

SC 2020 awards

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ENTRYKIT

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#scawards

SC²⁰²⁰awards

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scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

The mission of the SC Awards 2020 is to honor the achievements of companies and cybersecurity professionals striving to safeguard their business' and their customers' critical data in North America.

Categories

Trust Awards

Awarding information security products and services in the industry. Jurors will be looking at the cybersecurity solutions, the problems and their market penetration, functionality, manageability, ease of use, scalability, customer service/support and more.

1. Best Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Solution

While back-up, business continuity and disaster recovery can be different for every company, involving numerous strategies and tactics, there is no doubting the need for solutions to support over-arching BDR plans. Almost daily, organizations of all sizes are getting hit with ransomware threats, for example, which puts whole systems, databases, files and more at risk. As well, nation-state attacks and unexpected weather events have prompted companies to be more prepared for down-time and quick recovery to keep their businesses up and running. Solutions for this category can support various components of BDR plans and efforts -- from supporting back-up protocol when systems have been threatened or taken offline to addressing infrastructure demands to get back up and running in the event of physical disasters or online attacks by insiders and outside malicious actors.

2. Best Cloud Computing Security Solution

These technologies are deployed to protect data and/or applications in a cloud environment. They may also protect the cloud computing infrastructure itself. Cloud computing security concerns are numerous for both providers and their customers – and include security and privacy worries, compliance issues and legal/contractual problems. Solutions or services in

this category can provide for the protection of data or applications in the cloud, protection for traffic flowing between companies and their cloud service providers, policy management and encryption capabilities, privileged user access and controls or more.

3. Best Computer Forensic Solution

Products in this category fall into two subcategories: network and media.

Network:The network tools must be exclusively intended for forensic analysis of network events/data. If the product is a SIEM with forensic capabilities, it should be placed in the SIEM category.

Media: Media tools cover just about all other non-network forensic tools, including those tools that collect data from media over the network and live forensic tools. This also includes specialized forensic tools that are not intended to analyze network data.

4. Best Data Loss Prevention (DLP) Solution

Products in this category include those that help organizations safeguard their intellectual property and customers' critical data persistently – inside and outside the company. Network-based and endpoint data leakage prevention products will be considered. Products should prevent data from unauthorized exit from the network, or protect data on the endpoint – whether the endpoint is connected to a network or not. Products typically are policy-driven and should include scanning of all data, regardless of protocol or application leaving the network, and/or keep track of peripherals, such as removable storage and attached to the endpoint – reporting that inventory to a central location or administrator. All entrants should have the capability of being managed by a centralized administrator. Those products considered part of this category include: network DLP products, which are typically gateways; those products protecting only endpoints; and hybrid products that operate at both the gateway to the network and at the endpoint. Specifically for endpoint DLP, traffic should be monitored and encryption should be available.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

5. Best Database Security Solution

Protecting its critical information is the number one priority for many organizations. An integral component of this is to secure corporate databases. Entries here should include solutions that help customers safeguard mission-critical database environments. Features of these offerings can run the gamut – from encryption to access management to logging and monitoring. Be sure to explain the specific ways the solution protects these corporate crown jewels and the features present to ensure exposures are mitigated.

6. Best Email Security Solution

Email security addresses the ability to exchange email messages with assurance, as well as the ability to filter email messages based on content, source or other criteria. Solutions should ensure the privacy of sensitive messages, limit the repercussions of email forgery, and manage other aspects of safeguarding email within the organization. These products are enterprise-centric and should have, but are not required to have, some form of centralized management. They may include spam filters, junk mail filters, malware filters, unauthorized content (sometimes called “extrusion protection” or “data leakage protection”), phishing and other types of undesirable content. However, these are not simply anti-spam filters. These email security products should be evaluated on their effectiveness, manageability, non-intrusiveness, ease of use and other factors that impact the implementation of this type of product in the enterprise environment. They typically provide features such as email encryption, digital signatures, automatic shredding of messages and attachments, and more.

7. Best Deception Technology

Deception technologies automate the creation, deployment and management of digital traps (decoys), lures and deceptions, which are blended among existing IT resources. Hidden in plain sight, these tools are intended to engage and prompt the attacker into revealing their trade craft, tools and techniques, in real-time, which provides the enterprise security teams with the facts to pre-emptively launch effective counter measures.



8. Best Identity Management Solution

Products in this category address the identity management lifecycle in an enterprise environment, including password management, user provisioning and enterprise-access management.

