

# A Practical Approach to Cybersecurity Risk Mitigation

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## Learning Objectives

Develop	Develop a framework of knowledge to plan for future security efforts
Learn	Learn where organizations can focus valuable risk mitigation resources
Understand	Understand the importance of business continuity planning
Recognize	Recognize the components of the incident response process
Understand	Understand risks associated with commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products

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# The Framework

www.cisecurity.org/controls

#### Policies and Standards

#### People, Rules and Tools

- What do we expect to occur?
- How do we conduct business?

Standards based operations from a governance or compliance framework:

• CIS Critical Controls, NIST, ISO

#### CIS Controls - V8



#### Inventory and Control of Enterprise Assets

- Understand what hardware you have/own
  - Workstations
  - Servers
  - Mobile devices
  - Internet of Things (IoT) devices



#### Inventory and Control of Software Assets



Understand what software you have/own



Develop an approved products list



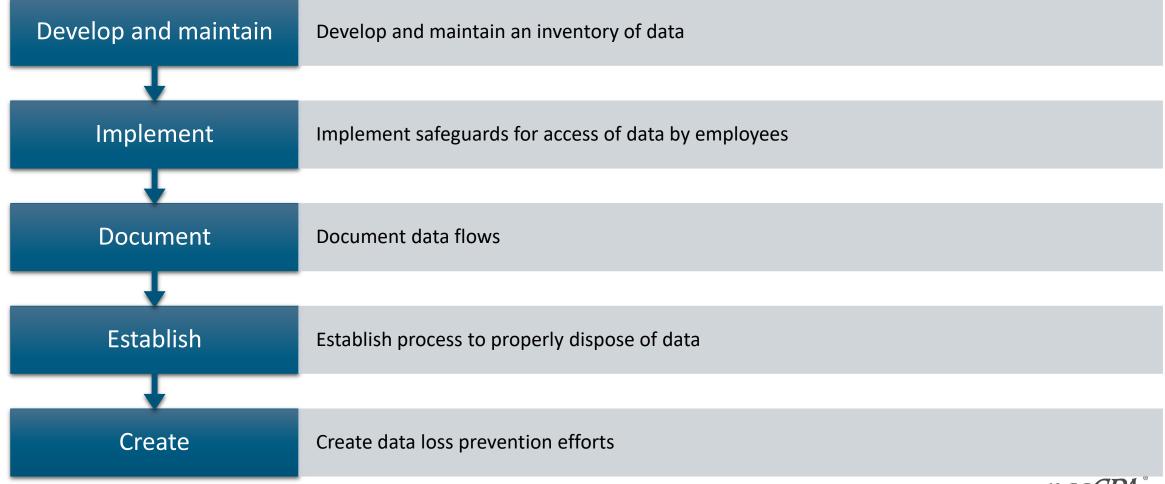
Ensure software is supported by vendor and apply latest patches



Address unauthorized software



#### **Data Protection**





#### Secure Configuration of Enterprise Assets and Software

• "Establish and maintain the secure configuration of enterprise assets (end-user devices, including portable and mobile; network devices; non-computing/IoT devices; and servers) and software (operating systems and applications)."



#### Account Management

01

Identify and inventory all accounts in the organization

02

Establish policies for use of strong and unique passwords

03

Review users to ensure they are authorized and have the correct access rights

04

Disable/delete dormant accounts



#### Access Control Management

01

Establish proper user access granting process

02

Develop proper user access revocation process

03

Practice least privilege with user accounts

04

Utilize role-based access methods

05

Require multifactor authentication, especially for external services



#### **CIS Benchmarks**

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With our global community of cybersecurity experts, we've developed CIS Benchmarks: more than 100 configuration guidelines across 25+ vendor product families to safeguard systems against today's evolving cyber threats.

