

AGENDA

The Future of IT & Cybersecurity CIO & CISO Think Tank

SPEAKERS



Griffiths Swate
Manager, IT
Operations
Giesecke & Devrient



Marshy Nel
Head of ICT
St Sithians College



Peter de Villiers
Group Head,
Information
Technology Strategy
& Planning
Coca Cola Beverage
Group



Oscar Stark
Chief Strategic
Enterprise Architect
Standard Bank



Abraham Mahlangu
CEO
Department of Social
Services (DSS)



Galeboe Mogotsi
CISO
Witwatersrand
Strategy



Thulani Hlophe
CISO
Old Mutual Insure



Dido Wa Kalonji
CIO
FNB South Africa



Jacqueline Mokoena
Head of IT
African Bank

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May 08, 2025

South Africa Standard Time

Registration

8:30 AM-9:00 AM

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Morning Networking

9:00 AM-9:30 AM

Opening Remarks

9:30 AM-9:40 AM

VISION VOICES KEYNOTE

9:40 AM-10:05 AM

Bridging the Gap: Mastering the Art of Business-Technology Harmony

Bridging the gap between business and technology is not easy and requires discipline and balance between technology, people, and business. For so many organizations today, technology is the business. Technology needs to be understood as a critical enabler in every part of the organization from the front line to the back office. It creates new value by crunching data to deliver new insights, it spurs innovation, and it disrupts traditional business models.

For business and technology leaders alike, new actions and behavioral changes can help their organizations make this shift. CIOs and CISOs must take responsibility for problems, they should convey that when technology fails, many people typically share responsibility.

KEYNOTE

10:10 AM-10:35 AM

Fortifying Cyber Security Together: A CISO's Call to Increase Cyber Transparency

In the evolving landscape of cybersecurity, the imperative to increase transparency takes center stage, driven by new laws and regulations mandating prompt reporting of cyber breaches. A notable example is the SEC's cyber disclosure rule, necessitating companies to report incidents within 72 hours. This shift from voluntary to mandatory information-sharing not only presents challenges but also opportunities. Compliance empowers organizations to construct more comprehensive defenses and actions against cyber risks. Regulatory guardrails provide confidence, allowing companies to explore, experiment, and compete securely. To stay ahead, a tech-enabled approach embedding cybersecurity across the enterprise is crucial. Looking forward, collaboration with the C-suite, particularly the Chief Risk Officer and General Counsel, is vital. Crafting a consistent narrative, setting priorities, and adapting to new cyber risk management practices become essential. Moreover, understanding board expectations, simplifying complex cyber regulations, and extending cybersecurity measures to external reporting teams are key considerations for navigating the regulatory landscape effectively.

Coffee Break

10:35 AM-10:55 AM

VISION VOICES

10:55 AM-11:10 AM

Data Revolution Leadership: CIOs at the Helm of Modernization for Strategic Value

This session explores the pivotal role of CIOs in modernizing data to unlock its full value. In the contemporary digital landscape, data stands as a strategic asset, and CIOs are at the forefront of harnessing its potential. The abstract emphasizes the CIO's responsibility in implementing cutting-edge technologies and data management strategies that go beyond mere storage, enabling organizations to derive actionable insights. By adopting innovative approaches, such as advanced analytics, artificial intelligence, and cloud solutions, CIOs can transform data into a valuable resource, driving efficiency, innovation, and informed decision-making across the enterprise. The discussion delves into the evolving responsibilities of CIOs in leading the charge towards data modernization, ensuring organizations remain competitive and agile in an increasingly data-centric world.

DISRUPTOR

11:15 AM-11:30 AM

Building Cyber Fortitude: CISO Strategies for Resilient Cybersecurity

In the realm of building cyber resilience, organizations confront increased risk exposure amidst bold moves and evolving external challenges. Despite investments in technology and data, risk leaders, including CISOs, express difficulty in keeping pace with the persistent threat of cyber crises. However, in today's business landscape, discussions of digital transformation or reinvention are inseparable from considerations of cybersecurity. Looking ahead, stakeholders, from the board to frontline cybersecurity operations, pose critical questions about resiliency. This includes inquiries about the adequacy of efforts to safeguard the company and its customers in the face of cyber attacks. The focus shifts to identifying opportunities to minimize the impact on business and shareholder value through effective threat response. Embracing cybersecurity as a whole-of-business endeavor, organizations are urged to align themselves with business owners, adapting to changes in the cyber landscape and fortifying resilience against disruptions. Building confidence in the cybersecurity program becomes paramount in navigating the dynamic and challenging cyber landscape effectively.

