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PAYMENT CARD INDUSTRY SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL DRIVES GLOBAL COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE PAYMENT DATA SECURITY
— Payments Industry Leaders Join Forces to Help Businesses Detect, Mitigate, and Prevent Cyberattacks and Breaches —

Las Vegas, Nevada, 28 September 2018 — More than 1,300 payment security industry stakeholders from around the world convened this week at The Mirage in Las Vegas for the Payment Card Industry Security Standards Council (PCI SSC) North America Community Meeting. The annual gathering invites attendees to learn about ongoing developments in payment card security, gain a better understanding of payment security best practices and emerging threats and provide feedback.

A top priority for the PCI SSC and its stakeholders is leveraging advancements in technology and payments to evolve data security standards, while also helping the industry to combat threats and address areas where businesses are most vulnerable to payment data breaches. This event is one of the many ways' stakeholders can provide feedback, ask questions, and help influence the direction of PCI Data Security Standards. Priority topics discussed at the meeting included:

- **Greater Global Collaboration:** Market feedback and global collaboration are critical to stay one step ahead of cybercriminals. As a global forum, the PCI SSC enables cross-industry collaboration in a variety of ways including robust Request for Comments periods on its various standards, community-driven Special Interest Groups (SIGs) which focus on payment security challenges related to PCI Security Standards and the newly-launched Global Executive Assessor Roundtable which brings together senior leaders of assessor companies with insights from different regions of the world and experience on a wide variety of PCI assessor programs. Finally, the Council just announced the call for nominations for the Council's Board of Advisors, and encourages global payment security leaders to apply.

- **The Future of Standards:** As emerging threats, changing consumer behavior, and new technologies continue to evolve, so too does the PCI SSC to help the marketplace protect payment data. An example of this is the recently released security standard for software-based PIN entry on commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) devices. The PCI Software-Based PIN Entry (SPoC) Standard provides a software-based approach for protecting PIN entry on the wide variety of consumer-grade mobile phones and tablets. A new PCI Software Security Framework will be released soon that will support both existing as well as emerging payment software practices.

- **Help for Smaller Merchants:** The PCI SSC recognizes the unique challenges facing the small merchant community with regards to payment security and has made helping educate small merchants and their partners a priority. Alongside updated educational resources, the Council's Small Merchant Taskforce recently released the Data Security Essentials Evaluation Tool (DSE). This tool is designed to help small merchants better understand their payment environment and the best ways to protect it.

- **Education and Training:** The best way to protect against cyberattacks is through greater education and training. The PCI SSC is unique in that it provides not only security standards but the tools and training programs to implement and maintain those standards. COO Mauro Lance discusses PCI SSC programs in this blog post.

- **PCI SSC Board of Advisors Elections**: The 2019-2020 Board of Advisors nomination period runs from 17 September until 23 October 2018, followed by the election period from 5-16 November 2018. For more information on the process, review the 2019-2020 PCI SSC Board of Advisors Election and Nomination and Election FAQ.

Additional highlights from the North American Community Meeting in Las Vegas are available on the PCI Perspectives Blog.

"The meeting in Las Vegas brought together a wide range of payment security stakeholders to learn, share and discuss the current state and future of payment security. It is only by working together as an industry that we can achieve success securing payments and combating card breaches," said PCI SSC Executive Director Lance J. Johnson. Mr. Johnson discusses his vision for the Council in this blog post.

"Innovation is moving at an incredible pace for not only payment acceptance but also the supporting technology and security best practices." added PCI SSC Chief Technology Officer Troy Leach. "The meeting this week highlighted the many ways security standards are helping advance this change and how we can collaborate together as an industry to usher in the next generation of payment security." Refer to this blog post for additional comments from Mr. Leach about the future of the security standards.

PCI SSC Chief Operating Officer Mauro Lance highlighted the significance and importance of cybersecurity training and education. "The best defense against cyber attacks on your payment systems is an educated and well-trained workforce. The PCI SSC continues to evolve our training programs to meet the emerging training needs of the marketplace."

About the PCI Security Standards Council
The PCI Security Standards Council (PCI SSC) leads a global, cross-industry effort to increase payment security by providing industry-driven, flexible and effective data security standards and programs that help businesses detect, mitigate and prevent cyberattacks and breaches. Connect with the PCI SSC on LinkedIn. Join the conversation on Twitter @PCISSC. Subscribe to the PCI Perspectives Blog.

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