Authorized Users of CERT®

With the growth of networks, their integration into the economy, and the diversity of the global communities, there is a growing demand for global support, cooperation, and collaboration among governments, industry, and academia to solve today's common cyber security issues.

The CERT® Division—part of the Software Engineering Institute (SEI), a federally funded research and development center located at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA—is home to the world's first response team and has served as a model for response teams around the world.

Computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs) that share our commitment to improving the security of networks connected to the internet may apply for authorization to use the CERT mark in their names.

The Benefits of Using CERT®

The CERT Division is recognized worldwide as a leader in internet security. As such, security experts associate our name with quality and credibility. By becoming authorized to include CERT® in your CSIRT's name, you will benefit from the name recognition, and others will know that your organization is committed to internet security and provides relevant products and services.

The Authorization Process

CSIRTs wishing to become CERT authorized should request a qualification form by emailing us at cert@cert.org. After completing the form, submit it to us. If your organization's verification is accepted, we will send you a licensing agreement. After reviewing the agreement, you should sign and submit it for approval. If you are approved, you will be authorized to use CERT® according to the terms of the agreement.

Once Your CSIRT Is Authorized

We have created a graphic that authorized CSIRTs can add to their websites. This graphic provides a visual sign that the CSIRT is part of a network of teams that provide similar services. The graphic indicates that the CSIRT is licensed to use CERT® in its name; however, the graphic does not indicate that we endorse or recommend any of the content or services on associated sites.

National CSIRTs

For National CSIRTs, we only license team names in the following forms, and we only license to teams that are authorized by their national governments.

<Country>-CERT
CERT-<Country>
<ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 Country Code>-CERT
CERT-<ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 Country Code>

Accordingly, if you intend to form a national CSIRT, you must provide a document signed by an authorized government official that designates the responsibility of your team. Contact us for more information about this process.

What Does "CERT" Stand For?

CERT is not an acronym. Both CERT® and CERT® Coordination Center have been registered by Carnegie Mellon University with the U.S. Patent and Trademark office and other authorities throughout the world.

Use Our Online Resources

Let us help you get started. Our website (www.cert.org) features information to answer some of your questions and provide more information:

Guidelines for Use of CERT®

http://resources.sei.cmu.edu/asset_files/Brochure/2011_015_001_51634.pdf (This information is also available in a different format: http://www.cert.org/incident-management/products-services/cert-authorized-more.cfm.)

Steps to Become Authorized

http://resources.sei.cmu.edu/asset_files/Brochure/2013_015_001_51638.pdf

CERT Authorization FAQ

http://resources.sei.cmu.edu/asset_files/Brochure/2008_015_001_51642.pdf

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