CYBERSECURITY FIRST PRINCIPLES

A REBOOT OF STRATEGY & TACTICS

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Kindervag's Nine (Zero Trust) Rules

In 2022, George Finey published his latest book, "Project Zero Trust: A Story about a Strategy for Aligning Security and the Business." Finey follows in the footsteps of other authors who used the novel format to tell a technical story: Gene Kim "The Phoenix Project" about DevOps, and Eliyahu Goldratt's "The Goal" about the Theory of Constraint. In Finey's book, the founding father of zero trust, John Kindervag, wrote the foreword and even makes a couple of cameos in the story. Since his original 2010 paper, he's had a chance to refine his zero trust ideas and has developed nine rules for building a zero trust program: "four design principles and five steps to applying it." I reprint them here for reference.

FOUR DESIGN PRINCIPLES:

1. Focus on business outcomes.

2. Design from the inside out.

3. Determine who/what needs access.

4. Inspect and log all traffic.

FIVE STEPS:

1. Define the protect surface.

2. Map the transaction flows.

3. Architect a Zero Trust environment.

4. Create Zero Trust policies.

5. Monitor and maintain.