



EXECUTIVE EDITION

RSA Conference 2020 Highlights and Insights

Video Interviews, News, Photos and more from the ISMG Team

The Best of RSA Conference 2020: Executive Edition



If it was said at RSA Conference 2020, then fair chance it was said at ISMG's video studios.

For the third consecutive year, we staffed not one studio, but two – a state-of-the-art salon at the Marriott Marquis and an open studio along Broadcast Alley at the Moscone West conference venue.

We recorded more than 130 exclusive interviews – meaningful conversations with the true who's who of the global cybersecurity community. The hottest topics in the industry were discussed by the top thought leaders. This special Executive Edition showcases the very best of the best.

Want to hear about secure identity? Ping Identity founder and CEO Andre Durand was on hand to share insight. Need to learn more about zero trust? Stan Lowe, global CISO for Zscaler, has a compelling use case. Curious about the conference theme, "The Human Element?" RSA President Rohit Ghai stopped by to offer his views on it.

It was a little bit breathtaking, actually. We had CEOs, CISOs and CTOs carving time out of their busy schedules to ensure they visited ISMG's studios to talk about application security, identity, privacy legislation and other timely topics.

And you'll get a glimpse of it all in this Executive Edition version of our annual RSA Conference compendium.

This compilation provides an overview of our exhaustive RSA Conference 2020 coverage, including excerpts of our exclusive interviews from both studios and much more.

It's an exhaustive collection that represents an exhausting week – a week that seems a bit surreal, looking back. But if you spend a bit of time with it, you will be current with what's being discussed in cybersecurity 2020 – and who's saying it.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Field', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tom Field
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Visit us online for more RSA coverage:

www.databreachtoday.com/rsa-conference-videos



Video Interviews

Prakash Panjwani, CEO, WatchGuard.....	4	Vishal Salvi, CISO, Infosys	18
Mario Vuksan, CEO, ReversingLabs	4	Caleb Barlow, CEO & President, CynergisTek.....	18
Rohit Ghai, President, RSA	6	Etay Maor, CSO, Intsigts.....	19
Ricardo Villadiego, Founder & CEO, Lumu Technologies.....	7	Andre Durand, Founder & CEO, Ping Identity.....	20
Chris Eng, Chief Research Officer, Veracode.....	7	Kowsik Guruswamy, CTO, Menlo Security.....	21
Andy Purdy, CSO, Huawei Technologies USA.....	7	Alasdair Rambaud, CEO, SecuredTouch	21
Zulfikar Ramzan, CTO, RSA.....	7	Partha Panda, CEO, Cysiv.....	21
Matt Gyde, CEO, NTT Security, Karl Soderlund, SVP, Palo Alto Networks.....	8	Armen Najarian, Chief Identity Officer, Agari	21
Sam Curry, CSO, Cybereason	8	Keith Alexander, President, IronNet Cybersecurity.....	22
Brett Beranek, GM, Security & Biometrics, Nuance Communications....	8	Shehzad Merchant, CTO, Gigamon.....	23
Tony Pepper, CEO, Egress; Dawn Cappelli, VP & CISO, Rockwell Automation; Sujeet Bambawale, CISO, 7-Eleven; Solomon Adote, CSO, State of Delaware	8	Brian McCann, President of Security Solutions, Neustar	23
Stan Lowe, Global CISO, Zscaler.....	9	Wes Wright, CTO, Imprivata.....	23
Jake King, CEO, Cmd.....	11	Paul Agabian, CTO, Symantec.....	23
Hed Kovetz, CEO and Co-Founder, Silverfort	11	Nir Polak, CEO, Exabeam	24
Fleming Shi, CTO, Barracuda Networks.....	11	Hal Lonas, SVP and CTO, SMB and Consumer, Opentext.....	24
Joyce Brocaglia, CEO, Alta Associates.....	11	Art Coviello, Partner, Rally Ventures.....	24
John Kindervag, Field CTO, Palo Alto Networks.....	12	Joe Partlow, CTO, ReliaQuest	24
Don Dixon, Co-founder and Managing Director, ForgePoint Capital	12	Christy Wyatt, CEO, Absolute Software.....	25
Diana Kelley, Cybersecurity Field CTO, Microsoft.....	12	Michelle Denedy, CEO, Drumwave.....	27
Ben Smith, Field CTO (US), RSA.....	12	Ram Varadarajan, Co-founder and CEO, Acalvio.....	27
Alberto Yépez, Co-founder & Managing Director, ForgePoint Capital .	13	Brian Castagna, CISO, Seven Bridges	27
Kelly White, CEO & Founder, RiskRecon.....	14	Bil Harmer, Chief Evangelist & CISO, SecureAuth	27
Nik Whitfield, Founder & CEO, Panaseer.....	15	Aaron Higbee, Co-Founder, Cofense	28
Rob Cataldo, Managing Director, NA, Kaspersky.....	15	Wade Baker, Partner & Co-Founder, Cyentia Institute.....	29
Mike Armistead, CEO, Respond Software.....	15	David Wagner, CEO, Zix	29
Matt Kraning, CTO and Co-Founder, Expanse	15	Vishal Gupta, Global CTO and SVP, Technology, Unisys.....	29
Ben de Bont, CISO, ServiceNow.....	16	Ofer Israeli, Founder, CEO, Illusive Networks.....	29
Anthony Bettini, CTO, WhiteHat Security.....	16	Markku Rossi, CTO, SSH Communications Security.....	30
Gabriel Gumbs, Chief Innovation Officer, Spirion.....	16	Corey Nachreiner, CTO, WatchGuard.....	30
Shreyans Mehta, Co-Founder and CTO, Cequence Security.....	16	Nik Whitfield, Founder & CEO, Panaseer.....	30
Giovanni Vigna, Co-Founder and CTO, Lastline	17	Sameer Malhotra, CEO, TrueFort	30
Phil Reitingner, President, Global Cyber Alliance.....	18	Michael Chertoff, Executive Chairman, The Chertoff Group.....	31
Heather Dahl, CEO & Executive Director, Sovrin Foundation.....	18	Nimrod Vax, Co-Founder, Head of Product, BigID.....	32
		Steve Katz, Owner, Security Risk Solutions LLC	32

