

# AGENDA

## The Future of IT & Cybersecurity CIO & CISO Think Tank

### SPEAKERS



**Brian Greenberg**  
CIO

RHR International



**Peter-John Byrnes**  
Manager, IT  
Infrastructure &  
Security

Above Lending



**Michael LaRue**  
Deputy Director of  
Software Delivery &  
Data

University of Illinois  
Chicago



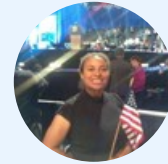
**David Evans**  
Group Data  
Protection Officer

Alter Domus



**Russ Felker**  
CTO

MegaCorp Logistics



**April Welch**  
AVP, Strategic  
Initiatives

Illinois Institute of  
Technology



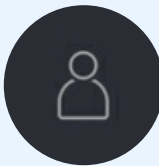
**April Welch**  
AVP, Strategic  
Initiatives

Illinois Institute of  
Technology



**Kevin Steele**  
CIO

Feeding America



**Sid Chakravarty**  
VP Performance  
Insights (Analytics)

Financial Service  
Industry Leader



**John Hummel**  
CTO

Community Unit  
School District 300



**Elizabeth Johnson**  
Global Director, Data  
Integrity & Strategic  
Governance

Ipsos



**Charles Wiggins**  
Founder & CEO

AlterEnable



**Vijay Jakka**  
Global Data & AI  
Practice Leader

Sankhya



**George Wang**  
CMO

Peterson Technology  
Partners



**Pete Nicoletti**  
Global CISO,  
Americas

Check Point



**Kevin Dattolico**  
CEO, Americas

Syntax



**Sugato Bose**  
Chief Enterprise  
Architect

Medline Industries



**Sandeep Nema**  
Head of Enterprise  
Architecture /  
Director

Cook County



**John Barnett**  
Lead Enterprise Architect  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association



**Wendy Betts**  
CISO  
Rotary International



**Ram Tyagi**  
CIO  
City of Aurora



**Shawn Surber**  
Solutions Engineering Director  
Island



**Oded Hareven**  
Co-Founder & CEO  
Akeyless Security



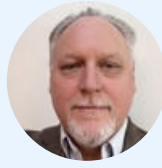
**Amir Shavitt**  
Head of Research  
Zafran Security



**Yael Gomez**  
Fractional CIO / CTO | Former  
Walgreens Boots Alliance



**Shirley Mui-Lyles**  
Principal Consultant  
Optimus Risk Management, LLC



**Todd Walker**  
Senior Network and Security Engineer  
Fortinet



**Ross Esguerra**  
Former Director  
Cloud & Systems Engineering  
Hyatt Hotels Corporation



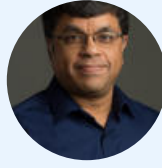
**Jeff Wolniakowski**  
CIO  
Sage Equity Partners



**Michael Allen**  
Head of Technology and Product  
Morningstar



**Grant Ecker**  
Chief Enterprise Architect  
ECOLAB



**Easwaran Nadhan**  
Chief Quantum Ambassador  
QuantaCyber



**Sid Chakravarty**  
VP Performance Insights (Analytics)  
Synchrony



**Naimish Shah**  
CIO  
Fastmore Logistics

[Click Here to Register](#)



**April 09, 2026**

Central Time

**Registration**

8:30 AM-9:00 AM

**Morning Networking**

9:00 AM-9:30 AM

**Opening Remarks**

9:30 AM-9:40 AM

**KEYNOTE**

**SASE in 2026: An Enterprise Roadmap for Scalable,**

9:40 AM-10:05 AM

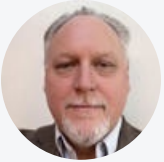
[www.cvisionintl.com](http://www.cvisionintl.com)

## and Converged Networking and Security

Enterprises are at a pivotal moment in their security and networking evolution. Hybrid work is permanent, cloud and SaaS adoption continue to accelerate, and AI-driven threats are increasing both in speed and sophistication. As users, applications, and data move beyond the traditional perimeter, enterprises must deliver consistent security and optimized access—everywhere—without increasing operational complexity.

This keynote explores how Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) provides a unified, architecture-driven approach to converging networking and security. Attendees will gain a practical roadmap for evolving toward a scalable SASE strategy in 2026—one that strengthens identity-centric controls, simplifies operations, reduces architectural sprawl, and enables enterprises to modernize incrementally while protecting existing investments.

