Exam Questions CISM

Certified Information Security Manager

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NEW QUESTION 1
- (Topic 2)
The information security manager has been notified of a new vulnerability that affects key data processing systems within the organization Which of the following should be done FIRST?

A. Inform senior management
B. Re-evaluate the risk
C. Implement compensating controls
D. Ask the business owner for the new remediation plan

Answer: B

Explanation:
The first step when a new vulnerability is identified is to re-evaluate the risk associated with the vulnerability. This may require an update to the risk assessment and the implementation of additional controls. Informing senior management of the vulnerability is important, but should not be the first step. Implementing compensating controls may also be necessary, but again, should not be the first step. Asking the business owner for a remediation plan may be useful, but only after the risk has been re-evaluated.
The information security manager should first re-evaluate the risk posed by the new vulnerability to determine its impact and likelihood. Based on this assessment, appropriate actions can be taken such as informing senior management, implementing compensating controls, or requesting a remediation plan from the business owner. The other choices are possible actions but not necessarily the first one.
A vulnerability is a weakness that can be exploited by an attacker to compromise a system or network2. A vulnerability can affect key data processing systems within an organization if it exposes sensitive information, disrupts business operations, or damages assets2. A vulnerability assessment is a process of identifying and evaluating vulnerabilities and their potential consequences2

NEW QUESTION 2
- (Topic 2)
Data entry functions for a web-based application have been outsourced to a third-party service provider who will work from a remote site Which of the following issues would be of GREATEST concern to an information security manager?

A. The application does not use a secure communications protocol
B. The application is configured with restrictive access controls
C. The business process has only one level of error checking
D. Server-based malware protection is not enforced

Answer: D

Explanation:
Server-based malware protection is not enforced is the issue that would be of GREATEST concern to an information security manager, as it exposes the web-based application and its data to potential threats from malicious software that can compromise the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the information. Server-based malware protection is a security control that monitors and blocks malicious activities on the server where the application runs, such as viruses, worms, trojans, ransomware, etc. Without server-based malware protection, the web-based application may be vulnerable to attacks that can damage or destroy the data stored on the server, or disrupt the normal functioning of the application. The other issues are also important, but not as critical as server-based malware protection. The application does not use a secure communications protocol may expose sensitive data in transit to eavesdropping or interception by unauthorized parties. The application is configured with restrictive access controls may limit the access rights of legitimate users to authorized resources, but it does not prevent unauthorized users from accessing them through other means. The business process has only one level of error checking may result in incorrect or inconsistent data entry or processing, but it does not guarantee data quality or accuracy. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, page 1751; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, page 812

NEW QUESTION 3
- (Topic 1)
The MAIN benefit of implementing a data loss prevention (DLP) solution is to:

A. enhance the organization's antivirus controls.
B. eliminate the risk of data loss.
C. complement the organization's detective controls.
D. reduce the need for a security awareness program.

Answer: C

Explanation:
A data loss prevention (DLP) solution is a type of detective control that monitors and prevents unauthorized transmission or leakage of sensitive data from the organization. A DLP solution can enhance the organization’s antivirus controls by detecting and blocking malicious code that attempts to exfiltrate data, but this is not its main benefit. A DLP solution cannot eliminate the risk of data loss, as there may be other sources of data loss that are not covered by the DLP solution, such as physical theft, accidental deletion, or natural disasters. A DLP solution also does not reduce the need for a security awareness program, as human factors are often the root cause of data loss incidents. A security awareness program can educate and motivate employees to follow security policies and best practices, and to report any suspicious or anomalous activities. References =
? ISACA, CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, 2020, page 79.
? ISACA, CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, 12th Edition, 2020, question ID 1003.

NEW QUESTION 4
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the BEST indicator of an organization's information security status?

A. Intrusion detection log analysis
B. Controls audit
C. Threat analysis
D. Penetration test

Answer: B

Explanation:
A controls audit is the best indicator of an organization's information security status, as it provides an independent and objective assessment of the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the information security controls. A controls audit can also identify the strengths and weaknesses of the information security program, as well as the compliance with the policies, standards, and regulations. A controls audit can cover various aspects of information security, such as governance, risk management, incident management, business continuity, and technical security. A controls audit can be conducted by internal or external auditors, depending on the scope, purpose, and frequency of the audit.
The other options are not as good as a controls audit, as they do not provide a comprehensive and holistic view of the information security status. Intrusion detection log analysis is a technique to monitor and analyze the network or system activities for signs of unauthorized or malicious access or attacks. It can help to detect and respond to security incidents, but it does not measure the overall performance or maturity of the information security program. Threat analysis is a process to identify and evaluate the potential sources, methods, and impacts of threats to the information assets. It can help to prioritize and mitigate the risks, but it does not verify the adequacy or functionality of the information security controls. Penetration test is a simulated attack on the network or system to evaluate the vulnerability and exploitability of the information security defenses. It can help to validate and improve the technical security, but it does not assess the non-technical aspects of information security, such as governance, policies, or awareness. References =
? CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2022, pp. 211-212, 215-216, 233-234, 237-238.
? CISM Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, ISACA, 2022, QID 1012.

NEW QUESTION 5
- (Topic 1)
An organization is implementing an information security governance framework. To communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders, it is MOST important to establish:

A. a control self-assessment (CSA) process.
B. automated reporting to stakeholders.
C. a monitoring process for the security policy.
D. metrics for each milestone.

Answer: D

Explanation:
= Establishing metrics for each milestone is the best way to communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders, as it provides a clear and measurable way to track the progress, performance, and outcomes of the information security governance framework. Metrics are quantifiable indicators that can be used to evaluate the achievement of specific objectives, goals, or standards. Metrics can also help to demonstrate the value, benefits, and return on investment of the information security program, as well as to identify and address the gaps, issues, or risks. Metrics for each milestone should be aligned with the organization's strategy, vision, and mission, as well as with the expectations and needs of the stakeholders. Metrics for each milestone should also be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound), as well as consistent, reliable, and transparent.
The other options are not as important as establishing metrics for each milestone, as they do not provide a comprehensive and holistic way to communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders. A control self-assessment (CSA) process is a technique to involve the staff in assessing the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the information security controls. It can help to increase the awareness, ownership, and accountability of the staff, as well as to identify and mitigate the risks. However, a CSA process alone is not enough to communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders, as it does not measure the overall performance or maturity of the information security program. Automated reporting to stakeholders is a method to provide timely, accurate, and consistent information to the stakeholders about the status, results, and issues of the information security program. It can help to facilitate the communication, collaboration, and decision making among the stakeholders, as well as to ensure the compliance and transparency of the information security program. However, automated reporting alone is not enough to communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders, as it does not evaluate the achievement or impact of the information security program. A monitoring process for the security policy is a process to ensure that the security policy is implemented, enforced, and reviewed in accordance with the organization's objectives, standards, and regulations. It can help to maintain the relevance, adequacy, and effectiveness of the security policy, as well as to incorporate the feedback, changes, and improvements. However, a monitoring process alone is not enough to communicate the program's effectiveness to stakeholders, as it does not cover the other aspects of the information security program, such as governance, risk management, incident management, or business continuity. References =
? CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2022, pp. 211-212, 215-216, 233-234, 237-238.
? CISM Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, ISACA, 2022, QID 1018.
? CISM domain 1: Information security governance [Updated 2022], Infosec, 1.
? Key Performance Indicators for Security Governance, Part 1, ISACA Journal, Volume 6, 2020, 2.

NEW QUESTION 6
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is MOST helpful in determining an organization's current capacity to mitigate risks?

A. Capability maturity model
B. Vulnerability assessment
C. IT security risk and exposure
D. Business impact analysis (BIA)

Answer: A

Explanation:
A capability maturity model (CMM) is a framework that helps organizations assess and improve their processes and capabilities in various domains, such as software development, project management, information security, and others1. A CMM defines a set of levels or stages that represent the degree of maturity or effectiveness of an organization's processes and capabilities in a specific domain. Each level has a set of criteria or characteristics that an organization must meet to achieve that level of maturity. A CMM also provides guidance and best practices on how to progress from one level to another, and how to measure and monitor the performance and improvement of the processes and capabilities2.
A CMM is most helpful in determining an organization's current capacity to mitigate risks, because it provides a systematic and objective way to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the organization's processes and capabilities related to risk management. A CMM can help an organization identify the gaps and opportunities for improvement in its risk management practices, and prioritize the actions and resources needed to address them. A CMM can also help an organization benchmark its risk management maturity against industry standards or best practices, and demonstrate its compliance with regulatory or contractual requirements3.
The other options are not as helpful as a CMM in determining an organization's current capacity to mitigate risks, because they are either more specific, limited, or dependent on a CMM. A vulnerability assessment is a process of identifying and analyzing the vulnerabilities in an organization's systems, networks, or applications, and their potential impact on the organization's assets, operations, or reputation. A vulnerability assessment can help an organization identify the sources and levels of risk, but it does not provide a comprehensive or holistic view of the organization's risk management maturity or effectiveness4. IT security

risk and exposure is a measure of the likelihood and impact of a security breach or incident on an organization's IT assets, operations, or reputation. IT security risk and exposure can help an organization quantify and communicate the level of risk, but it does not provide a framework or guidance on how to improve the organization's risk management processes or capabilities5. A business impact analysis (BIA) is a process of identifying and evaluating the potential effects of a disruption or disaster on an organization's critical business functions, processes, or resources. A BIA can help an organization determine the priorities and requirements for business continuity and disaster recovery, but it does not provide a method or standard for assessing or enhancing the organization's risk management maturity or effectiveness. References = 1: CMMI Institute - What is CMMI? - Capability Maturity Model Integration 2: Capability Maturity Model and Risk Register Integration: The Right … 3: Performing Risk Assessments of Emerging Technologies - ISACA 4: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, Chapter 4, Section 4.2 5: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, Chapter 4, Section 4.3 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, Chapter 4, Section 4.4

NEW QUESTION 7
- (Topic 1)
An information security manager learns that IT personnel are not adhering to the information security policy because it creates process inefficiencies. What should the information security manager do FIRST?

A. Conduct user awareness training within the IT function.
B. Propose that IT update information security policies and procedures.
C. Determine the risk related to noncompliance with the policy.
D. Request that internal audit conduct a review of the policy development process,

Answer: C

Explanation:
The information security manager should first determine the risk related to noncompliance with the policy, as this will help to understand the impact and likelihood of the policy violation and the potential consequences for the organization. The information security manager can then use the risk assessment results to communicate the importance of the policy to the IT personnel, propose any necessary changes to the policy or the processes, or request an audit of the policy development process, depending on the situation. Conducting user awareness training, updating policies and procedures, or requesting an audit are possible actions that the information security manager can take after determining the risk, but they are not the first step. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 2: Information Risk Management, Section: Risk Assessment, page 86; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 59, page 60.

