

August 2026



The Sentinel

Your Monthly Bulletin from the ASC



Delivering _____
Insights, Updates, and Opportunities.

Introduction

Progress in Practice,
Leadership in Action

Simon Crane

ASC Chair, International Development & CSyP Lead



Reaching the halfway point of the year is a natural moment to take stock, and the Association has covered a good deal of ground. Seminars, partner events, committee activity and engagement across the industry have kept the calendar full — and none of it happens without members who give their time and share their expertise so generously.

July was a particularly busy month. It was a privilege to present the Security Consultancy of the Year Award to Cundall Security Consultancy, led by ASC member Leigh Harper, at the Fire & Security Matters Awards. I was also glad to take part in two events supporting women in the profession — the CEDRR Women in Risk and Security Conference at the University of Portsmouth, and the Women in Security Network Summer Sizzler at Tesco's headquarters — where the openness of both panel discussions was the thing that stayed with me.

The second half of the year is equally full. The Summer Seminar on 3rd September looks at how modern security technologies are supporting faster, better-informed decisions. ConSec 26 follows on 29th October under the theme Smart Cities – Smart Security, examining how security frameworks are adapting to increasingly connected infrastructure. More than three decades on, the programme continues to evolve, this year with dedicated streams for both consultancy practice and academic research.

250+ delegates · 40+ organisations represented · 30+ speakers · 30+ exhibition partners

Two things I would encourage you to act on before the autumn. Entries for the ASC Awards close on 6th September, and I would urge you to put forward your own work, your team's, or a colleague's.

My thanks to everyone who continues to support the Association through your participation and commitment. I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming months, and hope you enjoy this edition of The Sentinel.

Hear from our Board:

Danny Moody

CSyP & Membership



My professional security career began in 2002 when I was appointed Security Manager at the London Stock Exchange, having progressed from managing the Exchange's telephone recording and business recovery operations. It was a challenging and formative period as the UK threat landscape evolved from IRA-related terrorism following the Good Friday Agreement to the emerging Islamist threat after 9/11.

My responsibilities included security risk management, counter terrorism, police liaison, budgeting, contractor oversight and major security projects, including playing a significant role in the Exchange's relocation to Paternoster Square. The role provided an invaluable grounding in protecting critical, high-profile environments where resilience, sound judgement and stakeholder confidence were essential.

After a short period as Security Contracts Manager at the London Eye, I returned to the corporate sector in 2006 as Security Operations Manager for 30 St Mary Axe. In 2012, I was promoted to Head of Security and Risk Management, leading major security projects, security strategy, state visits and crisis management.

In 2017 I left to take on senior leadership roles, firstly with Pilgrims Security and then Aviva before fulfilling a long-held ambition by establishing Tobruk Protective Security Solutions Ltd in June 2019.

Throughout my career, I have remained committed to professional development, gaining Diploma-level qualifications in Security Management, Risk Management and Security Consultancy, culminating in achieving Chartered Security Professional (CSyP) status in 2025. More recently, I have had the honour of being appointed to the Board of the Association of Security Consultants (ASC).

Whilst the security threats may have evolved over the years, and the security technology/systems are almost unrecognisable from those deployed in 2002 some of the requirements remain the same. An interest in the subject matter, a desire to improve and expand my knowledge and pick up new skills has got me to where I am today.

That is why the appointment to the ASC matters to me and why I was glad to take on responsibility for the CSyP and membership portfolio when joining the Board.

I remain as passionate about protecting people and businesses today as the day I first entered the profession over two decades ago. I'm also keen to continue supporting and encouraging people who are entering the industry today.



Sentinel Scholarly

Dennis Roe RISC

ASC Director - Academic Engagement and Professional Development Lead

Create the Future: Why the Risk and Security Sector Needs You to Mentor NOW!

The risk and security landscapes are evolving faster than traditional textbooks can keep up. From sophisticated cybercrime syndicates to complex geopolitical vulnerabilities, today's challenges require a new breed of professionals.

Fortunately, the next generation is already stepping up. Ambitious students across the nation are enrolled in universities studying risk management, security, cybercrime, and criminology, among many other core subjects. They possess cutting-edge academic insights but are missing a crucial component for success: **YOU!**

Transitioning from lecture halls to the high-stakes security sector can be daunting. So many people hit the barrier of needing contacts and experience to apply to positions, but are only just leaving studies making that requirement an impossible barrier. As an established practitioner, your real-world experience is the bridge these students need. By becoming a mentor, you offer invaluable guidance on industry expectations, help refine career paths, and demystify the unwritten rules of risk and security operations.

Mentorship is far from a one-way street. Engaging with these driven individuals injects fresh perspectives into your own practice. You will gain direct insight into the latest academic research, current digital trends, and the shifting mindsets of incoming talent. Additionally, mentoring provides a unique opportunity to spot and scout top-tier talent before they even hit the open job market, potentially streamlining your future recruitment efforts.

