Foreword

ABS recognizes that automation methods – and increasingly, autonomy – have penetrated nearly all aspects of shipboard and platform systems. Because these systems control multiple aspects of asset, ship or platform operations, they become integral parts of system and operational safety.

ABS supports our community by compiling best practices, deriving new methods, and developing the standard for marine and offshore cybersecurity in a commitment to safety and security of life and property and preservation of the environment.

This document is Volume 1 of the ABS CyberSafety™ series. It provides best practices for cybersecurity, as a foundational element of overall safety and security within and across the marine and offshore communities. The best practices are meant to provide insights for operations, maintenance and support of cyber-enabled systems, to better assure safety and security in those systems.

These Guidance Notes become effective on the first day of the month of publication.

Users are advised to check periodically on the ABS website www.eagle.org to verify that this version of these Guidance Notes is the most current.

We welcome your feedback. Comments or suggestions can be sent electronically by email to rsd@eagle.org.
GUIDANCE NOTES ON
THE APPLICATION OF CYBERSECURITY PRINCIPLES
TO MARINE AND OFFSHORE OPERATIONS

VOLUME 1: CYBERSECURITY

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SECTION 1 General

1 Objective

These Guidance Notes provide cybersecurity best practices and recommendations to marine and offshore organizations, and they are intended to enable members of the marine and offshore communities to take verifiable steps to protect an asset, its cyber-connected systems, its personnel, and its information from cyber intrusions. The overarching ABS cybersecurity guidance program provides these Guidance Notes as “Volume 1: Cybersecurity”.

2 Application

These Guidance Notes apply to cybersecurity implementations for ships, platforms, and support facilities, and support a practical application of the engineering and operations of cyber-enabled systems in the marine and offshore environments.

3 Cybersecurity

Security is a critical enabling function for an organization, company, agency or unit. Therefore, security is implemented to protect critical assets of all types, ranging from staff, equipment and facilities to computerized systems. Security implementations themselves are assets, requiring the same security protections that they in turn offer to the larger organization. Most organizations arguably understand the need for protecting and monitoring cyber-linked business support and control systems. Even so, the breadth and complexity of protecting such systems may present a daunting challenge to many organizations that do not have a comprehensive picture of cybersecurity.

Successful cybersecurity is the result of a complex series of related and interdependent work efforts that intersect so as to provide protections that are functional and enduring in the face of challenges presented by geography, technological evolution, and shifting human resource capabilities and deployment.

A thorough understanding of the protected organization, its supporting physical and intellectual assets, and the needs and capabilities of its people provides the foundation for a structured cybersecurity program. That security program expectedly changes and develops as it orders and prioritizes requirements, develops its capabilities, builds its functional capabilities, and aligns itself with the organization, its mission and its goals. Because every organization is unique in its needs, priorities and limitations, every security program is also unique in its protective functionality, sequence of areas protected, and protection timetables.

This document, “Volume 1: Cybersecurity”, of the ABS CyberSafety™ series, appreciates and accommodates the unique characteristics required to build and maintain a cybersecurity program. The Guidance Notes offer guidance that attempts to represent due care and due diligence in cybersecurity.

4 Definitions


CyberSafety: Guidelines and standards for computerized, automated, and autonomous systems that ensure those systems are designed, built, operated, and maintained so as to allow only predictable, repeatable behaviors, especially in those areas of operation or maintenance that can affect human, system, enterprise or environmental safety. CyberSafety is required for the deterministic behaviors found in engineered functional assurance, and it includes software integrity management to manage technical risk in software-intensive systems.

Section 1 General

ABS CyberSafety™: Measurable implementation of CyberSafety that tailors cybersecurity and systemic safety to assets in order to enable and encourage risk-based asset management as a systemic outcome. ABS CyberSafety™ will provide deterministic outcomes when implemented within managed environments that include appropriate processes, policies, system test and audit, and data management.

Cybersecurity: The activity or process, ability or capability, or state whereby information and communications systems and the information contained therein are protected from and/or defended against damage, unauthorized use or modification, or exploitation. (Adapted from: CNSSI 4009, NIST SP 800-53 Rev 4, NIPP, DHS National Preparedness Goal; White House Cyberspace Policy Review, May 2009. Source: https://niccs.us-cert.gov/glossary)

Information Technology (IT): Any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment that is used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. (From: NIST SP 800-53 Rev 4 (glossary). Source: http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-53r4.pdf)

Operational Technology (OT): An information system used to control industrial processes such as manufacturing, product handling, production, and distribution. Industrial control systems include supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems used to control geographically dispersed assets, as well as distributed control systems (DCSs) and smaller control systems using programmable logic controllers to control localized processes. (Adapted from: NIST SP 800-53 Rev 4. Source: http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-53r4.pdf)

Smart Asset: Marine and offshore assets built with significant degrees of automated control of vessel or platform operations, system management and monitoring, and data communications. Automation provides labor-saving capabilities; augments human strength; augments human decision-making and error-checking processes; provides operational situational awareness; enables multiple simultaneous system control and management; and provides for controlled data storage. A Smart Asset may possess automated or autonomous processes that operate without routine human intervention.
SECTION 2 Cybersecurity Program Development

1 Introduction

ABS recognizes that automation is pervasive in shipboard and platform systems. Because automated systems control multiple critical aspects of marine and offshore assets, ship and platform operations, these systems are now subject to the same safety-related concerns as is any other critical vessel feature.

“Volume 1: Cybersecurity” addresses cybersecurity practices for systems, ships and platforms as part of the ABS CyberSafety™ series. Beginning with best practices, the series will help owners, operators and regulators to verify the various automated systems found at sea and ashore can neither cause harm to personnel, nor compromise system integrity or operations.

Cybersecurity is the first area to be addressed in building secure and safe systems. As the series matures and is implemented by ship and platform owners, operators and crews, additional products will be provided to support self-assessment, self-test, and self-audit. The series will provide test, data management, software assurance, automated systems (i.e., robotics and safety-critical systems) and autonomous system guidance and technical direction. Appendices to the ABS CyberSafety™ document series will provide strategy, policy, processes, and safety assessment tools, checklists and audit templates.

2 Intersection of Cybersecurity and Safety

The marine and offshore environments include pervasive information technology (IT), and extensive and growing numbers of cyber-physical systems (CPS). These systems provide labor multipliers to assist the captain and crew in operating the ship effectively and efficiently, providing machinery and ship controls, monitoring and alerting. Navigation, propulsion, ship control (maneuvering), system management, cargo management, and safety sensors and alarms – all supplement people and assist people while providing functions to keep people working and out of harm’s way. Both IT and CPS systems must operate as expected if they are to support the crews’ processes and procedures.

Ship and platform automated systems are now connected in ways never before considered. Crews, vessel operators, platform or facility managers, and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) want remote access, greater on-station function, frequent reporting from sensors, and new types of data and functions. To support these requirements, many control systems are coupled via industry-standard communications and networking, interfaced to Internet-connected networks, and operated in multiple modes unanticipated at system design. The result is that general-purpose systems are frequently connected to special purpose process control systems, exposing control systems to security incidents that can have operational consequences.

A cybersecurity incident on a ship, on a platform, or within a facility, might result from system fault or failure, operator error or inaction, inadvertent conflicts in incompatible software, or deliberate malfeasance or malice. Any such incident may result in intrusion or malfunction in a general purpose network, resulting in a cascading failure that can spread into ship or platform CPS to cause unexpected consequences for any number of systems.

Because of system interconnections, a CPS failure might even bring about ship-wide failures that can, in turn, affect the surrounding community and environment. It is the responsibility of mariners and seafarers to know their systems, know their interfaces, know how both work together, how they might fail, and the failure consequences.

Cybersecurity and software integrity management are both increasingly important to the broader understanding of our systems, our software, and our overall system safety. Cyber-enabled systems and gear are all around us. The security aspects of highly automated, integrated, computerized gear must be well understood, especially when considering the safety-related impacts of security on both individually controlled systems and linked systems.
The first step to improved cybersecurity is knowledge of the approaches developed and implemented by other practitioners in the field who have gained and shared valuable experiences and lessons learned. This document contains practical information that has been researched and vetted for application to the marine and offshore industries. It is a collection of best practices deemed to be useful both to novice specialists just beginning to establish cybersecurity programs, and to seasoned experts who want to review the best practices of others in order to continue improving their cybersecurity programs and implementations.

3 Best Practices

ABS CyberSafety™ is the ABS process for adding cybersecurity rigor to both the operational systems aboard ships and platforms, and to the linked business systems that support their missions. The best practices in these Guidance Notes will help the reader understand how to frame and prioritize cybersecurity work efforts in going about building rigor, security and safety into systems.

This volume concentrates on the establishment of Basic and Developed Capabilities that fully enable a cybersecurity work effort. In this context, a Capability is broad in that it includes people, systems, data, and processes. An organization builds these Capabilities incrementally based on security needs, staff competencies, available acquisition resources, and organizational maturity in cybersecurity.

Capabilities built according to this method become the organization’s support framework for security controls, policies and procedures. The program laid out in this way becomes an overlay that can be used with any compliance framework’s security controls, or it can be a measurable compliance set in its own right. The arrangement of the Capabilities is consciously structured to provide supportability and life cycle management inside the personnel structures built and maintained by the organization, for both cybersecurity and system safety.

Section 3, Figure 1 illustrates the most basic Capabilities that are required to build a cyber-safe program to support cyber-secure systems. At the core of the program are the baseline controls and tasks – the information technology fundamentals – commonly employed to support a business or operational (shipboard, offshore or port facility) system. Surrounding this baseline are Capabilities needed to shape an environment that is ready to sustain a robust cybersecurity program.
The nine Basic Capabilities shown should be developed and implemented within the organization, and should be evident as fully documented, employed, supported, and maintained.

These Capabilities are critical to establishing a viable cybersecurity program, and they are judged by ABS to be the minimum set required in order to evaluate, analyze, and provide a measurable initial status of cybersecurity in automated systems and their host organization(s). The nine Capabilities are arranged in more general divisions that can aid in organizing and understanding the functions, factors which may be more important in smaller, or less mature, organizations that must be relatively more careful about expenditures and personnel assignments.

Capabilities are the primary elements supporting a cybersecurity program. Capabilities enable organizations to perform complete cybersecurity tasks that are interrelated with other software and systems engineering tasks. Prioritization of the security tasks, and the Capabilities that enable those tasks, may change based on an organization’s available resources for performing the tasks and its installed base of assets requiring protection. In support of those imperatives, “Volume 1: Cybersecurity” provides a way to approach prioritization in a scalable, measurable, and complete way.

Section 3, Figure 2 indicates how this cybersecurity program extends the foundational Basic Capability Set into a more functionally complete Developed Capability Set. These additional Capabilities build on the Basic Capability Set to provide both depth and breadth in the three functional divisions. The purpose of this layered approach is that it enables the builder of a cybersecurity program to select and implement Capabilities in a way that best satisfies the needs and constraints of the supported organization or asset.

The outside layer of the Developed Capabilities Set provides relative completeness to an organization having a need, a level of maturity, and available resources to establish a well-formed cybersecurity system. A third set of capabilities (not shown), provides guidance for a fully formed, highly capable cybersecurity system.
4 Structure for Best Practices

Below are the Best Practices that ABS associates with the layers of cybersecurity capabilities minimally needed to protect organization. These Best Practices are compiled from across multiple industries, multiple government reports, individual recommendations, and white papers.

Not all best practices fit every situation, operational context, or application; even so, the listed practices are primarily based on lessons learned by implementers that have paved the way in cybersecurity program development and can arguably enable a practitioner to stand up a functional cybersecurity program more rapidly and logically than would be possible without this or similar guidance.

These Guidance Notes are organized as best practices and recommendations for each of the Capabilities shown in the preceding cybersecurity program graphics. The Basic Capability list deemed to be essential to a nascent program is provided first, followed by the Developed Capability list.

4.1 Basic Capability
1. Exercise Best Practices
2. Build the Security Organization
3. Provision for Employee Awareness and Training
4. Perform Risk Assessment
5. Provide Perimeter Defense
6. Prepare for Incident Response and Recovery
7. Provide Physical Security
8. Execute Access Management
9. Ensure Asset Management

4.2 Developed Capability
10. Perform Policy Management
11. Provide Standards and Governance
12. Provide and Guide Cybersecurity Hygiene
13. Gather and Use Threat Intelligence
14. Perform Vulnerability Assessment
15. Perform Risk Management
16. Provide Data Protection
17. Protect Operational Technology (OT)
18. Perform System and Security Continuous Monitoring (SCM)
19. Plan for Disaster Recovery (DR)
20. Provide Unified Identity Management
21. Perform System, Software and Application Test
22. Perform System and Application Patch and Configuration Management
23. Execute Change Control as an Enterprise Process

Each Capability section contains a series of identified recommendations and best practices that minimally satisfy the Capability, a short discussion of the section, and a list of references that are useful for further reading and understanding.
SECTION 3 Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Basic Capability Set

1 Exercise Best Practices

a) The organization maintains relationships with information sharing communities and threat or vulnerability broadcasts from both governmental and industry sources.

b) The organization shares threat information with peers in its community, including technical information such as indicators of compromise (IoC), to promote greater awareness and community resistance to attacks.

c) The organization uses regional and national resources (e.g., US-CERT, ICS-CERT and ENISA) to gain access to recent vulnerability and threat information relevant to its assets.

d) The organization builds a series of cultural practices that include cybersecurity requirements, thereby promoting due care and due diligence continue on a routine basis.

e) The organization actively engages, trains and informs its Board of Directors, or similar leadership structures and personnel, on cybersecurity practices, potential impacts of cybersecurity risks, and ongoing issues due to cybersecurity in the organization’s environment and context.

Every organization potentially benefits from involvement in the larger community. With respect to cybersecurity this is true because information exchanges, threat warnings, and best practices flow to some extent through Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (ISACs), cybersecurity professional societies, and community common interest groups. The Department of Homeland Security, federal and local law enforcement, and local or regional government agencies communicate valuable lessons learned or pertinent information briefs, and Cybersecurity Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) provide a wide variety of instructional and threat warning information notifications.

Each organization seeking to establish or maintain a cybersecurity program must make the collective decision to use the information, lessons, and accumulated wisdom gained from others in support of an internal commitment to continuous improvement. Threats do not stagnate. Threats mutate, evolve, and re-form based on changes in technology, financial gain incentives, and political agendas. Organizations and security programs seeking to be unaffected by threats must not stagnate either.

The organization’s leadership must be actively involved and informed with security matters, as well, so that they understand the actions required to safeguard people, assets and networks. Education for leadership and management encourages them to participate in civic and community efforts that help to inform them on topics of risk, controls and measures.

1.1 References


iv) United States Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Readiness Team (ICS-CERT), https://ics-cert.us-cert.gov/
2 Build the Security Organization

a) The organization matches tasks to required skills, building employee skill for long-term development of experience and institutional knowledge.

b) The organization performs periodic capability assessments to confirm that organizational leadership understands current security status, personnel and organizational capabilities, and gaps in processes, staffing or systems.

Understanding one’s own organization, environment, and context requires a full understanding of the organization’s people, their abilities, and their skills. General rules for success include matching employees to assignments that best match the employee’s interests and skills with the organization’s needs as defined by its existing and road-mapped capability needs. This matching includes providing coverage for the skill sets required for security systems, applications, and appliances; for security contract management; and, for system output analysis and use. It also should also consider a look forward for employees and their skills by anticipating the changes in threat and risk environments, skills needed in the future, and career development enhancers that keep security personnel fresh, interested, and intellectually stimulated.

An important part of building the organization and the personnel is placing of expectations. Capability assessments for the organization, with status reports and plans for development, help keep personnel involved as the organization builds capabilities and matures.

2.1 References


3 Provision for Employee Awareness and Training

a) The organization has an acceptable use policy that spells out to relevant personnel the permitted uses for information technology, operational technology, and organizational data and assets.

b) The organization has enforcement mechanisms in place to confirm that acceptable use policies are trained, acknowledged, monitored and enforced throughout the enterprise.

c) The organization conducts periodic cybersecurity awareness training so that all personnel understand organizational policies, procedures, and safeguards needed to minimize threats.

User (employee, contractor, consultant, or visitor) training for anyone who accesses organizational assets is essential in order to enable employees to handle threats and risks, contemplated and unforeseen. Initial and refresher training programs that periodically review the in-place cybersecurity policies and prescriptions or proscriptions are critical for employees and contractors.

The mechanics of this training should be considered as well. Many training systems require particular provisioning or licensing on end-user machines. This can be an impediment or disincentive for occasional users (e.g., outside contractors) to access or use the training.
Section 3  Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations:
Basic Capability Set

3.1 References


4 Perform Risk Assessment

a) The organization performs periodic risk assessments that promote revisit to operating assumptions regarding capabilities and systems monitoring needs.

b) The organization exercises due care and due diligence concerning cybersecurity assets, risks, and protective systems, provisioning appropriate capabilities that yield protections which can be judged adequate against expected threats.

c) The organization uses a construct, or a framework, to frame the methods and techniques required to bring all cybersecurity actions, automated systems, and risk management processes into a single management system.

d) Risk management processes include risk indicators that allow effective and proactive handling of risks in decision making.

Essential to any technology-dependent organization is its risk assessment process, which is in turn a critical component for decision making, and it serves as an input to the risk management process (below).

Given the current threat environment, risk assessment requires a full understanding of the characteristics, locations, and integration interfaces of assets that must be protected. Threats can include natural disasters, equipment failures, personnel failures and errors, malfeasance, external human errors, and malevolent actions, among others. Risk assessment, as a process, considers the factors that can affect its technology, its business processes, its business purpose, and its environment outside the organization. The risk assessment works to identify those factors that must be considered for risk reduction, mitigation, transfer, or acceptance. This is a formal, consciously managed process that must include the support of leadership and management by requiring and confirming that proper care is exercised during the assessment and resulting documentation of results.

