

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

Members Only Monthly Report (page 1 of 3)

Cybersecurity

Insider's Insight

from TribalHub's Executive Officer, Mike Day



In this month's Industry Insights we tackle the uncomfortable and challenging topic of cyber security within tribes. Cyber security is always shrouded in secrecy and probably one of the least understood organizational grouping of people, systems, software, infrastructure and processes in any tribe. For tribes, the challenge is even more daunting with a combination of diverse government, health, critical infrastructure and enterprise systems all at risk.

We chose "security" as this month's topic since it coincides with the official launch of the new Tribal-ISAC security information sharing group. This group's mission will be to improve and expand the security posture and resources available to every tribe that participates, because together we will be stronger and FAR safer. Tribal-ISAC Membership will be restricted to appropriate individuals/job titles working directly for tribes and tribally owned enterprises to allow safe and anonymous security information sharing among the many sovereign tribal governments. You can join the group as a #FoundingMember or learn more by requesting to join and participate in the group discussion on the TribalHub Community site at Community.TribalHub.com, or learn more first by watching the private recording of the informational session on this new group that was delivered at the 2020 TribalNet Virtual Conference:

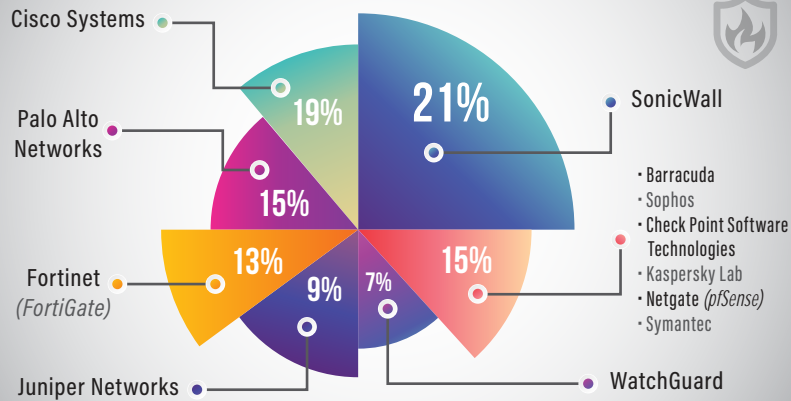


<https://vimeo.com/480455972>

Private Password: #FoundingMember

Every tribe has faced a cyber security breach or virus of some sort in the past several years. That is for certain. No person or entity is immune to these threats, and the problem is growing rather than reducing. Some past tribal breaches have been wide-spread, unbelievably costly and perhaps even newsworthy in a region or nationally. A significantly larger number of breaches have been smaller, still costly to the organization, but never reported on or made public. It is likely that someone reading this is dealing with a cyber breach right now, while others reading this have some type of breach or virus already within their network or systems right now that they are not yet fully aware of. This is indicative of the security challenge we all face in the interconnected world as it exists today.

Common Firewall Solutions Utilized by Tribes Across the Country



{ Results are available in the TribalHub Information Portal and are based on tribes who have responded to our outreach inquires. }

In this month's Industry Insights report we are sharing information on some of the common firewall solutions utilized by tribes across the country. Firewalls are one of many critical parts of any tribe's complete security infrastructure, serving as the "front-line soldier" continuously monitoring and securing all traffic and access at the ingress and egress points across any tribe's data and communications network.

Along with the industry firewall data, we wanted to remind all of our TribalHub Members that they have access to a complete set of sample technology and security policy and procedures within the TribalHub Member Information Portal. Additionally, we have reached out to several tribal technology leaders to talk about the "state of security" in tribes, some of their challenges and successes, and to get their thoughts on this new Tribal-ISAC security information sharing group that is just launching for all tribes to potentially benefit from.

Stay safe and secure out there... Mike

Are you taking full advantage of your TribalHub Membership?

Contact your Membership Representative, Jeremy at jeremy@tribalhub.com for a FREE DEMO on how to best utilize all the benefits and discounts available through your TribalHub membership!

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Peer to Peer- "State of Security" with Founding Members of Tribal ISAC Group

FOUNDING MEMBER #1:
Chief Information Technology Officer

FOUNDING MEMBER #2:
Manager Information Security, Data
Protection Officer

FOUNDING MEMBER #3:
CTO

How many staff are singularly purposed for network and data security in your organization?

Founding Member #1: 8

Founding Member #2: 10

Founding Member #3: Our Security Engineer (SE) is the only staff dedicated to doing both managing, monitoring, implementing, and training.

Do you support the security efforts for government, health, gaming or some combination of those?

Founding Member #1: ALL- Government, Health & Gaming

Founding Member #2: Government, Health & Education

Founding Member #3: Support Tribal Government and influence all tribal-owned business enterprises

The 2020 pandemic forced many tribes to quickly extend remote work from home systems and infrastructure, as well as a rapid move to cloud technologies for shared applications, data storage and access and collaboration tools. Was this the case for you, and if so, how did it change your security systems and processes?

Founding Member #1: We instituted remote work from home, but already had solutions in place for the support, just had to scale them out.

