

Biography



James Ransome, Ph.D., CISSP, CISM
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James Ransome is the senior director and chief security officer of Cisco's Collaborative Software Group (CSG) responsible for operational and strategic direction for the organization and its customer security. He oversees, coordinates, and manages security and compliance efforts across multiple functions, including information technology, operations, product development, human resources, communications, legal, facilities management, and other groups with a particular focus on Software as a Service (SaaS) and WebEx service delivery. Ransome's experience managing Internet and physical security at Exodus Communications and Cable and Wireless for hundreds of thousands of users within the world's largest commercial hosting environment and serving more than 4,500 customers from 42 data centers, provides a wealth of knowledge to his role managing security in the Cisco CSG SaaS environment.

Ransome is a recognized security practitioner, author, and speaker with a current focus on cloud computing, virtualization, and collaborative software security. His career is marked by leadership positions in the private and public industries, having served in three chief information security officer (CISO) and three chief security officer (CSO) roles. Ransome has established a consistent record of technological innovation in cyber and physical security disciplines.

Prior to his current role in the Cisco Collaboration Software Group, he spent two years as the senior director for Security Engineering with the Corporate Security Programs Organization (CSPO) and Global Government Solutions (GGSG) with a particular focus on enterprise- and infrastructure-level security solutions and unified data, voice, and video wireless security for fixed and mobile IP solutions. He provided leadership, as well as technical and operational expertise to assess existing and emerging technologies, vendors, tools, devices, architectures, applications, and strategies that meet the security challenges of Cisco's commercial enterprise and global government customers.



Before joining Cisco, he served as senior vice president of Commercial Managed and Professional Security Services at SecureInfo Inc., headquartered in San Antonio, Texas. Ransome has held various senior executive information systems and physical security management positions, including vice president of Integrated Security at CH2M HILL, vice president of Corporate Security at Exodus and at Cable and Wireless, vice president of Security Operations and Services at Pilot Network Services, director of Global Information Systems Security for Applied Materials, director of Information Systems Security for Autodesk, and director of IT Security, Directory Services and Email at Qwest Communications.

Ransome spent 23 years in government service before entering private industry. This includes ten years as a computer scientist, national security and geo-spatial imagery intelligence analyst, and threat credibility assessment analyst for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in support of the national intelligence community, DOE NEST Team, DoD, and federal law enforcement.

He was a NCIS Civilian Federal Special Agent (1811) assigned to the Foreign Counterintelligence (FCI) Squad / San Francisco with responsibilities for FCI investigations and operations, regional law enforcement agency liaison officer, special projects OPSEC, counterterrorism support and analysis, as well as protective service details for national and foreign dignitaries.

Ransome is a retired U.S. Naval Reserve Intelligence Officer (O-5, Commander) and a former U.S. Marine Corps Weapons Platoon Sergeant and interrogator-translator. He has completed 23 years combined active-duty and reserve service, including duty in Operation Desert Shield/Storm (field operations), Operation Joint Endeavor (counter-terrorism), and Vietnam-Era service specializing in weapons systems and intelligence operations. During this time, he worked in more than 15 countries with U.S. Navy Task Force 168 and received personal commendations from the Chief of Naval Operations and the Department of Army for his work as the Officer in Charge of a team operating on the border of Saudi Arabia and Iraq during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Ransome holds a Ph.D. in Information Systems specializing in Information Security, a Master of Science Degree in Information Systems, and graduate certificates in International Business and International Affairs. He developed and tested a security model, architecture, and leading practices for converged, wired-wireless network security for his doctoral dissertation.

Ransome is an Adjunct Professor for Nova Southeastern University's Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences (SCIS) Information Security Program, designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the U.S. National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security where he teaches Applied Cryptography, Advanced Network Security, and Information Security Management. He received the 2005 Nova Southeastern University Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award. He is a member of Upsilon Pi Epsilon, the International Honor Society for the Computing and Information Disciplines, a Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), and a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP).

Ransome is the author of several published books, including *Wireless Operational Security*, *VoIP Security*, *Instant Messaging (IM) Security*, *Business Continuity Planning and Disaster Recovery Guide for Information Security Managers*, *Wireless Security: Know It All*, and recently completed *Cloud Computing: Implementation, Management, and Security* to be published Summer 2009. He also developed the initial wireless, network architecture, SCADA, and VoIP security leading practices for the Federal Communications Commission Network Reliability and Interoperability Council Focus Group on Cybersecurity – Homeland Defense.

