

## ASIS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPS STANDARDS

By Anthony Lee, CPP, CBCP

Attendees at lunch session at ASIS International 2nd Asia Pacific Conference held in Singapore on 13 February 2008 learned that ASIS International has recently become involved in developing security standards. The Society is working with the international security community to develop professional standards for the industry. It has launched a global initiative through its Commission on Standards and Guidelines.

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has granted ASIS liaison status, allowing ASIS to play an important role on its technical committee. ASIS has similar status at the European Committee for Standardization.

Internationally accepted security standards will make it easier for companies and consultants to market their services and products around the world. It will also make it easier and faster for first respondents to deal with international disasters. Adopting robust international standards are also a way for the industry to head off any intrusive regulations in a positive and constructive way.

Marc Siegel, ASIS liaison to the standards and guidelines commission, addressed Wednesday's session on international standards. He said that the new industry standards should be developed in close consultation with practitioners through a process in which all those involved can participate in an equal footing. The process should be market-driven and consensus-based with input from experts in the industry. Wide participation by all in the committees drawing up these standards is important, he said. Otherwise, special interests or groups advocating from a narrow section of the industry could become over-represented.

As part of their global initiative, ASIS International was instrumental in the development of ISO/TC 233: Societal Security - Guidelines for Incident Preparedness and Operational Continuity Management; and ASIS Organizational Resilience: Preparedness and Continuity Management - Best Practices Standard. ■

## Hosting of CPP & PSP Certification Examinations In Singapore

ASIS International (Singapore Chapter) is proud to announce that ASIS International (Singapore Chapter) will be hosting the next Certified Protection Professional (CPP™) and Physical Security Professional (PSP™) certification examinations on May 3, 2008 in Singapore. In conjunction with the examination hosting, ASIS Singapore will be conducting the CPP & PSP reviews from 28 April to 2 May 2008, at The Legends Fort Canning, Singapore.

We are proud to highlight that the CPP and PSP designations are the highest recognition in the world according to security management professionals. The CPP and PSP convey professional expertise, demonstrated competency, validated knowledge, and proven skills, all of which translate into a competitive edge in the complex business of security.

For more information on the CPP and PSP certification, please visit ASIS International website at <http://www.asisonline.org/certification>. For details on the coming CPP and PSP review, please visit the chapter's website at <http://www.asis-singapore.org.sg>. ■

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### ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Do you have an interesting article that you wish to share it with our members? Please email your article and write to the editorial management committee at [newsletter@asis-singapore.org.sg](mailto:newsletter@asis-singapore.org.sg)

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# Chairman's Message



Dear ASIS Members,

We began the Year 2008 with yet another huge milestone by hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASIS Regional Security Conference and Exhibits at Raffles City Convention Centre on 11 to 13 February 2008. The Conference was officially opened by our Guest of Honour, Mr. S. Iswaran, Minister of State for Trade and Industry. Mr. Steve Chupa, CPP, Chairman of ASIS Board of Directors, delivered the keynote address. Our Chapter is naturally proud and very pleased with the great turnout of more than 350-over international participants.

As the host, ASIS Singapore was most happy to support that international conference which presented new opportunities for sharing of knowledge and expertise with security professionals round the globe. Our Chapter was proud to have some of our key members involved in the Conference Programme Committee that provided the leadership for the total programme, and they also chaired various educational sessions during the Conference. Our SRVP Group 18 Mr A. Krishnamoorthy, CPP, presented as part of a Professional Development Panel; while yours truly delivered a presentation on "Investing in Security can Enhance Business Value."

ASIS International has been awarded accreditation by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the U.S. member for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). This endorsement confirms that ASIS certification programs adhere to the highest professional standards. We are therefore pleased to inform you that our Singapore Chapter will be hosting both Certified Protection Professional (CPP) and Physical Security Professional (PSP) certification examinations in May and November. In line with that, our Professional Development Committee will

also be offering the CPP Review program and PSP Review program on the week of 28 April so that interested candidates can prepare themselves better for the examinations. Come November, we will be the first Chapter in Asia Pacific to host the Professional Certified Investigator (PCI) examinations. For more information on these security certifications, please read enclosed fine article by our member Dex Yuen, CPP.

On the academic front, we are pleased to announce that another eleven students have graduated from the Professional Diploma in Security Management course jointly awarded by SMA School of Management and ASIS Singapore. The top student Mr. Derrick Yeo Choon Seng from Singapore Police Force will be awarded the **ASIS Singapore Book Prize 2008** for his excellent academic performance.

The high quality of ASIS Singapore events and programs was clearly evident as we see increasing number of participants in ASIS certification programs, and the above-mentioned Professional Diploma in Security Management course. Going forward, ASIS Singapore Chapter will continue to raise the bar in organising even more professional development programs and certification opportunities for security practitioners in the region.

