

The International Councilor

November 2008

The Newsletter of the Council of International Investigators

Issue 9

CII members receive awards at Bangalore conference

One of the top investigators in Asia and the Chairman of Lancers Network Limited - India's leading Risk Consulting Corporation, Kunwar Vikram Singh has been awarded with the "Lifetime Achievement Award". Kunwar Vikram Singh received the award from the Honourable Home Minister, Mr. Shivraj Patil at a glittering investiture ceremony during the annual conference of CAPSI & APDI held at The Grand Ashok, Bangalore on October 14, 2008. He becomes the first Risk Management Professional in India to be awarded such a prestigious award .

Kunwar Vikram Singh pioneered Risk Analysis & Mitigation related operations in India and specializes in providing consultancy in the critical areas of Corporate Intelligence, Brand Protection, Litigation Support, Due Diligence and Fraud Examination. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Council of International Investigators in 1987 and became the First Asian to occupy this position. He remained on the Board of CII for three terms. He is Chairman of the Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) and also President of the Association of Private Detectives of India (APDI). He was elected to the Board of Directors of the World Association of Detectives (WAD) at its annual conference held at Denver, USA on 17 September 2008.

Kunwar Vikram Singh was awarded "Investigator of the Year-2006" award by the World Association of Detectives Inc. (WAD) at its annual conference held at Tokyo, Japan. His professional ability was once again recognized by World Investigators Network (WIN) when he was declared the "Best Investigator of the Year-2007" at Lisbon, Portugal. He is the only private investigator in the world who has received this award twice from his peers. This is a rare achievement in the field of Intelligence & Investigation.

Accepting the award, Kunwar Vikram Singh said: "In today's globalized environment, the need is to have global business intelligence. Corporate intelligence and related areas like pre-JV research, due diligence, financial status, competitive intelligence and the backgrounds of personnel, need to be investigated. Strategic decisions require knowing the undisclosed facts behind the target or investment vehicle. Without all of the relevant facts and background information, decision makers may be putting themselves, their investors and their organizations at substantial financial, legal and reputational risk. "

Lancers India, which was started as a small owner-operated company in 1980, progressed in 10 years to become India's first public limited company in the specialized business area of Corporate Intelligence, Risk Mitigation, Fraud Detection, Litigation Support Due Diligence Analysis and Under Cover Op-



Kunwar Vikram Singh, right receives the "Lifetime Achievement Award in Intelligence & Investigation" from Mr. Shivraj Patil, Union Minister for Home Affairs, Govt. of India. Maharaja Bhanu Prakash Singh, former Governor and Union Minister is standing next to the Home Minister.

erations. Lancers is the only Indian company which is regularly retained by reputed private Investigators from U.S.A., U.K., Canada and other countries to conduct corporate investigations in countries like Yemen, Singapore, Sri Lanka, U.A.E, Nepal and Thailand.



Mr. Sachit Kumar, right, of Globe Detective Agency, New Delhi was awarded "Investigations - Entrepreneur of the year" by Mr. Shivraj Patil, Home Minister, Government of India, on October 14, 2008 at Bangalore.

From the Editor

I particularly wanted to thank all the ladies of CII for the lovely gifts they presented to me at the CII conference. It was really overwhelming and so very kind and thoughtful of everyone.

Fred and I had an absolutely wonderful time playing host to all our friends in our home city, Halifax, and truly it gave us a new appreciation

again for how much we love Halifax and what an incredible place it really is. Our thanks again to all of the members who were able to attend the conference and give us the chance to pay back some of the hospitality we have experienced whenever we travel with the CII family.

It is only when you put on an event such as this conference that you realize how much time and effort has been expended by everyone who has ever stepped up and taken on the task of hosting the CII conference.

So we look forward now to Australia and seeing all our "mates" down under!

Baby News

It is with great pleasure we announce the arrival of **Tara Aimen Sexton**, the daughter of John and Sophia Sexton - Sexton Executive Security, 13002 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192.

Her father proudly, says, "Her name is "Tara" - a mystical ancient Irish name. You may have heard of the "Hill of Tara"... where the High Kings of Ireland were crowned thousands of years ago. She weighed in at 8lbs and 4 oz."



Jaden Rei Bauer was born on August 28th 2008 to the Christopher Bauer family in Illinois. Congratulations to all!

Francie Koehler of Oakland, CA and her husband became grandparents when their son Steve and his wife welcomed new son, Maxwell Riley Ontiveros (8 lb 2 oz - 19 inches).