4.1 References


5 Provide Perimeter Defense

a) The organization understands its networked systems and decides on protective systems based on the functions they provide, rather than the category or brand name. The functions integrate within the security organization to provide more complete knowledge of operational security.

b) Tools are effective when they are used by experienced, trained personnel who have the access and insight to interpret the tools’ output as required actions.

c) The organization screens communications paths and messaging (e.g., email or social messaging methods) prior to its delivery into the organization, or to the recipient’s mailbox, to detect and remove any hazardous files, attachments, or links.

d) The organization protects perimeter or protective equipment, appliances or systems against unauthorized access by use of screening mechanisms, access control lists, complex passwords and/or two-factor authentication, and out-of-band communications paths.

e) The organization documents and tracks security device, appliance, and system configurations and settings, for better understanding of current configurations, periodic training for existing and new personnel, and audit capability for the equipment and systems.

Building on the previous capabilities, providing perimeter defense is not a single or simple undertaking. It requires an understanding of the networked environments and assets, the personnel and their skills and abilities, and the relative risk to assets and personnel from existing or anticipated threats.

Security architecture components must also be protected from unauthorized access, in much the same way that those security systems protect the organization’s critical data, servers, and endpoints. Just as a company would not allow unfettered or concealed access to its physical site fence line and equipment parking areas, it should also prescribe conscious procedures for access to security systems, applications, appliances, and data.

5.1 References


6  Prepare for Incident Response and Recovery

a) The organization has an Incident Response Plan (IRP) that incorporates:
   • Lessons learned from previous episodes and events;
   • Notification lists for those personnel needed to understand the incident, or to take part in the response to it;
   • Communications plan for internal personnel that provides continued operations while dispelling fear;
   • Communications plan for external agencies and personnel to maintain the organizational perspective;
   • Control plan for hazards that may affect personnel or systems;
   • Control plan for hazards that may spill from the organization’s boundaries into the surrounding environment (i.e., affect neighbors or otherwise foment liability); and
   • Recovery plan for establishing a known set of conditions, consolidating those conditions for safety of personnel, systems, ship/platform/facility, and environment, and moving back to full operational capabilities.

b) The organization conducts periodic and cyber incident drills that rehearse actions and reactions employed to recognize, control, and recover from a cybersecurity event that affects critical systems, data, and functions.

The company or agency can plan for how to control and recover from threats based on its knowledge of the organization structure, employee capabilities, the organization’s remediation capabilities, its current risk position and threats, and its deployed boundary defenses. It is vital that this be a collaborative, inclusive activity that involves all parties concerned with operations and operational characteristics of the company. Lessons learned from one’s own efforts, and from experiences of others, are important multipliers for achieving better, faster results. The communications plans for both internal and external personnel and contacts are worked out in advance so as to avoid on-the-fly decisions, mistakes, and omissions when pressured by crisis conditions. Crisis control plans must target safety for personnel and systems, protect against environmental or surrounding organizational harms, and provide a basis for reporting to compliance organizations.

6.1 References


Provide Physical Security

a) The organization provides security and securing methods for all computational equipment that controls aspects of safety-related operations, or interfaces to systems that control aspects of safety-related operations.

b) The organization keeps physical security sensor feeds and system connections logically separate from production network content, segregating physical security system data flows to prevent either casual snooping or inadvertent interference within the normal scope of network operations.

c) The organization confirms all computationally-enabled physical security equipment (cameras, sensors, electronic locks, networked accesses, etc.) have passwords that are (1) changed from default; and (2) non-trivial and cryptologically strong.

d) The organization has considered risks associated with computationally-enabled physical security equipment so that inadvertent login failures and/or lockouts, loss of power, reboot events, and the like will not impact safety-critical operations.

e) The organization safeguards its systems and device infrastructure with physical security and other means to limit access to critical equipment or safety-related equipment to authorized personnel, with appropriate accesses and means, only.

f) The organization regularly tests physical and environmental control and security sensors, devices, systems, appliances and applications, in accordance with both manufacturer and owner direction or guidance, to keep these systems in peak, known operational states.

Physical security for marine ships and platforms is a well-established area, but the addition of information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) systems can change the needs in unexpected ways. Owners and operators must keep in mind that cyber-enabled safety and security equipment can be attacked and suborned/disabled, as can other IT and OT systems. Data systems, computational equipment, and data storage must be safeguarded from all but authorized access, no matter the location, and safeguards must include physical blocking/locking devices and appliances, as well as spaces for such equipment and systems.

7.1 References


8 Execute Access Management

a) The organization screens personnel for security issues prior to onboarding.

b) The organization allows no group login credentials, and shared credentials/sharing of credentials are prohibited.

c) The organization requires two-factor authentication to access sensitive resources or assets, or to access networked assets remotely.
The organization periodically inventories third-party access and relationships to confirm that all network and/or data access are current, required, and under governance and control.

e) The organization requires authorized third-party personnel with access to organizational networked systems to use two-factor authentication for connection, or strong passwords that cannot be easily guessed.

f) The organization has defined, and uses, a third-party supplier program, including supplier vetting prior to granting access to networked resources.

g) The organization requires all remote access users to pass through security and authentication systems to provide traceability of communications and tracking or logging of actions carried out remotely. No remote access can occur without strict accountability for all communications.

h) The organization limits privileged access accounts to those identified personnel with specific work-related needs.

i) The organization limits privileged accounts to specific systems and does not allow those accounts Internet access (outside access is limited to non-privileged accounts).

j) The organization requires login credentials for users to access guest wireless network resources, to provide usage tracking as necessary.

k) The organization implements login failure time-out periods to prevent password guessing.

l) The organization decides single sign-on (SSO) boundaries on the basis of data or application criticality, leaving certain designated applications, systems, repositories or functions outside SSO to meter access based on separate authentication for traceability and accountability.

m) The organization deprovisions former employees promptly so that there are no unauthorized accesses to a former employee account after changing employment.

Every organization with assets must meter and monitor access to those assets. Access considerations include:

- Internal personnel
- External personnel
- Privileged access
- Machine-to-machine communications

The technical means of implementing these categories of access differs across organizations, communities, and industries. The main access control program concepts must remain steady, however, no matter what the technical specifics of implementation.

The final objective of access control is simple: Know when and under what circumstances any person or machine has access to every secured entity in the organization. The check on this is to ask the simple question: “Is this how things should be in order for work to be performed in a way that safeguards the organization’s assets, personnel, and data?”

