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Verisign Announces Winners of Grants Aimed at Strengthening Internet Infrastructure

Ben-Gurion University (Israel), the University of Cambridge (UK), the University of Illinois and the University of Michigan Have Been Chosen to Receive \$75,000 Each to Complete Research

DULLES, VA (Marketwire) - Four universities have been chosen to receive grants of \$75,000 each for their research teams to pursue projects aimed at strengthening Internet infrastructure. The grants are being awarded as part of a VeriSign, Inc. (NASDAQ: VRSN) program designed to promote and foster Internet innovation and in conjunction with the company's commemoration of [25 years of .com](#). The researchers will present their findings at a Washington, D.C. symposium later this year. The grant awards will be issued to the universities following final agreement between Verisign and the universities.

Winners were chosen in four categories:

- Internationalization of the Internet: Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
- Domain Name System (DNS) Security: University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- Infrastructure Applications: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Internet Infrastructure: University of Michigan

"At Verisign, we are committed to ensuring the infrastructure of the Internet is constantly evolving to meet new demands, and supporting these types of research projects is critical to that effort," said Mark McLaughlin, president and chief executive officer of Verisign. "These grant recipients will help to pioneer the next generation of the Internet and continue to shape how we live in an increasingly connected world."

Distinguished judges for the grants included Rod Beckstrom, President and CEO of ICANN; Vint Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist at Google; Michael Chertoff, former Homeland Security Secretary; Paul Mockapetris, computer scientist and inventor of the Domain Name System; and Danny McPherson, Chief Security Officer at Verisign.

The winner in the Internationalization of the Internet category was "Techniques for Achieving Positive Anonymity," submitted by Shlomi Dolev at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. The project explores anonymity on the Internet, and when remaining anonymous online is appropriate and when it is not, and attempts to define and propose schemes for conditional anonymity.

The winner in the DNS Security category was "Constructing a Functional Name System," submitted by Anil Madhavapeddy at the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. The purpose of this project, known as Mirage, is to develop a clean-slate operating system whose goal is to run reliably, securely and rapidly on the Internet, and is designed to be simpler than systems currently in use.

The winner in the Infrastructure Applications category was "Enabling Responsive Web Applications with the Accelerated Secure Association Protocol," submitted by Philip Brighten Godfrey at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This project is developing methods to accelerate the Web and other interactive networked applications, via secure, deployable extensions to the domain name system (DNS) and transport control protocol (TCP).

The winner in the Internet Infrastructure category was "Enhancing Mobile Internet Infrastructure for Improved Performance and Security," submitted by Z. Morley Mao at the University of Michigan. This project aims to investigate mobile network infrastructure support to improve network performance, energy efficiency, and security assurance for mobile users and service providers.

VeriSign, Inc. (NASDAQ: VRSN) is the trusted provider of Internet infrastructure services for the networked world. Billions of times each day, Verisign helps companies and consumers all over the world to connect online with confidence. Additional news and information about the company is available at www.verisigninc.com.

Statements in this announcement other than historical data and information constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as amended. These statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause Verisign's actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied by such forward-looking statements. The potential risks and uncertainties include, among others, the

uncertainty of future revenue and profitability and potential fluctuations in quarterly operating results due to such factors as increasing competition, pricing pressure from competing services offered at prices below our prices and changes in marketing practices including those of third-party registrars; the sluggish economic recovery; challenges to ongoing privatization of Internet administration; the outcome of legal or other challenges resulting from our activities or the activities of registrars or registrants; new or existing governmental laws and regulations; changes in customer behavior, Internet platforms and web-browsing patterns; the inability of Verisign to successfully develop and market new services; the uncertainty of whether our new services will achieve market acceptance or result in any revenues; system interruptions; security breaches; attacks on the Internet by hackers, viruses, or intentional acts of vandalism; the uncertainty of the expense and duration of transition services and requests for indemnification relating to completed divestitures; and the uncertainty of whether Project Apollo will achieve its stated objectives. More information about potential factors that could affect the company's business and financial results is included in Verisign's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K. Verisign undertakes no obligation to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this announcement.

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