



Certification *Profile*

A native of the United Kingdom, Mark Hargraves, CPP, has lived in Hong Kong since 1990. His first job there was

with the Hong Kong Police Force. In 1998, he became managing director of Pinkerton after which he took a position as security manager at Sun Microsystems. That was followed by a five-year stint at Fidelity International, where he held several positions, including head of corporate security. Today, Hargraves is head of physical protective security with HSBC Asia-Pacific.

"The HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations, had its beginnings in Hong Kong more than 140 years ago," Hargraves explains. "Today, the HSBC Group has more than 10,000 offices in 83 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa."

Hargraves spends his days ensuring the physical protection of people, assets, and resources across the Asia-Pacific region by managing security policies, consulting with country offices, and auditing against standards. He is responsible for more than 320 in-house guards as well as a security systems team.

"The variety of security challenges is unlimited across Asia-Pacific," Hargraves says. "Terrorism and natural disasters grab the headlines, but day to day, I focus more on the basic security of staff and executives, event security, and suspicious events on the retail banking premises which might [indicate] robberies or acts against customers."

An ASIS member since 1994, Hargraves

has held several volunteer leadership positions through the years. In 2008, he joined the CSO Roundtable, and he now sits on the CSO Advisory Board.

He first passed the Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) exam in 1998. "As with many others in Asia, I lost my way on the CPP due to the lack of recertification activities available in the region," Hargraves says. "Eventually, I decided it would be worthwhile to certify again, and this time maintain it. In 2007, I helped run a review course. I took three of my staff through the process, and we all passed. In 2008, I ran and taught CPP and Physical Security Professional® (PSP) review courses, taking 28 students to exams."

In addition to expanding the review and exam options in the region, Hargraves, the Hong Kong Chapter's 2008 education chair, actively sought to host events that count toward Continuing Professional Education (CPE) points. "Last year, we ran events that provided 20 CPE points directly," he points out. "The ASIS Asia-Pacific Conference and other industry events now mean there are more than enough opportunities to recertify in three years."

Hargraves says he would wholeheartedly recommend security management as a career to others. "Whilst it is an obvious second career for people who have police or government-related experience, I would also hope that the industry has reached a point whereby fresh graduates would view it as a professional career choice with clear progression, qualifications, and stages of development."

—Profile by Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager