

Security – A Major Topic of the 2013 Mobile World Congress



Mobile is more pervasive than ever before and soon nearly everything around us, people and things, will be connected. Mobile has forever changed the way we communicate, the way we conduct business, the way we manage our lives, and the way we are entertained. The possibilities for future innovations are nearly endless.

During the four days of the *Mobile World Congress 2013* (25-28 February 2013), the conference program will highlight the impact of mobile on individuals and businesses – in developed and developing markets – across a range of industries. As always, the conference program will challenge and educate attendees, providing essential insights on the latest technological developments, market opportunities, next-generation services, and devices which are shaping mobile communications.

Thought leaders and industry experts from the most influential companies within the expanding mobile value chain will be participating in more than 40 conference sessions at Mobile World Congress, from thought-provoking and visionary keynote presentations to interactive panel sessions, all addressing the most pressing topics in mobile.

The mobile ecosystem is expanding at lightning speed, with endless innovation and new applications of mobile technology. From contactless payments and augmented reality to embedded devices and connected cities – mobile technology is changing the landscape. The impact mobile will have on the world is limitless.

The main components that make up the *Mobile World Congress 2013* are the following ones:

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- A world-class thought-leadership conference featuring visionary keynotes and panel discussions;
- A cutting-edge product and technology exhibition featuring 1,500 exhibitors;
- The world's best venue for seeking industry opportunities, making deals, and networking;
- App Planet, the Centre of the Mobile Apps Universe, where the mobile app community gathers to learn, network and engage with innovators;
- mPowered Brands, where marketers, advertisers and global brands explore the possibilities in mobile marketing and
- Global Mobile Awards program, where we recognize advancements and achievements in the industry.

The theme of the **Mobile World Congress 2013 (MWC 2013)** from Barcelona is “The New Mobile Horizon” in recognition of the immense progress that mobile technology is making to transform the way we live, work and communicate across the world.

Below are the main areas on which MWC 2013 will be focused: Advertising/Marketing; Applications; BSS/OSS; Business Models; Cloud Services; Converged Networks; Devices; Economic/Social Impact of Mobile; Embedded Mobile – Automotive, Consumer Electronics; Intelligent Networks; Near Field Communication (NFC); Network Management Strategies; Next-Generation Networks; Security; Social Media a.o.

Security – A Major Issue of MWC 2013

- With the rise of smartphones during the last few years, mobile technologies have become a major focus of security research — and for good reason. Many of today's mobile phones are actually mini computers that store a wealth of sensitive data and this makes them attractive targets for attackers. Some smartphone vendors have implemented NFC technology to enable contactless mobile payments. Users only have to wave their phones over NFC-capable devices to complete a transaction. Security researchers are expected to disclose new vulnerabilities in near field communication (NFC), mobile baseband firmware, HTML5 and Web application firewalls and to present them during **MWC 2013**.
- The Third Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) has been specifying the standards of Long Term Evolution (LTE) for 3G radio access. The security concerns in wireless networks might have prevented its further widespread adoption. Layered security approach in LTE will be analyzed during the congress.
- World leading telecom technology manufacturers and network operators have initiated a joint initiative aimed at driving forward the realization of the next generation of high performance mobile broadband networks based on 3GPP LTE/SAE specifications. During the **MWC 2013** the security mechanisms for secure fast handover during Inter-RAT handover,

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particularly handover between 3GPP and non-3GPP networks will be discussed.

- Studies of security advances and challenges associated with emergent 4G wireless technologies will be presented during the congress. The security standards evolution across different generations of wireless standards will be analyzed. Security issues and vulnerabilities present in the above 4G standards will be discussed, too.



The journal “*International Journal of Information Security and Cybercrime - IJISC*” will be at **MWC 2013** and we will present the main topics related to the security of mobile communication networks in the future issues of this journal.

Professor **Ioan BACIVAROV**, PhD
University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Romania