FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IT-ISAC and Food and Ag-ISAC Release Joint Statement on Potential Cybersecurity Impacts of the Conflict in the Middle East

On Friday morning local time, Israel launched what it has described as a “preemptive” strike against Iran. As these tensions rise, the Food and Agriculture Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Food and Ag-ISAC) and the Information Technology - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (IT-ISAC) encourage companies to prepare for the likelihood of increased cyber attacks from Iran targeting U.S. companies.

Historically, Iranian state-sponsored actors, pro-Iran hacktivist groups, and financially motivated cybercriminals have launched attacks against U.S. organizations during periods of heightened conflict. In light of this, the Food and Ag-ISAC and IT-ISAC recommend companies take immediate steps to proactively assess their cyber preparedness, enhance their defenses, and prepare for a range of cyber activity, some of which could potentially be disruptive

Now is the time for companies to become familiar with Iranian-affiliated threat actors and their TTPs, assess their own cybersecurity posture, strengthen their defenses, begin heightened monitoring for suspicious activity, and remind employees to report suspicious emails and links. Preparedness is critical to resilience.

Even attacks not directly targeting the U.S. could have indirect effects and cause disruptions to companies in the U.S. Given the interconnectedness of networks, it is possible that cyber attacks targeting Israel itself could cause collateral damage to U.S. companies, even if the U.S. companies themselves are not the intended target.

The Food and Ag-ISAC and IT-ISAC will continue to monitor the situation and provide timely intelligence updates as new threats emerge. Member organizations are actively leveraging intelligence-sharing tools available to the ISACs, including adversary attack playbooks and collaboration channels. Both ISACs continue to welcome new members who are committed to voluntary industry collaboration as a means to improve their corporate security posture and that of the sectors as a whole.

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About the Food and Ag-ISAC: Founded in 2023, the Food and Agriculture-Information Sharing and Analysis Center (Food and Ag-ISAC) provides threat intelligence, analysis, and effective security practices that help food and agriculture companies detect attacks, respond to incidents, and share indicators so they can better protect themselves and manage risks to their companies and the sector.

For more information about the Food and Ag-ISAC, please visit www.foodandag-isac.org.

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About the IT-ISAC: Founded in 2000, the Information Technology - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (IT-ISAC) is a non-profit organization that augments member companies' internal capabilities by providing them access to curated cyber threat analysis, an intelligence management platform, and a trusted forum to engage with senior analysts from peer companies. We serve as a force multiplier that enables collaboration and sharing of relevant, actionable cyber threat intelligence, effective security policies, and practices for the benefit of all.

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