

FIRST POST

Bringing together Security and Incident Response teams from around the globe.



Norwegian members of FIRST to host a technical colloquium in Oslo in November

Incident response and security teams are invited to Norway this November to the FIRST Technical Colloquium (TC) in Oslo. Volunteers from Norway's incident response sector, including many FIRST members, have organized the event, which will focus on the latest vulnerabilities, incidents, tools, and other issues affecting our sector. The TC will run from 16-18 November 2021 and, thanks to sponsors, is free for attendees.

Organizers are working hard to secure a diverse range of speakers - one highlight is Nina Sunde from the Norwegian Police University College, who will present on Forensics Expert's Bias – Challenges and Proposed Solutions. Many presentations and workshops are planned, including a Microsoft Defender XDR workshop, talks on security monitoring and incident response in the cloud, and strategies for evicting advanced persistent threats. High-profile organizations such as the Norwegian Parliament and Visma/Coop will also share their experiences of handling a range of high-profile incidents. You can find the schedule [here](#). All presentations will be in English.

Technical security monitoring and incident response professionals and security professionals and their managers who have a basic understanding of the sector will find the TC valuable. The event, which started in 2015, typically attracts participants from Europe, North America, and even Japan and Thailand. However, organizers accept that it will be more difficult for international travelers to attend this year.



"Having three days dedicated to the security areas we care about the most is an excellent opportunity for our community to get together and exchange knowledge and build trusted connections. We are very proud of the diverse range of speakers we have procured for this year's event, so if you can get to Norway, then please join us."

FIRST Board Director, Mona Elisabeth Østvang

Registration will open later this month at the website www.coldincidentresponse.no. Please register as soon as you can as seats are limited, and do please release your seats if your circumstances change and you can no longer attend.

We want to thank the sponsors who made this conference possible: DNB, Defendable, KraftCERT, mnemonic, Nordic Financial CERT, Norsk Helsenett, Sopra Steria, Telenor and Visma.

More FIRST events to add to your calendar

The FIRST Events team is working hard to create a full calendar of events for incident response and security team professionals. Members and non-members should keep an eye on our online [events calendar](#) for more details; events confirmed so far include:

OCTOBER 2021
14-15
FIRST Virtual Symposium for Latin America and Caribbean Regions |
14:00-21:00 UTC Daily
Co-located with LACNIC 36 and co-hosted by LACNIC, CERT.br-NIC.br.
The call for speakers is open until September 26; you can find details [here](#).

DECEMBER 2021
7-9
FIRST & AfricaCERT Virtual Symposium for Africa and Arab Regions
11:00-16:00 UTC Daily
Co-hosted by AfricaCERT and TunCERT.
The call for speakers is open; you can find details [here](#).

26 JUN - 1 JUL 2022
Please also save the date for next year's [Annual Conference](#), held in Dublin, Ireland.
Keep an eye on our social media channels and your email in November for our call for speakers message.

The FIRST Board of Directors meets across two continents to build our two-year business plan

One of the primary responsibilities of the FIRST Board of Directors is to develop and execute a two-year business plan to fulfill the organization’s vision to bring together incident response and security teams from every country across the world to ensure a safe internet for all. This month some members of the board were able to gather in Switzerland and Chicago, and online, in our first semi face-to-face meeting in quite some time to work on the business plan.



“It was fantastic to see so many board members get together in person. We hope that this is the beginning of the world opening up, and we will have further opportunities to meet again in the coming months. Our new board of directors is the most diverse yet, and our new business plan will reflect this diversity. We look forward to sharing the plan with you in the coming months.”

Dave Schwartzburg, Chair of FIRST

We will place the new business plan on our website in the next couple of months.

Empowering Women in Cybersecurity:

ITU, FIRST, and EQUALS Global Mentorship Pilot Program concludes

The Women in Cybersecurity (WiC) Mentorship Program successfully concluded its six-month pilot in August. The mentorship program was a joint effort from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), FIRST, and EQUALS to address the inequalities and underrepresentation encountered by women in the cybersecurity workforce. The three organizations built the program's objectives on three critical areas of action:



INSPIRE: Shift the mentality and tackle systemic barriers that prevent broader inclusion. Promote the perception of women as valuable additions to the workforce.

