

# The Greater Pittsburgh CISO Group Charter

**Purpose:** The Greater Pittsburgh CISO Group (“CISO Group”) was established to connect cyber security leaders from various organizations in the region and establish a forum to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in the field of cyber security and information technology. The forum aids to foster networking, learning, and innovation, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of cyber within the participating organizations.

- Objectives:**
- A. Knowledge Sharing: Facilitate the exchange of ideas, insights, and experiences related to cyber management, strategy, and execution.
  - B. Best Practice Sharing: Encourage CISOs to share successful strategies, methodologies, and approaches that have proven to be effective in their respective organizations.
  - C. Problem Solving: Collaborate on solving common challenges faced by CISOs in the ever-evolving landscape of technology and business.
  - D. Innovation Promotion: Foster an environment that encourages innovation and creativity in cyber leadership and operations.
  - E. Community Service: Serve the community through specific initiatives to support the development of the next generation of leaders, and recognize existing technology leaders within our community.

**Scope:** Regional focus to include the Greater Pittsburgh Area, spanning as far east as Central Ohio, south as Morgantown, West Virginia and as far East as State College.

**Membership:** To be considered for membership, candidates must represent a company in the greater Pittsburgh region (Central Ohio, West Virginia, Central PA). Vendor membership will be limited to internal positions that support the company. Representatives from divisions of national or international companies with a significant local presence are also eligible for membership. Membership is limited to the most senior individual in charge of cyber security for the organization, or autonomous division, regardless of actual title (e.g., CISO, Director of Information Security, etc.).

Prospective members must demonstrate a genuine interest in knowledge sharing, active participation, and service to the Greater Pittsburgh IT community. The number of members may be limited to ensure effective participation and meaningful interaction.

Members must attend 50% of the scheduled meetings/events to stay active.

**Governance:** The CISO Group is governed by an Advisory Board consisting of a Chairperson and Co-Chair as well as other members. The leadership team will be elected by the active members through a democratic process to serve a two-year term. The Advisory Board coordinates communications, meetings, agendas, voting actions, and activities.

**Current Advisory Board Members:** Mark Husnick, Chairman  
Mike Conley  
Dave Coughanhour  
Tom Dugas  
Dr. Trebor Z. Evans  
Susan Koski  
Julie Ray  
Justin Swanson

**Budget/Funding:** For the 2024 calendar year, no dues will be collected and events are expected to be funded by sponsors. Meetings are held at member or stakeholder locations.

**Key Activities and Events:** The CISO Group meets bi-monthly, rotating locations based on active members. Members are encouraged to host a meeting as part of the rotation. Every other meeting will be followed by a networking event, initiated by the hosting member. The purpose of these meetings is decision making/any business relative to the charter, and knowledge sharing. Meetings may include presentations by members, guest speakers, panel discussions, workshops, and roundtable discussions.

In addition to the six yearly meetings, the CISO Group has the following activities:

- LDP: Each member is expected to contribute as a mentor to the program, and attend networking events with the broader community.
- PTC CIO/CISO of the Year awards: The CIO and CISO Groups Advisory Board are the voting body for the CIO of the year

awards. The GP CISO Group should actively seek nominations and provide input to the Advisory Board.

- Other knowledge sharing and educational events (such as the NCFTA/FBI event) as determined each year.

**Confidentiality and Intellectual Property:**

Members must respect the confidentiality of sensitive information shared during forum discussions. Members retain ownership of their respective intellectual property and proprietary information shared during forum interactions.

**Amendments to the Charter:**

Proposed amendments to this charter may be submitted by any member. Amendments shall be subject to a vote by the Advisory Board, and a majority agreement will be required for approval.

**Signature and Date of Chairperson:**

This charter was accepted by the Advisory Board of the Greater Pittsburgh CISO Group on this 20<sup>th</sup> day, of October, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 10/20/2023  
Mark Husnick, Advisory Board Chair