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The Human Factor and Cybersecurity

BLUF

The primary role of the Chief Information Security Officer is to train cybersecurity and to strategically utilize an organization's funds to actively and proactively develop, implement and enforce security policies to protect critical data. In the end, the funds would be invested in time, technology and human resources and the outcome would be better secured networks.

CISO's Role

Earning the title of Chief Information Security Officer is no easy task. For this higher-tier cybersecurity job, employers commonly look for senior specialists with a minimum of 10 years in the field including a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or a similar discipline. These highly trained individuals have extensive specialized knowledge of information security architecture and are experienced leaders. One part of a CISO's job is to oversee the IT/cybersecurity department of an organization that develops, implements and enforces security policies so unauthorized parties can't access personally identifiable information.

It is imperative that the CISO mentors and directs other technician staff with project selection/scoping, project management, technology evaluations, best practices and approaches for security design/analysis and integration/adaptation of various technologies to existing systems. Since the CISO is the person responsible for the information security of an organization, he or she is usually responsible for allocating funds towards information security development, implementation and enforcement.

It's hard to imagine myself taking a walk in a CISO's shoes for a day but I feel like I have a better understanding now of how I would operate if I was given the opportunity. If I had to allocate the funds of an organization to secure their critical data, the first thing I would do is create a report on what the current standard operating procedures and system the company is currently using and working on. This will take time, money, and human resources as network topology can grow extremely fast.

After I have created my report on the existing system, hopefully with the help of a team I'm confidently mentoring by this time, I would most likely give a presentation on how I and the team plan to integrate the new technologies and procedures. The funds would be allocated

towards time, material and human resources and the outcome would be the organization saving money because the critical data and network would be more secure.

Conclusion

The primary role of the Chief Information Security Officer is to train cybersecurity and to strategically utilize an organization's funds to actively and proactively develop, implement and enforce security policies to protect critical data. It is important for specialists to be active and proactive when securing a network's software and hardware. In the end, the funds would be invested in time, technology and human resources and the outcome would be better secured networks.