NEW QUESTION 8
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following MUST happen immediately following the identification of a malware incident?

A. Preparation
B. Recovery
C. Containment
D. Eradication

Answer: C

Explanation:
Containment is the action that MUST happen immediately following the identification of a malware incident because it aims to isolate the affected systems or networks from the rest of the environment and prevent the spread or escalation of the malware. Containment can involve disconnecting the systems or networks from the internet, blocking or filtering certain ports or protocols, or creating separate VLANs or subnets for the isolated systems or networks. Containment is part of the incident response process and should be performed as soon as possible after detecting a malware incident12. Preparation (A) is the phase that happens before the identification of a malware incident, where the organization establishes the incident response plan, team, roles, resources, and tools. Preparation is essential for ensuring the readiness and capability of the organization to respond to malware incidents effectively and efficiently12. Recovery (B) is the phase that happens after the containment and eradication of a malware incident, where the organization restores the normal operations of the systems or networks, verifies the functionality and security of the systems or networks, and implements the preventive
and corrective measures to avoid or mitigate future malware incidents. Recovery is the final phase of the incident response process and should be performed after ensuring that the malware incident is fully resolved and the systems or networks are clean and secure12. Eradication (D) is the phase that happens after the containment of a malware incident, where the organization removes the malware and its traces from the systems or networks, identifies the root cause and impact of the malware incident, and collects and preserves the evidence for analysis and investigation. Eradication is an important phase of the incident response process, but it does not happen immediately after the identification of a malware incident12. References = 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 308-3091; 2: Cybersecurity Incident Response Exercise Guidance - ISACA2

NEW QUESTION 9
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is MOST effective in monitoring an organization's existing risk?

A. Periodic updates to risk register
B. Risk management dashboards
C. Security information and event management (SIEM) systems
D. Vulnerability assessment results

Answer: B

Explanation:
Risk management dashboards are the MOST effective in monitoring an organization's existing risk because they provide a visual and interactive representation of the key risk indicators (KRIs) and metrics that reflect the current risk posture and performance of the organization. Risk management dashboards can help to communicate the risk information to various stakeholders, identify trends and patterns, compare actual results with targets and thresholds, and support decision making and risk response12. Periodic updates to risk register (A) are important to maintain the accuracy and relevance of the risk information, but they are not the most effective in monitoring the existing risk because they do not provide a real-time or dynamic view of the risk situation. Security information and event management (SIEM) systems © are effective in monitoring the security events and incidents that may indicate potential or actual threats to the organization, but they are not the most effective in monitoring the existing risk because they do not provide a comprehensive or holistic view of the risk context and impact. Vulnerability assessment results (D) are effective in monitoring the weaknesses and exposures of the organization's assets and systems, but they are not the most effective in monitoring the existing risk because they do not provide a quantitative or qualitative measure of the risk likelihood and consequence. References = 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 316-3171; 2: CISM Domain 2: Information Risk Management (IRM) [2022 update]2

NEW QUESTION 10
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is MOST helpful for determining which information security policies should be implemented by an organization?

A. Risk assessment
B. Business impact analysis (BIA)
C. Vulnerability assessment
D. Industry best practices

Answer: A

Explanation:
Information security policies are high-level statements or rules that define the goals and objectives of information security in an organization, and provide the framework and direction for implementing and enforcing security controls and processes1. Information security policies should be aligned with the organization's business goals and objectives, and reflect the organization's risk appetite and tolerance2. Therefore, the most helpful activity for determining which information security policies should be implemented by an organization is a risk assessment.
A risk assessment is a systematic process of identifying, analyzing, and evaluating the risks that an organization faces, and determining the appropriate risk responses3. A risk assessment helps to determine the following aspects of information security policies:
? The scope and applicability of the policies, based on the assets, threats, and vulnerabilities that affect the organization's security objectives and requirements.
? The level and type of security controls and processes that are needed to mitigate the risks, based on the likelihood and impact of the risk scenarios and the cost-benefit analysis of the risk responses.
? The roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in the implementation and enforcement of the policies, based on the risk ownership and accountability.
? The metrics and indicators that are used to measure and monitor the effectiveness and compliance of the policies, based on the risk appetite and tolerance.
The other options, such as a business impact analysis (BIA), a vulnerability assessment, or industry best practices, are not as helpful as a risk assessment for determining which information security policies should be implemented by an organization, because they have the following limitations:
? A business impact analysis (BIA) is a process of identifying and evaluating the potential effects of disruptions or incidents on the organization's critical business functions and processes, and determining the recovery priorities and objectives. A BIA can help to support the risk assessment by providing information on the impact and criticality of the assets and processes, but it cannot identify or analyze the threats and vulnerabilities that pose risks to the organization, or determine the appropriate risk responses or controls.
? A vulnerability assessment is a process of identifying and measuring the weaknesses or flaws in the organization's systems, networks, or applications that could be exploited by threat actors. A vulnerability assessment can help to support the risk assessment by providing information on the vulnerabilities and exposures that affect the organization's security posture, but it cannot identify or analyze the threats or likelihood that could exploit the vulnerabilities, or determine the appropriate risk responses or controls.
? Industry best practices are the standards or guidelines that are widely accepted and followed by the information security community or the organization's industry sector, based on the experience and knowledge of the experts and practitioners. Industry best practices can help to inform and guide the development and implementation of information security policies, but they cannot replace or substitute the risk assessment, as they may not reflect the organization's specific context, needs, and objectives, or address the organization's unique risks and challenges.
References = 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 29 2: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 30 3: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 121 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 122 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 123 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 124 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 125 : CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 126

NEW QUESTION 10
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is an information security manager's BEST course of action when a threat intelligence report indicates a large number of ransomware attacks targeting the industry?

A. Increase the frequency of system backups.
B. Review the mitigating security controls.
C. Notify staff members of the threat.
D. Assess the risk to the organization.

Answer: D

Explanation:
The best course of action for an information security manager when a threat intelligence report indicates a large number of ransomware attacks targeting the industry is to assess the risk to the organization. This means evaluating the likelihood and impact of a potential ransomware attack on the organization's assets, operations, and reputation, based on the current threat landscape, the organization's security posture, and the effectiveness of the existing security controls. A risk assessment can help the information security manager prioritize the most critical assets and processes, identify the gaps and weaknesses in the security architecture, and determine the appropriate risk response strategies, such as avoidance, mitigation, transfer, or acceptance. A risk assessment can also provide a business case for requesting additional resources or support from senior management to improve the organization's security resilience and readiness. The other options are not the best course of action because they are either too reactive or too narrow in scope. Increasing the frequency of system backups (A) is a good practice to ensure data availability and recovery in case of a ransomware attack, but it does not address the prevention or detection of the attack, nor does it consider the potential data breach or extortion that may accompany the attack. Reviewing the mitigating security controls (B) is a part of the risk assessment process, but it is not sufficient by itself. The information security manager should also consider the threat sources, the vulnerabilities, the impact, and the risk appetite of the organization. Notifying staff members of the threat © is a useful awareness and education measure, but it should be done after the risk assessment and in conjunction with other security policies and procedures. Staff members should be informed of the potential risks, the indicators of compromise, the reporting mechanisms, and the best practices to avoid or respond to a ransomware attack. References = CISM Review Manual 2022, pages 77-78, 81-82, 316; CISM Item Development Guide 2022, page 9; #StopRansomware Guide | CISA; [The Human Consequences of Ransomware Attacks - ISACA]; [Ransomware Response, Safeguards and Countermeasures - ISACA]

NEW QUESTION 12
- (Topic 1)
Penetration testing is MOST appropriate when a:

A. new system is about to go live.
B. new system is being designed.
C. security policy is being developed.
D. security incident has occurred,

Answer: A

Explanation:
= Penetration testing is most appropriate when a new system is about to go live, because it is a method of evaluating the security of a system by simulating an attack from a malicious source. Penetration testing can help to identify and exploit vulnerabilities, assess the impact and risk of a breach, and provide recommendations for remediation and improvement. Penetration testing can also help to validate the effectiveness of the security controls and policies implemented for the new system, and ensure compliance with relevant standards and regulations. Penetration testing is usually performed after the system has undergone other types of testing, such as functional, performance, and usability testing, and before the system is deployed to the production environment. Penetration testing is not as appropriate when a new system is being designed, because the system is still in the early stages of development and may not have all the features and functionalities implemented. Penetration testing at this stage may not provide a realistic or comprehensive assessment of the system's security, and may cause delays or disruptions in the development process. Penetration testing is also not as appropriate when a security policy is being developed, because the policy is a high-level document that defines the goals, objectives, and principles of information security for the organization. Penetration testing is a technical and operational activity that tests the implementation and enforcement of the policy, not the policy itself. Penetration testing is also not as appropriate when a security incident has occurred, because the incident may have already compromised the system and caused damage or loss. Penetration testing at this stage may not be able to prevent or mitigate the incident, and may interfere with the incident response and recovery efforts. Penetration testing after an incident may be useful for forensic analysis and lessons learned, but it is not the primary or immediate response to an incident. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2021, pages 229-230, 233-234.

NEW QUESTION 14
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST indicates that information assets are classified accurately?

A. Appropriate prioritization of information risk treatment
B. Increased compliance with information security policy
C. Appropriate assignment of information asset owners
D. An accurate and complete information asset catalog

Answer: A

Explanation:
The best indicator that information assets are classified accurately is appropriate prioritization of information risk treatment. Information asset classification is the process of assigning a level of sensitivity or criticality to information assets based on their value, impact, and legal or regulatory requirements. The purpose of information asset classification is to facilitate the identification and protection of information assets according to their importance and risk exposure. Therefore, if information assets are classified accurately, the organization can prioritize the information risk treatment activities and allocate the resources accordingly. The other options are not direct indicators of information asset classification accuracy, although they may be influenced by it. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 671; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription, Question ID: 1031

NEW QUESTION 16
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST enables staff acceptance of information security policies?

