

Isaca

Exam Questions CISA

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NEW QUESTION 1

- (Topic 1)

An offsite information processing facility having electrical wiring, air conditioning and flooring, but no computer or communications equipment is a:

- A. cold sit
- B. warm sit
- C. dial-up sit
- D. duplicate processing facilitit

Answer: A

Explanation:

A cold site is ready to receive equipment but does not offer any components at the site in advance of the need.

NEW QUESTION 2

- (Topic 1)

An IS auditor reviewing the key roles and responsibilities of the database administrator (DBA) is LEAST likely to expect the job description of the DBA to include:

- A. defining the conceptual schem
- B. defining security and integrity check
- C. liaising with users in developing data mode
- D. mapping data model with the internal schem

Answer: D

Explanation:

A DBA only in rare instances should be mapping data elements from the data model to the internal schema (physical data storage definitions). To do so would eliminate data independence for application systems. Mapping of the data model occurs with the conceptual schema since the conceptual schema represents the enterprisewide view of data within an organization and is the basis for deriving an end-user department data model.

NEW QUESTION 3

- (Topic 1)

A critical function of a firewall is to act as a:

- A. special router that connects the Internet to a LA
- B. device for preventing authorized users from accessing the LA
- C. server used to connect authorized users to private trusted network resource
- D. proxy server to increase the speed of access to authorized user

Answer: B

Explanation:

A firewall is a set of related programs, located at a network gateway server, that protects the resources of a private network from users of other networks. An enterprise with an intranet that allows its workers access to the wider Internet installs a firewall to prevent outsiders from accessing its own private data resources and for controlling the outside resources to which its own users have access. Basically, a firewall, working closely with a router program, filters all network packets to determine whether or not to forward them toward their destination. A firewall includes or works with a proxy server that makes network requests on behalf of workstation users. A firewall is often installed in a specially designated computer separate from the rest of the network so no incoming request can get directed to private network resources.

NEW QUESTION 4

- (Topic 1)

A LAN administrator normally would be restricted from:

- A. having end-user responsibilitie
- B. reporting to the end-user manage
- C. having programming responsibilitie
- D. being responsible for LAN security administratio

Answer: C

Explanation:

A LAN administrator should not have programming responsibilities but may have end- user responsibilities. The LAN administrator may report to the director of the IPF or, in a decentralized operation, to the end-user manager. In small organizations, the LAN administrator also may be responsible for security administration over the LAN.

NEW QUESTION 5

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following is a continuity plan test that uses actual resources to simulate a system crash to cost-effectively obtain evidence about the plan's effectiveness?

- A. Paper test
- B. Post test
- C. Preparedness test

D. Walk-through

Answer: C

Explanation:

A preparedness test is a localized version of a full test, wherein resources are expended in the simulation of a system crash. This test is performed regularly on different aspects of the plan and can be a cost-effective way to gradually obtain evidence about the plan's effectiveness. It also provides a means to improve the plan in increments.

NEW QUESTION 6

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following is a data validation edit and control?

- A. Hash totals
- B. Reasonableness checks
- C. Online access controls
- D. Before and after image reporting

Answer: B

Explanation:

A reasonableness check is a data validation edit and control, used to ensure that data conforms to predetermined criteria.

NEW QUESTION 7

- (Topic 1)

A primary benefit derived from an organization employing control self-assessment (CSA) techniques is that it can:

- A. Identify high-risk areas that might need a detailed review later
- B. Reduce audit costs
- C. Reduce audit time
- D. Increase audit accuracy

Answer: C

Explanation:

A primary benefit derived from an organization employing control self-assessment (CSA) techniques is that it can identify high-risk areas that might need a detailed review later.

NEW QUESTION 8

- (Topic 1)

Who is accountable for maintaining appropriate security measures over information assets?

- A. Data and systems owners
- B. Data and systems users
- C. Data and systems custodians
- D. Data and systems auditors

Answer: A

Explanation:

Data and systems owners are accountable for maintaining appropriate security measures over information assets.

NEW QUESTION 9

- (Topic 1)

Proper segregation of duties prohibits a system analyst from performing quality-assurance functions. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: A

Explanation:

Proper segregation of duties prohibits a system analyst from performing quality-assurance functions.

NEW QUESTION 10

- (Topic 1)

What should an IS auditor do if he or she observes that project-approval procedures do not exist?

- A. Advise senior management to invest in project-management training for the staff
- B. Create project-approval procedures for future project implementations
- C. Assign project leaders
- D. Recommend to management that formal approval procedures be adopted and documented

Answer: D

Explanation:

If an IS auditor observes that project-approval procedures do not exist, the IS auditor should recommend to management that formal approval procedures be adopted and documented.

NEW QUESTION 10

- (Topic 1)

Batch control reconciliation is a _____ (fill in the blank) control for mitigating risk of inadequate segregation of duties.

- A. Detective
- B. Corrective
- C. Preventative
- D. Compensatory

Answer: D

Explanation:

Batch control reconciliations is a compensatory control for mitigating risk of inadequate segregation of duties.

NEW QUESTION 15

- (Topic 1)

Atomicity enforces data integrity by ensuring that a transaction is either completed in its entirety or not at all. Atomicity is part of the ACID test reference for transaction processing. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: A

Explanation:

Atomicity enforces data integrity by ensuring that a transaction is either completed in its entirety or not at all. Atomicity is part of the ACID test reference for transaction processing.

NEW QUESTION 16

- (Topic 1)

What is essential for the IS auditor to obtain a clear understanding of network management?

- A. Security administrator access to systems
- B. Systems logs of all hosts providing application services
- C. A graphical map of the network topology
- D. Administrator access to systems

Answer: C

Explanation:

A graphical interface to the map of the network topology is essential for the IS auditor to obtain a clear understanding of network management.

NEW QUESTION 18

- (Topic 1)

What are used as a countermeasure for potential database corruption when two processes attempt to simultaneously edit or update the same information? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Referential integrity controls
- B. Normalization controls
- C. Concurrency controls
- D. Run-to-run totals

Answer: A

Explanation:

Concurrency controls are used as a countermeasure for potential database corruption when two processes attempt to simultaneously edit or update the same information.

NEW QUESTION 22

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following best characterizes "worms"?

- A. Malicious programs that can run independently and can propagate without the aid of a carrier program such as email
- B. Programming code errors that cause a program to repeatedly dump data
- C. Malicious programs that require the aid of a carrier program such as email
- D. Malicious programs that masquerade as common applications such as screensavers or macro-enabled Word documents

Answer: A

Explanation:

Worms are malicious programs that can run independently and can propagate without the aid of a carrier program such as email.

NEW QUESTION 27

- (Topic 1)

Regarding digital signature implementation, which of the following answers is correct?

- A. A digital signature is created by the sender to prove message integrity by encrypting the message with the sender's private ke
- B. Upon receiving the data, the recipient can decrypt the data using the sender's public ke
- C. A digital signature is created by the sender to prove message integrity by encrypting the message with the recipient's public ke
- D. Upon receiving the data, the recipient can decrypt the data using the recipient's public ke
- E. A digital signature is created by the sender to prove message integrity by initially using a hashing algorithm to produce a hash value or message digest from the entire message content
- F. Upon receiving the data, the recipient can independently create i
- G. A digital signature is created by the sender to prove message integrity by encrypting the message with the sender's public ke
- H. Upon receiving the data, the recipient can decrypt the data using the recipient's private ke

Answer: C

Explanation:

A digital signature is created by the sender to prove message integrity by initially using a hashing algorithm to produce a hash value, or message digest, from the entire message contents. Upon receiving the data, the recipient can independently create its own message digest from the data for comparison and data integrity validation. Public and private are used to enforce confidentiality. Hashing algorithms are used to enforce integrity.

NEW QUESTION 30

- (Topic 1)

What is the key distinction between encryption and hashing algorithms?

- A. Hashing algorithms ensure data confidentialit
- B. Hashing algorithms are irreversibl
- C. Encryption algorithms ensure data integrit
- D. Encryption algorithms are not irreversibl

Answer: B

Explanation:

A key distinction between encryption and hashing algorithms is that hashing algorithms are irreversible.

NEW QUESTION 32

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following is used to evaluate biometric access controls?

- A. FAR
- B. EER
- C. ERR
- D. FRR

Answer: B

Explanation:

When evaluating biometric access controls, a low equal error rate (EER) is preferred. EER is also called the crossover error rate (CER).

NEW QUESTION 34

- (Topic 1)

Who is ultimately responsible and accountable for reviewing user access to systems?

- A. Systems security administrators
- B. Data custodians
- C. Data owners
- D. Information systems auditors

Answer: C

Explanation:

Data owners are ultimately responsible and accountable for reviewing user access to systems.

NEW QUESTION 37

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following is MOST is critical during the business impact assessment phase of business continuity planning?

- A. End-user involvement
- B. Senior management involvement
- C. Security administration involvement
- D. IS auditing involvement

Answer: A

Explanation:

End-user involvement is critical during the business impact assessment phase of business continuity planning.

NEW QUESTION 38

- (Topic 1)

Which type of major BCP test only requires representatives from each operational area to meet to review the plan?

- A. Parallel
- B. Preparedness
- C. Walk-thorough
- D. Paper

Answer: C

Explanation:

Of the three major types of BCP tests (paper, walk-through, and preparedness), a walk-through test requires only that representatives from each operational area meet to review the plan.

NEW QUESTION 41

- (Topic 1)

Of the three major types of off-site processing facilities, what type is often an acceptable solution for preparing for recovery of noncritical systems and data?

- A. Cold site
- B. Hot site
- C. Alternate site
- D. Warm site

Answer: A

Explanation:

A cold site is often an acceptable solution for preparing for recovery of noncritical systems and data.

NEW QUESTION 46

- (Topic 1)

Obtaining user approval of program changes is very effective for controlling application changes and maintenance. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: A

Explanation:

Obtaining user approval of program changes is very effective for controlling application changes and maintenance.

NEW QUESTION 48

- (Topic 1)

When is regression testing used to determine whether new application changes have introduced any errors in the remaining unchanged code?

- A. In program development and change management
- B. In program feasibility studies
- C. In program development
- D. In change management

Answer: A

Explanation:

Regression testing is used in program development and change management to determine whether new changes have introduced any errors in the remaining unchanged code.

NEW QUESTION 52

- (Topic 1)

Whenever an application is modified, what should be tested to determine the full impact of the change? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Interface systems with other applications or systems
- B. The entire program, including any interface systems with other applications or systems
- C. All programs, including interface systems with other applications or systems
- D. Mission-critical functions and any interface systems with other applications or systems

Answer: B

Explanation:

Whenever an application is modified, the entire program, including any interface systems with other applications or systems, should be tested to determine the full impact of the change.

NEW QUESTION 55

- (Topic 1)

Function Point Analysis (FPA) provides an estimate of the size of an information system based only on the number and complexity of a system's inputs and outputs. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

Explanation:

Function point analysis (FPA) provides an estimate of the size of an information system based on the number and complexity of a system's inputs, outputs, and files.

NEW QUESTION 56

- (Topic 1)

Fourth-Generation Languages (4GLs) are most appropriate for designing the application's graphical user interface (GUI). They are inappropriate for designing any intensive data-calculation procedures. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: A

Explanation:

Fourth-generation languages(4GLs) are most appropriate for designing the application's graphical user interface (GUI). They are inappropriate for designing any intensive data-calculation procedures.