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Currently showing Microsoft Windows benchmarks Go back to showing ALL

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# **Business Continuity**

### **Business Continuity Planning**

Continuity event planning and preparedness

Responsibilities and communication plans

Alternate procedures for critical business processes while systems/applications and facilities are unavailable

Alternate locations/facilities where work can commence during disaster situation

Recovery strategies and procedures for critical systems/applications.

Continuity planning for key technology service providers and vendor-hosted systems/applications



### Planning for a Pandemic





#### Plan the Test and Test the Plan!

The BCP should be tested such that every critical component is tested at least once every three years (systems, processes)

A test plan should show scheduled testing for the current year

BCP testing should include networking, hosts, personnel, and procedures.



# Incident Response Planning

#### The Incident Response Lifecycle

Preparation

Identification

Containment

Eradication

Recovery

Lessons Learned



#### Preparation

Can we properly respond to comprehensive security incidents?

Create incident response policies

Develop roles and responsibilities

Establish communication procedures

Ensure we have the correct people, process, and tools/technologies in place



#### Identification

#### **Detection and Analysis**

- Analyzing of logs
- Proper alerting based on abnormal activity
  - Unusual files
  - Unusual process
- New accounts created

#### **Triage and Escalation**

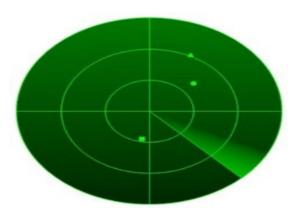
- Is this truly an incident that we need to respond to?
- Escalate to proper personnel
- Follow chain of custody



# System and Vulnerability Management and Monitoring

- Monitoring (built in)
  - Key system configurations
  - System and application logs
  - Accounts
  - Critical data systems/files
  - Data activity and flow
- Scanning (independent)
  - Patch Tuesday and vulnerability scanning
  - Rogue devices





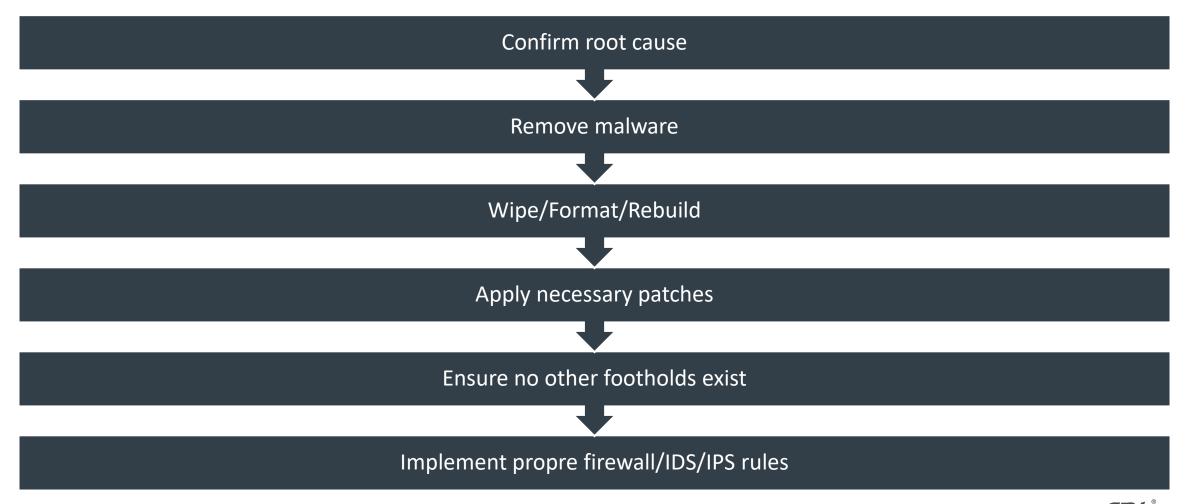


#### Containment





#### Eradication





#### Recovery

01

Continue to monitor for indicators of compromise

02

Search for and ensure attacker artifacts are gone

03

Return to normal state of operations



#### **Lessons Learned**



Document incident



Report to necessary stakeholders



Ensure protections are in place to mitigate same type of incident occurs



Modify process(es), if needed



#### Incident Response Preparedness



Unfortunately, data breach can still occur despite implementing all the best security precautions



When that occurs, organizations need to ensure they are ready to respond to a data breach.



