



LogicalNet

5TH ANNUAL · TECH VALLEY

Cybersecurity Symposium

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:15 PM ET

Rivers Casino · Schenectady, NY

Presented by
LogicalNet

FREE TO ATTEND

FROM THE CEO

Welcome



Welcome to the 5th Annual Tech Valley Cybersecurity Symposium.

Five years ago we set out to build a single day where the Capital Region's business and technology leaders could cut through the noise and talk honestly about what it takes to stay secure. What began as a small gathering has grown into the region's premier cybersecurity event — and the conversation has never mattered more.



Connect with me on
LinkedIn

[linkedin.com/in/tushnikollaj](https://www.linkedin.com/in/tushnikollaj)

This year AI is reshaping both attacks and defenses, identity has become the new perimeter, and resilience is the standard every organization is being measured against. The speakers and sessions ahead are here to give you practical, take-home guidance you can act on Monday morning.

On behalf of everyone at LogicalNet — and our generous sponsors — thank you for being here. Enjoy the day.

Tush

Tush Nikollaj

Chief Executive Officer · LogicalNet

14

SPEAKERS &
PANELISTS

10

EXPERT
SESSIONS

21

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Agenda

8:00 AM – 4:15 PM at Rivers Casino. Main-stage sessions run 30–35 minutes, with two concurrent breakout tracks in the afternoon.

8:00 – 9:00 Check-in, breakfast & networking

9:00 – 9:15

WELCOME

Welcome & opening remarks

Tush Nikollaj, CEO · LogicalNet · hosted by emcee Valerie Wencis, NEWS10 ABC

9:15 – 9:50

KEYNOTE

AI + Automation + Security: What's Real, What's Next

Dustin Sitton, Principal · Incite Automation

9:50 – 10:25

SESSION

Before You Turn On AI: What Every Business Should Know About Data Governance

Jake Carroll, VP of Partner Enablement · Inforcer

10:25 – 11:00

SESSION

AI-Powered Cyberattacks: How Adversaries Are Actively Leveraging AI

Tyler Wrightson, Founder & CEO · Leet Cyber Security

11:00 – 11:10

Break

11:10 – 11:45

SESSION

Algorithmic Manipulation: Dark Patterns, AI and the Next Wave of Enforcement

Anna Mercado Clark, Partner & CISO · Phillips Lytle

11:45 – 12:20

SESSION

Zero Trust Architecture Adoption

James Herring, Ph.D., CIO · M-Theory Group

12:20 – 1:05

Lunch & sponsor introductions

Agenda, continued

1:05 – 1:50

MAIN STAGE

Why Traditional Login Security Is Failing

Cooper Edmunds, President & CEO · Petra Security

BREAKOUT ROOM

You've Got Phish: 5 Threats Hiding in the Inbox.

Cody Ekle, Director, Technical Support · Mailprotector

1:50 – 2:00

Transition break

2:00 – 2:45

MAIN STAGE

Beyond Compliance: Building a Resilient Cybersecurity Program

Valecia Stocchetti, Senior Cybersecurity Engineer · CIS

BREAKOUT ROOM

When Prevention Fails: Making Ransomware a Non-Event

Anson Dorsey, CTO & Co-Founder · QuellSecure

2:45 – 3:00

Break & reconvene in main area

3:00 – 3:20

SESSION

The Inbox Has Changed. Has Your Security?

Cody Ekle, Director, Technical Support · Mailprotector

3:20 – 4:00

PANEL

The Future-Ready Cybersecurity Playbook: What Business Leaders Need to Do Next

Anson Dorsey, QuellSecure · Mike O'Mara, LogicalNet · Mark Tallant, ConnectWise · Elisabeth Dubois, Ph.D., LGCA · Brandon Behlendorf, Ph.D., UAlbany · Dru Rai, NYS ITS

4:00 – 4:10

CLOSING

Closing remarks & final thank-you

Tush Nikollaj, CEO · LogicalNet

Two ways to attend the afternoon. The Main Stage and Breakout Room run at the same time — choose the track that fits your role. All materials are shared after the event via the QR code at the back of this program.

