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PAYMENT CARD INDUSTRY STANDARDS COUNCIL EQUIPS ACQUIRING BANKS AND PAYMENT PROCESSORS WITH NEW DATA SECURITY RESOURCES

⸺ New Discussion Forums, New Training and a New Simplified PCI Data Security Standard Checklist to Help Drive Improved Merchant Payment Security in 2016 —

WAKEFIELD, Mass., 23 February 2016 – Today the PCI Security Standards Council (PCI SSC) announced 2016 initiatives to help acquirers and payment processors collaborate on payment security solutions with the merchant community. In addition to new, regular forums for discussion, the Council is now providing acquirer-specific PCI Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) training and a checklist resource for reviewing data security assessments required under the Standard.

"Merchants rely heavily on their acquiring banks to help them with their PCI security efforts," said PCI Security Standards Council General Manager Stephen Orfei. "This is a big responsibility requiring a lot of collaboration. It's critical that acquirers have the right information, training and tools to help them throughout that process. We're pleased to support this community by continuing to host PCI Acquirer Forums throughout the year, and by offering new training and educational resources designed specifically for acquiring banks."

Acquirer Training
PCI Acquirer Training is for acquirers and processors who wish to have a deeper understanding of the PCI DSS in order to better assist their merchant clients in their security and compliance efforts. Both eLearning and instructor-led courses provide the essential information needed to understand the requirements around the protection of payment card data, including key concepts from account data terminology and the transaction process, PCI DSS requirements and payment brand compliance programs. For more information on PCI Acquirer Training, visit:
https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/program_training_and_qualification/pci_acquirer_training

Acquirer Review Checklist
The Acquirer Review Checklist resource provides standardized guidance to acquirers reviewing PCI DSS assessments for their merchant customers in support of ongoing PCI Qualified Security Assessor (QSA) quality improvement efforts. While use of this resource is not required by the PCI Council, its content is based on the best practices and feedback contributed by numerous acquirer reviewers. Such calibrated acquirer reviews can increase the effectiveness of the acquirer's review of assessor work products and empower acquirers in holding assessors accountable for consistency and accuracy. The checklist is available for download on the PCI SSC website.

Acquirer Forums
PCI Acquirer Forums are designed to foster collaboration and information-sharing with acquirers and processors on payment security, focusing specifically on helping the merchant community. The sessions include PCI updates as key discussion topics and offer opportunities for feedback and questions. Planned forums for 2016 are:

- 21 April, Atlanta
- 9 June, London

For more information on previous forums and to register to attend 2016 events, visit the PCI SSC website.

About the PCI Security Standards Council
The PCI Security Standards Council is a global forum that is responsible for the development, management, education, and awareness of the PCI Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) and other

standards that increase payment data security. Connect with the PCI Council on [LinkedIn](#). Join the conversation on Twitter [@PCISSC](#). Subscribe to the [PCI Perspectives](#) Blog.