More Content

More Videos	34	ISMG Behind the Scenes	42
7 RSA Takeaways: 'Human Element' Meets COVID-19 Concerns	37		

Welcome to ISMG Studios at RSA Conference 2020

TOM FIELD, SVP EDITORIAL, ISMG

Over the course of four days at the RSA Conference 2020, ISMG had five editors staffing two video studios to produce more than 130 interviews with the global cybersecurity industry's leaders. Joining me to conduct these interviews were my colleagues Varun Haran, Nick Holland, Mathew Schwartz and Scott Ferguson. And among the conversations were one-on-ones with RSA Conference keynoters, sponsors and speakers, as well as panel discussions dedicated to cybersecurity research, education and the post-GDPR privacy imperative.

3 Trends Reshaping Security

WatchGuard CEO **Prakash Panjwani** on Attacks, Cloud and Skills



WatchGuard Technologies has released its latest Internet Security Report. CEO Prakash Panjwani draws on that research to discuss attack trends, cloud security and how to mitigate the global skills shortage.

WATCH ONLINE


Beyond Black Box Results: Explainable Threat Intelligence

Security Demands 'Destructive Object Insight,' Says ReversingLabs' CEO **Mario Vuksan**




Malware defenses today too often function as black boxes, producing binary results that make it difficult for security teams to prioritize, when what's needed is transparency, to enable defenders to better understand threats and prioritize their response, says Mario Vuksan, CEO of ReversingLabs.

WATCH ONLINE

A portrait of Andre Durand, a middle-aged man with short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue button-down shirt. A small black lapel microphone is clipped to his jacket. The background is a blurred cityscape at night with a bridge and lights.

“For us it’s really about integrating that multigenerational IT landscape of large enterprises and allowing all of them to partake in a modern identity security infrastructure.”

Andre Durand,
Founder & CEO, Ping Identity



Rohit Ghai,
President,
RSA

RSA President on 'The Human Element'

Rohit Ghai Opens up on Digital Risk Management, RSA's Future

As RSAC 2020 neared its close, RSA President Rohit Ghai visited ISMG Studios to discuss the event theme, "The Human Element," as well as digital risk management and the pending sale of RSA.

"We as an industry have to agree on what story we actually want."

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Ghai discusses:

- The importance of the focus on the human element;
- Why organizations must reorganize their defenses;
- RSA's outlook for 2020 and beyond.

WATCH ONLINE

'Have We Been Compromised?'

Lumu Technologies' CEO **Ricardo Villadiego** on Answering the Question Every Business Leader Asks



At the core of cybersecurity, every leader has just one ultimate question: 'Have we been compromised?' And yet that remains the most difficult question to answer with certainty, says Ricardo Villadiego, CEO of Lumu Technologies.

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Huawei CSO Responds to 5G Security and Espionage Concerns

Andy Purdy, CSO of Huawei Technologies USA, Urges Industrywide Transparency



In response to White House warnings that 5G infrastructure equipment built by Huawei could be subverted by China to conduct espionage, Andy Purdy of Huawei Technologies USA says his company has pledged full transparency and urges competitors to follow suit.

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DevOps and the State of Software Security

Too Many Preventable Code-Level Flaws Still Persist, Says **Chris Eng**, Chief Research Officer of Veracode



Software development over the past decade: The good news is that more organizations than ever have secure software development practices in place, says Chris Eng, chief research officer at Veracode. But the bad news is that many of the same flaws - including injection vulnerabilities - persist.

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RSA's Zulfikar Ramzan on Quantum and Crypto

CTO Tackles Top Cyber Trends and Projects the 'Data Decade'



True or False: Quantum computing will break cryptography as we know it today? RSA CTO Zulfikar Ramzan shares his thoughts and opens up on the trends he sees driving the cybersecurity marketplace in the decade ahead.

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Security-as-a-Service Imperative: Predictive, Not Reactive

NTT's CEO and Palo Alto Networks SVP
Share Details of New Partnership



For maximum effectiveness, security-as-a-service solutions can no longer simply be reactive, but must instead be predictive, which is the focus of a newly announced partnership between NTT and Palo Alto Networks.

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The Ongoing Search for Indicators of Behavior

Cybereason's CSO **Sam Curry** on Changing the
Approach to Detection



Indicators of compromise are important. But what if you could also detect patterns of behavior that tip you off before a crime? This is where Cybereason's Sam Curry is trying to shift the focus.

WATCH ONLINE

The Evolution of Voice Biometrics

Brett Beranek, GM of Nuance Communications,
on the Emergence of Linguistic Biometrics



Voice biometrics continue to evolve. Brett Beranek of Nuance Communications discusses how linguistic variances are the latest field to emerge.

WATCH ONLINE

CISO Panel: Tackling the Insider Threat

At RSA Conference, CISOs Share Strategies for
Mitigating the Accidental Insider



Technology has enabled a whole new wave of "accidental" insider threats - people who make a mistake or are taken advantage of by attackers. What role can technology now play in improving insider threat detection and response? Three CISOs share their insights.

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Stan Lowe,
Global CISO,
Zscaler

The Role of 'Zero Trust' in Pandemic Threat Management

Stan Lowe, Global CISO of Zscaler, on Implementing Remote Device Management

The threat of the coronavirus outbreak emphasizes how remote access to workplaces is critical in business continuity. Stan Lowe of Zscaler discusses "zero trust" in the context of pandemics.

"The deal is: Being able to work effectively from anywhere."

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Lowe discusses:

- How a zero trust approach could assist with business continuity in pandemic outbreaks;
- Why zero trust is much more than marketing hype;
- The four tenets of zero trust.

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“In order to change our reality, we must start with changing our story.”

Rohit Ghai,
President, RSA

Cloud Protection: How to Secure Server Environments

Jake King, CEO of Cmd, Charts the Evolution of Cloud Workload Protection Platforms



Development teams are increasingly building and deploying for the cloud, but DevOps practices too often fail to account for what happens after applications go from development into production and maintenance - and the ongoing security challenges they will face, says Jake King, CEO, of Cmd.

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Why The Cloud Is The New Network

Fleming Shi, CTO of Barracuda Networks, on Latest Cloud Security Research Findings



Barracuda Networks has released the findings of its latest survey on public cloud security. Fleming Shi, chief technology officer of the company, describes what is holding organizations back from fully embracing the public cloud.

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Addressing IAM Pain Points and Security Gaps

Hed Kovetz, CEO of Silverfort, Reviews Holistic Agentless Approach to Secure Authentication



Corporate networks have been going through dramatic changes in recent years, due to IT revolutions such as the cloud, IoT and BYOD. In this new reality, with countless devices and services all connected to each other without clear perimeters, verifying user identities and controlling their access to sensitive resources becomes more important than ever, but also far more difficult to achieve, says Hed Kovetz of Silverfort.

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CISO Recruitment: What Are the Hot Skills?

Alta Associates CEO **Joyce Brocaglia** on What Enterprises Are Seeking in Their Next CISO



What are enterprises seeking in their next CISO - a technologist, a business leader or both? Joyce Brocaglia of Alta Associates shares insights on the key qualities she's looking for when recruiting CISOs.

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Zero Trust and the Battle to Block Data Breaches

The Latest Challenges Are Cloud and IOT, says Palo Alto Networks CTO **John Kindervag**



Ten years since he coined the term "zero trust" while working as an industry analyst, John Kindervag, field CTO of Palo Alto Networks, sees CISOs increasingly being faced with the challenge of having to implement the "never trust, always verify" model across increasingly complex IT environments, including cloud and IoT.

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Ransomware: Distraction and Destruction

Microsoft Field CTO **Diana Kelley** on the Dangerous Evolution of Attacks



Ransomware has evolved in two alarming paths: One to create distraction, the other to ensure destruction. Microsoft's Diana Kelley describes the new trends and how enterprises can respond.

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The Business Side of Cybersecurity

ForgePoint's Co-Founder **Don Dixon** on the Role of Venture Capitalists



In a crowded cybersecurity marketplace, it's challenging for newcomers not only to get funding, but also to rise above the noise and get attention. This is where venture capital firms can help, says Don Dixon, co-founder and managing director of ForgePoint Capital.

WATCH ONLINE

RSA's Ben Smith: State of Digital Risk Management

Organization's Field CTO on Third-Party Risk, Privacy and Cloud Security



For the past year-plus, RSA and ISMG have teamed up for a series of North American cybersecurity roundtables dedicated to digital risk management. RSA's Ben Smith shares highlights of discussions about third-party risk, privacy and multi-cloud transformation.

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Alberto Yépez,
Managing Director,
ForgePoint Capital

Investing in Cybersecurity's Future

Alberto Yépez, Co-founder of ForgePoint Capital on
What \$450 Million Can Buy

ForgePoint Capital, a venture capital firm focused on cybersecurity, recently announced a new \$450 million investment fund targeted solely on advancing cyber defenses. Alberto Yépez, managing director of ForgePoint, discusses his investment strategy.

“We just raised our second fund - \$450 million – and, again, exclusively investing in cybersecurity companies.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Yépez discusses:

- The state of the industry;
- ForgePoint's portfolio investments;
- Technologies he's bullish on in 2020.

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Kelly White,
CEO & Founder,
RiskRecon

The Maturity of Third-Party Risk Management

RiskRecon CEO **Kelly White** Shares Insight and Predictions

While conventional approaches to third-party risk management remain unchanged, the industry is transitioning to a new "normal," says RiskRecon CEO Kelly White.

"We're definitely still in the earlier stages of the maturity cycle."

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, White discusses:

- The evolving third-party risk surface;
- Key pain points for organizations and recommendations;
- The new "normal" for third-part risk management.

WATCH ONLINE

Why Visibility Is Essential to Managing Risk

Panaseer CEO **Nik Whitfield** Discusses Roles of Integration, Orchestration



Integration and orchestration are critical components of managing risk, says Nik Whitfield, CEO of Panaseer, who discusses the importance of visibility.

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How Threat Intelligence Feeds Are Evolving

Rob Cataldo, Managing Director of Kaspersky, Discusses Bringing Context to Threat Intelligence



Threat intelligence feeds are evolving, but Rob Cataldo of Kaspersky North America says it's important to put all this data into context to create better enterprise security.

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Architecting the Modern SOC

Respond Software CEO **Mike Armistead** on the Key Elements



Out with the old SOC, in with the new. Respond Software CEO Mike Armistead describes the elements of the modern SOC and how to re-think security monitoring and incident response.

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The Evolution of Cloud Governance

Expanse CTO **Matt Kraning** on Meeting New Demands for Cloud Security



The good news is: Organizations are embracing the cloud, and that's a boon to velocity and digital transformation. The bad news: Visibility and governance take a huge hit. Matt Kraning, CTO and co-founder of Expanse, discusses this challenge and how to improve cloud governance.

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How Automated Workflows Boost Cybersecurity

ServiceNow CISO **Ben de Bont** Shares Lessons



Automated workflows can help pre-emptively report cybersecurity risk to the board and allow for better qualitative approaches to interpreting data, says Ben de Bont, CISO of ServiceNow.

WATCH ONLINE

The DevSecOps Challenges

WhiteHat Security CTO **Anthony Bettini** Shares Latest Research



As businesses face pressure to release software faster, security is unfortunately not keeping pace, says Anthony Bettini of WhiteHat Security, who reviews DevSecOps challenges.

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The 'Human Element' in Privacy

Gabriel Gumbs, CIO of Spirion, on Privacy Regulations and Data Classification



The RSA 2020 theme was "The Human Element." Gabriel Gumbs of Spirion describes what this means in the era of privacy regulations.

