FIRST POST

Dave Schwartzburg

New Director of IT & Security role to bolster FIRST's Business Plan

A key goal of our most recent two-year business plan is to invest in an infrastructure manager to better support our membership and increase our global outreach.

The management of our infrastructure's architecture, development, operations, and security is instrumental to FIRST's continued success and growth. The new Director of IT & Security's priority will be to develop, manage, and secure our tools and services so that our members across the globe can access the FIRST platform easily, find the right partner quickly and collaborate safely.

A volunteer board member historically drove this role. Still, the increased volume and complexity of the work in recent years made it impossible for that person to oversee and manage the infrastructure at the level of service and quality needed.

After a thorough interview process by independent assessors, our current Chair, Dave Schwartzburg, has accepted this new role.

Consequently, Dave has stepped down as Chair and from the Board. Our CFO Alexander Jäger has stepped in until we appoint a new Chair at our Annual General Meeting in June. Please join us in congratulating Dave.

Dave Schwartzburg says, "It is an honor and a pleasure to transition into this opportunity to work full-time to oversee FIRST's infrastructure. FIRST's infrastructure is something I have been intensely passionate about, and it is very exciting to be able to contribute to the operational excellence and growth of the organization."

Upcoming Technical Colloquia, Symposiums, and Annual Conference

Over the coming months, we are organizing or co-organizing several events for FIRST members and the incident response and security team industries.

Returning to an in-person event, the 2022 FIRST Regional Symposium: Latin America & Caribbean will take place May 4-5, 2022, in Cali, Colombia.

The anticipated symposium will be co-located with LACNIC 37 at the Valle del Pacífico Convention Center and aims to attract CSIRTs, network operators, and security professionals from the LAC region. We plan to stream the plenary sessions with live interpretation for those who wish to participate from home.

Our board and events team are also excited to share that our FIRST Annual Conference, held virtually for the last two years, will be held in person. Taking place in Dublin, Ireland, June 26 – July 1, 2022, at the city's Convention Centre, the event will feature several expert keynotes, case studies, sessions, and training for the incident response and security team communities. There will be ample opportunities to build your professional network (safely) and participate in social events to catch up with existing friends and make new ones! We sincerely hope you will join us in June. Registration is open at **https://conference.first.org**

We are also organizing a number of FIRST Technical Colloquia (TCs) this year. These TCs provide a forum for FIRST members and guests to discuss information about vulnerabilities, incidents, tools, and other issues

affecting our industry. The 2022 FIRST Technical Colloquium took place this month at the W Hotel in Amsterdam, NL, April 12–14, with future TCs planned for later. The Amsterdam TC featured training by FalconForce, followed by two days of case studies and sessions. We made the event happen thanks to the following teams: Cisco, FalconForce, HackDefense, LinkedIn, NetAbstraction, Recorded Future, and SAP.

There are also PSIRT TCs planned for later in the year, including a recurring colloquium orchestrated by FIRST's PSIRT SIG, which will entail programming central to Product Security Incident Response Teams and offer unique opportunities to share strategy.

Get more details of all of our events and bookmark our calendar **here**.

Last chance to nominate individuals or teams for the Incident Response Hall of Fame

We are inviting you to nominate and celebrate the contributions of individuals and teams from the incident response and security team community and cyber security. The Incident Response Hall of Fame recognizes visionaries, leaders, and luminaries who have made significant contributions to the development and advancement of the global security landscape.

Criteria to consider include:

- **Impact:** The contribution has made an extraordinary impact on the development or growth of the global Incident Response capabilities and continues to demonstrate relevance to the Internet's ongoing advancement and evolution.

- **Influence:** The contribution, relative to the Internet, has significantly influenced: 1) the work of others in the field; 2) society at large; or 3) another more defined but critical audience or region.

- **Innovation:** The contribution has broken new ground with original thinking/creativity that has established new paradigms, eliminated significant obstacles, or accelerated Internet advancements.

- **Reach:** The contribution has significantly impacted the Internet's reach among society at large, within key audiences or specific geographies, with global impact.

A committee made up of the FIRST Board of Directors, the FIRST membership committee, and all previously induced IRHF members will choose the inductee.

Inductees to the Incident Response Hall of Fame will receive a Lifetime Liaison Membership of FIRST, travel expenses-paid trip to the FIRST Annual Conference.

