



So It's Not all Ninjas and Anonymous Masks?



# David Young



## Security Consultant

- Based in Columbus , OH
- Professional Hacker
- Involved in Cybersecurirty since 2008

## Jack of All Trades, Master of Maybe A Couple

- Helpdesk
- Desktop Support
- Server Administrator

## Other Interesting Facts

- Anime Fan(subbed never dubbed)
- Build Gundam Models
- PC Gamer
- Former U.S. Army Veteran
  - Desert Shield/Storm



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# What is this talk all about...



- Real conversation of what is like to work in Information Security
- What are the Day-to-Day tasks
- Learning to Speak Business
- Reports, reports, reports..
- Timelines..
- Tools and the challenges around them.
- From internal to consultant



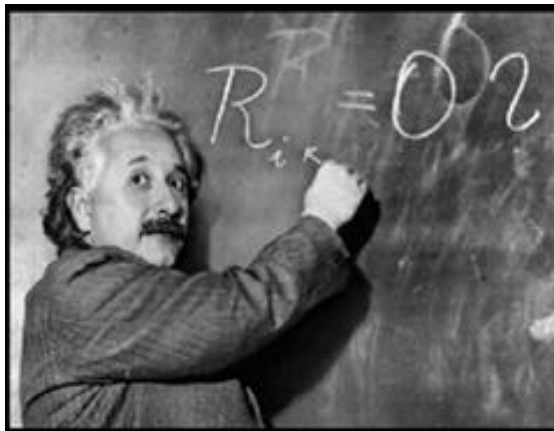
# So, what is it like working on Information Security...



*What my parents think I do.*



*What my friends and media think I do.*



*What I think I do.*



*What I actually do.*

New to Industry or those not in the industry always thinks it is...



# What is it like working on Information Security...



- Disclaimer, This is my point of view coming from the healthcare, financial, utilities and consulting backgrounds. Any statements made here are my own and do not reflect the opinion of my current or former employers.
- This is not a technical talk.
- Be warned, may appear as though I am rambling...
- Your experiences may vary.
- I also don't want you to think there isn't fun to be had.
- Just realize some of the realities of business involved.



# So, you want to work in Information CyberSecurity....



- What part of Infosec CyberSecurity?
  - Compliance
  - Risk
  - Forensic Analyst
  - Incident Response
  - CISO, CIO, Director
  - Vulnerability Researcher
  - Exploit Developer
  - Disaster Recover/Business Continuity
  - IAM
  - SOC Analyst
  - Penetration Tester

