



Information Security Risk Assessments What, How and Why



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*“Information Security Risk Assessments
What, How and Why” discussed in this presentation is the current version with
effective date of March 20, 2019.*

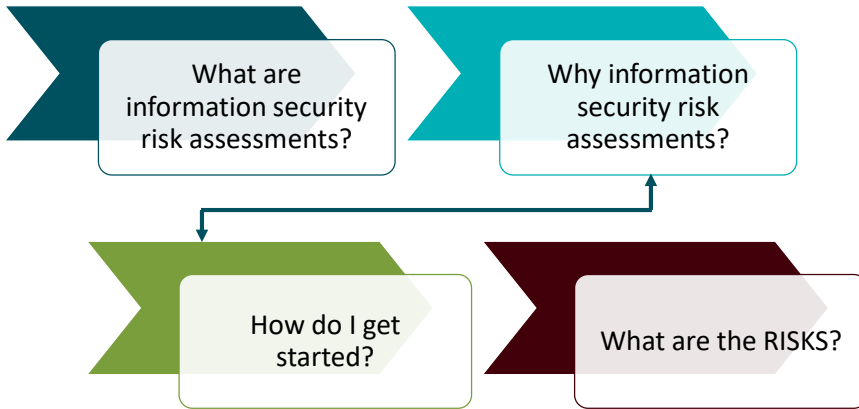
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Agenda



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WHAT ARE INFORMATION SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENTS?



What is Information Security?

- Information Security refers to the processes and methodologies which are designed and implemented to protect print, electronic, or any other form of confidential, private and sensitive information or data **from unauthorized access, use, misuse, disclosure, destruction, modification, or disruption.**



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What is Information Security?

- Confidentiality – protecting information from being viewed by unauthorized users
- Integrity – information must remain accurate and complete and cannot be changed by unauthorized users.
- Availability – information needs to be available when needed by those authorized to view the information.



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What is Information Security?

- Information Security is not:
 - FFIEC Cybersecurity Assessment Tool
 - Equipment
 - Stagnant
 - Compliance



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Information Security Risk Assessment

- An information security risk assessment is....
 - An on-going process of discovering, correcting and preventing security problems
- WhiteHat Security

A red, rectangular stamp with the words "RISK" and "ASSESSMENT" stacked vertically in a bold, serif font.



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Information Security Risk Assessment

- **A risk assessment is not:**
 - Vulnerability Scans
 - Questionnaire
 - Audit
 - FFIEC CyberSecurity Self-Assessment Tool



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Information Security Risk Assessment

- **Risk Assessment must include the following four steps:**
 - Identifying reasonably foreseeable internal and external threats that could result in unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, or destruction of member information or member information systems;
 - Assessing the likelihood and potential damage of identified threats, taking into consideration the sensitivity of the member information;
 - Assessing the sufficiency of the policies, procedures, member information systems, and other arrangements in place to control the identified risks; and
 - Applying each of the foregoing steps in connection with the disposal of information.

06-CU07 Letter to Credit Union IT Security Compliance Guide



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Information Security Risk Assessment

FFIEC

- To effectively identify, assess, monitor, and manage the risks associated with IT operations, management should have a comprehensive understanding of the institution's operations universe
- Management should analyze the survey of the IT operations environment and the inventory of technology resources to identify threats and vulnerabilities to IT operations. The assessment process should identify:
 - Internal and external risks;
 - Risks associated with individual platforms, systems, or processes as well as those of a systemic nature; and
 - The quality and quantity of controls.



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WHY INFORMATION SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENTS?

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Why Information Security Risk Assessments?

NCUA 748 Part A III

- **Assess Risk. Each credit union should:**
 1. Identify reasonably foreseeable internal and external threats that could result in unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, or destruction of member information or member information systems;
 2. Assess the likelihood and potential damage of these threats, taking into consideration the sensitivity of member information; and
 3. Assess the sufficiency of policies, procedures, member information systems, and other arrangements in place to control risks.
- **Manage and Control Risk. Each credit union should:**
 1. Design its information security program to control the identified risks, commensurate with the sensitivity of the information as well as the complexity and scope of the credit union's activities.



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Information Security Risk Assessment

- The risk assessment drives the rest of the information security program.
- Responsibility rests at the board level
- Find gaps and close those gaps
- Annual Process



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Why Information Security Risk Assessments?

- To protect our member's.....
 - NPI
 - (Non-public Personal Information)
 - PII
 - (Personally Identifiable Information)
- Sound familiar?
 - GLBA
 - Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act



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HOW DO I GET STARTED WITH INFORMATION SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENTS?