Member News

We have received reports from various members that Jacob Lapid's father has died. Our sincere sympathies to Jacob and his entire family on the loss of his Dad.

Joan Beach reports that CII member Mel Copeland, could use some good wishes coming his way. Sadly, he is being treated by surgeons for lung disease, heart disease and cancer. His wife, Taina, has secured a full time position at a nearby health centre. Feel free to send him a card or an email to brighten up his spirits.

You can contact Mel and Taina Copeland at Lahdekallionpolku 8, 07800 Lapinjarvi, Finland., Email: melcope-land.wra@pp.inet.fi

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WIS International opens new office in Faro

The champagne flowed freely amongst a gathering of well known Algarve business people. The occasion was the celebration of WIS International's (WIS-INT) new office opening in Faro.

WIS-INT have been operating in Portugal for over 16 years and they also have offices in Lisbon and in London.

The company undertakes business intelligence, corporate risk and pre-litigation enquiries. They operate throughout Portugal, Spain, Brazil, Angola and the United Kingdom.

WIS-INT also have a debt collection department which collects debts in 130 countries.

What's more, the company represents a number of well known trademarks in relation to counterfeit and piracy matters.

The CEO, Roy Whitehouse, said; "We outgrew our office space in Boliqueime and after a long search we found this office here in Gambelas opposite the Algarve University. We had the office professionally designed by Mark Jones and it was set up in a manner which allowed us to reduce our paper consumption by 80 percent. Each workstation was customized to suit the needs of the employees by concentrating on how they work individually and as part of a group. By doing so, we've increased our productivity by 25 percent. A carefully thought-out design of the work space is well worth the effort in terms of overall cost savings and gained efficiency".

You can visit their web site at www.wis-int.com to see the full range of services provided for the private and commercial client.



At left, CEO of WIS International, Roy Whitehouse, toasts the opening of their new office in Faro.



A look at the new office spaces of WIS International at their office in Faro.



Timberhead Tropical Adventure Resort receives International Award

By *Maurice Amres*

Greetings from Timberhead in the Rain Forest Guyana, South America.

Please share our pleasure in receiving an international award from Business Initiative Directors (BID). Their three "snoops" came when Chandra was in the middle of excavating for a beach upgrade with heavy machinery, etc.; we of course, did not know who they were as they do similar visits worldwide based on recommendations they receive.

The award came as a complete surprise and Chandra in particular was very appreciative that all her hard work at least had been recognized. We enjoyed being in Paris for such a lovely occasion.

Timberhead Tropical Adventure Resort received the World Quality Commitment International Star Award in the Gold category

In recognition of Commitment to Quality, Leadership, Technology and Innovation, Timberhead Tropical Adventure Resort represents success for Guyana in the business world,

The presentation of the World Quality Commitment International Award took place on September 22, 2008 in the complex formed by the Concorde Lafayette and the Salons Concorde de Palais des Congres located just minutes from La Defense, an important Paris business District.

The event was presided over by Jose E Prieto, President and CEO of Business Initiative Directions, along with outstanding personalities from the business world and the diplomatic corps in France. In this way the B.I.D. symbol has made its presence known in 178 countries around the world, and has created a firm ground for the implementation of an integral quality process through the technology and procedures of the QC100 Total Quality Management.

The purpose of the 22nd WGC Convention in Paris is to recognize the commitment to quality of awarded companies whose activities cover the top areas of industrial production

and services.

For Jose E. Prieto, Executive President of B.I.D., "the awarded companies are symbols of commitment to leadership, technology and innovation which make them models for other companies of their sectors".



Chandra Amres accepts the B.I.D. International Star Award in the Gold Category for her work at the Timberhead Tropical Adventure Resort.



Maurice and Chandra Amres at the Paris awards.

Timberhead Tropical Adventure



Florida Association of Private Investigators Meets

By Mark Feegel

Attached is a picture of my dear friend Cyril Wecht and I at this year's past Florida Association of Private Investigators Litigation Conference and Investigators Seminar. Wow what a conference! We were blessed to have such a great line up of speakers including noted forensic pathologist Cyril Wecht M.D., J.D., Fredrick Whitehurst Ph.D., J.D., our own Paul Ciolino C.I.I., C.F.E., B.C.F.E., Mr. Kelly Riddle Fraud Investigator, Tom Slovinski specializing in cell phone forensics, and a round table forum for the attending guests and investigators.