Keynote



9:15 AM • MAIN STAGE

Dustin Sitton

Principal • Incite Automation

AI + Automation + Security: What's Real, What's Next

Learn practical, real-world ways to use AI and automation to improve efficiency, scale your business, and get more value from the tools you already own. Dustin shares real-world examples and actionable advice to help you identify the right opportunities, automate securely, and start making progress today — leaving with a clear understanding of what's working now, what's coming next, and how to put AI and automation to work responsibly.

About the speaker. Before founding Incite Automation, Dustin was a full-code software developer who loves both hands-on development and surveying the broader technology landscape. As a career consultant he has envisioned and executed forward-thinking software solutions for hundreds of businesses, and holds a degree in Information Systems from American University.

You've Got Phish: 5 Threats Hiding in the Inbox



Cody Ekle

Director, Technical Support · Mailprotector

mailprotector.com

Email remains one of the most targeted paths into an organization, while AI makes phishing and impersonation attacks increasingly convincing. This session explores how Zero Trust email security, behavioral intelligence, encryption, and outbound data controls can help organizations protect users, sensitive information, and business communications — without creating unnecessary complexity.

Cody Ekle brings over 10 years of IT experience, including firsthand work in the MSP space and deep expertise in email security. As leader of Mailprotector's Partner Success team, he helps MSPs navigate complex security challenges and better protect their end-users.

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When Prevention Fails: Making Ransomware a Non-Event



Anson Dorsey

CTO & Co-Founder · QuellSecure

quellsecure.com

Ransomware continues to evolve faster than traditional defenses, and prevention and backup alone may not eliminate business disruption. This session explores a different approach: stopping ransomware the moment encryption begins, containing the damage before it spreads, and keeping business operations running. Attendees learn how active containment fits into a layered resilience strategy — and why reducing downtime may matter as much as preventing the initial attack.

Anson Dorsey was previously an engineering leader at Randori, responsible for the automated reconnaissance platform behind its Attack Surface Management and Continuous Automated Red Teaming products, through its 2022 acquisition by IBM.

Speakers



Jake Carroll

VP, Partner Enablement ·
Inforcer

*Data Governance Before You Turn
On AI*



Tyler Wrightson

Founder & CEO · **Leet Cyber
Security**

AI-Powered Cyberattacks



Anna Mercado Clark

Partner & CISO · **Phillips Lytle**

*Algorithmic Manipulation &
Enforcement*



James Herring, Ph.D.

CIO · **M-Theory Group**

Zero Trust Architecture Adoption



Cooper Edmunds

President & CEO · **Petra
Security**

*Why Traditional Login Security Is
Failing*



Valecia Stocchetti

Sr. Cybersecurity Engineer · **CIS**

*Beyond Compliance: Building
Resilience*



Cody Ekle

Director, Tech Support ·
Mailprotector

*You've Got Phish: 5 Threats Hiding
in the Inbox*



Anson Dorsey

CTO & Co-Founder ·
QuellSecure

Making Ransomware a Non-Event

The Panel

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Future-Ready Cybersecurity Playbook: What Business Leaders Need to Do Next



Anson Dorsey
CTO & Co-Founder · **QuellSecure**



Mike O'Mara
CIO · **LogicalNet**



Mark Tallant
Security Solutions Strategist · **ConnectWise**



Elisabeth Dubois, Ph.D.
Co-Founder · **LGCA**



Brandon Behlendorf, Ph.D.
Director · **UAlbany CART**



Dru Rai
Former CIO & Director · **NYS ITS**

Your Hosts



Tush Nikollaj
CEO · **LogicalNet**
Host · Welcome & Closing Remarks



Valerie Wencis
Emmy Award-winning Anchor · **NEWS10 ABC**
Event Emcee

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M-Theory Group

A premier provider of integrated technology services — engineering, data science, cybersecurity, cloud infrastructure, and managed support — unifying every discipline into a single operating framework.

mtheorygroup.com

Mailprotector

The email security platform built to eliminate threats, not just react. Its Shield product is the industry's only Zero Trust email security solution — every message starts untrusted until verified.

mailprotector.com

INOC Data Centers

Secure, SOC 2-audited shared colocation from two Albany, NY facilities since 2001 — redundant power and cooling, diverse connectivity, and right-sized environments for production, DR, and growth.

