





## Cyber State of the Union...

### What are the bad actors after?

- Customer PII (personally identifiable information)
- PHI (personal health information)
- Company and Trade Secrets / IP / confidential information
- Investment Strategies, Mergers & Acquisitions
- Embarrassing personal information / defacement of public sites
- Generally, things you need to generate revenue and run your business

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## Cyber State of the Union...

### Who are these threat actors?

Examples	Motivation	TTPs*	Sample Targets
Hacktivists (Outsiders)	Political, economical, and social agenda	Hacking, Phishing, DDoS, Ransomware	Politicians, celebrities, government, corporations, not-for-profit organizations
Cyber Criminals (Outsiders or Insiders)	Financial gains	Hacking, Phishing, Ransomware	Banks, businesses, healthcare, utilities, law firms, and retailers, individuals
Cyber Espionage (Nation States)	Political and economical agenda	Advanced phishing, DDoS, malware, etc.	Government, defense companies, or organizations with sensitive data
Insiders (Organizational Staff)	Economic or political	Leverage authorized access to steal data or commit sabotage	Sensitive data for resale or embarrassment to the organization
		* T	actics, Techniques & Procedures
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### **BEC & invoice- / wire-transfer attacks are costly**

- Business Email Compromise (BEC) attacks are often the simplest and costliest.
- Results from 2 failures:
  - · Email account "hack", because no 2FA
  - Lack of "internal controls" in company
- · What internal controls are needed?
- Key issue for supply chain risk.
- Cyber insurance understanding and interrelationship is critical.

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Call-back phishing attacks: the latest trend...

- Threat Actor sends email prompting a response, such as, "your free trial period to [PICK AN EXPENSIVE SERVICE] is almost over and when it expires you will be automatically placed on the premium plan for \$89.00 per month."
- Call this number to un-subscribe: TA's number
- TA then uses social engineering to ultimately get them to download a malicious file.

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### Share File / OneDrive phishing: a recent trend...

- Threat Actor spoofs a known good contact and sends email disguised document to share a customary business document.
- Recipient will then be prompted for access credentials, and...will comply.
- TA gains access to email account:

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- Surveils account for sensitive / valuable information, then downloads some or all of info = data breach.
- Account used to send out thousands of the same phishing email to contacts (and others).



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## **Most Common Causes & Solutions**

RDP Access	<ul> <li>This is random – scanning web for Internet facing RDP access</li> <li>Virtual Private Network (VPN) with Multifactor Authentication (MFA)</li> </ul>
Phishing	<ul> <li>Email phishing tool</li> <li>Workforce training and simulated phishing</li> </ul>
Unpatched / Outdated Software	<ul><li>Install patches timely</li><li>No unsupported software</li></ul>
Passwords	<ul> <li>Multifactor Authentication (MFA)</li> <li>Longer passphrases</li> </ul>
Backups, Backups, Backups!	<ul> <li>3-2-1 Backup Process</li> <li>Something comparable – you may end up with only your offline backup</li> </ul>
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### **Resilience via Organizational Readiness...**

- Ensure adequate insurance coverage
- Perform an independent Risk Assessment (including vulnerabilities)
- Conduct data inventories to identify high-risk data
- Tailor tools and monitoring to focus on key risks
- Engage with niche specialists (early and often)
- Develop "muscle memory" through realistic IR exercises

### PRACTICE FOR THE BAD DAY...





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	Hour 1	< 12 Hours	12 – 72+ Hours	+8 Hours	+12 - 72+ Hours	< 2 – 4+ Weeks	1 – 48 + Months
eneration is	Initial Discovery	Notify Insurance Carrier	Implement Interim Security	Confirm Proof of Life	Begin Data Decryption Process	Restoration of Operations	Individual Notification Escalations
e key to being	Basic Intel	Engage Security Experts	Negotiate with Threat Actor	Payment Transaction	Follow-up with TA if Problems	After Action Review	Business Partner Escalations
le to do all	Activate IR Plan & IR Team	Engage Data Recovery Experts	OFAC Clearance	Obtain Decryptor	Obtain Interim Signals from Forensics	- Implement Additional Security	Regulatory Investigations
a successful	Triage Security + Backups	Report to Law Enforcement	Carrier Approval for Payment	Test Decryptor		Complete Forensics & Obtain Report	Litigation
sponse.	Do Not Wipe Drives	Notify Employees	Begin Forensics			Determine Incident or Breach	
	Start Preserving Evidence	Notify Key Business Partners	Plan for PR and Potential Notification			Notifications & Reporting if Breach	
	Do Not Communicate with TA	Begin Data Recovery + Restoration					





## New SEC Disclosure Rules... What's Different?

Final rules\* implement same basic structure as initially proposed (2022) – namely:

- Disclosures of cyber risk management, strategy, and governance in annual reports; and
- <u>Reporting</u> required for *material* cybersecurity incidents on Form 8-K or Form 6-K.

