

Writing Assignment One Job Ad Analysis:

Analysis of Cybersecurity Scorecard Analyst Job at Incept Data Solutions Inc.

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Abstract

This paper will attempt to analyze a posting for a Cybersecurity Scorecard Analyst position at Intercept Data Solutions. We will review a summary of the position, the skills necessary for the position, how the advertisement entices applicants to apply, evaluate the company, and explain how previous coursework at Old Dominion University has prepared me to meet the challenges of this position.

Keywords: Cybersecurity, DoD, Scorecards, Data Analyst, ARMY, Compliance

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The positions that I am evaluating is the Cybersecurity Scorecard Analyst (CSA) position for Incept Data Solutions, a contractor working for the Army and DOD. The overall role of a Cybersecurity Scorecard Analyst is to analyze the data of Army cyber scorecards which measure compliance at the lower level, of higher-level DOD cybersecurity policies. The CSA will also need to understand the policies and resource gaps while working with and communicating with DoD representatives while having a knowledge of army policies. This position is unique in this respect as knowledge of Army policies and cybersecurity will be necessary to be effective. The CSA will be doing data analysis, and reporting their findings based on score card requirements and will have to share information with relevant organizations and persons. Part of the CSA job will be maintaining contact information with those relevant individuals in relevant organization and creating reports and presentations for internal and partner executive leadership (Incept.)

Previous working experience and knowledge in army policies and cybersecurity are a must to be able to bridge the disciplinary divide and be effective at evaluation the data on compliance. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively written and verbally with various levels of technical knowledge, and DoD administration. Experience applying cybersecurity metrics and frameworks as well as measuring and evaluating metrics will be critical to correcting any problems found in the compliance of organizations. The most desired skill the advertisement places a premium on is experience working with the DoD and knowing army policies. A key qualification a candidate would need to possess is a Secret level Federal Security Clearance. This would allow the candidate to work on or with sensitive information and data from the DoD or Army.

Unstated skills or experience that the job listing implies that would be beneficial for a candidate would be communication skills, self-learning skills, and experience in a military or government working environment. Communication skills will be critical to a candidate sharing their findings with senior administration and offering solutions to the gaps in cybersecurity compliance as well as to explain technical concepts for non-technically trained colleagues. The candidate would also need to have strong self-learning skills and be independent as they stay up to date on new cybersecurity threats and defensive techniques and learn to work effectively in the regulatory scope of contracting for the DoD. Another unstated skill that would benefit an applicant is prior experience in the military or government working with the regulations and scorecards that are being evaluated. This would allow the candidate to better understand the general structure of decision making, and of cyber security operations in the DoD or Army (Indeed.)

I believe the industry for contractors working with the DoD in relation to cybersecurity is an industry poised to grow tremendously as the government and military become more reliant on computer systems and networks and as cybersecurity threats from rival nation states' advanced persistent threats continue to grow. The DoD will also be responding to Congressional and Presidential directives to increase the defense of American civilian and government computer infrastructure, this will create big demand for cybersecurity analysts and the field is projected to grow at a larger rate than the general economy (Aiyer.)

My goals for wanting this position are to work in a field that can make a real difference and help secure the computer infrastructure of the US DoD or Army. I am seeking a position that has professional and competent coworkers who I can learn from and who will be an example in how to become a strong professional cybersecurity analyst. I believe my education at Old

Dominion University in cybersecurity would make me a strong candidate as I have learned the technical skills to understand the DoD Scorecards and to apply the metrics and remedies they are seeking. Additionally, my interdisciplinary classes have helped me learn how to communicate with people who have difference experiences and technical knowledge.

Investigating the companies' culture, I went to their website online and saw that they were a relatively new company founded in 2013 and that they were based in Manassas Virginia. The company is mostly focused on data governance compliance while offering data analytics and oother services to create coherent data processing for their clients. The website is professional and targets the decision makers of organizations explaining how Incept can help their organizations deal with the data they collect. The culture is one of highly trained and competent IT professionals working closely with large organizations to protect and process their data for the best results for the clients possible (Incept.)

As we have learned soft skills are skills that are not explicitly listed but that increase a potential candidate's ability to perform a role. The implied soft skills needed for this CSA position would be adaptability, and detail-oriented nature. The potential candidate will have to adapt to working with multiple different types of considerations and restrictions as well as with different types of personalities acting as DoD interfaces. Being able to understand and change to new requirements or needs will help candidate be effective in the role. Another soft skill is the ability to be detail oriented as the CSA evaluates cybersecurity score cards for compliance and confirms and corroborates the information they are presented. Following details and being proactive will help the candidate work to find issues in cybersecurity posture and recommend solutions as fast as possible.

I believe the biggest challenge I would face in this role is the lack of a security clearance, and lack of skills working with DoD Cybersecurity Scorecards. I feel that my lack of security clearance can be overcome as I have been a model citizen with no criminal history and should easily pass a security clearance exam when I am sponsored. My time at ODU has taught me to be a researcher and reader and I would intend to learn everything I can about the DoD Cybersecurity scorecard program and their cybersecurity standards as I can to be an effective employee. The presentation of the ad seems to be looking for candidates that are more intermediate level than my work experience, but I am not intimidated by that, and I have found that applying to as many positions as you believe you are qualified to perform is essential to professional growth. I feel that working for Incept would be a great learning experience and challenge, and something that would ultimately sharpen my skills for a career in cybersecurity.

References

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