



Course: V-0015C - Virtual Tabletop Exercise Series (VTTX) – Cyber Focus

Exercise Date & Location: September 13, 14 & 15, 2016 (*Note three separate offerings to accommodate as many site applicants as possible*)

Exercise Length: 4 Hours. Start time is 12:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST) and end time is 4:00 P.M. EST.

Exercise Description:

This VTTX is designed for organizations interested in raising awareness of cyber risk management, cyber related planning, and other issues related to cyber incident prevention, protection, and response. The scenario will focus on increasingly complex and severe cyber threats, beginning with general information on a potential security risk and culminating with the containment, eradication, and recovery from a cyber-incident. The complexity of this exercise will largely depend on your organization's choice of recommended discussion questions (beginner, intermediate, advanced), based on your audience and general level of cybersecurity preparedness experience.

Scenarios threat vectors may consist of one or several of the following:

- Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS)
- PII breach/data exfiltration
- Wiper Malware
- Phishing/spear phishing
- User error
- Website defacement

Exercise Goals:

This virtual exercise will enable the participants to exercise their knowledge, skills and abilities needed to effectively prevent, protect, and respond to cyber incidents of varying complexities. Overall objectives include:

- 1.) Prepare participants for a cyber-based event affecting their organization or community.
- 2.) Assess cybersecurity integration into an organization's all-hazards preparedness.
- 3.) Enable participants to better coordinate their response operations with counterparts from Federal, state, local, tribal and territorial governments; private sector organizations; and non-governmental agencies.
- 4.) Examine cybersecurity incident information sharing, escalation criteria, and related courses of action.
- 5.) Provide a virtual, experiential education environment to increase cybersecurity awareness.

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Target Audience:

Previous cyber exercises have proven the need for a specific set of key participants in order to achieve exercise objectives. It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that Cyber VTTX participating organizations include all of the following disciplines:

Emergency Management | Information Technology | Public Safety | Legal | Communications |
Other government or private sector personnel involved in cyber incident response, as appropriate.

Exercise Design:

This VTTX is designed to engage the participants in a no fault, hazard-specific exercise discussion. The lead facilitation will occur via VTC from the EMI campus, and will be complimented by a dedicated local agency facilitator at each VTC site.

The VTTX will be supported by an Exercise and Coordination Facilitation Guide, which will include all required logistical information (room layout, connection instructions, etc.), as well as facilitation and hot wash instructions. Local agencies can adjust generic questions/objectives into SMART objectives for self-evaluation, using HSEEP Exercise Evaluation Guides.

The VTTX will consist of:

- Three discussion modules presented by the EMI facilitator.
- Local discussion with guided questions facilitated by an on-site facilitator.
- Brief-outs from each participating location after each module.

Participation Requirements:

The VTTX will be limited to approximately 10-15 locations per exercise. Participants must have an appropriate site equipped with VTC capability (not web-based) that can access the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) VTC site (connection information will be provided by EMI). Participating locations will be responsible for local exercise logistics, and should designate an exercise coordinator to implement the logistical requirements for the exercise. In addition, the location must provide a person capable of facilitating the on-site portion of exercise. Electronic copies of the related exercise materials (Situation Manual) will be provided in advance by EMI.

To Apply:

Locations interested in participating in the VTTX series should submit an email request to participate in the exercise to Douglas Kahn at douglas.kahn@fema.dhs.gov, phone (301) 447-7645, with preferred date of participation. Your email is your program application. When applying, please provide a central point of contact from your organization to work all VTTX issues. Each location will receive a notice from EMI and will be provided with relevant logistical information and exercise materials to set up and facilitate the exercise locally. The FEMA Form 119-25-2 is not required to be submitted until the VTTX is completed. With your request cc in your email: the Integrated Emergency Management Branch office at fema-emi-iemb@fema.dhs.gov or call 301-447-1381.

VTTX Program Information:

For a complete listing of all the FY16 VTTX dates and scenarios please check our homepage at: <http://www.training.fema.gov/programs/emivttx.aspx>

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