SEC noted that registrant disclosures of material cybersecurity incidents and cybersecurity risk management and governance have improved since the 2011 and 2018 guidance, however the Commission "remain[s] persuaded that...under-disclosure regarding cybersecurity persists despite...prior guidance" and "investors need more timely and consistent cybersecurity disclosure to make informed investment decisions."

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## Annual Disclosures...

 The Final Rule amends Form 10-K (via new Item 106 of Regulation S-K) to require registrants to disclose information about cyber <u>risk management. strategy. and governance</u>.

### <u>Risk Management & Strategy</u>:

- Company processes for the assessment, identification, and management of material risks from cybersecurity threats;
- Commentary on whether any of these risks (including prior cyber incidents) have materially
  affected (or are reasonably likely to materially affect) business strategy, results of
  operations, or financial condition and, if so, how;
- Description of whether and how such processes have been integrated into the registrant's overall risk management system or processes;
- Registrant's use of assessors, consultants, auditors, or other third-parties in connection with such processes; and
- Commentary on whether the registrant has processes to oversee and identify material risks from cybersecurity threats associated with its use of any third-party service provider.



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## Annual Disclosures (Board Governance)...

### Board Oversight

- Final rules require registrants to describe the of risks from cybersecurity threats including, <u>if applicable</u>:
  - identification of any board committee or subcommittee responsible for the oversight of such risks; and
  - a description of the processes by which the board or such committee is informed about such risks.

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- Notably, SEC did \*NOT\* adopt the proposed requirement to disclose board cybersecurity expertise.
- Likewise, the new governance disclosure provisions do \*NOT\* require disclosure of the frequency of management and board discussions regarding cybersecurity risks, which had been contemplated by the proposed rules.

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# Annual Disclosures (Management)...

- Requirement to describe management's role in assessing and managing material risks from cybersecurity threats, including <u>relevant expertise</u> and <u>communication</u> <u>with the board of directors</u>.
  - Item 106(b) of Regulation S-K includes (non-exclusive) list of disclosure items:
    - management positions responsible for assessing/managing cybersecurity risks;
    - · relevant expertise of such persons;
    - processes by which such persons or committees are informed about and monitor the prevention, detection, mitigation, and remediation of cybersecurity incidents; and
    - whether such persons or committees report information about such risks to the board or a committee or subcommittee of the board.



Management Oversight

### Incident Disclosures...

Final Rule adds Item 1.05 to Form 8-K, requiring disclosure of the nature, scope, and timing of a material cybersecurity incident – as well as the material impact (or reasonably likely material impact) of the incident.

#### • Key Insights (for disclosure and materiality committees):

- 1. Reporting required w/in 4 business days of materiality determination (via 8-K);
- 2. Limited delayed disclosure exceptions (national security + public safety risks);
- 3. 8-K disclosure must focus on the impacts of the incident;
- 4. Updated incident disclosure is required (as issues become known/clarified); and
- 5. Importantly, the final rules did \*NOT\* adopt the proposed requirement to disclose a series of previously undisclosed, individually immaterial incidents (unless such incidents comprise a "series of related unauthorized occurrences")\*.

\* This presupposes the tracking of minor cyber incidents for potential aggregation.

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### **Generative Al**

#### What is it?

Generative AI is a branch of artificial intelligence made up of a set of algorithms focused on creating new content such as images, music, or text using a variety of data science and machine learning techniques.

- It aims to generate outputs that resembles the patterns and characteristics of the examples it was trained on.
- Generative AI large language models (LLMs), learn patterns and structures from large datasets and have been trained on trillions of language examples
- Once trained, these models can generate seemingly new content by sampling from the learned patterns.



Generative AI can support a variety of functions three common categories include:

- Efficiency Improvement: acceleration of manual or repetitive tasks
- Personalizing Experiences: content and information tailored to the individual audience by considering their interests and patterns of behavior
- Content and Idea Generation: Creating new and unique outputs across a range of formats

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#### Generative AI: helping knowledge professionals Prediction engines - Generative AI models/apps/systems have been trained on massive amounts of data and published works to then predict the next word or pixel to produce a creation (e.g., text, images, music, video) without any direct human intervention. New embrace of generative AI to enable change agents - Knowledge professionals drive the organization's value creation through data analytics, deriving important business insights and storytelling. How? human change agents & generative Al partner: 'What Happens "Human, some "Organize This" "Calculate This" When suggestions" Knowledge gathering Compare Analysis/Code Production Scenario Creation Scrutinize the Analysis Assist to develop more profound Generate statements/reports; Simulate market conditions, . Perform complex account . customize to user needs reconciliations economic environments. understanding of operational and events to better aspects. When these aspects can be Compare/Perform cursory Synthetic data generation. understand the potential described as sequences of logical review of budget to actuals Example: Learn patterns and impacts on portfolio statements, then generative AI can analysis relationships from real performance. assist by: financial data to create Perform cursory reviews of Check inputs for logical synthetic datasets that closely .

resemble the original data

while preserving data privacy.