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Managing the Risks Posed By APIs

Shreyans Mehta, Co-Founder and CTO of Cequence Security, on the API Security Landscape



APIs are exposing a lot of business logic to exploitation, says Shreyans Mehta, co-founder and CTO at Cequence Security, who offers insights on enhancing API security.

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Giovanni Vigna,
Co-Founder and CTO,
Lastline

Tackling Network Visibility Challenges

Lastline CTO **Giovanni Vigna** on Network Detection and Response

A network-based approach to visibility can succeed in providing critical insights, while node-based approaches may hit bottlenecks, says Lastline's Giovanni Vigna.

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Vigna discusses:

- Defining network detection and response;
- Innovations in response and remediation;
- Key challenges and recommendations.

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“This is definitely one of the major issues: knowing what’s going onto your network.”

Cybersecurity for the Midmarket

Global Cyber Alliance President **Phil Reiting** Describes Efforts to Bolster SMB, Election Security



In 2019, the Global Cyber Alliance debuted its toolkit to help small and midsize organizations bolster cybersecurity. How has the toolkit been received and refined? Phil Reiting, president of GCA, discusses progress.

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A Global CISO's Journey in 2020

Vishal Salvi, CISO of Infosys, Shares Lessons, Advice



While the fundamentals of security haven't changed, the approach and scale are constantly evolving - so, remaining proactive is key, says Vishal Salvi, CISO and head of the cybersecurity practice at Infosys.

WATCH ONLINE

The Role of Self-Sovereign Identity Management

Heather Dahl, CEO & Executive Director of the Sovrin Foundation, on the Next Generation of Identity Control



As consumers and organizations demand more stringent identity and access management controls, self-sovereign identity management can play a critical role, says Heather Dahl of the Sovrin Foundation.

WATCH ONLINE

Tips on Ransomware Defense Strategies

Caleb Barlow, CEO of CynergisTek, on Addressing the Challenges



Healthcare institutions and nonprofits are suffering badly from ransomware attacks, says Caleb Barlow, CEO of CynergisTek, who offers insights on shoring up defenses.

WATCH ONLINE



Etay Maor,
Chief Security Officer,
IntSights

INTSIGHTS

Etay Maor on Breach Trends, Techniques

Intsights Chief Security Officer Opens up on What He Sees Beyond the Dark Web

Etay Maor has long been a force in cybercrime research. In his current role as CSO of Intsights, he has new views of breach trends, tools and techniques, as well as analysis of what's happening in fraud circles beyond the dark web.

“We’re looking into how cybercriminals think and how they operate, and a lot of the tools and techniques they use are not something new.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Maor discusses:

- His latest cybercrime studies;
- Tools and techniques behind the latest breaches;
- What's happening in the cyber underground outside the dark web.

WATCH ONLINE



Andre Durand,
Founder & CEO,
Ping Identity

The Year of Securing Identity

Ping Identity CEO **Andre Durand** on Effective Identity Security Strategies

Andre Durand has spent decades in the cybersecurity sector and had identity in his sights when he founded Ping Identity in 2002. Nearly 20 years later, the industry is embracing the notion that cybersecurity begins with secure identity.

“It’s always been our thesis that we can’t secure what we can’t identify.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Durand discuss:

- Top threat trends;
- The evolution of identity security;
- Keys to effective identity security strategies.

WATCH ONLINE

Achieving Zero Trust in the Cloud

Menlo Security CTO **Kowsik Guruswamy** Shares Recommendations



Office365 and SaaS usage are driving a shift away from managing security on premises, necessitating stronger security in the cloud, says Kowsik Guruswamy, chief technology officer at Menlo Security.

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The Cutting Edge of Behavioral Biometrics

SecuredTouch CEO **Alasdair Rambaud** on 2020 Innovations



Behavioral biometrics is seeing wide adoption and is helping organizations proactively fight fraud, says Alasdair Rambaud, CEO at SecuredTouch.

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SOC as a Service: Making the Case

Cysiv CEO **Partha Panda** Describes a New Strategy



Triaging growing volumes of SOC telemetry is becoming increasingly untenable for security teams, says Cysiv CEO Partha Panda, who makes the case for SOC-as-a-Service offerings.

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Protecting Election Integrity One Email at a Time

Armen Najarian, Chief Identity Officer of Agari, on Phishing Attack Scenarios for the 2020 Elections



Because election manipulation is a serious concern in 2020, Armen Najarian of Agari describes steps to prevent election fraud via email.

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Gen. Keith Alexander,
Co-CEO,
IronNet Cybersecurity

Ex-NSA Director Makes the Case for Collaboration

Retired General **Keith Alexander** on 'Collective Defense'

Retired General Keith Alexander knows a thing or two about building defenses. And as the president of IronNet Cybersecurity, the former director of the National Security Agency is now calling for private sector and government entities to come together in an effort he describes as "collective defense."

"The more people work together, the better it gets."

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Alexander discuss:

- IronNet's latest threat research and predictions;
- The latest manifestations of nation-state threats;
- The state of election cybersecurity..

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Zero Trust: Definitions, Practicalities, Challenges

Gigamon CTO **Shehzad Merchant** on Hygiene, Monitoring and Rapid Incident Response



Zero trust is not a product or a destination, but rather a journey requiring organizations to practice good security hygiene, continuous monitoring and detection, as well as rapid incident response backed by high levels of automation, says Shehzad Merchant, chief technology officer of Gigamon.

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Deriving Actionable Threat Intelligence

Neustar's President of Security Solutions, **Brian McCann**, Offers Insights



Growing data sources and intel feeds are making it more challenging for security teams to find the signal in a very noisy landscape, says Neustar's Brian McCann.

[WATCH ONLINE](#)

Securing Digital Identity in Healthcare

Imprivata's CTO **Wes Wright** on Meeting Sector's Unique Challenges



"Identity is the new perimeter" is a common refrain. But what does it mean specifically in the healthcare context? Wes Wright, chief technology officer at Imprivata, discusses the challenge of securing digital identity in this sector.

