

# CompTIA<sup>®</sup> COMMUNITY

**Welcome**

UK&I Cybersecurity Interest Group  
Presents: The Untold Story Of A Cyber  
Attack

18 Jan 2024



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**Leanne Johnson**  
**CompTIA**

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**Kris Nagamootoo**  
**CompTIA**



**Sam Ross**  
**CompTIA**

# Antitrust, Diversity, and Anti-Harassment

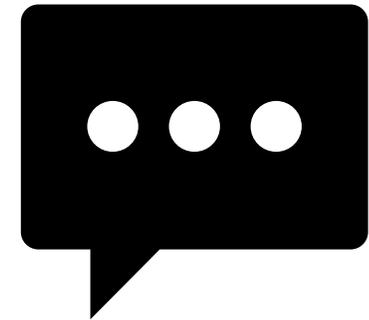
- Antitrust  
You must not engage in discussions that could result in an unreasonable restraint of trade.  
<https://connect.comptia.org/about-us/antitrust-statement>
- Diversity  
We promote an inclusive environment that respects and values all individuals.  
<https://connect.comptia.org/about-us/dei-policy>
- Anti-Harassment  
This is a respectful and safe environment for all. Any verbal, physical, or psychological harassment will not be tolerated.  
<https://www.comptia.org/contact-us/harassment-complaint>

**Please report any violation of the above policies to CompTIA staff immediately.  
Violators will be removed from the event or meeting.**

**WIFI: MP\_conference**

**Password:**

**Conference2022@MP**



- 1:00pm Welcome **Leanne Johnson**, CompTIA
- 1:10pm CompTIA Communities and Committees **Dan Scott**, ConnectWise (UK&I Community Chair)
- 1:25pm CompTIA's Cyber Ready Program **Zeshan Sattar**, CompTIA
- 1:35pm MSP & Cyber Threat Landscape **Greg Jones**, Datto/Kaseya (UK&I Cybersecurity Committee Chair)
- 1:45pm The BIG Customer Hack **Andrew Allen**, Aabyss
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- 4:05m What Happens In The Event Of An Attack? **Trevor Cornbill**, TechInsure
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- 4:40pm What Does CompTIA Offer That Could Help You? **Wayne Selk**, CompTIA
- 5:10pm Top Cyber Resources and Takeaways **Kyle Torres**, Sophos (UK&I Cybersecurity Vice Chair)
- **6:00pm NETWORKING DRINKS & CANAPES**

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**Dan Scott**  
**ConnectWise**



## Global Communities



- ANZ
- ASEAN
- Benelux
- DACH
- North America
- UK&I

## Committees



*with New Global Task Force*

- Cybersecurity
- DEI
- Emerging Technology
- Managed Services

## Industry Advisory Councils



- Artificial Intelligence
- Blockchain & Web3
- Channel Development
- Cybersecurity
- IoT
- SaaS Ecosystem

## Technology Interest Groups



- Artificial Intelligence
- Blockchain
- DEI
- Drone
- IoT

## CompTIA ISAO



Executive Steering Council



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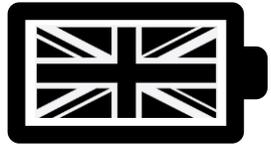
**Zeshan Sattar**  
CompTIA



# CompTIA. Cyber Ready



# Background: The need for Cyber Ready



The UK needs 18,200  
Cyber Security  
Professionals annually



Currently there is an  
annual shortfall of  
11,200 Professionals



37% of Vacancies are  
unfilled due to lack of  
**Technical skills**



50% of UK  
businesses lack  
basic **Technical skills**



17% of the UK cyber  
workforce are Women\*



22% of the UK cyber  
workforce are from  
Ethnic Minorities\*



12% of the UK cyber  
workforce are  
neurodivergent\*

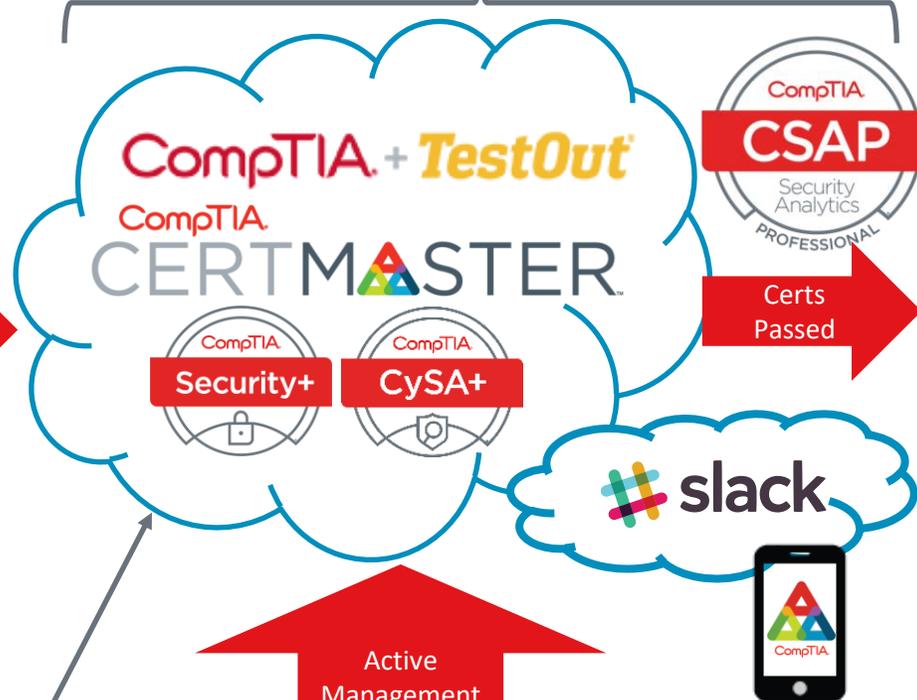
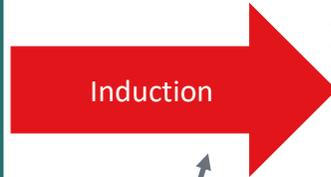
\*Only 14% of Women and 14% of those from an Ethnic Minority background are in Senior Roles

# Cyber Ready

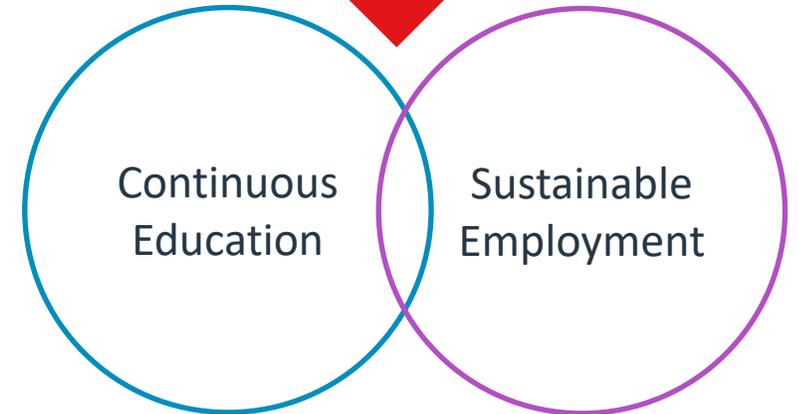
## “In a nutshell”

Learner Journey - 6 months

- Candidate Screening / Eligibility
- Interview
- Selection
- Confirmation



**Try Hack Me**  
**Cyber Wargames Event**  
Participate in Capture the Flag exercises at the final Saturday workshop.



Online induction

4 x Monthly Saturday Workshops



Learning Mentors  
Cyber Sec Experts

Learning Mentors keep learners on track and on the journey.

