MD5 Critical Infrastructure Hackathon offers $15K investments

March 22, 2018 | By **Lloyd Thrall**

[MD5](), the Department of Defense's technology accelerator, will hold one of Colorado's biggest hackathons of the year on the weekend of April 6 at CU's Idea Forge. We'll invest $15,000 in up to four winning teams, awarding those who can help the state of Colorado with new concepts in critical infrastructure protection, resilience and physical cybersecurity. Two teams at random will win a day of paintball and barbeque with Green Berets from 10th Special Forces Group.

This will be a hackathon unlike any other you've participated in. This isn't just coding! Alongside computer science expertise, we need traditional engineers who can work on physical concepts related to facility resilience and business students who can think about stakeholders, costs and pitch. This hackathon will be engineers, business students, hackers and folks of all stripes working together on both digital and physical concepts, solving real-world problems.

We've spent the last few months interviewing senior leaders and practitioners in cybersecurity, critical infrastructure, Homeland Security, utilities and hospitals, first responders and the Colorado National Guard to find out what keeps them up at night. We'll present their challenges to you, and you'll be hacking on pressing, real-world problems, for real-world sponsors, to win real-world investment.

Expect an amazing weekend, from beginners to experts. Come as a team, a pair or an individual. Come to have fun, eat free food, see cool tech and meet cool people, or come to win. Teams from CU Boulder will be competing against teams from Nebraska via live link.

We'll have mentors in technology, business, cybersecurity and first response on site so that you can sharpen your concept in response to real-world customer demand. We'll have senior leaders from these communities to judge your concept and choose winners.

MD5 PRESENTS
Hacking Physical Cybersecurity
University of Colorado Boulder

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Who: You! And your closest set of intelligent friends. All experience levels are welcome and should have a good experience.
What: MD5 Physical Cybersecurity Hackathon. Registration and details at https://md5hack-apr18.devpost.com/
Where: CU's Idea Forge, and University of Nebraska NARI
When: April 6-8. Orientation will be Friday, April 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Idea Forge, and hacking will go through midday Sunday. No sleepovers: we'll close from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. each evening.
Why: The state of Colorado needs help in the cybersecurity and physical resilience of critical infrastructure. You need to win a $15,000 investment and a great resume bullet, eat free food and network with cool people, see cool tech, and beat Nebraska.

Lloyd Thrall is director for the Rocky Mountain region of the MD5 National Security Technology Accelerator.