



Press Release
5th March 2019

nullcon Goa 2019 talks hacking elections, disinformation, cybersecurity and more.

Goa, India; 5th Mar 2019 – the 10th annual edition of nullcon – an information security conference, training & exhibition platform was held in Goa from 26th Feb to 5th Mar 2019. The eight days of security & privacy event saw a great line-up of talks, workshops, panel discussions, technical training and a broad variety of exciting events like CTFs, StartVille, Job Fair, Hackers Carnival, etc. to help & shape the future of cybersecurity industry in India.

A newly piloted initiative - StartVille promoted research in startups & recognized the best innovative product in cybersecurity. The award for StartVille cybersecurity startup of the year 2019 went to [HaltDos](#) – A DDoS mitigation solution company.

The event consisted of more than 32 talks and 9-panel discussions which covered diverse security topics. In addition to the talks and panel discussion, nullcon also hosted exhibition, workshops, hacking competitions, resume clinic, job fair, and other events at the conference.

Antriksh Shah, Assem Jakhar and Murtuja Bharmal, the founders of nullcon, has been a pioneer in cyber security and through this event they are bringing renowned speakers and security researchers from both the corporate and government organizations together to explore new perspectives in this field and create an interactive platform to discuss innovative ideas and views.



Keynote panel on hacking elections, (from left to right) Hari Krishna Prasad Vemuru, Eva Galperin, Anand Venkatanarayanan & Pukhraj Singh.

On 2nd March, the event started with a Keynote panel on **“Hacking Elections for Fun & Profit: Disinformation & Cognitive Cyber-Offence”**. It was moderated by Pukhraj Singh, cyber threat intelligence analyst, with participation from Eva Galperin, Director of Cybersecurity at the Electronic Frontier Foundation; Hari Krishna Prasad Vemuru, Tech Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and Anand Venkatanarayanan, security researcher. India has borne the brunt of trenchant disinformation which has now become the modus operandi of nearly all major political parties. The moderator of the panel flags it as an emerging, non-partisan national security issue. The Iranians were recently found to be undertaking influence operations which tried to polarize the domestic Indian polity with divisive internal agendas. Pukhraj Said in the end “Diversity beats audacity when it comes to information warfare... homogeneity is more prone to being hacked...”

Third day of conference i.e. 3rd March saw two different tracks - Nullcon Underground which was invite-only fuzzing and vulnerability research track & Media Track for journalists, editors, and media professionals to help them adopt channels for secure communication and storage of confidential data/sources and avoid surveillance/mobile tracking.

nullcon Goa 2019 sponsors include: Bugcrowd, NCC Group, Null, NCIIPC,

NTRO, Airtel Business, Microsoft, Shell, Looking Glass, Crowdfense, Checkmarx, Darkmatter, Notsosecure, Deloitte, Vmware, Bosch, Salesforce, Hackerone, Linkedin, DNIF, DSCI, VVDN Technologies, Audius, SSD.

For more information about nullcon Goa 2019, please contact Pratik Ghumade on +91 9004711577 or pratik@nullcon.net

About nullcon:

nullcon was founded in 2010 with the idea of providing an integrated platform for exchanging information on the latest attack vectors, zero-day vulnerabilities and unknown threats. Our motto 'The neXt security thing!' drives the narrative of the conference, where security researchers and experts discuss and showcase the future of information security and the next-generation of offensive and defensive security technology. The idea started as a gathering for researchers and organizations to brain storm and demonstrate why the current technology is not sufficient and what should be the focus for the coming years pertaining to information security.

nullcon is managed and marketed by Payatu Technologies Pvt Ltd. The idea of nullcon emerged out of null - the open security community, a registered not-for-profit society and the largest active security community in India with over 14 chapters in major cities.