INTERNET HALL OF FAME INDUCTS THE LATE SUGURU YAMAGUCHI

FIRST pledges to financially support up to four regions to ensure global integration of security teams

The late Suguru Yamaguchi was this year inducted into the Internet Hall of Fame® (www.internethalloffame.org/inductees/suguru-yamaguchi) as a posthumous recipient. The Internet Hall of Fame is a recognition program and virtual museum that celebrates the living history of the Internet and the individuals whose extraordinary contributions have made the Internet, its worldwide availability and use, and its transformative nature possible.

Dr. Yamaguchi served as a Board Member of FIRST from 2011 to 2013. Throughout his term, he was enthusiastic about expanding FIRST's outreach to different parts of the world. He incorporated the FIRST CSIRT in Japan (JPCERT/CC) in Oct 1996 and later established APCERT, the CSIRT Community in the Asia Pacific region in February 2003. He also played a key role in the establishment of AfricaCERT. His devotion to increase the community has contributed to the global teams that make up FIRST today. In memory of his dedication, the FIRST Fellowship program was renamed to Suguru Yamaguchi Fellowship Program in 2016. The program is a FIRST initiative that provides support to teams with national co-ordination responsibilities so that they can become members of our community and attend a FIRST conference.

There are currently CSIRTs from 16 economies participating in the program and seven teams have become FIRST members. Applicants must be computer security incident response teams, with national coordination responsibility for a particular sector – for example, all government networks, private networks, educational/academic and/or research networks or a combination thereof. Teams must formally apply and will be selected based on their maturity and ability to participate in the FIRST conference and community.

The 2020 Suguru Yamaguchi Fellowship Awardees for 2020 will be notified in February 2020 to participate in the June Conference in Montreal.

More information about Suguru's induction to the Hall of Fame and the Fellowship Program can be found at:
https://www.internethalloffame.org/inductees/suguru-yamaguchi & **https://www.first.org/newsroom/releases/20191023**

FIJI - FIRST

Our vision is to welcome every nation from across the world to become members of FIRST. Small islands in particular face challenges not typically met in continental, western economies. In December, two board members Maarten von Horenbeeck and Serge Droz traveled to Fiji to conduct the FIRST Regional Symposium for Small Island Developing States. The event, generously supported by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia (DFAT), brought together specialists from several Pacific island nations as well as seasoned incident responders from the FIRST community.

The three day meeting agenda was packed with training and many fruitful discussions on our materials. The first day focused on various aspects of incident response; choreographing a global incident response; investigating a harbor crane; and, red teaming and policy implications.

CSIRT Training Courses and tailored Breach Workshops took place on days two and three:

- APNIC's and former board member Adli Wahid took participants through escalating ransomware scenario.
- Serge Droz focused on critical infrastructure and challenged participants to dive into the role of incident responders.
- Hinne Hettema delivered a course on 'Malware Analysis When You're In A Hurry'.
- Maarten Van Horenbeeck delivered CSIRT Basic Training.
- Serge Droz and Adli Wahid provided a hands-on CSIRT Advanced Training having participants setting up a Honeypot and leveraging Jupyter Notebooks to analyse the findings.

FIRST LAUNCHES WOMEN IN CYBERSECURITY INITIATIVE

During the annual meeting in Edinburgh Scotland, Emer O'Neill, Margrete Raaum, and Shawn Richardson organized a Birds of a Feather to gauge how many people would like to work together to increase women's participation in FIRST. The turnout was incredible, dozens of women and several men attended the Women of FIRST Birds of a Feather (WoF BoF – thanks Margrete for the name).

The mission of the group is to encourage and support more participation of women in FIRST as members, as participants in special interest groups and as leaders. We will accomplish this by:

1. Encouraging diversity and inclusion in all levels of FIRST (membership, SIGs, and the board)

2. Sharing knowledge across the group (presentation skills, technical skills, networking)
3. Inspiring each other to take on new challenges
4. Mentoring each other for success

Please contact the first-sec@first.org if you are interested in joining this new initiative.

FIRST METRICS SIG WEBINAR SERIES RE-LAUNCHED

We are happy to share that we have re-launched our webinar series. The first presentation by Carson Zimmerman, Security Operations Center (SOC) Engineering Team Lead, Microsoft, on Practical SOC Metrics held in October was a big success with over 70 participants. You can catch up on Carson's webinar at FIRST Metrics SIG - Practical SOC Metrics Webinar, by Carson Zimmerman.

Topics being scheduled for December through to March include:

- Measuring What Matters –   Katie Stewart, CERT
- Current CISCO Metrics –   Logan Wilkins, CISCO
- Goal-Question-Indicator-Metric (GQIM) Method
       – Software Engineering Institute (SEI)

Webinars are a great way of letting FIRST members know about the work done in the SIG. Please let us know by emailing first-sec@first.org if you would like to contribute to this seminar series or even if you have an idea for a topic.

FIRST INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

The FIRST Infrastructure Team worked on a number of projects in 2019 to make the systems and services that members access more secure and efficient.

Member Portal & Identity Project

The new FIRST members portal and Single Sign-On project is near completion providing members with a single location to update their FIRST profiles, manage their team members and access all FIRST services. The Single Sign-On project provides strong multi-factor authentication across all FIRST services and will replace the current use of X.509 certificates.

Event Management

A new agreement has been reached with EasyChair (FIRST's paper submission and review solution). Benefits include enhanced functionality and API access, which will facilitate improved integration for FIRST call for speakers, submission review and event programs.

Compliance & Sanctions

As FIRST grows there is an increasing need to ensure compliance with national regulations. We have automated a great number of the required checks using a commercial service.

