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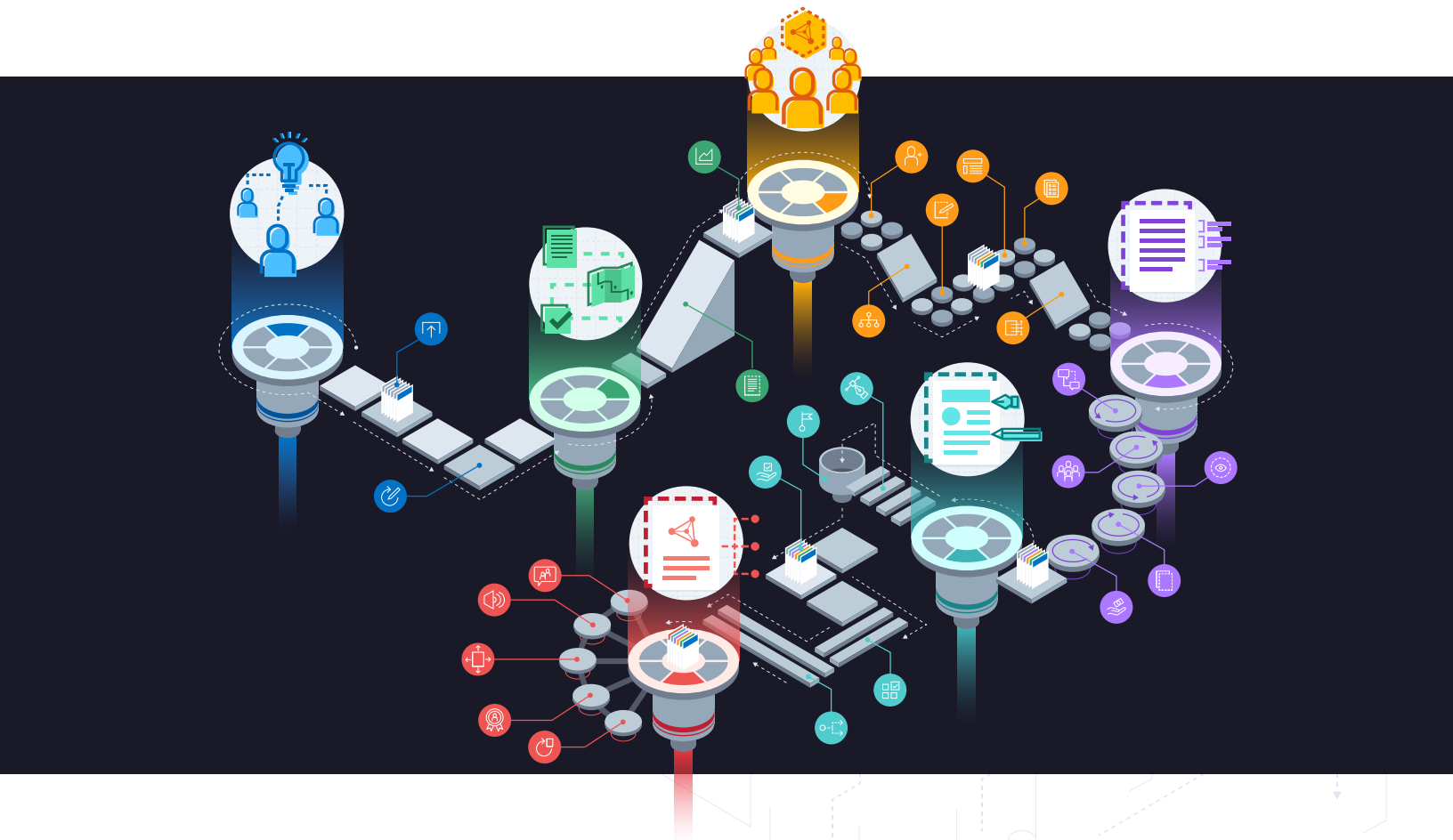
Charter 2022

Top Threats Working Group



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Working Group Executive Overview

This group aims to provide up-to-date, industry-informed expert insights on cloud security risks, threats, and vulnerabilities to help make educated risk-management and cloud adoption decisions. This group hopes to make using cloud services safer.

The Top Threats Working Group works with cloud services-using companies, providers, security vendors, experts, and standardizing bodies (NIST, GOV) to develop industry best cloud security practices. Such industry best practices include the top cloud threats publication and relevant cloud security-related supportive best practices.

Working Group Scope and Responsibilities

Specific responsibilities can include:

- Provide focus on the most pressing up to date cloud security threats and concerns and steer the industry to awareness and resolution
- Gather industry feedback on top cloud security threats and concerns
- Analyze cloud security concerns and risks and devise helpful insights
- Develop cloud security threat mitigation best practices
- Provide insights on industry cloud security threats and appropriate mitigations
- Inform cloud users, providers, security vendors, experts, and regulators with up to date cloud threats insights
- Publish and present papers at CSA and other industry events such as RSA
- Review and comment on the impact of standards on Threat Management
- Act as Cloud Security Alliance's formal liaison group with CSA CCM, IoT, and other WGs
- Act as Cloud Security Alliance's formal liaison group with Non-CSA entities such as:
  - International Standardization Council (ISC^2)
  - ISACA / CNCF
  - NIST / ISO

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Objectives and Goals

Deliverables

The group will gather feedback, conduct analysis, create content, collaborate, and publish the top cloud threats, industry deep-dives, and complementary publications.