Lunch & Disruptor Showcase

11:30 AM-12:30 PM

LUNCH & DISRUPTOR SHOWCASE

12:10 PM-12:25 PM

Elevating Agility: The Strategic Imperative for CIOs in Prioritizing Cloud Engineering

In this session, we delve into the imperative for CIOs to prioritize cloud engineering in the contemporary digital landscape. As organizations increasingly rely on cloud computing for operational efficiency and innovation, CIOs play a central role in shaping robust strategies. The session emphasizes the strategic importance of cloud engineering in optimizing infrastructure, ensuring scalability, and fostering agile application development. Attendees will explore practical approaches to resource management, automation, and aligning cloud initiatives with overarching business goals. The discussion navigates the evolving realm of cloud technologies, highlighting how CIOs can strategically prioritize cloud engineering to drive competitiveness and resilience in the dynamic digital ecosystem.

VISION VOICES

12:30 PM-12:45 PM

Navigating the Cyber Frontier: CISO Strategies for Effective Risk Management

In the context of effective cyber risk management, the challenge lies in keeping up with evolving technology, particularly during cloud or technology transformations. The adoption of threat intelligence, GenAI, the metaverse, and machine learning presents both opportunities and challenges, with a need for technology leaders to grasp the security implications. While these technologies enhance cyber risk management, they also offer efficiencies through task automation. Striking a balance between risks and rewards is crucial for gaining trust and staying competitive. Looking forward, organizations must explore innovative approaches to cyber risk management, emphasizing resilience against third-party risks. Collaboration with the leadership team is essential to take an enterprise-wide view of current and future threats, develop action plans, safeguard critical assets, and facilitate quick recovery. Early collaboration with the executive team is encouraged to integrate risk management into transformation strategies and extract maximum benefits from emerging technologies.

PANEL

12:50 PM-1:35 PM

Unleashing Innovation: CIOs Driving New Business Models through Scalable GenAI

In this dynamic session, we explore the symbiotic relationship between business evolution and the strategic role of Chief Information Officers. Focused on scaling generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) for new business models, the discussion delves into how CIOs can harness the transformative power of AI to drive innovation and reshape business paradigms. Participants will gain insights into practical approaches for integrating scalable GenAI solutions, exploring its potential to revolutionize operational efficiency, customer engagement, and overall competitiveness. The session places a spotlight on the pivotal role of CIOs in navigating the intersection of technology and business strategy, showcasing how they can spearhead initiatives that propel organizations into the next frontier of success.

PANELISTS



Oscar Stark
Chief Strategic
Enterprise Architect
[Standard Bank](#)

Networking Break

1:35 PM-1:55 PM

VISION VOICES

1:55 PM-2:10 PM

Data Empowerment: A CISO's Guide to Unlocking Strategic Value Safely

CISOs are challenged to redefine their role not only as guardians of security but also as enablers of responsible and innovative data utilization. This directive emphasizes the importance of striking a balance between data protection and leveraging the full potential of

organizational data assets. CISOs must collaborate with stakeholders to establish robust data governance frameworks, ensuring compliance with privacy regulations while facilitating the ethical and strategic use of data. By unlocking the value of data, CISOs contribute to the organization's competitiveness, innovation, and overall digital transformation. This session explores strategies for CISOs to harness the power of data responsibly, thereby positioning cybersecurity as an integral driver of business success in the data-driven era.

FIRESIDE CHAT

2:15 PM-2:50 PM

Innovation Unleashed: Navigating the Future through IT Evolution with CIOs at the Helm

In this session, embark on a transformative exploration of the evolving landscape of IT operations. Delving into the strategic imperative for Chief Information Officers to reshape and modernize their IT operating models, the discussion unfolds the critical role technology plays in driving business success. Participants will gain practical insights into the adaptive strategies CIOs can employ to enhance organizational agility, foster innovation, and align IT with overarching business goals. Join us for a dynamic conversation that unveils the power of evolving IT operating models, empowering organizations to thrive in the ever-evolving digital age.

