





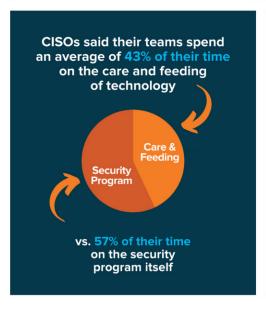
WE ASKED CISOS ABOUT THE TOP CHALLENGES FORCING THEM TO REDIRECT THEIR FOCUS AWAY FROM MORE STRATEGIC TASKS:

40% said OPERATIONS

40% said LACK OF TALENT

20% said LACK OF BUSINESS ALIGNMENT





cisos believe

20%

of their current technology investments are ineffective



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The eighteen contributors above represent the CISOs and security leaders who shared their views on the trending cybersecurity topics in this article. Kevin West (CEO, K logix), Kevin Pouche (COO, K logix), and Katie Haug (Director of Marketing, K logix) conducted these interviews to collect the data included in this article. We correlated and analyzed the data in order to provide comprehensive statistics around the hottest trends currently in cybersecurity.

There were many interesting findings, and we are excited to share the content with you in the next few pages. Some of the most prominent topics included thoughtful discussions around the future of the cloud and what it means for security programs, the heavy focus on 'shift left' security, significant research and investment in Al technologies, CISOs focusing on getting back to the basics, and much more.

Budgets were a big topic of conversation and every CISO said their budget had increased in the past year, with valuable dollars spent on hiring/retention, investments in new technologies, and outsourcing. Many CISOs top goals included increasing the security awareness in their organization by spending budget on building a stronger security culture within their organizations.

We also compiled over 60 pages of these transcribed interviews and found the most commonly used were people, cloud, and business.

We want to thank all the CISOs and security leaders who took time to provide thoughtful responses to our trending questions. By taking time out of their busy schedules to influence the trends created by our magazine, they helped us bring meaningful content to our audience.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you would like to be interviewed and featured in our magazine. We also encourage anyone to let us know if you would like to be connected with any of the thought leaders who contributed to this article. We continually encourage our readers to engage with one another to share insight and strengthen our community of cybersecurity professionals.

#### WHAT ARE YOUR TOP SECURITY PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR?

AMIT: My main priorities are getting back to basics. I would say my first priority is visibility, being accountable to say this is what we have. And the second one is a derivative of that, which is coverage. Once I have visibility and I can say these are my assets, this is where my data is at, this is how it behaves, and who accesses it, what is the coverage of our existing controls, of the controls that we're deploying? The third one would be better data context. Beyond assets, what really matters? I need to understand who's holding the data and what's more exposed towards the outside, which assets are on a kill chain or susceptible to be attacked. So getting better context as far as knowing what's going on, that's going to enable us to really prioritize more future looking statements like reducing the attack surface. Without having those security basics in place, you cannot assert that statement.

**BERMAN**: My top priority is always going to be keeping the company safe enough. That means we have the right set of controls to balance the risk reduction we need to make sure there's not a breach with the increasing agility I want to create for the organization, so they're moving fast enough to capture business value. The second priority is looking to how the security team can partner more effectively to not just reduce the risk from a one time or a point in time perspective, but through time. Third is around improving the sources of intelligence that we have in order to make the best decisions possible.

BJERKEN: Privacy enhancement technologies (PET) are one of my key focus areas, as we continue to see shifts in privacy regulations. The Global Security and Privacy (GSAP) group just finished up a two-year transformation phase and a large portion of our security stack was re-engineered. So apart from PET this year, we'll be focusing on processes surrounding the tools we recently implemented, we want to ensure Catalina is getting as much utility from the tools as possible.

CASTAGNA: I have three main goals. First is scaling compliance and security operations. This is a normal part of being in a 270-person venture-backed tech company. And it's figuring out what the right investments are. Second is compliance. Given the nature of our business, which is to enable the analysis of raw next-generation sequencing data at the world's leading academic, biotechnology, government, medical and pharmaceutical entities — which process whole-sequence genomes — we have a lot of compliance requirements. With DNA being some of the world's most personal and private data, we have a very aggressive roadmap that builds upon our existing security and compliance program. Third, I'm hyper focused on engagement with customers and vendors, as

security in the cloud is a shared responsibility. From a security perspective, having CISO to CISO conversations with customers, and with our critical vendors, is super important.

HEASMAN: My first priority is driving security earlier into the software development life cycle. We want to ensure developers are not inadvertently introducing security vulnerabilities into our products by catching potential issues



as early as possible in the development cycle. Our industry has long recognized that the cost of remediating security issues is high when they are discovered in production. Second is revamping our vendor risk management program and third is improving our logging, monitoring, and alerting within AWS. There's various types of logs that we capture, everything from application logs to host infrastructure logs to AWS logs, but from a security perspective, the challenge is to consolidate these into a unified view and correlate potential suspicious events from each source.