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Symantec's Strategy as a Broadcom Unit

CTO **Paul Agbabian** Discusses Areas of Focus



Innovation, consolidation and integration will be key areas of focus for Symantec's enterprise security business following its acquisition by Broadcom, says Paul Agbabian, CTO.

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Closing the Tech Talent Gap

Exabeam CEO **Nir Polak** on the Role of Automated Tools



Global enterprises have spent a decade fighting the cybersecurity skills shortage, and Exabeam CEO Nir Polak has ideas about how automated tools can help fill the gap.

WATCH ONLINE

Inside Webroot 2020 Threat Report

Hal Lonas, SVP and CTO at OpenText, Shares Cybersecurity Predictions



Webroot just released its 2020 Threat Report. How has the landscape changed, and what cybersecurity predictions are made for 2020? Hal Lonas of OpenText shares insights and outlines the next round of research into artificial intelligence and machine learning.

WATCH ONLINE

Art Coviello on CISOs and the Board

Ex-RSA CEO on What the Board, Senior Management Need to Hear



Art Coviello, a partner at Rally Ventures and former CEO of RSA, recently met with a group of CISOs on the topic of presenting to the board. He was surprised - and not in a good way - at what he heard. Here are his tips for talking cybersecurity with senior business leaders.

WATCH ONLINE

Improving Visibility, Attack Simulation

ReliaQuest's CTO **Joe Partlow** on How to Improve Agility in Unsteady Landscape



Enterprises have such product sprawl in their security stacks today, it's hard to establish - much less maintain - any degree of visibility. Joe Partlow of ReliaQuest discusses how to improve visibility, as well as how to train security teams via simulated attacks.

WATCH ONLINE



Christy Wyatt,
Chief Executive Officer,
Absolute Software

The State of Endpoint Resilience: Improvement Required

Outdated and Misconfigured Software Still Rampant, Says Absolute's CEO **Christy Wyatt**

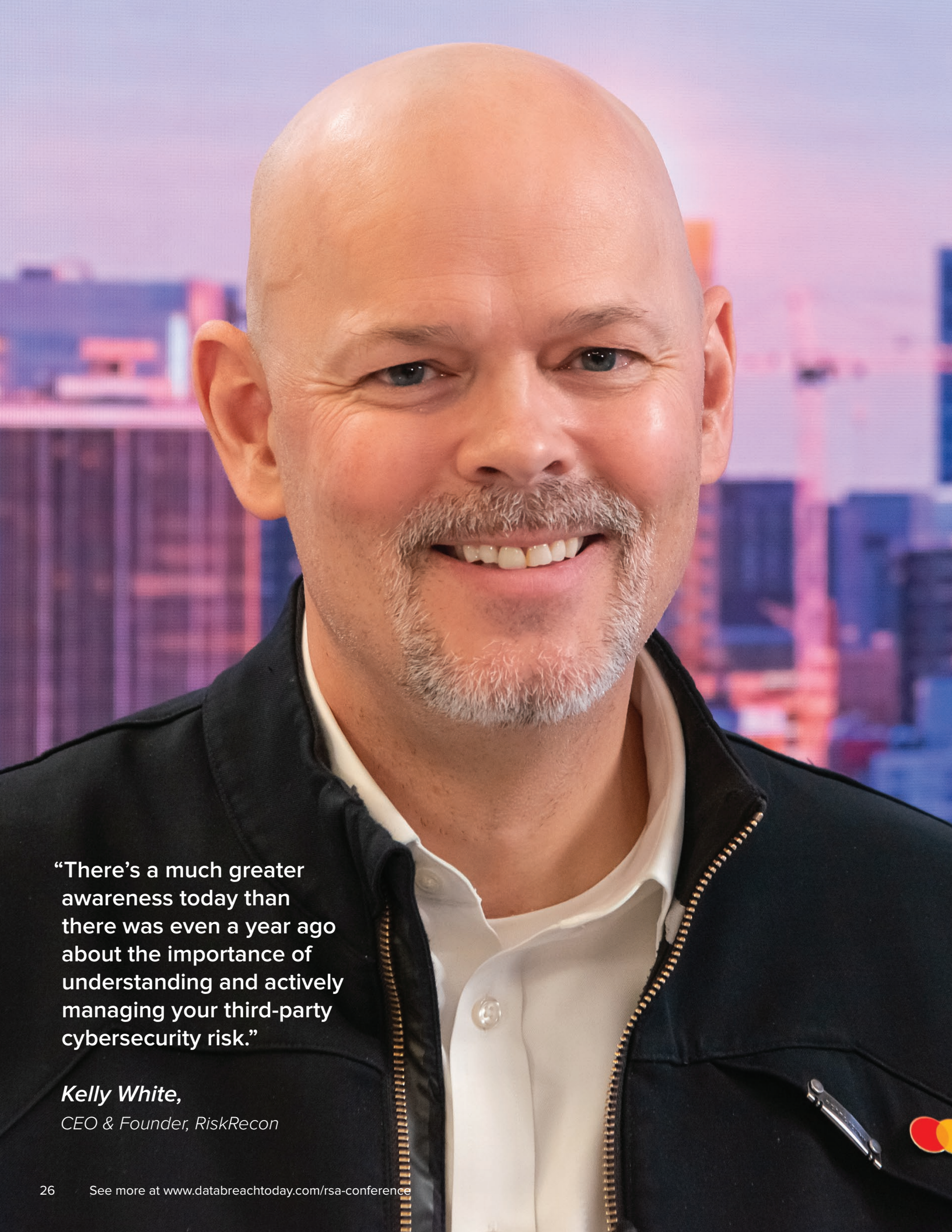
The state of endpoint security might appear good at first glance, but look below the surface, and the situation may not be as rosy as it seems, says Christy Wyatt, CEO of Absolute.

“The average endpoint in the enterprise today has more than 10 security controls.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Wyatt discusses:

- The initial findings from Absolute's research into endpoint resilience;
- Top endpoint security shortcomings and challenges;
- How enterprises can better understand if their cybersecurity investments are working.

