

Cybersecurity: What Financial Officers Need to Know

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What is cyberspace?

Cyberspace is the "[d]omain characterized by the use of electronics and the electromagnetic spectrum to store, modify, and exchange data via network systems and associated physical infrastructures."

- National Military Strategy for Cyber Operations

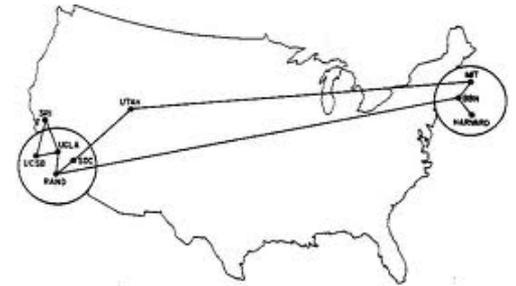
Why are we concerned?

- Almost daily news about major breaches and loss of privacy
- Losses of intellectual property reach into the billions of dollars annually
- Growing security concerns over the threat to critical infrastructure



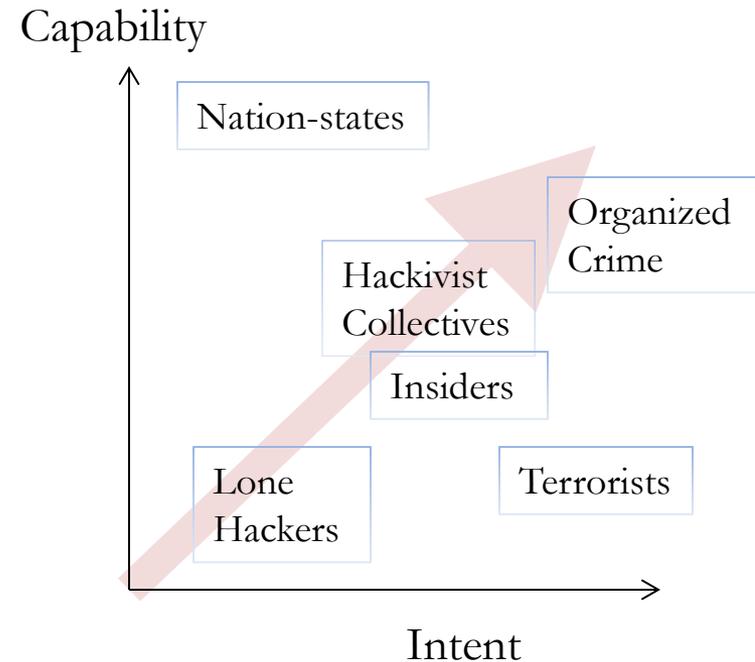
Why are solutions so hard?

- Not built with security in mind
 - Resiliency and efficiency were priorities
 - Lots of people eventually showed up with their valuables, with no one to protect them
 - Identity is difficult to ascertain
- As prey increase, so do predators (Lotka-Votterra Equation)
 - Prey are users, businesses, entertainers
 - Predators are advertisers, criminals, governments
- There are no nice neighborhoods on the Internet
 - Every criminal in the world is $<500\text{m/s}$ away



Who's trying to harm us?

- Nation-states
- Sophisticated non-state actors
 - Eg: Organized Crime, Hacktivist Collectives
- Terrorists
- Lone wolf hackers
- Insiders



Current policy landscape

- Federal Legislation
 - Considering CIP, data breach, privacy, supply chain security, government reform, and information sharing
 - Private sector and public sector are distinct lines of effort but overlap
- Federal Regulation
 - First-party regulators are taking action in face of congressional inaction
 - SEC, FTC, FCC, and FERC/NERC are noteworthy
 - Agencies may use acquisition authorities to drive change
- State Actions
 - Mostly around privacy, CIP, economic development, education, and NG
 - Some states (like TX) have more robust activities, such as expert commissions

Technology trends

- Traditional solutions have focused on end-point-protection
 - Typically products focused on the user device
 - Eg: Symantec or McAfee/Intel
- Things have now progressed to network security
 - Firewalls, MSS, UTM
 - Eg: FireEye, PAN, CSPs
- CISOs are now looking beyond network security
 - Necessary but insufficient. Instead, assume breach and protect data
 - Heuristic analysis, virtualization, data security, etc
 - Firms also grappling with cloud employment and more nuanced strategies

Recommendations

- Think about information security in broader terms
 - Not just a tech issue but also impacts enterprise risk and competition
- Develop an overall strategy
 - Find the right technology solutions but also think about how your systems are architected, user accesses, and what's most valuable
 - Think carefully about how to balance privacy, security, cost, and efficiency
- Keep up with market and policy trends
 - Malware and defenses are both evolving rapidly
 - The policy landscape may change quickly in response to an event
 - Insurance and legal liability doctrine are also maturing
 - Finance, defense, and health care industries will be particularly impacted

Tips on talking with your board

- Boards, in their governance capacity, have a business perspective
 - Getting board support requires providing the whole business story (eg: cost, mitigation, impacts)
 - Make it easy to understand (score cards and dashboards)
 - Talk about risks, threats, and potential solutions
- Extrapolate points quickly, distill, and present
 - This is a challenge with the volume of information today
 - Presenting is as much about managing time as information
- After an incident, discuss the issues frankly
 - Avoid discussion of blame and present the facts
 - Focus on impacts and remediation

Questions?