
Since early 2022, the MSC has engaged more than 60 USCG personnel, representing 9 Coast Guard Districts and over 30 Coast Guard Units, in its Maritime Cybersecurity Professional Development course. Developed in collaboration with USCG personnel from USCG Cyber Command-Maritime Cyber Readiness Branch, USCG Office of Port and Facility Compliance, and USCG Sector NY, the objectives of the two-day, instructor-led course are to provide Coast Guard personnel with fundamental knowledge of cybersecurity concepts and terminology, and an increased awareness of cybersecurity risks, vulnerabilities, and mitigations within the context of the Maritime Transportation System (MTS).

The professional development course supports the Coast Guard’s workforce cyber training goals and aims to build capacity and create a culture of cybersecurity awareness within the USCG Prevention workforce and across the maritime enterprise.

The MSC will host its next virtual course for the USCG on September 22 and 23, 2022. Solicitations for Coast Guard attendees are disseminated through the Coast Guard Office of Port and Facility Compliance. Their POC is LCDR Leslie Downing. To learn more about the course curriculum, please visit the course webpage at https://www.stevens.edu/research-entrepreneurship/research-centers-labs/maritime-security-center/education-training/maritime-cybersecurity-program.

MSC Invention Leads to Patent Application and New Startup Company. MSC researchers filed for a patent for a technology that was originally developed in the MSC to assist Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel in the detection of wood boring insects in wood packing materials entering the US via various ports of entry. Through a DHS sponsored effort in collaboration with FedTech to commercialize various technologies, the Wood Boring Insect Detection (WoBID) sensor was selected as one of 10 technologies to undergo a two-phase effort toward commercialization. As a result, a team of entrepreneurs was assigned and is launching a new startup company, AccuSense (www.AccuSense.io). The commercial company will pursue a broader application and public use for the sensor to include detection and stopping the spread of invasive wood boring pests in trees. The team of entrepreneurs is part of a collaboration between the Homeland Security Startup Studio (https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/homeland-security-startup-studio) and FedTech (https://www.fedtech.io/), with the goal of bringing the latest in innovation and technology developed in university and federal labs to commercial markets.

WoBID was recently tested and validated in field tests conducted in Hudson and Morris Counties in New Jersey, where destructive wood boring insects, including the Emerald Ash Borer have been detected in trees and forest landscapes.
MSC to Launch New Cybersecurity Course for Maritime Industry Executives. The MSC is collaborating with Dr. Paul Rohmeyer, Stevens Institute of Technology to develop a Maritime Cybersecurity Enterprise Risk Management course tailored to non-technical/non-IT maritime industry executives. The course aims to provide senior business leaders with foundational concepts in cybersecurity and an understanding of the criticality of cybersecurity to Information Technology and Operational Technology (IT/OT) systems, and their potential impacts to maritime business operations and enterprise risk management.

The MSC will be hosting a by-invitation-only workshop on July 29, 2022, to gather feedback on the course curriculum. Workshop participants will include representatives from the oil and gas, cruise line, shipping, and port and terminal operations sectors. The Maritime Cybersecurity Enterprise Risk Management course will be held virtually and will be available for enrollment in the Fall of 2022. For additional details, please contact MSC's Director of Education, Beth Austin-DeFares at bdefares@stevens.edu.