Module 7 Assignment

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Creating a security program timeline is the first step that should be taken to garner executive leadership support. Implementing the five foundational Industrial Control Systems (ICS) controls presented in the Industrial Security ICS guide - Create a Security Program Timeline, Get an ICS Security Assessment, Proactively Foster Information Technology (IT) / Operational Technology (OT) Collaboration, Adopt a Framework to Use as a Guideline, and Network Zones & Segmentation – requires time, personnel, and budget. An executive backed security program timeline gains the necessary resources and commitment from top-level decision-makers, making it more effective and sustainable.

The security program timeline serves as a visual representation of the security initiatives needed to protect the organization's critical assets. By presenting a comprehensive timeline, organizations can effectively communicate the scope and significance of their security efforts to executives. It is important to condense technical details into an understandable manner to provide additional clarity that aids in garnering executive support and eventual commitment to the allocation of budget and awareness for a successful implementation into the organization.

"Sixty-eight percent of ICS professionals believe it would actually take a breach to convince their leadership to make the proper investments. However, taking a proactive approach and having the right conversations with the right stakeholders can save you from having to get serious about security only as a response to a successful attack." (ICS).

Creating a security program timeline is a crucial first step in strengthening ICS and SCADA security. By outlining a well-structured plan with achievable milestones, organizations can effectively communicate the importance of cybersecurity initiatives to executive leadership. It is essential to take a proactive approach to cybersecurity backed by a comprehensive security program timeline. Additionally, implementing the five foundational ICS controls is vital in safeguarding critical infrastructure against cyber threats. Thereby maintaining the resilience of ICS and SCADA systems.

Reference

Industrial Cybersecurity (ICS) Guide | Tripwire. (n.d.). Www.tripwire.com. Retrieved August 1, 2023, from https://www.tripwire.com/resources/guides/navigating-industrial-cybersecurity-ics