



Team8 2023 Cyber Themes

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Theme

Drivers

Impact

Select Providers

01

Cloud Security



Buoyed by tailwinds from the pandemic and digital transformation, cloud adoption is experiencing a meteoric rise, and enterprise cloud migrations are expanding from small, low-risk applications and experiments to business critical initiatives. As such, security capabilities are evolving to allow enterprises to reap the benefits of moving to the cloud, while retaining control over their security posture, data protection programs, and application integrity.

- Many companies, especially smaller ones, tend to use a single cloud plus SaaS strategy
- More sophisticated and/or mid-to-larger companies tend to think about multi-cloud for several reasons: for technical resilience, to prevent vendor lock-in, and for specialization of features.
- In order for cloud provider-based security solutions to be successful, the cloud providers themselves are going to have to be able to support their customers' hybrid & multi-cloud environments.



02

Resilience & Recovery



In a world in which digital infrastructure is now business-critical infrastructure, cybersecurity cannot afford to stop at “identify, protect, detect, and respond”. Any sound security strategy must also consider resiliency and include the capability for rapid recovery from degradation, disruption, or denial of access to enterprise systems or data, and swift reconstitution of assets and capabilities.

- When thinking about resilience and recovery, cybersecurity must primarily focus on operational risk and resilience, i.e. the risk to business processes, including the underlying data and IT systems.
- Standard continuity of business processes are insufficient in the face of malicious cybersecurity action.



03

Smarter Security



Cybersecurity is becoming highly complex and is becoming difficult and expensive to manage. At the same time, there is also a shortage of cybersecurity talent while, simultaneously, adversaries are increasingly leveraging sophisticated attack capabilities. All of this stretches response capabilities. Smarter security solutions will mitigate many of these challenges through the incorporation of automation, data, and AI to plug gaps and provide security teams with better options to best-use their human capital.

- Because of both the supply problem (lack of talent) and the demand problem (dramatic increase in volume/speed of attacks and AI-driven attacks), there may be no alternative other than automation and AI-supported defense.



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Security of Things



The growth of the Internet of Things (IoT) is driving digitization and unlocking business value. But Security of Things requires that every connected device or network - each with its own identifier and ability to transfer or process data - must be protected. Each of these devices acts as a potential breach-point into an organization or to private data, which increases overall risk exponentially.

- In the context of industrial IoT, there are concerns regarding the resiliency of critical infrastructure, and unfortunately, much of this infrastructure is decades old and difficult to secure.
- In general, there continues to be a massive acceleration in the number and variety of IoT devices, creating new categories of attack that need to be planned for in order to protect individuals, data, and enterprises.



05

Perimeterless World



The enterprise perimeter is nearly obsolete, and the dramatic shift to remote work during the pandemic is accelerating its demise. This requires enhanced processes for identity and access management (IAM), with a growing use of zero trust architectures that provide better control.

- In the modern environment, there are many things outside of the network that still need to be trusted and depended upon.
- Thus, using network topology as the basis for trust simply isn't a valid assumption any more, and that's where identity comes into play.



06

Data Security



On one hand, globalization and the growth of the digital economy are accelerating the need for digital collaboration. On the other, emerging privacy regulations and consumer preferences are driving investment in privacy-enhancing technologies and the means for users to have more control over their data. The net result of these colliding forces will be new data protection- and privacy-driven strategies that impact underlying architectural design and business processes. The need to mitigate data breaches is also driving more data security and privacy regulation.

- Data is at the heart of everything in the modern corporation, with concerns focused on confidentiality, data integrity, and data availability.
- While the focus has previously been on confidentiality, today there is an increased focus on availability. Integrity of data will be the last frontier for data security considerations.



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Shift-Left



Developing and managing software is more agile and faster than ever. However, developers currently have neither the expertise nor the tools to handle the security issues while the security team doesn't have the staff to cover the gap. Cybersecurity needs to be shifted-left in the application development process to ensure that security considerations are embedded from the start.

- If Shift-Left works, the biggest impact will be that it enhances the relationship between security and AppDev, which will enable the faster creation of secure applications.
- However, in order for Shift-Left to work, security has to adapt to the way developers think, act, buy, and consume tools.
- Additionally, with the emerging focus on the “software bill of materials” (SBOM), the ability for software creators to track application componentry and provide evidence to their customers will be critical.



08

Layer 8



No matter how much money a company invests in security controls, humans will always defeat them. A good red team always wins because the one thing that they can rely on is human weakness. Layer 8 is all about how we train humans, how we empower them, how we monitor them, or in certain instances, how we take them out of the loop.

- A common first entry point of an attacker to an organization is usually a human (employee), who can easily be compromised by malicious software, social engineering techniques, or simply by human error.
- Compromised employees allow attackers to bypass significant portions of companies' defensive controls, and these humans cannot be “patched”.
- Thus, the human attack surface can only be mitigated by compensating controls.



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