

CISO Leadership Trait 1: Decisiveness

- Decisive
- Adaptive
- Reliable
- Engaged



What this means for a CISO

- CISOs need to be able to make decisions under pressure
- They need to make decisions quickly
- Being decisive also means making a decision without having all the knowledge. The 80% solution may be ok
- CISOs sometimes need to make high risk decisions in complication environments
- Lastly, they need to own the decision and justify it

CISO Leadership Trait 2: Adaptive

- Decisive
- **Adaptive**
- Reliable
- Engaged



What this means for a CISO

- CISOs need to be able to adapt to different organisational priorities. In cyber security these priorities may change from month to month
- They need to make the most opportunity with the resources and budgets allocated to them. Sometimes creativity wins
- Adaptive CISOs need to stay ahead of the threat curve and be able to predict the threats that may attack the organization
- They also need to be adaptive to the direction given to them by their Board or C-Suite Executives and respond accordingly

CISO Leadership Trait 3: Reliable

- Decisive
- Adaptive
- **Reliable**
- Engaged



What this means for a CISO

- When looking for a CISO, an organization is looking for a 'safe pair of hands'.
- This is someone who can get the job done and has an impeccable track record of protecting an organization's assets. This is important because CISOs usually have access to most parts of an organization (and authority)
- Organization's want to ensure their CISO is reliable in managing incidents and making the right decision with respect to budget spend, managing teams and managing stakeholders

CISO Leadership Trait 4: Engaged

- Decisive
- Adaptive
- Reliable
- **Engaged**



What this means for a CISO

- Engaged means the CISO is available to their team, their Executive leaders and business stakeholders across the organization
- A good engaged CISO is someone who is accessible to people, open, honest and transparent
- Engaged also means the CISO is able to drive the performance of others and bring out the best in their team and other stakeholders
- Lastly, engaged means the CISO can handle difficult conversations with stakeholders and manage complex issues while still keeping everyone on side