Incident Response Planning

The 15 Minute Workgroup Tabletop Exercise

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Provided for your use is a 15-minute tabletop exercise template for use in developing education and awareness at your agency. These exercises are brought to you by the CTS Security Operations Center (SOC), with a mission of providing centralized information sharing, monitoring, and analysis of Washington State security posture.

The goal of the tabletop exercise is to increase security situational awareness and to facilitate discussion of incident response in as simple a manner possible; targeting a time range of 15 minutes. The exercises provide an opportunity for management to present realistic scenarios to a workgroup for development of response processes.

**How to best use the tabletop exercise:**

1. Modify the tabletop scenario as needed to conform to your environment.
2. Engage management.
3. Present scenario to the workgroup.
4. Discuss the process to address the scenario.
5. Document the response and findings for future reference

**Note:** A member of the CTS Security Operations Center will be happy to facilitate this exercise with a workgroup from your agency upon request to the CTS Service Desk at 360-753-2454.
EXERCISE SCENARIO

You have been notified via a trusted third party that one of your websites has been compromised and is hosting a propaganda video by a hacktivist group which supports violent political activity.

In addition, the hacktivist group is also publicly announcing that your organization is supporting their efforts and are providing a link to the compromised website through social media sites such as Twitter and Facebook. While you have removed the offending website and patched the exploited vulnerability, you are receiving calls and queries from media regarding your organization’s support of the hacktivist’s violent political ideology.
ITEMS TO DISCUSS

- Who do you involve in the public response?
- Who do you notify internally and externally of the incident?
- How do you publicly respond to the incident?
- What information would you disseminate to the public, and how?
- How can you reassure the public that their information hasn't been compromised?

ITEMS TO REPORT

- Did communications flow as expected? If not, why?
- Were processes and procedures followed?
- Were there any surprises?
- How well did the exercise work for your organization?
The CTS SOC forms a focal point for the efficient reporting, containment, and recovery of security incidents.

Contact the CTS Service Desk to report a cyber-incident, or report cyber incidents online at: https://sp.cts.wa.gov/ask/soc/default.aspx

To speak with a SOC analyst, call 360-407-8800. For general questions, send us an email at soc@cts.wa.gov.

The CTS Security Operations Center (SOC) is an active member with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) which has been designated by the US Department of Homeland Security as the key resource for cyber threat prevention, protection, response and recovery for the nation’s state, local, territorial and tribal (SLTT) governments. Through this relationship, the CTS SOC is able to leverage resources available from MS-ISAC of malware analysis, reverse engineering, log analysis, and forensics analysis in a cyber incident.

The mission of the CTS SOC is to provide centralized information sharing, monitoring, and analysis of Washington State security posture. The promotion of cyber security education and awareness to end users is critical to maintenance of a strong security posture of the Washington State network.