2025 Executive Summary

From the Conference Chair

We hope to see you at Gartner Security & Risk Management Summit 2026.

Sincerely,
Sam Olyaei
Conference Chair & VP, Team Manager, Gartner

Top takeaways

1 Turn disruption into a cybersecurity opportunity

To drive mission-driven cybersecurity, begin by reframing executive conversations to emphasize critical exposures. Develop explicit protection level agreements to maintain a clear focus on both cybersecurity and business outcomes. Ensure your cybersecurity program is innovation-ready by investing in change management, learning agility, and personal resilience. With exceptional leadership and a resilient cybersecurity team, you can effectively guide your organization through complexity.

> "If we want to succeed, we can't be in the business of opportunistically feeding the fear and requesting funds every time something bad happens."
>
> Christopher Mixter,
> VP Analyst,
> Gartner

2 Revisit your cybersecurity vision and mission

Address these three common, key imperatives and make sure they're reflected in your cybersecurity vision and mission: the impact of increasing business unit autonomy in the adoption of new digital technology; the rapid adoption of AI in the business; and the importance of the role of individuals, especially the need to change behaviors and establish a security consciousness within the corporate culture.

> "CISOs face a bewildering array of rapidly evolving priorities, threats, demands, regulatory pressures, and technology changes."
>
> Oscar Isaka,
> Sr Director Analyst,
> Gartner

3 Embrace the *Cyber Resilience Framework*

Adopt the *Cyber Resilience Framework* to ensure you build resilient processes, enhance the resilience of your team (with effective hiring practices, operations, and culture), and focus on resilient partners that play a critical role in your organization. Remember, cyber resilience goes beyond just controls and metrics.

> "Cyber resilience cannot be achieved by the CISO alone. Functions need to work together, not in silos."
>
> Arthur Sivanathan,
> Sr Director Analyst,
> Gartner

4 Evolve your threat landscape

To navigate the ever-changing threat landscape, you should focus on your organization's specific vulnerabilities. Develop a strong foundation in prediction, prevention, and timely detection. Regularly assess and address security posture gaps, adapting to microtrends to maintain effectiveness. Prioritize resilience and enhance detection and response capabilities over specific defensive measures.

> "Even the most well-funded organizations cannot address all cybersecurity threats. Responding to the threat landscape is about sorting signals from the noise and preparing for future uncertain and ambiguous threats."
>
> John Watts,
> VP Analyst,
> Gartner

5 Proactively counter evolving cyber threats

To enhance cybersecurity, start by asking, "what are hackers doing now?" and "how can we disrupt their kill-chains with knowable information?". Shift focus from seeking magical solutions to practical actions. Analyze hacker trends to identify immediate threats and develop strategies to counter them. Equip your team with tools and knowledge to address both current and future challenges. By focusing on actionable intelligence and pragmatic solutions, CISOs can effectively safeguard their organizations against evolving threats.

> "Our industry tends to pursue magical answers to exotic problems. When what the data actually shows is that we still need to perfect the basics."
>
> Leigh McMullen,
> Distinguished VP Analyst,
> Gartner

Save the date!

We hope to see you next year!

Take a look at our calendar to explore the range of conferences we hold to find those most relevant to you and your business.