

Energy Industry Group Webinar

A Power Industry Update: Surviving Catastrophic Events

Meet the Panel



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Public Utility Compromised

A public utility was recently compromised when a sophisticated threat actor gained unauthorized access to its control system network. After notification of the incident, ICS-CERT validated that the software used to administer the control system assets was accessible via Internet facing hosts. The systems were configured with a remote access capability, utilizing a simple password mechanism; however, the authentication method was susceptible to compromise via standard brute forcing techniques.

ICS-CERT provided analytical assistance, including host-based forensic analysis and a comprehensive review of available network logs. It was determined that the systems were likely exposed to numerous security threats and previous intrusion activity was also identified. ICS-CERT conducted an onsite cybersecurity assessment in response to











Impacts of Catastrophic Events

- Economic Impacts
- Reputational Impacts
- Regulatory Impacts
- Legal Impacts
- Human Impacts





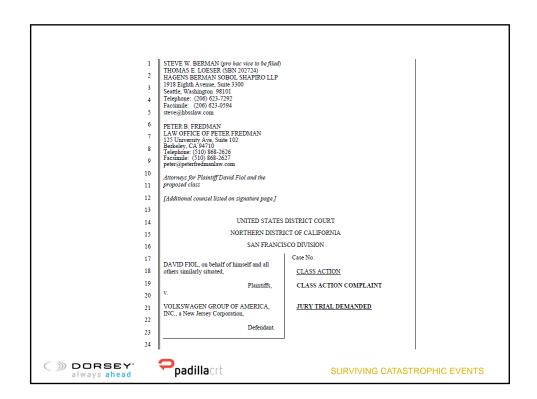


What It's Like to Operate in the Midst of Crisis

- The Crucible of Time
- Inability to Get to the Heart of the Problem
- The Initial Information Turns Out to Be Wrong
- The Clamor for Answers
- The Need to Find An Immediate Solution
- The III-Prepared or Tone Deaf Spokesman
- Everything That Can Go Wrong . . .
- We're From the Government and We're Here to Help
- I'm a Process Server And . . .







Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

"Success depends upon previous preparation, and without such preparation there is sure to be failure."

- Confucius





SURVIVING CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

- Identifying Potential Problems in Advance Can Prevent a Catastrophic Event From Occurring
- Identifying Potential Problems in Advance Helps With a Prompt and Accurate Response





Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

- Conduct an Audit of Operations/Processes/Records
 - Failure Modes Effects Analysis (or Similar)
 - Third-Party Vulnerability Audits
 - Identify All Pertinent Records and Make Sure They Are Comprehensive and Accessible
 - Identify All People Who Will Need To Be Involved In Responding to a Potential Problem
 - Identify Mitigation Strategies
- Evaluate Insurance Coverage and Recovery Expertise
- Review Document Retention Practices





SURVIVING CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

- Developing a Crisis Response Team
 - Company Representatives
 - Legal
 - Communications
 - HR
 - Risk Management
 - Regulatory Compliance
 - Outside Experts
 - Insurance
 - Victim Services





Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

- Developing a Crisis Response Plan
 - Clear, Simple Protocols
 - Critical Contacts for Each Operational Function
 - Document Custodians
 - Regulatory Reporting Requirements
 - Key Customer/Stakeholder Contacts
 - First Responders
 - Media and Thought Leaders
 - Other Key Interested Parties
 - Outside Experts
 - Insurance
 - Crisis Team Contacts





SURVIVING CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Preparing for a Catastrophic Event

- Developing a Crisis Response Plan (Cont'd)
 - Prepare Regulatory Notifications
 - Draft Litigation Holds
 - Delineate Clear Lines of Responsibility
 - Identify Meeting Location/Arrange Communications Links
 - Assign Responsibility for Updating Plan
 - UPDATE, UPDATE, UPDATE
 - Familiarize Organization with Crisis Responsibilities





Responding to a Catastrophic Event

- Contact and Assemble Crisis Team
- Implement Crisis Plan
- Immediately Engage In-House Expertise and Outside Experts to Get to the Root of the Matter
- Assemble Pertinent Documentation
- Coordinate Legal, Business, Communications Responses
- Develop Clear Messaging Based on Known Facts
- Address the Impact on Human Victims/Other Businesses
- Involve Insurers
- Issue Litigation Holds





SURVIVING CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Responding to a Catastrophic Event (Cont'd)

- Communicate with Employees/Stakeholders
- Communicate with Regulators/Government Officials
- Communicate with Media
- Engage in Social Media Outreach
- Implement Mitigation Strategies
- Implement Outreach to Those Affected by Event
- Preserve All Physical Evidence/Documentation
- Analyze Potential Exposure/Recovery





