Cyber Due Diligence

Digital security is a critical part of due diligence for any funding round or acquisition. In a survey of dealmakers, 83% said that identifying an unknown past or ongoing security breach during a transaction would cause them to abandon the deal—and 82% said that security concerns were changing the nature of due diligence.\(^1\) When companies don’t align their investment in security with the value of their information, they face clawbacks, lower valuations, or worse. Considering security only after a breach jeopardizes both consumer information and a company’s trade secrets.

Acquiring companies can no longer afford to take their acquisitions’ security for granted; insecure acquisitions can jeopardize the acquirer’s long-term prospects and expose them to extreme liability. It’s time for companies to ensure their own security before outside groups start asking questions.

Leviathan Security provides actionable security reviews including design, source code, and product evaluations for businesses large and small. We have experience across many fields; our consultants have helped networking and semiconductor manufacturers, social networks, healthcare software companies, and cloud computing platforms defend their work and their customers’ livelihoods. We secure existing products and design new ones to defend against modern threats, whether for Fortune 100 market leaders or for startups with exciting ideas.

Our broad experience and individualized approach to security brings demonstrated results more quickly, and with greater value for our clients. We can help companies wishing to market themselves ensure their security is ready for wider exposure, and we can help acquiring companies make sure that the technology they want is everything they expect.

If you’re facing due diligence, Leviathan is the partner your business needs.

Representative Experience

- **Post-Investment Security Evaluation**
  We performed a detailed review of the purchased asset, intellectual property, and shipping applications, for a $120M deal for the world’s largest software manufacturer.

- **Hardware Acquisition Contract Evaluation**
  We performed a thorough pre-purchase assessment of a significant hardware purchase for a game console manufacturer, saving the customer from a potential $250M RMA loss.

- **Pre-market evaluation of trusted platforms and chip designs**
  We are the primary firm used by the world’s largest manufacturer of semiconductors, evaluating the vast majority of their boards, security products, medical devices, and authentication technologies months, and sometimes years, before they are brought to market.

- **Malware Reverse Engineering**
  We are often called into to reverse engineer serious, targeted attack tools not readily discovered by typical antivirus software, such as those created by organized crime groups and nation-state attackers.
• **Pre-Investment Security Evaluations** We are trusted by some of the world’s largest industry- and government-backed venture capital funds to perform detailed pre-investment security assessments of their security, mobile, and cloud-based portfolio candidates.

• **Cloud Security Reviews and Assessments** Leviathan engineers have been instrumental in evaluating, and in some cases creating, security policies, tools, and procedures for two of the world’s largest cloud computing service providers. In one case, our work with a client began with the inception of their cloud offering in 2007. In addition, a number of our consultants are voting members of the bodies that set standards for all cloud computing providers.

• **Critical Infrastructure Security Reviews** We have performed security evaluations of infrastructure critical to emergency response and public safety on behalf of local, state, and federal governments.

• **Pre-Market Security Evaluations** We have performed hundreds of assessments for clients in nearly all vertical markets on products before they are released.

• **Secure Software Development Lifecycle** Leviathan was instrumental in creating the SDLC process for Microsoft, contributing tools, processes, example code, and competitive analysis reports. We have been a certified Microsoft SDLC partner since the program’s inception.

• **Online Gaming** Leviathan has performed security evaluations, incident response services, and counter-blackmail operations for legal online gaming providers (outside the United States).
Law Firm Security Support

Law firms are targeted for attack as never before. Attackers are stealing client secrets straight from firms’ files, and whether they want intellectual property, confidential merger information, or other secret data, law firms are often the easiest places to obtain corporations’ information. Malicious actors are even eavesdropping on attorney-client conversations to obtain advantages in litigation.

Your clients rely on you to protect their confidences; some are now asking for proof that you’re defending their information. Threats to digital security are increasing, and firms need a partner capable of understanding modern threats to their work and their clients.

Leviathan has worked with firms ranging from local and regional practices to multinational vereins; we address security incidents and proactively work to protect client confidences, defend privileged information, and ensure that conflicts don’t compromise client positions. We have also worked in partnership with law firms to respond to their clients’ needs around the world.

At Leviathan, our team of consultants works with you to identify areas of concern and address them in a cost-effective way. We provide actionable security reviews encompassing every part of your operation from training to case management to operations, not just automated scans and generic recommendations. The legal profession has many unique challenges, and our methodology ensures that our work supports your practice, rather than hindering it.

Leviathan also offers Continuing Legal Education focused on the ethical requirements of confidentiality and diligence in protecting client secrets (MRPC 11 and 1.6), including practical advice on how to communicate with clients and other counsel in an environment of pervasive surveillance.

“For continuous vigilance is the only way we will be able to protect the idea that the legal profession is one that knows how to keep a secret.”

Let Leviathan stand with you to defend your firm and your clients.

Representative Experience

- **Law Firm Security Response** Leviathan has been asked to respond to security incidents at some of the world’s largest law firms; in one recent case, we detected a security compromise before the firm itself, then worked with them to remediate the root cause.

