

How Information Security Competency Models Drive Security Integration

Terri Cinnamon VA OI&T, Director National IT Training Academy March 24, 2010

Compliance is Key

- FISMA requires agency personnel with significant security responsibilities to receive role-based training
- To be compliant with FISMA, NIST mandated that agencies implement role-based security training
- Government agencies categorize staff by positions, not roles
- Agencies must determine a process to match role-based security criteria to their positions

Implementation of Roles at VA

- Match occupational codes in VA's HR PAID system to roles defined by NIST
- The Learning Management System (LMS) "pushes" the right course to the right security professional utilizing competency models based upon GS 2210 positions that are mapped to specific training events

VA Competency Model Advances Security Efforts

- Security knowledge traverses numerous core competencies
- Each competency identifies proficiency levels utilizing behavioral indicators
- All training is mapped to competencies at specific proficiency levels
- Aligning security competencies to learning events ensures staff receives proper rolebased training

Tracking Compliance

- Competency modeling provides a means to assign and track training
- VA utilizes its Learning Management System (LMS) to track this training
- LMS provides tracking and report creation to monitor training progress and verify training requirements are met

VA's Benefits from Competency Models

- Training is developed and assigned consistent with the requirements for role-based training
- Responsible spending of training funding because the right training is assigned to the right staff members
- The LMS tracks training progress and has reporting capabilities which enables VA to provide proof of completion
- IG approved ISO Security Training