

Holistic Information Security Practitioner Institute

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To all our valued members:

I hope this letter finds you well and prosperous. As always, I want to extend our thanks to all of you who have so generously volunteered your time and services to the HISPI.

Here we grow again!

We are proud to announce our new partnership with Federal IT Security Institute (FITSI).

As two of the nation's emerging IT security certification organizations, the Federal IT Security Institute (FITSI) and the Holistic Information Security Practitioner Institute (HISPI) announced a strategic partnership with the goal of developing a more common set of certification criteria. Once completed this common criteria will be available to a larger network of IT security managers and information security practitioners.

FITSI offers role-based certification to four groups of federal IT professionals: managers, designers, operators and auditors. FITSI provides a series of certification exams nationwide with the objective of making federal IT systems more secure by assuring the people who create and manage them understand and apply the appropriate federal IT security standards. FITSI is based in Alexandria, VA. and their website is <http://www.fitsi.org>.

I am working closely with FITSI's Executive Director Jim Wiggins to establish guidelines and special initiatives that will support both organizations in order to provide additional educational opportunities for our members at a discounted rate. For HISP certified professionals, this means an opportunity to add yet another dimension to your credentials.

In January I informed everyone that we were in negotiations with Tiffin University <http://www.tiffin.edu/> and hoped to have an MOU in place soon. Tiffin wants to include the HISP Certification as part of their Cyber Defense & Information Security degree program. I am excited to announce that we have since signed that MOU and are excited about partnering with Tiffin.

HISPI Website

I am sure by now many of you have visited the new HISPI website. We are very proud of the new friendlier design and hope you all enjoy it. Please continue to browse and send us any ideas you might have. We want to continue to improve our download section by providing more and more quality content.

Changes in Membership Rules

Changes in membership rules are being considered. This concerns our current CPE requirements and a new roadmap to the Master HISP. We want to continue to improve and support real practitioner activities that will not just serve as a check mark on your record, but a true testimony to what you have achieved as a HISP certified professional and something you can use to enhance your career. Stay tuned for these exciting changes.

Middle East

My trip to Lebanon was pushed out to the week of June 13th. We continue to grow our status internationally and leave no stone unturned when opportunities arise that allow us radiate our message around the world. I will send regular updates from Lebanon VIA the HISPI LinkedIn group portal.

Final Thoughts

As I do in each letter, I want to reiterate the vision of the HISPI. We will always strive to uphold the quality and integrity of the HISPI and the HISP certification. We will not under any circumstances partake in any activities or forge any partnerships that even have the potential of degrading the high level of integrity and quality we have set for ourselves and the HISP certification.

We realize that we cannot measure progress by the above mentioned metrics alone. We measure progress by the success of our certified practitioners and the manner in which our members represent us. You are the people who really matter. Your ability to build on the HISP foundations you have learned and continue to put those fundamentals to practice are a tribute to your level of competence and proves that “HISP” is more than just another acronym behind your name. The rules of our industry have changed. This is a new generation, and there is a revolution taking place in technology and security; a revolution that demands more for less; a revolution that requires multi-talented practitioners. Companies are demanding that both IT and information security professionals understand both the technology and business processes to build an effective organizational ISMS. They are demanding integration and reduction of costs in order to stay profitable. This revolution has changed the way we work and do business.

Competition for jobs is fiercer than it has ever been. You can choose to be a follower or a leader. You can choose to be discouraged or take it as a challenge and kick it up a notch. You can be a “Victim” or a “Victor”. The HISPI call to arms is for all professionals to encourage others. Point them to the HISPI website and let them decide for themselves. The responsibility starts in the mirror. We are reinventing what it means to be “certified”. We are making a critical statement and paving a path that all others will eventually choose to follow. The way to winning the future is to make a better future for those that follow. Always looking forward not behind us. That’s why your windshield is so much bigger than your rear view mirror. Where you are going is so much more important than where you have been. At the HISPI we are looking to the future and by being part of this organization you ARE in fact the future.

As always, we welcome anyone who feels they would like to volunteer some hours to help continued development and improvement for the HISPI and it is a great way to contribute and earn CPEs for your efforts.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support. If you would like to become more involved in the HISPI, we encourage you to volunteer on one of our committees or projects! To become involved contact any governance board member. Contact information for all Governance Board members is at the end of this letter or through the HISPI toll free number 888-247-4858.

Warmest Regards,



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