8.1 References


9 Ensure Asset Management

a) The organization tracks its working technology assets and data as the critical enablers of the business or mission, protecting them logically as well as physically, to prevent unauthorized disclosures or losses.

b) The organization identifies and tracks critical infrastructure, both in physical assets and in functions, which require protection to safeguard the business or mission.

c) The organization requires authorized third-party personnel and their systems to be vetted, screened, and authorized prior to connection to the organization’s networked systems.

d) The organization tracks and manages the obsolescent equipment and related software in operational systems, keeping awareness of vulnerabilities and exposures to communications paths that could allow unauthorized access to those assets.

e) The organization actively manages open resources such as guest wireless networks, requiring passwords for authorized users, system tracking (by address and/or port), and standards for acceptable use.

Assets include data, physical property, facilities, systems, software applications, and operational capabilities or business/mission functions. Asset management addresses physical assets first, followed by logical assets (data and applications). However, the critical functions of the organization, and its abilities to execute its business-critical or mission-critical functions, must be safe from risks and threats as well.

Asset management also includes linkages to configuration and change management, vulnerability and patch management, and overall risk management. Close control of assets is more than an accounting requirement; it is also critical to understanding and controlling risk within the organization.

9.1 References

SECTION 4 Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Developed Capability Set

10 Perform Policy Management

a) The organization tailors security policies to its specific context, environment, and compliance needs, to satisfy useful purpose as well as meeting regulatory and reporting needs.

b) The organization’s policies and procedures align with its chosen standards (See Subsection 11 below) for policy positions that directly support organizational goals for technology, use, and enforcement.

c) The organization confirms that its personnel initially train on policies upon starting a new position, and that they review the enterprise policies on an assigned and regular basis.

Policy development, application, enforcement, and monitoring activities include administrative, managerial, operational, and technical controls. Policy management may be mostly human activities to generate and promulgate policies, but as much effort and thought must be applied to application, enforcement, and monitoring of the policies and procedures. Measures and metrics, with technical means, must be devised and applied with policies so that those policies can be enforced as required. This is especially important when compliance regimes require monitoring and periodic reports for status and condition.

10.1 References


11 Provide Standards and Governance

a) Cyber issues are covered by the governing body (Board of Directors, Executive Board, etc.) to focus on risks to the organization, investments required to address those risks, and personnel and staffing needed for solid programs.

b) Cybersecurity information provided to the Board is of sufficient quantity and frequency to enable solid Board understanding of cybersecurity risks in the enterprise, necessary mitigation efforts, and tradeoff decisions about those risks.

c) The organization has an appointed and empowered Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) (or equivalent) whose responsibilities unify all information technology, information systems and data systems security in a single point of accountability.

d) The CISO’s reporting structure is short and direct, giving priority to enterprise risk management and risk mitigation efforts.

e) The organization has a governance structure that makes timely decisions about cybersecurity, systems and risk, balancing investments, business rules, and operations in order to minimize possible risks and maximize benefits from expenditures.
Security governance must be conscious part of business enablement. As such, it is an investment interest area, a risk reporting area, and a functional (or extra-functional) component of the business, mission or organization. The standards and expectations for security, and the executive leadership’s understanding and degree of risk acceptance, will determine how security is managed and executed throughout the enterprise. Industry shows that direct responsibility lines and accountability for outcomes are extremely important to gaining successful security results. Training is often required so that governing bodies, executives and technology management and/or security personnel are all synchronized in their requirements and understanding of the issues.

11.1 References


12 Provide and Guide Cybersecurity Hygiene

a) The organization has a security strategy that directly influences and guides the technology strategy, in consonance with business or mission requirements. The security and technology strategies then inform the technology and user communities as to how they can expect to use technology to satisfy their expected duties.

b) The organization does not allow default access methods, default passwords, or default system access roles to remain on operational systems once installed and configured.

c) The organization provides, through its acceptable use policy and periodic cybersecurity training, the user tips and methods necessary to maintain a well-functioning technology foundation, with rules and requirements made clear for the user community.

d) System maintainers have setup and configuration checklists, system test routines, and ‘checkup’ lists to help them assist users in keeping the technology environment safe and secure.

Security hygiene is an important part of any technology program. All system users, operators and maintainers must perform system operations, which are carried out with due care for both authorized and secure practices. Proper hygiene rules must be promulgated regularly as part of regular training, and then backed up by configuration management and change control processes. Enforcement of proper hygiene is critical to keep the cybersecurity posture at a known status.
12.1 References


13 Gather and Use Threat Intelligence

a) The organization gathers and uses threat intelligence to understand threat actors in the cyber world, their motivations and attack methods, and the potential for these threat actors to attack the organization.

This best practice spawns from items i), ii) and iii) above, but it bears specific mention because it reflects a conscious action to reach out to find threat intelligence. Whether the threat information originates from open sources or from contracted sources, it can act to adjust or modulate efforts in cybersecurity. Threat reports from others can be correlated with threat intelligence information to stimulate new perimeter system measures and reporting, for example. In this way, threat intelligence can give an organization a better foundation for management of the risks being assessed and monitored.

13.1 References


http://www.dhs.gov/topic/cybersecurity-information-sharing


14 Perform Vulnerability Assessment

a) The organization runs periodic vulnerability scans against its systems, seeking gaps in protective coverage and in configuration of systems.

b) The organization considers the connections of each system with reported vulnerabilities to determine the criticality of those vulnerabilities, and the priority to be assigned for patching those systems.

c) The organization has a process by which recognized and discovered vulnerabilities from scans and asset assessments are fed back to the risk assessment process for prioritization and decisions on mitigation actions.

Vulnerability assessment is an important part of understanding the organization’s asset base, its current exposures to threats and risk sources, and its composite risk position. Vulnerability assessment tools may be applied generally – across network segments, for example, seeking any and all current vulnerabilities – or to more focused areas.
Focused vulnerability scans can concentrate on particular threat and risk areas, or on specific asset categories or asset types. Vulnerability assessments can be usefully informed by outside reports of attack indicators (Indicators of Compromise (IoCs) as mentioned above) or attack code signatures, and they can help an organization decide the relative priority of particular mitigation efforts. It is very important for vulnerability assessments to be integrated with the asset configuration management processes for specific findings to be mitigated or corrected.

