CISO Leadership Program & Strategic Risk Management Training Course



19 - 23 Oct 2026

Cape town

4600 € (Per Person)

Ref: #CYB9951_264022

Course Introduction / Overview:

This comprehensive training course is designed to provide aspiring and current Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) with the strategic knowledge and leadership skills required to protect an organization's most valuable assets. The role of a CISO has evolved from a technical manager to a strategic business leader who must align security initiatives with corporate goals. This program goes beyond a simple overview of cybersecurity tools and focuses on the high-level governance, risk management, and communication skills necessary to succeed in a C-suite role. Participants will learn how to build a security-centric culture, manage a security budget, and effectively communicate complex cyber risks to a non-technical board. We will cover key topics like threat intelligence, regulatory compliance, and crisis communication. Drawing from the academic research of renowned authors like Thomas H. Davenport and his work on the strategic use of information, this program provides a foundational framework for leading a modern security organization. His book "Competing on Analytics" highlights how a data-driven approach is critical for strategic decision-making in a business context, a principle that is directly applicable to CISO's role. This course at BIG BEN Training Center will empower you to transition from a technical expert to a strategic leader who drives business value through security.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs).
- Information security directors.
- Senior cybersecurity managers.
- Risk and compliance leaders.
- IT directors.
- Security architects.
- Future cybersecurity leaders.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Financial services.
- Technology and software.
- Healthcare.
- Manufacturing.
- Telecommunications.
- Government agencies and equivalents.
- Global corporations.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Information Security.
- IT.
- Risk Management.
- Audit and Compliance.
- Legal.
- Executive Leadership.
- Business Operations.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop and implement a strategic cybersecurity program.
- Manage and communicate cyber risk to executive leadership.
- Align security initiatives with business objectives.
- Build and lead a high-performing security team.
- Manage a security budget and key vendor relationships.
- Navigate complex regulatory and compliance landscapes.
- Develop a robust crisis communication plan.

Course Methodology:

This training course at BIG BEN Training Center uses a highly interactive, scenario-based methodology that simulates the real-world challenges of CISO. The program includes a series of strategic tabletop exercises where participants will face complex situations, such as a major data breach, a ransomware attack, or a budget allocation crisis. You will work in teams to develop a response plan, prepare a presentation for the board, and manage the communication flow to internal and external stakeholders. The course emphasizes a peer-learning environment, allowing participants to share insights and best practices. The instructor will provide expert guidance on how to navigate the political and organizational dynamics of a C-suite role. This approach ensures the knowledge and skills gained are directly applicable to leading a modern security organization.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: The Strategic CISO

- The evolution of the CISO role.
- Aligning cybersecurity with business strategy.
- The relationship with the CEO and the board.
- Developing a security vision and mission.
- Building and managing a security program.
- Governance, risk, and compliance (GRC).
- Case study: a strategic security program.

Unit Two: Risk Management and Governance

- Risk frameworks (e.g., NIST, ISO 27001).
- Conducting a comprehensive risk assessment.
- Quantifying and communicating cyber risk.
- Risk tolerance and decision-making.
- Developing a risk register.
- Building a risk-based security roadmap.
- Practical lab: a risk assessment exercise.

Unit Three: Financial Management and Leadership

- Managing a security budget.
- Return on security investment (ROSI).
- Building a business case for security initiatives.
- Hiring, training, and retaining talent.
- Leading a diverse security team.
- Vendor and third-party risk management.
- Case study: a budget allocation scenario.

Unit Four: Communication and Crisis Management

- Communicating cyber risk to non-technical stakeholders.
- Creating board-level security reports.
- Crisis communication planning.
- Tabletop exercises for cyber incidents.
- Managing media and public relations.
- Lessons learned from past crises.
- Practical lab: a crisis communication plan.

Unit Five: The Future of CISO Leadership

- Emerging technologies and their security implications.
- The role of AI and automation.
- Threat intelligence and predictive security.
- The future of cybersecurity regulations.
- Continuous improvement models.
- Final project: a strategic security roadmap.
- Networking and leadership.
- Frequently Asked Questions:

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

In an era of rapid technological change, where the threat landscape evolves almost daily, how can CISO balance the need for short-term, tactical defense with the long-term, strategic planning required to build a resilient and adaptive security program?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course stands out by providing a unique and vital focus on the leadership and strategic aspects of the CISO role. Unlike technical certifications that focus on tools and protocols, this program is designed for executives who must align security with business goals and communicate effectively with C-suite and board. The curriculum is built around hands-on, scenario-based learning and peer collaboration. It teaches you how to navigate the financial, political, and communication challenges of a top leadership position. The emphasis on strategic planning, risk communication, and crisis management distinguishes this course from others. It is for professionals who are ready to move from managing technology to leading an organization's security posture at a strategic level.