NEW QUESTION 60

- (Topic 1)

What is the first step in a business process re-engineering project?

- A. Identifying current business processes
- B. Forming a BPR steering committee
- C. Defining the scope of areas to be reviewed
- D. Reviewing the organizational strategic plan

Answer: C

Explanation:

Defining the scope of areas to be reviewed is the first step in a business process re-engineering project.

NEW QUESTION 62

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following can help detect transmission errors by appending specially calculated bits onto the end of each segment of data?

- A. Redundancy check
- B. Completeness check
- C. Accuracy check
- D. Parity check

Answer: A

Explanation:

A redundancy check can help detect transmission errors by appending especially calculated bits onto the end of each segment of data.

NEW QUESTION 63

- (Topic 1)

An intentional or unintentional disclosure of a password is likely to be evident within control logs. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

Explanation:

An intentional or unintentional disclosure of a password is not likely to be evident within control logs.

NEW QUESTION 68

- (Topic 1)

When are benchmarking partners identified within the benchmarking process?

- A. In the design stage
- B. In the testing stage
- C. In the research stage
- D. In the development stage

Answer: C

Explanation:

Benchmarking partners are identified in the research stage of the benchmarking process.

NEW QUESTION 72

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following would prevent accountability for an action performed, thus allowing nonrepudiation?

- A. Proper authentication
- B. Proper identification AND authentication
- C. Proper identification
- D. Proper identification, authentication, AND authorization

Answer: B

Explanation:

If proper identification and authentication are not performed during access control, no accountability can exist for any action performed.

NEW QUESTION 77

- (Topic 1)

What type of risk is associated with authorized program exits (trap doors)? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Business risk
- B. Audit risk
- C. Detective risk
- D. Inherent risk

Answer: D

Explanation:

Inherent risk is associated with authorized program exits (trap doors).

NEW QUESTION 78

- (Topic 1)

An integrated test facility is not considered a useful audit tool because it cannot compare processing output with independently calculated data. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

Explanation:

An integrated test facility is considered a useful audit tool because it compares processing output with independently calculated data.

NEW QUESTION 79

- (Topic 1)

When auditing third-party service providers, an IS auditor should be concerned with which of the following? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Ownership of the programs and files
- B. A statement of due care and confidentiality, and the capability for continued service of the service provider in the event of a disaster
- C. A statement of due care
- D. Ownership of programs and files, a statement of due care and confidentiality, and the capability for continued service of the service provider in the event of a disaster

Answer: D

Explanation:

When auditing third-party service providers, an auditor should be concerned with ownership of programs and files, a statement of due care and confidentiality, and the capability for continued service of the service provider in the event of a disaster.

NEW QUESTION 82

- (Topic 1)

When should reviewing an audit client's business plan be performed relative to reviewing an organization's IT strategic plan?

- A. Reviewing an audit client's business plan should be performed before reviewing an organization's IT strategic plan
- B. Reviewing an audit client's business plan should be performed after reviewing an organization's IT strategic plan
- C. Reviewing an audit client's business plan should be performed during the review of an organization's IT strategic plan
- D. Reviewing an audit client's business plan should be performed without regard to an organization's IT strategic plan

Answer: A

Explanation:

Reviewing an audit client's business plan should be performed before reviewing an organization's IT strategic plan.

NEW QUESTION 84

- (Topic 1)

Who should be responsible for network security operations?

- A. Business unit managers
- B. Security administrators
- C. Network administrators

D. IS auditors

Answer: B

Explanation:

Security administrators are usually responsible for network security operations.

NEW QUESTION 85

- (Topic 1)

What can be implemented to provide the highest level of protection from external attack?

- A. Layering perimeter network protection by configuring the firewall as a screened host in a screened subnet behind the bastion host
- B. Configuring the firewall as a screened host behind a router
- C. Configuring the firewall as the protecting bastion host
- D. Configuring two load-sharing firewalls facilitating VPN access from external hosts to internal hosts

Answer: A

Explanation:

Layering perimeter network protection by configuring the firewall as a screened host in a screened subnet behind the bastion host provides a higher level of protection from external attack than all other answers.

NEW QUESTION 86

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following are effective in detecting fraud because they have the capability to consider a large number of variables when trying to resolve a problem? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Expert systems
- B. Neural networks
- C. Integrated synchronized systems
- D. Multitasking applications

Answer: B

Explanation:

Neural networks are effective in detecting fraud because they have the capability to consider a large number of variables when trying to resolve a problem.

NEW QUESTION 88

- (Topic 1)

What supports data transmission through split cable facilities or duplicate cable facilities?

- A. Diverse routing
- B. Dual routing
- C. Alternate routing
- D. Redundant routing

Answer: A

Explanation:

Diverse routing supports data transmission through split cable facilities, or duplicate cable facilities.

NEW QUESTION 90

- (Topic 1)

What type(s) of firewalls provide(s) the greatest degree of protection and control because both firewall technologies inspect all seven OSI layers of network traffic?

- A. A first-generation packet-filtering firewall
- B. A circuit-level gateway
- C. An application-layer gateway, or proxy firewall, and stateful-inspection firewalls
- D. An application-layer gateway, or proxy firewall, but not stateful-inspection firewalls

Answer: C

Explanation:

An application-layer gateway, or proxy firewall, and stateful-inspection firewalls provide the greatest degree of protection and control because both firewall technologies inspect all seven OSI layers of network traffic.

NEW QUESTION 93

- (Topic 1)

What is/are used to measure and ensure proper network capacity management and availability of services? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Network performance-monitoring tools
- B. Network component redundancy
- C. Syslog reporting
- D. IT strategic planning

Answer: A

Explanation:

Network performance-monitoring tools are used to measure and ensure proper network capacity management and availability of services.

NEW QUESTION 98

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following is a passive attack method used by intruders to determine potential network vulnerabilities?

- A. Traffic analysis
- B. SYN flood
- C. Denial of service (DoS)
- D. Distributed denial of service (DoS)

Answer: A

Explanation:

Traffic analysis is a passive attack method used by intruders to determine potential network vulnerabilities. All others are active attacks.

NEW QUESTION 99

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following fire-suppression methods is considered to be the most environmentally friendly?

- A. Halon gas
- B. Deluge sprinklers
- C. Dry-pipe sprinklers
- D. Wet-pipe sprinklers

Answer: C

Explanation:

Although many methods of fire suppression exist, dry-pipe sprinklers are considered to be the most environmentally friendly.

NEW QUESTION 103

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following should an IS auditor review to determine user permissions that have been granted for a particular resource? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Systems logs
- B. Access control lists (ACL)
- C. Application logs
- D. Error logs

Answer: B

Explanation:

IS auditors should review access-control lists (ACL) to determine user permissions that have been granted for a particular resource.

NEW QUESTION 104

- (Topic 1)

Using the OSI reference model, what layer(s) is/are used to encrypt data?

- A. Transport layer
- B. Session layer
- C. Session and transport layers
- D. Data link layer

Answer: C

Explanation:

User applications often encrypt and encapsulate data using protocols within the OSI session layer or farther down in the transport layer.

NEW QUESTION 107

- (Topic 1)

Organizations should use off-site storage facilities to maintain _____ (fill in the blank) of current and critical information within backup files. Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Confidentiality
- B. Integrity
- C. Redundancy
- D. Concurrency

Answer: C

Explanation:

Redundancy is the best answer because it provides both integrity and availability. Organizations should use off-site storage facilities to maintain redundancy of current and critical information within backup files.

NEW QUESTION 109

- (Topic 1)

If a database is restored from information backed up before the last system image, which of the following is recommended?

- A. The system should be restarted after the last transactio
- B. The system should be restarted before the last transactio
- C. The system should be restarted at the first transactio
- D. The system should be restarted on the last transactio

Answer: B

Explanation:

If a database is restored from information backed up before the last system image, the system should be restarted before the last transaction because the final transaction must be reprocessed.

NEW QUESTION 110

- (Topic 1)

An off-site processing facility should be easily identifiable externally because easy identification helps ensure smoother recovery. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: B

Explanation:

An off-site processing facility should not be easily identifiable externally because easy identification would create an additional vulnerability for sabotage.

NEW QUESTION 112

- (Topic 1)

Off-site data storage should be kept synchronized when preparing for recovery of time-sensitive data such as that resulting from which of the following? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Financial reporting
- B. Sales reporting
- C. Inventory reporting
- D. Transaction processing

Answer: D

Explanation:

Off-site data storage should be kept synchronized when preparing for the recovery of timesensitive data such as that resulting from transaction processing.

NEW QUESTION 114

- (Topic 1)

When should application controls be considered within the system-development process?

- A. After application unit testing
- B. After application module testing
- C. After applications systems testing
- D. As early as possible, even in the development of the project's functional specifications

Answer: D

Explanation:

Application controls should be considered as early as possible in the system-development process, even in the development of the project's functional specifications.

NEW QUESTION 119

- (Topic 1)

Test and development environments should be separated. True or false?

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: A

Explanation:

Test and development environments should be separated, to control the stability of the test environment.

NEW QUESTION 123

- (Topic 1)

What kind of testing should programmers perform following any changes to an application or system?

- A. Unit, module, and full regression testing
- B. Module testing
- C. Unit testing
- D. Regression testing

Answer: A

Explanation:

Programmers should perform unit, module, and full regression testing following any changes to an application or system.

NEW QUESTION 125

- (Topic 1)

Authentication techniques for sending and receiving data between EDI systems is crucial to prevent which of the following? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Unsynchronized transactions
- B. Unauthorized transactions
- C. Inaccurate transactions
- D. Incomplete transactions

Answer: B

Explanation:

Authentication techniques for sending and receiving data between EDI systems are crucial to prevent unauthorized transactions.

NEW QUESTION 128

- (Topic 1)

What is the primary security concern for EDI environments? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Transaction authentication
- B. Transaction completeness
- C. Transaction accuracy
- D. Transaction authorization

Answer: D

Explanation:

Transaction authorization is the primary security concern for EDI environments.

NEW QUESTION 132

- (Topic 1)

Which of the following exploit vulnerabilities to cause loss or damage to the organization and its assets?

- A. Exposures
- B. Threats
- C. Hazards
- D. Insufficient controls

Answer: B

Explanation:

Threats exploit vulnerabilities to cause loss or damage to the organization and its assets.

NEW QUESTION 136

- (Topic 1)

Data edits are implemented before processing and are considered which of the following? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Deterrent integrity controls
- B. Detective integrity controls
- C. Corrective integrity controls
- D. Preventative integrity controls

Answer: D

Explanation:

Data edits are implemented before processing and are considered preventive integrity controls.

NEW QUESTION 138

- (Topic 1)

Processing controls ensure that data is accurate and complete, and is processed only through which of the following? Choose the BEST answer.

- A. Documented routines
- B. Authorized routines
- C. Accepted routines
- D. Approved routines

Answer: B

Explanation:

Processing controls ensure that data is accurate and complete, and is processed only through authorized routines.

NEW QUESTION 139

- (Topic 2)

The decisions and actions of an IS auditor are MOST likely to affect which of the following risks?

