

Certification *Profile*



Like many professional security practitioners, **John Frost, CPP, PSP, PCI**, didn't begin his working life looking for a

career in security risk management. However, "life has a way of presenting both challenges and opportunities that can't be ignored," he says.

Frost, a native of Melbourne, Australia, worked in communication-system design at Motorola's local engineering division in the mid-1970s, which led to a nine-year stint in government service where he first began to work with security systems. In 1987, Frost joined the security department of the ANZ Banking Group, where he worked with all aspects of bank security, from integrated access systems at data centers and major offices to safes, vaults, and hold-up screens in branches.

Along the way, Frost recognized the benefits to be gained by ongoing professional development. In 1999, he began a five-year, part-time program that led to a master's degree in business administration.

"Security is a great enabler; when implemented well, it can make the difference that enables a business to operate profitably in a difficult environment," explains Frost. "Security also can help differentiate your offering to customers from that of your competitors. So it is important that you can speak the language of the boardroom."

In 1993, Frost joined Telstra Corporation Limited, an Australian full-service telecommunications provider, which was then government-owned. Fifteen years later, he is still with Telstra as senior business

specialist. He has seen the organization go from government to private ownership and transition into a world-class telecommunications and media communications company.

"Working in the security group of a large enterprise has always been exciting," Frost says. "You are exposed to a wide and complex set of issues and enjoy good access to the senior management team. You need to be able to understand what drives a business, what is important to investors, and perhaps most importantly, the financial side."

Frost joined ASIS International in 1993 and took an active role in the Australian Chapter. "The interaction with my peers facilitated by this membership was invaluable in introducing me to new ideas and approaches," he says. He participated in the inaugural CPP study program offered in 1998, and he was among the first group to sit and pass the examination held in Australia that year. In 2005, he sat for the first local PSP examination and for the first PCI examination in Australia in 2007.

Frost has actively encouraged his employer to recognize the ASIS certifications. Telstra currently employs seven CPPs, including two who also have PSPs.

"While it is possible to obtain professional qualifications in most security disciplines, that qualification is frozen in time," he states. "The ASIS professional certifications provide the only structured program that recognizes demonstrated practical proficiency and a commitment to continuing professional education."

—Profile by Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager