FROST & SULLIVAN

BEST PRACTICES

2026 GLOBAL ZERO TRUST BROWSER SECURITY COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Island

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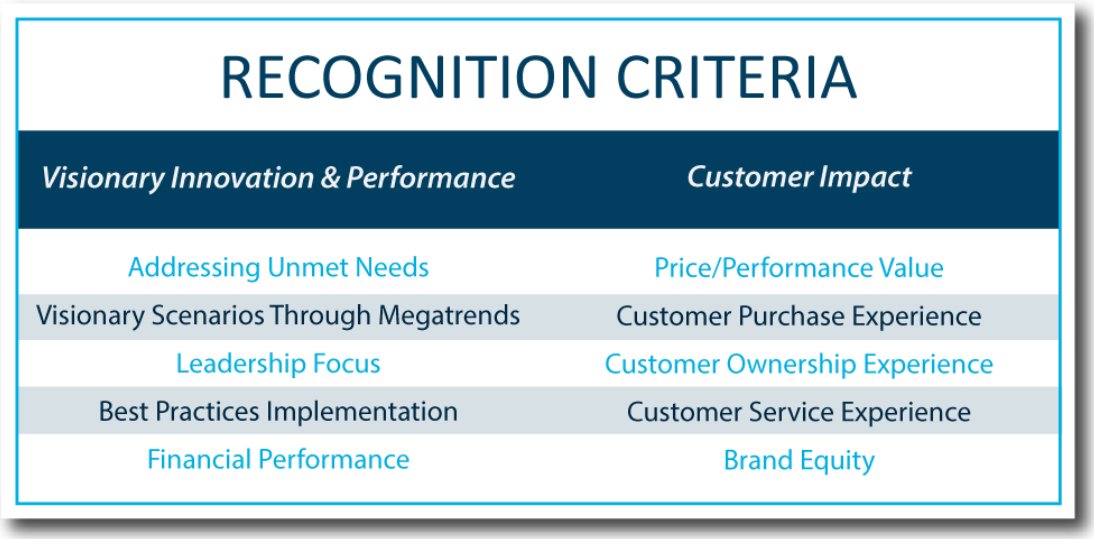
Best Practices Criteria for World-Class Performance

Frost & Sullivan applies a rigorous analytical process to evaluate multiple nominees for each recognition category before determining the final recognition recipient. The process involves a detailed evaluation of best practices criteria across two dimensions for each nominated company. Island excels in many of the criteria in the Zero Trust Browser Security space.



The Transformation of the Zero Trust Browser Industry

The cybersecurity landscape has undergone a seismic shift in recent years, driven by the rise of hybrid workforces, cloud-native applications, and increasingly sophisticated threat vectors. Traditional perimeter-based security models have proven inadequate in fully protecting enterprise assets, especially as users access sensitive data across unmanaged devices, remote locations, and third-party platforms. This evolution has catalyzed the emergence of Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA), which mandates continuous verification of user identity, device posture, and application context. Within this paradigm, browser security has become a critical control point—serving as the gateway to enterprise resources and the frontline for data protection.

Zero Trust Browser Security (ZTBS) has emerged as a transformative category, redefining how organizations enforce security policies at the application layer. Unlike legacy solutions that rely on network segmentation or endpoint agents, ZTBS platforms embed security directly into the browser experience, enabling granular control over user actions such as copy, paste, download, and print. This shift empowers enterprises to create secure enclaves around sensitive applications, enforce data loss prevention (DLP) policies, and monitor user behavior in real time, all without compromising productivity or user experience.

Island has played a pivotal role in shaping this transformation. By reimagining the browser as a secure enterprise workspace, Island has extended Zero Trust principles beyond web applications to thick clients, mobile platforms, and thin-client environments. Its innovations, such as Island Desktop, Lighthouse insights, and the Enterprise AI Browser, demonstrate a bold vision for integrating security, productivity,

and governance into a unified platform. This architecture is redefining how enterprises secure generative AI interactions. Rather than relying solely on network-based AI gateways, Island embeds AI governance directly within the browser environment where AI prompts and responses occur. This approach enables deeper visibility and policy enforcement at the user interaction layer, overcoming the limitations of network-centric security controls.

