



PRESS RELEASE

CREST INTERNATIONAL and PPKS Sign MOU to Promote International Accreditation and Certification for the Malaysian Cyber Security Market

KUALA LUMPUR, 17 July 2017 – The Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers (AICB) today facilitated the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) between CREST International and Persatuan Penguji Keselamatan Siber Kuala Lumpur, Selangor dan Putrajaya (“PPKS”)/CREST Malaysia Chapter to help promote an internationally recognised certification and accreditation framework for the domestic cyber security industry.

The signing of the MoU acknowledges the partnership between these two parties and the rollout of a CREST chapter in Malaysia.

Crest International is an international non-profit accreditation body headquartered in the UK, which focuses on technical cyber security services, while PPKS is a professional society established for the purpose of driving the level of professionalism within the cyber security industry in Malaysia.

There is a strong need for service providers to strengthen the standard and rigorousness of penetration testing with the escalating intensity of cyber attacks, therefore, this MoU marks a key milestone in the Malaysian cyber security industry. This partnership between the two organisations will pave the way forward for industry to provide greater assurance to clients on the quality of services rendered by CREST certified provided and penetration testers, benchmarked against international standards. It also enables sharing international industry expertise and experience with local providers and IT individuals which will further boost the development of a sustainable pool of local talent that will support the nation’s IT security industry.

Ian Glover, President of CREST INTERNATIONAL said “The formal signing of the Memorandum Of Understanding, whilst symbolic, is significant in demonstrating Malaysia’s commitment to being a major international contributor to the fight against cyber crime. CREST Malaysia will provide a platform for collaboration between industry, regulators, government and the cyber security service providers. This collaboration will provide capability, capacity and consistency within the domestic cyber security market and will strengthen export opportunities.”

Mohammed Fadzil Haron, Chairman of PPKS/ CREST Malaysia Chapter said “We are delighted to sign this MoU as it will not only intensify our cooperation with CREST International on issues of mutual interest, but the MoU also reflects an important step forward in further strengthening the cyber security landscape in Malaysia. The promotion of

this framework will hopefully result in the development of a sustainable pool of local information security professionals.”

Penetration testing has been widely accepted as one of the key elements in the IT security framework to assess the effectiveness of current defense mechanisms. It is an exercise whereby authorised parties simulate an attack on an IT systems or infrastructure with the objective to uncover potential vulnerabilities or exploitable gaps with the current security controls. The outcome of the tests would indicate the strength of the current security posture and any weaknesses identified will have to be rectified prior to implementing the IT system or infrastructure.

The MOU was signed by Ian Glover, President of CREST International and Mohammed Fadzil Haron, Chairman of PPKS/CREST Malaysia Chapter, and witnessed by Mr. Donald Joshua Jaganathan, Assistant Governor, Bank Negara Malaysia. Also present were AICB’s Chief Executive, Prasad Padmanaban, and CREST Director, Rowland Johnson.

The signing of the MoU was held at AICB’s Global Discourse Series event on Cyber Landscape in the Malaysian Financial Industry which featured a line-up of subject matter experts who discussed and debated on the various issues, challenges and possible solutions relating to the global and domestic cyber security landscape. Speakers included Rowland Johnson, Director, CREST, UK, Dr Adrian Nish, Head of Cyber Threat Intelligence, BAE Systems, Murari Kalyanarami, Head of Information Security, Standard Chartered Bank, Gurdev Singh, Head of Group Technology Services, RHB Bank Berhad, Lt Col Sazali bin Sukardi (Retired), Senior Vice President of Strategic Research Division, CyberSecurity Malaysia (CSM), Harmeh Mohamed, Head of Digital Surveillance Division, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), and Victor Lo, Head of Information Security, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC).

---end---

For media enquiries, please contact:

Noorliza Abdul Latiff, tel: +603 2095 6833 (ext 117), email: noorliza@aicb.org.my

About CREST

CREST is the not-for-profit accreditation body representing the technical information security industry. CREST provides internationally recognised accreditation for organisations and individuals providing penetration testing, cyber incident response and threat intelligence services. All CREST Member Companies undergo regular and stringent assessment; while CREST qualified individuals have to pass rigorous examinations to demonstrate knowledge, skill and competence. CREST is governed by an elected Executive of experienced security professionals who also promote and develop awareness, ethics and standards within the cyber security market.

About PPKS

PPKS is a professional society established for the purposed of driving the level of professionalism with the cyber security industry and to become a platform for the sharing of industry knowledge and leading practices. PPKS is involved in the development and execution of educational and training programs within the field of cyber security. PPKS seeks to become a platform for co-operation between local and international industry and professional bodies.

About AICB

The Asian Institute of Chartered Bankers (AICB) is the professional body for the banking services industry in Malaysia. AICB is governed by a Council comprising representatives from Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), The Association of Banks in Malaysia, and the Malaysian Investment Banking Association. The Institute's aim is to elevate professional and ethical standards of banking practitioners and create a banking workforce which subscribes to high standards of professional conduct, knowledge and competence. In line with our mission, AICB continues to ensure that our professional qualifications are aligned with industry needs in order for talent in the banking industry to be equipped with the requisite skills and values through its series of professional qualifications. For more information on AICB, log on to www.aicb.org.my.