

NEWSLETTER

July 2025

News & Update

- SVRP
- AiSP Cyber Wellness
- Special Interest Groups
- The Cybersecurity Awards
- Ladies in Cyber
- Digital for Life
- Upcoming Events

Contributed Contents

- AI SIG: Artificial Intelligence 101
- SVRP 2024 Gold Winner, Dexter Khoo Wei Chee [NYP]

Professional Development Membership

NEWS & UPDATE

New Partners

AiSP would like to welcome Semperis as our new Corporate Partner. AiSP looked forward to working with our Partners to contribute to the Cybersecurity Ecosystem.

New Corporate Partner



Continued Collaboration

AiSP would like to thank Bitdefender (previously Horangi), CSIT and Onesecure for their continued support in developing the cybersecurity landscape:









Student Volunteer Recognition Programme (SVRP)

Cybersecurity Sharing for 2025 National Thinkers Challenge at Nan Chiau Primary School on 3 June and at Tao Nan School on 4 June.

AiSP was honoured to be a speaker at the 2025 National Thinkers Challenge Bootcamp, organised by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan at Nan Chiau Primary School on 3 June and at Tao Nan School on 4 June.

AiSP Director, Terence Siau, shared on the importance of cybersecurity and some steps we can take to protect ourselves online, as well as tips on how to spot phishing emails. Terence also gave examples of how our digital footprint can be easily traced from our social media posts and the personal details that we reveal online.

It was a fruitful time for the 250 Primary 4 and Primary 5 students, as they learnt how to keep themselves safe online and to seek help from a trusted adult such as their parents or teachers when something unsavoury happens.









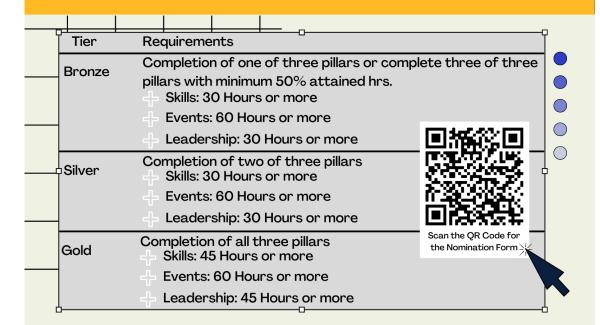






Nomination Period: 1 Aug 2024 to 31 Jul 2025

CALL FOR NOMINATION: STUDENT VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAMME



The SVRP comprises three broad pillars where IHL students can volunteer:

- + Skills-based: E.g. Conduct cybersecurity workshops or develop related software
- + Events-based: E.g. Provide support at technology or cyber-related events
- Leadership: E.g. Mentoring younger students and managing teams or projects

Visit www.aisp.sg/svrp.html for more details





Nomination Period: 1 Aug 2024 to 31 Jul 2025

CALL FOR NOMINATION! STUDENT VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

The SVRP for the secondary school and pre-university students is on merit basis and evaluation would be slightly different as cyber security is not offered as a subject nor co-curricular activities (CCA) in most schools in Singapore at the moment. The students would be given Certificate of Merit when they achieved the following (see A, B, C or D):

Example A

- Leadership: 10 Hours
- Skill: 10 Hours
- Outreach: 10 Hours

Example B

- Leadership: 0 Hour
 - Skill: 18 Hours
- Outreach: 18 Hours

Example C

- Leadership: O Hour
- Skill: 36 Hours
- Outreach: O Hour

Example D

- Leadership: O Hour
 - Skill: O Hour
- Outreach: 42 Hours



Scan the QR Code for the Nomination Form

The track for Secondary School and Pre-University students comprises three broad pillars where they can volunteer:

- Leadership refers to how the volunteer leads a team to complete the voluntary activity.
- 4 Skill refers to how the volunteer applies his/her cybersecurity knowledge to others
- Outreach refers to how the volunteer is involved in outreach efforts (social media, events) to increase cybersecurity awareness for the public.

Visit www.aisp.sg/svrp.html for more details



Elevating Cybersecurity Education Through Unprecedented Collaborations

In a pioneering initiative, EC-Council and Wissen have forged a collaboration with AiSP. This collaboration includes a sponsorship of 500 EC-Council Cyber Essentials certification vouchers. These vouchers aim to empower Polytechnic and Institute of Technical Education (ITE) students pursuing cybersecurity programs, enabling them to attain their inaugural industry certificate and commence their journey with EC-Council Essential certificates (NDE, EHE, DFE), thereby initiating their cybersecurity credentialing process.

