



SECURITY & RISK THOUGHT LEADERSHIP NEWSLETTER

NEWS AND CRITIQUE FOR SECURITY & RISK PROFESSIONALS

In association with: Perpetuity Research and World Excellence Awards

[OSPAs](#) | [Cyber OSPAs](#) | [TECAs](#) | [SSEAs](#) | [FREAs](#) | [WVRAs](#) | [Podcasts](#) | [Research](#)

Thought Leadership - February 2025

Welcome to the February edition of our *Security and Risk Thought Leadership Newsletter* in which we connect you with innovative ideas and new research. In this edition:

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If you have any comments, questions or a suggestion for something we should cover, drop me an email - [Dr Janice Goldstraw-White, Thought Leadership Editor](#)



Gala dinner and awards ceremony: Fire Resilience Excellence, Workplace Violence Reduction, and Security and Safety Entrepreneur Awards, Birmingham Metropole on 8th April

The newly introduced Fire Resilience Excellence Awards (FREAs) (sponsored by [Axa](#)), Workplace Violence Reduction Awards (WVRAs) (sponsored by [Maybo](#)), and Security and Safety Entrepreneur Awards (SSEAs) will be presented during a celebratory dinner at the Birmingham Metropole Hotel on the 8th of April 2025. The event will be held alongside the Safety & Security Series taking place at the NEC, Birmingham, 8-10th April 2025.

Nominations closed earlier in January and finalists for the FREAs and SSEAs were announced earlier in February, with WVRA finalists to be announced early in March.

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of celebration, networking, and entertainment at the awards dinner, where achievements across all three prestigious award schemes will take centre stage. This

exclusive event offers the perfect opportunity to network with industry leaders, connect with colleagues, and enjoy an evening of exceptional food, lively entertainment, and well-deserved recognition. Don't miss your chance to be part of this premier event – find out more and book your place now by visiting: [FREAs](#) | [SSEAs](#) | [WVRAs](#)



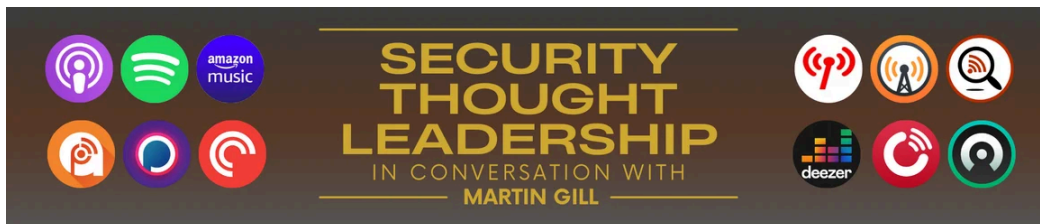
Inaugural Global OSPAs Winners Announced

The first-ever Global Outstanding Security Performance Awards (OSPAs) took place virtually on 12th February, bringing together the very best of the security industry from across the world. This landmark event recognised and celebrated the winners among winners – finalists who had already distinguished themselves in their respective countries.

The Global OSPAs represent a unique and prestigious platform, shining a light on the outstanding individuals, teams, and organisations that set the benchmark for excellence in security.

[Read about the winners and watch the awards ceremony, if you missed it, here.](#)

The 2nd Global OSPAs will take place in December 2025. Everyone who enters selected categories in the OSPAs throughout the year will have the chance to win not only in their home country but also on the global stage. OSPAs category winners from 2025 will qualify for the global awards. As the Global OSPAs continue to grow, we look forward to further celebrating the exceptional work of security professionals worldwide. If you would like to get involved with us, whether that is as a sponsor or a supporting association, [contact us](#).



Latest Security Thought Leadership Podcasts

We have now released twenty-four episodes in our "Security Thought Leadership" podcast series, with each speaker offering unique insights into the security industry and its future. Our 190 previous Thought Leadership Webinars are now also available as podcasts.

The latest two episodes feature interviews with Pawan Desai, from MitKat, and Yoyo Hamblen, Security Circle Podcast Host and IFPO UK board Member.

[Pawan Desai](#)

Pawan is a risk consultant, entrepreneur, and veteran. He is the co-founder and CEO of MitKat, a leading risk consultancy in Asia based in India. His areas of expertise include strategic leadership, risk management, business continuity, threat intelligence, and information security.

In this episode you will hear Pawan discuss:

- Global trends in security and risk management.
- A closer look at how India and Asia address these challenges.
- The game-changing role of AI in shaping the future of risk and security.

[Yoyo Hamblen](#)

Yoyo, is a former police detective who launched a career in the security sector developing an expertise that includes physical security, information security and transformational management. But Yoyo is perhaps best known for her evolving role as an international influencer in security, and via her Security Circle podcasts.

In this episode you will hear Yoyo discuss:

- How her early frontline experiences shaped her career.
- Her path into data security and what makes it so fascinating.
- Why cyber security should appeal to physical security professionals.

- Her approach as a podcaster and influencer, and her future ambitions.

Future podcast episodes to be released include:

- 3rd March – Pablo Colombres, GIF International & ASIS International

Episodes are available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Amazon, and all major platforms. Tune in to hear from leading voices in security at www.securityinconversation.com, where you can also find direct links to your preferred platforms.



