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CCS 2010 General Chair's Welcome

ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS) is the flagship annual conference of the Special Interest Group on Security, Audit and Control (SIGSAC) of the Association for Computing Machinery. CCS is ACM's oldest conference in security area. It brings together researchers and developers for academics, government agencies, research labs and corporate sectors from all over the world. It provides an environment to conduct intellectual discussions and exchange ideas that are instrumental in shaping the future of computer and communications security. From its inception, CCS has established itself as a high standard research conference in the area of computer and communications security. This reputation continues to grow and is reflected in high selective and prestige of the technical programs.

From 2002- 2008, the number of paper submissions increased from ~150 to ~300 submissions and selected papers reached 51 in 2008. CCS continues to increase in 2009 and 2010 and receives a new submission record in 2010 of 325 papers. CCS 2010 received funding support of ~$60,000 from NSF, ARL, Google, IBM Research, Microsoft Research, University of North Carolina Charlotte, Indiana University and Thompson. The Organizing Committee of CCS 2010 has put together an outstanding program that includes 15 technical sessions, an invited talk, 9 pre- and post-conferences specialized workshops, 2 short and 3 long tutorials, 44 posters and two social events. We received around 69 posters in 2010, which is over 70% increase compared with 2009.

The CCS 2010 conference would not have been possible without the genuine and tireless efforts of the entire CCS 2010 Organizing Committee. We would like to congratulate them for their professionalism and commitment. We are most grateful to the authors who submitted their work to the main conference, workshops or posters. We would also like to thank the technical program committee members, the reviewers who diligently supported the peer review process, the workshop chairs who worked hard to organize the workshops, session chairs, and everyone else for their time and dedication to put together an outstanding program, as usual. We are also extremely grateful to those who are involved in making the local arrangements, designing the website, creating the publications and promotional materials, and handling registrations. A special acknowledgement goes to the staff of the ACM who supported us throughout. Last, but far from least, we would like to express our gratitude to the patrons who so generously contributed to the conference and/or workshops.

I hope that that you will enjoy staying in Chicago. Two social local events (Happy Hour and Banquet) have been arranged to provide an opportunity for you to get together with friends and colleagues. I hope that you will have a rewarding and enjoyable experience in CCS 2010.

Ehab Al-Shaer
CCS 2010 General Chair
University of North Carolina, Charlotte, USA

CCS 2010 Program Chairs' Welcome

It is our pleasure to report that the tradition of excellence established in previous years will again be manifest in this year's ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS 2010), held October 4 - 8, 2010 in Chicago IL, USA.

We received a record 325 submissions from 36 countries. Each paper was reviewed by at least three of the 54 program committee members, with 20% of submissions receiving additional reviews (in some cases, up to 6 total reviews). This effort corresponded to a massive 1029 reviews, with each PC member responsible for 18 papers on average. The evaluation was made on the basis of each submission's significance, novelty, and technical quality. After the reviews were completed, the program committee conducted a month-long online discussion for each submission. Of the papers submitted, 55 were selected for presentation at the conference (with two of these submissions merged into a single paper), representing an acceptance rate of 17%. The quality of many of the papers that we could not accept was also very high; we are confident that with only a little (if any) additional work, many will be accepted and appear in other high-quality conferences. In this, we hope they will have benefited from the hard work of the excellent program committee members whom we had the pleasure to work with. We wish to thank the committee for the collegiality, diligence, responsiveness, and enthusiasm they exhibited throughout this grueling, but also extremely rewarding process. We also wish to thank the 223 external reviewers who provided additional input to the process.

This year, we introduced two innovations to the conference review process: review rebuttals and supplemental material. We expect both of these experiments to be repeated at least once more.

The rebuttal process proved popular with the authors, with 256 responses submitted during the designated two-day period. These helped clarify and guide the subsequent deliberation by the program committee, and we hope that they have further improved the quality of the feedback received by the authors.

In our experiment with supplemental material, authors were allowed to provide a 3-minute video (preferred) or a small number of slides with their submissions. Our goal was to improve understanding of the work by the reviewers by supplying them with an executive summary of the work in a different format. We received 27 submissions (8% of the total) with supplemental material, the large majority of which consisted of slides. The acceptance rate among these submissions was 15%, matching that of the overall conference. However, the acceptance rate for the few submissions that provided video demonstrations of their system was 42%.

We are very grateful to all other CCS 2010 organizers and the members of the CCS Steering Committee, whose efforts ensured a smooth organizational process. Last, but certainly not least, our thanks go to all the authors who submitted papers and all the attendees. We hope that, once again, you will find the program stimulating.

Angelos D. Keromytis
Columbia University, USA
CCS 2010 Program Chair

Vitaly Shmatikov
University of Texas at Austin, USA
CCS 2010 Program Chair

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