

FIRST POST

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



33rd FIRST Annual Conference - Crossing Uncertain Times

FIRST, is all set to produce a memorable and informative virtual conference this June. The 33rd Annual FIRST Conference will see international experts come together virtually to share their perspectives and experiences through captivating presentations, forums, and workshops.

Under the conference theme, Crossing Uncertain Times, topics will include security and incident response for mobile, ICS, IoT, cloud; new detection techniques, finding and fixing bugs; skills, maturity, resilience, awareness, communication; privacy, ethics, norms, governance, standards, and best practices, to name but a few!

The conference will take place over three days, June

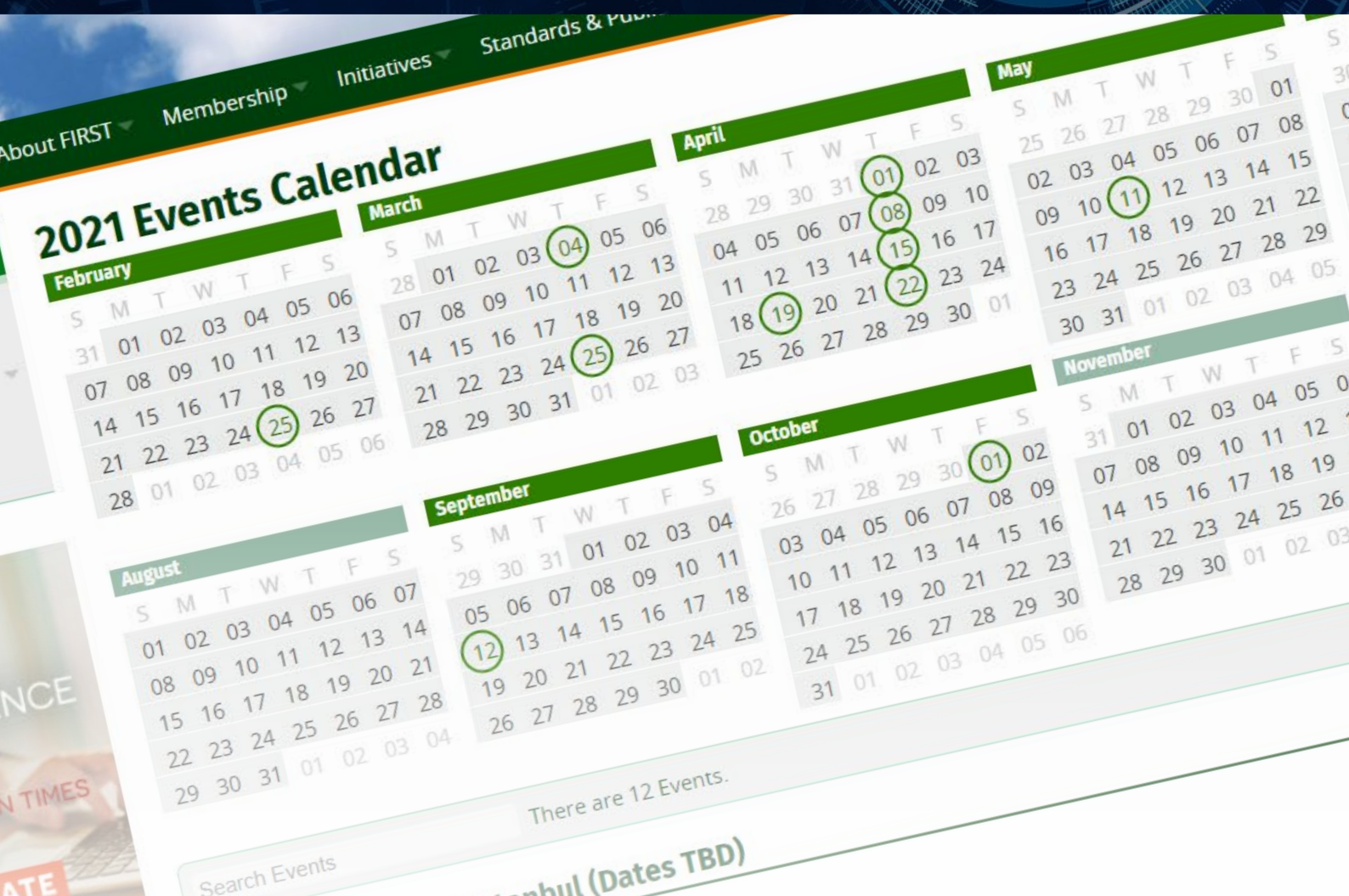
7-9, with some pre-and post-conference activities happening the week of June 6, 2021. With no physical venue, attendees from all corners of the world will be able to unite with a global community of professional incident response and security teams by just logging in to watch live sessions and pre-recorded content. Our previous virtual annual conference in November saw 2,500 online registrants from over 111 countries, so we expect high participation.

