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Internship Reflection #3

This reflection focuses on the work my group, Team Earth, has completed so far in developing template reports for our client, the Earth Viability Center. Early on, we created a communication plan that is on a weekly basis, every Friday Zoom meeting with the business owner and his cybersecurity interns. The business owner is Professor Plag which is a professor at Old Dominion University, his main goal with the business he's created is going to try and become a global infrastructure and make his platform the true way to communicate with one another. Dr. Plag is the founder of Earth Viability Center and has been working on it for years. These meetings help us better understand the organization's digital infrastructure and show what areas need improvement. Our goal is to provide a clear assessment of their current security posture and offer recommendations for enhancement. For example, having two factor authentication within their account system to prevent threat actors from using social engineering attacks or other attacks like DDoS.

Within our group, I serve as the Research Lead, while Natalie is the Team Lead, and Corniya is the Design Lead. My primary responsibilities involve researching and explaining the technical concepts our client often references, such as IONOS, Java, Linux operating systems, and PHP. I focused on defining these terms and connecting them to the Earth Vitality Center's cybersecurity needs so that readers of the report can easily understand the relevance of each technology. This includes finding built-in security policies, assessing risks, and providing context to ensure the report is accessible to both technical and non-technical audiences. The team

lead's goal is to primarily be at the meetings with Dr. Plag to communicate and learn more about what he is working on and seeing what other suggestions we can give him.

Our group also completed the assigned company/business related questionnaire and incorporated those answers into the report. Throughout the writing process, we aimed to make the report detailed, organized, and aligned with the client's goals specifically improving security and making their online presence more user-friendly. We found that their firewall was not implemented, and they lacked the training systems and a structural system when it comes to employees. Once those are set up it will drastically increase efficiency with his platform and help it grow much faster and create a more stable position for that future growth.

In conclusion, this project has helped me better understand our client's needs and my role within the team. Moving forward, I will continue refining my research contributions and ensure the report meets professional standards in structure, clarity, and accuracy