Risk tolerance, expected

returns, investment horizons

correctness

conclusions

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Suggest improvements

Look for missing premises behind

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Validate logical connections

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statements and identify

different audiences

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Draft analysis responses to

anomalies



### **AI Risks – High-priority characteristics**

Enterprise Risk Managers need to be asking how these risks are being identified, assessed and managed in Al systems.

1. Technical design characteristics 2. Socio-technical characteristics 3. Guiding principles contributing to trustworthiness Factors that are under the direct control How AI systems are used and perceived in individual, group, and Broader norms/values that indicate societal priorities of AI system designers and developers societal contexts Explainability

 Refers to a representation of the mechanisms underlying an algorithm's Fairness Accurac Increasingly related to the existence of a harmful system Absence of harmful bias is a necessary condition for fairness Degree in which model is correctly capturing a relationship that exists with training data Determine threshold that corresponds with acceptable risk Risks from lack of fidelity or consistency in explanation methodologies; if humans incorrectly infer a model's operation; model is not operating as expected Accountability Expectations for the responsible party in the event that a risky outcome is realized Reliability Risk can be managed by training and descriptions of how models work Whether model consistently generates same results Factor in determining threshold of acceptable risk attune to users' skill levels/roles Grounding organizational practices and governing Interpretability Refers to the meaning of its output in the context of its designed structures for harm reduction, like risk management, can Risks can be addressed by communicating the interpretation intended by help lead to more accountable systems Rob Whether model has minimum sensitivity to variations in uncontrollable factors model designers, although this remains an open area of research Transparency Part of sensitivity analysis in the AI risk Privac Reflects the extent to which information is available to a user when interfacing with an Al system Its scope spans from design decisions and training data to model training, the structure of the model, its intended use management process Safeguard human values e.g., autonomy and dignity Assess how data processing creates privacy problems Resiliency/Security Safety Whether model can withstand adversarial attacks or unexpected changes in its environment/use Practical approaches relate to rigorous simulation, in-domain testing, real-time monitoring, and the ability to quickly shut down or modify case, how and when deployment decisions were made and by whom Is necessary for actionable redress related to incorrect and Exfiltration of models, training data, or intellectual misbehaving systems property through AI system endpoints Managing Bias • Three major categories of bias in AI: systemic, computational, and human adverse AI system outputs Tightly associated with transparency and fairness concepts O Grant Thornton © 2023 Grant Thornton LLP | All rights reserved | U.S. member firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd 30

#### **Deeper dive – emerging cyber threats** Inputs that evade detection by the AI system and allow an attacker to achieve a malicious goal, such as generating false results. Information or performing unauthorized actions. Adversarial Attacks Model poisoning attacks target AI models in a development or testing environment. Attackers introduce malicious data into the training data to influence the output - sometimes creating a significant deviation of behavior from the AI model. For example, after Model Poisoning a successful model poison attack, an AI model may produce incorrect or biased predictions, leading to inaccurate or unfair decision making. Data breaches pose a significant cybersecurity risk for AI platforms that store and process vast amounts of confidential or sensitive data like personally identifiable information. Users can inadvertently feed sensitive data through browser extensions, APIs or directly to the AI system. This data can then become part of the large data sets used to train AI models and presented in the form of results. Data Leakage & Breaches Some AI solutions store data for extended periods so that they can continue referencing, analyzing and comparing it as part of The context and complexity of AI solutions can also make it challenging to ensure that data is deleted when it is no longer needed or when individuals exercise their rights to request deletion. Data Retention & Deletion Risks: Risk metrics/methodologies of the developing organization may not align with organizations deploying/operating the system Organization developing AI may not be transparent about risk metrics/methodologies. Governance: Policies and procedures are in place that address AI risks associated with third-party entities, including risks of infringement of a third-party's intellectual property or other rights. Contingency processes are in place to handle failures or incidents in third-party data or Al systems deemed to be high-risk Third Party Entities / Tools Management: Al risks and benefits from third-party resources are regularly monitored, and risk controls are applied and documented. Pre-trained models which are used for development are monitored as part of Al system regular monitoring and maintenance. O Grant Thornton © 2023 Grant Thornton LLP | All rights reserved | U.S. member firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd 31 31











