

SecTor 2010

By: David Slonosky

As part of my ongoing self-improvement journey, I decided to attend SecTor 2010, a conference aligned around security in information technology (IT).

Why security? Why not? I'm part Polish, so there is that genetic gift of paranoia given to me right off. (Is paranoia too strong a word? You get some or all of your genes from a place that provided a convenient flat surface to and from Russia for any interested invading army, and you'd be a bit paranoid too.)

Anyhow, it's been a very interesting experience so far. I've avoided the super technical talks because you can say "we blackboxed the WPA with a proxy cadence routine on ports 80 and 443 and that is how we hacked the Gibson", and I will smile and nod at you but not much more.

But from the business side, it's been very enlightening. Like tech comms, security is most often seen as a cost centre. Sometimes like tech comms, a security response is only put in place after a customer complains. And often like tech comms, there are a lot of highly intelligent (and a bit quirky) people are involved.

As to what you could do in this part of the IT sector in tech comms, it really seems to be up to you. I think if you were really committed to exploring the area of tech comms you enjoy the most (for me, it's the highly technical docs), I'm sure you could find or create an opportunity for yourself.

Is it a growth sector? That I'm not sure about. There is an ever growing need for it. What I'm not clear on is whether budgets are going to grow to match that need. Still, there's a lot left to explore in it, and I plan to continue doing so.

-- Sent from my Palm Pre

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