

Bay Area UASI



Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative Quarterly Newsletter

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Cyber Security at the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC)

Sony Pictures Hack Raises Questions About Vulnerabilities

Last November, Sony Pictures was hacked causing millions of dollars of damage, the release of confidential data, and ultimately an embarrassing situation for the company. The breach highlights a growing security threat faced by companies and individuals across the globe. The sanctity and privacy of a company's most sensitive information, which often includes valuable trade secrets and identifiable customer data, is only as safe as the weakest link on a network. According to leading security experts, all it takes for an intruder to gain control of a computer is a click on something like a bogus Flash update or email from Apple. Once a computer is compromised, a network connection is all that is needed for the malware to spread through corporate networks and cause millions of dollars' worth of damage.

Need for Defensive Strategies

The Sony incident, along with countless others both publicized and unreported, highlight the need for defensive strategies that include both network security hardware and dedicated information security staffing. Unfortunately, due to budget limitations and/or time constraints, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure organizations often need assistance in these areas. To support the efforts to enhance the cyber security of numerous

organizations, the BAUASI has provided funding to begin deployment of an interconnected network of security appliances. Through an RFP process conducted in partnership with California's fusion centers, the BAUASI is taking strides to fill these gaps. Cyber security industry leader FireEye, based in Milpitas, CA, has been contracted to provide Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS) hardware, which can also be co-managed and monitored by trained cyber security personnel at the fusion centers. The IPS provides the capability for networks to detect intrusions in real-time and immediately respond potential threats. For example, the IPS might detect a malicious packet of data and block further traffic from a specific IP address while simultaneously recognizing and transmitting legitimate traffic with no noticeable disruption of service. Once operational, partner sites will become better protected from inbound hacking attempts and outbound data exfiltration, with support from private sector professionals and fusion center staff to ensure continued optimal effectiveness.

NCRIC Provides Network Vulnerability Assessments

In the Bay Area, the NCRIC is providing cyber security vulnerability assessments to public sector entities at no cost. Using advanced scanning software, cyber analysts will search networks for known vulnerabilities and guide organizations on on steps they may take to reduce their exposure and risk, with all results remaining private to the organization; the only goal is to assist with improving security. If you wish to have a vulnerability assessment performed within your organization, please contact the NCRIC at: cyber@ncric.ca.gov or visit www.ncric.org.





Emergency Agreements Analyzed

City Hall Fellow Maribel Garcia will soon complete a report documenting emergency agreement contracts from Operational Areas throughout the region. The intent of the report is to identify vendors or service providers who have agreed, through MOUs, LOUs, “handshake agreements,” etc., to provide disaster recovery services. Since overlapping commitments would make it difficult for a vendor to provide adequate resources to jurisdictions during a regional disaster, the project will provide an inventory of these agreements and identify service gaps and potential conflicts. An example of a conflict would be if one debris removal company had contracts with more than one Operational Area, but only enough equipment to service one. If you would like more information about this project, or would like to participate, email maribel.garcia@sfgov.org.



An inventory of service agreements, such as with debris removal companies, will help expedite response most efficiently after an incident. Credit: FEMA



Corner of Beach & Divisadero Streets in San Francisco after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Credit: USGS

FEMA Medical Counter Measures Planning

FEMA Region IX Planning Branch Chief Dennis McKeown presented on current Medical Counter Measures planning at the April Approval Authority Meeting. This planning builds on the federal City Readiness Initiative program to strengthen operational and resource coordination. The UASI Medical/Public Health Workgroup will be coordinating with FEMA Region IX to share information from the recent Bay Area Mass Prophylaxis exercise held in November 2014, where seasonal flu vaccination processes, Ebola and Anthrax scenarios were successfully used to practice exercise objectives. This planning process is scheduled to be completed in 2016. The FEMA Medical Counter Measures presentation materials, in addition to all other documents from April’s Approval Authority meeting, can be found at: <http://www.bayareauasi.org/approval-authority/april>.



FEMA

Urban Shield 2015

Planning efforts are underway for Urban Shield 2015. The full scale exercise will kick off Friday, September 11, 2015 with the Yellow Command exercise near Levi’s Stadium.



COOP/COG Updates

The Regional Catastrophic Planning Team recently completed Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) planning efforts. The plans developed include a Sample Plan Template and Planning Handbook to guide both experienced and inexperienced planners through the development of continuity plans. The benchmarks established through this project assist in building a regional base level of capability.

Rad/Nuc Detection Equipment Distributed



Based on its recently developed Concept of Operations, the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Working Group identified and prioritized certain equipment gaps and needs. Using the Bay Area UASI’s regional procurement process, 64 radiation detectors were purchased and distributed to 9 Operational Areas. The detectors, small enough to be clipped onto a duty belt, disclose the presence and intensity of gamma radiation. In the event of a radiological incident, first responders can quickly and effectively monitor a large area for signs of radiation.

