



# **INSIDER THREAT:**

REDUCING THE RISK WITH OPERATIONAL REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

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# **PLAN FOR TODAY**



- Statistics
- Basis of Insider Threat
- The Insider Threat Risk Spectrum
- Convergence of Cyber & Regulatory Compliance
- Practical Strategies for Risk Mitigation
- Future Outlook: Emerging Technologies & Insider Threats
- Conclusion & Wake-Up Call





# **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**





Implement a Holistic Insider
Threat Strategy



Integrate Regulatory Compliance into Insider Threat Mitigation





# STATISTICS ON INSIDER THREAT



Insider threats
account for over
60% of data
breaches with
increasing year-onyear costs.

The average
cost per
insider
incident now
exceeds \$15
million

70% are caused by negligence, but malicious insiders cause the most financial damage.



"In the past year(s), organizations have seen several serious data breaches committed at the hands of insiders." — Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)





# 

3. Paper

4. Web

5. Verbal

Threat Incidents

Figure 6: Top Five Data Exfiltration Methods Observed Across Insider

#### \$1,000,000+ \$1-\$9,999 38% 27% \$100,000-\$999,999 \$10,000-\$99,999

3. Denial of Service Attack-General

Figure 7: Top Five Sabotage Methods Observed Across Insider

42

35

4. Malicious Code Inserted

5. Social Engineering

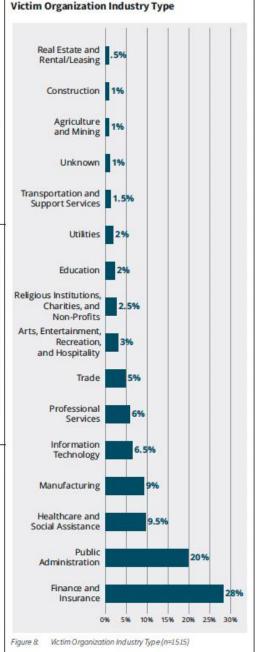
Threat Incidents

#### Estimated Financial Impact (n=1179) **Top Five Concerning Behaviors** Incidents Incidents 375 89 1. Termination 1. Went to Work for a Competitor 245 57 2. Resignation 2. Disgruntled 3. Internal Position Change 55 3. Suspicious Foreign Travel 55 4. Organization M&A Activity 43 4. Financial Conflict of Interest 53 50 5. Emerging Financial Problems 33 5. Physical Property Theft Figure 4: Top Five Stressors Across Insider Threat Incidents Top Five Concerning Behaviors Across Insider Top Five Data Exfiltration Methods Observed Top Five Sabotage Methods Observed Incidents Incidents 1. Email 141 1. Critical Data Modified 135 90 2. Critical Data Deleted 91 2. Removable Media

80

61

42



# STATISTICS ON INSIDER THREAT



The charts on this page illustrate data captured within the CERT Insider Threat Incident Repository.



"Anticipate and manage negative issues in the work environment. Adopt positive incentives to align the workforce with the organization."

— Common Sense Guide, Insider Risk Management Program





### **BASIS OF INSIDER THREATS**



# Categories

- Negligent
- Malicious
- Compromise



"To ensure protection of intellectual property... systems and data... and respond in a consistent, timely, and quality manner..." — Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)

Intent vs. access vs. impact: the insider risk trichotomy

Human, behavioural, and technical elements converge to create insider risk.





#### THE INSIDER THREAT RISK SPECTRUM



Build a **threat-intent-impact** spectrum from inadvertent behaviour to ideological sabotage.

Include real-world examples of each risk level.

Assess each type using a **severity score** (impact × likelihood × detectability).



"Create a high-level view of information that can prioritize alerts and observables based on severity." — Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)



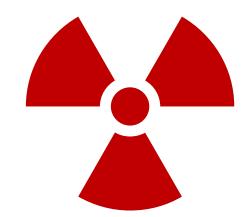


# THE INSIDER THREAT RISK SPECTRUM



# THE INSIDER THREAT RISK SPECTRUM

NEGLIGENT	COMPROMISED	MALICIOUS OPPORTUNISTIC	MALICIOUS IDEOLOGICAL
Weak passwords Falling for phishing	Credential theft Session hijack	Downloading sensitive data Before employee exit	Sabotage IP theft



#### **Representative Activities**

- Weak passwords
- Falling for phishing
- Dowloadong sensitive data
- Before employee exit





### **CONVERGENCE OF CYBER & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**



The intersection of insider risk controls and compliance mandates (industry standards, legal, policies etc)

Privacy, **legal defensibility**, and internal audit alignment.

Compliance is not the ceiling—it's the foundation.



"Documentation of metrics and improvement activities may be relevant to regulators."—

Measuring the Effectiveness of a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)



"Ensure that all Insider Threat Program actions meet legal mandates and protect the rights and privacy of employees." — Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)





# **CONVERGENCE OF CYBER & REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**



	NIST SP 800-53 Rev.5	NIST CF	NIST PF	CIS v7	Privacy Regulations (GDPR/DPA2012)
Mappings	CM-2 Baseline Configuration CM-8 Information System Component Inventory PM-5 Information System Inventory PM-8 Critical Infrastructure Plan RA-2 Security Categorization	ID AM ID RA ID RM PR DS PR MA	ID.IM-P ID.BE-P ID.DE-P CT.DM-P CT.DP-P	Control 1 Control 2	Processing of special categories of personal data (Art. 9, Sec. 96) Security of processing (Art. 32, Sec. 28) Data protection impact assessment (Art. 35)





### PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR RISK MITIGATION



# A. Governance & Policy Foundation

Insider threat charter, response plan, data ownership matrix.

Stakeholder mapping: legal, HR, ethics, risk, operations.

