



Influential Security Leaders Gather in Oman for IDC Security Roadshow

Muscat – International Data Corporation (IDC) yesterday hosted more than 160 of Oman’s most influential security decision makers at the Hormuz Grand Muscat for the 2019 edition of the IDC Security Roadshow. Running under the theme of 'Business Security: Risk & Resilience', the finely-tuned event served as an exclusive information-sharing forum and networking platform for senior security executives from the region’s most prominent enterprises.

Uzair Mujtaba, IDC's program manager for IT services in Saudi Arabia, opened proceedings by presenting the event's keynote address, which was titled 'Security Strategies in the Era of Widespread Innovation'. "Organizations across the Middle East and Africa are increasingly trying to strike a balance between keeping the lights on and improving business agility," said Mujtaba. "Digital transformation strategies and shifting industry dynamics are driving them to innovate and experiment with new types of technologies, which in turn are creating a complex ecosystem that is beset by new IT security challenges. In this new era, IT security is no longer limited to protecting technology assets; it must also ensure business resiliency. Consequently, as digital transformation initiatives progress, the pressure is mounting on organizations to build business-level strategies for security."

Saleh Rashid AL Himali, a systems security specialist at Oman's Information Technology Authority, maintained the focus on digital transformation by exploring the ways in which artificial intelligence and blockchain are set to shape the future of cybersecurity. He was followed by Yahya Alazri, director of national public key infrastructure within the Information Technology Authority, who addressed the importance of ensuring data integrity and confidentiality while implementing and enforcing cybersecurity initiatives.

The agenda also included interactive panel sessions that explored the very latest IT security best practices and stressed the need for organizations to develop a comprehensive enterprise-wide security strategy that incorporates an effective response plan capable of adapting to rising threat complexities. These sessions included contributions from some of Oman’s most prominent security thought leaders, including:

- **Sanjeev Madavi**, director of technology at Oman Logistics Center
- **Faris Abdullah Al-Kharusi**, business transformation lead for petroleum engineering at Petroleum Development Oman

• **Muruganandam Manickam**, head of cybersecurity governance & threat management at Bank Muscat

IDC's valued partners for the IDC Security Roadshow 2019 in Muscat included the Information Technology Authority as **Strategic Partner**; Check Point, ManageEngine, Carbon Black, and Juniper Networks (in association with Fireware) as **Silver Partners**; and Securrent as **Exhibit Partner**.

For more information about the IDC Security Roadshow 2019, please visit www.idcitsecurity.com. You can also search for news or tweet about the event using the hashtag **#IDCITSECURITY**.

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