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How Do I Get Started?

- **ISRAs are to be used in the following way.**
 - **Identify Assets.**
 - **Identify FORESEEABLE internal or external threats.**
 - **Identify if a vulnerability exists that could turn the threat into a RISK.**
 - **Drive decision making process to mitigate, accept or transfer the risk.**



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How Do I Get Started?

- **Start by identifying assets**
 - **Hardware**
 - **PC, Servers, Printers, Switches, Firewalls, Smartphones, Laptops, Tablets, etc.**
 - **Software**
 - **Applications, programs, etc.**
 - **Websites**
 - **Data**
 - **Member information (PII/NPI)**
 - **Contracts**



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Final Steps

- Determine if your assets are vulnerable to the threats
- Calculate risk rating
 - **Inherent risk = (probability) x (impact)**
- Evaluate if current controls mitigate risks
- Calculate residual risk rating with controls
 - **Residual risk = (probability) x (impact) - controls**
- Determine if residual risk is acceptable or if additional controls/mitigations are needed



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Final Steps

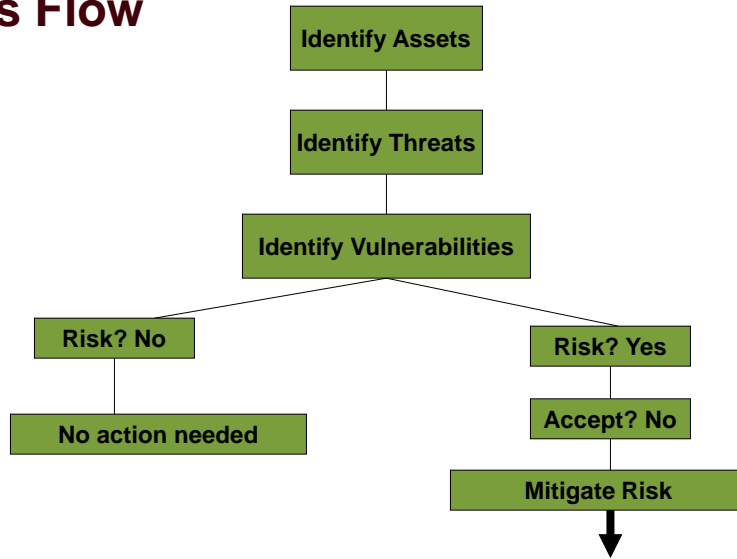
- How to handle gaps?
 - Remediate
 - Mitigate
 - Transference
 - Risk Acceptance
 - Risk Avoidance



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Process Flow

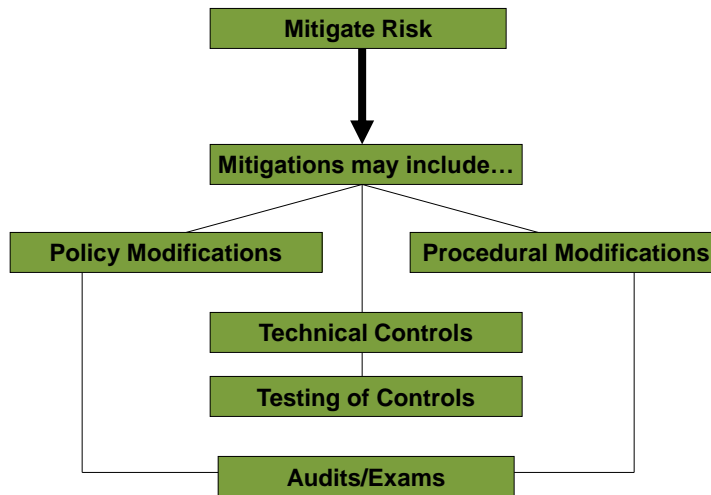


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Process Flow



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What happens.....

- **If we don't do ISRAs**
 - **CIA/R**
 - **We might fail to provide continued CIA to our members**
 - Confidentiality
 - Integrity
 - Availability
 - **Our "R" could be tarnished..**
 - Reputation



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In Review So Far....