# Reaching Individuals from Diverse Backgrounds

Our programme is aimed at increasing diversity in the cyber workforce, and we actively attract:

**Returnees** to the workforce (carers) who have prior IT experience

People working in a different sector but are **IT hobbyists**

**Unemployed** or facing redundancy due to volatile economic conditions or job loss due to automation

Individuals **working in first-line IT roles** and looking to progress

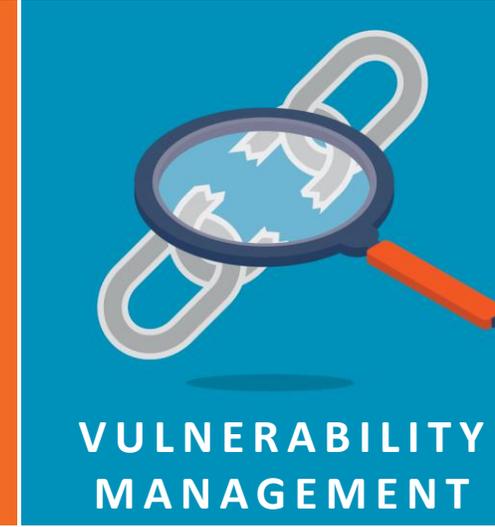
**Graduates** who have undertaken a tech degree but are unable to find employment

- We actively promote the programme to hard-to-reach groups, including:
  - Women
  - Ethnic Minorities
  - Neuro Diversity
  - Socially mobile individuals



# Cyber Ready

## Skills Gained with Cyber Ready



# Cyber Ready

Approx. **2000** Candidates Reached across UK & Middle East

**100**

**Ethnic Minority Candidates**

**68**

**Female Candidates**

**25**

**Neuro Diverse Candidates**

**43**

**Socially Mobile Candidates**

**33**

**Average Age**

# Cyber Ready >> Successes to date

96% CompTIA Security+ Certified!

83% CompTIA CySA+ Certified!

85% of candidates secured Cyber Security roles at **Airbus**, **BAE Systems**, **Claranet**, **DWP**, **ECSC**, **Fujitsu**, **Lloyds Banking Group**, **Ministry of Defence**, **NHS**, **Racing Post**, **Sainsburys**, **Sellafield**, **Thales**, **Tata Consultancy Services**, or have been recognised and added value to their current organisation.

CompTIA.



# Get involved - Cyber Ready is back in 2024!

- Our focus areas are:
  - Lancashire
  - West Midlands
  - West Yorkshire
- We need your help to:
  - Become guest speakers at our workshops
  - Promote the programme to potential candidates
    - Can be your staff!

Share our Cyber Ready webpage



- <https://www.comptia.org/content/lp/cyber-ready>
- Please talk to me if you want to be a guest speaker
- Share our promotional activity on social media

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**Greg Jones**  
**Kaseya / Datto**

# **MSP / SMB Cyber Threat Landscape Update**

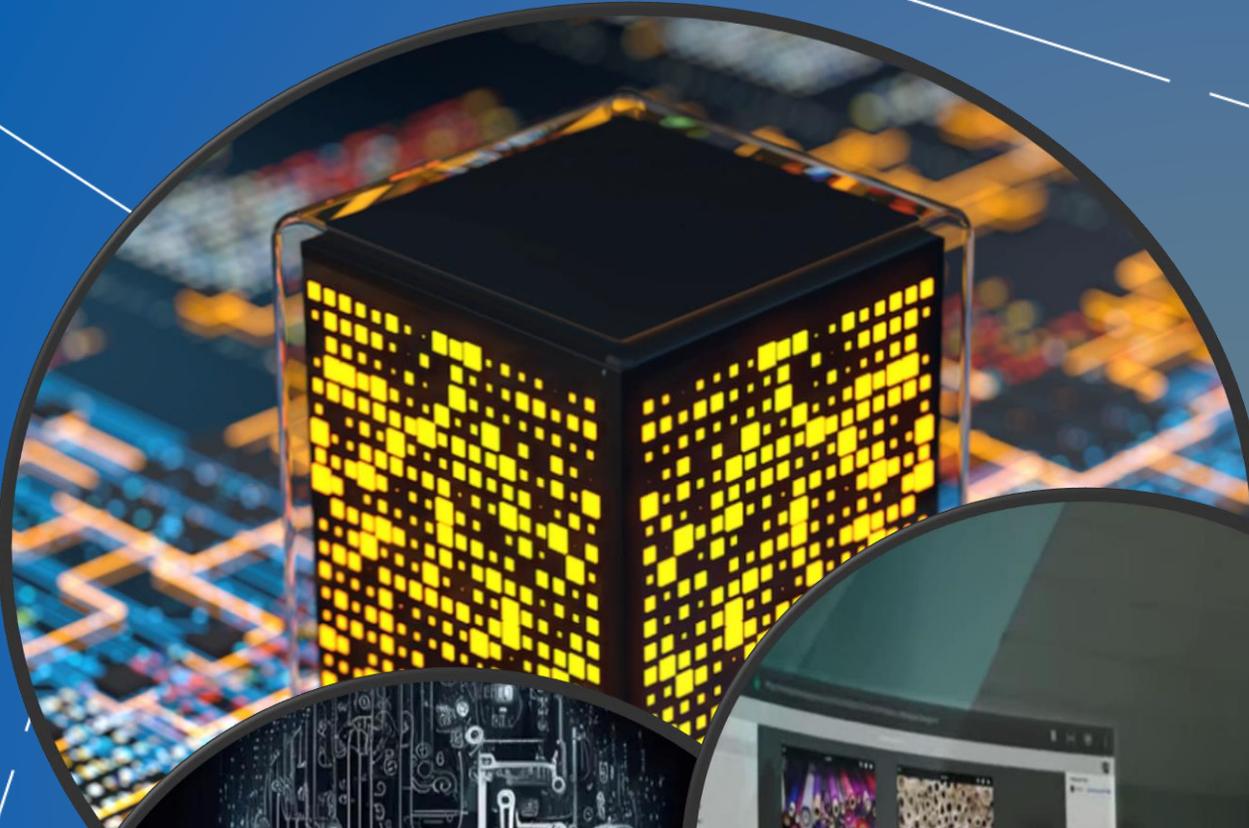


**Greg Jones**

VP of Business development EMEA

Kaseya / Datto

# Living in a golden age of tech



**Surely this is a good thing?**



# Attackers Are Already Exploiting ChatGPT to Write Malicious Code

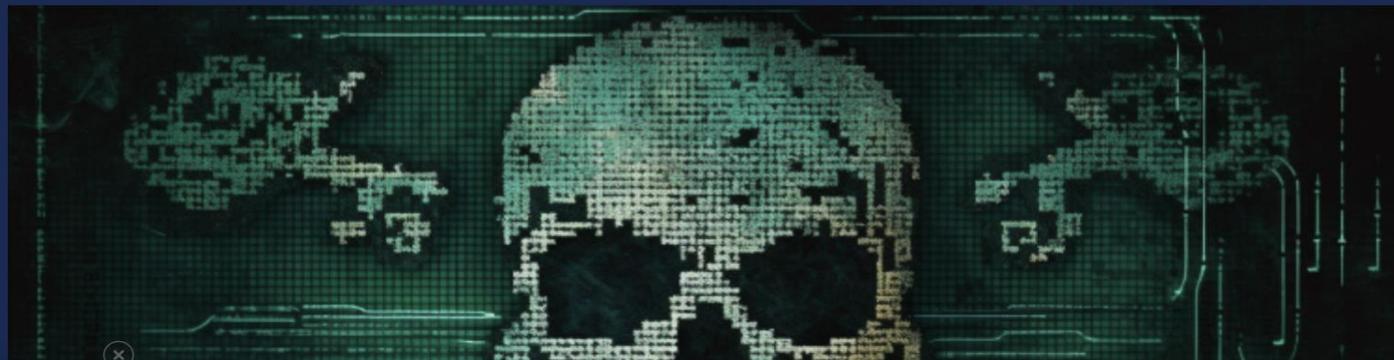
The AI-based chatbot is being used to write malware.

## AI-Powered Malware Holds Potential For Extreme Consequences

Could Artificial Intelligence Be a Black Ball

Home / AI & Machine Learning / AI-Powered Malware Holds Potential For...

## AI-powered malware is a growing security concern, CyberArk survey finds



# Attacks Continue to Rise

**300%**

Increase in reported  
CyberCrimes since Covid-  
19

**92.7%**

Ransomware attacks  
have nearly doubled

**59%**

MSPs said remote  
work increased  
ransomware attacks

**Who are the Bad guys?**

# Who Are The Threats...



## Hacking Collectives

Ethical hackers — break into systems to help make technology more secure. “white-hat hackers”



## IoT Hackers

Think your Alexa is safe?



