

07 President's Column

Dear Readers,

It is a new year and is time most of us will be planning to find ways to enrich the year with accomplishments on various fronts

We have had numerous activities during the year 2010 benefitting members and Professionals in and around Chennai; we are planning to conduct a number of seminars, review courses and regular monthly meetings during the year 2011 also.

We have been conducting successfully a Certificate program in Information Security in association with LIBA over the last many years; we recently conducted a workshop on Information Security in association with Arunai Engineering College and this was received very well.

I sincerely compliment the volunteers who have constantly helped in all such activities. I look forward to many more such programs in addition to the various ISACA certifications and many more volunteers as this is the crucial part of our profession.

Wish you a very happy new year 2011 !

D Namasivayam

President
ISACA- Chennai Chapter



CRISC Certification

In business today, risk plays a critical role. Almost every business decision requires IT and business professionals to balance risk and reward. Effectively managing the business risks is essential to an enterprise's success.

The Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control™ certification (CRISC™) pronounced "see-risk" is intended to recognize a wide range of professionals for their knowledge of enterprise risk and their ability to design, implement and maintain information system (IS) controls to mitigate such risk.

The CRISC designation will not only certify professionals who have knowledge and experience identifying and evaluating entity-specific risk, but also aid them in helping enterprises accomplish business objectives by designing, implementing, monitoring and maintaining risk-based, efficient and effective IS controls.

CRISC is based on the association's intellectual property including Risk IT and COBIT 4.1 independent market research and input from thousands of subject matter experts from around the world.

CRISC is already available for the following options:

- Grandfathering option whereby professionals highly experienced in the CRISC job practice areas can apply for the CRISC certification without taking the exam. (1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011).
- By taking the examination (from 2011 onwards)

Please refer to www.isaca.org/crisc for further details.

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Meet your Board !

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ISACA Member Benefit



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CPE Events



1-day GRC Summit

ISACA Chennai chapter along with IIA Madras Chapter and PRMIA jointly conducted a one day GRC Summit on 28th Dec 2010 at the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai. Around 75 delegates participated in the summit.

Mr Ram Gopal, Executive Director, Indian Bank, who was the Keynote speaker, covered about (i) BASEL norms, trends, benefits banks and customers will derive from the norms and (ii) challenges faced by the banks in meeting the norms.

Dr. Sridhar Ramamoorthy, Kennesaw University, Kennesaw (Georgia), guided the participants impressively through the necessity of Continuous Monitoring. Starting from the origin of COSO concepts and to the current developments and stressed on relevant issues, risks associated with each issue, controls needed and monitoring infrastructure that needs to be strengthened. Shri PR Loganathan (CISMA Consultants) made a focused presentation on GRC Capability Model recently enunciated by OCEG. Mr Madhu Rao (Ford Business Services) shared his knowledge on Credit Risk Management while elaborating on Portfolio monitoring..Mr. M P Badrinath (Ernst & Young) gave an exhaustive and interesting coverage of "Information Security and Risk Mitigation- a GRC perspective" and elaborated key considerations on this important area.

All in all, the seminar proved to be an excellent learning opportunity on GRC for the participants.

Monthly Meetings

December 2010

Topic: Database Security Audit and Audit- Best Practices

Speaker: Mr Srini Kolathur, Project Manager, CISCO Systems

Srini took the participants through the best practices in database security and audit, elaborating from his vast experience in this area and emphasized on how to formulate and proceed in this area.

CISA Syllabus Revised

ISACA, to keep tuned to professional requirements and industry expectations, carries out periodical surveys to assess what is expected of CISA candidates passing out. Based on the periodical surveys, every year ISACA makes minor modifications and additions keeping the basic structure intact. However, once in five years ISACA has a relook and considers whether to keep the number of domains unchanged and decides to retain as such or makes suitable changes.

As per the cycle, the modified syllabus comes into effect this year. Here is a summary of changes:

- (1) Number of Domains has come down from 6 to 5.
- (2) BCP & DR is no more a separate domain. Preliminaries of BCP and BIA have gone into Domain 2(Governance and Management of IT). Bulk of BCP/DR has gone into Domain 4 (now called 'Information Systems Operations, Maintenance and Support').The remaining portion has gone into Domain 5 ('Protection of Information Assets').
- (3) Domains have been organized as below (relative weightages are given in the brackets)

Prior to 31.12.2010	Effective 01.01.2011
Domain 1 The IS Audit Process (10%)	Domain 1- The Process of Auditing Information Systems (14%)
Domain 2- IT Governance (15%)	Domain 2- Governance and Management of IT (14%)
Domain 3- Systems and Infrastructure Life Cycle Management (16%)	Domain 3- Information Systems Acquisition, Development and Maintenance (19%)
Domain 4- IT Service Delivery and Support (14%)	Domain 4- Information Systems Operations, Maintenance and Support (23%)
Domain 5- Protection of Information Assets (31%)	Domain 5- Protection of Information Assets (30%)
Domain 6 - Business Continuity And Disaster Recovery (14%)	Not a separate domain any more.