PAIGE: My number one goal is around culture. I'm always trying to embed security into the culture as much as I can by finding innovative ways to provide security awareness training. This may mean hands-on-training, CTFs, or short relevant videos. I find the biggest problems with security training is that it is done as a one time event with possibly boring presentations and/or videos that are not compelling and do not educate. Getting everyone to think about, and understand when there are potential security issues, is job number one. My second goal is around security operations in terms of how we are automating and enabling the business to solve their own problems. I like to use the words "shift left" from an operational perspective. How can I provide self-service and/ or automated mechanisms where our employees can help find and/or fix issues themselves with great levels of transparency and understanding of the issues? My third priority for this year is how do we make security easy? How do we find SaaS capabilities that are valuable, and not just a complicated, non-integrated bunch of noise that are focused on solving real problems? For instance, I ask and drive my team how can we fully automate something like incident management the same way our software engineers



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automate their software pipelines and deployment activities? How can we make security "just work" invisibly and become a thing that blends into the normal day-to-day and not be this thing only a select group of people understand?

PORTER: Digital transformation is one of our top priorities as a company. I have this joke that I tell about digital transformation - there are either companies that are digital native or there are companies that are going through digital transformation, but nobody's actually transformed. We're all caterpillars that are going into a cocoon or are stuck in the cocoon, but nobody's come out as a butterfly...yet. It's a really difficult transformation to make because it's not just a technology transformation. It's a business transformation as well and one where you need to be leaner and more agile, so a lot of the practices that we have codified in IT as well as in security over time, make it really hard to make that transition.

**SINGH**: From my experience with the oil & gas sector, CISOs top priorities are more inclined towards securing the OT environment due to a significant increase in attacks on industrial control systems in the last couple of years. The convergence of IT/OT has led to significant challenges for CISOs because legacy industrial control systems used for O&G production were not built for cybersecurity. CISOs are challenged by advanced adversaries to protect the industrial control systems from any disruption and to ensure the safety of human lives as cyberattacks continue to lead physical world results. Another aspect is to constantly monitor the organization IT & OT maturity from a security point of view and how new technologies can help to make the cyber infrastructure more resilient to the threats.

# WHAT CHALLENGES ARE MOST OFTEN FORCING YOU TO REDIRECT YOUR TIME AND FOCUS AWAY FROM MORE STRATEGIC TASKS?

**BJERKEN**: The shifts in privacy regulations, specifically CCPA and the impact that it continues to have on ad tech, constantly redirects my team's attention. It requires the team to address controls, develop operational processes, and in many cases reevaluate vendors, partners, and service providers.

FITZGERALD: In organizations, there's still a lack of business ownership around applications. And I think CISOs are still struggling with that, when you're saying take responsibility for this application, well what does that mean? Well, that means you have to understand who's asking for access to this application and do they need it? It's usually the user manager that does that, but then it requires the business owner to understand how access is provisioned for that application. What levels of access

do they have? I think that's a very difficult thing and we really get back to some fundamentals of who really has that access in place.

**FOWLER**: Tasks that can be automated and orchestrated are BOTH a strategic task and the things that keep my team and I from focusing on other strategic activities. We plan to overcome this by completing projects that will streamline our work – such as building and running a security controls incident response program to address controls that fail.

**HEASMAN**: With any security program, you're always going to have "keep the lights on" tasks that you can plan as well as unplanned work like incident response that is hard to predict. We're a small team, and incident investigations can cause me to divert people from working on other things.



SCOTT: There are obviously distractions in any given security and privacy program, and it's typically scenarios where you might have incidents that require you to think tactically and address concerns right then and there. I don't think there should be a stigma about, for example, doing incident response incredibly well, because when you come down to trust, trust is consistency over time. And as you build a strong product ecosystem, you have people that get more and more comfortable with your products. But the way that you handle incidents, the way that you handle data breaches, the way that you handle vulnerabilities, will ultimately be a deciding inflection point of whether they continue to trust you. So trust is ephemeral. It takes sometimes years to build, but it can be lost. And so as a result, whilst some people will consider those types of incident response or handling the crisis of the day as a distraction from strategy, it's actually integral to how you build trust.

