

BUILDING IT YOURSELF: THE COST OF SETTING UP YOUR OWN SOC

Setting up a dedicated 24/7 organization to combat cybersecurity threats can be extremely costly. Most models say between \$2-4 million. We've provided some highly conservative numbers below to give you an idea of the costs and challenges associated with setting up your own Security Operations Center.



STAFFING:

For true 24/7 support, you need a minimum of 10-12 techs at a starting salary of \$75,000*.

- 1 With the cybersecurity unemployment rate at 0% and roughly 3.5 million cybersecurity jobs open globally, finding (and retaining) talent will be challenging and costly. You'll likely need to include a competitive benefits package on top of the base salary.
- 2 You'll need to consider staffing different tier levels. Needless to say each level requires additional knowledge and experience which, you guessed it, commands a higher starting salary.

Tier 1

Tier 1 is a Triage Specialist with a starting salary of \$75,000

Tier 2

Tier 2 operates as an Incident Responder

Tier 3

Tier 3 is your Threat Hunter

Tier 4

Tier 4 is the SOC Manager You can also consider positions like Forensic Specialist and Malware Engineer.



TECHNOLOGY, TOOLS AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

Traditional tools used in the SOC include:

- Security information and event management (SIEM)
- Governance, risk and compliance (GRC) systems
- Vulnerability scanners and penetration testing tools
- Intrusion detection systems (IDS), intrusion prevention systems (IPS), and wireless intrusion prevention
- Firewalls and next-generation firewalls (NGFW) which can function as an IPS
- Log management systems (commonly as part of the SIEM)
- Cyber threat intelligence feeds and databases You'll also need to provide basic employee technology like laptops.

*The salary range for a SOC analyst begins at \$75,000 and increases depending on

| Expense | Qty | Cost | Total |
|----------------|-----|-----------|--------------------|
| SOC Team | 10 | \$75,000 | \$750,000 |
| Management/SME | 2 | \$140,000 | \$280,000 |
| Benefits | 12 | \$6,000 | \$72,000 |
| Certs/CEU | 12 | \$3,000 | \$36,000 |
| Network | 1 | \$60,000 | \$60,000 |
| Infrastructure | 1 | \$250,000 | \$250,000 |
| License | 1 | \$750,000 | \$750,000 |
| Marketing | 1 | \$75,000 | \$75,000 |
| Sales | 1 | \$125,000 | \$125,000 |
| Total | | | \$2,398,000 |

*The salary range for a SOC analyst begins at \$75,000 and increases depending on location, level of cybersecurity qualifications/certifications and experience as well as additional benefits. Check out <https://www.salary.com/research/salary/listing/soc-analyst-salary> for a location specific estimate.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION SOURCE: CONNECTWISE

THE SOLUTION

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When it comes to data breaches it is not a matter of "if" but "when." ICE will make sure "when" they try your organization will be ready and waiting!

