

DTU Students Stand Out in the 2016 International Information Security Competition

The annual International Information Security Competition is organized by the Swiss network security incident response organization, SCRT Information Security, and is structured along the lines of the Capture the Flag (CTF) model. Sixty teams competed this year in the finals, twenty from universities in the US, France, Germany, South Korea, Taiwan and so on, and forty from international security companies.

Coming first in Vietnam in the qualifying rounds, and 53rd out of 800 teams internationally on January 16th and 17th and by coming 4th Vietnam in the CTFTIME ranking, was a launch pad for the DTU-ISIT to become the only Vietnamese team to reach this year's finals in the International Information Security contest.



DTU was the only team from Vietnam to reach the 2016 finals

For ten hours teams had to answer questions on (1) Encryption analysis, (2) Reverse-engineering software, (3) Digital investigation, (4) Exposing network bugs, and (5) Network attacks. Simulations were based on recent vulnerabilities in information storage systems and computer networks, and required contestants to solve and fix them.

Combining their expert knowledge with intelligent and creative solutions, the DTU-ISIT team, the only one from Vietnam, beat teams from the US, South-Korea, Taiwan and others to finish 4th out of twenty teams from well-known international universities. Overall, DTU finished 17th when teams from global security companies were included.

When the final round had began, the ISIT-DTU team, Tran Nhu Minh, Vo Viet Tung, Ho The Thien, and Nguyen Tan Phat, quickly scored their first points. They often rose to third and even first position for many hours continuously, with 27,850 points. However, there were only four of them instead of eight, which limited their ability to relieve each other by taking turns. At the end of the contest, the DTU-ISIT team had scored 33,050 points, impressing the judges and earning fourth place among the twenty university teams and 17th overall out of the 60 teams in the final round.

Pos	Team	Score	Last Solved
1	ISITDTU	27850	SafeCRT2 20:19:06
2	Dragon Sector	27400	Smartdoor1 19:24:19
3	mushd00m	24050	Smartdoor2 20:13:41
4	Tasteless	19750	PCAPBleeding 19:53:09
5	Int3pids	18150	Rostinator 19:34:37
6	dcua	18050	IoTcode 19:34:54
7	Fourchette Bombe	16250	smartips 20:05:11
8	H4x0rPsch0rr	11950	PCAPBleeding 19:46:51
9	team41	11950	PCAPBleeding 20:18:44
10	p4	11600	Smartdoor1 19:02:34
11	Shellphish	11600	smartcat0 20:07:27
12	SeBC	7850	Smartdoor1 19:20:30
13	duks	7850	Smartdoor1 19:22:55
14	Securinag	7850	Smartdoor1 19:34:42
15	rainbow bash	7850	Smartdoor1 19:45:39
16	KITCF	6150	Microwave 19:20:22
17	khack40	6150	smartcat0 19:46:47
18	cr4zy gbat overflow	5450	Smartdoor1 19:55:00
19	FIXME	4150	Secretsafe 18:22:51
20	(0)10N402	4150	smartcat0 19:07:12
21	hackdumb	4150	Secretsafe 19:07:52
22	fromScratch	4150	smartcat0 19:14:35

The DTU-ISIT team held first place for several hours

Vo Viet Tung of K18 TMT said: “We did well in the contest because of our efforts and the strong support of DTU. They allowed us to train in the Information Warfare labs, with their comprehensive and modern equipment, including firewalls, IDS/IPS, web servers and so on. We were able to learn from Vietnamese experts. Our DTU lecturers provided teaching and guidance throughout our training and practice time and helped us grasp the details on security, network attacks and response, internet safety, information encryption, web privacy and so on. They exposed us to real-time security vulnerabilities and we gained much invaluable experience. Then we could confidently enter the contest.”

The DTU Information Security team has since improved its position in the CTFTIME rankings. They are now third in Vietnam and 29th globally:

<https://ctftime.org/stats/2016/VN>

<https://ctftime.org/team/8241>

(Media Center)