Established in 2019, previous nominees include Jeffrey J Carpenter and Dan Kaminsky (posthumously) in 2021, Don Stikvoort and Ian Cook in 2020, and Klaus Peter Kossakowski in 2019.

You can find the nomination form and more details about this annual initiative here. We plan to announce the chosen nominee at the annual FIRST conference in June.

FIRST contributes to important global policy and governance discussions

Sherif Hashem, FIRST Board member, represented FIRST at two important United Nations meetings in March, organized by the UN Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) and the UN Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate on a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes.

During both meetings, Sherif communicated FIRST's position about the importance of ensuring that any policy and governance allow incident responders to continue to collaborate globally, especially in times of a crisis. We stressed that policy and governance should maintain the safety and security of the global internet for ALL users and that an open and inclusive multi-stakeholder approach is essential for successful incident response and security efforts.

Sherif Hashem

Serge Droz

FIRST emphasized that collaboration between intelligence services or criminal gangs at the meetings is entirely unacceptable. CERTs/CSIRTs should be protected and not politicized, and incident response teams should be exempt from sanctions to continue our work together to build capacity, network, share knowledge and build trust and cooperate during a crisis.

"Successful computer security incident response requires a high level of trust and relies heavily on collaboration and cooperation among peers and stakeholders. Combating cybercrimes is a shared responsibility that requires comprehensive, inclusive, and integrated efforts from governments, international organizations, the private sector, civil society, professionals, and citizens. Cooperation and partnerships are central to the success of such efforts to ensure a safe, open, and inclusive Internet for all."

Serge Droz, FIRST Board member

Mentors sought for new FIRST Mentorship Program

We are excited to share that we are developing a Mentorship Program for Fellowship Program participants.

This pilot program aims to facilitate integration and engagement within the FIRST community and empower FIRST Fellowship Program participants to become more active. If the pilot is successful, we hope to expand the Program to new members and others.

We are keen to determine the level of interest of members who would like to become a mentor.

Mentors should be:

- **FIRST members (teams, team members, or liaisons)**

- **Planning on attending the FIRST Conference in Dublin (June 2022)**

- **Willing to assist with the FIRST application/ sponsoring process.**

Please sign up **here** to express your interest to be a mentor.

Eleven more member teams join FIRST

Please welcome 11 new security teams who have joined us since the last edition of the FIRST Post.

January 2022:

- F-ISAC, TW sponsored by TWNCERT and TWCERT/CC

- Swedbank CDC, SE sponsored by CERT-SE and TeliaCERT

February 2022:

- Jan Kopriva, CZ sponsored by CSIRT.CZ

- Greg Adamson, AU sponsored by Proton-CERT

- EnergiCERT, DK sponsored by Orsted SAK and KraftCERT

- Evolutio-CERT, ES sponsored by INCIBE and Catalonia CERT

- NBRK KZ CERT, KZ sponsored by KZ-CERT and TTC-CSIRT

- Uber SRI, US sponsored by Nvidia PSIRT and Cisco Systems

March 2022:

- CTIR Gov-BR sponsored by CAIS/RNP and CERT.br

- IG-CDC, CH sponsored by SWITCH-CERT and NCSC.ch

- CSHUB-CSIRT, ZA sponsored by UCT CSIRT and ECS-CSIRT

Read about the benefits of FIRST membership **here**

FIRST Infrastructure Updates - New Application Process

We need you to action our new updated FIRST membership application and documentation process.

We have incorporated the **SIM3 assessment** into teams' and sponsors' application process. Teams will now find a space to add their services to their profile, which reflect the CSIRT and PSIRT Services **Frameworks**.

You can find details of the new approach on the website **https://www.first.org/membership/** .

We kindly ask all team representatives to visit your Membership Information on the FIRST Portal **https://portal.first.org/membership** to review your team information and update it accordingly.

Special thanks to the Membership Committee co-chaired by Olivier Caleff and Baiba Kaskina, Board liaisons Sherif Hashem and Tracy Bills, and the Open CSIRT Foundation **https://opencsirt.org/** for their support in developing this update.

We're also working on training material for applicants and sponsors, which we plan to offer virtually and in person at the FIRST Conference in Dublin this June.

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