

Media Release

Switzerland's best Hackers: An Attractive Target for IT-Recruiter

Last night finished the qualification phase for this year's Cyber Security Challenge. As of now, we know who the 20 best young hackers in Switzerland are. The ten strongest of each category, junior and senior hackers, will compete on September 11th in Sursee, Switzerland. Thus, these young talents are not only a step closer to the European Finals but also to future job opportunities.

Bern, 3rd August 2015 – They call themselves MuffinX or Morpheuz and they belong to the best hacker guard of Switzerland. This Monday morning, the winners of the Cyber Security Challenge 2015 qualification phase have been announced. Ten IT-security-talents from each category of 'Junior' and 'Senior' hackers passed the Online-Phase and will compete in the Swiss Finals in September. Between the 11th to 13th September, the pupils and students will have to cope under pressure to solve various tasks in diverse age teams. Half of them will be qualifying for the European Finals.

Soft skills are important too

During the online qualifications, the way of solving and the result itself were the most important components for the 14 to 30 year old participants, but this contest will be more challenging. "Besides the results, the presentation, working style and the team ability of the contestants will be evaluated too," explains Bernhard Tellenbach, jury member and President of the organizing association Swiss Cyber Storm. "These traits are also important during later professional life."

The ten winners emerging from the finals constitute the Swiss delegation that will continue to the European Cyber Security Challenge – an International competition between six European Nations, which takes place this year for the first time. Switzerland has the honour to be the first host country of the event: From October 20th to 22nd 2015, there will be teams from Germany, Austria, England, Spain, Romania and Switzerland competing at the KKL Luzern in Switzerland. At the end, the best talents will be honoured at a festivity with guests from politics, business and research, organized by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).

Professionals in Demand

All this happens under the eyes of potential employers. The talent competition fulfils an important purpose for the private business sector as well as the State: Young IT-talents can be discovered early and promoted accordingly in order to fill the gap of urgently needed professionals. "It happened already that participants received job offers directly at the competition," remarks Bernhard Tellenbach.



Therefore, it is no wonder that among the sponsors are also many international companies. Even the public administration has shown interest in promoting these talents: Both, the FDFA and the Federal Department of Finance support the event. Swiss Cyber Storm's International Cybersecurity Conference guarantees best networking conditions for these young professionals, business and State.

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Swiss Cyber Storm Club

The association Swiss Cyber Storm was founded in 2012 as a non-profit organization with the purpose to promote young cybersecurity talent and regularly carry out cyber security specialist events for professionals and executives.

The purpose of the association Swiss Cyber Storm is met, on the one hand, the exploration and production of young cybersecurity talents within the framework of the annual Cybersecurity Challenge and related participation in the European Cyber Security Challenge. On the other hand, the association conducts the annual international conference of cyber-attacks and defense, Swiss Cyber Storm.

The association is committed at both the national and international levels for the promotion of young talent and strives together with partner associations to extend the European Cyber Security Challenges to other participating countries.

The association is not a members club in the strict sense, in that it does not seek to have a large number of members. The association is composed of members who support the purposes of the association by active participation and by representing the interests of business and the public sector as well as the teaching and research.