MAYOR GARCETTI LAUNCHES NATION’S FIRST CITY-BASED CYBER LAB

Public-private partnership will protect critical infrastructure and help businesses address cyberattacks in real time.

LOS ANGELES—Mayor Eric Garcetti is strengthening cybersecurity for L.A. businesses and residents with the launch of America’s first city-based Cyber Lab, a public-private partnership that will analyze nearly a billion potential threats every day, and block millions of attacks from penetrating City systems.

The Los Angeles Cyber Lab — formed in partnership with Cisco — builds on the Mayor’s second Executive Directive, which created a Cyber Intrusion Command Center to lead cybersecurity preparation and response across City departments. The lab will alert small and medium-sized business partners to attacks as they occur, and larger businesses can receive automated updates to their own cyber defense systems. There is no cost or obligation of membership.

Over time, the platform will evolve into a mutual exchange of threat information with private sector partners, further fortifying L.A.’s capacity to thwart cyber criminals. Businesses and residents can find more information at https://www.lacyberlab.org/.

“The security of our financial, business and personal information depends on aggressive, proactive cyberdefense — and the LA Cyber Lab will help tilt the balance in Angelenos’ favor against evolving threats from criminal hackers,” said Mayor Garcetti. “L.A. is a leader in this area, because we are constantly sharing information and using new technology to strengthen cybersecurity within City government. We’re expanding that capacity to protect Angelenos’ online safety, privacy, and property.”

Los Angeles is one of the first cities in the nation to share its cyber threat data with the public, helping businesses and residents to secure their own networks and devices from hacking attempts that are not caught by traditional antivirus programs and defense systems.

“As Chair of the Los Angeles Public Safety Committee, it’s critical that our City's businesses and residents are equipped to defend against rapidly evolving cyber
threats to their privacy and operations,” said City Councilmember Mitchell Englander. “I want to thank Mayor Garcetti for recognizing the importance of this issue and for developing an innovative partnership connecting the technical expertise of cyber security industry leaders with the appropriate public agencies. The L.A. CyberLab will ensure that everyone in the City of Los Angeles can access the best information and practices to protect from cyber attacks.”

“Cybersecurity is one of the defining issues of our time,” said John N. Stewart, Cisco Senior Vice President and Chief Security and Trust Officer. “Private businesses and public-sector organizations must collaborate closely to protect businesses’ interests, and help keep our citizens more secure online. We are honored to co-chair the Los Angeles Cyber Lab and join Mayor Garcetti and the City of Los Angeles in this unique and vital partnership.”

In the coming year, the LA Cyber Lab and the City will launch an “Innovation Incubator,” which will use a simulated City network as a testing ground for new cyber defense technologies, and give local high school and university students experience working in a security environment.

The LA Cyber Lab was launched with capital equipment funded by the Mayor’s Fund for Los Angeles’ Spark grant program, which provides resources that support innovative approaches to civic issues.

The Mayor also announced the formation of the LA Cyber Lab Advisory Board to be led by Mayor Garcetti and Chuck Robbins, CEO of Cisco Systems, Inc. It will convene regularly to further develop the platform and help residents and businesses better protect their online communications and data from cyberattacks.

The list of LA Cyber Lab Advisory Board members includes:

- AEG, Inc.
- Amazon
- ByteCubed
- Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- CGI
- Cisco Systems, Inc.
- City National Bank
- Creative Artist Agency
- Dell Technologies
- Dollar Shave Club
- Google
- Homeland Security Advisory Council
- Motorola
- Microsoft
- National Cyber-Forensics Training Alliance
- O’Melveny and Myers, LLP
- Riot Games
- Southern California Edison
- Westfield LLC