AI data security tips for boards

Transcript

SPEAKERS:

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JOHNNY LEE: I think the ways that management can focus on protecting privacy and intellectual property start with something very unsexy. They start with data inventories. What are the assets that the organization has in house? Where do they live? Are they hosted in the cloud? Are they in on-premise systems? Is it an amalgamation? Are they held by third parties? Do they truly belong to the organization, or are they co-licensed or sublicensed?

Once those delineations are clear, I think the road maps or product development or tinkering or pilots or proof-of-concepts, or whatever you want to call that, those become manifestly easier to navigate because it's clear that you have an ownership and you know what you own and where it lives in your environment. And once you have a handle on those things, protecting those assets for those two animating concerns, privacy and intellectual property, becomes imminently easier.

ETHAN ROJHANI: I would agree. I think where Johnny was going from my world is the definition of controls. What are the management controls you have in place the address the universe of risks that are of concern to — should be management — and the board needs to be asking about those risks in particular.

You mentioned data privacy. I think one of the key elements that often gets overlooked is consent within the privacy world. So do you have the ability to gather that data and use it effectively? And I think you mentioned licensing, so oftentimes consent is a license of sorts that gives the organization the ability to use that data, using an artificial intelligence technology on top of it.

So I would agree 100%. I think the only other area that I think the board should be thinking about very critically is the entirety of the risk universe. Have they considered all the data risks that would be enabled within that world, and has management presented that to them in a way that they can actually take action upon it? Especially for elements that the board has control over, such as internal audit. Can they task internal audit with looking at specific elements where they think there might not be rigor or there might not be controls in place. So I think that's really where the board should be thinking.