Visit (https://wissen-intl.com/essential500/) and register to start your cybersecurity credentialing journey! Terms & Conditions apply.

About the EC-Council Cyber Essentials Certification

EC-Council's Essentials Series is the first MOOC certification course series covering essential skills in network defense, ethical hacking, and digital forensics. The Network Defense Essentials (N | DE), Ethical Hacking Essentials (E | HE), and Digital Forensics Essentials (D | FE) are foundational programs that help students and early career professionals choose their area of competency or select a specific interest in cybersecurity. The Essentials Series was designed to give students the foundation on which to build and develop the essential skills for tomorrow's careers in cybersecurity. These programs educate learners in a range of techniques across industry verticals, such as securing networks, mitigating cyber risks, conducting forensic investigations, and more.





AiSP Cyber Wellness Programme

Organised by:



Supported by:



In Support of:



The AiSP Cyber Wellness Programme aims to educate citizens, especially reaching out to the youths and elderly on the importance of Cybersecurity and learn how to stay safe online. There has been an increase in cyber threats, online scams and COVID-19 related phishing activities. With reduced Face-to-Face engagements, the elderly and those with special needs have become more vulnerable to cyber threats. We will reach out to different community groups to raise awareness on the topic of cyber wellness and cybersecurity and participants can pick up cyber knowledge through interactive learning. It is supported by the Digital for Life Fund, an initiative by the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), that supports digital inclusion projects and activities to help all Singaporeans embrace digital, to enrich lives."



Join us in our monthly knowledge series to learn and pick up tips on Cybersecurity. Visit our website (https://www.aisp.sg/aispcyberwellness) to get updates on the latest Cyber tips, Cyber news, activities, quiz and game happenings related to Cyber. Scan the QR Code to find out more.



Scan here for some tips on how to stay safe online and protect yourself from scams



Hear what some of our Professionals have to share. Scan here on Cyber - Use, Identity, Relationship, Citizenship & Ethics.



Have the knowledge and think you are safe?
Challenge yourself and participate in our monthly quiz and stand to win attractive prizes. Scan now to take part.



Scan here if you are looking for activities / events to participate in for knowledge exchange / networking / get to know more people / stay protected & helping others.



Want to know more about Information Security? Scan here for more video content.



To find out more about the Digital for Life movement and how you can contribute, scan here.

Contact AiSP Secretariat at secretariat@aisp.sq to find out more on how you can be involved or if you have any queries.

Click here to find out more!



Special Interest Groups

AiSP has set up seven <u>Special Interest Groups</u> (SIGs) for active AiSP members to advance their knowledge and contribute to the ecosystem are:

- Artificial Intelligence
- CISO
- Cloud Security
- Data and Privacy
- DevSecOps
- Legal Investigative Technology Experts (LITE)
- Quantum Security

We would like to invite AiSP members to join our <u>Special Interest Groups</u> as there are exciting activities and projects where our members can deepen their knowledge together. If you are keen to be part of a SIG, please contact <u>secretariat@aisp.sg</u>

















Upcoming Event: AiSP Quantum Security SIG Meetup on 2 July

AiSP Quantum Security SIG Meetup



Join us for an engaging session at the upcoming AiSP Quantum Security Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetup, where experts, innovators, and enthusiasts from the quantum security community gather to explore the evolving threat landscape and future-ready solutions.

The meetup will begin with registration and networking over refreshments, offering attendees a chance to connect with fellow professionals before the official programme kicks off.

The session will open with welcome remarks by Mr Michael Lew, AiSP Quantum Security SIG Lead, alongside representatives from CSA Singapore, setting the tone for an insightful afternoon.

We are pleased to welcome distinguished speakers who will share vital perspectives on quantum security strategies and innovations:

Dr Kawin Boonyapredee

Chief Strategy Officer & APAC CEO, Applied Quantum

Topic: Primer: The Quantum Threat Landscape

Gain a foundational understanding of the "harvest-now-decrypt-later" threat model and the urgency of transitioning to post-quantum cryptography (PQC).

Mr Cyril Tan

Quantum Security Architect, SpeQtral

Topic: Spotlight: Quantum Tech in Singapore

Discover real-world use cases of quantum key distribution (QKD) and satellite-based secure communications developed by local pioneers.

Dr Prasanna Ravi

CEO, PQStation

Topic: Demo: PQC Scanning in Action



Watch a live demonstration of advanced tools for scanning and identifying PQC vulnerabilities, with actionable insights for seamless adoption.

