

## **ISLA Americas – Sample Nomination**

Senior Information Security Professional Category

**Leadership: Describe the nominee’s track record in IT security workforce leadership. Describe the nominee’s leadership style and how executives, peers and staff perceive him/her.**

Jon Harrison has been an active member of (ISC)<sup>2</sup> for over 14 years and has held numerous board positions in the Sacramento Chapter. He was president in 2013, bringing in the “Chapter of the Year” award. He continues to serve in the board. Jon is also an active volunteer trainer for the CISSP certification and has mentored and helped many to obtain their certification.

Jon’s leadership style is based on being a knowledgeable executive on the people, process, and technology aspects of security. He stays current with latest technology and studies the markets constantly for new innovations and how they would apply to Thompson & Thompson. As a result, Jon is incredibly well respected in his leadership role, which allows him to be more successful working with other executives, peers, and staff.

**Mentoring: How does the nominee create a positive and rewarding work environment for IT security professionals? Describe how the nominee encourages his/her staff to apply innovation and creativity. Describe the nominee’s mentorship style and provide examples.**

Jon is outstanding at recognizing achievements by other security professionals, which is a true mark of a leader. He uses this recognition system to encourage staff to apply themselves toward increased innovation and creativity. Jon also is an expert at mentoring his staff on how to improve themselves and to continue to receive recognition for their efforts. He is an excellent communicator which allows him to clearly define goals for his staff, and to work with senior management to provide the organizational support needed for his staff to achieve. There are many examples of Jon rewarding staff for their achievements with awards and special privileges, along with promotions.

**Dedication to Community Service: Describe any distinctive achievement or outcome of an information security enhancement that was beneficial to the community and could be outside his/her regular job responsibility.**

Jon is an active member of the security community and gives security talks, training and volunteers his IT security expertise to local non-profit organizations. He is currently helping the San Francisco Chapter and has helped boosted Oil & Gas (Special Interest Group) in the last 12 months.

Jon has served in Executive & Technical Advisory boards of many security companies such as \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ and, \_\_\_\_ and currently is active on the Watchful Software Advisory board.

**Project Definition: The project should have occurred in the last 12 months and have had measurable results. The project description should include an IT security workforce improvement initiative, program or project. Please include how the nominee leveraged people, processes or technology to implement the project.**

Jon's project leveraged all 3: people, processes and technology. People by creating a solution that was a natural part of their daily workflow. Process by creating a policy that made it mandatory for employees to classify data in the level of confidentiality, which is used to track and control data. And technology by finding an easy to use product that integrates with existing desktop tools such as Outlook.

**Strategic & Tactical Goals: How has the nominee implemented the goals and objectives of the project for which they are being nominated? Please provide examples or impacts to their organization through metrics or measurable results.**

The results of this project are measured in protecting Thompson & Thompson intellectual property and the client's data that is in the care of Thompson & Thompson. In the oilfield services business, intellectual property is a significant competitive advantage that is directly related to the profitability of the company. In the case of customer data, the data collected from oil and gas fields is the equivalent of money being stored in a bank. The client trust factor is a huge point for the success of the project. Thompson & Thompson has been able to influence sales of their services by displaying how they will protect client data better than the competitors. And for results on protecting intellectual property, Thompson & Thompson has been able to bring suit to ex-employees successfully that have taken intellectual property that did not belong to them. The example of situation involving the theft of intellectual property have included: Disgruntled insiders, profit-seeking insiders, insiders moving to a competitor, insiders going to go independent, insiders believing they own the code or IP, and honest insiders that have been phished or compromised.

**Innovation: Describe an aspect of the project in which the nominee was presented with a significant challenge that required an innovative approach to resolution. How was this innovation received by the organization? Describe the situation's outcome.**

Jon was faced with the challenges of protecting data in the new cloud-era where the data has moved from the employee assigned desktop PC to storage on the cloud, storage on multiple personal devices (smartphones, tablets, home PCs), and increasing use of removable media. Current perimeter-based network security used by Thompson & Thompson and most organizations is not able to track and protect data so widely distributed. Jon determined the best solution was to devise an easy method that is in line with the workflow of the creation of the data to watermark the data and then leverage the current perimeter-based network security technology to track the movement of the data. Because the workflow for watermarking the data was easy, and in line with the current process, the employees received the innovation very positively. The outcome was a solution that was compatible at all levels of people, process and technology for protecting Thompson & Thompson's valuable intellectual property.

**Results/Outcome: Describe the results/outcome of the initiative, program or project and submit supporting documentation.**

By implementing this security project, Thompson & Thompson has been able to protect valuable intellectual property from accidental and intentional misuse. Thompson & Thompson has also been able to protect its reputation with customers and suppliers by protecting their data. And Thompson & Thompson is also able to leverage superior data protection as a sales point for gaining new customers projects.