

# Announcement

## E-ISAC Vendor Affiliate Program Announces SANS as Inaugural Education Partner

December 3, 2024

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— NERC's [Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (E-ISAC) announced today a three-year educational partnership between the [E-ISAC Vendor Affiliate Program](#) and the [SANS Institute](#), the largest global provider of cybersecurity training, certification, and research. This new educational partnership is the first undertaken by the E-ISAC and will provide members with access to the SANS Institute's free educational content including white papers, webcasts, webinars, and a dedicated electric-specific webpage.

Renowned SANS faculty teach more than 60 courses in person and online while GIAC, an affiliate of the SANS Institute, validates practitioner skills through more than 35 hands-on technical certifications. SANS will now be providing their expertise as the E-ISAC's new education program partner, creating electric-sector specific content for E-ISAC members. SANS will also offer discounted cyber security training and courses for eligible E-ISAC members through their [SANS SLTT Government Partnership Program](#). In addition, SANS staff will participate, through the E-ISAC Vendor Affiliate Program, as thought leaders and subject matter experts in E-ISAC events and programs for the duration of the partnership.

"The E-ISAC's new partnership with SANS, a global industry leader, is a further expansion of our educational program and allows us to provide targeted, high-quality content that reflects real-world security issues faced by the electric industry," said Manny Cancel, NERC senior vice president and chief executive officer of the E-ISAC. "We look forward to working with SANS over the next three years to deliver a program that will further enhance our members' cybersecurity posture."

Tim Conway, Director of the ICS Curriculum at SANS Institute, commented, "The electric sector is a cornerstone of public safety, and its protection against cyber threats is critical to our nation's security. Our collaboration with E-ISAC will empower electric utilities with the knowledge and tools they need to anticipate, identify, and mitigate cyber threats before they can cause harm. This partnership is a crucial step toward a safer and more secure future for all."

The SANS Institute mission is to empower current and future cybersecurity practitioners and leaders with immediately useful knowledge and capabilities to enhancing their organizations cyber defenses. SANS will work with E-ISAC to bring world-class cybersecurity expertise to the electric sector. In addition to real-time technical insights, the partnership gives E-ISAC's members and partners access to SANS catalogue of training



courses, GIAC certifications, Netwars ranges, critical content and events. The E-ISAC and SANS look forward to working together to provide top-class content and programs for the E-ISAC community.

### **About the E-ISAC and E-ISAC Vendor Affiliate Program**

The [Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center](#) (E-ISAC), a division of the [North American Electric Reliability Corporation](#) (NERC), reduces cyber and physical security risk to the electric industry across North America by providing quality analysis and rapid sharing of security information on how to mitigate complex, constantly evolving threats to the grid. [The E-ISAC Vendor Affiliate Program](#) is open to security vendors and/or OEM suppliers who support electricity and other critical infrastructure industries. Enrollment for the program's 2025 calendar year is open through December 31. Interested vendors are encouraged to [submit an interest form](#) to receive enrollment information. For more information about E-ISAC or the Vendor Affiliate Program please contact [memberservices@eisac.com](mailto:memberservices@eisac.com).

### **About the SANS Institute**

[The SANS Institute](#) was founded in 1989 as a cooperative research and education organization. SANS is the most trusted and largest provider of cybersecurity training and certification for professionals in government and commercial organizations worldwide. SANS' renowned instructors teach over 60 different courses in the classroom and virtually during live cybersecurity training events. They are also all available anytime via the OnDemand platform. GIAC, a subsidiary of the SANS Institute, validates credentials with more than 35 hands-on, technical certifications in cybersecurity. SANS Technology Institute, a regionally accredited, independent affiliate, offers master's degrees in cybersecurity. SANS Security Awareness, a division of the SANS Institute, provides organizations with a complete and comprehensive security awareness solution that enables them to easily and effectively manage their "human" cyber security risk. SANS provides a variety of free resources to the InfoSec community, including consensus projects, research reports and newsletters; it also operates the Internet Early Warning System, the Internet Storm Center. At the heart of SANS are the many security experts, representing diverse global organizations from corporations to universities, working together to help the entire information security community.

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