Managing Your Own Security Career
How to be happy, challenged and well-compensated

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Who Are We?

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

✴ 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

- 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

✴ 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

- 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

* 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

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...

- **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

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:

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