



## **New NP – Group-IB Threat Intelligence and Defence Centre to equip students with latest cybersecurity technologies, conduct threat research and help 50 start-ups strengthen cyber resilience**

*Local e-commerce company Eezee receives free “cyber health check” and finds it beneficial in today’s high-risk cyber environment*

**Singapore, 2 November 2023** — [Ngee Ann Polytechnic \(NP\)](#) and [Group-IB](#), a leading creator of cybersecurity technologies to investigate, prevent and fight digital crime, signed an extension to a Memorandum of Understanding today to nurture a pipeline of cybersecurity talent through new initiatives. Through this new learning framework, students will use the latest cybersecurity technologies, develop practical skills, and get to apply them in real-world settings by working with NP’s start-up partners.

With more than 3.5 million cybersecurity positions worldwide unfilled in 2023 – according to research firm [Cybersecurity Ventures](#) – cybersecurity talent is highly sought-after globally. Locally, [LinkedIn’s “Jobs on the Rise 2023” report](#) echoed this by revealing how cybersecurity engineers and specialists are among the fastest-growing jobs in Singapore.

### **Training with the Latest Industry-standard Software**

To prepare students to fight real-life cyber threats, NP’s School of InfoComm Technology (ICT) will set up a unique student-operated **NP – Group-IB Threat Intelligence and Defence Centre (TIDC)** powered by Group-IB’s industry-leading cybersecurity solutions. The first-ever TIDC in Singapore will allow young talents to gain valuable insights into proactive identification and management of real cyber threats. Over the next three years, more than 200 students in NP’s Cybersecurity & Digital Forensics (CSF) course will be trained in intelligence collection and analysis, incident response, threat hunting, vulnerability assessment, and security monitoring – critical areas that will protect organisations from ever-evolving cyber threats.

NP is the only institute of higher learning in Singapore to receive Group-IB’s **royalty-free academic license** valued at **\$360,000**. Students will now have access to its industry-leading suite of technologies, including the [Group-IB Threat Intelligence](#), [Business Email Protection](#), [Managed Extended Detection and Response](#) (MXDR) and [Attack Surface Management](#) solutions aimed at

preventing and investigating digital crime. Group-IB will also co-develop and co-deliver hands-on training, so students can become proficient in using the software.

### **Applying Skills in Real-world Settings**

Housed at NP, the NP-Group-IB TIDC is equipped with **Group-IB's Threat Intelligence**, which holds the industry's broadest range of data about cyber threat actors' behaviors, their tools and malicious infrastructure. Under the partnership, the TIDC will help about 50 start-up partners at **AGILE** and **Pollinate** – NP's on-campus and off-campus incubators respectively – enhance their resilience against cyber threats. The facility will be managed by final-year CSF students, who will take on the role of the start-ups' Security Analyst under the guidance of cyber intelligence professionals from Group-IB and NP lecturers.

A 2023 report by the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore revealed that small and medium enterprises accounted for most of the 132 ransomware cases reported in 2021. The TIDC will seek to alleviate some common challenges that start-ups face in implementing cybersecurity measures, such as the lack of in-house cybersecurity staff. At the same time, this new initiative will bring classroom coursework to life and bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and practical applications, making the learning process more effective and NP students better prepared for a career in the cybersecurity field.

Specifically, students will research and identify past, present and future cyber threats facing the start-ups to provide them with actionable intelligence and threat mitigation strategies. Students will dive deep into the Dark web to uncover compromised credentials, payment records, breached databases related to the start-ups, as well as the phishing infrastructure set up to target them and their customers.

One of NP's start-up partners that benefitted from the TIDC is **Eezee**, an online marketplace for business supplies. **Jasper Yap, Chief Technology Officer and co-founder of Eezee**, said: "Putting in place cybersecurity measures is something that SMEs find hard to prioritise, much like a routine health check-up. However, the comprehensive threat intelligence report and its detailed recommendations have opened our eyes to the importance of digital security. It has certainly strengthened our commitment to safeguarding our digital assets."

**Final-year CSF student Isaac Koh**, who worked on the threat intelligence report for Eezee together with four other students, said: "Learning how to use Group-IB's Threat Intelligence and Managed XDR gave me new insights into how cybersecurity companies fight cybercrime. Working at the new Threat Intelligence and Defence Centre has allowed me to gain valuable real-world experience and honed my skills in threat detection."

