

Security Vetting Process for Husbanding Service Providers



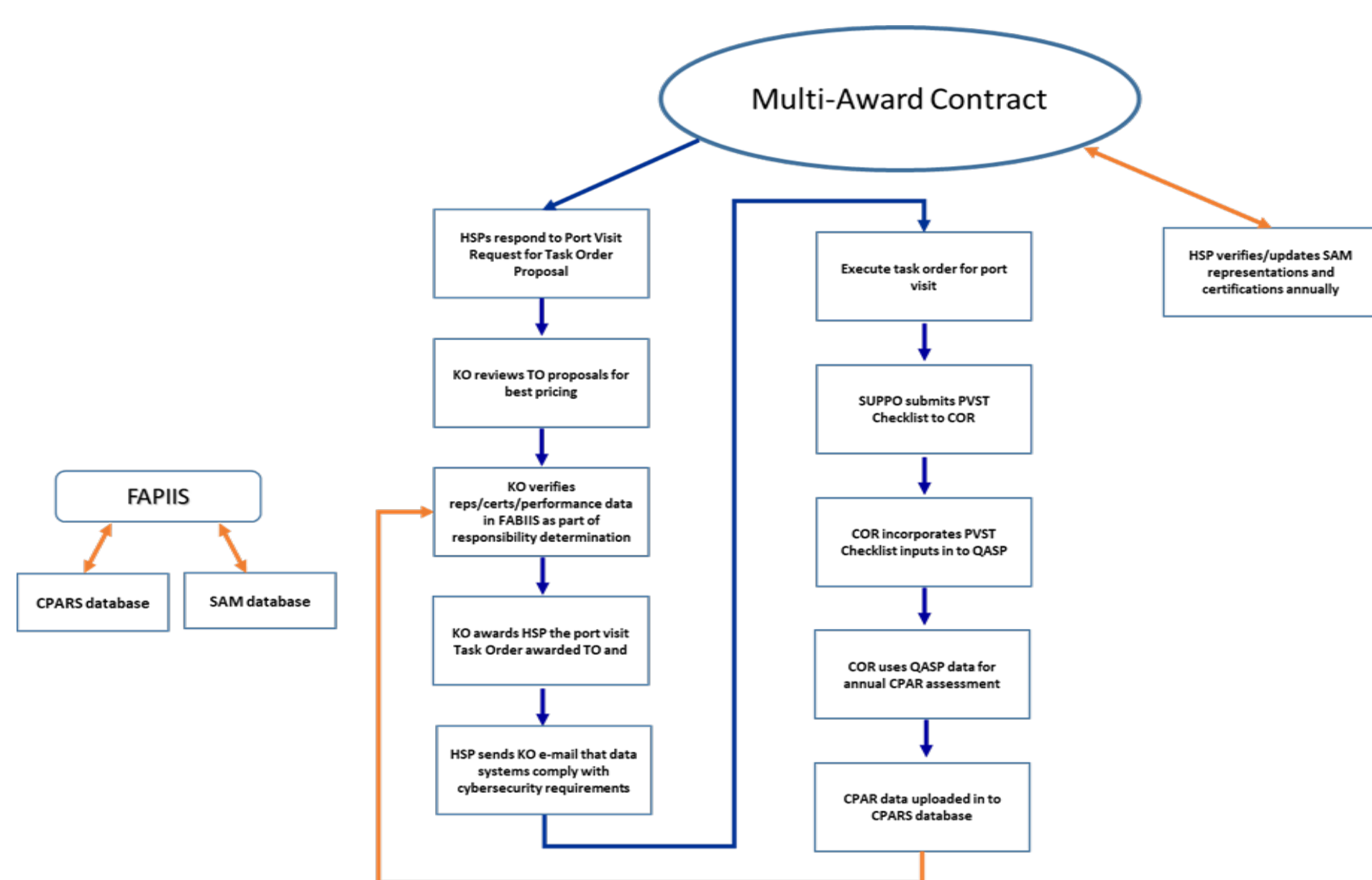
Naval
Postgraduate
School

Abstract

HSPs are the primary provider of logistics support for ships operating in a forward-deployed environment and required access to sensitive information regarding a ship's movement to provide contracted logistics support. In order to preclude events in which security is compromised in the future, this report assesses the current vetting process and makes recommendations to improve the process to safeguard a ship's operating information while enabling the HSP to provide its contracted services.



