Jump-start Your SOC Analyst Career

A Roadmap to Cybersecurity Success

Tyler Wall
Jarrett Rodrick

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This book is dedicated to our wives, Heidi and Stacey.

Table of Contents

About the Authors.....ix

About the Contributors.....xi

About the Technical Reviewer.....xiii

Acknowledgments.....xv

Introduction.....xvii

Puzzle Challenge.....xix

Chapter 1: The Demand for Cybersecurity and SOC Analysts.....1

Cybersecurity During a Crisis.....1

Demand for Cybersecurity Analysts.....3

Demand for SOC Analysts.....5

What This Book Is About.....7

Summary.....10

Chapter 2: Areas of Expertise in Cybersecurity.....11

Information Security.....11

Internal Teams.....15

External Teams.....20

Summary.....25

Chapter 3: Job Hunting.....27

Networking.....27

Applying for Jobs.....30

Common Interview Questions 32
Summary 36
Chapter 4: Prerequisite Skills 37
Networking 37
Network Security 43
Cryptography 44
Endpoint Security 45
Windows 45
MacOS 48
Unix/Linux 49
Other Endpoints 51
Summary 52
Chapter 5: The SOC Analyst 55
Tools 56
SIEM 57
Firewalls 58
IDS/IPS 58
Sandboxing 60
Definitions 62
Security Logs: Most Common 62
Security Event: Common 63
Incident: Uncommon 63
Security Breaches: Rare 63
Summary 64
Chapter 6: SOC in the Clouds 65
What Is Cloud Computing? 65
Types of Cloud Computing Deployment Models 67

Cloud Service Models 68

Evolution: Virtualization to Early Days of Cloud 70

Era of Virtualization 71

Early Cloud Development 71

Open Source Hypervisors and Cloud Development 72

Cloud Security 73

Conclusion 76

Chapter 7: SOC Automation 77

What Is SOC Automation? 77

Why Automate? 78

SOC Maturity 81

How to Start Automating 83

Sample Use Cases 85

Summary 87

Chapter 8: Real SOC Analyst Stories 89

Kaylil Davis, SOC Analyst 89

Toryana Jones, SOC Analyst 93

Brandon Glandt, SOC Analyst 95

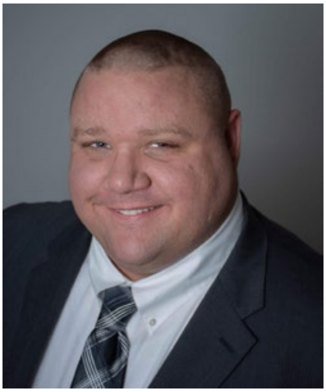
Matthew Arias, SOC Analyst 101

Rebecca Blair, SOC Director 105

Summary 108

Index 111

About the Authors



Tyler Wall is an accomplished security professional with years of experience in security operations and engineering that includes presently serving remotely as a Senior Security Engineer in Silicon Valley. He has led Security Operations Centers for global enterprises. His current focus is enabling Security Operations Centers to continuously mature by the adoption of security automation. Tyler's education includes a Master of Science in Cybersecurity Management, CISSP, CEH, CFSR, LRPA, Security+, Network+, and A+. He enjoys long golf cart rides in Braselton, GA, with his wife and son.

Jarrett Rodrick is the SOC Team Lead and Senior Information Security Analyst for VMware, the global leader in visualization technology. He's a retired Cyber Network Defender and Cyber Warfare Specialist from the US Army and has over 8 years of Defensive Cyber Operations experience working with the Army's Cyber Protection Brigade. Jarrett's time with the Cyber Protection Brigade has provided him with the skills needed to fight in today's cyberwar. Jarrett's cybersecurity certifications include GSEC, GCED, GCIH, GCIA, GCFE, GCFA, GSNA, GRID, GCUX, and GSTRT. Jarrett lives in Melissa, TX, with his wife and family and enjoys researching new and innovative technologies.

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Mark Furman received his MBA from Ohio University and a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from Purdue University. He has worked in the IT and cybersecurity field for over 19 years. Some of his accomplishments include writing and publishing a book on virtualization, participating as a technical editor for books, starting a successful cybersecurity program at a technical college, and launching a business incubator and makerspace. Currently, Mark is in the process of launching a new cybersecurity company called Kaldara Security.

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—Jarrett Rodrick

Introduction

Welcome to the wonderful world of *Jump-start Your SOC Analyst Career*! You picked this book up because you want to get into the action! Into the money! Into the challenges that lie ahead! We will tell you how wonderful and rewarding this career is, but first let us say something about infosec. If you get into the cybersecurity industry and you aren't connected to the community, you are missing out. There are all kinds of micro infosec communities and communities for special groups of people, but in contrast there are communities that want to include everyone. There are extremely esoteric communities filled with mystery and secrets, there are communities for just CISOs and communities for just engineers, there is a military community, communities for Bill and Bob, communities for the government sector, a community of breakers and makers alike… if there is only one common trait that people coming into security want, it is a sense of community - and infosec has it! It is really hard to relate to people in the normal world sometimes, especially if you are starting out and keyboarding alone. We promise you there are many other people that want to keyboard alone next to you. It happens all the time at conferences! There are so many amazing people in the community, and sometimes they don't always get along, but in 3–6 months, it will be like it never happened. Our goal for this book is to get you in the chair in the SOC you dream about and open your eyes that no matter who you are, cybersecurity is for you.

This book will cover what you need to know that we have deemed to be important to know as a SOC analyst. There are a lot of open jobs in cybersecurity, but there are also a lot of candidates that want those jobs. The challenge is that there are not a lot of the right kind of candidates to fill them. We explain to you what the right kind of candidate is and give you