**ZHENG**: Since we are a startup, in many cases we wear multiple hats. We have one consolidated security function, which is actually nice, you don't have the situation where the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing. But at the same time, we still have to deal with a lot of the noise that comes with security products and operations. Most security organizations, large or



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small, have to deal with that noise and we're not different. That is currently the number one distraction or challenge for us overall, especially with limited resources, and I think it will continue to be.

## WHAT ARE YOUR CEO'S/ ORGANIZATION'S TOP PRIORITIES FOR SECURITY IN THE COMING YEAR?

**BRIGGS**: Securing our data, migrating to the cloud in a thoughtful, efficient manner, and keeping the lines of visibility open throughout these processes is of the utmost importance for our organization this year.

FITZGERALD: The CEO's priority this year is really just getting the right CISO in their company, since it's a big problem today. I know there's not as much movement of CISOs in the Fortune 500 these days, which is surprising. I know Forrester did a study in 2017, so things may have shifted a little bit, but I tend to believe things don't shift that fast. They found that the average tenure of a CISO was four and a half years. I always kind of filter out the noise because you see 18 months, 27 months depending on who surveyed who. But what I liked about their surveys, they look at LinkedIn and the Fortune 500, and looked at how long they'd been there. I believe there is an increased recognition of the time it takes to create and execute upon a strategy, as well as the recognition the CISO is needed in the event of a breach.

PAIGE: One of the first things I did when taking the position, is to create a roadmap, and align it to the CEO's objectives and vision. I then made it public and discussed it with all the business leaders and provided public updates for all to see. I think this approach has helped influence the priorities around security. This also starts to drive discussions around budget and staffing as it relates directly to the roadmap. I also think it makes it clear to the CEO that security isn't here to create extra process, or create bureaucracy, but is an important business improvement capability, helping to improve process, and productivity which helps enable the business. I know that as a high growth company, and lots of conversations, one of his top goals is increasing productivity without having to always increase headcount, so I keep that in mind and highlight the areas where security programs can assist.

PORTER: We have a strategy that's set out for the next three years and digital transformation is one of our priorities. Cybersecurity is a huge part of that and we're making sure we're leading our transformation effort. Another priority for the organization is to be a globally recognized, top performing ESG company. That's environmental, social, and governance. Cybersecurity is a key factor in becoming a top performing ESG company because investors and business partners want to be

sure a company is appropriately protecting its digital footprint. My job is to make sure that we're in alignment with the senior management and the company in general in what we're trying to accomplish.

#### WHAT ARE THE TOP CYBERSECURITY TECHNOLOGY SPACES YOU ARE INVESTING IN THIS YEAR THAT WILL BE TRANSFORMATIVE TO YOUR SECURITY PROGRAM?

**AMIT**: I'm investing in technologies that focus on where data is and how I map my ability to access and manipulate that data and scale. I want to be able to reduce the set of permissions without affecting productivity and ability to access data. While again, just minimizing that to the degree that if you get attacked or someone's trying to use your accounts, they're not going to have access to the full set. Zero trust is part of it. I'm envisioning when we're looking at technologies that would take that into account, minimize permissions on it, preemptively open it up certain times of year or upon first access by someone from accounting or finances. People do what they need to do and once they're done, their permissions are rescinded. So I want something much more dynamic that's going to be adaptive and true to form.

**CASTAGNA**: A web application firewall is one, security analytics and security orchestrations is the second, and the third is container security. As part of our due diligence, we are doing pilots and demos with several vendors in order to ensure the best solutions are in place for our customer base.



**FOWLER**: We are advancing our capabilities in both security and across other teams using our SIEM to monitor and alert on



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anomalous activity. We also invest heavily in both internal and external penetration testing of our enterprise and products. And going back to some fundamentals, we want to make improvements in our asset inventory and management in order to better address security.

**HEASMAN**: Automation, automation, automation. Historically when we think about automation in a security team, we first think of incident response because of the emergence of SOAR as a technology to automate response to alerts coming out of a SIEM. But I think there's great opportunity to automate many other parts of information security. We're seeing this in the DevSecOps space with a move towards automated security processes in CI/CD and self-service tooling. Instead of our partners in Engineering and Ops having to come to us to run security analysis tools, these run automatically or on-demand and automatically trigger other processes depending on the results of scans.

**MURPHY**: CASB, EDR, and next gen endpoint protection. Expanding email security, too.

**SCOTT**: I think we're still going to see a return to a set of fundamentals, making sure that we're actually doing some of the core foundational things right as cloud adoption and SaaS adoption continue. So you have CISOs that are spending lots of time in ensuring they have the right level of visibility into all of their cloud assets, they're collecting the right level of metrics and data in those types of technology, and looking for things that help them enable a more advisory type of role in that regard.

