Protecting against physical and environmental threats

ISO 27002 Control 7.5

Control

Protection against physical and environmental threats, such as natural disasters and other intentional or unintentional physical threats to infrastructure should be designed and implemented

Purpose

To prevent or reduce the consequences of events originating from physical and environmental threats





Why is it important?

- It ensures that critical operations are protected by mitigating risks identified during site-specific risk assessments
- Failure to implement safeguards can lead to catastrophic consequences (e.g., loss of data, major interruption to operations) due to physical events

How can we implement it?

- Perform risk assessments to identify potential consequences of physical and environmental threats at a site
- Implement safeguards based on risk assessment results (e.g., detection systems for fire/flood)
- Site location and construction should account for local topography and urban threats
- Obtain specialist advice on managing risks arising from these threats





What small details are important?

- Fire suppression should use the most appropriate substance (e.g., gas in confined spaces)
- Locations should avoid sites with a high profile for attracting political unrest, criminal activity, or terrorist attacks.

Link with other frameworks

- NIST 800-53 rev5: CP-6, CP-7, PE-9, PE-13, PE-14, PE-15, PE-18,
 PE-19, PE-23
- NIST CSF 2.0: GV.OC-04, PR.IR-02

