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BY LIGHT'S CYBER APTITUDE ASSESSMENT SUPPORTS US CYBER ATHLETES COMPETING IN GREECE

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As October 5, 2021, was approaching, 65+ hopeful individuals were vying for a spot to compete on behalf of the United States in the inaugural International Cybersecurity Competition (ICC). The first-ever ICC, hosted by the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), will pit amateur cybersecurity competition teams from more than 20 countries across the globe against each other in Athens, Greece in June 2022.

Preparation for the competition began in April 2021 with the formation of US Cyber Games and its Advisory Board. The project, led by Katzcy in cooperation with the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) program at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), holds a mission of bringing together elite cyber athletes, coaches, and industry leaders to help scout, train, and send a US Cyber Team to compete at the ICC. “This is all about identifying young talent in cybersecurity and providing them with the resources they need to successfully navigate a career in the field,” says US Cyber Games Commissioner, Jessica Gulick. “This includes formal training, coaching and mentoring, networking opportunities, and more,” she adds.



With the Advisory Board in place, the US Cyber Games' initial focus was on recruitment and onboarding of US Cyber Team coaches. More than 70 individuals applied for coaching positions with the US Cyber Games, and the Advisory Board conducted virtual interviews with the top eight candidates. This interview process included By Light's Cyber Aptitude Typology Indicator (CATI) assessment as a function of evaluating the cyber aptitude and coaching potential of each coaching applicant. “What we were looking for were individuals who received results placing them in one of four categories – ENTJ, INTJ, ENFJ, or INFJ,” comments Laura Lee, Vice President, Cyber Training and CyberCENTS® product owner here at By Light. “These results indicate the individual possesses intrinsic leadership qualities, strong communication skills, and a natural aptitude for cybersecurity,” Lee explains.