U.S. Cyber Challenge and Moraine Valley Community College to Host Illinois Cybersecurity Summer Camp & Competition

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Elite Cybersecurity Talent will Convene in Illinois as Nation Strives to Fill Need for Network Security Professionals

Idaho Falls, ID, August 7, 2013 – U.S. Cyber Challenge (USCC) will host its Summer Cybersecurity Camp program in conjunction with Moraine Valley Community College from August 12-16, 2013 at the college's campus in Palos Hills, Illinois, 20 miles from downtown Chicago. The camp includes four days of intensive instruction by SANS instructors, a career fair, and a cyber-attack/defense competition with an awards ceremony following to honor the winners of the competition. Over 30 individuals will participate in the program, including eleven U.S. Military veterans.

Less than 10 percent of the estimated necessary 30,000 skilled security professionals are in the workplace. Addressing this gap is a significant priority for the nation and the U.S. Cyber Challenge Cyber Summer Camp is an important initiative for the advancement of the workforce. Due to the services and programs offered by U.S. Cyber Challenge, cybersecurity talent is proactively taught by leading professionals and instructors in the field, assessed in their abilities, and ultimately recruited by institutions in need of high-level security skills.

The camp is designed to provide attendees with intensive training and other opportunities to enhance their skills and become the nation's next generation of cybersecurity professionals. Camp curriculum includes in-depth workshops on a range of topics such as social engineering, network forensics, Android pen testing and tactical attacks, all taught by academics, SANS Institute senior instructors and other cybersecurity experts.

The week will be capped with a virtual capture the flag competition and awards ceremony Friday, August 16, at Moraine Valley Community College in the Fogelson Theater.

The camp is supported in part through sponsorships by Moraine Valley Community College, the Federal CIO Council, SANS Institute, Avue Technologies Corporation, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft, Department of Homeland Security, Heartland Technology Group, JMA, CyberAces, Association for Federal Information Resources Management, Federal Bureau of Investigation, SafeGov, Engility, Cigital, NIC, Threat Space, (ISC)[2] Foundation and SE Solutions.

More than 30 camp participants are attending the Illinois camp. Attendees to the invitation-only camp were selected based in part on their scores from Cyber Quests, an online competition offered through the USCC in April that drew more than 1,400 participants from almost 800 schools nationwide.

Camp participants will gain an understanding of the dimensions of the workforce shortage and see how critical their technical skills are to the solution. They will also learn about opportunities available to them through USCC and its partners.

The 2013 Cyber Summer Camp Series features two national week-long camps and two statewide camps. The camps are part of several initiatives underway through USCC, a national campaign focused on identifying and developing cybersecurity talent to meet the country's critical cybersecurity workforce needs.

For more information about the Cyber Camp program and each of the specific camps, visit USCC online at www.uscyberchallenge.org

About U.S. Cyber Challenge:

U.S. Cyber Challenge (USCC) is a program of the National Board of Information Security Examiners (NBISE), a 501(c)3 organization, and has the mission to significantly reduce the shortage in the cyber workforce by serving as the premier program to identify, attract, recruit and place the next generation of cybersecurity professionals. USCC's goal is to find 10,000 of America's best and brightest to fill the ranks of cybersecurity professionals where their skills can be of the greatest value to the nation.