



RSAC™ CISO Boot Camp (CBC) Melbourne 2026
Tuesday, 13 October—Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Center, Australia

NOTE: Topics and timings are subject to change

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER

7:45 – 8:30	Arrival & Breakfast
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome & Polling
8:50 – 9:20	The Next Level: CISO as Business Leader Christopher Sitter, Cybersecurity Executive, CISO, CIO, Coupang For aspiring CISOs, the path to the top job and success once you get there depends on your business fluency: translating security into strategy, building credibility with executives who may not speak "cyber", and learning to lead rather than just manage. This session will break down the business skills that distinguish CISO-ready leaders from strong technologies, so you can start building them now and be ready to operate at the level that the C-suite demands.
9:20 – 9:50	Fireside Chat: Speaking Board, Not Bytes Speaker: Allison Batten, GAICD Moderator: Akash Mittal, CISO, Sumitomo Australia This session focuses on the specific skill of communicating with the board: translating



	technical detail into business impact, framing risk and investment in terms directors can act on and knowing what to leave out as much as what to include. You'll learn how to structure a board update, anticipate questions, and make every minute count. Whether you're preparing for your first board presentation or refining how you show up in front of one, this session will help you speak and understand the language of boards.
9:50 – 10:20	Networking Break
10:20 – 10:50	Risk Management Deniz Molokov, Group CISO, Downer For CISOs, the real skill isn't identifying risk; it's translating it into terms the business can act on, prioritizing what matters most, and using risk as a tool to drive decisions rather than just flag problems. This session moves beyond the mechanics of risk assessment to focus on how aspiring CISOs can build the judgment and communication skills needed to make risk a shared business conversation—one that earns you trust and influence.
10:50 – 11:20	What Practitioners Are Learning About Enterprise AI Security leaders are under pressure to deliver AI value without creating unmanageable risk. In this rapid-fire session, select participants show how they're putting AI to work in their



	organizations: what they built, what worked, what didn't, and what they learned. Expect candid, practical examples you can adapt, and plenty of ideas to spark your own next move.
11:20 – 12:00	Beyond The Human: Evolving Human Risk Management in the Agentic Era Jinan Budge, VP, Research Director, International Security and Risk Researcher, Forrester Human risk management has moved security leaders beyond "training as the silver bullet" toward measurable, behavior-driven protection. But in the agentic era, the workforce is no longer exclusively human. AI agents act with increasing autonomy — and if we ignore their behaviors, we create blind spots. This session reframes HRM for a hybrid workforce, exploring how capabilities must evolve to detect cybersecurity behaviors across both people and agents, while keeping accountability firmly human.
12:00 – 12:50	Networking Lunch
12:50 – 1:30	AI Sandbox Escape & Frontier Model Risk Jason Clinton, Deputy CISO, Anthropic As organizations race to adopt AI, understanding the security boundaries of frontier models has never been more critical. This exclusive, closed-door



	session will offer a candid, behind-the-scenes look at the emerging risks associated with AI systems, including how sandboxing and containment strategies are tested and where they can fail. This is a rare opportunity to hear frank insights from inside one of the world's leading AI labs, in a setting designed for open, honest dialogue.
1:30 – 1:40	Polling
1:40 – 2:20	Post-Mortem, Not Post-Blame Jay Banerji, Director Forensics and Incident Response (DFIR), Thales Cyber Services Australia Reece Corbett-Wilkins, Head, First Response & Recovery and Chief Strategy Officer, Atmos Every year, cybersecurity finds a new obsession: AI, a novel threat actor, the latest headline breach. This session takes a step back to ask what has actually changed in incident response over the past 12 months, and just as importantly, what hasn't. Drawing on real incidents from the perspectives of a cyber lawyer and a DFIR responder, the speakers will examine the practical impact AI is having on both attackers and defenders, challenge whether it truly changes the fundamentals of response, and question why attribution and threat actor personas often carry less operational value than the industry assumes. You will walk away with a grounded view of what's genuinely new,



	what's largely the same, and the practical lessons worth carrying into 2027.
2:20 – 2:50	Networking Break
2:50 – 4:20	Tabletop Exercise Nick Dongas, Strategic Advisory Services, CrowdStrike Knowledge only becomes leadership when it's tested under pressure. In this immersive tabletop exercise, you'll step into the executive seat as a simulated cyber crisis unfolds in real time. The focus shifts beyond technical response to the business and leadership decisions that define a CISO's crisis management. You'll navigate competing priorities, communicate with a board demanding answers, and make high-stakes calls with incomplete information, all while balancing legal, operational, and reputational pressures. Guided by expert facilitators, this scenario puts the skills you've built throughout the day—business acumen, executive communication, and sound judgment—to the test in a high-stakes, low-risk environment. You'll gain a firsthand sense of what it takes to lead when the pressure is on.
4:20 – 5:00	CISO Q&A Panel: Lessons from Cyber Leaders



	Moderator: Yvette Lejins, GM, Risk & Security Transformation, Optus Panelists: Jacqui Kernot, CEO, Model Security Samantha Macleod, CISO, Culture Amp Catherine Rowe, CISO, Reserve Bank of Australia Christopher Sitter, Cybersecurity Executive, CISO, CIO, Coupang Close out the day by hearing directly from those who've walked the path you're on. This panel brings together accomplished cyber leaders who've navigated their own routes into the CISO seat to talk candidly about the decisions and turning points that shaped their careers. Expect an honest conversation about what the transition into leadership really looks like: the skills required, the moments of doubt, and what they wish they'd known before going into the role. Your questions will drive the discussion, so come ready to dig into the realities of getting the job and thriving once you do.
5:00 – 5:15	Polling & Closing
5:15 – 7:00	Networking Cocktail Reception



ADDITIONAL CLOSED-DOOR SESSIONS

Extend your CISO Boot Camp experience through the week with these additional sessions created exclusively for this group.

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER

11:10 – 11:50	Exclusive CBC Closed-door with Jen Easterly (CEO, RSAC) Directly following her keynote, Jen Easterly will take your questions, offering candid insights and lessons from her time leading national cybersecurity efforts and shaping how organizations prepare for and respond to today's threat landscape. This rare opportunity provides an intimate environment to engage directly with one of the most influential voices in cybersecurity leadership and policy.
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THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER

11:45 – 12:25	Exclusive CBC Fireside Chat with Dr. Taher Elgamal (CTO, Security, Salesforce) Join this exclusive, closed-door fireside chat, as Dr. Taher Elgamal shares experiences from his career at the forefront of cryptography and cybersecurity innovation. Taher will reflect on the evolution of the industry, the challenges of securing modern technology at scale, and what he sees on the horizon.
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FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER

10:55 – 11:35	CBC Roundtable: Peer Insights and Reflection Yvette Lejins, GM, Risk and Security Transformation Akash Mittal, Group CISO, Sumitomo Australia
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Close the week with an interactive roundtable exclusively for CBC attendees. Facilitated by our program committee members, this session provides the opportunity to share and discuss insights gained throughout the event, hear diverse perspectives, and learn from peers. Beyond reflection, it's an opportunity to build connections, continue networking, and leave inspired with new insights to accelerate your path to leadership.