## Ransomware Developers

Over £7 Billion pounds in damages since 2018



## Nation State

Countries that don't seem to like the UK



## Organized Crime

Gangs, mobs, and things that go bump in the night



## Insider Threats

£19 billion lost every year in secrets



## Script Kiddies

Lacks programming knowledge - uses existing software to launch attacks. Uses programs without knowing how they work or what they do.



## Hacktivist

Hackers with a political goal



## Malware Developers

Starting as low at £30 - you to can own a copy of any popular Malware



## Mobile Malware

Have an iPhone or Android phone? Think you're safe? Think again.

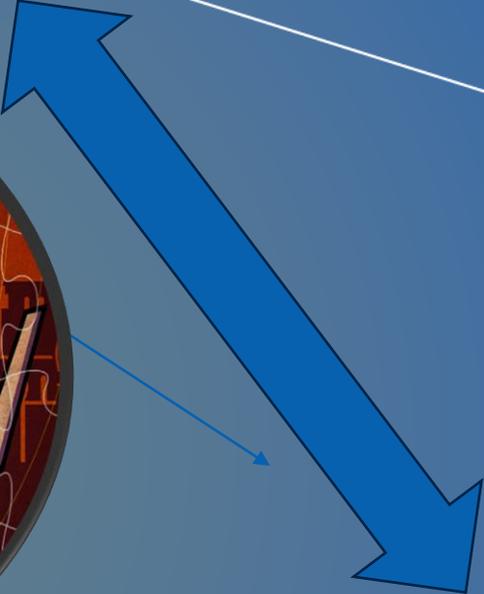
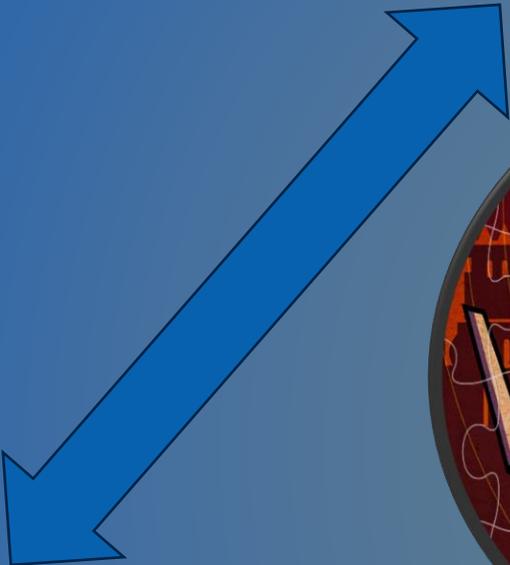


**RYUK**



**CONTI**

**TRICKBOT**



# How Modern Threats Have Evolved

Attackers have adopted new methods to bypass endpoint protection

Modern trends include:



**Living Off The Land** - “Why deliver my malicious program when I can make your existing admin tools do the work for me?”



**Staged Malware & Attacks** - Individually, each stage is benign



**Disabling Endpoint Protection** - Many attacks seek to disable AV and defensive tools before dropping their final stage (e.g. Ransomware)



# Casino Gets Hacked Through Its Internet-Connected Fish Tank Thermometer

📅 Sunday, April 15, 2018   👤 Wang Wei

 Share

9.25k

 Share

 Tweet

 Share



**Ask yourself:**

**Are you ready.....**

**We hope today's event  
brings you one step closer to  
saying **YES!****

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**Andrew Allen  
Aabyss**



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**Lewis Warner**  
**Pentiq**





 [in/lewiswarner/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lewiswarner/)



**CREST Registered Penetration Tester (CRT Pen)**  
CREST - [www.crest-approved.org](http://www.crest-approved.org)



**Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP)**  
Offensive Security



**Cyber Essentials Assessor**  
The IASME Consortium



**Cyber Essentials PLUS Assessor**  
The IASME Consortium



**IASME Governance Assessor**  
The IASME Consortium



**TigerScheme Qualified Security Team Member (QSTM/CTM)**  
University of South Wales



**CompTIA Security+**  
CompTIA



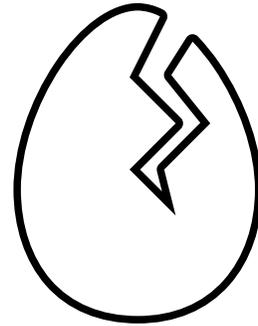
**Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)**  
Cisco



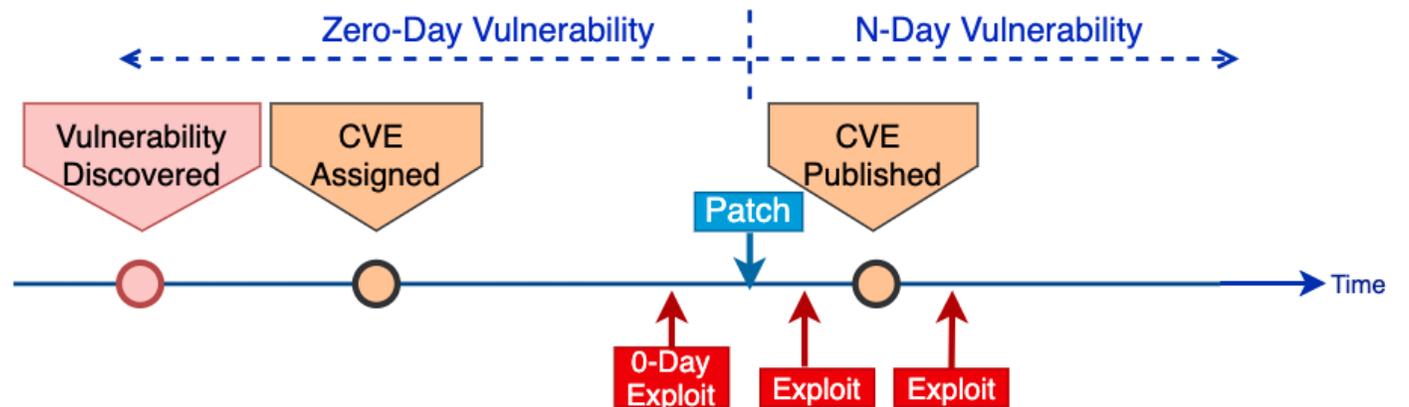
- Common Terminology.
- The Who and Why.
- Changes in the Security Landscape.
- The Mindset of an Attacker.
- Common Vulnerabilities in MSP environments.
- Closing thoughts before a brief Q&A

**What are we going to cover?**

- Asset
- Threat
- Vulnerability



$$\text{Risk} = \underline{A + T + V}$$



"A Cyber Threat Actor (CTA) is a participant (person or group) in an action or process that is characterised by malice or hostile action (intending harm) using computers, devices, systems, or networks. CTAs are classified into one of five groups based on their motivations and affiliations:"\* [\\*https://www.cisecurity.org/](https://www.cisecurity.org/)

