PRESS RELEASE

Series of Special Events at Infosecurity Europe 2019 to support, educate and nurture information security professionals and start up businesses

Conference includes Capture the Flag, FutureSec, Women in Cybersecurity, Cybersecurity for CNI and Securing SMEs Symposium

Richmond, Surrey, UK – 9 May 2019 – This year’s Infosecurity Europe – Europe’s number one information security event – will host a series of Special Events as part of its 2019 conference agenda, the world’s largest complimentary conference programme with 240+ free to attend sessions aimed at supporting, educating and nurturing those in the industry.

Designed to bring together information security professionals at all stages of their career development, this year’s events include some exciting new additions for 2019, including a Capture the Flag (CTF) competition hosted by SANS Institute and running across all three days of the show. Competitors’ wits and skills will be put to the test in a competition that is designed to challenge the best of the best. Interested participants are asked to stop by Geek Street on any day where they can join on their own or team up with colleagues, friends or strangers.

Other Special Events this year include:

FutureSec – a programme of sessions and events addressing the future of the industry and focusing on people and innovation. Visitors will learn how to start, develop and future-proof their career, including a session on ‘Planning your information security career: What you need to know’ on 6 June by Deshini Newman, MD EMEA (ISC)², who comments: “The cybersecurity industry is at a critical point in its evolution. The size of the sector is growing rapidly, with innovations such as AI, analytics and machine learning fuelling opportunity. Yet, the skills market is not keeping pace, with a global skills gap nearing three million roles, 150,000 of which are in EMEA alone. We do need to take the time to understand why this is still the case and what options are available to address the skills gap. In an industry as fast-paced as ours, having the right skills, backed up by industry recognised training and certification can make a substantial difference to a cybersecurity professional’s employability, earning potential and ability to combat the rapidly evolving tactics of cyber criminals.”

The afternoon session (14:00-15:30) will focus on ‘Growing your new cybersecurity business’ aimed at start-ups looking to grow their business, those launching a business or who have a great idea for a new business. It will cover how to write a business plan, how to raise finance and how to market the business and its products.

Delegates will also discover the latest in cybersecurity, as organisations demo and showcase their products and services, including new, innovative technologies in the Cyber Innovation Showcase, start-up companies in the Cyber Innovation Zone, and new product launches in the LaunchPad zone.

Women in Cybersecurity – now in its third year, will take place on the morning of 5 June (08:30-11:00) to celebrate the achievements of women in the industry, debate diversity issues and discuss careers opportunities. Hosted by Infosecurity Magazine Editor Eleanor Dallaway, the event includes an inspirational keynote by Professor Sue Black OBE – recently named in the top 50 women in tech in Europe – entitled ‘If I can do it, so can you’, as well as a panel discussion, Q&A and networking.
**Securing SMEs Symposium** – on 4 June (14:00-16:30) will raise important issues around how smaller businesses – often seen as an easier target than large organisations that have the budget, teams and motivation to invest in security – can defend against cyber risks and threats, protect customer data and respond to an incident. A panel of speakers will share their insight and experience in managing risk in the SME.

With concerns over the UK’s ability to protect against a major attack on our critical national infrastructure (CNI) this year’s **Cybersecurity for CNI and II Symposium** on 4 June (10:15-12:50) will provide an in-depth focus session for those in public and private sector organisations on how to address emerging threats and risks. Delegates will be encouraged to collaborate, learn and share actionable intelligence during the session.

All sessions will take place in the Pillar Hall, Olympia.

Victoria Windsor, Group Content Manager at **Infosecurity Group**, says: “The Infosecurity Europe conference programme is highly regarded within the industry, for the quality of its speakers and the depth and breadth of topics covered. It is the must-attend event of the year. For this year’s special events programme we have really focused in on some the key issues of the day – skills, careers, diversity, innovation – to build a strong agenda and one where professionals can gather to air their concerns, debate the challenges and collaborate with their peers to address some of these issues.”

Infosecurity Europe, now in its 24th year, takes place at Olympia, Hammersmith, London, from 4-6 June 2019. It attracts over 19,500 unique information security professionals attending from every segment of the industry, including 400+ exhibitors showcasing their products and services, industry analysts, worldwide press and policy experts, and over 200 industry speakers are lined up to take part in the free-to-attend conference, seminar and workshop programme - [https://www.infosecurityeurope.com](https://www.infosecurityeurope.com)