

# Lab - Risk Analysis

## Objectives

**Part 1: Use Risk Analysis Methods**

**Part 2: Calculate Risks**

## Background / Scenario

A risk analysis determines possible vulnerabilities and threats, their likelihood and consequences, and the tolerances for such events. The results of this process may be expressed by using a quantitative method or a qualitative method. Quantitative risk analysis involves calculations to assign a value to a potential vulnerability or threat. This option works best when dealing with tangible assets such as buildings, computers, or inventory. Qualitative risk analysis assigns a level used to prioritize potential risk so organizations can take a logical approach to address the most critical threats. This method works best for intangible assets such as intellectual property, company reputation, or accounts receivable.

## Required Resources

PC or mobile device with internet access

## Instructions

### Part 1: Use Risk Analysis Methods

#### Quantitative Risk

Quantitative risk analysis is the process of objectively determining the impact of an event by using metrics and models. A quantitative analysis relies on historical information and trends to predict future performance. The result of the analysis is a value.

Calculating the annualized loss expectancy (ALE) is a common method to estimate the decrease in value or capability of an asset after an adverse event occurs.

#### Step 1: Calculate the Asset Value.

In this step, you will demonstrate how to calculate the asset value.

##### Initial Cost of the Asset

The asset value is the total expenditure it takes to replace an asset. For example, the total value of an asset may include purchasing and licensing or developing along with maintenance and support costs. In this example, the organization's customer database server cost approximately \$20,000. This includes the hardware, software, and configuration.

##### Organizational Value

An intangible value is more difficult to calculate because it may include the cost of creating, acquiring, and re-creating information, and the business impact or loss if the information is lost or compromised. It can also include liability costs. In this example, the cost to create the customer website is \$40,000.

##### Public Value

An intangible cost that includes loss of proprietary information, or processes, or loss of business reputation. This value is estimated at \$75,000.

What is the total asset value of the server?

**Answer:**

The server's tangible and intangible value is approximately **\$135,000**.

**The server's tangible and intangible value is approximately \$135,000.**

Why is the intangible cost so high? Is this realistic?

**Answer:**

The intangible cost is high due to the significant value of an organization's reputation, which is difficult to build and maintain. Damage to reputation can be very costly and permanent, making this valuation **realistic**.

**Consider the value of an organization's reputation. The reputation of a business is very difficult to build and maintain. Damage to the reputation can be very costly and permanent. So - yes, this valuation is realistic.**

## Step 2: Calculate the Exposure Factor

Exposure factor is expressed as a percentage (or decimal equivalent) loss of an asset if a specific threat or vulnerability is realized. The exposure factor is a subjective value. If the asset is completely lost, the exposure factor would be 100% or 1. The exposure factor could be a fraction of the value such as 40% or .4, for example.

Given an example, what is the impact on the server if the server room floods and the cost to restore the server is \$30,000?

Asset Value: \$135,000

Restoration Cost: \$30,000

Exposure Factor:

**Answer:**

The exposure factor is **0.22 (22%)**.

**Exposure factor is  $30,000 / 135,000 = 22\%$  or 0.22**

## Step 3: Calculate the Single Loss Expectancy

Calculate the single loss expectancy (SLE) by taking the asset value and multiplying it by the exposure factor. The result is the dollar loss that you expect due to the occurrence of a single event. A single asset can have multiple potential threats or vulnerabilities, and a single loss expectancy can be calculated for each occurrence.

For example, a denial-of-service attack is estimated to have a 20% or 0.2 impact or exposure factor. This would mean the SLE is  $\$135,000 \times 0.2 = \$27,000$ .

Estimate the SLE if a hard drive or storage unit failure occurs where the same asset value is estimated at \$135,000. This type of loss would result in an exposure factor of 0.5.

What is the SLE?

**Answer:**

The SLE equals **\$67,500**.

**SLE equals  $135,000 \times 0.5 = \$67,500$**

Calculate the SLE of a Ransomware attack with an exposure factor of 100% or 1.0.

**Answer:**

The SLE equals **\$135,000**.

**SLE equals  $135,000 \times 1.0 = \$135,000$**

#### Step 4: Calculate the Annualized Rate of Occurrence

The annualized rate of occurrence (ARO) is a measure of how often an event occurs in a single year. ARO is always expressed in an annual rating even if an incident occurs and is recorded in other time measures. In our example, the customer database server is impacted by a DoS or DDoS attack every 120 days or 4 months on average. This means the event will occur three times in a calendar year on average, so the DoS/DDoS attack has an ARO of 3.

