RSA Conference 2020 Highlights and Insights

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

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INFORMATION SECURITY
MEDIA GROUP

The Best of RSA Conference 2020

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

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

Between these studios, 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.

Want to hear about ransomware? Microsoft's Diana Kelley was on hand to share insight. Concerned about election security? The FBI's Elvis Chan discussed myths and realities. What are the hottest cybersecurity technologies and investments? Alberto Yepez and Don Dixon – managing directors of ForgePoint Capital – both came to the studio to share their time and vision.

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 everything from application security to zero trust, identity to privacy legislation.

And you get a glimpse of it all in this annual RSA Conference content compendium.

Once again, this compilation provides a glimpse of our exhaustive RSA Conference 2020 coverage, from pre-event promotional interviews materials to excerpts of our exclusive interviews – from both studios.

This is an exhaustive collection that represents an exhausting week. But if you spend a bit of time on it, you'll be current with what's being discussed in cybersecurity in 2020 – and who's saying it.

Enjoy!

Best,

Tom Field
SVP, Editorial
Information Security Media Group
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Visit us online for more RSA coverage:

www.databreachtoday.com/rsa-conference

Video Interviews

More Content

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.

CISO Panel: Tackling the Insider Threat

At RSA Conference, CISOs Share Strategies for Mitgating 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.

WATCH ONLINE

The Business Side of Cybersecurity

ForgePoint's **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

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

Rohit Ghai,
President, RSA

Stan Lowe,
Global CISO,
Zscaler

The Role of 'Zero Trust' in Pandemic Threat Management

Stan Lowe 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 from anywhere effectively."

In a video interview with Information Security Media Group at RSA Conference 2020, Vax also 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.

WATCH ONLINE

Huawei CSO Responds to 5G Security and Espionage Concerns

Andy Purdy 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.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

Redefining Security Analytics

Chronicle's **Anton Chuvakin** on How to Fill the Gaps for Analysts

There are glaring holes in how enterprises currently tackle security analytics, and by redefining the approach, the analyst's role can be transformed. Dr. Anton Chuvakin of Chronicle explains how.

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.

WATCH ONLINE

The Evolution of Voice Biometrics

Brett Beranek 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

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

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.

WATCH ONLINE

Sanjay Virmani,
Assistant Special Agent in Charge,
FBI

FBI on the Nuances of the Nation-State Threat

Sanjay Virmani of Bureau's SF Office on Threats, Actors, Motivations

Russia, China, North Korea, Iran - the major nation-state actors are well known to cybersecurity leaders. But how do their motivations and tactics differ? Sanjay Virmani of San Francisco's FBI office shares insight on the nation-state threat.

> "The theft of trade secrets – the theft of intellectual property – is a huge problem. The US is losing billions of dollars each year."

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

- His background in law enforcement and cybercrime;
- The nuances of the nation-state actors;
- How enterprise security leaders can assist FBI investigations.

WATCH ONLINE

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

Gen. Keith Alexander,
Co-CEO, IronNet Cybersecurity

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

Deception Technology in 2020

Attivo's CTO and CMO Share Insight on Industry Trends

Deception technology has moved from being an emerging technology to a more mainstream security control, say Tony Cole, CTO, and Carolyn Crandall, chief deception officer and chief marketing officer, at Attivo Networks.

WATCH ONLINE

DevOps and the State of Software Security

Too Many Preventable Code-Level Flaws Still Persist, Says **Chris Eng** 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.

WATCH ONLINE

Identity: The Last Security Bastion

Bil Harmer 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

Deriving Actionable Threat Intelligence

Neustar's **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

Achieving True Predictive Security Analytics

Fortiguard Labs' **Derek Manky** Talks About What the Market is Getting Wrong

True predictive analysis is difficult — and it sometimes takes years of learning and data modeling to get right, says Derek Manky — chief security insights and global threat alliances at Fortiguard Labs.

WATCH ONLINE

FBI's Elvis Chan on Election Cybersecurity

Amidst Primary Elections, Focus Is on Securing Democracy

Elvis Chan is one of the FBI's foremost experts on election cybersecurity. And as the U.S. marches toward the November presidential election, he is laser-focused on protecting the vote from foreign influence.

WATCH ONLINE

Bridging the Cybersecurity Generation Gap

RSA CMO **Holly Rollo** and Daughter on Diversity, Growing the Field

RSA CMO Holly Rollo and her adult daughter Emily find themselves in a unique position: They work at competing cybersecurity vendors. The Rollos open up on their backgrounds, careers and how the cybersecurity sector can grow through greater diversity.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

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

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

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.

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..

"There's no question we are late to this competition."

WATCH ONLINE

Modernizing Security Operations

ExtraHop's **Bryce Hein** on How Security Must Think Differently

In a multi-cloud environment, where apps, services and connected devices rule the landscape, the security organization has to interact differently with operations. Bryce Hein of ExtraHop tells how.

WATCH ONLINE

Cyberattack Trends and Essential Hack-Repelling Defenses

Chet Wisniewksi of Sophos Discusses Attacker Behavior, Attempts to Remain Undetected

The human element is a fundamental component of some of the newest cyberattacks that Sophos has been tracking, says the firm's principal research scientist, Chet Wisniewski, who advises organizations to adapt their security and protection plans accordingly.

WATCH ONLINE

Why The Cloud Is The New Network

Fleming Shi 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.

WATCH ONLINE

APAC Security Challenges for 2020

Cisco's **Vishak Raman** Shares Perspectives

APAC practitioners are challenged with negotiating the uneven balance between time to hack, time to detect and time to remediate, says Cisco's Vishak Raman.

WATCH ONLINE

Addressing IAM Pain Points and Security Gaps

Hed Kovetz 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.

WATCH ONLINE

The Human-Centric Cybersecurity Stance

Homayun Yaqub of Forcepoint on Why People are the New Perimeter

Today's cybersecurity landscape is arguably without a perimeter. Homayun Yaqub of Forcepoint describes a human-centric approach to cybersecurity.

WATCH ONLINE

2020 Predictions: Targeted Ransomware and 5G Vulnerabilities

WatchGuard's **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.

WATCH ONLINE

Securing the Modern Workplace

David Wagner 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

Alberto Yépez,
Co-founder and Managing Director,
ForgePoint Capital

Investing in Cybersecurity's Future

Alberto Yépez 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.

"The general awareness of the industry has really grown exponentially. Therefore, investments are following up."

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

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

WATCH ONLINE

The Convergence of Privacy, Compliance and Security

Stacy Scott and **Alan Brill** of Kroll Discuss Building a Security Culture

Today's security practitioners need to fuse cybersecurity with compliance and privacy. Stacy Scott and Alan Brill of Kroll discuss a defensible security strategy.

WATCH ONLINE

Cloud Protection: How to Secure Server Environments

Jake King 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.

WATCH ONLINE

Ransomware: Distraction and Destruction

Microsoft's **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.

WATCH ONLINE

Security and Privacy: Often Aligned, But Sometimes Not

Few Continue to Conflate Security and Privacy, Says Attorney **James Shreve**

Not so long ago, many were confused about how security and privacy differed, but that has been rapidly changing, thanks to regulations such as the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation and California's Consumer Privacy Act, says attorney James Shreve, who's a partner at Thompson Coburn LLP.

WATCH ONLINE

"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

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.

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

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

Cyber Candid: Edna Conway and Wendy Nather Unplugged

Two Cyber Vets Double Click on Hot Topics of RSA Conference

Supply chain risk, security in the cloud, zero trust - these were three of the hottest topics at RSA Conference. And they were discussed candidly - and with some humor - when thought-leaders Edna Conway and Wendy Nather entered ISMG Studios.

WATCH ONLINE

Protecting Election Integrity One Email at a Time

Armen Najarian 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.

WATCH ONLINE

Ex-Federal CISO on the Staffing Crunch

Gregory Touhill on New Ideas to Improve Recruiting, Retention

Ex-federal CISO Gregory Touhill, a retired general, understands the global staffing crunch. Now, as president of AppGate Federal and as a board member for ISACA, he shares new insights on how to tackle cybersecurity recruiting and retention.

WATCH ONLINE

Addressing the Cybersecurity Skills Gap

John McCumber of (ISC)2 on Recent Findings of the Annual Workforce Survey

What are the silver linings to the cybersecurity skills shortage? Employee satisfaction and increasing diversity, says John McCumber of (ISC)2.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

"This is definitely one of the major issues: knowing what's going onto your network."