### PANELISTS



**Todd Walker**  
Senior Network and  
Security Engineer  
Fortinet

### PANEL

10:10 AM-10:55 AM

## Chief Architect Network: Designing Adaptive Enterprises in the Future Age of Emerging Technologies

Emerging technologies are no longer isolated innovations, they are converging forces reshaping the enterprise core. From agentic AI and quantum computing to edge intelligence, composable architectures, and post-quantum security, today's Chief Architects are redefining how organizations design for resilience, speed, and scale.

This high-impact panel brings together leading Chief Architects to explore how enterprise architecture must evolve to support autonomous systems, real-time data ecosystems, and cloud-native platforms—without compromising governance, interoperability, or long-term sustainability. The discussion will move beyond hype to focus on practical design patterns, modernization strategies, and architectural principles that enable innovation at scale.

### CHAIR



**John Barnett**  
Lead Enterprise  
Architect  
Blue Cross Blue  
Shield Association

### PANELISTS



**Sandeep Nema**  
Head of Enterprise  
Architecture /  
Director  
Cook County



**Jeff Wolniakowski**  
CIO  
Sage Equity Partners



**Easwaran Nadhan**  
Chief Quantum  
Ambassador  
QuantaCyber

## Coffee Break

10:55 AM-11:15 AM

## KEYNOTE

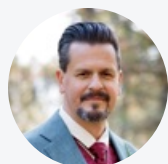
11:15 AM-11:40 AM

# Responsible AI Enablement: Balancing Innovation, Governance, and Control in the Enterprise

CIOs face increasing pressure to deliver on the promise of generative AI while maintaining strong governance, visibility, and compliance. As browser-based AI tools proliferate across the workforce, the challenge has shifted from adoption to responsible enablement. Employees are integrating AI into workflows to achieve new efficiencies, but often through unapproved or unmanaged applications that expose the enterprise to data leakage and compliance risks.

In this session, CIOs and IT decision-makers will learn how to strike the right balance between productivity and control. This session will explore the operational, security, and compliance implications of “Shadow AI,” reveal how sensitive data finds its way out of the enterprise and into unauthorized AI tools, and share strategies for establishing policies that unlock AI’s potential safely. Attendees will leave with a clear understanding of how to maintain governance and visibility while empowering their organizations to capture the full business value of AI.

## PANELISTS



**Shawn Surber**  
Solutions  
Engineering Director  
Island

## FIRESIDE CHAT

11:45 AM-12:20 PM

# Know and address your AI Project risks before an incident!

Most companies are rushing headlong into AI projects. The BOD and Executives would rather get a speeding ticket than a parking ticket! They demand the ROI, efficiencies, and competitive advantages that are obtained with a well-planned and executed AI Project. In this fireside chat, a long-time AI expert will describe the phases of AI adoption and the risks encountered, as well as the various AI Risk Frameworks that can be used to identify risks that your project will encounter. Next, he will dive into countermeasures that are necessary to prevent the next AI-enabled security event. Multiple resources will be shared that you can use immediately.

## CHAIR



**Shirley Mui-Lyles**  
Principal Consultant  
Optimus Risk  
Management, LLC

## PANELISTS



**Pete Nicoletti**  
Global CISO,  
Americas  
Check Point



**David Evans**  
Group Data  
Protection Officer  
Alter Domus

## PANEL

12:25 PM-1:10 PM

# Beyond Transformation: Building Digital Foundations That Last

As organizations move beyond the initial wave of digital transformation, many face a new challenge: sustaining progress without burning out. This panel explores what comes after transformation - how to build digital foundations that endure.

### CHAIR

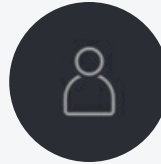


**Ross Esguerra**  
Former Director  
Cloud & Systems  
Engineering  
Hyatt Hotels  
Corporation

### PANELISTS



**Kevin Dattolico**  
CEO, Americas  
Syntax



**Sid Chakravarty**  
VP Performance  
Insights (Analytics)  
Financial Service  
Industry Leader



**Vijay Jakka**  
Global Data & AI  
Practice Leader  
Sankhya

## Lunch & Networking

1:10 PM-2:00 PM

### PANEL

## Securing the Rise of Agentic AI: Trust, Control, and Resilience in Autonomous Systems

2:00 PM-2:45 PM

As agentic AI systems evolve from experimental tools to enterprise-grade digital workers—capable of making decisions, taking actions, and adapting in real time—they introduce a new paradigm of both possibility and risk. Unlike traditional automation, agentic AI operates with greater autonomy, raising urgent questions for security leaders: How do we ensure control? How do we manage risk when systems learn, act, and adapt independently?