Conference social activities will include an engaging networking platform, where attendees can mix with each other in a virtual conference hall as a customizable avatar with RPG graphics! Here, you will experience some of the much-missed face-to-face interactions that make FIRST conferences memorable.

Network with old acquaintances and make new connections as you navigate a virtual landscape with video and audio. Be sure to be camera-ready and link up with the exceptional sponsors that make this conference possible.

“The FIRST Annual Conference is a must-participate event for incident response and security teams across the world. We are working on producing compelling and unmissable content that will appeal to everyone in the industry,” Natsuko Inui of FS-ISAC and the 2021 Conference Program Chair.

Keep the conference page bookmarked – updates will be published here and on our social media pages @FIRSTdotOrg. Organizations interested in sponsoring the event should reach out to events@first.org. Registration will open in mid-April.



Mark your calendars

- FIRST reveals 2021 events calendar

FIRST holds a plethora of informative and engaging events every year for members and non-members. As well as the 33rd Annual Conference, we will hold Lightning Talks (team-hosted virtual events), Workshops, Special Interest Group updates, Training sessions, country-specific Symposiums, and our Annual General Meeting in June.

See the events calendar at <https://www.first.org/events/calendar/> for more details.

FIRST welcomes its 97th country and member 562 - Benin bjCSIRT

By Miguel Sossouhounto
bjCSIRT Manager

The Republic of Benin's national computer security incident response team (bjCSIRT) started out as a small team in September 2017 to protect the national cyberspace and its critical infrastructure. bjCSIRT has now reached a level of maturity that has allowed us to be FIRST members. As Benin's national CERT, we adhere to the same vision as FIRST's: international cooperation among incident response and security teams across the world to ensure a safer Internet for all.

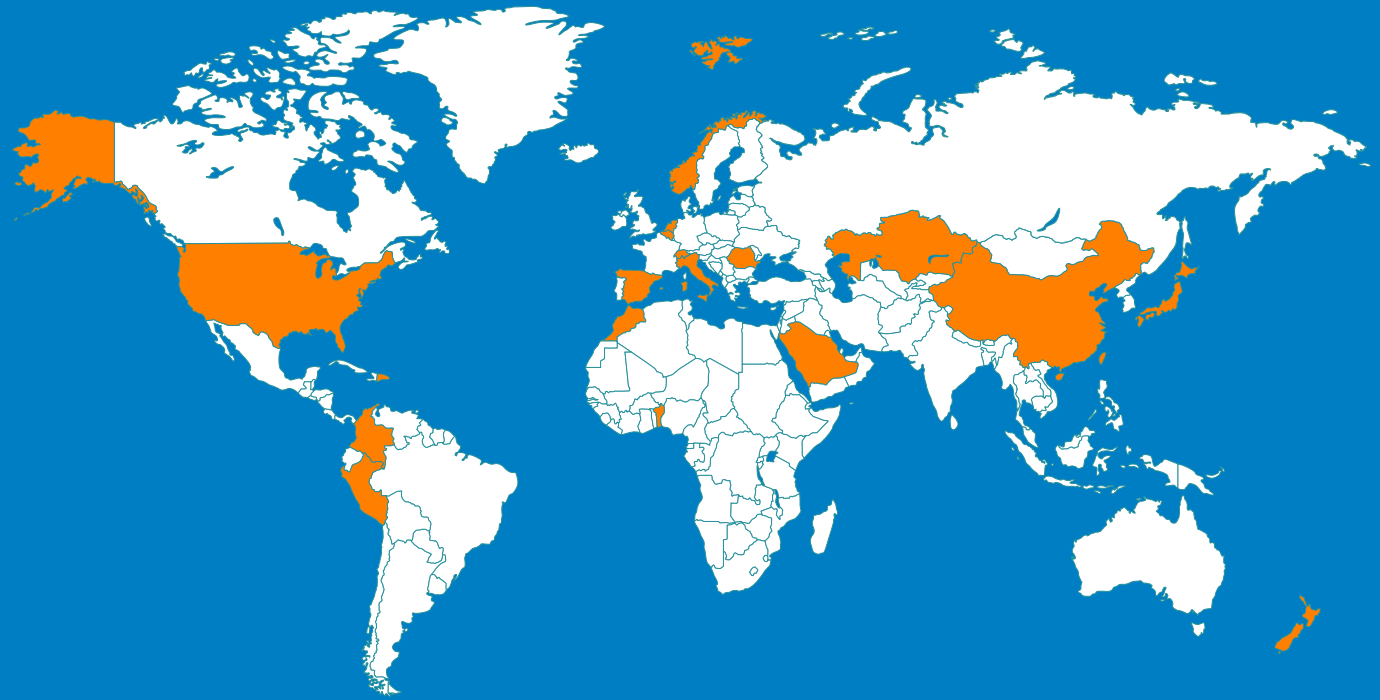
With the spread of the Internet, computer security incidents have become a worldwide phenomenon due to cyberattacks that have evolved to become transnational. More than ever, countries and stakeholders need to preserve the Internet's safety and security and its users. Cooperation between incident response teams and shared intelligence has become the most effective method to mitigate and respond to computer security incidents. All team members of FIRST provide and share expertise covering various incident responses and security issues they encounter.

