



Federal Cybersecurity Study

- ▶ 200 decision-makers and influencers
- ▶ Government IT, cyber security and network solutions professionals
- ▶ Representatives from federal civilian, judicial and independent agencies, Congress, intelligence, DOD and contractors

Cybersecurity Study: Increasing Trust, Visibility and Resilience Improves Federal Agency Cybersecurity

Cisco commissioned leading government market research firm Market Connections, Inc. to explore the security challenges the federal government faces in today's technology environment. IT decision-makers and influencers from all areas of the government responded to the independent study, which revealed key concerns and expectations around cybersecurity.

Concerns about employee behavior, increasingly sophisticated cyber threats, and lengthy IT processes top agency cybersecurity concerns.

- ▶ Agency staff is concerned about trust within their departments. Nearly two-thirds of federal government respondents find the greatest risks to agencies in the next 12 months to be the negligent use of information by internal personnel and increased social media use.
- ▶ Seventy percent of agency staff are concerned that cyber attacks are becoming increasingly sophisticated.
- ▶ More than half of agency staff believes it takes too long to get approval for the IT solutions they need to protect their networks.
- ▶ More than half of participants indicate education, training and network intrusion detection would be most useful in helping to address agency cybersecurity challenges.

Increased visibility can help IT managers address security hot spots, lower spending, address vulnerabilities and improve adaptability and response times.

- ▶ Nearly half of survey respondents have experienced a phishing attack in their agency or department in the last 12 months, indicating a need for increased visibility and security of networks. Supporting this statement, only half believe they have a clear picture of all the activity on their networks.
- ▶ In order to stave off security threats and ramp up protection of their networks, agencies intend to invest in identifying system vulnerabilities (50%), training agency personnel (37%), and developing threat-resistant networks (32%).

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Cisco is consistently a top-of-mind security solutions provider among potential partners and customers – the only equipment manufacturer of both server and networking solutions mentioned.

Source: Federal Cyber Security Study, Market Connections, Inc. © 2011

Declining budgets need not negatively impact security. Cisco's cybersecurity solutions deliver trust and visibility while reducing expense and increasing resilience.

Budget cuts and antiquated infrastructure present obstacles for securing government IT. However, decision-makers and implementers believe building trust in the cloud will improve security operations and reduce threats.

- ▶ While more than half of survey respondents believe budget cuts are negatively impacting cybersecurity goals, nearly 40% are *planning* the shift to a "Cloud First" policy.
- ▶ Nearly one-quarter of respondents are currently *discussing* the shift to a "Cloud First" policy, while a handful are currently *implementing* the shift to a Cloud First policy.

Cisco continues to emerge as a leader in cybersecurity.

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- ▶ Cisco is among the top three companies that come to mind when thinking about solutions provided to meet the IT security needs of government agencies.
- ▶ Cisco's highly individualized approach leads the way in ensuring agencies integrate security mandates into their infrastructure, secure confidential materials and comply with communications policies.

"Improving trust, visibility and resilience is critical to improving your agency's cybersecurity posture whether your focus is building clouds, securing networks, or managing information technology procurements. The inherent role of the network positions Cisco as the natural partner in developing and executing a successful cybersecurity strategy. Cisco's extensive solutions and service offerings, breadth of U.S. government certifications, Global Incident Response Center, and supply chain assurance and integrity programs provide customers with the most comprehensive approach to IT infrastructure protection and enablement. Contact us. We can help."

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