Japanese Millennials’ Interest in Cybersecurity Careers Trails International Average, Survey Says

TOKYO, JAPAN (Mar. 16, 2016) – Awareness of the cybersecurity profession among Japanese millennials lags behind the international average, according to an international survey from Raytheon, a global leader in cybersecurity and defense. Raytheon and the U.S.-based National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) commissioned the 12-country survey, Securing Our Future: Closing the Cybersecurity Talent Gap, to examine the level of interest in cybersecurity careers among individuals aged 18-26. The survey was conducted in response to a growing global shortfall of cybersecurity professionals that is expected to reach 1.5 million by 2019. Cybersecurity Ventures (December 10, 2015). The Cybersecurity Jobs Report. Retrieved from http://www.prweb.com/releases/2015/12/prweb13125956.htm

The main findings of the Japanese portion of the survey include:

1. **Japanese millennials’ level of interest in cybersecurity careers is much lower than the international average:**
   - Only 21 percent of Japanese millennials are more likely now than 12 months ago to consider careers in which they could make the Internet safer and more secure. This is the lowest rate among the 12 countries surveyed.
   - Most (76 percent) Japanese millennials have not ever researched any cybersecurity programs or activities.

2. **Japanese millennials, especially females, were relatively unaware of cybersecurity careers during middle and high school:**
   - More than half (62 percent) of Japanese millennials have never heard about cybersecurity careers from a teacher, counselor or supervisory adult.
   - Many (79 percent) Japanese millennials feel that their middle and high schools had not offered them adequate cybersecurity classes or skills. This rate was higher for women (83 percent) than for men (75 percent).
   - 58 percent of Japanese millennials have not participated in a conversation about online safety. This was the highest rate for all 12 countries surveyed.

3. **Four key factors could stimulate interest in cybersecurity careers among Japanese millennials:**
   - Increase the availability of information on cybersecurity jobs and careers.
   - Encourage young Japanese students to explore a career in cybersecurity, highlighting the lucrative roles available in the field.
   - Provide more relevant classes and training to build the aptitude of Japanese millennials.
   - Focus education and promotional initiatives on encouraging more Japanese women to consider a career in cybersecurity.

“Japan must build its cybersecurity talent pool and strengthen its capabilities in order to best defend against potentially disastrous attacks,” said Bob Morrissey, president of Raytheon Japan. “This is particularly relevant at a time when Japan will deliver major events on the international
stage including the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games as well as the Ise Shima Summit in 2016.”

“Japan should look to encourage and inspire the next generation of this nation’s cyber professionals, providing career information as well as early skill development for the country’s youth.” said Morrissey.

For more details, see www.raytheoncyber.com/TalentGap

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