**Cyber  
Criminals**



**Hacktivist**



**Nation-State**



**Terrorist**



**Insider  
Threat**



ANNUAL REVIEW

## NCSC Annual Review 2023

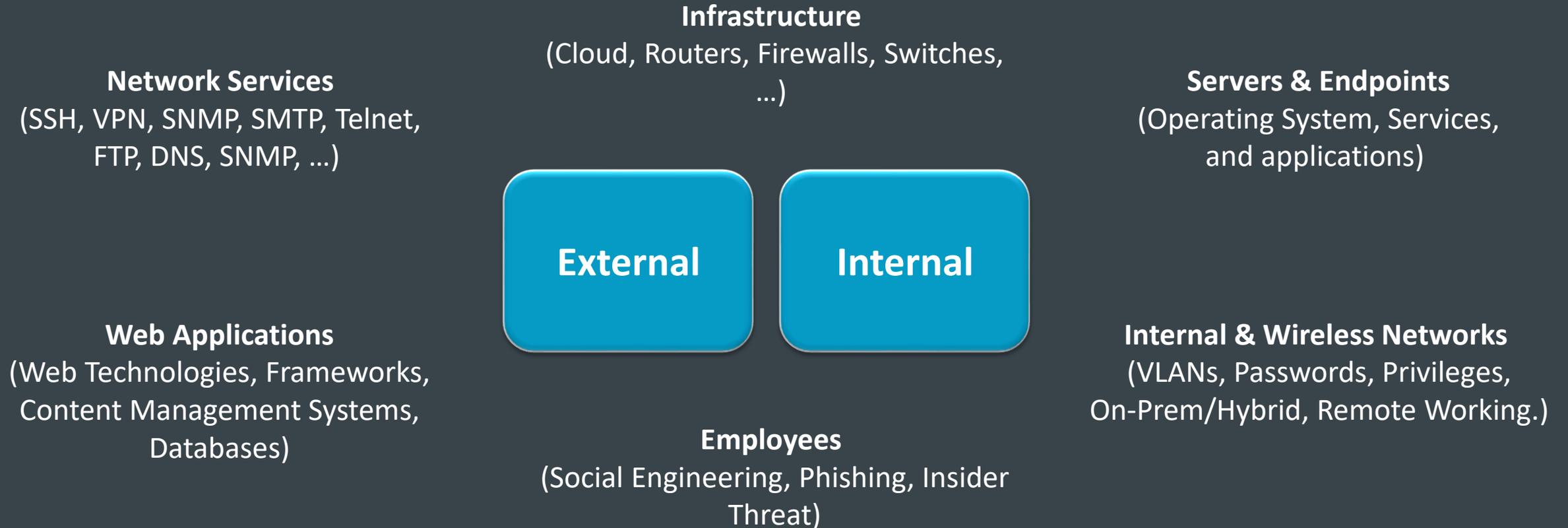
This year we received an all-time high of 2005 reports\*, an increase of almost 64% from last year's 1226.

The NCSC issued 24.48 million notifications, informing organisations that they were experiencing a cyber incident, through our automated Early Warning service.

327 incidents involving the exfiltration/extortion of data (18.5% increase on last year.)

- **Compliance** (ISO27001, ISO22301, PCI-DSS, Cyber Essentials, SOC 2).
- **GDPR/Data Protection Laws**
- **Supply Chain and Client Requirements**
- **To protect your Organisation**

# Why?



**Thinking like an Attacker**

Domain Names

Technologies Deployed

Phone Numbers

Job Openings

IP Address Ranges

Financial data

## DEEP WEB

Academic Information

Medical Records

Non-public databases

Legal documents

Organisational Information

## Surface Web



# OSINT

Google

in

Documents & Files

Metadata

E-mail Addresses

## DARK WEB

Fraudulent documents

Money Laundering

Online black markets

Data Leaks (Usernames & Passwords)

# How?

- Interception
- Brute force
- Key logging
- Manual guessing
- Shoulder surfing
- Stealing passwords
- Stealing hashes
- Phishing & coercion
- Data breaches
- Password spraying

**Username= LWarner  
Password = Password1**



**Hash Function**

8846f7eae8fb117ad06bdd830b7586c	password
<b>64f12cddaa88057e06a81b54e73b949b</b>	<b>Password1</b>
7a21990fcd3d759941e45c490f143d5f	12345
e19ccf75ee54e06b06a5907af13cef42	P@ssw0rd

**64f12cddaa88057e06a81b54e73b949b**



**Username, Hashed Password  
LWarner, 64f12....**

[NTLM Cracker Page - Over 312.072 billion cracked NTLM hashes ...](https://hashkiller.co.uk/Cracker/NTLM)

<https://hashkiller.co.uk/Cracker/NTLM>

Please input the NTLM hashes that you would like to look up. ... This allows you to input an NTLM hash and search for its corresponding plaintext ("found") in our database of already-cracked hashes. ... NT (New Technology) LAN Manager (NTLM) is a suite of Microsoft security protocols that ...

```

Authentication Id : 0 ; 2858340 (00000000:002b9d64)
Session           : Service From 0
User Name         : svc-SQLDBEngine01
Domain            : ADSECLAB
SID               : S-1-5-21-1473643419-774954089-2222329127-1607
msv :
* Username : svc-SQLDBEngine01
* Domain   : ADSECLAB
* NTLM     : d0abfc0cb689f4cdc8959a1411499096
* SHA1    : 467f0516e6155eed60668827b0a4dab5eecefacd
tpkg :
* Username : svc-SQLDBEngine01
* Domain   : ADSECLAB
* Password : ThisIsAGoodPassword99!
wdigest :
* Username : svc-SQLDBEngine01
* Domain   : ADSECLAB
* Password : ThisIsAGoodPassword99!
kerberos :
* Username : svc-SQLDBEngine01
* Domain   : LAB.ADSECURITY.ORG
* Password : ThisIsAGoodPassword99!
ssp :
credman :
    
```



**Microsoft**

### Your Windows 7 PC is out of support

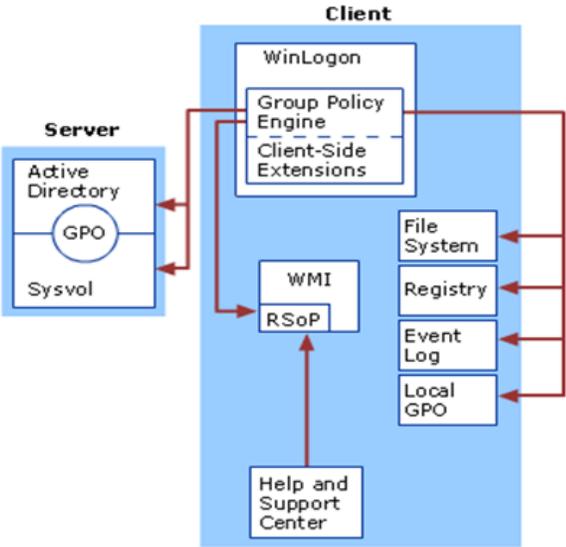
As of January 14, 2020, support for Windows 7 has come to an end. Your PC is more vulnerable to viruses and malware due to:

- No security updates
- No software updates
- No tech support

Microsoft strongly recommends using Windows 10 on a new PC for the latest security features and protection against malicious software.

[Learn more](#) [Remind me later](#)

[Don't remind me again](#)

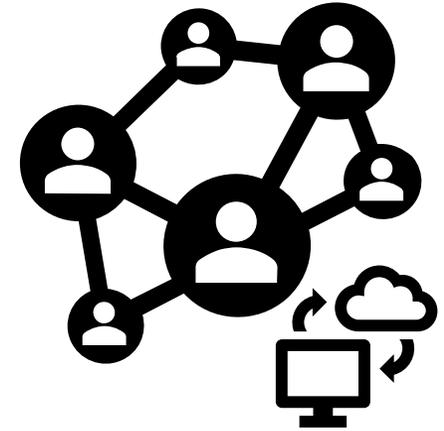
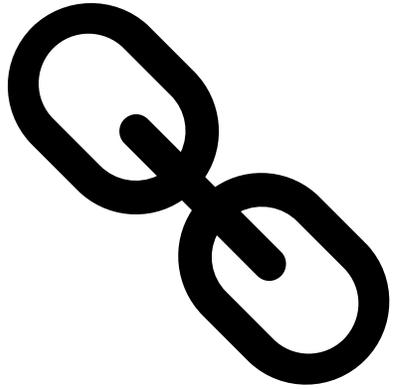


# Windows Update



Updates available  
Last checked: Today, 2:16 PM

# Updates & Misconfigurations



In Closing

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**Lewis Warner**  
Chief Hacking Officer



Thank you

Questions?

