

Zyber Global

MARCH 2022 | ISSUE 20

MAKING DIGITAL SAFE WITH EXPERT CYBER SECURITY TRAINING

Welcome to the 20th Edition, March 2022 of Zyber Global Centre's monthly newsletter.

2022 is certainly living up to its billing as a year of change. In the UK in February, we experienced storm Eunice which literally for about 24 hours closed down the whole country. We experienced three storms that week Dudley, Eunice and Franklin (I am not sure how they decide on the names of these storms!). This is the first time since the storm-naming system was introduced in 2015 that we have had three named storms in a week.

I have also had the pleasure this month to be involved as a *Council of Europe Cybercrime Specialist*, both as a speaker and facilitator in the third and fourth Coordination Meetings on Cybercrime, which were held in Izmir and Adana, Turkey. It was a great honour for me, to be asked to give the keynote speech at both meetings, especially with the calibre of the other speakers and delegates who were there! I am looking forward to being involved in the fifth Coordination Meeting later this month.

We have asked '*what would you like to hear about?*' and you have answered! Thank You! Many requests came in asking for an article on "Metaverse". So, our feature article this month is on the "Metaverse" where we have explained what it is and the possible cybersecurity implications that may arise. We hope that you find it informative and interesting.

We continue with our usual features and ask that you continue to engage with us and let us know what topics on cybercrime you would like to hear more of. The next Stay Safe Online webinar is on the 31 March 2022, so do register early. Stay well!



**BEST REGARDS
ESTHER GEORGE**

Esther George, CEO Zyber Global Centre



This Month's Features

Zyber Focus

This article focuses on 'Metaverse' and its Cybersecurity implications.

Zyber News

We have a roundup of the latest international [cybercrime news](#).

Zyber Global Events Information

A focus on forums/conferences around the world.

"The future is here.....the Metaverse....Metaverse is a mixture of both the reality technologies – minus the clunky and uncomfortable machineries like VR headset – to make you feel like you have actually "teleported" to another place. This place could be a place in the Metaverse or a place on Earth."

Esther George, Cybercrime Specialist



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Zyber Focus Article

Metaverse and its Cybersecurity Implications

by
**Esther George & the
Zyber Global Research Team**

Metaverse is not actually a brand-new concept for me. Nor is it for anyone else that ever ventured on to “Second Life.” Second life was an online multimedia platform that was all the rage in the early 2000’s (around 2003 onwards). It was a virtual world although at the time I thought of it more as a game. I checked and I was surprised to find out that “Second Life.” still exists and has around a million users. Second Life still has some limitations though.

Metaverse is different to Second Life. Metaverse is an immersive digital world where you will ‘feel’ that you’re physically present. In a Metaverse, you will be within a cyber space with the help of virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies.

In a virtual reality, you wear a VR headset to experience an entirely different 3-D environment virtually. In an augmented reality technology, you add a digital object into your real environment using holograms or filters. Snapchat filters are one of the best examples of augmented technology.

Metaverse is a mixture of both the reality technologies – minus the clunky and uncomfortable machineries like VR headset – to make you feel like you have actually “teleported” to another place. This place could be a place in the Metaverse or a place on Earth.

Metaverse is presently in its developmental stage however some parts of it are still available in today’s world. Currently Metaverse is a cyberspace wherein you can interact, socialize, work, and play with others as avatars. In the future of Metaverse, one would be able to take items from a picture or a video and project them into the physical world as holograms in augmented reality. In the future of Metaverse, one would also be able to teleport using technologies like holograms.

Metaverse will let you play or interact with your friends either using your avatars (like you play on Snapchats currently) or by going to your friend’s house whilst staying at your own house (through holograms and other VR and AR technologies).

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

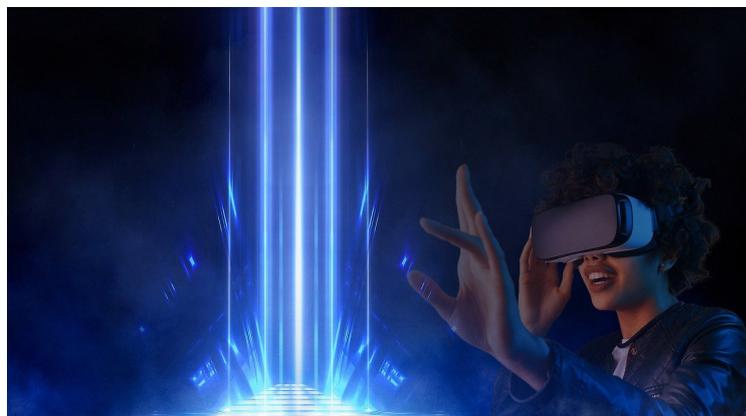
Facebook (Meta) has released its own Metaverse platform called Horizon that consists of the following parts: -

1. Horizon Home (Launched in October 2021): - After entering the Metaverse using Meta’s Quest Oculus goggles, Horizon home will be the first place that you’ll be, i.e., your own virtual home in the

Metaverse. One would be able to decorate their virtual homes, invite their friends and watch videos and hangout together as avatars.

2. Horizon World (Launched in December 2021): - In the horizon world, one can throw parties and create new games that people around the world could join. This would be possible through the VR technologies.
3. Horizon Workrooms (Launched in August 2021): Since the pandemic has made us to work remotely at our homes, horizon workplace will help people come together to work in a virtual meeting room to collaborate, communicate, and connect remotely using several features like mixed-reality desk and keyboard tracking, hand tracking, virtual whiteboard, remote desktop streaming, video conferencing integration, spatial audio, and the avatars. One can join a meeting in VR as an avatar or dial into the virtual room from their computer by video call. The room’s layout can also be changed according to the needs.
4. Horizon Marketplace (Not yet launched): - Horizon marketplace will be the place of commerce in the Metaverse wherein you could buy, sell, or share 3D digital objects related to your avatars or your virtual home like clothes, furniture, etc.

Metaverse is decentralized, i.e., it is not owned and controlled by a single firm and is a block chain-based platform. Apart from Facebook, a variety of companies – both mainstream and crypto native – have set up virtual headquarters in crypto Metaverses and regularly hold virtual events and festivals attended by thousands of people.



Since Metaverse is decentralized, like the internet no one government or group will own it or be able to secure the entire Metaverse. Platform owners will have to ensure that they have policies and enforce them to protect their users. Governments need to start now thinking about how they propose to secure and protect their citizens in the Metaverse.

Metaverse will be like Fort Knox to cybercriminals as its not only going to have all the data they could wish for; but it will also have a wealth of cryptocurrency with varying levels of protection. As more and more people join the Metaverse, the need to regulate it will become more urgent.

Read more: <https://zyberglobal.com/blog>



Zyber News Roundup

UK Police Recover Millions of Pounds Worth of Stolen Cryptocurrency

UK authorities have returned over £4 million in cryptocurrency to 23 victims, with another 127 people waiting to validate their claims. The money was recovered in 2021 in a large operation in the city of Manchester.

In this case, the Greater Manchester Police's Economic Crime Unit seized \$22.25 million (equivalent to just over £16 million) in July 2021 during an operation targeting a specific type of fraud.

"Victims based in the UK, United States, Europe, China, Australia and Hong Kong had deposited money, including life savings, into what they thought was an online savings and trading service using Binance Smart Chain, which stores and records transactions made in crypto-currency confirming their movement and value," said the Greater Manchester Police.

"The scammers operating the service waited until a significant amount of money had been deposited, before shutting down their website and transferring the funds into their own accounts." After the authorities received intelligence that the scammers were in the Manchester area, they tracked them down and recovered an encrypted USB stick containing \$9.5 million of stolen Ethereum. A few days later, the authorities also found a Cryptograph safety deposit box containing \$12.7 million.

"Anyone involved in these Crypto-currency and trading services are urged to take extreme caution and do a lot of research as there are still huge risks", said Detective Chief Inspector Joe Harrop, from GMP's Economic and Cyber Crime unit.

Read more:

<https://www.bitdefender.com/blog/hotforsecurity/uk-police-recover-millions-of-pounds-worth-of-stolen-cryptocurrency/>

Trudeau Revokes Emergencies Act, Says Current Laws Will 'Keep People Safe'

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau dropped emergency powers, saying they're no longer needed to quell trucker protests that occupied the country's capital and clogged trade routes. Trudeau said he has revoked the Emergencies Act a week after assuming its sweeping powers to address the so-called Freedom Convoy, a

protest started by truckers last month in response to new COVID-19 vaccination requirements.

"The situation is no longer an emergency; therefore, the federal government will be ending the use of the Emergencies Act," Trudeau said at a press conference. *"We are confident that existing laws and bylaws are sufficient to keep people safe."*

Trudeau became the first prime minister to invoke that Emergencies Act. The invocation gave his government authority to target the finances of protesting truckers, declare no-go zones and require towing companies to haul away vehicles, in addition to giving police more resources.

