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Supportive Letter

Involving young people in Information Technologies

About syn₂cat HackerSpace:

A hackerspace or hackspace (from Hacker and Space) is a real (as opposed to virtual) place where people with common interests, usually in science, technology, digital or electronic art can meet, socialise and collaborate. Typical activities in hackerspaces include

o learning and sharing knowledge

o presentations and lectures

o social activities including games and parties

Our members come from many backgrounds, partly related to a Safer Internet environment and we would like to contribute our efforts to strengthen awareness in the local community.

The particularity of the Luxembourgish HackerSpace movement lies in the fact that most of it's members are in the range of 16 to 23 years (70% out of the 30 people regularly visiting the space). We encourage peer to peer trainings between the younger groups and the more mature Hackers in our space to propagate the respect between age groups.

Our recent activities have shown an increasing interest of our youngsters to learn more about a "Safer Internet", but also to dig deeper in the security aspects of certain IT subjects. Therefore we would like to develop training modules and workshops where we offer those teenagers ways to deepen their knowledge and subsequently do peer trainings to others.

We see great potential for these teenagers to become multiplying agents towards their peers in the area of IT Security and strongly believe that the SNJ will be the deciding facilitator for this task, and further on, a great partner for our various other efforts.

Our contact with the SNJ, as well as a first pilot project with them, makes us very motivated to plan ahead and to push the emerge of peer-to-peer activities within our community.

We would like to collaborate on a more intense basis with the SNJ and therefore support their proposal as Safer Internet Center for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Clement (member of the board and financial manager)