As organizations grapple with the complexities of hybrid work, AI adoption, and regulatory compliance, Island's approach offers a scalable, user-friendly, and policy-driven solution that meets modern enterprise security needs.

Reimagining the Enterprise Browser as a Zero Trust Workspace

The cybersecurity market is saturated with vendors offering incremental improvements to legacy systems, but Island stands apart by fundamentally redefining the enterprise browser as a secure digital workspace. Built on the Chromium platform, Island retains the familiar user interface while replacing part of the consumer codebase with a hardened enterprise tech stack. This architectural overhaul enables direct integration with identity providers via SAML and SCIM, ensuring seamless authentication and policy enforcement across user groups.

Island's innovation is not limited to browser functionality. The introduction of Island Desktop marks a breakthrough in extending Zero Trust policies to thick client applications such as SQL clients, ERP systems, and Microsoft Teams. This persistent background service eliminates the need for traditional VPNs, enabling secure connectivity and data protection across all application types. Additionally, Island Lighthouse leverages AI to surface actionable insights from audit data, transforming reactive log analysis into proactive risk management.

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>
> ***-Jarad Carleton,***
> ***Global Research Director, Cybersecurity, Frost & Sullivan***

Beyond enforcing security controls, Island is evolving the enterprise browser into an intelligent context engine. Its "browser memory" capability analyzes user workflows, application usage patterns, and contextual signals to inform AI interactions. Rather than relying solely on manual prompts, the browser can recommend AI actions and workflows aligned with the user's role and task history. This context-aware model dramatically improves productivity while ensuring that AI usage remains governed by enterprise policies.

The company's modular deployment strategy, offering both a full enterprise browser and a lightweight extension, further differentiates its approach. This flexibility allows organizations to scale visibility rapidly, while targeting high-risk cohorts with enhanced security controls. Island's ability to unify these modalities under a single management console with identical policy frameworks exemplifies its commitment to simplicity, scalability, and strategic foresight.

Island's Growth Mirrors Its Strategic Precision

Island's financial trajectory underscores its market leadership and investor confidence. In June 2025, the company closed a $250 million Series E financing round elevating its valuation from $3 billion to nearly $5 billion. Notably, all current investors, including Coatue, Sequoia, Insight Partners, Cyberstars (Gili), and JPMC, provided additional capital injections to maintain their proportional ownership, signaling a strong belief in the company's long-term vision and execution capabilities.

The infusion of capital has fueled aggressive expansion across global markets while onboarding enterprise customers across banking, healthcare, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, travel, and retail sectors. Recent wins include Lloyd's of London securing a full enterprise license agreement, and Japan's Ministry of Defense adopting Island through its reseller Magnica. These high-profile acquisitions reflect Island's ability to meet the stringent security requirements of regulated industries.

Island's per-user pricing model with unlimited device support aligns with modern usage patterns, ensuring predictable cost structures and eliminating trade-offs between browser and extension deployments. This approach, combined with rapid pilot-to-deployment cycles, has enabled Island to convert proof of concept deployments into full-scale rollouts with remarkable speed and efficiency.

Built With Customers For Real-World Security Needs

Island's product roadmap is deeply informed by customer feedback, formal research collaborations, and real-world use cases. The company actively co-develops features with enterprise clients, ensuring that new capabilities directly address operational pain points and security gaps. Enhancements in DLP, AI governance, and branded browser experiences are all rooted in customer needs and measurable outcomes.

Island's Enterprise Communications Service allows organizations to deploy targeted content such as HR surveys, compliance videos, and mandatory training directly within the browser homepage. This feature not only improves internal communications but also enforces content consumption for regulatory compliance. Similarly, its white-labeling capability enables full browser customization, allowing enterprises to brand Island as their own, complete with custom icons and installer packages.

Island also delivers comprehensive AI governance capabilities, providing enterprises with visibility into how employees interact with AI systems. Security teams can monitor AI application usage, capture prompts where permitted, and enforce data protection policies across generative AI interactions. This level of transparency enables organizations to adopt AI confidently while maintaining compliance with privacy regulations and internal security standards.

