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Network & Security Leadership Accelerator

FA-0337 · one-day

DevOps, Cloud & Infrastructure · Cybersecurity · Automation, RPA & Power Platform

Introduction

Government networks face increasingly sophisticated attacks while citizen expectations for digital services continue to rise. This one-day briefing cuts through the technical complexity to give senior officials the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about network infrastructure and cybersecurity investments.

The session covers current network technologies, threat landscapes, and policy frameworks that shape how governments protect critical systems and deliver services. Participants will understand the trade-offs between security, functionality, and cost—knowledge essential for building effective strategies and coordinating across departments.

Rather than overwhelming executives with technical details, this briefing focuses on the strategic implications of technology choices and the governance structures needed to manage risk while enabling innovation.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this session, participants will:

- Grasp the strategic convergence of network transformation and cyber defense.
- Understand the role of AI, zero-trust, and post-quantum approaches in next-gen security.
- Recognize leadership responsibilities in AI governance, compliance, and regulation.
- Gain clarity on managing cyber risks—from nation-state attacks to ransomware.
- Be ready to align multi-agency priorities and budget for proactive security maturity.

Prerequisites

- High-level familiarity with enterprise IT and basic cybersecurity language.
- Understanding that network and security investment decisions drive mission assurance and public trust.
- No technical hands-on knowledge needed.

Training outline

1. 1. Network Evolution & Strategic Resilience

AI-Driven Network Automation

- Predictive analytics for real-time fault detection and traffic optimization
- Self-healing architectures balancing performance and availability

Cloud-Native & Edge Architectures

- Rise of SASE (Secure Access Service Edge): network/security in the cloud
- Multi-cloud, edge, hybrid deployment trends and implications for government workloads

2. 2. Next-Gen Security Posture

Zero Trust & Adaptive Security

- “Never trust, always verify” model: MFA, identity-centric, micro-segmentation
- Real-time adaptive security: dynamic policy enforcement in response to threats

AI as Defender and Adversary

- Generative AI in incident detection/response vs. AI-powered threat actor tools
- Governance frameworks and liability considerations for AI in cyber operations

3. 3. Emerging Threats & National Security Risks

Nation-State Threat Landscape

- Recent examples: state-sponsored ransomware, espionage campaigns
- Accelerating reconnaissance against critical infrastructure

Ransomware & Data-Theft Trends

- Ransomware sophistication amplified by AI, API vulnerabilities
- Breach visibility and governance as key deterrents

4. 4. Cryptography & Resilience Planning

Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC)

- Urgency of PQC adoption plans: Cloudflare & NIST timelines
- Preparing government systems before quantum-safe mandates

Data Governance & Exposure Management

- Unified asset visibility, CAASM/EASM frameworks — closing the gap between risk and investments

5. 5. Governance, Regulation & Executive Oversight

Cyber Policy & Regulatory Roadmap

- Current laws: UK Bill updates, DORA, EU Cyber Resilience Act trends
- Government accountability, incident reporting, public–private alignment

C-Level Leadership Principles

- Board engagement, risk-based budgeting, cross-agency coordination
- Workforce readiness: closing cyber skills and diversity gaps

6. 6. Strategic Roadmapping & Investment Priorities

Consolidated Platforms & “Shift-Left” Approaches

- Platformification: unified SASE, XDR, identity and access control

Proactive Maturity Goals

- Stress-testing incident response, continuous improvement cycles, threat intelligence sharing

Policy Actions Required

- Defining inter-agency working groups, AI governance task forces, and regulatory compliance teams

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Why This Course Delivers the "Wow" Factor

- **Executive-grade insight**: Merges bleeding-edge technology trends (AI, post-quantum, zero-trust) with real-world geopolitical context.
- **Operational grounding**: Framed around strategic decisions — not deep technical minutiae.
- **Immediate relevance**: Content mirrors recent national-level discussions, e.g. Axios, RSAC, Infosec.
- **Actionable outcomes**: Participants leave with a clear ‘what next’ playbook for their organization and mission priorities.

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