CYBER**SECURITY**
Networking Academy's Most Fascinating Topic

Cybersecurity is a fascinating topic because while many areas of our lives slowed down at the onset of the pandemic, this area intensified. Cyber threats affect the quality of life for us all: impacting our digital trust in our ability to work, play, and shop securely online. It's now getting the world's attention with cybercrime damage predicted to hit $6 trillion annually and the awareness that we could have more than 4.07 million unfilled cybersecurity jobs today.

A recent global survey reveals that 91 percent of businesses reported an increase in cyber-attacks with employees working from home during the pandemic. Before the pandemic, some firms tracked thousands, even millions of threats a day. As soon as workers headed home, companies started seeing attacks surge.

"The digital transformation of networks has ushered in innovation and advantage. It has also created new threats and opportunities for bad actors. We introduced our Certified CyberOps Associate and Certification program to prepare individuals with the knowledge and skills they need to detect and defend an organization's information assets."

Laura Quintana, Vice President and General Manager of Cisco Networking Academy

October is
CYBER**SECURITY** Month

As we celebrate our global Cybersecurity Month; we see how seemingly simple and massive this issue is at the same time. Simple, with regards to how a slight lack of a software update on our phone or laptop can cause a vulnerability. And massive, in terms of the far-reaching offensive strategies organizations must invest in (i.e., new tools, new risk management protocols, and new talent) to have the resources to detect, respond and remediate threats.

As the largest security company in the world, we encourage everyone to #BeCyberSmart by protecting their personal identifiable information (PII). And we'll continue to do our part by helping our customers secure their networks utilizing firewalls, VPNs, and advanced malware protection. Plus, we'll continue to address the shortage of cybersecurity professionals through our workforce development program, Networking Academy.

Swati Handa, Networking Academy's Global Cybersecurity Strategy Manager, is getting the word out on how wide open the field is and who should consider it. And, our latest Certified CyberOps Associate training and certification program is opening doors for job opportunities for talent in the Security Operations Center (SOC) space.

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