

Partner Participation in a Sector-Wide Cyber Security Exercise

Date of the Exercise: June 2021

Key Asks

1. **Plan to participate** in the exercise!
2. Give us **input on the injects** that would make the exercise of greater value to you.

Background

- Department of Homeland Security, the RH-ISAC and partnering Trade Associations in our sector of industry will be holding a sector-wide exercise: **EX-RH2021**.
- The scenario of the exercise will be sector-wide in impact and key outcomes. It will enable participating enterprises to stress and thus improve Internal and external operational communications, coordination, decision-making, and process flows.
- All exercise play will be virtual, taking place in a DHS/CISA exercise environment.
- The exercise will take place during a single working day; however, your association can add additional tailored exercise play if/as desired.
- The level of member participation expected, based on the scenario and exercise “injects” anticipated would be those involved in:
 - o Executive Decision-Making
 - o Crisis/Incident Management
 - o IT and Information Security Operations (both threat detection as well as incident response)
 - o Legal and Compliance
 - o External Communications / Media Relations

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KEY MILESTONES

MAR:

- Member Scenario Planning
 - o Define State of the World
 - o Define General Scenario
 - o Develop Key Injects
- Open and Promote Active Registration

APR:

- Initiate Training Sessions
- Increase Promotion and Sector-wide Visibility
- Continue Inject Tailoring
- Begin Scenario Information Trickle

MAY:

- Continue Training Sessions
- Increase Promotion and Sector-wide Visibility

JUNE:

- Conduct the Exercise

JULY:

- Publish Lessons Learned
- Initiate Post Exercise Activities

SPRING 2022: CyberStorm

Who Should Participate?

Participation and partnership in this exercise is intended to serve and support the interests of all retail, hospitality, and travel companies, including retailers, restaurants, hotels, gaming casinos, food retailers, consumer products, and other consumer-facing companies.

Participation will benefit individuals with the following roles:

- C-level executives (CCO, CFO, CLO, CMO, COO, CSO, CISO).
- Security practitioners who are direct reports to C-level.
- Analysts as well as IT practitioners with security operations and incident management responsibilities.
- Practitioners associated with retail privacy, compliance, and IT/OT/point-of-sale issues and controls.

Post Exercise Desired Outcomes and Anticipated Follow-On Activities

- Publish key actionable observations as **lessons learned**
- Establish the sector's **network of operational points of communication and coordination**
- Establish sustainable and effective **sector-wide lines of operational communication and coordination** to link them
- Define key **escalation triggers** for operational communication and escalation of operational coordination
- Establish **champions, technical work streams, and key improvement milestones/outcomes** for issues identified in the exercise
- For **continued operational maturity**, increase the value proposition for sector participation in the national exercise CyberStorm 2022

AT A GLANCE

OPERATIONAL EXERCISE:

IS: Stressing Operational Communication, Coordination, Decision-making, Process Flows.

ISN'T: Capture the Flag, Touching or impacting your network, Involving any red team or forensic exploitation.

- **Virtual Exercise, Sector-Wide In Impact And In Key Outcomes**
- **Virtual DHS Environment with RH-ISAC (exercise) Lines of Communication Embedded in the DHS Environment**

SCENARIO PLANNING:

- State-of-the-world
- Increasing crescendo of observable activity
- Seemingly isolated incidents
- Stresses:
 - o Enterprise risk management:
 - Operational communication, coordination, decision-making, process flows
 - o Operational coordination:
 - Multi enterprise peer-to-peer
 - Public-private
 - o Seams, gaps, unvalidated expectations, breaking points
- The key isn't "winning" or feeling good...you should fail.

For more information on the exercise and on registration for exercise participation, contact your trade association or reach out directly to support@rhisac.org.