9. Best Managed Security Service

These offerings provide a turnkey approach to an organization’s primary technical security needs. These offerings can either be a co-located device at the client organization facility, or can be a completely outsourced solution where the application to be protected would reside at the vendor’s data center.

10. Best Mobile Security Solution

More and more employees are using smaller and smaller devices with loads of applications to access corporate data. Some examples include iPhones, iPads, Android devices, BlackBerries and more. Products in this category deal with not only a collapsing perimeter, but also consumer-owned and -controlled devices being used to get at corporate resources. At a minimum, these devices likely will require strong endpoint security, point-to-point encryption and more. This is a broad category. If your product is used to secure this type of small device/handheld, it may fit. Security can be for data at rest in the device itself, secure access to data in the enterprise, and encryption for data in motion between the enterprise and the device. It also includes anything from hard disk encryption solutions and tools that track lost mobile devices to USB/thumb drive security solutions.

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

11. Best Authentication Technology

Products here provide enhanced security to end-users or devices by offering credentials for access to an authenticator or authentication server. Software and hardware that specializes in the biometric authentication of users is also included here. These solutions may use a tangible device (something you have) for authentication and knowledge (something you know) for authentication. For biometrics, the solution provides identification and authentication using any of the following methods: finger/thumb print/retinal scan/voice recognition/hand/palm geometry/facial recognition.

12. Best NAC Solution

Protecting host-based computing platforms and network resources from threats that are brought in by employees, vendors, contractors and guests involves a numbers of solutions and policies. From anti-virus and firewalls to IDS/IPS solutions, the products in this category run the gamut. However, to control access to network resources at the endpoint, the tools companies often rely on are network access control (NAC) products. These solutions can be used to validate the existence of certain security measures and validate that they are properly configured and up to date. They also can validate the existence of current OS patches and can be used to manage the complexity associated with overseeing permissions and authorizations for various groups of users. Most will integrate with a common directory structure, some will provide local authentication capabilities, while others will match something on the endpoint – such as an agent or MAC address – to the authentication before allowing access to the protected network resources.

13. Best Risk/Policy Management Solution

These products measure, analyze and report risk, as well as enforce and update configuration policies within the enterprise, including but not limited to network, encryption, software and hardware devices. Contenders' products should offer a reporting format that covers the frameworks of multiple regulatory requirements, such as Sarbanes-Oxley, Gramm-Leach-Bliley and other acts and industry regulations. As well, this feature should be network-centric,



providing reporting to a central administrator and allowing for companies to centrally manage the product.

So, overall, entrants' products should be enterprise-centric; collect data across the network, including threats and vulnerabilities; report associated risk, endpoint configuration, enforcement, auditing and reporting; provide remediation options (but are not exclusively patch management systems); and, finally, offer centralized reports based on regulatory requirements and local policies.

14. Best SCADA Security Solution

Industrial Control Systems/Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (ICS/SCADA) operational and information technologies reinforce critical infrastructure security. While traditional and long-standing vendors are making their move toward SCADA ecosystems, new players are joining the fray with IoT/IloT-related solutions. For this category, we're looking for technologies that help safeguard critical ICS/SCADA systems from an array of attacks, whether spearheaded by nation-state bad actors, organized criminals, or malicious attackers on the hunt for a quick buck.

15. Best SIEM Solution

Security information and event management (SIEM) tools are used to collect, aggregate and correlate log data for unified analysis and reporting. Typically, these tools can take logs from a large number of sources, normalize them and build a database that allows detailed reporting and analysis. While forensic analysis of network events may be a feature of a SIEM, it is not the only feature, nor is it the primary focus of the tool.

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

16. Best Threat Intelligence Technology

Contenders in this category should help cybersecurity teams research and analyze cybercrime and other threat trends and any technical developments being made by those engaging in cybercriminal activity against both private and public entities. These technologies facilitate the understanding and contextual relevance of various types of data, often an overwhelming amount, collected from internal network devices, as well as from external sources (such as open source tools, social media platforms, the dark web and more). Armed with these more digestible analysis on risks and cyberthreats, cybersecurity teams should be able to enhance their tactical plans preparing for and reacting to an infrastructure intrusion prior to, during and after an attack, ultimately improving their overall security posture so their long-term security strategy is more predictive rather than simply reactive.

