

Human Threat Health Check

What's a Human Threat Health Check?

"The "insider threat" has been part of human history from the origins of civilization. Almost all cultures have historical tales of insider threats. History is full of anecdotes that highlight the threat faced when a trusted confidant turns. From Benedict Arnold to recent, catastrophic, unauthorized disclosures of classified information, there is a common narrative – trusted and capable human beings, facing life challenges, change course and ultimately do harm." ¹

Truesec calls this the human threat and counters espionage and disloyal behavior in various forms by raising awareness and searching into the mindset of people through security vetting interviews and background checks.

Before confronting the human threat and launching full-scale protective measures, you should first explore the fundamental need by quickly assessing your situation. This entry-level screening will help you establish an overview and determine where your organization stands. This is the Truesec Human Threat Health Check.



¹ Insider Threat Mitigation for U.S. Critical Infrastructure Entities: Guidelines from an Intelligence Perspective" by the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC), March 2021.



Predict



Prevent



Detect



Respond



Recover

A Human Threat Health Check will help you understand the following:

- Your situation.
- Any complications – what we see as the challenges in your situation.
- Our recommendations – our hands-on advice for solving any complications.

The Human Is the Focus

Since insider threats are threats from humans, we must approach this from a human perspective. This can't be accomplished by additional technology or systems; instead, we focus on interviewing the individuals doing the work, drawing upon our professional knowledge and extensive experience from conducting thousands of interviews. Our interviewers have deep expertise in counter-espionage and personnel security, with backgrounds in intelligence, protective security, and risk management (Armed Forces, National Police Service, etc.).

By combining interviews with questionnaires, we can provide insight into your current situation and recommendations to manage any identified complications. Then, we'll help you mitigate these by designing appropriate protective measures.

About Us

As a global cybersecurity company, we're proud to be at the forefront of protecting organizations and our society against cyber threats. Our purpose has been clear since day one: Creating safety and sustainability in a digital world by preventing cyber breach and minimizing impact. We never cease to challenge and reinvent ourselves to help defend your most valuable data assets every day.

TRUESEC

A Safe Digital Future

Contact Us

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The Truesec Promise

We always strive for the best results for our customers.
That's a Truesec promise.

What Every Organization Should Do

1. Understand How and Why Insider Incidents Occur

Employees are rarely disloyal from the start when they're first hired. They usually don't join organizations with the intent to do harm. This is typically something that occurs later on, usually due to personal or work-related stressors. Assessing the organization's security vetting routines is part of the Human Threat Health Check.

2. Understand the Security Awareness of Your Staff

Not everyone is focused on the security aspect and how to secure information and data. If you're working with something other than cybersecurity, that's often the case. With some basic knowledge and good security awareness within your organization, the combined level of security increases significantly. Assessing your organization's level of security awareness, maturity, and security culture is another aspect of the Human Threat Health Check.

Our Human Threat Health Check Methodology

- The Human Threat Health Check is a way to gauge the personnel security level within your organization by assessing the routines and standards for security vetting and the state of "security thinking" among the staff.
- This is accomplished through digital surveys and live interviews, followed by analysis and recommendations, with a choice of ambition and content according to the table on the following page.
- The Basic level (entry level) of the Human Threat Health Check is included in the technical Health Check, at no cost, for Truesec's Health Check customers.
- The digital surveys are designed based on extensive empirical knowledge from the personnel security field to address known strengths and challenges. The infographic to the right illustrates the principle of the Basic level survey (scanning survey) design where the individual is asked per question to do the following:

- A. Make an initial "left or right" choice based on a question of judgement and grade it on a scale of 1 to 3.
- B. Grade two assessments respectively on a scale of 1 to 3.
- C. Make the two assessments in free text.

This is done for every scanning survey question; the result will clearly indicate your current situation and any possible complications that should be addressed. See the following table for additional insights through the Standard and Premium service levels.



Human Threat Health Check - Scanning Survey
The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

* Required

Del 1A

1. What would the "average employee" - do you believe - think when the self-closing door to the data centre is left open supported by a chair, while maintenance work was being done? Indicate on the scale below and give a short description...

Responsible position 1: A natural reaction would be to assume that a foreign intelligence service has gained access to the core of our know-how and operative data, after a successful social engineering operation where they have manipulated their way inside to the server of the building, into restricted zone A, dressed as service technicians with specially counterfeited programming tools.

Responsible position 2: A natural reaction would be a sincere understanding of why maintenance work needs to be done in a flexible and comfortable way. Everybody knows what it is like to have to present a card and enter a 6-digit code every time you pass by carrying boxes of computer rack equipment, tools etc. It is important to be "street smart" in the way you work, it saves time, money and irritation.

It is not a negative answer.

○ Left 3 **A**
○ Left 2
○ Left 1
○ Right 1
○ Right 2
○ Right 3

2. Describe why *

Enter your answer

3. How would you assess the security control for the business operation, based on the way you just made? Indicate the figure... **B**

1 2 3

4. ...and describe * **C**

Enter your answer

5. How many - do you think - would agree with the way you reason and come to the same conclusion? Indicate the figure... **B**

1 2 3

6. ...and describe * **C**

Enter your answer

The Partnership

We see our work with our customers as a partnership.

We work together to get the best results and prevent incidents.

	Basic	Standard	Premium	Custom
Description	Part of existing technical health checks/reviews. Normally smaller scale; a system or user group.	Complementing existing technical health checks/reviews or stand alone from tech. Typically smaller scale comprising organizational units.	Creating a fundamental understanding of security culture/maturity; not connected to tech. Typically larger scale comprising an organization or core business segments.	Creating a fundamental understanding of need, the way forward, and developing an elevated security posture for the entire human risk domain or specially defined parts of the organization.
Scanning Survey <i>(Digital Questionnaire Part 1; Primarily Quantitative)</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Maximum Number of Individuals in Scanning Survey</i>	30*	30*	30*	Custom
Summary and Comments	✓ <i>(Presented as part of the Health Check)</i>	✓	✓	✓
Exended Survey <i>(Digital Questionnaire Part 2; Primarily Qualitative)</i>		✓	✓	✓
<i>Maximum Number of Interviewees</i>		30*	30*	Custom
Key Personnel Interviews			✓	✓
<i>Maximum Number of Interviewees</i>			20	Custom
Written Report Including Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations			✓	✓
In-Depth Presentation of Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations in Meeting			✓	✓
Total Price Human Threat Health Check	Included for Health Check Customers**	45,000 SEK	222,000 SEK	Offered

*30 surveys distributed over the organization/IS architecture as decided in the initial scoping dialogue between customer and Truesec at list price (above). Additional surveys (up to 100) are available at an additional cost in increments of 5 added surveys (5,900 SEK excl. VAT per 5 surveys). Amount over 100 surveys equals Custom version. In the Basic version, the surveys are calibrated with and adapted to the scope of the technical Health Check, up to a maximum of 30, free of additional charge.

** As a time-limited offer, the Basic version of Human Threat Health Check is included in [Active Directory Review](#), [Azure Active Directory Review](#), [Security Health Check](#), and [VMware Environment Security Review](#). In times of high demand, we reserve the right to decline additional assignments to ensure we maintain our high quality standards and the health of our experts.

How To Get Started With a Human Threat Health Check

Start by talking to your Truesec customer contact or any of our experts. Together we'll begin the journey to protect your organization's sensitive information and assets in all exposed areas - technical and human.