This document has been specifically prepared for the ERISA Advisory Council, U.S. Department of Labor. Further distribution and photocopying is permitted for the purposes of the Advisory Council’s examination of the role that cybersecurity insurance plays in addressing cybersecurity risks for employee benefit plans.
Role of Brokers and Underwriters

- What is an insurance broker?
- What is an insurance company underwriter?
- How do brokers and underwriters work together?
- Why each role is important?
- How do underwriters evaluate cyber risk, including policy costs, retentions, coverage breadth?
Cyber Key Controls
Marketplace Minimum Expectations

- Token Based Multi-factor Authentication (MFA)
- Vulnerability Scanning & Patch Management
- Endpoint Protection & Response (EDR)
- E-mail Filtering & Security (DMARC/DKIM)
- Social Engineering Exercises & Awareness Training
- Identity, Access, and Privileged Access Management
- Network Segmentation: Secure RDP, VPN, OT/IT
- Disaster Recovery Testing, BCP, & Backups
- Incident Response Plan (Written & Tested)
# Key Underwriting Concerns & Best Practices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical Controls aligned with Cyber Insurance:</th>
<th>Key Guidance:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MFA / Controlled Access</td>
<td>MFA should be required for all privileged and administrative accounts, remote/VPN/Remote Desktop/cloud access, access to backups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endpoint Detection and Response</td>
<td>Effective EDR tools should be installed across all assets and on 7x24x365 basis and monitored by reputable vendors/MSSPs : i.e. Crowdstrike, Carbon Black.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secured and Tested Backups</td>
<td>Backups of critical systems should be in place and tested regularly. Recovery from backup should be tested often and at least annually. Copy of backup should be stored off network or in immutable storage. Full Physical Recovery should be tested as well to ensure Recovery Time Objectives are achievable.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patched Systems &amp; Applications</td>
<td>A formalized process and policy for patching all endpoints, servers, systems with the ability to document process compliance and patching levels – especially important for critical patches.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Filtered Emails and Web Content</td>
<td>Spam filtering should be deployed on all email systems (MS-Advanced Threat Detection). Secure web access gateways for web filtering need to implemented.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protected Privileged Accounts</td>
<td>A Password Asset Management (PAM) solution should be in place in order to manage privileged account passwords and MSLAPs or PAM is used on all endpoints to manage local admin passwords, local admin rights removed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logged and Monitored Network</td>
<td>Logging of the entire network, server, cloud and endpoint should be in place with logs managed daily. SOC for monitoring of all log files should be implemented as well.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encrypted Storage</td>
<td>PCs, server storage and cloud storage are encrypted.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phishing Aware Workforce</td>
<td>Annual phishing training and phishing simulation campaigns conducted. Reputable companies such as Knowbe4 or Wombat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managed Vulnerability and Penetration Testing</td>
<td>At minimum, annual penetration tests and vulnerability scans conducted across the entire network with follow up to close identified issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepared Incident Response</td>
<td>Formalized IR plan created with identified key internal stakeholders and vendors. Should be coordinated with Cyber Insurance Program.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Critical Controls</td>
<td>CISO on staff or on demand, minimize Service Accounts with Domain Privileges.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Continuity and Controls of Vendors</td>
<td>Must have in place a reviewed and tested Continuity Plan that includes supply chain vendors and contingencies in place for replacement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log4j / Log4Shell</td>
<td>All insurers are releasing their own set of questions to determine exposure and response around this widespread event.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Pillars of a Cyber Insurance Policy

**Prevention**
- Pre-breach assessments
- Access to pre-vetted vendors
- Cyber security information

**Assistance**
- Forensic investigators
- Legal services
- Notification
- Credit Monitoring
- Call Center Services
- Crisis Management/Public Relations

**Operations**
- Costs incurred to keep or return the business to operational
- Loss of revenue, income, turnover
- Costs incurred to recreate or restore data and information

**Liability**
- Legal costs and damages from claims alleging privacy breach or network security failure

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Cyber Policies Typically Exclude the Theft of Funds

Example from Zurich Cyber Insurance Policy U-SPR-300-A CW (09/18)

“This Policy does not apply to Loss, Defense Costs, or First Party Costs on account of any Claim or Event:

based upon, arising out of, or attributable to loss, transfer or theft of monies, securities, or tangible property of others in the care, custody, or control of the Insured;”
Cyber Policies Typically Include an ERISA Exclusion With a Carve-back for Breach Costs and Liability Coverage

Example from Zurich Cyber Insurance Policy U-SPR-300-A CW (09/18)

“This Policy does not apply to **Loss**, **Defense Costs**, or **First Party Costs** on account of any **Claim** or **Event**…based upon, arising out of, or attributable to any actual or alleged:

1. violation by an **Insured** of the *Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974* (U.S.) (ERISA), the Canadian *Pension Benefits Standards Act*, the *Ontario Pension Benefits Act, 1990*, or any other similar federal, state, provincial, territorial or municipal act…

provided, however, this exclusion shall not apply to:

a. a **Regulatory Proceeding** or a **GDPR Proceeding** that may constitute a violation of Section 5(a) of the *Federal Trade Commission Act* (15 U.S.C. 45(a)) (U.S.), as amended, including a **Consumer Redress Fund** established in resolving such a **Regulatory Proceeding** or **GDPR Proceeding**; or

b. an otherwise covered:

(1) **Claim** under Subsection I.A. [Liability Coverages]; or

(2) **Breach Cost** under Subsection I.B.1 [Breach Cost Coverage].
About

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