As a FIRST member, bjCSIRT can now benefit from a network of CERTs / CSIRTs worldwide, knowledge sharing with its peers, and efficient management of security incidents at the international level. The bjCSIRT team firmly believes that being part of such a renowned organization will help gain maturity by enhancing our incident response practices by benefiting from those established by FIRST and sharing experience, which will help the team continually improve and maintain sustainable operations.

Becoming a FIRST member is a significant evolution for our team regarding our regional and international credibility. It enables us to actively contribute to the FIRST community by sharing our insights, tools, and knowledge with our peer members and interested parties.



Join us in welcoming the following members to FIRST



Dec 2020

- Klee Aiken (liaison), New Zealand, sponsored by Zendesk and CERT NZ
- Catalin Patrascu (liaison), Romania, sponsored by KrCERT/CC (KISA)
- Adam Pridgen (liaison), US, sponsored by Cisco

- NEC-CSIRT, Japan, sponsored by CDI-CIRT and JPCERT/CC
- ASML CSIRT, Netherlands, sponsored by NCSC-NL and KPN-CERT
- CMA, Saudi Arabia, sponsored by Saudi CERT and Saudi Aramco
- CSVD-A3Sec, Columbia, sponsored by GammaCSOC-CSIRT and CSIRT Olimpia
- KZ-FinCERT, Kazakhstan, sponsored by KZ-CERT and Financial CERT
- SABIC Cyber Security, Saudi Arabia, sponsored by Saudi CERT and STC DFIR
- SAMA Cyber Security, Saudi Arabia, sponsored by Saudi CERT and Saudi Aramco
- Tencent Cloud Security, China, sponsored by Qi An Xin CERT and OSRC
- TIC DEFENSE PERU-CERT, Peru, sponsored by TIC DEFENSE-CERT and CERT-MX
- CSIRTNEXT, Spain, sponsored by INCIBE-CERT and CCN-CERT
- CSIRT-RD, Dominican Republic, sponsored by INCIBE-CERT and CERT-EE
- NVISIO CSIRT, Belgium, sponsored by CERT.be and KBC Groups CERT
- Regeneron SIRT (RSIRT), US sponsored by AMGN GIP and SWRX CERT

Jan 2021

- CERT-BAM, Morocco, sponsored by maCERT and CERT-BDF
- SITE DFIR, Saudi Arabia, sponsored by Saudi Aramco and Saudi CERT
- UniCredit CERT, Italy, sponsored by PI-CERT and LDO-CERT
- Auth0 Detection & Response Team, US, sponsored by Airbnb DART CSIRT and Box SIRT
- bjCSIRT, Benin, sponsored by CSIRT.TN and tunCERT
- MSC Cruises CSIRT, Switzerland, sponsored by CERTEGO and SWRX

Feb 2021

- Norges Bank CSIRT, Norway, sponsored by Nordic Financial CERT and SpareBank 1 IRT
- SIX SIRT, Switzerland, sponsored by PXS-CSIRT and SWITCH-CERT
- Proton-CERT, Switzerland, sponsored by GIST and Access Now





FIRST, ITU and Equals launches Women in Cyber Mentorship Program for Arab and Africa Regions

In partnership with ITU and EQUALS, FIRST was excited to launch the first Women in Cyber (WiC) Mentorship Program this month. The inaugural rollout will be available to women from the Arab and African regions, with future rollouts in other areas. Participation is open to women working in cybersecurity at junior levels and women in ICT/STEM seeking to enter the cybersecurity workforce.

