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Press Report

it-sa 2018: Security made in Germany for the 10th time

“The German economy has suffered a loss of 43 billion € because of espionage, sabotage and data thievery. With constantly growing dangers the problem awareness also needs to grow on the executive floors. State and enterprises need to cooperate more closely than before. The ‘Allianz für Cybersicherheit’ founded in 2012 offers an important cornerstone” says Iris Plöger, member of the BDI managing directory. Those who wanted to gather more information on the subject were just right at the it-sa 2018.

10th event

The IT-security-congress fair it-sa is expanding. The meeting place for providers and users took place from the 9th to 11th October in Nuremberg. In the last 10 years the fair has grown to be the biggest specialist trade fair for IT-security in the world, according to its own information: 696 exhibitors from 27 countries, 14.290 professional visitors from over 50 nations, more than 350 specialist presentations in 4 German forums, 20 events in the extensive congress program, as well as 20% more exhibition place compared to the last year in three halls confirm that. The grown international participation was enriched by the presence of the joint stands of Israel, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic.

On the occasion of the it-sa, Horst Seehofer, federal minister of interior for home and construction, underlined the importance of the dialogue between politics and economy: “The state and economy need to address the global cyber threat situation beyond the German borders.” Next to the conceptual sponsors the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) and the German Association for IT Bitkom as well as the IT Security Association Germany Teletrust, further renowned partners such as the Association of the Internet Industry supported the fair.

Variety of topics and awards

With the constantly growing dangers the problem awareness needs to grow on the executive floors. Not only solutions for IT security and the dominant topics cloud and mobile security, e-mail encryption, IT compliance and biometry were discussed. Basic topics such as network security, virus and IT-protection were also widely presented. Next to the IT Security Awards, the German Award for IT-Security (Deutscher IT-Sicherheitspreis) from the Horst-Görtz-Stiftung endowed with 200,000 € was awarded for the first time. The jury of experts named the start-up Physec from Bochum as winner, for their innovation “Enclosure-PUF”. With it, the physical integrity of a complex system without permanent availability of electricity can be ensured.

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Practical Solutions

The German messenger-service Teamwire has established itself as a secure and reliable alternative to the popular messenger Whatsapp. Dracoon offers a secure data storage, with which information can be comfortably and securely exchanged in encrypted data rooms via up- and download release links within teams and also with external partners. Now both companies announced their cooperation. "With DRACON, we want to offer a convenient solution that, as the central heart of the data storage, ensures the highest level of data security", comments Arved Graf von Stackelberg, CSO of Dracoon. Free access to Dracoons highly secure data exchange platform is being offered as a test version without time limitation.

Cyberbit presented a solution for automating Security Operation Centres (SOC). The company Scadashield showed a platform for the protection of critical infrastructure that especially addresses utility companies. The same target group was also addressed by Scadafence with a constant monitoring system for industrial networks.

Numerous solutions were also shown for safe e-mail-correspondence. With a new strategy for cyber-resilience for e-mails, Mimecast specially helps companies with its platform in protecting against ransomware. A very user-friendly e-mail encryption was presented by Befine Solution with its Cryptshare-Quick-Technik.

In order to optimise security levels within a company, employees should be trained accordingly. In this field Exploqii, a member of Knowbe4, shows new ways: Users are first trained and then tested with aimed attacks. The result is then analysed and summarised in a detailed report.

The 11th it-sa will take place from the 8th to 11th October 2019 in Nuremberg.
(translated, original text by Gerhard Kafka, free journalist)