

CenturyLink cybersecurity experts go on the road to champion National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM)

NCSAM highlights awareness and education for consumers and businesses

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MONROE, La., Oct. 11, 2017 /[PRNewswire](#)/ -- [CenturyLink, Inc.](#) (NYSE: CTL) today announced its ongoing support of [National Cyber Security Awareness Month \(NCSAM\)](#) as a champion-level sponsor. NCSAM is an online safety awareness and education initiative co-founded and led by the [National Cyber Security Alliance \(NCSA\)](#) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. As part of this effort, CenturyLink's [cybersecurity](#) experts are highlighting the impact of cybersecurity issues facing the country and its citizens within the business community, providing educational resources on cybersecurity strategy, discussing managed security and taking an in-depth look at issues impacting Chief Information Security Officers (CISO) and Chief Security Officers (CSO).

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"I am tasked with the challenge of overseeing the [risk mitigation](#) strategy to protect CenturyLink's clients, employees and more than 600,000 miles of network. But when I speak of the current state of [cybersecurity](#), I observe one main problem: the industry is largely based on solutions, not strategy," said Dave Mahon, CenturyLink's CSO. "It is imperative for security IT professionals to move from being technical, solution-based thinkers to threat-focused thinkers and essential to understand the adversaries you face—their motives and their modus operandi—in order to properly prepare a [security strategy](#) that can effectively reduce the risk of a major hack."

The main challenge in business cybersecurity is managing risk while controlling expense. The difference between success and leaving an organization vulnerable is found in understanding common security gaps, knowing the widespread issues with traditional security approaches and balancing business risks with resources and priorities. As a result, CenturyLink has released the following key resources to help business leaders effectively navigate the threat landscape:

- White Paper: Focused on developing a more [efficient cybersecurity strategy](#)

- 451 Research Report: "[Managing Risk through Digital Transformation](#)"
- ESG research report: "[How to Overcome the Cybersecurity Skills Shortage](#)"
- Webinar on November 15, 2017: "[CSO Lessons Learned: Risk Mitigation on the Road to Digital Transformation](#)"
- Events: Cybersecurity executives Bill Bradley and Dave Mahon host several "[lessons learned](#)" [speaking sessions](#) around the world.

In today's threat landscape, complete defense against cyber criminals is impossible when criminals are incented to find new and creative ways to get into consumer and business systems. It is critical to achieve a very clear picture of what is going on in your IT environment and the anomalies that can mean possible attacks. Only then can you better detect and contain attacks. Improving your security posture means being proactive about [cybersecurity](#).

For more information about how to keep your organization's confidential information safe, contact a CenturyLink [cybersecurity expert](#).

About National Cyber Security Awareness Month

[National Cyber Security Awareness Month \(NCSAM\)](#) was created as a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure every American has the resources they need to stay safer and more secure online. Now in its 14th year, NCSAM was co-founded and is co-led by the Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance, the nation's leading nonprofit public-private partnership promoting the safe and secure use of the internet and digital privacy. Recognized annually in October, NCSAM involves the participation of a multitude of industry leaders – mobilizing individuals, small and medium-sized businesses, nonprofits, academia, multinational corporations and governments. Encouraging digital citizens around the globe to [STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™](#) NCSAM is harnessing the collective impact of its programs and resources to increase awareness about today's ever-evolving cybersecurity landscape. Visit the [NCSA media room](#) for more information and resources.

About CenturyLink

[CenturyLink \(NYSE: CTL\)](#) is a global communications and IT services company focused on connecting its customers to the power of the digital world. CenturyLink offers network and data systems management, big data analytics, managed security services, hosting, cloud, and IT consulting services. The company provides broadband, voice, video, advanced data and managed network services over a robust 265,000-route-mile U.S. fiber network and a 360,000-route-mile international transport network. Visit [CenturyLink](#) for more information.

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