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PSIA

Physical Security Interoperability Alliance

Newsletter   **December 2012**

A Word from our Chairman

At the start of 2012, we at the Physical Security Interoperability Alliance (PSIA) had an ambitious "to-do" list to support our goal of setting de facto standards for the security industry. I'm pleased to report we will begin the New Year positioned for still more growth and achievement because of all that we accomplished together over the last 12 months to strengthen the PSIA:

- We have an impressive, global member base made up of a wide range of long-time industry leaders as well as innovative younger companies, all of them committed to the use of standards.
- Our Working Groups have done a tremendous job, continuing to enhance and build on the PSIA specifications to respond to the requests we receive to solve real-world security operations, management and integration issues.
- We formed a Profile group to identify which aspects of our specifications apply to specific security functions. These profiles will enable manufacturers to expedite their adoption of PSIA specifications.
- The PSIA's powerful Area Control specification is being widely adopted by our members, a reflection of their increased commitment to incorporating the PSIA specs into their system and product roadmaps. Still more commercially available PSIA-compliant products are scheduled for release later this year and early next.
- We have increased the awareness of PSIA with additional industry education and marketing activities focused on consultants,end users and manufacturers through webinars, speaker roundtables, media articles, and social media. Our new video captures audience reactions to the value of the PSIA's real-world plug-and-play capabilities, which we demonstrated during ASIS 2012.

The PSIA specifications are becoming de facto industry standards because they enable better security solutions to be implemented more quickly at lower cost. Members who participate as fully as possible in the PSIA, through Working Groups or demonstrations or publicity opportunities, have a great opportunity to showcase their technological and industry leadership. I hope you'll take advantage of all your membership benefits in the coming year.

It's a continuing honor to lead a group of such forward-thinking manufacturers, consultants, integrators and end users. Together, we are reshaping how we practice security, and I'm looking forward to an

exciting 2013!

Larry Lien,
Chairman, Physical Security Interoperability Alliance
VP Product Management, Proximex

What PSIA Members are saying about ASIS 2012 Demo

At least nine use cases based on new and existing PSIA specifications were demonstrated at ASIS 2012, including automatic discovery of equipment and systems and a range of PSIM-supported functions that address access and intrusion edge devices.

See the video

PSIA Manufacturer Member Showcase: Meet ObjectVideo

ObjectVideo, Inc.
Reston, VA 20191 USA
www.objectvideo.com

Your company's featured physical security device, system or service:
ObjectVideo is the world's leading provider of intelligent video software for
security, public safety, business intelligence, process improvement and other applications.

Why does your company support PSIA specifications?
The easy integration of security devices, platforms and applications - especially game-changing applications such as video analytics - is extremely important to ObjectVideo. As a pure technology provider, it is vital that disparate components of the video surveillance system be able to communicate efficiently with one another, not cause problems or require additional engineering to truly become a part of the solution.

How will your PSIA compliant products benefit integrators and/or end users?
PSIA Video Analytics specification-compliant devices and platforms allow integrators to easily add analytics to a solution that may already be built, or to one that specifies analytics. For the end user, PSIA-compliant devices and platforms will save money (in device, integration and implementation costs) and allow them to use component applications within an environment with which they are already familiar.

What PSIA compliant products do you have commercially available today?
All ObjectVideo software offerings are OV Ready, which means they automatically comply with the current PSIA Video Analytics specification. They will also comply with future video analytics standards as they are introduced by the PSIA.

For more information about ObjectVideo, please contact Edward Troha, Managing Director, at
etroha@objectvideo.com

See Your Company Profile in this Space!

Membership in PSIA tells the world a company is a leader in the security standards movement.

Don't stop there, though: showcase your company and its work with a profile in this newsletter!

The PSIA has developed questionnaires to gather information to write profiles about different types of members. The questionnaires are short and easy to fill out. In return, your company gets great exposure through all the different PSIA channels.