- **HIPAA/HITECH Compliance** Leviathan is responsible for ongoing HIPAA/HITECH security audits for a large number of corporations; we pride ourselves on increasing value on each successive evaluation, rather than simply checking boxes.

- **Transnational Incident Response** Leviathan has worked with transnational firms to address security breaches affecting multiple countries at once, including multi-level, multi-partner identification and response.
• **Expert Testimony** Leviathan consultants have testified as experts in multiple countries on networking, forensics, and due care.

• **Security Training** Leviathan provides security training for both technical and non-technical audiences, including counter-espionage training, threat analysis, operating in hostile countries, and secure process development.

• **Complex Regulatory Penetration Testing** Leviathan has performed security evaluations for entities with deep regulatory compliance obligations.

• **International Policy Consultation** We have used our unique combination of technical experience and regulatory insight to provide forward-looking governmental policy statements for some of the world’s largest corporations.

• **Continuing Legal Education** We have provided security- and ethics-focused Continuing Legal Education (CLE) training, which has been accepted for Ethics credit by state bars.
James Arlen, CISA
Director of Risk and Advisory Services

James is Leviathan’s Director of Risk and Advisory Services. He is responsible for the development and delivery of Leviathan’s professional services, assisting executive clients to develop and implement their information security policies and strategic plans.

Over the past twenty years, James has delivered information security solutions to Fortune 500, TSE 100, and major public-sector organizations. In both a consultant and staff member role, James has led business and technical teams of professionals in both tactical short-term projects and multi-year organizational change initiatives. James has held key contributor roles, including both being the CISO of a publicly traded financial institution and being the Information Security Coordinator at a large-scale power utility. Among other major technical accomplishments, James has architected and built multi-million dollar security infrastructure, handled incident response and event containment, written multiple policy and standards suites, and completed penetration testing activities as both a leader and as a team member.

James is involved in information security policy, process, and procedure improvements for internationally-known manufacturing and financial organizations. James is also a frequent speaker at industry conferences, and his commentary can often be found in trade publications. James is a prolific contributor to standards bodies, having been an author for the Cloud Security Alliance’s CloudAudit, Guidance for Critical Areas of Focus in Cloud Computing, and Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK) training and testing material; he also serves as one of the CCSK instructor trainers. He was also a contributor to the ISACA-published whitepaper “Guiding Principles for Cloud Computing Adoption and Use.”

In addition to being a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), James has been Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC) by ISACA. James also holds the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) credential.

James’ vast skill set includes, but is not limited to:

- Policy / Standards and Regulatory Compliance (ISO 27000, COBIT, PCI-DSS, NERC CIP)
- Training Development
- Technical Infrastructure and Application Security
Brendan O’Connor, JD
Senior Security Consultant

Brendan O’Connor is a Senior Security Consultant with Leviathan Security Group. In addition to Brendan’s technical security background, he brings a legal education to bear on clients’ compliance and regulatory needs.

Brendan’s technical experience includes DARPA-backed computer security research (including two DARPA Cyber Fast Track contracts with his prior company, Malice Afterthought), computer security consulting, technical R&D, and time spent teaching at a military information warfare school. In the legal world, he serves as Vice-Chair of the American Bar Association’s Information Security Committee, and has taught CLE sessions on legal ethics and security.

Brendan holds the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Engineering in Computer Science from The Johns Hopkins University, and the degree of Juris Doctor with honors from the University of Wisconsin Law School. Brendan is also a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) in good standing. He has presented at several well-known computer security conferences both in the United States and abroad, including Black Hats USA and Europe, DEF CON, Paranola, RSA, and ShmooCon.
Chad Thunberg
Chief Operating Officer

Chad is Leviathan’s Chief Operating Officer, responsible for managing the Professional Services Organization and maintaining Leviathan’s reputation for industry leading research and high quality consultative services. His responsibilities also include assisting Leviathan’s fortune 100 customers with development of security strategies, implementation of large scale security initiatives, and integrating security into the development lifecycle.

Chad specialized in Information Security for more than a decade before joining Leviathan as a founding member. He came from Washington Mutual where he was responsible for translating regulatory and business requirements into enterprise security solutions. Chad also leads the team responsible for the proactive identification of process and technology vulnerabilities as part of the enterprise secure development lifecycle.

Previously, Chad was a Security Consultant with Guardent, where he was responsible for developing and improving Guardent’s security methodologies and managed services platform. In addition, he acted as a mentor and leader for the west coast security practice. He also assisted Fortune 100 customers with innovative solutions for reducing their overall technology risk through the maturation of process and technology.

Significant Projects:

- Led a complex root cause analysis project for a leading manufacturer of core networking equipment with a focus of addressing systemic trends, lost revenue, inefficiencies, and real world threats.
- Implemented a comprehensive training program in support of a newly adopted secure development lifecycle for a leading retailer.
- Led a comprehensive business and technology risk assessment for a leading provider of online health management and information provider.
- Developed methodologies and supporting processes to conduct comprehensive and tiered application assessments for a Fortune 100 software manufacturer.
- Performed an in-depth risk assessment and gap analysis of a central bank’s technology infrastructure and security program.
Notes


