



6 questions every board should ask their CISO

To help their organization stay secure and competitive, the board of directors must develop better cybersecurity awareness and preparedness. Their chief information security officer (CISO) can help create a security mindset by leading conversations with the board around six key questions.



1. Who owns security?

Is it clear to the entire organization that security is a business imperative? Is there a sense of ownership for security in every employee, regardless of role?



2. What are the threats facing the organization?

Does the CISO regularly update the board on cybersecurity priorities? Do these updates use business language such as risk, resilience, and reputation?



3. Do we know who is accessing our data?

Who can see what, why, and for how long? Do employees have only the least amount of access required to do their jobs—for the least amount of time?



4. What are our most important assets?

Are assets regularly evaluated based on their relative value to the business? What are our most sensitive assets, and how are they protected?



5. What layers of protection do we have in place?

Does the board know what layers of protection are in place and how well each is protecting the company?



6. How will we respond to a cybersecurity event?

Are response plans in place? What is the board's role? Are we regularly testing these plans and practicing our response?

Security starts at the top

Boards who interact regularly with their CISO better understand risk and where to invest in security, enabling the business to move confidently and realize value more quickly.

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