

Should cybersecurity focus on resilience or preventing attacks in the first place?

Short answer: Resilience—recovering after an attack—matters, but the more important goal is preventing ransomware, data theft, and identity theft before damage occurs, since automated attacks are relentless and increasingly well-informed about when to strike.

Two Meanings of "Resilience"

The term "resilience" in cybersecurity has drifted toward two different ideas. One is whether your security tools themselves can keep functioning under attack—essentially, can the software meant to protect you survive being directly targeted or tampered with, much like asking whether a security camera can keep recording after someone tries to disable it. The other, more traditional meaning is whether your business can recover and bounce back after a breach has already happened.

Both matter, but neither should be the primary strategy. Modern attacks are automated and constant. The main reason organizations aren't hit nonstop is that attackers have gotten good at reading signals about which targets are worth their time—for example, avoiding companies that clearly don't have the financial resources to make an attack profitable. That level of automated targeting means resilience alone is a reactive posture against an adversary that is always probing.

Why Prevention Should Come First

Being resilient after a breach is comparable to having a good body shop lined up after a car accident. It's useful, but it's far better to avoid the accident entirely. Nobody wants to test how well the repair process works if they can instead avoid the collision in the first place.

Applied to business security, this means the priority should be stopping attacks before they succeed—the equivalent of having reliable brakes rather than just a good repair plan for after a crash. Cyber Crucible builds toward this outcome by focusing on autonomous prevention, aiming to stop ransomware, data theft, and identity theft attempts before they can cause harm, rather than depending solely on recovery and cleanup after the fact.

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