- A. Inherent
- B. Detection
- C. Control
- D. Business

Answer: B

Explanation:

Detection risks are directly affected by the auditor's selection of audit procedures and techniques. Inherent risks are not usually affected by an IS auditor. Control risks are controlled by the actions of the company's management. Business risks are not affected by an IS auditor.

NEW QUESTION 143

- (Topic 2)

Overall business risk for a particular threat can be expressed as:

- A. a product of the probability and magnitude of the impact if a threat successfully exploits a vulnerability
- B. the magnitude of the impact should a threat source successfully exploit the vulnerability
- C. the likelihood of a given threat source exploiting a given vulnerability
- D. the collective judgment of the risk assessment team

Answer: A

Explanation:

Choice A takes into consideration the likelihood and magnitude of the impact and provides the best measure of the risk to an asset. Choice B provides only the likelihood of a threat exploiting a vulnerability in the asset but does not provide the magnitude of the possible damage to the asset. Similarly, choice C considers only the magnitude of the damage and not the possibility of a threat exploiting a vulnerability. Choice D defines the risk on an arbitrary basis and is not suitable for a scientific risk management process.

NEW QUESTION 146

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the MOST likely reason why e-mail systems have become a useful source of evidence for litigation?

- A. Multiple cycles of backup files remain available
- B. Access controls establish accountability for e-mail activities
- C. Data classification regulates what information should be communicated via e-mail
- D. Within the enterprise, a clear policy for using e-mail ensures that evidence is available

Answer: A

Explanation:

Backup files containing documents that supposedly have been deleted could be recovered from these files. Access controls may help establish accountability for the issuance of a particular document, but this does not provide evidence of the e-mail. Data classification standards may be in place with regards to what should be communicated via e-mail, but the creation of the policy does not provide the information required for litigation purposes.

NEW QUESTION 149

- (Topic 2)

The PRIMARY advantage of a continuous audit approach is that it:

- A. does not require an IS auditor to collect evidence on system reliability while processing is taking place
- B. requires the IS auditor to review and follow up immediately on all information collected
- C. can improve system security when used in time-sharing environments that process a large number of transactions
- D. does not depend on the complexity of an organization's computer system

Answer: C

Explanation:

The use of continuous auditing techniques can improve system security when used in time-sharing environments that process a large number of transactions, but leave a scarce paper trail. Choice A is incorrect since the continuous audit approach often does require an IS auditor to collect evidence on system reliability while processing is taking place. Choice B is incorrect since an IS auditor normally would review and follow up only on material deficiencies or errors detected. Choice D is incorrect since the use of continuous audit techniques depends on the complexity of an organization's computer systems.

NEW QUESTION 150

- (Topic 2)

When developing a risk-based audit strategy, an IS auditor should conduct a risk assessment to ensure that:

- A. controls needed to mitigate risks are in place
- B. vulnerabilities and threats are identified
- C. audit risks are considered
- D. a gap analysis is appropriate

Answer: B

Explanation:

In developing a risk-based audit strategy, it is critical that the risks and vulnerabilities be understood. This will determine the areas to be audited and the extent of coverage. Understanding whether appropriate controls required to mitigate risks are in place is a resultant effect of an audit. Audit risks are inherent aspects of auditing, are directly related to the audit process and are not relevant to the risk analysis of the environment to be audited. A gap analysis would normally be done to compare the actual state to an expected or desirable state.

NEW QUESTION 153

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor is evaluating management's risk assessment of information systems. The IS auditor should FIRST review:

- A. the controls already in place
- B. the effectiveness of the controls in place
- C. the mechanism for monitoring the risks related to the asset
- D. the threats/vulnerabilities affecting the asset

Answer: D

Explanation:

One of the key factors to be considered while assessing the risks related to the use of various information systems is the threats and vulnerabilities affecting the assets. The risks related to the use of information assets should be evaluated in isolation from the installed controls. Similarly, the effectiveness of the controls should be considered during the risk mitigation stage and not during the risk assessment phase. A mechanism to continuously monitor the risks related to assets should be put in place during the risk monitoring function that follows the risk assessment phase.

NEW QUESTION 154

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor is evaluating a corporate network for a possible penetration by employees. Which of the following findings should give the IS auditor the GREATEST concern?

- A. There are a number of external modems connected to the network
- B. Users can install software on their desktop
- C. Network monitoring is very limited
- D. Many user IDs have identical passwords

Answer: D

Explanation:

Exploitation of a known user ID and password requires minimal technical knowledge and exposes the network resources to exploitation. The technical barrier is low and the impact can be very high; therefore, the fact that many user IDs have identical passwords represents the greatest threat. External modems represent a security risk, but exploitation still depends on the use of a valid user account. While the impact of users installing software on their desktops can be high (for example, due to the installation of Trojans or key-logging programs), the likelihood is not high due to the level of technical knowledge required to successfully penetrate the network. Although network monitoring can be a useful detective control, it will only detect abuse of user accounts in special circumstances and is, therefore, not a first line of defense.

NEW QUESTION 156

CORRECT TEXT - (Topic 2)

The vice president of human resources has requested an audit to identify payroll overpayments for the previous year. Which would be the BEST audit technique to use in this situation?

- A. Test data
- B. Generalized audit software
- C. Integrated test facility
- D. Embedded audit module

Answer: B

NEW QUESTION 160

- (Topic 2)

In the course of performing a risk analysis, an IS auditor has identified threats and potential impacts. Next, the IS auditor should:

- A. identify and assess the risk assessment process used by management
- B. identify information assets and the underlying system
- C. disclose the threats and impacts to management
- D. identify and evaluate the existing controls

Answer: D

Explanation:

It is important for an IS auditor to identify and evaluate the existing controls and security once the potential threats and possible impacts are identified. Upon completion of an audit an IS auditor should describe and discuss with management the threats and potential impacts on the assets.

NEW QUESTION 162

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor reviews an organizational chart PRIMARILY for:

- A. an understanding of workflow
- B. investigating various communication channel
- C. understanding the responsibilities and authority of individual
- D. investigating the network connected to different employee

Answer: C

Explanation:

An organizational chart provides information about the responsibilities and authority of individuals in the organization. This helps an IS auditor to know if there is a proper segregation of functions. A workflow chart would provide information about the roles of different employees. A network diagram will provide information about the usage of various communication channels and will indicate the connection of users to the network.

NEW QUESTION 165

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor evaluates the test results of a modification to a system that deals with payment computation. The auditor finds that 50 percent of the calculations do not match predetermined totals. Which of the following would MOST likely be the next step in the audit?

- A. Design further tests of the calculations that are in error
- B. Identify variables that may have caused the test results to be inaccurate
- C. Examine some of the test cases to confirm the result
- D. Document the results and prepare a report of findings, conclusions and recommendation

Answer: C

Explanation:

An IS auditor should next examine cases where incorrect calculations occurred and confirm the results. After the calculations have been confirmed, further tests can be conducted and reviewed. Report preparation, findings and recommendations would not be made until all results are confirmed.

NEW QUESTION 170

- (Topic 2)

The PRIMARY reason an IS auditor performs a functional walkthrough during the preliminary phase of an audit assignment is to:

- A. understand the business process
- B. comply with auditing standard
- C. identify control weaknesses
- D. plan substantive testing

Answer: A

Explanation:

Understanding the business process is the first step an IS auditor needs to perform. Standards do not require an IS auditor to perform a process walkthrough. Identifying control weaknesses is not the primary reason for the walkthrough and typically occurs at a later stage in the audit, while planning for substantive testing is performed at a later stage in the audit.

NEW QUESTION 172

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following audit techniques would BEST aid an auditor in determining whether there have been unauthorized program changes since the last authorized program update?

- A. Test data run
- B. Code review
- C. Automated code comparison
- D. Review of code migration procedures

Answer: C

Explanation:

An automated code comparison is the process of comparing two versions of the same program to determine whether the two correspond. It is an efficient technique because it is an automated procedure. Test data runs permit the auditor to verify the processing of preselected transactions, but provide no evidence about unexercised portions of a program. Code review is the process of reading program source code listings to determine whether the code contains potential errors or inefficient statements. A code review can be used as a means of code comparison but it is inefficient. The review of code migration procedures would not detect program changes.

NEW QUESTION 173

- (Topic 2)

A PRIMARY benefit derived from an organization employing control self-assessment (CSA) techniques is that it:

- A. can identify high-risk areas that might need a detailed review later
- B. allows IS auditors to independently assess risk
- C. can be used as a replacement for traditional audit
- D. allows management to relinquish responsibility for controls

Answer: A

Explanation:

CSA is predicated on the review of high-risk areas that either need immediate attention or a more thorough review at a later date. Choice B is incorrect, because CSA requires the involvement of auditors and line management. What occurs is that the internal audit function shifts some of the control monitoring responsibilities to the functional areas. Choice C is incorrect because CSA is not a replacement for traditional audits. CSA is not intended to replace audit's responsibilities, but to enhance them. Choice D is incorrect, because CSA does not allow management to relinquish its responsibility for control.

NEW QUESTION 174

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the key benefit of control self-assessment (CSA)?

- A. Management ownership of the internal controls supporting business objectives is reinforced
- B. Audit expenses are reduced when the assessment results are an input to external audit work
- C. Improved fraud detection since internal business staff are engaged in testing controls
- D. Internal auditors can shift to a consultative approach by using the results of the assessment

Answer: A

Explanation:

The objective of control self-assessment is to have business management become more aware of the importance of internal control and their responsibility in terms of corporate governance. Reducing audit expenses is not a key benefit of control self-assessment (CSA). Improved fraud detection is important, but not as important as ownership, and is not a principal objective of CSA. CSA may give more insights to internal auditors, allowing them to take a more consultative role; however, this is an additional benefit, not the key benefit.

NEW QUESTION 175

- (Topic 3)

An IT steering committee should review information systems PRIMARILY to assess:

- A. whether IT processes support business requirements
- B. if proposed system functionality is adequate
- C. the stability of existing software
- D. the complexity of installed technology

Answer: A

Explanation:

The role of an IT steering committee is to ensure that the IS department is in harmony with the organization's mission and objectives. To ensure this, the committee must determine whether IS processes support the business requirements. Assessing proposed additional functionality and evaluating software stability and the complexity of technology are too narrow in scope to ensure that IT processes are, in fact, supporting the organization's goals.

NEW QUESTION 177

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is a function of an IS steering committee?

- A. Monitoring vendor-controlled change control and testing
- B. Ensuring a separation of duties within the information's processing environment
- C. Approving and monitoring major projects, the status of IS plans and budgets
- D. Liaising between the IS department and the end users

Answer: C

Explanation:

The IS steering committee typically serves as a general review board for major IS projects and should not become involved in routine operations; therefore, one of its functions is to approve and monitor major projects, the status of IS plans and budgets. Vendor change control is an outsourcing issue and should be monitored by IS management. Ensuring a separation of duties within the information's processing environment is an IS management responsibility. Liaising between the IS department and the end users is a function of the individual parties and not a committee.

NEW QUESTION 178

- (Topic 3)

The MAJOR consideration for an IS auditor reviewing an organization's IT project portfolio is the:

- A. IT budget
- B. existing IT environment
- C. business plan
- D. investment plan

Answer: C

Explanation:

One of the most important reasons for which projects get funded is how well a project meets an organization's strategic objectives. Portfolio management takes a holistic view of a company's overall IT strategy. IT strategy should be aligned with the business strategy and, hence, reviewing the business plan should be the major consideration. Choices A, B and D are important but secondary to the importance of reviewing the business plan.

