MEDIA RELEASE

First Validation Programme based on Peer Review for Information Security Professionals in Singapore

The AiSP Validated Information Security Professionals (PP) membership gives a stamp of approval on professionals' credentials and experience

Singapore, 7 November 2019 – The AiSP Validated Information Security Professionals (AVIP) membership serves the professional interests of all experienced information security professionals in Singapore, by giving the platform to validate their credentials in their professional domain. Mooted and implemented by the Association of Information Security Professionals (AiSP), the first-of-its-kind validation programme benefits the following stakeholders:

1. Professionals can validate their credentials and experience for information security related work including cybersecurity, professional development and career progression.
2. Employers can better assess job applicants' credentials and work with their HR personnel to strengthen people development in information security domain.
3. Industries can plan for their manpower, supporting functions and resources ahead to leverage opportunities arising from Singapore's digital transformation and cybersecurity development.

As an independent not-for-profit association, AiSP creates this platform with its volunteers and aims to make AVIP accessible to all Singapore-based information security professionals. The rigour in the validation is similar to professionals in other vocations such as accountants and engineers, and it is the first in Singapore base on peer review and not criterion based. AVIP membership is the first in Asia to bundle the Professional Indemnity for professionals involved in cybersecurity related work, to give them greater assurance undertaking projects in Singapore and worldwide. Interested professionals can contact AiSP to apply for AVIP membership.

AiSP President Mr Steven Wong expressed his thanks to the volunteers involved in this unprecedented initiative, "As there are many different types of credentials offered and held

by information security professionals in Singapore, it is challenging for companies and HR practitioners to identify the relevant credentials and track record when it comes to hiring and people development. Also, cybersecurity domain has a wide spectrum of competencies and roles where some professionals have gained their experience through specialised work, and not via formal education, structured training or certification. AVIP offers clarity to professionals and companies through its validation process, so that the hiring process would be shorter and better match organisations' job requirements and candidates' relevant experience".

AVIP launch is part of AiSP CyberFest™, where a series of cybersecurity events and initiatives take place from 4 to 8 November 2019 in Singapore. Catering to various demographics from students, professionals and industry players, AiSP aims to make information security knowledge accessible to stakeholders in Singapore's cybersecurity ecosystem.

Annex A – Factsheet on AVIP

About AiSP

Started in 2008, the Association of Information Security Professionals (AiSP) aims to:

- Promote the integrity, status and interests of Information Security Professionals in Singapore.
- Develop, support and enhance technical competence and management expertise in cybersecurity.
- Bolster the development, increase and spread of information

Please refer to www.aisp.sg or reach out to our media contacts for more details.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Please contact our media contacts for more details.

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1. **How many years of experience should I have before I applied for AiSP Validated Information Security Professionals (AVIP) membership?**

   AVIP is meant for AiSP's existing Ordinary Members based on the following:

   A) A least one (1) certification in information security (IS) from AiSP's approved list (Please refer to our website: https://www.aisp.sg/certificates.html)

   B) A recognised degree with at least three years of working experience in IS **OR**

   C) A non-IS degree or a non-degree holder with at least five (5) years of working experience in information security.

   AiSP Ordinary Members who are approved based on Path 2 (i.e. experience as senior management or project management) would not be considered for AVIP.

2. **Is AVIP applicable to fresh graduates in information security?**

   No, it is for experienced professionals in information security field.

3. **What is the annual membership fee?**

   There is a one-time non-refundable application fee of $642.00 (inclusive of GST) and an annual membership fee of S$267.50 (inclusive of GST).

4. **If I do not want the Professional Indemnity, can I pay a lower membership fee?**

   The Professional Indemnity (PI) is provided at no additional charge to all qualified AVIP members and they can opt out from the PI scheme if they do not wish to submit their personal data to AiSP's appointed insurer.

   We understand that cybersecurity PI is not offer at individual level by most insurers and our PI covers defence costs and legal costs incurred by the insured for alleged negligent act, error and omission of the insured when rendering their services. This is beneficial to our professionals involved in cross border work, as the coverage includes US/ Canada jurisdiction where business environment tends to be of litigious nature.

5. How long is the application process?

The application process may take three to four months to complete. AiSP will notify the applicants on their membership application status. The process may be slightly longer if the reviewers seek more details and clarification from the applicant.

6. How does the validation process work?

After applicant submitted all required documents including referees' contact details, the review panel will arrange a formal interview with the applicant. The review panel will subsequently put up their recommendations to the AVIP Committee for consideration. Successful applicants are required to sign a Code of Conduct form at the point of offer, including acknowledgement on the complaint process and disciplinary actions.

If the applicant wishes to appeal on non-acceptance of membership application, they can write in formally and submit an administration fee of S$300. The appeal process is expected to take two months and involves the appeal panel where its members are de-conflicted from the reviewers. There will be no refund for the one-time application fee for both successful and unsuccessful membership applications.

7. What would AiSP do if an AVIP member is acting contrary to his or her validated credentials?

AiSP takes complaints on its AVIP members seriously, to ensure the integrity and trust on its validation process.

If AiSP receives any complaint on an AVIP member from confidential sources or when such issue comes to the attention of the Association, it will take action to investigate after preliminary assessment deems the complaint is valid. Such complaints must be relevant to the professional conduct of the members. If the complaint is valid, the member will undergo sanctions and/or counselling imposed by AiSP Disciplinary Committee.

Please contact AiSP at secretariat@aisp.sg *for more details.*