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### **“ASIS Europe 2014 Breaks Attendance Record”**

**The Hague, 3 April 2014** – ASIS International held its 13<sup>th</sup> European Security Conference & Exhibition on 1-3 April 2014 at the World Forum in The Hague, Netherlands. ASIS Europe 2014 gathered a record attendance of over 700 registered delegates from 51 countries.

“Today more than ever security professionals need to have a vibrant network based upon a common body of knowledge to help secure the assets entrusted to them and advance the security profession. ASIS International is the only organisation in the world that provides these value-added opportunities for security practitioners worldwide. The growing interest and demand for professional security managers is clearly evident today here in The Hague as we celebrate the ASIS 13<sup>th</sup> European Security Conference & Exhibition which is our largest to date.” said ASIS President Richard E. Widup, Jr., CPP.

On Tuesday 1 April, the programme started with professional tours at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) headquarters. After a short briefing on the organisation and its activities, visitors attended a presentation provided by Chris Stretton, Head of the Office of Confidentiality and Security of the OPCW, on how to secure international organisations such as the OPCW, and on the role and adaptation of security organisations to support missions in high risk areas. The professional tours continued with a visit of The Hague Security Delta Campus. Visitors attended a presentation on the importance and potential of public-private partnerships in security, and on joint innovation programmes developed at The Hague Security Delta. In the afternoon, a limited number of delegates visited Europol’s headquarters, followed by a presentation on Europol’s activities, and on Europol and public-private partnerships. The first day was concluded by a Welcome Party with live music giving delegates a first opportunity to network in a relaxed atmosphere.

On 2 April, Deputy Mayor of the City of The Hague, Henk Kool, and ASIS President, Richard E. Widup, Jr., CPP, welcomed delegates. The opening continued with a video of European Council President, Herman Van Rompuy, stressing the need to guarantee that security is a business enabler and not a business inhibitor. Mr. Van Rompuy added that an organisation such as ASIS is important to secure our societies due to its global representation, as it helps enhancing knowledge of security professionals and creates networks.

The conference continued with the keynote presentation of Ivo Opstelten, Minister of Security and Justice of The Netherlands who spoke about the importance of public-private partnerships to create synergies. Mr. Opstelten took the organisation of the Nuclear Security Summit 2014 held, in The Hague, as an example of a successful cooperation between both sectors, stressing that the organisation of such an event would not have been possible without the cooperation of the private sector. Mr. Opstelten finally said that The Hague Security Delta, which is a cluster for companies, governments, and research institutions, allows the development of innovative solutions and products.

The educational programme kicked off with a thought-provoking panel discussion about the future of security technology featuring Ray Mauritsson, President and CEO of Axis Communications (Sweden), Roland Y. Billeter, President Continental Europe of Tyco Integrated Fire & Security (Germany), and Ruben Wegman, CEO of Nedap Security Management (Netherlands). The panellists highlighted a few trends that will drive the future of the security industry such as the increased use of open standards to integrate security solutions, and the impossible development of one-size-fits-all solutions due to the recourse of open standards.

The day was concluded by the President's Reception held at the Peace Palace. The Peace Palace houses the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Hague Academy of International Law, and the Peace Palace Library. In addition, to hosting these institutions, the Palace is a regular venue for special events in international policy and law.

On the final day, Rob Wainright, Director of Europol held a keynote presentation on the scale of the challenge facing Europe with organised crime. Mr. Wainright highlighted a few trends such as the increased mobility of organised groups which enjoy opportunities offered by the globalisation and the diversification of illicit routes of traffic to commit crimes in several jurisdictions. Director Wainright also said that internet reduces the importance of distances, creates opportunities for criminals as it allows them to conceal their activities and identity, and offers a platform for radicalisation. However, legislative frameworks are not kept up to date with the speed of technological changes. Finally, Mr. Wainright stressed the role of professional organisations in public-private partnerships, as Europol does not have the means of other organisations, but only offers a platform to pull experts' advice.

The conference was closed by Ray Mabus, Secretary of the U.S Navy who spoke about maritime security.

The conference also featured 44 high-level educational sessions provided by high-level speakers that included Brendan Healy, Vice President, Business Unit Information Security Officer of Morgan Stanley (USA) on *The Insider Threat: Protecting Information Assets In a Global Environment*, Arjan Jonge Vos, Programme Manager Security for NSS of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands presented a case study on *the Nuclear Security Summit 2014 in The Hague*, Dr. Paolo Salieri, Principal Scientific/Policy officer of the European Commission (Belgium) on *The "Secure Societies" challenge in Horizon 2020*, Chris van Steenkiste, Project Manager IPR Crime Unit of Europol (Netherlands) on *Europol's fight against intellectual property crime*, Mike Croll, Head of Field Security of the European External Action Service (EEAS) (Belgium) on *Diplomatic Security*, as well as Jason Brown, National Security Director of Thales (Australia) on *The Contribution Of Security To Building and Managing Resilience*.

In parallel to the educational programme, the Central & Eastern Europe (CEE) Workshop gave delegates a better understanding of risks, challenges and opportunities for companies in the region.

In addition, sessions designed especially for Chief Security Officers (CSOs) were organised by the CSO Roundtable, the ASIS forum for the most senior security professionals from the largest and most influential organisations in the world.

The event also featured an exhibition where 39 sponsors, exhibitors, media and supporting organisations presented their products and services to security professionals.

Event's pictures can be downloaded at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/asisinternational/sets/72157643316707993/>

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**About ASIS International:**

ASIS International (ASIS) is the premier organisation for professionals responsible for security, with more than 38,000 members worldwide. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programmes and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS International Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics. ASIS also advocates the role and value of the security management profession to business, the media, governmental entities and the general public. By providing members and the security community with access to a full range of programmes and services, and by publishing the industry's leading magazine, Security Management, ASIS leads the way for advanced and improved security performance. For more information, visit [www.asisonline.org](http://www.asisonline.org)