UPCOMING TRAINING:

Topic: Practical Stats: Statistical Sample for Auditors;

Presenter: Danny Goldberg of Soft Audit Consulting;

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 27, 2010; 8:30 am - 4:30 pm;

Place: Blue Cross Blue Shield of LA, Main Campus, Operations Building - Audubon Room; 5525 Reitz Ave;

Price: $125.00 for members; $200.00 for non-members.

OVERVIEW: Sampling is a truly fine art: a strict science which can assist auditors in identifying and quantifying errors and issues. The course will give attendees an overview of Statistical Sampling, sampling methodologies and pitfalls inherent in analyzing results. At the completion of this course, attendees will be able to efficiently and effectively sample data to garner swift and accurate results.

To register please visit: http://statisticsapril2010training.eventbrite.com/

A Note from the President...

A note from the President, Stacy Manning:

As the past and current President, I would like to welcome our old and new members back for another year of great low cost trainings and continuous education sessions. This year we are working hard to give you every opportunity to earn as many CPE’s as possible at the lowest cost. We have put together at least one training every month so make sure that you check out our calendar on our website frequently as we will be updating it every week with new items. One of our newest projects involves starting a student chapter at some of the local universities and hope that we can depend on your support to help us lead our future leaders. We will be looking for volunteers to mentor some of the students that will be actively pursuing their CISA and speakers to talk to the students at their academic meetings. Please watch for this information in our up and coming newsletters and if you are interested in volunteering or have any suggestions, please feel free to forward them to president@isaca-br.org. If we can help with any training needs, please also let us know by contacting the above address. We are looking forward to a great year and hope to see you at the upcoming events!

Stacy Manning
Baton Rouge Chapter President

Did you know?

CISA and CISM Among 10 Most Sought-after Certifications!

ISACA’s Certified Information Systems Auditor™ (CISA®) and Certified Information Security Manager® (CISM®) are among the top 10 most sought-after certifications for 2010, according to a recent Information Security Media Group (ISMG) survey. For additional information, click here.
ISACA Announces: CRISC Certification for Risk Professionals 2010

CRISC Fact Sheet:

Background

Introduced in 2010, the Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control™ (CRISC™) designation is a new certification offered by ISACA and is based on the association's intellectual property, independent market research and the input of subject matter experts from around the world. The certification was designed for IT and business professionals who identify and manage risks through the development, implementation and maintenance of appropriate information systems (IS) controls.

The CRISC designation is designed for:

- IT professionals
- Risk professionals
- Business analysts
- Project managers
- Compliance professionals
- Business professionals

CRISC Focus Areas

The CRISC designation focuses on:

- Risk identification, assessment and evaluation
- Risk response
- Risk monitoring
- IS control design and implementation
- IS control monitoring and maintenance

Certification Requirements

To earn the CRISC designation, candidates are required to:

- Prove at least five years of IT or business experience
- Prove at least three years of experience in the CRISC focus areas
- Pass the CRISC exam
- Adhere to the ISACA Code of Professional Ethics
- Agree to comply with the CRISC Continuing Education Policy

The first CRISC exam will be administered in the second half of 2011.

Professionals with eight or more years of IT and business experience can now earn the CRISC designation under its grandfathering program.

To earn the credential through the grandfathering program, an applicant must provide evidence of at least eight (8) years of IT or business experience with a minimum of six (6) years of cumulative work experience across all 5 CRISC domains and a minimum of three (3) years of cumulative work experience in CRISC risk domains 1, 2 and 3 (as defined and described by the CRISC job practice domains and task statements).

Certification under the Grandfathering program is open to highly experienced professionals from April 2010 through March 2011.

Additional information about the CRISC Certification is available at: www.isaca.org/crisc
Feature News: Cloud Computing

Does the cloud matter?
Historically, the “cloud” has been used in computer network diagrams to merely represent the Internet. The cloud has since come a long way from being a metaphor for connectivity to being a powerhouse used to process and store data. The cloud is undergoing a revolution.