CNN Analyst on Nation-State Threats, Election Security

Harvard Professor **Juliette Kayyem** Shares Concerns About Critical Infrastructure

Harvard Kennedy School professor Juliette Kayyem - well known as a CNN cybersecurity analyst - spoke at RSA Conference and visited ISMG Studios to share insights on nation-state threats and election security.

WATCH ONLINE

Cloud Security: The Fast Evolution

James Christiansen of Netskope on the Digital Transformation Impact

Mobility and digital transformation have forced enterprises to radically rethink their security strategies — particularly in new multi-cloud environments. James Christiansen of Netskope discusses how CISOs can respond to — and expect further — change.

WATCH ONLINE

The State or Visibility, Detection and Response

Leah MacMillan, CMO of Trend Micro, Shares Latest Research

The attack surface is constantly expanding, with threats continuing to keep pace with the evolution in infrastructure and digital transformation, says Leah MacMillan, chief marketing officer of Trend Micro.

WATCH ONLINE

Improving Visibility, Attack Simulation

ReliaQuest's **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

Sizing Up Cyberthreats to the 2020 Presidential Election

Marcus Fowler of Darktrace on the Threat Landscape and the Security Roles for AI and ML

Marcus Fowler of Darktrace discusses the 2020 U.S. presidential election cyberthreat landscape and the roles that artificial intelligence and machine learning are now playing in mitigating more cyber risks.

WATCH ONLINE

Zero Trust and the Battle to Block Data Breaches

Latest Challenges: Cloud and IoT, Says 'Zero Trust Godfather' **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.

WATCH ONLINE

Mitigating Threats to Operational Technology

Fortinet's **Jonathan Nguyen-Duy** on the Shifting OT Security Landscape

Digital convergence is driving a shift in the security landscape for operational technology. Fortinet's Jonathan Nguyen-Duy discusses the manifestations of this shift and how to address them.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

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.

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

"It's always been our thesis that we can't secure what we can't identify."

"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

Baking Security Into DevOps

Checkmarx's **Matt Rose** on the Nuances of DevSecOps

Many CISOs today just prefer the "DevOps" label, because adding "sec" to it suggests it's a whole different process, says Matt Rose of Checkmarx.

WATCH ONLINE

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?

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.

WATCH ONLINE

Mitigating the Passive Insider Threat

Palo Alto's **M.K. Palmore** on How to Hone Detection, Response

As RSA Conference showcased "The Human Element," Palo Alto Networks' M.K Palmore turned his attention to the passive insider threat - the one that intends no malicious harm, but whose actions can lead to costly breaches.

WATCH ONLINE

Karl Soderlund,
SVP of WW Channels,
Palo Alto Networks

Matt Gyde,
CEO, NTT Security

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

NTT's Security Division and Palo Alto Networks 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.

In a video interview at RSA Conference 2020, Gyde and Soderlund also discuss:

- The impetus for the partnership between NTT and Palo Alto Networks;
- Specific capabilities that Palo Alto brings to the table;
- How NTT will use these technologies internally, as well as externally for customers;
- Specific predictive security benefits this new partnership will deliver.

WATCH ONLINE

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

– Matt Gyde,
CEO, NTT Security

How to Make Security Smarter

Okta's **Marc Rogers** Reflects on Changing Attitudes Toward Hacking Skills

Marc Rogers has been a hacker since the 1980s - notable as organizer of DEF CON - and he is pleased to see his unique set of skills now embraced by the industry and being used to make cybersecurity smarter and easier to use.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

Application Security Imperative: Earlier Is Better

Maturing Toolsets and Markets Fuel 'Shift Left,' Says **Patrick Carey** of Synopsys

Software development benefits from security checks being brought to bear early and often, but the blending of in-house and open source code has historically complicated that process, says Patrick Carey, senior director of product marketing at Synopsys. Now, however, maturing toolsets and approaches are facilitating security checks, he says.

WATCH ONLINE

Beyond Black Box Results: Explainable Threat Intelligence

Security Demands 'Destructive Object Insight,' Says ReversingLabs' **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

Cryptography for Emerging Technologies

nCipher's **Peter Galvin** Discusses Securing IoT and Autonomous Vehicles

Highly secure, high-assurance cryptography is required to securely remotely manage autonomous vehicles and internet of things devices, says Peter Galvin of nCipher.