17. Best Threat Detection Technology

Closely aligned to threat intelligence technologies and processes, threat detection techniques have necessarily graduated from more simple network-based detection solutions to technologies focused on improving detection times, alerting and mitigating attacks as they are happening given the evolution of cyberattackers and the tactics they now employ. Not only can a wide range of organizations now readily fall victim to an attack, their systems now often already have been infiltrated with various types of malware they may still be persisting in their networks through the leveraging of various points of entry and methods of obfuscation. As such, contenders entering this category should offer solutions that offer detection and/or remediation capabilities for the entire network, including mobile devices, cloud applications, IoT-based devices and more.

18. Best UTM Security Solution

Unified Threat Management contenders should take an “in-depth” defense approach. Entrants should have an integrated, multifunction endpoint/UTM offering – not a single-function product. These products typically aggregate a wide variety of threat data into a single unified



tool. Many organizations define those threat categories as anti-malware, content management, IDS/IPS and spam filtering, along with firewall/VPN. Entrants should meet this minimum functionality and can include anti-malware gateway, anti-spam gateway and anti-phishing gateway, as well as provide web content filtering for laptops, desktops and, optionally, servers that blocks or filters objectionable websites and content.

19. Best Vulnerability Management Solution

These products perform network/device vulnerability assessment and/or penetration testing. They may use active or passive testing, and are either hardware- or software-based solutions that report vulnerabilities using some standard format/reference.

20. Best Web Application Solution

The OWASP Automated Threat Handbook provides key industry standards by which organizations should set their security controls to detect and mitigate threats occurring through malicious web automation attacks. Such assaults, from spamming, credential stuffing, CAPTCHA defeat, fraudulent account creation, Denial of Service (DoS) and still more, can cause monetary and brand damage to companies experiencing them. This is where technologies like web application firewalls (WAFs) and bot mitigation technologies and services come into play. WAFs typically use deep-packet inspection, provide logging and reporting, block real-time traffic, provide alerting capabilities and auto-update features, perform web caching, provide content filtering, offer web-based access to reporting and/or logging, protect traffic from reaching the underlying operating system, and filter application traffic to only legitimate requests. A tried and true arrow in a one’s quiver, these solutions are helpful on this front. As well, bot mitigation solutions, also have proven increasingly useful to organizations trying to avoid falling victim to malicious web automation attacks. Contenders entering the category can offer these technologies in tandem or alone.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Excellence Awards

Awarding the top cybersecurity companies in the industry, as well as some of its finest products/services that cater to both enterprise and SME organizations.

21. Best Security Company

Nominees should be the tried-and-true, longer-standing companies which have been offering products and services to customers for at least three years. Nominations can come from all sectors. Areas that will be accounted for in the judging process include: product line strength, customer base, customer service/support, research and development, company growth and solvency, innovation and more.

22. Rookie Security Company of the Year

Nominated companies should be new to the IT security field – offering an initial, strong, flagship product that is within two years of its initial release. Nominees can come from any IT security product/service sector and will be continuing efforts in further product development, customer growth and overall fiscal and employee growth. Please note in your submission the launch date of your initial flagship offering. *If this initial offering or any of your other products have been on the market for longer than two years, please do not submit a nomination in this category.*

23. Best SME Security Solution

This includes tools and services from all product sectors specifically designed to meet the requirements of small- to mid-sized businesses. The winning solution will have been a leading solution during the last two years, having helped to strengthen the IT security industry's continued evolution



24. Best Enterprise Security Solution

This includes tools and services from all product sectors specifically designed to meet the requirements of large enterprises. The winning solution will have been a leading solution during the last two years, having helped to strengthen the IT security industry's continued evolution.

25. Best Regulatory Compliance Solution

Nominated solutions should help organizations comply with specific regulatory requirements demanded of companies in the healthcare, retail, educational, financial services and government markets. Solutions should help customers meet mandates noted in such legislation as HIPAA, SOX, GLBA, FISMA, or in guidelines noted by the likes of the FFIEC or the PCI Security Standards Council. Nominees must be prepared to offer references of customers who are engaged in, or have already completed, real, fully fledged deployments, and should be ready to address specific questions posed to them during the judging process.