### 14.1 References


### 15 Perform Risk Management

a) The organization uses a risk management method or conceptual framework to contain and contextualize all cybersecurity and related risk issues into a risk management and handling system.

b) The organization does not pursue “perfected” security, but rather seeks a sustainable and acceptable risk posture that is economical, feasible, and supportable.

c) The organization communicates information system and data risks in terms that its constituents will understand, relating to financial stability, brand reputation, and operations integrity.

d) The organization has defined a risk tolerance strategy, monitoring the risk indicators that support that risk tolerance strategy.

e) The organization leadership understands the regulatory and compliance environment that affects the organization and its operations, placing any factors which may change compliance reports in the risk register for risk management.

f) The organization links security controls to the compliance reporting requirements, so that reporting indicates the degree of attainable security, not simple compliance.

g) The organization defines risk to sufficient granularity as to allow intelligent procurement of cyber insurance as a risk sharing mechanism, when the organization’s cybersecurity maturity allows for the decisions that support insurance.

Risk management is a separate activity from the earlier risk assessment process, and it includes more in-depth treatment of risks across the enterprise. Risk management considers and leverages all cybersecurity capabilities in an organization, with the express objective of determining the current, understandable risk posture, with the subsequent decisions that affect risk management actions to control the stated risk factors.

Risk management considers organizational-level risks, which are generally concentrated above the tactical threats and risks associated with organizational systems. The risk management construct or framework must support the broader understanding of how system- or data-level risks can potentially affect business or mission processes, the organization as a whole, and the environment, community or region. This is an important process that requires serious attention from leadership and management.
15.1 References


http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/iso31000.htm

16 Provide Data Protection

a) The organization identifies sensitive data assets that require protection to safeguard the business or mission.

b) The organization classifies its critical data so that personnel understand what data must remain behind specific safeguards. Those data assets deemed too sensitive for unprotected systems or assets, especially mobile devices, must be included in the policies promulgated to, and enforced through, all employees.

c) The organization secures its communications paths through commercial providers’ networks by encrypting their communications paths and data transmissions to and from critical systems and functions.

d) All users’ systems are backed up automatically to prevent accidental or inadvertent loss of data.

e) The organization specifies use and control of its proprietary data in contracts with third parties who must have access to that data.

f) The organization defines how it will exercise external providers’ services (e.g., cloud services and applications) as part of expected operations. Any external service chosen must satisfy organizational requirements for data security and safeguarding.

g) The organization considers data and privacy protection to be equivalent to physical security in priority and consideration for asset protection.

h) The organization actively protects the data paths between and among its various assets, sites or facilities, especially those geographically remote or in difficult-to-reach locations.
Data protection includes physical safeguards around repositories, servers, endpoints, and ships/platforms/facilities; portable device data protections; data-in-motion (i.e., transmission security) protections; data-at-rest (i.e., stored data) protections; and training for organizational personnel on handling of data in both logical and physical forms.

Classification of data is important to help people understand the priorities and protections accorded to data, and the relative importance associated with the data property that belongs to the company. Successful classification efforts are key to data loss prevention (DLP) efforts, which, when implemented, will change habits and culture in favor of data protection in the enterprise.

Third-party partners and customers, contractors, and consultants must be considered for security of data and assets when brought into enterprise operations. Contracts should cover data protections in language that all parties readily understand. Third parties possessing organizational data necessarily include cloud providers, as well as contracts with cloud infrastructure, storage, processing, or application providers, each of which must clearly address ownership, physical storage, disposal, and status at the end of the contract period.

16.1 References


17 Protect Operational Technology (OT)

a) The organization integrates security requirements into operational technology safety cases, so that security testing will not invalidate or adversely affect safety tests, but while also including security as a fundamental part of system and human safety considerations.

b) The organization restricts and filters all traffic from IT-based control systems to operational and process technology systems, so that authentication and verification of commands occurs outside the OT systems, software and appliances.

c) The organization uses signed copies of software updates to its systems, working only with manufacturers to obtain system updates and patches.

d) The organization restricts access to ordinary Internet protocols and traffic (e.g., email, FTP, etc.) from machines authorized to connect to operational technology and process control systems.

e) The organization uses ‘optical data diodes’ or similar functionalities for data transmission from critical components or systems to authenticated outside users in order to minimize potential for unauthorized outside access to those systems via data reporting mechanisms.

f) The organization architects protective devices between information technology networks and operational technology networks to limit traffic types, protocols, and origins, and to trace and log all traffic into the operational technology network(s).

g) The organization tracks and monitors the risk its production systems may present to neighboring organizations, and it communicates risks and incident management plans to those neighbors and/or community.

h) The organization does not allow cyber-enabled systems that control, monitor, or record data from physical security systems to reside on the same control networks as the physical security systems.
Section 4 Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Developed Capability Set

i) The organization has manual backup capabilities for each critical operational function in the production flow, and it trains and exercises with the manual backup capabilities on a periodic basis.

j) The organization does not allow emergency backup capabilities, frequently associated with maintaining safety and safe shutdown capability, to be on the same communications networks or control systems as primary operational or mission systems.

k) The organization cross-trains cybersecurity personnel and operational technology engineers to keep communications between the organization’s engineering groups open.

l) The organization uses fault tree analysis methods and failure mode analysis methods to find paths that can provide avenues of attack against critical systems.

m) The organization conducts failure mode analyses when considering system, process, or architectural changes in its operational and production systems.

n) The organization models and plans against cascading failures in its operational systems that could affect other systems, neighboring organizations, or the community.

o) The organization defines and strictly limits the types and mechanisms for file input and output to and from operational technology networks.

Operational and process control technologies find their places across the marine and offshore sectors and throughout all ships, platforms, and facilities. The approach to architecting, building, installing, testing, operating, monitoring, and managing operational technology networks must center on the systems engineering rigor necessary to understand the systems and their operational characteristics.