- **We have discussed -**
 - **Why we need to do ISRAs**
 - **What the NCUA says about ISRAs**
 - **What the FFIEC says about ISRAs**
 - **How ISRAs help to shape Security Policies and Programs**
 - **How ISRAs lead to mitigations/controls**
 - **Some potential and actual consequences of not doing proper ISRAs**

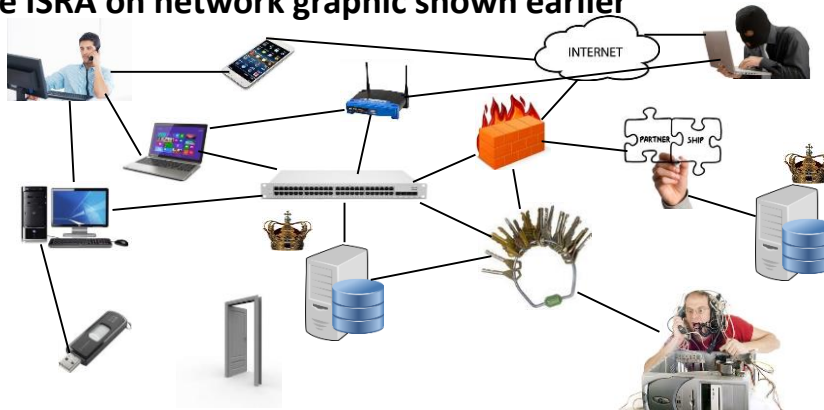


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Basic Steps and Examples

- Sample ISRA on network graphic shown earlier



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Gather Team for Brainstorming, Q&A Session
- Gather information about assets
 - Assets could be software, hardware, servers, databases, physical locations, lets not forget employees, etc.
 - Asset information could include access levels, network diagrams, current controls, version numbers, etc.
- Determine potential threats, vulnerabilities, risks



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Determine “Risk Rating” (Probability x Impact)

	Impact	high	med-high	medium	med-low	low		
Probability		5	4	3	2	1		Risk
high	5	25	20	15	10	5		high
med-high	4	20	16	12	8	4		med-high
medium	3	15	12	9	6	3		medium
med-low	2	10	8	6	4	2		med-low
low	1	5	4	3	2	1		low



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Determine definition around the rating

Probability	
5	Happens all the time from most sources
4	Happens on a weekly basis from many sources
3	May happen once or twice a month from many sources
2	May happen once or twice a year from a few sources
1	Has never happened
(Note: The probability statements above represent the likelihood of a successful exploit occurring at ANY financial institution within the US financial system)	
Impact	
5	Devastating - all members severely affected, financial bankruptcy, irreparable reputation damage, uncontrolled information in the press
4	Severe - most members adversely affected, financial restructuring, heavy but recoverable reputation damage, voluntary press release
3	Moderate - many members affected, reportable financial losses, reputation adversely affected, voluntary communication to all members
2	Slight - few members affected, negligible financial loss, slight reputation damage, communication to affected members
1	Negligible - members, financials and reputation unaffected
(Note: The impact statements above represent potential adverse results to YOUR financial institution, stemming from a successful exploit)	



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Some sample questions and answers -



- Do employees receive security awareness training?
 - Several years ago we watched a video.
- Is there a list of all devices and software?
 - Our IT vendor takes care of that.

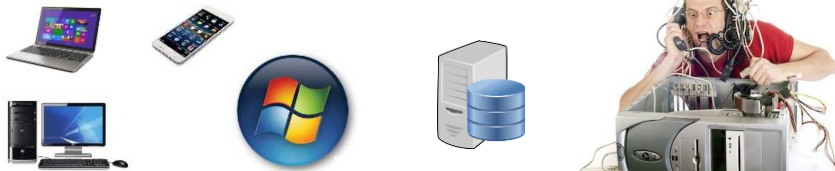


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Basic Steps and Examples

- Some sample questions and answers -



- Are software/OS patches and antivirus updates installed regularly? –
 - Isn't that automatic with Microsoft?
- Are restores of backed up data tested regularly?
 - Last year our IT guy restored a Justin Bieber MP3 that I deleted.



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Some sample questions and answers -



- **Is your firewall policy reviewed for proper rules?**
 - Policy, rules? Don't firewalls just know to stop bad guys?
- **Do you have any kind of web filter in place?**
 - No, but we tell employees to only use Facebook during lunch.



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Basic Steps and Examples

- Some sample questions and answers -



- **Do you monitor who connects in from your partner VPN?**
 - Of course not, we have a contract, we trust them?
- **Is their network secure where your data is stored?**
 - I'm sure it must be.....like I said, we have a contract.



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Available ISRA Methods

- OCTAVE (CERT)
- NIST 800-30 and 800-53
- ISO/IEC 27005
- ISACA Cobit and Risk IT
- CRAMM
- IRAM (ISF)
- Many commercially available vendors



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