26. Best Customer Service

Support as well as service of products and assistance sold are critical components of any contract. For many organizations that seek out help from information security vendors and service providers, the aid they receive from customer service representatives is crucial to the deployment, ongoing maintenance and successful running of the technologies they've bought and to which they have entrusted their businesses and sensitive data. For this new category, we're looking for vendor and service providers that offer stellar support and service – the staff that fulfilled its contracts and maybe even goes a little beyond them to ensure that organizations and their businesses are safe and sound against the many threats launched by today's savvy cybercriminals.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

27. Best Emerging Technology

What cutting-edge technologies with some innovative capabilities are bursting onto the scene to address the newest information security needs facing organizations? This new category welcomes both new vendors and old pros looking to provide products and services that look to help shape the future by addressing fast-evolving threats through the creation of these types of offerings. Solutions should have just hit the market in the last six to 12 months, and entries should have some customers available who can act as references. The company should also have an office in North America and provide ready support and service to customers in this country.

Professional Awards

Recognizing the best cybersecurity leaders and their teams, these categories pay homage to industry professionals who excel at developing and maintaining both strategies and tactics to ultimately safeguard their organizations' critical data assets. Some categories here also honor those industry groups and academic institutions that help information security practitioners and their colleagues stay current on the latest industry developments and security and awareness training methods.

28. CSO of the Year

Contenders should include those who work for end-user companies only. No vendor CSOs or professionals who work for an IT security vendor, IT reseller or IT consultancy will be eligible for this category. Those leaders working for companies that provide cybersecurity services to end-user companies will be considered. Those entering this category are the primary cybersecurity leaders in their organizations. They have spearheaded viable IT security programs, gained the support of their company's executive leaders and colleagues, and helped to propel the CISO/CSO (or other appropriate equivalent title) position to a footing of influence within their organization and wider industry. Specific projects and undertakings and corporate-wide security strategies/programs supporting these specific security goals should be noted.



Nominees should be prepared to answer further questions during the judging process, offer at least two references, and be open to holding confidential interviews with members of the SC Media editorial team, if warranted.

Please Note: A high resolution image of the nominee must be submitted with the entry.

29. Best Security Team

Contenders should only include teams from end-user companies that have executed and are managing exceptional and strong security programs, which they have built from virtually non-existent ones. Professionals who work for an IT security vendor, IT reseller or IT consultancy are not eligible for this category. The team should have successfully established and implemented an integral and/or innovative/cutting-edge component of their security program, and should have spearheaded various areas of support for its success, such as strong end-user awareness training, good configuration management, and more.

Please note: A high resolution image of the nominated team must be submitted with the entry.

30. Best IT Security-related Training Program

This category is targeting companies and organizations that provide end-user awareness training programs for organizations looking to ensure that its employees are knowledgeable and supportive of the IT security and risk management plans. It also is considering those training companies or organizations that provide programs for end-user organizations' IT security professionals to help them better address components of their IT security and risk management plans, such as secure coding, vulnerability management, incident response/computer forensics, business continuity/disaster recovery, etc.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Programs usually entail training and education by outside industry experts who may hold various seminars, hands-on classes, etc. and recommend additional activities that further support training sessions, such as exercises or simulations to test the soundness of plans, email campaigns, online tests on certain IT security topics, etc. Entrants should include companies and organizations that offer such training without the requirement or need to secure any particular professional certification.

Programs typically are unrelated to the attainment of industry-specific professional certifications. For these companies, “Best Professional Certification Program” is the most appropriate category into which they should enter.

31. Best Professional Certification Program

Programs are defined as professional industry groups offering certifications to IT security professionals wishing to receive educational experience and credentials. Entrants can include organizations in the industry granting certifications for the training and knowledge they provide.

32. Best Cybersecurity Higher Education Program

This category includes the best cybersecurity undergraduate or higher education program which currently has a cybersecurity degree program. These are for schools throughout the United States. Qualification is based on the quality of instruction, programs and how well these prepare students for the marketplace. *Please note:* There is no fee to enter this category.

33. Cybersecurity Student of the Year

Honoring undergraduate students pursuing degrees in cybersecurity and cybersecurity-related fields, this category is focused on acknowledging up-and-coming talent who will be responsible for helping to evolve and advance the information security industry. Contenders should complete a 600 word write-up of their short- and long-term cybersecurity-related



career goals, and should explain how their current (and any planned future) studies and current/previous volunteer or professional work will help them to meet these aims. Along with this write-up, those entering also should include copies of their current university/college transcripts (that shows their current GPA) and resumes, along with two professional and/or academic references.

Please note: There is no fee to enter this category.

