Office of Information Technology Services | **Cyber Security Advisory Board** | **Empire State Development** | **Department of Labor**

NEW YORK KICKS OFF MULTIPLE CYBER SECURITY EVENTS TO BETTER PREPARE FOR POTENTIAL CYBER INCIDENTS

Industry Experts to meet with State Cyber Advisors to enhance protections for businesses

In response to the growing cyber vulnerabilities to New York State's infrastructure, a multi-agency effort is underway to help prevent and combat cyber threats and hazards. A cyber security roundtable, held on June 1, will kick off several days of events dedicated to increasing awareness of and protection from cyber threats that could result in cyber security breaches to both the public and private sectors.

This event will be followed by the 18th Annual New York State Cyber Security Conference to be held June 2-3, 2015, at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY. The theme of the conference, Security End-to-End, has the goal of educating the community about protecting information; increasing awareness about cyber security threats and risks; presenting cutting edge information to broaden cyber security professionals' knowledge in useful sessions that examine issues and offer solutions, best practices, and lessons learned; and ensuring participants leave the event with ideas that may be applied to their cyber security environment.

According to a 2013 Small Business Association Technological Survey, 44 percent of small businesses say they have been the victim of a cyber-attack. Financial losses in the United States related to identity theft totaled $26.3 billion in 2014. However, the impact of a large-scale cyber-attack on the economy would be devastating. In New York, the estimated effect of cybercrime is between $5 and $10 billion dollars annually. According to a study by a global technology organization, globally, the financial effect could reach $3 trillion in lost productivity and growth.

The Cyber Security roundtable is overseen by the Governor's Cyber Security Advisory Board and co-sponsored by Empire State Development and the Department of Labor. The event is a way for representatives from these state agencies to meet with industry partners to discuss their needs when it comes to protecting their business from cyber incidents. In addition to representatives from these state entities, the roundtable will also include faculty members and academics from various institutions who can engage students and faculty in helping businesses with their protection plans.

Peter A. Bloniarz, Executive Director and Senior Policy Advisor to New York State's Cyber Security Advisory Board said, "Cyber actors are becoming more sophisticated and aim to exploit vulnerabilities in order to steal information and money, or threaten the distribution of essential services. This is the first step in a conversation we will be having with key business and industry sectors in New York—energy, financial services, transportation, healthcare—all these industries have essential facilities and access to personally identifiable information that needs to be protected. We started our discussions with the cyber security industry because of their importance in preventing data breaches and creating resilient strategies for the remaining sectors. If we don't maintain a certain level of vigilance, a cyber-incident could have sizable consequences for New York's economy and its residents."

Mario J. Musolino, Acting Commissioner of the Department of Labor said, "There are growing needs to fill jobs in the cyber security industry, which is one of the fastest-growing industries in New York. We are eager to harness that energy and create workforce development programs that will connect employers with those that have the skills they are looking for."

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky said, "Empire State Development is committed to attracting new business to grow New York's economy, and the best way to encourage business growth in New York is to provide them with a safe environment in which to conduct their business. Cyber security is a top priority and we want to help businesses of all sizes meet that need."

Each year the Cyber Security Conference draws over 1,000 attendees from the private sector, government, and academia to the Capital Region. Recognized as the premier Northeast conference for cyber security education, the event is co-hosted by the NYS Office of Information Technology Services, the NYS Forum, Inc., and the University at Albany's School of Business and College of Computing and Information.

The Conference offers 52 breakout sessions covering a broad range of topics including risk management, incident response, forensics, secure coding, the threat landscape, and more. Concurrent with the Conference, top researchers in academia will present their papers on information security at the 10th Annual Symposium on Information Assurance (ASIA). There are also two training classes in security risk and threat analyses.

Jane Holl Lute, CEO of the Center for Internet Security and former Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, will open the Conference on June 2 with her keynote talk, *What Each of Us Can Do Now*. The June 3 keynote will be provided by Bruce McConnell, Senior Vice President of the EastWest Institute and former Deputy Under Secretary for Cybersecurity of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Margaret Miller, Chief Information Officer of the NYS Office of Information Technology Services said, "It is essential to New York's economy and way of life that we protect the information systems and critical infrastructures that we all depend on. The New York

State Cyber Security Conference is a key resource in our effort to reduce disruptions due to cyber incidents. The NYS Office of Information Technology Services is pleased to partner with the University of Albany and the NYS Forum in pulling together such a valuable resource for the State."

For more information, including Conference agenda and registration information, visit the Conference website at www.its.ny.gov/eiso/conference/2015. Follow the Conference on Twitter at #nyscyber, and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/nystatecio.

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