

Fortinet continues commitment to close the cyber skills gap through its NSE Institute Training and Certification Programme

With nearly 200,000 certifications awarded globally, Fortinet expands offerings and rolls out additional certifications, education and training initiatives

Fortinet®, a global leader in broad, integrated and automated cybersecurity solutions, recently announced it continues to lead the way on training and education in the company's ongoing efforts to close the cyber security skills gap by rolling out even further expanded training and education initiatives. Recent additions to the company's education and training programming includes additional [Fortinet Network Security Expert \(NSE\) Institute](#) cloud certifications and the offering of its cyber security awareness training –at no cost – for individuals or organisations seeking to deploy a cyber security awareness training programme.

"This unprecedented shortage in the cyber security workforce has resulted in security operations teams who are over worked and understaffed and it continues to benefit our cyber adversaries. Fortinet is more than a technology company; we're also a learning organisation. Fortinet is dedicated to closing the cyber skills gap and goes well beyond providing training on products and solutions as part of our commitment to deliver a response to the growing global cybersecurity threat," says Ken Xie, Founder, Chairman of the Board, and CEO at Fortinet.

The cyber skills gap

A [2019 Gartner survey](#) shows the global talent shortage is now the top emerging risk facing organisations. The expansion of the digital marketplace has generated more jobs than the current supply of security professionals can meet. A problem of scale; there is currently not an efficient way to create skilled security practitioners at the same rate. Unfortunately, there are not enough skilled humans available to properly plan, manage, integrate, and optimize security devices, strategies, and protocols. For example, according to a recent workforce development [survey](#), 59% of organisations have unfilled cybersecurity positions, with Frost & Sullivan [forecasting](#) a shortfall of 1.5 million by 2020.

Fortinet continues commitment to bridge the cyber skills gap

In today's global cybersecurity threat landscape, education is crucial to the success of organisations. Creating and executing a strategy with a wide scope can be a daunting task, but this is precisely the mandate and strategy of the [Fortinet NSE Institute](#). [The Fortinet NSE Institute](#) was created to provide broad-based training that arms participants with a foundational understanding of the threat landscape, as well as the cyber security fundamentals and skills to implement strategies and technical concepts that are in high demand. While the Institute's flagship [NSE Training and Certification](#) programme has issued nearly 200,000 certifications, it is equally focused on education programmes such as the [Fortinet Network Security Academy](#) programme for high schools, colleges and universities, the [FortiVets programme](#) that facilitates the transition of exceptional military veterans into the cybersecurity industry by providing professional networking, training, and mentoring, as well as free publicly available awareness training that can be accessed by any company wishing to deploy an internal cyber security awareness programme for employees.

Cyber security training & education milestones:

- There are now over 140 academies in more than 50 different countries.
- Fortinet has provided nearly 200,000 NSE certifications, building a skilled workforce that will be recognized in the industry as an elite group of security professionals.
- The company recently made public cyber security awareness trainings NSE [1](#) and [2](#), whereby these free offerings are now available to the public at large. For example, any Security

Operations (SecOps) team seeking to deploy a cyber security awareness training programme now has an easy and no cost way to get started.

- Fortinet introduced the NSE 7 Cloud certification, consisting of two training courses, “Public Cloud Security” and “Private Cloud Security,” and are both being offered as part of the training schedule at this year’s [Fortinet Accelerate](#) conference, held in Orlando from April 8 – 11, 2019.
- During the past year, the number of [NSE8](#) certifications awarded has doubled, a certification designation that identifies a candidate’s comprehensive knowledge of network security design, configuration, and troubleshooting for complex networks.
- The Fortinet Fast Track Programme, launched at the company’s 2018 Accelerate conference, now has over 8,000 participating partners.
- There has been an average of 300 – 600 student sessions around the world per week, based on recent company data.

Addressing the skills gap at scale

In addition to the established company-led training and education programmes, a comprehensive training and education strategy must include strategic partnerships within government, academia and NGOs, such as Fortinet’s strategic relationships with organization such as the World Economic Forum (WEF) and its Centre for Cybersecurity, the Global Threat Alliance, CompTIA, and various university research programmes. Fortinet will continue its efforts to broadly and globally collaborate, innovate and develop powerful global solutions to reduce global cyberattacks, contain current and future cyberattacks, and deter cybercrime.