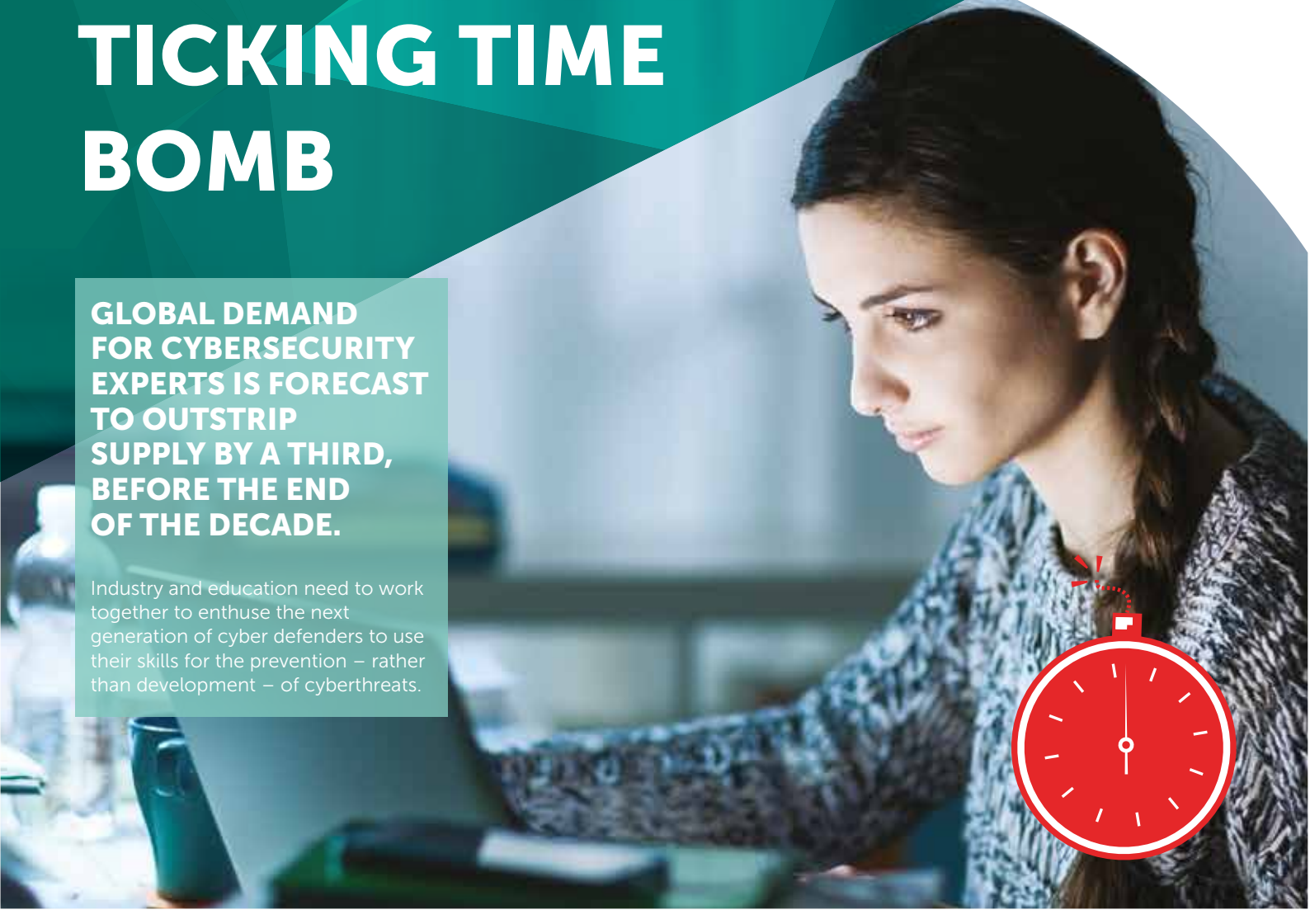


THE CYBERSECURITY SKILLS GAP: A TICKING TIME BOMB

GLOBAL DEMAND FOR CYBERSECURITY EXPERTS IS FORECAST TO OUTSTRIP SUPPLY BY A THIRD, BEFORE THE END OF THE DECADE.

Industry and education need to work together to enthuse the next generation of cyber defenders to use their skills for the prevention – rather than development – of cyberthreats.



YOUNG ADULTS ARE HIGHLY SKILLED BUT HIGHLY IMPRESSIONABLE



One in four 18-year-olds are aware of someone they know undertaking cyber-activities (e.g. hacking) that could be illegal.

Over half of under-25s consider hacking an "impressive" skill.

As digital natives, today's young adults are fully immersed in the digital world and, as a result, the frequency and notoriety of teenager-led cyber-attacks is growing.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S INTEREST IS READY TO BE CHANNELLED



Just over a quarter of young people have considered a career in cybersecurity.



47% said it's because they would like to put their IT skills to good use.

Young IT enthusiasts hold the key to filling new cybersecurity roles on the frontline, but their knowledge and interest is failing to be channelled by both education establishments and employers.

BUSINESSES ARE NOT MAKING IT EASY FOR NEW TALENT TO ENTER THE PROFESSION



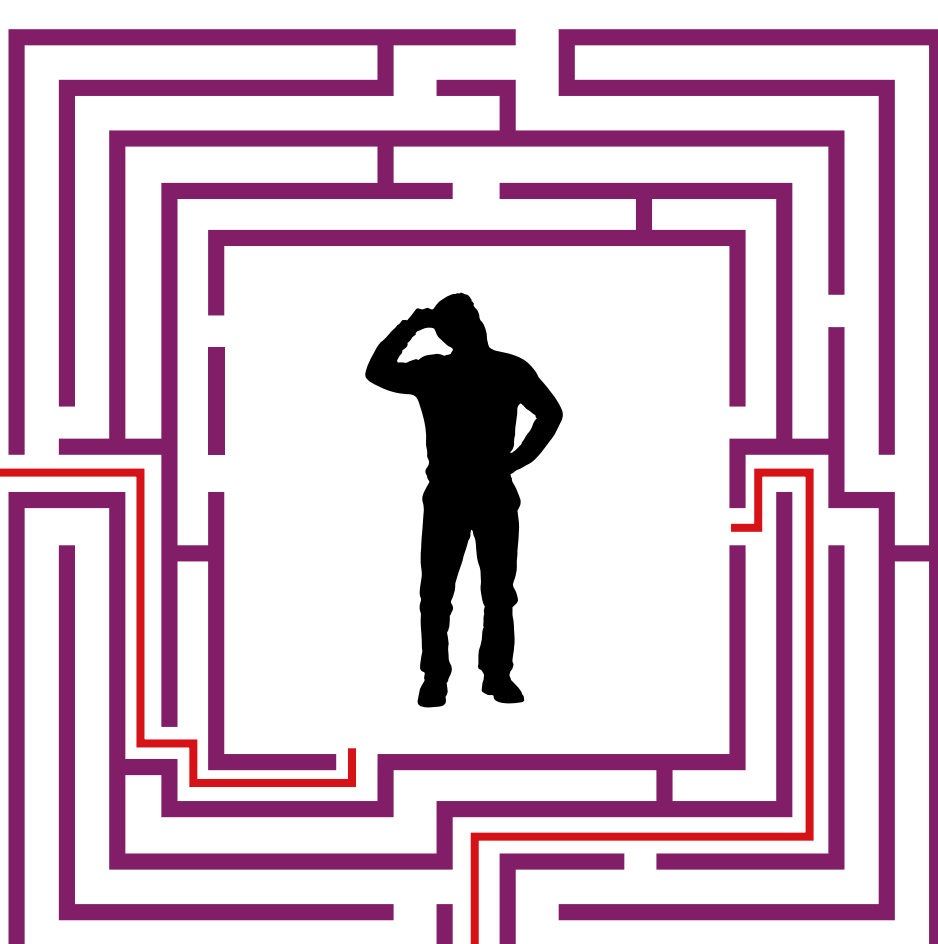
87% of industry professionals believe that it is important that young people join the cybersecurity war.



But only 45% of businesses said they have graduate entry roles/grad schemes in IT security. Most promote from within (72%)...



...and 53% recruit experienced specialists.



Despite young people being recognised as the future in winning the war on cybercrime, businesses are not making it easy for new talent to enter the profession.

WHAT ATTRACTS YOUNG PEOPLE TO CYBERSECURITY?

What would encourage young people to take up a career in IT security:



Opportunity to develop IT skills (35%).



Opportunity to beat hackers and fight cybercrime (30%).



A clear route into the profession with lots of training (27%).



High level of pay (33%).

Thankfully, the majority of young people would put their hacking skills to good use, but to help turn curiosity into a career, more needs to be done to make the profession attainable and attractive.