



Avast celebrates 30 years in the cybersecurity market - from creating the first antivirus to a future in IoT security

The story of Avast, the globally successful company with Czech roots, began in 1988 at the Mathematical Machines Research Institute in Prague. Since then, Avast has become a world leader in digital cybersecurity with over 400 million users.

Prague, June 28, 2018 – Avast (LSE: AVST), the global leader in digital cybersecurity products with over 400 million users around the world, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Established in the former Czechoslovakia in 1988, Avast achieved another milestone this year when it listed on the London Stock Exchange on May 10. The company has expanded its portfolio from its very first product - antivirus software for PCs - to a large selection of security and privacy solutions for PCs, and mobile and Internet of Things (IoT) devices, all fuelled by a Threat Labs Research Team that utilizes artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies.

“Over the past three decades, Avast has transformed from a local start-up, which responded to a security need in 1988, into the number one consumer cybersecurity company in the world. We have accomplished this with a lot of hard work, determination, and also a bit of luck,” said Avast CEO Vince Steckler. “Our global user base powers our security engine, which combines the latest in machine learning and artificial intelligence technology and allows us to keep ahead of the bad guys and make sure our customers are safe. We want to thank all our users, some of which have been with us for many years, for being a part of this journey. We are proud to keep them safe online.”

Vince Steckler joined the company as CEO in 2009. Under his leadership, the first external investor, Summit Partners, came on board, followed four years later by the strategic investment partner, CVC Capital Partners. Avast Free Antivirus became the most downloaded free antivirus product in the world. In 2016, Avast bought its longtime competitor AVG Technologies and transformed into a global industry leader in 2017 with revenues at \$780 million.

"I am amazed at what the founders started years ago, and am very proud to lead this company and team which has some of the best talent in the industry," added Steckler. Under



his leadership, Avast now employs over 1,700 people in more than 20 offices around the world, almost half of which work in R&D. Today, there are nearly 1,000 employees in the Czech Republic.

Avast was founded by Eduard Kucera and Pavel Baudis in 1988. The two founders met at the Mathematical Machines Research Institute in the former Czechoslovakia. At the end of the 1990s, the company faced challenges in a market that was transforming from one populated with local players to a truly globalized landscape. Therefore, in 2001, Avast decided to take a risky, but groundbreaking step in offering the full version of its flagship antivirus software for free, gaining one million users in the subsequent 30 months.

About Avast:

Avast (LSE: AVST) is the global leader in digital security products. With over 400 million users online, Avast offers products under the Avast and AVG brands that protect people from threats on the internet and the evolving IoT threat landscape. The company's threat detection network is among the most advanced in the world, using machine learning and artificial intelligence technologies to detect and stop threats in real time. Avast digital security products for Mobile, PC or Mac are top-ranked and certified by VB100, AV-Comparatives, AV-Test, OPSWAT, ICSA Labs, West Coast Labs and others. Visit: www.avast.com.

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