

News Release

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NEWS RELEASE

COSAC Chairman Honoured in USA

First non-American to receive Computer Security Institute's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award

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For the first time in its 33 year history, the Computer Security Institute has honoured a professional from outside North America with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

David Lynas, based in Moira, Northern Ireland, received the award in Kissimmee, Florida at the 33rd Annual Conference of CSI, the world's longest-established network of computer security professionals.

In presenting the award for the first time since 2002, CSI Director Robert Richardson said, "We only give this award to clear leaders in the security community. David Lynas has achieved that status, particularly with his vital contributions to the creation of SABSA, the ground-breaking standards for Enterprise Security Architecture, and for his tireless development of the COSAC into the world's premier annual forum for information security innovation. In honouring David we are simply acknowledging what his colleagues already know about his significance to the field."

David Lynas commented: "It is a great privilege to join the list of only ten people to have received this honour in 33 years. It is especially important to me to receive it from CSI because, while so many organisations have come and gone, CSI has continuously provided the global security community with a rich blend of member services, publications, conferences and professional training."

David Lynas, based in Moira, Northern Ireland, has a global reputation as a security architect, strategist and thought-leader who has provided strategic advice to government and industry clients on every continent. He has led hundreds of important local and global information security projects, ranging from high profile banking and financial sector initiatives, through internet voting for federal elections, to managing risk to homeless people, and creating a professional body to govern the industry and assess the competency of information security practitioners.

The two pieces of Lynas's work highlighted in the citation were COSAC and SABSA.

David Lynas is the founder and chair of COSAC (www.cosac.net), an annual event hosted in Ireland for 14 years and with a reputation for rocking the security world with timely reassessments of fundamental security assumptions and principles.

COSAC hosted the world premier of “The Bunratty Attack” which showed the vulnerability of government and organisations to asynchronous information warfare via email. Michael Corby, Senior Director, Gartner, has described COSAC as “a living, breathing community of the elite, dedicated to inspiring and improving the profession and to serving the world”.

With John Sherwood and Andy Clark, David Lynas developed SABSA (www.sabsa.org), the most comprehensive and the first open-source methodology for establishing an Enterprise Security Architecture. Described by Professor Brian Collins, Vice President of the British Computer Society and Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Dept of Transport, as “a work that should be on the desk of every CIO, ICT Infrastructure Director, and Application Development Director,” SABSA includes a complete education and competency based certification programme for Security and IT Architects.

David Lynas has consulting clients on every continent, is in constant demand as a speaker and his seminars and plenary conference sessions over the past three years have attracted a world-wide audience of nearly 15,000 business executives and IT, Security, Risk and Audit managers. He is co-author of the definitive reference work “Enterprise Security Architecture: A Business Driven Approach” (ISBN 1-57820-318-X) used by professionals and organisations world-wide.

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