

CI-TEAM Implementation Project: A Digital Forensics Cyberinfrastructure Workforce Training Initiative for America's Veterans

Drew Hamilton and Eric Imsand

Abstract:

A Digital Forensics Cyberinfrastructure Workforce Training Initiative for America's Veterans.

Auburn University, in partnership with Mississippi State University and Tuskegee University, has participated in a training program designed to provide wounded members of the US Armed Forces with training in digital/computer forensics. This program targets injured members of the US Armed Forces who are faced with unexpected career changes because of injuries suffered during combat. The personality traits exhibited law enforcement officers are frequently the same as those displayed by dedicated members of the armed forces. Digital forensics is an ideal field for these service members because it allows them to fulfill their desire to serve without requiring compromise because of injuries sustained during their military careers. This training program provides an introduction to the field of digital forensics and leaves trainees well prepared for further study in digital forensics as well as well positioned for a career in civilian law enforcement or IT incident response. The training is provided on base to service members prior to their separation from the Armed Forces and is free to the student, the base, and the US Department of Defense.



Digital Forensics:

What is "digital forensics"?
Forensics for digital devices:
- Computers
- Cell phones
- iPod/MP3 players
- And so on...



Gathering and analyzing evidence from these devices that is court admissible
Example: TSA Border Patrol detains a suspected terrorist
He has a computer with him
The computer contains bomb diagrams, information on WMD, and maps of the NY and DC systems
How can the DHS collect this data without compromising the evidence?

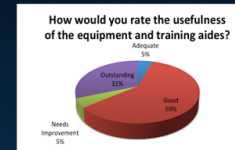
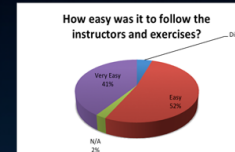
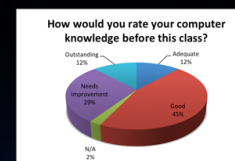
A Digital Forensics Workforce Training Initiative for America's Veterans:

- * Not a college course / no academic credit
- * No examinations or homework
- * Currently only offered to WTBs, WTUs, VA organizations and equivalent organizations in the other services
- * Is a quality course taught by professional academicians
- * Is nationally recognized
- * Is HANDS ON!
- * Attendees receive an NSF Certificate from AU, MSU & TU

Auburn CSI Camp, Jul 19-23, 2010				
Mon 7-19	Tues 7-20	Wed 7-21	Thur 7-22	Fri 7-23
9:00 am - 9:30 am Welcome (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	9:00 am - 10:00 pm Collecting and Preserving Digital Evidence (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	9:00 am - 10:00 pm Tools of the Trade, Part 1 (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	9:00 am - 10:00 pm Analyzing Digital Evidence (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	9:00 am - 10:00 pm Course Review (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand
10:00 am - 12:00 pm Computer Overview (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	10:00 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (Student Center)	10:00 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (Student Center)	10:00 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (Student Center)	10:00 am - 1:00 pm Lunch (Student Center)
12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch (Student Center)	1:00 - 4:30 pm Analyzing Digital Evidence (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	1:00 - 4:30 pm Tools of the Trade, Part 2 (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	1:00 - 4:30 pm Pursuing a Career in Digital Forensics (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	1:00 - 4:30 pm Case Study (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Introduction to Cyber-crime (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand			4:00 pm Graduation Ceremony (Shady Center - Rm 3120) POC - Eric Imsand	

CSI: Auburn:

- * Auburn University successfully engaged in outreach to high school students through the successful staging of the first "Digital CSI" Summer Camp at Auburn University.
- * This camp featured a total of twenty participants ranging in age from 14 to 17. The summer camp featured the same basic curriculum as the course taught to wounded warriors with a few minor changes.
- * The primary difference between the summer camp and the course given to veterans was that the lectures were altered slightly to make the delivery more appropriate for a younger audience.
- * During the summer camp there was also an increased emphasis on cyber-bullying and cyber-predator awareness in comparison to the class taught to wounded warriors.



Conclusion:

- * The Auburn University effort has focused on wounded veterans because these are the servicemen and women with the most need.
- * The Wounded Warrior community is difficult to penetrate and the NSF CI-Team program has been a critical enabler.
- * Training disabled veterans for job opportunities in the field of digital forensics clearly serves the national interest.
- * This program helps to alleviate the national shortage of digital forensic examiners.
- * Whenever we help even one wounded veteran, we have done something good for our country.