ZHENG: If you look at the way organizations are laying out their infrastructure and operations, we see perimeters are disappearing, so we really need to go back to the basics and understand what we have. The way that works is through a CMDB, a configuration management database to discover, audit and monitor assets. A good CMDB should take into account all of those kind of disjointed point solutions and siloed environments and aggregate them into a holistic view. Additionally, a good CMDB should capture not only the configuration of resources, but also map out the complex relationships among them. This is actually a product we're building internally — a graph CMDB. Other companies, like Lyft, also built asset discovery and management tools on a graph.

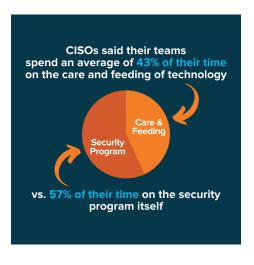
# HOW MUCH OF YOUR TEAM'S TIME IS FOCUSED ON CARE & FEEDING OF TECHNOLOGIES VS. THE SECURITY PROGRAM ITSELF?

BJERKEN: About 30% of the team's time is spent on care and

feeding of technologies. The rest of the time, the team is still very much focused on the program and ensuring we have the right people, processes and technologies, and are addressing risk and safeguarding our clients data. We're in a development stage, so I would expect that after the next 12 months that breakout will shift dramatically to a lot more care and feeding. Then we'll start to look and see where else we have risk that needs to be addressed; it's a continuous improvement cycle.

**BRIGGS**: As a team, we do our best to balance our distribution of time and resources to these two processes. We have several changes that will be taking place in the coming months, so the focus on the care and feeding of our technologies will certainly increase this calendar year. Since the broader security landscape is always evolving, we are constantly finding new ways to improve and build upon our current security program.

FLETCHER: We probably don't spend as much time on basic care and feeding as we could. We tend to not lock ourselves in a continuous upgrade cycle. We probably don't even monitor enough what the versions of the product are and what features have come out so that



we can be on the latest version or the second to latest version. We are more focused on whether the product is doing what we fundamentally bought it to do.

PAIGE: Security and technology are very agile by nature, so I think it's important to have an agile and flexible way to deal with work in general. So, I have adopted a two week sprint cycle for our work, and every two weeks does not have to be directly related to the last two weeks. On average we typically spend 25% of our time on care and feeding and the other 75% for program management. Sometimes that's not enough though, and we have to spend 30%, or maybe 40%. But the great thing is that when it goes up to 40%, that probably means there was a major issue to deal with, and If that's the case we are intentional about what we are going to work on. So, we will take work away from our security program for that particular sprint and push it to the next one. It's all about being intentional and agile. Believe it or not, we'll do a three or four hour session of planning for the next two-week period. I always like being intentional about the work that we're going to do, even



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about unplanned work.

SINGH: Spending a lot of time on the care and feeding of technology is one of the main problems that we face on a daily basis rather than focusing on the security strategy or program. The adoption of technology tools has increased to combat cyber criminals because the organization's perimeter is no longer limited to on-premise infrastructure and securing infrastructure is no longer possible by firewalls and antiviruses. For example, multiple security endpoint solution agents are deployed to protect systems/servers in an organization. Most time is invested in upgrading signatures, agents, appliances, resolving performance issues, and conflict caused by these tools when they co-exist. We need to correlate events from multiple sources and provide relevant context to analysts to reduce the delay in response and minimize the number of incidents for effective and efficient response.

#### WHAT PERCENTAGE OF YOUR SECURITY TECHNOLOGY **INVESTMENTS DO YOU CONSIDER INEFFECTIVE?**

BRIGGS: The processes that we currently have in place are very effective. As an organization, we have always been diligent in tracking the number of tools and technology we are utilizing to ensure we are not over-purchasing or inappropriately allocating resources.

FITZGERALD: I'd say probably 30% to 40%. I think historically people get a tool, they bring it in and run the tool for a while, but people change roles. There's really not the training budgets associated with bringing the tools in or the retraining of the people. There's also not the figuring out how to really use the tool or the money to integrate that tool with the other tools that



you just bought. That's usually not in the ongoing budget.

**HEASMAN**: I wouldn't say any of the technologies we have are ineffective, but I would say that we are working on tuning some of them to make them more effective. Technologies that

produce a large number of findings require tuning to minimize false positives and ensure high impact, and high confidence findings are correctly flagged as such. It's common to hear

of incident response folks talking about alert fatigue, with overworked analysts trying to keep up with the endless streams of findings that many tools crank out.

