

November 2024

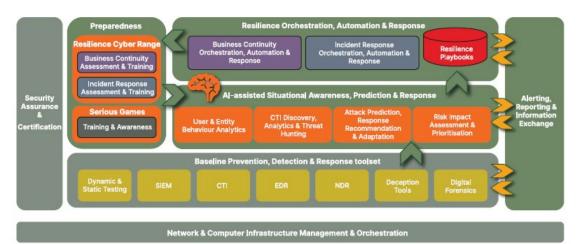
WELCOME

In July 2024 started the third year of the PHOENI2X project. This sixth Newsletter highlights the key achievements over the past four months of the project. From a technical perspective, we have focused on the developments of the final functionalities for the final version of the PHOENI2X framework, including the baseline components, the Al-assisted Situational Awareness, Prediction & Response enablers, and the Coordinated Response & Preparedness enablers. The final PHOENI2X framework will be demonstrated within the context of the project's three use cases: energy, transport and healthcare.

Review the past editions of the PHOENI2X newsletter to explore the technical advancements, as well as the events and news of the project during its earlier periods. Stay tuned to our <u>website</u>, and Twitter, @Phoeni2xProject, where key project results will be published periodically.

PHOENI2X FRAMEWORK

The PHOENI2X framework provides Artificial Intelligence (AI) – assisted orchestration, automation & response capabilities for business continuity and recovery, incident response, and information exchange, tailored to the needs of Operators of Essential Services (OES) and of the EU Member State (MS) National Authorities entrusted with cybersecurity.



During the final year of the project, we will focus on completing the remaining developments and conducting extensive testing to ensure the system's functionality and robustness. This phase will involve refining the framework and addressing any outstanding issues identified in previous stages. Additionally, the complete workflows for the project's three use cases, energy, transport, and healthcare, have now been fully defined. The workflows consider the complete process including the prevention and preparedness; attack; mitigation; and post-attack phases.



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6th Newsletter

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PHOENI2X NEWS AND EVENTS

IOSEC Workshop

The PHOENI2X project supported the organization of the 2024 IEEE CSR Workshop on Information and Operational Technology Security (IOSEC), held in conjunction with the IEEE CSR 2024 conference. Chaired by the University of Patras, the Workshop brought together experts from diverse fields to explore common of security challenges and solutions, aiming to advance the collective science and practice of IT and OT security. Topics covered included security architectures and frameworks for critical infrastructures, threat modeling, AI in cybersecurity, vulnerability risk assessment and management, i Intrusion detection and prevention, and privacy enabling technologies. A joint paper, from UPC and Worldsensing, entitled "A Deep Learning Framework for Safety Monitoring of a Railway Section" was presented at the workshop.



CyberHOT summer school

PHOENI2X has 4th co-sponsored the -Training Cybersecurity -On Hands (CyberHOT) Summer School, which was organized in Pireas, Greece, on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th of September 2024, under the auspices of the University of Piraeus, Research Centre (UPRC). The CyberHOT Summer school sessions addressed the research of vulnerabilities of known components, the exploitation of existing vulnerabilities and privilege elevation on compromised targets.





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7th PHOENI2X Plenary Meeting

The PHOENI2X 7th Plenary meeting was celebrated the 1st and 2nd of October, 2024, in Braunschweig, Germany. The meeting was hosted by AEGIS, and its main objectives were to discuss the status and next steps for the three pilots of the project, including the final definition of the workflows, the final integration of the PHOENI2X framework, and the testing and use

case validation.

The discussions on the first day focused on the final demonstrations of the PHOENI2X framework within the three project pilots: energy, transport, and healthcare. During this session, key integration, testing, and use case validation challenges were addressed by all project partners. The latter part of the day was dedicated to dissemination, exploitation, standardization, and sustainability. The day concluded with a session on project and ethics management.





The second day of the plenary began with a session on innovation management, followed by technical discussions on WP3, which covered the final developments of the AIassisted situational awareness, prediction, and response enablers, and WP4, focused on the coordinated response and preparedness enablers. Then, a special session was held to discuss the stakeholders' questionnaire engagement, followed by the business continuity discussion. The meeting concluded with an open discussion and a wrap-up of the 6th plenary meeting.







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4th LETRA Learning & Training hands-on technical workshop



Vasileios Mavroeidis participated in the 4th LETRA Learning & Training hands-on technical workshop focussed on Incident Response and Defense Against Adversarial Actions. Vasileios presented the CACAO business continuity playbook for the energy pilot developed in the PHOENI2X project regarding automation and orchestration.





Internal workshop: NIS2 Directive National Cybersecurity Authority and basic organizations obligations

An internal on-line workshop was held on November 13, 2024, during which the National Authority, NCSA, Ministry of Digital Governance, presented the NIS2 Directive to the whole PHOENI2X consortium. The session focused on the responsibilities and obligations of National Cybersecurity Authorities and key organizations under the directive, providing valuable insights into its implications for cybersecurity practices and compliance.







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26th InfoCom World conference

The PHOENI2X Project has been presented in the 26th InfoCom World Conference "Digital Greece: Time for a Leap!" on November 12, 2024. The conference brought together experts from the fields of Information Technology and Telecommunications.



This year the conference has focussed on key issues, such as private networks, artificial intelligence, data centers, egovernment, smart cities and digital projects, giving special attention to the practical application and benefits of new technologies.



4th Stakeholders Conference

The PHOENI2X project was presented in the 4th Stakeholder's Conference organized by the Commissioner of Communications of Cyprus - Digital Security Authority (DSA). The event was held at the ICTACADEMY of the Office of the Commissioner of Communications of Cyprus, on November 19, 2024.





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The conference was attended by more than 200 representatives from ministries and independent authorities of the Republic of Cyprus, national and private bodies of critical information infrastructures, academic institutions, businesses, as well as representatives of organizations and companies from abroad. Participants came mainly from the energy, transport, health, water supply, banking and financial services, electronic communications, digital infrastructure and government security sectors.

The PHOENI2X project was discussed among participants and a special roll-up banner was displayed during the three-day conference. APIROPLUS Solutions Ltd., a partner of the consortium was also one of the organizations participating in the meeting.

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