

Tabletop Exercises



Turn your vulnerabilities into capabilities

To elevate your security posture, you must have a proactive approach to identifying and mitigating threats. However, with the daily expanse of cyber attacks, it becomes difficult for organizations to shift to a more proactive method of threat response. Rapidly increasing demand and a shrinking pool of talent have left many security teams lacking the bandwidth, knowledge, and/or expertise needed to properly prepare and respond to attacks. So, your team lacks the time and expertise they need to proactively manage threats within your network. Where do you even start?

The Cisco Talos Incident Response (CTIR) Tabletop Exercise Service helps test your people, process, and technology against real-world scenarios, so when a threat breaches your defenses, you are ready.

With this service, you will receive:

- Event-based tabletop exercises designed around your specific security goals.
- Detailed findings report that summarizes the results and insights from the exercise.
- Formal presentation of findings and recommended next steps.

Benefits

- Gain deeper insight into the effectiveness of your incident response plan by examining your supporting procedures and key participants in your IR workflows.
- Validate and test your communication processes and ensure information is being shared appropriately so your team can make timely decisions.
- Identify any gaps in your existing solutions and utilize expert recommendations on how to remediate.
- Utilize insights to understand and test connections to any larger crisis management plan.

Case study

University system

Challenges

- Client was concerned about a lack of process maturity and education regarding their incident response plans.
- Client was anxious about the risks associated with being involved in a headline-grabbing security incident.

Solution

- Cisco Incident Response Retainer was put in place to act as insurance and to proactively improve security posture.
- Proactive retainer services included semi-annual Tabletop Exercises across multiple levels of the organization.
- Worked with CISO to design a roadmap for a healthy incident response plan.

Outcomes

- Broader engagement identified outside of the InfoSec team.
- Designed and led educational workshops for team members and key executives.
- Tabletop exercises and readiness assessments identified vulnerabilities and gaps and provided recommendations for remediation.

Enhance your incident response

Your organization's preparedness to respond is critical during an attack. With this service, CTIR experts create custom scenarios designed to test your processes against the threats facing your organization. At the end of the engagement, your team will receive an after-action report identifying areas of opportunities in your incident response capabilities.

Exercise types

We provide a variety of tabletop exercises to address your specific needs:

Traditional: Best for testing new incident response plans, or teams new to the existing incident response plan. It can focus on technical or non-technical aspects, including executive, business unit, or IT needs.

Gamification: Introduces elements of chance, since incident response doesn't always go the way we plan.

Simulated: Includes paper or electronic-based evidence trails to test the technical team in their investigation.

Security expertise at your fingertips

When you partner with Cisco Talos Incident Response, you ensure your organization has direct access to unique and actionable threat intelligence, world-class emergency response capabilities, and unmatched expertise to help you be prepared for what's now and what's next.

Next Steps

To learn more about this service or the Cisco Talos Incident Response Retainer, please contact your account team or visit the [Talos Incident Response web page](#) for more information.