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SASIG of the North

AI, Regulation, and Resilience: What Security Leaders Need to Know Now

In association with



We are thrilled to return to Manchester for our highly anticipated event there. Designed to engage, inspire and inform, this event explores how artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping cybersecurity - both as a powerful defence tool and an evolving threat.

AI is accelerating both cyber-attacks and defence, making preparedness essential for security teams aiming to use AI to strengthen organisational resilience. That preparedness is increasingly shaped by geopolitics and evolving regulation, with growing emphasis on digital sovereignty, the integration of AI into existing cyber rules, and heightened board accountability for resilience. As AI adoption matures with organisations accountable for its impact CISOs measure AI's ROI through faster, higher-quality decision-making, and stronger operational resilience.

Of course, we also know AI gets it wrong. What happens when it does?

All SASIG events operate under the Chatham House Rule, and there is no charge to attend. Our hosts will kindly provide lunch and refreshments.

Thursday 7 May 2026

9am to 3pm

Manchester

Chair

Liz Murray

Chief of Staff, The SASIG

9.00am Registration, coffee, and networking

9.30am Welcome and introductions

David Cook Partner, DLA Piper

9.45am Keynote presentations

Tammy Archer Director Information Security/CISO, The Co-op

Tammy has described Cybersecurity as a “game of chess”. That game is evolving at pace thanks to AI, both to protect and attack organisations. We are privileged to have such an influential industry leader to keynote our day together with:

Rise of the AI: The First Response

Jonathan Crew Security Delivery Lead Defence, DXC

Automation... Machine Learning... Predictive models have been with us for some time, controlled, and function-specific. Today, AI is growing in its ubiquity. What are the threats, attacks, the 101 of preparedness. This talk looks at topics to be considered for protection of business and service, and how to turn AI to the advantage of The Security Team.

11.00am Turning Cyber Regulation into Advantage: Identity, AI and Accountability

Kat Sommer Head of Government Affairs & Analyst Relations, NCC Group

Seena Williams Government & External Affairs Manager, NCC Group

Cyber regulation is reshaping how organisations manage risk, technology and trust. Drawing on NCC Group’s forthcoming 5th Global Cyber Policy Radar, this session will explore three defining shifts in the cyber policy landscape: The rise of digital sovereignty, the embedding of AI security into existing cyber rules, and the growing move to hold boards directly accountable for cyber resilience.

A central focus is digital identity, now a core component of national infrastructure and enterprise security architectures. We’ll connect policy intent to operational reality, helping security leaders anticipate regulatory direction and turn compliance, identity and resilience into strategic advantage.

11.30am Tea, coffee and networking break

11.45pm From Adoption to Accountability: AI, ROI and the Future of Cyber Resilience

Jake Anthony Principal Solutions Engineer, Exabeam

AI in cybersecurity has moved beyond experimentation to accountability. This session draws insight from Exabeam's latest research report *From Adoption to Accountability: The New Economics of AI in Cybersecurity*, to explore how CISOs are redefining ROI. Today's security leaders measure ROI through confidence: Faster, higher-quality decision-making, analyst efficiency, reduced alert fatigue and stronger operational resilience. This also requires visibility into AI agents operating across their enterprises. Accountability now extends across all identities operating within their systems: Agentic AI and human.

12.15pm Keeping Pace with AI-accelerated Attacks

Mark Davis Senior Director, Pentera

AI is accelerating every stage of the attack lifecycle, from phishing and impersonation to reconnaissance, exploitation, and lateral movement. As attackers use AI to move faster and adapt in real time, organisations need new ways to validate whether their defences can keep up. In this session, Mark will explore how organisations can use AI-enhanced adversarial testing to emulate modern attack techniques, identify real exposure across the attack surface, and prioritise remediation to reduce exposure before attackers have a chance to exploit it.

12.45pm Networking lunch

1.30pm Building resilience throughout your M365 environment

John Stevenson Senior Product Marketing Manager, CoreView

IDC's new report *Building the Resilient Enterprise* examines how security leaders can achieve that aim. In the context of your Microsoft 365 ecosystem, what does resilience mean and how do you go about building resilience into your core M365 applications and infrastructure? We explore best practice in building a cyber-resilient enterprise through the lens of your Microsoft 365 environment.

2.00pm Panel discussion: Who's liable when Agentic AI gets it wrong?

Facilitated by Liz Murray Chief of Staff, The SASIG

Kat Sommer Head of Government Affairs & Analyst Relations, NCC Group

Jonathan Crew Security Delivery Lead Defence, DXC

Tim Ward CEO and Co Founder Redflags

David Cook Partner, DLA Piper

What happens when agentic AI gets it wrong? Imagine a breach created by autonomous AI entities. This panel will build on themes discussed throughout the day and explore what organisations need to put in place to ensure they know where accountability sits, where the 'AI buck' stops, and which risks they ultimately own.

2.45pm Closing remarks

3pm 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 11,000+ 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.

With thanks to our Supporters and Contributors...



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