

ABOUT THE CSIR INFORMATION & CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH CENTRE

Established in 2019, the CSIR Information and Cybersecurity Research Centre is a consolidation of all CSIR research and development (R&D) capabilities in cybersecurity, information security and identity authentication. These capabilities were developed over decades of working with the Department of Defence and, over the last ten years, with government departments and agencies, such as the Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, state-owned enterprises and private sector players.

The centre aims to support industry, contribute to an efficient, secure and capable state and grow cybersecurity capacity and capabilities in the country. It also develops systems and solutions that are relevant to the local context and makes them available for commercialisation, which is in line with CSIR's strategic focus on industrialisation.

The CSIR has a recognised track record locally and abroad, based on its work with and support for numerous stakeholders and institutions.

Since the nineties, as cyberspace became everyone's playground, several technologies were brought to local users. These include antivirus software and an early warning detection system for small businesses encompassing both software and hardware components. A major achievement was a CSIR-developed encryption solution (encoder/decoder) that led to the creation of the pay-TV giant M-Net.

The CSIR and collaborators have initiated and prototyped testing and evaluation platforms, along with cybersecurity education and training packages in both the public and private sectors, with some already implemented in operational environments.

With significant experience in R&D, product innovation and capability development, the CSIR is well-positioned to lead the development of a robust, agile and formidable national cybersecurity capability and capacity, as well as to foster innovation for a thriving future industry.

THE CENTRE'S FOCUS AREAS ARE:



SECURING ICT SYSTEMS;



COMBATING CYBERCRIME;



CYBERWARFARE;



IDENTITY MANAGEMENT;



AWARENESS AND HUMAN CAPITAL
DEVELOPMENT;



GOVERNANCE, RISK AND COMPLIANCE, AND



EMBEDDED SECURITY.

LOCAL IS BEST: Home-grown technologies and capabilities needed to advance South Africa's cybersecurity technology sovereignty.



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