WATCH ONLINE

Cybersecurity for the Midmarket

Global Cyber Alliance's **Phil Reitinger** Describes Efforts to Bolster SMB, Election Security

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

WATCH ONLINE

The Proactive Use of Deception Techniques

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.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

Edna Conway,
VP Global Security Risk & Compliance,
Azure, Microsoft

Supply Chain Risk in a Platform Economy

Microsoft Azure's **Edna Conway** on Third-Party Risk

Edna Conway, who recently joined Microsoft Azure, has been called the "mother of value chain security architectures." She talks about the platform economy and what that means for addressing security and third-party risk.

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

- Her new role at Microsoft Azure;
- The platform economy and how to secure it;
- Her efforts to help the federal government address supply chain and third-party risk.

WATCH ONLINE

"Today we live in a platform economy. So, what does that mean from the perspective of third-party risk ...?"

Defenses Beyond Mere Deception

Ofer Israeli 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.

WATCH ONLINE

Protecting Cloud Workloads With App Detection & Response

Malhotra 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.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

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

Etay Maor,
Chief Security Officer,
IntSights

Etay Maor on Breach Trends, Techniques

Intsights Researcher 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.

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

> "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."

John Bennett,
SVP & General Manager, Identity &
Access Management, LogMeIn

Life Without Passwords

LogMeIn's **John Bennett** on the Route to Passwordless Login

Passwords are the access point to almost every system in our environment. Can they ever truly be replaced? John Bennett of LogMeIn talks about the steps necessary to create a secure, passwordless login experience.

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

- What it will take to remove the obstacle of passwords;
- Where and how passwords can be replaced;
- A new passwordless login experience for users.

WATCH ONLINE

> "About 80% of all data breaches in 2019 were from compromised or weak passwords."

'Have We Been Compromised?'

Lumu Technologies' **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.

WATCH ONLINE

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

Hot Topics in Cybersecurity Research

Wade Baker Talks Vulnerability Triage and Quantifying Risk

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

WATCH ONLINE

Payment Security: The Role of Behavioral Biometrics

Robert Capps of Mastercard Explains the Role of New Technologies

Behavioral biometrics can play an important role in thwarting ever more sophisticated payment fraud schemes, says Robert Capps of Mastercard, who provides a fraud-fighting update.

WATCH ONLINE

The Ongoing Search for Indicators of Behavior

Cybereason's **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

How Cyber-Secure Is the Energy Infrastructure?

Sean Plankey of Department of Energy Addresses Myths, Realities

What is the state of cybersecurity in the energy sector, and what are some of the myths and realities about its top threats? Sean Plankey of the US Department of Energy addresses these questions.

WATCH ONLINE

Zero Trust: Definitions, Practicalities, Challenges

Gigamon's **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.

WATCH ONLINE

Managing the Risks Posed By APIs

Shreyans Mehta 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.

WATCH ONLINE

"Passwords still are a leading cause of security breaches within companies of all sizes."

John Bennett,
SVP & General Manager, Identity
& Access Management, LogMeIn

Wendy Nather on Democratizing Security

Cisco's Head of Advisory CISOs on How Best to Serve Users

In an RSA Conference 2020 keynote, Cisco's Wendy Nather spoke of "democratizing security" - thinking differently about the people we serve and secure. She expands on that theme and discusses her role as head of advisory CISOs at Cisco's Duo Security unit.

WATCH ONLINE

Careless and Malicious Insiders: The Threat Persists

SolarWinds' **Tim Brown** on Managing Complexity and Insider Risks

Careless and malicious insiders, overly complex IT infrastructure and having an excess of privileged users continue to pose serious risks to the integrity of corporate cybersecurity practices, says Timothy Brown of SolarWinds.

WATCH ONLINE

Securing Digital Identity in Healthcare

Imprivata's **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.

WATCH ONLINE

CISO Recruitment: What Are the Hot Skills?

Executive Recruiter **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.

WATCH ONLINE

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..

WATCH ONLINE

Nik Whitfield,
Founder & CEO,
Panaseer

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.