PORTER: I would say that for most companies there's probably a good 20% of technologies that are either ineffective or will soon be replaced. There's some rationalization that is going to take place where there are a lot of different overlapping features, functions, and capabilities. Companies need to prioritize the most important features and technologies that they have and be thoughtful in how they cut some of the others. We should be constantly looking at our technology stack, and constantly looking out into industry and the startup community to see what technologies are coming around that can supplant what we currently have or give us a new capability that we don't currently have. Help us fight the bad guys.

#### IN THE PAST YEAR HAS YOUR **BUDGET INCREASED OR DECREASED?**

AMIT: I would say our budget increased between 15% to 18% overall and in terms of split between investment, it's about 40% headcount, and the majority of the investment is towards technology, being able to cover more assets for our businesses, provide more services and products. We're now operating as an eternal MSSP to our customers. Due to that model, the more adoption that our businesses and our customers have, the more we need to have a bigger budget to support that. I think it's a nice healthy growth that's mostly driven by demand from the businesses rather than by our internal security demands.

**MURPHY**: More of existing IT budget is being directed to security. Because of talent shortages, we want to increase our staff development, training, and certifications in each year's budgets to make sure we attract and retain the right people. In terms of the technology, I expect spending would probably level off at some point after key investments and system upgrades are complete.

PORTER: We find ourselves continually re-evaluating our budget to make sure we are able to put the proper controls in place to mitigate risk and protect our infrastructure. Think about what has happened over the last 10 years. As things start moving outside of your data center, you're now operating in multiple data centers with multiple cloud partners in multiple regions. The surface area of what has to be controlled and protected is expanding at a pretty rapid velocity, while at the same time the bad guys are also accelerating. Ultimately, it's a race to make sure that we're protecting the surface area as fast as it's expanding and doing it with solid governance practices. I think that's one of the reasons that security budgets overall are increasing as much as they are. But it can't last forever, and I expect that there will be a tail off to



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ANDREW BJERKEN.



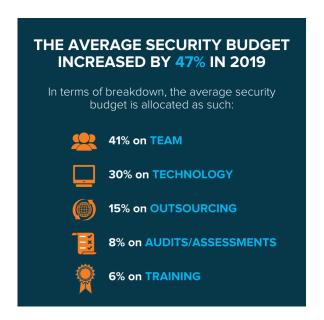








BRIAN CASTAGNA. TODD FITZGERALD. ADAM FLETCHER.



budgets at some point.

**ZHENG**: Our budget has certainly increased. For us, it more than doubled this year. We are in a bit of a unique situation though, because we are an early stage company growing rapidly, both from a company size and operations standpoint. Security needs to be somewhat proportional to that growth. Second, we are kicking off a new initiative around FedRAMP, so the increased budget reflects the need and the cost associated with getting that certification. In future years, I think it would stabilize with some increase, but most likely not doubling again.

#### IF YOU RECEIVED THE **GREENLIGHT ON ANYTHING YOU** ASKED FOR, WHAT WOULD YOU DO THAT YOU'RE NOT ABLE TO DO RIGHT NOW?

AMIT: Last time I had a conversation with the CEO, he actually asked me for some more activities. I truly don't have anything right now that I'm being held back from doing. I think that that's one of the major things I like about what I do is we have a very open, honest conversation between the executives. I don't think there's anything that I managed to articulate in terms of risk versus reward, how we're managing things and providing full-on executive context that was not green lighted. So honestly, better pay for my team, more time off, more training, more education.

**BERMAN**: One of my personal passions is around the datadriven approach to security, and part of that is the intelligence piece. The part I would accelerate is controls assurance. I believe it is time we drive consistent engineering-like testing methodologies into security. When you deploy a control, you

should not just be able to track whether that control is on or off, but how well it's stopping what you think it needs to stop. So implementing that holistic testing across the entire organization would be a thing I would increase funding on if I could get the greenlight for anything.

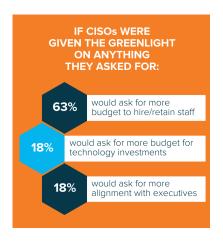
FITZGERALD: I think CISOs should be asking for money for Al, orchestration, and automation. The number of people with these skills are limited and many organizations do not have them on staff. There are some companies that have gone down the path of orchestrating, it's not necessarily artificial intelligence in that sense. It's looking at every manual process that somebody is doing and automating that. That frees up the security people so they can look at high value opportunities, which should always be the goal.

FLETCHER: It would be an increased amount of data classification. I don't know how it would get implemented without too much friction, but I would want to more granularly understand the different layers of confidential, and when certain data should be limited to a very small group of people. With that detail, I could implement more controls and sleep a little bit better knowing that certain things were more protected than others and that some of the worst scenarios I could imagine would be very unlikely to happen. A close second would be perfect automation around access and entitlements to all systems throughout the employee lifecycle.

