

The Future of IT & Cybersecurity

CIO & CISO Think Tank

SPEAKERS



Rakesh Mekala
COO
DIRECTV



Erin Boyd
Chief Digital Commercial
Transformation Officer
The AES Corporation



Ray Austad
Head of Operational Risk
Management
Farmers Insurance



Alvin Joseph
CO, Veritiv-OPS
Orora



Blake Gillan
Director of DTC
Technology
Merchsource



Anja Dang
Head of Global Analytics
& AI Strategy
Herbalife Nutrition



Micah Resley
Director IT & Facilities
Robbins Brothers
Fine Jewelers



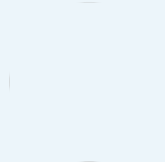
Dr. Chris Pierson
CEO and Founder
BlackCloak



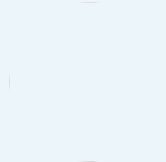
Richard Winter
Global Process Owner
Warner Bros.
Discovery



Josh Orenstein
CO
LA6721



Tin Zaw
Director Tech
Enablement
Verizon



Stephen Alford
CO
Worldwide
Environmental
Products



David Williamson
CO
Abzena



Tyler Laughery
GTM Leader - West
Revefi



John To
VP of Digital
Transformation
Rhino Linings



Doug Murray
Global Head and
Director, Information
Security
Centerfield



Nathan Dean
Director, Application
Services, Global
Technology
Universal Music
Group



Allen Ohanian
CSO
Los Angeles County
Department of
Children and Family
Services



Tom Hartmann
Sr Director IT
Mattel



Jethro Rothe-Kushel
CO
Ritual Ads



Jeff Urnaza
VP Systems Engineering
Fortinet



Howard Park
VP, Data Governance &
Data Quality
Moxy Analytics



Venkat Shatagopam
CO
Targus



Julia Baker
Project Manager
Dreamscape Learn



Tom Scott
Chief Architect Cloud
Infrastructure
[ADP](#)



Kim Pham
Information Security
Officer
[Code Switch Security](#)



Patrick Johnson
Director, Executive
Relations
[Gtm Capital](#)



Sean Anderson
Head of Marketing
[Vectara](#)



Khoi Bui
Enterprise Account
Executive
[Lightrun](#)



Heather Barron
Founder
[Pure Harvest, Ltd.](#)



Shobana Ranganathan
VP Enterprise
Technology
[The Walt Disney Co](#)

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June 05, 2025
Pacific Time

Registration

8:30 AM-9:15 AM

Morning Networking & Breakfast

9:15 AM-10:00 AM

Opening Remarks

10:00 AM-10:05 AM

PANEL

10:05 AM-10:50 AM

The Human Side of Tech: Why Soft Skills Are the Real Superpower

In a world obsessed with digital transformation, AI, and automation, it's easy to forget the power of human connection. But the truth is—technology doesn't lead, people do. As roles evolve and teams become more cross-functional, the ability to listen, influence, adapt, and collaborate has become just as critical as technical expertise.

Today's CIOs, CISOs, and tech leaders are expected not only to drive innovation, but to communicate across departments, manage diverse teams, and navigate uncertainty with empathy and clarity. Emotional intelligence, storytelling, active listening, and resilience are no longer "nice to have"—they're essential for anyone leading in a fast-moving, high-stakes environment.

Nowhere is this leadership shift more relevant than in California—particularly in Los Angeles, a city built on creativity, reinvention, and cultural diversity. Here, the ability to connect across perspectives isn't just a professional skill—it's a way of life. As tech and business worlds converge, LA's unique blend of innovation and human-centered thinking offers the perfect backdrop to explore how soft skills are reshaping the future of leadership.

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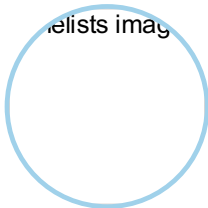
This session dives into why the most successful executives are blending EQ with IQ to inspire trust, build alignment, and drive lasting impact.

PANELISTS



Chair

Julia Baker
Project Manager
Dreamscape Learn



Speaker

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Enablement
Verizon



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Worldwide Environmental
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Howard Park
VP, Data Governance &
Data Quality
Moxy Analytics

KEYNOTE

10:55 AM-11:20 AM

Simplifying Security: Understanding SASE Fundamentals

Join us as we demystify Secure Access Service Edge (SASE) and its foundational components, which have significantly transformed the cybersecurity landscape since Gartner first introduced the concept nearly five years ago. Jeff will guide you through the evolution from traditional network security to SASE, offering a clear breakdown of key concepts such as Security Service Edge (SSE), single-vendor SASE, and Unified SASE. As SASE continues to reshape security strategies for enterprises globally, understanding these components is crucial for evaluating and selecting the right solution for your organization amidst the surrounding hype.