- 2:50pm The BIG MSP Hack **Greg Jones**, Datto/Kaseya and **Ken Roulston**, Ex2 Consultancy
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**Greg Jones**  
**Kaseya / Datto**



**Ken Roulston**  
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**Hollie Whittles**  
**Purple Frog Systems**



# West Midlands cyber focus

with Hollie Whittles



# 21% of West Midlands businesses report cyber attack

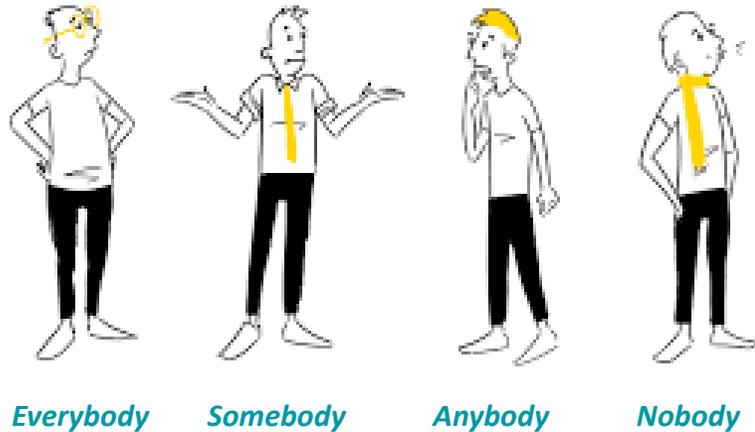
West Midlands Cyber Resilience Centre



# Some 'not so fun' facts

- Small businesses subject to 10,000 cyber-attacks a day, according to UK's largest business group, the Federation of Small Businesses
- Victims are frequently subject to phishing attempts, with 530,000 small firms suffering from such an attack over the past 2 years
- Hundreds of thousands of businesses also report incidences of
  - malware (374,000)
  - fraudulent payment requests (301,000) and
  - ransom-ware (260,000)

# Your responsibilities



Business owners and leaders have a responsibility to ensure employees are using systems and devices safely, whilst protecting customer data from the likes of phishing attacks or data breaches

# A Digital Roadmap to catapult the region

The West Midlands Digital Roadmap has 5 key missions for 2021 – 2026



Securing access for everyone to digital opportunities, particularly those in poverty



Sharing and using data to improve people's lives



Becoming the UK's best-connected region



Realising the potential of digital to transform our economy and build economic resilience



Using digital public services to build a fairer, greener, healthier region

# The Cyber Engine of the UK



£9m Cyber Quarter facility located in Hereford, on the UK's Defence and Security Enterprise Zone

<https://www.cyberquarter.co.uk>

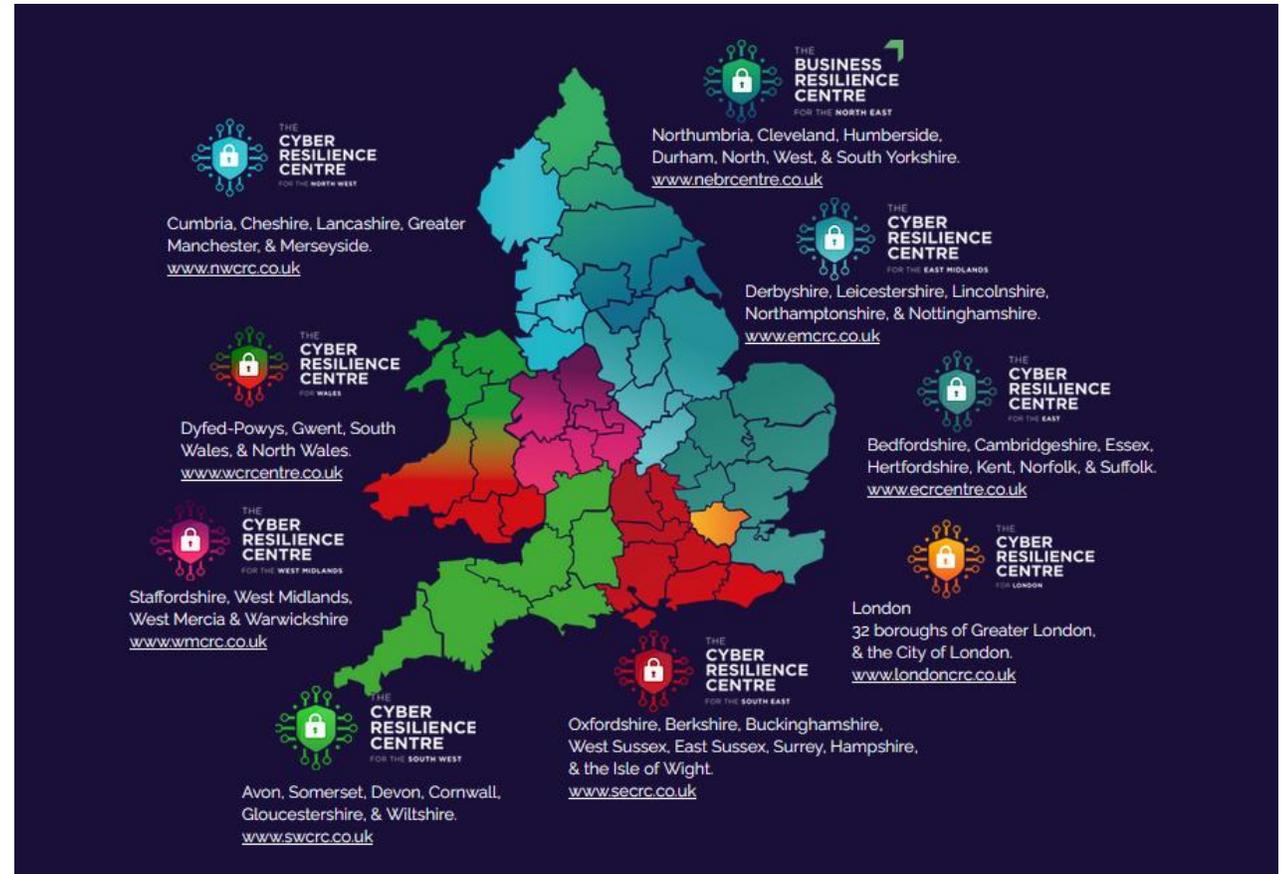
# The Cyber Engine of the UK

- The West Midlands is delivering national and internationally recognised cyber security services
- The launch of the UK's National Cyber Strategy 2022 in Birmingham brought these activities to light:
  - A competitive and collaborative ecosystem
  - Cyber for young minds
  - Nationally significant academic capabilities
  - Critical National Infrastructure & commerce
  - A Growing Base of Cyber Expertise

# Cyber Resilience Centre for the West Midlands

The Cyber Resilience Centre for the West Midlands is a trusted resource for support to protect businesses and third sector organisations in the West Midlands region

<https://www.wmcrc.co.uk>



# State of Cybersecurity 2024

## Trends to Watch 2024

### Policy

Risk management is the driving force behind cybersecurity



### Process

Cybersecurity processes drive a wide range of decision-making



### People

Talent pipelines get stronger as firms build skill resilience



### Product

AI drives the cybersecurity product set to new heights



If you haven't already, download the latest report from CompTIA:

<https://www.comptia.org/content/research/cybersecurity-trends-research>



THANK YOU

Hollie Whittles



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**Trevor Cornbill**  
**TechInsure**



By Trevor Cornbill

# Cyber Insurance

Clear Insurance Management Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority No. 307982.  
Registered in England No. 3712209. Registered Office: 1 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AA

  
**Techinsure**  
part of the  
**cleargroup**

## Hints and tips to help limit the chances of your claim being declined!!!!

- Business description
- Interpretation of the questions
- Clear understanding
- Regular reviews



# What happens in the event of claim?

## Step 1 - Notification



Cyber Insurance

# What happens in the event of claim?

## Step 2 - Assessment

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# What happens in the event of claim?

## Step 3 - Forensics



Cyber Insurance

# What happens in the event of claim?

## Step 4 - Recovery

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Cyber Insurance

# What happens in the event of claim?

## Step 5 - Settlement

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Registered in England No. 3712209. Registered Office: 1 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AA



# Contact Details

Tel: 01789 338071

Email: [cyberinsurance@thecleargroup.com](mailto:cyberinsurance@thecleargroup.com)

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Registered in England No. 3712209. Registered Office: 1 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AA

  
**Techinsure**  
part of the  
**cleargroup**

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COMMUNITY



**Rahme Mehmet**  
**TechComms**





THERE IS NO HARM IN  
HOPING FOR THE BEST AS  
LONG AS YOU ARE  
PREPARED FOR THE WORST.

~ Stephen King

# Be Prepared!

18 January 2024





# Our Agenda

1. Introduction to our Agency
2. What is a PR Crisis?
3. Effective Crisis Management

# Who We Are

A vibrant city street scene, likely in London, featuring several red double-decker buses. In the background, the iconic Gherkin building is visible among other modern skyscrapers. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall atmosphere is one of a bustling, modern urban environment.

TechComms is a marketing and communications agency renowned for its extensive experience and expertise in the B2B technology sector. Our specialised knowledge spans a range of key markets, including security, mobile & telecoms, enterprise tech, retail & eCommerce, video, and collaboration technology.

