# "Still Clueless . . . After All These Years."

How to Make Your Security Awareness Program FAIL!

#### Winn Schwartau

+1 727 393 6600

Founder, SecurityExperts.com,
Founder, TheSecurityAwarenessCompany.com
Winn@TheSecurityAwarenessCompany.Com



### 42%: Epic Fail







### 60-80%: Epic Fail

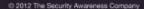


## BEFORE USING A USB STICK WHETHER YOU FOUND IT OR BOUGHT IT MAKE SURE TO REFORMAT IT ON A CLEAN MACHINE

Sometimes criminals will leave *USB sticks* "in the wild" for people to find. These are called **Road Apples**. They often contain *autorun* files which can **infect a computer** just by plugging in the device. Make sure you are aware of company policy regarding bringing in USB sticks and other data devices into our *networks*.









### **Awareness Must Be Boring**





Mind numbingly so, if budget permits.

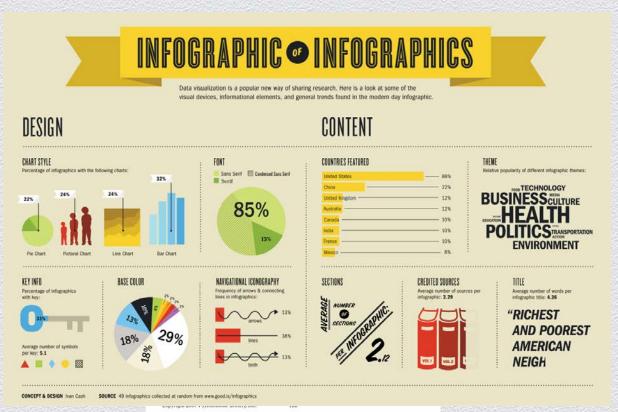
Words, words and more words.

Extra dull earns extra points!



### **Graphics Just Get in the Way**





- Why waste time organizing information in infographics? Eight pages of agonizingly small 7.5pt font is just as effective, right?
- If you **DO** break down and use graphics, don't waste time hiring graphic designers: all graphics are created equal.

### Tell - Don't Show





Multi-media is cheesy, silly and overrated. Videos are pointless.

Tell in lots of words. Never 'show' or create visual metaphors.

Videos do not reinforce information in a memorable way. Email instructions is just fine, thank you!



#### **Never Use Humor**



Work and security require a business attitude. If people laugh are they really paying attention?

In fact, smiling is discouraged. People should understand the serious nature of security.

Here, I think you dropped this.

### All You Need to Teach Is Policy





- Repeat the same dry, boring rules over and over again. People will get it.
- Knowing policy means no security breaches.

YOU CAN' T DO THAT
YOU MUST DO THIS

RULES
1. YOU CANÍT...
2. YOU CANÍT...
3. YOU CANÍT...
4. YOU CANÍT

NO





### **Do Not Make Awareness Personal**





SAC

Don't acknowledge a person's family or personal lives. Concern should only lie with the company and whether that is secure or not. Everything is else is expendable.

SAC

Remember, when in doubt, just follow policy.



