Role-Based Training

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Abstract:

Veterans Affairs (VA) has made substantial information technology (IT) investments aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of its services to America's veterans, their dependents, and survivors. Along with the added benefits of these IT investments come added risks to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of VA information and information systems. The VA addresses those risks through a wide range of security-enhancing programmatic and technological measures; critical among those is the Office of Cyber Security (OCS) awareness, training, education, and certification program.

The Training, Education, Awareness and Professionalization (TEAP) division of OCS, in compliance with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication 800-16, has developed a set of awareness courses customized to specific key roles within VA. The intent of each of these role-based courses is to increase awareness and develop a culture throughout VA where it is proactively recognized that information security is everyone's business. The courses will enable individuals to recognize information security concerns and how to respond accordingly.

VA has identified several specific roles as the target audience for these Information Security CBTs. These are:

a. Executives
b. Program and Functional Managers (IT Project Managers)
c. Chief Information Officers (CIOs), IT security program managers, auditors, and other security-oriented personnel (e.g., system and network administrators, and system/application security officers)
d. IT function management and operations personnel (IT Staff)
e. Research Professionals
f. Contracting Specialists
g. Human Resources Specialists
h. Health Care Professionals
i. Software Developers

The course framework and design requirements are web-based training (WBT). The content is based on widely-accepted best practices in cyber security, as set forth in federal law, regulation, and guidance. International cyber security standards are also taken into account. The curriculum and the course contents are consistent with the full set of NIST cyber security guidance.

Biography:

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Started with the Department of Veterans Affairs in November 1989, at the Houston, TX VAMC.

Full time ISO at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center, 1995 – 2000

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