This panel will explore the security implications of deploying agentic AI across business operations—from data privacy and decision integrity to real-time threat mitigation and adversarial AI risks. We'll dive into the intersection of governance, identity management, and AI observability, and how CISOs can build frameworks that safeguard both the systems and the outcomes.

### CHAIR



**Yael Gomez**  
Fractional CIO / CTO I  
Former  
Walgreens Boots  
Alliance

### PANELISTS



**Ram Tyagi**  
CIO  
City of Aurora



**Oded Hareven**  
Co-Founder & CEO  
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**Wendy Betts**  
CISO  
Rotary International



**Peter-John Byrnes**  
Manager, IT  
Infrastructure &  
Security  
Above Lending

### FIRESIDE CHAT

## Rearchitecting the Enterprise for Agentic AI: Control, Collaboration, and the Next Frontier of Automation

2:50 PM-3:25 PM

Agentic AI, autonomous systems that perceive, reason, and act with minimal human intervention is poised to redefine how work gets done. As these intelligent agents move beyond experimentation into enterprise-scale deployments, organizations must prepare to

fundamentally rearchitect their digital environments.

This panel will explore how leaders can operationalize agentic AI to drive efficiency, creativity, and strategic advantage while preserving oversight, governance, and trust. Discussion topics will include designing workflows around autonomous decision-making, managing human-agent collaboration, and navigating emerging risks such as bias, security, and operational drift. Join us as we unpack what it truly means to lead in an era of intelligent, action-oriented AI and how to ensure these agents serve both your innovation goals and core business values.

### CHAIR



**George Wang**  
CMO  
Peterson Technology  
Partners

### PANELISTS



**Sugato Bose**  
Chief Enterprise  
Architect  
Medline Industries



**Michael LaRue**  
Deputy Director of  
Software Delivery &  
Data  
University of Illinois  
Chicago



**Michael Allen**  
Head of Technology  
and Product  
Morningstar

## DISRUPTOR

3:40 PM-3:55 PM

### AI Broke Your VM Program. Here Is How to Fix It

Vulnerability exploitation has surged to the top of the initial access vector charts, CVE volumes are at a record high, and AI has collapsed the exploitation window to near zero. Yet most organizations are still running scan-and-patch programs built on CVSS scores that were never designed for this reality. The answer starts with data and context: runtime presence, internet exposure, business criticality, compensating controls, and threat intelligence. These are what separate signal from noise, and the foundation of the shift from traditional VM to Continuous Threat Exposure Management. Built on that foundation, agentic AI is the only answer that matches the scale of the problem, turning a manual, backlogged remediation process into an autonomous operation driven by intelligence.

### PANELISTS



**Amir Shavitt**  
Head of Research  
Zafran Security

## Networking Break

3:55 PM-4:10 PM

## FIRESIDE CHAT

4:10 PM-4:40 PM

### The Human Side of Tech: Why Soft Skills Are the Real Superpower

In a world obsessed with digital transformation, AI, and automation, it's easy to forget the power of human connection. But the truth is—technology doesn't lead, people do. As roles evolve and teams become more cross-functional, the ability to listen, influence, adapt, and collaborate has become just as critical as technical expertise.

Today's CIOs, CISOs, and tech leaders are expected not only to drive innovation, but to communicate across departments, manage diverse teams, and navigate uncertainty with empathy and clarity. Emotional intelligence, storytelling, active listening, and resilience are no longer "nice to have"—they're essential for anyone leading in a fast-moving, high-stakes environment.

Nowhere is this leadership shift more relevant than in the US particularly in Chicago, a city built on creativity, reinvention, and cultural diversity. Here, the ability to connect across perspectives isn't just a professional skill—it's a way of life. As tech and business worlds converge, Chicago's unique blend of innovation and human-centered thinking offers the perfect backdrop to explore how soft skills are reshaping the future of leadership.

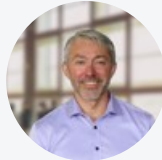
This session dives into why the most successful executives are blending EQ with IQ to inspire trust, build alignment, and drive lasting impact.

#### CHAIR

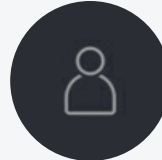


**Charles Wiggins**  
Founder & CEO  
AlterEnable

#### PANELISTS



**Russ Felker**  
CTO  
MegaCorp Logistics



**Sid Chakravarty**  
VP Performance  
Insights (Analytics)  
Financial Service  
Industry Leader

### Closing Remarks & Raffle Giveaway

4:40 PM-4:50 PM

### Cocktail Reception

4:50 PM-5:30 PM

TOGETHER WITH