A. Strong senior management support
B. Gomputer-based training
C. Arobust incident response program
D. Adequate security funding

Answer: A

Explanation:
= Strong senior management support is the best factor to enable staff acceptance of information security policies, as it demonstrates the commitment and leadership of the organization's top executives in promoting and enforcing a security culture. Senior management support can also help ensure that the information security policies are aligned with the business goals and values, communicated effectively to all levels of the organization, and integrated into the performance evaluation and reward systems. Senior management support can also help overcome any resistance or challenges from other stakeholders, such as business units, customers, or regulators123. References =
? 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 26-274
? 2: CISM Practice Quiz, question 1102
? 3: Information Security Governance: Guidance for Boards of Directors and Executive Management, 2nd Edition, page 5-6

NEW QUESTION 21
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST facilitates effective incident response testing?

A. Including all business units in testing
B. Simulating realistic test scenarios
C. Reviewing test results quarterly
D. Testing after major business changes

Answer: B

Explanation:
Effective incident response testing is a process of verifying and validating the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and resources that are designed to respond to and recover from information security incidents. The purpose of testing is to ensure that the incident response team and the organization are prepared, capable, and confident to handle any potential or actual incidents that could affect the business continuity, reputation, and value. The best way to facilitate effective testing is to simulate realistic test scenarios that reflect the most likely or critical threats and vulnerabilities that could cause an incident, and the most relevant or significant impacts and consequences that could result from an incident. Simulating realistic test scenarios can help to evaluate the adequacy, accuracy, and applicability of the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and resources, as well as to identify and address any gaps, weaknesses, or errors that could hinder or compromise the incident response process. Simulating realistic test scenarios can also help to enhance the skills, knowledge, and experience of the incident response team and the organization, as well as to improve the communication, coordination, and collaboration among the stakeholders involved in the incident response process. Simulating realistic test scenarios
can also help to measure and report the effectiveness and efficiency of the incident response process, and to provide feedback and recommendations for improvement and optimization. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 2401; CISM Practice Quiz, question 1362

NEW QUESTION 25
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the MOST important reason to ensure information security is aligned with the organization's strategy?

A. To identify the organization's risk tolerance
B. To improve security processes
C. To align security roles and responsibilities
D. To optimize security risk management

Answer: D

Explanation:
= The most important reason to ensure information security is aligned with the organization's strategy is to optimize security risk management. Information security is not an isolated function, but rather an integral part of the organization's overall objectives, processes, and governance. By aligning information security with the organization's strategy, the information security manager can ensure that security risks are identified, assessed, treated, and monitored in a consistent, effective, and efficient manner1. Alignment also enables the information security manager to communicate the value and benefits of information security to senior management and other stakeholders, and to justify the allocation of resources and investments for security initiatives2. Alignment also helps to establish clear roles and responsibilities for information security across the organization, and to foster a culture of security awareness and accountability3. Therefore, alignment is essential for optimizing security risk management, which is the process of balancing the protection of information assets with the business objectives and risk appetite of the organization4. References = 1: CISM Exam Content Outline | CISM Certification | ISACA 2: CISM_Review_Manual Pages 1-30 - Flip PDF Download | FlipHTML5 3: CISM 2020: Information Security & Business Process Alignment 4: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, Chapter 2, Section 2.1

NEW QUESTION 28
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the BEST evidence of alignment between corporate and information security governance?

A. Security key performance indicators (KPIs)
B. Project resource optimization
C. Regular security policy reviews
D. Senior management sponsorship

Answer: D

Explanation:
Alignment between corporate and information security governance means that the information security program supports the organizational goals and objectives, and is integrated into the enterprise governance structure. The best evidence of alignment is the senior management sponsorship, which demonstrates the commitment and support of the top-level executives and board members for the information security program. Senior management sponsorship also ensures that the information security program has adequate resources, authority, and accountability to achieve its objectives and address the risks and issues that affect the organization. Senior management sponsorship also helps to establish a culture of security awareness and compliance throughout the organization, and to communicate the value and benefits of the information security program to the stakeholders.
References =
? CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 1631
? CISM 2020: Information Security & Business Process Alignment, video 22
? Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), page 33

NEW QUESTION 32
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the BEST indication of an effective information security awareness training program?

A. An increase in the frequency of phishing tests
B. An increase in positive user feedback
C. An increase in the speed of incident resolution
D. An increase in the identification rate during phishing simulations

Answer: D

Explanation:
An effective information security awareness training program should aim to improve the knowledge, skills and behavior of the employees regarding information security. One of the ways to measure the effectiveness of such a program is to conduct phishing simulations, which are mock phishing attacks that test the employees' ability to identify and report phishing emails. An increase in the identification rate during phishing simulations indicates that the employees have learned how to recognize and avoid phishing attempts, which is one of the common threats to information security. Therefore, this is the best indication of an effective information security awareness training program among the given options.
The other options are not as reliable or relevant as indicators of an effective information security awareness training program. An increase in the frequency of phishing tests does not necessarily mean that the employees are learning from them or that the tests are aligned with the learning objectives of the program. An increase in positive user feedback may reflect the satisfaction or engagement of the employees with the program, but it does not measure the actual learning outcomes or behavior changes. An increase in the speed of incident resolution may be influenced by other factors, such as the availability and efficiency of the incident response team, the severity and complexity of the incidents, or the tools and processes used for incident management. Moreover, the speed of incident resolution does not reflect the prevention or reduction of incidents, which is a more desirable goal of an information security awareness training program.
References =
? CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2022, pp. 201-202, 207-208.
? CISM Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, ISACA, 2022, QID 1001.

NEW QUESTION 37
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following will result in the MOST accurate controls assessment?

A. Mature change management processes
B. Senior management support
C. Well-defined security policies
D. Unannounced testing

Answer: D

Explanation:
Unannounced testing is the most accurate way to assess the effectiveness of controls, as it simulates a real-world scenario and does not allow the staff to prepare or modify their behavior in advance. Mature change management processes, senior management support, and well-defined security policies are all important factors for establishing and maintaining a strong security posture, but they do not directly measure the performance of controls. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, page 149. CISM Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, question ID 1003.

NEW QUESTION 38
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the MOST important criterion when deciding whether to accept residual risk?

A. Cost of replacing the asset
B. Cost of additional mitigation
C. Annual loss expectancy (ALE)
D. Annual rate of occurrence

Answer: C

Explanation:
= Annual loss expectancy (ALE) is the most important criterion when deciding whether to accept residual risk, because it represents the expected monetary loss for an asset due to a risk over a one-year period. ALE is calculated by multiplying the annual rate of occurrence (ARO) of a risk event by the single loss expectancy (SLE) of the asset. ARO is the estimated frequency of a risk event occurring within a one-year period, and SLE is the estimated cost of a single occurrence of a risk event. ALE helps to compare the cost and benefit of different risk responses, such as avoidance, mitigation, transfer, or acceptance. Risk acceptance is appropriate when the ALE is lower than the cost of other risk responses, or when the risk is unavoidable or acceptable within the organization’s risk appetite and tolerance. ALE also helps to prioritize the risks that need more attention and resources.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 2: Information Risk Management, Section: Risk Assessment, page 831; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 22, page 242

NEW QUESTION 43
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the PRIMARY role of an information security manager in a software development project?

A. To enhance awareness for secure software design
B. To assess and approve the security application architecture
C. To identify noncompliance in the early design stage
D. To identify software security weaknesses

Answer: B

Explanation:
The primary role of an information security manager in a software development project is to assess and approve the security application architecture. The security application architecture is the design and structure of the software application that defines how the application components interact with each other and with external systems, and how the application implements the security requirements, principles, and best practices. The information security manager is responsible for ensuring that the security application architecture is aligned with the organization’s information security policies, standards, and guidelines, and that it meets the business objectives, functional specifications, and user expectations. The information security manager is also responsible for reviewing and evaluating the security application architecture for its completeness, correctness, consistency, and compliance, and for identifying and resolving any security issues, risks, or gaps. The information security manager is also responsible for approving the security application architecture before the software development project proceeds to the next phase, such as coding, testing, or deployment.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 3: Information Security Program Development and Management, Section: Information Security Program Development, page 1581; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question
80, page 742.

NEW QUESTION 44
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following will BEST facilitate the integration of information security governance into enterprise governance?

A. Developing an information security policy based on risk assessments
B. Establishing an information security steering committee
C. Documenting the information security governance framework
D. Implementing an information security awareness program

Answer: B

Explanation:
Establishing an information security steering committee is the best way to facilitate the integration of information security governance into enterprise governance. The information security steering committee is a cross-functional group of senior managers who provide strategic direction, oversight, and support for the information security program. The committee ensures that the information security strategy is aligned with the enterprise strategy, objectives, and risk appetite. The committee also fosters collaboration and communication among various stakeholders and promotes a culture of security awareness and accountability. Developing an information security policy, documenting the information security governance framework, and implementing an information security awareness program are all important activities for implementing and maintaining information security governance, but they do not necessarily facilitate its integration into enterprise governance. These activities may be initiated or endorsed by the information security steering committee, but they are not sufficient to ensure that information security governance is embedded into the enterprise governance structure and
processes. References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 34 1; CISM Practice Quiz 2

NEW QUESTION 46
- (Topic 1)
An information security manager learns of a new standard related to an emerging technology the organization wants to implement. Which of the following should the information security manager recommend be done FIRST?

A. Determine whether the organization can benefit from adopting the new standard.
B. Obtain legal counsel's opinion on the standard's applicability to regulations,
C. Perform a risk assessment on the new technology.
D. Review industry specialists' analyses of the new standard.

Answer: A

Explanation:
= The first step that the information security manager should recommend when learning of a new standard related to an emerging technology is to determine whether the organization can benefit from adopting the new standard. This involves evaluating the business objectives, needs, and requirements of the organization, as well as the potential advantages, disadvantages, and challenges of implementing the new technology and the new standard. The information security manager should also consider the alignment of the new standard with the organization's existing policies, procedures, and standards, as well as the impact of the new standard on the organization's information security governance, risk management, program, and incident management. By conducting a preliminary analysis of the feasibility, suitability, and desirability of the new standard, the information security manager can provide a sound basis for further decision making and planning.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 1: Information Security Governance, Section: Information Security Standards, page 391; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 43, page 412.

NEW QUESTION 50
- (Topic 1)
Of the following, who is in the BEST position to evaluate business impacts?

A. Senior management
B. Information security manager
C. IT manager
D. Process manager

Answer: D

Explanation:
The process manager is the person who is responsible for overseeing and managing the business processes and functions that are essential for the organization's operations and objectives. The process manager has the most direct and detailed knowledge of the inputs, outputs, dependencies, resources, and performance indicators of the business processes and functions. Therefore, the process manager is in the best position to evaluate the business impacts of a disruption or an incident that affects the availability, integrity, or confidentiality of the information assets and systems that support the business processes and functions. The process manager can identify and quantify the potential losses, damages, or consequences that could result from the disruption or incident, such as revenue loss, customer dissatisfaction, regulatory non-compliance, reputational harm, or legal liability. The process manager can also provide input and feedback to the information security manager and the senior management on the business continuity and disaster recovery plans, the risk assessment and treatment, and the security controls and measures that are needed to protect and recover the business processes and functions. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 2301; CISM Practice Quiz, question 1302

NEW QUESTION 52
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the PRIMARY benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process?

