



Computer Security Operations

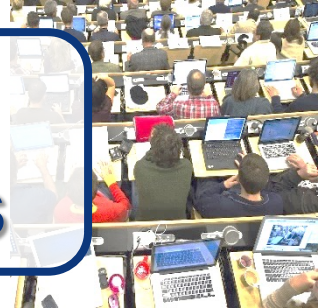
Computer.Security@cern.ch





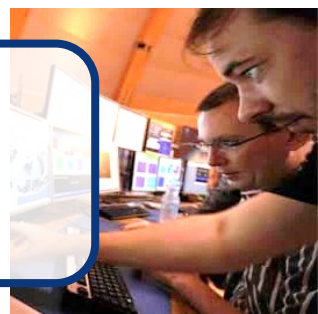
**Malicious URLs
& attachments**

**Laptops,
smart phones**



**Adversaries
("Hackers")**

**Lateral
movement**



**Malicious S/W,
containers, ...**

**IT services,
control systems**

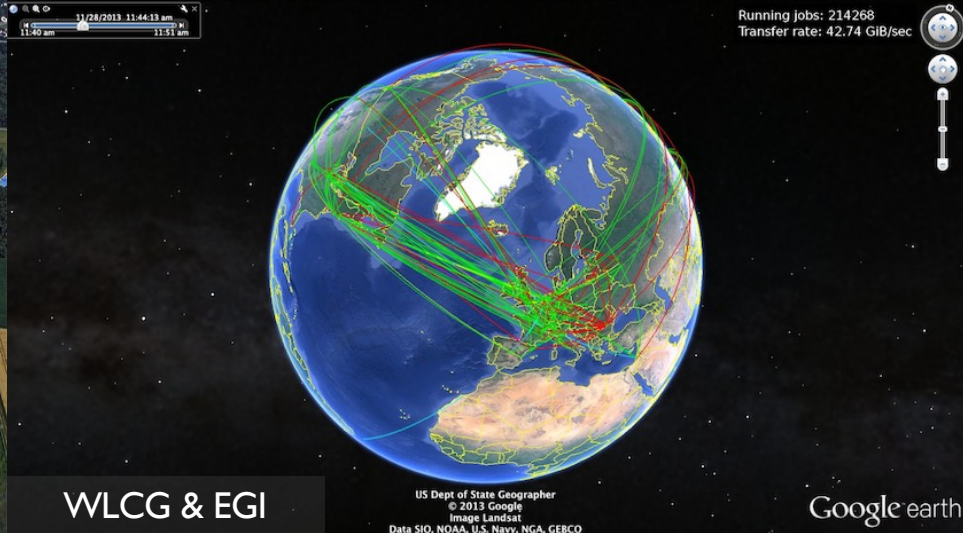


RISK MATRIX

Operational	Financial	Legal	Reputational
	Violation of copyrights		
Sabotage	License infringements		
	Financial fraud		
	Data theft		Attacking third parties
Misuse of compute power			
Impersonation			Defacement
Espionage			Water-Holing



Campus



WLCG & EGI

Google earth



Data centre



Control systems

ALMA Observatory shuts down operations due to a cyb

By [Bill Toulas](#)

November 3, 2022



Ransomware: "
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing>

The Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA) Observatory in Chile has suspended all observation operations and taken its public website offline following a cyberattack on 29, 2022.

With love!
BLACK HOLE LOCKER
Ransomware



AFFILIATE PROGRAM

The Black Hole Locker affiliate program welcomes you.

We are a team of security researchers based between the French and Swiss border. We are completely apolitical and only interested in money. We always have an unlimited amount of affiliates, enough space for all professionals.

First and foremost, we're looking for cohesive and experienced teams of pentesters.

Friday 14th April 10:00

Come and learn about the benefits our affiliate program and earn up to 20% of the ransom!

we are hiring!



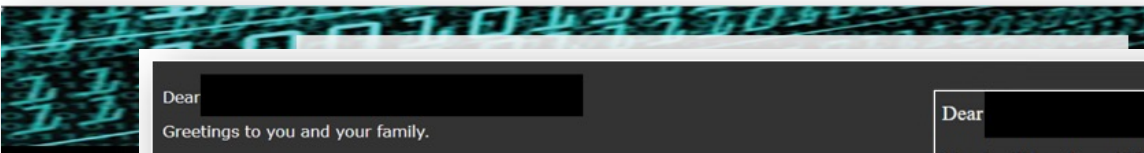
Abuse, Blunder & Fun
Computer.Security@cern.ch
Computing Seminar/ITTF, 2023/2/1

One. Last. Word.



CERN Computer Security Operations
Computer.Security@cern.ch

Operational Risks



From: Fabiola Gianti
 Date: Monday, 19 October 2022, 10:00
 To: [Redacted]
 Subject: CERN LOGIC

Dear [Redacted]

Are you working or on holiday?

Looking forward to your reply.

Best wishes,
 Fabiola

Dear [Redacted]

Greetings to you and your family.

How are you doing?

Please, I have an issue, I need your help with getting resolved on behalf of CERN.

Kindly let me know if you have the capacity to be of assistance at the moment.

I await your reply asap.

Best wishes,
 [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Yes, I will be pleased if I can help. Please let me know what I should do.

If you need an urgent communication, feel free to contact me:

Best
 P. [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your kind response. I am glad you are well and in good health.

I sincerely apologize for any inconveniences this might cause you at this time. I need your assistance with a transfer of €3,750 for CERN delegate logistics. I need to make the transfer at the moment. I am also in need of a banking access card reader to make the transfer and it is needed urgently.

Could you please call me, or let us have a short skype or zoom chat.

Please let me know if you can possibly help. I will forward you the details to transfer the payment when I'm back in the office. while I recon...

Rest assured the amount will be reimbursed on my return from international transfers.

Look forward to your return email for transfer details.

Best wishes,
 Fabiola

Dear [Redacted]

I am unable to receive/call/Whatsapp now due to limited telephone access I have here. I only have intermittent email access till I return back home on the 19th of this month.

Let me know if I can forward the recipient's bank account details to you?

Best wishes,
 [Redacted]

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Social Engineering



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Financial Risks

The

Европейская организация по ядерным

CNN US Crime + Justice Energy + Environment Extreme Weather Space + Science

Russian-speaking hackers knock multiple US airport websites offline. No impact on operations reported

By Greg Wallace, Sean Lyng Updated 11:50 AM EDT, Mon



Авторизация для сотрудников
<https://auth.cern.ch/>
<https://login.cern.ch/>

KillMilk
Все отладили, всё работает. ЦЕРН обид, ты был тестом

KillMilk
Я так долго ждал этого дня ребят

BREAKING THE NEWS

MARKETS ECONOMY BUSINESS POLITICS WORLD WAR/TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY

Pro-Russian hackers claim blocking JPMorgan infrastructure

BUSINESS Christian Baha / NP | 19 hours ago

1 min read



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Computing Seminar/ITTF, 2023/2/1

(Failed) DDOS against CERN

2008 **2011** **2023**

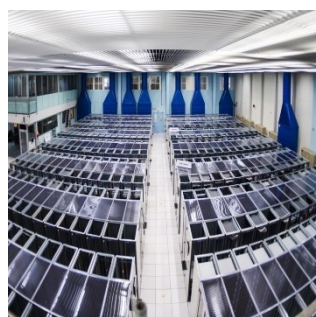
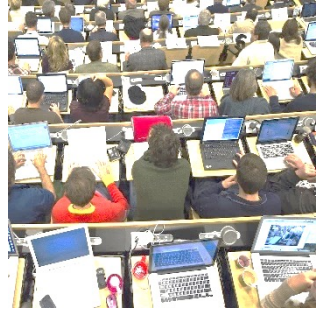
Reputational Risks

Computer Security Team's Mandate: Protect CERN's operations & reputation against cyber-threats. Incl. the WLCG and our academic R&E community.

Approach: Find a pragmatic balance between "Operations", "Academic Freedom" & "Security".

Strategy: Enhance CERN's security posture wherever its agility/complexity/heterogeneity allows. Have excellent threat intel to anticipate attacks. Detect early; respond quickly & thoroughly.

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-about-risks-and-threats>



Policies: Maintaining CERN Computing Rules (OC5).

<https://cern.ch/ComputingRules>

Basic Training: Giving regular awareness/on-boarding sessions. Plus online security courses.

Plus “*Bulletin*” articles. Plus “clicking campaigns.”

1+ session per month; 300+ articles published in total

<https://security.web.cern.ch/training/en/CERN%20Articles%20On%20Computer%20Security.pdf>

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-room-top>



Dedicated Training: Providing in-depth training on security practices incl. programming (with HR).

