

AGENDA

The Future of IT & Cybersecurity CIO & CISO Think Tank

SPEAKERS



Vinod Kushawaha
VP Data Governance
[Bank of Hope](#)



Rakesh Mekala
CDO
[DIRECTV](#)



Erin Boyd
Chief Digital
Commercial
Transformation
Officer
[The AES Corporation](#)



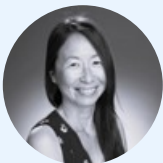
Ray Austad
Head of Operational
Risk Management
[Farmers Insurance](#)



Alvin Joseph
CIO
[Orora](#)



Blake Gillan
Director of DTC
Technology
[Merchsource](#)



Anja Dang
Head of Global
Analytics & AI
Strategy
[Herbalife Nutrition](#)



Michael Burroughs
Global CISO
[BioMarin](#)
[Pharmaceutical](#)



Jamil Badrudeen
VP - AI & Financial
Engineering
[State Street](#)



Micah Resley
Director IT &
Facilities
[Robbins Brothers](#)
[Fine Jewelers](#)



Karl Escarcha
Assoc Director of
Inventory Control &
Master Data
[Dr. Squatch](#)



Dr. Chris Pierson
CEO and Founder
[BlackCloak](#)



Winter Richard
Owner
[RJW Consulting](#)



Josh Orenstein
CTO
[Lindeman &
Associates](#)



Tin Zaw
Director Tech
Enablement
[Verizon](#)



Stephen Alford
CIO/CSO
[Worldwide](#)
[Environmental](#)
[Products](#)



David Williamson
CIO
[Abzena](#)



Keyur Patel
VP of Engineering
[NBCUniversal](#)



Monica Kedzierski
Former VP, Global
Data, Analytics & AI
[Herbalife Nutrition](#)



John To
VP of Digital
Transformation
[Rhino Linings](#)



Doug Murray
CISO
[Centerfield](#)



Mel Reyes
CEO, Leadership
Advisor
[Elite Technical
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Nathan Dean
Director, Application
Services, Global
Technology
[Universal Music
Group](#)



Allen Ohanian
CISO
[Los Angeles County
Department of
Children and Family
Services](#)



Jonathan Zhukovsky
CTO
[Hillspire](#)



Tom Hartmann
Sr Director IT
[Mattel](#)



Diego Salas
CTO
[BAI Connect](#)



Jethro Rothe-Kushel
CIO
[Ritual Ads](#)



**Shobana
Ranganathan**
VP Enterprise
Technology
[The Walt Disney Co](#)



David Obrien
VP, IT / CISO
[Covenant Health](#)

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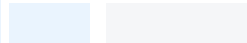
June 05, 2025

Pacific Time

Registration

8:30 AM-9:15 AM

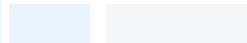
CHAIR **PANELISTS**



Morning Networking & Breakfast

9:15 AM-10:00 AM

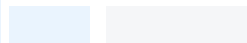
CHAIR **PANELISTS**



Opening Remarks

10:00 AM-10:10 AM

CHAIR **PANELISTS**



FIRESIDE CHAT

10:10 AM-10:45 AM

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The Human Side of Tech: Why Soft Skills Are the Real Superpower

In a world obsessed with digital transformation, AI, and automation, it's easy to forget the power of human connection. But the truth is—technology doesn't lead, people do. As roles evolve and teams become more cross-functional, the ability to listen, influence, adapt, and collaborate has become just as critical as technical expertise.

Today's CIOs, CISOs, and tech leaders are expected not only to drive innovation, but to communicate across departments, manage diverse teams, and navigate uncertainty with empathy and clarity. Emotional intelligence, storytelling, active listening, and resilience are no longer “nice to have”—they're essential for anyone leading in a fast-moving, high-stakes environment.

Nowhere is this leadership shift more relevant than in California—particularly in Los Angeles, a city built on creativity, reinvention, and cultural diversity. Here, the ability to connect across perspectives isn't just a professional skill—it's a way of life. As tech and business worlds converge, LA's unique blend of innovation and human-centered thinking offers the perfect backdrop to explore how soft skills are reshaping the future of leadership.

This session dives into why the most successful executives are blending EQ with IQ to inspire trust, build alignment, and drive lasting impact.

CHAIR PANELISTS

KEYNOTE

10:50 AM-11:15 AM

Simplifying Security: Understanding SASE Fundamentals

Join us as we demystify Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) and its foundational components, which have significantly transformed the cybersecurity landscape since Gartner first introduced the concept nearly five years ago. Jeff will guide you through the evolution from traditional network security to SASE, offering a clear breakdown of key concepts such as Security Service Edge (SSE), single-vendor SASE, and Unified SASE. As SASE continues to reshape security strategies for enterprises globally, understanding these components is crucial for evaluating and selecting the right solution for your organization amidst the surrounding hype.

Discover practical ways to streamline your security strategy and enhance your defenses in today's complex hybrid work environment. Learn how to leverage SASE to ensure consistent security across distributed locations, secure cloud applications, and robust protection of data in an increasingly dynamic cloud ecosystem. This keynote will equip you with the insights and strategies needed to adapt to modern security challenges and optimize your security posture effectively.

DISRUPTOR

11:35 AM-11:50 AM

Digital Trust Starts Here: Rethinking Privacy in a Transparent World

In an age where data flows freely and digital interactions shape every part of our lives, privacy can no longer be treated as a legal afterthought. It's the foundation of trust—and trust is what keeps customers, partners, and employees coming back.

As expectations shift, forward-looking organizations are rethinking how they collect, manage, and communicate about data. It's no longer just about compliance; it's about clarity, intention, and respect. In California, where regulation meets vocal, tech-savvy users, the pressure to get it right is even greater.

This session explores how companies are moving from privacy as a checkbox to privacy as a principle—embedding transparency into user journeys, building data cultures rooted in responsibility, and turning ethics into a differentiator. Because in a world where everyone has data, only those who handle it with integrity will stand out.

FIRESIDE CHAT

11:55 AM-12:30 PM

The Vulnerable C-Suite: Why Personal Cybersecurity is the New Frontline for CISOs

Businesses and their leadership teams are increasingly being targeted – physically and digitally. Research from The Ponemon Institute shows that 42% of CISOs report attacks targeting executives' personal lives – a number that will only climb as cybercriminals evolve their attack methods.

Cybercriminals are increasingly leveraging executives' personal digital presence as an entry point into corporate networks. Traditional cybersecurity focuses on corporate systems, leaving executives' personal digital lives exposed – creating a significant risk vector for organizations.

This Fireside Chat between Richard and Chris is going to explore the ways that CISOs and CSOs can address this phenomenon to protect leadership, corporate assets, and brand reputation.

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