



# Physical Security Interoperability Alliance

Newsletter

April 2013



## Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings!

I am happy to report to you the PSIA is the first physical security standards-setting body to release software profiles. These include the Access Control Profile, the Intrusion Detection Profile, plus a Test Tool for ensuring conformance with each.

The PSIA's Profiles reflect a new maturation in de facto standards for the physical security industry. Profiles are commonly used with major technology standards, like Bluetooth. They provide an easy, streamlined way for manufacturers to comply with a standard, even if their tools and applications don't generate all the data elements defined in the standard. A rich, well-defined, comprehensive standard is the prerequisite to useful software profiles.

For the PSIA, our Access Control and Intrusion Detection Profiles draw from our Area Control Specification. To be clear, all of our specifications have built-in backwards-compatibility, so we did not have to create Profiles to address confusion about which versions of our specifications interoperate. Instead, with our Profiles, we are free to focus on helping a wider group of manufacturers offer plug-and-play PSIA-compliant products more quickly.

As always, our end goal is driving more de facto standards adoption across the security ecosystem and beyond it, to building automation systems, mobile applications, and enterprise systems.

At ISC West, several PSIA members will be introducing and demonstrating security tools that conform to the Profiles. Follow us on Twitter at [@psialliance.org](https://twitter.com/psialliance.org) to get all the latest as the show progresses. If you want to know more about the new PSIA Profiles, please contact us at [dmaquire@psialliance.org](mailto:dmaquire@psialliance.org).

Best regards,

David Bunzel, Executive Director, the PSIA

## PSIA in the News

Catch Dave Bunzel's remarks at length on what the PSIA has in store for the coming year in his recent column in the March 2013 issue of Security Technology Executive and at [securityinfowatch.com](http://securityinfowatch.com).

Also, our Profiles news was picked up by Security-Today.com; SecuritySystemsNews.com; and Securitysales.com. Find your own copy of our [Profiles news release here](#).

## From the Chairman

During the past few months, I've attended several security industry trade events and have been struck by the ever-growing demand from users for interoperable products and systems, regardless of whether these are in the physical security realm or corporate IT. It's exactly this kind of interoperability--true plug-and-play compatibility--that the PSIA's new Access Control and Intrusion Detection Profiles deliver.



Reducing costs via faster integration, streamlined systems maintenance and ease of use drive interoperability demands. Our Profiles will make it easier for more manufacturers to build PSIA compliance into their products and tools and meet these plug-and-play requirements. In turn, users, integrators and consultants will turn to these choices that enable them to build more flexible solutions at lower cost.

Interoperability based on standards also is a prerequisite for participating in the "Internet of Things." In the Internet of Things, virtually every device in the home and business--thermostats, cars, cable boxes, refrigerators, door locks, camera systems, sensors--have their own IP address and can be integrated and controlled remotely. Physical security products have a natural place in the Internet of Things--provided we as an industry support specifications and de facto standards developed with a wide range of collaborators.

PSIA members co-created the PSIA Profiles and Test Tool, as well as the Area Control specifications on which they are based, drawing on their broad and varying expertise. It is this mix of perspectives, and a practical focus on meeting industry needs that enabled the PSIA to bring the first Profiles to the physical security industry. It's a foundation that will help our industry grow and adapt as technology evolves so that vendors can be more compatible and competitive; integrators and consultants more effective; and end users more secure.

I invite you to be an active part of our work in shaping the future of physical security.

Best regards,

Larry Lien  
Chairman, the PSIA  
Vice President, Product Management, Proximex

## Be Social with Us!



Help us spread the word about the PSIA by re-tweeting our tweets, following our new blog and forwarding this copy of our newsletter to peers you think would be interested in learning more about how the PSIA specifications are building true plug-and-play interoperability throughout the physical security industry and beyond.

#### **About PSIA**

The Physical Security Interoperability Alliance is a global consortium of physical security manufacturers and integrators focused on promoting the interoperability of IP-enabled security devices across every segment of the industry. PSIA supports license-free standards and specifications, which are vetted in an open and collaborative manner to the industry as a whole. Specifications are developed through member and industry participation in five active working groups: IP Video, Video Analytics, Recording and Content Management, Area Control and Systems. To date, more than 2100 industry professionals have downloaded PSIA's specifications.

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