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"Scientific approach to physical security management"

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In open forum environment the Security Agora leader came together under Chatham House Rule to address and debate the scientific approach to physical security management and how these principles can enhance protection of personnel assets and operations.

Discussed areas:

Cost centre

- Several organisations view the corporate security unit as a cost centre
- When decisions are made the cost implication is viewed as on 'recommendation'
- Security depts are often viewed as emotional and sometimes not taken seriously

Therefore, how can we use insight and science to provide hard facts?

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Observations/Debated areas:

Security risk assessment

- What kind of template are we able to use to justify spend as they vary from simple to fully scientific
- Security is gaining attention and needs to be presented as an avenue to raise and maintain revenue.
- Security is a high intensity topic which needs constant explanation, injection of resources and financial expenditure
- We must factor in a different conversation with those not sitting in the region, credibility is vital
- If the C-Suite is naturally sceptical, the task can be difficult which supports the need for the scientific approach

The balance between instinct and data

- Monitor trend analysis
- Factor in that human mind science is not the same as lateral science
- Reliance purely on data can be a negative, however this can assist with broadening the knowledge gap i.e. Peculiarities in incidents / What was unusual to allow for the attack to happen?
- We need to understand there will be 'Lone Wolf'scenarios Opportunities, so there can only control what we can control.
- There is currently a gap in the depth of information in the security space specific to incidents
- Unlike in HSE (who have a process to forecast) , the security sector does not have a documented framework to devise patterns

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Observations/Debated areas:

<u>Is there enough of a scientific approach at present?</u>

There is not that much of a scientific approach and practice in the field – This is needed to impact positively and create best practices
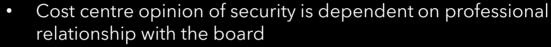
However:

Some approaches don't work in the African environments.

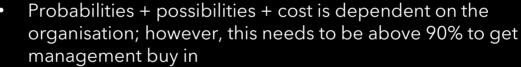 i.e. Information from A + B + C + D doesn't necessarily result in E

- Human relationships with stakeholders need to balance with science
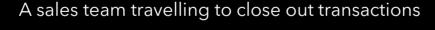- Cost centre opinion of security is dependent on professional relationship with the board
- Dependent on what has been 'put on the table' for company policy
- If no issues occur, security is often viewed as working, when in reality this often has other variables
- Probabilities + possibilities + cost is dependent on the organisation; however, this needs to be above 90% to get management buy in

<u>Case study – Journey management</u>

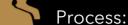A sales team travelling to close out transactions

Using the scientific approach:

- ✓ Able to manage safety through analysis of local threat landscape by interaction with network and own intelligence.
- ✓ This enables organisation to provide a security clearance.
- ✓ Development of an automated asset process which is documented and domiciled in a repository

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DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED

Observations/Debated areas:

Process:

- ❑ Educate the team on regions and security challenges
- ❑ Request monitoring of the environment and movements
- ❑ Use credible and actionable intel
- ❑ Categorise all locations in country to different sections (i.e High Risk)
- ❑ Use someone on ground or if necessary approved 3rd party
- ❑ Management must approve logistics

Challenges:

- Data is expensive
- Competitors generally want to use if, which raises the information sharing challenge.

<u>When security budgets are low?</u>

- Group all incidents into categories
- Monitor locations
- Collaborate with networks and create credible inward relationships
- Build an automation process with what resources you have available
- Educate staff on security awareness, especially those who conduct field trees
- Build relationships and comms with all staff to increase support i.e. interaction with marketing
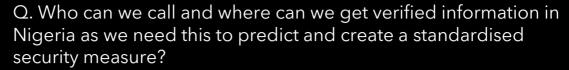- Send security advisories

We need to support security issues by leveraging data, however the questions arise:

- What do we do with the data?
- What do control rooms and operation centres need?

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DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED

Questions raised

Q. Who can we call and where can we get verified information in Nigeria as we need this to predict and create a standardised security measure?

Recommended companies:

- Bulwark Intelligence
- Beacon Consulting Nigeria
- Control Risks

Q. What tools can be used?

- Data Minr - www.dataminr.com
- Crisis 24 - https://crisis24.garda.com/
- MAX - www.max-security.com

- Simpler tools - e.g. Excel

- Complete with relevant information
- Sort through incidents and locations
- Incorporate Google Earth or Google Maps

Next Steps

Would you be willing to partner with Agora Nexus to design a framework to fill the gap in the scientific approach?

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