



*Financial Services Sector Coordinating Council for
Critical Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security*

American Bankers Association
American Council of Life
Insurers
ASIS International
America's Community
Bankers
BAI
Bank of America
BITS and the Financial
Services Roundtable
Credit Union National
Association
Depository Trust & Clearing
Corporation
Fannie Mae
Consumer Bankers
Association
Financial Services Information
Sharing and Analysis Center,
Inc.
Futures Industry Association
Independent Community
Bankers of America
Investment Company Institute
Managed Funds Association
NASD, Inc.
NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.
National Association of
Federal Credit Unions
National Automated
Clearinghouse Association
Securities Industry
Association
Securities Industry
Automation Corporation/New
York Stock Exchange
The Bond Market Association
The Clearing House
The Options Clearing
Corporation
VISA USA

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***Financial Services Industry Launches
New Critical Infrastructure Protection Initiatives***

December 9, 2003—WASHINGTON, D.C.—The financial services industry has joined forces to form a new generation of the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FS/ISAC, Inc.) to share information about physical and cyber threats, vulnerabilities and events that could affect the sector. This advanced level of communications went live on December 1, 2003 and has been developed to help protect the critical infrastructure of the United States.

The FS/ISAC gathers a variety of risk information about cyber and physical security risks faced by the financial services sector. All financial services companies including banks, savings institutions, credit unions, brokerage firms, insurance companies and certain utilities may participate as members of the FS/ISAC.

The FS/ISAC was launched in 1999 as the industry response to Presidential Decision Directive 63 issued in 1998 to help members prepare for Y2K. This new generation of service is significantly advanced based on input from hundreds of financial services companies and the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Financial services companies can be involved at one of three primary levels—premier, core and basic. Services vary by level and include event alerts to members, access to a 24/7 security operations center, crisis management conference calls and a variety of other benefits. Financial services companies are encouraged to consider the Premier level because of the comprehensive information services provided.

“The financial industry’s core business is providing secure and trusted products and services to consumers,” Rhonda MacLean, Chairperson of the Financial Services Sector Coordinating Council (FSSCC) said. “Our industry is considered a critical infrastructure in ensuring the economic and well-being of our nation. By joining and actively participating in the FS/ISAC, we all contribute to keeping our customers safe and our nation strong.”

To become a member of FS/ISAC, visit www.fsisac.com or call Byron Yancey at (704) 541-0806.