NORTHCROSS
GROUP

Be Prepared

Information Security Services

Being prepared when things happen can mean the difference between success and failure in the business world. Threats to operations come from both outside and inside forces like natural disasters, terrorism, criminal actions, or internal fraud and negligence.

Northcross Group (NCG) information security services ensure that you are prepared. From proactive risk mitigation to detailed contingency plans for when the unexpected occurs, NCG helps you each step of the way.

NCG's approach to information security is based on three tiers of support.

The first is a Quick-Look Risk Assessment (QLRA). The purpose of the QLRA is to understand your organization's general risk profile. We look at your operations, the nature of your business, and the processes and procedures you have in place. This snapshot is then analyzed in light of regulatory requirements and industry best practices. The QLRA identifies areas requiring attention and aids in developing an understanding of existing exposures.

The next tier is the Security Assessment (SA), which takes an in-depth look at security across systems, policies, procedures, and configurations. The SA consists of specific audits, scans, and reviews that provide a detailed roadmap of possible vulnerabilities. As part of the SA, we outline the specific steps and dependencies. This SA roadmap guides the strategic, tactical, and operational decision-making from both investment and resource allocation perspectives.

Information Security Services

- Quick-Look Risk Assessments
- Comprehensive Security Assessments
- Security Policy & Procedure Development
- Business Continuity Planning
- Compliance Assessments & Audits

Security Programs & Frameworks

- ISO/IEC 17799:2005 Compliant Solutions
- Payment Card Industry (PCI) Standards
- Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA)
- Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

The third tier of NCG support focuses on achieving the roadmap and keeping it up-to-date. NCG builds and updates plans, policies, and procedures. We ensure that infrastructure, system configurations, and designs are properly implemented. We work with you to make adjustments as the environment and technologies change and to incorporate them into your overall business plans. Information security becomes a more seamless part of your operations, allowing you to plan for the unplanned over time.

NCG Assessment Model

The NCG security risk assessment model is used by numerous organizations in a variety of industries. The core of the NCG approach is a comprehensive infrastructure assessment with reviews of security policies, configurations, architecture and scanning of each platform. The assessment examines configuration management, IT policies and procedures, HR policies, physical security policies, and configuration and procedures for security facilities. Third-party and outsourced vendors' infrastructure, policies, and procedures are included in this holistic review.

NCG evaluates the current design structure and security control mechanisms to determine effectiveness and alignment with security goals, industry standards, and compliance. Strengths and weaknesses in the technical security architecture and third-party vendors are rigorously analyzed.

Examining Security in Seventeen Essential Areas:

- Security policy and process
- Security organization and personnel
- Asset management and classification
- Human resources security
- Physical and environmental security
- Network security and operations
- Security access controls
- Third-party system integration
- IT security policy
- Incident management
- Business continuity management
- Compliance
- Configuration management
- Hardening guides
- Patch management
- Software development methodology
- System development life cycle methodology

Planning Contingencies

Traditionally, business continuity planning focused on the recovery of computer systems. However, recovery of computer systems alone offers no guarantee of the organization's ability to get back to work in a timely fashion and survive. NCG's business continuity planning and disaster recovery model does. In fact, that is the whole point.

Risk mitigation, preparedness, and contingency planning are critical. Preparations include technology, organizational, and physical operations. And these change as your organization evolves.

NCG guides clients through the many components of an effective continuity strategy. NCG identifies the infrastructure, relationships, and processes that form the foundation of a multi-purpose continuity strategy.

NCG contingency plans focus on the immediate response and recovery activities to re-establish critical business infrastructure. The procedures defined in the business continuity and disaster recovery plan define the resources critical for recovery, and list the timeline and personnel responsible for effecting the recovery. The plan describes how the recovered resources will operate. The plan also outlines business restoration procedures for the resumption of normal business conditions.

About NCG

The Northcross Group (NCG) is a New England based firm providing business system and technology services. NCG makes it our business to ensure that technology serves our clients, allowing them to meet business goals, gain competitive advantage, enhance security, implement governance, ensure compliance, and stabilize operations.

We have expertise in a broad range of industries and across technology disciplines. NCG consultants bring a blend of technical and business acumen with a proven track record in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. We approach business challenges head-on and figure out the most effective way to leverage technology to reach objectives. We work with you and provide support to help ensure tangible business value.

NCG uses disciplined processes, refined from decades of experience. Flexibility is a cornerstone of our industry-tested methodologies—giving NCG the ability to adapt to changing environments and needs. We strive to build lasting relationships with our clients, contributing to their ongoing success.

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