Understanding and Defeating Criminal Threats: Ransoms and Business Email Compromise

The criminal element continues to target, steal from, and coerce all sizes of types of businesses within a broad set of deliberate and effective techniques. The defenses and risk management measures against the tactics criminals use are known and can be countered by technical measures, but also through the application of sound business processes, training, and breach insurance. This presentation will explore the criminal ecosystem, including how they make the decision to target a company, and discuss real first hand experiences responding to significant breaches involving ransomware, cyber extortion, and business email compromise. Defending against these threats can be costly and complicated if a company tries to take all available measures. The presentation will close with a discussion of how to identify and select safeguards when working with a limited budget and juggling business requirements.



Nicholas Scheurkogel

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Nicholas is a recognized leader and innovator in Canada in understanding cyber threats, defensive and offensive military cyber operations, and applying cyber security to niche environments. As the former head of the Canadian military's cyber intelligence capability, and while leading key Canadian Armed Forces cyber response teams, Nicholas has led national and international efforts

to understand state and criminal threats, respond to international cyber attacks, disrupt criminal groups, and defend key allied military systems. Since founding DISC in 2018, Nicholas has developed cyber defense strategies for key Canadian Government departments, led breach response efforts to major cyber breaches, and is an expert witness in legal breach cases against Capital One and Facebook.

Nicholas has recently opened FX Cyber B.V., located in Curacao, which will provide breach response services, darkweb research and monitoring, and cyber security consulting services. Partnerships within the existing Curacao community and academic community are welcome.