troubleshooting

- VBA compilation error
 - Make sure that VBA macros are enabled.
- VBA compilation error due to missing MS Office Object Library
 - In the Visual Basic Editor (ALT+F11), select References from the Tools menu:





- Scroll down the list of available references until you encounter the required object library according to your Office version (e.g. MS Outlook 14.0 Object Library).
- Find the required libraries in the screenshot above.
- Error during import / import fails:
 - Make sure you correctly put in your account name and tracking folders in 'Configuration' sheet. The account name can be found on the top of the email folders view in Outlook.
 - Check security settings in Outlook.
- VBA macros cannot be executed at all:
 - Make sure your Office settings allow the execution of VBA macros.
 - Find the settings in 'Options' > 'Trust Center' > 'Trust Center Settings...'





3. Project Members

Project members do not have to make any configurations. Providing a status update is as simple as clicking on a link provided by email.

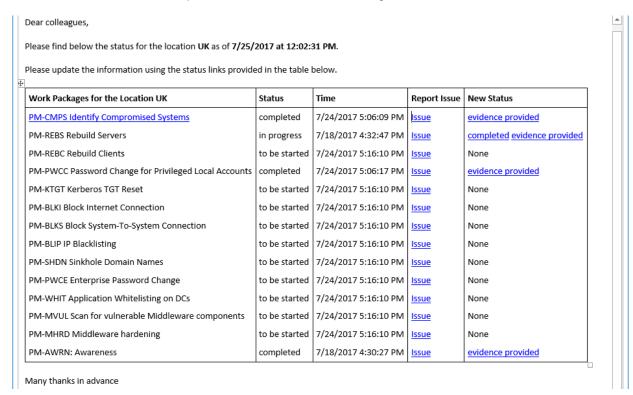
This can also be done using a smart phone.

3.1 Prerequisites

■ HTML capable E-Mail reader (e.g. each smart phone, Outlook, Webmail, etc.)

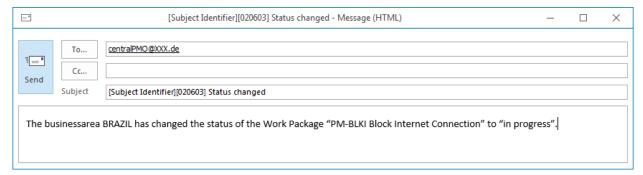
3.2 Respond to Status Request Mail with new Status

Users will receive a status request email similar to the following:



Select the status for the released packages by clicking on the provided links in the column 'New Status'.

For each status update a new message window will open:





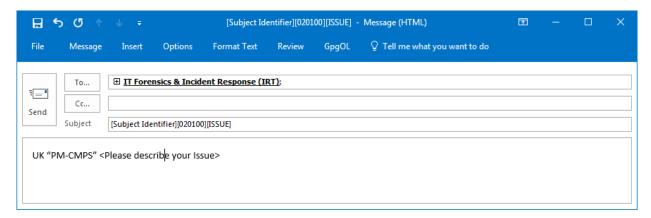
Click on 'Send' to send the response mail.

- The subject must not be modified.
- In case a false status was reported, contact the project manager to provide the correct status, so he can update his data.

3.3 Report Issue

To report an issue, click on 'Issue' in the 'Report Issue' column.

A new message window will pop up:



Describe your issue in the mail body and click on 'Send'.



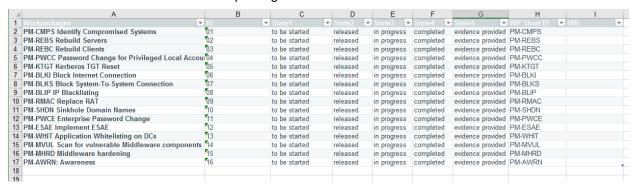
4. Modify Data Source

This part of the manual describes how an operator can add or remove locations, workpackages and status. Adding or modifying data requires a reset of the Tracking Tool.

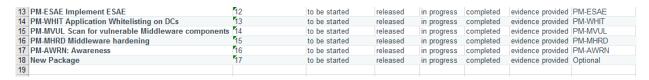
Keep in mind that modifying the data source probably breaks the pivot tables and render the dashboard useless. In that case, modify the pivot tables in the sheet 'Pivot Tables' and create a new dashboard.

4.1 Workpackages

Go to the sheet 'IDs' and find the workpackages state table:



- Remove a workpackage:
 - To remove a package, delete the corresponding row by right clicking on the row and choosing 'Delete' and 'Table Rows'
 - Correct the ID numbers in the ID column to an ongoing number.
 - Click on 'Update Data' button to regenerate the dashboard matrix and deadline sheet.
- Add a workpackage:
 - To add a package, right click on the last row of the table and insert a table row by clicking on 'Insert' and 'Table Row Below'.
 - Put in the package name, number and states.
 - 'WP Short ID' and 'URL' are optional.

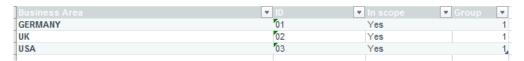


- Reset the Tracking Tool, by clicking on 'Reset Tracking' button.
- Click on 'Update Data' button to regenerate the dashboard matrix and deadline sheet.