US Navy Vessel Pulling Into Port - Bahrain



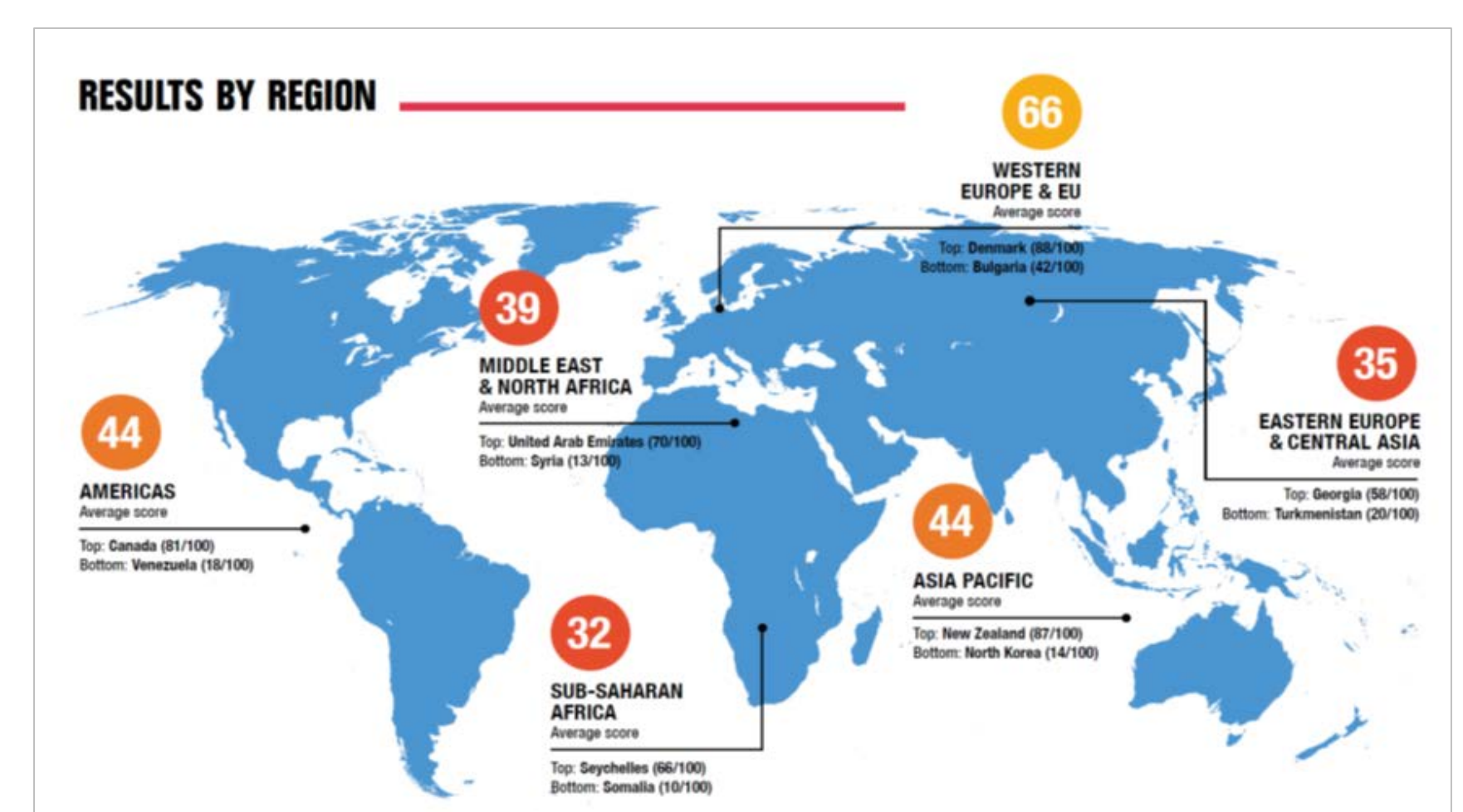
Task Order Award Process

Methods

The current process of awarding a multi-award husbanding contract was mapped with special consideration given to the points in the process that evaluate security and cyber security requirements. This was done through conducting semi-structured interviews with NAVSUP FLC contracting officers and contracting officer representatives from the Fourth, Sixth, and Seventh fleets, as well as through a review of current multi-award contracts (MACs) and GAO reports on contracting oversight.

Results

Currently there is not a standard vetting process for Husbanding Service Providers. In the absence of a vetting process, the Navy has included the requirement in the MAC and Task Order awarding process for HSPs to certify within SAMs that they meet the security requirements to conduct business with the United States government. With this information the contracting officer must make a responsibility determination when awarding contracts.



2018 Corruption Index by Region

Recommendations

- Strengthen wording the PWS and contract to required HSP to disclose subcontractors and expand current screening requirements of HSP to their subcontractors.
- Work with Department of State and USAID to determine feasibility of using Partner Vetting System in screening HSPs.
- Develop a program and conduct a Business Case Analysis for employing fully vetted U.S. personnel and/or companies at select foreign ports to aid in providing logistics service support that currently provided by HSPs.