



Developing resilience skills for a strong workforce

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According to a recent ACCS discussion paper, Australia faces quite a few unresolved dilemmas in policy for cyber security education and workforce development. One of those is the balance to be struck between skills needed for enterprise-level cyber security operations and skills needed for national resilience operations under wide-ranging, multi-vector, multi-phase cyber attack. This problem is worthy of further analysis since resilience (the theme of this conference) is the primary operational goal of all cyber security practice, if we can take the ten point checklist on cyber resilience of the U.S. Dept of Homeland Security as a guide. Of the ten elements, there is one area where the Australian workforce may be particularly underdeveloped: external cyber dependency management. Analysis of private sector practice shows little sharing of experience in this specialised field and little national level coordination of it, including through simulations and exercises. The Australian civil sector workforce needs this skill set. This presentation discusses options for governments and private sector actors to create a workforce for this specialised mission vital to all large corporations and agencies, and to all citizens.