- Bi-Annual Top Threats Survey
- Bi-Annual Deep Dive Analysis
- Papers that address particular threats, i.e., common misconfigurations
- Papers that address Threat Processes such as testing and modeling as it pertains to cloud security
- Guest blogs

Research Initiatives

Top Threats Survey - Updated Bi-Annually - 2022
Perform a public survey of 25 to 30 brainstormed threats assembled by the WG to determine the 10 to 15 most significant Top Threats. Summarize the results of the Top Threats in a document that defines the threats, security responsibilities, architecture components, cloud service model, and Stride Threat Analysis. Additionally, it illustrates business impacts, Key Takeaways, Anecdotes and examples, and Key CSA Security Guidance Domains, and identifies controls that can be used to mitigate the threats.

Top Threats Gamification - 2022
Create a Top Threats game to increase the awareness of the Top Threats and how an organization in simplified use cases might deal with incident management: from incident discovery through mitigation. Gaming was chosen as it has been seen to increase engagement and facilitate behavioral change while providing a safe environment to learn how to manage complex and severe cybersecurity issues.

Deliverable Schedule

Q3 2019

- Published Penetration Testing 2019 - July
- Published Top Threats to Cloud Computing: Egregious Eleven - August

Q3 2020

- Published Threats to Cloud Computing: Deep Dive Egregious Eleven - September

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Q1 2021

- Published Top Threats Cloud Threat Modeling - July

Q4 2021

- Conduct New Survey Top Threats Survey: Pandemic Eleven - December

Q1 2022

- Published Top Threats Working Charter - February

Q2 2022

- Publish Top Threats Survey Results: Pandemic 11 - April/May
- Publish Top Threats to Cloud Computing Pandemic Eleven - June 6
- RSA Top Threats Survey Results: Pandemic 11 Presentation - June 6

Q3 2022

- Publish Top Threats Gamification - September 2022 (September)

Q4 2022

- Charter 2023 Revision - Nov

Q2 2023

- Deep Dives - April (RSA)

Working Group Membership

The CSA appoints working group co-chairs. Membership includes representatives from the cloud computing industry.

Principal attendees will be designated representatives from an entity and any alternative designated by each principal.

The co-chairs may appoint others to ensure the effective execution of the defined work.

Other individuals may be invited to attend meetings by the principals as deemed necessary to provide inputs to topics under discussion.

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Working Group Structure

Co-Chairs

The co-chairs will lead the working group. The co-chairs may appoint others to ensure the effective execution of the defined research.

Committees

The working group may designate and organize subcommittees to aid in research with the initiatives about the subject matter of the working group.

Sub-Work Groups

Ad hoc sub-work groups composed of subject matter experts may be formed to plan or execute any related outreach, awareness, or research opportunities. Such sub-working groups shall report directly to the main working group.

Alignments with Outside Groups

The working group may also choose to allow resource sharing between cloud communities and other CSA working groups to assist in the timely completion of projects, programs, and other activities needed to support/enable the working group's defined body of work on, on-demand basis. The working group will share research and standards aligned with other CSA Working Groups, advisory groups, and industry partners (i.e., SDOs, and gov).

Operations

Advisory

The CSA Working Group will be advised by the CSA Subject Matter Expert (SME) Advisory Council, International Standardization Council (ISC), and CSA Executive Team to ensure that the research under the working group remains within the scope of CSA and aligns with other industry partner research. The research will remain unique to the industry and refer to any redundant or replicated work.

Research Lifecycle

The CSA Working Group will follow the development of the CSA Research Lifecycle for all projects and initiatives:

https://cloudsecurityalliance.org/research/lifecycle/

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Peer Review

We will seek CSA's help in reaching out to peers for reviewing our charter, publications, and other documented activities of the working groups.

Communications Methods

Infrastructure & Resource Requirements

The working group will be composed of CSA volunteers and co-chairs, and/or committee(s). The working group will require typical project management, an online workspace, and technical writing assistance.

Work Group Conference Calls and In-person Meetings

The working group will hold conference calls no less than quarterly. Attendance or participation in the online workspace by the Principal or Alternate is required. The Alternate must have full authority to act on behalf of the Principal if the Principal is absent. In-person meetings will happen in a location to be determined.

Decision-making Procedures

A. Definition of a majority

1. A majority shall consist of more than half of the members present and voting.
2. In computing a majority, members abstaining shall not be taken into account.
3. In case of a tie, a proposal or amendment shall be considered rejected.
4. For the purpose under this Charter, a "member present and voting" shall be a member voting "for" or "against" a proposal, including a proxy representative.
5. Proxy, where authority is delegated through a written statement or non-repudiated email, should be declared and inspected for validity by the working group leadership before voting starts.

B. Abstentions of more than fifty percent

1. When the number of abstentions exceeds half the number of votes cast (for votes, plus against votes, plus abstention votes), consideration of the matter under discussion shall be postponed to a later meeting, at which time abstentions shall not be taken into further account.

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C. Voting procedures

1. The voting procedures are as follows:
    a. By a show of hands as a general rule unless a secret ballot has been requested; if at least two members, present and entitled to vote, so request before the beginning of the vote and if a secret ballot under b) has not been requested, or if the procedure under a) shows no clear majority
    b. By a secret ballot, if at least five of the members present and entitled to vote so request before the beginning of the vote (online voting is applicable)
2. The Chair(s) shall, before commencing a vote, observe any request as to the manner in which the voting shall be conducted, and then shall formally announce the voting procedure to be applied and the issue to be submitted to the vote. The Chair(s) shall then declare the beginning of the vote and, when the vote has been taken, shall announce the results.
3. In the case of a secret ballot, the working group leadership shall at once take steps to ensure the secrecy of the vote.

Duration

The working group will operate until December 2022 for its chartered deliverables, and at that time, consider charter renewal.

Charter Revision History

July 16, 2022	Co-Chairs • Jon-Michael Brook • Alexander Stone Getsin • Michael Roza

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