### **Confuse Awareness With Training**



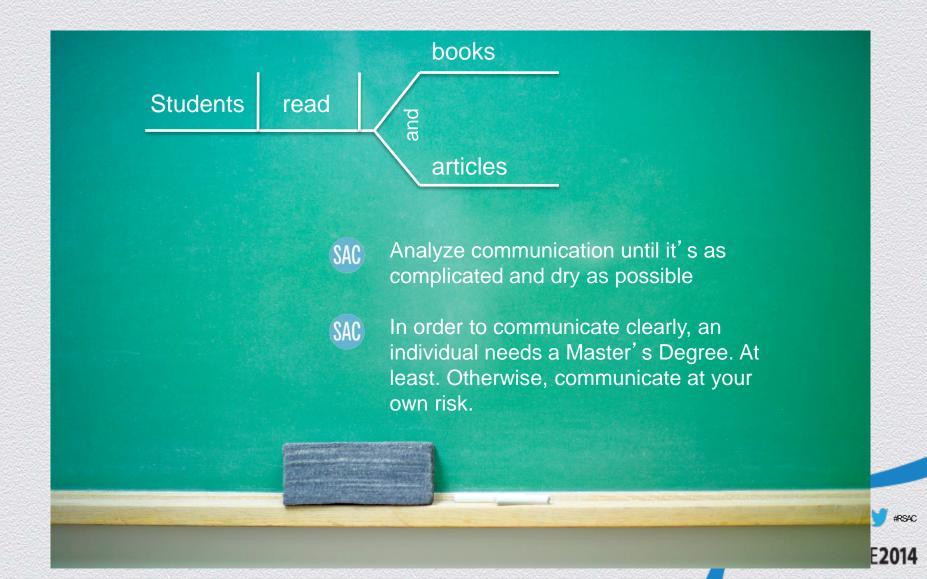
- Coke obviously wastes \$3B/Yr. on Global Brand Awareness
- Repetitive multi-media branding is useless. It doesn't change behavior.
- Brilliant marketing is a myth. Don't buy into the hype.





### Hire An English Major & Parse





### **Never Use Casual Written** or Spoken Language



Gonna HACKERS
SECURITY Blind Eye
INS AND OUTS OF SOCIAL
TEEDING

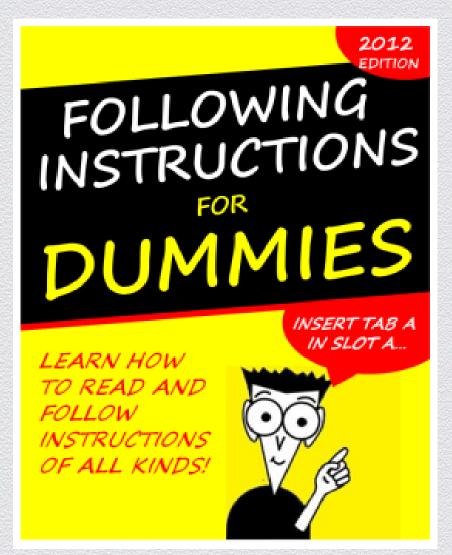
Flim Flam Scam Man

DNS TCP/IP IPS DLP TLS SIEM AES

- Casual is Unprofessional!
- Use academic terms only!
- People love words and acronyms they don't understand.

### Do Not Violate The Formal or Structured Instructional Process





- Complicated instructions ensure the most secure programs
- Standards should be rigid and require an instructional consultant



### Let the CISO into the Production Process the security awareness



COMPANY



- The CISO took a film class.
- The VP-IT took a semester of creative writing.

Let them set the tone and have the final say in both graphics and editing!



### **Let Corp Comm Run All Awareness**





- CorpComm can build you the 'box' from which creative escape is impossible.
- Want to delay a program for months? CorpComm can help you with that.



### **Design by Committee**





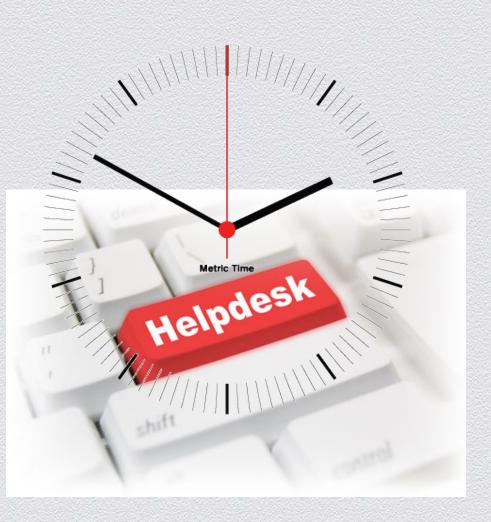
Who needs leadership or technical knowledge? Add needless complexity & internal inconsistency

Who needs to waste time with a strong, creative vision? The quality of a product doesn't matter. All that matters is a committee approval.



