



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Ksplice Wins the Cyber Security Challenge 2009 Award

Innovative software delivers security updates without a reboot

**London, 18 August 2009:** Ksplice has been voted the winner of the '**GSC Cyber Security Challenge**' award, by an expert judging committee. The award brings with it a **£5,000** cash grant, sponsored by **BAE Systems** and mentorship from Nick Kingsbury, an experienced international software entrepreneur and venture capitalist. This inaugural competition was provided by the Global Security Challenge (GSC), the international leader of innovation challenges in security.

Ksplice, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, is an enterprise software company offering to make systems more secure, reliable, and maintainable through seamless updates. Organizations use Utrack, Ksplice's first product, to keep their Linux systems up to date and secure without incurring the disruption and downtime of rebooting. ([www.ksplice.com](http://www.ksplice.com))

Commenting on the award win, **Waseem Daher, Chief Operating Officer and co-founder of Ksplice** said: "We are honoured at the enthusiastic response to our product. Currently, far too many systems are perpetually out of date and insecure due to the widespread and longstanding limitation that software must be restarted to apply updates. Ksplice solves a major security problem by making it possible to apply updates to running software without restarting it. We thank the Global Security Challenge for creating valuable opportunities for promising security companies, and we thank BAE Systems for sponsoring the Cyber Security Challenge."

The founders of the **GSC, Simon Schneider and Janeen Chupa**, commented in a joint statement: "We applaud all competitors in our Cyber Security Challenge for their creativity, technical knowledge and business savvy, which provided a difficult task for the judges when deciding on the winner. The judges' decision to select Ksplice as the winner reflects its high potential for a disruptive technology with global applications."

The healthy share of submissions from Europe (38%) reveals the growing prevalence of entrepreneurial capabilities in cyber security outside the US, which accounted for 89% of all venture investments in this sector in 2008."

The two runners-up of the award, each receiving £2000 in cash grants, were:

- SCIT Labs Inc from Virginia, USA - has developed a new approach to security intrusion tolerance, by shifting the focus from intrusion avoidance to containing the losses.

- ExactTrak from the UK – their Security Guardian product addresses the rapidly growing problem of mobile data security via the integration of encryption, GPS, GSM and RF technology into a 8GB USB memory stick.

All finalists will be showcasing their products at the GSC Security Summit in London on 13 November 2009. Tickets are now on sale at the GSC's website:

[www.globalsecuritychallenge.com](http://www.globalsecuritychallenge.com).

- Ends -

### **Entry Criteria for the Cyber Security Challenge 2009 Award**

- Applicants had to offer a technology product/idea that could be used to prevent, defend against, recover from or cope with terrorist incidents and other criminal acts in the digital/online space.
- Areas of interest included, but were not limited to: data protection, user authentication, penetration testing, network protection, spam prevention, anti-malware, identification of data theft, detection of dormant threats on corporate servers, tackling of identity theft on the internet and defences for virtualised computing resource.
- Researchers in universities, individuals performing research, pre-revenue stage companies and small businesses with no more than £5 million (GBP) in annual revenues in 2008, were welcome to enter.

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About Global Security Challenge LLP**

The Global Security Challenge LLP (GSC) is a forum for security innovators, start-ups and investors. It provides a valuable launching pad for security innovation and each year over \$500,000 USD is awarded in its world leading competitions to entrepreneurs and researchers within the security technology field. The mission of the GSC is to stimulate technological innovations that make airports, cities and enterprises safer without encroaching on civil liberties. Top contenders from previous GSC competitions have subsequently raised over \$55 million in new capital.

Simon Schneider and Janeen Chupa founded the Global Security Challenge whilst studying at the London Business School, and gained experience in the security technology sector at IBM and the US National Security Council respectively. The GSC is supported by Accenture, BAE Systems, Blue Star Capital, London Business School, ONR Global, Smiths Detection, Control Risks, TSWG, UKTI and the US Department of Homeland Security, amongst others.

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