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Physical Security Interoperability Alliance

Newsletter

January 2013

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Letter from the Executive Director

The year has barely started and we at the PSIA already have exciting developments to share that will set the tone for our work throughout 2013.

- Our Profiles Working Group is ready to release its Access Control and Intrusion Detection Profiles as well as a test tool. These Profiles will enable manufacturers to become PSIA-compliant more quickly by adhering to a clearly defined subset of our broader specifications. Then the new Profiles test tool will enable manufacturers to validate their Profile compliance, giving users high confidence that the product will interoperate smoothly with other PSIA-compliant products and systems.
- We're revamping the PSIA website, adding new material to help our members explain and market the benefits of PSIA compliance to executive and customer/prospect audiences. Watch for us to be more social too, especially via LinkedIn and Twitter, and to offer publicity opportunities to our members.
- Planning for ISC West is under way, where we intend to show key media and industry influencers just how interwoven the PSIA and its specifications are within and beyond the security ecosystem.



These are just a few of the initiatives the PSIA has in store for members. It's going to be a great year, and I look forward to working with industry leaders like you to encourage the adoption of standards throughout the security industry.

Best regards,

David Bunzel, Executive Director, the PSIA

Kastle Systems Leads Profiles Working Group to Enhance PSIA Interoperability

With his extensive experience in developing technology standards, Mohammad Soleimani, executive vice president and chief technology officer of Kastle Systems, understands that standards that fail to enable true interoperability among supposedly compliant products have little value.



"When products incorporate a standard, there should be a high degree of certainty that those products will interoperate and deliver the benefits the user expects," he said.

To ensure interoperability with a "high degree of certainty," Soleimani recommended to the PSIA board that the organization develop use-case specific "profiles." Such profiles are commonly used by standards-setting bodies and are carved out of broader standards or specifications to address narrower applications of the standard.

The PSIA board agreed and now, approximately nine months later, Soleimani and the Profiles Working Group he chairs are on the verge of announcing two Profiles: Access Control and Intrusion Detection, both derived from the broad Area Control Specification; and a testing tool that will make compliance and development easier for manufacturers.

"We very much appreciate Kastle and Mohammad's leadership in developing our first Profiles," said David Bunzel, executive director, the PSIA. "We expect these tools will accelerate adoption of our specifications by an even broader group of manufacturers."

Streamlining Compliance

"The PSIA Area Control Specification is a very broad and deep document, and some manufacturers may not offer the use cases it details," said Soleimani. "For them, the Access Control Profile and the Intrusion Detection Profile are so explicit that compliance with either virtually guarantees interoperability."

In addition to drawing data elements from the Area Control Specification, the Profiles also detail the data elements from the PSIA's common reference specifications that govern how security systems communicate with each other, including the PSIA Common Security Model. Having these "compliance recipes" to follow should make it faster and easier for manufacturers to comply with PSIA specifications.

For example, a company making intrusion sensors can meet the Intrusion Detection Profile requirements instead of complying with the entire Area Control Specification and each of the PSIA's common specifications.

The Profiles Working Group also has developed a comprehensive testing tool to validate a correct Profiles implementation and ensure manufacturers' products will interoperate with other PSIA-compliant products. In a product's design phase, the Profiles test tool can help manufacturers build in the Profile, validating compliance along the way. When the product passes its tests, the tool generates a certificate the manufacturer can send to the PSIA, confirming compliance.

"Integrators and end users can have confidence that two or more Profiles compliance-tested products will work together flawlessly," said Soleimani.

In addition to Kastle Systems, the Profiles Working Group consists of HID Global, Honeywell, Inovonics, Mercury Security, ObjectVideo, Proximex and UTC. Have a use case ripe for a Profile? Please contact David Bunzel via dmaquire@psialliance.com.

Getting Social with the PSIA

What do social networks like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn have in common with PSIA specifications? Well, we're all about making connections, and that's why you'll see more tweets and posts from the PSIA in 2013. We'll be publicizing member and industry news that's relevant to adopting standards as well as PSIA developments.

So if you haven't already, please start following the PSIA on Twitter by subscribing to us at www.twitter.com/PSIAAlliance. We'll appreciate your help in growing our audience by retweeting our tweets and using our hashtag #PSIASpecs in your original tweets about PSIA news.

Watch for surveys and polls to fill out too, and tell us what topics interest you about which you would like to hear your peers and colleagues' opinions. Submit your ideas to dmaguire@psialliance.org

Visit Our Updated Website

Looking for materials to help explain the value proposition of complying with PSIA specifications or plain-language descriptions and use cases for our specifications? Just visit our newly updated website. You'll find we've added FAQs and fact sheets to help non-technical audiences understand more about how PSIA specifications work and why they lead to better security solutions delivered at lower costs.
www.psialliance.org

ISC West: Showcasing PSIA Members

Will your company be demonstrating a PSIA-compliant product or service at ISC West in April? If so, we'd like to include you in our media relations outreach. Our goal is to show the media and other key audiences that PSIA members have compliant products that span the security ecosystem and then some.

If you will have a PSIA-compliant product to show off and are interested in being included in materials we will give to the media, analysts and consultants, please contact Debbie Maguire at dmaguire@psialliance.org ASAP.

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](http://www.psialliance.org)

Physical Security Interoperability Alliance (PSIA)

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