

Bata Group

Kevin Noll, Global Head of Infrastructure, Operations and Security



Global CTO with 25+ years of experience leading large-scale technology transformation, operational resilience, and cyber risk reduction in complex, regulated, and federated environments.

I specialise in unifying fragmented technology landscapes, strengthening resilience, and improving operational maturity while balancing cost, risk, and business realities at global scale.

My background spans financial services, insurance, managed services, and global retail, with deep experience in infrastructure, operations, cyber security, and platform modernisation. I am frequently engaged where organisations need to stabilise, modernise, and govern critical technology estates under pressure.

The Bata Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers and retailers of quality footwear. A global concern with more than 32,000 employees, 21 production facilities, over 5,300 stores in more than 70 countries across the globe, Bata has been providing the best shoes at the best prices, backed by unparalleled service, for 125+ years.



Since its founding on September 21, 1894, by Thomas Bata, the company has consistently demonstrated its commitment to responsible and innovative business models in the belief that capital is not just money, buildings or technology, but, more importantly, people, knowledge and core values. This visionary approach has enabled the company to meet each new challenge with creativity and foresight, while earning the trust and confidence of customers, employees and the communities in which it does business.

DEPARTMENT BREAKDOWN

WHAT ARE YOUR KEY DEPARTMENTAL OBJECTIVES OVER THE NEXT 6 TO 12 MONTHS?

Reinforce security posture, standardise, optimise and centralise. Address gaps in our cyber resiliency

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT TECHNOLOGY STACK?

First Technology, Grant Thornton, CrowdStrike, Akamai, Upguard, Cymulate, Microsoft, Mimecast, Netskope

HOW MANY PEOPLE REPORT TO YOU (BOTH DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY)?

25 + 120

WHO DO YOU REPORT TO?

CIO

WHAT IS YOUR TOTAL BUDGET OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS PERIOD?

Up to €25 million

PROJECT INSIGHTS

PROJECT OR INITIATIVE DESCRIPTION

Closing cyber-resiliency gaps with Identity, SP, oneDrive and Email.

Implement automation across our IT landscape.

Perform analysis on our Threat Surface

WHAT 3RD PARTIES ARE YOU HOPING TO MEET WITH?

Any related to security, Infrastructure and operations

WHAT IS YOUR TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION?

ASAP

WHAT IS YOUR BUDGET FOR THIS PROJECT?

€5-10 million

What technology/services are of strategic importance to you in the next 12 months?

Please indicate level of need/importance below.

We realize everyone has priorities, so we asked the delegates theirs. This is so that we can create a more personalized experience for all our attendees.

Modernizing IT infrastructure with converged and hyper-converged platforms for scalability.	A
Adopting hybrid and multi-cloud strategies for flexibility and cost optimization.	D
Implementing advanced network security solutions, including zero-trust architectures.	C
Deploying automation and orchestration tools for efficient IT operations.	B
Upgrading to high-speed fiber optic networking for increased bandwidth and lower latency.	C
Integrating edge computing to process data closer to the source and reduce latency.	D
Utilizing data center infrastructure management (DCIM) tools for real-time monitoring and optimization.	A
Enhancing data storage with scalable, cloud-based solutions.	A
Implementing AI-driven analytics for proactive infrastructure management.	A
Strengthening compliance monitoring for industry regulations (e.g., HIPAA, PCI DSS, GDPR).	B
Investing in sustainable, energy-efficient data center technologies.	D
Deploying real-time visibility and analytics for threat detection and response.	A
Automating incident response and remediation to reduce security risks.	B
Integrating cloud-native platforms (e.g., Kubernetes) for agile application deployment.	C
Upgrading power and cooling systems to support AI and high-performance workloads.	B
Implementing asset management tools for hardware and software lifecycle tracking.	A
Leveraging quantum communication and advanced encryption for secure data transmission.	C