

Press Release

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Empowerment for self-reliance by strengthening skills in the field of IT security

IHP develops free e-learning platform for small and medium-sized enterprises in Brandenburg

Frankfurt (Oder) One third of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are unable to meet the demand for digital know-how and skills and see the lack of knowledge among employees as a hurdle to digitalization. In particular, the challenge of developing IT security causes great difficulties for SMEs. New forms of industrial espionage, cyber attacks and blackmail Trojans are forcing companies to protect their IT systems and processes against attacks from the Internet.

To support SMEs in this task, the Competence Center IT Security (KITS) was founded by the Leibniz Institute for High Performance Microelectronics (IHP) in Frankfurt (Oder). The competence center is supported by the State of Brandenburg and the European Regional Development Fund for a period of 3 years since January 2020 with a grant of 2.1 million euros.

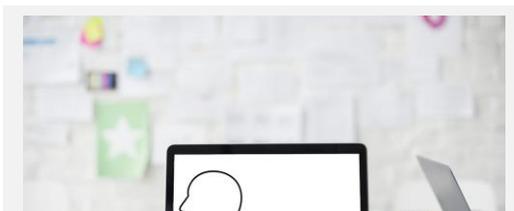
KITS informs companies about IT security problems, demonstrates available IT security solutions and empowers Brandenburg companies to help themselves. In addition, the competence center organizes seminars and practical workshops to build up specific knowledge about IT security and to strengthen the IT competence of the participants. An important part of the KITS offering is its own e-learning platform, which enables companies to obtain both basic knowledge and practical instructions ("hands-on knowledge") in line with their needs and free of charge, so that they can better prevent dangers and assess risks.

"The experience of the last few months shows very clearly that SMEs in particular are very interested in using online offerings, as they provide greater flexibility in terms of time," says Stephan Kornemann Project Manager KITS.

The offer of the e-learning platform is being successively expanded. The courses offered there are grouped thematically and are described by a brief summary of their content. The text information is supplemented by interactive learning materials, virtual demonstrators and small test questions. In addition to the theoretical transfer of knowledge, specific attacks are presented and made tangible, and suitable protective measures are shown and practiced. The acquired knowledge can be evaluated through question-and-answer tests and small games. The free e-learning platform can be accessed via the website of the IT Competence Center (KITS): <https://www.kits-brandenburg.de>. Questions about KITS support services are answered by e-mail to kontakt@kits-brandenburg.de or by phone at 0335 5625-712.



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About IHP:

The IHP is an institute of the Leibniz Association and conducts research and development of silicon-based systems and ultrahigh frequency circuits and technologies including new materials. It develops innovative solutions for application areas such as wireless and broadband communication, security, medical technology, industry 4.0, automotive industry, and aerospace. The IHP employs approximately 350 people. It operates a pilot line for technological developments and the preparation of high-speed circuits with 0.13/0.25 μm BiCMOS technologies, located in a 1500 m² DIN EN ISO 14644-1 3 certified clean room.

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