

INVITATION – training solutions for employers in the Cyber Security industry from the National Skills Academy for IT presented by e-skills UK supported by EURIM

WHAT

The Rt. Hon. David Blunkett MP will host a *working* meeting in the House of Commons to support e-skills UK's National Skills Academy for IT by seeking security industry participation to help the Academy meet the needs of employers in the Cyber Security industry

WHEN 28 February, 2011 from 1500 p.m. to 1630 p.m.

WHERE House of Commons, Committee Room 19, Old Palace (Upper Committee Corridor)

AGENDA

1500 Welcome from the Rt. Hon. David Blunkett M.P.

Introductions and purpose of the meeting - e-skills UK / EURIM

1505 Academy plans to support employers in Cyber Security industry inc. Q & A – e-skills UK

1550 Importance of industry support for the Academy - Rt. Hon. David Blunkett M.P.

1600 Industry response from the floor including offers of help – All

1625 Next Steps – e-skills UK

1630 Close & Networking

Creating skills for the digital economy

Rated Outstanding – Sector Skills Councils Relicensing

Meeting Background

Over the past year, e-skills UK, together with members of the EURIM e-Crime and Cybersecurity working groups, has been discussing the skills needs of the security industry with key relevant employers and stakeholders and is now able to present a way forward which, if supported by the security industry, is designed to meet the security training needs of IT & Telecoms suppliers and users. .

The new National Skills Academy for IT (the Academy) offers a great opportunity for the security industry to bring together current separate activities, achieve critical mass and help make the UK the most trusted best place to do on-line business. It is an ambitious exercise and the Academy will focus on the area which is expected to give the most immediate benefit: the improved provision of short course modules and update materials to meet immediate and emerging needs of security industry employers. It is hoped that success in this area will whet the appetites of participants for more.

Meeting objective

To secure active support and participation from relevant key employers and stakeholders to ensure the National Skills Academy for IT meets the skills and training needs of security industry employers.

The National Skills Academy for IT is seeking to:

- Develop and maintain a comprehensive database of valued IT security qualifications and learning;
- Become a trusted source of information for IT professionals and organisations of all sizes to find and compare courses and qualifications;
- Define and record skills in IT security enabling training gaps to be fulfilled;
- Focus on employers needs in this area in order to identify, prioritise and commission new learning to continue to best fulfil employers needs.

The meeting will identify those partners willing to work together to support the Academy in its aims. They will help to ensure that they and their customers get value from the Academy to help meet their skills needs to address IT related security challenges they face in their business now and in the future.

How will this objective be achieved?

e-skills UK will present a short update of the status of its current activities and proposed outline plan for the Academy specific to the Cyber Security area (attached).

The introduction will include how they propose to focus security industry employer support in order to:

- Collect together relevant accreditations, qualifications and courses which are currently on offer to the security industry. This will create a specific listing appropriate to the security industry of qualifications and courses which bring together:
 - The Academy's work to date collating Cyber Security courses and qualifications; and

- The work to date undertaken by EURIM and others on identifying qualifications and courses
- Obtain updated information on skills issues and training fulfilment from security industry employers to inform the Academy
- Engage with key providers and stakeholders.

The information above will be collected, maintained and made available to participants. A small Advisory Group of security industry employers will be sought to oversee this exercise and a report will be produced in the next few months on its usage, status and progress.

- Carry out high level research by 1 to 1 interviews of employers to determine their immediate needs for short courses including any gaps in current provision

The Rt. Hon. David Blunkett M.P. will highlight the Academy's potential contribution to the UK Cyber Security industry and endorse the Academy's plans. He will stress the importance of security industry action to support the Academy including:

- to make it a successful valued resource for security industry employers
- to populate and maintain the security industry listing of provision and qualifications
- to ensure employer participation in its Advisory Group to oversee the listing
- to consider becoming Accredited Partners of the Academy
- to secure employer participation in the 1-to-1 research interviews to identify immediate needs and current gaps

About e-skills UK

e-skills UK is the not-for-profit Sector Skills Council for Business and Information Technology, rated 'outstanding' in the relicensing of Sector Skills Councils. e-skills UK unites industry, educators and government in collaborative, employer-led action to ensure the UK has the technology skills it needs to compete in the global economy.

Covering software, internet & web, IT services, telecommunications and business change, e-skills UK has UK-wide responsibility for:

- The technology workforce (the IT and telecoms industries, and the IT and telecoms professionals working in all industries).
- The IT-related skills needs of those in business management and leadership roles (the strategic exploitation of technology for business benefit).
- The IT-related skills needs of everyone who uses IT in their day to day activities and increased social inclusion of citizens (IT literacy/Digital Inclusion).

e-skills UK is a member of the Talent Management Advisory Group of Cybersecurity Challenge.

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