Executive Risk Report

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Recommended Distribution | Chief Executive Officer | Chief Compliance Officer | Chief Information Security Officer

Outsourcing Risks

Summary

Institutions and their customers achieve benefits by outsourcing products and services. However, responsibility for managing the risks associated with those products or activities cannot be outsourced.

What role does threat intelligence gathering and information sharing have in today's financial services industry?

The safety and soundness of your institution relies on obtaining and acting on information security and technology intelligence regarding local, regional, national, and international threat activity. Countering today's threat landscape requires up to the minute intelligence rather than reports and indicators of compromise from months ago.

This is why the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) states, "Financial institution management is expected to monitor and maintain sufficient awareness of cybersecurity threats and vulnerability information so they may evaluate risk and respond accordingly. Financial institution management also should establish procedures to evaluate and apply the various types and quantity of cyber threat and vulnerability information to meet the needs of their organization. ***Financial institutions and their critical technology service providers can use the FS-ISAC and the other resources listed in this statement to monitor cyber threats and vulnerabilities and to enhance their risk management and internal controls***. Financial institutions can also use the FS-ISAC to share information with other financial institutions. Financial institutions with less than $1 billion in assets may also subscribe to free limited critical notifications."

Does free threat intelligence meet this requirement?

The FFIEC and other regulators specifically mention FS-ISAC because it is the only global intelligence sharing community solely ***focused on financial services***. Threat intelligence sharing should not be defined solely as free security blog posts, newsletters, financial institution letters, and advisories from the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and FBI. While informative, they are not proactive, real-time information sharing from peers who observe active threats in the wild. Information like this can only come from an information-sharing organization like FS-ISAC.

For internal discussion…

Where does your institution obtain its real-time threat intelligence and information sharing from?

Are you using a managed security service provider asserting they provide threat-intelligence and information sharing services? Were you notified about recent incidents involving the MOVEit vulnerability or the Anonymous Sudan attacks, and did they notify you with real-time updates?

What recommendation has your regulator shared about where you obtain threat intelligence from?

Events

Cyber Range Exercise Ransomware

9 August 2023

CAPS | Banking Exercise

4 September – 13 October 2023

FinCyber Today

1 – 4 October 2023

About FS-ISAC

FS-ISAC is the member-driven, not-for-profit organization that advances cybersecurity and resilience in the global financial system, protecting the financial institutions and the people they serve. The organization's real-time information-sharing network amplifies the intelligence, knowledge, and practices of its members for the financial sector's collective security and defenses. To learn more, visit fsisac.com.

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