

MEXICO AND CYBER-SECURITY

A ROAD TOWARDS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

PRO MÉXICO

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The technologies applied to productive systems in order to create a new industrial paradigm covering customised design, production, continuous improvement, logistics, and aftercare processes are developed based on digital systems. Nowadays, no one is a stranger to digital transformation. From SME's to large, multinational companies, governments, or simple users, technological applications keep us connected through the Internet of Things and urban or industrial operative systems.

There are three mega-trends geared towards strengthening the capacities of businesses and industries related to activities that required intensive network use and participation. The main trend advocates the use of artificial intelligence in products, services, and processes; some of its applications are deep learning, general artificial intelligence, and collaborative robots. Others focus on digital platforms, 5G networks, Internet of Things, or software-defined security systems (SDS models). And, finally, technologies that allow us to visualise and interact with this new digitisation paradigm; such as 4D printing, virtual and augmented reality, and cyber-physical services applied to Industry 4.0 (i4.0), also known as the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It should be noted that the impact of these disruptive technologies on the industry is such that it is giving way to a new productive ecosystem, which will also affect our understanding of our daily activities. Such is the impact that it has become the central theme of the world's most important trade fair - Hannover Messe -, where Mexico will be this year's partner country.

Therefore, the larger the digital transformation process, in our daily lives, industries or services, the larger the vulnerabilities of our systems and cyber devices. On average, cyber-crime costs the world economy 575 billion dollars a year, which is equivalent to 0.5% of the global GDP, and increases every year. Therefore, we are continuously looking for new ways to reduce crime and vulnerabilities and create a secure environment to foster the adoption of digital solutions in different industries.

Recently, ProMéxico Business Intelligence Unit published an analysis of the current situation of the country in the face of global cyber security trends, as we are aware of its key role in the transition towards new collaborative and i4.0 business models based on collaboration and the use of new i4.0 tools. One of the main findings was that many analysts consider Mexico to be a strategic platform for technological implementation and digital services development Latin America, as the main Information and Communication Technology leading companies have set up their continental headquarters in Mexico. The demand for cyber-security is growing, as a result of the technology adoption entailed by i4.0. To this end, the study suggests creating ICT-dedicated clusters as a significant investment for the benefit of the digital ecosystem by integrating industrial services and applications.

In the short term, it would be advisable to promote the Mexican National Cyber-Security Strategy with the joint collaboration of government, industry, and academia to guide a long-term vision for a digitised Mexico in a world that is increasingly more connected. In this way, the adoption of these technologies will be accelerated, improving the country's competitive offer in terms of human talent, industrial innovation, and research and development; thus, becoming an attractive ally for developing new businesses within these digital trends.

