

# AI Incident Response and Recovery

## AI Incident Response and Recovery Key Terms and Vocabulary

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Incident Response and Recovery is a critical aspect of AI Audit and Risk Management. Understanding key terms and vocabulary in this field is essential for effectively managing AI-related incidents and ensuring business continuity. Let's delve into the key terms and concepts that professionals in this domain should be familiar with:

### 1. Incident Response:

Incident response refers to the process of responding to and managing incidents related to AI systems. This involves identifying, containing, eradicating, and recovering from incidents to minimize their impact on the organization.

### 2. Incident:

An incident in the context of AI refers to any event that has the potential to harm the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of AI systems or data. Incidents can include cyberattacks, data breaches, system failures, or other security breaches.

### 3. Recovery:

Recovery is the process of restoring AI systems and data to their normal functioning state after an incident. This involves implementing backup and restoration procedures to minimize downtime and mitigate the impact of the incident.

### 4. Root Cause Analysis:

Root cause analysis is a method used to identify the underlying cause of AI incidents. By understanding the root cause of an incident, organizations can implement preventive measures to avoid similar incidents in the future.

### 5. Data Breach:

A data breach is an incident where sensitive or confidential data is accessed, stolen, or compromised by unauthorized individuals. Data breaches can have severe consequences for organizations, including financial losses and reputational damage.

### 6. Cyberattack:

A cyberattack is a malicious attempt to disrupt, damage, or gain unauthorized access to AI systems or data. Cyberattacks can come in various forms, such as malware, phishing, denial of service attacks, or ransomware.

### 7. Threat Intelligence:

Threat intelligence refers to information about potential threats and vulnerabilities that could impact AI systems. By leveraging threat intelligence, organizations can proactively identify and mitigate security risks

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before they escalate into incidents.

8. Vulnerability Assessment:

Vulnerability assessment is the process of identifying and evaluating weaknesses in AI systems that could be exploited by threat actors. By conducting regular vulnerability assessments, organizations can strengthen their security posture and reduce the risk of incidents.

9. Patch Management:

Patch management involves applying software patches and updates to address known vulnerabilities in AI systems. Effective patch management is crucial for preventing cyberattacks and minimizing the risk of incidents caused by unpatched vulnerabilities.

10. Business Continuity Planning:

Business continuity planning involves developing strategies and procedures to ensure the continuous operation of AI systems in the event of an incident. This includes backup and recovery plans, disaster recovery procedures, and communication protocols to minimize downtime and maintain business operations.

11. Incident Response Plan:

An incident response plan is a documented set of procedures and protocols that outline how an organization will respond to AI incidents. The plan typically includes roles and responsibilities, escalation procedures, communication protocols, and steps for containing and recovering from incidents.

12. Digital Forensics:

Digital forensics is the process of collecting, preserving, analyzing, and presenting digital evidence related to AI incidents. Digital forensics experts use specialized tools and techniques to investigate incidents, identify the source of the breach, and support incident response and recovery efforts.

13. Chain of Custody:

Chain of custody is a documented record that tracks the handling and transfer of digital evidence during an investigation. Maintaining a chain of custody ensures the integrity and admissibility of evidence in legal proceedings related to AI incidents.

14. Incident Severity:

Incident severity refers to the impact and consequences of an incident on AI systems and business operations. Severity levels help organizations prioritize incident response efforts and allocate resources based on the criticality of the incident.

15. Incident Response Team:

An incident response team is a group of individuals responsible for coordinating and executing incident response activities. The team typically includes members from IT, cybersecurity, legal, communications, and other relevant departments to ensure a comprehensive and effective response to AI incidents.

16. Tabletop Exercise:

A tabletop exercise is a simulated scenario designed to test an organization's incident response capabilities.

During a tabletop exercise, participants walk through a hypothetical incident and evaluate their response procedures, communication protocols, and decision-making processes.

#### 17. Recovery Point Objective (RPO):

Recovery Point Objective (RPO) is the maximum acceptable amount of data loss that an organization can tolerate during a recovery process. RPO helps organizations determine how frequently data backups should be performed to meet recovery objectives in the event of an incident.

#### 18. Recovery Time Objective (RTO):

Recovery Time Objective (RTO) is the maximum allowable downtime for AI systems before normal operations must be restored. RTO helps organizations establish recovery timelines and prioritize recovery efforts to minimize the impact of incidents on business operations.

