CxO Trust Newsletter - June 2022

News of Note

Illena Armstrong, President, CSA

Threats, Misconfigurations, Zero Trust and More - We’ve Got You Covered

The RSA Conference in San Francisco this month proved overwhelmingly fruitful for us here at CSA. We saw a robust audience of more than 700 attendees at our CxO Trust Summit on the first day of the event, and talked to countless RSAC attendees at our booth on the Expo Floor. In addition, many on our team engaged in media interviews before, during, and after the conference about research releases and new initiatives we’ve launched.

Some of these likely will prove quite informative to you and your teams as they cover extremely important cybersecurity issues of the day, including getting a better grasp on Zero Trust strategies, understanding the top threats that have been plaguing a wide range of entities during this long-lasting pandemic, and getting a better handle on addressing the endless vulnerabilities that must be remedied to protect a wide range of services and systems that underpin today’s infrastructures.

I’ve mentioned our research paper, CISO Perspectives and Progress in Deploying Zero Trust, before. Released and discussed during our CxO Trust Summit at RSAC, the survey results revealed some interesting insights. Taking views from some 800 IT and cybersecurity leaders across a range of companies, about 80 CxOs note Zero Trust as a priority, with 94 percent stating that they are actually in the process of implementing related strategies. As well, another approximate 80 percent say they’re upping spend over the next 12 months to help with these plans.

Despite these initial findings, however, RSAC revealed through the myriad vendors touting Zero-Trust-related offerings and the conversations had on various social media platforms, that confusion still reigns when it comes to Zero Trust. This apparent lack of understanding among many business leaders only reinforces the need for much more clarity and education. To help here, we will begin curating, creating, and publishing vendor-neutral content in our Zero Trust Advancement Center (ZTAC). We will have additional announcements about some of the leading experts who help us continue to drive forward and evolve our ZTAC offerings, including research, training, certifications, and more.

We also released our Top Threats to Cloud Computing Pandemic 11 at RSAC. The sixth installment of CSA’s Top Threats to Cloud Computing series, the report found that understanding of cloud environments is generally maturing and, with that, so too are the worries. Taking priority were concerns about configuration management and authentication, how applications are built and run in the cloud, limited cloud visibility, lack-of-control challenges when working with cloud service providers, and more. The findings are worth checking out as they will help you and your teams to make more informed decisions as you continue to make cloud implementation moves.

Finally, members of our research team and other experts from some of our membership organizations discussed our Global Security Database initiative. In the “call-to-action” panel at RSAC, CSA’s Global VP of
Research John Yeoh, SVP and CISO of Viacom CBS Pete Chronis, and CTO and Co-Founder of Wiz Ami Luttwak talked about how companies’ security teams are unable to keep up with misconfigurations as their cloud environments grow more complex. As such, the current Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE) model needs to evolve to become much more cloud-current. Having already established a research working group digging into this critical area, CSA will be leading the way and there definitely will be more news to come.

Meantime, we're hitting up plenty of additional in-person events beyond this month's CxO Trust Summit in Barcelona, including the National Credit Union Information Sharing and Analysis Organization's (NCU-ISAO) CU Intersect Conference in Houston, Texas this July, where I will be a keynote speaker alongside a number of other industry leaders. And, of course, we will be at Black Hat in Las Vegas for which we are an Association Partner. For that one, you can get $200 off your registration for in-person attendance using code BH22CSA.

We hope to see you soon!