# JFHQ-DDDN

STRENGTHEN POSTURE - DRIVE READINESS - DECREASE RISK



# **AFCEA 2024**

Cyber Operational Readiness Assessment

Secure, Operate, and Defend the DODIN



# Agenda

- Objective
- Road to Cyber Operational Readiness Assessment (CORA)
- Risk-Based Metrics
- CCRI to CORA Program Differences
- Let's Take It Down a Level
- CORA Components
- CORA High Level Operational View
- Q&A



# **Objective Statement**

Automation strategies can revolutionize the measurement and quantification of risk across the battlespace; enabling more efficient and effective cybersecurity operations.





# **Panel Members**

- John Porter, Director, J10
- Robert "Bob" Landreth, Technical Director, J9
- Stephen Moitoso, Chief Assessment Integration, J10
- Charles Wille, Acting Deputy Director, J10
- Nicholas DePatto, Chief Terrain Assessment Division, J10



### The Road to CCRI and Shift to CORA

Initiate revamp of CCRI.

2. Strategic Pause to **Develop CORA** 

3. Pilot / Refine / Iterate / Train Teams

4. Kick-off Rebranded **CORA** 

CCRI 1.0 Phase IV

MAR 2022

**MAR-JUN** 2023

**1st Round Pilots** JUN - AUG 2023

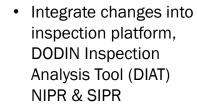
2nd Round Pilots SEP - DEC 2023

**Final Pilots** JAN- FEB 2024

MAR 2024

How does JFHO-DODIN stay flexible in the Cyber Domain in keeping pace with an ever-changing landscape where threats and vulnerabilities are both known and unknown while enabling DODIN Area Operations (DAO) Commanders/Directors to make the right decision when applying resources to increase the security posture of their network.

 Overhaul Scoring rubric, incorporate risk-based metrics and **Key Indicators of Risk** (KIOR)





U.S. Naval Academy



Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency



F35 Lightning II Joint Program Office



Wing

316th Airlift



Defense Intelligence Agency



**High Performance** Computing Modernization Program



561st Network Operations Squadron





Air Force Reserve Command



# Strategic Pause → Risk-based Metrics (RBM)

Task: Revise the CCRI to assess the "right things" with metrics that matter. Replace the numerical score and pass/fail with risk.

Harden **Information Systems** 

Reduce **Attack Surface** 

Enable Defense



# **ACTIONABLE**

Weight adjustments reflect RBM priorities; Order, Policies, Directives (ODP) reflect actual results vs Partial, Compliant, Non-Compliant; automated workflow using DODIN Inspection Analysis Tool (DIAT) provides a flexible scoring model designed to iterate and conform to multi-level analysis



Follow-up

# **CONSEQUENCES**

Risk-based exit brief communicates better with senior leaders with clear standards



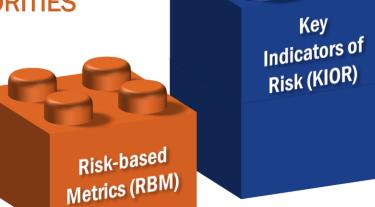
# **FOCUSED ON RISK**

RBM tie directly to CORA scoring through severity and critical overrides (i.e., Key Indicators of Risk) impacting CORA scoring and reinforcing the significance of DCO-IDM priorities established by JFHO-DODIN



# THE DRIVEN BY PRIORITIES

Aligned CORA Criteria with DCO-IDM METs and DAO Roles and Responsibilities; Criteria focus on Control Access. Minimum Defensive Posture. and Detection of Anomalies: Scheduled focused on highrisk terrain



Risk-based

Scoring

Model

#### **CORA Priorities Mitigate Adversary Risk** MITRE | ATT&CK° Risk Based Metrics developed from MITRE ATT&CK® and through Key Indicators of Risk directly Metadata impact the risk rating for CORA Uses Includes Threat (Sub-) Risk Technique Group Order, Procedure **Based** Directive, **Examples Metric Policy** Accomplishes STIG/ Software Mitigation **SRG Tactic** Aligns To Key Indicator **Implements** of Risk **Best Detection Practice** Example: Risk Based Metric (RBM) **Key Indicators of Risk (KIOR)** MITRE ATT&CK Mitigations Mitigation Examples Credential Protection – Network Encryption **FIPS Encryption** Mitigates 14 MITRE Sniffing; Man in the Middle; etc. **Data Protection - Protecting** Standard (Boundary / Internal) ATT&CK TTP's exfiltrated data from being usable

**UNCLASSIFIED** 



# **CCRI to CORA Differences and Automation**

CCRI PROCESS Compliance based cybersecurity posture inspection

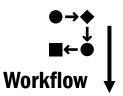
Largely manual technology reviews and document-based outputs

Sample based manual technology reviews based on STIG / SRG Pass / Fail an arbitrary line with a post inspection quarantine review board process

High fidelity risk
events can't
scale nor is
timely enough
for cyber domain













**CORA** PROCESS

Risk-based & threat informed cybersecurity posture inspection

Fully automated
workflow and data
orchestration /
Dashboards /
Highly agile &
iterative
(DODIN Inspection
Analysis Tool)

Comprehensive
look at boundary /
forward facing and
focused on the
Key indicators of
risk

Clear standards and accountability are articulated based on risk correction continuous capabilities