Plus “*Serious Gaming*” and “*WhiteHat Challenges*”.

5 “*Zebra*” table-top exercises, one with real policemen from Geneva & Pays de Gex;

~100 CERN *WhiteHats* trained, plus many more students from external universities





2FA: Deploying extra protection to accounts.

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-log-click-be-secure>

"Gotham": Notifying "unusual" logins.

~4770 notifications per month

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-your-remote-logins>

Dumps of Exposed Passwords:

Notifying when used outside. Ditto for our community.

Forcing reset when used at CERN.

Monitoring ~9k communities; reporting ~11k exposed passwords per day (~4/d for CERN)

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-password-revolutions>



EOP – xorlab – MDO Mail-Filtering:

Quarantining SPAM & malware

~115k emails analysed per day; 10% SPAM; 2% quarantined; >12/d manually checked (... >50% FP)
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-wrong-link-wrong-login-and-boom>



ESET Anti-Virus/Anti-Malware:

Providing endpoint detection & response software for BYOD and CERN-owned devices

~600 Bring-your-own-devices (BYOD) and 200+ CERN-managed devices
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-winter-season-virus-time-one-free-pill-your-device>



Threatray Memory Hashing: Detecting anomalies on CERN-managed devices

~50 devices so far in testing; IT department to come next month



Automatic Vulnerability Scanning:

Identifying weaknesses of endpoints & servers, unused firewall openings, as well as exposed secrets and ransomware files on file storages.

~24k devices scanned per month; ~210 issues per month; ~12M EOS file actions analysed
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-time-spring-clean>

Security Consultancy & Reviews: Improving

CERN's security posture (via *cloud/software license office, IT consultants, IT Architecture Review Board*).

20-30 in-depth reviews per year

Self-Security Assessment for Cloud Services:

Providing metrics, guidelines & controls for better security.

Prototype ready. Looking for volunteers to test it





PaloAlto Firewalling: Performing deep packet inspection and policy-based IP, domain & URL blocking (with IT-CS).

>2x 200Gbps (ingress+egress) IPv4&v6 monitored in-line

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-cerns-new-first-line-defence>



DNS RPZ & Firewall: Blocking malicious & typo-squatting domains (with IT-CS & SWITCH). Ditto for 50+ CH & F hospitals.

~800 domains blocked by CERN, >100/day by SWITCH. No hospital got ransomware so far

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-when-cernch-not-cern>

pDNS Containers: Helping WLCG sites to do alike.



Code / Container Scanning:

Deploying *GitLab/GitCI* and *Harbor* security features.

“Avoiding salmonella in your code” — Bulletin article to come

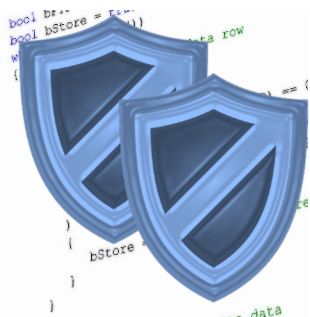
Software-Bill-of-Materials (SBOM):

Pushing via *CN/C* for a curation service to avoid (automatic) downloading of

malicious libraries, packages, containers & VMs.

This also improves dependency trees and licensing.

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-when-your-restaurant-turns-sour>

