



THE TISN DESKTOP EXERCISE

in this issue

● THE CIR CONFERENCE	2
● WATER SECTOR UPDATE	2
● CIPMA UPDATE	3
● CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION	3
● 5 MINUTES WITH...	4
● NEW PROTECTIVE SECURITY POLICIES	4

Save the date...

the Security in Government Conference 2012 will be held 3-5 September, in Canberra. For more email SIG2012@ag.gov.au



The inaugural TISN Desktop Exercise on Cross-Sectoral Dependencies was held on 5-6 October 2011 in Melbourne.

The two day event was the first time that TISN members from all Sector Groups have come together to participate in a national cross-sectoral exercise.

Attracting more than 100 stakeholders in total, other participants included representatives from the Resilience Expert Advisory Group, the Australian Government, and state and territory governments.

The exercise is an initiative under the CIR Strategy, helping to improve our preparedness for incidents, our understanding of dependencies across sectors and building our capacity to communicate, coordinate and collaborate in the face of all hazards.


Over the course of this exercise, participants explored the impacts from an escalating electricity outage as well as disruption to liquid fuel supplies, and the impacts on business continuity and recovery arrangements arising from cross-sectoral dependencies.

Participants identified a number of high-level observations, as well as a number of challenges in responding to the scenario. Some of the issues highlighted were:

- there is a need to continue to develop an understanding of cross-sectoral dependencies, particularly how decisions of others impacts individual organisations and sector groups
- effective and robust information flows are critical to allowing stakeholders to understand the impact and duration of power outages, and conduct effective contingency planning
- the ability of one sector to recover may depend on the capabilities of other sectors.

Dr Robert Kay, founder of Incept Labs, also provided a presentation on some aspects of organisational resilience during the networking event. It explored innovation in the private sector and its contribution to the bottom line, in addition to CEO perspectives of organisational resilience.

A final report is being prepared to capture the key observations, lessons and actions arising from the exercise. Once complete, the report will be made available to TISN members.

Meanwhile, if members would like further information on the exercise, please email tisnex@ag.gov.au 

Registration now open!

THE CIR CONFERENCE 2012



All interested parties are welcome to attend the next Critical Infrastructure Resilience (CIR) Conference.

The conference is an initiative under the Australian Government's CIR Strategy, helping to develop an effective business-government partnership with CI owners and operators.


The inaugural conference was held in December 2010 and attracted more than 100 industry delegates, addressing the theme *CIR: Why it's good for business and the community*.

Following on from this, the theme of the next conference is *CIR: Expect the unexpected*, which will further explore the attributes of organisational resilience.

A draft program will be available shortly, featuring a range of experts in the field.

The conference will be held on 15 and 16 March 2012 at Four Points by Sheraton, Darling Harbour, in Sydney.

For more information

- email cirevent@ag.gov.au, or
- visit the events page of the TISN website - www.tisn.gov.au 



Update from the Water Services Sector Group


The Water Services Sector Group has recently released a discussion paper on its forthcoming 2012-2014 communications strategy.

The strategy is looking at how the group can enhance its reputation as a national leader in resilience. To help achieve this goal, the group is gaining an understanding of stakeholders' expectations and will then collaborate with them to tailor communications.

Importantly, the discussion paper gives all members an opportunity to contribute to the strategy – a major focus of which will be identifying opportunities to increase the use of technology to enhance the resilience of the sector. This will include trialling virtual meetings and looking at how the group could use social networks/media as part of its activities.

Under the strategy, the group will also produce a communications toolkit, which will include a range of materials for members to use within their organisations to promote resilience.

This helps meet one of the key objectives of the CIR Strategy – to raise awareness of the value proposition of organisational resilience.

The communications strategy will be finalised in early 2012. 

“A new tasking application process is currently being developed...”

CIPMA UPDATE

Update on the Critical Infrastructure Program for Modelling and Analysis (CIPMA)

Over the past 12 months CIPMA has undergone some significant changes in order to enhance the delivery of the program. In January 2011, CIPMA moved Divisions within the Attorney-General's Department (AGD). In May 2011, several technical experts transferred into CIPMA from Geoscience Australia and joined the AGD Program Management Team in the new CIPMA secure facility.

AGD is currently in the process of upgrading the CIPMA IT infrastructure. This will be integrated into the new AGD secure facility to ensure the safe storage of data while also enhancing the overall capability of the program. It is anticipated that this new technical capability will be operational in early 2012.

CIPMA continues to progress a range of projects through the current change process. The work program for the Transport Sector Group has been reactivated following the Independent Review and Restructure of the program. CIPMA is working closely with the Queensland Government, New South Wales Government and Victorian Government as well as industry partners on a range of transport projects. In addition, the Sydney Water Corporation and the Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation projects are continuing. These tasks have progressed well and both organisations have been positive on the work of the program and the quality of the analyses undertaken.

A new tasking application process is currently being developed in order to guide CIPMA's strategic direction. Under the new approach, the CIPMA Executive Committee, following a consultation process involving the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Committee, National Counter-Terrorism Committee and National Emergency Management Committee, will determine the strategic priorities for CIPMA over the coming years.