Discover practical ways to streamline your security strategy and enhance your defenses in today's complex hybrid work environment. Learn how to leverage SASE to ensure consistent security across distributed locations, secure cloud applications, and robust protection of data in an increasingly dynamic cloud ecosystem. This keynote will equip you with the insights and strategies needed to adapt to modern security challenges and optimize your security posture effectively.

PANELISTS



Speaker

Jeff Urnaza
VP Systems
Engineering
Fortinet

Networking Break

11:20 AM-11:45 AM

FIRESIDE CHAT

11:50 AM-12:25 PM

The Vulnerable C-Suite: Why Personal Cybersecurity is the New Frontline for CISOs

Businesses and their leadership teams are increasingly being targeted – physically and digitally. Research from The Ponemon Institute shows that 42% of CISOs report attacks targeting executives' personal lives – a number that will only climb as cybercriminals evolve their attack methods.

Cybercriminals are increasingly leveraging executives' personal digital presence as an entry point into corporate networks. Traditional cybersecurity focuses on corporate systems, leaving executives' personal digital lives exposed – creating a significant risk vector for organizations.

PANELISTS



Chair

Kim Pham
Information Security
Officer
Code Switch Security



Speaker

Dr. Chris Pierson
CEO and Founder
BlackCloak



Speaker

David Williamson
CIO
Abzena

Lunch & Networking

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

Embracing Innovation: Best-of-Breed Emerging Technologies from Silicon Valley...and Beyond!

This panel discussion will take you on a journey through the forefront of technological innovation, featuring three visionary solutions poised to revolutionize the digital landscape. These pioneering solutions address pressing challenges faced by organizations worldwide, ranging from permissions management to troubleshooting live applications and system observability.

In today's dynamic digital landscape, managing permissions effectively poses a significant challenge for organizations. However, a pioneering solution emerges to address these pressing concerns by automating permissions management based on risk and usage patterns, ensuring alignment with business needs while minimizing security risks. Moreover, a revolutionary toolset empowers developers and SREs to troubleshoot live applications swiftly and efficiently, slashing mean time to resolution and delivering substantial cost savings. Dive deeper into how these groundbreaking approaches drive productivity gains and cost efficiencies for organizations worldwide.

PANELISTS



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Not Replaced—Reimagined: Building an AI-Ready Workforce

AI isn't just reshaping workflows—it's redefining what it means to work. And in California, where innovation moves fast and talent is the greatest currency, the stakes are uniquely high. As automation spreads across industries—from tech and media to healthcare and logistics—leaders face a defining moment: will we empower people to work alongside AI, or allow AI to quietly redefine the rules?

With more than 40% of U.S. jobs expected to be impacted by AI and nearly half of today's core skills projected to shift by 2027, the urgency is real. In Los Angeles—where creativity, reinvention, and cross-industry collaboration thrive—the question isn't just how we adopt AI, but how we redesign work in a way that's inclusive, responsible, and future-proof.

This session will explore how organizations are moving from fear to strategy, investing in reskilling, rethinking leadership, and creating a culture where technology amplifies human potential instead of replacing it. Because the future of work isn't about replacement—it's about reimagination.

PANELISTS



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The AES Corporation



Speaker

Allen Ohanian
CISO
Los Angeles County
Department of Children
and Family Services



Speaker

Josh Orenstein
Cto
LA 6721

Networking Break

3:05 PM-3:25 PM

PANEL

3:25 PM-4:10 PM

Deepfakes, Data Leaks & Digital Chaos: Are We Prepared for the Next Information War?

We've entered an era where seeing is no longer believing. Deepfakes are becoming alarmingly convincing, AI-generated content floods our feeds, and data leaks are exposing sensitive information at a scale we've never seen before. While past cyber threats targeted systems, today's threats target perception—and the consequences can be political, financial, and deeply personal.

In Los Angeles—a global hub for media, entertainment, and communications—the risks are amplified. What happens when misinformation undermines trust, or when synthetic videos cause real-world damage to brands, institutions, or public figures? This session will explore how organizations can recognize and respond to this new kind of threat, where technology, security, and reputation collide.

More than a warning, this is a call to action: to rethink our approach to digital trust, build resilience across departments, and prepare for a future where the battle isn't just about data—but about truth itself.

PANELISTS



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Speaker

Jethro Rothe-Kushel
CIO
Ritual Ads



Speaker

Venkat Shatagopam
CIO
Targus



Speaker

Tom Scott
Chief Architect Cloud
Infrastructure
ADP

Closing Remarks & Raffle Giveaway

4:15 PM-4:25 PM

TOGETHER WITH