#### 19. Data Retention Policy:

A data retention policy outlines how long AI data should be stored and when it should be deleted or archived. Implementing a data retention policy helps organizations comply with data protection regulations, reduce storage costs, and mitigate the risk of data breaches.

#### 20. Compliance Requirements:

Compliance requirements refer to regulations, standards, and guidelines that organizations must adhere to when managing AI incidents. Compliance requirements vary by industry and jurisdiction and include data protection laws, cybersecurity frameworks, and industry-specific regulations.

#### 21. Incident Reporting:

Incident reporting involves documenting and reporting AI incidents to internal stakeholders, regulatory authorities, and other relevant parties. Timely and accurate incident reporting is essential for transparency, accountability, and compliance with incident response regulations.

#### 22. Lessons Learned:

Lessons learned are insights and best practices identified during incident response and recovery efforts. By capturing lessons learned, organizations can improve their incident response capabilities, update incident response plans, and enhance resilience against future incidents.

#### 23. Third-Party Risk Management:

Third-party risk management involves assessing and mitigating the risks posed by external vendors, partners, and service providers that have access to AI systems or data. Effective third-party risk management is essential for protecting against supply chain attacks and ensuring the security of AI ecosystems.

#### 24. Incident Simulation:

Incident simulation is a controlled exercise designed to simulate real-world AI incidents and test the organization's response capabilities. By conducting incident simulations, organizations can identify gaps in their incident response plans, train incident response teams, and improve incident readiness.

#### 25. Continuous Improvement:

Continuous improvement is an ongoing process of enhancing AI incident response and recovery capabilities

through feedback, evaluation, and iterative improvements. By embracing a culture of continuous improvement, organizations can adapt to evolving threats, technologies, and regulatory requirements to stay resilient against AI incidents.

#### 26. Incident Categorization:

Incident categorization involves classifying AI incidents based on their nature, severity, and impact on business operations. Categorizing incidents helps organizations prioritize response efforts, allocate resources effectively, and streamline incident management processes.

#### 27. Incident Escalation:

Incident escalation is the process of escalating AI incidents to higher levels of management or external authorities based on their severity or complexity. Effective incident escalation ensures that incidents are addressed promptly, resources are allocated appropriately, and stakeholders are informed timely.

#### 28. Incident Communication:

Incident communication involves keeping stakeholders informed about the status, impact, and resolution of AI incidents. Clear and timely communication is crucial for maintaining transparency, building trust, and minimizing the reputational damage associated with incidents.

#### 29. Business Impact Analysis:

Business impact analysis is a method used to assess the potential impact of AI incidents on business operations, revenue, reputation, and compliance. By conducting a business impact analysis, organizations can prioritize recovery efforts, allocate resources effectively, and minimize the financial and operational impact of incidents.

#### 30. Incident Documentation:

Incident documentation involves documenting all aspects of AI incidents, including incident details, response actions, communication logs, forensic findings, and lessons learned. Comprehensive incident documentation is essential for post-incident analysis, compliance reporting, and continuous improvement of incident response processes.

#### 31. Legal and Regulatory Compliance:

Legal and regulatory compliance refers to the obligation of organizations to comply with laws, regulations, and industry standards related to AI incident response and data protection. Failure to comply with legal and regulatory requirements can result in fines, lawsuits, and reputational damage for organizations.

#### 32. Incident Notification:

Incident notification involves notifying affected individuals, customers, partners, and regulatory authorities about AI incidents that impact their data or operations. Timely and accurate incident notification is essential for compliance with data breach notification laws, maintaining trust with stakeholders, and minimizing the impact of incidents on affected parties.

#### 33. Incident Recovery Testing:

Incident recovery testing involves testing the effectiveness of AI incident recovery procedures, backup systems, and data restoration processes. By conducting regular recovery testing, organizations can identify

weaknesses in their recovery capabilities, validate recovery objectives, and ensure readiness to recover from incidents effectively.

#### 34. Incident Response Metrics:

Incident response metrics are key performance indicators used to measure the effectiveness, efficiency, and maturity of AI incident response processes. Common incident response metrics include mean time to detect, mean time to respond, mean time to recover, and incident resolution time.

#### 35. Incident Response Automation:

Incident response automation involves using AI-powered tools, algorithms, and workflows to automate repetitive tasks, accelerate response times, and improve the efficiency of AI incident response processes. Incident response automation can help organizations scale their response capabilities, reduce human error, and enhance incident detection and containment.

