

February 3, 2026

Trond Runar Hagen  
Executive Vice President  
SINTEF Digital  
Strindvegen 4, 7034  
Trondheim, Norway

Dear Mr. Hagen,

I am writing to apply for the **Head of Research Security** position at **SINTEF Digital**. The role aligns closely with my experience in applied security research and my readiness to take responsibility for shaping research direction, developing research environments, and contributing to institute-level leadership within the security domain. I became particularly interested in this role after studying SINTEF Digital's mandate to combine high academic quality with industrial relevance and societal impact across digital and physical security domains. The ambition to bring together disciplines such as cybersecurity, system security, safety, reliability, and emergency preparedness into a coherent and forward-looking research environment resonates strongly with how I understand effective research leadership in the institute sector. This position offers me the opportunity to take responsibility for strategic prioritisation, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration, and help ensure that security research addresses the complex, evolving challenges faced by businesses, the public sector, and society.

The position closely aligns with my background in applied security research and research coordination. During my PhD, I designed and validated security mechanisms for distributed and resource-constrained systems, with a strong focus on access control, system resilience, and operational robustness. My work involved structured threat modeling, secure system and interface design, and the evaluation of security mechanisms under realistic deployment conditions. Throughout this work, I adopted a systematic approach that combined analytical rigor with experimental validation, ensuring that research outcomes were both scientifically sound and practically deployable. In parallel, I initiated and led research initiatives in areas such as lightweight cryptography benchmarking and distributed trust enforcement, resulting in peer-reviewed publications, open research artifacts, and collaboration across research groups. Working in international research environments has required a high degree of integrity, accountability, and clear communication, and has strengthened my ability to operate independently while contributing effectively within collaborative, multidisciplinary teams. Further details about my background are available at [khanmohsin.github.io](https://khanmohsin.github.io).

I bring strong academic credibility in security research, experience in coordinating applied research initiatives, and a leadership approach grounded in clarity, collaboration, and accountability. As Head of Research Security, I would focus on strengthening coherence across security disciplines, supporting the development of research leaders and talent, and aligning research quality with SINTEF Digital's strategic priorities, funding landscape, and customer needs. I am confident that my background, perspective, and sense of responsibility would allow me to contribute constructively to SINTEF Digital's management team and to the continued development of its security research department.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Mohsin Khan