



CYBERCON X

REGISTRATION GUIDE

MAY 14-15, 2025 | WEST DES MOINES SHERATON

Navigating Risk, Resilience, and Innovation in Cybersecurity.

This premier event brings together cybersecurity professionals and industry leaders to address the challenges of an ever-evolving digital landscape. Through engaging discussions, expert-led sessions, and actionable insights, this conference will equip you with the knowledge and resources needed to strengthen your networks, enhance resilience, and embrace innovation.

CyberCon 2025 is your opportunity to connect with peers, learn from experts, and stay ahead of the curve in safeguarding your company and community.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 14TH

12:30 – 1:00 PM | REGISTRATION AND VISIT SPONSOR TABLES

1:00 – 2:45 PM | GENERAL SESSION

Strengthening the Backbone: Why Cybersecurity is Critical for Broadband Service Providers

Jackson Perkins, CHR Solutions

In today's digital age, broadband service providers face increasing cybersecurity threats that can disrupt services and compromise sensitive data. Recent high-profile cyber attacks on Frontier Communications and AT&T underscore the urgency for robust cybersecurity measures. This presentation will explore the current cybersecurity landscape, emphasizing the need for advanced endpoint protection, regular employee training, and comprehensive incident response plans.

Unclassified Briefing on Threats to the Broadband Industry

Jim Hoflen, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security

During this session, CISA will provide an overview of its mission and role. They will also share information on threats specific to the broadband industry from Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs), including examples, methods, and likely objectives, along with CISA resources to help mitigate the threats.

2:45 – 3:15 PM | BREAK WITH SPONSORS

3:15 – 3:55 PM | TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Foundational Cybersecurity - Without Breaking Your Budget
Shira Dankner, NineStar Connect

This presentation will highlight open-source and affordable solutions for establishing foundational cybersecurity practices. Drawing from the NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) and CIS Controls, this session will provide actionable guidance for securing endpoints, domains, and services, and helping organizations build, or streamline, an effective cybersecurity program.

3:15 – 3:55 PM | NON-TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Post Pen Test Board Report

Ryan Pieken, OXEN Technology

You just had a penetration test done, and it's ugly. Come to this session to learn how to report a pen test to your Board in a way they will understand and support further investment in cybersecurity.

4:00 – 4:45 PM | TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Salt Typhoon

Casey Shields, WIN Technology

Infiltration of global telecom networks exposed just how vulnerable even the largest telecommunication companies can be. Surprisingly, the tactics for gaining initial access weren't groundbreaking—they were familiar, repurposed, and devastatingly effective. This talk breaks down the attack timeline and techniques, with clear takeaways and security best practices to help any organization stay resilient against future threats.

4:00 – 4:45 PM | NON-TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Navigating Challenges and Opportunities in the Industry
Panel of ICA Members

Join us for an open dialogue on all things cybersecurity designed for managers and non-technical professionals. This is your chance to connect, ask questions, and share insights in an open and collaborative environment. Whether you are seeking advice or offering your own expertise, this interactive session will have something for everyone. Come ready to participate and leave with fresh ideas and practical takeaways!

4:45 – 5:45 PM | NETWORKING RECEPTION WITH SPONSORS

SPONSORED BY: DENTONS DAVIS BROWN

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH

8:00 – 8:30 AM | NETWORKING BREAKFAST

8:30 – 9:20 AM | GENERAL SESSION

How to Implement a Robust Cybersecurity Plan

Travis Abrams, UNS Universal Network Solutions

Cybersecurity is always on the minds of both businesses and customers these days. It's not just a good idea, it's a must-have for government funding like BEAD and ReConnect and to qualify for cybersecurity insurance. Every business is expected to take basic steps to protect themselves and their clients, especially broadband operators, now considered critical infrastructure providers. With ransomware attacks, business email compromises, and fraud on the rise, no company is too small to be impacted, and that impact can be substantial if robust cybersecurity measures are not in place. In this session, we will dive into what makes a cybersecurity program successful. We will cover how to meet government funding requirements, how to satisfy cyber insurance expectations, and how to protect your organization and customers from common threats. We will also look at the roles of people, processes, and technology and how to bring them all together to build a cost-effective, sustainable, and flexible cybersecurity program.

9:25 – 10:10 AM | TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Harnessing the Power of Artificial Intelligence

Dan Burwitz, Vantage Point Solutions

In the realm of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as a game-changer, revolutionizing both defensive and offensive strategies. This presentation will explore the intersection of AI and cybersecurity, examining its dual nature of fortifying defenses and fueling the capabilities of malicious actors. Dan will discuss the potential of AI to become the ultimate ally or adversary in the ongoing battle for security.

