

NEWS

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SCIPP INTERNATIONAL TO PROVIDE SECURITY AWARENESS MATERIALS TO NSA/DHS CENTERS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE COALITION

Partnership to Promote Information Security Awareness in Higher Education Based on International Standards and Guidelines

VIENNA, Va., June 17, 2008 – SCIPP International, a global non-profit organization dedicated to providing world-class security awareness training and certification services, has joined forces with the International Cyber Security Education Coalition (ICSEC) to provide security awareness materials for the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAEIAE) universities and other schools.

ICSEC (www.icsec.org) is a consortium of academic institutions based in Michigan whose purpose is to provide unified leadership for information assurance education and research initiatives in both the public and private sector. ICSEC schools include University of Detroit Mercy, Eastern Michigan University and Walsh College – each a national Center of Academic Excellence – and several Michigan-based community colleges.

Jointly sponsored by NSA and DHS, the mission of the CAEIAE is to reduce vulnerability in U.S. national information infrastructure by promoting higher education in information assurance.

A SCIPP Certificate of Security Awareness will be issued to each student from an ICSEC school who participates in the SCIPP course and successfully passes the SCIPP post-assessment. Also under development is a “Security Awareness 101” course for use by all ICSEC academic institutions in their curricula, as needed.

“We believe the partnership with SCIPP is an important step towards addressing a lack of security awareness among university students,” said Dan Shoemaker, director of the ICSEC from the University of Detroit Mercy. “No student should leave a university without the basic knowledge of secure computing practices in today’s world, especially from a CAEIAE school.”

To be eligible for National Center of Academic Excellence status, the information assurance programs, facilities, faculty and research from four-year colleges and graduate-level universities are evaluated against stringent criteria and must pass a rigorous review demonstrating their commitment to academic excellence in information assurance education. Designation as a CAEIAE is valid for three academic years, at which time the school must successfully re-apply to retain its designation.

The SCIPP materials being used in the ICSEC program are based on the SCIPP Generally Accepted Practices (SCIPP GAP), a common body of knowledge of security awareness best practices that have been created and vetted by security luminaries from around the globe.

“We are honored to be associated with the ICSEC consortium and the NSA/DHS CAEIAE program, as well as to be playing a role in its mission of promoting security knowledge at the university level,” said Winn Schwartau, founder of SCIPP International.

For more information on SCIPP International, its mission and its security awareness training and certificate programs, visit www.SCIPPinternational.org.

About SCIPP International

SCIPP International is a global non-profit organization dedicated to addressing information security awareness problems where they are most prevalent – at the human level. Based in Vienna, Virginia, USA, with offices in London and Hong Kong, SCIPP delivers information security awareness training programs for end-users and consumers, along with certification programs for organizations. All SCIPP courses are based upon the SCIPP GAP – the common body of knowledge describing SCIPP’s 10 generally accepted best business practice areas vetted by an international advisory council of leading experts. More information is available at www.SCIPPinternational.org.

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