

Five Tips for the New CISO



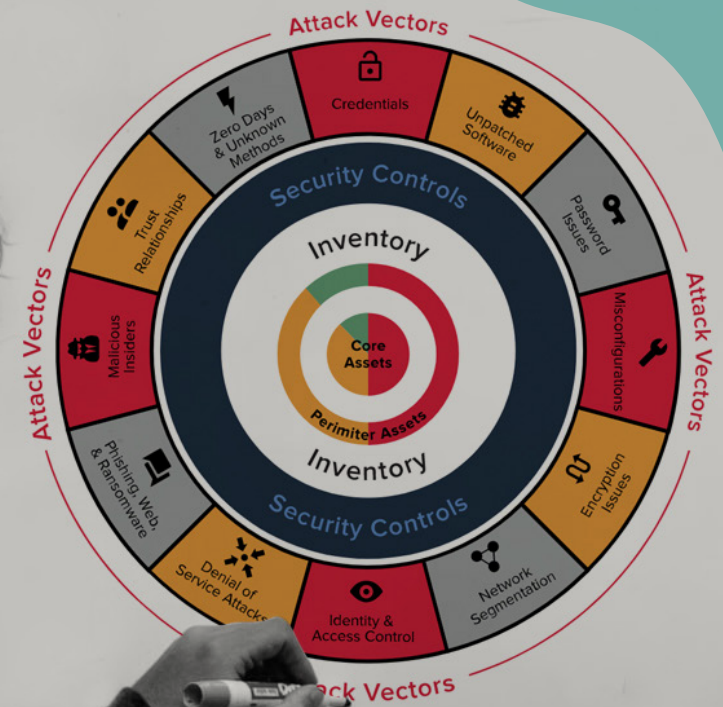
Starting in a new role is always a challenge, and if it's the position of a CISO, it's likely that you have concerns. In the first few months, you'll be assessed by colleagues and staff, judged as to your effectiveness, and tested as you present to your C-Suite peers.

Here are 5 tips that will help you assume your new CISO leadership role with confidence.

One

Conduct a baseline security posture assessment

- Start with getting **real-time visibility** into your breach risk with a comprehensive inventory of all IT assets.
- Categorize all assets—on-prem or cloud, managed or unmanaged, traditional or non-traditional, IoT, BYOD, mobile etc.
- Monitor assets across different types of attack vectors like unpatched software, password issues, misconfigurations, weak or missing encryption, expired certificates etc.
- Prioritize vulnerabilities based on business criticality and potential breach risk.
- Understand **your cyber risk** and how it is changing by business unit, by site, by risk owner, and by attack vector
- Get an understanding the risk appetite of the CEO and the board.



Two

Assess team skills and identify gaps

CISOs rely on their technical teams to help maintain and optimize the enterprise security posture. Infosec teams need to continually evolve to stay aligned with the continuously shifting threat landscape and also, they need to periodically evaluate their existing security tools to ensure that they are still effective and in use.



Three

Build key relationships,
especially with IT

All the various business units and segments need to work together to proactively address security issues that arise. Build relationships with all risk owners in the organization and get their help with the cybersecurity mission.

Four

Communicate your
vision across the enterprise

Understand what the business' security goals and risk appetite is and communicate it down to your team. Also, communicate your teams' initiatives and projects across department lines and to other stakeholders to keep everyone aware of your vision and operational plan.



Five

Deliver key wins and
spread the word

With a few early wins, you can set yourself up for longer term success. But these “wins” need to be selected carefully. Are they important to company leadership? Are these projects doable in your first six months? And will the impact of these wins be widely felt (e.g., by customers, by department heads, and/or up and down the organizational structure)?



Balbix— Your Partner in Success

Balbix uses specialized AI algorithms to discover and analyze the enterprise attack surface to give a 100x more accurate view of breach risk. Balbix enables a broad set of vulnerability and risk management use cases that help to transform your enterprise cybersecurity posture. The platform also provides a prioritized set of actions that you can take to transform your cybersecurity posture and reduce cyber-risk by 95% or more, while making your security team 10x more efficient. Balbix offers you the ability to baseline your current security posture and create an operational plan to succeed in the first six months of your new job.

Following the steps outlined above will give you the headroom you need to settle into the “nuts and bolts” of your job (getting to know key players, holding meetings, building political capital, nurturing relationships, and providing effective leadership that starts to make a difference right out of the gate) and build momentum with early results.





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