

Certification *Profile*



Don Knox, CPP, is a security and crisis management analyst at Caterpillar in Peoria, Illinois. His duties include coordinating Caterpillar's enterprise crisis management program as well as administering the company's global travel security risk management program. Additionally, he helps to support the company's global threat intelligence and key employee security programs.

Knox's first job in security management was with State Farm Insurance in Bloomington, Illinois, where he became a security and emergency management specialist. Two years ago, he moved to Caterpillar, where he reports to Timothy L. Williams, CPP, director of global security and former president of ASIS International. While at State Farm, Knox reported to another former ASIS president, Daniel J. Consalvo, CPP, manager of corporate security. "I have had the opportunity to work for two CPP-certified past ASIS presidents," he says.

An active Society member since 1999, Knox has held several positions in the Central Illinois Chapter, including chapter chair. He is the recipient of the 2009 Outstanding Council Chair of the Year Award for his work as chair of the ASIS Crisis Management and Business Continuity Council. He is the current chair of the Houses of Worship Security Working Group. Knox has also been a speaker at ASIS educational programs and at the annual seminar and exhibits. He was named by *Security Director News* in

its "20 Under 40" article on young security professionals.

Knox earned his Certified Protection Professional® (CPP) in 2004. "I am a career learner and passionate about continuing education," he says. "I pursued certification to gain more industry credibility. I also wanted to help promote the continued elevation of professionalism in the industry. All security professionals who are seeking career advancement and personal development should consider becoming a CPP."

Knox started his career in security while in high school Peoria. "I was a police explorer, where I achieved the rank of captain," he says. "After that I held a number of different security positions in college, ranging from supervisor of the Illinois State University Police Department's Students on Patrol program to special event security for the university's Redbird Arena. Other jobs included retail loss prevention for Best Buy and several night club security positions."

Knox, who has bachelor's degrees in both criminal justice and computer science, highly recommends that young people consider security management as a career.

"While many people start security as a second career, it is truly viable as a first career option," he says. "I would encourage all college students who are majoring in or pursuing a career in criminal justice, law enforcement, or security management to take advantage of part-time positions and volunteer opportunities that are related to their career path in order to gain valuable experience."
—By Vicki Moeser, ASIS public relations manager