

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Rezal Kamel Ariffin**

**Towards cryptographic technical competency at its fundamental level in Malaysia**

**Abstract:**

The field of cryptology which encompasses both cryptography and cryptanalysis has its roots deep into mathematics. Developed countries post world war 2, acknowledges this important fact and emphasizes on mathematical skills and maturity for interested knowledge workers intending to enter the workforce. In fact, their organization(s) move one more step up the ladder by engaging and making known the required knowledge background. Thus, it is the intention of this talk to provide an overview of cryptographic competency vis-a-vis developed countries experiences, current trends in the fundamentals of cryptography, a selection of current research outputs by the author and the authors experiences in engaging the cryptographic industry locally and internationally.