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Colorado Springs


CS4950/5950  
*Homeland Security & Cybersecurity*

**Cyber Career**

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**Lesson 44  
Cyber Career**

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**Cyber Career**

If you're taking this course, it's  
either because you are a  
cybersecurity professional or  
you're interested in becoming a  
cybersecurity professional.



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### Cyber Career

- According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the 2015 median pay for an Information Security Analyst was \$90,120 per year.
- **Most analysts have at least a bachelor's degree in a computer-related field.**
- There are currently 82,900 security analyst positions in the United States, and opportunities are expected to grow another 18% over the next ten years.



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- It is one of the fastest growing professions in the United States.
- **In many respects, the future looks pretty bright.**
- **Unfortunately, not all is sunshine and lollipops.**



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### Cyber Career

- Practical realities cast a pall over the entire profession.
- Perhaps the greatest drawback is the **constant engagement in conflict**.



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### Cyber Career

- You will be engaged in continual battle that is bound to suffer **inevitable losses** for which you will take primary blame.
- It's a "no win" situation.



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- Moreover, you will be engaged against forces from within as well as from without.
- You will compete for resources from colleagues and managers **who don't understand what you do.**



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**It will be a constant battle on two fronts.**



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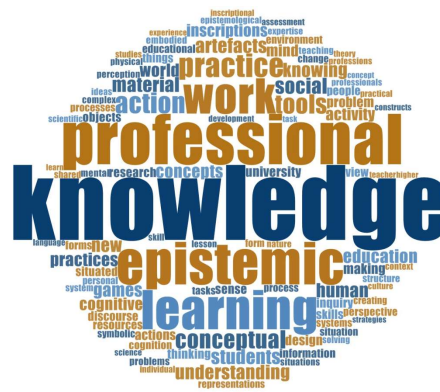
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### Cyber Career

- Certainly the pay and benefits will be comfortable.
- But they will come at the added expense of **continual education**; there will be no resting on your laurels.



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- And in all likelihood, your narrow focus and deep knowledge **will cost you your corporate mobility.**
- You will be left behind to watch many of your less capable colleagues rise up the corporate ladder.



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### Cyber Career

Maybe this is why one poll finds that engineers are **four times less likely** than the average American to be completely satisfied with their jobs.



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### Cyber Career


- Of course, **nothing is inevitable**, and you do have a choice.
- With foresight, you can exercise some measure of control over your future and avoid some of the afore mentioned pitfalls.
- And what might that future be?



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### Cyber Career

- **Why not become CEO?**
- Somebody has to be in charge, and engineers are apparently pretty good at it.



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### Cyber Career

- A 2014 list of Best-Performing CEOs in the World compiled by **Harvard Business Review** found **24 of the top 100 CEOs were engineers.**
- The Harvard Business Review found engineers top-notch CEOs not just of technology companies, but also non-engineering companies like Anheuser-Busch InBev, Intercontinental Exchange, and others.



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### Cyber Career

Three reasons cited why engineers make great CEOs are that:

1. They are **practical** and pragmatic,
2. They are **analytical** problem solvers, and
3. They are both **detail** oriented and **architectural** thinkers.



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### Cyber Career

- Of course there is that one problem standing in the way of an engineer becoming a CEO, and that is a **common belief that all engineers are dull nerds.**
- **Of course this is not the case.**



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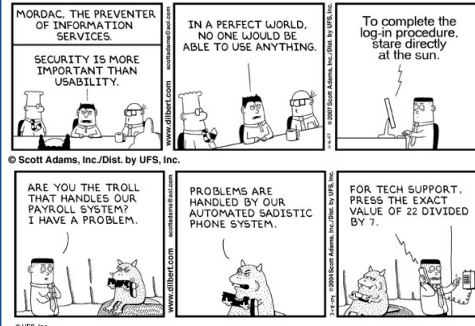
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However, it is easy to fall victim to an occupational hazard that leads to **technical arrogance**.



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- Most technical decisions are **digital**.
- Engineers lead a work life that is **black or white**, not shades of gray.
- This can make it **frustrating dealing with non-engineers**, and even lead to belief that they are all stupid.
- This too is certainly wrong.



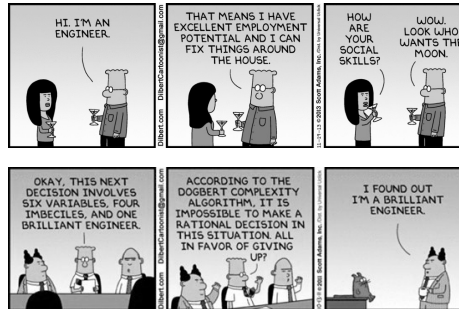
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### Cyber Career

Many engineers **eliminate themselves** from any possibility of running an organization by not amending their digital value system.



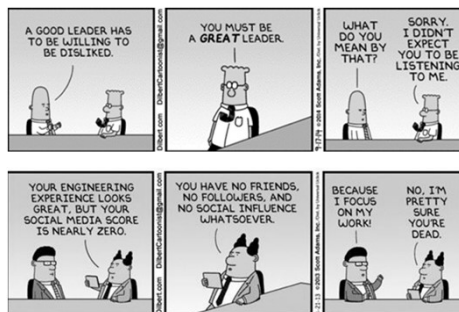
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We must understand that relationships are **analog**.



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### Cyber Career

No matter how smart you are, you won't attain the executive suite if you **can't relate to your clients, vendors, peers, and staff.**



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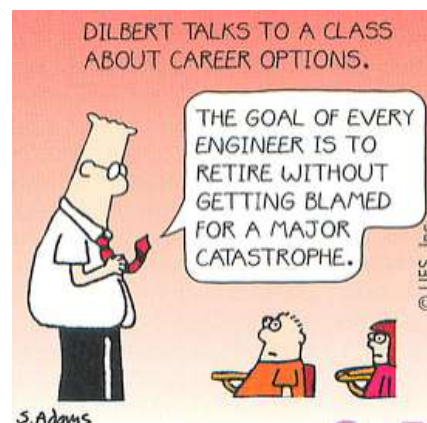
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One executive recruiter recommends reading good literature: a good student of people is usually a student of good literature.



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Don't become technically  
arrogant.



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Don't let ego stand in the way  
of a brilliant future.



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**Conclusion**

Questions?



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