Certification *Profile*

CREASY

Since 1987, Tech Systems, Inc., based in Duluth, Georgia, has been a leading provider of integrated security solutions for a diverse group of national and international clients. Tech Systems' core competency is the design, integration, and maintenance of electronic security products and enterprise systems for liability prevention, asset protection, and process applications.

"Our goal is to set the standard for performance and reliability in the marketplaces we serve," says Joy Creasy, PSP, Tech Systems' director of training.

Tech Systems employs about 160 people—and considers most of them to be security staff. From business administrators to the marketing team, each is expected to be an industry expert. "Each member of our team has a direct impact on the security of our company," Creasy says, "but more importantly on the physical security of our several hundred clients worldwide."

She adds that the company's highly trained and certified security professionals at every level of the company are designing, troubleshooting, and improving systems in what she describes as a dynamic environment. "To meet this demand, everyone, from our account managers to our service responders and our purchasing agents, has a responsibility for a level of industry knowledge which surpasses that of our competitors."

Tech Systems offers a financial incentive for any manager at the account, regional, or business development level to attain either or both the ASIS International Physical Security Professional® (PSP) and Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) certifications.

"ASIS board certifications are widely recognized as the standard for excellence in security knowledge and experience," Creasy says. "It's important for us to demonstrate our expertise to our clients and prospects. The combination of industry experience and ASIS board certification is the only way at Tech Systems for one of those staffers to rise among their peers and become 'senior' in their position."

Tech Systems has recognized the need to remain aware of industry trends and technology innovations, Creasy points out. "To better understand the trends, prepare for technology advances, educate our clients, and support converged technologies for them, Tech Systems' Network Services employees are trained and certified to deploy and maintain true technology business solutions."

In addition to ASIS certification, Tech Systems employees have earned certifications from Microsoft, Cisco, American Society for Quality, and more. "With the convergence of logical and physical security," she says, "our employees must be on the leading edge of technology to work with both traditional security and information systems personnel."

Many of Tech Systems' clients hold various certifications, and Creasy says those clients expect Tech Systems' employees to be certified too. Currently, there are eight CPPs and three PSPs on staff.

"These numbers are increasing annually as new members of our team achieve certification," she says. Even more important, she says, is that certification has helped the company create a team of physical security experts with knowledge far surpassing the norm for the industry.

—*Profile by Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager*