

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 7 SEPTEMBER 2015 (ISNIN)

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1	To serve and protect : CyberSecurity widens its net to offer services beyond just security	The Star
2	Fraud is No.1 cyber crime	The Star
3	Police cannot link burnt car to prosecutor	The Star
4	El Nino effect to be felt at year-end	New Straits Times

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The Data Recovery lab handles hard disk repair, data recovery and data sanitisation. — NORAFIFI EHSAN/The Star

To serve and protect

CyberSecurity widens its net to offer services beyond just security. >2

SAMBUNGAN...
THE STAR (STAR 2): MUKA SURAT 2
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1 Flight test: CyberSecurity made a replica of the flight simulator found in Captain Zaharie Ahmad Shah's house to determine if the MH370 pilot made a U-turn.

2 Privacy is one of the top priorities for CyberSecurity when it attempts data recovery.

3 CyberSecurity head of department for digital forensics Mohd Zabri Adil Talib and Aswami (right) say CyberSecurity is in the process of drafting a standard for CCTVs used in public areas.

4 For older hard disk models, CyberSecurity has to shop online for parts before it can initiate data recovery.

5 The Cyber Forensics Lab under the Digital Forensics Department develops high tech tools to help solve crimes.

— Photos: NORAFIFI EHSAN/The Star



By LEE KAH LENG
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IN 1997, MyCERT (Malaysia Computer Emergency Response Team) was formed to tackle emerging security issues when the Internet was still in its infancy. It soon became a part of a bigger unit called Niser (National ICT Security and Emergency Response Centre) to guard our digital borders before finally becoming the entity we know today – CyberSecurity Malaysia.

Beyond the name change, CyberSecurity has also evolved as an organisation, pushing the boundaries of what it can offer to government agencies, private sector and even the public.

Into the future

Housed in CyberSecurity's facility in Seri Kembangan, Kuala Lumpur, is the Cyber Forensics X Lab where the organisation researches and develops cutting edge technologies to help combat digital crime.

The lab creates its own high grade tools so it doesn't have to buy exorbitantly priced professional equipment, says CyberSecurity's vice-president for cyber security response services, Dr Aswami Ariffin.

It is now developing facial recognition technologies using Microsoft Kinect, a peripheral for the Xbox One and Xbox 360 gaming consoles, which uses a camera and infra-red light to track the player.

CyberSecurity chose Kinect because the software it's working on will make Kinect function as

Firing up forensics

CyberSecurity is using its expertise in security and forensics to expand its services to the masses.

well as any professional tool but at a fraction of the cost.

Its technology works by identifying unique facial features of a person such as eye-to-eye distance, width of the nose, and shape of the cheekbone using the Kinect's ability to sense depth.

The biometrics will then be used to find a match in a photo or video.

Sharpening the focus

As advanced as facial recognition technology is, it can only go so far, as it's highly reliant on the quality of the video or photo that's captured.

"Most CCTVs are only for show and even if they are in good working condition they capture very low quality footage and often are not of much help in criminal cases," Aswami says.

Most building owners install CCTVs to fulfil the requirement set by insurance companies, he laments, adding that most are not even strategically positioned.

In the 2007 murder case of eight-year-old Nurin Jazlin, a CCTV captured a motorcyclist dropping off a bag containing her remains in front of a shoplot but the footage was poor.

It was up to CyberSecurity to

enhance the video but it could do little as the quality was beyond recovery. It even tried extracting multiple still images from the video but was unable to clearly identify the facial features, number plate or other useful information.

To prevent this problem in the future, the organisation is drafting a Video Quality in Public Safety industry standard for CCTVs in public areas.

It's still a work in progress but CyberSecurity is looking at recommending at least a 5-megapixel camera with 500GB of storage. The higher the quality, the bigger the storage space that will be required, he says.

The recommendations are based on its study of smart cities in Germany, South Korea and Japan where the use of high quality CCTVs have kept the crime to a minimum.

CyberSecurity also offers certification through its MyCC (Malaysian Common Criteria Evaluation and Certification) scheme. The scheme evaluates and certifies the security functionality of security products against the ISO/IEC 15408 standard.

On guard

Earlier this year, the agency

launched a new service called CyberDEF to help organisations mitigate attacks such as Advanced Persistent Threats which target a single entity.

It will help organisations identify loopholes, vulnerabilities and existing threats in their network by collaborating with international partners.

Instead of just providing software support, CyberSecurity will perform drills on-premise to test the readiness of the organisation to handle cyber attacks.

CyberDEF will assist organisations in developing a structured and coordinated approach to handling security incidents with the help of well-defined policies and procedures, he says.

"This includes setting up a response team for organisations that don't have one yet," he says.

"The exercise is structured around a scenario that includes several incidents involving the most common types of attacks. The members need to perform their investigation/analysis of the incident and come out with the mitigation solution."

If a threat is detected, CyberSecurity will perform data recovery services and data sanitisation services, if needed.

