

Ira Winkler

President of Secure Mentem & Expert on Technology and Information Security

Considered one of the world's most influential security professionals, Ira Winkler, CISSP, the president of Secure Mentem. He has been named a "Modern Day James Bond" by media outlets after performing espionage simulations, where he physically and technically "broke into" some of the largest companies in the world and investigating crimes against them, and telling them how to cost effectively protect their information and computer infrastructure. He continues to perform these espionage simulations, as well as assisting organizations in developing cost effective security programs. Ira also won the Hall of Fame award from the Information Systems Security Association, as well as several other prestigious industry awards. Most recently, *CSO Magazine* named Ira a CSO Compass Award winner as "The Awareness Crusader".

Ira is the author of the riveting, entertaining, and educational books, *Spies Among Us* and *Zen and the Art of Information Security*. Ira has also written the book, *Corporate Espionage*, which has been described as the bible of the Information Security field, and the best-selling book, *Through the Eyes of the Enemy*, which both address the threats that companies face protecting their information. He is also a columnist for *ComputerWorld*, and has written hundreds of professional and trade articles for several other industry publications, and has been featured and frequently appears on TV on every continent. He has also been featured in magazines and newspapers including *Forbes*, *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Washington Post*, *Planet Internet*, and *Business 2.0*.

Ira has been a keynote speaker at almost every major information security related event, on six different continents, and has keynoted events in many diverse industries. He is frequently ranked among, if not the, top speakers at the events.

He began his career at the National Security Agency, where he served as an Intelligence and Computer Systems Analyst. He moved onto support other US and overseas government military and intelligence agencies. After leaving government service, he went on to serve as president of the Internet Security Advisors Group, chief security strategist at HP Consulting, and director of technology of the National Computer Security Association. He was also on the graduate and undergraduate faculties of the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland. Ira was recently elected the International President of the Information Systems Security Association, which is a 10,000+ member professional association.