### **Awareness Should Be Super Technical**





- A helpdesk is just another mindless expense.
- Who says your time is valuable? Don't go to the experts for help. Waste a couple of hours and troubleshoot the problem yourself.



### More Security Experts is Better





- Make all of your employees super-geeky security experts.
- Saves \$ on Tech Support.



### The Execs Don't Need Security Awareness





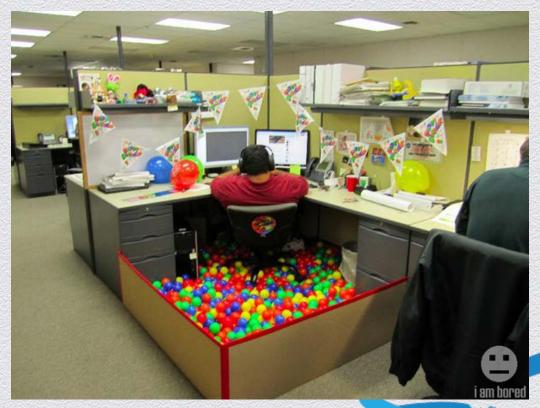
- C-Suiters don't have time to waste on security awareness.
- They approved their policies, they obviously know how to avoid security risks.
- So save your funds and don't train them.



### Ignore IT & Technical Staff



- Save money! Don't train the geeks.
- Geeks design the software and run the networks why would they need training?
- Geeks *only* have to stay up-to-date on how to manage firewalls and ensure your security. Save that extra \$100 and don't train them.





### **Use Threats & Give Orders**



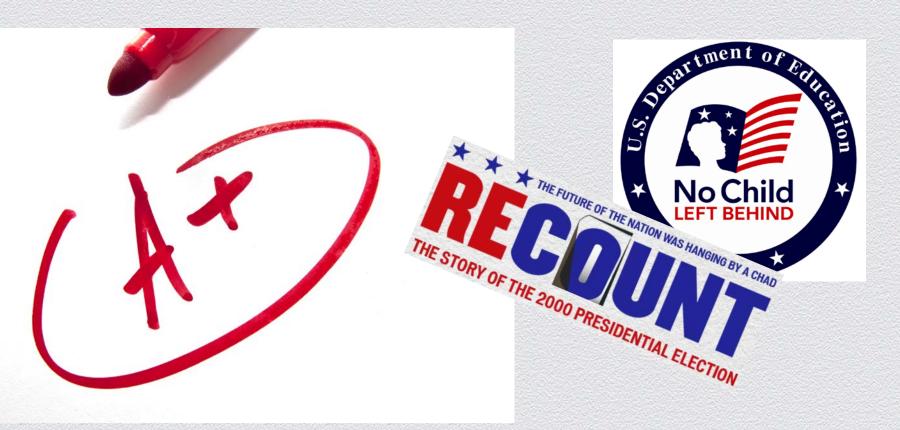


- Want to be a better leader? Use more fear.
- through fear is exceedingly effective in controlling people's behavior.



### **Testing Is Reliable and Accurate**





- Everyone who passes the test knows how to behave when a security event occurs.
- Make tests super easy so everyone gets an 'A' and the auditors \*\*\* are happy.

  RSACONFERENCE 2014

### **Everyone Knows, Awareness Is Only A Once A Year Event**





Once is always enough. Especially for security.

Reinforce policy through **one** yearly video or **one** short course.

Make it mandatory and force every employee to check the "I will always follow policy" box under threat of termination; before they even take the course.

### Once Is Enough





- Have you had your once a year awareness day?
- your employees with yearly security quizzes?
- Checked all the right boxes?
- Yes! Then congrats, you're done! No need to repeat it.

  We're done. Right? 2014

### **Loud Attention Getting Ads!**



# Comments? Questions? Responses?

Winn Schwartau, CEO
Winn@TheSecurityAwareness.Com
+1.727.393.6600



facebook.com/TheSACompany



twitter.com/SecAwareCo



linkedin.com/company/the-security-awareness-company



#### The Security Awareness Company

Entertaining. Educational. Effective

Winn Schwartau, Founder & CEO +1.727.393.6600