10 October 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CYBER-READINESS CRITICAL IN STRENGTHENING MALAYSIA'S FUTURE DIGITAL ECONOMY

CyberSecurity Malaysia to Accelerate Capacity Building and Attain Cyber-Readiness through Stronger Public-Private Partnerships and International Cooperation

KUALA LUMPUR (10 October 2017) – CyberSecurity Malaysia, the national cyber security specialist and technical agency today called for Malaysia's public and private organizations to attain 'Cyber Readiness' by strengthening situational awareness capabilities and bolstering cyber defenses to protect against escalating cyber threats.

"Cyber Readiness is about aligning our national cyber security initiatives with Malaysia's digital agenda. We must transform ourselves from being easy targets for cybercriminals into formidable adversaries. To thrive in the digital age, cyber security needs to be at the heart of every organization's digital transformation strategy. Anticipating cyber-attacks is the only way to stay ahead of cyber criminals," said Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation at the Cyber Security Malaysia – Awards, Conference and Exhibition (CSM-ACE) 2017 official opening ceremony.

"CSM-ACE 2017 theme - Cyber Readiness: Securing Digital Economy is timely as Malaysia embarks on a fast-track transformation into a high-income knowledge economy driven by digitalization. The creation of a vibrant digital economy is vital as it is the single most important driver of innovation, competitiveness and growth as well as promotes good governance throughout the nation." said the Minister.

CSM-ACE is an annual public-private-partnership driven event organized by CyberSecurity Malaysia and the only 3-in-1 cyber security programme consists of three components - Awards, Conference and Exhibition. It serves as a catalyst in driving innovation and growth in the cyber security industry.

The ninth edition of CSM-ACE 2017 has garnered strong support from public and private sectors, both locally and on the international front. Held from 9th to 12th October, CSM-ACE 2017 registered a record of 2,000 delegates. This year, more than 40 exhibitors participate in IT Security Exhibition to showcase and promote their products and services.

The Minister also launched CyberSecurity Malaysia latest digital forensics invented tool known as 'Data Hapus'. The tool which was developed using in house capability is a lightweight portable data sanitization gadget that able to securely wipe confidential data from storage devices. It can be used to verify contents of the storage device to ensure data is permanently deleted.

CSM-ACE 2017 also organizes 15 training courses, spanning over four (4) days to up-skill cyber security workforce. In his speech, Jeneral Tan Sri Dato' Sri (Dr.) Zulkifeli Mohd Zin (Retired), Director General of National Security, National Security Council said building the next generation of cyber security professionals is crucial to secure Malaysia's critical information infrastructures. Therefore, Malaysia aims to have 10,000 cyber security professionals by 2020. To help nurture a knowledge generation capable of understanding and handling the ever-evolving cyber security threats, CyberSecurity Malaysia offers wide range of information security competency and capability courses as well as certifications. These courses will provide a firm foundation for Malaysia's emerging cyber security profession.

According to General Tan Sri Dato' Seri Panglima Mohd Azumi Mohamed (Retired), Chairman, Board of Directors, CyberSecurity Malaysia said "CSM-ACE is one of the initiatives that support the development of ICT security industry in Malaysia. I would like to call upon the industry to be part of this initiative. As a partner, you will champion global standards and compliances, gain inroads into the global information security markets, forge strategic partnerships and ink business deals, impart your thought-leadership, promote collaborative technology research, development and innovation as well as increase brand recognition and visibility. Taking part in this collaboration will definitely contribute to the growth of cyber security in the country."

CSM-ACE 2017 continues to recognize outstanding organizations and individuals in the field of cyber security through its prestigious annual Malaysia Cyber Security Awards. The event will be held at a gala night on 12 October 2017.

CSM-ACE 2017 aims to provide a strategic platform for government agencies, academia, cyber security experts and industry professionals to discuss future security challenges and chart the way forward to battle emerging cybercrimes. This year's CSM-ACE 2017 is also held in conjunction with National Innovation and Creative Economy (NICE) EXPO 2017 – another premier event organized by MOSTI to promote Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to the Malaysian public.

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