Digital Single Market

Eventall over Europe1 October 2013 to 31 October 2013

European Cyber Security Month

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In October 2013, the first fully-fledged European Cyber Security Month (ECSM) will take place all over Europe. The challenge is to improve trust in public and private IT services, used in everyday lives.

The campaign is under intensive planning with more than 40 partners and, currently, stakeholders in 25 countries across Europe participating. The EU's 'cyber security' agency **ENISA** is, together with the European Commission Vice President and Commissioner **Neelie Kroes** and the Commission Directorate General DG CONNECT, supporting this first full scale European Cyber Security Month, with more than 50 activities.

But what is the ECSM?

The European Cyber Security Month is an EU campaign that takes place in October. Its purpose is

- to promote cyber security among citizens,
- to change their perception of cyber-threats, and
- to provide up-to-date security information, through education and sharing good practices.

Activities all over Europe

ECSM activities will take place in these 25 countries (22 EU Member States and 3 partner countries): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Finland, France, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

More than 40 partners from both public and private bodies are active in the campaign, among them Europol, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the European Commission's Europe Direct network, as well as professional information and communication (ICT) associations (e.g. ISACA and the Information Systems Security Association, ISSA -) and industry representatives.

The activities will include video, radio and TV talk shows and programmes, lectures, expert workshops, conferences, online games, and fairs in all ECSM countries. For example, in Austria a record number of activities is being organised: (15); in Ireland a Cyber Psychology Research Centre will be launched.

ENISA's Executive Director, Professor Udo Helmbrecht commented: "*ENISA is a broker of cyber security knowledge. The European Cyber Security Month campaign makes it possible to share best*

practices, and to increase the results of the security communities' work. It's about your security, and in your best interest; online security requires your active participation".

He added; "*In a time when cyber security is of increasing importance for society and the economy, the challenge is to bring the skills of citizens and SMEs up to speed, to improve the trust in public and private IT services, used in everyday lives*".

For further information: Website <u>http://cybersecuritymonth.eu/</u> [1] Twitter <u>@enisa_eu</u> [2] and <u>@CyberSecMonth</u> [3] #OctoberNIS #CyberSecMonth

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