



Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative



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CHANGING THE CYBERSECURITY PARADIGM: A UNIFIED CYBER DEFENSE

In August 2021, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) announced the standup of the Joint Cyber Defense Collaborative (JCDC) to lead the development and implementation of joint cyber defense plans and operations with partners from the private sector, the federal government, as well as state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT) governments.

Today, the JCDC is a collection of more than 20 private sector companies working shoulder-to-shoulder with CISA and our federal government cybersecurity partner agencies to understand and respond to cyber threats to the nation. JCDC addresses the global imperative for a more inclusive and operationally aligned community of cyber defenders to plan and exercise countermeasures against cybersecurity threats. This alignment strengthens our mutual resilience and ability to address immediate and impending cyber incidents. The JCDC model reflects the reality that no one entity can secure cyberspace alone and builds collective defense from the ground up.

JCDC partners have diverse and unique capabilities and expertise to reduce risk to the cyber ecosystem and to critical infrastructure. This diversity provides increased visibility and insight into the threat landscape and enables JCDC to develop plans and exercises against the most serious threats. Collaboration across JCDC partners results in support to—and actions across—an expansive set of cybersecurity stakeholders throughout the nation and the globe.

Simply put, the work of the JCDC is about seeing the dots, connecting the dots, and collectively driving down risk to the nation at scale.

JCDC MEMBERS

Our 21 Private Sector Alliance partners include:

- Akamai
- AT&T
- AWS
- Broadcom
- Cisco
- Cloudflare
- CrowdStrike
- Google Cloud
- IBM
- Juniper
- Lumen
- Mandiant
- Microsoft
- Oracle
- Palo Alto Networks
- SecureWorks
- Splunk
- Tenable
- Trellix
- Verizon
- VMware

Our U.S. Government Partners include:

- CISA
- Office of the National Cyber Director
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- National Security Agency
- U.S. Secret Service
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Justice

HOW WE WORK: PUBLIC-PRIVATE OPERATIONAL COLLABORATION

JCDC depends on the talent and expertise of its partners—including critical infrastructure companies—to execute several core functions including:

- **Collaborative Planning.** JCDC coordinates operational cyber defense planning and execution. JCDC's joint cyber planning function includes deliberate and crisis action plans to address the most pressing cyber risks. This effort involves continuous measurement and improvement of the effectiveness of cyber defense planning and capabilities.
- **Information Fusion.** JCDC drives collaborative public-private sector cybersecurity information sharing, fusion, and analysis. The JCDC operating model relies on regular analytic and data exchanges to enable common situational awareness and understanding. This information equips public and private sector partners to take risk-informed coordinated action for our collective defense.
- **Cybersecurity Guidance Production and Dissemination.** JCDC develops and disseminates timely and actionable cybersecurity publications. Drawing upon the capabilities and expertise across JCDC partners, these publications provide cyber defenders with unified, coordinated, and richly informed guidance to prevent and mitigate cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In its short history, JCDC has opened the lines of communication between industry and government to improve real-time information sharing, planning and exercising. Notable examples include:

- **Log4Shell:** Over the past several months, CISA's partnerships within the JCDC have built true operational collaboration helping us all better understand and manage the threat posed by Log4Shell and related vulnerabilities.
 - CISA stood up a Slack channel to share intelligence in near-real time, established a platform to serve as the authoritative source on the vulnerability, and took collective action to mitigate the severe risk of this vulnerability to the nation.
- **Collaboration with Broadcom to notify malware victims:** Collaboration between CISA and Broadcom resulted in the discovery of Daxin, an extremely sophisticated piece of malware targeting international government partners.
 - As enabled through the JCDC, Broadcom was able to meet with potential victims in foreign countries within 48 hours. CISA was able to leverage preexisting relationships with both the U.S. private sector and international partners to notify foreign governments affected by this activity and assist in remediation.
- **Working to address current geopolitical tensions:** Having built trust and strengthened relationships, JCDC was well positioned to respond to our current geopolitical environment.
 - CISA developed a Russia-Ukraine Tensions Plan with JCDC partners that lays out phases and objectives of operational coordination between the U.S. Government and our private sector partners amidst escalating geopolitical tensions. Additionally, JCDC conducted a tabletop exercise of this plan with its interagency and private sector partners in mid-February. We are using the plan as tensions escalate to guide and align our collective operational posture and support our ability to synchronize defensive actions to mitigate harmful impacts to U.S. critical infrastructure from Russian cyber operations.
 - As tensions have escalated—and as part of our continuing mission to reduce cybersecurity risk across U.S. critical infrastructure partners and state, local, tribal, and territorial governments—CISA has worked with JCDC partners to compile a list of free cybersecurity tools and services to help organizations further advance their security capabilities. This list has proved particularly impactful for small businesses and other organizations who are target rich and resource poor. The free tools and services catalog is one of CISA's most viewed web pages and can be found on CISA's [Shields Up](#) web page.

For more information contact us at cisa.jcdc@cisa.dhs.gov