TRAIN: Encourage women to take on leadership roles in cybersecurity. Provide expert training courses from leaders in the field and equip women with the technical and soft skills needed for successful professional development.

EMPOWER: Promote knowledge sharing of best practices in cybersecurity career development. Provide a platform where women in senior positions can mentor and foster women's professional and personal growth at junior levels.

Participants joined guided monthly mentorship circles and supporting activities, including group discussions, inspirational webinars, and technical and soft skills training courses.

The program ran virtually from March through August 2021, with a focus on African and Arab regions.

For more information and our plans for the future, please visit <http://itu.int/go/WiCmp>.

16 more member teams join FIRST

Please extend a warm welcome to the new security teams who have joined FIRST since the last edition of the FIRST Post.

July 2021

- Mohsen Ahmadi (liaison), US sponsored by Zendesk
- Bafing, ES sponsored by CEDIA and CaixaBank
- Total CERT, FR sponsored by CIRCL and CERT-IST
- AMD PSIRT, US sponsored by Xilinx and Juniper
- Citi-CSFC, US sponsored by ProtonCERT and Cisco Systems
- TeamViewer SIRT, DE sponsored by CERT-Bund and BFK
- CSIRT Coordinator AVAL, CO sponsored by s21sec CERT and CERT-XLM
- F-Secure, GB sponsored by NCSC UK and NCSC FI
- ComCERT.pl, PL sponsored by PRE-CERT and CERT OPL

August 2021

- Emre Tinaztepe (Liaison), EE sponsored by Turkcell CDC
- BESTEL-CERT, MX sponsored by CERT-MX and JPCERT/CC
- NUNSYS CERT, ES sponsored by INCIBE and RENFE
- ComCERT.pl, PL sponsored by PRE-CERT and CERT OPL

September 2021

- CSIRT PETROBRAS, BR sponsored by CAIS/RNP and NEC LATIN CSIRT
- Panasonic CSIRT, EU sponsored by Bosch CERT and Cisco Systems
- Indra CSIRT, ES sponsored by BCSC and INCIBE-CERT



FIRST Impressions

FIRST Impressions podcast goes from strength to strength with topics including Mental Health, Careers in Cyber Security, and Organizing Events during Covid

We have now broadcast seven episodes of our FIRST Impressions podcast hosted by security professionals Chris John Riley and Martin McKeay. The show covers a spectrum of topics and features a wide range of specialist speakers from across our industry. You can find all the shows on our website and the Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify apps. Below is a list of our shows so far:

Episode 7 Amanda Berlin - CEO, Mental Health Hackers

Amanda Berlin is the CEO of Mental Health Hackers - a not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating information security professionals about the unique mental health risks facing those in the field.

Episode 6 Kyle Tobener - VP and Head of Security & IT at Copado

Kyle is a VP and Head of Security & IT at Copado. Kyle, Martin, and Chris talk about security careers and share their personal experiences.

Episode 5 SBOM & Twinkies?

Featuring Dr. Allan Friedman, Director of Cybersecurity Initiatives at National Telecommunications and Information Administration in the US Department of Commerce.

Episode 4 Chris Gibson - Executive Director at FIRST

Chris Gibson chats all things FIRST and how the organization has approached change during the pandemic.

Episode 3 Traci Wei - Planning Virtual Events During COVID

Traci Wei, owner of CAPS, LLC and the meetings and conference director for FIRST, shares her experiences of transitioning events to virtual during the pandemic.

Episode 2 Eireann Leverett and Desiree Sacher

Desiree Sacher is a Security Architect for a Security Operation Center in the financial industry. Eireann Leverett is a Senior Scientist at Airbus Operations, co-author of Solving Cyber Risk, and Founder of Concinnity Risks. He is co-chair of the Cyber Insurance SIG and the EPSS SIG.

Episode 1 Serge Droz - Reflections on 2020 and Thinking Ahead to 2021

Serge was the chair of the board of directors of FIRST at the time of recording and participated in a discussion about cyber security at various policy bodies, particularly related to norm building.

New episodes are available on the first Friday of every month <https://www.first.org/podcasts>.



FIRST

Thanks for reading!

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

