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APCERT Stops Cyber Attacks During Drill Exercise

22 November 2007 -- The Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) has successfully completed its APCERT Drill 2007 today. A scenario of cyber attacks aimed at disrupting the upcoming Beijing 2008 Olympic Games was created to put pressure on the participating teams in APCERT to test their response capability in addressing cyber threats within the Asia Pacific economies.

The APCERT Drill 2007 focused on how to effectively minimize the impact of cyber attacks that primarily involve large scale malicious programs propagation and targeted attacks capable of impairing economic activity and which sought to affect political outcomes.

The exercise, which lasted from 2300 GMT to 0800 GMT across five (5) time zones, challenged the participating teams' incident response capability in large scale cyber attacks involving both local and international scenarios.

The participating teams include 13 teams representing 12 economies in the Asia Pacific regions, namely Australia, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. The objective of the drill is to prepare, test and evaluate procedures and processes within and across the Computer Emergency Response Teams.

The APCERT Drill 2007 was planned and coordinated by the Malaysian Computer Emergency Response Team (MyCERT), CyberSecurity Malaysia, in collaboration with Australian Computer Emergency Response Team (AusCERT) and Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team (SingCERT).

"This year's exercise is to test the participating teams' communication capability, particularly in its ability to communicate and relay information across physical borders and time zones, to enable effective decision making and to coordinate swift response with the aim to assist neighbouring economies to reduce the impact of targeted cyber attacks", said Husin Jazri, the Chair for APCERT.

"We believe the APCERT Drill has reinforced the collaboration among the participating economies and further streamlined the communication framework. Our hope is that the teams will benefit in terms of testing or proving their procedures in meeting the objectives set for the drill," he added.

About APCERT

APCERT was established by leading and national Computer Security and Incident Response Teams (CSIRT) from the economies of the Asia Pacific region, aiming to improve cooperation, response and information sharing among CSIRTs in the region. APCERT consists of 20 CSIRTs from 14 economies.

Further information about APCERT can be found on www.apcert.org.