# SWISS CYBER STORM

Press Release

## Budding young hackers use charm and expertise for a chance to compete in the championship

**In Sursee this weekend, Switzerland's best young hackers competed against each other at the Swiss qualification round of the European Cyber Security Challenge. Participants were required not only to perform technical tasks but also to demonstrate their presentation skills and ability to work in a team. This Sunday afternoon, the ten winners were announced. The winners will travel in the fall to Dusseldorf as the Swiss team in the European Championship in Dusseldorf.**

Sursee, September 18, 2016 - The Sursee Campus was this weekend's venue for the Swiss finale of the European Cyber Security Challenge. Twenty young hackers were tested on their knowledge of topics such as network security, reverse engineering and cryptography. Contestants were also required to demonstrate non-technical skills: their final task was to present a slide show without ever having seen the slides before. The ability to improvise, speaking skills and charisma are not values that are usually associated with hackers, but are indispensable for today's cyber-experts.

Ivan Bütler, member of the organising committee and founder of the IT security firm Compass Security, is keen to point out that a "White Hat" - as well-intentioned hackers are known – "isn't a loner in a hoodie in a dark little room" as the usual cliché would have us believe. "In addition to sound technical knowledge, excellent social skills are also required, because someone who can't explain the necessity of an investment to management will never be able to protect a corporate network," as Bütler knows from his own experience.

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**Swiss team decided**

In the final scoring, points were awarded not only for technical expertise but also for such skills as teamwork, communication and leadership qualities. The decision was announced this Sunday afternoon. The jury selected the ten best candidates among the 20 participants to represent Switzerland at the European final in Germany this autumn.



**European final with teams from ten countries**

While only six countries participated in the European final last year, ten countries will be competing in Dusseldorf: Germany, Great Britain, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Romania, Austria, Spain and Switzerland. The growth in interest is no accident. The annual competition is considered to be one of the most important ways of encouraging talented young people to move into the IT security sector.

The European Cyber Security Challenge is an initiative of the ENISA, the European Network and Information Security  Agency. The national heats are organised independently by private national organisations and participating countries take turns playing host to the European final. The initiative is supported by governmental organisations and sponsors from the private sector who offer their support as a means of combatting the shortage of skilled employees. The 2016 European final will take place between the 7th and 10th of November.

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**Further Information and photographic materials:**
The winners (high resolution image): Download
Legend (left to right): Back row: Roman Boehringer, Michael Gottburg, Anthony Schneiter, Sandro Affentranger, Stefano Kals; Front row: Raphael Husistein, Adrian von Arx, Miro Haller, Patrick Borgogno, Marcel Maeder

More images from the Swiss final in Sursee: OneDrive
Source: Swiss Cyber Storm

More media information: http://swisscyberstorm.com/press/articles/

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**Swiss Cyber Storm Association**
Swiss Cyber Storm was founded in 2012 as a non-profit organisation with the purpose of advancing the cause of talented young persons in the field of cybersecurity and regularly holding cybersecurity events for professionals and business executives.

Swiss Cyber Storm fulfils the club's purpose, on the one hand, with the search and sponsorship of young cybersecurity talents in the form of the annual Cyber Security Challenge and the subsequent participation in the European Cyber Security Challenge. On the other hand, the club carries out the annual international Swiss Cyber Storm, an IT security conference that is geared toward cyberattacks and their defence.

The Club is engaged in youth development on a national as well as an international level. It strives, together with its partner organisations, to expand the European Cyber Security Challenge to other participating countries.

Swiss Cyber Storm is not trying to sign up many members. The Club needs to be composed only of members who support the Club's goals through active participation and who represent not only the interests of business and the public sector, but also education and research.