Cybersecurity Talking Points

Questions Every CEO Should Know How to Answer

Every CEO needs an elevator speech about their organization's thinking on cybersecurity. It's no longer enough to say, "That's for my tech people; I don't know much about it myself." That implies you haven't developed an approach to it, that it has no priority in your strategic thinking.

This document is intended to help you think through the key talking points on cybersecurity and prepare an elevator speech for your board, your member-owners, your examiners, and the market. Below we've listed some common questions about cybersecurity, along with our experts' suggested responses. Are you ready to respond to these questions with your own answers?

What are the top five threats to credit union cybersecurity?

- Credit union and data center staff
- Inadequate network maintenance
- Poor network configurations
- Insufficient training
- Social engineering
- **Your answer:** _____

Which organizations would you call to brief you and your staff on the real threats to cybersecurity and affordable tactics to minimize them?

- CU*Answers
- MS-ISAC
- **Your answer:** _____

What are some of the best resources for cybersecurity training?

- GIAC
- ISACA
- KnowBe4
- SANS
- **Your answer:** _____

"Maintaining cybersecurity is a well-coordinated dance that involves the efforts of multiple teams."

Dave Wordhouse
CU*Answers VP of
Network Technologies

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What elements are crucial to an effective cybersecurity program?

- Adequate training
- Flexibility to evolve with the times
- Funding for technical controls
- Support from executive management
- Well-documented policies and procedures
- **Your answer: _____**

Which teams at your credit union can you contact to see the approach your organization uses to maintain cybersecurity?

- Internal IT manager
- Executive management
- IT experts of financial institutions that participate in FSISAC
- **Your answer: _____**

What are the biggest risks of a breach in your credit union cybersecurity?

- Transaction risk
- Reputation risk
- Compliance and legal risk
- **Your answer: _____**

"There is no single turn-key solution to maintaining cybersecurity; instead it requires multiple layers of controls to mitigate risk."

Matt Sawtell, Assistant VP of Managed Technology Services

"An organization cannot function without being willing to accept some cybersecurity risks."

Randy Karnes
CEO

6000 28th St. SE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
800.327.3478
www.cuanswers.com

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