Simply integrating process control technologies with general-purpose networks can introduce potential threats and real risks into the organization’s production capabilities. Interfacing dissimilar technologies presents risk. Incorporation of communications methods that are available from outside the organization’s boundaries (i.e., standard TCP/IP communications protocols on Internet lines) introduces the possibility that personnel or systems external to the organization may develop and exploit communications with the process control systems. This becomes a source of organizational risk that must be known, understood, documented, managed, and monitored.

17.1 References


v) United States Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Readiness Team (ICS-CERT), https://ics-cert.us-cert.gov/
18 Perform System and Security Continuous Monitoring (SCM)

a) The organization monitors its security devices and their status reporting or dashboards, monitoring for proper function and for threats and risks revealed through log and alert reports.

b) The organization uses outside activities for monitoring any systems that cannot be managed within the bounds of its existing capabilities and/or staffing strength.

c) The organization performs security monitoring throughout the network, not just at the perimeter.

d) The organization will monitor its guest wireless network to verify that resource is not used for illicit or unauthorized purposes, and to prevent malware from freely communicating through it.

e) The organization will monitor its internal wireless networks to prevent unauthorized access points that grant access to the networked systems or infrastructure.

f) The organization monitors performance and security of its own website(s) to maintain understanding of customer response and data security, and to prevent undetected fraudulent diversions of traffic and data.

Security Continuous Monitoring (SCM) is the process set by which perimeter and security device outputs and alert generation displays are monitored for anomalies or exceptions that might indicate abnormal events and incidents. The monitoring may be continuous with data displays and dashboards always available; or, it may be a routine series of defined actions for periodically checking dashboards for event updates. In any event, the security devices, applications, systems, and appliances in an organization’s security architecture will show events that may require incident response and recovery.

The key to implementing effective SCM is to know what ‘normal’ in the monitored network is for a given set of conditions or circumstances. Risk assessment, vulnerability assessment scanning, threat intelligence, and asset performance monitoring all play roles in keeping analysts and monitoring personnel informed about whether there is, or is not, something to investigate.

18.1 References


19 Plan for Disaster Recovery (DR)

a) The organization defines the requirements and needs for business or mission continuity in face of threats and risk conditions, and plans against those risks so that the business can continue even through serious interference effects.

b) The organization plans for, and resources, disaster recovery capabilities to provide continuity of business or mission capabilities when responding to risk conditions.

c) The organization conducts periodic table-top exercises that allow revisit of disaster plans, initial training for new personnel, and refresher training for experienced personnel.

d) The organization confirms that security architecture protecting the existing systems, facilities, personnel, and assets is adequately replicated in terms of functions during a disaster recovery scenario. Under no circumstance should a DR effort leave security undone.

Mission-critical functions are cataloged as part of asset management. As such, the technology team in the organization must have plans in place to recover from highly unusual (‘black swan’) events. These plans might be enabled by physical relocation, alternate equipment, alternative work regimes (i.e., working from home), or a combination of all. Disaster recovery is the largest possible case for incident response and recovery, and the effort must be planned, resourced, staffed, tested, and periodically refreshed.
20.1 References


21 Perform System, Software, and Application Test

a) The organization has an authorization process for software upgrades that does not allow unexpected, unattended, or unauthorized software to be loaded in critical systems, or in operational systems that connect to critical systems.

b) The organization tests all software for functional and security requirements prior to making that software available to users. Any software found lacking in the test process is not installed.

c) The organization uses a periodic security evaluation tool and process to assess its current status, any gaps in security coverage, and outstanding requirements that may affect its overall security profile.

d) The organization has internal audit capabilities for cybersecurity, and those personnel understand the cybersecurity context of the organization.

If the risk profile of the organization is to be granular and realistic, the team governing software installation must be aware of any and all software operating inside an organization. While hundreds of applications and software components may be present, the organization must have an ability to test and approve software to allow employees to carry out their duties, while simultaneously allowing the organization to manage and understand its software foundations. Testing must include both functional (what the software is supposed to do) and extra-functional (security and behavior) aspects.

In a complex organization, testing graduates from individual systems to systems of systems, and to entire network segments and network architectures. As systems, software, and applications are added into an organization’s environment, the test organization must develop capabilities to examine the entirety of the hosted environment(s) to seek opportunities for improvement and security gap closure.

21.1 References


22 Perform System and Application Patch and Configuration Management

a) The organization catalogs its hardware configurations and software holdings and licenses so that it can prioritize and apply patches that address identified vulnerabilities arising from threat reports, vulnerability scans, or risk analyses.

b) The organization tests system and application patches on a testbed prior to applying the patches to operational systems.

c) The organization understands and controls the use of applications and executable software in its systems, and it restricts any software from running unless the software has been tested and approved for use (whitelisting).

The threat-vulnerability-configuration-patch-change-risk management cycle leverages many sides of the technology management domain to include as many considerations as possible when integrating new software, patches, or changes in system configuration when integrated with the enterprise networked systems’ architectures.
System and application patch testing, whether on information technology systems, or on operational technology or process control systems, is an important consideration to reduce the risk associated with pushing new software into standing, (presumably) functioning systems, with the intent of modifying the existing, working software.

Equally important, however, is documentation of existing systems and changes to those systems. Corporate knowledge in the organization requires continuity and currency of documentation, so that personnel can learn from what they have, study it to improve operations and systems, and pass their knowledge along for the betterment of the larger organization.

22.1 References


23 Execute Change Control as an Enterprise Process
a) The organization has an authorization process for hardware, software, firmware, and architecture or configuration upgrades that does not allow unexpected, unattended, or unauthorized changes to be made to critical systems, or in operational systems that connect to critical systems.

b) A formal, rigorous change control process is critical to documenting both information technology and operational technology systems, maintaining enterprise knowledge of both, and implementing cybersecurity controls and security.

c) The organization maintains logs, system diagrams, and records for all business-critical or mission-critical systems that note the changes made during the change control processes.

Change control is the process by which patches, vulnerability mitigation actions, architectural changes, system improvements, software updates, system concept of operations changes, staffing and supportability changes, and security improvements are registered and approved across the organization. Changes are then cataloged and documented to confirm completeness for accessibility and searchability within the enterprise.

