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PCI SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS

— First cohort of PCI SSC Affiliate members comprised of global payment security experts—

WAKEFIELD, Mass., 4 April, 2013 — Today [the PCI Security Standards Council \(PCI SSC\)](#), an open, global forum for the development of payment card security standards announced that three organizations have joined the Council as the first Affiliate members. The [Australian Payment Clearing Association \(APCA\)](#), [Cartes Bancaires CB](#) and [Interac Association](#) will participate in this new capacity effective 1 April, 2013.

The Council introduced the Affiliate membership class in 2012 as part of a continued drive to leverage industry expertise and broaden global input into the standards development process. Affiliate membership is open to regional and national organizations that define standards and influence adoption by their constituents who process, store or transmit cardholder data. This category offers Affiliate members the opportunity to become active participants on PCI working groups, in addition to playing an integral role in the standards development process.

The Australian Payments Clearing Association (APCA) is the self-regulatory body set up by the payments industry to improve the safety, reliability, equity, convenience and efficiency of the Australian payments system. APCA represents 90 members that include the Reserve Bank of Australia, major and regional banks, building societies, credit unions, large retailers and other principal payments service providers.

Cartes Bancaires CB, (Groupement des Cartes Bancaires CB), based in Paris, France, is an Economic Interest Consortium (GIE), and the governing body of the CB payment system. In addition to managing the system, Cartes Bancaires CB defines the rules and procedures for inter-bank business and for risk management. It also determines the technical and security standards and approves the products and services that meet the requirements of the CB system.

CB is one of the largest systems in Europe, with more than 60 million cards in circulation, 58,000 Automates Teller Machines (ATM) and 1.2 million merchant customers.

Interac Association, based in Canada, is a recognized world leader in debit card services. Interac Association is responsible for the development and operations of the *Interac* network, a national payment network that allows Canadians to access their money through *Interac* Cash at 60,000 Automated Banking Machines and *Interac* Debit at 766,000 point-of-sale terminals across Canada.

Together, these entities representing a diverse membership base from around the world will bring new perspectives and expertise to the standards development process.

“We are excited to welcome our first Affiliate members into the Council. These organizations have been Participating Organizations for some time and have actively contributed to Council initiatives and outreach around the world,” said Bob Russo, general manager, PCI Security Standards Council. “The Council commends APCA, Cartes Bancaires and Interac for taking the next step in their work with us to increase payment security globally through PCI Standards.”

“It is encouraging to see strong European representation that underscores the support for PCI Standards globally,” said Jeremy King, European Director, PCI Security Standards Council. “The regional expertise that all three organizations bring to the Council will only enhance the quality, applicability and relevance of PCI standards and guidance documents across all payment options and methods used.”

About the PCI Security Standards Council

The [PCI](#) Security Standards Council is an open global forum that is responsible for the development, management, education, and awareness of the PCI Data Security Standard ([PCI DSS](#)) and other standards that increase payment data security. Founded in 2006 by the major payment card brands American Express, Discover Financial Services, JCB International, MasterCard Worldwide and Visa Inc., the Council has over 600 Participating Organizations representing merchants, banks, processors and vendors worldwide. To learn more about playing a part in securing payment card data globally, please visit: pcisecuritystandards.org.

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