

PRESS RELEASE



Payment Card Industry
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**PCI SECURITY STANDARDS COUNCIL
OPENS NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF ADVISORS**
—Representatives from across payment chain can help shape
next generation of data security standards—

WAKEFIELD, Mass., February 20, 2007 — The PCI Security Standards Council, the independent council formed by five leading payment card brands to maintain, develop and promote adoption of the PCI Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), today announced that nominations for election to the PCI Security Standards Council (PCI SSC) Board of Advisors are now open.

The Board of Advisors will represent the current roster of more than 100 PCI SSC Participating Organizations, and will provide strategic and technical guidance to the PCI Security Standards Council, reflecting the varied perspectives of different global stakeholders. The Council views this input as critical to the ongoing enhancement of PCI SSC security standards. As a worldwide organization managing a global standard, the Council desires representation from EMEA, North America, Latin America and Asia Pacific to reflect the global nature of card data security threats.

"We are excited to open the next chapter in the development of the PCI Security Standards Council and invite stakeholders from across the payment chain to step up and represent their industry in the drive to secure card payment data," said Seana Pitt, chair, PCI Security Standards Council. "We encourage all those involved in the payment process; merchants, processors, point-of-sale vendors, financial institutions and payment companies to become Participating Organizations and to consider taking on this elevated role."

To generate a broad range of input from across the stakeholder chain, 21 seats will be available on the PCI SSC Board of Advisors. Fourteen seats will be open for nomination by members of the existing PCI SSC Participating Organizations. To ensure a wider range of input, an additional seven seats will be appointed from the Participating Organization by the PCI SSC Executive Council to fill any gaps in representation and to help augment any under-represented stakeholder sector or geographic market.

In order to capture relevant feedback from all parties involved in the payment process, the council is encouraging diverse representation on the Board of Advisors, by both industry

focus and geography. To ensure the desired breadth of industry focus, the 14 elected seats will be distributed in categories as follows:

- Financial institutions
- Merchants
- Processors
- Others (POS Vendors, etc)

Participating Organizations may nominate their own organization for election to a seat on the Board of Advisors, by emailing secretariat@pcisecuritystandards.org, before Mar. 19, 2007, with the following information:

- Name, title and contact information for the organization's proposed representative and alternate representative to the Board;
- A brief (100-150 word) description of the organization;
- Selection of one category in which the organization should be placed; and
- A statement of 250 words or less explaining why the entity deserves an advisory role.

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding the Board of Advisors nomination or election process to the PCI SSC Secretariat at secretariat@pcisecuritystandards.org.

For More Information:

If you would like more information about the PCI Security Standards Council or would like to become a Participating Organization please visit pcisecuritystandards.org, or contact the PCI Security Standards Council at info@pcisecuritystandards.org.

About the PCI Security Standards Council

The mission of the PCI Security Standards Council is to enhance payment account security by fostering broad adoption of the PCI Data Security Standard and other standards that increase payment data security.

The PCI Security Standards Council was formed by the major payment card brands American Express, Discover Financial Services, JCB, MasterCard Worldwide and Visa International to provide a transparent forum in which all stakeholders can provide input into the ongoing development, enhancement and dissemination of the Data Security Standard. Merchants, banks, processors and point of sale vendors are encouraged to join as Participating Organizations.