#### 36. Threat Hunting:

Threat hunting is a proactive approach to identifying and mitigating potential threats to AI systems before they result in incidents. Threat hunting involves analyzing security logs, network traffic, and system behavior to detect indicators of compromise, anomalies, and emerging threats that traditional security measures may miss.

#### 37. Post-Incident Review:

Post-incident review is a process of evaluating AI incident response and recovery efforts after an incident has been resolved. During a post-incident review, organizations assess the effectiveness of response actions, identify areas for improvement, and update incident response plans based on lessons learned from the incident.

#### 38. Incident Severity Levels:

Incident severity levels are used to classify AI incidents based on their impact, urgency, and criticality to business operations. Common incident severity levels include low, medium, high, and critical, which help organizations prioritize response efforts, allocate resources, and communicate the severity of incidents to stakeholders.

#### 39. Incident Response Playbooks:

Incident response playbooks are predefined sets of procedures, checklists, and response actions that guide incident response teams through the steps to be taken during AI incidents. Playbooks help standardize response processes, ensure consistency in response actions, and enable rapid and effective incident resolution.

#### 40. Incident Response Maturity Model:

Incident response maturity model is a framework used to assess the maturity and effectiveness of AI incident response capabilities within an organization. By evaluating incident response maturity levels, organizations can identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement to enhance their incident response readiness and resilience.

#### 41. Incident Response Training:

Incident response training involves educating employees, incident response teams, and stakeholders on AI incident response procedures, best practices, and roles and responsibilities. Effective incident response training helps build a culture of security awareness, improve response capabilities, and empower individuals to respond to incidents effectively.

#### 42. Incident Response Coordination:

Incident response coordination involves coordinating and aligning AI incident response efforts across different departments, teams, and external partners. Effective incident response coordination ensures a unified and collaborative response to incidents, minimizes duplication of efforts, and maximizes the efficiency of response actions.

#### 43. Incident Response Framework:

Incident response framework is a structured approach that defines the processes, procedures, and tools used to respond to and recover from AI incidents. Common incident response frameworks include NIST Cybersecurity Framework, SANS Incident Handling Steps, and ISO/IEC 27035 Incident Management Standard.

#### 44. Incident Response Communication Plan:

Incident response communication plan outlines the communication protocols, channels, and stakeholders to be involved during AI incidents. A well-defined communication plan helps organizations communicate effectively, manage stakeholder expectations, and maintain transparency during incident response and recovery efforts.

#### 45. Incident Response Tools:

Incident response tools are software applications, platforms, and technologies used to automate, streamline, and enhance AI incident response processes. Common incident response tools include SIEM (Security Information and Event Management) systems, forensic analysis tools, threat intelligence platforms, and incident response orchestration tools.

#### 46. Incident Response Challenges:

Incident response challenges are obstacles and complexities that organizations may encounter during AI incident response and recovery efforts. Common challenges include limited resources, complex AI environments, evolving threats, regulatory requirements, and coordination across multiple teams and stakeholders.

#### 47. Incident Response Best Practices:

Incident response best practices are proven strategies, methodologies, and recommendations for effectively responding to and recovering from AI incidents. By following best practices, organizations can improve incident response capabilities, reduce the impact of incidents, and enhance the resilience of AI systems against cyber threats.

#### 48. Incident Response Readiness Assessment:

Incident response readiness assessment is an evaluation of an organization's preparedness to respond to AI incidents effectively. By conducting a readiness assessment, organizations can identify gaps in incident

response capabilities, prioritize improvement initiatives, and enhance their readiness to address AI incidents proactively.

#### 49. Incident Response Hotline:

Incident response hotline is a dedicated communication channel that allows employees, customers, partners, and stakeholders to report AI incidents, seek assistance, and escalate urgent issues to the incident response team. Hotlines help organizations respond promptly to incidents, gather relevant information, and coordinate response efforts efficiently.

#### 50. Incident Response Compliance Checklist:

Incident response compliance checklist is a documented list of regulatory requirements, best practices, and internal policies that organizations must adhere to during AI incident response and recovery. Compliance checklists help organizations ensure compliance with incident response regulations, mitigate legal risks, and maintain data protection standards.

In conclusion, mastering the key terms and vocabulary related to AI Incident Response and Recovery is essential for professionals in AI Audit and Risk Management. By understanding these concepts, professionals can effectively respond to AI incidents, mitigate risks, and ensure the resilience of AI systems against cyber threats. Continuous learning, training, and practical application of these key terms are essential to stay ahead of evolving threats and regulatory requirements in the dynamic field of AI Incident Response and Recovery.