

Cybersecurity

Virginia IT companies, from startups to large systems integrators, are leaders in the development of cybersecurity solutions for industry and government. With the constant advancement of information technology infrastructure security, Virginia-based companies are at the forefront of technologies such as cryptography, forensics, intrusion detection and firewall devices. Likewise, many of Virginia's universities are at the forefront of cybersecurity research and development, while also educating and training the IT professionals of tomorrow.

Virginia's Assets for the Cybersecurity Industry

- Virginia is home to several Federal agencies that focus on cybersecurity, including the U.S. Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER), U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Cyber Security and Communications Integration Center and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).
- Since 2013, the MACH37 Cyber Accelerator at the Center for Innovative Technology has launched 40 cybersecurity companies.
- In the summer of 2016, MACH37 began a partnership with the University of Virginia's College at Wise to specifically assist companies in Southwest Virginia. UVA-Wise has already begun to build partnerships with emerging cyber companies, and expects to host companies in its co-working space in late 2017.
- UVA-Wise has also partnered with Southwest Virginia Community College and Mountain Empire Community College in the Southwest Virginia Regional Cybersecurity Initiative, which will position Southwest Virginia as a regional hub for cybersecurity.
- The Center for Secure Information Systems (CSIS) at George Mason University provides a dedicated environment to encourage the development of expertise in both theoretical and applied aspects of information systems security. Established in 1990, CSIS has the distinction of being the first academic center in security at a U.S. university. It is one of the National Security Agency's original Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education, a designation it still holds.
- Cybersecurity @ Virginia Tech is an interdisciplinary collection of research groups and laboratories at Virginia Tech organized under the Hume Center for National Security and Technology that focus on the research challenges of cybersecurity. Through these groups, Virginia Tech provides a diverse research portfolio to address the critical challenges that lie ahead in the fields of computer and network security.
- 7 of Virginia's colleges and universities host camps for GenCyber, a national program to help K-12 students learn the fundamentals of Cyber Defense. In 2016, Virginia Tech and James Madison University hosted camps for high school technology teachers to provide them with the skills they need to introduce their students to cybersecurity topics. Marymount University, New River Community College, Liberty University, Norfolk State University, and Old Dominion University hosted camps for K-12 students interested in cybersecurity.
- The list of cybersecurity companies growing in Virginia includes
 - Cyren
 - Distil Networks
 - IKANOW
 - PhishMe
 - PFP Cybersecurity
 - Verisign