

## CYBER 66

THE HOTTEST PRIVATELY HELD CYBERSECURITY COMPANIES



Source: OpenAI ChatGPT-5.2

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Did that just happen? Perhaps artificial intelligence (AI) has now harnessed the ability to influence the space/time fabric because 2025 seemed to go by in a blink. But it was not for lack of seismic events, not the least of which were three significant M&A transactions in the cybersecurity space: two of which removed high-profile Cyber 66 names from our list (Armis and Wiz) and the third swallowed one of our cyber coverage names (Palo Alto Networks [PANW, MO, \$250 PT] closed its acquisition of CyberArk on February 11). The deals marked a continuation of the cyber consolidation/platform theme but also reflected three major technology players, not all pure-play cyber vendors, placing their own individual bets on AI and how best to take advantage of the coming transformation. Threat actors also maintained their relentless pace in 2025 conducting the largest SaaS supply-chain breach in history by exploiting the Drift/Salesforce (CRM, MO, \$405 PT, Walravens) integration, while a Russia-linked group orchestrated targeted attacks across ~30 energy sites in Poland, disabling operational technology beyond repair. And as a clear sign of the times, Anthropic disclosed in November that China-linked hackers manipulated its Claude Code tool to perform a near 100% autonomous cyber-attack.

Escaping from AI seemed all but impossible in 2025. Instead of trying to swim upstream, we leveraged our discussions with Cyber 66 executives to continue pulling on the string of how AI is influencing cyber vendors and the customers they support. Since last year's survey focused more on generative AI capabilities, this year's questions revolved specifically around agentic AI. The first question, although rather simple, was perhaps the most telling: *Are customers coming to you to secure their agentic AI use cases?* The answer was a resounding "yes" as over 70% of our survey participants across various subsectors of cybersecurity indicated positive customer demand for security controls related to their use of agentic AI. The response can be viewed as perhaps a small reprieve from the wider narrative of the last several months that agentic AI will ultimately swallow the fortunes of SaaS providers, a view that has adversely affected software valuations, including our cyber coverage names, in early 2026. We remain confident in our opinion that cyber platforms will be able to leverage AI and benefit from its widespread adoption rather than succumb to its power, a sentiment we attempt to depict on this year's Cyber 66 cover drawing inspiration from Norman Rockwell and Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*. The full results of our agentic AI survey as well as a sampling of some of the more interesting and insightful perspectives from the Cyber 66 executives we interviewed are provided in the body of the report below.

The last section of the report, prior to the individual company profiles, examines venture capital activity in 2025. As public cybersecurity valuations improved throughout 2025 (median forward revenue multiples in our coverage increased from 8.3x in January 2025 to 9.6x in December 2025), fund raising activity reached the highest levels since 2021, driven by an exceptionally strong Q4. Venture funding in the United States increased 66% y/y in 2025, with a 47% increase y/y globally. Within our Cyber 66 cohort, venture funding totaled \$3,569M in 2025, up 23% from 2024. For investors, M&A activity within our prior Cyber 66 cohort as well as the broader cyber market remained robust in 2025 as both the consolidation/platform trend and pre-positioning for the AI security opportunity seemed to drive transactions. 2025 also experienced a modest uptick in cyber IPO activity as two players, SailPoint (SAIL, NC) and Netskope (NTSK, MO, \$27 PT), made the leap into the public markets in February and September, respectively, a trend we hope continues in 2026.

Lastly, we would be remiss if we did not extend our appreciation to the executives from our Cyber 66 who took time away from leading their companies to share their perspectives with us. Our Cyber 66 report garners its name from computer science legend Admiral Grace Hopper who said, *"The most dangerous phrase in the language is, 'We've always done it this way.'"* Thank you for pushing boundaries and the status quo in an effort to keep us safe. And with that, we are pleased to highlight our view of the most well-positioned private cybersecurity companies in our 2026 Cyber 66.

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**About the Cover:**  
This year's cover is an amalgam of Norman Rockwell and Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, as cyber platforms attempt to wrangle AI by the tail, harnessing its power to strengthen defenses and extend their relevance in an increasingly autonomous digital world.



**Teleport**

**Founded:** 2015  
**Revenue:** \$50M-\$100M

[www.goteleport.com](http://www.goteleport.com)  
 855.818.9008

2100 Franklin St., Suite 400  
 Oakland, CA 94612

**Company Summary:** Positioned as a provider of AI Infrastructure Identity, Teleport provides security by establishing a unified layer for infrastructure, with humans, machines, workloads, and AI agents secured cryptographically with a hardware root of trust rather than vulnerable credentials. By replacing access management systems with Infrastructure Identity, Teleport scales zero trust across cloud and on-prem environments, eliminating the complexity and risk created by identity fragmentation and credential sprawl. Teleport's platform now includes advanced features for large enterprises, such as integration with AWS IAM Identity Center and multi-region high availability. Logos include Nasdaq, IBM, DoorDash, and Elastic.

**Products/Services:** Teleport's Infrastructure Identity Platform provides secure, on-demand access to critical infrastructure, built on cryptographic identity and zero trust principles. Teleport for Access & Governance supports SSH, Kubernetes, databases, web applications, Windows consoles, and cloud environments like AWS, Azure, and GCP. Teleport Identity integrates governance and security for seamless management of user identities and access privileges. Teleport for Identity Security unifies policy and identity management across all infrastructure components, ensuring centralized access control and compliance. Recent enhancements include AI-specific capabilities such as AI Session Summaries, its own secure Model Context Protocol (MCP), and development of an Agentic Identity Framework for the safe deployment of agents.

**Key Officers:**

- Ev Kontsevoy – CEO & Co-Founder
- Alexander Klizhentas – CTO & Co-Founder
- Taylor Wakefield – COO & Co-Founder
- Jeff Bunten – CRO
- Diana Jovin – CMO

**Competition:**

- BeyondTrust
- Palo Alto Networks (CyberArk)
- Delinea
- IBM (HashiCorp)

**Total Funding:** \$170M

**Board of Directors:**

- Ev Kontsevoy – Co-Founder, Teleport
- Taylor Wakefield – Co-Founder, Teleport
- Josh Coyne – Partner, Kleiner Perkins
- Paul Gaffney – Independent
- Shvet Jain – GP, S28 Capital

**Key Investors:**

- Bessemer Venture Partners
- Insight Partners
- Kleiner Perkins
- s28 Capital

**Headcount:** 220

- Open Positions: 31
- U.S. based: 24
- International: 7
- Sales: 11
- Other: 20

*Source: Company website, all revenues are CY-25*

