

EMA™ Biography



Chris Steffen

Research Director, Security & Risk Management

Chris brings over 20 years of industry experience to Enterprise Management Associates, focusing on IT management/leadership, cloud security, and regulatory compliance.

Chris has had a variety of roles as a professional, from Camping Director for the Boy Scouts to Press Secretary for the Colorado Speaker of the House. His technical career started in the financial services vertical as the systems administrator for a credit reporting company. As the company continued to grow, Chris built the Network Operations, Information Security, and Technical Compliance practices before leaving as the Principal Technical Architect. He was the Director of IT for a manufacturing company and the Chief Evangelist for several technical companies, focusing on cloud security.

Prior to joining EMA, Chris served as the CIO of a financial services company and supervised the technology-related functions of the enterprise, including the development and implementation of the company's technical vision and management of the technical staff. He also guided the company through a NIST 800-53 evaluation and successfully obtained an Authority to Operate (ATO).

Chris holds several technical certifications, including Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), and was awarded the Microsoft Most Valuable Professional Award five times for virtualization and cloud and data center management (CDM).

B.A., Political Science (Summa Cum Laude), Metropolitan State College of Denver

"Information security is a collaborative effort, touching every aspect of our businesses and personal lives. My goal is to give everyone—companies, vendors, and individuals—a better understanding of how information security works and why it should be embraced. Only together can we change security culture for the better."

"Many still play on the fears associated with information security: the hooded, bearded hacker stealing your data or compromising your systems. Let's end the fearmongering and work together to improve our understanding about information security and the ways we can improve it!"