## **SECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SOFTWARE**

# Cybersecurity Report





## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- Q3 2024 continued to see the strengthening of the cybersecurity M&A market observed in the first half of the year, led by the highest quarterly number of M&A transactions in the sector since Q2-22. Whereas 2023 saw depressed market activity due to geopolitical turmoil and high inflation rates, both cybersecurity M&A volume and deal count through the first three quarters of 2024 has been higher yearover-year
- Q3 deal activity was headlined by two \$1B+ M&A transactions in the sector. MasterCard's acquisition of Recorded Future (\$2.6 billion) and Clayton, Dubilier & Rice and Permira's take-private of Exclusive Networks (\$2.4 billion), both of which show the continued investor confidence in the cyber M&A market
- Q3 also saw the cyber sector emerge as a focal point in the aftermath of the July 17th IT outages due to a faulty update from CrowdStrike, who saw a 28% decrease in share price over the ensuing two weeks - investor confidence remains generally strong overall however, with Lincoln's Cyber Public Index up ~28% year-over-year
- Looking ahead to the last quarter of 2024 and 2025, September rate cuts are expected to positively influence cyber investment activity, which will be driven by robust demand for services, CTEM and IAM drawing increased attention and firms turning to M&A as they look to establish breach mitigation and response strategies

# Q3 2024 Cybersecurity M&A Continues Positive Trajectory with Two Year Transaction Count High, while Investment is Poised for Growth

#### **OVERVIEW**

- After Thoma Bravo's take-private of Darktrace boosted Q2-24 to notch the highest cybersecurity mergers and acquisitions (M&A) deal volume since Q2-22, Q3-24 saw deal volume normalize at \$3.6B, the third-highest volume since Q1-23
- The robust deal volume in Q3 was driven by 54 M&A transactions, the largest deal count since Q2-22, a signal that the cyber M&A market continues strengthening
- Additionally, 2024's year-to-date deal volume of \$16.3B is outpacing 2023's deal volume of \$10.4B over the same period, with 2024's year-to-date deal count also exceeding 2023's first three quarters total, signaling growing eagerness from the M&A market to execute larger transactions
- While Q3 saw M&A activity continue to strengthen, investment volume and deal count fell to their lowest levels since Q2-23 (see chart on next page)

- Q3 growth investment deal volume and count fell compared with Q2 and declined on a year-over-year basis, however September interest rate decreases suggest a rebound in cyber investment activity in Q4
- As the final quarter of 2024 arrives, the deal environment has evidently strengthened year-to-date, with strategics and financial sponsors showing a growing eagerness to deploy capital for M&A and investment after a quiet 2023. Interest rates decreasing in September and a twoyear high of M&A deal count indicate market conditions are increasingly in favor of transactions
- Strategics have demonstrated a leading position in the M&A market, with 2024 seeing four \$500M+ cyber M&A transactions coming from strategic players, including Mastercard's \$2.6B acquisition of Data Security firm Recorded Future in September

## **QUARTERLY CYBER M&A ACTIVITY**



## **NOTABLE Q3 2024 CYBERSECURITY M&A TRANSACTIONS**

Announced	Acquirer	Target, Subsector	Deal Value / Multiple of LTM Revenues	Announced	Acquirer	Target, Subsector	Deal Value / Multiple of LTM Revenues
Sep-24	VISA	FEATURE SPACE Anti-Fraud	ND / ND	Aug-24	CHECK POINT	Cyberint SIEM (IBM divestiture)	\$500 million / 5.0x
Sep-24	Quorum Cyber	<b>DIFENDA</b> Managed Security	ND / ND	Aug-24	cisco	ROBUST INTELLIGENCE Application Security	\$5.3 billion / 8.1x
Sep-24	mastercard	·I¦I·Recorded Future° Data Security	\$2.6 billion / ND	Aug-24	digicert	VERCARA Managed Security	ND / ND
Sep-24	/ABSOLUTE	SYXSENSE Endpoint Security	ND / ND	Aug-24	F#RTINET.	N= next Data Security	ND / ND
Sep-24	MACQUARIE	<b>BioCatch</b> Network Management	ND / ND	Jul-24	mimecast	CODE 42 Threat Intelligence	ND / ND
Sep-24	salesforce	<b>Own</b> Network Management	ND / ND	Jul-24	Authentix The Authority in Authentication	NANOTECH IAM	ND / ND
Aug-24	FALFURRIAS CAPITAL	MOXFIVE Managed Security	ND / ND	Jul-24	RAPID	<b>noetic</b> Managed Security	\$350 million / ND