inoc.net

PLATINUM

Petra Security

A best-in-class identity threat detection and response (ITDR) platform purpose-built to stop account takeovers, protecting tens of thousands of businesses across the US, Canada, and Australia.

petrasecurity.com

FirstLight

A regional digital-infrastructure provider delivering fiber connectivity, data center, cloud, security, and unified communications across the Northeast — plus managed SOC, DDoS, and SASE services.

firstlight.net

Incite Automation

Helps businesses put AI and automation to work — improving efficiency, scaling operations, and getting more value from the tools they already own, securely and responsibly.

inciteautomation.com

Phillips Lytle LLP

A preeminent full-service law firm serving a multinational client base, with a leading Data Privacy & Cybersecurity practice advising on breach response, AI governance, and emerging technology.

phillipslytle.com

Center for Internet Security

A community-driven nonprofit behind the CIS Critical Security Controls® and CIS Benchmarks®, and home to the MS-ISAC® — the trusted cyber resource for US state, local, tribal, and territorial governments.

cisecurity.org

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GOLD

SEO Web Mechanics

A full-service digital marketing agency helping businesses grow online — website design, Google Ads management, and advanced SEO, plus blog and social media management and custom web applications.

seowebmechanics.com

Can Code Communities

A nonprofit helping low-income individuals gain the digital and technology skills needed to move into family-sustaining careers, creating pathways to economic mobility and long-term success.

albanycancode.org

Times Union

For 170 years, the voice of the Capital Region — the area's leading multimedia source for news, information, and entertainment, and a repeated New York Newspaper of Distinction.

timesunion.com

QuellSecure

Purpose-built ransomware containment for the gap between prevention and recovery. Patented Active Containment® limits encryption to a few files so operations never stop.

quellsecure.com

Ascend Audit & Advisory

A licensed, peer-reviewed CPA firm specializing in SOC, HIPAA, PCI, and ISO compliance audits, plus DOL cybersecurity reviews — serving MSPs, MSSPs, software developers, and data centers.

ascendaudit.com

University at Albany

UAlbany's Department of Cybersecurity prepares students to prevent, detect, and respond to cyber threats, while its CYBR Clinic gives them hands-on, real-world experience assessing risks and helping community organizations strengthen their security posture.

albany.edu/cehc/cybersecurity

ConnectWise

The leading software platform for IT solution providers — unified RMM, PSA, and cybersecurity tooling that helps MSPs run and secure the businesses they support.

connectwise.com

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CyberFOX

A global cybersecurity software provider focused on privileged access management (PAM) and password management for MSPs and IT pros — AutoElevate, Password Manager, and DNS Filtering.
cyberfox.com

Inforcer

Built for MSPs, the Inforcer platform standardizes security, automates administration, and detects and responds to threats across every Microsoft 365 tenant from a single platform.
inforcer.com

The Daily Gazette

A multi-media news organization serving New York's Capital Region and the Hudson Valley, dedicated to quality local journalism for generations to come.
dailygazette.com

Redeemer Cybersecurity

A boutique firm specializing in operationalizing the CIS Microsoft 365 Benchmark — contributing to the global standard and delivering practical, expert-led engagements that reduce risk.
redeemercyber.com

Leet Cyber Security

An Albany-based boutique offensive-security firm specializing in red teaming, penetration testing, and security assessments — objective, conflict-free findings mapped to real business risk.
leetsys.com

University at Albany — CREST

The Cybersecurity Incident REsponse STUDIO at UAlbany — a \$1.25M NIST-funded initiative on cyber incident response, crisis management, and organizational resilience, building AI-enhanced tabletop exercises and immersive VR simulations where IT, legal, communications, and executive leaders sharpen coordination under pressure.
albany.edu/cehc/crest

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BEFORE YOU GO

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PARKING

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WI-FI

Network: **Rivers-Guest**

Ask at the registration desk for today's access.

#TechValleyCyber

Notes



LogicalNet

Security is a **business decision.** Make it with confidence.

For over 30 years, LogicalNet has delivered comprehensive cybersecurity and managed IT for small and midsize businesses across the Capital Region — so you can focus on growing yours.

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logical.net (518) 292-4500

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See you in October 2027 for the 6th Annual Tech Valley Cybersecurity Symposium.