



ASIS International EMEA Bureau  
Rue des Aduatiques 48  
B-1040 Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 318 57 51  
[Middleeast@asisonline.org](mailto:Middleeast@asisonline.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**“ASIS Middle East 2016 Highlights the Advancement of the Security Profession in the Region”**

**Dubai, UAE, 23 February 2016** – Under the patronage of His Excellency Lt. Gen. Dhahi Khalfan Tamim, Deputy Chairman of Police and General Security, the ASIS 7<sup>th</sup> Middle East Security Conference & Exhibition, was held on 21-23 February 2015 at the Intercontinental Dubai Festival City, Dubai, UAE. More than 500 attendees from 36 countries gathered to take part in the educational program, opportunities for sharing ideas, and a chance to view the latest products and services on offer from the select group of exhibitors.

The event was opened by His Excellency Major General Mohammed Saif Al Zafeen, Assistant Commander for Operation Affairs and His Excellency Major General Anas Al Matrooshi, Director of Operations for Transport and Rescue, both of the Dubai Police. The first morning keynote presentation was delivered by Bader F. Al-Qadran, Executive Director Safety & Industrial Security at Saudi Aramco, who spoke on the evolution and dynamic development of the security profession in the region.

The next day featured an opening keynote from His Excellency Major General Mansour S. Al-Turki, Spokesperson at the Ministry of Interior, KSA. Al-Turki gave the audience a unique insight into how the Hajj crowds are managed, explaining the stages of the pilgrimage and the intensive planning required to handle the hundreds of thousands participating.

His Excellency Dr. Khalid bin Saad Al-Ageel, General Secretary of the Higher Commission for Industrial Security in the Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, provided the closing keynote, explaining the role of the HCIS in guiding the security industry and the crucial role of continuous education and training.

Two full conference days, presided over by conference chairman John Cowling of Control Risks gave attendees access to over 40 educational sessions featuring speakers from Al-Tayer Group, Emaar Retail Group, Abbott Laboratories, Deloitte and many more. In parallel, a CSO Roundtable Summit designed for Chief Security Officers (CSOs) was organised.

As well as attendees based in the Middle East region, the event attracted professionals from much further afield. Todd Smithson, Chief Security Officer, Thales Australia stated, “The ASIS Middle East Conference is an outstanding opportunity to meet and liaise with security professionals in the region as well as gain essential knowledge on relevant topics affecting the international security environment”.

24 companies from around the globe showcased their products and services at their exhibition stands. Attendees also visited the Technology and Solutions Theatre providing engaging presentations and experiences.

Networking events were organized throughout the conference. Attendees enjoyed a welcome reception on Sunday 21 February introducing all members, followed by the President's Reception on Monday evening hosted by the President of ASIS International, David C. Davis, CPP, at Al Badia Golf Club.

For more information on ASIS International, visit [www.asisonline.org](http://www.asisonline.org).

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**About ASIS International:**

ASIS International is the leading organization for security professionals worldwide. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS 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, government entities, and the public.

By providing members and the security community with access to a full range of programs and services, and by publishing the industry's No. 1 magazine—Security Management—ASIS leads the way for advanced and improved security performance.

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