**FOWLER**: I am fortunate that I face far fewer internal challenges in a company that prioritizes safety and security above all else. If I could do anything, I

would attract and retain some more top talent and quickly!

MURPHY: I would take bigger steps toward perimeter-less security. Next generation firewall services that would help us with visibility would be great. When you look at the cost of a complete core network and firewall re-architecture, that



cost either competes with other budget requests or consumes an entire budget. Turning the aircraft carrier a little bit on that just takes time.

**SCOTT**: At Google, I'm kind of like a kid in a candy store, I'm in a scenario where I'm working with the best technologists in the world. It's an incredibly hopeful and collaborative culture. There's really not much that I wish for. Of course all of us want more



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THOMAS MURPHY.











SAPNA SINGH. ERKANG ZHENG.

resources, more headcount, all of us want dedicated recruiting 100% of the time to finding the best talent and bringing them in for you and all those other things. At least from my experience to date, anything that I felt would be best to protect our users and to respect their privacy, has been provided. So I'm kind of lucky. So it would be more people, and then sort of figuring out how can we improve our processes right now? And yes, there would be some additional vendor spend, but again it's not like I feel our program is missing some sort of major component.

#### WHAT ARE THE DRIVERS FOR **CONSOLIDATION WITHIN YOUR** PROGRAM?

AMIT: For me, the typical drivers of consolidation would be optimizing our operations. Meaning automating things and freeing up my investment in human resources to do other things that are not just product maintenance. I want to make sure that my team is challenged in the long run. They need to have a good career path that's challenging to them and that they are learning new skills. If I can find ways to optimize that by consolidating and optimizing certain processes or existing products, we will absolutely make an investment there. It might even be counterintuitive from a financial perspective initially but if I can see a long-term return as far as investing in human capital, I would absolutely buy it.



BERMAN: I think the nice thing about having a solid security engineering team inside Dropbox is that when we identify a problem to solve or a set of jobs to be done by the security team, we're always considering what we already have and if it solves a problem. I think of consolidation as being a part of the same processes you would run normally around figuring out how to solve a particular problem, and doing so with an eye towards the total cost of ownership or the total reward for the investment as opposed to it being a thing where in isolation you want the perfect solution to one problem.

**CASTAGNA**: As a growth stage company, it's a little bit less about consolidating and more about taking the initial investments that we've made and refining them. In addition, we are making very strategic decisions on what we invest in and why. Because we're early stage, high growth tech, things are changing very, very rapidly. It's important that we're thinking about our security investments, and we also need to be able to pivot quickly. So as we're refining that approach, it's got to be done in a very fluid manner, and it's also got to be done looking at where we expect to be in two years.

FLETCHER: Most of the things that we use, outside of the fundamentals, are features and should probably be wrapped into a broader platform product. There are two schools of thought here: one would be, there's consolidation that's really good and really creative, and if you get a platform that pulls together multiple best in class products seamlessly, then it can be highly effective. The other school of thought would be, if there's one vendor out there that is really good at one thing and good enough at five other things, then maybe it just makes sense to switch and reduce that complexity.

**HEASMAN**: Our main goal of consolidation is to simplify our program to allow us to be as effective as possible. Business is complex, security is complex, and our program is complex. Consolidation means I have one less vendor to deal with, one less technology to manage and that matters because approximately 25% of my team's time is spent on the care and feeding of these technologies.

MURPHY: The drivers for consolidation are mostly split between cost and convenience. As is the case in many higher-ed institutions, funding is distributed through budgets to schools and departments. If they want autonomy and they can afford it, they get it. But on the other hand if centralizing services, like identity and access, email or cloud services, gives us better economies of scale, consolidation just makes more sense.

PORTER: Cost is always a consolidator, but it's not just for reducing your operating costs or operating budget for what you have, but also reallocating funds. Some of it might involve having to shift my investment somewhere else because I need to create a new capability. Another is around risk and controls, what are our highest risks that we're trying to protect the company from? What are the controls that we're putting in place to help mitigate that risk? And then by making changes, how are we affecting the residual risk in our organization? It's a combination of capability development, doing the consolidation on a risk-based basis, making sure you're still covering all the controls across the organization that you need to control, and then putting all that information together as a part of it.





JUSTIN BERMAN.

ANDREW BJERKEN.











ADAM FLETCHER.

DEBBY BRIGGS,

BRIAN CASTAGNA.

