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ISSA-LA Promotes Greater Cybercrime Awareness During National Cyber Security Awareness Month

Los Angeles, October 2014 - The Los Angeles Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA-LA) is encouraging every person, business and nonprofit in Los Angeles to learn how to better protect themselves from cybercrime during National Cyber Security Awareness Month. Now in its 11th year, National Cyber Security Awareness Month is co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance.

“Cybercrime and identity theft threaten our businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, schools and individual consumers,” said Stan Stahl, Ph.D., President of ISSA-LA. “ISSA-LA is committed to helping the Greater Los Angeles Area community with solutions-based cybercrime educational programs.”

ISSA-LA’s motto, *It takes the village to secure the village*SM, means that everyone in the community needs to be aware, involved and take personal responsibility for protecting sensitive information. Small and medium-sized businesses are particularly vulnerable to cybersecurity challenges and threats with testimony in the House of Representatives suggesting that 60 percent of small businesses close within six months of a cyberattack. Often with limited resources, capacity, and personnel, cybersecurity management can be especially challenging, making being part of the “*village*” extremely valuable to survival. .

One of ISSA-LA’s community outreach programs is its *Financial Services Security Forum* (FSSF), an information security education program for executives and customers of financial services companies. Members of the Financial Services Security Forum include representatives from local, regional and national banks, and cybercrime investigators from law enforcement organizations such as the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, Orange County Sheriff’s Department, Los Angeles Police Department, FBI and Secret Service.

About Los Angeles Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA-LA):

ISSA-LA is the premier catalyst and information source in Los Angeles for improving the practice of information security. The Chapter provides educational programs for information security and IT professionals. The Chapter also conducts outreach programs to businesses, financial institutions, nonprofits, governmental agencies, and consumers. ISSA-LA is the founding Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association, an international not-for-profit organization of information security professionals and practitioners. For more information visit www.issala.org or follow the Chapter on Twitter at @ISSALA as well as LinkedIn and Facebook.

ISSA-LA President Stan Stahl, Ph.D. is Available for Interviews:

Dr. Stahl established ISSA-LA’s Community Outreach Program to encourage collaboration between Los Angeles business and community leaders, technical IT professionals and the information security community. Dr. Stahl is a pioneer in the field of information security, entering the field in 1980. He began his career securing teleconferencing at the White House, databases inside Cheyenne Mountain and the communications network controlling our nuclear weapons arsenal. Dr. Stahl earned his Ph.D. in mathematics from The University of Michigan. He is a member of the *Industry Advisory Board of the Information Technology Program at the Viterbi School of Engineering at USC*. He was recently invited to join the *California Cybersecurity Task Force* convened jointly by the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and the California Department of Technology.

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