A panel discussion will follow, featuring all speakers as they delve deeper into technical challenges and engage the audience in an interactive Q&A session. The event will close with final remarks and key takeaways from Mr Michael Lew and CSA Singapore.

Whether you are already navigating the quantum frontier or just beginning your journey, this meetup offers an excellent platform to stay informed, collaborate, and contribute to the future of quantum-secure ecosystems.

Date: 2 July 2025 (Wednesday)
Time: 3:30PM – 6PM (Registration starts at 3.30pm)
Venue: Ministry of Digital Development and Information
140 Hill Street #01-01A, Old Hill Street Police Station, Singapore 179369

Register here

Upcoming Event: AiSP AI & DevSecOps SIG Meetup on 16 July

AiSP AI & DevSecOps SIG Meetup



Join us for an engaging session at the upcoming AiSP AI & DevSecOps Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetup, where industry professionals and enthusiasts come together to explore the intersection of artificial intelligence and secure software development practices.



The meetup will begin with registration and networking over dinner, offering attendees a chance to connect with fellow professionals before the official programme kicks off.

The session will open with welcome remarks by Mr Tam and Mr Stanley, AiSP AI & DevSecOps SIG Leads, setting the tone for an insightful evening.

We are pleased to welcome distinguished speakers who will share practical strategies and innovations at the convergence of AI and DevSecOps:

Leow Wen Bin

Al Security, Architecture & Solutioning, Engineering Cluster, Cybersecurity Group, Government Technology Agency

Topic: Security of AI Systems

Sergiu Bodiu

Chief Technology Officer, CloudOpsLab

Topic: Al in DevOps for Security

Explore how AI can be embedded into DevOps workflows to improve automation, detect vulnerabilities, and boost overall system security.

Speaker from Trend Micro

Topic: TBA

The event will conclude with final remarks and key takeaways from Mr Stanley, rounding off an evening of knowledge-sharing and community building.

Whether you're just beginning your journey or looking to enhance your AI and DevSecOps practices, this meetup offers a valuable opportunity to learn, network, and stay ahead in the rapidly evolving tech landscape.

Date: 16 July 2025 (Wednesday)

Time: **6PM – 9PM** (Registration starts at 6pm)

Venue: Trend Micro Singapore (6 Temasek Boulevard #16-01/05, Suntec Tower 4,

Singapore 038986)

Light dinner will be provided.

Admission is free for all AiSP members.

For non-members, please purchase a ticket via Eventbrite (link is in the form below).

Registration: https://forms.office.com/r/LEmNm6K8Sr



The Cybersecurity Awards



The Cybersecurity Awards 2025 nominations has ended on **18 April 2025**! Thank you all for your nominations!

Professionals

- 1. Hall of Fame
- 2. Leader
- 3. Professional

Students

4. Students

Enterprises

- 5. MNC (Vendor)
- 6. MNC (End User)
- 7. SME (Vendor)
- 8. SME (End User)

For more details on the awards, visit our website here!



Please email us (secretariat@aisp.sg) if your organisation would like to be our sponsors for The Cybersecurity Awards 2025! Limited sponsorship packages are available.



Ladies in Cyber

Women in Cyber Session with Courtney Guss on 7 July



Breaking Barriers: A Non-Traditional Path into Cybersecurity
Lead Through Crisis. Grow Through Change.
Featuring Courtney Guss

Join AiSP for an exclusive lunchtime session with **Courtney Guss**, a cybersecurity leader whose bold career journey took her from working with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the executive teams of Fortune 500 companies.

In this candid conversation, Courtney will share the pivotal moments, leadership lessons, and mindset shifts that shaped her unconventional path—from emergency response to cyber crisis management. Whether you're leading teams or just starting out, you'll walk away with practical insights and renewed inspiration.

Date: 7th July 2025, MondayTime: 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Q Location: Vatos Kitchen & Bar (in a Private Dining Area) - 36 Robinson Road #01-01 City House Singapore 068877

What to Expect:

- Real-world lessons from navigating career pivots
 - Staying calm and credible under pressure
- Gaining trust and influence in high-stakes environments
- Q&A and networking with the AiSP Women in Cyber community

Limited Slots Available, Only for AiSP Members (Register Now



Digital for Life

I am Digitally Ready @ South West at Hong Kah Noth Community Club on 28 June 2025

AiSP was proud to be part of the I am Digitally Ready @ South West event on 28 June 2025 at Hong Kah North Community Club, jointly organised by South West CDC, Singtel and the SG Digital Office of IMDA!