# Day to Day.....

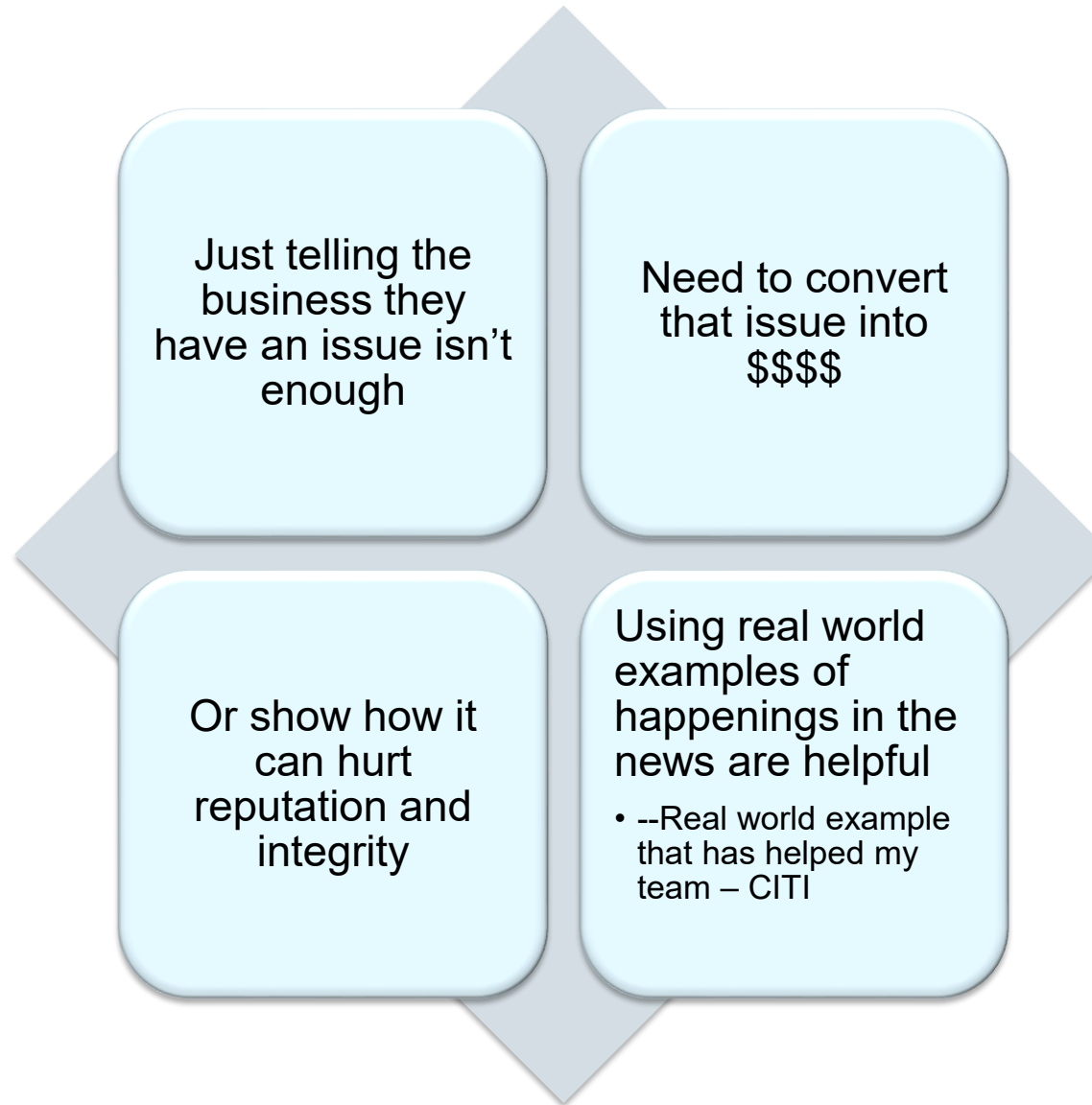


- Meeting, meeting, meeting
  - Can be fun, just know your audience..
  - Develop social interaction skills
  - Learn how to tell a developer he does have an ugly baby and not have him get defensive
  - Ability to navigate what is needed done in a task
- Emails
- Phone Calls
- Documentation
- OH, and maybe squeeze in a little actual work....





# Learning to Talk Business



# Timeline...

- Some may know them as deadlines..
  - Because if you do not get it done by certain time your dead...
- Need to be able to budget time
  - Fit in success with completion
- Have the ability to put something down.
  - Move on to next task
- Document, document, document
- Be Flexible
  - Added tasks that push current tasks.



# Tools...



Many different tools in our industry

Ranging from Open source to Off The Shelf



Generally, companies seem to be more comfortable with Off the Shelf.



Some companies require insurance taken out on software purchases.

Guarantees that it will not bring the company to its knees



Nothing wrong with open source

Comfort level with support

Comfort level with it providing results expected

Ability to read and understand what the code is doing



Biggest take-away. If you are limited by what tools you can use, then use them to the maximum benefit

Learn business speak to be able to provide numbers why other product gives a better advantage.

Set up a test environment to show the usefulness of these tools.

•This also give ability to validate the tools is working as expected



And always remember despite your best effort to recommend a certain tool, you can always be over-ridden.



Many security solutions block many of the tools we use

# The Bane of my Existence



## . REPORTS!!!!!!

- Has taken me many years to accept reporting.
- Is one of those necessary evils
- Gives you a voice to show the owners what the issue is and best recommendation to remediate it.
  - It is also a good CYAP.
- Make you life easier and use templates.....
- Also establish set Service Level Agreements with your owners.
- This is what the client has paid for



This will not be what your workstation look's like





This is more likely what your workspace will be\*



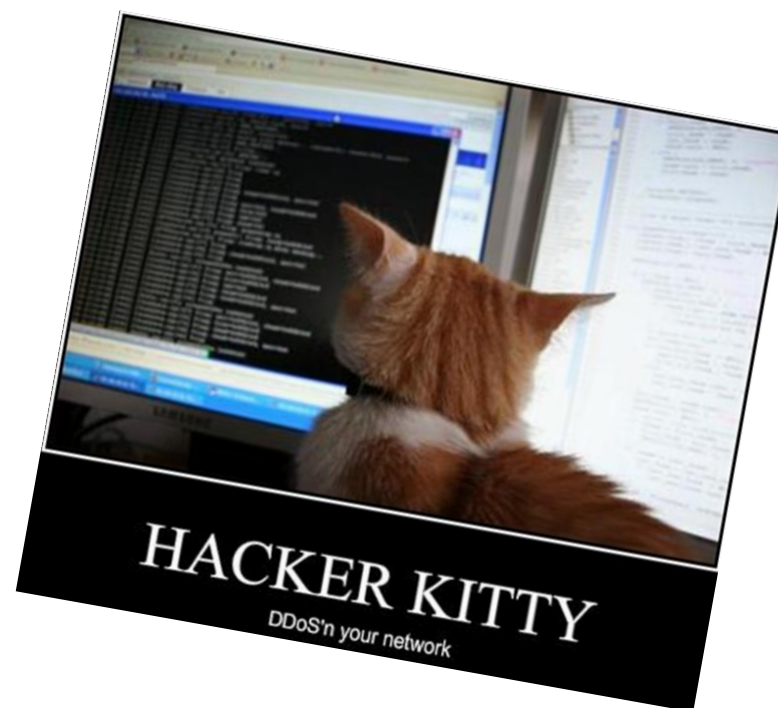
Haven't found a company with this relaxed of a dress code either...



# David, where's the fun



- I have learned in my years of working; fun is all in where you make it
- Getting to learn new thing, even if it just related to your work
  - Should always be researching new techniques and methodologies
  - Using what you learn while at work...
- Seeing the vulnerabilities you discover be remediated
- Getting the opportunity to attend training
- Going to Security conventions
  - Both local and travel
- Opportunity of meeting people in the industry
  - Dave Kennedy -- FastTrack
  - Paul Asadoorian – Defcon 19
  - Kevin Johnson – SANS and now my boss



# Differences from Internal to Consultant



As part of an internal team, you can follow the full lifecycle of remediation

In Consulting that does not happen as often



Travel

Generally, not much travel involved when working on an internal team



Office life and/or shared office(hoteling)

WFH - Another hot topic as of late



Dress Code/ Attire

If you are WFH, can be more relaxed, except when client facing



In office environment there tends to be more distractions

If you have a separate WFH environment this is avoided



\*\*\*HOT TOPIC\*\*\* - Collaboration

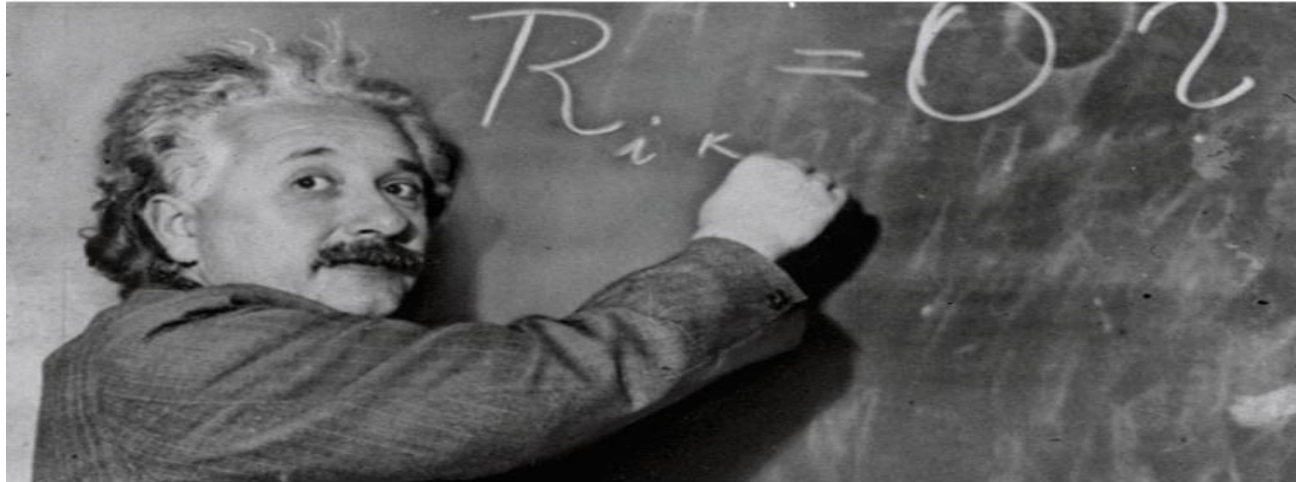
This seems variable based on company not internal/consultant, office or WFH



# Which is better, internal or consulting



How I think I look explaining cyber risk to the board



How I actually look







# QUESTIONS?

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