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** 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	**Interactive Discussion: Business Skills Self-Assessment** Building on the previous session, this interactive discussion turns the lens inward. What are the core business skills required of a CISO, and where do you stand against them? Does academic training and credentialing measure up to real-world experience, or is it the other way around? Do you have the soft skills that often go unmeasured but matter most?

	You'll break into table discussions to work through these questions with peers, compare notes, and leave with a clearer, more personalized picture of where to focus your development over the next 12–18 months.
9:50 – 10:20	**Networking Break**
10:20 – 10:50	**Risk Management** 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	**Speaking Board, Not Bytes** 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.

11:20 – 12:00	**Research Update** Stay ahead of the trends shaping the CISO role. This session features the latest research on what it takes to lead a high-performing security organization, from building security culture and managing human risk, to navigating the evolving expectations placed on cyber leaders. Come away with data-backed insights and fresh perspectives to inform your own path forward.
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** 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** 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.

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.

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 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.