We had the opportunity to engage with over 110 participants, equipping them with practical knowledge and tips to stay safe in today's digital world, with a focus on scam awareness.

Special thanks to Mr Lee Hong Chuang, Adviser to Hong Kah North Grassroots Organisations, and Mr Ian Monteiro, AiSP Co-opted Committee Member, for joining us and supporting this meaningful initiative.





Upcoming Activities/Events

Ongoing Activities

Date	Event	Organiser
Jan - Dec	Call for Female Mentors (Ladies in Cyber)	AiSP
Jan – Dec	Call for Volunteers (AiSP Members, Student Volunteers)	AiSP

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Organiser
1 July	CISO SIG Meetup	AiSP
1-3 July	CYDES 2025	Partner
2 July	Quantum Security SIG Meetup and Roundtable	AiSP
2 July	Building Cyber Security Resilience	Partner
4 July	Learning Journey to I-Sprint for NYP	Partner
7 July	Women in Cyber Session with Courtney Guss	AiSP & Partner
7-10 July	PDP Week 2025	Partner
16 July	AI & DevSecOps SIG Meetup	AiSP
22 July	Learning Journey to Grab for TP	AiSP & Partner
24 July	GTACS Conference Singapore	Partner
13 August	Ministerial Dialogue with Deputy Prime Minister	Partner
7-9 October	ARRC 2025	Partner
8-9 October	Cyber Security World Asia 2025	Partner
21-23 October	GovWare 2025	Partner
19-21 November	Digitech ASEAN Thailand	Partner
26-27 November	CDIC 2025	Partner

^{**}Please note events may be postponed or cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances



CONTRIBUTED CONTENTS

Article from AI SIG

Not Dead Yet: Why Classical AI and Machine Learning Still Matter

Dr Brandon Ooi is a Senior Lecturer and AI Specialist at Nanyang Polytechnic's School of Information Technology (SIT). He teaches Artificial Intelligence and Analytics for preemployment training (PET) and continued education and training (CET) courses, and also mentors students participating in AI competitions. Dr. Ooi has successfully delivered projects in both industry and research settings, and published work in areas such as machine learning, bioinformatics, statistical modelling, and generative AI.

Introduction

The release of ChatGPT in 2022 ushered in a new dawn for artificial intelligence (AI), one that quickly captured the public imagination. While earlier versions of GPT had already impressed those within technical and academic circles, ChatGPT brought these capabilities to the broader public, unlocking applications far beyond specialised, niche communities.

In areas such as language understanding, reasoning and code generation, large language models (LLMs) have demonstrated impressive performance. Multimodal models that integrate LLMs with modality-specific encoders further extend their capabilities by enabling the processing of images, audio, and video. Agentic AI, on the other hand, focuses on enhancing these models with goal-directed behaviour, allowing them to autonomously plan, execute tasks, and interact with external tools and environments. For example, an agentic AI system can autonomously analyse an image, search for related information online, and generate a detailed report. They can combine multimodal understanding with tool use to accomplish even more complex tasks without human intervention.

Classical Machine Learning

As LLMs continue to dominate the AI landscape, the usefulness of traditional machine learning models may seem uncertain. Classical machine learning models, which include algorithms such as decision trees, support vector machines, gradient boosting and knearest neighbours, were once the cornerstone of AI applications. These models were instrumental in achieving breakthroughs in applications such as fraud detection, recommendation engines, and medical diagnostics.

Despite being overshadowed by the rapid rise of LLMs and deep learning architectures, classical machine learning remains relevant in many real-world contexts. These models



are particularly well-suited for tasks with well-structured numerical data, for example, credit scoring in finance and equipment failure forecasting in manufacturing. Some of these models are easily interpretable, making them suitable for domains that require greater transparency or explainability. They also have other advantages such as lower computational costs and are more easily deployable due to their smaller size.

Furthermore, in situations where training data is scarce or where domain expertise is essential for designing meaningful input features, classical machine learning continues to be an effective solution.

Classical Artificial Intelligence

Classical AI encompasses symbolic reasoning, rule-based systems, and logic-driven approaches. These were fundamental in even earlier AI developments, particularly in domains requiring explicit knowledge representation and deterministic decision-making. Examples of classical AI include expert systems and automated planning. Like many classical machine learning algorithms, they offer advantages in terms of interpretability, transparency, and are often more lightweight and easier to deploy.