Sources: 451 Research / S&P Capital IQ, Crunchbase, PitchBook, public sources and Lincoln estimates



# Q3 2024 Cybersecurity M&A Continues Positive Trajectory with Two Year Transaction Count High, while Investment is Poised for Growth (continued)

## **QUARTERLY CYBER GROWTH ACTIVITY**



## **NOTABLE Q3 2024 CYBERSECURITY GROWTH INVESTMENTS**

Announced	Company	Subsector	\$ Raised in Round	Announced	Company	Subsector	\$ Raised in Round
Sep-24	SECOND FRONT™	Cloud Security	\$70 million	Aug-24	<b>\bnormal</b>	Network Security	\$250 million
Sep-24	torq <u>=</u>	No-Code Automation	\$70 million	Jul-24	chainguard	Zero Trust Security	\$300 million
Aug-24	Kiteworks	Network Security	\$456 million	Jul-24	Vanta	Data Security	\$300 million

# Public Cyber Valuations Showed Resiliency in Q3 2024

- Over the last 12 months, Lincoln's Cyber Public Index of 21 vendors increased by ~28%, remaining in-line with year-overyear trends from Q1 and Q2 despite a tumultuous start to Q3, marked by widespread outages causing a significant sell-off of cyber publics
- Through the completion of Q3, the Cyber Public Index has surged by ~77% from its three-year low recorded on January 5, 2023, peaking at ~82% on February 9, 2024, showcasing both public valuations recovery and the continued focus on the sector
- Q3 was marked by the July 19th, 2024, IT outages caused by a faulty update distributed by CrowdStrike. The ensuing selloff resulted in a 28% decrease in CrowdStrike's share price over the next two weeks with volume exceeding 200M shares during that time, dragging the Cyber Public Index as well as other high-growth publics down. Despite the Cyber Public Index recovering higher than the market, driven largely by lower growth cyber publics, prices have not been supported by increased volume





## Looking Ahead to the Final Quarter of 2024 and Beyond

- Cyber Demand for Services Still Strong: Despite recent investment favoring Al products that can offer automation of cybersecurity practices, cybersecurity service companies are seeing continued growth as managed services remain the dominant consumption method of cyber products. While customers are still looking to automate repetitive cyber practices, they are increasingly focused on seeking a vendor who can address all their cyber needs in one product suite. As a result, managed services companies are becoming the de facto "one stop" provider of the array of cyber products customers are having difficulty consuming from several different vendors
- CTEM Remains a Dominant Focus Area: While businesses have continued their digital transformation and rapid adoption of SaaS products throughout 2024, the surface area for cyber vulnerabilities has continued to grow. As a result, CTEM programs have emerged as one of the best solutions to protect firms against breaches by identifying high-risk exposure as well as key trends. CTEM's constant monitoring rapidly detects these highrisk areas of exposure within an organization and presents actionable insights to leaders, allowing them to more strategically allocate their security spend and resources
- Identity Management a Top Priority: While major cybercrime groups pose hacking threats to organizations, breached identities have emerged as one of the leading causes of data breaches. As less sophisticated bad actors seek to intercept credentials or session cookies using information stealing malware, organizations are having to focus on threats that occur during log in rather than from a bad actor hacking in. With the shift to the cloud and rise of remote work, firms have an increased necessity for identity solutions spanning privileged access management (PAM), authentication (AuthN) and authorization (AuthZ) to ensure valuable data is only being accessed by authorized parties
- Spotlight on Mitigating Breaches and Business Continuity Strategy: Q3 started off with Ticketmaster, who controls over 70% of the live event ticketing market, announcing a data breach of over 500 million customers. Shortly thereafter, a faulty update to CrowdStrike's Falcon Sensor software caused roughly 8.5 million Microsoft Windows systems to crash, creating widespread outages of essential transportation and emergency government services. As 2024 heads into its final quarter, high profile companies with massive amounts of customer data are under scrutiny to shore up their security systems, with M&A presenting possible plug and play solutions