Certification Events

Exam Review Courses by ISACA-Chennai Chapter

ISACA Chennai chapter conducts CISA review courses that are amongst the choicest ways for a CISA aspirants and CISM aspirants. In all, 100 CISA aspirants and 12 CISM aspirants benefitted during 2010.

During 2010, our chapter conducted two Regular courses (15-16 weekends) and two Fast Track courses (4 days - each day 8 hours mode) to guide CISA aspirants. In each of the Fast Track courses, we regularly see participants from Gulf and other overseas locations. There was indeed a European lady from Poland who participated in such a course and successfully cleared the exam in June 2010.

Chennai Chapter conducted two fast track courses (3 days- each day 8 hours mode) to guide the CISM aspirants. In all, 8 candidates got benefitted from these courses.

A review course is starting in Jan 2011

The 16-week CISA Exam Review course commences **January 23, 2011** (Sunday). The classes as usual will be conducted over the weekends 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM (Sat & Sun).

Please avail of the opportunity for this review course for you or your friends in your pursuit of CISA! Please visit the [announcement in our chapter website](#) or speak to Mr. K.Kulasekaran at our office (ph no. +91-44-24984331 (between 2 PM and 7 PM except Tuesdays) for enrolling in the review course.

Have you checked out for the ISACA's new Apache Web Services Server Audit / Assurance program?

It is free for download for ISACA members. Download and benefit from this excellent research!

Visit the [ISACA Research Centre](#) today!



Theme "Cloud Computing- Trust and Value"

Our CSD (Computer Security Day) annual conference was held on November 27, 2010 (Saturday) (at the Southern Crown, GRT Grand Days, T.Nagar, Chennai 600 017) with the theme on "Cloud Computing-Trust and Value". This conference also marks the Annual Computer Security Day (which falls on Nov 30).

The speakers at the conference discussed the essential characteristics, the Service models and more importantly the security characteristics in the cloud. These talks were well received by the more than 250 participants who were thrilled to get the various aspects of this very important topic elaborated by eminent speakers at the conference.

The keynote speech was delivered by Dr M.Sasikumar, Director (R&D), C-DAC, Pune. The conference had also a number of Technical Sessions around the theme. All of these evoked considerable interests from the participants who came up with a number of questions and discussions during the Q & A sessions.

Following sponsors supported this annual conference:

Platinum sponsor – RSA, the Security Division of EMC Corporation
Silver sponsor- Amtex Systems

In summary, it was an annual conference that evoked considerable positive feedback from the participants.

Here below are some photographs from the annual event:



Already conducted

Workshop on Information Security

ISACA Chennai chapter conducted a workshop on Information Security at Arunai Engineering College (Thirvannamalai) on 8th October 2010. This workshop covered a number of topics of relevance to Information security such as Importance of baseline security, Network security and Cyberlaw (IT Act).

About 250 students participated in this program and benefitted from the talks and discussions led by Mr. A. Vijayakumar, Mr. N.S.N.Pillai and Mr. Jambunaathan from the ISACA Chennai chapter. The students were also made aware of ISACA, an overview of the activities and benefits from these for upcoming professionals.

Going by the experience of this program, ISACA Chennai chapter proposes to carry out such programs on Information Security and ISACA to such institutions in future.

Please forward requests/proposals to the ISACA Chennai chapter so that they can be considered suitably.

Forthcoming program

ISACA((Chennai)-LIBA joint Certification Program on Information Security

ISACA(Chennai chapter) jointly with LIBA has been successfully conducting a certificate program on Information Security twice a year, since 2007. Next batch is scheduled for 27th Jan 2011 at LIBA for which registration is open. So far more than 200 participants have benefitted from this program, which serves as a bridge to any graduate aspiring to make Information Security as a chosen profession through CISA & CISM and other such courses.

