

Certification *Profile*



For ASIS International member and volunteer leader **Khalid A. Buali, CPP**, the decision to achieve his Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) designation was driven by a personal desire to increase his professional-

ism. Security management has been Buali's career of choice since his 1991 hiring by Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco).

"The achievement of my CPP expanded the spectrum of knowledge in security and safety and strengthened my project management and decision-making skills," states Buali. "In turn, I was prepared to manage critical projects with unique time and scope requirements."

In his current position as Superintendent of Saudi Aramco's Industrial Security Operations Division, Buali manages the division's 292 employees, who provide area-wide services inclusive of industrial security; materials security; in-camp security; internal investigation and identification; and surveillance and inspections. Buali notes the nature of security operations to be manpower intensive. One of his greatest challenges as a leader is to ensure fairness and integrity across his division, while working to maintain the highest standards in security operation.

A typical day for Buali consists of report reviews, procedural analysis, and investigation of security-related incidents. Buali also is called on to perform manpower optimization reviews for other departments and to undertake contractor-work review and evaluation. His team played an important role in the successful opening of King Abdullah University for Science and Technology—an initiative that earned special recognition from the company's CEO.

Buali's passion for the profession and commitment to ASIS is demonstrated through his role as chair of the Middle East Chapter—a position he has held for the past two years. He credits his membership in ASIS with enriching his knowledge and providing the resources required to advance in his security career. "Even prior to joining ASIS seven years ago, I recognized the value of the organization through participation in events, such as the annual seminar and exhibits, professional networking events, and technical meetings," he says.

Buali is proud of the work he does and encourages other professionals to consider entering the profession. "The fact that your job is to protect people is a noble calling," observes Buali.

By Leigh A. McGuire, ASIS public relations manager