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“There’s a much greater awareness today than there was even a year ago about the importance of understanding and actively managing your third-party cybersecurity risk.”

Kelly White,
CEO & Founder, RiskRecon

Privacy Officer in the CEO's Seat

DrumWave CEO **Michelle Dennedy** on the Opportunity to Have Privacy in Charge



Career privacy officer Michelle Dennedy now finds herself in a unique position as CEO of DrumWave, a startup data services company. At a time when privacy is a growing business imperative, what influence can she bring to this leadership role?

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Reduce Dwell Time of Advanced Threats With Deception

Acalvio CEO **Varadarajan** Shares Insights on Fighting Cybercriminals



Using deception technologies can impose a cost on cybercriminals and help reduce dwell times and increase visibility, says Acalvio Technologies CEO Ram Varadarajan.

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Lessons Learned: Securing Valuable Genomic Data

Brian Castagna, CISO of Seven Bridges, Shares Cloud Security Best Practices



While the cost of sequencing the human genome continues to decrease, the imperative to secure this most personal of personally identifiable information does not, says Brian Castagna, CISO of Seven Bridges. He shares best practices for all organizations that store sensitive information in the cloud.

[WATCH ONLINE](#)

Identity: The Last Security Bastion

Bil Harmer, Chief Evangelist & CISO of SecureAuth, on the Challenge of Securing Identities



There is no more fundamental element in cybersecurity than identity. And in some ways, there's nothing harder to secure. Bil Harmer of SecureAuth calls identity "the last bastion" of cybersecurity, and he's eager to take it on in his new role.

[WATCH ONLINE](#)



Aaron Higbee,
Co-founder and CTO,
Cofense

Phishing's Impact on the Federal Government

Cofense's CTO **Aaron Higbee** on Unique Challenges for Agencies

Federal government agencies certainly are not immune from phishing scams, and Aaron Higbee of Cofense is focused on tackling the unique challenges that government faces in detecting and stopping the crimes.

“Our clients are moving from that [mindset of] buy a product to buying a service.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Higbee also discuss:

- The government challenge;
- Why technology is failing as an anti-phishing solution;
- Why Cofense sought a "moderate" FedRAMP authorization to help government agencies.

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Hot Topics in Cybersecurity Research

Wade Baker, Partner at Cyentia Institute, on Vulnerability Triage and Quantifying Risk



Quantifying risk is a significant challenge in cybersecurity. Wade Baker of Cyentia Institute discusses recent research projects.

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Securing the Modern Workplace

David Wagner, CEO of Zix, on Rising to the Challenges of Cloud



Remote workers, connected devices, cloud services and infrastructure - these are the elements of the new workplace. Now, how do you secure it? That's the challenge discussed by David Wagner, CEO of Zix.

[WATCH ONLINE](#)

Unisys CTO Describes Focus on Security

Vishal Gupta, Global CTO & Senior Vice President, Technology on How Security Is Integral to Business



Unisys' focus on security is surging, with nearly 20 percent of its revenue in 2019 coming from the security business, says Vishal Gupta, the company's global chief technology officer.

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Defenses Beyond Mere Deception

Ofer Israeli, Founder & CEO of Illusive Networks on the Maturity of Deception Technology



Deception technology has come of age in the marketplace, but there is still some customer confusion about the distinct use cases. Ofer Israeli, CEO of Illusive Networks, shares how mature companies deploy deception.

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Assessing the Human Element in Cloud Access

Markku Rossi, CTO at SSH Communications Security, on Shifting to Zero Standing Privileges



Cloud security demands robust access management. Markku Rossi of SSH Communications Security discusses zero standing privileges and cloud access.

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2020 Predictions: Targeted Ransomware and 5G Vulnerabilities

WatchGuard's CTO **Corey Nachreiner** on Threat Report's Top 3 Predictions



New ransomware variants are targeting managed service and cloud service provider: This is one of the predictions made by WatchGuard Technologies for 2020. CTO Corey Nachreiner discusses the top three predictions.

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Why Visibility Is Essential to Managing Risk

Panaseer CEO **Nik Whitfield** Discusses Roles of Integration, Orchestration



Integration and orchestration are critical components of managing risk, says Nik Whitfield, CEO of Panaseer, who discusses the importance of visibility.

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Protecting Cloud Workloads With App Detection & Response

Sameer Malhotra, CEO of TrueFort, on Why Using Behavioral Analytics and an XDR-based Model Are Essential



Businesses remain vulnerable due to a lack of full risk posture management and security of their applications - which only new XDR and behavioral-based solutions can address, says Sameer Malhotra, CEO at TrueFort.

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Michael Chertoff,
Executive Chairman,
The Chertoff Group

America Seeks 5G and Supply Chain Security

Former US Homeland Security Secretary **Michael Chertoff** Describes the Next Steps

The U.S. is late to the 5G race. But there are multiple strategies that policymakers can pursue to facilitate the near-term rollout of safer and more trusted 5G networks across the country, says Michael Chertoff, executive chairman of The Chertoff Group and former secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

“There’s no question we are late to this competition.”

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Chertoff discusses:

- Three things the U.S. must do now to close the 5G gap;
- How long it will take until U.S. telecommunication companies can source affordable, trusted alternatives to Huawei technology;
- Why some U.S. allies have chosen to allow at least some Huawei equipment in their telecommunications networks;
- The spectrum debate, and whether additional spectrum might be freed to facilitate 5G adoption in the U.S..

WATCH ONLINE

The 'Privacy First' Strategy

Nimrod Vax, Co-Founder of BigID, on Privacy Policy in the Era of Data Protection



In today's privacy-centric environment, it's important to give data context, says Nimrod Vax of BigID, who discusses the new era of data governance.

WATCH ONLINE


Steve Katz on the CISO Role in 2020

World's First CISO Shares Insight to Guide Next Generation of Leaders



Steve Katz, the world's first CISO, who cut his teeth at Citi and Merrill Lynch, stays current with emerging tech and business trends, and he has advice to share with the next generation of cybersecurity leaders.