What Is Cloud Computing?
In its simplest form, cloud computing is performing computing tasks via a network connection while remaining isolated from the complex computing hardware and networking infrastructure that supports it. Cloud computing relies on virtualization technology to offer each subscriber one or more individual virtual instances. Due to virtualization technology, each physical server can host several virtual servers.

Benefits and Current Uses of Cloud Computing
Imagine not having to pay up-front for expensive real estate, electricity, cooling equipment and physical security. Most cloud service providers charge customers either on the subscription model or the utility model—one pays for what one uses. If the site traffic reduces, redundant cloud servers (instances) can be shut down.

Here are some of the other benefits of cloud computing:

Scalable — Cloud vendors have excess capacity to serve needs of individuals or organizations. There are numerous examples of companies using the cloud to expand capacity with little or no notice.

Cloud Computing Risks:
The key security and privacy concerns regarding cloud computing are:

- User administration to cloud host communication occurs over the Internet. Unless the cloud user sets up a secure or an encrypted line, the communication happens over the Internet in clear text with associated security risks.
- Cloud users commonly use browsers for administration of cloud instances. The older versions of popular browsers, such as Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari, continue to have known security vulnerabilities and could lead to security issues.
- Organizations’ trusted boundaries get extended to the cloud service provider, where rogue users might be waiting to take advantage of the trust relationship.
- Security models and standards are still emerging. This complicates and compounds security threats. For example, who is responsible for security when a security breach happens?
- The processor used to provide a virtual machine for cloud computing can affect the isolation/security between virtual machines. Virtual machine root kits are a viable and likely threat.
- The database administrator may inadvertently leave data on disk devices provided by the cloud service provider.
- The cloud service provider’s employees might have access to sensitive data stored on their servers.

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Cost transparency — It is easier to allocate cloud computing cost since most cloud service providers bill for each instance. This leads to better accountability.

Outsourcing competencies that are not core to the business — Companies are not required to attract and retain human resources with critical IT infrastructure management skills.

Summary of “Cloud Computing: An Auditor’s Perspective”
By Sailesh Gadia, CISA, ACA, CPA, CIPP
ISACA Journal - Volume 6, 2009

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**MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS!**

**ISACA Worldwide:**
- Total worldwide ISACA membership has grown by 1,639 members since 2009, increasing from 94,889 to 96,528 members.
- This was a 251% increase from 2004, when worldwide membership was only 38,507 people.
- New member growth for ISACA chapters in 2009 was 25% higher than the percentage of new member growth in 2009.

**Member Category and Count:**
- Active Professional Members: 95,076
- Student Members: 1016
- University Advocate Members: 262
- Retired Members: 174

**ISACA North America:**
- North America had the highest renewal rate of all other ISACA regions at 66%.
- As a region, North America contributed the highest percentage towards total worldwide membership, with 43.93% of members residing in the US and Canada.
- Out of 186 chapters worldwide, there are 80 chapters in the US alone.
- North America continues to have the highest growth rate and renewal rates of any ISACA region worldwide.

**ISACA Baton Rouge:**
- As a chapter, in 2009, our membership grew 15%, from 150 to 173 members.
- This was the highest membership growth rate in the Southwestern United States region.
- We also had a 61% renewal rate.

**CONGRATULATIONS,**
Baton Rouge, on such a high membership growth rate! Keep up the good work!

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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- **April 27, 2010**—Practical Stats Training
- **May 19, 2010**—Chapter meeting (Drusilla’s Seafood) 11:30 am—1 pm
  Lunch & Learn—IT Governance w/ Andy Schwarz
- **June 12, 2010**—CISA Exam
- **August 18, 2010**—Chapter meeting

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**2010-2011 CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

New Chapter Officers are elected during February or March of each year. Please consider volunteering your time and talents in order to ensure the ongoing success of the Chapter. Please contact any of the Chapter Officers for more information.

**President**
Stacy Manning, CISA
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**Vice President**
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**Marketing Director**
(Position open)

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