



Technology nonprofit, MCNC, reaffirms commitment to security by maintaining top-tier compliance

The North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN) was re-examined by Assure Professional, successfully demonstrating cybersecurity effectiveness.

Green Bay, Wis. and Research Triangle Park, N.C. (July 10, 2018) – <u>MCNC</u>, a technology nonprofit that builds, owns and operates the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN), has been re-examined by <u>Assure Professional</u>, a leading cybersecurity, assurance and compliance solutions provider, for the (SOC) 2 Type 2 attestation relevant to Trust Service Principles (TSPs) security and availability, by the standards established by the <u>American Institute of Certified Public Accountants</u> (AICPA). MCNC's 5,000 square-foot data center located in Research Triangle Park, N.C. has consistently maintained SOC 2 Type 2 compliance.

"MCNC has again demonstrated its commitment for continuous improvement of its internal control environment and adherence to security frameworks. We admire this dedication," said Juan Vargas, Assure Professional Senior IT Security Auditor.

SOC 2 Type 2 compliance is designed specifically for technology and cloud computing organizations and is based on TSPs: security, availability, processing integrity, confidentiality and privacy.

"MCNC is pleased to have once again successfully completed the SOC 2 Type 2 audit," said Chris Beal, MCNC Chief Information Security Officer. "As we continue to expand security offerings to our customers, such as the recently launched DNS Security Filtering service, it's important to us that MCNC's customers recognize our steadfast commitment to ensuring our services are secure and that we maintain or surpass the industry standards in controls, compliance and data protection."

The detailed examination process required for SOC 2 Type 2 compliance is conducted by an independent auditor for a period of six months to a year and verifies the existence of implemented controls that affect the integrity of the system, as it processes client data, and protects the confidentiality and privacy of the information that is processed. The certification accounts for a data center's system and suitability of its design of controls as reported by the company as well as verification of an auditor's opinion on the operating effectiveness of the controls.

"Because we maintain a first-class security operation and enforce standards throughout the year, our team was prepared for the rigor of this year's audit and it yielded a positive outcome," added Beal. "The security of our customers' data is vitally important. This annual process affirms our efforts to continually and proactively strengthen our overall security posture."

MCNC offers colocation, data protection, and managed hosting within its data centers and a suite of security solutions including DDoS Protection, DNS Security Filtering and Compromised Host Detection. MCNC's Network Operations Center (NOC) staff and Client Network Engineers (CNE) offer a range of expertise from the most basic managed hosting services to more advanced performance monitoring, digital diagnostics, architecture assessments and planning, system tuning, IT management, and planning services. For more information, view the <u>MCNC Service Catalog</u>. For more specifics about MCNC Security, visit <u>here</u>.



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About Assure Professional

Assure Professional, a leading cybersecurity, assurance and compliance solutions provider, specializes in providing due diligence, private equity, and accounting services as well as compliance related engagement programs including, SOC 1 (formerly SSAE 16) Audits, SOC 2 + HITRUST Audits, SOC Readiness Assessments, SOC for Cybersecurity, SOC for Vendor Supply Chain, ISO 27001 Assessments and HIPAA/HITECH Assessments. The firm's leadership team has nearly 70 years of combined business management, operations and related information technology (IT) experience. Headquartered in De Pere, Wisconsin, Assure Professional has implemented business and technology best practices for companies across a variety of industries in US states, as well as Canada, South America, and several European countries. Visit <u>www.assureprofessional.com</u>. Assure Professional Social: <u>Facebook</u>, Twitter <u>@assurepro, LinkedIn</u>.

About MCNC

MCNC, a technology nonprofit that builds, owns and operates the North Carolina Research and Education Network (NCREN), has served research, education, non-profit health care and other community institutions with Internet connectivity in the state for more than 30 years. NCREN is the fundamental broadband infrastructure for more than 500 of these institutions including all K-20 education in North Carolina. As one of the nation's premier middle-mile networks, MCNC leverages high-speed fiber on NCREN to customize Internet services and related applications for each customer while supporting private service providers in bringing cost-efficient connectivity to rural and underserved communities in North Carolina. Visit <u>www.mcnc.org</u>. MCNC Social: <u>Facebook</u>, Twitter <u>@MCNC</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Google+</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>.

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