### WHAT ARE THE TOP INDUSTRY TRENDS YOU EXPECT TO BE MOST PROMINENT IN 2020 AND **BEYOND?**

BJERKEN: All enabled security is a big trend as security practitioners are looking to close the gap; improved analytics offers some great options. We want to increase our situational awareness and ultimately reduce the time it takes for us to actually mitigate an attack. On that same token though, as we add more AI and improved analytics, I believe privacy concerns are going to be competing interests. Security wants to collect more data and do advanced analytics to build actionable baseline profile on individuals while privacy pushes to give more control over personal information into the hands of the subjects. It will be interesting to see how this flushes out over time.

BRIGGS: First is viability both on-premise and in the cloud from a single console. Unfortunately, there are not enough cloud security experts, which reinforces the necessity to leverage the tools and technologies that have been successful with on-premise operations and utilize them in a multi-cloud environment. Second is streamlining and improving the tools we use. Not only do we need to be more diligent about the streamlining process, but we need to continue incorporating more intelligence into these systems. Third, increased demand for talent. We are all going to have to get more creative in terms of where we find security team members. I have personally found that having interns on my staff allows me to teach meaningful job skills while helping the broader team to see if the candidate has the aptitude that we need.

FLETCHER: I think we will continue to see migration to the cloud with Platform as a Service, Software as a Service, and Infrastructure as a Service. I think that the largest companies will probably be hybrid for a very long time. I think companies that have 25-to-50,000 endpoints and below are probably moving to the cloud, moving to Infrastructure as a Service platform, and are out of data centers within three to five years. Newer companies, if they haven't already moved completely into the cloud, that's happening fast. I think you'll see a continued adoption of these PaaS and SaaS providers, which will then create opportunities for security companies to help manage that, both on the strict security side of identity and access management, of configuration, of monitoring and alerting and response and things like that, as well as the ops side of things.

FOWLER: Organizations will continue to make adjustments to their cloud strategies and execution. We will also see advancements in 5G present new IoT opportunities and

#### WOMEN IN CYBERSECURITY

SINGH: I am working with various communities to support women in Cybersecurity. I am an active member of the "Women in Cybersecurity Middle East" Group and co-organizer of the Kuwait affiliate of Women in Cybersecurity Middle East. I coordinate with cofounders and organize Cybersecurity influencer talks, knowledge sharing talks and technical talk for our women members across the region.

I lead the "Deloitte Women in Cyber" group for the Middle East where our objective is to hire, support & retain more women in Cyber. While working with these communities my main goal is to:

challenges. Automation and orchestration will also continue - and sometimes be blanketed under AI or machine learning (at times incorrectly).

MURPHY: Security in hybrid and multi-cloud environments is going to be right at the top of trends. This being an election year I expect there will be an increase in phishing as people want to stay current with candidates and sign up for mailing lists. Also, low friction endpoint solutions that work with BYOD to extend posture.

PAIGE: With more and more privacy regulations being released which are holding companies accountable for proper usage, storage and movement of personal and customer data, I think "privacy engineering" is going to become a real thing. I think it's going to be forced out of a legal and compliance issue, and into a real engineering issue to solve holistically, as part of all engineering implementations specific to how software products are collecting and dealing with data in general. The other major trend I think we will see is related to my thinking that CASBs are kind of dead, they became too much of a complicated point solution. So, I think we are going to see more solutions related to helping manage and govern cloud SaaS solutions that are highly



DAVID LEVINE,

RICH LICATO.

THOMAS MURPHY.







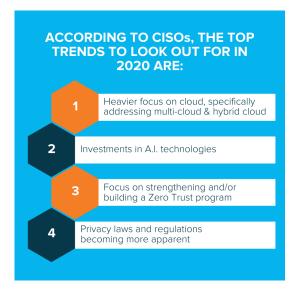




ERKANG ZHENG.

opinionated and integrated into common toolsets.

**SINGH**: The human element in cybersecurity is a big trend this year. Many organizations have been focusing on technologies and forgotten about the human element. Security Analysts work 24/7 to resolve critical incidents, something that can lead to mental health issues, that are more often overlooked. CISOs are also under constant stress to secure organizations infrastructures against cyber-attacks, and pressured to deal with ever-growing threats. Cybersecurity teams are expected to secure thousands of employees, critical infrastructure, and confidential data. We need to find creative ways to engage users and help them understand that cybersecurity is everyone's job.



SCOTT: I think you're going to continue to see an evaluation of what types of security program activities are actually best riskaligned. For example, traditional security awareness and training and the requirement of the users to participate in certain types of security actions, as opposed to more secure by default types of frameworks. I think you're in a contingency of reevaluation of those types of things, and you have scenarios where you can set up good boundaries for how engineers or developers can deploy services or deploy technology to end-users where it's essentially tied to already existing, well established security patterns. I think you're going to continue to see people wanting to do that rather than bespoke security, adding little bits of security in everything that they do.