A. Threat management is enhanced.
B. Compliance status is improved.
C. Security metrics are enhanced.
D. Proactive risk management is facilitated.

Answer: D

Explanation:
A vulnerability assessment process is a systematic and proactive approach to identify, analyze and prioritize the vulnerabilities in an information system. It helps to reduce the exposure of the system to potential threats and improve the security posture of the organization. By implementing a vulnerability assessment process, the organization can facilitate proactive risk management, which is the PRIMARY benefit of this process. Proactive risk management is the process of identifying, assessing and mitigating risks before they become incidents or cause significant impact to the organization. Proactive risk management enables the organization to align its security strategy with its business objectives, optimize its security resources and investments, and enhance its resilience and compliance.
* A. Threat management is enhanced. This is a secondary benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process. Threat management is the process of identifying, analyzing and responding to the threats that may exploit the vulnerabilities in an information system. Threat management is enhanced by implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as it helps to reduce the attack surface and prioritize the most critical threats. However, threat management is not the PRIMARY benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as it is a reactive rather than proactive approach to risk management.
* B. Compliance status is improved. This is a secondary benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process. Compliance status is the degree to which an organization adheres to the applicable laws, regulations, standards and policies that govern its information security. Compliance status is improved by implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as it helps to demonstrate the organization's commitment to security best practices and meet the expectations of the stakeholders and regulators. However, compliance status is not the PRIMARY benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as it is a result rather than a driver of risk management.
* C. Security metrics are enhanced. This is a secondary benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process. Security metrics are the quantitative and qualitative measures that indicate the effectiveness and efficiency of the information security processes and controls. Security metrics are enhanced by implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as it helps to provide objective and reliable data for security monitoring and reporting. However, security metrics are not the PRIMARY benefit of implementing a vulnerability assessment process, as they are a means rather than an end of risk management.
References =
? CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, pages 1-301
? CISM Exam Content Outline2
? Risk Assessment for Technical Vulnerabilities3
? A Step-By-Step Guide to Vulnerability Assessment4

NEW QUESTION 55
- (Topic 1)
In violation of a policy prohibiting the use of cameras at the office, employees have been issued smartphones and tablet computers with enabled web cameras. Which of the following should be the information security manager's FIRST course of action?

A. Revise the policy.
B. Perform a root cause analysis.
C. Conduct a risk assessment,
D. Communicate the acceptable use policy.

Answer: C

Explanation:
= The information security manager’s first course of action in this situation should be to conduct a risk assessment, which is a process of identifying, analyzing, and evaluating the information security risks that arise from the violation of the policy prohibiting the use of cameras at the office. The risk assessment can help to determine the likelihood and impact of the unauthorized or inappropriate use of the cameras on the smartphones and tablet computers, such as capturing, transmitting, or disclosing sensitive or confidential information, compromising the privacy or security of the employees, customers, or partners, or violating the legal or regulatory requirements. The risk assessment can also help to identify and prioritize the appropriate risk treatment options, such as implementing technical, administrative, or physical controls to disable, restrict, or monitor the camera usage, enforcing the policy compliance and awareness, or revising the policy to reflect the current business needs and environment. The risk assessment can also help to communicate and report the risk level and status to the senior management and the relevant stakeholders, and to provide feedback and recommendations for improvement and optimization of the policy and the risk management process.
Revising the policy, performing a root cause analysis, and communicating the acceptable use policy are all possible courses of action that the information security manager can take after conducting the risk assessment, but they are not the first ones. Revising the policy is a process of updating and modifying the policy to align with the business objectives and strategy, to address the changes and challenges in the business and threat environment, and to incorporate the feedback and suggestions from the risk assessment and the stakeholders. Performing a root cause analysis is a process of investigating and identifying the underlying causes and factors that led to the violation of the policy, such as the lack of awareness, training, or enforcement, the inconsistency or ambiguity of the policy, or the conflict or gap between the policy and the business requirements or expectations. Communicating the acceptable use policy is a process of informing and educating the employees and the other users of the smartphones and tablet computers about the purpose, scope, and content of the policy, the roles and responsibilities of the users, the benefits and consequences of complying or violating the policy, and the methods and channels of reporting or resolving any policy issues or incidents. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, pages 51-531; CISM Practice Quiz, question 1482

NEW QUESTION 58
- (Topic 1)
An incident response team has been assembled from a group of experienced individuals, Which type of exercise would be MOST beneficial for the team at the first drill?

A. Red team exercise
B. Black box penetration test
C. Disaster recovery exercise
D. Tabletop exercise

Answer: D

Explanation:
= A tabletop exercise is the best type of exercise for an incident response team at the first drill, as it is a low-cost, low-risk, and high-value method to test and evaluate the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and capabilities. A tabletop exercise is a simulation of a realistic scenario that involves a security incident, and requires the participation and discussion of the incident response team members and other relevant stakeholders. The tabletop exercise allows the incident response team to identify and address the gaps, issues, or challenges in the incident response process, and to improve the communication, coordination, and collaboration among the team members and other parties. The tabletop exercise also helps to enhance the knowledge, skills, and confidence of the incident response team members, and to prepare them for more complex or advanced exercises or real incidents.
A red team exercise (A) is a type of exercise that involves a group of ethical hackers or security experts who act as adversaries and attempt to compromise the organization’s security defenses, systems, or processes. A red team exercise is a high-cost, high-risk, and high-value method to test and evaluate the security posture and resilience of the organization, and to identify and exploit the security weaknesses or vulnerabilities. However, a red team exercise is not the best type of exercise for an incident response team at the first drill, as it is more suitable for a mature and experienced team that has already tested and validated the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and capabilities.
A black box penetration test (B) is a type of security testing that simulates a malicious attack on the organization’s systems or processes, without any prior knowledge or information about them. A black box penetration test is a high-cost, high-risk, and high- value method to test and evaluate the security posture and resilience of the organization, and to identify and exploit the security weaknesses or vulnerabilities. However, a black box penetration test is not the best type of exercise for an incident response team at the first drill, as it is more suitable for a mature and experienced team that has already tested and validated the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and capabilities.
A disaster recovery exercise © is a type of exercise that simulates a catastrophic event that disrupts or destroys the organization’s critical systems or processes, and requires the activation and execution of the disaster recovery plan, procedures, roles, and capabilities. A disaster recovery exercise is a high-cost, high-risk, and high-value method to test and evaluate the disaster recovery posture and resilience of the organization, and to identify and address the recovery issues or challenges. However, a disaster recovery exercise is not the best type of exercise for an incident response team at the first drill, as it is more suitable for a mature and experienced team that has already tested and validated the incident response plan, procedures, roles, and capabilities.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 4: Information Security Incident Management, Section: Incident Response Plan, Subsection: Testing and Maintenance, page 184-1851

NEW QUESTION 61
- (Topic 1)
When remote access to confidential information is granted to a vendor for analytic purposes, which of the following is the MOST important security consideration?

A. Data is encrypted in transit and at rest at the vendor site.
B. Data is subject to regular access log review.
C. The vendor must be able to amend data.
D. The vendor must agree to the organization's information security policy,

Answer: D

Explanation:
When granting remote access to confidential information to a vendor, the most important security consideration is to ensure that the vendor complies with the organization’s information security policy. The information security policy defines the roles, responsibilities, rules, and standards for accessing, handling, and protecting the organization’s information assets. The vendor must agree to the policy and sign a contract that specifies the terms and conditions of the access, the security controls to be implemented, the monitoring and auditing mechanisms, the incident reporting and response procedures, and the penalties for non-compliance or breach. The policy also establishes the organization’s right to revoke the access at any time if the vendor violates the policy or poses a risk to the

organization.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 1: Information Security Governance, Section: Information Security Policies, page 34; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 44, page 45.

NEW QUESTION 63
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the GREATEST benefit of conducting an organization-wide security awareness program?

A. The security strategy is promoted.
B. Fewer security incidents are reported.
C. Security behavior is improved.
D. More security incidents are detected.

Answer: C

Explanation:
The greatest benefit of conducting an organization-wide security awareness program is to improve the security behavior of the employees, contractors, partners, and other stakeholders who interact with the organization's information assets. Security behavior refers to the actions and decisions that affect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information, such as following the security policies and procedures, reporting security incidents, avoiding risky practices, and applying security controls. By improving the security behavior, the organization can reduce the human-related risks and vulnerabilities, enhance the security culture and awareness, and support the security strategy and objectives.
The other options are not as beneficial as improving the security behavior, although they may also be outcomes or objectives of a security awareness program. Promoting the security strategy is important to communicate the vision, mission, and goals of the security function, as well as to align the security activities with the business needs and expectations. However, promoting the security strategy alone is not enough to ensure its implementation and effectiveness, as it also requires the involvement and commitment of the stakeholders, especially the senior management. Reporting fewer security incidents may indicate a lower level of security breaches or threats, but it may also reflect a lack of detection, reporting, or awareness mechanisms. Moreover, reporting fewer security incidents is not a reliable measure of the security performance or maturity, as it does not account for the impact, severity, or root causes of the incidents. Detecting more security incidents may indicate a higher level of security monitoring, alerting, or awareness capabilities, but it may also reflect a higher level of security exposures or attacks. Moreover, detecting more security incidents is not a desirable goal of a security awareness program, as it also implies a higher level of security incidents that need to be responded to and resolved. References =
? CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2022, pp. 201-202, 207-208.
? CISM Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, ISACA, 2022, QID 1006.
? The Benefits of Information Security and Privacy Awareness Training Programs, ISACA Journal, Volume 1, 2019, 1.

NEW QUESTION 66
- (Topic 1)
The MOST appropriate time to conduct a disaster recovery test would be after:

A. major business processes have been redesigned.
B. the business continuity plan (BCP) has been updated.
C. the security risk profile has been reviewed
D. noncompliance incidents have been filed.

Answer: B

Explanation:
The most appropriate time to conduct a disaster recovery test would be after the business continuity plan (BCP) has been updated, as it ensures that the disaster recovery plan (DRP) is aligned with the current business requirements, objectives, and priorities. The BCP should be updated regularly to reflect any changes in the business environment, such as new threats, risks, processes, technologies, or regulations. The disaster recovery test should validate the effectiveness and efficiency of the DRP, as well
as identify any gaps, issues, or improvement opportunities123. References =
? 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 2114
? 2: CISM Practice Quiz, question 1042
? 3: Business Continuity Planning and Disaster Recovery Testing, section "Testing the Plan"

NEW QUESTION 71
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST ensures timely and reliable access to services?

