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# The KIT — Knowledge & Information Technology
## No. 209 - 1 Feb 2018

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## Cybersecurity Handbook for Lawyers

Vince Polley, who periodically gets a mention in this newsletter for his always useful publication called Miscellaneous IT-Related Legal News (MIRLN, pronounced "Merlin"), is now co-Chair of the American Bar Association Cybersecurity Legal Task Force. That group recently published a second edition of its Cybersecurity Handbook, mostly aimed at lawyers.

We should add that it is often useful to know what lawyers read -- when they come knocking ("Hi, I'm from the legal department and I'm here to help you!"), it helps being prepared for their questions. That might well be worth paying $90 ($72 for ABA members).

## Hyperledger Webinar

The Hyperledger Consortium is an umbrella open source project started in December 2015 by the Linux Foundation to support the collaborative development of blockchain-based distributed ledgers across industries.

In this webinar co-hosted by the Cloud Standards Customer Council on February 15 at 2:00 p.m. EST (19:00 GMT), Dan O'Prey and Tracy Kuhrt will present an update on the blockchain market, industry trends, and new Hyperledger projects. They will discuss the technical items delivered over the last 6 months and focus areas for Hyperledger in 2018.

## Data-Driven Modeling in Oil & Gas

A fair number of our readers come from the Oil & Gas industry. If you are a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), and live in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Golden Gate Section of the SPE will hold its next monthly meeting on February 7 at Stanford University. Dr. Pallav Sarma from Tachyus will give a presentation entitled *Data Driven Modeling and Optimization of Oil & Gas Assets*.

The meeting starts with a pizza lunch at 11:30 (you know, the price of oil isn't what it used to be...) and the talk will start at noon. The location is the Green Earth Sciences Building at 367 Panama St., Stanford, Room 104. There is a parking structure nearby. Please RSVP by February 5 to Prof. Roland Horne.

You can also save the date of the following meeting, March 13 at UC Berkeley, where Dr. Liz Percak-Denneta from Biota will present *400 Wells and Counting: How the O&G Industry is Using DNA Diagnostics to Gain Subsurface Insight."*

## Houston Cyber Summit

The Energy Conference Network is presenting a one-day event in Houston on February 28. In spite of the organizers' focus on the energy industry, this event seems to attract a much broader range of participants, including health, finance, academia and government. Most of the agenda consists of five panel discussions, preceded by a couple of keynote talks and a "live hack demonstration." The registration fee is fairly modest at $195.

## Smart Meters in the U.S.

Other countries may have been more aggressive at replacing traditional electrical meters with smart meters, but the U.S. is catching up. A report from the Institute for Electric Innovation (IEI), Electric Company Smart Meter Deployments: Foundation for a Smart Grid, identifies the innovations, benefits, and capabilities enabled by smart meters, and estimates that there were 76 million smart meters by the end of 2017 (about 60% of U.S. households) and that the number will reach 90 million (70%) by 2020.

Statistics, shmatistics... Statista gives a projection at 132 million meters by the end of 2020. That's a large discrepancy, and would represent essentially 100% deployment. Those numbers are suspect, because for some countries (France in particular) the projected number of smart meters is much higher than the number of households, and that can hardly be accounted for by adding industrial meters. *Caveat emptor.*

## SkillSoft Courses

The latest "technical interest bulletin" from the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) lists their 15 most popular courses. Omitting the basic technology subjects, which we assume are not what most of our readers are interested in at this point in their careers, here are some courses worth looking into:

- The Basics of Blockchain
- Core Services on Amazon Web Services
- Cryptography Fundamentals: Defining Cryptography
- DevOps Fundamentals: Tools, Technologies, and Infrastructures
- Google Cloud
- IT Project Management Essentials: Initiating and Planning IT Projects

## Seen Recently...

*"If you're looking for thoughtless validation of your idea, call someone else."*

--- Brenda M. Michelson, tweeting the attitude of the honest consultant