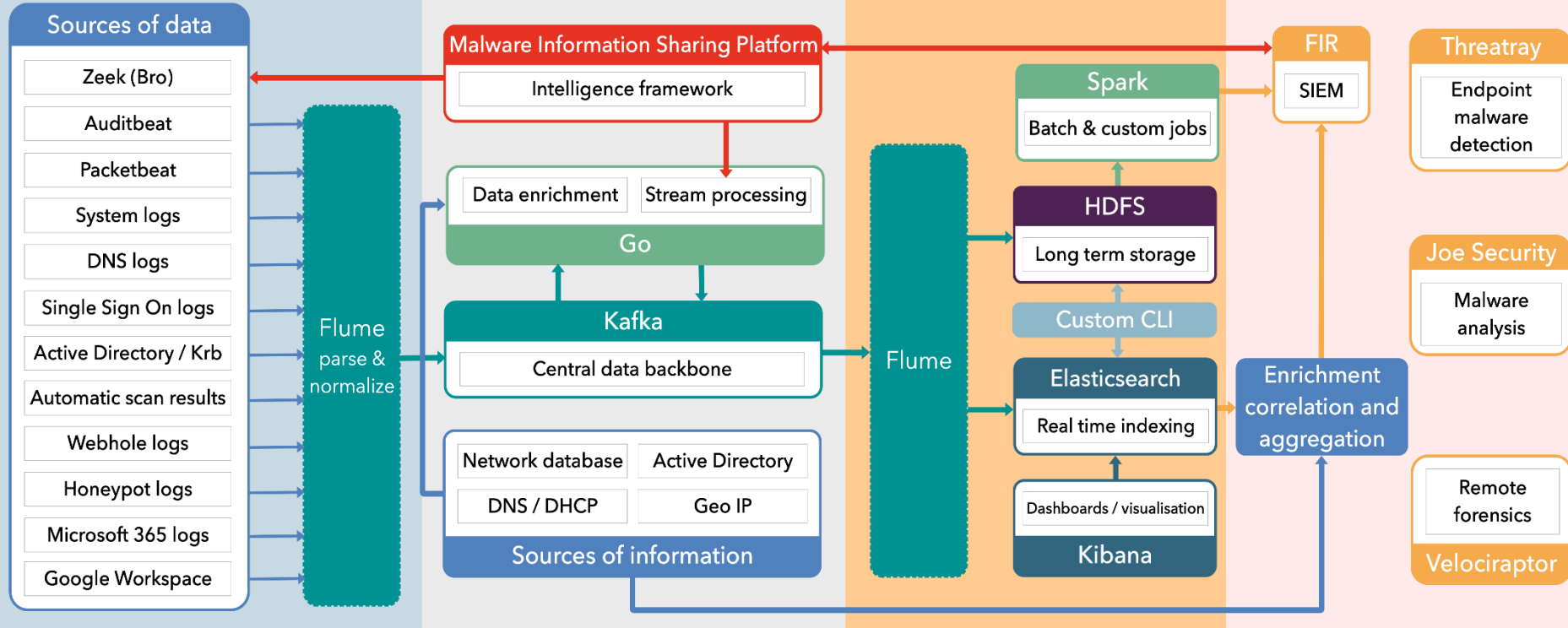


Data ingestion

Data processing

Storage and visualisation

Incident response



ThreatIntel:

Obtaining high-quality Indicators of Compromise.

Data processing

Malware Information Sharing Platform

Intelligence framework

e.g. IPs, domains, file hashes from our peers and security vendors.

~15M IoCs shared with 1000+ peer organizations; 100k+ IoCs currently actively monitored

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-protective-intelligence>

Collaboration: Acting as a trusted, neutral broker, aiming at fostering cooperation and trust in our community:

WLCG/EGI/OSG, SWITCH (CH), REN-ISAC (5-eyes);

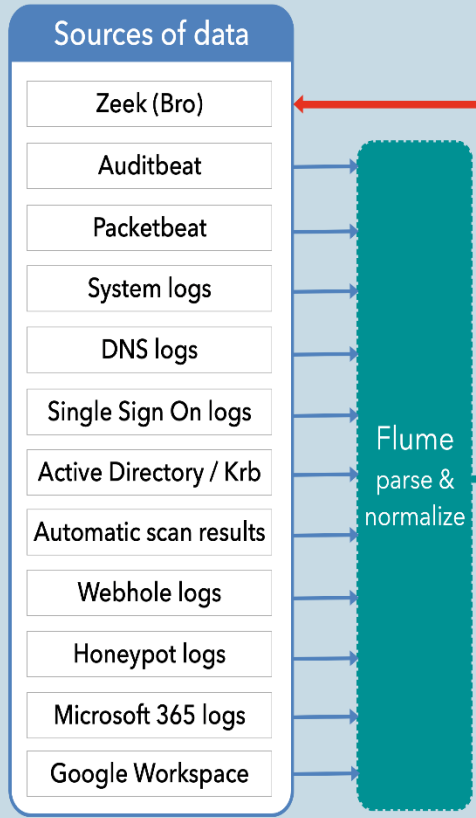
+Governments: MELANI (CH), ANSSI (F), CH-CERTs;

+Law enforcement: Interpol, Europol, FBI, CISA, local police;

+Int'l org's: GISSIG/UNISSIG; and with security vendors.

