

Virtual CISO Program

Executive Security Leadership on Demand

Advise
Service



OVERVIEW

The Chief Information Security Officer, or CISO, is the senior executive who aligns an organization's IT security strategy with its business goals and operations. In a world of increasing cyber threats, regulations, and litigation, they are the essential security professionals that all organizations need. And yet, Cisco's 2015 Annual Security Report notes that only 29% of all organizations have a CISO.

Many challenges prevent organizations, especially small and mid-sized ones, from realizing the benefits of a CISO, especially:

- Lack of financial resources to search for, hire, and retain a qualified CISO
- Limited knowledge base and resources for training and development
- The average tenure for a CISO is only 17 months—and then you've lost your investment in hiring a CISO when you repeat the process.

DigitalDefence's Virtual CISO (vCISO) Program allows your organization to utilize our board-level experts to perform the tasks that are typically assigned to an in-house CISO. Our vCISO will integrate as a member of your executive team to assist with the implementation and management of your Information Security Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance (GRC) programs.

BENEFITS

- Immediate availability—A virtual CISO can be in place within days, ensuring project continuity and avoiding periods when key roles are unfilled
- Reduced costs—A vCISO costs approximately 30–40% of the cost of a full-time permanent CISO. You hire the vCISO when you need their support—hours per month, or full-time for only as long as you need them
- Experience — All of our consultants have at least 10 years experience in security and compliance in multiple industries. In addition to their technical knowledge, they possess the business acumen and leadership skills to make security succeed

Improve corporate risk reduction with strategic security and privacy services.

Is the virtual CISO service right for your company?

- Do you have the leadership to successfully drive the adoption of information security across your organization?
- Do you have an adequate security program in place, with sufficient resources and budget to keep up with a rapidly changing threat landscape?
- Do you have critical security programs that require senior leadership for completion, but do not require full-time stewardship?
- Are your executives and senior managers aware of the legal, regulatory, and contractual requirements of security and privacy programs?



- Qualified—All of our vCISOs are professional qualified in security management, and hold industry leading IT certifications including the CISSP, CISM, CISA, and relevant industry certifications

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

The primary function of a CISO is to develop and implement an enterprise security program; a DigitalDefence vCISO gives you a jumpstart on program development. By:

- Establishing a baseline for your current performance
- Determining the level of acceptable risk and defining your security strategy and goals and documenting your objectives
- Creating a quantifiable definition of security success
- Documenting a tactical plan, including resource requirements and timelines
- Presenting the plan to the board and key stakeholders and overseeing adoption of the project plan; successfully executing the approved plan

DigitalDefence vCISOs can also assist with specific strategic and advisory projects, including:

- Providing independent and unbiased enterprise-wide security leadership and guidance to Board members, executives and senior managers, and all employees
- Guiding you through the annual security planning process, including defining security budgets that are aligned with business requirements
- Developing regulation-compliant policies and documents
- Ensuring mergers, acquisitions, and divestitures all fully comply with security and privacy requirements
- Developing and implementing a 3rd party / vendor management program to ensure the security of the supply chain
- Issuing and evaluating RFPs for security hardware and services
- Working with your legal team to draft and review security clauses in contracts
- Recruiting and developing employees with the best security skills for your organization
- Delivering security messaging internally to employees as well as to clients

A virtual CISO is the most cost-effective way to ensure the successful implementation of a corporate-wide security program

DigitalDefence tailors its vCISO program to meet your specific requirements.

Our experts can provide thought leadership, fulfill the role of CISO on a permanent or part-time basis, or lead a “tiger team” to achieve specific objectives.

We can deliver transitional support while you find a replacement CISO. We will assess your needs, develop job requirements, assist with the hiring process—all while maintaining the momentum of ongoing projects.

Finally, we can provide customized mentoring and training to all members of your security team to improve their effectiveness.

DigitalDefence will accommodate your specific needs and budget to ensure your success.

About Digital Defence

Digital Defence provides complete protection against data security breaches. We provide the advisory services that align security with your business strategy and practices. Our protection services secure your data by assessing vulnerabilities and validating security controls using audits and penetration testing, or “ethical hacking”. And should you suffer a security or privacy breach, we provide the 24x7 response services and expertise to minimize financial and reputational loss.