Collaboration

FIRST now has an official presence on Keybase. You can find the FIRST keybase team at https://keybase.io/team/first_org.

The infrastructure team is also excited to introduce a new collaboration platform soon after the new Single Sign-On solution is made available.

The FIRST Podcast

The podcast is now available through many of your favourite podcast platforms:

Apple Podcasts:
https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/first-org-podcasts/id1482433188

Google Play:
https://play.google.com/music/m/I4xvsgaoejclp52os-qb262ujjwu?t=FIRSTorg_Podcasts

Spotify:
https://open.spotify.com/show/6wMCW3oGDOV-jr10WDFlx6g

Stitcher:
https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/firstorg-inc/first-org-podcasts

TuneIn:
http://tun.in/pjzCu

"INSURE" YOU PARTICIPATE IN THIS CALL

The Cyber Insurance Special Interest Group has recently moved to monthly calls due to interest from participants. The Group, which has an anti-trust policy detailing what financial matters can and cannot be discussed, has enabled open discussions around risk, cyber insurance community news and clarification on insurance policies. In December we also held a webinar about airline ticket fraud by the very talented Alice Hutching, University Lecturer in the Security Group at the Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge.

If you would like to learn more about our Cyber Insurance SIG, visit: **https://www.first.org/global/sigs/cyberinsurance/** The link for the Insurance Sig Webinar is now available **here**

FIRST 2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

https://www.first.org/events/calendar/2020

Bangalore 2020 FIRST Technical Colloquium
www.first.org/events/colloquia/bangalore2020/
Bangalore
January 21–23, 2020
Hosted by Cisco and Dell

TF-CSIRT Meeting & FIRST Regional Symposium Europe
www.first.org/events/symposium/malaga2020/
Malaga
January 28–31, 2020

PSIRT TC
RTP - Raleigh, NC
March 4–5, 2020
Hosted by NetApp

FIRST Cyber Threat Intelligence Symposium Zurich
www.first.org/events/symposium/zurich2020/
Zurich
March 9-11, 2020

Amsterdam 2020 FIRST Technical Colloquium
www.first.org/events/colloquia/amsterdam2020
Amsterdam
April 6- 8, 2020
Hosted by Cisco

2020 FIRST Conference
www.first.org/conference/2020/
Montreal
June 21–26, 2020
Hosted by Canadian Centre for Cyber Security

FIRST TC CDN-2020 - Istanbul
Istanbul
September 2–4, 2020
Hosted by UNDP and UNICC

FIRST
Improving Security Together

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR 500TH MEMBER - VERSIA

FIRST is happy to warmly welcome the Spanish-based company Verisa as our 500th member! We sat down with Andoni Alcalde, Cybersecurity Analyst of Verisa to ask him about their team and joining FIRST.

FIRST: Any interesting or fun facts about your team/team members?

The Versia cybersecurity team, Versia-CSIRT, began its journey as a response team that offered its services to customers hosted in the company's datacenter and to Versia itself. A team, initially composed of a small group of IT professionals passionate about security, willing to protect infrastructure and services against all odds consisting of:

- Jorge Ruiz, Cybersecurity Analyst, "software wizard and malware destroyer:
- Andoni Alcalde, Cybersecurity Analyst, "shield against cyber attacks and lord of IT systems".

As you can see, a group of brave people looking for the good company of a great forum to share knowledge, help and improve security together.

FIRST: How did you hear about FIRST?

FIRST is the first and most important of the existing forums around the world on cybersecurity, knowing its existence is something natural when working in this field. In our case, the relationship with our main sponsor, Basque Cybersecurity Center (BCSC), provided us with detailed information along with the advantages of belonging to it.

FIRST: What does it mean to be part of FIRST?

Walking alongside the giants of cybersecurity incident response teams.

FIRST: Any experiences to share from the Bilbao TC you attended?

We had the opportunity to attend interesting open sessions, led by experts, who presented different technical topics to small groups of attendees.

The assistance to these TCs has given us an updated view of the industrial cybersecurity landscape as well as the impact of new technologies in the OT sector. Topics as varied and relevant as the evolution of 5G technology, blockchain, artificial Intelligence, etc., allowed us to have a clearer vision of the future outlook.

Equally interesting were the speakers who, in some cases, from their experience, focused their talk on the low level of awareness by companies and the difficulties that arise in the development of this type of security projects at a more human level.

All of this without forgetting the opportunity to meet and share points of view and concerns with the different assistants to the TCs in the networking spaces.

Members will have the opportunity to meet Verisa at the FIRST European Symposium in Malaga, January 2020.

IMPROVING SECURITY TOGETHER

The small state of Qatar has big plans for the future including hosting the FIFA World Cup in 2022. Large events can be a challenge. Possible adversaries know the time and location, and could potentially launch a cyber attack as we saw during the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeong Chang.

To ensure that the Qatar cyber security community is prepared, Q-CERT, the nation's national CSIRT, organised a technical colloquium and training day in Doha under the theme "Defending the Nation – Know Your Adversary".

The colloquium sported some 200 participants from local industry, covering a wide range of technical and policy topics. FIRST were invited to provide training and workshops for participants from Q-CERT and critical private sector companies. Board member Serge Droz conducted a basic CISIRT training and a technical hands-on data analysis using open source tools. Both parties found this knowledge transfer vital and this event may be held again in 2020.

In the plenary session Serge Droz presented the FIRST "Policy Maker" outreach program, explaining how CSIRTs work together globally to ensure users stay safe. Leaning on the conference motto Serge highlighted the importance of "Know your friends when defending the nation!"

Thanks for reading!

Remember to follow us on our social media channels Facebook, witter and LinkedIn for regular updates!