

C&W Business takes the lead in cybersecurity education with online forums featuring reformed hacker

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C&W Business hosted two online forums in October 2022 to help governments and large businesses better protect their organisations from online threats. The webinars featured controversial hacker-turned-computer security specialist Hector Monsegur.

Public and private sector players are being encouraged to better safeguard their networks and systems against increasing threats from international cybercriminals. C&W Business, the business-to-business arm of C&W Communications, hosted two online forums in October 2022 aimed at helping governments, large businesses, and individual entrepreneurs better protect their organisations from online threats.

The webinars featured controversial hacker-turned-computer security specialist Hector Monsegur, the man behind the Anonymous/LulzSec hacker collectives. Monsegur is also an informant for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Nicolas Collette, Vice President, B2B, C&W Communications, detailed the importance of understanding cybersecurity.

"Cybersecurity involves preventing, detecting, and responding to cyberattacks that can have wide-ranging effects on individuals, organisations, local communities, and entire countries. As the Caribbean's leading service provider, we see it as our responsibility to inform, advise, and educate about the varied elements of online security," he said.

"Hector once ruled the 'hacktivist' scene, breaching the security systems of major corporations and governments around the globe, and he shared the mindset of a hacker and how organisations can proactively protect themselves. He presented on the inside secrets of how hackers choose their targets, why hacking appeals to people, how hacking tools work, and how you can protect yourself and loved ones from vulnerability."

Monsegur, also known by the online pseudonym Sabu, became an informant for the FBI after facing a sentence of 124 years in prison for his role in the LulzSec hacker collective. LulzSec targeted organisations including News Corporation and Strategic Forecasting Inc., as well as UK and American law enforcement bodies, and the Irish political party Fine Gael.

Monsegur now works as an ethical hacker, conducting penetration tests—authorised simulated cyberattacks on computer systems performed to evaluate the system's security. "Global cyberattacks increased by 32% in 2022 when compared to 2021, with an all-time high being recorded in the second quarter of 2023. The Caribbean and Latin America have also seen the largest increase in attacks, with research suggesting one out of twenty-three organisations impacted weekly—a 43% increase when compared to 2021¹."

"Cybercriminals are not slowing down, and we must be proactive in our approach to safeguarding our networks to withstand any eventuality. With the right technologies in place, most attacks, even the most advanced ones, can be prevented, and we are happy to be providing this timely forum for the exchange of knowledge and best practices in reducing and preventing cybercrime in our region."

At C&W Business, we are committed to keeping the Caribbean region secure by providing the resources for the early detection and mitigation of attacks that help businesses establish a comprehensive security posture. When it comes to protecting a company against cyberthreats, our team of professionals will work with you to determine your specific needs and goals, regardless of your industry or size.

To learn more about how cybersecurity can transform your business, visit us at cwcbusiness.com

¹ Check Point - Weekly Cyber Attacks increased