34. Editor’s Choice Award

Based on information culled from SC Media events, through research conducted by the SC Media editorial team for various features and news articles, and conversations with and feedback from readers, analysts, vendors and the Editorial Advisory Board of SC Magazine, this award is given to a group, person, company or product at the discretion of SC Magazine’s VP of editorial.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC²⁰²⁰awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Entry rules

The SC Awards 2020 is open to all information security vendors, service providers and professionals.

Vendors and service providers that offer a product and/or service for commercial, government, educational, nonprofit or other industries can enter the Trust and Excellence categories, which relate to products, services and/or information security companies. Entrants should be executing work in North America.

Information security professionals from end-user companies — not vendors or service providers — can enter into the Professional Awards categories, which honor teams and individual CSOs/CISOs working in North America. **Again, this means vendors or service providers that sell IT security-related products or services to private and public organizations DO NOT qualify for these categories and SHOULD NOT ENTER.**

If vendors or service providers do enter they will be disqualified after editorial review of entrants in these categories and will receive no refund of related entry fees. It is acceptable and, indeed, encouraged for vendors and service providers to nominate their thought-leading customers, however. After all, the Professional categories have been created to honor the accomplishments of their end-user customers.

Other Professional categories relate to both professional certification providers and those professional advancement companies that offer training on various information security issues to end-user companies. These, too, should be based in North America.

Entry requirements

1. Each category requires that you answer a set of questions in order to qualify your nomination. Please see each category for the full list of qualifying questions. Answer these completely.
2. Be sure that your product or service is a fit for the categories in which you are nominating, as SC media reserves the right to eliminate a product or service from consideration if our editorial team and/or jurors find that the offering is inappropriate for that category.
3. If you are entering multiple categories, you should offer unique answers for each. That is, avoid copying and pasting the same answers for each category you enter as this may yield a negative response from our judging panels.
4. Every entry must be accompanied by an image. The image should be a visual representation of the entry. If you are a finalist, SC Media will use this image both digitally and in print to support

your entry. Logos alone are not acceptable images. The image should be at least 300dpi, jpeg/eps format and at least 16.5 x 23.4 inches in size.

5. All entries must be submitted and paid for online by either Visa, MasterCard or American Express.

Key info

Deadline for entries: September 25, 2019

Entries submitted after September 25, 2019 will incur a late fee. No exceptions.

Late entries: Late entries will be received until October 2, 2019 however, all entries received after September 25 will incur a penalty of \$190 per entry.

Entry fees: Trust Awards categories: \$400 per entry

Excellence Awards categories: \$400 per entry

Professional Awards categories: \$300 per entry

There is no fee to enter **Best Cybersecurity Higher Education Program** and **Cybersecurity Student of the Year**.

Finalists announcement: Finalists will be announced online at <https://www.scmagazine.com/awards/> in November 2019.

Winners announcement: Winners will be announced at the SC Awards 2020 Gala Dinner to be held on February 25, 2020 in San Francisco. Please contact Anna Naumoski at 646-638-6015 or anna.naumoski@haymarketmedia.com for further details.

Entry questions: Please contact Matthew Honovic at 646-356-1814 or Matthew.Honovic@haymarketmedia.com

Sponsorship questions: Please contact David Steifman at 646-638-6008 or David.Steifman@haymarketmedia.com

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC²⁰²⁰awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Entry Kit FAQ

What if my entry has confidential information?

You will be offered the opportunity to submit information separately that should be kept confidential (i.e. submitted only to the jury). For everything else SC Media reserves the right to publish details in the Awards Book of the Night.

What is the cost to enter into SC Awards 2018?

The fee for entering into the Trust and Excellence Awards categories is \$400 per entry. The fee for the Professional Awards categories is \$300 per entry. There is no fee to enter Best Cybersecurity Higher Education Program and Cybersecurity Student of the Year.

What is the deadline to submit?

The entry deadline is Wednesday, September 25, 2019. Late entries will be received until Wednesday, October 2, 2019. However, those entries received after September 25 will incur a late fee of \$190 per entry.

Can I submit an entry into more than one category?

Yes, you can submit an entry into more than one category but we advise you to offer unique answers for each.

Can I change my written entry after I've submitted and paid?

No. Unfortunately you will not be able to access to your entry once it has been submitted and paid for.

Can I remove an entry after it has been submitted and paid for?

No. If you have an issue please contact Matthew Honovic at 646-356-1814 or matthew.honovic@haymarketmedia.com.

When are finalists announced?

Finalists will be announced on our website, awards.scmagazine.com in December 2019*.
* Date subject to change

When are winners announced?