This past conference was held in Orlando as it was centrally located for the members of F.A.P.I. The vendors were very generous and we were pleased at the turnout for this three year old organization. Many states requiring continuing education units provided attendees with their entire amount of credits allowed. The Florida Certified Investigators were allotted 21 of the 20 credits available, and even the Florida bar Association gave 19 Continuing Legal Education credits for attending attorneys. With that said, it proves that this organization is not only legitimate but here to stay. Next year's conference we will be applying for C.L.E.'s from neighboring states whereby we will have attorney clients attending and providing a better and stronger networking opportunity for attending investigators.

F.A.P.I. was founded by Mr. Harvey Morse who owns Locators International as a vehicle for the private investigators of Florida to have a legitimate voice in our state regarding the laws that govern our profession. This organization consists of some of the best investigators not only in Florida but associate members from neighboring states.

At F.A.P.I. we try to establish a different approach. For example, we have established video conferencing for our board so as to eliminate the expense of travel. We have a Co-Presidency thereby sharing in the work load. We have three vice president positions that are also co-directed. And we gladly support the Special Olympics of Florida. Our membership is growing daily with over 200 members net-



Cyril Wecht and Mark Feegel meet at the Florida Association of Private Investigator's Litigation Conference.

working for a stronger profession and organization.

Please feel free to visit our web site by going to www.myfapi.org. Currently there are two C.I.I. members: Charles Rahn and myself who belong to F.A.P.I..



Horatio Pain makes a surprise visit from the set of CSI Miami to the CII Conference held in Halifax, in August 2008.

The status of China's investigative industry

By Hai Yang, President of Beijing Steele Business Investigation Center

The investigation industry (so called "Detective Industry" at that time) is traced back to the spring of the 1990s. With the development of China, more and more deficiencies came out over several aspects of social administration, including the lack of a credit system which blocked people from relevant credit information during their business communications due to no channels available for accessing it. In that period, people always inquired of acquaintances or probed with others who might know or have the intelligence they were searching for. However, the messages were unsatisfied and deviated after repeated transfers. It was so hard for the China business market to keep making progress in such a situation.

Regardless of the above status, it stimulated the demand for an investigation industry. At the beginning, the investigators were assisted by attorneys for their clients. Subsequently around 1992-1993, some investigation agents emerged but their services were limited in those matters most needed by the market. For example, in response to debt disputes resulting from non-transparent trading and family disputes, these agents offered services like debt collection and marital investigations, which were primarily restricted at the stage of risk disposal. In this period, investigations were rather difficult because of insufficient resources and experience.

Since 2000, the investigation industry connected more closely to the market in China. With strengthening consciousness of risk control in the business market, investigation services were increasingly utilized at the phase of risk-prevention rather than waiting to react when the problem is upon them. The ex-post disposal refers to solution or remediation after the crisis caused by the unscientific risk control, such as debt collection, measures toward the infringement of intellectual property and so on. The risk-prevention involves the due diligence investigation on potential partners before cooperation, background screening before employment, collection of information on the investment environment before investment and so on.

By the above analysis, it obviously came to a conclusion that most preventative investigations can be conducted publicly, but investigations of matters that



Hai Yang

have already occurred have more challenges and even legal risks. We are clear about the diversified legal systems from one state to another. Undoubtedly the services we are providing shall be in compliance with local laws for a consistent and sound business development. Therefore, a sentence often spoken is "it is inadvisable to resist risks by risky approaches."

In China, personal privacy is not released in public, e.g. bank account information, correspondence records, etc. However, there are many public approaches available during our investigation. Take web search for instance. It consists of information collection, analysis and comparison by professional skills to discover fresh clues rather than general search just by searching engine. Public interviews are another good example. The interview, through careful planning, avoids legal risks as well as enhances the operability. We have so many successful cases handled on the basis of these available approaches, and hope this essay gives out a brief profile of China's investigation industry as well as inspires investigation in China for our colleagues.

How Secure is Your Cell Phone?

By: Robert M. Kresson

CEO Empire Investigations & Security LLC

The threat to your security from everyday cell phone use is much greater than most consumers realize. Eavesdropping can occur either remotely or with the installation of software that does not modify the phone's hardware. Remotely, such illegal spying is achieved by "roaming the airwaves" using unrestricted scanning devices that can unscramble even digitally encrypted signals. Spyware installation without the owner's knowledge is the growing trend for such clandestine operations. This illegal spyware is widely available on the internet and being used with greater frequency to access call histories, contact directories,

phone locations and emails and transmit them to a remote website. In addition, "spy phones" specifically designed for eavesdropping are becoming available in smaller sizes and being built into other devices (e.g. outlets) to make them more physically undetectable. Eavesdropping is one of the most costly security threats with espionage costing US corporations over \$500 billion dollars a year and rising. Although there are more powerful encryption technologies and anti-spyware software being developed, these are not yet widely available. There are several precautions an educated consumer can take to enhance cell phone security.