This entirely virtual mentorship program will kick-off end of March and run through August 2021. You can find full program details at <http://itu.int/go/WiCmp>.

The WiC Mentorship Program builds on and benefits from the ongoing efforts of ITU, EQUALS, and FIRST to close the digital gender divide by mainstreaming gender-focused activities. The program will feature guided monthly mentorship circles with supporting activities, including a series of inspirational keynote webinars and technical and soft skills training courses. The first event took place on March 17, led by Johanna Weaver, Special Adviser, Cyber Affairs to Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. There will be additional speakers and training throughout the next few months.

“This is an important initiative to empower and inspire women to take charge of their cybersecurity careers and learn from some of the world’s leaders,”

says Shawn Richardson, Board Director, FIRST, who participated in the virtual launch on March 8, 2021.



Shawn Richardson,
Board Director,
FIRST

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, we are still looking for volunteers. Please contact Shawn Richardson - Shawn@first.org or first-sec@first.org



Get your nominations in for the third edition of The Incident Response Hall of Fame

FIRST is now accepting nominations to celebrate the outstanding contribution to the Incident Response community and cybersecurity community by an individual or team through The Incident Response Hall of Fame. The inductee will be offered a lifetime Liaison Membership to FIRST.

Criteria 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 crucial audiences or specific geographies, with global impact.

“The Incident Response Hall of Fame is an important annual activity that recognizes and highlights our community's role models. I encourage members to get involved in the nomination process” says Serge Droz, Chair of FIRST.

Nominations can be made here up to April 1st, 2021, with the inductees announced during the 33rd Annual Conference. Past inductees include Prof. Dr. Klaus-Peter Kossakowski, Ian Charles Cook, and Don Stikvoort.

Visit <https://www.first.org/hof/> for further information

FIRST Impressions

Chris John Riley



Martin McKeay



New Podcast - FIRST Impressions - is launched!

FIRST is working on a new podcast, called FIRST Impressions, featuring discussions from across the incident response and security team spectrum. Hosted by Chris John Riley and Martin McKeay, the podcast will initially run for around 8-10 episodes.

Episode 1 is already out and features Dr. Serge Droz, Chair of FIRST – Reflections on 2020 and Thinking Ahead to 2021.

Chris John Riley is a Senior Security Engineer, and has been attending FIRST events for over 12 years. With nearly two decades of experience in the IT and security field, Martin McKeay is a well-seasoned professional dedicated to spreading awareness about security and privacy. He is the senior editor of Akamai's State of the Internet / Security report.

Available for download in most major podcast apps – Apple, Google, Spotify, and TuneIn. Search for FIRST.org Impressions.

You can also find the podcast on our website [here](#).

Infrastructure Update

Essential - 2021 FIRST Membership Team Representative Checklist

As we approach the 33rd Virtual Annual Conference and AGM in June, FIRST requests each team representative to do an annual review of their membership and access. Please log on and check the following:



FIRST Portal (<https://portal.first.org>)

- Make sure you can log in.



My Profile

-Review your contact information (especially email), PGP key, and mailing list subscriptions.



Membership Information

-Verify that your Primary and Secondary Representatives, team PGP key, and other details are accurate. The primary team rep will be the only person on the team with voting privileges.



Invoice Information

-Review the details on your 'Invoice Information' and ensure that we have the correct invoicing contact if this is different from your primary team representative.



Team Members

-Review your team roster for any required updates (add/edit/remove). Only listed team members will be able to register for the virtual conference for free.

Please make sure you log in to the Portal and go through the checklist before April 1 to ensure you can access the AGM voting and get free registration for the conference.

Please contact the FIRST Secretariat at first-sec@first.org if you have any questions.



FIRST

Thanks for reading!

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

