# Richard A. Van Houten

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## Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)

### Retail • Construction • Aerospace • Defense

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### Master IT Strategist and Implementer | Literally Built a Global IT System from the Ground Up

Take-charge IT Executive with special expertise building global data centers and tightening information security for extremely large enterprises. Relentlessly improves security, streamlines business processes, and cuts overhead. Known for exceptional strength in three areas:

- **Leadership**: Steadily promoted through the IT ranks of the USA's second-largest retail company. Acquired hands-on leadership skills and training as civilian executive and non-commissioned officer in the US Army.

- **Initiative**: Expert at taking a vague idea and transforming it into a new department or business process.

- **Versatility**: Wears many hats. Able to orchestrate very large-scale initiatives that encompass IT infrastructure, construction of new facilities, organizational restructuring, and negotiation with local governments, property owners, and unions.

## Executive Performance and Achievements

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**THE HOME DEPOT (THD)**                                                        Atlanta, GA, 1987–Present

*Second-largest retailer in the USA. Sells construction products and services worldwide. Approx. 2200 stores, $72 billion annual revenues, and 323,000 employees.*

Currently manage 260 people with dual reporting to Corporate CIO and Vice President of Computing Services. Promoted five times and commended for exceptional performance with more than 18 company awards and honors.

### CAREER PROGRESSION

**Chief Information Security Officer, CISO (2004–Present)**

**Director, Information Security (2003–2004)**

**Strategy Manager, Information Security (2002–2003)**

**Strategic Applications Manager, Information Security (1997–2002)**

**Data Center Manager (1994–1997)**

**Various Development and Engineering Roles (1987–1994)**

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS (1996–Present)

- Originated corporate Information Security team that consolidated IT security operations. Grew initial team from 6 people and $3.5 million budget (1996) to 120 certified security professionals and $74 million budget.

- Achieved PCI (payment card industry) certification within nine months by implementing a $54 million remediation initiative. Led team that designed and patented two retail-encryption tools for credit card data.

- Established comprehensive IT Compliance Strategy ("TotalMatrix") that ensures enterprise-wide compliance with SOX, PCI, HIPPA, and privacy laws.

  - TotalMatrix morphed into Comprehensive Security Risk and Compliance Review, which was adopted throughout Home Depot.

  - Improved CoBIT rating 15% (from 2.8 to 3.2).

- Created a forensic investigation unit that supports the legal department during proceedings. New unit eliminated outside services, processed 495 requests, and saved $15 million in its first year. Currently saving $42 million in annually and procession over more than annual requests.

**SELECTED PROJECTS (2005–Present)**

- Selected by Home Depot CIO to create a new department, improve the performance of IT Field Implementation teams, and consolidate planning for Disaster Recovery and Continuity of Business.

- Created Enterprise Business Continuity team – initial investment $4.2 million – that produced an Enterprise IT Pandemic Plan, Business Continuity Strategy, Global Data Center Strategy, Business Risk Analysis, and a Global Risk Categorization Model (all implemented within one year).

- Achieved additional spending reductions, for example:
  - Cut labor spend $8 million by optimizing performance of Field Implementation Teams.
  - Negotiated labor and technology agreements on $998 million total budget that cut store implementation costs by cut 12% per site.
  - Reduced telecom expenses $4 million as part of post-audit process during FY2010. Currently forecasting an additional $7 million savings in FY2011.
  - Slashed cabling expenses nearly 100% – from $16 million to $8 million – by liquidating department, reducing workforce, and outsourcing work to third parties.

- Implemented a cost-reduction project that cost only $170,000 and saved $1.1 million in labor, inventory, and fuel consumption for store-expansion projects.

- Achieved 85% improvement in energy efficiency during data-center expansion – from 65 to 120 watts per square foot – and extended the life of data centers for an additional two years.

**MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (1997–2003)**

Hand picked by CEO and CIO of Home Depot to transform the IT organization and build a scalable infrastructure to support THD's explosive growth. Six-year project included additional buildings, personnel, and data centers – and ultimately required $346 million investment and 330 acres of commercial office property.

- Project-managed creation of new offices for 3,500+ personnel that cost $61 million in land and construction.

- Consolidated datacenters into a single, low-cost facility about 14 miles from Home Depot's Atlanta HQ – a $67 million land and construction investment – that paid for itself within three years. Both datacenters are Tier IV protected (among a tiny handful of non-military data centers that can operate without battery backup).

- Built an IT Distribution Center that consolidated technology projects ("ORB Complex"), a $7 million project co-located with a new datacenter. Also built a $5 million backup Disaster Recovery Facility. Construction involved extensive negotiation with utilities, owners of private property, and local governments for road-widening and approvals for easements.

## Distinguished Military Service

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: Awarded Bronze Star, Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, and other military honors during combat deployment as Battalion Fire Direction Chief in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Desert Watch (1990–1992). Trained extensively in practical leadership skills as noncommissioned officer (honor graduate, US Army Primary Leadership Development Course).

## Education and Professional Development

B.S., Business, Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN (1998)

Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) • Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)

Extensive training in CoBIT, ITIL, and HIPPA