

A large, stylized orange chevron pointing to the right, serving as a background for the text.

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How to combat the insider cybersecurity threat

An Outlook Up Close Video

Video Transcript

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What is your favorite pop culture era?

When it comes to music and pop culture, I am stuck in the 1980s. I mean, who doesn't love the hairstyles, clothes and lyrics of the 1980s?

What new skill would you like to learn?

As an American living in London, I am fascinated with the game of cricket. Most of the time, I am not really sure what is going on, but I'd love to learn cricket. I also love to tease my European and Asian friends that it is far easier to hit a ball with a cricket bat, which is flat, than a baseball bat.

When does cybersecurity hit home for you?

Cybersecurity hits home for me when it comes to my kids. They are growing up in a time where it is normal to share everything about their lives on social media. I am constantly talking to them about the risks associated with that and warning them about how the bad guys could use this information. But businesses need to be as equally as diligent.

Where are cybersecurity threats coming from?

There are different kinds of attackers out there targeting different things for different reasons. For example, a nation state may not be interested in credit card data, but more about R&D designs, contracts, or to do damage. Cyber gangs may be more interested in stealing cash or identities. But even insiders steal payroll and accounts payable, and they want to damage systems or steal client information and IP.

Smart clients realize that they can't solve this problem on their own. It takes a village. They need to build a culture of security across the enterprise.

Which cybersecurity challenges are most alarming?

We are finding the insider threats to be especially concerning. In our research, 69 percent of the respondents said they experienced an attempt or realized a data theft or corruption act by corporate insiders.

How should businesses combat insider threats?

We recommend companies create a culture of cybersecurity. For everyone in the company. This means making sure that people understand what security means to their job and everything that they do.

First, they need to understand that this is not an IT problem. This is a company problem, and even a people problem. Second, the lines of business people need to understand what security means to that department and how it impacts the overall company.

And lastly, if you're a secure organization, you'll perform better in the marketplace because you attract and retain your clients more and you produce better and safer products in the marketplace.