At end 2007, our Singapore Chapter has more than 160 members. For our successful participation in the 2007 **Reach Out! Member-Get-A-Member** program, our Chapter has just been awarded by ASIS International. It is because of dedicated chapters and membership like ours that ASIS International continues to grow and thrive, thereby strengthening our voice, broadening our perspective, and enriching the security profession in numerous ways.

See you soon in our next Chapter meeting!

Cheers,  
**Anthony Lee, CPP, CBCP**  
**Honorary Chairman**

## Have You Renewed Your 2008 Membership with ASIS Singapore?

### Did you miss:

- *Having the right to vote on matters pertinent to Chapter during AGMs?*
- *Failing to enjoy free or discounted rate for participation at selected ASIS organized events & Chapter Meetings?*
- *Not eligible for special Discounts on fees to selected educational and security/BCP programs and courses organized by the local chapter or in partnership with professional training institutes?*
- *Lost good opportunities to renew old ties and establish new friendships with fellow industry professionals?*

### Why Wait?

*Renew your local chapter membership and send your dues of SGD\$100.00 per annum to ASIS International Singapore Chapter now. And for a limited period till end April 2008, you will also get an exclusive ASIS International Singapore Chapter polo t-shirt for free when you join or renew your 2008 membership.*

*Coming April, the local chapter will be running a "member-get-member" program where members can stand a chance to win MP3 players. Look out for more details in your mail box! ■*

# Are Certificates Worth Its Value?

By Dex Yuen, CPP

We live in a world of acronyms. CPP, PSP, CBCP etc. What are they? These are Professional Certifications awarded by different organizations to endorse an individual's skills and knowledge in specific domains.

Over the years, there is an influx of such professional certifications. These certifications promise many benefits, such as recognition, network, job security, access to up-to-date resources etc. Often such certifications require some investment.

A certified individual has to pay annual fees to maintain his professional qualifications with the certifying organization on a regular basis. In order to obtain the certificate, they often need to purchase some study materials to prepare for the examination. After they pass the exam and obtain the certificate, they can proudly append the title to the back of their name. That's not all.

Most certifying organizations require them to engage in a Continuing Professional Education programme. Basically, they have to fulfil a certain number of credits by attending trainings, conducting seminars, volunteer services etc. To

sum it up,

$$\text{Professional Certification (PC)} = \text{Fees} + \text{Infinity} + \text{Time (FIT)}.$$

Fees refers to the money needed to pay for the membership, examination etc. Infinity refers to the certification as an on-going process. Time refers to the amount of time required to prepare and maintain the certification.

## How will professional certification make a difference to you?

Let's find out what differences it makes for 2 security veterans:

*"The CPP and CBCP certifications have equipped me with the core knowledge for my current role as Regional Security & BCP Director at Ingram Micro Asia Pacific, and in my previous job as Corporate Security Manager of Singapore Airlines. At least 80% of the knowledge within the CPP designation is used in the logistics and transportation security field every day. Staying qualified for my CPP and*

Certification	Certifying Organization	Minimum Criteria	What is the domain knowledge?
Certified Protection Professional (CPP)	ASIS International <a href="http://www.asisonline.org">www.asisonline.org</a>	Bachelor degree + 7 yrs security experience Or 9 years security experience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security Principles &amp; Practices</li> <li>Business Principles &amp; Practices</li> <li>Personnel Security</li> <li>Physical Security</li> <li>Information Security</li> <li>Emergency Practices</li> <li>Investigations</li> <li>Legal Aspects</li> </ol>
Physical Security Professional (PSP)	ASIS International <a href="http://www.asisonline.org">www.asisonline.org</a>	5 years experience in physical security field + high school diploma	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Security Assessment</li> <li>Application, Design and Integration of Physical Security Systems</li> <li>Implementation of Physical Security Measures.</li> </ol>
Professional Certified Investigator (PCI)	ASIS International <a href="http://www.asisonline.org">www.asisonline.org</a>	5 years investigations experience + high school diploma	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case Management</li> <li>Evidence Collection</li> <li>Case Presentation</li> </ol>
Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP)	Disaster Recovery Institute International <a href="http://www.drii.org">www.drii.org</a>	2 years of enterprise wide experience as a business continuity / disaster recovery planner in 5 of the Professional Practice areas.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Initiation and Management</li> <li>Risk Evaluation and Control</li> <li>Business Impact Analysis</li> <li>Developing Business Continuity Management Strategies</li> <li>Emergency Response and Operations</li> <li>Developing and Implementing Business Continuity Plans</li> <li>Awareness and Training Programs</li> <li>Exercising and Maintaining Business Continuity Plans</li> <li>Crisis Communications</li> <li>Coordination with External Agencies</li> </ol>
Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)	(ISC)2 <a href="http://www.isc2.org">www.isc2.org</a>	5 years of direct full-time security professional work experience in 2 or more of the 10 domain knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access Control</li> <li>Application Security</li> <li>Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning</li> <li>Cryptography</li> <li>Information Security &amp; Risk Management</li> <li>Legal, Regulations, Compliance and Investigations</li> <li>Operations Security</li> <li>Physical (Environmental) Security</li> <li>Security Architecture and Design</li> <li>Telecommunications and Network Security</li> </ol>
Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)	Association of Certified Fraud Examiners <a href="http://www.acfe.com">www.acfe.com</a>	Bachelor degree + 2 years of relevant experience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criminology &amp; Ethics</li> <li>Financial Transactions</li> <li>Fraud Investigation</li> <li>Legal Elements of Fraud</li> </ol>

