Cyber Risk Management In Practice

By Carlos Morales

Behaviors for Leading Cyber Risk Management:

I. Let your actions speak.
Don't seek recognition. Earn it. Leadership is not about being the loudest or most visible. It's about delivering consistent results with integrity. When your work reflects your values, others will notice without you needing to say a word.

II. Stick to your values, not your job titles or status.
No business outcome is worth compromising your values. Stay grounded in what you believe, even when it's inconvenient or costly. Be proud of what you build, not what you wear. Your value comes from your actions and mindset, not from job descriptions, networks, or perks.

III. Lead by example.
Hold yourself to the standards you expect from others. The way you act under pressure, the way you support a teammate, or take responsibility for a mistake, those are the moments people remember.

IV. Manage your ego.
Avoid the need to be right or praised. When arrogance enters the room, good ideas leave. Stay grounded and let your work, not your words, build your reputation.

V. Stay curious and open to new ideas.
Ask questions even when you think you know the answer. Dig into how things work. Curiosity leads to understanding, and understanding leads to better decisions. Those who keep learning stay ahead.

VI. Adapt to change.
You won't always get a warning before things shift. Be flexible. New tools, new people, even new failures are part of the path. Be conscious of where you and others are in the curve of change.

VII. Treat setbacks as part of the process.
Failure is not the opposite of success. It is part of it. Every misstep holds a lesson. Learn it, apply it, and move forward.

VIII. Don't confuse activity for progress.
Busy calendars and overflowing inboxes don't always mean you're moving forward. Focus on what matters most, not just what feels urgent. Learn to differentiate between noise and real impact.

IX. Prioritize what matters.
Protect your time. Be intentional about where your energy goes. Every hour you spend should align with a clear purpose, not just short-term demands.

X. Respect time, yours and others'.
Show up prepared and on time. Don't waste others' energy with indecision or delay. Time is the most limited resource in any role, and how you manage it says everything about your priorities.

XI. Honor your commitments.
Say what you'll do, then do it. If priorities change, communicate early and clearly. Follow-through earns trust, and trust is one of your most valuable assets.

XII. Acknowledge the efforts of others.
Give credit openly and sincerely. Recognize what others bring to the table. Taking someone else's credit weakens your own leadership and destroys trust.

XIII. Be empathetic.
Everyone is on their own journey. Some are adapting to change. Others are dealing with struggles you can't see. Listening and understanding before judging can turn tension into trust and create stronger teams.

XIV. Communicate with purpose, clarity, and kindness.
Say what you mean and make it easy to understand. When giving direction, be specific. When used with intention, your words leave a lasting impact. When offering feedback, be honest and constructive. Avoid sarcasm, filler, or jargon, these don't make you sharper, they make you harder to follow. Choose kindness, even in critique.

XV. Take pride in your work.
If your work starts to feel like a burden, don't push through blindly. Reflect. Reset. The best work comes from people who care about what they're doing.

XVI. Celebrate wins.
Find time to acknowledge progress, no matter how small. Whether it's a successful rollout or a teammate's breakthrough, shared victories build resilience and connection.

XVII. Protect your personal energy.
Burnout doesn't serve you or anyone else. Make space for joy, for rest, and for the people who matter. Emotional balance isn't soft. It's strategic.

XVIII. Choose long-term impact over short-term gain.
Quick wins are fine, but never at the cost of ethics, people, or your own credibility. Build for the future, not just for today. Cyber Risk Management is a journey.

Cyber risk management in practice is more than tools and frameworks, it also depends on how we act. These behaviors are part of what it takes to lead cyber risk with clarity, purpose, and integrity. Share them, and explore the book to see how it all comes together in practice.