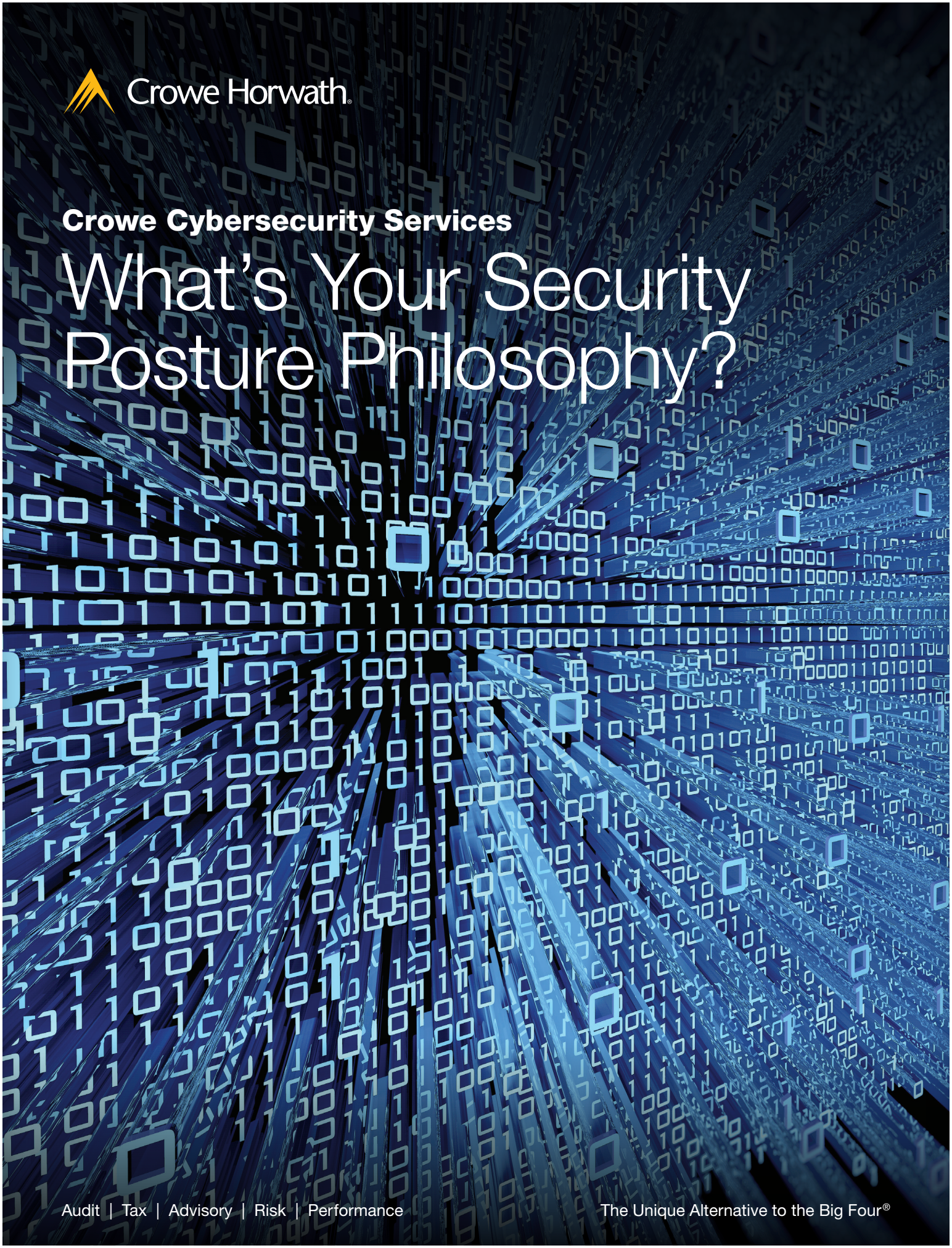

Crowe Horwath
Crowe Cybersecurity Services
What's Your Security Posture Philosophy?
Audit | Tax | Advisory | Risk | Performance
The Unique Alternative to the Big Four®

What is the philosophy behind your organization's security posture? Given the numerous newsworthy security breaches that have occurred recently, this is a question IT and business executives should be prepared to answer. Compliance primarily drives the security posture of many organizations and is very important. However, meeting regulatory compliance requirements has not kept a number of high-profile organizations off the front page. The organizations best suited to battle consistent threats are those with a focused approach to developing and maintaining their security posture.

Crowe Horwath LLP offers organizations assistance in defining and meeting the philosophies and goals of their security posture. Regardless of the maturity or effectiveness of your security posture and programs, our services are designed to help identify, evaluate, and address challenges in meeting your goals for security.

Cybersecurity: What Is Your Philosophy?

Protecting the security of sensitive data is a growing business priority and one of a host of issues competing for the attention of IT and business executives. Unfortunately, cybersecurity is far more complicated than inserting an Internet firewall to segment protected data from unauthorized access. Complicating factors include:

- Increasingly sophisticated, organized attacks from both external and internal sources threaten security.
- Use of multiple security tools and systems provides an abundance of unmanageable, uncorrelated, and even unreadable data.
- Large amounts of uncontrolled, unclassified, and often redundant sensitive data reside throughout enterprises.
- Lack of security awareness among company personnel opens doors to would-be attackers and leaves organizations vulnerable.
- Emerging regulatory compliance requirements demand attention.
- Limited IT budgets restrict project execution.
- Overwhelmed IT resources are stretched thin, with little time or capacity to focus on cybersecurity and data protection issues.

- Have you defined your security philosophy and goals?
- Are your current and future security projects in line with your philosophy?
- Do you have tangible feedback to know you're making progress toward your security philosophy and goals?
- What are your key risk indicators or key performance indicators?

Given these and other organizational factors, IT and business executives need to define the philosophies that drive their cybersecurity programs.

- Does your organization just want to comply?
- Does your enterprise security posture focus on keeping all the threats out of your environment?
- Is your organization's goal to keep all the corporate and client data in the organization's control?
- Does your company's cybersecurity program focus on the ability to quickly recognize a breach and respond in an effective, timely manner, thus limiting the impact of the unauthorized agent?
- Are the goals of your organization's cybersecurity program a blend of multiple philosophies?

A strong, defensible security posture starts with the definition of security posture goals to drive many aspects of organizational security programs, including:

- Determining where to spend precious security dollars
- Defining long-term projects
- Deciding where personnel resources are needed
- Identifying weak areas in the organization

Crowe Cybersecurity Solutions

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) "Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity"[1] suggests that an organization can strengthen its security posture by effectively identifying, protecting itself from, detecting, responding to, and recovering from various threats and attacks.

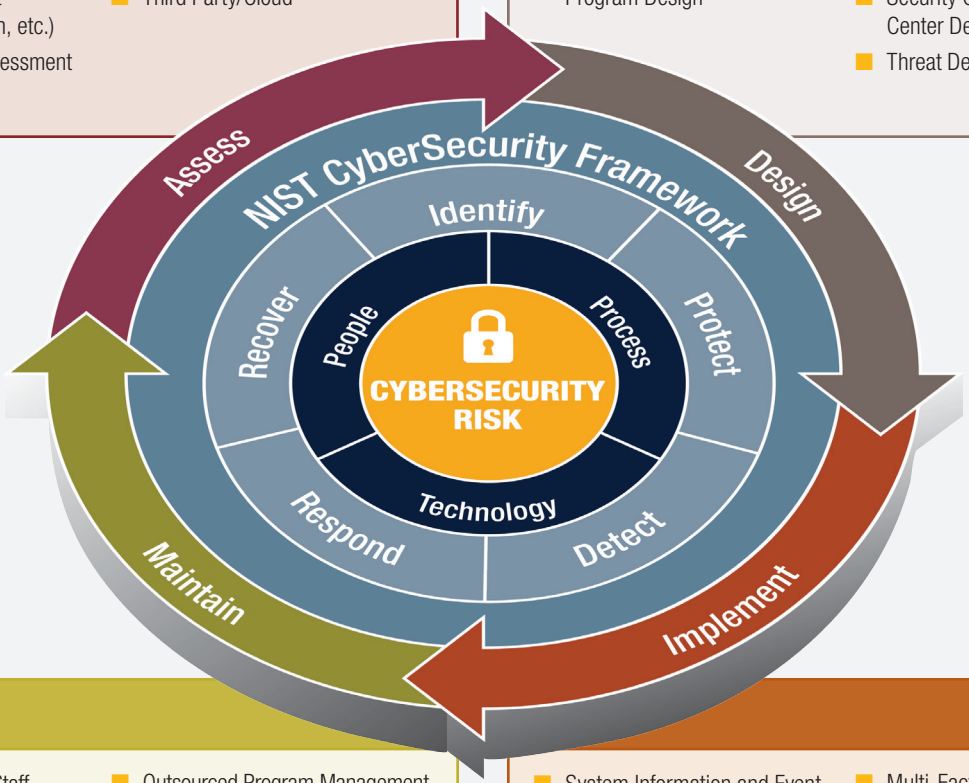
Crowe cybersecurity services and solutions are aligned with NIST phases to help organizations develop a stronger security posture. And we can help assess, design, implement, and maintain security initiatives using these functional approaches.

Assess

- Penetration Testing (Internal, External)
- IT Risk Assessment
- Security Assessment (Network, Application, etc.)
- Compliance Gap Assessment (HIPAA, PCI)
- Attestation Services (AUP, SOC, etc.)
- IT Audit/SOX
- Third Party/Cloud

Design

- Security Roadmap
- Security System Design
- Information/Cybersecurity Program Design
- Information Security Function Design
- Business Continuity Planning
- Security Operations Center Design
- Threat Detection and Response



Maintain

- Information Security Staff Fulfillment (CISO, etc.)
- Comprehensive IT Security Department Outsourcing
- IT Security Staff Augmentation
- Desktop Exercises (BCP, DR, Incident Response)
- Outsourced Program Management
- Third-party Resource Management
- On-demand Application Security
- Incident Response and Forensic Investigations
- Continuous Monitoring (Compliance, Risk, etc.)

Implement

- System Information and Event Management (SIEM) Systems
- Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems (IDS/IPS)
- Mobile Device Management (MDM)
- Cloud Access Security Solutions
- Multi-Factor Authentication
- Vulnerability Management Scanners and Patching Systems
- Vendor Management Solutions
- Data Leakage Protection (DLP) Solutions

Assess Security Services

Organizations often want to know where they are before deciding where to focus next in meeting security posture goals. Crowe professionals use extensive security and IT experience to provide an objective assessment of security domains and programs, including:

- Network security
- Infrastructure security – server OS, database, virtualization, and Web services
- Application security
- IT risk assessments
- Attestation services – AUP, SOC, etc.
- Cloud – IaaS, SaaS, and PaaS – workforce security reviews
- IT gap assessments and regulatory controls implementation, including PCI, HIPAA, and NIST
- Data classification
- Records management
- Database security
- Third-party/vendor management
- Business continuity management
- Incident response

In addition to our assessment services, Crowe provides technology-focused penetration testing services in these and other areas:

- External
- Internal
- Social engineering
- Wireless
- Application

In the event of a breach, Crowe also can provide incident response services, including deploying technology teams to identify and trace the cause of the breach; how it propagated through the enterprise; what potentially was exposed or taken; and how to remediate.

Design Security Services

Deploying new hardware and software is only part of a comprehensive IT security program. Crowe design services focus on helping clients build solutions and programs that address both components, such as:

- Enterprise security road maps
- Strategic security plans
- Security system design
- Security awareness programs
- Information/cybersecurity programs
- Threat detection and response
- Data classification and identification services
- Records management programs
- Incident response plans
- Business continuity management, including disaster recovery
- Security operations center design
- Access control modeling
- Policy and procedure development
- IT control development

Crowe offers an effective response to these mounting concerns, providing outsourced cybersecurity services that can be tailored to each organization's specific requirements – from targeted projects that address immediate issues and shortcomings to turnkey management of most aspects of IT security.

Crowe can assist in the development of effective, comprehensive IT security solutions aligned to your business and security goals. From design to development and implementation, we can help your IT team prioritize core security initiatives and maintain critical compliance requirements.

Implementation Security Services

Most organizations struggle with at least one IT security project caught in limbo. In many instances, the setup and proper configuration of costly technology is a greater challenge than anticipated – especially when the pressures of day-to-day IT issues take priority. Crowe security implementation services focus on helping you execute stalled projects in these areas:

- System information and event management systems
- Intrusion detection and prevention systems
- Mobile device management
- Cloud access security solutions
- Multi-factor authentication
- Vulnerability management scanners and patching systems
- Vendor management solutions
- Web proxy and data leakage protection solutions
- Project management office departments
- Security awareness

Crowe cybersecurity specialists can revive challenging projects, beginning with a prompt triage to identify projects with the greatest potential for reducing risk and increasing compliance capabilities.

Security Maintenance Services

The market for skilled IT security professionals is highly competitive and inevitably leads to many career moves and changes for the most skilled and sought-after professionals. Most organizations experience the challenge of losing indispensable IT security personnel or having insufficient personnel to meet security goals. Crowe maintenance services are designed to support your resource needs for short- or long-term assistance, including:

- Information security staff fulfillment – CISO, etc.
- Comprehensive IT security department outsourcing
- IT security staff augmentation
- Desktop exercises – BCP, DR, and incident response
- Outsourced program management
- Third-party resource management
- On-demand application security
- Incident response and forensic investigations
- Continuous monitoring – compliance, risk, etc.

For a lot of organizations, the most practical solution for dealing with the many complications of IT security simply is to outsource the entire initiative. Crowe cybersecurity teams can start from scratch or pick up the pieces of an existing department. We can help guide organizations through the full life cycle of addressing IT risk management, including planning, assessing, analyzing, and remediating the cybersecurity risk. In addition to providing organizations with access to IT leaders with demonstrated experience and expertise, our approach offers flexibility to choose your staffing level as projects and priorities change.

Responding With Cybersecurity Expertise

Evolving cybersecurity threats, increased regulatory expectations, and a chronic shortage of resources challenge IT departments in managing complexity and mitigating the risks of IT security.

Crowe cybersecurity services provide the expertise organizations need to address a full range of IT security issues so they can focus on the many other critical technology issues demanding attention. Our professionals offer in-depth and highly specialized IT support to:

- Assess and prioritize IT security risks
- Fill resource gaps
- Manage and monitor projects
- Establish governance and controls for regulatory compliance
- Arrange turnkey cybersecurity operations

Visit www.crowehorwath.com/cybersecurity for more information about Crowe cybersecurity services, including access to a complimentary data protection guide, upcoming events, and other insights on practical, cost-effective solutions.

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[1] "Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity," NIST, Feb. 12, 2014, www.nist.gov/cyberframework/upload/cybersecurity-framework-021214.pdf

Crowe Horwath LLP: The Unique Alternative®

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