

2026 Executive Summary

Thank you, from the Conference Chair

Thank you for joining us at Gartner Security & Risk Management Summit 2026. What an incredible experience to be together in Sydney.

From connecting with your peers, to discovering the latest insights from Gartner Experts and being inspired by visionary leaders, we hope you feel empowered to thrive in this environment as you become *stronger, faster, and smarter - together*.

As the demands of your role continue to evolve, embrace the guidance you've uncovered to strengthen your organization's resilience amid tariffs, global instability, and emerging AI threats.

Thank you again for your time. Your participation means so much to us. We look forward to seeing you at Gartner Security & Risk Management Summit 2027.

Sincerely,
Deepti Gopal,
Conference Chair and Director Analyst, Gartner

Top Takeaways

1

Transform work to unlock AI's full potential

Leverage enterprise AI investments to modernize identity and future-proof your security foundation. Reframe the normalization of cyberattacks as a catalyst to strengthen resilience in your goals and practices. Then monetize ongoing innovation by embedding a continuous learning cycle—enabling you to reinvest in advanced solutions and extend your capacity to adapt, secure new frontiers, and empower AI adoption for lasting business value.

[Gartner Opening Keynote: Seize the Moment](#)

“Being nimble, responsive, and able to pivot quickly are keys to success today.”

Richard Addiscott,
VP Analyst,
Gartner

2

Refine your cybersecurity vision to address key imperatives

Align your vision with your cybersecurity program by emphasizing performance, resilience, and agility. As a CISO, your influence grows when you leverage power bases, build political capital, and apply advanced persuasion techniques. An operating model helps evaluate the impact of change, enabling risk-informed prioritization and improved data security governance. Launching a postquantum security initiative, integrating supply chain risk, and prioritizing threat-informed cyber resilience will further strengthen your security posture.

[Leadership Vision for 2026: Cybersecurity](#)

“Resilience is not just about technology responding automatically, it's about people making decisions under pressure.”

Lampis Alevizos,
Sr Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Focus on security trends and strategic choices

Strategize your cybersecurity plans by addressing trends like geopolitics, post-quantum cryptography, and tactical AI, while aligning zero trust initiatives with strategic goals. Combat cybersecurity burnout by balancing workloads and promoting mental health through HR support and wellness programs. Use a platform consolidation framework to streamline efforts but be cautious of improper scope and vendor influence leading to cost overruns. Embrace a cultural shift by fostering adaptability and openness to change, which can help overcome resistance and adapt to zero trust's complexity.

[Top Cybersecurity Trends](#)

“By strategically assessing emerging trends, CISOs can determine whether to embrace, monitor, or deprioritize developments.”

Richard Addiscott,
VP Analyst,
Gartner

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Scale your third-party cyber risk management

With frequent third-party disruptions and increased scrutiny, Gartner predicts TPCRM performance will be a key board agenda item by 2026. Use the Gartner TPCRM life cycle to assess program completeness and transparency in labor division. Facilitate sponsor involvement in cyber risk management by clarifying roles and focusing on critical activities. Shift from compliance to risk appetite-driven TPCRM by tracking outcome-driven metrics and using comparative advantage for tech investments. Keep your board updated on TPCRM performance, ensuring reporting and budgeting align with ODMs and PLAs.

[Outlook for Third-Party Cyber Risk Management: Challenge the status quo to evolve your program](#)

“Use the expanding and prescriptive regulatory mandates to transform TPCRM risk into clear business requirements that drive the investment roadmap.”

Zachary Smith,
Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Leverage the Executive Faststart Framework to maximize impact

Whether you're new to an organization or newly promoted, it's crucial to hit the ground running. In your first year, focus on understanding your environment, role, and stakeholders' core objectives to establish initial priorities. Quickly build key relationships and manage stakeholders for both short- and long-term success. Deliver on your priorities to show progress and demonstrate value, while also focusing on building your personal brand—own it by actively shaping how you're perceived through your actions and communication.

[The CISO's Guide to Their First Year In Role](#)

“You get one chance to make a great first impression as a new CISO: your credibility is hard to build, easy to lose.”

Deepti Gopal,
Director Analyst,
Gartner

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Prioritize the human factor

It's essential to recognize that while most cybersecurity investments focus on technical solutions, human error is often the root cause of incidents. Embrace a human resilience mindset from day one, shifting focus from prevention to resilience, and change the language used in cybersecurity to avoid us versus them narratives. First, develop metrics to measure human resilience and move away from failure-focused metrics. Then transition from traditional compliance training to dynamic nudges that encourage safer habits and pivot your cybersecurity strategy towards broader cyber resilience.

[Outlook for Human Factors in Cybersecurity: Adapt to Optimize](#)

“Humans are the biggest overlooked opportunity for cybersecurity. This is an exciting opportunity — and perhaps even a new frontier for cybersecurity.”

Mia Yu,
Director Analyst,
Gartner

You can replay all of these sessions — and many more — over the next few months on [Conference Navigator](#).



Save the date!

Join us 15 - 16 March 2027 in Sydney, Australia for [Gartner Security & Risk Management Summit!](#)

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