EXECUTIVE FORUM
FUTURE TRENDS IN AI AND API SECURITY

Jio Convention Centre, BKC, Mumbai
February 10, 2025

KEY METRICS

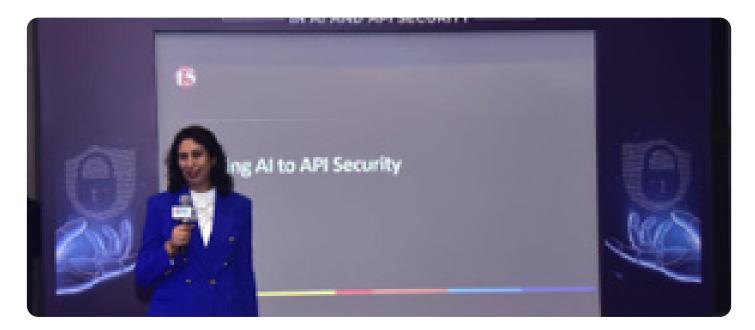1 SESSION | 80+ TECH LEADERS | 2+ HOURS OF DISCUSSION

Session Overview

In an era where digital threats evolve faster than ever, staying ahead requires innovation, collaboration, and deep industry insights. On February 10, 2025,ObserveNow in collaboration with F5 brought together 80+ top CXOs, IT leaders, and cybersecurity experts at Mumbai's prestigious Jio Convention Centre to decode the future of AI-driven security and API protection.

With India's BFSI and fintech sectors rapidly embracing digital transformation, the need for robust, intelligent security frameworks has never been more critical. This exclusive executive forum was designed to not just highlight challenges but provide actionable solutions — empowering businesses to fortify their security postures in an AI-powered world.

Keynote Address

Vaishali B. Shivshankar, Head of Marketing, India & SAARC, delivered the keynote address, shedding light on the pivotal role of API security in enabling seamless digital experiences without compromising on protection. She emphasized how APIs are the backbone of modern digital ecosystems, especially in the BFSI and fintech domains, and how securing them is essential to maintaining customer trust and regulatory compliance. Vaishali also highlighted F5's strategic vision and innovative solutions that empower organizations to proactively detect, defend, and mitigate API-based threats using AI and automation. Her address set the tone for a day filled with thought-provoking discussions and practical insights.

After the address, attendees experienced a live demo on F5's game-changing solutions:

- **API Discovery & Protection** – Identifying, securing, and managing API endpoints with precision
- **AI Security Gateway** – Harnessing artificial intelligence for automated, proactive threat mitigation.

The session ended with an open discussion and interactive Q&A, giving attendees a rare opportunity to address their security concerns directly with F5 experts.

Why This Event Mattered

- **Exclusive Access to Cybersecurity Innovators –** Decision-makers from BFSI, fintech, and digital enterprises engaged directly with F5's top security experts.
- **AI & API Security Insights –** From advanced bot mitigation to API discovery, the event delivered hands-on strategies for real-world implementation.
- **Real-Time Solutions, Real** - World Problems – Live demos and interactive discussions showcased how enterprises can preempt cyber threats with AI-driven solutions.
- **Networking with Industry Experts –** The forum wasn't just about discussions; it was a catalyst for partnerships, opening doors for future collaborations.

Key Discussions & Insights

API Security & BIG-IP Next – How organizations can safeguard their API ecosystems from sophisticated cyber threats.

- **AI-Powered Bot Mitigation & Advanced WAF –** Fighting intelligent bot attacks with adaptive AI-driven security layers.
- **SSL Orchestration, DDoS Protection & DNS Security –** Ensuring seamless security compliance while enhancing performance.

The forum made it clear: cybersecurity is not just a necessity—it's a business enabler. Organizations that embed security at the core of their digital strategy gain a competitive edge in today's hyperconnected world.

