**Understanding the difference between IT risk management and cybersecurity**

With the increase of risks in the cyber world, newer terminologies that are related to risk management and analysis have come to the forefront. In this regard, IT risk management and cybersecurity are two of the very essential and significant practices that prepare the framework and analyze the effectiveness and security structure of modern organizations that collaborate in the cyber world.

IT risk management is the process by which risks are carefully managed and mitigated by incorporating careful and step-wise planning, use of specialized systems, guidelines, policies, etc across different sectors, which necessarily do not just cover cybersecurity. With IT risk management, the IT staff, and employees are focused primarily and entirely on IT risk mitigation. On the other hand, cybersecurity primarily deals with the safeguarding of an organization's systems, devices, programs, and networks from different cyber attacks and cyber crimes.

Both of these terms, although different, are often misunderstood and thought to be the same when both carry different meanings and significance.

**What is IT risk management?**

IT risk management is a process by which information technology risks are thoroughly analyzed and managed through different procedures, policies, and technology.

Various organizations use the concept of IT risk management to assess and thereby mitigate the risks of potential threats and different information technology vulnerabilities. The primary and main goal of this management is to mitigate and decrease the negative impact that risks impose on information security and information technology by identification, assessment, and management of the risks. The process of IT risk management collaborates with the organization’s compliance requirements that surround robust privacy policies, secure electronic transactions, proper staff training, etc.

**What is cyber security?**

Cybersecurity is the practice by which networks, computers, devices, and software of organizations are safeguarded from different cyberattacks, such as malware, phishing, ransomware, and many others.

In the growing and fast-moving age of digital transformation where the pace of unique alteration of technology knows no bounds, the complexity of cybersecurity, and the ever-increasing distributed attack surface modified how different businesses and organizations assess, manage and deal with cyber security risks that threaten the sensitive and confidential information.

As businesses become more and more dependent on computer systems and third-party vendors and suppliers, the impact of data breaches increases. Thus, it is very important to have a cybersecurity practice that safeguards the said risks.

**How are they different from each other?**

Although an individual might get confused over the two related terminologies, it is indeed essential to understand the difference between them. Given below are some of them.

1. The primary difference between cybersecurity and IT risk management is that cybersecurity deals with securing, assessing, and testing an organization’s entire IT environment for the presence of any kind of malware and cyber-attacks. Whereas IT risk management includes much more than just the digital and cyber aspects of safeguarding the data. It involves and includes different types of risks, such as hardware and software defects, IT-related compliance and regulatory risks, etc.

2. Cybersecurity is not responsible for taking and implementing decisions concerning risk management. On the other hand, the primary function of IT risk management is to take decisions and implement them effectively.

3. The concept of cybersecurity is a subset of information security that extends very less and covers only the basic performa. IT risk management is a much broader aspect and covers the whole of the organization's data safeguard and creating a defense mechanism for cyber risks.

4. The overall approach towards the management of sensitive and confidential data and safeguarding the organization's well-being is different for cybersecurity and IT risk management.

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