Daniel de Carvalho

CYBERSECURITY DIRECTOR

Building programs that grow with the business

I build cybersecurity programs from the ground up and develop them into mature operations. Across multiple startups, my work has connected hands-on engineering with the people, investment, and processes needed to sustain security as the business grows.

At Relativity Space, I report to the CIO and own cybersecurity strategy, budget, headcount, and hiring. I built the cyber function, took the organization through CMMC certification, and transformed the team to be AI ready.

Relativity Space

Cybersecurity Director | Reporting to the CIO

Long Beach, CA | June 2020 - Present
Progressed from Architect through Manager and Senior Manager to Director.

Build the foundation

Built the cybersecurity function from zero to five engineers across GRC, IAM, DLP, and DevSecOps. Established core tooling, clear ownership, and repeatable processes, supporting 2,900 users and 4,000 endpoints across six sites.

Scale the operation

Own the budget, hiring, headcount, and roadmap. Develop cybersecurity self-service capabilities alongside automation and repeatable processes to help teams work securely as the organization grows. Partner with build, test, and launch teams across rocket, factory, launch, and corporate environments.

- Established 24/7 security monitoring and response coverage.
- Reduced phishing susceptibility from 46% to below 7% through controls, training, and continuous testing.

CONTACT

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LEADERSHIP SCOPE

Program building
Team management and hiring
Budget and headcount
Security roadmaps
Risk and compliance

CAREER THROUGHLINE

Establish the foundations.
Develop the team.
Make security repeatable.
Scale with the mission.

LANGUAGES

English and Portuguese

LINKEDIN

linkedin.com/in/
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Relativity Space continued

Bring AI into the security program

Transformed the cyber team to be AI ready, combining secure AI development, governance, and AI-enabled security operations.

- Create secure AI stacks and development environments, including sandboxes and merge-request-driven reviews.
- Use AI to build an agentic SOC that correlates data, processes vulnerability-management information, cross-references findings, and supports threat hunting.
- Develop AI governance, AI security roadmaps, and risk assessments to guide adoption and control priorities.

Deliver compliance and trusted coordination

Took Relativity Space through CMMC certification, leading scope, remediation, evidence collection, and control alignment. Interface with government agencies, law enforcement, and counterintelligence; partner with legal on investigations and ITAR and CMMC matters.

ADP and Wisely Pay

Lead Cyber Security Engineer

Irvine, CA | June 2015 - June 2020

Built the Wisely Pay cybersecurity practice from the ground up: established the PCI cardholder data environment, engineered core controls, and developed the processes and small team needed to support operations. Reported initially to the CIO at Global Cash Card and to the GSO after ADP’s acquisition.

- Led compliance activities and supported four full PCI assessments.
- Engineered WAF, SIEM, DLP, file integrity monitoring, email gateways, and SSO capabilities.
- Built detection capability from a near-zero baseline with more than 40 custom SIEM detections.
- Established bug bounty intake and triage, reducing validation time from 10 days to 48 hours.

AI AND SECURITY

Secure AI stacks
AI governance
Agentic SOC
Development sandboxes
Merge-request reviews
Threat hunting

CORE CAPABILITIES

CMMC and NIST 800-171
PCI security
Cloud security
Identity and Zero Trust
Detection and response
Data protection
Security automation

ENVIRONMENTS

Aerospace and R&D
Build, test, and launch
Manufacturing
Financial services
E-commerce

Developing people and technical depth

CSU Long Beach and ThriveDX

Cybersecurity Program Adjunct Instructor
April 2019 - June 2023

Taught offensive security, infrastructure, incident response, and forensics to people entering the field. Trained more than 200 students, with 98% course completion and 92% average lab proficiency.

Earlier experience

Global Cash Card

Sr. Security Engineer | June 2013 - June 2015

iHerb

Sr. Security Engineer | June 2012 - April 2013

Black Knight

Sr. Security Automation Engineer | February 2009 - June 2012

Tevora

Security Engineer / PCI QSA | June 2008 - February 2009

Petrobras

Sysadmin and Security Engineer | June 2005 - June 2008

Education and professional development

Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science
University of the City of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | 2002 - 2006

Advanced Security Extension, Stanford University | 2013
Applied Cyber Security Extension, MIT | 2012

Additional training in CMMC / NIST 800-171, AWS security, offensive security, and OWASP defensive security.

SELECTED CREDENTIALS

CISSP
CCSK
AWS Security Specialty
AWS Certified Associate
Azure Security
Azure Administrator
CEH and CHFI
ECSA
Licensed Penetration Tester
PCIP and PCI ISA
ITIL Foundations

TECHNOLOGY

AWS and Azure
Government cloud
Sentinel and Splunk
Defender and SentinelOne
Wiz and Purview
Palo Alto and Fortinet
Zscaler and CyberArk
Intune and Kubernetes

MEMBERSHIPS

OWASP OC
ISSA
InfraGard
NDSA
Space-ISAC