NEW QUESTION 180

- (Topic 3)

A local area network (LAN) administrator normally would be restricted from:

- A. having end-user responsibilities
- B. reporting to the end-user manager
- C. having programming responsibilities
- D. being responsible for LAN security administration

Answer: C

Explanation:

A LAN administrator should not have programming responsibilities but may have end-user responsibilities. The LAN administrator may report to the director of the IPF or, in a decentralized operation, to the end-user manager. In small organizations, the LAN administrator may also be responsible for security administration over the LAN.

NEW QUESTION 183

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor reviewing an organization that uses cross-training practices should assess the risk of:

- A. dependency on a single person
- B. inadequate succession planning
- C. one person knowing all parts of a system
- D. a disruption of operation

Answer: C

Explanation:

Cross-training is a process of training more than one individual to perform a specific job or procedure. This practice helps decrease the dependence on a single person and assists in succession planning. This provides for the backup of personnel in the event of an absence and, thereby, provides for the continuity of operations. However, in using this approach, it is prudent to have first assessed the risk of any person knowing all parts of a system and the related potential exposures. Cross-training reduces the risks addressed in choices A, B and D.

NEW QUESTION 184

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the BEST performance criterion for evaluating the adequacy of an organization's security awareness training?

- A. Senior management is aware of critical information assets and demonstrates an adequate concern for their protection
- B. Job descriptions contain clear statements of accountability for information security
- C. In accordance with the degree of risk and business impact, there is adequate funding for security effort
- D. No actual incidents have occurred that have caused a loss or a public embarrassment

Answer: B

Explanation:

Inclusion in job descriptions of security responsibilities is a form of security training and helps ensure that staff and management are aware of their roles with respect to information security. The other three choices are not criterion for evaluating security awareness training. Awareness is a criterion for evaluating the importance that senior management attaches to information assets and their protection. Funding is a criterion that aids in evaluating whether security vulnerabilities are being addressed, while the number of incidents that have occurred is a criterion for evaluating the adequacy of the risk management program.

NEW QUESTION 186

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is a risk of cross-training?

- A. Increases the dependence on one employee
- B. Does not assist in succession planning
- C. One employee may know all parts of a system
- D. Does not help in achieving a continuity of operations

Answer: C

Explanation:

When cross-training, it would be prudent to first assess the risk of any person knowing all parts of a system and what exposures this may cause. Cross-training has the advantage of decreasing dependence on one employee and, hence, can be part of succession planning. It also provides backup for personnel in the event of absence for any reason and thereby facilitates the continuity of operations.

NEW QUESTION 191

- (Topic 3)

To support an organization's goals, an IS department should have:

- A. a low-cost philosophy
- B. long- and short-range plan
- C. leading-edge technology
- D. plans to acquire new hardware and software

Answer: B

Explanation:

To ensure its contribution to the realization of an organization's overall goals, the IS department should have long- and short-range plans that are consistent with the organization's broader plans for attaining its goals. Choices A and C are objectives, and plans would be needed to delineate how each of the objectives would be achieved. Choice D could be a part of the overall plan but would be required only if hardware or software is needed to achieve the organizational goals.

NEW QUESTION 194

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following goals would you expect to find in an organization's strategic plan?

- A. Test a new accounting packag
- B. Perform an evaluation of information technology need
- C. Implement a new project planning system within the next 12 month
- D. Become the supplier of choice for the product offere

Answer: D

Explanation:

Strategic planning sets corporate or departmental objectives into motion. Comprehensive planning helps ensure an effective and efficient organization. Strategic planning is time-and project-oriented, but also must address and help determine priorities to meet business needs. Long- and short-range plans should be consistent with the organization's broader plans for attaining their goals. Choice D represents a business objective that is intended to focus the overall direction of the business and would thus be a part of the organization's strategic plan. The other choices are project-oriented and do not address business objectives.

NEW QUESTION 197

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following would an IS auditor consider to be the MOST important when evaluating an organization's IS strategy? That it:

- A. has been approved by line managemen
- B. does not vary from the IS department's preliminary budge
- C. complies with procurement procedure
- D. supports the business objectives of the organizatio

Answer: D

Explanation:

Strategic planning sets corporate or department objectives into motion. Both long-term and short-term strategic plans should be consistent with the organization's broader plans and business objectives for attaining these goals. Choice A is incorrect since line management prepared the plans.

NEW QUESTION 200

- (Topic 3)

When developing a formal enterprise security program, the MOST critical success factor (CSF) would be the:

- A. establishment of a review boar
- B. creation of a security uni
- C. effective support of an executive sponso
- D. selection of a security process owne

Answer: C

Explanation:

The executive sponsor would be in charge of supporting the organization's strategic security program, and would aid in directing the organization's overall security management activities. Therefore, support by the executive level of management is the most critical success factor (CSF). None of the other choices are effective without visible sponsorship of top management.

NEW QUESTION 202

- (Topic 3)

When reviewing an organization's strategic IT plan an IS auditor should expect to find:

- A. an assessment of the fit of the organization's application portfolio with business objective
- B. actions to reduce hardware procurement cos
- C. a listing of approved suppliers of IT contract resource
- D. a description of the technical architecture for the organization's network perimeter securit

Answer: A

Explanation:

An assessment of how well an organization's application portfolio supports the organization's business objectives is a key component of the overall IT strategic planning process. This drives the demand side of IT planning and should convert into a set of strategic IT intentions. Further assessment can then be made of how well the overall IT organization, encompassing applications, infrastructure, services, management processes, etc., can support the business objectives. Operational efficiency initiatives belong to tactical planning, not strategic planning. The purpose of an IT strategic plan is to set out how IT will be used to achieve or support an organization's business objectives. A listing of approved suppliers of IT contract resources is a tactical rather than a strategic concern. An IT strategic plan would not normally include detail of a specific technical architecture.

NEW QUESTION 205

- (Topic 3)

The rate of change in technology increases the importance of:

- A. outsourcing the IS functio
- B. implementing and enforcing good processe
- C. hiring personnel willing to make a career within the organizatio
- D. meeting user requirement

Answer: B

Explanation:

Change requires that good change management processes be implemented and enforced. Outsourcing the IS function is not directly related to the rate of technological change. Personnel in a typical IS department are highly qualified and educated; usually they do not feel their jobs are at risk and are prepared to switch jobs frequently. Although meeting user requirements is important, it is not directly related to the rate of technological change in the IS environment.

NEW QUESTION 207

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following programs would a sound information security policy MOST likely include to handle suspected intrusions?

- A. Response
- B. Correction
- C. Detection
- D. Monitoring

Answer: A

Explanation:

A sound IS security policy will most likely outline a response program to handle suspected intrusions. Correction, detection and monitoring programs are all aspects of information security, but will not likely be included in an IS security policy statement.

NEW QUESTION 212

- (Topic 3)

An example of a direct benefit to be derived from a proposed IT-related business investment is:

- A. enhanced reputatio
- B. enhanced staff moral
- C. the use of new technolog
- D. increased market penetratio

Answer: D

Explanation:

A comprehensive business case for any proposed IT-related business investment should have clearly defined business benefits to enable the expected return to be calculated. These benefits usually fall into two categories: direct and indirect, or soft. Direct benefits usually comprise the quantifiable financial benefits that the new system is expected to generate. The potential benefits of enhanced reputation and enhanced staff morale are difficult to quantify, but should be quantified to the extent possible. IT investments should not be made just for the sake of new technology but should be based on a quantifiable business need.

NEW QUESTION 213

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor should expect which of the following items to be included in the request for proposal (RFP) when IS is procuring services from an independent service provider (ISP)?

- A. References from other customers
- B. Service level agreement (SLA) template
- C. Maintenance agreement
- D. Conversion plan

Answer: A

Explanation:

An IS auditor should look for an independent verification that the ISP can perform the tasks being contracted for. References from other customers would provide an independent, external review and verification of procedures and processes the ISP follows-issues which would be of concern to an IS auditor. Checking references is a means of obtaining an independent verification that the vendor can perform the services it says it can. A maintenance agreement relates more to equipment than to services, and a conversion plan, while important, is less important than verification that the ISP can provide the services they propose.

NEW QUESTION 214

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the MOST important IS audit consideration when an organization outsources a customer credit review system to a third-party service provider? The provider:

- A. meets or exceeds industry security standard
- B. agrees to be subject to external security review
- C. has a good market reputation for service and experienc

D. complies with security policies of the organizatio

Answer: B

Explanation:

It is critical that an independent security review of an outsourcing vendor be obtained because customer credit information will be kept there. Compliance with security standards or organization policies is important, but there is no way to verify or prove that that is the case without an independent review. Though long experience in business and good reputation is an important factor to assess service quality, the business cannot outsource to a provider whose security control is weak.

NEW QUESTION 216

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor reviewing the risk assessment process of an organization should FIRST:

- A. identify the reasonable threats to the information asset
- B. analyze the technical and organizational vulnerabilitie
- C. identify and rank the information asset
- D. evaluate the effect of a potential security breac

Answer: C

Explanation:

Identification and ranking of information assets-e.g., data criticality, locations of assets-will set the tone or scope of how to assess risk in relation to the organizational value of the asset. Second, the threats facing each of the organization's assets should be analyzed according to their value to the organization. Third, weaknesses should be identified so that controls can be evaluated to determine if they mitigate the weaknesses. Fourth, analyze how these weaknesses, in absence of given controls, would impact the organization information assets.

NEW QUESTION 220

- (Topic 3)

As a driver of IT governance, transparency of IT's cost, value and risks is primarily achieved through:

- A. performance measuremen
- B. strategic alignmen
- C. value deliver
- D. resource managemen

Answer: A

Explanation:

Performance measurement includes setting and monitoring measurable objectives of what the IT processes need to deliver (process outcome) and how they deliver it (process capability and performance). Strategic alignment primarily focuses on ensuring linkage of business and IT plans. Value delivery is about executing the value proposition throughout the delivery cycle. Resource management is about the optimal investment in and proper management of critical IT resources. Transparency is primarily achieved through performance measurement as it provides information to the stakeholders on how well the enterprise is performing when compared to objectives.

NEW QUESTION 224

- (Topic 3)

The PRIMARY benefit of implementing a security program as part of a security governance framework is the:

- A. alignment of the IT activities with IS audit recommendation
- B. enforcement of the management of security risk
- C. implementation of the chief information security officer's (CISO) recommendation
- D. reduction of the cost for IT securit

Answer: B

Explanation:

The major benefit of implementing a security program is management's assessment of risk and its mitigation to an appropriate level of risk, and the monitoring of the remaining residual risks. Recommendations, visions and objectives of the auditor and the chief information security officer (CISO) are usually included within a security program, but they would not be the major benefit. The cost of IT security may or may not be reduced.

NEW QUESTION 225

- (Topic 4)

When auditing the proposed acquisition of a new computer system, an IS auditor should FIRST establish that:

- A. a clear business case has been approved by managemen
- B. corporate security standards will be me
- C. users will be involved in the implementation pla
- D. the new system will meet all required user functionalit

Answer: A

Explanation:

The first concern of an IS auditor should be to establish that the proposal meets the needs of the business, and this should be established by a clear business case. Although compliance with security standards is essential, as is meeting the needs of the users and having users involved in the implementation process, it is too early in the procurement process for these to be an IS auditor's first concern.

