# **Information Security Business Unit**

### **Community Oversight Panel**

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8/13/25





## Agenda

- 1 Information Security at ST: Function Overview and Background
  - 2 Situational Awareness: Risks, Current Posture and Recent Attacks
    - 3 Ongoing Efforts and Current Focus
      - 4 Panel Q&A



### About your Presenter

- Sound Transit's Chief Information Security Officer
- BS in Electronic Engineering, specialization in Control Systems
- Master of Engineering and Technology Management, Summa Cum Laude
- Over 26 years of experience across industries such as Energy,
   Consulting, Managed Services, IT and Transit
- Member of the Washington State Technology Services Board Security Subcommittee
- Relevant security designations: C|CISO, CISA, CISM, CRISC, CISSP, CDPSE, HISP



### **Information Security: Broader than IT Security**



### **Function Overview**

#### **Designed for...**



**Enterprise Oversight** 



Governance



**Assurance Services** 

To...





Preserve the Confidentiality, Integrity and Availability of information assets

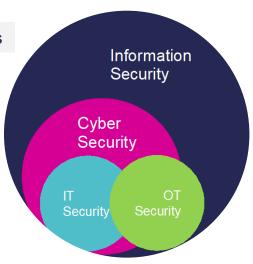


Agency-wide purview and scope

Based on...



The framework provided by the ISO 27001 international standard for Information Security



The Information Security function is enabled by **Agency Policy 1100** which establishes its core component – the agency's Information Security Management System (**ISMS**)

## **Background**



Cybersecurity not explicitly addressed prior to 2016, leading to significant gaps across the board

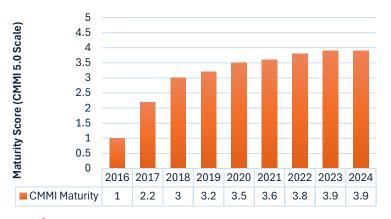


Information Security function formally established under IT, per CIO sponsorship



CEO Sparrman sponsors Cybersecurity Activation Plan to address issues and target "best in class" posture

# ST ISO 27001/2 Information Security Capability Maturity Score





**Achievements** 

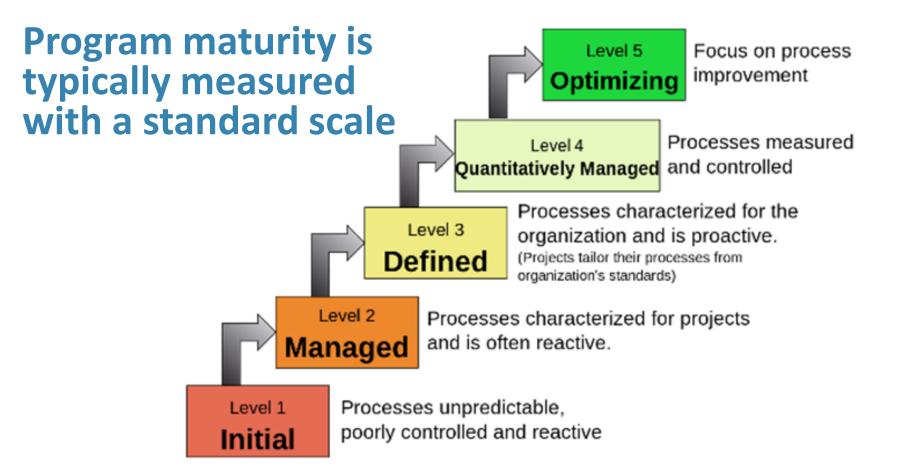
Externally-audited maturity level of the business function of 3.9 (5-point Gartner scale)



Challenges

Funding, large technical debt, limited resource capacity, evolving threats







# An effective program also encompasses elements from many functions and areas

**Identity** and Governance. Change **Vendor Risk Application** Risk and **Data Security** Access Management Security Management Compliance Management User **Vulnerability Endpoint Network** Cloud **Education and HR Security Management** Security Security Security **Awareness Back End Physical** Security Disaster Assurance Secure Security Security Recovery **Activities Development Operations** Lifecycle Incident Configuration Asset **Threat** Continuous Response Maintenance Management Management Management **Improvement** 



### **InfoSec Program – Main Objectives**

**Risk Control** Best in class (Transit) Comparable to Top Performers Enable **Enterprise Approach** 



### **InfoSec BU Functional Organization**

Strategic and Agency Alignment Security Consulting Services Program **Program Management Budget Management** Leadership People Management Resource Management Security Governance, Risk **Engineering and** Security **Technology** Management, Resilience Infrastructure **Operations** Compliance Security Security Consulting. Event and Incident Policy and Governance Technology Resilience Support Engineering, Design and Response Services Services Review Services · Alert Triaging and event Information Security Risk Services Risk Assessment and resolution Management Security Tool Operations Remediation Services **Compliance Services** and Monitoring Risk Audit Support Security Technical testing Identity and Access Services Management Services Vendor Risk Management (Under Development)



### **Situational Awareness**

Government is actively being targeted

Federal Regulation is looming – DHS CISA Attacks consistently exploit the fundamentals

Financial losses resulting from attacks are increasing

Attackers are better resourced

Threat landscape continuously evolves

Geopolitical conditions drive attack increases

Extortion and Ransomware are still profitable

Attackers are nimbler, adopt new tech faster

### **Challenges**

Legacy technology infrastructure Generally low maturity of industry vendors

Limited resources

Competing priorities

Incompatible maintenance horizons

Uncertainty in regulatory space

### Ongoing Efforts and Current Focus

CEO Constantine maintains Sound Transit focus and executive support of cybersecurity investments for high priority areas, supporting the agency's Information Security Strategic Plan

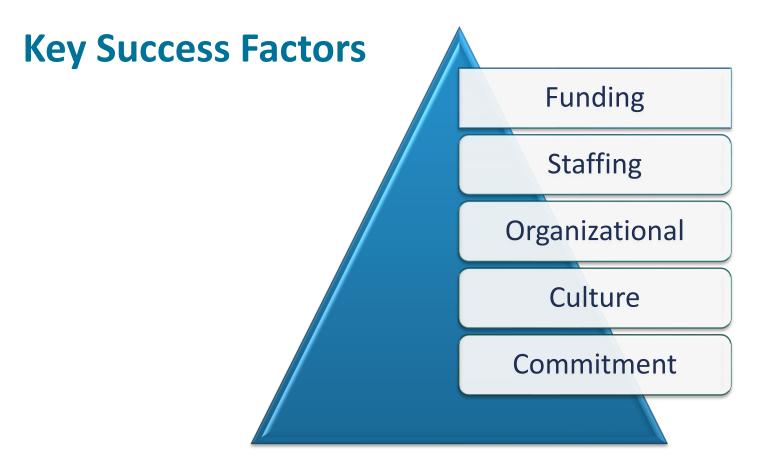
Enhance prevention & detection

Reduce technical debt Introduce /
enhance robust
cyber access
control
practices

Address technical issues

Introduce mature data protection capabilities

Deploy security systems in the cloud



### **Key Enablers for Continued Progress**



# Panel Q&A



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## Thank you.



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