

#### The CEO's Corner



Greetings, IntegrITS Family.

Welcome to a new month that I hope will be filled with promise for you and your families. I am starting the month of August with a sense of gratitude for each member of the IntegrITS family, and I am especially grateful to be a part of a Company that has continually demonstrated its commitment to the highest standards of excellence. As our industry and ever-changing global environment throws us curveballs, it is of utmost importance that we adjust quickly and effectively.

With this in mind, for today's CEO's Corner, I'd like to discuss cybersecurity and its importance in the execution of our daily work.

As you can glean from the frequent communications you receive from Nick Enriquez (IntegrITS FSO) and Jim Lyon (IntegrITS CIO), the cyber threats posed to us as individuals, businesses and Government organizations are ever increasing at an astronomical rate. This necessitates that we remain aware, vigilant and disciplined in our operational postures at home and work. Our nation's top cybersecurity professionals are constantly looking for new and innovative ways to stay one step ahead of attackers. Yet, in the first quarter of 2022 alone, there were 404 publicly reported data breaches in the U.S.—a 14% increase compared to the first quarter of 2021, according to the Identity Theft Resource Center. Of particular concern is the alarming rise in ransomware breaches, which increased by 13% in a single year. This represents a jump greater than the past five years combined, according to the 2022 Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report (DBIR).

The employment of technology in the home, business and Government has introduced accesses, features, capabilities and computing power that we never could have imagined. However, with the benefits of these technological advances comes a greater need and responsibility for cyber threat awareness and day-to-day operational discipline. The corporate and Government enterprises in which we work and support depend on it. IntegrITS' approach to Cyber Resilience is founded in the three pillars of People, Processes and Technology. Our employees are the most vital component to our Cybersecurity posture by exercising awareness, cyber-hygiene, operational vigilance, and strict adherence to the cybersecurity policies of both IntegrITS and our Clients.

The Government has further instituted cybersecurity policies, procedures and certification requirements for Government and Industry Contractors to ensure cyber resilience across the entire Department of Defense (DoD) enterprise. The Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) program released by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition & Sustainment, includes cyber protection standards for companies, like IntegrITS, in the defense industrial base (DIB). By incorporating cybersecurity standards into acquisition programs, CMMC provides the Department assurance that contractors and subcontractors are meeting DoD's cybersecurity requirements.

In November 2021, DoD initiated the enhanced "CMMC 2.0" program, which maintained the program's original goal of safeguarding sensitive information, while further:

- Simplifying the CMMC standard and providing additional clarity on cybersecurity regulatory, policy, and contracting requirements
- Focusing the most advanced cybersecurity standards and third-party assessment requirements on companies supporting the highest priority programs
- Increasing Department oversight of professional and ethical standards in the assessment ecosystem.

"CMMC 2.0 will dramatically strengthen the cybersecurity of the defense industrial base," said Jesse Salazar, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Policy. "By establishing a more collaborative relationship with industry, these updates will support businesses in adopting the practices they need to thwart cyber threats while minimizing barriers to compliance with DoD requirements."

The IntegrITS CIO is responsible to the President & CEO to ensure compliance with the CMMC Program, which is a Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) requirement. A number of major initiatives have been accomplished over the past year to greatly enhance the Company's overall Cybersecurity posture. Some of the technological enhancements have included the employment of new firewall technologies, digital workspace transformation, cloud-based solutions, expanded multi-factor authentication (MFA), improved practices & processes, and enhanced recurrent internal reviews & assessments based on National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) cybersecurity standards.

The strength of IntegrITS Cybersecurity posture is dependent on our collective commitment to cyber threat awareness and operational discipline. I encourage you all to pay close attention to any cybersecurity briefings and/or alerts that you receive from IntegrITS or our Government customers. This communication is not simply security protocol—it provides critical insight that helps us protect our individual, Company, and Customer information. I am confident that the IntegrITS Team will continue to advance our cybersecurity efforts and meet the challenges of our day as we have proven to do so many times before.

I thank each and every one of you for being a part of the IntegrITS Team. Here's to August being a month full of personal & professional growth and individual & Company wins!

# Tip of the Week

Insperity is offering an opportunity to learn more about the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

"I didn't know how much I didn't know about the support and services available through E.A.P to not only me as an IntegrITS employee; but, my immediate family members as well." -Jim Lyon, IntegrITS CIO

We highly recommend you register for one of the remaining EAP webinar sessions. Select one of the dates below to sign up:

August 10,2022 @ 9:00 AM EST

August 11,2022 @ 3:00 PM CST

August 24,2022 @ 3:00 PM EST

August 31,2022 @ 11:00 AM EST

#### Let's Celebrate!



#### **August Birthdays**

We are wishing a happy birthday to our teammates who are celebrating birthdays in August!

Rui Almazan **Alex Hobbs Benito Hobson Kelly Baker Scott Baker Travis Parker Eric Caudillo Suzy Romero Anthony Daniel Edward Ryan Keith Dickerson Darrell Tave Alexandro Garcia Kyle Turner** Jerardo Garcia Michael Vondra **Chester Gorriceta Diane Weaver** Jacqui Green

#### **August Work Anniversaries**

Whether you've been with us for one year or twenty, we don't take it for granted that you are a member of the IntegrITS family. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to your team.

If you see someone from your department on this list, be sure to congratulate them this week!

Julia Mercado, 8 years

Ana Basada, 6 years

Ryan Anderson, 2 years

Austin Booker, 2 years

Barbrosa Gooden, 2 years

Adam Kim, 2 years

Eric Hudson, 1 year

Kyle Turner, 1 year

## Coming Soon: Did You Know?

Believe it or not, we're over halfway through 2022. Join us next week as we go over some helpful mid-year reminders.

## **Comments/Questions?**

If you have any comments or questions about this week's newsletter, email us at <a href="mailto:news@integrits.com">news@integrits.com</a>.

We have also created a website where we are storing the archives of all our newsletters to date: <a href="https://integrits.com/digest-archives/">https://integrits.com/digest-archives/</a>.

Have an incredible week, and we'll see you next Thursday!

Warmest Regards,

The IntegrITS Weekly Digest

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