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NITIN BHATNAGAR TO STRENGTHEN DATA AND CYBERSECURITY IN INDIA, A MAJOR FOCUS OF THE PCI SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL

MUMBAI, India, 1 November 2018 – The PCI Security Standards Council ([PCI SSC](#)), a global standards body for the payment card industry, has announced Nitin Bhatnagar will lead their India outreach efforts to educate and promote the importance of the PCI Security Standards within the region.

Bhatnagar will serve as Associate Director, India and will be responsible for driving awareness and adoption of the PCI Security Standards for payment card security within India. Bhatnagar will work closely with merchants, acquirers, financial institutions, security practitioners, law enforcement and other key stakeholders across the Indian payment eco-system.

“We are delighted to have Nitin leading our efforts in this important market” said Jeremy King, International Director of the PCI Security Standards Council. “Nitin’s wealth of experience, having spent his impressive career in information security, makes him the ideal person to be leading our efforts to promote good, sound payment security standards within India.”

“I am thrilled to have this exciting opportunity and look forward to continuing my work in the information security space with the PCI Security Standards Council” said Nitin Bhatnagar. “PCI SSC’s global security standards are considered the ‘gold standard’ within the payment card industry. Cybersecurity is critical to the future growth of India’s economy as India today loses an estimated \$4 billion a year to internet crime, making us a primary target to cybercriminals. With PCI SSC making India a top priority, we have the unique opportunity to provide security standards, education and training to help guard against the cybercriminals who would do us harm.”

“Nitin’s background with India payment security firm SISA Information Security gives him a unique knowledge of the PCI Security Standards and the powerful impact they can have in securing sensitive data,” said Lance J. Johnson, Executive Director of the PCI Security Standards Council. “Nitin has a unique understanding of the data security needs in India and his expertise will be a valuable asset to the Council.”

The PCI SSC is making India a priority market due to its expanding economy and emphasis on cybersecurity. Earlier this year, the PCI SSC launched a [new discount program](#) to become a [Participating Organization](#) (PO). India was one of the many countries in the region that will benefit from this new program. The PCI SSC will also be holding a major payment security forum in Delhi in 2019.

Mr. Bhatnagar holds a bachelor’s degree in computer engineering from Bundelkhand University, Jhansi and Master of Science degree in Cyber Laws & Information Security from the Indian Institute of Information Technology – Allahabad. He is a regular guest speaker at various conferences and seminars on cybersecurity and writes technical articles for leading newspapers. Bhatnagar is fluent in Hindi and English.

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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