COST: **$**$$$ IMPACT: **HIGH**   COMPLEXITY: **LOW**

1.B: Does the WWS have a named role/position/title that is responsible for planning, resourcing, and executing cybersecurity activities within the WWS?

Recommendation: Identify one role/position/title responsible for cybersecurity within the WWS. Whoever fills this role/position/title is then in charge of all WWS cybersecurity activities.

Why is this control important?

It is essential to create a top-down strategy, starting with the assignment of an overall cybersecurity "lead". Your WWS can associate the "lead" responsibility with a current job position. The individual in the lead position should be responsible and accountable for planning, resourcing, and overseeing the execution of cybersecurity activities. The cybersecurity lead may also manage cybersecurity operations at the senior level, provide awareness training to employees, plan exercises (e.g., tabletop exercises), request and secure budget resources for cybersecurity projects, and report to the board or management on cybersecurity activities.

Implementation Tips

Select a position within your WWS that is responsible for overall cybersecurity. The individual in this role should be different than the System Administrator, if possible. This individual should be an employee of the WWS, and not a vendor or contractor, so that the WWS can hold them accountable for their duties.

The cybersecurity lead does not need to be a cyber expert; however, some knowledge of how your WWS's OT and IT systems work would be helpful.

Additional Guidance

✓ Ensure that the cybersecurity lead has sufficient training opportunities to effectively serve in the role. Include the execution of the individual's roles and responsibilities as cybersecurity lead in their performance reviews.
✓ Establish clear tasks and duties for the cybersecurity lead and document them, such as adding these to an existing position description. Include diagrams and photos where necessary.
✓ Identify any critical staff that should assist the cybersecurity lead.

Resources

WaterISAC's 15 Cybersecurity Fundamentals: Page 25 provides information on creating a cybersecurity culture at a WWS, including executive and board engagement. https://www.waterisac.org/system/files/articles/15%20Cybersecurity%20Fundamentals%20%28WaterISAC%29.pdf

NIST Policy Template Guide: See Account Management/Access Control Standard. Documented and clear tasks and duties for this individual. *https://www.cisecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Account-Management-Access-Control-Standard.docx*

NICCS's Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework): This resource helps employers develop their cybersecurity workforce. Review the "Cybersecurity Management" module. *https://niccs.cisa.gov/workforce-development/nice-framework/specialty-areas/cybersecurity-management*

Cyber Essential Toolkit Courses: This toolkit is a set of modules designed to break down the CISA Cyber Essentials into manageable steps for a cybersecurity lead. *https://www.cisa.gov/publication/cyber-essentials-toolkits*