For further details and registration, please visit the LIBA's website at <http://www.liba.edu>

During the Annual conference, following awards were also distributed and further awards were announced:

CISA- June examinations

Award for FIRST rank holder in CISA **Yedugiri award** instituted long back by **Mr. Sudarsan**, one of our ISACA members.

Award for SECOND rank holder in CISA: **C.K.Mahalingam award** instituted by **Mr.C.M.Krishnaswamy**, one of the directors of ISACA Chennai chapter in memory of his father, in 2009

Award for THIRD rank holder in CISA: Award instituted by **Mr. Gopalakrishnan**, one of the members from ISACA-Chennai Chapter, in 2010.

December examinations –CISA

Award for FIRST rank holder in CISA: **Buchamma Mahalingam award** instituted by **Mr.C.M.Krishnaswamy**, one of the directors of ISACA Chennai chapter in memory of his mother, in 2009.

Award for SECOND rank holder in CISA: **R.Pattabiraman award** instituted by **Mrs. Jamuna Swamy**, one of the directors of ISACA Chennai chapter in memory of her father, in 2010.

Award for THIRD rank holder in CISA: Award instituted by **Mr. Gopalakrishnan**, one of the members of ISACA Chennai Chapter, in 2010.

CISM – Award for the FIRST rank holders in CISM examination both June and December – **Arunachalam award** instituted by **Mr. A.Vijaykumar** one of the directors of ISACA Chennai chapter in memory of his father in 2010

An announcement was also made by **Mr.S.C.Sekar** for awards, in memory of his parents, for the first rank holders in CGEIT examination both June and December examinations during the annual conference.



A Word Search Puzzle for you

Theme : ISACA Member Benefits

Please identify and mark the words that are the benefit to an ISACA member. Please use the clues below to identify such words. We hope this is informative and at the same time sheer fun!

Word search grid containing letters A through Z arranged in a 20x20 grid.

Clues for the words:

- 1. This enhances your local peer network and enables you to earn CPEs close to home.
2. These opportunities enable you to participate in community experience with a wide range of professionals
3. Using this offering from ISACA, you can search and browse over 400 books from ISACA and third-party publishers in a new online collection, powered by Books24x7.
4. This enables you connect with IT professionals who share common professional interests, conveniently expand your professional knowledge and consume information, exchange and build new understanding through collaboration (2 words)
5. _____ publications and resources can be accessed so as to get the critical information you need to succeed and add value to your enterprise.
6. COBIT _____ is an example of numerous downloads available complimentary for only members.
5 This help you in enhancing you professional standing, increase your earning potential and gain recognition for your achievements
6 _____ Centre from ISACA helps you to access more than 500 jobs targeted your skills, more robust tolls for job-seekers and a new section for freelance work.
7 _____ programs and Internal Control Questionnaires from ISACA provides guidance to help duties on specific topics
8 _____ from ISACA help in maintaining IT auditing standards, guidelines and procedures. Standards
9. This offering from the ISACA help in access to online courses, e-symposia and webcasts e-learning
10. This offering from the ISACA help in staying up-to-date of professional and association information, trends and practices
11. These opportunities enable increasing your professional network while enhancing your CV/resume, access online discussion groups and communities on topics pertinent to your profession and share advice, seek assistance and raise important questions to a network of your peers
12. "Member value" quickly adds up to more than US \$ One _____ four hundred and twenty for any member from India.

Solution to this puzzle will be published in the next issue of the newsletter



Au revoir SAS 70, welcome SSAE 16



Come June 2011, SAS 70 in its present form will fade into history. It will be replaced by SSAE 16 by AICPA and ISAE 3402 by IAASB. Together SSAE 16 and ISAE 3402 are called the New Standards. This is happening just when Service Organizations are getting used to the name SAS 70 and understand what it means to their organizations and their business. Let us understand the reasons for change and the change itself.

SAS 70 has perhaps outlived its utility and had not kept pace with the developments with few significant modifications to it since it was issued in April 1992. The increasing importance of effective controls and reporting process combined with globalization and regulatory concern have prompted the issuance of two new standards that replace SAS 70 for Service Organizations.

Reasons for the New Standards:

SAS 70 is essentially an auditor to auditor communication. The significant change in regulatory landscape has brought in other stakeholders like regulators, government, board of directors and financial statement users who are placing increasing emphasis on internal control over financial reporting. These stakeholders in addition to auditors need a report from and by the service organization describing its internal control. This requirement significantly increases the importance of management's description of the system. Even in the new dispensation Service Auditor's opinion is critical but its role is as a provider of assurance and not as an entity responsible for the communication.