A. Nonrepudiation
B. Authenticity
C. Availability
D. Recovery time objective (RTO)

Answer: C

Explanation:
= According to the CISM Review Manual, availability is the degree to which information and systems are accessible to authorized users in a timely and reliable manner1. Availability ensures that services are delivered to the users as expected and agreed upon. Nonrepudiation is the ability to prove the occurrence of a claimed event or action and its originating entities1. It ensures that the parties involved in a transaction cannot deny their involvement. Authenticity is the quality or state of being genuine or original, rather than a reproduction or fabrication1. It ensures that the identity of a subject or resource is valid. Recovery time objective (RTO) is the maximum acceptable period of time that can elapse before the unavailability of a business function severely impacts the organization1. It is a metric used to measure the recovery capability of a system or service, not a factor that ensures timely and reliable access to services. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 2, Information Risk Management, pages 66-67.

NEW QUESTION 72
- (Topic 1)
A post-incident review identified that user error resulted in a major breach. Which of the following is MOST important to determine during the review?

A. The time and location that the breach occurred
B. Evidence of previous incidents caused by the user
C. The underlying reason for the user error
D. Appropriate disciplinary procedures for user error

Answer: C

Explanation:
The underlying reason for the user error is the most important factor to determine during the post-incident review, as this helps the information security manager to understand the root cause of the breach, and to implement corrective and preventive actions to avoid similar incidents in the future. The underlying reason for the user error may be related to the lack of training, awareness, guidance, or motivation of the user, or to the complexity, usability, or design of the system or process that the user was using. By identifying the underlying reason for the user error, the information security manager can address the human factor of the information security program, and improve the security culture and behavior of the organization. The time and location that the breach occurred, evidence of previous incidents caused by the user, and appropriate disciplinary procedures for user error are not the most important factors to determine during the post-incident review, as they do not provide a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the breach, and may not help to prevent or reduce the likelihood or impact of future incidents.
References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 1671; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2023, page 382; ISACA CISM - iSecPrep, page 233

NEW QUESTION 76
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following should be the MOST important consideration when establishing information security policies for an organization?

A. Job descriptions include requirements to read security policies.
B. The policies are updated annually.
C. Senior management supports the policies.
D. The policies are aligned to industry best practices.

Answer: C

Explanation:
The most important consideration when establishing information security policies for an organization is to ensure that senior management supports the policies. Senior management support is essential for the successful implementation and enforcement of information security policies, as it demonstrates the commitment and accountability of the organization's leadership to information security. Senior management support also helps to allocate adequate resources, establish clear roles and responsibilities, and promote a security-aware culture within the organization. Without senior management support, information security policies may not be aligned with the organization's goals and objectives, may not be communicated and disseminated effectively, and may not be followed or enforced consistently.
Job descriptions that include requirements to read security policies are a way of ensuring that employees are aware of their security obligations, but they are not the most important consideration when establishing information security policies. The policies should be relevant and applicable to the employees' roles and functions, and should be reinforced by regular training and awareness programs.
The policies should be updated periodically to reflect the changes in the organization's environment, risks, and requirements, but updating them annually may not be sufficient or necessary. The frequency of updating the policies should depend on the nature and impact of the changes, and should be determined by a defined policy review process.
The policies should be aligned with industry best practices, standards, and frameworks, but this is not the most important consideration when establishing information security policies. The policies should also be customized and tailored to the organization's specific context, needs, and expectations, and should be consistent with the organization's vision, mission, and values. References =
? ISACA, CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, 2020, pages 37-38.
? ISACA, CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, 12th Edition, 2020, question ID 1009.

NEW QUESTION 79
- (Topic 1)
In which cloud model does the cloud service buyer assume the MOST security responsibility?

A. Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS)
B. Infrastructure as a Service (laaS)
C. Platform as a Service (PaaS)
D. Software as a Service (SaaS)

Answer: B

Explanation:
Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) is a cloud model in which the cloud service provider (CSP) offers the basic computing resources, such as servers, storage, network, and virtualization, as a service over the internet. The cloud service buyer (CSB) is responsible for installing, configuring, managing, and securing the operating systems, applications, data, and middleware on top of the infrastructure. Therefore, the CSB assumes the most security responsibility in the IaaS model, as it has to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of its own assets and information in the cloud environment.
In contrast, in the other cloud models, the CSP takes over more security responsibility from the CSB, as it provides more layers of the service stack. In Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS), the CSP offers the replication and recovery of the CSB's data and applications in the event of a disaster. In Platform as a Service (PaaS), the CSP offers the development and deployment tools, such as programming languages, frameworks, libraries, and databases, as a service. In Software as a Service (SaaS), the CSP offers the complete software applications, such as email, CRM, or ERP, as a service. In these models, the CSB has less control and visibility over the underlying infrastructure, platform, or software, and has to rely on the CSP's security measures and contractual agreements.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 3: Information Security Program Development and Management, Section: Information Security Program Management, Subsection: Cloud Computing, page 140-1411

NEW QUESTION 82
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is the BEST method to protect against emerging advanced persistent threat (APT) actors?

A. Providing ongoing training to the incident response team
B. Implementing proactive systems monitoring
C. Implementing a honeypot environment
D. Updating information security awareness materials

Answer: B

Explanation:
= Proactive systems monitoring is the best method to protect against emerging APT actors because it can help detect and respond to anomalous or malicious activities on the network, such as unauthorized access, data exfiltration, malware infection, or command and control communication. Proactive systems monitoring can also help identify the source, scope, and impact of an APT attack, as well as provide evidence for forensic analysis and remediation. Proactive systems monitoring can include tools such as intrusion detection and prevention systems (IDPS), security information and event management (SIEM) systems, network traffic analysis, endpoint detection and response (EDR), and threat intelligence feeds.
References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 201-2021; CISM Practice Quiz, question 922

NEW QUESTION 85
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following Is MOST useful to an information security manager when conducting a post-incident review of an attack?

A. Cost of the attack to the organization
B. Location of the attacker
C. Method of operation used by the attacker
D. Details from intrusion detection system (IDS) logs

Answer: C

Explanation:
= The method of operation used by the attacker is the most useful information for an information security manager when conducting a post-incident review of an attack. This information can help identify the root cause of the incident, the vulnerabilities exploited, the impact and severity of the attack, and the effectiveness of the existing security controls. The method of operation can also provide insights into the attacker’s motives, skills, and resources, which can help improve the organization’s threat intelligence and risk assessment. The cost of the attack to the organization, the location of the attacker, and the details from IDS logs are all relevant information for a post-incident review, but they are not as useful as the method of operation for improving the incident handling process and preventing future attacks. References = CISM Review Manual 2022, page 316; CISM Item Development Guide 2022, page 9; ISACA CISM: PRIMARY goal of a post-incident review should be to?

NEW QUESTION 90
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following parties should be responsible for determining access levels to an application that processes client information?

A. The business client
B. The information security tear
C. The identity and access management team
D. Business unit management

Answer: D

Explanation:
The business client should be responsible for determining access levels to an application that processes client information, because the business client is the owner of the data and the primary stakeholder of the application. The business client has the best knowledge and understanding of the business requirements, objectives, and expectations of the application, and the sensitivity, value, and criticality of the data. The business client can also define the roles and responsibilities of the users and the access rights and privileges of the users based on the principle of least privilege and the principle of separation of duties. The business client can also monitor and review the access levels and the usage of the application, and ensure that the access levels are aligned with the organization’s information security policies and standards.
The information security team, the identity and access management team, and the business unit management are all involved in the process of determining access levels to an application that processes client information, but they are not the primary responsible party. The information security team provides guidance, support, and oversight to the business client on the information security best practices, controls, and standards for the application, and ensures that the access levels are consistent with the organization’s information security strategy and governance. The identity and access management team implements, maintains, and audits the access levels and the access control mechanisms for the application, and ensures that the access levels are compliant with the organization’s identity and access management policies and procedures. The business unit management approves, authorizes, and sponsors the access levels and the access requests for the application, and ensures that the access levels are aligned with the business unit’s goals and strategies. References =
? ISACA, CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, 2020, pages 125-126, 129-130, 133-134, 137-138.
? ISACA, CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, 12th Edition, 2020, question ID 1037.

NEW QUESTION 93
- (Topic 1)
An organization is close to going live with the implementation of a cloud-based application. Independent penetration test results have been received that show a high-rated vulnerability. Which of the following would be the BEST way to proceed?

A. Implement the application and request the cloud service provider to fix the vulnerability.
B. Assess whether the vulnerability is within the organization's risk tolerance levels.
C. Commission further penetration tests to validate initial test results,
D. Postpone the implementation until the vulnerability has been fixed.

Answer: B

Explanation:
The best way to proceed when an independent penetration test results show a high-rated vulnerability in a cloud-based application that is close to going live is to assess whether the vulnerability is within the organization’s risk tolerance levels. This is because the organization should not implement the application without understanding the potential impact and likelihood of the vulnerability being exploited, and the cost and benefit of fixing or mitigating the vulnerability. The organization should also consider the contractual and legal obligations, service level agreements, and performance expectations of the cloud service provider and the application users. By assessing the risk tolerance levels, the organization can make an informed and rational decision on whether to accept, transfer, avoid, or reduce the risk, and how to allocate the resources and responsibilities for managing the risk.
Implementing the application and requesting the cloud service provider to fix the vulnerability is not the best way to proceed, because it exposes the organization to unnecessary and unacceptable risk, and it may violate the terms and conditions of the cloud service contract. The organization should not rely on the cloud service provider to fix the vulnerability, as the provider may not have the same level of urgency, accountability, or capability as the organization. The organization

should also not assume that the vulnerability will not be exploited, as cyberattackers may target the cloud-based application due to its high visibility, accessibility, and value.
Commissioning further penetration tests to validate initial test results is not the best way to proceed, because it may delay the implementation of the application, and it may not provide any additional or useful information. The organization should trust the results of the independent penetration test, as it is conducted by a qualified and objective third party. The organization should also not waste time and resources on conducting redundant or unnecessary tests, as it may affect the budget, schedule, and quality of the project. Postponing the implementation until the vulnerability has been fixed is not the best way to proceed, because it may not be feasible or desirable for the organization. The organization should consider the business impact and opportunity cost of postponing the implementation, as it may affect the organization's reputation, revenue, and customer satisfaction. The organization should also consider the technical feasibility and complexity of fixing the vulnerability, as it may require significant changes or modifications to the application or the cloud environment. The organization should not adopt a zero-risk or risk- averse approach, as it may hinder the organization's innovation and competitiveness. References =
? ISACA, CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, 2020, pages 97-98, 101-102, 105-106, 109-110.
? ISACA, CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, 12th Edition, 2020, question ID 1025.