If you are a PSIA member and interested in being profiled, please contact Debbie Maguire at dmaguire@psialliance.org

PSIA: Truly Plug-n-Play

After the formal PSIA interoperability demonstration at ASIS 2012, when most of the 100-plus guests had found their way to the door, two engineers decided to see if their products could communicate. Their results proved some very cool plug-and-play capabilities enabled by PSIA specifications.

On the spur of the moment, Ron Gur-Lavi, director, business management for NICE Surveillance, and Ewa Pigna, UTC Fellow, UTC Fire & Security, sat down next to each other with their laptops and, within minutes, had NICE's Situator physical security information management system and the UTC access control goEntry system communicating with each other.

While both UTC and NICE Systems are PSIA members who have integrated the PSIA Area Control specification, their implementation efforts were separate, so the demo Gur-Lavi and Pigna conducted was truly impromptu and unrehearsed.

"We had no plans to integrate our systems at the demo. But we decided the PSIA Area Control spec is supposed to allow two compliant systems to work together and we thought it should work," recalled Gur-Lavi.

"I wanted to prove that the theory will work in practice and that we both implemented the spec in the same manner, allowing the true plug-n-play capability of PSIA interoperability," said Pigna.

To accomplish the integration, Gur-Lavi had to change one IP address to start receiving data from the UTC application. The two systems then shared event data such as access granted and denied, and door commands, including portal lock/unlock.

"In the real world, the client would be able to monitor events from a PSIA-enabled server and allow the user the flexibility to control access portals from a single user interface," said Pigna.

"The integration worked perfectly," said Gur-Lavi. "It was great to see that if you follow the specifications, you can integrate with a system you haven't worked with before."

"If the specs are implemented by both integration parties, the actual integration can be done in the field without the need for custom code," added Pigna.

That's the power of PSIA specs, and security standards, at work.

Do you have a PSIA plug-n-play story? Please share it with us by contacting Debbie Maguire at dmaguire@psialliance.org.

Lien Blogs on PSIA ASIS Event & Security Standards

Read about a true plug-and-play standards moment, get Larry Lien's perspective on the PSIA interoperability event at ASIS and check out individual responses to PSIA standards positions at this blog entry. A special thank-you goes to PSIA member

Honeywell

for making this space available.

Letter from the Executive Director

With 2013 just around the corner, our New Year plans include building on the PSIA's accomplishments to date, especially our solid foundation of specifications, which is enabling products and systems to interoperate to meet the needs of the physical security industry.

We are in the third phase of the specification process: installing products that have implemented PSIA specs in physical security environments. This is happening now! We have a number of proof-of-concept initiatives in-process, which will lead to actual field deployments of PSIA-enabled products. Large companies are leading this effort by mandating interoperable products for their future security installations. Only PSIA-compliant products and systems provide these companies with effective security solutions because ours is the only group that focuses on broad, system-level specifications instead of point-to-point, device-driven specs.

The coming year will feature a number of other important initiatives. One of our member companies is working on tablet and mobile implementations, which will allow PSIA-enabled products to be controlled from almost anywhere. Consider the building or security manager who can monitor, manage, and control his facility from home or on the other side of the world...a truly exciting development. We also expect the elevator industry to become more active in the PSIA in 2013, working with the Area Control specifications.

In addition, we are bringing building management systems into the PSIA ecosystem. Building and security management systems have many complementary functions, and we plan to leverage the PSIA work and specifications to grow our capabilities in this area. Our activities will become more global, as members and partner companies in Asia and Europe are planning projects that rely on the PSIA specifications.

Our ultimate objective is to support the customer. The commitment our members have shown in developing solid specifications and innovative products and applications, is having a profound effect on the physical security industry. We encourage you to join the PSIA and be part of our efforts.

Best regards,

David Bunzel
Executive Director
PSIA

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.

Visit our website at www.psialliance.org
Physical Security Interoperability Alliance (PSIA)

Please join us on

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