





ROLE OF CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER [CISO]

Learn what it takes to land a CISO's job and how to be successful in the role.







WHAT IS CISO?

The chief information security officer (CISO) is the executive responsible for an organization's information and data security. The CISO oversees the protection of company and customer data, as well as the protection of infrastructure and assets.

While in the past the role has been rather narrowly outlined and recently the title is usually used along with CSO and VP of security, indicating a more expansive role in the organization. Ambitious security pros looking to climb the corporate latter may have a CISO position in their sights.Let's take a glance at what you'll be able to do to enhance your possibilities of snagging a CISO job, and what your duties can entail if you land this essential role.



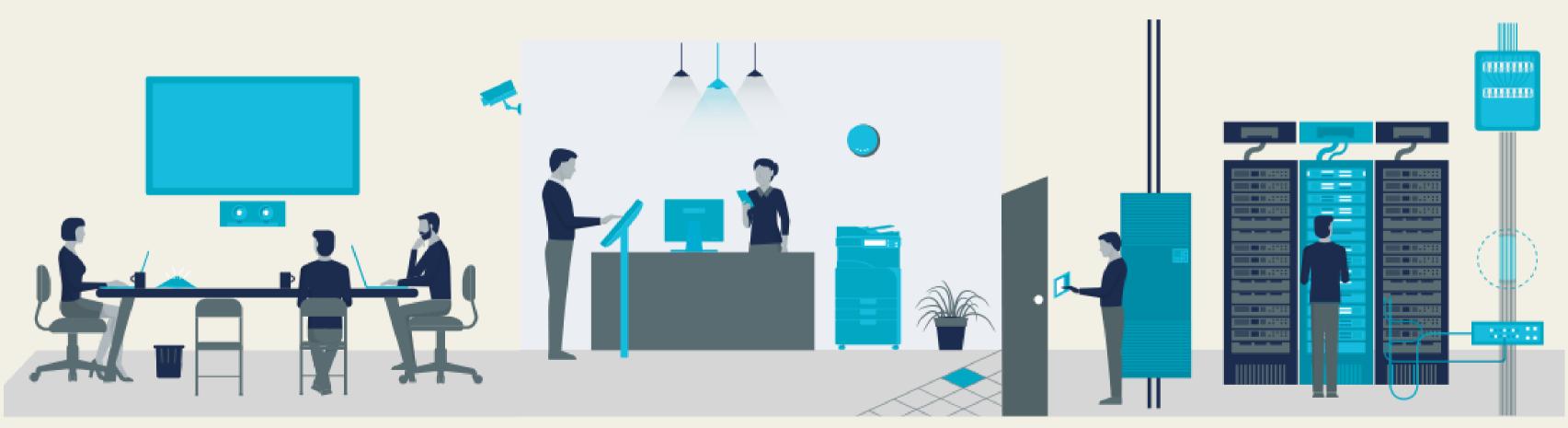
WHAT DOES CISO DO?



Today's CISOs have a breadth of responsibilities, ranging from hiring IT personnel to providing the leadership and policy direction required to protect the company from emerging threats.

CISOs are expected to work with the entire organisation to ensure everyone is pulling in the same direction.After all, ensuring security is a continuous process rather than something that can be auctioned once and then left alone. Emulating what might happen in the real world and Showing employees the damage that could have been done, but thankfully wasn't, will also ensure security remains front of mind in future.

As part of this, existing IT infrastructure must be audited and assessed for any security risks and CISOs are responsible for using the data they have at hand to predict any risks and deal with them accordingly. They need to be continuously assessing vulnerabilities and finding fixes before an incident occurs. A CISO also needs to develop policies around security incidents and create an Emergency Response Team to act as and when a security breach is looming or has happened. As well as this, they may be in charge of developing a disaster recovery plan to allow for business continuity post-cyber-attack.



CISO - A DECISION

Like many business and IT decision makers, CISOs are constrained by budgets, so resources need to be prioritised and allocated efficiently and financial forecasts prepared to ensure appropriate cover for security assets. A CISO needs to show that investments can be used to protect an organisation's assets and safeguard its data and reputation if the worst should happen.



HOW DOES CISO BRING CHANGE TO THE INDUSTRY?

As a CISO you will have to oversee all of the security policies and procedures for your company. You should be aware of the latest trends and technologies and have the best knowledge of how cyber security works and the behavior of the criminals. Depending upon the scale of your organization, you may work alongside the chief information officer (CIO) who coordinates the overall IT functions of the corporation. You should know how your company's decisions are made so that you can provide input from a security standpoint.Certain web browsers might pose security risks or various online tools might pose a threat where you should be aware of the software to satisfy the employees business goals, you can factor that into your choices relating to firewall technology, network security and database integrity.





WHAT SKILLS ARE NEEDED TO BE A CISO?

Communication and presentation skills

Policy development and administration skills

> Collaboration expertise

Financial, planning and strategic management skills

Supervisory and incident management skills

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Knowledge about government (relevant legislation both current and incoming)

Knowledge of regulation and standards compliance.



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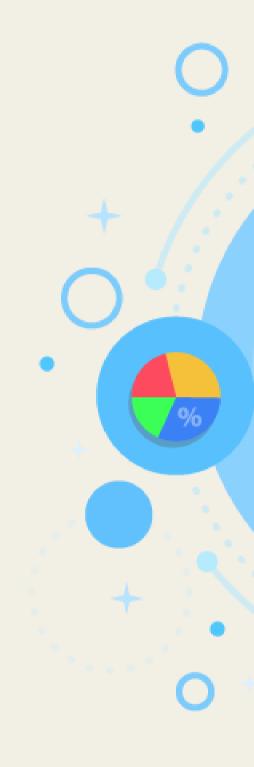
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www.technodatagroup.com

PHONE NUMBER

(302) 268 6889

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