The Center for Cybersecurity and Trustworthy Systems (K-CaTS) at Kansas State University is dedicated to enhancing the field of cybersecurity through a multifaceted approach. It is committed to conducting both fundamental and applied research in various areas of information assurance and computer security. This includes a focus on distributed systems, embedded and ubiquitous computing systems, as well as safety-critical and cyber-physical systems. K-CaTS aims to advance the knowledge base of students pursuing Bachelor’s, Master’s, and Ph.D. degrees, ensuring they are well-equipped for the challenges of the field.

Furthermore, the center places a strong emphasis on engaging with the professional community, fostering collaborative efforts that enhance the development, understanding, and operation of systems that are both safe and secure.

In addition to its academic and professional engagements, K-CaTS is actively involved in conducting local and regional outreach initiatives. These efforts are designed to raise awareness about cybersecurity issues and improve the capabilities for secure operations within the community. The center also plays a crucial role in facilitating security-related collaboration across a wide range of disciplines throughout Kansas State University, promoting a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to cybersecurity.

K-CaTS supports broad and cutting-edge collaborations across the entire university, with 17 core and affiliated faculty members driving trans-disciplinary work in diverse fields. These fields include, but are not limited to, hardware and software cybersecurity, network and protocol security, trustworthy machine learning/ AI, criminology and anthropology, psychology, education, and communications. This wide-ranging expertise underscores the center’s commitment to addressing cybersecurity challenges from multiple perspectives.

One of the notable achievements of K-CaTS has been its instrumental role in creating the new Bachelor’s of Science in Cybersecurity degree program. This program not only offers a structured path to security education but also incorporates a comprehensive computer science curriculum. This initiative reflects K-CaTS’s dedication to preparing students for the complex and evolving cybersecurity landscape, equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in the field.