DAVE M. BROWN

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SECURITY, COMPLIANCE & RISK EXECUTIVE

Cybersecurity Strategy | GRC & Compliance | Enterprise Risk | Business Enablement

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Security, compliance, and risk executive with a track record of building, maturing, and governing enterprise security programs in environments ranging from founding-stage startups to global enterprises. Combines cybersecurity and GRC leadership with deep technology infrastructure expertise to translate business risk into practical controls and audit ready programs. Trusted by executive leaders, customers, legal teams, and auditors to explain risk, guide investment decisions, and strengthen security capabilities that support organizational growth.

CORE EXPERTISE

Cybersecurity Strategy & Management | Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) | Enterprise Risk & Executive Reporting
NIST 800-171, CMMC & ITAR/CUI | SOC 2, ISO 27001, HITRUST & HIPAA | Third-Party & Vendor Risk
Cloud & Infrastructure Security | IT / OT Security | Data Governance | Incident Response & Resilience
Budget & Contract Management | Security Culture & Human Risk | Business & Commercial Alignment

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DC BLOX | Greater Atlanta Area | **2017–2026**

Director, Security & Compliance | 2019–2026

Reported to the COO throughout my DC BLOX tenure, accountable for cybersecurity, physical security, compliance, risk, and a multimillion-dollar annual security spend across a growing multi-site data center portfolio.

- Built and scaled the security and compliance program across a growing multi-site data center portfolio, sustaining eight consecutive years of clean SOC 2 Type II reports while expanding audit readiness for customer and regulatory demands.
- Implemented NIST SP 800-171 controls, scoring 109 out of 110 in an independent auditor assessment, creating a repeatable framework for CMMC readiness for CUI-regulated customer environments.
- Supported enterprise, healthcare, and government-contractor requirements through SOC 2 Type II, HITRUST e1 Certification, HIPAA BAA, and NIST SP 800-171 capabilities.
- Implemented SOC-as-a-Service company-wide, delivering automated threat detection and response XDR and SIEM coverage that contained the impact of more than 100 phishing and human error incidents over five years.
- Reduced repeat phishing-prone user behavior by 75% over 10 months by implementing next generation security awareness and phishing programs with targeted, automated training and stronger reporting, complementing SOC-as-a-Service detection and containment.
- Negotiated contracts and service terms that contributed to approximately $800K in cumulative vendor savings while partnering with Legal on vendor and customer agreements.
- Wrote and managed the retention policy and schedules with outside counsel, managed legal holds and searches, and owned data classification for DLP.
- Built monthly risk and control reporting for the COO, improving visibility into vulnerability MTTR and underperforming compliance areas and reducing MTTR to under one month.
- Moved compliance from manual evidence collection to a more automated GRC platform, saving approximately 90 hours of audit prep time and making audits more scalable and repeatable.
- Designed a physical security defense-in-depth Basis of Design for 10 new data centers, creating a repeatable standard for budgeting, RFPs, commissioning, and site audits across eight production facilities.
- Established the Emergency Incident Response Team and enterprise Business Continuity Plan, leading crisis management, incident response, disaster recovery, vulnerability management, penetration testing, and tabletop exercises.
- Served as the customer facing security and compliance leader across RFPs, due diligence, audits, sales cycles, and major contracts, meeting with hundreds of customers and investors.
- Wrote the AI usage policy and AI security risk review process, and led a restricted enterprise LLM pilot with contract and data handling review, usage logging, and phased system access that expanded company wide.

Director, Network & Data Center Operations | **2017–2019**

Early team member responsible for network and data center operations while DC BLOX built its first purpose-built facility and established its operating model.

- Designed the company's initial operating processes across corporate IT, network, data center, security, and service delivery functions, creating the foundation for scalable operations.
- Created and launched the initial SOC 2 Type II compliance program, establishing controls, evidence collection, and audit readiness before a dedicated compliance team existed.
- Authored baseline cybersecurity standards and security architecture, developed the organization's Disaster Recovery Plan, and built the service delivery organization with ITIL-based ITSM processes and a formal Change Management CAB.
- Added NOC-as-a-Service for 24x7 monitoring and incident management of customer-facing services, reducing employee ticket fatigue by 80% over 6 months.
- Developed Standard Operating Procedures and Method of Process documentation for data center operations, reducing facility operator errors during maintenance and creating auditable records to support compliance reviews.
- Contributed to the design and commissioning of DC BLOX's first purpose-built data center from concept through production.

SOFTVISION / SOFTWARE PARADIGMS INTERNATIONAL | Atlanta, GA **| 2016–2017**

Vice President, Global IT Infrastructure

Reported to the CEO and led geographically distributed hybrid-cloud SaaS infrastructure operations through post-merger consolidation; leadership scope across a team of more than 50 highly skilled engineers with an annual budget exceeding $2.5M.

- Reduced AWS infrastructure spend by approximately $25K per month through proper cloud configuration and security optimization.
- Reinvested the savings to implement Disaster Recovery as a Service with a 15-minute RTO/RPO at no additional cost.
- Functioned as CISO for security and compliance oversight, led ISO 27001 recertification, and strengthened SOC 1 Type 2 controls and audit readiness, reducing more than a dozen prior report exceptions to zero in the subsequent clean report.
- Restructured offshore teams and optimized ITSM processes, increasing customer satisfaction survey results by 80% and reducing unplanned outages by 90% over a 10-month period.

T-SYSTEMS NORTH AMERICA | Atlanta Metropolitan Area **| 2015–2016**

Director, IT Infrastructure & Operations

Reported to the VP of Delivery as operational lead for IT operations and service management following the rebadging from ThyssenKrupp to T-Systems. Led a team of more than 35 subject matter experts and technical specialists.

- Directed the yearlong transition of data center infrastructure, network, security, Service Desk, and ITSM operations to T-Systems hosted IaaS/PaaS environments.
- Turned around an underperforming Service Desk by implementing the T-Systems operating model, improving SLA compliance and first call resolution by more than 35% in two months and sustaining the gains for 10 months.
- Transitioned change, incident, and problem-management processes to T-Systems standards and contributed to transformation planning for four data centers and 240 remote locations.

THYSSENKRUPP IT SERVICES NORTH AMERICA | Alpharetta, GA **| 2013–2015**

Director, IT Infrastructure & Operations

Reported to the VP of IT Operations, accountable for IT service operations, infrastructure management, and transformation planning across four North America data centers. Led a team of 20 subject matter experts supporting 9,000+ users across 240+ locations.

- Reduced MPLS WAN outages across 240 locations of a large ThyssenKrupp operating company by more than 35% in one year through aggressive vendor performance management and formal service improvement plans.
- Implemented a cloud-based resource and project-management solution that optimized utilization and increased project and service-request revenue by 25% through more accurate capture of project effort.
- Partnered with North American and German leadership to accelerate adoption of a service-based IT operating model across multiple ThyssenKrupp operating companies.
- Led infrastructure and operations through a global outsourcing transformation, including transition of IT operations to an outsourced service provider and design of the future-state global shared-services organization.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Certifications

CISM and CISSP Examinations Targeted: Q1 2027
ITIL v3 Certified

Southern Polytechnic State University: Coursework in Technology Management and Computer Engineering