CYBERSACRAMENTO

Facilitating Public-Private Partnerships to Support Cybersecurity Innovation

The CyberSacramento partnership connects Sacramento businesses to cybersecurity resources to protect their digital assets, while simultaneously supporting the development of cybersecurity innovations and a cybersecurity workforce in the Capital region. CyberSacramento uses grant funding, workforce development programs, and public-private partnerships with cybersecurity stakeholders to accomplish its goals. This Sacramento coalition supports and benefits from the existing statewide CyberCalifornia coalition spearheaded by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and the cybersecurity non-profit CyberTECH. CyberSacramento uses our city's unique standing as the policy innovation hub of California to bring businesses, institutes of high educations, policy makers, and other community partners together to create effective cybersecurity collaborations and processes.

CyberSacramento focuses on three key initiatives:

- Mayor's Cyber Challenge, an annual high school cybersecurity competition
- Accessing a portion of the $3 million in grant funds awarded to California to bolster cybersecurity resilience throughout multiple advanced industry supply chains
- Integrating cybersecurity resources and best practices into the other advanced industry verticals that comprise the Sacramento Urban Technology Lab (SUTL)

Mayor's Cyber Challenge

Building off the success of the 2018 Mayor's Cyber Innovation Challenge, CyberSacramento will lead an expanded campaign for high school cybersecurity education. This campaign will culminate in a cybersecurity championship round, featuring 8-16 teams of high school competitors vying for the title of Mayor's Champion. The top two teams will gain automatic entry to the statewide CyberCalifornia Innovation Challenge, where they will represent the Sacramento region.

The Mayor's Cyber Innovation Challenge will help Sacramento develop the next generation of cybersecurity innovators, analysts, entrepreneurs, and researchers. Without this expertise, advanced technology businesses will struggle to maintain public trust in the integrity of the data they collect and use. Cybersecurity competitions offer engaging opportunities for students to learn more about cybersecurity and computer science. These competitions already have a strong presence in Sacramento. By publicizing subsequent Mayor's Challenge competitions, CyberSacramento will encourage businesses and educational institutions to create more cybersecurity engagement opportunities for Sacramento students. These competitions will in turn expand access to technology career pathways and other valuable college and career opportunities.

Accessing Grant Funds

In July 2017, GO-Biz announced that California had received $2.9 million in federal funds to support a range of cybersecurity projects, including labor market analysis, supply chain mapping, Cyber Physical Security (CPS) assessments and workshops, and "innovation vouchers." This project is called the California Advanced Supply Chain Analysis and Diversification Effort (CASCADE). Portions of this money will be distributed to regions on a competitive basis, while other funds have already been earmarked for Sacramento-based projects. CyberSacramento will organize local cybersecurity stakeholders to apply for the competitive funds associated with CASCADE. In addition, CyberSacramento will help to coordinate and amplify the projects that have already been awarded to Sacramento, including small business workshops and supply chain outreach fairs.

Connecting to the Sacramento Urban Technology Lab

CyberSacramento is a key initiative supporting the Internet of Things(IoT)/ Cyber vertical of the Sacramento Urban Technology Lab – the interdepartmental collaboration that will make Sacramento a "living laboratory" for entrepreneurs, advanced technology businesses, and academic institutions to test and develop their new technologies. Cybersecurity is also an integral part of all advanced technology industries that comprise SUTL, ranging from mobility to life sciences to food and agricultural technology. By sharing best practices and developing collaborative cybersecurity resources for innovators in these emerging industries, CyberSacramento will help Sacramento businesses bolster their cybersecurity resilience and make Sacramento a leader in these practices.

Future Efforts

While CyberSacramento emphasizes the three initiatives described above, stakeholders have also identified future opportunities, including:

- Events that highlight the Capital region's cybersecurity leadership
- Development of branding materials and web content for CyberSacramento
- Partnerships with state government organizations to highlight the cybersecurity expertise already on display in Sacramento

About CyberCalifornia

The CyberCalifornia coalition was formed to reinforce California's leadership position in cybersecurity as it relates to commerce and IoT technologies. The powerful combination of cyber and the emergence of IoT makes California the perfect place to build secure next-generation technologies. CyberCalifornia will contribute to the Golden State's cybersecurity leadership by organizing public-private partnerships in cybersecurity to facilitate research and innovation, educate California businesses about cybersecurity needs and resources, and connect California's robust workforce development system with the needs of California employers.