

Press release 25/05/2023

TEGRA, the cyber security center driven by Gradiant and Telefónica Tech, celebrates its 5th anniversary

- TEGRA is a reference center for innovation and cyber security in Galicia and a successful case of public-private collaboration.
- The Center has approached the development of technologies for the protection of information and digital fraud, and the generation of cyber-intelligence.

Gradiant and <u>Telefónica Tech</u> celebrated today the 5th anniversary of TEGRA Cybersecurity Center, an alliance driven by both entities that has become a reference center in cyber security innovation in Galicia and a successful case of public-private collaboration.

The center, since its creation in 2018, has focused on the development of cyber security technologies covering aspects such as information protection, protection against digital fraud and the generation of cyber intelligence. To this end, a joint investment of €3.85M has been made, of which €1.1M corresponds to investment provided by the Galician Innovation Agency (GAIN).

Luis Pérez Freire, General Manager of Gradiant, highlighted the important role of programs such as "Mixed Research Units", in terms of stability and the injection of resources it implies. "Although Gradiant and Telefónica Tech had already collaborated before, the work carried out in recent years would not have been possible without the existence of TEGRA," said Pérez. The director of the Galician Innovation Agency, Patricia Argerey, highlighted the role of the IRMÁS-TEGRA Joint Unit in the technological positioning of Galicia in an emerging sector with great growth potential, such as cyber security.

TEGRA has made possible the creation of qualified employment in a high demand and growth potential sector, generating more than 10 direct jobs and involving more than 40 people in the R+D+i sector in Galicia.

A presentation of TEGRA's results was made during the anniversary event, with the participation of INCIBE, Gain, Amtega, the University of Vigo and Ecix Group. In

addition, the importance of cyber security and the generation of a solid ecosystem in a field as important and enabling for the future of the economy as cyber security was reflected upon. New trends in cyber security products and services were also reviewed with the strategic vision provided by Telefónica Tech in this area.

Juan González, Co-Director of TEGRA in Gradiant stated that "Galicia is pioneering the implementation of public-private collaboration tools for research in emerging technologies" and added that "the collaboration between Gradiant and Telefónica Tech was born in 2015 but has been firmly established largely thanks to the joint unit and the creation of TEGRA".

Meanwhile, Juan Elosua, Co-Director of TEGRA on the part of Telefónica Tech pointed out that "the initiatives we have developed during these years allow us to differentiate ourselves in the industrial environment".

TEGRA Cybersecurity Center is part of the mixed research unit in cybers ecurity IRMÁS 2.0 (Information Rights Management Advanced Systems), which is co-financed by the European Union. It is part of the Operational Program FEDER Galicia 2014-2020, for the promotion and generation of frontier knowledge, development of emerging technologies, essential enabling technologies and knowledge oriented to the challenges of society.

The Center was born five years ago with the aim of developing products and services that improve the information security of Galician companies. These include advanced cryptographic techniques, the design of identity verification mechanisms for accessing information and data analysis tools, as well as systems for classifying documentation and detecting irregular access to information.

Cyber security incidents increased 9% in 2022

The Spanish National Cybersecurity Institute (INCIBE) managed 118,820 cyber security incidents in 2022, 9% more than the previous year. More than 110,100 of these incidents affected citizens and companies. It should be noted that 1 in 3 are a leak of sensitive, protected, or confidential data that are stolen by an unauthorized person; and 2 out of 5 are vulnerabilities of technological systems.

INCIBE highlights phishing as the most frequent incident, with almost 17,000 incidents, followed by malware with more than 14,000.

These figures support the need to transfer cyber security knowledge to Galician companies, as well as to promote and raise awareness in society concerning the importance of digital security.

About Gradiant

Gradiant is a private ICT technology center focused on industry needs and specialized in the following technologies: cyber security, artificial intelligence, advanced communications (5G-6G), quantum technologies, drones and smart industry. An innovation provider, with almost fifteen years of experience in technology development, more than 150 professionals in its team and with a presence in 30 countries and more than 400 customers.

In recent years, Gradiant has increased the number of licensing agreements for its innovation projects fivefold, reaching 150 licenses in 18 countries. Some of the most recent international public references are Telefonica, Vodafone, Samsung, Stellantis, NATO, Indra, Everis, Babcock international and Boeing.

About Telefónica Tech

Telefónica Tech is the leading company in digital transformation. It offers a wide range of services and integrated technology solutions in Cyber Security, Cloud, IoT, Big Data and Blockchain. For further information, please visit: https://telefonicatech.com/es