



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Jeff Moss Appointed ICANN Chief Security Officer

Respected Hacker to Lead Risk Management Efforts

Jeff Moss, founder of DEF CON, the world's largest hacker conference, and Black Hat, a global technical security conference, has been named Vice President and Chief Security Officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the multinational non-profit organization working for a secure, stable and unified global Internet.

"I can think of no one with a greater understanding of the security threats facing Internet users and how best to defend against them than Jeff Moss," said Rod Beckstrom, ICANN's President and Chief Executive Officer. "He has the in-depth insider's knowledge that can only come from fighting in the trenches of the on-going war against cyber threats."

The appointment received immediate support across a range of organizations and interests.

"This is a great hire for ICANN. Jeff's been in the infosec community since the dawn of time and not only knows where the weak spots are but also how they got that way, and what needs to be done and by whom," said Paul Vixie, Chairman and Chief Scientist at the Internet Systems Consortium. "He's the ideal person to drive ICANN's security agenda."

"In the area of network security, Jeff Moss knows the problems, knows the people and brings remarkable energy," said Steve Crocker, a leading expert on DNS security and Vice Chair of ICANN's Board of Directors. "I'm looking forward to having him apply his talents in the ICANN community."

"The global threats to the Internet's Domain Name System are in essence the digital cold war of the new millennium," said Merlin Hay, member of the British House of Lords and Chairman of the Information Society Alliance. "To win this war we need someone like Jeff Moss who understands the hacker's mindset and has the international experience to grasp that today's online attacks can come from just about anywhere on the planet."

"Jeff Moss' selection as ICANN's Chief Security Officer is an outstanding choice," said Linton Wells, Director of the Center for Technology and National Security Policy (CTNSP). "Too often, Internet security experts don't understand the motivations and mindsets of those who pose an online threat to Internet users. Jeff has shown time and again that he not only understands hackers, but that he also truly gets why they do what they do. I look forward to working with him."

Moss has been a self-proclaimed hacker for over 20 years. Prior to his work with Black Hat and DEF CON, he was a Director at the Secure Computing Corporation, where he established the professional services department in Asia, Australia and the United States. He also worked in the information system security division of Ernst & Young, LLP.

Throughout his career he has used his skills and understanding of the hacking community and its methods to help organizations secure their global networks. "I'm looking forward to bringing my skill sets to ICANN," said Moss. "Its role in coordinating the global Internet addressing system means that it is positioned to become the leader in identifying and dealing with online threats to the Domain Name System that could affect two billion global Internet users."

Moss has organized technical security conferences around the globe, in locations such as the Netherlands, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, Japan, and Singapore.

Moss graduated from Gonzaga University with a BA in Criminal Justice. He currently serves as a member of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Advisory Council and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

He will begin working out of ICANN's Washington, D.C. offices on April 29, 2011.

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To download a high resolution picture of Jeff Moss go to <http://www.flickr.com/photos/icann/5659434198/in/photostream> or <http://www.flickr.com/photos/icann/5658860869/in/photostream>

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About ICANN: ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. **For more information please visit: www.icann.org.**