HUB TECH

COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Canton is located in southwest Massachusetts at the foot of the Blue Hills. Canton is a Town of historical and architectural significance. Incorporated in 1797, it became a second home to American patriot, Paul Revere, whose family business was located less than a mile from the Canton Viaduct. Today, Canton is a vibrant community with several precious legacies, like the Tilden House and Pequitside Farm, attracting locals and visitors alike.

Population is 21,932 residents
Annual Budget is $88M (2017)
Median Household Income is $93,672*

US Census Bureau

Report prepared by: HUB Technical Services, LLC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Canton adopted the Cyber Security best practice as part of a Community Compact agreement signed with the Baker-Polito Administration in January of 2017. Leveraging Community Compact funding, the Town retained the services of HUB Technical Services, LLC to conduct a multi-faceted cyber security risk assessment. Several commonly exploited threat vectors were investigated to gain a current understanding of the effectiveness of the security controls in place and to identify actions to minimize risk to the Town. Findings and prioritized recommendations were provided to the Town as an aid to continue improving their IT security posture.
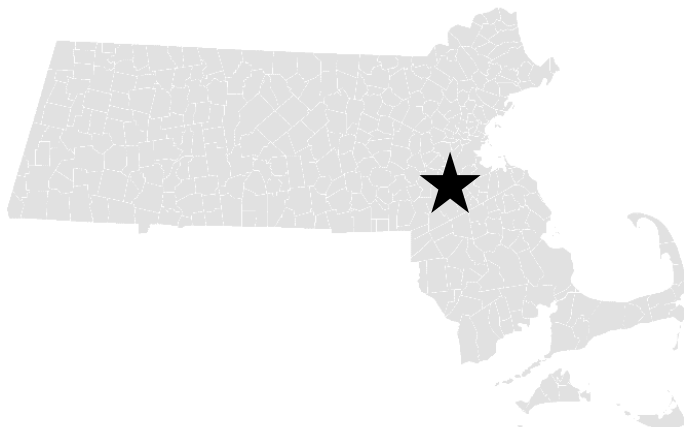
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THE CHALLENGE ───

Information technology security postures should continuously evolve. Keeping pace with the cyber threat landscape is a daunting challenge at best. The Town needed to determine the effectiveness of existing security controls and comprehend what threats constitute unacceptable risk to ensure the Town is making fact-based decisions to maintain and enhance the Towns cyber security posture.

THE SOLUTION ───

Canton received a grant from the Community Compact to retain the services of cyber security subject matter experts to identify technology-based, human, and physical vulnerabilities associated with IT and then provide a prioritized list of practical and detailed steps to minimize risk.

THE RESULTS ───

Canton utilized a strategy in which "offense" informs "defense" to minimize "risk". After discussing how technology is utilized by the Town, HUB Tech focused on assessing five (5) commonly exploited threat vectors to determine the effectiveness of controls in place and to gain an understanding of current vulnerabilities related to those controls.

The threat vectors assessed were:
- Vulnerabilities in publicly accessible systems and susceptibility to attack from the Internet.
- Vulnerabilities among internally accessible systems and susceptibility to attack from within the Town's local area network.
- Vulnerabilities for wireless network security.
- Physical security testing.
- Social engineering.

The deliverable documentation provided valuable insights and actionable steps to reduce existing and potential risk to IT assets the Town relies on to serve the community. Confidential risk summaries, details of findings, and recommendations were provided to the Town. Additionally, a "path forward" was provided to depict a broader and meaningful approach for the Town to further enhance its cyber security posture based on widely adopted industry best practices.

The engagement with Hub Tech was efficient and effective in measuring and providing real world results. The testing and assessment phases were handled discreetly but did not leave any stones unturned.

Louis Jutras, IT Director - Town of Canton