

EU security agency ENISA announces plans to focus on Internet of Things (IoT) security in 2016, since an estimated €640 billion is at risk from increased hacking and cyberattacks.



According to the agency the European cyber security market is worth €20.1bn. ENISA aims to maximise this contribution by acting as "the hub for exchange of information on cybersecurity" between EU public and private sectors, as well as member states.

It will also continue research into the security of machine-to-machine communications employed within homes, workplaces and public infrastructure across the continent, and suggest standard policies and requirements pertaining to the IoT throughout the EU. IoT devices pose life-threatening risks in case of security breach, due to use in cars, drug-infusion pumps and plane navigation systems.

"The Management Board adopted a challenging work programme for 2016, given the limited resources of the Agency and the rapidly evolving cyber landscape. Member States recognise the importance of key initiatives by ENISA," executive director Udo Helbrecht says. "The Agency is in the unique position to support the DSM initiative by providing the solutions and knowledge for investment and deployment of electronic services in the EU internal market, supporting the economic benefits of Europe from the cyber market creating value from effective security."

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