P.ex. this year: 30+ universities world-wide informed of ransomware preparations in their IT infrastructure





Ingestion, Processing & Storage:

Monitoring traffic at the Internet & TN gates,
DNS requests, CERN SSO logins,
LXBATCH/LXPLUS/AIADM activities, ...
Google Workspace & MS Azure to come.

Ingesting: ~3TB of data;
Storing currently: ~220TB in total (~1PB if uncompressed);
Analysing per day: ~3B network connections,
~1.2B DNS requests,
~570k logins,
~4B command executions

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-digital-trenches>

“Auto-Notify”:

Notifying resource owners
(devices, accounts, websites, ...)
of problems with their resources.

~300 reports per month (plus ~4700 “Gotham”)
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-our-findings-your-problem>

Forensics: Providing capabilities
and tools like *Joe Security*, *Prodaft*,
Threatray, *Velociraptor*.

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-catch-me-if-you-can>

Suspicious activity detected on device Europe/

↑ List all your issues

✎ Edit incident

Concerning the device

Update this device owner

Disconnect this device

Additional help:

CERN's Computing Rules (OC5)

CERN Computer Security

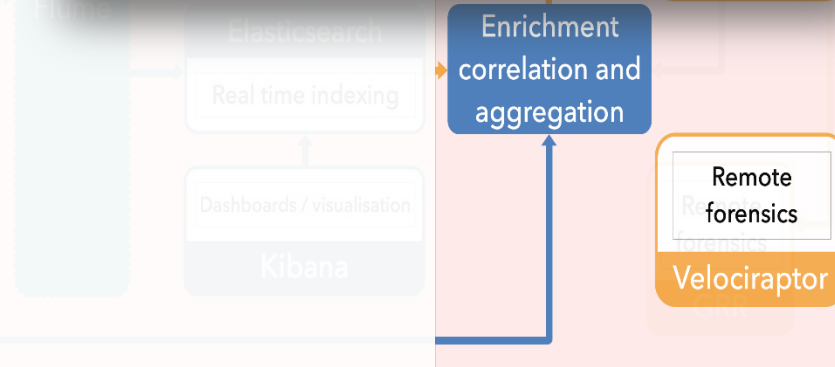
▼ **What has been detected?**

A network security scan has detected that your machine has contacted malicious domain (press.sslproviders.net) which is a symptom of potential infection. Please scan it with anti-various/malware as soon as possible. Otherwise the machine will be blocked as a security measure.

▼ **Your action needed to mitigate this issue**

Responsible application for suspicious activity

- I am responsible for this activity and consider it is legitimate.
- I have found and removed the application responsible for the activity.
- I have no idea of what is generating this activity and need help.
- I performed a virus scan and the results did not reveal any threats.
- I performed a virus scan and the results did reveal malware present on the device (please specify below).



Data ingestion

Sources of data
Zeek (Bro)
Auditbeat
Packetbeat
System logs
DNS logs
Single Sign On logs
Active Directory
Automatic scan results
Webhole logs
Honeypot logs
Microsoft 365 logs
Google Workspace

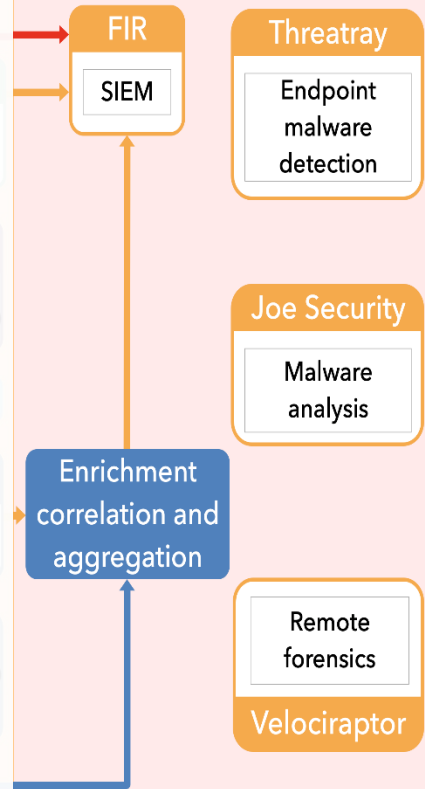
CERN Computer Security Rota:
Providing 2nd line “GoD” (with IT),
3rd line “SEC” (with IT-CA), and
4th line Computer Security Officer.