NEW QUESTION 97
- (Topic 1)
An organization is increasingly using Software as a Service (SaaS) to replace in-house hosting and support of IT applications. Which of the following would be the MOST effective way to help ensure procurement decisions consider information security concerns?

A. Integrate information security risk assessments into the procurement process.
B. Provide regular information security training to the procurement team.
C. Invite IT members into regular procurement team meetings to influence best practice.
D. Enforce the right to audit in procurement contracts with SaaS vendors.

Answer: A

Explanation:
The best way to ensure that information security concerns are considered during the procurement of SaaS solutions is to integrate information security risk assessments into the procurement process. This will allow the organization to identify and evaluate the potential security risks and impacts of using a SaaS provider, and to select the most appropriate solution based on the risk appetite and tolerance of the organization. Information security risk assessments should be conducted at the early stages of the procurement process, before selecting a vendor or signing a contract, and should be updated periodically throughout the contract lifecycle.
Providing regular information security training to the procurement team (B) is a good practice, but it may not be sufficient to address the specific security issues and challenges of SaaS solutions. The procurement team may not have the expertise or the authority to conduct information security risk assessments or to negotiate security requirements with the vendors.
Inviting IT members into regular procurement team meetings to influence best practice © is also a good practice, but it may not be effective if the IT members are not involved in the actual procurement process or decision making. The IT members may not have the opportunity or the influence to conduct information security risk assessments or to ensure that security concerns are adequately addressed in the procurement contracts.
Enforcing the right to audit in procurement contracts with SaaS vendors (D) is an important control, but it is not the most effective way to ensure that information security concerns are considered during the procurement process. The right to audit is a post-contractual measure that allows the organization to verify the security controls and compliance of the SaaS provider, but it does not prevent or mitigate the security risks that may arise from using a SaaS solution. The right to audit should be complemented by information security risk assessments and other security requirements in the procurement contracts. References = CISM Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 3: Information Security Program Development and Management, Section: Information Security Program Management, Subsection: Procurement and Vendor Management, Page 141-1421

NEW QUESTION 101
- (Topic 1)
An incident management team is alerted to a suspected security event. Before classifying the suspected event as a security incident, it is MOST important for the security manager to:

A. conduct an incident forensic analysis.
B. fallow the incident response plan
C. notify the business process owner.
D. fallow the business continuity plan (BCP).

Answer: B

Explanation:
Before classifying the suspected event as a security incident, it is most important for the security manager to follow the incident response plan, which is a predefined set of procedures and guidelines that outline the roles, responsibilities, and actions of the incident management team and the organization in the event of a security event or incident. Following the incident response plan can help to ensure a consistent, coordinated, and effective response to the suspected event, as well as to minimize the impact and damage to the business processes, functions, and assets. Following the incident response plan can also help to determine the nature, scope, and severity of the suspected event, and to decide whether it meets the criteria and threshold for being classified as a security incident that requires further escalation, investigation, and resolution. Following the incident response plan can also help to document and report the incident details, activities, and outcomes, and to provide feedback and recommendations for improvement and optimization of the incident response process and plan.
Conducting an incident forensic analysis, notifying the business process owner, and following the business continuity plan (BCP) are all important steps in the incident response process, but they are not the most important ones before classifying the suspected event as a security incident. Conducting an incident forensic analysis is a technical and detailed process that involves collecting, preserving, analyzing, and presenting evidence related to the incident, and it is usually performed after the incident has been classified, contained, and eradicated. Notifying the business process owner is a communication and notification process that involves informing the relevant stakeholders of the incident status, impact, and actions, and it is usually performed after the incident has been classified and assessed. Following the business continuity plan (BCP) is a recovery and restoration process that involves resuming and restoring the normal business operations and functions after the incident has been resolved and lessons learned have been identified and implemented. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, pages 237-2411; CISM Practice Quiz, question 1422

NEW QUESTION 104
- (Topic 1)
What should be the FIRST step when an Internet of Things (loT) device in an organization's network is confirmed to have been hacked?

A. Monitor the network.
B. Perform forensic analysis.
C. Disconnect the device from the network,

D. Escalate to the incident response team

Answer: C

Explanation:
= Disconnecting the device from the network is the first step when an IoT device in an organization's network is confirmed to have been hacked, as it prevents the attacker from further compromising the device or using it as a pivot point to attack other devices or systems on the network. Disconnecting the device also helps preserve the evidence of the attack for later forensic analysis and remediation. Disconnecting the device should be done in accordance with the incident response plan and the escalation procedures123. References =
? 1: CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 2004
? 2: CISM Practice Quiz, question 1072
? 3: IoT Security: Incident Response, Forensics, and Investigations, section "IoT Incident Response"

NEW QUESTION 105
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following should be the FIRST step to gain approval for outsourcing to address a security gap?

A. Collect additional metrics.
B. Perform a cost-benefit analysis.
C. Submit funding request to senior management.
D. Begin due diligence on the outsourcing company.

Answer: B

Explanation:
The first step to gain approval for outsourcing to address a security gap is to perform a cost-benefit analysis, because it helps to evaluate the feasibility and viability of the outsourcing option and compare it with other alternatives. A cost-benefit analysis is a method of estimating and comparing the costs and benefits of a project or a decision, in terms of financial, operational, and strategic aspects. A cost-benefit analysis can help to:
? Identify and quantify the expected costs and benefits of outsourcing, such as the initial and ongoing expenses, the potential savings and revenues, the quality and efficiency of the service, the risks and opportunities, and the alignment with the business objectives and requirements
? Assess and prioritize the criticality and urgency of the security gap, and the impact and likelihood of the related threats and vulnerabilities
? Determine the optimal level and scope of outsourcing, such as the type, duration, and frequency of the service, the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved, and the performance and security standards and metrics
? Justify and communicate the rationale and value proposition of outsourcing, and provide evidence and support for the decision making process
? Establish and document the criteria and process for selecting and evaluating the outsourcing provider, and the contractual and legal terms and conditions
A cost-benefit analysis should be performed before submitting a funding request to senior management, because it can help to demonstrate the need and the return on investment of the outsourcing project, and to secure the budget and the resources. A cost-benefit analysis should also be performed before beginning due diligence on the outsourcing company, because it can help to narrow down the list of potential candidates and to focus on the most relevant and suitable ones. Collecting additional metrics may be a part of the cost-benefit analysis, but it is not the first step, because it requires a clear definition and understanding of the objectives and scope of the outsourcing project.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2021, pages 173-174, 177-178.

NEW QUESTION 110
- (Topic 1)
An information security manager finds that a soon-to-be deployed online application will increase risk beyond acceptable levels, and necessary controls have not been included. Which of the following is the BEST course of action for the information security manager?

A. Instruct IT to deploy controls based on urgent business needs.
B. Present a business case for additional controls to senior management.
C. Solicit bids for compensating control products.
D. Recommend a different application.

Answer: B

Explanation:
The information security manager should present a business case for additional controls to senior management, as this is the most effective way to communicate the risk and the need for mitigation. The information security manager should not instruct IT to deploy controls based on urgent business needs, as this may not align with the business objectives and may cause unnecessary costs and delays. The information security manager should not solicit bids for compensating control products, as this may not address the root cause of the risk and may not be the best solution. The information security manager should not recommend a different application, as this may not be feasible or desirable for the business. References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 711; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2023, page 252

NEW QUESTION 111
- (Topic 1)
When investigating an information security incident, details of the incident should be shared:

A. widely to demonstrate positive intent.
B. only with management.
C. only as needed,
D. only with internal audit.

Answer: C

Explanation:
When investigating an information security incident, details of the incident should be shared only as needed, according to the principle of least privilege and the need-to-know basis. This means that only the authorized and relevant parties who have a legitimate purpose and role in the incident response process should have access to the incident information, and only to the extent that is necessary for them to perform their duties. Sharing incident details only as needed helps to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the incident information, as well as the privacy and reputation of the affected individuals and the organization. Sharing incident details only as needed also helps to prevent unauthorized disclosure, modification, deletion, or misuse of the incident information, which could compromise the investigation, evidence, remediation, or legal actions.

References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 4: Information Security Incident Management, Section: Incident Response Process, page 2311; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 49, page 462.

NEW QUESTION 112
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST helps to ensure a risk response plan will be developed and executed in a timely manner?

A. Establishing risk metrics
B. Training on risk management procedures
C. Reporting on documented deficiencies
D. Assigning a risk owner

Answer: D

Explanation:
Assigning a risk owner is the best way to ensure a risk response plan will be developed and executed in a timely manner, because a risk owner is responsible for monitoring, controlling, and reporting on the risk, as well as implementing the appropriate risk response actions. A risk owner should have the authority, accountability, and resources to manage the risk effectively. Establishing risk metrics, training on risk management procedures, and reporting on documented deficiencies are all important aspects of risk management, but they do not guarantee that a risk response plan will be executed promptly and properly. Risk metrics help to measure and communicate the risk level and performance, but they do not assign any responsibility or action. Training on risk management procedures helps to increase the awareness and competence of the staff involved in risk management, but it does not ensure that they will follow the procedures or have the authority to do so. Reporting on documented deficiencies helps to identify and communicate the gaps and weaknesses in the risk management process, but it does not provide any solutions or corrective actions. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, ISACA, 2021, pages 125-126, 136-137.

NEW QUESTION 114
- (Topic 1)
IT projects have gone over budget with too many security controls being added post- production. Which of the following would MOST help to ensure that relevant controls are applied to a project?

A. Involving information security at each stage of project management
B. Identifying responsibilities during the project business case analysis
C. Creating a data classification framework and providing it to stakeholders
D. Providing stakeholders with minimum information security requirements

Answer: A

Explanation:
The best way to ensure that relevant controls are applied to a project is to involve information security at each stage of project management. This will help to identify and address the security risks and requirements of the project from the beginning, and to integrate security controls into the project design, development, testing, and implementation. This will also help to avoid adding unnecessary or ineffective controls post- production, which can increase the project cost and complexity, and reduce the project performance and quality. By involving information security at each stage of project management, the information security manager can ensure that the project delivers the expected security value and aligns with the organization’s security strategy and objectives. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 41.

