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**A partnership between Industry, Academia, and Government working to solve the information, security, and assurance problems that affect critical infrastructures.**

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In 2005 the National Science Foundation inaugurated the Center for Information Protection as a new Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers (I/U CRC). The National Science Foundation's I/U CRC program is devoted to improving the performance capacity of the U.S. industrial enterprise. Over the past two decades, over fifty I/U CRCs have led the way with a new era of partnerships between universities and industry by producing high-quality, industry-relevant, fundamental research.

The Center for Information Protection is an up and coming program, and it will be the only I/U CRC center with a focus on information protection. The CIP is a joint effort between Iowa State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and SUNY Stony Brook (to be added soon). The CIP is currently soliciting additional industrial. We are providing you a unique opportunity to become a member of the center, and help shape the future of information protection.



**The Mission of the Center for Information Protection** is to research and validate the means and methods necessary to improve the overall assurance posture of this nation's cyber infrastructure. To this end, the CIP will partner providers and users of security solutions to protect data and information assets critical to their industry.



**The Vision of the Center for Information Protection** is to bring together, through research, the solution providers and the organizations that rely on the cyber infrastructure to identify and solve the complex security problems facing organizations. The center will be the communication mediator for the exchange of ideas and to identify common problems and concerns facing the cyber infrastructure.

**The Goals of the Center for Information Protection** are to (1) assist industry in its internal research and development by partnering industrial and faculty researchers; (2) improve the training and education of employees in Information Protection; (3) provide a common repository for all CIP members that contains information protection research results, relevant literature, and other resources that can be shared within the membership; (4) review, improve, and model specific protection architectures tailored to security problems present in critical infrastructure industries; and (5) provide a well trained pool of students.

Members meet twice yearly to finalize and approve new projects, receive updates on the status of ongoing research of the center, and set the future research direction. Member organizations appoint representatives to oversee their interests in projects and technologies that can lead to a more secure environment. Members mentor projects they believe are highly relevant to their companies. In the capacity of Project Mentor, a member works closely with the faculty and students to provide their organization's perspective to the work, keep the project on target, the represent the Advisory Board interests.

### **TO BECOME A MEMBER**

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To become a member we need a signed Letter of Intent. Copies of the membership agreement and a sample Letter of Intent are found at <http://www.iac.iastate.edu/cip>

The Center for Information Protection has defined two constituent groups based on the type of organization.

- **Vendor:** (\$30,000 annually) for companies that produce security solutions.
- **User:** (\$15,000 annually) for companies that are end users of security.
- **Small Business:** (\$10,000) for the small business.
- **One vote per \$1000.**



### **Membership Benefits:**

- All members share the research results of the center.
- Membership dollars are leveraged to work on large problems.
- Direct access to world-class faculty and students.
- Access to world-class research results.
- Access to university research labs
- Access to university research labs including the ISEAGE & MASE test beds
- Share ideas and get feedback from faculty and students.
- Network with peers from other companies.
- Set the research agenda of the center.
- Semiannual Advisory board meetings.

### **COMMENTS FROM CURRENT MEMBERS**

John Deere joined the CIP to directly influence and focus on the research and development being conducted by Iowa State University in the area of Information Protection or Security. We are enjoying the benefits of participating in the research projects, interacting with experienced ISU staff and students, and exchanging information with representatives of the other member companies.

"Security is the universal issue," according to Cargill. "It crosses all boundaries. No one sector, or suborganization or any one organization has the answers. The mixing of ideas from campus labs and company offices could lead to novel solutions to industry problems. This has a lot of potential. The investment can very easily pay for itself."

"Being a large financial services company, security is certainly an area that The Principal Financial Group is very focused on. We're always looking to expand our research and development in information security for the benefit of our customers."

Some of the current members include:

Boeing  
Network Security Solutions Inc.  
Rockwell Collins  
Xandros

Cargill  
Palisade Systems  
StarBank Inc  
XPRT Solutions Inc

John Deere  
Principal Financial Group  
Tech Logistics

#### **For more information contact**

Dr. Doug Jacobson, Director of CIP  
2215 Coover Hall  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011  
515-294-8307  
[dougj@iastate.edu](mailto:dougj@iastate.edu)  
<http://www.iac.iastate.edu/cip>