## Recent Cyber Take-Private Activity and Leading Cyber IPO Candidates

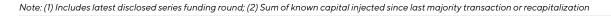
Take-Private Announced	Acquirer	Target, Subsector	Enterprise Value	Upcoming IPO Candidate, Subsector	Most Recent Pre- Money Valuation with Equity Raise / Date <sup>(1)</sup>	Money Raised to Date <sup>(2)</sup>
Jul-24	CLAYTON DUBLILER PERMIRA	EXCLUSIVE NETWORKS Managed Security	\$2.4 billion	<b>/\bnormal</b> Network Security	\$5.1 billion / Aug-24	\$535 million
Apr-24	THOMABRAVO	DARKTRACE  Network Security	\$5.4 billion	<b>WIZ</b> Cloud Security	\$11.0 billion / May-24	\$1.8 billion
Feb-24	HAVELI	<b>▼ ZER</b> ○ <b>FOX</b> Attack Surface Mgmt.	\$350 million	<b>∼</b> netskope Cloud Security	\$7.2 billion / Jan-23	\$1.5 billion
Jan-24	Hewlett Packard Enterprise	JUNIPER.  Network Security	\$14.0 billion	ARCTIC WOLF  Managed Security	\$4.2 billion / Nov-23	\$1.1 billion
Sep-23	cisco	splunk>	\$28.0 billion	snyk  Application Security	\$7.2 billion / Jan-23	\$1.1 billion
May-23	CROSSPOINT	<b>/ABSOLUTE</b> Network Security	\$870 million	onetrust Risk & Compliance	\$4.4 billion / Jul-23	\$1.1 billion

Note: (1) Includes latest disclosed series funding round; (2) Sum of known capital injected since last majority transaction or recapitalization



# Recent Cyber Take-Private Activity and Leading Cyber IPO Candidates (cont.)

Take-Private Announced	Acquirer	Target, Subsector	Enterprise Value	Upcoming IPO Candidate, Subsector	Most Recent Pre- Money Valuation with Equity Raise / Date <sup>(1)</sup>	Money Raised to Date <sup>(2)</sup>
Apr-23	THOMABRAVO	MAGNET FORENSICS® Data Management	\$1.3 billion	Fireblocks  Blockchain Security	\$7.5 billion / May-24	\$1.0 billion
Feb-23	FRANCISCO PARTNERS	sumo logic Security Analytics	\$1.7 billion	FTANIUM:	\$8.9 billion / May-22	\$980 million
Oct-22	THOMABRAVO	ForgeRock IAM	\$2.3 billion	1Password	\$6.2 billion / Jan-22	\$950 million
Sep-22	VISTA	KnowBe4 Risk & Compliance	\$4.6 billion	ARMIS.	\$3.4 billion / Nov-21	\$740 million
Aug-22	THOMABRAVO	<b>Ping</b> Identity.	\$2.7 billion	<b>illumio</b> Cloud Security	\$2.8 billion / Aug-21	\$580 million
Aug-22	<b>opentext</b> **	MICRO* FOCUS Messaging Security	\$5.8 billion	<b>Transmit</b> IAM	\$2.2 billion / Jun-21	\$580 million



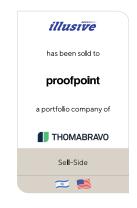


# Select Lincoln Cybersecurity M&A & Financing Transactions









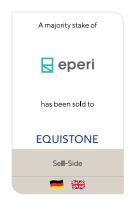
























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