And mentorship does not only apply to students entering the sector, but it also equally applies to those already working in risk and security and wanting to progress their careers.

Just imagine how helpful it would be to speak with your younger self before entering the sector, to provide the lessons you have learnt, guidance based on your experience, and where that could have taken you today.



Whether you can commit to a monthly coffee chat or online meeting, CV reviews, or structured career guidance, your time can make a monumental difference. You aren't just helping a student secure their first role; you are actively shaping the resilience, ethics, and capability of our industry's future workforce.

Ready to inspire the next generation and strengthen our professional community? Join our mentoring network today and help turn academic potential into frontline excellence. For more information and to discuss this further, reach out to start the conversation. We look forward to hearing from you!



ASC Academic Advisory & Engagement Committee

ASC News and Updates

01 | ASC Represented at Security TWENTY 26 Manchester

Security
TWENTY 26

The ASC was pleased to be represented at **Security TWENTY 26** Manchester, with **Dan Gillis MASC, M. IPSA** attending on behalf of the Association.

Held at **Old Trafford** on **8 July**, the one-day industry event brought together security manufacturers, consultants, installers, integrators, and end users from across the UK. The programme featured live technology demonstrations, technical presentations on the Innovation Stage, accredited CPD opportunities, and dedicated networking sessions.



02 | Fire & Security Matters Awards 2026



Supporting Excellence Across the Industry

The ASC was proud to support the **Fire & Security Matters Awards 2026**, celebrating the achievements of individuals, teams, and organisations across the fire and security sectors.

Representing the Association, **ASC Chair Simon Crane M. ISRM RISC** presented the Security '**Consultancy of the Year Award**' to **Cundall Security Consultancy**, led by ASC member **Leigh Harper PSP, CPP**, in recognition of the team's outstanding contribution to the profession.



ASC News and Updates

03



Awards 2026

Recognising Excellence Across Risk and Security

The **ASC Awards** were established to recognise those contributions and to celebrate the achievements that help raise standards across the profession.

Each year, **the awards** shine a light on individuals, teams, and organisations whose dedication leaves a lasting impact on the wider industry.

01



IMBERT
Award

[Submit Here](#)

02



Mike
Cahalane
Awards MASC

[Submit Here](#)

03



Mike
Cahalane
Awards RISC

[Submit Here](#)

04



ASCEND Award

Coming Soon

We encourage you, your team, or your organisation to submit an entry and provide your work a stage.

[Learn More](#)

Entries Closing **6th September 2026**

ASC News and Updates

04 | ASC Conference at **SecurityMATTERS**LIVE 2026

The Association of Security Consultants was proud to play an active role at **Security Matters Live 2026**, held on **2nd July** at the Coventry Building Society Arena. Through the dedicated ASC Conference, members and delegates explored this year's theme, '**Growing Your Security Business**', with practical sessions focused on business development, sales, marketing, consultancy, and identifying new opportunities within the security sector.

Running alongside the wider **Security Matters Live** exhibition, attendees also had access to technology demonstrations, specialist conference streams, and opportunities to connect with organisations from across the security industry.

Collaborate. Learn. Lead.

The conference brought together consultants, industry professionals, and business leaders for a programme centred on sharing experience and practical insight.



Upcoming Events

01 | Summer Seminar 2026

Theme- From Insight to Action:

Enhancing Decision Making Through Modern Security Technologies

Don't miss this opportunity to join fellow security professionals for an afternoon of practical insight and discussion. The **ASC Summer Seminar** will explore how integrated platforms, real-time monitoring, and intelligent analytics are supporting faster, more informed decision-making across modern security operations.

Hear from industry experts, exchange ideas with peers, and discover how these technologies are being applied in practice.



3rd September 2026



9:00am – 5:00pm



British Library Knowledge Centre, London

[Register Now](#)

02 | INTERNATIONAL SECURITY EXPO

Exploring the Future of Global Security

International Security Expo returns to **Olympia**, bringing together security professionals, manufacturers, government representatives, and technology providers from around the world.

The programme features an extensive **exhibition** alongside **expert-led conference sessions** covering emerging threats, resilience, and the latest developments in global security.



29th & 30th September 2026



Olympia, Grand Hall, London

[Register Now](#)



Upcoming Events



As urban environments become more connected, the risks and responsibilities that come with them evolve rapidly.

ConSeC 26 will bring together senior independent consultants, principal practitioners, and key sector decision-makers to examine how security frameworks are adapting to modern infrastructure.

[Book Your Seats!](#)

Mark your
Calendars!



29th October,
2026



**hinxton
hall**
conference centre

🕒 08:30 AM – 4:15 PM

Theme: Smart Cities – Smart Security:
Where Urban Innovation Meets Intelligent Solutions

Delegates in
attendance

250+

Organisations
represented

40+

Expert speakers
and contributors

30+



Upcoming Events



04 | TOTAL SECURITY SUMMIT 2026

The **ASC** is proud to partner for the **Total Security Summit** bringing together senior security professionals and solution providers for a focused programme of pre-arranged meetings, keynote presentations, and networking.