4.2 Locations/Business Areas

Go to the sheet 'IDs':



Remove a location:

- To remove a location, delete the corresponding row by right clicking on the row and choosing 'Delete' and 'Table Row'
- Go to the dashboard in 'Dashboard'.
- Remove the corresponding Column from the matrix, by right clicking on that column and selecting 'Delete' and 'Table Column'.
- Click on 'Update Data' button to regenerate the dashboard matrix and deadline sheet.

Add a location:

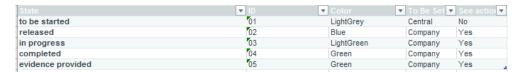
- To add a location, right click on the last row of the table and insert a table row by clicking on 'Insert' and 'Table Row Below'.
- Put in the location name, ID number and the other fields.
- Click on 'Update Data' button to regenerate the dashboard matrix and deadline sheet.
- Reset the Tracking and Dashboard, by clicking on 'Reset Tracking' in sheet 'IDs'.
- Reset Tracking, Dashboard and all other sheets, by clicking on 'Delete All Data'.
- Go to the 'Configuration' sheet and add the location and the email addresses of the project members to the contacts section:

Germany	To:dcso.de		
	Cc:		
UK	То:		
	Cc:		
Sweden	To:		
	Ce:		<u> </u>
China	To:		
	Cc:		
US	То:		
	Cc:		

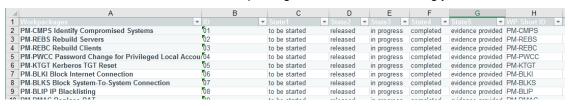


4.3 States

Go to the sheet 'IDs' and find the state table:

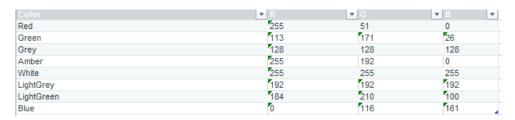


- Add or remove a row to add or remove a state.
 - Assign a color from the dropdown list.
 - Choose if a status can only be updated by the admin ('Central').
 - 'See action' sets the state to hidden.
- Add or remove state columns in the workpackages states table accordingly:



4.4 Colors

Go to the sheet 'IDs' and find the color table:



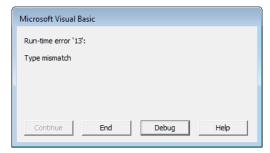
Put in the RGB code of your desired color.



4.5 Troubleshooting

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact DCSO and we are happy to help you.

Run-time error: Type mismatch



There is a chance that the updating the dashboard fails because of a type mismatch error.

In most cases, this is related to the status matrix.

Make sure that names of packages and locations are set correctly and check the formulas. Formulas should be referencing the according row and column.

The dashboard and its modules are broken:

That is because pivot tables used to generate dashboard modules have changed. Pivot tables use the generated 'Tracking' sheet as their data source. Modifying the data source, and thus the tracking sheet, can break pivot tables.

Find the pivot tables in the sheet 'Pivot Tables'. Try to modify the pivot tables, so that they look like the standard functioning ones.

5. Sharing and Backup

For sharing or backup, simply send or backup the Excel file, as all data is saved in the file.

6. Import New Tracking Tool Module

To update the tool, put the 'TrackingTool.bas' file into the same directory as the Tracking Tool Excel file.

Then, go to the 'Configuration' sheet and click on the button 'Import New Tracking Tool Module' on the right. This will replace your current module.



7. Recommendations

- Status Synchronization between project team members: Overall status should be synchronized regularly, to avoid misstates. This can be done through regular distribution of the Tracking Tool itself. A way to do this is by having a regularly updated version of the tool on a share, where it is accessible by all project members for synchronization.
- Outlook rule should never move request mails to the tracking folder, as these will cause an error during import.
- Using a cloud hosted email-provider (e.g. Office365) the tool can be used for out-of-band communication to avoid communication on compromised infrastructure.



Appendix: Changelog

DCSO Remediation Tracking Tool

Ver.	Date	Change	Developer
0.1	29.03.17	Initial release	Dr. Andreas Rohr Daniel Nguyen
0.2	23.06.17	 Created new pivot tables and dashboard elements Changed the code and data model to add or remove data without changing the VBA code Added 'Dashboard Modules' sheet Added 'Deadlines' sheet Rearranged code for simpler reading 	Daniel Nguyen
0.3	25.07.17	 Added Issue Reporting Functionality Added Automatic Import Added Changelog Rearranged code for simple import/export of VBA code Added Reset All Data Button to 'Configuration' sheet Changed Sheet 'AllMeasures' to 'Dashboard' Added Issue table to dashboard Added timestamps to 'Tracking' sheet Rearranged sheets 	Daniel Nguyen
0.4	09.08.17	 'Delete All Data' button updated and now asks for verification before resetting each sheet Added functionality to regenerate dashboard matrix and deadline table 	Daniel Nguyen
1.0	10.10.17	- Added 'Import New Tracking Tool Module' button	Daniel Nguyen