

Trend Micro Finds One Third of Cybersecurity Staff Feel Isolated from the Business

57 percent say the biggest cybersecurity challenge is communicating threats internally
64 percent say the fallout from attacks like WannaCry helps explain the impact of poor cybersecurity to leadership

LONDON--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--[Trend Micro Incorporated](#) (TYO: 4704; TSE: 4704), a global leader in cybersecurity solutions, today revealed that IT executives responsible for cybersecurity feel a lack of support from company leaders, and 33 percent feel completely isolated in their role.

IT teams are under significant pressure, with some of the challenges cited including prioritizing emerging threats (47 percent) and keeping track of a fractured security environment (43 percent). The survey showed that they are feeling the weight of this responsibility, with many (34 percent) stating that the burden they are under has led their job satisfaction to decrease over the past 12 months.

“Company leaders must recognize that any individual responsible for cybersecurity will be feeling the strain,” said Bharat Mistry, Principal Security Strategist, Trend Micro. “As cyber-attacks increase in volume and sophistication, accountability needs to be shared. No business can afford for the IT function to be an island, because it will inevitably buckle. This means shifting the mindset from cybersecurity being a standalone initiative to a shared responsibility across an organization.”

While 72 percent stated that cybersecurity is represented at the board level, many are still not benefitting from having a seat at the table, and the issue appears to be ineffective communication. Trend Micro’s survey showed that 44 percent struggle to translate complex threats to their organization’s leadership, and 57 percent say internal communication is the biggest cybersecurity challenge for their business.

Respondents revealed that it often takes a prominent cyberattack to get their voice heard, with 64 percent saying communication becomes easier in the wake of a high-profile cyberattack like WannaCry. This raises the question of how IT teams can break down these communication barriers before an incident occurs.

Mistry continued: “Taking a place in the boardroom is only step one. IT professionals need to find ways to communicate the value of having security expertise embedded across the breadth of the organization. They could also strive to learn more from other business leaders about how they can better communicate risk, so they can make sure cybersecurity is front of mind in every department.”

About Trend Micro

Trend Micro Incorporated, a global leader in cybersecurity solutions, helps to make the world safe for exchanging digital information. Our innovative solutions for consumers, businesses, and governments provide layered security for data centers, cloud workloads, networks, and endpoints. All our products work together to seamlessly share threat intelligence and provide a connected threat defense with centralized visibility and investigation, enabling better, faster protection. With more than 6,000 employees in 50 countries and the world’s most advanced global threat research and intelligence, Trend Micro enables organizations to secure their connected world. For more information, visit www.trendmicro.com.

Research methodology

Research carried out by Opinium, commissioned by Trend Micro. Online survey among 1,125 IT decision-makers responsible for cybersecurity across the UK, US, Germany, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Finland, France, Netherlands,

Poland, Belgium and Czech Republic.

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