



EUROPEAN NETWORK OF CYBERSECURITY
CENTRES AND COMPETENCE HUB FOR
INNOVATION AND OPERATIONS

Newsletter ● ● ●

A successful project review with the European Commission



by Matteo Merialdo
Project Implementation Coordinator, RHEA Group

On October 13 2020, the ECHO Consortium sustained its second Project Review with the Commission. A rich agenda of demos and presentation was prepared by the team, to show a detailed overview of all our progresses in the past eleven months from the previous Review.

We are happy to report that the results of the Review were very positive: all deliverables have been accepted, with a general great feedback from the Reviewers, including interesting comments and suggestions we already started implementing. All Public deliverables have been put in the ECHO website and they are free to be downloaded!

It is our commitment to keep and improve the level of delivered quality in the next eighteen months!



Many businesses are currently looking at how to bolster security across their organization as the pandemic and remote work situation continues to progress towards the end of the year. As organizations continue to implement security measures to protect business-critical data, there is an extremely important area of security that often gets overlooked – passwords.

Weak passwords have long been a security nightmare for your business. This includes reused and pwned passwords. What are these? What tools are available to help protect against their use in your environment?

Read More at [The Hacker News](#)

Meet ECHO's Expert - MASCIA TOUSSAINT

**Director of Enquiry Quality Assurance,
Amsterdam**



How would you introduce yourself and your role within the ECHO Project?

We lead the task on Innovation Management, which aims to create best possible conditions for innovation in the project. We are also involved in developing the cyber skills training assessment.

Why do you think cybersecurity is important nowadays?

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the digital transformation of government, companies, schools and individuals, without proper cyber security safeguards. This is a massive opportunity for criminals and state actors to capture.

How are you and your organization contributing to the project?

ECHO is a multinational project, with a very diverse partnership. Our contribution is to monitor that what is being developed will meet the needs of the market in 2024.

What surprised you the most about working in ECHO?

Having been involved in previous H2020 projects, we were well prepared for this challenge. We really like to work with such a diverse consortium.

Is there an achievement or contribution that you are most proud of? Why?

We really like our work on the development of the innovation management methodology and the quick transitioning to online hackathons/ideathons. It is a different way to approach collaboration in H2020 projects.

What attracted you to this cause?

Enquiry has a solid experience in crisis management, evaluation and quality assurance. We foresee that complex crises with a cyberattack component will soon emerge. ECHO allows us to explore this and network.

What was the biggest challenge you were facing?

ECHO is a complex project, with many components and partners. To understand the relations between the diverse tasks, the overall vision and partners' competences took some time. But we are getting there!

What does your professional everyday life look like now, during Covid-19?

The main change is that I do not travel anymore and do not attend meetings in person. Before the pandemic I would have an international trip once per week. Now that is gone.

What is your advice to EU citizens during these turbulent times?

Please stay safe!

IMPACT PRODUCT

Bridging the Gaps within the Cybersecurity Domain of Knowledge ECHO Cyber Skills Framework



by Pavel Varbanov and Christina Todorova, European Software Institute – Center Eastern Europe

Many ongoing initiatives and efforts propose cybersecurity solutions to protect critical assets and a variety of infrastructures. Nevertheless, one issue still commonly remains – this variety is often rendered useless without professionals with adequate knowledge, skills, and abilities to implement these security solutions and the confidence to make the necessary decisions.

The ECHO Cybersecurity Skills Framework aims to bridge these fragmented efforts by providing organizations from various sectors and knowledge domains, with a set of methods and tools to identify and apply the security controls and solutions. Through the E-CSF, we provide organizations with a framework and an ontology tool to explore, analyze, and connect cybersecurity concepts that are relevant to their context.



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REBRANDING OF ECHO

by WP9 Communication and Dissemination team - Semmelweis University, Budapest

In February 2019, ECHO was launched in the presence of 100 professionals from 30 organizations. The project reached a number of achievements and milestones in the field of European cybersecurity over the last 18 months.

As a result of the hard work, we believe that the time has come to visually reinforce achievements of our program, thus calling for the importance of a unified European cybersecurity cooperation. Our goal is to be able to reach as many new partners and institutions as possible. Stakeholder engagement and new partner involvement are the cornerstones of this activity, they are detailed on our website.

We are pleased to share our new visual brand identity with you! Keeping with our strategic directions, we are continuously working on creating the right organizational identity for our project.



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THE LIGHTER SIDE



EVENTS

Laurea Cyber Morning

19 November, 2020



3rd Global IT security summit

18 -19 November, 2020



Security Research Event

Innovation Forum 2020 (SRE2020)

25 -26 November, 2020



Joint pilot preparation and organisation
for 2nd Concertation Conference

9-11 December, 2020

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<https://www.echonetwork.eu>

