



PRESS RELEASE

World's best security solution for communication with Microsoft Teams thanks to cryptography "Made in Germany"

Data protection for Microsoft Teams by eperi

Frankfurt, 18th August 2020 – eperi, the expert for data encryption, extends the functionalities of the eperi Gateway. In addition to the integration into existing Microsoft 365 applications such as OneDrive, SharePoint and Outlook/Exchange, the solution now also encrypts chat messages, files, attachments and channels in Microsoft Teams in real time. This makes the eperi Gateway the first solution worldwide that encrypts files and communication in Microsoft Teams before they are transferred to the cloud while still allowing the use of mobile devices and native search. The solution ensures that companies and institutions always keep full control over their data. Neither the cloud provider, nor external parties, nor eperi as a software provider have access to the unencrypted data at any time.

"Over and over again, data protection officers give bad marks to widely used IT solutions. Recently, Zoom, Teams and Skype from Microsoft, as well as Google Meet, GoToMeeting, Blizz and Cisco Webex failed a test by the Berlin data protection officer Maja Smolczyk. Furthermore, EU Privacy Commissioner Wojciech Wiewiórowski is convinced that the privacy of users is not sufficiently protected when using Microsoft products. "It is therefore not surprising that the European Court of Justice has declared the EU-U.S. agreement on data protection, known as the 'Privacy Shield', to be invalid, thereby removing the EU's cover for its negligent handling of personal data. And then we haven't even discussed the protection of sensitive data from cyber criminals", explains Elmar Eperiesi-Beck, founder and CEO of the German IT security company eperi. "When it comes to the security of their data, companies and institutions can ultimately trust nobody but themselves. Encrypting data independently before it leaves the company is the only way to keep control over their own data. With the eperi Gateway for Microsoft Teams this is now possible for data and communication in Microsoft's widely used collaboration platform".

Eperiesi-Beck also highlights the unique selling points of this solution: "Together with Microsoft, we have succeeded in separating real-time communication – voice and video - from the other data – like chat, files, calendar, e-mail, channels, attachments, etc. This is important because voice and video require a different approach to data protection. The critical data is securely encrypted or pseudonymized. Thanks to our patented solution, all important functions of the Microsoft platform can still be used without

restrictions while maintaining security at the highest possible level. Other suppliers promise a solution - we deliver! How are companies supposed to work with a security solution with a limited, proprietary search mask outside of Teams? Or with solutions that don't support native clients on mobile devices, for example? Even solutions that encrypt with proprietary algorithms are unsuitable because this way a company is bound to one provider and its pricing policy with no way out forever. For me, this almost borders on ransomware. Half-baked security solutions are more likely to pose a greater risk than to help, as customers then lull themselves into a false sense of security. If you're only encrypting files for OneDrive and SharePoint, but not chat messages and calendar entries, and use features like 'Send via e-mail' with unencrypted file attachments, then you can just as well spare yourself the effort.

The eperi Gateway is the only solution worldwide that offers the highest possible security level for Microsoft Teams, without compromise on security and functionality. The strong increase in home office usage during the COVID-19 pandemic has led to a real boom in the use of the already popular Microsoft Teams. According to Microsoft company data, more than thirteen million people used the platform daily and more than 19 million per week. This inevitably means that many companies are consciously or unconsciously exchanging sensitive data via the cloud. Microsoft Teams is protected against unauthorized data access by built-in measures. However, considering recent statements by data protection officers and the European Court of Justice ruling on the Privacy Shield, it is unclear whether these built-in measures are sufficient. In addition, the confusingly large number of configuration options massively reduces the security level, especially since the platform does not offer a secure out-of-the-box baseline. For example, meeting invitations are almost exclusively sent out without "lobby" pre-screening and access password. Only the consistent data encryption with the eperi Gateway for Microsoft Teams allows companies and organizations to take the security of their data into their own hands and achieve digital sovereignty.

In its current version, the gateway encrypts critical company communication in Microsoft Teams, even when using the native Microsoft Teams App for Android & iOS devices. The search and sort functionality within Microsoft Teams remains fully functional.

Availability and free offers

The eperi Gateway for Microsoft Teams is now available. eperi participates in the COVID-19 initiative of the German IT Security Association (TeleTrusT) and offers the eperi Gateway free of charge for three months from 100 users. In general eperi offers free test environments which are ready for use in the company within only four hours.

About eperi

eperi is a leading company in the field of IT security with many years of experience in data encryption for cloud applications. The IT security company has been awarded "Best Cloud Security" by TechXLR8 and is currently mentioned in six Gartner Hype Cycles. eperi is headquartered in the Frankfurt area in Germany and holds several global patents for its innovative technology which provides unrivalled data protection for databases, applications and file storage.

eperi's solutions provide data-centric security with field-level encryption and tokenization and unstructured data encryption when using cloud services, web applications and private applications from anywhere and on any device. eperi works with some of the world's largest and best-known companies in the financial, healthcare and industrial

sectors to enable them to achieve GDPR compliance, solve data storage problems and meet regulatory requirements. Furthermore, eperi enables its customers to take full advantage of the cloud without having to worry about data security, compliance and liability, regardless of which cloud application they use. For more information visit www.eperi.com.

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