TechComms was born within a virtual environment. We are a team of senior marketing and communications experts - dedicated to helping companies – large and small – develop their profile and messaging, establish their market position, grow their sales and channel networks, and build on their brand and market awareness.

# Our B2B Experience



*We understand complex technology, we have worked with leading technology providers and can help clients identify their proposition and communicate it to target audiences, generating increased awareness and credibility*



TechComms International



# What is a PR Crisis?



uncertainty at  
certain right now

More economic  
Economic growth falls

Report: Economy still isn't working

jobless  
rate hits  
11.3%

**No easy fix for economy**

Stuck in the 'off' position help your job

Gloomy data add to

**STUDENT D**

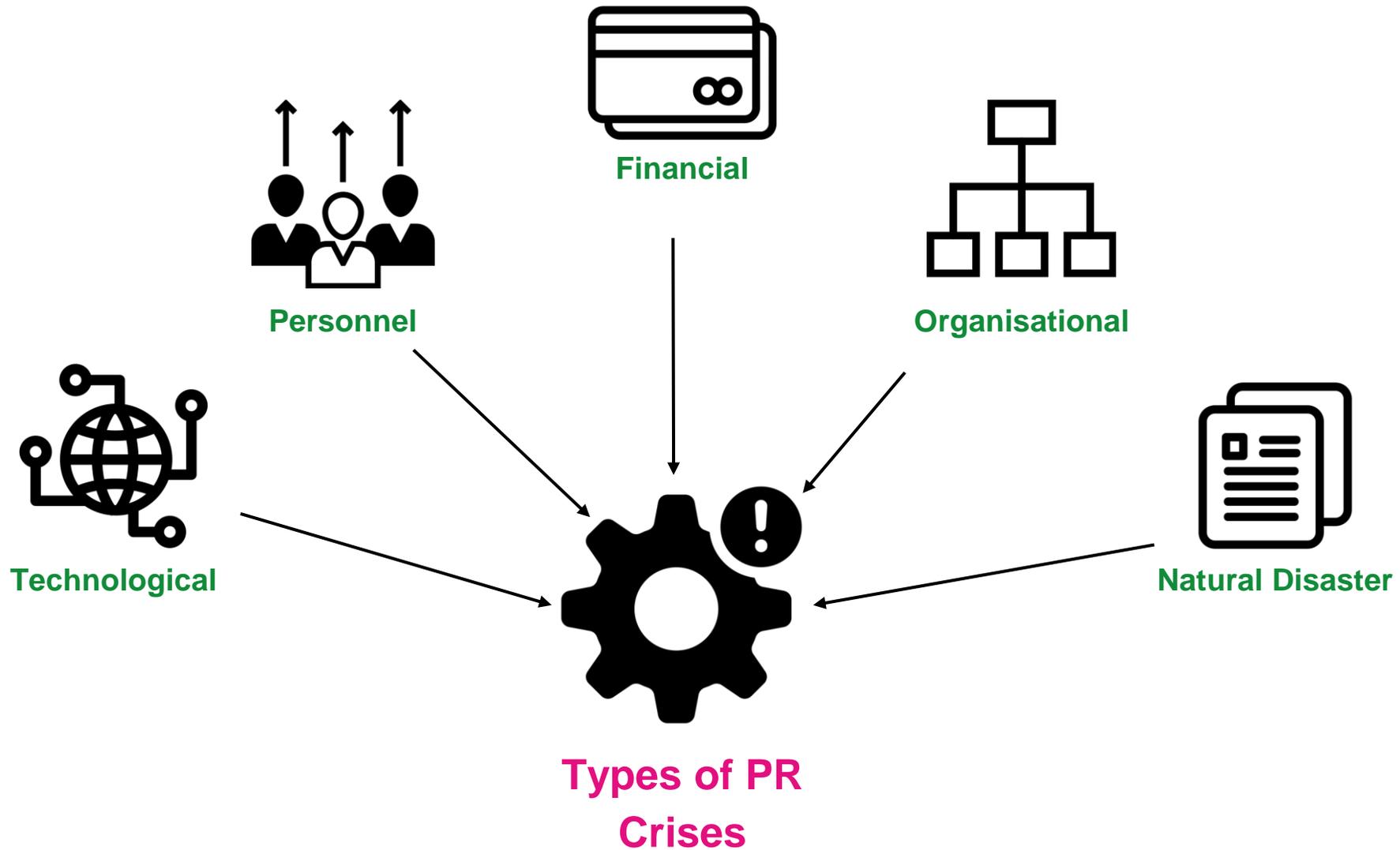
**AT ALL-TIME**

**ERE stress**

Foreclosures Fir

Negative Public  
Attention

# Types of PR Crises



# UK Businesses May Lack Readiness for a Communications Crisis

**In the last 12 months, 39% of UK businesses identified a cyber attack\***

- Around one in five (21%) identified a more sophisticated attack type such as a denial of service, malware, or ransomware attack.
- Only 19% of businesses have a formal incident response plan.

Source: Cyber Security Breaches Survey, 2022



**Seven in 10 respondents to the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) survey 2022 have a crisis communications plan**

- 63.3% used a PR agency in July 2022
- 69.7% said their business in July 2022 had a plan for identifying and tackling reputation risk

**What proportion of business leaders do you think cited reputation risks as their number one concern?**

- 2021 it was **5.7%**
- 2022 it was **?**

Source: \*\* CIPR survey with 300 business leader



## How Gender Pay Gap Bot works?

- The bot searches X (formerly Twitter) to match the company names from the government data to their Twitter accounts.
- It 'listens' for various keywords related to International Women's Day to find relevant posts.
- When it finds a relevant post from a company listed in the government data, a quote tweet is published with their gender pay gap information.

## Organisational PR Crisis Example (March 2023):

**Companies can highlight its failings  
by newsjacking**

**International Women's Day (IWD) - 8 March.**

Many companies got caught out by Gender Pay Gap Bot (@PayGapApp), a bot created to highlight that employers' supportive social media posts are rarely backed up by action.



# International Women's Day



# Caught out by Gender Pay Gap Bot!!! News Coverage

# MailOnline

 Gender Pay Gap Bot   
@PayGapApp

In this organisation, women's median hourly pay is 14% lower than men's. The pay gap is 9.5 percentage points wider than the previous year.

 Heathrow Airport  @HeathrowAirport · 3h  
Good morning and Happy International Women's Day!!! 🙌👏✈️

You can read a few stories from the women at Heathrow here:  
[heathrow.com/heathrow-blog/...](https://www.heathrow.com/heathrow-blog/)

Feel free to tweet @ us or drop us a direct message if you have any airport or travel queries. ❤️✉️



 Gender Pay Gap Bot   
@PayGapApp

In this organisation, women's median hourly pay is 9.8% lower than men's. The pay gap is 9.8 percentage points wider than the previous year.

 Department for Culture, Media and Sport  @DCMS · 2h  
On #IWD2023, we are highlighting the importance of providing equal opportunities for girls in sport

@JillScottUS8 reflects on progress made due to investment in grassroots facilities across England and her hopes for the future of women's football

More  [gov.uk/government/new...](https://www.gov.uk/government/new...)



## Women share @paygapapp to mark International Women's Day: Twitter account shames companies for claiming to celebrate IWM - while female staff suffer huge disparity in pay compared to men

- The Gender Pay Gap Bot shares the median pay difference at various companies
- Women have slammed some of the worst offenders with gaps near to 70 percent

By ELIZABETH HAIGH

PUBLISHED: 10:35, 8 March 2023 | UPDATED: 14:17, 8 March 2023

 Share      19 shares  478 View comments

Women around the UK are marking **International Women's Day** as they share tweets from **Twitter** accounts highlighting pay disparities at organisations compared to male colleagues.

Information is being shared online about the gender pay gap at governmental bodies, emergency services, educational institutions and corporate firms.

Women also shared experiences of inequality or sexual harassment in the workplace on social media, as well as wishing one another a happy International Women's Day.

# Financial PR Crisis Example: How Silicon Valley Bank Collapsed in 36 Hours

- One of the most significant PR disasters of 2023 (March 2023).
- SVB released a statement sharing recent losses.
- SVB did not communicate that it was cash positive despite the losses on the bonds.....



