

*Vision for Improving Performance in Texas
State IT Projects:
Measuring Quality & Cybersecurity*

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Cybersecurity History in Texas State Gov.

Centers of Cyber Excellence:
UTSA, TAMU, UH, UT-D, UT

2014

Educational
Services

- InfoSec Academy
- Webinars
- Newsletter
- InfoSec Forum

2017

**HB 8:
Texas
Cybersecurity Act**

2013

Created the
position of state
Cybersecurity
Coordinator

Incident & risk
mgt. Portal

Security CMM &
plan template

**HB 3275:
IT Project
Measurement Law**

2005

Network Security
Operations Center (NSOC)
created

- Annual threat report

2011

Established the Tx
Cybersecurity,
Education, &
Economic
Development
Council (<2015)

2015

First Biennial Report
to state leadership
on the state's
information security
status

FINDINGS

- **2/3 of large IT projects off track**
- **1/2 of IT projects had high cybersecurity & legacy failure risks**

2004

Office of the state
CISO created

InfoSec
Assessments
begin

Enhanced Security
Risk Assessment
Services

Enhanced
InfoSec Stds

2002

Penetration
Testing
Services
offered

CHALLENGES

- All recommendations, not required**
- 100+ agencies - distributed & independent**

1989

Tx DIR
created
(Dept. of Info. Resources)

Texas Cybersecurity Act: HB8^(9/1/17)

- Primary motivation: protect vital information assets; address vulnerabilities in aging IT infrastructure

Next steps: create/enhance these entities

IT staff reqts for cybersecurity training & certification

Tx State Cybersecurity Plan (coordinate with NIST, CERT, etc.)

Tx Agency Biennial Cybersecurity Assessment & Plan **required** (+ exec. signing)

Info. Sharing & Analysis Center (e.g. best practices)

Tx Cybersecurity Council (public & private) **required**

Tx Select Committees on Cybersecurity (House & Senate) (< 12/2017)

Required to report breaches ASAP to Agency & State CISO (emergency \$\$ if needed)

Required vulnerability and pen testing for selected systems

Election infrastructure cyber attack study

HB3275: Monitor Major¹ State Projects

- Collect data and report on performance indicators for: *schedule, cost, scope, and quality*.
 - Indicators go out of bounds -> more intense scrutiny triggered, potentially requiring corrective action.
 - Indicators to be made visible via online, user-friendly dashboard; summarized annually in a report to state leaders.
 - Facilitates early warning of troubled projects
 - Helps establish baselines for improvement
 - <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/Actions.aspx?LegSess=85R&Bill=HB3275>
- Next step is policy/procedures/implementation:
 - <http://it-cisq.org/measuring-it-project-performances-in-texas-house-bill-hb-3275-implications/>
 - Monitoring **rules** created by Dec. 1st; law takes effect Jan. 1st
 - Definition of quality – in process
- Initial project execution capability assessment
 - To increase the likelihood of success, reduce risk, etc.

1. > \$1M, and/or > 1 yr. or > 1 agency or ...

Q&A

- Follow up questions?
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Cyber Resilience Measurement Concepts¹

- Resilience is a family of related ideas, not a single thing. Its not just a technical system property.
 - The ability to anticipate, withstand, recover from, and adapt to adverse conditions, stresses, attacks, or compromises on cyber resources (MITRE, 2016)
 - System properties related to being able to withstand attacks and deviations from the intended state and go back to a pre-existing, or a desirable or acceptable, state.
 - Ability to deliver, maintain, improve IT services when facing cyber threats and related evolutionary changes
- Possible measures that characterize cyber resilience
 - *Dependability/availability* in the presence of flaws, faults, defects, vulnerabilities
 - *amount of disruption* that a system can tolerate under attack
 - *probability of correct service* given that an attack occurred
 - *set of probabilities* of the “levels of accomplishment” of a system’s function under attack
- Cybersecurity Measurement (current data sources):
 - Risks → default model
 - Threats (surface, vectors, scenarios, etc.)
 - Vulnerabilities (CVSS 3.0, Mitre CWE, CERT, **CISQ Security metric**)
 - Cyber security technical debt (definition TBD)
 - Using data from: antivirus and antispymware tools, intrusion detection systems, firewalls, patch management systems, security logs, vulnerability analyzers.