vCISO

Security Leadership as a Service

Experienced. Independent. On Demand.



Cybernion

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What is a vCISO?

A virtual CISO (vCISO) is an experienced security leader engaged on a flexible, part-time basis to own and mature an organisation's security posture. The vCISO sets strategy, runs the security programme, manages risk, and represents security to the board and customers, without the cost of a full-time executive hire.

When Organisations Engage a vCISO

Organisations engage a vCISO when they need senior security leadership but cannot justify a full-time CISO, or need to cover a gap, scale a programme, or satisfy customer and regulator expectations.

Engagements are typically retained monthly, scaled up or down as the programme and risk profile evolve.

1 **Leadership, Not Just Advice**

A vCISO owns outcomes and drives the programme, rather than handing over a report and leaving.

2 **Right-Sized to the Business**

Effort scales to size, risk, and stage, from a few days a month to embedded leadership.

3 **Independent and Objective**

An external leader brings breadth across industries and an unconflicted view of risk and priorities.

Why a vCISO?

Cost & Flexibility

Senior security leadership without the cost of a full-time executive hire

Programme Delivery

Turns strategy into a running security programme with clear priorities

Security Maturity

Structured uplift of governance, risk, and control across the business

Board & Customer Assurance

Represents security credibly to the board, auditors, and customers

Speed to Value

Experienced leadership engaged in weeks, not a months-long executive search

Our vCISO Services

A holistic service across Strategy, Delivery, and Ongoing Leadership, scaled to your size, risk, and stage.

Strategy & Governance

- Security strategy and roadmap
- Risk management framework
- Policy and standard design
- Board and executive reporting
- Budget and investment guidance

Programme Delivery

- Security programme leadership
- Control implementation oversight
- Framework alignment (ISO, E8, NIST)
- Staff training and awareness
- Vendor and third-party risk

Ongoing Leadership

- Embedded security leadership
- Incident and crisis support
- Risk analysis and reporting
- Security Strategy & Roadmap
- Risk Register

Our vCISO Engagement Model

Four stages, delivered continuously and reviewed as the programme and risk evolve.

1 Discover

- Understand business & risk context
- Identify key stakeholders
- Establish communication rhythm
- Review existing documentation

2 Assess & Prioritise

- Assess current posture & maturity
- Identify key risks & gaps
- Agree priorities & roadmap
- Define success measures

3 Deliver

- Lead the security programme
- Oversee control implementation
- Manage risk across the business
- Board and stakeholder reporting

4 Sustain

- Security Strategy & Roadmap
- Risk Register
- Ongoing leadership & reporting
- Continual improvement of maturity

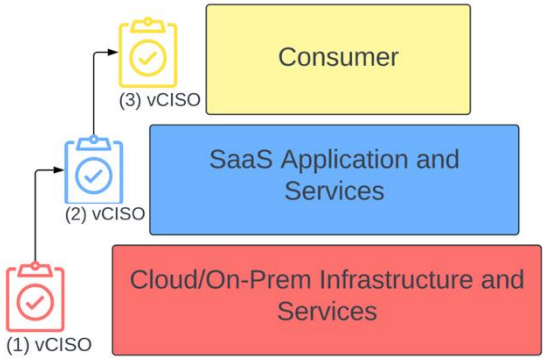
Case Study 1 - vCISO Programme Launch

A fast-growing SaaS company with no in-house security leader engaged us as its vCISO to stand up a security programme, manage rising customer assurance demands, and prepare for ISO 27001 certification.

Requirements

- Assess the current security posture and establish a prioritised roadmap across product and corporate systems
- Own customer security questionnaires and assurance requests to unblock enterprise sales
- Provide senior security leadership to the board and prepare the business for ISO 27001

Our Solution



By embedding experienced leadership and running the programme end to end, we gave the SaaS company a credible security function, faster customer assurance, and a clear path to ISO 27001 certification.

Key Highlights

- **Understand:** Understand the business, risk context, and stakeholder priorities
- **Scope:** Scope the programme across product, infrastructure, and corporate systems
- **Deliver:** Lead delivery of priority controls, manage risk, and handle customer assurance
- **Report:** Regular board reporting and a living roadmap tracking maturity and progress

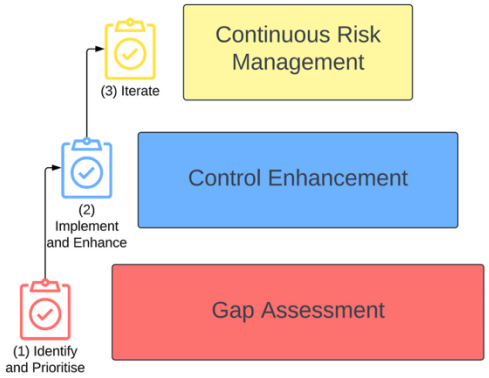
Case Study 1 - vCISO Interim Leadership

A financial services firm facing the sudden departure of its CISO engaged us to provide interim security leadership, keep the programme running, and steer it through an upcoming regulatory review.

Requirements

- Provide interim security leadership to maintain momentum across the programme
- Keep risk, compliance, and control activity running without disruption
- Prepare the business for an upcoming regulatory review with robust evidence
- Support recruitment and handover to a permanent CISO

Our Solution



A rapid assessment set immediate priorities, followed by hands-on leadership that kept the programme running, steered the firm through its regulatory review, and handed over cleanly to a permanent CISO.

Key Highlights

- **Rapid Assessment:** A rapid assessment to understand the programme, risks, and immediate priorities
- **Programme Leadership:** Take ownership of governance, risk, and control delivery across the business
- **Ongoing Leadership:** Ongoing leadership and reporting to sustain the programme and manage risk
- **Handover:** Detailed documentation and knowledge transfer to support a smooth handover

Important vCISO Artefacts

The inputs we work from, and what you receive from the engagement.

Input: What You Provide

BCX	Business & Risk Context
ASR	Asset & System Inventory
RA	Existing Risk Assessment
ISP	Information Security Policy
IRP	Incident Response Plan
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
VMP	Vendor & Third-Party List
CMP	Compliance Obligations
ORG	Org Chart & Stakeholders

+ Other policy and process documents as agreed during the engagement.

Output: What You Receive

1 Security Strategy & Roadmap

A prioritised strategy and roadmap covering the security programme, its objectives, and the initiatives needed to reach the target maturity, with clear ownership and timelines.

2 Risk Register

A living register of security risks, their severity, treatment, and owners, maintained across the engagement to drive decisions and board reporting.

Thank You

Ready to bring in security leadership? Let's talk.



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