**DO  
NOT  
PANIC**



# Silicon Valley Bank: News Coverage

Leaders | Lessons from a bank collapse

## What really went wrong at Silicon Valley Bank

America must plan better for the failure of banks that are large but not enormous



IMAGE: AP

Mar 13th 2023

Share

**S**HED NO TEARS for investors in Silicon Valley Bank (SVB). On March 10th the bank, which had \$212bn of assets, failed with spectacular speed, making it the biggest lender to collapse since the global financial crisis of 2007-09. Most of SVB's depositors were Bay Area tech startups with accounts holding well in excess of the \$250,000 that is insured by the federal government. They had fled and their panic was rational. By loading up on long-term bonds, SVB had taken an enormous unhedged bet on interest rates staying low. That bet went wrong, leaving the bank insolvent (or near enough). The fact that shareholders have been wiped out and bondholders will take big losses is not a failure of the financial system. A bad business has been allowed to go bust.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

## How Silicon Valley Bank Collapsed in 36 Hours: What Went Wrong

WSJ

March 15, 2023

Share Comment 13



Silicon Valley Bank collapsed in less than two days. In that time, the bank's stock price fell over 60%, and customers tried to withdraw \$42 billion. Here's how the SVB's collapse became the second-largest U.S. bank failure ever, and what it means for customers in the future. Photo Illustration: Alexandra Larkin



yahoo!news

Economics  
Observatory.



FINANCIAL TIMES

The New York Times

CTV NEWS





**YOU HAVE BEEN  
HACKED**

## Technological PR Crisis

Example:

### *SME Book Publisher Retained Trust With Clients During Crisis*

#### What happened?

- Fraudsters sent emails to clients requesting invoice payments

#### What did they do?

- Identified the incident (IT audit) and new security measures were put in place
- Stopped and prevented it from moving forward
- Informed their customers and provided instructions on what to do

#### Don't **LOSE** your relationships!!!

- Proactive communications - address concerns to help strengthen trust



est. 2003



# Effective Crisis Management Plan



# Successful Crisis Management

## Two Key Components:

1.

**Actions that you take to respond and manage the incident to radiate the threat**

2.

**Good Communications - timely, factual, empathic, and clear**

# The Role of a Crisis Communication Plan in Cybersecurity Incidents

**Being prepared** – preparation can quickly restore a good reputation.

**Social media and mobiles** – the digital landscape has transformed.

**Ensure that relevant audiences are correctly identified, and establish key contacts at relevant agencies** - example, Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).

**Work with a PR crisis communications expert** to help you create a crisis communications strategy/plan and manage the execution of the communications process.



# Crisis Communications

## Key Steps

1. Establish the **FACTS**
2. Develop a **CLEAR** communication strategy (objective, spokespeople, questions, etc.)
3. Communicate **IMMEDIATELY** and directly
  - **Be specific** - what happened, how it affects everyone, and what you're doing to rectify the situation.
  - **Show remorse** and articulate how seriously you are taking the situation.
  - **Answer any potential questions that you can** - ask yourself critical questions.
  - **Focus on the relationship with stakeholders** and how you can strengthen it.
4. **MONITOR** and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of your communication efforts.

# Tips for Your Official Statement

## **1. Tell your story.**

Proactive storytelling to shape the narrative around the crisis.

## **2. Give the media the true story to use.**

Accurate information helps in controlling the narrative.

## **3. Focus on building and strengthening your relationships.**

Engage with stakeholders, acknowledging their concerns, and work towards rebuilding trust.

## **4. Be honest, transparent, and compassionate.**

Maintain credibility and demonstrating a commitment to ethical communication.

## **5. Share what you have done, and what you will be doing.**

What are the consequences of the breach? What actions have already been taken? What are the ongoing and future measures to manage the crisis?

## **6. Answer all foreseeable questions.**

Demonstrates preparedness by anticipating and addressing potential questions and responses,

## **7. Update the statement as more questions get answered.**

As information becomes available, ensure stakeholders are kept informed.

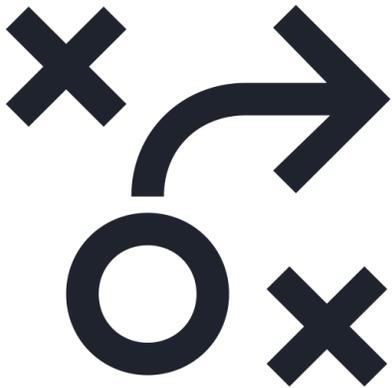
## **8. Title the statement with keywords for search optimisation.**

Use relevant and searchable keywords in the statement title to make it easily discoverable.

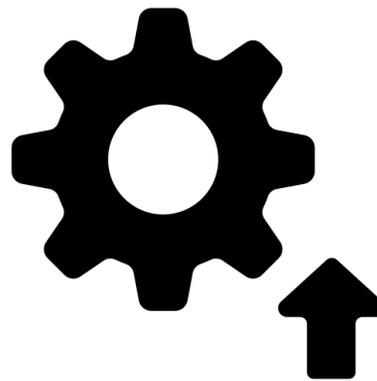
# Ask Yourself Some Critical Questions

Before saying anything about a crisis.....

Your answers can help ensure that communications and decisions about the crisis will be....



Strategic



Effective



Efficient

# Questions - What, When, Who.....etc

## What

- What do we know about the situation?
- What is the source of information about the crisis, and how trustworthy is that source? Is it accurate, credible, and current?
- What don't we know about the situation, and when will we know it?
- What will be the impact when we tell people what we know about the crisis? Could it make matters better, worse, or have no effect?
- What questions could we be asked about the crisis, and do we have answers to those queries? If not, why not?
- What steps will we take to address the crisis, and what will we tell people about those actions?
- What resources do we have —or have access to— to respond to the crisis?
- What's the worst that could happen if we stay quiet about it, and are we prepared for the possible consequences?

# Questions - What, When, Who.....etc

## When, Who, Where, Why and How?

### When

- When will we announce what we know about the situation?

### Who

- Who are the most important audiences that we should tell about the crisis?
- Who will be our spokesperson for the crisis, and why?
- Who should we give a heads-up that we will make the announcement?
- Who can we get to be surrogates to help tell our side of the story about the situation?

### Where

- Where will we make the announcement?

### Why

- Why will we share the information about the crisis?

### How

- How will we share that information?



Thank You

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Managing Director  
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- 4:40pm What Does CompTIA Offer That Could Help You? **Wayne Selk**, CompTIA
- 5:10pm Top Cyber Resources and Takeaways **Kyle Torres**, Sophos (UK&I Cybersecurity Vice Chair)
- 6:00pm **Networking Drinks & Canapes**

WE ARE THE  
**CompTIA**<sup>®</sup>  
COMMUNITY



**Wayne Selk**  
**CompTIA**





# CompTIA is More Than Certifications

**We can help you grow and thrive as a  
Solution Provider**

# Reduce Risk – Grow Revenues

## Don't get left behind

- Legislation impacts on profitability
  - GDPR
  - NIS2
- Designed to reduce risk for Clients and Governments
  - 41% of the organizations that suffered a material incident in the past 12 months say it was caused by third-party
  - 54% of organizations have an insufficient understanding of cyber vulnerabilities in their supply chain

“Alignment between cyber and business is becoming more common” – Source: World Economic Forum Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2024

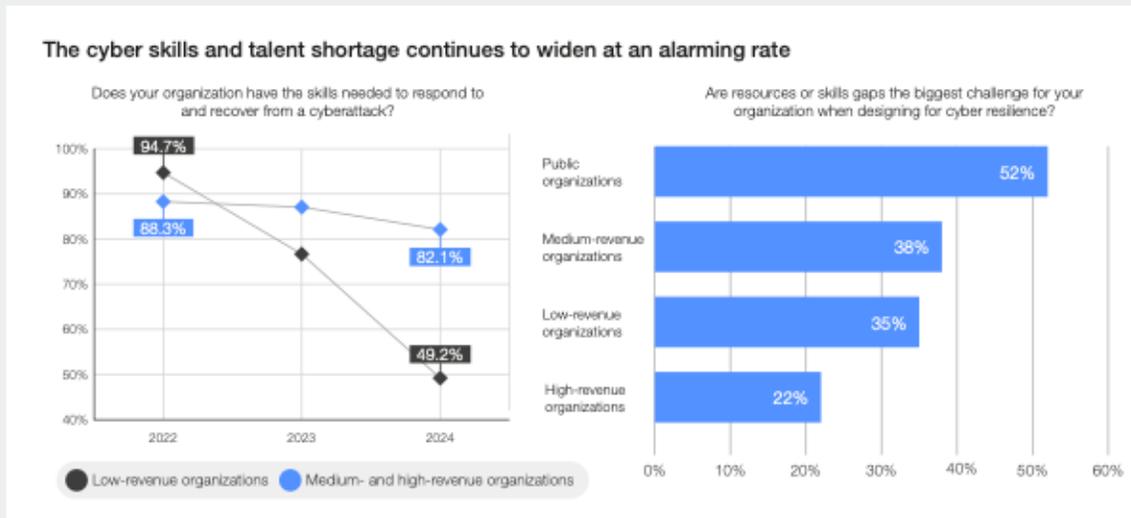
“For any organization, the partners in its ecosystem are both the greatest asset and the biggest hinderance to a secure, resilient and trustworthy digital future” – Source: World Economic Forum Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2024

