

SGSecure@Workplaces Bulletin



September 2024

## STRENGTHENING WORKPLACE RESILIENCE WITH EXERCISES AND DRILLS

In any workplace, exercises and drills are essential components of preparedness and crisis management. By simulating potential emergencies, organisations can effectively prepare their employees to respond calmly and confidently in the face of real crises. This ensures a safer, more resilient workplace, better equipped to handle unexpected challenges.

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# Strengthening Workplace Readiness

Exercises and drills play an integral role in preparedness efforts through:





# Skills Development and Familiarisation

Employees get the opportunity to develop and reinforce critical skills necessary for responding to emergencies through regular exercises. They become familiar with emergency procedures, evacuation routes, and if required, the operation of safety equipment as well.

### Testing and Improving Emergency Plans

Testing the effectiveness of emergency plans enable organisations to identify weaknesses or gaps, allowing for continuous improvement of preparedness efforts. This keeps existing protocols and processes robust and adaptable.





### Building a Culture of Preparedness

By actively engaging employees in preparedness activities, organisations foster a sense of responsibility and readiness. This leads to a workforce that is better equipped to respond to, and recover from crises.

# Key Workplace Exercises/Drills

Here are some examples of exercises and drills that can be carried out in the workplace:

# Fire Drills

Simulated exercises to practice evacuation procedures in the event of a fire.

### Medical Emergency Drills

Simulated scenarios to assess responses to medical emergencies in various settings.

#### Disaster Response Exercise

Comprehensive drills to test and improve the coordination and effectiveness of response efforts during natural or man-made disasters.

#### Tabletop Exercises (TTXs)

Discussion-based exercises to talk through and evaluate emergency response plans.

#### Armed Assailant Drills

Simulated exercises to prepare organisations in responding to an armed assailant situation.

#### Cybersecurity Exercise

Simulated scenarios to test and enhance the preparedness and response capabilities for cyber threats or attacks.

By running these activities, employees are better equipped with the required skills (i.e. CPR/AED), familiar with evacuation/sheltering/ emergency protocols, and are aware of potential risks, challenges and strategies needed improve resilience at your workplace.

## SPOTLIGHT

In this edition's spotlight, we interviewed one of our Workplace Community Leaders (WCL) Mr Thomas Founder TT Ting, of Innovation and Technology Pte Ltd, and Treasurer of Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME). In this interview, he shares his thoughts on crisis preparedness and the essential role of exercises and drills.



#### Q: What does crisis preparedness mean to you?

A: Crisis preparedness means being well prepared for any potential threats or disasters affecting our business or life. While effective preparedness can mitigate the impact of crises such as economic disruptions, pandemics, cyberattacks etc.

Q: What were some of the useful insights you received at the recent Tabletop Exercise (TTX) on Social Cohesion at the Workplaces?

- A: It has helped me to reflect on my role in maintaining a healthy and supportive workplace culture, namely:
  - Improved communication and transparency
  - Greater awareness of the inclusivity and trust in difficult times
  - · Enhanced ability to manage conflict and foster teamwork
  - Strengthening relationships within the team

Q: In your organisation, what are the kind of exercises and/or drills conducted and how have they benefitted your management?

A: We have done Emergency Evacuation drills annually with the building management and Business Continuity Exercise during COVID period.

### SGSecure@Workplaces Events

#### The next SGSecure@Workplace Webinar, From Chaos to Clarity: Elevating Your Workplace Crisis Communication Skills, will be held on 10 October 2024.

Effective crisis communication is crucial for businesses in the aftermath of a crisis, where the flow of information is potentially chaotic, and misinformation is rife. It is also critical in helping organisations protect their reputation and foster trust with stakeholders.

For this session, we share more on how SGSecure Reps can identify potential crises and develop clear communication protocols.

Sign up now



#### SGSecure@Workplaces Tabletop Exercise (TTX) on Social Cohesion at Workplaces for Workplace Community Leaders (WCLs), 21 August 2024.

The SGSecure@Workplaces team conducted a TTX addressing scenarios affecting social cohesion in workplaces. During the session, WCLs engaged in a productive discussion, exchanging proactive measures to enhance social cohesion and contribute to the stability and security of Singapore. The programme also featured a segment in which Mr Wilbur Sim, Director of the SGSecure Programmes Office, Ministry of Home Affairs, shared on the developments for SGSecure movement.



#### SGSecure's first <u>music video</u> and <u>Instagram account</u> (@SGSecureOfficial) were launched at the SGSecure Roadshow at Suntec City on 27 July 2024.

Minister of Home Affairs & Minister of Law, Mr K Shanmugam, spoke about how the community and individuals have a role to play in keeping Singapore safe and secure, while the music video was created in partnership with local singer-songwriter, Mr Nathan Hartono, to raise awareness of the ever-present terrorism threat.

The SGSecure Instagram account will feature important content to raise awareness and educate the community on key SGSecure advisories. Stay updated and follow **@SGSecureOffical** now!





✓ PROTECT YOUR WORKPLACE

PARTNER YOUR COMMUNITY

-SGSecure@Workplaces Bulletin-

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