

ISC launches the first all-in-one programme to help SMEs introduce security best practice

Submitted by: Prompt Communications Ltd

Thursday, 25 November 2004

ISC, one of the UK's largest IT value added resellers (VARs), has launched the first all-in-one programme which enables small to medium sized businesses to introduce information and network security best practice.

In the ISC Security Partner Programme, a team of independently certified consultants help businesses identify their security needs and implement a management process to achieve best practice in protecting their data. The programme is based on the UK government approved BS7799/ISO17799 standard.

By first identifying the business critical processes, the greatest and most likely threats and the potential for loss, the Security Partner Programme ensures that investments in security deliver value.

The Security Partner Programme is the only one to:

- Package all the BS7799/ISO17799 deliverables in a single programme spanning the PLAN-DO-CHECK-ACT stages;
- Provide ongoing support – even when ISC is no longer at the customer's site;
- Build in skills transfer: ISC provides the knowledge, skills and experience the customer does not have but also provides training throughout the Programme so the customer can take on all duties in future.

"It's well known that businesses face the threat of disruption and financial loss if data is lost or unavailable," says Bruce Hallas, Information & Network Security Business Manager at ISC, "but there is an opportunity here too. Introducing best practice provides assurance to external organisations that you are adopting a strategy for managing your operational risk surrounding data and for mitigating any potential financial impact."

"Small to medium sized businesses want to address their responsibility for data confidentiality, integrity and availability, but the current options are expensive and arguably poor value." he concludes.

Maggie Stephens, Director of Learning and IS Thames Valley University says "ISC's Information & Network Security Division recently conducted an independent audit review of the University's framework of controls, as it is applied to the protection of our vitally important information assets. We felt that the work was of such good quality and value-for-money that we are now using ISC again to produce an Information Security Policy for the University".

To kick off the Security Partner Programme, ISC is hosting four executive briefings. These seminars will discuss:

- Data confidentiality, integrity and availability: the traditional approach, its strengths and limitations

- How to achieve compliance and governance, regulatory and legal requirements within your network environment
- Information security management system BS7799/ISO17799
- An introduction to the Security Partner Programme

The seminars take place 30 November in Huntingdon, 2 December in Liverpool, 7 December in London and 14 December in Derby. For more information, or to register, executives are invited to visit www.iscnet.co.uk/events/spp

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About ISC

Established in 1984 and still privately owned by its founder Paul Gumbley, ISC is one of the UK's largest IT Value Added Resellers (VAR). With a turnover exceeding £60million, over 300 employees, UK wide office locations and an extensive portfolio of products and services; ISC is the ideal partner of choice for many businesses. More details at www.iscnet.co.uk

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