

## Microsoft Security Response Center Blog

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### [The research never stops: Zhiniang Peng's security research story.](#)

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Some security researchers discover hacking early. Others discover it accidentally. For Zhiniang Peng, it started with curiosity and cybersecurity magazines. Growing up in China, computers and the internet were already part of daily life by the time

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### [From arcades to Azure: Felix's security research journey.](#)

Friday, February 20, 2026

When you talk with Felix, you quickly get the sense that he has always been propelled by curiosity and by a need for something that truly challenges him. Today, he is a successful independent security researcher who uncovers vulnerabilities across

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### [Submit your research: BlueHat 2026 Call for Papers is open](#)

Friday, February 13, 2026

The next BlueHat Conference will take place May 5 - 6, 2026, on Microsoft's Redmond campus in Washington State, USA. The Call for Papers (CFP) is now open and closes February 28, 2026. The BlueHat community brings together security researchers and

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### [Fixing the script: Journey to reduce XSS exposure](#)

Monday, February 9, 2026

Cross-site scripting (XSS) remains one of the most frequently reported web vulnerabilities—not because developers are unaware of it, but because many deployed mitigations address symptoms rather than root causes. Across vulnerability reports and

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### [How Asem Eleraky went from a shared family PC to finding critical vulnerabilities](#)

Monday, February 9, 2026

In the world of vulnerability research, origin stories are rarely linear. For Asem Eleraky, the path to becoming a Microsoft MVR began not in a SOC lab or a university classroom, but with a single family PC and a short daily window to explore his

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## **[From points to payouts: The evolution of the Microsoft security researcher leaderboard](#)**

Friday, February 6, 2026

The global security research community plays a critical role in helping Microsoft protect customers. Through their deep technical expertise, coordinated disclosure, and collaboration, researchers help identify and remediate vulnerabilities, and shape

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## **[“The bugs pick you”: Inside Wouter’s security research journey](#)**

Thursday, January 29, 2026

If you ask Wouter when his security journey began, he’ll take you back to a childhood in the Netherlands, tinkering with the 8086 PC his parents brought home when he was five or six. That early curiosity, fueled by racing games, trial-and-error

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## **[Congratulations to the top MSRC 2025 Q4 security researchers!](#)**

Monday, January 5, 2026

Congratulations to all the researchers recognized in this quarter’s Microsoft Researcher Recognition Program leaderboard! Thank you to everyone for your hard work and continued partnership to secure customers. The top three researchers of the 2025 Q4

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## **[Evolving our approach to coordinated security research: In scope by default](#)**

Thursday, December 11, 2025

Today at Black Hat Europe, I raised our commitment to customer security through our partnerships with the security research community. In an AI and cloud-first world, threat actors don’t limit themselves to specific products or services. They don’t

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## **[How Brad Schlintz built a life of freedom and impact through security research](#)**

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

At Microsoft Security Response Center (MSRC), we celebrate the diverse paths that bring researchers to our community. Brad Schlintz's story is one of curiosity, resilience, and a relentless drive to learn, spanning rural beginnings, career pivots,

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Source: <https://msrc.microsoft.com/blog/2024/03/update-on-microsoft-actions-following-attack-by-nation-state-actor-midnight-blizzard/>