Grid Security Rota:
Leading the WLCG Security Office,
Leading *EGI* Incident Response Taskforce,
Leading *EOSCfuture* Incident Response TF.

“SAFER” Community Security:
Providing world-wide incident response.

<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-safer-teamwork>

Incident response





**Malicious URLs
& attachments**




**Laptops,
smart phones**



**Adversaries
("Hackers")**



People



**Malicious S/W,
containers, ...**



**IT services,
control systems**



The background features several light blue shields with diagonal stripes, arranged in a grid-like pattern. Overlaid on this are several large, semi-transparent red arrows pointing in various directions, creating a sense of movement and complexity.

**“Computer Security” (at CERN) is manifold and complex.
Still we cover all essential aspects (and hardly cope):
Prevention, Protection, Detection & Response**

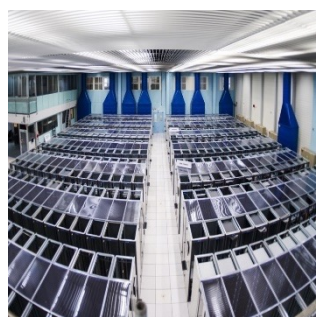
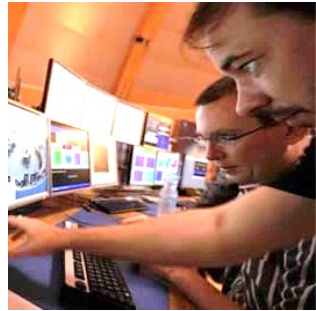
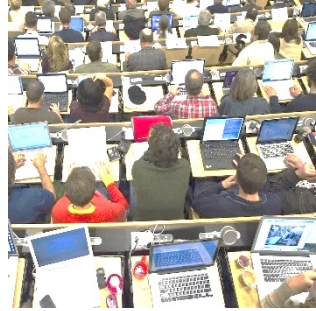
<https://home.cern/news/news/computing/computer-security-permanent-chess>



At CERN, *users* are responsible in first instance for the security of their devices, accounts, services(!), data, ...

We try to assist, but need their help and buy-in to ensure your services are secured:

- We discuss new features early
- Design with “security” in mind
- Tackle jointly





Security Reports

Monthly reports on CERN security

Monthly security reports from SWITCH CERT

Articles & Announcements

Articles in the CERN Bulletin, Computing Newsletter & others

Announcement archive

SWITCH Security Blog

Conferences & Workshops

Presentations given by the Security Team

Trip reports from conferences

Theses & Reports

Theses of Security Team members

Reports of Security Team members

Articles & Publications

A summary of our articles in the CERN Bulletin can be found [here \(PDF\)](#).

2023

- "Winter season, virus time – one free pill for your device" [Computer Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 8-9, 2023/2/24)
- "How AI are you?" [Computer Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 6-7, 2023/2/8)
- "Animal or plant?" [Email and Web Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 4-5, 2023/1/25)
- "When auto-update is not so auto" [Computer Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 1-3, 2023/1/13)

2022

- "What's under the tree?" [Computer Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 49-51, 2022/12/8)
- "Freemium paywalls" [Copyrights](#) (CERN Bulletin 47-48, 2022/11/24)
- "When your restaurant turns sour" [Secure Software Development](#) (CERN Bulletin 45-46, 2022/11/11)
- "Finally, bonbons for download" [Computer Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 43-44, 2022/10/26)
- "How to avoid being disturbed during your holidays" [Rules & Policies](#) (CERN Bulletin 41-42, 2022/10/14)
- "Push & pain" [Email and Web Security](#) (CERN Bulletin 39-40, 2022/9/29)
- "Forwarding can spoil privacy" [Data Protection and Privacy](#)

<https://security.web.cern.ch/reports/en/articles.shtml>



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Monthly reports on CERN Computer Security

If you are interested to receive notifications on new reports via email, please register to the "cert-security-info@cern.ch" e-group.

2023

[January - February](#)

2022

[January - February - March - April - May - June - July - August - September - October - November - December](#)

2021

[January - February - March - April - May - June - July - August - September - October - November - December](#)

2020

[January - February - March - April - May - June - July - August - September - October - November - December](#)

2019

[January - February - March - April - May - June - July - August - September - October - November - December](#)

https://security.web.cern.ch/reports/en/monthly_reports.shtml

