Critical Infrastructure Protection in the USA: Where are we after 8 years?

CERT

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Agenda

- CERT/CC Overview
- The Last Ten Years
- ISACs
- Homeland Security
- Security Industry
- Business Motivators
- Conclusions









CERT/CC Focus



The Last Ten Years



CERT

October 1997

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Critical Infrastructure Protection before 1997



National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC)

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ISACs

- Financial Services ISAC
 - VeriSign
- Chemical Sector ISAC
 - Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
- Emergency Management and Response ISAC
 - U.S. Fire Administration, DHS
- Electricity Sector ISAC
 - North American Electric Reliability Council
- Energy ISAC
- Food and Agriculture ISAC
 - Food Marketing Institute

- Multi-State ISAC
- Telecommunications ISAC
 - National Communications System (DHS)
- Real Estate ISAC
 - The Real Estate Roundtable
- Surface Transportation ISAC
 - EWA IIT; sponsored by American Association of Railroads and American Public Transportation Association
- Water ISAC
 - Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
- IT ISAC
 - ISS



Homeland Security

- support for federal, state, local governments has made real progress
- critical infrastructure protection is a hard problem
- information sharing
 - PCII



Security Industry Maturation

- MSSPs
- anti-virus updates
- vendor vulnerability handling



Motivators

- Healthcare Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Sarbanes-Oxley
- Graham-Leach-Bliley



Business Problem

- we need to focus on the business case for security
 - demonstrate those investments bring operational benefits
 - often provides side benefits
 - o attack prevention is also accident prevention
 - o customer confidence
 - o reliability
 - o continuity of operations



Better understanding of the threat

- evidence of real threats
- how we know what vulnerabilities we need to worry about
- better information from law enforcement and intelligence agencies

- National Computer Security Survey (NCSS)
 - http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/survey/ncss/ncss.htm



Conclusion

- Critical Infrastructure has been an issue for more than 25 years
- Operators have much better support from vendors and service providers
- Homeland Security is making progress; still has far to go
- We need to do a better job of building a business case
- We need a better understanding of the threat

