

THREATIQ LABS FIELD NOTES

Beyond the Single Pane of Glass

Why effective security visibility is about decisions, not dashboards.

FIELD NOTE #002

THE MYTH

You were promised a single pane of glass.

For years, security teams have been promised a “single pane of glass”: bring all of your data into one dashboard and gain complete visibility. The promise is compelling.

The problem: visibility and dashboards are not the same thing.

Teams invest heavily in comprehensive dashboards, then discover nobody uses them. Not because they're technically flawed — but because they were built to answer every question instead of the ones that matter.

A dashboard filled with charts is not visibility. Visibility is the ability to make informed decisions.

The goal was never a single pane of glass.

The goal was clarity.

Three ways dashboards go wrong.

01

They try to show everything

In the name of being comprehensive, teams pile on metrics and charts that compete for attention. More information rarely leads to better decisions.

02

They are built for everyone

Analysts, managers, executives, and engineers all have different questions. One dashboard cannot serve every audience well.

03

They are disconnected from action

If a dashboard doesn't influence behavior, support an investigation, or guide investment, it becomes background noise.

Dashboards shouldn't prove data exists. **They should drive outcomes.**

Different audiences, different questions.

Analysts

- What needs attention right now?
- Which investigations require action?
- Where are the highest-confidence signals?

Security Managers

- Are we improving?
- Where are the bottlenecks?
- Are detections performing as expected?

Executives

- Are we reducing risk?
- Where are our visibility gaps?
- Are investments producing outcomes?

Effective visibility delivers the right information to the right audience at the right time.

Five principles of effective visibility.

Actionable

Helps someone decide what to do next.

Contextual

Metrics without context are misleading.

Tailored

Different stakeholders need different views.

Measurable

Shows progress and outcomes over time.

Sustainable

If maintaining it becomes the job, it has failed.

Visibility should reduce uncertainty, build confidence, and help people act — delivering the right insight to the right person at the right time.

Good dashboards display information.

Great dashboards influence decisions.

ThreatIQ Labs Field Notes — helping organizations turn telemetry into trusted intelligence.

info@threatiqlabs.com · threatiqlabs.com