NTCA Cyber Wise: Information Sharing Pilot
Call for Volunteers

NTCA is currently seeking small network operators to participate in the association's forthcoming, free Small Network Operator Cyber-Threat Information Sharing Pilot.

What is the Pilot Project?

A critical input into your company's cyber risk-management plan is timely and actionable cybersecurity intelligence. To help members assess threats and better manage risks, NTCA is launching a pilot forum for small network operators to share and receive timely, actionable and relevant cyber-threat information in a trusted environment through daily cyber-intelligence reports, curated to meet your unique needs.

The pilot will take place in the summer of 2019. NTCA is looking to identify 40-50 small network operators who would be willing to participate in the pilot, providing critical feedback to shape the development of info sharing forum to meet the needs, capabilities and technical requirements of small, rural network operators.

The pilot will take place during the summer of 2019. However, the key purpose of the pilot is to help shape the initial development of a long-term, sustained Small Network Operator Cyber-Threat Information Sharing Forum.

Advantages to Participating:

- Better understand and manage cyber threats
    - Participation in information sharing forums is increasingly viewed as an important component of an effective cybersecurity risk management plan.
    - Gain access to information about cyber-threats in near real-time, including a free daily cyber-threat report distributed during the pilot.
    - Learn from your peers; join a trusted group of security professionals led by NTCA.
- Elevate cybersecurity across the industry
    - Share information about threats and attacks that you see in a confidential and anonymous manner with your industry peers.
    - Collaborate with your peers to analyze, understand and mitigate attacks.
    - Help shape the initial development of a forum built to meet the specific cyber needs of small network operators.
- Shape the development of a sustained information sharing forum
    - Provide recommendations on how the initial pilot can be improved to meet long-term industry needs.
    - Build a program to help small network operators identify and address information needs and gaps.
- Low – or no – cost
    - There is no cost to participate, apart from your time.

Requirements to Participate:

1. The Forum will facilitate the bi-directional sharing of technical information, including cyber-threats and, if available, related mitigation tactics. As such, your **Enterprise Security Manager** or the IT staff person responsible for cybersecurity should be the primary contact/participant.

2. Participants must be willing to **complete two surveys**, a baseline survey before the pilot commences and another survey after the pilot concludes. The surveys will take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete. The information will be used to ensure NTCA acquires critical feedback from participants.

3. In addition to the participant surveys, before the pilot beings, NTCA will convene a **one-hour conference call**, a virtual focus group with participants to further refine the project's scope.

4. Participants also must be willing to **actively participate in the pilot of the forum (scheduled for June 1–July 31, 2019),** reading and, if required, acting upon information distributed to participants, including via the daily cyber-threat reports. To the extent you have access to relevant cyber-threat information, participants should also be willing to share this information with NTCA in an anonymous/confidential manner; this information can further enrich the forum, assisting your peer members of the info sharing forum community with understanding, and thereby defending against current cyber threats to small network operators.

Learn More.

Attend NTCA's webinar on Tuesday, March 26, at 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET to learn more about NTCA's pilot project. As part of the webinar, NTCA will discuss the business case for participating in a cyber-threat information sharing forum. The association will also address questions from the audience.

Participation is Limited; Indicate Your Interest Today.

If your company is interested in participating, please send an email to Jesse Ward, NTCA director of industry & policy analysis, (jward@ntca.org) with the following information:

1. Your company name and location
2. Contact information for the Enterprise Security Manager who will participate within the pilot
3. A brief expression of interest that signifies your intent to meet the requirements of the pilot, as outlined above.

Participation will be limited to approximately 50 companies. NTCA will evaluate interested participants on a rolling basis and confirm participation by COB April 8.

Questions?

Please contact Jesse Ward, NTCA director of industry & policy analysis: jward@ntca.org or 703-351-2007.