

MyCERT strengthens cyberdefense through Positive Hack Days experience

Background

Founded in 1997, MyCERT part of **CyberSecurity Malaysia**, is responsible for safeguarding the nation's critical information infrastructure. In **2024 alone**, MyCERT classified **4,174 incidents** and remains a key player in addressing over **10,000 incidents annually**, ensuring swift responses to cyberattacks. Their mission focuses on enhancing Malaysia's cybersecurity resilience through rapid incident response, education, and policy development.

Based in Cyberjaya, the team consists of cybersecurity specialists focused on incident response, digital forensics, and proactive cyberdefense. With a track record of successful responses to large-scale cyberincidents, they constantly seek innovative methods and cutting-edge technologies to strengthen their capabilities. Participating in global cybersecurity events is a core component of their strategy to remain at the forefront of international cyberdefense.

Challenge

The increasing complexity and frequency of cyberthreats posed a challenge to MyCERT's ability to evolve its defense strategies. The team was seeking hands-on, practical experiences in real-world simulated environments where they could test their skills, learn from international peers, and refine their cybersecurity tactics. They needed an event that offered not only high-stakes scenarios but also mentorship and collaboration with global cybersecurity experts.

Without access to real-time, practical testing of defense strategies, it can be difficult for cybersecurity teams to stay ahead of emerging threats. MyCERT needed a learning environment where they could push their team's capabilities beyond theory and into actionable, battle-tested skills.

Solution

Positive Technologies is a global leader in cybersecurity, trusted by **over 2,900 organizations worldwide** for solutions in **vulnerability management, penetration testing, and threat detection**. With **more than 2,200 employees**, half of whom work in **research and development**, the company identifies **31,000 vulnerabilities annually** in corporate systems. For more than a decade, Positive Technologies has hosted **Positive**

Hack Days, a premier event that brings together cybersecurity experts for real-world challenges.

Positive Technologies invited MyCERT to participate in the *Positive Hack Days: Standoff 2024* competition in Moscow. Standoff 2024 is not your average cybersecurity event; it is a cyberbattle with a unique approach. Teams are placed in an ultra-realistic city simulation, built with thousands of connected devices, representing critical infrastructure, industrial systems, and corporate environments. This simulation mirrors the complexity of real-world environments, offering an unparalleled opportunity for cybersecurity teams to battle in a scenario that mimics the evolving cyberthreat landscape.

The environment was meticulously crafted with realistic elements that allowed MyCERT to test their skills against live attackers. In preparation for the event, the Positive Technologies team ensured thorough onboarding through detailed online briefings, product documentation, and team role assignments. Early preparation weeks ahead of the competition made a significant impact on MyCERT's readiness.

As the battle unfolded, MyCERT faced down advanced threat simulations that required quick thinking and strategy adaptation. However, they weren't alone in this endeavor. Positive Technologies provided dedicated mentors, offering valuable guidance and helping the team navigate the intricate challenges they faced.

"The city simulation infrastructure was incredibly detailed and realistic, providing a robust environment for our team to engage in the cyberbattle. It added a practical dimension to the competition that was both challenging and educational." - Nur Qurratu Aini Rohizan, Analyst at MyCERT, CyberSecurity Malaysia

Outcome

MyCERT emerged from the event with enhanced tactical knowledge and reinforced team dynamics. The mentorship provided by Positive Technologies proved crucial in helping the team refine their approaches to complex cybersecurity challenges. Furthermore, the event offered more than just a competitive platform; it fostered meaningful collaborations and networking opportunities with industry leaders and global cybersecurity peers.

MyCERT's participation in the event strengthened their ability to respond to cyberincidents more effectively. In a post-event review, MyCERT expressed satisfaction

with the results, highlighting how the experience added a new dimension to their defense strategies. The practical knowledge gained through this hands-on simulation reinforced their readiness to defend Malaysia's critical infrastructure and digital ecosystem.

"The spirit of teamwork, insights, and collaboration fostered during the event was inspiring. We were thrilled to be a part of it and look forward to future opportunities." - Nur Qurratu Aini Rohizan, Analyst at MyCERT

Conclusion

Positive Technologies' commitment to fostering an immersive and educational environment at the *Positive Hack Days: Standoff 2024* provided MyCERT with the tools, mentorship, and experience necessary to sharpen their cybersecurity strategies. The event stands as a testament to the practical value that simulated environments offer for cybersecurity teams facing real-world threats. MyCERT's success story exemplifies the significant impact these events can have on national cybersecurity defense capabilities.

By engaging with Positive Technologies, MyCERT gained more than just competition experience; they obtained crucial knowledge and developed lasting relationships with experts that will continue to support their mission of safeguarding Malaysia's digital frontier.