

How AES, a Fortune 500 company, fueled security vigilance and measurably lowered the human cyber-risk factor



About

The AES Corporation is the leading next-generation energy company with over four decades of experience helping the world transition to clean, renewable energy.

With 9000+ employees and contractors across the globe, securing their workforce is a key priority.

Before Hoxhunt, they had trialed three major awareness training solutions.



Challenge

Every legacy security awareness training tool fell short of reducing risk and addressing the cybersecurity challenges and needs of AES:

A dispersed global workforce;
Effective scaling of training in multiple languages;
Perception and low enthusiasm for cybersecurity training;
Poor integrations;
Automated analysis of reported threats.



Solution

Clearly, it was time for a change.

Upending the traditional awareness model, AES transitioned to Hoxhunt's Human Risk Management platform and measurably reduced risk and raised resilience by orders of magnitude above the biggest legacy SAT tools on the market.

Results

- ✓ Before Hoxhunt, security training engagement remained stagnant no matter the tool. And if people weren't participating, they weren't learning.
- ✓ The high engagement levels give the AES security team unprecedented visibility into human risk across the organization, decreasing failure rate by 79% and increasing their Resilience Ratio by over 25x.
- ✓ In July 2023, AES was **awarded the CSO50 Award** for outstanding achievement in cybersecurity awareness and response.

526% increase in reporting ("engagement") rate

58% decrease in miss rate

79% decrease in failure rate

25x increase in Resilience Ratio

“Clearly, it was time for a change.”

According to **David Badanes**, Director of Cybersecurity Strategic Initiatives at AES, the organization's challenge was not with a specific solution, but with the security awareness training model itself. AES needed a solution that would help them drive interest in cybersecurity to new levels and make good security behavior a habit.

Hoxhunt vs. legacy SAT tools

Over one summer, the AES team assessed Hoxhunt with a broad group of users in a defined pilot and created a robust change management process. Hoxhunt delivered immediate results upon its adoption, which helped further cement leadership buy-in and further embedded a security culture throughout the organization as a shared responsibility and core business value.

Outcomes

Hoxhunt combined several functionalities onto one platform: Compliance, awareness, and behavior change training fed directly into and augmented threat detection and response.

More training meant fewer clicks and more threat reports. The higher volume of automatically orchestrated threat reports helped reduce SOC hours and let security leadership focus on the incidents that matter.

Why these results matter

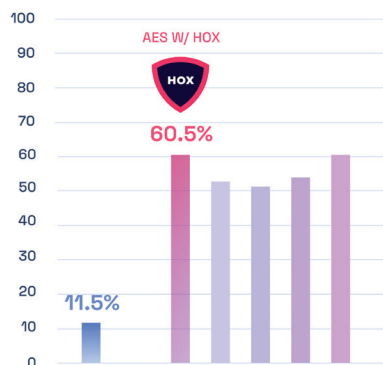
Good security posture is a competitive advantage today. The evolving threat landscape significantly impacts business operations, particularly given the rise in ransomware and software supply chain attacks. The AES team has noted that phishing and training metrics are increasingly requested by external parties.

“Hoxhunt has helped us push our resilience into new territory and surpass anything our legacy SAT tools could deliver.”

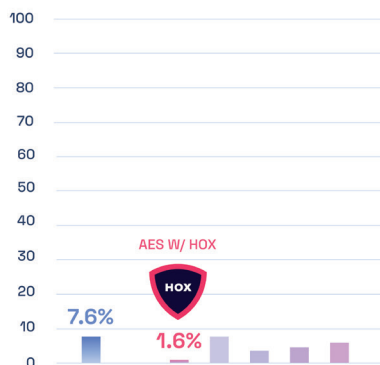
— RYAN BOULAIS, VP & CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER

AES with Hoxhunt vs. previous solutions

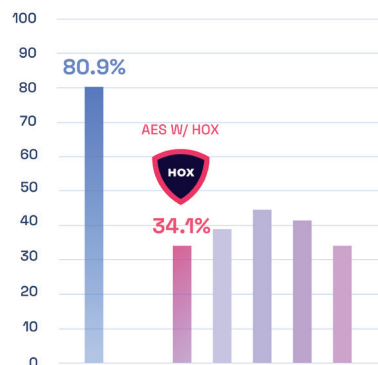
REPORT RATE (% OF EMPLOYEES)



FAIL RATE (% OF EMPLOYEES)



MISS RATE (% OF EMPLOYEES)



3-TOOL AGGREGATE

AES W/ HOX HOX ORG 1 HOX ORG 2 HOX ORG 3 HOX ORG 4