Winners will be announced at the SC Awards 2020 gala that will take place at InterContinental San Francisco on Tuesday, February 25, 2020. For further information about the awards event, please visit <https://www.scawardsus.com>, or contact Anna Naumoski at 646-638-6015 or Anna.Naumoski@haymarketmedia.com.

Who do I contact for entry enquiries?

Matthew Honovic at 646-356-1814 or Matthew.Honovic@haymarketmedia.com

Who do I contact for ticket enquiries?

Anna Naumoski at 646-638-6015 or Anna.Naumoski@haymarketmedia.com

Who do I contact for sponsorship enquiries?

David Steifman at 646-638-6008 or David.Steifman@haymarketmedia.com

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Judging information

Interested in judging?

To be considered as a juror for the SC Awards 2020, please [CLICK HERE](#) and complete the application form by August 16, 2019. After this date, applications will be reviewed and jurors chosen by the editorial team, led by our VP of editorial, to participate on individual panels which cover our Trust, Excellence and Professional categories. For these panels, we look to rely on cybersecurity experts working at end-user companies often relying on vendor and service providers in this space to help guide and support their own internal cyber resiliency strategies and tactics. We also seek out other knowledgeable and experienced vendor-neutral professionals to participate, such as consultants, industry analysts or those serving in information security positions overseeing cyber resiliency and risk management/planning at public entities, non-profits and, again, private end-user companies.

Please understand that judging for the SC Awards is a serious commitment, requiring all panelists to devote some time to judge submissions fairly and objectively so that IT security solutions/services providers, industry leaders and their teams can be recognized and honored for their exemplary work and contributions to the wider field. We do expect a healthy interest from our SC audience to participate, but submitting an application does not guarantee a spot as a juror.

Trust Awards

Finalist and winners in these categories are chosen by IT security professionals from the SC Media readership who have been vetted by the SC editorial team to participate as part of a judging panel for this particular group of awards. Members of this panel, which will be made up of approximately 100 professionals, primarily are from end-user organizations. They are chosen to participate as jurors for the Trust Awards categories based on their industry expertise and background. Typically, they lead information security divisions, play roles in implementing information security policies and plans for their organizations, and/or have in-depth knowledge or experience with testing, deploying or managing IT security products/services. They represent a cross-section of SC's audience – which is comprised of information and IT security personnel at large, medium and small enterprises from all major vertical markets, including financial services, health care, government, retail, education and other sectors. Having volunteered their time and, most importantly, their knowledge of and experience with the contenders in these categories, these industry professionals are tasked with carefully considering each of the competitors in

relation to the categories for which they entered. To reach their decision, not only will they review the materials provided by entrants, but also will consider whether the product or service in each category actually is the most effective in helping companies address the problems for which the product or service was designed. They also are asked to consider the functionality, manageability, ease of use and scalability of the product or service, as well as the customer service and support provided for it. Too, they have been encouraged to peruse any applicable product reviews that SC Magazine has published in the last year to help in making their final decisions, along with any other relevant industry and/or analyst reports. They also may suggest that certain entrants be moved between categories if they deem them unsuitable for one but appropriate for another.

After the jurors decisions are in, SC Media's product reviews team steps in to review the finalists in each to ensure, yet again, that they accurately jibe with the category for which they entered. In the event that a particular product or service is not an appropriate fit for a category, the product reviews team and VP of editorial will convene to make a final decision on whether it should remain in the running. (No refunds will be provided if a product is eliminated for failing to meet the criteria for not fitting in the category to which it was submitted.)

Excellence Awards & Professional Awards

With the exception of the Editor's Choice Award, for which there are no formal submissions, winners in these categories are decided by a second expert panel of jurors. These jurors are hand-picked by SC Media's editorial team for their breadth of knowledge and experience in the information security industry. They come from end-user companies, analyst and consulting communities, academia and other vendor-neutral organizations. Jurors are advised to review the materials provided by entrants, as well as check out any applicable research or analyst reports and/or product reviews appearing in SC Media. There will be one winner chosen per category.

Editor's Choice Award

Based on information culled from from SC Media's events, through research conducted by the SC Media editorial team for various features and news articles, and conversations with and feedback from readers, analysts, vendors and the Editorial Advisory Board, this award is given to a group, person, company or product at the discretion of SC Media's VP of editorial.