NEW QUESTION 226

- (Topic 4)

To minimize the cost of a software project, quality management techniques should be applied:

- A. as close to their writing (i.e., point of origination) as possible
- B. primarily at project start-up to ensure that the project is established in accordance with organizational governance standard
- C. continuously throughout the project with an emphasis on finding and fixing defects primarily during testing to maximize the defect detection rate
- D. mainly at project close-down to capture lessons learned that can be applied to future project

Answer: C

Explanation:

While it is important to properly establish a software development project, quality management should be effectively practiced throughout the project. The major source of unexpected costs on most software projects is rework. The general rule is that the earlier in the development life cycle that a defect occurs, and the longer it takes to find and fix that defect, the more effort will be needed to correct it. A well-written quality management plan is a good start, but it must also be actively applied. Simply relying on testing to identify defects is a relatively costly and less effective way of achieving software quality. For example, an error in requirements discovered in the testing phase can result in scrapping significant amounts of work. Capturing lessons learned will be too late for the current project. Additionally, applying quality management techniques throughout a project is likely to yield its own insights into the causes of quality problems and assist in staff development.

NEW QUESTION 228

- (Topic 4)

When reviewing a project where quality is a major concern, an IS auditor should use the project management triangle to explain that:

- A. increases in quality can be achieved, even if resource allocation is decrease
- B. increases in quality are only achieved if resource allocation is increase
- C. decreases in delivery time can be achieved, even if resource allocation is decrease
- D. decreases in delivery time can only be achieved if quality is decrease

Answer: A

Explanation:

The three primary dimensions of a project are determined by the deliverables, the allocated resources and the delivery time. The area of the project management triangle, comprised of these three dimensions, is fixed. Depending on the degree of freedom, changes in one dimension might be compensated by changing either one or both remaining dimensions. Thus, if resource allocation is decreased an increase in quality can be achieved, if a delay in the delivery time of the project will be accepted. The area of the triangle always remains constant.

NEW QUESTION 233

- (Topic 4)

An IS auditor is assigned to audit a software development project which is more than 80 percent complete, but has already overrun time by 10 percent and costs by 25 percent. Which of the following actions should the IS auditor take?

- A. Report that the organization does not have effective project management
- B. Recommend the project manager be changed
- C. Review the IT governance structure
- D. Review the conduct of the project and the business case

Answer: D

Explanation:

Before making any recommendations, an IS auditor needs to understand the project and the factors that have contributed to making the project over budget and over schedule. The organization may have effective project management practices and sound IT governance and still be behind schedule or over budget. There is no indication that the project manager should be changed without looking into the reasons for the overrun.

NEW QUESTION 235

- (Topic 4)

Which of the following should an IS auditor review to understand project progress in terms of time, budget and deliverables for early detection of possible overruns and for projecting estimates at completion (EACs)?

- A. Function point analysis
- B. Earned value analysis
- C. Cost budget
- D. Program Evaluation and Review Technique

Answer: B

Explanation:

Earned value analysis (EVA) is an industry standard method for measuring a project's progress at any given point in time, forecasting its completion date and final cost, and analyzing variances in the schedule and budget as the project proceeds. It compares the planned amount of work with what has actually been completed, to determine if the cost, schedule and work accomplished are progressing in accordance with the plan. EVA works most effectively if a well-formed work breakdown structure exists. Function point analysis (FPA) is an indirect measure of software size and complexity and, therefore, does not address the

elements of time and budget. Cost budgets do not address time. PERT aids in time and deliverables management, but lacks projections for estimates at completion (EACs) and overall financial management.

NEW QUESTION 240

- (Topic 4)

A project manager of a project that is scheduled to take 18 months to complete announces that the project is in a healthy financial position because, after 6 months, only one-sixth of the budget has been spent. The IS auditor should FIRST determine:

- A. what amount of progress against schedule has been achieve
- B. if the project budget can be reduce
- C. if the project could be brought in ahead of schedul
- D. if the budget savings can be applied to increase the project scop

Answer: A

Explanation:

Cost performance of a project cannot be properly assessed in isolation of schedule performance. Cost cannot be assessed simply in terms of elapsed time on a project. To properly assess the project budget position it is necessary to know how much progress has actually been made and, given this, what level of expenditure would be expected. It is possible that project expenditure appears to be low because actual progress has been slow. Until the analysis of project against schedule has been completed, it is impossible to know whether there is any reason to reduce budget, if the project has slipped behind schedule, then not only may there be no spare budget but it is possible that extra expenditure may be needed to retrieve the slippage. The low expenditure could actually be representative of a situation where the project is likely to miss deadlines rather than potentially come in ahead of time. If the project is found to be ahead of budget after adjusting for actual progress, this is not necessarily a good outcome because it points to flaws in the original budgeting process; and, as said above, until further analysis is undertaken, it cannot be determined whether any spare funds actually exist. Further, if the project is behind schedule, then adding scope may be the wrong thing to do.

NEW QUESTION 245

- (Topic 4)

The purpose of a checksum on an amount field in an electronic data interchange (EDI) communication of financial transactions is to ensure:

- A. integrit
- B. authenticit
- C. authorizatio
- D. nonrepudiatio

Answer: A

Explanation:

A checksum calculated on an amount field and included in the EDI communication can be used to identify unauthorized modifications. Authenticity and authorization cannot be established by a checksum alone and need other controls. Nonrepudiation can be ensured by using digital signatures.

NEW QUESTION 250

- (Topic 4)

What control detects transmission errors by appending calculated bits onto the end of each segment of data?

- A. Reasonableness check
- B. Parity check
- C. Redundancy check
- D. Check digits

Answer: C

Explanation:

A redundancy check detects transmission errors by appending calculated bits onto the end of each segment of data. A reasonableness check compares data to predefined reasonability limits or occurrence rates established for the data. A parity check is a hardware control that detects data errors when data are read from one computer to another, from memory or during transmission. Check digits detect transposition and transcription errors.

NEW QUESTION 251

- (Topic 4)

Which of the following data validation edits is effective in detecting transposition and transcription errors?

- A. Range check
- B. Check digit
- C. Validity check
- D. Duplicate check

Answer: B

Explanation:

A check digit is a numeric value that is calculated mathematically and is appended to data to ensure that the original data have not been altered, e.g., an incorrect, but valid, value substituted for the original. This control is effective in detecting transposition and transcription errors. A range check is checking data that matches a predetermined range of values. A validity check is programmed checking of the data validity in accordance with predetermined criteria. In a duplicate check, new or fresh transactions are matched to those previously entered to ensure that they are not already in the system.

NEW QUESTION 254

- (Topic 4)

During the audit of an acquired software package, an IS auditor learned that the software purchase was based on information obtained through the Internet, rather than from responses to a request for proposal (RFP). The IS auditor should FIRST:

- A. test the software for compatibility with existing hardware
- B. perform a gap analysis
- C. review the licensing policy
- D. ensure that the procedure had been approved

Answer: D

Explanation:

In the case of a deviation from the predefined procedures, an IS auditor should first ensure that the procedure followed for acquiring the software is consistent with the business objectives and has been approved by the appropriate authorities. The other choices are not the first actions an IS auditor should take. They are steps that may or may not be taken after determining that the procedure used to acquire the software had been approved.

NEW QUESTION 258

- (Topic 4)

Ideally, stress testing should be carried out in a:

- A. test environment using test data
- B. production environment using live workload
- C. test environment using live workload
- D. production environment using test data

Answer: C

Explanation:

Stress testing is carried out to ensure a system can cope with production workloads. A test environment should always be used to avoid damaging the production environment. Hence, testing should never take place in a production environment (choices B and D), and if only test data is used, there is no certainty that the system was stress tested adequately.

NEW QUESTION 263

- (Topic 4)

When implementing an application software package, which of the following presents the GREATEST risk?

- A. Uncontrolled multiple software versions
- B. Source programs that are not synchronized with object code
- C. incorrectly set parameters
- D. Programming error

Answer: C

Explanation:

Parameters that are not set correctly would be the greatest concern when implementing an application software package. The other choices, though important, are a concern of the provider, not the organization that is implementing the software itself.

NEW QUESTION 268

- (Topic 4)

A decision support system (DSS):

- A. is aimed at solving highly structured problems
- B. combines the use of models with nontraditional data access and retrieval functions
- C. emphasizes flexibility in the decision making approach of users
- D. supports only structured decision making tasks

Answer: C

Explanation:

DSS emphasizes flexibility in the decision making approach of users. It is aimed at solving less structured problems, combines the use of models and analytic techniques with traditional data access and retrieval functions, and supports semistructured decision making tasks.

NEW QUESTION 269

- (Topic 4)

An IS auditor's PRIMARY concern when application developers wish to use a copy of yesterday's production transaction file for volume tests is that:

- A. users may prefer to use contrived data for testing
- B. unauthorized access to sensitive data may result
- C. error handling and credibility checks may not be fully proven
- D. the full functionality of the new process may not necessarily be tested

Answer: B

Explanation:

Unless the data are sanitized, there is a risk of disclosing sensitive data.

NEW QUESTION 272

- (Topic 4)

Which of the following should be included in a feasibility study for a project to implement an EDI process?

- A. The encryption algorithm format
- B. The detailed internal control procedures
- C. The necessary communication protocols
- D. The proposed trusted third-party agreement

Answer: C

Explanation:

Encryption algorithms, third-party agreements and internal control procedures are too detailed for this phase. They would only be outlined and any cost or performance implications shown. The communications protocols must be included, as there may be significant cost implications if new hardware and software are involved, and risk implications if the technology is new to the organization.

NEW QUESTION 273

- (Topic 4)

During the development of an application, the quality assurance testing and user acceptance testing were combined. The MAJOR concern for an IS auditor reviewing the project is that there will be:

- A. increased maintenance
- B. improper documentation of testing
- C. inadequate functional testing
- D. delays in problem resolution

Answer: C

Explanation:

The major risk of combining quality assurance testing and user acceptance testing is that functional testing may be inadequate. Choices A, B and D are not as important.

NEW QUESTION 276

- (Topic 4)

Which testing approach is MOST appropriate to ensure that internal application interface errors are identified as soon as possible?

- A. Bottom up
- B. Sociability testing
- C. Top-down
- D. System test

Answer: C

Explanation:

The top-down approach to testing ensures that interface errors are detected early and that testing of major functions is conducted early. A bottom-up approach to testing begins with atomic units, such as programs and modules, and works upward until a complete system test has taken place. Sociability testing and system tests take place at a later stage in the development process.

NEW QUESTION 278

- (Topic 4)

During the system testing phase of an application development project the IS auditor should review the:

- A. conceptual design specification
- B. vendor contract
- C. error report
- D. program change request

Answer: C

Explanation:

Testing is crucial in determining that user requirements have been validated. The IS auditor should be involved in this phase and review error reports for their precision in recognizing erroneous data and review the procedures for resolving errors. A conceptual design specification is a document prepared during the requirements definition phase. A vendor contract is prepared during a software acquisition process. Program change requests would normally be reviewed as a part of the postimplementation phase.

NEW QUESTION 282

- (Topic 4)

Normally, it would be essential to involve which of the following stakeholders in the initiation stage of a project?

