

Announcement

E-ISAC Celebrates 25 Years of Cyber and Physical Security Leadership and Collaboration

January 25, 2024

WASHINGTON, D.C. – This year marks the [25th anniversary](#) of the formation of NERC’s Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC). Established in 1999, the E-ISAC was created to reduce cyber and physical security risk to the North American electricity industry through information sharing, curated analysis and security expertise.

Over the past 25 years, the E-ISAC has become a trusted source of information and evolved to meet a constantly changing threat landscape by expanding resources and adapting for a growing membership of approximately 1,800 electricity asset owners and operators, and government and cross-sector partners who share security threat intelligence.

Since its launch, the E-ISAC has operated against a backdrop of geopolitical, cyber and physical threat activity and has countered these and many other threats with a two-pronged approach: Active response to specific events and specialized trend analysis to suit the operational and information technology environments of our member and partner organizations. Examples of the E-ISAC’s response include:

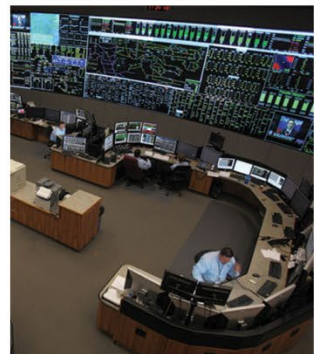
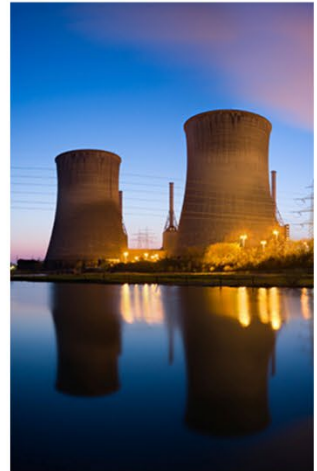
- **Russia-Ukraine** – The E-ISAC led the activation of the Tri-Sector Working Group (energy, finance and telecoms), hosted industry webinars and provided 24/7 threat monitoring, all-points bulletins and critical broadcast program (CBP) calls.
- **SolarWinds** – In 2020, this supply chain compromise impacted 25% of electric utilities and the U.S. government. The E-ISAC activated its CBP, co-led the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC) Tiger Teams supporting the response effort and published a joint white paper with FERC on lessons learned from the event.
- **Physical Security Incidents** – Like the 2022 ballistic attack in Moore County, N.C., physical security incidents are an ongoing threat to critical infrastructure. The E-ISAC responded to close intelligence gaps for industry, conducting multiple webinars and using its data, which contains more than 10,000 physical security incidents, to develop in-depth trend analysis and targeted intelligence briefings. In conjunction with the ESCC team, the E-ISAC published a physical security resources guide, which serves as a one-stop shop for physical security resources.

“The tremendous collaboration between our industry, and government and cross-sector partners, and our focus on delivering timely, relevant and actionable information through

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our ever-evolving range of products, services and programs is key to our ability reducing reliability risk,” said Manny Cancel, NERC senior vice president and E-ISAC chief executive officer.

Since 1999, the E-ISAC’s products and programs have grown to include: industry alerts, webinars, bulletins, situational reports, monthly briefings, the Industry Engagement Program, and the [Vendor Affiliate Program](#). In addition, the E-ISAC hosts conferences and events such as the annual grid security conference [GridSecCon](#), physical security workshops and [GridEx](#), the largest grid security exercise in North America, held every two years.

Another milestone this year is the 10th anniversary of the E-ISAC’s [Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program \(CRISP\)](#), which leverages advanced technology and industry expertise to provide its participants with near real-time delivery of relevant and actionable threat information of their IT networks. CRISP, which is a public-private partnership between the E-ISAC and the Department of Energy (DOE) is a key example of public-private partnership for cyber threat information sharing to help promote cyber resiliency.

Both the E-ISAC and CRISP will use updated logos to reflect these milestone anniversaries and call attention to events planned throughout the year.



“As we mark 25 years of protecting the grid, we continue to work with our members and partners – to meet the security challenges of the day and to support all of those working tirelessly to keep their networks and assets safe and secure. And to keep the lights on for nearly 400 million people across North America,” Cancel said.

Looking ahead to the next 25 years, the E-ISAC remains firmly committed to providing members with timely and actionable information, sharing value-added analysis on security threats and mitigation strategies and facilitating collaboration among industry, U.S. and Canadian government partners, and other stakeholders.

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Electricity is a key component of the fabric of modern society and NERC, as the Electric Reliability Organization, serves to strengthen that fabric. The vision for the ERO Enterprise, which is comprised of NERC and the six Regional Entities, is a highly reliable and secure North American bulk power system. Our mission is to assure the effective and efficient reduction of risks to the reliability and security of the grid.