Furthermore, the company's focus on high-risk user cohorts including M&A teams, executives, and sensitive-data handlers ensures that its security controls are both relevant and impactful. By aligning product development with measurable customer outcomes in security posture and operational efficiency, Island exemplifies a customer-first philosophy that drives loyalty and long-term value.

AI Workflows with Enterprise-Grade Security Built In

Island's approach to innovation is both visionary and pragmatic. The platform's AI-powered workflow automation allows users to record application workflows as "skills" and combine them into complex processes using generative AI. Automations are monitored through digital experience analytics, enabling organizations to quantify time savings and productivity gains across thousands of users.

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> ***Global Research Director, Cybersecurity,***
> ***Frost & Sullivan***

These workflows operate as agentic automations capable of interacting with multiple enterprise applications, executing tasks such as user provisioning, ticket triage, and cross-platform updates. By combining recorded user actions with generative AI logic, Island enables organizations to automate complex processes while maintaining strict policy enforcement and auditability.

A defining element of Island's AI strategy is its ability to orchestrate multiple AI models rather than locking customers into a single provider. Through its "Bring Your Own AI" architecture, organizations can integrate enterprise instances of OpenAI, Gemini, Anthropic Claude, and other models simultaneously. Island dynamically enforces security policies across these interactions while enabling different user groups to access different models based on business requirements. This orchestration layer allows enterprises to govern AI adoption without constraining innovation or forcing standardization around a single AI ecosystem.

Island's AI integration also provides organizations with visibility into model usage by graphing where data is moving from and to as well as token consumption across multiple providers. By tracking AI activity and associated costs, enterprises can optimize model selection, visibility and granular controls including spending limits as generative AI adoption scales. This capability addresses a growing concern among large organizations where AI experimentation can either rapidly translate into unpredictable operational costs, or additional risk factors for an organization.

In addition, Island's R&D efforts prioritize enterprise-grade security, replacing consumer code with hardened components and integrating directly with identity providers. Advanced DLP techniques, screenshot blocking, and embedded browser isolation locally on the endpoint device further enhance the platform's security posture. These innovations are not only technically sophisticated but also scalable across global deployments, positioning Island as a technology leader in the ZTBS space.

Partner-Driven Growth with Enterprise-Grade Flexibility

Island's success is amplified by its strategic partnerships and ecosystem integrations. In a recent announcement, AWS extended its new Security Hub offering to include Island, positioning the Enterprise Browser as the sole browser-centric solution for safe browsing and AI protection, with compensation incentives driving joint sales and expansion opportunities. Moreover, its partnership with IGEL positions

Island as the primary user interface for thin-client environments, transforming low-cost devices into secure digital workspaces.

International expansion has been a key focus, with new hires in Japan, Sweden, India, and Australia. The Japanese reseller Magnica has successfully onboarded approximately 10 customers, including the Ministry of Defense, demonstrating Island's ability to navigate complex regulatory landscapes and deliver localized solutions for international companies with employees in locations with specific business and regulatory needs such as China.

These partnerships not only extend Island's reach but also reinforce its value proposition as a flexible, integrable, and globally relevant platform. By embedding itself within existing enterprise ecosystems, Island ensures seamless adoption and long-term sustainability.

Conclusion

Island has redefined the Zero Trust Browser Security industry through visionary innovation, robust financial performance, customer-centric development, and scalable technology leadership. Its enterprise browser platform integrates security, productivity, and governance into a seamless user experience, addressing the needs of modern hybrid workforces and regulated industries. With its strong overall performance, Island earns Frost & Sullivan's 2026 Global Company of the Year Recognition in the zero trust browser security industry.

What You Need to Know about the Company of the Year Recognition

Frost & Sullivan's Company of the Year Recognition is its top honor and recognizes the market participant that exemplifies visionary innovation, market-leading performance, and unmatched customer care.

Best Practices Recognition Analysis

For the Company of the Year Recognition, Frost & Sullivan analysts independently evaluated the criteria listed below.

