

Wärtsilä Opens the World's First International Maritime Cyber Centre of Excellence

SINGAPORE – The technology group Wärtsilä opened an International Maritime Cyber Centre of Excellence (IMCCE) Oct. 16 in Singapore, the company said in a release. The IMCCE consists of a Maritime Cyber Emergency Response Team (MCERT) and a cyber academy.

The IMCCE is a world's first industry solution for the marine industry, founded by Wärtsilä together with its strategic partner in cyber security, Templar Executives. The IMCCE will provide a focal point for the industry to help drive the cyber awareness and response to cyber incidents.

"Cyber is such a critical topic to all players in marine. Taking stewardship in something as important as this, shows that Wärtsilä is committed to transform and digitalize the marine industry. This is the next step in our Smart Marine vision and supports our Oceanic Awakening and Sea20 initiatives," says Marco Ryan, chief digital officer at Wärtsilä.

"There are three main drivers for the maritime industry to collaborate in improving our cyber resiliency: the vast attack surface that the maritime industry offers to cyber criminals; the inclusion of maritime into the critical national infrastructure of nation states and the pending cyber security regulation by the International Maritime Organization in 2021," said Mark Milford, vice president, Cyber Security at Wärtsilä.

The MCERT is an international cyber intelligence and incident support platform enhancing cyber resilience for the entire maritime ecosystem. It provides international intelligence

feeds, advice and support, including real-time assistance to members on cyber attacks and incidents, and a Cyber Security Reporting Portal (CSRP) for its members. The MCERT operates from the Wärtsilä Acceleration Centre facilities launched today in Singapore.

“It’s not a coincidence that the IMCCE is based in Singapore – it’s a country that is forward-leaning in cyber development and a very important location in the maritime ecosystem. Despite its home base, the MCERT is available for the entire maritime sector around the world, from single vessels to large shipping and tankers to ports, port authorities and suppliers,” Milford said.

The MCERT is based on a membership model and for those who want to lead the cyber agenda in the industry, it offers an Advisory Board membership. The Advisory Board will comprise of key stakeholders from the Maritime ecosystem in the areas of shipping, oil and gas, ports and cruise ships.

The Cyber Academy’s courses will cover a range of relevant topics, from cyber security coaching for senior management to cyber awareness for all organizational levels within the maritime industry.

“In the face of growing Cyber threats and increasing regulatory pressures it is up to us in the Maritime sector to act now; the IMCCE incorporating the Maritime Cyber Emergency Response Team and the Cyber Academy for Maritime is an exciting opportunity for us all, from the smallest to the largest providers within the Maritime ecosystem, to work together to protect, influence and enable the future of our industry,” said Andrew Fitzmaurice, CEO at Templar Executives.

“The IMCCE is a totally new business model that supports our customers in their industry transformation, whilst demonstrating a step change in clock speed for the company about how we turn an idea into a tangible Cyber as-a Service

solution," Ryan said.