- A. System owners
- B. System users
- C. System designers
- D. System builders

Answer: A

Explanation:

System owners are the information systems (project) sponsors or chief advocates. They normally are responsible for initiating and funding projects to develop, operate and maintain information systems. System users are the individuals who use or are affected by the information system. Their requirements are crucial in the testing stage of a project. System designers translate business requirements and constraints into technical solutions. System builders construct the system based on the specifications from the systems designers. In most cases, the designers and builders are one and the same.

NEW QUESTION 286

- (Topic 4)

The specific advantage of white box testing is that it:

- A. verifies a program can operate successfully with other parts of the system
- B. ensures a program's functional operating effectiveness without regard to the internal program structure
- C. determines procedural accuracy or conditions of a program's specific logic path
- D. examines a program's functionality by executing it in a tightly controlled or virtual environment with restricted access to the host system

Answer: C

Explanation:

White box testing assesses the effectiveness of software program logic. Specifically, test data are used in determining procedural accuracy or conditions of a program's logic paths. Verifying the program can operate successfully with other parts of the system is sociability testing. Testing the program's functionality without knowledge of internal structures is black box testing. Controlled testing of programs in a semi-debugged environment, either heavily controlled step-by-step or via monitoring in virtual machines, is sand box testing.

NEW QUESTION 287

- (Topic 4)

An IS auditor is reviewing a project that is using an Agile software development approach. Which of the following should the IS auditor expect to find?

- A. Use of a process-based maturity model such as the capability maturity model (CMM)
- B. Regular monitoring of task-level progress against schedule
- C. Extensive use of software development tools to maximize team productivity
- D. Postiteration reviews that identify lessons learned for future use in the project

Answer: D

Explanation:

A key tenet of the Agile approach to software project management is team learning and the use of team learning to refine project management and software development processes as the project progresses. One of the best ways to achieve this is that, at the end of each iteration, the team considers and documents what worked well and what could have worked better, and identifies improvements to be implemented in subsequent iterations. CMM and Agile really sit at opposite poles. CMM places heavy emphasis on predefined formal processes and formal project management and software development deliverables. Agile projects, by contrast, rely on refinement of process as dictated by the particular needs of the project and team dynamics. Additionally, less importance is placed on formal paper-based deliverables, with the preference being effective informal communication within the team and with key outside contributors. Agile projects produce releasable software in short iterations, typically ranging from 4 to 8 weeks. This, in itself, instills considerable performance discipline within the team. This, combined with short daily meetings to agree on what the team is doing and the identification of any impediments, renders task-level tracking against a schedule redundant. Agile projects do make use of suitable development tools; however, tools are not seen as the primary means of achieving productivity. Team harmony, effective communications and collective ability to solve challenges are of

NEW QUESTION 289

- (Topic 4)

An organization is implementing a new system to replace a legacy system. Which of the following conversion practices creates the GREATEST risk?

- A. Pilot
- B. Parallel
- C. Direct cutover
- D. Phased

Answer: C

Explanation:

Direct cutover implies switching to the new system immediately, usually without the ability to revert to the old system in the event of problems. All other alternatives are done gradually and thus provide greater recoverability and are therefore less risky.

NEW QUESTION 293

- (Topic 4)

From a risk management point of view, the BEST approach when implementing a large and complex IT infrastructure is:

- A. a big bang deployment after proof of concept
- B. prototyping and a one-phase deployment
- C. a deployment plan based on sequenced phase

D. to simulate the new infrastructure before deployment

Answer: C

Explanation:

When developing a large and complex IT infrastructure, the best practice is to use a phased approach to fitting the entire system together. This will provide greater assurance of quality results. The other choices are riskier approaches.

NEW QUESTION 298

- (Topic 4)

The reason a certification and accreditation process is performed on critical systems is to ensure that:

- A. security compliance has been technically evaluated
- B. data have been encrypted and are ready to be stored
- C. the systems have been tested to run on different platforms
- D. the systems have followed the phases of a waterfall model

Answer: A

Explanation:

Certified and accredited systems are systems that have had their security compliance technically evaluated for running on a specific production server. Choice B is incorrect because not all data of certified systems are encrypted. Choice C is incorrect because certified systems are evaluated to run in a specific environment. A waterfall model is a software development methodology and not a reason for performing a certification and accrediting process.

NEW QUESTION 302

- (Topic 4)

An IS auditor finds out-of-range data in some tables of a database. Which of the following controls should the IS auditor recommend to avoid this situation?

- A. Log all table update transactions
- B. implement before-and-after image reporting
- C. Use tracing and tagging
- D. implement integrity constraints in the databases

Answer: D

Explanation:

Implementing integrity constraints in the database is a preventive control, because data is checked against predefined tables or rules preventing any undefined data from being entered. Logging all table update transactions and implementing before-and-after image reporting are detective controls that would not avoid the situation. Tracing and tagging are used to test application systems and controls and could not prevent out-of-range data.

NEW QUESTION 307

- (Topic 4)

A company has implemented a new client-server enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. Local branches transmit customer orders to a central manufacturing facility. Which of the following would BEST ensure that the orders are entered accurately and the corresponding products are produced?

- A. Verifying production to customer orders
- B. Logging all customer orders in the ERP system
- C. Using hash totals in the order transmitting process
- D. Approving (production supervisor) orders prior to production

Answer: A

Explanation:

Verification will ensure that production orders match customer orders. Logging can be used to detect inaccuracies, but does not in itself guarantee accurate processing. Hash totals will ensure accurate order transmission, but not accurate processing centrally. Production supervisory approval is a time consuming, manual process that does not guarantee proper control.

NEW QUESTION 311

- (Topic 4)

A company has recently upgraded its purchase system to incorporate EDI transmissions. Which of the following controls should be implemented in the EDI interface to provide for efficient data mapping?

- A. Key verification
- B. One-for-one checking
- C. Manual recalculations
- D. Functional acknowledgements

Answer: D

Explanation:

Acting as an audit trail for EDI transactions, functional acknowledgements are one of the main controls used in data mapping. All the other choices are manual input controls, whereas data mapping deals with automatic integration of data in the receiving company.

NEW QUESTION 313

- (Topic 4)

A company uses a bank to process its weekly payroll. Time sheets and payroll adjustment forms (e.g., hourly rate changes, terminations) are completed and delivered to the bank, which prepares checks (cheques) and reports for distribution. To BEST ensure payroll data accuracy:

- A. payroll reports should be compared to input form
- B. gross payroll should be recalculated manually
- C. checks (cheques) should be compared to input form
- D. checks (cheques) should be reconciled with output report

Answer: A

Explanation:

The best way to confirm data accuracy, when input is provided by the company and output is generated by the bank, is to verify the data input (input forms) with the results of the payroll reports. Hence, comparing payroll reports with input forms is the best mechanism of verifying data accuracy. Recalculating gross payroll manually would only verify whether the processing is correct and not the data accuracy of inputs. Comparing checks (cheques) to input forms is not feasible as checks (cheques) have the processed information and input forms have the input data. Reconciling checks (cheques) with output reports only confirms that checks (cheques) have been issued as per output reports.

NEW QUESTION 315

- (Topic 4)

An IS auditor reviewing an accounts payable system discovers that audit logs are not being reviewed. When this issue is raised with management the response is that additional controls are not necessary because effective system access controls are in place. The BEST response the auditor can make is to:

- A. review the integrity of system access control
- B. accept management's statement that effective access controls are in place
- C. stress the importance of having a system control framework in place
- D. review the background checks of the accounts payable staff

Answer: C

Explanation:

Experience has demonstrated that reliance purely on preventative controls is dangerous. Preventative controls may not prove to be as strong as anticipated or their effectiveness can deteriorate over time. Evaluating the cost of controls versus the quantum of risk is a valid management concern. However, in a high-risk system a comprehensive control framework is needed, intelligent design should permit additional detective and corrective controls to be established that don't have high ongoing costs, e.g., automated interrogation of logs to highlight suspicious individual transactions or data patterns. Effective access controls are, in themselves, a positive but, for reasons outlined above, may not sufficiently compensate for other control weaknesses. In this situation the IS auditor needs to be proactive. The IS auditor has a fundamental obligation to point out control weaknesses that give rise to unacceptable risks to the organization and work with management to have these corrected. Reviewing background checks on accounts payable staff does not provide evidence that fraud will not occur.

NEW QUESTION 317

- (Topic 4)

When reviewing an organization's approved software product list, which of the following is the MOST important thing to verify?

- A. The risks associated with the use of the products are periodically assessed
- B. The latest version of software is listed for each product
- C. Due to licensing issues the list does not contain open source software
- D. After hours support is offered

Answer: A

Explanation:

Since the business conditions surrounding vendors may change, it is important for an organization to conduct periodic risk assessments of the vendor software list. This might be best incorporated into the IT risk management process. Choices B, C and D are possible considerations but would not be the most important.

NEW QUESTION 319

- (Topic 4)

A number of system failures are occurring when corrections to previously detected errors are resubmitted for acceptance testing. This would indicate that the maintenance team is probably not performing adequately which of the following types of testing?

- A. Unit testing
- B. Integration testing
- C. Design walkthroughs
- D. Configuration management

Answer: B

Explanation:

A common system maintenance problem is that errors are often corrected quickly (especially when deadlines are tight). Units are tested by the programmer and then transferred to the acceptance test area; this often results in system problems that should have been detected during integration or system testing. Integration testing aims at ensuring that the major components of the system interface correctly.

NEW QUESTION 321

- (Topic 5)

To determine which users can gain access to the privileged supervisory state, which of the following should an IS auditor review?

- A. System access log files
- B. Enabled access control software parameters
- C. Logs of access control violations
- D. System configuration files for control options used

Answer: D

Explanation:

A review of system configuration files for control options used would show which users have access to the privileged supervisory state. Both systems access log files and logs of access violations are detective in nature. Access control software is run under the operating system.

NEW QUESTION 323

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following is a network diagnostic tool that monitors and records network information?

- A. Online monitor
- B. Downtime report
- C. Help desk report
- D. Protocol analyzer

Answer: D

Explanation:

Protocol analyzers are network diagnostic tools that monitor and record network information from packets traveling in the link to which the analyzer is attached. Online monitors (choice A) measure telecommunications transmissions and determine whether transmissions were accurate and complete. Downtime reports (choice B) track the availability of telecommunication lines and circuits. Help desk reports (choice C) are prepared by the help desk, which is staffed or supported by IS technical support personnel trained to handle problems occurring during the course of IS operations.

NEW QUESTION 325

- (Topic 5)

The BEST way to minimize the risk of communication failures in an e-commerce environment would be to use:

- A. compression software to minimize transmission duration
- B. functional or message acknowledgment
- C. a packet-filtering firewall to reroute message
- D. leased asynchronous transfer mode line

Answer: D

Explanation:

Leased asynchronous transfer mode lines are a way to avoid using public and shared infrastructures from the carrier or Internet service provider that have a greater number of communication failures. Choice A, compression software, is a valid way to reduce the problem, but is not as good as leased asynchronous transfer mode lines. Choice B is a control based on higher protocol layers and helps if communication lines are introducing noise, but not if a link is down. Choice C, a packet-filtering firewall, does not reroute messages.

NEW QUESTION 329

- (Topic 5)

Doing which of the following during peak production hours could result in unexpected downtime?