Read more: <https://www.newsweek.com/trudeau-revokes-emergencies-act-says-current-laws-will-keep-people-safe-1682114>

Iran's hackers are using these tools to steal passwords and deliver ransomware, say FBI and CISA

Hackers linked to the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence and Security are exploiting a range of vulnerabilities to conduct cyber espionage and other malicious attacks against organisations around the world, a joint alert by US and UK authorities has warned.

The advisory by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the U.S. Cyber Command Cyber National Mission Force (CNMF), and the United Kingdom's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) says an Iranian government-sponsored advanced hacking operation known as MuddyWater is going after a wide range of targets. These include telecommunications, defence, local government, and oil and natural gas organisations across Asia, Africa, Europe, and North America. According to CISA, the aim of the attacks is to gain access to networks to steal passwords and sensitive information "to share these with other malicious cyber actors".

The group are known to exploit publicly reported vulnerabilities and use open-source tools and strategies to gain access to sensitive data on victims' systems and deploy ransomware, the agencies said.

Many of the campaigns leverage phishing attacks to coax targets into downloading ZIP files containing Excel files with malicious macros or PDFs that drop malicious payloads.

Read more: <https://www.zdnet.com/article/irans-hackers-are-using-these-tools-to-steal-passwords-and-deliver-ransomware-say-fbi-and-cisa/>



Zyber Global Events Information Page

GLOBAL CYBERSECURITY EVENTS

<p style="text-align: center;">Future of Information and Communication Conference (FICC) 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 03-04, 2022 - Virtual</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">International Conference on Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Cyberthreats</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 11-12, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Miami, United States</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">International Conference on Cloud Forensics and Cybercrime</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 28-29, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Singapore</p>
<p>The Information and Communication is playing an increasing role in society and within our lives. Recognizing this, FICC 2022 aims to provide a forum for researchers from both academia and industry to share their latest research contributions, future vision in the field and potential impact across industries.</p> <p>This conference will feature paper presentations, poster presentations, tutorials, project demonstrations, as well as keynote speech by renowned technology experts and authorities. FICC is part of the SAI Conferences, a group of annual conferences produced by The Science and Information (SAI) Organization, based in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>Register for the - Future of Information and Communication Conference (FICC) 2022 - see below.</p>	<p>International Conference on Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Cyberthreats aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Cyberthreats.</p> <p>It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Cyberthreats.</p> <p>Register for the International Conference on Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Cyberthreats - see below.</p>	<p>International Conference on Cloud Forensics and Cybercrime aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Cloud Forensics and Cybercrime.</p> <p>It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Cloud Forensics and Cybercrime.</p> <p>Register for the International Conference on Cloud Forensics and Cybercrime - see below.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">For further information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://saiconference.com/FICC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">For further information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://waset.org/cybersecurity-cybercrime-and-cyberthreats-conference-in-march-2022-in-miami</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">For further information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://waset.org/cloud-forensics-and-cybercrime-conference-in-march-2022-in-singapore</p>



Zyber Global Online Events

Our Online Courses with INsig2

Sign up now at <https://insig2-and-zyberglobal.learnworlds.com/>

Courses per sectors



Legal Entities

Customized courses for legal entities: judges, lawyers and public prosecutors. Explore deeper aspects of digital forensics and the forensic value of evidence while collecting, processing, and presenting digital evidence in criminal and administrative proceedings.



Law Enforcement

Customized courses for law enforcement officials: First responders, forensic investigators and analysts. Delve into procedures, techniques, and tools used in digital forensic analysis and how to apply them in forensic investigations.



Private Sector Corporations and Small Businesses.

Customized courses for industry professionals working in the private sector; to help them understand the value and the need for digital forensic, and its implications in a corporate environment.

Course Structure

***FULL-TEXT REVISION**

***QUIZ AFTER EACH CHAPTER**

***CASE-STUDY AFTER FINAL EXAM**

At the end of each course, you will be issued a completion e-certificate which is immediately printable for your records. The number of **CPD** (Continuing Professional Development), **CPE** (Continuing Professional Education), and/or **CLE** (Continuing Legal Education) points will depend on the course.

DISCOUNTS

Special discount for groups of 10+ participants on all courses. The bigger the group, the bigger the discount.

BUNDLES

Stay on your forensic digital learning path and get the most from your e-learning experience by using course bundles.

<https://bit.ly/31NRYsj>

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This covers different lock security methods, guidelines on securely storing your passwords, various password managers and how to use them.

<https://bit.ly/3eMu7ED>

