



For Immediate Release
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MEDIA CONTACT: Paula Siebeneck
(419) 995-8458

Rhodes State Hosting Cyber Defense Competition

LIMA, Ohio – This Saturday, February 6, Rhodes State College is hosting the annual Indiana/Ohio State Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC).

The CCDC allows institutions of higher education, which offer an information assurance or computer security curriculum, to assess their students' depth of understanding and operational competency in managing the challenges inherent in protecting an enterprise network infrastructure and business information systems.

“CCDC not only benefits the students involved, but will also benefit corporations as these graduates will be bringing a more experienced skill set to their jobs upon beginning their employment. CCDC also provides direct feedback for schools to exercise, reinforce, and examine their security and information technology curriculum,” said Paul Burkholder, Instructor, Rhodes State College and organizer of event.

The scenario for the team is that they’ve just been hired as network and security administrators at a small company and will be taking administrative control of all information systems. They know very little about the network, what security level has been maintained, or what software has been installed. Teams have a limited time frame to familiarize themselves with the network and systems and to begin the security updates and patches before the red team starts actively attacking the company. In the midst of all the commotion, they have to keep up with the needs of the business and user demands while maintaining service level agreements for all critical Internet services.

With this controlled environment, the competition allows faculty to evaluate their program and gives the students the opportunity to apply theory and skills and foster a spirit of teamwork, ethical behavior, and effective communication both within and across teams.

Colleges participating include Indiana Tech, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Ivy Tech Community College South Bend Indiana, Baldwin-Wallace College, Owens Community College and Rhodes State College. The top two placed teams will go to the Midwest Regional CCDC Competition in March at Inver Hills Community College, Minnesota. From there winners will have the

opportunity to compete in the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition--the largest college-level cyber defense competition in the world—held in San Antonio, Texas.

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