

SRM Press Release – April 2009

SRM expands its PCI DSS team with addition of new Key Account Manager from Visa

Appointment of PCI DSS specialist Sharon Mendes will help clients comply with strict regulations for handling credit card data

SRM, a leader in information risk management, business continuity, and secure IT service delivery, has today announced that Sharon Mendes has been named as a Key Account Manager for the company's growing PCI DSS team. As such, Mendes will be helping to develop a number of the company's processes in relation to the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), and will also act as a primary point of contact for SRM clients who are seeking compliance with the PCI DSS.

The PCI DSS outlines the specific regulations that are mandatory for all organisations that process, store, and/or transmit debit and credit card payments, either directly or as a service provider to another company. Compliance with these standards covers everything from ensuring that organisations are building and maintaining secure networks, to having a comprehensive information security policy in place to rigorously protect cardholder information.

"Companies can often be intimidated by the PCI Data Security Standard, but there really is no need to be," says Sharon Mendes, PCI DSS Consultant at SRM. "At SRM, we can offer practical, step-by-step advice and guidance to ensure that our clients achieve compliance with this important standard, regardless of the size of the company. With data security such an important part of modern business practices, I'm delighted to be working for SRM to help make sure that our clients achieve compliance in this area."

Mendes joins SRM following four years at Visa Europe, where she initially worked as a Customer Support advisor, before being appointed as a specialist consultant in the area of Compliance. In this most recent role, Mendes managed and enforced a number of payment card security compliance programmes, including programmes such as the Chip and PIN compliance programme (CPDCP), for several member banks in Europe.

Whilst at Visa Europe, Mendes also helped to develop the company's Account Information Security (AIS) programme, which is the compliance programme that helps merchants to meet PCI DSS compliance. In this role, she played an active part in training members and developing key communications on programme policies and objectives. As such, Mendes worked closely with the largest retailers on the programme in order to help them achieve AIS compliance, and to help them to move away from the storage of sensitive data, such as Track II and CVV2.

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"We are delighted to welcome Sharon to the SRM team, as we know that our clients will greatly benefit her specialist knowledge of PCI Data Security Standard, and from her vast expertise in the area of compliance," says Stephen Brown, CEO, SRM. "With security breaches now a regular fixture in the news headlines, compliance with the PCI DSS has become a key objective for many of our clients as they take the steps necessary to ensure that any sensitive data is kept secure. We are therefore very happy to have Sharon onboard so that SRM can continue to meet this growing demand from our clients."

In addition to her new role as a consultant and account manager for SRM, Mendes will be training as a Payment Card Industry Qualified Security Assessor (PCI QSA) so that she can perform official PCI audits for SRM's clients. As an accredited QSA company, SRM is able to provide its clients with formal assessments under the PCI scheme.

SRM was established by security professionals with a vast amount of experience gained within the private sector, the Police service and other government agencies. By bringing Mendes to the SRM team, the company will further cement its role as a leading security expert with particular expertise in PCI compliance, and thus add to the broad portfolio of IT security services that it already offers.

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Notes to Editors

Sharon and the SRM team will be at the Infosecurity Exhibition in April 2009 at Earl's Court, London, appearing on Stand H41. To arrange a press meeting with them during the show, or to for more information please contact Stephen Brown on +44 (0)7779 139 147 or email Andrew Ball, andrewb@chazb.com. Stephen Brown, Managing Director, Security Risk Management will be speaking at the Infosecurity Exhibition at 2PM on Wednesday 29th in the Business Strategy Seminars discussing, Why Personnel Vetting Now?

About SRM

Established by security professionals formerly within the private sector, the Police service and other government agencies, Security Risk Management Ltd offers an unrivalled range of best practice Operational Risk Management services to ensure effective assurance and mitigating risk within a company's infrastructure. SRM offers services including: Risk Management, Information Security Management Services, Enterprise Examinations, Business Continuity, Corporate Investigations, Personnel Screening, ISO27001 Implementations and specialised training. For more information please visit www.srm-solutions.com

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