In a video interview with Information Security Media Group at RSA Conference 2020 in San Francisco, Whitfield discusses:

- The relation between visibility, metrics and management;
- Orchestration and putting together a holistic picture of risk;
- Key industry drivers in 2020.

WATCH ONLINE

"We see new regulations being introduced nationally, internationally and within industry sectors. Those are starting to have more influence on how security is carried out."

Unisys CTO Describes Focus on Security

Vishal Gupta 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.

WATCH ONLINE

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.

WATCH ONLINE

The Role of Self-Sovereign Identity Management

Heather Dahl of the Sovrin Foundation on the Next Generation of Identity Control

CrowdStrike is out with its 2019 Global Threat Report, which includes a ranking of the most dangerous nation-state adversaries. The company's CTO, Dmitri Alperovitch, discusses the report's key findings about threats and threat actors.

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

How Technical Do CISOs Need To Be?

Ex-CISO **Thom Langford** Interrogates Both Sides of Debate

Do CISOs need to have deep technical proficiency? Many information security professionals will say: "Of course." Ask them which skills rank highest, however, and you'll hear words such as "communication" and "building trust," says Thom Langford, director of (TL)2 Security.

WATCH ONLINE

The (Growing) Problem of Password Reuse

SpyCloud's **Chip Witt** Shares Results from Credential Exposure Report

SpyCloud is out with its annual credential exposure report, and the bad news is: Password reuse continues to leave enterprises open to breach and account takeover. Chip Witt of SpyCloud shares some of the key takeaways and analysis.

WATCH ONLINE

Encryption in a Multi-Cloud Environment

Waskevich of ePlus and **Moore** of Thales on Encryption and Access in the Cloud

Many organizations have leapfrogged from "cloud concerns" to "cloud first" mindsets. What are the implications for encryption and access control in a multi-cloud environment? Lee Waskevich of ePlus and Todd Moore of Thales discuss the challenges and solutions.

WATCH ONLINE

Insights on Securing Cloud Infrastructure

Trend Micro's **Wendy Moore** Shares Perspectives

As cloud-first and cloud-native become more common labels in the industry, organizations are focusing on achieving visibility and operational excellence, says Wendy Moore, vice president of product marketing at Trend Micro.

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 **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.

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.

WATCH ONLINE

> "The average endpoint in the enterprise today has more than 10 security controls."

Aaron Higbee,
CTO & Co-founder,
Cofense

Phishing's Impact on the Federal Government

Cofense's **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.

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

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

WATCH ONLINE

"A lot of people think they know what phishing is because they see these scams in their personal lives, but it's quite different when they come into the workplace."

The Role of Visualization in Vulnerability Management

Mieng Lim of Digital Defense on the Benefits of Enhancing Visibility

Threat intelligence and visualization technology can play huge roles in improving vulnerability management. Mieng Lim of Digital Defense outlines the potential benefits.

WATCH ONLINE

Reducing Security Complexity a Top Challenge for CISOs

Cisco's **Jeff Reed** on the Automation, Visibility and Integration Imperative

Reducing security complexity remains one of the toughest challenges facing CISOs, driven by the non-stop increase in threats, says Jeff Reed of Cisco.

WATCH ONLINE

Mobility 2020: New Visions for the Modern Workplace

Wandera's **Michael Covington** in Securing the New Environment

Mobility, connectivity and the infrastructure-less IT environment - they add new degrees of difficulty to cybersecurity. Michael Covington of Wandera shares strategies for securing this modern workplace.

WATCH ONLINE

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

Nimrod Vax,
Co-Founder, Head of Product,
BigID

The 'Privacy First' Strategy

Nimrod Vax 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.

In a video interview with Information Security Media Group at RSA Conference 2020, Vax also discusses:

- How to take a "privacy first" approach to data protection;
- What "know your data" really means;
- Developing a context-centric approach to data discovery.

WATCH ONLINE

> "Security is about protecting the data and the assets, but privacy protection is really about protecting the person."

From Cybercrime Zero to 'Hero' - Now Faster Than Ever

Cybercrime Service Economy Keeps Driving Easier Profits, Says Blueliv's **Liv Rowley**

No advanced hacking skills required: The burgeoning cybercrime-as-a-service economy continues to make it easy for aspiring cybercriminals to procure highly automated, easy-to-use and effective attack tools to fuel illicit profits, says Liv Rowley, a threat intelligence analyst at Blueliv.