One area where classical AI continues to surpass LLMs is in strategic game playing. Consider the game of chess. Systems like IBM's Deep Blue in the 1990s and modern engines such as Stockfish are built on classical AI principles rather than deep learning or large-scale training. These engines rely on opening books and endgame databases crafted from centuries of chess knowledge, combined with optimised search strategies and evaluation functions. This enables the chess engine to make the best moves given any complex position.

In contrast, LLMs have been known to occasionally make illegal moves or misidentify pieces, often with unintentionally amusing results¹. Recently, Zhang et al. reported an LLM that achieved a professional-level Elo rating of 1788, which while respectable, is still far from the performance of the best chess engines² that can achieve Elo ratings greater than 3000.

Conclusion

While LLMs have captured much of the spotlight in recent years, classical AI and machine learning still hold an important place in the broader AI landscape. Their strengths such as efficiency, interpretability, and effectiveness in structured or low-data environments make them well-suited for a range of practical applications.

In other scenarios where human feature engineering is critical, or where LLMs lack precision or are prone to hallucinations, a classical approach may even deliver superior performance. This may change with the continued evolution of LLMs, but at present, classical AI continues to be useful in situations where modern approaches fall short.



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References

 Levy Rozman. 2023. ChatGPT Just Solved Chess. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSCNW10Ck M. Accessed: 23-05-2025

2. Zhang et al., NAACL 2025. Complete Chess Games Enable LLM Become A Chess Master. https://aclanthology.org/2025.naacl-short.1/

Article from SVRP 2024 Gold Winner, Dexter Khoo Wei Chee [NYP]



How SVRP has directly impacted your cybersecurity journey?

It has motivated me to pursue my interests within the cyber-security field as I can remind myself that the talents I have gained and honed are used into the skills.

How SVRP has inspired them to contribute to the cybersecurity field?

It has inspired me because I am able to use these skills and talents to work within that field. If I am able to used these skills and talents in school events, I believe I can use these skills again in the future.



What motivates you to be a student volunteer?

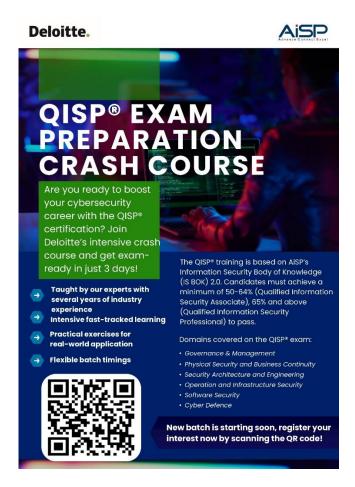
I think the ability to use my talents and skills to help others was a motivation factor to try out being a student volunteer and I really wanted to treasure these experiences so that life does feel worthwhile living for me.

How would you want to encourage your peers to be interested in cyber security? Definitely I would bring my peers to different workshops that I host and teach them interesting and different things like docker and terraform.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Qualified Information Security Professional (QISP®)

QISP Exam Preparation Crash Course by Deloitte





Online QISP Exam Preparatory Course



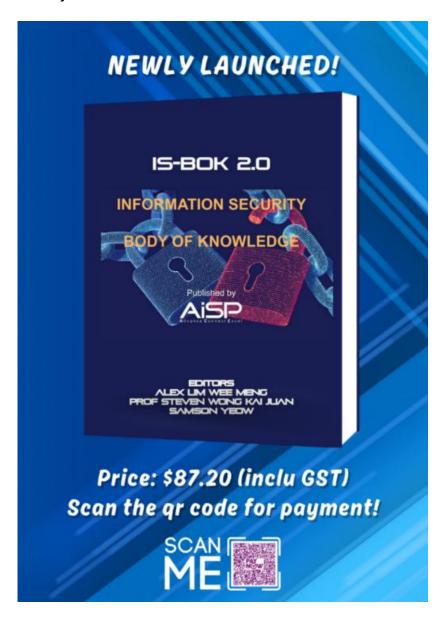
The QISP examination enables the professionals in Singapore to attest their knowledge in AiSP's Information Security Body of Knowledge domains. Candidates must achieve a minimum of 50-64% passing rate to attain the Qualified Information Security Associate (QISA) credential and 65% and above to achieve the Qualified Information Security Professional (QISP) credential.

Our highly responsive e-learning platform will allow you to learn anytime, anywhere with modular courses, interactive learning and quizzes. Complete the course in a month or up to 12 months! Enjoy lean-forward learning moments with our QISP/QISA preparatory e-learning course. Receive a certificate of completion upon completion of the e-learning course. Fees do not include QISP examination voucher. Register your interest here!