Regional Procurement of P25 Radios Completed

As part of FY14 regional procurement process, the Bay Area UASI recently procured over \$1.1 million worth of new Motorola APX series P25-compliant radios. The procurement of these radios continues regional efforts to improve interoperable communication capabilities. In addition to facilitating interoperable communications in day-to-day operations within individual jurisdictions, these radios will assist in enhancing interoperability during Mutual Aid deployments in the region and beyond.



Recovery Permit Waiver Project

The Regional Catastrophic Planning Team continues to work on identifying potential permits and regulations that may require a waiver in the event of a disaster. The group worked with the California Resiliency Alliance (CRA) to develop a toolkit to guide local jurisdictions on the process for obtaining permit and regulation waivers. They are also developing a procedures handbook, checklist, and templates to be used by local governments to facilitate rapid recovery and assist in post disaster decision making.

Training & Exercise Program

The Regional Training and Exercise Program (RTEP) at the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office in Dublin, CA recently completed the upgrade of their website. To learn more about the program or to register for available courses visit:

www.bauasitep.org

Upcoming RTEP Courses

- 5/6 - Intro to Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations
- 5/6 - Critical Incident Response for Supervisors and Managers
- 5/18 - ICS 300
- 6/15 - Tactical Response to School and Community Violence

Emergency Mass Notification System Vendor Selected

Everbridge was recently selected through a competitive RFP process hosted by Alameda County. The Counties of San Mateo and Marin and the Cities of Oakland and Berkeley participated as selection members while the City and County of San Francisco, Sonoma County, and the Bay Area UASI observed. The Counties of San Mateo and Marin will “piggy-back” off the contract to join the pilot phase of a regionalized mass notification system to be implemented in June 2015. Additionally, the Counties of Monterey and Napa already use Everbridge based systems thereby expanding the initial scope of regionalization. Other Bay Area jurisdictions will have the option to join the regionalized system through independent contracts. The key goals of a regionalized system are to enable region-wide interoperability, promote regional coordination, and leverage cost savings.



Approval Authority & Management Team

Approval Authority Changes

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Homeland Security Director, Captain Mark Wyss recently announced his retirement. Captain Wyss spent over 27 years with San Mateo County and served as a member of the Approval Authority for the last two years. Congratulations, Mark! San Mateo County has selected Captain Jeff Kearnan as the new Alternate.

Compliance Corner: Bonds, Performance Bonds

A Performance Bond is a bond issued by an insurance company to guarantee the satisfactory and timely completion/delivery of a project. The need for Performance Bonds in homeland security grants was first demonstrated when jurisdictions had trouble completing purchases of big ticket items due to delays in ordering and delivery, leading to extension requests or the return of large amounts of unspent funds by subgrantees.



Performance Bonds provide jurisdictions with two things: immediate reimbursement during the grant performance period and extra time to take delivery of the equipment.

Because these big ticket items may take a year to order and receive, and a Performance Bond will only provide for an extra 90 days at the end of the grant, subrecipients should begin this process early.

Requirements:

1. Required for any item over \$250,000 or any vehicle, aircraft, or watercraft
2. Requirements must be listed in the vendor solicitation
3. Adds approximately 1-4% to the purchase price
4. Guarantees delivery no later than 90 days after the grant performance period ends (check with UASI Fiscal Staff for exact deadline date)
5. Executed performance bonds must be provided to the fiscal staff of the UASI Management Team

As always, if you have a grant compliance questions, please contact Mary Landers at mary.land@sfgov.org.

Upcoming Events

MAY

- 5/12 - On-Scene Unified Command Training and Tabletop Exercise
- 5/14 - Approval Authority Meeting
- 5/20 - Regional Capabilities Assessment Workshop
- 5/21 - CBRNE / Training & Exercise Program Workgroup

JUNE

- 6/9-6/11 - National Homeland Security Conference in San Antonio, Texas
- 6/17 - Urban Shield Planning Meeting

For July events and beyond, visit:

<http://www.bayareauasi.org/events-calendar>

Management Team Updates

Alameda County Sheriff's Commander and Training and Exercise Project Manager Dennis Houghtelling has been appointed Chief of Police for the City of Dublin. Alameda County Sheriff's Commander Tom Wright was selected as the new T&E Project Manager. We welcome Tom and wish Dennis the best in his new role!

Rey Okamoto and Maw Maw Thein Tun have transferred to other job assignments within the City and County of San Francisco. We wish them the best in their new positions. Additionally, we welcome Yoshimi Saito, the newest Grants Specialist on our Fiscal Team.

Congratulations to Ethan Baker for earning a promotion to the Emergency Services Coordinator II position. Ethan is currently managing a website redesign, the implementation of an online grants management system, and the production of the Bay Area UASI Annual Report.



For more information on Bay Area UASI, visit our website at www.bayareauasi.org, or call 415-353-5232.

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