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IT Security training for multi domain/multi stakeholder infrastructures

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In this presentation we will share our experience in providing training for security personnel providing operational security for different types of large distributed infrastructures.
Depending on the target audience and the topics to be addressed, these were developed in two categories, technical hands on training and table top exercises.

In the first category either a technical training infrastructure is required, here also the existing infrastructure can be used, but poses extra challenges on the trainers. Here the focus is on developing technical skills, and ideally also covering the higher level aspects of incident response communication and incident response coordination. The latter aspect is of particular interest in distributed infrastructures and is usually not covered in existing similar training activities.

Table top exercises, as they were developed by us, on the other hand rather focus on the higher level security posture of the whole organisation. Based on the existing policies and procedures also escalations to press and legal can be addressed, making an active involvement of the management possible/wanted. This usually only happens when IT security incidents have a high impact on the organisation itself, and experience with this situation is usually not available, and needed communication channels either do not yet exist (for example involving external security provider) or are not regularly used.
Still a ''tested" procedure for these cases is extremely important, since any delay here can easily get very costly.

Here we present our experience developing and running security exercises in both of the above mentioned categories of security exercises which also are part of the Thematic CERN School of computing (security) and led to the security training organised here at ISGC-2026.

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