

Trust First: Kaspersky Lab launches its Global Transparency Initiative; will provide source code - including updates - for a third-party review



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The Global Transparency Initiative is part of Kaspersky Lab's ongoing commitment to assuring the integrity and trustworthiness of its products in service of its corporate mission: protecting customers from cyberthreats

Kaspersky Lab is announcing the launch of its Global Transparency Initiative as part of its ongoing commitment to protecting customers from cyberthreats, regardless of their origin or purpose. With this Initiative, Kaspersky Lab will engage the broader information security community and other stakeholders in validating and verifying the trustworthiness of its products, internal processes, and business operations, as well as introducing additional accountability mechanisms by which the company can further demonstrate that it addresses any security issues promptly and thoroughly. As part of the Initiative, the company intends to provide the source code of its software - including software updates and threat-detection rules updates - for independent review and assessment.

As society today depends ever more on information and communications technologies (ICT), cyberthreats continue to proliferate and evolve. Because of the frenetic pace of both ICT deployment and the expansion of the threat landscape, Kaspersky Lab believes that increased cooperation to protect cyberspace is more crucial than ever. Trust is essential in cybersecurity, and therefore trust should be the foundation of any collaboration among those seeking to secure individuals, organizations and enterprises from cyberthreats. However, Kaspersky Lab also recognizes that trust is not a given; it must be repeatedly earned through an ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability.

Kaspersky Lab's Global Transparency Initiative is a reaffirmation of the company's commitment to earning and maintaining the trust of the company's customers and partners every day. The company has never taken this trust for granted, but it wants to strive for continuous improvement in every way it can.

The initial phase of Kaspersky Lab's Global Transparency Initiative will include:

- (1) The start of an independent review of the company's source code by Q1 2018, with similar reviews of the company's software updates and threat detection rules to follow;
- (2) The commencement of an independent assessment of (i) the company's secure development lifecycle processes, and (ii) its software and supply chain risk mitigation strategies by Q1 2018;
- (3) The development of additional controls to govern the company's data processing practices in coordination with an independent party that can attest to the company's compliance with said controls by Q1 2018;
- (4) The formation of three Transparency Centers globally, with plans to establish the first one in

2018, to address any security issues together with customers, trusted partners and government stakeholders; the centers will serve as a facility for trusted partners to access reviews on the company's code, software updates, and threat detection rules, along with other activities. The Transparency Centers will open in Asia, Europe and the U.S. by 2020.

(5) The increase of bug bounty awards up to \$100,000 for the most severe vulnerabilities found under the company's Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure program to further incentivize independent security researchers to supplement our vulnerability detection and mitigation efforts, by the end of 2017.

In addition to launching this initial phase of its Global Transparency Initiative, Kaspersky Lab looks forward to engaging with its stakeholders and the information security community to determine what the next phase of the initiative - commencing in H2 2018 - should include. Suggestions for further steps, and requests by third parties interested in collaborating with the company, are welcome at: transparency@kaspersky.com.

Speaking of the need for this new initiative, Eugene Kaspersky, Chairman and CEO of Kaspersky Lab, said: "Internet balkanization benefits no one except cybercriminals. Reduced cooperation among countries helps the bad guys in their operations, and public-private partnerships don't work like they should. The internet was created to unite people and share knowledge. Cybersecurity has no borders, but attempts to introduce national boundaries in cyberspace is counterproductive and must be stopped. We need to reestablish trust in relationships between companies, governments and citizens. That's why we're launching this Global Transparency Initiative: we want to show how we're completely open and transparent. We've nothing to hide. And I believe that with these actions we'll be able to overcome mistrust and support our commitment to protecting people in any country on our planet."

Kaspersky Lab will share details of the Initiative's progress and additional activities regularly. By collaborating with its various stakeholders, Kaspersky Lab hopes that its customers and partners will join it on this journey.

Learn more about Kaspersky Lab transparency principles here:
<https://www.kaspersky.com/about/transparency>