

TECH-CONNECT JOINS MICROSOFT, IBM AND RSA SECURITY TO DEVELOP COMPTIA'S INDUSTRY STANDARD SECURITY QUALIFICATION, SECURITY+

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In a bid to create an industry standard for security qualifications and encourage members of the IT industry to train in this highly topical and business-critical subject, TECH-Connect <http://www.tech-connect.com> has teamed up with IT industry giants, government organizations and academia to contribute towards CompTIA's <http://www.comptia.com> latest industry standard security qualification, Security+.

Developed by the very industry it is intended to support, the CompTIA Security+ exam currently covers the foundations of information security and responds to increasing calls from the industry for an internationally recognised qualification in the subject.

A survey conducted by the FBI and CSI in 2001 showed attacks on security occurred despite a wide deployment of security technologies including firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems, access controls, and digital IDs. The survey also discovered that 91% of businesses had information security breaches within a one-year period and the average financial loss was nearly £1 million, with financial fraud and theft of proprietary information accounting for the most serious losses. 70% of businesses cited the Internet as the point of attack, with 31% citing internal systems as the point of attack.

Demand for a system to provide a skilled IT security workforce with validated expertise to combat these threats prompted CompTIA to draw on the knowledge from top UK training provider TECH-Connect to help create a programme that verifies a job candidate's abilities, taking the guesswork out of hiring and filling an important gap in the IT workforce.

As a Security+ founding organisation, TECH-Connect is contributing heavily to the exam content and objectives, as well as helping to provide the resources, subject matter and expertise necessary to build this vendor-neutral, industry-defined security exam. With over 10 years experience in the IT training and network security sector, TECH-Connect is providing an invaluable insight into the UK IT industry, drawing upon expertise built up through working closely with the IT departments of the UK's top enterprises.

Talal Kheir, Managing Director, TECH-Connect, enthused, "The tremendous support and collaboration of IT organisations across the world will benefit the entire industry by setting standards for an expert workforce skilled in the subject of information security. We are delighted to have been chosen by CompTIA as a founding member of the project, it is a fantastic endorsement for the company and reinforces our position as leaders in the field of both training and consulting. We look forward to launching the Security+ programme and receiving very positive feedback from the industry."

For more information about any courses on offer at TECH-Connect, please visit <http://www.tech-connect.com>, call 0845 055 2000, or write to Rachel Hackworth, Marketing Manager, TECH-Connect, River Reach, 31-35 High Street, Kingston-Upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 1LF