Founding Member #2: Yes, we had to quickly roll-out Multi-Factor Authentication to the enterprise

Founding Member #3: Lucky for us, it did not impact our remote work as much. Essential employees were still allowed to return to work following CDC safety guidelines. Having Microsoft Office 365 was a great communication tool for everyone to stay connected. However, our Early Education Department adapted well with their new Zoom application setup.

What keeps you up at night?

Founding Member #1: Ransomware attacks

Founding Member #3: What you don't know: Don't know what is happening how your Cyber security Appliance is treating live threats or false negatives.

What do you see as the single biggest threat to your organization's security in 2021?

Founding Member #2: Leadership adoption and awareness of security impacts to overall business strategies

Founding Member #3: Social engineering; always the human factor is the weakest link.

Security policy and procedures are the foundation of a strong cyber security stance, but many (if not most) tribes have told us that their existing P&P's need a lot of work or are incomplete. Why do you suppose that is the case, and how would you rate your own existing security P&P's?

Founding Member #1: I think P&P's in general, not just security, are always a challenge, as folks are busy executing and supporting and not making documentation a priority. We have put a big focus on this area in the last 12 months and I feel pretty good about where we are to date.

Founding Member #2: I've personally written 55 security policies in the last year, which have yet to be approved by Tribal Council. This strongly due to the lack of governance using compliance frameworks like COBIT, and also awareness by leadership that policies should drive operations.

Founding Member #3: Our IT P&P's are continually evolving due to the dynamic Advanced Persistent Threat, so we must adapt and update our P&P's to counter the risk and accountability. It is a challenge for HR, Tribal Administration, Council, and Legal to review and approve IT P&P's. This is where the bottleneck occurs most of the time to get P&P's revised.

Peer to Peer- "State of Security" (continued on next page)

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Will you be investing more, less or about the same amount on security resources and systems in 2021, and why is that?

Founding Member #1: MORE- Plan to add more services to increase monitoring.

Founding Member #2: MORE- On security technology, as some items have been missing: Endpoint Detection in a Response, Network Detection and Response, Identity Management System.

Founding Member #3: Will be dedicating 15%-25% budget to enhance Cyber security Program and end-user training.

TribalHub is leading the project to launch a Tribal-ISAC security information sharing group in 2021 are you supportive of this initiative? If so, can you also tell us some of the benefits you would hope to gain from this new tribal security information sharing group?

Founding Member #1: Yes, Information sharing should help improve the overall security posture for our industry!

Founding Member #2: Yes, Information sharing and solving problems for Tribal communities through shared experiences and interest.

Founding Member #3: Yes, I'm very supportive of tribal collaboration and security information sharing tribe to tribe. Some of the benefits I am looking forward to are being able to compare risk/benefits and cyber security posture from tribe to tribe. Also, being alerted of a security outbreak as it occurs so we can be Proactive instead of Reactive. My question is, can this new culture be achieved?

Anything else in general you would like to add that you think summarizes the challenges that all tribes face relating to cyber security that define our current "state of the industry"?

Founding Member #2: There is lots of work to be done across the board. Hopefully, we can create an environment that fosters not only information for assistance but also education to tribal leadership across the country.

Founding Member #3: It's going to be 2021, and I hate to sound like a broken record, but we need to change the mindset of "It's always been this way of doing things around here." Cyber security threats are real, and Ransomware is on the rise. The cyber security paradigm changed a decade ago, and yet we are still trying to adapt. Tribe owned and operated businesses, healthcare organizations, utilities, and Government IT/MIS need to start working together to build resiliency for the best interest of every tribe in the nation.

Tips on Maximizing Your TribalHub Membership

Have you logged in to the TribalHub Industry Information Portal and checked out the library of data that is available exclusively to our TribalHub members? **Here you will find:**

Benchmarking Comparisons-

Check out deep-dive analysis from the Tribal IT Spending & Staffing Assessment completed in partnership with Gartner Inc.

IT Policy and Procedures Index-

TribalHub Members have access to a complete set of organizational technology and security Policy & Procedures- these can be utilized to help you quickly improve your security posture. Save yourself the hassle and headache of preparing these documents from scratch. We've provided you with ready-made Policy and Procedure templates available right now at your fingertips! We've made the process of building your Policy & Procedure Manual easy, simply download the samples and adjust to meet your own tribe's needs.

TribalHub's Industry Insights Reports-

Library of all previous reports offering of-the-moment tips, hot industry topic discussion points, and snippets of industry data.



What's the next step you and your tribal organization/enterprise should take to be better informed and protected?

Join the Tribal ISAC group. This is your opportunity to become a part of safe and anonymous security information sharing, among sovereign tribal governments, because together we will be stronger and FAR safer.

You can join the Tribal ISAC group as a #FoundingMember by emailing us at contactus@tribalhub.com or you can learn more about this group by requesting to join and participate in the group discussions over on the TribalHub Community platform (Community.TribalHub.com). If you are not already a part of the TribalHub Community Platform- sign up today for FREE and get connected.