

MEDIA RELEASE

Republic Polytechnic collaborates with cybersecurity industry players to provide quality workforce training for students

MOU signings and launch of joint labs at School of Infocomm Industry Day to strengthen Singapore's cybersecurity capabilities

Singapore, 10 March 2017 – Republic Polytechnic (RP) unveiled two initiatives at the School of Infocomm (SOI) Industry Day to enhance skills development opportunities for students from the Diploma in Infocomm Security Management. The collaboration with leading industry partners will equip students with advanced data analytics and cybersecurity capabilities for the future growth of the industry.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

RP's SOI signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with two industry partners, **Cloud Security Alliance (CSA)** and **Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) Singapore Chapter**. These new corporate partnerships will provide more internship opportunities for students, more industry-based staff and student development projects, as well as academic awards and scholarships for top-performing students from SOI over the next three years. Students and staff will also have the opportunity to participate in study trips and conferences both locally and abroad, allowing them to have wider exposure to the industry.

Launch of Four Joint Labs

A total of four joint labs were launched as a platform for RP and the respective lab partners (RSA Security, Palo Alto Networks, Trend Micro and IXIA) to develop joint projects and academic modules and provide an industry-benchmarked environment for students from RP's Diploma in Infocomm Security Management to apply curriculum learning.

With a total combined learning space of around 350 square metres, the four joint labs will prepare students for exciting careers in rapidly growing areas such as cloud, networks and infrastructure security. Hands-on training conducted in a simulated real-world environment will equip students with knowledge and exposure to the latest security technologies to defend against malicious attacks. The new facilities will also be open to secondary school students as part of Education and Career Guidance (ECG) journeys for them to have better insight into the dynamic infocomm security sector.

“The launch of the joint labs and signing of MOUs with cybersecurity industry partners will provide our students with an authentic learning environment complete with realistic cyber-attack simulation scenarios, equipping them with the latest skills and knowledge to fight against cybercrimes. We look forward to sustained engagement with the industry to jointly nurture the cyber professionals of tomorrow,” said Mr. James Tham, Programme Chair of the Diploma in Infocomm Security Management.

The joint labs are:

- RP-RSA Security Operations Centre (SOC) Lab
- RP-Trend Micro Cloud and Virtualisation Security Lab
- RP-IXIA Cyber Defense Lab
- RP-Palo Alto Networks Cyber Security Lab

Further, with RP designated as one of Palo Alto Networks Authorised Academic Centres, RP students will have the opportunity to attempt the Palo Alto Networks Accredited Configuration Engineer (ACE) Examination upon completing their Internetworking Security module, allowing them to be professionally certified upon graduation.

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About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has seven schools and one academic centre offering forty-one diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22301, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg/>.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Republic Polytechnic
Office of Corporate Communications
Patrick Seng / Julian Soh
+65 9767 6701 / +65 9018 0719
patrick_seng@rp.edu.sg /
julian_soh@rp.edu.sg

MSLGROUP in Singapore
Chloe Chen / Darren Choong
+65 9155 7250 / +65 8125 2886
chloe.chen@mslgroup.com /
darren.choong@mslgroup.com

Appendix: Quotes from Industry Partners

MoUs

1. “The Education Council was created to serve as a catalyst in bridging the gap between education, research and industry in cloud security with the responsibility of providing guidance to the CSA to further efforts in cloud security education and research. We are glad to see that Republic Polytechnic is joining us as a new Council member today and we certainly look forward to working together to bring cloud industry professionals and the higher learning community to develop publications, research, education and technology initiatives that will lead towards achieving a common vision and global alignment that will add long-term value to the industry.”
 - ***Mr Aloysius Cheang, Executive Vice President of Asia Pacific, CSA***
2. “The signing of the MOU between ISACA Singapore Chapter and Republic Polytechnic (RP) paves the way for a fruitful collaboration between information security professionals and RP students. ISACA certifications and frameworks are internationally recognised with 137,000 certification holders globally and a local chapter membership of about 2,300 professionals. ISACA Singapore aims to impart cybersecurity best practices and provide networking opportunities to the students. It is our hope that the partnership will encourage more passionate students to embark into this profession and be future leaders.”
 - ***Mr John Lee, President of ISACA Singapore Chapter.***

Joint Labs

3. “The partnership between RP and Ixia will provide students a robust, and battle-hardened environment in which students can develop and hone their Cyber Security skills. Singapore has long prided itself in staying at the forefront of IT and new skills development.”
 - ***Mr David Santosa Sajoto, Head of Enterprise Sales, Ixia, Asia Pacific***
4. “Palo Alto Networks is proud to collaborate with Republic Polytechnic to launch the Cyber Security Lab and build Singapore’s next generation of Palo Alto Networks Accredited Configuration Engineers (ACE). The initiative will supplement and enhance ongoing education efforts to equip our youth with the skills and training needed to develop exciting careers in the rapidly growing cybersecurity industry.”
 - ***Mr Alvin Tan, Regional Head for Singapore and Malaysia, Palo Alto Networks***
5. “It is a reflection of RP’s vision in addressing a key gap in Cybersecurity manpower shortage in Singapore by collaborating with industry practitioners like RSA. Lack of skilled professionals in the cyber security space is indeed a growing concern all over the world and this partnership is an effort in the right direction. RSA is known worldwide for its drive in helping customers to take command of their Cybersecurity posture by building & implementing Business Driven Security strategies. RSA solutions effectively detect & respond to advanced attacks, manage user identities & access and reduce business risk, fraud & cybercrime. RSA is excited to share its expertise in training the security professionals of future.”
 - ***Mr Edward Lim, Senior Director, RSA South East Asia & Great China***
6. “The joint lab with Republic Polytechnic had been in the making for a year and we are happy it officially opened for use today. The Trend Micro Cloud and Virtualisation Security Lab features our award-winning Deep Security solution that is capable of unleashing the full benefits of cloud – such as its speed, agility, and operational efficiency – while ensuring maximum security. By acquiring hands-on knowledge of how cloud and virtualisation security software are designed and work, RP students will gain a head-start over their peers in understanding the nuts and bolts of cybercrimes and security measures deployed for these environments. As adoption for cloud and virtualisation heightens in Singapore, we believe the Lab will offer valuable practical experience and comprehensive knowledge transfer to RP students, preparing them to become the next generation of cybersecurity experts the nation needs.”
 - ***Mr David Siah, Country Manager, Singapore, Trend Micro***