Body of Knowledge Book (Limited Edition)

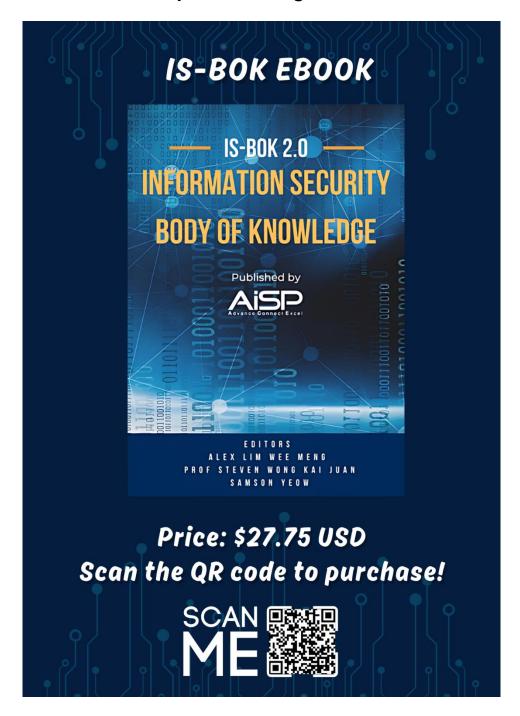
Get our **Limited Edition** Information Security Body of Knowledge (BOK) Physical Book at **\$87.20** (inclusive of GST).



Please scan the QR Code in the poster to make the payment of \$87.20 (inclusive of GST) and email secretariat@aisp.sg with your screenshot payment and we will follow up with the collection details for the BOK book. Last 30 books for sale!



Body of Knowledge E Book





MEMBERSHIP

AiSP Membership

Complimentary Affiliate Membership for Full-time Students in APP Organisations

If you are currently a full-time student in the IHLs that are onboard of our <u>Academic Partnership Programme (APP)</u>, AiSP is giving you complimentary Affiliate Membership during your course of study. Please click <u>here</u> for the application form and indicate your student email address, expected graduation date and name of your institution in the form.

Complimentary Affiliate Membership for NTUC Members

AiSP offers one-time one-year complimentary Affiliate Membership to all active NTUC members (membership validity: 2025) from 1 Jan 2025 to 31 Dec 2025. The aim is for NTUC members to understand and know more about information security and Singapore's cybersecurity ecosystem. This does not include Plus! card holder (black-coloured card), please clarify with NTUC on your eligibility.

On <u>membership application</u>, please do not email your personal data to us via email if your information or attachment is not password-protected. Please send us your password via <u>Telegram</u> (@AiSP_SG).

Once we receive confirmation from NTUC on the validity of your NTUC membership, AiSP would activate your one-year complimentary AiSP Affiliate membership.

CPP Membership



For any enquiries, please contact secretariat@aisp.sa



AVIP Membership

AiSP Validated Information Security Professionals (<u>AVIP</u>) membership helps to validate credentials and experience for IS-related work including cybersecurity, professional development, and career progression for our professionals.

Membership Renewal

Individual membership expires on 31 December each year. Members can renew and pay directly with one of the options listed here. We have GIRO (auto - deduction) option for annual auto-renewal. Please email secretariat@aisp.sg if you would like to enrol for GIRO payment.

Be Plugged into Cybersecurity Sector – Join us as a Member of AiSP!

Please check out our website on <u>Job Advertisements</u> **by our partners.** For more updates or details about the memberships, please visit www.aisp.sg/membership.html

AiSP Corporate Partners

Acronis















































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Visit https://www.aisp.sg/corporate_members.html to know more about what our Corporate Partners (CPP) can offer for the Cybersecurity Ecosystem.



AiSP Academic Partners























Our Story...

We are an independent cybersecurity association that believes in developing, supporting as well as enhancing industry technical competence and management expertise to promote the integrity, status and interests of Information Security Professionals in Singapore.

We believe that through promoting the development, increase and spread of cybersecurity knowledge, and any related subject, we help shape more resilient economies.

Our Vision

A safe cyberspace supported by a strong and vibrant cybersecurity ecosystem.

Our Mission

AiSP aims to be the pillar for Information Security Professionals and the overall Information Security Profession through:

- promoting the integrity, status and interests of Information Security Professionals in
- enhancing technical competency and management expertise in cybersecurity.
- bolstering the development, increase and spread of information security knowledge and its related subjects.





www.AiSP.sg





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