

Abstract – Presentation 1

Thursday, May 1 | 9:10 – 9:30 AM

Critical Skills for Effective Cybersecurity Teams

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Cybersecurity is evolving minute-by-minute. The speed at which we operate increases the intense pressure that comes with working in the industry. There are an infinite number of threats, an infinite amount of data we need to protect, but only a finite number of security professionals.

We are dealing with a **massive matrix** of technologies. Old and new. Vulnerabilities. Shadow IT. INFINITE amount of data. Human error etc. And all of this exists in distributed environments that run 24x7. Place something like AI on top of *that* and the matrix explodes. You have an attack surface that is not only expanding horizontally but vertically too.

There is only a finite number of people with the **skills** to protect all this – _not enough human capital to fill our industry shortage. Marry that with the challenges in training at scale, across geographies and at various skills levels, it is a challenge.

Cyber Defense is the first line of defense, we require specialized forensic and defense skills to properly protect our company, clients and employees at scale. We need training solutions that allow employees flexibility in how, when and where they get training. Training alone is not enough. Learn how to address the human factors of cybersecurity. It is critical for an efficient Cyber Defense team to have skills in crisis management, communication, resiliency, and risk management. The pressure is intense, and success depends on building strong relationships and maintaining clear communications.

What is the secret ... up-skilling AND cross-skilling, mentoring and building personal relationships to support growth. Ensuring the right people have the right training, at the right time AND the support they need to succeed.

Skills the participants will develop:

- Targeted development programs & customized courseware for cross-training
- Innovative thinking based on data-driving insights
- Building a culture of trust, creativity, and commitment through mentoring
- IBM SkillBuild – Free skills training for 30M by 2030

SANS | GIAC Workforce Leadership Summit 2025

Solving the Cybersecurity Talent Crisis

Thursday, May 1, 2025 | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

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Join Rosa Bolger to learn how IBM is building an effective Cyber Defense team and the strategies they are implementing to retain talented professionals.