“60% of executives agree that cyber and privacy regulations effectively reduce risk in their organization's ecosystem – up 12% since 2022” – Source: World Economic Forum Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2024

# Skills Gap – Train Talent

## The right people matter

- Talent is Hard to Find, even Harder to Keep
- Unsure of the skills needed
- Unable to afford to hire

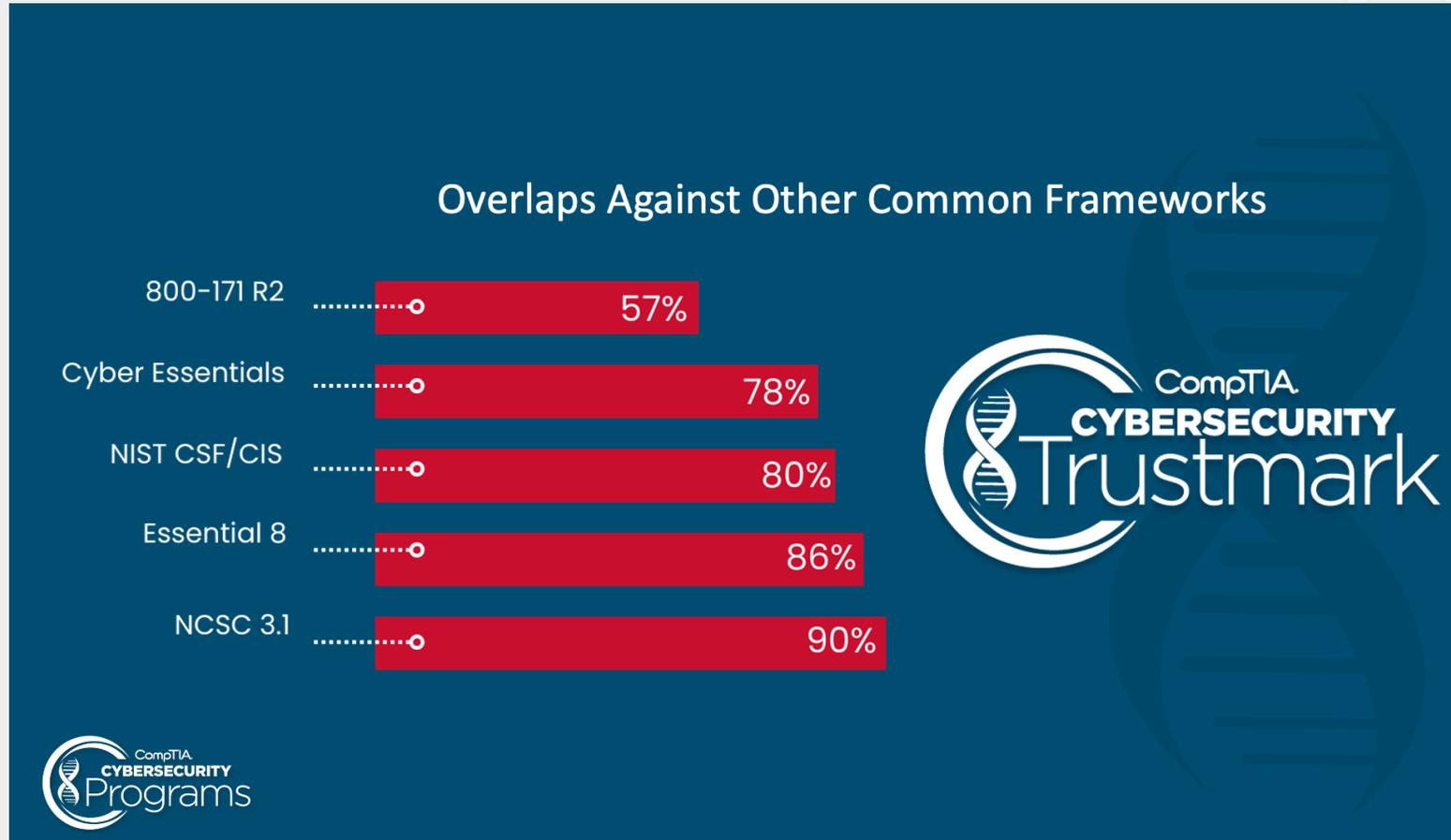


“Cyber-skills and talent shortage continues to widen at an alarming rate”  
– Source: World Economic Forum Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2024

“Only 15% of all organizations are optimistic that cyber skills and education will significantly improve in the next two years” – Source: World Economic Forum Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2024

# Creating Opportunity – Cybersecurity Programs

Efficiency and effectiveness drive revenues



# Cybersecurity Trustmark

## Set yourself apart

- Set the business up to lower the impact of risk
- Create a security-first culture in your organization (or improve it)
- Align your organization to meet NIS2
- Grow your revenue, Grow your business

# What's Coming in 2024

## Cybersecurity Programs

- Third-party Vendor Risk Management Program
- CISO Advisory Program
- Emergency Response Team for UK&I (Need volunteers)
- Trustmark Vendor and End Client Profiles
- Cybersecurity Global Task Force

# Other CompTIA Benefits

You may not be aware of...

- 15% Discount on Exam Vouchers
- 10-40% Discount on Courseware
- Marketing and Legal Toolkits
- CompTIA Research (State of the Channel, State of Cybersecurity, etc.)
- Events are FREE to attend (Pay only air and lodging)
- Councils and Regional Groups (Networking)

We are here to help

Questions?

- 5:10pm Top Cyber Resources and Takeaways **Kyle Torres**, Sophos (UK&I Cybersecurity Vice Chair)
- 6:00pm **Networking Drinks & Canapes**

WE ARE THE  
**CompTIA**<sup>®</sup>  
COMMUNITY



**Kyle Torres**  
**Sophos**



# Cyber Resources & Takeaways

## Resources

- CompTIA ISAO – Information Sharing & Analysis Organization
- CompTIA Resource Library – State of Cybersecurity, Embedding Security into Company Culture, others
- Emergency Response Team (ERT)



# Cyber Resources & Takeaways

## Takeaways

- The BIG Hacks:
  - Customer
  - MSP
- Understanding the why and what behind attacks: How can we be proactive against these threats?
- Insurance & Press: What should you have in place?
- Growth & Development
  - What are your next steps?
  - Internal/External Enablement
  - Ready to monetise

We Are The CompTIA  
**COMMUNITY**

#CompTIACommunity

THANK YOU



<https://surveys.comptia.org/s3/2024-January-UK-I-Cybersecurity-Committee-Meeting>



**We Value Your Feedback**

## CompTIA IT Industry Outlook 2024

- **Why** – Helps you and your business understand what trends are coming in 2024 and stay ahead of the curve
- **Who** – Anyone in the business who wants to understand the latest stats and industry trends, so please share around your organisations
- **How** – Download here or use the QR code - <https://connect.comptia.org/content/research/it-industry-trends-analysis>
- **Useful Info** –
  - Has stats for all the regional communities
  - Any information can be taken from it and shared on your resources as long as you cite the source
  - Members can co-brand with their logo to share with partners and clients
  - Vendor and Distributor members can have this delivered to their partners, either at a live event or on a webinar at no cost

## Trends to Watch 2024



CompTIA Research Report Highlight





**#CompTIACommunity**



18:00 - 19:00 Networking Drinks and Canapés