2d Lt James Marvin

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Transportation and logistics are what drives the movement of products and services for the enterprise. There is no surprise that this community is susceptible for cyber risks. The resources I used for creating my top three cyber threats were two multinational risk management firms Marsh and Willis Towers Watson. Both firms put out industry risk assessments for a multitude of business types. There was a large amount of overlap in their top risks for this industry. The primary risk facing this industry is data breach. This threat is by no means exclusive to this sector but can cause the most damage. Marsh cites that a successful data breach can provide hackers PII, credit/debit card information, and intellectual property1. We have seen situations like this with the Chinese taking the plans for the F-35. If the organization is found to have been negligent in their application of security controls this can cause them incredible losses from suit and shareholder value. The second threat is the failure of critical IT systems. All operation in this functional community interface with IT. If a cyber actor can disable a critical system, then operations would have to shut down. This down time can cost millions of dollars to large corporations or entities like the Air Force. The third most important threat would be what I would describe as cyber deception1,2. This is where hackers spread misinformation throughout the network to affect the actions of the clients. Information integrity is crucial to logistics and transportation. Incorrect information leads to misplaced assets or incorrect actions in the supply chain. This reduces operational efficiency which causes a financial pain point. It can also cause destruction. For example, if hackers were able to fuzz data from runway control to aircraft a plane might descend on a runway where there was another plane taxiing. Leaders in this community need to be cognizant t of these risks and have systems in place to mitigate them.

Sources:

1. Marsh Inc., *Cyber Risk in the Transportation Industry*, Industry white paper (Online Publication 2014)
2. Willis Towers Watson Inc., *Navigating Risk in the Transportation Sector,* Industry white paper (Online Publication 2016)