

Certification *Profile*



“The nature of my work is to help clients overcome the most difficult and complex security challenges in their environments,” states **Ed Kardauskas, CPP, PCI, PSP**, senior security consultant, Control Risks.

“That’s what makes my work so interesting.”

Kardauskas began his career as a captain and acting chief with the City of White Plains (New York) Police Department. He was “recruited into security management” in 2000, he says, by a search firm working on behalf of a Washington, D.C.-based company that aggressively sought to build a robust security department from the ground up following the terrorist attacks of 9-11. Kardauskas was the first security manager hired.

“I played a major role in setting standards, writing policies and procedures, starting a national security communication center, and managing operations at the corporate headquarters and a number of regional facilities.”

In his current role at Control Risks, a global risk consultancy specializing in helping organizations manage political, integrity, and security risks in complex and hostile environments, Kardauskas performs security site, threat, risk and vulnerability assessments; designs integrated security systems; and provides on-site guidance to organizations and individuals who face large losses and imminent threats. “One of the best parts of my job is that there’s no such thing as a typical day,” Kardauskas notes, adding

that among his more unusual tasks is providing on-site security guidance to clients who have suffered losses or face an immediate threat of workplace violence.

ASIS International board certification became a clear professional goal for Kardauskas in 2002 when he realized that his employer was reluctant to recognize his experience or to accept input during meetings and discussions from someone without a professional certification. “I responded by joining ASIS and taking the Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) exam as quickly as I could get the application processed,” remembers Kardauskas, who passed on the first try. He went on to take both the Professional Certified Investigator® (PCI) and Physical Security Professional® (PSP) exams in 2005 to become one of the elites who have achieved all three ASIS board certifications.

Over the years, Kardauskas says he has observed that some accomplished security professionals seem intimidated by the certification examinations. He strongly advises those he meets to actively pursue the credentials. “The tests are well designed and applicants who have worked extensively in each of the areas of focus will do very well. ASIS board certification conveys confidence and professionalism to employers and clients. It makes it easier to accomplish my work and encourages folks to be more open to accepting professional recommendations, particularly when they involve sensitive topics.”

By Leigh A. McGuire, ASIS public relations manager