# NCSA and Google Cloud to Bolster Security for Thailand's Cyberspace Through Collaboration on Al-Powered Cyber Defense

NCSA and Google Cloud will engage in threat intelligence sharing and incident response capability building to address evolving cyber threats and boost online safety for Thai citizens and residents

Launched with MDES during Safer Songkran in 2024, Google Play Protect's antiscam feature has successfully blocked more than 6.6 million high-risk app installation attempts to date

This year, new and enhanced mobile security measures have been added to Google Play Protect to further safeguard Thais from social engineering attacks

Bangkok, Thailand, April 2, 2025 – In conjunction with Safer Songkran, a Safer with Google initiative, Thailand's National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) and Google Cloud today announced a strategic collaboration to bolster the cyber resilience of Thailand's digital landscape. This collaboration will leverage AI and intelligence-driven cyber defense, enabling public sector entities and citizens to continue realizing the benefits of digital transformation while protecting them against cybercrime and malicious cyber attacks.

The NCSA and Google Cloud collaboration complements ongoing efforts by the Royal Thai Government and Google to enhance online safety for mobile users in Thailand. Google also announced today that its anti-scam feature within Google Play Protect, launched in partnership with the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society (MDES) in 2024, has blocked more than 6.6 million high-risk app installation attempts to date. In addition, Google has unveiled enhanced mobile security measures to further protect Thais against social engineering tactics employed by cybercriminals.

Today's announcements follow the <u>meeting</u> in January 2025 between Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, executives from MDES and NCSA, and Google Cloud's Asia Pacific leadership to explore deeper cybersecurity collaboration. It also builds on the government and Google's <u>ongoing collaboration</u> to strengthen Thailand's digital competitiveness and accelerate Al innovation.

Prasert Jantararuangtong, Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Economy and Society, said: "Strengthening cybersecurity and combating online scams are paramount and urgent priorities for the government, especially as organizations and individuals increasingly embrace digital innovation. We commend Google for its proactive and continuous efforts in collaborating with us to safeguard citizens online through its cyber literacy programs and implementation of enhanced anti-scam features in Google Play Protect on Android devices. We're delighted to be deepening our partnership with Google. This collaboration will involve NCSA joining forces with Google Cloud, leveraging its <u>industry-leading</u> security operations expertise to develop cutting-edge, national-level solutions that enhance our country's cyber resilience."

Amorn Chomchoey, Secretary General, National Cyber Security Agency (Thailand), said: "In line with our belief that robust cyber defense requires a combination of skilled talent and the right technology, we've been providing training programs and toolkits to help state entities and enterprises improve their cybersecurity posture. Building on these initiatives, our partnership with Google Cloud will be a significant force multiplier. Best-in-class capabilities like Google Cloud Cybershield will augment our existing solutions while Mandiant will serve as an extension of our expert teams. Collectively, this will reinforce our capacity to stay ahead of future cyber threats and maintain a safe digital space for all Thais."

# A coordinated national cyber defense strategy

NCSA plans to deploy Google Cloud Cybershield, which combines automation, analytics, threat intelligence, and AI, for centralized monitoring of security events across public sector entities. This will enable the <a href="https://doi.org/10.10/10.25/">This will enable the <a href="https://doi.org/10.10/20.25/">This will enable the <a href="https://doi.org/10.10/20.

The collaboration will also cover:

- Threat intelligence: Google Cloud and NCSA will engage in threat intelligence sharing to support government-wide cyber defense operations. This includes NCSA being provided with access to <u>Google Threat Intelligence</u>, which includes <u>Mandiant</u>'s frontline threat intelligence and <u>VirusTotal</u>'s threat database. This will enrich the government's understanding of new and prevalent tactics, techniques, and procedures used by cybercriminals and state-sponsored actors targeting public sector entities.
- Incident response expertise: Mandiant consultants will provide specialized <a href="https://hands-on training">hands-on training</a> in areas like incident response, digital forensics, and malware analysis to qualified information security professionals from public sector entities selected by NCSA. These professionals will be equipped with skills to rapidly detect, triage, and respond to sophisticated threats and intrusion scenarios, expanding the pool of cyber defense experts within Thailand's public sector while reinforcing its readiness to combat future cyber challenges.

## Protecting Thai citizens and residents from unsafe websites

Beyond national cyber defense, the collaboration will further enhance online safety for individual users. NCSA and Google Cloud plan to integrate Google Cloud Web Risk into government workflows to protect Thai citizens and residents from online scam and phishing websites.

Web Risk APIs will provide the government with real-time threat intelligence on sites that host malware or other types of unsafe web resources. This information will be used to augment NCSA's existing capabilities, enabling its teams to evaluate a higher volume of websites, proactively block user access to dangerous URLs, warn users about unsafe links, and prevent the spread of harmful content.

Web Risk utilizes the same advanced AI models that power<u>Google Safe Browsing</u>. These models evaluate more than 10 billion URLs and files daily to identify those that violate <u>Safe Browsing policies</u>, adding them to a threat intelligence repository and blocklist that protects <u>more than five billion devices</u> within minutes.

Annop Siritikul, Country Director, Thailand, Google Cloud, said: "Thailand's digital economy is set togrow from US\$46 billion in 2024 to at least US\$100 billion by 2030. At Google Cloud, we believe we can contribute meaningfully toward the collective cyber defense that's required to safeguard this future growth. We look forward to partnering deeply with MDES and NCSA to deliver scalable, next-generation cybersecurity solutions. By bringing together Mandiant's frontline threat intelligence and expertise with Google Cloud's Al advancements for security, we'll continue to help governments around the world supercharge security operations and respond holistically to keep their citizens and critical assets safe."

### Enhanced mobile security measures to combat call-based scams

During Safer Songkran in 2024, MDES and Google established Thailand as one of the first countries globally tomplement a new anti-scam feature in Google Play Protect. This feature has since blocked more than 6.6 million installation attempts of potentially malicious apps from internet-sideloading sources on more than 1.4 million Android devices in Thailand.

Further reinforcing its commitment to online safety, Google has implemented additional mobile security measures in conjunction with this year's Safer Songkran. By default, the toggle switch for turning off Play Protect's app scanning feature will now be disabled during standard phone calls, as well as voice and video calls within popular third-party apps. These new measures directly combat the rise of cybercriminals using social engineering tactics during calls with users to deceive them into turning off Play Protect to download malicious apps from internet-sideloading sources.

Safer Songkran is a Safer with Google initiative that equips Thais with essential knowledge and tools to protect themselves against online scams and phishing.

# **About National Cyber Security Agency (Thailand)**

The National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) of Thailand is the principal organization dedicated to enhancing the nation's cybersecurity readiness and resilience. Established under the Cybersecurity Act of 2019, NCSA works to safeguard Thailand's critical information infrastructure (CII) and ensure national security in the face of evolving cyber threats. NCSA formulates cybersecurity policies, coordinates incident response, and fosters collaboration between public and private sectors. By partnering with global cybersecurity organizations, international computer emergency response teams (CERTs), and law enforcement agencies, NCSA strives to protect the country's digital infrastructure, promote public safety, and maintain Thailand's leadership in cybersecurity on the global stage. Learn more on NCSA's website and Facebook page.

# **About Google Cloud**

Google Cloud is the new way to the cloud, providing AI, infrastructure, developer, data, security, and collaboration tools built for today and tomorrow. Google Cloud offers a powerful, fully integrated and optimized AI stack with its own planet-scale infrastructure, custom-built chips, generative AI models and development platform, as well as AI-powered applications, to help organizations transform. Customers in more than 200 countries and territories turn to Google Cloud as their trusted technology partner.

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