B. Insider Risk Management Program Evaluation (IRMPE) Evaluating and Maturing the Program Use the IRMPE selfassessment to evaluate maturity (MIL scale 0–5). Covers domains: **Program** Management, Personnel & Training, and Data **Collection & Analysis.** 

C. Technology Controls
UEBA, SIEM, DLP, IAM,
and behavioural
analytics integrated via a
centralized threat hub.



"Insider Threat Policy, Concept of Operations (CONOPS), Communications

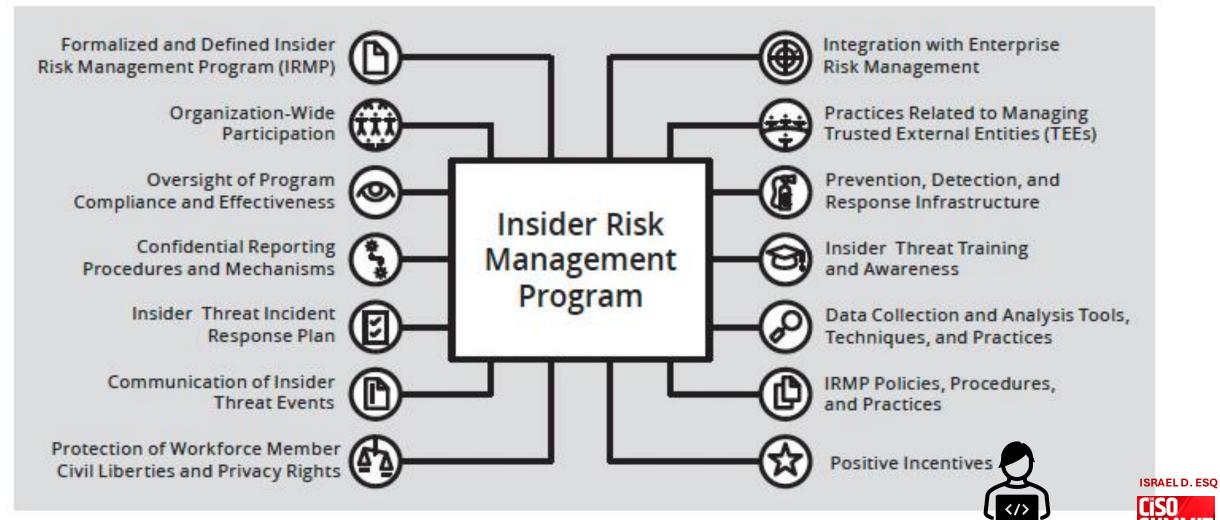
**Plan..."**— Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)



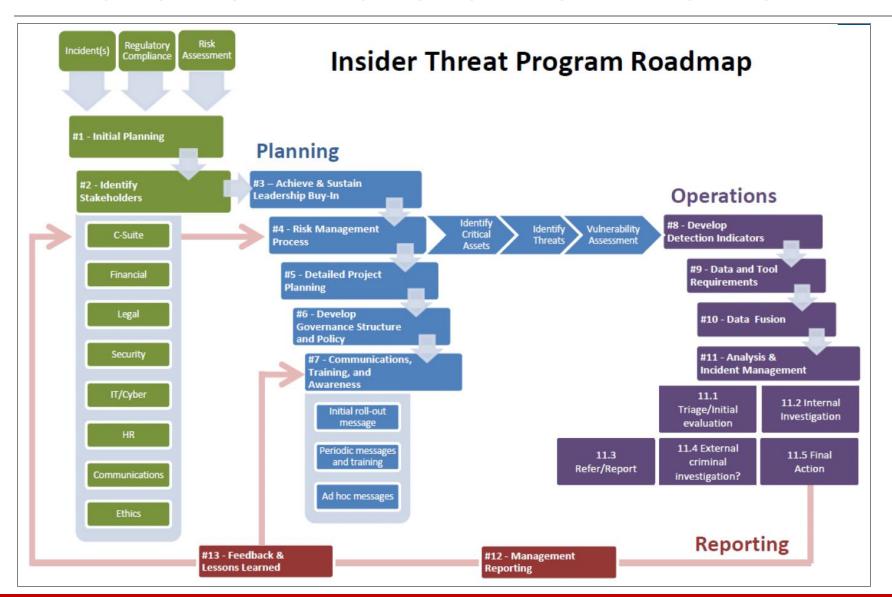


#### PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR RISK MITIGATION





#### PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR RISK MITIGATION





"Work with legal counsel and privacy officers in the development of the Insider Threat Program... ensure actions meet legal mandates and protect the rights and privacy of employees."—

Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)

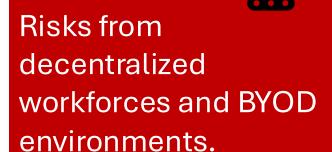




# **FUTURE OUTLOOK: EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES & INSIDER THREAT**

Al-enabled social engineering, deepfake impersonation, synthetic insider activity.





Next-gen monitoring: privacy-aware ML, sentiment analysis, biometric patterns.



"Machine Learning, Data Science – configure the systems that process massive amounts of data."—

Designing and Implementing a Cyber Insider Threat Mitigation Program (Randall Trzeciak, 2024)





### **CONCLUSION & WAKE-UP CALL**



- Insider threats are not just security problems they're leadership problems.
- Regulatory compliance is the floor, not the ceilin.
- Build programs that are measurable, resilient, an trusted by the workforce.

Final Message



"Security isn't just about protection—it's about trust and resilience." —

Israel D. ESQ (Speaker, CISO SUMMIT 2025)

- Run an IRMPE assessment this quarter.
- Formalize your insider threat charter and review your tech stack.
- Educate your executive suite on the real cost of neglecting internal risks.

Call to Action













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