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Open for Business: How to Build a Security Program as the First CISO

Olivia Rose

CISO, VP of IT & Security
Amplitude

TRANSFORM





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Welcome

- Different Game, Different Rules
- Builder CISO Conditioning
- Open for Business



Quick Intro

21 years in IT & Security

- vCISO for multiple organizations (Private to Fortune 100)
- First CISO for Mailchimp
- First CISO at Amplitude

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/oliviarosecybersecurity/>

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Different Game, Different Rules

The Builder CISO's Unique Challenges



The Builder CISO

Forrester's Six Types of Security Leaders (Jan 2020)

1. Transformational CISO
2. Post-breach CISO
3. Tactical/operational expert CISO
4. Compliance and risk guru
5. Steady-state CISO
6. Customer-facing evangelist

Number 7:

The Builder CISO

Has elements of

The Typical First 90 Days as an Incoming CISO

- Meeting and greeting
- Learning the company's risk tolerance
- Reviewing relevant GRC and Privacy requirements
- Fine-tuning the security function's vision and mission
- Assessing the roadmaps, plans, security organizations
- Justifying budget and headcount needs
- And so on and so on

The First 90 Days as a Builder CISO



<https://youtu.be/slrlLt0mXkQ>

From the movie UHF



The First 90 Days as a Builder CISO

All of that, PLUS!

- Justifying your existence
- Navigating territory wars
- Discovering security tech debt
- Diplomatically addressing prior decisions
- Being a security team of one



I saw the angel in the marble
and carved until I set him free.

Michelangelo

quote fancy

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Builder CISO Conditioning

How to Pre-Game





Before Signing Your Offer!

- 1) Leadership support
- 2) Approval to hire headcount
- 3) Budget expectations alignment



Operational Recommendations

- 1) Sign those HR forms early
- 2) Get your account setup
- 3) Review security materials
- 4) **BONUS!** Setup your company accounts (travel, expenses, etc.)

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Open for Business

It's Showtime!





Your First Months as a Builder CISO

Month 1

Observe & Listen

Set Expectations

Get Social

- Coffee chats
- Schedule follow up conversations
- Understand the culture
- Be realistic about sharing findings
- Start gathering intel

Your First Months as a Builder CISO

Month 2

Have Tough Conversations

Form Relationships

Seek to Understand

- Security Debt conversations
- Past control and risk acceptances
- Acclimate with the culture
- Mitigate Territory Wars
- Continue gathering intel



Your First Months as a Builder CISO

Month 3

Formulate Findings

Plant Seeds

Persuade & Influence

Bring On Resources

- Observe how decisions are made and communicated
- Begin to formulate findings
- Circulate high-level plan
- Get stakeholder teams' buy-in
- Begin Recruiting

Your First Months as a Builder CISO

Month 4

Communicate Strategy

Distribute Roadmap

Deploy

- Promote vision, mission
- Distribute plan and roadmap
- Select vendors
- Hire for key roles
- Identify key metrics



Thank You and Questions

Month 1

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Set Expectations

Get Social

Month 2

Have Tough Conversations

Form Relationships

Seek to Understand

Month 3

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Bring On Resources