UK OSPAs Winners Celebrate in London

This year's OSPAs awards ceremony, proudly sponsored by Axon, took place on 20th February 2025 at the Royal Lancaster London. Hosted by renowned magician Ben Hanlin, 600 security professionals gathered for an evening of celebration and recognition, honouring outstanding performers in the sector. [The winners of this 9th annual OSPAs can be viewed here.](#)

Founded on strong ethical principles, the awards are actively supported by numerous key industry bodies and special interest groups. These organisations nominate judges to represent them, including ADS, ASC, ASIS, ATMIA, AUCSO, BSIA, COLCPA, the City Security Council, CSSC, CSyP, DISA, the Food & Drink Association, IFPO, IPSA, ISACA, ISMA, NAHS, NSI, the Police & Security Group Initiative, PSSA, SIA, SIF, Skills for Security, SSAIB, SASIG, Syl, TiNYg, True Honour, the Women's Security Society, and the UK Security Commonwealth.

The OSPAs were preceded by a security Thought Leadership Summit (TLS) in the afternoon attended by over 130 leading security professionals. They heard from a number of innovative and challenging speakers on topics including forging the future through evolution, innovation, and trust; resetting the security value for the C-suites; the use of AI in security; the role of HMRC in ensuring the security sector is compliant; and how to break down barriers to security skills development. A panel discussion was held to explore how to maximise security for public benefit, and the popular annual 'What the bosses say' session delved into the challenges currently facing the security sector.

Save the date for **next year's UK OSPAs and TLS – 19th February 2026.**



India and South Asia OSPAs Nominations Now Open

The OSPAs are set to return to India and South Asia later this year, with nominations currently open and closing on 13th May 2025. Anyone working in the security industry across India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and the Maldives is eligible to enter.

[Find out more and enter here.](#)

Founded on strong ethical principles, the awards are actively supported by numerous key industry bodies and special interest groups. These organisations nominate judges to represent them, including ASIS India, ASIS Bangladesh, CAPSI, CSPAC, Cyber Security Association of India, Electronic Security Association of India, GACS, ICISS, India Future Foundation, NIICE, and WESS.

The 2025 India & South Asia OSPAs are organised in collaboration with [ASIS India](#), with [MitKat Advisory](#) as the Knowledge Partner, [National Forensic Sciences University \(NFSU\)](#) as the Academic Partner and in association with the [United Service Institution of India \(USI\)](#).

The awards event will take place on **Friday, 25th July 2025** at the **ASIS South Asia Conference** in Bangalore. [More details will be available here soon.](#)



2025 New Zealand OSPAs Nominations Open!

New Zealand OSPAs Nominations Now Open

The Outstanding Security Performance Awards (OSPAs) are back for the fourth consecutive year in New Zealand. Entries are now open and close 8th April 2025. They are proudly supported by Association of University Chief Security Officers, ASIS New Zealand, The Institute of Strategic Risk Management (ISRM), New Zealand Security Association, New Zealand Security Sector Network, Profit Protection Future Forum and RiskNZ. [Find out more and enter here.](#)



Awards Highlights

Entries are now open for:

Ireland OSPAs – enter by 3rd March 2025 - ie.theospas.com/enter

Cyber OSPAs – enter by 18th March 2025 - www.thecyberospas.com/enter

Southern Africa OSPAs – enter by 1st April 2025 - za.theospas.com/enter

New Zealand OSPAs – enter by 8th April 2025 - nz.theospas.com/enter

Upcoming Events:

[Nigeria OSPAs](#) – 12 March 2025 - Virtual

[FREAs](#) | [SSEAs](#) | [WVRAs](#) - 8th April 2025 - Birmingham Metropole

[Cyber OSPAs](#) – 8th May 2025 - [Big Sasig](#), 133 Houndsditch, London

[Ireland OSPAs](#) – 23rd May 2025 - Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Dublin City Centre

[India & South Asia OSPAs](#) – 25th July 2025 - ASIS South Asia Conference, Bangalore



Did you know? – Caught on camera

The first use of CCTV dates back to 1942 in Germany. It was installed by engineer Walter Bruch to monitor V-2 rocket launches. Today, China reportedly has over 200 million CCTV cameras in use – more than any other country – equating to 1 camera for every 7 people.

Butter						Whiskey
Over						Boxing
Grand						Christmas
Bed						Out
Hot						Water
Mountain						Mission
Head						Copy
Back						Work
Land						Up
Run						Results

This Month's Quiz

Fit 10 six-letter words into the grid so that each links with the word on its left and beginning of the one on the right. Example: FISH [MARKET] TRADER. The letters in the shaded squares should reveal a security-related word. Please submit your one-word answer here www.surveylegend.com/s/5mao by Friday, 21st March. A winner will be selected at random from the correct entries and will receive a copy of the book '[Preventing Crime and Disorder in Public Places; Blending Opportunity Reduction, Guardianship and Welfare](#)', by Tim Prenzler, which is part of Professor Martin Gill's 'Crime Prevention and Security Management series'.

Check back in next month's newsletter for the answer and a new quiz to enter.

The answer to the January quiz was 'Compliance'. There were no winners this time.



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