**ZHENG**: We have seen two great trends in cloud security – namely infrastructure as a code and "shift left". A promising new trend I see is security teams becoming engineering teams. It's not a product trend, but a trend around the organization culture and skills of security teams. We still see a tremendous shortage

in security skills and talent, part of that is because the new way security needs to operate is more like engineering teams, in order to keep up with the speed of DevOps and to stay relevant. In many of the organizations we work with, we see that. On our product side, we work with many large cloud native companies, and they have all adopted engineering operating models for their security.

## DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR SECURITY PROGRAM TO BE COMPLEX?

**BERMAN**: At an abstract level, anyone who says security isn't complex doesn't really understand security itself. I think my job, and the security team's job, is to abstract the complexity away from the rest of the company. It's important for us to build technology and processes and even training and capabilities that make it easier for the company to move forward rapidly, and in fact removes security from the set of considerations they have to focus on in as many places. I'm not saying no one should care about security, but I am saying people should care about the nuanced and small part of security which is really relevant for their specific job function as opposed to a different mindset that I've heard, which is everyone is on the security team, something I disagree with.

CASTAGNA: Yes. I think most security programs are complex, but our complexity is driven by the nature of our business within genomics — which is highly complex in itself, the nature of our customer base — which is enterprise and government and the nature of operating in cloud and shared responsibility model and the technology stacks. I think the complexity of the security program is often inherently based on the level of security that's required for the business. The more you get into data types or businesses that have sensitive data, I think there is inherently more complexity associated with that, more investment that's required and earlier investment that's required.

**HEASMAN**: Yes, I think all security programs are complex since our goal is to manage risk to the business and businesses are inherently complex. In Chegg's case we've largely grown through acquisition, and integrating acquired companies is always a complex process. As a business evolves over time and shifts direction or priorities, this leads to deprecated products, services and technology stacks that are still operational since they generate some revenue but may only be nominally supported as they are not the core focus of the company. These shifts contribute to the layers of complexity for any security program, though dedicated initiatives around technical debt reduction can help manage these down.

MURPHY: Yes, in a couple of ways it's complex because we have



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Leadership Author
CISO, Blackstone
CISO, Blackstone

a medical school, we also own physician practices and clinics throughout South Florida and then they bought a hospital from HCA and sort of melding all of that together and then add to that, we intend to create a wholly owned subsidiary (health care) and spin it off from the university. So I think the complexity's in weaving all of that stuff together.

## WHAT DOES "SHIFT LEFT" MEAN TO YOU?

**BERMAN**: When people talk about shifting left, what they often mean is security getting involved earlier and earlier in the cycle of technology development. They should be involved in ideation, design, or the initial product work as opposed to only being involved after or during the implementation of that technology. I actually think "shift left" is much more about how you can make your investment earlier in the technology life cycle so you spend less time, energy and money for the entire organization on dealing with security problems. So to me, shift left is much more about how you can help the organization spend fewer resources and get more total security as a result.



PORTER: We've been using the term "shift left" for at least five years. During that time we started shifting left in our application development where we

moved a lot of our security testing into the developer's tool sets. The transition led to developers testing their own code when they're writing it, allowing for quick fixing at the beginning rather than waiting until after it goes into production. That has had a pretty dramatic effect on the quality of our code that's coming through and the number of security related defects that are making it through the process. The concept has been around for a long time. I think it's really gained a lot of traction in recent years, but a lot of people think about shifting left in terms of code development. Ultimately you want to "shift left" all the way into business initiatives. Like when you're doing cost benefit analysis, looking at business value created, technology risk, operational risk, cyber risk, resiliency risk, all need to be looked at upfront. And if you look at all that stuff up front, it'll take care of itself a lot better as it follows through to when it actually gets to the value creation aspect.

**SCOTT**: "Shift left" came from an IT principal. Essentially, if you imagine a very traditional IT help desk 10 years ago, and you

called the IT help desk and said your email was not working. They then route it to the email team. And I'm going to file a ticket and shift it over to the email team, and then they'll look at it, fix it, and route it back. In this example, the idea of shifting left is instead of making the mail admin do it, they shifted it left to the help desk and gave the tooling to the help desk so they can fix it themselves. Most corporate enterprises have become much better because of that "shift left" strategy. The idea is that if you can get the first interaction to resolve the problem, you've reduced costs and the users happier. You can then take those principles and you build it around security.



















ERKANG ZHENG, CISO, LifeOmic