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CASE STUDY
How Cyberbit Propelled Equinix to the **Top 5** in Global Cyber Competitions

Equinix used Cyberbit's **hands-on**, experiential training cyber range and labs to upskill its non-tiered cyber defense team.

About Equinix

Establishment
Founded in 1998.
HQ: Silicon Valley, California.

Multinational
Operates in 33 countries on five continents. With over 12,000 employees worldwide.

Industry
Internet connection & data centers.

The Journey to Success

Challenge
Train and verify the skills of its SOC team and get them all cyber ready.

Solution
Cyberbit's cyber skill development and readiness platform.

Results
Significantly improved its incident response. Consistently ranks in the top 5 teams in international Capture the Flag Competitions.

Joy Luville Mahinay
SOC Manager
Equinix

Stephen Seljan
Senior Manager, Security Operations

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As an organization that hosts critical infrastructure, Equinix invests heavily in technology, processes, and personnel to prevent, detect, and respond to cyberattacks. To meet its cybersecurity responsibility to its shareholders and the community it serves, Equinix chose Cyberbit's cloud-based on-demand cyber skill development and readiness platform to ensure that its cyber defense team was prepared for any cyber-attack.

Cyberbit provides a comprehensive skill development experience starting with foundational skills in hands-on cyber labs for individuals and concluding with live-fire cyber-attack exercises for teams, on a cyber range. The cyber range includes real-world security tools, real-world networks, and real-world cyber-attack scenarios, providing a hyper-realistic experience that replicates real-world attacks.

Today, because it trains on the Cyberbit platform, the Equinix cyber defense team has improved its incident response, "enhancing its overall cyber-readiness posture". It also consistently places in the **top 5 teams** at international Capture-the-Flag competitions, has a **100% SANS certification rate**, and holds positions on the SANS Advisory Board.

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> The **Cyberbit platform has been a game-changer** for our organization, empowering our team with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate today's complex cyber landscape with confidence and proficiency.
>
> **Stephen Seljan**
> Senior Manager, Security Operations

The Challenge:
Overcoming Theoretical Training Limitations For its Cybersecurity Team

Equinix was one of the first organizations to break the standard tiered cybersecurity team structure by adopting a non-hierarchical approach in which all members can share responsibilities and collaborate seamlessly.

However, this approach came with challenges for the Security Operations Center (SOC) managers, Stephen Seljan and Joy Luville Mahinay. As they recognized the limitations of training for certification and theory only, they sought a dynamic skill development method that catered to various experience levels and **transcended theoretical training with hands-on skill development.** They also wanted their team members to train using Equinix's own security stack against threats they had never seen but might encounter in the future. They needed their team members to gain hands-on experience across the entire threat resolution process, from detection to investigation to response.

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The managers were looking for a solution that could **test and verify their team's readiness levels in real-world cyber-attack scenarios.** They wanted to run an internal capture-the-flag (CTF) competition that would put the team's incident response skills to the test under pressure and identify skill gaps.

The challenge was critical for the organization. Equinix hosts critical infrastructure globally and the need to prevent, detect, and respond to cyberattacks is essential to meet its cybersecurity responsibility to shareholders and the community it serves.

The Solution:
A Cyber Skill Development and Readiness Platform that Gets SOC Teams Ready for Any Attack.

To overcome these challenges, they looked for a full-scope cybersecurity skill development solution that would provide foundational knowledge in theory, security tools, and attacker tactics as well as deliver hands-on experience defending against real-world cyber-attacks. After careful consideration of many potential solutions, they chose Cyberbit as the best solution for meeting their skill development and readiness objectives.

The Cyberbit Solution

The Cyberbit platform accommodates the skill development needs of a non-tiered structure, covering the full skill development life cycle from entry level training that imparts theoretical knowledge to advanced level training in live-fire cyber-attack scenarios. Because Cyberbit offers on demand skill development from any location, Equinix can require its team members to take part in regular upskilling. Currently, team members must complete monthly labs and quarterly live-fire exercises.

Cyberbit delivers highly customizable live-fire exercises that mirror an organization's SOC environment including networks and security tech stacks. As a result, the Equinix SOC team trains against real-world attacks using its own security stack and network environment.

Cyberbit powers live-fire cyber-attack competitions that test technical incident response skills and soft skills such as communication, performance under pressure, critical analysis and more, validating skills and identifying areas of improvement. Competitions are customizable and can be designed exclusively per an organization's requirements.

