

Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) Detroit Chapter - Monthly Meeting

“Internal Threats and Implications of New PII Legislation “

FRANKLIN, Mich. – March 19, 2008 – Stott Matthews, founder of Spectrum Computer Forensics & Risk Management LLC, a leading provider in digital-discovery and computer-forensic services, presented the After-Dinner Topic of “Internal Threats and Implications of New PII Legislation” to the Detroit Chapter of ISACA.

The presentation, at ISACA’s March event, began with the various pieces of legislation that impact an organization’s control, or lack hereof, of PII (Personally Identifiable Information), ranging from State to Federal law. The focus, however, was on the recent legislation in Michigan, in particular the Amendment to Michigan’s “IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT” (Act 452 of 2004). This amendment officially came into effect on July 2, 2007.

Much of the discussion dealt with an organization’s obligations regarding notification of a security breach of a database or similar data store that contains certain personal information. “This new legislation creates an increased set of requirements for today’s system auditors. Although data security has always been a key concept in the review of their organizations, the implications of a PII breach certainly raises the stakes in terms of the level of testing they should contemplate.”, said Matthews.

Matthews also discussed the potential costs arising from a data breach and some general methodologies for reducing an entity’s exposure. “Prevention is clearly the best means of controlling a company’s exposure to a potential PII loss. The ISACA members truly represent the vanguard in terms of this issue in larger organizations. Moreover, with the very recent nature of this amendment, the case law supporting the interpretation of the amendment’s language is just now being created. I suspect there will be some very interesting cases coming to light in the next year or so which will clarify how a PII breach will be treated in the years to come.

When a company does suspect they have a sustained a breach of PII, we can provide the computer forensics and key analytics to affirm the details of the potential incident. Our expertise in servicing corporate clients provides a critical background in successfully supporting such cases.”, concluded Matthews.

About Spectrum Computer Forensics & Risk Management

Spectrum is a leader in providing digital-discovery and computer-forensics services, and the risk-mitigation strategies that surround these practice areas. Law firms and corporations rely on Spectrum for the most challenging e-discovery work involving employment, trade secret, intellectual property, and other litigation-related matters. Founder and Principal, J. Stott Matthews, is certified in computer forensics. Together with his experience as a Fortune 10 executive, Matthews’ expertise bridges the critical gap between technology, business, and the law. Spectrum has offices in Michigan and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.