### **Strengthening the Bridge between Academia and Industry**

Beyond setting up new learning facilities, Group-IB will establish a knowledge-exchange framework to drive professional development for NP staff attachment programmes. The rigorous attachment programme will see lecturers work alongside Group-IB's team of cyber analysts for first-hand exposure to the dynamic work environment and develop hands-on experience with Group-IB's proprietary technologies. Relevant knowledge and experience gained will be incorporated into the curriculum, ensuring that the CSF course reflects industry-current practices.

“As cyberattacks continue to evolve and grow in sophistication, there is an increased need to step up our efforts to nurture the next generation of cyber defenders. NP's latest collaboration with Group-IB reinforces our commitment to be in the forefront of cybersecurity training to grow the cybersecurity ecosystem. We are thankful to Group-IB for availing their proprietary software to our students and faculty, and for partnering us in co-delivering lessons and setting up the TIDC. We are confident that our collaboration will greatly benefit our students as well as the cybersecurity sector,” said **Mr Patrice Choong, Senior Director, Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Ngee Ann Polytechnic.**

“We are excited to further extend our collaboration with Ngee Ann Polytechnic in advancing the skills and employability of the NP talent pool,” commented **Mr Dmitry Volkov, CEO and founder of Group-IB.** “NP has already made a concerted effort to promote their cybersecurity programmes and provide future cybersecurity pros with a very solid foundation and self-learning skills. We want to build on this foundation by equipping young talents with the latest innovations in the field and empowering them with practical skills essential for fighting cybercrime in Singapore and beyond, in line with Group-IB's global mission.”

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### **About Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

Ngee Ann Polytechnic started in 1963 and is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with over 13,000 enrolled students in about 40 courses across diverse disciplines. It seeks to develop students with a passion for learning, values for life, and competencies to thrive in a global workplace. The polytechnic also supports Continuing Education and Training (CET) through its CET Academy, which offers a wide range of part-time programmes and short courses. It works closely with industry partners to curate programmes for emerging skills, develop talent pipeline for the industries and help adult learners stay agile in today's rapidly changing global economy. [www.np.edu.sg](http://www.np.edu.sg)

### **About Group-IB**

**Group-IB is a leading creator of cybersecurity technologies to investigate, prevent, and fight digital crime.** The company's Threat Intelligence and Research Centers are located in the Middle East (Dubai), Asia-Pacific (Singapore), and Europe (Amsterdam).

Group-IB's **Unified Risk Platform** is an ecosystem of solutions that understands each organization's threat profile and tailors defenses against them in real-time from a single interface. The Unified Risk Platform provides complete coverage of the cyber response chain. Group-IB's products and services consolidated in Group-IB's Unified Risk Platform include Group-IB's **Threat Intelligence, Managed XDR, Digital Risk Protection, Fraud Protection, Attack Surface Management, Business Email Protection, Audit & Consulting, Education & Training, Digital Forensics & Incident Response, Managed Detection & Response, and Cyber Investigations.**

Group-IB's **Threat Intelligence** system has been named one of the best in its class by Forrester and IDC. Group-IB's **Managed XDR**, intended for proactively searching for and protecting against complex and previously unknown cyber threats, has been recognized as one of the market leaders in the Network Detection and Response category by KuppingerCole Analysts AG, the leading European analyst agency, while Group-IB itself has been recognized as a Product Leader and an Innovation Leader.

Group-IB was granted Frost & Sullivan's Innovation Excellence award for **Digital Risk Protection (DRP)**, an AI-driven platform for identifying and mitigating digital risks and counteracting brand impersonation attacks, with the company's patented technologies at its core. Group-IB's technological leadership and R&D capabilities are built on the company's 20 years of hands-on experience in cybercrime investigations worldwide and over 70,000 hours of cybersecurity incident response accumulated in our leading DFIR Laboratory, High-Tech Crime Investigations Department, and round-the-clock CERT-GIB.

Group-IB is an active partner in global investigations led by international law enforcement organizations such as Europol and INTERPOL. Group-IB is also a member of the Europol European Cybercrime Centre's (EC3) Advisory Group on Internet Security, which was created to foster closer cooperation between Europol and its leading non-law enforcement partners.

Group-IB's experience in threat hunting and cyber intelligence has been fused into an ecosystem of highly sophisticated software and hardware solutions designed to monitor, identify, and prevent cyberattacks. Group-IB's mission is to protect its clients in cyberspace every day by creating and leveraging innovative solutions and services.

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