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Contact: Rudy Pamintuan
Phone: 312-961-4710
Email: Rudy@ShermanWorldwide.com



Cyber Quests Competition Opens Today For Those Seeking to Qualify for Summer Cyber Camps

*Top Performers of Cyber Quests to be Invited to Summer Cyber Camps
Hosted by U.S. Cyber Challenge*

Idaho Falls, ID, April 16, 2013 – The National Board of Information Security Examiners (NBISE), through the U.S. Cyber Challenge (USCC) initiative, announces the opening day of the qualifying Cyber Quests competition – an entertaining and challenging online contest open to high school and college students who will compete against their peers across the country for an invitation to one of several Summer Cyber Camps being offered this summer. Interested parties may register at <http://USCC.CyberQuests.org>. Registration closes on Monday, April 29, 2013 at 9:00 PM EST and the Cyber Quests quiz closes on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 at 11:59 PM EST.

The Cyber Quests competition features a series of questions based on analysis of a packet capture file which participants analyze on their own machines, looking for signs of attack and other activity. Participants will have 24 hours to complete the competition, beginning from the time they start questions. Winners will be determined based on who achieves the highest score in the shortest amount of time.

Winners of CyberQuests, who are 18 years or older, will then be eligible to receive an invitation to one of the week-long Cyber Camps being offered across the country in June, July and August on the basis of their performance. State-specific camps are being offered in Delaware and Illinois with regional camps to take place in Virginia and California.

The camps will feature one week of specialized sessions by college faculty, SANS Institute senior instructors and cyber security experts, capped off by a live competition and awards ceremony on the final day. In addition to providing expert training for participants to improve their skills and marketability, the Cyber Camps will also provide students the opportunity to engage with major technology companies and government agencies at onsite job fairs for scholarship, internship and employment opportunities.

“We encourage anyone who has an interest in cyber security to participate in the Cyber Quests competition,” said Karen S. Evans, National Director of US Cyber Challenge.

“By competing in Cyber Quests, participants have the opportunity to then qualify for our Summer Cyber Camps, which will put them in contact with our elite team of instructors who will teach the campers advanced skills in the field and empower them to fill the needs our country has in the field of cyber security.”

“Cyber Quests is a stepping-stone for any security enthusiast to get channeled into the industry. We realize that many talented individuals are not yet recognized by companies and organization who are in need of their security skills,” said Michael Assante, President & CEO of the National Board of Information Security Examiners (NBISE). “Therefore, Cyber Quests is a fundamental asset to the career aspirations of our participants. By competing in Cyber Quests, participants can be invited to U.S. Cyber Challenge Summer Cyber Camps and ultimately be introduced to recruiters at prestigious institutions.”

Cyber Quests is an online competition administered by CyberAces and USCC, a national partnership focused on identifying and developing cyber security talent to meet the country’s critical cyber security workforce needs.

For information about becoming a sponsor of a Cyber Camp, contact Karen S. Evans, National Director at kevans@uscyberchallenge.org

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About Cyber Aces

The Cyber Aces Foundation discovers talent and provides a pathway to employment in critical cybersecurity jobs. The foundation challenges students, veterans and jobseekers with training and competition, develops their abilities with cybersecurity education and prepares them for cybersecurity careers. It is a 501(c)(3) organization. For more, visit cyberaces.org.

About U.S. Cyber Challenge:

U.S. Cyber Challenge (USCC) is a program of the National Board of Information Security Examiners (NBISE), a 501(c)3 organization, and has the mission to significantly reduce the shortage in the cyber workforce by serving as the premier program to identify, attract, recruit and place the next generation of cybersecurity professionals. USCC's goal is to find 10,000 of America's best and brightest to fill the ranks of cybersecurity professionals where their skills can be of the greatest value to the nation.