



Alan Paller

Director of Research
SANS Institute

Biography:

Alan Paller is founder and research director of the SANS Institute, a graduate degree granting college and security training and research institution with more than 124,000 alumni. At SANS, he oversees the Internet Storm Center (an early warning system for the Internet), NewsBites, (the semi-weekly security news summaries that go to 210,000 people), @RISK (the authoritative summary of all critical new vulnerabilities discovered each week), and the identification of the most damaging new attacks being discovered each year. He has testified before both the House and Senate multiple times. In 2000 President Clinton recognized his leadership by naming him as one of the initial members of the President's National Infrastructure Assurance Council. The Office of Management and Budget and the Federal CIO Council named Alan as its 2005 Azimuth Award winner, a singular lifetime achievement award recognizing outstanding service of a non-government person to improving federal

information technology. In May of 2010, the Washington Post named seven people as "worth knowing, or knowing about" in cyber security. The list included General Alexander who heads the US Cyber Command, Howard Schmidt, the White House Cyber Coordinator, other national leaders, and Alan. Earlier in his career Alan helped build a software company, took it public, and merged it into a larger company listed on the New York Stock Exchange. His degrees are from Cornell and MIT.

Abstract:

"Security Heroes" and the Three Most Promising Initiatives In US Cyber Security

This fast-paced briefing illuminates government and not-for-profit initiatives that are having enormous impact on the effectiveness of cyber security efforts. Among the problems being addressed by these initiatives are (1) how to find and deal with the Advanced Persistent Threat (APT), (2) how to find the talented people who can become world-class cyber security guardians and warriors, and (3) how to lower the cost of security so that the best technologies are affordable for smaller organizations.