Risk Management Project – Threats to Key Information Assets

Course: Implementing a Risk Management Framework (Coursera)
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Case Organization: Business Supplies, Inc. (BSI)

Introduction

This report identifies and prioritizes the most significant threats to Business Supplies, Inc. (BSI) information assets identified in the previous assignment. Threats were derived from the case study environment, technical infrastructure, and the absence of formal information security policies.

Part 2 – Threats to Information Asset Inventory and Prioritization

Table 3 – Listing of Threats to Information Assets

Threat	Threat Classification
Malware / Ransomware Attacks	Cyber
Phishing and Social Engineering	Human / Cyber
Unauthorized Insider Access	Human
Data Breach / Data Exfiltration	Cyber
Denial of Service (DoS)	Cyber
Power Failure	Environmental
Natural Disasters (Flood, Storm)	Environmental
Hardware Failure	Technical
Unpatched Software Vulnerabilities	Technical
Information Extortion	Cyber

Table 4 – Weighted Ranking of Threats to Information Assets

Criteria Weights: Likelihood = 0.35, Impact = 0.40, Detectability = 0.25

Threat	Likelihood (0–5)	Impact (0–5)	Detectability (0–5)	Weighted Total	Priority
Malware / Ransomware Attacks	5	5	3	4.5	1
Unpatched Software Vulnerabilities	4	5	3	4.15	2
Data Breach / Data Exfiltration	4	5	3	4.15	3

Phishing and Social Engineering	5	4	2	3.85	4
Information Extortion	3	5	3	3.8	5
Unauthorized Insider Access	4	4	3	3.75	6
Hardware Failure	3	4	4	3.65	7
Natural Disasters (Flood, Storm)	2	4	5	3.55	8
Power Failure	3	3	4	3.25	9
Denial of Service (DoS)	2	3	3	2.65	10

Criteria Descriptions and Justification

Likelihood – Defined as the probability that a threat will occur. A weight of 0.35 was selected because frequent threats present ongoing risk.

Impact – Defined as the potential damage caused by a successful threat. A weight of 0.40 was selected due to the sensitivity of BSI's financial and identity data.

Detectability – Defined as how easily a threat can be detected before causing harm. A weight of 0.25 was selected because low detectability increases overall risk.