ISTARI

Cybersecurity in M&A

Security from the start

Summary

When looking to make an acquisition, assessing the target's cyber hygiene is as important as determining its financial health and market potential. To truly harness the power of M&A in support of business expansion, it is imperative to embed cybersecurity considerations right from the initial due diligence phase and carry them seamlessly through to integration. Yet cybersecurity leaders are often brought in too late, or the risk posture of the target company is wholly overlooked.

By integrating cybersecurity from the outset of an M&A endeavour, organisations can identify potential risks and vulnerabilities within the target company's digital infrastructure. This early insight allows for a comprehensive assessment of the cyber threat landscape, ensuring that any potential weaknesses are addressed before they can compromise the deal or put both parties at risk.

Ensure an acquisition doesn't become the weakest link by involving cyber in each phase:

How we help

ISTARI helps secure the M&A process from a cyber perspective with our technology-led modular and scalable solution. We leverage best-in-class technology and can bring our expert advisory experience across all three phases of the M&A lifecycle:

Pre-Signing

Target Identification

External Risk Assessment

- Rapid Risk Monitoring
- Digital Footprinting and External Vulnerability Analysis
- Understanding of target's risk exposure

Due Diligence

Cyber Due-Diligence

- Digital Hygiene Assessment
- Sensitive Information Discovery
- Security Improvement Roadmap
- OT Security Assessment using Edge*

Cyber Controls & Risk Assessment

- Assess current state of cybersecurity based on framework and controls
- Cybersecurity risk planning & reporting

*Optional for industrial networks and sites

Pre-Closing

Strategy & Operating Model

Cyber Strategy & Operating Model

- Cyber capability, organisation model
- Cyber Risk Management framework
- Integration strategy and approach across processes, organisation and tools

In-depth Risk Assessment & Validation

Cyber Posture Assessment

- Comprehensive cyber maturity review
- Rapid assessment of most critical business applications resilience

Business Risk Impact

Cybersecurity Risk Impact

- Value of Risk (CRQ) based on cyber and business risk scenarios
- Risk Quantification Module for cyber risk prioritisation and financial impact quantification

Post-Closing

Integration (Process, Org & Tools)

Cyber Integration

- Cyber Integration Playbook
- Cyber Cost Optimisation & Tools Rationalization
- Transform Processes and Capabilities

Governance & Performance Reporting

Cyber Governance & Reporting

- Cyber governance structure – roles and responsibilities
- Cyber performance metrics & dashboards

Business Resilience & Risk Management

Ongoing Cyber Defense

- Adversarial tactics simulation
- Incident management
- Risk remediation & resilience initiatives

About ISTARI

We help our clients take a risk-led approach to address the cyber risks within the deal timetable. We reduce uncertainties through a well-defined integration plan and focus on delivering a capability uplift while enabling transformation.

M&A is in our DNA

As established investors ourselves, our seasoned practitioners bring a wealth of experience to the table, having successfully navigated the intricacies of M&A transactions across various industries. Our technology-led, flexible approach to assessing and remediating cyber risks will accelerate your due diligence and processes.

Learn more — www.istari-global.com