IBM Releases Free Internet Security Training Tools to Educate Students, Teachers and Parents on Digital Responsibility

Tuesday, February 07, 2012 10:00:00 AM (GMT)

IBMers Volunteer to Teach Students How to Protect their Personal Data in an Online Environment

ARMONK, N.Y., Feb. 7, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- IBM (NYSE: <u>IBM</u>) today announced that in conjunction with <u>Safer Internet Day</u>, (<u>#SID2012</u>) it will release free Internet safety training tools for students and have thousands of volunteers working to help raise awareness and educate students and businesses on Internet safety and digital responsibility.

(Logo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20090416/IBMLOGO)

IBM is unveiling three free volunteer kits to better educate students, parents and teachers on Internet safety:

- Control Your Online Identity A volunteer education kit, it is designed to help teenagers learn to protect personal data online and reputation online. Teenagers are typically savvy about how to use the Internet, but often unaware about what happens to personal data once it's shared. This presentation and volunteer information helps students learn how to protect personal data and control how they present themselves online.
- Internet Safety Coaching Aimed at teachers or adults working with children, this is a general primer on Internet safety providing basic information about common Internet activities by young people including instant messaging and social networking. This kit is designed to raise awareness of Internet safety and how to have a meaningful and open dialogue with children on this topic.
- <u>Cyberbullying</u> -- Aimed at parents or adults who work with children, this activity helps adults learn about how young people use the Internet today and how to recognize cyberbullying symptoms, how to prevent online bullying from happening and how to intervene if it does happen.

"IBMers are committed to helping educate people on ways to safely and securely use the Internet," said Harriet Pearson, IBM Security Counsel and Chief Privacy Officer. "The resources we are donating will help teachers and parents raise awareness that most Internet-based threats to individual and computer security can significantly be reduced by actions that informed users take themselves."

In conjunction with today's announcement, IBM volunteers around the world are educating communities about Internet safety. Some select activities include:

- In **Finland**, IBM's lead volunteer on Cyberbullying will participate in a national summit at Helsinki City Hall in conjunction with Safer Internet Day. 60 IBM volunteers have already run Cyberbullying workshops for parents in 100 schools across Finland.
- In **Germany**, IBM will expand its partnership with klicksafe, the national partner of the Insafe network, focusing on the Manage Your Identity Initiative, Already more than 500 IBM, retiree and partner volunteers have delivered over 100 interactive workshops on the topic to more around 3,000 students around the country.
- In **Italy**, an IBM team will conduct events in local schools using both the IBM materials and a <u>film</u> from Safer Internet Day to discuss Internet safety and cyberbullying.
- In **Romania**, IBM volunteers are partnering with NGOs APDETIC and Junior Achievement Romania to deliver an Internet Safety session to students focusing on controlling your online identity and Facebook usage.
- In the **United Kingdom**, IBM volunteers will use the volunteer kits to promote online safety awareness in schools. IBMers will partner with non-profit YPNGlobal on their initiative called Cyber Champions.

Last year IBM employees donated more than three million hours of volunteer service. The company has donated 34 volunteer kits to help both IBMers as well as community members have meaningful activities and dialogues in the community about various issues.

Since its inception in 2004, Safer Internet Day interest has grown to reach all five continents and almost 80 countries, from Canada to South Korea and Russia to Kenya, including all 27 countries of the European

Union. The goal of the day is to help make the Internet a better place for our children and young people.

About IBM

For more information on IBM volunteer and citizenship efforts, please visit www.citizenibm.com

About Insafe

Insafe is the European Safer Internet awareness-raising network co-funded by the European Commission. It comprises national contact centres across the European Union and in Iceland, Norway and Russia, with partner organisations around the world. Insafe aims at empowering users to benefit from the positive aspects of internet whilst avoiding the potential risks. Further information is available at www.saferinternet.org or contact info-insafe@eun.org.

About Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is part of a global drive by awareness-raising partners to promote a safer Internet for all users, especially young people. It is organised by INSAFE in the framework of the European Commission's Safer Internet Programme.

Contact: Lisa Lanspery IBM 914-499-6532 lisalanspery@us.ibm.com

SOURCE IBM

Countries: United States

Industries: Computer Electronics, Hardware & Software, Education, Multimedia, Internet & Wireless

Technology

Languages: English

Primary Identifiers: IBM-US Related Identifiers: IBM-US

Subjects: Corporate Social Responsibility, Public Safety