Hi All,

I was finally able to make my first trip to Europe since the onset of the pandemic. Luggage got lost and lines were long, but it was very rewarding, and I don’t just mean the serendipitous encounter with the Rolling Stones playing at Hyde Park. We held our CSA CxO Trust Summit for EMEA in Barcelona. The event was very rich in content. I encourage you to download the slides and take a look. Here is my recap of a few presentations:

Sovereign Cloud

Deutsche Telekom presented the T-Systems Sovereign Cloud, which is a collaboration with Google Cloud Platform. Digital sovereignty is a hot topic, especially as it relates to national or regional clouds. Many of the approaches to this need have involved building new clouds from the ground up, often using open source components. The approach that was presented involves using a major global cloud provider and locating the service within specific regional data centers. The tricky part is the shared governance journey, where T-Systems manages some of the administrative functions instead of Google. All of the major cloud providers have similar projects. I look forward to learning more about them and how we might assist in the transparency and trust statements via CSA STAR.

The Role of CSA STAR in the Italian Cloud Strategy

Speaking of STAR, CSA Italy President Alberto Manfredi provided an overview of how the Italian government is using a combination of CSA STAR and ISO standards to create rigorous security requirements for cloud providers with multiple assurance levels. I believe this model of leveraging existing cloud assurance programs is a model for many nations and industries.

A Rosetta Stone for Cloud Security and Finance Sector Compliance

Josh Magri, President of the Cyber Risk Institute, a CSA partner, provided an overview of their work in creating the CRI Profile, an industry-led cybersecurity standard for financial services compliance. Josh focused on the CRI Cloud Profile, a collaboration with CSA which includes our Cloud Controls Matrix (CCM).

CISO Responsibilities Matrix

Going back to CSA Italy, I was quite interested to see the presentation by CISOs Manuela Italia and Davide Del Vecchio to explain the CISO Responsibilities Matrix. This is an innovative project to attempt to explain the CISO role in the real world, what they are responsible for, where they have influence, who they report to and how this varies across different company types. This is very pragmatic survey and analysis work, and I look forward to expanding this project across Europe and around the world, to create another tool to help CISOs benchmark their roles.
The four presentations above are only a portion of the great talks we hosted, from Zero Trust and Kubernetes to the real world cloud journey of a global financial institution. I hope you enjoy them and I hope to see you at our CxO Trust Summit in Seattle on September 27, part of our week-long SECtember conference.