- A. Performing data migration or tape backup
- B. Performing preventive maintenance on electrical systems
- C. Promoting applications from development to the staging environment
- D. Replacing a failed power supply in the core router of the data center

Answer: B

Explanation:

Choices A and C are processing events which may impact performance, but would not cause downtime. Enterprise-class routers have redundant hot-swappable power supplies, so replacing a failed power supply should not be an issue. Preventive maintenance activities should be scheduled for non-peak times of the day, and preferably during a maintenance window time period. A mishap or incident caused by a maintenance worker could result in unplanned downtime.

NEW QUESTION 333

- (Topic 5)

The objective of concurrency control in a database system is to:

- A. restrict updating of the database to authorized user
- B. prevent integrity problems when two processes attempt to update the same data at the same time
- C. prevent inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of data in the database
- D. ensure the accuracy, completeness and consistency of data

Answer: B

Explanation:

Concurrency controls prevent data integrity problems, which can arise when two update processes access the same data item at the same time. Access controls restrict updating of the database to authorized users, and controls such as passwords prevent the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of data from the database. Quality controls, such as edits, ensure the accuracy, completeness and consistency of data maintained in the database.

NEW QUESTION 334

- (Topic 5)

An IS auditor analyzing the audit log of a database management system (DBMS) finds that some transactions were partially executed as a result of an error, and are not rolled back. Which of the following transaction processing features has been violated?

- A. Consistency
- B. Isolation
- C. Durability
- D. Atomicity

Answer: D

Explanation:

Atomicity guarantees that either the entire transaction is processed or none of it is. Consistency ensures that the database is in a legal state when the transaction begins and ends, isolation means that, while in an intermediate state, the transaction data is invisible to external operations. Durability guarantees that a successful transaction will persist, and cannot be undone.

NEW QUESTION 335

- (Topic 5)

An IS auditor finds that client requests were processed multiple times when received from different independent departmental databases, which are synchronized weekly. What would be the BEST recommendation?

- A. increase the frequency for data replication between the different department systems to ensure timely update
- B. Centralize all request processing in one department to avoid parallel processing of the same request
- C. Change the application architecture so that common data are held in just one shared database for all department
- D. implement reconciliation controls to detect duplicates before orders are processed in the system

Answer: C

Explanation:

Keeping the data in one place is the best way to ensure that data are stored without redundancy and that all users have the same data on their systems. Although increasing the frequency may help to minimize the problem, the risk of duplication cannot be eliminated completely because parallel data entry is still possible. Business requirements will most likely dictate where data processing activities are performed. Changing the business structure to solve an IT problem is not practical or politically feasible. Detective controls do not solve the problem of duplicate processing, and would require that an additional process be implemented to handle the discovered duplicates.

NEW QUESTION 339

- (Topic 5)

An IS auditor finds that, at certain times of the day, the data warehouse query performance decreases significantly. Which of the following controls would it be relevant for the IS auditor to review?

- A. Permanent table-space allocation
- B. Commitment and rollback controls
- C. User spool and database limit controls
- D. Read/write access log controls

Answer: C

Explanation:

User spool limits restrict the space available for running user queries. This prevents poorly formed queries from consuming excessive system resources and impacting general query performance. Limiting the space available to users in their own databases prevents them from building excessively large tables. This helps to control space utilization which itself acts to help performance by maintaining a buffer between the actual data volume stored and the physical device capacity. Additionally, it prevents users from consuming excessive resources in ad hoc table builds (as opposed to scheduled production loads that often can run overnight and are optimized for performance purposes), in a data warehouse, since you are not running online transactions, commitment and rollback does not have an impact on performance. The other choices are not as likely to be the root cause of this performance issue.

NEW QUESTION 341

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following is widely accepted as one of the critical components in networking management?

- A. Configuration management
- B. Topological mappings
- C. Application of monitoring tools
- D. Proxy server troubleshooting

Answer: A

Explanation:

Configuration management is widely accepted as one of the key components of any network, since it establishes how the network will function internally and externally, it also deals with the management of configuration and monitoring performance. Topological mappings provide outlines of the components of the network and its connectivity. Application monitoring is not essential and proxy server troubleshooting is used for troubleshooting purposes.

NEW QUESTION 343

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following controls will MOST effectively detect the presence of bursts of errors in network transmissions?

- A. Parity check
- B. Echo check
- C. Block sum check
- D. Cyclic redundancy check

Answer: D

Explanation:

The cyclic redundancy check (CRC) can check for a block of transmitted data. The workstations generate the CRC and transmit it with the data. The receiving workstation computes a CRC and compares it to the transmitted CRC. If both of them are equal, then the block is assumed error free, in this case (such as in parity error or echo check), multiple errors can be detected. In general, CRC can detect all single-bit and bubble-bit errors. Parity check (known as vertical redundancy check) also involves adding a bit (known as the parity bit) to each character during transmission. In this case, where there is a presence of bursts of errors (i.e., impulsing noise during high transmission rates), it has a reliability of approximately 50 percent. In higher transmission rates, this limitation is significant. Echo checks detect line errors by retransmitting data to the sending device for comparison with the original transmission.

NEW QUESTION 345

- (Topic 5)

An IS auditor reviewing database controls discovered that changes to the database during normal working hours were handled through a standard set of procedures. However, changes made after normal hours required only an abbreviated number of steps. In this situation, which of the following would be considered an adequate set of compensating controls?

- A. Allow changes to be made only with the DBA user account
- B. Make changes to the database after granting access to a normal user account
- C. Use the DBA user account to make changes, log the changes and review the change log the following day
- D. Use the normal user account to make changes, log the changes and review the change log the following day

Answer: C

Explanation:

The use of a database administrator (DBA) user account is normally set up to log all changes made and is most appropriate for changes made outside of normal hours. The use of a log, which records the changes, allows changes to be reviewed. The use of the DBA user account without logging would permit uncontrolled changes to be made to databases once access to the account was obtained. The use of a normal user account with no restrictions would allow uncontrolled changes to any of the databases. Logging would only provide information on changes made, but would not limit changes to only those that were authorized. Hence, logging coupled with review forms an appropriate set of compensating controls.

NEW QUESTION 346

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following tests performed by an IS auditor would be the MOST effective in determining compliance with an organization's change control procedures?

- A. Review software migration records and verify approval
- B. Identify changes that have occurred and verify approval
- C. Review change control documentation and verify approval
- D. Ensure that only appropriate staff can migrate changes into production

Answer: B

Explanation:

The most effective method is to determine through code comparisons what changes have been made and then verify that they have been approved. Change control records and software migration records may not have all changes listed. Ensuring that only appropriate staff can migrate changes into production is a key control process, but in itself does not verify compliance.

NEW QUESTION 348

- (Topic 5)

An IS auditor reviewing a database application discovers that the current configuration does not match the originally designed structure. Which of the following should be the IS auditor's next action?

- A. Analyze the need for the structural change
- B. Recommend restoration to the originally designed structure
- C. Recommend the implementation of a change control process
- D. Determine if the modifications were properly approved

Answer: D

Explanation:

An IS auditor should first determine if the modifications were properly approved. Choices A, B and C are possible subsequent actions, should the IS auditor find that the structural modification had not been approved.

NEW QUESTION 349

- (Topic 5)

The application systems of an organization using open-source software have no single recognized developer producing patches. Which of the following would be

the MOST secure way of updating open-source software?

- A. Rewrite the patches and apply them
- B. Code review and application of available patches
- C. Develop in-house patches
- D. identify and test suitable patches before applying them

Answer: D

Explanation:

Suitable patches from the existing developers should be selected and tested before applying them. Rewriting the patches and applying them is not a correct answer because it would require skilled resources and time to rewrite the patches. Code review could be possible but tests need to be performed before applying the patches. Since the system was developed outside the organization, the IT department may not have the necessary skills and resources to develop patches.

NEW QUESTION 351

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following processes should an IS auditor recommend to assist in the recording of baselines for software releases?

- A. Change management
- B. Backup and recovery
- C. incident management
- D. Configuration management

Answer: D

Explanation:

The configuration management process may include automated tools that will provide an automated recording of software release baselines. Should the new release fail, the baseline will provide a point to which to return. The other choices do not provide the processes necessary for establishing software release baselines and are not related to software release baselines.

NEW QUESTION 356

- (Topic 5)

Time constraints and expanded needs have been found by an IS auditor to be the root causes for recent violations of corporate data definition standards in a new business intelligence project. Which of the following is the MOST appropriate suggestion for an auditor to make?

- A. Achieve standards alignment through an increase of resources devoted to the project
- B. Align the data definition standards after completion of the project
- C. Delay the project until compliance with standards can be achieved
- D. Enforce standard compliance by adopting punitive measures against violators

Answer: A

Explanation:

Provided that data architecture, technical, and operational requirements are sufficiently documented, the alignment to standards could be treated as a specific work package assigned to new project resources. The usage of nonstandard data definitions would lower the efficiency of the new development, and increase the risk of errors in critical business decisions. To change data definition standards after project conclusion (choice B) is risky and is not a viable solution. On the other hand, punishing the violators (choice D) or delaying the project (choice C) would be an inappropriate suggestion because of the likely damage to the entire project profitability.

NEW QUESTION 357

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following is the MOST effective method for dealing with the spreading of a network worm that exploits vulnerability in a protocol?

- A. Install the vendor's security fix for the vulnerability
- B. Block the protocol traffic in the perimeter firewall
- C. Block the protocol traffic between internal network segment
- D. Stop the service until an appropriate security fix is installed

Answer: D

Explanation:

Stopping the service and installing the security fix is the safest way to prevent the worm from spreading, if the service is not stopped, installing the fix is not the most effective method because the worm continues spreading until the fix becomes effective. Blocking the protocol on the perimeter does not stop the worm from spreading to the internal network(s). Blocking the protocol helps to slow down the spreading but also prohibits any software that utilizes it from working between segments.

NEW QUESTION 362

- (Topic 5)

The computer security incident response team (CSIRT) of an organization disseminates detailed descriptions of recent threats. An IS auditor's GREATEST concern should be that the users might:

- A. use this information to launch attack
- B. forward the security alert

- C. implement individual solution
- D. fail to understand the threat

Answer: A

Explanation:

An organization's computer security incident response team (CSIRT) should disseminate recent threats, security guidelines and security updates to the users to assist them in understanding the security risk of errors and omissions. However, this introduces the risk that the users may use this information to launch attacks, directly or indirectly. An IS auditor should ensure that the CSIRT is actively involved with users to assist them in mitigation of risks arising from security failures and to prevent additional security incidents resulting from the same threat. Forwarding the security alert is not harmful to the organization, implementing individual solutions is unlikely and users failing to understand the threat would not be a serious concern.

NEW QUESTION 363

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following network components is PRIMARILY set up to serve as a security measure by preventing unauthorized traffic between different segments of the network?

- A. Firewalls
- B. Routers
- C. Layer 2 switches
- D. VLANs

Answer: A

Explanation:

Firewall systems are the primary tool that enable an organization to prevent unauthorized access between networks. An organization may choose to deploy one or more systems that function as firewalls. Routers can filter packets based on parameters, such as source address, but are not primarily a security tool. Based on Media Access Control (MAC) addresses, layer 2 switches separate traffic in a port as different segments and without determining if it is authorized or unauthorized traffic. A virtual LAN (VLAN) is a functionality of some switches that allows them to switch the traffic between different ports as if they are in the same LAN. Nevertheless, they do not deal with authorized vs. unauthorized traffic.