Have a plan, practice the plan, prove the plan



#### Have a Plan

#### Develop an incident response plan

- Include the appropriate procedures
- Ensure points of contact are included
- Keep the plan update to date

#### Establish relationships with key incident responders

- Breach Counsel
- Forensic provider
- Public relations



#### Practice the Plan

- Like all emergency procedures, they need to be practiced
- Table-top exercises- simulations where participants walk through the incident and response procedures
- Two types of table-top exercises
  - Technical
  - Management
- Both types should be conducted annually

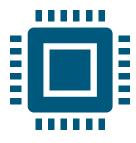




### Prove the plan



Many businesses end up over-notifying customers about data breaches, significantly increasing costs and risk of litigation



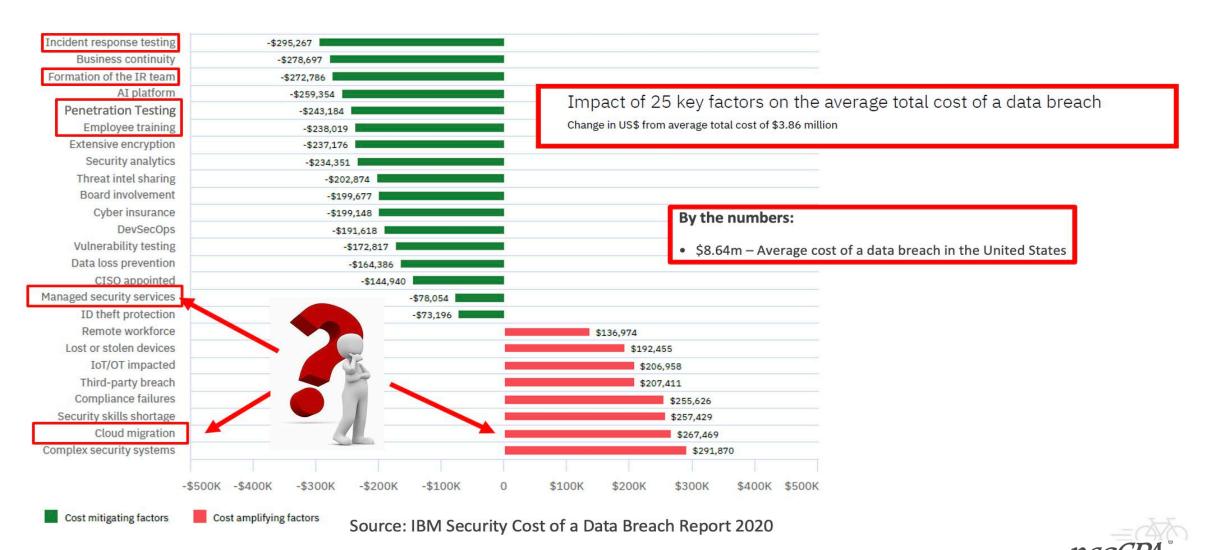
Low visibility into IT infrastructure means lack of forensic evidence to determine which system or data hackers accessed



Conduct trial forensic exercises to ensure you have the proper data and visibility



### Incident Response Preparedness- Cost Savings



# Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) Software

### **COTS** – Strengths and Gotchas

#### **Strengths**

Normally takes care of a need without a heavy lift internally

Buy vs build

Many vendors will install the product and provide training to staff

#### **Gotchas**

- Not one size fits all
- Must educate staff to manage product or outsource administration
- Must be consistently tuned for effectiveness



# Questions?

Contact Javier Young javier.young@CLAconnect.com