

Protecting Japanese Cyber Security Even After the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The legacy left by Cyber Colosseo



YASUDA Shingo

Senior Researcher
Cyber Training Laboratory
National Cyber Training Center

He joined NICT in 2013 after working for graduate school.

He is interested in construction and operation for large-scale network experiments, and Application to cyber security training and human resource development. Ph.D. (Information Science).



KANAHAMA Nobuhiro

Senior Technical Researcher
Cyber Training Laboratory
National Cyber Training Center

He joined NICT in 2016 after working as a hardware vendor and as an instructor and developer of educational materials related to cybersecurity. He is primarily engaged in scenario development for cybersecurity exercises. His hobby is soldering.

The Olympics and Paralympics have been targeted by cyberattacks at every Games since the cyberattacks that targeted the London 2012 Olympic/Paralympic Games. Cyber Colosseo is supporting the smooth operation of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games, and will be implementing a variety of curriculum even after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games so that the security personnel who can support Japan will be left as a legacy.

Cyber Colosseo overview

The Olympic and Paralympic Games of recent years have become attractive targets for cyberattacks by criminals. The National Cyber Training Center is conducting Cyber Colosseo, a cybersecurity human resources development project, in preparation for these kinds of cyberattacks at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games and to support the smooth operation of the Games (Figure 1).

Cyber Colosseo is recruiting participants from staff of the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee (hereinafter "the Organizing Committee") and its contracted vendors through the Organizing Committee. The project, which started in FY2017, has gradually been expanding in scale, and in 2020 is aiming to train 220 individuals with the three Colosseo Exercise levels (beginner level, intermediate level, and pre-advanced level), which will be described later. In addition to

the Organizing Committee-related organizations, there are external organizations that support the Tokyo 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games. Cyber Colosseo has secured a wide range of target organizations by collaborating with CYDER, which is practical cyber-defense exercises put on by the National Cyber Training Center for local public institutions, and is focusing on training staff that are connected to the Organizing Committee.

Cyber Colosseo curriculum

The Olympic and Paralympic Games are some of the world's largest events, and it is expected that there will be an array of cyberattacks against them for financial purposes and terrorist plots. In order to hold the Games in that kind of situation, it is necessary to have not just the protective skills and technology of individual people, but also the organizational strength of defensive skills and technology that come from the trust, cooperation, and collaboration between departments. As such, Cyber Colosseo works in close collaboration with the Organizing Committee to provide training through two types of curriculum, the Colosseo Exercises and the Colosseo College, which are aimed at both real experiences/raising the level of technical skills and at fostering collaboration between organizations and departments.

Colosseo Exercises: Knowing the attacker's unexpected mindset and polishing defenses

As shown in Table 1, the Colosseo Exercises consist of three levels: beginner level, intermediate level, and pre-advanced level, consisting of multiple courses at each level, in consideration of abilities and organizational professions, for a total of seven courses. Training with exercises from the attacker's perspective are also conducted in addition to incident response training particularly for the intermediate level courses

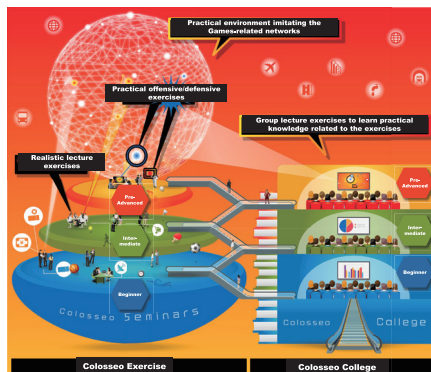


Figure 1 Cyber Colosseo business