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## PCI SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES EXPANDED GLOBAL TRAINING OFFERINGS FOR 2011

— Enhanced programs provide flexibility and courses designed to meet unique stakeholder needs; first PCI Awareness training to coincide with RSA Conference—

**WAKEFIELD**, Mass., February 16, 2011 —Underscoring its mission to enhance payment account data security by driving education and awareness of the PCI Security Standards, the [PCI Security Standards Council \(PCI SSC\)](#), a global, open industry standards body providing management of the [Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard \(PCI DSS\)](#), [PIN Transaction Security \(PTS\) requirements](#) and the [Payment Application Data Security Standard \(PA-DSS\)](#), today announced its training programs for 2011. The expanded portfolio not only offers greater flexibility for global stakeholders but also adds courses that address a variety of knowledge levels to foster networking and best practice sharing across industries and geographies.

New this year, the Council adds [PCI Awareness](#) training to its offerings, a high-level basic introduction to PCI open to anyone who wants to learn and understand what PCI DSS is, its impact on an organization and the importance of PCI compliance. Participants have the option of completing the course online or attending a one day instructor-led session. Organizations looking to educate their employees across business functions about their role in maintaining PCI compliance are encouraged to take advantage of this course, either through attendance onsite, online or through a customized training at their offices.

“This is essentially PCI 101,” said PCI Security Standards Council General Manager, Bob Russo. “We’re excited to be able to offer this class to anyone who’s interested. These expanded trainings underscore the importance of not just addressing processes and technology when it comes to payment security, but also people. Making sure you’re employees are PCI aware is a good first step.”

Taking advantage of the large number of security professionals that attend the RSA Conference, PCI Awareness training kicks off its inaugural session in San Francisco on Friday, February 18, followed by the first European session in London on Friday, March 11, and will cover the following topics:

- What is PCI and what it means to companies that must meet compliance with the PCI Data Security Standard
- Roles and responsibilities of the key actors in the compliance process
- How the credit card brands differ in their requirements for PCI reporting and validation
- Overview of the transaction process, including infrastructure used by organizations to accept payment cards and communicate with the verification and payment facilities
- Real world examples of PCI challenges and successes

The Council plans to offer the online Awareness training course in other languages according to market need, with a Japanese version expected later this year.

Also new in 2011, existing [Internal Security Assessor \(ISA\)](#) and [Qualified Security Assessor \(QSA\)](#) programs will now feature an online pre-requisite course, aimed at reducing the time required for onsite instruction and ensuring that all attendees are operating from the same knowledge base. The four hour computer-based training will cover the fundamentals of PCI and requires participants to pass an exam in order to attend the instructor-led two day session.

All instructor-led courses are taught by PCI Security Standards Council experts including D. Timothy Hartzell and Art Cooper, PCI SSC standards trainers who each offer more than 30 years of experience in the technology sector and training members of the payments community.

The move to online course offerings and a broader scope of training for various levels is a direct response to requests from stakeholders. Similarly, the ISA program rolled out earlier last year was a result of feedback from the PCI community.

“ISA training provided me with in-depth knowledge of the PCI Standards from someone who has done assessments,” said William Paynter, senior accounting manager at WildBlue Communications. “I gained a significant amount of knowledge from the

instructor Tim and many other course attendees who have been through previous assessments.”

In addition to PCI Awareness, the Council will continue to deliver ISA as well as QSA, Payment Application Qualified Security Assessor (PA-QSA) and [Approved Scanning Vendor \(ASV\)](#) trainings to provide stakeholders with the knowledge, skills and tools to facilitate the process of compliance and secure payment card data.

Requalification courses for QSA, PA-QSA and ISA will also be offered throughout the year for those who need to renew their credentials. Those wishing to sign up should email [training@pcisecuritystandards.org](mailto:training@pcisecuritystandards.org).

Please visit the Council website for a [full schedule](#) of the global training locations, dates prices and registration details.

The Council also invites Participating Organizations and the public to attend a webinar on the PCI SSC 2011 training offerings. This presentation will include:

- Overview of the PCI SSC Council training programs
- Detailed look at the course offerings, including who should attend, pre-requisites and topics covered
- Review of 2011 PCI SSC training calendar, locations and costs
- Training FAQ - a quick look at some of your frequently asked questions

To register for the Tuesday, February 22, 2011 session at 3:00 pm EST/ noon PST, please use the following link: <http://register.webcastgroup.com/l3/?wid=0500222115537>.

To register for the Thursday, February 24, 2011 session at 11:00 am EST/ 8:00 am PST, please use the following link:  
<http://register.webcastgroup.com/l3/?wid=0500224115539>.

For more information on PCI SSC training programs, please visit <https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/training/index.php>.

### **About the PCI Security Standards Council**

The mission of the PCI Security Standards Council is to enhance payment account security by driving education and awareness of the PCI Data Security Standard and other standards that increase payment data security.

The PCI Security Standards Council was formed by the major payment card brands American Express, Discover Financial Services, JCB International, MasterCard Worldwide and Visa Inc. to provide a transparent forum in which all stakeholders can provide input into the ongoing development, enhancement and dissemination of the PCI Data Security Standard (DSS), PIN Transaction Security (PTS) requirements and the Payment Application Data Security Standard (PA-DSS). Merchants, banks, processors and other vendors are encouraged to join as participating organizations.

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