9:25 – 10:10 AM | NON-TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Cybersecurity in the New Administration: What to Expect from Federal Regulations and Frameworks

Lorna Gilmore, NTCA: The Rural Broadband Association and CyberShare: The Small Broadband Provider ISAC

This session will explore the anticipated changes and developments in federal cybersecurity regulations and frameworks under the new presidential administration. Key topics will include CISA's National Cyber Incident Response Plan, the cybersecurity requirements tied to BEAD funding, and other existing frameworks.

10:10 – 10:30 AM | BREAK WITH SPONSORS

10:30 – 11:55 AM | TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

War Stories from an Attacker: Tips & Tricks for the Defenders Part 2 **Dawson Medin, Mandiant/Google**

Part 2, a continuation of 2022's well received war stories presentation! If you ask any attacker, they will likely have many stories to tell. Stories of adventures through networks, tricky situations, and most of all, techniques that commonly let the bad guys in! After doing many offensive security engagements for the last seven years for companies ranging from small to fortune 50s and 500s, Dawson has compiled a list of his most compelling war stories and takeaway tips and tricks for defenders to aid in keeping the bad guys out! ***All names, organizations, and specifics will be fictitious, non-revealing names for privacy purposes.***

10:30 – 11:05 AM | NON-TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Cyber Shield: Safeguarding Your Digital World

JR Chaney, Midwest Data of Iowa

With over 20 years of industry experience, JR Chaney will guide you through the critical aspects of cybersecurity. This presentation will cover how to build your defenses, recognize threats, and respond effectively if a breach occurs. Go on this adventure to learn who, how, why, when, and what to do to keep you safe in this digital age filled with cybersecurity threats.

11:10 – 11:55 AM | NON-TECHNICAL BREAKOUT

Ransomware Regulations

Brandon Lee, Vantage Point Solutions

In this presentation, Brandon will examine the evolving landscape of ransomware regulations, focusing on recent trends and the considerable impact of ransomware attacks on organizations. The discussion will include key federal regulations and underline the importance of compliance, along with best practices for prevention. Attendees will gain valuable insights into effective incident response strategies and the essential steps to safeguard their organizations against ransomware threats.

12:00 PM | LUNCH

12:30 – 1:25 PM | GENERAL SESSION

AI and Cybersecurity: Rethinking Risks, Reimagining Defenses **Chris Draper, SafetAI / Meidh**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming every facet of our personal and professional lives. While the potential seems limitless, the risks are growing just as rapidly. High-profile incidents, such as AI tools denying healthcare claims before doctors can intervene, AI "friends" influencing vulnerable users, and sensitive data leaks from third-party AI assistants, underscore the urgent need to rethink traditional cybersecurity strategies. This session will challenge the notion of AI as a "typical" software threat, highlighting why conventional approaches fall short. Attendees will learn how a human-centered approach can expose hidden AI vulnerabilities that traditional methods miss. The session will also offer actionable insights on how organizations can better understand, mitigate, and manage the known - and unknown - risks posed by AI's integration into business operations and community ecosystems.

REGISTRATION DETAILS



REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.IACOMMUNICATIONSALL.ORG

Online registration allows you to choose between being invoiced or paying online.

REGISTRATION FEE

- ICA Member: \$295
- Non-Member: \$395
- Student: \$50

You must be logged into your member profile to access the discounted member pricing. If you need assistance with your member login, please contact [Allyssa Traver](mailto:Allyssa.Traver@iacommunicationsall.com) at ICA.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Pre-conference registration will close on Friday, May 9. Onsite registrations will be accepted. An additional \$40 will be added to the registration fees listed above for any late and onsite registrations.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:

If you need to cancel your registration, the refund schedule will be enforced as follows.

- May 5 and earlier – 100% refund
- May 6 – 11 – 50% refund
- May 12 and after – no refunds issued.

Substitutions are allowed. Cancellations must be emailed to atraver@iacommunicationsall.com.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

There is a block of rooms available at the West Des Moines Sheraton at a group rate of \$139/night plus tax. [Click here to make your reservations online.](#) Reservations must be made by April 30, 2025, to guarantee the group rate.

CONSENT TO USE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES:

Registration and attendance at, or participation in, ICA meetings and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to ICA's use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant or attendee's image or voice in photographs, video, electronic reproductions and audio of such events and activities.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsoring CyberCon is a great opportunity to gain visibility with Iowa's broadband industry leaders. CyberCon is a packed two-day event that you will want to be a part of! [Click here for more information on sponsorship opportunities.](#)