The next reason is globalization of business process outsourcing. Business process outsourcing has grown from regional shared service organizations for specific industries to multi-national organizations serving all types of organizations.

The next is the need to respond to the requirements of user entities and their auditors outside the United States of America (US). This is because SAS 70 is essentially a US standard conforming to AICPA US auditing standards, though used globally.

Service Organization responsibilities under the new standards:

The most visible difference between a report prepared under SAS 70 and a report prepared under the New Standards is management's written assertion. The assertion is a separate component of the report made out in the service organization's letterhead and signed by a member of management. They take responsibility for the description of the system and communicate achievement of the evaluation criteria of the description of system. Other responsibility is identifying risks that threaten the achievement of control objectives. However these risks need not be described or specifically identified in the service organization's description of system.

The other changes are :

- Prepare and present a complete and accurate description of the system
- Specify the control objectives of the system and state those control objectives in the description of the system
- Identify the risks that threaten the achievement of the control objectives although the risks are not included in the service organization report
- Design, implement and maintain controls to provide reasonable assurance that control objectives will be achieved

Changes to service auditor responsibilities under the New Standards:

Now let us see the changes to service auditor responsibilities under the new standard. From being an audit standard under SAS 70 it is becoming part of AICPA attestation standard under SSAE 16. This technical change was made to help service auditors by eliminating certain inconsistencies and ambiguities. Another change that service auditor need to take note of is in the use of work done by the internal audit. While SAS 70 and the new standards permit the use of the work done by internal audit, under the new standards the service auditor, for a type 2 report, is required to describe the work performed by the internal audit function as well as the procedures used to test that work. Though it is not prescribed how this information will be presented, it is

Action steps to help service organization implement the New Standards:

This article will not be complete without taking about the steps that service organization has to take to implement the new standards. One of the first steps will be the date of adoption. As mentioned earlier the New Standards are effective for reports issued on or after June 15, 2011 and earlier adoption is permitted.

The next step will be to determine whether subservice organizations will be treated under the inclusive method. If it going to be a inclusive report it is critical to have early discussions with the service organizations. This will reduce the risk of the sub-service organization refusing to provide an assertion report when the final report is issued.

This is followed by developing a change management plan for dealing with service organizations' clients and to ensure that service organization's sales personnel understand the changes. It is also important that service organization communicate the changes to the user organizations to help them understand the nature of changes. This can be done in the form of a covering letter to the report.

The service organization should review the Master Services Agreements. If the term SAS 70 is mentioned then legal counsel should be consulted regarding the required changes and assess the impact on existing contracts.

Last but not the least the service organization should review the system description and identify necessary changes.

Welcome SSAE 16.

Reference: AU0430- Planning for the new service organization reporting standards.

By : M.P.Badrinath
Director (Risk & Business Solutions)
Ernst & Young





from: ISACA Chennai

Featured Security Awareness Tip

Secure Smart Phone Usage

Featured @ [ISACA Book Store](#)

Implementing and Continually Improving IT Governance 2nd Edition (Complimentary for ISACA members)

CISA Review Manual 2011

CISA Review, Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2011

CISM Review Manual 2011

CISM Review, Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2011

CISM Review, Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 2011 Supplement

CGEIT Review Manual 2011

As you upgrade your mobile phone to a smart phone or buy a smart phone, please be aware of following tips that will help on secure usage of a Smartphone:

- Set password on your Smartphone
- Don't click on text messages from people whom you don't trust
- Keep Wi-Fi and Bluetooth off when you aren't using them
- Apply software/firmware updates well in time
- Download applications from reputable sources only
- If you are travelling, always keep an eye on your phone
- Backup your data regularly
- Follow your company policy on the use of Smartphone



Solution to the Crossword Puzzle in Issue no 6



ISACA Knowledge Centre

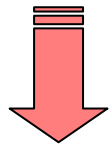
ISACA's Knowledge Centre is where networking and knowledge meets IT Professionals with common professional interests. Through collaboration, the participants can consume information, exchange expertise and experience and build an understanding in ever-challenging lines of interest to Risk and audit Professionals.

Please visit the [Knowledge Centre](#) regularly to gain immense professional advantage in your career.

This newsletter is for circulation among members of ISACA Chennai. Not for sale.

This issue is edited and published by the Editorial Committee of ISACA, Chennai.
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Next



@ Dubai Feb 2011

Send your comments and suggestions on this newsletter to: hon.secretary@isaca-chennai.org