In addition, 48 percent of survey respondents believe lack of skilled security personnel or training is key secondary challenge.

Other main findings of the survey include:

- A total of 54 percent of the respondents viewed customer-facing web and mobile applications as the areas presenting the highest security risk to businesses, followed closely by embedded and IoT systems at 20 percent. Desktop applications and internal-facing web applications were represented at 16 percent and 10 percent respectively.
- Aside from the technical challenges in securing customer-facing web applications, 38 percent of professionals identified protection of customer data and intellectual property (IP) as paramount, while 12 percent suggested regulatory compliance.
- 66 percent of the respondents have a strategy in place in the event of a security incident. 16 percent said they did not, while 18 percent suggested they are unsure. This suggests that nearly one-fourth of the respondents (24 percent) remains unprepared in the face of a cyberattack.
- 82 percent of those surveyed have received some form of cyber security training, which underlines the importance of cyber security and the need to better understand the threat landscape.

Survey Methodology

The survey was conducted at GovernmentWare (GovWare) 2017 from September 19 to 21, 2017, in Singapore, the anchor conference at the Singapore International Cyber Week 2017 – the region's most established cyber security convention. The in-person survey is based on responses from attendees including C-level IT professionals as well as managers and other executives.

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