\*The table includes only brief information about the certifications. Please refer to the respective websites for details.

## ASIS INTERNATIONAL APOPOINTS NEW RVP FOR REGIONL 33

The Honorary Chairman and management committee of ASIS International (Singapore Chapter) would like to extend their warmest congratulations to Mr. Eddie How on his regional appointment by ASIS International as the Regional Vice President for Region 33.



Eddie is no stranger to ASIS International, having been actively involved in volunteer services with ASIS International (Singapore Chapter) prior to his appointment as RVP Region 33. As the Regional Head of Business Integrity with Shell's Corporate Affairs Security, he actively engages the regional business leaders and country chairmen in security and political risk issues in the Asia Pacific region. Graduated from Oklahoma City University with a Bachelors of Science, Eddie was also an Adjunct Lecturer with Temasek Polytechnic's School of Business. ■

## NEW BOARD CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS

ASIS International (Singapore Chapter) congratulates and welcomes the following professionals on their passing of their examinations in November 2007.

1. Boon Choon Melvin Pang, CPP
2. Dex Yuen, CPP
3. Edwin Goh, CPP
4. Faruque Ashfaque, CPP
5. Jimmy H Y Seah, CPP
6. John Robert, CPP
7. Leonard Ong, CPP
8. Mahbubul Alam Choudhury, CPP
9. Marcus Tan, CPP
10. Peng G Ong, CPP
11. Goh Poh Thiam, CPP
12. Robin Lim, CPP
13. Wong Y Hoons, CPP

Nearly 10,000 professionals have earned the designation of CPP. This group of professionals has demonstrated their competency in the areas of security solutions and best-business practices through an intensive qualification and testing program. As a result, these men and women have been awarded the coveted designation of CPP, and are recognized as proven leaders in their profession.



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*CBCP designations help me to better protect our company resources, revenue and reputation with appropriate cost effective tools and processes. Attaining the CPP designation proves that the security practitioner is passionate about what he/she does, and continues to stay up to date in that chosen profession. It underscores a commitment to excellence in the security field."*

**Anthony Lee CPP, CBCP**

*"Certification has not given me any financial benefit or promotion in career, but it does enhance my knowledge and provide wider horizon when thinking at 10,000 feet."*

**Leonard Ong CPP, CISSP**

### Should you be certified?

That depends on the value you will get from the certification. You have to weight the benefits and sacrifices. The following questions may help you in making this decision:

- Does your job require you to be certified?
- Is the certificate relevant to what you are doing or what you plan to do?
- Will the acquired knowledge be useful for you?
- Is the certificate widely recognized?
- Does the certificate enhance your job opportunities?
- Can you sacrifice your family time or leisure time to prepare and maintain the certification?
- Is your organization supportive of the certification?
- Have you spoken to someone who is already certified?
- Are you committed to obtaining the certificate?

If you answer "Yes" to most of the questions, don't hesitate, go for the certification.

### Certification is Proof of Experience and Expertise

I've seen people without professional certifications doing very well in their career. These are people who will often oppose to certifications. Reason: Experience is a prerequisite to perform well as a security practitioner. But what if one wishes to upgrade himself? Certification definitely enhances the job opportunities for security professionals. It opens their door for job interviews. It tells the employer that they have a drive to continually improve their knowledge. It demonstrates their knowledge and skills. People with many years of experience may benefit from it too. Life long learning is often characterized by great leaders. A Leader is a Learner, and he continually seeks to add value to his organisation.

### Are Certifications Worth Its Value?

Certification can be a stepping stone for your career, but not a guarantee for Success. If you understand and appreciate its benefits, the certification is worth its value.■

*About the Author*

*Dex Yuen, CPP, is the security manager for Avago Technologies. He manages Avago's security operations and is also responsible for facility management in Asia Pacific region. A former Police Officer with the Singapore Police Force, Dex has more than 10 years of security experience in the public and private sector.*