

Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

The Weekly Newsletter of The George Washington University Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute

Quick Links

[About CSPRI](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Newsletter Archive](#)

[Blog: The CSPRI Byte](#)

Follow Us

Follow us on Twitter:

[@gwCSPRI](#)

Follow CSPRI Director,
Lance Hoffman:

[@lancehoffman1](#)

Follow CSPRI Associate
Director, Costis Toregas:

[@DrCostisToregas](#)

October 19, 2015

Twelve (12) events scheduled in
the Greater Washington Area in
the next few weeks.

Record numbers for the National Cyber League



The National Cyber League (NCL) is a growing network of educators and students which teaches cyber security lessons through gaming. It provides an ongoing virtual training ground for faculty and students to develop and validate cybersecurity skills using content aligned with individual and team games.

This year, NCL is at peak numbers! For the first time, there are over 2,100 registrants for the Fall 2015 competition now under way.

Events

October 19 - 21
[CSX North America](#)

October 20
[Government
Cybersecurity
Forum](#)

October 20
[Cybersecurity
Initiative Business-
Policy Roundtable](#)

October 20
[ISSA DC Meetup](#)

October 21
[NovalInfosec
Meetup, West](#)

October 21
[Cybersecurity for
Power Systems](#)

October 21
[Secure Credentials
Issued by the
Government
Publishing Office](#)

October 21
[The EMV Deadline
and What It Means](#)

As one of the organizations that rolled up its sleeves and helped create the NCL four years ago, CSPRI is proud to still be involved in its growth and development.

For more on NCL, please [click here](#) for the website.

Legislative Lowdown

-Some of the nation's largest tech firms are coming out against the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act, saying it could cause collateral damage to innocent third parties. "In an open letter published on Thursday the Computer and Communications Industry Association (CCIA), a trade group representing those and several other major tech firms including eBay and RedHat, came out staunchly against the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (Cisa)," The Guardian [reports](#). "The bill, which has bipartisan support, would, among other things, allow companies to share users' personal information with the US government in exchange for immunity from regulators and the Freedom of Information Act. It will receive a Senate vote later this month."

Cyber Security Policy News

China/US cyber update

-A recent verbal agreement between China and the United States to crack down on cyberattacks against U.S. firms and government agencies seems to be off to a rocky start, according to the security firm CrowdStrike. "Chinese hacking attempts on American corporate intellectual property have occurred with regularity over the past three weeks, suggesting that China almost immediately began violating its newly minted cyberagreement with the United States, according to a newly published analysis by a cybersecurity company with close ties to the U.S. government," the AP [reported](#) Monday. "The Irvine, California-based company, CrowdStrike, says it documented seven Chinese cyberattacks against U.S. technology and pharmaceuticals companies 'where the primary benefit of the intrusions seems clearly aligned to facilitate theft of intellectual property and trade secrets, rather than to conduct traditional national security-related intelligence collection.'"

South Korean Metro system hack

-A South Korean legislator revealed last week that a report from the country's intelligence service suggested that the North Korean government might have been behind a hack of the Seoul Metro system last year that lasted several months. "Moving upwards of five million passengers per day, the city's subway is one of the busiest in the world," [writes](#) Shannon Hayden for Vice.com. "A

[For Small Businesses: Part II](#)

October 21 - 23
[Privacy + Security Forum](#)

October 28
[6th Annual Open Source Digital Forensics Conference](#)

October 28 - 29
[Cybersecurity World 2015](#)

October 29 - 30
[8th Annual Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Washington DC Conference](#)

[Click here](#) for detailed descriptions

cyber attack of this nature not only highlights vulnerabilities in critical infrastructure but also raises questions about North Korea's cyber capabilities - and what it intends to do with them."

Meanwhile, a computer system that checks airline passengers' names against the federal terror watch list experienced problems last week, prompting nationwide flight delays.

CBS News transportation correspondent Kris Van Cleave [reported](#) that a Department of Homeland Security official said a router went off-line which required a "manual process of vetting against the (secure flight) watch list."

SEC crackdown on lax cybersecurity in financial firms

- Financial firms that have lax cybersecurity practices can expect a crackdown from regulators, the head of the Securities and Exchange Commission's enforcement unit warned last week. "The warning from the regulator five months after the SEC released results from a cybersecurity survey of 57 registered broker-dealers and 49 investment advisers, which sought to gauge whether firms are prepared against cyber criminals and what risks they may face," [writes](#) Priya Anand for Marketwatch.

New York Stock Exchange releases cybersecurity guide for public companies

Anand and Marketwatch carry [a related story](#) about new guidelines from the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) about how companies should handle hacks and the aftermath. The 355-page booklet is being billed as the definitive cybersecurity guide for directors and officers" of public companies.

Speaker of the House: Cybersecurity is a major issue

-The Hill carries a look at how the competition for the next Speaker of the House could thrust cybersecurity to the forefront of policy issues. "The wide-open race for Speaker has thrust several of the House's more prominent tech and cybersecurity figures into the spotlight. Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's (R-Calif.) decision to abruptly pull himself from contention for the Speakership just minutes before a vote Thursday has upended the process and opened the door to a number of dark-horse candidates," write Cory Bennett and Katie Bo Williams. Read more [here](#).

About this Newsletter

This newsletter is a weekly summary of events related to cyber security policy and research, with a special focus on developments and events in the Washington, DC area. It is published by the Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute (CSPRI) of the George Washington University. CSPRI is a center for GW and the Washington area that promotes technical research and policy analysis of topics in or related to cybersecurity. More information is available at our website, <http://www.cspri.seas.gwu.edu>

CSPRI

[202-994-5613](tel:202-994-5613), cspr@gwu.edu
Tompkins Hall, Suite 106
725 23rd Street NW
Washington DC, DC 20052