**1.6.1. Establishingh Goals - Transcript**

Project management in cybersecurity is essentially about managing change. About getting from a starting point where your project is just an idea or series of requirements to a point where your project has hopefully achieved it's goals. Usually, the shortest path to get from point A to point B is a straight line but that doesn't always work so well in projects. Often that final goal post itself will shift over time and many other goals will appear along the way, so instead it's better move more in a spiral, an iterative cycle of improvement and feedback to manage those ongoing changes. It's a lot easier to improve a thing than it is to create a thing. Of course none of this works particularly well without clear and attainable goals. If everyone has a clear picture of where they want to see the project it becomes easier to know what improvements to make in each iteration cycle.

Of course, things don't always go according to plan and no matter how good your risk management skills are, there's always going to be some problems or blockers that you'll have to react to. Some are easily resolved with some quick thinking, teamwork or communication but others will force those ongoing project changes into a different direction. Your scope will grow, your schedules will need to be rethought and even your goals might end up shifting a little. But it's important to control these changes otherwise they can control you. When you are in charge of a project, you want to be in the driver's seat otherwise scope creep and unexpected curveballs can cause your project to spiral out of control. It's important to know your limitations and ensure that your goals are attainable and, if they're not? Know when to say no. You can turn down a project or refuse a change request. There's no point wasting time on goals that are unachievable or unrealistic. With effective goal setting and allowing enough adaptablility to overcome problems without letting your scope get out of hand, the likelyhood of your project succeeding increases dramatically.