NEW QUESTION 119
- (Topic 1)
An information security manager developing an incident response plan MUST ensure it includes:

A. an inventory of critical data.
B. criteria for escalation.
C. a business impact analysis (BIA).
D. critical infrastructure diagrams.

Answer: B

Explanation:
An incident response plan is a set of procedures and guidelines that define the roles and responsibilities of the incident response team, the steps to follow in the event of an incident, and the communication and escalation protocols to ensure timely and effective resolution of incidents. One of the essential components of an incident response plan is the criteria for escalation, which specify the conditions and thresholds that trigger the escalation of an incident to a higher level of authority or a different function within the organization. The criteria for escalation may depend on factors such as the severity, impact, duration, scope, and complexity of the incident, as well as the availability and capability of the incident response team. The criteria for escalation help to ensure that incidents are handled by the appropriate personnel, that management is kept informed and involved, and that the necessary resources and support are provided to resolve the incident. References = https://blog.exigence.io/a-practical-approach-to-incident- management-escalation
https://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/infosec/docs/Guidelines/Information_Security_Incident_Response_Escalation_Guideline.pdf

NEW QUESTION 121
- (Topic 1)
An online bank identifies a successful network attack in progress. The bank should FIRST:

A. isolate the affected network segment.
B. report the root cause to the board of directors.
C. assess whether personally identifiable information (Pll) is compromised.
D. shut down the entire network.

Answer: A

Explanation:
The online bank should first isolate the affected network segment, as this is the most effective way to contain the attack and prevent it from spreading to other parts of the network or compromising more data or systems. Isolating the affected network segment also helps to preserve the evidence and facilitate the

investigation and recovery process. Reporting the root cause to the board of directors, assessing whether personally identifiable information (Pll) is compromised, and shutting down the entire network are not the first actions that the online bank should take, as they may not be feasible or appropriate at the time of the attack, and may cause more disruption, confusion, or damage to the business operations and reputation. References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 1641; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2023, page 362; ISACA CISM - iSecPrep, page 213

NEW QUESTION 122
- (Topic 1)
How does an incident response team BEST leverage the results of a business impact analysis (BIA)?

A. Assigning restoration priority during incidents
B. Determining total cost of ownership (TCO)
C. Evaluating vendors critical to business recovery
D. Calculating residual risk after the incident recovery phase

Answer: A

Explanation:
The incident response team can best leverage the results of a business impact analysis (BIA) by assigning restoration priority during incidents. A BIA is a process that identifies and evaluates the criticality and dependency of the organization’s business functions, processes, and resources, and the potential impacts and consequences of their disruption or loss. The BIA results provide the basis for determining the recovery objectives, strategies, and plans for the organization’s business continuity and disaster recovery. By using the BIA results, the incident response team can prioritize the restoration of the most critical and time-sensitive business functions, processes, and resources, and allocate the appropriate resources, personnel, and time to minimize the impact and duration of the incident.
Determining total cost of ownership (TCO) (B) is not a relevant way to leverage the results of a BIA, as it is not directly related to incident response. TCO is a financial metric that estimates the total direct and indirect costs of owning and operating an asset or a system over its lifecycle. TCO may be useful for evaluating the cost-effectiveness and return on investment of different security solutions or alternatives, but it does not help the incident response team to respond to or recover from an incident.
Evaluating vendors critical to business recovery © is also not a relevant way to leverage the results of a BIA, as it is not a primary responsibility of the incident response team. Evaluating vendors critical to business recovery is a part of the vendor management process, which involves selecting, contracting, monitoring, and reviewing the vendors that provide essential products or services to support the organization’s business continuity and disaster recovery. Evaluating vendors critical to business recovery may be done before or after an incident, but not during an incident, as it does not contribute to the incident response or restoration activities.
Calculating residual risk after the incident recovery phase (D) is also not a relevant way to leverage the results of a BIA, as it is not a timely or effective use of the BIA results. Residual risk is the risk that remains after the implementation of risk treatment or mitigation measures. Calculating residual risk after the incident recovery phase may be done as a part of the incident review or improvement process, but not during the incident response or restoration phase, as it does not help the incident response team to resolve or contain the incident.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 4: Information Security Incident Management, Section: Incident Response Plan, Subsection: Business Impact Analysis, page 182-1831

NEW QUESTION 125
- (Topic 1)
A cloud application used by an organization is found to have a serious vulnerability. After assessing the risk, which of the following would be the information security manager's BEST course of action?

A. Instruct the vendor to conduct penetration testing.
B. Suspend the connection to the application in the firewall
C. Report the situation to the business owner of the application.
D. Initiate the organization's incident response process.

Answer: D

Explanation:
= Initiating the organization’s incident response process is the best course of action for the information security manager when a cloud application used by the organization is found to have a serious vulnerability. The incident response process is a set of predefined steps and procedures that aim to contain, analyze, resolve, and learn from security incidents. The information security manager should follow the incident response process to ensure that the vulnerability is properly reported, assessed, mitigated, and communicated to the relevant stakeholders. The incident response process should also involve the cloud service provider (CSP) and the business owner of the application, as they are responsible for the security and functionality of the cloud application. Instructing the vendor to conduct penetration testing, suspending the connection to the application in the firewall, and reporting the situation to the business owner of the application are all possible actions that may be taken as part of the incident response process, but they are not the best initial course of action. Penetration testing may help to identify the root cause and the impact of the vulnerability, but it may also cause further damage or disruption to the cloud application. Suspending the connection to the application in the firewall may prevent unauthorized access or exploitation of the vulnerability, but it may also affect the availability and continuity of the cloud application. Reporting the situation to the business owner of the application is an important step to inform them of the risk and the potential business impact, but it is not sufficient to address the vulnerability and its consequences. Therefore, the information security manager should initiate the incident response process as the best course of action, and then perform the other actions as appropriate based on the incident response plan and the risk assessment. References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 211 1; CISM Practice Quiz 2

NEW QUESTION 126
- (Topic 1)
An organization's marketing department wants to use an online collaboration service, which is not in compliance with the information security policy, A risk assessment is performed, and risk acceptance is being pursued. Approval of risk acceptance should be provided by:

A. the chief risk officer (CRO).
B. business senior management.
C. the information security manager.
D. the compliance officer.

Answer: B

Explanation:
Risk acceptance is the decision to accept the level of residual risk after applying security controls, and to tolerate the potential impact and consequences of a security incident. Approval of risk acceptance should be provided by business senior management, as they are the owners and accountable parties of the business

processes, activities, and assets that are exposed to the risk. Business senior management should also have the authority and responsibility to allocate the resources, personnel, and budget to implement and monitor the risk acceptance decision, and to report and escalate the risk acceptance status to the board of directors or the executive management.
The chief risk officer (CRO) (A) is a senior executive who oversees the organization's risk management function, and provides guidance, direction, and support for the identification, assessment, treatment, and monitoring of risks across the organization. The CRO may be involved in the risk acceptance process, such as by reviewing, endorsing, or advising the risk acceptance decision, but the CRO is not the ultimate approver of risk acceptance, as the CRO is not the owner or accountable party of the business processes, activities, and assets that are exposed to the risk.
The information security manager © is the manager who leads and coordinates the information security function, and provides guidance, direction, and support for the development, implementation, and maintenance of the information security program and activities. The information security manager may be involved in the risk acceptance process, such as by conducting the risk assessment, recommending the risk treatment options, or documenting the risk acceptance decision, but the information security manager is not the ultimate approver of risk acceptance, as the information security manager is not the owner or accountable party of the business processes, activities, and assets that are exposed to the risk.
The compliance officer (D) is the officer who oversees the organization's compliance function, and provides guidance, direction, and support for the identification, assessment, implementation, and monitoring of the compliance requirements and obligations across the organization. The compliance officer may be involved in the risk acceptance process, such as by verifying, validating, or advising the risk acceptance decision, but the compliance officer is not the ultimate approver of risk acceptance, as the compliance officer is not the owner or accountable party of the business processes, activities, and assets that are exposed to the risk.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 2: Information Risk Management, Section: Risk Treatment, Subsection: Risk Acceptance, page 95-961

NEW QUESTION 130
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following is MOST important to ensuring information stored by an organization is protected appropriately?

A. Defining information stewardship roles
B. Defining security asset categorization
C. Assigning information asset ownership
D. Developing a records retention schedule

Answer: C

Explanation:
The most important factor to ensuring information stored by an organization is protected appropriately is assigning information asset ownership. Information asset ownership is the process of identifying and assigning the roles and responsibilities of the individuals or groups who have the authority and accountability for the information assets and their protection. Information asset owners are responsible for defining the business value, classification, and security requirements of the information assets, as well as granting the access rights and privileges to the information users and custodians. Information asset owners are also responsible for monitoring and reviewing the security performance and compliance of the information assets, and reporting and resolving any security issues or incidents. By assigning information asset ownership, the organization can ensure that the information assets are properly identified, categorized, protected, and managed according to their importance, sensitivity, and regulatory obligations. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 1: Information Security Governance, Section: Data Classification, page 331; CISM Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual, 10th Edition, Question 62, page 572.

NEW QUESTION 135
- (Topic 1)
In a business proposal, a potential vendor promotes being certified for international security standards as a measure of its security capability.
Before relying on this certification, it is MOST important that the information security manager confirms that the:

A. current international standard was used to assess security processes.
B. certification will remain current through the life of the contract.
C. certification scope is relevant to the service being offered.
D. certification can be extended to cover the client's business.

Answer: C

Explanation:
Before relying on a vendor's certification for international security standards, such as ISO/IEC 27001, it is most important that the information security manager confirms that the certification scope is relevant to the service being offered. The certification scope defines the boundaries and applicability of the information security management system (ISMS) that the vendor has implemented and audited. The scope should cover the processes, activities, assets, and locations that are involved in delivering the service to the client. If the scope is too narrow, too broad, or not aligned with the service, the certification may not provide sufficient assurance of the vendor's security capability and performance. The current international standard was used to assess security processes (A) is an important factor, but not the most important one. The information security manager should verify that the vendor's certification is based on the latest version of the standard, which reflects the current best practices and requirements for information security. However, the standard itself is generic and adaptable, and does not prescribe specific security controls or solutions. Therefore, the certification does not guarantee that the vendor has implemented the most appropriate or effective security processes for the service being offered.
The certification will remain current through the life of the contract (B) is also an important factor, but not the most important one. The information security manager should ensure that the vendor's certification is valid and up to date, and that the vendor maintains its compliance with the standard throughout the contract period. However, the certification is not a one-time event, but a continuous process that requires periodic surveillance audits and recertification every three years. Therefore, the certification does not ensure that the vendor's security capability and performance will remain consistent or satisfactory for the duration of the contract.
The certification can be extended to cover the client's business (D) is not a relevant factor, as the certification is specific to the vendor's ISMS and does not apply to the client's business. The information security manager should not rely on the vendor's certification to substitute or supplement the client's own security policies, standards, or controls. The information security manager should conduct a due diligence and risk assessment of the vendor, and establish a clear and comprehensive service level agreement (SLA) that defines the security roles, responsibilities, expectations, and metrics for both parties. References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 3: Information Security Program Development and Management, Section: Information Security Program Management, Subsection: Procurement and Vendor Management, page 142-1431

NEW QUESTION 137
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following BEST enables an information security manager to determine the comprehensiveness of an organization's information security strategy?

