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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **PCI Security Standards Council To Launch New eLearning Courses To Help Companies Safeguard Payment Data, Educate on Security Breach Prevention**

### ***New "PCI 3.0 Insider's Guide" and "PCI Essentials" Complement Council's Focused Training Curriculum***

WAKEFIELD, Mass. -- March 4, 2014 -- The PCI Security Standards Council ([PCI SSC](#)), an open global forum for the development of payment card security standards, today announced new online training courses aimed at educating companies about how to keep their customers' payment data secure, and how to become and remain compliant with PCI Security Standards.

These courses, developed in response to increased commercial interest in security awareness training, are the latest additions to the Council's pro-active program of training and education. PCI SSC offerings include more than 40 instructor-led classes at locations around the world as well as online, eLearning offerings available anytime, anywhere. The range of training options is diverse, representing today's reality that managing security within a commercial enterprise is a responsibility shared across a company. In the last five years, more than 20,000 people have participated in PCI SSC workshops and training courses.

"PCI 3.0 Insider's Guide", to be released next week, is a new eLearning course that provides a comprehensive review of the intent, interpretation and implementation of the major changes in the newest version of the PCI Data Security Standard ([PCI DSS](#)), version 3.0 – the keystone for developing a robust payment card data security process. "Insider" is definitive professional and technical training targeted to professionals who need to understand and implement the important recent updates to the PCI DSS and the Payment Application Data Security Standard (PA-DSS).

In Spring 2014, the new "PCI Essentials" series, part of the PCI SSC's PCI Security Awareness Education curriculum, will be released. The goal of this series is to reduce the impact of today's threats to payment card security by equipping staff with the knowledge needed to protect data assets. It includes 10 highly interactive and immersive online modules, each focusing on a specific area of PCI security, which can be combined to provide appropriate training for all levels of employees. The content has been designed to be engaging, relevant and memorable, ensuring that it will have a tangible impact on information security.

"It's important that organizations continuously assess payment security and maintain their defenses against malicious breaches, as fraud takes no holidays. Every employee has a stake in this effort, and it's part of the Council's mission to educate them to accomplish it," said Bob Russo, General Manager, PCI Security Standards Council. "These new eLearning offerings demonstrate our ongoing commitment to promoting the best possible security awareness education, both general and technical, regularly augmenting our course offerings and consistently supporting our PCI certification tracks."

These new courses will be available through the Council's longtime training partner [Security Innovation](#), which employed state-of-the-art educational design techniques to develop an optimal experience for large and small organizations alike.

The PCI Security Standards Council offers educational programs designed to assist organizations who want their employees to better understand the compliance process, as well as courses geared for security firms and industry professionals who seek to assist companies with standards implementation and compliance. Education is also an important component of the Council's [Community Meetings](#), which are held annually in several regions of the globe.

The Council maintains as public resources lists of firms and individuals who have successfully completed certification training, such as [Qualified Integrators and Resellers \(QIRs\)](#), [Qualified Security Assessors \(QSAs\)](#), [Payment Application Qualified Security Assessors \(PA-QSAs\)](#), and [Approved Scanning Vendors \(ASVs\)](#). Large firms seeking to educate their employees can take advantage of the [Internal Security Assessor \(ISA\)](#) or the [PCI Professional \(PCIP\)](#) educational programs.

### **About the PCI Security Standards Council**

The PCI Security Standards Council is an open global forum that is responsible for the development, management, education, and awareness of the PCI Data Security Standard ([PCI DSS](#)) and other standards that increase payment data security. Founded in 2006 by the major payment card brands American Express, Discover Financial Services, JCB International, MasterCard Worldwide and Visa Inc., the Council has over 700 Participating Organizations representing merchants, banks, processors and vendors worldwide. To learn more about playing a part in securing payment card data globally, please visit: <http://pcisecuritystandards.org>.

Connect with the PCI Council on LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/pci-security-standards-council>.

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