

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Cybersecurity Advisory Committee

2024 Annual Report

December 10, 2024

Prepared For:

CISA Director Easterly

Prepared By:

Ron Green, Chair

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On behalf of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Cybersecurity Advisory Committee (CSAC), as outlined in the FY21 National Defense Authorization Act, "The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Director an annual report providing information on the activities, findings, and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, including its subcommittees, for the preceding year."



Background:

The CISA Cybersecurity Advisory Committee (CSAC) advises CISA Director Easterly on policies and programs related to CISA's cybersecurity mission. Committee members—with subject matter expertise in various critical infrastructure sectors—provide recommendations to CISA's Director on matters related to the development, refinement, and implementation of policies, programs, planning, and training pertaining to the cybersecurity mission of the Agency.

2024 Year in Review:

The CSAC convened as a full Committee during three quarterly meetings in 2024. In each of the quarterly meetings, the agenda included a closed session (CSAC members and CISA Director Easterly) and public session (CSAC members, CISA Director Easterly, and public attendees who registered through the Federal Register Notice).

1. March 21, 2024: CSAC Meeting (virtual)

The CSAC convened for the first meeting of 2024 to meet virtually. National Cyber Director Harry Coker, Jr. joined the meeting to provide updates on the Office of the National Cyber Director. The Committee reviewed its actions to date advancing its taskings. No recommendations were provided to Director Easterly at this meeting.

2. June 5, 2024: CSAC Meeting (West Point, NY)

The CSAC June Quarterly Meeting took place at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. During the meeting, the Committee voted on and accepted three recommendations to optimize CISA's cyber operational collaboration platform, the Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative (JCDC).

3. October 11, 2024: CSAC Meeting (virtual)

The CSAC October Quarterly Meeting convened virtually. The remaining four subcommittees prepared recommendations for full CSAC deliberation and vote. All recommendations were approved by the full CSAC and delivered to Director Easterly.



As tasked by Director Easterly, the Committee continued to advance five topics in 2024. The Committee provided recommendations to fully address all aspects of the five taskings by the October 2024 Quarterly Meeting.

1. Building Resilience for Critical Infrastructure

<u>Purpose</u>: Help CISA prioritize and align cybersecurity and resilience efforts for the greatest impact, in the context of threats posed by the People's Republic of China. Suggest key metrics to help determine how resilience is increased.

2. Optimizing CISA's Operational Collaboration Platform

<u>Purpose:</u> Support the continued maturation, investment, and focus of CISA's JCDC. Provide guidance on an optimal state for operational cyber defense collaboration, incorporating all aspects of JCDC's mission. Specific focus areas include collaboration, planning, and product development.

3. Secure by Design

<u>Purpose</u>: Help CISA understand how economic forces influence product security. Study both the demand and supply side factors that have historically limited secure software and hardware manufacturing. Determine what considerations software manufacturers should have in place as they integrate AI technologies. How CISA can promote a "secure by demand" norm in the procurement process, including the procurement of AI technologies.

4. Strategic Communications

<u>Purpose</u>: Focused on examining how CISA can ensure that its strategic communications efforts align with agency goals, raise awareness of what CISA is and does, and provide actionable guidance to CISA's key stakeholder groups.

5. Technical Advisory Council

<u>Purpose</u>: Help CISA—in line with its Secure by Design goals—encourage companies to be better stewards of the open source software they depend on and produce. Determine how CISA should encourage the adoption of safe consumption norms for open source software, while also encouraging companies to contribute fixes and enhancements back to the open source projects. Determine how CISA can shift the burden of securing open source software away from the consumer. Looking at the AI nexus of the tasking, the group will offer ways for CISA to support secure by design outcomes in AI systems that are distributed under open source compatible terms, or protect both the public and private sector from potential harms from misuse of foundation AI models with widely available model weights.



All CSAC reports and recommendations are publicly available at https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/groups/cisa-cybersecurity-advisory-committee.

Throughout 2024, the subcommittees met 61 times and provided the CISA Director with 19 recommendations. The Committee is looking forward to continuing to support CISA's strategic missions and goals in 2025.