

Benefits of Working with a Physical Security Professional

With the many requirements and specifications for today's security projects, designing and installing a security system can be quite overwhelming. Are the security measures adequate to stop the threat? Is it cost effective to protect the required assets? Are the security measures properly integrated into the security system as a whole? Is the equipment installed correctly? Any construction contractor can install physical security equipment, but is the security system what is needed to meet the requirements and do the job?

The Physical Security Professional (PSP) designation is a specialty certification developed by ASIS to set the standard for professional competency and credibility. To earn the PSP designation, security personnel must demonstrate the knowledge and experience in the following:

- Identify assets to determine their value loss impact and criticality
- Assess the nature of the threats so that the scope of the problem can be determined
- Conduct a physical security survey in order to identify the vulnerabilities of the organization
- Perform a risk analysis so that appropriate countermeasures can be developed
- Establish security system requirements and performance specifications
- Apply physical security measures and select appropriate system components
- Develop and document system design and pre-implementation plans
- Outline criteria for pre-bid meeting to ensure comprehensiveness and appropriateness of implementation
- Procure physical security measures and implement recommended quality assurance plan
- Conduct commissioning, acceptance testing and delivery of the physical security measure



Prior to taking the exam, the PSP candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree and 4 years of experience in the security industry. It allows those potential security professionals to cross reference their industry experience with the understanding of the certifying agency's goals while preparing for this important exam. Once an ASIS member has the PSP designation, they are required to recertify every three years to maintain the competency of this certification. By requiring on-going education and training, ASIS maintains the integrity of the PSP designation and makes it easier for those seeking security expertise to find it.