Business Executives and IT Professionals Attend ISSA-LA Information Security Summit on Cybercrime in Record Numbers

LOS ANGELES, CA, July 3, 2013 – Nearly 800 of the country's leading cybercrime experts, information security professionals, company CEOs and other C-suite business executives recently attended the most successful Annual Information Security Summit, *The Growing Cyber Threat: Protect Your Business,* that was ever held by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA-LA). The diverse group of attendees reflected the new reality that cybercrime impacts the financial stability of all organizations and industries such as business, nonprofits, government agencies, schools, healthcare and financial services. The Summit advances ISSA-LA's core belief that *'It takes the village to secure the village'* ^{SM}.

 "The increasing importance of managing information security was demonstrated by the amazing success of our Summit this year," said ISSA-LA President Stan Stahl, PhD. "Close to 800 business leaders dealing directly with information security concerns attended the one-day event, which is almost 40% more than Summit IV and nearly 800% growth in the four years since our first Summit held in 2009. We're extremely proud of all of our more than 90 organizational and community sponsors and vendors. We could not have put on the Summit without their generous support. We're also grateful for the marketing support of our organizational and community sponsors, especially the Los Angeles Business Journal. Without their efforts we could not have gotten close to 800 attendees. Based on this year's success, next year's Summit will be a two-day event and has already been scheduled for May 15 and May 16, 2014."

Keynote speakers at the Summit included former U.S. Cybersecurity Coordinator Howard Schmidt; ISSA International President Ira Winkler; Principal Strategist of HP Strategic Security Services Rafal Los: and Institute for Applied Network Security (IANS) Faculty Member Aaron Turner, one of the Nation's experts on critical infrastructure security.

This year's Summit had several tracks and objectives: updating information security professional on the current state of cybercrime; informing business executives on their vulnerability to cybercrime; discussing healthcare industry privacy compliance; and the issues surrounding privacy and security.

The Executive Forum was a half-day session designed to give top level business executives critical information they need in order to manage risk and stay safe from cybercrime. It included a special lunch hosted by our Chapter's Financial Information Security Forum, a consortium of LA's most forward-looking regional, local and community banks, as well as credit unions.

The full-day information security program provided critical information security updates, as well as professional education credits, to IT and information security practitioners and consultants. A Law Enforcement Panel included top law enforcement officials and attorneys from the FBI, the United States Secret Service, the Los Angeles District Attorney's office, and the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) that focused on privacy, free speech litigation, law enforcement and advocacy.

The Healthcare Privacy & Security program was a full-day session that included a representative from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and professionals and executives in the healthcare industry, discussing what they need to know to comply with new HIPAA/HITECH rules and Office of Civil Rights (OCR) investigations.

The Information Security Summits are part of ISSA-LA's community outreach program. They are the only educational forums specifically designed for participation and interaction among business executives, senior business managers and their trusted advisors; technical IT personnel with responsibility for information systems and the data they contain; and information security practitioners with responsibility for ensuring the security of sensitive information.