



Practical Cybersecurity Compliance for the US Academic Research Fleet

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Acronyms

- **ARF** - Academic Research Fleet
- **CRM** - Cyber Risk Management
- **CRMP** - Cyber Risk Management Plan
- **GCSOS** - Guidelines on Cybersecurity Onboard Ships
- **IMO** - International Maritime Organization
- **ISM** - International Safety Management
- **MSC** - IMO Maritime Safety Committee
- **NIST CSF** - National Institute for Standards and Technology Cyber Security Framework
- **SMS** - Safety Management System

Presentation Outline

1. Introductions (Who are we?)
2. What is IMO CRM compliance?
3. ARF's reasonable approach to compliance
4. Questions

Introductions

Introductions

- **US Academic Research Fleet** - 17 oceanographic vessels and various submersibles/autonomous vehicles owned by NSF, the Office of Naval Research (ONR), and U.S. universities and laboratories.
- **ResearchSOC/OmniSOC** - the shared cybersecurity operations center for higher education and research

What is IMO Cyber Risk Management (CRM)
Compliance?

IMO CRM Compliance

- Combination of two amendments made to ISM Code:
 - **MSC.428(98)** - Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems
 - **MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3** - Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management

MSC.428(98) - Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems

- Sets the requirement for cyber risk management to be incorporated into a ship's Safety Management System (SMS)
- Sets deadline for appropriately addressing cyber risks – No later than first annual verification of Document of Compliance after 1/1/21.
- Points to MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3 for guidance on how to establish a maritime cyber risk management program.

MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3 - Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management

- States that an effective CRM includes these functional elements:
 - Identify
 - Detect
 - Protect
 - Respond
 - Recover
- “For detailed guidance...users should refer to relevant international and industry standards and best practices.”

Selecting a guideline

- Possible options include NIST CSF, ISO 27001, Guidelines for Cybersecurity Onboard Ships (GCSOS)
- ARF Security Team chose GCSOS because it is...
 - directly applicable to maritime environment without additional tailoring
 - Recognized by the IMO and US Coast Guard
 - Has a baseline control set built in

A reasonable approach to compliance

Considerations that should drive your compliance strategy

1. Leverage the language and intent of the requirements and guidance.
2. Within each control there is an easy win, or at minimum a path of least resistance. This should be your starting point to improve upon later.
3. The role of cybersecurity is to enable an organization's mission.

In their own words

- *Cyber risk management means the process of identifying, analysing, assessing and communicating a cyber-related risk and **accepting, avoiding, transferring or mitigating it to an acceptable level, considering costs and benefits of actions taken to stakeholders** - IMO*
- *One **accepted approach** to achieve the above is to comprehensively assess and **compare an organization's current, and desired, cyber risk management postures**. Such a comparison may reveal gaps that can be addressed to achieve risk management objectives through a prioritized cyber risk management plan.*

Approach

1. Formally adopt a guideline.
2. Document your CRM program and control implementation in a Cyber Risk Management Plan (CRMP), focusing on critical equipment.
3. While documenting control implementation identify and document programmatic and security gaps.
4. Use identified gaps and controls to perform a risk assessment.

Approach

5. Create plans and timelines to mitigate identified risks.
6. Update the CRMP as systems and control implementations change.
7. Repeat steps 2-6 at least annually. Easiest way is to focus primarily on what has changed during that year.

How the ARF Security Team helps

- We help ARF members by:
 - creating documentation templates
 - helping fill out CRMPs
 - providing guidance implementing security controls
 - performing gap/risk assessments and giving recommendations for mitigating risks
 - helping with audit/inspection preparation



Questions?