Security at NetWorld+Interop

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John Gallant, the President and Editorial Director of Network World, has asked me to pass on a special request for suggestions. He’s going to be running a special session at NetWorld+Interop and wants ideas on particular questions you, our readers, would like him to ask a panel of security experts. Here’s John’s invitation.

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Many of you already plan to attend the NetWorld+Interop conference in Las Vegas May 5-10, 2002, but if you're on the fence about going I [John Gallant] hope this convinces you to head out to sun city.

With the help of the show's organizers, I've pulled together a special plenary session on security - a topic that has rocketed to the top of the list of "things that keep me up at night". We've got an all-star group of speakers who will explore the most dangerous threats to our networks, the new tools that will help us deal with those threats, as well as the issues that will shape security for the future.

The session is called: Cyberland Defense: Rethinking Network Security for a Dangerous World. It will be held on Wednesday, May 8 beginning at 5pm.

Joining me up on stage will be:

- Robert Thomas, CEO of NetScreen Technologies, which provides high-performance firewall and virtual private network systems.

- Sandra England, executive vice president for business development and strategic research with Network Associates, one of the biggest names in security.

- Christopher Klaus, founder and chief technology officer for Internet Security Systems, which is well known for its intrusion detection and response technologies.

- Henry Fiallo, CEO of Enterasys, which has made security a key facet of its infrastructure strategy.

- Keith Rhodes, chief technologist for the U.S. General Accounting Office. Rhodes has brought his deep security expertise to bear on a variety of efforts within the federal government.

Our focus will be on defining where our public and private networks are most vulnerable, and to explore what corporations and government agencies need to do to shore up these critical infrastructure resources. We'll also be discussing some innovative new technologies that could - maybe - finally help us get ahead of the thugs, crooks, nuts and others who want to disrupt our e-business and personal communications.
This session builds upon the special Webcast we conducted in March, featuring Howard Schmidt, the government's top infrastructure protection guru. You can view that Webcast by clicking on <www.nwfusion.com/media/webcast/index.html>.

I could use your help to make this N+I session a success. What questions do you want me to ask these experts? Which issues are most pressing for you? Please drop me a note at <mailto:jgallant@nww.com> with your ideas and thoughts. I'll try to ensure that they get answered.

Thanks, and I hope to see you there.

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