A. Internal security audit
B. External security audit
C. Organizational risk appetite

D. Business impact analysis (BIA)

Answer: C

Explanation:
The organizational risk appetite is the best indicator of the comprehensiveness of an information security strategy. The risk appetite defines the level of risk that the organization is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives. The information security strategy should align with the risk appetite and provide a framework for managing the risks that the organization faces. An internal or external security audit can assess the effectiveness of the information security strategy, but not its comprehensiveness. A business impact analysis (BIA) can identify the critical business processes and assets that need to be protected, but not the overall scope and direction of the information security strategy. References = CISM Review Manual 2023, page 36 1; CISM Practice Quiz 2

NEW QUESTION 141
- (Topic 1)
When properly implemented, secure transmission protocols protect transactions:

A. from eavesdropping.
B. from denial of service (DoS) attacks.
C. on the client desktop.
D. in the server's database.

Answer: A

Explanation:
Secure transmission protocols are network protocols that ensure the integrity and security of data transmitted across network connections. The specific network security protocol used depends on the type of protected data and network connection. Each protocol defines the techniques and procedures required to protect the network data from unauthorized or malicious attempts to read or exfiltrate information1. One of the most common threats to network data is eavesdropping, which is the interception and analysis of network traffic by an unauthorized third party. Eavesdropping can compromise the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of network data, and can lead to data breaches, identity theft, fraud, espionage, and sabotage2. Therefore, secure transmission protocols protect transactions from eavesdropping by using encryption, authentication, and integrity mechanisms to prevent unauthorized access and modification of network data. Encryption is the process of transforming data into an unreadable format using a secret key, so that only authorized parties can decrypt and access the data. Authentication is the process of verifying the identity and legitimacy of the parties involved in a network communication, using methods such as passwords, certificates, tokens, or biometrics. Integrity is the process of ensuring that the data has not been altered or corrupted during transmission, using methods such as checksums, hashes, or digital signatures3. Some examples of secure transmission protocols are:
? Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) and Transport Layer Security (TLS), which are widely used protocols for securing web, email, and other application layer communications over the Internet. SSL and TLS use symmetric encryption, asymmetric encryption, and digital certificates to establish secure sessions between clients and servers, and to encrypt and authenticate the data exchanged.
? Internet Protocol Security (IPsec), which is a protocol and algorithm suite that secures data transferred over public networks like the Internet. IPsec operates at the network layer and provides end-to-end security for IP packets. IPsec uses two main protocols: Authentication Header (AH), which provides data integrity and authentication, and Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP), which provides data confidentiality, integrity, and authentication. IPsec also uses two modes: transport mode, which protects the payload of IP packets, and tunnel mode, which protects the entire IP packet.
? Secure Shell (SSH), which is a protocol that allows secure remote login and command execution over insecure networks. SSH uses encryption, authentication, and integrity to protect the data transmitted between a client and a server. SSH also supports port forwarding, which allows secure tunneling of other network services through SSH connections.
References = 1: 6 Network Security Protocols You Should Know | Cato Networks 2: Eavesdropping Attacks - an overview | ScienceDirect Topics 3: Network Security Protocols
- an overview | ScienceDirect Topics : SSL/TLS (Secure Sockets Layer/Transport Layer Security) - Definition : IPsec - Wikipedia : Secure Shell - Wikipedia

NEW QUESTION 142
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following MUST be defined in order for an information security manager to evaluate the appropriateness of controls currently in place?

A. Security policy
B. Risk management framework
C. Risk appetite
D. Security standards

Answer: C

Explanation:
= Risk appetite is the amount and type of risk that an organization is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives. It is a key factor that influences the information security strategy and objectives, as well as the selection and implementation of security controls. Risk appetite must be defined in order for an information security manager to evaluate the appropriateness of controls currently in place, as it provides the basis for determining whether the controls are sufficient, excessive, or inadequate to address the risks faced by the organization. The information security manager should align the controls with the risk appetite of the organization, ensuring that the controls are effective, efficient, and economical. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 29, page 31.

NEW QUESTION 144
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following should be the PRIMARY objective of the information security incident response process?

A. Conducting incident triage
B. Communicating with internal and external parties
C. Minimizing negative impact to critical operations
D. Classifying incidents

Answer: C

Explanation:
The primary objective of the information security incident response process is to minimize the negative impact to critical operations. An information security incident is an event that threatens or compromises the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the organization’s information assets or processes. The information security incident response process is a process that defines the roles, responsibilities, procedures, and tools for detecting, analyzing, containing,

eradicating, recovering, and learning from information security incidents. The main goal of the information security incident response process is to restore the normal operations as quickly and effectively as possible, and to prevent or reduce the harm or loss caused by the incident to the organization, its stakeholders, or its environment.
Conducting incident triage (A) is an important activity of the information security incident response process, but not the primary objective. Incident triage is the process of prioritizing and assigning the incidents based on their severity, urgency, and impact. Incident triage helps to allocate the appropriate resources, personnel, and time to handle the incidents, and to escalate the incidents to the relevant authorities or parties if needed. However, incident triage is not the ultimate goal of the information security incident response process, but a means to achieve it.
Communicating with internal and external parties (B) is also an important activity of the information security incident response process, but not the primary objective. Communicating with internal and external parties is the process of informing and updating the stakeholders, such as management, employees, customers, partners, regulators, or media, about the incident status, actions, and outcomes. Communicating with internal and external parties helps to maintain the trust, confidence, and reputation of the organization, and to comply with the legal and contractual obligations, such as notification or reporting requirements. However, communicating with internal and external parties is not the ultimate goal of the information security incident response process, but a means to achieve it.
Classifying incidents (D) is also an important activity of the information security incident response process, but not the primary objective. Classifying incidents is the process of categorizing and labeling the incidents based on their type, source, cause, or impact. Classifying incidents helps to identify and understand the nature and scope of the incidents, and to apply the appropriate response procedures and controls. However, classifying incidents is not the ultimate goal of the information security incident response process, but a means to achieve it.
References = CISM Review Manual, 16th Edition, Chapter 4: Information Security Incident Management, Section: Incident Response Plan, page 1811

NEW QUESTION 147
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following would be MOST helpful to identify worst-case disruption scenarios?

A. Business impact analysis (BIA)
B. Business process analysis
C. SWOT analysis
D. Cast-benefit analysis

Answer: A

Explanation:
A business impact analysis (BIA) is the process of identifying and evaluating the potential effects of disruptions to critical business functions or processes. A BIA helps to determine the recovery priorities, objectives, and strategies for the organization in the event of a disaster or crisis. A BIA also helps to identify the worst-case disruption scenarios, which are the scenarios that would cause the most severe impact to the organization in terms of financial, operational, reputational, or legal consequences. By conducting a BIA, the organization can assess the likelihood and impact of various disruption scenarios, and plan accordingly to mitigate the risks and ensure business continuity and resilience. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 181, page 183.

NEW QUESTION 148
- (Topic 1)
Management decisions concerning information security investments will be MOST effective when they are based on:

A. a process for identifying and analyzing threats and vulnerabilities.
B. an annual loss expectancy (ALE) determined from the history of security events,
C. the reporting of consistent and periodic assessments of risks.
D. the formalized acceptance of risk analysis by management,

Answer: C

Explanation:
Management decisions concerning information security investments will be most effective when they are based on the reporting of consistent and periodic assessments of risks. This will help management to understand the current and emerging threats, vulnerabilities, and impacts that affect the organization's information assets and business processes. It will also help management to prioritize the allocation of resources and funding for the most critical and cost-effective security controls and solutions. The reporting of consistent and periodic assessments of risks will also enable management to monitor the performance and effectiveness of the information security program, and to adjust the security strategy and objectives as needed. References = CISM Review Manual 15th Edition, page 28.

NEW QUESTION 149
- (Topic 1)
Which of the following service offerings in a typical Infrastructure as a Service (laaS) model will BEST enable a cloud service provider to assist customers when recovering from a security incident?

A. Availability of web application firewall logs.
B. Capability of online virtual machine analysis
C. Availability of current infrastructure documentation
D. Capability to take a snapshot of virtual machines

Answer: D

Explanation:
A snapshot is a point-in-time copy of the state of a virtual machine (VM) that can be used to restore the VM to a previous state in case of a security incident or a disaster. A snapshot can capture the VM's disk, memory, and device configuration, allowing for a quick and easy recovery of the VM's data and functionality. Snapshots can also be used to create backups, clones, or replicas of VMs for testing, analysis, or migration purposes. Snapshots are a common service offering in Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) models, where customers can provision and manage VMs on demand from a cloud service provider (CSP). A CSP that offers the capability to take snapshots of VMs can assist customers when recovering from a security incident by providing them with the following benefits12:
? Faster recovery time: Snapshots can reduce the downtime and data loss caused by a security incident by allowing customers to quickly revert their VMs to a known good state. Snapshots can also help customers avoid the need to reinstall or reconfigure their VMs after an incident, saving time and resources.
? Easier incident analysis: Snapshots can enable customers to perform online or offline analysis of their VMs after an incident, without affecting the production environment. Customers can use snapshots to examine the VM's disk, memory, and logs for evidence of compromise, root cause analysis, or forensic investigation. Customers can also use snapshots to test and validate their incident response plans or remediation actions before applying them to the production VMs.
? Enhanced security posture: Snapshots can improve the security posture of customers by enabling them to implement best practices such as backup and restore,

disaster recovery, and business continuity. Snapshots can help customers protect their VMs from accidental or malicious deletion, corruption, or modification, as well as from environmental or technical disruptions. Snapshots can also help customers comply with regulatory or contractual requirements for data retention, availability, or integrity. References = What is Disaster Recovery as a Service? | CSA - Cloud Security Alliance, What Is Cloud Incident Response (IR)? CrowdStrike

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