NEW QUESTION 366

- (Topic 5)

A company is implementing a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP). Given that the following conditions exist, which represents the GREATEST concern?

- A. Most employees use laptop
- B. A packet filtering firewall is use
- C. The IP address space is smaller than the number of PC
- D. Access to a network port is not restricte

Answer: D

Explanation:

Given physical access to a port, anyone can connect to the internal network. The other choices do not present the exposure that access to a port does. DHCP provides convenience (an advantage) to the laptop users. Sharing IP addresses and the existence of a firewall can be security measures.

NEW QUESTION 369

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following BEST reduces the ability of one device to capture the packets that are meant for another device?

- A. Filters
- B. Switches
- C. Routers
- D. Firewalls

Answer: B

Explanation:

Switches are at the lowest level of network security and transmit a packet to the device to which it is addressed. This reduces the ability of one device to capture the packets that are meant for another device. Filters allow for some basic isolation of network traffic based on the destination addresses. Routers allow packets to be given or denied access based on the addresses of the sender and receiver and the type of packet. Firewalls are a collection of computer and network equipment used to allow communications to flow out of the organization and restrict communications flowing into the organization.

NEW QUESTION 370

- (Topic 5)

Neural networks are effective in detecting fraud because they can:

- A. discover new trends since they are inherently linear
- B. solve problems where large and general sets of training data are not obtainable
- C. attack problems that require consideration of a large number of input variables
- D. make assumptions about the shape of any curve relating variables to the output

Answer: C

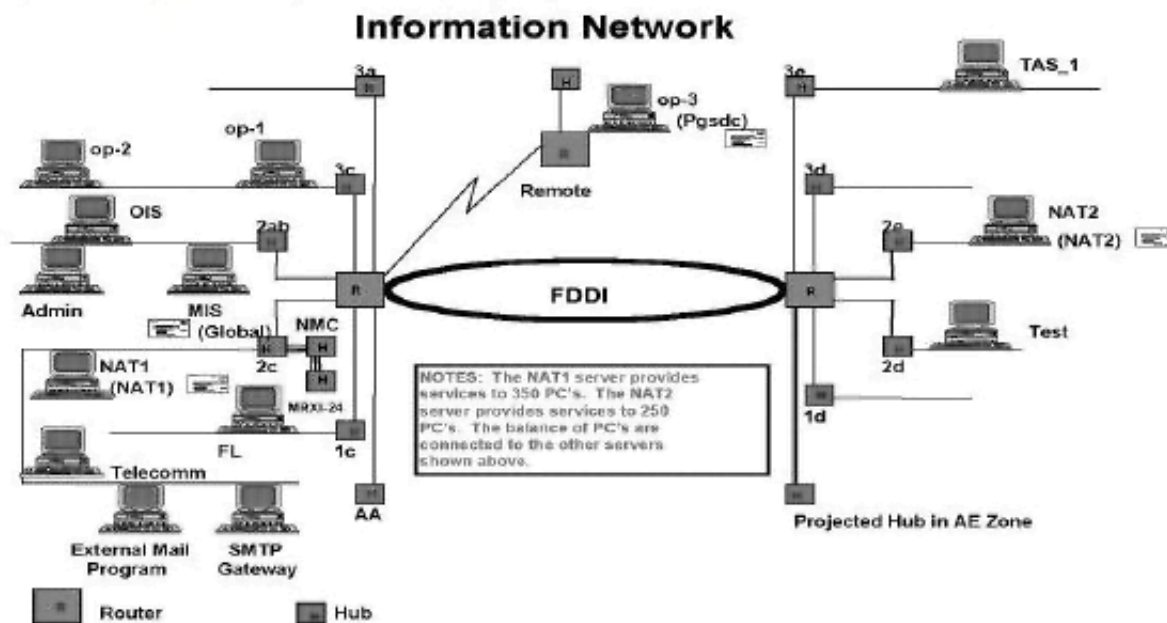
Explanation:

Neural networks can be used to attack problems that require consideration of numerous input variables. They are capable of capturing relationships and patterns often missed by other statistical methods, but they will not discover new trends. Neural networks are inherently nonlinear and make no assumption about the shape of any curve relating variables to the output. Neural networks will not work well at solving problems for which sufficiently large and general sets of training data are not obtainable.

NEW QUESTION 374

- (Topic 5)

Assuming this diagram represents an internal facility and the organization is implementing a firewall protection program, where should firewalls be installed?



- A. No firewalls are needed
- B. Op-3 location only
- C. MIS (Global) and NAT2
- D. SMTP Gateway and op-3

Answer: D

Explanation:

The objective of a firewall is to protect a trusted network from an untrusted network; therefore, locations needing firewall implementations would be at the existence of the external connections. All other answers are incomplete or represent internal connections.

NEW QUESTION 378

- (Topic 5)

Java applets and ActiveX controls are distributed executable programs that execute in the background of a web browser client. This practice is considered reasonable when:

- A. a firewall exist
- B. a secure web connection is use
- C. the source of the executable file is certai
- D. the host web site is part of the organizatio

Answer: C

Explanation:

Acceptance of these mechanisms should be based on established trust. The control is provided by only knowing the source and then allowing the acceptance of the applets. Hostile applets can be received from anywhere. It is virtually impossible at thistime to filter at this level. A secure web connection or firewall is considered an external defense. A firewall will find it more difficult to filter a specific file from a trusted source. A secure web connection provides confidentiality. Neither asecure web connection nor a firewall can identify an executable file as friendly. Hosting the web site as part of the organization is impractical. Enabling the acceptance of Java applets and/or Active X controls is an all-or-nothing proposition. Theclient will accept the program if the parameters are established to do so.

NEW QUESTION 379

- (Topic 5)

Which of the following is the BEST audit procedure to determine if a firewall is configured in compliance with an organization's security policy?

- A. Review the parameter setting
- B. Interview the firewall administrato
- C. Review the actual procedure
- D. Review the device's log file for recent attack

Answer: A

Explanation:

A review of the parameter settings will provide a good basis for comparison of the actual configuration to the security policy and will provide audit evidence documentation. The other choices do not provide audit evidence as strong as choice A.

NEW QUESTION 384

- (Topic 5)

Reverse proxy technology for web servers should be deployed if:

- A. http servers' addresses must be hidde
- B. accelerated access to all published pages is require
- C. caching is needed for fault toleranc
- D. bandwidth to the user is limite

Answer: A

Explanation:

Reverse proxies are primarily designed to hide physical and logical internal structures from outside access. Complete URLs or URIs can be partially or completely redirected without disclosing which internal or DMZ server is providing the requested data. This technology might be used if a trade-off between security, performance and costs has to be achieved. Proxy servers cache some data but normally cannot cache all pages to be published because this depends on the kind of information the web servers provide. The ability to accelerate access depends on the speed of the back-end servers, i.e., those that are cached. Thus, without making further assumptions, a gain in speed cannot be assured, but visualization and hiding of internal structures can. If speed is an issue, a scale-out approach (avoiding adding additional delays by passing firewalls, involving more servers, etc.) would be a better solution. Due to the limited caching option, reverse proxies are not suitable for enhancing fault tolerance. User requests that are handled by reverse proxy servers are using exactly the same bandwidth as direct requests to the hosts providing the data.

NEW QUESTION 385

- (Topic 5)

When reviewing an implementation of a VoIP system over a corporate WAN, an IS auditor should expect to find:

- A. an integrated services digital network (ISDN) data lin
- B. traffic engineerin
- C. wired equivalent privacy (WEP) encryption of dat
- D. analog phone terminal

Answer: B

Explanation:

To ensure that quality of service requirements are achieved, the Voice-over IP (VoIP) service over the wide area network (WAN) should be protected from packet losses, latency or jitter. To reach this objective, the network performance can be managed using statistical techniques such as traffic engineering. The standard bandwidth of an integrated services digital network (ISDN) data link would not provide the quality of services required for corporate VoIP services. WEP is an encryption scheme related to wireless networking. The VoIP phones are usually connected to a corporate local area network (LAN) and are not analog.

NEW QUESTION 388

- (Topic 5)

During the audit of a database server, which of the following would be considered the GREATEST exposure?

- A. The password does not expire on the administrator account
- B. Default global security settings for the database remain unchanged
- C. Old data have not been purged
- D. Database activity is not fully logged

Answer: B

Explanation:

Default security settings for the database could allow issues like blank user passwords or passwords that were the same as the username. Logging all database activity is not practical. Failure to purge old data may present a performance issue but is not an immediate security concern. Choice A is an exposure but not as serious as B.

NEW QUESTION 391

- (Topic 5)

Which significant risk is introduced by running the file transfer protocol (FTP) service on a server in a demilitarized zone (DMZ)?

- A. A user from within could send a file to an unauthorized perso
- B. FTP services could allow a user to download files from unauthorized source
- C. A hacker may be able to use the FTP service to bypass the firewal
- D. FTP could significantly reduce the performance of a DMZ serve

Answer: C

Explanation:

Since file transfer protocol (FTP) is considered an insecure protocol, it should not be installed on a server in a demilitarized zone (DMZ). FTP could allow an unauthorized user to gain access to the network. Sending files to an unauthorized person and the risk of downloading unauthorized files are not as significant as having a firewall breach. The presence of the utility does not reduce the performance of a DMZ server; therefore, performance degradation is not a threat.

NEW QUESTION 396

- (Topic 6)

Which of the following functions should be performed by the application owners to ensure an adequate segregation of duties between IS and end users?

- A. System analysis

- B. Authorization of access to data
- C. Application programming
- D. Data administration

Answer: B

Explanation:

The application owner is responsible for authorizing access to data. Application development and programming are functions of the IS department. Similarly, system analysis should be performed by qualified persons in IS who have knowledge of IS and user requirements. Data administration is a specialized function related to database management systems and should be performed by qualified database administrators.

NEW QUESTION 399

- (Topic 6)

To determine who has been given permission to use a particular system resource, an IS auditor should review:

- A. activity list
- B. access control list
- C. logon ID list
- D. password list

Answer: B

Explanation:

Access control lists are the authorization tables that document the users who have been given permission to use a particular system resource and the types of access they have been granted. The other choices would not document who has been given permission to use (access) specific system resources.

NEW QUESTION 404

- (Topic 6)

What is the MOST effective method of preventing unauthorized use of data files?

- A. Automated file entry
- B. Tape librarian
- C. Access control software
- D. Locked library

Answer: C

Explanation:

Access control software is an active control designed to prevent unauthorized access to data.

NEW QUESTION 408

- (Topic 6)

Which of the following is a benefit of using a callback device?

- A. Provides an audit trail
- B. Can be used in a switchboard environment
- C. Permits unlimited user mobility
- D. Allows call forwarding

Answer: A

Explanation:

A callback feature hooks into the access control software and logs all authorized and unauthorized access attempts, permitting the follow-up and further review of potential breaches. Call forwarding (choice D) is a means of potentially bypassing callback control. By dialing through an authorized phone number from an unauthorized phone number, a perpetrator can gain computer access. This vulnerability can be controlled through callback systems that are available.

NEW QUESTION 413

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