23.1 References

SECTION 5  Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Additional Capabilities in the Mature Organization

24  Execute Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC)

a) The organization prioritizes key risk areas for investment and improvement to keep risks understood and manageable. The prioritized areas are consistent with the publicized budget goals and objectives.

b) The organization considers security as at least equivalent to economics when pursuing system, process, or architecture changes.

Security must be implemented through the governance process that performs risk management efforts as part of the decisions associated with managing the organization’s assets and capabilities. Therefore, security investments become part of the overall information technology and operational technology implementation, engineering, and operations strategies. As such, the internal priorities processed from strategy establishment, to portfolio management, to budget generation remain consistent with the organization’s goals for security and operability in support of enterprise business functions.

24.1 References


ii) United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Management and Oversight of Federal Information Technology,
https://management.cio.gov/

iii) United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Guidance for Benefit-Cost Analysis for CPIC.
https://itdashboard.gov/sites/all/modules/custom/faq/FY17%20IDC%20Common%20Definitions.xlsx

25  Implement Architecture Management

a) The organization’s security projects are under specific, accountable control for effective accomplishment and deterministic contribution to the organization’s systems architecture.

b) The organization uses architectural and design features to limit possible intrusions and illicit movements within the organization’s networked boundaries, giving additional time for detection and defeat of unauthorized access.

c) The organization considers traffic patterns and flow in architectural and design choices of transmission systems and protocols, and it plans for traffic capacity in choices of operational technology nodes and components.

d) The organization does not allow cyber-enabled systems that add capabilities to physical security systems to reside on the same control networks as the physical security systems.
Section 5 Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Additional Capabilities in the Mature Organization

e) The organization will not allow equipment emplaced for maintenance, prototyping, experimentation or proof-of-concept development to remain in place after the conclusion of the operation, especially if that equipment included communications connections or interfaces that were not documented as part of the main systems’ architectures.

The architecture for systems security architecture is closely coupled to architecting, designing, building, and maintaining systems and systems of systems (such as ships, platforms, facilities, vehicles, etc.) Architecture is key to preventing undesired outcomes from being possible in a system. If potential failure modes are identified during initial design phases, those modes can be “architected out” of the design so that they represent no threat, or cannot occur at all. Similarly, human interference options in a system can be architected, designed, and overtly removed from end product functional outcomes.

Use of architecture in this way requires a mindset oriented toward system assurance and operational outcomes. System engineers and builders have been known to suboptimize functionality on the basis of pure economics (one part costs less than another) or on ease of design, rather than looking ahead to the desired operational end states – including acceptable security protection.

Architectural guides and restraints on design can be limitations on future growth and flexibility if they are not carefully considered and implemented during the system engineering of the system(s).

25.1 References


26 Provide Secure Engineering

a) The organization architects, designs, and builds systems and processes with monitoring and security or performance measurement in mind.

b) The organization installs systems on its networks with pre-defined, approved security hardening configurations that minimize the potential for unexpected vulnerabilities.

c) The organization secures its communications paths through commercial providers’ networks by encrypting their communications paths and data transmissions to and from critical systems and functions.

d) The organization manages encryption methods and cryptography suites used to maintain currency with industry standards, personnel skills and capabilities to manage, and supportability for chosen standards through the security architecture.

e) The organization architects protective devices between information technology networks and operational technology networks to limit traffic types, protocols and origins, and to trace and log all traffic into the operational technology network(s).

f) The organization installs peripherals on its networks with pre-defined, approved security hardening configurations that remove web and wireless network servers and protocols prior to connection to the network.

g) The organization specifically authorizes, and limits operational protocols to, those protocols needed on the network for business-critical requirements.

h) The organization terminates all VPNs outside the boundaries of any critical systems or components, and at nodes that are monitored for access and activity.
Section 5 Best Practices and the Application of Cybersecurity Principles to Marine and Offshore Operations: Additional Capabilities in the Mature Organization

i) The organization provides protective screening and filtering of VPN-borne traffic to prevent malware on remotely-connected systems from transiting the VPN into the main networked systems without passing through a security monitoring package.

j) The organization uses secure maintenance methods that include limits on what computer-based maintenance assist or analysis gear can be used for, and with what systems; how systems will be patched and updated (in accordance with prior change control practices); and how maintenance personnel on cyber-enabled systems will be trained and certified to recognize signs of reportable abnormalities, anomalies and exceptions that may indicate safety and security issues.

Secure engineering practices naturally follow architecture management in a security-aware and security-capable organization. The practices needed to execute secure engineering include aspects of engineering, operations, and maintenance needed to prevent undesired outcomes before they can manifest. Working with the system architects, engineers can implement processes and procedures that encourage secure operations, protect systems from unexpected input or contact, and monitor and alert on anomalous conditions. Secure engineering includes feedback to Security Continuous Monitoring processes so that measures, metrics and monitored parameters are reviewed and used for abnormal conditions and incident identification and control.

26.1 References


27 Exercise Communications Management

a) The organization limits its total connections to the Internet to planned, finite numbers that can be easily managed, accounted, and audited, and each of which can be screened through security appliances and systems.

b) The organization secures its communications paths through contract terms with providers to maintain reliability and security of communications functions.

c) The organization will run periodic inventories against its contracts and technical architecture, verifying its external connections to the Internet and to other transmission paths.

d) The organization verifies its communications paths between and among assets, systems and facilities support data protection methods (i.e., encryption) and technical performance auditing and monitoring.
The organization can manage and limit its exposure to outside attack by consciously limiting the number of communication lines connecting the organization to the Internet. Each and every communication line must be screened with protective devices to provide the best coverage in Security Continuous Monitoring, and to protect users and systems from hazards outside the perimeter. Contracts with providers can help with safeguards on traffic (data-in-motion encryption), transmission terminal points (‘last mile’), and secure connections to cloud application providers.

On-shore and off-shore communication paths among assets and facilities must be monitorable and auditable. These paths, often within the logical boundaries of an organization’s networking infrastructure, may penetrate other organizations’ thresholds while in the communications lines and thereby present a risk. These paths must be considered for relative risk of intercept, the value and types of data (classification) carried to and from the remote locations, and performance measures that can indicate problems in the communication system itself.

### 27.1 References