# Let's Take it Down a Level...



#### Actual Quantitative Results vs. Qualitative Bands

Orders / Directive / Policies will be actual results 7 out of 9 vs Partial; Compliant; Non-Compliant



#### **Remove Duplicative Checks**

CCRI previously had duplicative checks – focus added with KIOR



#### **Risk Focus Changed**

Risk indicator (not part of previous CCRI score) removed; modified to reflect Risk Based Metric (RBM) priorities supporting disconnect decisions



#### Concern Indicators changed to Risk Levels

Critical Concern -> Very High Risk Moderate Concern -> High Risk Minor Concern -> Moderate Risk Minimal Concern -> Low Risk No Concern -> Very Low Risk



#### Improve How Results Are Communicated - Not "Pass or Fail"

Executive Summary KIOR sections at the front of report:

- Tech brief (full report with System Administrator (SA's) / SA leadership)
- Key Indicators of risk brief to Commander / Director of organization



#### **Restructure Technology Areas**

Example: Web would include only Web STIGs and Windows OS would be reflected separately to truly assess individual technology areas



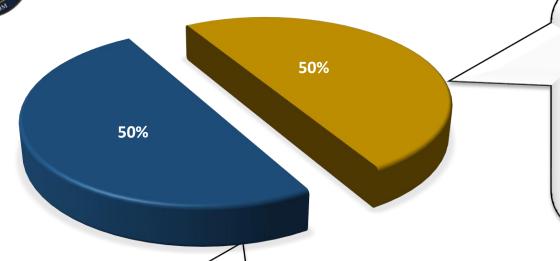
#### Iterative / Agile Improvement Model

CORA Change Control Board; Voting members; immediate critical updates if necessary; regularly scheduled improvement cycles for changes

- CORA strengthens the posture and resiliency of the DODIN by supporting DAOs in hardening their networks and information systems, reducing the attack surface of their terrain, and enabling defense
- CORA is an agile process encouraging and enabling adjustments in stride
- CORA establishes higher level trust and security of the DODIN as being adaptable to changing threats
- place using MITRE ATT&CK mitigations, prioritized using threat information, to address adversarial tactics, techniques, and procedures by validating adherence to JFHQ-DODIN Orders and Security Implementation Guides
- emerging technologies that will help the DOD continuously monitor and assess terrain to assess and mitigate risk across the DODIN



# **CORA Components**



#### Orders / Directives/ Policies

- Endpoint Security
- Network Vulnerability Scan
- Insider Threat
- Cyber Defense Monitoring, Detection, Response
- Cybersecurity and Resiliency
- Supply Chain Risk Management

# **Cyber Maintenance**

- Boundary
- Cross Domain Solution
- Network Vulnerability Scan
- Endpoint Security
- Internal Network
- Domain Name System
- Traditional Security
- Mobility

- Internal Web Server
- Internal Database
- Releasable Networks
- Exchange
- Video/Voice Over IP
- Virtualization/Virtual Infrastructure
- Windows/UNIX OS

## **Severity Overrides**

- Boundary vulnerabilities tied to Key Indicators of Risk result in a severity override of two levels
  - Example: Moderate Risk → High Risk → Very High Risk
- Internal vulnerabilities linked to Key Indicators of Risk result in a severity override of one level
  - Example: Moderate Risk → High Risk
- Measure indicators linked to Key Indicators of Risk will result in Critical Override
- Mitigation demonstrated may negate a severity override pending Team Lead determination
- KIOR can be remediated / validated during CORA

# **CORA Automation Opportunities**

Risk = (Vulnerability - Mitigation) \* Impact \*
Threat

- Continuous Terrain/Mission Mapping –
   Understanding the infrastructure supporting
   Mission Critical Terrain and the dependencies
- Terrain Ownership Automated identification of terrain owners
- Mitigation Analysis Automatically overlay cyber threat intel to existing infrastructure protections / configurations
- Automated Validation The ability to provide systematic proof of identified risk areas being mitigated
- Artificial Intelligence Provide the ability to automatically perform terrain analysis against threat intel
- Cloud posture analysis Validation to Cloud standards



Vendor engagements please contact JFHQ-DODIN J9 at:

JFHQ-DODIN.MEADE.J9.MBX.J9@MAIL.MIL

**Set the Theater** 

CORA results increase

attention to DODIN-related risk factors for combatant

commands who have been

designated a priority & operations in direct support of that command



# **CORA High-level Operational View**

# Prioritized Continuous Assessment of Risk Leading to Operational Effectiveness

# **Risk-based Metrics**

Based on Threat Intelligence & MITRE ATT&CK® Midgations to Assess the "Maint Things"

# Control Access

# Maintain Minimum Defensive Posture

Detect Anomalies

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#### Device Category

#### /ulnerability Metrics

#### Mitigation Metrics

# **Set the Globe**

Collaborative data-driven Mission Selection Process to Assess the "Right Places"

**Assess Terrain** 

Support DAO commanders & directors in efforts

to Assess for "Mission Success"



- Key Indicators of Risk
- Technology Reviews
- Directives, Orders, & Policies

CORA provides commanders & directors a more precise understanding of their high-priority cyber terrain & cyber security defensive posture enabling greater C2 & enhancing decision making

**Key Outcomes:** 

Reduce **Attack Surface** 

Enable Defense

Outcomes >

Agile & lierative Improvement Loop

20

Harden **Information Systems** 





# JFHU-DDDN

Postured for Today's Competition & Ready for Tomorrow's Fight