

Press release

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10 years of “eBanking – but secure!”

To celebrate 10 years of Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts’s initiative “eBanking – but secure!”, their website has undergone a total revamp. Completely revised, it now boasts a whole new design with added contents and an improved search function.

Ten years are a long time in the IT sector ... Take mobile banking: Hardly used in 2009, an increasing number of Swiss are now paying their bills by smartphone. And if in the past, cyber criminals used to directly target technical infrastructure to access bank customer details, they increasingly concentrate on users instead - with the help of so-called spam and phishing mails.

The [“eBanking - but secure!”](#) platform (EBAS) was launched by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts in 2009 to raise e-banking user awareness of security issues by providing them with practical tips for secure e-banking. As of today, www.ebas.ch boasts a completely new design. “It is not just the e-banking security environment which has seen drastic change since we started ten years ago, but also how the Internet is used, something which we now take into account with our new web pages”, says Oliver Hirschi, Head of EBAS and lecturer at the IT department of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Access information in no more than 3 clicks

At the heart of this completely revamped website, you will find a greatly improved search function optimised for mobile devices, as Hirschi explains. In addition, contents provided in four languages (German, French, Italian and English) have been written in terms even easier to understand by your average layperson. It is also much simpler to navigate to relevant contents with just three clicks. Hirschi: “It is our goal to reach as many people as possible - including people with no previous IT knowledge.”

Content-wise, e-banking tips have been supplemented with information on how to work securely both on your computer and on the Internet; for instance explaining how to completely erase sensitive data without leaving any useful traces on any data carriers. Also on offer are courses for helpdesk staff or financial institution customer consultants on security-relevant issues. “e-banking but secure!” is currently supported by 46 Swiss financial institutions. Journalistic responsibility for the website however rests with the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Five simple security tips

Protect your devices and data with the following “5 steps for your digital security”:

1. **Back-up** your data to external data carriers (hard drives, DVDs) or to the cloud.
2. **Monitor** your devices (PC, Mac, smartphone) using anti-virus software and a firewall
3. **Prevent** malware infections with software updates for operating system, apps and software
4. **Protect** online access, for instance using screen locks, secure passwords and two factor authentication
5. **Exercise care** and remain alert; respectable financial institutions never ask for your e-banking details via mail or telephone!

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