

## ***Are You Considering All Your Risk?***

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## Are You Considering All Your Risk?

**If someone told you** that your security program neglected to consider major risks to your organization, you would probably want to know immediately what you'd missed and what you could do to correct the problem. But corporations all over the country are in this situation right now, and many of the security practitioners in charge of their programs feel no sense of urgency to heed the warnings and make the necessary changes.

When corporate security tries to assess enterprise risk without the input of other business units, they may overlook risks and miss some of the most efficient ways to approach them. Trade magazines, such as Access Control & Security Systems, as well as industry associations and Web sites regularly warn of this possibility, but many practitioners continue to take the “wait and see” approach or simply ignore their admonitions because of local turf wars.

The problems inherent in a siloed approach to risk assessment and management are real. Only by forming a team of representatives from other business units can corporate security ensure that their assessment process truly considers all the risks to the organization. You can't determine the sources of risk or which risks to mitigate, transfer, avoid or accept unless you have a clear, enterprise-wide view of the risks that are present. The Security Executive Council calls this concept Unified Risk Oversight (URO). Boards of Directors are now requiring corporations to identify enterprise or board-level risk. They're also requiring CEOs to report on these risks, how they're being mitigated and who's responsible for each one. So security executives have a choice: Be proactive by instituting URO now or wait until the Board requires you to do it and takes you to task for neglecting it in the past.

The Security Executive Council's Web site offers a presentation that includes information on URO and gives examples of what a URO team might look like. For information about this presentation, visit

[https://www.securityexecutivecouncil.com/secstore/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=228](https://www.securityexecutivecouncil.com/secstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=228).

Don't leave your business open to unnecessary risk. Team up with peers in your business to develop an enterprise perspective.

**Marleah Blades** is former senior editor for the Security Executive Council. For more information about the council or about Unified Risk Oversight, visit [www.SecurityExecutiveCouncil.com/?sourceCode=access](http://www.SecurityExecutiveCouncil.com/?sourceCode=access).

## About the Security Executive Council

We are a research and advisory firm for security leaders. We have a collective of close to 100 security subject matter experts that have been successful security executives or are recognized industry experts in their field. The resources and tools we develop are constantly evolving to provide maximum value. Some engage with us by way of multi-year “retained” services agreements (Tier 1 Stakeholders). Tier 1 Stakeholders are those that want support on an ongoing basis but also want to have an active role in identifying solutions for the industry. Others come to us seeking a specific solution to a contained issue. In all the ways people engage with the SEC the bottom line goal is to help define and communicate the value of the Security organization.

Contact us at: [contact@seclader.com](mailto:contact@seclader.com)

Learn more about the SEC here: <https://www.securityexecutivecouncil.com>