CIPMA tasks will then be developed in conjunction with stakeholders to address these priorities. Under this approach, core projects will be those that contribute the most to the national security priorities relating to critical infrastructure. The CIPMA Technical Services Provider Panel members will be engaged in providing both core and cost recovery work for CIPMA. The sensitive aspects of projects though will continue to be handled in-house by CIPMA.

Please note the existing avenue for CIPMA to undertake work on a newly identified urgent strategic or operational priority, for example in times of emergency, is still available subject to approval.

For more information email CIPMA@ag.gov.au 

Update on climate change adaptation

Owners and operators of critical infrastructure face a broad range of challenges, from ensuring the effectiveness of their cyber security arrangements, to adapting to the impacts of climate change.

The Productivity Commission inquiry into climate change adaptation is now underway.

The inquiry is examining barriers to effective climate change adaptation, assessing ways to promote effective adaptation, and identifying potential changes to related regulation and policy settings.

Initial submissions to the inquiry are being sought by Friday 16 December 2011.

To facilitate this process, the Productivity Commission has recently released an issues paper *Barriers to Effective Climate Change Adaptation*.

Submissions will also be sought following the release of the draft report in April/May 2012.

Further information on the inquiry and the issues paper can be found at www.pc.gov.au/projects/inquiry/climate-change-adaptation

Steve Flohr

Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

Member of the Communications Sector under the scope of broadcasting



Describe your role...

I lead the ABC Business Continuity management program with my offside Ryan. The aim of the program is to deliver a robust and dynamic Resilience Framework that integrates our emergency, crisis and business recovery planning and response capabilities.

The greatest challenge in my role is...

helping the Organisation prepare for Summer. The ABC as the national broadcaster amongst other things has a strong commitment to emergency broadcasting across our Local Radio network and providing 24/7 rolling news coverage across Radio, TV and Online during natural disasters. We simply can't shut down until the event passes as we are needed to try and keep the community informed so they can in turn with other relevant Government information make the best informed decisions to protect life and property.

I enjoy being involved with the TISN because...

to hopefully make a difference by contributing to the Government strategy and direction in critical infrastructure resilience; and to learn and introduce relevant new concepts and networks to the ABC.

A career highlight would be...

haven't got there yet (but this is pretty cool!).

If I wasn't the ABC Business Continuity Manager, I would be...

an international sports reporter.

I am inspired by...

seeing my daughter grow; and people who are volunteers across the community.

When I'm not working you can find me...

ideally having a beer and a pie at any type of sporting event with family and friends.

If I could live anywhere in the world, it would be...

following the sun to any coastal town in Australia.

The last book I read was...

"The Checklist Manifesto...how to get things right" by Atul Gawande. He is a general and endocrine surgeon and amongst other things leads the World Health Organization's (WHO) 'Surgery Saves Lives Program'. A must read for people that write plans and procedures for a living.

I can't live without...

my family and Queensland winning the rugby league State of Origin!

“...the new policies reflect the more diverse environment in which government business operates”

NEW PROTECTIVE SECURITY POLICIES

The Australian Government's new protective security policies on information security and physical security, were launched by the Attorney-General, the Hon Robert McClelland MP, on 26 July 2011.

“The policies needed updating – they now reflect the more diverse environment in which government business operates – especially with the use of the internet”, Mr McClelland said.

The *Physical Security Policy* provides improved guidance on protecting large volumes of information and assets, including electronic information systems and cultural assets. It redefines security areas and provides Australian Government agencies with greater flexibility and control over selection of security equipment and security arrangements for normal business functions.

The *Information Security Policy* introduces a simplified and more efficient security classification system and is an important enabling element of the *National Security Information Environment Roadmap: 2020 Vision*. The new information security policy shifts the focus from document handling to information security management. It gives equal weight to safeguarding the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information.

The release of these policies completes a major phase of the Protective Security Policy Review. The next step is for agencies to use the new policies and guidelines to develop security policies tailored specifically to meet their business needs.

“The ‘one size fits all’ compliance approach of the Protective Security Manual (PSM) is no longer appropriate for enabling our business. The new policies and guidelines provide a degree of flexibility in agency security settings that address particular risks to that agency – while also facilitating information sharing across agencies” Mr McClelland said.

The policies were launched at the Security in Government Conference 2011, where Government security practitioners and security industry staff joined critical infrastructure owners and operators to find out about the latest news in protective security.

The policies and supporting guidelines are available at www.ag.gov.au/pspf



Now available

- Energy Sector Group Resilience Strategy/ToR
- Electricity Systems Risk Context Statement

Contact esg.secretariat@ret.gov.au

ISSN 1837-7599 (Print) ISSN 1837-7602 (Online)

Published on behalf of the Trusted Information Sharing Network for Critical Infrastructure Resilience by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department, Critical Infrastructure and Protective Security Policy Branch.

e. cir@ag.gov.au

Many thanks to Steve for participating in '5 minutes with...' If you would like to take part, email CIR@ag.gov.au