



Recommendations For A Statewide Cyber Security Strategy

The Arizona Cyber Security Alliance is developing this statewide strategy to help Arizona's businesses and home users get protected from increasingly destructive cyber crimes and security threats. All computer and communications systems, from the family home computer to networks of small businesses, nonprofit organizations or large corporations are vulnerable. Leading security companies are reporting a dramatic increase in the frequency and seriousness of threats including worms and viruses, intrusions, spy ware, phishing, identity theft, computer theft, employee errors and attacks, and more. Homeland Security agencies are increasingly concerned about major cyber terrorism attacks. Yet, many home users, small business or nonprofit organizations do not even have basic protection such as virus protection and firewalls much less security, business continuity and disaster recovery plans and policies.

**Arizona US Senator Jon Kyl, Chair of the US Senate
 Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology & Homeland Security:**

As the world has grown more connected through the Internet and cyberspace, the dangers associated with attacks on that technology have also increased – especially for the government and business sector. The more dependent we become on technology, the more we must protect it. With the frequency of cyber attacks on the rise, it's more important than ever that attention be given to the threats and vulnerabilities that we face, and what can be done to help prevent cyber terror and prosecute cyber criminals.

The Arizona Cyber Security Alliance

The Arizona Cyber Security Alliance is a project of CITA, Tucson's nonprofit Community Information and Telecommunications Alliance (www.tucsonlink.org). This statewide Security Alliance will help the Arizona community understand the rising security threats and develop strategies to reduce personal, customer and business risks. We are particularly targeting IT professionals and executives of small business and nonprofit organizations.

This broad-based public and private Security Alliance includes large and small businesses, non-profits, law enforcement, government and security professionals. We are also coordinating with other Arizona security organizations such as the Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council Cyber Security Committee.

As a part of that initiative we created the www.azsecurity.org web site. The Web site includes tips to secure your systems, a calendar of security events, a database of security consultants, and a database of security education and training resources in Arizona. We also have an e-mail list to share information about security events, resources or issues. See our Web Site at www.azsecurity.org for more information.

Last year was the worst ever for cyber security. Predictions are that this year will be worse. Time for action is critical for state government and the private sector.



Security Checklist »

Take our self-assessment to make sure you are taking all the necessary steps.

Find a Consultant »

Use our directory to find security consultants in Arizona who can help you.

Links & Resources »

Find links to additional online security resources.

News & Headlines »

See our live feed for the latest security related news and headlines.

Educational & Training »

Search our directory for some of the security education and training resources in Arizona.

Contact Us

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Statewide Strategy

A. Statewide coordination of Arizona Public and Private Sector Cyber Security Initiatives and Organizations

Issue: There are a number of excellent cyber security organizations in Arizona that have their own unique mission, target group and services. While each of these organizations serve a particular need, there is great opportunity for collaboration and coordination. Also many of these organizations are centered in the Phoenix area. We need to explore opportunities to reach other areas of the state. Here are some opportunities for collaboration.

1. Statewide outreach including statewide access to security meetings, presentations and events through audio, web and video conferencing
2. Develop the Cyber Security Alliance Web Site/Portal (see below)
3. Collaborative events and initiatives (Cyber Security Awareness Days)
4. Exchange of meeting announcements
5. A joint calendar of security events
6. a unified announcement E-mail list - link to events calendar
7. Coordination with government initiatives

B. Outreach to Arizona Business Organizations

In order to be effective in reaching the private sector to increase awareness and protection we need to effectively engage business organizations. This may include:

1. Arizona **Business** Cyber Security Council
2. Speakers Bureau and presentations to civic/business organizations
3. Articles for business newsletters
4. Media announcements and alerts

C. Media

1. Media Response – Immediate Press Releases following new attacks, vulnerabilities announcements, etc
2. Regular media communication
3. Media Education/Partnership

D. Coordinate with other national security organizations and initiatives

1. Private sector initiatives including the new Cyber Security Industry Alliance* (CSIA) <http://www.csialliance.org>
2. Coordinate with government initiatives including State and Federal Homeland Security Strategies

E. Identify “Best Practices” in other states

F. Expand Cyber Security Alliance Web Site as a portal for access to:

1. Cyber Security Checklist/Tool Kit
2. Arizona security organizations and resources
3. Security Consultants
4. Educational Resources
5. Calendar of security events
6. Online eLearning Training Program
7. Other organizations, web sites and resources

G. Develop private/public sector PR/Awareness Campaign(s)

Many PR/Awareness and support initiatives could be applicable to the public and private sector.

H. Create live and online public/private technical support and training initiatives.

PR/Awareness campaigns alone are helpful but not enough. "How To" workshops, clinics and technical support are essential.

1. Events, workshops, mall clinics, etc
2. Security hotline
3. Education and training including online eLearning Training Program

I. Increase security education programs in schools, Community Colleges and Universities

J. Provide support for Information Technology Professional

1. Provide advanced security workshops
2. Provide statewide access to security meetings and events
3. Increase links and access to security organizations and support groups
4. Provide or increase access to online discussion groups
5. Provide announcements of meetings and professional development opportunities
6. Provide a unified calendar of security events and resources