The award winner will be announced at the SC Awards Gala on February 25, 2020. This award enables the editorial team to pay homage to those individuals or entities that are making a positive impact on the industry as a whole. Please note: This category can not be entered directly.

[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

Honored in the U.S.

scmagazine.com/awards • Deadline for entries: Sep. 25, 2019

Entry Form - Trust Awards

Company Being Nominated:

Product/Service Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How does this product/service answer the specific market need or application for which it was designed and is being nominated?
- What are the business and technical advantages to enterprises or SMEs investing in this product/service?
- How does this product/service significantly differ from its competitors?
- What is this product's/service's total cost of ownership? Is it possible that some of your customers find that scalability issues, management of updates/configurations and more, increase costs associated with deployment of your solution service?
- If applicable, what is the frequency of updates to the product service?
- How has this product/service helped customers to meet/surpass corporate budgetary expectations?
- How does this product/service show a sound business benefit and/or return on investment? That is, how is it enabling customers and their businesses?
- What is the market share for the sales of this product?

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- Maximum 2 minutes in length

PDF (optional)

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Entry Form - Excellence Awards

Best Security Company and Rookie Security Company of the Year Company Being Nominated:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How strong is the company's customer base and continued customer growth?
- Does the company have a strong product/service portfolio? Explain.
- Does the company offer strong customer service and support for the products/services it supplies? How?
- Is the company engaged in compelling research and development efforts that will lead to continued innovation? How?
- How well is the company meeting its overall mission and vision? In what ways?
- How is the company using its products and services to help enable/strengthen its customers' business?
- Are customers seeing a benefit in using your products/services to differentiate from the competition? That is, are customers finding market value in touting the use of your company's product/service?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details, should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

Best SME Security Solution, Best Enterprise Security Solution, Best Regulatory Compliance Solution

Company Being Nominated: Product/Service Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How strong is the customer base and continued customer growth for this product/service?
- Does the company offer strong customer service and support for this product/service? How?
- What is this product's/service's total cost of ownership? Is it possible that some of your customers find that scalability issues, management of updates/configurations, and more, increase costs associated with deployment of your solution/service?
- If applicable, what is the frequency of updates to the product/service?
- Are efforts underway to continue developing and strengthening this product/service? What do these efforts entail?
- Overall, how well is this product/service meeting the needs of its customers?
- What is the market share for the sales of this product/service?
- How is the company using its products and services to help enable/strengthen its customers' business?
- Are customers seeing a benefit in using your product/services to differentiate themselves from the competition? That is, are customers finding market value in touting the use of the company's product/service?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details, should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

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Entry Form - Excellence Awards

Best Customer Service

Company Being Nominated:

Product/Service Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- Do you offer installation documentation, online manuals, user-oriented manuals and/or any supplemental documentation needed for your customers to implement and manage the product/service successfully? (Which ones do you offer?)
- Are the various forms of documentation associated with the product/service understandable and effective?
- What customer service and support is standard with product/service purchase?
- Do you offer customers telephone support? Do customers pay additional fees for this? How much more?
- Do you offer customers web-based downloads? Do customers pay additional fees for this? How much more?
- Do you offer customers online forums or FAQs sections? Do customers pay additional fees for this? How much more?
- Can customers get additional on-site help whenever needed? Do they pay additional fees for this? How much more?
- Do customers get on-site help in deploying the solution/service? How long is this available to them? Do they pay additional fees for this? How much more?
- Is there anything unique or special you'd like to call out about your customer service and support offerings? Would you say these help to differentiate you from competitors?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

Best Emerging Technology

Company Being Nominated:

Product/Service Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- What segment of the market does this new product/service address? What threats does this product/service deal with and why do you consider this to be critical in today's environment?
- How do the features and capabilities of this product/service tackle organizations' newest information security needs?
- How strong is the customer base and continued customer growth for this product/service?
- Does the company offer strong customer service and support for this product/service? How?
- What is the total cost of ownership of this product/service? Is it possible that some of your customers find that scalability issues, management of updates/configurations, and more, increase costs associated with deployment of your solution/service?
- If applicable, what is the frequency of updates to the product/service?
- Are efforts underway to continue developing and strengthening this product/service? What do these efforts entail?
- Overall, how well is this product/service meeting the needs of its customers?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

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[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SC 2020 awards

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Entry Form - Excellence Awards

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Support Material

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Entry Form - Professional Awards

CSO of the Year

Please note: Only information security professionals from end-user companies can enter the professional awards categories. No vendors or service providers.

