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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“ASIS International to Recognise ERT Secretary General’s Contribution to Raising Corporate Security Awareness”

Brussels, Belgium (5 March 2007) ASIS International announces that it will present the ASIS International European Person of the Year 2007 Award to Mr. Wim Philippa, Secretary General of the [European Roundtable of Industrialists](#) (ERT). The award will be presented to Mr. Philippa on Wednesday 28 March 2007 at 12.00 noon at the InterContinental Hotel (Room Potsdam I) in Berlin, Germany on the occasion of [ASIS International’s 6th Annual European Security Conference](#) which will take place from 25-28 March.

The ERT is a forum of some 45 European industrial leaders aiming to promote the competitiveness and growth of Europe’s economy, forming one of Europe’s most influential interest groups.

Wim Philippa has played a leading role in raising awareness of the consequences of criminality and organised crime for business and industry. During the period from June 1998 to October 2000 the ERT Working group “Criminality against Companies” which Wim Philippa was instrumental in establishing, was able to put the subject firmly on the political agenda in the European Union

A letter was sent to all Heads of Government of EU member States and to the President of the European Commission (EC) ahead of the informal European Council at Tampere, Finland in October 1999. The Council decided to strengthen EU initiatives in the areas of crime, immigration and asylum. It referred in its conclusions to the serious consequences of crime for economic operators and specifically addressed the issue of money laundering.

Mr. Philippa presented the issue of criminality primarily as a challenge for business management. Recognising that many crimes originate within companies (particularly fraud), that in broad terms, criminality seemed to be on the increase, and that corporate cultures are often a hindrance themselves to set up a real security policy which is aimed at increasing value to the business, he triggered activities to overcome the problem. In particular, he focused on the need to see security as an integrated business function and to address the lack of sensitivity of management to security matters.

About ASIS International:

ASIS International (ASIS) is the pre-eminent organisation for professionals responsible for security, with more than 34,000 members worldwide. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programmes and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS International Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics. ASIS also advocates the role and value of the security management profession to business, the media, governmental entities and the general public. By providing members and the security community with access to a full range of programmes and services, and by publishing the industry’s leading magazine, *Security Management*, ASIS leads the way for advanced and improved security performance. For more information, visit www.asisonline.org.