MASSACHUSETTS
HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL
Dedicated to Growth... Committed to Action

MASSVISION2050

Generating Bold Ideas for Massachusetts' Future

CYBERSECURITY COLLABORATION COMMUNIITY

Cybercrime is growing exponentially at a global level. In our fast-evolving digital environment, every organization is now a reachable target, and every organization, large or small, has operations, brand, reputation, and revenue pipelines that are potentially at risk from a breach.

According to an article published in *Forbes* earlier this year, a *Cybersecurity Ventures* study noted that the cost of cybercrime is predicted to hit US$ 8 trillion in 2023 and will grow to US$ 10.5 trillion by 2025. Cyber criminals are finding new ways to conduct attacks, and organizations need to continuously evolve their methods to defend themselves.

Objective

Establish a MassVision2050 Cybersecurity Collaboration Community (CCC) to create a collaborative platform where MHTC members can share expertise, insights, and best practices to collectively enhance cybersecurity capabilities and enable resilience against evolving cyber threats among member organizations.

Mission

The CCC aims to facilitate a dynamic and interactive space where MHTC member organizations can collaborate, exchange insights, best practices, and lessons learned, fostering a resilient cybersecurity community that can effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from cyber threats. By leveraging shared expertise, the CCC strives to fortify the cybersecurity landscape for member organizations, enabling a secure digital environment for all participants.

KEY FOCUS AREAS

The CCC will enable sharing of information across the public sector, private industry, and academia to ensure MHTC members lead in areas of cybersecurity resilience. Sharing of information will follow *Chatham House rules*. Representative areas include:

1. **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE OF BEST PRACTICES**

Foster a culture of information sharing by facilitating regular forums, webinars, and workshops where member organizations can discuss emerging threats, vulnerabilities, and effective defense strategies.

2. **CROSS-SECTOR POLLINATION**

Promote collaboration across diverse industry sectors within the working group to leverage varied perspectives and insights. Recognize that cross-sector knowledge sharing enhances the overall resilience of the cybersecurity ecosystem.

3. **INCIDENT RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS**

Forum to share lessons learned with incident debriefs and anonymized case studies to extract valuable lessons from real-world cybersecurity incidents. This will provide practical insights into incident response and recovery strategies.

4. **CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES**

Implement a feedback-driven approach to identify areas of improvement within member organizations. Encourage the sharing of successful strategies for continuous enhancement of cybersecurity practices.

The group may also invite external experts to further the knowledge on the evolving cyber-attack surface and vectors in order to shape approaches for mitigating threats as well as enhance resiliency and recovery.

Membership Criteria

Membership is open to senior technology executives from all MHTC member organizations committed to actively participating in knowledge sharing initiatives. Organizations should demonstrate a willingness to contribute insights, share experiences, and engage in collaborative efforts to strengthen the overall cybersecurity posture of our community.

Governance

The CCC will be governed by a diverse board of senior technology executives from MHTC member organizations. The board will be responsible for setting the schedule, agenda, and format for the group meetings. Periodic updates will also be provided to the parent MHTC organization.

Maintaining authenticity in the group's mission of sharing knowledge and best practices is crucial for effective collaboration built on trust and transparency. As such, member organizations may not use it to promote or sell their products and services.

Measuring Success

Success will be measured by the efficacy of knowledge shared, active participation of member organizations, and practical improvements in cybersecurity practices as a result of the collaborative initiatives. Regular feedback loops will be established to continuously refine and enhance the working group's effectiveness.

Conclusion

The MassVision2050 CCC envisions a future where organizations seamlessly exchange knowledge, learn from each other's experiences, and collectively elevate the cybersecurity resilience of the entire group. Through this collaborative effort, we aim to create a dynamic and adaptive cybersecurity community for our MHTC members that stays ahead of emerging threats and challenges.