> Using the Cyberbit platform has been an incredible experience for me as a member of our organization's cybersecurity team. The platform's interactive training modules and realistic simulations have provided me with hands-on experience in dealing with various cyber threats and attacks.
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> The training simulations are not only challenging but also highly engaging, making **learning enjoyable and rewarding.** I have found myself applying the knowledge and techniques learned from the platform directly to my day-to-day responsibilities, which has significantly enhanced my effectiveness as a cybersecurity professional.
>
> Cyberbit has been an invaluable resource for me in advancing my career in cybersecurity and contributing to the overall cyber readiness of our organization.
>
> **Member of the Equinix Cyber Defense Team**

Breaking Records and Boosting Cyber Readiness

Since adopting Cyberbit's cyber skill development and readiness platform in 2021, the SOC team has become a highly skilled and cohesive cyber defense unit primed to tackle current and future cyber incidents head on.

Top cyber readiness. Equinix's cyber defense team has enhanced its ability to effectively defend against cyber threats and consistently "maintains a **high level of cyber readiness**".

Record time completion rate. Having passed the pre-qualifying CTF event, the Equinix SOC team went on to compete against 9 other teams in a live-fire supply chain cyber-attack exercise in November 2023, ultimately **clinching victory in record time**.
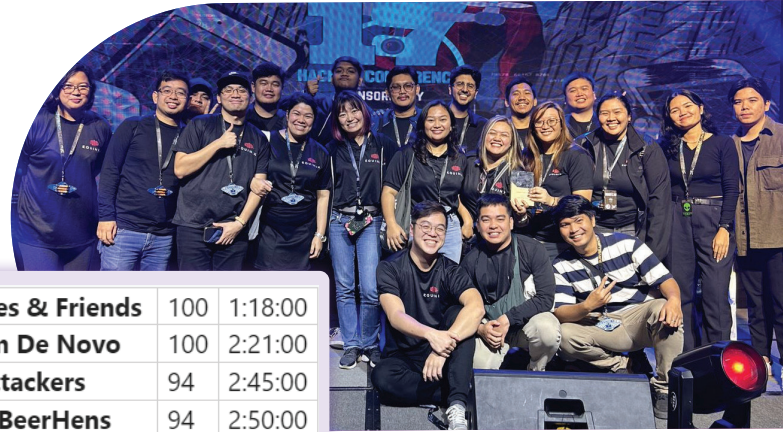
Torres & Friends	100	1:18:00
Team De Novo	100	2:21:00
ETAttackers	94	2:45:00
The BeerHens	94	2:50:00
RedTeamRaptors	82	2:45:00
Hackstreet Boys	72	2:59:00
xTM	48	3:00:00
CountToTen	48	3:00:00
Strawberries	43	3:00:00
T@ps1L0g	13	3:00:00

SANS success. Equinix SOC team members have a **100% SANS certification rate** and six of its team members have been placed on the SANS advisory board.

RootCon Winners. The Equinix SOC team consistently places in the top 5 at the RootCon CTF, **ranking first place two years running**.

Proactive Training. The team is highly engaged in its training on the Cyberbit platform, with at least one analyst each month earning one of Cyberbit's 'Most Training Hours' awards.

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We've seen tremendous benefits from implementing Cyberbit. As a leading provider of critical infrastructure services, maintaining a high level of cyber readiness is paramount to our operations. The Cyberbit platform has provided our team with comprehensive and hands-on training modules covering a wide range of cybersecurity topics, from threat detection to incident response.

The platform's immersive training simulations have allowed our team members to develop and sharpen their skills in realistic cyber attack scenarios, providing invaluable experience in a safe and controlled environment. The interactive nature of the training modules has kept our team engaged and motivated to continually improve their cybersecurity knowledge and capabilities.

Furthermore, the Cyberbit platform offers personalized learning paths tailored to each team member's role and skill level, ensuring that training efforts are targeted and effective. This has been instrumental in enhancing our overall cyber readiness posture and equipping our team with the necessary skills to effectively defend against cyber threats.

Stephen Seljan
Senior Manager, Security Operations

About Cyberbit

Cyberbit provides the global leading attack readiness platform for enabling SOC teams to maximize their performance when responding to cyberattacks. The Platform empowers security leaders to make the most of their cybersecurity investment by boosting the impact of the human element in their organization. Cyberbit delivers hyper-realistic attack simulation mirroring real-world scenarios. It enables security leaders to dramatically reduce MTTR, dwell time and cybercrime costs, improve hiring and onboarding, and increase employee retention. Customers include Fortune 500 companies, MSSPs, systems integrators, governments, and leading healthcare providers. Cyberbit is headquartered in Israel with offices across the US, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

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