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Scotland SASIG

Preparing for an ever-changing world

In association with



SASIG is delighted to return to Edinburgh for Cyber Scotland Week, hosted once again by Phoenix Group. The world is in constant flux, presenting challenges for organisations of all shapes and sizes. In today's unpredictable geopolitical climate, marked by instability and uncertainty, the discipline of preparedness has never been more critical. Staying ahead of changes, adapting to enhance both productivity and resilience, and preparing for emerging technologies, are all vital tasks.

Our focus remains on resilience this year, a goal that hinges on thorough preparation. Our speakers will address the threats to our complex network of suppliers – without whom we cannot operate – as well as to our own organisations. Identifying these threats swiftly, assessing their relevance, and mitigating their impact, are essential steps on the road to resilience. Additionally, we will explore how to harness the opportunities presented by new technologies while safeguarding against their risks.

And in a persistently competitive job market, where the demand for skilled professionals far outstrips supply, we will discuss strategies for developing and retaining the talent necessary to strengthen security. Join us and our panel of experts as we navigate the journey towards a more resilient future.

All SASIG events operate under Chatham House Rule, and there is no charge to attend. Lunch and refreshments for the day are kindly provided by our hosts.

Thursday 27 February 2025

9.30am to 3.30pm

Edinburgh, Scotland

Chair

Tarquin Folliss OBE Vice Chairman, The SASIG

9.30am **Registration, coffee, and networking**

10am **Welcome and introductions**

Tarquin Folliss OBE Vice Chairman, The SASIG

Anna Edwards Information Security Education and Awareness Manager, Phoenix Group

10.10am **Keynote presentation: Setting standards across an extended enterprise – Who truly knows best?**

Colin Cowan Head of Operational Resilience & Security Assurance, Phoenix Group

Setting and maintaining standards across an extended enterprise is complex, with diverse systems, stakeholders, and evolving regulations. This session will explore the challenges of creating cohesive standards that balance organisational goals, partner requirements, and industry benchmarks. We'll gain expert insights, discover real-world examples, and uncover strategies to foster collaboration and accountability, ensuring consistency, resilience, and success across our enterprise ecosystems.

10.40am **Building resilience with threat intelligence**

Kostandino Kustas Sales Engineer, CrowdStrike

How can defenders stay ahead of the curve in protecting critical infrastructure? We will explore how leveraging threat intelligence equips organisations with the tools to understand adversaries before they strike. Focusing on proactive preparation, this session will discuss identifying emerging threats, strengthening security posture, and staying ahead in the ever-evolving cyber threat landscape. Attendees will gain actionable insights to build resilience against increasingly sophisticated attacks.

11.10am **Panel session: Keeping your people engaged in security**

Facilitated by **Tarquin Folliss OBE** Vice Chairman, The SASIG

Brian Stewart Senior Systems Engineer, Arctic Wolf

Amy McClemont Group COO - Chief Security Office, Lloyds Banking Group

Martin Rutherford Cybersecurity Education & Awareness Lead, HSBC

A senior representative from the **Scottish Cyber Coordination Centre**

Building a strong security culture is about more than policies and training—it requires continuous engagement, creativity, and a deep understanding of human behaviour. This panel brings together industry leaders to discuss proven strategies for keeping employees actively involved and invested in security.

From gamification and storytelling to addressing security fatigue and tailoring approaches to diverse audiences, the panel will explore innovative ways to make security relevant and relatable for all. We will gain practical insights on fostering collaboration, encouraging secure behaviours, and transforming employees into the first line of defence against cyber threats.

11.50am **Tea, coffee, and networking break**

12.10pm **Unlocking business growth: Secrets to cybersecurity success**
Tim Anderson CCO, e2e-assure

In this session, Tim will demonstrate how cybersecurity is more than just a proactive measure—it is a key asset for business growth.

"If I were to start a business today, I'd use security to help me grow."

Correctly positioning your cybersecurity infrastructure with both internal and external stakeholders builds trust, enhances brand loyalty, and results in increased board buy-in and new business opportunities. With over two decades of experience in business development and demonstrating the added value cybersecurity brings to the table, Tim will share firsthand case study examples of effective cybersecurity positioning in action. We'll uncover actionable insights to implement and enhance your own strategy.

12.40pm **Attack surface unmasked: Top attack vectors in 2025 and beyond**
Ellis Fincham Threat & XDR Lead, EMEA, Rapid7
David Brookes-Smith Cloud Security Lead, UKI, Rapid7

The attack surface is expanding exponentially, driven by rapid cloud adoption, evolving technologies, and increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. In this session, Ellis and David will examine the leading attack vectors predicted to dominate in 2025 and beyond, including cloud misconfigurations, AI-driven exploits, supply chain vulnerabilities, and advanced social engineering techniques.

1.10pm **Safeguarding critical infrastructure and data from third-party risks**
Nick Palmer Technical Director, Censys

Over the past year, Censys has tracked trends in compromised third parties, data theft, unpatched systems, outdated technology, data breaches, and IoT vulnerabilities. Nick will share key insights from this analysis and explore strategies to fortify critical infrastructure, protect sensitive data, and ensure business continuity. We'll examine how proactive risk identification, mitigation, and response all strengthen resilience against third-party risks. Additionally, we'll discuss the financial benefits of robust cybersecurity, including lower response costs, reduced downtime, and protection from long-term breach impacts.

1.40pm **Networking lunch**

2.20pm

Navigating insider risks in an AI-driven world

Findlay Whitelaw Senior Solutions Engineer, Exabeam

In this session, Findlay will delve into the evolving threat landscape of insider threats in the age of AI, examining how advancements in technology amplify risks while also offering opportunities to strengthen defences.

Key takeaways will include:

- How insider threats are changing in the age of AI
- How AI both amplifies risks and strengthens defences
- Strategies for adopting a proactive approach

2.50pm

Panel session: How do we attract talent in a competitive market?

Facilitated by **Tarquin Folliss OBE** Vice Chairman, The SASIG

Florian Pouchet Associate Partner, Wavestone

Dr Heather Anderson Operations Director, Security and Resilience Research Centre, University of Strathclyde

John Madelin Visiting Lecturer, University of Roehampton

In today's fast-paced cybersecurity landscape, attracting and retaining top talent is a major challenge. With demand for skilled professionals outpacing supply, how can businesses stand out in a competitive market?

This panel will bring together industry experts and HR leaders to discuss innovative strategies for recruiting cybersecurity talent. Topics will include employer branding, career development, fostering innovation, and addressing the skills gap with effective training and mentorship. Through this discussion, we'll all gain actionable insights to attract and nurture the next generation of cybersecurity professionals.

3.30pm

End of meeting

About

 **The Security Awareness Special Interest Group (SASIG)**

SASIG is a subscription-free networking forum, membership now represents thousands of organisations of all sizes from across the world and from all sectors, public and private. Its 10,700+ membership is drawn from CIOs, CISOs and their staff with responsibility for cybersecurity within their organisations. Professionals from other disciplines (risk, HR, legal, supply, etc.) and representatives from government, law enforcement and academia are also being increasingly welcomed at events. The Chatham House Rule is strictly enforced and universally respected at all meetings, and vendors and the Press are routinely excluded. Thus, the level of debate is extraordinarily revealing and rewarding.

SASIG has a members' website at www.thesasig.com. Please register here for membership.

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