Name of CSO:

Professional Title (eg. CSO, CISO):

CSO Company Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How has the CISO/CSO developed and managed a strong IT security team?
- By what means has the CISO/CSO gained the support of corporate leaders and colleagues?
- How has the CISO/CSO helped to propel his/her position to a footing of influence within the organization and the corporate world as a whole?
- How has the CISO/CSO helped to strengthen the influence of the department in meeting business initiatives and goals?
- How has the CISO/CSO strengthened end-user and customer awareness of IT security threats and safeguards?
- In what ways does the CISO/CSO continue to better the expertise of internal IT security?
- What steps is the CISO/CSO taking to better position risk management/information security planning as business enabling? That is, how is she/he educating the rest of the company to understand that security is just as integral to the business' success and profitability as any other traditional division's function?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details, should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

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Entry Form - Professional Awards

Best Security Team

Please note: Only information security teams from end-user companies can enter the professional awards categories. No vendors or service providers.

Company Being Nominated:

Team Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How has the security team developed and managed itself within the corporate environment?
- By what means has the security team gained the support of corporate leaders and colleagues?
- How has the security team helped to propel the CISO/CSO position to a footing of influence within the organization and the corporate world as a whole?
- How has the security team strengthened the influence of its department in meeting business initiatives and goals?
- How has the security team strengthened end-user and customer awareness of IT security threats and safeguards?
- In what ways does the security team continue to better the expertise of internal IT security?
- What steps is the security team taking to better position risk management/information security planning as business enabling? That is, how are they educating the rest of the company to understand that security is just as integral to the success and profitability of the business as any other traditional division's function?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

Best IT Security-related Training Program

Please note: Only information security teams from end-user companies can enter the professional awards categories. No vendors or service providers.

Company Being Nominated:

Program Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How is the professional training organization helping to educate and strengthen the knowledge of the IT security professional and/or corporate end-user?
- How does the training program differentiate itself from other offerings?
- How well is the professional training program meeting the needs of the IT security professional or the corporation and its end-users in honing security skills or enhancing security-related knowledge and awareness? Explain.
- How are offerings enhancing end-user awareness and training or enabling end-user companies' IT security professionals to strengthen various facets of their overall risk management plans and practices, as well as subsets of it that may address areas such as business continuity, incident response, secure coding or other IT- and data security-related areas?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details, should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

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Entry Form - Professional Awards

Best Professional Certification Program

Please note: Only information security companies from end-user companies can enter the professional awards categories. No vendors or service providers.

Company Being Nominated:

Program Name:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How is the certification organization helping to educate and strengthen the knowledge of the IT security professional?
- How does the certification program differentiate itself from other offerings?
- How well is the certification program meeting the needs of the IT security professional? Explain.
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category

Best Cybersecurity Higher Education Program

Please note: Only information security companies from end-user companies can enter the professional awards categories. No vendors or service providers.

Company Being Nominated:

Qualification questions (150-word maximum on each answer)

- How is your program helping to educate and strengthen the knowledge of students so that future IT security professionals will be able to create robust risk management plans for their employers and stay on top of all the threats?
- What innovative offerings or educational opportunities does your program include that should help entice students into a profession where additional help is sorely needed to fill the growing demand for IT security executives?
- In what other ways does the program differentiate itself from other university offerings?
- Is the program currently an NSA and Department of Homeland Security National Center of Academic Excellence in IA Education (CAE/IAE) or CAE in Research?
- **Additional Support** – Please attach three testimonials from clients, along with contact details, should the judges choose to follow-up. Testimonials should explain why the nominee is best qualified to win this category.

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Testimonials (mandatory)

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[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)

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Entry Form - Professional Awards

Cybersecurity Student of the Year

Student Name:

College/University Name:

Qualification questions (600-word maximum)

- Please explain the student's short- and long-term cybersecurity-related career goals, and how their current (and any planned future) studies and current/previous volunteer or professional work will help them to meet these aims.

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Testimonials (mandatory)

Please attach two professional and/or academic references. The testimonials should be uploaded as one PDF document.

University/college Transcripts/Resumes (mandatory)

Please include copies of the student's current university/college transcripts (that shows their current GPA) and resumes. The transcripts and resumes should be combined and uploaded as one PDF document.

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[Jump to section »](#)

[Trust Awards](#)

[Excellence Awards](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Entry Rules](#)

[Entry Kit FAQ](#)

[Judging Info](#)

[Entry Form](#)