



# ALEXANDER ILIEV

## **DRIVING INNOVATION IN CYBERSECURITY LEADERSHIP**

Forward-thinking and results-driven cybersecurity executive with a proven track record of developing and implementing game-changing strategies that revolutionize an organization's security posture. I excel at aligning security initiatives with business objectives, fostering a culture of innovation, and empowering teams to push the boundaries of what's possible in cybersecurity.

### **Highlights include:**

- Spearheading the development and execution of visionary security strategies that protect critical assets, mitigate risks, and enable business growth.
- Leveraging cutting-edge technologies and advanced analytics to optimize security operations, proactively identify threats, and drive continuous improvement.
- Building and leading high-performance teams that thrive in fast-paced, dynamic environments and consistently deliver exceptional results.
- Collaborating with cross-functional stakeholders to ensure seamless integration of security best practices across the enterprise.
- Communicating complex security concepts in business terms to gain buy-in from executive leadership and drive organization-wide adoption of security initiatives.

I am passionate about staying at the forefront of the rapidly evolving cybersecurity landscape and translating the latest industry trends and best practices into actionable strategies. I'm committed to serving as a trusted advisor and strategic partner to the C-suite, empowering informed decision-making and driving the organization's success through transformative cybersecurity leadership.

## PROFILE

Accomplished cybersecurity leader with a proven track record of developing and executing effective security strategies, driving innovation, and fostering a culture of security awareness. With over 9 years of experience in application security, threat intelligence, incident response, and risk management, I have consistently delivered results that protect critical assets, mitigate risks, and align security initiatives with business objectives.

## CONTACT

PHONE:  
872.302.7950

LINKEDIN:  
[www.linkedin.com/in/alexander-iliev/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/alexander-iliev/)

EMAIL  
[alexander.iliev@owasp.org](mailto:alexander.iliev@owasp.org)

WEBSITE  
<https://www.alexander-iliev.net/>

## CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

(ISC)2 CISSP  
(ISC)2 SSCP  
EC-Council ECES  
CompTIA CySA+  
CompTIA Security+  
ITIL Foundation  
CompTIA Network+  
CompTIA A+  
CompTIA Project+  
CIW Web Security Associate  
Splunk Cloud Admin  
Cisco ICDN1  
Cisco ICDN2  
Tenable Nessus Proficiency  
IIBA training

## RECENT WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Chapter Leader (Application Security Community Leader) OWASP Des Plaines Chapter, Des Plaines, IL**

Jun 2023 - Present

- [+] Provide strategic leadership and direction to the OWASP Des Plaines Chapter, driving initiatives that promote application security best practices and foster a strong community of security professionals.
- [+] Develop and oversee educational programs, workshops, and events focused on emerging application security trends, technologies, and challenges, ensuring the chapter remains at the forefront of the industry.
- [+] Collaborate with chapter members, industry experts, and local organizations to identify and address key application security risks and develop innovative solutions to mitigate them.
- [+] Establish and maintain partnerships with local businesses, educational institutions, and government agencies to expand the chapter's reach and impact, driving greater awareness of application security best practices.
- [+] Serve as a thought leader and spokesperson for the chapter, representing the organization at industry conferences, panels, and media engagements to share insights and expertise on application security trends and strategies.
- [+] Mentor and guide chapter members in their professional development, helping them enhance their application security skills and advance their careers in the field.
- [+] Manage the chapter's resources, including budget, sponsorships, and volunteer efforts, ensuring the organization operates effectively and efficiently in pursuit of its mission.
- [+] Develop and implement a long-term strategic plan for the chapter, setting goals and objectives that align with the broader mission of the OWASP organization and the needs of the local application security community.

### **Head of Security Operations & Lead of Application Security (Security Strategy Director)**

**RedMane Technology LLC, Chicago, IL**

Nov 2022 - Present

- [+] Developed and executed a comprehensive security strategy, aligning security initiatives with business objectives and ensuring the protection of critical assets and data.
- [+] Led a team of security professionals in implementing robust application security measures throughout the development lifecycle, reducing identified vulnerabilities by 40%.
- [+] Managed the Security Operations Center (SOC) team, optimizing the use of Splunk to monitor, analyze, and respond to potential security threats in real-time.
- [+] Spearheaded the development and implementation of a proactive threat intelligence program, successfully identifying and mitigating emerging security risks.
- [+] Collaborated with executive leadership and cross-functional teams to drive organization-wide adherence to security best practices and foster a culture of security awareness.

### **Incident Response & Risk Management Lead**

**RedMane Technology LLC, Chicago, IL**

May 2021 – Nov 2022

- [+] Developed and implemented a comprehensive incident response plan, enabling the organization to effectively detect, investigate, and resolve security incidents.
- [+] Conducted regular security risk assessments and audits, identifying and prioritizing vulnerabilities in cloud-based systems and infrastructure for remediation.
- [+] Led the development and execution of a robust threat intelligence program, resulting in the early detection and mitigation of multiple high-

severity threats.

[+] Designed and implemented targeted phishing simulations and security awareness training programs, reducing the organization's susceptibility to phishing attacks by 60%.

[+] Collaborated with senior management to align security initiatives with business objectives and ensure the effective allocation of resources to mitigate identified risks.

### **Cyber Security Analyst (Security Operations Lead)**

**Rivers Casino, Des Plaines, IL**

Jun 2018 – May 2021

[+] Developed and led security awareness campaigns and training programs, with a focus on secure coding practices and application security best practices.

[+] Implemented a comprehensive vulnerability management program using Nessus, identifying and prioritizing vulnerabilities in applications and infrastructure for remediation.

[+] Spearheaded the adoption of the NIST framework and CIS controls, enhancing the organization's application security and risk management practices.

[+] Utilized Splunk as a SIEM solution to monitor, detect, and respond to potential security incidents, including application-related threats.

### **IT Specialist (Security Standards Coordinator)**

**Rivers Casino, Des Plaines, IL**

Sep 2016 – Jun 2018

[+] Managed and maintained network operating systems, virtual server environments, and data backup processes, ensuring the security and integrity of applications and data.

[+] Led troubleshooting efforts for complex application and system issues, providing high-level support to users and minimizing downtime.

[+] Developed and enforced application security standards, secure coding practices, and change management procedures, enhancing the organization's overall security posture.

[+] Collaborated with cross-functional teams to evaluate and implement new software and applications, ensuring alignment with business needs and security requirements..

### **IT Technician (Security Projects Collaborator)**

**Rivers Casino, Des Plaines, IL**

Jul 2015 – Sep 2016

[+] Assisted in the development and implementation of IT standards and procedures, with a focus on application security best practices.

[+] Provided technical support for software and application-related issues, ensuring minimal disruption to business operations.

[+] Collaborated with IT personnel on various projects and deployments, including the secure implementation of new applications and software.

[+] Recommended and implemented new software products and solutions, considering application security requirements and industry best practices.

### **IT Assistant (Security Operations Trainee)**

**Oakton Community College, Des Plaines, IL**

Jan 2015 – Jul 2015

[+] Assisted in the installation and configuration of new software and applications, following security best practices and guidelines.

[+] Conducted regular maintenance of computers and systems, ensuring an up-to-date and secure application environment.

## **EDUCATION**

---

**Western Governors University, Dec 2020**

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance