



Pittsburgh Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Infrastructure Assessments

The Pittsburgh Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security (OEMHS), in conjunction with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), conducts various assessments to identify vulnerabilities, interdependencies, capabilities, and cascading effects of impacts on Pittsburgh Critical Infrastructure to help critical infrastructure owners and operators better prevent, deter, and mitigate risk in an all-hazards environment. The effectiveness of these assessments depends on the voluntary collaboration of local and private sector owners and operators.

Infrastructure Survey Tool

One of these resources available to facility owners and operators is the Infrastructure Survey Tool (IST) assessment. The IST is a voluntary, Web-based vulnerability survey conducted by Pittsburgh OEMHS to identify and document the overall security and resilience of the facility. The survey data, composed of weighted scores on a variety of factors for specific critical infrastructure, is graphically displayed in the IST Dashboard that compares the data against similar facilities and informs protective measures, resilience planning, and resource allocation. In addition to providing a sector security and resilience overview, the Dashboards highlight areas of potential concern and feature options to view the impact of potential enhancements to protection and resilience measures. The written report, developed from the IST data, contains a description of the facility and its vulnerabilities as well as recommendations to mitigate identified vulnerabilities. The information is protected under the Protected Critical Infrastructure Information Program and is used by DHS for steady-state analysis, special event planning, and incident management.

Informal Site Vulnerability Assessments

Informal Site Vulnerability (ISV) assessments are brief walk-throughs of a facility's interior and exterior that includes security practices and physical infrastructure assets. These visits are conducted by Pittsburgh OEMHS and accompanied by local first responders as available. The visit also includes a short sit-down in order to discuss facility emergency plans and information sharing practices. After the visit is complete, a document is created that details vulnerabilities and Options for Consideration to address those vulnerabilities. Options for Consideration will attempt to focus on low cost/no cost options. Also include is a list of commendable items that a facility has implemented that compliments security and/or resiliency. This is a more rapid assessment than the IST however, is not as in-depth.



Contact

For more information or to request an assessment visit for your facility, please contact Adam Ameal, Critical Infrastructure Manager. adam.ameel@pittsburghpa.gov