WATCH ONLINE

A middle-aged man with short, graying hair is seated and speaking. He is wearing a blue plaid blazer over a light-colored button-down shirt. His hands are open and gesturing as he speaks. A small black lapel microphone is clipped to his shirt. The background is a large screen displaying a cityscape at night with a prominent bridge and lights.

“Nine hundred people
working together will
accomplish more
than 10 working
by themselves.”

Gen. Keith Alexander,
Co-CEO, IronNet Cybersecurity

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ServiceNow's Vasant Balasubramanian on Digital Transformation



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Gabriel Gumbs of Spirion on Privacy Regulations and Data Classification



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Creator Jack Jones on the Uptake of His 'Factor Analysis of Information Risk' Model



[The Financial Services Security Disconnect](#)

Mike Lopez of Appgate Describes Findings of 2019 'Faces of Fraud' Survey



[Why Risk Literacy Is Essential for Digital Transformation](#)

ServiceNow's Barbara Kay Talks Maturity and Digital Transformation Project Success



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OneTrust's Jaymin Desai on the Evolution of Vendor Management

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7 RSA Takeaways: 'Human Element' Meets COVID-19 Concerns

Supply Chain, Zero Trust and Coronavirus Among Topics Dominating 2020 Conference

BY MATHEW SCHWARTZ | [@euroinfosec](#)



Moscone West on the first day of this year's RSA Conference 2020

The world's biggest pure-play cybersecurity conference remains RSA, which ran this year from Feb. 24 to 28 at San Francisco's Moscone Center.

The event remains a must-attend gathering for many information security professionals, not just to bring together prospects, customers and vendors, but also for its top-notch briefings and chance to strengthen and expand your professional network.

Topically, sessions I attended - and interviews I conducted - touched on a number of themes. My back-of-the-envelope top 10 would have to include: the security of elections, applications and supply chains, plus AI, zero trust, cybercrime, and threat intelligence. Compliance and regulatory issues - as well as frameworks - were also hot, as were discussions about the role of the CSO/CISO, including their technical aptitude.

Here are seven of my biggest takeaways from the themes and events that dominated this year's conference.



The RSAC 2020 exhibition hall

RSA by the Numbers

RSAC 2020 featured more than 700 speakers, 650 exhibitors, 500 sessions, 75 sponsors and 40 media partners, as well as what industry watchers such as PR firm Calysto estimate was on the order of about 36,000 attendees, which was down from the nearly 45,000 attendees seen for the 2019 edition of the event. (More on that in a moment.)

The week's keynotes featured a who's-who of cybersecurity, with the roster including a much better cross-section of women in the industry than was seen - across all such conferences - even just a few years ago.

Highlight: Women in Information Security

Kudos to RSA for moving to redress the industry-wide gender imbalance that plagued so many technology conferences, at least until recently.

Women appearing on the RSA keynote stages this year included, among others, cryptography expert and blockchain fan Tal Rabin; Katie Arrington, the Pentagon's CISO of acquisitions, discussing Huawei; Jessica Barker talking about the psychology of fear and trying to blame users; computer scientist and human factors expert Celeste Paul of the National Security Agency; coordinated vulnerability disclosure queen Katie Moussouris; and Wendy Nather of Duo Security - now part of Cisco - who sadly wasn't allowed to arrive on the opening morning's keynote stage via skateboard.

But Nather did arrive packing a spoon, telling the audience that until security tools were as easy to use as that utensil, designers and developers shouldn't expect mass buy-in from users. "You don't have to have annual spoon awareness training - so wouldn't it be great if we could design security to be as easy to use and as difficult to get wrong as a spoon," she said.

One positive example: Only 20 percent of iPhone users enabled a four-digit PIN on their device, until Apple began building Touch ID into its devices, at which point use of this "seamless technology" surged to 80 percent, she said.

Nather urged attendees to democratize security and recast it with a pro-user point of view. "I much prefer collaboration to 'zero trust' - sorry, John Kindervag," she said.

Coronavirus Concerns Bite Attendance

RSA went ahead despite mounting concerns over the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 that causes the severe acute respiratory syndrome COVID-19. While initial infections appeared to be highly localized in China, by the time of RSAC, COVID-19 concerns had already led to the cancellation of Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, scheduled to happen at the same time as RSA, and which would have ordinarily drawn 100,000 attendees. The Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society annual conference, which usually attracts about 45,000, also was canceled.

How big a bite did COVID-19 concerns take out of this year's RSA attendance? Conference organizers have so far declined to share final attendance figures. But this year's footfall was noticeably reduced. In the days leading up to RSA, 14 exhibitors - including IBM, AT&T and Verizon - announced they would not be exhibiting on the show floor, while organizers said that about 1.2 percent of attendees had canceled their reservations in advance.

On the upside, multiple vendors exhibiting at the conference told me that while they were seeing fewer people at their booths, the quality and caliber of many meetings they were having with customers and prospects remained high, which suggests that many diehard attendees did still attend.

Vulcan Etiquette: The Future is Now?

With COVID-19 concerns looming large, conference organizers saw to regular wipe-downs of all surfaces, and antibacterial gel-dispensing stations were located at all entrances/exits as well as alongside escalators and public gathering places throughout the Moscone and Marriott Marquis.

But unanswered questions persisted. Lacking was a Miss Manners guide to cybersecurity conference social etiquette in the age of COVID-19. To wit: hugs, handshakes, hand on heart bows, fist bumps or to attempt an elbow bump?

In fact, more attendees should arguably have taken a page from actor George Takei, who portrayed the Star Trek character Hikaru

Sulu in the original series, and delivered this year's opening RSA monologue, signing off with the iconic Vulcan "live long and prosper" salutation. Cue contact-free tech joy.

'We're From CISA, and We're Here to Help'

The opening Tuesday keynotes at RSA follow a regular format: a musical act (missing this year); a guest actor who delivers a monologue; the president of RSA to kick things off; and an array of sponsoring vendors who deliver spiels. That gets followed by The Cryptographer's Panel - a world-class group of crypto experts debating the top issues of the day - and then a U.S. government official or lawmaker who's well-versed in cybersecurity.