- a. In this scenario, calculate the ARO of a ransomware attack on the business customer database server. On average the server experiences a ransomware attacks every 24 months or two years.

What is the ARO of a ransomware attack on the customer database server?

**Answer:**

The ARO would be **0.5**.

**If the event occurs every twenty-four months, the ARO would be  $12 / 24 = 0.5$ .**

- b. In this scenario, calculate the ARO of a hardware failure with the customer database server. On average, the server experiences hardware failures every 30 months.

What is the ARO of hardware failures with the customer database server?

**Answer:**

The ARO would be **0.4**.

**If the event occurs every thirty months, the ARO would be  $12 / 30 = 0.4$ .**

#### Step 5: Calculate the Annualized Loss Expectancy

The annualized loss expectancy (ALE) is the product of the ARO and the SLE. To calculate the ALE, take the SLE and multiply it by the ARO. For example, if a power outage is determined to have an SLE of \$50,000.00 and an ARO of 0.5 the ALE would be \$25,000.

What is the ALE of a hardware failure with the customer database server if the SLE= \$5,000 and ARO=2.5?

**Answer:**

The ALE equals **\$12,500**.

**ALE =  $5000 \times 2.5 = 12500$**

What is the ALE of a hacking attack with the customer database server if the SLE= \$10,000 and ARO=0.5?

**Answer:**

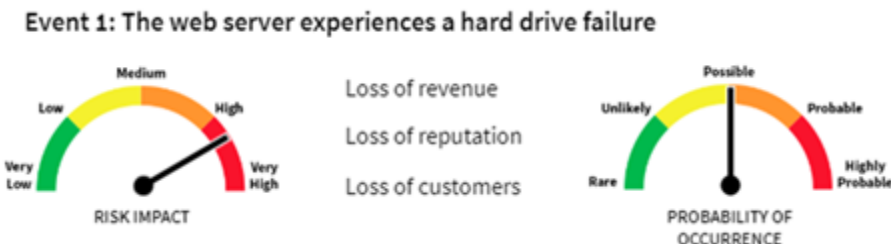
The ALE equals **\$5,000**.

**ALE =  $10,000 \times 0.5 = 5,000$**

### Step 6: Calculate the Qualitative Risk Analysis

A qualitative analysis compares the impact of a threat with the probability of its occurrence and uses labels such as low, medium, or high. The impact of an event is a measure of the loss when a threat exploits a vulnerability. The probability is the chance that the threat event will occur.

Qualitative risk analysis examines the level of overall impact on the organization. These issues include loss of revenue, loss of reputation, and loss of customers.



In the first event, the web server experiences a hard drive failure causing a loss of revenue, reputation, and customers. This is a very high risk impact and a possible probability of occurrence.

Using the table below, what is the qualitative impact?

**Answer:**

The qualitative impact is **Major**.

**Major**

Event 1: Web Server Hard Drive Failure					
Risk Impact Matrix					
Probability of Occurrence	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Highly Probable	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe	Severe
Probable	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe
Possible	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
Unlikely	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
Rare	Minor	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Moderate

In the second event, a denial-of service attack launches against the web server. This is a high risk impact and a probable probability of occurrence.

Using the table below, what is the qualitative impact?

**Answer:**

The qualitative impact is **Major**.

**Major**

Event 2: A DoS/DDoS Attack					
Risk Impact Matrix					
Probability of Occurrence	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Highly Probable	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe	Severe
<b>Probable</b>	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe
Possible	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
Unlikely	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
Rare	Minor	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Moderate

In the third event, there is a fire in the server room. This is a very high risk impact and a rare probability of occurrence.

Using the table below, what is the qualitative impact?

**Answer:**

The qualitative impact is **Moderate**.

**Moderate**

Event 3: Fire in the Server Room					
Risk Impact Matrix					
Probability of Occurrence	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Highly Probable	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe	Severe
Probable	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Major	Severe
Possible	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
Unlikely	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major
<b>Rare</b>	Minor	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Moderate

In the fourth event, credit card data has been stolen. This is a very high risk impact and an unlikely probability of occurrence.

Using the table

**Answer:**

The qualitative impact is **Major**.