FEMA

Fact Sheet

Resilient Accord Workshop

Resilient Accord is an inter-organizational continuity cyber security workshop designed to increase continuity of operations awareness and discuss how to execute continuity operations during a cyber security event.

The *Resilient Accord* Workshop is designed as a 6-hour interactive workshop consisting of two parts – an information overview and a set of discussion questions. Developed by FEMA National Continuity Programs in coordination with DHS National Cyber Security Division, this workshop enhances continuity of operations capabilities to prepare for and mitigate vulnerabilities during a terrorist event or natural disaster, and identify gaps or weaknesses in organizational continuity plans, policies and procedures.

As the private and public sectors increasingly shift operations to internet based communications technology, all elements of the nation's critical infrastructure are increasingly becoming connected and interdependent. This necessitates a comprehensive continuity planning approach that incorporates cyber security. As Federal, state, territorial, tribal and local government jurisdictions and private sector organizations become more aware of the importance of cyber security considerations in continuity planning, organizations must become more proactive in general about identifying solutions or alternative actions to challenges, gaps or vulnerabilities in their organization's continuity plans and procedures.

Resilient Accord Workshop Objectives

- Increase organizational awareness about the importance of including cyber security considerations when developing or enhancing continuity plans;
- Discuss how cyber disruptions may impact performing essential functions, and address cyber vulnerabilities in existing continuity plans; and
- Establish and enhance relationships between information technology professionals and emergency managers or continuity planners.

Workshop Focus

The workshop focus is to help participating organizations assess their preparedness level to execute continuity operations after a cyber-security threat. The group discussion identifies any missing policies or procedures and how to address them. Including a continuity section and a cyber-security overview, the workshop also helps strengthen preparedness efforts to ensure essential functions remain operational during cyber disruptions. Workshop questions presented by the facilitator will consist of informational injects and discussion points.

The workshop is offered at FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) or at any locations upon request through our regional offices. In addition, FEMA has converted the *Resilient Accord* Workshop to IS-523: Resilient Accord – Exercising Continuity Plans for Cyber Incidents, an Independent Study Course now being offered through EMI via the following link: https://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-523.

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