

## **Insider Threats: Factors and Responses**

### **Module Learning Outcomes: (Please include explicit references to the submitted Grant Learning Outcomes – Appendix 3)**

#3: Explain different types of attacks on computer systems.

#5: Realize the importance of password and username management and apply effective approaches to increase their security

#11: Develop skills needed to defeat various mal- and social engineering attacks.

#13: Realize the important role humans play in the digital world and understand how to minimize accidental and intentional human errors.

### **The Module Addresses the Following First Principles: (Please include explicit references to the First Principles - Appendix 1)**

#4: Least Privilege

#7: Information Hiding

Ethics

### **Description:**

This module focuses on insider threats and their role in developing effective cybersecurity systems. Humans are the weakest link in cyber security and this will be exemplified in this module. Specifically, this module defines insider threats (versus errors), discusses characteristics of becoming a threat, examples of used threats, and how to prevent the damage caused by this group. The context of this discuss meets the least privilege cyber security principle, as well as ethical considerations.

The module will begin with a discussion of defining a crime and whether or not employees can

In discussing insider threats with middle to high school aged students, scenarios will also be provided, though designed for relevance in their experiences, for small group discussions. Events such that can occur at home, school or place of employment will be addressed. Motivations and outcomes of security breaches will be discussed in relation to prevention. For example, if they look at an exam, what should the student do? Online video examples will also be used in

### **Assessment:**

For both teachers and students, a quiz will be given to them at the beginning of the session (pre), as well as at end (post), to gauge what they have learned about insider threats. Another tool used to assess their learning is a small group p insider threat situation and outcome. The event, characters, location, security threat technique, and outcome will be developed and shown to the entire group as a performance that will be evaluated by the audience. Key concepts will be portrayed in the small group project and a rubric will be given to everyone to evaluate the group and for the groups to understand how they will be assessed.

### **Suitability to Various Groups:**

The main concept and points in the understanding of insider threats are relate to all persons. The content will be adapted with relevant examples to students, as well as for teachers. Teachers will further understand the significance of their actions in the classroom, such as the potential threat when students share passwords with each other (or teachers to students) and allowing students to have full access to their computer system. Middle and high school students will understand the importance of following computer security protocols, such as not sharing passwords with others, and the significance of ethical decision making in having computer access beyond their home.

### **How the Teachers and Students Groups will be Interacting:**

This module will have each group work independently to create a scenario where other groups same for each group, though the scenario they devise will be unique to each group.