Visionary Innovation & Performance

Addressing Unmet Needs: Customers' unmet or under-served needs are unearthed and addressed to create growth opportunities across the entire value chain

Visionary Scenarios Through Megatrends: Long-range scenarios are incorporated into the innovation strategy by leveraging megatrends and cutting-edge technologies, thereby accelerating the transformational growth journey

Leadership Focus: The company focuses on building a leadership position in core markets to create stiff barriers to entry for new competitors and enhance its future growth potential

Best Practices Implementation: Best-in-class implementation is characterized by processes, tools, or activities that generate consistent, repeatable, and scalable success

Financial Performance: Strong overall business performance is achieved by striking the optimal balance between investing in revenue growth and maximizing operating margin

Customer Impact

Price/Performance Value: Products or services offer the best ROI and superior value compared to similar market offerings

Customer Purchase Experience: Purchase experience with minimal friction and high transparency assures customers that they are buying the optimal solution to address both their needs and constraints

Customer Ownership Excellence: Products and solutions evolve continuously in sync with the customers' own growth journeys, engendering pride of ownership and enhanced customer experience

Customer Service Experience: Customer service is readily accessible and stress-free, and delivered with high quality, high availability, and fast response time

Brand Equity: Customers perceive the brand positively and exhibit high brand loyalty, which is regularly measured and confirmed through a high Net Promoter Score®

Best Practices Recognition Analytics Methodology

Inspire the World to Support True Leaders

This long-term process spans 12 months, beginning with the prioritization of the sector. It involves a rigorous approach that includes comprehensive scanning and analytics to identify key best practice trends. A dedicated team of analysts, advisors, coaches, and experts collaborates closely, ensuring thorough review and input. The goal is to maximize the company's long-term value by leveraging unique perspectives to support each Best Practice Recognition and identify meaningful transformation and impact.

		VALUE IMPACT	
STEP		WHAT	WHY
1	**Opportunity Universe**	Identify Sectors with the Greatest Impact on the Global Economy	Value to Economic Development
2	**Transformational Model**	Analyze Strategic Imperatives That Drive Transformation	Understand and Create a Winning Strategy
3	**Ecosystem**	Map Critical Value Chains	Comprehensive Community that Shapes the Sector
4	**Growth Generator**	Data Foundation That Provides Decision Support System	Spark Opportunities and Accelerate Decision-making
5	**Growth Opportunities**	Identify Opportunities Generated by Companies	Drive the Transformation of the Industry
6	**Frost Radar**	Benchmark Companies on Future Growth Potential	Identify Most Powerful Companies to Action
7	**Best Practices**	Identify Companies Achieving Best Practices in All Critical Perspectives	Inspire the World
8	**Companies to Action**	Tell Your Story to the World (BICEP*)	Ecosystem Community Supporting Future Success

*Board of Directors, Investors, Customers, Employees, Partners

About Frost & Sullivan

Frost & Sullivan is the Growth Pipeline Company™. We power our clients to a future shaped by growth. Our Growth Pipeline as a Service™ provides the CEO and the CEO's growth team with a continuous and rigorous platform of growth opportunities, ensuring long-term success. To achieve positive outcomes, our team leverages over 60 years of experience, coaching organizations of all types and sizes across 6 continents with our proven best practices. To power your Growth Pipeline future, visit Frost & Sullivan at http://www.frost.com.

The Growth Pipeline Generator™

Frost & Sullivan's proprietary model to systematically create ongoing growth opportunities and strategies for our clients is fueled by the Innovation Generator™.

Learn more.

Key Impacts:

- **Growth Pipeline:** *Continuous Flow of Growth Opportunities*
- **Growth Strategies:** *Proven Best Practices*
- **Innovation Culture:** *Optimized Customer Experience*
- **ROI & Margin:** *Implementation Excellence*
- **Transformational Growth:** *Industry Leadership*

The Innovation Generator™

Our 6 analytical perspectives are crucial in capturing the broadest range of innovative growth opportunities, most of which occur at the points of these perspectives.

Analytical Perspectives:

- Megatrend (MT)
- Business Model (BM)
- Technology (TE)
- Industries (IN)
- Customer (CU)
- Geographies (GE)