

## Press Release

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### STATE AWARD NOMINATION FOR AIT CYBER SECURITY SOLUTION "THREATGET"

Innovative cyber security management system supports AI-based development of highly secure digital systems

The innovative cyber security management system ThreatGet was selected from around 200 submitted projects as one of the six nominees for the Austrian State Prize Consulting 2022 in the category "Management Consulting and IT". The system and the associated risk management consulting for highly secure IT and electronic systems were jointly developed by the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology and Sparx Services CE, a business unit of Lieber.Group, and have already won several awards.

ThreatGet was first introduced in 2019 as a new development method for the development of highly secure digital systems. It supports developers:inside of digital systems in ensuring that threats - supported by Artificial Intelligence (AI) - are avoided through smart development approaches in system design. The special approach of the system is that security analyses are not only carried out on the finished product through test processes, but accompany the entire development process from the conception of the overall system to its implementation (security-by-design).

As early as 2020, ThreatGet's special innovation was confirmed by the Austrian eAward in the "Industry 4.0" category and has since been further developed and tested in industry. Sparx Services CE, for example, developed a comprehensive consulting approach together with AIT to embed the use of the new development tool in a holistic risk management system. This concept was awarded 1st prize in the Constantinus Award 2021 in the Digitalization / Internet of Things (IoT) category and has now also been selected as one of the six nominees for the State Consulting Award "Management Consulting and IT" 2022. Thus, ThreatGet once again proved its outstanding quality in the competition of a total of 191 projects in the various preliminary rounds.

Helmut Leopold, Head of Center for Digital Safety & Security at AIT: "We would like to congratulate Sparx Services CE on their nomination for the State Prize for Consulting. In order to master our increasingly complicated and comprehensive digitalization, new approaches for the secure development of digital systems are absolutely necessary. By combining Sparx Services CE's risk management consulting approach with the Security by Design tool ThreatGet developed at AIT, new standards are set in the development of resilient digital systems in markets with high security requirements, such as the automotive or manufacturing industries."

### ThreatGet's field of application greatly expanded

Initially, ThreatGet was focused on automotive system development, as the new UN R155 regulation on cybersecurity became mandatory for all new vehicle types in the EU in July 2022. This requires a risk analysis for the vehicle and a security-by-design approach, prerequisites that can be implemented in an exemplary manner with ThreatGet.

Building on the experience gained through the use of ThreatGet in the automotive sector and the increasing cross-industry interest in the innovative security system, AIT Expert:innen published another AI-supported database of known cyber threats for the industrial sector in spring 2022. This means that "Security by Design" is now also available for the development of safety-critical systems in the field of e.g. "Industrial Internet of Things" (IIoT) and was presented, among other things, at the Hannover Messe 2022 at the joint stand of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.

**Peter Lieber**, founder and owner of Sparx Services CE: "We are very proud of the nomination for the State Award Consulting "Management Consulting and IT" 2022 for ThreatGet and the associated holistic consulting approach. Thanks to the successful and long-standing cooperation with AIT, the ThreatGet Cyber Security Management System is now so broadly positioned that we can now reach all industrial sectors and even banks and insurance companies with it. With the experience we have gained in the field, the system's rule set can be used for virtually all cyber security requirements, and we are thus delivering a comprehensive solution for security-by-design."

ThreatGet also covers ISO/IEC27001 certification requirements and provides companies and organizations with clear guidance on cyber security. There are also plans to expand the knowledge bases to include threat potential for areas such as healthcare and security-critical infrastructure. Other risk analyses will soon be possible, and last but not least, the NIS Directive (EU-wide legislation on cyber security for network and information security) will also be met.

### Partner model bears fruit and creates new jobs

With the holistic consulting approach developed by Sparx Services CE for ThreatGet, the target group of IT security consultants with end customers in the environment of security-critical infrastructure is specifically addressed and supported. Thus, consultants no longer address the security department exclusively, but introduce the process model already in the system development phase. This means that new target groups - people from the enterprise or system architecture and those responsible for quality - are reached. At the same time, the consultants become familiar with a methodology that will become established in many industrial sectors in the coming years: Model-based system development.

The partner model presented in 2021 has already triggered a positive employment effect due to its clear commercial orientation. At msg Plaut, for example, a team of specialists has been created in Austria alone with and through ThreatGet. msg Plaut is a corporate group with independent companies in Austria, CEE and CIS and employs around 600 people in seven countries. The company combines business management, strategic consulting with future-oriented, sustainable value-adding IT solutions.

Sparx Systems CE supports its partners in selling the system on the market through a wide range of activities. Using practical examples, ThreatGet was presented by AIT, Sparx Systems CE and msg Plaut in a lecture at the Swiss-Austrian-Liechtenstein Chamber of Commerce in May 2022. Fritz Mehl, ThreatGet project manager at Sparx Systems CE: "We not only convey the holistic approach, but also provide very individual market access support. After all, it is clear that the major leverage in both the personnel and sales areas comes primarily from the participating consulting companies. Thus, ThreatGet's innovative methodology offers new and expanded starting points for serving customers. At the same time, the technical expertise in the area of cyber security is increased in the consulting company.

With the expansion of ThreatGet to many industries, it is now important to extend our network into these new areas as well, in order to be able to quickly roll out the already successful approach in the face of further increasing cyber threats." Stefan Schauer, Thematic Coordinator "Dependable Systems Engineering" at AIT: "Due to the increased system complexity in the automotive industry, but also in many safety-critical products of other industries, it is becoming more and more important to consider safety and cyber security in an efficient software development process. ThreatGet is a helpful tool here, especially because it does not require every software developer to be retrained as a cyber security expert. This is an immense advantage, especially in times when the job market for software developers as well as cyber security experts is highly competitive."

More information about the center: <https://www.threatget.eu>

Caption: AIT and Sparx Systems CE are pleased about the nomination for the Austrian State Award Consulting "Unternehmensberatung und IT" 2022 for ThreatGet and the associated holistic consulting approach. The State Prize was awarded on September 21, 2022 by Minister of Labor and Economic Affairs Martin Kocher in the ballroom of the Vienna Hofburg. In the picture f.l.t.r.: KR Alfred Harl (professional association UBIT), Peter Lieber (Sparx Services Central Europe), Salome Wagner (Sparx Services Central Europe), Martin Stierle (AIT Austrian Institute of Technology), Federal Minister Univ.-Prof. Dr. Martin Kocher - Picture: BMAW/Silveri

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