WATCH ONLINE

Why Doesn't Software Get Sold With a List of Ingredients?

Allan Friedman Details the 'Software Bill of Materials' Initiative

Just as consumers can look at a box of Twinkies and read a list of ingredients, so too should software makers provide users with a "bill of materials" explaining their composition, says Allan Friedman, director of cybersecurity initiatives at the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

WATCH ONLINE

Taming Regulations: Frameworks Needed More Than Ever

David Ogbolumani of IT Security Consultants on Compliance and Sustainability

As organizations face having to demonstrate compliance with a broad range of regulations that have an IT and cybersecurity impact, the imperative is to adopt frameworks such as ISO 27001 and NIST 800-53, says David Ogbolumani, chief cybersecurity and privacy officer at IT Security Consultants

WATCH ONLINE

How Threat Intelligence Feeds Are Evolving

Rob Cataldo 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.

WATCH ONLINE

More RSA Conference 2020 Content from ISMG

Ransomware Attacks Growing More Targeted and Professional

McAfee's John Fokker Charts the Increasingly Advanced Cybercrime Service Economy

Managing Emerging Risks

Frank Price of CyberGRX Discusses the Challenge of Today's Third-Party Risk Landscape

Update: E-Commerce Fraud Trends

Angie White of TransUnion Discusses New Research Findings

State of Privacy: California Takes the Lead With CCPA

Caitlin Fennessy and Dominique Shelton Leipzig

Impact of CCPA and the New Privacy Imperative

ePlus Technology's Marc Cohen on Regulations and Data Governance

'Deepfake' Technology: Assessing the Emerging Threat

Mark Horne of Pindrop on New Threats to Interactive Voice Recognition

An Analyst's Observations of RSA Conference

Joseph Krull of Aite Group on Where Vendors Are Missing CISO Needs

Protecting the Cloud Through Automation

Roger Hellman of BMC Software Discusses Cloud Automation and Remediation

Assessing the Human Element in Cloud Access

Markku Rossi Discusses Shifting to Zero Standing Privileges

Debunking AppSec Myths
Paul Dant of Arxan Technologies on Application Testing

A Blueprint for PAM Success
CyberArk's David Higgins Shares a Framework

The Changing DDoS Landscape
Netscout's Hardik Modi Discusses Trends and Concerns

The State of Integrated Risk Management
ServiceNow's Vasant Balasubramanian on Digital Transformation

The 'Human Element' in Privacy
Gabriel Gumbs of Spirion on Privacy Regulations and Data Classification

Big Game Hunting: How to Defend
CrowdStrike's Jennifer Ayers on Findings from 2020 Global Threat Report

2020 Security Agenda: Who Owns it?
ForeScout's Ellen Sundra on Security Priorities and Challenges

Lessons Learned: Securing Valuable Genomic Data
Brian Castagna of Seven Bridges Shares Cloud Security Best Practices

The Cost of CISO Stress
Nominet's Stuart Reed Shares Results of New Stress Survey

AI's Impact on SOC Maturity
ServiceNow's Bryce Schroeder on How Tech Will Change the Security Analyst's Role

FAIR Play: Measuring and Managing Information Risk

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

Third-Party Risk: The Shifting Landscape

OneTrust's Jaymin Desai on the Evolution of Vendor Management

Inside Webroot 2020 Threat Report

Hal Lonas of OpenText Shares Cybersecurity Predictions

Watch all 130+ interviews online

View over 130 interviews with the foremost thought leaders in security today as part of our ongoing coverage of the RSA Conference: **www.databreachtoday.com/rsa-conference**

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 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 Spiezle.

"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 Nick Holland (right) with Robert Capps of Mastercard; below: ISMG's Jen Eisenhofer during a break in the studio.
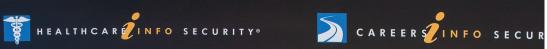

Above: ISMG's Mat Schwartz prepares for his next interview; Right: ISMG's Varun Haran (right) with Cequence's Shreyans Mehta.

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, Thom Langford of (TL)² Security (left) speaks with ISMG's Mathew Schwartz; below, activity in the ISMG Studio

See more at www.databreachtoday.com/rsa-conference-videos

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.

About ISMG

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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