

# PRESS RELEASE



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### **PCI SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL APPOINTS ROBERT M. RUSSO, SR. AS GENERAL MANAGER**

*—Russo to Provide Operational Leadership to Help Drive Next Evolution of Payment Security—*

**WAKEFIELD**, Mass., March 27, 2007 — The PCI Security Standards Council, an independent industry standards body providing management of the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard on a global basis, today announced that Robert M. Russo, Sr. has joined the Council as general manager. Russo will report directly to the Executive Committee and be responsible for day to day management of vendor approval programs as well as execution of the organization's programs and objectives related to driving increased payment data security by fostering broad awareness and adoption of the PCI DSS.

As part of his responsibilities, Russo will oversee the PCI Security Standards Council's training, testing and certification programs for Qualified Security Assessors (QSAs) and Approved Scanning Vendors (ASVs) and related staff, serving as a key resource for the certification process. He will also be tasked with coordinating research and analysis regarding PCI DSS, soliciting feedback from the vendor and merchant community, and driving recruitment of stakeholders as Participating Organizations in the Council.

Russo brings more than 25 years of high-tech business management, operations and security experience to the PCI Security Standards Council. Most recently, he served as the vice president of Commercial Sales for Secure Info, a provider of security, risk and compliance services and software. He was also a founder of a number of software and security companies including Network-1 Software & Technology and ATC Security, a security compliance company created to assess compliance of payment industry stakeholders, later acquired by Ambiron LLC. In addition, Russo has held executive management positions in a number of focused security, software and technology organizations including: C-Scomputer Systems, H&M Systems Software, Inc., Exodus Communications Inc. and ATW Corporation.

"Bob's presence and leadership will further our goal of engaging key stakeholders in support of payment security and the PCI DSS," said Seana Pitt, chairperson, PCI Security Standards Council. "In addition, his previous experience managing the compliance of payment industry merchants, issuers, acquirers and service providers while maintaining relationships with the credit card payment brands made him a natural choice for this position."

Russo's appointment highlights the Council's mission to enhance payment account data security by fostering broad adoption of the PCI Data Security Standard.

"I am extremely honored to join the Council in its mission to secure payment account data globally," said Russo. "There is a tremendous opportunity for us to build on the momentum established by the Council and the growing awareness of the PCI DSS to further drive adoption, enlist increased stakeholder participation and evolve the future standard to enhance payment account security."

### **For More Information:**

If you would like more information about the PCI Security Standards Council or would like to become a Participating Organization please visit [pcisecuritystandards.org](http://pcisecuritystandards.org), or contact the PCI Security Standards Council at [info@pcisecuritystandards.org](mailto:info@pcisecuritystandards.org).

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

The mission of the PCI Security Standards Council is to enhance payment account security by fostering broad adoption 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, MasterCard Worldwide and Visa International to provide a transparent forum in which all stakeholders can provide input into the ongoing development, enhancement and dissemination of the Data Security Standard. Merchants, banks, processors and point of sale vendors are encouraged to join as Participating Organizations.