Audience Profile

The forum was attended by a curated group of 65+ senior IT and security leaders from India's top BFSI, fintech, and digital-first enterprises, including:

1. `Datta Bhide, Axis Securities, Head - IT
2. Jagdish Gadhia, Axis Securities, Head - IT
3. Atul, Bak of India ,General Manager - IT
4. Prashant Fernandnes, BOB CAPITAL, VP - IT
5. Ravi Kumar, CDSL, AVP - IT
6. Ashwin Taware, Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance, DVP - IT
7. Rajub Singh, Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance, Head - DC operations
8. Rajendra Panchal, Future Generali India Insurance Co Ltd, CISO
9. Neeraj Saini, HDFC Bank Ltd, AVP - IT
10. Dipesh Patel, HDFC Bank Ltd, DVP - IT
11. Dhananjay Shet, Hitachi Payments, Head - IT Infra
12. Gulshan . Narula ., ICICI Bank, Head - IT
13. Pratik Sayare, ICICI Securities, AVP - IT
14. Anand Kumbhani, ICICI Securities, VP - IT
15. Subramanian V, DBI Bank, CISO
16. Yaseen Ansari, IIFL, VP - IT
17. Selvan Mohan. Incred, AVP - IT
18. Vivek Zakarde, India First Life, CDAO
19. Abhijit Kedare, IndusInd Bank Limited,Chief Manager - information Technology Security
20. Rajesh Patel, JM Financial Services Ltd, VP - IT
21. Sanjay Patil, JM Financial Services Ltd, AVP - IT
22. Neilmani Sahu, JSW Paints, Head - IT
23. Sandeep Sharma, L&T Finance, Head - Application Security
24. Nishant Sheth, L&T Finance, Chief Manager - Application Security
25. Gaurav Srivastava, NPCI, Head - Technology BHIM
26. Mayank Mehta, NSDL, AVP - IT
27. Gaurav Midha, NSE Indices & Data, CISO

Audience Profile

28. Sanjay Jaiswal, Nuvama Wealth Investment Limited, DVP - IT

29. Shathish Ramraj PMP, Sharekhan, VP - IT

30. Sethu Raman Sharekhan, DVP - IT

31. Rasvinder Singh Nagpal, Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd., Lead -IT Infrastructure & Networks

32. Ashwini pandey, SMFG India, AVP - IT

33. Sandeep Chaurasia, SMFG India, AVP - Infra & Database

34. Mahendra Soni, Sodexo, CISO

35. Rushikant Shastri, State Bank of India , VP - IT

36. Farhad Chauhan, TATA AIG General Insurance, VP - IT

37. Mangesh Chitnis, Tata Digital, Head - IT

38. Yogesh Revaskar, Tata Digital, Lead - IT Infra

39. Bhavesh Panchal, VFS Global, VP - IT

40. Tejas Sandesara, Yes Bank, VP - IT

41. Navin Keswani,Yes Securities, EVP - IT

42. Riju George, Yes Securities, VP - Technology

43. Indresh Mishra, Yes Securities, AVP - IT

This high-caliber audience reinforced the strategic importance of API security, AI-driven threat mitigation, and compliance-ready cybersecurity architectures.

Key Takeaways: What This Means for Enterprises

- **API Security is Business Security** – A single breach can cost millions. Proactively securing APIs protects brand trust and operational continuity.

- **Bots Are Getting Smarter** – AI-powered threats require AI-powered defenses. Static security measures no longer suffice.

- **AI is the Future of Cybersecurity** – Adaptive threat detection and real-time response will redefine enterprise security strategies.

- **Security & Compliance Must Align** – Navigating evolving regulations requires an integrated security approach that balances protection with performance.

Beyond the Forum: Real Impact, Real Connections

The evening concluded with a networking session over dinner and drinks, where CISOs, CTOs, and security heads exchanged insights, challenges, and potential collaboration opportunities.

For F5, this wasn't just another industry event—it was a strategic engagement platform that deepened relationships with key stakeholders, strengthened brand leadership in the security domain, and positioned its solutions as mission-critical for the future of cybersecurity.

For attendees, it was a rare opportunity to gain exclusive insights, experience live technology in action, and connect with like-minded security professionals shaping the digital future.