DISRUPTOR

2:55 PM-3:10 PM

Cybersecurity Leadership in the Era of AI and ML: Navigating Innovation and Responsibility

In the dynamic realm of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), CISOs play a pivotal role in leveraging these advancements for enhanced cybersecurity. Strategic integration of AI and ML is essential for bolstering security measures, optimizing decision-making, and driving innovation. CISOs must adopt a comprehensive approach, considering the entire lifecycle of these technologies to ensure both efficiency and ethical use. Establishing robust governance frameworks becomes paramount, addressing biases, ensuring transparency, and minimizing unintended consequences.

Looking ahead, as AI and ML continue to advance, CISOs face evolving challenges and regulatory considerations. Proactive engagement involves staying informed about changing regulations, particularly in areas such as data privacy and ethical AI practices. CISOs should strive for a tech-enabled understanding of AI and ML systems, encompassing deployment, impact, and security measures. This approach positions organizations to navigate the regulatory landscape effectively, ensuring responsible and competitive integration of AI and ML into cybersecurity strategies.

Networking Break

3:10 PM-3:30 PM

VISION VOICES

3:30 PM-3:45 PM

Revolutionizing Tomorrow: A Deep Dive into Innovation through Emerging Technologies

In this strategic session designed for Chief Information Officers (CIOs), we delve into the transformative realm of "Innovate through Emerging Tech." As technology stewards, CIOs play a pivotal role in navigating the rapidly evolving landscape of emerging technologies

—such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and the Internet of Things. The session provides CIOs with actionable insights into leveraging these technologies to drive innovation within their organizations. Attendees will explore practical strategies for implementation, addressing potential challenges, and ensuring ethical considerations in adopting these disruptive technologies. Join us to empower your role as a technology leader and discover how CIOs can strategically leverage emerging tech to propel their organizations into the forefront of innovation.

DISRUPTOR

3:50 PM-4:05 PM

In the Cloud We Trust: Elevating Cybersecurity Leadership Amidst Cloud Advancements

In the era of rapid digital transformation, the surge in cloud adoption has revolutionized business operations, demanding a heightened focus on cloud security. CISOs, as guardians of organizational cybersecurity, are at the forefront of navigating this evolution. This session explores the imperative for CISOs to advance cloud security strategies, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive understanding of cloud infrastructure, data protection, and regulatory compliance. As organizations increasingly migrate to cloud environments, CISOs play a pivotal role in orchestrating security measures that not only defend against cyber threats but also foster innovation. A proactive approach to cloud security involves staying abreast of evolving technologies, anticipating regulatory shifts, and implementing robust governance frameworks. This abstract delves into the multifaceted responsibilities of CISOs in ensuring the security, resilience, and compliance of cloud-based operations, ultimately shaping a secure and agile future for organizations in the cloud-centric landscape.

VISION VOICES

4:10 PM-4:25 PM

Fostering Digital Trailblazers: A Strategic Imperative for CIOs in 2024

Addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by CIOs in the contemporary technological landscape, the imperative to develop transformational leaders takes center stage. The heightened demand for innovation, enterprise-wide transformation, and evolving technology capabilities poses significant hurdles for CIOs, often leading to an overburdened IT department. To navigate this complexity, the focus shifts towards fostering digital transformation leaders, referred to as digital trailblazers. Gartner highlights leader and manager development as a top priority for HR in 2024, emphasizing the need for CIOs to collaborate with HR in tapping into training and development programs. By cultivating leaders skilled in transformation and change management, CIOs can enhance their department's capacity to oversee initiatives, standardize platforms, and deliver faster results, ultimately reducing friction to change within the organization. Looking ahead to 2024, this strategic approach becomes essential for CIOs seeking to strike the right balance in their digital transformation programs, avoiding the pitfalls of overpromising and under delivering.

Closing Remarks & Raffle Giveaway

4:25 PM-4:30 PM

Cocktail Hour

4:30 PM-5:30 PM

PARTNERS

We are currently accepting partnership opportunities for this event.