COMSEC: The Basics

Understanding COMSEC Management

Paul Bilpuch
Sr. Manager, COMSEC Operations

Paul.Bilpuch@rtx.com

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What is COMSEC

Purpose

Quick discussion on COMSEC in Industry

Agenda

- **Training**
- **Set a schedule of routine events**
- **Look to the future**

Objective

Cover the Basics
Get into a supportive mindset
Q&A

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What Is COMSEC

Risks
- Ability to exploit minute emanations
- Ability to defeat access controls

Vulnerabilities
- Age of crypto algorithms
- Age of CCI

Threats
- State actors (China, Russia)
- Non-state actors (ISIS)
- Commercial

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What Is COMSEC Within Industry

Enable secure communications for your business

Communicate compliance and COMSEC posture

Maintain constant accountability and compliance

Enable contract wins, award successes, and closures

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Management of COMSEC Within Industry

The question I am asked most about COMSEC is if training is available beyond the NSA COMSEC Manager Training Course (IAEC-2112)

COMSEC Training

❏ Doctrine

 ❏ https://www.cnss.gov/CNSS/index.cfm

❏ Official Websites

 ❏ https://www.iad.gov/COR/index.cfm

 ❏ https://www.iad.gov/KeySupport/index.cfm

 ❏ https://www.iad.gov/securephone/index.cfm

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COMSEC Training

❏ Mentorship

    ❏ Experienced professionals in your network

    ❏ NCMS Website

❏ FISWG and NCMS

❏ Recurring Self Training

    ❏ Checklists

    ❏ Work Instructions

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COMSEC Doctrine

❑ 32 CFR Part 117 NISPOM

❑ NSA/CSSM Policy Manual 3-16

❑ CNSSI 4001, 4003, 4004.1, 4005, 4032, and 4033

❑ CNSS Policy No. 1, 3, 8, 14, and 19

❑ Operational Security Doctrine for CCI

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COMSEC Mentorship

❑ Build relation with most COMSEC centric Program Office

❑ Build relationship with CCI manufacturers/suppliers

❑ NCMS Mentorship Program

❑ Networking (FISWG, NCMS)

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Daily

❑ Check communication to COMSEC issues/opportunities

❑ Be observant to COMSEC incidents and risks

❑ Briefings and education

Monthly

❑ Key supply (destruction, on hand, orders, revalidations)

❑ Rekeys and batteries

❑ Validate de-briefings for those departing/departed

❑ Check COR, Central Facility, Secure Phone, NCMS sites

❑ FSO checks stored combos

❑

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Semi-Annual

❑ Re-Key Validations

❑ Self-Inspection

Annual

❑ Re-Key Validations

Every two years

❑ Combo changes (annual for NATO)

Every five years

❑ Document purge

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❑ **Changes in key distribution (see Central Facility site)**

❑ **There are 30+ discontinuance letters published by NSA**

   ❑ **Demilitarize old inventory**

   ❑ **Talk with users of older CCI to help determine modern replacements**

❑ **There are specific requirements for installation of each encryptor**

   ❑ **Ask your customers about classified messages to this extent**

❑ **Do you still have physical keying material? Why?**

❑ **What are risks associated with your geographic area?**

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Modernization

- **Use of KMI**
- **Less over-the-counter service**
- **Key distributors**
- **Training**
- **Compliance**
- **Think how to enable your business**
- **Know your partners**

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- **Introspective self assessments**

- **Visit users and spaces**

- **Keep FSOs and PMs informed**

- **What am I doing extra and why?**

- **Think about key distribution**

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Questions?

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