ICS penetration testing training for Ezenta business growth

ezenta

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Kaspersky Lab is helping one of Denmark's leading security consulting firms gain new business

Cybersecurity consultancy

- Founded in 2000
- Headquartered in Herlev, Denmark
- Helps public authorities, Danish and international companies to establish IT security policies

Ezenta is one of Denmark's most recognized and preferred security consulting firms. The company helps its clients create a secure framework around their infrastructure and achieve a highly competitive edge in an atmosphere of trust and cooperation.

Ezenta provides not only professional security services but also sells hardware and software solutions in the field of information security. With a workforce of just 24 employees, the company generated a gross profit of 19 mln crowns ($2.9 mln) and a post-tax profit of 2.3 mln crowns ($345k) in 2016.

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Søren Egede Knudsen,
Chief Technical Officer,
Ezenta

Challenge

Ezenta, working with ICS cybersecurity since 2009, has broad experience in defensive cyber techniques for industrial infrastructures. A focus on business development now sees the company broadening its cybersecurity offering to include ICS penetration testing services. Ezenta plans to tap demand among industrial companies for the detection of vulnerabilities in industrial control systems and to prevent damage caused by security breaches that can result in business disruption or even highly dangerous consequences. However, third-party consultants like Ezenta face difficulties when conducting ICS pentesting as each industrial control system requires a unique approach and specific knowledge.

The ICS team at Ezenta comprises seven professionals with traditional cybersecurity experience. CTO Søren Egede Knudsen admits that it is always complicated to find specialists with an industrial cybersecurity background – information security professionals tend not to be educated in this field. The Ezenta employees had extensive experience in ICS cybersecurity, but needed additional qualifications to conduct pentesting in the industrial area, and enhancing their ICS knowledge in a prompt and efficient manner was not easy.

For an ICS cybersecurity consulting firm it is essential that the security professionals know about the specifics of various industrial control system components and how to treat them in terms of security – if this is not the case, the company cannot claim to offer genuine industrial cybersecurity consultations.

Specific knowledge
Even experienced ICS cybersecurity professionals face difficulties when moving over to new aspects of industrial cybersecurity such as ICS pentesting, feeling a strong need for the additional training and specific knowledge.

Short and efficient format
KICS training courses allow participants, in a short period of time, to gain effective penetration testing or digital forensic skills for an industrial environment based on the real-life experience of our experts.

New opportunities
Working together with Kaspersky Lab allows cybersecurity providers not only to enhance their employees' knowledge of ICS cybersecurity but also to sell and integrate highly specialized protection technologies.

The Kaspersky Lab solution

In order to improve the skills of the ICS cybersecurity team and gain the appropriate knowledge, the company decided to take a training program dedicated to ICS penetration testing from the Kaspersky Industrial CyberSecurity portfolio. "Kaspersky Lab was the best possible company to deliver professional industrial cybersecurity skills training for our ICS group. We came away with a very positive impression from the training course. The trainers had extensive expertise in industrial cybersecurity; they were very knowledgeable and open," says Søren.

Kaspersky Lab ran a three-day customized 'ICS Penetration Testing for Professionals' training course, sharing experience of conducting comprehensive pentesting in industrial environments with the Ezenta employees. As a rule, industrial pentesting is a highly sensitive and customized process, during which the ICS specialists need to eliminate the risk of disrupting the client's business continuity or causing production losses. With extensive expertise in operational technologies, Kaspersky Lab simulated and explained attacks based on real-life industrial situations. Moreover, the Kaspersky Lab trainers equipped the participants with valuable knowledge on how to make expert recommendations for appropriate remedial action and how to perform an analysis of results in a clear and concise way.

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Results

Ezenta’s ICS team gained advanced skills and are now able to conduct efficient penetration tests in industrial environments by themselves, as well as provide the necessary expert recommendations. After such fruitful collaboration Ezenta is considering long-term cooperation with Kaspersky Lab. “Ezenta plans to become a partner of Kaspersky Lab in providing Kaspersky Industrial CyberSecurity technologies and services on the Danish market,” says Søren Egede Knudsen.

Kaspersky® Industrial CyberSecurity

Kaspersky Industrial CyberSecurity is a portfolio of technologies and services designed to secure operational technology layers and elements of your organization – including SCADA servers, HMIs, engineering workstations, PLCs, network connections and even engineers – without impacting on operational continuity and the consistency of technological process. Learn more at www.kaspersky.com/ics

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https://ics-cert.kaspersky.com
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