So spot the fed: This year's government slot was ably occupied by Chris Krebs - "the other Krebs," as he's been known to say - who runs the U.S. Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency.

"We like security so much we have it in our name twice," Krebs said in an on-stage interview with Heather Dahl, executive director and CEO of the Sovrin Foundation, who dived deep into the challenges and goals facing the new agency.

CISA's role, he said, is to advise American organizations, ranging from states trying to protect voter registration databases - an easy target for cybercriminals seeking easy shakedowns - to any organization that is a potential ransomware target, not to mention anyone involved in election security.



George Takei helps launch RSAC 2020

"We're hoping to engage across particularly small and medium size businesses, state and local governments, left of boom" - meaning before they next get hit - he said. But it's still up to those organizations to better protect themselves.

"We're the nation's risk adviser," Krebs said. "We're not the nation's risk manager. You own and operate the systems; you own the risk."

Debate: 5G Security and Supply Chains

Speaking of risks, one of the biggest global policy debates at the moment that has a cybersecurity impact concerns the rollout of national 5G networks, and questions over whether Chinese-built gear can be trusted. The perceived risk - at least according to the White House and some allies - is that Chinese manufacturers are beholden to Beijing, which could force vendors to adapt or tailor their gear for espionage purposes.

The question of whether Huawei should be trusted loomed large throughout the conference. Fielding both sides of the debate, I conducted an interview with Michael Chertoff, who was the second-ever U.S. Homeland Security secretary and who is one of a number of policy experts advancing a Chinese-gear-free approach to building out telecommunications networks for the U.S. and its allies.

On the other side of the fence, former DHS official Andy Purdy, who since 2012 has served as the CSO of Huawei USA, told me that no vendors should be trusted - or not - based on country of origin. Instead, he urged all vendors to become much more transparent, to give potential buyers the information they would need to come to their own decision.

Purdy advanced that perspective in a "How to Reduce Supply Chain Risk: Lessons from Efforts to Block Huawei" panel discussion that



Participants on the Feb. 26 "How to Reduce Supply Chain Risk: Lessons from Efforts to Block Huawei" panel, from left: Craig Spiezle, Katie Arrington, Andy Purdy, Bruce Schneier and Kathryn Waldron



Two Cryptographer's Panel participants: Ron Rivest (left) and Adi Shamir, respectively the "R" and "S" behind the RSA algorithm

included security experts Bruce Schneier and Kathryn Waldron, as well as Katie Arrington - the aforementioned Pentagon CISO of acquisitions - and Online Trust Alliance founder Craig Spiegle.

"Are we going to consider a vendor trusted because they're not headquartered in China?" said Purdy. "I'm starting to learn from you all that we can't trust anybody."

Schneier sees multiple hurdles. "Supply chain security is an insurmountable problem," he said, adding that unless a vendor controls its hardware, software and assembly processes - and today, many U.S. technology vendors build their wares in China - then they cannot guarantee that their products are secure.

"The internet was invented to answer a specific question: can you build a trustworthy network out of untrustworthy parts? The answer is yes," Schneier said. "Can we build a trustworthy network out of untrustworthy parts? I don't know the answer yet."

In the meantime, the White House has said what it won't do, by banning government use of Huawei gear, although Arrington said the full picture on that decision remains partially classified. "There's a reason that we did what we did; backdoors being what they are, that isn't the problem," she said. "It's when you're able to convey control to another country, it's a problem in the United States, period."

Potential Pandemic Puts Cybersecurity in Perspective

Control, however, can be a fleeting concept. During The Cryptographer's Panel on Feb. 25, MIT Professor Ron Rivest - the "R" behind the RSA asymmetric cryptographic algorithm - looked at the last 20 years of changes in the industry, highlighting that two decades is often the time it takes to get a product from white board to widely adopted.

But unexpected events can have a massive impact not just on products but processes, some of which cybersecurity might touch. With coronavirus in particular, arguably not since 9/11 has a non-digital event cast such a large shadow over the RSA conference's cybersecurity focus.

"Quantum computing is coming online, maybe. We have new math. Smartphones have really changed the game," Rivest said of the past 20 years. "We have new adversaries in the upcoming elections - it may not be the Russians, it may be the coronavirus. We'll see."

Behind the Scenes: ISMG at RSA Conference 2020

Information Security Media Group, media partner at RSA Conference 2020, was busy conducting video interviews with top leaders in information security, risk management and privacy. Here's a look at the team behind the scenes.





Left: ISMG's Mathew Schwartz (right) with Christy Wyatt of Absolute Software; below: ISMG's Jen Eisenhower during a break in the studio.



Above: ISMG's Mat Schwartz prepares for his next interview; Right: ISMG's Varun Haran (right) with Cequence's Shreyans Mehta.





Left: ISMG's Raquel Sanchez with the video crew; Below: ISMG's Varun Haran (right) talks with Brian McCann of Neustar.



Left: Ricardo Villadiego of Lumu Technologies (left), ISMG's CEO Sanjay Kalra (center) and Tom Field (right).



Above: ISMG team in the studio; Below: ISMG's Tom Field interviews Rohit Ghai of RSA.





Above, Alasdair Rambaud of SecuredTouch (left) speaks with ISMG's Varun Haran; below, activity in the ISMG Studio





Above: CyberTheory team at RSAC 2020: From left: Steve King, Sanjay Kalra, Mike D'Agostino, and Julie Jordan.



Left: ISMG's Steve King (left) and Michael Gee network during an interview break.

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Information Security Media Group (ISMG) is the world's largest media organisation devoted solely to information security and risk management. Each of our 28 media properties provides education, research and news that is specifically tailored to key vertical sectors including banking, healthcare and the public sector; geographies from North America to Southeast Asia; and topics such as data breach prevention, cyber risk assessment and fraud. Our annual global Summit series connects senior security professionals with industry thought leaders to find actionable solutions for pressing cybersecurity challenges.

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