

# Managing Your Own Security Career

How to be happy, challenged and well-compensated

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# Who Are We?

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## \* **Lee Kushner**

- \* Over 10 years of Success Recruitment of Information Security Professionals
- \* Founder and CEO of the Leading Information Security Recruitment Firm, LJ Kushner and Associates LLC
- \* Wide Range of Nationally Based Clients from Fortune 500s to security product vendors

## \* **Mike Murray**

- \* Security professional with a decade of experience, currently Director of Neohapsis Labs
- \* Security blogger (Episteme.ca) specializing in talking about security careers, author of the book *“Forget the Parachute, Let Me Fly the Plane”*
- \* Has managed security teams and helps people working with him develop the career that they really want to have.

## \* **Different perspectives on Careers**

# Outline

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- \* **Introduction**

- \* Do you want a career or just a job?

- \* **Your Career Path**

- \* **Taking Ownership**

- \* Nobody's going to do it for you

- \* **Personal Branding and Networking**

- \* **Making the Most of Your Current Role**

- \* **Good vs. Bad Reasons to Change Jobs**

- \* **When it's *really* time for a change...**

# ***Your Career Path***

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- \* **What does a security career look like?**
- \* **Is it really different than a normal IT career?**
  - \* Hint: the answer is yes.
- \* **What are your short term goals?**
- \* **What are your long term goals?**
- \* **Building a career path**
- \* **Quote: “*No plan survives...*”**

# Owning Your Career

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- \* **Nobody's going to do this for you.**
  - \* *It's not your boss' job.*
- \* **Taking stock of your own skills.**
  - \* How to be honest with yourself.
- \* **How do those skills match up...**
  - \* To what you want to do now?
  - \* To your short and long term goals?
- \* **How can you fill those gaps?**

# ***Your Personal Brand***

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- \* **Personal Branding is such a cheesy term**
  - \* But it's the most important thing you can do.
- \* **How do you create a brand?**
- \* **Play the “Word Association” game**
- \* **Your brand comes from... PEOPLE**
  - \* Building a network of the right people
  - \* Ultimately, the network IS your brand.
- \* **How to make friends.**

# ***Making the Most of Where You Are***

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- \* **Your current job is the best one you have...**
  - \* It's always easier to stay where you are... make the best of it.
- \* **Seeing the silver lining**
  - \* And polishing it daily.
- \* **Can you move around?**
- \* **Making Something out of Nothing**
- \* **Building your brand internally.**

# ***Good vs. Bad Reasons to Change Jobs***

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- \* **There are 3 good reasons:**
  - \* Life changes
  - \* Career changes
  - \* Organizational changes
- \* **In General, other reasons are bad ones.**
- \* **How much job change is too much?**

# ***If it's really time to change...***

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- \* **Focus on your path**

- \* Remember your goals and where you want to go
- \* Think one position ahead

- \* **Educate yourself**

- \* Talk to people who can help - find good advice

- \* **When should you take a detour?**

- \* **Investing in yourself**

- \* **The Nitty-Gritty**

- \* Salaries, Resumes and Interviews (Oh, My)

# Free Gifts

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- \* **Mike wrote a book last year**

- \* Inspired by the plight of frustrated security professionals

- \* Not enough people have the job they love.

- \* **Free copy of the e-book**

- <http://www.ForgetTheParachute.com/defcon>**

# Questions?

Reminder: Download your free copy of Mike's ebook:

**<http://www.ForgetTheParachute.com/defcon>**

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