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- 1) Beware of discussing any sensitive or confidential information on your cell phone and

"The threat to your security from everyday cell phone use is much greater than most consumers realize."

turn it off and take out the battery for optimal protection. With the advent of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, simply turning off your phone is not enough.

- 2) Password-protect access to your phone in case it is lost or stolen. This simple and obvious solution is rarely utilized by most cell

phone consumers.

- 3) When your cell phone is working as a bug, regular calls cannot occur in most cases. While there are cell phones being developed that can run very high speed data in which additional voice channels can be simultaneously transmitted, these prototypes are not yet widely available.

- 4) If you notice that your cell battery is performing poorly or if your phone is unexpectedly warm even when not placing calls, it may be bugged.

- 5) Given that your phone must be physically accessed to load spyware, change your phones frequently.

- 6) If you have a GSM phone and notice a "buzzing" interference noise when you are not making a call, it is possible your phone is bugged. If de-

Give Till It Hurts!

John Domonkos, of Target Investigations and Security, Toronto, Ontario, bought the shirt off Brian King's back in support of the CII auction held during the recent conference in Halifax, August 2008.

(What a physique!)

How secure is your cell phone?

Continued from page 7

layed bugging is occurring (i.e., data recorded from phone stored in compressed format in phones memory to be uploaded later), this type is more difficult to detect since shorter transmission time is involved and often a poor battery performance is the biggest hint.

7) Be aware that systems such as Voice over IP, Caller ID, and voicemail options can also pose security risks. To avoid becoming a victim, be aware that the caller may not be who appears on your caller ID and use a PIN with all voicemail accounts so that someone without this PIN code cannot access your voicemails.

There may be instances when regardless of putting in place protection measures against eavesdropping, criminals may still intercept valuable information about you or your company. The best counter-measure is to work with a reputable, knowledgeable professional, such as Empire Investigation LLC, with over twenty five years of experience and the latest in high technological equipment to offer you counter-espionage measures both regarding your cell phone and other aspects of your company's security.

Visit the corporate website at www.empireinv.com for the biographical background of Robert Kresson.



Member Spotlight

In my many years as a security professional, business owner and a CII, I have had a great many solid longstanding business relationships that have stood the test of time. My partner and I have molded our business around these relationships, and the concept of personal service. Whether we are doing a large investigation for an overseas client or reviewing the protection needs of a major mid-town office building, we are continuously guided by our foundation principal of professional, ethical and effective service delivery.

We have recruited and trained a staff of top, seasoned executives and managers, with a blend of high ranking former law enforcement and industry professionals. Our dedicated and experienced staff provides the kind of quality service we feel has been the key to our long term success. Our twenty-eight year history is testimony to our dedication to that concept.

My partner and I are proud of our record of accomplishment and our long-term relationships with our clients. As the economy becomes more problematic, and more businesses and institutions develop security as well as budget issues, we are more convinced than ever that our model of service delivery can be of immense benefit to these and other organizations.

Joseph M. Saponaro, CII,
President Elite Investigations, Ltd

Right: CII members kicked off the Halifax conference with a Welcoming Reception sponsored by Mark Reed of Reed Research Limited and Jay Groob of American Investigative Services Inc.



Below: Galen Clements picks up his First Place award as the winner of the CII golf tournament held at Glen Arbour Golf Club.



Right: Fred and Trish Dehmel were presented with the World Trade and Convention Centre Ambassador's Club Award for their work in bringing the CII conference to Halifax.



CII - New Applicants

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dhornus@risksgroup.biz

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Brampton, Ontario, Canada
nielseninvestigators@rogers.com

Jonathan Teague
Cerberus Global Ltd.
376 New Cavendish St.
London, England
jteague@cerberus-global.com

Family announcements? A wedding in the future? New baby? Contact Joan Beach, chair of the Welfare Committee, with all your news for inclusion in the Councilor. You can reach Joan by email at Joanmbeach@aol.com

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CII Executive-2008-2009

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A little downpour couldn't dampen their spirits!

Nothing could deter our intrepid guests from getting out and enjoying Halifax during the 2008 CII conference held in August 2008! Great sports that they all are, they donned their rain gear and hats and toured Halifax in spite of the weather. They also took a Ferry ride on the oldest continuous Ferry service in North America, to enjoy a seafood lunch in Dartmouth, overlooking the harbour and city of Halifax.