

Introducing free cybersecurity trainings for the railways

In an era in which cyber threats are becoming increasingly sophisticated, the need for comprehensive cybersecurity training is growing. Recognising this need, the CYRUS project has developed free cybersecurity training courses specifically for the transport industry. These training courses are now available for free until end of October 2025.

Developed by cybersecurity specialists and industry experts, in partnership with UIC, the CYRUS training programme addresses the growing need for cyber awareness, skills and resilience particularly among non-technical staff, including management, HR and finance, as well as engineers and operators.

“Cybersecurity is no longer just a technical issue – it’s a business-critical skillset across all levels of an organisation,” said Alessia Golfetti, CYRUS project coordinator from Deep Blue. “Our goal is to make practical, accessible training available to everyone involved in transport and manufacturing, from shopfloor to boardroom.”

“With the increase in digitisation and the spread of technologies such as artificial intelligence and automation, the risk of cyber attacks that exploit vulnerabilities not only in software and systems, but also in people is growing,” explains Alessia Golfetti further. “It is essential to adopt a proactive and resilient approach, based on training and updating. In a nutshell: today, more than ever, IT security passes through people even before technology”.

The training courses are delivered through a flexible e-learning format, designed to meet diverse learner needs. They are available in English, Polish and Italian, and structured across three skill levels: beginner, skilled and expert. Each course requires no more than four hours to complete. Participants gain practical insights through real-world case studies and interactive content. Upon completion, they receive a Certificate of Completion, with a “Certificate of Excellence” awarded to those who achieve top scores.

In addition to the self-paced modules, the CYRUS project has launched a series of instructor-led webinars, offering participants the chance to interact live with cybersecurity professionals and directly ask questions.

The training programme was shaped through extensive industry consultation, including surveys, interviews and workshops in the first year of the project. It

was piloted by over 560 participants, whose feedback directly informed improvements to the course content and format.

Interested parties can browse the catalogue of the cybersecurity training courses here: <https://cyrus-project.eu/cybersecurity-trainings/>

About CYRUS

The CYRUS project proposes a novel training system, where a complete set of skills to be vigilant, to identify and to respond to cyber attacks will be delivered. The framework exploits innovative methods for training implementation. Virtualisation-dedicated cyber range simulations in operational settings and work-based learning will allow timely and efficient course delivery, overcome the current hindrance, and raise interest in the awareness programme and good practices.

The European research project was launched 1 January 2023, will run for three years and is led by Deep Blue S.r.l. The funding framework is provided by the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) as part of the European Union's DIGITAL-2022-TRAINING-02 programme under grant agreement No 101100733.

Project partners are: Deep Blue S.r.l. (Italy), Cefriel S.r.l. (Italy), SEARCH-LAB Ltd. (Hungary), G & N Silensec Ltd (Cyprus), The Polish Platform for Homeland Security (Poland), EIT Manufacturing Central gGmbH (Germany), Italienische Handelshammer für Deutschland (Germany), Union Internationale des Chemins de Fer (France), European Federation for Welding, Joining and Cutting (Belgium), Chamber of Halkidiki (Greece), Viesoji Istaiga Lietuvos Inovaciju Centras (Lithuania)

About UIC

UIC is the worldwide organisation for the promotion of rail transport at global level and the collaborative development of the railway system. It brings together some 200 members on all five continents, among them rail operators, infrastructure managers, railway service providers, etc. UIC maintains close cooperative links with all rail transport players throughout the world, including manufacturers, railway associations, public authorities and stakeholders in other domains and sectors whose experiences may be beneficial to rail development. UIC's main tasks include understanding the business needs of the rail community, developing innovation programmes to identify solutions to such needs and preparing and publishing a series of documents known as IRSs that facilitate the implementation of these innovative solutions.

Media contact

Katharina Lange
EIT Manufacturing Central gGmbH
Hilpertstraße 31
64295 Darmstadt
Germany
katharina.lange@eitmanufacturing.eu

Laura Petersen, Senior Advisor, Security Research & UIC Region North
America: petersen@uic.org

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