Curriculum Vitae – **Senior Security Expert, C-Level Advisor & Keynote Speaker**

Candid (Alex) Wüest

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Candid Wüest is a Cybersecurity expert with 25 years of experience combining deep technical skills, visionary leadership, and a passion for innovation. Known for effective C-level communication, strategic problem-solving, and cross-functional leadership in high-stakes environments. Proven ability to bridge technical expertise with business strategy, driving forward-thinking security solutions across global teams.

Work experience:

Period	Function, company & job description
11/2023 – 06/2024	**Vice President of Product Management Security** *Acronis, [Rheinweg 9, 8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland]* Directed a team of 5 PMs, overseeing a comprehensive security portfolio including Email, EDR, XDR, MDR, and DLP. Working on market analysis & G2M strategy, roadmap planning, managing agile releases with R&D, conducting sales enablement and PR/marketing guidance on value proposition. Briefing the CEO on regular update calls regarding progress and strategy. Briefing key customers. Presenting at conferences, talking to press and analysts. Creating threat reports.
10/2022 – 11/2023	**Vice President of Global Research** *Acronis, [Rheinweg 9, 8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland]* Leading a global team of 25+ researchers on corporate research projects around security, AI/LLM, networking, privacy, data storage & market intelligence. Creating 27 patent submissions. Presenting at conferences, talking to press and analysts. Creating research and threat reports. Discontinued due to restructuring.
03/2020 – 10/2022	**Vice President of Cyber Protection Research** *Acronis, [Rheinweg 9, 8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland]* Head of global Cyber Protection Operation Center, building and leading a global team of malware analysts, advising on strategic M&A and technical roadmap decisions. Leading a research center for advanced protection and threat intel projects. Presentations for key customers, PR & conferences. Briefing executives & nations on current threats. Working in various working groups including WEF. Key global spokesperson for media requests.
12/2006 – 03/2020	**Senior Principal Threat Researcher / Security Response Software Engineer** *Symantec AG, [Prime Center 3, Hotelstrasse 1, 8058 Zürich Airport, Switzerland]* Technical team lead for the security response information delivery team. Threat intel lead for EMEA and LE customers. Global lead for all security response communications including PR. Define and lead advanced threat research projects on new IT threats and define the strategy for the security response team. Influencing new product releases. Create public research white papers, custom reports, and the weekly security brief podcast.
06/2004 – 11/2006	**Security Response Engineer** *Symantec Ltd, [Ballycoolin Business Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, Ireland]* Reverse engineering and analyzing customer virus submissions, creating AV signatures, repair code and write-ups, develop/research new security tools. Security spokesperson and presenter. Building the local EMEA team.
08/2003 – 06/2004	**System Engineer** *Symantec AG, [Bassersdorf 8303, Switzerland]* One of two technical presales responsible for all of Switzerland. Providing technical assistance for Symantec's security products, and various presentations for PR, customers & partners. Conduct technical product training.
11/2002 – 3/2003	**Diploma thesis** *IBM Zurich Research Laboratory, [Rüschlikon, Zurich, Switzerland)* *Topic*: Desktop Firewalls and the integration with intrusion detection systems *Supervisor*: Dr. Dominique Alessandri
1999 – 2003	**CSO & Founder** (second job mandate, company sold in 2003) *Creativa netconsulting GmbH, [Zürich, Switzerland]*
Prior to 2001:	Internship at *IBM Zurich Research Laboratory, [Rüschlikon, Zürich, Switzerland)*

Seminars & publications:

Presented at (selection):
- Phishbot - DACH Law Enforcement conference 2024, Bochum (DE)
- Gartner Risk & Security Summit 2023, Washington DC (US)
- Keynote speaker at CloudFest 2023
- RSA US 2020+2019+2018+2017+2022+2023, San Francisco (US)
- Security Analyst Summit 17, St. Maarten (NL)
- VB 15 (Virus bulletin conference), Prague (CZ)
- BlackHat EU 14, Amsterdam (NL)
- FBI internal conference 06, Washington DC (US)
- Teaching SANS GIAC Certified Incident Handler mentor class, Dublin (IE)
- Multiple guest lectures at ETH Zurich, SIT, FHNW and other places, on IT security
- Various other public and private IT events (see online at http://candid.ch/cv)

Publications / Articles:
- More than 3'000 articles/citations in international magazines, papers, radio and TV incl. Wall Street Journal Europe, FT, Forbes, CNN, BBC, CNBC, Spiegel, PRO7
- Multiple Acronis, Symantec & IBM technical whitepapers - Publication h-index 19
- Co-author of the Symantec Internet Security Threat Report, Acronis Threat Report
- 20+ software patent applications, some pending.
- Author of "Entscheidungen zum Schweizerischen IT-Recht" EAN:9783738672763

Committees / Boards:
- Member of the Defcon Switzerland board and organizer of the Area41 conference
- Advisor for Swiss federation on cyber risks for critical infrastructure (BWL/ICT Standard)
- Advisor for IT security board canton Schaffhausen (IT-SH)
- Technical advisor for three IT startups:
    - SixEngines (Austin TX) / xorlab (Switzerland) / AEGYS Datalytics (Germany)

Certifications / Trainings / Awards (Selection):

- SANS GIAC certificates – GCIH, GSEC Gold, GREM, GCFA (not renewed)
- (ISC)² Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) (not renewed)
- Multiple communication, PR & media trainings
- Winner of Cybersecurity Executive of the Year 2021 (Excellence Awards)
- Finalist of the German Outstanding Security Performance Award 2017
- Symantec global cyber war games (CTF): 1st in 2013, 2nd in 2014. 2nd in 2015,…
- Winner of the Facebook Dublin capture the flag game: March 2013
- Symantec employee standing ovation award 2018, 2016, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010

Education:

Period	School
1997 - 2003	Computer Science at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich Switzerland (ETH/Technical University), http://www.inf.ethz.ch Dipl. Inf. Ing. ETH master's degree in Computer Science
1992 - 1997	High school, science-mathematics, (Matura Typus C) Schaffhausen (Switzerland)
1984 - 1992	Primary school & secondary school Uhwiesen (Switzerland)
Federal service:	Cryptologist in the Swiss army Krypt Detachment (no longer in active service)

Language skills:

German/Swiss	native language
English	fluent
French	fluent
Portuguese	beginner

Computer skills:

Excellent overall security know-how. Excellent overall computer knowledge. Experience: Scrum/Kanban, Jira, AI, confluence. Windows, several UNIX flavors, Kali. ClickHouse, Databricks, Hadoop. SIEM, IDA pro, Azure, AWS