MGT415: A Practical Introduction to Cyber Security Risk Management

In this course students will learn the practical skills necessary to perform regular risk assessments for their organizations. The ability to perform risk management is crucial for organizations hoping to defend their systems. There are simply too many threats, too many potential vulnerabilities that could exist, and simply not enough resources to create an impregnable security infrastructure. Therefore every organization, whether they do so in an organized manner or not, will make priority decision on how best to defend their valuable data assets. Risk management should be the foundational tool used to facilitate thoughtful and purposeful defense strategies.

Author Statement
Most every time we talk with an organization, whether that be a private company or a government agency, we meet people who want to use risk assessment as a tool, but are not actually using it as they could. No organization has enough resources to do everything they would like to defend themselves. At some point a priority decision has to be made. We either make those decisions individually based on whatever need seems to be the most pressing in from of us today, or we take a methodical approach, getting as much input from the business as possible. Risk management is the tool we have available for taking the methodical path.

This course has been written with practicality and usability in mind. Risk models and learning ALE to pass a certification test is fine. But to defend our systems, we need practical skills in risk assessment. This course will teach students the hands-on skills necessary to immediately start using risk assessment as a tool to defend their organization.

– James & Kelli Tarala

“Excellent introduction to the area of risk assessment.”
— Ernie H., U.S. Military

Section Descriptions

SECTION 1: A Practical Introduction to Assessing Cyber Security Risk
TOPICS: Understanding Risk; How to Perform a Simple Risk Assessment; Risk Assessment Case Study; Formal Risk Management Models & Tools

SECTION 2: A Practical Introduction to Managing Cyber Security Risk
TOPICS: Control Focused Risk Management; Event Focused Risk Management; Presenting Risk to Business Owners; Risk Remediation & Response; Tracking Long Term Risk