

Compliance with International Standards

Seven & i Holdings has established information security rules and regulations with reference to ISO 27001, an international certification standard related to information security, NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) Cyber Security Framework, CIS (Center for Internet Security) Controls, and so on.

Seven & i Holdings and its group companies have established and are operating an information security management system (ISMS) based on these rules to control information security risks such as leakage, falsification, and service suspension of information assets. Through continuous improvement of this management system, we strive to maintain the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of our information assets.

In addition, major locations and related departments of our operating companies that deal with customers' personal information have been assessed and certified by a third-party organization for their ISMS organizational structure, and we are in the process of expanding the scope of certification.

Accident and Emergency Response Related to Information Security

Seven & i Holdings has established a reporting line among Group companies through the "Material Fact Reporting Guidelines," and has built a system to ensure the reliable communication of information and minimize damage and impact. In the unlikely event of an incident or suspicious event related to information security, we will strive to report it appropriately and without delay to the victim and all related parties in accordance with our reporting obligations under laws and regulations.

In the event of a serious incident, we promptly report it to the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Information Management Officer.

Training to Raise Awareness of All Executives and Employees

Seven & i Holdings believes that to ensure the appropriate handling of personal information and confidential information in daily work, it is necessary for every executive and employee to understand the importance of information security, to raise their awareness of information security, and, on top of that, to have the knowledge required for accurate judgement and conduct. Seven & i Holdings provides education several times a year about the latest trends in information security and personal information protection, management systems, and general information security measures for directors, managers, and general employees. These educational materials are also being rolled out to all Group companies as part of our efforts to ensure that all executives and employees of the Seven & i Group can acquire the same level of knowledge, and so that they are equipped with the ability to think and act on their own initiative.

In particular, the threat of cyberattacks by means of targeted email attacks is increasing day by day, meaning that regular training simulating responses to actual attacks is essential. Seven & i Holdings sends multiple patterns of mock email to all executives and employees of the Group and strengthen their ability to respond through actual experience of how to discern suspicious email and how to respond should such email be received.

Initiatives to Ensure Security for IT Services

IT services without appropriate security measures are at an increased risk of cyberattacks. In particular, a service that holds large amounts of personal data has the potential to lead to increased damage in the case that information leaks occur.

At Seven & i Holdings, the Group Security Management Office conducts security reviews prior to system releases to ensure prescribed levels of security quality are maintained for the information system.

In addition, vulnerability assessments are conducted before system releases or to coincide with modifications. These are performed under a mechanism to check for the presence of serious vulnerabilities with the potential to become the source of cyberattacks, with corrections implemented in advance of the release if vulnerabilities are found.

Strengthening of Cybersecurity Countermeasures

Seven & i Holdings has positioned cyberattacks, which are becoming more advanced and more sophisticated by the day, as a serious risk in management and is endeavoring to strengthen cybersecurity countermeasures, including the building of a multitiered defense network to guard against illegal hacking into networks, conduct proper access control, etc.; the establishment of a setup capable of responding to threats; the education and training of human resources; and collaboration with outside professional bodies.

Establishment of special organization and outside collaboration

As a special organization responsible for cybersecurity, we have set up the 7&i Computer Security Incident Response Team (7&i CSIRT), and have put systems in place designed to minimize impacts from security incidents by analyzing their causes and formulating responses in cooperation with the incident response contact points at Group companies. We also endeavor to have in-house organizational systems in place for the detection of issues such as cyberattacks and suspicious logins.

In order to be able to respond speedily to cyberattacks and so on, we collaborate with such outside organizations as the Japan Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Center (JPCERT/CC) and the Nippon CSIRT Association, sharing information with them on cyberattacks, countermeasure trends, etc. In addition, we implement education and training for the incident response contact points at Group companies premised on a cybersecurity incident or accident at least twice per year, to support improvements in their ability to respond.