



Case Study



Boise State's Cyberdome Empowers Students and Secures Idaho Communities

Building Real-World Cybersecurity Skills While Delivering Protection for Rural Organizations

Boise State University's **Cyberdome** program combines hands-on education with real-world security operations, giving cybersecurity students practical experience while delivering protective services to rural Idaho cities, school districts, and counties. Under the program, the university's Institute for Pervasive Cybersecurity selected **Stellar Cyber's open and unifying SecOps platform** to power this initiative—eliminating visibility gaps, automating investigation work, and enabling students to work from real telemetry on real problems.

Before



Theoretical Training Only

Students learned cybersecurity concepts but lacked real operational experience.



Disconnected Tools & Manual Effort

Existing security tools required manual correlation, slowing insight.



Limited Community Protection

Rural clients lacked access to professional detection or response resources.



No Centralized SOC Experience

Students lacked exposure to holistic security operations.



High Alert Noise, Low Actionability

Manual alerts were difficult to prioritize.

With Stellar Cyber



Real-World Skill Development

Students work on live security operations, gaining practical experience while defending actual networks.



Unified Visibility & Automatic Triage

Multi-Layer AI™ automatically correlates telemetry into prioritized incidents.



Operational Protection for Rural Organizations

Students monitor assets and identify threats on behalf of school districts and cities.



Human-Augmented Autonomous SOC Model

Students learn and apply real SOC workflows supported by automation.



Prioritized, Actionable Incidents

Unified incident queues help students and analysts focus on true threats.

Life Before Stellar Cyber

Before adopting Stellar Cyber, the Cyberdome initiative struggled with the common challenge of translating classroom theory into real operations. Students had limited access to integrated toolsets that could reflect the complexity and pace of real threats. The team needed a platform that unified data from diverse sources and enabled analysts—both learners and supervisors—to see beyond raw logs and focus on incidents that matter.

Why Boise State Chose Stellar Cyber

Boise State wanted a solution that would serve dual purposes:

- ☑ Train the next generation of cybersecurity professionals with real operational experience.
- ☑ Provide protective services to underserved rural communities that lack security expertise and resources.

Stellar Cyber's open and unifying SecOps platform met both needs. It integrated with existing tools, normalized diverse telemetry types, and used Multi-Layer AI™ to automatically triage and correlate activity into prioritized incidents that students could investigate and analyze with context. Students also gained experience with real SOC workflows in a human-augmented autonomous SOC environment—where automation accelerates routine work and human insight focuses on strategy.

This approach preserved the value of tools students already knew while giving them the advanced visibility and workflows they would encounter in professional environments.

Operations After Stellar Cyber

With the platform in place, the Cyberdome team quickly transformed its operations:

- ☑ Students now monitor over 5,000 assets on behalf of clients.
- ☑ Between January and July 2023, they analyzed more than 53,000 possible attacks and reported 350 potential real-time incidents to clients.

Instead of chasing disparate alerts, students work from a unified incident queue enabled by automatic triage and prioritization. This gives them visibility into correlated activity across networks, endpoints, cloud, and identity systems—helping them identify and respond to threats with confidence.

Rural clients now receive enterprise-grade security protection they could not afford on their own, and students build professional skills on live cases, learning how to investigate, prioritize, and escalate incidents.

Outcome

The Cyberdome program delivers measurable benefits both educationally and operationally:

- ✓ **Real-world SOC experience for students**, preparing them for careers in cybersecurity.
- ✓ **Improved security for rural organizations** that lack dedicated cybersecurity staff or budget.
- ✓ **Increased capacity and confidence** for students and supervisors alike.

“We’ve had a phenomenal year... there are now dozens of Idaho students certified on using the platform”

– Edward Vasko, Director of Boise State’s Institute for Pervasive Cybersecurity.

“Being provided insight into activities on our network that we didn’t have visibility into before has been very useful”

– Client from Lewis-Clark State College.

By unifying telemetry and automating routine work, Stellar Cyber enables Boise State’s Cyberdome to serve dual missions: **train tomorrow’s defenders and protect today’s underserved communities**. Students learn by doing, while clients benefit from structured, contextual incident detection and response—delivered through a platform that scales with evolving needs.

About Stellar Cyber

Stellar Cyber’s open and unifying SecOps platform delivers comprehensive, unified security without complexity, empowering lean security teams of any skill to successfully secure their environments.

With Stellar Cyber, organizations move from manual, alert-driven operations to a human-augmented autonomous SOC that identifies, validates, and responds to risk with speed and precision. Customers reduce false positives by more than 80%, improve analyst productivity, and lower operational costs—while retaining existing security investments and gaining measurable improvements in risk reduction and response consistency. The company is based in Silicon Valley.