THEProject Competition
Spring 2023

Scenario
Develop a plan to prevent and protect digital infrastructure from a Ransomware attack

Overview
Recently Virginia State Legislature's IT branch was hit with a Ransomware attack resulting in data loss and interrupting legislation for weeks. As a result of the increasing trend of Ransomware attacks, the Acme Corporation has put out a contract to your team to develop and implement a Ransomware Prevention Plan and put in place a Ransomware Response Plan. The RPP should include enhancing current IT processes, training of IT resources (like clean desk and phishing training) and any desirable certifications for the infrastructure to achieve minimum risk from Ransomware. The RRP should include training for all employees, war line procedures and a desktop planning scenario plan for each year.

Instructions
1. Understand the threats posed by Ransomware attacks on organizations in a variety of levels. The U.S. Government's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency may provide a good foundation for teams to familiarize themselves: https://www.cisa.gov/stopransomware/ransomware-101
2. Determine the appropriate certifying organizations and certifications relevant for cybersecurity and the standard level required for the Acme Corporation.
3. Research the effects of Ransomware on organizations and the cost it has (monetary, work time lost, loss of equipment, etc.).
4.   Create a Ransomware prevention plan for the given organization to deter the probability of a targeted attack
5. Create a Ransomware response plan for the given organization in the event of an attack
6. The project plan and its supporting documentation must be developed in accordance with the Initiating and Planning process groups detailed in the 7th edition of the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK).
7. Provide supporting documentation for all deliverable submissions.

Schedule

Event	Date
Teams formed	November 10, 2022
Mentor kickoff meeting	December 2022
Teams kickoff meeting	December 2022
Phase Gate 1 complete	February 3, 2023
Phase Gate 2 complete	February 24, 2023
Phase Gate 3 complete	March 24, 2023
Phase Gate 4 complete	April 7, 2023
Final presentations*	April 10, 2023

* Alternate plans may be necessary for presentation day based off world events (like Covid), further instructions on Final Presentations will be given around Phase Gate 3 completion.

Benefits
1st Place Team - Cash Prize
Networking Opportunities with Project Management Professionals

Contact Info
THEProject@wmpmi.org

Other Helpful Info
Teams are not expected know how to handle a Ransomware attack themselves. It is expected/encouraged for the teams to consult with others familiar with the subject: other parts of their college, external resources and online sources to create their plans. As often happens with real projects: the student teams are expected to articulate the plan: schedule, resources, costs etc. associated with this activity but not actually do the activity themselves.