Designed for **decision-makers**, the event explores current challenges, emerging technologies, and **practical solutions** across the security sector.

 19th & 20th October 2026

 Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre, London Heathrow

[Register Now](#)

05 |



CPD Title: Designing Secure and Efficient Control Rooms: Video Walls, Multi-Source Integration & Workflow Tools

Exclusively for the ASC members, this free **CPD session** explores how modern control room technologies are improving operational performance.

Through expert presentations and live demonstrations, attendees will gain practical insight into video wall solutions, multi-source integration, and **Barco CTRL technologies**.

 12th November 2026

 10:30am – 1:30pm

 Barco Customer Experience Centre, Bracknell

[Register Now](#)

Why Good Security Leaders Sometimes Struggle at Executive Level

The Access Problem Was Never the Problem

Over the past decade, security has earned its seat at the top table. The profession is no longer confined to incident response and operational risk. Today's security leaders engage in conversations about resilience, governance, major projects, reputation, and strategy. That battle, for most organisations, is over.

But winning access is different from using it well. The more urgent question is whether the profession has genuinely prepared people for the environment they now occupy. Because the boardroom is not a bigger, more important risk committee. It operates by different rules entirely.

Expertise Got You In. It Won't Keep You There.

Security professionals are trained to identify problems, assess risk, and recommend solutions. That capability built their credibility. It earned them the invitation. But at executive level, technical authority is table stakes, not the deciding factor.

Board-level discussion moves fast and covers everything. Growth strategy, regulatory pressure, workforce challenges, investor expectations, operational performance, all in the same hour. Security sits within that conversation, not above it. The leaders making decisions are not waiting for the most technically rigorous argument to win. They are balancing competing priorities in real time, under constraint.

"The rules at the executive level are different. It is not about what you know. It is about how you influence."

The Sentinel Exchange



Bruce Braes

CSyP, CPP, PSP, CSC, CRISC, CNSP

The Gap Nobody Talks About

In conversations with senior practitioners, including those participating in Optimal Risk's **21st Century Security Executive Masterclass** in Atlanta, a consistent theme surfaces. Many feel well prepared to manage their function. Far fewer feel genuinely equipped for board engagement, competing organisational priorities, and the political dynamics that shape how decisions get made. That gap is not a personal failing.

It reflects where the profession has historically invested its development energy.

If the next generation is expected to contribute to strategy, not merely oversee a function, then technical competence alone is an insufficient foundation. Leadership capability, business acumen, and the ability to communicate with influence must be developed with the same rigour we apply to risk methodology.

Otherwise, we will continue producing highly qualified professionals who understand risk better than almost anyone in the room but cannot shape the decisions that matter most.

That is not a security problem. It is a leadership problem, and it is ours to solve.

Spotlight

Women Shaping the Sector

Supporting a more inclusive security profession remains an important part of the Association's work. During July, the ASC was proud to contribute to two industry events that encouraged conversation, shared experiences, and highlighted the opportunities available for women across the sector.

01 | Women in Risk and Security Conference

The ASC was proud to sponsor the **University of Portsmouth CEDRR Women in Risk and Security Conference**; an event focused on encouraging more women to explore careers in risk and security while connecting students and early-career professionals with experienced practitioners.

Representing the Association, **ASC Chair, Simon Crane** and **ASC Academic Engagement and ASC Director, Dennis Roe** attended the conference, with Simon moderating the panel discussion, *'Tales from the Front Line: The Reality of Women Working in the Security Industry'*. Joined by **Dr. Sophie Carr, Kate Dawes, Hayley Joseph, and Pam Whittemore**, the panel shared honest reflections on their careers, the challenges they have faced, and practical advice for those considering a future in the profession.



02 | Women in Security x TESCO

Designing Safety at the Women in Security Network Summer Sizzler

The ASC also took part in the **Women in Security Network (WiS) Summer Sizzler**, held at Tesco Headquarters, Welwyn Garden City, which brought together almost **250 professionals** from across the security and built environment sectors.

Moderated by **ASC Chair Simon Crane**, the panel on *Designing in Safety* featured **ASC Director, Michelle Elkins** alongside **ASC members, Leigh Harper and Kate Dawes**. The discussion explored how women's safety can be better considered in security design, the value of inclusive thinking throughout projects, and the role collaboration plays in delivering safer environments.

Both events reinforced the importance of creating opportunities for learning, representation, and professional dialogue. The **association** is proud to support initiatives that encourage greater participation across the profession and strengthen the future of the **security industry**.

[Read More](#)

Looking Ahead

A Season of Opportunities

As another busy month draws to a close, the Association continues to build on the progress made throughout the year.

With a line-up of events approaching, there is much to look forward to over the coming months. We extend our gratitude for your continued support and for being part of the ASC community.

*Thank you, as always,
for staying engaged.*



See you next month.



We look forward to bringing you more news, stories, and updates in the next edition.

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Follow our
journey

